Yemen Food Security Information System (FSIS) Development Programme

Programme Funded by the European Union and Implemented by FAO and the Food Security Technical Secretariat/MoPIC

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)

Republic of Yemen	4th round IPC analysis – Summary of findings Acute Food Insecurity Current Situation Overview	Valid to: 28 Feb. 2015 Created on: 16 Sep. 2014

Aggregate Numbers

Phase	%	('000s)
1	5.7%	1,462,317
2	54.2%	13,939,013
3	21.9%	5,808,999
4	18.3%	4,800,834
5	0%	

Key Outcomes in Worst affected Areas

Areas affected: Five Governorates - Sa'ada, Hajjah, Shabwa, Abyan and Lahaj are in phase 4 (Emergency), while 12 Governorates - Hodeidah, Rayma, Al Daleh, Al Beyda, Ibb, Taiz, AlMahweet, Sana'a (rural), Mareb, Dhamr, Amran and Aljawf are in phase 3 (Crisis).

Food consumption: In the five Governorates in Emergency the FCS of the worst affected population ranges from 20.6% in Abyan, 31.5% in Shabwa, 31.9% in Hajjah, 35.2% in Lahaj to 42.5% in Saada. Populations in Crisis in these Governorates show borderline FCS ranging from: 28.5% in Abyan, 25.6% in Shabwa, 21.7% in Hajjah, 23.1% in Lahaj to 24.8% in Sa'ada.

Livelihood Change: Livelihood conditions were found to be poor and deteriorating especially in the governorates in phase 4. The poor CSI scores, ranging between 7%-20.5% is a reflection of this poor conditions

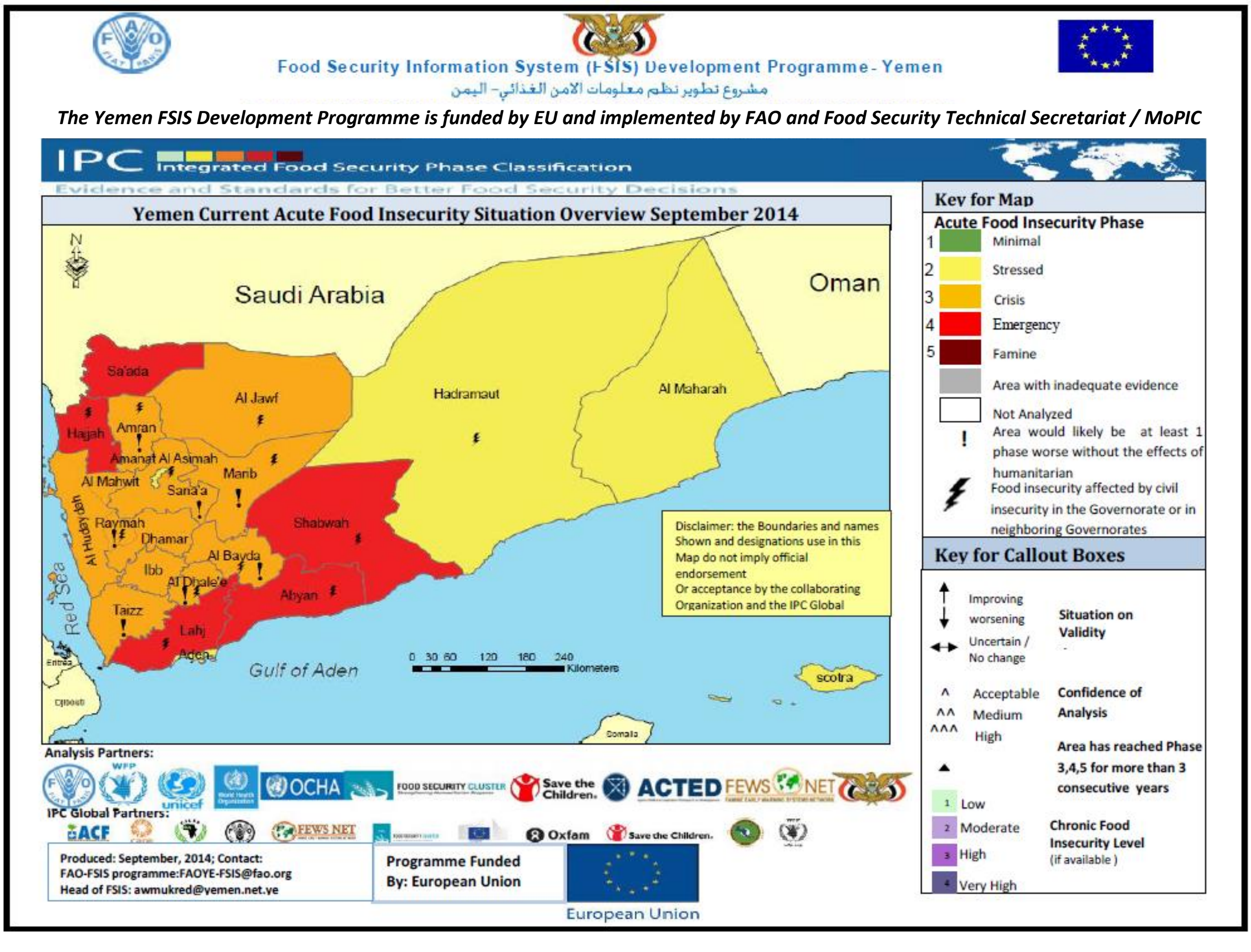
Nutrition: Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) of 9.6% in Abyan, 7.5% in Shabwa, 15.3% in Hajjah, 10.1% in Lahaj to 13.2% in Sa'ada

