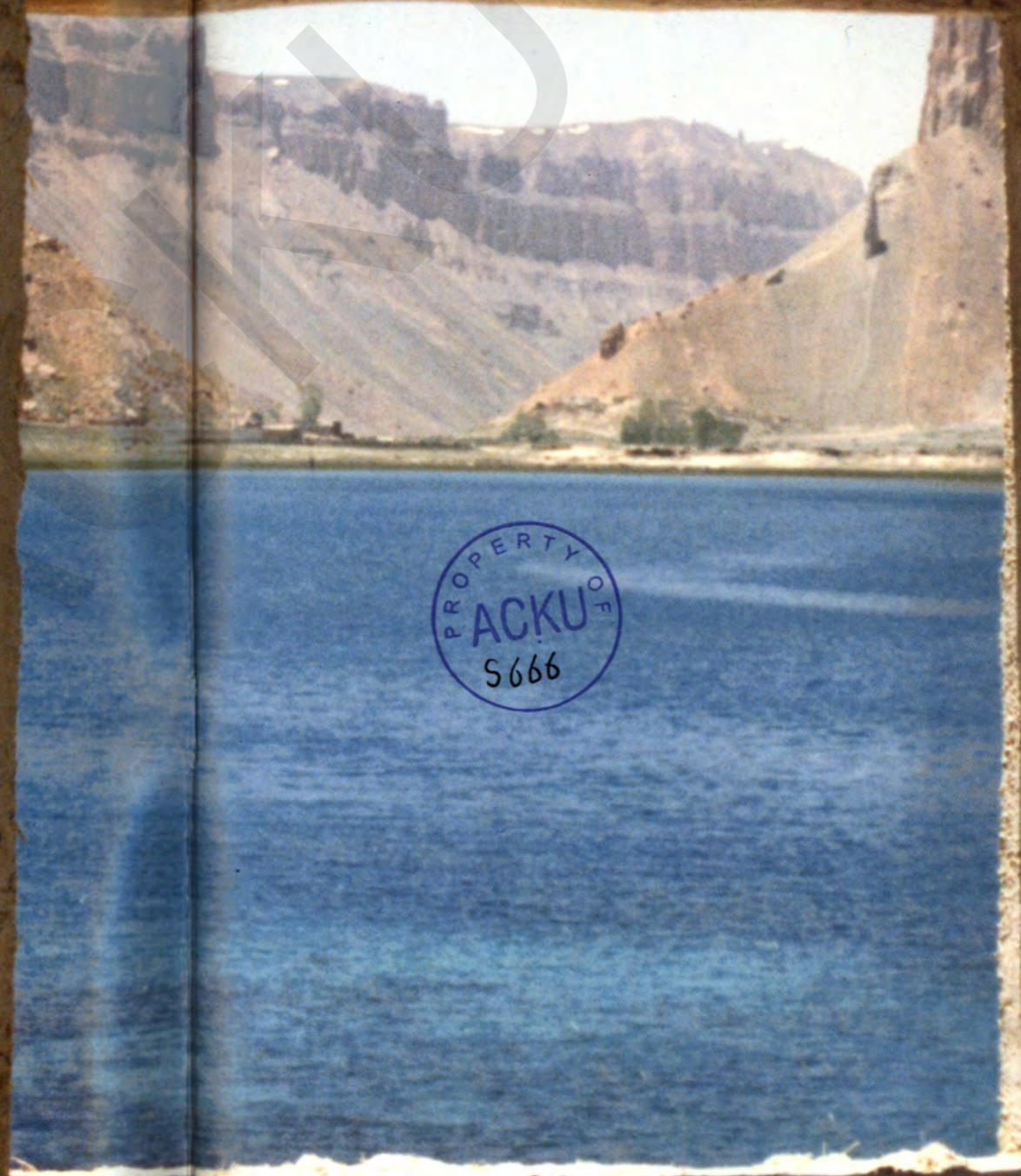


**WFP Afghanistan
Quarterly Report
April - June 2002**



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Quarterly Report
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Preface

Afghanistan today is clearly at a crossroads. It is a nation still struggling to cope with the consequences of twenty-three years of conflict and four years of consecutive drought. The magnitude of the current humanitarian crisis is such that WFP is conducting one of its largest operations in history. Implemented from 1st April 2002 through the end of the year, WFP Emergency Operation 10155.0 intends to distribute some 544,000 MT of food at a total cost of US\$ 285 million in order to assist nearly 10 million Afghans.

