

# IOM YEMEN QUARTERLY UPDATE

QUARTER 3: JULY - SEPTEMBER 2019



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

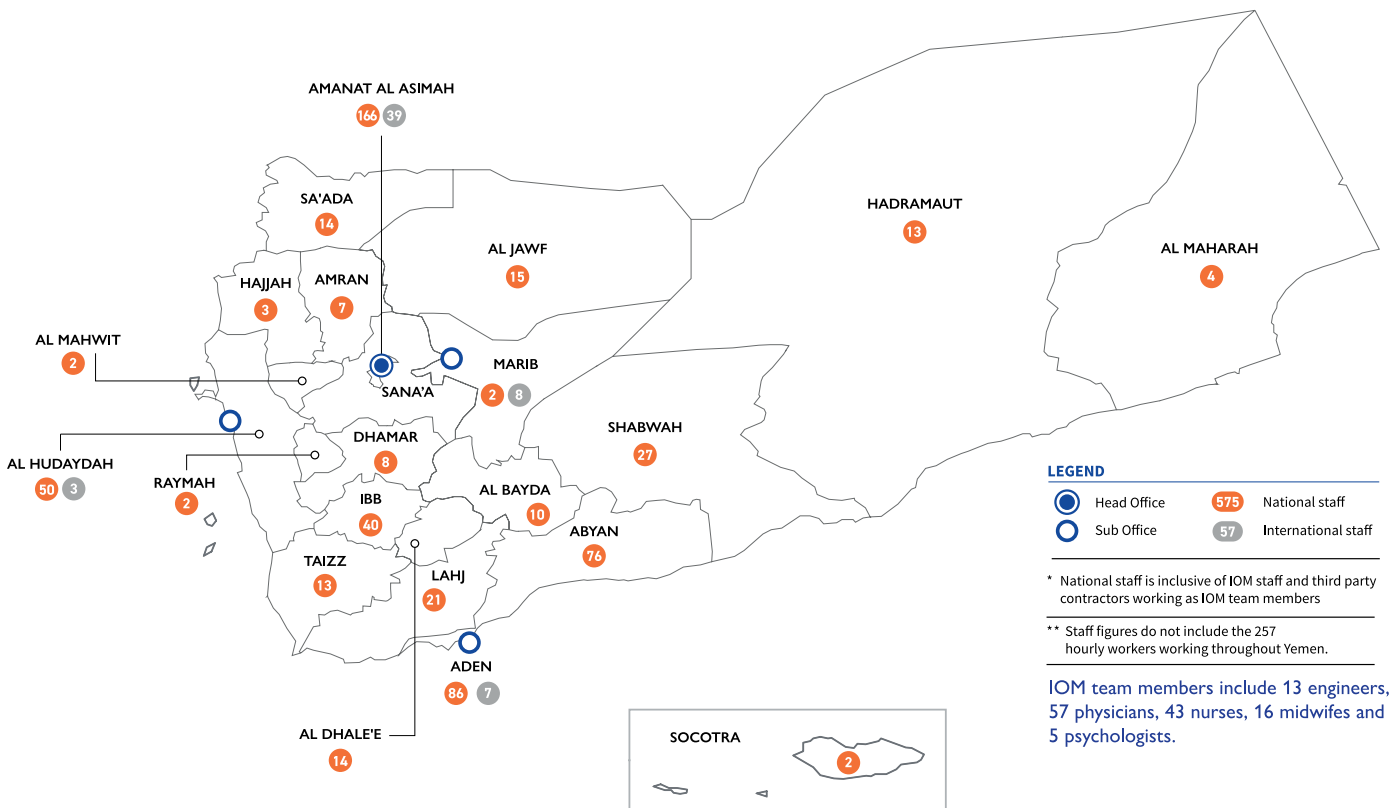
More than four years of conflict in Yemen have led to the suffering of millions and the collapse of already underdeveloped public systems. The largest humanitarian crisis in the world was worsened in the third quarter of 2019 as a result of continued conflict and rising regional tensions. Hostilities on well-established frontlines in governorates such as Al Dhale, Taizz and Al Hudaydah led to the increased displacement of Yemenis and access constraints for humanitarians trying to reach communities in need. Throughout the quarter, many displaced and host communities in governorates such as Aden, Hajjah, Lahj, Ibb, Shawbah, Al Hudaydah and Hadramout continued to deal with the fall out of heavy rains and floods, which destroyed many families' temporary shelters. Of the thousands impacted by the floods, some of the worst affected were displaced communities. The situation in southern governorates deteriorated in August due to an escalation of fighting in Aden. The unstable security situation not only posed risks for displaced communities, but also led to access constraints for IOM teams and service providers. Despite this, IOM continued to operate throughout this "crisis within a crisis". Additionally Yemen continues to be a major country of transit and destination for irregular migrants predominantly from the Horn of Africa. From July to September, 23,403 migrants arrived in Yemen, making the total number of arrivals recorded by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) since the start of 2019 to be 107,781.

## OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENT UPDATE

Since the end of 2018, IOM has put enormous focus on enhancing its response capacity in Yemen. This effort continued in the third quarter of 2019 through the development of sub-offices and ongoing human resource expansion. Earlier in 2019, IOM established a new sub-office in Marib - a city and governorate hosting a high number of displaced people - to improve the Organization's reach across Yemen. The Mission continues to work on the development of the Marib office, an IOM guesthouse and an IOM-managed humanitarian hub, which will support partners' interventions in Marib and surrounding previously hard-to-reach governorates. IOM currently has eight international team members based in Marib, who have been focusing on assessments and community meetings as preparation for an effective humanitarian response. IOM is also constructing guesthouses for its Aden and Al Hudaydah sub-offices and, during this quarter, finished the construction of its new guesthouse in Sana'a. With increased accommodation,

IOM has been able to continue to grow its international staff presence in Yemen. In December of 2018, IOM had nine international team members working inside Yemen and, as of the end of September 2019, the number of internationals was 57. This enhanced capacity is also reflected in the national team, which grew from 400 in December 2018 to nearly 600 by the end of September 2019. With a bigger team, following the IOM global model of large strong national teams, IOM has been able to increase the frontline nature of its programming and is prepared to stay and deliver during any escalation of the crisis. In July with all expert programme managers and coordinators now on board, the Yemen team hosted a strategic retreat in Sana'a, which brought together operational staff from across the country. The discussions and outcomes of the retreat focused on harmonizing, consolidating and increasing impact as well as finding opportunities to support community resilience; a key focus of IOM's work currently and looking toward 2020.

## IOM CAPACITY IN YEMEN



## A Needs Based Response

With offices in Sana'a, Aden, Al Hudaydah and Marib, alongside satellite presence in all 22 governorates, IOM supports the most vulnerable throughout Yemen, including displaced people, conflict-affected communities and migrants. Using an integrated multisector response, IOM focuses on a community-based approach and continues to seek to prioritize its response across underserved districts. This year, IOM has concentrated efforts on independent assessments to inform the Organization's response and to target communities with high needs where there is a likelihood of these needs increasing due to receiving large numbers of displaced people, returnees, migrants or other vulnerable groups. This has been the focus of the team in Marib over the third quarter of 2019, while operational units such as IOM's WASH team carried out multiple assessments in other areas of the country like Ibb and Taizz.

**34** Displacement sites in Marib evaluated through rapid assessments

**20+** Projects combining emergency and early recovery interventions



## Addressing Urgent Needs in the World's Largest Humanitarian Crisis

IOM carries out a multisector humanitarian response, namely; health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), shelter, non-food items (NFI) and cash-based assistance, camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), protection and displacement tracking (DTM).

### SCALE OF CAMP MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

At the beginning of July, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) formally activated the CCCM Cluster in Yemen. Under the guidance of a dedicated CCCM Programme Manager, IOM continued the expansion of CCCM operations and took on the role of CCCM Sub-National Cluster Coordinator in Marib. The Programme Manager travelled to Ibb and Marib where she has provided practical training to IOM's camp managers and partners, including from the local community. She also focused on the rapid recruitment of staff; hiring two internationals to lead the CCCM team in Marib. Additionally, the CCCM Programme Manager began consultations with communities in Marib governorate to begin providing CCCM support to displacement sites and carried out urgent risk reduction measures at several sites while also supporting the establishment of a health clinic in one site. The CCCM team also conducted rapid needs assessments at 12 displacement sites inside and 22 sites outside Marib city during quarter 3.



