

Yemen – Complex Emergency

MARCH 18, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The USG announces nearly \$585 million in humanitarian assistance to continue delivering life-saving aid in Yemen as conflict intensifies and economic conditions deteriorate in the country.
- Prices of wheat and bread rise in Yemen as the crisis in Ukraine affects global agricultural markets, raising concern about potential impacts on Yemen’s food security conditions.
- The UN Security Council renews resolution extending arms embargo targeting Al Houthis, maintaining provisions to minimize adverse effects on the humanitarian situation.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Yemen Response in FY 2022

USAID/BHA² \$561,387,945

State/PRM³ \$23,300,000

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5

Total \$584,687,945

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

USG Announces Nearly \$585 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Yemen

On March 16, the U.S. Government (USG) announced nearly \$585 million in additional funding for the humanitarian response in Yemen during a high-level pledging event for the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. USAID/BHA is providing more than \$561 million in funding to support food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, as well as the UN's countrywide humanitarian logistics operations and information management coordination, and State/PRM is providing more than \$23 million to support refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country. The United States remains the largest donor of humanitarian assistance in Yemen, providing nearly \$4.5 billion to support the response since the start of the crisis in 2015.

Russia-Ukraine Conflict Contributes to Rising Wheat Prices Across Yemen

The price of wheat has risen significantly across Yemen since the Government of the Russian Federation launched widespread military operations in Ukraine in late February. Active conflict and interruptions to supply chains have disrupted agricultural production and exports from Russia and Ukraine, from which an estimated 40 percent of Yemen's total imported wheat is sourced. The rise in wheat prices is resulting in related increases in the cost of bread in Yemen, according to a USAID/BHA partner. In Aden Governorate's Aden city, for example, the price of bread increased by 62 percent—from 40 Yemeni riyal (YER) to 65 YER per piece of bread—between February 25 and March 3. Commercial importers are concerned that protracted conflict in Ukraine could disrupt the shipment of wheat, other grain, and oilseed to Yemen for a longer period than initially expected, USAID partners report. Furthermore, the UN World Food Program (WFP) reports a surge in operation costs to mitigate the food crisis, related to both food and fuel price increases. As Yemen experiences a fuel shortage and global fuel prices increase due to the conflict in Ukraine, transportation costs for delivering food commodities across Yemen has significantly increased and delivery of food has been delayed. These effects could worsen food insecurity as the country is highly dependent on food imports.

UNSC Renews Resolutions Targeting Al Houthis; Maintains Protections for Humanitarian Assistance

In late February, the UN Security Council (UNSC) voted to renew resolution 2140 and related resolutions for one year, extending an arms embargo, asset freeze, and travel ban on various entities threatening peace in Yemen. The UNSC also expanded the entities targeted by the resolution to the Al Houthi movement—rather than specific Al Houthi-affiliated individuals—and characterized the movement as a terrorist group. The extended resolution continues to include strong language protecting humanitarian assistance, imports of critical commercial goods such as food and fuel, and remittances from any potential adverse effects of resolution 2140 and related resolutions. Some members of the UNSC expressed concern regarding the reference to the Al Houthi movement as a terrorist organization, noting potential unintended consequences of this terminology on the ability of stakeholders to address humanitarian needs in Yemen and facilitate a political solution to the conflict, the UN reports.

KEY FIGURES



13 Million

People supported monthly through USG emergency food assistance



\$15.8 Million

In dedicated USG support for life-saving health care programming



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USG partners supporting MPCA programming

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA has provided more than \$422 million to WFP to date in Fiscal Year 2022 and supports 10 international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) to implement food security programming 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. Partners also work to strengthen household purchasing power to increase access to food within vulnerable communities. USAID/BHA partners in Yemen aim to provide emergency food assistance to nearly 13 million people per month.

HEALTH

The USG supports the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and 11 INGOs to conduct life-saving health care interventions amid Yemen's ongoing conflict and the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. USG partners are providing primary health care services, often in coordination with nutrition and WASH programming, through static health facilities and mobile medical teams serving hard-to-reach areas. USG partners also support community health volunteers to encourage people to seek health care services when needed, thereby promoting better health outcomes. In addition, USAID/BHA partners are providing incentive payments to health care workers and medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to health facilities to expand local access to quality health care services. Meanwhile, State/PRM is supporting IOM and UNHCR to address the specific health care needs of IDPs, migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Yemen. In February and early March, UNHCR supported a national oral polio vaccine campaign, deploying mobile health workers to conduct in-home vaccinations that reached 2,000 children in Lahj Governorate's Kharaz camp and Aden's Basateen neighborhood.

MPCA

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 increase household purchasing power amid COVID-19-related economic shocks and restrictions. UNHCR has supported more than 15,000 internally displaced families with MPCA, rental subsidies, and other case assistance to date in 2022. In 2021, UNHCR distributed approximately \$60 million in MPCA to support more than 1 million IDPs and 8,000 refugees in need across Yemen. USAID/BHA partners are also providing MPCA to enable vulnerable households to procure cooking gas, food, hygiene items, and other essential commodities.



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USG partners supporting nutrition programming

NUTRITION

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



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USG partners supporting critical protection interventions

PROTECTION

Through support to IOM, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR, and six INGOs, the USG is furthering critical protection interventions across Yemen. USAID/BHA partners work to address child protection and psychosocial support (PSS) needs, prevent and respond to gender-based violence, and respond to 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 vulnerable populations countrywide, including through PSS activities and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documents and public assistance. Moreover, the USG requires partners to incorporate protection principles into USG-supported interventions in Yemen and promote meaningful access, dignity, and safety for beneficiaries.



3 Million

People supported with USG-funded WASH activities

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. USAID/BHA partners conduct critical WASH interventions—including distributing hygiene kits, promoting hygiene activities, providing water trucking services, and rehabilitating water systems damaged by conflict—for IDPs and other vulnerable populations. 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 Republic of Yemen Government and Al Houthi opposition forces in northern Yemen 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 conducting 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 has impeded relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic data on conflict-affected populations.
- On November 3, 2021, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Catherine Westley redeclared a disaster for Yemen for FY 2022 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 2022^{1,2}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners	Food Assistance; Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); MPCA; Nutrition; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahrah, Al Mahwit, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$85,040,847
IOM	HCIMA; Health; MPCA; Protection: Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNICEF	1,390 metric tons (MT) of U.S. In-Kind Nutrition Aid	Abyan, Aden, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahrah, Al Mahwit, Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$5,114,036
	WASH		\$10,077,910
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—390,880 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$387,995,766
	Food Assistance—Vouchers; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$65,000,000
	Program Support		\$159,386
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$561,387,945
STATE/PRM			

Implementing Partner	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$8,700,000
UNHCR	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$14,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$23,300,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$584,687,945

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of March, 16 2022.
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 [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)