

Afghanistan| Protracted Humanitarian Crisis

<p>Emergency appeal №: MDRAF007</p> <p>Emergency appeal launched- 21/4/2021</p> <p>Emergency appeal revised: 14/10/2023 (sixth revision)</p> <p>Operation timeframe: 10/04/2021 - 31/12/2024 (44 months)</p>	<p>IFRC Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 120 million</p> <p>Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 300 million</p> <p>DREF allocation: CHF 2.5 million (loan to Emergency Appeal)</p>	<p>Number of people being assisted: 2 million people (286,000 households)</p> <p>Glide №: DR-2021-000022-AFG EQ-2022-000232-AFG EQ-2023-000184-AFG</p>
<p>Protracted Humanitarian Crisis Operation Strategy- 1/1/2024 - 31/12/2024 (12 months)</p>	<p>IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 30 million</p> <p>Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 100 million</p>	<p>Number of people being assisted: 750,000 people</p>
<p>Protracted Humanitarian Crisis - Operation update: #1</p>	<p>Date of issue: 04/11/2024</p>	<p>Timeframe covered by this update: From 01/01/2024 to 30/06/2024</p>

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 120,000,000, is 42.10 per cent funded. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the National Societies in the region, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross Societies (IFRC), to continue with the preparedness efforts and provide humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move.



ARCS provides winterization kits to 3,000 returnee households. Each kit contains warm clothes, shoes, socks, and gloves for a seven-member household. **Photo Meer Abdullah Rasikh. IFRC**

This report covers the progress update of the intervention from 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024 specifically against the [Protracted Humanitarian Crises Operation Strategy](#). Below are the details of the three other Operational Strategies under the same emergency appeal:

Operational Strategy	Funding Requirement	Number of people being assisted/assisted
Humanitarian Crises Operation Strategy - 10/04/2021-31/12/2023 (34 months)	IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 80 million Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 200 million	Number of people assisted: >1,008,000 individuals (144,000 households)
Khost and Paktika Earthquake Operation Strategy - 10/06/2022 - 31/12/2023 (18 months)	IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 10 million Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 10 million	Number of people assisted: >70,000 people
Herat Earthquake Operation Strategy - 7/10/2023 - 31/12/2024 (14 months)	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 9 million Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 20 million	Number of people being assisted: 50,000 people

To view their related updates, please go to: [link](#)

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Afghanistan continues to face prolonged and complex humanitarian crises. In 2024, an estimated 23.7 million people—over half the country's population, are projected to need urgent humanitarian assistance¹. Key drivers of these humanitarian needs include recurrent disasters, the escalating impact of climate change, population movement, economic challenges, food insecurity, and significant gaps in healthcare. Compounding these challenges is the limited local capacity and resources for disaster preparedness and response.

Impact of climate change and disasters: Afghanistan ranks among the most vulnerable countries globally to climate change and disaster risks, standing fourth in terms of crisis risk and 24th and sixth for vulnerability and preparedness on the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index for climate change, respectively. The country is also prone to earthquakes, with nearly 400 tremors recorded in the last three years, including significant quakes, such as the 6.3 magnitude in Herat Province in October 2023.

The construction styles in rural areas of Herat province significantly contribute to the vulnerability of local populations. Traditional building methods, particularly domed-type construction, dominate rural practices across the province. Typically, homes feature domed roofs made of sun-dried mud bricks, supported by walls constructed from the same material or stones. In some areas of Herat province, homes have flat timber roofs resting on mud brick walls. However, in the recently damaged villages of Herat, most of the affected homes were built with domed roofs of sun-dried mud bricks and walls made of the same bricks or stone blocks bonded with dried mud.

¹ UNDP Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024

These building styles are well-suited to the region's climatic conditions, as they are designed to resist termite infestation and utilize inexpensive, locally sourced materials. Nevertheless, they are highly vulnerable to collapse during seismic activity. The heavy walls and roofs often lead to significant fatalities when such collapses occur.

In March 2024, a late winter in Afghanistan brought heavy snowfall and extreme cold, impacting several provinces, particularly at high-altitude areas. The snows blocked roads, and disrupted economic activities, affecting over 325,000 people. Thousands of animals died, severely impacting livelihoods. The IFRC allocated CHF 500,000 to support the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) in delivering multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) and/or dignity kits to 22,400 people across 11 provinces: Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Faryab, Ghor, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Sarie-Pol, Uruzgan, and Zabul. Further details are available in the [Afghanistan Cold Wave Operation \(MDRAF014\) Update 1](#).

The situation was further aggravated between April and July 2024, when heavy rains triggered devastating flash floods across 33 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. The floods directly impacted over 295,000 people, placing an additional 1 million at risk, and resulted in at least 350 fatalities². The disaster was widespread, with 14,230 homes destroyed and 27,500 more partially damaged. Additionally, critical infrastructure and agricultural lands have been devastated, with approximately 185,200 hectares of farmland impacted³. Thousands of livestock also perished, exacerbating the economic strain on affected communities. The IFRC launched [Emergency Appeal \(MDRAF015\)](#) to support ARCS in carrying out humanitarian assistance to the population affected by floods. Progress on this operation is outlined in [Afghanistan Floods Operation \(MDRAF015\) Update 1](#).

Given that more than 80 per cent of Afghans rely on agriculture for their livelihoods, the loss of crops and fruit trees has heightened the need for an integrated recovery programme, especially for women- and child-headed households. Women and children, who are disproportionately affected, are particularly vulnerable and require comprehensive support, focusing on health and livelihoods in the flood-affected areas.

The compounding effects of these disasters have exacerbated the already fragile situation in Afghanistan. These successive disasters have pushed more Afghans into poverty and heightened their vulnerability. ARCS has had to prioritize their emergency response efforts to address the immediate needs of the affected communities. This has stretched the capacity of the ARCS and diverted resources and attention away from the longer-term programmes. Addressing the complex and interconnected challenges of shelter, food security, livelihoods, health, and WASH has become an overwhelming task for the humanitarian organizations operating in the country.

Economic crises, livelihood and food insecurity: Afghanistan's economic crisis is widespread, with more than half of households experiencing an economic shock. The country's economy is heavily dependent on foreign aid and remittances, which have declined significantly since the political change in 2021. This has resulted in high levels of unemployment, challenging people's coping mechanisms and thwarting the already fragile economy's ability to adapt to shocks. Unemployment doubled between 2020–2023, with unemployment in the 14–24 age group being the highest (31% for men and 57% for women)².

More than 85 per cent of the country's population is now living below the poverty line³, AFN2,268 (equivalent to CHF 24 per person per month as of September 2022). As the agricultural sector has traditionally been a primary source of livelihood, the impacts of successive droughts have exacerbated the ongoing crisis. The onset of the 2023/24 rainy season in Afghanistan brought below-average precipitation during the critical wheat planting period, resulting in reduced planting rates, particularly in northern rainfed wheat regions. Additionally, limited access to seeds and fertilizers has intensified these challenges. However, favorable spring rains have helped to improve water levels in reservoirs and the condition of winter wheat. Nonetheless, the lingering effects of the La Niña drought from 2021 to 2023 continued to suppress household purchasing power, keeping the situation at a crisis level, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 3 or above⁴.

