

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fighting between armed groups in Nangarhar displaced more than 61,000 people since mid-October, 45,000 of which have received assistance.
- Ramped up winterisation assistance reaches the most vulnerable families across the country.
- The 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan calls for US\$430 million to assist 2.8 million people in acute need.
- Furthermore, 8.7 million people are in chronic need in Afghanistan.
- Married off with 13 years for the dowry – Amana's story after her father decided to force her into marriage.
- 12 humanitarian workers were injured in assaults in November, bringing the total of wounded aid workers to 27 this year.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING 71% FUNDED

409.4 million
requested (US\$)

289.7 million
Received (US\$)

<http://fts.unocha.org>
by 12 December 2017



Nearly 45,000 displaced people from Khogyani district, Nangarhar, have received assistance. Photo: OCHA

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Massive displacements in Nangarhar

Following a series of clashes over the past months between two competing non-state armed groups in Khogyani district, Nangarhar, intense fighting erupted mid-October provoking the displacement of more than 40,000 people in just a few days to Khogyani district centre, Behsud, Chamtala, Chaparhar, Pachieragam and Surkh Rod districts, as well as Jalalabad City (see map on next page). Renewed fighting at the end of November led to another wave of displacement, forcing several thousand people from two dozen villages. To date, more than 61,000 people have been displaced from Khogyani district.

Less than two hours to flee their home and find transport to safety

"There was fighting everywhere around our village and we decided to leave," said one man who recently arrived in Surkh Rod district centre, 25 kilometres from the Khogyani district centre. "We walked at night because we thought it would be safer. But still one of us got struck by a bullet." Abdul Jalil, who fled his village in Khogyani district two weeks ago, remembered: "We had less than two hours to get ready." The mason was lucky enough to be able to afford to pay for transport and packed his wife, five children and a mattress into the taxi. "I paid US\$90 to get here, three times the usual price."

This chilly morning, he waited at a food distribution site organised by the NGO Afghan Planning Agency (APA), a national NGO-partner of the World Food Programme (WFP), fidgeting with the paper slip between his fingers that identified him as one of 300 heads of family who would receive a monthly food ration. Almost 5,500 families have already received either food or cash assistance intended to buy food.

Overstretched public health services

A group of women with children crowd the courtyard of the public clinic of Surkh Rod, looking for the reception. They all were displaced from Khogyani. One of them, Habiba, explains that she lives in an improvised shelter covered by a tarp in the garden of a relative. "We are 13 people every night. It is cold and our children are getting sick."

The director of the clinic, Dr. Samiullah, confirms the added pressure that the displaced families are putting on the existing health services: since mid-October, when the first influx of displaced families from Khogyani arrived in Surkh Rod, the number of patients treated increased from an average of 4,000 to 7,000 per month. Most of the consultations are for respiratory diseases.

However, the number of trauma cases has significantly increased from only a few per month mostly caused by road traffic accidents to around 200 per month. "The majority of them are gunshot wounds," the doctor observed.



A monthly food ration for one family consists of fortified wheat flour, pulses and cooking oil. Photo: OCHA/Kropf



“The majority of [the 200 trauma cases] are gunshot wounds.”

“I pay \$50 for one room with no doors or windows and I do not feel safe.”

To date, Dr. Samiullah and his team in the clinic in Surkh Rod have been able to cope with the increased demand, thanks to support by the World Health Organization (WHO) that delivered medical supplies to the clinic on two urgent occasions. Further, Health Cluster partners have mobilised five mobile health teams and two static centres to address the health needs of the displaced people.

Houses in Surkh Rod are overcrowded and rents for rooms have skyrocketed

Displaced families have found shelter with relatives, others erected makeshift shelters in open areas – notably in two displacement sites in Sra Qala and in Sardar Banda with some 260 families in total – and even more have rented accommodation.

“I am paying US\$200 per month for four rooms”, says one man who returned from Pakistan only a few months ago and now displaced from Khogyani. Others have been less fortunate: “I pay \$50 for one room with no doors or windows where I do not feel safe,” one woman explains.

