

برنامج الأغذية
العالمي



YEMEN

Side event - briefing

Executive Board

February 2010



YEMEN: A Complex Crisis



Yemen is now facing three active fronts: the Sa'ada War in the North resulting in increased displacement, a growing southern secessionist movement in the South, and the security threat posed by terrorist activities.

Simultaneously, Yemen has been one of the countries most impacted by the volatile food, fuel, and financial markets – often referred to as the “Triple F Crisis.” According to the International Food Policy Research Institute, the crisis resulted in a direct 25% increase in poverty from 2006-2010, now affecting 44% of the population, or more than 10 million persons. The Government budget was reduced by more than 50%, limiting its capacity to provide basic services to an already impoverished population.

Food insecurity and malnutrition levels in the country have surpassed emergency levels. Yemen is among the 10 countries in the world with highest rates of food insecurity with 32% of the population food insecure. The country is ranked 3rd highest malnutrition in the world: 58% of children under 5 are stunted, and more than 1 in 10 children is acutely malnourished. Based on WFP's recent Comprehensive Food Security Survey, 7.5 million persons are caught in a total poverty trap.

The situation is further compounded by climate change, increasing influx of refugees from the Horn of Africa, extreme gender disparities, high population growth, and low literacy.

YEMEN: Support is Vital



The convergence of multiple crises in an already vulnerable environment has left Yemen and aid agencies at a crossroads. The complex context is making it increasingly challenging to reduce hunger and malnutrition.

Following the escalation of the Sa'ada conflict in August 2009, Yemen implemented a cluster approach and launched a Flash Appeal to assist war affected and displaced persons. Then in December, the Humanitarian Country Team launched the first ever Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan totaling USD 177 million; as of end January, the response is less than 1% funded.

WFP interventions promote a twin track approach to address shock-induced transitory food insecurity and acute malnutrition, as well as chronic hunger and malnutrition. The impact of ongoing operations has been very positive, contributing not only to improved food consumption and nutrition status, but to major improvement in girls' access to primary and secondary education, increased attendance at health centers to receive pre/post natal care and vaccinations, and improved nutritional awareness and practices.



YEMEN: Lack of Resources



The main challenge WFP Yemen faces is severe funding shortfalls for both life saving and safety net interventions. The agency is facing a shortfall of nearly 75% of the US\$ 40 million required to implement operations up to June 2010 alone, which will leave 1 million - out of a planned 1.3 million beneficiaries – without assistance. This includes refugees, wasting children, pregnant mothers, and displaced persons. Beginning as early as July, WFP faces a total food pipeline collapse.

In order to meet the growing needs, WFP plans to expand its operations before mid 2010 to reach as many as 3.2 million beneficiaries (up from 1.7 million in 2009) at an estimated cost of US\$ 105 million in 2010. The agency will focus on refugees, conflict displaced persons, severe food insecurity, critical malnutrition levels, and girls' education. WFP's ability to implement such a portfolio will largely depend on increased donor support.

