

# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #10, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**306,027**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Yemen

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – July 2013

**232,931**

IDP Returnees in Yemen

UNHCR – July 2013

**240,371**

Refugees in Yemen

UNHCR – July 2013

**50,249**

New Arrivals from the Horn of Africa between January and July

UNHCR – July 2013

**10 million**

Food-Insecure People in Yemen

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – September 2013

**1 million**

Global Acute Malnutrition Cases

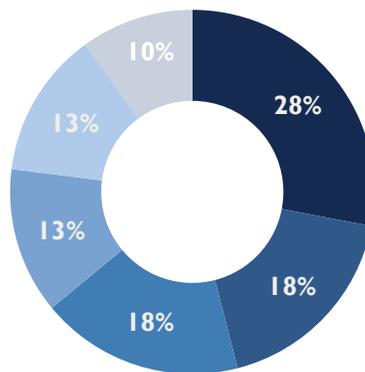
OCHA – August 2013

**13.1 million**

People Without Access to Safe Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation

OCHA – August 2013

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2013



- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (28%)
- Nutrition (18%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (18%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (13%)
- Health (13%)
- Other (10%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. Government (USG) provides more than \$130 million in humanitarian assistance in Yemen in FY 2013
- USAID/OFDA provides support for flood-affected populations
- 95 percent of Abyan IDPs have returned home

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO YEMEN IN FY 2013

USAID/OFDA	\$36,987,023
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$75,046,700
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$18,885,660

**\$130,919,383**  
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 6, U.S. Ambassador Gerald M. Feierstein declared a disaster due to floods that began in mid-August and had affected more than 50,000 people in nine governorates across Yemen by late September. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$50,000 to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to deliver emergency relief supplies, provide shelter assistance, and support water and sanitation services for families affected by the flooding in Abyan and Shabwah governorates.
- More than 95 percent of people displaced from Abyan Governorate by fighting in 2011 and 2012 had returned home by September 2013, according to the U.N. The number of registered IDPs in southern Yemen has fallen from more than 200,000 people in mid-2012, immediately following the Abyan conflict, to less than 5,500 people as of July 2013.
- In FY 2013, the USG provided more than \$130 million in humanitarian assistance to Yemen, including emergency food aid and life-saving economic recovery, food security, health, livelihoods, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions. USG humanitarian assistance in Yemen benefits IDPs, refugees, formerly displaced people returning home, and other vulnerable populations.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## **FLOODING**

- Multiple weeks of heavy rainfall beginning on August 14 produced flash floods in 26 districts of Abyan, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb, Sana'a, Shabwah, and Ta'izz governorates. As of late September, the floods had resulted in 43 deaths, affected more than 52,000 people, and damaged more than 2,700 shelters, according to the U.N.
  - On August 20, strong winds and heavy rains damaged 600 latrines, 20 temporary classrooms, and more than 50 percent of the tents in three IDP camps in the Al Mazraq area of northern Hajjah Governorate, affecting more than 8,000 camp occupants. Rains and associated flooding also destroyed houses and agricultural land in Al Hudaydah and Ibb governorates, displacing more than 300 families.
  - Humanitarian organizations, including IOM and other USG partners, addressed priority needs resulting from the floods by providing shelter, food, and WASH assistance through existing programs in affected areas. USAID/OFDA's \$50,000 contribution to IOM for flood-specific assistance helped IOM reach vulnerable, flood-affected families in Shabwah and Abyan governorates.
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## **DISPLACEMENT, INSECURITY, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- According to the U.N., the top four impediments to humanitarian activities in Yemen include violence against humanitarian personnel, assets, and facilities; active hostilities; restrictions on movement; and the presence of landmines and unexploded remnants of war. Yemen ranked among the top five countries with the highest number of kidnappings of humanitarian workers in 2012, with 13 recorded abductions between January 2012 and May 2013, according to the Aid Worker Security Database. During the same time period, one humanitarian worker was killed in Yemen.
  - The U.N.-supported Yemen Mines Action Center declared five of Yemen's governorates—Sana'a, Aden, Dhamar, Al Mahwit, and Raymah—free of explosive remnants of war, as of early September. Work continues in Abyan Governorate to eliminate landmine contamination from the 2011/2012 conflict.
  - The number of refugees and migrants from the Horn of Africa who have died or gone missing at sea while traveling to Yemen decreased from 43 people in 2012 to five people so far in 2013, according to UNHCR. The number of people making the journey has also decreased. Between January and June, more than 46,400 people traveled from the Horn of Africa, particularly Ethiopia and Somalia, to Yemen, compared to more than 56,100 during the same period in 2012. The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) began increasing efforts to deter irregular migration in mid-2012.
  - Between 600 and 700 Yemenis arrived in Yemen daily from Saudi Arabia in September, most traveling through the Al Tuwal border crossing in Hajjah Governorate, according to IOM. The Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) reports that approximately 200,000 people have returned to Yemen since April, with IOM reporting more than 108,000 returns between June and August. The majority of the returnees are undocumented migrant workers who left Saudi Arabia due to a change in Saudi labor law, although a moratorium on the application of the new policy until November 5 has slowed returns since August. RoYG and local media sources indicate that between 300,000 and 500,000 people could ultimately be deported to Yemen as a result of the policy.
  - Tensions between the al-Houthi opposition and Salafist elements escalated in July in Sa'dah Governorate's contested Dammaj village, according to the U.N. Unconfirmed reports suggest that the violence resulted in displacement. Although a ceasefire held as of late September, humanitarian agencies working in Sa'dah Governorate expressed concern that further escalation could trigger a crisis. Access to the area and other parts of al-Houthi-dominated northern Yemen remains severely restricted, limiting information about the situation and constraining humanitarian response.
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## **AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY**

