



# AFGHANISTAN EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT

No. 31 | July 2023

## Key figures (monthly)

**241,874**

People received emergency  
healthcare service (PHC &  
Hospitals)

**13,576**

people received trauma care  
services (IPD+OPD)

**57,898 KG**

medical and non-medical  
supplies provided

**636**

health workers trained

**114**

surveillance support teams  
deployed to outbreak areas<sup>1</sup>

## Summary of outbreaks

**967**

COVID-19  
confirmed cases

**27 860**

Acute Watery Diarrhea  
AWD (2023)

**1820**

Measles (2023)

**119**

Dengue fever (2023)

**237**

CCHF (2023)



Training of social mobilizers who conducted community engagement activities on infectious diseases in Herat Province.

## Overview



Due to lack of funding, 33 secondary and tertiary hospitals, which provide services to 9 million Afghans, are at the verge of stopping their services. The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) confirmed coverage of salaries and operation cost from MoPH budget while calling health partners to provide the needed medicines.



The Health System Transitional Strategy (HSTS) for Afghanistan is in final stages of completion. For a three-year period, the total cost of the HSTS for Health and Nutrition is \$ 2,399,519,386.



As a result of the implementation of the new health cluster strategy to rationalize Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) in Afghanistan, the MHNTs dashboard indicates a reduction of MHNTs to 453 in June as compared to 513 in May 2023.



The MoPH has established a technical committee representing MoPH, WHO and other partners to develop the National Health Policy for Afghanistan.



In July 2023, a total of 241,874 people received emergency healthcare service (PHC & hospitals) through accessing WHO-supported health facilities.



WHO expanded its services by establishing more primary health services in underserved areas in 33 provinces. WHO is currently operating 275 primary health care facilities and 21 hospitals through our partners.



WHO, along with 54 other Health Cluster partners, reached approximately 1.5 million people across Afghanistan with humanitarian health services through 979 health facilities in 333 districts of all 34 provinces.



In July 2023, a total of 5,391 children (2749 girls and 2,642 boys) with medical complications (equivalent to 93% of WHO target) were admitted and treated in 130 WHO-supported Inpatient Department for Severe Acute Malnutrition (IPD-SAM) centers (119 hospitals and 11 Comprehensive Health Centers).

<sup>1</sup>A classical rapid response team is a multi-disciplinary team stationed in each province under Provincial Public Health Directorate (PPHD). The team consists of six personnel: an epidemiologist, a WASH & environmental health officer, a CDC officer, an EPI officer, and a laboratory technician and NGO staff. WHO supports the operational cost of the activities.

<sup>2</sup>A WHO-supported surveillance support team consisting of an epidemiology focal point to facilitate data collection and a laboratory focal point to support sample collection from suspected cases as well as aid the National Disease Surveillance and Response (NDSR) in investigating alerts and outbreaks.

<sup>3</sup>AWD case data is reported from all 519 sentinel sites in the country. Previously data extracted was only collected from sentinel sites reporting above-threshold numbers of AWD cases. The change in methodology will better capture the AWD cases using the standard case definition and ensure proper representation of the country, as it uses all sentinel sites in Afghanistan.







### Health Cluster

The Health Cluster contributed in the development of a multisectoral winterization plan for 2023. Out of 401 districts, 95 districts are prioritized as high priority (24%), 221 districts as medium priority (55%), and 85 districts (21%) as low priority. The Health Cluster will target more than 1.5 million people in high-priority districts for the provision of health assistance.

During the month of July, WHO reached **241,874 people** in total which included 41,249 boys; 41,034 girls; 53,038 men; and 106,553 women. They were provided with emergency primary health care through 243 health facilities implemented by 15 health partners in 33 provinces of the country. The services included outpatient, maternal nutrition, newborn and child health, immunization, mental health, and non-communicable diseases.

### Health service delivery

#### Primary Health Care

-  **241,874**  
Individuals received OPD consultations
-  **8849**  
Women received ANC
-  **4664**  
Women received PNC
-  **1516**  
Institutional deliveries
-  **17,506**  
Pregnant, CBA women and under 5 children received TT2+, measles, and PENTA-3 Vaccination
-  **31,372**  
Number of consultations for non-communicable diseases

