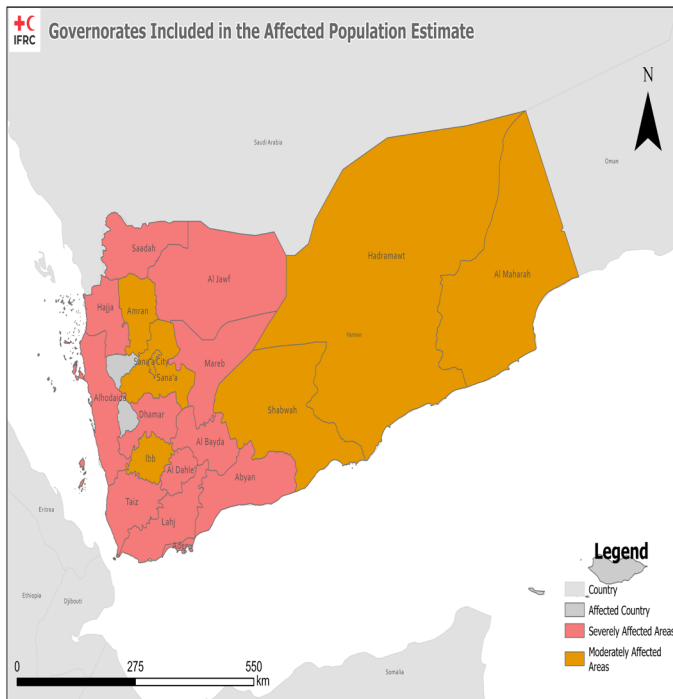




YRCS relief intervention, including the distribution of NFIs to populations affected by displacement in Taiz.

Appeal №: MDRYE018	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 15 million Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 20 million	
Glide №: OT-2026-000172-YEM	People [affected/at risk]: 7,224,710	People to be assisted: 500,000 People
DREF allocation: CHF 1 million	Appeal launched: 01/10/2026	Appeal ends: 30/09/2027



SITUATION OVERVIEW

The escalation of hostilities in Yemen along different frontlines started in July 2026, which has caused population movements and increase in humanitarian needs, with YRCS branches and volunteers responding to displacement and affected communities with timely assistance. The situation deteriorated sharply from late August and early September as hostilities intensified in Taiz and along Yemen's western coast, triggering larger-scale displacement and increasing pressure on already vulnerable communities. YRCS, with the support from movement partners, has continued to respond through its branches and volunteers, building on its existing operational presence and response capacity in affected areas.

In its update published on 27 September, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix reported **141,972 displaced people, equivalent to 23,662 households between 1 August and 26 September 2026**. These figures cover a broader period than the September escalation and represent reported displacement movements, with individual estimates calculated using an average household size of six. They remain subject to verification and revision as access and information improve.

Separate administrative reporting by the Executive Unit for IDP Camp Management recorded 180,513 displaced people, representing 27,413 households, across ten governorates. Its consolidated report, updated on 24 September, incorporates governorate updates through 23 September, except for Al Hodeidah, where figures remain dated 8 September. This dataset differs from IOM DTM in coverage and registration methodology; the two totals are not directly comparable and should not be combined.

As one of the few humanitarian organizations with a nationwide operational presence, YRCS is leveraging its network of 22 branches, 31 local units, 743 staff members and more than 7,600 volunteers to deliver timely assistance across affected governorates. The YRCS has activated its Emergency Operations Centre and mobilized staff, volunteers, ambulances and emergency response teams to support affected populations.

YRCS is conducting rapid needs assessments to identify the most urgent humanitarian needs and guide response interventions. Also supporting displaced families through the provision of emergency relief assistance, including food and essential household items, while strengthening community engagement and accountability mechanisms to ensure affected populations are informed and able to provide feedback on the response.

This existing response provides the operational foundation for the Emergency Appeal, which will enable YRCS to scale up assistance as displacement and humanitarian needs continue to increase.

