AFGHANISTAN

REVISED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN 2023

OVERVIEW

Afghanistan remains one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, with over two-thirds of its population requiring humanitarian assistance in 2023.

The recent bans on Afghan women working for I/NGOs and the UN have added yet another layer of complexity to what is already an incredibly challenging protection environment, and further constrained the operational capacity of partners.

In response to the changing operating context, the 2023 HRP was revised in May to reassess planning assumptions and adjust the response accordingly. This HRP Revision outlines the prioritization of unmet needs for the remaining seven months of 2023 and presents a strategic shift in response approaches and delivery methods to operate effectively within the current operating space.

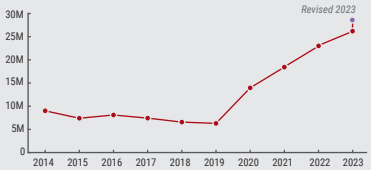
In light of the worsening protection situation, the estimated number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has increased to **28.8 million** (up from 28.3 million at the beginning of 2023). Between June to December 2023, humanitarian partners require **$2.26 billion** to deliver prioritized multi-sectoral assistance to **20 million** people.

Despite the challenging circumstances, the humanitarian community maintained a broad response during the first five months of the year, reaching over 17.3 million people with at least one round of assistance and expending $942 million (including $850 million carried over from 2022).

In total, considering the assistance already delivered and the planned response for the rest of 2023, humanitarian partners aim to reach a total of 22.3 million people (throughout 2023, including those assisted in the first half of the year), with a budget of $3.2 billion ($2.26 billion in new funding requirements from June to December, and $942 million already spent from January to May).

PEOPLE IN NEED

28.8M



PLANNED REACH

20M People (Jun - Dec 2023)

FUNDING REQUIRED

$2.26B (Jun - Dec 2023)

Photo: Jim Huylebroek

TRENDS

48% of women headed households have a poor FCS compared to 39% of male headed households

Women and Girls

The series of restrictions levied on women is exacerbating existing vulnerabilities faced by women, girls and women headed households. Women headed households spend 17% less on basic needs as compared to men headed households and nearly half of all women headed households have a poor Food Consumption Score (FCS).

173 directives issued affecting humanitarian assistance

Access Environment

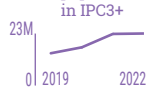
Since December 2021, 173 directives have been issued by authorities concerning humanitarian action; of which, 37 are linked to restrictions on female participation in the response. At the same time, there has been a 32% increase in access incidents between January and May 2023, as compared to the same period in 2022.

13.1M people in need of GBV assistance

Protection

The ban and other restrictions on women's participation in life and society is fuelling the pre-existing protection crisis. The number of people in need of GBV assistance has grown by 25% (10.1 million to 13.1 million people). At the same time, child labour is steadily rising especially among women households, nearly 30% of whom report having at least one child working outside of the home (35% higher than male headed households).

46% of the population in IPC3+



Hunger and Malnutrition

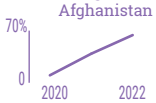
15.5 million people are facing acute food insecurity (IPC3+), with 2.7 million people in 'emergency' levels (one step away from famine) – the fourth highest figure in the world. Afghanistan also has one of the highest rates of malnutrition with close to 3.2 million children and 840,000 pregnant and nursing mothers suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) or moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).

9% funding received in 2023 against initial requirements

Underfunding

Six out of the seven active Clusters in Afghanistan note that underfunding is the biggest constraint to maintaining and expanding response. In the 6th month of 2023, the HRP remains 9% funded.

64% percentage of people reporting impact of drought in Afghanistan



Climate Change & Drought

Two consecutive years of drought have left 30 out of 34 provinces with severe or extremely poor quality of water, while the number of people impacted by drought has risen from 10% in 2020 to 64% in 2022. 21 million people (or 50% of urban areas and 60% of rural areas) require access to clean water and sanitation; only 2.4 million did a decade ago.

[1] While 17.3 million people have been reached with at least one form of assistance between January and May 2023, many of these people will continue to require additional rounds and multi-sector assistance throughout the year in order to meet their needs. Additionally, the actual response reach between January and May will be updated in the second half of June, with more reporting uptake.

