

AFGHANISTAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

3.5 million

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

277,331

Afghans Internally Displaced by Conflict in 2016
OCHA – September 2016

154,988

Registered Afghan Refugee Returnees from Pakistan in 2016
UNHCR – September 2016

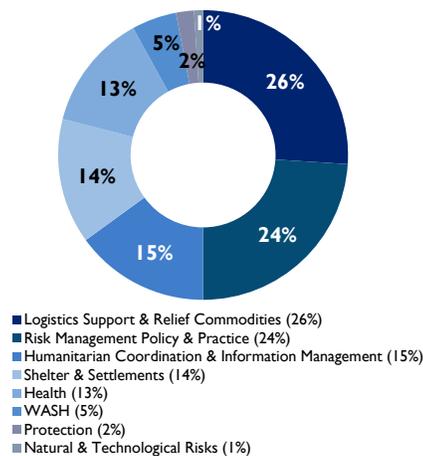
157,663

Undocumented Afghan Returnees from Pakistan in 2016
IOM – September 2016

1.5 million

Registered Afghan Refugees in Pakistan
UNHCR – August 2016

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2016



USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2016



HIGHLIGHTS

- Conflict displaces more than 277,000 people in 2016
- Approximately 11,000 people a week return from Pakistan to Afghanistan
- UN issues \$152 million flash appeal to assist displaced and returnee populations

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016

USAID/OFDA	\$22,891,090
USAID/FFP	\$44,000,000
USAID/Afghanistan	\$6,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$95,576,980

\$168,468,070

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The UN estimates that up to 1 million people may be displaced or in transit in Afghanistan by the end of 2016 as a result of escalated conflict throughout the country and the influx of Afghans returning from Pakistan. Across Afghanistan, conflict displaced more than 277,000 people between January and September, and an average of 11,000 Afghan refugees per week were returning from Pakistan to Afghanistan as of late September, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In response to increased displacement and the high number of refugee returns, the UN launched a flash appeal on September 7, requesting \$152 million in funding to support additional humanitarian activities between September and December 2016.
- In FY 2016, USAID contributed approximately \$73 million to respond to humanitarian needs resulting from the complex emergency in Afghanistan. USAID partners continue to provide life-saving, multi-sector assistance to vulnerable populations, while increasing local disaster preparedness and response capacity.
- State/PRM has contributed nearly \$96 million in FY 2016 to assist conflict- and disaster-affected populations, including internally displaced persons (IDPs) inside Afghanistan and Afghan refugees in neighboring countries.

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

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

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

INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Between January 1 and September 24, nearly 158,000 undocumented Afghans and approximately 155,000 registered Afghan refugees returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The UN reports that the number of returns began increasingly rapidly in July due to multiple factors, including a doubling of UNHCR's repatriation grant to refugee returnees; tighter border controls by Pakistani authorities that have separated families and negatively affected cross-border commerce for Afghans; uncertainty among refugees regarding Government of Pakistan (GoP)-issued Proof-of-Registration cards and future legal status in Pakistan; anti-refugee sentiment among Pakistanis; and loss of economic opportunities due to harassment and intimidation by host populations. Relief agencies and media have reported increasing tensions between Afghan refugees and Pakistanis in recent years, particularly following an attack on a school in Pakistan's Peshawar city in December 2014 that GoP officials believe was planned in Afghanistan. The GoP has publicly announced that all undocumented Afghans and registered Afghan refugees must depart Pakistan by November 15, 2016, and March 31, 2017, respectively. UNHCR has facilitated the return of more than 4 million Afghan refugees from Pakistan to Afghanistan since 2002.
- Conflict in 31 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces displaced more than 277,000 people between January and September 26, with the majority of IDPs originating from Baghlan, Helmand, Kunduz, and Uruzgan provinces, according to OCHA. The UN estimates that ongoing conflict will displace up to 400,000 people before January 2017. In conjunction with the increase in returning refugees from Pakistan, OCHA estimates that more than 1 million people will be displaced or in transit in Afghanistan by the end of 2016, and highlights that the humanitarian community does not retain the capacity to meet projected needs.
- The UN reported an escalation of conflict in Baghlan Province in the north, Kandahar and Uruzgan provinces in the south, and Ghor and Herat provinces in the west during September. Ongoing insecurity continues to hamper implementation of humanitarian programs and restrict access to newly displaced populations. In addition, security incidents and resultant road blockages hinder humanitarian organizations' ability to assist IDPs in conflict-affected Kandahar and Uruzgan provinces. The UN further reports that disruptions to mobile networks have affected organizations' capacity to gather and report information from conflict-affected areas.
- As of September 30, OCHA reported 147 security incidents involving aid workers in 2016. The security incidents, which included 101 abductions, primarily affected national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and resulted in 13 deaths and 16 injuries. Despite an increase in overall security incidents and escalated conflict throughout Afghanistan in 2016, the number of incidents involving aid workers decreased by 29 percent compared to the corresponding reporting period in 2015. OCHA reports that the decrease may relate to humanitarian access constraints resulting from the proliferation of conflict across the country.
- Multiple USAID partners provide multi-sector assistance to conflict-affected and displaced households throughout Afghanistan. In August, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) assessed more than 230 households, including both IDPs and undocumented refugees returning from Pakistan. IRC provided more than 100 emergency relief item kits to the families, as well as nearly 90 tents, 60 hygiene kits, and 18 emergency latrines. In Sar-e Pul and Uruzgan provinces, USAID/Afghanistan supported ZOA to complete the construction of 13 wells to provide safe drinking water to conflict-affected communities and provide more than 800 households with emergency hygiene information. ZOA also trained 100 local water committees in conflict- and disaster-affected communities on the maintenance and repair of water wells and pumps.

NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- Afghanistan experienced heavy rainfall and flooding in the central, eastern, and southeastern regions between July and September, affecting more than 260 households—more than 1,900 individuals—in Kabul, Khost, Kunar, and Wardak provinces. The flood incidents resulted in 10 deaths, 16 injuries, and damaged or destroyed nearly 250 houses. In response, IOM provided emergency relief commodities—including blankets, solar lanterns, and tents—to nearly 230 households. During the same time period in 2015, more than 3,000 households were affected by flood incidents.

- Between January 1 and July 30, IOM reported that disaster incidents—including avalanches, earthquakes, floods, heavy rains, landslides, and rock falls—affected nearly 68,000 people across Afghanistan. The incidents resulted in at least 152 deaths and damaged or destroyed up to 11,000 houses.
- With ongoing FY 2015 USAID/OFDA funding, the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) provided transitional shelter assistance to 340 disaster-affected households in Badakhshan and Baghlan. All beneficiaries also received disaster risk reduction training and hygiene promotion training. ACTED is working with 20 local community hygiene promoters to encourage best practices in communities, and had reached nearly 29,000 individuals as of August as part of its hygiene promotion seminars. ACTED also pre-positioned 3,000 emergency hygiene kits and 3,000 family water kits in Baghlan and Balkh in September 2015 to address ad hoc humanitarian needs in the provinces; nearly 1,200 kits were distributed by July.
- USAID/OFDA partner Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) distributed relief supplies—such as blankets, clothes, household kits, hygiene kits, shelter repair materials, and tarps—to more than 1,600 disaster-affected people, including nearly 1,200 children, in Faryab, Jowzjan, and Sar-e Pul provinces in August. SC/US also conducted disaster risk reduction and child protection trainings in eight provinces, reaching nearly 5,200 people, including nearly 3,800 children.
- USAID/OFDA partners International Medical Corps (IMC) and FOCUS continue to facilitate disaster preparation and mitigation efforts for vulnerable communities in Afghanistan. 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. FOCUS continues to operate in Badakhshan and Baghlan, and IMC supports communities in eastern Afghanistan’s Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Nuristan provinces. IMC also provides emergency relief supplies to households affected by small-scale disasters—including domestic fires, flash floods, and heavy rains—as needed; IMC provided nearly 60 relief kits to vulnerable households in the aftermath of domestic fires and flash floods in September.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- In FY 2016, USAID/FFP provided \$44 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) to support emergency food operations in Afghanistan. This includes locally procured High Energy Biscuits and fortified wheat—valued at \$14 million—to support the UN agency’s three-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). WFP used these commodities to assist food-insecure populations, including conflict-displaced and disaster-affected households. Over the past five years, USAID has remained WFP’s largest donor in Afghanistan, contributing nearly 50 percent of the UN agency’s resources. During August, WFP provided emergency food assistance to nearly 40,600 conflict-affected people through the PRRO. USAID/Afghanistan 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.
- With USAID support, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is assisting in screening and treating children younger than five years of age experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Afghanistan. Between January and August, UNICEF reached nearly 127,800 children—approximately 74 percent of the nearly 172,000 children targeted for assistance in 2016. UNICEF is also conducting trainings to help medical staff identify SAM, as well as supply chain management seminars to build the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan (GoA), implementing partners, and UNICEF staff to effectively manage nutrition supplies.
- USAID/OFDA supported the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with \$550,000 in FY 2016 to conduct humanitarian coordination and information management activities through the Afghanistan Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security and agricultural activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—in conjunction with WFP. More than 172 partner organizations coordinate humanitarian activities through the FSAC, including 71 NGOs, nine state-level GoA administrations, and 15 UN agencies, among other entities. As of September, FSAC partners had provided agricultural, cash, food, or livestock assistance to nearly 948,000 vulnerable people—approximately 54 percent of the 1.8 million people targeted for FSAC assistance in 2016.

- In response to the rapidly escalating humanitarian needs in Afghanistan, WFP announced an emergency operation (EMOP) to provide refugees, IDPs, and undocumented displaced people with cash support and food. Through the EMOP, WFP plans to meet the food needs of up to 550,000 people between October 1 and June 30, 2017.

