

YEMEN
RAPID RESPONSE
CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE
2020

20-RR-YEM-46393

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Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:

Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

07/09/21

On 7 September 2021, representatives from WFP, NRC (one of eight implementing partners of the CERF-funded project) and OCHA attended a debrief by an independent consultant, Ms. Louisa Seferis, of the review findings from a Performance and Accountability Review commissioned by the CERF secretariat in 2021 of the global \$80 million cash allocation to help stave off famine in six high risk countries, including in Yemen. This exercise served as the After Action Review and discussed key issues pertaining to the allocation process among the key stakeholders involved. As for the development of the final narrative report, WFP, as the sole recipient agency under this CERF RR grant, was asked to provide project related inputs in section II and to review section I of the report as shared by OCHA.

Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).

Yes No

Please confirm that the final version of this report was shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

Yes No

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator:

The CERF RR allocation of \$30 million supported WFP's efforts to ensure an effective and efficient response to the food insecurity in Yemen manifested in projections of up to 47,000 individuals falling into IPC Phase 5 (catastrophe) by the time of the allocation in December 2020. More specifically, CERF RR funds supported WFP's voucher programmes, benefiting 1,771,734 people across 11 governorates across the country. The allocation to WFP alone helped maximize the impact of the funds and reduce transaction costs. The allocation focused on the most food insecure locations and high priority vulnerable groups most impacted by the rising food insecurity in Yemen, including IDPs, socially and economically marginalized communities (Mohamasheen) as well as households headed by child, females/widows and/or persons with disabilities and chronically ill persons. WFP's voucher programme was implemented with eight cooperating partners (six international and two national NGOs) as part of the agency's support for partnerships with local and international organizations.

CERF's Added Value:

GUIDANCE (delete when completed): This paragraph of **max. 200 words** should highlight selected examples from different sectors of the strategic value added by the CERF funding to show how the combined outcomes of the CERF allocation as a whole strengthened the humanitarian response. Wherever possible, **highlight the impact of activities enabled through this specific allocation.**

Selected examples should correspond to the answers indicated below. The questions are central to the core objectives of the CERF and constitutes an important part of performance reporting to donors and to foster continued improvements and lessons learned. **This section is to be prepared by the CERF focal point in consultation with in-country CERF stakeholders based on discussion at the AAR and to be reviewed and signed off by the RC/HC and HCT.**

Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

Yes

Partially

No

CERF RR funds helped enable a fast delivery of assistance to beneficiaries. WFP used restricted funding from other donors first and subsequently the CERF RR funding because CERF allowed for flexibility to start the implementation of its funds in March instead of in February as initially planned.

Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

Yes

Partially

No

WFP started to resume full-scale assistance in districts where 'catastrophe' food insecurity levels (IPC Phase 5) have been recorded, to avert the risk of famine, in March 2021 – once sufficient contribution levels had been reached to fully fund this escalation of support. Resumption of full-scale assistance in other vulnerable districts was rolled out in the second quarter of the year thanks to an improved funding outlook, including the CERF rapid response (RR) allocation of \$30 million.

Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

Yes

Partially

No

CERF RR funds did not lead to direct improvement of coordination among humanitarian partners in Yemen as funds were allocated to only one UN agency. WFP did, however, coordinate the CERF-funded interventions with FSAC partners and were implemented by eight cooperating partners, namely six international and two national NGOs.

Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

Yes

Partially

No

CERF allowed for flexibility to use its funding later, so that restricted funding from other sources could be used first. This was a positive contribution by CERF to WFP's overall resource mobilization efforts for the response.

Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas¹:

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CERF rapid response funds helped address the following underfunded humanitarian priority areas through WFP's cash and voucher interventions in response to food insecurity in Yemen:

(1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment: WFP's project helped respond to the challenges women and girls face due to ongoing insecurity, including through the formation of community-based food assistance committees with at least 50 percent of women members; and organizing distributions with either specific days for women to collect their entitlements or separate queues for women and men to avoid gender-based violence. WFP and Partner staff receive regular awareness sessions and trainings on PSEA highlighting their responsibility to adhere by WFP corporate PSEA policy including reporting misconduct through proper reporting channels. WFP's partners are encouraged to deploy female staff to undertake verification of beneficiaries and issuance of vouchers. Furthermore, WFP seeks to empower women by making them recipients of food assistance - although male family members assist in picking up food from distribution points. With thanks to CERF funding, around 870,000 women and girls were recipients of voucher assistance under this project.

