



POLICIES TO ADDRESS MALNUTRITION IN YEMEN

Read in the issue:

Introduction:

Yemen adopts the multi-sectoral approach and integrated work among all sectors contributing to scaling up nutrition in Yemen. Aware of the nature and reality of nutrition in Yemen, Yemen has joined SUN Movement to benefit from the technical support provided and the exchange of expertise related to improving nutrition. In this regard, the Government, represented by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, established SUN-Yemen Secretariat, which in turn formed the nutrition's stakeholders platform. The sectors that have the greatest impact, namely the health sector, the water and environment, the agriculture, the fisheries and the education, were represented in a technical team for SUN-Yemen. These sectors reach all other relevant sectors such as social protection, gender and the business sector. The Secretariat also works to build partnerships and networks that will contribute to scaling up nutrition in Yemen in the medium and long-term. Therefore, it is keen to partner with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to build a data platform for Yemen's food and nutrition's programs and interventions and establish partnerships with the business-sector and civil society organizations.

- » According to the latest IPC analysis.
- » Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan.
- » MAP YEMEN
- » Nutrition Budget Analysis Exercise.
- » Stakeholder Join Progress Assessment Workshop.

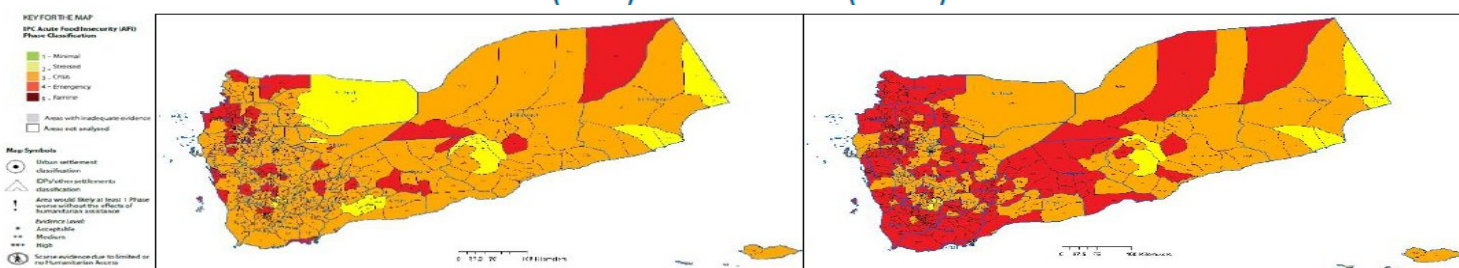
According to the latest IPC analysis, from December 2018

According to the latest IPC analysis, from December 2018 to January 2019, a total of 15.9 million people, i.e. 53% of the population analysed are severely food insecure, despite ongoing humanitarian food assistance (HFA). This includes 17% of the population (about 5 million people) classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 36% (about 10.8 million people) in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Of greatest concern are the additional 63,500 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). Additional analysis conducted by the Yemen IPC Technical Working Group (TWG) to estimate the severity and magnitude of food insecurity excluding the mitigating effects of the HFA delivered, shows that 20.1 million people (67% of the total population) would be in need of urgent action (IPC Phase 3 and above), including 238,000 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) had HFA not been delivered.

Food insecurity is more severe in the areas with active fighting, and is particularly affecting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and host families, marginalized groups, as well as landless wage labourers facing difficulties in accessing basic services and conducting livelihood activities. Overall, there are more than 3 million IDPs in Yemen who face comparatively worse food security outcomes. In terms of severity (areas in IPC Phase 3 and above), the worst affected areas are located in Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Taiz and Saada Governorates. In terms of magnitude, each of the governorates of Al Hudaydah, Amanat Al Asimah, Dhamar, Hajjah, Ibb and Taiz have more than one million people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above. It is estimated that 13 governorates would have populations experiencing catastrophic conditions (IPC Phase 5) without the mitigating effects of HFA (Abyan, Aden, Al Bayda, Al Dhaleé, Al Hudaydah, Al Mahwit, Amran, Hadramout, Hajjah, Ibb, Lahj, Saada and Taiz).

