



Afghanistan – Complex Emergency

March 31, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p>24.4 MILLION</p> <p>People in Afghanistan in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in 2022</p> <p><i>UN – January 2022</i></p>	<p>22.8 MILLION</p> <p>People Expected to Face Acute Food Insecurity by March 2022</p> <p><i>IPC – October 2021</i></p>	<p>22.1 MILLION</p> <p>Afghans Prioritized for Humanitarian Assistance Under the 2022 HRP</p> <p><i>UN – January 2022</i></p>	<p>777,427</p> <p>People Newly Displaced by Conflict in 2021</p> <p><i>UN – March 2022</i></p>	<p>1.2 MILLION</p> <p>Cross-Border Returnees from Iran and Pakistan in 2021</p> <p><i>UN – November 2021</i></p>
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- On March 31, the USG announced nearly \$204 million in new funding to continue delivering life-saving assistance in Afghanistan.
- Loss of income and rising food and commodity prices continue to drive acute food insecurity throughout Afghanistan.
- Health actors have reported a significant increase in measles cases since January 2021. In mid-March, health actors, including USG partners, launched a vaccination campaign in response to the current outbreak.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Afghanistan Response in FYs 2021–2022	USAID/BHA ¹	\$675,818,901
	State/PRM ²	\$309,954,852
	Total	\$985,773,753

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
² U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

USG Announces \$204 million in Humanitarian Funding for Afghanistan

The UN and governments of Germany, Qatar, and the United Kingdom convened a high-level virtual pledging event on March 31 to highlight the commitment of humanitarian actors to implement lifesaving assistance across Afghanistan, request donor support to meet the unprecedented levels of humanitarian need, and raise awareness regarding other challenges in Afghanistan, including the ongoing economic crisis and the Taliban's recent decision to bar girls from secondary school. At the conference, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield announced nearly \$204 million in additional U.S. government (USG) funding to the Afghanistan humanitarian response, including nearly \$134 million from State/PRM and approximately \$70 million from USAID/BHA.

USG funding will support non-governmental organization (NGO) and UN partners to distribute cash assistance to help households meet their daily needs; support health care facilities, staff, and mobile health teams; and facilitate urgent nutrition, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance. USG funding will also provide protection support to the increasing vulnerabilities of women and girls by providing safe spaces, support for survivors of gender-based violence, and psychosocial support activities. Additionally, this funding will support reintegration assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees, provide multi-sector assistance to refugee populations in Afghanistan and neighboring countries, and support durable solutions. Moreover, the USG will support humanitarian coordination efforts with the UN and NGOs to identify and plan for urgent needs and any gaps in response support for the most vulnerable.

The United States remains the largest donor of humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan, providing more than \$4.6 billion in support since 2002, including more than \$719 million since the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in August 2021.

Acute Food Insecurity Persists as Afghanistan's Economic Crisis Continues

Food security conditions across Afghanistan continue to worsen, with an estimated 95 percent of households—and nearly 100 percent of female-headed households—facing inadequate food consumption as of March, the UN reports. The percentage of households adopting negative coping strategies—such as borrowing food, consuming less-preferred foods, and restricting meals—continues to increase, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). In February, an estimated 71 percent of Afghans utilized negative coping strategies, compared with 66 percent of households in January. Further, 85 percent of income-earning households reported a significant decrease in income in February, while the percentage of households earning no income at all increased from 18 to 21 percent during the month.

Income losses, reduced household purchasing power, rising prices, and ongoing drought continue to drive food insecurity countrywide. Approximately 70 percent of Afghan households are unable to meet basic food and non-food needs, an increase from 35 percent in May 2021, according to the World Bank. Additionally, relief actors anticipate that the economic impacts of the Russian invasion of Ukraine—including increased fuel and commodity prices and supply chain disruptions—will result in additional price increases, further impacting the ability of Afghan households to meet basic needs. In March, the price for diesel in Afghan markets was an estimated 70 percent higher compared with June 2021, while prices for cooking oil, wheat, and wheat flour had increased by approximately 30 percent, according to WFP.

