

# AFGHANISTAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

JULY 13, 2016

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**3.5 million**

People in Afghanistan Targeted by the UN for Humanitarian Assistance in 2016  
UN – November 2015

**149,085**

Afghans Internally Displaced by Conflict in 2016  
OCHA – June 30, 2016

**6,298**

Voluntary Afghan Refugee Returnees in 2016  
UNHCR – May 31, 2016

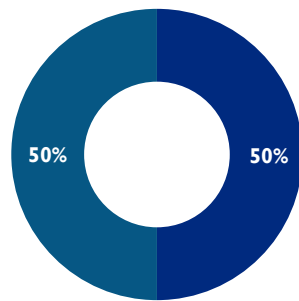
**241,175**

Pakistani Refugees in Afghanistan  
UNHCR – May 10, 2016

**2.6 million**

Documented Afghan Refugees  
UNHCR – October 2015

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2016



■ Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (50%)  
■ Health (50%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2016



■ U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (61%)  
■ Local & Regional Food Procurement (39%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian access remains a significant challenge countrywide
- Natural disasters affect fewer people in 2016 than in 2015
- Donors contribute 29 percent of funding requested in 2016 HRP

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016

USAID/OFDA	\$5,991,085
USAID/FFP	\$44,000,000
USAID/Afghanistan	\$20,500,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$39,900,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$110,391,085</b>

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Security conditions across Afghanistan have deteriorated in recent months, increasing the number of people displaced within the country and further constraining already limited access to crisis-affected populations.
- As of June 30, conflict had internally displaced more than 149,000 people from 29 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces since the beginning of the year, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Approximately 26 percent of the displaced population was residing in areas inaccessible to the humanitarian community.
- As of May 31, natural disasters had affected nearly 9,000 families across Afghanistan in 2016—approximately 45 percent fewer than during the same period of 2015, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- To date in FY 2016, USAID has provided nearly \$70.5 million to respond to the humanitarian needs resulting from the complex emergency in Afghanistan. USAID partners are providing life-saving assistance while also increasing local disaster preparedness and response capacity.
- State/PRM has contributed nearly \$40 million in FY 2016 to assist vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons (IDPs) inside Afghanistan and Afghan refugees in neighboring countries.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## **INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- Conflict and insecurity displace an estimated 900 people each day in Afghanistan, according to the UN. Between January 1 and June 30, approximately 22,800 families—more than 149,000 people—were displaced from 29 of Afghanistan’s 34 provinces. Of the total, 55 percent—82,300 people—were younger than 18 years of age. OCHA reports that limited humanitarian access continues to prevent assessments and verification of IDPs, limiting relief agencies’ ability to determine the full scope of displacement and needs throughout the country.
- In April, escalated fighting between armed actors and Afghanistan National Security Forces in Baghlan and Kunduz displaced hundreds of families within the northeastern provinces and to neighboring areas, according to the UN. More than 22,400 people fled conflict in Kunduz, including approximately 14,000 people from Kunduz city who traveled to areas with limited humanitarian access. Despite ongoing access constraints due to military operations, road closures, and the threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), relief agencies have reported reaching some conflict-affected families in Kunduz with food, nutritional support, emergency shelter assistance, relief items, and health care services. Conflict has also escalated in other areas of Afghanistan in recent months, including in southern Kandahar and Uruzgan provinces and western Ghor and Herat provinces.
- Relief agencies, including USAID partners, report that increased insecurity throughout Afghanistan is hampering the implementation of ongoing humanitarian programs in addition to restricting access to newly displaced populations. For example, USAID/OFDA partner Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS) reported in May that insecurity and resultant road blockages made it difficult for staff to access project sites in northern Badakhshan and Baghlan provinces to carry out planned disaster risk reduction activities. In Uruzgan, USAID partner ZOA decided to move WASH activities from Dehrawud District to Chinartoo and Tarinkot districts due to an increase in fighting in recent months.
- Non-state armed actors in Afghanistan, including the Taliban, continue to target civilians using methods such as detonating IEDs in public areas and abducting and executing passengers in public and private vehicles. A series of attacks targeting civilians in May and early June prompted UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the UN Security Council, and the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to release statements condemning indiscriminate attacks on civilians. The UN partially attributed the high civilian death toll in 2015—more than 3,500 deaths, the most recorded since 2009—to deliberate violence against civilians; the trend has continued in 2016.
- As of May 31, OCHA reported 91 security incidents involving aid workers in 2016. The security incidents primarily affected national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and resulted in six deaths, 12 injured persons, and 81 abductions. Although the UN reports that the overall number of security incidents across Afghanistan to date in 2016 is comparable to 2015, the number of armed clashes has increased and ground engagements have caused more frequent and longer-lasting access constraints.
- Between January 1 and May 31, nearly 6,300 Afghan refugees returned to Afghanistan through the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)-assisted voluntary repatriation program. Of the total, 86 percent—approximately 5,400 people—returned from Pakistan. The number of returns is comparable to the same period in 2014; in 2015, the figure spiked to more than 33,500 primarily due to adverse conditions in Pakistan. UNHCR reports that many Afghans in neighboring countries are second- or third-generation refugees with weak ties to Afghanistan. The lack of connection, continuous insecurity, shortage of livelihoods opportunities, and limited access to land, shelter, and basic services discourage refugees from returning.
- USAID supports multiple partners to assist conflict-affected and displaced households throughout Afghanistan. In April and May, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) assessed more than 800 households affected by conflict, as well as more than 300 households affected by natural disasters, in Badghis, Helmand, Herat, Khost, Laghman, Loghar, Nangarhar, and Paktia provinces. With USAID/OFDA support, IRC responded to identified humanitarian needs with emergency shelter materials, relief commodities, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance. In Sar-e Pul and Uruzgan provinces, ZOA utilized USAID/Afghanistan support to construct wells, distribute hygiene kits, promote good hygiene practices, and train local water committees in conflict- and disaster-affected communities.

## NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- Afghanistan experienced a relatively mild 2015/2016 winter with higher-than-average temperatures throughout the wet season, resulting in fewer and less-destructive floods to date in 2016 as compared to previous years. However, floods resulting from seasonal spring rains severely affected some parts of northern and central Afghanistan.
- Between January 1 and May 31, IOM recorded 110 natural disaster incidents—including avalanches, earthquakes, floods, heavy rains, landslides, and rock falls—across Afghanistan. The incidents affected nearly 9,000 families, resulted in at least 82 deaths, and damaged or destroyed more than 7,800 houses. Overall, the number of people affected by natural disasters during the first five months of 2016 represents a 45 percent decrease as compared to the same time period in 2015, according to IOM.
- Through the USAID/OFDA-funded Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP), IOM had assisted more than 4,650 disaster-affected families with clothing, emergency shelter materials, and relief supplies as of May 31. IOM coordinated with other humanitarian agencies to ensure the remaining disaster-affected families received assistance. USAID/OFDA has supported the HAP since 2012 to coordinate with the Government of Afghanistan (GoA) and other humanitarian organizations to respond quickly to natural disasters throughout Afghanistan. IOM dispatches teams to assess disaster-related damage, mobilizes assistance from stocks pre-positioned across the country, and supports disaster risk reduction activities designed to build community resilience.
- With ongoing FY 2015 USAID/OFDA funding, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) continues to provide transitional shelter assistance to disaster-affected households in Badakhshan and Baghlan. During the first phase of the USAID/OFDA-funded program, which concluded in July 2015, ACTED provided technical support and essential shelter materials to 416 households in the two provinces. ACTED is currently targeting an additional 120 households in Badakhshan and 220 households in Baghlan. USAID is also supporting ACTED to reach more than 9,700 disaster-affected households in Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Jowzjan, and Kunduz with WASH assistance, including the repairing and drilling of wells. As of May, ACTED had pre-positioned 3,000 emergency hygiene kits and 3,000 family water kits in Baghlan and Balkh, nearly 270 of which were distributed in Balkh following flash floods in May.
- USAID/OFDA partner Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) assessed and assisted flood- and conflict-affected households in 51 communities in Balkh, Bamyán, Faryab, Jowzjan and Sar-e Pul provinces in May. SC/US distributed relief supplies to nearly 4,500 people and also worked to build community disaster response capacity through the provision of disaster risk reduction, protection, first aid, and search-and-rescue trainings.
- USAID/OFDA partners FOCUS and International Medical Corps (IMC) continue to help vulnerable communities in Afghanistan prepare for and respond to disasters with ongoing FY 2015 assistance. FOCUS is working in Badakhshan and Baghlan, while IMC is targeting vulnerable communities in eastern Afghanistan's Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Nuristan provinces. The NGOs are establishing and training community emergency response teams; increasing disaster risk awareness in schools; conducting vulnerability assessments to identify community-level hazards; and implementing structural mitigation projects, such as constructing terracing walls and rehabilitating canals, among other activities.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Afghanistan's national wheat production between June and September 2016 is expected to be comparable or slightly better than production in 2015, according to a pre-harvest survey conducted by the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the UN World Food Program (WFP) in coordination with the GoA Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock. The harvest will likely increase food availability at the household level and lower market prices through September. However, many IDPs, returnees, and households affected by natural disasters will experience acute food insecurity and require continued humanitarian assistance. National malnutrition levels will also likely remain the same, although global acute malnutrition levels are expected to increase in Baghlan, Helmand, Kunduz, and Nangarhar due to limited health and nutrition services and food accessibility resulting from ongoing conflict.

