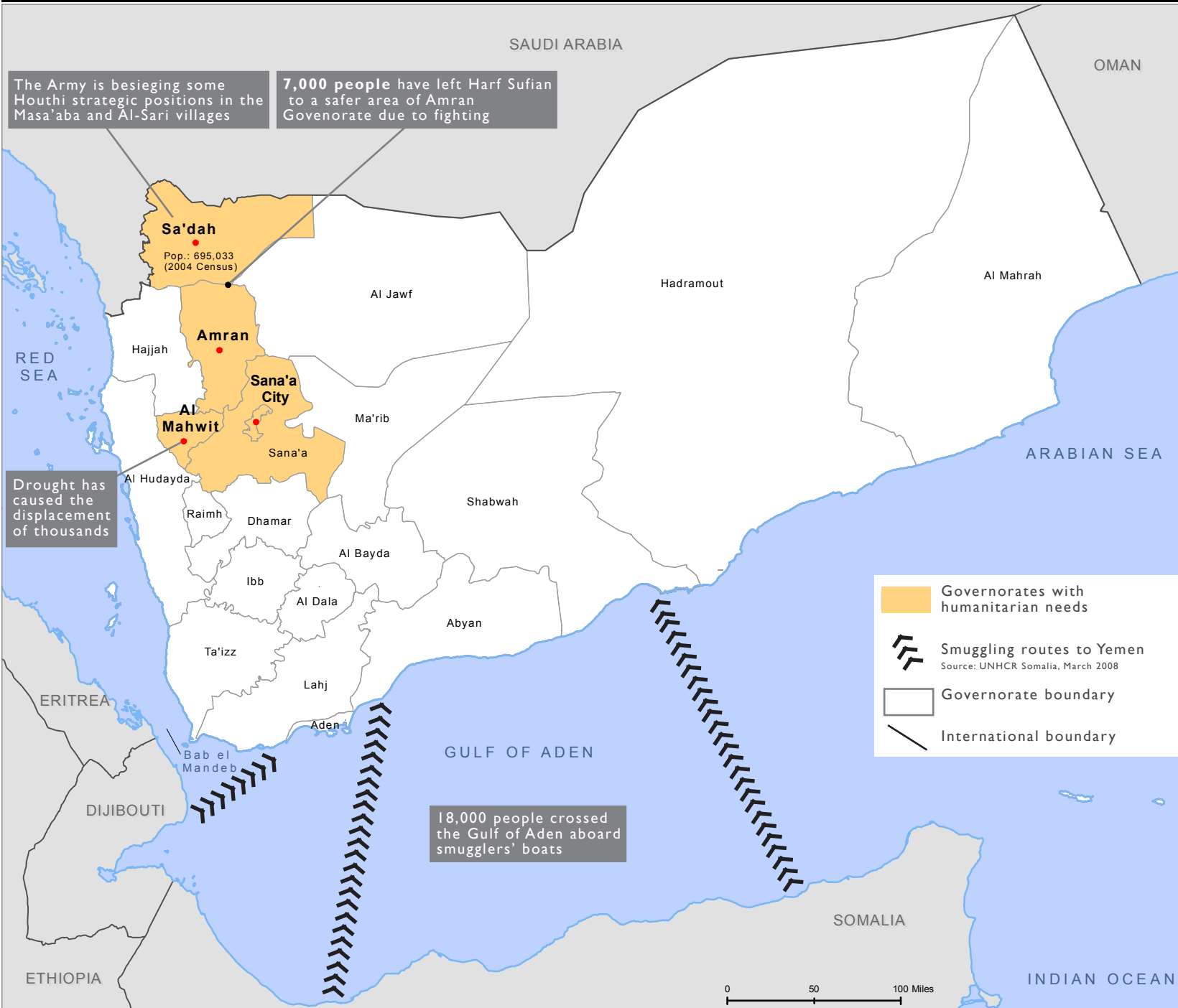


# YEMEN: Situation Map - as of 5 June 2008



The Army is besieging some Houthi strategic positions in the Masa'aba and Al-Sari villages

**7,000 people** have left Harf Sufian to a safer area of Amran Govenorate due to fighting

Drought has caused the displacement of thousands

**18,000 people** crossed the Gulf of Aden aboard smugglers' boats

- Governorates with humanitarian needs
- Smuggling routes to Yemen  
Source: UNHCR Somalia, March 2008
- Governorate boundary
- International boundary

## SITUATION

- More than **18,000 people** crossed the Gulf of Aden aboard smugglers' boats between January and May 2008 - double the number for the same period last year, of these more than 400 people have died over the same period.
- According to media sources, the army and rebel followers of Al Houthi continue to entrench in valleys and highlands in the Sa'ada governorate. The army is besieging some Houthi strategic positions in the Masa'aba and Al-Sari villages and keeping farmers off their land. Villagers in the vicinity of Houthi positions were told to evacuate their homes. Security checkpoints set up on the highway and other roads leading to Sa'ada city have prevented citizens' entry or exit, also hampering transportation of foodstuffs to victims of the violence.
- According to the Yemeni Red Crescent (YRC), **7,000 people** have left Harf Sufian to the safer Amran governorate due to fighting. Locals are reporting extensive property damage due to government air strikes.
- **5 YRC staff members** have been arrested or kidnapped by rebels in Bani Ma'ad, and are still being held.
- According to local officials, drought has caused the displacement of **thousands of people** over the past 10 months from mountainous villages in al-Mahwit Governorate, west of Sanaa city.
- WFP has ranked Yemen as one of the 30 top countries affected by the food crisis. WFP Yemen faces a funding gap of **US\$ 28 million** to reach beneficiaries - if funding is not received soon then **320,000** will go without adequate aid. This does not include the additional **6% of Yemenis (1.2 million)** who have recently fallen below poverty line due to rising food prices.

**Disclaimers:**  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on all maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. The data and information represented originates from UN country team as indicated.  
**Creation date:** 5 June 2008  
**Map sources:** UNCS.  
**Narrative and statistical sources:** UN OCHA, 5 June 2008.  
Situation Map - Update I

United Nations  
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Regional Office for the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia

