

YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #11, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

30.5 million

Estimated Population of Yemen
UN – December 2018

24.1 million

Estimated Number of People in Need
of Humanitarian Assistance
UN – December 2018

3.6 million

Estimated IDPs in Yemen
IOM – November 2018

20.1 million

Estimated Number of People in Need
of Food Assistance
UN – December 2018

19.7 million

Estimated Number of People in Need
of Basic Health Care
UN – December 2018

17.8 million

Estimated Number of People in Need
of WASH Assistance
UN – December 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Security conditions stabilize in southern Yemen as heavy fighting between RoYG-aligned and STC forces subsided
- Gulf country donors contribute nearly \$800 million in humanitarian funding for Yemen in September
- USAID/FFP partner WFP provides food assistance to 12.4 million people in August, the highest monthly total to date

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$102,058,924
USAID/FFP ²	\$594,548,790
State/PRM ³	\$49,800,000

\$746,407,714

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Security conditions stabilized in southern Yemen in mid-September after several weeks of clashes between forces aligned with the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) and the Southern Transitional Council (STC), relief actors report. The clashes restricted civilian access to critical services and resulted in an unknown number of civilian casualties, according to the UN. RoYG and STC representatives entered into negotiations, brokered by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (GoKSA), in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, during early September to end the fighting and establish a way forward in southern Yemen. Discussions remained ongoing as of September 30.
- Frequent airstrikes and shelling elsewhere in Yemen resulted in high levels of civilian casualties in September. Two reported airstrikes in Amran and Ad Dali' governorates resulted in 22 civilian deaths and injury to 15 civilians on September 23 and 24, according to the UN. Additionally, the UN reports two shelling incidents on September 13 by Al Houthi-aligned forces resulted in 11 civilian deaths in Al Hudaydah Governorate and two civilian deaths in Ta'izz Governorate. Conflict has resulted in more than 700 civilian deaths and injury to more than 1,600 civilians to date in 2019, and nearly 7,300 civilian deaths and injury to more than 11,600 civilians since May 2015, the UN reports.
- Gulf country donors provided nearly \$800 million in previously pledged funding to the 2019 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) in September. The funding included \$500 million from the GoKSA, \$200 million from the Government of the United Arab Emirates (GoUAE), and \$88 million from the Government of Kuwait (GoK). The additional funds bring the total donor contribution to the 2019 HRP to nearly \$2.7 billion, more than 60 percent of the requested \$4.2 billion.

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

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

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

INSECURITY AND DISPLACEMENT

- Several weeks of fighting between RoYG and STC-aligned forces that began on August 8 resulted in an unknown number of civilian casualties and restricted access to basic services in Abyan and Aden governorates, according to relief actors. In response, in late August, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Lise Grande expressed concern for affected households, particularly regarding impeded access to food and medical care. Further, relief actors provided emergency medical assistance to conflict-affected populations. Negotiations between RoYG and STC representatives to end the fighting and establish a political solution in southern Yemen remained ongoing in Jeddah as of September 30.
- The UN reports that a September 23 airstrike that hit a mosque in Amran resulted in seven civilian deaths and a September 24 airstrike that hit a house in Ad Dali' resulted in 15 civilian deaths and injury to 15 civilians. RC/HC Grande condemned the attacks and highlighted reports that conflict has resulted in more than 700 civilian deaths and injury to more than 1,600 civilians to date in 2019.
- Two separate shelling incidents on September 13 resulted in 11 civilian deaths and two civilian deaths in Al Hudaydah and Ta'izz, respectively, the UN reports. The Civilian Impact Monitoring Project—a monitoring mechanism led by the Protection Cluster⁴—reports shelling as the most common cause of civilian casualties in Al Hudaydah, representing 80 percent of recorded incidents since the December 2018 ceasefire in the governorate.
- Airstrikes hit a compound being used as an Al Houthi detention facility in Dhamar Governorate's Dhamar city on September 1, resulting in more than 150 deaths, according to international media. Both captured RoYG-aligned forces and civilian detainees were in the facility during the time of the attack, international media report. In a joint press statement on September 1, RC/HC Grande and Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Yemen Martin Griffiths called on the KSA-led Coalition to begin an inquiry into the incident due to the high number of casualties, the most of any single conflict incident in Yemen since 2016.
- A USAID/OFDA partner continues to support critical information management capacity for relief organizations in Yemen by providing products—such as analytical tools and maps—that ensure timely access to humanitarian information and facilitate improved response decision-making. During August, the partner continued work on sub-district level reference maps for all of Yemen's 22 governorates to enable more geographically exact humanitarian coordination and developed internally displaced person (IDP) registration tools for the UN's Rapid Response Mechanism—an operational, partnership, and programmatic model designed to enhance the capacity of relief actors to respond in a coordinated, standardized, and timely manner to the needs of vulnerable populations. Additionally, the partner provided technical support for the maintenance and operation of the UN deconfliction system, which facilitates protection of humanitarian spaces.
- In September, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provided critical relief items to nearly 1,700 households displaced by conflict or flooding. The assistance included relief commodities and shelter kits for nearly 60 households in Aden and 500 households in Sa'dah Governorate, as well as mosquito nets for 800 households in Amran.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Protracted conflict continues to result in displacement, economic shocks, and livelihoods disruptions, adversely affecting food security conditions in Yemen. According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), widespread Crisis—IPC 3—and Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity persist in most areas of the country.⁵ Additionally, FEWS NET warns violence that disrupts port operations or restricts food supply for a prolonged period of time could result in Famine—IPC 5—levels of acute food insecurity in conflict-affected regions of Yemen. Furthermore, FEWS NET reports that ongoing fuel shortages in northern Yemen will likely increase transport costs and, consequently, food and household item prices.

