



# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #6, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

FEBRUARY 17, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**27.4 million**

Population of Yemen  
UN – November 2016

**18.8 million**

People in Need of  
Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – November 2016

**14.8 million**

People Lacking Access to Basic  
Health Care  
UN – November 2016

**14.5 million**

People in Need of WASH Services  
UN – November 2016

**7+ million**

People in Need of Emergency Food  
Assistance  
FEWS NET – November 2016

**2 million**

IDPs in Yemen  
IOM – January 2017

**5.6 million**

People Reached with Humanitarian  
Assistance in 2016  
UN – December 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Fighting escalates along Yemen’s Red Sea coast, displacing more than 34,000 people from Dhubab and Mocha
- Food security conditions deteriorate as food and fuel prices increase
- UN releases 2017 HRP, requesting \$2.1 billion to reach 12 million people with humanitarian assistance

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$107,588,220
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$264,988,400
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$55,050,000
<b>\$427,626,620</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Military operations by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led Coalition and Royal Government of Yemen (RoYG) forces had displaced more than 34,000 people from Ta’izz Governorate’s Dhubab and Mocha districts as of February 10, the UN reports. An estimated 13,000 people remained trapped in Dhubab and Mocha due to ongoing clashes. As access allows, relief organizations—including USG partners—are responding to the humanitarian needs of displaced populations, the majority of whom have fled to adjacent districts in Ta’izz and southern areas of Al Hudaydah Governorate.
- On February 6, the UN released preliminary findings of its Yemen Emergency Food Security and Nutritional Assessment (EFSNA)—a countrywide assessment conducted in November 2016 by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the UN World Food Program (WFP). According to the assessment, 65 percent of Yemen’s population is food-insecure, compared to 41 percent pre-crisis, and 11 of Yemen’s governorates exceed UN World Health Organization (WHO) thresholds for critical or serious malnutrition.
- On February 8, the UN launched the 2017 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), which requests approximately \$2.1 billion to reach an estimated 12 million conflict-affected people with life-saving assistance in 2017.

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

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

## **INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- A recent escalation in fighting along Yemen’s western coast had displaced more than 34,000 people from Dhubab and Mocha as of February 10, according to the UN. Of the newly displaced population, approximately 28,000 people fled to other districts of Ta’izz and an estimated 2,600 people fled to Al Hudaydah, with additional populations fleeing east to other governorates, including Ibb and Lahj.
  - Amid ongoing clashes, approximately 7,000 people remained trapped in the town of Mocha, while an estimated 6,000 people remained in the town of Dhubab as of early February. Populations remaining in Dhubab and Mocha lack access to basic services, including health care and safe drinking water, and require urgent humanitarian assistance. Ongoing clashes continue to limit humanitarian access to Dhubab and Mocha, preventing relief agencies from reaching affected populations with emergency assistance.
  - Where possible, USAID/FFP partner WFP is providing emergency food assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Mocha in two nearby districts, while USAID/OFDA partners are distributing emergency hygiene kits, shelter supplies, and other relief commodities to affected populations. To address the emergency and primary health care needs of IDPs in Al Hudaydah, USAID/OFDA partner WHO recently deployed a mobile medical team and delivered life-saving medicines and medical supplies, including 24 emergency health kits sufficient to meet the primary health care needs of approximately 20,000 conflict-affected people for three months.
  - As of February 10, Coalition forces had intensified airstrikes near Al Hudaydah Port, raising concerns regarding the potential implications for humanitarian logistical operations, international media report.
  - A Coalition airstrike resulted in the deaths of at least eight women and a child at a funeral reception in Sana’a on February 16, international media report. At least ten additional civilians were wounded in the attack. In a subsequent statement, UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed condemned the attack and urged parties to the conflict to immediately cease indiscriminate attacks on civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law. The Special Envoy also called for the unimpeded movement of humanitarian and commercial supplies and a political solution to the crisis to prevent a further deterioration of humanitarian conditions in Yemen.
  - On January 26, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Stephen O’Brien and UN Special Envoy Ould Cheikh Ahmed briefed the UN Security Council on humanitarian conditions and developments in the Yemen peace process. The ERC and Special Envoy urged parties to the conflict to immediately cease hostilities and reach a political resolution to prevent a further deterioration of humanitarian conditions in Yemen. The ERC and Special Envoy also called for the immediate reopening of commercial access to Sana’a International Airport. The airport’s closure has prevented more than 20,000 people in Yemen from accessing medical care abroad since August 2016, increasing needs already exacerbated by Yemen’s diminished health care capacity, the UN reports.
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## **FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOODS, AND NUTRITION**

