



*Afghan Red Crescent Society's volunteers supporting search and rescue in Paktika on 22 June 2022 (Photo: ARCS)*

Appeal No: <b>MDRAF007</b>	IFRC Secretariat Emergency Appeal Funding requirements: <b>CHF 90 million<sup>1</sup></b> Federation-Wide Funding requirements: <b>CHF 210 million<sup>2</sup></b>	
Glide No: <b>DR-2021-000022-AFG</b>	People [affected/at risk]: <b>20 million people</b>	People to be assisted: <b>1,100,000 People</b>
DREF allocation: <b>CHF 1.75 million</b>	Appeal launched: <b>10/04/2021</b>	Appeal ends: <b>31/12/2023</b>
Appeal Revision	Revision #: <b>4</b>	Date: <b>24/06/2022</b>

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

### Situation

On 22 June 2022, a 5.9 magnitude **earthquake hit the southeast region of Afghanistan**. The **epicentre was in the province of Paktika**. Khost province is also impacted by the earthquake that was felt throughout Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan. The earthquake occurred at 1.30 AM local time. As of 8:00 PM (local time) on 22 June, **local authorities estimated that at least 1,000 people had lost their lives** due to the earthquake and the numbers are expected to rise as search and rescue

<sup>1</sup> In addition, the [IFRC Secretariat Operational Plan 2022 for Afghanistan](#) has funding requirements of CHF 20 million, with funding requirements for 2023 expected to be 30 million.

<sup>2</sup> The overall Federation-wide funding ask for Afghanistan for 2022 and 2023 is comprised of the IFRC Secretariat's operations and programmes, ARCS domestic fundraising ask, and PNS bilateral support.

efforts continue. Around **2,000 homes are estimated to be destroyed with thousands of people injured**. Current estimates are that about **500,000 are exposed with over 60,000 households affected (200,000 people)**. Of these, **40 per cent are children**. Continuous rain in the affected provinces hampers the search and rescue efforts and heightens the risks of secondary disaster such as mudslide, landslide and flooding.

This situation builds up on the current humanitarian crises that is faced by Afghanistan where more than 50 per cent of Afghanistan’s population is in dire need of humanitarian assistance due a **combination of crises**: the effects of **decades of conflict**, a protracted and **severe drought**, the effects of other intense **climate-related disasters**, extreme **economic hardship** exacerbated by sanction-related impacts and unemployment, a **weak health system** which was already stretched by COVID-19 and most recently, by the re-emergence of vaccine preventable diseases, and **system-wide gaps** affecting the health, water, education, energy, and public service sectors. The country is facing **one of the world’s worst food insecurity and malnutrition crises**, with around **20 million people in crisis or experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity**, and more than **half of all children under-five projected to face acute malnutrition**. With the combination of the severe drought – which has affected the entire country’s territory, and the impact to the agriculture and livestock sectors, which account for the bulk of economic activity, in such dire condition – compounded by the economic hardship, **hundreds of thousands of households have been forced to adopt negative coping mechanisms** as many are stuck in a quagmire of debt while prices of essential commodities continue to rise beyond reach. The economic situation is, in addition, **driving millions of people into poverty**.

Restrictions on protection, constraints relating to the **participation of women and minority groups**, and **displacement** inside and across borders are adding to the situation. Furthermore, there has been significant **disruption of basic service structures** over the past year, partly exacerbated by reluctance of some development funders to channel support via the new authorities. Additionally, a somewhat parallel structure, in which local authorities and actors are not the main drivers, has emerged with the potential of undermining sustainability of investments being made and hindering localization gains.

## Red Cross Red Crescent action to date

Since the start of the operation in March 2021, IFRC and its membership has been able to support ARCS to reach **1.2 million people across 20 provinces of Afghanistan** with humanitarian assistance.<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> For more details refer to [Operations Update 5](#) issued on 3 June 2022.

To date, the following are the assistance that have been reached for this operation:



## EMERGENCY APPEAL REVISION

This revision is done shortly after the Emergency Appeal Revision No. 3 due to the increased emergency humanitarian needs after the earthquake in southeast Region on 22 June 2022. The earthquake affected mainly two provinces – Paktika and Khost – requiring immediate search and rescue support, and increased humanitarian response especially in emergency health, shelter as well as water and sanitation.

This earthquake happens against the backdrop of the catastrophic humanitarian situation which are driven by the following situations.