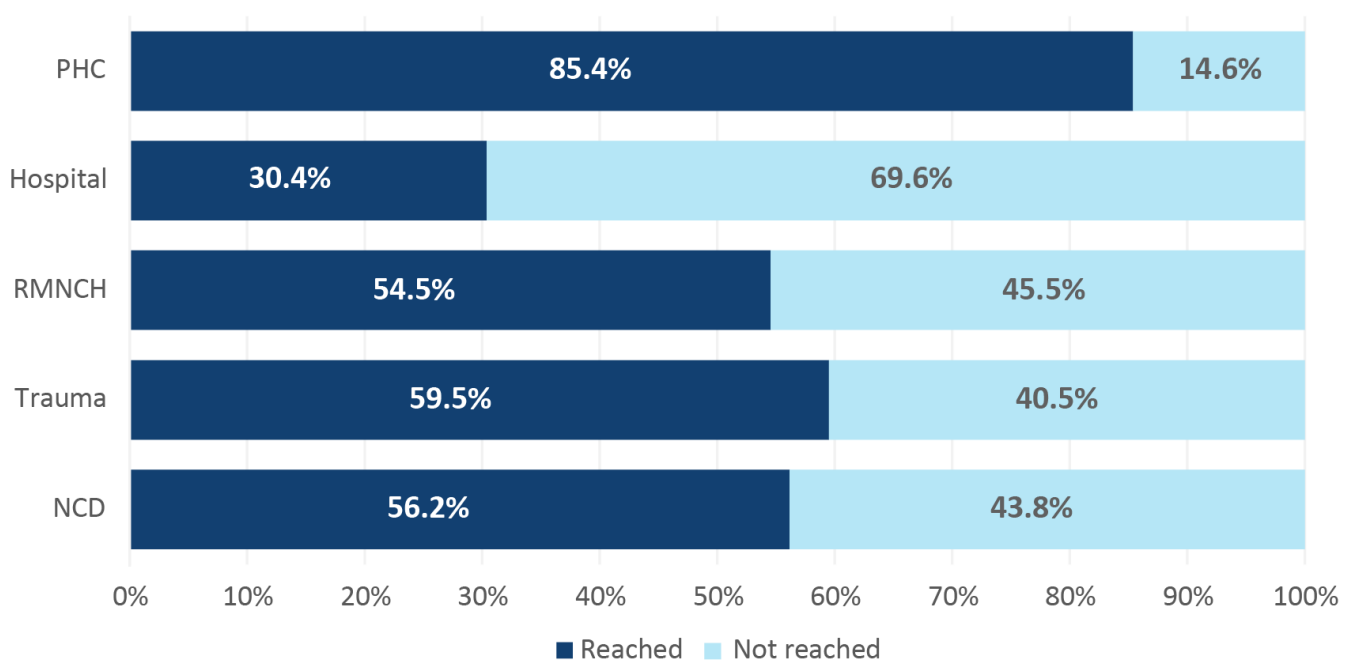
#### Hospitals

WHO, in conjunction with its local partners, supports **24 hospitals** across the country in their provision of health care services.

#### Sustaining healthcare services delivery

Beneficiaries of PHC & Hospital services at WHO-supported facilities for July 2023 (Total : 241,874)		
Age	♂ Male	♀ Female
Over 18 years	53 038	106 553
Under 18 years	41 249	41 034

### Proportion of people reached (Jan- July 2023) against the target in year 2023



### Trauma & physical rehabilitation



**4088**  
patients received physiotherapy



**5551**  
patients received blood transfusion



**19,023**  
patients received minor surgical operation



**3160**  
patients received major surgical operation

WHO supports **175 healthcare facilities across the country** with medical equipment, consumables, capacity building training, Basic Emergency Care (BEC), Mass Casualty management (MCM), Emergency Care Toolkit (ECT), infection prevention and control (IPC), as well as in strengthening service delivery, developing contingency and mass casualty management plans.

WHO supports 13 Specialty Hospitals, 6 Regional Hospitals, 26 Provincial Hospitals, 69 District Hospitals, 31 Community Health Centers – CHC , 2 Teaching Hospitals, 2 BHC, and one Sub-Health center.

WHO is providing technical and financial support to the ambulance project through national Implementing Partners in Kabul, Herat, Parwan, Wardak, Nangarhar, Balkh and Paktya.

WHO continues to support **67 Blood banks** in health facilities with consumables, capacity building training (safe blood and safe blood banking training)

WHO is providing Interagency Emergency Health Kit and IEHK Trauma and Emergency Surgery Kit - TESK distribution to **175 health facilities**.

Establishment of **two Emergency Hospitals** at Central Torkham, east region and Spin Boldak in Kandahar southern region in which WHO provided technical and full financial support to both hospitals.

### Ambulance services

Beneficiaries reached at WHO-supported Ambulances for July 2023 (Total 6630)			
Age	♂ Male	♀ Female	
Over 18 years	2830	2802	
Under 18 years	577	421	

### Trauma care services

Beneficiaries of trauma care services at WHO-supported facilities for July 2023 (Total: 13,576)			
	♂ Male	♀ Female	
Over 18 years	4740	3106	
Under 18 years	3514	2216	

### Post trauma rehabilitation

Beneficiaries of post trauma rehabilitation services at WHO-supported facilities for July 2023 (Total: 40,242)			
	♂ Male	♀ Female	
Over 18 years	13,042	12,106	
Under 18 years	8788	6306	



WHO supports ambulance services in seven provinces of Afghanistan.

