



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Yemen Country Brief November 2019

### In Numbers

12.73 million people assisted in November



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

124,504 mt of general food assistance dispatched

USD 5.3 million cash-based transfers made. USD 19 million value of redeemed food vouchers

USD 559 million six months net funding requirements (January 2020-June 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 through the ICSP 2019-2020 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

- On 07 November, the Supreme Council for Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and International Cooperation (SCMCHA) was established. The new council replaced both the National Authority for the Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Recovery (NAMCHA) and the international cooperation sector at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.
- The Internationally Recognized Government of Yemen (IRG) and the Southern Transitional Council (STC) signed a power-sharing agreement on 05 November to end hostilities in the South.
- WFP-led UNHAS established a new air route between Aden and Mukalla in November. Flights to Mukalla are scheduled to operate once a week and are based on demand.
- Throughout November, the fuel situation in northern Yemen remained unpredictable. A reduced number of commercial fuel vessels continued to enter Hudaydah port. WFP operations were not affected, and WFP chartered vessels operated without issue.
- As part of the nationwide targeting and biometric registration exercise, On 17 November, the first batch of equipment landed in Sana'a airport and is pending customs clearance. While the exercise is ongoing in the south, WFP will first implement a cash pilot in three districts in Sana'a city targeting some 158,000 people.
- On 25 November, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reported a new outbreak of dengue fever in Yemen, with over 3,500 cases of dengue reported in Taiz alone.
- On 27 November, WFP's Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) dispatched over 5,000 m<sup>3</sup> of medical cargo, the largest dispatch of medical cargo transported in a single day in the operation to date, on behalf of WHO from Salalah and Dubai.

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Photo Caption: Tahseen, 8, at Khadeeja school in Tur Al-Baha district, Lahj governorate. Her school is supported by the WFP school feeding programme. © WFP/Mohammed Awadh

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

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>4.82 b*</b>	<b>2.1 b</b>
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (January 2020 – June 2020)
<b>2.3 b*</b>	<b>559 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 November 2019, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 973 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 more than 9,000 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 559 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. Under the general food assistance, a critical pipeline break is expected in June. Wheat flour is expected to break in May, pulses in January, vegetable oil in March, sugar in February and salt in March. Shortfalls for cash assistance are starting in February and a pipeline break is expected in March for commodity vouchers. Nutrition interventions are experiencing a critical pipeline break in March. Shortfalls for the school feeding programme are expected to start in March due to commodities arrival schedule. The cash assistance under the food for assets activity is covered until March, with shortfalls to start from April. Funding for Logistic Cluster is secured until June 2020; however, if the grant is not extended, it will be only secured till February. Funding for the Emergency Telecommunication Cluster is secured until January 2020, with 84 percent shortfalls to start in February. Funding for UNHAS is secured until March with a 100 percent critical break starting in April.

**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 07 December, six trucks remain detained for over four months.

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