**SHOTLIST:**

**WFP News Video:**

**New WFP Footage From Afghanistan Shows Increasing Desperation and Hunger As Winter Arrives**

**Shot: 22-28Nov2021**

**TRT: 5:17**

**:00-:11**

**Aerials snowcapped mountains near Faizabad**

**Shot: 23Nov21**

**near Faizabad**

**:11-:20**

**Boys on snow and ice covered road**

**Shot: 24Nov21**

**Zebak**

**:20-:45**

People collecting dried brush and grasses to burn for cooking and heating

**Shot: 24Nov21**

**Zebak**

**:45-1:09**

**Bakery**

The cost of bread; a staple diet for many families has increased by 80 percent – due to the rising cost of wheat in the country. In some areas people are compensating by consuming a variety of wheat that can cause neurological problems. In this area, many are surviving on bread and tea with milk..sometimes using a non-nutritional whitener when they can’t afford milk.

**Shot: 23Nov21**

**Faizabad**

**1:09-1:32**

Economic collapse has left many jobless and unable to buy food for their families. Here School principals, military, government workers, selling personal effects from teacups to paint rollers on the streets.

**Shot:26Nov21**

**Mazar i Sharif**

**1:32-1:37**

Amena, on the left was a school principal. Nazila, on the right, was a teacher. They are both selling clothes on the street having lost their jobs.

**Shot:26Nov21**

**Mazar i Sharif**

**1:37-1:50**

**SOT women shouting in market(Dari)**

**Woman in red:** “If you see anyone, they have five to six orphans, had martyrs in war, and have nothing, no house or good life. She has five to six orphans but has nothing … no food or anything to eat”

**First woman in burkah:** “ I don’t even have a penny! “

**2nd woman in lighter blue burkah**: Her son was martyred. There are five to six children in her house and don’t even have a package of flour.

**Shot:26Nov21**

**Mazar i Sharif**

**1:50-2:01**

**GV’s Aqkoprok**

After almost ten years, WFP staff are now able to access this village several hours south of Mazar I Sharif. Boys and girls are back in school but most teachers haven’t been paid since July.

**Shot: 27Nov21**

**Aqkoprok**

**2:01-2:12**

**Exteriors health clinic**

**Shot: 27Nov21**

**Aqkoprok**

**2:12-2:21**

**SOT Dr. Mustafa (English)**

“They don’t have anything. They sell their furniture, sell their animals. Most of them sell their houses…for food. But now they don’t have anything to buy food.”

**Shot: 27Nov21**

**Aqkoprok health clinic**

**2:21-3:02**

**Children being tested for malnutrition**

Here inAqkoprok, there has been a 30% increase in severe and moderate malnutrition since October. Across the country, more than half of the population are facing acute hunger and 3.2 million children are suffering from malnutrition. 22.8 million people face acute food insecurity according to the latest IPC assessment. All 34 provinces are facing crisis or emergency levels of acute food insecurity. We have never seen this many people facing emergency levels of food insecurity in Afghanistan.

**Shot: 27Nov21**

**Aqkoprok health clinic**

**3:02-3:28**

**SOT Mary-Ellen McGroarty, Country Director WFP Afghanistan(English)**

“We are terrified that this is only the tipping point. We are only in November, and this is what we are already seeing before we go into the heart of winter? And these are the children that are making it to the hospitals. How many more arer behind them that their families are unable to bring them to the hospital? So behind those staggering number so f food insecurity are individual young children who are paying the incredible price here in Afghanistan at the moment.”

**Shot: 22Nov21**

**Kabul**

**3:28-3:48**

**WFP food convoy travelling from Mazar I Sharif to**

**Aqkoprok(drone shots are mute)**

**Shot: 27Nov21**

**3:48-4:19**

**SOT Mary-Ellen McGroarty, Country Director WFP Afghanistan(English)**

“The international community have very real concerns but at this stage and at this time where the crises is in Afghanistan, we need to separate the humanitarian imperative from the political discussions. The people of Afghanistan, the innocent people of Afghanistan, the children of Afghanistan who have their lives upended through no fault of their own can not be condemned to hunger and starvation just because of the lottery of geopolitics and the lottery of birth.”

**Shot: 22Nov21**

**Kabul**

**4:19-4:25**

**WFP food distribution**

**Shot: 26Nov21**

**Mazar I Sharif**

**4:25-4:30**

**Set up Mahmoud with mother and brother at WFP food distribution**

Mahmoud, 17 yrs old, has recently graduated from high school. His father is dead and his mother is going blind. Economic collapse has dashed his dreams of becoming a doctor as the family can no longer afford his schooling. His brother has migrated to Iran to find work leaving him with to take care of his mother and younger brother.

