

FACTSHEET

Yemen Program Factsheet

January 2017



care®

People in need of Assistance: 18.8 million



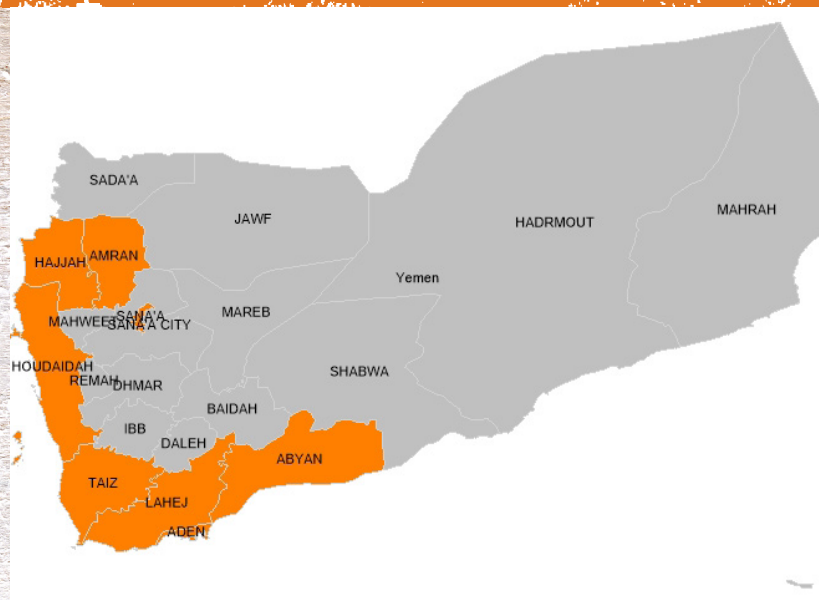
Internally Displaced People: 2.2 million



People in need of Food: 14.4 million



People in need of Water: 14.5 million



CARE IN YEMEN

CARE International was established and has worked continuously in Yemen since 1992. We work in partnership with local and international actors to create and deliver broad-scale sustained impact on poverty and social justice through a portfolio of development and humanitarian projects in the north and south of the country.

CARE is responding to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen in eight conflict-affected Governorates in the country, aiming to save lives, protect livelihoods, and increase resilience of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees and host community members in a conflict sensitive manner. CARE provides water, sanitation and hygiene services as well as food security and livelihood assistance. CARE is also supporting women and youth in Yemen in skill development and economic empowerment.

Since March 2015, CARE has supported close to 1.3 million people across Yemen.

CRISIS OVERVIEW

Since the escalation of conflict in Yemen in March 2015, the situation in the country has deteriorated to have some of the greatest humanitarian needs worldwide.

Today, close to three quarters of the country's population (18.8 million people) is in need of some form of humanitarian assistance. Of these, 10.1 million people are considered to be in acute need - meaning they require immediate assistance to save and sustain their lives.

Disruptions in shipments of commercial supplies have caused major fuel, food and water shortages and essential services such as electricity have been cut. This is having a detrimental impact on Yemen's economy and making it increasingly difficult to survive. Continuous fighting and attacks on civilians and civilian objects have resulted in thousands of unnecessary deaths.

While Yemen is a challenging and dynamic context for humanitarian operations and programming, there are opportunities and possibilities for impact and change by actors on the ground. In 2016, over 100 humanitarian agencies were operational across 5 Hubs in Yemen and as of October 2016, had assisted 4.6 million people across the country.



20 year old Arwa* now has more time to study, thanks to the CARE constructed water point in her village © CARE

How CARE is Responding to the Yemen Crisis

CARE is providing life-saving assistance to communities across districts in 8 Governorates of Yemen. Our support is based solely on needs and we seek to uphold the rights and dignity of those we work with.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



As a result of the prolonged conflict, critical water infrastructure in Yemen has been destroyed. Additionally, the large-scale and prolonged displacement of millions of people is putting pressure on existing infrastructure that is now shared between those displaced and the communities that host them.

Women and girls in Yemen are forced to walk long distances - often several times a day - to collect safe water. Where water is available for sell, it is often too expensive and therefore inaccessible to the majority of Yemenis who are also struggling through harsh economic times.

The lack of access to safe water and failing sanitation systems in Yemen are contributing to a public health crisis with there being a sharp increase in malnutrition cases, and outbreaks of cholera, dengue and scabies.