² 2023 World Bank, Afghanistan Economic Update

³ 2023 UNDP, Socio-Economic Outlook

⁴ 2024 IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, March- October 2024

Gaps in health and care: Owing to limited funding for public healthcare, there are significant gaps in access to healthcare, especially in rural areas. Related costs, like those for transport, present additional barriers to accessing healthcare due to increasing poverty. Among key health threats are acute disease outbreaks, including multiple outbreaks of measles, acute watery diarrhoea, dengue fever, pertussis, Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF), and malaria. The threat of vaccine-preventable diseases to child morbidity and mortality remains. Further, congenital heart defects (CHD) are a widespread health concern across Afghanistan.

Limitation of women participation: Compounding the humanitarian situation are constraints relating to the participation of women and minority groups. In December 2022, the authorities announced measures limiting the participation of women in education and workplace. Because of restrictions in their ability to participate in formal workforce, women are becoming more dependent on humanitarian support. This has created a cycle of escalating needs, which in turn has further limited women's economic capacities. Pragmatic approaches which ensure the inclusion of women need to be pursued.

Summary of response

Afghan Red Crescent Society finalized shelter strategy with the support of IFRC Secretariat in early 2024. The strategy includes a detailed situation analysis, a well-defined shelter approach, as well as clear milestones with timelines and estimated resource requirements for its implementation. While the strategy was developed specifically for the Herat Earthquake Operation, it would be applicable for similar types of interventions in the future. In line with this strategy, IFRC/ARCS has supported the construction of 300 owner-driven shelters in Herat province. Refer to [Herat Earthquake Operation \(MDRAF007\) Update 3](#), pages 10-11 for detail of shelter construction.

Likewise, ARCS drafted cash and voucher assistance (CVA) standard operating procedure (SOP) with the technical support of IFRC/BRC. The SOP outlines the systems, roles and responsibilities, and critical actions for implementing cash and voucher-based programme in Afghanistan. ARCS/IFRC will finalise the SOP through a wider consultative process within the ARCS and in-country Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (RCRC) partners.

During the reporting period, with support of IFRC Secretariat, ARCS reached 213,500 people (78,500 male and 134,00 female) through provision livelihoods support, health and care services, winterization support and dignity kits distribution under this operation strategy:

- Provided AFN 22,500, approximately CHF 280, to each of five women in the marastoons of Kabul and Kandahar to initiate their livelihood activities based on their business plans in early 2024. With this support, they have begun preparing dresses for women and children. Additionally, they had received vocational training in tailoring in 2023 for income generating opportunities.
- Operated 69 mobile health teams (MHTs) in 28 provinces⁵ under the IFRC Emergency Appeal from January to June 2024. These teams reached 159,946 people (64,097 male and 95,849 female) through wide range of healthcare interventions, including maternal and newborn care, child health and immunization, treatment of communicable diseases such as acute respiratory infections, water borne infection, urinary tract infections and non-communicable diseases such as diabetes mellitus.
- Provided dignity kit to 8,218 households comprise of 25,337 people in 10 provinces (Badakhshan, Bamyán, Daikundi, Ghazni, Ghor, Herat, Kabul, Nuristan, Sar-e Pol and Zabul). Refer to Table 1 for number of dignity kit distribution per province and Table 2 for list and quantity of items per dignity kit.
- Provided winterization kits to 5,000 households comprise of 28,177 people (14,370 male and 13,807 female) nine provinces (Badakhshan, Bamyán, Daikundi, Ghazni, Ghor, Kabul, Nuristan, Sar-e Pol and Zabul) to keep

⁵ Badakhshan, Badghis, Baghlan, Bamyán, Daikundi, Farah, Faryab, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Herat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Maidan Wardak, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Nuristan, Paktia, Paktika, Parwan, Sar-e-Pol, Takhar, Urozgan, and Zabul

them warm from harsh winter in Afghanistan. Table 3 provides details on the distribution of winterization kits per province from January to June 2024, and Table 4 for list of items and quantities of a winterization kit.

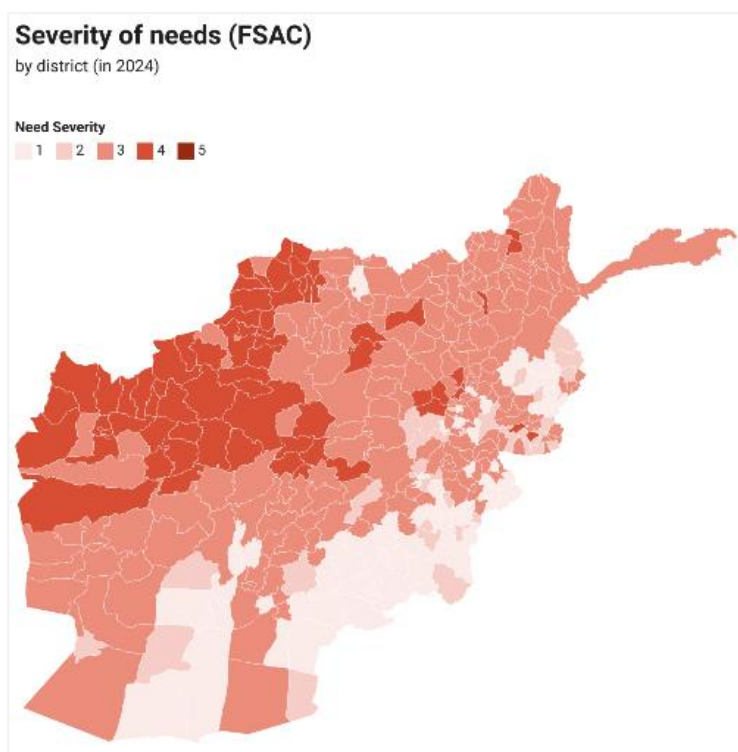
Additionally, a Third-party monitoring (TPM) firm, hired by the IFRC Secretariat is collecting data on IFRC-supported programmes across selected provinces, with the report expected by the end of October 2024. The primary purpose is to establish a monitoring system that ensures accountability and transparency throughout the ARCS project implementation cycle.

Needs analysis

Shelter and settlement

In 2024, the combined impact of disasters and population movement have left 6.6 million people in urgent need of emergency shelter and household items⁶. There is also a pressing need for assistance in building transitional shelters for families who have lost their homes due to earthquakes and floods, as well as for those returning from neighboring countries. Flash floods, being the most prevalent cause of destruction, have devastated thousands of households nationwide, with significant impacts in various regions. The extent of the damage includes the destruction of more than 16,000 houses, and the partial damage of 26,000 houses due to the earthquakes in 2023 and floods in 2024 across the country. For further details on shelter needs, please refer to the [Herat Earthquake Operation \(MDRAF007\) Update 3](#), [Afghanistan Floods Operation \(MDRAF015\) Update 1](#), and [Population Movement Operation \(MDRAF013\) Update 1](#).

