

IOM YEMEN QUARTERLY UPDATE

QUARTER 1 JANUARY TO MARCH 2022



A newly displaced man stands next to his shelter in Ma'rib. © IOM 2022/Elham Al Oqabi

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The first quarter of 2022 was marked by continued insecurity, economic difficulty and renewed peace efforts. Moving into the eighth year of conflict, with soaring food prices, widespread fuel shortages and continued hostilities, populations in Yemen continue to face a bleak reality, while reduced humanitarian funding threatens to push the country into a humanitarian catastrophe.

The [2022 IPC projections](#) for Yemen indicate unprecedented food insecurity - an estimated 161,000 individuals could face starvation by June 2022. The alarming projections indicate stark humanitarian needs, yet funding remains at a concerning decline. Donor commitments at the high-level pledging event held on 16 March resulted in only one-third of the USD 4.6 billion needed to ensure that millions in need do not lose critical assistance needed to survive. IOM launched its [2022 Consolidated Appeal for USD 159 million](#) to sustain its multisectoral humanitarian interventions throughout the country.

By the end of the first quarter, displacement slowed. Approximately 27,700 individuals were displaced between January and March 2022 as compared to 86,640 individuals between October and December 2021. Simultaneously, hostilities near active frontlines posed greater risks to civilians. January 2022 was labeled the “deadliest month” in over three years due to an alarming spike in reported civilian injuries and deaths. Over 650 civilian casualties were reported in Yemen as a result of armed clashes, while an uptick in cross-border attacks in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates resulted in further civilian injuries. In addition, a missile attack on a prison in Sa’dah in early January further emphasized the need for the humanitarian community to reiterate the call for all parties to ensure the protection of civilians.

Amid increased civilian casualties, much needed peace efforts regained traction, with the UN Special Envoy for Yemen launching consultations with a variety of key stakeholders as a part of his new multi-track peace process framework. By the end of the quarter, [a two-month truce was announced](#) between Ansar Allah and the Internationally Recognized Government, halting all offensive military operations inside the country and across borders, permitting fuel vessels to enter Al Hodeidah port and the possibility for commercial flights to resume from Sana’a airport.

Despite the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, Yemen continues to be a key destination along the migrant route between the Horn of Africa and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia- with trends signaling an increase in migrant arrivals similar to pre-pandemic years. Over 19,000 migrants arrived in Yemen between January and March 2022, while another 40,000 are estimated to be stranded across the country. Migrants face heightened risks of inhumane treatment, arbitrary detention and limited access to basic services, in particular in Sa'dah governorate where humanitarian actors are growing more concerned of reported violations against migrants. IOM continues to work closely with the Government of Ethiopia to resume Voluntary Humanitarian Returns to safe areas: the only current durable solution for migrants in Yemen.

By the end of the reporting period, according to WHO, health authorities in IRG-controlled areas reported a total of 11,808 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 2,144 deaths and 807,502 doses administered since the beginning of the pandemic. IOM continued to support vulnerable populations to access vaccines, 40 migrants were vaccinated in March.

MA'RIB DISPLACEMENT CRISIS

Compared to the escalation of violence witnessed in recent quarters, fighting subdued by the end of March 2022, with no significant changes to frontlines and intermittent clashes only along southern frontlines and remote locations. Over the course of the quarter 1,013 households (6,156 individuals) were newly displaced, the majority of whom sought refuge in Ma'rib City or Ma'rib Al Wadi. Although displacement has slowed, needs remain alarmingly high. Displaced families in Yemen's most conflict-affected governorate continue to indicate shelter and food as some of their most urgent needs - yet many are increasingly seeking financial support due to soaring prices.



Those fleeing are arriving to overcrowded displacement sites or spending their savings to rent temporary living spaces or hotels, while those who have no other option resort to makeshift shelters on roadsides. Although a safe haven for many, conditions in displacement sites are becoming increasingly overcrowded, especially in Al Jufainah and Al Ramsah sites. These conditions are further aggravated by lack of access to basic services in sites. As a result, some IDPs have opted to return to locations where the security situation remains unstable or are moving between different displacement sites in search of electricity, water and other services. During the reporting period, IOM began supporting the establishment of a new IDP site in Al Wadi, to support 120 new displaced households.