- According to preliminary EFSNA results, more than 65 percent of Yemen’s population is food-insecure, compared to 41 percent pre-crisis, and 60 percent of households are resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as reducing or skipping meals. In all 20 governorates included in the EFSNA, at least 40 percent of households reported experiencing acute food insecurity. The results of the EFSNA corroborate earlier concerns expressed by humanitarian agencies that food security conditions in some areas of the country may further deteriorate to Famine—IPC 5—levels if food imports are reduced or humanitarian actors are unable to access to populations in need of assistance for a prolonged period of time.<sup>4</sup>
- Conflict, insecurity, and the further devaluation of the Yemeni riyal contributed to increased prices for many food and fuel commodities in January, further limiting access to food and other basic commodities, according to FAO and the RoYG. For example, compared to pre-crisis levels, the average price of imported sugar had increased between 26 and 93 percent and the average price of imported wheat flour had increased between 8 and 57 percent across Sana’a City

<sup>4</sup> 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.

and Al Hudaydah, Dhamar, Hadramout, Hajjah, Lahj, and Ta'izz governorates as of January. While FAO and the RoYG report that many key food commodities and other basic items were available in markets in most governorates, higher prices and below-average household incomes as a result of the conflict continue to limit household purchasing power and contribute to widespread food insecurity in Yemen.

- With support from USAID/FFP, a non-governmental organization (NGO) recently provided emergency food assistance to 1,400 households in Lahj through cash vouchers. The organization also distributed cash vouchers to food-insecure households in Al Dhala'a Governorate and conducted monitoring visits to food distribution points in Al Dhala'a and Lahj.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

- Health actors have recorded more than 18,800 suspected cases of cholera and 99 related deaths between October 2016 and January 2017, WHO reports. The incidence of cholera in Yemen continues to decline since its peak in December 2016, including a decrease in the number of districts reporting cholera cases. In mid-December 2016, 81 percent of districts reported suspected cases of cholera; however, as of late January, only 8 percent of districts reported the incidence of cholera. Despite the declining trend, humanitarian actors continue to address cholera-related health needs throughout Yemen, including by conducting cholera prevention and response trainings for health workers and enhancing disease surveillance systems.
- With USAID/OFDA support, WHO is working to meet increased cholera-related health needs by bolstering disease surveillance systems, diagnostic capacity, and case management services in Yemen. Additionally, USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is educating at-risk communities about cholera and techniques to prevent the disease. From October–December 2016, IOM reached nearly 33,200 people in Aden and Sana'a governorates with cholera prevention awareness-raising sessions.
- Since health actors first identified Yemen's cholera outbreak in October 2016, a USAID/OFDA partner has treated nearly 4,100 people from more than 33 districts for acute watery diarrhea. The partner is also distributing safe drinking water, providing oral rehydration therapy services, and conducting other water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities to prevent the spread of cholera in Al Hudaydah's district of Al Hali, where the cholera outbreak originated.
- With USAID/OFDA assistance, an NGO is increasing access to safe drinking water for conflict-affected populations in Abyan and Lahj governorates. Through 40 rehabilitated water access points, the organization is producing approximately 454,000 liters of safe drinking water per day in Abyan and 378,000 liters per day in Lahj. Additionally, the NGO is conducting water treatment and monitoring activities at distribution points, as well as providing water treatment supplies, such as chlorine, to local water committees.

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## PROTECTION

- With USAID/OFDA assistance, IOM reached approximately 52,700 conflict-affected children with psychosocial support (PSS) services at more than 30 child-friendly spaces in Aden and Sana'a from October–December 2016. Additionally, IOM provided PSS services to more than 900 caregivers of children. With assistance from USAID/OFDA, IOM also facilitated referrals and transportation for 11 children with special needs and their caregivers to access specialized health services in Sana'a.