In this revision, the IFRC Secretariat is increasing its Emergency Appeal funding requirements from CHF 80 million to **CHF 90 million**. This increase will enable IFRC to scale up humanitarian assistance especially in the earthquake impacted areas as well as to implement interventions that bridge to development in Afghanistan. It also increases the **target to 1.1 million people**.

Put together with the IFRC Secretariat's Operational Plan for 2022 and 2023 (CHF 50 million), ARCS own funding for 2022 and 2023 (CHF 25 million) and funding by Participating National Societies working bilaterally in Afghanistan (CHF 45 million), the **Federation-wide funding requirements until the end of 2023 amounts to CHF 210 million**.



Collectively, the IFRC and its members are aiming to **deliver assistance to two million people across 34 provinces of Afghanistan, translating to 10 per cent of the affected population**.

**After the end of the Emergency Appeal, response and preparedness activities will continue under the Federation-Wide Country Plan which will show a holistic view of ongoing emergency response and longer-term programming tailored to the needs of the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country action. This process aims to streamline activities under one plan while still ensuring needs of those affected by the crisis are met.**

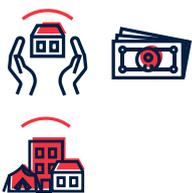
# TARGETING

The IFRC Secretariat Emergency Appeal operation is aiming to reach **1.1 million people across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan**. This is an increase from 1 million people compared to the targets that were outlined in the third revision of this appeal. Within the provinces, prioritization of districts will be informed by the scale of needs, unmet gaps, and capacities of local branches of ARCS among other factors. In particular, in this revision, **specific actions will be focused on the provinces affected by the earthquake namely Paktika and Khost provinces responding to the needs of those people impacted by the earthquake**. Targeting will be coordinated with key stakeholders as for example relevant IASC clusters, Red Cross Red Crescent partners in-country, local authorities, and communities.

Selection of households and individuals to receive assistance will be informed by existing selection and exclusion criteria and will utilize Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approaches. IFRC and ARCS will ensure consultation with members of target communities (including women, children, and people with a disability), community elders, public authorities, IASC clusters and other humanitarian organizations.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS

The strategy of the IFRC's supported response will be to contribute to improve food security, strengthening livelihood strategies, and building resilience in communities affected by drought and other multiple shocks – including the recent earthquake – across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan.



### Integrated assistance

The operation utilizes an integrated approach to meet the needs of the population. **The provinces impacted by earthquake (Paktika and Khost) will be targeted to be reached with shelter support – both emergency and recovery shelter support, emergency food, as well as household needs** be it in-kind or cash. This will include food assistance and support for **livelihoods** through actions such as greenhouses and drought-resistant agriculture. Support for **household needs** is addressed through in-kind assistance such as household kits and winterization kits as well as through multipurpose cash.



### Health & Care including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Health services are provided for areas that have health service gaps focusing on **emergency and primary health care services including immunization; community health and first aid** programming that will enhance the community's capacity for health support which will also include **community-based surveillance. Water and sanitation facilities** – especially for areas affected by earthquake (Paktika); schools and communities surrounding it will also be constructed. **Health promotion activities** are included in all these actions with inclusion in all aspects of health priorities such as vaccine-preventable diseases and COVID-19. In provinces impacted by earthquake, **rehabilitation and equipment of health facilities** will be supported.



### Protection and Prevention

The operation will streamline protection, gender, and inclusion as well as community engagement and accountability in all the activities in all sectors. The operation will ensure social inclusion and ensure all layers of the community will be able to receive support as needed. This includes actions such as supporting marastoons as well as single parent households in addressing their livelihoods needs. Climate adaptation is being incorporated to reduce the vulnerability of the communities together with the inclusion of risk reduction activities. Recovery programming is also included in all sectors.

To streamline and ensure the sustainability of the actions taken within this operation, a framework has been developed to map the priorities. The following are the pillars of the framework:

Pillar 1 (Addressing immediate humanitarian needs):	Pillar 2 (Supporting recovery and bridging to development):	Pillar 3 (Strengthening local response capacity):
<p>Delivery of <b>urgent humanitarian assistance</b> to people affected by disasters and crises, proactively taking <b>early action measures</b> to reduce people's vulnerabilities, and <b>enhancing people's abilities to anticipate, respond to, and quickly recover</b> from crisis.</p>	<p>•Comprehensive humanitarian-development bridging programming, building around <b>health services</b> with primary role of addressing <b>maternal and child health</b> (including <b>immunization</b> against vaccine preventable diseases), <b>mental health and psychosocial support</b> (MHPSS), <b>rehabilitation and equipment of health facilities</b>, and integrating other services such as <b>water and sanitation</b> in schools and communities, <b>shelter assistance</b> (emergency and recovery), community-managed <b>livelihood projects</b> (including on food security), <b>cash transfers</b>, climate action, and disaster risk reduction. Includes <b>alleviating economic hardship</b> targeting vulnerable households with priority on women, especially widows in Marastoons operated by ARCS, as well as those begging in streets.</p>	<p>• <b>Strengthening local branches</b> of ARCS, <b>training and equipping</b> of ARCS disaster response teams at headquarter and branch levels, <b>pre-positioning of relief items and winterization kits</b> in strategic locations, <b>institutional strengthening</b>, and <b>digital transformation</b> of ARCS. Will also support institutional <b>readiness of state agencies</b> that work closely with ARCS and other humanitarian organizations in disaster response such as the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA).</p>

## Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

### Coordination and partnerships (Engaged)

IFRC and ARCS will engage in advocacy, humanitarian diplomacy, and coordination with the authorities and other humanitarian actors, including agencies in the Humanitarian Country Team, with the aim of ensuring that the impact of humanitarian crises in Afghanistan is profiled and policy or investment decisions are influenced to address humanitarian needs. IFRC will also aim to enhance demonstration of collective impact through effective Movement and Membership Coordination. Complementary to existing Movement Coordination and Cooperation mechanisms, the IFRC Secretariat delegation in Afghanistan will engage with the Membership who provide support bilaterally or multilaterally via IFRC in moving forward the 'Agenda for Renewal's New Way of Working'<sup>4</sup> mechanism.



### IFRC Secretariat services (Accountable)



The IFRC Secretariat will provide services to integrated National Societies, including on procurement, transportation, accommodation, and security management. All procurement required for the operation will be done by the IFRC Secretariat. The IFRC Secretariat has also engaged two financial service providers (FSPs) through whom cash transfers to community members will be channeled. A Quality and Accountability team has been put in place to ensure that CEA measures are applied, for close monitoring of implementation, and to enhance measures that will improve organization-wide performance. Compliance and risk management aspects are being strengthened through recruitment and empowerment of a talented, diverse, and inclusive team.

### National Society Strengthening (Trusted)



The operation will invest in supporting organizational strengthening of ARCS. This is to build on decades of expertise working with all communities across Afghanistan in several sectors. ARCS branches (which are embedded within the many communities of Afghanistan and are serving all people irrespective of their regional, linguistic, religious, or political affiliations) will be strengthened with the view of delivering services that cost less while being transparent and accountable.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal revision. Further information on the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide additional details on the Federation-wide approach which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies.

## RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

### Afghan Red Crescent Society



#### Core areas of operation



Number of staff:	2,400
Number of volunteers:	30,000
Regional offices	7
Number of branches	34
Branch disaster response teams	22
Health facilities	140

In addition to IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), ARCS has strong in-country support from the following Participating National Societies:



### **IFRC Membership coordination**

The IFRC Secretariat, via its Country Delegation, provides strategic coordination for the membership. Discussions are underway with the Membership with in-country presence to implement milestones relating to the 'Agenda for Renewal's New Way of Working'. Federation-wide reporting for this operation will be agreed in this context and communicated in the subsequent operations update.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination**

Collectively, Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners have established coordination and cooperation mechanisms anchored in a Movement Cooperation Agreement. 4 Movement partners hold tripartite Movement Platform Meetings (MPM) bringing together the ARCS leadership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and IFRC heads of delegations to address strategic issues. Furthermore, Movement Operational Coordination (MOC) meetings bring together the ARCS, ICRC, IFRC and Participating National Societies in-country to address operational issues and create shared understanding on operations strategies.

### **External coordination**

The IFRC supports the external coordination within the humanitarian system as an observer to the Humanitarian Country Team. IFRC, ARCS and in-country participating national societies cooperate and coordinate with the other humanitarian agencies as members to the Clusters. IFRC and ARCS closely coordinate with related ministries such as Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and Ministry of Education on the ongoing support in the country.



ARCS Mobile Health Team supporting the emergency health needs in Paktika province. (Photo: ARCS)

<sup>4</sup> The Movement Coordination Agreement was established through a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) between the ICRC, IFRC, and ARCS. The Agreement sets a standard framework for administration, reporting and accountability within which individual projects and initiatives can take place.

## Contact information

**For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:**

### **In the Afghan Red Crescent Society**

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### **For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

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#### **Reference**



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