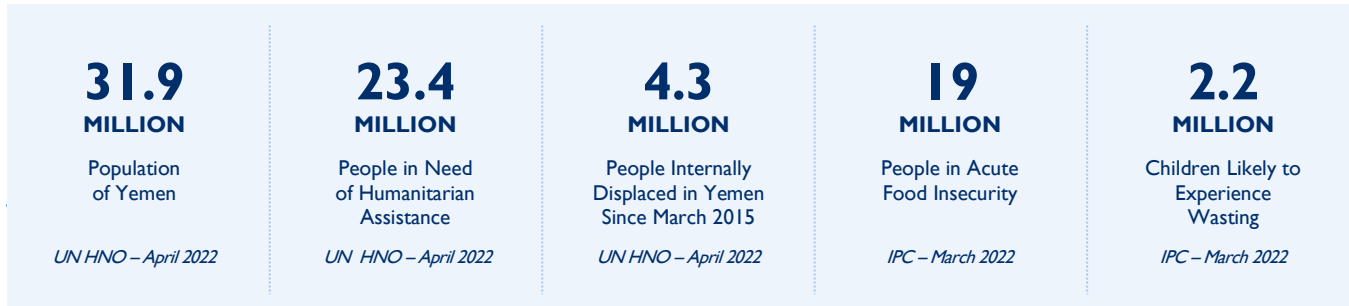


# Yemen – Complex Emergency

JULY 19, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- On July 16, President Biden announced \$1 billion in additional funding for the humanitarian response in the Middle East and North Africa region, including \$431 million to support humanitarian needs in Yemen.
- WFP plans to temporarily reduce food assistance rations for its estimated 13 million beneficiaries in Yemen due to funding shortfalls and rising food prices and operational costs. However, incoming USAID/BHA in-kind food commodities are expected to bolster rations until the end of the year.
- In late June, Al Houthi officials rejected a UN proposal to reopen roads in Yemen’s Ta’izz Governorate. Reopening the roads is crucial to civilian and humanitarian access.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Yemen Response in FY 2022	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$1,009,397,445
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$23,300,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,032,697,445</b>

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

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA).

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### President Biden Announces \$431 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Yemen

On July 16, U.S. President Joseph R. Biden announced \$1 billion in additional humanitarian funding for the Middle East and North Africa region, including more than \$431 million in humanitarian assistance in Yemen. The funding includes \$128 million to address deteriorating food security conditions in Yemen: this funding is part of an approximately \$2.8 billion pledge that President Biden made at the Group of Seven Leaders' Summit in Germany in late June to protect the world's most vulnerable populations amid the escalating food security crises related to the conflict in Ukraine. To date, USAID/BHA has provided more than \$1 billion in humanitarian assistance to support vulnerable populations in Yemen in FY 2022.

Recent global developments—including market disruptions linked to the conflict in Government of the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine—continue to affect food prices and accessibility in import-reliant countries including Yemen, relief actors report. In 2021, Yemen imported an estimated 46 percent of its wheat commodities from Ukraine and the Russian Federation, according to the USAID/BHA's partner the World Food Program (WFP). As of May 2022, food commodity prices were 40 percent higher in Al Houthi-held territory and 70 percent higher in Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG)-controlled areas compared with prices in May 2021. These price increases have also contributed to rising operating costs for relief actors including USAID/BHA partner WFP, which reported in May that its monthly operational costs had increased by an estimated \$25 to \$30 million per month in Yemen compared to 2021. Prices are anticipated to increase further during the June-to-September period, undermining relief efforts and reducing the ability of Yemeni families to afford food, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) projects. More than 19 million people in Yemen—approximately 60 percent of the country's population—are likely to experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity and will require emergency food assistance between June and December, IPC reports<sup>3</sup>. This figure includes more than 160,000 people who are projected to experienced Famine—IPC 5—levels of acute food insecurity, a projected increase of approximately 1230,000 since the January-to-May period.

### WFP Cuts Rations Due to Funding Shortfalls Amid Worsening Food Insecurity

As of June, WFP had received approximately one-quarter of the nearly \$2 billion required to fund the agency's operations in Yemen for 2022, the UN agency reports. As a result of continued funding shortfalls, WFP has temporarily reduced food assistance rations to its approximately 13 million beneficiaries in Yemen during the fourth food cycle distribution from June to August. The ration cuts will affect vulnerable populations across Yemen, including internally displaced persons (IDPs). Nearly 85 percent of IDPs assessed by the State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) from January to March reported that their families were unable to meet daily food needs, underscoring the acute humanitarian needs of IDP populations in Yemen. The proposed ration cuts follow previous ration reductions by the UN agency for beneficiaries in northern Yemen in late 2021. However, incoming USAID/BHA in-kind food commodities are expected to arrive for the fifth WFP food distribution cycle and increase ration sizes across the country until the end of the calendar year.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

## Al Houthi Officials Reject UN Proposal to Open Ta'izz Governorate Roads

The ongoing Al Houthi–Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led coalition truce, which began on April 2, has resulted in increased civilian safety across Yemen and allowed for increased humanitarian access and aid delivery in hard-to-reach areas, according to the UN. However, in late June, Al Houthi officials rejected a UN proposal for the phased reopening of main access roads in Ta'izz and other governorates according to international media. Despite RoYG officials agreeing to the UN plan, Al Houthi officials instead proposed an alternative plan opening underdeveloped minor roads instead of the main access roads in the governorate. The reopening of the road is vital to increased humanitarian access as Al Houthi forces have largely isolated Ta'izz from the rest of the country since 2015, affecting residents' access to movement and access to basic services. While the truce agreement only stipulates the parties must meet to discuss the reopening of roads in Ta'izz and other areas, and does not require parties to reach an agreement, the Al Houthis' continued delay in reopening Ta'izz roads remains a source of concern for UN officials, the UN reports. UN Special Envoy Hans Grundberg continues to negotiate the original proposal with Al Houthi officials.

