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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 #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

July 7, 2010

BACKGROUND AND KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since 2004, conflict between Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) forces and the Shia al-Houthi opposition group has killed hundreds of individuals and displaced thousands of people in northern Yemen. Renewed and ongoing fighting beginning in August 2009 resulted in additional population displacement and significantly reduced humanitarian access to affected individuals in northern Yemen.
- However, in late 2009, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (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 the security situation, increasing humanitarian access and prompting limited population returns to areas of origin.
- As of May 18, OCHA reported that the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the RoYG had registered more than 316,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northern Yemen, including more than 123,000 in Hajjah Governorate, approximately 110,000 in Sa’ada Governorate, more than 48,500 in Amran Governorate, nearly 17,800 in Al-Jawf Governorate, and more than 16,800 in the capital city of Sa’ana.
- According to OCHA, approximately 17,340 IDPs had returned to areas of origin in northern Yemen as of mid-June, including more than 14,700 to Hajjah Governorate and approximately 2,600 to Amran Governorate. OCHA reported that an additional 14,600 possible returnee cases remained unverified as of June 14, including nearly 7,800 in Al-Jawf Governorate, an estimated 3,500 in Hajjah Governorate, nearly 2,000 in Amran Governorate, and approximately 1,430 in Sana’a Governorate.
- On July 6, the U.N. released a revised 2010 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP), requesting more than \$187 million to provide life-saving and early recovery assistance to approximately 1.4 million individuals, including 200,000 IDPs, in conflict-affected areas. As of July 7, OCHA reported nearly \$57.6 million in funding towards the YHRP, representing approximately 31 percent of requested funding for 2010.

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

FY 2010 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for Conflict-Affected Populations\$4,496,577
 USAID/FFP² Assistance for Conflict-Affected Populations\$5,000,000
 State/PRM³ Assistance for Conflict-Affected Populations\$6,400,000
Total⁴ USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance for Conflict-Affected Populations\$15,896,577

CURRENT SITUATION

- Although the overall security situation has improved in northern Yemen since late 2009, sporadic and isolated 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. Despite ongoing security and access constraints, humanitarian agencies continue to provide emergency assistance to conflict-affected populations in northern Yemen.

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)

⁴ Represents total humanitarian funding from USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, and State/PRM. The total does not include all U.S. Government humanitarian assistance to Yemen.

Security and Access

- During May, a local non-governmental organization (NGO) provided food assistance to IDPs residing in Khalwan camp, Amran Governorate, for the first time since the humanitarian community temporarily suspended activities in the camp in March 2010 due to insecurity.
- The joint U.N. office in Sa'ada city reopened on May 6 and remained operational as of June 14, according to OCHA. U.N. staff based in Sa'ada city continue to monitor the situation and identify humanitarian needs.
- Insecurity in Al-Jawf Governorate—including the high-jacking of two U.N. World Food Program (WFP)-contracted trucks and an Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) truck—continues to delay the provision of humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected populations in the area. As of mid-June, ADRA had temporarily suspended assistance in Al-Jawf Governorate because the high-jacked vehicle had not been returned, according to OCHA.
- On June 16, WFP and UNHCR staff traveled to Al-Malaheet, Sa'ada Governorate, to assess security conditions. According to OCHA, the assessment team reported that the security situation in Al-Malaheet remains relatively calm; however, earlier conflict resulted in significant infrastructure damage in the area.
- On June 19, WFP staff returned to Sa'ada town and resumed overall coordination of relief operations in Sa'ada Governorate, including logistics and warehousing.
- On June 20, WFP reported that the main road from the capital city Sana'a to Sa'ada town in Sa'ada Governorate remained open with the exception of intermittent closures due to clashes along the road.
- According to WFP, the road from Sa'ada town to Baqim District in northwest Sa'ada Governorate closed in April due to insecurity and remained closed as of June 20. However, during a June 20 meeting, local authorities and peace committees agreed to guarantee safety for relief convoys along the route.
- According to OCHA, the U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has provided nearly \$376,000 for the U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) to establish a flight service between Sana'a city and Sa'ada town in Sa'ada Governorate to facilitate secure and regular movement of staff and relief supplies. UNHAS plans to operate the flight six times per month through November 2010.

