



Conflict, economic crisis and recurrent climate shocks continue to erode rural livelihoods in Yemen. Dependent on imports for almost all of its wheat and rice, Yemen is highly vulnerable to supply disruptions. Three in four people rely on agriculture, yet less than 1 percent of humanitarian funding to food sectors has supported food production over the past decade. As a result, one in two Yemenis faces acute food insecurity, and over half of children under 5 years of age suffer from acute malnutrition. **An effective humanitarian response in 2025 must prioritize agricultural assistance to help families break free from reliance on food aid.**



TO ASSIST  
**1.1 million people**



FAO REQUIRES  
**USD 80 million**



JANUARY-DECEMBER  
**2025**

What investments in agriculture can achieve

**USD 306**

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With a crop production package each family can cultivate 1.5 ha of land and produce 3 tonnes of cereals and legumes, worth USD 3 300 on the local market.

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**Support a family of 7  
with enough staple  
food for 15 months**

**USD 630**

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With a fishing package, a family can catch up to 300 kg of fish per month, worth USD 1 350 on the local market.

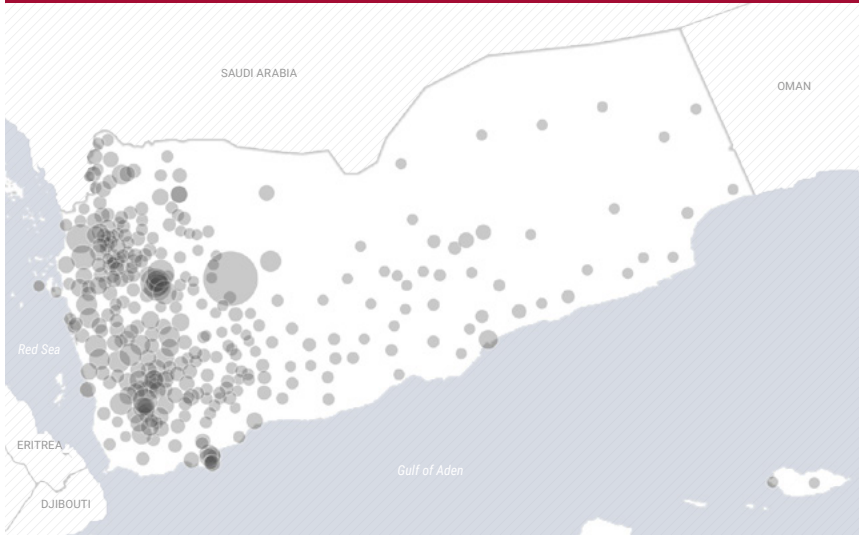
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**Provide a family with  
a sustainable source of  
protein and income**



## People in need of food security and agricultural assistance



**Note:** Refer to the disclaimer on the last page for the names and boundaries used in this map.  
**Source:** Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 2025. Yemen: Humanitarian Response Plan 2025.  
**In:** *Humanitarian Action*. [Cited 2 February 2025]. <https://humanitarianaction.info/plan/1262/ge/7871#page-title>

### Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

Years of conflict, economic crisis and climate shocks (with Yemen ranking third in climate vulnerability) continue to erode agricultural livelihoods.<sup>1</sup> Nearly half the population faces acute food insecurity, and malnutrition remains widespread, affecting more than half of children under 5 years of age. Over 80 percent of Yemenis live in multidimensional poverty, struggling with limited access to food, healthcare and livelihoods.<sup>1</sup> Recurrent climate shocks, such as the severe floods of late 2024, have further weakened rural communities by damaging crops and livestock, exacerbating food insecurity and malnutrition risks. Declining humanitarian aid and Yemen's near-total reliance on wheat and rice imports have made it even harder for vulnerable households to access essential food and livelihood support.

With over 70 percent of the population dependent on farming and pastoralism, strengthening agricultural livelihoods is critical to enhancing food security and resilience. Providing drought-tolerant seeds, vegetable seeds and essential inputs can help restore production and improve self-sufficiency. Support for small-scale livestock keepers, including feed, mineral supplements and cash assistance, can protect food sources and incomes. Fishing communities also benefit from essential tools and training, while rehabilitating irrigation systems and flood protection infrastructure through cash-for-work programmes can boost agricultural productivity. Without urgent action to restore agricultural livelihoods, millions risk falling deeper into food insecurity, increasing their reliance on aid. Investing in agriculture, livestock and fisheries remains one of the most effective ways to promote self-reliance in Yemen.

