



# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

JANUARY 6, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**27.4 million**

Population of Yemen  
UN – November 2016

**18.8 million**

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – November 2016

**14.8 million**

People Lacking Access to Basic Health Care  
UN – November 2016

**14.5 million**

People in Need of WASH Services  
UN – November 2016

**7+ million**

People in Need of Emergency Food Assistance  
FEWS NET – November 2016

**2.2 million**

Internally Displaced Persons in Yemen  
UN – November 2016

**5.1 million**

People Reached with Humanitarian Assistance in 2016  
OCHA – December 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- WHO reports more than 12,700 suspected cholera cases and nearly 100 cholera-associated deaths
- Wheat imports increased in November; however, the ongoing deterioration of economic conditions threatens to impede imports in the coming months

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$81,576,334
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$196,988,400
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$48,950,000
<b>\$327,514,734</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The UN World Health Organization (WHO) reports more than 12,700 suspected cholera cases and 97 related deaths between October—when the outbreak was first confirmed—and December 28, 2016. Although the humanitarian community is responding through health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, limited testing capabilities, bureaucratic impediments, and damaged or destroyed health infrastructure are impeding efforts to scale up the response.
- Several commercial importers recently notified the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) of an inability to obtain a line of credit, a key component for facilitating the delivery of much-needed wheat supplies. While wheat imports increased in November and December compared to previous months, reduced access to lines of credit may significantly hinder commercial shipments to Yemen in the coming months. The country imports approximately 90 percent of its food and impediments to imports could lead to further deterioration in food security and increased malnutrition.
- Conflict in Yemen has contributed to a nearly 200 percent increase in children under the age of five experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) since 2014, according to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Countrywide, more than 462,000 children were experiencing SAM as of mid-December. The UN agency reports that a total of nearly 2.2 million children are acutely malnourished and require urgent assistance.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## **INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- Relief agencies report that, as of late December, airstrikes and ground fighting had resumed in Yemen following a brief lull in the conflict during a November cessation of hostilities. Fighting and insecurity continues to result in civilian deaths; generate health, nutrition, and other humanitarian needs; and hamper the delivery of critical relief assistance.
  - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports that both evacuation and expulsion of vulnerable migrants, most of who are of Ethiopian origin, out of Yemen by local authorities remain ongoing. IOM assisted an estimated 600 migrants voluntarily departing the country for Djibouti between early November and mid-December. Humanitarian organizations, including IOM, continue to provide medical services and other emergency assistance for migrants and other vulnerable populations upon their arrival in Djibouti.
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## **HEALTH AND WASH**

- More than 600 health facilities across Yemen have ceased operations due to conflict-related damage or lack of staff and supplies, all of which contribute to an estimated 10,000 additional deaths per year, according to Save the Children. Damage to health facilities and other conflict-related disruptions to the health care system have reduced access to basic health services for up to 14.8 million people countrywide, the UN reports.
  - As of December 28, USAID/OFDA partner WHO reports more than 12,700 suspected cholera cases and 97 related deaths across Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, and Ta'izz governorates, as well as in the capital city of Sana'a. Health officials first confirmed a cholera outbreak in Yemen on October 6. A Cholera Task Force—led by WHO in partnership with the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Population, UNICEF, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and other relief actors—is coordinating cholera-related interventions and response efforts, including the establishment of cholera treatment facilities, chlorination of water sources, and rehabilitation of water systems.
  - The UN reports that 24 cholera treatment centers across 15 governorates are supporting task force response efforts, and humanitarian organizations have deployed rapid response teams to provide timely case identification and response; however, customs clearance delays for cholera testing supplies, limited laboratory capacity, and a failing health infrastructure are hindering response efforts. Although acute watery diarrheal diseases are endemic in Yemen, the ongoing conflict has stretched the capacity of national health systems, according to WHO.
  - Between mid-October and early December, U.S. Government (USG) partner IOM screened more than 6,500 migrants for cholera in Aden, Lahij, Sana'a, Al Hudaydah, and Shabwah governorates and referred one confirmed cholera case and 10 probable cases to public hospitals for treatment. During the reporting period, IOM reached more than 3,900 individuals with health awareness sessions and continued to provide management support to five diarrhea treatment centers across the five governorates.
  - During the first half of December, a USAID/OFDA partner reached nearly 113,000 beneficiaries in Aden through hygiene promotion efforts focused on cholera prevention. The team distributed chlorine tablets and informational materials and provided consultations aimed at preventing the spread of cholera. In addition, a USAID/OFDA partner continued water treatment activities at 40 water distribution sites in Abyan and Lahij, producing nearly 217,200 gallons of safe drinking water per day for populations in both governorates.
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## **FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOODS, AND NUTRITION**