**Shot: 26Nov21**

**Mazar I Sharif**

**4:30-4:46**

**SOT Mahmoud(English)**

“Maybe it is different for other countries. In Afghanistan, every time people just work for food and they just want to find food for eating and they don’t think to another thing..they just think how to find food and how to fill up and to bring food for their children and for their wives.”

Shot: 26Nov21

**Mazar I Sharif**

**4:46-4:54**

**Set up Mahmoud at WFP food distribution**

In November 1.4million people were fed by WFP in Mazar i Sharif with rations of wheat flour, oil, pulses and salt as well as special fortified foods.

**Shot: 26Nov21**

**Mazar I Sharif**

**4:54- 5:03**

**SOT Mahmoud(English)**

“I have lots of dreams and I want to achieve my dreams but, unfortunately here there is no opportunity to do that…I have no chances.”

**Shot: 26Nov21**

**Mazar I Sharif**

**5:03-5:17**

**Mahmoud leaves WFP food distribution with his mother, brother and WFP food ration**

**Shot: 26Nov21**

**Mazar I Sharif**

**ENDS**

**Info, Facts and Stats:**

**We are on a countdown to catastrophe as a humanitarian crisis of staggering proportions unfolds before our eyes. More than half of the population are facing acute hunger and 3.2 million children are suffering from malnutrition. Humanitarian needs have tripled, and will continue to rise as the bitter winter sets in pushing communities to the limit.**

* 22.8 million people face acute food insecurity according to the latest IPC assessment. All 34 provinces are facing crisis or emergency levels of acute food insecurity. We have never seen this many people facing emergency levels of food insecurity in Afghanistan.
* Things were desperate in the first part of the year with drought, conflict and COVID-19. Since August we have seen the situation spiral into chaos with the collapse of public services and a deepening economic crisis.
* We are at a point of no return. If our efforts to rapidly scale up are supported now, we can avoid the worst-case scenario come Spring. But the international community must urgently step up – getting funds into Afghanistan and funding lifesaving humanitarian operations such as those run by WFP – before it’s too late.

**Conflict over the last 20 years has killed tens of thousands of innocent civilians in Afghanistan. Tragically, hundreds of thousands - perhaps millions - of innocent Afghans are at risk of dying in this new war of hunger – without a single shot fired.**

* Cash shortages, jobs losses, and unpaid salaries followed the rapid withdrawal of international aid and the freeze of the country’s overseas assets.
* The economic crisis has created a new class of hungry. For the first time, urban residents are suffering from food insecurity at similar rates to rural communities, which had been ravaged by drought twice in the past three years. Across cities, towns, and villages, virtually no family can afford sufficient food according to WFP surveys.
* Among the most vulnerable are Afghan children. Half of all children under-5 are suffering from acute malnutrition; 1 million of them could die from the most severe form if treatment doesn’t reach them in time. It will be a collective failure if we let that happen.

**WFP is ramping up its life-saving support to meet the most pressing needs of Afghan people. We need to reach 24 million people in 2022 and require US$ 2.6 billion to do this. The task is mammoth but so is our determination.**

* Already this year, WFP has provided food, cash, and nutrition assistance to 12.4 million people, including malnutrition treatment and prevention services to nearly 437,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women, and 900,000 children under-five. More than half of the people WFP assisted in 2020 and 2021 were women and girls.
* This winter millions of Afghan people are counting on WFP for life-saving food. Without it, they will be forced to choose between migration and starvation. Scaling down will create more suffering, instability, and deaths. We cannot and will not let them down.

