COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION

REVISION

Afghanistan country strategic plan, revision 5

Gender and age marker code: 3

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	01/07/2018 - 30/06/2022	-	01/07/2018 - 30/06/2022
Beneficiaries	20,501,676	4,946,952	25,448,628
Total cost (USD)	1,037,406,250	524,939,455	1,562,345,705
Transfer	790,969,529	452,222,373	1,243,191,902
Implementation	99,967,216	22,142,609	122,109,825
Direct support costs	84,193,160	18,520,484	102,713,644
Subtotal	975,129,905	492,885,465	1,468,015,371
Indirect support costs	62,276,345	32,053,989	94,330,334

Afghanistan country strategic plan, revision 5

1. RATIONALE

1. Afghanistan faces a complex emergency, with a combination of protracted conflict, the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and climate change. Afghanistan's 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP)¹ shows escalating suffering and hunger, based on the November 2020 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis,² which identified that 16.9 million people faced crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity and required immediate assistance, including 5.5 million in emergency-the second highest in the world. In April 2021, another IPC analysis was conducted, which confirms there are still over 14 million people facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or worse),³ including 4.2 million in emergency requiring immediate assistance between March and May 2021. Meanwhile, undernutrition is expected to become more widespread in the coming year, with almost half of children under 5 years (3.1 of 7 million) and a quarter of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) (720,000) expected to be in need of life-saving nutrition support in the next 12 months. While the April 2021 IPC analysis notes slight improvements, the drought conditions driven by La Niña, lingering socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and escalating conflict could bring devastating consequences to a population already on the brink of a hunger crisis.

¹ United Nations Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), <u>Humanitarian Response Plan Afghanistan 2018-2021</u>, Issued January 2021.

² Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), Afghanistan, <u>IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis</u>, August 2020 – March 2021, Issued in November 2020. Using Flowminder population estimates.

³ Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), Afghanistan, <u>IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis</u>, March – November 2021, Issued in April 2021. Using Flowminder population estimates.

- 2. In response, this budget revision to the country strategic plan (CSP) aims to:
 - a. Scale up WFP's early crisis response, resilience-building and nutrition programming to meet Afghanistan's deepening food and nutrition needs (Strategic Outcomes 1, 2 and 3) in 2021 and first part of 2022; and
 - b. Align WFP's response packages with the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster's (FSAC) guidelines for Strategic Outcome 1 and 2 cash-based transfers (CBT) and extend the duration of general food distribution (GFD) to support extremely vulnerable groups.
- 3. The socio-economic impacts of the pandemic continue to be felt among a highly vulnerable population that has exhausted coping mechanisms. The 2021 Pre-Lean Season Assessment shows three in four households saw their income decrease at a time when the prices of food commodities remain historically high.⁴ The majority of people face food deprivation, including skipping meals or not eating at all, and is resorting to irreversible coping mechanisms such as selling assets, borrowing money and spending savings to buy food. Meanwhile, even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, 1 in 3 households in Afghanistan were unable to afford an energy sufficient diet, and the vast majority (over 85 percent) were are unable to afford a nutritious diet.⁵ This is likely to have worsened given reduced incomes and increased food prices resulting from the pandemic, and may be aggravated by the looming drought.
- 4. Families and communities are now bracing for the impacts of La Niña. As of mid-March, less than half of the normal precipitation has fallen, resulting in a shortfall of water for agriculture use during the critical growing periods for the main crops.⁶ It is expected that these adverse climatic conditions will cause agriculture production to deteriorate, triggering climate-induced displacement and hunger in drought-prone areas.
- 5. The foundations for sustainable and peaceful development remain extremely fragile, and the situation could quickly deteriorate further. A prolonged peace negotiation process remains underway, while levels of insecurity and crime are increasing. Even if there is a peace agreement, a political settlement may be fragile.⁷ Meanwhile, international military presence and support to national security forces continues to diminish with an announced international troops withdrawal confirmed for September 2021.⁸
- 6. These factors point towards rising food and nutrition insecurity during the next winter, with both urban and rural households facing escalating needs and a longer and harder lean season. Meanwhile, drought and conflict could trigger further displacement and humanitarian needs through to 2022. Early action is needed to prevent a further deterioration of current levels of food insecurity and malnutrition, depletion of assets, and support early recovery from the impending drought and lingering impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

2. CHANGES

⁴ After spiking in April-May 2020, prices remain stable but significantly higher (± 11%) than in March 2020. Source: WFP Afghanistan, Countrywide Monthly Market Price Bulletin, Issue 10 (Covering March 2021)

⁵ WFP, Fill the Nutrient Gap Afghanistan—Preliminary Overview of Diet Costs and Non-Affordability. April 2020

⁶ Government projections forecast a wheat balance of minus 2.9 million mt, a deficit greater than the one experienced in 2018

⁷ Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (2021), <u>2021 High Risk List</u>.