Within the August–September reporting period, Taiz hosted the largest recorded displaced population, with **75,180 people**, followed by **Lahj with 34,446** Aden 10,920; Al Hodeidah 8,244; Abyan 3,888; Hadramawt 1,254; and Marib 618. Approximately two-thirds of recorded movements occurred within the same governorate, while one-third involved movement to other governorates, increasing pressure on services across a wider area. Available figures do not capture the full extent of displacement: IOM reports that loss of access to Al

Hodeidah on 9 September prevented further updates to its recorded caseload there.

The YRCS Situation Report published on 23 September 2026, citing data from MOFA, indicates that approximately 80,000 displaced and affected households require food and emergency shelter assistance across Al Hodeidah, Taiz, Al Dhale', Al Bayda, Marib, Al Jawf, and Hajjah governorates. Since the source does not disaggregate displaced persons from other conflict-affected households, this figure is used only as an indicator of overall needs and not to derive a separate count for displacement.

Displaced households face urgent and interconnected needs for **shelter, essential household items, food, safe water, sanitation, healthcare, and protection**. UNHCR's 22 September update reports that more than 70 per cent of displaced households are living in emergency or inadequate shelters. Families arriving in already congested displacement sites and host communities are placing additional pressure on fragile infrastructure and services. IOM's 22 September update identifies food assistance as the highest reported priority, followed by shelter and financial support, highlighting needs that extend beyond immediate household-item and hygiene assistance.

Protection risks are increasing as families experience repeated displacement and insecure living conditions. IOM reports heightened protection risks and concerns affecting women and girls in overcrowded sites lacking privacy and adequate facilities. Loss of civil and school documentation creates barriers to accessing services and education, while economic pressure increases the risk of child labour. UNICEF reported that 243 schools had closed or suspended learning, affecting more than 137,000 students, while services in 26 UNICEF-supported health facilities had been disrupted by renewed hostilities. A rapid protection assessment of 49 newly displaced households in IOM-managed

sites in Marib on 23 September identified eviction threats and inadequate shelter as primary concerns. In Aden, UNHCR and partners identified urgent water, sanitation, food, shelter and documentation needs at the new Al-Ferdous displacement site, alongside safety concerns related to nearby mines and explosive remnants of war.

The escalation compounds an already severe humanitarian crisis. According to UNHCR, **22.3 million people require humanitarian assistance and protection in Yemen**, with **5.2 million people already internally displaced** prior to September 2026 and approximately **65,000 refugees and asylum-seekers**, mainly from Somalia and Ethiopia, before the latest escalation. The effects are also extending beyond Yemen: according to Djibouti Red Crescent Society's situational report, **3,729 new arrivals from Yemen had been recorded in Djibouti as of 26 September**, while its external update reports smaller movements towards Somalia. These movements underline the wider humanitarian implications of continued insecurity.

Response capacity remains constrained by insecurity, access restrictions near to active frontlines, and limited resources. As reported by UNHCR on 22 September, the 2026 Yemen Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan was approximately **21 per cent funded against requirements of USD 2.16 billion**. Continued displacement, inadequate living conditions and pressure on receiving communities demonstrate the need to expand assistance beyond the initial relief package outlined in the DREF application. The Emergency Appeal will build on this baseline, with the scale and composition of the response informed by updated YRCS assessments, should the situation allow for a more detailed assessment, humanitarian access and coordination with Movement and other humanitarian partners.

TARGETING

The Emergency Appeal will support 500,000 newly displaced, people at a high risk of displacement in case of further escalation, and those directly affected by the escalation of hostilities . It will build on the DREF response, which was designed to assist 8,000 households, equivalent to 32,000 people, with essential household items and WASH assistance. The appeal's target may be revised based on updated assessments, evolving humanitarian needs and YRCS operational capacity.

Locations will be prioritised and adjusted according to verified population movements, assessed needs and vulnerabilities, humanitarian access, YRCS response capacity and coordination with other humanitarian actors. The initial geographic scope covers Taiz, Al-Dhale', Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Marib, Sa'ada, Lahj, Amran, Dhamar, Raymah, Shabwah, Sana'a and Aden.