Summary of Causes, Context and Key Issues

Protracted civil insecurity, recurrent drought, the fuel crisis and the reduction in fuel subsidy, an increase in food commodity prices and the absence of a strategic food reserve are the major causes of emergency food insecurity conditions in Yemen. During 2014, about 4.8 million people (18.3% of the population of Yemen) are under Emergency, 5.8 million people under Crisis. 334,037 people are internally displaced and 215,381 are returnees.

During the period May-July 2014, the fuel shortage crisis and price rise contributed to an increase in food prices, further reducing food access to the poorest households who rely heavily on the market. Agriculture employs more than 54% of the work force although 85-90% of Yemenis depend on commercial food imports. Agricultural production was constrained by poor/late rainfall combined with high input prices and fuel crisis. This also reduced employment opportunities and household incomes. In addition, very poor health facilities, limited water and environmental sanitations are the common features for the majority of the households in the worst affected areas.

The wide spread civil insecurity affected the urban and rural poor livelihoods and income sources which eroded the purchasing power to fulfill household basic needs. The overall current food security situation shows a slight improvement compared to the previous years, however, there are still 10.6 million people (40% of the population) under the Emergency and Crisis phases. If the conflict, instability and other food insecurity drivers do not improve, livelihoods and food security of majority of the population under phase 2 (54.2%) and 3 (22%) will deteriorate to the next worse phases.



Part 2: Summary of Findings, Methods, and Next Steps

Key Findings and Issues

Conflict and Civil insecurity: Yemen is confronted with national level food insecurity where about 40% of the population is under IPC Emergency and Crisis phases because of compromised livelihood opportunities, reduced production and poor market access, all of which were worsened by protracted civil insecurity and political instability. During the period covered by the analysis, Yemen has been engulfed in different levels of conflict between different armed groups in a number of Governorates particularly in the north, northeast, the capital, central, south and southeast, which resulted in the displacement of many people and costs lives of many people. Compared to the previous year, the civil security has extremely deteriorated in the country and the situation remains tense and unpredictable. Likewise, the insecurity affected purchasing power of poor households limiting access to food. The humanitarian conditions and human suffering are expected to continue to worsen in various parts of the country, especially in areas affected by multiple crises, sporadic conflicts, which destabilized the market system and increased prices of staple food commodities.

Rainfall and drought: In normal years, there is more precipitation in the western highlands, Southwest highlands and the upper plateaus while the eastern regions receive the lowest rainfall. The central highlands have bimodal rainfall during March-May and July –August periods with annual average of 173mm while the southern uplands has one rainfall season during March-October period with an annual average of 561mm. There is no distinct rainfall season in the coastal and eastern plateau regions with the annual average of 50–200 mm and less than 100 mm respectively. During 2014, poor and late rainfall of the main season negatively affected the rain fed agricultural production and availability of pasture, fodder and water for the livestock producers. Rainfall received later in the season in Taiz, Raymah, Ibb, Abyan, Lahj and Al Mahweet during last week of September and beginning of October, improved productivity of sorghum crop, which was affected due to the shortage and delay of the rainfall during the germination and vegetative stage.

