

Yemen – Complex Emergency

JULY 16, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

30.8 MILLION	20.7 MILLION	4 MILLION	16.2 MILLION	2.3 MILLION
Population of Yemen	People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance	IDPs in Yemen	Projected Acutely Food-Insecure Population	Children Projected to Face Wasting from January – December 2021
<i>UN – February 2021</i>	<i>UN – February 2021</i>	<i>UN – February 2021</i>	<i>IPC¹ – December 2020</i>	<i>IPC – February 2021</i>

- USAID/BHA partner WFP scales up food assistance across nine governorates in northern Yemen in June, reaching more than 11 million people per month with emergency food assistance countrywide.
- Renewed hostilities in Marib Governorate result in increased civilian casualties since mid-June. USG partners continue to provide humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected IDPs across Yemen, including emergency food and shelter support.
- Fuel supplies remain limited countrywide and the YER continues to fall in RoYG-held areas, raising food commodity prices.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Yemen Response in FY 2021	USAID/BHA ²	\$336,760,221
	State/PRM ³	\$13,500,000
Total		\$350,260,221

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

² USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA).

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

WFP Scales Up Food Assistance in Northern Yemen in June

In June, USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) expanded emergency food assistance to beneficiaries in northern Yemen, restarting monthly food assistance in nine governorates where households previously had received food assistance only every other month since April 2020 due to operational access challenges and funding constraints, the UN agency reports. As a result of increased donor funding in 2021, WFP has resumed monthly food assistance distributions to vulnerable households in areas of Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Raymah, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz governorates. Vulnerable populations in six other governorates—Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Ibb, Marib, Sana'a, and Sana'a City—continue to receive assistance every other month. With the expansion of assistance, WFP anticipates that more than 11 million people across Yemen will receive monthly food assistance between June and September, compared with approximately 8 million people in recent months.

Food insecurity and malnutrition remain the primary drivers of humanitarian need in Yemen, with an estimated 16.2 million people likely experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity. Contributions from Gulf country donors, which have enabled WFP's recent scale-up of emergency food assistance, will likely bolster WFP food rations through late summer. However, despite increased funding to date in 2021, WFP still requires an estimated additional \$325 million to maintain the monthly beneficiary caseload through December. USAID/BHA remains WFP's largest donor for Yemen and has provided more than \$300 million to the UN agency in FY 2021 to date.

Renewed Hostilities in Marib Result in Civilian Casualties, Displacement

A renewed Al Houthi offensive on Marib city in mid-June, constituting some of the heaviest fighting in the area in 2021, has resulted in increased civilian casualties and threatened further displacement, according to relief actors. On June 29, missile strikes killed three civilians—including one child—and injured at least 10 people in Marib city's Rawdha neighborhood, where drone strikes and missiles also damaged a gas station earlier in June, according to international media. The renewed offensive is increasingly affecting civilians, with more than half of missile-related civilian casualties in Marib city in 2021 to date occurring in June alone, according to the Protection Cluster-led Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP). Conflict and natural hazards displaced nearly 41,000 people across Yemen, including approximately 16,200 individuals in Marib, from January 1 to July 3, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). With USG support, IOM has provided approximately 67,000 IDPs with emergency shelter materials and other relief items in 2021, including providing assistance in 24 of Marib's nearly 150 IDP sites in Marib Governorate.

Limited Fuel, YER Depreciation Increase Commodity Prices Across Yemen

Fuel shortages continue to contribute to sharp increases in fuel prices across Yemen, limiting access to essential services. The Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led Coalition approved four vessels carrying approximately 89,000 metric tons (MT) of fuel to discharge at Al Hudaydah Port—the primary entry point for fuel in northern Yemen—during June, according to the United Nations Verification and Inspection Mechanism for Yemen (UNVIM). UNVIM reports a 38 percent decrease in fuel discharged at Al Hudaydah in June 2021 compared with the average fuel discharged monthly in 2020; to date in 2021, fuel imports at Al Hudaydah are down by approximately 82 percent compared with the total amount of fuel imports at the port in 2020. In mid-June, the Yemen Petroleum Company (YPC) raised the cost of approximately 5 gallons of gasoline to approximately 8,500 Yemeni riyal (YER) and the cost of 5 liters of gas oil to an estimated 7,900 YER in

