



## Humanitarian aid in Yemen



***Since 1994, the European Commission has provided over €48 million in humanitarian aid to help the most vulnerable population groups in Yemen to survive conflicts, displacements and natural disasters.***

***Thousands of refugees from the Horn of Africa have also benefited from the aid.***



### ***A country facing significant humanitarian challenges***

Yemen is currently facing tremendous humanitarian challenges, which risk exhausting the country's limited resources and social structures.

Since 2004 an armed conflict in the North has led after the six major round of fighting to the displacement of about 350,000 people and the deterioration of the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of people living close to the fighting zones. An estimated 30% of the displaced have by now returned home.

An additional 170,000 refugees, mainly from Somalia, are stranded in Yemen and live in precarious conditions.

### ***Meeting basic needs***

In January 2011 the European Commission decided to provide €15 million, taking into account improved access in the North. The funds are curtly being allocated to international aid organisations.

With its funding of €10 million released in July 2010, the European Commission provides food as well as supplementary feeding, water and sanitation, basic health care, tents and basic household items for the displaced in the North and the refugees from the Horn of Africa. The beneficiaries include the host communities.

### ***Protection***

A key component of the aid is to ensure the safety of the displaced. For example, camps should be located far from conflict zones and refugees need to be registered to access relief assistance. Local populations and the authorities should be made aware of the problems, and the need to respect International Humanitarian Law.

### Reaching the most vulnerable

Persistent insecurity even outside the former war zone in the North makes it difficult for aid workers to reach some areas in parts of the country. Large numbers of displaced people are therefore cut off from humanitarian aid which is essential for their survival.

A small portion of the Commission funding will therefore be used to ensure monitoring of the rapidly evolving situation and coordination among humanitarian actors and donors. Advocacy for the principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence of humanitarian aid will also be done in this context.



### EU humanitarian aid until March 2011\*

| Aid in the conflict affected areas   | € 8.5 million                                 |
|--|---|
| UNHCR: distribution of basic household items, protection, shelter  | over 200,000 beneficiaries                    |
| ICRC: provision of food, shelter, basic household and hygiene items as well as livelihood support  | about 100,000 people                          |
| WFP: food distributions  | about 300,000 people                          |
| Care/OXFAM: access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene for displaced population  | about 71,000 people                           |
| Médecins du Monde (MDM): improve access to quality primary health care and promotion of good health practices  | about 52,000 people                           |
| Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH): provision of livelihood support for herders displaced by the conflict; access to safe water for people living in host communities | about 13,000 people                           |
| OCHA: running an effective humanitarian coordination system supported by the majority humanitarian actors  | All existing and incoming humanitarian actors |
| Aid for refugees from the Horn of Africa   | € 1.5 million                                 |
| UNHCR: access to safe water and appropriate sanitation, protection, livelihood support   | up to 60,000 people                           |

\* The €15 million announced as funding for 2011 are currently being allocated.



### About European Commission Humanitarian Aid:

The Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO) is part of the European Commission, the European Union's executive arm. Through ECHO funding millions of people are helped each year in more than 70 countries through 200 partners (NGO's international organizations, the Red Cross and Red Crescent movements, and UN agencies).

### For further information:

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