(2) programmes targeting persons with disabilities: Disability inclusion is one of WFP's global priorities. In efforts to ensure that no one is left behind, persons with disabilities are included in beneficiary targeting exercises and enrolled in programmes covering their needs. With CERF funds, WFP reached 3,528 people with disabilities with commodity voucher assistance.

(3) other aspects of protection: WFP's food assistance through vouchers is designed and implemented in ways that respect people's safety, dignity, needs and rights. WFP developed the Yemen Protection and Accountability Strategy in 2021 which will help in integrating Protection across all WFP activities and expand the impact of food assistance. WFP recognizes its crucial role in identifying Protection risks associated with hunger and makes the necessary arrangements to mitigate and respond to them. Food assistance is a preventive and mitigative measure for the affected populations' exposure to further risks and resorting to negative coping mechanisms. It ensures people's safety and preserves their dignity. WFP has taken steps to protect beneficiary data through the introduction of the biometric registration (SCOPE) and assistance mechanism, and a strict data sharing policy in agreements with Cooperating Partners and other third parties. WFP has expanded its Complaints Feedback Mechanism (CFM) scope by recruiting additional hotline operators, referring cases to relevant units and providing timely feedback to affected populations.

Total amount required for the humanitarian response	2,500,000,000
CERF	30,000,000
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable)	0 ²

¹ In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

² \$848,021 was allocated from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund to logistics and common services, not food. Hence no funding is reflected here.

Other (bilateral/multilateral)	1,138,529,819
Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)	1,168,529,819

Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US\$)

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
WFP	20-RR-WFP-052	Food Security - Food Assistance	30,000,000
Total			30,000,000

Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US\$)

Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	28,973,079
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	0
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	868,215
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	158,706
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	1,026,921
Total	30,000,000

* Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

Over the course of 2020, the underlying drivers of food insecurity in Yemen were worsening and the gains in food security made in 2019 following the rapid scale up of humanitarian assistance by all partners were being reversed. At the start of 2021, all indicators pointed to a return of 2018 crisis levels: increased food prices, deterioration in incomes and livelihoods, a decline in foreign reserves, rising conflict and a reduction in humanitarian assistance compounded by COVID-19. Millions of Yemenis, vulnerable from over half a decade of conflict, are more in need than ever. According to the latest food security assessments, over 16 million people (more than half of the population) are set to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above), despite continued food assistance. For the first time in two years, pockets of famine conditions have returned, with 47,000 people set to be in IPC Phase 5. The number of districts in IPC Phase 4 have tripled since the last assessment, from 49 to 154.

Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

In response to the crisis, CERF allocated \$30 million from its Rapid Response window for the immediate commencement of life-saving activities. This funding enabled WFP and partners to provide life-saving cash and voucher assistance to 1,771,734 people, including 470,792 women, 485,710 men, and over 800,000 children in 11 governorates. Beneficiaries received vouchers to be redeemed for food entitlements at the closest participating retail outlet. The CERF allocation was used to support 1,771,734 of the most vulnerable populations in Yemen with life-saving food assistance through vouchers. Beneficiaries received a commodity voucher, the composition of which is equivalent to in-kind food assistance in terms of nutritional value. Currently, the food basket provides 80 percent of the required 2,100 kcal/person/day in line with Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) recommendation. The allocation was part of an \$80 million CERF allocation to support cash programming in response to increasing food insecurity in 6 countries.