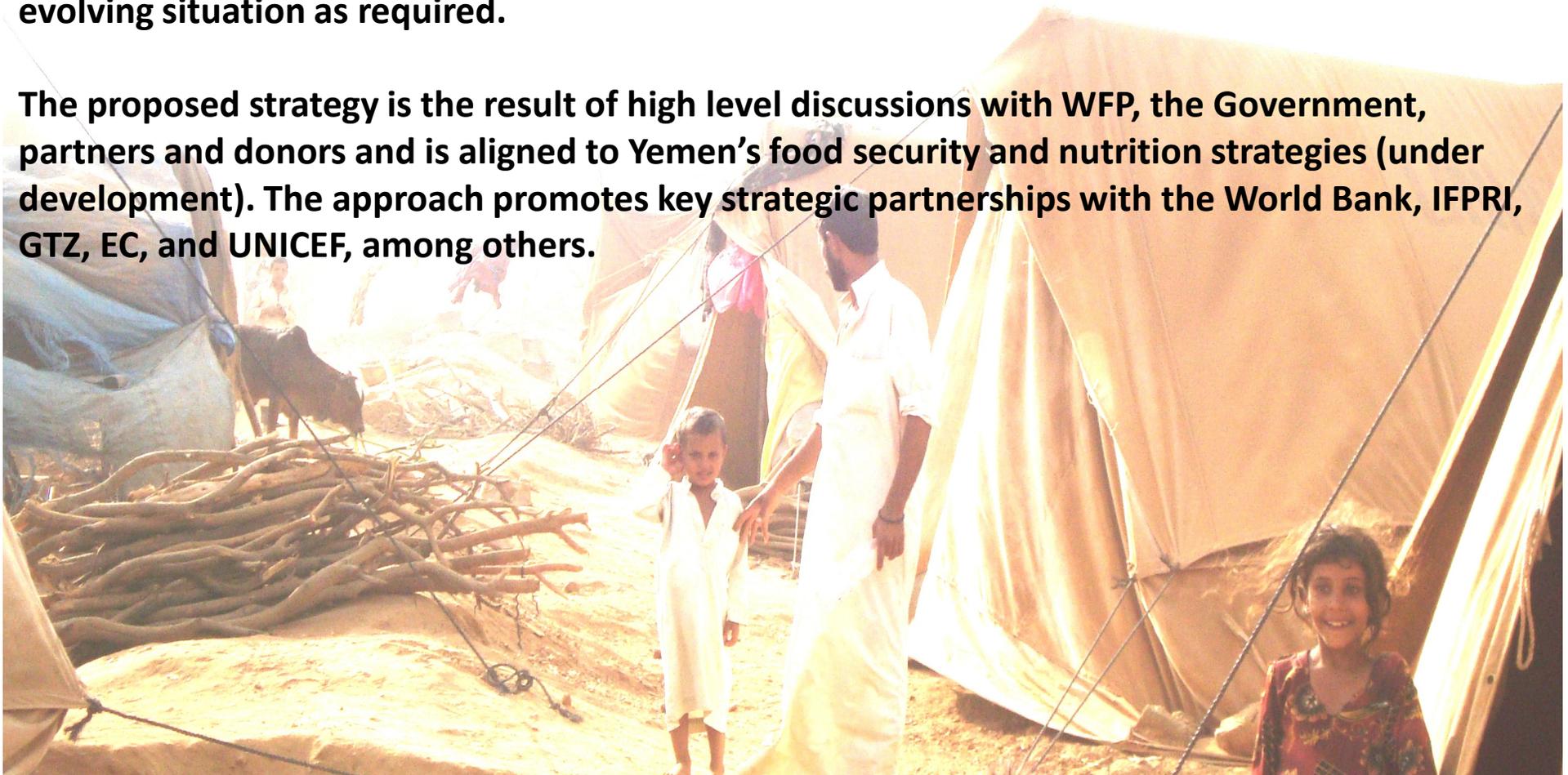


YEMEN: WFP 2010 Way Forward



In order to best address the complex situation in Yemen WFP is consolidating its response into four operations which highlight key challenges: gender disparities and low levels of education, the Sa'ada conflict and resulting displacement, the growing influx of refugees from the Horn, and the above emergency levels of malnutrition and food insecurity. The response plan also allows for a simplified portfolio structure and increased flexibility for WFP to respond to the evolving situation as required.

The proposed strategy is the result of high level discussions with WFP, the Government, partners and donors and is aligned to Yemen's food security and nutrition strategies (under development). The approach promotes key strategic partnerships with the World Bank, IFPRI, GTZ, EC, and UNICEF, among others.



YEMEN: New Operation



A key element of WFP's response strategy will be an ambitious, nationwide intervention providing emergency food and nutrition support to the most vulnerable groups.

The suggested response will consist of three main pillars:

- Seasonal emergency food support to 1.78 million persons in governorates where more than 10% of the population is severely food insecure**
- Targeted nutritional support to mothers and moderate acute malnourished children under 5 as well as blanket feeding for children under 2 – totalling 288,000 beneficiaries in areas where acute malnutrition is above 10%.**
- Capacity building for nutrition, relief, monitoring, and safety nets.**

Preliminary estimates indicate the operation could cost some US\$ 120 million over a two year period providing more than 63,000 mt, for an annual beneficiary figure of 2.1 million persons.

The operation will take into account lessons learned as well as improved targeting, following WFP's recent Comprehensive Food Security Survey. The new operation will also absorb, expand and re-focus the nutrition activities under the current Country Programme.

It is being designed in coordination with key partners in order to promote stabilization as well as support the transition towards medium and long term responses.

