

THE FAO COMPONENT OF THE CONSOLIDATED APPEALS

2012

AFGHANISTAN





The Appeal for Afghanistan was launched globally on the 14th December 2011 as part of the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP).

For a complete overview of FAO's component of the 2012 CAP, please go to www.fao.org/emergencies.

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FOREWORD

Every year, the plight and needs of many of the world's most vulnerable people are described in the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP). This year's CAP spans 18 countries¹ and outlines needs across key sectors.

The 2012 CAP clearly highlights that food insecurity continues to be compounded by protracted crisis situations, more frequent natural disasters, conflict, volatile food prices, harsh economic conditions and climate change.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) works with partners to reduce food insecurity through improved preparedness for and effective response to food and agricultural threats and emergencies.

Stepping up to the challenge

To rise to this challenge and improve effectiveness in a climate of reduced funding and increased need, FAO's emergency response focuses on protecting both lives and livelihoods. Rebuilding livelihoods and decreasing dependency on external aid ensures a quicker return to normalcy for affected people, restoring their self-sufficiency and sense of dignity.

Beyond immediate support to ensure food security in protracted or sudden-onset crisis situations, FAO implements programmes that build the resilience of households in the face of future shocks. Families that have been affected by crises, and often divested of their assets, are even more vulnerable to the potential impacts of future shocks – restoring livelihoods and strengthening resilience can mitigate the effects and reduce risk.

FAO's components of the CAP fit within broader planning and programming strategies at country and subregional levels, which look into longer-term measures to address the root causes of vulnerability and increase resilience through disaster risk management. These include FAO Plans of Action, which have been developed together with national counterparts in Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, the Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Zimbabwe, among other countries.

Another way that FAO has stepped up to the ever increasing challenges of today's world is in our closer collaboration with international and local partners and counterparts. In 2011, the global Food Security Cluster was established to improve the coordination of food security responses in humanitarian crises, under the co-leadership of FAO and the World Food Programme. At country level, Food Security Clusters are increasingly reflected in CAP documents. FAO's work in development provides an important link with national authorities and community-based organizations that can often be built upon in times of crisis.

Adapting programming to best fit needs

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts, and achieving food security in emergencies requires a specific understanding and analysis of livelihoods.

FAO programming places people at the centre of its actions, identifying the most effective and efficient ways to assist those most vulnerable. Emergency response programmes are adapted to the needs of

¹ The present brochure only features the 16 countries that will be included in the global launch of the CAP on 14 December 2011. The CAP for Liberia and Sri Lanka will be launched at a later date.

women, men and their families, whether they are fishers, pastoralists, farmers or foresters. Diversifying livelihoods and intensifying agricultural production are some of FAO's key strategies. To be effective, analysis of household, community and national systems is needed. The individual CAP strategies reflect this livelihood analysis. In many contexts, addressing needs at the household level must be done hand in hand with strengthening community and social support systems.

In Somalia, in addition to providing immediate life-saving assistance, the strategic priorities for humanitarian assistance include stabilizing and preventing the deterioration of people's way of life through the protection and restoration of livelihood assets and through early recovery, resilience building, emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and social/productive networks.

This is a twin-track approach that combines immediate assistance to improve access to food with addressing the root causes of the problems and building longer-term coping capacity in the face of protracted crises and new shocks. FAO is supplying inputs like drought-tolerant seeds while improving pastoral techniques, water harvesting, irrigation and soil conservation. In situations of high unemployment or where access to food is constrained, cash and seed voucher schemes in exchange for labour are being established.

In the Horn of Africa, FAO has set up irrigation schemes so that some communities have been able to keep producing food despite the drought. FAO is also distributing seeds that can tolerate drought, and assisting farmers to produce more quality seeds and sell them to other farmers. These efforts are ensuring that more and more people can cope with drought in the future.

Building on local institutions

We have much to learn from our partners. In the past, the international community spoke of "capacity building", often as a "top-down" system of knowledge transfer, but experience has shown that most of the learning and best approaches to strengthen resilience are found at the local and national levels, within communities and institutions.

Building on and supporting local institutions can provide a sustainable basis for addressing the drivers of a crisis, for rebuilding livelihoods after a crisis and for strengthening resilience and coping mechanisms.

In South Sudan, FAO has and will continue in 2012 to work with the nascent government to establish a sound institutional framework for food security, which is resulting in increased levels of public investment in agriculture and food security.

Thinking about outcomes

Humanitarian response is life-saving, but it also aims to protect and restore the lives and livelihoods of people that have been hit by crisis. Dignity, food and nutrition security, self-sufficiency and resilience are cornerstones of what FAO aims to achieve in emergency response; there are also further positive outcomes across a variety of sectors that can be achieved through food- and agriculture-based approaches. For example, collaboration with the Department of Education in school gardening projects in the Philippines will enhance the nutritional value and variety of meals prepared in schools, and ensure that children attend school.

