



IN NUMBERS



15.9 million

people were severely food insecure (IPC Phase 3 and above)



3.6 million

people displaced since March 2015 ([Rapid Displacement Tracking Report, International Migration, December 2019](#))



3 million

people malnourished



USD 102.7 million

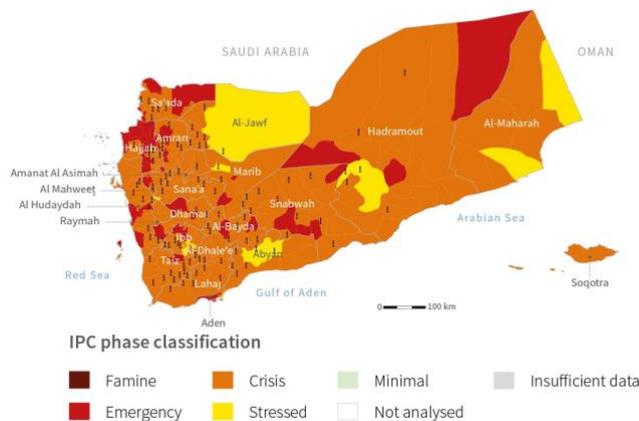
still needed under the 2019 Emergency Livelihoods Response Plan (ELRP)

KEY POINTS

- Conflict continues to drive hunger in Yemen. It is threatening agricultural livelihoods, destroying assets, limiting income opportunities, stimulating displacement and weakening purchasing power.
- A total of 15.9 million people were severely food insecure despite ongoing humanitarian assistance ([IPC report December 2018 – January 2019](#)). A follow up hotspot analysis indicated 1.2 million people in 29 accessible districts of the 45 districts were severely food insecure between July and September 2019 ([IPC hotspot analysis](#)).
- In November 2019, more than 49 400 suspected cases of cholera were reported, with 16 related deaths ([Cholera Situation, World Health Organization, November 2019](#)). Flash floods could increase the risk of cholera spreading.
- Soaring fuel prices are limiting crop cultivation and escalating food prices, and outbreaks of fall armyworm and desert locusts are endangering the food security and livelihoods of communities.
- FAO urgently seeks USD 102.7 million to assist 3.9 million people in 22 governorates through income-generating activities, agricultural production support and livestock protection assistance.

MAP

Acute food insecurity situation in the presence of Humanitarian Food Assistance (December 2018–January 2019)



Acute food insecurity situation in the absence of Humanitarian Food Assistance (December 2018–January 2019)



BACKGROUND

The humanitarian crisis in Yemen remains the largest in the world. Conflict, the major driver of food insecurity, has persisted relentlessly for over four years, threatening agricultural livelihoods. It has destroyed agricultural assets, limited income opportunities, stimulated displacement and weakened families' ability to purchase food. The combination of these consequences have deepened communities' exposure to risks and hazards, and increased their reliance on humanitarian assistance for survival.

A cholera epidemic is ongoing in Yemen, largely due to the collapse of basic infrastructure, including water sanitation facilities. The cumulative number of suspected cholera cases reported in Yemen since October 2016 to November 2019 is more than 2.2 million, including 3 886 related deaths. In November 2019 alone, more than 49 400 suspected cases were reported, with 16 related deaths. Children under five represent 26 percent of the total suspected cases during 2019. The outbreak has affected 22 of the 23 governorates and 311 of the 333 districts of Yemen. Ongoing flash floods continue to displace families, damage infrastructure and potentially increase the risk of cholera spreading.

According to the IPC report issued in December 2018, around 15.9 million people were facing severe food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) despite ongoing humanitarian assistance. A hotspot IPC analysis issued in July 2019 indicated that 1.2 million people in 29 accessible districts (of the 45 districts) were severely food insecure between July and September 2019.

In 2019, humanitarian food assistance doubled or even tripled in the worst-affected districts that had populations facing a food security Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in December 2018, providing a great reprieve to households' food availability and access. It is, however, important to note, that there are still large food consumption gaps, and this is leading to an accelerated depletion of essential livelihood assets for most households.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

High fuel prices are limiting agricultural activities, specifically crop cultivation, and increasing food prices through higher transportation costs. The tendency of replacing hired agricultural labour with unskilled family labour to cope with higher production costs is endangering the livelihoods of landless rural families relying on casual labour opportunities as their main source of income.

