



Standard Project Report 2015

World Food Programme in Yemen (YE)

Air Passenger Service and Logistics Cluster Coordination in Support of the Humanitarian Response in Yemen.

Reporting period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

Project Information	
Project Number	200798
Project Category	Single Country Special Operation
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	N/A
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	N/A
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	N/A

Key Project Dates	
Project Approval Date	January 09, 2015
Planned Start Date	January 01, 2015
Actual Start Date	January 26, 2015
Project End Date	December 31, 2015
Financial Closure Date	N/A

Approved budget in USD	
Food and Related Costs	N/A
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	1,749,672
Direct Support Costs	369,374
Cash-Based Transfers and Related Costs	N/A
Indirect Support Costs	148,333
Total	2,267,379

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Planned Commodities in 2015	0
Actual Commodities 2015	0
Total Approved Commodities	N/A

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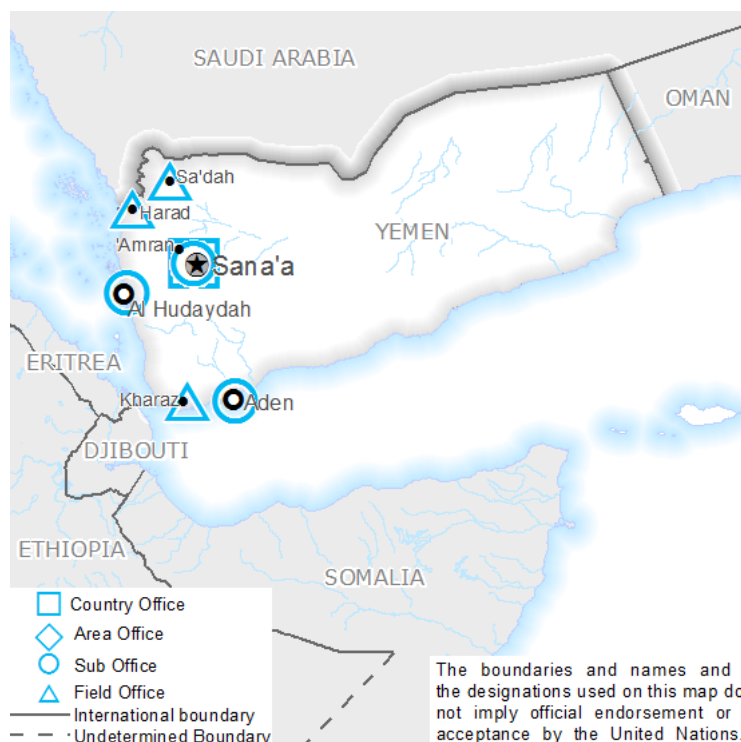
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COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Background

In March 2015, Yemen's conflict, which began in 2014 escalated into a full, nationwide conflict drawing international military intervention. After capturing the capital, Sana'a, in September 2014, Houthi forces (also known as Ansar Allah) advanced through Yemen's central and southern governorates, reaching the southern port city of Aden in March 2015. A coalition of Arab states led by Saudi Arabia began a military campaign to assist Yemeni pro-government forces loyal to the Yemeni President-in-exile, Abdu Rabbuh Mansour Hadi, in recapturing territory controlled by Houthi forces. Throughout the associated fighting, and according to the United Nations, more than 3,000 civilians have been killed and almost 6,000 injured, including over 700 children killed, since March 2015. Attacks on civilians by militant groups such as Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Ansar Al Sharia and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) have compounded an already alarming humanitarian crisis. There have also been widespread reports of children being forcibly recruited to fight. Despite two humanitarian pauses, in May and a failed pause in July, and a ceasefire in December, the humanitarian situation in Yemen continues to deteriorate - particularly in Taizz, Ibb, Al Bayda, Sa'ada and Aden governorates. Throughout the year, humanitarian access remained heavily dependent on dynamic and frequent changes in the security situation, including denials of security clearance and seizures of humanitarian cargo.