⁴ The coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

⁵ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (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.

- Conflict and pest outbreaks across Yemen have also constrained agricultural output, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The UN agency forecasts that 2019 cereal production in Yemen will be 12 percent lower than 2018 levels and 30 percent below the five-year average, although the country relies on imports for 90 percent of its grain and other food sources. In addition, the price of wheat—Yemen’s main staple crop—remained above average levels during September, FEWS NET reports. Decreased food availability and limited household purchasing power due to ongoing conflict and economic deterioration are primary drivers of household food insecurity in Yemen.
- USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided emergency food assistance to approximately 12.4 million people—62 percent of Yemen’s food-insecure population—in August, representing the highest number of people WFP has reached in a month to date in Yemen. The UN agency reached approximately 9.3 million people with in-kind food assistance, 2.7 million people with food vouchers, and nearly 360,000 people with cash transfers for food. From September 2018 to August 2019, WFP increased its monthly beneficiary caseload in Yemen from approximately 7 million people to more than 12 million people.
- With USAID support, an NGO partner provided food vouchers, as well as information on available services and beneficiary rights, to nearly 8,200 households in Abyan, Ad Dali’, and Lahij governorates in August. In addition, the partner screened nearly 870 children ages five years and younger and pregnant and lactating women for acute malnutrition, identifying 130 people facing moderate and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and referring those individuals for treatment. Another USAID partner provided food assistance to more than 780 households in Aden and more than 760 households in Ad Dali’ in August.
- USAID/FFP partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) treated nearly 194,000 Yemeni children ages 6–59 months for SAM through outpatient therapeutic programs from January to August, the UN agency reports. USAID/FFP supports UNICEF in Yemen with U.S. Title II in-kind ready-to-use therapeutic food to treat children experiencing SAM and provided nearly \$3.9 million to the UN agency for the Yemen response in FY 2019.

HEALTH AND WASH

- The number of cholera cases in Yemen continues to increase, with health actors recording more than 698,798 suspected cases between January 1 and September 30. In response, several USAID partners continue to conduct critical cholera response and prevention activities in high-risk and affected areas. In August, USAID/OFDA supported a partner to conduct cholera response and prevention activities in northern Yemen’s Amran, Hajjah, and Al Mahwit governorates. The partner reached more than 48,000 people in Hajjah with hygiene promotion activities, including community sessions and home visits. In addition, the organization conducted hygiene promotion activities, distributed soap and water containers, and provided training on water container maintenance to nearly 27,300 people in Amran during the month. The partner also chlorinated 12 community water tanks in Amran, enabling access to safe drinking water for nearly 12,600 people. Additionally, in Al Mahwit, the organization trained 20 people to conduct hygiene and sanitation promotion activities in their communities.
- In August, a USAID partner trained 22 new community health workers and 25 community health volunteers on cholera case management in two districts in Al Mahwit—where health actors recorded more than 32,127 suspected cases from January 1 to September 30—and one district in Sana’a Governorate—where health actors recorded more than 86,557 suspected cases over the same time period. In addition, the organization supported case management activities at a diarrhea treatment center in Al Mahwit, providing treatment to nearly 740 people referred from oral rehydration centers. The partner also continues to conduct monthly food voucher distributions, reaching nearly 6,200 households—approximately 43,300 people—in Lahij, Al Mahwit, Sana’a, and Ta’izz during the month.
- In Tai’zz, another USAID/OFDA partner continues to rehabilitate a hospital—including its cholera treatment center and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities—in the governorate’s Ash Shamayatayn District. In August, the partner also began installation of 40 emergency latrines, conducted a WASH assessment, and distributed multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to nearly 1,500 people in the district to meet basic household needs.