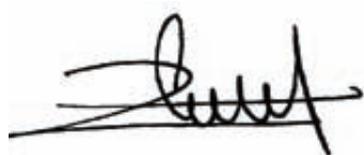
In Afghanistan, steps have already been taken to link food assistance, cash-based and agriculture support activities with a nutrition response to ensure that adequate household dietary intake and food consumption levels are met. Food security and agricultural interventions are closely aligned with programmes to increase water access for herders, whose livelihoods are impacted by natural disasters and conflict.

Short-term funding leads to short-term results

Humanitarian donors are at work to support the needs of the most vulnerable; however, despite generous short-term aid, which has been successful in addressing immediate needs, vulnerability persists in many countries facing humanitarian crises. If lasting solutions are not found, after each shock families are less able to cope, take longer to rebuild their lives and livelihoods, and remain dependent on external aid for longer periods of time.

In some parts of the Sudan, for example, vulnerability remains acute as underlying conditions are left unaddressed. As a result, large segments of internally displaced persons residing in camps have to various degrees become dependent on external aid. The comparative lack of parallel support for durable solutions within a humanitarian framework in the Sudan is one of the key contributors to persistent vulnerability in the country.

FAO's component of the 2012 CAP reflects how we in FAO are taking on new challenges. We appeal to our donors and partners to help us take on the challenge and work together to address not only the life-saving needs of vulnerable communities today, but to restore lives and livelihoods for tomorrow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurent Thomas', with a horizontal line underneath.

Laurent Thomas
Assistant Director-General
Technical Cooperation Department

2011 IN REVIEW

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) received USD 200 million in contributions for emergency programming in response to the 2011 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) and other humanitarian appeals launched in 2011. Although this represented a USD 50 million decline in appeal-related funding as compared with 2010, the coverage of requirements has remained steady at just over 50 percent.

The international community responded generously to agricultural needs in Afghanistan (94 percent met), Somalia (90 percent met) and Sri Lanka (77 percent met). These countries accounted for more than one-third of FAO's programming needs under the 2011 appeals.

2011 also included the continuation of appeals launched in 2010, such as the Pakistan Floods Relief and Early Recovery Response Plan, which remained active until July 2011. With almost USD 107 million in requirements and over USD 97 million in funding, it was FAO's largest appeal ever, and one of its most successful. The current appeal for Pakistan, launched in response to the devastating monsoon floods of 2011, will last until March 2012 and has received almost 56 percent of required funding. Over the past two years, FAO has implemented over USD 126 million in emergency agricultural programming in Pakistan.

The situation across the Horn of Africa deteriorated significantly in 2011. The region faced one of its driest years since 1950/51. Conditions were particularly dire in Somalia, where the food crisis escalated into famine in parts of the country. Although the Somalia 2011 CAP is well funded, funding for the rest of the region has been low. So far, out of total needs of more than USD 161 million for the whole region, almost USD 80 million, or 49 percent, has been contributed. FAO has a significant presence in the region, with active programming in every country affected by the crisis.

As of 30 November, total funding for FAO's Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme in 2011 amounted to over USD 333 million.

FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme

1 January to 30 November 2011

FUNDING BY COUNTRY/REGION	(USD)
Somalia	78 801 904
Sudan	45 786 639
Pakistan	18 537 881
Afghanistan	15 308 239
Kenya	13 486 406
Regional Africa	11 708 090
Sri Lanka	10 787 258
DR Congo	10 532 563
West Bank and Gaza Strip	10 292 629
Uganda	10 247 365
Indonesia	9 660 056
Ethiopia	6 402 099
Zambia	5 219 997
Niger	5 013 939
Chad	4 622 600
Côte d'Ivoire	4 520 742
Regional Latin America	3 815 808
Guatemala	3 681 897
Zimbabwe	3 639 010
Liberia	3 595 190

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS	(USD)
European Union	57 396 448
United States of America	56 291 682
Canada	36 241 276
OCHA/CERF	35 497 782
Sweden	16 380 547
Belgium	13 847 977
Australia	12 266 908
Japan	11 197 420
Spain	10 428 230
World Bank	8 770 000
UN Trust Fund - Sudan	7 020 257
United Kingdom	7 008 322
UN Trust Fund - DR Congo	5 966 903
Switzerland	4 557 886
France	4 431 766
UN Trust Fund - Somalia	4 401 244
Italy	3 800 941
Unilateral Trust Fund	2 938 565
United Kingdom	2 019 902
Netherlands	1 875 000

