

# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #10, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

MAY 19, 2016

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**26 million**

Estimated Population of Yemen  
UN – February 2016

**21.2 million**

People in Need of Urgent  
Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – February 2016

**19.4 million**

People in Need of WASH Services  
UN – February 2016

**14.1 million**

People Lacking Adequate Access to  
Health Care  
UN – February 2016

**6+ million**

People in Need of Emergency Food  
Assistance  
FEWS NET – November 2015

**2.8 million**

IDPs in Yemen  
IOM, UNHCR – April 2016

**4.4 million**

People Reached with Humanitarian  
Assistance in 2016  
OCHA – February 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- UNVIM officially launches, begins inspecting and clearing commercial shipments to Yemeni ports
- WFP distributes food to Al Jawf and Ad Dali<sup>2</sup> governorates, previously unreachable due to insecurity
- UN highlights deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Yemen, appeals for additional resources

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$22,135,071
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$105,025,450
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$11,750,000

**\$138,910,521**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- UN-led peace negotiations between Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) authorities, Al Houthi representatives, and other stakeholder delegations have been suspended according to media reports; however, parties to the conflict have not withdrawn from the process and continue to meet separately with the UN Special Envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed in Kuwait. As of May 14, the special envoy had reported that the delegations had reached consensus on a number of issues, but highlighted that many differences remained unresolved. The UN special envoy had previously reported optimism in achieving a peaceful settlement and continues to call on all parties to work toward a comprehensive solution, reiterating the international community's continued support of the peace process.
- Parties to the conflict began a cessation of hostilities on April 10, ahead of the renewed peace negotiations. Despite the agreement, intermittent clashes continue in some areas, particularly in Al Jawf, Marib, Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates, according to the UN.
- Following a three-day joint visit to Yemen in mid-May by Director of Operations for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) John Ging, Emergency Director of the UN World Health Organization (WHO) Rick Brennan, and Deputy Emergency Director of the UN World Food Program (WFP) Gian Carlo Cirri, OCHA released a statement drawing urgent attention to the humanitarian situation in Yemen, highlighting that conditions continue to deteriorate more than one year after the escalation of hostilities. Director Ging emphasized that continued conflict, months of limited imports of essential supplies, and rapidly deteriorating basic services have increased humanitarian needs throughout the country. Mr. Ging also appealed to the international community to increase support for humanitarian activities in response to the complex emergency in Yemen.

