



WFP Yemen Country Brief

April 2018

Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked the 168th out of 188 least-developed countries according to the 2016 Human Development Report. According to this report, at least 50 percent of the population is estimated to be living in poverty, and more than 90 percent of food needs in Yemen are imported.

Limited access to food is compounded by a number of factors, including the effects of low incomes, the depreciation of the Yemeni currency, uncertainty of access to Yemen's Red Sea ports, large family sizes, high unemployment and non-payment of salaries of civil servants.

Present in Yemen since 1967, WFP currently aims to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, and specifically increase food consumption through the scale-up of life saving emergency food assistance (particularly targeting IPC Phase 4 areas), as well as to expand coverage of nutrition interventions to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).



Population: **29.3 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **168 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

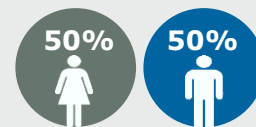
Chronic malnutrition: **47% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

79,727 mt of life-saving in-kind food commodities distributed in April 2018.

USD 4.8 m six months (May -October 2018)

6.8 m people assisted in April 2018



Operational Updates

- In April 2018, WFP approved Budget Revision (BR) 02 for Emergency Operation (EMOP) 201068: extending the programme until December 2018 and increasing the budget by USD 820 million. BR 02 saw WFP increase the number of people targeted for General Food Assistance (GFA in-kind food) to 7.6 million, making the total target for EMOP 201068 9.8 million Yemenis.
- WFP provided GFA (in-kind food assistance and commodity vouchers) to 6.8 million people in April: 6,188,190 million people received in-kind food and 707,702 million people who received commodity vouchers. Of this, a total of 3.45 million people received full entitlements while 3.4 million people received a reduced 60 percent entitlement.
- WFP is extremely grateful for the USD 442 million contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) which will be allocated through the UN for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). These funds will go towards continuation of WFP's programmes: General Food Assistance, Nutrition, School Meals, and Livelihood programmes. In addition, KSA and UAE have generously provided financial support to WFP Yemen's two Special Operations: USD 5.35 million has been allocated to SO 200845 to support UNHAS operations and USD 12.47 million has been allocated to SO 200841 for the WFP-led Logistics Cluster.
- During the first two months of 2018, WFP admitted 62,845 new children aged 6-59 months and 46,663 Pregnant and Nursing Women (PNW) into the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme to treat Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).
- In addition, in January and February 2018 82,212 children aged 6-23 months and 85,919 PLW have received specialized nutritious foods as part of WFP's Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) to prevent acute and chronic malnutrition.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/ Maria Tsvetkova
Caption: Children in a school in Sana'a receiving their ready-to-eat nutritious snacks.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
Immediate, Integrated and Sustained Response to Avert Famine in Yemen			
201068 (April 2017 – December 2018)	2 bn	976.1 m	4.8 m
Logistics & Emergency Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination to Support Humanitarian Operations in Yemen			
200841 05/05/2015 to 31/12/2018	37 m	34.2 m	0
Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Yemen			
200845 20/05/2015 to 31/12/2018	13 m	10.6 m	0

*May 2018 – October 2018

- According to the April 2018 Yemen Safety Nets Alert Platform, the Yemeni Riyal decreased by 0.6 percent in April 2018 and lost 126 percent of its pre-crisis value. While there were improvements in imports of commodities in April 2018, leading to better supply and availability in local markets across most governorates, retail prices increased by one percent between March and April 2018 and are between 37-102 percent higher than the pre-crisis period. In addition, while fuel availability improved in some governorates, scarcity persisted in others resulting in prices being 80-113 percent higher than the pre-crisis period.

Challenges

- On 16 April a fire broke out in a mobile storage unit in one of WFP's warehouse in Al Hammadi (in Hodeidah), the second fire incident in Hodeidah in a two-week period. No significant losses were reported, except for the warehouse itself, as it was used to store used bags and cartons that were in the process of being destroyed. WFP is working with local authorities to determine the cause of the fire. WFP is also establishing additional fire-safety measures to prevent another similar incident from occurring.
- High levels of insecurity were reported throughout Yemen in April 2018. In particular, as of 20 April armed confrontations have intensified in multiple locations in Hodeidah, approximately 70 km from Hodeidah port. WFP has developed a contingency plan for Hodeidah port should it become unusable and has prepositioned ready-to-eat-foods- High Energy Biscuits (HEB)- for up to 800 households fleeing violence in the governorate.
- Limited humanitarian access remains a problem for WFP Yemen. WFP suffered substantial delays in receiving customs clearance for distributing 450,000 litres of in-kind fuel from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to hospitals and WASH sites identified by UNICEF and WHO. In addition, almost three-quarters of WFP's monitoring missions for April 2018 were cancelled due to security reasons while WFP still struggles to receive visas for key international staff.

Funding Update

- Thanks to the generous financial support from public and private donors, WFP's pipeline for providing full entitlements of in-kind food is covered until November 2018 while the commodity voucher pipeline for full entitlements is covered through October 2018. The pipeline for cash activities, however, is only covered until the end of July 2018.

Donors

EMOP 201068 (in alphabetical order): Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and private sector donors.

GENDER MARKER 1 EMOP 200123

- WFP is launching a school meals programme to provide ready-to-eat school meals to 140,000 school children in the governorates of Sa'ada, Sana'a, Taizz, Aden, Lahj and Shawbah. So far, WFP has dispatched ready-to-eat food to 266 out of the 358 planned schools.
- Starting in May 2018, WFP will initiate a phased implementation of Cash Based Transfers (CBT) under General Food Assistance modality. The phased implementation will primarily target beneficiaries in urban areas in order to support and local markets and to harness their resilience.
- WFP welcomes the official announcement from the KSA declaring all Yemeni ports as open, including Hodeidah and Saleef. WFP encourages all parties to the conflict to allow continuous, unfettered humanitarian access to all Yemeni ports, ensuring that necessary food and non-food commodities are brought into the country. Since the end of the temporary blockade on Hodeidah and Saleef ports in November 2017: ten humanitarian vessels carrying 231,330 tons (mt) of food items, 51 commercial vessels carrying 1,284,009 mt of commercial food items, 54 commercial fuel vessels carrying 564,913 mt of diesel and petrol and 16 dhows carrying 2,321 mt of medical items have offloaded at Yemen's Red Sea ports.

Monitoring

- According to WFP's Monitoring and Evaluation Team, monitoring of WFP assisted GFA beneficiaries showed a marked improvement in food consumption scores between January 2017 and December 2017. For GFD beneficiaries, the percentage of households with acceptable food consumption score increased from 48 percent in January 2017 to 57 percent in December 2017. Among Commodity Voucher (CVTN) beneficiaries, the percentage of households with acceptable food consumption score increased from 56 percent to 60 percent over the same period.