- The percentage of Yemen's population experiencing severe food insecurity declined slightly from 44 percent in 2012 to 43 percent, or approximately 10 million people, by mid-2013, according to the Updated Food Security Monitoring Survey conducted by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) in July. Despite significant improvements in some

governorates of central Yemen, food security deteriorated sharply in Abyan and Shabwah governorates, with 82 percent of Abyan's population categorized as food insecure. The high levels of food insecurity in Abyan and Shabwah are the result of political instability, the 2011/2012 conflict, ongoing insecurity, extreme poverty, volatile food prices, and loss of access to livelihoods for returnees, according to the U.N.

- Preliminary crop forecasts by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) suggest that the 2013 harvest was approximately 3 percent higher than the yield in 2012 and approximately 13 percent above the previous five-year average, despite below-average March-to-June rains in western Yemen, the main crop producing part of the country. However, the yield was far below annual requirements and will not have a significant impact on Yemen's reliance on food imports, according to GIEWS. On average, Yemen imports approximately 95 percent of its wheat, the country's staple food.
- Desert locusts continue to develop in parts of Yemen but are not expected to spread to the western crop-producing parts of the country. The locusts may cause localized damage in eastern Yemen, including to locally important cash crops, which could affect demand for unskilled labor. Regular desert locust survey and control activities have been constrained in Yemen by insecurity and concern from beekeepers that control activities could interfere with their livelihood.
- In mid-August, approximately 9,400 metric tons (MT) of wheat from USAID/FFP arrived in Yemen, followed in mid-September by a 27,000 MT shipment of wheat and vegetable oil—valued at nearly \$13 million—to help feed approximately 3.8 million food insecure IDPs and refugees. WFP is distributing emergency rations in 15 of Yemen's governorates as part of USAID/FFP's \$46.4 million contribution to WFP Yemen operations in FY 2013.
- USAID/FFP awarded four different emergency food security grants to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Global Communities, Mercy Corps, and Save the Children in September. The grants, totaling nearly \$21.4 million, aim to mitigate food insecurity and build resilience for more than 400,000 conflict-affected persons and IDPs. Additionally, the new three-year programs awarded to Global Communities, Mercy Corps, and Save the Children aim to build resilience against identified shocks and stresses of targeted beneficiaries and their communities.
- In FY 2013, USAID/FFP provided more than \$75 million in Title II and emergency food assistance in Yemen. WFP, USAID/FFP's largest grantee of food assistance in Yemen, successfully delivered 54,060 MTs of wheat and vegetable oil to nearly one million food-insecure persons and IDPs. In addition to the new awards and continued support to WFP, USAID/FFP successfully partnered with the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) to provide more than 48,000 undernourished children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers with ready-to-use therapeutic foods.
- In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$11 million for agriculture, food security, and economic recovery activities in Yemen, focusing on the southern governorates affected by the conflict in Abyan. With USAID/OFDA support, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is helping to restore livelihoods by providing appropriate productive assets, such as fishing nets, wheelbarrows, and other supplies, to beneficiaries who present a viable business plan. USAID/OFDA is also supporting Mercy Corps to link beneficiaries with local microfinance institutions to facilitate small loans to replace lost assets.
- USAID/OFDA FY 2013 economic recovery programs also assist vulnerable people in developing new livelihoods. Mercy Corps is providing business development training and loans to vulnerable returnees and conflict-affected people—including women and youth—who want to start small businesses. Similarly, Global Communities is offering vocational training and start-up kits of essential tools and basic materials across a range of trades, such as beekeeping, basic mechanics, and clerical services.

