



WFP Afghanistan Situation Report

24 February 2022

WFP Director of Emergencies visits a distribution site in Kandahar. WFP/Sadeq Nasari

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

- WFP has reached **8.6 million**² people with food, nutrition, and resilience support thus far in February and **11.2 million** people since the beginning of this year. Due to increased food needs, WFP plans to reach 23 million people in 2022.³
- WFP's **Director of Emergencies**, Margot van der Velden, visited Afghanistan this week as part of the inter-agency Emergency Directors Group (EDG) mission to witness first-hand the humanitarian situation on the ground.

Situation Update

- **Another earthquake was reported in Badghis province on 23 February**, reportedly injuring four children. The magnitude and extent of damage is currently unknown. WFP assessment teams are on the ground to determine the need for emergency food assistance.
- **Two-thirds of the population are now resorting to crisis-level coping strategies** to feed their families. This is an eight percentage point increase from December and a staggering sixfold increase since August 2021, according to WFP's latest [Food Security Update](#) for Afghanistan.
- **Almost 100 percent of female-headed households are facing insufficient food consumption.** Female-headed households are more likely to employ crisis-level coping strategies compared to male-headed households.
- **Eight in ten (80 percent) income-earning households experienced a significant decrease in income** during the month of January. Households in Kabul were hit the hardest, where some families braved the harsh winter season without any income at all.
- **More than half of Afghanistan's population**, or 22.8 million people, are acutely food insecure, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) [report](#), while more than 24.4 people are in need of humanitarian support.

WFP Response

- **In February, WFP has reached 8.6 million people** so far with food, nutrition, and resilience support, including 8.3 million people with emergency food and nutrition assistance.
- **WFP co-chairs Afghanistan's Cash and Voucher Working Group (CVWG)**, which this week approved a revised Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) for the transfer value of cash-based assistance. Based on a recalculation of living costs that considers inflation and rising food costs, the revised [MEB is USD 140.61 per month](#), per household with an average of seven members.
- **WFP also continues to lead the Logistics Working Group (LWG)** in Afghanistan.
- **WFP is preparing to participate in the upcoming IPC Analysis** for Afghanistan, which will offer updated food security statistics for the current period as well as projections for the second and third quarters of 2022. Results from this upcoming assessment are expected in April.
- **WFP operates six area offices across Afghanistan** in Kabul, Kandahar, Mazar-e-Sharif, Jalalabad, Herat, and Faizabad to adequately serve all 34 provinces in IPC Phase 3+ across the country. WFP works with more than 80 national and international partners to deliver assistance on the ground.

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 24 February, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.
3. 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 has assisted 8.4 million people with emergency food and nutrition support thus far in February. Distributions are ongoing. Cumulatively, 124,000 MT of food has been disbursed since the beginning of 2022.
- **School feeding:** Although schools remain closed in 28 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces, WFP has distributed 160.82 MT of high energy biscuits and 37.07 MT of fortified vegetable oil in February to assist **123,705** primary school children, including **8,147** 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. In February, WFP also provided cash assistance to **1,957** secondary school girls.
- **Nutrition:** Thus far in February, WFP has assisted **562,000** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **275,000** children and women for existing cases of 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 has more than doubled since August 2021.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** In February, WFP has so far assisted **115,300** people through asset creation and livelihoods activities. WFP plans to

support over a million beneficiaries throughout the year.⁴ Vocational skills trainings are ongoing in 12 provinces. WFP is also continuing its food assistance for assets (FFA) programme in 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 13-19 February, WFP dispatched 28,100 MT of food to 160 destinations across Afghanistan.
- During the same period, 14,094 MT of food entered the country, bringing WFP's in-country stocks to 45,793 MT.
- A further 97,421 MT of mixed food commodities is expected to arrive in February through local, regional, and international procurement channels.
- WFP is preparing to receive the first 3,000 MT out of a total 50,000 MT consignment of wheat from India via Jalalabad.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 453 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 2,843 passengers and 8.6 MT of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 20 domestic destinations and two on-demand, including 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

- To meet increasing needs in 2022, WFP requires USD 1.24 billion over the next six months but faces a shortfall of **USD 813.5 million**.⁴
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).

4. March-August 2022.