

Humanitarian Crisis in the Yemen

There is a devastating conflict in Yemen. Organisation like Al Qaeda and Islamic State are involved in a civil war. In addition the country was damaged by a cyclone in May.

The country has 27.5 million people and as many as 22 million need humanitarian assistance. Many have fled their homes to escape the fighting to find safety, shelter and emergency aid.

On top of this there are nearly 300,000 refugees from places in the Horn of Africa (e.g. Somalia) seeking shelter in Yemen with as many as 7,000 arriving each month.

Without help many lives will be lost to the violence, treatable illnesses and lack of food, water and shelter.

Under the humanitarian coordination system in Yemen, the United Nations Refugee Agency is leading on the provision of protection, shelter and non-food items. This includes emergency shelter, mattresses, blankets, sleeping mats, kitchen sets, buckets and more to help those displaced and most vulnerable. Shelter kits help families repair homes damaged in the conflict. Public buildings and settlements are refurbished to host displaced families. They also support health facilities that serve refugees, asylum-seekers and Yemenis affected by violence, and work to prevent and control the spread of cholera, which has arisen as a result of the conflict. Getting clean drinking water is vital.

They continue to protect and support almost 300,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from the Horn of Africa, who remain in Yemen despite the conflict and are particularly at risk.

However, limited funding means they are not able to fully address these massive needs, limiting the capacity to provide life-saving relief.

How can we help?

We are holding a piano and choir concert of Friday 15 June 2018 in St John's Church to raise funds for the Yemen. The concert and refreshments are free but there will be an opportunity to make donations which we will send to the UN Refugee Agency – UNHCR.