

A. Summary of FSAC Achievement

<https://fscluster.org/yemen/document/january-february-2023-information>

February 2023 Partner Operational Presence (Based on 4W Report)				
Organization Type	# of Reporting Partners	# of Implementing Partners		
UN	3			
INGOs	14	16		
NNGOs	8	19		
Total	25	35		

Strategic Objective 1: Increase availability and access to secure, safe and life-saving food for the most vulnerable households through provision of emergency assistance.

Activity	Target	Total Reached in Feb 23	Unique BNFs reached as of Feb 2023	Current Gap
Emergency Food Assistance (EFA)	14,037,253	10,241,631	13,361,981	675,272
Emergency Livelihood Assistance (ELA)	2,230,248	13,877	14,732	2,215,516

Strategic Objective 2: Protect and promote livelihoods and build assets to enhance resilience.

Activity	Target	Total Reached in Feb 23	Unique BNFs reached as of Feb 2023	Current Gap
Rehabilitation of community assets and provision of seasonal employment through Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT)	2,785,121	335,601	387,513	2,397,608
Provision of support to restore livelihood assets, assistance to establish micro businesses and trainings to enhance employability.	2,785,121	6,109	17,045	2,768,076

Critical Challenges

- Funding constraints, more that 95% funding gap for emergency livelihood interventions. The minimum food basket has been adjusted to cover only 38% of the required Kilocalorie needs. Just 28% of YHRP 2023 has been funded.
- Seasonal floods exacerbate the food insecurity situation, through reduces access to affected population mainly IDP and compounds the already existing logistical challenges in delivering food assistance.
- Increased costs of importing food commodities.
- Yemeni Rial volatility significantly affecting the CCT and UCT transfer values.
- Bureaucratic impediments hindering implementation of Livelihoods activities mainly the agricultural livelihood activities in certain locations.

B. The 2023 FSAC Logical Framework and Workplan

<https://fscluster.org/yemen/document/fsac-2023-logical-framework-and-workplan>.

The 2023 FSAC Logical Framework of activities and workplan was developed consultatively with the cluster partners at sub-national level and endorsed in the National FSAC meeting on 23rd February 2023. FSAC partners will continue to adopt a ‘*twin track*’ approach of providing emergency food assistance to whilst progressively transitioning to livelihoods programs. This approach is part of the FSAC initiative to strengthen the humanitarian development nexus in the collective response. Consequently, FSAC work is built around 4 pillars:

- a) Lifesaving Emergency Food Assistance.
- b) Emergency Livelihood support.
- c) Rehabilitation of community assets, provision of seasonal employment and increase of household incomes through Conditional Cash Transfers and
- d) Provision of support to restore livelihood assets, assistance to establish micro businesses and trainings to enhance employability.

Specifically, the FSAC response in 2023 aims to contribute to decreasing overall morbidity and mortality of crisis-affected people in Yemen and to enhance their living standards and resilience by ensuring an effective humanitarian response. The most vulnerable households across the country will be targeted. This will be done through five main outputs.

1. Effective coordination is promoted at national and sub-national levels.
2. Key information is gathered, and IM / Communication / Advocacy products are made available.
3. Technical standards are promoted through the dissemination of Guidelines and the provision of harmonized tools.
4. Data collection, analysis and planning are effectively supported.
5. Capacities of FSAC partners are built and strengthened.

FSAC will continue to adopt a decentralized coordination and communication approach through strengthening the national and sub-national clusters, with dedicated coordination and information management personnel. FSAC will systematically engage with key donors to inform donor priorities around Food security, Agriculture and livelihoods and keep them informed on progress, advocacy concerns and critical response gaps. To ensure a quality and harmonized response at scale, FSAC will periodically develop and update technical guidelines across to realize the activities detailed under each strategic objective through thematic technical working groups factoring in operational realities across the Country. An Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) guidance will be developed and adopted in the first quarter of the year to strengthen mainstreaming AAP in the collective FSAC response through i) Listening carefully to the diverse voices of affected people; ii) Responding effectively to the needs and concerns of affected people and iii) Communicate sensitively with affected people and making them central to all planning and advocacy efforts. Capacity building of FSAC partners on the various thematic areas in line with the governing guidance alongside routine reporting will be at the core of the response.