Successful implementation depends on the timely availability of sufficient resources, and committed support from the world community. The people of Afghanistan are on the brink of a new future, and WFP food assistance aims to contribute toward the sound foundations of that future.

Toward the end of June 2002, WFP Executive Director James T. Morris visited Central Asia, including a two-day stay in Afghanistan. During his first trip to Afghanistan since assumption of duties as WFP Executive Director in April, Mr. Morris visited WFP-supported projects in Kabul, Mazar and Bamyan, and received a valuable first-hand look at the plight of some of the most destitute populations in the country.

Significant Events

SECOND QUARTER 2002

April

WFP commenced Emergency Operation 10155.0 and Special Operation 10163.0 in response to the continued crisis in Afghanistan.

An earthquake, measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale hit Nahrin, 150 km north of Kabul, killing 50 people and injuring over 150.

Former King Zahir Shah returned to Afghanistan after 29 years of exile in Italy.

May

Generals Dostum, Barialai and Atta agreed to demobilize forces and withdraw from the Northern province of Mazar-i-Sharif.

The selection process for Loya Jirga representatives started.

WFP/UNHAS began operation of internal flights out of Kabul.

UN Security Council extended the mandate of the peacekeeping International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan until December 2002.

World Health Organisation announced the outbreak of a disfiguring, parasitic-borne disease, Leishmaniasis, which has infected over 100,000 Kabul residents.

June

The Loya Jirga was opened by the former King Zahir Shah for 1,500 women and men representing the people of Afghanistan.

Hamid Karzai, Chairman of the Interim Administration, was elected as President of the Transitional Government of Afghanistan.

Refugees returning to Afghanistan surpassed the one million mark, with over 90% returning from Pakistan.

Command of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was transferred from Britain to Turkey.

WFP Executive Director, James T. Morris, visited Afghanistan and opened the WFP Country Office and Area Office compound in Kabul.



Political Environment

Political Environment

One of the most critical events of the second quarter was the successful conclusion of the Loya Jirga or Afghan Grand Council, a political forum which elected a Transitional Administration led by Hamid Karzai as President. The end of the Loya Jirga marked the starting point for an 18-month reconstruction and rehabilitation process. An estimated 1,500 delegates nominated from Afghanistan's 32 provinces participated in the week-long democratic process staged in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul.

The new Afghan Transitional Administration has set a number of priorities for the short- to mid-term future including security, return of refugees, employment creation, education and health.

Geographically, the Government of Afghanistan is stressing the need to reconstruct and redevelop the North, especially the areas where refugees and internally displaced people are returning, and the Shomali Plains, north of Kabul, which have been heavily damaged by conflict and drought.

Despite the success of the Loya Jirga, there were grave concerns over the assassination of Vice President Haji Abdul Qadir on 7 July outside the Ministry of Public Works in Kabul.

Security Review

Key events of the second quarter included the bombing of five villages by Coalition Forces in Uruzgan Province. Sporadic factional skirmishes and ethnic conflicts continued to be a growing concern on the outskirts of the main centres around the country. Coalition Forces and the international community continued to face various challenges to security and road access.

In the Northern city of Mazar, Pashtuns have been continually harassed and intimidated, and crime has increased due to the lack of an effective central administrative body. Aid workers have voiced their concerns after a spate



of robberies, the murder of UN national staff, kidnappings, carjackings and the rape of an expatriate NGO staff member. In the last weeks of June, WFP international staff were evacuated from the Maimana Sub-Office to Mazar due to security issues.

