



# YEMEN – COMPLEX EMERGENCY

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- A limited number of individuals displaced from Abyan Governorate, where Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) forces battled militant groups between May 2011 and June 2012, have returned home following the RoYG’s recapture of Abyan’s capital city, Zinjibar. Hundreds of families have returned to Ja’ar, Lawdar, and Zinjibar towns since June, according to Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). However, insecurity and damaged houses and municipal infrastructure are preventing significant displaced populations—approximately 320,000 individuals—from returning to Abyan permanently, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- In order to respond to current and emerging needs and support early recovery in Abyan, OCHA released an appeal in mid-July identifying approximately \$87 million in humanitarian requirements to assist 320,000 people. The six-month Abyan Response Plan will supplement the current 2012 U.N. Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan, bringing the total requested assistance countrywide to \$591 million.
- In FY 2012, the U.S. Government (USG) is providing nearly \$108 million in humanitarian assistance to Yemen, including more than \$20.2 million from USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA), nearly \$68 million from USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP), and approximately \$19.7 million from the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM). The USG’s humanitarian assistance addresses the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and other vulnerable individuals throughout the country.
- Since late June, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$5 million in additional humanitarian assistance to Yemen. The funding comprises nearly \$2 million to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) for water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions and provision of essential relief commodities in San’a’ and Abyan governorates, nearly \$2 million to CHF International for several interventions in Ta’izz, Aden, Abyan, and Lahij governorates, and nearly \$1 million to International Relief and Development (IRD) for WASH interventions and provision of relief commodities in Al Hudaydah Governorate.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	Source	
IDPs in Sa’dah Governorate	110,000	OCHA – January 2012
IDPs in Hajjah Governorate	140,695	OCHA – March 2012
IDPs in ‘Amran Governorate	40,529	OCHA – January 2012
IDPs in San’a’ Governorate	35,598	OCHA – January 2012
IDPs in Al Jawf Governorate	24,700	OCHA – January 2012
IDPs in Abyan Governorate	51,802	OCHA – March 2012
IDPs in Aden Governorate	108,117	OCHA – March 2012
IDPs in Lahij Governorate	40,286	OCHA – March 2012
IDPs in Shabwah Governorate	2,108	OCHA – January 2012
IDPs in Hadramawt Governorate	4,194	OCHA – January 2012
IDPs in Al Bayda’ Governorate	1,649	OCHA – January 2012
<b>Total Number of IDPs in Yemen<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>545,310</b>	<b>OCHA – July 2012</b>
<b>Total Number of Refugees in Yemen</b>	<b>220,928</b>	<b>OCHA – July 2012</b>

<sup>1</sup>The IDP-by-governorate figures have not been updated recently; however, OCHA has provided an estimate of the total number of individuals displaced throughout Yemen. Therefore, the total IDP figure in the chart is not a sum of the estimated IDPs by governorate also listed.

<b>HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED IN FY 2012<sup>2</sup></b>	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to Yemen	\$20,245,748
USAID/FFP Assistance to Yemen	\$67,856,201
State/PRM Assistance to Yemen	\$19,738,178
<b>Total USAID and State Assistance to Yemen</b>	<b>\$107,840,127</b>

### 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 April 2011, a fragile February 2010 ceasefire collapsed in northern Yemen when al-Houthi groups took control of Sa'dah Governorate and the majority of Al Jawf Governorate. Sporadic clashes and isolated violent incidents continue to result in insecurity and limited humanitarian access, hindering large-scale population returns to Sa'dah and Al Jawf, as well as northern areas of 'Amran Governorate. In September 2011, al-Houthi leadership announced new conditions under which all humanitarian organizations are required to operate in Sa'dah, further restricting relief activities in the area. Humanitarian organizations continue to negotiate with al-Houthi leadership to gain increased access to vulnerable populations in Sa'dah.
- Between February and November 2011, anti-government protests throughout Yemen, inspired by the 2011 Arab Spring protests, resulted in clashes between RoYG security forces, pro-government demonstrators, and opposition demonstrators. The resulting political instability has limited the RoYG's capacity to provide basic services, contributing to increased humanitarian needs among vulnerable populations. In addition, increased fighting between RoYG military forces and rival tribal and militant groups has exacerbated conditions among chronically impoverished populations and resulted in displacement in northern, central, and southern Yemen.
- During the instable period in Yemen resulting from the Arab Spring protests and ensuing political crisis, the USG-designated terrorist group Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula increased its attacks against the RoYG in the southern governorate of Abyan and occupied several towns, displacing people, disrupting basic services, and hindering humanitarian access.
- A large-scale food insecurity and malnutrition crisis has been building in Yemen since 2009 and was documented in early 2012 in a detailed food security survey conducted by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and the RoYG. As many as half of Yemen's 24 million people are food insecure. Of those individuals, 22 percent, or 5.3 million individuals, are severely food insecure, with 1 million children nationwide suffering from acute malnutrition, according to the report. The causes of food insecurity include the recent political instability and economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, high unemployment, conflict, and conflict related displacement.
- Aside from IDPs, Yemen hosts a significant number of refugees and migrants, the majority from the Horn of Africa, who are also in need of humanitarian assistance. There are more than 200,000 Somali refugees living in Yemen. U.N. agencies report a record figure of more than 100,000 migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa arrived in Yemen in 2011, despite increasing conflict and worsening food security. In the first five months of 2012, there were approximately 51,400 new arrivals, with the majority from Ethiopia.
- On October 20, 2011, U.S. Ambassador Gerald M. Feierstein redeclared a disaster due to continued humanitarian needs resulting from conflict and associated displacement in Yemen.
- On November 23, 2011, after signing an agreement in Saudi Arabia brokered by the Gulf Cooperation Council, RoYG President Ali Abdullah Saleh transferred power to Vice President Hadi, officially ending Saleh's 33-year rule of Yemen. Following presidential elections, Vice President Hadi officially assumed the presidency on February 27.

