

FSAC AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE MONITORING UPDATE
 June 2022

Background

The combined impact of a series of acute droughts since 2018, the protracted political crisis and conflict that affected the country for over forty years and economic collapse in the second half of 2021 generated a hunger crisis of unprecedented proportions. High acute food insecurity persists across Afghanistan stemming from a combination of a collapsing economy and drought that have resulted in nearly 19 million¹ food insecure Afghans projected to be in Crisis or Emergency (IPC Phases 3+), between June and November 2022.

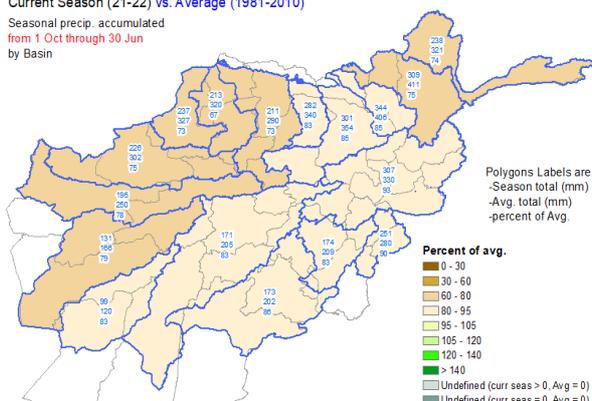
Situation Overview

• **Climate Outlook**

A weak to moderate La Niña event affecting Afghanistan since October 2021 continued through June 2022 wet season. Cumulative precipitation during March to May 2022 spring season has been below average across Afghanistan, with a dry weather forecast to continue until the end of June. Precipitation anomaly experienced at the start of the season still exists across most parts of the country and is also impacting areas that showed a better situation at the beginning of the year. Situation in the southern/south-eastern part of the country is better compared to last year in terms of accumulated precipitation, even though this has been due to recent heavy rain that caused flash floods in some locations.

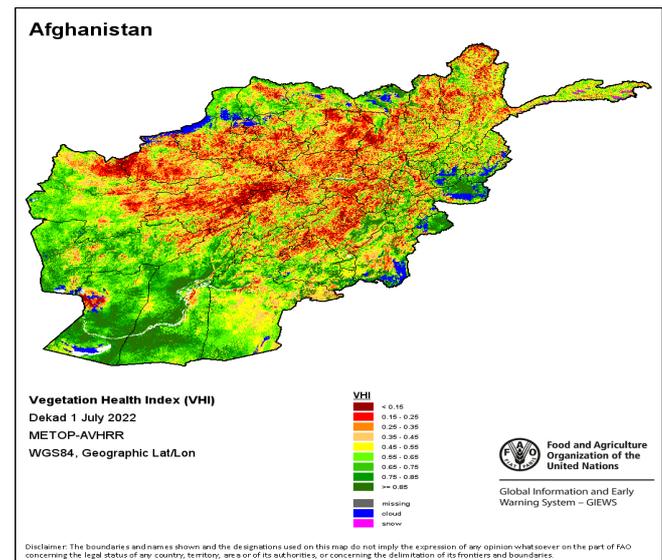
Afghanistan Accumulated Precipitation
 Current Season (21-22) vs. Average (1981-2010)

Seasonal precip. accumulated
 from 1 Oct through 30 Jun
 by Basin



Soil moisture levels remain worrying in most of the country. From October 2021 to April 2022 observations showed significantly below average conditions at the start of the winter season, while in June observations show slight to moderate

below average conditions in the north and northeastern part of the country. Vegetation is stressed in the north and central Afghanistan and signs of drought are visible in these regions.



Analysis of Snow Depth Difference Anomaly (July 2021 vs June 2022) shows little differences, however, it is severely below average compared to the period 2002 - 2016. Indications of snow cover are in line with last 10 year average but reduced snow depth, higher than average temperatures and drier than normal soil conditions are a cause of concern.

