Situation Update (including security)

Hudaydah

- On 13 December, the last day of the Stockholm peace talks, the parties to the conflict reached an agreement on the following: a ceasefire in Hudaydah governorate, including the three ports of Hudaydah, Saleef and Ras Issa, an executive mechanism on activating the prisoner exchange agreement, and a statement of understanding in Taiz. The ceasefire was implemented at midnight on 18 December. Throughout December, both parties breached the ceasefire, with numerous clashes reported.

- As part of the Hudaydah ceasefire agreement, a mutual redeployment of forces shall be carried out from the city of Hudaydah as well as the Red Sea Ports. On 21 December, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2451 endorsing the ceasefire and authorizing an advance UN team to begin monitoring the agreements. The UN is to take a leading role in supporting the Yemen Red Sea Ports Corporation in the management and inspections at the Red Sea ports, and WFP is to take on a supportive role, which will likely include monitoring, reporting, technical support, and targeted infrastructure rehabilitation where required.

- As part of the agreement from the first Joint meeting of the Redeployment Coordination Committee (RCC) held on 26 December, the opening of the Hudaydah-Sana’a highway, intended for use as a humanitarian corridor, was scheduled to take place on 29 December, but has yet to take place. As soon as the situation allows, a WFP truck loaded with wheat flour is to be included in the humanitarian convoy.

IPC Results

- The results of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) for Yemen were released on 06 December, showing that out of a population of 28 million, 15.9 people are currently food insecure and 20.1 million people would be food insecure if humanitarian food assistance were not provided. Without food assistance, a total of 238,000 people, living in...
pockets across 45 districts, mainly in conflict-affected areas, would be in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) and at high risk of starvation. In addition, over 9.6 million people in 152 districts would be in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and severely food insecure. Findings showed that the number of severely food insecure people has increased by 45 percent over the IPC result of March 2017.

**ICSP**
- The implementation of the WFP Yemen 2019-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) will begin on 01 January 2019 and will run concurrently with the Emergency Operation for three months. It will primarily focus on life-saving food and nutrition assistance, whilst incorporating conditional transfers that restore and protect livelihoods.

**WFP’s Response**
- During the December cycle, WFP delivered food assistance to 7.9 million people in 19 governorates, achieving 79 percent of the 10 million plan. Of these, 5.9 million people received food assistance via in-kind commodities, 1.8 million people received assistance via the commodity voucher traders’ network modality, and 190,200 IDPs received immediate response rations (IRRs).
- In response to the increased fighting in Hudaydah governorate, a Rapid Response Mechanism was established in June 2018 to assist newly displaced people and ensure their most basic needs are met. Displaced families are provided with Immediate Response Rations (IRR) sufficient for five days. Since the start of the large-scale IDP response in June until December, WFP has provided IRRs to 175,967 households.
- From the results of the latest IPC, WFP is preparing to increase the number of people receiving food assistance, with plans to reach up to 12 million people as quickly as the scale-up can be achieved early in 2019.
- **Cash-based Transfers**
  - WFP has started distributing general food assistance via cash-based transfers to 28,000 households living in Aden city in the south. WFP plans to scale cash delivery in 2019, where the situation permits.

**Livelihood and Resilience Projects**
- Under the Enhanced Rural Resilience programme in Yemen (ERRY), 900 participants in Lahj and Hajja received cash transfers for the December cycle, benefitting a total of 6,300 beneficiaries.
- In December, 4,000 people participated in Food Assistance for Assets activities. Of these, 1,900 in Al Buraia district in Aden, 1,800 in Bani Qais district in Hajja, 300 in Bilas Ar Rus in San’a received cash transfers, benefitting a total of 28,000 beneficiaries. Assets focused on the rehabilitation of schools and roads, as well as building/rehabilitation of water harvesting assets.

**School Meals Programme**
- Under the school meals programme, WFP dispatched 661.8 mt of fortified date bars, enough for 417,846 children attending schools in 19 districts in 10 governorates (Hudaydah, Mahweet, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Saa’da, San’a, San’a city, and Taiz) and 147.7 mt of high-energy biscuits (HEBs) to 56,670 children attending schools in five districts in three governorates (Aden, Lahj, and Shabwa).
- The school meals programme will continue to target 600,000 students across Yemen for the 2018-2019 school year. From the start of the ICSP, this target will be adjusted to 900,000 students upon the start of the 2019-2020 school year in September 2019.

**Nutrition Assistance**
- Between January and December 2018 WFP admitted 478,638 children aged 6 to 59 months and 335,854 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) into its Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP) to treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). For MAM prevention, WFP admitted 305,861 children aged 6 to 23 months and 420,016 PLW into its Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP).

**Supply Chain**
- In December, WFP moved a total of 106,223.6 mt of various food commodities throughout the country, representing 91 percent of the 117,137 mt planned dispatch target for December.
- Due to the volatility and uncertainty of the security situation in Hudaydah, vessel movement to Hudaydah port has been significantly affected over the past two months. However, vessels carrying food and fuel, including WFP-charted vessels, are still granted access to Hudaydah and Saleef ports. Both are operational but at minimal capacity.

**Clusters and Common Services**

**Food Security and Agriculture Sector**
- The Food Security Cluster has published the November partners coverage map, the November emergency food assistance gap analysis map, and livelihoods assistance gap analysis map.

**Logistics Cluster**
- In December, UNHAS announced the arrival of a new aircraft for the Yemen fleet. The A320 has a capacity of 50 passengers per leg, does not require refuelling in Sana’a airport, and will allow an increase to the quota for each agency from two slots per leg, does not require refuelling in Sana’a airport, and will allow an increase to the quota for each agency from two slots to six per agency for each leg. The A320 will start operating on 12 January 2019.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the overland transport of 4,598 m$^3$ of relief items on behalf of ACF, ACTED, CARE, FAO, FHI360, IMC, IOM, Relief International, Save the Children, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP.
- The Logistics Cluster also facilitated the air transport of 185.4 m$^3$ of relief items on behalf of Medecins du Monde, MSF, Partnership for Supply Chain Management, OSESGY, UNFPA and UNICEF.

**Resourcing Update**
- WFP is currently providing food assistance to a targeted 10 million people. At present, allocated contributions only cover 43 percent of planned WFP activities inside Yemen for the next six months. WFP urgently needs funds to continue providing food assistance and requires USD 594.6 million to keep operations running through July 2019.
WFP would like to thank all 27 government donors, two UN funds, and private sector donors for their contributions to EMOP 201068.

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