



This report is produced by OCHA Afghanistan in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 20 to 23 October 2015. The next report will be issued on or around 26 October 2015.

Highlights

- Rapid security risk and needs assessment activities postponed following a 20 Oct. rocket attack on the Sar-e Dawra area of Kunduz.
- Focus on Kunduz increasing as access and security improve and displaced families return, though concerns about security remain.
- Efforts underway to scale up humanitarian presence in Kunduz city, with the aim of meeting the needs both of those inside the city and the displaced while supporting voluntary returns within the capacity of existing services in Kunduz.
- Estimates of displaced remain highly fluid with reports of increasing volumes of returns to Kunduz.
- Critical needs for the majority of IDPs are food and shelter, with NFI, health, WASH, and protection also key.
- Stocks of food, NFIs and medical supplies are in the region with additional shipments of needed supplies being prepared.
- Additional funding is required to the 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan, to replenish emergency stocks.



Source: OCHA
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Situation Overview

While conditions continued to stabilize in Kunduz city centre between 20 and 23 October, a 20 Oct. rocket attack on the Sar-e Dawra area necessitated the cancellation of security risk and some rapid needs assessment activities. This, in turn, is expected to delay the resumption of flights required to mobilize humanitarian actors to the city. Meanwhile, Government-initiated teams carried out needs assessment during the reporting period and the stabilization of security in Kunduz city allowed partners to begin reopening offices in anticipation of resuming activities. With the restoration of electricity and water, Kunduz Regional Hospital Health is now 80% functional and equipped with enough medicine to provide health services for the city. Kunduz airport also is operational, but not as of yet accessible to civilian aircraft.

Assessment and verification of internally displaced people continues in many areas resulting in wide variations in estimates of the number of returnees. Available information indicates families are returning to Kunduz city in increasing numbers as the security situation improves. Most of those returning are doing so via Government-provided transportation support.

While overall security has improved in Kunduz city, the situation remains volatile. In addition to the 20 Oct. rocket attack on the city, heavy shelling of anti-government elements in Chara Dhara area of Kunduz was reported on 21 Oct., which coincided with an armed skirmish on the eastern outskirts of the city that same night. The Mazar to Shibirghan highway was closed on the evening of 20 Oct. due to an attack on civilian vehicular traffic but reopened on 21 Oct.

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

Funding

Humanitarian Response Plan 2015



58%

Funded as of 23 October 2015



243m US\$ received

417m US\$ requested

Source: FTS (23 October 2015). All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Humanitarian Response

Despite improvements in security conditions in Kunduz city and reports suggesting the return of a large volume of families, addressing the needs of those displaced from Kunduz city continues to be of utmost importance as the humanitarian community focuses on three main priorities: continue responding to the needs of those displaced; responding to the needs as identified inside Kunduz city; and balancing support for voluntary returns as a preferred durable solution with the need to avoid a return scenario which overstretches the capacity of services in Kunduz city.

Partners are returning to Kunduz city and resuming operations. A rapid, multi-sectoral humanitarian needs assessment, along with stopgap basic emergency food and water support, is to be carried out as soon as security conditions in Kunduz city permit in concert with government-initiated assessments that already are underway. It is expected that food and water support will be provided with stocks from Kabul but these stocks subsequently will need to be replenished. Once completed, the rapid assessment will serve as the basis for more in-depth, cluster-specific assessments that will further inform the response.

Establishing accurate figures of those displaced and in need outside of Kunduz city remains a challenge, which is compounded by the difficulty in tracking returnees who do not seek assistance. Assessments of the displaced continue, with a corresponding reduction in caseloads as families return to Kunduz. Security and access constraints also make counting and tracking the displaced difficult. Conditions for those remaining displaced in some settlements are reported as extremely basic, with critical needs for shelter, dedicated management of facilities hosting displaced persons, and food, in particular. Other needs include NFI, emergency health, WASH, and protective services.