Armed conflict remains the main driver of food insecurity in Yemen, curtailing food access for both the displaced and the vulnerable host communities. The food security crisis is further exacerbated by extremely high food prices, the liquidity crisis, disrupted livelihoods, and high levels of unemployment. While HFA is at least partially mitigating large food gaps, current HFA resourcing and conflict-related access constraints limit the extent to which HFA and other resources can adequately reach and serve all populations in need.

IPC CLASSIFICATION IN THE PRESENCE (LEFT) AND ABSENCE (RIGHT) OF THE MITIGATING EFFECTS OF HFA

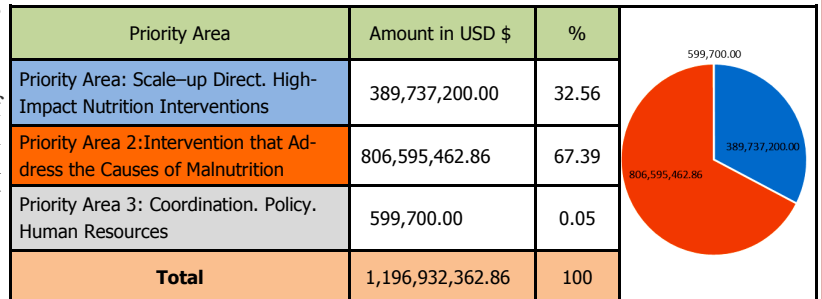


Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan

The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, represented by SUN-Yemen Secretariat, has led the update and development of an integrated multi-sectoral nutrition plan and its costing by engaging all relevant sectors and stakeholders including Agriculture & Irrigation, Fish Wealth, Water & Environment, Health and Education supported by UNICEF. Together, with a team of national and international consultants, a causal analysis has been undertaken to identify the key determinants of child and PLWs malnutrition, to complete a trajectory analysis, to set priorities for interventions and to cost a three year (2019-2021) multi-sectoral action plan which costs about (USD 1.2 billion) distributed to sectors and Priority Areas as shown in the table and charts.

Identifying common target areas:

The common target areas, that with high prevalence of stunting, and acute malnutrition, were based on Nutrition Cluster case load on the bases of SMART surveys, in addition to food insecurity, by using food security survey report, and of course where the IDPs are and where people affected by the recent war.



Stakeholder Joint Progress Assessment Workshop

SUN-Yemen Secretariat implemented the "2018 Joint-Assessment by the multi-stakeholder platform" workshop in July 2018, which is an annual activity carried out by the Secretariat in partnership with all relevant stakeholders from the government, UN, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to assess progress in nutrition activities in Yemen during One-year evaluation period. The evaluation focuses on the progress of the four processes of SUN movement. The "2018 Joint-Assessment by the multi-stakeholder platform" Report was published by SUN Movement on its website; it was released as part of the reports of the SUN Movement's member states. The outputs of the four operations mentioned in the report are summarized as follows.

» Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Ongoing conflict and political crises continue to pose significant challenges for nutrition coordination, and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation has negatively impacted nutrition indicators in Yemen. This has led SUN to work increasingly with technical-level representatives across various sectors. However the Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) Steering Committee has recently renewed its composition to ensure participation of high-level influential bodies and members from relevant sectors. Planning has begun to formally establish SUN networks for businesses, civil society and the UN.

» Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The current situation in Yemen has led to fragmentation of the State, with political decision makers having little influence and parliament having no role. Also, the fact that the judiciary lacks power makes it very challenging to enforce and protect laws and legislation. However, the Ministry of Health is still able to enforce the Law on the Protection of Breastfeeding. The SUN Secretariat has prepared a project to identify nutrition-related laws and legislation in all relevant sectors.