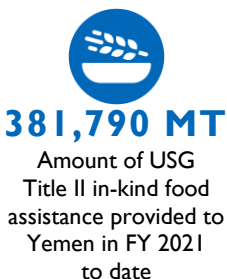
northern Yemen, representing increases of nearly 220 percent and 360 percent, respectively, relief actors report. Increased fuel prices are raising transportation costs, affecting vulnerable populations' access to essential services and employment. On the informal market, prices for gasoline and gas oil are 130 percent and 90 percent higher than official YPC rates.

In southern Yemen, fuel prices have increased in Aden, Hadramawt, Marib, and Ta'izz governorates due to high inflation and a depreciation of the YER to a record low of 1,000 YER/\$1 on July 11, according to the RoYG and local media. In response to the depreciation, banks in Aden temporarily suspended foreign currency exchange operations and some commercial enterprises required customers to make payments in Saudi riyals or U.S. dollars, limiting households' ability to purchase essential commodities, media report. The sustained depreciation of the YER has resulted in price increases for food and other essential commodities while reducing household purchasing power in southern Yemen. Meanwhile, the YER maintained its value of approximately 600 YER per one USD in Al Houthi-controlled areas.

OAD Officials Lift West Coast Movement Restrictions Through End Of 2021

Following negotiations with relief actors, the Organizations' Affairs Office (OAD) agreed to extend a temporary moratorium on its requirements for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies in Yemen's west coast region to obtain movement permits from the office through the end of 2021, the UN reports. The OAD is part of the West Coast Authority, a regional administrative body established in late 2020 by local armed forces operating in the west coast. From March to May 2021, the OAD had blocked NGOs and UN agencies from crossing checkpoints in RoYG-held areas of the west coast region without OAD-issued travel permits, resulting in movement restrictions that limited humanitarian access to approximately 475,000 people. The UN continues to advocate the OAD to annul the regulations entirely.

KEY FIGURES



U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA has provided more than \$300 million to WFP in FY 2021 and supports 10 international NGO (INGO) partners to improve food security in Yemen. USAID/BHA partners are providing emergency food assistance through in-kind food aid—including U.S.-sourced commodities—as well as cash and vouchers for people to buy food in local markets, prioritizing households experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity. Partners also work to strengthen household purchasing power and rehabilitate food-security-related livelihoods. USAID/BHA partners in Yemen provide emergency food assistance to more than 13 million people, including reaching more than 11 million people per month.

HEALTH

The USG supports IOM, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and 10 INGOs to conduct life-saving health care interventions amid Yemen's ongoing conflict and concurrent cholera



\$4.7 Million

Dedicated FY 2021
USG support for
life-saving health
programming to date

and coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreaks. USG partners are providing primary health care services, often in coordination with nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programming, through both mobile medical teams—serving hard-to-reach areas—and static health facilities. USG partner WHO is also distributing COVID-19 vaccine doses, providing more than 251,300 of a planned approximately 317,300 doses as of June 20. USG partners also support community health volunteers to encourage people to seek health care services when needed. In addition, USAID/BHA partners are providing incentive payments to health care workers and medical supplies to health facilities to bolster health care service availability, while State/PRM is supporting UNHCR to address the specific health care needs of migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Yemen.



7

USG implementing
partners supporting
MPCA programming

MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

The USG supports the provision of multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help conflict-affected households in Yemen meet their basic needs while also supporting local markets. With State/PRM support, UNHCR is distributing MPCA to IDPs and refugees across Yemen to bolster household purchasing power amid COVID-19-related economic shocks and restrictions. USAID/BHA partners are providing MPCA to vulnerable Yemeni populations, supporting households to procure cooking gas, food, hygiene items, and other essential commodities. From July 1 to 9, UNHCR distributed cash assistance to approximately 15,000 displaced households in Yemen, including more than 9,800 households in Sana'a Governorate, more than 4,400 households in Al Jawf, and more than 1,000 households in Sa'dah.