With a population of 25.9 million, Yemen is a lower middle income, food deficit country. It is ranked 160 out of 188 countries by the Human Development Index 2015, a decrease from its 2014 ranking of 154. Yemen suffers from alarming levels of food insecurity, ranked as the tenth most food insecure country in the world by the Global Hunger Index 2015. In June 2015, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis found that at least 6 million people were in need of lifesaving emergency food assistance, with 10 of the 22 governorates being classified as Phase 4 (crisis). This deteriorating trend is reflected in the 2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview, which found that 82 percent of the population were in need of some form of humanitarian assistance while 14.4 million people were food insecure, of which 7.6 million were severely food insecure. Despite government efforts to make progress in achieving some of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Yemen is likely to remain an off-track country as the national poverty rate remains high at 80 percent.

Even before the escalation of civil conflict, Yemen was highly dependent on food imports, importing 90 percent of its total food requirements. The conflict has severely disrupted the regular supply of food, with serious implications for Yemen's vulnerability and food insecurity levels: prices of cooking gas and diesel have risen by over 500 and 300 percent respectively in Yemen's most affected governorates, in comparison to pre-conflict levels, while prices of all commodities continue to rise across the country.

The Task Force on Population Movements estimated that as of December 2015, there were approximately 2.5 million internally displaced people (IDPs) across Yemen. IDPs continued to be the most vulnerable segment of Yemen's population, and the most food insecure. Due to ongoing instability in the Horn of Africa, migrants continue to arrive in Yemen, and as of December, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimated that there were more than 264,000 refugees in Yemen in need of urgent protection assistance.

Yemen continues to perform poorly in terms of gender equality, and has ranked lowest (145) on the Global Gender Gap Index for nine years in a row, most recently in 2015. As income opportunities have been severely reduced, compounded by disruptions to basic social services, the effects of the conflict have been severest on women and households headed by women.

In 2015, the socio-political situation was dominated by the Saudi Arabia-led coalition and the government's air and ground military campaign against Houthi forces.

Summary Of WFP Assistance

With the escalation of the conflict in Yemen in March, the country was upgraded by the United Nations to a "Level 3" humanitarian emergency in July 2015. Even before that, WFP had prioritised the provision of immediate life-saving assistance, beginning general food distribution in all accessible governorates in March. To do so, between March and October, WFP shifted the focus of its Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200636, launched in mid-2014) from recovery and resilience to emergency food distribution and nutrition interventions for acutely malnourished Yemenis. WFP worked with 15 cooperating partners (CPs), including the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Public Health and Population, to deliver food to prioritised areas.

To better respond to the rapidly evolving security and humanitarian situation, WFP transferred its lifesaving activities to a dedicated Emergency Operation (EMOP 200890) in October, with the aim of assisting 4 million people with GFD over an initial six-month period. The EMOP provided nutrition support, consisting of interventions to treat and prevent acute, chronic and micronutrient malnutrition in children under 5 and pregnant and nursing mothers. An adaptable response mechanism to leverage existing market capacity and private sector supply chain networks through a commodity voucher modality was also contemplated in 2015. With the start of the EMOP, PRRO 200636 was frozen, and closed on 31 December 2015 when it became clear that the PRRO was no longer equipped to address the fundamentally altered humanitarian reality in Yemen. Consequently, WFP's humanitarian relief response was consolidated under the EMOP.

The EMOP was in line with WFP's Strategic Objective 1, to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, and with the 2014-15 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan, revised in June 2015.

Refugees arriving from the Horn of Africa received assistance under PRRO 200305, which provided emergency food assistance to new refugee arrivals, refugees hosted in the Kharaz refugee camp in Lahj governorate, and urban refugees, totaling 20,000 beneficiaries per month over three years.

