WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME MOUNTS MASSIVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO AID DESPERATE PEOPLE OF YEMEN

WFP News Video

LOCATION: SANAA, HODEIDAH, YEMEN
Shot: 24, 25, 26 July 2017
TRT 02:50

:00-:10
Sanaa
Shot 25 July 2017
View of Sanaa, war damaged buildings

:10-:29
Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa
Shot 24 July 2017
Exterior of the hospital
A girl suspected with cholera is treated in the Oral Rehabilitation Centre. If the patients don’t get better after their first treatment they are admitted to the Diarrhoea Treatment Centre.

:29-:39
Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa
Shot 25 July 2017
Various suspected cases of cholera in the Diarrhoea Treatment Centre

:39-:54
Hodeidah port
Shot 26 July 2017
WFP chartered vessel MV Aec Diligence carrying a bulk of 26,000 MT of US in-kind wheat.
This ship has come from Kalama port in Washington State/US to support the people of Yemen.
The wheat will be milled in Yemen and it will be enough to provide wheat flour for 2 million people for one month.
Significant delays continue to affect vessels entering all major ports due to damaged infrastructure, reduced operational capacities and insecurity.

GV of the vessel and the damaged cranes

:54-:01:13
Hodeidah port
Shot 26 July 2017
SOT WFP’s Executive Director, David Beasley
“The World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, UNICEF and other organisations are trying to help the innocent victims of war. And we ask any, any parties engaged in this conflict to respect humanitarian law, to respect the rights of innocent people and give us the access that we need to provide the help that’s needed.”

01:13-01:30 Sanaa
AL Thawara hospital, Hodeidah
Shot 26 July 2017
Children in Hodeidah where malnutrition rates are among the worst in Yemen are sometimes too weak to open their mouths and eat the special food they are given to treat malnourishment. WFP provides special nutrition to children for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition in Yemen.

Mothers with their babies in the Severely Acute Malnutrition Treatment Center
Severely malnourished babies.

01:30-01:39
AL Thawara hospital, Hodeidah
Shot 26 July 2017
SOT (Arabic) Doctor Marwan Mohammad
“There is an increase in cases of malnutrition cases due to the circumstances we are currently enduring. We are receiving a large amount of cases. There is extra pressure on us.”

01:39-01:43
AL Thawara hospital, Hodeidah
Shot 26 July 2017
WFP’s Executive Director, David Beasley visiting the Severely Acute Malnutrition Treatment Center.

01:43-01:59
AL Thawara hospital, Hodeidah
Shot 26 July 2017
SOT WFP’s Executive Director, David Beasley
“It’s amazing what the World Food Programme is doing. We’re scaling up, we’re trying to serve 9 million people in Yemen. If we don’t receive the funds that we need we’re literally talking about of hundreds of thousands of children alone dying in the next few months and millions of people on the brink of starvation.”

01:59-02:14
Sanaa
Shot 25 July 2017
WFP implements a voucher program, each voucher provides a one-month supply of wheat grain, pulses, vegetable oil, salt and sugar as well as wheat soya blend – a protein-rich blended food provided by WFP through the local supplier. The monthly entitlement is enough to cover the basic food needs of a family of six people. WFP beneficiaries redeeming vouchers, getting food from local trader’s network.

02:14-02:18
Walid Abdel Malek, father of three girls and government employee has not received his wages since September. He gets a full WFP ration of wheat flour, oil and pulses.

Walid and his daughters entering their makeshift house

02:18-02:30
Sanaa
Shot 25 July 2017
SOT (Arabic) Walid Abdel Malek
“If I’m late at work and I come home to find them sleeping I say to myself let them sleep until the morning. I never wake them up. If I wake them up they would say they want to eat dinner."

02:30-0250
Sanaa
Shot 25 July 2017
Walid Abdel Malek and his daughters eating

END

Background

• The Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), David Beasley, wrapped up a three-day visit to Yemen to see the scale of the humanitarian crisis and to step up combined efforts to help the Yemeni people.

• The country is facing a cholera outbreak in the midst of the world's largest humanitarian crisis. In the last three months alone, 400,000 cases of suspected cholera and nearly 1,900 associated deaths have been recorded. Vital health, water and sanitation facilities have been crippled by more than two years of hostilities, and created the ideal conditions for diseases to spread.

• Yemen is on the brink of famine, with over 60 per cent of the population – more than 17 million people – not knowing where their next meal will come from. Nearly 2 million Yemeni children are acutely malnourished. Malnutrition makes them more susceptible to cholera and other diseases; diseases create more malnutrition - a vicious combination.

• Children in Hodeidah where malnutrition rates are among the worst in the country are sometimes too weak to open their mouths and eat the specialized foods they are given to treat malnourishment. Some babies are too weak to open their eyes. Health workers describe children who come the nutrition centre as “skin on bones”. Children are feather-light, their skin is pale, and most of them do not have
much energy.

- Families in Yemen are struggling to feed their children and themselves. Most families say they depend mainly on bread and tea.

- WFP is providing food assistance for those most urgently in need of support in one of the world’s worst hunger crises. In July, WFP aims to reach 6.8 million people suffering from severe hunger.

- In response to the current cholera outbreak, WFP, in collaboration with its partners, is preparing to provide food assistance for cholera patients and immediate caregivers in over 100 treatment centres.

- In addition, WFP is expanding its emergency response to provide four airlifts of medical supplies and humanitarian assistance each month. WFP is contracting a 5,000 m² warehouse compound in Aden as part of the response.

- As the lead UN logistics agency, WFP has a responsibility to support the health sector in its response to the outbreak of cholera and acute watery diarrhea. WFP is providing essential aviation, shipping and ground logistics services to WHO, UNICEF and other organizations, for both the famine and cholera responses.

- WFP calls for unimpeded access to reach those most in need and avert famine.

- Yemen is a net food importer and even before the conflict escalated, the country imported up to 90 percent of its food.

- Significant delays continue to affect vessels entering all major ports due to damaged infrastructure, reduced operational capacities and insecurity.

- WFP urges all parties to the conflict to keep Hodeidah port open to ensure continuity of commercial and humanitarian shipments into the country. Closure of Hodeidah could tip the country into a full-fledged famine.

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WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in 80 countries.

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Abeer Etefa, WFP/Cairo, Mob. +201066634352
Reem Nada, WFP/Yemen, Mob. +967 739 555 099
Jane Howard, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65132321, Mob. +39 346 7600521
Gerald Bourke, WFP/New York, Tel. +1-646-5566909, Mob. +1-646 525 9982
Steve Taravella, WFP/Washington DC, Tel. +1 202 653 1149, Mob. +1 202 770 5993