

# WFP Yemen Country Brief April 2019



## In Numbers

**10.2 m people assisted**  
in April 2019



**109,447 mt** of general food assistance dispatched

**US\$ 21 m** cash-based and commodity transfers made

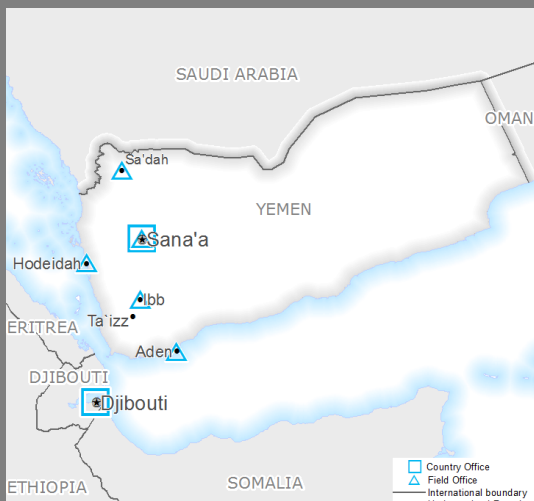
**US\$ 621.8 m** six months (May - October 2019) net funding requirements

## Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 178<sup>th</sup> 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 April, WFP provided general food assistance (GFA) to 10,169,814 people, 82 percent of the monthly target of 12,371,974 million people. Of this, 7,350,522 received in-kind assistance, 2,658,957 received commodity vouchers and 160,335 received unrestricted cash.
- WFP continues to negotiate on regaining access to the Red Sea Mills in Hudaydah, which contain some 51,000 mt of WFP wheat – enough to feed 3.7 million people for one month. An assessment mission scheduled for 02 April was cancelled due to security concerns. Some 70 percent of the wheat stored could be extracted, fumigated and milled for consumption, but it's expected to decline as delays continue.
- Fuel shortages across de-facto authorities controlled areas were witnessed throughout most of April, as fuel tankers were refused entry to Hudaydah port. The price of fuel soared to USD 20-30 per one jerry can on the black market and mile-long queues occurred in major cities. Shortages started to subside around the third week of April when fuel vessels were granted clearance.
- During the UN Security Council meeting of 15 April, the Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs stated that over 200,000 suspected cholera cases have been reported in 2019. WFP and WHO are partnering to distribute oral rehydration salts (ORS), so far to over 1.7 million people in 48 districts deemed at high risk of cholera, using WFP's established food distribution network.
- The humanitarian situation in Hajjah governorate has significantly deteriorated due to the ongoing conflict and the lack of humanitarian access in many districts. [OCHA](#) reports that around 68,000 families are displaced in 2019. Several missions were conducted in Hajjah to assess the situation, progress on operations and ascertain needs and

## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>3.34 b</b>	<b>833.4 m</b>
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (May – October 2019)
<b>2.1 b*</b>	<b>621.8 m</b>

\* According to ICSP budget revision, which incorporates the needs to scale-up operations to reach up to 12 million people monthly.

### 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.

## Monitoring

- In April 2019, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 229 monitoring visits in 18 governorates. The monitored activities included in-kind General Food Distributions (GFA), commodity vouchers, cash-based transfers (CBT), MAM prevention and treatment programmes, school meals and livelihood activities. WFP’s in-house WFP call centres conducted 6,485 calls to beneficiaries to verify receipt of assistance.

## Funding and Pipeline update

- WFP’s operational needs for 2019 stand at USD 2.1 billion. Based on the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), WFP urgently needs an additional USD 658.8 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months.
- Pipeline breaks are anticipated for nutrition interventions in June and in-kind food distributions in July. WFP’s cash-based transfer modality pipeline will be breaking in May. Given the long lead-times to bring food into the country, WFP urgently needs funds to ensure that operations can continue uninterrupted until October 2019.

## Challenges

- WFP is experiencing delays in deliveries, as WFP trucks face delays at de-facto authorities’ custom and security checkpoints across several 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. WFP is liaising with the authorities for the expedited release of all trucks. On 29 April, the gradual release of 160 previously detained trucks in Ibb customs started, prioritising trucks carrying WFP food commodities.
- Armed clashes between Internationally Recognized Government (IRG) backed forces and Houthi backed forces in Al Husha, Qa’atabah, and Damt districts in Ad-Dhale governorate continue to block the main road connecting Aden and Sana’a. WFP is currently exploring alternative routes through Taiz or Al Bayda governorates. In the meantime, trucks en-route were asked to return to Aden until further notice. Should the situation persist, it could seriously affect WFP’s May deliveries cycle.

**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, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and private sector donors.