



WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report October 2025

WFP's food distribution to the families affected by the earthquake in Eastern Afghanistan. ©WFP's Implementing Partner



WFP Afghanistan Spotlight

In 2025 Afghanistan is experiencing the highest year-on-year surge in acute malnutrition, yet humanitarian food assistance is operating far below the minimum required threshold. For the first time in decades, due to extreme funding constraints, WFP cannot provide a significant meaningful response during winter. With only 8 percent funded, WFP's limited winter response is leaving millions of lives at risk. WFP is urgently appealing for USD 202 million to sustain its emergency assistance throughout winter.

Since 9 October, escalated tensions along the Afghanistan–Pakistan borders have impacted movement between the two countries, with all border crossings closed. Following multiple rounds of peace negotiations held in Istanbul, both countries agreed to partially reopen the Torkham and Spin Boldak border crossings on 1 November. The reopening is strictly limited to the repatriation of undocumented Afghan nationals. Trade, pedestrian movement, and commercial vehicle traffic remain suspended, with no timeline announced for full resumption. At the time of reporting, the movement of approximately 2,400 MT of mixed food commodities has been disrupted, with expected impact on the nutrition pipeline at a very critical time.

Virtual Dialog On Food Security And Nutrition

WFP participated in a virtual dialogue on Food Security and Nutrition hosted by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). On 23 October, WFP presented on 'Cash, Social Protection, and Livelihoods Approaches to Food Security and Nutrition', highlighting current practices and evidence on cash-based programming and its impact in Afghanistan. Additionally, on 29 October, WFP contributed to the session on 'Data and Evidence Generation', highlighting converging multisectoral data and analyses all pointing at the dire food security and nutrition situation in the country. The session also underlined the importance of data- and evidence-driven approaches to addressing food insecurity and malnutrition as well as identifying gaps in data to be filled.

IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis

The IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis for the period from November 2025-March 2026, was completed with a broad consensus among its partners. The results of the IPC exercise will be finalized and published in November and will provide critical insights to guide humanitarian planning and response.

Maternal and Child Benefit Programme Training Of Trainers Workshop

At the beginning of October, a Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop was conducted for the upcoming Maternal and Child Benefit Programme (MCBP) Livelihoods which aimed to strengthen business and soft skills. The workshop included staff from three Cooperating Partners who are implementing MCBP activities, as well as for WFP staff from Mazar, Jalalabad, and Kandahar Area Offices.

As a result of the ToT, participants acquired technical knowledge on financial literacy, business skills, and soft skills related to decision-making and negotiation, as well as facilitation skills. Participants of the ToT will in-turn train newly hired project trainers in November, ensuring consistent implementation across operational sites.

WFP Afghanistan Operation

Eastern Afghanistan Earthquake Response

WFP has started the second round of food distribution in the eastern region affected by the 31 August earthquake. As of 31 October, in this second round of distributions, more than 52,000 people have received mixed food commodities with distributions still ongoing.

Northern Afghanistan Earthquake Response

On 3 November, a powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 6.3 on the Moment Magnitude Scale (MMS) and at a depth of 10 km, was felt near Mazar-i-Sharif.

As of 9 November, WFP reached 4,200 households in Samangan province with more than 8 mt of fortified biscuits through its emergency blanket distributions. Additionally, more than 1,570 eligible households in Samangan, Balkh and Sar-e-Pul provinces were assisted with nearly 200 mt of mixed food commodities, including 3 mt of fortified biscuits and 3.5 mt of nutritious commodities.

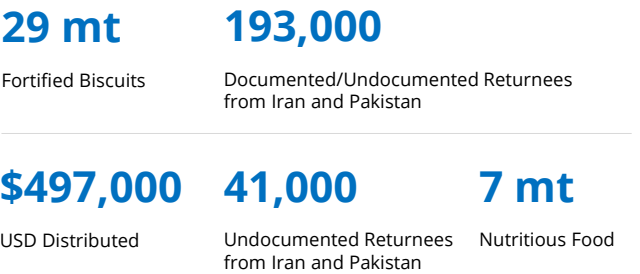
Community Engagement

As part of WFP's community engagement, starting from 1 November, the second 10-day broadcasting of the radio-drama slot for the Hotspot Response and winter prepositioning campaign has been broadcasted nationwide. The radio-drama enables WFP to deliver key messages on the Hotspot Response as well as winter prepositioning in all 34 provinces of Afghanistan, including remote and marginalized locations. Through radio drama broadcasting, people WFP serve, gained increased awareness of WFP programming, entitlements, and on the available Community Feedback Mechanisms.

