

## Afghanistan

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### HIGHLIGHTS

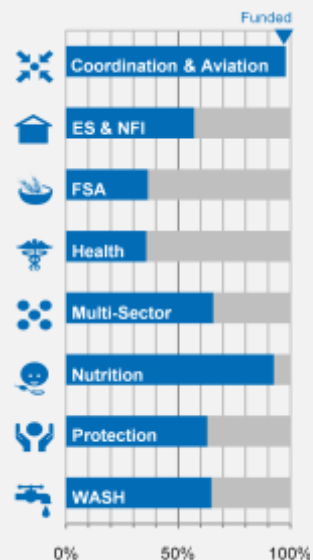
- Conflict-induced displacement in Kunar
- Shelter response 83 % completed
- Humanitarian access in Helmand

### FUNDING

**406 million**  
requested (US\$)

**66%** funded

### FUNDING BY CLUSTER



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## Scores displaced by attacks in Kunar

On 14 December, armed non-state actors initiated coordinated attacks over a three week period in Dangam district of Kunar province, approximately four kilometers from a volatile border with Pakistan. According to reports by UNAMA, at least five civilians were killed and 11 injured. As of 6 January 2015, the regional IDP taskforce assessed 507 families (2,772 individuals) that were displaced from Dangam to other districts in Kunar (Assadabad, Bark Kunar, Asmar, Shegal), as well as to Nangahar province (Behsood and Kama). Assessments are ongoing, and figures are expected to rise. To help provide greater access to displaced families, the Department of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR) and UNHCR have established a registration point between Dangam and Asmar/Bar Kunar districts in Mahipar.

The humanitarian community is providing life-saving support to all assessed displaced families, including non-food items, unconditional cash assistance, solar lamps and sanitary kits. Key distribution partners include the Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, and UNHCR. WFP began distributions of urgently needed food aid in mid-January. Due to pipeline shortfalls, the overall ration package will consist of high energy biscuits, wheat, and salt. Oil will not be available for this round of distributions. According to the government, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock has delivered 120 MT of wheat and 8.4 MT of sugar to Kunar province for families still in Dangam district.



Credit: OCHA

The eastern region IDP taskforce is leading on overall coordination. The taskforce is working closely with authorities in Kunar to ensure the most urgent needs are met and to minimise duplication.

## Humanitarians support vulnerable Afghans through winter

Across Afghanistan, humanitarian actors are working together to support vulnerable populations through the winter. The most vulnerable Afghans are prioritised for

*The Health Cluster pre-positioned basic medical supplies and medicines to support an estimated 1.9 million people*

assistance, including populations living at high altitudes, refugees in Khost and Paktika, and families living in Kabul Informal Settlements.

Distributions are well underway throughout the country. In the Kabul Informal Settlements (KIS), partners are providing various forms of winter assistance, including fuel assistance to 6,617 families and more than 780 MT of food (two month rations) to 7,900 families. In the high altitude north and northeast, an estimated 12,300 people were assisted with children's clothing, blankets and tarpaulins. In Khost and Paktika provinces, more than 16,000 Pakistani refugee families from North Waziristan Agency have received winter assistance; including 10,410 families in Khost and 6,076 families in Paktika.

The World Food Programme (WFP) will continue distributions consisting of wheat, flour, vegetable oil, pulses, salt and high energy biscuits, throughout the winter. WFP initially planned to pre-position food assistance for about 830,000 beneficiaries in high elevation areas that become inaccessible during winter. However, due to a funding shortfall, only 35 per cent was pre-positioned. Additional food and the local purpose of wheat in January will boost assistance in accessible areas through the winter months.



Credit: OCHA  
Emergency Response Fund (ERF) - WHH shelter project in Jawzjan province, Khwajadukoh district.

The Health Cluster has pre-positioned basic medical supplies and medicines to support an estimated 1.9 million people in 116 districts living in 24 provinces. A number of life saving kits, including basic emergency health care kits, ARI kits, and diarrhoea kits have also been pre-positioned. In addition, through funding from the CHF, a number of temporary health clinics to communities isolated by winter have been established.