In the Eastern region, an assassination attempt was made on the Defence Minister General Fahim in the city of Jalalabad. In Faizabad, a national staff member of an NGO was shot and seriously wounded.

In the Southern region, local commanders have been protesting the destruction of poppy fields, which are their primary source of income, and some deaths have occurred during local demonstrations and riots. Also in the South, an ammunition depot exploded on 27 June killing and injuring civilians. WFP offices, warehouse facilities and vehicles were damaged by shrapnel; however, WFP staff were not affected.

The general security situation in Afghanistan remains fluid and volatile. Coalition Forces continue search and destroy operations in the Eastern and Southern provinces. WFP operations are particularly impacted in these regions due to resulting restrictions on staff mobility.

Food Needs Assessment

The following assessments were completed or begun during this quarter.

- ✓ Rapid Emergency Food Needs Assessments (REFNAs) were completed.
- ✓ FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) was initiated.
- ✓ Annual Countrywide Survey of Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping was launched.
- ✓ Assessment strategy for nomadic pastoralists (Kuchis) was developed.
- ✓ In addition, work was begun on defining a countrywide food security and nutrition surveillance system.

Drought and Food Security Update

From April to June 2002, precipitation across parts of Afghanistan improved compared to the drought year of 2001. The Northern and Eastern areas received higher rainfall; the Northwestern areas received marginally better rainfall, whilst drought conditions similar to 2001 persisted in

the Central Highlands and the Southern sections of the country.

Although there have been improvements in precipitation levels in the Northern areas, with a positive impact on cereal production and expected yields, preliminary results show that only a limited area of agricultural land was cultivated due to a lack of seeds and tools. As a result, although yields are expected to be good, agricultural production is still well below normal levels for the area. Despite this, it is predicted that the area could be entering a recovery phase, with a shift from acute or high food insecurity between the crop seasons of 2001/2002, to more moderate food insecurity levels between 2002/2003.

