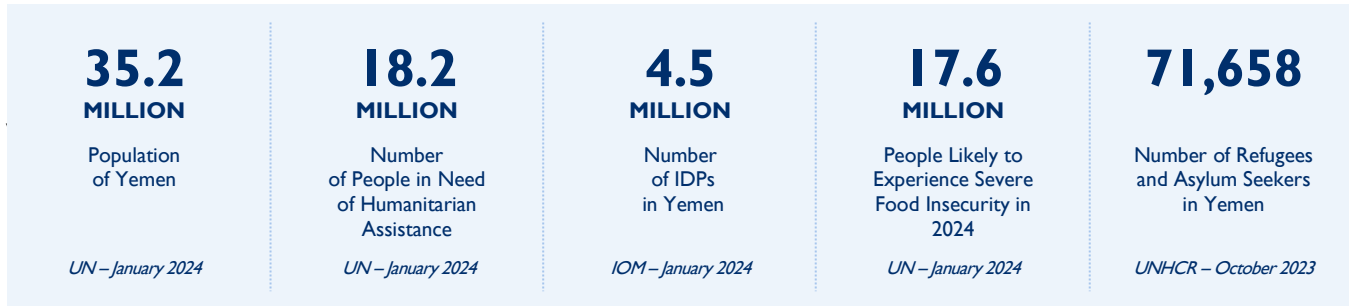


# Yemen – Complex Emergency

MAY 7, 2024

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Acute food insecurity remains widespread in Yemen with millions of people projected to face food consumption gaps from February through September, according to FEWS NET.
- Nearly 2.8 million IDPs in southern Yemen remain in need of humanitarian assistance, including food assistance, relief commodities, and shelter support, due to challenges associated with ongoing displacement, according to IOM.
- The USG announced nearly \$220 million in FY 2024 funding for humanitarian assistance in Yemen, including food, health, MPCA, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH assistance, at the Senior Officials Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on May 7.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b>	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$199,893,358
For the Yemen Response in FY 2024	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$19,846,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$219,739,358</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### USG Announces Nearly \$220 Million in Funding for the Yemen Response

On May 7, USAID Deputy Assistant to the Administrator Dianna Darsney de Salcedo announced nearly \$220 million in U.S. Government (USG) humanitarian assistance to support vulnerable populations in Yemen and the region during the sixth Senior Officials Meeting on Yemen in Brussels, Belgium. This new funding—comprising approximately \$20 million from State/PRM and nearly \$200 million from USAID/BHA—will support food assistance, including cash transfers and food vouchers, as well as multipurpose cash, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance for conflict-affected individuals and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Yemen. Since FY 2015, the USG has provided nearly \$5.9 billion in humanitarian assistance funding for the Yemen response.

### Food Consumption Gaps Likely to Widen Across Yemen Through September

Acute food insecurity remains widespread in Yemen with millions of people projected to face widening food consumption gaps in the coming months, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Above-average food prices, the effects of the UN World Food Program's (WFP) pause of its general food assistance (GFA) program in Al Houthi-controlled northern Yemen due to a lack of agreement between the UN agency and Al Houthi officials on how to ensure food assistance appropriately targets those most in need, and limited income-earning opportunities will likely continue to drive food insecurity through September, despite some temporary relief in March and April associated with charitable support, or *zakat*, during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan and the Eid Al-Fitr holiday and expected income increases during the February-to-May harvest season. In northern Yemen, limited income opportunities, partially driven by insecurity in the Red Sea, paired with the WFP GFA pause are likely to exacerbate food insecurity. Meanwhile in Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG)-controlled southern Yemen, rising prices for foods and goods are expected to drive food insecurity. Poor households are expected to exhaust food stocks and resources received during Ramadan, contributing to a rise in the number of households likely facing widening food consumption gaps and Emergency—IPC 4—or worse levels of acute food insecurity by May.<sup>3</sup> In the June-to-September period, FEWS NET anticipates that access to income will decline further due to the agricultural off-season and reduction of agricultural labor opportunities, causing more households to face Emergency or worse outcomes.

Although WFP's GFA program remains paused in northern Yemen, USAID/BHA partners continue to provide food assistance to support vulnerable households. For example, one USAID/BHA partner provided emergency food assistance to food-insecure populations in Ad Dali' Governorate, reaching nearly 26,300 individuals with monthly food basket distributions—comprising beans, flour, rice, salt, sugar, and vegetable oil—between October 2023 and March 2024. The USAID/BHA partner also provided more than 500 IDP households—an estimated 3,900 people—with monthly food basket distributions during the same period.

### 2.8 Million IDPs in Southern Yemen Face Ongoing Humanitarian Needs

Nearly 2.8 million people remained internally displaced in southern Yemen between July and September 2023, more than one-half of whom were sheltering in Marib Governorate, according to an International

<sup>3</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal (IPC 1) to Famine (IPC 5) for acute food insecurity.

