



# **Yemen –** Complex Emergency

**NOVEMBER 12, 2021** 

# SITUATION AT A GLANCE

30.5

Population of Yemen

UN - February 2021

**20.7** MILLION

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

UN - February 2021

4 MILLION

> IDPs in Yemen

UN - February 2021

16.2

Projected Acutely Food-Insecure Population

IPC<sup>1</sup> – December 2020

2.3

Children Projected to Face Wasting from January to December 2021

IPC - February 2021

- Clashes in and around Marib Governorate continue to result in civilian casualties, drive displacement, and generate humanitarian needs.
- ERW continue to harm civilians, particularly children, despite mine education and clearance efforts.
- As of early November, health authorities had fully vaccinated approximately 215,000 people in Yemen against COVID-19.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Yemen Response in FY 2021	USAID/BHA <sup>2</sup> State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$710,705,848 \$95,200,000
For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5	Total	\$805,905,848

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM).

## **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

## Clashes in and Around Marib Result in Civilian Casualties, Displacement

Heightened hostilities between Al Houthi and Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) forces in and around Marib Governorate—including in neighboring Al Bayda' and Shabwah governorates—since early September continue to result in civilian casualties, generate displacement, and restrict the movement of civilians and humanitarian actors. Armed violence resulted in 126 casualties in Marib Governorate's Al Abdiyah District, Al Jubah District, and Marib city in October alone, according to the Protection Cluster-led Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP). The figure includes missile attacks in Al Jubah on October 28 and 31 that resulted in at least 41 civilian casualties, international media report. Additionally, clashes in and around Marib continue to drive displacement, with an estimated 35,000 people displaced within and around Marib between October 1 and November 3, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

International non-governmental organizations (INGOs) providing humanitarian assistance in Yemen continue to express concern over deteriorating conditions in and around Marib. More than 10 INGOs called on parties to the conflict to ensure humanitarian access and protect civilians, including humanitarian and health workers, in Marib in a November 3 joint statement. Relief actors are conducting missions to areas of Al Bayda', Marib, and Shabwah to assess the humanitarian needs of communities affected by recent fighting and evaluate humanitarian access. Ongoing fighting and insecurity, as well as inadequate road infrastructure, the presence of landmines, and poor telecommunication network coverage hinder the delivery of humanitarian assistance to some areas. Despite the constraints, IOM continues to provide assistance to recently displaced individuals in Marib with USAID/BHA and other donor support, delivering Rapid Response Mechanism kits and multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to 940 households, hygiene and shelter items to nearly 450 households, and emergency health care to more than 1,200 new internally displaced person (IDP) arrivals in recent weeks.

# Aden Airport Bombing Results in Deaths of 12 Civilians, Dozens of Injuries

An unknown actor detonated a car bomb near the entrance of Aden International Airport on October 30, resulting in the deaths of at least 12 civilians and injuring dozens of other individuals, international media report. While the attack caused some structural damage to the airport, it did not disrupt airport operations. The heads of mission for the UN Security Council's five permanent members condemned the attack and voiced continued support for the implementation of the Riyadh Agreement and RoYG efforts to restore security. The October 30 bombing follows an October 10 car bomb attack in Aden city that resulted in six deaths, including three civilian deaths. Relief actors continue to express concern regarding volatile security conditions in Yemen's southern governorates.

#### ERW Continue to Result in Casualties Across Yemen

Explosive remnants of war (ERW), including improvised explosive devices, landmines, and unexploded ordnance, continue to result in civilian casualties across Yemen. Despite efforts to clear landmines and provide communities with explosive ordnance risk education, children remain particularly vulnerable to ERW, especially in areas that have not benefited from mine clearance and education. ERW were responsible for approximately 60 percent of the more than 40 child casualties reported between July and September, CIMP reports. Humanitarian actors continue to call on parties to the conflict to protect civilians by refraining from using explosive weapons and landmines in densely populated areas.

# COVID-19 Vaccination Campaigns Continue in North and South

As of early November, health authorities had fully vaccinated approximately 215,000 people in Yemen—representing less than I percent of the country's population—against the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) since Yemen's first COVID-19 vaccination campaign in April 2021, with nearly 332,000 people receiving at least one vaccine dose, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). Nearly all COVID-19 vaccinations have occurred in RoYG-held areas of southern Yemen, according to the UN. In Al Houthi-held areas of northern Yemen, only an estimated 140 people—all health care workers—had been fully vaccinated, with approximately 3,100 health care workers in northern Yemen partially vaccinated, as of late October. WHO reported nearly 9,900 cumulative cases of COVID-19 in Yemen as of early November; however, rates are likely significantly higher due to a lack of testing capacity.

#### **KEY FIGURES**

# **U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**



Amount of USG
Title II in-kind food
assistance provided to
Yemen in FY 2021



USAID/BHA provided more than \$500 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) in FY 2021 and supports 10 INGOs 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 to increase access to food within vulnerable communities. USAID/BHA partners in Yemen provide emergency food assistance to more than 11.5 million people per month.



Dedicated FY 2021 USG support for life-saving health programming

#### **HEALTH**

The U.S. Government (USG) supports IOM, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and I I INGOs to conduct life-saving health care interventions amid Yemen's ongoing conflict and concurrent cholera and COVID-19 outbreaks. USG partners are providing primary health care services, often 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 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 to health facilities to bolster health care service availability, while State/PRM is supporting IOM and UNHCR to address the specific health care needs of IDPs, migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Yemen.



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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. 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. As of November, State/PRM partner UNHCR had distributed approximately \$60 million in MPCA in Yemen in 2021, benefitting more than I million IDPs and 8,000 refugees in need. USAID/BHA partners are providing MPCA to enable vulnerable households to procure cooking gas, food, hygiene items, and other essential commodities.



USG partners supporting nutrition programming

## **NUTRITION**

USAID/BHA supports partners to 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. 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.



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USG partners supporting critical protection interventions

#### **PROTECTION**

Through support to IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, and seven 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 vulnerable populations countrywide, including through MHPSS activities and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation and public assistance. Moreover, 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.



Dedicated FY 2021 USG support for WASH programming

#### **WASH**

The USG supports IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and 14 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 distributing hygiene kits, promoting hygiene activities, rehabilitating water systems damaged by conflict, and providing 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 northern Yemen affected more than I 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 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia-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 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); Logistics Support; MPCA; 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, Marib, Al Mahwit, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$119,607,180		
IOM	HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Aden, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$18,000,000		
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000		
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Al Hudaydah, Marib, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$5,000,000		
UNICEF	1,390 MT of U.S. In-Kind Nutrition Aid	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Hadramawt, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahrah, Lahij, Marib, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$4,890,730		
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$8,801,104		

WFP	Food Assistance–586,780 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$484,395,840		
	Food Assistance–Vouchers; Nutrition; Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$68,543,045		
	Program Support		\$467,949		
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$710,705,848		
STATE/PRM					
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$39,600,000		
UNHCR	ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$55,600,000		
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$95,200,000		
TOTAL USG HUMANIT	\$805,905,848				

<sup>&</sup>lt;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 September 22, 2021. 
<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.
- 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:
  - o USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.org
  - o Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work