

# WFP Afghanistan

## Presentation on WFP Afghanistan to the Executive Board

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Operational Briefing



**World Food Programme**

16 May 2012

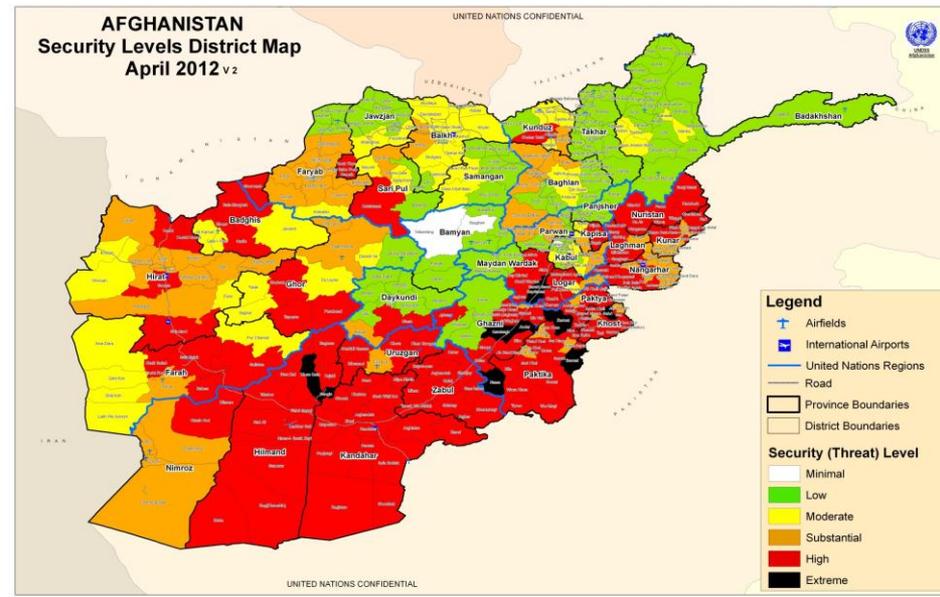
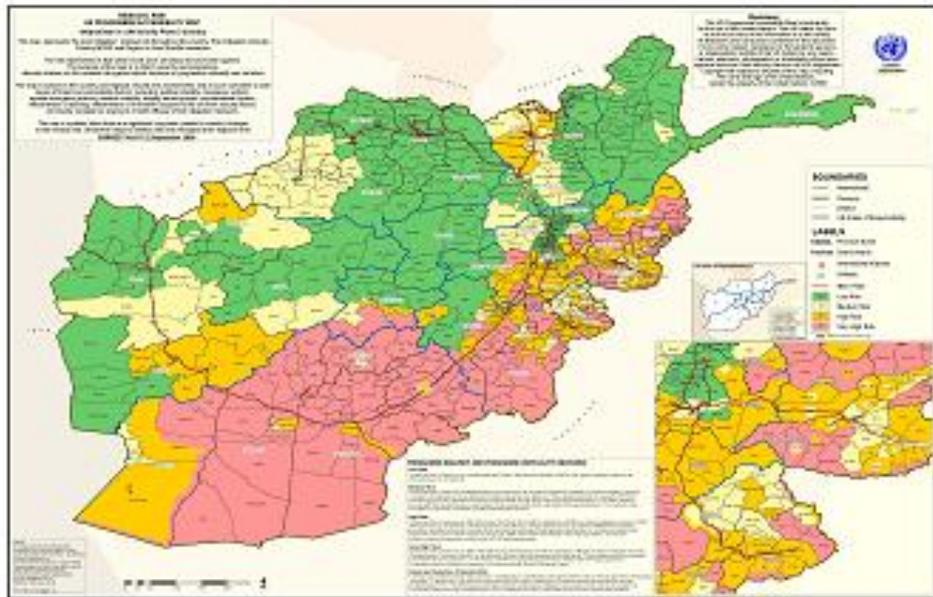
# Key Challenges in Afghanistan

All humanitarian actors, including WFP, face the following challenges:

- 1) Risks to vulnerable populations are high, if the humanitarian space in the country shrinks further.
- 2) There is a continued risk of diversions of humanitarian assistance for all actors.
- 3) The risks to staff safety and security remain significant.

