

# YEMEN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

DECEMBER 5, 2014

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**334,000**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Yemen

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – September 2014

**215,400**

IDP Returnees in Yemen

UNHCR – September 2014

**251,900**

Refugees in Yemen

UNHCR – September 2014

**71,627**

Migrants from the Horn of Africa January-September 2014

Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) – October 2014

**10.6 million**

Food-Insecure People

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – October 2014

**840,000**

Children Under Five Years of Age Experiencing Global Acute Malnutrition

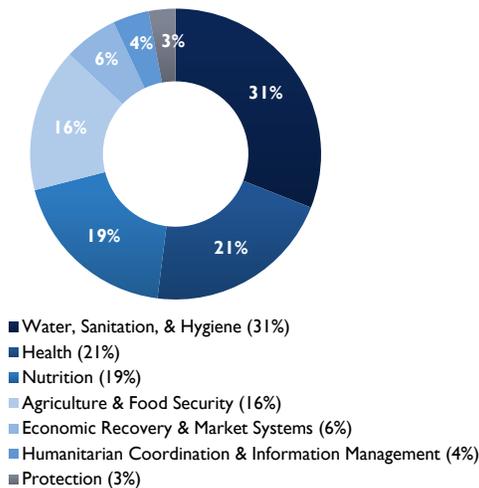
Nutrition Cluster – October 2014

**13.1 million**

People Without Access to Safe Drinking Water and Basic Sanitation

OCHA – October 2014

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014 & FY 2015



## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2014 & FY 2015



## HIGHLIGHTS

- The humanitarian community anticipates 15.9 million people in Yemen will require humanitarian assistance in 2015.
- Approximately 10.6 million people in Yemen are food insecure, according to a recent survey.
- Malnutrition rates are improving in some areas; however, more than one in 10 children remains acutely malnourished.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO YEMEN IN FY 2014 & FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$34,858,350
USAID/FFP	\$70,000,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$8,900,000

**\$113,758,350**  
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Humanitarian agencies anticipate 15.9 million people in Yemen will require humanitarian assistance in 2015—an 8 percent increase compared to 2014. The U.N. attributes the increase to the outbreak of conflict in new areas of the country, data collection in previously inaccessible regions, and population growth in particularly vulnerable areas.
- The U.N.–Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) 2014 Comprehensive Food Security Survey (CFSS) of Yemen indicated that more than 40 percent of Yemen's population—or 10.6 million people—was food insecure as of April, including nearly 50 percent of people living in rural areas and more than 25 percent of people residing in urban areas.
- The Nutrition Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian nutrition activities, comprising U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), RoYG, and other stakeholders—reports a decrease of 16 percent in acute malnutrition cases and nearly a 40 percent decrease in severe acute malnutrition cases in children under five years of age compared to December 2013. The Cluster partly attributes the improvements to sustained humanitarian interventions in accessible areas.

<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)

## SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- September clashes in the capital city of Sana'a between al-Houthi and RoYG forces resulted in limited humanitarian needs, with people temporarily displaced by the fighting having returned home, according to the U.N. However, humanitarian organizations note concern unpredictable humanitarian access in areas under al-Houthi control.
  - Clashes between al-Houthi and Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) forces broke out in Al Bayda and Ibb governorates during mid-October. While the situation calmed in Ibb, fighting escalated in Al Bayda during November, primarily in Wald Rabi', Al Quraisyah, and Rada' districts, according to the U.N. Despite security improvements by the end of the month, the U.N. reported that small-scale clashes continued. Findings from a November 21 to 23 interagency assessment to Al Bayda indicated that, of the 2,000 families—14,000 people—displaced by the fighting, approximately 500 families remained displaced in nearby caves and villages. The Yemen Red Crescent Society distributed food assistance to the 500 households—many of which indicated plans to return home if the security situation continued to stabilize.
  - The U.N. reports an improved security situation in the northern governorates of Al Jawf, Amran, and Sa'ada, which has increased access to populations in need of humanitarian assistance and facilitated the expansion of relief activities. In Sa'ada, agencies have provided health services, food assistance, and protection support to vulnerable populations. In October, the NGO Islamic Help distributed hygiene kits and water filters to 1,000 displaced families.
  - Following the late July withdrawal of al-Houthi forces from Amran, the U.N. and NGOs have provided health care, food assistance, and emergency relief commodities.
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## POPULATION MOVEMENTS