### Coordination

As co-leads of the Yemen Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme work closely with local and international partners, in collaboration with institutional counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.



### Drivers of food insecurity

- Conflict
- Climatic shocks
- Economic crisis
- Population displacement
- Inadequate access to basic services

### Key facts

Country population: **41.8 million**



**17.1 million** people acutely food insecure<sup>1</sup>



**4.8 million** people internally displaced<sup>1</sup>



**80 percent** of people living in multidimensional poverty<sup>1</sup>



**1.3 million** pregnant and lactating women are malnourished<sup>1</sup>



**2.3 million** children under 5 years of age are acutely malnourished, including **500 000** facing severe acute malnutrition<sup>1</sup>



**USD 0.85 out of 100** in humanitarian assistance to food sectors went to support agriculture and livelihoods (2016–2023)

In 2024, FAO provided emergency agricultural assistance to 140 764 families, helping them protect their livelihoods and improve food security. For example, FAO supported 27 810 livestock-keeping families with animal feed, fodder seed and choppers, while 600 families received small ruminants, and 413 families received beekeeping kits. Additionally, 36 825 livestock-keeping families benefitted from livestock vaccinations and health services. To boost food production, FAO provided 33 622 farming families with seeds and tools, and 8 816 families with irrigation kits. Furthermore, 17 310 families received cash transfers alongside agricultural inputs. FAO also distributed poultry production packages to 5 000 families, supported 7 000 fishing families through rehabilitated fish landing sites, and trained 3 368 people in sustainable agricultural and business skills.



## FAO priorities

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/content of assistance package	Cost per household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Enable farming households to protect their livelihoods and increase their production	<b>Crop production package:</b> 5 kg of cowpea seed, 20 kg of sorghum seed and 70 kg of wheat seed, along with one agricultural toolkit, 1 litre of biopesticide, 25 kg of nitrogen phosphate potash fertilizer and 50 kg of urea;	306	36 000	11 016 000	April	June–July
	<b>or vegetable production package:</b> 250 g of hot peppers seed, 250 g of mallow seed, 250 g of okra seed and 250 g of onion seed, along with one agricultural toolkit, 1 litre of biopesticide, 25 kg of nitrogen phosphate potash fertilizer and 50 kg of urea					
	<b>Cash+ backyard gardening inputs:</b> vegetable seeds and training on good agricultural and nutrition-sensitive practices, along with USD 110/month for 2–3 months	903	6 300	5 688 900	May	
	Training on good nutrition practices and/or nutrition-sensitive agriculture to improve and diversify household food consumption patterns	251	55 000	13 805 000		May–December
Enable fishing households to protect their livelihoods and increase their production	<b>Fishing package:</b> hooks, lines, nets, net repair kit, global positioning system, boat engine, engine repair kit, life jacket and cool boxes, among other inputs, along with training on good fishing practices	630	7 000	4 410 000	April	April–December
	Rehabilitation of fishing infrastructure, including ports, roads, fish markets, breakwaters and landing sites	–	–	1 323 000	March	



## FAO priorities (continued)

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/content of assistance package	Cost per household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Rehabilitate community agricultural infrastructure and enable the most vulnerable households to meet their basic needs	Rehabilitation and construction of irrigation infrastructure through cash for work (USD 120/household for 2–3 months)	681	10 000	6 810 000	March	April–December
	Rehabilitation and construction of flood protection infrastructure through cash for work (USD 120/household for 2–3 months)	660	7 000	4 620 000		
Enable livestock-keeping households to protect their livelihoods and increase their production	150 kg of animal feed concentrate and two pieces of mineral blocks (5 kg each)	315	12 000	3 780 000		
	<b>Cash+ livestock production package:</b> four heads of small ruminants, 150 kg of feed concentrate, two pieces of mineral blocks (5 kg each), along with training on good livestock production practices and cash transfers (USD 110/household) for 2–3 months*	1 103	16 700	18 420 100		
	<b>Cash+ poultry production package:</b> ten poultry, one drinker, one feeder, 50 egg trays and 80 kg of poultry feed, along with cash transfers for 2–3 months (USD 110/month)*	683	7 300	4 985 900		
Support food security coordination and analysis	Enhance the capacities of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster	-	-	1 500 000		
	Strengthen food security and nutrition information systems	-	-	3 500 000		

\* This intervention will prioritize women and women-headed households.

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> OCHA. 2025. *Yemen: Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025*. <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/yemen-humanitarian-needs-and-response-plan-2025-january-2025>

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