- UNICEF reports that nearly 2.2 million children younger than five years of age are acutely malnourished as of late December, including an estimated 462,000 children experiencing SAM and 1.7 million children experiencing moderate acute malnutrition. Children with the highest rates of malnutrition predominately reside in Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Lahij, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz governorates. In some areas of Sa'dah, approximately 80 percent of children are stunted due to chronic malnourishment. UNICEF attributes the malnutrition rates to ongoing violence, which has limited access to health and nutrition services.

- According to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), conflict is the primary cause of food insecurity in Yemen, where estimates indicate that between 7 and 10 million people are experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity or higher and require emergency relief assistance; the economic situation and reduced livelihood opportunities are also exacerbating food security conditions.<sup>4</sup> Of the total, at least 2 million people are facing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity and increased risk of malnutrition and mortality, FEWS NET reports. An analysis of available food consumption, coping strategy, and nutrition data indicates that food security has significantly deteriorated in Al Hudaydah, resulting in Emergency-level food needs among some populations. For instance, the number of children admitted to hospitals in the governorate for SAM treatment increased by an estimated 40 percent as of late 2016 compared to 2014 and 2015.
- Emergency food assistance is helping to mitigate food insecurity in many areas of Yemen, according to FEWS NET. As of mid-December, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) had reached more than 1.3 million beneficiaries in Yemen in 14 governorates with in-kind food distributions. In November, WFP reached 2.6 million people with in-kind food assistance and approximately 426,000 people with commodity based voucher transfers. WFP aims to reach 3 million beneficiaries with food assistance per month; however, access constraints have periodically prevented the UN agency from meeting its target.
- The availability of essential food commodities in local markets has increased in recent months, according to WFP. Given conflict-related disruptions to maritime trade, the trend likely indicates the growth of informal overland trade routes. However, WFP reports that consumer demand has decreased due to a lack of income to purchase basic commodities. According to the RoYG Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, approximately 1.25 million public servants, or nearly 5 percent of Yemen's population, have not received salary payments since August.
- The USAID/OFDA-supported Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—reports that November food imports into Yemen totaled more than 445,000 metric tons (MT). Data for Aden Port was incomplete in October; however, November import totals indicated a 61 percent increase from September food imports.
- Major commercial wheat importers recently told the RoYG that they could no longer import wheat into Yemen as of January due to challenges obtaining lines of credit to pay for shipments following the relocation of the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) to southern Yemen. A subsequent decline in food imports has not occurred to date, as food imports in November and December surpassed previous months, according to the Logistics Cluster and UN. However, Yemen imports 90 percent of its food supplies, and impediments to commercial imports could lead to further deterioration in food security and an increase in malnutrition throughout the country.

