



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

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IOM Yemeni Youth Year – Empowering the Youth

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO WATCH THE FILM

#PeaceShot
Youth of Peace Organization

Project in teaching documentary filmmaking, which targets migrants, refugees, displaced populations and communities in Yemen. The project will conclude with two films produced by the trainees and will be displayed in the cinema of Magical City of Sana'a and online. The main objective of the project is to enhance the integration of those vulnerable categories into the society and promote peace building in Yemen.

Acute Watery Diarrhea and Cholera Outbreak in Yemen – an Unprecedented Situation for Yemen: IOM Response

The current acute diarrhea and cholera outbreak poses a significant threat to people in Yemen, the majority of whom has already lost their livelihoods and access social services. The results of the Health Resources Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS) revealed that only 45 percent of health facilities in 16 surveyed governorates are functioning. Key informants in 38 percent of the assessed displaced and host community locations reported that no health services were available to their community at all.

The capacity to respond to the outbreak is severely compromised by the weak health system as a result of lack of equipment, medicines and personnel. The situation is further exacerbated by inadequate sanitation conditions and the fact that two-thirds of Yemen's population currently do not have access to clean water.

According to the health/WASH cholera task force, the total number of population at risk of cholera is 7.6 million. To respond to this increasingly alarming situation, IOM is continuing to focus its response on containing the outbreak in targeted affected communities and through preventing the disease from spreading in the surrounding communities.

IOM activities are implemented in districts with the highest number of confirmed cholera cases, and is scaling up to at least 15 of the most affected districts. The response is made through an integrated approach that includes health and water/sanitation activities, including health and hygiene awareness. A waste management approach is also under preparation.

IOM supporting partners in establishing Diarrhea Treatment Centers (DTCs) with the required facilities for the management of severe cases, as well as Oral Rehydration Corners at community and primary health care levels for the management of mild and moderate cases. Referral system have been put in place, through partnerships with health centres and hospitals, for cases failing to recover or that are further deteriorating. IOM medical teams are offering training to health workers on case definition, diagnosis and management protocols, while mobile teams are distributing hygiene and WASH kits to patients. IOM's humanitarian teams provide safe water through water trucking to targeted locations, while chlorination of water sources is in discussion with certain local authorities. Cholera kits are distributed to at risk populations and community information campaigns focusing on hygiene promotion are ongoing.



IOM Yemen Protection of and Support to Ethiopian Migrant Children

For a considerable amount of time, Yemen, the poorest country in the Middle East, has been a transit and host country for thousands of migrants, many of whom are unaccompanied boys from the Horn of Africa, hoping to find work in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries. Although Yemen has struggled for years to address child protection issues, the conflict that began in late March 2015 has set back any progress achieved. Children – including migrant children -- have been greatly impacted by the conflict, suffering injury, trauma and death. Additionally, children are being recruited for military activities and by criminal networks to smuggle goods over borders or are being forced into labour, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation.

So far this year, 25 percent of the migrants that have been assisted by IOM in Yemen were unaccompanied migrant children. They were mainly Ethiopian boys between the ages of 14 and 17, who were in need of urgent life-saving assistance and protection. They had traveled from Ethiopia overland through Djibouti, and sometimes Somalia, before crossing the sea to Yemen. Often times, they were abducted, injured or shot, held captive, abused, exploited and robbed, while on their journey. The IOM Mission in Yemen provides these young migrants with health care, temporary shelter, food and drinking water, as well as core relief items such as clothing and hygiene kits. It also works with them to identify and understand their vulnerabilities and needs. If they want to go home, IOM facilitates their return - making sure that they are safe, all their rights are protected and they are able to reunite with their families.

[Othman's Story: 17 years old, unaccompanied migrant child and helped by IOM Yemen](#)

Othman left his family because, he says, he was angry with his mother. Four months ago, he met a smuggler who had offered to take him to Saudi Arabia. Othman had no money to pay him, so he stole it from his mother. That is how he was able to leave his hometown in Ethiopia. Unaware of the trap, Othman did not realize that from that moment he had put his life at the mercy of unscrupulous smugglers. Upon his arrival in Yemen, Othman was sold to another smuggler who held him at a secret location for two months. During this time, Othman was beaten, burnt and tortured. He was forced to call his mother to send ransom money in order to be released. Othman's mother could only secure a part of it.



Othman's life was greatly in danger. However, as the smuggler was unsuccessful in his attempts to extort money from Othman's family, he eventually gave up. Luckily, Othman was let go alive. Traumatized and weakened by several weeks in detention, Othman longs to hear his mother's voice again.

"I shouldn't have trusted them. It was the wrong thing to do," says Othman.

Othman will soon be reunited with his family. "I want to go back to school and become an engineer," he says.

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Supporting Conflict-affected and Displaced Children in Shabwah and Lahj Governorates

In the context of large scale displacement, where 45 percent of the over two million displaced are children, existing buildings and structures are often used as temporary accommodation. These buildings used as collective centres vary widely and can include schools. The use of schools as collective centres can result in a disruption, reduction or cancelation of the education services. For the displaced, accessing adequate housing is a central issue.

IOM has started supporting access to education for conflict-affected displaced children living in schools and those living in the host communities (including adolescents), in close coordination with Yemen's Education Cluster and the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)/Shelter/Non-food Items (NFI) Cluster, that IOM co-chairs, with UNHCR as Cluster Coordinator.

