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WFP News Video: WFP Alarmed as Hunger Cripples War Torn Yemen Yemen

Shot: 20-23 October 2016 TRT: <u>2:42</u>

<u>Shotlist:</u> :00-:13

Life during wartime in Yemen's capital.

This residential neighborhood near Sana'a airport was bombed several months ago killing 17 people. People are starting to move back and rebuild but, are afraid of more bombings. Sana'a

Shot: 20,0ct2016

:13-:17

Hameeda Fadhel, a 60 year widow takes care of her 4 grandchildren. She has no income and is dependent on neighbor's generosity to feed her family. She burns old car tires to bake bread.

Sana'a Shot: 20,0ct2016

:17-:22 SOT Hameeda Fadhel (Arabic) "They destroyed my son's car. We are dependent on the neighbors for food" Sana'a Shot: 20,0ct2016

:22-:35 Hameeda Fadhel and her grandchildren cook tomatoes given to them by their neighbors. Sana'a Shot: 20,0ct2016

:35-:44 Bomb damaged highway. Infrastructure like roads, bridges and power have been damaged or destroyed. Sana'a hasn't had a public electricity supply since May 2015. Sana'a Shot: 20,0ct2016

:44-1:07 GV's rural Yemen.



Yemen imports %90 of its food and much of the agricultural activity is used to grow the more profitable qat. The conflict has impacted agricultural production. Hajjah Province Shot: 22/23,Oct2016

1:07-1:17

SOT (Arabic) Hassan, farmer "This millet is for harvest but, its not enough because a rocket landed in that field and burned all the crop there. There's a big hole there now." Hajjah Province Shot: 22,0ct2016

<u>1:17-1:44</u>

Severely malnourished children in Hajjah Hospital

Even before the war, Yemen had one of the highest rates of malnutrition in the world. Recent data indicates that more than 1/4 of Yemen's population are severely food insecure. In some areas malnutrition rates are as high as %31. WHO classifies anything above %15 as an emergency. To make matters worse, almost %50 of the children are stunted-they will never recover. An entire generation has been crippled by hunger. Hajjah

Shot: 22,0ct2016

1:44-1:52

GV's Hodeida Port %90 of Yemen's food is imported. %70 of all imports come through Hudayada's port which has been bombed also damaging a WFP warehouse. Hodeidah Shot: 22,0ct2016

<u>1:52-1:58</u>

Bombed Residential area in Hodeidah. Multiple bombing hit residential areas of Hodeidah the night before. Hodeidah Shot: 23,0ct2016

<u>1:58-2:12</u>

Hodeidah Hospital Hodeidah has the highest malnutrition rate in Yemen: %31 -one of the highest in the world-more than double the emergency threshold established by the WHO. WFP provides special fortified foods to the most vulnerable and to families of children being treated for malnutrition. Hodeidah Shot: 23,0ct2016



2:12-2:25

SOT Muhannad Hadi, WFP Regional Director(English) "What we are looking for is an increase in support from the international community to make sure that WFP gets access to the entire country. But also to have the means to reach those people and to provide them with food. Hodeida Shot: 23,0ct2016

2:25-2:42

WFP food distribution of wheat, vegetable oil, pulses, sugar and salt. Hajjah Shot: 22,0ct2016

ENDS

WFP News Release

25 October 2016

WFP ALARMED AT THE GROWING RATES OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IN WAR TORN YEMEN

SANA'A – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is increasingly concerned about the deteriorating food security situation and growing rates of child malnutrition in Yemen.

A senior WFP team has recently visited impoverished neighbourhoods and spoken to families and local authorities in Hajjah and Hodeidah who described a very dramatic situation in people's daily struggle to secure their food needs. The team also visited hospitals, nutrition and health centres and saw first hand the many cases of malnourished children arriving to these centres from remote areas in Yemen.

"The conflict in Yemen has taken a devastating toll, particularly on the most vulnerable people and especially women and children with increased hunger every day," said Muhannad Hadi, WFP Regional Director for the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia and East Europe. "People in Yemen have exhausted all their coping mechanisms and millions cannot survive without external assistance."

The economic impact of the ongoing conflict has been devastating for Yemen, aggravating an already deteriorating economic performance prior to the conflict. Millions of public sector employees are no longer receiving their salaries and are



struggling to make ends meet. Yemen is a country that imports 90 percent of its food needs and is no longer able to sustain these imports.

Access to some of Yemen's hotspots remains a challenge and WFP uses every window of opportunity to reach people. During the 72-hour humanitarian pause that went into effect last week, WFP succeeded in reaching three hard-to-reach districts in Taiz governorates providing food assistance to 155,000 people. Food distribution in some of these hard-to-reach areas is still ongoing and will also cover another 189,000 people in three other locations that have been hard to reach in the last few weeks. WFP needs sustained access to some of the most impoverished governorates mainly Mareb, Al-Jawf and Taiz governorates.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification 'IPC' findings from June 2016 show that 14.1 million people in Yemen are food insecure, which includes 7 million who are severely food insecure. The report noted that in some governorates, 70 percent of the population were struggling to feed themselves.

Even before the latest conflict, Yemen had one of the highest rates of malnutrition around the world. Recent data indicate that in some areas like Hodeidah governorate, malnutrition rates are as high as 31 percent – anything above 15 percent is classified as an emergency. Almost 50 percent of the children countrywide are stunted and will never recover.

WFP has been providing food for more than three million people every month since XXX 2016. However, in recent months, WFP has been splitting rations to reach six million people every month with a reduced food basket as the needs are increasing and the resources are diminishing. With this assistance, WFP has helped stabilize the situation but the needs outgrow the resources available so the food insecurity levels are still persistently high.

WFP counters Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), also known as wasting, through local partners in 2,200 health centre in 14 governorates across Yemen. We aim to treat and help prevent malnutrition among over 700,000 children under five, pregnant and nursing women. This includes nutritional treatment for children under five and preventative interventions for children under two.

"An entire generation could be crippled by hunger and we need to scale up our lifesaving assistance to reach more people with timely food assistance and preventive treatment. We appeal to the international community to support the people in Yemen," said Torben Due, WFP Country Director in Yemen. "We need to provide a complete full basket to every family which needs this vital assistance as we have reduced the size of the food basket and split the assistance between impoverished families to meet the growing needs."



WFP requires over US\$257.5 million to provide much-needed food assistance until March 2017. It takes four months from the time WFP receives funds until food reaches the country and is in the hands of the families who need it.

WFP is grateful to our top donors that have contributed or pledged support to the people of Yemen– including the United States, Germany, Japan and the European Union.

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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 around 80 countries.

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