Overall, the UN estimates that nearly 22.8 million people are experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—or worse

levels of food insecurity as of March.³ Additionally, more than 3.5 million people across 28 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces are in need of nutrition support. On March 15, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Ramiz Alakbarov issued a statement highlighting the unparalleled levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition faced by people across Afghanistan and stressing the need for continued, large-scale donor funding for the humanitarian response.

Health Actors Launch Vaccination Campaign in Response to Measles Outbreak

Afghanistan continues to face multiple disease outbreaks, including acute watery diarrhea, coronavirus disease (COVID-19), dengue fever, polio, and malaria. Since January 2021, health actors have reported a rise in confirmed measles cases across the country, particularly in Balkh, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Kandahar, and Paktika provinces. As of late March, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) had confirmed nearly 55,400 measles cases and more than 290 related deaths since the beginning of 2021, including more than 3,300 new cases and 21 related deaths confirmed between March 20 and 26. Of the total cases, approximately 80 percent have been children ages five years and younger. In mid- to late March, health actors, including USAID/BHA partners, performed a vaccination campaign to address Afghanistan's current measles outbreak, vaccinating more than 1.2 million children younger than five years of age across affected provinces.

KEY FIGURES



12 Million

People reached with USAID/BHA-supported WFP food and nutrition assistance in February



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Number of USG implementing partners conducting protection interventions

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

The USG supports the delivery of life-saving emergency food assistance across Afghanistan, providing vulnerable populations with locally, regionally, and internationally procured in-kind food assistance; cash transfers for food; and food vouchers. With USAID/BHA support, WFP is expanding food assistance and nutrition services to support populations in need. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and NGO partners are providing seeds and livestock feed in at-risk areas to bolster the coping capacity of vulnerable households. USAID/BHA also supports coordination and capacity-building activities among food security actors in Afghanistan to strengthen humanitarian response efforts.

PROTECTION

USG partners—such as State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)—provide protection assistance to refugees and returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and other vulnerable populations in Afghanistan. Additionally, USG NGO and UN partners support mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) programs, including individual counseling, activities to support development of coping skills, and safe healing and learning spaces for children. USG partners also implement child protection activities and family services, provide legal assistance to returning refugees to access documentation, and

³ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

integrate MHPSS and other protection measures into education, health, and nutrition programming.



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Number of USG implementing partners supporting health programming

HEALTH

The USG is supporting ten partners to implement life-saving health activities across Afghanistan to improve community health awareness, bolster outpatient consultation efforts, and complement other donor efforts to provide affordable primary and secondary health care. USG partners aim to increase equitable access to and utilization of health services among IDPs, conflict-affected persons, and vulnerable host communities. USG assistance supports hospitals and clinics and enables the deployment of mobile health teams to deliver emergency and primary health care services, conduct trainings for local community health workers and health care professionals, provide essential medicines, and support vaccination campaigns. Additionally, USG funding supports the WHO to coordinate emergency health response activities across the country, support the continuation of essential health services, and ensure continued supply of critical health and medical commodities into the country.



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Number of USG implementing partners supporting shelter programming

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

Shelter needs among populations in Afghanistan remain significant, in part due to natural disasters such as floods, landslides, and harsh winter weather. USG partners provide emergency shelter for displaced and otherwise vulnerable people, as well as shelter repair kits, transitional shelter, and multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to support the housing needs of affected populations. Each year, USG partners pre-position shelter materials for use during the harsh winter months.



