

**AFGHANISTAN  
RAPID RESPONSE  
POST-CONFLICT NEEDS  
2023**

**23-RR-AFG-58635**

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Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

## PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

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### Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:

Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

14 January 2024

The Humanitarian Financing Unit/OCHA organized the AAR meeting and invited relevant stakeholders including UN implementing agencies' technical experts and cluster coordinators. The meeting raised important reflections and lessons from implementation, which will be presented throughout the report, particularly highlighted in the CERF's Added Value section.

Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).

Yes  No

Please confirm that the final version of this report was shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

Yes  No

## 1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

### Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator:

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) timely allocation provided immediate food and livelihood response in famine risk areas across the country. The rapid food assistance helped support women, girls and female-headed households which were disproportionately affected by the economic and food crises in the country. Both recipient agencies (FAO and WFP) provided cash-based assistances with main concentration on female-headed households. This allocation has also reinforced a collaborative approach with both local and national coordination platforms. Furthermore, this Rapid Response allocation also sustained awareness on the continuing dire humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and led a path of confidence among other donors that assistance can be provided in line with the IASC minimum criteria for operations developed following the decree banning female NGO workers issue by the de facto authorities.

I am very pleased that with the support of CERF funding, UN humanitarian recipient agencies and their partners successfully delivered critical lifesaving assistance to vulnerable people in Afghanistan during the application period. The CERF Recipients Agencies and their partner organizations reviewed the projects after completion and agreed that they had, overall, achieved the objectives of their projects.

### CERF's Added Value:

This Rapid Response Allocation of US\$ 18 million, the recipient agencies (FAO and WFP) and their sub-implementing partners have provided critical and life-saving services to the affected people in several provinces in Afghanistan. WFP successfully reached a total of 249,319 vulnerable people living in IPC3+ areas through emergency assistance and livelihood activities. FAO has assisted 232,261 people (31,200 households), through the provision of wheat cultivation inputs, backyard poultry packages, cash-based assistance in the form of cash for work and unconditional cash transfer.

### Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

Yes

Partially

No

AAR participants agreed that CERF funds were fundamental for the fast delivery of assistance, especially because there were no funds available, at the time, to cover the need of 6 million people in need. The resources under this allocation enabled humanitarian partners to rapidly re-scale up provide assistance where otherwise the food assistance will be at the verge to be halted (due to lack of resources).

### Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

Yes

Partially

No

AAR participants agreed that this allocation was key in responding to time-critical needs. Immediate food security support was provided in areas with needs are high; therefore, CERF resources helped scale up the response where and when it was most critical.

### Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

Yes

Partially

No

Based on AAR, this CERF allocation was instrumental in enhancement of coordinated food security response in high severity areas in Afghanistan with focus on comprehensive assistance between WFP (food parcel aid) and FAO (food production), as well as spearheaded efficiency in promoting sustainable assistance.

### Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

Yes

Partially

No

Based on the ARR, implementing agencies noted that this CERF allocation helped them to mobilize additional resources to advance the re-scale up of food security response in Afghanistan. This CERF allocation revamped the food security response and provided confidence and visibility for partners to secure additional resources.

### Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas<sup>1</sup>:

Both recipient agencies (FAO and WFP) emphasized inclusion of community members, including integrating gender mainstreaming throughout the programme cycle from planning, to distribution, monitoring, and reporting, ensuring that any gender gaps are addressed as much as possible.

WFP undertook analysis of protection and gender consideration before interventions were implemented. This helped enhancing gender and protection related capacities, collect relevant quantitative and qualitative data on the impact of activities disaggregated by age and gender in order to take remedial action where necessary.

FAO prioritized households headed by women in their beneficiary's selection criteria. Furthermore, FAO through implementing partners organized all inputs and cash distributions as well as technical training sessions and COVID-19 sensitization sessions at locations and timings convenient for women beneficiaries. FAO has also conducted a training session under this grant – focusing on FAO policy on gender equality and women's empowerment issues. The aim of the training was to familiarize gender specialists and social and environmental safeguard specialists with gender related guidelines and to identify the key priorities.

**Table 1: Allocation Overview (US\$)**

<b>Total amount required for the humanitarian response</b>	<b>2,586,500,000</b>
CERF	17,999,811
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable) In 2023, CBPF allocated amount for FSAC – data from OneGMS.	62,871,500
Other (bilateral/multilateral)	NA
<b>Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)</b>	<b>80,871,311</b>

<sup>1</sup> In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

**Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US\$)**

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
FAO	23-RR-FAO-010	Food Security - Agriculture	7,000,000
WFP	23-RR-WFP-017	Food Security - Food Assistance	10,999,811
<b>Total</b>			<b>17,999,811</b>

**Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US\$)**

<b>Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods</b>	<b>16,667,109.73</b>
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	0
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	724,749.67
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	607,951.60
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
<b>Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*</b>	<b>1,332,701.27</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,999,811</b>

\* Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

## 2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

### Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

Afghanistan currently faces a fragile food security and nutrition situation. Dire economic circumstances, steepened food prices, unfavorable trade deficits, stagnating agricultural yields, cyclical natural hazards exacerbated by climate change, alarming gender inequalities and poor educational access exacerbate the challenges that the population of Afghanistan faces. The most recent Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment estimates that 20 million Afghans are facing acute food insecurity (IPC3+), with 6 million people in 'emergency' levels (one step away from famine). In 2023, 875,000 children are expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 2.3 million children and 840,000 women from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Out of these 20 million people facing acute food insecurity, close to 80 percent live in rural areas. With drastic reductions in humanitarian and development funding for Afghanistan in 2023, the various forecasting exercises indicate a worrying outlook and a need to ensure robust famine prevention strategy is implemented.

### Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

In response to the crisis, the ERC endorsed an allocation of \$18 million on 20 March 2023 from CERF's Rapid Response window. This funding enables UN agencies and partners to provide life-saving assistance to 440,084 people, including 97,043 women, 96,654 men, 246,387 children, and including 70,744 people with disabilities in the food security sector.

### People Directly Reached:

FAO has directly assisted 232,261 people (31,200 households) in 11 districts of four provinces (Badakhshan, Badghis, Nuristan, and Uruzgan) of Afghanistan, through the provision of wheat cultivation inputs, backyard poultry packages, cash-based assistance in the form of cash for work and unconditional cash transfer, and technical training on good agricultural practices and best poultry management practices, as well as awareness raising on COVID-19 prevention measures. As a result of CfW activities, a total of 127 small scale water harvesting infrastructures were constructed or rehabilitated.

