

**2024  
March**

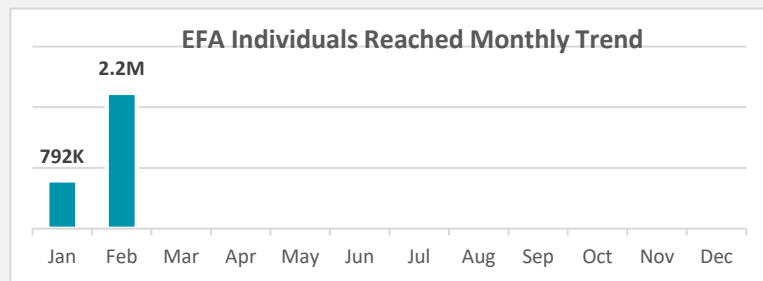
# FSAC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO (15) | March 2024 | Yemen FSAC Team

## Key Achievements

The Pause of Humanitarian Food Assistance (HFA) by the World Food Programme that begun in **December 2023**, for **9.5 million people** under Sana'a Based Authorities (SBA) Governorates is still ongoing.

In **February 2024**, a total of **1.9M** individuals were reached with HFA across the Country, including **1.59M** individuals reached by WFP and **31K** reached by other FSAC partners.



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		Target 2024	Reached in February	Total Reached 2024	%
SO1		10,000,000	1,963,451	1,913,818	19%
		1,500,000	165,723	246,763	16%
SO2		1,000,000	102,343	120,935	12%
		300,000	1,935	2,576	1%



Emergency Food Assistance (EFA)



Rehabilitation of community assets, provision of seasonal employment and increase of HH incomes through Conditional Cash Transfers

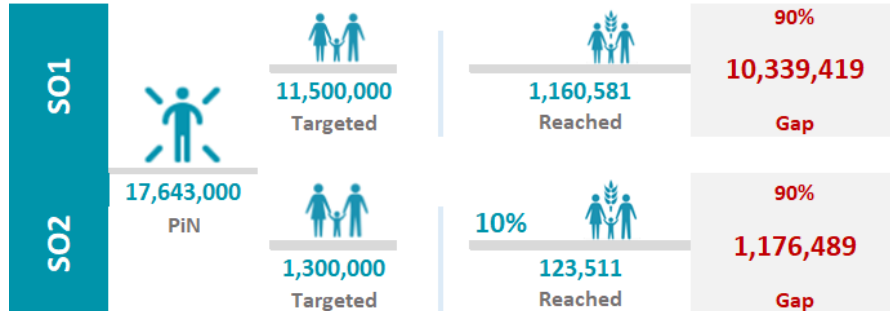


Emergency Livelihood Assistance (ELA)

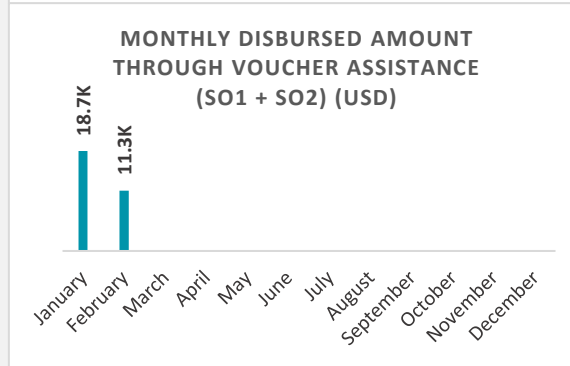
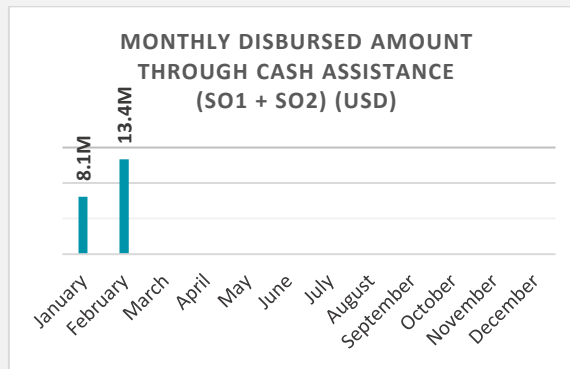
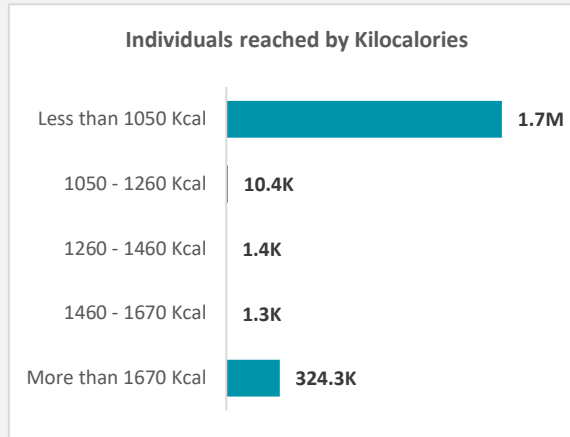


