

Humanitarian Snapshot

USAID/BHA in South and Central Asia

Fiscal Year (FY) 2022

Regional Profile

Countries in South and Central Asia (SCA) are highly susceptible to recurrent extreme weather events and natural hazards that can lead to disasters and compound existing vulnerabilities. In FY 2022, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided more than \$885.3 million in humanitarian assistance to the region. USAID/BHA partners provided emergency food and nutrition assistance, as well as health care, protection, shelter, and additional essential services for crisis-affected populations. USAID/BHA's SCA FY 2022 funding included approximately \$26.6 million in standalone early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) programs that aimed to address the root causes of food insecurity, build resilience, and enhance emergency preparedness and response at the local, national, and regional levels.



The SCA region comprises Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

Humanitarian Situation in FY 2022

Natural hazards and shocks, as well as economic and political crises, exacerbated humanitarian needs for vulnerable populations in several SCA countries—as seen in the elevated need in Pakistan and Sri Lanka—in FY 2022. Moreover, the complex emergency in Afghanistan and the refugee crisis in Bangladesh continued to generate widespread humanitarian needs among affected communities.

In Afghanistan, the cumulative effects of decades of conflict, internal displacement, severe drought, and recurrent natural disasters resulted in high levels of humanitarian need during FY 2022. The resultant economic and political instability of the Taliban's takeover of the country in August 2021 continued to disrupt financial systems, deteriorate basic services, increase food and fuel prices, and reduce household purchasing power. Additionally, the ongoing drought undermined agricultural livelihoods, prompting a sharp decline in food access, with more than 90 percent of households struggling to meet their basic food needs as of September 2022.

Meanwhile, approximately 944,000 refugees—a majority of whom are ethnic Rohingya—continued to reside in Bangladesh as of August 2022. Approximately 774,000 of refugees in Bangladesh fled genocidal military operations in Burma's Rakhine State since August 2017. Refugees are sheltering in Cox's Bazar District refugee camps, as well as on Bhasan Char Island—a silt island in the Bay of Bengal—and rely on humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs.

USAID/BHA Priorities

In FY 2023, USAID/BHA plans to continue supporting multi-sector responses across SCA while building local, national, and regional disaster preparedness and response capacities. In Afghanistan, USAID/BHA will continue to provide life-saving multi-sector assistance throughout the country while improving access to humanitarian assistance for women and girls by promoting active participation in humanitarian response activities. Additionally, USAID/BHA is supporting ER4 activities for communities affected by the 2022 floods in Pakistan, as well as assisting Sri Lankans' recovery from the economic and political crisis and bolstering efforts to prepare for, mitigate, and respond to climatic shocks in the country. Furthermore, in Bangladesh, USAID/BHA will continue to respond to the Rohingya refugee crisis by providing agriculture, food, livelihood, and nutrition, support, as well as humanitarian coordination and logistics services within refugee camps and surrounding host communities.

FY 2022 Regional Funding Total

\$885,327,796

Top Receiving Countries in FY 2022

Afghanistan	\$671,330,069
Bangladesh	\$133,115,903
Pakistan	\$46,633,659
Sri Lanka	\$25,900,000
Nepal	\$5,076,855

Additional information on USAID/BHA's activities can be found at: [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)

