



# REACH Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI): Methodology Note

**March 2024**

**REACH** Informing  
more effective  
humanitarian action

# Introduction

- **Collaboration:** The Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) is led by REACH in collaboration with the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster and the Cash and Market Working Group (CMWG) since 2018.
- **Objective:** Support humanitarian actors with the harmonization of market monitoring and to produce information products for evidence-based Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) and market-based programming (MBP).
- **Price & Market Monitoring**
  - The JMMI tracks the price and availability of all components of the WASH and Food Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), as well as other food and non-food items.
  - In addition, the JMMI monitors the functionality of the markets by assessing the supply chain and vendors' perceptions of the market and their businesses.

# JMMI Methodology

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- CMWG partners collect data every **month**.
- Enumerators conduct key informant (KI) interviews with market vendors using a **harmonized, structured survey tool**.
- **Marketplaces** must be either a single permanent market, or multiple commercial areas located near one another in urban or rural areas. When possible, marketplaces are selected where there is at least one wholesaler operating in the market.
- KIs are purposefully selected, and enumerators are instructed to visit at least three different vendors per monitored item to obtain the **cheapest three price per item** in each monitored district:
  - ❖ Food and/or WASH vendors
  - ❖ Water truckers
  - ❖ Currency exchange offices
  - ❖ Fuel stations
  - ❖ Pharmacies (*ad hoc basis*)

# JMMI Methodology

- REACH presents **district level median prices** using data from the KIs within that district.
- **Governorate, GOY-controlled areas, AA controlled\*\*** areas and national level data (including MEBs) are aggregated by taking medians from the district medians of the respective assessed districts.
- In **disputed districts**, the median of GOY and AA controlled areas lumpsum is used to calculate the total MEB in that district (= 64,665 YER).
- All findings are **indicative** for the markets and districts assessed.

\*\*GOY = Government of Yemen, AA = Ansar Allah

## Coordination

- REACH: Develops TOR and tools; conducts partner trainings; compiles, cleans and visualized the data
- CMWG partners: Collect data; support with data cleaning
- CMWG: Support coordination with partners & Clusters; define guidelines

## Participating Partners



# Monitored Items

## Food, WASH & Fuel items

- On a monthly basis, REACH partners collect below **food, WASH and fuel items**:

### Food items

- Wheat flour
- Rice
- Lentils
- Canned kidney beans
- Dry kidney beans
- Potatoes
- Onions
- Vegetable oil
- Sugar
- Salt

### WASH items

- Soap
- Laundry powder
- Sanitary napkins
- Bleach
- Bottled water
- Treated water
- Water trucking