Housing, land and property issues continue to threaten vulnerable families in Ma'rib, notably IDPs and migrants. In February, 240 households received eviction threats in Al Jufainah camp, the majority of them migrant families. In March, another 250 migrant and refugee HHs faced eviction threats. Although humanitarian partners are able to intervene, these instances underline the complex environment vulnerable populations face every day in the governorate.

Among the most affected are children, as revealed by protection monitoring conducted during the reporting period. Children lack access to child-friendly spaces, birth certificates and adequate nutrition - especially children of vulnerable groups such as IDPs and the marginalized Al Muhamasheen. These families are more often resorting to child marriage to feed members of their household using the money received from their child's dowry to put food on the table.

IOM supports 59 displacement sites in Ma'rib, benefiting an estimated 150,773 IDPs with at least one form of assistance. As the largest UN agency in the governorate, over 250 staff are on the ground implementing multisectoral activities including CCCM, WASH, Health, Protection, CASH, and S-NFI. In coming months, IOM plans to roll out an Area Assessment in Ma'rib to draw more concrete information on population profiles and sizes of the most vulnerable populations, including IDPs, returnees and migrants to further inform on urgent humanitarian services needed in the governorate. However, more support is needed to maintain the humanitarian response in Yemen's most conflict-affected governorate. Significant shelter, WASH, health and protection needs persist in 75 displacement sites, as well as an additional 55 which support lack sustained support.

Please see IOM Yemen's latest Ma'rib Response Update [here](#)

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES IN THE WEST COAST

In the first quarter of 2022, renewed armed clashes in Ta'iz governate further exacerbated humanitarian needs for already vulnerable families. IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) estimates that 1,596 households were displaced between January and March 2022 – a concerning increase as 2,854 families were displaced in all of 2021. Newly displaced families are arriving to areas where years of protracted displacement and a historical lack of resources make it difficult for both IDPs and host community members to meet household needs. IOM multisectoral assistance in 19 displacement sites aims to provide a comprehensive package of humanitarian assistance to meet a wide range of critical needs for crisis-affected populations along Yemen's West Coast.



53,544

IDP and Host Community Members reached with multisectoral assistance

IOM remains the largest UN agency operating in the region, having 53,544 of the most vulnerable IDPs and host community members with CCCM, WASH, S-NFI, health, protection and cash assistance during the quarter. In particular, IOM supported newly displaced households affected by the deteriorating security situation with emergency shelter kits, NFIs and cash support. IOM further expanded service provision to conduct daily protection monitoring in displacement sites to inform protection related needs. As a result, glaring gaps in civil documentation and legal awareness were identified. To support more sustained service delivery, health teams shifted from relying on mobile medical coverage to focusing on static health facilities. IOM supported the construction of a new health unit in Al Yabli site in Al Khukhah, which will serve over 7,000 people with improved access to emergency and primary healthcare services. In addition, WASH teams supported families to have improved access to water by rehabilitating water systems and delivering over 1.8 million liters of safe water via water trucking activities.

For more information on IOM Yemen's operations along the West Coast of Yemen, please see the latest update [here](#)



Displaced people receive cash assistance on the west cost of Yemen. © IOM 2022/Rami Ibrahim

MIGRANTS IN YEMEN

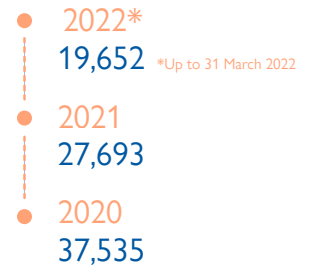
Migrants remain one of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups in Yemen- an estimated 40,000 are stranded throughout the country with no access to essential protection and basic services. In the first quarter, according to IOM’s Flow Monitoring activities, 19,652 migrants arrived via dangerous boat journeys to points along the southern shores of Yemen. This marks a rise in migrant arrivals, as compared to the 27,693 migrant arrivals in all of 2021. Those arriving continue to be primarily men and young boys from Ethiopia.