Having reached 134,818 people through WASH activities and 2,421 people with non-food items since March 2015, CARE is responding by:

- Trucking water to communities in hard to reach areas.
- Installing community water tanks closer to community settlements so that women no longer need to walk long distances for water.
- Rehabilitating water schemes and water supply networks that have been neglected or destroyed in the conflict.
- Distributing hygiene kits and sanitation items especially targeted at women and children.
- Constructing latrines for families.
- Training community volunteers on better hygiene practices and raising awareness on disease prevention through better hygiene.
- Provision of water purification supplies (ceramic filters and chlorine tablets) to households in order to increase their access to safe water.



Women in Lahj, Yemen fetch water from a CARE constructed water point © CARE



Children in Hajjah, Yemen wait their turn to fetch water from a CARE constructed water point © CARE

Food Assistance and Supporting Livelihoods



A CARE and WFP food voucher, given to vulnerable families in Amran, Yemen so that they can receive the food they need. © CARE



64 year old Hadija* receives regular food baskets and cash from CARE. This has supported her make ends meet © CARE

Food insecurity in Yemen is not only a result of the conflict and insecurity, it has been made worse by a dwindling economy, restrictions on food imports, disruption of markets and the lack of regular income opportunities for a vast majority of the population.

Millions of people in Yemen have lost their access to economic and livelihood opportunities as a result of the conflict and decline of the economy. This has resulted in a reliance on humanitarian assistance which is by far inadequate to meet the existing needs.

The cost of basic food commodities in Yemen has increased due to economic instability and reduction of food imports to the country. Food prices have further been affected by the depreciation of the Yemeni Rial. This has left many Yemenis unable to afford to feed their families. As a result of these factors, the country is facing a deteriorating nutrition situation with 4.5 million people now requiring treatment or prevention services for malnutrition.

Displaced households, female-headed families, and those with children under five and pregnant/lactating women are especially vulnerable and lack reliable access to sufficient quantities of nutritious food.

CARE has since March 2015 reached 1,112,408 people with activities aimed at improving their food security. These include:

- Distributing food to vulnerable households. CARE's food baskets are nutritionally balanced and provide families with food including wheat, vegetable oil, beans, salt and sugar. This is distributed every two months.
- Providing food vouchers to families. This allows vulnerable families to access food items that they would otherwise be unable to afford. They access these food items from local traders on a monthly basis.
- Providing cash equivalent to the cost of food baskets to individuals working to rehabilitate community assets. This allows families to diversify their use of cash and enhance their resilience. CARE also provides unconditional cash assistance to the most vulnerable and conflict affected communities.
- CARE distributes food baskets to people who in turn work in rehabilitating community assets including rural roads, water wells, schools, solid waste clearance and construction of small dams and water tanks. Food baskets are also given to vulnerable groups unable to work, and they instead participate in capacity building activities.

Skill Development and Economic Empowerment



CARE's youth and women economic empowerment programs are aimed at creating economic opportunities and enhancing their inclusion and participation in the society. This is achieved through increasing their skills and knowledge and enhancing their potential for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

Even before the crisis, women and girls in Yemen faced barriers to accessing services, economic opportunities etc. due to prevailing social norms. The current conflict has further exacerbated the pre-existing vulnerabilities Yemeni women and girls faced. In supporting women and girls in Yemen, CARE is:

- Funding business initiatives that are developed by formal women groups, cooperatives, associations and individual female entrepreneurs from low-income communities. Through the provision of business tool kits and /or interest free start up loans, women are then able to achieve self reliance when they own their businesses.
- Providing training to women on life skills, financial literacy as well as business development skills and providing continuous mentorship and support to these women when they start their own businesses.
- CARE works together with local communities in building their capacities to combat negative norms and practices that prevent women's meaningful participation in community processes.

Youth in Yemen have fewer economic opportunities, suffer from exclusion from meaningful participation within their communities, and are increasingly frustrated and at risk of failing into conflict. The prevailing conflict environment coupled with economic decline has left many youth in Yemen with limited options for active engagement in civic life and with very scarce livelihood options to support themselves and their families.

In order to support youth, CARE is:

- Strengthening youth advocacy skills and supporting youth-led initiatives and dialogues to influence decision-making on youth needs at the district level. This is done based on identified attitudes, preference, priorities, needs and challenges of youth which then informs their advocacy and communication targeted at decision makers.
- Young men and women between the ages of 18 and 24 years are trained on entrepreneurial, professional and vocational skills. Following the training, CARE selects youth-led small business initiatives or projects and provides these with start up funding.



CARE is supporting women and girls in economic empowerment and supporting their participation in community life © CARE



Electrical skill development initiatives support youth to start their own businesses in Yemen. © CARE