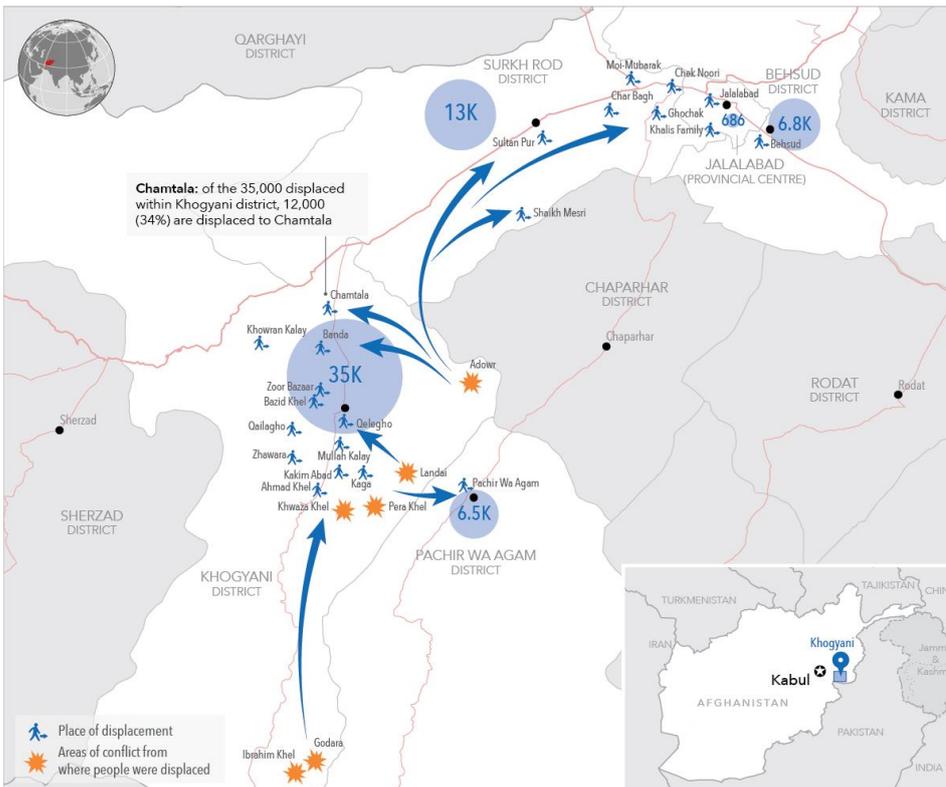
Fear of eviction is imminent: “The landlord said that if I do not like it, I can leave. There are other displaced people who will rent it from him.” Others have already been driven out from their shelter. “First I could go with my family to friends, when their displaced relatives arrived, we were asked to leave,” said a man we meet at a cash for food distribution. “Now, I pay nearly 60 dollars for two rooms. I do not know how I can afford that cost much longer. It is good that we get some money to buy food, but we need more [assistance].”



Members of the inter-agency mission interact with displaced women from Khogyani in Surkh Rod. Photo: OCHA/Kropf

Aid delivered to 45,000 displaced people

Inter-agency assessment teams from UN entities, national and international NGOs, the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) and the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR) responded within days of the first displacements, enabling the first food and cash distributions to be conducted on 1 November.



More than 61,000 people have been displaced from Khogyani by the ongoing conflict since mid-October. Source: OCHA

By mid-December, nearly 45,000 displaced people had received immediate humanitarian assistance. Nearly 17,000 people have been recommended for assistance but have yet to receive aid.

Livestock sold at half its value

“The fighting will go on,” says Zabit Khan in a group of men meeting aid workers in the compound of the NGO New Consultancy and Relief Organization (NCRO). “I want to go back, but I know I cannot go back anytime soon.”

