

YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

JANUARY 15, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

26 million

Estimated Population of Yemen

OCHA – November 2015

21.2 million

People in Need of Urgent Humanitarian Assistance

OCHA – November 2015

19.3 million

People in Need of WASH Services

OCHA – November 2015

14.1 million

People in Need of Basic Health Care

OCHA – November 2015

6 million

People in Need of Emergency Food Assistance

FEWS NET – November 2015

2.5 million

IDPs in Yemen

UNHCR, IOM – December 2015

11.7 million

People Targeted with Humanitarian Assistance in 2015

OCHA – November 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- Airstrikes and clashes intensify following end of ceasefire; civilians increasingly affected
- Next round of peace talks postponed, UN anticipates negotiations to resume in late January
- Commercial food imports continue to increase, although food remains scarce and expensive in acutely conflict-affected governorates

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$62,029,644
USAID/FFP ²	\$71,486,457
State/PRM ³	\$45,300,000
\$178,816,101	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On January 2, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia(KSA)-led Coalition announced an end to the ceasefire that accompanied mid-December peace talks. Media reports indicate that hostilities, including airstrikes, continued across parts of the country during the ceasefire. Responding to allegations regarding the use of cluster bombs in residential areas, UN Secretary-General (SYG) Ban Ki-moon urged all parties to refrain from targeting civilians and to abide by international humanitarian law.
- The UN has postponed the next round of peace talks between the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG), Al Houthi representatives, and other stakeholders due to disagreements regarding the start date. Participants had not agreed on a new date as of January 15, although the UN anticipates that negotiations could resume by late January.
- Food availability improved in December 2015 due to an increase in commercial activity, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). Despite the improvement, severe food insecurity persists throughout the country, and individuals in acutely conflict-affected areas—including Al Bayda', Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates—continue to experience food scarcity and above-average food and commodity prices.
- Response organizations report that humanitarian conditions continue to deteriorate in Ta'izz city due to intense clashes that have damaged critical infrastructure, disrupted market activity, and largely precluded relief actors from assisting approximately 200,000 residents. While some humanitarian organizations—including USG partners—have reached conflict-affected people in the city, access constraints and insecurity have significantly limited humanitarian operations.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY, POPULATION DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- International media report that the KSA-led Coalition intensified airstrikes in several governorates following the end of the ceasefire on January 2. On January 10, a projectile damaged a Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)-supported hospital in Razeh District, Sa'dah, resulting in at least five deaths and injuries to 10 individuals. According to the organization, the incident is the third to affect an MSF-supported health facility in Yemen in recent months—Coalition airstrikes damaged MSF facilities in Sa'dah and Ta'izz governorates in October and December 2015, respectively.
- International media reported particularly heavy airstrikes in Yemen's capital city of Sana'a on January 7. The non-governmental organization (NGO) Human Rights Watch has alleged that the Coalition used cluster bombs—a claim the Coalition denies—in residential areas of the city, resulting in civilian casualties. Humanitarian organizations also allege that the Coalition recently used cluster bombs in Hajjah and Sa'dah governorates. In a January 9 statement, SYG Ban expressed concern regarding the ramifications of recently intensified airstrikes and ground fighting. SYG Ban condemned airstrikes, which have increasingly affected residential areas and civilian buildings, and urged all parties to respect international humanitarian law.
- In December 2015, airstrikes and clashes resulted in at least 80 civilian deaths and injuries to nearly 110 individuals, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Of the 80 civilians killed in December, OHCHR attributed as many as 62 deaths to airstrikes—more than twice the number of civilians killed by airstrikes in November. The December casualty toll brings the number of civilian casualties between March 26 and December 31 to more than 8,100 people, including nearly 2,800 deaths and more than 5,300 wounded individuals, according to the UN.
- Conflict-related violence has resulted in the deaths of at least 747 children since March 2015, according to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Furthermore, more than 1 million of the country's 2.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are children, and 1.3 million children under five years of age are at risk of acute malnutrition and respiratory infections. While UNICEF is providing humanitarian assistance to children throughout Yemen, the UN agency notes that insecurity and access limitations continue to constrain humanitarian operations.
- Humanitarian conditions in Ta'izz continued to deteriorate in December amid ongoing conflict and market disruptions, according to humanitarian actors. Shortages of essential items—including food, fuel, and medical supplies—are particularly acute in besieged areas of Ta'izz city, where airstrikes, clashes, and movement restrictions have severely limited commercial and humanitarian access to approximately 200,000 individuals. As a result, most commodity prices remain elevated throughout the governorate; WFP reports that food and fuel prices in Ta'izz are significantly higher than the national average. The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) projects that conflict-related market disruptions could generate higher food prices and further erode livelihoods opportunities, resulting in more households experiencing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity.⁴ Health conditions in Ta'izz have also deteriorated, as damaged infrastructure and a lack of medical supplies have forced the Al-Rawdha Hospital—one of the area's largest operational hospitals—to turn patients away.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- As of late December 2015, populations in most Yemeni governorates were experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—or Emergency levels of food insecurity, according to FEWS NET. While humanitarian organizations are providing life-saving assistance, the scale of humanitarian needs remain beyond the current response capacity in Yemen.
- A recent WFP remote Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping survey—which assesses food consumption and food-based coping strategies—indicates non-displaced households consumed more staple foods in December compared to November and exhibited fewer negative coping strategies. Despite the improvement, WFP cautions that recent increases in food consumption, which remain below normal food requirements, may be the temporary result of the October–January harvest season. Food security continues to deteriorate among IDP households, and families in