Yemen: Linking Emergency to Development



WFP's Comprehensive Food Security Strategy highlighted the clear poverty trap in which vulnerable families are caught, wherein low education, population growth, gender disparities, maternal malnourishment, and limited access to proper water/sanitation only further perpetuates hunger and malnutrition.

The new operation being designed and the overall portfolio of operation will seek to save lives, contribute to the Government and partners stabilization efforts, monitor the food security situation and promote girls education.

Following the request from the Government, IFPRI and World Bank began elaboration of a food security strategy for the country. WFP is providing crucial input to the strategy, focusing on the emergency and short term response aspects.

The agency is designing a voucher for vocational training activity which will allow for improved self reliance and decreased vulnerability of urban refugees. Yemen has also been selected as a pilot country under the Spanish Scheme. Under this scheme WFP is designing a cash for girls' education activity in collaboration with the World Bank's ongoing scheme.

Likewise WFP will look into progressively moving toward Food/Cash for Work and Training and identify ways to support agriculture production.

Yemen: Innovative Nutrition Approaches



In Yemen WFP is applying the latest nutrition recommendations on ready to use foods and in 2009 began treatment of moderate acute malnourished children using Supplementary Plumpy. The new commodity has proven highly acceptable to beneficiaries and is expected to improve the efficiency of nutrition interventions. In 2010 the agency will continue to use the RUTF for targeted feeding and will expand its innovative approach through PlumpyDoz as part of a blanket nutrition intervention among children under 2.

The agency is working with partners towards local production, fortification, and blending of commodities as well as innovative packaging and premix of nutritional commodities.

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) has also agreed to finance a pilot project for Yemen.

