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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Yemen – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

April 28, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated March 17, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Despite progress in negotiations regarding a Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council-brokered transition agreement to resolve the recent political unrest in Yemen, countrywide demonstrations continue, including in the capital city of Sana'a.
- USAID/OFDA is closely monitoring the security situation and reviewing emergency response contingency plans with grantees and other humanitarian agencies to facilitate a rapid and flexible response to evolving conditions.
- In April, USAID/OFDA committed an additional \$1.25 million to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) to augment humanitarian coordination capacity in central and southern Yemen and to support expanded water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions.
- As part of OFDA's response to the ongoing conflict in the north, USAID/OFDA recently provided nearly \$900,000 to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to support logistics and relief commodities, economic recovery and market systems, and WASH interventions for conflict-affected populations.
- In FY 2011, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$5 million to support economic recovery and market systems, logistics and relief commodities, humanitarian coordination and info management, and WASH interventions, providing more than 400,000 services to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable individuals. In addition, nearly \$11 million in FY 2010 USAID/OFDA humanitarian funding continues to provide nearly 440,000 services in health, nutrition, shelter, and WASH, including essential support for mobile health clinics operated by Save the Children (SC/US) and emergency relief commodities for returnees to Sa'ada from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

| NUMBERS AT A GLANCE | SOURCE | |
|--|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Approximate Total Number of IDPs | 300,000 | UNHCR ¹ – March 31, 2011 |
| <i>Number of IDPs in Sa'ada Governorate</i> | 110,000 | UNHCR – March 31, 2011 |
| <i>Number of IDPs in Hajjah Governorate</i> | 106,495 | UNHCR – March 31, 2011 |
| <i>Number of IDPs in Amran Governorate</i> | 43,662 | UNHCR – March 31, 2011 |
| <i>Number of IDPs in Sana'a Governorate</i> | 17,303 | UNHCR – March 31, 2011 |
| <i>Number of IDPs in Al Jawf Governorate</i> | 17,235 | UNHCR – March 31, 2011 |

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO YEMEN

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA Assistance | \$4,947,014 |
| USAID/FFP ² Assistance | \$20,200,000 |
| USAID/OTI Assistance | \$172,000 |
| State/PRM ³ Assistance | \$7,500,000 |
| Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Yemen | \$32,819,014 |

CONTEXT

- Since 2004, conflict between Government of Yemen (RoYG) forces and al-Houthi opposition members has affected more than 1 million people and repeatedly displaced populations in northern Yemen, resulting in the need for humanitarian assistance.
- As of April 28, RoYG and al-Houthi opposition members continued to uphold the February 2010 ceasefire. However, humanitarian agencies have reported sporadic clashes and isolated incidents—including blocked roads and low-level clashes—which have contributed to insecurity, limited humanitarian access, and hindered large-scale population returns in Sa'ada and Al Jawf governorates and northern areas of Amran Governorate.

¹ Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

Humanitarian agencies continue to provide emergency assistance to conflict-affected populations in northern Yemen despite ongoing security and access constraints.

- Since February 2, an escalating series of protests has occurred throughout the country against the government of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. Clashes between opposition demonstrators and government security forces have resulted in the deaths of approximately 130 people and the injury of hundreds more, according to international media reports. Current political tensions have not resulted in increased displacement or large-scale humanitarian needs, to date.

Security and Access

- RoYG denials of travel permits, tribal checkpoints, and landmines continue to significantly limit humanitarian access throughout Yemen—particularly in the northern governorates of Amran, Sa’ada, Al Jawf, and Hajjah.
- The recent unrest has exacerbated tensions in conflict-affected areas in northern and southern Yemen. The increased insecurity has caused intermittent suspensions of humanitarian assistance, as some non-governmental organizations and U.N. agencies have relocated staff from insecure areas and temporarily suspended services. The U.N. has removed approximately 37 staff members, or 15 percent of total U.N. humanitarian staff, from regions where insecurity impeded their ability to deliver services.
- Humanitarian agencies continue to work to respond the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected IDPs. USAID/OFDA has provided \$500,000 in FY 2011 to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to support the coordination of humanitarian assistance and ensure the continued delivery of aid to conflict-affected areas.

