



WFP trucks delivering food; Badakhshan, Afghanistan. ©WFP/Hayatullah Rasoli

Highlights

- The de facto authorities in Afghanistan have issued a letter restating a 2022 decree prohibiting female workers in NGOs. WFP is working with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and its NGO partners to continue principled humanitarian assistance to the women, men, and children.
- Due to border skirmishes between Afghanistan and Pakistan since 25 December, WFP has delayed food distribution in Barmal and Giyan districts of Paktika province. Clashes have also occurred in Paktya and Khost provinces. WFP is monitoring the situation for potential internal displacement due to the conflict.
- Effective 1 December 2024, Pakistani authorities has suspended UNHAS flights between Kabul and Islamabad. UNHAS has requested Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to intervene with the Ministry of Aviation for immediate reinstatement of flight clearances.

In Numbers



7.1 million people assisted



14.8 million people food-insecure (IPC Phase 3-4) from Nov 2024 to Mar 2025



22.9 million people require humanitarian assistance in 2025

US\$652 million six months (January – June 2025) net funding requirements

SITUATION UPDATE

- **Food insecurity:** The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projects that 14.8 million people are in Phase 3 (Crisis) or above (Emergency) and are in urgent need of humanitarian food assistance from November 2024 to March 2025. Food insecurity has improved slightly compared to the same period last year, with one million fewer people categorized as acutely food insecure.
- **Malnutrition rates:** Approximately 3.5 million children under the age of five and 1.2 million pregnant and breastfeeding women are projected to suffer from acute malnutrition in 2025. Compared to 2024, this marks a 20 percent increase in children suffering from acute malnutrition and in need of treatment, and 6 percent for pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- In addition, Afghanistan is faced with chronic malnutrition with about 3 million children aged 0-59 months stunted. Poor diets (with three in four families unable to afford a nutritious diet), high levels of disease, sub-optimal immunization coverage, poor water and sanitation conditions, significant access challenges to health and nutrition services especially during the winter season remain as key drivers. There is an urgent need to sustain food assistance for the most vulnerable people and to scale up nutrition services through an integrated multisectoral approach to not risk the gains made.

WFP OPERATIONAL PRESENCE



WFP OPERATIONS

In December, WFP assisted approximately 7.1 million people across its operations in Afghanistan with 50,758 mt food and US\$20.15 million in cash-based transfers.

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

- In December, WFP reached **5.9 million** vulnerable people with **43,396 mt** food and **US\$18.7 million** cash under its general food assistance. Over half of them (52 percent) received cash-based transfers and commodity vouchers in areas where markets are operational, empowering them with the choice in meeting their food needs. Meanwhile **1.5 million** people received **62,000 mt** of prepositioned food.
- There were delays in food distributions in December due to issues on the biometric registration of female beneficiaries in a small number of districts resulting in suspensions and necessitating negotiations. These were resolved and biometric registration has resumed.
- Afghan returnees from Iran and Pakistan:** WFP assisted **622** forced returnee families with a cash assistance to meet their food needs. Each family received AFN 5,800 (~US\$80) in addition to 300 grams of fortified biscuits to each individual returnee. WFP has also started assisting returnees at the Milak border crossing with Iran in December and is negotiating with the de facto authorities to set up response at the Islam Qala border crossing.

SCHOOL FEEDING

- In December, WFP distributed nutritious snacks such as fortified biscuits, Bread+, and samosas as well as vegetable oil as take-home rations to **489,200** primary schoolchildren across 2,000 schools in eight provinces.
- WFP is working with bakeries run by women to produce home-grown snacks. In 2025, it plans to expand to produce vegetable samosas as school snacks for over 10,000 children in Jawzjan province.

NUTRITION

- WFP supplemented **3,272 mt** specialized nutritious food (SNF) to **555,100** children aged 6-59 months and acutely malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls facing moderate acute malnutrition. For the prevention of acute malnutrition, WFP provided **3,883 mt** of SNF to **1.4 million** children

aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls.

RESILIENCE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

- Under the food assistance for assets programme, **50,400** beneficiaries participated in the construction or rehabilitation of community assets such as irrigation canals, storage dams, reforestation, and reservoirs, receiving **109 mt** food and **US\$606,900** in cash assistance. Through livelihoods training, **36,800** vulnerable women, girls and youth have received **US\$499,900** in cash assistance.

MATERNAL AND CHILD BENEFIT PROGRAMME

- Under the World Bank-funded maternal and child benefit programme, **37,600** pregnant women and mothers of children under five received social behaviour change communication on nutrition, health and immunization as well as **US\$322,000** in cash assistance. With additional funding from the World Bank, the programme is set to provide livelihood opportunities for women and youth, with synergies between WFP's home-grown school feeding and resilience programmes as well as with other World Bank partners such as UNICEF.

SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS

- In December, WFP dispatched **16,147 mt** of food, reaching 99 percent of its December target; **64,014 mt** of food was available at WFP warehouses in the country (including GCMF), while **12,932 mt** of food was in transit or in WFP warehouses outside the country.

UN HUMANITARIAN AIR SERVICE (UNHAS)

- UNHAS operated **3,164 flights** in 2024, serving **20,084 passengers** from 116 humanitarian organizations across 28 destinations (24 domestic and 4 international) and transporting **49.7 mt** of cargo.

RESOURCING OVERVIEW

WFP Afghanistan is 10 percent funded for the January – June 2025 six-month period, with a net funding requirement of **US\$652 million**.

		PEOPLE ASSISTED*	FOOD DISTRIBUTED (MT)	CASH DISBURSED (USD)
STRATEGIC OUTCOME	ACTIVITY	7,121,199	50,758	\$20,149,071
STRATEGIC OUTCOME 1	ACTIVITY 1: Nutrition-sensitive Food Assistance	5,952,212	43,396	\$18,700,865
	ACTIVITY 9: Malnutrition Treatment and Prevention	1,966,857	7,155	-
STRATEGIC OUTCOME 2	ACTIVITY 2: Transformative Livelihood Support	87,115	109	\$1,106,757
STRATEGIC OUTCOME 3	ACTIVITY 4: School Feeding	489,236	98	\$19,489
	ACTIVITY 10: Transitional Safety Nets	37,562	-	\$321,960

* Monthly distribution figures are estimates and subject to change pending final beneficiary reconciliation.

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