



## WFP Yemen Country Brief September 2019

## In Numbers

**12.2 million people assisted**  
in September 2019



**116,784.8 mt** of general food assistance  
dispatched

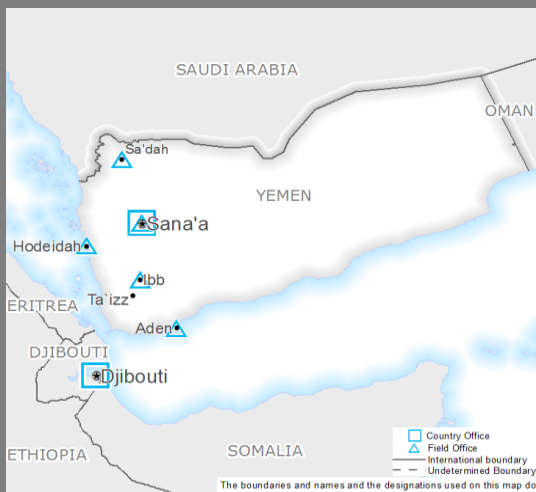
**US\$24.1 million** cash-based and commodity  
transfers made

**US\$550 million** six months net funding  
requirements (October 2019 - March 2020)

### 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 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**

### Operational Updates

- Following the security unrest in the south of Yemen in August, the situation has seen improvement in September, but remains unpredictable. Early in August, an advanced rotation of international staff and a work from home modality of national staff were activated. On 09 September, food dispatches resumed from Aden under the August cycle. On 22 September, all staff of WFP Aden area office resumed work from the office.
- In September, the contracting details to initiate the milling of the WFP wheat in the Red Sea Mills (RSM) was finalized. The mills originally housed some 51,000 mt of WFP wheat, enough to feed 3.7 million people for one month. As a first phase, 700 mt of milled wheat is planned to be transported to distribution sites in northern Yemen. The milling is set to start early October.
- Throughout the second half of September, fuel shortages were observed primarily in northern Yemen, where up to 13 vessels were blocked from entering Hudaydah ports. Late September, WFP logistics reported that the shortages across the country started to affect transporters' ability to deliver food. To mitigate the impacts, a reallocation exercise was conducted to reassign transporters with contingency diesel stocks to ensure uninterrupted transport operations for the short-term. On 29 September, the fuel situation has seen a slight improvement as one vessel carrying 30,000 mt of fuel was granted access to Hudaydah port.
- On 01 September, the UN Special Envoy for Yemen and the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen released a joint [statement](#) addressing the casualties reported following the 01 September airstrikes that hit a detention facility in Dhamar governorate, the death toll increased to over 135, with dozens more injured.
- On 14 September, Ansar Allah [claimed](#) drone attacks on two major oil facilities run by the Saudi company Aramco in Abqaiq and Khurais.

**Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)**

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>4.82 b*</b>	<b>1.6 b</b>
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2019 – March 2020)
<b>2.3 b*</b>	<b>550 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 September 2019, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 929 monitoring visits in 20 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 6,975 calls to verify receipt of assistance and food delivery to distribution sites.

**Funding and Pipeline update**

- WFP’s operational needs for 2019 stand at US\$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 US\$550 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months.
- WFP is expecting a series of pipeline breaks for a number of programmes; the commodity vouchers are covered till March 2020. The cash assistance pipeline will break in November unless resources are received. Nutrition interventions are anticipated to break in March 2020. The school feeding programme is covered till February 2020. Under the general food assistance, shortfalls for beans and salt are expected in December whilst shortfalls for the wheat and oil commodities will be covered till March 2020.

**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 delayed food deliveries and additional costs. WFP is liaising with the authorities for the expedited release of all trucks. As of end of September, 36 trucks remain detained.
- Food Security and Livelihood Survey for 2019 has not started and is pending the necessary clearances. Discussions are ongoing with the relevant authorities to resolve the issue. This could result in further delaying the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis.

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