



WFP Country Director speaks to flood affected families. ©WFP/Rana Deraz



World Food Programme

WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report

July 2024

In Numbers

12.4 million people are projected to be 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.

23.7 million people require humanitarian assistance in 2024.

Highlights

- A devastating storm struck Nangarhar Province in July, triggering severe floods and heavily affecting surrounding districts. The storm caused at least 40 deaths and over 350 people sustained injuries.
- The de facto authority announced the suspension of recognition for documents issued by 14 Afghan diplomatic missions abroad, including passports and visas. This decision affects Afghan nationals who now face difficulties in obtaining documentation and consular services.

Situation Update

- **Humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan continues. The United Nations reported “massive poverty”** and humanitarian despair throughout the country. Afghanistan’s challenges have been compounded by the impacts of climate change and a lack of preparedness capacity to deal with shocks and stressors. The restrictions on women's and girls' rights, including bans on education for girls past sixth grade, will have severe economic consequences. Political instability and security concerns pose significant challenges to the effective delivery of humanitarian aid. There is also a need for greater flexibility and political willingness from all stakeholders to address the underlying issues and move beyond crisis management.
- **In July 2024, a devastating storm struck Nangarhar** Province in eastern Afghanistan, causing significant loss of life and property. The storm, characterized by heavy rainfall and strong winds led to severe flooding and destruction. At least 40 people were reported dead, and over 350 others were injured. The hardest-hit areas included the provincial capital, Jalalabad, and several surrounding districts such as Surkh Rod, Behsud, and Batikot. Humanitarian organizations, including WFP, are involved in relief efforts, providing essential supplies and support to the affected communities. However, challenges remain, particularly with access to clean water, sanitation, and shelter for displaced families.
- **Diplomatic suspension: On July 30, the de facto authority (DfA) in Afghanistan announced that it would no longer recognize documents** issued by 14 Afghan diplomatic missions abroad, including passports, visas, and other official documents. This decision affects embassies and consulates in countries including **Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom**.
- The DfA's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that these missions had been uncooperative and were acting independently of Kabul. As a result, Afghan nationals in these countries were advised to seek consular services from other DfA-controlled missions, creating significant challenges for Afghans abroad who now might have to travel to other countries for DfA-approved documentation.

WFP Response

- **Flood response:** WFP continued its contingency response to flash floods caused by heavy rains in May, conducting inter-agency assessments across affected areas to identify humanitarian needs and inform subsequent actions. As spells of rain continued, WFP supported the affected communities through distributions and other interventions.
- Since May, WFP has provided food or cash assistance to over 129,000 individuals affected by shocks. Of these, 53 percent have been affected by floods, 31 percent by heavy rainfalls, 15 percent by heavy

snowfalls, and the rest by drought, earthquakes, and minor events.

- **Afghan Returnees:** Daily rates of returnees in July went down to around 20 households per day at each border crossing point with Pakistan. WFP continues to provide cash and nutrition and food assistance to incoming individuals at the the Torkhan and Spin Boldok crossings. Since the start of the response, WFP has reached over **360,000** beneficiaries including nearly 10,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five.
- At the border, WFP provides high-energy biscuits, cash (AFN 6,400 or approximately US\$90), and malnutrition treatment to address the immediate needs of returnees. In areas of return, WFP is currently integrating returnees into ongoing resilience activities. Depending on funding availability, WFP aims to extend these efforts into more durable solutions, offering sustainable livelihood opportunities and promoting social cohesion with host communities in the long term.
- **Early Warning Rapid Assessment:** WFP conducted a comprehensive early warning and Geographic Information System (GIS) training for 62 participants from area offices, cooperating partners, and third-party monitoring teams. These training sessions aim to strengthen country-wide early warning and famine prevention capacities. By equipping participants with advanced skills in early warning systems and introduction to geospatial analysis, WFP enhances operational capacities to analyse and respond to potential crises based on real-time, ground-level data. This initiative not only improves ability for context analysis by incorporating inputs directly from the ground but also fosters a collaborative approach to identifying and mitigating risks, ultimately contributing to more effective and timely interventions in vulnerable areas.

Emergency Food and Nutrition Assistance

In July, WFP reached **1.08 million** people with emergency food, cash, and nutrition support. This included **979,400** under the hotspot response, while **33,500** were reached through WFP's contingency operations.

General Food Assistance

- From May to October, WFP will only be able to support a maximum of 1.2 million people monthly, leaving a gap of 11 million people in need of food assistance who cannot be assisted due to lack of funding.

Nutrition

- WFP provided specialized nutritious foods (SNF) for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition to **481,700** children aged 6-59 months and acutely malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G). For the prevention of acute malnutrition, WFP provided SNF to **226,400** children aged 6-59 months and PBW/G.

Maternal and Child Benefit Programme

- Access negotiations with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) are ongoing, with a joint technical meeting with UNICEF scheduled in August to address key guideline concerns. Additionally, a World Bank technical mission in August will discuss progress, access issues, updated timelines, and the scope of the Health Emergency Response, of which MCBP is the third component. Distributions are planned in Zaranj and Warduj for August.

Supply Chain and Logistics

- WFP dispatched **9,900 mt** of mixed food commodities, reaching 99 percent of its target. About **61,650 mt** of food is available at WFP warehouses in the country, while **22,530 mt** of food is in transit or within WFP warehouses outside the country.
- The Torkham crossing point remains open and accessible for both truck and pedestrian movements, with normal customs clearance processes operating on both sides.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has operated **1,762** flights so far this year, serving **10,900** passengers from 101 humanitarian organizations across 19 destinations (20 domestic and 4 international), including seven ad-hoc destinations.
- UNHAS transported **24 mt** of light humanitarian cargo, which included medical equipment, medicines, vaccines, and other essential operational supplies.
- Medical and Repatriation Services: WFP facilitated four medical evacuations and repatriation of mortal remains.

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\$699 million** to sustain operations over the next six months (Aug 2024 to January 2025). The funding requirement is inclusive of USD 46 million in outstanding advances which need to be repaid.

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