



# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #8, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

JUNE 8, 2018

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**29.3 million**

Population of Yemen  
UN – December 2017

**22.2 million**

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – December 2017

**2 million**

IDPs in Yemen  
UN – December 2017

**17.8 million**

Food-Insecure People  
UN – December 2017

**16.4 million**

People Lacking Access to Basic Health Care  
UN – December 2017

**16 million**

People Lacking Access to Basic Water and Sanitation  
UN – December 2017

**9.9 million**

People Reached with Humanitarian Assistance in 2017  
UN – December 2017

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Conflict intensifies in Al Hudaydah Governorate; humanitarian actors prepare for additional displacement
- First containerized vessel delivers supplies to Al Hudaydah Port since November 2017 port closures
- Health actors launch cholera and diphtheria vaccination campaigns in high-risk areas

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$231,180,626
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$571,018,096
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$52,025,000
<b>\$854,223,722</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Humanitarian actors are preparing for the potential displacement of up to 340,000 people as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led Coalition forces advance toward Al Hudaydah Governorate’s city of Al Hudaydah, the UN reports.
- April marked the highest monthly civilian death toll in 2018. Conflict resulted in at least 236 deaths and nearly 240 injuries across Yemen, compared to 180 civilian deaths and injuries reported in March, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- The MV Venus—the first containerized vessel to deliver supplies to Al Hudaydah Port since the November 2017 port closures—offloaded more than 9,800 metric tons (MT) of USAID/FFP-funded food commodities in late May.
- Despite increasing impediments by local authorities and armed groups, humanitarian actors continue to provide emergency assistance to vulnerable populations in Yemen. USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) distributed emergency food assistance to nearly 6.9 million people in April.
- In May, health actors launched the country’s first oral cholera vaccine (OCV) campaign in Aden Governorate and commenced the second round of the diphtheria vaccination campaign, targeting approximately 2.7 million children in 39 Yemeni districts.
- Relief agencies provided emergency food, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies in areas of Socotra Island and Al Mahrah Governorate after strong winds and flash flooding associated with Tropical Cyclone Mekunu resulted in the deaths of 24 people, infrastructure damage, loss of livelihoods, and power outages, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the UN.

<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)

## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS, POPULATION DISPLACEMENT, AND INSECURITY

- As KSA-led Coalition forces advance toward Al Hudaydah city, humanitarian partners estimate that fighting could displace up to 140,000 people from Al Hudaydah Governorate’s heavily conflict-affected southern districts of Al Garrahi, At Tuhayat, and Zabid, the UN reports. If the conflict reaches Al Hudaydah city, humanitarian partners warn that fighting could displace an additional 200,000 people. U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian partners have increased assistance to accessible areas and are refining contingency plans as conflict expands along the western coast.
- Airstrikes and violence increased throughout northern and western Yemen in late April and May. April marked the highest monthly civilian death toll in 2018. The OHCHR reported that conflict resulted in at least 236 deaths and nearly 240 injuries across Yemen, compared to 180 civilian deaths and injuries reported in March. The UN recorded more than 40 airstrikes in Sa’dah Governorate on April 30 alone, resulting in an unknown number of civilian casualties.
- Early May clashes between Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) forces and armed groups in Ta’izz Governorate’s city of Ta’izz forced the closure of several markets, limiting access to essential goods.
- A May 22 missile fired by Al Houthi forces resulted in five civilian deaths and injured more than 20 others in Marib Governorate, international media report. In May, Coalition airstrikes in Sana’a Governorate damaged a factory in Nihm District and a gas station in Bani Matar District, resulting in a loss of livelihoods for up to 100 households in Nihm and restricting fuel supplies for approximately 2,000 households in Bani Matar, the UN reports.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Increased conflict in Al Hudaydah Governorate in recent weeks could exacerbate food insecurity in Yemen, according to a May 31 Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) report. Damage or disrupted operations at the Red Sea ports of Al Hudaydah and Al Saleef, which process approximately 70 percent of monthly food imports and 40–50 percent of monthly fuel imports into Yemen, could significantly affect the commercial flow of imported food and fuel into the country. Even without significant disruptions to imports, FEWS NET reports that populations in Yemen are depleting coping mechanisms and may face Catastrophe—IPC 5—conditions.<sup>4</sup>
- On May 26, the MV Venus—carrying more than 9,800 MT of USAID/FFP-funded peas and vegetable oil for WFP—delivered its cargo to Al Hudaydah Port and set sail on May 28. The arrival of the Venus represents the first delivery of containerized cargo to Yemen’s Red Sea ports since the KSA-led Coalition imposed port closures in November 2017. The lack of containerized cargo imports through Al Hudaydah Port has contributed to lower import levels for some essential commodities, such as cooking oil, through the port compared to 2017 levels, according to FEWS NET.
- Commercial shippers offloaded nearly 400,000 MT of food commodities, representing a more than 120 percent increase compared to the approximately 177,600 MT received in April. However, a recently released World Bank report highlighted that Yemen’s private sector is facing additional financial and logistical constraints to importing basic food commodities into the country. Food importers and vendors have identified a decrease in purchasing power among Yemenis as a key challenge to business operations. The report also identified other economic challenges hindering food imports into Yemen, noting logistical challenges at Aden, Al Hudaydah, and Al Saleef ports, such as disrupted access and rising costs resulting from clearance delays.
- During April, USAID/FFP partner WFP reached nearly 6.9 million people with food assistance, including more than 3.5 million people who received full food rations. The number of beneficiaries in April represents an increase of 20 percent and 10 percent compared to the number of people reached in February and March, respectively. Additionally, WFP discharged 98,000 MT of food at Yemeni ports in April, a more than 20 percent increase compared to the 80,000 MT offloaded in March.