Priority will be given to households with limited resources and unmet needs who are living with host families, in collective centres, informal settlements, temporary shelters. Selection will consider both the effects of displacement and households' ability to access essential services and meet their basic needs. Particular attention will be given to households experiencing repeated displacement, female-headed households, pregnant and lactating women, households with young children, older people living alone or with limited support, and people with disabilities or chronic illnesses. Unaccompanied or separated children will be identified and referred through appropriate protection mechanisms. Assistance will be provided impartially and without discrimination, including to vulnerable migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers and marginalised groups present in targeted locations who meet the selection criteria.

YRCS will lead household identification and verification through its branches and volunteers, in coordination with local authorities, community representatives, displacement management structures, and humanitarian partners. Vulnerability screening and checks against available assistance records will help prioritise households with the greatest unmet needs and minimise duplication.

Protection, gender and inclusion considerations will inform registration, communication and delivery of assistance. Community consultations and accessible feedback mechanisms will help identify exclusion risks and barriers faced by people who cannot safely reach registration or distribution points. Targeting will be reviewed throughout implementation as assessments, community feedback and displacement monitoring provide updated information.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

This **Emergency Appeal** is issued in direct support of the **Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS)** and its role as the convener of the collective Movement response to the ongoing escalation and displacement. It builds on YRCS response priorities and the initial DREF operation and is designed in complementarity with the **ICRC's mandate and actions**, in its co-convener role, in accordance with the **Seville Agreement 2.0**, while enabling IFRC to mobilise Federation-wide assistance, technical support and resources to address the urgent needs of affected communities in Yemen.

The response strategy will support **500,000 people** over **12 months** focusing on integrated assistance for people displaced or directly affected by the escalation of hostilities. The operation will prioritise shelter and essential household assistance, WASH, emergency health and referral support, protection and community engagement. Protection, gender and inclusion will be mainstreamed across the response in line with IFRC minimum standards. Support will also strengthen YRCS branch readiness, volunteer mobilization, logistics, and information management and analysis.

IFRC will continue to monitor developments closely with YRCS and Movement partners and update the Appeal as necessary, ensuring that assistance remains responsive to evolving needs and complementary to the wider humanitarian response.

While the initial operational focus remains on needs inside Yemen, the scope of this Emergency Appeal may be reviewed at a later stage to consider support to people displaced from Yemen across borders, subject to assessed needs, coordination with relevant National Societies and Movement partners.



Integrated assistance

- Provide essential household items to displaced and directly affected households, prioritising families living in temporary shelters, collective centres, informal settlements or with host families.
- Mobilise and replenish pre-positioned relief stocks to enable timely assistance in frontline and receiving areas and maintain readiness for further displacement.
- Food assistance in areas where markets are not functioning or accessible.
- Multi-purpose cash assistance where feasible and where markets are functioning and accessible

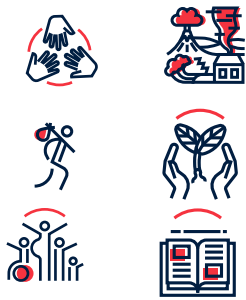


Health & Care including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Support continuity of YRCS emergency ambulance and referral services in frontline and displacement-affected areas, in coordination with health authorities and receiving facilities.
- Support YRCS primary health centres providing basic health services to IDPs and other vulnerable groups.
- Enhance existing YRCS mobile health services in Marib, Shabwah and Al Jawf to facilitate access to healthcare for affected populations.
- Support YRCS's existing role in the safe and dignified transportation of human remains, in coordination with relevant authorities and Movement partners.
- Distribute hygiene kits and household water-storage containers to displaced households, helping maintain basic hygiene and reduce public health risks in overcrowded and poor living conditions.
- Coordinate with health and WASH partners to identify service gaps and facilitate access to emergency water, sanitation and Hygiene assistance beyond the household relief package.

