



DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Yemen

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Food affordability in conflict-torn Yemen in light of the Ukraine war

Thematic SDG Areas: SDG localization; Food systems transformation;

PUNOS: IOM, FAO

Stakeholder partner: Civil Society Organizations; Humanitarian actors; Private sector; IFIs/DFIs; Yemeni people;

Gender Marker: Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm)

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Annual Progress

Overall JP self-assessment of 2022 progress:

Satisfactory (majority of annual expected results achieved; 1 to 3 months delay in implementation)

Overall Progress

All planned outputs and activities for this period were completed on time. First, Output 1: Desk Review was thoroughly researched, written, and submitted for feedback by the end of December 2022. The Desk Review was subject to a few rounds of inputs and edits by the Research Team and ACAPS. This 24-page desk review examines existing work on the socioeconomic and political factors surrounding food insecurity in Yemen, including food system inefficiencies. It aggregates, documents and assesses available knowledge and identifies existing gaps (i.e. research questions) that the primary research will to address. Data sources (in English and Arabic) include primary datasets, policy-oriented reports and analysis reports produced by humanitarian and development INGOs and NGOs, UN agencies, other international organisations, the Yemeni government, think tanks, and media reports. The thematic areas covered by this range of sources focus on the main drivers of food insecurity in Yemen, including conflict, global and domestic economic shocks, imports, local food production and availability, political and war economy and initial mapping of supply chains into and within Yemen. The data collation phase for Output 1 ensured that all available relevant information is organised and archived by the subject of the information. During data collation reliability of information was evaluated, sources triangulated and inconsistencies identified.

Output 2: Quantitative household surveys, was initiated at the end of 2022, with the first draft of the survey script completed on 22 December. Building on the research questions and gaps identified in the initial desk review (Output 1), the research lead and the ACAPS team developed a household survey questionnaire (N500) and devised an appropriate sampling frame for the target study areas.

The household surveys will explore how food insecurity affects different people disproportionately in Yemen and in what ways it can be improved to enable increased and more equitable access to food for commonly marginalized groups including women and girls,

IDPs, refugees, asylum seekers, persons with disabilities, the elderly and historically marginalized groups (e.g. the Muhamasheen) and other groups as identified during the assessment. Themes to be assessed in the survey include: concerns about access to food supplies, price and non-price barriers to access, patterns of household consumption, exposure to and experiences of armed conflict in the area, access to aid and assistance including food assistance, and perceptions of governmental and non-governmental actors with influence in determining food security-related outcomes.

The survey will be conducted with a random sample of households. Primary respondents within households will be selected purposively. The interview will be conducted with an adult responsible for decisions about purchasing food; this may be the head of household, primary breadwinner, or primary caregiver for children. Stratification over demographic categories will help ensure that particularly vulnerable/marginalized groups are adequately represented in the sample. Target governorates will include one governorate controlled by the De-Facto Authority (DFA) and one governorate under the control of the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG).

Output 3: In-depth analysis. During the reporting period, ACAPS has continued to develop the Cost Driver Monitoring Tool (CDMT) and refine its methodology, which will be used to inform and complement Output 3 of the project. The CDMT aims to quantify, monitor, and analyse a variety of cost drivers along the supply chain of imported goods into Yemen. The model currently includes external and internal cost drivers for fuel and wheat grains. Consumer prices are broken down to governorate level. With the in-depth analysis ACAPS will try to identify additional drivers that might affect fuel and wheat prices in the governorates selected for the household survey.

SDG Acceleration progress towards the SDGs, focusing on the main SDG targets

Upon completion, the research would have directly contributed to address and accelerate the achievement of the below SDG targets:

2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

17.E Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development.

Constraints that were encountered and any adjustments that were made to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the JP and the coherence and coordination of UN system support.

There were a number of constraints, minor adjustments, and lessons learned in the first two outputs (1 and 2) to ensure that research activities remained relevant to the overall program objectives. In Output 1: Desk Review, we learned that insufficient data and research exists on the experiences of women and Yemen's marginalized communities, especially with regard to food security and access to basic goods. These research gaps are considerable but will be addressed in Output 2: Quantitative Household Surveys, and the KIIs. Questions that aim to fill this gap have already been incorporated into the survey script.

