Situation overview

Non-State Armed Groups (NSAG) attacked Jaghuri district’s Baba area in Ghazni province on 19 November, but since then there have been no further attacks. In Malistan district, the NSAG have withdrawn their fighters, but some small groups were observed in Hutqul (Jaghuri) and Zardak (Malistan).

Reports received suggested that many residents of Malistan and Jaghuri have been traumatized by the violence and insecurity, and fear the return of NSAG to their areas. Hence, population movement may be anticipated in the coming days until the security situation improves in both districts.

Cumulatively, the unverified figures of IDP families in Bamyan Center rose from 930 families (6,510 individuals) to 1,208 families (8,456 individuals). In Ghazni, the number of registered and unverified IDPs by Department of Refugees and Returnees (DoRR) stands at 2,511 families (17,577 people) as of 20 November 2018. In Kabul, the number of reported and unverified IDP families stood at 1,066 families (7,462 individuals). So far, 123 families (861 individuals) out of 642 families (4,494 individuals) have been verified as vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance. The number of IDP families in need in Kabul only account for 19.2 per cent of the assessed and initially reported IDPs.

Meanwhile, there is a new trend of IDPs moving from Malistan/Jaghuri to Kabul then to Bamyan. On the other hand, those displaced within Jaghuri and Malistan are estimated to be around 500 and 600 families respectively, with food and NFIs reported as their immediate needs.

Humanitarian Impact

These new IDPs in Ghazni are in addition to a recent caseload of IDPs that were affected by conflict in August 2018 within Ghazni. The harsh winter conditions make it challenging for the IDPs to cope and meet their immediate needs. There are concerns of potentially increasing cases of respiratory tract diseases amongst the new IDPs, especially children.

Humanitarian Assessment

Needs assessments are ongoing in Kabul, Ghazni and Bamyan. The international NGO DRC is leading needs assessments in Kabul and Ghazni, while ACF is leading in Bamyan.

In Ghazni city, 116 families (812 people) out of 901 families (6,307 people) were identified as vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance by a joint assessment team (DRC, DACAAR, CARE International, CTG/WFP and WASTA/UNHCR).

In Kabul city, 123 families (861 people) out 642 families (4,494 people) were identified as vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance.

The international NGO ACF needs assessment at Bamyan Center identified 380 IDP families (2,660 people) in need who will receive humanitarian assistance.

Humanitarian Response

Bamyan – ANDMA provided coal for heating to 95 families (665 people) and firewood to 380 families (2,660 people). ACF in Bamyan provided 153 families with multi-purpose cash. BARAN (a local NGO) provided NFIs to 73 families (511 people). UNICEF has prepositioned 913 NFI family kits with ANDMA. FOCUS provided food, coal for heating and NFIs to 100 families (700 people).
Ghazni – ANDMA provided wet meals to 300 families and food packages to 443 families. DRC assisted 73 families with multi-purpose cash.

Kabul: DRC will provide humanitarian assistance to 100 families (700 people) on 22 November 2018.

Gaps

So far, there are no capacity/response gaps identified since the caseload has been relatively small and of an incremental nature. However, some concerns were raised regarding the slow process of the response, particularly in Ghazni province.

Advocacy Priorities

All parties to the conflict should respect International Humanitarian Law, protecting the civilian population and facilitating the provision of assistance by neutral and impartial humanitarian agencies. This includes ensuring safe passage for civilians attempting to leave conflict affected areas. Civilian objects, including schools and health facilities, must be not be used for military purposes.

This is the last flash update on Ghazni armed clash