HEALTH AND WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- The UN World Health Organization (WHO) reports that two polio cases were found in Kabul and Paktika provinces in August and that cases of Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) increased in September, likely due to increased exposure to animals during September's Eid al-Adha holiday. To mitigate the spread of CCHF, WHO conducted outreach activities in high-risk communities in August, prior to the holiday. USAID/OFDA provided WHO nearly \$3 million in FY 2016 to improve access to trauma care and basic health services. WHO is also focusing on preventing and controlling communicable diseases and supporting coordination at the regional and provincial levels to avoid duplication of efforts among health actors working in Afghanistan.
- USAID has provided UNICEF more than \$3 million since FY 2015 to support emergency WASH activities, including the provision of hygiene kits and improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities; the funding also supports coordination efforts for the countrywide WASH response.
- 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 repairing and drilling wells. ACTED completed six wells in Baghlan Province, repaired 22 wells in Faryab Province, and drilled three wells in Jowzjan Province in August, increasing vulnerable communities' access to safe drinking water. Additionally, ACTED conducted a post-distribution monitoring survey in August to determine if the organization's hygiene kits—distributed between May and June in Takhar Province—fulfilled basic needs. Although 97 percent of respondents reported the hygiene kit did meet their needs, 87 percent noted they would prefer to receive cash vouchers.

HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- USAID/OFDA 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 stakeholders in Afghanistan. iMMAP's interactive maps allow the GoA and relief organizations to identify populations at risk of natural disasters, such as avalanches or floods, and enables partners to plan effective and timely responses. In September, iMMAP added additional earthquake-related functionalities to the interactive maps, helping humanitarian organizations identify at-risk communities and safe locations for earthquake shelter.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The Government of Italy provided nearly €800,000—approximately \$879,500—to WFP to support economic and nutritional assistance targeting 548,000 people in Afghanistan, including 363,000 returning refugees from Pakistan, 150,000 IDPs, and 35,000 Pakistani refugees. The assistance package includes both cash vouchers and food supplies.
- As of September 30, seven donors—including Australia, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom—had committed \$47.2 million to the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) for Afghanistan, a rapid-response funding mechanism designed to make funding readily available during a crisis. In September, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator approved the release of \$5 million from the CHF to support nine NGO projects focused on the critical needs of undocumented returning refugees in Nangarhar Province.
- To date in 2016, international donors have contributed approximately \$290 million for humanitarian interventions in Afghanistan, according to OCHA. Of the total, \$161.4 million has supported the 2016 Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan—48 percent of the \$393 million requested. In response to the increase of IDPs and refugee returns, the UN launched an additional flash appeal for humanitarian assistance on September 7, requesting \$152 million to address the growing needs resulting from the drastic increase in displacement.

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 235,000 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, U.S. 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; to support the recovery of communities affected by shocks; to treat moderately malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women; and to contribute to learning among primary and lower secondary school pupils and adults, particularly women.
- A USAID senior humanitarian advisor (SHA) based in Kabul continues to monitor the humanitarian situation and oversee USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP activities in Afghanistan. The SHA leads USAID/Afghanistan's Office of Humanitarian Assistance, which is supported by two national staff.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016 ¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
ACTED	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Badakhshan, Baghlan, Jowzjan	\$1,500,000
ACTED	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar	\$1,299,695
Aga Khan Foundation	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kabul	\$1,403,251
FAO	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$550,000
IMC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nuristan	\$2,348,945
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$2,200,575
IOM	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Countrywide	\$5,474,104
IRC	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Badghis, Helmand, Herat, Khost, Laghman, Logar, Nangarhar, Pakiya	\$2,239,589
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$500,000
SC/US	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	Badakhshan, Balkh, Faryab, Helmand, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Nangarhar, Sar-e-Pul, Takhar, Zabol	\$2,300,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$2,999,985
	Program Support Costs		\$74,946
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$22,891,090

USAID/FFP ³			
WFP	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$27,000,000
	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Crisis-Affected Areas	\$17,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$44,000,000

USAID/AFGHANISTAN ⁴			
Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNHAS	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/AFGHANISTAN FUNDING			\$6,000,000

STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide	\$23,700,000
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,464,239
NGOs	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide	\$12,512,741
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Countrywide and Regional	\$57,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$95,576,980
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2016			\$168,468,070

USAID/AFGHANISTAN HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2015 ⁵

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/AFGHANISTAN			
ACTED	WASH	Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Jowzjan	\$1,998,531
FEWS NET	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$11,001,473
ZOA	WASH	Sar-e Pul, Uruzgan	\$1,499,996
TOTAL USAID/AFGHANISTAN FUNDING FOR THE AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2015			\$15,500,000

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2016.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

⁴ USAID/Afghanistan's FY 2016 funding was revised from the previous Afghanistan Complex Emergency Fact Sheet to exclude funds for ongoing programs provided in FY 2015.

⁵ The USAID/Afghanistan programs are two-year awards that remained active in both FY 2015 and FY 2016.

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.
- 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 or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.