



# AFGHANISTAN

High unemployment, reduced income, high food prices and conflict are key drivers of food insecurity in Afghanistan

## IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY ANALYSIS August 2019 – March 2020 Issued in November 2019

CURRENT AUGUST 2019 - OCTOBER 2019		
 <b>10.23M</b> <b>33% of the population</b> People facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	2,438,000 People in Emergency
	Phase 3	7,794,000 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	10,375,000 People in Stress
	Phase 1	10,119,000 People minimally food insecure

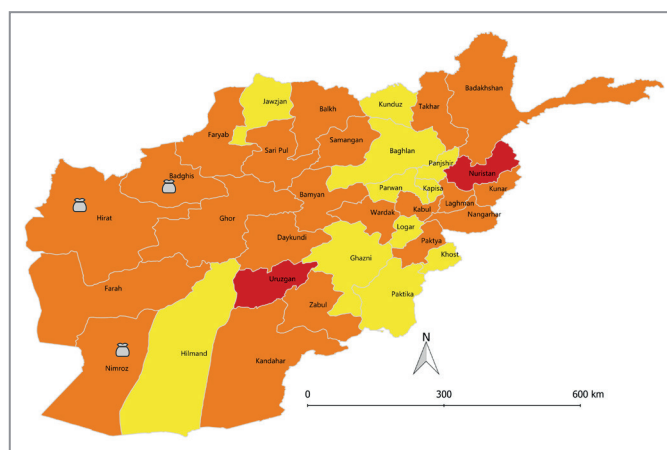
PROJECTED NOVEMBER 2019 - MARCH 2020		
 <b>11.29M</b> <b>37% of the population</b> People facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	2,695,000 People in Emergency
	Phase 3	8,591,000 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	9,450,000 People in Stress
	Phase 1	9,989,000 People minimally food insecure

### Overview

Between August and October 2019, it is estimated that a total of 10.23 million people (33% of the total population) were in severe acute food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian action. These include around 7.79 million people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 2.44 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Around 10.37 million people were also in Stress (IPC Phase 2) and require livelihood support.

Between November 2019 and March 2020, around 11.29 million people (37% of the total population) are estimated to likely experience severe acute food insecurity, out of which an estimated 8.6 million people will likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and nearly 2.7 million people will likely be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Furthermore, around 9.45 million people will be in a Stress (IPC Phase 2).



### Current Food Insecurity - August 2019 - October 2019



**MAP KEY**  
IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification  
(mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population)

- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine
- Areas not analysed

Classification takes into account levels humanitarian food assistance provided

-  At least 25% of households meet 25-50% of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance
-  At least 25% of households meet over 50% of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance

### Key Drivers



#### High Unemployment

High unemployment rates have led to reduced household income, low purchasing power and reduced food access.



#### High Food Prices

Unusually high food prices of commodities further exacerbate food access for the households already living below the poverty line.



#### Conflict

Ongoing conflict in most of the provinces has led to displacement, caused loss of livelihoods or affected people's livelihoods, and as a result, farmers don't have access to their agricultural lands for cultivation and harvesting at the right time and similarly affected livestock and other sectors.



#### Floods

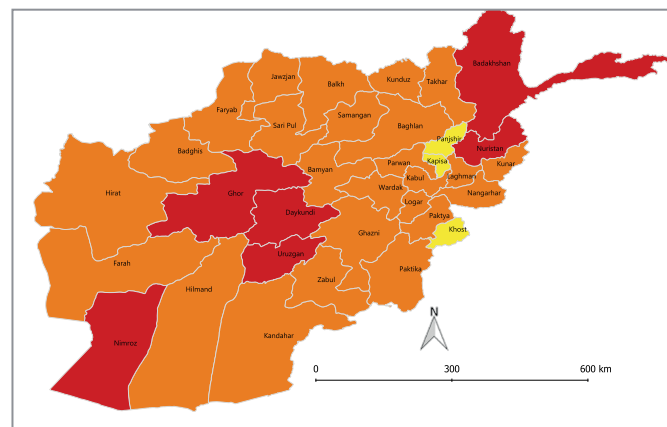
Floods have resulted in the loss of shelters and productive assets, causing displacement and increasing food insecurity.