Food insecurity and limited livelihood options



More than one third of Afghanistan's population (14.2 million people) are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), driven by three consecutive years of drought, followed by floods and high food prices. This includes 2.9 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), the majority of whom are in Badakshan, Baghdis, Ghor, Ghazni, Helmand, Herat (urban and rural), Kandahar, Kunduz and Takhar provinces (IPC, 27 May 2024).

The economic situation is further exacerbated by the entry of approximately 400,000 to 500,000 Afghans into the labor market each year, with the economy struggling to absorb this influx, leading to rising unemployment—especially among youth and women—has more than doubled since the 2021 political changes⁷. High unemployment rate and low wages continue to erode household purchasing power. Moreover, severe floods from April to July 2024 caused widespread devastation, resulting in loss of life, homes, and livelihoods, further intensifying financial pressures across the country.

Given these ongoing economic challenges and food insecurity, urgent livelihood support is needed at both household and community levels to help these populations cope in the coming months. This support is particularly critical for

⁶ 2024 Afghanistan Humanitarian response plan

⁷ 2023 World Bank Group, Afghan Welfare Monitoring Survey, Round- 6

women, especially widows and children without adult male breadwinners. An estimated two million war widows are struggling to survive in Afghanistan⁸.

In early 2024, ARCS/IFRC conducted interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs) that revealed the complex challenges faced by this population and underscored the need for a comprehensive approach to foster their entrepreneurial success. Participants expressed strong interest in vocational trainings and startup capital, along with psychosocial support programmes.

Health and care

Limited funding for public healthcare in Afghanistan has created significant gaps in access to healthcare and essential services, especially in rural areas. Key health threats include acute disease outbreaks such as measles, acute watery diarrhea (AWD), dengue fever, pertussis, CCHF, and malaria. The threat of vaccine-preventable diseases to child morbidity and mortality persists, with cases of measles, pertussis, and polio still being reported in 2023.

The country's fragile healthcare system and the unequal access to healthcare have led to a significant increase in health needs among millions of Afghans. Afghanistan's health system faces numerous challenges, including inadequate funding, heavy reliance on foreign aid, a shortage of healthcare professionals, and limited access to quality healthcare, particularly for women and those living in inaccessible or remote areas. Ongoing outbreaks of communicable diseases, health impacts of disasters and emergencies, unmet maternal and child health needs, and high rates of malnutrition are all substantially contributing to the high mortality and morbidity rates. Additionally, non-communicable diseases are on the rise, accounting for 52 percent of all deaths in the country⁹.

Maternal and child health needs, coupled with malnutrition, remain significant contributors to mortality and morbidity in Afghanistan. The country has one of the highest maternal mortality rates globally, with 620 deaths per 100,000 live births¹⁰. Additionally, under-5 mortality stands at 55 deaths per 1,000 live births¹¹. Restrictions on women's movement persist, hindering their access to critical health services, particularly reproductive healthcare and limiting women's ability to access life-saving health services. There is a pressing need to enhance routine immunization efforts alongside primary health services.

Mental health and psychosocial support

Multiple mental health and psychosocial impacts due to decades of conflict, economic hardship, and other long-standing issues have led to an alarming number of people in Afghanistan suffering from mental illness. There is a need to provide mental health and psychosocial support through an integrated approach. ARCS/IFRC and the Danish Red Cross (DRC) conducted a joint rapid assessment of mental health rehabilitation center in Kandahar in May 2024. The assessment report reveals several critical findings:

- Emotional distress emerged as a prevalent issue among both youth and adults, regardless of gender, in the targeted settlements. The main stressors identified include poverty, economic difficulties, migration, drought, and insecurity. Men and women highlighted the lack of employment opportunities, inability to provide for their families, and absence of social support and networks as significant stress factors. Additionally, boys expressed concerns about their future regarding education, employment prospects, and the lack of recreational facilities.

⁸ 2020 Rina Chandran, After four decades of war, Afghan widows battle for homes, Thomson Reuters Foundation

⁹2019 Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Global Burden of Diseases.

¹⁰2022 WHO, Maternity Mortality Ratio

¹¹ 2022-23 UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

- Substance abuse is a significant issue, especially among the youth. Peer pressure to engage in illegal activities has also been identified as a harmful response within this group.
- Frequent conflicts between husbands and wives were reported by both men and women, primarily stemming from challenging living conditions and difficulties in meeting basic needs. Both genders expressed a lack of resources and positive conflict resolution strategies to address and adapt to marital stressors. Verbal violence was a common reaction reported among men and boys as a response to extreme stress, while women and girls often responded by crying or remaining silent.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Prolonged drought conditions have resulted in the drying of surface water sources and a significant drop in groundwater levels, leading to major gaps in access to water across the country. Some infectious diseases, such as AWD, are driven by poor sanitation and insufficient water quality and quantity. There is an urgent need to improve community water supply and to promote better hygiene and sanitation practices.

Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI)

Compounding the humanitarian situation are constraints relating to the participation of women and minority groups, with measures limiting the participation of women in education and the workplace. There is a need for pragmatic approaches that ensure the inclusion of women. A major effect of decades of conflict is the high number of widows, a vulnerable group that largely struggles to access income-earning and other opportunities. Household having people with disability (PWD) is one of the selection criteria for humanitarian assistance provided by ARCS. However, ARCS currently does not have any PWD-focused programmes supported by the IFRC Secretariat.

There is a need for providing multisector support to widows and their children, as they are among community members who are disproportionately affected by humanitarian crises.

Local response capacity

Afghanistan is highly prone to intense and recurring natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, landslides, avalanches, and droughts, which often lead to disasters and disease outbreaks. There is a need for preparedness and anticipation actions to address these recurring hazards and their impacts. The 2023 earthquake in Herat and the spring floods in 2024, which affected 33 of 34 provinces in Afghanistan, significantly depleted the ARCS emergency response supplies as they responded to the needs of affected communities nationwide. There is a need to enhance the capacity of ARCS through restocking relief supplies that can be used in the event of an emergency. Additionally, further refresher training for its core response teams is needed to ensure that both volunteers and staff are equipped with the necessary skills to effectively respond to emergencies, as well as supporting them with personal kits needed for responses.

