



Afghanistan


Emergency and resilience response

February 2022 update












Highlights

- ▶ As of 28 February 2022, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has directly supported 161 620 people across 30 provinces out of Afghanistan's 34 provinces in 2022.
- ▶ A total of 79 450 people were assisted in February. Among them, 25 270 people were supported with certified wheat seed and 12 582 farmers received the related technical trainings. A total of 9 474 livestock owners received technical trainings on livestock best management practices. Similarly, 54 180 vulnerable people directly benefited from home gardening packages, while 6 360 vulnerable people received the related technical trainings. In addition, 11 350 people also attended COVID-19 awareness raising sessions.
- ▶ A total of 130 620 people received urea fertilizer, which was not distributed together with certified wheat seed as per the usual FAO practice. The distribution of the fertilizer is still ongoing and is expected to end until April 2022.
- ▶ FAO provided wheat seed to 25 270 people in six of 34 provinces of Afghanistan in February 2022 alone. During the winter campaign FAO has assisted a total of 1.3million people, enabling farmers to produce enough wheat to cover the cereal needs for one year.
- ▶ Two new projects funded by the Asian Development Bank (USD 65 million), and the Kingdom of Sweden (USD3.34 million) started in February. A total of 2.84 million people will benefit from wheat cultivation assistance, summer crop cultivation assistance, livestock protection support, home gardening support, Poultry support, Farm equipment support and cash assistance in the forms of cash for work and unconditional cash transfer across 33 provinces of Afghanistan.
- ▶ Prices are soaring and humanitarian needs keep growing and continue to be far greater than resources. In the next three months, FAO urgently needs **USD 78 million, with the following priorities:**
 - **USD 45 million** needed to support cash for work and unconditional cash transfers which will put cash into the pockets of farmers already burdened by unprecedented levels of debt.
 - **USD 15 million** needed to support (spring) vegetable cultivation, which will increase the availability of nutritious food for rural households and enable them to generate an income
 - **USD 18 million** needed to assist livestock owners and herders through the provision of livestock feed (to improve animal health and protect pastures as they regenerate) and basic animal health support (malnourished animals are more prone to disease, infection and morbidity).
- ▶ FAO continues to seek clarification and consistency across the country regarding the participation of women, recognizing the critical importance of the full participation of women who are staff members of FAO programmes, as well as Afghan women benefitting from them.
- ▶ Access remains safe across the whole country. De facto authorities maintain their support to the safe distribution of humanitarian assistance.

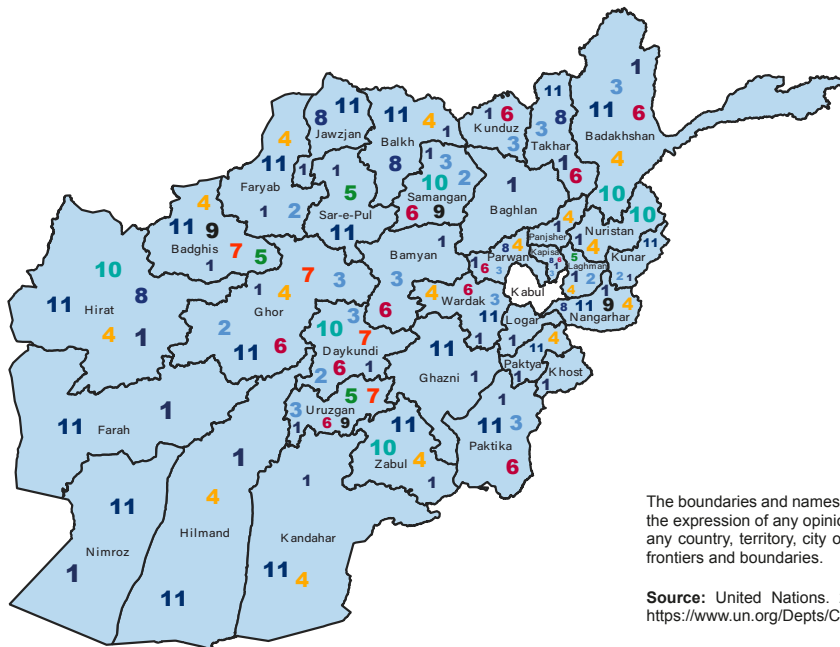
Delivery

Assistance modality										Total people assisted (no double counting)
January 2022	25 270		54 180				28 416	11 350		79 450
To date in 2021	52 500		94 920		19 95	1 785	59 751	21 660		151 620

