

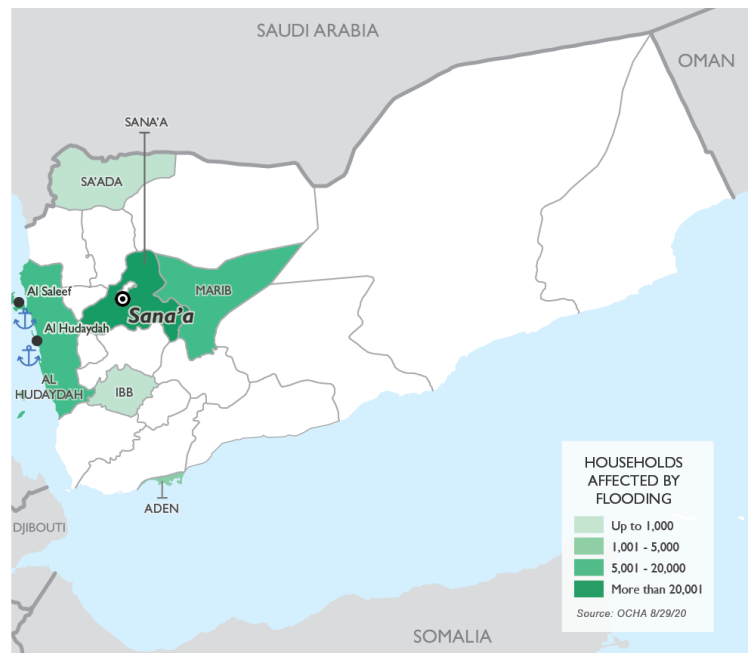
# Yemen – Complex Emergency

September 4, 2020

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- USG partners provide emergency assistance to households adversely affected by heavy rains and flooding during July and August.
- Fuel shortages and price increases result in temporary reductions of humanitarian assistance for hundreds of thousands of people in August.
- Escalated conflict in Al Jawf and Marib governorates displaces nearly 11,000 households to date in 2020.
- WFP reports that nearly 40 percent of Yemeni households remained without access to adequate, nutritious food on a regular basis as of mid-July.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Yemen Response in FY 2020	USAID/BHA <sup>1,2</sup>	\$539,125,456
	State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$67,580,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$606,705,456<sup>4</sup></b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<sup>1</sup>USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>2</sup>Total USAID/BHA funding includes non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace.

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

<sup>4</sup>This total includes approximately \$16,680,000 in supplemental funding through State/PRM for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) preparedness and response activities.

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Floods Result in Casualties, Damage, and Displacement Across Yemen

Heavy seasonal rains and flooding in July and August had affected an estimated 435,000 people across Yemen as of August 29, compounding the effects of previous rain and flooding events during April and June, the UN reports. The recent floods resulted in more than 250 casualties—including 131 deaths—in northern Yemen, according to the Sana'a-based Ministry of Public Health and Population; the floods also damaged and destroyed food and household items, internally displaced person (IDP) sites, and roads, hindering civilian and humanitarian movement. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) recorded nearly 1,200 displaced households in Al Hudaydah Governorate and approximately 60 displaced households in Marib due to the floods from late July to early August, while flooding dislodged some explosive remnants of war and landmines to previously hazard-free areas, the UN reports. In addition, relief actors have expressed concern regarding the health impacts of the floods, particularly the heightened transmission risk of vector-borne and waterborne diseases amid Yemen's ongoing cholera outbreak.

In response, humanitarian organizations—including U.S. Government (USG) partners—have conducted assessments of flood-related impacts and provided food, health, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to affected communities. With USG and other donor support, IOM distributed more than 2,900 emergency shelter kits in Aden, Hajjah, and Al Hudaydah governorates and provided shelter support to nearly 2,500 affected households in Marib. USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) distributed food and hygiene items to more than 2,500 households across 11 governorates through the USAID/BHA-supported Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)—which provides recently displaced populations with immediate food, water, and hygiene assistance within 72 hours of displacement—and provided in-kind food assistance to approximately 2,800 households in Amran, Dhamar, and Marib governorates. Additionally, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) is augmenting the availability of antimalarial drugs, cholera kits, and disease screening services at health facilities in affected areas to mitigate the adverse health impacts of the floods.