Operational risk assessment

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
1. Situations of violence in target provinces/districts that impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access • Safety of staff and volunteers 	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated and implemented security plan. • Engaged local volunteers and community leaders at all stages of service delivery. • Provided security briefing to staff travelling to the field. • Ensured that all staff are equipped with identification and visibility items. • Disseminated the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted area-specific security risk assessment for any operational area where IFRC staff was deployed <p>The IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses; Stay Safe 2.0 Global edition Level 1-3 are mandatory and part of staff induction programmes.</p>
<p>2. Major supply chain risks in Afghanistan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistics bottlenecks and delays in procurement impact programme delivery timelines. Limited supplies in the markets hinder procurement. Delay in international procurement due to the global supply chain disruption. A number of checks, screenings, and verifications must be conducted due to the sanction country. Lack of documentation like financial audited reports during financial due diligence checking, hence this is not abundant by the local authority. Fraud and/or corruption. 	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted PNS support and sourcing process under the Fund Transfer system for PNS present in Afghanistan who have undergone the capacity review risk assessment process. Screened all vendors and service providers against UN and OFAC sanctions lists prior to entering contracts. Socialized the IFRC fraud and corruption prevention policy to vendors and service providers. Applied relevant control measures, including having the IFRC Country Delegation as the first-line defence.
<p>3. Risks associated with community-based cash and/or in-kind distribution activities</p>	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated community engagement and accountability approach across the operation with a trusted feedback mechanism in place. Put in place crowd control mechanisms, including gender-segregated queuing structures outside of the distribution centres and mark queues using hazard tape inside the distribution centres. Invited people receiving assistance to come to the distribution centres on specific dates and times for every group, thereby reducing the amount of time they spend queuing outside. Coordinated with other cash and voucher assistance actors through Afghanistan Cash Working Group to discuss the issues.
<p>4. With restrictions on the movement of women, there may be limitations or challenges in the deployment of female staff from the headquarters for distribution and monitoring in the field.</p>	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carried out private diplomacy for the female staff and volunteers to continue operating in the fields and offices. Mobilised community-based volunteers and groups such as grandmother committees. and spouse and siblings Localized and customized arrangements.
<p>5. Fragility of the national banking system may affect liquidity and exchange rate</p>	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to assess and monitor the situation and explored options to ensure adequate liquidity. Activated new bank account in Afghanistan International Bank.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set minimum expenditure basket and transfer value in USD to ensure stability despite fluctuations in the local currency exchange rate as recommended by the Afghanistan Cash Working Group. Mobilised financial service providers (FSPs) contracted by IFRC Secretariat.
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B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

The overall operation strategy has not undergone any significant changes. However, the IFRC/ARCS is now placing greater emphasis on livelihood interventions and diversifying income generation activities, rather than just food distribution. This shift is aimed at providing a more sustainable solution to reduce food insecurity and foster economic growth for the vulnerable households and communities.

The operation continues to address urgent needs by providing cash assistance, household items (in the event of new shocks and for particular vulnerable groups) and delivering quality health services through established or improved ARCS capacities. This includes treatment and follow up care for children with congenital heart disease, the provision of shelter solutions, and support for livelihood restoration and diversification. Additionally, the operation is strengthening socio-economic resilience, especially of widows and households facing destitution, improving access to WASH services, support for coping with winter, and integrating risk reduction measures. PGI and CEA are streamlined across all interventions to ensure comprehensive support. Moreover, the operation will also invest in strengthening the local response capacity of ARCS and state entities to enhance humanitarian services.

Once the emergency appeal timeframe concludes on 31 December 2024, any remaining humanitarian needs will be integrated into the IFRC Network Afghanistan Country Plan 2025. This plan combines ongoing emergency responses with long-term programming, streamlining activities under one plan framework. It ensures that the needs of those affected by disasters and crises are met in an accountable and transparent manner.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	Shelter, Housing and Settlements	People reached: 0	
		Female > 18: 0	Female < 18: 0
		Male > 18:	Male < 18: 0
Objective:	<i>Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, wellbeing and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions</i>		
Key indicators	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of multi-crises affected people provided with emergency shelter and household items</i>	0	70,000

Number of households provided with cash/voucher and technical assistance for repairs or construction shelter that is safe and adequately enables essential household and livelihoods activities to be undertaken with dignity	0	1,000
Number of people who attended training/awareness raising sessions on safe shelter.	0	1,000

The shelter strategy, jointly prepared by IFRC and ARCS in coordination with the shelter cluster, focuses on providing safe, resilient shelters to affected communities. This strategy is supported by comprehensive training and cash assistance and includes:

- A detailed situation analysis
- A well-defined shelter approach
- Clear milestones with timelines
- Estimated resource requirements for implementation

While this strategy was initially developed specifically for the Herat earthquake operation, it has been designed with the flexibility to be applied to similar types of shelter interventions in the future.

Additionally, ARCS and IFRC have prepared information, education, and communication (IEC) materials to support building safer sessions and provide technical guidance on shelter construction. These materials combine insights from various reliable resources shelter operations. Furthermore, ARCS and IFRC have coordinated with the shelter cluster to present, endorse, and share the IEC materials to other partners.

Due to funding constraints, there has been no significant progress in this sector under this operation strategy. However, with the support of IFRC, ARCS is facilitating the construction of 300 transitional shelters through owner driven approach in Herat province. For detailed information on the shelter construction, please refer to the [Herat Earthquake Operation \(MDRAF007\) Update 3](#), pages 10-11.

Likewise, under the IFRC Floods Emergency Appeal (MDRAF015), ARCS has provided critical emergency shelter and household item kits to 2,570 households, comprising 19,641 people (male-10,370, and female -9,271). Each kit contains: blankets -7, tarpaulin -2, kitchen set- 1, Jerry can-2. In Baghlan province, ARCS distributed 170 tents, 34 rolls of tarpaulins, 1,190 sleeping mats, 170 Jerry cans, 1,190 blankets, and 3 water purifiers to 170 households comprising 1,190 people (male-607 and female-583). For further details, please refer to the [Afghanistan Floods Operation \(MDRAF015\) Update 1](#), pages 9-13.

 Livelihoods	People reached: 25 ¹²	
	Female > 18: NA ¹³	Female < 18: NA
	Male > 18: NA	Male < 18: NA
Objective: <i>Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods</i>		

¹² The livelihood support was provided to women who were heads of their households. Therefore, it can be assumed that the entire household members (average of 5 per woman-headed household) have benefited from this support.

¹³ Data not available at the moment

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Number of targeted households reached with essential on-farm and/or off-farm and/or non-farm inputs/materials/tools for production.</i>	0	200
	<i>Number of targeted households reached with essential on-farm, off-farm, and non-farm inputs/materials/tools for income generation</i>	0	1000
	<i>Number of households and/or community groups (disaggregated by types) received working capital or inputs for livelihood activities in line with their proposals.</i>	0	30,000
	<i>Number of women and youth at risk received support for vocational training and tools for starting income-generation activities</i>	5	500

Livelihood support

In early 2024, five women residing from the Kabul and Kandahar marastoons received AFN 22,500 (equivalent to CHF 280) each to initiate livelihood activities based on their business plans. Specifically, four women were supported in the Kabul marastoon and one in the Kandahar marastoon. They also received vocational training in tailoring from ARCS in 2023. With the training and financial support, they have started producing dresses for women and children. The ARCS and IFRC livelihood teams are currently exploring opportunities to connect their products with the market, aiming to help these women earn a sustainable income and be self-sustaining.



