South: Fighting escalates in Kandahar city

While conflict decreased in the south during the three days of the Eid holiday, fighting including airstrikes escalated in Kandahar city on the last evening of Eid. Four out of the five provincial capitals are now reportedly partially or fully surrounded by a Non-State Armed Group (NSAG) who reportedly also took control of four District Administrative Centres (DACs), while Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) reportedly conducted clearing operations supported by frequent airstrikes in Kandahar city.

Consequently, the ongoing ANSF clearing operations and NSAG activities in Kandahar and Helmand provinces led to the displacement of civilians to adjacent areas within provincial capitals and neighbouring districts. Increased civilian casualties have been reported, specifically in the western and southern parts of Kandahar city, placing additional pressure on already limited health services.

According to provincial health officials, ongoing armed clashes, airstrikes, improvised explosive device (IED) detonations and shelling have inflicted a high number of casualties on civilians, including women and children. According to Mirwais Hospital in Kandahar city, more than 700 civilians have been killed and injured over the last couple of weeks. Both ANSF and the NSAG have reportedly warned people living in Police District 6 and 7 in Kandahar city to leave their homes due to an anticipated escalation in fighting.

Between 18 and 24 July, joint interagency teams provided 1,795 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Kandahar with food, relief items, water, sanitation, hygiene and hygiene education, physiotherapy and cash aid. Nine interagency assessment teams are currently deployed to Kandahar to assess needs in the case of further displacement.
North-east: Nearly 9,000 people displaced by conflict receive aid

During the reporting period, the overall security situation remained volatile, tense and unpredictable with intensified conflict across the north-east particularly in Kunduz and Takhar provinces. Since 19 July, ANSF has been conducting military operations in Police District 1, 2, 3, 4 in Kunduz city. IEDs and magnetic IEDs placed and detonated in several locations in Kunduz city resulted in the death of a civilian and injury of 20 others. Airstrikes in Shohada district center in Badakhshan province reportedly killed eight civilians and injured four others. During the reporting period, humanitarian partners identified 7,665 IDPs to be eligible for aid. In addition, humanitarian assistance reached 8,981 people displaced by conflict.

East: 20,000 people reportedly displaced by conflict in Kunar

As of 27 July, 19,950 people were reportedly displaced due to fighting in Kunar province. Of this number, 14,217 people were displaced to Asadabad, Sh egal, Barkunar, Narang, Chawkay, Nurgal and Sarkani districts and 5,733 people were displaced to Behsud, Jalalabad, Kuzkunar and Kama districts, Nangarhar Province, according to local authorities. On 25 July, partners mobilised interagency assessment and response teams in Kunar province, with priority being given to newly arrived IDPs from Ghaziabad and Nari districts in Kunar Province. The protection cluster is following up on reports of civilians trapped in conflict areas with limited or no movement and communication. On the 20 July, heavy rainfall and flash flooding was reported in Kot, Batikot, Rodat, Dehbal districts in Nangarhar Province and Barkunar, Chawkay, Asadabad, Marawara districts in Kunar Province resulting in damage to houses and crops, and loss of property. Six interagency assessment/response teams have been deployed to affected areas.

Out of 4,487 people assessed, 1,708 IDPs were recommended for immediate humanitarian assistance: 924 IDPs and 784 people impacted by natural disasters. Interagency teams continued assessment in Nangarhar, Nuristan, Laghm and Kunar provinces. A total of 9,709 IDPs received humanitarian assistance. 13 Mobile Health Teams provided nutrition services to IDPs and people affected by natural disasters in Nangarhar, Laghman and Kunar provinces.1,217 children under five were screened for malnutrition of whom 46 suffered from SAM and 81 from MAM. 178 children were provided vitamin A and 768 pregnant and lactating women received services.

West: Needs assessments in Badghis set to restart

The security situation in the west continued to be volatile with civilians impacted by IEDs, armed robbery and abductions. Civilians continued to flee their homes due to an expected escalation of hostilities following Eid celebrations combined with a slight decrease in the number of security incidents. Humanitarian partners continued needs assessments in Hirat and Ghor provinces. After a brief suspension of joint interagency assessments in Badghis province due to armed clashes, partners plan to restart their activities in the coming week.

A total of 2,100 people displaced to Hirat city and Injil district in Hirat province due to ongoing conflict have been assessed by interagency teams and identified to be in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. Partners are in the process of facilitating multi-sectoral response, including food, relief items and cash aid.

Centre: 4,200 IDPs identified to receive humanitarian assistance

While lower levels of violence were witnessed during Eid compared to previous weeks, the security situation remained unstable and unpredictable with security incidents reported in Kabul, Logar, Wardak, Parwan, Kapisa, Ghazni, Paktya, Paktika and Daykundi provinces. A total of 2,142 IDPs received humanitarian assistance in Paktya, and Ghost provinces, while 4,200 IDPs were identified to receive aid in Ghazni, Paktya and Kabul provinces. 1,050 new IDPs reportedly were displaced to Paktya and Kapisa provinces. Additionally, 400 houses were reportedly damaged or destroyed in Logar and Wardak provinces, due to recent flash floods.

North: Security situation remains volatile and unpredictable

The security situation remained volatile and unpredictable. An NSAG reportedly continued to carry out sporadic attacks around provincial capitals namely Mazar-e-Sharif, Maymana, Shibergan and Sar-e-Pul. Mazar-e-Sharif and Maymana airports remained operational, as was the border between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan for some services while ANSF clearing operations near the border are ongoing. Inter-agency teams identified 1,351 people displaced by conflict to receive aid and provided humanitarian assistance to 1,344 IDPs.

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