South: Fighting escalates near provincial capitals

During the reporting period, conflict between Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) and a Non-State Armed Group (NSAG) escalated sharply particularly in the provincial capitals of Kandahar City, Kandahar province and Lashkargah, Hilmand province. Elsewhere in Hilmand, the NSAG reportedly took control of Nad-e Ali District Administrative Centre after hours of fighting. Additionally, ANSF clearing operations supported by frequent airstrikes continued in various Police Districts in Kandahar city and in Spin Boldak district, Kandahar province.

The ongoing fighting in Kandahar and Hilmand provinces have led to the displacement of civilians to adjacent calmer areas within the provincial capitals and neighbouring districts. Moreover, there are reports of increased civilian casualties, destruction/damages of civilians’ houses, shops and hospitals in Kandahar and Lashkargah. Hospitals are under increased pressure to provide medical services to injured civilians, particularly trauma cases. Consequently, some hospitals are only able to treat patients wounded by conflict and referring patients to other health facilities. Local authorities reported additional internally displaced persons (IDPs) arriving from different parts of Lashkargah city and that civilian and humanitarian movements being impeded by ongoing conflict.

On 1 August, interagency response consisting of food, relief items, water, sanitation, hygiene and hygiene education, physiotherapy and cash aid was completed for 2,206 IDPs in Kandahar. Aid has been coordinated to respond to 998 IDPs in Kandahar who will receive aid the coming days.

North-east: 26,700 displaced people receive aid

The security situation in the north-east remained tense and unpredictable as intense conflict continued in Kunduz, Baghlan and Takhar provinces. During the
reporting period, a civilian was killed and six others were wounded by artillery shelling in Kunduz and Baghlan provinces. Insecurity in the north reportedly resulted in the displacement and migration of hundreds of families to Kabul and neighboring countries namely Iran and Pakistan, in addition to contributing to dropping prices of some crops in Kunduz and Baghlan affecting the livelihood of farmers. Humanitarian partners reached about 26,700 people with aid and identified 8,708 IDPs to receive humanitarian assistance in the coming days.

East: Aid arrives for people affected by severe flooding

On 29 July, severe flooding in the remote Maherdish village in Kamdesh district, Nuristan province resulted in the reported death of 113 people, including women and children. According to assessments, 2 schools and 173 houses were fully destroyed and 50 - 60 houses partially destroyed; several bridges were also destroyed. In addition, 900 jeribs/500 acres of agricultural land were damaged along with the drinking water supply system which contaminated water sources.

UN assistance was dispatched and distributed for 1,631 people. The aid included relief items, shelter supplies and tarpaulins and two-month supply of emergency food assistance. Also included is Plumpy Doz for children under five years and nutritious food for pregnant and lactating women. Three mobile teams are providing basic health services with the UN providing Interagency Emergency Health Kits. Medicine was also provided to people affected by floods in Rodat, Kot, Bati Kot and Deh Bala districts in Nangarhar province and to the Laghman department of public health.

A total of 6,202 IDPs from Kunar have been identified to receive aid and around 17,000 people have been assessed by interagency assessment teams. Core relief items, tents, and food reached 1,988 people in Kunar province. Assessments teams report that IDPs are living in grim conditions. Among the priority needs are food, relief items, shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene. About 1,218 people displaced from Ghazi Abad, Nari and Asmar to Asad Abad were assisted with core relief items, with a cumulative 1,694 people reached.

This week, 12,257 people received humanitarian assistance: 10,948 newly displaced IDPs; 1,281 people impacted by natural disasters and 28 undocumented returnees received post arrival assistance. Furthermore, 8,925 people in Nangarhar, Kunar, Nuristan and Laghman were recommended for immediate humanitarian assistance: 5,544 new IDPs and 3,381 people impacted by rainfall and flash floods.

West: Civilians and humanitarian partners at risk

The security situation significantly deteriorated in the west, including in Hirat province where armed clashes continued in several districts and reached Hirat city. On 30 and 31 July, a UN compound hosting multiple agencies, funds and programs came under attack. An Afghan guard was killed, and two others wounded. Ongoing armed clashes are posing a significant risk for civilians and humanitarian partners. Civilians continue to flee conflict across the west and humanitarian partners continue to respond to needs. During the reporting period, joint needs assessment teams identified 20,660 IDPs displaced by conflict to be in need of emergency assistance in all four provinces in the west.

Centre: 23,569 IDPs identified to receive humanitarian assistance

The security situation remained unstable and unpredictable with security incidents affecting civilians reported in Kabul, Logar, Maidan Wardak, Parwan, Kapisa, Ghazni, Paktia, Paktika and Daykundi provinces. Some 6,098 IDPs received humanitarian assistance in Bamyan, Daykundi and Ghazni provinces. Also 23,569 IDPs were identified to receive humanitarian assistance in Kabul, Logar, Bamyan and Lal-wa Sarjangle in Ghor province, while joint needs assessments are ongoing for 8,197 IDPs reported in Kapisa, Parwan and Panjsher provinces. An additional 15,659 IDPs have been reported in Ghazni and Paktia provinces. A total of 203 people affected by natural disasters received assistance in Ghazni while 553 people affected by natural disasters in Maidan Wardak province have been identified to receive humanitarian assistance.

North: 27,076 IDPs received humanitarian assistance

The security situation remained unstable and unpredictable with sporadic attacks reported around the provincial capitals of Mazar-e-Sharif, Maymana, Shibergan and Sar-e-Pul. Mazar-e-Sharif and Maymana airports remained operational. The Hairatan border between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan remained open for some services. A total of 27,076 IDPs received humanitarian assistance in the north during the reporting period while 2,282 people displaced by conflict were identified to be eligible for humanitarian aid.

For further information, please contact:
Linda Tom, Public Information Officer, OCHA Afghanistan, toml@un.org, Cell: +93 79300 11 10
For more information, please visit: unocha.org | reliefweb.int
facebook.com/UNOCHAAfghanistan | twitter.com/OCHAAfg