



World Food
Programme

WFP Afghanistan Situation Report

August 2025

The first distribution of fortified biscuits in the earthquake-affected area, Chawkay district village. ©World Food Programme

Highlights

- A third strong earthquake struck eastern **Afghanistan** on 4 September, with the epicentre in the Nangarhar province. Following previous earthquakes on 31 August and 2 September, over 2,200 people have died, more than 3,000 are injured, and over 5,000 homes destroyed across four provinces (Kunar, Nangarhar, Laghman, and Nuristan). These numbers are expected to rise as additional reports and assessments become available.
- The earthquake struck as Afghanistan faces forced returns from neighbouring countries, worsening drought, and dwindling humanitarian resources. For families already on the edge, the risk of mortality is now rising. With funding shortfalls, rising needs, and winter approaching, WFP's response is stretched thin, this is not only an earthquake emergency but a battle with converging crises.
- With the international response to malnutrition and hunger almost entirely unfunded after October, the country is likely to suffer an unprecedented toll of child deaths when winter descends.

In Numbers

1.8 million people reached with food and cash assistance in August.

USD 4.4 million distributed to nearly 570,500 people through cash-based transfers.

WFP Afghanistan's net funding requirement for the next six months is USD 568 million.

SITUATION UPDATE

- **Eastern Afghanistan earthquake response:** Chawkay and Nurgal districts in Kunar province and Dara-e-Nur in Nangarhar province are the most heavily impacted. Despite the high risk of rain, floods, and landslides from unstable slopes after the earthquake, no rainfall has been reported yet.
- WFP mobilized its response within hours of the first earthquake. Nearly 26,000 people have been reached with fortified biscuits in Chawkay and Nurgal districts. WFP has also provided one month of in-kind mixed food to 18,400 people out of 49,000 being targeted.

- Commodities for malnutrition treatment (TSFP) activities planned for September and October have also been dispatched and will be provided through health clinics. Five Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) have been installed in Chawkay and Nurgal to support WFP's operation and six MSUs have been handed over to IOM and UNICEF to support broader humanitarian operations.
- UNHAS is operating additional flights, including an Mi-8 helicopter, to transport passengers and cargo to and from Jalalabad, the main airport close to the epicentre.
- Dubai's International Humanitarian City (IHC), with support from the UAE Government, is facilitating a Boeing-747 flight expected on 8 September. The United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) in Dubai has released stocks for this flight, including tents consigned to the Afghan Red Crescent Society and UNFPA.



Food distribution to the earthquake affected people in the Eastern Afghanistan. ©World Food Programme

- **Returnee response:** Afghanistan is facing mounting pressures from multiple returnee flows. In Pakistan, Proof of Residence cards expired on 31st August, triggering forced repatriations from 1st September. Crossings at Torkham immediately surged, spiking by almost 600 percent compared to recent weeks. In Iran, the deadline for voluntary returns of undocumented Afghans expired on 6th September, following earlier deadlines that had already driven unprecedented surges. Daily rates of return through Islam Qala have already seen a slight reversal of week-on-week trends, with a slight increase observed this week after six consecutive weeks of decreases. Meanwhile, Tajikistan has already deported more than 1,000 Afghans between 17 July and 17 August, with the threat of wider deportations still looming.
- To respond, WFP and IOM have been piloting new targeting approaches. At Islam Qala, households were assessed against nine vulnerability indicators to determine eligibility for assistance. Simulations are now underway to refine the cut-off points, aiming to balance overwhelming caseloads with limited resources. Once completed, the review will establish thresholds to guide assistance across all four major border crossings.
- Since January, WFP has supported over **362,000** returnees from Iran and Pakistan with **USD 4.1 million** in cash and nearly **490 mt** of in-kind food, including fortified and nutritious commodities.

WFP OPERATIONS

- In August, WFP assisted **1.8 million people** across its operations with **nearly 6,600 mt of food** and **USD 4.4 million** in cash-based transfers.
- In efforts to support its partners and staff to ensure the safe deployment of women employees where needed, WFP has revised the mahram costs for WFP's Cooperating Partners from all Area Offices, and further standardization and processing is ongoing.
- A full-day training on disability inclusion was conducted in Kandahar as part of WFP's efforts to strengthen partner capacity and promote inclusive programming.



EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

- In August, WFP reached **816,000** vulnerable people with **3,600 mt** of food and nearly **USD 2.6 million** in cash assistance.
- **Hotspots:** Cooperating Partners across all Area Offices have begun a training on the Community-

Based Food Assistance Committee's (CFAC) new vulnerability criteria, with completion expected by 6 September. Translations of the brochure in Dari and Pashto have been shared to support this process. In addition, the Country Office will conduct two enumerator trainings on 10 and 11 September covering the response cycle, spot checks, replacement assessments, verification, and data quality.



RESILIENCE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

- WFP's livelihoods initiatives continue to support resilience-building across Afghanistan, reaching **11,700 people**. Through food assistance for assets and food assistance for training, WFP has rehabilitated infrastructure, improved agricultural productivity, and has provided vocational training, enabling communities to enhance food security and income generation.



SCHOOL FEEDING

- In August, WFP's School Feeding Programme continued across nine out of ten provinces, reaching **379,000** primary school children with **230 mt** of food.



NUTRITION

- For the treatment of malnutrition, WFP provided **2,400 mt** of Specialized Nutritious Food (SNF) to more than **491,000 children** aged 6-59 months facing moderate acute malnutrition and acutely malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- For the prevention of acute malnutrition (mainly for returnee response), WFP provided **24 mt** of SNF to **14,850** children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women..
- For stunting prevention, WFP provided **30 mt** of SNF to **14,500 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 30,300 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 and **USD 1,932,200** in cash assistance.

SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS

- In August, WFP dispatched **nearly 7,100 mt** of food to partners. Local procurement continued, with more than **270 mt** of fortified biscuits produced.

UN HUMANITARIAN AIR SERVICE (UNHAS)

- UNHAS operated a total of **187 flights** and facilitated the movement of **1,117 passengers**. In addition, **3.1 mt of humanitarian cargo** were transported.

A GARDEN OF HOPE: PARI GUL'S JOURNEY TO RESILIENCE



Born in 1988 in Lai Aba village of Faiz Abad, Badakhshan, Pari Gul grew up in poverty and was deprived of the chance to go to school. Married at 18, she is now a 37-year-old mother of seven children, all under 18 and still in school. Chronic health challenges and poor nutrition weighed heavily on Pari Gul, while her husband, Mohammad, struggled to provide for the family as a daily wage labourer.

Pari Gul's life began to change when she was selected for WFP's Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) – Small-Scale Value Chain (SSVC) resilience project, implemented by WFP in partnership with Shelter for Life (SFL). Through this program, she received monthly cash support of 6,400 AFN (roughly 94 USD) for six months.

"I used half of the cash for my treatment and the rest to feed my children and keep them in school."

Alongside cash support, SFL engineers helped her establish a home garden, providing fruit saplings and practical training on climate-smart techniques to transform a barren land into a productive one. For the first time, Pari felt that she had found a pathway out of chronic food insecurity.

During a visit to Pari's farm eight months later by WFP, the results are incredible. The saplings have adapted well to the soil and look very healthy. Pari expects to earn significant income next year from selling fruits; she believes this earning will sustainably support her family's basic needs. Pari mentioned that two people in her village have also established their own farms, demonstrating the positive spillover effect of WFP's community-based interventions.