

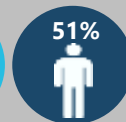
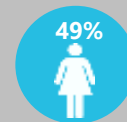


SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Yemen Country Brief September 2020

## In Numbers



**8.2 million people targeted**  
in September 2020

**72,800 mt** of general food assistance dispatched

**USD 5.9 million** cash-based transfers to be made  
**USD 11.5 million** value of redeemed commodities  
through food vouchers

**USD 400 million** six-month net funding requirements  
(October 2020 – March 2021)

### Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 177<sup>th</sup> 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**

2019 Human Development Index: **177 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

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

### Operational Updates

- Under the September cycle, WFP targeted 8.2 million people with general food assistance. Of these, 5.9 million people were targeted with in-kind food assistance, 1.6 million people with food vouchers, and some 670,000 people with cash assistance. Also, WFP reached over 85,000 beneficiaries in September with cash transfers for their participation in food assistance for assets (FFA) where participants worked over 150 asset creation projects.
- Following recommendations by the Supreme National Emergency Committee for COVID-19 in areas under the Internationally Recognised Government of Yemen (IRG), the seasonal closure of schools was extended till October. WFP and UNICEF have been planning a coordinated 'Back to School' campaign for the start of the academic year in schools across Yemen, to sensitise students on education, nutrition and WASH. WFP conducted preparations in September for the upcoming school year scheduled to start in October to assist some 740,000 students across the country. WFP plans to resume the healthy kitchen activities on 04 October to support 800 students with fresh meals in Aden.
- As of 30 September, WHO [reported](#) 2,038 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yemen and 588 deaths, with a case fatality rate of 29 percent. A noticeable decline in the number of reported cases was observed, but indicators suggest that the virus continued to spread. Reported cases were likely to be undercounted due to limited testing capacity, fear of stigma, and difficulties accessing treatment centres. WFP continued to implement an alternative work modality where the majority of the staff work from home.
- The fuel crisis in areas under the Sana'a-based authorities continued throughout September. On 09 September, all flights to Sana'a International Airport were suspended due to the fuel shortages. The UN and WFP engaged with the authorities to advocate for humanitarian flights continuation. On 28 September, the airport reopened for a UNHAS flight taking passengers in and out of Sana'a, with the airport's operational continuity under review.



## Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP 2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>4.82 b</b>	<b>2.862 b</b>
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2020 – March 2021)
<b>2.53 b</b>	<b>400 m</b>

### 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 September 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 2,699 monitoring activities in total.
- The monitored activities included in-kind general food assistance (GFA), commodity vouchers, cash-based transfers (CBT), nutrition prevention and treatment programmes, and livelihood activities.

WFP's call centres conducted 30,000 calls to verify the receipt of assistance, food delivery to distribution sites and to 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 400 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General Food Assistance	299 million
Nutrition	35.5 million
School Feeding	20 million
Livelihoods	36 million
UNHAS	6 million
Logistics Cluster	2 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	1.6 million

## Challenges

- Though no major impact on WFP's food delivery operations was reported, increased disruption to deliveries at the district level continued to be experienced in September due to the fuel shortages in areas under the Sana'a-based authorities. WFP is further assessing the possible impact on its supply chain and mitigating options should the need arise.
- In addition to affecting Sana'a International Airport operations, the Sana'a-based authorities [announced](#) that that fuel shortages could affect tele-communications and internet services. As a part of WFP's alternate work modality to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the majority of staff are working from home and are heavily dependent on internet connectivity to undertake work.
- Following increased demands due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the global shortfall in the production and availability of wheat soya blend (WSB+) continued in September. Impacting WFP's nutrition programme from the August distribution cycle, the shortfalls are expected to continue until December. WFP is prioritising the available stocks for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG). Children will continue to be supported with supplies for the treatment of MAM.

**Donors** (supporting WFP Yemen's ICSP in 2020 in alphabetical order): Canada, Czech Republic, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Switzerland, UN other funds and agencies, United Kingdom, United States, Yemen Humanitarian Fund and private sector donors.