Protection and Prevention

(Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability, Migration, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Reduction, Climate adaptation and recovery, Education)



- Integrate vulnerability screening and protection considerations into assessments, registration and distributions, prioritising people facing heightened risks or barriers to assistance.
- Adapt delivery modalities to support safe access for women, children, older people, people with disabilities and people with chronic illnesses.
- Identify and refer people requiring specialised protection support, including unaccompanied or separated children, through appropriate referral mechanisms.
- Orient staff and volunteers on PGI, safeguarding and confidentiality, and ensure the participation of female volunteers in community engagement and assistance delivery.

Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

Coordination and partnerships

There will be a Federation-wide resource mobilisation strategy for the response, covering fundraising, donor engagement, reporting, grant management and the provision of technical and operational support to the YRCS.



Collaboration and synergies within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement will be strengthened through established Movement coordination mechanism, alongside partnerships with governments, donors, foundations, INGOs, private sector, to support resource mobilisation and humanitarian action in Yemen.

IFRC Secretariat services

The IFRC will support YRCS in scaling up and adapting the operation through coordinated technical and operational support from the IFRC Country Delegation, IFRC MENA Regional Office, and IFRC Geneva as required. Support will focus on operational coordination, planning, monitoring, reporting, resource mobilisation, logistics and supply chain, communications, humanitarian diplomacy, information management and technical quality assurance across the response.



National Society Strengthening

The IFRC Network offers support to YRCS emergency response capacity by supporting branch readiness, volunteer mobilisation, logistics and warehousing, information management, community engagement, safeguarding, and strengthening the auxiliary role.



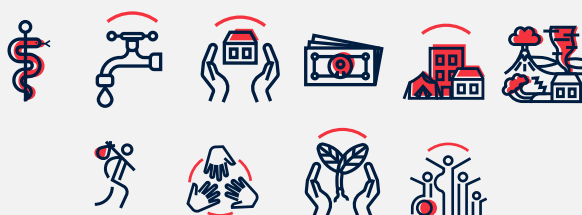
The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation Wide approach which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

Yemen Red Crescent Society



Core areas of operation



Number of staff:	743
Number of volunteers:	7,600
Number of branches	22
Local units	31

The Yemen Red Crescent Society is a key humanitarian actor in Yemen, with a well-recognized presence throughout the country. It was first established in the south of Yemen in 1968 and the north in 1970, and the two were later integrated as one National Society in 1993, after the unification of Yemen. The Yemen Red Crescent Society was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1983. The Yemen Red Crescent Society is recognized as the first responder for both conflict-related emergencies and natural disasters. It operates through 22 branches, supported by approximately 743 staff and more than 7,600 volunteers, allowing it to reach areas and communities otherwise inaccessible to international aid actors. The YRCS has ongoing programmes in health, water, sanitation and hygiene, food security, disaster preparedness and risk reduction and anticipatory action. It also provides humanitarian relief to the most vulnerable, especially those affected by conflict and natural hazards. In its auxiliary role to the public authorities, the YRCS regularly provides support in responding to emergencies such as floods, droughts, disease outbreaks and transporting injured people. It works closely with its International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners located in Yemen and those providing remote support.

IFRC Membership coordination

The IFRC plays a key role in coordinating Federation-wide support to the Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS), ensuring that assistance from Participating National Societies is aligned with YRCS priorities and delivered in a coordinated, complementary, and principled manner. As outlined under the activated Seville Agreement 2.0 arrangements, the IFRC contributes to the collective Movement response through its membership role, facilitating the mobilisation and coordination of international resources, operational support, technical expertise and National Society development in support of the YRCS-led response.

Yemen benefits from a long-standing presence of Partner National Societies supporting the YRCS through bilateral and multilateral cooperation; in-country Partner National Societies include Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Qatari Red Crescent Society and Turkish Red Crescent (Türk Kızılay).