Partners have indicated capacity to respond and assess populations. As displaced groups are assessed on a day-to-day basis, response is being mobilized to ensure that assistance is provided in a timely manner, with ongoing adjustments, as needed and appropriate, to response targets and locations as caseload volumes change and families voluntarily return home.

Cumulative figures for those reached so far are derived from reports from partners as well as other sources. Therefore, reported figures may not capture all interventions undertaken in all locations. In addition, figures may include a duplication of beneficiaries, particularly for families that have been assisted through multiple interventions.

Response activities, including updates since the last report, and critical gaps by Cluster include:



Emergency Shelter / NFIs

Response (cumulative):

- 16,278 families have been reached with ES/NFI interventions so far.
- 878 families have been reached so far with tents.
- 3,591 families have received blankets.
- 2,336 families have received cash interventions.
- 1,862 families have received complete NFI kits.
- 2,226 families have received family kits.

16,278

families reached with
ES & NFI interventions
so far

Response (highlights since last report):

- CARE distributed NFI kits to 550 displaced families in Kabul.

Gaps:

- While precise figures of those in need and associated gaps are still being determined, emergency shelter and NFIs have been recognized as critical needs.
- Stock is sufficient to meet remaining needs; UNHCR/CARE to cover as needed.



Food Security

Response (cumulative):

- 8,728 families have been reached with Food Security interventions so far.
- Food packages have been provided to 5,869 families.
- Cooked food and bread provided by civil society, Government, and humanitarian partners has reached more than 2,161 families so far.
- 698 families have received cash for food.

8,728

families reached with
food security
interventions so far

Response (highlights since last report):

- Concern distributed 7,000 loafs of bread as well as jam, cream and cheese in Baish Bator compound, Taloqan.
- WFP distributed 188 food packages in Taloqan.
- DRC has distributed cash for food to 557 families in Baish Bator compound, Taloqan.
- The Government of Pakistan reported arranging the transport of a plane-load of wheat stock to those affected by the conflict.

Gaps:

- While precise figures of those in need and associated gaps are still being determined, food is recognized as a critical need in such areas as Taloqan.
- WFP reports sufficient stock to meet remaining needs.



Health

Response (cumulative):

- 6,265 individuals have been reached with provision of basic health services, including through provincial Public Health Directorates' mobile clinics.
- AADA has reached 3,865 individuals (including 1600 women, 1346 children, and 919 men) with health services through a mobile health team in Bagh-e-Shirkat compound, Taloqan.
- Surgical supplies sufficient for 200 interventions to military hospital in Kunduz is to be provided by MSP.
- Health care facilities resumed operations with the restoration of electricity and water. A surge team was deployed to Kunduz Regional Hospital, supported by WHO, and as of the end of the reporting period, the hospital was 80% functional equipped with enough medicine to provide health services for the city. WHO provided a trauma kit with surgical supplies for 100 interventions, and the MoPH provided blood for 150 patients and blood bags for 400 patients. Sixty of Kunduz province's 65 health care facilities and about 60% of the city's private clinics also reported being functional.

Gaps:

- While precise figures of those in need and associated gaps are still being determined, health remains a critical need.



Nutrition

Response (cumulative):

- High-Energy Biscuits have been provided to 326 families in Fayzabad and Mazar.

Gaps:

- While precise figures of those in need and associated gaps are still being determined, a gap of 5,860 has been identified in Takhar; UNICEF has HEB for 2,400 families in Taloqan.



Protection

Response (cumulative):

- The Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan has deployed 7 EOD teams, 4 Survey teams and 3 Mine Risk Education teams to Kunduz. The survey/EOD teams have completed physical assessments of the MSF hospital and 13 schools, a number of UXOs have been found within the school premises as well as ERW. MRE, Survey and EOD teams are to begin operations to assess and clear villages in a systematic manner.

MRE teams have been deployed at various IDP camps. The Afghanistan Red Crescent Society has commenced data collection and assessment of civilian casualties under the Afghanistan Civilian Assistance Programme, implemented by UNMAS.

