



# WFP Afghanistan Country Brief

## WFP Assistance

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation 200447 (PRRO)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
(Jan 2014 - June 2018)	763.7 m	404.3 m (53%)	20.3 m**

\*October 2017 - March 2018

### GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200447

WFP Afghanistan's protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) is designed to respond to the needs of the most food-insecure people, including those affected by conflicts, natural disasters and seasonal food insecurity in priority districts across the country. WFP's nutrition programmes are integrated into the Government's basic package of health services, and treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children under 5 years, pregnant women and nursing mothers. The PRRO also supports the recovery of communities, families and individuals affected by shocks through asset creation with a focus on disaster risk reduction and vocational skills training.

In response to the mid-term evaluation of the PRRO, WFP revised the operational plan by:

- Extending the PRRO from January 2017 to June 2018 for all programme activities, to target 3.3 million vulnerable Afghans with food or cash-based assistance;
- Improving geographical targeting and activity prioritisation by using the 2016 Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) tool; and
- Mainstreaming Purchase for Progress (P4P) into the regular programme structure.

The P4P Afghanistan programmes focus on a three-pillar approach with interventions throughout the value chain:

- Production: support to smallholder farmers;
- Processing: transformation and fortification of locally grown commodities;
- Promotion and quality assurance: developing consumer demand and food safety controls.

Emergency Operation 201024 (EMOP)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
(Oct 2016 - Dec 2017)	67 m	38.4 m (57%)	16.2 m**

\*October 2017 - December 2017

## Highlights

- On 19 September, Ashraf Ghani, the President of Afghanistan, addressed the UN General Assembly in New York and called for UN reform towards unified partnerships with host governments and for increased accountability to governments and populations.
- WFP launched preparation for a new Country Strategic Plan (CSP). The CSP will define WFP's strategy to support the country's efforts to achieve zero hunger by 2030.
- Analysis of clashes in September point towards a deterioration in security over the coming months.
- In August, WFP reached 484,691 vulnerable Afghans affected by conflict, natural disasters, economic stress seasonal food insecurity and malnutrition.

WFP's emergency operation (EMOP), extended to December 2017, aims to support 1.2 million food-insecure people on the move, including Afghan returnees from Pakistan (undocumented and documented), internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees from Pakistan. WFP provides food and cash-based transfers to ensure that these populations can meet their basic food needs.

Special Operation 200870 (UNHAS)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
(Jan 2016 - Dec 2017)	33.5 m	27.3 m (81%)	5.0 m**

\*October 2017 - December 2017

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) operation provides air transport services for the wider humanitarian community throughout Afghanistan. UNHAS serves 25 locations and supports 160 humanitarian organizations to deliver assistance.

Special Operation 200635 (Strategic Grain Reserve)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total received (in USD)	Annual net funding requirements (in USD)*
(Sept 2014 - Dec 2018)	14.1 m	1.6 m (11%)	0.2 m**

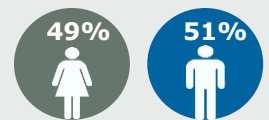
WFP supports the Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) programme, led by the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock. The SGR aims to improve national emergency response capacity and build resilience in rural communities by stabilising wheat prices and providing storage facilities for farmers.

\*\* 6 month net funding requirement as per Country Office Pipeline.

## In Numbers

- 9.3 million food-insecure people in Afghanistan
- 223,000 people displaced by conflict in 2017 (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 3 Sept)
- 314,000 returnees from Iran & Pakistan in 2017 (International Organization for Migration, 26 August)
- 5.3 million people WFP plans to reach

**484,691**  
People assisted by WFP  
September 2017



**Main Credit:** WFP/Sayed Hadi Abdullahi  
**Photo Caption:** A recently displaced family being assessed by WFP in Jawazjan Province.

**September 2017**

## Operational Updates

- WFP started internal and external consultations to develop a new **Country Strategic Plan**. On 20 September, WFP Afghanistan held a workshop bringing together WFP staff to explore how WFP can best support Government plans to achieve zero hunger.
- In July, WFP distributed 2,596mt of WFP food and **USD 699,512 of cash-based transfers** to 484,691 food-insecure people in Afghanistan. This includes 111,000 malnourished children under 5 years and pregnant and nursing women, 89,000 girls and 91,000 boys in school and 59,000 food-insecure people in natural disaster prone rural regions.
- WFP's **mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping unit (mVAM)** published an Emergency Market Assessment Bulletin for Sayad district of Saripul province and Qush Tapa district of Jawzjan province, both in the Northern Region. The mVAM unit conducted the assessment between 28 and 29 August, interviewing 20 key informants, mainly traders, Community Development Council members and leaders of women's *Shuras*.