• **Crop Outlook**

The below average precipitation, above average temperature and low soil moisture resulting from the ongoing La Niña, compounded by spiralling household debts and the inability of farmers to procure and use fertilizers resulted in a below average first season crop, mainly wheat and will likely affect the second season crops- mostly rice, maize, and cash crops, with northern rainfed areas and downstream irrigated areas being the worst affected.

The initial field reports indicate that wheat production will be significantly below average in Jawzjan, Faryab, Sar-e-Pul, Balkh, Samangan in the north, Herat, Badghis, Ghor and Farah in the west, Kunduz and Badakhshan in the northeast, Daykundi in central highland, Ghazni in central region. FSAC field observations show that the majority of the rainfed farmers had a below average harvest. Similarly, for irrigated

lands, field observation also show a below average harvest. Many rural households will likely exhaust foods stocks atypically early in the post-harvest season, though the worst impacts will be felt during the next lean season prior to the 2023 harvest.

• **Livestock Outlook**

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) incidences have been reported in Kandahar (4 cases), Helmand (1 case) and in the eastern region. FAO provided trainings to cooperative members, dairy producers and livestock owners across the regions on the identification and management of LSD and Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF). LSD is a viral disease of cattle that has dramatic effects on rural livelihoods, which are strongly dependent on cattle. The disease slashes milk production and may lead to sterility in bulls and fertility problems in female animals. It damages hides, and causes death due to secondary bacterial infectionsⁱⁱ. CCHF is an important tick-borne human pathogen endemic in Afghanistan. The virus can infect a large number of wild and domesticated mammalian species and some avian species, however the virus does not cause severe disease in these animals, but can produce viremiaⁱⁱⁱ.

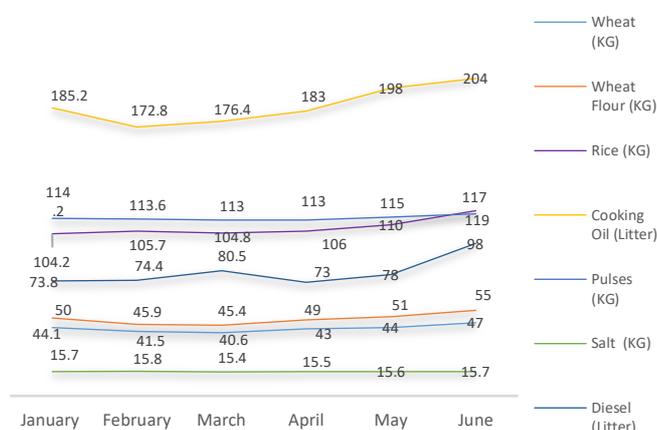
• **Markets**

WFP market price monitoring shows that staple commodity prices in the month of June for wheat, wheat flour, cooking oil and sugar increased compared to last month and remained significantly above last year, the 2 year average and the month of June 2021 before the political transition in the country. Price of wheat increased by 8% compared to last month, 58% compared to last year and 34% compared to last three years. Similarly, price of rice increased by 9% compared to last month, 35% compared to last year and 21% compared to the last three years average. In addition, price of oil increased by 3% compared to last month, 53% compared to last year and 21% compared to the last three years average.

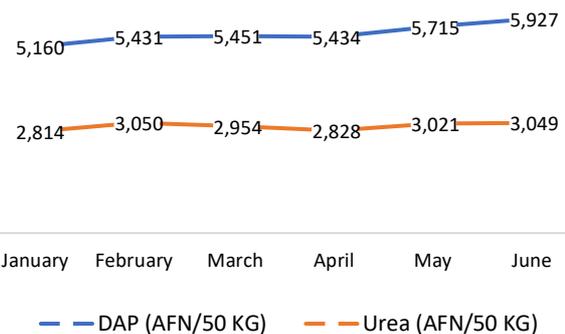
According to WFP’s market monitoring bulletin, after Kazakhstan extended its export limitation through September 2022, the price of exported wheat flour in main markets of Afghanistan increased by 8%, 65%, and 32% compared to last month, last year, and the three-year average, respectively. Food price increases are mainly driven by decreased supply from Kazakhstan, a lack of affordable alternative source markets in central Asia, reduced domestic production, and the country’s overall economic deterioration. Considering the five-year average, Afghanistan has been the largest importer of wheat grain and wheat flour in central Asia. On average, the country imports 3.3 million MT of wheat from abroad.