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People in Afghanistan face immense humanitarian needs due to a decade-long conflict, regularly occurring natural disasters, profound gender and social inequities and underdeveloped livelihood systems and infrastructure. The country has endured eight droughts in the past 11 years, with the drought of 2011 leaving an additional 2.6 million people severely food insecure. Other natural hazards, such as floods and extreme weather conditions, affect an estimated 400 000 people each year. Around 42 percent of Afghans live on less than USD 1 per day, 68 percent lack sustainable access to improved water sources and almost 95 percent lack access to improved sanitation. Over 5.7 million refugees have returned to Afghanistan since 2002 – more than 40 percent have been unable to reintegrate successfully. The transition of security and peacekeeping responsibilities from international to Afghan control presents a risk of increased civil unrest and internal displacement.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

The majority of people suffering the effects of conflict, drought and other natural disasters are pastoralists and farmers. Four out of five people in Afghanistan rely on agriculture for their livelihood. Decades of human-induced and natural shocks have significantly reduced agricultural production, increased food insecurity and diminished the ability of families to provide for themselves and cope with further hardship.

Regions experiencing conflict are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity due to limited production capacities, reduced access to markets, as well as limited access by the humanitarian community. Households headed by women are particularly at risk of food insecurity, as they have reduced access to productive assets and higher dependency on markets. Food price hikes – estimated at over 80 percent for wheat and 90 percent for wheat flour – are placing staples beyond the reach of vulnerable populations. To cope, families are contracting substantial debts and selling their livelihood assets.

In 2011, the culmination of failed rains and slow-onset drought led to significant losses of cereal crops and reduced grazing resources. Unable to harvest sufficient staple crops such as wheat, farming households face decreased food stocks, lower wage rates and fewer opportunities to generate income. Due to increased seed prices, farmers are unable to procure sufficient seed for the 2011/12 farming season.

Pastoralists' purchasing power has likewise been reduced by high food prices coupled with low livestock market prices. Water resources for livestock are estimated to be insufficient in 18 districts in and around the drought-affected area. Insufficient fodder and water resources are expected to further impact the country's livestock herd. Over one-quarter of livestock in drought-affected provinces had already perished as of mid-2011. As a last resort, many pastoralists have sold their remaining livestock, a key source of nutrition and their primary household asset.

Addressing critical needs in the agriculture sector is vital to increase affected populations' access to sufficient food and income in a sustainable way, and to build their self-sufficiency and resilience.

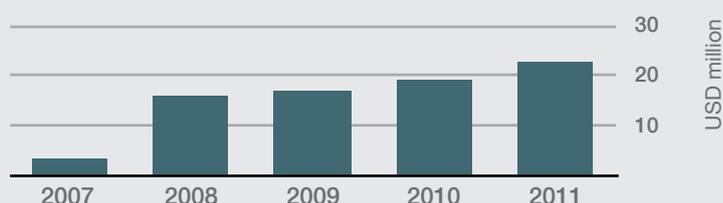
KEY FACTS

- Population: 34 385 068
- Human Development Index Rank: 172/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 60%
- Recent emergencies: conflict, drought, floods, heavy snow, earthquakes, avalanches.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

FAO EMERGENCY PROGRAMME

As of November 2011, based on project expenditures



FAO response

FAO aims to build the resilience of the most vulnerable populations in disaster-affected areas of Afghanistan by improving local availability of food, nutritional intake and ability to generate income.

With donor funding, FAO will equip farmers for upcoming planting seasons by providing vital agricultural inputs, such as wheat seeds, vegetable garden kits and fertilizers through direct distribution, as well as seed fairs and voucher schemes, to the extent possible. To preserve the livestock assets of pastoralists severely affected by drought, the programme will also provide animal feed and veterinary services as well as rehabilitate water sources.

Livelihood input packages tailored to women-headed households will focus on food processing, small animal breeding and small-scale gardening. Additional activities will help to strengthen the technical skills of women and girls, and increase their access to credit and markets.

As co-lead of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster with the World Food Programme (WFP), FAO seeks to continue to improve coordination and food security situation monitoring. Funding is also sought to carry out a Detailed Livelihoods Assessment, which will allow for in-depth understanding of needs and vulnerabilities, and thus enable a more coordinated, targeted response effort.