### Fuel items

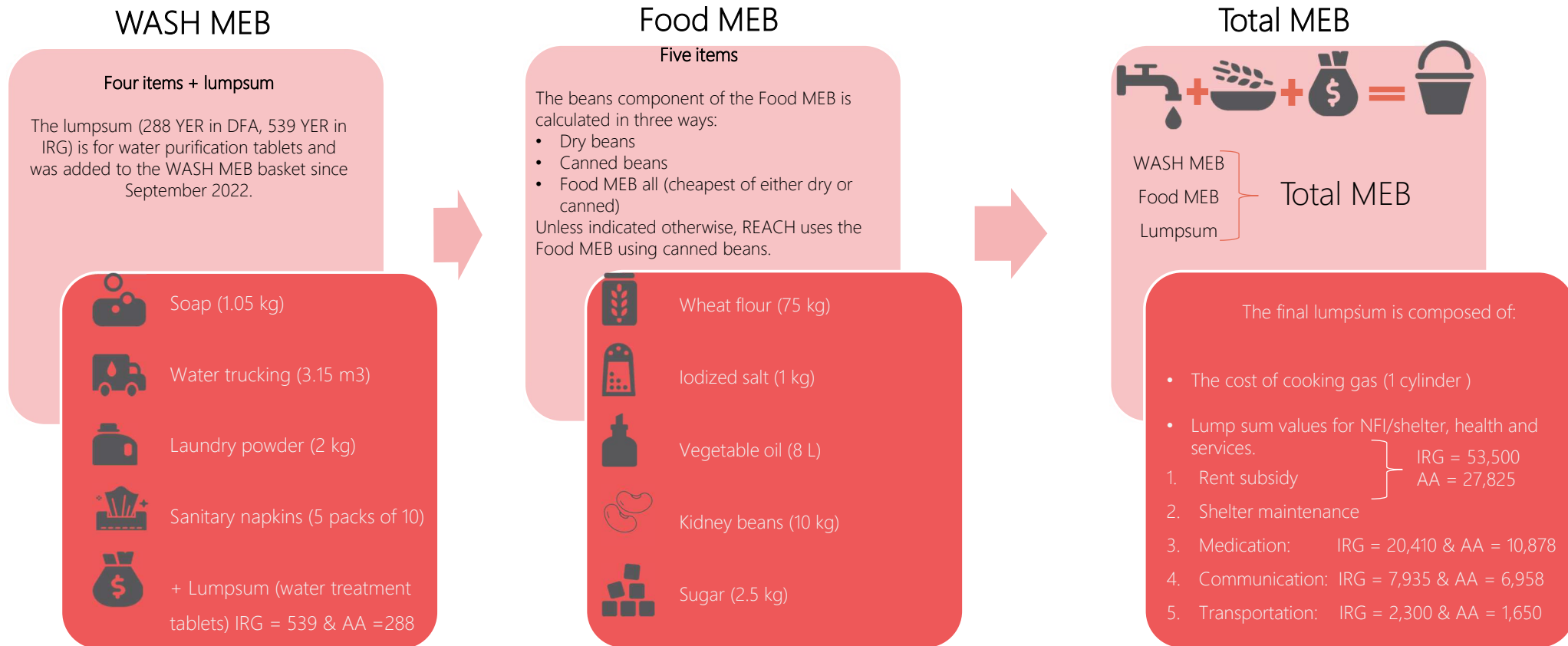
- Petrol
- Diesel
- Cooking gas

## Medication Monitoring

- REACH also collects **medication data** on an ad hoc basis including below medication:
  - Captopril
  - Zithromax
  - Ibuprofen
  - Paracetamol
  - Glucophage
  - Water treatment tablets
- Previous data collection was in October 2022, July 2023, and January 2024.

# JMMI MEB Calculation Methodology

The **Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)** represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a seven-person Yemeni household for one month. The MEB is composed of essential commodities and services, provided by FSAC, Shelter and Health clusters, IOM, KAP Survey and the CMWG. Since September 20223 , REACH calculates the cost of the MEB following the updated CMWG guidance from 20224 .



# JMMI MEB Calculation

- **Total MEB:** The cost of the monthly total median MEB for a household of 7 is calculated by adding the cost of the WASH and food MEB components, the cost of 1 cylinder of cooking gas, and the lump sum values for shelter, health and services.
- **CMWG Guidance Documents**
  - Before September 2022, the 2020 CMWG SMEB Guidance Note was applied, in which the MEB was called 'survival minimum expenditure basket' (SMEB).
  - Since September 2022, REACH calculates the cost of the MEB following the updated CMWG MEB guidance note from 20223.
- **Cooking Gas:** The cost of cooking gas is added to the total MEB reflecting the updates in the last CMWG MEB guidance note from September 2022. Starting in June 2023, the cost of cooking gas cylinder has been calculated using medians per district as all other items from the current round instead of calculating the median from September 2022 until the current round.

# Challenges & Limitations

- **Coverage:** Due to issues of access, security and partner capacity, the districts included in the JMMI vary monthly. Consequentially, there is a limited number of districts for which trends can be consistently assessed over time. Part of the reported month-to-month price percentage variation may be attributed to changes in monthly coverage.
- **Prices:** While enumerators are instructed to collect at least three prices per monitored item, this is not always possible due to less available vendors, items and markets in assessed districts. Interviewed vendors usually do not provide price quotations for all monitored items due to the different nature of the monitored items and difference in inventories.
- **Changes over time:** MEB components are dependent on the MEB guidance from the CMWG and the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC). In consequence of a new CMWG MEB guidance note, part of the change in total MEB and WASH MEB between August 2022 and following months/years is due to a change in MEB components and lump sum values.
- **Interpretation of findings:** Findings are **indicative** for the locations assessed and not geographically representative for the whole of Yemen. It is recommended to refer to the [Interactive JMMI Dashboard](#) for longitudinal trends and historic data, as adjustments to the data or methodological improvements are updated there and not always in the previous situation overviews.
- **Remote coordination:** The market monitoring process is coordinated remotely by REACH, which presents some challenges in terms of coordination and follow-up with partners.



# JMMI outputs



## **Datasets**

Cleaned datasets  
of individual JMMI  
rounds



## **Situation Overview**

Highlights trends and  
figures of individual  
JMMI round



## **Interactive Dashboard**

Access to  
longitudinal data,  
visualization and  
analysis tools.

# Do you have questions?



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