Trained women are preparing dresses for women and children at marastoon. Supported by the IFRC, ARCS has been providing vocational training and business startup support to women to enhance their livelihood options (Photo: ARCS)

The overall reach of livelihood support under this operation strategy has been limited due to funding constraints. To address this gap, the IFRC is actively pursuing additional funding opportunities by engaging with various donors and submitting proposals for livelihood interventions, recognizing this as a critical need in Afghanistan. Through

the IFRC Unified Plan 2024 and supported by a pledge from the Japanese Red Cross, ARCS has extended income generation support to 300 households in Herat and Samangan provinces.



Multi-purpose Cash

People reached: 0

Female > 18: 0

Female < 18: 0

Male > 18: 0

Male < 18: 0

Objective:	<i>Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of households who successfully received cash for basic needs.</i>	0	30,000

With the support of IFRC and British Red Cross (BRC), ARCS has drafted Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). This SOP outlines the systems, roles and responsibilities, and critical actions required for the effective implementation of ARCS's cash and voucher-based programming. The SOP is designed to:

- Inform key management personnel of ARCS involved in the design, implementation and/or oversight of CVA programmes.
- Document an agreed and accurate procedure to ensure timely, efficient, effective, accountable and safe delivery of ARCS' CVA.
- Provide references on how to use CVA for shelter and WASH intervention.
- Ensure clarity within ARCS as an organisation and across its management, and programme, operations and support services teams.

This SOP is aligned with ARCS's Strategic Plan 2021-2025, specifically Goal 1: Communities with strengthened lifesaving resources and capacities to respond to and recover from natural disasters, health emergencies, and conflict generated shocks. Implementation of the SOP will commence upon approval from ARCS leadership. However, due to funding constraints, there has been limited progress in this sector under the current operation strategy. The focus of the operation is shifting towards disaster response, specifically cold waves and floods.

- With support from IFRC Secretariat, ARCS provided multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) of AFN 11,000 (equivalent to CHF 140) to each of 2,500 households across five provinces (Farah, Ghor, Helmand, Parwan and Uruzgan province) affected by floods in 2024. Details are available in the [Afghanistan Floods Operation \(MDRAF015\) Update 1](#), pages 14-17.
- Likewise, the ARCS provided MPCA (AFN 8,500 equivalent to CHF 110) to each of 3,191 households in 11 provinces (Badakhshan, Badghis, Balkh, Faryab, Ghor, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Sari-e-Pol, Uruzgan, and Zabul).



Health & Care

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

People reached: **159,946**

Male

64,097

Female

95,849

Objective:	The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to health care
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	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Number of health facilities (mobile/fixed) supported with staff, equipment and/or running costs for the provision of primary health services.</i>	69	41
	<i>Number of people reached with primary health services.</i>	159,946	200,000
	<i>Number of people reached with first aid by trained volunteers or staff</i>	0	NA

Primary health care services


With the support of the IFRC Secretariat, ARCS operated 69 Mobile Health Teams (MHTs) across 28 provinces from January to June 2024 under the Emergency Appeal. The provinces covered included: Badakhshan, Badghis, Baghlan, Bamyán, Daikundi, Farah, Faryab, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Herat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Maidan Wardak, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Nuristan, Paktia, Paktika, Parwan, Sar-e-Pol, Takhar, Urozgan, and Zabul.

The MHTs provided healthcare services to 159,946 individuals (64,097 male and 95,849 female), delivering a wide range of interventions including maternal and newborn care, child health and immunization, and treatment for both communicable diseases (such as acute respiratory infections, waterborne infections, and urinary tract infections) and non-communicable diseases (such as diabetes mellitus). Among the people reached through the MHTs:

- 64,097 males were served, of whom 37,176 were under 18 years old and 26,921 were adults.
- 95,849 females were served, including 55,592 under 18 years old and 40,257 adults.

The MHTs treated a high ratio of communicable diseases, notably Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD), Measles, and Malaria. In some provinces, non-communicable diseases were also treated at significant rates.

Due to funding constraints, limited progress was achieved in community health under this operation strategy. However, there has been progress in community health under the Herat Earthquake Operation and within the Unified Plan 2024. These developments will be detailed in the Afghanistan Unified Mid-Year Report 2024.

 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	People reached: 0	
	Female	0
	Male	0


Objective:	<i>Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions</i>		
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	Indicator	Actual	Target
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Key indicators:	<i>Number of water sources constructed or rehabilitated (wells with pumps, spring protection, community ponds with filtration).</i>	0	10
	<i>Number of constructed household/communal sanitation facilities (this is more than excreta disposal)</i>	0	5
	<i>Number of people (and households) reached by hygiene promotion activities.</i>	0	200,000

No progress has been made in WASH under this operation strategy due to funding constraints. However, with support from the IFRC Unified Plan 2024 through a Japanese Red Cross pledge, ARCS has installed 10 deep wells with solar pumping systems to provide water for 4,000 households in Herat and Samangan provinces.

Additionally, under the Herat Earthquake Operation, community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) volunteers reached 62,789 individuals (32,274 male and 30,515 female) with hygiene promotion messages. These messages covered handwashing, safe water storage, and household water treatment, and were delivered through verbal communication during awareness-raising sessions and household visits in Herat province.

	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	People reached: 25,337	
		Female > 18: 11,942	Female < 18: 13,395
		Male > 18: 0	Male < 18: 0

Objective:	<i>Communities identify the needs of the most vulnerable and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs "to ensure people's dignity, access, participation, and safety"</i>
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	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming</i>	25,337	NA

Dignity kit distribution

With the support of IFRC Secretariat, ARCS provided dignity kit to 8,218 households comprise of 25,337 people in 10 provinces (Badakhshan, Bamyán, Daikundi, Ghazni, Ghor, Herat, Kabul, Nuristan, Sar-e Pol and Zabul). Refer to Table 1 for number of dignity kit distribution per province and Table 2 for list and quantity of items per dignity kit.

Province	Total Target	Total Reached	Number of people reached			Number of female head households	Number of child head households	Number of people with disabilities
			Male	Female	Total			
Badakhshan	600	600	0	1,960	1,960	600	0	72
Bamyán	450	450	0	1,028	1,028	450	1	127
Daikundi	500	500	0	1,161	1,161	500	21	126
Ghazni	500	500	0	1,401	1,401	500	1	154
Ghor	600	600	0	1,486	1,486	600	0	0

Herat	3,218	3,218	0	11,530	11,530	749	29	0
Kabul	700	700	0	2,401	2,401	700	0	402
Nuristan	600	600	0	1,822	1,822	600	0	32
Sar-e Pol	500	500	0	1,078	1,078	500	2	103
Zabul	550	550	0	1,470	1,470	550	0	1
Total	8,218	8,218	0	25,337	25,337	5,749	54	1,017

Table 2: Dignity kit distribution

Items	Quantity in piece/pair
1. Laundry soap	6
2. Hair comb	1
3. Plastic bowel	1
4. Bucket	1
5. Female shawl	1
6. Nail clipper	1
7. Hand washing soap	6
8. Toothpaste and toothbrush	1-1
9. Slipper	1
10. Shampoo	1
11. Female underwear	12
12. socks	4
13. Washable sanitary	3
14. Bag	1
15. Towels	2
16. Leaflet with information about the available items	1

ARCS with the support of IFRC, is planning to implement a child safeguarding risk analysis tool across its programmes and operations. To support this, an orientation session for IFRC technical staff is also being organized and conducted. Furthermore, the IFRC Secretariat is coordinating with ARCS management, including the Human Resources and Gender Departments, to ensure the effective implementation of this tool.



