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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Yemen – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet # 2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

August 11, 2010

Note: The last fact sheet was dated July 7, 2010.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Persistent insecurity continues to hinder the delivery of humanitarian assistance to an estimated 1 million Yemenis affected by ongoing conflict. The movement of humanitarian staff remains restricted to within a 7 km radius of Sa’ada city. The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports that only 14,000 out of 324,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) had returned to areas of origin as of July 23. IDPs cited destroyed houses, lack of employment opportunities, asset losses, and fear of hostilities as the major factors discouraging return.
- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) report persistent food insecurity due to displacement, livelihoods disruption, and water shortages as a result of continued violence and limited humanitarian access. WFP will continue to provide food assistance for the coming months due to recent contributions by the U.S. and other donors, although additional funding is required to provide a full ration. WFP is currently providing half rations to reach a larger number of individuals with food assistance.
- Results of a June joint rapid needs assessment conducted by humanitarian actors in Al-Malaheet town, Dhaher District, Sa’ada Governorate, and Sa’ada city indicated gaps in food assistance, education, nutrition, and health care, according to OCHA. In Al-Malaheet town, humanitarian agencies reported the presence of unexploded ordnance and landmines. In addition, conflict has damaged or destroyed approximately 80 percent of houses in assessed areas.
- Since July 7, USAID/OFDA has provided an additional \$6 million to a total of five non-governmental organizations, U.N. agencies, and international organizations to meet the emergency needs of more than 340,000 individuals—the total IDP and returnee population—through the distribution of emergency relief supplies, as well as programs in health, nutrition, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Registered and Verified Displaced Individuals	316,332	OCHA – June 14, 2010
Total Registered Returnees	17,337 ¹	OCHA – June 14, 2010

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Yemen	\$10,928,640
USAID/FFP² Assistance to Yemen.....	\$12,497,100
State/PRM³ Assistance to Yemen.....	\$10,900,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Yemen	\$34,325,740

CONTEXT

- Since 2004, conflict between the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) forces and the al-Houthi opposition group has killed hundreds of individuals and displaced populations in northern Yemen. Renewed fighting beginning in August 2009 resulted in additional population displacement and significantly reduced humanitarian access. In late 2009, OCHA reported improved humanitarian access in all four conflict-affected areas of northern Yemen, including Sa’ada, Al-Jawf, Hajjah, and Amran governorates. In addition, a February 11, 2010, ceasefire between RoYG forces and the al-Houthi opposition further improved security, increasing humanitarian access and prompting limited population returns to areas of origin.
- Sporadic and isolated security incidents—including blocked roads and low-level clashes—continue to result in irregular humanitarian access and hinder large-scale population returns in Sa’ada and Al Jawf governorates, as well as northern areas of Amran Governorate, according to U.N. agencies.

¹ Does not include 14,657 possible returnee cases that remained unverified as of June 14.

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

- On November 8, 2009, U.S. Ambassador Stephen A. Seche re-declared a disaster in Yemen due to deteriorating humanitarian conditions.

Security and Access

- Humanitarian actors continue to revise contingency plans and stockpile emergency relief supplies due to increased insecurity in parts of Sa’ada, Amran, and Al-Jawf governorates, as well as the commencement of the July–September rainy season, which may further hinder humanitarian access.
- As of July 12, the provision of humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected populations in Sa’ada Governorate between Sa’ada city and Mandaba town, Baqim District, remained limited due to indications by local civilians—who are not IDPs and therefore ineligible for assistance—of plans to confiscate the commodities.

Emergency Food Assistance

- WFP continues to provide limited food assistance to conflict-affected populations in Yemen despite a \$23 million funding shortfall for 2010. WFP is providing emergency food assistance in some affected areas and plans to extend activities to conflict-affected populations in Sa’ada and Harf Sufyan governorates as soon as humanitarian access is secured. WFP operations target more than 300,000 IDPs; however, insecurity often impedes distribution efforts.
- On August 3, the RoYG Sa’ada Reconstruction Fund (SRF) requested that WFP contribute to reconstruction efforts in Sa’ada Governorate rather than provide food aid, stating that food aid encourages dependency and discourages IDP families from returning to areas of origin.

Shelter and Settlements

- As of August 2, the RoYG SRF had distributed financial compensation to approximately 1,100 families in Sa’ada Governorate that lost houses during the conflict. In July, the SRF compensated nearly 400 families in Sa’ana Governorate.

Health

- The majority of health facilities in Sa’ada Governorate remain only partially functional due to destruction and looting, according to OCHA. As a result, the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP) did not achieve full measles vaccination coverage during the April campaign and several districts in Sa’ada Governorate had reported measles outbreaks as of July 12. RoYG MoPHP officials also noted that resistance to the campaign by local groups believed to be al-Houthi supporters, as well as landmines, impeded the campaign’s completion.
- As of July 14, dengue fever had affected populations in Hadramaut, Ta’izz, Adan, and Abyan governorates, according to the RoYG MoPHP. In Al-Mukalla city, Hadramaut Governorate, officials reported an estimated 1,400 cases of dengue fever, including 12 deaths. Poor water storage and disease awareness, as well as limited access to medicine, contributed to the spread of the illness.
- Needs assessment results in Al-Malaheet town, Dhaher District, Sa’ada Governorate, indicated that only one private health care facility remained operational as of June, according to OCHA. As a result, diarrhea, malaria, typhoid, and measles prevalence remained high. In addition, limited access to water necessitates the provision of WASH services, including waste disposal.
- As of the end of June, U.N. Health Cluster members, including USAID/OFDA grantees the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and Relief International, had achieved 100 percent primary health care coverage for individuals residing in camps and 20 percent coverage for individuals residing outside of camps. The U.N. Health Cluster continues to expand coverage, as security permits.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN

FY 2010			
Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, and WASH	Al-Jawf	\$826,253
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, and WASH	Al-Jawf and Sa'ada	\$3,000,375
Relief International	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Shelter and Settlements, and WASH	Amran and Hajjah	\$1,352,253

Save the Children Federation/U.S. (SCF/U.S.)	Health and Nutrition	Amran and Hajjah	\$1,649,759
U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Nutrition and WASH	Al-Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, and Sa'ada	\$1,900,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Affected Areas	\$850,000
WHO	Health	Al-Jawf, Amran, Hajjah, and Sa'ada	\$1,350,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$10,928,640
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	6,400 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$12,497,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$12,497,100
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE³			
UNHCR	Camp Management and Camp Coordination; Logistics and Relief Supplies; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Shelter and Settlements; Protection	Affected Areas	\$4,900,000
WFP	IDP Feeding Operations	Affected Areas	\$6,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$10,900,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2010			\$34,325,740

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA	\$10,928,640
USAID/FFP	\$12,497,100
STATE/PRM	\$10,900,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN	\$34,325,740

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 11, 2010.

² Estimated value of food assistance as of August 11, 2010.

³ State/PRM funding represents assistance to IDP populations in Yemen as of August 11, 2010.

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. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Yemen may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- 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, warehouse space, etc); 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:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int