

# WFP Afghanistan

## Situation Report

01 April 2022



Women and men queue for WFP assistance in Mazar-e-Sharif. © WFP/Ziauddin Safi

## 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 **14.8 million**<sup>2</sup> people with food, nutrition, and resilience support in 2022 and **12 million** people thus far in March. WFP plans to reach 23 million people in 2022.
- Operations are resuming in Ghor and Herat this week, but remain suspended in Kandahar and Kabul city.
- WFP Afghanistan's [2021 Annual Country Report \(ACR\)](#) has been published. In 2021, WFP reached a total 15 million people, of which 51 percent were female. WFP distributed 277,478 MT of food and USD 43 million in cash assistance.

## Situation Update

- **A new Food Security Update for Afghanistan has been released**, based on survey data from February 2022. [Results](#) show a continued decline in the food and nutrition status of respondents, indicating a deepening food security crisis.
- **95 percent of the population continues to face inadequate food consumption**, as household income levels and opportunities continued to decline. More than 85 percent of households previously earning income reported no income earned at all during the month of February.
- **The number of people employing crisis coping strategies to survive increased** from 66 percent in January to 71 percent in February.
- **Households hosting people with disabilities are disproportionately affected**, as 85 percent resort to crisis coping strategies to meet their food needs.
- **Almost 100 percent of female-headed households surveyed are facing insufficient food consumption.** Female-headed households are more likely to employ crisis coping strategies compared to male-headed households.
- **Results of the ongoing Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment** are expected in early April. Currently 23 million people are acutely food insecure (IPC 3 and 4).

## WFP Response

- **WFP reached approximately 12 million people in March** with food, nutrition, and resilience support, including 10.6 million people with emergency food and nutrition assistance.
- **WFP provided commodity vouchers in lieu of in-kind food baskets to 36,000 households** this month to ensure the timely delivery of assistance amidst supply chain challenges at the border.
- **Operations were suspended in four areas this week**, due to ongoing negotiations with de facto authorities. While operations are resuming in Herat and Ghor, they remain suspended in Kandahar and Kabul city.
- **A virtual pledging conference for Afghanistan was held on 31 March**, co-hosted by the United Kingdom, Qatar, and Germany. The [conference](#) was a significant fundraising opportunity for the 2022 inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), with a total of USD 2.4 billion raised. Receiving a portion of these funds will help WFP to sustain emergency food and resilience operations through 2022, as it faces a USD 1.6 billion shortfall on plans to reach 23 million people this year.
- **WFP Afghanistan's 2021 Annual Country Report (ACR) has been released.** In 2021, WFP reached 15 million people with food, nutrition, and resilience assistance.

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 31 March, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.

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



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted 10.6 million people with emergency food and nutrition support in March. Cumulatively, 276,709 MT of food has been distributed in 2022.
- **Nutrition:** So far in March, WFP has assisted **905,000** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **334,000** 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.
- **School feeding:** In March, WFP has distributed 402 MT of high energy biscuits and 937 MT of fortified vegetable oil to over **454,000** primary school children, including nearly **206,000** girls. Where possible, WFP plans to provide monthly cash transfers to 10,200 secondary schoolgirls as an incentive to encourage their enrolment and continued attendance. Secondary-level girls remain banned from school in most provinces except for Mazar, Sar-e-Pul, Jawzjan, Faryab, Ghor, and Herat.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** In March, WFP has assisted over **77,500** people through food assistance for assets (FFA) activities and **70,800** people through vocational skills training (VST). In March, WFP supported the FFA rehabilitation of a 14.5 km road that improves access to more than 500 households in Nangarhar province. WFP also supported the construction of a 210-meter retaining wall that protects the road and 50 houses from flood risk. FFA activities are implemented in 22 provinces across Afghanistan, while VST activities are implemented in 17 provinces.



### Supply Chain and Logistics

- Between 20-27 March, WFP dispatched **32,569 MT** of food to 136 destinations across Afghanistan.
- During the same period, 28,456 MT of food entered the country, bringing WFP's in-country stocks to 82,051 MT.
- A further 127,057 MT of mixed food commodities is expected to arrive in April through local, regional, and international procurement channels.
- The Hairatan border crossing point (with Uzbekistan) is facing significant congestion due to the large volume of arrivals that are backlogged due to the 15-day closure of Afghanistan's Salang Pass earlier in March. WFP has increased storage capacity at the border through additional Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) and is augmenting local transport capacity to speed up the flow of goods.
- In February, WFP supported the production of 37,558 MT of fortified wheat flour, of which 35,535 MT was procured by WFP for humanitarian assistance.



### UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 792 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 5,153 passengers and 12.8 MT of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 20 domestic destinations and two on demand, as well as three 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 1.1 billion over the next six months (April-September) but faces a shortfall of **USD 525.6 million**. WFP is facing an overall shortfall of **USD 1.6 billion** to sustain operations through 2022, which will begin to impact operations in May.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).