



# WFP Afghanistan Situation Report

20 October 2021

## In Numbers

- 14 million** people facing acute food insecurity<sup>1</sup>
- 3.2 million** children at risk of acute malnutrition
- 10.2 million** beneficiaries reached by WFP so far in 2021
- 34 provinces** receive WFP food and nutrition assistance
- US\$ 200 million** required for food and US\$ 30 million for UNHAS by the end of 2021; US\$ 142 million now received.
- US\$ 300 million** required for January-April 2022

## Highlights

- Acute malnutrition is above emergency thresholds in 27 of 34 provinces and is rapidly worsening.
- WFP has already assisted 2.6 million beneficiaries in October.<sup>2</sup>
- WFP delivered 11,234 mt of food to cooperating partners in the previous week (10 to 16 October).
- UNHAS has conducted 193 flights since they resumed on 28 August, connecting seven locations and serving the humanitarian community of 160 organizations.

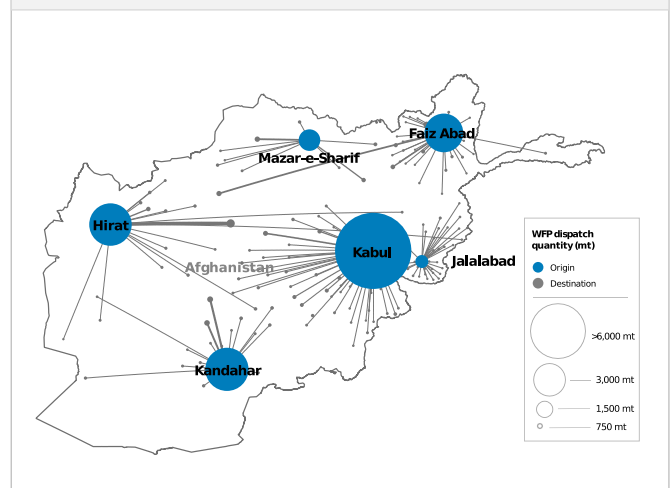
## Situation Update

- The situation for children is especially alarming**, with half of all children under five (3.2 million) expected to suffer from acute malnutrition. Acute malnutrition is above emergency thresholds in 27 of 34 provinces and is rapidly worsening.
- Food security is deteriorating sharply**: just 5 percent of households are consuming enough food according to WFP's [surveys](#).
  - Urban residents are suffering from food insecurity at similar rates to rural communities, who were ravaged by drought twice in the past three years.
  - Families with lower education levels are hardest hit by food insecurity, but more than 90 percent of households with high-school or university educations are also unable to afford enough food to feed their families.
- Almost no one has enough money to buy food.**
  - Three out of four households now limit portion sizes; adults are eating less so their children can eat more.
  - Households headed by women are skipping meals, and reducing their portions far more than those headed by men.
  - WFP's latest [market monitor](#) shows that food and fuel prices remain significantly higher than the last week of July. This exerts greater pressure on families' ability to buy food.

## WFP Response

- So far in October WFP has reached 2.6 million beneficiaries. In September it assisted 4 million people, including 2 million women and girls and 2 million men and boys. This was a three-fold increase from August (1.3m).
- WFP is scaling up to reach all 14 million people in need of emergency food and nutrition assistance by year's end.
- WFP's staff and partners delivered food and nutrition assistance to all 34 provinces to meet humanitarian needs, prevent and treat malnutrition, boost community resilience, encourage school attendance, and support women and girls.

WFP dispatches in October so far



1. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Food Insecurity Analysis [report](#), March to November 2021 Projections  
2. Beneficiary numbers are as of 20 October, and may still change.



## Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted 9.3 million beneficiaries with unconditional resource transfers in 2021, including 2.5 million in October so far.
- **School feeding:** In 2021, WFP has so far reached 175,315 school children through its school feeding programme.
- **Nutrition:** In 2021, WFP has so far assisted 401,798 pregnant and lactating women and 805,506 children under five with malnutrition prevention and treatment activities. WFP is treating moderate acute malnutrition by integrating with mobile health and nutrition teams in the most remote locations of the country. WFP and UNICEF are adding 100 new mobile health and nutrition teams to extend reach and continuity of services, bringing the total to around 200.
- **Internally Displaced Persons:** In 2021, WFP has assisted 589,701 internally displaced persons (IDP). In October, WFP has so far assisted 60,396 people newly displaced by conflict.
- **COVID-19:** WFP has reached more than 900,000 people affected by the socio-economic impact of the pandemic in 2021.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** WFP's food assistance for assets and vocational skills training (VST) activities continue across the country; in 2021, WFP has reached 210,525 beneficiaries.



