

YEMEN – Conflict

ETC Situation Report #43

Reporting period 01/04/2020 to 30/04/2020

ETC Yemen Situation Reports are issued monthly.

Highlights

- To support the response to COVID-19 in Yemen, the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in close collaboration with the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) has completed the set up a joint UN Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the UN accommodation facility (UNCAF) in Sana'a.
- The ETC is providing connectivity services at a UN quarantine centre in Aden as well as in isolation apartments in Sana'a.
- The ETC continues to provide critical Internet connectivity to 41 humanitarians across 11 sites in Yemen, and communications services, including security telecommunications to a total of 2,848 responders across the country.



The ETC is providing connectivity at a UN quarantine centre in Aden to support the COVID-19 response.

Photo: ETC Yemen

ETC Activities

COVID-19 response

- To support the COVID-19 response in Yemen, the ETC installed equipment to provide connectivity in a UN quarantine centre in Aden and isolation apartments at UNCAF in Sana'a. The ETC will also provide connectivity services in a new quarantine centre being established in Al Hudaydah.
- The ETC has received several requests to support the response to COVID-19 including from the World Health Organisation (WHO) to upgrade the existing communications infrastructure in 26 Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) that were used for the cholera response to now support the COVID-19 response.
- WHO has also requested the ETC upgrade an existing Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP) hotline to become a COVID-19 helpline in Sana'a and establish a new hotline at MoPHP premises in Aden.
- The ETC has completed the installation of videoconferencing facilities in two additional meeting rooms at UNCAF to facilitate remote working.

- Most ETC staff, including all national staff, are working from home as part of social distancing efforts to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

ETC activities

- The ETC has ordered a satellite terminal for the new UN hub in Marib in the south. The hub will be hosted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- The ETC completed the relocation of the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)-managed SOC in Aden to the new UNDP building.
- The ETC is liaising with the satellite service provider to improve the connectivity for responders based in Al Mukalla.
- The ETC is liaising with local Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to deploy new satellite terminals to reactivate connectivity services in sites in Sana'a and Ibb.
- The ETC in Aden is in the process of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide connectivity services in a new site hosted by the International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO), ZOA.
- The ETC team in Aden has received a request to extend Internet connectivity services from to the UNDP guesthouse. The ETC agreed to conduct the assessment.
- The ETC together with the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology (MoTIT) and Aden Net ISP has been requested to provide Internet connectivity services at Aden International Airport.

ETC Planned Activities

- The ETC still has plans to collaborate with the Telecommunications Security Standards (TESS) team on the expansion of the VHF coverage in Aden city to strengthen the safety and security of responders.

Funding

- The ETC in Yemen is 42 per cent funded having received US\$1.5 million from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund. The ETC has a projected budget of US\$3.6 million to implement its activities in Yemen in 2020.

Key Information

- All information on the ETC response in Yemen can be found [here](#).
- The latest ETC Dashboard and [infographic](#) are also available on the www.etcluster.org website.
- The next Global ETC Joint Teleconference on Libya, Syria and Yemen will be held on TBC.
- For further information or to contact the team on the ground, please email Yemen.ETC@wfp.org

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