<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.

- To address poor food security conditions, Food Security and Agriculture Cluster<sup>5</sup> (FSAC) partners provided emergency livelihoods assistance—including agricultural, fishery, and livestock inputs—to 257,000 people across nine governorates between January and March. High fuel prices and insecurity restricted transport of commodities, leading to implementation delays and disruptions in some areas.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

- Health actors administered nearly 275,000 doses of OCV in May during the country’s first cholera campaign, reaching nearly 70 percent of the target population in Aden, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). The campaign in Yemen is part of a broader cholera integrated response plan, implemented by national health authorities and USAID/OFDA partners WHO and the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF). Outbreak response activities include engaging communities and raising awareness, enhancing laboratory testing capacity, improving WASH services, observing and detecting cases, and training and deploying rapid response teams to affected areas.
- Since April 2018, suspected cholera cases have increased due to the ongoing rainy season, reaching more than 19,400 cases and 29 associated deaths as of early June. Approximately 50 percent of Yemen’s more than 300 cholera-affected districts continued to report new suspected cholera cases, with more than 9,900 suspected cholera cases and 21 associated deaths recorded during May, WHO reports. In total, health actors recorded more than 1.1 million suspected cholera cases, including 2,300 related deaths, since April 2017.
- Health actors launched the second round of the diphtheria vaccination campaign on May 12, targeting approximately 2.7 million children in 39 districts throughout Yemen following the campaign’s first round in March. The six-day campaign also targets an additional 400,000 children in 23 districts not reached in the first round.
- From late May to early June, health authorities reported nearly 200 suspected measles cases in Ibb, with two suspected associated deaths in the governorate’s Ar Radmah District. Relief organizations have activated rapid response measures and coordination is ongoing with all health partners in the area, the UN reports. In Abyan, health officials have recorded a total of ten measles cases since early May, with four cases—including one fatal case—reported since late May. Health actors completed a measles vaccination campaign in Abyan in mid-May.
- A USAID/OFDA partner provided clean water for approximately 119,500 people in April through regular water trucking to 48 health facilities and 24 internally displaced person (IDP) locations throughout Lahij, Sana’a, and Ta’izz governorates. The partner also provided health care consultations for more than 17,700 people in Sana’a and Ta’izz in April. In Ibb Governorate, the partner distributed 2,500 diphtheria kits in Al Saddah, Al Radmah, and Yarim districts with the highest diphtheria mortality rates. Ibb accounts for approximately 25 percent of Yemen’s more than 1,800 suspected diphtheria cases reported as of May 27, according to WHO.
- Another USAID/OFDA partner provided nearly 26,000 medical consultations in April through clinics and mobile health teams across Abyan, Aden, Amanat al-Asimah, Ad’ Dali, Lahij, and Shabwah governorates. During April, partner-supported community health volunteers provided health education to more than 20,500 people in the six governorates, focusing on breastfeeding, hygiene practices, reproductive health, supplementary feeding, and vaccinations. The partner also admitted approximately 960 children to therapeutic facilities for treatment of acute malnutrition and provided more than 550 women with menstrual hygiene kits.
- In Sa’dah, another USAID/OFDA partner distributed 2,700 long-lasting insecticidal nets for malaria prevention and 900 relief commodity kits to vulnerable Yemenis in April. The partner also distributed more than 1,300 cholera prevention kits and conducted hygiene promotion sessions for more than 1,500 people in Ibb during the month.
- Additionally, USAID/OFDA partner WHO delivered a total of 200,600 liters of fuel supplies to hospitals in Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, and Al Mahwit from late May to early June to respond to persistent fuel gaps at health facilities.

