



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



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## Yemen

### Humanitarian Response Plan 2019



to assist

**8.6 million people**



FAO requires

**USD 218.5 million**



period

**January–December 2019**

In Yemen, it is not just about saving lives but securing and restoring agricultural livelihoods, which is crucial to address rising food insecurity in the country. By promoting self-reliance, FAO aims to support crisis-affected communities to not only survive but to thrive by building resilient livelihoods.

Yemen remains the world's largest humanitarian crisis. The protracted crisis has taken a devastating toll on the economy, collapsing essential services and exhausting the population's coping mechanisms, leading to widespread food insecurity and malnutrition.

#### Objectives

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

- Provide emergency agricultural, livestock and fishery kits to help restore vulnerable livelihoods.
- Improve immediate household availability of and access to food for the most vulnerable populations.
- Promote rural community resilience through the rehabilitation of water infrastructure and the transfer of agricultural and fishery assets.
- Ensure equitable access to assistance and protection for the most vulnerable populations.
- Strengthen emergency preparedness and response capacity of partners, communities and authorities.

#### Activities



##### **Increase food and livestock production, and income diversity**

seeds | animal health | boat engines | cash-for-work | cash+ assistance | cash transfer | homestead-based poultry production | restocking of small ruminants | dairy processing equipment | fodder choppers | beekeeping kits



##### **Rehabilitate agricultural infrastructure and irrigation systems**

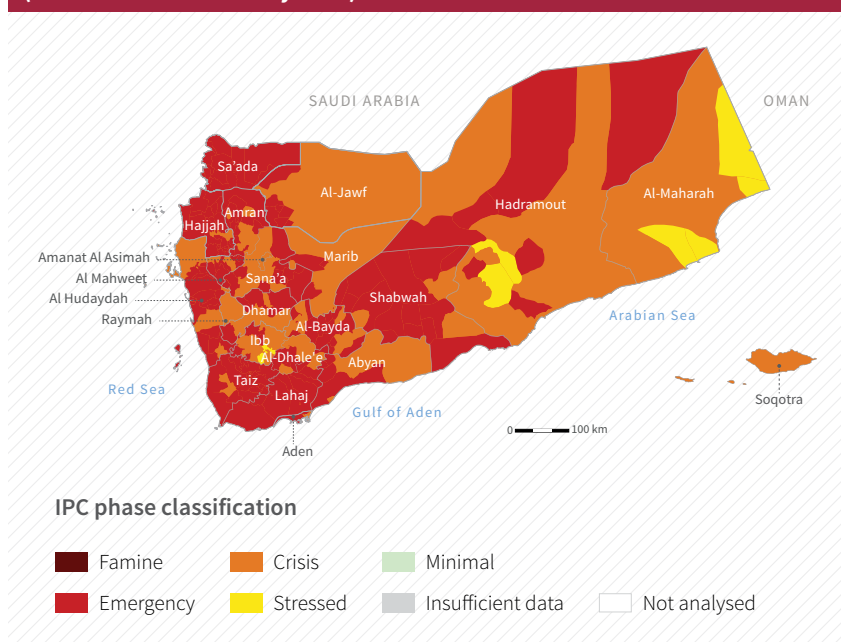
facilities/sites | drip irrigation system and accessories | greenhouse kits | solar pumps



##### **Strengthen coordination for effective humanitarian response**

Famine Risk Management assessments and/or IPC | cash programmes | conflict-sensitivity and monitoring | capacity building and technical assistance | food security and nutrition information generation, analysis and reporting | disease surveillance and control | joint projects programmes | early warning and actions

## Acute food insecurity situation without Humanitarian Food Assistance (December 2018–January 2019)



Source: IPC, December 2018

## Situation analysis



Without Humanitarian Food Assistance, **20 million** people would be severely food insecure, and **238 000** people would be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) spread over 45 districts in 13 governorates



**3 million** people malnourished, including **1.1 million** pregnant and lactating women and more than **400 000** severely acutely malnourished children



**87%** of women are involved in some form of agricultural activity, including **80%** on livestock activities alone

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## Impact on food security

For almost four years in a row, conflict and insecurity has remained the major drivers of food insecurity in Yemen. The lack of access to food is protracting the situation, making it the world's largest humanitarian crisis. The conflict has devastated people's livelihoods, limited income opportunities and reduced their ability to purchase food. This dramatic deterioration destroyed households' ability to cope. Any changes in their circumstances, including further disruption in their ability to access food on a regular monthly basis, pushes them to the brink of famine.

Agricultural production is a critical livelihood and source of income for rural households in Yemen, of whom 95 percent undertake at least some form of agricultural activities. Yet, regular agricultural and food production activity has come to a standstill. While imports satisfy most of Yemen's food needs, domestic food production accounts for 25 percent of the food consumed in the country. According to a post-harvest assessment, production rates show a considerable decrease by approximately 30 percent, thus distressing all agricultural sub-sectors. People are resorting to growing what they can in their backyard gardens. Daily protein intake has also taken a hit due to reports of underfed and weak livestock. Lack of animal health services in addition to scarce and costly medicine and feed continues to be a grave issue. Access to water and fuel for irrigation are other demanding areas of attention that is affecting 85 percent of farming households. Agriculture creates jobs at each stage of the value chain and particularly includes those most vulnerable (i.e. women and internally displaced people). Some 54 percent of rural women undertake various agricultural activities. This figure has risen during the conflict, as women increasingly become the sole breadwinner for their families.

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