### Nutrition in Emergencies Reproductive Health



**13,437**

Pregnant and lactating women received malnutrition screening and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling and treatment services



**8114**

Women received family planning services and awareness

In July 2023, a total of **5391 (2749 girls and 2642 boys)** with medical complications were admitted and treated in 130 WHO-supported Inpatient Department for Severe Acute Malnutrition (IPD-SAM) centers (119 hospitals and 11 Comprehensive Health Centers).

As May to August is the peak season of malnutrition in the country, so too is the case in July which showed a significant increase compared to June 2023. The reason for this increase is that both the data completeness and reporting was on time,

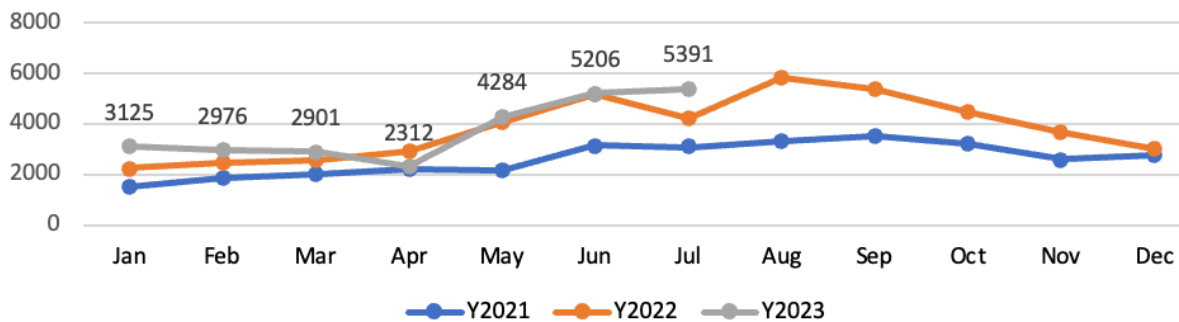
as well as the strengthening of the referral system from the community.

WHO is helping to strengthen the national capacity to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition. A total of 24 health staff from Ghazni, Wardak and Kandahar provinces were trained in the management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications in Kabul province. For providing quality services in the hospitals, WHO supplied 12 milk preparation kits, 12 renewable kits, 12 equipment kit, 26 medicine kit and 116 bed side chairs provided for 12 Therapeutic Feeding Units in four provinces: Balkh, Badakhshan, Paktika and Zabul.

### Public nutrition in emergencies

Beneficiaries of 127 WHO-supported IPD-SAM centers for June 2023		
Under five	♂ Boys	♀ Girls
5391	2642	2749

### IPD-SAM ADMISSION TREND



### Infectious hazard preparedness and surveillance

Monthly summary of infectious disease outbreaks in Afghanistan July 2023 (2 -29 July)

Indicators	AWD	CCHF	COVID-19	Measles	Dengue
Monthly new cases (% change compared to June)	27,860 (↑31.2)	237 (↓1.7)	967 (↓31.6)	1,820 (↓6.4)	119 (↑40.0)

#### Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF)

- During July, the number of suspected CCHF cases showed stabilization (237 suspected cases in July 2023 compared to 241 in June 2023), with 27 new associated deaths.
- Cumulatively, since January 2023, a total of 715 suspected CCHF cases have been reported, 29.5% (211) are females, and 99.9% (714) were above five years of age.
- The CCHF-associated deaths were reported from 18 provinces; more than half of which were reported from two provinces: Kabul (25, 32.0%) and Balkh (17, 21.8%).
- Cumulatively, 689 samples of suspected CCHF cases were tested since the beginning of 2023, of which 239 samples were positive (34.7% positivity).



**Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) with dehydration**

- During July, the number of reported AWD cases with dehydration was 27,860, which shows an increase of 31.2% when compared to June 2023, with a total of 14 associated deaths (CFR of 0.05%).
- Cumulatively, since the beginning of 2023, there were 112,858 cases of AWD with dehydration reported, of which 57.1% were children below five years and 49.6% were females.
- AWD cases reported from three districts in South East Region affected by earthquake in 2023 was 140 cases.

**COVID-19**

- During July, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases showed a decrease by 31.6% with eight associated deaths (CFR 0.8%).
- During July 2023, a total of 9,937 tests have been conducted in public laboratories, which is lower by 9.9% compared to June 2023, meanwhile, the test positivity decreased from 12.8% in June 2023 to 9.7% in July 2023.

- During July, around 150,000 individuals have been vaccinated, and the proportion of those who received at least one dose slightly increased to reach 41.8%.

**Measles**

- During July, the number of suspected measles cases was 1,820, which represents a decrease by 6.4% compared to June 2023, with a total of three associated deaths (CFR of 0.2%).