**122**  
Sites coordinated or managed by IOM's CCCM team

### RESPONDING TO FALL OUT OF HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS

The last quarter saw over 80,000 people across the country lose their homes and critical household items as a result of severe flooding. During this period, IOM's S-NFI activities focused on providing dignified and safe shelter and NFI solutions to affected communities in Abyan, Lahj, Al Hudaydah and Hajjah. IOM distributed enhanced emergency shelter kits, shelter repair kits, and NFI and hygiene kits to 2,187 displaced and host community families, in addition to the 10,852 distributed in the last quarter to the worst flood affected governorates such as Aden, Abyan, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb and Taizz.



YEMENIS COLLECT EMERGENCY NFI FOLLOWING THE HAJJAH FLOODING ©IOM 2019

### HELPING MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES RETURN HOME SAFELY AND VOLUNTARILY

Migrants from the Horn of Africa continue to arrive in Yemen, most of whom are en route to wealthier Gulf countries. In April, authorities in Aden, Abyan and Lahj began detaining migrants in makeshift detention centres and at the peak, approximately 5,000 people were held. IOM supported the voluntary return of 2,742 people through 22 flights from Aden with the last flight taking place in July. In the third quarter of 2019, IOM helped a total of 708 migrants and 283 refugees return home to Ethiopia and Somalia. With an increase in protection capacity in the mission, IOM has been able to formalize its approach to interventions related to migrant detention in and forced returns from Yemen. Part of the formalization process included hosting a migration dialogue with the authorities to discuss humane migration management, which took place in August.



**708**  
Migrants supported through voluntary humanitarian return

3,784 migrants supported through VHR in 2019



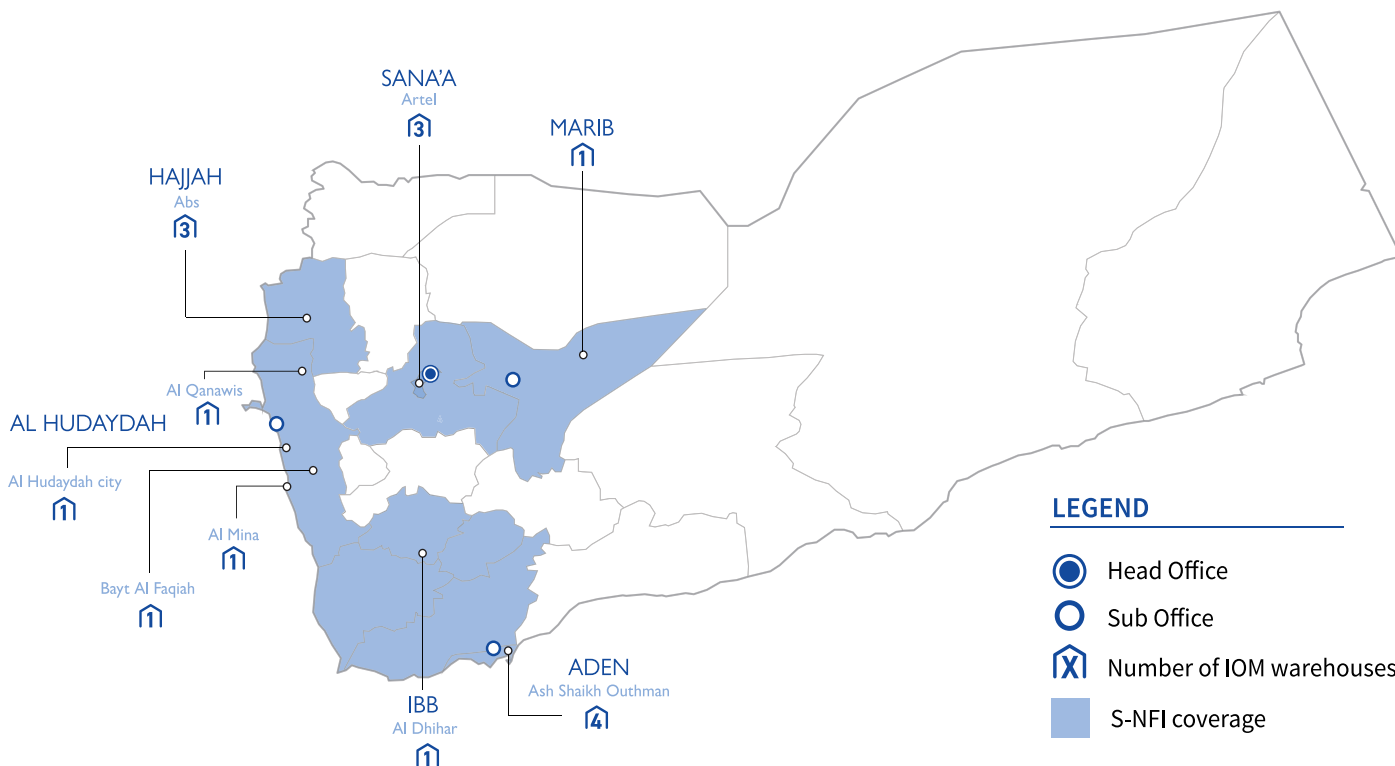
A REFUGEE GIRL AND HER FAMILY PREPARES FOR THEIR FERRY RIDE HOME. IOM AND UNHCR COOPERATE ON REGULAR ASSISTED SPONTANEOUS RETURN (ASR) FROM YEMEN TO SOMALIA ©IOM 2019