Provision of support to restore livelihood assets, assistance to establish micro businesses and trainings to enhance employability

Sectoral Objective 1 & 2 – Gap analysis



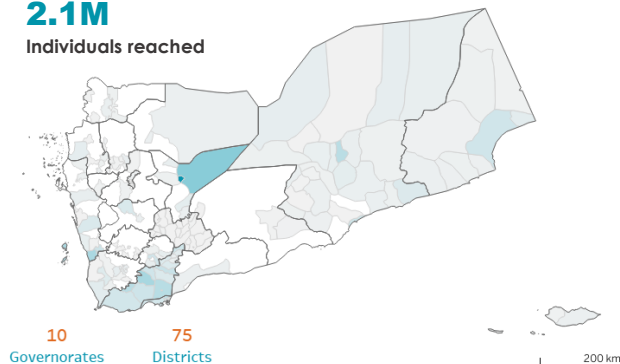
1.7 million people received less than 1,050 Kcal compared to 1,680 Kcal which is the FSAC reference minimum food basket.



Monthly Response – Sectoral Objective 1

2.1M

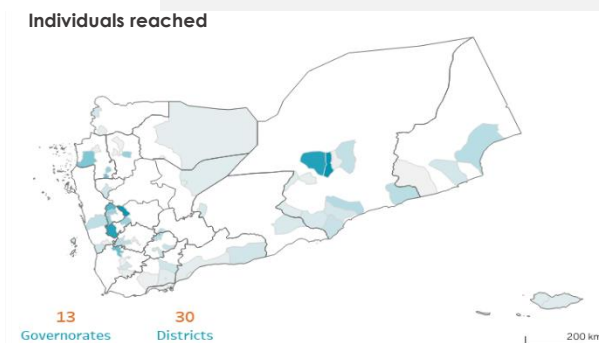
Individuals reached



Monthly Response – Sectoral Objective 2

104.3K

Individuals reached





In IRG-controlled areas, the Yemeni riyal slid to an all-time low of YER 1,668/USD at end of February 2024, losing around 26 percent of its value against the US dollar compared to the previous year. Key drivers include low foreign currency reserves and revenue shortages due to reduced crude oil exports and remittance inflows. The worsening economic situation has also led to rising food and fuel prices to unprecedented levels and delaying in payments of civil servant salaries. The second batch of KSA deposit, worth 250 million dollars, was reportedly released to CBY-Aden in February, however it had minimal impact on the exchange rate. In contrast, the exchange rate in areas under Sana'a-based authorities appreciated by three percent on annual basis, reaching YER 528/USD by the end of February.



Pump prices for petrol and diesel reached their all-time high levels in IRG-controlled areas during February 2024, with a 27 percent increase on annual basis. This is mainly due to the ongoing currency depreciation in the south. On the other hand, pump prices for petrol and diesel remained unchanged in areas under Sana'a-based authorities during February 2024, while they exhibited a decline by six and 21 percent, respectively, compared to the previous year.



The global FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) reached in February 2024 its lowest level recorded over the past three years. The index value slightly decreased by merely one percent compared to the previous month, while remaining 11 percent lower than February 2023 level. All subindexes witnessed an annual decline except for sugar, which increased by 12 percent year-on-year. This is mainly due to the tighter global supply outlook. In Yemen, sugar prices also saw an annual increase of eight percent in the north and 46 percent in the south.



In February 2024, more than half of the surveyed households in Yemen (53 percent) indicated lacking access to adequate food, reaching the highest recorded level over the past 17 months. This represents an increase by merely one percent from a month earlier and by eight percent compared to a year before. In IRG-controlled areas, the prevalence of inadequate food consumption reached 57 percent in February 2024, up by 10 percent year-on-year. This is largely linked to the worsening economic conditions in the south. At the same time, around 51 percent were unable to access adequate food in areas under Sana'a-based authorities, an increase of 11 percent compared to November and by eight percent year-on-year. This is mainly associated with the ongoing pause in food assistance in the north. Moreover, around 55 percent of the surveyed households in Yemen adopted extremely negative food-coping strategies (rCSI  $\geq$  19), up by 10 percent year-on-year. This trend was much higher in the north (reported by 58 percent) compared to the south (48 percent).



In February 2024, the cost of the minimum food basket (MFB) reached its all-time high level in IRG-controlled areas, marking an increase by three percent from the previous month and by six percent compared to a year before. This is primarily attributed to the ongoing currency depreciation in the south and increased fuel prices. All governorates in the south exhibited an annual increase in the cost of MFB, with the highest rise recorded in Ma'rib and Shabwah (up by 18 and 15 percent, respectively, year-on-year). WFP mVAM data revealed that nearly 17 percent of surveyed households in the south reported high food prices as a main challenge to access an adequate diet. On the other hand, the cost of MFB remained unchanged in areas under Sana'a-based authorities during February 2024, while being still nine percent lower than February 2023 level. However, the repercussions of the current tension in the MENA region, coupled with the gap triggered by the pause in food assistance could negatively impact food prices in the north during the coming months.



The volume of fuel imported through Red Sea ports (Al-Hodeidah, As-Salif and Ras Issa ports) during the first two months of the year had increased by 12 percent compared to November-December 2023, and by 34 percent on annual basis. Conversely, fuel imports via the southern ports of Aden and Mukalla decreased by 23 percent compared to November-December and by 28 percent year-on-year. Close monitoring is necessarily over the coming months, particularly amid the ongoing geopolitical tension in the MENA region and the increased insurance costs for Yemeni ports.



The total volume of food imports via Red Sea ports during the first two months of 2024 had increased by seven percent compared to Nov-Dec 2023, and by 51 percent year-on-year. At the same time, the amount of food imported via the southern ports of Aden and Mukalla was nearly four times higher than the level recorded in Nov-Dec, while being three percent down the level of Jan-Feb 2023. Essential food commodities were available in the Yemeni markets during February 2024. The lagged effect of the Red Sea crisis has not yet materialized, largely due to the existing orders and ships already in transit. However, it is anticipated that new orders will decline, primarily due to the increase in marine insurance costs.



General Food Assistance (GFA) has been paused in areas under Sana'a based authorities since December 2023, while WFP continued to support approximately 3.6 million people in IRG-controlled areas with reduced rations. WFP's needs-based plan is only seven percent funded for the period from April to September 2024. The food security situation has notably deteriorated for GFA beneficiary households who are no longer receiving assistance in the north; the prevalence of poor food consumption of these beneficiaries increased from 23 percent in the baseline (cycle 5 in 2023) to 38 percent during February 2024, while the prevalence of inadequate food consumption increased from 58 percent to 66 percent during the same period.

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# Market & Trade Bulletin, Yemen - March 2024 – (Issued 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024)