**Dengue fever**

- During July, 119 new suspected cases were reported which shows a 40.0% increase in the number of suspected cases compared to June 2023. No new associated deaths were reported during the last month.
- During July, most of the new suspected dengue fever cases were reported from Nangarhar province, with very few cases reported from Laghman and Kunar.

**Infectious hazard preparedness and surveillance supplies in July**



Arrival of **800 dengue fever RDTs** to the country.



Antiviral for **700 Hepatitis-B Virus and 2,000 Hepatitis-C Virus** cases reached the country and is under process in Afghanistan Food and Drug Authorities (AFDA).



A total of **8 AWD diagnostic kits** (RDT/Cary Blair) were dispatched to Kandahar and Nangarhar.



**10 Measles kits** were dispatched to Nangarhar in the east.



Over **70,000 viral transport media Virus Transmission Mediums (VTMs)** were sent to all 34 provinces.



**100 double bags of 500cc and 1,000 double bags of 250 cc** were sent to Balkh.

**Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)**



**7393** Individuals received mental health consultations



**8420** people received psychological counselling

In July, WHO played a significant role in coordinating and organizing the monthly MHPSS Technical Working Group meeting in which WHO is a co-lead. Throughout July, WHO completed the training of Basic Package of Health services (BPHS) to over 300 doctors in the eastern region.

During July, the online Problem Management Plus supervision has started and being carried for the 47 future Master Trainers of the country (25 females and 22 males).

**Drug demand reduction services (DDRS)**

Over **2.5 million** people across Afghanistan are registered with the MoPH as drug users across Afghanistan .

To address this, WHO will start operating **270 Beds in 5 Drug Demand Reduction** facilities in Kandahar, Nangarhar and Jalalabad Provinces through the implementing partners.

**Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)**

WHO is actively involved in improving WASH services in **99 healthcare facilities across 11 provinces**. This support involves rehabilitating and constructing solar-based 99 safe water sources, sanitation services, hygiene, and waste management.

The WASH Facility Improvement Tool is utilized to assess and evaluate the WASH and waste management services in 10 health facilities. The assessments have revealed limited

availability of water, sanitation, hygiene and waste management services, indicating areas for improvement.

WHO is also involved in supporting water quality surveillance in healthcare facilities and responding to waterborne disease alerts or outbreaks. In collaboration with the MOPH, WHO has provided nine potable water quality testing kits for analyzing critical water quality parameters. WHO's WASH team has conducted water quality testing in eight healthcare facilities, revealing microbiological contamination in 40% of the samples.

### Health logistical support



193,838

Patients received essential drugs for their basic health services

In July, a total of **926 modules** of varying medical kits (over 57,898 KG in total) were delivered to Afghanistan. The reach of these kits (which included IEHK Supplementary, TESK, IEHK Basic, Cholera, IARH, Measles and NCDK) benefited over 1,387,000 people.

### Project Monitoring Unit (PMU)

To ensure proper oversight of project implementation, WHO has conducted systematic and regular monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities through 30 monitoring officers on the ground using specific tools developed for each type of health intervention.

In July 2023 WHO conducted monitoring visits to:

- **127** primary healthcare facilities
- **96** Therapeutic Feeding Unit (TFU)
- **2** Family Health Houses (FFHs) and **20** hospitals (including Integrated Infectious Disease and COVID-19 hospitals)
- **7** Ambulatory Services
- **96** hospitals under HER projects in 34 provinces.

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)



102,254

People living in remote and underserved areas received health education and awareness

In Herat Province, WHO trained and then deployed **45 local social mobilizers, including 15 females**, to conduct community dialogues on various infectious diseases such as CCHF, measles, acute respiratory infections and acute watery diarrhea. Through this campaign, a total of 9,538 people including 6802 men and 2736 women were directly benefited.

To date, WHO has conducted similar community awareness campaigns in Kandahar, Helmand and Herat, where the training and mobilizing of 115 social mobilizers was conducted. The trainers then reached a total population of 34,501 directly and about 197,468 were reached by prevention messages through information and education materials. The Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions of WHO are supported by the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) and the Government of Italy.



WHO conducts community engagement activities to affected communities in Kandahar Province.

### For more information about WHO's work in emergencies, contact:

**Dr Alaa AbouZeid**, Health Emergencies Team Lead, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [abouzeida@who.int](mailto:abouzeida@who.int)

**Ms Joy Rivaca**, Head of Communications, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [caminadej@who.int](mailto:caminadej@who.int)

**Mr Mohamed Kakay**, External Relations & Partnerships Lead, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [kakaym@who.int](mailto:kakaym@who.int)

**Mr Grattan Lynch**, Communications Officer, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [lynchg@who.int](mailto:lynchg@who.int)

### WHO's work in emergencies is supported by the following donors and partners:

