In Numbers

18.9 million people – nearly half of the population – are estimated to be acutely food insecure between June-November 2022

4.7 million children, pregnant and lactating women at risk of acute malnutrition in 2022; 3.9 million children are acutely malnourished

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

Highlights

• In July, WFP has thus far reached more than 2 million people with lifesaving food, nutrition, and resilience support. WFP has been forced to reduce its caseload in July to a target of 10 million people due to funding constraints.

• Another 5.1 magnitude earthquake struck Spera district of Khost province on 18 July, causing further destruction to housing structures already rendered vulnerable by last month’s deadly earthquake in the same area. Vulnerability assessments are ongoing. All humanitarian workers in the area have been accounted for.

Situation Update

• An estimated 18.9 million people in Afghanistan are acutely food insecure (IPC 3+), according to the May 2022 IPC Analysis, including 6 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), and 13 million in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Continued humanitarian assistance in Ghor province is needed to deter IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) conditions, which affected some 20,000 people between March and May.

• For over nine months, more than 90 percent of Afghans have experienced insufficient food consumption, according to WFP’s latest Food Security Update: Round Nine (May 2022). Food insecurity among female-headed households is on the rise as nearly 100 percent experience insufficient food consumption, while the proportion of female-headed households reporting severe levels of food insecurity rose to 82 percent in May 2022 from 69 percent in April 2022.

• Recurrent drought and erratic climatic shocks are expected to result in a below average harvest in Afghanistan, which threatens to further compound the food insecurity crisis. FEWSNET data show that dry weather conditions have already resulted in reduced crop yields during the current harvest season, particularly in north and north-eastern rainfed regions.

WFP Response

• In July, WFP has reached more than 2 million people in Afghanistan with food, nutrition, and livelihoods support. Distributions were slightly delayed this month due to the Eid holiday. WFP continues to target 10 million people for assistance between June and September in line with the post-harvest season and limited resources.

• WFP has provided emergency food assistance to 8,700 earthquake-affected households (60,900 people) in Paktika and Khost. Vulnerability assessments are ongoing following the aftershock earthquake recorded on 18 July, which injured at least 10 people and caused further damage to structurally vulnerable homes. More than 783 MT of food has been dispatched to earthquake-affected areas.

• WFP continues responding to flash floods caused by heavy and unseasonal rains. Another bout of flash floods in early July caused significant damage to infrastructure, crops, and livelihoods, and resulted in the loss of human life.

• WFP requires USD 172 million to strategically preposition 150,000 MT of food ahead of the 2023 winter season in areas typically affected by road closures between November and March. Prepositioned food stock will ensure uninterrupted assistance for 2.2 million people in hard-to-reach areas for five months.

1. Actual beneficiary and MT numbers are as of 18 July, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.
Food and Nutrition Assistance

- Resource constraints have forced WFP to suspend programming for 8 million vulnerable people in need of food assistance. Until additional funds are received, the food and nutrition security status of already vulnerable people risks further deterioration.
- **General Food Assistance:** Thus far in July, WFP has assisted 1.7 million people with emergency food and nutrition support. Of this total, approximately 800,000 people received emergency food assistance in-kind, while 415,000 people were assisted via cash and value vouchers, and 387,000 people were assisted via commodity vouchers. In July, WFP has disbursed approximately USD 7.6 million in cash-based assistance.
- **Nutrition:** Thus far in July, WFP has assisted 196,000 children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious food to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating 144,000 malnourished children and women. WFP currently supports nearly 2,200 health centres and 439 mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs) across the country to ensure continued and equitable access in hard-to-reach areas.
- **School feeding:** In July, WFP has assisted approximately 8,100 students through school feeding activities, including the daily distribution of High Energy Biscuits (HEB), Bread+, and take-home rations of vegetable oil for primary school girls. WFP is assisting 20,000 secondary school girls with monthly cash-based incentives across four provinces where they are permitted to attend school.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** In July, WFP assisted 76,000 people through food assistance for assets (FFA) and 25,000 through vocational skills training (VST). WFP VST activities are ongoing in 17 provinces, while FFA activities are ongoing in 22 provinces to enable vulnerable communities to meet their basic food needs while building resilience against recurrent shocks and stressors.

Supply Chain and Logistics

- In July, WFP dispatched 14,221 MT of mixed food commodities across Afghanistan.
- WFP has signed the fifth Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of India for the delivery of an additional 10,000 MT of wheat to Afghanistan. Thus far in 2022, India has contributed 40,000 MT of wheat to WFP Afghanistan.
- WFP is increasing storage capacity across the country to accommodate 150,000 MT of planned prepositioned food commodities ahead of the 2023 winter season.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 2,090 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 13,392 passengers and 29 MT of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 22 domestic destinations and three airbridges that connect Kabul to Islamabad, Dushanbe and Doha. UNHAS has added four routes to Giyan, Urgan, Barmal, and Spera via Khost to support earthquake response efforts.
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](https://wfp.org/afghanistan).

Resourcing Update

- WFP faces a net funding shortfall of USD 960 million to sustain operations over the next 6 months (August 2022 – January 2023).
- WFP requires USD 172 million to preposition 150,000 MT of food commodities by November, ahead of the 2023 winter season and USD 14 million for the earthquake response, of which WFP has received USD 5.3 million.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](https://www.globalhumanitarianoverview.org/afghanistan) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](https://ocha-appeals.org/afghanistan/).