

YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #8, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

JUNE 7, 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

- A May 24 explosion in Ta'izz results in at least 12 civilian deaths
- Conflict in Ad Dali', Hajjah displaces populations and generates increased humanitarian needs
- Despite access challenges, WFP reaches nearly 9.3 million people with food assistance in April

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$193,042,542
USAID/FFP ²	\$498,911,754
State/PRM ³	\$28,900,000
\$720,854,296	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of late May, Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) authorities in southern Yemen continue to detain foreign migrants in facilities with inadequate services and significant protection concerns, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports. IOM continues to facilitate voluntary repatriation flights for registered migrants.
- Between January 1 and June 1, health actors recorded more than 364,000 suspected cholera cases across Yemen, representing more than three times the nearly 80,500 suspected cholera cases recorded during the same period in 2018. However, the rate of newly-suspected cholera cases has decreased in recent weeks, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). The decline may be due to a scale-up of cholera response activities supported by the April allocation from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund, according to the UN.

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, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- On May 24, a reported strike hit a fuel station in Ta'izz Governorate's Mawiyah District, resulting in at least 12 civilian deaths, including seven children, the UN reports. Multiple UN officials—including UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Lise Grande and UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Director Henrietta Fore—released statements condemning the attack and calling for the protection of children and respect for international humanitarian law. Throughout 2019, conflict-related violence has increasingly impacted civilians residing in and around the governorate's densely populated Ta'izz city, resulting in civilian casualties and hindering access to basic services, relief actors report.
- Humanitarian needs in Hajjah Governorate increased in late April as conflict frontlines shifted southward, resulting in the displacement of civilians in districts along the border between Hajjah and Al Hudaydah governorates, the UN reports. Relief actors, in coordination with local National Authority for the Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs representatives, conducted a monitoring mission in Hajjah's Abs District from April 28–May 2 to assess humanitarian needs and determine gaps in service provision. During the mission, relief actors identified approximately 12,600 displaced households in Abs who had recently received assistance through the Rapid Response Mechanism; however, insecurity prevented the mission from reaching some areas of the district to fully assess displaced populations' humanitarian needs.
- Conflict in Ad Dali' Governorate also continues to result in population displacement and increased humanitarian needs. From May 19–24, State/PRM partner the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provided emergency relief items to nearly 400 newly-displaced households from the governorate's Ad Dali' and Qa'tabah districts. Overall, conflict had displaced more than 8,600 people from and within Ad Dali' Governorate from January 1 to May 26, according to IOM.
- RoYG authorities in southern Yemen continue to house detained migrants in facilities with inadequate services, IOM reports. While the total number of migrants detained in southern Yemen has decreased from a peak of approximately 5,000 individuals in late April and early May, IOM continues to register daily migrant arrivals, with nearly 2,460 detained migrants registered in a sports complex in Aden Governorate's Aden city as of May 26, representing a 15 percent increase from the 2,130 migrants registered at the site as of May 23, according to IOM. Authorities have also detained additional migrants at a second sports complex in Abyan Governorate.
- IOM is coordinating with the RoYG to provide daily food assistance, safe drinking water, and other services to migrants at the site in Aden. As of May 19, the UN agency had conducted protection screenings for nearly 310 children, established three child-friendly spaces, and reached more than 1,760 migrants with health and hygiene awareness-raising sessions, among other assistance, with support from State/PRM. However, RoYG security forces continue to control the Abyan site, and IOM had not received access to assess humanitarian needs or provide assistance to migrants as of May 19. In addition, IOM has registered more than 2,300 migrants who wish to return to Ethiopia through the organization's Voluntary Humanitarian Returns process. IOM continues to call for the RoYG to respect migrants' rights to safe, voluntary, and dignified movement.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- On May 20, the UN World Food Program (WFP) announced that if local authorities continue to block the UN agency's efforts to identify and assist populations most in need in northern Yemen, WFP may implement a phased suspension of emergency food assistance in areas where impediments persist. In a press statement, WFP emphasized that the phased suspension of emergency food assistance would take place only if progress is not made on previous agreements related to beneficiary identification and biometric registration; the UN agency continued to emphasize its commitment to providing life-saving assistance to vulnerable populations in Yemen. Negotiations between local authorities and WFP are ongoing.
- USAID/WFP partner WFP provided emergency food assistance to nearly 9.3 million food-insecure people in Yemen during the month of April, representing 75 percent of the UN agency's monthly target of nearly 12.4 million beneficiaries. The total represents a reduction from the 10.6 million beneficiaries reached in March, attributable to access challenges, including the closure of a main road in Ad Dali' due to an escalation of hostilities in the area.

