

Overview

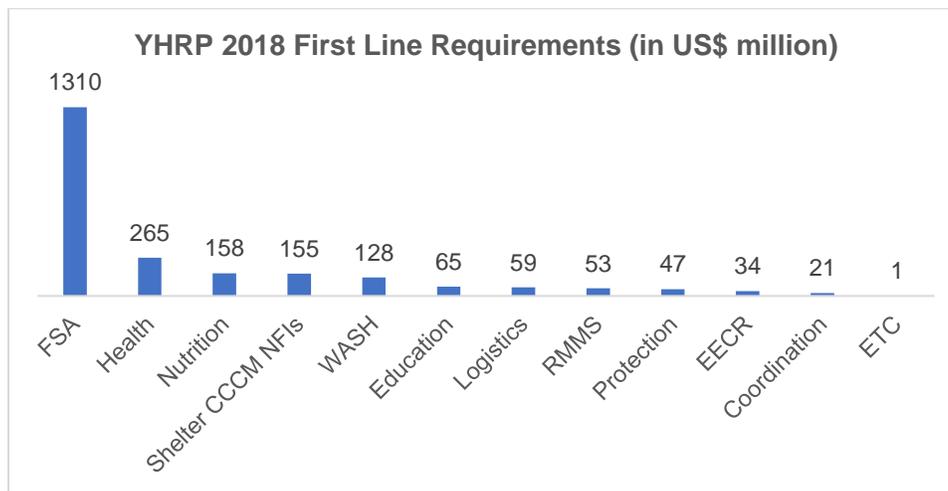
1. The objective of this Standard Allocation is to support the newly sequenced cluster strategies in the revised Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). USD 90 million is available for this round. In support of the critical role that national front-line partners play in the operation, a dedicated window for national NGOs is being established for this round. Only eligible national NGOs will be able to submit projects through this window.
2. As agreed by the AB, clusters are asked to submit dossiers focused on the following priorities:
 - a. Projects which help to cover gaps in first-line responses in cluster strategies
 - b. Projects which provide life-saving support to people in newly accessible and hard-to-reach areas
 - c. Projects submitted by front-line national NGOs that support the priorities outlines in (a) and (b) above

Allocation Strategy and Rationale

3. The humanitarian crisis in Yemen remains the largest and one of the most volatile in the world. Humanitarian needs across the country are driven by ongoing conflict and displacement, the economic crisis and collapsing public services. More people are vulnerable now than at any time during the recent conflict. Seventy-five per cent of the population, 22 million people, require some form of assistance and protection. Sixty per cent of the population, 17.8 million people, are food insecure; 107 of Yemen's 333 districts are pre-famine. Nearly 1.9 million children and 1.1 million pregnant and lactating women are acutely malnourished, including nearly 400,000 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition. At least 56 per cent do not have access to safe water and sanitation or health care and one in four children is out of school.
4. The worst cholera outbreak in modern history continues to impact Yemen. As of 22 July, 176 districts, out of 305 affected districts across Yemen are reporting suspected cholera cases. Attack rates are highest in Radman, Al Awat, Mighlaf, Mukayras, Hayl Nimh districts. The largest number of cases are in Al Hali, Radman, Al Awat, Mighlaf and Ma'ain. This year's cholera plan focuses on 26 high priority activities that include vaccinations, chlorination, repair of water and sanitation grids, pre-positioning of cholera kits and water tanks, chlorine and supplies and the establishment of treatment centers.
5. The military offensive in Houdaida is putting hundreds of thousands of civilians at extreme risk. More than 340,000 people have been displaced since fighting began in June. Using innovative modalities including the rapid response mechanism and cash transfers, partners have been able to reach nearly 80 percent of the most vulnerable with emergency assistance.

