



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Yemen Country Brief June 2020

In Numbers



8.8 million people targeted
in June 2020

82,249 mt of general food assistance dispatched

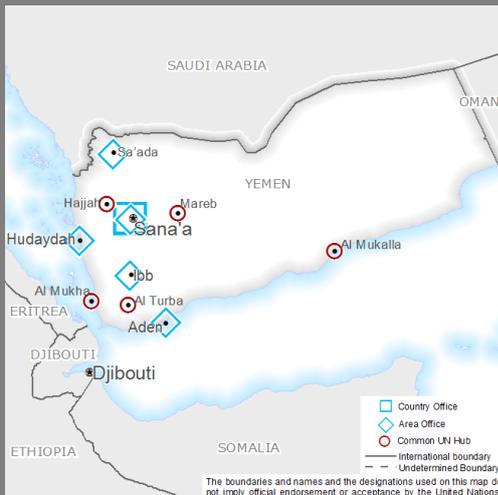
USD 6.4 million cash-based transfers to be made
USD 11.7 million value of redeemed commodities through food vouchers

USD 623 million six-month net funding requirements (August 2020 – January 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

- While distributions under the June cycle are ongoing, the May distribution cycle was concluded in June. WFP reached 8.1 million people with general food assistance. Of which, 5.9 million people were assisted with in-kind food rations, 1.6 million people with food vouchers, and some 590,000 people with cash assistance.
- In June, the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases surpassed the one thousand mark. As of 30 June, WHO [reported](#) 1,162 confirmed cases and 313 deaths, with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 26 percent. Reported cases are likely to be undercounted, considering the low testing rates.
- Signs of a severe fuel crisis have started in areas under the Sana'a-based authorities in the first half of June as a number of fuel vessels continue to be held in the Saudi-led Coalition (SLC) holding area. No major impact on WFP's operations was reported during June; however, delays were experienced at the district level where smaller trucks are used to deliver food to distribution sites and fuel is not always available. As of 04 July, three commercial oil tankers [arrived](#) in Al Hodeidah port.
- On 20 June, UNHAS successfully operated the first flight connecting humanitarian staff from Amman to Sana'a since the closure of Queen Alia International Airport on 17 March as a result of COVID-19. A total of nine flights connecting Sana'a, Aden, and Sayun with Amman and Addis Ababa were conducted in June.
- As part of the collective humanitarian response to COVID-19 in Yemen, in June, WFP Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) coordinated 17 cargo flights from Dubai, Salalah and Djibouti, transporting more than 1,500 m³ of essential cargo to Yemen for the COVID-19 response. Additionally, BSP shipped 249 containers (9,544 m³) of cargo to Al Hodeidah port from Jeddah, including for the COVID-19 response.
- On 02 June, the Yemen Conference 2020 - High-Level [Pledging](#) Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen took place which was convened virtually by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The pledges amounted to USD 1.35 billion. To cover essential activities up to December, USD 2.4 billion is needed, while the projected funding needs for food security assistance total around USD 1 billion for the rest of 2020.

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Photo Caption: WFP distributes an immediate rations response kit for the affected host communities at the IDPs camps in Aden. Photo: ©WFP Hebatallah Munassar

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4.82 b	2.55 b
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (August 2020 – January 2021)
2.53 b	623 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 June 2020, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 2,624 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 29,614 calls to verify receipt of assistance, food delivery to distribution sites and 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 737 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months as per the following:

Activity	Funding requirement in USD
General food assistance	577 million
Nutrition	70 million
School Feeding	5 million
Livelihoods	75 million
UNHAS	6 million
Logistics Cluster	2 million
Emergency Telecommunications Cluster	3 million

Challenges

- As a COVID-19 precautionary measure enacted by the local authorities, a 14-day quarantine restriction has been imposed on all vessels entering all Yemeni ports in the north and south. This led to significant delays, and therefore demurrage costs, for vessels linking regional ports, which only spend one or two days at sea between ports. WFP chartered a second vessel for an ad hoc voyage that carried 1,200 containers for WFP and partners.
- Since the start of the conflict, Yemen has faced food price increases, according to the latest food security and market price monitoring from WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM). As of the end of June, the cost of the minimum food basket (MFB) increased to an average of YER 5,641 (USD 8.40) per person per month and reached YER 6,000 (USD 8.11) in the areas under the Internationally Recognised Government (IRG) compared to YER 2,360 (USD 3.2) prior to the start of the conflict in 2015. The present currency depreciation reaching around YER 750 per one USD, an increase of 68 percent compared to pre-conflict could lead to reduced food supply and soaring prices, resulting in an escalation of food insecurity compounded by the impact of COVID-19.

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, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Yemen Humanitarian Fund and private sector donors.