The situation migrants face in Yemen remains grim, due limited access to essential services, heightened risk to exploitation by smugglers and traffickers and forced transfers across active frontlines. Armed clashes in Ma’rib, Hajjah, Al Jawf and Sa’dah resulted in many migrant casualties - humanitarian actors estimate that over 1,100 migrants were injured and/or killed between January and March 2022. IOM protection monitoring missions identified several new makeshift sites in Shabwah and Ma’rib managed by smugglers or traffickers, where migrants have limited to no freedom of movement, hindering their ability to seek assistance. Migrants are still being forcibly relocated from areas in the north to the south- often dropped off with no resources leading to an increased number of stranded migrants in urban areas such as Aden. IOM continues to advocate for the inclusion of migrants in humanitarian response efforts and that migrants’ rights be upheld throughout every step of their journey.

For more information on the migrant situation in Yemen and IOM’s Response, please see the latest migration update [here](#)



MIGRANT ARRIVALS



An IOM staff member distributes kits to women at IOM’s Migrant Response Point in Ma’rib. © IOM 2021/Elham Al-Oqabi

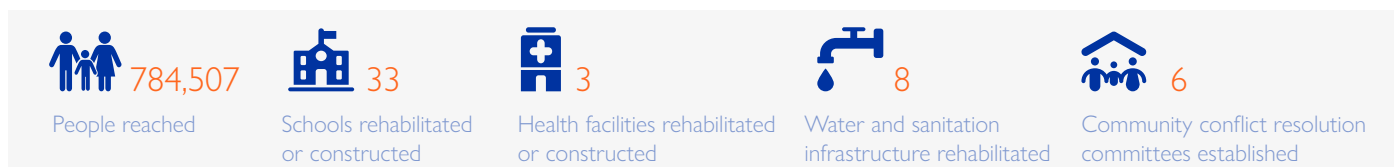


PROTECTION

IOM protection activities continued to contribute to the protection and promotion of the rights of all people on the move and strengthen access to protection services. As thousands of migrants await return home, majority of whom Ethiopian, IOM continued to work with the Government of Ethiopia to resume VHR movements for those from areas deemed safe for return. Verification exercises and return operations are expected to relaunch in the upcoming quarter. Over the course of the reporting period, IOM assisted 62 non-Ethiopian migrants in Aden to return to their country of origin.

Through Migrant Response Points and mobile teams in Aden, Ma’rib and Sana’a, over 27,000 migrants and 1,000 IDPs were supported with a range of services, including dedicate case management, referral to specialized, essential non-food items and legal consultations. IOM expanded protection coverage to support populations in the West Coast. Protection teams started carrying out daily protection monitoring in seven sites and established referral pathways with partners.

SUPPORTING SOCIOECONOMIC RECOVERY



IOM's transition and recovery activities support the rehabilitation and construction of infrastructure, recover access to basic services, and promote conflict resolution to support the socioeconomic recovery of crisis-affected communities. By the end of the reporting period, IOM finalized the construction/rehabilitation of several infrastructure projects, including health facilities, schools and WASH infrastructure. One of these projects included the rehabilitation of a well consisting of six solar-powered water points, benefitting more than 25,000 individuals. In March, the Ma'rib Dam irrigation canal repair project in Al Wadi district was officially completed, including much needed cleaning, repair of main portions and replacement of 70 water control gates. The rehabilitation works will allow the dam management to more effectively control and distribute water to the residents and farmers in the district, estimated to benefit 500,000 host community members and IDPs.

Due to the ongoing conflict and lack of resources, many children are unable to attend schools as destroyed infrastructure has led to inadequate facilities and/or insufficient facilities with enough space to welcome an influx of displaced children in some areas. To promote access to education for conflict-affected populations, the Organization's Transition and Recovery Unit supported the construction or rehabilitation of schools in areas with large populations of out-of-school children. During the quarter, works were completed on six schools throughout Aden, Ma'rib and Hadramawt. The schools, now equipped with more classroom space, latrines and other upgrades, will be able to sufficiently accommodate more students in an environment safe and comfortable for students.

