

# WFP Afghanistan

## Situation Report

06 May 2022



Flash floods destroy at least 60 households in Samangan Province. Joint assessments for response are ongoing © WFP Afghanistan

## 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 assisted **775,400** people thus far in May. WFP plans to reach **18 million** people this month and cumulative total of **23 million** people in 2022<sup>1</sup>.
- Joint Assessment Teams are on the ground in 11 provinces to determine the need for emergency response, following flash floods that killed at least 22 people and destroyed hundreds of homes. WFP has already dispatched food assistance for 50 affected households in Bamyān.

## Situation Update

- **Humanitarian assistance is reaching more people with each passing month**, according to the latest [Food Security Update](#) (March 2022). One in five households (21 percent) reported receiving humanitarian food assistance in March – mostly from UN/NGOs – which is a notable increase from previous months. In some regions, assistance has reached as many as two in five households (43 percent in the western region).
- **Food assistance is driving down severe food insecurity in several regions** (Herat, Kabul, Northeast and Southeast). Comparatively, households that did not receive humanitarian assistance in these regions did not see improvements in severe food insecurity levels.
- **However, the number of people facing insufficient food consumption remains alarmingly high.** Only 7 percent of people reported having enough to eat in March. This is a slight improvement of 2 percentage points on the previous month, likely driven by increased food assistance, as well increased access to income and markets. However, the situation still remains far worse than it was prior to August 2021.
- **Results of the ongoing Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment** are expected next week. Currently, 22.8 million people in Afghanistan are acutely food insecure (IPC 3 and 4).<sup>2</sup>

## WFP Response

- **In May, WFP has reached 775,400 people** so far with food, nutrition, and resilience support. In April, WFP reached approximately 15 million people and delivered 120,160 MT of mixed food commodities.
- **Joint Assessment Teams are on the ground in 11 provinces across Afghanistan** to determine the need for emergency response following flash floods that killed at least 22 people and destroyed hundreds of homes. WFP has already dispatched food assistance for 50 flood-affected households in Bamyān Province and is working with communities to help reopen two main roads in Faizabad.
- **WFP has launched Bread+ in 70 schools across three provinces.** The initiative currently supports 16 partner bakeries, which employ approximately 80 bakers. WFP plans to reach 40,600 students across 185 schools with Bread+ by the end of May.
- **There has been a 50 percent reduction in the average processing time for customs clearance** on internationally procured commodities entering Afghanistan, following the successful negotiation of bulk exemption certificates for humanitarian cargo in January 2022. The average processing time has decreased from 40 days in October-November 2021 to 20 days in February-March 2022.

1. Actual beneficiary and MT numbers are as of 06 May, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.

2. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Food Insecurity Analysis [report](#), November 2021 to March 2022 Projections



## Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted **623,000** people with emergency food and nutrition support thus far in May. Of this total, more than **216,000** people have received emergency food assistance in-kind, while **277,100** people were assisted via cash and value vouchers, and **56,600** people were assisted via commodity vouchers. Thus far, WFP has disbursed **USD 335,000** in cash-based assistance.
- **Nutrition:** In May, WFP has assisted **43,300** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **72,900** malnourished children and women. WFP currently supports 1,544 health centres and 227<sup>3</sup> mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNT) across the country. Support to MHNTs ensure continued and equitable access in hard-to-reach areas.
- **School feeding:** In May, WFP has distributed approximately 33.1 MT of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to **25,400** primary school students. WFP has launched Bread+ across 70 schools and community-based education (CBE) classes in Jawzjan, Paktika, and Jalalabad provinces to reach **40,600** primary schoolchildren. Bread+ is a new commodity pilot that will replace the daily distribution of HEBs in some areas, with bread made from locally produced and processed fortified wheat flour, dried fruit and nuts. Bread+ is a more nutritious alternative to HEBs and links local agricultural production, processing, and markets across Afghanistan's national food system.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** Thus far in May, WFP has assisted **11,600** people through food assistance for assets (FFA) and **42,000** through vocational skills training (VST).



## Supply Chain and Logistics

- Between 24 April and 01 May, WFP dispatched **25,689 MT** of commodities across Afghanistan. There is currently 51,410 MT of mixed commodities in WFP warehouses and an additional 53,214 MT in miller warehouses, bringing WFP's in-country food stocks to 104,624 MT. WFP expects a further 148,781 MT to arrive in May through local, regional, and international procurement channels.
- The Islam Qala border with Iran, which closed last week, reopened for cargo on 05 May.
- WFP has procured 148 mobile storage units to increase warehouse capacity, reduce congestion at area offices and enhance the dispatch of commodities to partners. WFP has also operationalized 45 new fleet trucks, 20 of which have been allocated to Mazar Area Office to support commodity arrivals from the Hairatan border.



## UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted **1,150** flights in 2022 so far, transporting **7,276** passengers and **16.5 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

- WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **USD 587.64 million** to sustain operations over the next 6 months (May-October 2022), including a **USD 180 million** shortfall for cash-based assistance starting in May.
- WFP requires USD 150 million to preposition food commodities ahead of the winter season.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).

3. This is a correction to the 385 MHNTs reported last week. Since April, WFP has increased its number of MHNTs from 158 to 227 and plans to support a total 240 MHNTs by the end of May.