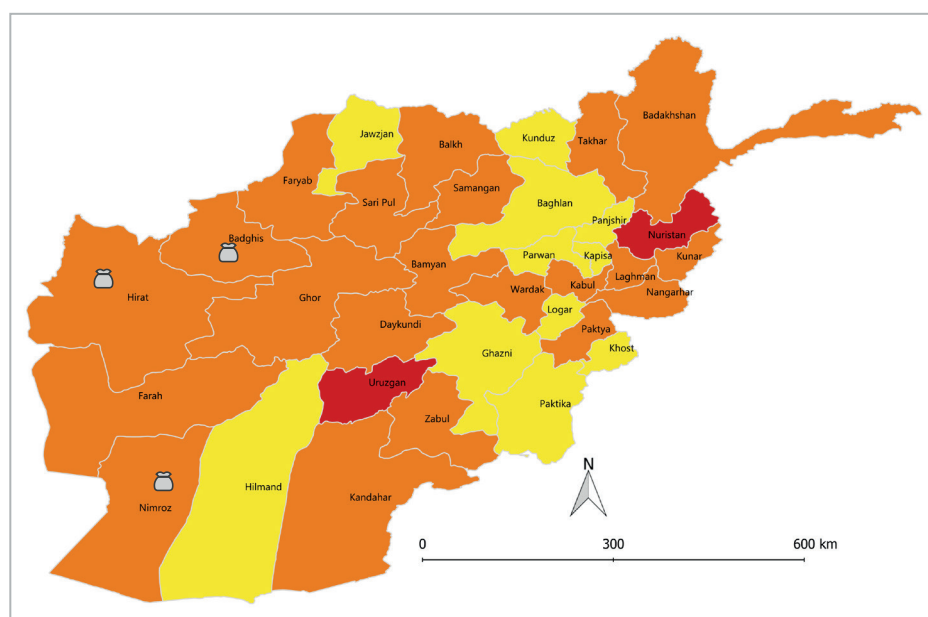
#### Drought

The lingering impacts of last year's severe drought which significantly affected agriculture and livestock sectors in most of the provinces, have led to a decrease in agriculture and livestock productivity.

### Projected Food Insecurity - November 2019 - March 2020



## SITUATION OVERVIEW AND KEY DRIVERS AUGUST - OCTOBER 2019



### KEY

#### IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

(mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population)

- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine
- Areas with inadequate evidence
- Areas not analysed

#### Map Symbols

- At least 25% of households meet 25-50% of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance
- At least 25% of households meet over 50% of caloric needs from humanitarian food assistance

**Note:** As of September 2019, 10.23 million people (33% of the population) were estimated to be in Food Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4). An estimated 2.4 million are classified in IPC Phase 4 nationwide.

### Current Situation Overview

Between August and October 2019, 10.23 million people (33% of the population) were estimated to be in Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4). An estimated 2.44 million were classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) nationwide: these people require urgent action to reduce food consumption gaps and to protect/save livelihoods and reduce acute malnutrition. Compared to the previous analysis of the same period in 2018, there was about a 10% decrease in population in Phase 3 and 4. It should be noted that the 2018 analysis only took into account the country's rural population, whereas the 2019 analysis includes both rural and urban population. Out of all 34 provinces, 2 provinces (Uruzgan and Nuristan) are classified in IPC Phase 4. No province is classified in IPC Phase 1 and 11 provinces namely Parwan, Khost, Kapisa, Jawzjan, Helmand, Ghazni, Paktika, Logar, Panjshir, Baghlan and Kunduz are classified in IPC Phase 2. The remaining 21 provinces are classified in IPC Phase 3: Kabul, Badghis, Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, Faryab, Balkh, Samangan, Sar-i-Pul, Daykundi, Bamyan, Wardak, Paktia, Kabdahar, Zabul, Nimroz, Ghor, Farah and Herat. Additionally, no provinces are classified in IPC Phase 5. The results of the IPC analysis show that the food security situation has, to some extent, improved compared to last year's, although it is still very severe, while the number of food insecure increased due to the inclusion of urbans in the IPC analysis this year.

The provinces of Badghis, Ghor, Badakhshan, Daykundi, Nimroz, Nuristan and Uruzgan have the highest percentage of population in Phase 3 and 4 respectively, where more than half of the population are in these phases. The provinces of Kabul, Herat, Nangarhar, Balk and Badakhshan have the highest number of populations in Phase 3 and 4, respectively. Afghanistan experienced a major livelihood crisis in 2018, primarily caused by the severe drought, which lowered food production and depleted farmers' and livestock keepers' assets and livelihoods. Favourable precipitation during the last winter season, coupled with the mitigating effects of Humanitarian Food Assistance contributed to food security especially for the provinces that were classified in higher phases last year, e.g. Badghis. However, the results of the IPC analysis reveal that a large proportion of the population is still food insecure due to prominent impacts of last year's drought.

The results of the 2019 Seasonal Food Security Assessment (SFSA) show that around six households out of ten reported that they have experienced some shocks. Provinces of Wardak, Nuristan, Bamyan, Farah, Helmand, Faryab and Ghor faced the highest level of shocks, where more than 80% of household were affected. Loss of employment (29%), reduced income (25%) and severe sickness or death of breadwinner (12%) are the first major shocks that households experienced. Nearly half (47%) of the households reported that their income has decreased compared to last year, of which around 60% reported reduced employment opportunities as the main reason for their income reduction followed by conflict (25%). Conflict, floods and high food prices also heavily affected the Afghani population, particularly those households that had to resort to emergency coping mechanisms. Due to these mentioned reasons, increased agriculture production did not have a significant impact on food security improvement.

Floods and other types of natural disasters are also key driving factors in terms of displacing the communities. UNOCHA has reported 282,823 individuals as conflict-induced IDPs in 2019. Takhar, Nangarhar, Kunar, Faryab, Kunduz and Balkh provinces have the highest report of conflict-related insecurity



As per UNHCR and IOM, an estimated 4,700 documented and 305,000 undocumented people returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan and Iran in 2019, many of whom might face food insecurity as they likely have difficulties in engaging in normal livelihoods. Only one in four households depend on a formal salary (11.8%), skilled labour (10%) and remittances (2%) as first sources of income, regarded as sustainable, while the remaining depend on agriculture, orchard products, livestock sales, non-agricultural wage labour, petty trade, charity/begging among others and are vulnerable to any kinds of shocks/disasters. Moreover, increased civil conflict and instability as well as the severely degraded condition of much of the land have compounded the impacts of the situation, leading to the ongoing food security crisis.