Di-ammonium Phosphate popularly known as DAP, is a preferred fertilizer in Afghanistan because it contains both Nitrogen and Phosphorus which are primary macro-nutrients and part of the 18 essential plant nutrients. DAP prices increased by 4% compared to last month, 103% compared to last year same time, 108% compared to June 2021, and 59% compared to last three years’ average. Urea is a source of Nitrogen, an essential nutrient crucial for crop growth and development. Urea is the most important nitrogenous fertilizer in the country because of its high N content (46%N). Urea price increased 1% compared to last month, 142% compared to last year, 64% compared to last three years’ average. The continued increase in fertilizer prices will impact on the 2022/23 cultivation season – by reducing fertilizer availability and use in farmers’ fields.

FOOD COMMODITY PRICES 2022 (AFN)



FERTILIZERS PRICES IN 2022



• **Conflict and Displacements**

From 1 January 2021 to June 2022, 829,965^{iv} people fled their homes due to conflict across the country. Although the de-facto authorities are encouraging the displaced to move back to their areas of origin, many of the IDPs remain displaced as a lack of livelihood opportunities is preventing them from returning to their areas of origin. Over the past several weeks, fighting has been ongoing in the remote district of Balkhab, Saripul province. At least 27,000 people have been displaced to Sare pul center, Mazar-e Sharif and Yakawlang of Bamyan.

• **Disasters**

A 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck the south - eastern region of Afghanistan on 22 June 2022^v affecting Paktika and Khost provinces. Initial estimates indicated that 361,634 people in 17 districts, Paktika (10) and Khost (7) – mostly remote and mountainous areas - including Giyan, Barmal, and Ziruk districts in Paktika province, and Spera, districts in Khost province were affected. According to the de-facto Ministry of Public Health, as of 26 June, a total of 1,036 people were killed, 2,949 were injured, and 4,500 homes were damaged (fully or partially) in Paktika and Khost provinces. Among the injured cases in Paktika province, 19 cases were referred to Kabul province central hospitals (six adult males, five male children, six females and two female children), 69 injured cases to Paktya provincial Hospital and 11 injured cases to Ghazni Provincial hospital.

Initial findings from the inter-sectoral assessments highlight that almost 1,900 homes across Giyan (1,028) and Barmal (450) districts in Paktika province, and Spera (416) district in Khost province have been destroyed. Many more are estimated to have experienced extensive damage and are at-risk of collapse. There are unconfirmed reports that between 700 and 800 families are living out in the open across the three worst-affected districts (Barmal, Giyan in Paktika province and Spera in Khost province) including 400 families in Barmal district alone. Humanitarian agencies have provided assistance to some of the earthquake affected communities, however, food and shelter remain the major response gaps. In June 2022, FSAC partners provided food assistance to 33,354 people affected by the recent earthquake in Khost and Paktika.

On 22 June 2022, flash flooding occurred across the eastern region^{vi}. Based on assessment findings, 1,288 individuals (728 in Kunar, 175 in Laghman and 385 in Nangarhar province) were affected and 356 houses were damaged or destroyed (188 in Kunar, 52 in Laghman and 116 in Nangarhar). Assessments are ongoing in Nangarhar province. Besides the houses, damage to infrastructure was also reported, including the destruction of roads, river protection walls and irrigation systems as well as destruction of crops and agriculture land. Reportedly, over 11,400 livestock were killed (6,563 in Kunar, 390 in Laghman, 1,577 in Nangarhar and 2,912 in Nuristan). First round of food assistance has been provided for assessed people and further assistance is planned to be provided soon. Immediate gaps include veterinary support and animal feed for livestock.