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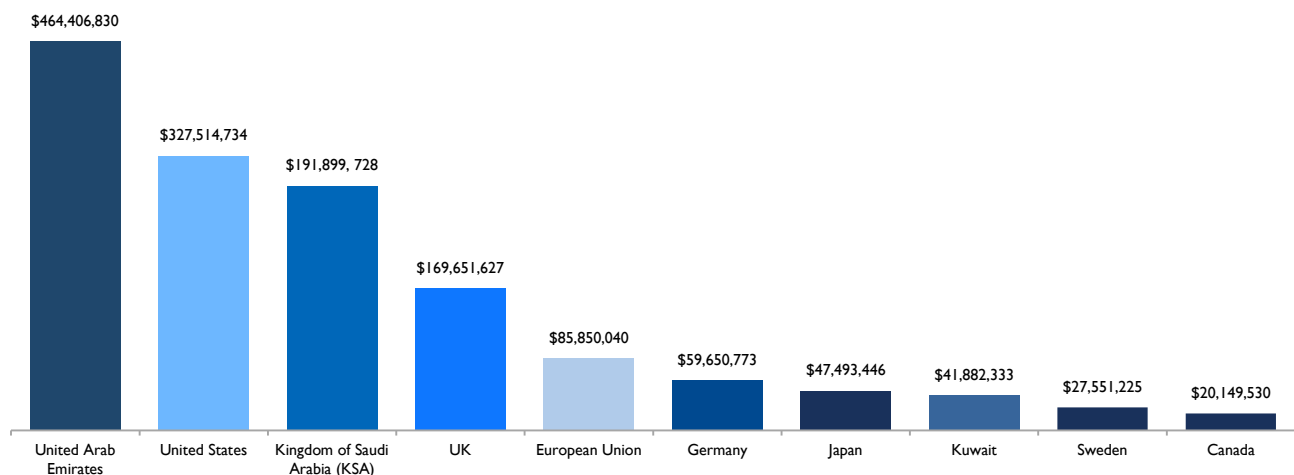
## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On December 8, OCHA allocated \$58 million through the Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF)—a multi-donor, country-based pooled fund—to support three million people in 15 governorates with food, nutrition, and WASH assistance. Saudi Arabia's King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center contributed approximately \$5 million to the HPF. The governments of Canada, Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom also contributed funds, according to the UN. As of late December, the Yemen HPF had received more than \$120 million for emergency relief activities benefiting nearly 7.8 million people.

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## 2016 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\*

PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of January 6, 2016. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on FY 2016, which began on October 1, 2015.

## CONTEXT

- Between 2004 and early 2015, conflict between the RoYG and Al Houthi opposition forces in the north and between Al Qaeda-affiliated groups and RoYG forces in the south had affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in humanitarian needs. Fighting between RoYG forces and tribal and militant groups since 2011 limited the capacity of the RoYG to provide basic services, and humanitarian needs increased among impoverished populations. The expansion of Al Houthi forces in 2014 and 2015 resulted in the renewal and escalation of conflict and displacement, further exacerbating already deteriorated humanitarian conditions.
- In late March 2015, a KSA-led coalition began airstrikes on Al Houthi and allied forces to halt their southward expansion. The ongoing conflict has damaged public infrastructure, interrupted essential services, displaced many people, and reduced the level of commercial imports to a fraction of the levels required to sustain the Yemeni population. The country relies on imports for 90 percent of its grain and other food sources.
- The escalated conflict, coupled with protracted political instability, the resulting economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, and high unemployment, has left more than half of Yemen's 27.4 million people food-insecure and more than 7 million people in need of emergency food assistance. In addition, the conflict has displaced a total of 3.2 million people, including approximately 1 million people who had returned to areas of origin, as of November 2016. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- In early 2015, Yemen hosted approximately 248,000 refugees and a large population of third-country nationals (TCNs). The escalation in hostilities prompted IOM to organize large-scale TCN evacuations from Yemen.
- On October 26, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller re-issued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2017 due to continued humanitarian needs resulting from the complex emergency and the impact of the country's political and economic crises on vulnerable populations.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016 <sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Jawf, Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$36,919,020
IOM	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahrah, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$7,500,000
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Hadramawt, Shabwah	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$15,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Protection	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Bayda', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$1,000,080
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$6,730,621
WHO	Health, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	Program Support		\$726,613
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$81,576,334</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Food Vouchers	Abyan, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Hajjah, Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$20,500,000
UNICEF	420 Metric Tons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food	Countrywide	\$1,793,900
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food, Food Vouchers, Local Purchase and Milling	19 Governorates	\$174,694,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$196,988,400</b>

STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
IOM	Evacuation of Vulnerable Migrants from Yemen	Regional	\$3,400,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$28,800,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan	\$10,750,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$48,950,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$327,514,734</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>