People Directly Reached:

For beneficiaries already registered in WFP's beneficiary management system (called 'SCOPE'), detailed information of members of each household are available – including specific demographic information. For people who are not yet registered in SCOPE, WFP has established a mechanism to apportion percentages of different age and gender categories based on information from the general statistics bureau and available data. WFP applies these percentages to define the different demographics assisted through its activities. WFP's Monitoring and Evaluation unit has data beneficiaries of each activity (such as voucher assistance) on file, with best estimates of beneficiaries overlap among different activities. Such information is used to avoid double counting of beneficiaries. There is a marked deviation between the number of people planned for assistance, i.e., 2,285,000, with CERF funding and the actual number who received this assistance, i.e., 1,771,734. As described in section II Project Overview section 3 in this document, this was due to a sharp unforeseen rise in food prices between the time of the application's submission and the start of project activities.

People Indirectly Reached:

WFP's voucher assistance is implemented through the business-to-business model to contract food suppliers further up the value chain (importers and wholesalers) who collaborate with a network of retailers and guarantee steady food supply. This approach ensures economy of scale by purchasing large quantities directly from importers and prevents a negative impact on food availability in local markets as food suppliers are informed in advance about the additional demand the vouchers will generate. It also creates temporary jobs at retailers' and suppliers' level and contributes to local economies.

Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster*

Sector/Cluster	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Food Security - Food Assistance	607,179	626,419	512,691	538,711	2,285,000	468,269	481,026	402,006	420,432	1,771,734

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category*

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	0	0
Returnees	0	0
Internally displaced people	752,330	708,694
Host communities	1,532,670	1,063,040
Other affected people	0	0
Total	2,285,000	1,771,734

Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sex & Age	Planned	Reached	Number of people with disabilities (PwD) out of the total	
			Planned	Reached
Women	607,179	468,269	1,420	1,096
Men	626,419	481,026	3,150	2,432
Girls	512,691	402,007	0	0
Boys	538,711	420,432	0	0
Total	2,285,000	1,771,734	4,570	3,528

3. LESSONS LEARNED

OBSERVATIONS FOR THE CERF SECRETARIAT

Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/improvement
CERF allocations should be discussed, prioritized and developed by in-country partners/in the (H)CT to more accurately reflect operational priorities on the ground.	CERF allocations should be discussed, prioritized and developed by in-country partners/in the (H)CT.
Challenges were observed in terms of ensuring transparent in-country coordination when the cash modality and sector is specified by HQ – allowing less flexibility to respond to changing local needs observed at country level.	Strategic prioritization should ideally be done at country level
CERF funds were ‘earmarked’ for cash and vouchers and did not encourage tackling the issue of food insecurity in a broader way.	CERF funds should not be ‘earmarked’ to modality or cluster level/specification as it is too restrictive.
[Fill in]	[Fill in]

OBSERVATIONS FOR COUNTRY TEAMS

Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/ improvement	Responsible entity
The Cash and Market Working Group (CMWG) and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group should be more engaged in the strategic prioritisation and discussion of CERF grants.	Ensure better engagement with the CMWG.	OCHA
It has been observed that some people tend to sell their vouchers in lieu of cash. WFP's post-distribution monitoring (PDM) has identified that this is primarily being used to cover cash needs for medical, education and rental fees, or to use cash to purchase other food commodities.	Assess whether slight adjustments to voucher assistance programmes merit further consideration, such as proposals to replace a small portion of voucher assistance per beneficiary with cash (where markets are functional and viable). The Yemen Country Team to discuss moving to MPCA instead of restricted voucher assistance.	WFP/OCHA

PART II – PROJECT OVERVIEW

4. PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 Project Report 20-RR-WFP-052

1. Project Information			
Agency:	WFP	Country:	Yemen
Sector/cluster:	Food Security - Food Assistance	CERF project code:	20-RR-WFP-052
Project title:	Provision of immediate life-saving food assistance to severely food insecure women, men, girls and boys across Yemen		
Start date:	06/01/2021	End date:	05/07/2021
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 2,500,000³
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 1,168,529,819⁴
	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 30,000,000
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 1,026,921⁵
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 868,215
	National NGOs		US\$ 158,706
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Following the release of the latest IPC results in December 2020 and evidence of deteriorating food security among vulnerable households, WFP started to resume full-scale assistance in districts where 'catastrophe' food insecurity levels (IPC Phase 5) have been recorded, to avert the risk of famine. This began in February 2021, once sufficient contribution levels had been reached to fully fund this escalation of support. Previously (since April 2020) WFP had been forced to scale back support to bi-monthly assistance, owing to funding shortfalls. Resumption of full-scale assistance in other vulnerable districts was rolled out in the second quarter of the year thanks to an improved funding outlook, including the CERF rapid response (RR) allocation of \$30 million. Through this CERF RR allocation, WFP and its eight cooperating partners provided life-saving food assistance through vouchers. Beneficiaries received vouchers to be redeemed for

