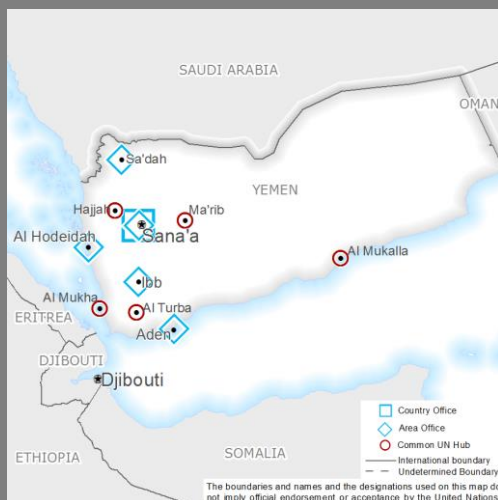


WFP Yemen Country Brief July 2020

Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 177th out of 189 countries, according to the 2019 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).



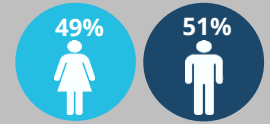
Population: **30.5 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **178 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **2 million children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers



5.9 million people targeted
in July 2020

46,068 mt of general food assistance dispatched

USD 5.9 million cash-based transfers to be made
USD 11.3 million value of redeemed commodities through food vouchers

USD 703 million six-month net funding requirements (September 2020 – February 2021)

Operational Updates

- While distributions under the July cycle are ongoing, the June distribution cycle was concluded on 30 July. WFP reached 8.7 million people with general food assistance, of which 6.5 million people were assisted with in-kind food rations, 1.6 million people with food vouchers, and some 580,000 people with cash assistance.
- During July, fuel shortages continued to be experienced in areas under the Sana'a-based authorities as several fuel vessels remained in the Saudi-led Coalition (SLC) holding area. Delays were experienced at the district level where smaller trucks are used to deliver food to distribution sites and fuel was not always available. As of the end of July, 17 fuel vessels awaited clearance to berth in Al Hodeidah port.
- As of 31 July, WHO [reported](#) 1,732 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yemen, resulting in 494 deaths. Reported cases are likely to be undercounted, considering the low testing rates. On 13 July, the Sana'a-based authorities [approved](#) easing COVID-19 precautionary measures for some public and private institutions, while maintaining to recommended social distancing and sanitation.
- On 22 July, the milling of the remaining WFP wheat at the Red Sea Mills in Al Hodeidah governorate was [completed](#). A total of 37,019 mt of produced wheat flour was dispatched to Sana'a, Ibb and Aden governorates to be used for in-kind food assistance. The mills first became inaccessible in September 2018 following intensified conflict and despite continued clashes, operations resumed with a trial in October 2019 and with the larger operation commencing in December 2019.
- The European Commission has announced [Humanitarian Air Bridge](#) flights for Yemen to deliver urgent cargo for the COVID-19 response and other lifesaving humanitarian programmes to Aden and Sana'a. Overall, nine flights were completed in July, with additional two in August, for a total of around 200 mt of critical items including medical supplies, field hospital equipment, oxygen concentrators and personal protective equipment (PPE). WFP Bilateral Service Provision is assisting the initiative by supporting with deconfliction and landing permits.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4.82 b	2.55 b
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (September 2020 – January 2021)
2.53 b	703 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 July 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 3,254 monitoring activities 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 30,095 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 623 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General food assistance	581 million
Nutrition	54 million
School Feeding	18 million
Livelihoods	40 million
UNHAS	7 million
Logistics Cluster	1 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	1 million

Challenges

- A series of external challenges have greatly delayed WFP’s food dispatches and deliveries under the July cycle, which in turn impacted the timely distribution to beneficiaries. Among these constraints were the delay introduced by the required COVID-19 protective measures such as the 14-days quarantine period for vessels calling Aden port, and the volatile security situation, namely in Abyan and Ma’rib governorates. Further compounded by the disruption and damage to road infrastructures caused by the recent heavy rains and floods, the food delivery operations were significantly delayed. As a result, WFP considered the delayed food under the August cycle.
- According to the July food security and market price monitoring update from WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM), the cost of the minimum food basket (MFB) increased to an average of YER 5,767 (USD 8.71) per person per month and reached YER 6,331 (USD 8.11) in the areas under the Internationally Recognised Government (IRG) compared to YER 2,360 (USD 3.2) prior to the start of the conflict in 2015. The present currency depreciation reaching around YER 740 per one USD, an increase of 71 percent compared to pre-conflict could lead to reduced food supply and soaring prices, resulting in an escalation of food insecurity compounded by the impact of COVID-19.

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.