15

USG implementing
partners supporting
nutrition programming

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners to prevent and treat wasting—a severe form of malnutrition—across Yemen. Working with UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and 12 INGOs, USAID/BHA is supporting community- and evidence-based programs to decrease morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition. Focusing on children and pregnant and lactating women in particular, USAID/BHA programs help identify, prevent, and treat wasting. Additionally, USAID/BHA provides nutrition support for health clinics and mobile health teams, integrating health, nutrition, and WASH interventions to comprehensively assist affected populations.



8

USG implementing
partners supporting
critical protection
interventions

PROTECTION

Through support to IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and five INGOs, the USG is furthering critical protection interventions across Yemen. USAID/BHA partners work to address child protection and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) needs, prevent and respond to gender-based violence, and address protection concerns and violations through specialized case-management services, community mobilization activities, and protection risk mitigation efforts. With State/PRM funding, UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster and provides protection services to meet the needs

of IDPs, refugees, and other populations countrywide, including through MHPSS activities and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation and public assistance. The USG requires all partners to incorporate protection principles into each USG-supported intervention in Yemen and promote meaningful access, dignity, and safety for beneficiaries.



\$1.4 Million

Dedicated FY 2021 USG support for shelter and settlements programming to date

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

The USG supports four partners to provide shelter support to populations in Yemen displaced by conflict and natural hazards. State/PRM partner UNHCR is providing shelter support and relief items to newly displaced households in Marib, reaching 130 households across Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Marib, and Ta'izz governorates from July 1 to 9. In addition, USAID/BHA supports IOM and two INGOs to provide shelter assistance and relief items to newly displaced and other vulnerable populations.



\$7.8 Million

Dedicated FY 2021 USG support for WASH programming to date

WASH

The USG supports IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and 15 INGOs to expand local access to safe drinking water and prevent and respond to communicable disease outbreaks, such as cholera and COVID-19. USAID/BHA partners conduct critical WASH interventions—including distribution of hygiene kits, promotion of hygiene activities, rehabilitation of water systems damaged by conflict, and the provision of water trucking services—for IDPs and other vulnerable populations. In addition, State/PRM partners provide WASH interventions to meet the needs of conflict-affected populations, as well as migrants and refugees in Yemen originating from the Horn of Africa.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Between mid-2004 and early 2015, conflict between the RoYG and Al Houthi opposition forces in the north affected more than 1 million people, generating widespread and repeated displacement and exacerbating humanitarian needs. The southward advance of Al Houthi forces in 2014 and 2015 expanded the scope of the armed conflict, further aggravating the humanitarian crisis.
- In March 2015, a KSA-led coalition began to conduct airstrikes against Al Houthi and allied forces to halt Al Houthi southward expansion. Ongoing conflict since 2015 has damaged and destroyed public infrastructure, interrupted essential services, and reduced commercial imports to a fraction of the levels required to sustain the Yemeni population, as Yemen typically imports much of its food supply.
- Since March 2015, the conflict—along with an economic crisis, high levels of unemployment, protracted instability, and rising food and fuel prices—has left approximately 20.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including approximately 12.1 million people in acute need. In addition, the conflict has displaced more than 4 million people, an estimated 1.3 million of whom have since returned to their areas of origin, according to a November 2018 IOM assessment. The volatility of the current situation often impedes relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic data on conflict-affected populations.
- On November 17, 2020, U.S. Ambassador Christopher P. Henzel redeclared a disaster for Yemen for FY 2021 due to continued humanitarian needs resulting from the complex emergency and the impact of the country’s economic and political crises on vulnerable populations.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2021^{1,2}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Food Assistance; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); MPCA; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Lahij, Al Mahrah, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$31,796,195
UNICEF	Nutrition	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Hadramawt, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahrah, Lahij, Marib, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$4,801,390
WFP	380,400 Metric Tons (MT) of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid; Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$300,008,006
	Program Support		\$154,630
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$336,760,221
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$13,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$13,500,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$350,260,221

¹Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of July 16, 2021.

²Estimated 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 [interaction.org](https://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: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)