

WFP Afghanistan

External Situation Report: November 2025

In Takhar Province, through its Resilience programme, WFP supported the construction of an irrigation canal to create jobs and help communities prepare ahead of winter.
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WFP Afghanistan Spotlight

- The IPC Acute Food Insecurity analysis confirms that 17.4 million people will experience acute food insecurity (IPC3+) during the winter lean season (November 2025-March 2026)— over 2 million more people than at the same time last year. With current resources, WFP can reach only 2.2 million people per month until January 2026—less than a half of the 4.7 million facing emergency level hunger (IPC 4+) and only 13 percent of the acutely hungry.
- The IPC Acute Malnutrition Projections for 2026 indicate that approximately 3.7 million children under five and 1.2 million pregnant and breastfeeding women are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition. This shows further deterioration of the nutrition situation in Afghanistan, with the highest-ever year-on-year surge in acute malnutrition recorded.

Finland Disability And Inclusion Mission To Afghanistan

Between 9 and 13 November, a Humanitarian Advisor from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland visited WFP's operation in Afghanistan, with the mission focusing particularly on disability and inclusion within WFP's activities.

The mission included a visit to the Skills for Livelihood Opportunities site in Kabul, and a field visit to a nutrition clinic in Kandahar. The official also held discussions with WFP's cooperating partners, persons with disabilities, and Community Food Assistance Consultation representatives, which provided him with a better understanding of the humanitarian situation in the country. During his visit to WFP sites, the official observed efforts to ensure that persons with disabilities are included among WFP's recipients, prioritized during distributions,

and provided with separate waiting areas. The visit provided an opportunity to show WFP's ongoing efforts in addressing acute needs in the country, while ensuring inclusive programming, and strengthening the resilience of the country's most vulnerable households.

United Kingdom Dialogue On Food Security and Nutrition

On 12–13 November, WFP participated in the FCDO-organised Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Conference in London, participating alongside donors and humanitarian actors in bringing attention to the country's food security and nutrition needs. The meetings highlighted the collective commitment to addressing child malnutrition and strengthening food systems in Afghanistan.



IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis

The IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis figures show 17.4 million people urgently requiring food assistance—an increase from 14.8 million in the same period last year.

Acute food insecurity in Afghanistan continues to rise as the core drivers of vulnerability persist and intensify. The volatile economy, declining employment opportunities, and reduced remittances have sharply eroded household resilience. Recurrent droughts and earthquakes have further shaken already fragile livelihoods, while humanitarian assistance has dropped to its lowest level in years and is a major driver of the higher numbers.

These pressures are compounded by the return of nearly 2.5 million people from Iran and Pakistan, stretching the local economy, job markets, and resources beyond capacity. Several provinces, including urban areas, report 35–40 percent of their populations facing emergency conditions.

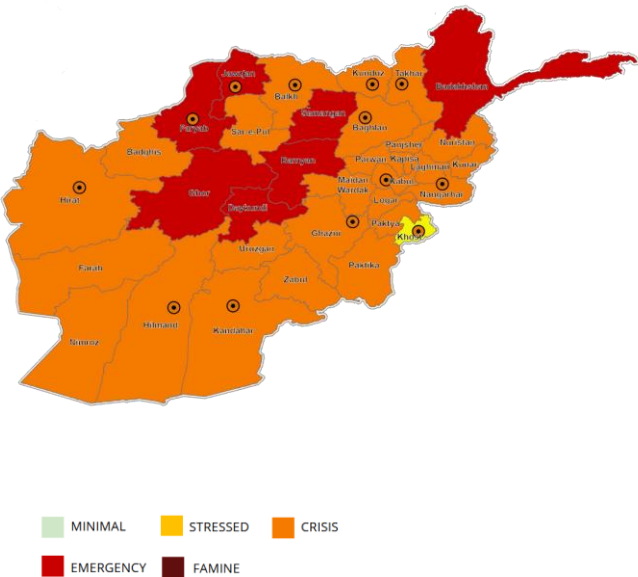
Acute Malnutrition

Afghanistan now ranks fourth worldwide for acute malnutrition among children. The country's under-five mortality rate stands at 58 deaths per 1,000 live births, with neonatal mortality at 36 per 1,000—among the highest in the region. Maternal mortality remains alarmingly high, with estimates ranging from 620 to 638 deaths per 100,000 live births, placing Afghanistan among the worst globally. These numbers are known to be underreported.