⁸ NATO, *NATO Allies decide to start withdrawal of forces from Afghanistan*, 14 April 2021.

Strategic orientation

7. This revision does not represent a fundamental change in the strategic orientation of the CSP. Rather, it reflects an expansion of Strategic Outcome 1 (emergency response), 2 (resilience building) and 3 (nutrition) to prevent a deterioration of food security levels in Afghanistan whilst supporting longer-term recovery and resilience to climate shocks.

Strategic outcomes

- 8. Under Strategic Outcome 1, WFP will scale up its crisis response to address the most critical and immediate needs of food-insecure population in extreme need. In 2021 and 2022, WFP will reach 16.5 million people with unconditional humanitarian assistance in their place of origin, including 15 million people acutely affected by the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in urban centres and drought-affected population in rural areas. In the same period, WFP will also support over 1 million people displaced by natural disasters and conflict, given the exacerbating security dynamics, as well as 340,000 returnees and 72,000 refugees. This is in line with the needs established in the 2021 HRP and projections for 2022.
- 9. Unconditional humanitarian assistance will continue to be provided through in-kind in rural areas, and CBT in urban areas to highly food-insecure populations. Under the baseline scenario, WFP assistance will prioritize assistance to rural populations in highly drought-affected areas to support them in their place of origin. However, with the escalating security dynamics, if large-scale displacement occurs into urban areas, displaced populations will be assisted with CBT.
- 10. Under Strategic Outcome 2, WFP will implement anticipatory actions to mitigate the worst impacts of failing harvests and reduced income opportunities for vulnerable rural households in food-insecure and drought-affected provinces with high recurrence of natural shocks. Learning from the 2018 drought, WFP will assist acutely food-insecure communities in areas highly prone to drought and other hazards with asset creation activities that prioritize construction and rehabilitation of irrigation systems, water storage and management techniques.
- 11. Under Strategic Outcome 3, WFP will expand moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment and prevention activities to reach additional children and PLW to reduce poor pregnancy outcomes such as low birthweight which can have lasting effects on children's physical and cognitive growth and development. This will ensure WFP is able to cover a larger share of the vulnerable population in need of nutrition services as identified by the nutrition cluster, whilst scaling up prevention to support those that cannot access health services in remote and hard-to-reach areas. WFP will continue to ensure direct linkages and complementarity with UNICEF's treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in priority provinces with the highest needs as identified by the nutrition cluster.
- 12. Under Strategic Outcome 1 and 2, WFP will align its cash-based assistance packages with the latest FSAC guidelines on response packages.⁹ WFP will extend the duration of assistance to support Internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees to 3 and 8 months respectively as assessments show heightened vulnerability.¹⁰ This will ensure WFP aligns

⁹ Afghanistan FSAC, *Guideline on Food Security and Agriculture Cluster Response Packages*, December 2020.

¹⁰ REACH (2021), Whole of Afghanistan: Multi-Sector Needs Assessment, <u>Round II Assessment Report</u> (July-September 2019).

with acceptable humanitarian standards across the country and in line with recent market price changes whilst responding to increased needs.

- 13. WFP will continue to employ its well-established risk management mechanisms, including third-party monitors and community feedback mechanisms to ensure accountability to affected populations. WFP's COVID-19 prevention and control measures will remain in place.
- 14. The instability of the current security environment in Afghanistan is likely to have an impact on planned activities. The withdrawal of NATO and US military forces and transition of security responsibility to the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces might result in change in priorities and, consequently, in delaying WFP's projects. To mitigate this risk, WFP will adopt a participative approach with a focus on a constructive dialogue with all relevant stakeholders to ensure unhindered humanitarian access. WFP will continue strengthening the capacities of governmental focal points and planning and monitoring field activities with partners.