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## HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND WASH

- Yemen's 2013 national polio immunization campaign—organized by the RoYG Ministry of Health in collaboration with UNICEF, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—targeted 4.7 million children under five years of age and ended on July 2, having achieved 97 percent coverage nationwide. Despite the high average coverage rate, Khabb wa ash Sha'af District in Al Jawf Governorate recorded less than 60 percent coverage.

The campaign followed reports of a polio outbreak in Somalia, raising concern in Yemen due to the high volume of migration within the Gulf region. Among the refugees and migrants who arrived in Yemen from the Horn of Africa in the first six months of 2013, more than 8,000 were Somali.

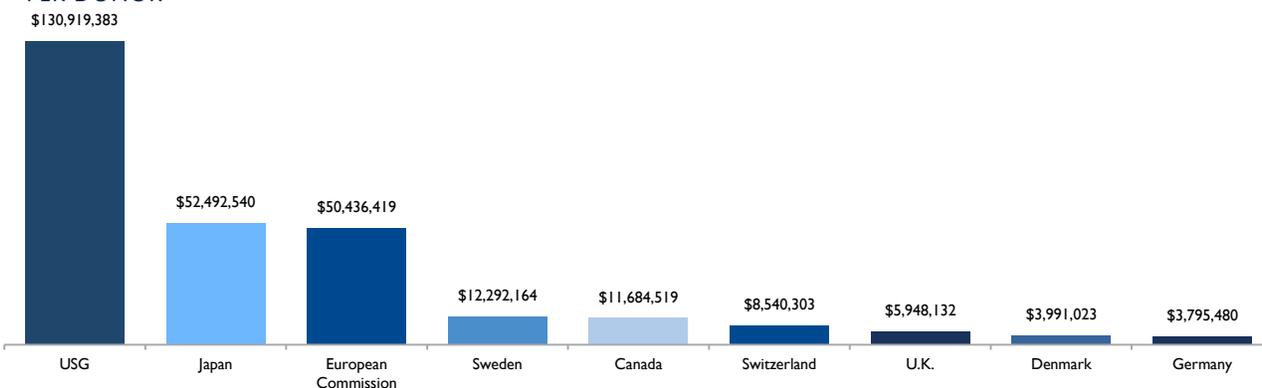
- USAID/OFDA provided more than \$10.3 million in WASH assistance, \$6.5 million in nutrition support, and \$4.6 million for health activities in Yemen in FY 2013. USAID/OFDA’s health, nutrition, and WASH interventions work together to address humanitarian needs associated with the related problems of malnutrition, absence of basic health care services, and lack of access to safe water and sanitation.
- With funding from USAID/OFDA, International Medical Corps (IMC) is continuing efforts to address health, nutrition, and WASH needs in Sana’a Governorate. In FY 2013, IMC facilitated emergency obstetric care training for 20 midwives in an effort to decrease maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality. To enhance community-based efforts to decrease the prevalence of acute malnutrition, IMC conducted a mobilization campaign that screened potential beneficiaries, identified and referred children suffering from severe acute malnutrition, and delivered educational messages on health, nutrition, and WASH. IMC also provided trainings to 178 community health workers on nutrition-related issues and health concerns, such as malnutrition, immunizations, and communicable diseases.
- State/PRM also continues to support health and WASH activities for vulnerable populations and conflict victims in Yemen through UNHCR and other partners.