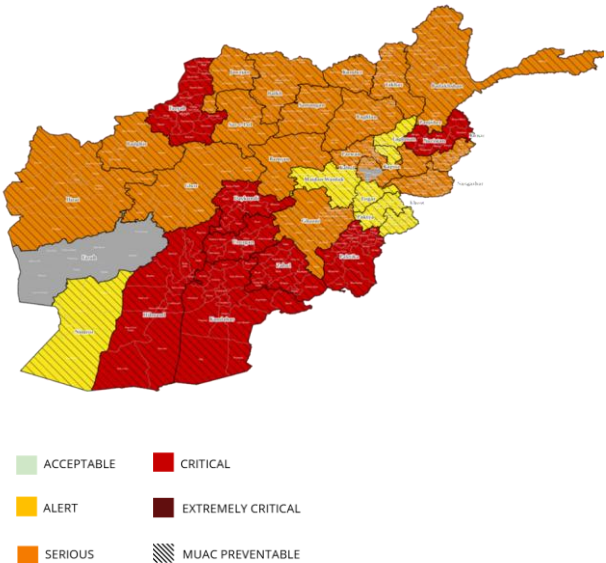
Malnutrition is a leading contributor to these deaths. By weakening immune systems, malnourished children face heightened risks of dying from otherwise preventable illnesses. The drivers of malnutrition remain persistent, chronic, and structural: inadequate child diets, recurrent disease outbreaks, and unsafe WASH conditions and insufficient coverage of humanitarian aid continue to fuel acute malnutrition.

The number of provinces in a critical situation (IPC Phase 4) has nearly doubled, with Helmand, Kandahar, Zabul, Urozgan, Faryab, Daikundi, Kunduz, Nuristan, and Paktika among the most affected.

Projection: November 2025 - March 2026



Projection: October 2025 - May 2026



Community Engagement and Messaging

As part of WFP's community engagement, the second 10-day broadcast of the radio-drama slot for the Hotspot Response and Winter Prepositioning campaign, was aired nationwide from 1 to 10 November.

The radio-drama enabled WFP to deliver key messages to the communities it serves, raising awareness of WFP programming, people's entitlements, and Community Feedback Mechanisms, as well as the Hotspot Response and winter prepositioning. The campaign reached people across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan, including remote and marginalized locations.

Earthquake Response

The first month of contingency response in the Samangan and Balkh provinces (Northern region) has been completed, with more than 27,000 people assisted with 475 mt of food and 8.4 mt of nutritious commodities.

The last round of the food response in the Kunar, Nangarhar and Laghman provinces (Eastern region) has been completed assisting 56,650 people with nearly 2,015 mt of food and 87 mt of nutritious commodities. The extended earthquake response started in November and will last until March 2026. Planning is in place to assist over 97,000 people.

Returnee Response

The Iranian government has announced an intensification of deportation efforts, aiming to expel at least two million undocumented Afghans by March 2026.

In addition to Spin Boldak and Torkham, a returnee response is expected to commence soon through Bahramcha, with preparations ongoing, led by IOM.

From January to November 2025, WFP provided nearly 530,000 returnees from Iran and Pakistan with 655 mt of food and USD 6.4 million cash assistance.

Southern Corridor

As of 12 October 2025, the Afghanistan-Pakistan border is still closed to cargo movements. The prolonged closure of both Southern Corridor borders, has caused significant delays in pipeline coverage, affecting over 12,000 mt of food. The pipeline delays started in November and are set to continue into December.

On 29 November, following a request from the UN, Pakistan's Government announced their willingness to reopen border crossing points to facilitate the passage of humanitarian aid, which is particularly urgent and critical ahead of the winter season. The UN is coordinating efforts with the authorities.