WFP reached a total of 249,319 vulnerable people living in IPC3+ areas through emergency assistance and livelihood activities. WFP emergency food and cash assistance for vulnerable populations living in IPC3+ areas contribute to food security and nutrition needs of households in need of emergency assistance.

### People Indirectly Reached:

FAO estimates that 1,161,305 people (i.e., the total agriculture-dependent people in the communities where the direct beneficiaries reside) indirectly benefited from the project due to sharing of technical information received, as part of this project implementation, by the direct beneficiaries to other farmers (indirect beneficiaries). The information includes climate-smart agriculture, improved techniques of certified wheat seed cultivation, and integrated pest management as well as awareness building on COVID-19 safety measures. Furthermore, the increased availability of wheat straw (by product after wheat harvest) in the project area also helped the local livestock keepers/herders to access the same and thereby enhance animal health conditions. Moreover, unconditional cash transfers and cash for work increased the beneficiaries' purchasing power, which, in turn, generated a direct and immediate positive impact on local economies. Additionally, the 127 small water infrastructures, which were constructed/rehabilitated through cash for work activities, increased water availability for all farmers in the targeted areas.

WFP created and rehabilitated critical community assets that mitigate the impacts of climate shocks and stressors, and/or boost agricultural production and processing through its provision of emergency resilient livelihoods support. In this way, WFP supported an estimated 8,936 indirect beneficiaries.

**Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster\***

Sector/Cluster	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Food Security - Agriculture	44,947	45,667	62,069	65,717	<b>218,400</b>	47,048	43,098	70,352	71,763	<b>232,261</b>
Food Security - Food Assistance	52,096	50,987	56,529	62,072	<b>221,684</b>	50,861	54,352	71,181	72,926	<b>249,320</b>

\* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

**Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category\***

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	887	0
Returnees	3,325	19,600
Internally displaced people	5,764	1,207
Host communities	211,708	228,513
Other affected people	218,400	232,261
<b>Total</b>	<b>440,084</b>	<b>481,581</b>

**Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding\***

Sex & Age	Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*		Number of people with disabilities (PwD) out of the total	
	Planned	Reached	Planned	Reached
Women	97,043	97,909	14,066	20,930
Men	96,654	97,450	13,767	21,269
Girls	118,598	141,533	15,263	29,983
Boys	127,789	144,689	16,759	30,669
<b>Total</b>	<b>440,084</b>	<b>481,581</b>	<b>59,855</b>	<b>102,851</b>



## PART II – PROJECT OVERVIEW

### 3. PROJECT REPORTS

#### 3.1 Project Report 23-RR-FAO-010

1. Project Information			
<b>Agency:</b>	FAO	<b>Country:</b>	Afghanistan
<b>Sector/cluster:</b>	Food Security - Agriculture	<b>CERF project code:</b>	23-RR-FAO-010
<b>Project title:</b>	Safeguarding food and nutrition security of vulnerable marginal farming households in Afghanistan		
<b>Start date:</b>	10/05/2023	<b>End date:</b>	09/11/2023
<b>Project revisions:</b>	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Funding</b>	<b>Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:</b>		<b>US\$ 252,367,500</b>
	<b>Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:</b>		<b>US\$ 6,730,588</b>
	<b>Amount received from CERF:</b>		<b>US\$ 7,000,000</b>
	<b>Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:</b>		<b>US\$ 440,023.27</b>
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 353,053.67
	National NGOs		US\$ 86,969.60
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

#### 2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

FAO has directly assisted 232 261 people (31 200 households) in 11 districts of four provinces (Badakhshan, Badghis, Nuristan, and Uruzgan) of Afghanistan, through the provision of wheat cultivation inputs, backyard poultry packages, cash-based assistance in the form of cash for work and unconditional cash transfer, and technical training on good agricultural practices and best poultry management practices, as well as awareness raising on COVID-19 prevention measures.

The preliminary findings of post-distribution monitoring surveys demonstrate the success of FAO's interventions in meeting the needs of vulnerable communities and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in Afghanistan. These findings reveal that the wheat cultivation packages reached all respondents (99.7 percent), ensuring that wheat seeds and fertilizers were received and utilized effectively. Poultry packages were also reached to all households (100 percent), leading to increased poultry populations and improved knowledge on poultry rearing techniques. The findings confirmed that the cash for work intervention provided cash to all households (100 percent), improving their access to food and reducing debt. Similarly, the unconditional cash transfer (UCT) intervention reached all households (100 percent), resulting in improved well-being and satisfaction among beneficiaries.

Under output 1, the project supported 97 025 people (12 500 households) with wheat cultivation packages. Each household received 50 kg of certified wheat seed, 50 kg of urea fertilizer and 50 kg of DAP fertilizer. In addition, the beneficiaries also received technical training on good agriculture practices and COVID-19 awareness and prevention measures.

According to the preliminary findings of the post-distribution monitoring survey for wheat cultivation packages, all respondents (99.7 percent) confirmed receiving both wheat seeds and fertilizers, suggesting that all surveyed beneficiaries received the Wheat Cultivation Package. This highlights the effectiveness of the distribution mechanisms in ensuring that all targeted beneficiaries received their allocated wheat inputs. Furthermore, most of the beneficiaries (94.9 percent) reported successfully cultivating the received wheat seeds, with a similar percentage (94.9 percent) using the provided fertilizers. On average, across all regions, the cultivated area amounted to 2.0 jeribs (0.4 hectares), indicating active engagement in wheat cultivation. The training program also yielded positive outcomes, with 79 percent of farmers across all provinces stating that they received and learned something new. This indicates the effectiveness of the training in teaching new methods or practices. Moreover, 100 percent of farmers across provinces applied the newly acquired knowledge in the field, showcasing a high level of practical utilization. This strong application has the potential to enhance agricultural practices and potentially increase yields. Additionally, many respondents (100 percent) expressed confidence that the correct individuals, particularly the most vulnerable, received the necessary assistance. The data also reveals an overwhelmingly positive response to the distribution process, with 99 percent of respondents indicating satisfaction. Ensuring the timely delivery of inputs remains crucial as it enables beneficiaries to apply them at the optimal stages of the crop cycle, thereby maximizing potential yield.

Under output 2, the project assisted 64 650 people (8 800 households) with backyard poultry packages. Each household received 30 live pullets (3 roosters and 27 hens, fully vaccinated), 150 kg compound poultry feed, 3 feeders and 3 drinkers, and poultry coop equipment (3 beams, 1 door and 1 window each). In addition, the beneficiaries also received technical training on best poultry management practices and COVID-19 awareness and prevention measures.

