



HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian needs across Yemen continue to grow as violence escalates.
- Serious damage to Al-Hudaydah port could deprive millions of people of food and prevent the import of fuel necessary to run health facilities, flour mills, and water and sanitation works.
- Some form of assistance delivered to 6.9 million people across Yemen's 22 governorates.
- Outstanding donor pledges hinder response.

FIGURES

No. of deaths	4,513
No. of injuries	23,509
No. of IDPs	1.4 m
Affected population	21.1 m
People targeted	11.7 m

FUNDING

1.6 billion
requested (US\$)

19% (\$298 million)
Funded

314 million
outstanding pledges (US\$)

252 million
(US\$) contributed outside
the humanitarian appeal

In this issue

- Humanitarian update P.1
- Attacks on Al-Hudaydah port P.3
- Humanitarian response overview P.3
- ERC visits Yemen P.5
- Funding update P.5

Escalating conflict deepens acute humanitarian crisis

Air strikes, armed clashes and shelling are directly affecting 21 out of 22 governorates. The use of explosive weapons in populated areas, attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure, and the recruitment of children in violation of international humanitarian law (IHL) are widespread and have created a large-scale protection crisis. The conflict has also taken a toll on aid workers. As of 27 August, five humanitarian workers have been killed since March 2015. As of 19 August, the World Health Organization (WHO) had reported 28,022 casualties since 19 March, including 4,513 deaths, among them a vast number of civilians. UNICEF reports that close to 400 children have been killed.

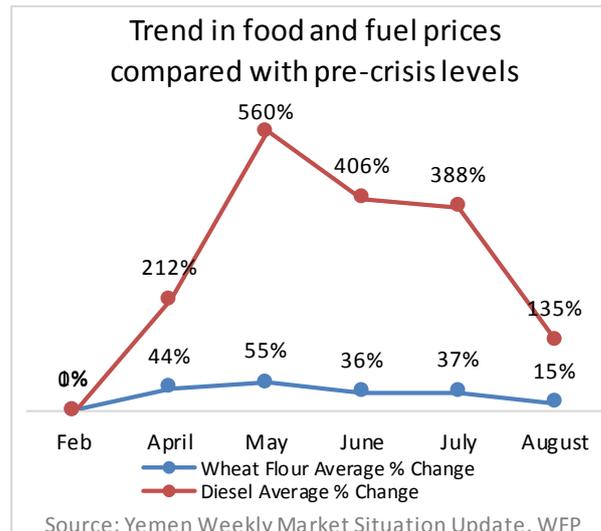
The escalation of the conflict and severe commercial import restrictions in Yemen are taking a devastating toll on the civilian population.

Reduction in commercial shipping increases prices of vital commodities



The commercial-shipping restrictions are being felt nationwide. The imposition of an arms embargo and associated commercial import restrictions have led to an increase in shipping costs and a very significant decrease in shipping volume. At the start of the conflict in March this year, Yemen was highly dependent on imported food supplies, basic commodities and medical supplies. It imported an estimated 90 per cent of its food needs,

100 per cent of medicines and 70 per cent of fuel. On average, Yemen imports approximately 3.7 million MT of cereals annually.



The scarcity of food and fuel and the depletion of existing stocks have led to a price increase of basic commodities that remain out of reach of the average consumer. The national average price of wheat flour is 15 per cent higher for the first two weeks of August than the pre-crisis level in February, according to WFP market monitoring. The price of fuel is 135 per cent higher than before the crisis. However, the brief reopening of Aden port, which had been temporarily closed since the end of March, and roads connecting surrounding governorates at the end of July has improved the

supply and availability of fuel and food commodities. Subsequently, the national average price of wheat flour decreased by 16 per cent and the national average price of fuel by over 35 per cent compared with the previous month. Nonetheless, the high level of food insecurity is likely to persist in the most affected governorates where conflicts and air strikes continue.