<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 HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- In his statement on May 17, Director Ging also appealed to all parties to the conflict to prioritize the protection of civilians and civilian needs, and ensure unhindered and sustained humanitarian access to all people who require assistance, particularly in Aden, Al Jawf, Hajjah, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz governorates. The statement also drew attention to the dire situation of the health care system, highlighting that many people are dying of preventable illnesses due to the limited availability of basic medical supplies.
  - Despite the cessation of hostilities agreement that went into effect on April 10, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies, including U.S. Government (USG) partners, note that it has not yielded a widespread expansion of response activities due to access challenges and bureaucratic impediments that continue to hinder response efforts. Although the number and intensity of airstrikes and clashes diminished following the implementation of the agreed-upon cessation, which remains largely in effect, OCHA reports that insecurity persists in many areas.
  - The airport located near the port city of Al Mukalla, Hadramawt Governorate, reopened after RoYG and allied forces expelled Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) forces from the area on April 26, according to international media. Following its reopening, a United Arab Emirates (UAE) plane carrying 20 metric tons (MT) of medicines and other critical health care supplies from the UAE Red Crescent landed on May 8, marking the first flight to land at the airport since AQAP forces gained control of the area in mid-2015.
  - USAID/FFP partner WFP reports that a 22-truck convoy recently entered the hard-to-reach Al Qahira District in the city of Ta'izz to deliver food assistance to host community members and internally displaced persons (IDPs). In addition to ongoing food insecurity, people in the enclave continue to require health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, according to WFP. The UN agency also reports that insecurity continues to limit its ability to implement humanitarian programs in parts of Ta'izz, as well as in Al Jawf and Marib governorates.
  - The UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism (UNVIM)—set up to mitigate maritime obstructions affecting the flow of commercial goods into Yemeni ports—officially launched in Djibouti in early May after several months of planning. UNVIM manages vessel clearance requests, coordinates inspections, and monitors shipping operations in an effort to provide impartial verification for commercial shipments to ports and associated oil terminals not under direct RoYG control, including Al Hudaydah, Mokha, Nishtun, and Saleef ports.
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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- WFP reports a further decrease in the availability of basic food commodities in several governorates, primarily resulting from fuel scarcity and its effect on the transportation of goods and movement of traders. In April, the average price of wheat flour in Ta'izz Governorate remained 70 percent higher than pre-crisis levels, with the national average price of wheat approximately 12 percent higher than pre-crisis levels, according to WFP.
- The Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—reported a 20 percent reduction in general food imports in April as compared to March, with commercial wheat imports in April meeting only 55 percent of the average monthly need for wheat-derived food products. Additionally, food prices were 15 percent higher than pre-crisis levels, limiting populations' access to food and other commodities and negatively affecting household purchasing power.
- WFP exceeded its monthly food distribution target of 3 million beneficiaries in April, reaching nearly 3.2 million people in 19 governorates. Also in April, WFP distributed food to previously unreachable Al Jawf and Ad Dali' governorates—reaching more than 230,100 people in nine Ad Dali' districts and 49,500 people in five Al Jawf districts. In addition, WFP reached more than 225,500 people in Aden, Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates with commodity vouchers. In March, WFP distributed food to 3.4 million beneficiaries across 17 governorates and provided commodity vouchers to 195,000 people in Aden and Sana'a. WFP reports that without additional contributions, its Yemen operation will experience a funding shortfall beginning in July.
- Throughout April and May, WFP conducted field monitoring missions to the southwestern city of Dhamar, Dhamar Governorate, and within Sana'a Governorate to inspect food distribution points and meet with implementing partners

and local leaders. WFP monitors also visited Amran Governorate to assess flood-related damage in the area following mid-April flash floods that affected more than 49,000 people across seven governorates. Throughout the same period, WFP completed missions to Ibb and Ta'izz governorates, distributing food to more than 3,000 households, or approximately 18,000 people, in Ta'izz city's besieged Al Qahira District.

- Amid continued access challenges and insecurity, a USAID/FFP NGO partner has reached more than 404,000 people with emergency food assistance and voucher distributions in conflict-affected areas of Yemen, where below-average incomes, low household purchasing power, and market disruptions have significantly affected food security. Food consumption gaps and the depletion of livelihoods are expected to continue without substantial improvements to access, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Despite the tenuous food security situation across Yemen, WFP continues to lack government approval to conduct its planned Emergency Food Security Assessment. However, WFP, in coordination with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), are working on an alternative assessment based on secondary data; results are expected in the coming months.

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## HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND WASH

