

Yemen: Conflict

ETC Situation Report #92

Reporting period: 01/05/2024 to 31/05/2024

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

Highlight

- In May, the ETC provided data connectivity services to 1,306 humanitarians and security communications services to a total of 2,575 responders across 19 sites in Yemen.
- In response to increased demand, the ETC activated a locally provided Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) connection at the UNOPS Area office in Hodeidah. The use of FTTH will further enhance the performance of the internet service.
- A [new video](#) showcases the impact of a solar project implemented by the ETC in the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in Mokha. The project ensures communities can safely move around the camp, especially at night. The project was funded by WFP and has the capacity to reach up to 6,100 displaced people in the camp.



Amna's family sits at night below one of the solar lights installed by the ETC in the camp for displaced people in Mokha. Photo: WFP/ETC

Activities

Coordination

The WFP-led ETC continues its long-term collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) in providing IT services including connectivity to 29 Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) across Yemen and supporting humanitarian operations in response to the ongoing cholera outbreak through access to internet and IT facilities.

The ETC visited the Save the Children office in Sa'ada from 26 to 29 May to assess the performance of the cluster services provided to International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) there as well as the ICT capacity in relation to user demand following the recent down-sizing of personnel.

A [new video](#) showcases the impact of a project implemented by the ETC that supported the installation of 35 solar lights in the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in Mokha to ensure communities can safely move around at any time with the support of renewable and sustainable power solutions. The project was funded by WFP and has the capacity to reach up to 6,100 displaced people in the camp.

Internet connectivity

In May, the ETC provided data connectivity to 1,306 humanitarians in 19 sites across nine common operational areas in Yemen.

The ETC conducted a mission to Ibb from 15 to 17 May during which the cluster assessed the feasibility of expanding ETC connectivity services to the UN common accommodation provided at the UNICEF guesthouse.

A Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) network connection was activated in the UNOPS office in Hodeidah by the ETC on 20 May.

The team in Hajjah is working to extend the VSAT connection from the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)-managed INGO hub to the WFP-managed UN hub using microwave technology. This will expand the data connectivity capabilities in the Hajjah UN hub.

On 24 May, a visit was made to the new UNDP guesthouse in Aden to assess the relocation of the ETC network from the old guesthouse.

The ETC conducted preventive maintenance on the ETC network service for UN agencies in all UN Hubs in Aden and Hajjah.

Security communications

In May, a total of 2,575 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 conducted a mission to Ibb from 15 to 17 May to review the relocation of the UNDSS-managed Security Operations Centre (SOC) there. This activity follows a scale-down of personnel in Ibb and therefore a need to re-allocate equipment and relocate the building in which the SOC is hosted.

The ETC restored an external satellite phone antenna at the UNDSS SOC in Aden for continued services on 17 May.

In coordination with UNDSS, the ETC installed VHF mobile radio antennas on five WFP Armoured Vehicles (AVs) in Aden on 20 May.

On 24 May, the ETC provided a battery to the UNDSS SOC in Turba to power the VHF radio for security communications in emergency response situations.

User support

In May, the ETC helpdesk received and resolved 1,005 user requests.

Capacity building

As part of its continued support to build the Information Management (IM) capacity of ETC partners in Yemen, iMMAP conducted a training session for 42 interagency participants on 'Data Visualization with Tableau' from 14 to 15 May.

Challenges

Since mid-2023, the ETC has faced significant funding challenges. Consequently, the ETC has adapted an alternative model to combine funding received from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) as well as from the inter-agency cost sharing agreement in coordination with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) and the Operations Management Team (OMT) to ensure the cluster is fully funded to carry out its planned activities.

The ETC continues to face difficulties in the importation of IT and telecommunications equipment, which has been awaiting shipment since 2019. The pre-import certificate for the shipment of two consignments from Djibouti to Aden is still pending approval from the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG). WFP in Aden followed up with the deputy minister of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology (MTIT) to expedite the ETC shipment approval process in Djibouti. The ETC met with the UNRCO in May to request further support for this shipment.

Funding

The ETC funding appeal for 2024 is US\$2.7 million.

So far, the ETC in Yemen is just 33 percent funded out of the required total US\$2.7 million.

The ETC requires a further US\$1.8 million to address critical shared communication needs in Yemen in 2024 to facilitate the coordination of humanitarian efforts.

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 on **03 July 2024**.

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:

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