Community Engagement and Accountability

Objective:	<i>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of staff and volunteers trained on community engagement and accountability</i>	67	NA
	<i>Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information.</i>	>90% ¹⁴	>80%

¹⁴ This value was calculated from the average of response from different exit surveys and post distribution monitoring


IFRC facilitated two orientations on CEA, PGI, and safeguarding for 54 ARCS staff and volunteers (26 female and 28 male), including MHPSS counselors from MHTs supported by DRC, as part of the population movement operation in Nangarhar province. These training sessions aimed to integrate CEA into both operational and health sectors, enhancing community engagement in these critical areas.

Additionally, ARCS with IFRC support, conducted a three-day CEA and PGI training in Samangan province in May 2024. This session was attended by 13 staff and volunteers from the climate change project. Participants gained essential knowledge for effective community engagement throughout the program cycle and were empowered to apply Movement-wide CEA commitments and integrate PGI minimum standards. Key training content included: community engagement, effective communication strategies, community participation in decision-making, addressing challenges and feedback mechanisms, and PGI concepts such as dignity, access, participation, and safety.

In addition to the trainings, ARCS supported by IFRC, accomplished the following activities:

- Developed CEA-PGI assessment tool for emergency operations. The document is being discussed to be integrated into operations.
- Discussion is ongoing with the Netherlands Red Cross and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) to establish a multi-channel feedback mechanism including reactivation of Hotline in ARCS.

ARCS/IFRC also conducted a three-day CEA-PGI-safeguarding training in December 2023 for 26 male staff from various departments. A similar training for female staff from marastoons is scheduled for August/September 2024.

 Migration		People reached: 21,000	
Objective:	<i>Communities support the needs of migrants and their families and those assisting migrants at all stages of migration (origin, transit and destination)</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of returnees and internally displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection</i>	21,000 ¹⁵	50,000
Supported by IFRC, ARCS provided winterization kits to 3,000 returnee households across five provinces: Helmand, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, and Nangarhar.			
Under the Population Movement DREF Operation (MDRAF013), ARCS, with IFRC support, established two humanitarian service points at the Spin Boldak (Kandahar) and Torkham (Nangarhar) border crossing points. At these service points, staff and volunteers are stationed based on their sector expertise and are assigned to specific areas to efficiently provide humanitarian assistance to returnees. Ushers at the entrances guide returnees through the available services, prioritizing health cases. Services provided include provision of health services, mental health and psychosocial activities, restoration of family links, dissemination of information on weapon contamination, and provision of hot meals to patients. Additionally, returnees received further sensitization			

¹⁵ This figure has been calculated by multiplying the total number of households (3,000) by the average household size of 7 people. The "real people reached" data is currently undergoing validation, and the finalized results will be reported in the next update.

regarding area-specific hazards related to weapon contamination at their destination. For further details, refer to the [population movement operation \(MDRAF013\) update 1](#).



Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

Total people reached: **28,177**

Female > 18:
6,213

Female < 18:
7,594

Male > 18: **6,466**

Male < 18: 7,904

Objective: *Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of households receiving winterization kit</i>	5,000	10,000

Winterization kit distribution

With the support of IFRC, ARCS provided winterization kits to 5,000 households comprise of 28,177 people (14,370 male and 13,807 female), across nine provinces (Badakhshan, Bamyan, Daikundi, Ghazni, Ghor, Kabul, Nuristan, Sar-e Pol and Zabul). The distribution was aimed at supporting vulnerable populations, including female-headed households, child-headed households, and individuals with disabilities, to help them stay warm during the harsh winter in Afghanistan.

Table 3 covers distribution of winterization kit per province from January to June 2024, while table 4 contains list of items and quantities of a winterization kit.

In addition, ARCS with IFRC support, provided winterization kits to 3,000 returnee households across five provinces: Helmand, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunar, and Nangarhar. This information is also included in the 'Migration' section of this report.

Table 3: People reached per province

Province	Number of households targeted	Number of households reached	Number of people reached			Number of female head households	Number of child head households	Number of people with disabilities
			Male	Female	Total			
Badakhshan	600	600	2,040	1,960	4,000	600	0	72
Bamyan	450	450	1,069	1,028	2,097	450	1	127
Daikundi	500	500	1,209	1,161	2,370	500	21	126
Ghazni	500	500	1,458	1,401	2,859	500	1	154
Ghor	600	600	1,547	1,486	3,033	600	0	0
Kabul	700	700	2,499	2,401	4,900	700	0	402
Nuristan	600	600	1,897	1,822	3,719	600	0	32
Sar-e Pol	500	500	1,121	1,078	2,199	500	2	103
Zabul	550	550	1,530	1,470	3,000	550	0	1
Total	5,000	5,000	14,370	13,807	28,177	5,000	25	1,017

Table 4: Composition of winterization kit

No.	Item	Quantity in piece
1	Children sweater	5
2	Adult sweater	2

3	Woman's winter Shawl	2
4	Male winter wrap, Patto	2
5	Winter shoes for adults	2
6	Boots for children	4
7	Socks (pairs)	12
8	Children woolen winter gloves	4
9	Warm winter woolen children caps	4
10	Winter coat	2
11	Bag	1

Enabling approaches



National Society Strengthening

Objective: *Ensure that the ARCS has the necessary legal, ethical, and financial foundations, systems and structures, competencies, and capacities to plan and perform.*

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Number of ARCS staff and volunteers trained in different sector(s) (disaggregated by sector and gender)</i>	42 ¹⁶	NA
	<i>ARCS compliance with principles and rules for humanitarian assistance is improved</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>Communities are engaged and kept informed of operational plans and progress</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>Exit Strategy is developed in consultation with the communities</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>ARCS engages with other humanitarian actors for coordinated humanitarian intervention</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>IFRC and National Society are visible, trusted, and effective advocates on humanitarian issues</i>	Ongoing	Yes

Optimizing human resource

IFRC supports ARCS in enhancing its human resource capacity through national and provincial-level training for staff and volunteers, as well as by strengthening logistics and warehousing capacities, including the prepositioning of relief items. Additionally, IFRC is supporting ARCS in institutionalizing capacities and creating a more robust enabling environment by reviewing, updating, or introducing organizational policies and strategies that will guide ARCS's future response, recovery, and community resilience engagement efforts.

