Operator Context

Afghanistan remains one of the world’s largest humanitarian crises with 29.2 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. Between May and October 2023, an estimated 15.3 million people are acutely food insecure, including 3.4 million that require sustained humanitarian support to prevent catastrophic levels of hunger.

In response to unprecedented levels of hunger and vulnerability, WFP scaled up humanitarian operations to reach 23 million people with emergency food, nutrition, and livelihood support in 2022 and plans to support 21 million people in 2023. 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.

In Numbers

37,813 mt of food distributed in August 2023

US$7.2 m in cash-based transfers made

US$1.08 billion six months (September 2023 - February 2024) net funding requirements.

6.1 million people assisted in August 2023

Operational Updates

- In August, WFP reached nearly 6.1 million people with emergency food, cash, nutrition, and livelihoods support. Of these, 5.2 million people received WFP distributed 37,813 mt in-kind assistance across various programmes, while more than 1.2 million people received cash-based transfers worth US$7.2 million.

General Food Assistance

- With the reduction in beneficiaries due to funding constraints since May 2023, WFP reached 4.8 million people in August with emergency in-kind food assistance, 1.2 million people receiving cash-transfers.

Nutrition Support

- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods for the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) to more than 863,570 children (aged 6-59 months), and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW). Additionally, WFP provided malnutrition treatment services to more than 689,200 PBWs and children.

Asset Creation and Livelihoods

- In August, WFP reached 24,000 through food assistance for asset creation schemes, 693 through food assistance for training schemes, and 63,700 farmers through smallholder agriculture market support activities, all of which seek to strengthen community resilience.

School Feeding

- In August, WFP provided High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) or Bread+ to more than 503,000 primary school students as distribution activities resumed in three provinces (Paktika, Jawzjan and Ghor) that were suspended during the past months.

- Cash-based transfers for secondary-level schoolgirls remain on hold, while schools are closed to secondary-level girls across the country.

Contact info: Afaf Shashaa: afaf.shashaa@wfp.org
Country Director: Hsiao-Wei Lee: hsiaowei.lee@wfp.org
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Afghanistan

Photo Caption: Families receiving their last food ration in Jalalabad ©WFP Afghanistan
**WFP Country Strategy**

**Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CSP Requirements</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US$6.05 billion</td>
<td>US$3.45 billion</td>
<td>US$936.11 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strategic Result 1**: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1**: Vulnerable people in Afghanistan are able to meet their food and nutrition needs on their own by 2022

**Focus area**: Crisis response

**Activities**:
- Emergency food assistance
- Prevention and treatment of malnutrition of crisis-affected

**Strategic Result 2**: End malnutrition

**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 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 6**: People throughout the country can access to a wide range of fortified nutritious food products at affordable prices by 2022

**Focus area**: Resilience Building

**Activities**:
- Policy coherence support on food security and nutrition

**Strategic Result 8**: Enhance global partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 8**: The Humanitarian community has enhanced capacity to respond to needs throughout the country through 2022

**Focus area**: Resilience Building

**Activities**:
- Common service provision (SCOPE, Supply Chain, ICT)
- UN Humanitarian Air Service

**Vulnerability Assessments**
- WFP concluded district-level vulnerability assessments for the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) to further examine the food security situation in six provinces, including Jawzjan, Sar-e-Pul, Herat, Badghis, Badakhshan, and Daikundi. The results following IPC-compatible analysis put all these areas in IPC Phase 3, while the main areas of concern were found to be Darzab and Herat’s internally displaced people.

**Market Monitoring**
- In August, the main commodities prices slightly declined compared to the previous month. However, the prices of rice, sugar and pulses remain substantially high compared to the tree year average.

- The purchasing power of unskilled casual labour and livestock keepers improved by 1.2 percent and 0.8 percent, respectively, mainly due to decreased wheat prices compared to the previous month.

**Supply Chain**
- In August, WFP dispatched 37,795 mt of food across Afghanistan, representing approximately 100 percent of its monthly target. Approximately 57,400 mt of food is available in the country at WFP warehouses, while 58,690 mt of food is in transit or within WFP warehouses outside the country.

**World Humanitarian Day 2023**
- In Afghanistan, WFP commitment helps provide food assistance to communities in need across the country. WFP pays tribute to employees' work in dangerous locations, to their sacrifices and how their commitment shows the reality of humanitarian principles on the ground, making the assistance accessible and reachable. See portraits of WFP staff from the units of Community Feedback Mechanisms (CFM), Supply Chain and UNHAS explaining their work, a post with the faces behind our response and a tribute to the work of our drivers.

**Challenges and Funding Shortfalls**
- In 2023, WFP requires US$2.2 billion to deliver emergency food, nutrition, and livelihood support to those most in need. WFP currently faces a net funding shortfall of US$1.08 billion to sustain operations over the next six months (September 2023 – February 2024). This includes funding needed to preposition food for the 2023/24 winter season, especially in areas that will become completely cut off once snow and ice make roads impassable.

**2023 Donors**

Asian Development Bank, Afghanistan Humanitarian fund, Australia, Canada, China, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Islamic Development Bank, Japan, Kuwait, New Zealand, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, United Kingdom, and USA.