



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Afghanistan Country Brief

August 2022



Operational Context

Afghanistan is one of the world's largest humanitarian crises with 24.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. After four decades of conflict, the de facto authorities' takeover of power in August 2021, the economic meltdown and the liquidity crisis generated by the freeze of the previous Government's assets and aid plunged millions more people into hunger and poverty. This comes on top of the climate shocks and natural disasters devastating the country amid an escalating global food crisis and high prices for key commodities and fuel.

Nearly half of the population are estimated to face acute levels of food insecurity. WFP scaled up its operations more than five-fold since August 2021, with the target to assist 23 million people with life-saving food and nutrition assistance and livelihood support in 2022. Present in Afghanistan since 1963, WFP has adapted the current Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023) to the new circumstances while continuing, where possible, to respond to emergency needs and support community resilience and education, based on thorough analyses of food security and nutrition.



Population: **41.7 million**

2021 Human Development Index: **180 out of 191 countries**

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **41% of children between 6-59 months**

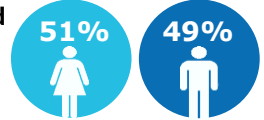
In Numbers

84,058 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 21.3 million cash-based transfers made

US\$ 0.94 billion six-month (September 2022-February 2023) net funding requirements

10.5 million people assisted in August 2022



Operational Updates

- In August, WFP assisted over **10.5 million people** with emergency food, nutrition, and livelihoods support. These included 123,000 people affected by flash floods and earthquake, 67,400 refugees and 10,350 returnees.

General Food Assistance

- More than **10 million people** received WFP's emergency food and nutrition support. Of which, around 81 percent received in-kind food assistance, while the rest was assisted through cash, value and commodity vouchers.
- In Kabul, distribution of value vouchers resumed with more than **96,000 people** redeeming their entitlements in August through 21 retailers.

Asset creation and livelihoods

- WFP assisted around **147,000 people** through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) across 13 provinces to meet their basic food needs while building their resilience against recurrent shocks and stressors. FFA scale-up is ongoing with WFP cooperating partners to 25 provinces.
- WFP provided food assistance for training in 13 provinces and benefitted nearly **4,000 women and men** in August.

Nutrition Support

- WFP assisted **268,116 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women** with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating 299,212 malnourished children and women.
- WFP is supporting 2,205 health centres and 440 mobile health and nutrition teams to ensure continued and equitable access in hard-to-reach areas.

School feeding

- WFP distributed 222 mt of High Energy Biscuits and Bread+ to **211,000 girls and boys** at primary schools and 132 mt of vegetable oil to **19,000 female primary students**. Furthermore, **1,200 female secondary students** received cash incentives across 437 schools in four provinces (Balkh, Jawzjan, Sar-e-Pol, Zabul) where they are permitted to attend school.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
6.04 billion	2.61 billion	0.94 billion

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable people in Afghanistan are able to meet their food and nutrition needs during and immediately after emergencies through 2022

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Emergency food assistance
- Prevention and treatment of malnutrition of crisis-affected

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable people in Afghanistan are increasingly able to meet their food and nutrition needs on their own by 2022

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Livelihood support
- Emergency preparedness capacity strengthening

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable people at each stage of the life cycle in target areas have improved nutrition by 2022

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- School feeding

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems

Strategic Outcome 4: People throughout the country can have access to a wide range of fortified nutritious food products at affordable prices by 2022.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Nutritional value chains

Strategic Result 6: Policy coherence

Strategic Outcome 5: National and subnational institutions have a strengthened policy approach to food security and nutrition by 2022

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Policy coherence support on food security and nutrition

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 6: The Humanitarian community has enhanced capacity to respond to needs throughout the country through 2022.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Common service provision (SCOPE, Supply Chain, ICT)
- UN Humanitarian Air Service.

Monitoring

- During August, WFP's community feedback mechanism (CFM) handled 11,745 cases and closed 98 percent of the total cases. Cases registered in August increased slightly, following the recruitment of four new CFM operators. Around 80 percent of CFM operators are women.
- Most calls were related to requests for information and requests for assistance. Over one third of calls received were from women, a 3 percent increase compared to July.

Partnerships

- WFP [welcomed](#) a generous contribution of in-kind emergency food assistance from the Government of Kazakhstan at the Termez Regional Humanitarian Logistics Hub. The food will be distributed to vulnerable families in the earthquake and flood-affected provinces.

Challenges

- WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **US\$1.1 billion** to sustain operations over the next six months (September 2022 – February 2023).
- WFP continues to negotiate with the de facto authorities for the resumption of its school feeding activities which have been suspended following the Ministry of Education's decision on 10 August. Distribution of school meals continued in some schools with permission from the provincial authorities.
- WFP Afghanistan continues to monitor the impact of Pakistan floods on its supply chain operations. No significant disruption has been observed so far.

Winter Prepositioning

- Ahead of the 2023 winter season, WFP is working around the clock to preposition **150,000 mt** of food stocks in provinces which are likely to be inaccessible during winter, to ensure uninterrupted assistance.
- WFP requires **US\$ 172 million** (of which US\$ 100 million has been resourced) to preposition food commodities by November.

Donors (2022, in alphabetical order)

Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund, Asian Development Bank, Australia, Canada, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Japan, Kuwait, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, United Kingdom, United States of America