National Society Development Initiative

¹⁶ ARCS supported by DRC trained 31 ARCS staff and volunteers on MH-PSS and same people were oriented on PGI/CEA with the support IFRC Secretariat. Likewise, ARCS supported by IFRC Secretariat trained 11 staff and volunteers on data collection.

IFRC has mobilized experts from the Asia Pacific Regional Office in National Society Development, Disaster Preparedness, and Finance Development to assist ARCS in developing its National Society Development planning process. This includes preparing proposals focused on financial sustainability. A Volunteer Management System (VMS) has been developed using local capacity, and ARCS is now planning to train personnel on the implementation of VMS. The next stage involves determining the most suitable data hosting solution for the National Society.

Optimizing human resource

IFRC supports ARCS in developing its human resource capacity through national/provincial level training for the staff and volunteers and strengthening logistics and warehousing capacity such as prepositioning relief items. Further, IFRC is supporting ARCS in institutionalizing capacities and establishing a more robust enabling environment where organizational policies and strategies are reviewed/updated/introduced that eventually govern future response, recovery, and community resilience engagement of ARCS.

Strengthening planning monitoring evaluation reporting (PMER)- information monitoring (IM) capacity of National Society

In March 2024, IFRC conducted a four-day basic PMER training for 19 PMER, IM, CEA, PGI, and safeguarding staff from ARCS and IFRC. The training covered key topics such as the project cycle, project planning, monitoring and evaluation introduction and planning, and reporting tips and tricks. IFRC also supported the ARCS PMER Manager's participation in the Global PMER meeting held in Geneva during the first week of June 2024.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective: *Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster*

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Movement wide coordination mechanism is described and active</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>ARCS engage with other humanitarian actors for coordinated humanitarian intervention,</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>IFRC and ARCS are visible, trusted, and effective advocates on humanitarian issues,</i>	Ongoing	Yes

Membership coordination

In efforts to enhance coordination and improve the overall humanitarian response in Afghanistan, several key meetings and initiatives have been undertaken. Two significant meetings on Afghanistan context analysis were held with ARCS senior management, the Norwegian Red Cross country representative, and other key stakeholders. These discussions were pivotal in understanding the current landscape and aligning strategies for effective humanitarian interventions.

Additionally, five meetings were conducted with in-country Participating National Societies to explore ways to strengthen coordination mechanisms among the various actors involved.

One of the outcomes of these initiatives was the drafting of a roadmap aimed at assisting ARCS in developing a Common Accountability Framework. This framework is designed to enhance accountability and transparency with communities, Movement partners, and donors, ensuring that ARCS's operations are more responsive and reliable.

Furthermore, there was a consensus on the need to reinstate Movement Operational Coordination meetings. These meetings will provide a platform for collectively addressing ARCS's humanitarian service delivery, assessing humanitarian needs, and identifying challenges that may hinder effective service delivery.

In a collaborative effort, ARCS, IFRC, and ICRC are also working together to provide induction and orientation sessions for ARCS staff and volunteers, ensuring they are well-prepared for their roles.

Communications

The IFRC Afghanistan communications team has consistently highlighted the pressing humanitarian needs in Afghanistan and the impactful work of the ARCS and its dedicated volunteers. Through various platforms, including social media, and websites. They bring attention to the critical support provided to vulnerable communities.

Here is a glimpse of some of the activities showcased through IFRC platforms:

- Emergency relief efforts: Sharing stories of rapid response to natural disasters and conflicts, providing essential aid such as food, water, and cash assistance:
 - <https://x.com/IFRCAsiaPacific/status/1800436595511947674>
 - <https://x.com/IFRCAsiaPacific/status/1793887119263547626>
- Health services: Highlighting mobile health clinics and vaccination campaigns that reach remote areas, ensuring access to essential healthcare:
 - <https://x.com/IFRCAsiaPacific/status/1776078939238404116>
 - <https://x.com/IFRCAsiaPacific/status/1719732914928209951>
- Community development: Showcasing programme aimed at improving livelihoods, such as vocational training and educational support for children and adults.
<https://x.com/IFRCAsiaPacific/status/1746417007690752405>)
- Humanitarian stories: Featuring the humanitarian needs of the people of Afghanistan:
(<https://www.ifrc.org/article/afghanistan-three-months-after-herat-earthquake-urgent-need-shelter>)

Engagement with external partners

In April 2024, a comprehensive roundtable briefing on Afghanistan was convened in Doha, gathering embassy staff and representatives from their respective National Societies. The discussion focused on the dire humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, highlighting the inadequacy of current aid approaches, which were seen as merely addressing surface-level issues. The participants underscored the need for a cohesive, long-term strategy that goes beyond immediate relief to encompass development and recovery efforts, as essential to effectively tackling the protracted crisis in Afghanistan.

During this period, the ARCS hosted their annual partnerships meeting in Doha, bringing together sister National Societies to showcase their activities, address urgent humanitarian needs, and discuss the operational shifts required to meet these challenges. The meeting also served as a platform to explore how partners could best support ARCS and advocate to their back donors. In response to the evolving context, key messages for the leadership of both IFRC and ARCS were refined to emphasize ARCS's pivotal role as a leading local humanitarian organization. A detailed contextual analysis was developed during these discussions, which is slated for dissemination among Participating National Societies to inform their strategies and responses.

In addition to these engagements, numerous meetings were successfully conducted with in-country embassies and key UN agencies. These meetings were crucial in strengthening collaborative efforts to address the multifaceted challenges facing Afghanistan, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis.



Shelter Cluster Coordination

Objective: *The IFRC network's capacity for influencing the prioritization, design, resourcing, implementation, and quality of shelter interventions in favor of affected populations are optimized.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Participation in shelter coordination platform</i>	Ongoing	Yes

IFRC/ARCS actively engages with the Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Item Cluster to enhance collaboration and ensure effective delivery of shelter interventions.



Secretariat Services

Objective: *IFRC member National Societies supporting programmes and operations in Afghanistan, with or without in-country presence, receive high-quality corporate services from their Secretariat.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>% of IFRC staff in-country who completed minimum security training requirements</i>	100%	100%
	<i>Regular monitoring of safety and security of staff members</i>	ongoing	Yes
	<i># of evaluations conducted under protected humanitarian crisis</i>	0	1

Security

IFRC Afghanistan Delegation maintains comprehensive risk management strategy, outlining all potential threats and listing measures taken to prevent and/or reduce the impact related to potential security and safety incidents/accidents. IFRC supported ARCS in development of new procedures related to safety and security.

Key actions taken:

- Provided security briefing to staff travelling to the field and conducting post visit interviews
- Established coordination groups both internally and with National Society, on dedicated platforms, for tracking of movement to flood effected areas.
- Provided volunteers and staff with equipment, identification, and visibility items when they visited field for distribution or other programme activities.