### Shelter response in the North is 83 per cent complete

In the spring of 2014, heavy flooding and mud slides destroyed nearly 7,800 homes in northern and north eastern Afghanistan. According to UNHCR, the extent of flooding was 2-3 times higher than annual averages, with flood waters destroying several villages that were at least 100 years old. As of 31 December 2014, 83 per cent of funded shelters were constructed. Of these shelters, 65 per cent were fully complete and the remaining shelters required latrines and plastering. This is a major achievement, considering most of the construction commenced only four to five months ago. With the winter now set in, shelter construction is now on hold until the spring when the remaining 17 per cent of funded shelters will be completed.

*According to UNHCR the flooding was 2-3 times higher than annual averages*



Credit: OCHA

## Aid worker diary: Mission to Daykundi

*Cindy Issac, Head of Sub-Office, OCHA Central Region*

As the head of sub-office for OCHA central region, I oversee 12 very diverse provinces in Afghanistan. The majority of the access constraints we face in our region are related to insecurity. However, physical access also presents a major challenge in our operations.

A great example of this was a field mission to Daykundi I took in the spring this year.

Our journey started in Nili, the provincial capital of Daykundi and home to the only stretch of paved road in the province. Most of the roads in Daykundi are gravel paths built by local communities as part of the WFP community-based Food-For-Work projects. As you can imagine, imagine in the spring once the snow has melted, the road conditions were not so optimal.

For a significant part of our journey, the roads were not even roads -- they were rivers. The snow run-off had left many routes flooded with water. Our vehicles had to navigate through various depths of rocky riverbanks, while sometimes driving on the edges of the banks in order to not get stuck.

As we moved to higher elevations, the riverbanks turned into snow banks.

Traveling up mountainous peaks, these snow banks were often narrow and melting in the warm spring temperatures. One false turn, and our vehicle would be rolling down the mountain. Inevitably, this meant getting stuck in the snow --many, many times. Significant effort was spent shoveling snow and using chains to pull vehicles out of the muddy melting snow.

On the first day, we had to turn back and return to Nili due to a community protest. The community dug up their road and made it impassable for vehicles as a protest against the government for not building water canals for drainage purposes. Communications in this area is another major challenge. On this particular occasion, one of my colleagues trekked up a hill in order to get a signal to speak to the governor and resolve the situation. He came up and down the mountain at least a couple of times to negotiate access. Finally, after many cups of tea, we were allowed to pass.

These multiple delays meant that we were able to visit only a couple of villages. The communities we did meet with provided us with interesting into their lives and the challenges they face. The district governor told me that I was the second foreign female he had ever met in his four years in office. The level of isolation and physical barriers often mean low development indicators and great need in these hard to access, but relatively safe areas of Afghanistan. It is a trip I will never forget and the people of Daykundi will always stay in my heart and my memory.



Credit: OCHA / Cindy Issac



Credit: OCHA

*Most of the roads in Daykundi are gravel paths built by local communities*

## Humanitarian access

**13 incidents against aid workers**

**1 wounded**  
**5 abducted**

### Incidents affecting humanitarian action

There were 14 incidents reported against national and international NGOs and international organisations across Afghanistan. These incidents resulted in violence against aid workers, assets or facilities, interference in humanitarian activities, and restrictions in movement. December saw the least number of incidents reported in 2014. There were five reported abductions and one injury. No fatalities were reported. There were four incidents involving NGO run health facilities, including destruction of vaccination supplies.