- Mine-risk education has begun in Taloqan. UNICEF has provided 2,000 mine risk education posters for mine risk education activities in Takhar and Kunduz province and 3,000 posters in stock for future use.
- Three child-friendly spaces have been established in Taloqan and Mazar.
- Staff from the UNFPA-supported Family Protection Centre in the provincial hospital in Balkh have provided interim outreach psycho-social counselling services in Haji camp, Mazar. About 30 women have received group counselling in groups of 7 women per counselling session.
- Psychosocial support and training on GBV response in emergencies have been provided in Pul-e-Khumri.
- The APC Protection of Civilians Working Group, chaired by UNAMA Human Rights, has established an email address (afgkapoc@unhcr.org) through which information regarding the situation of civilians in armed conflict and related human rights concerns can be confidentially reported by involved actors.
- Partners' interventions in Taloqan, Fayzabad, and Mazar include child-friendly spaces, psychosocial support for children, and mine risk education. Protection needs assessments have been conducted in key areas.

Gaps:

- While the exact figures of those in need and the relevant gaps remain to be established, psychosocial support, family tracing and reunification, and mine clearance and mine-risk education are seen as key needs. In the meantime, UNICEF has 10 school-in-a-box in stock.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Response (cumulative):

- 10,973 families have been reached so far with WASH interventions.
- Hygiene kits have been provided to 4,815 families.
- 1,047 families have been reached with hygiene education.
- Regular water provision has reached 2,670 individuals.
- 820 families have been reached with emergency latrines.

10,973

families reached with
WASH interventions
so far

Response (highlights since last report):

- NCA distributed 335 hygiene kits to 2,345 families in Taloqan.
- ARCS distributed 186 hygiene kits, provided by UNICEF, to 1,302 families in addition to 1,666 water containers, provided by UNICEF, in Taloqan.
- ICRC is providing up to 400 litres of fuel per day for generators to pump water into the Kunduz city water supply network until electricity is restored.

Gaps:

- While the precise figures of those in need and associated gaps is still to be established given recent spikes in the rate of returnees, UNICEF is set to provide additional stock for upwards of 2,500 families.



Logistics

Response:

- Assessment underway of resumption of flights to Kunduz; commercial flights from Kabul to Kunduz to resume as soon as security permits.
- UNHAS is operating normal flights to Mazar, Fayzabad, and Pul-e-Khumri and special flights to Kunduz
- A WFP warehouse is usable in Taloqan city.

Partners' indicated capacity to respond based on available stocks is as follows:

Please see attached table.

General Coordination

Security and access continue to pose the most significant constraints to the humanitarian response. As safe access to Kunduz city improves, caution is required due to the volatile security situation. Road access from Mazar to Kunduz remains a challenge. The Chara Dara area is problematic given that it was the site of armed clashes as recently as 21 Oct. Road access from the east has also improved for civilians, but reports vary about the accessibility of the road between Khan Abad and Kunduz. The airport is fully operational with the control tower and runway fully functional.

With the stabilization in conditions in Kunduz city, efforts are being made to increase the humanitarian presence in Kunduz city as quickly as possible. Health partners have been among the first to return and provide support within Kunduz city. Other partners also report returning to Kunduz and resuming operations. The presence of humanitarian personnel is to be scaled up further following completion of a rapid needs assessment to be carried out in the coming days, security conditions permitting. The coordination of mine action activities and establishment of a UNMACA Regional Office is deemed critical given that IDPs and humanitarian personnel will be returning to areas where armed clashes occurred mere weeks ago.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan has convened a sub-working group of the National Disaster Management Commission chaired by the State Minister for Disaster Management and Director-General of ANDMA. This group is coordinating the Government and civil society response for IDPs in Afghanistan. Mechanisms led by the international humanitarian community are also operational. OCHA has begun leading coordination in hubs in the North and Northeast. In areas of displacement, OCHA staff deployed on 5 and 6 Oct. to Taloqan and Fayzabad, respectively, including to support coordination of humanitarian activities in these two areas. On 14 Oct., UNHCR deployed several staff in Taloqan and Fayzabad to strengthen protection capacity. Other partners are on the ground in Fayzabad, Pul-e-Khumri city, Takhar, and Mazar-e-Sharif, as well as in Kabul and other provinces of Central Region. In the majority of these areas, government coordination mechanisms including the PDMCs, supported by ANDMA, continue to be active, including in Kunduz where eight Government-initiated assessment teams launched activities on 18 Oct.

