# **Yemen Response Situation Report**



March 2022 – January 2023



# **OVERVIEW**

Closing our fourth year of operations in Yemen since we started in 2019, World Vision's Yemen Response can look back at a successful year of impactful partnering-based programming, net-working and fundraising:

- By the end of September 2022, we had completed our second health and nutrition project, in collaboration with Medair, reaching over 9,000 people with health and over 6.000 people with nutrition services;
- Yemen Response has been able to build new networks and strengthened its existing relationships with potential

- new donors, partners, interest groups and World Vision entities leading, among other things, to the first public funding;
- As a result of increased confidence in our partnership and demonstrated impact, the Middle East and Eastern Europe Region leadership raised Yemen Response's financial cap from previously 2 million US\$ to 4 million US\$ per Financial Year (FY), allowing for a triplication of the budget with two new projects that started in November 2022.

FY 22 was about stabilising the remote-partnering approach with our health and nutrition programming and strengthening our existing partnership with Medair. In FY 23 we are carefully looking towards expansion: whilst running three projects simultaneously under Medair, we will also be seeking to diversify our partnerships, extend our reach and areas of operation in Yemen and secure new funding for future programming.



# **LOOKING BACK AT FY22**

Geographically we focused our programming in Southern Yemen – namely the governorate of Lahj, in which we were implementing two projects on the ground with Medair: a Health and Nutrition Project and a Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Project.

## **FY 22 Funding**

Support Office	Source	Funds in US\$
WV Germany	Aktion Deutschland Hilft	738,436
WV Canada	PNS	112,255
WV Korea		141,025
WV Taiwan		190,970
Total		1,182,686



A nine-year-old girl is following hand-washing instructions delivered by Medair's BCC team during an awareness campaign to promote health and hygiene practices in Al Madaribah, Lahj Governorate.



### **WASH programming**

Embedded in a larger health, nutrition and WASH project of Medair, World Vision currently funds the 'WASH in Schools' activities of the project. The project focuses on the rehabilitation and construction of required WASH infrastructure. Other donors to the project are USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). World Vision's support to the project started in July 2022 and will continue until the end of the project, in June 2023. So far nine schools have been selected and construction work started in August. In total the project will benefit 31,222 children with WASH activities, of which 7,038 are supported through the WV contribution.





# **Health and Nutrition programming**

Our Health and Nutrition Project was funded through Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH) and Private Non-Sponsorship (PNS) Funds from different World Vision offices and was being implemented by Medair from 1st January to 30th September 2022. The project provided primary health care and nutrition services in five health facilities and the surrounding communities in remote locations in Lahj Governorate. The focus of treatment was on children under five, pregnant and breast-feeding women. The project also funded an ambulance that provided referrals to specialised health facilities. The main achievements of the project were:



16.578 primary health care consultations were conducted in the supported health facilities,



965 women attended at least two comprehensive antenatal visits throughout their pregnancies,



525 clean delivery kits were provided to women in their third trimester who were planning to give birth at home,



an average of 18 referrals were conducted per month for emergency medical, surgical or obstetric treatments through the existing network of ambulances from remote locations, with one ambulance being funded by this project,



Hakra Health Unit was rehabilitated, overall Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) cure rate of 98% with no deaths



24 Community Health Volunteers conducted 6,186 Middle-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screenings in their communities.

Over 9,000 people were reached with the supported health activities and over 6,000 people benefitted from the provided nutrition services, as detailed below:

#### **HEALTH**



Women: 2,194 Men: 2,750

**Total: 4,944** 

Girls: 1,795 **Boys: 2,445** 

**Total: 4,240** 

#### **NUTRITION**

6,213 beneficiaries

**Women: 879** 

**Total: 879** 

Girls: 2,540

**Boys: 2,794** 

Total: 5,334



Watch the project impact video here which was shared across World Vision social media channels. To learn more about the project please visit Yemen page on wvi.org.



# **Global Hunger Response**

In April 2022, Yemen became part of World Vision's Global Hunger Response (GHR) which aims to address growing global hunger and humanitarian needs in countries with the greatest risk of famine.