Some of the men, most of them farmers, were able to bring some of their livestock out of Khogyani: “First we sent the children to safety, then we brought out our goats and cows.”

Arriving in safety, they were compelled to sell the animals for less than half the market price. At present, the only source of income is daily wage labour but opportunities in Surkh Rod district or Jalalabad City are scarce: “I can get one day, maybe two days per week. It is not enough to live on.”

“They shared their mattresses, thick blankets and pillows with us, but there was not enough for both families.”

“With the money I bought oil, rice and flour. Until yesterday my uncle was supporting us and feeding my family, now we are very happy to have our own food.”

Some 33,535 families have been assisted by 13 December 2017 with this standard winterisation package of \$200 – more than \$5 million have been already distributed.

Winter assistance for the most vulnerable

Save the Children contributed to this article

Salma (*name changed*) was recently displaced when fighting between members of competing armed groups reached Marikhel village in Nangarhar’s Shirzad district. The 42-year old widow had returned only a few months ago to her birthplace after living three decades in Pakistan. Although temperatures were dropping, she could expect only limited support from the community and relatives.

“The first few days were the worst. We had left our home with only one the clothes on our backs and it was getting cold in the desert,” she recalls. In the end, they found shelter with one of her uncles in Samarkhil village, Behsud, where she sleeps in one room with her children. “They shared their mattresses, thick blankets and pillows with us,” she says, “but there was not enough for both families.”

Salma was selected for assistance by staff members of Save the Children conducting humanitarian assessments following the reports of the displacements. She received cash assistance as well as blankets, a tarp and a winter kit including warm clothing for her family. “With the money I bought oil, rice and flour. Until yesterday my uncle was supporting us and feeding my family, now we are very happy to have our own food,” Salma says. “The children are happy now with the warm clothing and they sleep now warmly.” Her eldest son leaves every morning early in search of work for a daily wage, wearing the patoo SCI distributes as part of the winter assistance, the multipurpose blanket that Afghans carry and wear in winter.



Salma and six of her eight children in the room of her uncle's house in Behsud district, Nangarhar. Photo: SCI

Ramped up delivery by Cluster partners

Salma’s family is one of 78,000 families estimated to be in need of getting through winter in warmth and in dignity across the country (see *Bulletin 69, October 2017*). From 13 November to 10 December, UNHCR and cluster partners in the **Emergency Shelter/Non-Food Item Cluster (ES/NFI)** assisted more than 33,000 families in 31 provinces.

Cash assistance is at the centre of the winterisation response that is jointly delivered with the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations (MoRR). Each family receives \$200 to buy fuel for heating to provide warmth during the three coldest months of the year. A total of 33,535 families have been assisted by 13 December 2017 with this standard winterisation package – more than \$5 million have been already distributed this winter. In addition to the cash assistance, ES/NFI partners including UNHCR have distributed 123,873 blankets and nearly 13,400 sets of clothing.



Cluster partners distributed more than 123,000 blankets and \$5 million as winterisation assistance. Photo: UNHCR

Under its seasonal support programme, WFP dispatched more than 1,700 metric tons of food for more than 200,000 people across the country to ensure that distributions can continue through winter even if roads and passages get blocked by snow.

European Union ready to fund winterisation to cover gap of 38,000 families

There is a funding gap for 38,000 of the 78,000 families estimated to be in need of winterisation assistance (see *Bulletin 69, October 2017*). The European Union (EU) has allocated \$16 million to assist the Government of Afghanistan in the winterisation efforts. The funds are in the last stages of disbursement and are expected to be available shortly.

Response Plan calls for \$430 million for 2018

Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, Toby Lanzer, the humanitarian community in Afghanistan simultaneously published the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the 2018-2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) on 3 December.

Guiding humanitarian assistance delivered by Cluster partners in Afghanistan, these two key documents distinguish between people with acute and chronic needs for the first time.

Acute needs are caused by specific crisis and sudden shocks, such as displacement due to conflict or natural disasters, whereas chronic needs are due to long-term structural deficits such as limited access to basic services or lack of livelihoods.