⁴ 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.

acutely conflict-affected governorates—including Al Bayda', Al Dali', Al Jawf, and Ta'izz—continue to consume less food than the national average.

- From September to October, commercial food imports to Yemen increased by 25 percent and had neared pre-crisis levels by November, according to FEWS NET. WFP reports that food availability continued to increase in several areas during the second half of December; however, food and basic commodity scarcity persists in many areas, especially those affected by intensifying conflict such as Al Bayda', Al Jawf, Marib, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz governorates. Despite a 24 percent decrease in the price of wheat flour from November to December, the national average price remains 14 percent above pre-crisis levels, and 81 percent higher than pre-crisis levels in Ta'izz.
- USAID/FFP partner WFP continues to support populations in Yemen, including those in Ta'izz city. In late-November and December, WFP dispatched approximately 6,600 metric tons of food assistance to feed nearly 350,000 people in four districts of the city, al Mudhafar, al Qahira, al Taiziah and Salh.
- Between December 16 and 29, USAID/OFDA partner UNICEF screened more than 14,000 children for acute malnutrition in Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates and provided nutrition interventions for more than 2,200 severely malnourished children across 15 governorates. Additionally, UNICEF established more than 40 nutrition therapy centers in Al Hudaydah and Hajjah governorates and trained nearly 80 health care workers across Ta'izz and Ibb governorates in community malnutrition management and infant feeding techniques.

HEALTH AND WASH

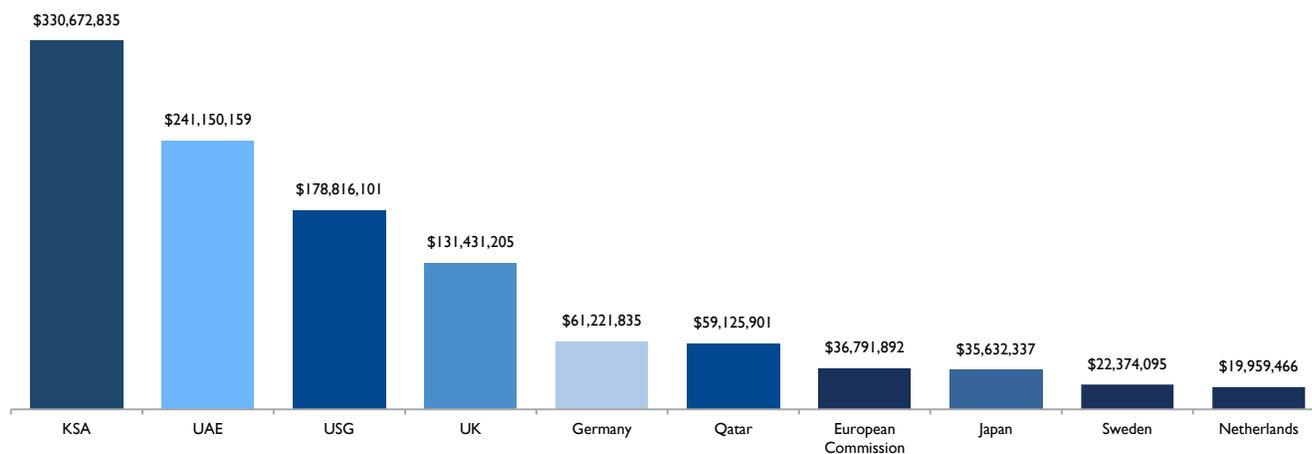
- While insecurity and access constraints continue to limit humanitarian activities in Ta'izz city, a USAID/OFDA partner provided health care services—including basic consultations, nutrition interventions, and vaccinations—to nearly 5,000 previously inaccessible conflict-affected individuals across three districts in late December. The NGO also provided health education and counseling sessions for more than 900 caregivers in Salh district and conducted a multi-sector needs assessment that will inform future relief activities in the area. Additionally, the USAID/OFDA partner recently delivered more than 95,000 liters of water to two hospitals in Ta'izz, supporting the facilities' water needs.
- UNICEF continues to support the operations of local water corporations serving nearly 2 million individuals in Al Bayda', Al Hudaydah, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz governorates. Additionally, between December 16 and 29, UNICEF provided safe drinking water to approximately 148,000 individuals in Sa'dah via rural water projects and conducted water trucking for IDPs and host communities in Abyan, Amanat Al Asi-mah, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz. In Ta'izz city, UNICEF provided the Ta'izz Local Water Corporation with 60,000 liters of diesel, sufficient to pump safe drinking water for at least 124,000 people.
- Between December 10 and January 6, a USAID/OFDA partner distributed approximately 66,000 liters of water each day to hospitals in Abyan, Ad Dali', and Shabwah governorates. The organization also provided health care services to IDPs in Aden, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, and Sa'dah via mobile clinics, as well as to IDPs hosted at sites in Aden and Sana'a.
- In Sana'a Governorate, a USAID/OFDA partner distributed medical supplies to support approximately 1,000 individuals for three months—including reproductive health kits and blood transfusion equipment—to health care facilities between December 15 and 31. During the same period, the NGO also conducted health consultations and provided nutrition interventions to more than 2,400 individuals and delivered essential medicine, equipment, and other supplies to nearly 40 hospitals in Aden and Lahij governorates. Additionally, the partner supported a five-day tetanus immunization campaign that reached approximately 17,500 people.
- From December 16–30, a USAID/OFDA partner conducted water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) campaigns—comprising community sanitation education sessions, hygiene kit distributions, water infrastructure rehabilitation, and waste collection—in Aden, Hadramawt, Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates, benefiting approximately 240,000 conflict-affected individuals.
- International media report that the mosquito-borne dengue fever outbreak continues to spread in the cyclone-affected port city of Al Mukala, Hadramawt. In November 2015, Tropical Cyclone Chapala caused substantial damage to homes, roads, and sewer systems in the city, exacerbating the outbreak by generating large areas of standing water and sewage, according to the RoYG Ministry of Health (MoH). The MoH in Hadramawt has documented more than 1,000

