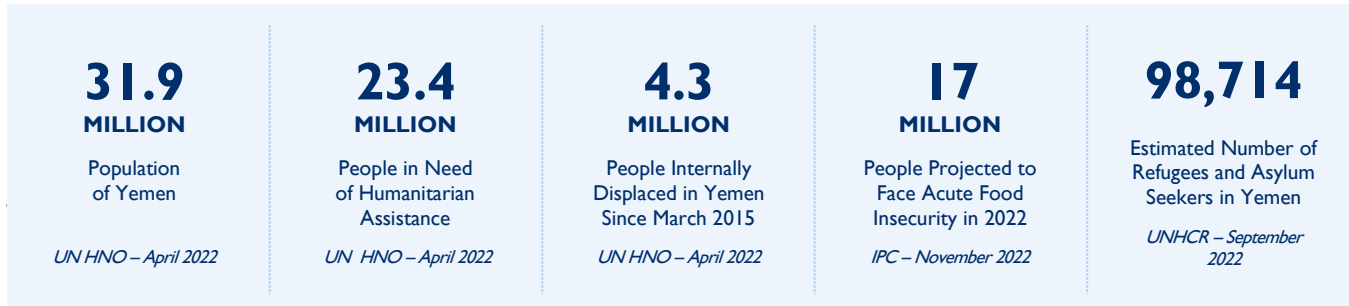


Yemen – Complex Emergency

DECEMBER 9, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Relief actors reported nearly 700 access incidents in Yemen between July and September, which delayed or interrupted the delivery of humanitarian assistance to more than 5.8 million people, according to the UN.
- Nearly 17 million people in Yemen—more than 53 percent of the population—will likely experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity between October and December 2022, according to an updated IPC analysis released in November.
- Through USAID/BHA, the USG will provide up to \$20 million in humanitarian assistance funding to support WFP in transporting grain donated by the Government of Ukraine to assist food-insecure people in Yemen.



<p>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Yemen Response in FY 2023</p>	USAID/BHA ¹	\$36,370,567
	Total	\$36,370,567

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

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA).

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Access Impediments, Including *Mahram* Requirements, Affect Assistance to 5.8 Million People in Yemen

Relief actors reported nearly 700 access incidents between July and September, which delayed or interrupted the delivery of humanitarian assistance to more than 5.8 million individuals in Yemen, according to the UN. This represents a 26 percent increase in access incidents compared to the number reported from April to June. Bureaucratic impediments accounted for more than 470 reported incidents—nearly 74 percent of total reported access impediments—from July to September. Notable bureaucratic constraints include delays or denials in travel permit authorizations, interference in humanitarian operations resulting in the cancellation of field travel, and restrictions on the movement of humanitarian personnel and commodities within Yemen.

In addition, increased restrictions related to the movement of non-governmental organization (NGO) staff and goods accounted for more than 300 of the reported July-to-September incidents, the majority of which were recorded in Al Houthi-controlled territory. This number represents a 6 percent increase compared with similar movement restrictions recorded from May to June. The UN attributes these incidents to increased *mahram* restrictions, in which Al Houthi authorities require female travelers to be accompanied by male guardians. During testimony to the House Foreign Affairs Committee on December 6, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) Assistant to the Administrator Sarah Charles noted that expanding *mahram* restrictions are impeding female humanitarian aid workers' ability to deliver assistance and vulnerable women's ability to access lifesaving services in al Houthi-controlled areas of Yemen. From April through September, al Houthi authorities continued to require *mahram* for female Yemeni aid workers traveling within and between governorates, as well as outside of al Houthi-controlled areas including to Aden and on international flights through the Sana'a International Airport, affecting life-saving humanitarian activities and resulting in the cancellation of field visits and aid deliveries, the UN reports. For example, from April to June, the Al Houthi authorities denied 30 relief actor movement requests due to an alleged lack of compliance with the *mahram* requirement, according to a UN access snapshot. In response, USAID/BHA is coordinating closely with other donors, the UN, and implementing partners to advocate for the full participation of women in receiving and delivering assistance.

Nearly 17 Million People to Face Acute Food Insecurity Through December

An updated IPC analysis released in November projects that nearly 17 million people in Yemen—more than 53 percent of the population—will likely experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity between October and December.² This figure represents an 11 percent improvement in the food security outlook compared with the February analysis, in which 19 million people were projected to face Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity between June and December. In addition, populations in 184 of Yemen's 333 districts, predominately on the west coast, are expected to experience Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity from October to December. Notably, the report projects that no populations will face Catastrophe—IPC 5—level of acute food insecurity for the first time in three years.³ The IPC Technical Working Group attributes these improved food security outcomes to diminished hostilities and increased fuel availability resulting from the April-to-October UN-brokered truce between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led coalition and Al Houthi officials, as

² 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.