PROPOSALS - FAO Emergency and rehabilitation assistance

Total funding requested: USD 32 892 714

Effective coordination and leadership of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Afghanistan

Objectives:	To ensure strong and effective Cluster leadership and coordination of humanitarian food and agriculture response, including support to coordinated food security situation and response framework analysis (e.g. needs assessment), information management and advocacy, drawing on common food security information and monitoring systems.
Activities:	Establish and maintain effective Cluster coordination mechanisms (e.g. working groups at national and regional levels); facilitate efficient division of labour and assignment of responsibilities among partners, based on comparative advantages and complementarities; introduce, develop and implement an emergency food security situation and response analysis toolkit for transparent evidence-based decision-making; develop the capacity of Cluster members and increase outreach to national Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs); advocate for and ensure timely, effective and coordinated food security and agricultural response, with community-based approaches; ensure regular collection, analysis and dissemination of updated information; promote and support sector contingency and disaster preparedness planning; advocate for disaster prevention, risk reduction and management; ensure full integration of cross-cutting issues (i.e. human rights, HIV/AIDS, age, gender and environment); and ensure collection of disaggregated food security data (e.g. by sex, age or disabilities).
Beneficiaries:	Food Security and Agriculture Cluster partners.
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 1 170 214

Emergency support for the protection of the livestock assets of vulnerable populations in drought-affected areas of Afghanistan

Objectives:	To support the livelihoods and improve the food security of vulnerable populations, especially women and children, by saving livestock assets.
Activities:	Complete a livestock emergency survey, based on data collected during the rapid appraisal in drought-affected provinces (August 2011), preparing a more detailed questionnaire (the assessment may include other provinces, depending on the situation in winter and spring 2012); select beneficiaries based on the updated survey; distribute animal feed or vouchers to livestock-keepers as part of an emergency package (feed likely to be distributed with relief actions of partners to optimize costs/logistics); implement livestock-related activities involving women and girls (e.g. fodder preparation and storage, cleaning of sheds, milking and preparing by-products, collecting water and animal maintenance); provide basic veterinary services (e.g. animal disease surveillance, veterinary drug administration and de-worming) enhancing and in close collaboration with the existing epidemio-surveillance system; collaborate with community animal health workers; improve water availability for animal use by evaluating the need to repair existing water sources (e.g. boreholes and rainwater reservoirs) with partners and field veterinary units through an intercluster approach; restock animals based on the results of the livestock emergency survey; and train beneficiaries on animal husbandry, with focus on women.
Beneficiaries:	60 000 vulnerable households that rely on pastoral livelihoods for income and subsistence (including women-headed households, youth, the elderly and permanently ill or disabled people).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 11 231 000

Support to vulnerable populations affected by disasters in food-insecure areas of Afghanistan by improving access to agricultural inputs

Objectives:	To support the production capacity of drought-affected and food-insecure communities by facilitating their access to agricultural inputs for the 2012/13 season.
Activities:	Increase access to agricultural inputs for food-insecure rural households during the 2012/13 planting season through direct distribution, seed fairs and vouchers; ensure access to certified wheat seeds and fertilizer for vulnerable farming households; distribute vegetable seed kits for kitchen gardening to diversify household diets and provide additional income, focusing on women; provide training on cultivation techniques, nutrition and marketing to strengthen income generation; and encourage communities to set up microprojects funded by pooled copayment reimbursement schemes to strengthen livelihoods and increase resilience.
Beneficiaries:	420 000 beneficiaries (including women-headed households, orphans, the elderly, the disabled, returnees and internally displaced persons [IDPs]).
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 18 000 000

Detailed Livelihood Assessment for disaster-affected areas in Afghanistan

Objectives:	To complete a comprehensive assessment and analysis of the impact of the 2011 drought and other disasters on food and nutrition security and on rural livelihoods.
Activities:	Share information and plan sessions with Cluster members to define the target areas, level of statistical significance required and sample size, with emphasis on gender-disaggregated data; define target areas and geographical distribution of partners for data collection through rapid livelihood zoning activities; tender private consultancy services for data collection, cleaning, entry, analysis and reporting; define and formalize engagement modalities with partners; prepare and finalize questionnaires and checklists; assemble and train teams on data collection; collect primary data; perform data cleaning and analysis; disseminate survey results at regional and district level; use survey data for regional and district programming; and reporting.
Beneficiaries:	All Food Security and Agriculture Cluster stakeholders.
Gender marker:	1 - The project is designed to contribute in some limited way to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 511 500

Emergency livelihood support for vulnerable rural households affected by human-induced and natural disasters in food-insecure areas of Afghanistan

Objectives:	To contribute to the food security of the target population through support to rural income-generating activities.
Activities:	Identify and select vulnerable communities and beneficiaries, particularly women, in cooperation with local partners; help vulnerable households select viable activities within the local context by facilitating consultations, working sessions, awareness-raising and group formation (e.g. cooperatives); conduct surveys to identify market access constraints and opportunities; establish self-help groups; identify activities, and related inputs, equipment and training; provide inputs and training for beneficiaries' preferred activities, as well as basic bookkeeping and micro-enterprise management; facilitate training modules in areas such as nutrition and gender; and conduct monitoring and follow-up to ensure improved self-reliance and empowerment.
Beneficiaries:	3 000 households.
Gender marker:	2a - The project is designed to contribute significantly to gender equality.
Funds requested:	USD 1 980 000

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