In Yemen, 16.9 million people of its population of 30 million are facing a food crisis, food emer-gency or famine situation (equivalent to IPC Phase 3 and above). With 55% of its population in IPC Phases 3 and 4, this makes Yemen (together with South Sudan) the worst affected country worldwide as per the latest IPC analysis.

Most of the activities under World Vision's Yemen Response contribute to the Global Hunger Response objectives and are reported under the GHR dashboard on a monthly basis. In FY22, Yemen Response could thus report to GHR a reach of 17,076 people who were supported with primary health and nutrition services.



#### **Security situation in** implementation area

Though Yemen, especially the remote locations of Lahj, is not an easy context to operate in, Yemen Response and Medair have been successful in applying risk management practices to mitigate existing risks towards staff or assets since programming started in 2019.

Due to increasing insecurity in the remote Al Madaribah district in Lahj governorate and our commitment to put staff safety first, a decision was made to not continue programming in this region in FY23. All relevant stakeholders were notified of this decision well in advance and the retraction from Al Madaribah was supported by the local government ministries due to the in-creasingly volatile context. For FY 23 Yemen Response and Medair, together with in-country Clusters, have assessed new areas of high needs and found them in Tuban and Al Milah district, in Lahj Governorate.



#### **FY23 AND OUTLOOK**



# **FY 23 Funding**

For FY 23, World Vision Yemen Response managed to secure a total of US\$ 3.22 million. This is a 200% increase compared to the FY22 budget. Almost US\$ 3.04 million of those funds are new funds, approximately US\$ 190,000 will be carried-forward from FY 22. With this funding Yemen Response aims to reach 48,470 people, including 25,82 children, which will approximately be an increase of almost 200% compared to the FY22 programme impact.

	Support Office	Source	Funds in US\$
New funds	WV Canada	GAC	1,431,334
	WV US	PNS	867,500
Se	WV Germany	ADH	740,253
Total new funds FY23			3,039,087
EPRF & CFs	+ EPRF	EPRF	16,686
	+ CFs from WV Korea, WV Taiwan, WV Canada, WV Germany	PNS & ADH	approx. 190,000
Total funds available FY23			3,245,773

NOTE: FY23 also marks the first time Yemen Response receives public funding, namely International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA) from Global Affairs Canada (GAC). The funds of US\$ 1.4 million are tied up in a Health and Nutrition Project.

Moving forward, Yemen Response is already starting to look at opportunities leading into FY 24 to sustain the current level of funding. We will be looking for PNS funds – also in the sphere of the Global Hunger Response, being also open to carefully exploring grant options.



# **Programming**

Yemen Response secured funding for two new health and nutrition projects to start off FY23. Both will be implemented over a duration of 12 months in the two new districts of Al Milah and Tuban, in Lahj governorate. One project, with a total budget of US\$ 1.5 million, is funded by WV US with PNS-funds earmarked for the Global Hunger Response (52%) and WV Germany with funds from Aktion Deutschland Hilft e.V. (48%). The project will be topped-up in FY23-Q2 with carry-forwards from FY22. The other project is funded by GAC with US\$ 1.4 million. The objective of both projects is the provision of primary health care and nutrition services through a total of 15 supported health facilitates including a Therapeutic Feeding Center, focusing on children under five and pregnant/ breastfeeding women. Under the GAC-funded project, two additional IDP camps are served with Mobile Medical Teams, while the ADH-PNS-funded project includes low-tiered Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS services, such as psychological first aid training for health care staff and establishment of Child Friendly Spaces. Also WASH rehabilitation work is conducted under both projects, mainly in the



supported health facilities and the communities in the catchment areas.

Additionally, Yemen Response will continue the above-mentioned WASH project with Medair in Lahj Governorate until June 2023.

Thematically World Vision's focus sectors in Yemen continue to be Health and Nutrition, WASH and Child Protection. Given the continuous conflict and its effects, especially on children, we also added MHPSS as a new focus for our work.



# Monitoring

We will continue to operate through the current partnering modality and will not be seeking registration and official on-the ground presence in Yemen in FY23.

