



World Food Programme

# WFP Afghanistan Situation Report

17 February 2022

WFP clears snow-covered roads to ensure assistance is delivered in Faizabad

## In Numbers

**22.8 million** people – half of the population – are projected to be acutely food insecure in 2022,<sup>1</sup> 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 **4.3 million<sup>2</sup>** people with food and nutrition assistance in February so far and **10.1 million** people since the beginning of this year. Due to increased food needs, WFP plans to reach 23 million people in 2022.<sup>3</sup>
- Improved weather conditions provided a window for WFP to pre-position food stock in hard-to-reach areas, though harsh winter weather conditions continue to pose challenges for delivery in some parts of the country.

## Situation Update

- **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.
- **Since December 2021, market access has deteriorated across all regions;** as heavy snowfall and rain blocked roads in January, 17 percent of households reported being unable to access markets in the previous two weeks, compared with 3 percent in December.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Civil society demonstrations were held across the country this week,** which resulted in slight disruptions to WFP operations.

## WFP Response

- **In February, WFP reached 4.3 million people** with food and nutrition support, including 3.2 million people with emergency food assistance.
- **WFP completed emergency food distributions to earthquake-affected households in Badghis,** despite poor weather conditions and difficult terrain. A total of 2,744 households were assisted.
- **Distributions resumed in Kabul city on 13 February** after a temporary suspension.
- **WFP provided cash-based assistance to 1,000 secondary school girls in Mazar-e-Sharif.** Direct cash transfers contribute to the purchase of nutritious food among girls. This assistance also functions as an incentive to retain girls in school.
- **WFP operates more than 900 food distribution sites across 34 provinces in Afghanistan,** all of which are facing crisis (IPC 3) or emergency (IPC 4) levels of food insecurity. WFP works with more than 80 cooperating partners on the ground to ensure that assistance reaches the most vulnerable.
- **WFP is conducting a Pre-Lean Season Assessment** to assess the food security situation and conditions in Afghanistan. Results will also form the basis for the upcoming IPC survey, which will offer a food security status update as well as projections for the second half of 2022.

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 17 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

## WFP's 2022 Scale-Up Factsheet January 2022



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted 4.2 million people with emergency food and nutrition support, thus far in February. Cumulatively, 91,980 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 60.80 MT of high energy biscuits and 29.30 MT of fortified vegetable oil in February to assist **46,769** primary school children, including **6,440** 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:** Thus far in February, WFP has so far assisted **292,800** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **175,000** 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 **45,000** people through asset creation and livelihoods activities. WFP plans to support over a million beneficiaries throughout the year.<sup>4</sup> 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 06-12 February, WFP dispatched 25,390 MT of food to 147 destinations across Afghanistan.
- During the same period, 10,633 MT of food entered the country, bringing WFP's in-country stocks to 56,440 MT.
- A total 150,228 MT of mixed food commodities are expected to arrive in February through local, regional, and international procurement channels.
- 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 377 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 2,318 passengers and 71 MT of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 19 destinations, 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 (March-August 2022) but faces a current shortfall of **USD 813.5 million**.<sup>4</sup>
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).