



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Yemen Country Brief August 2020

In Numbers



8.9 million people targeted
in August 2020

81,745 mt of general food assistance dispatched

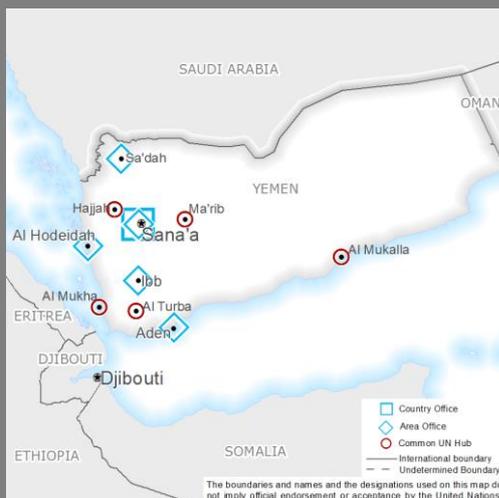
USD 5.9 million cash-based transfers to be made
USD 11.5 million value of redeemed commodities through food vouchers

USD 427 million six-month net funding requirements (October 2020 – March 2021)

Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 177th out of 189 countries, according to the 2019 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 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).



Population: **30.5 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **178 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **2 million children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

- As of 31 August, WHO [reported](#) 1,962 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yemen and 567 deaths, with a case fatality rate of 29 percent. During the month, it was observed that the number of reported cases decreased, but indicators suggest that the virus continues to spread. Reported cases are likely to be undercounted due to limited testing capacity, fear of stigma, and difficulties accessing treatment centres. The collective humanitarian COVID-19 response focused in August on testing, surveillance and case management, as well as procurement and distribution of oxygen and personal protective equipment (PPE). By the end of August, WFP Bilateral Service Provision transported 12,672 m³ of medical supplies and PPE equipment to Yemen by air and sea for the COVID-19 response, with more in the pipeline. Moreover, WFP recruited three physicians in Sana'a, Al Hodeidah and Aden governorates to provide daily follow-up support on staff health status.
- The fuel crisis that started in the first half of June 2020 in areas under the Sana'a-based authorities continued in August. As of 30 August, 21 commercial vessels carrying 506,821 mt of fuel continued to be held in the Saudi-led Coalition (SLC) holding area. Four commercial vessels were permitted to discharge a total of 83,699 mt of fuel during August.
- Since mid-April, heavy rains and severe weather conditions continued in Yemen, resulting in flash floods with [reported](#) fatalities and repeated displacement of households as well as damages to infrastructures, homes and shelters. Most affected governorates include Dhamar, Amran, Ma'rib, Sana'a City, Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, Al Mahwit, Ibb, Ad Dali', Abyan and Aden. WFP is prioritising general food distributions (GFD) in floods-affected areas, while conducting localised assessments in coordination with humanitarian partners. Additionally, WFP assisted 3,000 flood-affected households with one-month general food distribution (GFD) in Amran, Dhamar, Ma'rib and Al Jawf. WFP also assisted 8,855 flood-affected households with immediate response rations (IRR) in 17 affected governorates in August.
- The UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen released a [statement](#) highlighting that half of the UN's major programmes in Yemen were impacted by the lack of funding, and thus were forced to close or reduce drastically.

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Photo Caption: Coordinated by WFP's Bilateral Service Provision, COVID-19 cargo is unloaded at Sana'a airport. Photo: ©WFP Ebrahim Al Rawni

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4.82 b	2.60 b
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2020 – March 2021)
2.53 b	427 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 2020.

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 August 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 2,196 monitoring activities in 22 governorates.

The monitored activities included in-kind general food assistance (GFA), commodity vouchers, cash-based transfers (CBT), prevention and treatment programmes for moderate acute malnutrition, school feeding and livelihood activities. WFP's call centres conducted 29,864 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's operational needs for 2020 stand at USD 2.5 billion. Based on the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) and given the long lead-times to bring food into the country, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 427 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General food assistance	328 million
Nutrition	39 million
School Feeding	15 million
Livelihoods	32 million
UNHAS	8 million
Logistics Cluster	2.1 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	1.6 million

Challenges

- In August, two major disruptions to internet services were experienced, causing almost 60 percent of the country's internet capacity to be out of service. The first instance lasted a few days while the second continued through the end of August. As a part of WFP's alternate work modality to prevent the spread of COVID-19, most staff are working from home and are heavily dependent on internet connectivity to carry out their work.
- Though no major impact on WFP's food delivery operations was reported, increased disruption to deliveries at the district level was experienced. WFP is further assessing the possible impact on its supply chain and mitigating options should the need arise.
- Due to the continuous heavy rains and flooding across the country and their impact on main roads and infrastructures, some delays in the deliveries to the flood-affected locations were experienced.

Donors (in alphabetical order): Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Kuwait, Luxembourg, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, UN other funds and agencies, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Yemen Humanitarian Fund and private sector donors.