However, Yemen Response staff is planning a field visit in March 2023 (pending visa approval). This visit will be the first visit of World Vision staff to Yemen since 2019 and will hopefully mark the beginning for regular monitoring - and eventually also extended - visits to Yemen.



# **HUMANITARIAN TRENDS 2022/2023**



#### **Humanitarian Situation**

- Yemen is in its eighth year of conflict.
- Of a total population of 32.6 million people, <u>21.6 million</u> need humanitarian assistance that is two in three people! And more than half of them (11.1 million) are children.
- As of December 2022, only <u>56%</u> of the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan requirements were funded (US\$ 2.40 bn of US\$ 4.27 bn).
- In its latest <u>Global Humanitarian Overview</u>, the UN estimates the needs for humanitarian assistance in Yemen to be around US\$ 4.3 bn for 2023.



## **Nutrition & Food Security**

- Food insecurity continues to remain a key challenge in Yemen.
- <u>16.9 million</u> (52%) of the population are facing a food crisis, food emergency or famine situation (equivalent to IPC Phase 3 and above).
- <u>2.2 million</u> children are projected to need treatment for acute malnutrition, including <u>538,000</u> severely malnourished children. In addition, around <u>1.3 million</u> pregnant or nursing mothers are acutely malnourished.
- Food insecurity is most severe in areas with active fighting, particularly affecting IDPs, socially and economically marginalised groups, fishing communities, and landless wage labourers.
- Imports from Ukraine accounted for 31 percent of wheat arriving in Yemen in late 2021. Due to the conflict in Ukraine, food prices rose rapidly in early 2022, spiking at seven times of what they were in 2015, further exacerbating the food insecurity in the country.
- Funding shortage, combined with increased food prices, caused WFP to reduce its food assistance by <u>covering only 55% of caloric needs</u> of 6 million people in need in Yemen.



#### Health

- Only <u>51%</u> of health facilities are considered fully functional in Yemen. Many health
  facilities lack operational specialised cadres, equipment, and basic medicine,
  especially in remote rural areas.
- More than 20.1 million people currently lack access to basic health care.
- Women and girls are especially affected from lack of access to basic health care: In Yemen today, less than 50% of births are attended by skilled health professionals.
   One mother and six newborns die reportedly every two hours in Yemen because of complications during pregnancy and for causes that are almost entirely preventable.



#### **WASH**

- Yemen is one of the world's <u>most water-stressed countries</u>.
- WASH services continue to be severely lacking in the country. <u>19.5 million</u> people (61%) lack access to safe water, and <u>11.4 million</u> (36%) live with inadequate sanitation facilities.
- Communities and especially IDPs in information settlements with limited access to clean water often have to resort to negative coping practices which a heightening the risk of malnutrition and increase risks for waterborne diseases and outbreaks including cholera or diphtheria.





#### **Child Protection**

- Children under age five are among the most vulnerable of all Yemenis to the ravages of disease, food insecurity, unsafe water, and other ever-present threats to their survival. A total of 12.9 million children in Yemen need humanitarian assistance.
- <u>2 million children</u> are out of school, and this number could rise to 6 million children having their education disrupted as at least one out of four schools in Yemen are destroyed or partially damaged.
- A new Unicef study found that more than <u>11,019 children</u> have been either killed or maimed as result of the conflict in Yemen between March 2015 and September 2022.



#### Security

- Between April and October 2022, a ceasefire agreement between the de-facto authority (DFA) of the North (known as the Houthis) and the Saudi-led military coalition had been in place. While the truce brought several tangible benefits, including improved access to humanitarian aid, greater economic opportunities and a significant reduction in violence and casualties countrywide, these achievements should not conceal the fact that no palpable success for a general peace process could be achieved. Also, the truce period enabled an acceleration of social control in DFA areas, including the enforcement of the mahram requirement (women needing to be accompanied by a male guardian), leading to reduced access for women to reproductive health services and an increased segregation of men and women. The truce expired in October after the DFA rejected to renew it.
- The Global Peace Index 2022 ranked Yemen as the second least peaceful country in the world, after Afghanistan, and the conflict remains one of the deadliest for civilians by global measures.