<sup>5</sup> The coordinating body for emergency food security and livelihoods activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

## LOGISTICS AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

- Tropical Cyclone Sagar and Tropical Cyclone Mekunu passed near Yemen in May, producing strong winds and flash floods in areas of Socotra Island and in coastal areas of mainland Yemen. Tropical Cyclone Mekunu, which made landfall over Oman on May 26, resulted in at least 20 deaths on Socotra Island. As of early June, humanitarian actors had not managed to access and assess damages on Socotra's neighboring islands of Abd Al Quri and Samrah, home to approximately 2,500 households, according to the ICRC and the UN.
  - In mainland Yemen's Al Mahrah Governorate, Tropical Cyclone Mekunu resulted in the deaths of four people and the injuries of 20 others, the ICRC reports. As of early June, some roads within and out of Al Mahrah remained inaccessible, leaving approximately 2,000 people cut off from outside populations and resources.
  - Many of Socotra's 1,000 IDPs began returning to places of origin by late May, the UN reports. Three flights carrying emergency relief commodities, including blankets, food, and medicines, arrived in Socotra on May 31. The WFP consignment included 10 MT of immediate response ration kits—specialized kits of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) sufficient for one week—and 4.5 MT of high energy biscuits. WHO shipped 30 MT of medical supplies, which the UN agency provided to local health authorities for onward distribution to affected populations.
  - Heavy rains in May and June in northern and western Yemen have damaged public infrastructure and increased humanitarian needs for host community and displaced populations in Al Jawf and Ta'izz, the UN reports. Early June flooding affected nearly 330 households in Al Jawf, and a UN partner is conducting a rapid needs assessment in affected districts in the governorate. In Ta'izz, a USAID/OFDA partner dispatched emergency health and nutrition mobile teams and is mobilizing emergency relief commodities to respond to urgent needs among displaced households in the governorate, where heavy rains damaged nearly 600 shelters in IDP camps in mid-to-late May.
  - In April, the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported more than 1,000 humanitarian staff on Amman–Sana'a, Djibouti–Sana'a, and Djibouti–Aden routes. UNHAS operated 30 flights for 42 relief organizations, transported humanitarian cargo, and conducted one medical evacuation during the month. The WFP-supported service is one of three operators providing critical humanitarian flight services in Yemen.
  - WFP operates two humanitarian vessels, the VOS Apollo and VOS Theia, which transport relief supplies and staff from Djibouti to Aden and Al Hudaydah ports. Since April 2016, these vessels have carried approximately 7,000 MT of relief supplies and 2,300 passengers to Yemen, supporting more than 50 humanitarian organizations in Yemen.
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## PROTECTION AND SHELTER

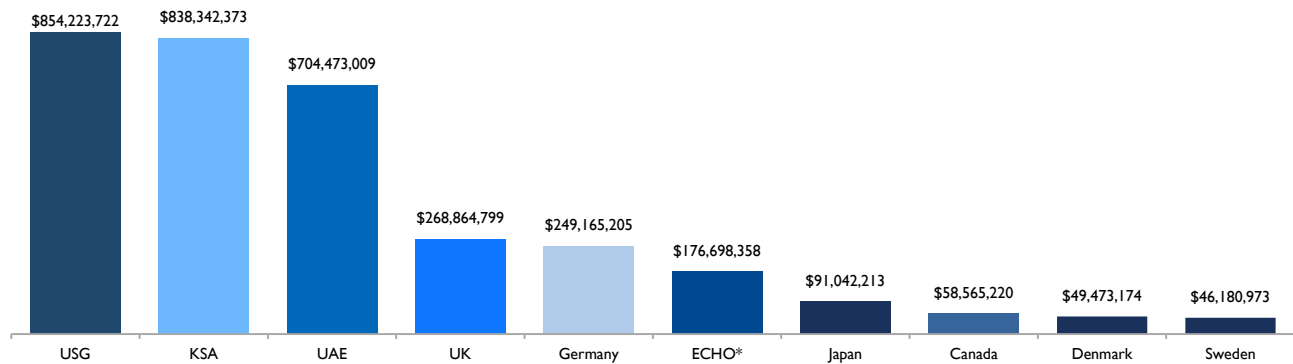
- In late April, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) supported the return of more than 140 Somali refugees from Aden Port to Berbera, Somalia, as part of its Assisted Spontaneous Returns (ASR) program, which is implemented in coordination with USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Through the ASR program, UNHCR has supported the return of nearly 1,800 Somali refugees to Somalia since September 2017. UNHCR also continues to provide counseling to approximately 3,900 Somali refugees in Aden's Basateen village and Kharaz camp. In Kharaz, UNHCR supported registration efforts for refugees and conducted a general food distribution for vulnerable populations in late April; the last food distribution took place in February.
- From January–April, more than 5,200 people received legal assistance support from UNHCR, including providing counseling and education sessions and engaging with authorities to obtain legal documentation; lack of legal documentation is linked to decreased work opportunities, difficulties registering for assistance, and restricted freedom of movement. In April, UNHCR's advocacy efforts with authorities resulted in the release of nearly 90 asylum seekers who had been detained in Aden since February.

