



WFP Yemen Update on Operations

January 2019

Food Security Overview

As Yemen enters the fourth year of conflict:

161, 000 families have fled violence from Hudaydah since 2018



20.1 million people are in need of food assistance (IPC Phase 3 and above)

3 million children under the age of 5 and pregnant and nursing women are suffering from acute malnutrition

2 million children out of school



12 million Scale up by WFP



STATUS OF WFP

YEMEN SCALE-UP

- Following the IPC results of December 2018, WFP Yemen is gradually scaling up to provide general food assistance to up to 12 million people a month, including all people in IPC phases 4 and 5, as well as vulnerable 2 million IDPs. Namely:
 - 8.2 million people will receive food support and 3.8 million people will receive cash and voucher support.
 - 1.5 million children under the age of 5 and pregnant and nursing women will receive nutrition support.
 - School feeding programme will scale up from 660,000 to 900,000 children.
 - Livelihood activities will scale up to 350,000 people in 2019.
- High-level WFP mission to enter Yemen on 2 February to ensure mechanisms are in place to reach targeted beneficiaries, support scale up, and continue to preserve operational integrity



RESOURCE UPDATE

- **Funding Needs:**
 - 2019 project size: USD 1.8 billion to support 12 million people
 - 12 months net-requirements: USD 1.6 billion
 - USD 573 million required immediately for the next six months (February – July). Otherwise:
 - » Vouchers and Cash will break in February
 - » Nutrition: will break in April
 - » General Food Distribution: will break in May
- **Pledging:**
 - Geneva Pledging Conference scheduled for 26 February 2019 for the 2019 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- **Red Sea Mills (RSM), Hudaydah:**
 - WFP has not gained access since September 2018
 - 51,000 MT of WFP wheat enough to feed 3.7 million people for one month
 - Two silos were hit and caught fire on 24 January, including one silo containing some 4,500 MT of WFP wheat
 - 29 January member of Ansarullah de-mining team killed
- **Pending visas:**
 - Sana'a visas of WFP staff needed for scale-up remain outstanding
- **Detained trucks:**
 - New procedures from de-facto authorities are causing delays for truck clearances in Ibb, with 72 trucks detained since 14 January
 - A special inspection by the de-facto authorities resulted in release of 62 of the trucks



OPERATING ENVIRONMENT IN YEMEN

- Yemen is a high risk, complex operating environment
- Interference in areas controlled by de-facto authorities restricts WFP access to beneficiaries
- Several districts in Sa'ada, Sana'a, Hudaydah, Ibb and Aden have faced access constraints
- WFP reached two districts in Hudaydah (January 2019) which have not received support for 6 months
- WFP has been at the forefront of taking a stand to improve the operating environment in the country and to ensure accountability to both our beneficiaries and to donors
- Hudaydah ceasefire remains in effect but is highly fragile



aid diversion

overview

- **Sana'a:** 4,000 households (HHs) did not get their food assistance over two months and distribution records were falsified. This is based on an extrapolation of the 844 calls reporting that no food was received
- **Sa'ada:** Some households may not have received their full entitlements during October 2018. However, following WFP demarche, beneficiaries are now receiving full entitlements and monitoring access has been allowed
- **Hajjah:** WFP is reviewing one cooperating partner's distribution records



EXISTING MONITORING MEASURES

- **WFP's monitoring system aims at detecting any anomalies in our assistance:**
 - WFP staff conduct monitoring activities
 - Two Third Party Monitoring (TPM) companies
 - A dedicated call centre in Sana'a follows up on distributions
 - An out-sourced Call Centre in Amman
 - A hotline exists for our beneficiaries to make complaints/ highlight any errors or difficulties in receiving their assistance.
- **Food distribution points are consistently monitored on a monthly basis through all WFP Yemen monitoring modalities**



INTRODUCING ADDITIONAL MITIGATION MEASURES

- WFP is starting the new beneficiary targeting exercise followed by biometric registration.
- Task force to lead the targeting and registration exercise has been formed
- WFP will also revamp end-to-end monitoring
- Beneficiary verification call centre will be established to verify whether district level Food Aid Committees (FACs) are functioning properly
- WFP will require access to all areas across Yemen where distributions take place to conduct adequate monitoring, including through third parties



RESPONSE BY DE-FACTO AUTHORITIES TO WFP ED LETTER

- Issue an immediate circular to ban trade of food assistance commodities. **DONE**
- Investigate traders involved in the sale of food to identify their network and who is involved in this illicit network. **ONGOING**
- Identify relevant staff of SFP&HR that have been involved in the misappropriation of food and hold them accountable. **ONGOING**
- Issue a circular that clarifies for all entities that WFP is able to independently target and select beneficiaries without any interference from any entity. **DONE**

Key outcome: Houthi Leadership has agreed for WFP to undertake a new beneficiary selection exercise and biometric registration.



TIMELINE FOR ROLL OUT OF BENEFICIARY TARGETING AND BIOMETRIC REGISTRATION

- **Government of Yemen Areas:**
 - Beneficiary targeting began in 2018 and biometric registration is successfully ongoing
 - Thus far, 28,000 families have been registered in Aden
- **De-facto Authority Areas of Yemen:**
 - Beneficiary targeting began in January 2019
 - Biometric registration will start in February
- **WFP aims to register all 12 million beneficiaries across Yemen by August 2019**
- **WFP will shift in-kind and voucher beneficiaries to cash once registration is complete**

KEY MILESTONES & INDICATORS WFP IS MONITORING

Allocation of districts to partners

Operationalization of signed agreements

Facilitating visas for WFP team to undertake scale-up

Unrestricted access of monitors and partners

Establishing joint operations room with NAMCHA

Ensuring no influence in the selection of the newly established Food Aid Committees

Set up Food Aid Committee and Training

Sensitisation Campaign

Import of Biometric Registration Equipment



other

KEY INDICATORS

Other key indicators have been established by WFP Yemen to monitor the quality and permissiveness of the operating environment and partner cooperation, including de-facto authorities:

- Number of outlets reported as selling WFP food
- Ability to monitor programmes
- Issuance of visas
- Allowing importation of vehicles, security and telecommunication equipment
- Customs clearances of food and fuel
- Movement of food aid trucks
- Independent assessments



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