³ A Famine—IPC 5—classification applies to a wider geographical location, while the term classification of Catastrophe—also IPC 5—refers to a household. A household in Catastrophe has an extreme lack of food at the household level even with full employment of coping strategies. Famine is determined when more than 20 percent of households in an area are experiencing Catastrophe, when global acute malnutrition levels exceed 30 percent, and when the crude mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 persons per day.

well as increased production of cash and food crops, improved water and pasture for animals following above-average rainfall, and greater-than-anticipated levels of humanitarian food assistance from October to December. However, the food insecurity situation overall remains dire: approximately 1.3 million pregnant and lactating women (PLW) will likely face acute malnutrition and approximately 2.2 million children ages five years and younger will likely face wasting—the deadliest form of acute malnutrition—throughout 2022.

USG to Contribute \$20 Million to Support Ukrainian Grain Donation

At the Group of 20 (G20) Summit held in Bali, Indonesia, on November 18, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced that the Government of Ukraine will donate exports of grain to the UN World Food Program (WFP) through the Black Sea Grain Initiative—a UN- and Government of Turkey-brokered deal to facilitate the safe export of Ukrainian agricultural goods from Black Sea ports—in order to assist people in countries facing the most severe food crises, including in Yemen. The U.S. Government (USG) announced its support of the associated costs of this donation through USAID/BHA and will contribute up to \$20 million to support WFP in milling and transporting the wheat. These shipments will provide critical assistance to food-insecure populations in Yemen. Approximately 55 percent of households surveyed in Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG)-held areas and an estimated 47 percent of households surveyed in Al Houthi-held areas could not access enough food to meet their minimum consumption needs in October, WFP reports.

KEY FIGURES



10 Million

People in Yemen reached with WFP food assistance in October



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USG partners supporting HCIMA programming

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports WFP and seven NGOs to implement food assistance activities in Yemen. USAID/BHA partners are providing emergency food assistance through in-kind food aid, including U.S.-sourced commodities, and cash and vouchers for individuals to buy food in local markets. USAID/BHA partner WFP reached more than 10 million individuals with food assistance across Yemen in October, including approximately 7 million people with in-kind food assistance, an estimated 2 million people with commodity vouchers, and more than 1 million people with cash-based transfers.

HCIMA

The USG supports the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and five NGO partners in providing humanitarian coordination, information management, and assessments (HCIMA) services to relief actors operating in Yemen. HCIMA help humanitarian organizations understand the needs of affected populations and prioritize response activities. In October, a USAID/BHA NGO partner provided information management support—including data collection, analysis, and visualization—to OCHA. The USAID/BHA partner also developed maps displaying the number and geographic distribution of people in need—including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable people—for the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework, a tool used to analyze the needs of populations in crisis and inform humanitarian response plans.



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USG partners supporting health programming

HEALTH

The USG supports IOM, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and 13 NGOs to conduct life-saving health care interventions. USG partners provide primary health care services—in coordination with nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programming—through static health facilities and mobile medical teams serving hard-to-reach areas. USG partners also support community health volunteers to provide health services at the community level, thereby promoting better health outcomes. In addition, USAID/BHA partners are providing medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to health facilities to expand access to quality medical services. During October, a USAID/BHA NGO partner reached nearly 20,000 individuals with medical treatment at health facilities in Ad Dali’, Ibb, and Sana’a governorates.



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USG partners supporting nutrition programming

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners to identify, prevent, and treat wasting across Yemen. Through its support for UNICEF, WFP, and eleven NGOs, USAID/BHA is helping reduce morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition, particularly among children and PLW. USAID/BHA also provides nutrition support for health clinics and mobile health teams, integrating health, nutrition, and WASH interventions to comprehensively assist vulnerable populations. During October, a USAID/BHA NGO partner screened more than 3,200 children ages five years and younger and nearly 2,000 PLW for malnutrition and admitted approximately 530 children ages five years and younger and an estimated 200 PLW for targeted supplementary feeding programs and outpatient therapeutic programs in Ad Dali’, Ibb, and Sana’a governorates.



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USG partners supporting critical protection interventions

PROTECTION

The USG is responding to critical protection needs across Yemen through support for IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, and six NGOs. Through community mobilization activities, protection risk mitigation efforts, and specialized case management services, USAID/BHA partners address child protection and psychosocial support needs, prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV), and respond to other protection risks and violations. In October, a USAID/BHA NGO partner reached more than 6,000 individuals with protection awareness raising sessions, more than 400 parents and caregivers in positive parenting sessions, and more than 400 children with case management.



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USG partners supporting WASH interventions

WASH

The USG supports IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and 16 NGOs to expand access to safe drinking water, as well as prevent and respond to communicable disease outbreaks in Yemen. USAID/BHA partners conduct critical WASH interventions, including distributing hygiene kits, promoting hygiene awareness raising activities, providing water trucking services, and

rehabilitating water systems damaged by conflict, for IDPs and other vulnerable populations across the country. In October, a USAID/BHA NGO partner delivered approximately 38,000 gallons of safe drinking water through water trucking to five health facilities in Ibb and Sana'a.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Between mid-2004 and early 2015, conflict between the RoYG 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 September 26, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Steven Fagin redeclared a disaster for Yemen for FY 2023 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 2023¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$20,000,000
	Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$16,370,567
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$36,370,567
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2023			\$36,370,567

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of December 8, 2022.

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)