Emergency Food Assistance

- Due to a \$23 million funding shortfall for 2010—representing nearly 96,000 metric tons (MT) of food—WFP reduced IDP food rations by 50 percent beginning in May. According to WFP, a complete food pipeline break is likely to occur in September unless WFP receives additional funding.
- In mid-June, OCHA reported the occurrence of several demonstrations in Amran, Hajjah, and Sa'ada governorates due to reduced food rations. According to OCHA, demonstrations could continue or escalate in July.
- Between August 2009 and May 2010, WFP provided more than 20,000 MT of food assistance to approximately 290,000 IDPs in Hajjah, Sa'ada, Al-Jawf, and Amran governorates, as well as in Sana'a city. WFP plans to distribute 2,600 MT of food assistance to affected populations during the June distribution cycle.
- Between July and December 2010, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) plans to temporarily assume WFP food distributions to approximately 40,000 IDPs in Amran Governorate and 9,700 IDPs residing in camps surrounding Sa'ada town, Sa'ada Governorate, due to a lack of WFP resources. WFP plans to continue distributing food aid to more than 77,000 IDPs residing outside camps in Sa'ada Governorate.
- WFP is scheduled to launch a new one-year emergency food assistance operation in Yemen, targeting 300,000 IDPs and returnees with general food distributions, approximately 20,000 children between six and 24 months of age with blanket supplementary feeding programs, and an undetermined number of returnees with food-for-work programs. The operation is scheduled to begin in August, pending available resources.
- In January 2010, USAID/FFP provided 6,400 MT of wheat, vegetable oil, beans, and peas—valued at approximately \$5 million—to WFP in response to emergency food needs.

Health and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- According to OCHA, the U.N. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster is providing 20 liters of safe drinking water per person per day to 32,000 IDPs residing in Al-Mazrak, Hajjah Governorate, as well as to 1,600 IDPs residing in Khalwan camp, Amran Governorate.
- According to OCHA, health officials reported a 10 percent increase—from nearly 2,400 cases reported in April to nearly 2,600 cases reported in May—in diarrhea cases among IDPs residing inside and outside camps in Hajjah Governorate. In response, the U.N. WASH Cluster is conducting awareness campaigns and hygiene trainings in affected areas, according to OCHA.
- On June 20, OCHA reported that U.N. Health Cluster partners had achieved 100 percent health coverage in Hajjah Governorate IDP camps. Due to funding shortages, widely scattered populations, weak infrastructure, and insufficient staff, the cluster had only achieved 20 percent health coverage for IDPs residing outside camps in Hajjah Governorate.
- To date in FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2.6 million to support health and WASH interventions throughout conflict-affected areas of northern Yemen.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR CONFLICT-AFFECTED POPULATIONS

- On November 8, 2009, U.S. Ambassador Stephen A. Seche re-declared a disaster in Yemen due to deteriorating humanitarian conditions. In FY 2010, USAID and State/PRM have provided nearly \$16 million in humanitarian assistance to Yemen in response to the current crisis.
- To date in FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$4.5 million in humanitarian assistance to support health, WASH, nutrition, economic recovery and market systems, protection, and shelter activities, as well as the provision of relief commodities, logistical support, and humanitarian coordination and information management. In FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided \$250,000 to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support emergency health, nutrition, and WASH activities.
- From February 10 to 17, USAID/OFDA's Principal Regional Advisor (PRA) visited Yemen to assess humanitarian conditions, review the effectiveness of relief programs to date, monitor USAID/OFDA programs, and coordinate U.S. Government assistance with the humanitarian community and RoYG.
- To date in FY 2010, USAID/FFP has provided 6,400 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$5 million, to help meet the emergency food and nutrition needs of approximately 150,000 IDPs and other conflict-affected people in Sa'ada Governorate. In FY 2009, USAID/FFP provided 3,900 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$2.4 million.
- To date in FY 2010, State/PRM has provided \$4.9 million to UNHCR to address IDP needs through the 2010 U.N. YHRP and \$1.5 million to ICRC to address IDP food and emergency needs. In FY 2009, State/PRM provided \$4.4 million to UNHCR, including \$1.2 million towards the U.N. Flash Appeal, to help assist IDPs and conflict-affected populations. State/PRM also contributed \$1.5 million to ICRC in FY 2009 to further support the relief effort.

FY 2010 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN

FY 2010			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ADRA	Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Health; Nutrition; Logistics and Relief Commodities	Al-Jawf	\$329,552
Relief International	Health; Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Shelter and Settlements	Amran; Hajjah	\$667,266
Save the Children/U.S.	Health; Nutrition	Amran; Hajjah	\$899,759
UNICEF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Nutrition	Al-Jawf; Amran; Hajjah Sa'ada	\$400,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Affected Areas	\$850,000
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Al-Jawf; Amran; Hajjah; Sa'ada	\$1,350,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,496,577
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	6,400 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$5,000,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Camp Management and Camp Coordination; Logistics and Relief Supplies; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Shelter and Settlements; Protection	Affected Areas	\$4,900,000
ICRC	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Logistics and Relief Commodities; Health; Shelter and Settlements; Protection	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$6,400,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2010			\$15,896,577

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 7, 2010.

² Estimated value of food assistance as of July 7, 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. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for displacement response efforts in Pakistan can be found at www.interaction.org. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Pakistan 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, 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:
 - 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