### Ongoing Fuel Crisis Prompts Reductions of Relief Activities in Yemen

The fuel crisis in northern Yemen continues to adversely affect relief operations, with historically low fuel imports in June resulting in increased fuel prices and hampered civilian and humanitarian movement, according to the UN. While the UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism for Yemen reports that fuel import levels into Yemen's Red Sea Ports rose from only 8,100 metric tons (MT) in June to nearly 133,000 MT in July, the price of gas and diesel increased by approximately 100 and 50 percent, respectively, from mid-June to mid-July due to the impact of the June deficit on the supply chain, WFP reports. The fuel shortage and resultant price increases have inflated essential commodity and transportation costs, hindering relief activities, including food distributions, health and protection services, and the provision of safe drinking water, according to the UN. As of late July, the fuel crisis had prompted relief actors to temporarily reduce or suspend WASH services to nearly 259,000 households and protection interventions supporting more than 41,000 households across Yemen, as well as shelter and settlements support for approximately 26,000 households in Ad Dali', Hajjah, Ibb, and Ta'izz governorates, the UN reports. Shortages also resulted in delayed or blocked food distributions for nearly 38,000 people in Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, and Marib, while adversely affecting nearly 200 health facilities supported by the Health Cluster.

WHO is delivering fuel to health facilities across the country to support the continuity of life-saving health care services in Yemen. In addition, a USAID/BHA international non-governmental organization

(INGO) partner is providing humanitarian coordination and information management (HCIM) support to relief actors by analyzing and mapping the impact of fuel shortages on operations to bolster humanitarian decision-making.

### **Clashes in Al Jawf, Marib Displace Nearly 1,000 Households in Late August**

Escalated conflict in northern Yemen's Al Jawf and Marib, which began in late January, continues to displace populations and increase humanitarian needs, according to the UN. In late August, IOM recorded approximately 830 and 150 newly displaced households in Al Jawf and Marib, respectively, due to increased fighting in the governorates, bringing the total number of newly displaced households in Al Jawf to approximately 1,560 and Marib to 9,400 to date in 2020. While Marib remains a primary destination for IDPs fleeing frontline clashes, conflict continued to affect civilian areas in the governorate in late August, with airstrikes and shelling damaging civilian houses and water supply systems, the Protection Cluster reports.

With USG and other donor support, IOM is providing life-saving health, protection, and WASH support to IDPs and migrants—primarily from the Horn of Africa—in Marib. From late July to late August, IOM provided emergency health services to approximately 2,200 IDPs, conducted more than 5,300 protection screening interviews for IDPs and migrants, and distributed more than 400 RRM kits to newly displaced persons in the governorate. In addition, IOM distributed dignity and hygiene kits to approximately 1,000 and 2,000 migrants, respectively, to decrease the transmission risk of communicable diseases.

### **Economic Crisis, Conflict, COVID-19 Result in Worsened Food Insecurity**

Deteriorating macroeconomic conditions in Yemen—compounded by ongoing conflict and the country's COVID-19 outbreak—continue to exacerbate the world's largest food security crisis and constrain access to basic goods and services, WFP reports. From early January to mid-July, the Yemeni rial (YER) depreciated by nearly 20 percent in Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG)-controlled areas; alongside other economic shocks, the YER's depreciation resulted in a nearly 20 percent increase in the price of essential food commodities countrywide during the period. Meanwhile, COVID-19-related reductions in livelihoods and market access have decreased household income and ability to obtain adequate food, as prices of staple foods have risen. As a result, nearly 40 percent of Yemeni households remained without access to adequate, nutritious food on a regular basis as of mid-July, particularly in conflict-affected governorates such as Abyan, Al Jawf, and Marib, according to WFP.