Humanitarian coordination structure in north and northeast

MAZAR, BALKH		
OCHA:		
Eveline Viehboeck (from 18 October)	viehboeck@un.org	+93795 878 705
Mirwais Muzafar	muzafar@un.org	+93795878706
GOVERNMENT:		
Rahmatullah Zahed	Director of ANDMA	+93799770187
Abdul Saboor Qaderi	Director of DoRR	+93700510025
TALOQAN, TAKHAR		
OCHA:		
Taher Shahim	shahimt@un.org	+93795878702 +93700704076
GOVERNMENT:		
Abdul Razaq Zinda	Director of ANDMA	+93700749292
FAYZABAD, BADAKHSHAN		
OCHA:		
Taher Shahim	shahimt@un.org	+93795878702 +93700704076
GOVERNMENT:		
Dr. Shah Waliullah Adib	Governor, PDMC	+93707 608 690
KUNDUZ PROVINCE		
OCHA (remotely supporting):		
Ahmad Reshad Ahmadzai (Mazar-based)	ahmadzai2@un.org	+93795878703
Mohammad Sadiq Zaheer (Fayzabad-based)	zaheer2@un.org	+93796000154
Mirwais Muzafar (Mazar-based)	muzafar@un.org	+93795878706

PUL-E-KHUMRI, BAGHLAN**OCHA (remotely supporting):**

Ahmad Reshad Ahmadzai (Mazar-based)	ahmadzai2@un.org	+93795878703
Mohammad Sadiq Zaheer (Fayzabad-based)	zaheer2@un.org	+93796000154
Mirwais Muzafar (Mazar-based)	muzafar@un.org	+93795878706

GOVERNMENT:

Mohammad Naim Kakar	Director of DoRR	+93700708703
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Background on the crisis

An increase in hostilities began in the Northeast region on Monday, 28 September with an attack by non-state armed groups on Kunduz City. Control of the city was in the hands of non-state armed groups until approximately 29 September and was contested for the following days, with an initial restoration of relative calm on 11 October. While the Government has taken control of the city, conditions have stabilized and access has improved, challenges remain on many roads leading to Kunduz and with the possibility of IEDs in the city. Control of some districts in the other Northeast provinces of Takhar, Badakhshan, and Baghlan remains contested. Civilian casualties, a breakdown in services, and displacement have resulted.

For further information, please contact:

Dominic Parker, Head of Office, OCHA Afghanistan, parker@un.org, Cell +93 790 3001 101

Scott Anderson, Deputy Head of Office, OCHA Afghanistan, andersons@un.org, Cell +93 79 3001 104

For more information, please visit www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int

