Yemen – Conflict

ETC Situation Report #81
Reporting period: 01/06/2023 to 30/06/2023

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

Highlight

- In June, the ETC provided data connectivity services to 1,482 humanitarians and security communications services to a total of 2,309 responders across 20 sites in Yemen.

- An ETC assistant in Hajjah conducted a mission to Sana'a from 17 to 28 June to assist with the setup of a unified registration server for the ETC network at all ETC sites. This will facilitate the registration process for users.

- An ETC consultant successfully concluded six sets of security communications training for 20 UNDSS staff in Sana'a, Al Mokha, Aden, Ibb, Hodeidah, and Sada'a to aid capacity building efforts across these locations.

The ETC team in Sana'a continues to provide critical communications services for the UN Common Accommodation Facility (UNCAF) in Sana'a.

Activities

Coordination

An ETC assistant in Hajjah conducted mission to Sana'a from 17 to 28 June to facilitate the design implementation of a unified WiFi registration for the ETC users countrywide. This will facilitate the registration process for users.

The ETC—led by WFP—continues its collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) to provide IT services including connectivity to 29 Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) across Yemen, supporting humanitarian operations in response to Cholera through access to internet and IT facilities.

Internet connectivity

In June, the ETC provided data connectivity to 1,482 humanitarians in 20 sites across 10 common operational areas in Yemen.

The ETC is working on a unified WiFi registration system for the ETC users countrywide. The proposed system will enable Humanitarian responders to access the ETC WiFi/internet service with their single user credential across the ETC 20 sites.

The ETC reactivated Wi-Fi services at the IOM guesthouse in Aden, after the services were disconnected in 2022 at their request.

The ETC resolved issues with the connectivity service in the UNDP guesthouse in Aden, the WFP office in Turba, and FAO's microwave link in Aden.

The ETC supported a UNICEF mission to Hajjah on 19 June by providing secure connectivity and IT services on demand.

Security communications

In June, ETC security communications services were provided to a total of 2,309 responders through the nine UNDSS-managed Security Operations Centres (SOCs) across the country.

Replacement batteries for the satellite phones in the SOCs in Aden, Ibb, Sa'ada, and Marib were delivered by the supplier on 8 June.

In coordination with UNDSS, the ETC team in Aden programmed three VHF radios for WFP according to the UN standard callsign structure.

User support

In June, the ETC helpdesk received and resolved 926 user requests.

Capacity Building

An ETC consultant successfully concluded six sets of security communications training for 20 UNDSS staff in Sana'a, Al Mokha, Aden, Ibb, Hodeidah, and Sada'a to aid capacity building efforts across these locations.

The ETC interagency working group completed a Cisco Certified Network Security (CCNA) training from 18-25 June. The number of participants was 13.

As part of its continued support to build the Information Management (IM) capacity of ETC partners in Yemen, iMMAP, in coordination with the ETC IM Officer, conducted a training session on Tableau on 12 June. The number of participants was 35.

Planning

Internet connectivity

The ETC is supporting the University of Aden to expand their IT services. The proposal for this project is funded by WHO, the Purchase Order (PO) for the required equipment is being prepared.

Services for communities

The ETC is finalizing its technical assessment for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp solar project in Al Mokha. This project will be funded by WFP Yemen and will be implemented by the ETC. The project will provide solar powered lights in 21 locations where the IDPs receive drinking water and will benefit up to 6,100 IDPs. Procurement of the required equipment is in progress.

The ETC is reviewing a proposal submitted by the All Girls Foundation (AGF) to assist in rehabilitation of their training centre in Al-Mukalla city. The training centre will provide training to up to 10,500 students in various fields, including in ICT.

Capacity building

The ETC supported the University of Aden to expand their IT services and provide IT capacity building training for the technical staff in the college of medicine.

Challenges

The ETC continues to face difficulties in the importation of IT and telecommunications equipment. The pre-import certificate for the shipment of two consignments from Djibouti to Aden is still pending approval from the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG). The UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) has escalated the issue with Yemen's authorities. The ETC is on stand-by awaiting the formal approval before initiating the shipment procedure.

Funding

The ETC funding appeal for 2023 is US$3.6 million. Due to limited resources in 2023, WFP is looking at various funding options and scenarios that will be discussed with the UNRCO.

The ETC is 58 percent funded in 2023. The ETC received US$794,000 from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), US$500,000 from WFP and US$132,891 from inter-agency cost sharing. This will secure cluster funding until the end of June.

Meetings

The next Global ETC Joint teleconference will take place on a date yet to be confirmed.

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:

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