According to the preliminary findings of the post-distribution monitoring survey for the poultry packages, all households (100 percent) reported receiving the allocated inputs. These inputs included live pullets, poultry coop equipment for poultry houses. Additionally, all sampled households confirmed receiving pullets, doors, windows, feeders, drinkers, and poultry feed. A majority (98 percent) of households reported using the received materials to construct chicken coops. Furthermore, respondents indicated that they also received 150 kg of poultry feed. In terms of poultry population, approximately 57 percent of households reported an increase in the number of poultry since the program's initiation. Additionally, 70 percent of households accessed private veterinary services, and 64 percent reported providing immediate attention to sick poultry. Regarding poultry mortality, 32 percent of households attributed it to feeding issues, while approximately 28.1 percent linked it to extreme weather conditions. Moreover, 90 percent of households had to address diseases, 43.8 percent faced low selling prices, and 42.7 percent dealt with low production challenges. The majority of households (95 percent) reported receiving training on poultry rearing techniques, acquiring new knowledge that they successfully applied to poultry rearing. This training contributes to improved productivity, better chicken health and welfare, and the implementation of more sustainable and efficient practices within the poultry sector.

Under output 3, the project provided cash-based assistance to 70 586 people (9 900 households). Of these, 8 640 households (62 581 people, of whom 31 226 females) received USD 100 for their participation in CfW activities and 1 260 vulnerable households (8 005 people, of whom 4 657 females) mostly headed by women or people with disabilities were each provided with UCT equivalent to USD 84. A total of USD 969 840 were distributed in cash among these households. The cash was distributed to beneficiaries by a financial service provider (FS) contracted by FAO using the direct cash method (cash in envelope). In addition, a total of 127 small scale water harvesting infrastructures were constructed or rehabilitated through CfW activities.

According to the preliminary findings of the post-distribution monitoring survey for the cash for work activities, all households (100%) reported receiving cash under the CFW intervention, indicating the comprehensive availability of the program. The cash received from their work under the CFW intervention helped improve households' access to food, reduce debt, and prevent further debt. The majority of households (92 percent) reported engaging in 20 days of work, participating in activities such as protection wall construction (40 percent), canal rehabilitation (26 percent), canal cleaning (19 percent), and water pond rehabilitation (16 percent). On average, households received approximately 6790 AFN under the CFW intervention. Additionally, 99 percent of respondents stated that both the CFW and tools were provided on time. The data indicates that 71 percent of the provinces have a maintenance plan in place for the CFW structures, ensuring their long-term sustainability. Furthermore, most households (97 percent) reported not facing any problems during the distribution of assistance. Similarly, 97 percent of households expressed satisfaction with the way the distributions were conducted, with 80% reporting respectful treatment by the IP/FAO/FSP staff members during the intervention. Additionally, 100 percent of respondents confirmed that the most vulnerable households were selected for the assistance, ensuring targeted support. These findings highlight the positive impact of the CFW intervention, providing households with much-needed cash and support while addressing their immediate needs and contributing to long-term resilience.

Furthermore, according to the preliminary findings of the post-distribution monitoring for the UCT intervention, all households (100 percent) reported receiving cash under the program, demonstrating its comprehensive availability. Many households (88 percent) stated that the cash received through the UCT intervention improved their access to food, reduced debt, and prevented further debt. The data reflects an overwhelmingly positive response to the distribution process, with 99 percent of respondents expressing satisfaction. Furthermore, all respondents (99 percent) reported feeling safe when traveling to receive the assistance/service. The perception regarding the consideration of beneficiaries' views about the assistance they received was also highly positive. A significant majority of respondents (100 percent) believed that the assistance reached the correct individuals, particularly the most vulnerable. This suggests a high level of perceived accuracy in targeting, indicating that the assistance effectively reached those who needed it the most. Additionally, 99 percent of respondents reported that the distribution site was accessible for people with disabilities, highlighting inclusivity in the program. These findings demonstrate the success of the UCT intervention in reaching households, improving their well-being, and ensuring the accessibility and satisfaction of beneficiaries, including those with disabilities.

### **3. Changes and Amendments**

The project titled “Safeguarding food and nutrition security of vulnerable marginal farming households in Afghanistan” started on 10 May 2023 and ended on 09 November 2023. No changes to the plan were made.

#### 4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding\*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	44,947	45,667	62,069	65,717	218,400	47,048	43,098	70,352	71,763	232,261
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,947</b>	<b>45,667</b>	<b>62,069</b>	<b>65,717</b>	<b>218,400</b>	<b>47,048</b>	<b>43,098</b>	<b>70,352</b>	<b>71,763</b>	<b>232,261</b>
<b>People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total</b>										
	2,247	2,283	3,103	3,286	10,919	7,198	6,594	10,764	10,979	35,535

\* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

## 5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

FAO estimates that 1,161,305 people (i.e., total agriculture-dependent people in the communities where the direct beneficiaries reside) indirectly benefited from the project due to sharing of technical information received, as part of this project implementation, by the direct beneficiaries to other farmers (indirect beneficiaries). The information includes climate-smart agriculture, improved techniques of certified wheat seed cultivation, and integrated pest management as well as awareness building on COVID-19 safety measures. Furthermore, the increased availability of wheat straw (by product after wheat harvest) in the project area will also help the local livestock keepers/herders to access the same and thereby enhance animal health conditions. Moreover, unconditional cash transfers and cash for work increase the beneficiaries' purchasing power, which, in turn, generates a direct and immediate positive impact on local economies. Additionally, the 127 small water infrastructures that were constructed/rehabilitated through cash for work activities, increased water availability for all farmers in the targeted areas.