In the coming year, some 3.3 million people are expected to experience acute humanitarian needs, including 1.9 million people affected by conflict and 405,000 conflict displaced people. Furthermore, 8.7 million people are estimated to be in chronic need, including 6.7 million people without long-term food security.

Focus on people in acute humanitarian need

“For 2018, UN agencies and NGOs refined the definition of need and agreed to help, under the humanitarian umbrella, people who have survived recent conflict, are currently on the move or have just weathered the forces of nature,” Toby Lanzer states in the HRP.

To reach those people, the humanitarian community calls on donors to fund their programmes across all sectors with \$430 million (see table).

Humanitarian funding can no longer bridge gaps in public services

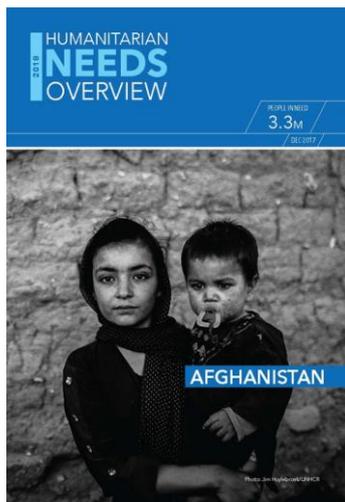
Faced with the conflict deepening in intensity and expanding in geographical scope across the country, it is vital for humanitarian partners to stay within clear humanitarian parameters and provide life-saving assistance to people affected by crisis. Further, the protracted nature of the crisis in Afghanistan has increasingly seen humanitarian funding being used to bridge gaps in public services.

The HRP acknowledges that many people living with chronic needs who were previously incorporated in humanitarian appeals will no longer be supported by humanitarian actors: “The millions of people deemed in need because of chronic issues, such as long-standing insecurity, poverty or climate change, are to be supported via development, namely the Afghan National Peace and Development Framework which is supported by donor commitments of \$3.8 billion each year (...) and, in the case of the United Nations, the ‘One UN – One Programme: 2018 – 2021’”, the Humanitarian Coordinator explains.

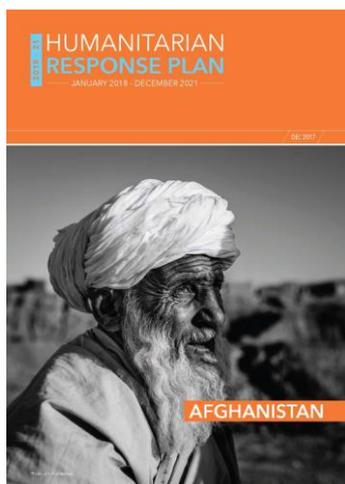
Development actors are better placed to address these underlying causes of vulnerability. Refocusing humanitarian action on specific crisis allows humanitarian partners to concentrate on saving lives placed at risk due to conflict, natural disasters or large-scale and sudden population movements.

Multi-year plan to guide humanitarian action from 2018 to 2021

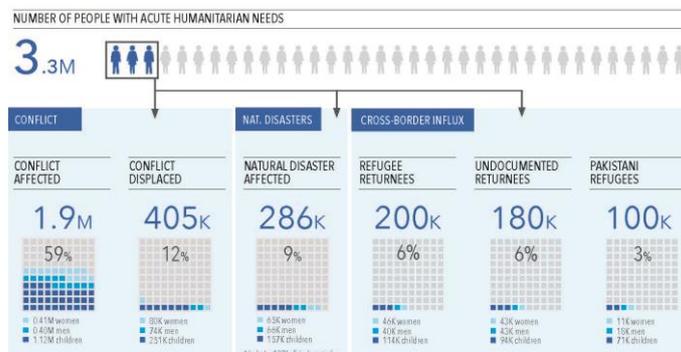
In view of the protracted nature of the situation in Afghanistan, the HRP is a multi-year plan to guide humanitarian action in the coming four years to better ensure that assistance reaches those most in need. The plan is however not static and can be revised as needed, for example if more or less people than projected are displaced by conflict.