In the process of designing the survey mechanism, the ARK and ACAPS teams wanted to ensure that IDPs, Muhamasheen, and other marginalized groups were included as respondents. However, it is difficult to conduct a truly random survey that also targets specific respondents. To resolve this issue, our teams will consult with the prospective data collection partner to ensure that the geographic areas targeted will encompass diverse populations, thereby maximizing the likelihood that these communities will be naturally included in a randomized household survey.

Next steps, scaling and sustainability [up to half a page]

The JP is continuing through the first quarter of 2023. The project's UN partners IOM, FAO and UNDP continue to cooperate and coordinate activities under the leadership of the RCO and work of non-UN project partners ACAPS and ARK to finalise the household surveys, the KII and the in-depth analysis which will be finalised in March 2023. The project will then convene a validation workshop to include all relevant stakeholders to share the results of the research and incorporate inputs in the final report and find ways in which this can be incorporated in future policy design. Before sharing with the Joint SDG Fund.

It is planned that the resulting knowledge products will be accompanied with specific policy recommendations that will help the international community and key national actors to alleviate the food crisis in Yemen.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

Throughout the analysis, the different stakeholders were engaged to be able to incorporate their points of view. Most importantly, attempts were made to listen to the voices of Yemeni people and incorporate their perspectives.

Key meetings and events organized

JP steering committee/ programme board meeting	Strategic partners/ donors	Kick-off meeting event
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Priority Cross-cutting Issues

Cross-cutting results/issues

Throughout the research activities mentioned above, the ACAPS and Research Team have given thoughtful consideration to gender sensitivities, women's empowerment, youth perspectives, and the unique experiences of marginalized communities including Yemen's Muhamasheen, IDPs and others. Output 1: Desk Review incorporated statistics and findings on the impact of food insecurity on women, men, girls, and boys, while also examining the extant reports on the experiences of IDPs and marginalized communities. Likewise, Output 2:

Quantitative Household Surveys is designed to ensure that roughly half of all respondents are women—including women heads of household—who will answer survey questions about their ability to access food supplies for their family, and how their physical and economic security has changed throughout the conflict. The household survey will be deployed in geographic areas that include IDP and Muhamasheen populations, increasing the likelihood that these populations will be surveyed during random household selection.

The approach to primary research will ensure that Do-No-Harm principles and conflict-sensitivity are integrated across all research activities. Contextual, geographic and thematic expertise will be guaranteed by the Research Lead, the Yemen Research Specialist supporting the research lead, the ACAPS team, as well as by the Yemeni data collection team and network of enumerators. and team of Yemeni experts. The data collectors in Yemen will be Yemeni nationals, both female and male, with extensive field work experience with ARK Group and other reputable firms. Deploying gender-balanced teams greatly reduces the likelihood of male heads of households being over-represented due to female non-response. Data disaggregation and analysis will also contribute to mainstreaming gender and inclusion throughout the project. ACAPS gender expert will support the project team.

The research will ensure that hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations are included, or where data on the population are limited, that diversity of voices and perspectives are represented in research. Age, gender, ethnicity, disability status, amongst other demographic dimensions, are considered in the design of all research. In addition to adhering to broadly accepted standards in the ethical conduct of research, including obtaining informed consent, a number of additional safeguards will be applied to with vulnerable populations and children or youth.

How did the JP apply the Gender Marker

The JP is Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm). Evidence, data collection and analysis (e.g. gender assessments of programmes; policy briefs, costing for scale-up of social services); Policy dialogues, advocacy (e.g. direct inputs to national policies, strategies, laws, including women's and girls' rights groups in coordination mechanisms);

JP address the below cross-cutting issues and principles of leaving no one behind

Human Rights	Persons with disabilities	Youth	Environmental and social standards
No	No	No	No

Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing

Drafted a bill, strategy, and/or approved a law increasing the fiscal space for the policy in focus	Produced financing, costing, diagnostic and feasibility analyses as a basis to invest or increase spending on the SDGs	Improved efficiency (cost savings) in the management of programmes/schemes	Improved effectiveness (value for money; i.e. social impact of \$1 spent) of spending	Drafted policies/regulatory frameworks or developed tools to incentivize private sector investment on the SDGs	Structured new financial instruments (public, private or blended) to leverage additional funding
No	No	No	No	No	No

How and in which area your JP contributed to enhancing SDG financing