

Context: The nature of the conflict in Kunar province has evolved in 2013 in line with the drawdown of International Military Forces (IMF). Insurgents and other armed groups are attempting to expand their territorial footprint by challenging government control and engaging in ambushes, ground engagements and localised clashes. Other tactics employed by armed opposition groups include targeted killings designed to undermine and weaken state authority, and intimidation and harassment which have led to increased levels of displacement and civilian casualties.

Key Messages

1. Kunar is ranked as the second province most in need of humanitarian assistance under the Needs Index ranking (CHAP 2014). Issues of access, localized conflict, cross border shelling and internal displacement of people away from insecure areas have escalated vulnerabilities in some sectors, with specific needs in many districts.
2. Polio vaccination continues to be a key focus of the humanitarian community with the highest incidence of cases reported in Kunar in 2013 (7). Access to children for vaccination in several districts remains a challenge.
3. Deforestation remains an area of concern, resulting in an increase in frequency in seasonal flooding incidents. Villages along the Kunar river bank are also frequently impacted by flooding following snow melting in the mountains. Overall the province is prone to a range of natural disasters.

People in Need	Population (CSO 2013-14)	Humanitarian Organizations Present with Current Operations	Transition Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,231 new conflict IDPs & 13,586 over 2011-13 (UNHCR) • 738 natural disaster-affected (IOM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total: 436,000 • Male: 51.2% Female: 48.8% • Urban: 3% - Rural: 97% 	ARCS, PU-AMI, IMC, MADERA, NRC, RI, IOM, AIHRC, MACCA, WHO, NPO/RRAA, SHPOUL, ROP, HAPA, FGA, NEI, HELVETAS, ODCG, APA, ADA, AREA, TLO, HAWCA.	Handover of security to Afghan National Army completed on 5 December, 2013 (UNAMA) and closure of PRT.

Humanitarian Coordination Structure:

PDMC meetings are regularly scheduled and attended by a number of humanitarian organizations, with an active participation from ANDMA. An Operational Coordination Team (OCT) was established in Asadabad in April 2013 under the leadership of an international NGO providing effective leadership.

Humanitarian Access (Issues/Constraints):

Access by the humanitarian community to a number of districts in the province remains a challenge, resulting from ongoing conflict between AGEs and ANSF and cross border shelling incidents. Although a number of military operations were carried out by ANSF in 2013 in several districts, the situation remains highly volatile and unpredictable in many parts of the province; with the 240km border with Pakistan impossible to secure.

Disease Outbreaks as reported by DEWS and WHO:

Kunar recorded 9 outbreaks in 2013, including four outbreaks of Measles and three of Tinea Capitis.

Needs Index 2014 CHAP Kunar Province		Key Humanitarian Needs by sectors/clusters:
Sectors	Score	
Protection	4	Food Security and Agriculture: The province faces some food insecurity, especially in areas that are remote, mountainous or where access is limited due to insecurity. Dangam, Asmar and Nari districts are believed to face needs and vulnerabilities not reflected in the overall ranking as a result of the prevailing high insecurity in these areas. Need for improvement of livelihood opportunities.
Health	3	
Nutrition	4	Health: Around 20% of population considered to have limited or no access to healthcare with some districts at times inaccessible to humanitarian partners. Insecurity also limits partner's capacity to carry out immunization activities in several districts, with 7 cases of Polio reported in 2013. Dara-e-Pech considered to be facing very high needs despite the overall medium ranking of the province.
WASH	5	
ES & NFI	4	Nutrition: Province is ranked as high vulnerability as it is prone to conflict and natural disasters and following the high number of AWD and Measles cases registered. No district level analysis is however available. At least one partner organization is providing CMAM services (OTP, SFP, TFU) in each district.
FSAC	3	
Multi-Sector *	4	Protection: Kunar ranks very high in terms of civilian casualties, security incidents, high levels of conflict-induced displacement (with a high static IDP population), and mine contamination; reflecting recent armed opposition groups' focus on the Eastern region.
Conflict Incidents	5	
Civilian Casualties	5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: It is estimated about 32% of the population has access to safe drinking water. Asadabad, Sarkani, Narang, Dar-e-Pech and Shigal are considered priority districts for assistance.
Overall Index	4.1	
Legend		Emergency Shelter & NFIs: The displacement trends over the last three years show that the province experienced a combination of high insecurity and natural disasters, which resulted in a higher number of displacements.
Rank 2 out of 34 Provinces		
Very High	5	
High	4	
Medium	3	
Low	2	
Very Low	1	