

WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report

21 November 2022

In Numbers

19.9 million people – nearly half of the population – are projected to be acutely food insecure between November 2022 and March 2023, according to preliminary estimates

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 November, WFP has assisted **3.5 million**¹ people so far with emergency food, nutrition, and livelihood support. Distributions are ongoing to reach 15 million beneficiaries this month.
- To date, WFP has successfully prepositioned **79,012 mt** of food assistance across the country ahead of the winter season.
- **WFP urgently requires USD 1.46 billion** to sustain operations through May 2023, with **severe shortfalls beginning in January**. As the winter period approaches, more than 6 million people in IPC Phase 4, teeter on the brink of famine, and require urgent humanitarian support to avoid catastrophic levels of hunger.

Situation Update

- **An estimated 19.9 million people in Afghanistan are acutely food-insecure (IPC 3+)**, according to preliminary projections for November 2022 to March 2023.² Populations in 12 provinces are estimated to be experiencing IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) conditions during the winter lean season. WFP awaits the official endorsement of an updated IPC Analysis for this period.
- **Afghanistan continues to face the highest prevalence of insufficient food consumption globally**. Results from a special edition of the monthly WFP [Food Security Update](#) showed that, on average, 92 percent of household income is spent on food, while 51 percent of households rely on coping strategies to meet their basic food needs. Nine in ten households (90 percent) continue to face insufficient food consumption.
- **Female-headed households are disproportionately affected**, as **96 percent** are facing insufficient food consumption amid restrictions on women and girls. Female heads of household are twice as likely to sacrifice their meals so that their families can eat, compared to male-headed households.
- **Record high fuel prices continue** to impact transportation costs across Afghanistan, resulting in an increase in the national average price of basic food commodities and localized food prices in remote areas. While an increased supply of diesel is expected to lower transportation prices in the coming weeks, prices remain far higher than a year ago.

WFP Response

- **So far in November, WFP assisted 3.5 million people in Afghanistan** with emergency food, nutrition, and livelihood support. It aims to reach 15 million people this month.
- **The Salang Pass experienced its first closure of this winter season**. The movement of trucks was halted for one day due to poor winter weather conditions. The Salang Pass is a key transport corridor that connects Kabul to northern provinces in Afghanistan and is often impassible during the winter season, impacting the delivery of assistance to remote areas.
- **WFP has prepositioned 79,012 mt of food** in hard-to-reach areas during the winter season. Its goal is 100,000 mt to feed 1.5 million people.
- **WFP assisted several flood-affected families in Badakhshan province**, after heavy rains destroyed homes, infrastructure, and livelihoods between 7-8 November. Affected communities risk particularly heightened levels of vulnerability as winter weather sets in.
- **School feeding activities resumed in all areas** affected by temporary suspensions, after successful negotiations with de facto authorities.
- **WFP has partnered with the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF** to deliver an annual school-based deworming campaign for school-aged children across all 34 provinces in Afghanistan.

1. Actual beneficiary and mt numbers are as of 21 November and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.
2. Figures are still under review for official endorsement and may be subject to change.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** Thus far, in November, WFP has assisted more than **3.1 million** people with emergency food and nutrition support, including **2.5 million** people with in-kind food assistance, **300,000** people with direct cash or value vouchers, and more than **120,000** people with commodity vouchers.
- **Nutrition:** In November, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to **213,500** women and children for the prevention of malnutrition, and **222,000** women and children for the treatment of existing cases. WFP supports more than 2,200 health centers and 421 mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs) across the country to ensure continued and equitable access to nutrition assistance in hard-to-reach areas.
- **School feeding:** In November, WFP provided nutritious mid-day snacks to **331,000** primary school students, of which **181,000** primary school girls also received take-home rations of vegetable oil. WFP has also provided cash incentives to more than **11,120** secondary school girls in four provinces (Balkh, Jawzjan, Sar-e-Pul, and Zabul) where they are permitted to attend school.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** In November, WFP assisted **70,000** people through food assistance for assets (FFA) programming and **1,400** people through food assistance for training (FFT) activities. WFP held 15 Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) workshops for community representatives from different districts, NGOs, UN agencies, and relevant stakeholders on gender and livelihoods, vulnerabilities and shocks, and opportunities to improve collaboration throughout the year. Another five SLP workshops are scheduled in the coming weeks.



Supply Chain and Logistics

- During the reporting period, WFP dispatched **28,655 MT** of mixed food commodities to its cooperating partners, representing 41 percent of the monthly plan.
- WFP has received 97 percent of fertilizer for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under its service agreement. More than 37,486 MT has been transported by WFP commercial transporters to FAO implementing partners.
- WFP is contracting six additional transport companies to support operations in Hairatan, pending the finalization of agreements.



UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS operates flights to **27** destinations, including **23** domestic destinations and four airbridges that connect Kabul to Islamabad, Dushanbe, Dubai, and Doha.
- UNHAS has conducted **3,720** flights in 2022 so far, transporting **24,069** passengers (16,863 on domestic and 7,206 on international flights), including transportation of nine medevac patients and **50.42** MT of humanitarian light cargo (medical equipment, medicine vaccine, and office supply).
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#).

Resourcing Update

- WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **US\$1.46 billion** to sustain operations over the next six months (December 2022 – May 2023).
- Food, nutrition, and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).

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