

# WFP Afghanistan Situation Report



The first batch of Indian wheat arrives at WFP warehouse in Jalalabad. WFP/Sadeq Nasari

02 March 2022

## 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 reached **12 million**<sup>2</sup> people with food, nutrition, and resilience support in February. Due to increased food needs, WFP plans to reach 23 million people in 2022.<sup>3</sup>
- WFP will scale-up to reach **18 million** people in March. This includes scaling up resilience activities, including vocational skills training and food assistance for assets activities, across 17 and 22 provinces, respectively.

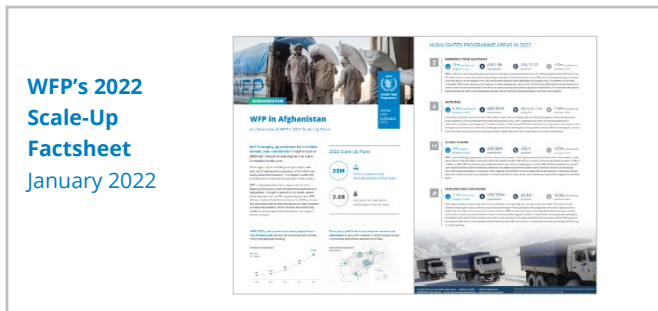
## Situation Update

- **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. Crisis and emergency coping strategies include the sale of organs and children.
- **Almost 100 percent of female-headed households are facing insufficient food consumption.** Female-headed households are more likely to employ crisis-level coping strategies than male-headed households.
- **Eight in ten 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 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) [report](#), while more than 24.4 million people are in need of humanitarian support. A total 8.7 million people are just one step away from experiencing famine-like conditions.

## WFP Response

- **In February, WFP reached 12 million people** with food, nutrition, and resilience support, including 11.7 million people with emergency food and nutrition assistance.
- **WFP will scale up to reach 18 million people** in March with food, nutrition and resilience support.
- **WFP will scale up resilience activities in March** to help vulnerable communities meet their immediate food needs while strengthening their ability to withstand shocks. Vocational skills training (VST) and food assistance for assets (FFA) activities will also be scaled up across 17 and 22 provinces, respectively.
- **WFP is closely monitoring the impact of the situation in Ukraine**, which is already disrupting international procurement and delivery of commodities to Afghanistan.
- **WFP is preparing to participate in the next IPC Analysis** for Afghanistan, which will update food security statistics for the current period as well as projections for the second and third quarters of 2022. Results from the upcoming assessment are expected in April.

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 02 March, 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 assisted 11.7 million people with emergency food and nutrition support in February. Since the beginning of 2022 149,000 MT of food has been distributed.
- **School feeding:** Although schools remain closed in 28 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces for winter break, WFP is currently assisting 783 primary schools across the country in addition to 579 community-based education classes. WFP distributed 236 MT of high energy biscuits and 220 MT of fortified vegetable oil in February to assist **181,623** primary school children, including **48,378** girls. 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 assisted **826,000** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent acute malnutrition, while treating **333,000** malnourished children and women. 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 assisted **146,200** 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 canals, roads, and community

4. March-August 2022.

5. A correction from last week's Situation Report that stated 50,000 MT as the total consignment.

irrigation systems are being constructed to strengthen the resilience of communities against natural shocks, and to meet the immediate food needs of targeted communities.



## Supply Chain and Logistics

- Between 20-26 February, WFP dispatched 27,658 MT of food to 140 destinations across Afghanistan.
- During the same period, 9,798 MT of food entered the country, bringing WFP's in-country stocks to 59,362 MT.
- A further 139,578 MT of mixed food commodities are expected to arrive in March through local, regional, and international procurement channels.
- WFP received the first 2,500 MT of a total 10,000 MT<sup>5</sup> of wheat from India at its warehouse in Jalalabad.
- The Spin Boldak border crossing point between Afghanistan and Pakistan was temporarily closed due to unrest this week, delaying 70 WFP trucks at the border. The crossing point has since reopened.



## UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 515 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 3,310 passengers and 9.1 MT of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 20 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 but faces a shortfall of **USD 813.5 million**.<sup>4</sup> WFP is facing an overall shortfall of **USD 1.7 billion** to sustain operations through 2022.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).