

Yemen

Humanitarian Response Plan 2018







The livelihoods of a significant segment of the population dependent on agriculture were disrupted and local food production was severely compromised. Combining emergency assistance with longer-term support is fundamental to restore vulnerable families' livelihoods and prevent the deterioration of food security.

Yemen is facing the world's largest food security crisis following two and a half years of airstrikes, armed clashes and attacks on civilian infrastructure, which have also enabled the spread of cholera at an unprecedented scale. Yemini people are increasingly exhausting their coping mechanisms and as a result the humanitarian crisis remains extremely widespread. The expansion of the conflict has also led to large-scale displacement compounded with existing high levels of vulnerability, including high rates of malnutrition.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster to:

- Improve immediate household availability of and access to food for the most vulnerable populations.
- Ensure equitable access to assistance and protection for the most vulnerable populations.
- Improve household food security for at-risk groups by supporting agricultural, livestock and fishery systems and assets.
- Strengthen emergency preparedness and response capacity of partners, communities and authorities.

Activities



Restore agriculture-based livestock production

crop production support | rehabilitation of agriculture infrastructure through cash-for-work | income-generating activities | greenhouses and solar pump irrigation | input trade fairs



Increase livestock production

livestock restocking | poultry and fishing support | emergency vaccination and treatment



$Strengthen\ coordination\ for\ food\ security\ and\ agriculture$

regular meetings to enhance collaboration | key appeal documents | agriculture and food security surveys and analyses

Situation analysis



17.8 million people food insecure, of which **8.4 million** severely food insecure – **24**% increase compared with 2017



32% of all districts estimated to be at risk of famine



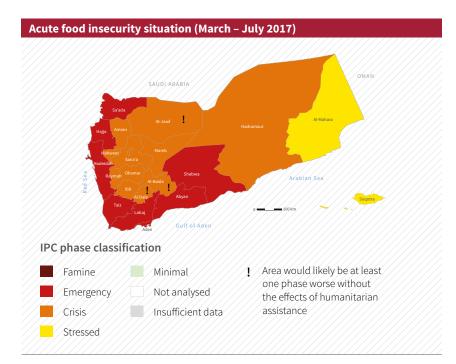
2 million IDPs



1.8 million children acutely malnourished



73% of the population relied on agriculture and fisheries for their livelihoods prior to the escalation of violence



Source: Yemen IPC Technical Working Group, March 2017

Impact on food security

Since the conflict began in mid-March 2015, the food security situation has rapidly deteriorated. The conflict has destroyed people's livelihoods and ability to purchase food, making it difficult for many Yemenis to meet minimum food requirements. Around 17.8 million people (61 percent of the population) are food insecure and struggle to feed themselves, and are not sure of where their next meal will come from – a 5 percent increase in needs compared with 2017. The high level of needs is mainly attributed to the depreciation of the Yemeni currency, and severe disruption and loss of livelihoods and income.

The situation was further exacerbated by large IDP caseloads that have virtually stretched the coping mechanisms of displaced households and host families to the brink of exhaustion, leading to extreme and elevated hunger conditions across the country. An increasing number of districts – 107 of 333 – in Yemen are facing potential risk of sliding into famine as the situation rapidly deteriorates aggravated by protracted conflict, severe economic decline, loss of livelihoods and collapsing basic services.

The October/November harvest will most likely not offset the local cereal production deficit. The cultivated land under rainfed condition decreased by 11 percent, irrigated land under cereals decreased by 40 percent due to high diesel prices, while production of small ruminants has reduced by 25 percent for both sheep and goats compared with pre-crisis levels. The fishing activities in the Red Sea coast have significantly decreased, directly affecting 75 percent of fishers who have lost their source of food and income. Livestock mortality rates increased by 20 percent compared with pre-crisis levels and livestock production decreased by 25 percent.