Beneficiary analysis

15. Under Strategic Outcome 1, WFP will scale up humanitarian assistance to support 18.9 million people (an increase of 1.2 million) facing acute food insecurity, with a focus on acutely food-insecure households in IPC Phase 3 or above, drought-affected population, and households acutely affected by the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. Under Strategic Outcome 2, WFP will increase the number of beneficiaries to 2.4 million with a focus on asset creation activities.¹¹ Under Strategic Outcome 3, WFP will adjust its nutrition assistance to cover over 5 million malnourished people, with an enhanced focus on treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition among children and PLW, as well as renewed efforts in stunting prevention.¹²

	TABLI	E 1: DIRECT BENE	FICIARIES B	Y STRATEG	IC OUTCOM	E, ACTIVITY &	MODALITY
Strategic Outcome	Activity ¹³	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
		Current	4,154,401	4,066,010	4,507,967	4,949,925	17,678,303
1 1	Increase/decrease	293,109	286,872	318,054	349,236	1,247,271	
		Revised	4,447,510	4,352,882	4,826,021	5,299,161	18,925,574
	Current	547,065	535,425	593,624	651,822	2,327,936	
2	2 2	Increase/decrease	17,668	17,293	19,172	21,052	75,185
		Revised	564,733	552,718	612,796	672,874	2,403,121
3	4	Current	1,305,808	84,820	1,675,113	1,945,448	5,011,189

¹¹ WFP's focus on asset creation activities will entail supporting over 75,000 additional people through resilient livelihood programming.
¹² WFP's enhanced focus on MAM treatment and prevention services will entail a scale up in MAM treatment, reaching an additional 1.1 million children and PLW, as well as an increase in prevention services, reaching 403,000 additional children and PLW. Similarly, WFP will continue to support stunting prevention, reaching 102,000 additional children and PLW. These changes will entail a corresponding readjustment in school feeding services (on-site and take-home ration).

		Increase/decrease	775	50	994	1,154	2,973
		Revised	1,306,583	84,870	1,676,107	1,946,602	5,014,162
		Current	4,600,112	3,487,752	6,189,458	6,224,354	20,501,676
TOTAL (without overlap)		Increase/decrease	1,137,760	904,663	1,411,681	1,492,848	4,946,952
		Revised	5,995,871	4,978,395	6,841,293	7,633,069	25,448,628

Note: The discrepancy between total beneficiary increase (4.9 million) and beneficiary sum increase by Strategic Outcome (1.3 million) partially stems from the fact that systemic adjustments of beneficiary overlaps were not fully supported at all possible levels in COMET in budget revision 4. In budget revision 5, removal of duplicates accurately took place at multiple levels with enhanced COMET features, including at Programme Area and CSP total levels.

Transfers

	TABLE 2: FOOI	O RATION (g/	person/day) o	or CASH-BA	ASED TRA	NSFER V	ALUE (US	D/person/da	y) BY STR	ATEGIC OUT	COME AND AC	CTIVITY	
Strategic outcome	Strategic outcome 1 Activity 1			Stra	Strategic outcome 2			Strategic outcome 3					
Activity				Activity 2					Activity	4			
Sub Activity	GFD: IDPs, returnees, refugees and natural disasters	GFD: unconditional	GFD: Acute Economic Impacted Populations (COVID-19)	FFA	Vocational skills training	GFD: livelihoods	School snack: grades 1–6	Take-home ration: girls grades 1–6	CBTs: girls grades 7–12	BSFP: Children 6-23 Months (Emergency and Stunting)	BSFP: PLWG (Emergency and Stunting)	TSFP: children aged 6–59 months	TSFP: PLWG
Beneficiary type	All	All	All	All	All	All	СН	CH & All	All	СН	PLW	СН	PLW
Modality	Food or CBTs	Food or CBTs	CBTs	Food or CBTs	CBTs	Food or CBTs	Food	Food	CBTs	Food	Food	Food	Food
Cereals	438.1	219		438.1		219							
Pulses	59.5	40.5		59.5		40.5							
Oil	43.3	21.7		43.3		21.7		150					
Salt	4.8	4.8		4.8		4.8							
High energy biscuits	5						43.3	43.3					
Plumpy Sup												100	
WSB											250		250
Plumpy Doz										50			
Total	550.7	286		545.7		286	43.3	193.3		50	250	100	250
Total kcal/day	2,193	1,129		2,193		1,129	225	225		260	953	544	953
% kcal from protein	10.4%	10.8%		10.4%		10.8%	10.7%	10.7%		10.0%	17.2%	10.2%	17.2%
CBTs (USD/per/day)	0.42	0.21	0.18	0.31	0.21	0.21			0.52				
No. of feeding days per year	90/90/240/60	120	60	180	180	90	240	240	240	90/360	90/360	90	150

Notes: All figures are estimations based on current caseload, rations and prices. Final figures may change. The entitlements are provided through in-kind or CBT, but not a combined/mixed modality.