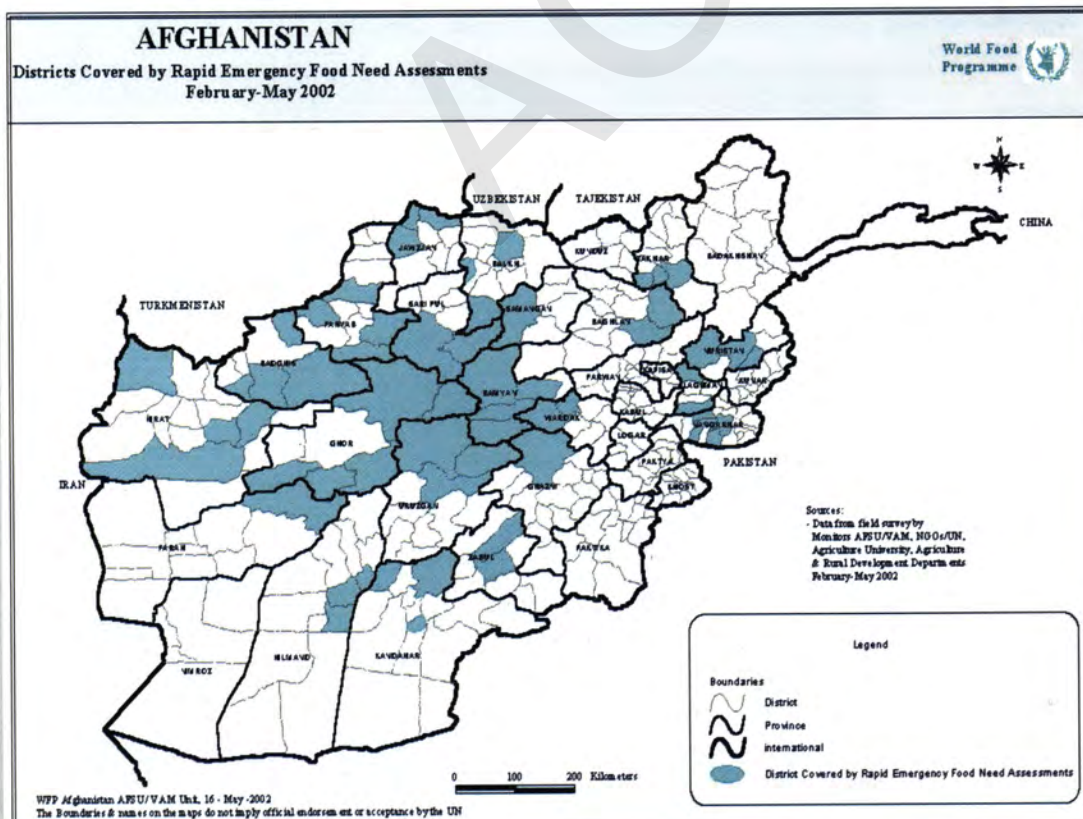
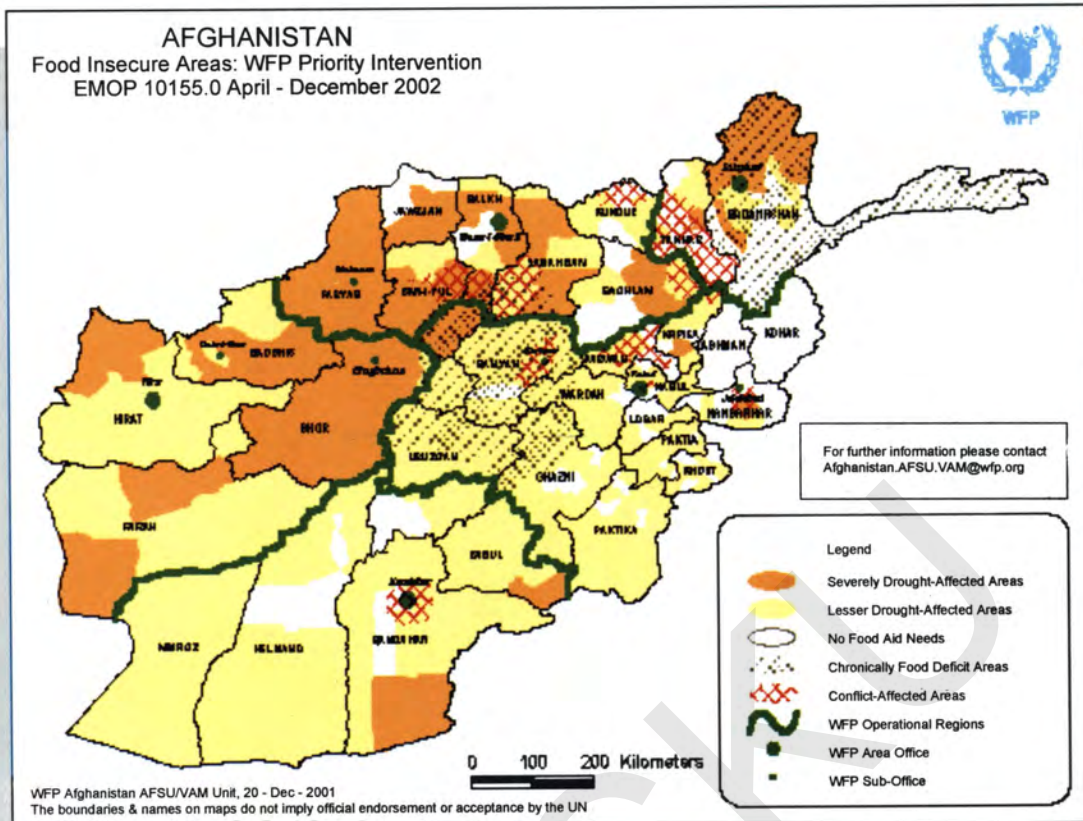
Similarly, it is predicted that the Northwestern provinces of Herat and Badghis will be shifting into a recovery phase. The exception is the southern part of Herat Province, which will likely continue to suffer the debilitating impact of drought.

