



# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #9, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

APRIL 26, 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

**17.1 million**

Food-Insecure People  
FAO – February 2017

**7.3 million**

People in Immediate Need of  
Emergency Food Assistance  
FAO – February 2017

**2 million**

IDPs in Yemen  
IOM – March 2017

**5.6 million**

People Reached with Humanitarian  
Assistance in 2016  
UN – December 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- International donors participate in high-level pledging event for Yemen crisis on April 25
- USG agencies commit an additional \$94 million in humanitarian funding for the Yemen response
- UN officials warn parties to conflict against launching a military offensive in the vicinity of Al Hudaydah Port, noting humanitarian concerns

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016–2017

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$118,461,453
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$337,170,130
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$70,350,000
<b>\$525,981,583</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On April 25, the UN and the governments of Sweden and Switzerland hosted a high-level pledging event in Geneva, Switzerland, to mobilize funding in support of the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Yemen. The HRP requests \$2.1 billion to provide humanitarian assistance for an estimated 12 million people in the country. The event also advocated for increased humanitarian access to deliver emergency relief supplies and meet the acute needs of conflict-affected communities in Yemen, as well as for a political solution for the crisis.
- During the event, international donors pledged nearly \$1.1 billion toward critical response operations in Yemen. The U.S. Government (USG) announced approximately \$94 million in additional funding for humanitarian activities, including emergency food assistance, health care, livelihood support, and nutrition and protection assistance. In total, the USG has contributed nearly \$526 million for the Yemen humanitarian response in FY 2016 and to date in FY 2017.
- Amid reports of a potential military attack on or near Al Houthi-controlled Al Hudaydah Port, UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed has urged parties to the conflict in Yemen to refrain from conducting military operations near the port, which is an essential point of entry for commercial and humanitarian supplies into Yemen. The UN-led Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Yemen similarly raised this point in early April, calling on the parties to ensure the continued functioning of Al Hudaydah Port, which processes an estimated 70–80 percent of Yemen’s food and other critical imports. Both UN Special Envoy Ahmed and the HCT in Yemen stated that no viable substitutes for the port exist in terms of location and infrastructure.

<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**

- More than two years of fighting, primarily between a coalition led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and Al Houthi forces, has resulted in approximately 18.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Yemen, including an estimated 9.6 million children, according to the UN. The conflict has increased displacement; endangered the security of civilians, including relief workers; and impeded access to and the delivery of emergency relief commodities and services.
- The UN Special Envoy and Yemen HCT called on parties to the conflict to refrain from conducting any military operations in or near Al Hudaydah Port, stressing the importance of uninterrupted port operations to the humanitarian response. Al Hudaydah Port processes an estimated 70–80 percent of Yemen’s food and other critical imports. The HCT has reiterated that there are no viable substitutes for the Red Sea port in terms of location and infrastructure; any obstructions to the import of commercial and humanitarian goods through Al Hudaydah Port would have severe consequences for communities already in need of assistance.
- The conflict displaced an estimated 3 million people from their homes between March 2015 and March 2017, including approximately 1 million people who have returned home since the start of the conflict. Women and children comprise nearly 80 percent of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Yemen. From January to March 2017, the number of schools hosting IDPs increased from approximately 140 to more than 180. In addition, armed groups occupied more than 20 schools during the same period, according to USAID partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF).
- As of March 31, the UN estimated that 2.1 million people in Yemen are residing in more than 40 districts deemed hard-to-reach or inaccessible due to security restrictions. Of this population, an estimated 1.3 million people remain in acute need of emergency relief assistance. The UN also reported that approximately 18 percent of Yemen’s districts had moderate access constraints, limiting the ability of relief agencies to respond consistently or in a timely manner to needs in those areas.
- In late March, Al Houthi elements detained five International Medical Corps (IMC) staff members and two contracted drivers in Ibb Governorate. Al Houthi forces released all seven individuals on April 2 in the capital city of Sana’a, international media report. IMC has provided humanitarian assistance to the people of Yemen since 2012 and continues to operate in conflict-affected communities, despite insecurity-related risks.

