



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Yemen Country Brief November 2020

## In Numbers

**8.2 million people**  
targeted in November



**WFP  
SAYS  
NO to  
GENDER  
BASED  
VIOLENCE**

**68,120 mt** of general food assistance

**USD 8.4 million** cash-based transfers  
**USD 11.5 million** commodity vouchers

**USD 424 million** six months net funding requirements (December 2020- May 2021)

## Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 177<sup>th</sup> out of 189 countries, according to the 2019 Human Development Report. At least 50 percent of the population is estimated to be living in poverty, and more than 90 percent of food in Yemen is imported. The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) findings revealed that in the first half of 2021, the number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity is anticipated to reach 16.2 million people and that pockets of famine-like conditions (IPC 5) have been identified for the first time in two years.

Limited access to food is compounded by several factors, including the ongoing conflict, the effects of low incomes, the depreciation of the Yemeni currency, uncertainty of access to Yemen's Red Sea ports, large family sizes, high unemployment rates, and the irregular or non-payment of salaries of many civil servants.

Present in Yemen since 1967, WFP currently aims to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies. It aims specifically, to increase food consumption through the scale-up of life-saving emergency food assistance (particularly among the most food insecure population), as well as to expand coverage of nutrition interventions to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).



Population: **30.5 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **177 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **2 million children between 6-59 months**

## Operational Updates

- The new countrywide Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) findings which were released on 03 December revealed that in the first half of 2021, the number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity is anticipated to reach 16.2 million people. Additionally, for the first time in two years, pockets of IPC 5 conditions are reported, with 47,000 people facing IPC 5 conditions.
- Under the November cycle, WFP targeted 8.2 million people with food assistance. Of these, 5.4 million people were targeted with in-kind food assistance, 1.6 million people with commodity vouchers and 1.2 million people with cash-based transfers.
- On 08 November, the first families in Sana'a city have been retargeted and biometrically registered with fingerprint capture to receive WFP assistance. Targeting and biometric registration activities in three districts in Sana'a city are proceeding, with the aim to reach 150,000 people within the first phase.
- In November, WFP reached around 126,000 beneficiaries (18,000 participants) with Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) support. FFA participants worked on 319 community assets, including rural road rehabilitation, and water harvesting schemes.
- In November, WFP's Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) delivered 1.7 million litres of fuel to WHO and 3.2 million litres to UNICEF to support the uninterrupted services of hospitals and local water and sanitation services, respectively.
- The mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) Food Security and Vulnerability Update ([July-September 2020](#)) reviewed food security trends in the third quarter of 2020. The analysis revealed that more households were unable to consume their minimum food needs during the reporting period. The share of households with poor food consumption increased to 15 percent in September. This is the highest rate recorded in the last two years, converging to 2018-crisis levels of 17 percent.

**Contact info:** [agnes.semaan@wfp.org](mailto:agnes.semaan@wfp.org), [tamer.rashad@wfp.org](mailto:tamer.rashad@wfp.org)  
**Country Director:** Laurent Bukera  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen)

**Photo Caption:** Wheat flour distributed to vulnerable families in Abyan, Yemen. © WFP/Mahmoud Fadel

## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>4.82 b</b>	<b>3.3 b</b>
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (December 2020 –May 2021)
<b>2.53 b</b>	<b>424 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen, have access to life-saving, safe and nutritious food all year.  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide life-saving food assistance to severely food -insecure households (URT: Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food).

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** People at risk of malnutrition, especially pregnant and lactating women and girls and children under 5 years old, have reduced levels of malnutrition by 2020.  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide nutrition assistance to treat and prevent malnutrition.
  - Provide conditional cash assistance to support access to nutrition and health services.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food.

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable households across Yemen have access to equitable social safety nets and basic services during and in the aftermath of crises.  
**Focus area:** Resilience Building

- Activities:**
- Provide school meals. WFP will provide school meals to increase the food intake and school attendance of primary school-age children.
  - Support community infrastructure rehabilitation and livelihoods through food assistance for assets.

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** International and national partners are supported in their efforts to assist people in Yemen and preserve critical services.  
**Focus area:** Crisis Response

- Activities:**
- Provide humanitarian air services through UNHAS. UNHAS provides safe and reliable air transport services and standby capacity for the evacuation of humanitarian staff if required.
  - Logistics Cluster.
  - Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC).
  - Bilateral service provision.

## Monitoring

- In November 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted around 2,700 monitoring visits in 22 governorates. The monitored activities included in-kind general food assistance (GFD), commodity vouchers, cash-based transfers (CBT), prevention and treatment

programmes for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), school feeding and livelihood activities. WFP’s in-house call centres conducted more than 29,000 successful calls to verify receipt of assistance and food delivery to distribution sites.

## Funding and Pipeline update

- WFP’s operational needs for 2020 stand at USD 2.5 billion. Based on the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) and given the long lead-times to bring food into the country, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 424 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding Requirement in USD
General Food Assistance	312 million
Nutrition	52 million
School Feeding	15 million
Livelihoods	35 million
UNHAS	7 million
Logistics Cluster	2 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	1 million

## Challenges

- The fuel crisis in areas under the Sana’a-based authorities showed a noticeable improvement during November. However, on 24 November, the Yemen Petroleum Company (YPC) announced reinstating the refuelling limits for vehicles to ensure that the available fuel can be supplied for a longer period, while fuel queues were observed across major cities.
- Following increased demands due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the global shortfall in the production and availability of wheat soya blend (WSB+) continued in November. Impacting WFP’s nutrition programme from the August distribution cycle, the shortfalls are expected to continue until December. WFP is prioritising the available stocks for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG). Children will continue to be supported with supplies for the treatment of MAM. However, due to delays in arrivals and clearing procedures, the shortfall of commodities for the treatment of MAM started to be experienced in the south.

**Donors** (supporting WFP Yemen’s ICSP 2020 in alphabetical order): Canada, Czech Republic, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN other funds and agencies, United Kingdom, United States, Yemen Humanitarian Fund and private sector donors.