## 6. CERF Results Framework

<b>Project objective</b>	Improve food security and resilience of vulnerable marginal households through increased production of nutritious food, diversification of livelihoods and short-term boost to cash incomes in areas experiencing high levels of emergency food insecurity across 4 provinces of Afghanistan.			
<b>Output 1</b>	12 500 vulnerable smallholder farming households (87 500 people) received emergency wheat crop cultivation packages and technical trainings (6% direct females or female-headed households)			
<b>Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<b>Sector/cluster</b>	Food Security - Agriculture			
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Source of verification</b>
Indicator 1.1	Ag.1 Number of people receiving agricultural inputs (items/packages/kits) 12 500 HHs (87 500 people) received emergency wheat crop cultivation packages	87500	97,025 people (12,500 households)	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.
Indicator 1.2	Ag.6 Number of people receiving training on agricultural skills, practices and/or technologies 12 500 HHs (87 500 people) received technical training as part of the wheat cultivation packages	87500	97,025 people (12,500 households)	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.
<b>Explanation of output and indicators variance:</b>		Indicator 1.1 and 1.2. This total figure of 97.025 people is 10.88 % over the planned target 87,500 people, which was calculated based on the average household size in Afghanistan while for this report, the actual size of households was used as it was collected through the beneficiary profile survey conducted through implementing partners.		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Implemented by</b>		
Activity 1.1	Procurement of wheat cultivation packages including: 625 Mt of locally produced certified wheat varieties, 625 Mt of urea fertilizer, and 625 Mt of diammonium phosphate (DAP) fertilizer including quality testing of the same as per FAO's technical specifications and quality standards.	FAO (procurement and quality control) and implementing partners (Future Generations Afghanistan [FGA], Help – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe [Help], Norwegian Afghanistan Committee [NAC], Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan [RRAA]) in consultation with FAO and community members (distribution).		

Activity 1.2	Community and stakeholder mobilization, and beneficiary identification and registration of 12 500 targeted households (87 500 people) as per FAO's vulnerability targeting criteria, to be supported with the wheat cultivation package (6% of total targeted HHs are women or women headed HHs).	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 1.3	In-kind distribution of the wheat cultivation package to the 12 500 targeted households (87 500 people).	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 1.4	Provision of technical training to beneficiary households at community level on good agricultural practices (GAP) including cultivation techniques of the certified and improved wheat varieties and other crops, climate smart agriculture, integrated / natural pest and disease management, post-harvest management and other relevant topics.	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 1.5	Baseline and beneficiary verification, post-distribution monitoring and post-harvest assessment and overall regular monitoring of all project activities.	FAO and third-party monitoring contractor.

**Output 2** 8 800 vulnerable landless / marginal productive assets holding households (61 600 people) received backyard poultry rearing packages and technical trainings (90% direct females or female-headed households)

**Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?** Yes  No

**Sector/cluster** Food Security - Agriculture

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Ag.3 Number of people receiving <b>poultry</b> inputs ( <b>poultry</b> feed/live <b>pullets/poultry coop equipment</b> )8 800 HHs (61 600 people) - 90% women or women headed households received backyard poultry rearing packages	61600	64,650 people (8,800 households)	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.
Indicator 2.2	Ag.6 Number of people receiving training on agricultural skills, practices and/or technologies (technical training as part of the backyard poultry rearing package)8 800 HHs (61 600 people)- 90% women or women headed households received technical training as part of the backyard poultry rearing package	61600	64,650 people (8,800 households)	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.

**Explanation of output and indicators variance:** Indicator 2.1 and 2.2. This total figure of 64,650 people is 4.95 % over the planned target 61,600 people, which was calculated based on the average household size in Afghanistan. While for this report, the actual size of households was used as it was collected through the beneficiary profile survey conducted through implementing partners.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
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Activity 2.1	Procurement and testing of backyard poultry production package including: 264 000 hen laying hens and rooster hens, poultry feed and equipment for building 8 800 poultry coops (metal grill, wooden frame, beams etc.) as per FAO's technical specifications and quality standards.	FAO (procurement and quality control) and implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) in consultation with FAO and community members (distribution).
Activity 2.2	Community mobilization, and beneficiary identification and registration of 8 800 targeted households (61 600 people) as per FAO's vulnerability targeting criteria, to be supported with the wheat cultivation package (90% of total targeted HHs are women or women headed HHs).	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 2.3	In kind distribution of the backyard poultry rearing package to the 8 800 targeted households (61 600 people).	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 2.4	Provision of technical training to beneficiary households at community level on good poultry rearing practices including climate smart agriculture techniques, integrated / natural pest and disease management and other relevant topics.	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 2.5	Baseline and beneficiary verification, post-distribution monitoring and post-harvest assessment and overall regular monitoring of all project activities.	FAO and third-party monitoring contractor.

**Output 3** 8 640 vulnerable households mainly landless labourers/ marginal landowners - benefited from a cash for work (CFW) programme aimed at rehabilitating/repairing critical small-scale community irrigation infrastructures and 1 260 households from an unconditional cash transfer (UCT) programme.

**Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?** Yes  No

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 3.1	Cash.3a Number of people receiving conditional cash transfers 8 640 HHs (60 480 people) received conditional cash transfer (Cash for Work activities to rehabilitate critical irrigation infrastructures)	60480	62,581 people (8 640 households)	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.
Indicator 3.2	Cash.3b Total value of conditional cash transfers distributed in USD	864,000	USD 864,000	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.
Indicator 3.3	Cash.2a Number of people receiving sector-specific unconditional cash transfers 1 260 HHs (8 820 people) – 13% women or women headed households received unconditional cash transfer	8820	8,005 people (1,260 households)	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.

Indicator 3.4	Cash.2b Total value of sector-specific unconditional cash transfers distributed in USD	105,840	USD 105,840	Profile Survey Report, Profile Survey Database, implementing partners' weekly and final narrative reports and distribution lists.
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**Explanation of output and indicators variance:**

Indicator 3.1. This total figure of 62,581 people is 3.47 % above the planned target 60,480 people, which was calculated based on the average household size in Afghanistan while for this report, the actual size of households was used as it was collected through the beneficiary profile survey conducted through implementing partners.

Indicator 3.3. This total figure 8,005 people are 9.25 % under the planned target 8 820 people, which was calculated based on the average household size in Afghanistan while for this report, the actual size of households was used as it was collected through the beneficiary profile survey by implementing partners.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 3.1	Community and stakeholder mobilization, and beneficiary identification and registration of 9 900 vulnerable households (69 300 people) among whom 8 640 HH to benefit from Cash for Work (CFW) and 1 260 HH from Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) modality, using FAO's vulnerability-based selection criteria.	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 3.2	Selection of critical infrastructure infrastructures sites to be rehabilitated, conducting of site survey and the design of technical works.	FAO implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement in consultation with FAO and community members.
Activity 3.3	Repair/rehabilitation of critical irrigation infrastructures and monitoring through on-site in-person technical monitoring and the use of remote-sensing satellite imagery.	Vulnerable households (repairing/rehabilitation). FAO and implementing partners (FGA, Help, NAC, and RRAA) via letters of agreement, in consultation with FAO and community members (monitoring).
Activity 3.4	Disbursement of cash as labour wages to participants of the cash for work activities and unconditional cash transfers to vulnerable households.	Financial service provider in consultation with FAO and implementing partners.
Activity 3.5	Baseline and beneficiary verification, post-distribution monitoring and post-harvest assessment and overall regular monitoring of all project activities.	FAO and third-party monitoring contractor.