• **Humanitarian Response Planning 2022**

In 2022, to address the high levels of food insecurity, FSAC will scale up emergency life-saving food assistance in cash or in-kind for 21.6 million food-insecure men, women and children that includes 20.5 million multiple shock affected people in IPC Phase 3+, 200,144 undocumented returnees, 72,000 refugees, 504,370 IDP's, 150,000 natural disaster

affected people and 72,000 Pakistani refugees. A total of 10.7 million vulnerable and food insecure people will also receive assistance to protect and promote livelihoods, including: 10.5 million people facing acute food insecurity (IPC 3+), 100,000 conflict-affected IDP's, and 100,000 natural disaster-affected people in 'crisis' and 'emergency' levels of food insecurity (IPC 3+), focusing on both rural and urban areas.

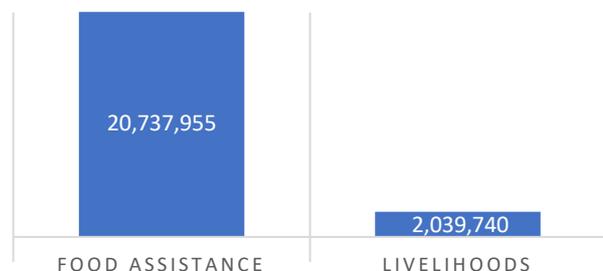
The FSAC requires US\$2.7 billion to cover the urgent food assistance and livelihood needs under the 2022 HRP. Only, US\$781,516,175 million (29% of the required funding) has been received as of June 2022.



• **Humanitarian Assistance**

From the targeted 21.6 million food-insecure between January and June 2022, FSAC partners supported 20.7 million people with food assistance and 2 million people with livelihood assistance (agriculture and livestock support) in all 34 provinces. Due to the integration of food assistance and livelihoods, there are beneficiaries receiving food assistance who have also received livelihood assistance. For food assistance, most of these beneficiaries received one to six rounds of assistance. Of the 20.7 million people supported with food, 20 million were in IPC Phase 3 and 4 locations. Due to the increase needs, IPC Phase 4 beneficiaries are receiving 75% of the recommended basket while IPC Phase 3 populations are receiving 50% of the recommended food basket in cash or in-kind. As these beneficiaries are supposed to receive multiple rounds of assistance, more funding is required to complement and complete the assistance package.

**HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE-
JANUARY - JUNE ACHIEVEMENT**



■ People reached (Jan-June)

• **Access**

There were no major access issues reported in the month of June. Some level of interference by the de-facto authorities in the implementation of interventions was reported in some

regions, but these were resolved locally without major impact on the delivery of assistance.

- **Partner Capacity**

Supported by over 268 registered FSAC partners, of which 82 partners are operational^{vii} in 34 provinces. Despite some improvement in women staff participation in humanitarian activities, women staff are still not fully allowed to participate in humanitarian work in some provinces.

- **Planned Cluster Activities**

FSAC will conduct the following activities in the month of July:

- Support the management of the AHF 1st Standard and Reserve Allocation.
- Seasonal Food Security Assessment and IPC Planning
- Supporting the earthquake response coordination
- July FSAC meeting
- Developing winter prioritization strategy.

ⁱ <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/afghanistan-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-analysis-march-november-2022-issued-may>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/1fcf63b0-80e9-4f8e-825f-10ea6e998479/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6669593/>

^{iv} <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/afghanistan/idps>

^v <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/earthquake-paktika-and-khost-provinces-afghanistan-situation-report-6-issued-27-june-2022>

^{vi} <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/afghanistan-flash-floods-eastern-region-kunar-laghman-nangarhar-nuristan-provinces-28-june-2022>

^{vii} [Have running projects and are reporting to FSAC](#)

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