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- In addition to supporting humanitarian assistance in the agriculture and food security, economic recovery, health, nutrition, and WASH sectors, USAID/OFDA provided \$1 million to OCHA for humanitarian coordination efforts and more than \$1.5 million to UNICEF for protection activities in Yemen in FY 2013.
- As of the end of September, donors had provided approximately \$323 million to the YHRP, or nearly 46 percent of the appeal’s requested funding.

### 2013 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\*

PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of September 30, 2013. All international figures are according to OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2012.

## CONTEXT

- Since 2004, conflict between the RoYG and al-Houthi opposition forces has affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in the need for humanitarian assistance. In addition, increased fighting between RoYG military forces and tribal and militant groups in the wake of the Arab Spring limited the capacity of the RoYG to provide basic services, exacerbated deteriorating humanitarian conditions among impoverished populations, and resulted in displacement in northern, central, and southern Yemen.
- Following the end of major fighting from the 2011/2012 conflict in Abyan Governorate, the overall security situation has improved in southern Yemen, facilitating the return of the majority of IDPs to areas of origin. Despite increased security, sporadic outbreaks of violence continue to result in small-scale displacement.
- Recent political instability and economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, high levels of unemployment, conflict, and conflict-related displacement have left nearly half of Yemen's 24.8 million people food insecure. According to WFP, child malnutrition levels in the country are among the highest in the world, with 1 million children nationwide suffering from acute malnutrition.
- Yemen hosts an increasing number of migrants and refugees—the majority from the Horn of Africa—who are also in need of humanitarian assistance. Yemen currently hosts approximately 240,000 refugees, a significant increase from the 150,000 refugees hosted in 2009.
- On September 29, 2012, U.S. Ambassador Gerald M. Feierstein reissued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2013 due to continued humanitarian needs resulting from conflict and the impact of the country's political and economic crises on vulnerable populations.

### USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN PROVIDED IN FY 2013<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
ACTED	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Ibb, and Raymah Governorates	\$1,677,735
ADRA	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Abyan and Lahij Governorates	\$4,184,694
Global Communities	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Ibb, Taizz, and Lahij Governorates	\$2,200,000
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Sana'a Governorate	\$1,943,498
IOM	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Abyan and Al Jawf Governorates	\$1,989,288
IOM	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Abyan Governorate	\$2,315,300
IOM	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH for Flood Response	Flood-affected Areas	\$50,000
IRC	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Abyan and Aden Governorates	\$1,743,759
IRD	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Al Hudaydah Governorate	\$1,217,806
IRD	WASH	Al Maharah and Hadramawt Governorates	\$1,895,647
Mercy Corps	ERMS and WASH	Abyan Governorate	\$1,993,322
Save the Children/U.S.	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Al Hudaydah, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz Governorates	\$3,999,975
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$500,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$8,184,693

OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$1,591,306
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$36,987,023</b>

<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
ACTED	Food Vouchers	Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Ibb, and Raymah Governorates	\$3,432,000
ADRA	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Abyan	\$6,400,000
Global Communities	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Ibb, Raymah, and Ta'izz Governorates	\$5,000,000
Mercy Corps	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Lahij, Sana'a, and Ta'izz Governorates	\$5,000,000
Save the Children	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Dhamar and Sana'a Governorates	\$5,000,000
UNICEF	680 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Aden, Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, Lahij, Sa'dah, and Ta'izz Governorates	\$3,825,300
WFP	54,060 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	16 Governorates	\$46,389,400
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$75,046,700</b>

<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
UNHCR	Health, Protection, Shelter, WASH	Countrywide	\$11,700,000
Other Partners	Health, Livelihoods, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,600,000
INTERSOS	Protection, Livelihoods, Psycho-Social Assistance	Sana'a	\$235,660
IOM	Health, Protection	Hajjah Governorate	\$350,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$18,885,660</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2013</b>			<b>\$130,919,383</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2013.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>