Economic Recovery and Market Systems

- A significant number of conflict-affected IDPs in Sana’a Governorate remain vulnerable to increases in the costs of food and household goods and remain dependent on humanitarian agencies for basic needs assistance.
- To increase vulnerable IDPs’ economic security through access to livelihood opportunities, USAID/OFDA has provided ADRA with more than \$260,000 in FY 2011 funding to support vocational training and capacity-building activities.

Emergency Food Assistance

- Ongoing unrest is exacerbating chronic food insecurity, as clashes between anti-government protestors and RoYG security forces contribute to market disruptions. Prior to the unrest, approximately 7.2 million Yemenis faced food insecurity and 2.7 million faced acute food insecurity, according to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP). The recent unrest and resulting uncertainty have destabilized markets, causing April imported wheat prices to rise by 10 to 27 percent over March prices in those regions, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). As the vast majority of Yemenis remain dependent on food imports, continuing market instability and rising food prices will likely increase the number of food-insecure individuals, particularly IDPs and other vulnerable individuals, through the May–July lean season and potentially longer, according to FEWS NET.
- In FY 2011, USAID/FFP has provided 17,430 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance valued at \$18.6 million to IDPs in the northern governorates of Sa’ada, Hajjah, Amran, and Al Jawf, as well as in the capital city of Sana’a. Additionally, under the Emergency Food Security Program, USAID/FFP provided \$1.6 million for a local procurement and voucher program to address needs of unregistered conflict-affected populations in Sa’ada Governorate. USAID/FFP emergency food assistance will benefit approximately 320,000 individuals through access to adequate food supplies.

Health and Nutrition

- Food insecurity and limited health resources continue to affect the health of vulnerable populations, particularly IDPs and children. More than half of all children in Yemen remain chronically malnourished, according WFP.
- Approximately \$750,000 in USAID/OFDA FY 2010 funding continues to support SC/US health care initiatives in northern Yemen. Two USAID/OFDA-funded health clinics in Amran and Sa’ada governorates provide health care and nutrition services to conflict-affected children and pregnant and lactating women in an effort to reduce morbidity and mortality rates.

Logistics and Relief Commodities

- In April, USAID/OFDA provided ADRA with more than \$340,000 to distribute emergency relief commodities to IDPs in Sana’a Governorate and health clinics in Al Jawf Governorate, benefitting nearly 23,000 conflict-affected individuals.

- Current political tensions have not triggered significant population displacements or broad-scale humanitarian needs. However, in response to acute emergency medical needs at the sites of large-scale protests in Yemen’s urban centers, USAID/OTI has provided more than \$170,000 of medical equipment and commodities.

WASH

- Yemen remains one of the world’s most water-scarce regions. Prior to the recent unrest, approximately 38 percent of households in Yemen lacked access to safe drinking water and 48 percent lacked access to adequate sanitation facilities, according to a March OCHA report. Humanitarian agencies have expressed concern that the recent civil unrest will exacerbate tensions in conflict-affected regions in southern Yemen, further reducing humanitarian agencies’ ability to provide WASH services to vulnerable populations.
- In April, USAID/OFDA provided an additional \$995,000 to UNICEF to support WASH activities, including providing safe water supplies, hygiene kits, water containers, and latrine materials. In addition, USAID/OFDA funding will support two coordinators to assist in identifying WASH needs and advising on appropriate response interventions. USAID/OFDA has also provided nearly \$300,000 to ADRA to provide safe drinking water supplies to nearly 12,000 IDPs residing in Al Jawf Governorate.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN

| FY 2011 | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------|
| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| ADRA | Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH | Al Jawf and Sana’a Governorates | \$897,014 |
| UNICEF | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, WASH | Countrywide | \$3,550,000 |
| OCHA | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management | Countrywide | \$500,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA | | | \$4,947,014 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE² | | | |
| WFP, SC/US | 17,430 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance | Sa’ada, Hajjah, Amran, Al Jawf Governorates, and Sana’a City | \$20,200,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP | | | \$20,200,000 |
| USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE | | | |
| IOM | Logistics and Relief Commodities | Sana’a, Aden, Amran, and Abyan Governorates | \$172,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OTI | | | \$172,000 |
| STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | |
| UNHCR, Other Partners | Logistics and Relief Commodities | Northern Governorates | \$7,500,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM | | | \$7,500,000 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN TO DATE IN FY 2011 | | | \$32,819,014 |

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents committed or obligated funds as of April 28, 2011.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Yemen may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc.); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:

- USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
- The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int