



World Food
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The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

WFP Video News Release

Yemen Malnutrition

TRT 03:01

16:9

00:00-00:21 Al Hasaba Central Market, Sanaa 20 June 2012
Market destroyed by conflict in Sana'a during 2011 social unrest.

00:21-00:31 Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa 20 June 2012
Severely malnourished Mohamed Saleh is 11 months and weighs less than 4 kg

00:31-00:45 Sabeen Hospital, Sanaa 20 June 2012
Mothers watch children being treated for severe acute malnutrition.

00:45-01:12 Health centre, Bait Al Faqil, Hodeidah 19 June 2012
Malnourished children being weighed and measured and given nutritionally enhanced food products from WFP

01:12-01:25 Al Mahweet 21 June 2012
SOT Lubna Alaman WFP Yemen Country Director
“Forty-five percent of the population are food insecure and half of those, that’s about 5 million people, are severely food insecure, which means that they are hungry, they don’t have enough food, either to buy or produce.”

01:25-01:44 Mazaraq camp, Haradah 18 June 2012
Mazaraq camp for displaced persons is overflowing so Mariam Ali and others from Sadaa decided to create a makeshift camp nearby. They also have access to WFP food.
Mariam Ali cooking bread

01:44-01:55 near Mazaraq camp, Haradah 18 June 2012
SOT Mariam Ali
“Near Saada and Malahaet where our homes are, there is no government, our homes are destroyed. There are no jobs no money and the landmines are everywhere”

01:55-02:18 Al Mahweet 21 June 2012
terracing ,WFP food distribution

02:18-02:35 Haradah 18 June 2012
WFP food distribution, for internally displaced people



02:35-03:01 Mazaraq camp, Haradah 18 June 2012

WFP assistance to internally displaced Yemenis includes 138,000 children under 5 years, as well as pregnant women and nursing mothers.

View of the camp, internally displaced people, cooking bread made with WFP flour
Children eating

WFP in Yemen

- Yemen is slipping into hunger with 5 million people – almost one-quarter of the population –requiring external food assistance.
- An additional five million people have an inadequate diet and are at risk of falling into severe hunger in the face of rising food and fuel prices and insecurity.
- High food prices affected nearly all Yemenis with nearly 88 percent of all households surveyed saying it negatively affected their ability to access enough food and 80 percent of all households reported they have not recovered from this shock.
- Yemen is particularly exposed to international rises in food prices as it imports up to 90 percent of its main staple foods, including wheat and sugar.
- Lack of fuel, political instability and a weakening local currency are also posing a major challenge to the country's population. Fuel prices have almost doubled compared to last year's prices.
- Nationally, 25 percent of food consumed is purchased on credit. Among those who already have a poor diet (severely food insecure households), 45 percent reported food-related debts. At the time of the survey, more than one-third of all households surveyed had a food-related debt. As household debt builds, there is grave concern that diets will worsen further.
- This year WFP has scaled up its programmes to provide food assistance to 3.6 million people.

Chronic malnutrition

- Malnourished children's resistance to illness is lowered and when they fall ill, malnourishment worsens. Children entering this malnutrition-infection cycle fall into a potentially fatal spiral as one condition feeds off the other.
- Chronic malnutrition among children is also of serious concern with nearly half (47 percent) of Yemeni children stunted. Such emergency levels of chronic malnutrition – or stunting – are second globally only to Afghanistan.
- By treating moderate malnutrition, WFP tries to prevent children from slipping into severe malnutrition. In many emergency settings, for every child suffering from severe acute malnutrition, there are eight or ten suffering from moderate malnutrition.
- Yemen suffers from chronic poverty, poor water and sanitation, poor access to health services and low levels of education. Malnutrition is strongly associated with these factors in addition to poor feeding practices, low diet diversity and high morbidity.



Conflict and Insecurity

- Conflict and insecurity have hugely increased the number of internally displaced people. The governorates of Abyan in the south, and Hajjah in the north, have been particularly badly affected in early 2012, with an estimated 100,000 people forced to leave their homes between February and April 2012 alone.
- WFP this year is providing food assistance to 670,000 displaced and war-affected Yemenis in the south and north of the country.
- WFP assistance to internally displaced Yemenis includes 138,000 children under 5 years, as well as pregnant women and nursing mothers.