**SHOTLIST:**

**WFP News Video: WFP Data Shows Almost 100% of Households Headed by Women in Afghanistan Not Getting Enough Food**

**Shot: Jan-Feb 2022**

**TRT: 3:51**

**:00-:25**

GVs excavator and people with shovels clearing snow from the road for WFP food trucks in the remote Shughnan district of Badakhshan Province.

**Shot: 17Feb22**

**Badakhshan Province**

**:25-:55**

GVs of people waiting in the snow at WFP Food distribution. Woman registering, receiving food and loading onto tuktuk.

**Shot: 8Jan22**

**Kabul**

**:55-1:05**

Farzana, mother of five, queuing at WFP food distribution in Heart with her youngest daughter. Farzana lost her husband 3 years ago and is left with 4 children to feed - her oldest son is working in Iran while another son lives with the family and works as an occasional day-laborer, but even on a good day, their earnings can’t cover the cost of soaring food prices.

**Shot: 13Jan22**

**Herat**

**1:05-1:41**

**SOT Farzana (Dari)**

*“This year was a complete disaster for everyone. There is consistent drought. Last year, it was better since people had some jobs and there was some work to do. But this year, the situation at home and outside and everywhere else is really deteriorating.”*

**Shot: 13Jan22**

**Herat**

**1:41-1:56**

Farzana bringing home WFP food rations.

**Shot: 13Jan22**

**Herat**

**1:56-2:14**

GVs of mothers with their children waiting to be tested for malnutrition: weighing, Mid-Upper Arm Circumference tests (MUACS) and receiving nutritious food.

**Shot: 18Jan22**

**Herat**

**2:14-2:24**

WFP Food distribution in Kandahar.

**Shot: 21Feb22**

**Kandahar**

**2:24-3:05**

**SOT Margot Van der Velden, WFP Director of Emergencies (English)**

*“It’s a very desperate situation that we see here; 23 million people in Afghanistan are facing an acute security situation. Recently we did some studies in January and we found out that 95% of all of the households don’t have enough food. We have indications of around 66% of households that have to resort very severe coping strategies to survive and 87% of the families are in debt. This is really a consequence of the drought. We have had four years of consecutive drought in this area, we have the legacy of the conflict of course but also we have now a major economic crisis.”*

**Shot: 21Feb22**

**Kandahar**

**3:05-3:20**

GVs of WFP distribution. Yasmin, mother of five, registering at the distribution point. She and her husband have both lost their jobs and have not been able to pay rent for 4 months, and risk being evicted.

**Shot: 20Feb22**

**Kabul**

**3:20-3:36**

**SOT Yasmin (Dari)**

*“Now my  husband and I are both jobless and because of the money constraints, we sold our furniture to feed our children and keep them warm so that they do not die.”*

**Shot: 20Feb22**

**Kabul**

**3:36-3:51**

Yasmin, having received her WFP food rations, leaving distribution site.

**Shot: 20Feb22**

**Kabul**

**ENDS**

**Food insecurity in Afghanistan is rising sharply, driven by the impact of the economic crisis, decades of conflict, and drought. Men, women, and children queuing for food assistance say that the misery of hunger, today, is even greater than the challenges they endured during the worst days of conflict.**

1. Over half of all Afghan people – 23 million – need emergency food assistance. The latest WFP food security data shows that 95% of Afghans are not eating enough food, with the number rising to almost 100% for households headed by women.
2. Two-thirds - 66% - are resorting to desperate coping measures like borrowing money or skipping meals to feed their families. This is a six-fold increase since August last year.
3. Afghan families are crossing into neighbouring countries and many more will leave unless we address growing hunger in the country. With Afghan people now forced to choose between starvation and migration, an increasing number will choose to flee.

**As the economic crisis continues to push people over the edge, humanitarian needs will reach levels we collectively cannot meet. While emergency assistance is essential, it is not enough to avert Afghanistan’s looming catastrophe. The country’s dying economy needs immediate life support if we are to save lives and preserve the gains made over the past two decades.**

* People are being left with few alternatives as their incomes vanish. 81% income-earning households experienced a significant drop in income in January, with Kabul (88%) hardest-hit. Worse still, some households were even forced to brace the cold month with no income earned at all (18%).
* Food and fuel remain expensive - wheat flour up by 50% from June 2021, cooking oil up by 40%, and fuel up by 47%  ([WFP Market Monitor](https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000135471/download/)). Families can’t afford bread - the staple diet in Afghanistan – and have to scavenge or beg to feed their children.
* We need urgent action that can revive the economy and boost the financial and banking sectors. People need jobs, salaries must be paid, small and medium sized businesses must be saved from total collapse and the banking sector must be shored up so that people are able to rebuild their lives.

**For many, WFP’s assistance is the lifeline they need to survive this winter. In a year when global humanitarian needs are on a clear upward trend, we cannot let our programmes grind to a halt and allow people in Afghanistan to die from hunger.**

* In 2021, WFP assisted 15 million people with life-saving assistance across all 34 provinces. Every day, more than 300 WFP trucks are on the road delivering food, and the number could increase to 500 in the coming months.
* WFP has been working in Afghanistan for decades, ensuring women and girls have access to adequate food and nutrition. More than half of the people WFP assisted in 2020 and 2021 were women and girls.
* As schools reopen in March, WFP’s school feeding programme will continue playing a critical role in the health, nutrition and development of Afghan children, as more and more parents struggle to put food on the table.
* The most serious constraint we face is lack of funding. WFP needs US$ 2.6 billion in 2022 to reach 23 million people facing acute hunger and malnutrition. We need to fill the gap of US$ 1.8 billion after March, but we have no idea when or where this money may come from.

If you would like interviews from Afghanistan please contact our spokesperson Shelley Thakral – [shelley.thakral@wfp.org](mailto:shelley.thakral@wfp.org)

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The United Nations World Food Programme is 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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**For more information please contact (email address:**[**firstname.lastname@wfp.org**](mailto:firstname.lastname@wfp.org)**):**

George Fominyen, WFP/ Rome, Mob. +39 3499336721   
Tomson Phiri, WFP/ Geneva, Mob. +41 79 842 8057

Nina Valente, WFP/ London, Mob. +44 (0)796 8008 474   
Martin Rentsch, WFP/Berlin, Mob +49 160 99 26 17 30   
Shaza Moghraby, WFP/New York, Mob. + 1 929 289 9867

Steve Taravella, WFP/ Washington, Mob.  +1 202 770 5993