In Numbers

24.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance*
3.6 million people internally displaced
16.2 million people are food insecure (IPC 3+)

*According to the Jun-Dec Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) extension

Highlights

- WFP targeted 5.3 million Yemeni people with general food assistance under December distributions.
- 2,101 confirmed cumulative cases of COVID-19 were reported by the end of December.
- WFP requires USD 430 million to continue operations unimpeded over the next six months (January 2021 – June 2021).

Situation Update (including security)

- As of 31 December, WHO reported 2,101 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yemen and 611 deaths. A total of 20 confirmed cases were reported throughout December.
- The fuel crisis in areas under the Sana’a-based authorities resurfaced in December after it had seen a slight improvement in mid-November. A total of six commercial vessels carrying fuel berthed in Al Hodeidah port in December.
- On 18 December, the new cabinet composed of members of the Internationally Recognised Government of Yemen (IRG) and the Southern Transitional Council (STC) was declared as part of the implementation of the Riyadh Agreement. On 30 December, an explosion followed by shooting took place at Aden International Airport upon the arrival of the newly formed cabinet. More than 25 casualties were reported, with more than 50 people injured in the incident. Among the casualties, three staff members of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were killed and three other injured. On the same day, a scheduled UNHAS flight was en-route to Aden and proceeded directly to Addis Ababa instead. All UN staff were accounted for and reported safe.
- During the first half of December, the exchange rate of Yemeni rial (YER) in areas under the IRG control sharply deteriorated against the United States dollar (USD) where it reached a rate of YER 916/1 USD, while the exchange rate in areas under the Sana’a based authorities remained around YER 600/1 USD. Following the announcement of the new governmental cabinet in the south, the YER witnessed a slight improvement where it stood at YER 760/1 USD. The YER experienced a decrease in value again with the incident of Aden International Airport.
- Throughout December, clashes between the IRG and Ansar Allah forces were reported in number of governorates, namely Ta’iz, Al Hodeidah and Ma’rib. The members of the UN Security Council condemned these military escalations and called for engagement with the United Nations Mission to support Al Hodeidah Agreement’s (UNMHA) and the UN Special Envoy to Yemen.
WFP Response

- Due to access constraints to WFP warehouses in Aden, dispatch operations under the December cycle in the south were not undertaken on time. As a result, WFP considered the delayed food under the January cycle. Under the December cycle, WFP targeted 5.3 million people with food assistance. Of these, 4.3 million people were targeted with in-kind food assistance, over 950,000 people with commodity vouchers and some 35,000 people with cash-based transfers.
- The November distribution cycle was concluded in December. WFP reached 8 million people with general food assistance. Of these, 5.3 million people were assisted with in-kind food rations, 1.6 million people with food vouchers, and over one million people with cash assistance.
- In response to the increased fighting and large-scale population displacement, displaced families are provided with WFP Immediate Response Rations (IRR) sufficient for five days. In December, WFP distributed some 7,500 IRR kits to UNFPA and its cooperating partners. This brings the total number of kits distributed in 2020 to over 90,000.

Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- In December, WFP reached over 168,000 beneficiaries with cash transfers for their participation in food assistance for assets (FFA). Participants worked on 340 assets, including rural road rehabilitation, water harvesting schemes and agricultural projects. Food for training (FFT) activities continued in Hadramawt and Lahj governorates where 400 women were enrolled in trainings covering sewing, first aid and primary care provision, incense and perfumes production and henna decoration.

School Feeding Programme

- Under the December cycle, WFP reached over one million students with the school feeding programme; of which, Over 9,900 students were supported with freshly prepared meals via the healthy kitchens programme in Aden.

Nutrition Assistance

- In December, WFP reached over 165,000 children aged 6 to 59 months and 168,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) with its Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP) to treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). For MAM prevention, WFP reached over 353,000 children aged 6 to 23 months with its Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP).
- Following increased demands due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the global shortfall in the production and availability of wheat soya blend (WSB+) continued in December impacting WFP’s nutrition programme from the August distribution cycle, the shortfalls are expected to continue until May 2021.

Supply Chain

- Under the December distribution plan, WFP dispatched around 57,000 mt of food under the general food assistance, school feeding and nutrition programmes.
- During December, supply chain locally procured 1,516 mt of mixed commodities to be used for the January and February cycles.
- Shipping operations brought over 25,000 mt of cereals into the country in December. Shipping also received over 840 containers holding mixed commodities and eight containers holding medicines and non-food items.

Clusters and Common Services

Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)

- FSAC partners participated in the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity (AFI) Analysis which was concluded in December. The results will inform the overall humanitarian response in Yemen and the FSAC chapter of the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2021. In preparation for the HNO and HRP, the FSAC partners are planning their district level caseloads. The final caseload is set to be finalized by the end of January.
- FSAC is working closely with WFP, FAO and partners on the allocation of the 2021 emergency food assistance and livelihoods assistance district level caseloads based on the IPC AFI results.

Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster supported 14 partners in December. It facilitated the sea transport of 41 m$^3$ of relief items to Aden and Al Hodeidah on behalf of three partners, and land transport of 67 m$^3$ of relief items to two governorates on behalf of two partners. The cluster received into storage 396 m$^3$ of cargo, on behalf of four partners.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- On 29 December, ETC finalized the internet services installations in the Socotra emergency operations centre (EOC). In December, around 1,600 humanitarian staff benefited from the internet connectivity provided through the EOCs throughout Yemen.
- The ETC provided a capacity building training to staff members of 14 partners from 14 to 18 December.

Bilateral Service Provision (BSP)

- In December, BSP delivered around 1.9 million litres of fuel to WHO and 2.6 million litres to UNICEF to support the uninterrupted services of hospitals and local water and sanitation services, respectively. Also, BSP continued its support to partners with shipping of 235 m$^3$ of critical medical and infrastructure non-food items (NFIs). Over 117,000 litres of diesel were delivered to NGOs and UN facilities.

Resourcing Update

- Based on the Interim Country Strategic Plan, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 430 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Funding requirement in USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Food Assistance</td>
<td>306 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>65 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Feeding</td>
<td>11 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
<td>35 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHAS</td>
<td>10 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistics Cluster</td>
<td>2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Telecommunications Cluster</td>
<td>1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ICSP TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>6.73 b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Jan 2019 – Dec 2021)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Food Assistance</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>School Meals</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food for Assets (FFA)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition (Prevention)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutrition (Treatment)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The total beneficiary figure includes beneficiaries of all activities as there is almost a complete overlap between activities.
** General food assistance figures and ICSP total are for November. December distributions are ongoing.
***Nutrition Prevention and Treatment figures are based on dispatches.

WFP would like to thank all government donors, UN funds, and private sector donors for their contributions to the Yemen ICSP in 2020.

Contacts

- WFP Representative and Country Director: Laurent Bukera
- Operational Information Management Yemen: Agnes SEMAAN agnes.semaan@wfp.org, Tamer RASHAD tamer.rashad@wfp.org
- Food Security Cluster: Gordon DUDI gordon.dudi@fao.org
- Logistics Cluster: Martin BETTELLEY martin.bettelley@wfp.org
- Emergency Telecommunications Cluster: Wali NOOR wali.noor@wfp.org