

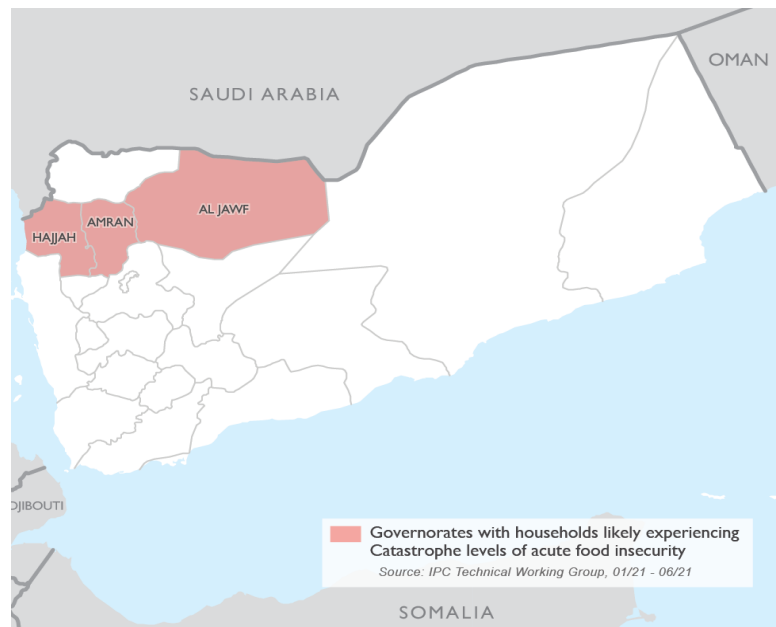
Yemen – Complex Emergency

JANUARY 22, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Relief organizations and the UN express concern that the designation of the Al Houthis as a FTO may have severe humanitarian consequences in Yemen.
- IPC analysis projects that approximately 16.2 million people will experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity from January to June 2021. USAID/BHA provides nearly \$150 million in U.S. Title II in-kind food assistance in response to deteriorating food security.
- Nearly 200,000 IDPs face acute humanitarian needs amid heightened conflict in Marib Governorate.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Yemen Response in FYs 2020–2021

USAID/BHA ^{1,2}	\$718,368,989
State/PRM ³	\$71,580,000

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

Total \$789,948,989⁴

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

²FY 2020 USAID/BHA funding includes emergency food assistance from the former Office of Food for Peace and non-food humanitarian assistance from the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.

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

⁴This total includes approximately \$16,680,000 in FY 2020 supplemental funding through State/PRM for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) preparedness and response activities.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

FTO Designation Raises Humanitarian Concerns

On January 10, Michael R. Pompeo—U.S. Secretary of State until January 20—announced the designation of the Al Houthis as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist entity. On January 19, the designation became effective and the Office of Foreign Assets Control issued four General Licenses authorizing the continuation of United States official business, certain activities of international organizations, and the importation of specific food and medical items into Yemen. Relief organizations have raised concerns that the designation could contribute to worsened food insecurity and further deterioration of macroeconomic conditions, as well as result in reduced humanitarian funding in Yemen. UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Mark Lowcock noted that the cost of ensuring compliance with the designation could increase the price of food imports by up to 400 percent, further diminishing household purchasing power. The UN World Food Program (WFP) reports that the FTO designation and a funding crisis could leave 24 million of the 30 million people in Yemen struggling to secure food, fuel, or medicine. The U.S. Government (USG) is closely monitoring the effects of the designation and the impact on humanitarian conditions in Yemen.

Attack at Aden Airport Results in Casualties Among ICRC Staff

On December 30, armed actors attacked Aden International Airport with explosive weapons, resulting in the deaths of at least 25 people—including three International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) personnel—and injuring an additional 110 individuals, according to international media. The attack began as the newly-formed Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) cabinet arrived at the airport from Saudi Arabia. Following the incident, ERC Lowcock issued a statement condemning the attack and urging armed actors in Yemen to adhere to international humanitarian law, including protecting civilians, civilian infrastructure, and humanitarian personnel from hostilities. Since 2011, conflict incidents have killed 16 ICRC staff or volunteers in Yemen, according to the organization.

16.2 Million People to Face Severe Food Insecurity

An estimated 16.2 million people will likely face Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity in Yemen from January to June 2021, representing an increase of approximately 2.7 million people from the October-to-December 2020 period, according to an IPC analysis for Yemen released in early December.⁵ The IPC analysis projects that 47,000 people will face Catastrophe—IPC 5—levels of acute food insecurity in Amran, Hajjah, and Al Jawf governorates during the January-to-June period, an increase of 30,500 people estimated to be experiencing Catastrophe levels of acute food security across the three governorates during the October-to-December 2020 period. In addition, the IPC analysis projects that approximately 5 million people and 11 million people will likely face Emergency—IPC 4—and Crisis conditions, respectively, from January to June, representing an increase of more than 1.4 million and 1.2 million people estimated to be experiencing Emergency and Crisis conditions, respectively, during the October-to-December period. In response to worsening food security, USAID/BHA provided nearly \$150 million in U.S. Title II in-kind food assistance to Yemen in December.



⁵ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of 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.