In Afghanistan, around half of the population depends on subsistence agriculture. In a good year, like the current, own production for half of the households lasts for less than six months. This means that households need to cover the rest of their food needs from other sources such as food purchases from savings, assets and livestock sales, borrowing, work for food and cash programmes, and remittances. Crop pests and diseases, a damaged irrigation system, and a lack of access to seeds and fertilizers, are among major agricultural problems that farmers faced. About 74% of those with access to agricultural land reported a lack of access to wheat seeds from own production and more than half of them with no means accessing required amounts of seed for next year's cultivation.

Livestock is owned by 49% of households. The drought of 2018 not only affected agriculture, but more than that affected livestock due to distress in drought affected provinces. Good precipitation and favourable pasture conditions this year allowed livestock owners to restock, as there was a 15% decrease in average number of sheep and goats compared to last year. Provinces of Balkh, Jawzjan, Nimroz and Badghis faced the highest average decrease in number of sheep and goats. 28% of households reported an increase in livestock productivity this year. Access to veterinary services, water, market, pasture and money are challenges this sector of livelihood is faced with even in a good year. Overall 67% of the population reported debt, which is mainly due to food purchases and health costs.

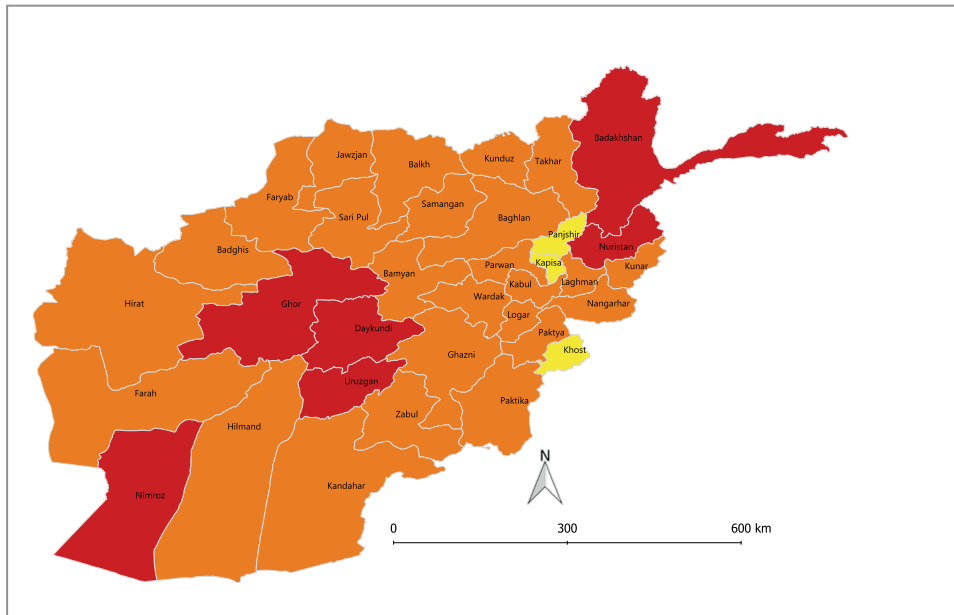


## Population table for the current period: August 2019 - October 2019

Provinces	Population Total	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3 +	
		Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%		Population	%
Badakhshan	1,035,658	207,132	20	207,132	20	466,046	45	155,349	15	0	0	3	621,395	60
Badghis	540,009	81,001	15	108,002	20	270,005	50	81,001	15	0	0	3	351,006	65
Baghlan	995,814	398,326	40	448,116	45	99,581	10	49,791	5	0	0	2	149,372	15
Balkh	1,475,649	442,695	30	368,912	25	590,260	40	73,782	5	0	0	3	664,042	45
Bamyan	486,928	146,078	30	146,078	30	146,078	30	48,693	10	0	0	3	194,771	40
Daykundi	507,610	126,903	25	101,522	20	203,044	40	76,142	15	0	0	3	279,186	55
Farah	553,058	165,917	30	193,570	35	138,265	25	55,306	10	0	0	3	193,570	35
Faryab	1,089,228	326,768	30	272,307	25	381,230	35	108,923	10	0	0	3	490,153	45
Ghazni	1,338,597	468,509	35	669,299	50	133,860	10	66,930	5	0	0	2	200,790	15
Ghor	751,254	112,688	15	150,251	20	375,627	50	112,688	15	0	0	3	488,315	65
Hilmand	1,420,682	497,239	35	710,341	50	142,068	10	71,034	5	0	0	2	213,102	15
Hirat	2,095,117	523,779	25	628,535	30	733,291	35	209,512	10	0	0	3	942,803	45
Jawzjan	590,866	236,346	40	265,890	45	59,087	10	29,543	5	0	0	2	88,630	15
Kabul	5,029,850	1,760,448	35	1,760,448	35	1,257,463	25	251,493	5	0	0	3	1,508,955	30
Kandahar	1,368,036	410,411	30	478,813	35	342,009	25	136,804	10	0	0	3	478,813	35
Kapisa	479,875	167,956	35	239,938	50	71,981	15	0	0	0	0	2	71,981	15
Khost	625,473	281,463	45	250,189	40	62,547	10	31,274	5	0	0	2	93,821	15
Kunar	490,690	171,742	35	147,207	30	122,673	25	49,069	10	0	0	3	171,742	35
Kunduz	1,113,676	445,470	40	501,154	45	111,368	10	55,684	5	0	0	2	167,051	15
Laghman	484,952	145,486	30	145,486	30	145,486	30	48,495	10	0	0	3	193,981	40
Logar	426,821	234,752	55	128,046	30	42,682	10	21,341	5	0	0	2	64,023	15
Nangarhar	1,668,481	500,544	30	500,544	30	500,544	30	166,848	10	0	0	3	667,392	40
Nimroz	180,200	18,020	10	63,070	35	72,080	40	27,030	15	0	0	3	99,110	55
Nuristan	160,993	40,248	25	32,199	20	56,348	35	32,199	20	0	0	4	88,546	55
Paktika	762,108	381,054	50	266,738	35	76,211	10	38,105	5	0	0	2	114,316	15
Paktya	601,230	270,554	45	210,431	35	90,185	15	30,062	5	0	0	3	120,246	20
Panjsher	167,000	83,500	50	58,450	35	16,700	10	8,350	5	0	0	2	25,050	15
Parwan	724,561	362,281	50	253,596	35	72,456	10	36,228	5	0	0	2	108,684	15
Samangan	422,859	126,858	30	126,858	30	126,858	30	42,286	10	0	0	3	169,144	40
Sari pul	609,986	182,996	30	182,996	30	182,996	30	60,999	10	0	0	3	243,994	40
Takhar	1,073,319	429,328	40	321,996	30	268,330	25	53,666	5	0	0	3	321,996	30
Uruzgan	428,466	64,270	15	128,540	30	128,540	30	107,117	25	0	0	4	235,656	55
Wardak	648,866	194,660	30	194,660	30	194,660	30	64,887	10	0	0	3	259,546	40
Zabul	377,648	113,294	30	113,294	30	113,294	30	37,765	10	0	0	3	151,059	40