Conflict Displacements in North Eastern Afghanistan

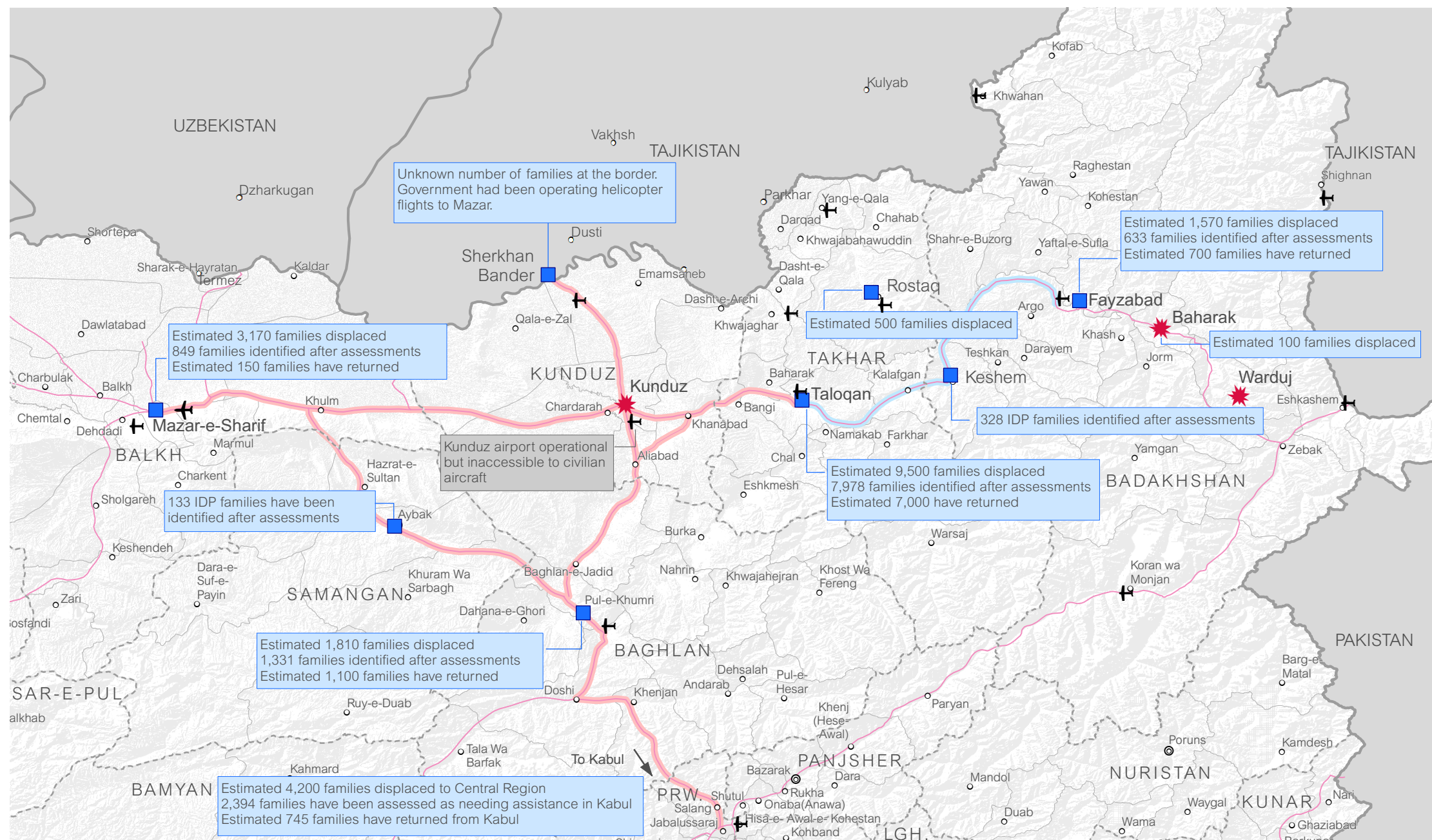
Summary of Response and Potential Gaps (as of 23 October 2015)