Fuel crisis and the subsidy: During the period from May - July 2014, the fuel scarcity, fuel crisis and the high fuel price in the parallel market affected the price of food commodities and transportation costs of various inputs and services. The prices of basic food commodities and agricultural inputs/services rose following the fuel scarcity and subsequent removal of fuel subsidy in July 2014. The effect of the fuel price increase together with other socio economic, political and civil security factors is making the poor rural households unable to feed their families. The second round decree on the fuel subsidy in September from YER 4,000 to 3,000 per 20lit for petrol and from YER 3,900 to 2,900 for diesel stabilized the fuel supply in the market. Average retail price of wheat and wheat flour declined slightly (2.5% and 4%) in September following the reduction in fuel prices, but locally produced food commodity prices remain relatively higher than previous levels.

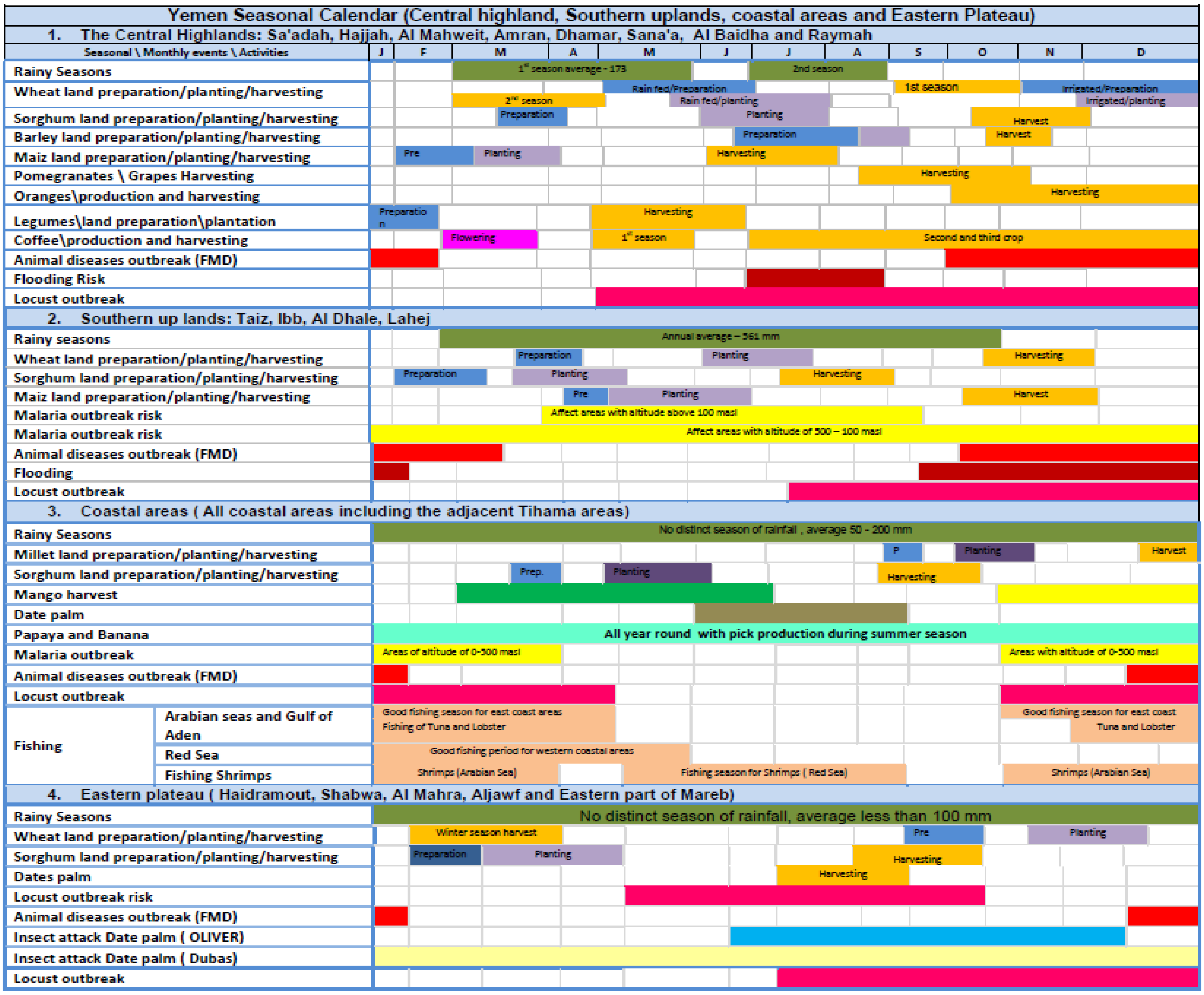
IDPs, returnees and migration: The situation of IDPs in camps in the north (Sa'ada, Hajjah, Amran, Aljawf), in the south (Aden and Abyan) and in Sana'a still requires ongoing humanitarian operation in providing the basic food and non-food assistance. According to UN-OCHA, there are 334,037 internally displaced people in Yemen: 103,014 are in Sa'ada, 68,071 in Hajjah, 47,447 in Amran, 24,700 in Al Jawf and 38,640 in Sana'a. On the other hand, around 215,381 returnees are back to their villages of origin of which: 138,635 are in Abyan, 8,155 in Dhamar and Rada (Al Baida) and 68,591 in Sa'ada. In addition, there are 24,529 people displaced during 2014 while the returnees during the same year are 8155 people. Poor access to basic services, malfunctioning economic system and weak institutions combined with another wave of violence and instability constrained the efforts of recently returned HHs in the south and in the north to reinstate their livelihoods and live a decent life. In addition, 685,000 Yemeni working migrants returned from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia between January 2013 - July 2014, which resulted in the loss of remittances and affected purchasing power of their families. This has mainly reflected and affecting migrant households in Hajjah and Saadah. According to UNHCR, the total numbers of refugees in Yemen are 246,000. Despite the civil unrest and uncertain political situation, the flow of refugees and migrants increased compared to 2013 and reached 10,483 in August 2014.