suspected and 280 confirmed cases of dengue fever since November, with at least seven deaths attributed to the virus. Humanitarian access to Al Mukala is limited as the city is under the control of forces linked to Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula; however, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) is monitoring suspected dengue fever cases.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On December 30, the Emirates Red Crescent (ERC) announced it had delivered 50 water pumps to Aden to improve access to safe drinking water in the governorate. In a press release, Aden city officials stated that the water pumps will restore 95 percent of capacity lost due to conflict-related infrastructure damage. ERC reports that it plans to conduct similar projects to rehabilitate water infrastructure and restore capacity throughout Yemen.
- During the week of January 4, ERC inaugurated a dam project intended to improve agricultural, cooking, and safe drinking water availability for households in Rasd District, Abyan. In December 2015, ERC provided residents with cash-for-work transfers to construct 50 dams that will collect and store rainwater. Previously, residents relied on wells for water; however, the wells were insufficient to meet requirements during the winter dry season, frequently displacing some households to neighboring areas, according to ERC.
- The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center reports that the KSA-led Coalition recently airdropped 40 metric tons (MT) of humanitarian aid—including medical supplies and food rations—to acutely conflict-affected areas of Ta'izz.

2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of January 14, 2016. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the USG commitments based on FY 2015, which began on October 1, 2014, and concluded September 30, 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 military 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, the 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 nearly half of Yemen's 26 million people food-insecure and 6 million people in need of emergency food assistance.
- In early 2015, Yemen hosted approximately 248,000 refugees and a substantial population of third-country nationals (TCNs). The escalation in hostilities has internally displaced an estimated 2.5 million people in Yemen and prompted the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to organize large-scale TCN evacuations from Yemen. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- On October 12, 2015, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller reissued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2016 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 PROVIDED IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²		
Implementing partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Nutrition, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amran, Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Hajjah, Ibb, Raymah, Sana'a, Sa'dah, Tai'izz governorates
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide
IOM	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah governorates
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide
UNICEF	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide
WHO	Health	Countrywide
	Program Support	
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING		\$62,029,644

USAID/FFP ³			
Implementing Partners	Food Vouchers, Health, Nutrition	Dhamar, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, Sana'a, Ta'izz governorates	\$14,814,528
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods	10 governorates	\$1,661,579
WFP	59,940 MT of Title II In-Kind Emergency Food Assistance	19 governorates	\$55,010,350
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$71,486,457
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2015			\$133,516,101

STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Food Assistance , Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$10,800,000
IOM	Health and Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Djibouti, Somalia	\$6,000,000
UNHCR	Health, Protection, Shelter, WASH	Countrywide	\$22,400,000
		Djibouti, Somalia	\$6,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$45,300,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2015			\$178,816,101

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USG funding totals represent committed amounts as of September 30, 2015.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

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.
- 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 or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>