



SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Yemen Country Brief January 2019

## In Numbers



**9.1 m people assisted**  
in January 2019

**113,815 mt** of general food assistance distributed

**2.6 m people assisted** with cash-based and commodity transfers made

**US\$ 464.3 m** six months (February-July 2019) net funding requirements

### Operational Context

Yemen is classified as a low-income, food-deficit country, ranked 178<sup>th</sup> out of 189 countries, according to the 2018 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.

WFP has been present in Yemen since 1967. Through the current two-year Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020), WFP operations are aimed at saving lives, while protecting livelihoods in emergencies, specifically by increasing the food consumption of vulnerable food insecure people through the scale-up of emergency food assistance, as well as by expanding 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

- In January, WFP provided general food assistance (GFA) for some 9.1 million people in 19 Yemeni governorates, 80 percent of the monthly target of 11.3 million people. Of this, 6.7 million received in-kind assistance, 2.4 million received commodity vouchers, and 123,694 were reached through cash-based transfers (CBT).
- In January, WFP began delivering food assistance via cash-based transfers for the first time in Aden governorate. WFP plans to reach 1.5 million people with cash-based transfers in 2019, scaling up across the country.
- On 1 January, WFP began implementing the WFP Yemen 2019-2020 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP). It will primarily focus on life-saving food and nutrition assistance, whilst incorporating conditional transfers that restore and protect livelihoods.
- On 16 January, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution for the deployment of up to 75 observers to Yemen's port city of Hudaydah for a period of six months to monitor the ceasefire and the redeployment of forces by the parties to the conflict. The newly-adopted resolution establishes what will be officially known as the UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA). This follows UN Security Council resolution 2451 which initially allowed monitors to deploy to Hudaydah city for a period of 30 days.
- On 24 January, WFP received reports that the Red Sea Mills complex in Hudaydah caught fire. According to the owner of the Red Sea Mills, two silos were affected, one silo is estimated to contain some 4,500 mt of WFP wheat, 9 percent of the total wheat stored. The extent of damage to the WFP commodities is not yet known, WFP is awaiting to receive access to assess the condition of the stocks, as well as the damages of the milling facility.
- The ceasefire, which came into effect on 18 December, continues to hold at a political level. Both sides to the conflict continue to trade

Contact info: [laura.phillips@wfp.org](mailto:laura.phillips@wfp.org)  
Country Director: Stephen Anderson  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Yemen)

Photo Caption: ©WFP/Fares Khoailed.  
A group of students enjoying their daily portion of WFP date bars in Bilad Al-Ross district in Sana'a governorate.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>3.34 b</b>	<b>456.4 m</b>
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (February – July 2019)
<b>1.6 b</b>	<b>464.3 m</b>

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen, have access to life-saving, 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.

- accusations of breaches. On 17 January, Dutch Major General Patrick Cammaert and the team of Redeployment Coordination Committee were reported safe after an armoured car in their convoy was hit by a bullet following a

meeting with the Internationally Recognized Government of Yemen (IRG).

- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has stated that is undertaking preparations to facilitate the release and transfer of prisoners under the prisoner exchange agreement that emanated from the Sweden peace talks. The ICRC has increased its personnel presence in Yemen, is working to rehabilitate transfer locations and is preparing to provide medical assistance. Two planes are also being prepared to shuttle detainees between Sana'a and Sayoun.

**Monitoring**

- In January, WFP and third-party monitoring (TPM) companies conducted 182 monitoring visits in 17 governorates. The monitored activities included GFA, in-kind and through cash and commodity vouchers, prevention and treatment of MAM programmes, school feeding and livelihood programmes. In areas where the UN has access, WFP staff monitored 44 distribution sites under GFA, CV-TN, nutrition and school feeding programmes in Hudaydah, Sa'ada and Ibb governorates.

**Funding and Pipeline update**

- Based on the ICSP, WFP urgently needs an additional USD 573.1 million to ensure operations can continue unimpeded over the next six months.
- WFP currently has 194,560 mt of cereals in country, sufficient to cover requirements until the third week of March 2019.

**Challenges**

- Due to the volatility and uncertainty of the security situation in Hudaydah, vessel movement to Hudaydah port has been significantly affected. Since November 2017, 24 WFP chartered vessels have been able to access Hudaydah and Saleef ports. However, vessels carrying food and fuel, including WFP-charted vessels, are still granted access to Hudaydah and Saleef ports, both operational but at minimal capacity.
- Since September, WFP remains unable to access the Red Sea Mill silos in Hudaydah, recently affected by a fire, due to intense fighting in the area. The mills are currently storing 51,000 mt of WFP wheat – enough to assist 3.7 million severely food insecure people for one month.

**Donors:** Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN-based funds, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States