

## CLUSTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLANS FOR FLOODS RESPONSE AFGHANISTAN 2019

CLUSTER: Food Security and Livelihood

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### **CLUSTER SPECIFIC PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS: (please note here briefly based on the worst-case scenario in your state, what the impact would be on your sector.**

Afghanistan is ranked amongst the 10 most vulnerable countries to climate change over the next 30 years<sup>1</sup>. In terms of the number of fatalities from natural disasters between 1980 and 2015, Afghanistan takes second-place, only surpassed by Haiti. Decades of conflict have undermined the country's coping mechanisms and protective capacity, increasing the likelihood that hazard events turn into disasters with large humanitarian and economic consequences.<sup>2</sup> With significant temperature increases projected<sup>3</sup>, as well as changes in the timing and volume of precipitation, the people of Afghanistan can expect more prolonged droughts (becoming the norm by 2030) and more flooding, avalanches, sand dunes, desertification and landslides.<sup>4</sup> There is also now an observable trend towards less snowfall and more rainfall in Afghanistan, with a longer wet season (early snow) and a drier dry season. According to the World Bank the number of people affected each year by extreme flooding could more than double by 2050 due to climate change and socioeconomic growth.<sup>5</sup>

Climate projections available for Afghanistan suggest a future of higher temperatures, reduced precipitation and higher evapotranspiration, and an increased frequency of extreme events such as floods, droughts, and dust storms. Rising temperatures and changes in the timing and volume of stream flows pose additional threats to the agriculture sector that is already vulnerable to year on-year weather variations. The costs to the economy are significant with drought causing damages to agriculture on an average of US\$280 million in damages to agriculture each year, and an extreme event could cost over US\$3 billion<sup>6</sup>.

In 2018 Afghanistan faced one of the worst droughts affecting 22 provinces and around 10.5 million people (3.9 million highly and 6.6 million moderately). Followed by worst drought in 2018, the country is projected to face severe floods due to high precipitation and temperature in wet season in 2019. The precipitation is near average as compared to long term average whereas, in comparison with last year the precipitation is well above the average around 145% of the normal precipitation during the same period in eastern, northern, north-western, north southern and north-eastern areas of the country. Though this level of precipitation provides favourable moisture conditions for on time winter wheat planting but unfortunately the precipitation once again could not happen in the winter planting season. FEWSNET data shows above-average precipitation for the upcoming three months as El-Nino condition will remain same till June 2019 whereas, there is an increased probability of above average temperatures throughout most parts of the country through May. Given the increased likelihood of above average

<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> out of 170 countries

<sup>2</sup> World Bank and Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery- Disaster Risk Profile- Afghanistan 2017;

<sup>3</sup> World Bank (2018). South Asia's Hotspots: Impacts of Temperature and Precipitation Changes on Living Standards.

<sup>4</sup> Final Draft-Oct2018-National Dry Lands Agriculture Policy, 'Towards Climate Resilient Agriculture in Afghanistan, A 2030 Vision'

<sup>5</sup> World Bank and Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery- Disaster Risk Profile- Afghanistan 2017

<sup>6</sup> World Bank, Famine Action Mechanism Kabul November 2018

temperatures across the country and above average rainfall and snow at higher elevations the risk of flooding is elevated through the end of the rainy season (April-June) in the western, northern, and central areas of Afghanistan.

Based on currently available modelling from iMMAP, there are 7.5 million people and almost one million houses are at the risk floods impact along with key government and communal infrastructure. Floods long term trend data shows that on average 200,000 people get affected by the floods every year. Based on current above average precipitation and snow water volume and above average perception and temperature forecast there is very high probability that this year will be one of the worst flood years as compare to near average flood year. ANDMA is using iMMAP data for 2019 floods contingency planning where 190,789 HH (1.335,523 people) are projected to be at the risk of floods impact. FSAC science partners FEWSNET, iMMAP, AMD, OCHA and FSAC are projecting worst field conditions projecting 499 villages and 281,000 (40,150 HH) people at the risk of severe impact of flooding requiring immediate humanitarian assistance. The impact is higher in both rainfed and rangeland areas where vegetation has already affected due to last year drought as many farmers were unable to cultivate or are expecting very low production. Similarly, pastures condition is quite poor impacting fodder for livestock. In rural population around 13.4 % are severely and 45.7% are moderately food insecure due to drought and additional flood shocks will have serious impact on the already stressed population.

Based on available resources at hand it is impossible to predict precisely the severity of these floods and its impact. Continuous monitoring and adjustments to planning figures are needed. FSAC with the support of its partners helping MAIL in conducting pre-harvest appraisal to see the impact on crop production. FSAC cluster lead agencies also agreed to conduct Pre-harvest Emergency Food Security Assessment EFSA 2019 with a special focus on impact of drought and floods on household food security.

CLUSTER OBJECTIVES: (for the response anticipated in relation to the worst-case scenario)

- a) Ensure continued access to food for the vulnerable flood affected households whose food stocks, food sources and livelihoods are impacted.
- b) Protect and rehabilitate vulnerable livelihoods of floods affected population at risk of hunger and malnutrition;
- c) Ensure that food security and livelihoods damages are documented and shared with the development partners for joint response planning.

**CLUSTER RESPONSE PLANNING FIGURE: (based on worst-case scenario). Data to be gender disaggregated and note made of any other specifics regarding the population breakdown (age if relevant etc)**

**Target Population:** Estimates start by focusing on the areas recently affected by floods Kandahar, Hilmand, Nimroz, Zabul, Farah, Faryab, Hirat, Ghor, Kunar, Laghman, and Nangarhar are the areas that are likely to be affected by potential floods. FSAC science partners FEWSNET, iMMAP, AMD, OCHA and FSAC are projecting worst field conditions ***projecting 499 villages and 281,000 (40,150 HH) people at the risk of severe impact of flooding requiring immediate***

**humanitarian assistance.** This number can change based on intensity of the rain causing flash floods in mountainous areas which is more destructive in nature. FSAC partners are committed to monitor this situation through its science partners by collecting satellite as well as field level data. FSAC partners and ANDMA have already started response to the recent floods in various affected locations.

**KEY RISKS AND MITIGATING MEASURES TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED RISKS:**

**Access constraints** especially into heavily affected population areas owing to (a) fluid and shifting population displacements; (b) political instability and related violence; (c) threats against humanitarian installations and personnel; (d) poor transport infrastructure in remote areas especially during floods.

**Mitigating measures:** Engage with the government and local leadership through relevant channels to commit to guaranteeing humanitarian space to ensure that assistance reaches the neediest. This includes active engagement with FSAC focal persons and partners to identify areas of concerns and seeking OCHA (humanitarian access working group) support to negotiate access. Advocate for the rehabilitation of infrastructures that facilitate humanitarian access. Building capacity of the local organizations and involving them in response where possible. Timely stock piling, assessment of cash response feasibility and local organizations support will be seeking to ensure access to hard to reach areas.

**Delays in funding** that disrupt pipelines or lead to FSAC missing key seasonal deadlines. Such delays have negatively affected humanitarian responses in previous years.

**Mitigating measures:** The Cluster will play a leading role on advocating for timely disbursement of funds by providing clear gap analysis.

**Coordination with government response** is also a long-standing problem as their distribution data are not captured in the gap analysis of humanitarian partners that can result in missing some key needy people whereas other areas can have duplication of assistance.

Mitigation measure: This year humanitarian partners are working very closely with ANDMA to provide a coordinated response. Government already shared its stocks and financial resource and same is done by the clusters under the overall leadership of OCHA. This is important to note that government is planning to provide response only for the first 72 hours as their resources are very limited.

**PREPAREDNESS**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Geographical area of the response (please state which provinces and districts within	Total anticipated caseload for the specific activities in terms of people	Total anticipated quantity of supplies needed for the affected caseload	Actual available resources (location specific) for the preparedness activities	Resource deficit/gap between actual in situ and what is needed (i.e. the difference between total in	Preparedness activity	By Who	By when

your country will be impacted)				column C and column D= E			
<p>According to FEWSNET recent data almost all 34 provinces are at the risk of flooding with different intensity and scale. High precipitation and temperature in last three months and forecast for upcoming 3 months show large scale impact some districts of almost all provinces.</p> <p>The provinces already affected by drought will be considered on priority basis as they are facing flood hazard soon after the devastating impact of floods. Targeted villages and districts of Kandahar, Hilmand, Nimroz, Zabul, Farah, Faryab, Hirat, Ghor, Kunar,</p>	<p>FSAC partners agreed to support 499 villages and 281,000 (40,150 HH) people at the risk of severe impact of flooding requiring immediate lifesaving food/cash for food assistance.</p> <p>FSAC partners agreed to project/rehabilitate agriculture area out of total 728,000 KM<sup>2</sup> area at the risk of high impact. 40% of this case load may require livelihoods assistance 16,000 HH.</p>	<p><b>Food supplies</b></p> <p>Two months full food ration will be provided to 40,150 HH in the worst affected areas based on strict vulnerability criteria. So total food basket required are 80,300 either in cash or in-kind. Total 9,235 MT food will be required. In terms of cash 11.24 million USD will be required for two months food response.</p> <p>FSAC partners will decide based on verified field information on floods and support will be provided accordingly</p> <p><b>Agricultural inputs</b></p> <p>16,000 households (112,000 people) will receive livelihoods support as livelihoods cash grant or inputs that will include agriculture inputs, cash for work to rehabilitate agriculture land, livestock support or small businesses. 2.35 million USD will be</p>	<p>Food supplies</p> <p>ANDMA requested humanitarian partners to provide food and livelihoods protection response as their stocks are limited and will be used in the first 72 hours. ANDMA have 44 million Afs for multiple needs including cash for road opening, fuel and search and rescue cost, 1,400 MT rice, 1,413 packs of cooking oil in their stocks. Additionally, 29,000 MT in MAIL wheat reserve can also be allocated on need basis.</p> <p>WFP has 2,811 MTN food supplies for 109,948 people for 2 months to initiate the response but these are stocks allocated for urgent needs from other projects which will require funding for replenishment.</p> <p>Knowing that these stocks are coming from other projects requiring replenishment our planning for food and livelihoods will be for the 100% caseload.</p>	<p>Food gap is for all 281,000 people almost 40,150 households for 2 months which will require almost 11.24 million USD.</p> <p>For livelihoods assistance no stocks are available so total resource gap is for all 16,000 HH equivalent to 2.35 million USD.</p> <p>Total financial assistance required as per the mention caseload is 13.59 million USD.</p>	<p>Transportation of the food stocks from regional level to provincial level.</p> <p>Dissemination of information on floods hazard to partners and government to minimize the loss.</p> <p>Agreements with cash transfer agents and market survey to see viability of cash transfer programme.</p> <p>Procurement, prepositioning &amp; distribution of additional food baskets, agricultural &amp; livestock inputs and tools and material for cash for work to strategic locations</p> <p>Prepositioning and support livestock inputs (animal feed &amp; drugs)</p>	<p>WFP, GoA &amp; partners</p> <p>EWIWG, govt &amp; partners</p> <p>FAO, WFP &amp; partners</p> <p>FAO, WFP and partners</p> <p>WFP, FAO &amp; their respective partners</p> <p>WFP, FAO, GoA</p>	<p>March-April</p> <p>March-June</p> <p>March-April</p> <p>March-April</p> <p>March-April</p> <p>March-May</p>

Laghman, and Nangarhar are prioritised for the response.		required to support this caseload.			Signing of agreements between core pipelines & IP's.	and partners	
Response							
<p>FSAC response is targeting 281,000 people almost 40,150 HH (281,000 people) for food/cash for food assistance and almost 16,000 HH (112,000 people) for livelihoods assistance.</p> <p>FSAC partners will provide only targeted support to affected people with a strict beneficiary selection criterion as per cluster guidelines.</p>	<b>B</b>				<b>C</b>		
	<b>Activity</b>				<b>By Who</b>		
	<p><b>Food assistance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procurement and pre-positioning of food supplies in provinces at the risk of flooding</li> <li>- Distribution of food rations to identified vulnerable populations</li> <li>- Cash assistance to affected families to cover their basic food needs.</li> <li>- Regular early warning information working group meetings to monitor the situation.</li> <li>- Food security and market assessments to gauge the scale of the problem.</li> <li>- Coordination with ANDMA on government on wheat prepositioning and distribution of food items to avoid duplication.</li> </ul>	<p>WFP, GoA and FSAC partners</p>					
<p><b>Livelihoods assistance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procurement &amp; pre-positioning of agricultural inputs (seeds and fertilizers)</li> <li>- Distribution of livelihood interventions (seeds and fertilizers) or cash grant for livelihoods.</li> <li>- Coordination with government and development partners on livestock vaccination and treatment of animals in response to disease outbreak.</li> <li>- Livestock disease surveillance and monitoring</li> <li>- Procurement and distribution of fast-growing vegetable seeds and basic fertilizers.</li> <li>- Procurement and distribution of household level poultry packages.</li> <li>- Agriculture land rehabilitation through conditional cash grant/cash for work.</li> </ul>	<p>FAO, GoA and FSAC partners</p>						