- UNHCR reports that nearly 12,800 economic migrants—individuals who traveled to another country to seek employment opportunities—arrived in Yemen from the Horn of Africa during September, the largest caseload since UNHCR began recording data approximately 10 years ago. In October, an additional 10,400 migrants arrived in Yemen. UNHCR attributes the surge in arrivals to food insecurity, conflict, and lack of income generating opportunities in home countries. The RMMS also reports that 241 migrants from Djibouti have died after attempting to reach Yemen during 2014, and that many migrants are at risk of exploitation and abuse. UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and Médecins sans Frontières are coordinating medical assistance and referral services for arriving migrants.
  - IOM reports that nearly 26,000 Yemeni migrant workers returned from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) through the Al-Tuwal border point during October. Upon arrival, IOM provided returnees with water, food, and emergency relief commodities, as well as medical care. Since January 2013, more than 936,400 Yemeni migrants have returned to Yemen as a result of restrictions placed on foreign workers by the KSA, including nearly 581,000 through Al-Tuwal, according to the U.N.
  - UNHCR recently conducted a survey in Al Mazraq IDP camp in Hajjah Governorate. Ninety percent of respondents, or 12,000 people, indicated a desire to return to home areas in Sa'ada. UNHCR is supporting activities to rehabilitate shelter in Al Dhaher district, Sa'ada, to facilitate sustainable returns to home areas.
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## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Results from the CFSS—jointly conducted by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), the RoYG, and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) from March to April 2014—indicated that 10.6 million people in Yemen were food insecure, including 5 million severely food insecure individuals. While overall food insecurity decreased from 45 percent in 2011 to 41 percent in 2014, 5 million people—19 percent of Yemen's population—were experiencing severe food insecurity at the time of the survey.
- CFSS findings indicated that the number of people experiencing food insecurity in rural areas was more than double that in urban areas. Food security also varied widely between governorates; more than 67 percent of people residing in Sa'ada were food insecure, while less than 15 percent of people in Al Mahra and Hadramawt governorates were

experiencing food insecurity. The CFSS cited populations in Sa'ada, Hajja, Shabwah, Al Bayda, Ad Dali', and Lahij governorates as the least food secure.

- The CFSS indicated that some governorates experienced significant food security improvements compared to 2011, including Marib, Sana'a, and Al Bayda, where food insecurity dropped from 70 percent to 35, 40, and 55 percent, respectively. The CFSS attributed improvements to humanitarian assistance, but also noted a significant deterioration in food security in areas that continued to experience active conflict, which impeded the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- WFP reports that improved availability of and reduced prices for fuel reduced the price for wheat and wheat flour by 5 percent and 3 percent, respectively, during October. Food commodities were also widely available in markets during October, except where conflict disrupted food transport.
- A U.S. cargo vessel transporting 23,000 metric tons (MT) of USAID/FFP-procured wheat recently docked in the Yemeni port of Hudaydah, Hudaydah Governorate. WFP dispatched the wheat for distribution by partners to vulnerable, food-insecure people under WFP's ongoing humanitarian food assistance program. This latest shipment follows USAID/FFP deliveries of 1,618 MT of yellow split peas and 1,423 MT of vegetable oil in September and October. An additional shipment of pulses and oil is expected in the coming days, which will bring U.S. food shipments supporting WFP's operations in Yemen to more than 27,000 MT since August.

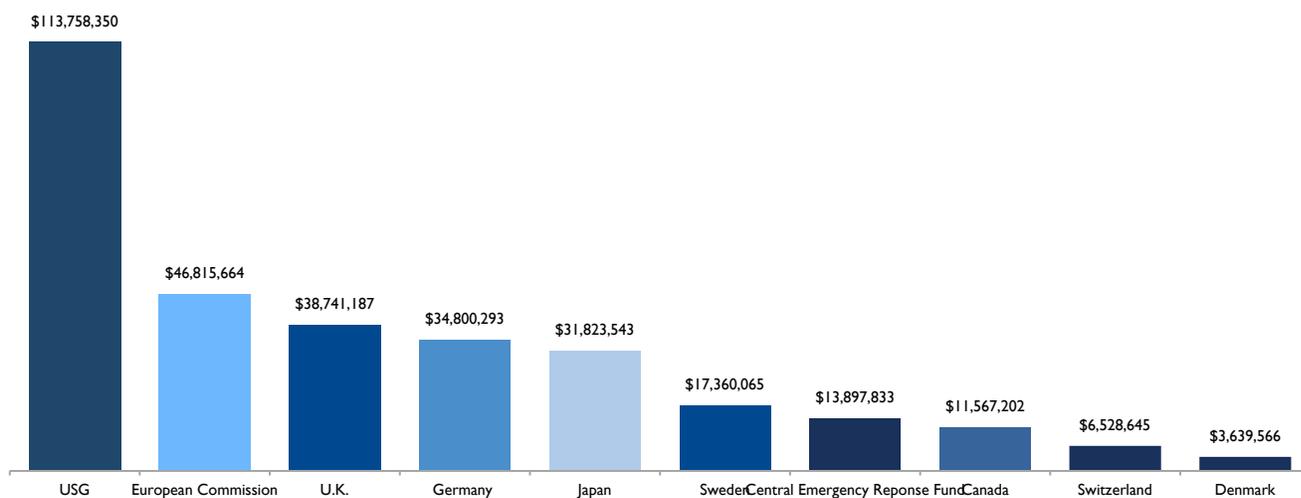
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## NUTRITION

