



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Yemen Country Brief May 2021

In Numbers



8.4 million people targeted
in May 2021

83,000 mt of general food assistance

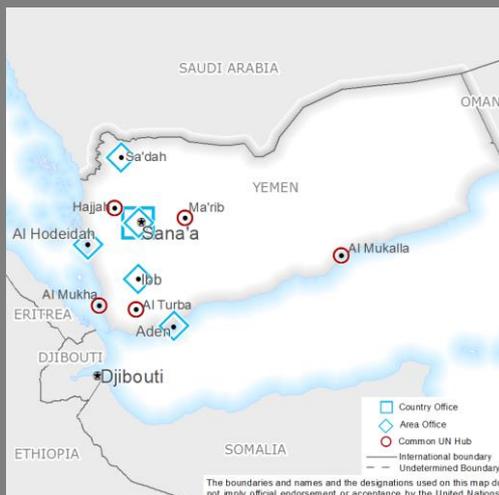
US\$10.4 million cash-based transfers
US\$10.2 million food vouchers

US\$425 million six-month net funding requirements
(June – November 2021)

Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 179th out of 189 countries, according to the 2020 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. 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).



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Population: **30.8 million**

2020 Human Development Index: **179 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

Global Acute Malnutrition: **2.25 million cases of children between 0-59 months**

Operational Updates

- Under the May cycle, WFP targeted 8.4 million people with general food assistance (GFA). Of these, 5.5 million people were targeted with in-kind food assistance, around 1.7 million people with food vouchers and over 1.2 million people with cash assistance.
- In the southern areas, 4.2 million beneficiaries are to be biometrically registered. By the end of May, around 1.72 million beneficiaries have been biometrically registered in the areas under the Internationally Recognized Government of Yemen (IRG). In November 2020, WFP launched biometric registration and the provision of cash through GFA in the areas under the Sana'a-based authorities. By the end of May, nearly 50,000 people have been biometrically registered, and activities are completed in three districts in Sana'a city, with over 141,000 people retargeted within the first phase.
- The military escalation in Ma'rib governorate, which started in February 2021 has led to a wave of displacement. By the end of May, 20,000 people are reported displaced, while numbers remain dynamic with high population movement reported in different parts of the governorate. To respond, WFP is targeting internally displaced people (IDPs) who are already registered at the place of re-displacement. In addition, through its rapid response mechanism (RRM) partners, WFP is providing an immediate emergency assistance package, as well as a one-month food ration to newly displaced households. In this initial response plan, WFP will support the provision of emergency food assistance for 15,000 households (105,000 people) for three months. WFP is assessing with OCHA how to support new IDPs beyond this first period.
- Torrential rains and flooding which started in mid-April continued into May. The flash floods resulted in a number of fatalities and caused large-scale damage in many Yemeni governorates. The majority of the areas affected are areas occupied by internally displaced persons (IDPs). Needs assessed include food, shelter, non-food items (NFI) and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) assistance after the heavy rains destroyed shelters. WFP and humanitarian partners continue to scale up the flood response during the rainy season in Yemen which runs from April to August.

Contact info: agnes.semaan@wfp.org, waad.almaqaleh@wfp.org
Country Director: Laurent Bukera
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen

Photo Caption: Hateem and Amal receive WFP High Energy Biscuits at a school in Al Makha. Photo: ©WFP Annabel Symington

Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP 2019-2021)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
6.73 b	3.3 b
2021 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (June – November 2021)
1.91 b	425 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen, have access to lifesaving, 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 2021.

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 April and May 2021, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted around 1,090 monitoring activities, including in person visits and remote calls.
- The monitored activities included in-kind general food assistance (GFA), commodity vouchers, cash-based transfers (CBT), nutrition

prevention and treatment programmes, school feeding and livelihood activities. WFP's call centres conducted over 32,300 calls to verify the receipt of assistance, food delivery to distribution sites and to collect data on food security indicators.

Funding and Pipeline Updates

- WFP urgently needs an additional USD 425 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General Food Assistance	287 million
Nutrition	98 million
School Feeding	-
Livelihoods	27 million
UNHAS	9 million
Logistics Cluster	4 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	0.01 million

Challenges

- In the areas under the Sana'a-based authorities, the fuel crisis slightly improved as few fuel stations reopened in the second week of May. During 2021, a total of 11 fuel vessels have completed its discharge of fuel at Al Hodeidah port, and no new fuel vessels have been cleared from the Saudi-led Coalition (SLC) holding area for discharge since 04 May. While there was no major interruption to WFP's operation due to the fuel crisis, a three-four days delay was reported at district level where fuel was not always available.
- Yemen's COVID-19 vaccination campaign which started on 20 April continued during May in the areas under the IRG. On 31 March, Yemen received the first batch of vaccine doses through the global vaccine sharing scheme COVAX, including 360,000 AstraZeneca vaccine doses, which is part of 1.9 million doses it is supposed to receive in 2021. The 1.9 million doses, required in two shots, are for a population of nearly 30 million people.
- The exchange rate variation between the areas under the IRG and the areas under the Sana'a-based authorities stands at a Yemeni Rial (YER) 331 difference. As of 31 May, the YER dropped to YER 928/USD in the areas under the IRG compared to YER 627/USD 1 in December 2020 and YER 887/USD 1 at the end of April 2021, a loss of 76 percent of its value compared to pre-crisis levels. This was due to several factors, mainly the non-materialisation of additional deposits of foreign currency at Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) in Aden, depletion of foreign reserves, as well as increased conflict and instability in the south. Meanwhile, the exchange rate in areas under the Sana'a-based authorities remains stable at around YER 597/USD 1, showing almost the same rate since January 2020.

Donors (supporting WFP Yemen's ICSP 2021 in alphabetical order): Australia, Canada, Estonia, European Commission, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Leichtenstien, Norway, Poland, private donors, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN Country-Based Pooled Funds, UN other funds and agencies, , United Arab Emirates, United States, and the World Bank.