



World Food Programme

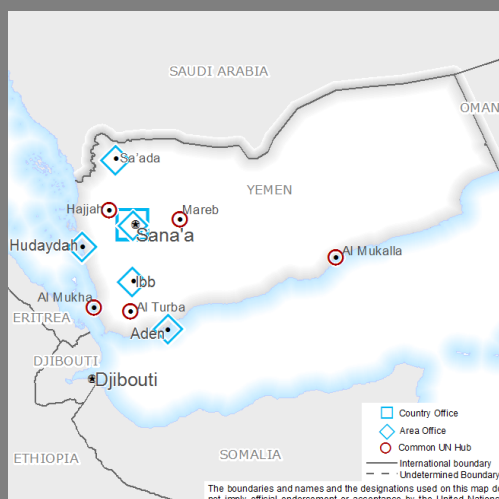
SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Yemen Country Brief April 2020

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. It aims specifically to 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



8.6 million people assisted
in April 2020

82,203 mt of general food assistance dispatched

USD 6.4 million cash-based transfers made
USD 11.8 million value of redeemed commodities through food vouchers

USD 634 million six-month net funding requirements (June – November 2020)

Operational Updates

- On 10 April, the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Yemen was diagnosed in Ash Shihr district in Hadramout governorate.
- In April, WFP continued to operate on an alternate remote work arrangement in all WFP offices in Yemen as a precautionary measure against COVID-19 with exceptions necessary for operational continuity. WFP operations remained mostly unaffected in April, except for school feeding due to the early closure of schools, and food assistance for training. Activities are ongoing with precautionary measures set in place to prevent crowding, with distributions staggered over several days.
- During the April distribution cycle in light of anticipated funding shortages and in a bid to stretch available resources, WFP implemented a reduction in the levels of assistance provided in the northern areas. The reduction came as a result of eroded confidence in the operation, following the delays in implementation of some elements required for full assurances. WFP continues to work with the authorities to resolve these issues to allow for a conducive operating environment for both WFP and donors to reinstate full assistance as soon as possible.
- WFP supported the quarantine centres established in Yemen with immediate response rations (IRR) to cover the quarantine period. As of 2 May, WFP and its rapid response mechanism (RRM) partners have assisted 9,080 individuals with 3,061 RRM kits in 38 quarantine centres in nine governorates.
- Heavy rain in mid-April affected thousands of households in Sana'a and Mareb. On 21 April, floods in Aden resulted in eight fatalities, and more than 14,700 people are reported displaced across 21 sites for internally displaced people. WFP provided 18.7 mt of food as one-month ration to 207 households in Sanhan district and 73 mt of mixed commodities to 811 families in Sana'a city. In Aden, WFP assisted 2,000 families with hot meals for three days, followed by 1,500 IRR kits and 2,000 high-energy biscuits.

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Photo Caption: WFP food distribution in Hoeren-Lahj governorate.
Photo: ©WFP Hebatallah Munassar

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4.82 b	2.5 b
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June – November 2020)
2.5 b	634 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen, have access to lifesaving, 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 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 2,310 monitoring visits in 22 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 feeding and livelihood activities. WFP's call centres conducted 29,362 calls to verify receipt of assistance, food delivery to distribution sites and collect data on food security indicators.

Funding and Pipeline update

- WFP's operational needs for 2020 stand at USD 2.5 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 634 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General food assistance	500 million
Nutrition	64 million
Livelihoods	62 million
UNHAS	5 million
Logistics Cluster	1 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	2 million

Challenges

- As a COVID-19 precautionary measure enacted by the local authorities, a quarantine restriction has been imposed on all vessels entering all Yemeni ports in the north and south. This could lead to significant delays, and therefore demurrage costs, for vessels linking regional ports, which only spend one or two days at sea between ports.

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