Revised Humanitarian Response Plan

6. During July, clusters sequenced their strategies in the HRP into first-line, second-line and full cluster responses. Several clusters also adjusted their objectives. In cases where the number of beneficiaries has increased, or new priorities have been added, cluster requirements were adjusted upwards. Following the mid-year revision, the total amount requested through the HRP increased by USD 134 million to USD 3.1 billion. Seventy-two per cent, 2.26 billion, is to cover first-line activities; 14 per cent, 415 million, is for second-line activities; and 13 per cent, 398 million, is to implement full cluster response package. The following chart summarizes overall cluster requirements as of August 2018.



7. In June, the YHF allocated USD 89.9 million under the First 2018 Reserve Allocation for preparedness gaps identified by the clusters, the scaling-up of nutrition services for Moderate Acute Malnutrition country-wide, and increased health preparedness and response in Al-Hodeida governorate. In July, the YHF allocated approximately USD 7.4 million under the Second Reserve Allocation for priority gaps in Al-Hodeida including: a) emergency allowances; b) civil documentation and cash assistance for people at very high risk; c) site management and coordination; d) emergency reproductive health services; and e) mine action.

Allocation Priorities and Activities

8. As recommended by the Advisory Board, the First 2018 Standard Allocation will focus on the following priorities:
 - a. Projects which help to cover gaps in first-line responses in cluster strategies
 - b. Projects which provide life-saving support to people in newly accessible and hard-to-reach areas
 - c. Projects submitted by front-line national NGOs that support the priorities outlines in (a) and (b) above
9. First Priority: Clusters submitting dossiers to the Advisory Board are asked to ensure they prioritise projects which help to cover the gaps in the first-line responses in the revised HRP.
10. Second Priority: Clusters submitting dossiers to the Advisory Board are asked to prioritise projects that address vulnerabilities in hard-to-reach areas. The following chart summarizes these areas:

People in acute need in districts with high access severity		People in acute need in districts with high access severity	
Hajjah	210,342	Health	1,300,000
Taizz	201,992	WASH	800,000
Al Hudaydah	188,894	Protection	700,000
Sa'ada	158,317	FSA	500,000
Al Jawf	86,254	Nutrition	300,000
Al Dhale'e	32,368	Education	200,000
Sana'a	10,124	Shelter	100,000

11. Third Priority: The number of national front-line partners has increased twofold the past two years to more than 100. Building on training and capacity building for national NGOs approved under previous rounds of the YHF, a dedicated window for front-line national NGOs is being established for this round

with the aim of supporting national NGOs working in priority and difficult to access locations with limited or no international presence and addressing critical gaps in first line cluster responses.

12. Clusters are asked to take the following criteria into consideration during discussions with national NGO partners wishing to apply for funding from this allocation, and to give preference to projects that: a) have clear linkages to the revised HRP 2018 strategic and cluster objectives and b) meet the YHF allocation strategic priorities; c) include a gender-mainstreaming and protection-mainstreaming component; d) demonstrate better cost-effectiveness where: i) for comparable activities and outputs, the total cost is less; ii) the cost per beneficiary ratio is reasonable; iii) support costs are reasonable and in line with accepted levels for a given type of activity; and iv) the proposed period of implementation represents the best use of resources at that time.
13. An envelope of up to USD 85 million is available for priorities 1 and 2. An additional envelope of up to USD 5 million is available for priority 3.

