



YEMEN – COMPLEX EMERGENCY

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- From June 19 to 21, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah traveled to Yemen to discuss humanitarian and development issues in the country with high-level representatives from the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG)—including President Abdrabuh Mansur Hadi and Foreign Minister Abu Bakr al-Qirbi—and members of the international humanitarian and development communities. During the visit, Administrator Shah announced plans to provide up to \$52 million in additional U.S. Government (USG) assistance to Yemen, including approximately \$23 million in humanitarian assistance. Administrator Shah’s announcement brings total USG humanitarian and development assistance in FY 2012 to approximately \$170 million, including nearly \$105 million in humanitarian assistance. The additional humanitarian assistance will help address the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected populations across Yemen through the distribution of emergency relief supplies and food assistance, as well as support for nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions.
- Prior to Administrator Shah’s visit, Nancy Lindborg, Assistant Administrator for USAID’s Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (AA/DCHA), traveled to Yemen’s capital city of Sana’a from June 1 to 3 to discuss humanitarian issues with the RoYG, U.S. Embassy in Sana’a, USAID/Yemen, and international humanitarian community representatives. During her visit, AA/DCHA Lindborg announced an additional \$6.5 million in humanitarian assistance to Yemen to address the needs of vulnerable and conflict-affected populations in the country.
- On May 12, RoYG forces launched an offensive aimed at reclaiming towns and cities controlled by militant groups in Abyan Governorate. As of June 15, the RoYG had recaptured Zinjibar, the provincial capital of Abyan Governorate, as well as Shuqra and Ja’ar towns, according to the RoYG and international media. By June 12, conflict had displaced an estimated 32,000 people in Abyan, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Approximately 16,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs)—one-half of the total number of people displaced—are in Khanfar District, while other individuals have moved to nearby Al-Wadeah, Lawder, and Rasad districts in Abyan Governorate, OCHA reports. However, roadblocks and fighting have limited humanitarian access and the movement of affected populations, particularly to Lahij and Aden Governorates, with the road between Abyan and Aden governorates closed as of June 12, according to OCHA.
- Insecurity throughout Yemen continues to affect relief agencies and humanitarian access. On June 20, an International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) staff member was killed while on duty in Abyan. Circumstances behind the incident remain unclear, ICRC reports. As of June 20, Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) had temporarily suspended activities in Aden Governorate following an attempted removal by armed individuals of a patient in a MSF-run health facility in the governorate. MSF plans to resume activities once the organization receives assurances from local authorities and community leaders that the event represents an isolated incident.
- USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) has approved approximately \$19.4 million in new emergency food assistance in response to the ongoing food security crisis in Yemen. The assistance includes \$15 million in Title II in-kind food aid for the U.N. World Food Program’s (WFP) Emergency Safety Net (ESN) program, serving 1.8 million severely food-insecure individuals in 13 governorates. USAID/FFP also provided nearly \$4.4 million to Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) for food vouchers and nutritional training activities targeting approximately 72,000 people—or 9,000 households—in Al Huydadah, Amran, and Hajjah governorates.
- In FY 2012, the USG is providing nearly \$105 million in humanitarian assistance to Yemen, including more than \$17.2 million from USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA), approximately \$68 million from USAID/FFP, and approximately \$19.7 million from the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM). USG humanitarian assistance to Yemen addresses the humanitarian needs of IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable individuals throughout the country.

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
Total Number of IDPs in Yemen¹	559,678	OCHA – January and March 2012
Total Number of Refugees in Yemen	217,677	UNHCR – February 2012

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED IN FY 2012 ²	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to Yemen	\$17,249,746
USAID/FFP Assistance to Yemen	\$67,856,201
State/PRM Assistance to Yemen	\$19,738,178
Total USAID and State Assistance to Yemen	\$104,844,125

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 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 governorates, 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 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.
- Following instability in Yemen resulting from the 2011 Arab Spring protests and ensuing political crisis, the USG-designated terrorist group Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) 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.
- Conflicts in northern and southern Yemen and an economic slowdown attributed to the ongoing political instability have exacerbated a nationwide malnutrition crisis.
- 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 that 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.

¹The total IDP figure includes IDP populations identified by Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) assessments in northern and southern Yemen.

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

- 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

- On June 6, ICRC expressed concern that fighting is leading to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation and humanitarian access in Abyan, reporting that up to 100,000 Yemenis in Abyan may be at risk of displacement if not reached with emergency assistance. Affected populations in Abyan face food, fuel, and health service shortages, as well as disruptions to water and power supplies.
- Humanitarian access in northern Yemen is expected to improve despite ongoing insecurity, according to OCHA. Al-Houthi groups that control parts of Sa'ada Governorate have agreed—in principle—to allow humanitarian organizations to conduct humanitarian assessments in the region, following OCHA-led outreach efforts to the al-Houthi groups. Access restrictions and a lack of information regarding humanitarian needs in these areas have complicated efforts by humanitarian organizations to deliver assistance.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Rising food prices and chronic unemployment have contributed to deteriorating food security conditions and increased malnutrition prevalence among vulnerable households in Yemen. High inflation and economic contraction have reduced the ability of poor and vulnerable households to purchase food, despite strong overall food availability in local markets, according to findings from the Yemen Comprehensive Food Security Survey, jointly conducted by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), the RoYG, and other organizations in November and December 2011. An estimated 47 percent of all children under five years of age in Yemen are chronically malnourished and 13 percent suffer from acute malnutrition, according to survey results. OCHA reports that nearly 1 million children in Yemen are acutely malnourished. Child malnutrition, if left untreated, may cause long-term physical and mental impairment.
- To date in FY 2012, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$6 million for agriculture and food security and nutrition interventions in Yemen, including temporary employment programs and activities that provide vulnerable households with livestock and agricultural inputs.
- USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$68 million in FY 2012 to support food insecure populations in Yemen, including approximately \$52 million for wheat and other food commodities, and more than \$15.5 million for basic health and nutrition training for vulnerable populations and food vouchers that help families purchase food in the local market.

Health

- Limited government capacity, restricted humanitarian access, and frequent power shortages have impaired the function of medical facilities and availability of health services throughout Yemen, particularly affecting children and malnourished populations, who are especially vulnerable to a range of communicable diseases.
- To date in FY 2012, USAID/OFDA has provided approximately \$2.2 million to address health-related humanitarian needs throughout Yemen, including training for health care workers and funding for mobile health clinics. USAID/OFDA recently provided the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) with \$500,000 to support a countrywide campaign to vaccinate approximately 8.1 million children between ages of six and 10 against measles and polio, as well as to provide participating children with vitamin A supplements. State/PRM also supports health activities in Yemen through UNHCR and other partners.

WASH

- Depletion of water sources, disruption of power supplies, and lack of financial resources in Yemeni communities to pay for repairs has severely limited the functions of approximately 30 percent of Yemen's water systems, according to OCHA's report on the results from the 2012 Rural Water Sector Survey. The deterioration of Yemen's water supply systems exacerbates serious WASH-related needs in the country; Yemen has limited water resources, with more than one-half of Yemen's population lacking access to safe drinking water or sanitation facilities, OCHA reports. Water shortages are also exacerbated by the cultivation of the stimulant qat, which uses up to 40 percent of Yemen's irrigation water supply, according to international media.
- The 2012 response plan for the WASH Cluster—the coordinating body for WASH-related activities in Yemen—aims to reach 2.6 million people with emergency programs, which require approximately \$58 million in funding. As of

early June, the plan had received \$11.6 million, approximately 20 percent of current requirements. The WASH Cluster continues to address the emergency water supply needs of Yemen's approximately 500,000 IDPs and ensure water quantity and quality in areas where disease outbreaks, lack of food, and malnutrition pose threats to affected populations. The WASH Cluster also plans to coordinate activities with the Health and Nutrition clusters—the coordinating bodies for health- and nutrition-related activities in Yemen, respectively—to address the link between lack of access by affected populations to adequate clean water and high levels of malnutrition.

- USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$4.8 million for WASH assistance in Yemen to date in FY 2012, including for the provision of safe drinking water to IDPs and other vulnerable populations throughout the country. USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF with \$2.5 million to improve Yemen's national capacity for preparedness and response to WASH-related needs and build coordination with the humanitarian community regarding WASH issues. USAID/OFDA also recently provided assistance to Mercy Corps to improve water supply and promote improved hygiene for affected populations. State/PRM partners are also providing WASH-related assistance countrywide.

Other Humanitarian Assistance

- As of June 22, international donors had committed nearly \$222 million in support of the 2012 U.N. Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP), in addition to nearly \$83 million for humanitarian assistance activities not included in the YHRP, according to OCHA. The 2012 YHRP requests approximately \$465 million to respond to humanitarian needs in Yemen. USG funding currently represents nearly 30 percent of contributions to the YHRP, making the USG the largest single donor to the plan, the U.N. reports. The U.N. is currently finalizing a mid-term review of the YHRP, which is expected to result in increased levels of requested funding.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE²			
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Ad Dali', Ibb, Raymah Governorates	\$1,594,812
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Abyan, Aden, Al Jawf, Sana'a Governorates	\$1,984,677
International Medical Corps	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Sana'a Governorate	\$1,799,909
Mercy Corps	Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Lahij Governorate	\$2,667,002
SC/US	Health, Nutrition	Amran, Aden, Al Hudaydah, Lahij, Sa'ada Governorates	\$1,943,656
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$750,000
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$6,500,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$9,690
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$17,249,746
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE³			
WFP	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 1,250 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Aden Governorate	\$1,490,400
WFP	PRRO – ESN 16,000 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance ⁴	Multiple 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
SC/US	Food Vouchers, Nutrition Training	Al Huydadah, Amran, Hajjah Governorates	\$4,345,094
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$67,856,201
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
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
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$19,738,178
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN IN FY 2012			\$104,844,125

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 22, 2012.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

⁴ 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.
- 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 or +1.202.821.1999.
Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/