Lack of fuel and insecurity prevent vital commodities from reaching people

Cereals that arrive in the country face challenges to be milled due to fuel shortages. The lack of fuel also means that water cannot be supplied and hospital generators cannot function. Before the crisis, Yemen imported 72 million litres of gasoline and 305 million litres of diesel monthly. But since March, monthly imports have varied between 1 and 60 per cent of the required amount. Humanitarian partners' reports indicate a three-month fuel shortfall.

Access constraints in a number of governorates, including Aden, Al Dhale'e, Lahj and Taizz, have also prevented staple food items, such as wheat, from reaching the civilian population as the safety of commercial convoys could not be guaranteed. Air strikes have reportedly targeted local markets and trucks carrying food, as stated by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food on 11 August.

80 per cent of people need humanitarian assistance

More than 21 million people in Yemen – a staggering 80 per cent of the population – require some form of humanitarian assistance. This represents a one-third increase from last year. Food insecurity has increased, with 12.9 million people considered food insecure, an increase of over 20 per cent in six months.

More than 20 million people lack access to adequate water, sanitation or hygiene services. This is a 52 per cent increase since the crisis escalated, primarily due to heavy restrictions on diesel imports that are essential for maintaining the water supply.

The conflict is threatening to reverse hard-won gains against malnutrition. About 1.8 million children are likely to suffer from some form of malnutrition in 2015 – an increase of almost 1 million children from 2014, according to UNICEF. A projected half a million of these children will be at risk of severe acute malnutrition in 2015, which is over three times the number reported in 2014.

“The deliberate starvation of civilians in both international and internal armed conflict may constitute a war crime, and could also constitute a crime against humanity in the event of deliberate denial of food and also the deprivation of food sources or supplies.”
UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

At least 160 health facilities across the country have closed. In many cases, due to a lack of medicines, supplies, equipment and fuel to run the generators, as the electricity supply has become sporadic across Yemen. The health professionals who continue to work in the few facilities that have managed to stay open have not been paid in months due to the economic crisis caused by the conflict.

Due to insecurity and the closure of more than 3,500 schools, 2 million children are deprived of education.

Humanitarian needs

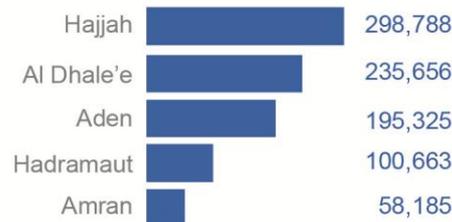
-  **20.4 M** people
Drinking water and sanitation
-  **15.2M** people
Health care
-  **12.9M** people
Emergency food and livelihoods assistance
-  **11.4M**
Protection of civilians
-  **2.9M** children
Education
-  **1.6M** women and children
nutrition
-  **1.2M** people
Emergency shelter and NFI

Increasing displacement

 **1,439,118**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Top 5 Governorates hosting IDPs



Since March, more than 1.4 million people have been forced to leave their homes in search of safety and security in other parts of the country. Most internally displaced persons (IDPs) are living with relatives or friends, placing an additional burden on already impoverished families. The most vulnerable people are living in public buildings, makeshift shelters or in the open. Over 50,000 Yemenis and third-country nationals have fled the country, mostly to Djibouti and Somalia.

Deep impact on civilian infrastructure

According to initial satellite imagery, at least 2,300 civilian structures, such as schools, hospitals and markets, have been damaged, destroyed or commandeered by armed groups. As of the end of June, an estimated 400 schools had been affected by the conflict, either because they had been damaged, or occupied by armed groups or IDPs. Since 24 August, armed groups have occupied the Taiz International Hospital. All 80 patients, including 20 in the intensive care unit, have left the premises. The whereabouts of a majority of these people is unknown. Ambulances have also reportedly been commandeered.

Air strikes on Al-Hudaydah port cripple shipping

Al-Hudaydah and Aden are the two main ports of entry for commercial and humanitarian consignments. Before the crisis, they handled an estimated 60 and 30 per cent of all commercial imports respectively. Saleef, Mokha and Mukalla ports' capacity is much smaller, totaling 10 per cent of all national imports.

