

AFGHANISTAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013, DECEMBER 21, 2012

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

481,877

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from conflict, including 33,000 new IDPs in November

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – November 30, 2012

2.7 million

Afghans displaced to neighboring countries

UNHCR – November 2012

75,000

UNHCR-facilitated voluntary returns of Afghans from Pakistan in 2012

UNHCR – December 2012

31,248

People living in 55 Kabul Informal Settlements (KIS)

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – November 30, 2012

2 million

People at risk of cold, disease, and malnutrition this winter

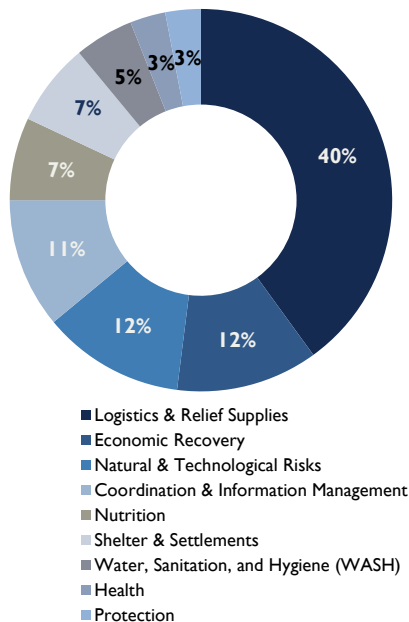
OCHA – December 17, 2012

-13° F

Projected minimum temperature for northeastern Afghanistan

Early Warning Information Working Group of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster – November 2012

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2012



HIGHLIGHTS

- Conflict continues to generate displacement and prevent returns
- Current winter conditions are similar to historical five-year averages but still pose a threat to vulnerable populations
- USAID/FFP² has provided \$20 million in FY 2013 for food assistance in Afghanistan

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO AFGHANISTAN IN FY 2012 AND FY 2013

USAID/OFDA	\$32,504,552
USAID/FFP	\$87,551,591
State/PRM ³	\$89,324,608
\$209,380,751	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- With the onset of cold weather, conflict in Afghanistan has subsided to a degree, keeping with seasonal trends, according to the U.N. However, armed clashes and other forms of insecurity continued to take place through November, generating new displacement and preventing IDPs from returning to home areas.
- Afghanistan experiences acute winter weather each year, with temperatures in northeastern areas regularly falling below -13° F. In late December, the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) forecast conditions of extreme cold in areas of northeastern Afghanistan. USAID/OFDA committed approximately 40 percent of its total FY 2012 funding to support logistics operations and relief commodities, including pre-positioning in areas prone to extreme winter conditions and other natural disasters.
- On December 12, the Government of Pakistan announced a six-month extension of the Tripartite Agreement, as well as a six-month extension of the Proof of Registration (POR) cards held by more than 1.66 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The Tripartite and PORs were originally set to expire on December 31, 2012; the extensions ensure the legal status of the Afghan refugees through June 2013.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

WINTER PREPAREDNESS

- The 2011 winter was particularly severe, with extreme cold and heavy snowfall causing destructive avalanches in areas of Badakhshan, Baghlan, and Nuristan provinces and the death of at least 28 children in KIS. To date in 2012, temperatures in lowland areas have been above average, according to FEWS NET. However, temperatures in mountainous areas of the northeast have already dropped to -4 ° F, and many parts of central and northeastern Afghanistan have received heavy snowfall. The recent snow cover frequency appears slightly broader than the historical average at this time of year, especially in the region between Kandahar and Kabul, but overall the snow cover is similar to the historical five-year average.
 - Prior to the winter season, the international humanitarian community, including USAID partners the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as well as UNHCR and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), began replenishing emergency winter stocks in warehouses throughout the country, according to the U.N.
 - The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan pre-positioned more than 24,800 metric tons (MT) of wheat, activated mobile medical units in central and northeastern areas, drafted preparedness plans in collaboration with the international community, and arranged for snow clearing along tertiary roads.
 - WFP has begun providing emergency food assistance to 850 families in seven KIS as part of its winter assistance package and is assessing food security indicators in the remaining KIS to determine if additional support is needed.
 - With FY 2012 funding, USAID/OFDA supported the pre-positioning of relief commodities in several provinces prone to extreme weather conditions, including Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kabul, Kunar, and Nuristan, through several implementing partners. By pre-positioning commodities before the onset of the winter season, USAID/OFDA ensures that communities with limited accessibility—due to avalanches, poor road conditions, or conflict—have access to emergency supplies.
 - USAID/OFDA also supported the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US), and the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) with FY 2012 funding to provide community-based risk reduction trainings for populations which routinely experience natural disasters. In remote areas of Badakhshan and Baghlan provinces, AKF training in first aid and search-and-rescue helped form community emergency response teams, the only first responders with access to affected areas during the winter season in many villages.
 - In addition, USAID/OFDA technical staff continue to monitor weather conditions in coordination with partner agencies.
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AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Food consumption gaps and high malnutrition persist across Afghanistan, particularly in Badakhshan and Nuristan provinces, according to the U.N. However, due to large grain harvests and generally favorable labor and livestock conditions in 2012, Afghanistan's overall food security status is not projected to deteriorate before the February-to-May lean season. After February, populations in Badakhshan, including the Wakhan corridor area, may experience elevated food needs, according to FEWS NET.
- While the wet season started poorly, rainfall in November compensated for earlier deficits, with winter crop planting proceeding normally, according to FEWS NET. However, northeastern areas continue to experience some short-term dryness.
- To date in FY 2013, USAID/FFP has contributed \$20 million to WFP for approximately 14,790 MT of Title II emergency food commodities. These resources will enable WFP to continue providing food assistance to populations affected by conflict and natural disasters in Afghanistan.
- Malnourished children are at increased risk of disease and emotional distress and often suffer from permanent physical and cognitive damage as a result. To prevent this, USAID/OFDA provided support to SC/US with FY 2012 funding to improve the protection of vulnerable children in highly food-insecure environments in Balkh and Bamyan provinces.