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## **FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS**

- Yemen’s food security situation remains dire with an estimated 17 million people experiencing food insecurity, including approximately 10.2 million people facing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity and 6.8 million people facing Emergency—IPC 4—levels of food insecurity, the IPC Technical Working Group reports.<sup>4</sup> Potential military activity at or near Al Hudaydah Port could significantly disrupt the delivery of food assistance, according to the UN.
- Providers of informal, overland transportation from Oman and Saudi Arabia decreased the quantity and frequency of food deliveries to Yemen from February to March, citing a decline in demand due to the reduced purchasing power of conflict-affected households, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) reports. An ongoing economic liquidity crisis forced nearly half of Yemenis to incur debt to purchase food as of March compared to one-third of the country’s population two years earlier.
- On April 12, WFP announced a new Emergency Operation Plan (EMOP) to reach more than 9 million people with emergency food assistance—including approximately 7 million severely food insecure individuals and nearly 2.2 million children facing acute malnutrition. The UN agency also aims to provide specialized nutrition assistance services to pregnant and lactating women. WFP estimated a cost of approximately \$1.2 billion for the EMOP over the next year.
- USAID/FFP recently provided an additional \$68 million in FY 2017 in-kind food assistance to support the WFP EMOP in Yemen. To date in April, WFP has distributed monthly emergency food supplies to approximately

<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.

1.9 million people in 11 governorates and reached an estimated 209,000 people with food vouchers. With USAID/FFP funding, an international non-governmental organization (NGO) distributed food vouchers to approximately 5,200 households in Lahij from March 16 to April 13.

- USAID partner the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reached nearly 300,000 people with emergency agriculture assistance, critical equipment, livestock deworming and vaccinations, and related training in Al Hudaydah, Ad Dali', Hajjah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, and Ta'izz governorates from January to April. USAID/FFP recently committed \$800,000 in FY 2017 funding to support FAO food security and livelihood activities, as well as nearly \$3.4 million to UNICEF for the transport of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) to malnourished populations in Yemen.
- USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$1 million to an NGO partner to support irrigation, livelihood, and small enterprise activities through grants to IDPs and vulnerable households in Abyan, Ad Dali', and Lahij. USAID/OFDA has also recently contributed nearly \$3.7 million to support livestock restocking activities and training of animal health workers in Abyan, Ad Dali', Lahij, and Ta'izz governorates through NGO partners.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

- Approximately half of Yemen's population—14.5 million people—lack access to adequate water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies and services, increasing the risk of communicable disease transmission, according to the UN. Additionally, health organizations report shortages of critical medical equipment and medication for the treatment of cancer, diabetes, hypertension, and other chronic diseases. Relief stakeholders are working to support the health system; for example, USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) recently contributed approximately 3 metric tons (MT) of medications and other medical supplies to Al Thawra Hospital in Sana'a.
- USAID/OFDA partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO) reported more than 300 new suspected cholera cases in Al Bayda, Hajjah, and Sana'a governorates between March 20 and April 2, increasing the cumulative total to approximately 24,500 suspected cases. However, the cumulative number of cholera-related deaths remained at 108 as of April 2, and the incidence of confirmed cholera cases and the number of districts reporting suspected cases continue to decline since the outbreak's peak in December 2016.
- From February to mid-April, the UN and its partner organizations conducted a countrywide polio immunization campaign, reaching nearly 5 million children ages five years and younger, the UN reports. The World Bank, WHO, and UNICEF supported the polio campaign by working with health workers, local council officials, and religious leaders to mobilize communities, promote awareness, and extend the campaign's reach to IDPs and other high-risk groups.
- USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$980,000 to an NGO partner to improve access to life-saving nutrition and primary health care services in vulnerable communities in Ibb, Sana'a, and Ta'izz through community health education, health facility and stabilization center support, and mobile health and nutrition teams. USAID/OFDA also contributed nearly \$645,000 to an NGO partner to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation services and to improve hygiene facilities and practices in areas of Ibb, Sana'a, and Ta'izz. Activities include the delivery of hygiene kits and safe drinking water, rehabilitation of communal and public water points and sanitation facilities, and WASH awareness activities and trainings.
- With support from USAID/OFDA, an NGO distributed personal hygiene kits and provided hygiene education for nearly 3,600 beneficiaries in Al Jawf Governorate, as well as delivered 13.6 million liters of safe drinking water to 40 communities in Abyan and Lahij between March 16 and April 13. USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$150,000 to improve access to community-based management of malnutrition services and infant and young child feeding in conflict-affected communities in Ibb, Sana'a, and Ta'izz through an NGO partner.

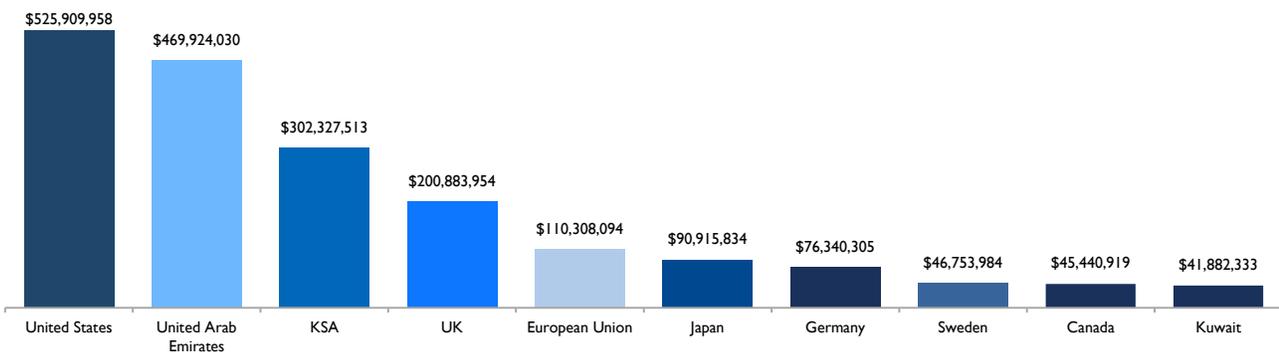
## SHELTER SUPPORT AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

- Despite insecurity, the Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—facilitated the air, maritime, and overland transport of more than 600 MT of humanitarian supplies between January and March. Cluster members also distributed more than 313,000 liters of fuel to 21 organizations in Aden, Al Hudaydah, and Sana’a governorates. Additionally, the Logistics Cluster coordinated the delivery of an estimated 56,000 liters of fuel from Aden to Sana’a to ensure the continuation of humanitarian airlifts between Amman, Jordan, and Sana’a until June.
- Amid access constraints, relief agencies, including USG partners, reached nearly 303,000 vulnerable people with relief assistance during the 2016/2017 winter season. More than 56,000 people received emergency shelter support; nearly 120,000 people received winter relief supplies; and approximately 1,300 people received cash for rental subsidies, according to the Shelter and Camp Coordination and Camp Management clusters.
- State/PRM recently committed approximately \$15.3 million in additional FY 2017 funding for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other relief agency activities, including camp coordination and camp management, health care, logistics support, protection, refugee assistance, and delivery of relief items and shelter materials, for vulnerable households in Yemen.

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The UN and the governments of Sweden and Switzerland hosted the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen on April 25 to mobilize urgently needed funding to support the 2017 HRP for Yemen, which requests \$2.1 billion to provide humanitarian assistance for approximately 12 million beneficiaries. The UN also advocated for a cessation of hostilities, increased protection for civilians, and unhindered humanitarian access to conflict-affected populations during the event.
- During the pledging event, international donors—including the European Union, the KSA, and the governments of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates—reported contributions totaling nearly \$1.1 billion to support humanitarian response operations in Yemen. The USG announced approximately \$94 million in additional FY 2017 funding for Yemen, bringing its total contribution for the response to nearly \$526 million in FY 2016 and to date in FY 2017.

### 2016–2017 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of April 26, 2017. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS) 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 in FY 2016 and FY 2017, which began on October 1, 2015., and October 1, 2016, respectively. FTS reporting does not account for funding pledged during the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen on April 25, 2017.

## CONTEXT

- Between 2004 and early 2015, conflict between the Republic of Yemen Government (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 the complex emergency in 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>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ad Dali', Abyan, Aden, Al Jawf, Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$44,919,020
IOM	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahrah, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra, 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	\$4,000,000

UNICEF	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah, Hadramawt, Ibb, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$34,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Health, Protection	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', 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, WASH	Countrywide	\$12,282,413
	Program Support		\$829,319
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$118,461,453</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
IPs	Food Vouchers	Abyan, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Hajjah, Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$20,500,000
FAO	Food Security and Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$800,000
UNICEF	420 MT of RUTF	Countrywide	\$5,175,630
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food	20 governorates	\$68,000,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food, Food Vouchers, Local Purchase and Milling	20 governorates	\$242,694,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$337,170,130</b>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
IPs	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$11,500,000
IOM	Evacuation and humanitarian assistance for vulnerable migrants	Regional, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Yemen	\$9,500,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Refugee Response, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$38,600,000
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Refugee Response, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan	\$10,750,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$70,350,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2016-2017</b>			<b>\$525,981,583</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 April 26, 2017.

<sup>3</sup>Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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## 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)