For more information visit: https://unocha.org/afghanistan https://reliefweb.int/country/afg https://response.reliefweb.int/afghanistan https://humanitarianaction.info/plan/1117

AFGHANISTAN

REVISED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN (JUNE - DECEMBER 2023)

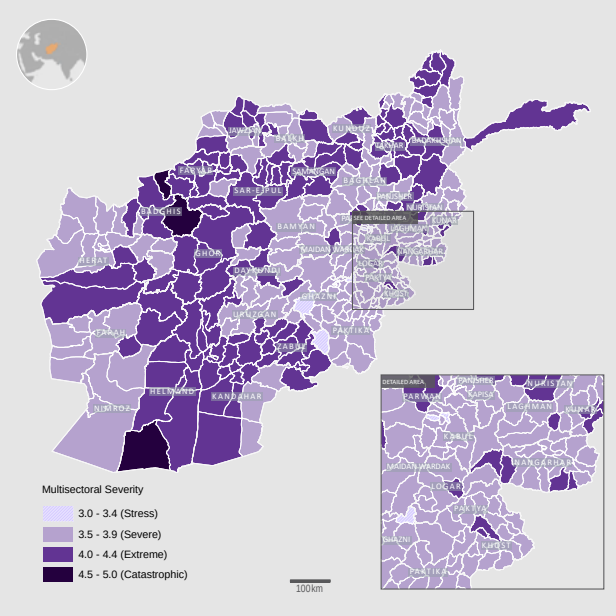
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1 Mortality and morbidity of crisis-affected people of all gender and diversities are reduced through timely, multi-sectoral, lifesaving, equitable and safe assistance.

2 The protection risks of the most vulnerable are mitigated and the needs of affected persons of all genders and diversities are monitored and addressed through humanitarian action.

3 Vulnerable crisis-affected people of all gender and diversities are supported to build their resilience and live their lives in dignity.

MULTI-SECTORAL SEVERITY ANALYSIS



Results from the ICCT's Needs Monitoring Framework (NMF)[2] multisectoral analysis show high levels of needs across the country, with all 401 districts experiencing either severe (3), extreme (4) or catastrophic (5) multisectoral needs. Districts in the Western and Southern regions exhibit comparatively more severe needs across all districts, with pockets of particularly high levels of needs in Badghis (Western region) and Helmand (Southern region) provinces. According to the NMF, three quarters of districts in the country (299/401) face unmet needs (severity of 3 or more) in all seven sectors, while a minority of districts (20/401) experience extreme needs (4 or more) in all sectors.

Revised 2023

- **28.8M** People in need of humanitarian assistance
- **22.3M** Humanitarian planned reach (77%)
- **5M** Women (23%)
- **11.9M** Children (54%)
- **1.8M** With severe disabilities (8.3%)

Jun - Dec 2023

- **20M** Humanitarian planned reach (69%)
- **$2.26M** Funding required

NEEDS AND RESPONSE BY SECTOR (JUN - DEC 2023)

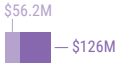
(Jan - May 2023) (expended) | (Jun - Dec 2023) (required)

Education

8.7M People in need — **3.1M** Planned reach

Children will be supported to access education through establishment of community-based education systems, provision of learning materials and school supplies, recruitment and training of teachers and support for distance learning, with a priority on girls being denied access to education.

$126M required

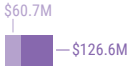


Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items

9.6M People in need — **610.2K** Planned reach

People will be supported to protect themselves through provision of emergency shelter, shelter repairs and constructions, transitional shelters, household/non-food items, and heating materials for winter.

$126.6M required



Food Security and Agriculture

19.1M People in need — **19.1M** Planned reach

People's survival will be supported through the provision of timely food assistance and livelihoods support.

$1.1B required

Health

17.6M People in need — **9.3M** Planned reach

People's wellbeing will be supported through the provision of primary and secondary health care, outbreak response, maternal and child health and rehabilitation for people with disabilities.

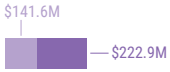
$271.4M required

Nutrition

7.2M People in need — **3.7M** Planned reach

Children's and women's survival will be supported through treatment for severe and moderate acute malnutrition and nutrition promotion, as well as blanket supplementary feeding.

$222.9M required



Protection

22.1M People in need — **3.9M** Planned reach

Vulnerable groups will be protected through cash for protection and access to general protection services, provision of landmine clearance and education, specialised support for children, integrated services for survivors and at-risk people, legal counselling, and documentation assistance.

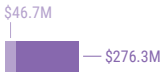
$92.5M required

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

21.2M People in need — **7.3M** Planned reach

People's safety and ability to access safe water and protect themselves from the spread of diseases will be maintained through access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities and hygiene materials.

$276.3M required



[2] The Needs Monitoring Framework (NMF) was designed for a regular (quarterly) monitoring of the evolution of needs in between yearly Humanitarian Planning Cycles (HPCs) and serve as an evidence base to support joint planning exercises. The NMF builds upon the Joint Inter-Sectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) and consists of several cross-cutting and sectoral indicators as well as climate and season-sensitive indicators to take into account changing priorities and needs of households throughout the year. The NMF leverages existing data sources to assess the severity of need both at the provincial and district level. The NMF also introduced 0.5 separations across the severity scores to highlight geographic differences better.