# VEMEN FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE CLUSTER FSAC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## SUMMARY



In April 2023, a total of 10.5 M individuals were reached with emergency food assistance and 2,800 individuals were reached with emergency livelihood support, **consequently, 69 districts were not reached with EFA in April 2023.** 

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#### **ABOUT FSAC**

**Funding Required** 

The Yemen Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) was activated in 2012 and has over 120 partners including UN agencies, NGOs, donors, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)/Red Crescent Movements, and relevant technical line ministries. FAO and the WFP Co-lead the FSAC with NRC as the current Co-Chair.

The main objective of the FSAC is to provide an action-oriented forum for bringing together national and international humanitarian partners to improve the timeliness and impact of humanitarian assistance on the lives of food insecure, conflict-affected and vulnerable populations in Yemen. 17 million, or nearly half of the population in Yemen are food insecure with conflict, insecurity and climate change being the main drivers spiraling food insecurity levels in the Country.

### **FSAC APRIL 2023 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### Summary of FSAC Achievement

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	Reached in April	Total Reached	%
Emergency Food Assistance (EFA)	14,037,253	10,508,082	13,506,213	96%
Emergency Livelihood Assistance (ELA)	2,230,248	2,800	114,979	5%

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

Activity	Target	Reached in April	Total Reached	%
Rehabilitation through Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT)	2,785,121	114,394	428,437	15%
Livelihood Restoration (LR)	779,511	3,035	26,600	3%

#### Sectoral Objective 1 – Gap analysis



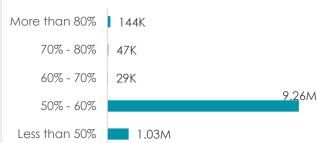
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January

February



1





March

April

# IPC Update: 3.9 million people likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity, 456,000 children expected to be acutely malnourished

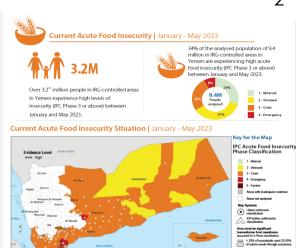
Despite reported improvements in the current period of January and May 2023, Yemen remains one of the most food insecure countries in the world. In the current period, 3.2 million people are in IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or Emergency). The situation is expected to worsen between June and December 2023 where the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above is forecasted to increase by 20 percent (638,500 additional people), reaching 3.9 million (41 percent of the population). Of these, about 2.8 million people are estimated to be in IPC Phase 3 and 1.1 million people in IPC Phase 4. This IPC analysis covers only 118 districts and areas under the control of the Government of Yemen, for which new food security and nutrition evidence



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was available. In total, 117 of the 118 districts will be in IPC Phase 3 or above (16 districts in IPC Phase 4 and 101 districts in IPC Phase 3). The key drivers for food insecurity are conflict, economic decline, improved humanitarian assistance and reduced access to basic services.

Nearly 456,000 children under the age of five in Yemen will likely suffer from acute malnutrition over the course of 2023 and will need treatment. Of these, over 97,000 children are likely severely malnourished. All 16 analysis zones are classified in IPC AMN Phase 3 (Serious) and above. Contributing factors to acute malnutrition include sub-optimal childcare practices, morbidity and reduced acess to basic services.



# FSAC Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) 2022 Workshop in Aden, held in May 2023



The FSAC Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) is a selfassessment of cluster performance against the six core cluster functions (support service delivery, inform the HC/HCT's strategic decision-making, strategy development, advocacy, monitor and evaluate performance and capacity building in preparedness and contingency planning) and the accountability to affected population. FSAC CCPM 2022 exercise was launched in February 2023, covering the period from January 2022 to December 2022. A total of 97 participants from UN agencies, INGOs, NNGOs, Donors and ICRC/IFRC participated in the survey.

Recognizing the importance of this exercise to improve overall FSAC coordination performance, FSAC Yemen organized the FSAC CCPM 2022 workshop in Aden on 28 May 2023, for one day to discuss with its partners the findings of CCPM 2022, recognize how well FSAC has achieved its core functions (as determined by the IASC) and identify areas of improvement. The workshop was attended by 22 partners (physically attended) and 10 partners (virtually attended), ranging from FSAC Co-led agencies, UN agencies, national and international NGOs and Red Crescent Movement.

At the first half of the workshop, the FSAC partners were well oriented on FSAC core functions and objectives, and CCPM exercise through dedicated sessions delivered by Yemen Food Security and Agriculture Cluster Coordinator and Global Food Security Cluster.

