



WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report December 2025

WFP delivered food assistance to the remotest areas of Afghanistan, preventing extreme hunger during the harsh winter.
 © WFP/Hayatullah Rasoli



WFP Afghanistan Spotlight

1. Afghanistan faces a harsh winter at a moment of heightened vulnerability and escalating humanitarian need. After multiple years of compounding shocks, families have exhausted nearly every option they once relied on to survive. Today, 17.4 million people—over one-third of the population—are facing crisis or emergency levels of hunger. A sharp increase of three million people from last year marks one of the most severe lean seasons in decades. Acute malnutrition is also worsening, impacting an estimated 3.7 million children under five and 1.2 million pregnant and breastfeeding women in 2026.
2. WFP frontloaded its winter assistance plan, scaling up to 4 million people in prioritized IPC Phase 4 provinces, winter-isolated districts, and returnee hubs. However, this comes at a cost: WFP risks running out of resources by spring.
3. WFP's Needs-Based Plan for January–June 2026 is only 14 percent funded, with a USD 386 million gap. Without urgent new resources, WFP will be forced to suspend its emergency food and nutrition assistance operations, leaving millions at heightened risk of hunger and malnutrition.

OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS

 **2.5 M**
PEOPLE ASSISTED

 **21,200 MT**
FOOD DELIVERED

 **USD 6.8 M**
CASH DISTRIBUTED

 **USD 386 M**
NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT
FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

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

RESPONSE TO FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION

WFP had initially planned to provide emergency assistance to 3 million of the 17.4 million people in need, from October 2025 to April 2026. However, the November IPC showed a sharp deterioration in the food security situation, with 4.7 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). WFP has front-loaded its 2026 response, scaling up to 4 million people during winter to maximize coverage in IPC Phase 4 provinces, winter-isolated districts, and returnee hubs.

Nutrition targets for 2026 are to reach 70 percent of people in need (PIN), covering 2.3 million for treatment (TSFP) and 2.5 million for prevention (BSFP). Still, nearly 1 million acutely malnourished children and women will remain unassisted, increasing the risk of severe wasting. Pipeline breaks for food and nutrition programmes are expected as early as February due to both funding shortages and the closure of the border with Pakistan, creating a serious risk of programme suspension.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In December, WFP reached 1.5 million vulnerable people with 19,200 MT of food and nearly USD 3.3 million in cash assistance. This compares with 17.4 million people estimated to be in dire need of food assistance between November 2025 and March 2026.

Winter Pre-positioning (2025/26): WFP managed to preposition 37,000 MT winter food commodities in 63 winter-isolated districts in three phases, ensuring stocks are in place before snow and road closures limit movement into mountainous areas.

Returnee Response:

Pakistan: Since 12 October 2025, the border crossing points at Torkham and Spin Boldak remain closed to commercial traffic but have since opened for returnees. Spin Boldak returnee flows are declining seasonally (~610 people/day), while Torkham crossings surged after camp closures in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, exceeding 4,000 people/day between 16 and 18 December. WFP also began assistance at Bahramcha, Helmand on 14 December, where returns average 300 people/day.

Iran: On 4 November 2025, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Border Consortium suspended operations in Islam Qala following a de facto authority (DFA) ban on female staff. Limited activities resumed on 13 November after the DFA allowed a small number of female staff to return to work. WFP also restarted TSFP on 3 December and plans to restart cash assistance. At Zaranj, flows are easing averaging ~850 returnees/day, with operations continuing smoothly.

Earthquake Response: In December, WFP continued the extended earthquake response in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Laghman, targeting 97,000 people through March, with over 2,255 MT of food planned for delivery. Assistance included cash transfers and BSFP, with in-kind food assistance maintained in hard-to-reach areas.

Similarly, in Samangan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Sar-e-Pul, WFP continued to assist more than 35,000

earthquake-affected people with cash transfers and BSFP, as well as in-kind food in hard-to-reach areas, distributing over 500 MT food commodities to ensure timely support ahead of the winter.

RESILIENCE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

In December, WFP's livelihoods initiatives continued to create jobs and support resilience-building across Afghanistan, reaching more than 240,000 people in December and distributing more than USD 3 million in cash transfers.

SCHOOL FEEDING

In December, WFP provided nutritious food, including Bread+, samosas and fortified biscuits, to more than 160,000 primary school children.

NUTRITION

TSFP: For the treatment of malnutrition, WFP provided nearly 1,150 MT of specialised nutritious foods to more than 343,000 acutely malnourished children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

BSFP: For the prevention of acute malnutrition, WFP provided more than 820 MT of specialised nutritious foods to nearly 200,000 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Stunting Prevention: WFP provided more than 40 MT of specialised nutritious foods to nearly 17,000 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women.



Aziz Maha, a widow and mother of three, struggles to put food on the table and her children are malnourished. She lives in a remote village in a shared house with five other families. Aziz Maha and her children rely on WFP food and nutrition assistance to survive the harsh winter. ©WFP/Sadeq Naseri

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Through the World Bank-funded Maternal and Child Benefit Programme (MCBP), approximately 82,700 pregnant women and mothers of children under the age of 5 years received social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) on nutrition, health, and immunisation and USD 775,000 in cash assistance.

WFP is also expanding the MCBP to provide quarterly cash and SBCC sessions for up to 13,000 women and caregivers in the eastern earthquake-affected areas, ensuring sustained nutrition support for 12–18 months.

SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS

As part of its cost-efficiency measures, WFP continued importing wheat grain from the region for local milling. As of the end of December, over 5,000 MT of wheat flour has been milled locally in support of winter prepositioning. Additionally, approximately 860 MT of fortified biscuits were produced locally.

Southern Corridor: The Afghanistan–Pakistan border closure has delayed the movement of over

12,000 MT of commodities, causing an estimated 2,500 MT shortfall for November–December. As winter compounds humanitarian needs, WFP Afghanistan is adapting by starting to re-route supplies through alternative corridors and planning to further diversify product origins and logistics routes during 2026. These measures aim to reduce the reliance of WFP Afghanistan operation on the southern corridor, strengthen resilience against future disruptions, and ensure continuity of assistance to Afghanistan's most vulnerable populations.

UN HUMANITARIAN AIR SERVICE

UNHAS operated a total of 138 flights and facilitated the movement of 850 passengers from 49 humanitarian organisations. Additionally, UNHAS transported a total of 2.5 MT of light humanitarian cargo.

UNHAS urgently requires USD 9 million to sustain operations in Afghanistan into 2026. Without urgent funding, UNHAS will have to scale back operations by March 2026, reducing flights and schedules and limiting humanitarian access.

WFP Afghanistan donors

Asian Development Bank; Australia; Canada; European Union; France; Germany; Greece; Iceland; Indonesia; Japan; Liechtenstein; New Zealand; the Netherlands; Norway; Private Donors; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Sweden; Switzerland; UN CERF; United Kingdom; World Bank



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