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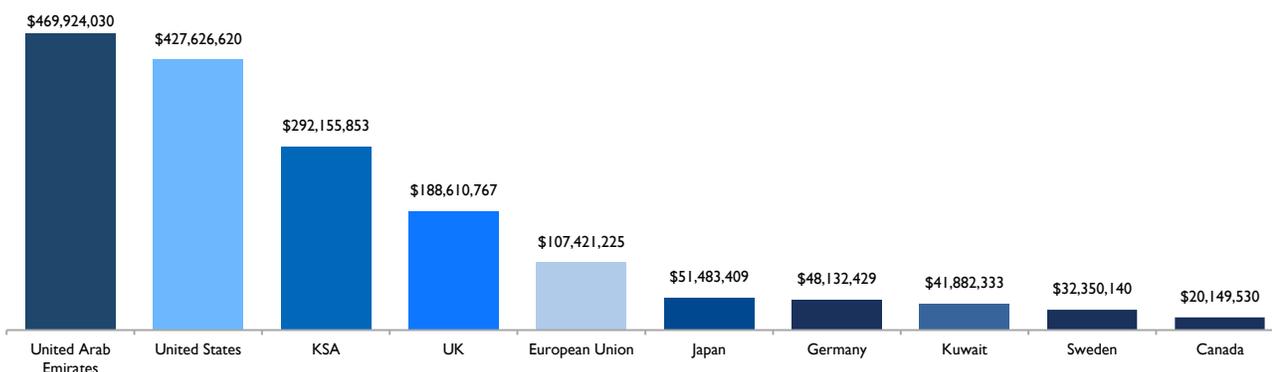
## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On February 8, the UN launched the 2017 HRP for Yemen, which requests approximately \$2.1 billion to assist an estimated 12 million conflict-affected people, including 10.3 million people most urgently in need of immediate, life-saving assistance. The HRP prioritizes activities to target Yemen's most vulnerable populations with emergency

assistance, protecting civilians, addressing gaps in basic public services, and strengthening humanitarian coordination and advocacy efforts.

- In recent days, local partners of KSA’s King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSRelief) distributed approximately 20,000 food baskets to benefit an estimated 120,000 conflict-affected people in Al Hudaydah. The assistance follows plans announced by KSRelief in early January to distribute a total of 300,000 food baskets in Al Hudaydah. Additionally, as of February 11, KSRelief had distributed approximately 10,000 food baskets to populations affected by the recent escalation of conflict in and around Mocha.
- Turkish NGO Insani Yardim Vakfi (IHH) reports reaching approximately 551,300 people in Yemen with emergency food, health, and WASH support in 2016. In the coming weeks, IHH also plans to distribute emergency food assistance and establish health clinics in conflict-affected areas.

## 2016–2017 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of February 17, 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 most recent USG commitments based on FY 2016, which began on October 1, 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 affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in humanitarian needs. Fighting between RoYG 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, a 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 more than half of Yemen’s 27.4 million people food-insecure and more than 7 million people in need of emergency food assistance. In addition, the conflict had displaced a total of 3 million people, including approximately 1 million people who had returned to areas of origin, as of January 2017. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- In early 2015, Yemen hosted approximately 248,000 refugees and a large population of third-country nationals (TCNs). The escalation in hostilities prompted IOM to organize large-scale TCN evacuations from Yemen.
- On October 26, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller re-issued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2017 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 IN FY 2016–2017<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Jawf, Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$36,919,020
IOM	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahrah, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$7,500,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Hadramawt, Shabwah	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a	\$3,000,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Health, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahrah, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Hadramawt, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Raymah, Sa'adah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$34,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Protection	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Bayda', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$1,000,080
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$9,230,621
WHO	Health, Nutrition	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Hadramawt, Ibb, Lahij, Sa'adah, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$12,282,413
	Program Support		\$729,473
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$107,588,220</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Food Vouchers	Abyan, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Hajjah, Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$20,500,000
UNICEF	420 Metric Tons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food	Countrywide	\$1,793,900
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food, Food Vouchers, Local Purchase and Milling	19 Governorates	\$242,694,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$264,988,400</b>

STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
IOM	Evacuation and Humanitarian Assistance for Vulnerable Migrants	Regional, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Yemen	\$9,500,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$28,800,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan	\$10,750,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$55,050,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017</b>			<b>\$427,626,620</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of February 17, 2017.

<sup>3</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 [www.interaction.org](http://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](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://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>