**Facts & figures**

* **Number of food-insecure people:                                                                               22.8 million****(50+% of population)**
* **People facing Emergency (IPC phase 4):                                                                  8.7 million**
* **New IDPs in 2021:                                                                                                                 682,000 (OCHA, Nov 2021)**
* **Global acute malnutrition rate:                                                                                   13% (some districts 25%)**
* **Beneficiaries targeted by WFP in 2021:                                                                    14 m, up to 24 m in 2022**
* **Funding needs in 2022:                                                                                                      US$ 2.6 billion in 2022**

**WFP food and nutrition assistance**

**Since the beginning of 2021, WFP has assisted 12.4 million people - almost 3 million more than in 2020. 5.5 million were assisted in October, and 4 million in September, a substantial increase from 1.3 million in August. With a network of 75 cooperating partners across the country, WFP continues to deliver across all 34 provinces to meet rising needs, prevent and treat malnutrition, boost community resilience, encourage school attendance and support women and girls.**

* School feeding: In 2021, WFP has assisted 230,184 children through its school feeding programme and plans to scale up to reach 1 million children from 2022. On 1 November, WFP resumed cash-based transfers under its Mazar Area Office to support 45,970 school girls. Each adolescent will receive AFN 1,200 a month (US$15) until the end of 2021.
* Nutrition: Since the beginning of the year, WFP has assisted 436,765 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 895,200 children under 5 with malnutrition prevention and treatment activities. WFP is treating moderate acute malnutrition by integrating with mobile health and nutrition teams in the most remote locations of the country. WFP and UNICEF are adding 100 new mobile health and nutrition teams to extend reach and continuity of services, bringing the total to over 200.
* Internally Displaced Persons: In 2021, WFP has assisted 601,034 internally displaced persons. In October, WFP assisted 73,472 people newly displaced by conflict.
* COVID-19: WFP has assisted more than 900,000 people affected by the socio-economic impact of the pandemic in 2021.
* Asset creation and livelihood: WFP’s food assistance for assets and vocational skills training activities continue across the country, reaching 235,739 people to date.
* Assistance to women & girls: WFP has been working in Afghanistan for decades, ensuring women and girls have access to food security and adequate nutrition. More than half of the people WFP assisted in 2020 and 2021 were women and girls.

**We need fast, flexible funding to continue our life-saving efforts in Afghanistan.**

Donors responded generously to the 13 September High-level Event on Afghanistan for humanitarian and development aid. We thank donors who have already contributed, but pledges need to be disbursed quickly - so far 86% of the US$606 million required has been received, and needs continue to rise. We are urging donors who pledged to the UN Flash Appeal to provide the funds immediately so we can get urgent assistance to Afghans. Winter is already here. We cannot wait a moment longer.

**Food Security Situation**

According to the October 2021 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, 22.8 million people (55% of the population) will face acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) from November 2021 to March 2022. Almost half of the areas analysed face emergency (IPC 4), including almost all urban areas - totalling 8.7 million people.

27 out of 34 provinces have acute malnutrition above emergency thresholds. This translates to 3.9 million people in need of malnutrition treatment in 2021, including 1 million children under five suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), 2.2 million children under five from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), and 0.7 million pregnant and breastfeeding women from acute malnutrition.

Prices have skyrocketed in the country, pushing food out of reach for millions of cash-strapped Afghans. Compared with the last week of June,  wheat prices have increased by 24%; wheat flour by 31%; cooking oil by 26%; and sugar by 20%. Fuel price has also increased by 33%, according to the latest WFP market monitor (fourth week of October).

**Impact on women and girls**

Challenges facing the most vulnerable communities in Afghanistan have a disproportionate impact on women and girls – who face restrictions on access to education and freedom of movement, which in turn affects their access to livelihoods, income and essential healthcare. WFP data also shows that households headed by women are skipping meals and eating less food far more than those headed by men.

The full and equitable participation of all Afghan people is essential to improving food security in the country – women and girls must be afforded opportunities to achieve food security for themselves and their families. Half of the people WFP assisted in 2020 and 2021 were women/girls, and WFP continues to advocate for women to be involved in all decision-making**.**

**Cross-border displacement**

If food does not arrive in time, families may be driven to go looking for it. If that happens, we could see a much greater refugee outflow than witnessed to date. UN agencies have solid plans to respond if people do begin to cross borders – but the most urgent step that donors must take right now is to fund our existing programmes in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Iran.

**WFP Air Operations**

WFP’s UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has been providing vital airlinks into and across Afghanistan, ensuring humanitarian responders can get to where they are needed most. So far, WFP has moved 2,161 passengers and 4.5 mt of cargo on 336 flights, on behalf of 160 organizations. On 07 November the first UNHAS flight from Dushanbe, Tajikistan took place. This is in addition to flights connecting Kabul, Islamabad, Kandahar, Herat, Mazar, Kunduz, Bamiyan, Faizabad**,** Maymana, and Jalalabad. US$ 30 million is required to continue these critical services.

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The United Nations World Food Programme is the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.  We are the world’s largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters, and the impact of climate change.

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