³ Total requirements January to December 2020.

⁴ 2021 funding received in 2021, as at 10 October 2021.

⁵ The certified financial report is yet to be issued.

food entitlements at the closest participating retail outlet. Food entitlements are equivalent to in-kind food assistance in terms of nutritional values. The project assisted 1,771,734 people in urban and semi-urban areas with established retail infrastructure in 11 governorates in Yemen, including Sana'a City, Al Hodeidah, Al Bayda, Ibb, Marib, Lahj, Taizz, Amanat Al Asimah, Al Jawf, Hajjah, Dahmar. Assistance was provided between March to June 2021.

3. Changes and Amendments

Through this CERF allocation, food assistance through vouchers was provided on a monthly basis for four months to a total unique number of 1,771,734 people between March to June 2021. A smaller number of beneficiaries than originally planned (2.258 million people) were supported due to sharp rises in food prices between the allocation of funding and the project delivery period: According to the FAO Global Food Price Index, the cost of food increased from a score of 108 at the end of December 2020 to a score of 127 by May 2021, the highest score recorded in 10 years. As a result, the exchange value of vouchers dropped, meaning that in order to provide people with sufficient 'purchasing power', more vouchers needed to be allocated per person. Therefore, fewer beneficiaries could be supported through this project.

Given the specific modality allocation of the grant towards voucher assistance, as well as the fact that other donors also provided time and activity restricted funding, WFP had to sequence utilisation of the funds. In practice, this meant that WFP was required to absorb other grants allocated to voucher assistance first before their deadlines for completion (in Q1 2021) had passed. WFP could then use the much-needed CERF funding to ensure voucher assistance between March – June 2021 was covered.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	199,408	205,999	169,375	177,548	752,330	187,308	192,410	160,803	168,173	708,694
Host communities	407,771	420,420	343,316	361,163	1,532,670	280,961	288,616	241,204	252,259	1,063,040
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	607,179	626,419	512,691	538,711	2,285,000	468,269	481,026	402,007	420,432	1,771,734
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	1,420	3,150	0	0	4,570	1,096	2,432	0	0	3,528

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

WFP's voucher assistance is implemented through the business-to-business model to contract food suppliers further up the value chain (importers and wholesalers) who collaborate with a network of retailers and guarantee steady food supply. This approach ensures economy of scale by purchasing large quantities directly from importers and prevents a negative impact on food availability in local markets as food suppliers are informed in advance about the additional demand the vouchers will generate. It also creates temporary jobs at retailers' and suppliers' level and contributes to local economies.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective Food insecure people affected by crises across Yemen have access to life-saving, safe and nutritious food all year

Output 1 Severely food insecure populations receive monthly assistance through vouchers that meet their basic food needs

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster Food Security - Food Assistance

