

YEMEN – Conflict

ETC Situation Report #55

Reporting period 01/04/2021 to 30/04/2021

ETC Yemen Situation Reports are issued monthly.

Highlights

- The ETC continues to provide critical Internet connectivity to 670 humanitarians across 12 sites in Yemen, and communications services, including security telecommunications to a total of 2,371 responders from eight Security Operations Centres managed by UNDSS across the country.
- In April, the ETC helpdesk received and resolved 800 issues from responders.
- The project to provide ETC connectivity services to all passengers travelling through Aden airport, has been activated will be launched soon.



The ETC supported the WFP Executive Director with critical connectivity during his mission to Yemen.

Photo: WFP/Motaz Al Zekri

ETC Activities

COVID-19 response

- To support the response to COVID-19, the ETC continues to provide Internet connectivity services in the dedicated COVID-19 UN isolation centres in Sana'a, Al Hodeidah and Aden.
- Due to the increased number of COVID-19 cases, most UN staff are encouraged to work from home.

ETC activities

- The purchase order for extending internet connectivity services to the new WHO guesthouse in Aden has been raised.
- The shipment of ETC equipment for setting up a new Security Operations Centre (SOC) in Marib is on hold due to a new procedure introduced by the authorities.
- The ETC supported WFP's Executive Director (ED), David Beasley, with critical connectivity during his mission to Yemen in March to draw the world's attention to the worsening plight of its people. Following the mission, the ETC conducted a [Q&A](#) with the ED in which he praised the efforts of the ETC team and

reflected on the important role technology continues to play in keeping the world connected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The joint project with the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology (MoTIT) and Aden Net ISP to provide connectivity services for all passengers — humanitarians and commercial — at Aden airport is completed and will be launched soon.
- The ETC has completed the site assessment to set up an INGO hub at an Islamic Relief site in Al Hodeidah where the team will provide connectivity services.
- The set up of an ETC IT lab for UN agencies in the UN Common Accommodation Facility (UNCAF) in Sana'a is complete.
- On 4 April, the ETC conducted a three-hour virtual workplan plenary session with partners in Al Hodeidah.
- The ETC has received the necessary approvals to import the required equipment to support the implementation of three WHO-funded connectivity projects, including the rehabilitation of IT infrastructure in Aden University and Ameen Nasher Higher Institute for Health Sciences to encourage online learning and interaction with global institutions. The third project will be at the Ministry of Health to enable the humanitarian community to enhance public awareness about the COVID-19 pandemic, engage with the community and spread prevention messages.

ETC Planned Activities

- The ETC team in Aden still has plans to collaborate with the Telecommunications Security Standards (TESS) team on the expansion of the VHF coverage in Aden city to strengthen the safety and security of responders. The required equipment is in the pipeline pending the pre-import certificate from the Aden authorities.

Funding

- The ETC has received US\$1.5 million from WFP, US\$850,000 from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund allocation in January and has been pledged US\$1 million by CERF as outlined in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). With this, the ETC is fully funded to carry out its activities in 2021.

Key Information

- All information on the ETC response in Yemen, including the latest infographic can be found [here](#).
- The next Global ETC Joint Teleconference will be held on **Wednesday 5 May**.
- For further information or to contact the team on the ground, please email Yemen.ETC@wfp.org

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