HNO 2018
Photo: Jim Huylebroek



HRP 2018-2021
Photo: Jim Huylebroek/UNHCR



Main drivers of acute humanitarian needs in Afghanistan are conflict, natural disasters and cross-border movements. Source: HNO

Cluster or sector	Financial requirement	People to receive aid
Food security	\$90.6M	1.9 M
Protection	\$66.5M	1.5 M
Nutrition	\$55.7M	1.1 M
Shelter & NFI	\$53M	0.9 M
Health	\$41.6M	1.6 M
Multipurpose cash	\$37.1M	0.6 M
Education in Emergencies	\$29.7M	0.4 M
WASH	\$23.5M	1.1 M

Source: HNO 2018

From 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day, the [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) campaign is a time to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world.

Led by UNFPA and WHO, all UN entities in Afghanistan participated in events and an online campaign.



Married off at 13 years for her dowry

World Vision Afghanistan (WVA) contributed to this article

Amana (*name changed*) from Hirat City was 13 years old, when her father told her that he had arranged to marry her off to a relative. Her mother had died a year earlier and her father planned to use the dowry to remarry and buy food for the other three children.

That evening, she pleaded with her father not to marry her off to a man who was as old as himself. But he grew angry and would not reconsider. Overwhelmed with pressure her father was putting on her, Amana finally gave in and accepted the decision. “I cried a lot,” she remembers. “I went to bed without eating dinner. I didn’t want to wake up in the morning. I wished I could go where my mother was – under the soil.”

Violence against women widespread and undeniable reality in Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, the legal age of marriage is 16 years for women and 18 years for men under the Afghan Civil Code. However, the father of a girl or a competent court of law can provide “consent” for the marriage of a girl who is at least 15 years old under extraordinary circumstances.

One third of all women in Afghanistan are married before they reach the age of 18. Child marriages are usually aimed at strengthening ties between rival families and tribes, as part of deals or to settle debts and disputes. Poor families often end up selling daughters for large dowries from wealthy people.

Some 87 per cent of women in Afghanistan experience one form of violence during their lifetime, according to UNFPA based upon a [study published by the NGO Global Rights](#) that lists forced and under-age marriage as risk-factors increasing the likelihood for women to experience violence. In the first ten months of this year, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission registered [more than 370 cases of violence against women per month](#), more than one fourth being assault and battery.

“I let her cry to release her feelings of despair.”

The next morning, Amana remembered what a WVA community development worker had told her earlier: “If you have any problem, just come and talk to me.” She went to the street children centre in the city and found the counsellor. “She started to cry before she [even began] talking,” said Mr. Poya, the counsellor at the centre. “I let her cry to release her feelings of despair. When she felt better, she started telling her story.”

Later that day, the counsellor and a local religious leader, Mr. Salam, met with Amana’s father to discuss the consequences of early and forced marriage, such as maternal and child health complications and domestic violence.

Approaching child rights from an Islamic perspective

Mr. Salam approached child rights from an Islamic perspective, he explained: “Children have the right to be fed, clothed and protected until they reach adulthood. A child has the right to a good education and a stable environment in which to grow up. Hence, Islam pays particular attention to the rights of children and to the proper manner by which to raise them, so that they will be equipped to face the difficulties of life.”

Being a religious man, Amana’s father was persuaded not to marry off Amana. Instead, he agreed to look for another job to supplement the family’s income.

Instead of being forced into early marriage, Amana wants to become a doctor

This was three years ago. Amana and none of her siblings had ever been able to go school because the family lacked the money to buy school supplies. She enrolled in the WVA’s centre for street children and has learned to read and write. Recently she passed her school entrance exam and will start in the third grade.

“I want to be a doctor!” she says now. “If I [had been] a doctor maybe I could have treated my mother so she would be alive to see her daughter in a school uniform, a daughter [who] can read and write and knows a lot of poems and stories.”