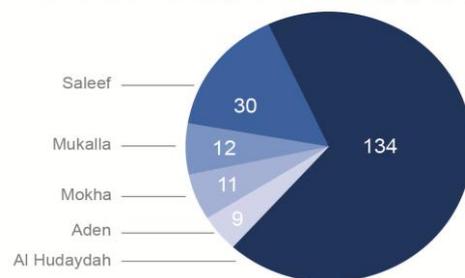
Air strikes on Al-Hudaydah port facilities late on 17 August and early 18 August have brought the port activities to a near halt. Operations are restricted to those with cargos at the port. The port is empty of all vessels and has remained non-operational, according to the Hudaydah Port Shipping Manager.

Activities at Al-Hudaydah, the main port of entry to Yemen for commercial and humanitarian consignments, have come to a near total halt following the 17 August air strikes.

The container terminal sustained heavy damage and the power supply is down, meaning that cargo cannot be cleared from the port storage. All five cranes are non-operational and beyond port engineers' capability to repair.

A UN-chartered aid vessel carrying 2,230 MT of mixed food commodities has left the port and has been rerouted to Djibouti. One humanitarian warehouse was confirmed as damaged; it was empty at the time of the strikes. However, damage to the port's grain silo has left wheat supplies exposed to sun, humidity and rain, increasing the likelihood of spoilage. No casualty reports were available.

Number of ship arrivals by port

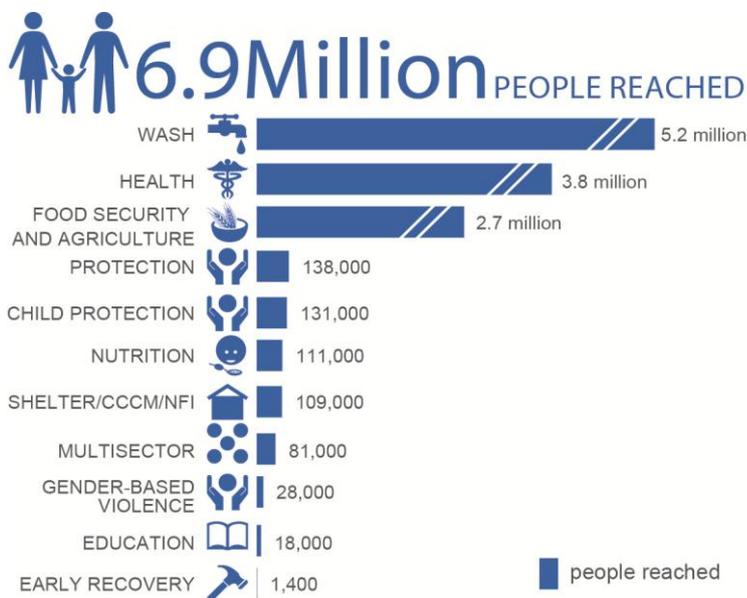


The temporary closing of Aden port at the end of March, the second largest port in Yemen, led to a drastic reduction in the port's humanitarian imports.

Almost 7 million people received some form of assistance from March to July 2015

Humanitarian response overview

Reduced availability of fuel, security risks to transporters, increased number of checkpoints and delays in the issuance of visas are preventing the scale-up of humanitarian operations. However, despite major constraints, more than 70 humanitarian organizations have deployed across the country. From March to July, humanitarian actors have provided some form of assistance to 6.9 million people in all 22 governorates.



Among the people reached, 2.7 million received emergency food and livelihood assistance in the form of food rations, unconditional cash transfers or vouchers. In the health sector, actors have provided support to almost 4 million people. IDPs have been assisted by over 65 mobile health teams. Distribution of medical supplies, health kits and fuel to medical facilities benefited up to 2.9 million people. Assistance also took the form of water trucking for IDPs and the provision of latrines and hygiene kits. Fuel has been provided to local water corporations enabling them to continue providing water to almost 3 million people. Five million people were reached by humanitarian actors working in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector. Nutritional support was provided to over 100,000 women and malnourished children, while treatment programmes for severely malnourished children were established in 257 districts.