## 7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas<sup>2</sup> often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

<sup>2</sup> These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).



### **a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)<sup>3</sup>:**

FAO, together with the third-party monitoring contractor and the implementing partners, regularly monitored all project interventions and worked towards reinforcing the quality of the project as well as the organizational accountability. Furthermore, different stakeholders – community elders and community members – were involved in community mobilization, the selection of beneficiaries and infrastructures and in the distribution of inputs and cash. Specific questions on AAP were included in the third-party monitoring data collection tools and FAO will receive the findings in the form of survey reports.

In addition, the FAO MEAL team successfully carried out an Accountability to Affected Population Assessment, engaging FAO project beneficiaries from various provinces, districts, and projects. The purpose of this assessment was twofold: to ensure accountability to the affected population and to gain insights into the beneficiaries' preferences regarding information sharing and Complaints Feedback Mechanism (CFM) channels. The assessment aimed to identify the channels that beneficiaries perceive as the safest for reporting sensitive cases, understand any barriers hindering access to project-related information and reaching the FAO CFM, and explore potential strategies for eliminating these barriers. Additionally, the assessment aimed to explore ways in which FAO and its implementing partners (IPs) can engage different segments of the community in projects. A total of 171 interviews were conducted with beneficiaries of this project.

### **b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:**

FAO Afghanistan has established a Complaints Feedback Mechanism with multiple channels including eight hotline toll-free numbers handled by regional MEAL Specialists, feedback email address and in person channel, an online complaints collecting form has been developed and will be used by Field Monitoring Associates to receive complaints and feedback from beneficiaries when they visit the project sites for monitoring the project activities. FAO recently updated its complaints and feedback mechanism (CFM) standard operating procedures that provide specific guidelines on why, what, who, where, when, and how CFM issues should be handled. It includes guidance for relevant staff on how to process the cases received through any channel of CFM. Furthermore, it is important to note that FAO implementing partners have their internal complaints feedback mechanism in place. In addition to the mentioned Mechanism and channels FAO has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AWAAZ Afghanistan (AWAAZ Afghanistan – a toll-free Complaint and Feedback System implemented by United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in the country), that regularly shares the FAO relevant complaints with the FAO MEAL team for follow up.

Information on the complaints and feedback mechanisms is shared with beneficiaries both orally and through various IEC/awareness-raising materials, such as business cards, leaflets, and posters (translated into Dari and Pashto languages) to ensure literate and illiterate members of the community are reached. FAO records all complaints and feedback received through established mechanisms in an Excel database, analyses the data, and develops quarterly reports on cases received during the quarter.

As a result, a total of 15 cases comprised of eight complaint, five information and two assistance requests were received, reflecting the importance of providing a platform for beneficiaries to express their concerns. These cases were given immediate attention, followed according to CFM SOPs and resolved in a timely manner.

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<sup>3</sup> AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

**Table 1: Complaints and Feedback Status**

Case type	Sub type	Number of cases	Pending	Closed
Complaint	Assistance quality	7	3	4
	Allegation of inclusion and exclusion error	1	1	0
Information request	Further information on how to use the received package	3	0	3
	Distribution date and time	2	0	2
Assistance request	Request to be included in FAO beneficiary list	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>

**c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):**

FAO has zero tolerance towards Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/ Harassment (SEA/H). At country office level, the main Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (PSEA) focal point is the FAO-Representative, and the alternate focal point is the Compliance Advisor, also based in Kabul. The main role of the PSEA focal point is to coordinate country level PSEA efforts by raising awareness, attending trainings, PSEA network meetings and ensuring that IP, and beneficiaries are upholding FAO SEA policies and protection of beneficiaries from sexual exploitation and abuse. This includes carrying out the following activities:

- FAO follows the UN in Afghanistan's common position regarding the use of Mahram, which is described in the Gender Inclusive Humanitarian Response Guidance Note that was prepared by the Afghanistan Inter Cluster Coordination Team (ICCT).
- Regular communication of policies, rules and regulations to all IPs and staff on PSEA e.g., at inception meetings with Implementing Partners and other regular meetings. Key protection messages to beneficiaries during project activities such as provision of technical trainings and distribution.
- As mentioned above, FAO has an established and operational Complaints and Grievance Redress Mechanism (CGRM) – a robust beneficiary feedback mechanism that is safe e.g., Availability of AWAAZ hotline, email, and in-person channels where beneficiaries can report any form of abuse to FAO.

**d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:**

FAO prioritized households headed by women in the selection criteria for receiving assistance. The project assisted 10,119 female-headed households and promoted protection messages related to PSEA, GBV and complaints-grievance mechanisms. Furthermore, FAO through implementing partners organized all inputs and cash distributions as well as technical training sessions and COVID-19 sensitization sessions at locations and timings convenient for women beneficiaries. In addition, to better understand the FAO's gender equality policies, a comprehensive three-day workshop was held from 11 to 13 September 2023 for 28 FAO employees, including 13 women and 15 men. The workshop focused on FAO policy on gender equality and women's empowerment issues. Its objective was to familiarize gender specialists and social and environmental safeguard specialists with FAO's gender equality policy and objectives, identify the key priorities and focus areas on gender equality and women's empowerment within FAO and facilitate the preparation of a gender work plan for all FAO-AF regions. Additionally, as a result of the gender workshop, an area-specific gender action plan has been formulated to prioritize key areas outlined in the Gender policy. Currently, the action plan is in the review stage and is expected to be implemented as the Gender Action Plan for the year 2024.

**e. People with disabilities (PwD):**

In accordance with the project's comprehensive vulnerability-based beneficiary selection criteria, particular attention was given to providing support for individuals with disabilities. Consequently, the project extended assistance to approximately 35,535 people with disabilities,

ensuring that their specific needs were addressed through targeted interventions. This focused support aimed to enhance the well-being and inclusion of individuals with disabilities, enabling them to benefit from project's activities. By prioritizing their support, the project aimed to promote equal opportunities and improve the overall quality of life for people with disabilities within the project's scope.