WFP led the Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters, and coordinated humanitarian air services, transportation, telecommunications and the provision and storage of fuel for humanitarian agencies throughout Yemen under three Special Operations: 200798, 200841, and 200845.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	844,774	756,550	1,601,324
Children (5-18 years)	1,469,920	1,381,537	2,851,457
Adults (18 years plus)	2,294,704	2,118,572	4,413,276
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	4,609,398	4,256,659	8,866,057

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country EMOP	46,189	3,132	4,159	87	0	53,567
Single Country PRRO	127,666	7,487	11,268	12,131	3,850	162,402
Total Food Distributed in 2015	173,854	10,618	15,427	12,218	3,850	215,968

OPERATIONAL SPR

Operational Objectives and Relevance

Special Operation 200798 was launched in January 2015 with the objective of providing common logistics services against a backdrop of increasing insecurity in Yemen. Specifically, the operation aimed to provide NGOs, United Nations agencies and donor organizations with safe, effective and efficient access to beneficiaries and project implementation sites through the United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS). The operation aimed to provide fuel stocks to enable humanitarian partners to maintain minimum operational levels and, through the deployment of a Logistics Cluster team, to provide coordination, information sharing and temporary storage facilities to humanitarian agencies. The operation had a one-year operational duration; however, with the escalation of the conflict in March, the operation closed in April and was superseded by the Logistics Cluster dedicated Special Operation 200841 and UNHAS dedicated Special Operation 200845.

Results

Outputs

Under Special Operation 200798, UNHAS planned to operate eight flights a month between Sana'a, Sa'ada and Hudaydah, in addition to one monthly flight between Sana'a and Aden. By the end of April, almost half of total number of planned flights had been achieved. With the intensification of fighting, including the commencement of airstrikes, flights were suspended to Sa'ada and Hudaydah. Furthermore, UNHAS operations beyond April were transferred to the new Special Operation 200845. Similarly, due to the increase in humanitarian activity between January and April, the Logistics Cluster provided more than the planned fuel storage capacity for partners located in Sana'a, Aden and Haradh. From April onward, all Logistics Cluster activities transferred to the new Special Operation 200841.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO1: Special Operation (Air Ops)				
Number of passengers transported	individual	1,000	440	44.0
Percentage response to medical and security evacuation	%	100	100	100.0
SO1: Special Operation (Logistics)				
Available fuel storage capacity to store the fuel for the partners	liter	380,000	424,000	111.6
Metric tons of cargo transported	metric ton	4	0	0
Number of agencies and organizations using fuel and air services	agency/organization	40	40	100.0
Number of needs assessments carried out	assessment	4	1	25.0
Total storage space made available (m2)	unit	320	320	100.0

Outcomes

Through Special Operation 200798, the humanitarian community was able to gain access to vulnerable and affected populations in Yemen. Logistics Cluster activities supported the humanitarian community in responding to logistical needs in a coordinated and effective manner, while UNHAS flights facilitated the delivery of life-saving

medical supplies and vital light cargo. The operation provided crucial support infrastructure for humanitarian operations in Yemen, which have been further strengthened under the separate Special Operations for Logistics Cluster and humanitarian air transport operations.

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

Given the rapidly deteriorating security and political situation, by April it was determined that the Special Operation was required to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations. To scale-up operations in response to the full escalation of conflict in March, WFP drafted and launched two separate Special Operations for Logistics Cluster and UNHAS operations, to better respond to the growing humanitarian needs and provide an operational framework in which the continued support or engagement of the Government of Yemen could not be guaranteed.

Management

Partnerships

As the Logistics Cluster lead and custodian of UNHAS, WFP worked closely with all United Nations agencies and international NGOs to coordinate logistics facilities, the sharing of information, provision of air services to Aden and Hudaydah, and the delivery of fuel to humanitarian agencies. The fuel and air services provided under this operation were used by 40 organizations, who further participated in regularly scheduled coordination meetings of both the Logistics Cluster and UNHAS User Group.

Lessons Learned

Capitalising on previous experience collected under Special Operation 200130, both the Logistics Cluster and UNHAS expanded their information management and sharing capacities to provide weekly and monthly updates to humanitarian partners and donor organisations. Regular interactions became increasingly important given the dynamic and rapidly deteriorating security situation, and ensured a smooth flow of information and allowed both the Cluster and UNHAS to alert stakeholders of any upcoming changes in advance. The Logistics Cluster sought to strengthen its information management system for fuel needs, encouraging partners to communicate their fuel requirements for their long-term needs to enable adequate supply. Similarly, UNHAS maintained continuous communication with its aviation operator, Blue Bird Aviation, to ensure the availability of aircraft for WFP operations.