

UNHCR YEMEN National Programme: Fact Sheet



Objectives of UNHCR in Yemen: February.& March 2008

1. Support to the Government:

UNHCR is actively involved in supporting the government's efforts to assist refugees and asylum-seekers in providing them with legal protection, shelter, food supplies, health services, education, vocational training etc.

2. Refugees & Asylum Seekers:

During Feb. & March 2008, the total number of refugees registered by UNHCR Yemen is 125,128 comprising the Following:-

Convention¹ Refugees in the camp: 9,965
(Somalis: 9,315; non-Somali 650)

Convention Refugees in Urban Settlements: 39,006
(Registered Somalis: 38,863; non-Somali: 143)

Convention Refugees in Urban Settlements:
69,878 (Unregistered Somalis)

Mandate² Refugees in Urban Settlements:
6,279(Non-Somalis)

IDPs - 77,000

Total³ - 125,128

3. Support to the Somali refugees & Other People of Concern:

UNHCR registers all the Somali refugees, who are recognized by the Government on the prima facie basis. Other asylum seekers are registered by UNHCR undergo the Refugee Status Determination (RSD). Moreover, UNHCR works very closely with the Government, Implementing Partners, with the aim to prevent social discrimination and other forms of violence. UNHCR is increasing its efforts to develop programs and activities through community services and home visits.

4. Durable Solutions:

There are numerous reasons why local integration is not a viable option for all refugees in Yemen, although UNCHR is engaged in providing refugee with vocational training and other self-reliance schemes.

1 Refugees recognized as such by the government

2 Refugees recognized as such by UNHCR

3 Estimated on the basis of the sum of the following categories

5. Partnerships:

Strengthen local partnerships for protection and durable solutions through community outreach, engagement of development actors to include persons of concern to UNHCR in their programmes in urban areas as well as training and capacity building.

6. UNHCR Yemen Humanitarian partners:

Government Bodies: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Public Health, and Sana'a University.

UN Partners: UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UNDP:

International Partners: Save the Children Sweden (Radda Barnen) Adventist Development and Relief Agency, (ADRA), and International Humanitarian Aid Organization (HAD) and MSF Spain.

National Partners: Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW), Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS), and Interaction in Development Foundation (IDF) and Solidarity Association for Development (SAD).

7. UNHCR Staff: Total: 78 (21 International and 57 National).

8. Events of the Months:

UNHCR offices in Aden and Sana'a commemorated an International Women's Day on 8th of March with formal celebrations in Sana'a, Basateen and Al Kharaz camp.

Protection

The selection of Protection Training and coordination meetings took place in both Basateen and Al Kharaz camp with the participation of various level from the refugees. Various topics were discussed such as Women's rights, Human Rights, Yemeni Criminal Law provisions and consequences of misconduct, Role of UNHCR and other protection issues.

Ahwar Reception Centre (ARC) was opened on 9th of March 2008 to have a more effective response towards the new arrivals.

Community Services

Participatory Assessment was concluded in Aden. Over 100 refugees participated in the open discussion in addition to government officials, expressing their concerns, but also offering possible solutions and improvements.

Memorandum of Understanding between UNHCR and the Ministry of Health was discussed and major gaps in service delivery were identified. Steps to enhancing the medical service delivery to all refugees and asylum-seekers in Yemen were established.

The Community Service Unit in Sana'a held the meeting with the Humanitarian Aid for Development (HAD) to discuss the HAD's Donation to UNHCR's projects in 2008; HAD committed \$12000 US to fund women's health and self-reliance projects specifically targeting vulnerable women.

IDPs

Appeal: On April the 22nd UNHCR launched an appeal for nearly US\$3 million to provide protection and assistance to an estimated 77,000 IDPs affected by a local conflict in northern Yemen. Funds raised in the supplementary appeal would ensure enhanced support for the internally displaced persons and returnees affected by a conflict, which erupted in 2004 in the Sa'adah Governorate.

UNHCR has signed an agreement with 'Saada's Charitable Woman's Association' that will undertake the household registration and profiling of the urban IDPS and camp based IDPs of Al Anad, Sam and Ihsa'a camps .

Picture: "IDPs in Al-Annad Camp" *in Saad'a Governorate*

**For more information, please contact the
UNHCR office in Sana'a.
Tel: +967-1-469711/2
Fax: +967-1-469770**