- From January through March, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO admitted more than 47,500 children younger than five years of age into joint community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) treatment programs for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM); the UN agencies report that 31,100 children who underwent treatment recovered from MAM. In the same reporting period, the UN agencies admitted more than 78,600 pregnant and lactating women into CMAM treatment programs, with more than 26,050 women recovering from MAM.
- With USAID/OFDA support, implementing partners are providing health, nutrition, and WASH assistance to conflict-affected populations across Yemen. Between April 15 and 30, a USAID/OFDA partner provided primary care and reproductive health support to more than 5,300 people and collaborated with the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Population to train local staff across Abyan, Aden, Lahij, and Shabwah governorates. During the same reporting period, community health volunteers trained by the NGO screened more than 700 children for acute malnutrition and treated nearly 80 children for severe acute malnutrition. With USAID/OFDA support, the partner is also maintaining access to safe drinking water for conflict-affected communities in Abyan through daily water trucking, which reached more than 23,000 people in late April.
- In collaboration with local organizations, another USAID/OFDA partner distributed more than 1,450 hygiene promotion kits in Hayfan District, Ta'izz, in late March, with additional distributions of approximately 1,540 hygiene kits planned for the coming weeks. In Ta'izz city, the partner distributed emergency relief commodities, including blankets and mattresses, to more than 150 conflict-affected households in two hard-to-reach areas of Al Qahira District and registered an additional 1,500 households for future distributions. In Sana'a, the organization continued WASH interventions, including the construction and rehabilitation of water sources, despite ongoing access challenges.
- With USAID/OFDA support, another NGO delivered more than 10 million liters of water to nearly 20 water distribution points throughout Aden and Sana'a governorates and nearly 507,000 liters of water to more than 10 newly established water distribution points in Ibb and Ta'izz governorates in response to water shortages between January and March. Additionally, the organization distributed hygiene kits to more than 2,800 households and reached approximately 7,500 people with hygiene promotion campaigns in Aden, Ibb, Sana'a, and Ta'izz.
- State/PRM partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is providing WASH assistance and emergency relief commodities to vulnerable populations in several Yemeni governorates. From March 24 to April 6, IOM distributed more than 300 shelter kits—comprising blankets, kitchen sets, mattresses, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, and water buckets—to an estimated 2,100 IDPs in Ta'izz. During the same period, IOM continued daily water trucking to community water sites, health centers, and hospitals in Abyan, Ad Dali', Shabwah, and Ta'izz governorates, providing more than 243,000 liters of water to approximately 34,000 people. Additionally, IOM distributed more than 270 hygiene kits, including disinfectants, plastic basins, and soap, to approximately 1,900 people in Abyan. IOM has reached nearly 610,000 people with WASH assistance since the escalation of the conflict in March 2015.

## PROTECTION

- Between March and April, UNICEF expanded child protection programs after verifying nearly 30 violations of children’s rights in armed conflict, including abductions, attacks on hospitals, and the recruitment of children by armed forces. UNICEF provided psychosocial support to more than 81,000 children through community-based activities in child-friendly spaces, which aim to support the specific needs of conflict-affected children. During the same period, the UN agency also trained staff working in child-friendly spaces in Sana’a on identifying and reporting protection concerns and violations against children. UNICEF also conducted mine risk awareness campaigns, reaching more than 200,000 people, including vulnerable children, in Al Jawf and Ta’izz governorates. Additionally, UNICEF-trained mobile teams provided birth certificates to nearly 31,000 children in four governorates and conducted awareness campaigns on the importance of birth registration as it relates to child protection. More than 7.4 million Yemeni children are in need of protection services as a result of the conflict, according to UNICEF.
- Conflict and deteriorating humanitarian conditions continue to reduce the ability of IDPs to cope with multiple displacements, and as of late April, an estimated 137,000 IDPs were sheltering in approximately 515 collective centers and spontaneous settlements across Yemen, according to the Shelter Cluster. The exact number of IDPs sheltering in the centers and settlements remains uncertain, as access challenges and insecurity have prevented relief organizations from completing in-depth assessments. Collective centers, often located in schools or other public or abandoned buildings, and spontaneous settlements lack basic amenities—including access to clean water, health care, and sanitation services—and safety and security measures typically available in more formal camp settings, exposing vulnerable IDP populations to protection concerns and poor living conditions. There are more than 270 collective centers and at least five spontaneous settlements in Ta’izz Governorate, which hosts approximately 23 percent of Yemen’s more than 2.7 million IDPs; Ibb and Sa’dah governorates host 42 and 40 centers and settlements, respectively.
- IOM reports that protection concerns for migrants and refugees in Yemen have increased significantly due to deteriorating humanitarian conditions and insecurity since the escalation of the conflict in March 2015. Protection concerns include arbitrary detention and forced conscription, exploitation of unaccompanied minors, human trafficking, and movement restrictions. Additionally, migrants within Yemen experience reduced financial means, and the number of individuals in need of assistance has drastically increased due to conflict. In response, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has expanded the eligibility criteria of financial assistance programs to include particularly vulnerable migrant populations, including pregnant women and single-parent headed households, and increased the amount provided per beneficiary. Approximately 260,000 refugees had fled to Yemen from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, and other neighboring countries as of April 2016, according to IOM.