### **WHO Confirms Poliovirus Outbreak in Sa'dah Governorate**

WHO confirmed an outbreak of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type one (cVDPV1)—a rare virus mutated from the weakened virus contained in oral polio vaccine (OPV) that can occur in under-immunized populations—in northern Yemen's Sa'dah Governorate in early August, primarily affecting children ages eight months–13 years. The disease likely spread due to insufficient routine or supplementary immunization activities, with the affected children having only received zero to two OPV doses compared with the four-dose recommended schedule, WHO reports. Despite continued insecurity and related access constraints in the governorate, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO plan to launch OPV campaigns in the coming weeks to stop the spread of cVDPV1 in affected areas.

## KEY FIGURES



**1,242,380**

MT of USG Title II in-kind food assistance provided to Yemen in FYs 2019–2020



**\$26.1 Million**

In dedicated FY 2019 USG support for life-saving health programming



**\$13.7 Million**

In dedicated FY 2019 USG support for life-saving WASH programming

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP, and 11 INGO partners to bolster food security conditions in Yemen. USAID/BHA partners are providing emergency food assistance through in-kind food aid—including U.S.-sourced commodities—and cash and vouchers for people to buy food in local markets, prioritizing households experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity.<sup>5</sup> Partners are also working to strengthen household purchasing power and rehabilitate food security-related livelihoods to increase access to food among vulnerable communities. USAID/BHA partners provide emergency food assistance to a caseload of more than 13 million people, reaching more than 8 million people per month, countrywide.

### HEALTH

The USG supports IOM, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, WHO, and 10 INGOs to support life-saving health care interventions amid Yemen's ongoing conflict and concurrent cholera and COVID-19 outbreaks. Often integrated with nutrition and WASH programming, USG partners are providing primary health care services through both mobile medical teams—serving hard-to-reach areas—and static health facilities, while supporting community health volunteers to encourage people to seek health care services, when needed, toward better health outcomes. In addition, USAID/BHA partners are providing incentive payments to health care workers and medical supplies to health facilities to bolster health care service availability, while State/PRM is supporting IOM and UNHCR to address the specific health care needs of migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Yemen.

### WASH

Through USG funding to IOM, State/PRM funding to an implementing partner, and USAID/BHA funding to UNICEF and 13 INGOs, the USG is supporting WASH programming to prevent and respond to communicable disease outbreaks—such as cholera and COVID-19—and provide safe drinking water to displaced and other conflict-affected communities across Yemen. USAID/BHA partners are conducting critical WASH interventions—including distribution of hygiene kits, promotion of hygiene activities, rehabilitation of water systems damaged by conflict, and provision of water trucking services—for IDPs and other vulnerable populations. In addition, State/PRM implementing partners are providing WASH interventions focused on meeting the needs of IDPs, as well as migrants and refugees in Yemen originating from the Horn of Africa.

<sup>5</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.



15

Number of USG implementing partners supporting programming to combat malnutrition

## NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners on the forefront of efforts to prevent and treat acute malnutrition across Yemen. Working through UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and 12 INGOs, USAID/BHA partners are providing community- and evidence-based programs aiming to decrease morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition. Focusing on children and pregnant and lactating women in particular, USAID/BHA programs help prevent, identify, and treat acute malnutrition. Additionally, USAID/BHA provides nutrition support for health clinics and mobile health teams, integrating health, nutrition, and WASH interventions to comprehensively assist affected populations.



\$2.9 Million

In dedicated FY 2019 USG support for critical protection interventions

## PROTECTION

Through support to IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and five INGOs, the USG is furthering critical protection interventions across Yemen. With State/PRM funding, UNHCR provides protection services to meet the needs of IDPs, refugees, and other populations countrywide, including through mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) activities and legal assistance to facilitate access to identity documentation and public assistance. In addition, USAID/BHA partner programs work to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, address child protection and MHPSS needs, and respond to protection concerns and violations through specialized case-management services, community mobilization activities, and protection risk mitigation efforts. The USG requires all partners to incorporate protection principles and promote meaningful access, safety, and dignity for beneficiaries across all USG-supported interventions in Yemen.