The IOM School programme, financial supported by the Italian Government, is aiming at gender parity, and at increasing access to positive opportunities to help and promote longer-term solutions to the protracted conflict. This will be achieved through a multifaceted approach:

- a) Support displaced families living in schools to find a more suitable shelter solution in host communities, through the provision of rental subsidies and a livelihoods scheme;
- b) Rehabilitate the schools by relying on paid labour from the displaced and host communities;
- c) In coordination with the Education and Child Protection Clusters, provide essential teaching and learning supplies and education kits for students and teachers;
- d) Establish school committees and provide capacity building training on child rights, inclusion and gender equality, as well as context-specific protection needs.

IOM has completed the technical assessment of the schools, along with the displaced population registration. Some families have started leaving the schools, making them vacant and so, allowing repair and rehabilitation.

Focus groups have been created in each district, composed of: the Head of the District, the Head of the Education Office in the District, the Schools Managers, the Shaikh, members from the communities and displaced people. The focus groups have started discussing the availability of housing and the needs for repair, specifically in rural areas. Alternative solutions were discussed, such as the installation of wooden houses for displaced families, which is considered a more sustainable solution with a lower cost. The community offered to donate the land for facilitating the installation of the displaced population. The wooden house would consist of a room, kitchen, bathroom and small hall.



IOM Yemen Provides Life-saving Support to Flood Affected Households in North-west Yemen

In anticipation of the heavy rains, IOM Yemen has worked with local partners to strengthen community preparedness through the preposition of relief items in strategic hubs throughout Yemen.

Preparedness is a key component to IOM Yemen's humanitarian emergency response to the ongoing conflict, which strives to reduce life-threatening circumstances triggered by natural disasters and conflict.

With over two years of conflict, the population of Yemen experiences high levels of insecurity, restricted movement, damaged services and infrastructure, as well as the degradation of livelihood opportunities.

In May 2017, Hajjah Governorate in the North-west of Yemen was hit by heavy rains and flash floods, common for this time of the year. The floods damaged houses and devastated livelihoods leaving families with few belongings, no shelter and loss of livelihood.

IOM and its partners were the first responders to this disaster by providing life-saving humanitarian relief to 600 of the most affected and vulnerable households. More than 3,600 individuals were helped in this initial period. Each household received a combined shelter and core relief item kit. The kits are designed in coordination with the humanitarian community and tailored to meet the need of the beneficiaries. Each contains six mattresses, six blankets, three sleeping mats, two water buckets, one kitchen set (two steel cooking pots, two steel plates, two steel cooking spoons, and one knife), as well as one pickaxe, one saw, one sisal rope, one hammer and two plastic sheets.

With continued support, IOM will strengthen its approach to preparedness to allow for the rapid provision of relief items at the onset of any crisis, natural disaster or conflict, to the most vulnerable in Yemen.



IOM Yemen and The Global Fund – a Joint Partnership to Combat Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS



Team meeting in Amman, May 2017: Dr. Nevin Wilson, Senior Programme Coordinator, IOM; Dr. Zamani, Senior Advisor, WHO; Dr. Esam Mahyub, NTP Manager; Dr. Akjemal, WHO Deputy Representative; Dr. Methaq, NMCP Manager; Dr. Abdulhameed, IOM Yemen Technical Officer, Dr. Alisher Makhkamov, IOM Yemen Programme Coordinator, Dr. Arnikov, IOM Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, with members of the team.

In June 2016, the Global Fund notified IOM that it had been selected as the Principal Recipient for the Middle East Response grant to combat malaria, tuberculosis and HIV&AIDS. Under the guidance of the Global Fund Country Team, IOM Yemen has prepared the implementation work plan. Such plans have been reviewed during a Partnership Meeting held in Amman in May 2017. The meeting was followed by a programmatic review through consultation between IOM and the World Health Organization (WHO) in order to discuss existing bottlenecks and way forward in project implementation.

IOM Yemen started its actions through the delivery of Long Lusting Mosquito Nets to Aden port. The nets have arrived and will be distributed mid-July. Furthermore, IOM Yemen Project Support Unit initiated the procurement of ARV drugs, TB drugs, Gene expert, HIV, Malaria rapid test.

IOM Yemen Signs Cooperation Agreements to Increase Humanitarian Footprint in the Country

IOM Yemen has embarked on a series of partnerships with international and national organizations to scale up its outreach and coverage in the entire Yemen, guaranteeing quicker and larger delivery capacities, utilizing access, manpower and contacts countrywide. By doing so, IOM Yemen will facilitate the delivery of its humanitarian response to internally displaced persons and migrants, in areas such as shelter, non-food items, food vouchers, health and water/sanitation, including its cholera response, to a maximum number of possible beneficiaries.

In May and June 2017, IOM signed agreements with the National Organization for Rights, Freedom and Development (NORFD); the Millennium Development Foundation (MDF); the Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS); the Humanitarian Forum Yemen (HFY); the Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA); the Youth of Peace Organization (YOP); the For All Foundation (FAF), the Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF), and is looking to further expand such partnership.

(Photos of few signatory events)



Understand Peoples Needs is the First Step to an Effective Response in Yemen



Through a cooperation agreement between the International Organization for Migration and the National Organization for Rights Freedom and Humanitarian Development (NFORD), IOM worked with its new partner to distribute food assistance as an emergency humanitarian response to the poorest before the Eid holiday. This action helps impoverished families facing a religious and festive holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of the Islamic holy month of fasting “Ramadan”.

The agreement also foresees a longer-term agriculture programme through the distribution of seeds and irrigation support, made as an early recovery project in line with IOM transition activities in some parts of Yemen.



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