Yemen is suffering the worst humanitarian crisis worldwide as a consequence of six years of violent conflict and an economic collapse. The impacts of desert locust and natural disasters have exacerbated the crisis, with a sharp increase in the already dangerously high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition.

Objectives

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is working with partners in the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster to:

- Provide emergency agricultural and livestock assistance to help restore and protect vulnerable livelihoods.
- Provide livelihood support to vulnerable coastal fishery communities.
- Improve availability of and access to food for the most vulnerable populations.
- Promote rural community resilience through the rehabilitation of water infrastructure and irrigation systems, and improved utilization of agricultural and livestock assets.
- Strengthen surveillance and control of transboundary animal diseases to safeguard productive livestock assets.
- Strengthen timely and appropriate food security and livelihoods response through an inclusive common coordination platform for humanitarian actors.

Activities

**Safeguard livelihoods and promote early recovery**

- agricultural kits
- livestock support (restocking, feed, vaccination and treatment)
- fishery kits
- cash for work to restore assets lost due to desert locust
- cash+ 
- season-specific cash
- cash for work to rehabilitate water infrastructure and irrigation systems
- water and irrigation equipment
- community productive infrastructure
- agricultural micro-enterprise support
- agro-processing
- value chain support
- farmer field schools
- post-harvest handling

Urgent action is needed to protect, rebuild and restore agricultural productivity and create livelihood opportunities to reduce the alarming levels of food insecurity and nutrition while also stimulating economic recovery.
Impact on food security

The protracted conflict and resultant insecurity, displacements, humanitarian access constraints, disruptions to public services, import restrictions, fuel shortages and the severe economic decline continue to drive the alarming levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. In addition, the loss of livelihoods caused by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the related containment measures as well as the effects of natural disasters, including desert locust infestations and flash floods, further threaten the food security of millions of Yemenis.

In the first half of 2021, over 16 million Yemenis – more than half the country's population – are projected to face high acute food insecurity. Increasing food prices, diminishing income-generating opportunities, and a depreciating local currency are impacting the ability of almost all households to meet their minimum food needs. As a result, a growing number of vulnerable households have been forced to resort to negative coping mechanisms, such as selling land and other productive assets, seriously compromising their current and future food security and depleting their resilience.

Agriculture, Yemen’s most important economic sector, along with fisheries have been severely damaged by the effects of the conflict and disease, which has limited livelihood opportunities. Provision of agricultural, fishery and livestock inputs combined with cash support and trainings will offer vulnerable households a good source of livelihood and boost production. In addition, rehabilitation of productive infrastructure that was damaged in the conflict will help rebuild the sector. Furthermore, support provided to micro- and agro-processing-enterprises will build agricultural value chains and increase incomes.

Situation analysis

16.2 million people projected to face high acute food insecurity, of whom 47 000 in catastrophe, 5.1 million in emergency and 11 million in crisis

4 million people displaced since March 2015

2.25 million children projected to suffer acute malnutrition

1.16 million pregnant and lactating women projected to suffer acute malnutrition

395 195 people projected to suffer severe acute malnutrition

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