6

Number of USG implementing partners supporting MPCA programming

## MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

The USG supports the provision of multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help conflict-affected households in Yemen meet their basic needs while supporting local markets. Countrywide, State/PRM partner UNHCR is distributing MPCA to IDPs and refugees in Yemen to bolster household purchasing power amid COVID-19-related economic shocks and restrictions. Additionally, USAID/BHA partners are providing MPCA to vulnerable populations in Yemen, supporting households to procure food, cooking gas, hygiene items, and other essential commodities.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Between 2004 and early 2015, conflict between RoYG and Al Houthi opposition forces in the north affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in humanitarian needs. The southward advancement of Al Houthi forces in 2014 and 2015 led to the renewal and escalation of conflict and displacement, further exacerbating already deteriorated humanitarian conditions.
- In March 2015, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia-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 food sources.
- Since March 2015, the escalated conflict—along with protracted instability, the resulting economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, and high levels of unemployment—has left approximately 24.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance as of June 2020, including at least 17 million people in urgent need of emergency food assistance. In addition, the conflict has displaced more than 3.6 million people; approximately 1.3 million people have returned to areas of origin, according to data collected by IOM in November 2018. The volatility of the current situation prevents relief agencies from obtaining accurate, comprehensive demographic information.
- On December 2, 2019, U.S. Ambassador Christopher P. Henzel redeclared a disaster for Yemen in FY 2020 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 2020<sup>1,2</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>FUNDING IN YEMEN FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
<b>Non-Food Assistance</b>			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ad Dali', Aden, Amran, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Lahij, Al Mahwit, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$34,067,491
IPs	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,226,639
IOM	HCIM, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$22,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	HCIM	Countrywide	\$3,500,000

UNICEF	WASH	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
	Program Support		\$152,615
<b>TOTAL NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING</b>			<b>\$78,946,746</b>
<b>Food Assistance<sup>3,4</sup></b>			
FAO	Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
IPs	Food Vouchers; Cash Transfers for Food, Nutrition; Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Complementary Services	Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Al Hudaydah, Lahij, Marib, Sana'a	\$35,020,316
IP	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,268,000
WFP	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$28,485,676
	HCIM	Countrywide	\$314,324
	LRIP	Countrywide	\$18,600,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$374,990,394
<b>TOTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE FUNDING</b>			<b>\$460,178,710</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$539,125,456</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
IP	Emergency Relief, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
IOM	Migrant Response	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$41,900,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$50,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN YEMEN IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$590,025,456</b>

#### FUNDING IN YEMEN FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE<sup>5</sup>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
IP	Emergency Relief, Health, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,300,000
IOM	Emergency Relief, Health, Migrant Response	Countrywide	\$780,000
UNHCR	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, MPCA, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$10,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$16,680,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS &amp; RESPONSE IN YEMEN IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$16,680,000</b>

<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$539,125,456</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$67,580,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$606,705,456</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 September 4, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> On March 27, 2020, USAID partially suspended approximately \$50 million in humanitarian NGO programming in Al Houthi-controlled areas due to continued Al Houthi-imposed bureaucratic impediments. USAID continues to fund more than \$13 million in humanitarian NGO activities in northern Yemen for programs that can be conducted without Al Houthi interference and that most directly mitigate the risk of famine and deliver imminently life-saving services, including treatment of acute malnutrition and cholera.

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

<sup>4</sup> USAID/BHA-supported complementary services—which include sector-specific activities such as agriculture, livelihoods, nutrition, and WASH interventions—enhance food assistance programs by strengthening food availability and access.

<sup>5</sup> Figures represent supplemental Migration and Refugee Assistance funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of September 4, 2020.

## 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 [interaction.org](https://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).