

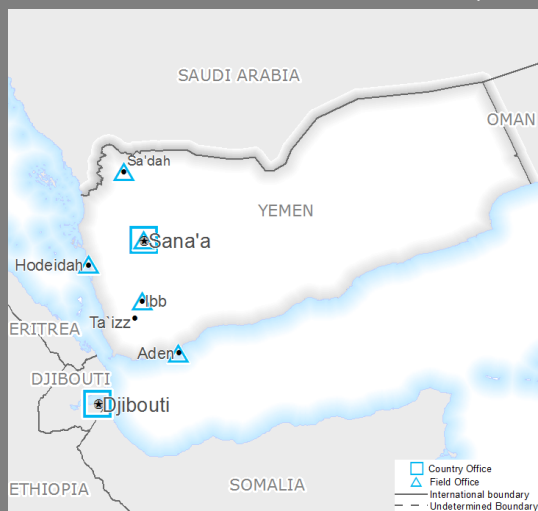
WFP Yemen Country Brief August 2019

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 scale-up of life-saving emergency food assistance (particularly among 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**

In Numbers

12.43 m people assisted
in August 2019



116,332.4 mt of general food assistance
dispatched

USD 23.4 m cash-based and commodity transfers
made

USD 601 m six months (September 2019 - February 2020) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In early August, WFP signed an agreement in Sana'a with the National Authority for Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Response (NAMCHA) detailing a new and independent beneficiary selection and biometric registration process. On 09 August, WFP released a [statement](#) announcing the [resumption](#) of humanitarian food assistance in Sana'a city affected by the partial suspension since 20 June. Dispatches to Sana'a city commenced on 13 August.
- In August, the security situation in the southern governorates remained volatile. Since 10 August, armed clashes between the Southern Transitional Council (STC) and the Internationally Recognized Government of Yemen (IRG) forces erupted in Aden and spread to Abyan and Shabwa governorates, with control of key facilities shifting continuously and affecting WFP operations. To ensure staff safety and security, national staff worked from home while a total of 101 UN and international NGO staff were relocated to Djibouti via trips on WFP chartered vessels. As of 31 August, all WFP staff remaining in Aden are safe and accounted for and the situation is being closely monitored.
- On 07 August, NAMCHA called on local and international humanitarian agencies to assist families affected by heavy rains and floods, with Al Mahweet and Hudaydah governorates particularly affected. In addition to damage to shelter and infrastructure, [OCHA](#) estimated that 5,300 families are affected. WFP is coordinating with partners to provide immediate response rations to those displaced through the rapid response mechanism. The rations cover the needs of a family for five days.
- On 20 August, the UN Security Council convened to discuss the situation in Yemen. The UN Special Envoy to Yemen [stated](#) that the peace process is more urgent than ever, while The Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs [stressed](#) the urgent humanitarian funding needs due to pledges not being allocated and disbursed.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4.82 b*	1.5 b
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (September – February 2020)
2.3 b*	601 m

* 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 August 2019, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 705 monitoring visits in 18 governorates. The monitored activities included in-kind general food assistance (GFA), commodity vouchers, cash-based transfers (CBT), prevention and treatment programmes for moderate acute malnutrition, school meals and livelihood activities. WFP's in-house call centres conducted 7,214 calls to verify receipt of assistance and food delivery to distribution sites.

Funding and Pipeline update

- On 20 August, the Executive Director (ED) signed and sent a letter to all donor counterparts calling for greater funding to support life-saving activities. The letter thanked the donors for their support and highlighted WFP's urgent need for funds.
- WFP's operational needs for 2019 stand at USD 2.3 billion. Based on the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) and given the long lead-times to bring food into the country, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 601 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months.
- WFP is expecting a series of serious pipeline breaks for a number of programmes; The food vouchers and cash assistance pipeline will begin breaking in October. Nutrition interventions are anticipated to break in October. School feeding is covered only until the end of the year, with breaks expected in October due to late arrivals. The pipeline breaks for the wheat commodity is expected in October with a limited milling capacity in northern Yemen.

Challenges

- WFP is experiencing delays in deliveries, as WFP trucks continue to face detention at de-facto authorities' customs 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. As of end of August, five trucks remain detained.
- In August, heavy fighting between IRG and STC forces in the southern governorates has resulted in the closure of Aden airport and port multiple times. In addition, WFP-contracted transporters are reluctant to conduct deliveries given the fluid security situation and limited access due to an increased number of checkpoints across the southern governorates.

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