Returnee Response

The Iranian Government announced an intensification of deportation efforts, aiming to expel at least two million undocumented Afghans by the end of March 2026. In Pakistan, police reportedly started to bulldoze Afghan homes in Balochistan and have closed 10 camps. In Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa region, 345,000 estimated remaining Proof of Registration card holders are impacted by new deportation actions.

In October, WFP provided almost 193,000 returnees from Iran and Pakistan with 29 mt of fortified biscuits as part of its blanket distribution. Of these, more than 41,000 eligible returnees across all four border crossings were supported with USD 497,000 in cash assistance and 7 mt of nutritious food for malnutrition prevention. WFP is insufficiently funded to respond to an increase in returnees.



Families impacted by the earthquake in Ferooz Nakchir District, Samangan Province received fortified biscuits from WFP. © WFP Implementing Partner



OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS

[October]



1.7 M

People Assisted



5,700 mt

Food Delivered



USD 4.3 M

Cash Distributed



USD 570 M

Net Funding Requirement for the Next Six Months

Emergency Food Assistance

In October, WFP reached 712,000 vulnerable people with 2,900 mt of food and nearly USD 2.6 million in cash assistance. This compares with 9.5 million people who would have been receiving food assistance, had funding been available at the appropriate level.

Resilience and Food Systems

WFP's livelihoods initiatives continue to support resilience-building across Afghanistan, reaching nearly 214,000 participants through Food for Training, Food for Assets and Small-Scale Value Chain programmes, as well as 25,500 participants through the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support programme.

School Feeding

WFP provided nutritious food, including Bread+, samosas and fortified biscuits, to 348,000 primary school children in Paktika, Jawzjan, Samangan, Kunar and Ghor provinces.

Nutrition

[TSFP] For the treatment of malnutrition, WFP provided 2,500 mt of Specialized Nutritious Food (SNF) to more than 480,000 children aged 6-59 months facing moderate acute malnutrition and acutely malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women.

[BSFP] This programme remains largely suspended with the exception of border areas (returnees) and the earthquake zone, where for the prevention of acute malnutrition WFP provided 125 mt of SNF to 70,600 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

For **stunting prevention**, WFP provided 33 mt of SNF to 15,200 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Maternal and Child Benefit Programme

Through the World Bank-funded maternal and child benefit programme, approximately 20,700 households with pregnant women and mothers of children under the age of 5 years received social and behaviour change communication on nutrition, health, and immunization as well as USD 1.4 million in cash assistance.

Supply Chain and Logistics

As part of its cost-efficiency measures and reduction of food losses, WFP continued expanding importing wheat grain from the region for local milling instead of wheat flour, adding more agility into its pipeline, whilst continuing to use domestic milling infrastructure. By the end of October, more than 8,250 mt of wheat flour had been milled under this initiative. Additionally, more than 120 mt of fortified biscuits have been produced locally.

Un Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

UNHAS operated a total of 208 flights, facilitated the movement of 1,293 passengers, and transported a total of 3 mt of humanitarian cargo.



WFP's off the truck distribution in Wakhan district in Badakshan Province © WFP Implementing Partner

Winter Without Access: How WFP Sustains Mothers and Children in Ishkashim

When fresh fruits and vegetables are available for only three months a year, and low purchasing power prevents families from buying meat, communities in Afghanistan's remote Ishkashim district—near the Wakhan corridor bordering China—face stark living conditions. As winter approaches, they become completely cut off from markets and must survive on the limited stocks they can afford beforehand.

“Because of the bad economic situation, we cannot afford more nutritious foods like meat or vegetables... for our children. This is why mothers and children are becoming malnourished.”

Zubaida, one of the villagers and a 30-year-old mother of five, was malnourished during her pregnancy, putting both her health and her baby's life at serious risk. After she began consuming plumpy supplements and her newborn daughter, who was born moderately malnourished, received AchaMum—WFP's specialized nutritious commodities—a noticeable improvement followed.

“This plumpy food is very useful—for children, for women, and for mothers who are pregnant.”

Now, Zubaida's health is restored, and her daughter continues to receive WFP's nutrition support, which provides her daughter with a reliable, nourishing meal each day, especially during the harshest winter periods.



Zubaida with her daughter in one of the nutrition clinics in Ishkashim district.
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