

# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

DECEMBER 4, 2018

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**29.3 million**

Estimated Population of Yemen  
UN – December 2017

**22.2 million**

Estimated People in Need of  
Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – December 2017

**2 million**

Estimated IDPs in Yemen  
UN – June 2018

**17.8 million**

Estimated Food-Insecure People  
UN – December 2017

**8.4 million**

Estimated Severely Food-Insecure  
People  
UN – December 2017

**16.4 million**

Estimated People Lacking Access  
to Basic Health Care  
UN – December 2017

**9.9 million**

Estimated People Reached with  
Humanitarian Assistance in 2017  
UN – December 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Protracted conflict and economic decline in 2018 contribute to increased food insecurity in Yemen
- IOM evacuates nearly 420 Ethiopian migrants from Yemen in the organization's largest repatriation from Yemen to date
- WFP provides food vouchers to 210,000 people in Al Hudaydah city during temporary pause in hostilities in mid-November

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> \$179,130,277

USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> \$498,911,754

State/PRM<sup>3</sup> \$18,900,000

**\$696,942,031**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Humanitarian organizations recorded a significant reduction of hostilities in Yemen's Al Hudaydah city in mid-November amid an informal pause in fighting between Al Houthi forces and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led Coalition. However, fighting in areas around the city resumed during the week of November 19, according to international media. In a November 26 statement, five international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) appealed to the U.S. Government (USG) to call on all parties to Yemen's conflict to end hostilities, citing increasing humanitarian need across the country.
- Health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) actors have pre-positioned emergency relief supplies—including 121,000 liters of fuel for health facilities in conflict-affected Al Hudaydah; nutrition supplies sufficient to meet the needs of 56,200 children ages five years and younger experiencing moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM); and 34,000 health kits—across Yemen sufficient to address humanitarian needs through December.
- On November 28, the USG announced an additional \$131 million in USAID/FFP-funded emergency food assistance activities in Yemen. The new funding will support USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) to distribute an estimated 144,000 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance, sufficient to feed approximately 9.5 million food-insecure Yemenis for one month. The funding will also support USAID/FFP NGO partners to provide food vouchers to approximately 67,000 people in three governorates.

<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 AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- Humanitarian organizations recorded a nearly 50 percent reduction in civilian casualty incidents in Al Hudaydah city from November 12 to 25 amid an informal pause in fighting between Al Houthi forces and the KSA-led Coalition, according to the UN. However, fighting continued in other areas of Al Hudaydah Governorate, primarily in At Tuhayat District south of Al Hudaydah city, and resumed near Al Hudaydah city during the week of November 19, international media report. The Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—estimates that conflict around Al Hudaydah city resulted in approximately 1,500 civilian casualties in November, with fighting damaging an estimated 200 civilian shelters and an unspecified number of farms and humanitarian sites. Humanitarian actors continue to pre-position relief supplies in the city in the event of conflict-induced restrictions on humanitarian access to Al Hudaydah Port or disruptions of overland transport routes from the city.
  - The UN estimates that fighting in areas near Al Hudaydah city displaced approximately 534,000 people between June and October. In October and November, Rapid Response Mechanism partners registered approximately 98,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Al Hudaydah city, the UN reports.
  - Five NGOs—CARE U.S., International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council, Oxfam America, and Save the Children—released a November 26 statement urging the USG to reinforce its recent call for all parties to the conflict to end hostilities in Yemen. The NGOs warned of deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Yemen unless hostilities cease, all ports are fully open, humanitarian access improves, and steps are taken to stabilize the economy, including paying civil servant salaries.
  - During the week of November 25, USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) facilitated the evacuation of nearly 420 Ethiopian migrants, including more than 120 minors, from Yemen via Sana'a International Airport—representing the first IOM airlifts from Yemen since conflict escalated in 2015. With support from State/PRM, the four flights represent IOM's largest Voluntary Humanitarian Return operation in Yemen to date.
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## FOOD SECURITY

- Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) representatives are conducting a food security analysis to identify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity in Yemen. The last IPC assessment in Yemen took place in 2017 and identified 107 of Yemen's 333 districts to be in need of multisector assistance to mitigate the risk of famine. The UN estimates that approximately 17.8 million people in Yemen are food insecure, with large populations continuing to face Crisis—IPC 3—or Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).<sup>4</sup> In a December 4 statement, WFP Executive Director David Beasley reported that the forthcoming IPC assessment would show an increase in food insecurity but that current food security conditions may not meet the criteria to declare famine. Food security actors will use the assessment results to identify and target Yemen's most vulnerable populations with emergency food assistance.
- Ongoing conflict remains the primary driver of food insecurity in Yemen, while severe economic decline—characterized by increased commodity prices and a 235 percent devaluation of the Yemeni rial (YER) since 2015—has undermined household purchasing power and exacerbated food insecurity in recent months, according to relief actors. As of September, the prices of sugar, wheat flour, and vegetable oil had increased by nearly 120, more than 140, and approximately 200 percent, respectively, since the start of the crisis in 2015. Food security actors report that price increases varied across districts based on proximity to ports and major supply routes, integration with market networks, and access to humanitarian assistance. Since September, measures to strengthen the economy have stabilized the YER.
- In response to increased food needs resulting from fighting around Al Hudaydah city, WFP provided food vouchers to approximately 210,000 people in the city in mid-November, the UN reports. Additionally, WFP provided more than 7.2 million people with emergency food assistance—including in-kind food distributions to more than 6.2 million

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

people and food vouchers to more than 1 million people—across Yemen in October. WFP is scaling up operations to increase assistance in the coming months in response to food security needs.

- On November 28, the USG announced an approximately \$131 million USAID/FFP contribution in additional emergency food assistance for Yemen. The majority of the new FY 2019 funding will support WFP's distribution of an estimated 144,000 MT of emergency food assistance sufficient to feed an estimated 9.5 million people for one month. The funding also supports USAID/FFP NGO partners to provide food vouchers to approximately 67,000 food-insecure people in Yemen through late 2019.
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## **HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND WASH**

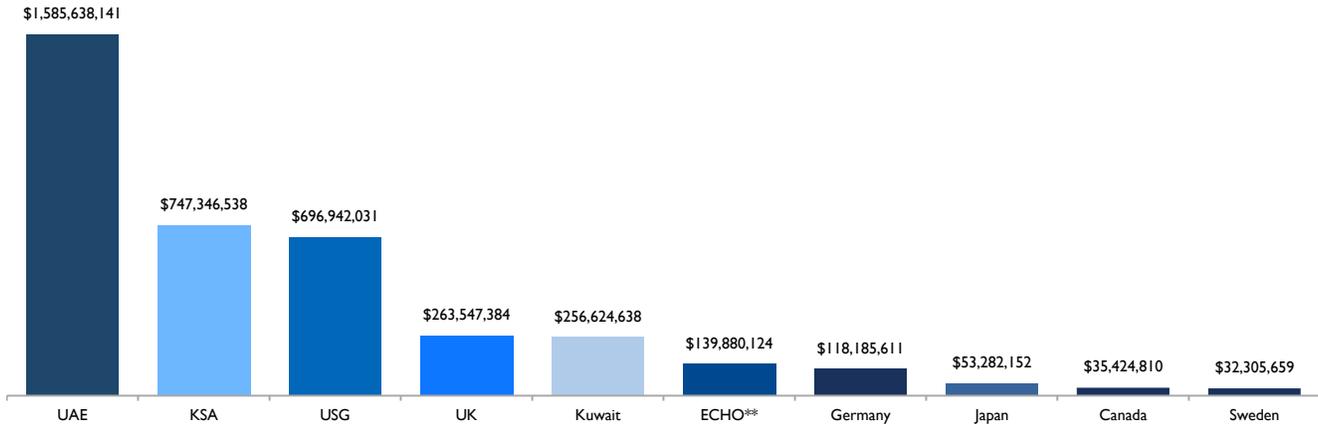
- The Health Cluster supported the pre-positioning of fuel and medical supplies at Al Olofi, Al Salakhana, and Al Thawrah hospitals in Al Hudaydah city, while the UN World Health Organization (WHO) is providing 121,000 liters of fuel to the city's health facilities to address needs through December. To mitigate the spread of waterborne diseases, the WASH Cluster has pre-positioned 34,000 health kits for use by mobile teams. Relief actors continue pre-positioning health and WASH supplies in the event of an increased number of cholera cases in Yemen. Health actors recorded nearly 205,000 suspected cholera cases and 300 related deaths from July 15–November 27, the WHO reports.
  - Additionally, Nutrition Cluster partners have pre-positioned emergency nutrition supplies sufficient to support 42,000 children younger than five years of age experiencing MAM and 14,200 children experiencing SAM until the end of December.
  - From November 1–15, a USAID/OFDA partner rehabilitated nearly 130 water sources in seven governorates, with an additional 10 water sources under construction, and delivered more than 1.8 million liters of safe drinking water to communities in the governorates. In November, the partner also supported health facilities to treat nearly 230 children five years of age and younger, as well as pregnant and lactating women, experiencing MAM.
  - During October, a USAID/OFDA partner reached nearly 25,000 people with primary health care consultations through more than 10 mobile medical teams and more than 90 static health facilities across seven governorates. The partner also vaccinated more than 700 children for diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, and Haemophilus influenza type b during the month. Furthermore, the partner provided antenatal care to nearly 1,900 women; child delivery services to nearly 1,900 women; and post-natal care to nearly 1,000 women through emergency obstetric and newborn care facilities.
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## **OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- On November 20, the KSA and United Arab Emirates (UAE) jointly pledged an additional \$500 million to support emergency food and nutrition activities in Yemen, aiming to meet the needs of 12 million Yemenis in the coming months. The KSA and UAE have not yet confirmed the recipients of the pledged funding.