Market and commodity price trends: Continued instability and contributed to an increase in the cost of food imports and local commodity prices. Despite the decrease in the international prices of wheat and wheat flour during June and July 2014, the domestic prices of staple food commodities showed an increase during this period as a result of fuel subsidy removal and the insecurity affecting the normal market functions. The International wheat prices declined by 8.5% between June and July 2014 and lower by 8% compared to the prices recorded in July last year. According to WFP Monthly price Watch, CSO and Ministry of trade and Industry reports, the wholesale and retail food prices have continued to rise, because of rising fuel prices. The purchasing power of the low-income unskilled workers is stressed due to constrained livelihoods and income opportunities in the conflict affected areas. Moreover, the terms of trade (TOT) for wage and animals against wheat, in July 2014, has declined, which further compromised the purchasing power of the wageworkers and animal owners access to staple food commodities. According to FAO GIEWS report, the global food prices remained stable, which contributed to the relative stability of the staple food items prices at the local markets in Yemen.

Food consumption and nutrition: The overall food insecurity situation is still high due to extreme poverty leading to inadequate physical and financial access, stressed livelihoods and high level of indebtedness; the situation is worsened by the political instability and internal conflicts. However, there are some improvements on the overall food security in the different Governorates. Deterioration of the food security from Phase 3 to Phase 4 was observed in Shabwa Governorate while 5.8 million people in 12 Governorates are under Crisis phase. The food security situation in Al-Mahweet, Dhamar and Shabwa Governorates deteriorated due to high fuel price and tense civil insecurity situation in and the surrounding Governorates resulting in poor food consumption and high level of debt depleting livelihoods of the poor households. The food security situation of Abyan, Lahej and Hajjah Governorates remained unchanged, but with declining food consumption indicators except for Abyan, which showed some improvement due to the humanitarian and development programme interventions from the Government. Nevertheless, the Governorate is still facing food insecurity challenges due to the presence of returnees who require an integrated assistance and continued engagement to help recover their livelihood.