Third party monitoring:

In 2023, IFRC engaged an external firm to conduct Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) of the programmes and operations supported by IFRC in the field. The primary objective of the TPM is to establish a robust monitoring system that ensures accountability and transparency throughout the ARCS project implementation cycle, covering vertical, horizontal, and parallel aspects. The external firm is currently in the process of collecting data from the programmes and operations supported by the IFRC across selected provinces in Afghanistan. The data collection is scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2024, with the final report expected to be finalized by the end of October 2024. This initiative is a key step in reinforcing the integrity and effectiveness of ARCS's humanitarian interventions, ensuring that they meet the expected standards of accountability.

D. FUNDING

As of 31 July 2024, the overall Emergency Appeal coverage is CHF 50.52 million (including in-kind donations), 42.10 per cent against a funding requirement of CHF 120 million. The total expenditure for the appeal from Mar 2021 to Jul 2024 is CHF 48.25 million (96 per cent against income received). Please refer to the attached financial report for more details.

Specific for the Protracted Humanitarian Crisis Operational Strategy (Jan – Jul 2024), CHF 1.25 million (4.17 per cent) has been obtained (income) against a funding ask of CHF 30 million. As of 31 July 24, the Protracted Humanitarian Crisis operation has recorded an expenditure of CHF 1.78 million (141.91 per cent against income received). The expenditure above income is covered by the balance from previous Operational Strategies (OS#1 Wider Humanitarian Crises OS and OS#2 Khost & Paktika EQ OS).

Contact information

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

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For IFRC PMER and Quality Assurance and Performance and Accountability support:

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Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

Operational Strategy

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/3-2024/7	Operation	MDRAF007
Budget Timeframe	2021-2024	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 21 Oct 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRAF007 - Afghanistan - Humanitarian Crises

Operating Timeframe: 19 Mar 2021 to 31 Dec 2024; appeal launch date: 10 Apr 2021

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Total Funding Requirements	120,000,000
Donor Response* as per 21 Oct 2024	50,518,915
Appeal Coverage	42.10%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Planned Operations / Enabling Approaches	Op Strategy	Op Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	12,127,000	12,538,914	7,119,534	5,419,380
PO02 - Livelihoods	20,086,000	9,037,885	6,444,329	2,593,557
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	18,248,000	4,131,540	6,175,923	-2,044,383
PO04 - Health	18,927,000	4,715,790	4,455,002	260,788
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	8,294,000	870,284	848,763	21,521
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	1,703,000	263,878	375,041	-111,163
PO07 - Education	379,000	0	1,746	-1,746
PO08 - Migration	9,426,000	14,208	11,016	3,192
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	8,702,000	5,401,684	13,070,475	-7,668,791
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	1,513,000	53,233	64,647	-11,413
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability	53,000	1,714,162	274,986	1,439,176
Planned Operations Total	99,458,000	38,741,578	38,841,460	-99,883
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	7,779,000	1,210,630	1,582,133	-371,503
EA02 - Secretariat Services	4,571,000	6,174,504	6,223,366	-48,862
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	8,278,000	2,160,776	1,602,773	558,003
Enabling Approaches Total	20,628,000	9,545,910	9,408,272	137,638
Grand Total	120,086,000	48,287,488	48,249,732	37,756

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2024/07

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	50,447,376
Expenditure	-48,249,732
Closing Balance	2,197,644
Deferred Income	0
Funds Available	2,197,644

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	2,500,000	Reimbursed :	2,500,000	Outstanding :	0
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Operational Strategy

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/3-2024/7	Operation	MDRAF007
Budget Timeframe	2021-2024	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 21 Oct 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRAF007 - Afghanistan - Humanitarian Crises

Operating Timeframe: 19 Mar 2021 to 31 Dec 2024; appeal launch date: 10 Apr 2021

V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Opening Balance					0	
AAWAG-Asian Ambassadors Wives Association	5,000				5,000	
Albanian Red Cross	10,000				10,000	
American Red Cross	426,531				426,531	
Austrian Red Cross	458,917				458,917	
Austrian Red Cross (from Austrian Government*)	1,065,859				1,065,859	
Bahrain Red Crescent Society	48,175				48,175	
Bloomberg	1,142				1,142	
British Red Cross	2,860,960	11,977	161,331		3,034,268	
British Red Cross (from British Government*)	15,399,676				15,399,676	
Danish Red Cross	1,547,648				1,547,648	
Electrolux Food Foundation	6,348				6,348	
European Commission - DG ECHO	221,194				221,194	
Finnish Red Cross	959,041				959,041	
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government*)	3,090,010				3,090,010	
France - Private Donors	403				403	
French Government	1,053,056				1,053,056	
German Red Cross		106,671	21,574		128,245	
German Red Cross (from German Government*)	6,872				6,872	
Government of Malta	28,830				28,830	
Great Britain - Private Donors	87				87	
Hong Kong branch, Red Cross Society of China	66,804				66,804	
Hong Kong branch, Red Cross Society of China (from)	498,531				498,531	
Irish Red Cross Society	48,142				48,142	
Islamic Development Bank IsDB	515,870				515,870	
Italian Government Bilateral Emergency Fund	1,627,543				1,627,543	
Italian Red Cross	189,765				189,765	
Japanese Government	8,113,793	206,582			8,320,375	
Japanese Red Cross Society	1,071,719	1,331			1,073,050	
Kuwait Red Crescent Society	123,550				123,550	
Kuwait Society for Relief	2,623,452				2,623,452	
Luxembourg Government	524,175				524,175	
Luxembourg Red Cross	1,488				1,488	
New Zealand Red Cross	57,876				57,876	
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government*)	1,039,245				1,039,245	
On Line donations	17,517				17,517	
Other	347		245		592	
PricewaterhouseCoopers	85				85	
Red Cross of Monaco	46,703				46,703	
Red Cross Society of China	323,225				323,225	
ShelterBox	50,000	100,187			150,187	
Singapore Red Cross Society	111,791				111,791	
Slovenian Red Cross	5,184				5,184	
Spanish Government	655,506				655,506	
Supreme Master Ching Hai	29,100				29,100	
Swedish Red Cross	1,651,967				1,651,967	
Swiss Government	800,000				800,000	
Tahir Foundation	259,285				259,285	
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	85,028				85,028	
The Canadian Red Cross Society	221,337				221,337	
The Netherlands Red Cross	268,361				268,361	

Operational Strategy

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/3-2024/7	Operation	MDRAF007
Budget Timeframe	2021-2024	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 21 Oct 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRAF007 - Afghanistan - Humanitarian Crises

Operating Timeframe: 19 Mar 2021 to 31 Dec 2024; appeal launch date: 10 Apr 2021

Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern	1,370,077				1,370,077	
The Philippine National Red Cross	9,044				9,044	
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross	137,695				137,695	
Turkish Red Crescent Society			26,700		26,700	
Twitter	46,273				46,273	
United States - Private Donors	552				552	
Z Zurich Foundation	30,000				30,000	
Total Contributions and Other Income	49,810,778	426,748	209,850	0	50,447,376	0
Total Income and Deferred Income					50,447,376	0