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Number of women, men, girls and boys receiving commodity voucher transfers per month	2,285,000	1,771,734	Cooperating partner lists
Indicator 1.2	Total USD value of vouchers distributed to targeted beneficiaries as per the CERF allocation (against current operational plan)	23,953,539	23,937,498	WFP grant management system
Indicator 1.3	Number of retailers participating in the voucher activity	About. 350 retailers	365	WFP beneficiary management system (SCOPE)
Indicator 1.4	Percentage of beneficiaries reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable and participatory manner.	>= 98%	98%	rM&E data (voucher assistance)
Indicator 1.5	Percentage of women reporting shared decision making on cash transfer use.	>= 30%	69%	rM&E data (voucher assistance)
Indicator 1.6	Food Consumption (Percentage of households with acceptable food consumption score)	Male >= 82% Female >= 82% Overall >= 82%	Male = 61.3% Female = 56.4%, Overall = 61.3%	rM&E data (voucher assistance)
Indicator 1.7	Consumption Coping Strategy Index	Male <=21.94 Female <= 24.08 Overall <= 22.12	Male = 18.1 Female = 19.3 Overall =18.2	rM&E data (voucher assistance)
Indicator 1.8	Livelihood-based Coping Strategy Index (Percentage of households using crisis coping strategies)	Male <= 35.6 Female <= 35.6 Overall <= 35.	Male = 43.4% Female = 57.1% Overall = 44.6%	rM&E data (voucher assistance)

Explanation of output and indicators variance: Through this CERF allocation, food assistance through vouchers was provided to 1.77 million people between March to June 2021. A smaller number of beneficiaries than originally planned (2.285 million people) were supported over a longer period, due to sharp rises in food prices between the allocation

of funding and the project delivery period: According to the FAO Global Food Price Index, the cost of food increased from a score of 108 at the end of December 2020 to a score of 127 by May 2021, the highest score recorded in 10 years. As a result, the exchange value of vouchers dropped, meaning that in order to provide people with sufficient 'purchasing power', more vouchers needed to be allocated per person. Therefore, fewer beneficiaries could be supported through this project.

Given the restricted nature of the grant, as well as the fact that other donors also provided time and activity restricted funding, WFP had to sequence utilization of the funds to enable other grants to be absorbed before their deadlines for completion (in Q1 2021) had passed.

Food security outcome indicators show a deterioration of the food security situation in/country, which confirms projections of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis released in December 2020 on deteriorating food security among the overall Yemeni population over the first half of 2021. On the other hand, food security outcomes among WFP beneficiaries indicated improved access to food, particularly among households receiving cash transfers and commodity vouchers while much less so among in-kind beneficiaries. Despite improvements, levels of inadequate access to food and essential micronutrients remain concerning, triggering increased use of negative long-term coping strategies that jeopardize future resilience to shocks. Protracted conflict, displacement, economic deterioration, fuel shortages, and impact of COVID-19 were identified as the key drivers for the projected increased levels of food insecurity.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 1.1	Provide immediate life-saving food assistance to severely food insecure women, men, girls and boys through voucher assistance	WFP and implementing partners (RI, NRC, IRY, NFDHR, VHI, MC, CARE, Human Access)
Activity 1.2	Remote and on-site monitoring of voucher redemption process	WFP monitoring, third party-monitoring, call center

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁶ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

⁶ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) ⁷:

WFP's monitoring systems assess the effectiveness of assistance and ensure evidence-based decision-making. Output monitoring is based on quantitative information provided monthly by partners. Process monitoring is carried out through visits to distribution points, to collect observations from partners and beneficiaries. Food security outcome monitoring is based on data collected through post-distribution monitoring (PDM) interviews. This information feeds into ongoing assessments of the design and delivery of voucher programmes.

Through the beneficiary verification mechanism (BVM), which makes outgoing calls to beneficiaries, WFP has strengthened oversight of distribution processes. Its primary mandate is to verify that assistance reaches intended beneficiaries and to obtain feedback. Results from monitoring findings show only 63 percent of WFP beneficiaries overall are aware of entitlements. Efforts to increase awareness are planned, including training central and field level staff to communicate more consistently and clearly with beneficiaries. Over 85 percent of voucher beneficiaries were satisfied with WFP commodities.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

To ensure that WFP can effectively reach key stakeholders and the most vulnerable members of communities, WFP runs a Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) that offers a direct channel for engagement. The CFM aims to strengthen accountability to communities and to identify issues and concerns related to delivery of WFP assistance, thereby fostering continuous learning and better-quality programming. The CFM is a toll-free hotline that is accessible from all telecommunication networks across Yemen. It is operated by male and female WFP operators. Calls are logged into a database and each case is assigned a unique reference code that conceals the caller's personal information. Cases are escalated to different functional units and area offices responsible for actioning cases, with process flows and responsibilities defined in CFM Standard Operating Procedures. Between March - June 2021, the CFM received 1,374 calls related to voucher assistance out of almost 16,000 calls received in total.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

