



# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

JANUARY 26, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**27.4 million**

Population of Yemen  
UN – November 2016

**18.8 million**

People in Need of  
Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – November 2016

**14.8 million**

People Lacking Access to Basic  
Health Care  
UN – November 2016

**14.5 million**

People in Need of WASH Services  
UN – November 2016

**7+ million**

People in Need of Emergency Food  
Assistance  
FEWS NET – November 2016

**2.1 million**

IDPs in Yemen  
IOM – November 2016

**5.6 million**

People Reached with Humanitarian  
Assistance in 2016  
OCHA – December 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Conflict results in more than 10,000 civilian deaths and 40,000 injuries since March 2015
- WHO reports more than 17,300 suspected cholera cases and 99 cholera-associated deaths; relief agencies continue response efforts
- Food and fuel prices remain stable but elevated in December 2016

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$83,858,747
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$264,988,400
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$55,050,000
<b>\$403,897,147</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) and USAID/OFDA partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO) report more than 17,300 suspected cholera cases and 99 related deaths between October 2016—when the outbreak was first confirmed—and January 23. The Cholera Task Force—comprising WHO, the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Population, relief agencies, and other health stakeholders—continues to coordinate cholera surveillance, treatment, and prevention activities; however, WHO notes that poor access to health care services and ongoing insecurity are compromising response activities.
- While food and fuel prices have recently stabilized, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) reports that prices remained elevated compared to pre-crisis levels and that the availability of food and fuel commodities deteriorated during the month. In response, WFP and other members of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security and agriculture activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—provided emergency food assistance to approximately 4.2 million people in December 2016.
- On January 17, the U.S. Government (USG) announced an additional \$76 million to respond to humanitarian needs in Yemen, bringing total USG humanitarian assistance for the Yemen response to nearly \$404 million since FY 2016. The newly announced assistance supports the provision of emergency food assistance and life-saving health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services to conflict-affected people in Yemen, as well as support for vulnerable migrants in Yemen, Djibouti, and Ethiopia.

<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, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- The UN reports that conflict in Yemen has resulted in at least 50,000 civilian casualties, including 10,000 deaths and 40,000 injuries, since March 2015. The figure is derived from data collected by health care facilities and represents an estimated minimum; given that fighting has destroyed many health facilities and access to health care throughout the country is limited, the actual number of casualties from the conflict is likely higher.
  - As of November 2016, approximately 2 million people remained displaced within Yemen due to conflict, according to a recent report by the Protection Cluster. The figure represents a decrease of approximately 200,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) compared to September 2016. The report largely attributes the decline in IDPs to improved data collection in Ta'izz Governorate, where the IDP population decreased by nearly 153,000 people. Additionally, more than 30,600 people have returned to places of origin in Aden Governorate, where the security situation has recently stabilized.
  - In mid-January, UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed traveled to Yemen to discuss Yemen's peace process with RoYG officials, including RoYG President Abd Rabbu Mansur Hadi, and Al Houthi leaders. In a subsequent statement, Special Envoy Ould Cheikh Ahmed urged parties to the conflict to commit to a comprehensive peace agreement to prevent the further deterioration of humanitarian and economic conditions in the country.
  - On January 10, a Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led Coalition airstrike near a school in Yemen's capital city of Sana'a resulted in five deaths, including one child, according to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). In a statement following the incident, the UN agency urged parties to the conflict to end attacks against civilian infrastructure. The escalation of the conflict since March 2015 has resulted in the deaths of nearly 1,400 children, injured approximately 2,100 additional children, and forced an estimated 2,000 schools to close due to damage, destruction, or the repurposing of schools as shelter facilities for the displaced, UNICEF reports.
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## **HEALTH AND WASH**