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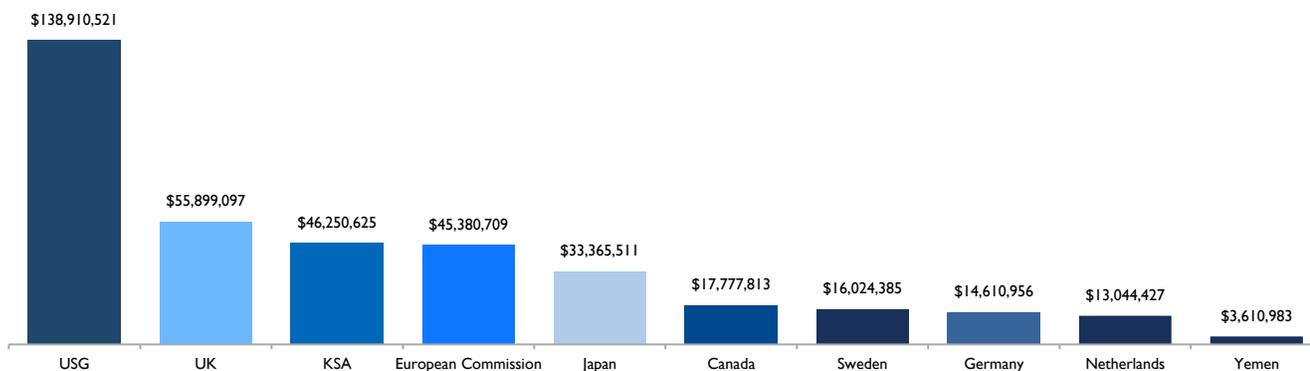
## LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

- Commercial imports into Yemen decreased significantly in March, contributing to price increases for food, fuel, and medical supplies, and delaying the delivery of humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected populations, OCHA reports. In April, the national average price of fuel remained 50 percent higher than pre-crisis levels, and April fuel imports met only 12 percent of Yemen’s average monthly fuel needs of approximately 544,000 MT, according to WFP.
- The UN attributes the decrease in imports to delayed port clearances and the reduced operational capacity at some seaports due to conflict-related infrastructure damage. As of mid-April, WFP-chartered vessels faced clearance delays—at berth and anchorage—of more than 23 days at Aden Port, 28 days at Al Hudaydah Port, and 34 days at Saleef Port. The UN continues to advocate for unimpeded commercial and humanitarian port access, highlighting that the reduction in imports contributes to food insecurity and shortages of fuel and other commodities, exacerbating the humanitarian situation.
- USAID/OFDA partner WFP recently received Kingdom of Saudi Arabia permission to begin fortnightly UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights from Amman, Jordan, to Sana’a; flights are scheduled to begin in late May. WFP also reports that it began transporting humanitarian personnel via a sea route between Djibouti and Aden in mid-May.

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- Following mid-April flash floods in some areas of Yemen, the UN allocated \$34 million from the Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund to support response operations, including the provision of emergency relief items and programs addressing food security, health, logistics, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH needs. As of May 19, the 2016 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan had received \$299 million, or 17 percent, of the \$1.8 billion requested, according to OCHA.

## 2016 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of May 19, 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 the fiscal year, 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 military 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 nearly half of Yemen's 26 million people food-insecure and 6 million people in need of emergency food assistance.
- In early 2015, Yemen hosted approximately 248,000 refugees and a substantial population of third-country nationals (TCNs). The escalation in hostilities, which had internally displaced an estimated 2.7 million people as of late March 2016, prompted IOM to organize large-scale TCN evacuations from Yemen. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- On October 12, 2015, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller re-issued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2016 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>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz governorates	\$7,000,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Hadramawt, Shabwah governorates	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Amanat al 'Asimah, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Ta'izz governorates	\$10,000,000
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a governorates	\$1,500,000
	Program Support		\$135,071
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$22,135,071</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	121,810 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	19 governorates	\$105,025,450
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$105,025,450</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Implementing Partners	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Refugee Response, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$5,750,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$11,750,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$138,910,521</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 6, 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>