In the Central Highlands and the Southern region of the country, the food security situation is expected to worsen due to ongoing drought conditions. Livelihoods are already severely

eroded, and these rural populations will start the coming crop year with reduced harvests, depleted assets, and exhausted coping mechanisms. It is predicted that the situation in many of these areas will shift from the moderate food insecurity rating determined in 2001/2002 to acute and highly food insecure levels in the coming year.



Maps



WFP Emergency Response

WFP's current Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10155.0 was launched on 1st April and will be implemented for the duration of the year 2002. It is planned as a nine-month operation whose focus is to shift gradually from pre-harvest relief to post-harvest recovery with particular emphasis on education, health and the rehabilitation of the agricultural sector. It is estimated that a total of 544,000 MT of food will be required. About 50% of these food requirements will need to be met by the end of July.

Distribution Strategy

The distribution strategy under EMOP 10155.0 aims to provide food aid according to the seasonal food requirements of the Afghan people. The strategy, which is primarily influenced by the impact of the harvest period and the traditionally lean winter months, is broadly outlined below.

April to June 2002:

Emphasis on drought and pre-harvest relief distribution; adequate response to evolving emergency situations (IDPs, Returnees, Vulnerable Groups)

July to August 2002:

Post-drought recovery activities; employment-generating opportunities; community development projects, expansion of support to education

September to December 2002:

Pre-positioning for the winter period; emergency distributions as necessary

Under consideration is an extension of the current emergency operation until March 2003, when a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation could commence.

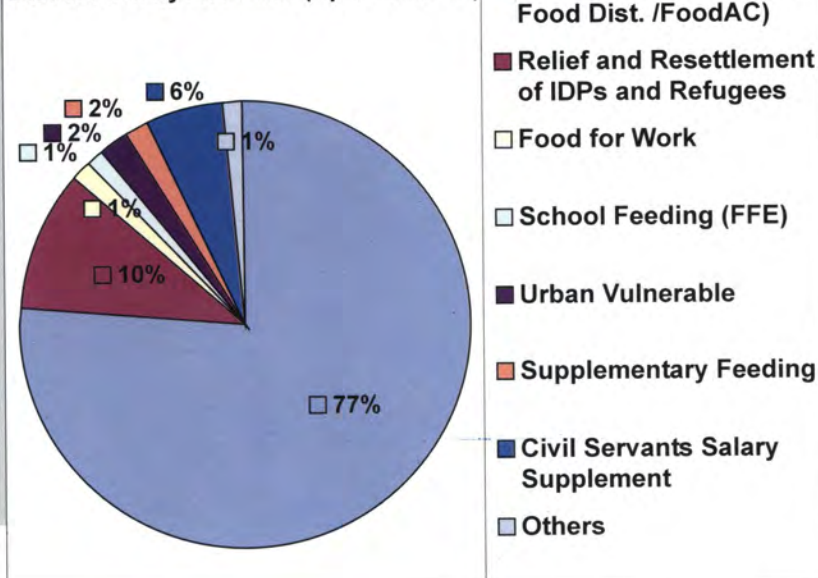
Project 10155.0

Beneficiaries: 9,885,000
Duration: 9 months
 Apr 1st to Dec 31st
Est. Cost: 284,985,542 US\$

Original Food Basket:

Commodity	MT
Wheat	337,542
Wheat Flour	107,941
Pulses	45,329
Oil	39,399
WSB	11,392
Sugar	1,424
Tea	810

Distribution by Activities (April-June '02)



Resources

Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10155.0, with an implementation period of April to December 2002, required US\$ 284,985,542 or 543,837 MT of food. It utilized carry-over resources from the previous operation (EMOP 10126.0) that amounted to US\$ 49,822,060 or 111,000 MT of food. By the end of the second quarter, 16 donors had responded to the

By the end of the second quarter, 16 donors had responded to the appeal of the current emergency operation

appeal of the current operation, and their pledges, combined with the carry-over resources, covered 64% of the total cash requirement and 67% of the total food requirement.