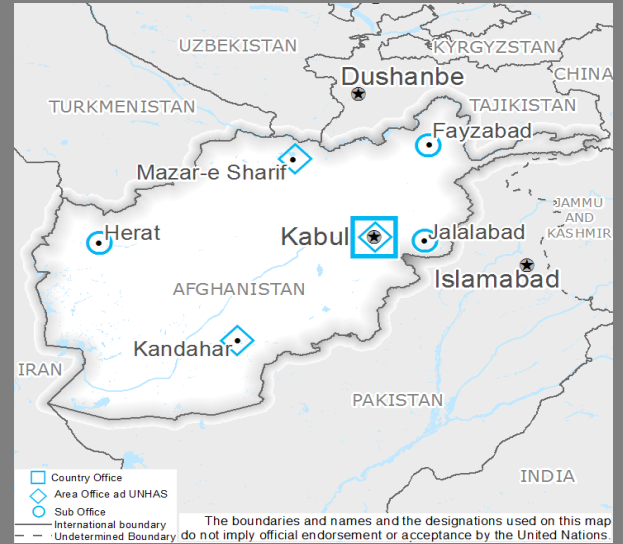
The report found that access to both districts is severely restricted and conflict has displaced some families to the district centres. Lack of access has prevented traders from coming to market, thus creating food shortages and raising prices. Read the full report here: <https://goo.gl/3Bq6vf>

- UN agencies strengthen joint programming** to enhance accountability to affected populations. WFP, UNOPS, IOM and UNHCR will run an Interagency Information Centre for Afghanistan to improve the flow of information and accountability to affected populations. The call centre, staffed by both men and women, will provide one platform through which affected populations can both provide and receive information on UN activities.
- From 17-20 September WFP's logistics team trained 13 government employees from the Eastern Region in warehouse management and food quality control to enhance their capacity to manage the Government's **Strategic Grain Reserve**.
- The **United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)**, part of WFP, transported 1,637 aid workers and 4.8mt of light cargo. In Afghanistan, 160 organizations rely on UNHAS to reach populations in need.

## Challenges

- Deteriorating security situation:** Previously competing anti-government elements (AGEs) coordinated attacks on government positions in the provinces of Ghor (10 September) and Parwan (29 September). Collaboration among AGEs will be detrimental to security and may lead to increased displacement and limited humanitarian space.
- Access challenges:** 10,300 people targeted by WFP for assistance remain out of reach in the Northeastern Region, down from 50,500 last month, following efforts from WFP access teams.
- Funding shortage:** WFP urgently needs USD 36.5 million to respond to the most urgent needs of highly vulnerable displaced populations affected by conflict and returnees until the end of the year.

## Country Background & Strategy



Afghanistan is at high risk of natural disasters such as floods, drought and landslides.

The country struggles with political instability, with the Government divided largely across ethnic lines.

The economy has deteriorated as a result of loss of revenue following foreign military disengagement. This has continued, with devastating effect: 2015 was characterised by the highest levels of in-country insecurity and military confrontation. This was followed by a period of political turmoil during which the 2016 provincial elections were delayed and the National Unity Government almost collapsed on many occasions.

Nationally, 3.4 million people are severely food-insecure. Another 5.9 million are moderately food-insecure and unable to sustainably cope with shocks such as natural disaster or conflict.

Food utilisation is generally poor as a result of inadequate access to improved water and sanitation services, inappropriate young child feed practices. High levels of malnutrition (wasting is 9.5 percent, stunting 40.9 percent and underweight 25 percent) further compound food insecurity. In-country humanitarian access continues to be constrained by heightened insecurity.

WFP has been in Afghanistan since 1963.

Population: **30 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **169 out of 188**

Development status: **Least developed country (LDC)**

Life Expectancy: Female 59 Male 61

## Donors

**Top five Donors for PRRO 200447:** USA, Republic of Korea, Australia, Japan, Canada

**Top five Donors for EMOP:** USA, Australia, CERF, Belgium and Norway

**Top five Donors for SO 200870:** USA, Germany, Japan

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