Cluster	Province	Estimated Casedload* (families)	Assessed so far* (IDP Task Force) (families)	Assessed so far (Field Reports) (families)	Assisted*** (families)	Committed*** (families)	Available Stocks (families)	Potential Gap (families)	Comments
		A	B	C	D	E	F	B - (D + E + F)	
ESNFI (NFI Kits)	Badakhshan	1,789	961	988	696	-	4,861	-	
	Baghlan	1,809	1,331	1,004	696	275	-	360	
	Kabul	4,000	-	897	1,022	-	1,000	-	Sufficient stock with UNHCR/CARE to cover remaining needs
	Mazar	3,167	849	612	354	-	857	-	
	Parwan	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Takhar	10,000	7,978	10,499	3,750	734	1,332	2,162	
	Samangan	87	133	160	-	-	-	133	
FSAC (Food Package)	Badakhshan	1,789	961	988	973	505	2,700	-	
	Baghlan	1,809	1,331	1,004	657	338	-	336	
	Kabul	4,000	-	897	965	-	-	-	Sufficient stock with WFP to cover remaining needs
	Mazar	3,167	849	612	161	-	-	688	
	Parwan	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Takhar	10,000	7,978	10,499	3,617	-	10,000	-	
	Samangan	87	133	160	95	-	-	38	
Health (Basic Health Care Services)	Badakhshan	1,789	961	988	-	-	-	-	AKHS CHC not in operation, CAF HF from 12 Oct for women, mobile HF planned
	Baghlan	1,809	1,331	1,004	-	-	-	-	
	Kabul	4,000	-	897	-	-	-	-	
	Mazar	3,167	849	612	-	-	-	-	Haji Camp - PPHD, IR Mobile HF; UNICEF supplied clean delivery kits and newborn kits
	Parwan	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Takhar	10,000	7,978	10,499	-	-	-	-	
	Samangan	87	133	160	-	-	-	-	ARCS, AADA, SCI, PH Directorate Mobile HFs
Nutrition (HEB)	Badakhshan	1,789	961	988	146	-	110	705	
	Baghlan	1,809	1,331	1,004	-	-	-	1,331	
	Kabul	4,000	-	897	-	-	-	-	
	Mazar	3,167	849	612	180	-	7,600	-	
	Parwan	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Takhar	10,000	7,978	10,499	-	-	2,400	5,578	UNICEF has HEB for 2,400 families in Taloqan
	Samangan	87	133	160	-	-	-	133	
Protection	Badakhshan	1,789	961	988	-	-	-	-	IMC: 1 staff just started coordinating
	Baghlan	1,809	1,331	1,004	-	-	-	-	UNFPA/IMC provided Psychosocial support to 30 women
	Kabul	4,000	-	897	-	-	-	-	
	Mazar	3,167	849	612	-	-	-	-	SCI child-friendly space in Haji Camp.DDG provided one mine risk education session. SCI providing trauma care services. Protection needs assessment on 13 Oct. UNICEF provided 4 recreational kits for children; UNFPA/IMC on SGBV (No referral pathway)
	Parwan	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Takhar	10,000	7,978	10,499	-	-	-	-	SCI child-friendly spaces, psycho-social support in camps. Concern completed protection needs assessment. UNICEF has 10 school-in-a-box in stock.
	Samangan	87	133	160	-	-	-	-	
WASH (Hygiene Kits)	Badakhshan	1,789	961	988	388	-	432	141	
	Baghlan	1,809	1,331	1,004	-	463	-	868	
	Kabul	4,000	-	897	-	-	-	-	
	Mazar	3,167	849	612	694	-	2,190	-	
	Parwan	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Takhar	10,000	7,978	10,499	3,669	3,778	3,200	-	UNICEF is set to provide additional stock for upwards of 2,500 families.
	Samangan	87	133	160	64	-	-	69	

* Estimated case loads are from the IDP Task Force (as of 18 Oct 2015).

** Assessment results are being consolidated in the field. These figures are expected to change as more information is available (as of 23 Oct).

*** Committed assistance for food and NFIs also includes cash for food and cash for NFIs.



Reports of conflict
 Place of displacement
 Contested Access
 Good Access

IDP estimates are from the IDP task force as of 18 Oct 2015. Assessments are ongoing in some of the areas of displacement. These figures are expected to change as more information becomes available.

Creation date: 23 October 2015
 Data Sources: AGCHO; GAUL
 Feedback: ocha-afg@un.org
 Website: <https://afg.humanitarianresponse.info>

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

0 30km