### Security, Humanitarian Access, and Population Displacement

- Following the end of heavy fighting in Abyan Governorate, many transport routes, including a major road between Aden Governorate and Abyan's capital city of Zinjibar, reopened, and some displaced residents have begun returning to their homes. U.N. agencies have reported the highest returns in safe areas of Khanfar District, such as Ja'ar town, while Zinjibar, which has experienced several bouts of acute insecurity over the past year, has received limited returns. Some returnees who traveled to Zinjibar, Alkuou, and Al-Mosimeers towns have returned to Aden as their homes and towns have been destroyed.
- Landmines and other unexploded ordnance (UXO) remain a significant obstacle to humanitarian access and population returns in Abyan, according to relief agencies. The number of individuals wounded by landmines and

<sup>2</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

UXO in southern Yemen, particularly in Abyan, has increased significantly since mid-June, MSF reports. As of July 12, landmines had killed more than 90 people in southern Yemen, according to reports received by OCHA.

- The Yemen Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC), the RoYG's demining agency, recently sent six technical teams to Doafa, Zinjibar, and Ja'ar towns, Abyan, to clear landmines, according to OCHA. YEMAC reported that primarily residential areas and agricultural lands remain contaminated and will take two to three months to fully clear. During the process, YEMAC is providing mine risk education to alert returnees to the risk of UXO.

### **Food Security and Nutrition**

- International donors have begun providing significant amounts of food assistance to respond to Yemen's high levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition, the latter of which currently affects nearly 1 million Yemeni children, according to WFP. The Government of the United Arab Emirates (GoUAE), through the Khalifa Bin Zayed Humanitarian Foundation, plans to provide food to 100,000 vulnerable families, or 600,000 individuals, in Sana'a, 'Amran, Hajjah, and Al Mahwit governorates, according to the UAE Red Crescent Authority (RCA) and local media. In total, the GoUAE plans to provide Yemen with supplies valued at approximately \$136 million. The first shipment, carrying 44 tons of food assistance, arrived in Sana'a on July 12. To support the large-scale distribution, RCA has opened five distribution centers in Sana'a in addition to its current distribution points in other governorates.
- According to a recent humanitarian assessment supported by the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Hajjah and Al Hudaydah governorates, up to 40 percent of children under the age of five surveyed experienced diarrhea within two weeks prior to the survey. Diarrhea resulting from poor WASH conditions and child-feeding practices is a contributing factor to malnutrition, UNICEF reports.
- With more than \$500,000 in USAID/OFDA FY 2012 funding, UNICEF has rapidly scaled-up nutrition interventions throughout Yemen. UNICEF is supporting more than 500 health facilities to provide therapeutic nutrition interventions and is conducting more than 250 supplementary feeding programs. In total, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$6.1 million for food security and nutrition programs in Yemen, including training for at-risk populations in optimal nutrition practices.
- USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$68 million in FY 2012 to respond to food insecurity in Yemen, including more than \$15.5 million to target the basic health and nutrition needs of vulnerable populations. USAID/FFP FY 2012 funding also includes approximately \$52 million for wheat and other food commodities and vouchers to help families purchase food in the local market.

### **Health**

- Between June 11 and 13, in partnership with the RoYG Ministry of Public Health and Populations, UNICEF and the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) conducted the third and final phase of a national polio immunization campaign, reaching nearly 98 percent of planned beneficiaries, UNICEF reported. According to a UNICEF-WHO assessment, the large-scale immunization campaign, which included vaccinations against measles and provision of Vitamin A, may have successfully halted the spread of polio that began in October 2011. In addition, the joint assessment found that health care workers reported fewer measles cases in June than in previous months, with no resulting deaths.
- To date in FY 2012, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2.2 million for health assistance in Yemen, including \$500,000 to UNICEF to support the UNICEF-WHO immunization campaign and more than \$1.2 million to Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) to increase individuals' access to basic health care. USAID/OFDA-funded programs are addressing the health needs of approximately 340,000 displaced and vulnerable populations throughout Yemen. In addition, State/PRM, through the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other partners, continues to address the health needs of vulnerable populations throughout Yemen.