- The Nutrition Cluster reports a significant decrease in the number of malnourished children in Yemen compared to December 2013. The number of acutely malnourished children under five years of age has decreased from approximately 1 million children to an estimated 840,000 children, and the number of children experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) has decreased from 279,000 children to approximately 170,000 children—a 16 percent and 40 percent decrease, respectively.
- The Nutrition Cluster indicates that the increased and sustained provision of nutrition interventions in Yemen has contributed to the overall improvements in nutritional status. For example, the prevalence of SAM has decreased from 4.5 percent to 0.5 percent in lowland areas of Lahij Governorate, and from 2.8 percent to 0.6 percent in highland areas, where partners have implemented nutrition programs since mid-2013. However, nutrition surveys indicate that global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates are above the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold of 15 percent in areas of Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, and Ta'izz governorates, where there is continuing insecurity.
- While the percentage of children under five years of age who are underweight has decreased between 2011 and 2014—from 35.5 percent to 31.5 percent—the number of underweight children remained at critical levels, according to the CFSS, particularly among rural populations. The CFSS partly attributed high malnutrition rates to a lack of adequate services—including access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and medical care—as well as a lack of education regarding child feeding practices.
- With USAID/OFDA support, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has established infant and young child feeding consultation points in Abyan Governorate to educate mothers on improving child feeding practices, contributing to the prevention of malnutrition. USAID/OFDA is also supporting the International Medical Corps (IMC) to facilitate community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) through mobile teams in Ta'izz Governorate. IMC recently conducted a 10-day campaign, during which it provided CMAM screenings and referral services for approximately 20,000 children under five years of age. During November, IMC also distributed 400 hygiene kits and 950 water containers to vulnerable households in Ta'izz, including households identified with SAM cases.

## 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of December 5, 2014. 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 years 2014 and 2015, which began on October 1, 2013 and October 1, 2014, respectively.

### 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 since 2011 has limited the capacity of the RoYG to provide basic services and exacerbated deteriorating humanitarian conditions among impoverished populations.
- 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 smaller-scale displacement.
- Recent political instability, 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 more than 800,000 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 248,000 refugees, a significant increase from the 150,000 refugees hosted in 2009.
- On October 13, 2014, U.S. Ambassador Matthew H. Tueller reissued a disaster declaration for Yemen for FY 2015 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 2014<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Ad Dali', Al Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Ibb, Raymah, Sa'adah Governorates	\$4,136,223
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Lahj Governorate	\$2,000,000
CARE	Agriculture and Food Security, WASH	Hajjah Governorate	\$828,743
Global Communities (GC)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Hajjah Governorate	\$2,000,000
IMC	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Sana'a, Ta'izz Governorates	\$2,500,000
IMC	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Sana'a, Ta'izz Governorates	\$1,000,000
IOM	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Abyan, Ad Dali', Shabwah Governorates	\$1,999,937
IRC	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Abyan, Aden Governorates	\$2,875,946
International Relief and Development (IRD)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Al Hudaydah Governorate	\$1,162,858
Save the Children (SC)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Al Hudaydah, Amran, Sa'dah, Ta'izz Governorates	\$4,871,055
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$249,537
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
WFP	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$504,666
WHO	Health	Hajjah, Sa'dah Governorates	\$500,000
WHO	Health	Al Jawf, Al Hudaydah, Amran Governorates	\$700,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$1,029,385
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$34,858,350</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	48,870 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	18 Governorates	\$55,000,000
GC	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Ibb, Raymah, Ta'izz Governorates	\$5,000,000
Mercy Corps	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Lahj, Sana'a, Ta'izz Governorates	\$5,000,000
SC	Health, Nutrition, Food Vouchers	Dhamar, Sana'a Governorates	\$5,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$70,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$104,858,350</b>

STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Health, Protection, Shelter, WASH	Countrywide	\$8,900,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$8,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$113,758,350</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 December 5, 2014.

<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>