



World Food Programme

NFP treats children with malnutrition in Kandahar. © *WFP/Shelley Thakrai*

10 February 2022

In Numbers

22.8 million people – half of the population – are projected to be acutely food insecure in 2022,¹ including 8.7 million at risk of famine-like conditions

4.7 million children, pregnant and lactating women at risk of acute malnutrition in 2022

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

Highlights

- To date, WFP has reached 1.9 million² people with food and nutrition support in February 2021. Due to increased food needs, WFP plans to reach more than 23 million people in 2022.³
- WFP has assisted 2,216 earthquake-affected households in Badghis province after the 5.3 magnitude shook the area on 17 January.
- Harsh winter weather conditions continue to delay operations in some areas due to snow and subsequent road closures.

Situation Update

- Twenty people are believed to have been killed as a result of an avalanche that struck eastern Afghanistan on 06 February, near the border with Pakistan. Rescuers have recovered 15 bodies, while at least five other people remain missing.
- The value of the Afghani against the US Dollar improved this week and currently stands at 92.2 AFN to the US Dollar. As a result, the average price of basic food commodities decreased by up to nine percent.
- Afghanistan is seeing a rise in COVID-19 cases and related deaths, as treatment facilities shut down due to a lack of doctors and resources. As of 08 February, Afghanistan recorded 166,924 cases and 7,442 deaths.
- More than half of Afghanistan's population face crisis (IPC Phase 3) or emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report. This is the highest number of acutely food insecure people ever recorded in Afghanistan and is among the highest levels of acute food insecurity globally.
- Harsh winter conditions, including freezing temperatures and heavy snowfall, continues to impede the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance across the country.

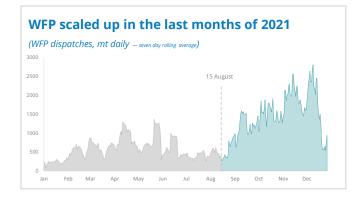
WFP Response

- In January, WFP reached 8.5 million people with food and nutrition assistance, despite experiencing challenges including delayed customs clearance processes on internationally procured commodities and road closures due to heavy snowfall.
- WFP has assisted 2,261 earthquake-affected households in Badghis, as distributions continue in the aftermath of a 5.3 magnitude earthquake that shook the area on 17 January. Assisted households have received a full month's food basket consisting of 100kg wheat flour, 9.1kg vegetable oil, 12.5kg pulses, 1kg salt, and 2.1kg high energy biscuits. WFP plans to assist 2,821 households in need. Distributions will be complete this week.
- WFP successfully processed its first bulk cargo shipment this week using a new customs clearance process for internationally procured commodities that is expected to offer a solution to previous delays experienced at the border.
- WFP assisted 15 million people in 2021, including 7.7 million women and girls, and 7.3 million men and boys. A total 277,000 MT of food was distributed in addition to USD 43.8 million worth of cash and vouchers. WFP plans to reach 15 million people in February due to increased food needs.

^{1.} Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Food Insecurity Analysis report, November 2021 to March 2022 Projections

^{2.} Actual beneficiary and mt numbers are as of 2 February, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.

Planning figures for 2022 are being revised due to an ongoing planning exercise; they are subject to change and pending approval





Food and Nutrition Assistance

- General Food Assistance: WFP reached 8.2
 million people with emergency food and nutrition
 support in January. For the month of February,
 approximately 2 million people have received
 assistance, thus far. To date, 72,844 MT has been
 distributed, in addition to USD 940,000 via cash
 and voucher assistance.
- School feeding: Although schools remain closed in 28 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces, WFP distributed 1.70 MT of high energy biscuits and 31.95 MT of fortified vegetable oil to assist 1,308 primary school children and 7,022 girls. WFP is currently assisting 783 primary schools across the country in addition to 579 community-based education classes. By April 2022, WFP plans to further scale up assistance to reach 2,100 community-based education classes in order to increase coverage in hard-to-reach areas.
- Nutrition: In February, WFP has so far assisted 90,835 children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating 57,269 children and women for existing cases of acute malnutrition. WFP continues to support 158 mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs) across 24 provinces in Afghanistan to ensure access in hard-to-reach areas. The number of active MHNTs have more than doubled since August 2021.
- Asset creation and livelihoods: In January, WFP
 assisted 31,955 people through asset creation and
 livelihoods activities, while 42,042 people have
 already received assistance so far in February. WFP
 plans to support over a million beneficiaries

throughout the year.⁴ WFP started several new vocational skills training activities across 12 provinces in December 2021 and January 2022. WFP is also continuing its food assistance for assets programme across 13 provinces, where a diverse set of assets are being constructed to effectively build the resilience of communities against natural shocks, and to meet the immediate food needs of targeted communities.





Supply Chain and Logistics

- Between 30 January and 05 February, 23,605 MT of food was dispatched to 112 destinations across Afghanistan.
- During the same period, 9,789 MT of food entered the country, bringing WFP's stock to 65,391 MT.
- WFP is working to preposition food commodities in hard-to-reach areas that are currently accessible to mitigate the risk of future delays caused by winter weather.



UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 304 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 1,750 passengers and essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 18 destinations, including airbridges that connect Kabul to Islamabad, Dushanbe and Doha.
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the <u>Humanitarian Booking Hub</u>.

Resourcing Update

- To meet increasing needs in 2022, WFP requires US\$ 220 million per month.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the <u>Global Humanitarian Overview</u> and <u>OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan</u>.