## WAREHOUSING AND PREPOSITIONING OF AID ITEMS TO SUPPORT S-NFI PARTNERS

IOM operates sixteen warehouses strategically located across six governorates with total space of 15,000 sqm. In the last quarter, in preparation for further floods and emergency response activities, IOM pre-positioned 1,836 NFI kits and 2,000 emergency shelter kits in IOM managed warehouses in Hajjah and Al-Hudaydah governorates. IOM emergency stock items are available to cluster partners during the onset of emergencies, to provide timely and rapid response to emergency needs as they arise. IOM is strengthening its S-NFI capacity in Marib governorate, where the Organization leads the sub-national cluster. Long Term Agreements with reliable S-NFI suppliers with capacity in Marib are being finalized and will be instrumental in enabling a reactive S-NFI response across Marib and surrounding governorates.



**16**  
Warehouses with space of 15,000 sqm



## SUPPORTING THE HUMANITARIAN COMMUNITY TO CAPTURE YEMEN'S NEEDS PROFILE

DTM's network of enumerators cover over 17,000 locations across Yemen and capture the needs, numbers, locations and conditions of mobile populations, including displaced people, migrants and returnees. Through this data collection network, IOM produces reports, datasets and maps for the public and partner use, including authorities, humanitarian and development actors as well as donors engaged in Yemen. Efforts to launch Yemen's Multi-Cluster Area Assessment (MCLA), with the support of IOM's DTM team is supporting, are underway. The MCLA provides a comprehensive evidence base for humanitarian programming across geographical areas, sectors and population groups. The MCLA is aligned with 31 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) indicators and underpins humanitarian needs analysis and planning across the country. The 2019 MCLA goes beyond district-level key informant interviews to gather more granular information on the humanitarian needs of specific population groups directly from households. Through this strengthened methodology, data provided through the 2019 MCLA will contribute towards enhancing needs severity analysis to fill inter-cluster and cluster information gaps and the 2020 Yemen HNO. Data collection for the MCLA is due to begin in the next quarter.



**361,260**  
Individuals displaced since the start of 2019



**1,675**  
Calls made by DTM enumerators as part of cash-for-work beneficiary verification

### 2019 MCLA SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY



**22,000**  
Household level interviews



**5**  
Population groups: IDPs, returnees, refugees, migrants and non-displaced communities



**333**  
Districts

Methodology will lead to findings that are indicative at the district-level and statistically representative of needs at governorate-level



## STAYING AND DELIVERING IN ADEN IN A CRISIS WITHIN A CRISIS

In late August, the security situation in Aden deteriorated, leading to severe access constraints for humanitarians. IOM operations continued in August and September with a significantly reduced team composed of only three international staff and 19 critical national team members. Despite the situation and diminished capacity, the health team ensured that 24 health facilities throughout southern governorates continued to provide a life saving minimum service package for displaced Yemenis and the communities hosting them. Health support for migrants, as well as protection services, also continued at IOM's migrant response point (MRP) in Aden and the sub-offices mobile migrant response teams. At the start of September, the protection team organized the voluntary return movement of 140 Somali refugees from Aden port to Berbera, Somalia, as part of the ongoing Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme, carried out in partnership with UNHCR. While finalizing these three schools, the team also continued the rehabilitation of four schools in Lahj governorate. The WASH team also fought against the odds to complete the rehabilitation of a major public water site in Lahj, which now provides around 3,200 people with improved access to clean water, while rehabilitation works were ongoing in August and September for two water sites in Shabwah, which would benefit 36,200 individuals.



