



WFP Afghanistan Briefing to the Executive Board

10 December 2021

A collision course to catastrophe

Economic crisis

- Cost of bread doubled
- Job market collapsed with scant opportunities for work
- Public servants not paid since May
- Social welfare and essential services collapsed
- Middle class ruptured
- Near universal poverty projected by mid-2022

Drought

- La Niña event confirmed for 2022
- Second consecutive drought and fifth since 2011

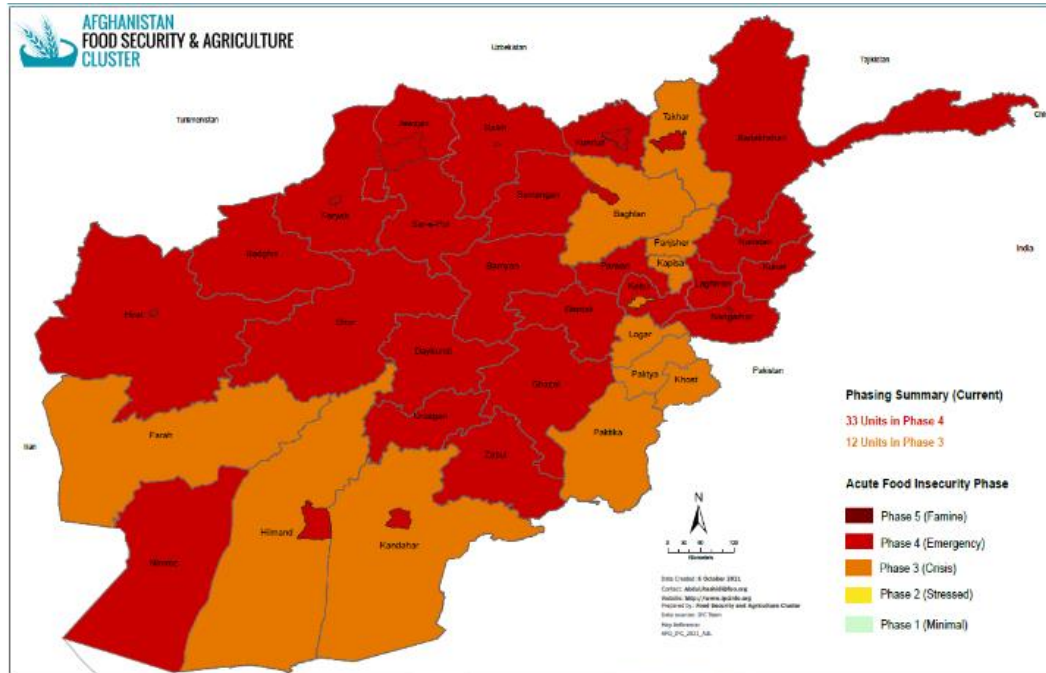
Existing fragility

- Conflict
- 700,000+ people displaced this year (80% women & children)
- COVID-19

22.8 million people
acutely food insecure

95% of households
struggling to feed
themselves

Famine prevention



Food insecurity: highest in the 10 years of the IPC analysis

- 25 provinces out of 34 were affected by agricultural stress related to the drought in 2021

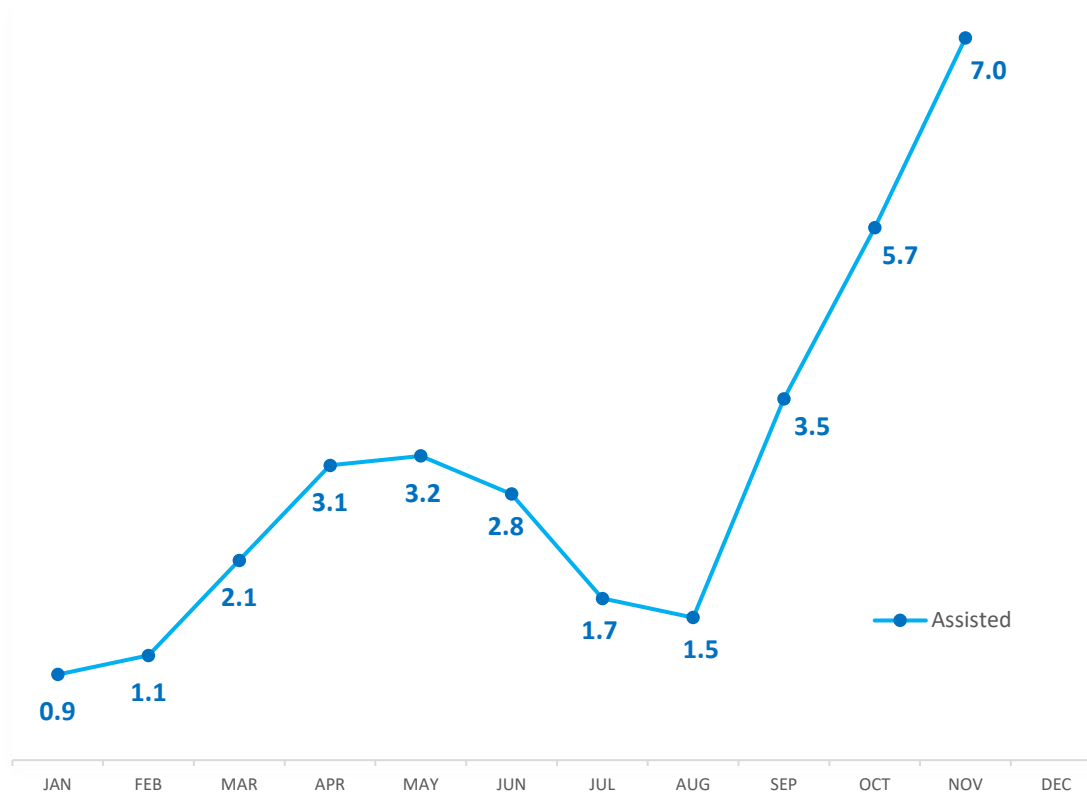
Further deterioration likely, no abating factor

- In September (post-harvest), 57% of farming households had less than 3 months of cereal stocks – now depleted
- 32 of the 45 areas analysed in IPC 4, highly susceptible to famine-like conditions, especially in recurring drought areas
- A four-fold increase in the use of crisis and emergency coping strategies since August.
- High likelihood critical IPC 3 areas will fall into IPC 4 after the winter lean season

Life-saving assistance at scale critical

- WFP scale-up since August
- Working with FAO on integrated package to prevent famine under the Global Network Against Food Crises and other agencies to mobilize a multi-sectoral response

WFP assistance in 2021 so far



- More than 14 million people assisted in all 34 provinces of the country.
- Some 214,000 MT of food dispatched and more than USD\$32 million in cash-based transfers.
- Coverage by 6 Area Offices across 2,000+ sites of intervention.
- Winter prepositioning completed in key areas in the North-East region and Central highlands.
- But more needs to be done

CSP Budget Revision #6

	2022	2023
CSP Budget (USD)	2.54 billion	2.19 billion
Unique Beneficiaries	23 million	21 million
Metric Tonnage	2 million	1.72 million
Cash-Based Assistance (USD)	397 million	389 million

- **Extending the duration of the CSP** by 1.5 years to 31 December 2023.
- Increase breadth and depth of assistance in the absence of social protection programmes and essential services.
- Scaling blanket malnutrition prevention and fourfold increase in treatment of malnutrition.
- Resilience programmes scaled-up with special attention to women and marginalised groups.

WFP fleet convoy ready to transport food to 6 Area Offices around the country



Planning Assumptions & Approach

- High level of need necessitates **prioritization of critical interventions to prevent catastrophic outcomes.**
- **Low likelihood for graduation from food assistance in 2022** due to continued household stress and inability for people to cope and recover from shocks.
- Requires a **robust & predictable response at scale which:**
 - Incorporates underlying drivers of food insecurity and ensures access to food and nutrition assistance for people facing IPC 3 and IPC 4 outcomes.
 - Builds community resilience and safeguards community assets including investments in marketable livelihoods opportunities.
 - Invests in human capital of school-aged children through access to education, nutrition, and complementary initiatives.

Offloading in the WFP warehouse in Kabul (20,000 MT storage capacity)



Relief Assistance

21 million people in IPC 3 and IPC 4 targeted in 2022

- Budget Revision balances prioritisation with broadest coverage.
- Critical ration changes to ensure sufficient assistance to:
 - people facing IPC 4 outcomes: 75% of assistance for 12 months
 - people facing IPC 3 outcomes: 50% of assistance for 8 months
- Under any resourcing scenario **aim to reach all people facing IPC 4 outcomes with the full 75% ration for 12 months** to avoid catastrophic outcomes.
- Annual planned assistance target is aligned with the Humanitarian Response Plan for 2022 and Transitional Engagement Framework
- Key hotspot indicators to guide early warning and early intervention:
 - Monitoring IPC key assumptions
 - La Niña impacts on current growing season
 - Labour availability and rates
 - Population displacement under stress
 - Spikes in acute malnutrition
 - Beneficiary feedback on sufficiency of assistance levels
 - Working with other actors to collect crude mortality data

A mother and her malnourished baby in a WFP supported nutrition clinic



Nutrition Support

6 million women and children targeted in 2022

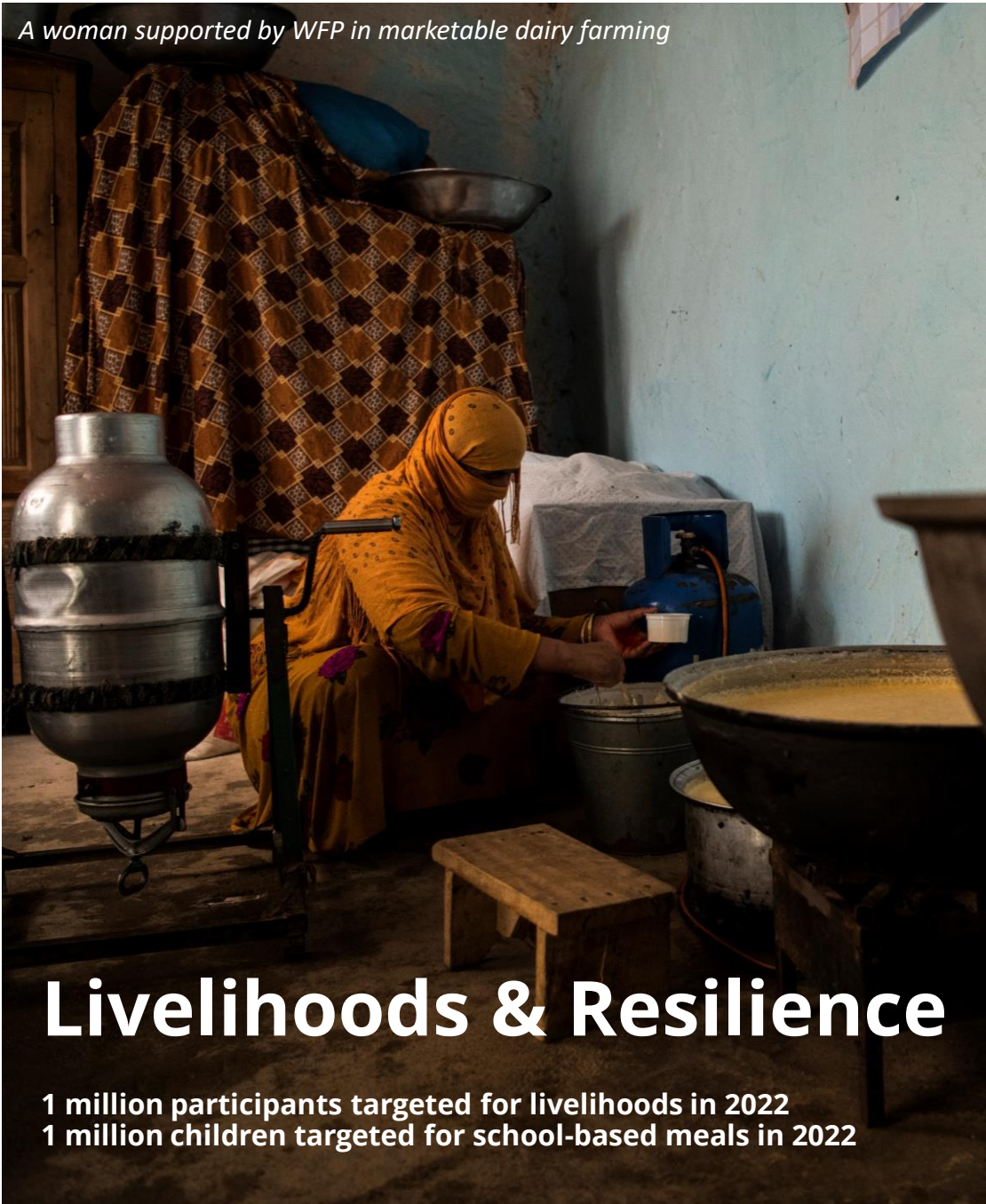
Expanding malnutrition prevention and treatment

