



Flood affected communities in Baghlan Province, Afghanistan ©WFP/Rana Deraz



World Food Programme

WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report

May 2024

In Numbers

12.4 million people are projected acutely food-insecure between May and October 2024, including 2.9 million people in Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 4 (emergency).

4 million people are acutely malnourished, including 3.2 million children under the age of 5 years.

23.7 million people require humanitarian assistance in 2024.

Highlights

- In May, flash floods in six provinces swept through villages, destroyed thousands of houses, flooded fields, and drowned livestock. The flooding struck in hunger hotspots where people already had nearly nothing to survive on.
- WFP is currently using its available resources to respond to this emergency amidst resource constraints. However, this response inevitably diverts attention and resources from existing and already reduced responses. WFP urgently [requires](#) US\$14.5 million over the next 6-12 months to reach flood affected communities across the country.

Situation Update

- **Afghanistan declared a [state of emergency](#) in affected areas following non-stop rains in May.** Recurrent floods due to rain and avalanches since March 2024 have led to fatalities, infrastructural damage, livelihood destruction and road access issues. At least 25 out of 34 provinces have been affected, urgently requiring additional resources to address the escalating humanitarian and health crises.
- **The latest IPC analysis indicates marginal improvements in Afghan food security amid persistent challenges.** The [IPC report](#) shows a marginal improvement in the food security situation is expected, with around 12.4 million people likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between May and October 2024. The projected decline in the total number of severely food insecure people in the post-harvest period compared to the same period in the previous years was likely driven by the scale of humanitarian food and emergency agricultural assistance and the improvements to the cereal harvest in 2023.

WFP Response

- **Flash floods:** Floods continue to sweep across the Northern, Western, and Northeastern regions of Afghanistan. Shops have been flooded, agricultural land washed away, livestock and orchards lost, and

lives claimed. WFP is [providing emergency assistance](#) to communities in the aftermath of extreme weather. WFP has so far assisted 10,138 households in flood-affected areas; distributing 1,198 mt of mixed food commodities and US\$56,000 in cash assistance.

- During a flood in Baghlan province, a WFP-supported protection wall safeguarded 670 families and 400 acres of agricultural land. This effort benefited several communities, highlighting the need to invest in more efforts to protect more communities. The floods which occurred in May have required immediate intervention under WFP's contingency response, activated across 70 districts in 14 provinces, with more than 10,000 families reached. Ghor, Baghlan and Faryab were the worst-hit provinces, and accounted for 72 percent of all the people assisted.
- In 2024, WFP has so far reached more than 24,000 families, with food or cash assistance, impacted by sudden onset natural hazards across 32 provinces. Of these, 54 percent have been affected by floods, 29 percent by heavy rainfalls, 16 percent by heavy snowfalls, and the remaining 1 percent by drought, earthquakes, and other minor events.
- **Afghan Returnees:** Daily rates of returnees remain low, averaging 50 families per day at each border crossing point with Pakistan. WFP has assisted over 339,000 returnees since November 2023. The Border Consortium has launched an [Integrated Appeal](#) on

more Durable Solutions for Afghan returnees. WFP requires US\$12.7 million to continue the planned border response throughout 2024.

- **Early Warning Rapid Assessment:** The May Rapid Assessment data collection and analysis will conclude on 3 June. The results of the rapid assessments will inform the final July–September hotspot allocations where WFP is expected to target 400,000 beneficiaries through a hotspot response.

Emergency Food and Nutrition Assistance

In May, WFP reached **2.3 million** people with emergency food, cash, and nutrition support. This included **1.6 million** with in-kind support, while **752,900** received cash-based transfers.

General Food Assistance

- From May to October, WFP will only be able to support about 1 million people monthly, leaving a gap of 11 million people in need of food assistance who cannot be served due to lack of funding.

Nutrition

- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods (SNF) for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to **464,000** children aged 06-59 months and acutely malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G). For the prevention of acute malnutrition, WFP provided SNF to **358,600** children aged 06-59 months and PBW/G.

Maternal and Child Benefit Programme

- Beneficiary targeting continues in MCBP districts, with WFP initiating radio broadcasts for community outreach this month in four districts where radio coverage is available. The programme aims to increase access to and utilisation of essential health and nutrition services, targeting pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children aged 6-23 months in selected districts with high child malnutrition rates and chronic food insecurity.

Supply Chain and Logistics

- WFP dispatched **23,458 mt** of mixed food commodities, reaching 80 percent of its target. About **52,665 mt** of food is available at WFP warehouses in

the country, while **25,861 mt** of food is in transit or within WFP warehouses outside the country.

- The recent floods and adverse weather conditions have impacted some food dispatches to cooperating partners in areas under Herat, Jalalabad and Faizabad, with deliveries for around 3,000 mt.
- The Quetta-Chaman highway at Kojak Top has been closed since 7 May due to sit-in protests, leading to the closure of the Chaman-Spin Boldak border crossing. Mediation by Pakistani authorities is ongoing.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has so far operated **1,233** flights this year, serving over **7,500** passengers from **88** humanitarian organizations across 22 destinations (18 domestic, 4 international).
- UNHAS transported **17 mt** of light humanitarian cargo, which included crucial medical equipment, medicines, vaccines, and other essential operational supplies. One patient was also transported on a medical evacuation mission to Islamabad.
- Medical and Repatriation Services: There were two MEDEVACs.
- UNHAS has discontinued flights to and from Doha on 2 June. The decision was made in March in alignment with operational adjustments. The last flight from Kabul to Doha will depart on 30 May 2024, and from Doha to Kabul on 2 June 2024.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires US\$1.6 billion in 2024 to deliver emergency food, nutrition and livelihood support to those most in need. WFP faces a funding shortfall of **US\$510 million** to sustain operations over the next six months (June to November). The funding requirement is inclusive of US\$46 million in outstanding advances which need to be repaid.
- The above figure also includes **US\$111 million** required for 2024/2025 winter prepositioning.
- In addition, WFP needs **US\$12.7 million** for the returnee response and **US\$14.5 million** for the flood response.

**Distribution figures for May are subject to change following validation.*

Contact Us:

OIM and Reports Officer:

Kessang Lama, kessang.lama@wfp.org

WFP Country Director:

Hsiao-Wei Lee, hsiaowei.lee@wfp.org