- As of January 18, the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Population and USAID/OFDA partner WHO report more than 17,300 suspected cholera cases and 99 related deaths across Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates, as well as in the capital city of Sana'a. Health officials first confirmed the cholera outbreak in Yemen on October 6.
- A Cholera Task Force—led by WHO in partnership with the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Population, UNICEF, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and other relief actors—continues to coordinate cholera response and prevention efforts in Yemen, including support for 26 cholera treatment centers and two national-level health emergency control rooms in Aden and Sana'a. WHO has also deployed rapid response teams, provided chlorination tablets and other WASH and health supplies, and supported health education campaigns to raise awareness about cholera prevention in affected areas.
- Ongoing disruptions to regular operations at Sana'a International Airport, which the RoYG and KSA-led Coalition closed to commercial flights on August 9, 2016, have prevented an estimated 20,000 people in Yemen from traveling abroad to receive medical treatment, the UN reports. Although international airports in Yemen's Aden and Hadramawt governorates remain open to commercial traffic, distance from the capital city of Sana'a and insecurity along travel routes likely render them inaccessible to many people. Prior to the closure, more than 30 percent of passengers traveling abroad from the airport in Sana'a were seeking medical treatment, according to the country's main airline carrier.
- Nearly two years of conflict has significantly eroded health care capacity in Yemen and the health situation is likely to worsen in 2017, the UN cautions. As of December 2016, approximately 55 percent of health facilities in Yemen were non-functional and less than 30 percent of required medicines and medical supplies were entering Yemen, jeopardizing the care received by trauma patients and individuals with chronic conditions. Conflict-related reductions in government revenue have also disrupted public health care services, contributing to the spread of infectious diseases, including cholera and measles, the UN reports.

- From January 1–15, a USAID/OFDA partner provided health consultations for more than 6,000 individuals and immunized more than 400 children in five governorates. The partner also treated nearly 900 children younger than five years of age for severe or moderate acute malnutrition, provided community health care workers with technical support and training about the treatment of acute malnutrition, and conducted education sessions about antenatal and postnatal care, immunizations, and other child health topics in six governorates.

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## FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOODS, AND NUTRITION

- Despite relatively stable prices for food and fuel commodities in December 2016, the average costs of staple food items and fuel remained significantly elevated compared to pre-crisis levels, WFP reports. For example, while the cost of cooking gas decreased by approximately 1 percent in December 2016, the price remained approximately 60 percent higher than the pre-crisis cost.
- The availability of food and fuel in Yemen deteriorated in December 2016, exacerbating food insecurity, WFP reports. The suspension of government salaries has reduced the ability of many consumers to pay for basic goods, suppressing commercial activity and reducing overland imports. Additionally, merchants are reportedly hoarding available goods in anticipation of increased prices related to the ongoing devaluation of the Yemeni rial, according to WFP.
- Improved humanitarian and commercial access is necessary to mitigate Yemen’s food security crisis and limit the risk of Famine—IPC 5—levels of food insecurity, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports.<sup>4</sup> Between 7 and 10 million people in Yemen are already experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity or higher, including at least 2 million people facing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity. However, a significant and sustained decrease in food imports or conflict-related disruption to trade routes could further limit the availability of food in Yemen, potentially resulting in Famine conditions, according to FEWS NET. Presently, humanitarian assistance represents 5–15 percent of total formal food imports to Yemen; in the absence of improved humanitarian and commercial access, FEWS NET cautions that the humanitarian community likely lacks the capacity to meet additional import gaps and resultant increased food needs.
- Members of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, including USAID/FFP partners, reached approximately 4.2 million people with emergency food assistance in December 2016. Member organizations provided assistance across 20 governorates in Yemen through food distributions, cash transfers, and voucher programs, among other forms of assistance. While cluster members reached more than half of all targeted beneficiaries in 11 governorates, bureaucratic impediments and security constraints remained significant challenges to providing emergency food assistance in some areas of the country, including in Abyan, Aden, Al Hudaydah, and Ta’izz.
- Since late December, a USAID partner has trained 60 health and nutrition staff in Ad Dali’ and Lahij. The partner has also conducted food distributions in Abyan, Ad Dali’, and Lahij, as well as provided vouchers to food-insecure populations in the governorates.