Prioritization of Projects and Eligibility

14. All partners who have completed their due diligence and capacity assessment as of 31 July 2018 are eligible for this Allocation. Projects that are submitted within the deadline of 28 August 2018 (20:00 Sana'a time) will be reviewed by the Clusters and OCHA's Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) using a scorecard. Clusters will defend their portfolios before the YHF AB in early September. Selected projects will then undergo a technical review.
15. Clusters are asked to take the following criteria into consideration during the preparation of their funding dossiers and to give preference to projects that:
 - are aligned with the strategic priorities of the revised HRP 2018;
 - meet the strategic priorities of this allocation;
 - include a recent needs assessment;
 - can be implemented within the period of up to 12 months maximum and include an exit strategy;
 - include gender and protection mainstreaming components;
 - demonstrate accountability to the affected population;
 - demonstrate inclusive programming;
 - clearly identify risks, outline mitigation strategies;
 - demonstrate better cost-effectiveness where: a) for comparable activities and outputs, the total cost is less; b) the cost per beneficiary ratio is reasonable; c) support costs are reasonable and in line with accepted levels for a given activity; and d) the proposed period of implementation represents the best use of resources at that time.
16. Priority 3 which is a dedicated window for national NGOs is only open to:
 - cluster members which are eligible¹ YPF partners
 - national NGOs which are recommended by a relevant cluster;
 - national NGOs which have an established presence and experience in the proposed area of intervention and demonstrated implementation capacities, or those willing to quickly provide such capacity;
 - national NGOs with the ability to demonstrate community-accepted programming in according to humanitarian principles.
17. In addition, clusters are asked to take into account the following:
 - YHF partners need to factor in possible delays in project implementation and adjust their workplans and budgets accordingly, not exceeding 12 months.
 - YHF partners ranked as high-risk should only directly implement their programmes and not use sub-implementing partners, while medium and low risk partners can.

¹ Eligible partners are those who have completed the YHF Capacity Assessment and Due Diligence processes.

- YHF partners will have to report on a regular basis to the Clusters and actively participate in the coordination mechanisms in Sana'a and at field level. Projects should have received prior endorsement by the national and sub-national Clusters. Partners should submit evidence of this by the time of submission (email).
- YHF partners should not submit more than one proposal per cluster. Each YHF partner may not submit more than 3 proposals in total.
- As per the YHF operational modalities, high-risk partners can apply for a maximum of USD 1.5 million per project (and hold a maximum of USD 3 million in active grant at the same time), medium-risk partners for a maximum of USD 2.5 million per project while low-risk partners do not have a ceiling. Please refer to the YHF Operational Manual for further details.
- The HFU will review projects according to their strategic and programmatic relevance, cost effectiveness, engagement in coordination, and monitoring mechanisms.

Indicative Timeline and Procedures

18. This YHF Standard Allocation Strategy is published on 12 August 2018. From this day, eligible humanitarian organisations have until 28 August 2018 (20:00 Sana'a time) to submit project proposals through the YHF online Grants Management System (GMS), accessible at <https://cbpf.unocha.org/>.

Key Date	Phase	Step	What	Who
Completed	Preparation	Cluster feedback on draft Allocation Strategy	Draft Allocation Strategy	CC, OCHA
6 August	Proposal Development and Review	Advisory Board approves draft SA strategy	Allocation Strategy	HC, AB
12 August		SA launched	Proposals	Partners
28 August		Deadline to submit proposals	Proposals	Partners
29 Aug – 1 Sept		OCHA, Hubs, Clusters read proposals	Proposals	OCHA, Clusters
2-4 Sept		Strategic Review with scorecard	Strategic review	OCHA, clusters
9 Sept		Cluster Defenses to the Advisory Board	Cluster Defenses	HC, AB, OCHA
10-12 Sept		Technical review	Technical review	OCHA, Clusters
12-20 Sept		Proposal revision and adjustments	Partners address feedback, OCHA final clearance	Partners, OCHA
From 23 Sept		Approval	Grant Agreement (GA) preparation, HC and Partners signatures	GA prepared/start date agreed with Partners, HC approved project, Partners signs / start of eligibility
From 1 Oct	Disbursement	Grant Agreement final clearance and first disbursement	GA cleared and signed	OCHA

Contact Information

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Complaints Mechanism

YHF stakeholders with insufficiently addressed concerns or complaints regarding YHF processes or decisions can at any point in time contact the OCHA Head of Office or write to yemenhpfcomplaints@un.org with these concerns. Complaints will be compiled, reviewed and raised with the HC, who will then take a decision on necessary action(s). The HC will share with the Advisory Board any such concerns or complaints and actions taken thereof.

Annex 1. Budget guideline