ТА	BLE 3: TOTAI	L FOOD/CASH-BASED) TRANSFER REG	QUIREMENTS	AND VALU	JE	
	Cu	rrent budget	Incre	ase	Revised budget		
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	
Cereals	372,862	155,697,035	297,210	147,336,579	670,072	303,033,613	
Pulses	49,090	22,201,136	55,802	31,797,089	104,892	53,998,225	
Oil and Fats	44,951	46,204,021	29,974	56 195 949	74,925	102 399 970	
Mixed and blended foods	71,385	95,047,243	32,940	51 570 620	104,325	146 617 863	
Other	4,711	1,077,446	6,628	1,524,546	11,340	2 601 992	
TOTAL (food)	542,999	320,226,881	422,555	288,424,783	965,555	608,651,664	
Cash-based transfers (USD)		150,336,516		83,550,942		233,887,458	
TOTAL (food and CBT value – USD)	542,999	470,563,397	422,555	371,975,725	965,555	842,539,121	

Notes: Preliminary table for reference only. All figures are estimations based on current caseload, rations and prices. Final figures may change. To be automatically generated upon planned has been uploaded in COMET

3. COST BREAKDOWN

15. The revision incorporates the expansion of Strategic Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 resulting in an overall increase of USD 524.94 million. The changes proposed would require an additional 422,555 mt of in-kind food assistance and USD 371.98 million in CBT.

	TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)									
	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 2 / SDG Target 2.2	Strategic Result 4 / SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 6 / SDG Target 17.14	Strategic Result 8 / SDG Target 17.16	Total			
Strategic outcome	1	2	3	4	5	6				
Focus area	Crisis Response	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Crisis Response				
Transfer	369,260,932	9,199,581	72,443,047			1,318,813	452,222,373			
Implementation	19,953,118	- 334,546	1,867,102			656,935	22,142,609			
Direct support costs							18,520,484			
Subtotal							492,885,465			
Indirect support costs							32,053,989			
TOTAL							524,939,455			

Note: To be automatically generated upon planned has been uploaded in COMET

	TABLE 5: OVERALL CSP/ICSP/LEO COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)										
	Strategic Result 1 /SDG Target2.1	Strategic Result 1 /SDG Target2.1	Strategic Result 2 /SDG Target2.2	Strategic Result 4 /SDG Target2.4	Strategic Result 6 /SDGTarge t17.14	Strategic Result 8 /SDG Target17.16	Total				
Strategic outcome	1	2	3	4	5	6					
Focus area	Crisis Response	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Crisis Response					
Transfer	744,322,379	165,983,604	228,597,055	26,193,636	4,330,450	73,764,778	1,243,191,902				
Implementation	58,751,528	17,938,751	25,694,595	7,244,947	1,050,400	11,429,604	122,109,825				
Direct support costs	59,358,385	14,464,243	18,787,761	2,814,135	439,432	6,849,687	102,713,644				
Subtotal	862,432,291	198,386,599	273,079,411	36,252,718	5,820,282	92,044,069	1,468,015,371				
Indirect support costs	56,058,099	12,895,129	17,750,162	2,356,427	378,318	4,892,200	94,330,334				
TOTAL	918,490,390	211,281,727	290,829,573	38,609,145	6,198,601	96,936,269	1,562,345,705				

Note: To be automatically generated upon planned has been uploaded in COMET

RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (only required in case the CSP/ICSP/LEO revision is going to the Executive Board)

OR

APPROVED BY (only required in case the CSP/ICSP/LEO revision is going for ED & DG-FAO approval)