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>30,725,560</b>	<b>10,118,714</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>10,374,605</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>7,793,849</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>2,438,392</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>10,232,241</b>	<b>33.3</b>

**Note:** A population in Phase 3+ does not necessarily reflect the full population in need of urgent action. This is because some households may be in Phase 2 or even in Phase 1 but only because of receipt of assistance, and as a result, they may be in need of continued action. This IPC classification met the highest evidence level (\*\*\*)High for all analysis areas.

## PROJECTED IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY SITUATION NOVEMBER 2019 - MARCH 2020



### KEY

#### IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

(mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population)

- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine

*Note: In the projection period, from November 2019 to March 2020, the total population in IPC Phase 3 and IPC Phase 4 is expected to increase to 11.29 million (37% of the population). The number of Phase 4 provinces is expected to increase to 6, adding Ghor, Nimroz, Badakhshan, and Daykundi to Uruzgan and Nuristan. Out of the 11 provinces in IPC Phase 2 between August and October 2019, only 3 provinces (Panjshir, Khost, and Kapisa) will remain in IPC Phase 2 and the remaining provinces will be classified in Phase 3.*

### Projected Situation Overview

Between November 2019 and March 2020, around 11.29 million people (37% of the total population) are estimated to likely experience severe acute food insecurity, out of which an estimated 8.6 million people will likely be in a Crisis situation (IPC Phase 3) and nearly 2.7 million people will likely be in an Emergency situation (IPC Phase 4). Furthermore, around 9.45 million people will likely be in a Stressed situation (IPC Phase 2).

The number of provinces in IPC Phase 4 is expected to increase from two to six, with Ghor, Nimroz, Badakhshan, and Daykundi likely to be affected. Out of 11 provinces classified in Phase 2 (Stressed) in the current analysis, only 3 provinces (Panjshir, Khost and Kapisa) will remain in IPC Phase 2 while remaining provinces will be classified in IPC Phase 3 in the projection period.

Based on FEWSNET precipitation forecasts, in the projection period, near average rainfall conditions are expected country-wide between November 2019 and March 2020, starting in late October or November. This will likely have different impacts depending on the areas. Those that typically receive less than adequate rainfall will continue to face a deteriorating situation characterized by late planting and limited casual labour opportunities, resulting in limited agricultural labour wages and low purchasing power. However, for most of the provinces, the rainfall is not expected to have any immediate impact on the food security elements, as there is no production in most parts of the country during the projection period, except for a few provinces with the second harvest coming in October and November.

Inaccessibility to food markets and road blockages in some areas of the country like central highland, Ghor, some districts of Badakhshan and a few districts in the north of the country will limit the access of people to food due to heavy snowfall in the winter season. On the other hand, above average temperature will decrease the density of snowpack and result in river/flash floods, which may ultimately have a negative impact on snowpack and snow depth required during the rest of the agriculture season. Flash floods will threaten soil fertility, pastures and fields and could potentially prevent successful planting.

Lack of employment opportunities during the winter season can affect the vulnerable food insecure people who mainly rely on wage labour for their main livelihood. The price of wheat during the entire projection period will likely be above the current one, looking at price trend and seasonality pattern, with high and increasing levels due to low supply and high demand. Afghanistan is dependent on importation of wheat flour from neighbouring countries, especially Kazakhstan.