### Focus on the South: An aid worker perspective on humanitarian access

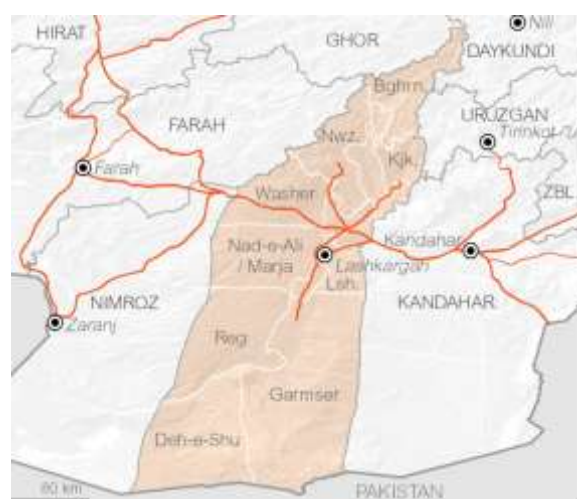
*Sayed Abdullah Agha, Humanitarian Affairs Officer OCHA Sub-Office - Kandahar*

On 31 December a wedding party was attacked in Nasozay village in Helmand's Sangin district. According to reports 35 people were killed and 44 injured. This is just one example of the impact of the ongoing conflict between the government and non-state armed actors in Afghanistan's restive Helmand province.

The conflict has led to a high number of civilian casualties. From June to November 2014, Emergency NGO treated 4,473 conflict wounded individuals and recorded 44 deaths in their trauma care facility in Helmand. In December, UNHCR reported 1,680 individuals displaced and Emergency NGO recorded 870 wounded and 16 deaths as a result of the conflict. Overall, children under the age of 18 account for over 50 per cent of the wounded.

The conflict continues to challenge humanitarian access between Lashkar Gah and Sangin -- as well as Musa Qala, Nawzad and Washir districts -- where road closures are common, and therefore, hamper efforts to transport the wounded from the districts to provincial hospitals.

On 17 December, the Taliban shadow director for public health was arrested by police in Lashkar Gah. As a result of the arrest, the Taliban ordered ban on the polio vaccination programme across the province. While discussions are ongoing the polio campaign remains suspended pending a resolution.



Credit: OCHA

2014	Targeted to	
	All*	NGO/INGO
JAN	22	18
FEB	20	14
MAR	19	10
APR	17	13
MAY	31	20
JUN	32	24
JUL	25	18
AUG	36	30
SEP	28	23
OCT	27	25
NOV	23	19
DEC	13	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>222</b>

\* UN/IO/NGO/INGO

## Humanitarian financing Update

### 2014 Strategic Response Plan 66 per cent funded as of 31 December

#### Overall funding

Overall humanitarian funding for Afghanistan reached \$439 million in December; of which, \$267 million is aligned with the 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP). NGOs account for 33 percent of the SRP aligned funding, while UN agencies and IOM account for 67 percent.

In addition to carryover, private donor support, and organisational funding; 20 countries have contributed to the 2014 SRP making Afghanistan one of top five funded appeals globally.

*Afghanistan one of the top 5 funded appeals globally*

Donor	Contribution US\$ Millions	% of overall funding
<b>USA</b>	104.1	39%
<b>Japan</b>	30.1	11.5%
<b>Sweden</b>	17.8	6.7%
<b>UK</b>	17.5	6.6%
<b>European Commission</b>	16.5	6.2%
<b>Canada</b>	16.4	6.2%

Top six donor to 2014 SRP

#### Other humanitarian funding

According to FTS, the balance of other humanitarian funding available for Afghanistan is \$145 million, with \$67 million reported for ICRC following their own appeals process. The remaining \$78 million is not aligned to 2014 SRP.

*A \$5 million contribution from the Republic of Korea allowed the CHF to launch a second reserve allocation*

## In brief

### CHF allocates \$5 million for Pakistani refugee response

A \$5 million contribution from the Republic of Korea allowed the CHF to launch a second reserve allocation for 2014. Six projects (2 NGO and 4 UN) will support vulnerable refugees in Khost and Paktika with food, emergency shelter and non-food items (NFIs) during the winter and support demining activities in and around Gulan camp. The funding will also support humanitarian aviation service through UNHAS.

<sup>i</sup> Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on map in this bulletin do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

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