According to the 2014 WFP-CFSS and recent UNICEF-SMART survey, the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) in most governorates improved compared to 2011 and 2013. The current situation of malnutrition is not only due to inadequate food consumption but also to non-food causes such as abysmal water and sanitation conditions, poor food utilization and scarce health facilities/services. Significant improvement in GAM was seen in Hodeidah, Aden, Lahej, Marib, Al Daleh, Hadramout and Al-Beidah, while it deteriorated in Taiz, Dhamar, Ibb and Al Mahara due to various food and non food factors including poor water and sanitation conditions, poor food consumption habits and scarce health facilities. Although some governorates show slight improvement in their acute food insecurity situation compared to 2011 (crisis year) the overall food consumption and nutrition indicators are above the threshold figures. The acute food insecurity is further aggravated due to high levels of poverty and chronic food insecurity.

Food Security Seasonal Calendar and Monitoring Implications



Description of Zones

- **The Central Highlands Zone:** The geographical areas that fall under this zone are: highlands of Sa'dah , highlands of Hajjah , Amran, Sana'a, Dhamar, Hihglands of Al Mahweet, Rayemah and highlands of Mareb .
- **Southern uplands Zone:** The geographical areas that fall under this zone are Ibb, highlands of Taiz, Al Dhale', Al Bayeda, highlands of Abyan and highlands of Lahj.
- **Coastal Zone:** The geographical areas that fall under this zone starts from Madi in Hajjah to Hawf in Almahrah. It is known as Western costal area along the Red sea including Tihamah plateau (lowland and coastal areas of Hajjah, Al Hodeidahh, lowland of Al Mahweet, lowland and costal area of Taiz). South east coastal areas along the Gulf of Aden and Arabian sea (lowland and coastal areas of Lahj, Aden, lowland and coastal areas of Abyan, lowland and coast of Shabwa, costal part of Hadramout and costal part of Al Mahrah).
- **Desert Zone** includes the eastern plateau and internal desert areas (Al Jawf, part of Mareb, part of Hadramout , part of Shabwa and part of Al Mahrah)
- Islands: The Islands including Soqotra in the eastern part of Yemen along the Arabian sea and Camaran and other islands in the Red sea.

Indicators to be monitored

Indicator	Period
Civil unrest and internal Conflict (Security)	Weekly
Expenditures trend (Purchasing Power)	Quarterly
Fuel price	Monthly
Main commodities price (cereals and pulses)	Monthly
Rainfall and seasonal performance	Monthly/ Quarterly
Casual labor opportunities and rates	Quarterly
Terms of trade (wage and animal vis-à-vis food)	Quarterly
Human , plant and livestock diseases	Monthly
Water availability	Quarterly
Wind hazard and fishing	Quarterly
Desert Locust	Monthly

Methods, Process & Key Issues

The IPC analysis took place during 16-18 September 2014. The analysis used secondary information from various sources. The information was then organized according to IPC outcomes (food consumption, livelihood change, nutritional status and mortality) and contributing factors as per the IPC analytical framework. Major secondary sources included WFP Yemen Comprehensive Food Security Survey (CFSS) September 2014, UNICEF SMART survey 2013-2014, UNOCHA secondary data analysis, Central Statistical Office, FEWS NET livelihood zone classification and periodic reports, WFP market information, Ministry of Health DHS 2013-2014. Based on data availability, the IPC National Technical Working Group (NTWG) decided to use the governorate level as unit of analysis.

The IPC National Technical Working Group analyzed 22 governorates, including the governorates of Sa'ada, Al Jawf and Soqutra. The analysts included experts from agriculture, livestock, nutrition, food security, statisticians, engineers, economists and other persons familiar with the governorates. Seven groups were formed to work on governorate level meta-analysis. Each group had a combination of experts from the different sector together with other experts familiar with the socio economic and other contributing factors of the governorates. There were food security experts and a nutritionist, statisticians, market experts who shared their expertise with the rest of the groups. The small groups conducted the analyses and presented to the plenary discussion using the IPC analysis worksheets and framework. Finally, the phase classification map was produced through an intensive discussion and technical consensus among the members of the National Technical Working Group (NTWG).