Fall armyworm outbreaks, which was first detected in the country in July 2018, affected maize crops in 2019. Maize is grown in Central Highlands (where it was harvested in July) and in Southern Uplands (harvested in October), despite its meagre quantity – averaging about 40 000 tonnes in the past five years. The presence of the insatiable pest endangers agricultural livelihoods.

Heavy rains and cyclones in late 2018 triggered a surge in desert locust populations, causing outbreaks in Yemen. In August 2019, swarms of locusts moved in the highlands and reached the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts. Unusually good rains in August 2019 allowed breeding, which extended to the Aden coastal plains but declined in the interior as conditions dried out and locusts moved to coastal areas. Seasonal agricultural yields, and the food security and livelihoods of communities in the affected areas are threatened.

Taking into account conflict related constraints as well as outbreaks of pests, total cereal production in 2019 is forecast at 385 000 tonnes, about 12 percent below the previous year's harvest and over 30 percent below the five-year average.

FAO RESPONSE, TARGETS AND FUNDING

2019 PLANNED RESPONSE



Improve the food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable populations facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) through cash+ interventions (unconditional cash transfer complemented by quick-impact emergency agricultural livelihoods assistance).



Restore agricultural production activities through the provision of beekeeping inputs, fodder choppers, dairy equipment, drip irrigation system and solar pumps, and through animal restocking and rehabilitation of landing sites and marketing centres to prevent severely food insecure people from slipping into Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).



Protect livestock production through the provision of vaccines and implementation of vaccination campaigns to safeguard animals in high-risk areas.

RESPONSE TO DATE



3.1 million people assisted



Provided **1 440 tonnes of cereal** (wheat, millet and sorghum) to 408 730 people and **43 tonnes of vegetable seeds** (onion, hot pepper and okra) to 274 400 people, allowing them to cultivate 76 736 ha of land and produce 157 123 tonnes of grain, beans and vegetables.



Provided **42 tonnes of forage seeds** to 58 800 people, **10 250 sheep and goats** to 14 350 people, **9 066 tonnes of animal feed** (multi-nutrient mineral and feed blocks, concentrated feed, wheat bran and molasses) to 399 840 people, **100 chopper machines** to 7 000 people, **dairy equipment** to 40 985 people and **vaccinated/treated 3.6 million heads of livestock** (belonging to 1.8 million people) against *peste des petits ruminants*, sheep and goat pox, lumpy skin disease and parasites.



Transferred USD 148 206 to 3 367 people.



Provided **14 500 hens, 1 350 coops** and **93.5 tonnes of poultry feed** to 10 150 people.



Provided **fishery kits (5 625 nets, 5 655 iceboxes and 1 450 life jackets)** to 104 860 people.



Rehabilitated water infrastructure (benefiting 9 380 people), **constructed four wastewater treatment plants** (benefiting 476 people) and **provided 10 solar pumps** to 630 people.



Provided **2 912 beehives and 78 honey extractor machines** to 2 758 people.

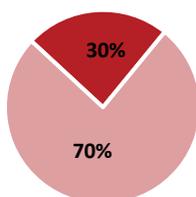


Provided **drip irrigation systems** to 10 976 people and covered **6 310 ha with pesticides**.



Provided **trainings and animal health equipment** to 140 community animal health workers.

FUNDING



■ **Funding to-date:**
USD 32.3 million

■ **Funding gap:**
USD 102.7 million

For 2019, FAO received USD 32.3 million* for its resilience programme in Yemen, including emergencies. Under the 2019 ELRP, FAO is still seeking USD 102.7 million to assist 3.9 million severely food insecure people in 22 governorates.

*Funding is shown based on the 2019 approval year (including for multi-year activities).

Overall FAO requirement: USD 135 million

To assist: 7 million people

Resource partners: The governments of Belgium, Kuwait, Japan and the United States of America, and the European Union, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and United Nations Peacebuilding.

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