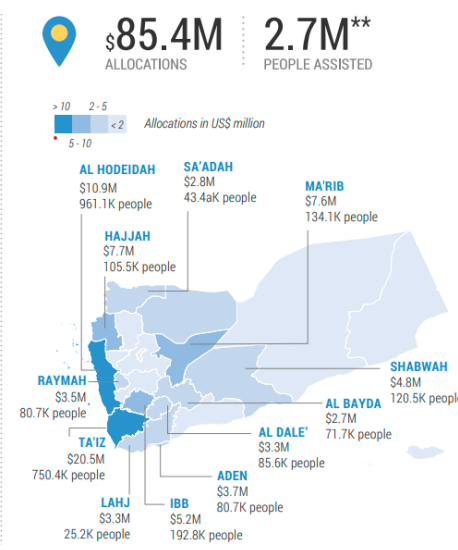
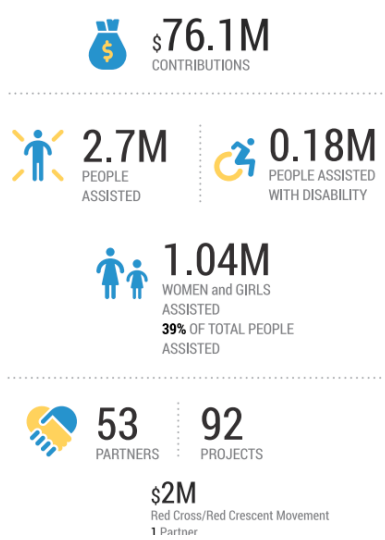
- The YER in GoY areas continued to lose ground to the US\$ for the third successive month since hitting historic lows in November 2023.
- Food and fuel import volumes remained normal despite severe maritime disruptions in the Red Sea.

- The cost of the Minimum Food Basket (MFB) and fuel prices remained very high GoY areas even with recent modest increase.
- Livestock prices increased in response to pre-Ramadhan peak demand but remained below the 3-year average in SBA areas while casual labor wage rates slowed down nation-wide in line with reduced agricultural and off-farm economic activities.
- Purchasing power for casual laborers decreased while those of livestock keepers increased over the reporting month. Widespread food security deterioration to emergency levels is projected from June 2024 in the absence of/ reduced humanitarian food assistance.

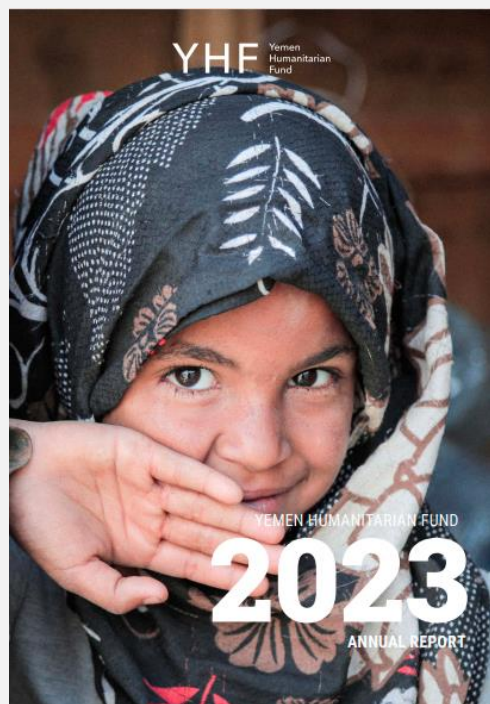
An increase in funding for the Yemen response and a de-escalation of the Red Sea crisis are required now. Immediate activation and scale-up of targeted humanitarian food assistance is needed in the prioritized hot-spot districts to avert the impending crisis.

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## Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF) 2023 Annual Report



UN-brokered truce, there was an overall reduction in fighting, increased availability and movement of supplies, and increased access to hard-to-reach areas. The improved humanitarian situation presented an opportunity to scale-up humanitarian assistance with a focus on the centrality of protection.

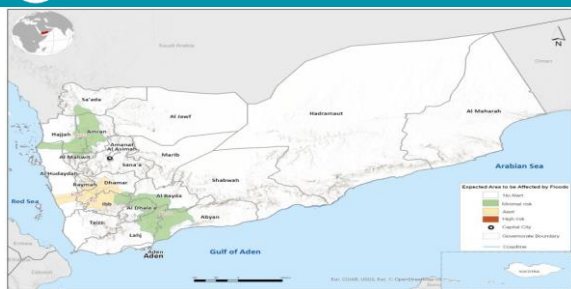


After more than eight years of protracted conflict, displacement and economic deterioration in Yemen, the situation has led to an increased number of people faced with multiple vulnerabilities, forcing people into harmful negative coping mechanisms, resulting in exacerbated protection risks. In 2023, an estimated 21.6 million people needed humanitarian assistance and protection services, a slight decrease from the 23.4 million people in 2021. The humanitarian community sought to serve 17.3 million of those in need, with an HRP ask of \$4.3 billion. With the continuation of the

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# Agrometeorological Early Warning Bulletin (1-10 April 2024)