Lori Du Trieuille arrived in Afghanistan in May 2012 and moved into the position of USAID Afghanistan's Senior Humanitarian Advisor in August 2014. Before joining USAID, she worked for humanitarian NGOs, based in Africa and the USA. Photo: Courtesy Lori Du Trieuille

“Looking people in the eye and talking to them is important and I think it empowers us on both ends.”

Donor Dialogue: Lori Du Trieuille, USAID

What are the perspectives and priorities of our donors? In this series, OCHA sits down with the people who support the humanitarian response in Afghanistan.

What is your Government's perspective of the situation in Afghanistan?

There seems to be a kaleidoscope of perspectives regarding challenges and opportunities in Afghanistan. The most obvious challenges might be infrastructure and economic growth, gender, health services and education. Regarding the humanitarian sector, there are enormous needs that we need to continue to respond to.

The latest Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) distinguishes between acute humanitarian needs and chronic need. Is that distinction helpful for you?

Absolutely! In previous years, I feel the lines have been blurred. For me, it is very helpful to have a needs overview and response plan that are focused on saving lives. The documents clearly explain who the most vulnerable people are and what we need the money for. With that, I can advocate strongly for funding [in Washington]. This HRP should also help us push development partners to address the chronic needs that they are better equipped to deal with after the short term humanitarian response ends.

What are the USA's priorities when funding humanitarian action in Afghanistan?

Countrywide, we work with 16 partners, UN Agencies and international NGOs that all work with national partners including the Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). Providing life-saving assistance is the core work of OFDA [the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), an organizational unit of USAID which leads the U.S.'s response to disasters worldwide] and of FFP [the Office of Food for Peace (FFP) which leads emergency food assistance for the United States]. Information management is also an important element that we fund because we know that we require the right information to guide, influence, and coordinate programming across donors. For example, we support information management within the clusters or fund partners like iMMAP and FEWSNET. Only on the basis of reliable information can we know where the areas of highest needs will be and where we need to provide assistance most urgently.

The US Government has been one of the top donors of the Afghanistan-HRP in the past years, funding up to 37 per cent of the total requirements. Will this continue?

The United States is the world's leading donor of humanitarian aid and our substantial humanitarian portfolio in Afghanistan shows that we are committed to helping the people of Afghanistan. But humanitarian needs around the world are increasing and we are competing with other humanitarian crises that are constantly on Al Jazeera and CNN: Iraq, Syria, Yemen or the Horn of Africa... We have to be clear with our messages by showing that principled humanitarian aid is required to save lives, leverage our development assistance and bolster regional security. These are challenging times for the US and other donors and we must work together to ensure continued support for the Afghanistan HRP.

Does the US Government prioritize funding projects that bridge the humanitarian-development divide or increase resilience?

We do not see it as a divide or separate stretches where humanitarian action ends and development begins but rather as linkages or overlaps. As an example, our economic growth team has developed a low-tech, community-based livelihood and job creation programme for areas of high return and displacement to be implemented through NGOs with \$90 million in US funds. We need to advocate with development partners to do more such things. We are also looking at providing micro-finance loans from \$500 upwards to help people affected by crisis get back on their feet. Traditionally, undocumented returnees or displaced families who might have lost their identity cards and who do not have any collateral would not be considered for micro-financing opportunities in traditional development programming.

Is USAID willing to take any risks regarding misuse and misappropriation of aid? Do donors have to accept some “slippage” in order to reach people most in need?

USAID humanitarian aid is intended for the most vulnerable. Therefore, we have a zero tolerance policy on misuse and misappropriation of US Government funds. Humanitarian partners need to negotiate access, engage elders and other interlocutors and work with and through local NGOs and other partners to ensure that our assistance reaches the intended beneficiaries.