Recommendations for Next Steps for Analysis and Decision Making

- Organize stakeholders consultation workshop to standardize and harmonize the methodology and approaches of data collection and analysis for Food and Nutrition security related information in Yemen. This will be coordinated under the EU-funded FSIS programme and under the leadership of Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS) of the Higher Council for Food Security.
- Work with partners to provide technical support and build the capacity of governorate and district-level government departments to collect, analyse, and report on food security and nutrition information, and for the FSTS to lead in the coordination.
- Sensitize partners and stakeholders to plan district level data collection and information sharing in order to overcome the data gap and strengthen food security analysis at all levels.
- Engage CAMA, AREA/MoAI , MWE and other actors to enhance the production of time series and consistent meteorological (agro-climatic) data and information at governorate level and facilitate sharing with end-users.

Part 3: Population Tables

Current populations in each phase

Governorate	Total number of people	Phase 1		Phase 2 (FCS acceptable)		Phase 3 (FCS boarder)		Phase 4 (FCS poor)		Phase 5		Phase 3 or Higher	
		%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No			%	No
Ibb	2,659,000	4.67%	124,175	52.43%	1,394,119	23.30%	619,547	19.60%	521,164			42.90%	1,140,711
Abyan	534,000	5.64%	30,117	45.86%	244,893	28.50%	152,190	20.00%	106,800			48.50%	258,990
Sana'a City	2,824,000	7.56%	213,494	68.74%	1,941,218	12.70%	358,648	11.00%	310,640			23.70%	669,288
Al Bayda	714,000	2.27%	16,226	41.43%	295,792	36.30%	259,182	20.00%	142,800			56.30%	401,982
Taiz	2,984,000	0.85%	25,257	55.85%	1,666,671	23.30%	695,272	20.00%	596,800			43.30%	1,292,072
Aljawf	552,000	2.43%	13,396	61.77%	340,988	25.40%	140,208	10.40%	57,408			35.80%	197,616
Hajjah	1,959,000	4.78%	93,640	41.62%	815,341	21.70%	425,103	31.90%	624,921			53.60%	1,050,024
Hodeidah	2,917,000	8.55%	249,526	53.55%	1,561,931	27.90%	813,843	10.00%	291,700			37.90%	1,105,543
Hadramout	1,368,000	11.31%	154,783	75.79%	1,036,745	8.30%	113,544	4.60%	62,928			12.90%	176,472
Dhamar	1,761,000	7.51%	132,221	42.69%	751,801	29.80%	524,778	20.00%	352,200			49.80%	876,978
Shabwa	591,000	2.22%	13,142	40.68%	240,397	25.60%	151,296	31.50%	186,165			57.10%	337,461
Sa'ada	976,000	3.00%	29,279	29.70%	289,873	24.80%	242,048	42.50%	414,800			67.30%	656,848
Sana'a	1,095,000	8.51%	93,168	50.19%	549,597	21.30%	233,235	20.00%	219,000			41.30%	452,235
Aden	835,000	13.19%	110,120	65.01%	542,839	13.70%	114,395	8.10%	67,635			21.80%	182,030
Lahj	917,000	2.38%	21,805	39.32%	360,584	23.10%	211,827	35.20%	322,784			58.30%	534,611
Mareb	306,000	4.03%	12,336	60.77%	185,952	15.20%	46,512	20.00%	61,200			35.20%	107,712
Al Mahweet	643,000	3.30%	21,208	62.90%	404,458	22.10%	142,103	11.70%	75,231			33.80%	217,334
Al Mahra	133,000	11.13%	14,809	80.77%	107,418	7.10%	9,443	1.00%	1,330			8.10%	10,773
Amran	1,013,000	4.61%	46,699	60.09%	608,671	21.30%	215,769	14.00%	141,820			35.30%	357,589
Ad Daleh	654,000	5.11%	33,391	40.29%	263,525	34.60%	226,284	20.00%	130,800			54.60%	357,084
Rayma	521,000	1.62%	8,431	57.98%	302,085	20.40%	106,284	20.00%	104,200			40.40%	210,484
Soqotra	52,000	9.79%	5,093	65.61%	34,115	14.40%	7,488	10.20%	5,304			24.60%	12,792
Total	26,008,000		1,462,317		13,939,013		5,808,999		4,797,630	-	-		10,606,629

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For further information please contact:

FAO-FSIS Programme: FAOYE-FSIS@fao.org or **Food Security Technical Secretariat**: awmukred@yemen.net.ye

IPC Global Support Unit: www.ipcinfo.org

*The EC in the global partnership is represented by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission