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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 #5, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

June 29, 2011

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated June 15, 2011.*

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- On June 26, Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) officials reported that President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who remains in Saudi Arabia receiving treatment for injuries sustained during a June 3 attack on the presidential palace in Sana'a, continues to direct RoYG affairs and plans to return to Yemen shortly. Opposition groups continue to call for President Saleh's resignation and tens of thousands of people in Sana'a and other major cities held protests on June 26, according to international media.
- On June 22, operators at the Aden refinery in southern Yemen began processing trials of the first oil shipment donated by Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has pledged to donate a total of three million barrels of crude oil to Yemen to alleviate fuel shortages, which have caused a significant increase in food and water prices throughout the country. RoYG officials indicate that the refined oil may lessen the fuel crisis; however, RoYG officials continue negotiations with rival tribal groups to gain access to a damaged pipeline that has cut off the majority of Yemen's crude oil supply.
- USAID/OFDA is closely monitoring the situation and reviewing emergency response contingency plans with humanitarian agencies to facilitate a rapid and flexible response to evolving conditions.
- In recent days, USAID/OFDA committed more than \$700,000 to Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) to provide health and nutrition assistance for conflict-affected and displaced individuals in northern Yemen.
- In total, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$41.7 million in humanitarian assistance to Yemen in FY 2011, including nearly \$7.2 million from USAID/OFDA to support economic recovery and market systems, logistics and relief commodities, humanitarian coordination and information management, health and nutrition assistance, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions, benefitting nearly 340,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable individuals.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>Approximate Total Number of IDPs</b>	300,000	UNHCR – April 2011
<i>IDPs in Sa'ada Governorate</i>	110,000	UNHCR – April 2011
<i>IDPs in Hajjah Governorate</i>	103,362	UNHCR – April 2011
<i>IDPs in Amran Governorate</i>	41,948	UNHCR – April 2011
<i>IDPs in Sana'a Governorate</i>	20,233	UNHCR – April 2011
<i>IDPs in Al Jawf Governorate</i>	24,491	UNHCR – April 2011

### **FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO YEMEN**

<b>USAID/OFDA Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$7,152,818</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>1</sup> Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$20,200,000</b>
<b>USAID/OTI<sup>2</sup> Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$672,177</b>
<b>State/PRM<sup>3</sup> Assistance .....</b>	<b>\$13,700,000</b>
<b>Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Yemen .....</b>	<b>\$41,724,995</b>

### **CONTEXT**

- Since 2004, conflict between RoYG forces and al-Houthi opposition members has affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in the need for humanitarian assistance.
- A February 2010 ceasefire between RoYG forces and al-Houthi opposition members has increased humanitarian access in the north. While RoYG and al-Houthi opposition members continue to uphold the February 2010 ceasefire, it has proven fragile. In April 2011, al-Houthi groups took control of Sa'ada Governorate and the

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

majority of Al Jawf Governorate. Sporadic clashes and isolated incidents—including blocked roads and low-level clashes—have contributed to insecurity, limited humanitarian access, and hindered large-scale population returns in Sa’ada and Al Jawf governorates and northern areas of Amran Governorate. Humanitarian agencies continue to provide emergency assistance to conflict-affected populations in northern Yemen despite ongoing security and access constraints.

- Since February 2, 2011, numerous protests throughout Yemen demanding the resignation of President Saleh have resulted in escalating clashes between RoYG security forces and opposition demonstrators. In addition, increased fighting between RoYG military forces and rival tribal groups has exacerbated already chronically poor conditions. After sustaining injuries in a rocket attack on June 3, President Saleh departed Yemen to receive medical care, leaving Vice President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi as the interim head of the RoYG.

### ***Security and Access***

- Security conditions and humanitarian access vary throughout Yemen. A June 3 ceasefire has resulted in improved security conditions and increased humanitarian access in Sana’a in recent weeks, and humanitarian access to areas controlled by al-Houthi groups in Sa’ada Governorate has improved. However, escalating conflict has reduced humanitarian access in southern Abyan Governorate, and countrywide fuel shortages have impeded humanitarian activity throughout Yemen, according to U.N. agencies.
- In recent weeks, organizations funded by USAID/OFDA have resumed limited operations in Sana’a and northern governorates. In addition, USAID/OFDA is targeting response efforts in order to meet the needs of conflict-affected and newly displaced populations in southern Aden and Lahj governorates. In areas with limited access, USAID/OFDA, USAID/OTI, and USAID/FFP are monitoring humanitarian conditions and preparing to respond to identified needs.