#### **f. Protection:**

The project prioritized households headed by women and people with disability through the vulnerability-based beneficiary selection process. Furthermore, the IPs organized all distributions of inputs and cash, as well as technical training sessions and COVID 19 sensitization sessions at locations and timings convenient for both women and people with disabilities. In addition, FAO informed all direct beneficiaries about the complaints/grievance's mechanisms through distribution of pamphlets, IEC materials and cards with pertinent contacts' details along with the details of inputs and cash distribution (beneficiaries' entitlements) and COVID-19 safety measures. All COVID-19 safety measures were strictly followed at all the inputs and cash distribution sites.

In addition, throughout the project implementation, FAO IPs have implemented various key measures to effectively mainstream gender and protection considerations. These measures encompassed multiple strategies, such as advocating for the inclusion of women staff members in both office and fieldwork settings, prioritizing the hiring of local staff, allocating budget resources for Mahram (male guardians), providing separate transportation and designated spaces for female staff, allowing flexibility for female staff to work from home, and securing donor support to cover expenses related to female staff. To ensure the safety, dignity, accountability, access, and participation of beneficiaries, protection mainstreaming principles were adopted. This involved a particular focus on non-discrimination and the inclusion of vulnerable groups, including women and persons with disabilities. Distribution centres were strategically selected to ensure accessibility for all target groups, while separate spaces and support services were provided to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities and women.

#### **g. Education:**

While this project was not designed to address education concerns, the intervention provided much-needed cash to vulnerable food insecure households, which reduced the risks of adopting negative coping actions such as removing children from school or reducing consumption of nutritious food. Moreover, the sensitization on COVID-19 safety measures including those to be adopted at household, farm, livestock, markets levels, and in general in public spaces; contributed to maintaining an acceptable level of hygiene and thus avoiding illnesses within the households. Additionally, FAO conducted a Training of Trainers workshop for 40 staff from implementing partners on various relevant topics.

### **8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)**

#### **Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?**

<b>Planned</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Total number of people receiving cash assistance:</b>
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	70,586 people (9,900 households)

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

FAO and implementing partners provided cash under the cash for work and unconditional cash transfers interventions to 9,900 vulnerable households, which is equivalent to a full monthly food basket for a seven-member household as per the Food Security Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) in Afghanistan norms. Households headed by women and/or persons with disabilities were prioritized as direct beneficiaries in unconditional cash transfers. A payment of USD 100 (per household) was specifically allocated to beneficiaries participating in Cash for Work activities. On the other hand, beneficiaries of Unconditional Cash Transfers received payment of USD 84 (per household).

**Parameters of the used CVA modality:**

<b>Specified CVA activity</b> (incl. activity # from results framework above)	<b>Number of people receiving CVA</b>	<b>Value of cash (US\$)</b>	<b>Sector/cluster</b>	<b>Restriction</b>
Provision of unconditional cash transfers, and cash for work to the landless and/or marginal farming households, at/near their areas of residence focusing on the rehabilitation/construction of small irrigation infrastructure and/or soil-water conservation measures coupled with training on maintenance of the local irrigation and/or soil-water conservation structures repaired/rehabilitated.	70,586 people (9,900 households)	USD 969,840	Food Security - Agriculture	Unrestricted

**9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Weblink</b>
Winter Wheat Campaign has started with certified locally sourced wheat seeds, fertilizers & training.	<a href="https://x.com/FAOAfghanistan/status/1728703677165101302?s=20">https://x.com/FAOAfghanistan/status/1728703677165101302?s=20</a>
Distribution of animal feed to rural household to keep their livestock alive during winter	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yo6Vm7aiYHE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yo6Vm7aiYHE</a>
Human interest story	<a href="#">UN Emergency Assistance to Afghan Farmers in Badakhshan   FAO in Afghanistan   Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</a>

## 3.2 Project Report 23-RR-WFP-017

1. Project Information			
Agency:	WFP	Country:	Afghanistan
Sector/cluster:	Food Security - Food Assistance	CERF project code:	23-RR-WFP-017
Project title:	Emergency food assistance and emergency resilient livelihoods support to vulnerable households		
Start date:	23/05/2023	End date:	22/11/2023
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	<b>Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:</b>		<b>US\$ 2,200,000,000</b>
	<b>Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:</b>		<b>US\$ 77,320,293</b>
	<b>Amount received from CERF:</b>		<b>US\$ 10,999,811</b>
	<b>Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:</b>		<b>US\$ 892,679</b>
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 371,696.41
National NGOs		US\$ 520,982.44	
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

## 2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

With thanks to CERF's contribution under this grant, through its emergency activities, WFP successfully reached a total of 249,319 vulnerable people living in IPC3+ areas through emergency assistance and livelihood activities. Of these 241,874 were reached through emergency food assistance - 184,521 people with 8883.46 MT of in-kind food commodities and 57,353 people with USD 2,028,576 of emergency cash distributions. WFP emergency food and cash assistance for vulnerable populations living in IPC3+ areas contribute to food security and nutrition needs of households in need of emergency assistance. Households receive IPC3 or 4 rations in either food or cash form monthly. Changes to the size of rations is outlined in the following section below. WFP undertakes retargeting at the national level periodically to determine vulnerability at the household level.

In addition to the emergency activities, WFP also implemented livelihoods activities under this grant. The livelihood programme supported 7,446 people between 22 May 2023 – 21 November 2023. WFP livelihood activities ensure women inclusion by having some small-scale value chain activities undertaken close to homes. These activities ensure that women learn alternative skills like backyard gardening, pickling, fruit, and vegetable drying whilst receiving cash transfers to cover the food gap.

## 3. Changes and Amendments

During the reporting period, severe and persistent funding shortfalls hampered WFP assistance efforts in Afghanistan since March 2023, when IPC Phase 4 rations were first reduced, covering 50 per cent of one's daily caloric needs, instead of 75 per cent. WFP measures households based on an average of seven people per household. A 50 percent monthly food basket comprises of 50kg wheat flour, 4.55kg vegetable oil, 6.25kg pulses, and 0.5kg salt, to meet 50 percent of their basic food needs. From the beginning of April, a total of

10 million people in 2023 were cut from emergency food assistance due to persistent funding shortfalls while nearly 20 million people remain acutely food insecure.

In response to the changing operating context, the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was revised in May 2023. The estimated number of people in need of humanitarian assistance increased to 28.8 million (up from 28.3 million at the beginning of 2023).

Furthermore, at the end of the reporting period, WFP Afghanistan was faced with the concurrent crises of the Herat Earthquake which devastated over 160,000 people in October 2023 as well as the Returnee Crisis whereby over a million Afghans are being forcibly expelled from neighbouring Pakistan. These emergencies hit when WFP was already operating at a minimum threshold due to severe funding shortages.