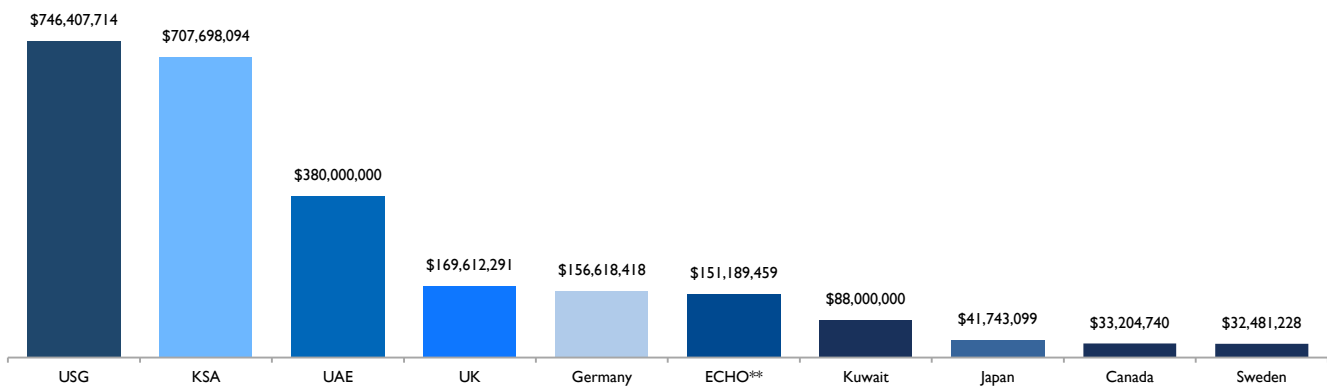
- A USAID/OFDA partner continued to support five health centers in Al Hudaydah and Ta'izz, including rapidly transporting medicines and medical supplies to a health center in Al Hudaydah's Al Khawkhah District in August to respond to approximately 100 acute watery diarrhea cases.
- During August, a USAID/OFDA partner completed construction of 16 emergency latrines, supporting nearly 50 displaced households, and began constructing latrines in three additional sites in Al Khawkhah. The organization also reached more than 1,300 individuals with hygiene awareness sessions, provided psychosocial support and protection services through a women's community center, and continued to distribute MPCA to more than 440 female-headed displaced households in the district during the month.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The GoKSA disbursed \$500 million in funding to the 2019 Yemen HRP on September 25, the UN reports. The September funds bring the GoKSA's total contribution to the HRP to nearly \$710 million out of \$750 million in previously pledged funding. The funding will be transferred to FAO, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Development Program, UNICEF, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and WFP, according to UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock. In addition, the GoUAE has provided \$200 million to the HRP, bringing its total contributions for Yemen in 2019 to \$380 million out of \$750 million pledged in February. The new GoUAE funding comprised \$100 million for OCHA to disburse to other UN agencies and \$100 million for WFP. Finally, the GoK disbursed \$88 million to FAO, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO.

2019 HRP FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of September 30, 2019. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while U.S. government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect publicly announced USG funding for FY 2019, which spans October 1, 2018, to September 30, 2019.

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

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amanat al-Asimah, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Al Mahrah, Marib, Al Mahwit, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra Island, Ta'izz	\$53,272,978
IP	HCIM	Countrywide	\$837,525
IOM	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,600,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$4,047,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$6,070,500
WHO	Health, HCIM, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$27,000,000
	Program Support		\$1,230,921
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$102,058,924
USAID/FFP^{2,3}			
FAO	Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
IPs	Food Vouchers, Cash Transfers for Food, Nutrition, Local, Regional, and International Procurement, Complementary Services	Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$54,984,842
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$3,867,800
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$442,696,148
WFP	Local, Regional, and International Procurement	Countrywide	\$50,000,000
	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$41,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$594,548,790
STATE/PRM			
IPs	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide	\$10,100,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response and Returns Support, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$39,700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$49,800,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$746,407,714

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2019.

² Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ USAID/FFP-supported complementary services—which include sector-specific activities such as agriculture, livelihoods, nutrition, and WASH interventions—enhance food assistance programs by strengthening food availability and access.

CONTEXT

- Between 2004 and early 2015, conflict between 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 southward 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 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—along with protracted instability, the resulting economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, and high levels of unemployment—has left approximately 24.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including more than 20 million people in need of emergency food assistance. In addition, the conflict has displaced more than 3.6 million people; approximately 1.3 million people have returned to areas of origin, according to data collected by IOM in November 2018. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- On December 14, 2018, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller reissued a disaster declaration for Yemen in 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.

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.
- 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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>