- On May 30, WFP distributed two months of food rations to nearly 890 households—approximately 5,000 people—living near the conflict frontlines in Sana’a Governorate’s Nihm District. The distribution represents the first time WFP has reached populations in this area since the start of the conflict in 2015. Additionally, following successful negotiations with local authorities, the agency successfully reached Al Hudaydah’s hard-to-reach Ad Durayhimi city in May for the first time in 2019. WFP delivered two months of food assistance alongside water, hygiene kits, and dignity kits from other UN agencies.
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HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND WASH

- Health actors recorded more than 364,000 suspected cholera cases, including nearly 640 related deaths, between January 1 and June 1—more than three times the nearly 80,500 suspected cholera cases recorded during the same period in 2018. The number of suspected cholera cases reported per week in 2019 peaked with more than 29,500 cases recorded from April 8–14; however, the rate of newly-suspected cases has decreased over recent weeks. The decline may be due to a scale-up of cholera response activities supported by the \$26.1 million allocation from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund in early April, according to the UN. Health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) actors are supporting diarrhea treatment centers and oral rehydration centers in nearly 150 priority districts and, in April, distributed the first round of an oral cholera vaccine to nearly 1.1 million people in Amanat Al Asimah Governorate—where the highest number of suspected cholera cases has been recorded to date, according to WHO.
 - With USAID/OFDA support, a humanitarian organization conducted emergency cholera response activities, including distributing water purification tablets, to 1,200 households in Hajjah and 800 households in Amran Governorate in April. Additionally, the partner conducted cholera prevention awareness sessions for more than 1,040 households in three districts of Al Mahwit Governorate.
 - During the month of April, a USAID/OFDA partner provided primary health care services to more than 33,000 people through 42 health facilities and 12 mobile health teams in six of Yemen’s 22 governorates. The organization also provided antenatal care to 2,500 women; facilitated deliveries for more than 1,000 women through trained midwives; provided postnatal care to more than 550 newborns; and conducted more than 23,900 consultations to identify and treat communicable disease among vulnerable populations in the six governorates.
 - A USAID/OFDA partner screened more than 1,500 children for malnutrition from April 16–30 in Abyan, Ad Dali’, and Lahij governorates, identifying 35 children experiencing severe acute malnutrition and more than 150 children experiencing moderate acute malnutrition. The organization also admitted more than 200 children five years of age and younger and 330 pregnant and lactating women into targeted supplemental feeding programs. During the same period, staff members conducted nearly 360 nutrition awareness sessions reaching more than 3,200 people across the three governorates.
 - Following an early May assessment visit to Hajjah’s Khudaish internally displaced person (IDP) hosting site—one of the largest IDP hosting sites in Abs—UNHCR and partners constructed 85 latrines to address WASH needs of the 2,200 households temporarily sheltering at the site; additional latrines will be constructed in the coming weeks. There are 363 IDP hosting sites in Hajjah, including 172 sites in Abs, representing the largest number of sites in any single governorate.
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HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION

- In April, a USAID/OFDA partner continued to provide protection services in Al Hudaydah, reaching 160 women, including IDPs and host community members, with protection awareness sessions. During the sessions, participants discussed the psychosocial impacts of Yemen’s conflict and identified individuals in need of further assistance, leading to provision of case management services, individual psychological support, or referrals for specialized medical care to nearly 20 women.

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 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia-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—along with protracted political 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 4, 2018, former U.S. Ambassador to Yemen 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.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019 ¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, 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	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$15,488,216
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Countrywide	\$11,000,000
UNICEF	HCIM, 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	\$12,617,500
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$5,241,259
	Program Support		\$3,542,983
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$193,042,542

USAID/FFP ²			
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
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$498,911,754
STATE/PRM			
IOM	Evacuation and Humanitarian Assistance	Regional	\$5,000,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Refugee Response	Countrywide	\$23,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$28,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019			\$720,854,296

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of February 26, 2019.

² 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.
- 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 or +1.202.661.7710.
 - 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>