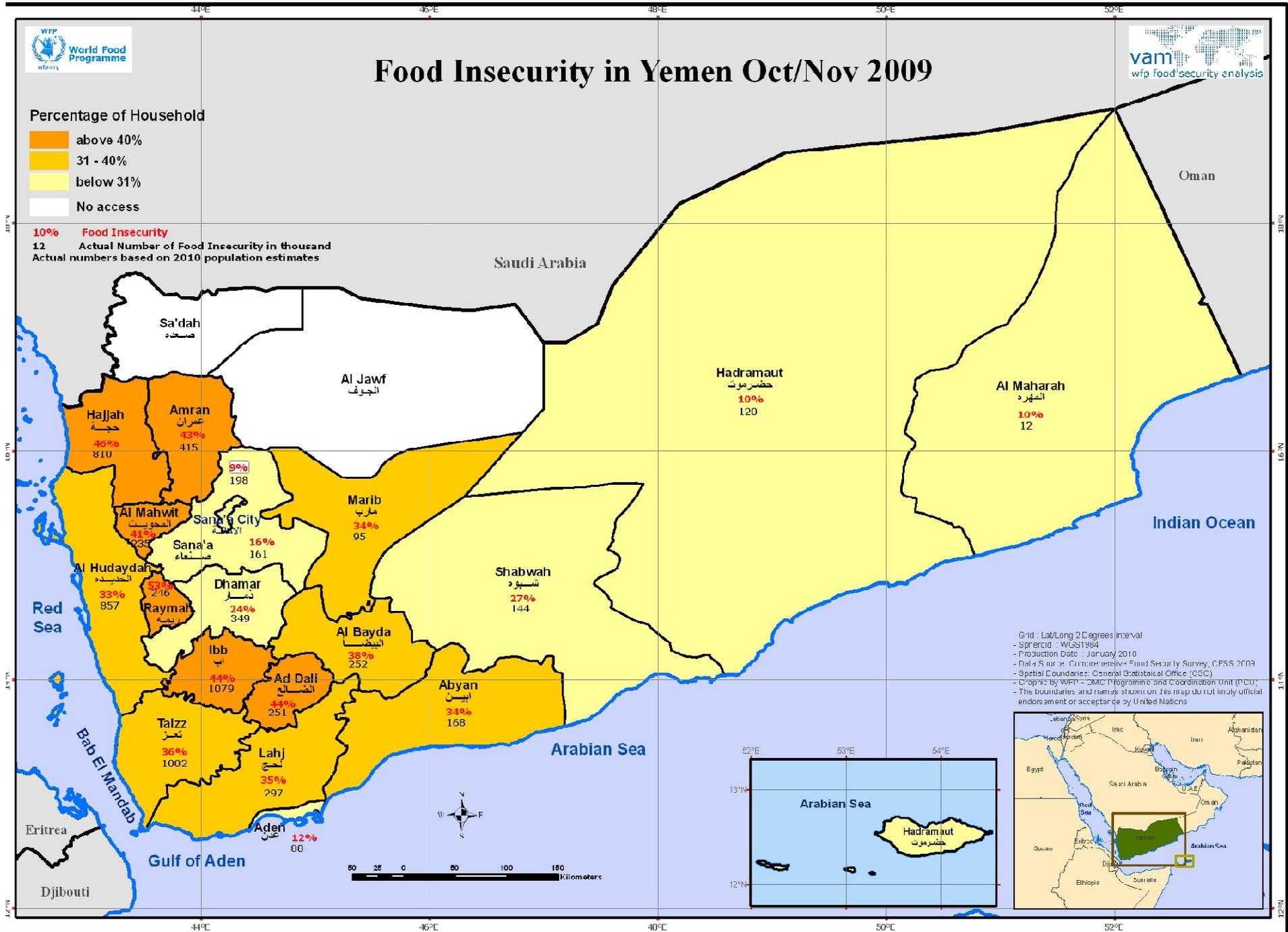


Food Insecurity in Yemen Oct/Nov 2009

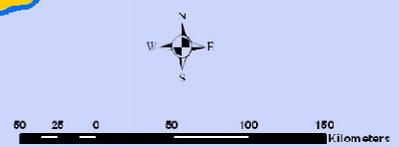
Percentage of Household

- above 40%
- 31 - 40%
- below 31%
- No access

10% Food Insecurity
12 Actual Number of Food Insecurity in thousand
 Actual numbers based on 2010 population estimates



Grid: Lat/Long 2 Degrees interval
 - Spheroid: WGS1984
 - Production Date: January 2010
 - Data Source: Comprehensive Food Security Survey, CFSS 2009
 - Spatial Coordinates: Central Statistical Office (CSO)
 - Digitized by WFP-DMC Program's and Coordination Unit (PCU)
 - The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by United Nations



Response by mid 2010	Activity	Targeting Criteria	Beneficiaries in 2010	Mt	2010 Needs and Resourcing to date
Country Programme	Food for education/ safety net	Poverty, food insecurity, gender disparities	805,000 (including 115,000 girls in primary and secondary school)	16,000 in 2010	17 million USD Potential multilateral of less than 400,000 USD indicated
Emergency food and nutrition support to vulnerable groups	Half ration GFD during lean season (May-Oct 2010 and again 2011) to assist in meeting food gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Governorates where more than 10% of the population is severely food insecure → IFPRI modeling to target districts → Families targeted with Social Welfare Fund 	1.78 million (75% of the severely food insecure within governorates)	63,200 overall, roughly	Preliminary estimates value the operation at USD 60 million per year Guaranteed funding is some 4 million Euros from KfW (second tranche of an earlier contribution)
	Targeted nutrition to (A) moderate acute malnourished children under 5 and (B) pregnant and lactating women; (C) blanket supplementary for children under 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Maintain 8 governorates under HFP EMOP •Expand to governorates where more than 10% of children are acute malnourished→ target districts with health system strengthening activity is in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •44,000 pregnant and lactating mothers •147,000 children under 2 •97,000 moderate acute malnourished under 5 •Total: 288,000 per year 	Some 26,320 mt in 2010	
Relief assistance to Sa'ada IDPs	Full monthly GFD to IDPs as well as blanket supplementary feeding to children under 5	IDPs in camps and scattered	Soon expanding to 250,000 IDPs – including 50,000 children under 5	28,000 roughly for 2010	Estimated 30 million in 2010 Received so far is USD 5 million
Support to Refugees	GFD camp, wet/dry food upon arrival, nutrition and education support, and self reliance for urban refugees (voucher for training)	Refugees from the Horn living in the camp, arriving along the coast, and in Aden and Sana'a	100,000 in 2010; 183,000 overall	9,000 overall 4,200 in 2010	USD 6.89 million over 2 years – 3.2 in 2010 alone
Total			3.2 to 3.3 million beneficiaries in 2010 across all governorates	Some 74,520 mt	USD 105-110 million in 2010 alone