

# AFGHANISTAN



**24.4 MILLION PEOPLE**  
IN HUMANITARIAN NEED



**22.1 MILLION PEOPLE**  
PLANNED REACH



**US\$4.44 BILLION**  
FUNDING REQUIRED

## VULNERABLE PEOPLE WITH HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



23M IN NEED  
21M PLANNED REACH

## SHOCK-AFFECTED NON-DISPLACED PEOPLE



150K IN NEED  
150K PLANNED REACH

## INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE



504K IN NEED  
504K PLANNED REACH

## REFUGEES AND RETURNEES



858K IN NEED  
664K PLANNED REACH

Photo: OCHA/Pierre Peron

# HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND PLANNED RESPONSE 2022

## OVERVIEW

Afghanistan is descending into the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. Amidst the backdrop of an already dire situation following 40 years of war, economic decline, price increases, and rising poverty, in 2021 the people of Afghanistan faced intensified conflict, the **worst drought in 27 years**, the withdrawal of international forces and then the takeover of the country by the Taliban in August. **24.4 million people – 55 per cent** of the population – are in need of humanitarian assistance in 2022, a staggering 30 per cent increase from last year.

The main driver of the rise in humanitarian need is a dangerous increase in acute food insecurity, with almost **23 million people** facing acute hunger, including 8.7 million people at emergency levels (IPC4). All 34 provinces are facing crisis or emergency levels of acute food insecurity. Rising food insecurity coinciding with the potential collapse of basic health systems services would leave **1.1 million** acutely malnourished children under the

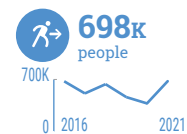
age of five years without access to treatment services and up to **131,000 children** could die this year if no action is taken.

Both the formal and informal economies have suffered dramatically due to disruption to markets, financial and trade mechanisms, the freezing of central bank reserves and loans, and the sudden drop in direct international development assistance, which formerly accounted for 75 per cent of public expenditures. The deteriorating economy has led to an immediate GDP contraction of an estimated **40 per cent**, throwing people into critical need.

Following the record displacement of nearly **700,000 people** in 2021, some **9.2 million IDPs** and returnees remain in some form of displacement and in need of support to return where possible. Of the **24.4 million people** in need of humanitarian and protection assistance, humanitarian partners have prioritized **22.1 million people** to receive well-coordinated multi-sector assistance in 2022, for which **US\$4.44 billion** is required.

## TRENDS

### Internal displacement<sup>1</sup>



Conflict has forcibly displaced nearly 700,000 people across all provinces in 2021. Some **9.2 million** people remain in some form of displacement since 2012.

### Cross-border returns<sup>2</sup>



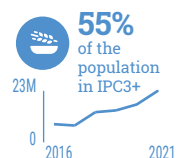
2021 was a record year for returns with over 1,000,000 undocumented returnees crossing the border from Iran and Pakistan.

### Drought<sup>3</sup>



A national drought was officially declared in June 2021, the worst in three decades. **80 per cent** of the country is now suffering either severe or serious drought with over 50 per cent of water points drying up in some provinces.

### Hunger and malnutrition<sup>4</sup>



**23 million** people, over half the population, are in acute food insecurity (IPC3+). **8.7 million** people are facing emergency level food insecurity, the highest number in the world.

### Acute malnutrition<sup>5</sup>



An estimated **4.7 million** people will suffer from acute malnutrition in 2022, including 1.1 million children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM), 2.8 million children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), and over 800 thousand pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with acute malnutrition.

### Eroded livelihoods<sup>6</sup>



The deteriorating economy has led to GDP contracting by an estimated **40 per cent**. In the absence of any support, the already high and unacceptable level of poverty risks becoming nearly universal, affecting **95-97 per cent** of the population by mid-2022.

### Debt<sup>7</sup>



Average household debt is reportedly more than four times the average monthly income. More households have higher than average debt this year as compared to last year (**37% vs 28%**). No population group had a net positive income in 2021.

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

**1** Timely, multi-sectoral, life-saving, equitable and safe assistance is provided to crisis-affected people of all genders and diversities to reduce mortality and morbidity.

**2** Protection risks are mitigated, while protection and human rights needs for people of all genders and diversities are monitored and addressed through integrated and inclusive humanitarian action.