## Migrants Depart Marib for Ethiopia on Humanitarian Voluntary Return Flight

A total of 126 Ethiopian migrants previously stranded in Marib Governorate returned to Ethiopia on June 9 on a voluntary humanitarian return flight facilitated by USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM), according to a statement from the UN agency. The flight was the first of several voluntary return flights organized by IOM to intended help approximately 900 Ethiopians depart Marib. An estimated 4,500 migrants were stranded in Marib Governorate as of early June, unable to cross front lines due to active conflict or in some cases held against their will by smugglers, according to IOM. Consequently, the governorate continues to host the largest number of displaced persons countrywide, with nearly 900,000 individuals—both international migrants and Yemeni nationals—displaced in the governorate as of April, according to IOM.

### KEY FIGURES



**\$790 Million**

In FY2022 USAID/BHA funding for emergency food assistance



**\$38.2 Million**

In dedicated USG support for life-saving health care programming

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA has provided more than \$790 million in FY 2022 funding to date to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) and 10 international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) in implementing food assistance activities 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 individuals to buy food in local markets. By providing food and other basic goods and services, partners are helping to reduce household expenses, thereby strengthening vulnerable households' purchasing power. USAID/BHA partners aim to provide emergency food assistance to nearly 13 million people in Yemen.

### HEALTH

The USG supports the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNHCR, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and 13 INGOs to conduct life-saving health care interventions. USG partners are providing primary health care services— in coordination with

nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programming—through health facilities and mobile medical teams serving hard-to-reach areas. USG partners also support community health volunteers to encourage individuals to seek health care services when needed, thereby promoting better health outcomes. In addition, USAID/BHA partners are providing medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to health facilities and incentive payments to health care workers to expand access to quality medical 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 May, UNHCR provided health services to more than 1,200 asylum seekers, refugees, and Yemeni nationals through UNHCR-support clinics. Additionally, UNHCR provided reproductive health services for nearly 200 women and physical therapy services for 90 individuals in May.



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USG partners supporting MPCA programming

### 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. Through MPCA USAID/BHA partners support vulnerable households to support the procurement of cooking gas, food, hygiene items, and other essential commodities. In addition, with State/PRM support, UNHCR is distributing MPCA to IDPs and refugees across Yemen to increase household purchasing power. UNHCR had assisted nearly 43,000 internally displaced families and more than 8,000 refugee families with MPCA in 2022 as of early April. The UN agency also provided emergency cash assistance to more than 30 individuals—most of whom were facing life-threatening medical conditions—in Al Hudaydah and Sa’dah governorates in May.



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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 11 INGOs, USAID/BHA is assisting community-based programs to reduce morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition, with a particular focus on children and pregnant and lactating girls and women. Additionally, USAID/BHA provides nutrition support for health clinics and mobile health teams, integrating health, nutrition, and WASH interventions to comprehensively assist vulnerable populations.



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USG partners supporting critical protection interventions

### PROTECTION

The USG is furthering critical protection interventions across Yemen through its support for IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, and six INGOs. USAID/BHA partners work to address child protection and psychosocial support (PSS) needs, as well as prevent and respond to gender-based violence and other 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 help individuals access identity documents and public assistance. Moreover, USG partner IOM continues to provide a comprehensive case management including support and referrals for individuals who are in need of protection, essential relief items, food, and legal aid for an estimated 40,000 migrants in Yemen.



**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. Additionally, State/PRM partners provide WASH interventions to meet the needs of conflict-affected individuals, as well as migrants and refugees.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Between mid-2004 and early 2015, conflict between the Republic of Yemen Government and Al Houthi opposition forces in northern Yemen generated widespread and repeated displacement, and exacerbated 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 23.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including approximately 12.9 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 the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). 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<sup>1,2</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			

Implementing Partners	Agriculture; Food Assistance—Cash Transfers; Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); MPCA; Logistics; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Al Mahrah, Al Mahwit, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra Island, Ta'izz	\$173,586,847
UNFAO	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNFPA	Health; Protection	Abyan, Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Al Hudaydah, Marib, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$7,000,000
IOM	HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$17,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Hadramawt, Al Hudaydah, Lahij, Al Mahrah, Marib, Shabwah, Socotra Island, Ta'izz	\$10,087,051
	HCIMA; Nutrition; WASH	Aden, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Al Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$11,777,910
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—592,500 MT of U.S. In-Kind		\$601,322,209
	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Food Vouchers, LRIP; Logistics; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$179,300,000
	Program Support		\$323,428
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$1,009,397,445</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
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
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$23,300,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$1,032,697,445</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 July 19, 2022.

<sup>2</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 [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 [usaaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)