



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Afghanistan Country Brief December 2022



Operational Context

Afghanistan remains one of the world's largest humanitarian crises with 28.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Decades of conflict, extreme climate shocks, and severe economic decline characterised by high unemployment, cash shortages, and rising food prices have plunged millions into poverty. An estimated 19.9 million people – nearly half of Afghanistan's population – are acutely food insecure, while the global food and fuel crisis makes it harder for already vulnerable households to meet their basic food needs.

In response to unprecedented levels of hunger and vulnerability, WFP scaled-up humanitarian operations to reach 23 million people with emergency food, nutrition, and livelihoods support in 2022. Present in Afghanistan since 1963, WFP's current Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023) has adapted to the new operating environment, providing lifesaving support to those who need it most, while continuing, where possible, to support long-term community resilience, gender, and education initiatives.



Population: **41.7 million**

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

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **54% of children between 6-59 months (WB)**

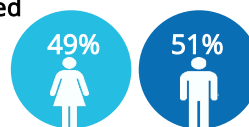
In Numbers

98,952 mt of food assistance distributed in December 2022

US\$ 36.2 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 831 million six months (January - June 2023) net funding requirements.

12.7 million people assisted in December 2022



Operational Updates

General Food Assistance

- In December, WFP reached **12.7 million people** with emergency food and cash-based assistance, including 19,474 internally displaced people, across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan.
- Cash-based transfers accounted for **34 percent** of assistance provided. Overall, **4 million** people were assisted. Out of which, **2.2 million** people received direct cash, **230,000** people received value vouchers, and **1.7 million** people received commodity vouchers.
- In 2022, WFP reached **7 million more people than in 2021**, distributing four times the amount of food and seven times the amount of cash-based assistance.

Nutrition Support

- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods for the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) to **754,869** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- Additionally, WFP provided malnutrition treatment services to **699,250** children (aged 6-59 months) and PLW.

Asset Creation and Livelihoods

- WFP provided in-kind and cash-based assistance to **386,000** people through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) projects to contribute to strengthening community resilience.
- In December, WFP provided cash-based transfers to nearly **22,000** people for their participation in vocational skills training, under WFP's Food Assistance for Training (FFT) programme.

School Feeding

- WFP provided daily nutritious snacks, including High Energy Biscuits and Bread+, to more than **272,000** primary school students.
- More than **17,700** primary schoolgirls also received take-home rations of vegetable oil.
- Cash-based transfer incentives were provided to more than **31,000** secondary schoolgirls across four provinces where classes continue.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

CSP Requirements	Allocated Contributions	Six Month Net Funding Requirements
USD 6.05 billion	USD 3.1 billion	US\$ 831 million

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.

2022 Donors

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

Monitoring

- Post-distribution monitoring for emergency food and cash assistance in December shows that female-headed households continue to experience disproportionate levels of hunger and vulnerability compared to male-headed households. Overall, **33 percent** of female-headed households relied on emergency coping strategies, such as begging or borrowing, compared with 23 percent of male-headed households.
- A slight reduction in the proportion of female-headed households experiencing poor food consumption scores during the implementation period was observed, from 67 percent to **62 percent**. Results indicate that WFP's assistance helped in preventing the further deterioration of food security among already extremely vulnerable households as they continued to face high levels of stress.
- In December, WFP registered **56,498** cases through its Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) channels and rolled out a new Integrated Voice Response programme that allowed WFP to increase the volume of cases registered for further processing.
- In a post-call survey conducted for quality assurance, **86 percent** of CFM users expressed satisfaction with the conduct of hotline operators, as well as WFP follow-up and action in addressing reported cases.

Supply Chain & Flour Fortification

- In December, WFP prepositioned **100,000 mt** of food in particularly vulnerable and hard-to-reach areas across 12 provinces to ensure continued service delivery to **1.5 million** people during the winter lean season.
- WFP completed logistics support services to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), delivering over **50,000 mt** of fertilizer to FAO implementing partners in 270 locations.
- In December, WFP procured **14,771 mt** of fortified wheat flour from local millers, valued at **US\$7.5 million**, for onward distribution to communities in need. In 2022, WFP procured a total **299,323 mt** of wheat flour locally under its Flour Fortification programme, worth **US\$167.6 million**.

Challenges/Funding Shortfalls

- The de facto authority directive on 24 December 2022, banning female NGO workers negatively affected the implementation of humanitarian work. WFP and its partners continue to negotiate at the national, provincial, and local levels to secure access for national female NGO staff carrying out humanitarian work.
- In 2023, WFP requires **US\$2.2 billion** to deliver emergency food, nutrition, and livelihood support to those in need. WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **US\$831 million** to sustain operations over the next six months (January - June 2023).