An interactive dashboard will be maintained and updated monthly to inform FSAC response operational presence, progress, gaps and quarterly plans based on routine data submitted by partners using standardized tools. FSAC will continue to contribute to defining and informing operationalization of Humanitarian, Peace and Development Nexus (HPDN) workstreams and the Integrated Famine Response Risk (IFRR) strategy alongside other key clusters in Yemen-in addition to bilateral meetings and engagements with other clusters. Additionally, FSAC will support operationalization of key needs assessments and analysis including the integrated phase Food Security Phase classification (IPC), FSAC partners and other relevant inter-agency assessments. The performance of the collective FSAC response

in line with the six-core function outlined by the Inter Agency Steering committee (IASC) will be undertaken through an annual Cluster Coordination Performance monitoring (CCPM) by all FSAC partners.

C. FSAC Unconditional Cash Transfer Guideline, Effective 01 March 2023

<https://fscluster.org/yemen/document/fsac-unconditional-cash-transfer>

The FSAC Unconditional Cash Transfer Guideline (UCT) Guidelines are revised on a quarterly basis. This is due to the continuous evolution of the Yemeni context and, consequently, the need to update the UCT values, aiming at capturing the most recent conditions in an accurate way. The market price data is based on the price monitoring systems of food commodities by FAO, WFP and other partners. The Minimum Food Basket Technical Working Group (MFB TWG) calculated monthly averages at governorate level (WFP at capital, FAO at district level urban/rural). The differentiation of the transfer values in Yemeni Rial between northern and southern governorates is driven by the volatile exchange rate and its differences in the two regions. The reference period for the market price data used was October to December 2022 as the most recent month with available data at the time of the review. 15 percent buffer was factored in as a top-up of the regional average prices.

Notably, there are significant differences in the MFB values between governorates. The harmonized transfer values of the FSAC MFB for a household of 7 members is YER 65,500 /household/month in the northern governorates and YER 131,500 /household/month in the southern governorates. This is equivalent to USD 117/household/month in both governorates.

D. FSAC Conditional Cash Transfer Guideline, Effective 01 April 2023.

<https://fscluster.org/yemen/document/fsac-conditional-cash-transfer-0>

Similar to UCT guideline, the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) guidelines are revised on a quarterly basis. This revision applies to the yet to be signed agreements and will remain valid until the next formal update. For operational and budgetary reasons, partners with ongoing, or already funded conditional cash transfer projects / programmes could adopt a phased approach in shifting to the new guidelines.

The general Principles of CCT Programmes for unskilled labor in Yemen are as below;

- i. One CCT value for IRG Area of Control (AoC) and one CCT value for the SBA AoC. CCT values are expressed in YER.
- ii. The CCT values should be 10% higher than UCT, aiming at ensuring a larger coverage (from 80%-85% Kcal - according to the MFB composition - to 90%-95% Kcal) of the MFB. The CCT values should be computed as follows: $CCT = UCT * 110\%$.
- iii. The CCT transfer value at AOC level will be divided by the daily Labour Market Unskilled Labour rate (LMULR) to compute the number of working days required in each Governorate.
- iv. The suggested number of working days is 15 / month. If in a given Governorate and based on the calculation envisaged by point 3, the number of working days exceed 15, the number of participants / HH should be increased from one to two. The additional HH member would work for the number of days exceeding 15.
- v. 06 working hours should be considered as the maximum working hours/day, as beneficiaries need 1-2 hours to reach CFW/FFA locations.

Thus, the monthly CCT values are the following:

- **IRG AoC, $131.500 * 110\% = 144.650$ YER.**

- **SBA AoC, 65.500 YER * 110% = 72.050 YER.**

NB: Considerations above are related to projects whose priority is to meet the basic food needs of the targeted population. As such, if partners intend to implement a project with different priorities requiring different CCT values, they should consult with FSAC.