Areas expected to be affected by floods (CAMA Forecast)

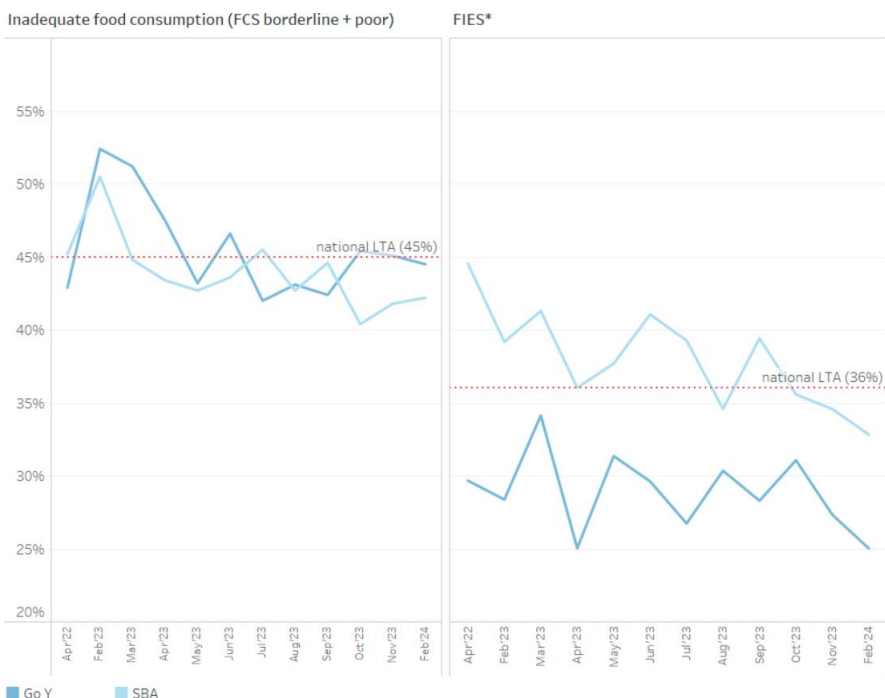
- The return of the Saif rainy season is marked by an increase of precipitation across the country. A peak of about 100 to 150 mm of rainfall will be observed in Ibb, Dhamar, Amran and Sana'a governorates. Some abrupt increase of precipitation in the Eastern part of the country (20 to 40 mm) will lead to storms, likely to be causing flooding in some of the most prone areas such as in Hadramaut governorate.
- The increase of precipitation from the preceding months is likely to be leading to sporadic occurrence of flood that is expected to spread around the most flood prone areas, located at the foot of steep slopes, and along the main valleys, such as Rimah, Zabid, Maur, and Bana.

- Forecast until the end of April presents an increase of rainfall with a risk of major flooding continuation and expansion across other governorates in the country. Therefore, the stormy weather will increase serious risks to lives and disruption on agricultural livelihoods and other sectors, such as Health, WASH, Education, and Access and communication. Since the preparation and planting activities are prevailing in most of the areas in country, farms and soils may be severely affected by flooding waters.
- Pests: The latest models of rainfall prediction suggest a widespread of above-normal estimates in Yemen coast and interior, which is conducive for small scale desert locust breeding conditions in Al Maharah and area between Aden and Lahj. However, the impacts are expected to be minimal, considering the localized infestation and low-density areas of desert locust are at mature stage. In addition, some hectares of land were already treated by the field operation teams.

[Read more...](#)



## Yemen: High-Frequency Monitoring (HFM) Snapshot, March 2024



**The food security remained largely stable nation-wide despite significant deterioration in some governorates**

- The food security situation remained generally stable in February 2024 nation-wide since November last year, supported by stable food prices and gains from seasonal harvests in the last quarter of 2023.
- However, inadequate food consumption increased significantly compared to November 2023 in Al Jawf, Marib, Hajjah, Ibb, and Lahj Governorates in SBA areas and in Abyan and Al Maharah in GoY areas.

