



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



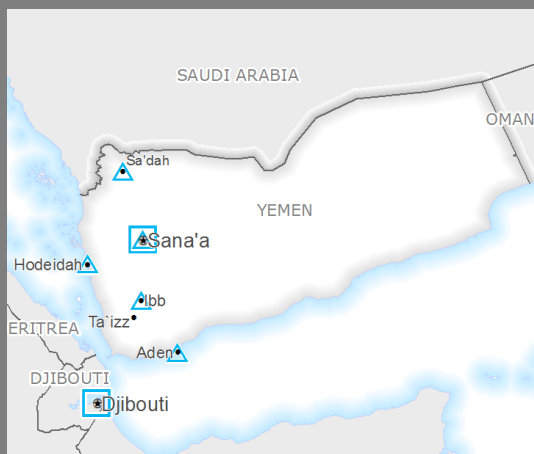
WFP Yemen Country Brief November 2018

Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 178th out of 189 countries, according to the 2018 Human Development Report. At least 50 percent of the population is estimated to be living in poverty, and more than 90 percent of food in Yemen is imported.

Limited access to food is compounded by several 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 rates, and the irregular or non-payment of salaries of many 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 scaleup of life-saving emergency food assistance (particularly the most food insecure population), as well as to expand coverage of nutrition interventions to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).



Population: **29.3 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **168 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: 47 percent of children between 6-59 months

Contact info: laura.phillips@wfp.org
Country Director: Stephen Anderson
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen

In Numbers

113,776 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 11.2 m commodity voucher transfers made

US\$ 507.3 m six months (January 2018-June 2019) net funding requirement

7.2 m people assisted in November 2018



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Updates

- In November, WFP provided food assistance for some 7.2 million people in 19 Yemeni governorates, 94 percent of the monthly target of 7.6 million people. WFP is preparing to increase its food assistance reach in Yemen to avert a major catastrophe. In order to respond to the increased levels of food insecurity caused by the ongoing crisis in addition to the decrease in the economy and increased food prices, WFP is planning to scale up to assist 10 million people in December 2018 whereby 8 million severely food insecure people will receive in-kind food rations and 2 million people will receive commodity vouchers. In January 2019, 12 million severely food insecure people will receive food rations, of which 10 million severely food insecure people will receive in-kind rations while 2 million people will receive commodity vouchers.
- The WFP Yemen 2019-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) was approved by the Executive Board on 28 November.
- Between 12 and 14 November, WFP Executive Director (ED) David Beasley visited Yemen together with Regional Director Muhannad Hadi, Deputy Chief of Staff Rehan Zahid, and Chief Economist Arif Husain. The ED visited Aden to meet with the Prime Minister of the Internationally Recognized Government in Yemen, and later travelled to Sana'a where he witnessed the blanket distribution. He also visited Hodeidah port. The ED witnessed port operations and commodity voucher distributions which are ongoing as part of a blanket distribution to 36,000 families in Hodeidah city.
- On 23 November, the United Nations Special Envoy for Yemen Martin Griffiths visited Hodeidah to lay the groundwork in light of the upcoming peace talks in Sweden. The Special Envoy stated that the UN should urgently pursue negotiations for a leading UN role in ensuring the functioning of the port and to preserve the critical humanitarian pipeline. Unfortunately, on 26 November, fierce fighting was reported in the eastern and southern parts of Hodeidah shortly after the UN Special Envoy's departure.
- On 01 December, the Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Mark Lowcock concluded a 3-day visit to Yemen. He warned that conditions had deteriorated at an alarming rate since his last visit in October 2017.

| | Total Requirements (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | 6 Months (Jan 2018 – Jun 2019) Net Funding Requirements – including the scale-up (in USD) * |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Immediate, Integrated and Sustained Response to Avert Famine in Yemen | | | |
| EMOP 201068 (April 2017- March 2019) | 2,016.8 m | 1,689.2 m | 507.3 m |
| Logistics & Emergency Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination to Support Humanitarian Operations in Yemen and Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Yemen | | | |
| SO 200841 and SO 200845 (May 2015- December 2018) | 58.7m | 55.3 m | 3.4 m |

He reiterated his call for a cessation of hostilities and urged the parties to the conflict to facilitate humanitarian assistance and protect the supply of food and other essential goods coming into the country.

- In response to the increased fighting in Hodeidah governorate, a Rapid Response Mechanism was established in June to accelerate the humanitarian response for newly displaced persons and to ensure their most basic needs are addressed during their displacement. In particular, WFP is providing displaced families with Immediate Response Rations (IRR) which are sufficient for five days through Humanitarian Service Points and Humanitarian and Humanitarian Transit Sites. From the start of the large-scale internally displaced persons (IDPs) response in June until November, WFP provided IRRs to 128,975 households.
- In addition to the Immediate Response Rations provided to displaced people fleeing violence from Hodeidah, WFP is also providing a one-off General Food Assistance (GFA) ration, either in-kind or via a commodity voucher to all newly displaced people, sufficient for one month. Thus far, WFP has provided 584,406 people with a one-off GFA ration—252,318 IDPs have received in-kind general food distributions (GFD) and 332,088 have received commodity vouchers in 14 governorates.
- Between January and November 2018, WFP admitted 430,639 children aged 6 to 59 months and 298,283 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) into WFP’s Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP). For WFP’s programme aimed to prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) called the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP), WFP admitted 277,833 children aged 6 to 23 months and 379,598 PLW into the programme.
- WFP has scaled up its programme for treating moderate acute malnutrition (TSFP) for children under the age of five and PLW. Starting in October, WFP began implementing TSFP programmes in 3,008 health facilities in 287 districts, an increase of 574 health facilities over the previous 6 months. In addition, WFP has created different scenarios to increase BSFP programmes throughout the country based

Challenges

- In the second half of November, operations at Hodeidah port for commercial fuel and food cargo decreased by about 50 percent as shipping companies seem reluctant to deliver to the port due to the ongoing fighting. A decrease in commercial vessels discharging at Hodeidah port could result in food shortages in the market and consequently, increased food prices. Despite the decrease in port operations, WFP discharged one chartered vessel carrying 12,000 mt of lentils at Saleef port on 16 November.
- Heavy fighting near the Red Sea Mill silos in Hodeidah continued, leaving the infrastructure that WFP relies on for a quarter of WFP’s wheat at risk. The mills have been inaccessible since September. They are currently storing 51,000 mt of WFP wheat. The amount is enough to assist 3.7 million severely food insecure people for one month. WFP continues to gather information on the status of the mills and remains on standby to access and distribute the commodities as soon as the situation permits.

Funding and Pipeline update

- Based on the current emergency operation (EMOP) and Yemen Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), WFP urgently needs an additional USD 507.3 million to ensure its operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months. In order to scale up to assist up to 12 million beneficiaries a month, monthly food requirements will increase from 100,000 mt to approximately 160,000 mt, requiring USD 160 million per month. WFP requires an additional USD 1.5 billion for the rest of 2019 to meet the additional needs.
- WFP currently has 176,827 mt of cereals in country, sufficient to cover requirements until the third week of January 2019 (with 8 million beneficiaries targeted in December 2018 and 10 million beneficiaries targeted in January 2019). An additional 75,000 mt of wheat and 60,000 mt of wheat flour are expected to arrive at Aden, Hodeidah, Saleef and Salalah (in Oman) ports in December and January. This will allow WFP to cover its wheat requirements until the end of February 2019.

Donors

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