#### 4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding\*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	210	203	226	248	<b>887</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Returnees	781	765	848	931	<b>3,325</b>	3,998	4,273	5,596	5,733	<b>19,600</b>
Internally displaced people	1,354	1,326	1,470	1,614	<b>5,764</b>	246	263	345	353	<b>1,207</b>
Host communities	49,751	48,693	53,985	59,279	<b>211,708</b>	46,617	49,816	65,240	66,840	<b>228,513</b>
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,096</b>	<b>50,987</b>	<b>56,529</b>	<b>62,072</b>	<b>221,684</b>	<b>50,861</b>	<b>54,352</b>	<b>71,181</b>	<b>72,926</b>	<b>249,320</b>
<b>People with disabilities (PWD) out of the total</b>										
	14,066	13,767	15,263	16,759	<b>59,855</b>	13,732	14,675	19,219	19,690	<b>67,316</b>

\* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

## 5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

WFP created and rehabilitated critical community assets that mitigate the impacts of climate shocks and stressors, and/or boost agricultural production and processing through its provision of emergency resilient livelihoods support. In this way, WFP supported an estimated 8,936 indirect beneficiaries.

In addition, WFP cash-based assistance distributed to beneficiaries in the five provinces (Kabul, Kandahar, Jalalabad, Faizabad and Herat) benefited local markets in those areas.

## 6. CERF Results Framework

<b>Project objective</b>	To provide lifesaving emergency food assistance and emergency resilient livelihoods support to vulnerable households in Nuristan, Badakhshan, Badghis, and Urozgan provinces			
<b>Output 1</b>	WFP plans to use this contribution to provide emergency lifesaving food assistance and emergency resilient livelihoods support to vulnerable households in 4 provinces facing IPC3 +			
<b>Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?</b>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sector/cluster</b>	Food Security - Food Assistance			
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Source of verification</b>
Indicator 1.1	FN.1a Number of people receiving in-kind food assistance	159,204	184,521	CP distribution reports
Indicator 1.2	Cash.2a Number of people receiving sector-specific unconditional cash transfers Number of people receiving cash-based assistance	55,537	64,798	CP distribution reports
Indicator 1.3	FN.1b Quantity of food assistance distributed in MT	8,365	8,883.46 MT	CP distribution reports
Indicator 1.4	Cash.2b Total value of sector-specific unconditional cash transfers distributed in USD	2,030,433	USD 2,028,576	CP distribution reports
Indicator 1.5	FS.5c Percentage of households with a poor food consumption score	40	49%	Post-distribution monitoring results
Indicator 1.6	FS.5b Percentage of households with a borderline food consumption score	50	37%	Post-distribution monitoring results
Indicator 1.7	FS.5a Percentage of households with an acceptable food consumption score	10	14%	Post-distribution monitoring results
<b>Explanation of output and indicators variance:</b>		With this grant, WFP Afghanistan was able to reach a higher total number of beneficiaries than planned. WFP reached approximately 16 percent more people than planned with in-kind food assistance and 17 percent more people than planned with cash-based transfers. WFP was able to distribute more food than planned against this contribution. The main reason is the drastic difference in food prices at the time of food purchased versus time of budget planning resulting in higher tonnages purchased compared to planned. Furthermore, in March, funding shortfalls meant WFP was forced to cut rations		



from 75 to 50% for communities facing IPC4. In May, WFP was then forced to make further cuts to its caseload to assist just five million people. This meant that the same amount of food originally targeted for fewer people had to be spread more thinly amongst a larger group.

Moreover, a significantly higher number of returnees were reached than planned due to Pakistan forcibly expelling over a million Afghans at the end of the reporting period from October 2023 onwards.

Please note that the food consumption scores above are based on WFP's post-distribution monitoring results for Q3 2023 and consider the findings for the sub-category of beneficiaries who have continued to receive WFP assistance within the context of a wider operations scale down due to lack of funding. The overall results show that the households dropped from assistance earlier than September 2023 showed a higher prevalence of poor food consumption (56%) than the households recently dropped in September 2023 (50%) and continuing beneficiaries (49%). Further, those dropped earlier than September exhibited a 17-percentage point higher poor food consumption than continuing beneficiaries with more than 6 rounds of assistance. This indicates that those without assistance have experienced limited dietary diversity and food frequency.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 1.1	Procurement of food and dispatch to relevant cooperating partners	WFP
Activity 1.2	Coordination with relevant line directorates at provincial level	<p>WFP</p> <p>Cooperating Partners</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aga Khan Agency for Health Services</li> <li>2. New Way Social Development Organization</li> <li>3. Creative Think for Change Organization</li> <li>4. World Vision International</li> <li>5. Rural Rehabilitation and Development Program Organization</li> <li>6. Humanitarian Assistance for the People of Afghanistan</li> <li>7. Social Uplift Organization</li> </ol> <p>Third-Party Monitors (Please note: all TPMs work across all WFP activities and are not grant specific)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agency for Rehabilitation Assistance and Development of Afghanistan (ARADA)</li> <li>2. Committed to Good (CTG)</li> <li>3. Emerging Leaders Consulting Services (ELCS)</li> <li>4. Management Well Consulting Services (MgtWell)</li> <li>5. Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan (RRAA)</li> </ol>
Activity 1.3	Identification and selection of beneficiaries eligible for in-kind food and cash assistance	WFP and Cooperating Partners
Activity 1.4	Distribution of in-kind food and cash assistance to selected beneficiaries	WFP and Cooperating Partners

**Output 2** Emergency livelihoods/resilience

**Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?** Yes  No

**Sector/cluster** Food Security - Food Assistance

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Cash.2a Number of people receiving sector-specific unconditional cash transfers (Number of people receiving cash-based assistance)	6,943	7,446	CP distribution reports
Indicator 2.2	Cash.2b Total value of sector-specific unconditional cash transfers distributed in USD (Total value of cash-based assistance distributed to beneficiaries)	507,672	504,576	CP distribution reports