E. Yemen Food Security Outlook March 2023 Update, WFP

<https://fscluster.org/yemen/document/wfp-yemen-food-security-update-march>

- In IRG-controlled areas, the monthly average value of the Yemeni rial remained at similar level against the US dollar compared to the previous month reaching YER 1,234 per USD at the end of February. On 21st of February, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia released an economic support package, worth USD one billion, through the Arab Monetary Fund to be deposited later in CBY-Aden.
- In February 2023, pumping prices of fuel in Yemen remained almost unchanged from the previous month. However, year-on-year, pumping prices for petrol decreased by eight percent across the southern governorates and by 24 percent in the north, while being slightly higher for diesel countrywide than the level recorded in 2022.
- The global FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) slightly decreased by 0.6 percent during February 2023 compared to the previous month, yet the value of FFPI decreased by 19 percent from the all-time elevated level reached in March 2022, and by eight percent compared to February 2022.
- In February 2023, the monthly average cost of the minimum food basket (MFB) has not changed in areas under IRG from the previous month, while it increased by 12 percent year-on-year. At the same time, in areas under Sana'a-based authorities, the cost of the MFB continued to gradually decrease for the seventh consecutive month, marking a three percent year-on-year decrease.
- The fuel supply into Yemen improved since the activation of the truce.
- The total volume of imported fuel through the Red Sea ports in January and February 2023 was nearly five times the level of imports during the same period last year.

F. Agrometeorological Early Warning Bulletin - Early Warning: Highlands Should Brace For Deadlier Downpours And Floods In The Coming Week (1-10 April 2023)

<https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/agrometeorological-early-warning-bulletin>

The return of the Saif rainy season was with a rough start as storms flooded out streets in Sana'a, Al-Mahwit, Dhamar, Amran, Hajjah, Raymah, Ibb, Sa'adah, Taizz, Hadramaut, and Marib governorates. Field reports indicate that as flood water swept away critical infrastructure, 31 households were affected in Al-Haraziyah Al-Uliyah, and Al-Sufllah sub-districts of Salah district in Taizz governorate. Overall, more than 9,000 families have been affected by floods across the country since the latter half of March.

Forecasts until mid-April favor the formation of heavy rainfall with a risk of major flooding. Therefore, the stormy weather that has been disrupting livelihoods after leaving thousands of people across the country cut off from shelter, clean water, sanitation, and basic infrastructure on its way to the wreckage is expected to continue. Nearly all the flood-ravaged cities are expected to be affected by deadlier downpours that will put 22,000 people at risk of floods in Dnah catchment that extends across Sana'a and Dhamar governorates, 3,000 in Wadi Bana (Ibb and Lahj), 2,700 in Amasilah (Hadramaut), 1,700 in Maur (Hajjah), 1,600 in Alamanah (Al Jawf), and 1,500 in Tuban (Lahj). These areas and much of the Highlands should therefore brace for deadlier downpours and floods in the coming week. While most parts of the Highlands have retained enough soil moisture to support the planting of cereal, farmers are advised to exercise caution as heavy rainfall tends to sweep away seeds which leads to poor distribution and sometimes affects germination. Planting during or immediately after a heavy downpour is therefore

discouraged. Further, as heavy rainfall is likely to drench most parts of Yemen, bacterial diseases such as cholera outbreaks are expected to take their toll, especially in IDP camps where critical water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure has already been swept away. Humanitarian interventions to reinforce WASH facilities in these areas are therefore strongly encouraged.

Pests: Although the Desert Locust and Fall Armyworm situation has continued to be calm, the return of the rains will potentially encourage vegetation growth which will likely lead to their re-emergence. Alertness is therefore recommended.

G. Minutes of February 2023 FSAC meetings, at national and sub-national level

([Events](#) | [Food Security Cluster \(fscluster.org\)](#))

H. FSAC Coordination and IM Team

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