

Yemen: Conflict

ETC Situation Report #101

Reporting period: 01/02/2025 to 28/02/2025

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

Highlight

- In February, the ETC provided data connectivity services to 1,375 humanitarians and security communications services to 2,392 responders across 19 sites.
- The ETC successfully relocated the UNDP guesthouse microwave links, reducing signal interference and enhancing network stability.
- The ETC in Aden extended VIP Wi-Fi connectivity to WFP guesthouses, ensuring secure access for UN agency heads and deputies.



The ETC conducts preventive maintenance at the UN Guest house hub in Aden. Photo: WFP/ETC

Activities

Coordination

The WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) continues to collaborate with humanitarian partners to provide critical IT and telecommunication services across Yemen.

In Sana'a, the ETC team coordinated with Universal Logistic Support and Construction Ltd (ULC), Provider of the UN Common Accommodation, on the installation of an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) and backup power cable in the server room to improve power redundancy.

The ETC supported key UN meetings, including Resident Coordinator (RC) meetings and TV interviews, ensuring stable connectivity and secure telecommunication services.

Internet connectivity

In February, the ETC provided data connectivity to 1,375 humanitarians in 19 sites across nine common operational areas namely in Sana'a, Hodeidah, Hajjah, Ibb, Sa'ada, Aden, Mukalla, Mocha, and Marib. Significant improvements included:

- In Hajjah, the ETC team has conducted monthly preventive maintenance of the UN Hub IT infrastructure to ensure provision of uninterrupted internet service.
- In Sana'a, the ETC team has installed a network cable in the building 3 (B3) balcony, tested Logitech, and Polycom conference systems, and performed routine network maintenance.

- The ETC has successfully maintained the internet service for UN guesthouses and INGO hubs in remote areas, addressing power failures caused by faulty solar energy system batteries.
- In Aden, the ETC team has restored the microwave link connection to the World Health Organization (WHO) guesthouse. The team procured and replaced the faulty batteries at the ZOA INGOs dedicated site to maintain Wi-Fi connectivity.

Security communications

In February, a total of 2,392 users utilized ETC security communications services through the nine United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)-managed Security Operations Centres (SOCs) across the country.

The ETC team in Mukalla has conducted preventive maintenance of the UNDSS managed Security Operations Centre (SOC). The team also delivered refresher training for radio operators to enhance telecom system performance.

User support

In February, the ETC helpdesk registered and addressed 1,095 tickets, ensuring timely resolution of user requests. Routine preventive maintenance was carried out at various hubs to ensure consistent service delivery.

Challenges

The ETC continues to face challenges with the importation of IT and telecommunications equipment, including a shipment awaiting import approval in Djibouti since 2019.

Funding

The ETC funding appeal for 2025 was initially projected US\$2.4 million based on the ETC current capacity and service provision.

As part of the long-term funding challenges, since mid-2023, the ETC has adopted a hybrid funding model, combined with the cost recovery approach. This model integrates funding received from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) and the inter-agency cost sharing agreement, coordinated with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) and the Operation Management Team (OMT) This ensures that the cluster can carry out its planned activities.

However, in light of the humanitarian funding reduction in Yemen, the ETC has reassessed the needs of humanitarian operations to realign its service provision. As part of this effort, the funding proposal is being revised to better align with operational needs. The revised proposal aims to achieve a 40%-50% reduction by streamlining ETC sites, downgrading internet services and reducing the number of staff. The proposal will be presented to the RCO shortly for his approval.

Additional Information

See the [ETC Yemen Dashboard](#) for an overview of planned and existing service locations.

Meetings

The next Local ETC Working Group meeting will be held around mid-**March 2025**.

Contacts

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

www.etcluster.org/emergencies/yemen-conflict

For more information or to be added or deleted from the mailing list please contact: yemen.ETC@wfp.org