## 2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of December 4, 2018. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect publicly announced USG funding for FY 2018 and FY 2019, which run from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018.

\*\*European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

### CONTEXT

- Between 2004 and early 2015, conflict between the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) and Al Houthi opposition forces in the north and between Al Qaeda affiliated groups and RoYG forces in the south affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in humanitarian need. 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 advancement 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 March 2015, the KSA-led Coalition began airstrikes against Al Houthi and allied forces to halt their southward expansion. The ongoing conflict has damaged or destroyed public infrastructure, interrupted essential services, and reduced 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.
- Since March 2015, the escalated conflict—coupled with protracted political instability, the resulting economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, and high levels of unemployment—has left more than 17.8 million people food-insecure and more than 22.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. In addition, the conflict had displaced nearly 3 million people, including more than 900,000 people who had returned to areas of origin, as of December 2017. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- In late April 2017, a cholera outbreak that began in October 2016 resurged, necessitating intensive humanitarian response efforts throughout the country, particularly health and WASH interventions. With USG support, partners are conducting cholera prevention, preparedness, and response activities.
- On December 4, 2018, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller re-issued a disaster declaration for the ongoing complex emergency in Yemen for FY 2019 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 2018–2019 <sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlement, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Amanat al-Asimah, Amran, Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Al Mahwit, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$128,002,584
IOM	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$15,488,216
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Protection	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Amanat al-Asimah, Amran, Al Bayda', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Al Mahwit, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$17,150,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$5,241,259
	Program Support		\$2,748,218
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$179,130,277</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup></b>			
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$850,000
IPs	Complementary Services, Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$53,000,000
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food	Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Al Mahrah, Hadramawt, Lahij, Shabwah, Socotra Island, Ta'izz	\$3,643,064
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food	Countrywide	\$395,418,690
	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$46,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$498,911,754</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
IOM	Evacuation and Humanitarian Assistance	Regional	\$5,000,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Refugee Response	Countrywide	\$13,900,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$18,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019</b>			<b>\$696,942,031</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 4, 2018.

<sup>2</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 +1.202.661.7710.
  - 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>