Overview of ongoing anticipatory actions

Resource partner												People to be assisted
1 Asian Development Bank (ADB)	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	2 730 000
2 Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF)							✓	✓				180 964
3 Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	✓						✓	✓				199 451
4 European Union (ECHO)	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				438 200
5 Italian Agency for Development Cooperation		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	179 200
6 Denmark	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	256 900
7 Japan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				73 990
8 Republic of Korea							✓		✓			16 870
9 New Zealand					✓	✓		✓				910 00
10 Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				224 405
11 United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	✓	✓					✓	✓				1 231 510

Countrywide support through Food Security and Agriculture Cluster coordination



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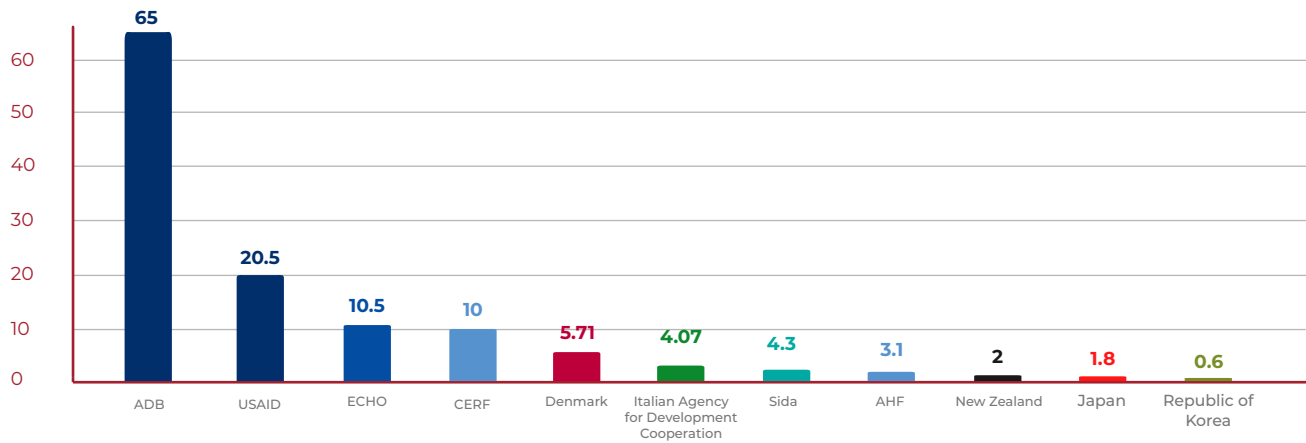
Source: United Nations. 2011. Afghanistan map. [online]. [Cited 2 December 2021]. <https://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/afghanis.pdf>



Implementation challenges

- ▶ **Liquidity crisis.** There is a possibility to advance payments under special circumstances because some suppliers are withdrawing. Discussions regarding resolving the countrywide banking issue are ongoing.
- ▶ **Fertilizers.** Importing fertilizer has been hindered due to the continuing financial crisis, border closures and lack of smooth import-export trade procedures at land border crossings. Furthermore, Afghan traders have faced constraints from their own importers following the political transition.
- ▶ **Prices.** Costs for agricultural inputs have increased significantly, which is adversely impacting procurement. Changes in the terms of trade are affecting the capacity to implement projects.
- ▶ **Women's participation.** In most provinces, it remains a challenge to maintain the full participation of women, including both FAO and non-governmental organization staff and Afghan women who benefit from FAO's activities.
- ▶ **Unexpected precipitation.** The recent precipitation and heavy snowfall caused access problems for beneficiaries to reach inputs/cash distribution centres FAO has increased the increased the number of distribution points to ease the access.

Funding corresponding to active projects (in USD million)



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Without the committed collaboration and funding of our partners, FAO would not be able to assist the most vulnerable people, farmers and herders across rural and remote areas of Afghanistan.

FAO looks forward to continuing to work shoulder to shoulder with partners during these trying times to build a peaceful, hunger-free and prosperous Afghanistan.

Resource partners



Implementing partners



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