USAID Humanitarian Assistance Contributions toward the Afghanistan HRP: *

2017: \$110 million
 2016: \$69 million
 2015: \$70 million
 2014: \$130 million
 2013: \$70 million
 2012: \$27 million
 2011: \$157 million
 2010: \$78 million
 2009: \$46 million
 2008: \$22 million

* Includes funding as reported by FTS towards the HRP and the 2016 Flash Appeal, actual humanitarian funding for Afghanistan can be higher.

USAID Humanitarian Assistance for Afghanistan*:

FY 2017: \$105 million
 FY 2016: \$73 million
 FY 2015: \$95 million
 FY 2014: \$92 million
 FY 2013: \$68 million
 FY 2012: \$100 million
 FY 2011: \$195 million
 FY 2010: \$73 million
 FY 2009: \$87 million
 FY 2008: \$162 million

* Includes funding from OFDA, FFP, and USAID/Afghanistan

USAID humanitarian aid is intended for the most vulnerable. Therefore, we have a zero tolerance policy on misuse and misappropriation of U.S. government funds.

You are getting ready to leave Afghanistan after nearly five years. What observations do you have regarding the working of the humanitarian system?

I remember attending the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meetings in previous years, which were crowded with people and coming to a decision was difficult. Later, the HCT swung the other direction and became very limited in its participation, thus making buy-in from stakeholders more difficult. I think we now have hit a good balance with the HCT broad enough to have representations from the UN, donors, the Government of Afghanistan, NGOs, the World Bank and other stakeholders, and decisions can be made. It is important for us donors to know what is going on and increases transparency and builds confidence. In addition, we have more focused topics for discussion, for example, one of first initiatives of the current HC, Toby Lanzer, was to invite the Pakistan HCT over to visit Afghanistan [in 2016] to discuss cross border movements - that was brilliant! This strong and open communication I have with humanitarian stakeholders allows me to better advocate for the families in need in Afghanistan.



Lori Du Trieuille, Senior Humanitarian Advisor at USAID in Kabul, meets with women and children in Dawlatyar District, Ghor Province. Photo: Courtesy Lori Du Trieuille / Said Pacha Lattoon

Any parting words for the people of Afghanistan or the humanitarian community?

One of my biggest regrets is that I cannot go back to visit some of the Afghans I have met. I remember talking to a young community aid worker or a mother who gave me her baby to hold. I cherish these moments. Looking people in the eye and talking to them is important and I think it empowers us on both ends.

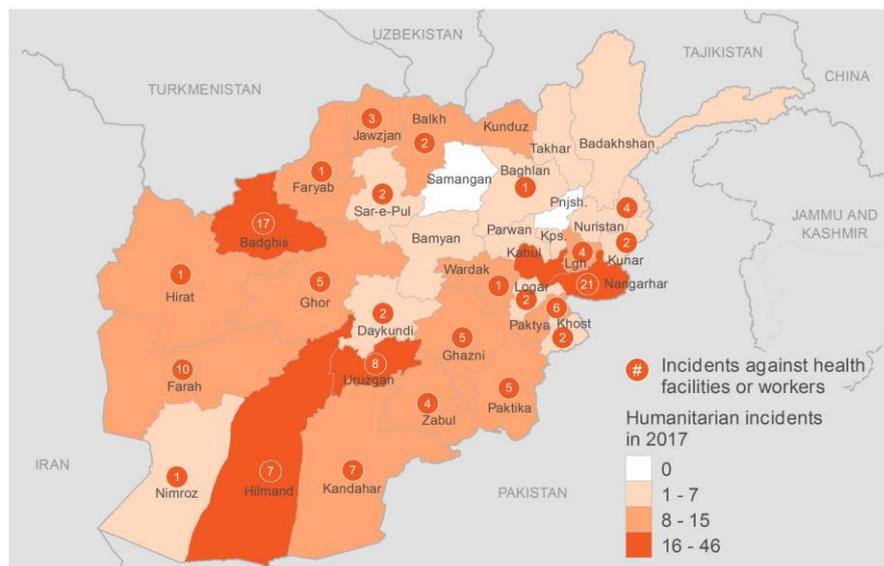
Humanitarian access and aid worker incidents

In November, 30 cases of incidents against humanitarian workers, assets, activities and related to humanitarian access were recorded, compared to 47 incidents in the previous month, bringing the total number of such incidents to 343 in 2017. No humanitarian workers were killed in October; thus the annual total remains at 17.