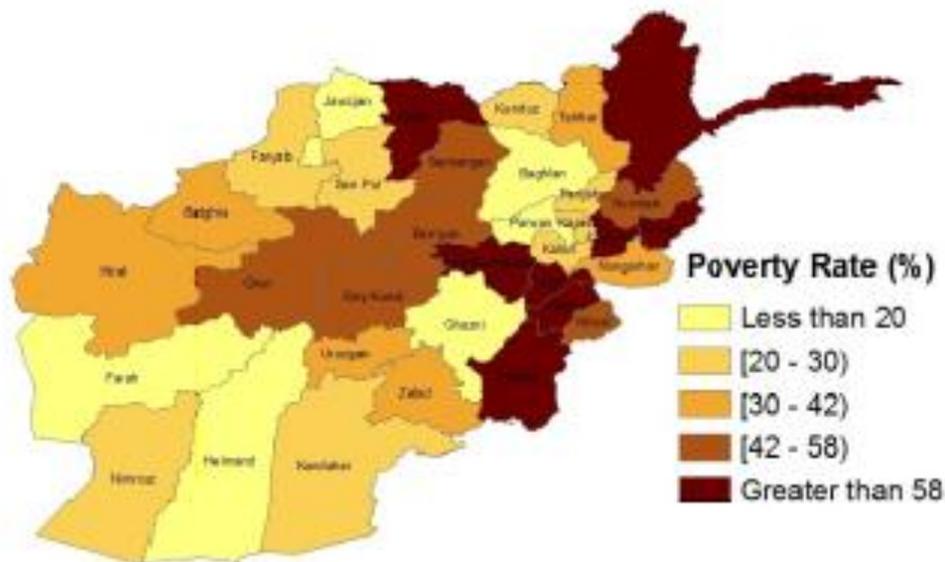
**WFP is actively mitigating these risks to continue providing life-saving humanitarian and resilience building recovery activities in Afghanistan.**

# The Security Situation is Likely to Worsen



Comparison of Security Levels in Afghanistan by District 2009 to 2012

# Risks to Vulnerable Populations Are High



- 9.7 million people are poor;
- 8.4 million people are food insecure;
- More than 450,000 IDPs;
- Price of wheat is 40% higher than pre-price crisis in 2007-08;
- Rate of acute malnutrition at 18% for children 6-59 months;
- 54% Afghan children under 5 are stunted.

**If the humanitarian space in Afghanistan shrinks further, the risks to people in need will further increase.**

# **There is a Continued Risk of Diversions for all Actors**

## **Risk of Diversion or Loss of Humanitarian Assistance**

Deteriorating security and decreased access has resulted in a higher risk of food losses, increased difficulties in monitoring and an increased risk of food diversions and misuse.

### **Mitigation:**

- WFP created and has since expanded use of Programme Assistance Teams (PATs)
- Established a dedicated Compliance Unit to track and investigate allegations of food diversions;
- Established a complaints hotline;
- Significantly increased trainings for cooperating partners and outsourced monitors;
- Launched a local outreach campaign to stress WFP's neutrality.

# The Risks to Staff Security Remain High

## Risks to Staff Safety

Deteriorating security has resulted in higher risks to staff safety and increased stress.

## Mitigation:

- WFP moved out of unsafe locations, built safe rooms and bunkers, and generally improved security of facilities;
- Strengthened the security perimeters of existing compounds;
- Hired additional international and national security officers;
- Uses international armed guards (Ghurkas) to protect compounds.



*May 2nd 2012 attack on a private compound in Kabul that also houses UN staff*

# Additional Challenges

## Challenges

### Staffing

Challenges in attracting appropriate staff pose a risk to operating quality programmes and have an impact on our reputation among Government, donors, partners, and beneficiaries.

### Funding

Reduced aid budgets among WFP's key donors have resulted in a reduction of programme size and thus in beneficiary assistance.

## Mitigation

- WFP developed capacity building and training strategy for staff;
  - Proactively attempts to recruit high-calibre staff.
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- Reduced overall WFP costs and adjusted implementation plans;
  - Increased outreach to donors including reporting.



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