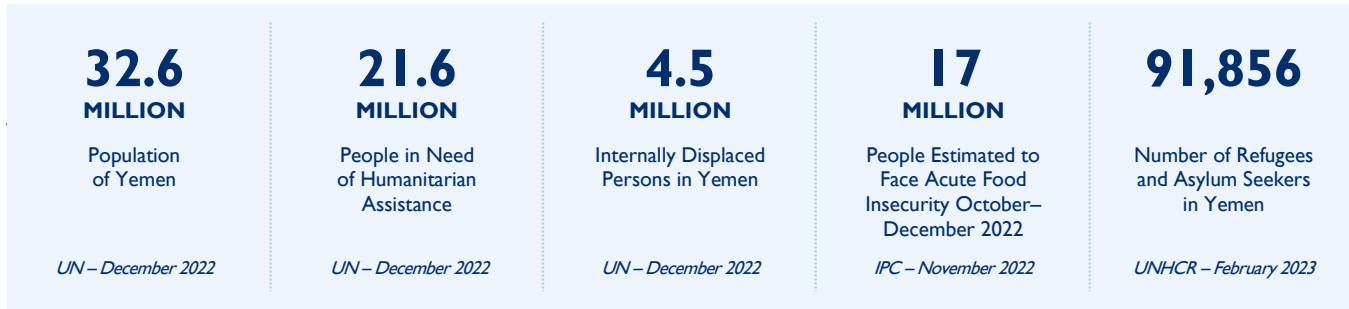


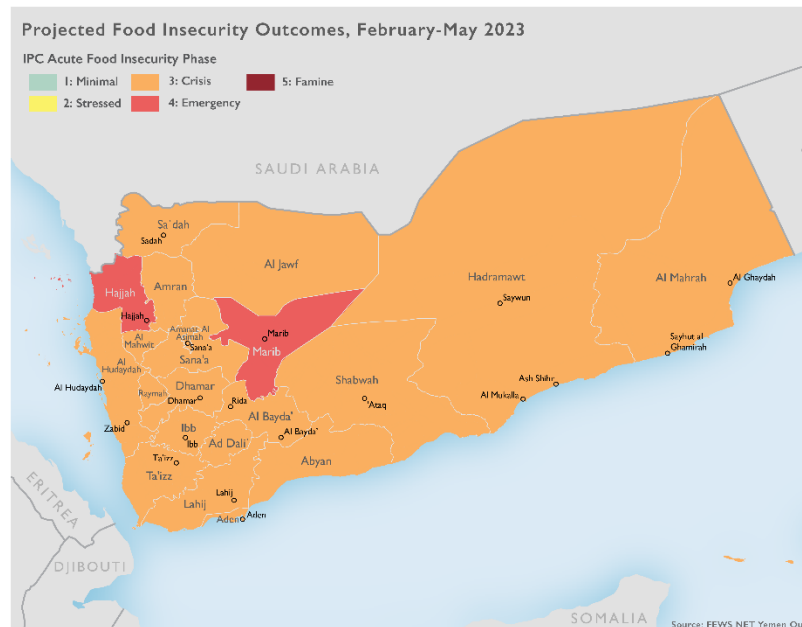
Yemen – Complex Emergency

MARCH 24, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Rising prices and the RoYG’s decision to raise the customs exchange rate will likely exacerbate food insecurity for millions of people in southern Yemen, FEWS NET reports.
- More than 73,000 migrants reached Yemen in 2022, facing elevated protection threats and limited access to services and humanitarian assistance upon arrival, according to relief actors.
- The 60-day renewal of the Black Sea Grain Initiative on March 18 enables the continuation of grain shipments from Ukrainian ports to countries experiencing acute food insecurity, including Yemen.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Yemen Response in FY 2023

USAID/BHA¹ \$528,353,103

State/PRM² \$3,700,000

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

Total \$532,053,103

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Food Insecurity Persists as Food Prices Rise in Southern Yemen

Millions of people will likely face increased food insecurity in Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG)-controlled southern Yemen following the RoYG's January 10 announcement of plans to raise the exchange rate for customs duties by 50 percent, which resulted in a rise in food prices, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports. The exchange rate is a key determinant of food prices in Yemen, and therefore a primary driver of acute food insecurity, due to the country's high dependence on imports, which accounted for 97 percent of the domestic cereal supply as of February 2022, according to the International Food Policy Research Institute. The RoYG's plans to raise the exchange rate were largely in response to the loss of revenue from oil exports, which it had suspended due to the threat of drone strikes by Al Houthi forces against RoYG-held oil infrastructure as of late 2022, according to FEWS NET.

Although the new exchange rate for customs duties was not yet in effect as of late February, food prices reportedly rose in RoYG-controlled areas—including an increase of more than 10 percent in Aden Governorate's Aden city—in the days following the announcement, FEWS NET reports. Food security monitors expect the new exchange rate to lead to not only a rise in food commodity prices in RoYG-held areas, but also increased non-food commodity prices across the entire country, as many non-food imports enter Yemen through southern ports. Approximately 53 percent of households were unable to meet their minimum food needs in southern Yemen during January, while the average cost of the minimum food basket of beans, flour, salt, sugar, and vegetable oil that month increased by nearly 20 percent compared with January 2022, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). To address acute food insecurity, USAID/BHA continues to support WFP to deliver regular food assistance to people in need across the country, reaching an estimated 10.6 million individuals with cash-based or in-kind assistance in January alone.