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2018 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) had received \$1.5 billion—more than 50 percent of requested funding—as of June 8, ranking the appeal as the most-funded HRP globally to date in 2018. Approximately \$700 million of the received funding is going toward activities under the FSAC.
- As of April, 117 humanitarian organizations—including nine UN agencies, 29 international NGOs, and 79 national NGOs—were operating in Yemen, across 96 percent of the country’s 333 districts. In Al Hudaydah Governorate, 43 organizations were operational with presence in all 26 districts.

## 2017–2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\*

PER DONOR



Funding figures are as of April 3, 2018. All international figures are according to UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect publicly announced USG funding for FY 2017 and FY 2018, which run from October 1 to September 30.

\*European Commission’s Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

## CONTEXT

- Between 2004 and early 2015, conflict between 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 March 2015, the KSA-led Coalition began airstrikes against Al Houthi and allied forces to halt their southward expansion. The ongoing conflict has damaged or destroyed public infrastructure, interrupted essential services, and reduced 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.
- Since March 2015, the escalated conflict, coupled with protracted political instability, the resulting economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, and high unemployment, has left more than 17.8 million people food-insecure and more than 22.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. In addition, the conflict had displaced nearly 3 million people, including more than 900,000 people who had returned to areas of origin, as of December 2017. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- In late April 2017, a cholera outbreak that began in October 2016 resurged, necessitating intensive humanitarian response efforts throughout the country, particularly health and WASH interventions. The USG is supporting partners to respond to increased humanitarian needs resulting from the cholera outbreak.
- On October 24, 2017, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller re-issued a disaster declaration for the ongoing complex emergency in Yemen for FY 2018 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 2017–2018 <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 (HCIM), Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlement, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amanat al-Asimah, Amran, Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Al Mahwit, Marib, Raymah, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$114,085,513
IOM	Health, HCIM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$26,500,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$10,500,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Amran, Ad Dali', Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Al Mahwit, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$25,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Aden, Al Hudaydah, Sana'a	\$2,500,000

WFP	HCIM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WHO	HCIM, Nutrition	Abyan, Aden, Amanat al-Asimah, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Hajjah, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Ta'izz	\$36,000,000
	Health, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Amran, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Dhamar, Hadramawt, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahij, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$2,282,413
	Program Support		\$4,312,700
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$231,180,626</b>

USAID/FFP <sup>3</sup>			
IPs	Food Vouchers	Abyan, Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Hajjah, Lahij, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$28,153,721
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Food Security and Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$1,650,000
UNICEF	Transport of 830 MT RUTF	Abyan, Aden, Ad Dali', Hadramawt, Lahij	\$3,381,730
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food	20 governorates	\$435,832,645
	U.S. In-Kind Food, Food Vouchers, Local Purchase and Milling	20 governorates	\$102,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$571,018,096</b>

STATE/PRM			
IPs	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$16,125,000
IOM	Evacuation and humanitarian assistance for vulnerable migrants	Regional, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Yemen	\$6,100,000
UNHCR	Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Refugee Response	Countrywide	\$29,800,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$52,025,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018</b>			<b>\$854,223,722</b>

<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 April 3, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 3, 2018.

<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 +1.202.661.7710.
- 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>