**3** Vulnerable people of all gender and diversities are supported to build their resilience and live their lives in dignity

Afghanistan is facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis with very real risk of systemic collapse and human catastrophe. In addition to unimaginable human costs, this crisis threatens to cancel many of the development gains of the last twenty years. The freezing of government assets and development programs after the take-over of the country by the de facto authorities on 15 August has threatened to undermine the delivery of services providing for basic human needs such as health, education and access to clean water and sanitation. In 2021, development and humanitarian organizations worked together to develop a common snapshot of overlapping needs given the multi-dimensional impacts of the crisis. This helped to inform not just the development of the HRP but also work on complementary plans to ensure that the basic services that enable humanitarian work and prevent even greater numbers of people from falling into critical need do not collapse.

Last updated: (1) OCHA DTS, Dec 2021. (2) IOM, Dec 2021. (3) WASH Cluster, HNO 2022.

(4) Afghanistan: Acute Food Insecurity Situation September - October 2021 and Projection for November 2021 - March 2022 (5) Nutrition Cluster, HNO 2022; (6) Economic Instability and Uncertainty in Afghanistan after August 15, UNDP September 2021 (7) REACH Initiative, Whole of Afghanistan Assessment, Jul-Sep 2021. (8) HRP 2022 sectoral response plans. Total requirements for the plan also includes \$85M for Aviation and \$25.6M for Coordination.

**24.4M**  
People in need of humanitarian assistance

**22.1M**  
Humanitarian planned reach (90%)

**4.7M**  
Women (21%)

**11.8M**  
Children (54%)

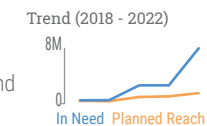
**0.6M**  
With severe disabilities (8.3%)

### NEEDS AND RESPONSE BY SECTOR<sup>8</sup>

#### Education in Emergencies

**7.9M** People in need  
**1.5M** Planned reach  
**162.1M** US\$ required

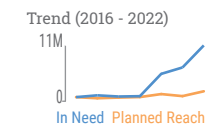
Children will be supported to access education through establishment of temporary learning spaces and community-based education systems, support for distance learning and provision of water, hygiene materials, school supplies, winter materials and psycho-social support, with a priority on girls being denied access to education.



#### Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items

**10.9M** People in need  
**1.9M** Planned reach  
**374M** US\$ required

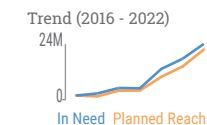
People will be supported to protect themselves through provision of shelter materials, shelter repairs and upgrades, transitional shelters, household items, rental subsidies and heating materials for winter.



#### Food Security and Agriculture

**24M** People in need  
**21.6M** Planned reach  
**2.66B** US\$ required

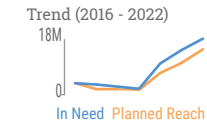
People's survival will be supported through the provision of timely food assistance and their livelihoods will be protected through agriculture inputs support, asset creation and skills development.



#### Health

**18.1M** People in need  
**14.7M** Planned reach  
**378M** US\$ required

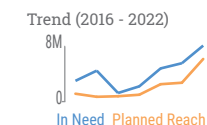
People's wellbeing will be supported through the expansion of life-saving health services including critical support to prevent the collapse of basic health services, trauma, maternal and child health and COVID-19 support.



#### Nutrition

**7.8M** People in need  
**5.9M** Planned reach  
**287.4M** US\$ required

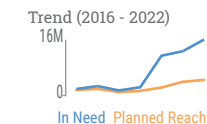
Children's and women's survival will be supported through treatment for severe and moderate acute malnutrition and nutrition promotion, as well as blanket supplementary feeding.



#### Protection

**16.2M** People in need  
**4.5M** Planned reach  
**137.3M** US\$ required

Vulnerable groups will be protected through cash for protection and access to general protection services, provision of landmine clearance and education, specialised support for children, integrated services for GBV survivors, legal counselling and documentation assistance.



#### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

**15.1M** People in need  
**10.4M** Planned reach  
**332.8M** US\$ required

People's safety and ability to access safe water and protect themselves from the spread of diseases will be maintained through access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities and hygiene materials.

