

AFGHANISTAN

FLASH APPEAL: IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE GAPS (SEP - DEC 2021)

OVERVIEW

Forty years of war, recurrent natural disasters, chronic poverty, drought and the COVID-19 pandemic have left 18.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Recent escalation in conflict and resulting upheaval has exacerbated needs and further complicated an extremely challenging operational context. Humanitarians have already witnessed a dangerous deepening of need for a wider number of people. While all population groups across the country have been impacted, the consequences for women and girls have been most immediately felt.

This Flash Appeal presents a prioritisation of unmet needs in the 2021 HRP and strategic response to new emerging needs, as they are currently understood. Humanitarians seek \$606 million to provide prioritised multi-sectoral assistance to 11 million people in the four remaining months

of 2021. \$413 million of this is already costed within 2021 HRP requirements, while \$193 million is needed to address new emerging needs and changes in operating costs.

The full implications of the recent political transition on the country's basic services, financial systems and markets will take time to manifest. However, initial indications already reveal a severe deterioration of the situation for vulnerable people. While it is outside the humanitarian remit and the parameters of this appeal, it is critical that these basic services be maintained through continued development assistance. Failure to do so risks human and humanitarian catastrophe for the more than 37 million people who currently live on less than \$2 a day.

TRENDS

Civilian casualties¹



5k
people

In the first half of 2021, 5,183 civilian casualties (1,659 people killed and 3,524 injured). More than four in every 10 civilian casualties were women and children.



1 in 2
under-5
children
and 1 in 4 pregnant &
lactating women

27 out of 34 provinces are now within the emergency threshold for acute malnutrition, 10 of which are facing critical situations.

Conflict forces thousands to flee²



750k
people
projected
in 2021

Conflict has forcibly displaced more than 570,000 people across 32 provinces so far this year. 750,000 people are now projected to be displaced due to conflict in 2021.

Eroded Livelihoods



42%
households
living with
an 'emergency' LCSI
score

The proportion of households living with an 'emergency' LCSI score has more than doubled. This is the most severe category of coping mechanisms and is incredibly difficult to reverse. One in five displaced households have taken on catastrophic levels of debt.

Undocumented returnees flood back to Afghanistan³



759k
people
returned
in 2021

Close to 760,000 undocumented people have returned to Afghanistan since the start of the year, surpassing the record number of returns during the same period last year. An estimated 1.2 million undocumented people are projected to return by year's end.

Winter needs



more than 80%
of IDPs have
inadequate heating
source

High needs are expected over the harsh winter season due to aggravated vulnerability and an anticipated prolonged lean season. By November, cases of hypothermia, acute respiratory infections and death associated with cold are likely to increase.

Acute food insecurity crisis⁴



12.2M
people in
IPC3+

More than 30 per cent of the population is now facing emergency or crisis levels of food insecurity. Markets continue to function but prices for key commodities are becoming dangerously high. Wheat production is expected to face a shortfall of 2.5m MT. The next lean season is expected to be more intense and arrive earlier.

Attacks on aid and aid workers



1.3k
access
constraints

In the first nine months of 2021, at least 32 aid workers were killed, 86 injured, and 55 abducted. Attacks on health facilities in the first half of 2021 have left more than 200,000 people without access to care. Attacks against schools have led to the closure of 927 schools in the first half of 2021.

HRP Key Figures (2021)

PEOPLE IN NEED	PLANNED REACH	FUNDING REQUIRED
18.4M	15.7M	\$1.3B

Flash Appeal Key Figures (Sep - Dec 2021)

PLANNED REACH	FUNDING REQUIRED	FUNDING REQUIRED
10.8M	\$606M⁶	US\$413 HRP US\$193 NON-HRP

Historical Trend: Number of People in Need