- There has been a pause in WFP's general food assistance in in SBA areas, starting December 2023 that offset the respite from peak October –December seasonal harvests and stability in food prices. The above most affected governorates in SBA areas were receiving substantial food assistance from WFP before the pause.
- Given the extended pause in humanitarian food assistance in SBA areas and depleted household stocks, vulnerable households that largely depend on humanitarian assistance may not reap the full benefits of Zakat during Ramadan and Eid periods due to the increasing food gaps.
- The food security situation is likely to worsen from June which coincides with the peak of the lean season, continued localized conflict, exchange rate oscillation and anticipated amplified risks associated with the escalation in the Red Sea.
- Immediate resumption of general food assistance and scale-up of livelihood assistance is recommended in the vulnerable governorates with worsening situation, like Al Jawf, Hajjah, Marib, Ibb, and Lahj in SBA areas while also prioritizing most vulnerable districts in Al Maharah that are still reeling from the devastations of the cyclone.

[Read more...](#)



## FSAC Partners Contribution

International Medical Corps information

Ibb Hub



Is available at:

[IMC website](#)

Hosn is a 29-year-old mother of six children. Her husband, Amin, travels often looking for work. When they were first married, they lived with Amin's family.

*Hosn purchased a sewing machine, which helps her provide for her family. "Now I can work and help with household expenses" said Hosn.*



Hosn sews clothes with the sewing machine she purchased with cash assistance from International Medical Corps., Al Karbah, in Al Qafr - Ibb

## MORE DETAILS

When the war in Yemen began, their situation worsened rapidly. Hosn and her husband moved to their current home, and Hosn became pregnant with their first child.

Since then, many days have passed when Hosn didn't have any food in her house, and the family received some from their neighbors. Hosn and Amir sometimes went to bed without food to save some for their children. During her pregnancies and deliveries, Hosn didn't receive proper nutrition or healthcare, which affected her health. These challenging conditions affected her children as well, especially her son Younis, who was weak and thin from birth. One day, Amin brought Younis to an International Medical Corps-supported health facility, Karabah Health Facility. Younis was admitted with severe acute malnutrition and began receiving medical care.

Though Amin soon had to travel again, Hosn continued to bring Younis to the health facility to receive nutrition support. At the same time, Hosn also received medical care from the Female Health Workers. An International Medical Corps female staff member also visited Hosn at home. The staff member measured Younis's mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC), confirmed he was still malnourished, and informed Hosn that she was eligible to receive cash assistance for six months to help feed her family.

Because of the cash assistance and nutrition support, Younis recovered from malnutrition. Hosn also purchased a sewing machine, which helps her provide for her family. "Now I can work and help with household expenses," said Hosn.

Since August 2023, International Medical Corps has provided food assistance through cash distribution to 300 households in the Al Qafr district of Yemen.



Hosn a cash beneficiary with her six children during verification prior to the cash assistance. Al Karbah village, Al Qafr district, Ibb

## FSAC Partners Contribution

AT/AM Hub



Solidarités International Information

Is available at:

[SI website](#)

The Burden of Debt in Al-Ma'afar District, Abdo, a 59-year-old father, following clashes in his original district of Maqbanna in 2022, was forced to relocate to one of the numerous IDP camps in the area. For the past two years, along with his wife, 2 girls, and 3 boys, Abdo has been dwelling in an emergency shelter, navigating the challenges of displacement.

*“We are grateful for this life-changing assistance, and although our situation is yet not aligning with our dreams, it is much better than before” . Abdo Said*



SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONAL interviewing Abdo, Al Ma'afar District, Yemen, February 2024

## MORE DETAILS

Through the continuous support of the European Union and as part of the Cash Consortium for Yemen, SI embarked on a transformative journey in the Al Ma'afar district, Governorate of Ta'izz, delivering Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to the most vulnerable households. This human-interest story unfolds against the backdrop of the trials faced by internally displaced persons in Yemen, underscoring the Emergency Food Assistance response as a crucial and effective intervention in alleviating their distress.

Before SI's intervention, Abdo grappled with the challenges of being new to the area. He shares, “I was facing a significant issue with debt from the local grocery store, amounting to over 900,000 YER, all for food and healthcare.”

After a meticulous selection process of the most vulnerable households, SI, in collaboration with the Cash Consortium Yemen, identified Abdo's household as eligible for six consecutive rounds of multi-purpose cash assistance, totaling more than 1 million YER.

