



World Food Programme
Programme Alimentaire Mondial
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Executive Director Appeals for Peace from Frontline of Conflict in Yemen

WFP News Video

Location: Hodeidah and Sanaa, Yemen

Shot 11,12,13,14 November 2018

TRT 02:38

SHOTLIST

:00-:13

Hodeidah

Date: 13 November 2018

Fighting in the Yemeni city of Hodeidah eased slightly on Tuesday and the brief lull in hostilities allowed the few remaining families in the city to leave their homes and stock up on food and basic needs.

Armed men and check points are seen in every corner of the city.

Streets of Hodeidah

:13-:17

Hodeidah

Date: 13 November 2018

Airstrikes and street battles have left most of the city in destruction. Families are trapped behind the frontline – currently the city's *corniche* (the coastal road throughout the city).

Bombed house, frontline along the sea.

:17-:31

Hodeidah Port

Date: 13 November 2018

Hodeidah Port is Yemen's lifeline. Even before the war, it handled most imports in a country where a staggering 90 per cent of food had to be imported. The port's cranes have sustained significant damage in 2015 resulting in reduced operational capacity.

Cranes, WFP Executive Director David Beasley arriving in Hodeidah port.

:31-:54

Hodeidah Port

Date: 13 November 2018

SOT (Eng.) WFP Executive Director, David Beasley

"We are now supporting over 8 million people in this country and it appears that because of the war we are going to have to scale up to maybe 12 million people and that's why I am here in this port today to send a very clear message to the world that we need to protect this port at all costs to function at the highest capacity because if we don't then people are going to die."



:54-01:08

Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa

Date: 11 November 2018

WFP nutrition center inside the hospital

Mohamed Hesham, 8 month-old-boy, from the central governorate of Albayda, arrives to WFP nutrition centre in the hospital. WFP treats moderately acute malnourished children with nutrition supplements but Mohamed is immediately admitted to the hospital as he suffers from severe acute malnutrition and needs hospitalization.

01:08-01:31

Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa

Date: 14 November 2018

SOT Doctor

“People are from areas that are so poor, there is.... they are lacking food, as I told you we say mothers that can’t afford milk for their kids, so they bring the rice to boil and take the white water of the rice and feed their kids, as if it is milk.”

01:31-01:36

Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa

Date: 11 November 2018

Severely Acute Malnourished baby, Mohamed Hesham gets hospitalized.

01:36-01:47

Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa

Date: 14 November 2018

Hajjar Saleh Mohsen is 4 months old and weighs only 2.3 kilograms. She has arrived to Al Sabaeen hospital from Aljawf Governorate. She was treated in the northern governorate of Saa’da in its main hospital for two months but her situation got worse by the day. She arrived at the hospital four days ago.

01:47-02:01

Al Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa

Date: 14 November 2018

SOT (Eng.) WFP Executive Director, David Beasley

“We asked the leaders of this country to give us the access that we need, the support that we need, unimpeded access so that we can be engaged doing what we do best, saving lives, changing lives.”

02:01-02:13

Sanaa

Date: 11 November 2018

WFP Commodity Voucher through Trader’s Network Site (CV-TN)



Families redeeming vouchers for commodities in urban and peri-urban areas with functioning markets to support local business and the economy. Each family receives 50 kgs of flour, 5 kg of pulses and 4 liters of oil every month.

02:13-02:38

Old Sanaa

Date: 10 November 2018

Ahmed Saleh's family lives in the old city. Since the war started he has not been able to work more than 2 days a month, they are getting WFP family rations through the Commodity Voucher through Trader's Network Site (CV-TN)
Each family receives 50 kgs of flour, 5 kg of pulses and 4 litres of oil every month.