Within the reporting period, IOM provided a range of training opportunities to Conflict Resolution Committees (CRCs) and local authorities in target areas. CRC members participated in sessions to improve vocational skills trainings. IOM provided capacity building to 291 employees of government institutions in Ma'rib and Lahj governorate on a variety of administrative skills based on capacity building assessments and consultations conducted at each institution. To further support children's learning, 353 teachers and school admin were trained on school administration active learning methods, and psychosocial support in Ma'rib, Hadramout, Aden and Lahj. Additionally, 421 teachers and parent council members took part in hygiene promotion training. IOM further distributed hygiene promotion awareness materials in schools as well as sports/games equipment to support extracurricular activities.



Due to severe funding shortages, IOM Yemen's Transition and Recovery activities ended 31 March 2022. As these activities are crucial in helping communities move from a state of crisis to early recovery, IOM continues to seek urgent funding to ensure crisis affected populations in Yemen have the resources needed to recover from years of conflict.



IOM rehabilitated 50 schools, hospitals, water and sanitation infrastructure benefiting nearly 800,000 people. © IOM 2022

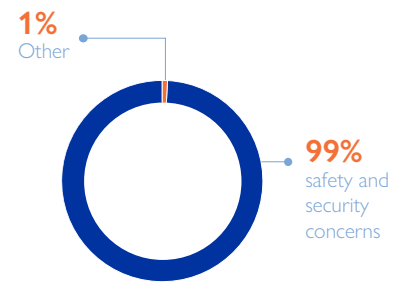
DISPLACEMENT TRENDS

IOM's Rapid Displacement Tracking (RDT) activities focus on the collection of essential data to inform location, needs and an estimated number of newly displaced households (HHs) on a daily basis. Over the course of the reporting period, IOM estimates that 4,950 households (29,700 individuals) experienced displacement at least once - marking a decrease from the estimated 14,440 households (86,640 individuals) displaced in the last quarter of 2021. The decrease in displacement is likely due to slowed hostilities along frontlines in areas such as Ma'rib.

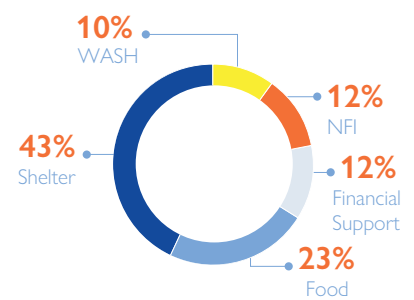
Nearly all (99%) of displaced households fled due to safety and security concerns. Shelter remained the main, as indicated by 43% of displaced households. The majority of displacements occurred in Hays district, and Al Hodeidah (1,461 HHs), Ma'rib (1,019 HHs) and Shabwah (814 HHs) governorates, areas where armed clashes continued during the reporting period.

Finally, the IOM led and finalized data collection for the Multi Cluster Location Assessment across governorates in the northern and southern regions of Yemen. The assessments provide critical information on displacement dynamics, demographic profiles, vulnerability, need, and coping mechanisms, is crucial to inform on crisis-affected populations and support humanitarian response programming. The assessment took place in coordination with the Supreme Council for Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (SCMCHA) and Central Statistical Organization in Yemen. Surveys were conducted with randomly selected households by trained enumerators. A total of 18,675 surveys were completed, including IDP, migrant, refugee, returnee, and host community households.

Reasons for Displacement



Top 5 Needs of IDPs



ADDRESSING URGENT NEEDS

 65,448 Individuals supported with MPCA	 11,719 Families provided with emergency shelter support (Cash or In Kind)	 187,670 Primary health care consultations	 37.6 million Liters of safe water	 87 IOM supported sites	 27,243 Migrants received humanitarian assistance
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Regular upticks of violence and conflict across the country, in conjunction with shortages in humanitarian funding and limited fuel supplies, has exacerbated the basic survival needs of vulnerable populations, including migrants, IDPs and crisis-affected host community members. Crisis-affected families in Yemen are increasingly in need of shelter and non-food items (S-NFI), as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), site management and coordination, financial and protection support. IOM implements a wide range of response efforts to support these vulnerable populations to address their most basic needs.



