Yemen – Conflict

ETC Situation Report #65
Reporting period: 01/02/2022 to 28/02/2022

The ETC was activated in Yemen in April 2015 in response to the conflict crisis. Situation Reports are issued monthly.

Highlights

- The ETC conducted a site visit to the Ameen Nasher Medical Institute in Aden and the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP) in Sana'a to plan for the set up and upgrade of a COVID-19 hotline, as requested by WHO.

- In February, the ETC provided data connectivity services to 1,110 humanitarians and security communications services to a total of 2,526 responders across Yemen.

- The ETC, in coordination with WHO and the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP), organized technical training in Aden from 8–10 February for 18 IT staff in the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in the south of Yemen.

Fatin Fuad, a member of IT staff in the EOC in Aden, gives positive feedback on the ETC training delivered from 8-10 February. Photo: WFP/ETC

Activities

Internet connectivity

In February, the ETC provided data connectivity to 1,092 humanitarians across 17 sites in Yemen.

The ETC extended the fiber optic cable at Aden airport to further improve connectivity services and users' experience.

The ETC supported the relocation of the VSAT station that provides connectivity to Socotra Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), funded by the World Health Organization (WHO).

The ETC installed a new VSAT station for the three new guesthouses in the UN Common Accommodation Facility (UNCAF) in Sana'a, which are managed by WFP, to mitigate the impact of future internet connectivity service outages.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Aden requested the ETC extend internet connectivity services in their new guesthouse. The ETC team conducted a field assessment and the Bill of Quantities (BoQ) was drafted.

WHO requested ETC assistance to set up a COVID-19 hotline for the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP) in Aden and Sana'a. The ETC conducted a site visit to Ameen Nasher Higher

Institute for Health Sciences in Aden and MoPHP premises in Sana'a to reassess the BoQ to set up and upgrade an existing hotline system.

Security communications

ETC security communications services were provided to a total of 2,526 responders, supported by eight UNDSS-managed Security Operations Centres (SOCs) across the country.

The ETC completed programming of VHF radios in 14 Autonomous Vehicles (AVs) recently released from the port, for assignment to WFP.

User support

In February, the ETC helpdesk received and resolved 1,189 user requests.

Capacity building

The ETC conducted training sessions in Aden from 8–10 February for 18 IT staff in the EOC. The second session will be held in Sana'a on a date to be confirmed. The training aims to improve the technical skills of IT support staff.

iMMAP conducted a virtual training course from 22-24 February for 18 ETC staff and its partners to enhance ETC information management services in Yemen.

Planning

Internet connectivity

In response to increasing humanitarian operational needs, the ETC is coordinating planning to set up new sites for INGOs and UN agencies in Sa'ada and Ibb.

Following the recent internet service outage in Yemen, the ETC is requesting approval to deploy one VSAT station to provide back-up connectivity for INGOs hosted by Action Contre La Faim (ACF) in Sana'a. This will mitigate future connectivity outages.

The ETC is planning to support the relocation of two EOCs in Al Mukalla city and Al Jawf governorate.

Security communications

In response to a partner request from NYC Medics, the ETC is assisting in establishing a VHF communications network for 20 ambulances in Aden. The authorities have approved the project to proceed with the importation of the required equipment.

Capacity building

A one-day retreat will be held with partners to conduct work planning for 2022 with a focus on capacity building.

Challenges

The ETC is facing a funding shortage from April 2022 onward.

Restrictions on the importation of telecommunications equipment remains the main challenge for the ETC in Yemen.

The ETC continues to face difficulties in obtaining pre-import approval for the shipment of its two consignees from Djibouti to Aden. The equipment, when received, will be used to expand security communications services in Aden city, supported by Telecommunications Security Standards (TESS). The Resident Coordinator's Office (RC) has escalated the issue with Yemen's authorities. The ETC continues to await their formal approval, before initiating the procedure.

Funding

The ETC is 21 percent funded out of a required US$3.8 million in 2022. The ETC has US$800,000 funding already allocated for activities until the end of March. Fundraising activities will continue for the remaining 79 percent.

The ETC has submitted two funding proposals. The first was submitted to the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) to cover the cost of connectivity services for six months, until August 2022. The second is a Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) proposal for funding to set up services in the new humanitarian site in Marib.

Meetings

The next Global ETC Joint teleconference will take place on **16 March 2022**.

Contacts

LOCATION	NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
Sana'a, Yemen	Wali Noor	ETC Coordinator	wali.noor@wfp.org
Sana'a, Yemen	Sarah Eshaq	ETC Information Management Associate	sarah.eshaq@wfp.org

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the website:

https://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/yemen-conflict

For more informations or to be added or deleted from the mailing list please contact:

yemen.etc@wfp.org