### **Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management**

- Improved security has resulted in increased humanitarian access in Abyan Governorate, facilitating relief organizations' ability to assess and respond to the needs of returnees and individuals who remained in the governorate throughout the conflict. On July 8 and 9, a U.N. interagency team assessed humanitarian conditions in limited areas of Abyan and identified health, protection, and WASH assistance as priority needs among returning and conflict-affected individuals. The humanitarian community has also established operational hubs in Abyan to deliver assistance to vulnerable populations; some relief organizations have launched initial needs assessments and have begun to resume program activities, according to the U.N.

- With more than \$750,000 in USAID/OFDA FY 2012 funding, OCHA is providing humanitarian coordination to help relief agencies scale up their activities in Abyan. OCHA is working to increase local partners' response capacity and has established an access working group to coordinate relief activities and negotiate access to affected areas.

## WASH

- WASH assistance remains a priority need throughout Yemen, due to protracted crises that have destroyed water infrastructure, and the rising price of water as a result of increasing transportation costs. The U.N. identified WASH support as a priority need in Abyan Governorate, as individuals are returning to areas with damaged or destroyed water and sanitation infrastructure. In Aden Governorate, displaced families remaining in public schools that lack adequate water and sanitation facilities continue to require WASH assistance. In Yemen's northern governorates of Hajjah and Sa'dah, significant WASH needs remain in areas of protracted displacement and limited water sources.
- Since late June, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$2.9 million for WASH interventions throughout Yemen. USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$900,000 to CHF International for WASH programming in Aden, Abyan, Lahij, and Ta'izz governorates, targeting approximately 28,000 individuals. With more than \$1 million in USAID/OFDA funding, ADRA is providing WASH interventions in Sana'a' and Abyan governorates to support more than 132,000 beneficiaries.
- USAID/OFDA additional assistance includes support for IRD to conduct WASH programming in Al Hudaydah Governorate—one of Yemen's most affected governorates. IRD plans to reach 30,000 individuals over a 10-month period by improving communities' access to safe drinking water through water treatment and hygiene promotion activities. IRD also plans to distribute hygiene kits to vulnerable families.
- In total, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$6.6 million to increase access to water and improve hygiene conditions among vulnerable populations throughout Yemen. State/PRM, through UNHCR and other partners, also continues to address the WASH needs of vulnerable populations throughout Yemen.

## Other Humanitarian Assistance

- With the addition of the supplemental \$87 million Abyan Response Plan, the total funding requirement for the 2012 U.N. Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) is approximately \$591 million. As of July 18, international donors had committed nearly \$250 million for the YHRP, in addition to more than \$87 million for humanitarian assistance activities not included in the YHRP, according to OCHA. USG funding currently represents approximately 36 percent of contributions to the YHRP, making the USG the largest single donor to the plan, the U.N. reports.

**USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN PROVIDED IN FY 2012<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Implementing Partner</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), WASH	Dhale'e, Ibb, Raymah Governorates	\$1,594,812
ADRA	Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Jawf, San'a' Governorates	\$1,984,677
CHF International	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Lahij, Ta'izz Governorates	\$1,985,069
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, WASH	San'a' Governorate	\$1,799,909
IRD	Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Al Hudaydah Governorates	\$997,465
Mercy Corps	Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Lahij Governorate	\$2,667,002
Save the Children/U.S.	Health, Nutrition	'Amran, Aden, Al Hudaydah, Lahij, Sa'dah Governorates	\$1,943,656
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$750,000

UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,500,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$23,158
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$20,245,748</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 1,250 Metric Tons (MT) of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Aden Governorate	\$1,490,400
WFP	PRRO -- Emergency Safety Net 16,000 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance <sup>4</sup>	13 Governorates	\$15,000,000
WFP	Emergency Operation (EMOP) 35,710 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Abyan, Aden, Amran, Hajjah, Lahij, Sana'a, Shabwah Governorates	\$35,852,900
ADRA	Food Vouchers, Health and Nutrition Training	Abyan and Lahij Governorates	\$6,379,917
Mercy Corps	Food Vouchers	Ta'izz Governorate	\$4,787,890
Save the Children/U.S.	Food Vouchers, Nutrition Training	Al Huydadah, Amran, Hajjah Governorates	\$4,345,094
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$67,856,201</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
International Organization for Migration	Health, Protection	Hajjah Governorate	\$338,406
ADRA	Livelihoods, Education for Somali refugees	Sana'a	\$499,772
UNHCR	Health, Shelter, WASH, Protection	Countrywide	\$10,600,000
Other Partners	Health, WASH, Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$8,300,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$19,738,178</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2012</b>			<b>\$107,840,127</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 July 18, 2012.

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

<sup>4</sup> Estimated MT of food assistance delivered.

## 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 response efforts in Yemen 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 web site at  
[http://transition.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://transition.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)