Ahmed's house, children playing, family eating

ENDS SHOTLIST

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- **Yemen is the largest hunger crisis in the world. Millions of people are living on the edge of famine and the situation is getting worse by the day.**
*An Integrated Phase Classification assessment done in October and to be published this month will give a more precise picture of food insecurity in Yemen. The last IPC report (March 2017) put the numbers in the Emergency category of food insecurity (Phase 4) at 6.8 million people. It is expected that, **in the forthcoming IPC, the number could rise to 12 or even 14 million people** – this would mean nearly half the population having so little to eat that they are just one step away from starvation.*
- **WFP is providing massive levels of food assistance to those most in need and is putting plans in place to reach as many as 12 million people a month (mostly with food but, where possible, via cash-based transfers).**
WFP is already providing food assistance to 7 – 8 million of those most in need, every month, but the situation has now got so dire that WFP is preparing to scale up. WFP Food and other humanitarian support has been instrumental in helping to prevent famine, but the indications are that even greater efforts will be needed to avert mass starvation.
- **The food security crisis is man-made. It is the result of conflict, economic collapse, rising prices, and problems of supply and distribution. Many food items are beyond the reach of most Yemenis.**



The value of the Yemeni Riyal has halved since July, losing 21 percent of its value in September alone and over 200 percent of its pre-crisis purchasing power. The price of most basic food items has increased by more than 30 percent in just four months. More than half a million jobs have been lost since the beginning of the conflict and an estimated 1.2 million government employees have not received their salaries for more than two years.

- **Intense fighting in and around the port city of Hodeidah has caused major delays to the arrival of humanitarian and commercial cargo. As a result, the price of food in shops has shot up beyond the reach of many people.**

The Red Sea port receives about 70 percent of imports into the country which depends on imports for nearly all its commercial food requirements. It is also vital to keep open the supply routes out of the city so that north and central Yemen can be provisioned with food and other vital supplies.

- **WFP is grateful for the support of donors but, as the situation gets worse, it has become apparent that our funding needs are set to rise.**

WFP's current target of providing food assistance to 8 million people is budgeted at US\$125 million per month. As the food security situation deteriorates and WFP prepares to scale up its food and nutrition programmes, it is clear our funding requirements are set to increase accordingly.

YEMEN IN NUMBERS (Note: this data is from the UN Humanitarian Needs Overview of December 2017 and is already nearly a year old)

Population:	29.3 million
People needing some form of humanitarian assistance	22 million
Internally displaced people including returnees	3.5 million
People who are food-insecure	est. 17.8 million
People who are severely food-insecure	est. 8.4 million
Acutely malnourished children six months to five years	est. 1.8 million
Acutely malnourished pregnant or nursing women	est. 1.1 million
Children under 5 suffering from severe acute malnutrition	est. 400,000



WFP Media Advisory

15 November 2018

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME CHIEF APPEALS FOR PEACE IN YEMEN AS AGENCY PLANS MAJOR SCALE-UP OF FOOD AID

ROME – A heartfelt plea for an end to the fighting in Yemen has been issued by the Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme as he concluded a three-day visit to the country which has become the scene of the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today.

“What Yemen needs is peace,” said David Beasley. “Only then will it be possible to re-start the economy, get the currency under control and start paying public salaries, so people can have the money they need to buy food and other basics.”

In the face of rapidly rising hunger, WFP is preparing to scale up to provide food and cash-based assistance for as many as 12 million people whose lives have been torn apart by the conflict. WFP is already reaching 7-8 million people with food assistance every month.

“My heart is breaking after what I saw at the hospital in Hodeidah,” said Beasley. “Small children, so malnourished they’re little more than skin and bone, lying there with hardly the strength to breathe. In the name of humanity, I urge all warring parties to put an end to this horrific war. Let the children live and let the people start to rebuild their lives.”

For WFP photos shot in Yemen this week: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/C1oKYoh28K>

To interview WFP chief David Beasley, WFP Yemen Country Director Stephen Anderson, or WFP Spokesperson Abeer Etefa (now in Yemen), please contact david.orr@wfp.org.

Beasley is one of a number of top UN officials due to address the UN Security Council on Yemen at 15.00 on Friday, EST. The event will be webcast: www.webtv.un.org.

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The United Nations World Food Programme - saving lives in emergencies and changing lives for millions through sustainable development. WFP works in more than 80 countries around the world, feeding people caught in conflict and disasters, and laying the foundations for a better future.

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