Through six formed groups of participants, all six core functions and sub-activities were discussed by FSAC partners themselves, to re-weight the scores of FSAC coordination performance against each core function, highlight what went well, constraints and areas of improvement and develop an action plan including set of actions needed, deadline and responsible actors. At the end of the workshop, FSAC and FSAC partners agreed on set of actions needed to be undertaken over the next period, which significantly, contribute to achieve the ultimate purpose of this workshop "Improve Overall FSAC Coordination Performance."

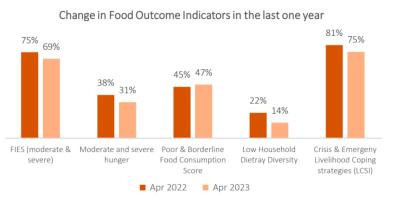
FSAC is planning to organize the same workshop in Sana'a soon and then, to develop the Final FSAC CCPM 2022 report".



Abigael Nyukuri (FSAC Technical Advisor), Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring – Workshop, Aden 2023

# High Frequency Monitoring (HFM) of Food Security. conducted in March 2023, Issued in May 2023.

• Nearly four in very ten (39.2 percent) of the surveyed households experienced recent food insecurity equivalent to IPC Phase 3 and above during the month of March 2023 according to the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES). Hunger Scale (HHS) produced a similar result, with 31.4 percent moderate or severe hunger.



• Around 47 percent of the households have inadequate food consumption and 42 percent of the households consumed less than 4 food groups. The results from the various food security measures confirm a prevalence of around 50 percent food insecurity during the survey period.

• Except for Food Consumption Score (FCS), all other food security indicators improved in March 2023 compared to the monitoring in April 2022. Inadequate food consumption measured by FCS marginally deteriorated by 2 percentage points.

• Al Bayda, Ad Dali and Taiz Governorates have a high prevalence of food insecurity in all five food security indicators. Amran, Lahj, and Hajjah

Governorates have been reported to have a higher prevalence of food insecurity in at least three of five food security indicators.

• The prevalence of food insecurity, measured by FIES, HHS and FCS is slightly higher in non-agricultural households than in agricultural households. However, medium, or low Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) is higher in agricultural households.

• Households with no income sources, and households deriving main income from agricultural and non-agricultural wages were the most food insecure segment. Amongst the agricultural households, there was a higher prevalence of food insecurity among the livestock producers and sellers.

• 63% of the households experienced various shocks, predominantly high food and fuel prices and loss of employment. However, the number of households that reportedly experienced shocks decreased by 19 percentage points compared to April 2022.

• Nearly 60% of the households reported a decrease in income in the past three months, compared to the same period last year.

• 20% of the households resorted to emergency livelihood coping strategy.

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## Market & Trade Bulletin, Yemen – March 2023. Issued in May 2023.

- The cost of the Minimum Food Basket (MFB) in March 2023 reached an average of YER. 115,327 in IRG areas and YER. 54,956 in SBA areas equivalent to about USD110 and 105 USD respectively.

- Generally, the MFB remained relatively stable month-on-month at governorate level except for a 9 percent increase in Al Jawf. When compared to the same month last year, the cost of the MFB increased mostly in IRG areas while remained stable or decreased in SBA Governorates.

- Despite the onset of the month of Ramadan which is associated with typical increase of basic food commodities because of seasonal demand, prices did not go up in SBA areas due to the strict and intensive enforcement of price controls by Authorities. The prices of wheat and rice, however, increased in the markets in IRG areas because of depreciated currency despite a decline in the global grain markets.

- Even though fuel prices are higher than a year ago and the five-year average country-wide, they remained relatively stable in 2023Q1 except for jumps in the conflict affected front-line markets in Marib, Taizz and Al Jawf Governorates.

- Livestock prices during the first quarter of 2023 trended seasonally, remaining relatively stable but 6 and 21 percent higher than their levels last year, respectively, in SBA and IRG areas.



- The terms of trade (labor to cereal & sheep to cereal), increased month-on-month and year-onyear in SBA areas because of faster increase in casual labour rates and livestock prices. In IRG areas, ToT during the reporting month was lower or at par with their levels a year ago. The purchasing power is higher in SBA areas than in IRG areas because of higher cost of cereals.

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#### FSAC Partners Contribution



www.rdpf.org

An elderly woman who used to depend on her husband's pension to feed her five daughters had been working for long hours in the fields, planting and harvesting crops so that she could make ends meet after the cut of salaries, RDP INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT: vet the income she earned was not sufficient to afford the basic necessities of life.