WFP has a zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse and the corporate policies are in place for both WFP employees and its partners. Any SEA related complaints are received by appointed and trained PSEA focal points at the Country, Area or Field office level, through the hotline or directly to the OIGI Hotline (<http://go.wfp.org/web/audit-and-investigation/wfp-hotline-form>) while ensuring that all employees and SEA Focal Points/Alternates maintain confidentiality of all reported allegations, including the identity of complainant/s and subject/s.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Ensuring equal access for women and men to distribution sites is crucial. WFP is responding to the challenges women face due to the ongoing insecurity through various ways that include formation of community-based food assistance committees with at least 50 percent of women members and organizing distributions with either specific days for women to collect their entitlements or separate queues for women and men to avoid any gender-based violence. WFP and Partner staff receive regular awareness sessions and trainings on PSEA highlighting their responsibility to adhere by WFP corporate PSEA policy including reporting any type of misconduct through the proper reporting channels. WFP's partners are encouraged to have female staff to undertake verification of beneficiaries and issuance of vouchers. Furthermore, WFP seeks to empower women by making them the recipients of food assistance although male family members assist in picking up the food from the distribution points.

⁷ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

e. Persons with disabilities (PwD):

Disability inclusion is one of WFP's Global priorities. WFP is committed that no one is left behind, specifically the vulnerable groups including persons with disabilities by including them in its beneficiary targeting exercises and enrolling them in programmes covering their needs. As a result of this approach, this project was able to support a total of 3,528 persons with disabilities.

f. Protection:

WFP's voucher assistance is designed and implemented in ways that respect people's safety, dignity, needs and rights. WFP's Yemen Protection and Accountability Strategy will help to integrate protection across all activities through three key Strategic Objectives: Protection-Sensitive Programming; Accountability to Affected Populations and Communities; and Access, Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships.

On this project, WFP continued to apply robust Protection measures, such as strengthened capacity of WFP and partner staff in Protection, AAP, Gender, and Inclusion matters and inter-agency referral mechanisms; integrating Protection across all programmes; improving internal mechanisms for safer, inclusive, and dignified programming; ensuring adherence of WFP and CP staff to beneficiary Data Protection, Protection, AAP and PSEA policies; and improving two-way communication with affected populations by enhancing the CFM. WFP protects beneficiary data through the introduction of the biometric registration (SCOPE) and assistance mechanism, and strict data sharing policy in agreements with CPs and other third parties.

g. Education:

Not prioritized for this project.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is the sole intervention in the CERF project	Yes, CVA is the sole intervention in the CERF project	1,771,734

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

The CERF allocation was used to support 1,771,734 of the most vulnerable populations in Yemen with life-saving food assistance through vouchers. Beneficiaries received a commodity voucher, the composition of which is equivalent to in-kind food assistance in terms of nutritional value. Currently, the food basket provides 80 percent of the required 2,100 kcal/person/day in line with Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) recommendation. This form of support has an enhancing side-effect on the local economy, boosting local economies and employment as it creates temporary jobs at retailers' and suppliers' level.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
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Provide immediate life-saving food assistance to severely food insecure women, men, girls and boys through voucher assistance	1,771,734	US\$ 23,937,498	Food Security - Food Assistance	Restricted
[Fill in]	[Fill in]	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
[Fill in]	[Fill in]	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
WFP Yemen on Twitter	https://twitter.com/WFPYemen/status/1435188229964185601?s=20
[Insert]	[Insert]
[Insert]	[Insert]

ANNEX: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

CERF Project Code	CERF Sector	Agency	Implementing Partner Type	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner in USD
20-RR-WFP-052	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	516,626.49
20-RR-WFP-052	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	89,283.65
20-RR-WFP-052	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	123,407.81
20-RR-WFP-052	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	158,706.00
20-RR-WFP-052	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	138,897.02