IOM WASH team member helps displaced man collect hygiene aid materials in a remote area of Yemens west coast. © IOM 2022/Rami Ibrahim

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (S-NFI)

IOM's S-NFI activities continued to support families in need with improved access to humane and dignified living conditions through shelter maintenance, upgrade and rehabilitation in addition to the provision of critical non-food items. In Al Hodeidah (on the west coast), IOM provided 600 transitional shelters to 600 families and oversaw the construction of another 145 TSs in Ma'rib and South Ta'iz. To ensure families can enhance shelters according to their specific needs, IOM provided cash-for-NFI assistance to over 2,950 households in Ma'rib and 586 in the West Coast. To buy materials to rehabilitate their shelters. All these activities aim to support conflict affected families with damaged or worn-out shelters with improved living conditions.

	January	February	March
 Emergency Shelter Materials	614	621	1,912
 Non food items	4,567	781	3,498
 Shelter rehabilitation support		806	2,238

For two years, the IOM managed multi-sectoral contingency stock pipeline ensured the prepositioning of critical emergency relief items to support the collective humanitarian response at the onset of an emergency. In January 2022, the last month of the project, IOM and its pipeline partners provided over 4,700 families with essential non-food items, and over 4,700 displaced households with emergency shelter materials who were affected by conflict, flood, and fire incidents across five governorates in Yemen.



The IOM shelter team conducts a focus group with internally displaced persons who were given cash to construct their shelters in Al Khoka displacement site on Yemen's west coast. © IOM 2022/Angela Wells

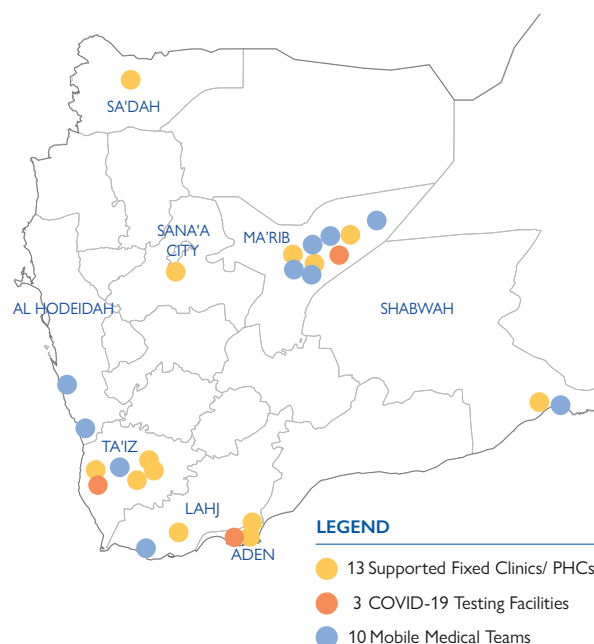
CASH ASSISTANCE

As co-lead of the cash component of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) and the Cash Consortium in Yemen, IOM provides multi-purpose cash assistance (MCPA) to some of the most vulnerable households to meet their basic needs in a dignified and flexible manner and reduce their reliance on negative coping mechanisms. Between January and March 2022, over 10,908 households (approximately 65,0448 individuals) were supported with MCPA to meet household needs. Furthermore, a total of 3,057 displaced families in Ma'rib, benefitted from RRM kits including blankets and other essential relief items.

 **10,908**
Households were supported with MCPA

HEALTH

IOM's health teams expanded support to include two additional public health facilities in Ma'rib, now supporting 15 health facilities and 11 mobile medical teams throughout Yemen. In total, 187,670 primary health care consultations were conducted via IOM-supported health facilities and mobile teams, including 14,701 consultations for migrants. In the month of March, IOM health teams supported the response to a scabies outbreak in Al Ma'afir district (Ta'iz) by screening for clinical cases, contact tracing and medical care for those infected. As a part of ongoing support to Monnabih Rural Hospital, IOM delivered 15 tons of supplies to address the rising caseload of injured migrants and others in need in the hard-to-reach region. To support continuity and improvement of care, IOM provided psychological first aid training to 33 health workers and community mobilizers in Mawza (West Coast) and a series of trainings for 215 public health workers in Sana'a and Ma'rib on topics including Infection and Prevention Control, Psychological Support Services and Health Gap Action Programming.



WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)



37.6 million

Liters of safe water



124,088

IDPs in IOM-supported sites



41,679

People benefiting with improved waste management services



87

Nearly 42,250 IDPs and 2,250 migrants were provided with hygiene kits

Water-related health issues remain high risk factors for vulnerable and crisis-affected communities living with limited access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services - these risks are exacerbated by over-crowded living conditions. Over the past three months, IOM provided 37.6 million liters of safe water to 124,088 IDPs in IOM-supported sites across Ma'rib, the West Coast and South Ta'iz. Solid waste collection and disposal continued, benefiting 41,679 people with improved waste management services. To further compliment WASH services, IOM teams promote improved hygiene practices through awareness raising and provision of hygienic materials. Nearly 42,250 IDPs and 2,250 migrants in Ma'rib and South Ta'iz were provided with hygiene kits including items such as soap, washing powder, jerry cans and plastic jugs. IOM accompanies distributions with sensitization on how to properly use items provided. WASH teams also continued hygiene promotion sessions, outlining best practices, COVID-19 mitigation measures and safe water preservation.



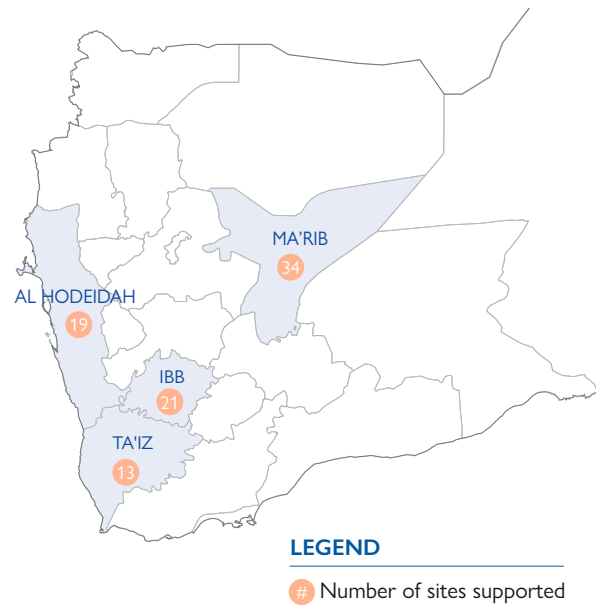
Communities receive hygiene materials during a distribution on Yemen's west coast. © IOM 2022/Rami Ibrahim

A water site with four water points was completed, benefiting an estimated 1,333 individuals in two displacement sites in Al Khukhah (West Coast). In Ma'rib, IOM installed a submersible pump to reinforce water systems in Al Jufainah displacement site, enabling 59,964 IDPs to have greater access to water.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM expanded Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) support to 12 additional sites during the reporting period, totaling 87 IOM-supported sites across Ma'rib and the West Coast. An estimated 166,626 IDPs benefit from IOM site maintenance, monitoring, improvement, awareness raising and capacity building activities that aim to ensure displaced families have access to improved living conditions.

To ensure community participation and ownership in CCCM activities, site management and coordination committees were established in eight sites, enabling members to contribute to information sharing, community mobilized and relaying feedback to IOM to inform CCCM interventions. In South Ta'iz and Ma'rib to support income generating skills, teams provided training on fragrance and incense making to 432 women. In Ma'rib, conducted an awareness raising campaign in Al Jufainah on the importance of education, reaching over 8,100 IDPs. As range of activities were conducted across sites to reduce fire risks. IOM trained over 330 on firefighting techniques or to be fire wardens, ensure displaced persons in sites have the capacity to quickly respond in case fire erupts. On the west coast, displaced families were supported with assistance to improve kitchens by replacing flammable materials. As IDPs in some sites do not have access to electricity, IOM continued to provide and or maintain solar systems across sites in South Ta'iz.



An estimated 9 million

is urgently needed to support stranded migrants in Yemen to return home through IOM's Voluntary Humanitarian Return programme.



European Union

