



WFP Afghanistan Situation Report

20 May 2022

WFP delivers emergency food assistance to 300 flood-affected households in Dana-e-Ghori district of Baghlan province. © WFP Afghanistan

In Numbers

19.7 million people – nearly half of the population – are estimated to be acutely food insecure between March and May 2022

4.7 million children, pregnant and lactating women are at risk of acute malnutrition in 2022; 1.1 million children are acutely malnourished

All 34 provinces are facing crisis or emergency levels of acute food insecurity

Highlights

- WFP has assisted **5.1 million** people thus far in May. WFP plans to reach **18 million** people this month and a cumulative total of **23 million** people in 2022.¹
- A new [IPC Analysis](#) for Afghanistan was released on 09 May. A slight improvement in overall food security was observed due to the large scale-up of humanitarian assistance over the winter months. However, Afghanistan still faces unprecedented levels of hunger with 19.7 million people facing acute food insecurity, including 20,000 in IPC 5.

Situation Update

- **A total of 19.7 million people in Afghanistan are currently acutely food insecure (IPC 3+)**, according to the [May 2022 IPC Analysis](#), including 20,000 in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe), 6.6 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), and 13 million in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis).
- **For the first time in Afghanistan, IPC Phase 5 conditions have been detected**, affecting 20,000 people in the remote province of Ghor. Immediate action is needed to prevent further deterioration in the area. WFP currently supports 800,000 people in Ghor.
- **Projections for June to November 2022 suggest a slight improvement**, estimating that 18.9 million people will be acutely food insecure, including 6 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 13 million people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis).
- **Humanitarian assistance is reaching more people with each passing month**, according to WFP's latest [Food Security Update](#) (March 2022). One in five households (21 percent) reported receiving humanitarian food assistance in March – mostly from UN/NGOs – which is a notable increase from previous months. In some regions, assistance has reached as many as two in five households (43 percent in the western region).

WFP Response

- **In May, WFP has reached 5.1 million people** so far with food, nutrition, and resilience support. In 2022, WFP has reached a cumulative total of more than 17.4 million people with more than 415,000 MT of food and USD 113 million worth of cash-based assistance.
- **To date, WFP has assisted 3,889 flood-affected households with emergency food assistance** after flash floods killed more than 22 people and destroyed hundreds of homes across 15 provinces in Afghanistan on 3-4 May. Vulnerability assessments are still ongoing in Faizabad.
- **This month, WFP will complete a vocational skills training (VST) project in Balkh province**, benefitting 733 households. Since December 2021, participants have been trained in shoemaking, embroidery, and bag making, as well as numeracy, literacy and micro-business management.
- **WFP is currently facing a 4-6 month lead time** for the procurement and delivery of international food commodities. Long lead times have been perpetuated by the impact of the conflict in Ukraine on global supply chains.
- **WFP has procured 200 mobile storage units** to enhance the storage capacity for commodity arrivals at the border.

1. Actual beneficiary and MT numbers are as of 20 May, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.
2. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Food Insecurity Analysis [report](#), November 2021 to March 2022 Projections



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted **4.7 million** people with emergency food and nutrition support thus far in May. Of this total, more than **2.4 million** people have received emergency food assistance in-kind, while **1.4 million** people were assisted via cash and value vouchers, and **685,500** people were assisted via commodity vouchers. Thus far, WFP has disbursed **USD 10.5 million** in cash-based assistance.
- **Nutrition:** In May, WFP has assisted **295,000** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **175,600** malnourished children and women. WFP currently supports 1,544 health centres and 256 mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNT) across the country. Support to MHNTs ensure continued and equitable access in hard-to-reach areas.
- **School feeding:** In May, WFP has distributed High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to **230,000** primary school students. WFP has launched Bread+ across 70 schools and community-based education (CBE) classes in Jawzjan, Paktika, and Jalalabad provinces to reach **40,600** primary schoolchildren. Bread+ is a new commodity pilot that will replace the daily distribution of HEBs in some areas, with bread made from locally produced and processed fortified wheat flour, dried fruit and nuts. Bread+ is a more nutritious alternative to HEBs and links local agricultural production, processing, and markets across Afghanistan's national food system. Thus far, **32,000** students have received Bread+.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** Thus far in May, WFP has assisted **96,000** people through food assistance for assets (FFA) and **42,000** through vocational skills training (VST).



Supply Chain and Logistics

- Between 1-15 May, WFP dispatched **54,073 MT** of commodities across Afghanistan, representing 41 percent of its monthly implementation plan.

During the same period, a total 115,331 MT of mixed food commodities entered Afghanistan, bringing in-country food stock to 148,781 MT. A further 148,781 MT are expected to arrive in May.

- Local food prices are expected to increase further in the coming weeks as a result of Kazakhstan's recent export quota on wheat, reducing regional supply.
- In-country transport capacity continues to pose challenges for WFP, as it continues to contract new commercial transporters to increase the pace at which commodity arrivals are dispatched to partners for distribution. Additional transport capacity allocated to the Hairatan border in recent weeks has successfully increased the uplift of arrivals, as remaining quantities stored at the border dropped to 29,000 MT this week – the lowest quantity in two months.



UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted **1,287** flights in 2022 so far, transporting **8,200** passengers and **18 MT** of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 20 domestic destinations and two on demand, as well as three airbridges that connect Kabul to Islamabad, Dushanbe and Doha.
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#).

Resourcing Update

- WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **USD 850 million** to sustain operations over the next 6 months (June-November 2022), including a **USD 190 million** shortfall for cash-based assistance starting in May.
- WFP requires USD 155 million to preposition 151,000 MT of food commodities ahead of the winter season.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).