SC/US strengthens the household environment through trainings on the risk and harm to children during food crises, including unsafe practices, positive coping strategies, and child care during food emergency.

TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO AFGHANISTAN* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of December 21, 2012. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments.

CONTEXT

- Since 2002, conflict and frequent natural disasters have displaced populations and generated significant humanitarian needs throughout Afghanistan. Conflict has displaced approximately 480,000 people, and recurring natural disasters in Afghanistan, including drought, floods, landslides, earthquakes, and avalanches, affect approximately 400,000 Afghans each year, according to OCHA. The 2012 consolidated appeal document predicted that natural disasters would generate 70,000 new IDPs in 2012.
- In 2011/2012, unusually harsh winter weather conditions resulted in avalanches in at least eight villages in Badakhshan and Nuristan provinces and caused the death of at least 28 children in KIS, which are populated by highly vulnerable IDPs and returned refugees.
- Warming temperatures and snowmelt from the winter's above-average snowfall, combined with seasonal rains, caused localized flooding throughout the country between April and June, 2012.
- USAID/OFDA continues to support a three-pronged approach to improving humanitarian response efforts in Afghanistan: supporting rapid response capacity for acute needs following natural disasters and conflict, improving humanitarian indicators and building household economic resilience, and enhancing humanitarian coordination, data collection, and analysis.
- On October 27, 2012, U.S. Deputy Ambassador James B. Cunningham renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Afghanistan for FY 2013.

USAID/FFP HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN PROVIDED IN FY 2013

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/FFP ¹			
WFP	14,790 MT of Title II Emergency Food	Countrywide	\$20,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE IN FY 2013			\$20,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN IN FY 2013			\$20,000,000

¹ Estimated value of food assistance.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN PROVIDED IN FY 2012²

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA ³			
ACTED	Shelter and Settlements	Badakhshan, Baghlan, and Takhar Provinces	\$700,000
AKF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks	Baghlan and Badakhshan Provinces	\$2,002,233
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks	Kunar and Nuristan Provinces	\$1,500,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,998,075
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$7,498,000
IRC	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risk Reduction, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Badghis and Helmand Provinces	\$2,444,515
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
SC/US	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Protection	Balkh, Bamyan, Faryab, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Sar-e Pul, and Uruzgan Provinces	\$6,061,079
Tearfund	Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Jowzjan Province	\$399,696
U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Nutrition and WASH	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)	Health and Nutrition	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
ZOAA	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Natural and Technological Risks, Shelter and Settlements	Sar-e-Pul Province	\$1,947,166
	Administrative Support		\$753,788
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE IN FY 2012			\$32,504,552

USAID/FFP ⁴			
WFP	47,680 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$58,648,300
Other Implementing Partners	Locally and Regionally Procured Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$8,903,291
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE IN FY 2012			\$67,551,591

State/PRM			
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance and Protection	Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran	\$47,600,000
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Humanitarian Assistance and Protection	Countrywide	\$25,000,000
NGO Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Afghanistan, Pakistan	\$16,724,608
TOTAL State/PRM ASSISTANCE IN FY 2012			\$89,324,608
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN IN FY 2012 & 2013			\$209,380,751

²Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

³USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 21, 2012.

⁴Estimated value of food assistance.

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 response efforts in Afghanistan can be found at www.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, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>