

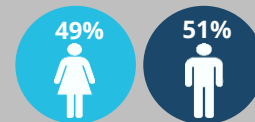


SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Yemen Country Brief May 2020

## In Numbers



**8.2 million people targeted**  
in May 2020

**72,290 mt** of general food assistance dispatched

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

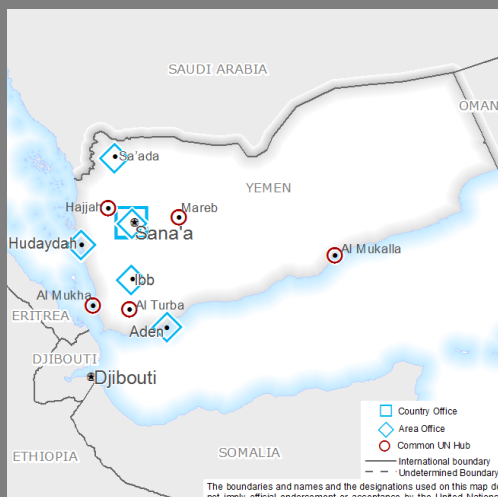
**USD 737 million** six-month net funding  
requirements (July – December 2020)

### 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. 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).



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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

- As of 31 May, WHO [reported](#) 327 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 81 deaths. Reported cases are likely to be undercounted, considering the low testing rates.
- On 11 May, The Supreme National Emergency Committee for COVID-19 in Aden has [declared](#) Aden an epidemic affected city. This was taken in view of the [spread](#) of COVID-19, as well as other infective diseases emerged after the torrential rains and flooding in April.
- During May, there was no major disruption to WFP's activities caused by the COVID-19 situation. Trainings conducted under the livelihoods activity continued to be on hold in May, with COVID-19 precautionary measures in place.
- As part of the collective humanitarian response to COVID-19 in Yemen, WFP's bilateral service provision in May coordinated cargo flights transporting 85 mt of medical supplies to Sana'a and Aden on behalf of several humanitarian partners, notably WHO and UNICEF.
- The mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping Bulletin covering March-April 2020, which included the impact analysis of COVID-19 social distancing measures on peoples' livelihoods, observed a salary loss or reduction for 31 percent of the interviewed households, compromised access to markets for 35 percent of all households and difficulties in accessing health services for 45 percent.
- In May, the UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) operated two flights transporting UN and NGO staff from Sana'a to Addis Ababa to take onward connections. These flights are the first since the Sana'a airport closure in March.
- The Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is being [extended](#) up to December 2020. It presents the strategic objectives which will guide the humanitarian operation in Yemen during the second half of 2020.
- The milling operations of the WFP wheat at the Red Sea Mills continued in May. As of 19 May, a total of 33,333 mt of wheat flour has been produced and dispatched to WFP warehouses in Sana'a, Ibb, and Aden governorates.

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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)
<b>4.82 b</b>	<b>2.54 b</b>
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (July - December 2020)
<b>2.53 b</b>	<b>737 m</b>

**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 May 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 2,503 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 25,513 calls to verify receipt of assistance, food delivery to distribution sites and collect data on food security indicators.

**Funding and Pipeline Updates**

- 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 737 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General food assistance	577 million
Nutrition	70 million
School Feeding	5 million
Livelihoods	75 million
UNHAS	6 million
Logistics Cluster	2 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	3 million

**Challenges**

- As a COVID-19 precautionary measure enacted by the local authorities, a 14-day quarantine restriction has been imposed on all vessels entering all Yemeni ports in the north and south. This led to significant delays, and therefore demurrage costs, for vessels linking regional ports, which only spend one or two days at sea between ports.
- COVID-19 mitigation measures delayed the arrangements by the financial service provider (FSP) for unrestricted cash distributions, as well as the food prepositioning for in-kind and commodity vouchers assistances. This has led to delays in programme implementation.

**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.