- Through its three-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), WFP is responding to the food and nutrition needs of severely food-insecure populations in Afghanistan, including IDPs, returnees, and people affected by conflict and natural disasters. In 2016, WFP plans to assist up to 3.9 million vulnerable people through the PRRO, pending sufficient funding. As of May, WFP reported requiring \$68.4 million to implement the PRRO through October 2016; without additional funding, the program will face a critical funding shortfall in September.
- USAID/FFP recently provided WFP with locally procured High Energy Biscuits and fortified wheat—valued at \$14 million—to support the PRRO. WFP will use the commodities to assist food-insecure populations, including those displaced by conflict and affected by natural disasters. To date in FY 2016, USAID/FFP has provided \$44 million to WFP to support emergency food operations in Afghanistan. USAID/Afghanistan has also provided \$5 million to support the WFP-operated UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), which increases access to populations in need of food and other humanitarian assistance. Over the past five years, USAID has remained WFP’s largest donor in Afghanistan, contributing nearly 50 percent of the UN agency’s resources.
- With USAID support, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is assisting children younger than five years of age experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Afghanistan. Between January and May, UNICEF reached more than 73,000 children—approximately 43 percent of the nearly 172,000 children targeted for assistance in 2016. UNICEF is also working with the GoA and implementing partners to improve the supply chain management of nutrition supplies and train health care workers to identify and treat SAM.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting FAO with \$550,000 in FY 2016 to conduct humanitarian coordination and information management activities within the Afghanistan Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security and agriculture activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. As of April, FSAC partners had provided agricultural, cash, food, or livestock assistance to more than 465,000 vulnerable people—approximately 27 percent of the 1.7 million people targeted for FSAC assistance in 2016.