## Supply Chain and Logistics

- WFP delivered 11,234 mt of food to cooperating partners in the week 10 to 16 October.
- In response to the continued closure of the Spin Boldak/Chaman border between Pakistan and Afghanistan, WFP is working to re-route upcoming shipments via the Jalalabad/Torkham border crossing where possible.

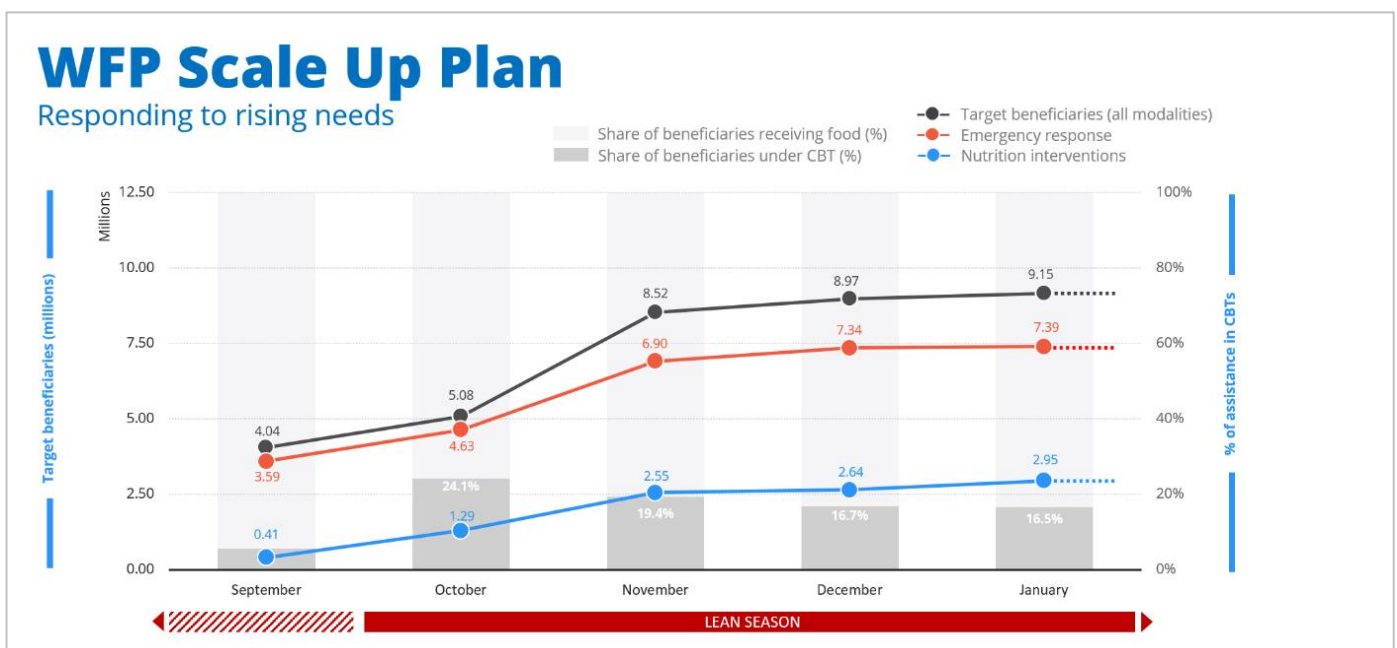


## UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 193 flights since flights resumed on 28 August for humanitarian workers and essential cargo transporting 1,308 passengers.
- UNHAS humanitarian passenger flights now connect Kabul, Bamyan, Herat, Kandahar, Kunduz, Maymana, and Mazar.
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#).

## Resourcing Update

- WFP appealed for US\$ 200 million for food and \$30 million for UNHAS by the end of 2021; it has now received US\$ 142 million.
- It has borrowed internally to expedite food deliveries and urgently requests that all pledges be confirmed to meet mounting needs.
- A further US\$ 300 million is required for the first quarter of 2022.
- Food and UNHAS requirements were included in the [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).



#### Contact Us:

#### WFP Country Director:

Mary-Ellen McGroarty: mary-ellen.mcgroarty@wfp.org

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#### WFP Head of Partnerships and Communications

Danielle Naranjilla: danielle.naranjilla@wfp.org

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