» Aligning actions around common results

The Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) is currently being finalised and will be accompanied by a common results framework for all sectors. Sectors such as health, education, water, environment, fish, and agriculture fed into the costed MSNP. A contextual analysis of nutrition status has been prepared in partnership with MQSUN+ and will serve as a reference for all sectors and entities working in nutrition. Importantly, most nutrition stakeholders also operate within the humanitarian cluster approach in terms of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, facilitating coordination.

» Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

An annual nutrition budget analysis was conducted and the costed plan of each government sector is reflected in the draft MSNP. Civil society organisations attracted international donor funding, which remains crucial for its implementation. The ongoing conflict makes it difficult to ensure long-term funding: for example, the operational expenses of technical departments in some government sectors were suspended. Most of Yemen's nutrition projects, indicators and financial details have been uploaded to 'Map-Yemen', which will be available for users by the end of 2018.

2018 – 2019 PRIORITIES

- Finalise and put into action the multi-sectoral nutrition plan.
- Strengthen institutional frameworks for nutrition in relevant sectors.
- Strengthen the capacity of government institutions and all nutrition-related sectors to implement nutrition-sensitive interventions.
- Establish SUN networks for businesses, civil society, and the UN.
- Mobilise necessary financial resources.



MAP Yemen

About Map Yemen :

- ◆ MAP Yemen is a monitoring and tracking tool for agriculture, water, environment, fisheries, nutrition and rural development projects in Yemen and its socio-economic context.
- ◆ The ultimate objective of the tool is to improve the planning, coordination and effectiveness of development projects.
- ◆ Specifically, it assists the Yemeni Government, development partners, researchers and other stakeholders in obtaining a snapshot of the state of food and nutrition security in Yemen at the macro and project levels, in order to allocate funds effectively, build harmonization and evaluate future proposals.

MAP Yemen Advantages

- ◆ Ability to aggregate project statistics by various dimensions, including location, sub-sector, donor, etc.
- ◆ Link development projects to social outcome indicators.
- ◆ Easily manageable, visually appealing way of tracking the progress of Yemen's food security and nutrition project portfolio.
- ◆ Easy, open access by desktop, tablets and mobile phones.
- ◆ Arabic and English languages.
- ◆ Easy data entry (backend) and low cost maintenance.

Map Yemen Preparation

- ◆ In Yemen, the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and the SUN-Yemen Secretariat, the IFPRI and the GIZ teams, worked to define the objectives and purpose of the system;
- ◆ The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has developed the Map Yemen system in collaboration with technical teams in the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and the SUN-Yemen Secretariat;
- ◆ The Working Group designed (3) templates for collecting indicators and projects data, in both Arabic and English; then the team have been trained on them.
- ◆ The Multi-Sectoral technical team working with the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and the SUN-Yemen Secretariat collected data on indicators and projects within about 6 months.
- ◆ The technical team has worked on entering the data into the system.
- ◆ The Technical Team provided the necessary observations of data entry to the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- ◆ The IFPRI team reviewed the input data, provided the technical team with the necessary observations, and absorbed the observations of the technical team.

MAP-Yemen's data collection was based on information from:

- Web sites and monitoring and evaluation reports.
- Individual meetings with donors.
- Data available at government.

The Stakeholders Workshop on MAP Yemen and Food and Nutrition Security in Yemen (Indicators and Projects)

The Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS) and Scaling-Up Nutrition in Yemen Secretariat (SUN-Yemen) held the stakeholders workshop to present Map-Yemen (indicators and projects) on November 5th, 2018. The workshop was implemented in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the support of GIZ. A number of comments and suggestions were made, which were shared with the IFPRI team to accommodate them.



The Launch Event to present MAP Yemen System's Tools for Food Security and Nutrition (Indicators and Projects)



The launch of the MAP YEMEN took place on the 21st of November 2018 under the auspices of HE the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC). Representatives of government, UN, donors, International NGOs and National NGOs were among invitees to the event.

The launch presentations highlighted the importance of MAP YEMEN Program in Yemen. And the need to develop it into a full scale planning and monitoring tool and to institutionalize the MAP YEMEN to accommodate all humanitarian and development programs in Yemen.



<https://map-yemen.github.io>