- Rapid and sharp decline in access to nutritious food and dietary diversity.
- Admissions for treatment for acute malnutrition are the highest in four years including in areas which previously did not require WFP intervention (e.g. Kabul).
- More than 90% of health facilities (2,000) are at risk of closure due to pauses in funding. WFP and UNICEF scaling up mobile clinics and how to keep clinics running.
- Assistance takes into consideration comorbidities and vulnerabilities such as waterborne diseases.

Enhancing monitoring and partnership

- Working with UNICEF on a joint plan of action to strengthen nutrition data collection and analysis with further plans to conduct a SMART survey.
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A woman supported by WFP in marketable dairy farming



Livelihoods & Resilience

1 million participants targeted for livelihoods in 2022
1 million children targeted for school-based meals in 2022

Continue to build on and protect fragile gains made through existing resilience interventions.

Mitigate worsening food security outcomes by:

- Protecting livelihoods against asset stripping and emergency coping.
 - Sustaining human and community capital including on education outcomes through school meals.
 - Building coping capacities to drought and maximising harvest potential through water and land management.
 - Investing in fundamentals for recovery and resilience the following year should the context allow it.
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Baby smiling in Qala-I-Naw IDP camp displaced by drought and conflict



Gender, Protection and Accountability

Given the new operational context:

- Continue prioritising women and other marginalised groups and review inclusive targeting criteria, not only for relief and nutrition assistance, but also livelihoods;
- Engage women staff in office and field, including recruiting more women;
- Further mainstream gender and protection in programming, including revised guidance and trainings;
- Roll out nationwide communication with communities campaign and reinforce feedback mechanisms;
- Update post-distribution monitoring tools to track implementation and efficacy of redesigned assistance;
- Augment WFP direct monitoring and onboard an additional 250+ third party monitors;
- Extend roster of cooperating partners to over 100 I/NGOs compliant with due diligence and capacity assessments.

UNHAS plane waiting for passengers in Bamyan



UNHAS & Common Services

UNHAS

- From 28 August to 5 December, UNHAS:
 - Conducted 664 flights;
 - Transported 3,713 humanitarian workers from 153 organizations;
 - Including 1,542 passengers to and from Islamabad and 79 passengers to and from Dushanbe airbridges.
- Airbridge from Islamabad and Dushanbe to Kabul
- Clearance pending on the Doha airbridge and UNHAS on standby until flights are operational
- Serving Kabul + 15 domestic destinations
- War risk insurance remains high

Logistics

- Established bilateral logistics service provision for the humanitarian community



Thank you!