



AFGHANISTAN EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT

No. 32 | August 2023

Key figures (monthly)

396,501

People received emergency
healthcare service (PHC &
Hospitals)

13,045

people received trauma care
services (IPD+OPD)

67,947 KG

medical and non-medical
supplies provided

590

health workers trained

114

surveillance support teams
deployed to outbreak areas¹

Summary of outbreaks

1,053

COVID-19
confirmed cases

39,155

Acute Watery Diarrhea
AWD (2023)

1,708

Measles (2023)

213

Dengue fever (2023)

176

CCHF (2023)



Inauguration of Aino Mina Hospital in Kandahar Province.

Overview



In response to gaps in health service delivery, the World Health Organization (WHO) has scaled up its support to 25 hospitals of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). Starting early September, WHO will provide essential medicines and medical supplies to enable secondary and tertiary health care provision to more than 400,000 patients over the coming three months.



Malaria diagnostics and treatment are lacking in Afghanistan. WHO is calling for regular supply of malaria medicines and needed consumables to the public health facilities. If the gap is unfilled, there is a high risk of severe malaria outbreaks in the country.



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.



There were 319,068 people reached by WHO in 226 health facilities in underserved and hard-to-reach areas of 29 provinces through seven implementing partners. The services reached 33,324 children with immunizations; 1,383 deliveries; 10,453 antenatal care; 6,212 postnatal care and 17,942 mental health counselling.



WHO inaugurated two Drug Addiction Treatment Centers (DATC); a 100-bed DATC in Kandahar; and a 20-bed facility in Urozgan.



A total of 5,963 cases of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications (2,862 girls and 3,101 boys) were admitted and treated in 130 WHO-supported Inpatient Department for Severe Acute Malnutrition (IPD-SAM) centers in the country.

¹A 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.

²A 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.

³AWD 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

- WHO, along with 50 other Health Cluster partners, reached approximately **1.4 million people** with humanitarian health services through 940 health facilities in 324 districts of all 34 provinces
- The Health Cluster mobilized **USD 21M** through the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) to support winter-specific emergency health assistance to 1.5 million people in 95 high priority districts of 25 provinces.
- The Health Cluster supported a two-day national workshop for the identification of underserved and hard-to-reach areas, and provision of the health and nutrition services. The workshop was attended by more than 180 participants
- Regional Health Clusters coordinated response activities for the flood-affected communities in Wardak, Kabul, Logar and Parwan provinces; food poisoning cases in the south-eastern region; and Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) outbreak in Laghman province.

Health Service Delivery (Primary Health Care and Hospitals)

During the month of August, WHO reached 319,068 people through 226 health facilities in underserved and hard-to-reach areas of 29 provinces, implemented by seven implementing partners. The services included 33,324 children with immunization services; 1,383 deliveries; 10,453 antenatal care; 6,212 postnatal services and 17,942 mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS) counselling.

Primary Health Care

-  **396,501**
Individuals received OPD consultations
-  **12,321**
Women received ANC
-  **7,615**
Women received PNC
-  **2,079**
Institutional deliveries
-  **66,295**
Number of consultations for Non-communicable diseases
-  **23,092**
Pregnant, CBA Women and under 5 children received TT2+, measles, and PENTA-3 Vaccination

Sustaining healthcare services delivery





Beneficiaries of PHC & Hospital services at WHO-supported facilities for August 2023 (Total : 396,501)		
Age	♂ Male	♀ Female
Over 18 years	85,955	178,131
Under 18 years	65,203	67,212

Trauma & Physical Rehabilitation

WHO supports 175 healthcare facilities across the country with medicines, medical equipment, consumables and capacity development trainings. Technical and financial support are also provided to the ambulance project in seven provinces (Kabul, Herat, Parwan, Wardak, Nangarhar, Balkh and Paktya).

There are 67 blood banks in health facilities supported by WHO with consumables and capacity building trainings.

WHO is establishing a new Emergency Unit in Ali Abad National Hospital in Kabul City, and also in Paktika Provincial Hospital in Paktika province. It has also renovated Khost and Paktia Regional Hospitals in south east region.

-  **4,176**
patients received physiotherapy
-  **5,334**
patients received blood transfusion
-  **19,309**
patients received minor surgical operation
-  **3,677**
patients received major surgical operation

Trauma care services

Beneficiaries of trauma care services at WHO-supported facilities for August 2023 (Total: 13,045)		
	♂ Male	♀ Female
Over 18 years	4,488	1,924
Under 18 years	4,063	2,570

