



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Yemen Country Brief February 2019

In Numbers

9.3 m people assisted
in February 2019



106,645 mt of general food assistance dispatched

US\$ 18.4 m cash-based and commodity transfers made

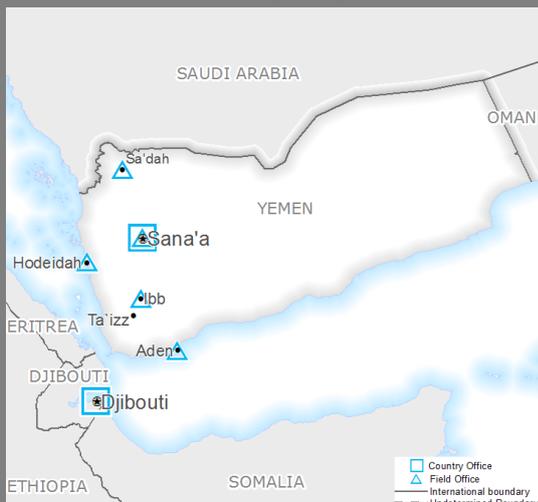
US\$ 603.3 m six months (March - August 2019) net funding requirements

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: 30.5 million	2018 Human Development Index: 178 out of 188
Income Level: Low	Chronic malnutrition: 2 million children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- In February, WFP provided general food assistance (GFA) for some 9.3 million people in 19 Yemeni governorates, 80 percent of the monthly target of 11.7 million people. Of this, 6.8 m received in-kind assistance, 2.5 m received commodity vouchers, and 114,700 received cash-based transfers (CBT).
- On 1 February, WFP had a meeting in Amman with UNDP, the UN Special Envoy to Yemen, the Yemen Humanitarian Coordinator, DPA, UNVIM, UNOPS and OCHA to discuss Hudaydah port management. The parties had proposed a limited UN role whereby technical support would be provided in the form of advisory support.
- On 14 February, the UN Country Team in Yemen published the 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview. An estimated 80 percent of the population – 24 million people are estimated to require some form of humanitarian or protection assistance in 2019.
- On 26 February, WFP chartered the vessel MV ELENA carrying 440 containers of WFP vegetable oil from Salah Port to Hudaydah Port. This is the first containerized vessel to arrive at Hudaydah since May 2018.
- On 26 February, a UN joint mission (WFP, OCHA, DSS, UNDP) escorted by the United Nations Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) crossed conflict lines and visited the Red Sea Mills on the outskirts of Hudaydah city, which have been damaged in fighting and inaccessible to WFP since September 2018. The mills store some 51,000 metric tons of WFP wheat, sufficient to feed 3.7 million food insecure people for one month. The mission found that some of the wheat is heavily infested and requires fumigation. More details on the quality of the wheat will be shared in the mission report.
- On 26 February, the Yemen Pledging Conference was held in Geneva. A total of USD 2.6 billion was pledged out of a total appeal of USD 4.2 billion. WFP is awaiting further details on funding allocations to WFP.

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Photo Caption: A mother feeds her child with WFP Rice assistance in Aden. WFP/Fares Khoailed

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)		
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Percentage Funded
3.34 b	534.4 m	16 %
2019 Requirements (in USD)	2019 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (March – April 2019)
1.6 b	534.4 m	603.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen, have access to life-saving, safe and nutritious food all year.
Focus area: Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide life-saving food assistance to severely food -insecure households (URT: Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food).

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: People at risk of malnutrition, especially pregnant and lactating women and girls and children under 5 years old, have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2020.
Focus area: Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide nutrition assistance to treat and prevent malnutrition.
 - Provide conditional cash assistance to support access to nutrition and health services.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable households across Yemen have access to equitable social safety nets and basic services during and in the aftermath of crises.
Focus area: Resilience Building

- Activities:**
- Provide school meals. WFP will provide school meals to increase the food intake and school attendance of primary school-age children.
 - Support community infrastructure rehabilitation and livelihoods through food assistance for assets.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: International and national partners are supported in their efforts to assist people in Yemen and preserve critical services.
Focus area: Crisis Response

- Activities:**
- Provide humanitarian air services through UNHAS. UNHAS provides safe and reliable air transport services and standby capacity for the evacuation of humanitarian staff if required.
 - Logistics Cluster.
 - Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC).
 - Bilateral service provision.

- During February 2019, an extremely alarming humanitarian situation was reported in Nehm district - a front line conflict area of Sana'a governorate - due to restrictions to population movements and destruction of livelihoods. WFP

will provide additional support and is in the process of establishing a Final Distribution Point (FDP) to provide a one-off emergency food distribution assistance to 1,000 households in the 10 villages most affected by the conflict.

Monitoring

- In February 2019, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 262 monitoring visits in 17 governorates. The monitored activities included in-kind GFA, commodity vouchers, CBT, prevention and treatment of MAM programmes, school meals and livelihoods. In areas where the UN has access, WFP staff monitored 58 distribution sites under GFA, CV-TN, nutrition programmes and school feeding in Aden, Ibb, Sa'ada, Hudaydah, and Sana'a governorates.

Funding and Pipeline update

- Based on the ICSP, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 603.3 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months.
- Additional resources are needed to ensure that WFP can continue to uninterruptedly implement cash-based transfers and commodity vouchers beyond February, as well as nutrition interventions and in-kind food distributions beyond April and May, respectively.

Challenges

- On 9 February, an airstrike struck a WFP-contracted truck (and two non-WFP vehicles) in Kitaf district in Sa'ada governorate. The truck contained WFP vegetable oil and lentils and all commodities are reported to have been destroyed.
- On 12 February, an airstrike struck a sub-contracted truck transporting WFP commodities in Shaad'a district, in Sa'ada governorate. A total of 2.13 mt of mixed commodities were destroyed in the incident.
- WFP is facing delays in deliveries, as WFP trucks face delays at de-facto authorities' custom and security checkpoints across Ibb, Taiz, Al-Bayda, Amran and Abyan governorates. Whilst the detention of trucks is not unusual in Yemen, it has a significant impact on WFP's operations and programme implementation, leading to additional costs for unnecessary delays and postponed delivery to food distribution points. WFP is liaising with the authorities for the expedited release of all trucks.

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.