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**Afghanistan, Right Now**



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Today, humanitarian needs in Afghanistan are soaring. Families are resorting to desperate measures just to survive—including taking on dangerous demeaning work, trading their household possessions, and in the worst scenarios, even selling their children.

The needs are unprecedented. The country is ranked in the top five countries on the INFORM Risk Index, and the possibility of further deterioration is very real.

We remain dedicated to the people of Afghanistan. Since October 2021, we have served over **60,000 people** with humanitarian support. You make the continued delivery of lifesaving relief in this challenging context possible.

**Increasing Humanitarian Needs**

UNOCHA Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2021 and 2022

**January 2021**

**January 2022**

**18.4 million**



people in need of humanitarian support



**24.4 million**

**16.9 million**



people at 'crisis' or 'emergency' levels of food insecurity



**22.8 million**

**3.7 million**



children aged five and under in need of nutrition support



**3.9 million**

**14.5 million**



people requiring emergency health services



**18.1 million**

**8.8 million**



people in need of safe drinking water and hygiene services



**15.1 million**



## A Life-Changing Six Months

### 15 August 2021:

**A dramatic political transition takes place in Afghanistan.** Programming is temporarily paused as we reassess the new context and ensure that our activities can continue without endangering the communities we serve or our staff. Coordination between the various humanitarian agencies helps to understand the situation, including needs and gaps in different locations.

### September–October 2021:

**Our teams push to resume programming where possible, as reported needs increase around the country.** As always, our priority is meeting the needs of the most vulnerable populations without interference, especially amid new operational challenges.

### November 2021:

**2,083 households in receive unconditional cash transfers to help meet their most immediate and pressing needs before winter.**

### December 2021:

**25,876 people suffering from food insecurity receive unconditional cash transfers to purchase food for their families.** In southern Afghanistan, mobile health and nutrition services resume in two provinces.

### January 2022:

**875 people gain access to safe drinking water.** Though snow cuts off access to remote communities in the Central Highlands region, we continue to scale health and nutrition responses in the south, while preparing to return to those communities as soon as the snow starts to melt.

### February 2022:

**Six months on from last year's political changes, we are as committed as ever to vulnerable families in Afghanistan.** We continue to provide vital health and nutrition services and are preparing to begin work on providing safe drinking water to remote communities affected by drought as soon as the weather allows.

## Crisis Overview



- Families in Afghanistan have lived through decades of conflict and insecurity.
- Afghanistan is the least peaceful country in the world, according to the Global Peace Index, and is one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a civilian.
- In 2021, 698,000 people were displaced from their homes, the worst year for internal displacements since 2013.



- Humanitarian needs are increasing due to the combined impacts of conflict and insecurity, the events of August 2021, the global pandemic, and the climate emergency.
- More than half of the population is in need of humanitarian support, including 22.8 million people facing hunger. More than 75% of those in need are women and children.



- Afghanistan is prone to natural disasters such as flooding, drought, and earthquakes.
- Families are struggling to recover from recurrent droughts, which have decimated wheat crops and impacted the availability of food.
- Food costs have increased by at least 20 percent, forcing many families into debt just to buy food

## Where We're Responding



## Our Priorities for 2022

- 1** Continuing to secure humanitarian access to people in need while maintaining impartiality, humanity, neutrality, and operational independence.
- 2** Delivering essential humanitarian services to families affected by the ongoing situation—especially for women and children, who make up more than 75% of the people in need in Afghanistan.
- 3** Scaling up our responses to meet increasing needs— not just in the areas where we already work, but also in new communities that we have not previously been able to access.

## You Can Save Lives

In response to the growing needs, with your help, we aim to expand our activities to reach more people in need this year. Your support makes our lifesaving humanitarian work in Afghanistan possible. Thank you for caring as much about the people of Afghanistan as much as we do.



Urgent:  
**USD 200,000**

to meet urgent humanitarian needs in Afghanistan right now



Projected for 2022:  
**USD 5.5 million**

to continue meeting rising humanitarian needs in the next 12 months

**We adhere to the humanitarian principles and commit to the strictest policies surrounding the non-diversion of aid. 92% of funds directly support humanitarian projects.**

Our work in Afghanistan is generally supported by people like you and institutional partners, including Swiss Solidarity.

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