



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Yemen Country Brief December 2018

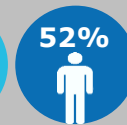
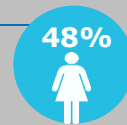
In Numbers

106,224 mt of food assistance distributed to 7.2 million Yemenis

US\$ 14.7 m commodity voucher transfers made to 1.8 million Yemenis

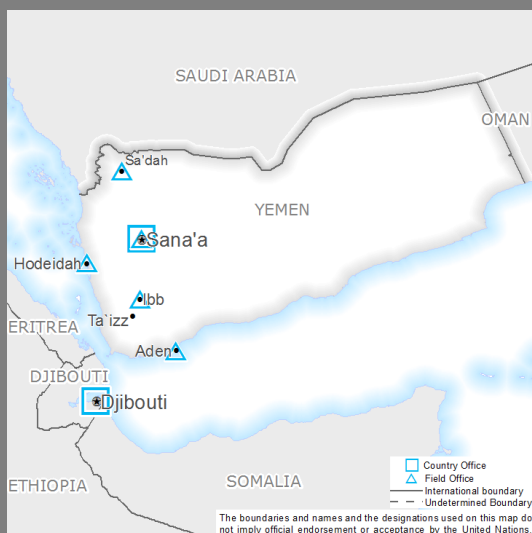
US\$ 594.6 m six months (February 2019-July 2019) net funding requirement

7.9 m people assisted in December 2018



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, 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, and specifically increase food consumption through the scaleup of life-saving emergency food assistance (particularly the most food insecure population), as well as to expand coverage of nutrition interventions to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).



Population: **29.3 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **168 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: 47 percent of children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- In December, WFP provided food assistance for some 7.9 million people in 19 Yemeni governorates, 84 percent of the monthly target of 10 million people. To respond to the increased levels of food insecurity caused by the ongoing crisis and exacerbated by the economic situation and the increase in food prices, WFP is planning to scale up its assistance to reach 12 million people in January 2019, whereby 10 million severely food insecure people will receive in-kind food rations and 2 million will receive commodity vouchers.
- The implementation of the WFP Yemen 2019-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) will start on 01 January 2019.
- On 13 December, the last day of the first intra-Yemeni UN-sponsored peace talks on Yemen, the parties to the conflict reached an agreement on the following: a ceasefire in Hudaydah governorate, including the three ports of Hudaydah, Saleef and Ras Issa; an executive mechanism on activating the prisoner exchange agreement and; a statement of understanding in Taiz. The ceasefire was implemented from 18 December and is politically holding. Meanwhile, throughout December both parties to the conflict have traded accusations of violating the ceasefire with clashes reported in and around Hudaydah governorate.
- To support the implementation of the Security Council Resolution [2451](#) endorsing the Stockholm agreement, a monitoring team has been deployed to Hudaydah to monitor the implementation of the ceasefire. Furthermore, as part of the agreement, the United Nations will chair the Redeployment Coordination Committee to facilitate the mutual redeployment of forces where the management of the ports will be handed over to the Yemen Red Sea Port Corporation, with the first stages of redeployment reportedly taking place on 29 December. The UN will provide technical assistance and oversight for the port management, of which WFP will have a supporting role. WFP is waiting for visa issuance by authorities in Sana'a to deploy an initial assessment team to Hudaydah in January, with the aim to inform the scope of its role in the Red Sea Ports.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	6 Months (January 2019 – June 2019) Net Funding Requirements – including the scale-up (in USD) *
Immediate, Integrated and Sustained Response to Avert Famine in Yemen			
EMOP 201068 (April 2017-December 2018)	2,016.8 m	1,226 m	N/A
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2020)	2,114 b*	569.6 m	594.6 m
Logistics & Emergency Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination to Support Humanitarian Operations in Yemen and Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Yemen			
SO 200841 and SO 200845 (May 2015-December 2018)	58.7m	59.6 m	57.9 m

*EMOP has been extended until 31 March 2019. ICSP total requirements for 2019 including the scale-up

- On 26 December, as part of the agreement from the first Joint meeting of the Redeployment Coordination Committee (RCC), the opening of the Hudaydah- Sana'a highway, to be used as a humanitarian corridor and scheduled to take place on 29 December, was postponed. As soon as the situation allows, a WFP truck loaded with wheat flour is to be included in the humanitarian convoy.
- In response to the increased fighting in Hodeidah governorate, a Rapid Response Mechanism was established in June to accelerate the humanitarian response for newly displaced persons and to ensure their most basic needs are addressed. In particular, WFP is providing displaced families with Immediate Response Rations (IRR) sufficient for five days, through Humanitarian Service Points and Humanitarian and Humanitarian Transit Sites. From the start of the large-scale IDP response in June until December, WFP has provided IRRs to 175,967 households.
- In addition to the Immediate Response Rations provided to displaced people fleeing violence from Hodeidah, WFP is also providing to all newly displaced people a one-off General Food Assistance (GFA) ration, either in-kind or via a commodity voucher, sufficient for one month. Thus far, WFP has provided 106,518 households with a one-off GFA ration - 42,053 IDP households have received in-kind general food distributions (GFD) and 64,465 households have received commodity vouchers in 14 governorates.
- Between January and December 2018, WFP has admitted 478,638 children aged 6 to 59 months and 335,854 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) into WFP's Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP). For WFP's Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) aimed to prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), WFP admitted 305,861 children aged 6 to 23 months and 420,016 PLW.
- In December, under the Enhanced Rural Resilience programme in Yemen (ERRY), 900 participants in Lahj and

Hajja received cash transfers for the December cycle, benefitting a total of 6,300 beneficiaries. Through WFP's Food for Assets livelihoods initiative, 4,000 people in Aden, Hajja and Sana'a participated in rehabilitation activities, benefitting a total of 28,000 beneficiaries.

- In December, through the school meals programme, WFP provided enough fortified date bars for 433,774 children attending schools in 10 governorates in northern Yemen, and enough high-energy biscuits (HEBs) for 56,670 schoolchildren in three governorates in southern Yemen.

Challenges

- Due to the volatility and uncertainty of the security situation in Hudaydah, vessel movement to Hudaydah port has been significantly affected over the past two months. However, vessels carrying food and fuel, including WFP-chartered vessels, are still granted access to Hudaydah and Saleef ports, with operational but with minimal capacity.
- Since September, WFP remains unable to access the Red Sea Mill silos in Hudaydah, due to the intense fighting in the area. The mills are currently storing 51,000 mt of WFP wheat – enough to assist 3.7 million severely food insecure people for one month. WFP continues to gather information on the status of the mills and remains on standby to access and distribute the commodities as soon as the situation permits.

Funding and Pipeline update

- Based on the ICSP, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 594.6 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months.
- In order to scale up to assist up to 12 million beneficiaries a month, monthly food requirements will increase from 100,000 mt to approximately 160,000 mt, requiring USD 176 million per month. WFP requires an additional USD 1.5 billion for the rest of 2019 to meet the additional needs.
- WFP currently has 190,895 mt of cereals in country, sufficient to cover requirements until the third week of March 2019.

Donors

(in alphabetical order):

Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Kuwait, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and private sector donors.

Main Photo Credit: ©WFP/Marco Frattini
Caption: WFP Executive Director, David Beasley shares a meal with a WFP beneficiary during his visit to Yemen in November.