Iranian Border- Islam Qala

On 4 November, the UN suspended operations at Iranian border crossing of Islam Qala after the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice prevented female implementing partners from delivering aid and services to female returnees. Following an agreement with the authorities, from 13 November female aid workers have been allowed to resume delivery of selected services and health activities, including vaccination.

UN agencies in Afghanistan (through the Border Consortium) are actively advocating for the reinstatement of full access for the female implementing staff, emphasizing the critical role of female staff in humanitarian delivery.

OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS



**Monthly distribution figures are estimates and subject to change pending final beneficiary reconciliation.*

Emergency Food Assistance

WFP's pre-positioning efforts are ongoing, with 23,800 mt out of 37,000 mt food supplies already dispatched to remote areas ahead of heavy snow that risks cutting off access. Pre-positioning is anticipated to be finalized by mid-December. As of November, WFP reached 1.3 million vulnerable people with nearly 9,000 mt of food and USD 3.6 million in cash assistance.

Resilience and Food Systems

Ahead of the winter season, WFP scaled up Resilience and Food Systems activities in Nuristan, Badakhshan, Ghor, Bamyan, and Wakhan provinces, where snow can block access for up to six months. Assistance more than doubled in three months—from 12,740 households in August to 29,400 in November—through cash-for-work schemes that built over 540 community assets such as protection walls, irrigation canals, roads, reservoirs, and dams. WFP also expanded livelihood and food value chain activities with focus on women, supporting them with poultry, livestock, and providing them with food processing trainings.

WFP's livelihoods initiatives continue to create jobs and support resilience-building across Afghanistan, reaching in November nearly 200,000 participants through Skill for Livelihood Opportunities, Food for Assets and Small-Scale Value Chain and through Smallholder Agricultural Market Support.

School Feeding

In November, WFP provided nutritious food, including Bread+, samosas and fortified biscuits, to 350,000 primary school children in Farah, Ghor, Jawzjan, Kunar and Samangan provinces.

Nutrition

[TSFP] For the treatment of malnutrition, WFP provided 2,000 mt of Specialized Nutritious Food (SNF) to more than 453,000 children aged 6-59 months facing moderate acute malnutrition and acutely malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women.

[BSFP] For the prevention of acute malnutrition, WFP provided nearly 500 mt of SNF to 147,000 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women. These distributions were part of WFP's very narrowly targeted contingency and returnee responses. The broader programme remains suspended due to funding cuts.

For stunting prevention, WFP provided more than 40 mt of SNF to 19,600 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Maternal and Child Benefit Programme

Through the World Bank-funded maternal and child benefit programme, approximately 128,000 pregnant women and mothers of children under the age of 5 years received social and behaviour change communication on nutrition, health, and immunization and USD 1.2 million in cash assistance.

*WFP's Resilience and Food Safety training in Pashmawala, where women received gardening training to improve community resilience ahead of winter.
Photo credit/©World Food Programme*



UN Humanitarian Air Service

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operated a total of 202 flights and facilitated the movement of 1,515 passengers from 62 humanitarian organizations. Additionally, UNHAS transported a total of 3 mt of humanitarian cargo.

UNHAS urgently requires USD-12 million to sustain operations in Afghanistan into 2026. Without urgent funding, UNHAS will have to scale back operations by March 2026, reducing flights and schedules and limiting humanitarian access.

Supply Chain and Logistics

As part of its cost-efficiency measures, WFP continued expanding importation of wheat grain from the region for local milling. By the end of November, under this initiative, nearly 1,200 mt of wheat flour has been milled locally. Additionally, more than 650 mt of fortified biscuits have been produced locally.

WFP Afghanistan donors

Asian Development Bank; Australia; Canada; European Union; France; Germany; Greece; Iceland; Indonesia; Japan; New Zealand; Private Donors; Republic of Korea; Saudi Arabia; Sweden; Switzerland; UN CERF; United Kingdom; World Bank.



WFP's pre-positioning distribution in Wakhan Province, where communities will receive three to five months' worth of food stocks ahead of winter.
Photo credit/ ©WFP Isheeta Sumra



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