



Yemen Humanitarian Response

Side event on the margins of the Second Regular Session of the WFP Executive Board

Thursday, 29 November, 09.15 – 09.45 (with 8.30 welcome coffee)

Aula I, Aula Delegatis, WFP Headquarters

Context

The war in Yemen has been raging for more than three and a half years, displacing populations and continuously deteriorating the humanitarian situation. Out of a population of 29 million people, 17.8 million people are currently classified as food insecure, of whom 8.4 million are severely food insecure (Humanitarian Needs Overview, January 2018). However, the humanitarian situation in Yemen continues to severely deteriorate, with a worsening economy, collapsing state institutions, highly restrictive and shrinking humanitarian space, reduced purchasing power and significant intensification of conflict in Hudaydah. Based on the latest food security data and WFP's Vulnerability, Analysis and Mapping (VAM) analysis, the World Food Programme (WFP) projects that many people who are already food insecure but not receiving external assistance, may slip into severe food insecurity and thus require emergency food assistance and other forms of complementary humanitarian support (e.g. nutrition, WASH - Water and Sanitation for Health - health, and restoration of agricultural livelihoods) to help meet their household food needs with dignity.

Food security indicators document a steadily worsening situation; the results of the latest rounds of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and Famine Risk Monitoring expected to be released early December are expected to show that at least 3.5 million people are at heightened risk of famine. As of November 2018, WFP is targeting 8 million people with monthly food assistance. In view of the deteriorating situation, it is preparing to increase the number of people it serves by augmenting supply chain, programme, partners and human resource capacities to serve up to 12 million people. The most likely scenario is for WFP to progressively scale up beneficiary coverage by 2 million people per month, to reach 10 million people with food assistance by December and 12 million people by January and February. These figures are dependent both on whether obstacles to access and other challenges can be resolved. Preventive nutrition programming is also to be expanded, from the current 107 priority districts to 190 districts.

Objectives

WFP will present its own operational plan, along with an analysis of the challenges and needs to scale up WFP's assistance in Yemen. An extremely complex and challenging operating environment makes rapid scale-up difficult and impacts the quality of programme implementation. In spite of

this, WFP and its partners have demonstrated the capacity to scale up delivery and distribution capacities in Yemen over the last 18 months.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will also provide an overview of the implications of the IPC results on their operations in Yemen and will share scale-up plans to address the critical needs of households at risk of famine, through activities that will bolster households' purchasing power and economic access to food; as well as rehabilitate destroyed community agricultural infrastructure/productive assets.

Agenda

- Mr. David Beasley, WFP Executive Director: Opening Remarks
- H.E. Mr. Abdul Raqeeb Saif Mohammed Fath, Minister of Local Administration, Republic of Yemen
- Mr. Dominique Burgeon, FAO Director, Emergency and Rehabilitation Division and Strategic Programme Leader – Resilience
- Mr. Arif Husain, WFP Chief Economist & Deputy Director of Policy & Programme Division
- Mr. Stephen Anderson, WFP Yemen Country Director
- Questions and Answers
- Mr. David Beasley, WFP Executive Director: Closing Remarks.