The area planted with 2019 winter wheat in Kazakhstan is estimated to be below the average level, reflecting the Government directive to progressively reduce all wheat (spring and winter) planted in favour of more profitable oil crops, and this could potentially increase the prices. Prices of staple food items are also expected to increase during the projection period, particularly for the hard to reach areas. Food prices over the projected period are likely to be the key factor that determines the extent of household access to food and food consumption in the coming months. Around 3% households said their cereal stocks from own production last less than a month, for 12% it lasts between 1 to 3 months while for 30% it lasts between 3 to 6 months. Around 55% of households reported their food stock lasts for 6 months or more. Conflicts are expected to decrease during the projected period (as the weather gets cold), but considering the upcoming presidential election, there is a likelihood of continuing insecurity which would further restrict household food access. In addition, the inflow of returnees to their place of origin is expected to continue in the projection period, and these vulnerable groups may be in need of humanitarian food assistance.



## Population table for the projected period: November 2019 - March 2020

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Badakhshan	1,035,658	155,349	15	155,349	15	466,046	45	258,915	25	0	0	4	724,961	70
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Baghlan	995,814	298,744	30	497,907	50	149,372	15	49,791	5	0	0	3	199,163	20
Balkh	1,475,649	368,912	25	368,912	25	590,260	40	147,565	10	0	0	3	737,825	50
Bamyan	486,928	146,078	30	146,078	30	146,078	30	48,693	10	0	0	3	194,771	40
Daykundi	507,610	101,522	20	101,522	20	203,044	40	101,522	20	0	0	4	304,566	60
Farah	553,058	110,612	20	165,917	30	221,223	40	55,306	10	0	0	3	276,529	50
Faryab	1,089,228	326,768	30	272,307	25	381,230	35	108,923	10	0	0	3	490,153	45
Ghazni	1,338,597	535,439	40	535,439	40	200,790	15	66,930	5	0	0	3	267,719	20
Ghor	751,254	112,688	15	112,688	15	375,627	50	150,251	20	0	0	4	525,878	70
Hilmand	1,420,682	497,239	35	497,239	35	355,171	25	71,034	5	0	0	3	426,205	30
Hirat	2,095,117	628,535	30	523,779	25	733,291	35	209,512	10	0	0	3	942,803	45
Jawzjan	590,866	236,346	40	236,346	40	88,630	15	29,543	5	0	0	3	118,173	20
Kabul	5,029,850	1,760,448	35	1,760,448	35	1,257,463	25	251,493	5	0	0	3	1,508,955	30
Kandahar	1,368,036	615,616	45	273,607	20	410,411	30	68,402	5	0	0	3	478,813	35
Kapisa	479,875	196,749	41	191,950	40	67,183	14	23,994	5	0	0	2	91,176	19
Khost	625,473	256,444	41	250,189	40	87,566	14	31,274	5	0	0	2	118,840	19
Kunar	490,690	171,742	35	147,207	30	122,673	25	49,069	10	0	0	3	171,742	35
Kunduz	1,113,676	445,470	40	445,470	40	167,051	15	55,684	5	0	0	3	222,735	20
Laghman	484,952	121,238	25	145,486	30	169,733	35	48,495	10	0	0	3	218,228	45
Logar	426,821	170,728	40	170,728	40	64,023	15	21,341	5	0	0	3	85,364	20
Nangarhar	1,668,481	500,544	30	500,544	30	500,544	30	166,848	10	0	0	3	667,392	40
Nimroz	180,200	18,020	10	45,050	25	81,090	45	36,040	20	0	0	4	117,130	65
Nuristan	160,993	32,199	20	32,199	20	56,348	35	40,248	25	0	0	4	96,596	60
Paktika	762,108	342,949	45	266,738	35	114,316	15	38,105	5	0	0	3	152,422	20
Paktya	601,230	240,492	40	180,369	30	120,246	20	60,123	10	0	0	3	180,369	30
Panjsher	167,000	83,500	50	58,450	35	16,700	10	8,350	5	0	0	2	25,050	15
Parwan	724,561	362,281	50	217,368	30	108,684	15	36,228	5	0	0	3	144,912	20
Samangan	422,859	148,001	35	105,715	25	126,858	30	42,286	10	0	0	3	169,144	40
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Takhar	1,073,319	429,328	40	321,996	30	268,330	25	53,666	5	0	0	3	321,996	30
Uruzgan	428,466	42,847	10	128,540	30	149,963	35	107,117	25	0	0	4	257,080	60
Wardak	648,866	162,217	25	194,660	30	194,660	30	97,330	15	0	0	3	291,990	45
Zabul	377,648	75,530	20	169,942	45	113,294	30	18,882	5	0	0	3	132,177	35
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>30,725,560</b>	<b>9,989,069</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>9,450,138</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>8,591,396</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2,694,957</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>11,286,353</b>	<b>36.7</b>

**Note:** A population in Phase 3+ does not necessarily reflect the full population in need of urgent action. This is because some households may be in Phase 2 or even in phase 1 but only because of receipt of assistance, and as a result, they may be in need of continued action. This IPC classification met the highest evidence level (\*\*\*) for all analysis areas.



## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

### Response Priorities

In order to address the country's food insecurity, following interventions are recommended for the most affected areas:

- Urgent action is required to save lives, protect livelihood, and reduce food consumption gaps of populations classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and IPC Phase 3 (Crisis).
- Humanitarian Food Assistance in kind or cash should be provided to the households facing severe acute food insecurity. Food for Asset activities should be further promoted.
- The majority of the farmers do not have enough seeds of their own wheat for next season and most of the farmers are not able to obtain seeds from any sources in sufficient quantity or will not find them at all. It is highly recommended to assist the farmers in terms of agriculture-based livelihood response.
- The complex context of Afghanistan including ethnically diverse people, rugged terrain and unrelenting civil unrest needs to be taken into account when developing strategies for food and livelihood security programming.
- Considering the regular occurrence of environmental shocks, stakeholders should also focus their attention and funding on programs to build resilience to disasters and reduce disaster risks.
- Improving and strengthening water irrigation systems through livelihoods programmes.

### Situation Monitoring and Update of Activities

- Performance of the labour market, including any declines in employment opportunities that would potentially impact the livelihood strategies of vulnerable groups;
- Changes in food prices, especially the price of wheat, rice, maize and pulses, and especially in the winter months, which are the peak of the lean season when prices are expected to increase slightly;
- Erratic rainfall patterns which would increase the probability of natural hazards such as droughts and floods;
- Deterioration of security situation in provinces which trigger the displacement of rural population to cities;
- Uncertainty of political context and upcoming election which may strongly impact the security situation which will ultimately negatively impact the food security situation; and
- El Niño conditions: Both excessive and insufficient rainfalls could have negative implications on the upcoming planting and/or harvesting seasons and additional food and livelihood emergency response may be needed.

## PROCESS, METHODOLOGY AND LIMITATIONS

### Process and Methodology

This year's IPC analysis assessed two time periods: the current period (August to October 2019) was based on surveys and data collected from 2017-2019 that reflected existing factors that lead to food insecurity; and the projected period (November 2019 to March 2020). The analysis covered all 34 provinces of the country, and data were compiled and assessed at the provincial level. A national analysis workshop preceded by a 4 days training was held on 12 – 19 September 2019 in Kabul and was attended by national technical experts as well as over 50 professionals from across Afghanistan, representing provincial and central governments, UN organizations, NGOs, technical agencies, and academia. This year's international technical experts could not attend due to security restrictions related to Presidential elections due on 28 September 2019, but they were committed to providing remote technical support to national technical experts. A remote support team was formed within the IPC Global Support Unit (IPC GSU) that was on stand-by to support analysis co-leads throughout the training and analysis workshops. The data used in the analysis were organized according to the IPC analytical framework, which includes predefined food security contributing factors and outcome indicators. There were collected from a wide range of sources; including reports from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, other government institutions at national and provincial levels, and international organizations.

### Limitations of the analysis

Comparatively, this year's analysis did not have major limitations. As recommended last year, a full version of the IPC Manual 3.0 training was conducted before the analysis workshop and the number of days for the analysis were increased to 7, which were enough for the analysts to do a thorough analysis and present each area phase classification with concrete evidence, followed by questions and answers sessions and finally reaching technical consensus except for one partner (FEWSNET), who respectfully disagrees with the Phase classification of 12 provinces on the current and 16 provinces on the projection period. A minor limitation of the analysis was also the presence of new staff of a few relevant agencies; if this trend continues for the next years, a full version of the IPC Manual 3.0 training is needed prior to the start of the analysis workshop.

### Sources

Data sources used for the analysis included: 1) The Seasonal Food Security Assessment (SFSA) 2019 conducted by Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) as the main data set, which was carried out for rural and urban areas of the country with a sample size of around 21000 households. 2) The Agriculture Production and Food Price data from MAIL; 3) the SMART Surveys 2018 and 2019 from ACF; 4) Population Estimation from the National Statistics Information Authority (NSIA) of Afghanistan; 5) the ALCS, 2016-2017 from NSIA; 6) Food Prices and Food Distribution reports from WFP; 7) NDVI, Precipitation from FEWSNET; 8) Refugee & IDP data from UNHCR, OCHA, FSAC, IOM; 9) Natural disaster affected population data from IOM and FSAC; 10) the 2016 Land Cover Atlas from FAO; 11) the Whole of Afghanistan Assessment from REACH International; 12) the Jan-July 2019 FSAC Response Plan; and 13) data on humanitarian assistance delivered and planned from WFP and localized assessment conducted by I/NGOs.

*Note: It is worth mentioning that the population estimates currently used in the IPC acute food insecurity analysis are the NSIA official estimates for Afghanistan (2019-2020). In case the flow minder new population estimates for Afghanistan are applied in IPC population estimates, 3 million people would be in IPC Phase 4 and 9.58 million in IPC Phase 3 for the August – October 2019 classification. For the November 2019 – March 2020 period, the number would be 3.4 million and 10.5 million, respectively, in Phases 4 and 3. (Population Tables are attached as Annexes)*

### IPC Analysis Partners

### What is the IPC and IPC Acute Food Insecurity?

The IPC is a set of tools and procedures to classify the severity and characteristics of acute food and nutrition crises as well as chronic food insecurity based on international standards. The IPC consists of four mutually reinforcing functions, each with a set of specific protocols (tools and procedures). The core IPC parameters include consensus building, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency and comparability. The IPC analysis aims at informing emergency response as well as medium and long-term food security policy and programming.