Following the cash assistance program, Abdo remarks, “I paid off all the debts to the local grocery stores and pharmacies.” Additionally, with the remaining savings, Abdo bought 2 sheep. This strategic investment marked the beginning of Abdo's aspirations to cultivate cattle and establish a new sustainable income source.

Multi-purpose cash programming goes beyond financial assistance; it is a pathway to rebuilding dignity. According to Abdo, “Now I feel settled, that I belong here. Before the assistance, I was ashamed to go to the market due to my debts. But now I feel that I am not ashamed anymore, and those whom I paid using Solidarités International assistance appreciate dealing with me.”



Registration of MPCA beneficiaries, Jabal Habashi District, Yemen, February 2024



# MINUTES OF FSAC MEETINGS, AT NATIONAL AND SUB-NATIONAL LEVEL



FSAC-Shelter Cluster meeting - Integrated Initiative by Shelter and FSAC Clusters in YEMEN at the QCRC office, Sana'a, March 2024



Bi-weekly FSAC Vulnerability and targeting Working group Meeting held at NFDHR, Sana'a office. March 2024

## Meeting Minutes

For more details:

[\(\[Events | Food Security Cluster \\(fscluster.org\\)\]\(https://fscluster.org\)\)](https://fscluster.org)

**Note:** FSAC has resumed its physical coordination meetings at national and sub-national levels.

### March 2024 Meetings

Cluster/Sub Cluster	Date	Venue
National cluster	27.03.2024	Postponed
Sana'a Hub	04.04.2024	Virtual
Aden Hub	10.03.2024	SCI
Ibb Hub	03.04.2024	Virtual
Sa'ada Hub	03.04.2024	Virtual
Marib Hub	26.03.2024	Virtual
Hodeida Hub	31.03.2024	Virtual
AT/AM Hub	28.03.2024	Virtual
Hajjah Hub	02.04.2024	Virtual
Al Mukalla Hub	28.03.2024	Virtual

### April 2024 Meetings

Cluster/Sub Cluster	Date	Venue
National cluster	28.4.2024	Human Appeal, Sana'a
Sana'a Hub	05.05.2024	TBD
Aden Hub	28.04.2024	TBD
Ibb Hub	30.4.2024	UN Premises
Sa'ada Hub	29.4.2024	UN Compound
Marib Hub	30.04.2024	IOM Office
Hodeida Hub	28.04.2024	TBD
AT/AM Hub	28.04.2024	TBD
Hajjah Hub	30.04.2024	UN Compound- Hajjah
Al Mukalla Hub	25.04.2024	TBD















TBD: To Be Determined

### Other meetings:

Meeting	Date	Venue
FSAC-Shelter Cluster meeting - Integrated Initiative by Shelter and FSAC Clusters in YEMEN	19.03.2024	QCRC Office, Sana'a
Bi-weekly FSAC Vulnerability and Targeting Working Group Meeting	21.03.2024	NFDHR



# FSAC KEY DOCUMENTS AND GUIDELINES

	<p><a href="#">Information Management Products 2024</a></p>		<p><a href="#">FSAC Emergency Livelihood Assistance Guidelines (03.2023 update)</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">FSAC Newsletters</a></p>		<p><a href="#">Guidance for mainstreaming AAP in Yemen FSAC Response</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">Information Management Tools</a> + <a href="#">FSAC 2024 Planning Tool</a></p>		<p><a href="#">FSAC Conditional Cash Transfer Guidelines (07.2023 update)</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">FSAC Membership Application Form</a></p>		<p><a href="#">FSAC Unconditional Cash Transfer Guidelines (07.2023 update)</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">FSAC 2024 PIN</a> + <a href="#">FSAC 2024 Targets</a></p>		<p><a href="#">FSAC Operational Guidelines for Implementing Income Generation Activities and Micro-Business Programmes - Effective 15 July 2023</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">FSAC 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan Narrative</a></p>		<p><a href="#">FSAC Guidance Note for Humanitarian Food Assistance in Yemen (HFA)</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">FSAC 2024 Humanitarian Needs Overview</a></p>		<p><a href="#">Food Security and Livelihoods Indicator Handbook</a></p>