**Explanation of output and indicators variance:** Cash-based entitlements were provided in local currency while exact transfer values varied throughout the reporting period due to fluctuating exchange rates between the Afghani (AFN) and United States Dollar (USD). In the second half of the reporting period, 50% rations were distributed at 3,700 AFN.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 2.1	Coordination with relevant technical line directorates at provincial and district level	<p>WFP</p> <p>Cooperating Partners</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shelter for Life</li> <li>Sound Humanitarian Participatory and Social Uplift Organization</li> <li>Kandahar Rehabilitation Organization</li> <li>Afghan Development Association</li> <li>Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance</li> <li>Afghanistan Social Improvement Organization</li> </ol> <p>Third-Party Monitors (Please note: all TPMs work across all WFP activities and are not grant specific)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agency for Rehabilitation Assistance and Development of Afghanistan (ARADA)</li> <li>Committed to Good (CTG)</li> <li>Emerging Leaders Consulting Services (ELCS)</li> <li>Management Well Consulting Services (MgtWell)</li> <li>Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan (RRAA)</li> </ol>
Activity 2.2	Selection of eligible beneficiaries and livelihood activities	WFP, Cooperating Partners, and Third-Party Monitors
Activity 2.3	Coordination with communities selected to participate in livelihood and asset creation activities	WFP and Cooperating Partners
Activity 2.4	Distribution of cash-based assistance to selected beneficiaries	WFP and Cooperating Partners

## 7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas<sup>4</sup> often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

#### **a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)<sup>5</sup>:**

Accountability is at the core of WFP's humanitarian policy, ensuring beneficiaries are aware of their assistance and its duration and are assisted in a dignified manner. This increases space for communities to shape their own recovery and for WFP to better deliver its commitments to stakeholders, including people assisted and resource partners who make this possible.

During the reporting period, WFP revised its beneficiary selection process and implemented a new community-based targeting approach. Through the formation of Community Food Assistance Committees (CFACs), diversely comprised of men, women, persons with disabilities, and representatives from other community groups. WFP ensures that the most vulnerable households in prioritized areas are selected for assistance, as proposed by their own peers. Initial beneficiary lists proposed by CFACs are verified by WFP Cooperating Partners, then spot-checked and verified by WFP third-party monitors, and finally endorsed by WFP to ensure a fair and transparent selection process.

#### **b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:**

During the implementation of this contribution, WFP continued to implement a robust Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) comprised of multiple communication channels for affected populations, including both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, to safely provide feedback, raise complaints, or seek answers to their queries. CFM channels include a WFP's toll-free hotline, which can be reached via phone, short message service (SMS), or through a dedicated email address ([wfp.afg@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.afg@wfp.org)).

The CFM hotline is currently operated by 26 dedicated staff, of which 20 are female; all are fluent in Dari, Pashto, and English. This represents a huge scale up to complement the expansion of WFP's emergency response programming in response from August 2021 when it had just two CFM operators. WFP also encourages communities to utilise Awaaz Afghanistan's inter-agency toll-free hotline, which regularly refers relevant cases to WFP for follow-up.

#### **c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):**

Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) channels were used as the primary means of identifying Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) cases. However, WFP has a zero-tolerance policy in place to prevent such behaviour in association with programme implementation and assistance, specifically acts committed by WFP employees, partners, or other personnel associated with the work of WFP. To ensure that WFP partners are committed to this policy, a special clause and annex on SEA is included in all partner agreements. WFP internal response protocols for SEA complaints are aligned with recommendations from the Afghanistan Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Task Force.

#### **d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:**

<sup>4</sup> These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

<sup>5</sup> AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

WFP integrates gender mainstreaming throughout the programme cycle from planning, to distribution, monitoring, and reporting, thereby ensure that any gender gaps and barriers are addressed as much as possible. WFP undertakes analyses of protection and gender considerations before interventions are implemented, with a view to enhance gender- and protection-related capacities, collect relevant quantitative and qualitative data on the impact of WFP activities disaggregated by age and gender to take remedial action where necessary.

#### e. People with disabilities (PwD):

WFP engages with partners to address some of the main protection challenges across the country including risks faced by persons with disabilities. To this end, WFP works the PSEA task force and technical working group. Through this task force, WFP produces culturally sensitive communications material and raises awareness on the risks faced by marginalized groups such as PwD.

#### f. Protection:

WFP continuously aims to ensure beneficiaries' safe, dignified, and unhindered access to assistance, WFP organises focus group discussions with beneficiary communities, post-distribution monitoring surveys and rapid protection assessments to verify if beneficiaries can access humanitarian assistance in a safe and dignified manner. WFP takes several steps to mainstream and integrate protection into its operations, including the rollout of the Right Way Guidelines, which ensures WFP, Cooperating Partners and programme assistant staff are aware of issues related to gender, AAP and PSEA.

#### g. Education:

NA

### 8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

#### Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	64,799

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

Cash and voucher assistance (CVA) is used by WFP to provide General Food Assistance (GFA) to vulnerable populations that are struggling to meet their basic food needs in areas where markets are functioning well. Following its plans set out in this agreement's original proposal, WFP utilised CERF funds for the provision of in-kind food assistance, primarily due to the donor's flexibility for pipeline replenishment. Since 2021, WFP has scaled up its cash-based transfer scheme to account for approximately 32 percent of all assistance provided in 2023 and plans to continue scaling up to 50 percent in 2024.

#### Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity. (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Cash-Based Assistance	57,353	US\$ 2,028,576	Food Security - Agriculture	Unrestricted

Resilience/Livelihood  
Activities

7,446

US\$ 504,576

Food Security - Agriculture

Unrestricted

## 9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
Human Interest Story	<a href="https://medium.com/@WFP_Asia_Pacific/building-climate-resilience-wfps-investment-in-remote-communities-pays-off-5686abcb1a65">https://medium.com/@WFP_Asia_Pacific/building-climate-resilience-wfps-investment-in-remote-communities-pays-off-5686abcb1a65</a>
Social Media Post 1	<a href="https://twitter.com/WFP_Afghanistan/status/1687689557763129344">https://twitter.com/WFP_Afghanistan/status/1687689557763129344</a>
Social Media Post 2	<a href="https://twitter.com/WFP_Afghanistan/status/1688415671145607168">https://twitter.com/WFP_Afghanistan/status/1688415671145607168</a>

**ANNEX: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**

<b>CERF Project Code</b>	<b>Cluster/Sector</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Partner Type</b>	<b>Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner US\$</b>
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	\$7,792
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	\$191,820
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$9,893
23-RR-FAO-010	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$5,843
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	\$172,085
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$26,577
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$21,294
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$46,725
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$9,750
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$57,111
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$67,228
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$216,360
23-RR-WFP-017	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$60,200
23-RR-FAO-010	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$44,486
23-RR-FAO-010	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$125,645
23-RR-FAO-010	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$182,923
23-RR-FAO-010	Agriculture	FAO	NNGO	\$86,970