

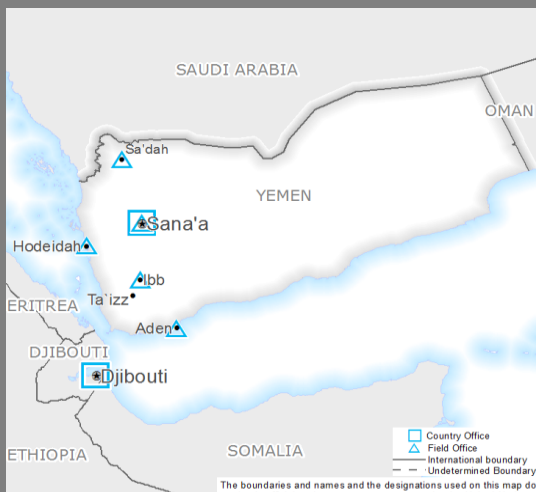


## WFP Yemen Country Brief October 2019

### 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**

### In Numbers

**12.3 million people assisted** in October 2019



**119,510 mt** of general food assistance dispatched

**USD 5.3 million** cash-based transfers made  
**USD 19.1 million** value of redeemed commodities through food vouchers

**USD 655 million** six months net funding requirements (December 2019 - May 2020)

### Operational Updates

- Throughout October, the fuel situation remained of major concern. In September, the Internationally Recognized Government of Yemen (IRG) began to strictly enforce the new fuel regulations. As a result, commercial vessels carrying fuel have been blocked from entering Hudaydah port by the Saudi-led Coalition (SLC). On October 23, an agreement was reached over the payment of fuel tariffs by both sides. Towards the end of October, the fuel situation has seen a slight improvement as seven vessels were granted entry to Hudaydah port. As of 31 October, six vessels carrying around 143,000 mt of fuel remain in the Coalition's holding area.
- In October, a trial to transport 700 mt of WFP wheat from the Red Sea Mills in Hudaydah governorate has been conducted successfully. The mills originally housed some 51,000 mt of WFP wheat, enough to feed 3.7 million people for one month.
- Under the October distributions, WFP assisted 12.3 million people, achieving 96 percent of the monthly target. The amount of people assisted via cash assistance is the highest yet with 469,895 people reached in three governorates in the South.
- In October, WFP reached the hard-to-reach area of Durayhimi City in Hudaydah, providing assistance to some 200 civilians. WFP provided immediate response rations and general food assistance alongside dignity and hygiene kits, water and medical supplies and nutritious products for the population. This is the second time WFP has reached this population in 2019.
- WHO reports that over 748,500 suspected cholera cases and 980 associated deaths have been reported in Yemen so far in 2019. WFP's Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) has delivered fuel to 181 health facilities on behalf of WHO and 48 water treatment facilities on behalf of UNICEF. BSP is also delivering Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) kits consisting of a 4-month supply of ORS, aqua-tabs and jerry cans to beneficiaries through WFP's General Food Distribution (GFD).

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4.82 b*	1.6 b
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (December 2019 – May 2020)
2.3 b*	655 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 October 2019, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 605 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 5,564 calls to verify receipt of assistance and food delivery to distribution sites.

Funding and Pipeline update

- 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 655 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; shortfalls of 61 percent for CVTN begin in December, with 100 percent breaks for CBT anticipated in November. Nutrition interventions are anticipated to break in December. The school feeding programme is covered till February 2020. Under the general food assistance, shortfalls for beans is expected in December whilst shortfalls for the wheat commodity are expected in February 2020. The cash assistance under the food for assets activity is covered until December, with shortfalls to start from January 2020. Funds for the Logistics cluster, the Emergency Telecommunication Cluster (ETC) and UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) are secured until April 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 October, 12 trucks remain detained.
- The fuel crisis in October in the north of Yemen hampered timely food deliveries to food distribution points as some WFP-contracted transporters had no fuel to transport the food assistance. On occasion, some had to resort to purchasing fuel from the black market.

**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.