For the IPC, Acute Food Insecurity is defined as any manifestation of food insecurity found in a specified area at a specific point in time of a severity that threatens lives or livelihoods, or both, regardless of the causes, context or duration. It is highly susceptible to change and can occur and manifest in a population within a short amount of time, as a result of sudden changes or shocks that negatively impact on the determinants of food insecurity.

### Contact for further Information

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Classification of food insecurity and malnutrition conducted using the IPC protocols, which are developed and implemented worldwide by the IPC Global Partnership - Action Against Hunger, CARE, CILSS, EC-JRC, FAO, FEWSNET, Global Food Security Cluster, Global Nutrition Cluster, IGAD, Oxfam, PROGRESAN-SICA, SADC, Save the Children, UNICEF and WFP.



## ABOUT THE FLOW MINDER POPULATION ESTIMATES

Since 2011, Afghanistan's National Statistics and Information Authority (NSIA) has conducted a form of rolling census, the Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey (SDES), which includes enumeration for 50% of households (the survey has covered around 12 of the 34 provinces). The main challenge this process faced was the lack of reliable current disaggregated population data at provincial and district level. For some of the provinces, including Helmand, Zabul, Daikundi and Paktika, the population is solely based on the 1979 census projections because no household listing data was available at the time of the population rebasing in 2004. As such, Afghanistan's official population estimates are significantly underestimated, and it is recommended that alternate estimates based upon household listing projections be used for programmatic purposes. Therefore, the Government requested the United Nations to assist the NSIA in estimating spatially disaggregated population data through a collaborative partnership of Government/UNFPA/Flow minder/World Pop to generate population counts disaggregated by age and sex at district level for the entire country. Survey data (SDES and micro census), GIS data and satellite imagery were among key sources of flow minder population estimations. Statistical modelling was used to estimate population counts for areas with no population data. Flow minder population estimates have been submitted to the Cabinet, endorsement is pending due to the current political situation. The IPC being housed by MAIL has been using NSIA population figures. However, development partners have been using flow minder population in HNO/HRP etc. and requested the IPC to provide tables based on flow minder population so that they can be used readily and to avoid confusion.

### Annex: 1

#### Current flow minder population table: : August 2019 - October 2019

Provinces	Population Total	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3 +	
		Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%		Population	%
Badakhshan	1,348,615	269,723	20	269,723	20	606,877	45	202,292	15	0	0	3	809,169	60
Badghis	724,024	108,604	15	144,805	20	362,012	50	108,604	15	0	0	3	470,616	65
Baghlan	1,235,030	494,012	40	555,764	45	123,503	10	61,752	5	0	0	2	185,255	15
Balkh	1,827,445	548,234	30	456,861	25	730,978	40	91,372	5	0	0	3	822,350	45
Bamyan	441,771	132,531	30	132,531	30	132,531	30	44,177	10	0	0	3	176,708	40
Daykundi	781,882	195,471	25	156,376	20	312,753	40	117,282	15	0	0	3	430,035	55
Farah	620,871	186,261	30	217,305	35	155,218	25	62,087	10	0	0	3	217,305	35
Faryab	1,276,451	382,935	30	319,113	25	446,758	35	127,645	10	0	0	3	574,403	45
Ghazni	1,190,813	416,785	35	595,407	50	119,081	10	59,541	5	0	0	2	178,622	15
Ghor	933,001	139,950	15	186,600	20	466,501	50	139,950	15	0	0	3	606,451	65
Hilmand	2,157,601	755,160	35	1,078,801	50	215,760	10	107,880	5	0	0	2	323,640	15
Hirat	2,995,050	748,763	25	898,515	30	1,048,268	35	299,505	10	0	0	3	1,347,773	45
Jawzjan	575,653	230,261	40	259,044	45	57,565	10	28,783	5	0	0	2	86,348	15
Kabul	4,928,939	1,725,129	35	1,725,129	35	1,232,235	25	246,447	5	0	0	3	1,478,682	30
Kandahar	1,516,000	454,800	30	523,060	35	379,000	25	151,600	10	0	0	3	530,600	35
Kapisa	533,663	186,782	35	266,832	50	80,049	15	0	0	0	0	2	80,049	15
Khost	987,435	444,346	45	394,974	40	98,744	10	49,372	5	0	0	2	148,115	15
Kunar	1,022,085	357,730	35	306,626	30	255,521	25	102,209	10	0	0	3	357,730	35
Kunduz	896,822	358,729	40	403,570	45	89,682	10	44,841	5	0	0	2	134,523	15
Laghman	780,913	234,274	30	234,274	30	234,274	30	78,091	10	0	0	3	312,365	40
Logar	554,696	305,083	55	166,409	30	55,470	10	27,735	5	0	0	2	83,204	15
Nangarhar	2,617,912	785,374	30	785,374	30	785,374	30	261,791	10	0	0	3	1,047,165	40
Nimroz	320,879	32,088	10	112,308	35	128,352	40	48,132	15	0	0	3	176,483	55
Nuristan	267,931	66,983	25	53,586	20	93,776	35	53,586	20	0	0	4	147,362	55
Paktika	386,551	193,276	50	135,293	35	38,655	10	19,328	5	0	0	2	57,983	15
Paktya	870,884	391,898	45	304,809	35	130,633	15	43,544	5	0	0	3	174,177	20
Panjsher	214,462	107,231	50	75,062	35	21,446	10	10,723	5	0	0	2	32,169	15
Parwan	755,098	377,549	50	264,284	35	75,510	10	37,755	5	0	0	2	113,265	15
Samangan	472,900	141,870	30	141,870	30	141,870	30	47,290	10	0	0	3	189,160	40
Sari pul	637,527	191,258	30	191,258	30	191,258	30	63,753	10	0	0	3	255,011	40
Takhar	1,375,194	550,078	40	412,558	30	343,799	25	68,760	5	0	0	3	412,558	30
Uruzgan	406,635	60,995	15	121,991	30	121,991	30	101,659	25	0	0	4	223,649	55
Wardak	744,499	223,350	30	223,350	30	223,350	30	74,450	10	0	0	3	297,800	40
Zabul	261,647	78,494	30	78,494	30	78,494	30	26,165	10	0	0	3	104,659	40
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36,660,879</b>	<b>11,876,003</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>12,199,492</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>9,577,284</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>3,008,099</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>12,585,383</b>	<b>34</b>