## LINKS

**FSAC Terminology**  
<https://sites.google.com/view/fsc-terminology/home>

**IFRR**  
<https://response.reliefweb.int/yemen/integrated-famine-risk-reduction>

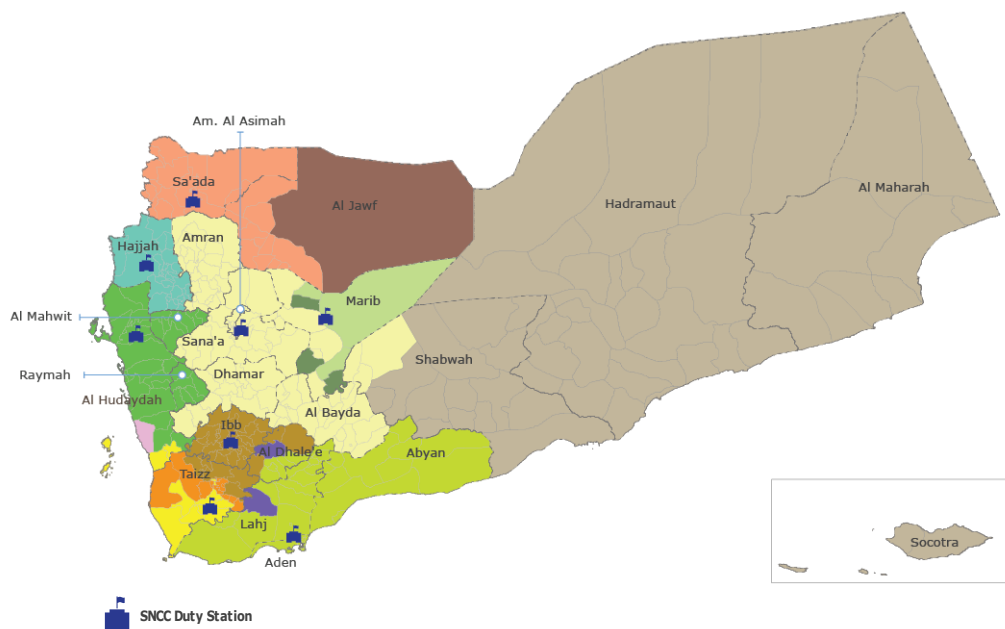
**IPC Global Platform**  
<https://www.ipcinfo.org/>

**WFP VAM DataViz**  
[https://dataviz.vam.wfp.org/economic\\_explorer/prices](https://dataviz.vam.wfp.org/economic_explorer/prices)

## FSAC COORDINATION AND IM TEAM

Cluster/Sub Cluster	Name	Function	Email
<b>National</b>	Abigael Nyukuri	Technical Advisor	abigael.nyukuri@fao.org
	Barack Kinanga	FSAC Interim NGO Co-Chair	Barack.Kinanga@care.org
	Musaed Nasser	Food Security Specialist	musaed.nasser@fao.org
	Taha Farea	Senior Information Management Officer	tfarea@immap.org
	Ahmed Al-Musawa	Information Management Officer	Ahmed.Almusawa@fao.org
	Ahmed Al-Kherbi	Information Management Officer	aalkherbi@immap.org
<b>Sub-national</b>	Musaed Nasser	■ FSAC SNCC – Al Mukalla Hub	musaed.nasser@fao.org
	Shadi Abdulgalil	■ FSAC SNCC – Aden Hub	shadi.abdulgalil@fao.org
		■ FSAC SNCC – Al Turbah/Al Mukha Hub	
	Muna Hashem	■ FSAC SNCC – Sana'a Hub	muna.hashem@fao.org
	Hassan Al-Afreet	■ FSAC SNCC – Sa'ada Hub	hassan.alafreet@fao.org
	Ebrahim Saif	■ FSAC SNCC – Marib Hub	ebrahim.saif@fao.org
	Hasan Hagori	■ FSAC SNCC – Al Hudaydah Hub	hasan.hagori@fao.org
	Khalid Al-Shewai	■ FSAC SNCC – Hajjah Hub	khalid.alshewai@fao.org
Adnan Mohammed	■ FSAC SNCC – Ibb Hub	adnan.mohammed@fao.org	

\* SNCC: Sub-National Cluster Coordinator



FSAC Team

March 2024

<https://fscluster.org/yemen>