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## PROTECTION

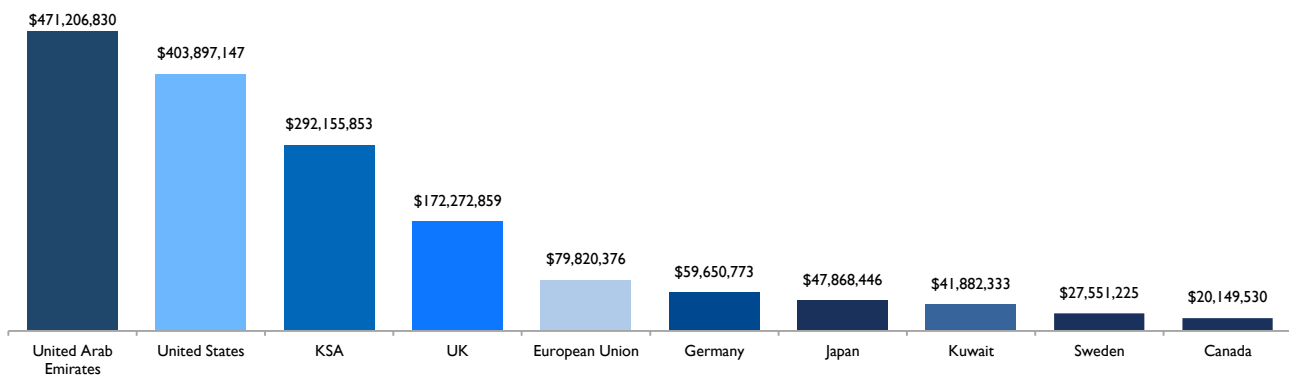
- In 2016, Protection Cluster members, including USAID/OFDA partners, in Yemen reached more than 263,400 people—88 percent of the target population—with emergency protection interventions. Protection Cluster members reached the most beneficiaries—nearly 106,800 people—in Ta’izz. Activities included psychosocial support and legal aid services, as well as protection monitoring programs.
- To date, USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has distributed more than 2,600 winter relief item kits to protect up to 16,000 IDPs from winter weather conditions in Ta’izz Governorate. The kits include basic shelter supplies, blankets, kitchen sets, mattresses, and seasonally appropriate clothes, among other relief items.

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On January 17, the USG announced more than \$76 million in additional support for the humanitarian response in Yemen. Approximately \$68 million of the newly announced funding will support WFP efforts to provide emergency food assistance for approximately 6 million food-insecure Yemenis. The new funding will also enable partners to provide emergency health and WASH assistance throughout the country, including activities to prevent the spread of cholera. In addition, more than \$6 million will support IOM's assistance to vulnerable migrants in Yemen, Djibouti, Ethiopia, and elsewhere in the region, including support for assisted voluntary returns to home countries.
- In mid-January, the World Bank announced a \$450 million contribution in support of UNICEF and WHO health and nutrition services, livelihood-generating opportunities, and basic services for vulnerable populations throughout Yemen. With the support, the UN agencies will aim to provide 2 million people with income-earning activities and reach 7 million conflict-affected Yemenis with health care and nutrition services.
- As of January 26, donors had contributed approximately \$987.8 million toward the 2016 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), approximately 60 percent of the more than \$1.6 billion request. The USG is the largest contributor, followed by the United Kingdom, KSA, Germany, and the European Commission. Additionally, the KSA and Government of the United Arab Emirates have provided more than \$682 million in humanitarian assistance for activities outside the HRP in 2016, OCHA reports.
- On January 9, the European Union announced a \$12.7 million contribution to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), enabling the UN agency to target more than 150,000 food-insecure Yemenis for immediate agricultural support. FAO plans to support income-generating agriculture activities; train farmers in irrigation techniques to mitigate risks associated with water scarcity and climate changes; and collect, analyze, and manage nutrition- and food security-related data to support early warning systems, among other activities.
- On January 3, the Government of the Republic of Ireland (GoRI) announced approximately \$2.1 million in additional funding for humanitarian response efforts in Yemen. Since 2016, the GoRI has provided nearly \$4.5 million to assist conflict-affected people in the country.

### 2016–2017 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of January 26, 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 FY 2016, 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 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 more than half of Yemen's 27.4 million people food-insecure and more than 7 million people in need of emergency food assistance. In addition, the conflict has displaced a total of 3.2 million people, including approximately 1 million people who had returned to areas of origin, as of November 2016. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- In early 2015, Yemen hosted approximately 248,000 refugees and a large population of third-country nationals (TCNs). The escalation in hostilities prompted IOM to organize large-scale TCN evacuations from Yemen.
- On October 26, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller re-issued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2017 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 2016–2017<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Jawj, Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$36,919,020
IOM	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahrah, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$7,500,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Hadramawt, Shabwah	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$15,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,200,000

UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Protection	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Bayda', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$1,000,080
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$6,730,621
WHO	Health, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$12,282,413
	Program Support		\$726,613
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$83,858,747</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Food Vouchers	Abyan, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Hajjah, Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$20,500,000
UNICEF	420 Metric Tons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food	Countrywide	\$1,793,900
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food, Food Vouchers, Local Purchase and Milling	19 Governorates	\$242,694,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$264,988,400</b>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
Implementing Partners	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
IOM	Evacuation and Humanitarian Assistance for Vulnerable Migrants	Regional, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Yemen	\$9,500,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$28,800,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan	\$10,750,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$55,050,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017</b>			<b>\$403,897,147</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of January 17, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of January 17, 2017.

<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>