

MIGRANT SITUATION IN ADEN | FLASH REPORT



IOM PROTECTION TEAM DISCUSSES CONCERNS WITH MIGRANT WOMEN DETAINED IN THE 22ND OF MAY STADIUM, ADEN. PHOTO: HEADON/IOM 2019

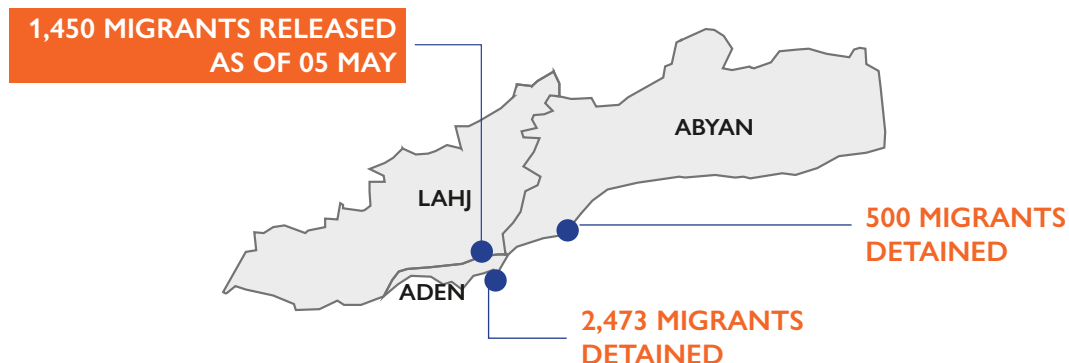
SITUATION OVERVIEW

Since 21 April, authorities in Aden, Lahj and Abyan have been arbitrarily detaining migrants. IOM estimated that nearly 5,000 people, the vast majority of whom are Ethiopian, were being held across three makeshift detention sites in Yemen's Aden, Abyan and Lahj governorates.

In Aden, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams have conducted a headcount in the 22nd of May stadium site: 2,473 migrants, of whom 838 are children, were counted. An estimated 500 migrants are also being held in Abyan.

In Lahj, 1,400 male migrants were released on 03 May, and the 50 detained women were released on 05 May. In response to reports of at least 200 cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) among those previously held at the military camp in Lahj, including 14 AWD-related deaths, IOM established a Diarrhea Treatment Centre at Ibn Khaldoon Hospital on 02 May to help treat migrants. While many of the migrants detained at the military camp did not receive treatment before their release and their current whereabouts are unknown, some migrants previously treated at IOM's DTC in Ibn Khaldoon Hospital have been arriving at IOM's Migrant Response Point in Aden for further support. IOM continues to make efforts to confirm the locations and wellbeing of all migrants released in Lahj.

Conditions for those still held in Aden and Abyan remain dire, with IOM responding directly in Aden and coordinating other UN and NGO partners support. IOM is also working with child protection partners to manage the large caseload in the 22nd of May stadium site.



IOM'S RESPONSE



Coordination: IOM is chairing the Mixed Migration Working Group (MMWG) and working with partners to fill critical response gaps. IOM is engaging with the authorities to advocate for the release of those detained and, should that not be possible, the relocation of the migrants to suitable civilian sites, as well as the handover of the management of the detention sites to civilian authorities.

Health: IOM's health team is present 24 hours a day in the 22nd of May stadium and an IOM ambulance is on standby to bring urgent cases for further treatment. On 02 May, IOM set up an emergency diarrhea treatment centre (DTC) in Ibn Khaldoun Hospital to treat migrants held in the Lahj military camp detention site. Between 26 April and 05 May, IOM's doctors have carried out 1,805 health consultations at the 22nd of May stadium and between 02-05 May, over 100 cases were treated at IOM's DTC in Ibn Khaldoun Hospital.

WASH: IOM is carrying out an integrated WASH and health response in the 22nd of May stadium to combat the spread of communicable disease. IOM is supporting the stadium site through safe sanitation - 30 latrines - and clean water - over 20,000 litres of drinking water and 50,000 litres of water for other uses. Working with UNICEF, IOM is ramping up hygiene promotion activities to help mitigate against AWD.

Food: IOM has been providing food to the migrants at the stadium each day.

KEY CONCERNS

- The location and health status of migrants released from the military site in Lahj is unknown and there had been a high number of AWD cases among those detained;
- Military personnel are still guarding and managing the detention sites in Abyan and Aden; this poses protection concerns for all detained and in particular for women, girls and boys;
- Migrants continue to be brought to the 22nd of May stadium site;
- Any movement of the migrants back to their countries of origin should be voluntary, safe and dignified.



IOM'S HEALTH TEAM ASSESSES A MIGRANT WITH AN INJURED LEG AT 22ND OF MAY STADIUM. PHOTO: HEADON/IOM 2019



MIGRANTS SET UP CAMP FOR THE NIGHT OUTDOORS AT 22ND MAY STADIUM. PHOTO: HEADON/IOM 2019

IOM'S RESPONSE IN YEMEN IS SUPPORTED BY