3

Number of USG implementing partners supporting livelihoods programming

LIVELIHOODS AND EDUCATION

With USG funding, partners deliver livelihoods programming and skills training to support refugee reintegration and boost opportunities for vulnerable host community populations; activities include courses to increase literacy, business knowledge, and skills development. State/PRM partners support returning refugees, IDPs, and host communities in Afghanistan by providing access to skills training and adult literacy courses, in addition to access to education for Afghan refugees and host community children in Pakistan. Partners also work to ensure IDP and returning refugee children have access to learning spaces and accelerated learning programs to help children prepare for enrollment in formal schools, as well as support initiatives to improve infrastructure in schools within host communities.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The Taliban seized Afghanistan’s capital city of Kabul on August 15, 2021, following the successive capture of several provincial capitals and territory in early August. Since the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, economic and political instability has resulted in the deterioration of basic service provision across the country, increased prices of staple foods and fuel, reduced household purchasing power, and negatively impacted the ability of Afghan households to meet basic needs.
- The cumulative effects of conflict, internal displacement, COVID-19, drought, and economic collapse have drastically increased levels of humanitarian need throughout Afghanistan. The UN predicts that 24.4 million people will require humanitarian assistance in 2022, a 33 percent increase compared to the 18.4 million people in need identified in the 2021 HRP, with the severity of needs deepening across all sectors.
- In late August, the USG activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) based in the region outside of Afghanistan to lead the USG response to humanitarian needs generated by the crisis in Afghanistan and a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART.
- On October 18, 2021, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Ian McCary redeclared a disaster for FY 2022 for Afghanistan due to the ongoing complex emergency.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2022¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); MPCA; Natural Hazards and Technological Risks; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Bamyan, Daykundi, Farah, Faryab, Ghazni, Helmand, Herat, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kapisa, Khost, Konar, Kunduz, Laghman, Loghar, Nangarhar, Paktia, Sar-e Pul, Uruzgan, Wardak, Zabul	\$62,766,004
FAO	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$500,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$8,257,000
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, MPCA, WASH	Countrywide, Badakhshan, Badghis, Bamyan, Daykundi, Ghazni, Ghor, Faryab, Herat, Kabul, Kunduz, Loghar, Nuristan, Paktia, Paktika, Panjshir, Parwan, Wardak, Zabul	\$33,645,428
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$361,800
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Badakhshan, Badghis, Bamyan, Daykundi, Faryab, Ghor, Herat, Jowzjan, Sar-e-Pul, Uruzgan	\$270,721,579

WHO	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Program Support		\$228,270
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$378,480,081
STATE/PRM			
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$1,128,233
IOM	Health	Pakistan	\$6,300,000
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$80,300,000
		Pakistan	\$32,000,000
		Regional	\$3,900,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Pakistan	\$9,300,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Pakistan	\$800,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$133,728,233
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$512,208,314

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
IPs	Agriculture; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; HCIMA; Health; MPCA; Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide, Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Bamyan, Daykundi, Farah, Faryab, Ghazni, Helmand, Herat, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kapisa, Khost, Konar, Kunduz, Laghman, Loghar, Nangarhar, Paktia, Sar-e Pul, Takhar, Uruzgan, Wardak, Zabul	\$47,000,000
FAO	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$500,000
	Agriculture	Badghis, Balkh, Farah, Faryab, Ghazni, Herat, Jowzjan, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Sar-e-Pul, Zabul	\$20,000,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice (DRRPP), Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Health, Shelter	Badakhshan, Badghis, Daykundi, Ghor, Herat, Kandahar, Nuristan	\$1,200,000
IOM	DRRPP, HCIMA, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide, Balkh, Herat, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Paktia	\$8,000,000
UNICEF	HCIMA, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$16,500,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$800,000
WHO	HCIMA, Health	Countrywide	\$5,300,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$197,900,000
	Program Support		\$138,820
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$297,338,820
STATE/PRM			

IPs	Health, ERMS, Protection	Countrywide	\$35,754,998
		Pakistan	\$8,025,536
IOM	Health	Countrywide	\$3,400,000
		Pakistan	\$400,000
		Kosovo	\$3,975,132
UNHCR	Education, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$34,100,000
		Pakistan	\$30,750,000
		Regional	\$31,250,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Pakistan	\$10,000,000
		Regional	\$8,514,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$7,256,953
		Pakistan	\$600,000
WHO	Nutrition	Pakistan	\$2,200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$176,226,619
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$473,565,439

TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FYs 2021 - 2022 **\$985,773,753**

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of March 31, 2022.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.org
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)