



**World Food
Programme**

**Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial**

**Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos**

**برنامج الأغذية
العالمي**

Yemen: One Step From Famine. WFP Urgently Needs Safe Access and Funds

WFP News Video

Location: Yemen

TRT: 2:09

Released: 4, Dec 2015

Shotlist:

:00-:22

Aden

Shot: 30 Nov 2015

Destruction in Aden, burnt tank, destroyed buildings

:22-:45

Sanaa

SOT(English): Matthew Hollingworth, WFP Dep. Regional Director

Shot: 3 Dec 2015

“Clearly Yemen is one of the hardest place in the world today to work, massive security concerns, escalation in the fighting and the violence across the country. We are doing well we are improving our reach and getting to more people every month, but clearly with half of the country now just one step away from famine, we need the international community to really come behind us, and support us, particularly over the next few months. “

:45-:56

Alburaiqa, Aden

Shot: 1 Dec 2015

Children displaced by conflict standing in their court yard.

:56-01:15

Alburaiqa, Aden

Shot:1 Dec 2015

SOT (Arabic) Mohammed Ahmed Hassan, Displaced from Alwaz'eeah district

“I appeal to all people of good will. Look at these displaced people... they are your brothers from Yemen ... You must look at them and consider them. Help them with anything, food, clothes, mattresses. People here have nothing. They don't even have anything to sleep on. They sleep on the ground”

01:15-01:28

Alburaiqa, Aden

Shot 1 Dec 2015

Children entering makeshift shelter.
Man peeling potatoes

01:28-01:46

Abyan, Khanfar district

Shot 23 Nov 2015

WFP Food distribution, people receive a one month ration of wheat flour, pulses and vegetable oil

01:46-01:56

Abyan, Khanfar district

Shot 23 Nov 2015

Displaced children

01:49-02:09

Alburaiqa, Aden

Shot 1 Dec 2015

Displaced children

ENDS

- **Yemen's fragile food security is deteriorating fast. Ten out of Yemen's 22 governorates are classified as facing food insecurity at 'Emergency' level – one step below famine.**
- **Humanitarian organizations need to be able to move freely and safely to provide assistance to reach all those in urgent need before they fall deeper into crisis.**
- **Despite colossal challenges, WFP has reached 1 million people on average every month since the conflict started until October when our operations were scaled up and we assisted more than 2.8 million people.**
- **In November, WFP reached all 10 governorates on the edge of famine and provided much-needed assistance to some 1.8 million people.**
- **WFP is scaling up and aims to reach 5 million people every month by February 2016. To do this, WFP requires US\$320 million for the next six months (November 2015 – April 2016).**

Yemen in Numbers

Population million	25.9
Internally displaced million	2.3
Food insecure million	estimated 14.4

Severely food insecure million	estimated 7.6
People reached with food assistance in October million	2.8

Latest

- WFP has been assisting some 1 million people on average every month since the conflict began in April 2015 , and in September reached over 2 million. WFP aims to assist 3 million people across Yemen in December. However, fighting, damage to infrastructure and insecurity are major impediments to humanitarian operations.
- According to WFP’s Yemen market monitoring update for the first two weeks of November, availability of essential food commodities and fuel is continuing to deteriorate, particularly in areas worst hit by the conflict, such as Taiz, Sa’ada, Marib, Al Bayda and Al Jawf as well as cyclone-affected governorates (the southern coastal governorates including the island of Socotra).
- The national average price of wheat flour is 57 percent higher than pre-crisis levels, with the highest increase registered in Taiz at 134 percent.
- Prices of fuel continued to escalate with the national average price of petrol, diesel and gas for cooking rising by 274 per cent, 287 per cent and 325 per cent respectively. The most affected governorate is Taiz where the price of fuel (diesel, petrol and cooking gas) has shot up to five-fold or more, with gas increasing by more than 520 percent.
- A June IPC assessment classified 10 out of Yemen’s 22 governorates as facing food insecurity at ‘Emergency’ level – one step below famine. Governorates at the ‘Emergency’ levels of food insecurity are: Sa’ada, Aden, Abyan, Shabwa, Hajjah, Hodeidah, Taiz, Lahj, Dhale, and Al Bayda – the latter was reached for the first time in October and 125,000 people received WFP food.
- According the 2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview in Yemen in November, 14.4 million people in Yemen are food insecure, struggling to get enough food to live a healthy life. This includes 7.6 million people in desperate need of food assistance.
- The conflict has exacerbated the country’s already poor food security; more than 3 million people were added to the ranks of the hungry in less than a year. According to the 2014 Comprehensive Food Security Survey, released in November 2014, before the current conflict started, 4.3 million people were in the “Emergency” Phase of food insecurity.
- Even before war broke out, Yemen imported almost 90 percent of its basic food. The impact of traders being unable to import enough food and safely move it inside the country led to a severe spike in prices, which in turn hurt the poor and most vulnerable the most.

- According to the [2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview](#) , more than 2.3 million people have fled their homes and are displaced; almost half of them in Aden, Taizz, Hajjah and Al Dhale'e governorates – and an additional 121,000 have fled the country. Most IDPs live with relatives or friends, an additional burden on impoverished families. The most vulnerable live in public buildings, makeshift shelters or in the open.
- Aden governorate hosts the highest number of IDPs (393,500 people), followed by Taiz (300,600 people) and Hajjah (280,800 people).
- WFP requires urgent funds to scale-up its emergency assistance to reach 5 million people every month by February 2016. WFP's net funding requirement for the next 6 months (November 2015 – April 2016) is nearly US\$320 million.
- WFP needs US\$80 million to cover shortfalls in January and February 2016.
- WFP calls on the global community to recognize the urgency of the Yemeni crisis, and deliver on pledges quickly. WFP is grateful to donors who contributed or pledged support – including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United States, Canada, UK, Germany, Japan, Denmark, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Lithuania, Russia, Finland and the European Commission.

Children

- Yemen has one of the highest rates of child malnutrition globally. An estimated 1 in 5 people is “severely food insecure” in urgent need of food assistance.
- WFP aims to provide monthly nutritional support to 340,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers and children under 5 to treat and prevent moderate acute malnutrition.
- According to a [UNICEF](#) report, more than half a million children in Yemen under five are at risk of developing severe acute malnutrition in 2015 – more than triple the figure in 2014. The damage to these children could be irreversible unless the right food reaches them without delay. The report estimates that 1.8 million children are expected to suffer from some form of malnutrition in Yemen in this year alone – a total increase of almost 1 million children from 2014.
- Child malnutrition rates in Yemen were already among the highest in the world even before the conflict. Around half of all children under five are stunted - too short for their age - as a result of malnutrition.
- WFP nutrition activities are underway at those health centres still operating. WFP provides special nutritional supplements to prevent and treat malnutrition among children under 5 and pregnant and nursing mothers.