However, 12 humanitarian workers were injured in assaults in November, a marked increase over the past months in which cumulatively 15 humanitarian workers were wounded, bringing the total of wounded aid workers to 27 this year. Four aid workers were abducted in the past month, bringing the total of these cases to 47. Four incidents against health workers or health facilities were recorded in November, adding to a total of 117 such incidents (see map).

INCIDENTS FROM JAN TO NOV 2017

-  **343**
Incidents
-  **17**
Aid workers killed
-  **27**
Aid workers wounded
-  **47**
Aid workers abducted
-  **117**
Incidents against health facilities and workers



Incidents against health facilities and health workers in 2017. Source: OCHA, Health Cluster

2017 HRP funded with nearly 71 per cent

As of 12 December, OCHA's [Financial Tracking Service](#) reported \$349.8 million in contributions for Afghanistan. Of this amount, \$289.7 million were reported against the revised 2017 HRP, representing 70.8 per cent coverage of the of \$409.4 million, reduced from \$550 million in the Mid-Year review.

The largest donors to the HRP are the USA with an officially reported amount of approximately \$110 million, followed by ECHO with \$38.3 million, the United Kingdom with \$24.4 million and Japan with \$17.9 million.

The most funded cluster is Food Security and Agriculture with \$79.8 million in contributions or 22 per cent of funding requirements. Next but at a considerable distance is the ES/NFI Cluster with \$25.7 million or 7 per cent of the requirement and the Health Cluster with \$23 million or 6.3 per cent. The FTS team continues their work with OCHA Afghanistan to attribute the still unspecified amount of \$119 million in contributions towards its intended sectors.

\$4.1 million from the CHF-Reserve allocated

Following on [last month's Humanitarian Bulletin update](#), the Humanitarian Coordinator Toby Lanzer approved the allocation of an additional \$1.5 million from the Reserve of the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) Afghanistan for three projects, in coordination with the relevant Clusters.

The Italian NGO Emergency will receive \$380,000 for strengthening of the mass casualty area and the reinforcement of the equipment within of the surgical centre in their Kabul hospital and greater support to the referral system through existing three first aid trauma posts and the opening of a new such post in the east of Kabul.

Further, NGO World Vision International will receive \$400,000 to provide integrated food security response to drought affected farmers and families in Badghis Province. Lastly, the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) will receive \$670,000 to cover a funding gap for project which provides assistance to families immediately after conflict-related incidents including psychosocial counselling, physical rehabilitation support and income generation packages.

The GMS Business Intelligence displays real time CHF-Afghanistan data usefully structured for donors and stakeholders to analyze the ongoing processes with a consolidated view and can be accessed here: <http://gms.unocha.org/bi>.

The early First Standard Allocation for the coming year will boost the humanitarian response in the first few months of 2018, when partners often need to wait for funding to arrive.

First Standard Allocation with \$20 million to kick-start response in 2018

The Advisory Board of the CHF-Afghanistan has allocated a total of \$20 million to seven clusters (see table) – half of the total amount requested.

This early First Standard Allocation for the coming year will kick-start the humanitarian response and allow humanitarian partners to work in the first months of 2018, when partners often need to wait for new funding to arrive and are forced to reduce their activities temporarily.

Cluster	Request	Allocation
Food security	\$9M	-
Protection	\$4.7	\$2.5M
Nutrition	\$8.3M	\$7M
Shelter & NFI	\$6M	\$3M
Health	\$6M	\$3M
Education	\$4M	\$2M
WASH	\$2.56M	\$2.5M

Source: OCHA HFU

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