Meanwhile, Special Operation (SO) 10163.0, which is being implemented concurrent with EMOP 10155.0, was funded by

five donors, with 53% of its total requirement of US\$ 10,053,152 thus covered.

As of the end of June 2002, the shortfalls in the Emergency Operation and the Special Operation stood at 36% and 47% respectively [in terms of cash requirements].



The significance of these shortfalls is that WFP will not be able to provide full assistance to Afghans in need, and the recovery capacity of vulnerable targeted populations will be negatively affected.

Resource Update as of 30 June 2002 .

Emergency Operation 10155.0

Special Operation 10163.0

<u>Donor</u>	<u>US\$</u>	<u>MT</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>US\$</u>
Australia	263,158	784	EC – ECHO	1,936,317
Denmark	1,215,067	3,735	Germany	451,264
EC – Europe Aid	7,220,217	19,677	United Kingdom	1,428,571
Faroe Islands	329,412	897	United States (Private)	5,362
Finland	437,445	1,303	United States	1,500,000
Friends of WFP (US)	72,020	195	Donations to Date:	5,321,514
Germany	1,985,560	6,100	Requirements:	10,053,152
Ireland	469,484	1,279		
Japan (Private)	298,035	856		
Japan	4,040,472	8,864		
Korea, Republic of	40,000	109		
Netherlands	4,374,453	13,288		
Norway	1,262,626	3,545		
Switzerland	2,095,809	3,590		
United Nations	125,000	tbd		
United States	116,339,185	210,470		
Donations to Date:	140,567,943	274,692		
Requirements:	284,985,542	543,837		

Food Distribution

Food Distribution

The food distribution plan for April to June 2002 required approximately 50% of the total food appealed through EMOP 10155.0. The distribution plan was amended twice, in April and May, primarily due to pipeline constraints. As of mid-May, the plan was to distribute countrywide a total of 252,736 MT of mixed commodities (wheat, wheat flour, pulses, oil, sugar, CSB/WSB).

Over 80% of the distribution planned for the second quarter or pre-harvest 'hunger' period was intended for immediate relief, and to a lesser extent for long-term relief, for drought-affected populations. Assistance consisted of three component strategies: Free Food Distribution [wheat], Enhanced Drought Relief [which is free food distribution of mixed commodities] and Food for Asset Creation (FOODAC). The largest proportion of the remaining 20% planned distribution was targeted toward Returnees and IDPs in camps.

During the second quarter, a total of 130,117 MT of food was confirmed distributed by WFP and its Implementing Partners operating through six regional urban centers: Kabul, Faizabad, Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar, and Mazar-i-Sharif.

Actual distribution covered 69%, 39% and 20% of the revised plan in April, May and June respectively, with the average coverage rate of 43% for the whole of the second quarter (*see graph below*). The average total of beneficiaries receiving WFP food assistance per month was over 3.8 million needy Afghans.

Pipeline

During the second quarter, WFP dispatched a total of 154,241 MT of food into Afghanistan

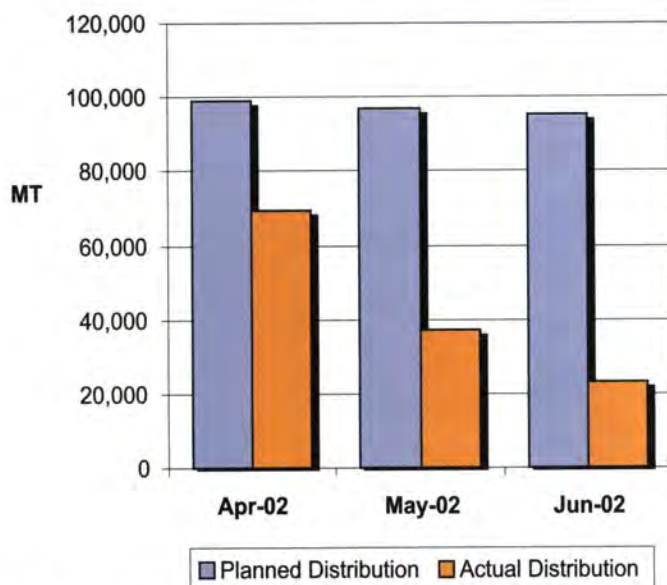
During the report period, WFP dispatched a total of 154,241 MT of food into Afghanistan via transportation corridors through the neighboring countries of Iran, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