## HEALTH

- The ongoing conflict in Afghanistan, which has included targeted and indiscriminate attacks on health facilities and workers, has destroyed medical infrastructure and limited access to health services for many of the country’s most vulnerable populations. For example, the recent fighting in Uruzgan caused insecurity and road closures that are preventing patients and supplies from reaching clinics in Dehrawud. As a result, one clinic closed, two clinics are operating with severely limited resources, and the remaining clinic in the district is providing health care to 33,000 people out of a total population of 60,000, according to the UN.
- The Health Cluster reported reaching approximately 380,500 people from January–March with emergency health care services. The total represents approximately 12 percent of the 3.2 million people targeted for health assistance in the 2016 Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).
- USAID/OFDA has provided the UN World Health Organization (WHO) nearly \$3 million in FY 2016 to improve the access of crisis-affected populations to trauma care and basic health services. WHO is also focusing on preventing and controlling communicable diseases. Additionally, WHO is supporting coordination at the regional and provincial levels to avoid duplication of efforts among health actors working in Afghanistan.

## HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- USAID/OFDA has provided \$500,000 to OCHA in FY 2016 to support humanitarian coordination and information management activities in Afghanistan. OCHA is working to improve the ability of humanitarian actors to access populations in need, fill gaps in service provision, and collaborate on disaster response efforts.
- With nearly \$2 million in FY 2016 funding, USAID/OFDA partner iMMAP is using satellite-generated, real-time data to provide forecasting advisory services to humanitarian assistance stakeholders in Afghanistan. iMMAP’s interactive maps allow the GoA and relief organizations to identify populations at risk of disasters, such as avalanches or floods, and enable partners to plan an effective and timely response.

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The UN allocated \$20 million in April from the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund—a pooled funding mechanism for addressing Afghanistan’s most critical humanitarian needs. Of the total, \$15 million will allow relief agencies to provide emergency trauma services, assist displaced populations, and conduct humanitarian assessments, while \$5 million will enable flexible responses to future emergencies.
- To date, international donors have contributed approximately \$255 million for humanitarian interventions in Afghanistan in 2016, according to OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service. Of the total, \$112.7 million has supported the 2016 Afghanistan HRP—29 percent of the \$393 million requested.

## CONTEXT

- Ongoing conflict and frequent natural disasters continue to displace populations and generate significant humanitarian needs throughout Afghanistan. The UN estimates that conflict has displaced more than 1.1 million people over the past 15 years, while natural disasters, such as floods and avalanches, affect 250,000 Afghans each year. Additionally, Afghanistan continues to host more than 241,000 Pakistani refugees in Khost and Paktika provinces following July 2014 military operations in Pakistan’s North Waziristan Agency.
- On October 15, 2015, Ambassador P. Michael McKinley renewed the disaster declaration for FY 2016 due to increased humanitarian needs resulting from conflict, displacement, and recurring natural disasters in Afghanistan.
- USAID/OFDA supports a three-pronged approach to improving humanitarian response efforts in Afghanistan: supporting rapid response capacity for acute needs following natural disasters and conflict; improving humanitarian indicators; and enhancing humanitarian coordination, data collection, and analysis.
- USAID/FFP food assistance and disaster readiness programs are designed to respond to the food security and nutritional needs of IDPs and returnees, as well as people affected by economic stress; support the recovery of communities affected by shocks; treat moderately malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women; and contribute to learning among primary and lower secondary school pupils and adults, particularly women.
- A USAID senior humanitarian advisor based in Kabul continues to monitor the humanitarian situation and oversee USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP activities in Afghanistan. The senior humanitarian advisor leads USAID/Afghanistan’s Office of Humanitarian Assistance, which is supported by two national staff.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE PROVIDED IN FY 2016<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
FAO	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$550,000
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,900,575
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$2,999,985
	Program Support Costs		\$40,525
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$5,991,085</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$27,000,000
	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Crisis-Affected Areas	\$17,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$44,000,000</b>
<b>USAID/AFGHANISTAN</b>			
ACTED	WASH	Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Jowzjan	\$1,998,531
FEWS NET	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$11,001,473
ZOA	WASH	Sar-e Pul, Uruzgan	\$1,499,996
<b>TOTAL USAID/AFGHANISTAN FUNDING</b>			<b>\$20,500,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC)	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide	\$20,500,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide and Regional	\$19,400,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$39,900,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016</b>			<b>\$110,391,085</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 13, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>