David M. Beasley Executive Director, WFP Qu Dongyu Director-General, FAO

Date: ___/___/

Date: __/__/___

Annex 1: Revised Line of Sight

SR 1 - Acce	est to food	SR 2 – End malnutrition		SR 6 - Policy coherence	SR 8- Enhance Global Partnership (SD0	
(SDG Tar		(SDG Target 2.2)	SR 4 – Sustainable food systems (SDG Target 2.4)	(SDG Target 17.14)	Target 17.16)	
CRISIS RESPONSE	RESILIENCE	RESILIENCE	RESILIENCE	RESILIENCE	CRISIS RESPONSE	
OUTCOME 1: Vulnerable people in Afghanistan are able to meet heir food and nutrition needs during and immediately after emergencies through 2022	OUTCOME 2: Vulnerable people in Afghanistan are increasingly able to meet their food and nutrition needs on their own by 2022	OUTCOME 3: Vulnerable people at each stage of the lifecycle in target areas have improved nutrition by 2022	OUTCOME 4: People across the country can avail a wide range of fortified nutritious food products at affordable prices by 2022	OUTCOME 5: National and subnational institutions have a strengthened policy approach to food security and nutrition by 2022	OUTCOME 6: Humanifarian community has enhanced capacity to respond to needs throughout the country through 2022	
BUDGET 50 1: \$918,490,390	BUDGET SO 2: \$211,281,727	BUDGET SO 3: \$ 290,829,573	BUDGET SO 4: \$ 38,609,145	BUDGET 5O 5: \$6,198,601	BUDGET SO 6: \$ 96,836,269	
UNIQUE DIRECT BENEF. SO 1: UNIQUE DIRECT BENEF. SO 2: 18,925,574 2,403,121		UNIQUE DIRECT BENEF. SO 3: 5,014,162	UNIQUE DIRECT BENEF. SO 4: n/a	UNIQUE DIRECT BENEF. SO 5: n/a	UNIQUE DIRECT BENEF. SO 6: w/a	
OUTPUTS: • Vulnerable people (Tier 1) receive nutition-sensitive food or cash transfers (output category A1) in order to meet their basic food and nutition needs (SR 1) and support stability (SDG 16) ACTIVITY 1: Provide unconditional, nutition-sensitive food assistance to vulnerable people (activity category 1; modality: food, CBT, CS)	OUTPUTS: OUTPUTS: • Vulnerable people (Tier 1) benefit from nutnition- sensitive livelihood support for meet nutnition pport • Vulnerable people throu lifecycle – children including (output category D) in order to enhance self-reliance, reduce disaster risk and adapt to climate change (SR 1, SR 4, SDG 13), create employment (SDG 8) in urban (SDG 11) and rural areas, and support stability (SDG 16) • Vulnerable people throu lifecycle – children including to children including to enhance self-reliance, reduce disaster risk and adapt to climate change (SR 1, SR 4, SDG 13), in urban (SDG 11) and rural areas, and support stability (SDG 16) • Vulnerable people throu lifecycle – children including to delescent girs, and PL 1) – receive nutrition sec and appropriate special mainutrition (SR 2) and contribute to gender equ (SDG 5)		OUTPUTS: • Vulnerable people (Tier 3) benefit from the availability of locally-produced fortified nutritious food products (output category F) in order to address their food and nutrition needs (SR 4) • Vulnerable people in targeted areas (Tier 3) benefit from improved government nutritional value chains involving the Strategic Grain Reserve in order to address their food and nutrition needs (SR 4) and support stability (SDG 16)	OUTPUTS: • Vulnerable people (Tier 3) benefit from improved Zero Hunger policy coherence (output category M), including on social protection, in order to improve their food security and nutrition (SR 6) and support stability (SDG 16). • Vulnerable people (Tier 3) benefit from greater recognition of hunger as one of the key development priorities (output category E) in order to improve their food security and nutrition (SR 6) and support stability (SDG 16)	OUTPUTS: • Vulnerable people (Tier 3) benefit from SCOPE, supply chain, ICT, facilities, and information management and provision services provided by WFP to partners (output categor, H) in order to receive timely and effective assistance (SR 8) • Vulnerable people (Tier 3) benefit from air services provided by WFP to partners (output category H), in order to receive timely and efficient assistance (SR 8) ACTIVITY 7: Provide common SCOPE, supply chain, ICT, facilities, and information management and provision services to partners to run effective field operations (activity category 10, modally: service delivery)	
ACTIVITY 2. Provide condition nutrition-sensitive, gender- transformative livelihood supp		(SDG 5) ACTIVITY 4: Provide a comprehensive, gender-transformative package,	ACTIVITY 5: Provide nutrition- sensitive support to government and commercial partners to develop, strengthen and expand	ACTIVITY 6: Provide support to government officials and partners on Zero Hunger policy coherence, particularly related to social		
TOTAL BUDGET: \$ 1.562,345.705	to vulnerable people (activity category 2: food, CBT, CS) ACTIVITY 3: Provide capacity	including services, appropriate specialized nutritious foods, and SBCC, for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition to targeted individuals and	nutritional value chains (activity category 9; modality: CS)	protection, and recognition of Zero Hunger as a key development priority (activity category 9; modality: CS)	ACTIVITY 8: Provide Humanitarian Al Services to partners until appropriate alternatives are available (activity category 10, modality, service	
TOTAL UNIQUE DIRECT BENEFICIARIES: 25,448,528	strengthening to emergency preparedness institutions (activity category 11; modality, CS)	their communities (activity category 6; modality: food, CS)			delivery)	

FGHANISTAN