Organization for Migration (IOM) assessment released in April. IOM identified food, shelter, and relief commodities, such as blankets, cooking utensils, and hygiene kits, as the top three priority needs for IDPs in southern Yemen, based on a survey of more than 13,300 IDPs. An estimated 26 percent of assessed IDPs were sheltering in emergency or makeshift shelters, which often lack proper infrastructure enabling access to clean drinking water and sanitation facilities. Conflict and natural hazards accounted for 42 percent and 47 percent of displacement, respectively, during the assessment period. Notably, Tropical Cyclone Tej, which made landfall in October 2023, displaced nearly 4,400 households, or an estimated 30,800 people, in Hadramawt and Al Mahrah governorates in late October, leaving cyclone-affected individuals in particular need of emergency relief commodities, the IOM reports. Overall, nearly 10,000 households—approximately 70,000 individuals—were newly displaced in 2023.

USAID/BHA partners continue to respond to the needs of displaced households across Yemen, including through the UN Population Fund (UNFPA)-led Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), which responds to the immediate needs of displaced households within 72 hours. Between January and March, UNFPA and its partners distributed nearly 2,000 RRM kits, comprising female dignity and hygiene kits, in-kind food assistance, and multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA).

### **Relief Actors Respond to an Increase in Cholera and AWD Cases in Yemen**

Since mid-March, cholera and acute watery diarrhea (AWD) cases have continued to spread across Yemen, with more than 22,000 suspected cases recorded as of April 27, the Sana'a-based Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP) and the RoYG MoPHP report. Of the total suspected cases, the MoPHP in the north and south recorded more than 140 associated deaths as of April 27. In late 2023 and early 2024, more than 1,300 cholera cases were recorded across nine RoYG-controlled governorates between mid-October and late February. In mid-March, a new AWD outbreak was reported in Al Houthi-controlled areas, related to contaminated irrigation water and crops, in northern Yemen, according to the Sana'a-based MoPHP. In coordination with relevant authorities, humanitarian actors have responded to the increased cholera and AWD cases with health, nutrition, and WASH assistance across Yemen to address the increasing cases and mitigate the further spread of the disease, according to relief actors. USAID/BHA funds partners to provide health care services for affected individuals, as well as critical WASH activities, including water chlorination, hygiene kit distribution, and risk communication and community engagement activities to support community-level uptake of increased handwashing behaviors. However, increased funding and resources are necessary to strengthen WASH systems and mitigate the further spread of cholera and AWD, the UN reports.

### **Converging Factors Heighten Vulnerabilities for Communities in Marib City**

Multiple drivers, including elevated prices for essential commodities and high levels of displacement, in Marib Governorate's capital city of Marib continued to create complex vulnerabilities for communities across the city between December 2023 and early January 2024, according to the nongovernmental organization (NGO) ACAPS. In particular, high food and housing prices are undermining food security and access to housing in the city. ACAPS reports that several communities in Marib are more likely to be unable to meet basic needs and experience protection violations. At-risk populations include asylum-seekers and refugees from outside of Yemen; ethnic minorities such as the *Muhamasheen*, a group that experiences systematic discrimination in Yemen; IDPs; older people; persons with disabilities; and women. Notably, Marib city hosted an estimated 645,900 IDPs—nearly 95 percent of the city's total population of approximately 687,800 people—as of mid-April. USAID/BHA partners continue to provide multi-sector humanitarian assistance, including food, health, nutrition, protection, and WASH assistance in Marib Governorate. USAID/BHA supports IOM to provide primary health care services, safe drinking

water, and shelter to displaced households, for people in need across Marib.

## KEY FIGURES



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USAID/BHA partners supporting food assistance programming



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USG partners supporting health interventions



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USG partners supporting MPCA programming



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USG partners supporting nutrition programming

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

To address acute food insecurity in Yemen, USAID/BHA supports WFP and seven NGOs to implement food assistance activities across the country. USAID/BHA partners are providing emergency food assistance through in-kind food aid, including U.S.-sourced commodities, and cash and vouchers for individuals to buy food in local markets. With USAID/BHA support, an NGO reached approximately 5,600 food-insecure households—an estimated 35,900 individuals—in Al Hudaydah Governorate and nearly 2,000 households—more than 13,400 individuals—in Sa’dah Governorate with cash transfers for food assistance in February.

### HEALTH

The USG supports IOM, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNFPA, the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and 11 NGOs to conduct life-saving health interventions in Yemen. USG partners provide primary health care services—in conjunction with nutrition and WASH programming—through static health facilities and mobile medical teams serving hard-to-reach areas throughout Yemen. USG partners also support local health volunteers to provide health services at the community level, thereby promoting better health outcomes. In addition, USAID/BHA partners equip health facilities with medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to expand access to quality medical services. In March, a USAID/BHA international NGO (INGO) partner provided outpatient consultations to nearly 2,800 patients through support to three health facilities in Ta’izz Governorate.