## Annex: 2

### Projected flow minder population table: : November 2019 - March 2020

Provinces	Population Total	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3 +	
		Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%		Population	%
Badakhshan	1,348,615	202,292	15	202,292	15	606,877	45	337,154	25	0	0	4	944,031	70
Badghis	724,024	108,604	15	144,805	20	362,012	50	108,604	15	0	0	3	470,616	65
Baghlan	1,235,030	370,509	30	617,515	50	185,255	15	61,752	5	0	0	3	247,006	20
Balkh	1,807,974	451,994	25	451,994	25	723,190	40	180,797	10	0	0	3	903,987	50
Bamyan	441,771	132,531	30	132,531	30	132,531	30	44,177	10	0	0	3	176,708	40
Daykundi	781,882	156,376	20	156,376	20	312,753	40	156,376	20	0	0	4	469,129	60
Farah	620,871	124,174	20	186,261	30	248,348	40	62,087	10	0	0	3	310,436	50
Faryab	1,276,451	382,935	30	319,113	25	446,758	35	127,645	10	0	0	3	574,403	45
Ghazni	1,190,813	476,325	40	476,325	40	178,622	15	59,541	5	0	0	3	238,163	20
Ghor	933,001	139,950	15	139,950	15	466,501	50	186,600	20	0	0	4	653,101	70
Hilmand	2,157,601	755,160	35	755,160	35	539,400	25	107,880	5	0	0	3	647,280	30
Hirat	2,963,139	888,942	30	740,785	25	1,037,099	35	296,314	10	0	0	3	1,333,413	45
Jawzjan	575,653	230,261	40	230,261	40	86,348	15	28,783	5	0	0	3	115,131	20
Kabul	4,852,452	1,698,358	35	1,698,358	35	1,213,113	25	242,623	5	0	0	3	1,455,736	30
Kandahar	1,499,847	674,931	45	299,969	20	449,954	30	74,992	5	0	0	3	524,946	35
Kapisa	533,663	218,802	41	213,465	40	74,713	14	26,683	5	0	0	2	101,396	19
Khost	987,435	404,848	41	394,974	40	138,241	14	49,372	5	0	0	2	187,613	19
Kunar	1,022,085	357,730	35	306,626	30	255,521	25	102,209	10	0	0	3	357,730	35
Kunduz	887,267	354,907	40	354,907	40	133,090	15	44,363	5	0	0	3	177,453	20
Laghman	780,913	195,228	25	234,274	30	273,320	35	78,091	10	0	0	3	351,411	45
Logar	554,696	221,878	40	221,878	40	83,204	15	27,735	5	0	0	3	110,939	20
Nangarhar	2,590,019	777,006	30	777,006	30	777,006	30	259,002	10	0	0	3	1,036,008	40
Nimroz	320,879	32,088	10	80,220	25	144,396	45	64,176	20	0	0	4	208,571	65
Nuristan	267,931	53,586	20	53,586	20	93,776	35	66,983	25	0	0	4	160,759	60
Paktika	386,551	173,948	45	135,293	35	57,983	15	19,328	5	0	0	3	77,310	20
Paktia	870,884	348,354	40	261,265	30	174,177	20	87,088	10	0	0	3	261,265	30
Panjsher	214,462	107,231	50	75,062	35	21,446	10	10,723	5	0	0	2	32,169	15
Parwan	755,098	377,549	50	226,529	30	113,265	15	37,755	5	0	0	3	151,020	20
Samangan	472,900	165,515	35	118,225	25	141,870	30	47,290	10	0	0	3	189,160	40
Sari pul	637,527	223,134	35	127,505	20	223,134	35	63,753	10	0	0	3	286,887	45
Takhar	1,375,194	550,078	40	412,558	30	343,799	25	68,760	5	0	0	3	412,558	30
Uruzgan	406,635	40,664	10	121,991	30	142,322	35	101,659	25	0	0	4	243,981	60
Wardak	744,499	186,125	25	223,350	30	223,350	30	111,675	15	0	0	3	335,025	45
Zabul	261,647	52,329	20	117,741	45	78,494	30	13,082	5	0	0	3	91,576	35
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36,660,879</b>	<b>11,695,013</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>11,063,188</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>10,534,591</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>3,368,087</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>13,902,678</b>	<b>38</b>