Partner National Societies maintain partnerships with YRCS in areas including disaster management, health, community resilience, branch development, organizational strengthening, volunteer management and humanitarian diplomacy. The IFRC facilitates coordination with Partner National Societies and supports the mobilisation of Federation-wide capacities and resources. Regular engagement between the YRCS and the IFRC Network takes place through established coordination platforms. These mechanisms facilitate information sharing, operational planning, resource mapping, gap analysis, and coordinated donor engagement.

The IFRC maintains a Country Delegation in Yemen, based in Sana'a, which provides coordination, technical and operational support to the YRCS. During the current escalation, the delegation's support to the National Society includes consolidating and validating operational information, maintaining a common operational picture, and strengthening analysis to inform response planning, prioritisation and decision-making. In line with the priorities agreed through Movement mechanisms, the IFRC is supporting YRCS in addressing the humanitarian consequences of displacement through the provision of emergency financing, technical assistance, and operational support.

Further details on the **Federation-wide approach**, including the presence and contributions of supporting National Societies, complementary response activities and Federation-wide funding requirements, will be outlined in the forthcoming **Operational Strategy**.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

The Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) coordinates closely with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Partner National Societies to ensure a coherent, complementary and needs-based Movement response to the humanitarian consequences of conflict escalation and population movement across Yemen. Coordination is guided by the Fundamental Principles, the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) approach, and the Seville Agreement 2.0.

As auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field in Yemen, YRCS convenes and leads the collective Movement response. It defines operational priorities, coordinates response activities across the country, engages with national and local authorities, and uses its nationwide branch and volunteer network to deliver impartial assistance based on identified needs.

In line with Seville Agreement 2.0, the ICRC acts as co-convenor of the collective response and contributes in areas linked to its mandate, including protection dialogue, support to emergency health services and assistance to YRCS emergency response capacities.

ICRC support includes confidential engagement with parties to the conflict on international humanitarian law and protection of civilians; support to stabilization and collection points, ambulance referral pathways and health facilities treating the war-wounded; and material, financial and technical support to YRCS branches, volunteers, ambulances, refrigerated trucks, relief items, visibility and personal protection measures, Safer Access and acceptance monitoring.

The ICRC also supports operational coordination by sharing situation and needs updates with IFRC and Partner National Societies, including through existing Cooperation Services Agreements covering operational support and security services, as well as through Movement platforms.

The IFRC contributes to the collective response through its operational presence and membership coordination role. It supports YRCS to address humanitarian needs linked to displacement and conflict escalation, mobilises Federation-wide resources and capacities, coordinates Partner National Society support, and facilitates international resource mobilisation. The IFRC also leads National Society development support in emergencies, including branch and volunteer development, safeguarding, data management, human resources and operational systems strengthening. To initiate the support to the YRCS response to the escalation, an initial DREF allocation of CHF 1 million was provided to YRCS to support the scale-up of the operation.

External coordination

As an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, the Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) coordinates closely with national and local authorities, United Nations agencies, cluster coordination mechanisms, and humanitarian partners to support a coherent response to population movement linked to the recent escalation of hostilities. YRCS' engagement with relevant authorities, including Civil Defense, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Executive Unit for IDP Camp Management, and relevant line ministries, supports alignment with national response priorities, access facilitation, displacement monitoring, needs assessments, preparedness, and response planning.

YRCS participates in national and hub-level cluster and coordination structures, including the Shelter/NFI Cluster, Protection Cluster, CCCM Cluster, Health Cluster, Food Security Cluster, WASH Cluster, and the Yemen Cash and Market Working Group. IFRC participates in the Humanitarian Country Team as an observer. Through these mechanisms, YRCS and IFRC exchange information on displacement trends, humanitarian needs, response priorities, and operational gaps with UN agencies, international organizations, and other humanitarian actors, including IOM and UNFPA.

Coordination with public authorities, thematic clusters, and humanitarian partners will continue throughout the operation to ensure that assistance to displaced and affected populations is timely, principled, and aligned with identified needs. YRCS' extensive branch network, volunteer presence, and operational reach across Yemen, enable it to link community-level needs with national and international coordination systems, including in areas where humanitarian presence is limited.

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Reference



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