Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Situation Report # 5, May 2015

Highlights

- **Resource Shortfall:** WFP urgently requires USD 65.5 million contributions from donors for its PRRO to avoid a critical resource shortfall beginning July for vegetable oil, and a complete shortfall for all commodities in September. More critically, WFP has already very limited food assistance for its humanitarian assistance to internally displaced people and refugees in Khost and Paktika.

- Unless new contributions are available in the coming weeks, WFP will not be able to provide food assistance under supplementary food assistance to untreated and underweight mothers, who are more likely to give birth to low birth weight babies at higher risk of neonatal and infant death and stunted growth. School students will not be able receive take home ration in 88 most food insecure districts where there is also a high gender gap. In total including asset creation, vocational training and economically stressed population activities, some 3.3 million the most food insecure people will suffer from not receiving WFP food assistance in late 2015.

- WFP is facing the resource shortfall at the time as it is planning for 2015/16 winter pre-positioning in high elevation areas, where access become difficult in the months of winter. WFP need resources in the coming weeks to ensure continued food assistance to vulnerable people in winter.

- **Pre-Harvest Assessment 2015:** as per good harvest prospect of this year, WFP plans to procure an additional 17,000 mt of wheat in the local market based on availability of resources. If funds from donors are available now, WFP will be able to purchase surpluses from farmers at competitive prices during this period (June to September), it will have significant impact on the agriculture development of the country and generate savings thereby maximizing the use of funds received donors to attend to the needs of beneficiaries.

Plan 2015

**Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO)** 200477

- 3.4 million beneficiaries
- 109,500 mt of food to be distributed
- Cost of Plan: USD 163.3 million

**UNHAS Special Operation**

- Cost of Plan: USD 16.8 million

**Strategic Grain Reserve Special Operation**

- Cost of Plan: USD 7.5 million

Confirmed Contributions

- From 20 May to 20 June 2015
- Germany: USD 1.089 million (UNHAS)

WFP Response

- WFP assistance in Afghanistan continues to address food and nutrition insecurity in the country. WFP is currently implementing a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), Purchase for Progress (P4P) and the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). In addition, WFP has approved a new Special Operation (SO) for the Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) phase II.

- Supporting the acute food and nutrition security needs of the most vulnerable populations through food transfers, unconditional cash/voucher transfers and food-based nutrition interventions.

- Targeted investments to reinforce resilience to protect natural resources through conditional food and cash/voucher transfers for vulnerable communities in asset-building programmes. Income generating initiatives through vocational skills training mainly for vulnerable women. WFP provides take-home rations (vegetable oil) for schoolchildren particularly for girls to improve enrolment and attendance.

- Capacity development for government counterparts at the central and district levels, in food security analysis and emergency preparedness, planning and design of asset creation projects, and the Strategic Grain Reserve.
Food Assistance

- In May, through various programme activities, some 910,600 people received WFP food assistance, focusing on acute needs while seizing opportunities for targeted investments to build resilience in the country. Following are the achievements during the month:

- **358,150** people benefited from WFP emergency food assistance including internally displaced people due to conflict, refugees in khost and paktika provinces, natural disaster, and economically stressed people in various parts of Afghanistan. WFP’s support to economically stressed population aims to provide food to the most food insecure households to fill their food consumption gaps.

- Through assets creation about **12,700** people were employed for rehabilitation of irrigation canals, water channels (karazes), feeder roads and tree seeding plantation. Their family rations supported nearly **88,930** beneficiaries.

- Under its nutrition programme, WFP treated some **11,520** malnourished children and **36,930** pregnant and lactating women including their family members (92,320 beneficiaries) through its targetted supplementary feeding programme activities to improve their nutritional status.

- Approximately **119,880** school students (359,650 beneficiaries including their family members) received WFP fortified vegetable oil to increase enrolment and encourage attendance in the classes, particularly of girls students.

- **WFP’s new Gender Policy:** WFP new global Gender Policy (2015-2020) has been approved and currently rolled out in the field. WFP’s gender policy recognizes that gender roles (the social roles of boys and girls, women and men of various ages) affect opportunities, access to resources and services and participation in decision making. Gender inequality in itself a major cause of hunger and poverty. As per new gender policy, WFP Afghanistan will create an enabling institutional environment in WFP to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, which is reflected in its programmes and projects addressing food and nutrition challenges.

Logistics

- Some **8,130 mt** of food was delivered for distribution to beneficiaries under its planned activities.

- UNHAS transported 2,590 passengers including staff of UN agencies, donors, and NGOs.

Clusters

WFP co-leads FSAC in coordination with FAO, and is a key member of the Nutrition Cluster. WFP also engages with other clusters activated in Afghanistan as appropriate.

Partnerships

- WFP partners with NGOs and communities for programme implementation activities, while strengthening partnerships with central and local government authorities for coordination and capacity building.

Resourcing Update

- **Resource Shortfalls:** WFP requires new and urgent USD 65.5 million donor contributions for the PRRO. Lack of donor support in the coming months will severely hamper WFP’s ability to reach the most vulnerable populations in Afghanistan.

- WFP also need an additional contributions of USD 6.5 million for its special operations UNHAS as well as additional USD 5.8 million for the Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) special operation.

Contacts

- Keiko Izushi, Head of Donor Relations, Reports and Communications Unit, WFP Kabul, Afghanistan.
  Mobile: +93-70 600 48 85
  keiko.izushi@wfp.org

- Brian Gray, Head of Programme, WFP Kabul, Afghanistan.
  Mobile: +93-70 600 48 40
  brian.gray@wfp.org

Afghanistan:

http://www.wfp.org/countries/afghanistan