### MPCA

With USG support, IOM, UNHCR, and three NGOs provide MPCA to conflict-affected households across Yemen to meet their basic needs and reduce the use of negative coping strategies, while also supporting local markets. By providing MPCA, USG partners enable households to procure cooking gas, food, hygiene items, and other essential commodities. USAID/BHA partners distribute MPCA to vulnerable households, including conflict-affected, newly displaced, and other at-risk households, to help meet basic needs and develop linkages with longer-term programming.

### NUTRITION

USAID/BHA-supported nutrition assistance aims to identify, prevent, and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—across Yemen. Through support for the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), WFP, WHO, and 11 NGOs, USAID/BHA supports partners in preventing and responding to malnutrition, including by addressing the drivers of malnutrition.

USAID/BHA partners also help reduce morbidity and mortality resulting from malnutrition, particularly among children and pregnant and lactating women, through community- and facility-level malnutrition screenings conducted by community health and nutrition volunteers, community health workers, and community midwives. USAID/BHA partners provide nutrition support through static facilities and mobile teams by integrating food assistance, health, and WASH interventions to comprehensively assist vulnerable populations. For example, USAID/BHA partners conduct hygiene promotion campaigns and ensure adequate sanitation and water supply in nutrition treatment facilities in Yemen. In addition, USAID/BHA supports the nutrition stock pipeline for treatment of moderate and severe acute malnutrition cases.



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USG partners supporting protection interventions

## PROTECTION

The USG is responding to critical protection needs across Yemen through support to IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, and seven NGOs. Through community mobilization activities, risk mitigation efforts, and specialized case management services, USG partners address child protection and psychosocial support needs, prevent and respond to gender-based violence, and respond to other protection risks and violations. Between January and March, State/PRM partner IOM supported 2,300 migrants to safely return to their countries of origin via 15 charter flights and more than 100 commercial flights from Aden, Marib, and Sana'a cities.



370,000

Liters of safe drinking water delivered by a USAID/BHA INGO partner to IDPs in Abyan

## WASH

The USG supports IOM, UNICEF, and 16 NGOs to expand access to safe drinking water and prevent and respond to communicable disease outbreaks in Yemen. USG partners conduct critical WASH interventions, including distributing hygiene kits, promoting improved hygiene practices, providing water trucking services, and rehabilitating water systems damaged by conflict, for IDPs and other at-risk populations across the country. In January, IOM's WASH teams continued to respond to new and protracted IDP influxes in Yemen. In addition, with USAID/BHA support, an INGO provided more than 370,000 liters of safe drinking water to IDPs in Abyan Governorate and approximately 54,000 liters of safe drinking water to nine health facilities in Ad Dali' via water trucking during February.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Between mid-2004 and early 2015, conflict between the RoYG and Al Houthi opposition forces in northern Yemen generated widespread and repeated displacement and exacerbated humanitarian needs. The southward advance of Al Houthi forces in 2014 and 2015 expanded the scope of the armed conflict, further aggravating the humanitarian crisis. In March 2015, a Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)-led coalition began conducting airstrikes against Al Houthi and allied forces to halt Al Houthi southward expansion, damaging and destroying public infrastructure, interrupting essential services, and reducing commercial imports to a fraction of the levels required to sustain the Yemeni population.

- A UN-brokered truce between Al Houthi authorities and the KSA-led coalition from April through October 2022 resulted in a significant reduction in conflict that has persisted; however, the situation on the ground remains fragile and humanitarian needs remain high due to the economic crisis, high levels of unemployment, protracted instability, and rising food and fuel prices. Approximately 18.2 million people require humanitarian assistance, according to the 2024 Humanitarian Needs Overview. Moreover, approximately 4.5 million people remain internally displaced in the country since 2015, while an additional 1.9 million IDPs have returned to their areas of origin. The volatility of the current situation has impeded relief agencies' ability to obtain accurate, comprehensive demographic data on conflict-affected populations.
- On October 9, 2023, U.S. Ambassador Steven H. Fagin reissued a declaration of humanitarian need for Yemen for FY 2024 due to continued humanitarian needs resulting from the complex emergency and the impact of the country's economic and political crises on vulnerable populations.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2024<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
IOM	Health, Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA), MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$18,224,300
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,392,000
UNFPA	HCIM; Health; Protection	Countrywide	\$20,789,000
UNICEF	Nutrition—U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Countrywide	\$30,328,308
	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$15,700,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$2,100,000
WFP	Logistics, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$40,979,450
	Nutrition—U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Countrywide	\$11,546,800
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$5,600,000
WHO	Health, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$5,050,000
Implementing Partners	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers; HCIMA; Health; Nutrition; Protection; WASH	Countrywide, Aden, Al Bayda', Ad Dali', Dharmar, Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Ibb, Al Jawf, Lahij, Marib, Sa'dah, Sana'a, Ta'izz	\$48,183,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$199,893,358</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
IOM	Protection	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter	Countrywide	\$11,646,000
Implementing Partner	Protection	Countrywide	\$5,200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$19,846,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE YEMEN RESPONSE IN FY 2024</b>			<b>\$219,739,358</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of May 7, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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## 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 disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)