### ***Population Movements***

- Relatively stable security conditions in northern governorates have resulted in decreased population movements in recent weeks, according to the U.N. USAID/OFDA—through the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), SC/US, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM)—continues to provide assistance to individuals displaced in northern regions, including Sana’a, Sa’ada, Amran, and Hajjah governorates.
- Zinjibar, the capital of Abyan Governorate, remains under the control of a militant group that seized the city in May. As of June 19, fighting in the area had displaced approximately 40,000 people, including 15,000 people within Abyan, 15,000 individuals to Aden Governorate, and 10,000 others to Lahj Governorate, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- During the past week, USAID/OTI, through IOM, continued to assess humanitarian needs and deliver emergency relief supplies to individuals displaced in Abyan Governorate.
- USAID/OFDA, through the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), is supporting relief commodity distribution and WASH interventions in Aden and Lahj to address the needs of IDPs who recently fled conflict in Abyan. In addition, USAID/OFDA is monitoring the needs of IDPs remaining in Abyan, where insecurity has significantly limited humanitarian access to date.

### ***Emergency Food Assistance***

- Rising fuel prices and scarcity of supply continue to increase food prices throughout Yemen. Imported wheat stocks, which make up 90 percent of wheat supplies in Yemen, remain adequate to meet food needs until October, according to international media reports. However, fuel shortages are preventing wheat milling and distribution, resulting in reduced supplies of bread and potentially exacerbating chronic food insecurity in Yemen.
- To date in FY 2011, USAID/FFP has provided more than 17,430 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance—valued at \$18.6 million—to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) in Yemen. In addition, USAID/FFP has provided \$1.6 million to support a Save the Children (SC) food voucher program. USAID/FFP continues to monitor food needs in Yemen and are preparing to respond if food needs increase.

### ***Health***

- The recent conflicts in Sana’a and other northern governorates have resulted in the departure of medical staff and decreased access to facilities, according to OCHA. In addition, vulnerable populations displaced to areas with limited health care infrastructure and services, particularly rural areas, are increasingly at risk of contracting communicable diseases.
- USAID/OFDA provided more than \$340,000 to SC/US in June to rehabilitate primary health care clinics, provide medical equipment and training, and support mobile medical teams in northern Amran and Sa’ada governorates.

**Nutrition**

- The recent conflict has the potential to exacerbate already-high levels of malnutrition in Yemen, which remain among the highest in the world. More than half of Yemini children experience stunted growth as a result of acute malnutrition, according to UNICEF.
- In order to help prevent escalating malnutrition, USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$350,000 to SC/US to support nutrition interventions for displaced and conflict-affected pregnant women and children. Through SC/US, USAID/OFDA is supporting feeding programs, nutritional screening and education, and community capacity-building to increase the early detection of acute malnutrition and respond as needed.

**WASH**

- While cholera is endemic to Yemen, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reports that an interruption in the chlorination of wells due to recent fighting may have contributed to a recent increase in the number of suspected cholera cases in Abyan Governorate. WHO has warned that population movements out of Abyan may result in the spread of cholera to neighboring governorates, including Aden and Lahj.
- The Health Cluster, the coordinating body for health-related activities, has provided an emergency cholera health and treatment kit to an Abyan hospital. In addition, the Health Cluster is developing plans to strengthen the response capacity of communities in Abyan to prevent and respond to the spread of cholera.
- USAID/OFDA, through UNICEF, continues to support WASH interventions, including assessing water and sanitation conditions in Aden and distributing hygiene kits in Aden and Lahj. In total, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$4.2 million in FY 2011 to date to increase access to safe drinking water and improve sanitation and hygiene conditions in northern, central, and southern Yemen, benefitting nearly 180,000 individuals.

## USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN

FY 2011			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
ADRA	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Al Jawf Governorate	\$897,014
IOM	Health, WASH	Al Jawf and Sa'ada Governorates	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,550,000
SC/US	Health, Nutrition	Amran and Sa'ada Governorates	\$705,804
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$7,152,818</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
WFP	17,430 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Sa'ada, Hajjah, Amran, Al Jawf Governorates, and Sa'ada City	\$18,600,000
SC	Cash Food Voucher Program	Al Jawf and Sana'a Governorates	\$1,600,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$20,200,000</b>
<b>USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE</b>			
IOM	Health	Sana'a, Aden, Amran, Marib, Al Jawf, Dhale'e and Abyan Governorates	\$274,887
SC	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Aden and Amran Governorates	\$397,290
<b>TOTAL USAID/OTI</b>			<b>\$672,177</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
UNHCR, Other Partners	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$13,700,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$13,700,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN TO DATE IN FY 2011</b>			<b>\$41,724,995</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents committed or obligated funds as of June 29, 2011.

<sup>2</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. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Yemen may be available at [www.reliefweb.int](http://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](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - 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://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/)