When I first received the food basket, I felt like a weight had been lifted off my shoulders. It was not just food for us, it was hope. It gave us the strength to keep going, knowing that there are people who are willing to help us in our time of

need," the elderly woman" Taqwa stated

She had always struggled to provide the basic needs for her children. She worked long hours in the fields, but the income she earned was never enough to feed her family.

#### **MORE DETAILS**

Despite her best efforts, her daughters often went hungry, and Taqwa felt helpless to change their situation.

Therefore, delivering food baskets can be a lifeline for millions of most affected populations who are struggling to survive and thrive, and it is also one of the reasons why many people still display courage and resilience after nine years of conflict.

Since 2019, RDP has been collaborating with WFP to deliver food baskets to 85,477 most affected and neediest people through the general food assistance over 87 food distribution points (FDPs) to enable families put food on the table in Al Malagim, Wald Rabi', As Sawadiya, At Taffah, and Ash Sharyah districts of Al-Bayda governorate



Taqwa's granddaughter during the first distribution of GFA in Wald Rabi' district, Al-Bayda governorate, 2023



Tagwa, a woman in her sixties, lives with her five daughters below the poverty line in Wald Rabi' district of Al-Bayda governorate.

### FSAC Partners Contribution



Sana'a Hub

BFD INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT: www.bfdint.org

Najwa and her family of eight living in their home in Al-Qa'arah village of Wusab As-Safil district of Dhamar governorate. and now live in a cramped and dirty livestock den in their village, barely surviving.

"This is my chance to make a difference. I can't let it slip away."

Najwa stated

Najwa is a young woman with a brave spirit and a heart full of hope. At just 21 years old, she has already faced unimaginable hardships.

#### MORE DETAILS

Najwa never gave up. She dreamed of a better life for her loved ones and seized the opportunity to join the Ma'awiz Knitting training right after she heard about the program from a member of the formed Community Committee in her village.

She told her husband, "Who knows, maybe our life will change. Let us go inquire about the selection to this program." The program taught her not only knitting but also health and nutrition, small business management, and valuable life skills.



At Najwa's Household \_ in Wusab As-Safil district, Dhamar Governorate \_ March 2023 (Photo credits, BFD)



Najwa shone in the program, impressing her trainers with her creativity and eagerness to learn. She thought to herself, "This is my chance to make a difference. I can't let it slip away."

Now, Najwa uses her knitting skills to provide for her family. She takes pride in her work and is confident in her abilities. "For the first time in my life, I feel like I have the power to change my family's destiny," she said with a smile. "We can start our own business in the Ma'awiz Knitting industry and sell our products to customers."

#### FSAC Partners Contribution



SCI INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT: <u>www.savethechildren.net</u>

CFW paved roads for increased access to basic services and improved food security of affected community in Bani Sayah, Razih District

The intervention is cash for work in Razih district, but the community's need made them take the initiative to start building the road, which is nearly 2 km.

Save The Children organization is one of the famous and leading humanitarian organizations in Sa'ada governorate and its services and intervention reached the far areas in borderline areas, and improved access to market and basic services and improved food security of affected community, through cash for work (CFW) under FSL project. Taha, the FSL Civil Engineer Said; I felt happiness and reassurance to see the impact CFW interventions on community, the joy of people, as well as active participation, appreciation, and love of people for our works.

#### **MORE DETAILS**



Copyright: SCI, Sa'ada, Bani Sayah, Razih District, 2023

In Bani Sayah sub district, which considered as one of the most suffering and deprived areas located in borderlines of Razih district, Saada Gov, due to the far distance and difficulty of road leading to them, lack of basic services and hard living conditions. The community's need made them take an initiative to start work on building the main road linking them with market and basic services such as health clinic, which is nearly 2 km with simple tools and self-initiatives, but due to the hardship and lack of resources they faced challenges in continue and cover labor cost to finalize the work. Then SCI has come and supported the community with conditional cash assistance (CFW), under Yemen Joint response project (YJR8), which funded by the DRA, the BNFs were provided with monthly conditional cash assistance for four months and supported with required tools to complete the rehabilitation of the road. Now they reached the 2.7 km road. Approximately 30% of the path length.



Copyright: SCI, Sa'ada, Bani Sayah, Razih District, 2023

# Minutes of FSAC meetings, at national and sub-national level

For more details:

(Events | Food Security Cluster (fscluster.org))

# Meeting Minutes



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