

Yemen: Conflict

ETC Situation Report #96

Reporting period: 01/09/2024 to 30/09/2024

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

Highlight

- In September, the ETC provided data connectivity services to 1,379 humanitarian and security communications services to 2,562 responders across 19 sites in Yemen.
- On 30 September, the ETC received US\$49,316 from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as part of the cost recovery agreement for the second quarter of the year.
- In coordination with the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS), the ETC installed and programmed two VHF mobile radio antennas on WFP Armoured Vehicles (AVs) in Aden on 03 September.



The ETC conducts preventive maintenance at the UN Guset house hub in Aden. 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 shared access to internet and IT facilities.

The ETC unified Wi-Fi solution—initiated in coordination with WFP HQ and the WFP Regional Bureau for the Middle East and Northern Africa—is being deployed and piloted. The ETC hub focal points started the implementation process on 20 September. The application will enhance users' experience by providing a unified login page for the users' authentication and access to internet service across the 19 sites in the country.

Internet connectivity

In September, the ETC provided data connectivity to 1,379 humanitarians in 19 sites across nine common operational areas in Yemen.

As part of the ETC connectivity cost saving review, Aden UN hub Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) site downgraded from 8.5 megabits (MB) to 5.5 MB effective from 01 September.

The ETC supported the UNICEF mission to Hajjah by providing internet service on 17 September.

The ETC is collaborating with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to upgrade the ETC network infrastructure at the UNDP guesthouse in Aden. The cluster plans to install one access point to boost internet access and awaits acceptance feedback from UNDP. On 02 September, the Aden ICT Working Group (WG) met the General Manager of the Public Telecommunications Corporation (PTC) regarding the Starlink satellite internet service, launched recently in South of Yemen. The WG shared their views and concerns. The PTC is working on their packages and price list that hopefully will include corporate packages for the humanitarian response organizations.

On 15 September the ETC team in Aden conducted preventive maintenance of the ETC guesthouse in Aden.

Security communications

In September, a total of 2,562 users provided access to ETC security communications services through the nine UNDSS-managed Security Operations Centres (SOCs) across the country.

In coordination with UNDSS, the ETC installed and programmed two VHF mobile radio antennas on WFP Armoured Vehicles (AVs) in Aden on 03 September.

User support

In September, the ETC helpdesk received and resolved 1,120 user requests.

Capacity Building

The ETC collaborated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Aden and successfully conduct a training session from 16 – 19 September focusing on digital safety and security for civil society representatives and human rights activists.

Challenges

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). In September, the ETC coordinator plans to travel to Djibouti to help expedite and finalize the pending shipment.

Funding

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

On 30 September, the ETC received US\$49,316 from UNFPA and UNDOC as part of the cost recovery agreement for the second quarter of the year.

In the face of long-term funding challenges, since mid-2023 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 can carry out its planned activities.

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 **27 November 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**](http://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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