47,000
people in Catastrophe

5,058,000
people in Emergency

11,042,000
people in Crisis

8,644,500
people in Stress

5,258,000
people Minimally
Food-Insecure

Nearly 200,000 IDPs Face Acute Needs Amid Escalated Conflict in Marib

Conflict in Marib Governorate and nearby areas of Al Jawf and Sana'a governorates has increased since early 2020, prompting the displacement of nearly 102,000 people to Marib city and surrounding areas from January to mid-November. Nearly 200,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Marib Governorate faced acute humanitarian needs as of mid-November, of whom an estimated 80 percent lacked access to waste management systems and nearly 50 percent had limited or no access to health care services, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Moreover, humanitarian organizations report more than 8,200 IDP households across more than 80 IDP hosting sites lack support from site management and coordination actors. In response to acute needs, USG partner IOM and its implementing partners are supporting more than 12,000 IDP households across nearly 40 sites in Marib. From late October to mid-November, IOM provided livelihood support to more than 2,800 households, constructed nearly 600 household latrines, and conducted an estimated 1,500 health consultations per week for vulnerable households in Marib.

Heightened Conflict in Al Hudaydah, Ta'izz Results in Civilian Casualties

Escalated conflict in Al Hudaydah and Ta'izz governorates since late September has resulted in civilian casualties and damaged civilian infrastructure, including health facilities, houses, and schools, according to the UN. Relief actors recorded more than 100 civilian casualties across Ta'izz during October and November as shelling of residential areas increased east of Ta'izz city. In Al Hudaydah, increased hostilities resulted in at least 70 civilian casualties in October and additional civilian casualties through December, including the November 29 shelling of a house that caused 14 civilian casualties. In response, ERC Lowcock and UN Humanitarian Coordinator, a.i., Altaf Musani reiterated calls for a comprehensive ceasefire, urging the parties to protect civilians and adhere to international humanitarian law. The USG continues to closely monitor the situation and any impacts on relief activities in coordination with humanitarian partners and the UN.

Health Actors Commence Countrywide Poliovirus Immunization Campaigns

Following the August confirmation of a circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) outbreak in Sa'dah Governorate, health actors identified clusters of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases—which can be indicative of poliovirus—in Amran, Al Jawf, and Al Mahwit governorates, as well as one confirmed cVDPV1 case each in Sana'a city and Ta'izz, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) reports. On November 28, health actors—including the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO—began countrywide polio vaccination efforts to reach approximately 5.5 million children younger than five years of age, according to international media. Relief actors continue to investigate the AFP case clusters and monitor the cVDPV1 outbreak despite limited national laboratory testing capacity, bureaucratic constraints, and insecurity that has restricted access to hard-to-reach areas. The cVDPV1 outbreak arose amid cholera and COVID-19 outbreaks that have further strained Yemen's health care system.

KEY FIGURES



461,609

Metric tons of USG Title II in-kind food assistance provided to Yemen in FY 2020



\$25.9 Million

In dedicated FY 2020 USG support for life-saving health programming



\$29.1 Million

In dedicated FY 2020 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 international non-governmental organization (INGO) partners to bolster food security 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 or worse levels of acute food insecurity. 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, 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 in coordination 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, to achieve 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 14 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 conflict-affected populations, as well as migrants and refugees in Yemen originating from the Horn of Africa.



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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 is 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.



\$11.4 Million

In dedicated FY 2020 USG support for critical protection interventions

PROTECTION

Through support to IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and six 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.



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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. USAID/BHA partners are also 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 approximately 16.2 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 November 17, 2020, U.S. Ambassador Christopher P. Henzel redeclared a disaster for Yemen in FY 2021 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 2021^{1, 2}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Hadramawt, Al Hudaydah, Lahij, Al Mahrah, Shabwah, Socotra, Ta'izz	\$9,473,787
WFP	185,170 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$149,998,655
	Program Support		\$30,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$159,502,442
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$159,502,442

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020^{3, 4}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN YEMEN FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY			
USAID/BHA			

IPs	Agriculture and Food Security; Cash Transfers for Food, Nutrition; Complementary Services; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Food Vouchers; Health; Local, Regional, and International Food Procurement (LRIP); Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; MPCA; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Abyan, Ad Dali', Aden, Amanat Al Asimah, Amran, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Lahij, Al Mahwit, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Shabwah, Ta'izz	\$82,493,724
IPs	HCIM	Countrywide	\$2,494,640
FAO	Complementary Services	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
IOM	HCIM, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$22,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIM	Countrywide	\$3,500,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$27,000,000
WFP	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$28,800,000
	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
	LRIP	Countrywide	\$18,600,000
	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$357,325,568
	Program Support		\$152,615
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$558,866,547
STATE/PRM			
IP	Emergency Relief, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
IOM	Migrant Response	Countrywide, Regional	\$5,000,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Refugee Response, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$41,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$54,900,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE COMPLEX EMERGENCY IN YEMEN IN FY 2020			\$613,766,547

FUNDING IN YEMEN FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE⁵			
STATE/PRM			
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
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$16,680,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR COVID-19 OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE IN YEMEN IN FY 2020			\$16,680,000

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$558,866,547
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$71,580,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2020	\$630,446,547

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FYs 2020–2021	\$789,948,989
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¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of January 22, 2021.

² Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Figures represent supplemental Migration and Refugee Assistance funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities as of September 30, 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.
- 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
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)