238

Refugees supported through assisted spontaneous return

1,291 refugees supported through ASR in 2019

## Community Resilience

IOM supports Yemeni families to increase their household income and enhance their coping capacity to shocks through a community-centred approach, addressing community priorities and leading to strengthened social cohesion. A large part of this work is rehabilitation of community infrastructure such as schools or hospitals while ensuring that the local community leads the planning process and is employed to carry out the activity. IOM prioritizes locations in Yemen where there are large numbers of displaced people or returnees, supporting the integration of vulnerable communities. For example, as school was fast approaching in September, IOM completed the rehabilitation of three schools in Al Mukallah city, Hadramout governorate, in time for students to start the new school year in refurbished classrooms. In addition, the rehabilitation of four more schools in Lahj was ongoing during this quarter. These works are implemented as part a project in Hadramout, Shabwa, Abyan, Lahj, and Aden, which has rehabilitated 32 public assets, including schools, technical institutes, irrigation channels, health facilities and local markets, over a 13-month period. As part of the same project, IOM implemented cleaning campaigns, employing 1,750 cash-for-work beneficiaries and provided the communities with materials for continued waste management.



5

Community assets rehabilitated



4

Community assets under rehabilitation



IOM RECOVERY TEAMS IN LAHJ WORK WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO BUILD RESILIENCE AND TO FIND SUSTAINABLE WATER SOLUTIONS. THIS FARMER BENEFITTED FROM THE INSTALLATION OF A DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM ©IOM/ HEADON

## SUPPORTING YEMEN'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM MAKE IT THROUGH THE CRISIS

IOM is currently supporting 86 health facilities, including nine mobile medical clinics, to provide a minimum service package of health services to target communities through human resources, medication and logistics support. Health care is an integrated component of IOM's humanitarian response to the crisis in Yemen. IOM supports health service delivery while promoting comprehensive, preventive and curative care that is accessible and equitable for migrants, internally displaced persons and other conflict-affected communities. The aim of IOM's health programming in Yemen is to ensure that key public institutions can survive the crisis and be strengthened. IOM engineers and physicians conduct rapid needs assessments at each facility to identify specific needs, and these assessments inform the required level of support for effective rehabilitation or restoration of services, including provision of medications and equipment, financial support of existing staff through incentives and operational costs, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) supplies. To further develop quality health care and support the capacity of public health workers, IOM provides comprehensive training at facilities on basic emergency management of obstetric and newborn care, infection prevention and control, and integrated management of childhood illness. Services available include: screening for severe acute malnutrition in children under the age of 5, maternity care, safe delivery care, mental health and psychosocial support, emergency referrals to secondary health services, diagnostic investigations (X-ray, etc.) and non-communicable disease care.



**86**  
Health facilities supported



**269,788**  
Medical consultations carried out



AN IOM DOCTOR EXAMINES A YOUNG BOY IN A SAN'AA CLINIC WHERE IOM ENSURES THAT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY HAS ACCESS TO A MINIMUM PACKAGE OF SERVICES ©IOM 2019/HEADON

### IOM Yemen Priorities for the Next Quarter

In the last quarter of 2019, IOM will continue to scale up its response across Yemen, with particular focus on recruitment as well as sub office operations in Aden, Al Hudaydah and Marib governorates. As risk reduction in Marib displacement sites and building camp management capacity is a priority, IOM teams will continue to train local partners and representatives of the displaced community while also carrying out site improvements. In Marib and Ibb, IOM will focus on increasing service provision for vulnerable groups and, in Al Hudaydah, the Organization hopes to expand its access to allow for sustained service provision. With recorded migrant arrivals in Yemen increasing,

IOM is working to better identify and analyze migrant routes and experiences, while enhancing its migrant response and support to migrants who wish to return home. As IOM continues to support the resilience of Yemeni communities, the team will work with local authorities and diverse community members to identify needs as well as key areas where IOM can enhance local capacity. IOM will prioritize the development of programmes that contribute to the enhancement of community stabilization, with particular emphasis on the integration of vulnerable persons and groups. Finally IOM is working on an external multiyear response strategy, which will be circulated by the end of the year.

### IOM'S WORK IN YEMEN IS SUPPORTED BY