More Than 73,000 Migrants Arrived in Yemen in 2022, Facing Protection Threats and Limited Access to Essential Services

More than 73,000 migrants—the majority originating from the Horn of Africa—arrived in Yemen in 2022, marking a 164 percent increase from the number of migrants that arrived during 2021, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports. An estimated 84 percent of migrants reported economic reasons for migration, while the remaining 16 percent reported conflict-related reasons. Yemen has continued to see elevated levels of economic- and conflict-motivated migration in 2023 compared with previous years, with more than 21,400 Ethiopian and Somali migrants entering the country in January and February.

Migrants in Yemen often experience elevated protection threats and limited to no access to food, health care, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, according to the 2023 Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), which projects that at least 209,000 migrants will require humanitarian assistance during the year. Nearly all migrants arrive in Yemen's southern ports before passing through front lines to reach the country's northern border with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), their intended destination. The journey exposes them to abuse and exploitation by smugglers and traffickers who control the primary migration routes and have reportedly prevented migrants from receiving humanitarian assistance. The route also increases their exposure to armed conflict-related incidents and sexual violence, according to the Assessment Capacities Project. These challenges prompt many migrants in Yemen to return to the Horn of Africa, often facing the same protection risks on the outbound journey, IOM reports. As part of its voluntary humanitarian return program, State/PRM

partner IOM assisted nearly 1,100 vulnerable migrants to return home between January and March. The program expanded to Marib Governorate's Marib city during the last year and now departs flights from Aden, Marib, and Sana'a cities in an effort to access and assist additional populations of stranded migrants.

Extension of Black Sea Grain Initiative Enables Continued Grain Exports to Yemen

On March 18, the UN announced a renewal of the Black Sea Grain Initiative to continue grain exports from Ukrainian Black Sea ports to countries experiencing acute food insecurity, including Yemen. The Government of Türkiye and the UN originally brokered the agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) and the Government of Ukraine in July 2022, with both parties extending the agreement for 120 days on November 17. As a result, WFP procured two shipments of Ukrainian wheat for Yemen with USAID/BHA funding, each of which supported 2.1 million people, in August and October 2022. In February, the Cash Consortium of Yemen projected that a suspension or failure of the agreement would lead to a severe deterioration of the already concerning food security situation in Yemen. While parties to the agreement had sought a 120-day extension, the GoRF announced it would reevaluate its participation after 60 days on May 18.

KEY FIGURES



10.6 Million

People in Yemen reached with WFP food assistance in January



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USG partners supporting health programming



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USG partners supporting MPCA programming

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports WFP and seven non-governmental organizations (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.

HEALTH

The U.S. Government (USG) supports IOM, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and 13 NGOs to conduct life-saving health care interventions. USG partners provide primary health care services—in coordination with nutrition and WASH programming—through static health facilities and mobile medical teams serving hard-to-reach areas throughout Yemen. USG partners also support local health volunteers to provide health services at the community level, thereby promoting better health outcomes. In addition, USAID/BHA partners provide medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to health facilities to expand access to quality medical services. With USAID/BHA support, an international NGO (INGO) reached nearly 26,000 new patients in four governorates with health consultations and treatments during January.

MPCA

The USG supports IOM and four NGOs to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to conflict-affected households in Yemen to meet their basic needs and reduce the use of negative coping strategies, while also

supporting local markets. By providing MPCA, USAID/BHA partners enable vulnerable households to procure cooking gas, food, hygiene items, and other essential commodities. A USAID/BHA partner provided MPCA to more than 2,200 households—an estimated 15,400 individuals—in six governorates in January.



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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. Through support for UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and 11 NGOs, USAID/BHA helps reduce morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition, particularly among children and pregnant and lactating women. USAID/BHA also provides nutrition support for health clinics and mobile health teams by integrating health, nutrition, and WASH interventions to comprehensively assist vulnerable populations. In January, an INGO partner screened nearly 2,000 individuals for malnutrition, trained more than 1,100 adults on infant and young child feeding practices, and distributed nutrition supplements for nearly 560 children ages five years and younger.



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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, 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, and respond to other protection risks and violations. In January, a USAID/BHA INGO partner provided collective psychosocial support activities for children and child protection-related awareness sessions for caregivers and community members through child-friendly spaces serving nearly 1,600 internally displaced and host-community children in Ta’izz Governorate.



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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 and 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 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable populations across the country. In February, a USAID/BHA INGO partner delivered safe drinking water to nearly 6,800 people a day across 20 IDP sites in Ad Dali’ Governorate.

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.
- The conflict—along with an economic crisis, high levels of unemployment, protracted instability, and rising food and fuel prices—has left approximately 21.6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including approximately 13.4 million people in acute need, according to the 2023 HNO. Moreover, approximately 4.5 million people remain internally displaced in the country since 2015, while an additional 1.3 million IDPs have returned to their areas of origin. 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 H. 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/BHA²			
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$600,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNICEF	HCIMA, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$18,162,600
WFP	Food Assistance—Local, Regional, and International Procurement, Cash Transfers for Food; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$64,170,567
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$360,493,299
Implementing Partners	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Marib, Al Mahrah, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra Island, Ta'izz	\$81,791,414
	Program Support		\$135,223
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$528,353,103
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$3,700,000

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of March 24, 2023.

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.
- 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
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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)