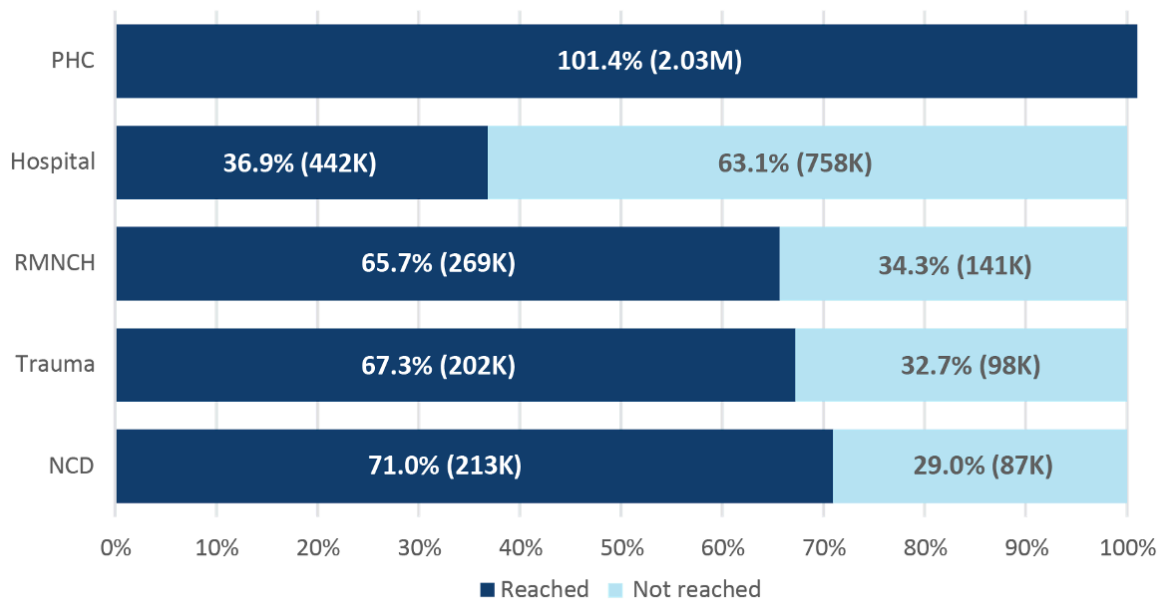
Post trauma rehabilitation

Beneficiaries of post trauma rehabilitation services at WHO-supported facilities for August 2023 (Total: 39,370)		
	♂ Male	♀ Female
Over 18 years	12,474	12,382
Under 18 years	8,131	6,383

Ambulance services

Beneficiaries reached at WHO-supported Ambulances for August 2023 (Total: 8,956)		
Age	♂ Male	♀ Female
Over 18 years	3,246	4,869
Under 18 years	466	375

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



Nutrition in Emergencies

A total of 5,963 cases of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications (2,862 girls and 3,101 boys) were admitted and treated in 130 WHO-supported Inpatient Department for Severe Acute Malnutrition (IPD-SAM) centers in the country (119 hospitals and 11 Comprehensive Health Centers plus). This represents 102% of the monthly target.

WHO is helping strengthen the national capacity to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition. A total of 47 health staff from

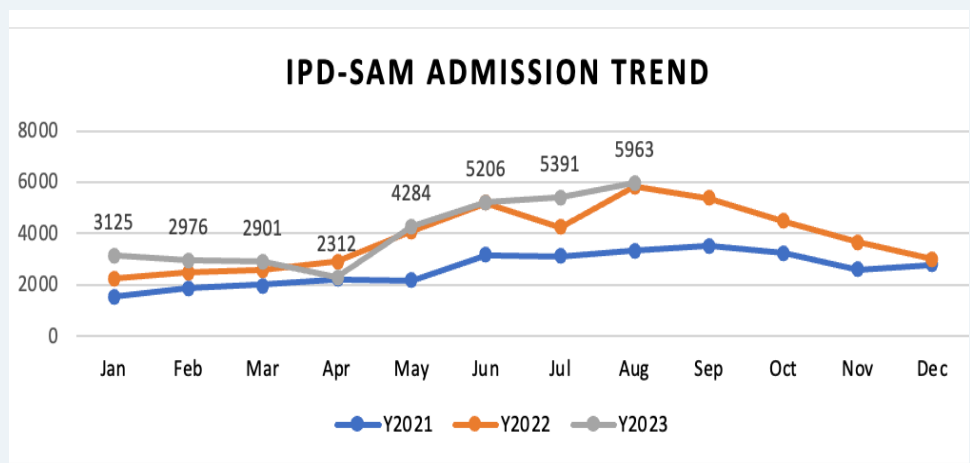
Logar, Panjshir, Khost and Paktika provinces (female) were trained on facility-base nutrition surveillance while 17 female doctors received Training of Trainer on IPD-SAM in Kabul province.

Beneficiaries of 127 WHO-supported IPD-SAM centers for August 2023		
Under five	♂ Boys	♀ Girls
5,963	3,101	2,862

37,296
Pregnant and lactating women received malnutrition screening and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling and treatment services

11,604
Women received family planning services and awareness

73,325
Under 5 children received OPV, malnutrition treatment, and screening



Infectious hazard preparedness and surveillance

Monthly summary of infectious disease outbreaks in Afghanistan August 2023

Indicators	AWD	CCHF	COVID-19	Measles	Dengue
Monthly new cases (% change compared to July)	39,155 (↑40.5)	176 (↓45.2)	1,053 (↑3.3)	1,708 (↓6.2))	213 (↑79.0)

Crimean–Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF)

- During the reporting period, the number of suspected CCHF cases showed 45.2% decrease (176 suspected cases in August compared to 321 in July), with 15 new associated deaths.
- Cumulatively, since January 2023, a total of 992 suspected CCHF cases have been reported: 311 (31.4%) are females and 991 (99.9%) were above five years of age.
- The CCHF-associated deaths were reported from 14 provinces, more than half were reported from two provinces; Kabul (46.0%) and Balkh (14.0%).
- Totally, 879 samples of suspected CCHF cases were tested since the beginning of 2023, of which 300 samples were positive (positivity = 34.1%).

Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) with dehydration

- During the last month, a total of 39,155 AWD cases with dehydration were reported, which shows an increase of 40.5% when compared to July 2023, with a total of 21 associated deaths (CFR of 0.05%).
- Cumulatively, since the beginning of 2023, there were 152,198 cases of AWD with dehydration were reported, of which 57.3% were children below five years and 49.8% were females.

COVID-19

- During the last month, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases showed stabilization with eight associated deaths (CFR 0.8%).
- During August 2023, a total of 12,435 tests have been conducted in public laboratories, which is lower by 20.7% compared to July 2023. The test positivity decreased from 9.7% in July 2023 to 8.5% in August 2023.
- During the reporting period, around 165,000 individuals have been vaccinated, and the proportion of those who received at least one dose slightly increased to reach 42.6%.

Measles

- During the reporting period, the number of suspected measles cases was 1,708 which represents a decrease by 6.2% compared to July 2023, with a total of 11 associated deaths (CFR of 0.6%).

Dengue fever

- During the reporting period, 213 new suspected cases were reported which shows a 79.0% increase in the number of suspected cases compared to July 2023. No new associated deaths were reported during the last month.
- During August 2023, most of the new suspected dengue fever cases were reported from Nangarhar province, with very few cases reported from Laghman and Kunar.

Supplies



17 oral ribavirin doses sent to Balkh Infectious Disease Hospital (IDH)





715 sets of personal protective equipment (PPE) and **4,000 hand sanitizers** were provided to all national disease surveillance response (NDSR) sites in 34 provinces



1,000 AWD with dehydration Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) and 1,000 Cary Blair have been sent to Kandahar, Nangarhar, Kabul, Mazar and Kunduz sub-offices

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)

 **18,681**
Individuals received mental health consultations

 **6,874**
people received psychological counselling

WHO has trained 300 doctors in the east region who will undergo a field supervision program on Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP). An agreement was signed between WHO and International Medical Corps (IMC), who will provide six months of field supervision of health staff to further support and enhance their skills and knowledge in this area.

Drug demand reduction services (DDRS)

This August, WHO inaugurated a 100-bed Drug Addiction Treatment Center (DATC) in Kandahar that includes three mobile outreach teams to provide services at the community level. Similarly, a 20-bed facility in Urozgan province was also inaugurated.

The assessment of DATC in Kandahar has been successfully completed to evaluate the available resources and services at the center.



Dr Dapeng, WHO Representative in Afghanistan, inaugurating a DATC in Kandahar.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

WHO is actively involved in improving WASH services in 105 healthcare facilities across 11 provinces. This support involves rehabilitating and constructing solar-based 105 safe water sources, sanitation services, hygiene and waste management. Almost 80% activities have been completed.

WHO is also supporting water quality surveillance in healthcare facilities and responding to water-borne disease alerts or outbreaks. WHO’s WASH team has conducted water quality testing in 12 healthcare facilities, revealing microbiological contamination in 30% of the samples. The results have been shared with hospital administrations, and necessary measures have been implemented or recommended to minimize the risk of contamination.

Health logistical support



338,900

Patients received essential drugs for their basic health services

In August, a total of 765 modules of varying medical kits (over 67,947 kg in total) were delivered to Afghanistan. The reach of these kits (which included medicines, medical supplies, surgical supplies, and supplies to manage cholera, reproductive health supplies and supplies for non-communicable diseases) benefited over 752,000 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 35 monitoring officers on the ground using specific tools and online reporting system.

In August 2023, WHO conducted monitoring visits of:

- 121 primary healthcare facilities
- 96 Therapeutic Feeding Unit (TFU)
- 23 hospitals (including Integrated Infectious Disease and COVID-19 hospitals, DATCs, and Rehabilitation Centers)
- 7 Ambulatory Services including its sub-stations
- 8 hospitals in terms of WASH project implementation
- 96 hospitals under Health Emergency Response (HER) project in 34 provinces.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)



207,563

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

During August 2023, WHO officially handed over **nearly one million** information, educational and communication (IEC) materials on CCHF, AWD, Acute respiratory infection (ARI) and measles which will be used in health facilities and communities in Afghanistan. These materials will be used as part of outbreak preparedness and response, especially in areas that are at high risk of diseases outbreaks and affected communities.

In addition, **20,000 IEC materials** on AWD have been distributed in Kabul, Badakhshan, and Balkh provinces in response to the cholera and AWD outbreak reports.



WHO handed over almost a million copies of IEC materials to aid community engagement in Afghanistan.

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