UN humanitarian chief visits Yemen

From 9 to 13 August, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Stephen O'Brien visited Yemen. During his five-day mission he visited Sana'a, Amran and Aden. He met affected people, authorities on both sides of the frontlines, and aid workers from the United Nations and national and international NGOs.



In Aden and Sana'a, the ERC met the parties to the conflict and reminded them of their responsibilities under International Humanitarian Law to ensure the protection of civilians and the delivery of humanitarian assistance. In Amran he met with IDPs who had fled conflict zones, particularly from Sa'ada, which was declared a military zone by the Saudi-led coalition. On the last day of the mission, the ERC visited Djibouti, a country hosting over 20,000 refugees from Yemen.

Mr. O'Brien said that he was utterly appalled by the lack of protection of civilians by all parties, and he expressed the UN system's determination to scale up its operations. He also called on donors to abide by their commitments: "Donors need to show their solidarity with the Yemeni people and provide us with timely funding to cover the enormous needs in the whole country, and notably cities like Aden that have suffered so badly during the last four months."

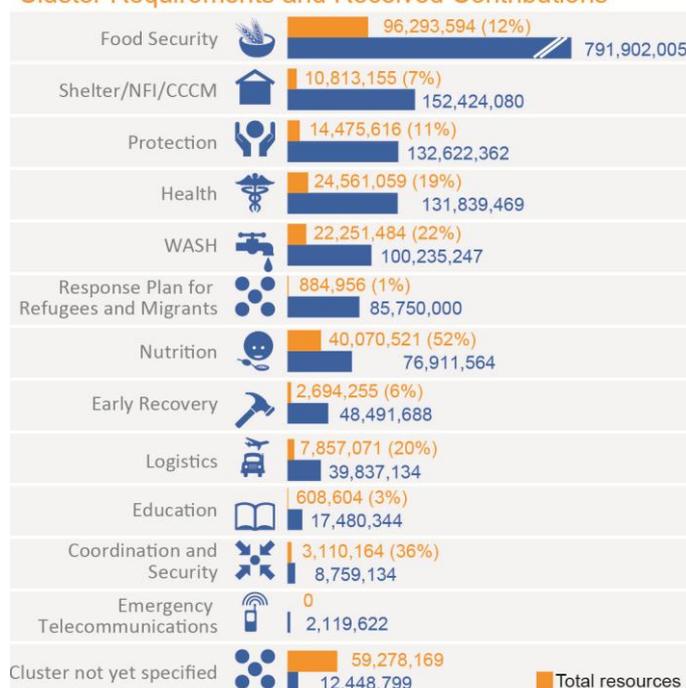
Humanitarian funding

The Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) is only 19 per cent funded, with US\$298 million in contributions made against the \$1.6 billion in requirements (26 August). An additional \$252 million has been contributed to overall humanitarian response.

Despite the escalating crisis and humanitarian needs that have more than doubled since March, funding in August 2015 is only 27 per cent higher than the same period in 2014 (\$235.3 million).

If pledges do not materialize soon and additional funding is not provided, essential pipelines and activities will be further limited, depriving millions of vulnerable people of life-saving assistance. In anticipation of funding, UN agencies have

Cluster Requirements and Received Contributions



borrowed \$157 million to respond to the critical humanitarian needs. This funding has not yet been covered by donor contributions. WFP has advanced the most, with \$77 million, followed by WHO with \$33 million and UNICEF with \$26 million.

The Yemen Humanitarian Pooled Fund, working directly in support of the YHRP objectives, has received \$33 million in paid contributions, and an additional \$4.7 million has been pledged. The fund has allocated \$22.3 million in 2015, of which 84 per cent has gone to NGOs: 17 per cent to national NGOs and 67 per cent to international NGOs. A new \$14.5 million allocation for NGOs will be launched in September.

The Central Emergency Response Fund has provided \$26.7 million in rapid response funds to provide urgent humanitarian response in five clusters: health (\$8 million), logistics (\$6.3 million), water and sanitation (\$5 million), shelter/NFI (\$3 million), nutrition (\$3 million) and food security (\$1.4 million).

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

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