As of 30 June, the total regional stock position stood at 59,691 MT of mixed commodities, which included wheat, fortified wheat flour, pulses, oil, sugar, CSB/WSB. Of this total, in-country stock stood at 31,148 MT.

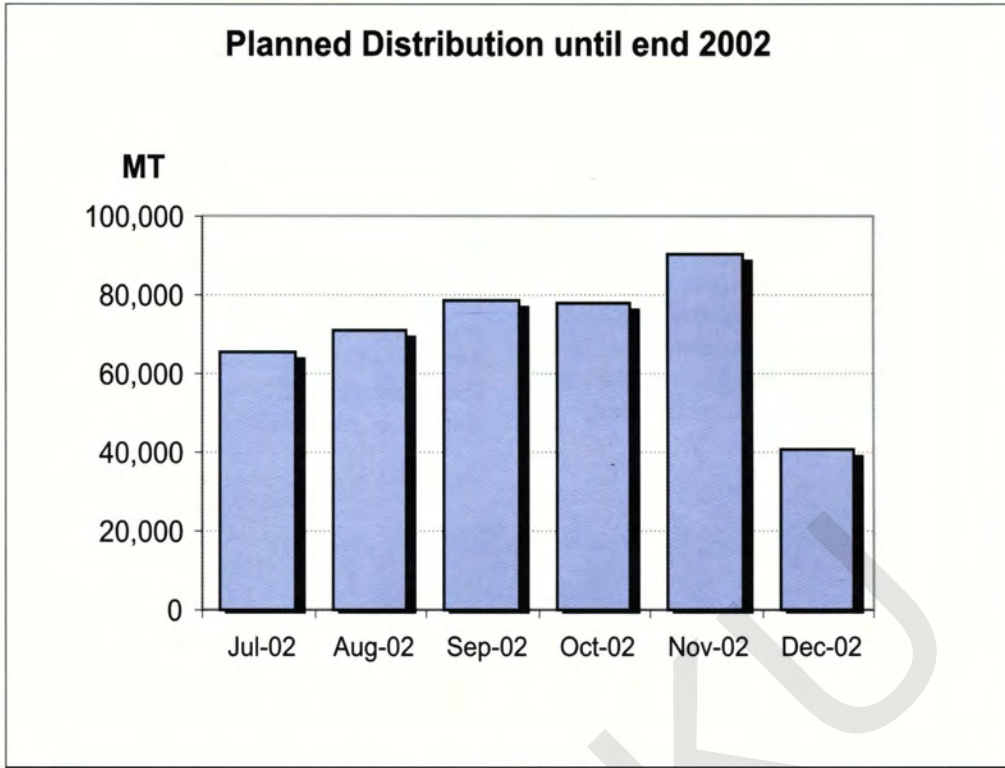
Bottlenecks in the pipeline, such as road/airspace restrictions and delays in the arrival of donor contributions, slowed the availability of food in the field. Combined with logistical challenges and persistent security issues, it prevented WFP from implementing food distribution according to plan.

In addition to these pipeline constraints, a more fundamental issue looms: lack of food. Based on current funds, there will be a complete shortfall of wheat and wheat flour in October, with grave repercussions for WFP operations in the following months (*see graphs on next page*). Before the harsh Afghan winter sets in, in the months of September, October and November, the winterization programme becomes the focus of WFP's food distribution plans. It is imperative that food be pre-positioned as early as possible, and available for timely distribution to vulnerable Afghans, particularly in the many remote areas where heavy snows block all access through the long winter season.

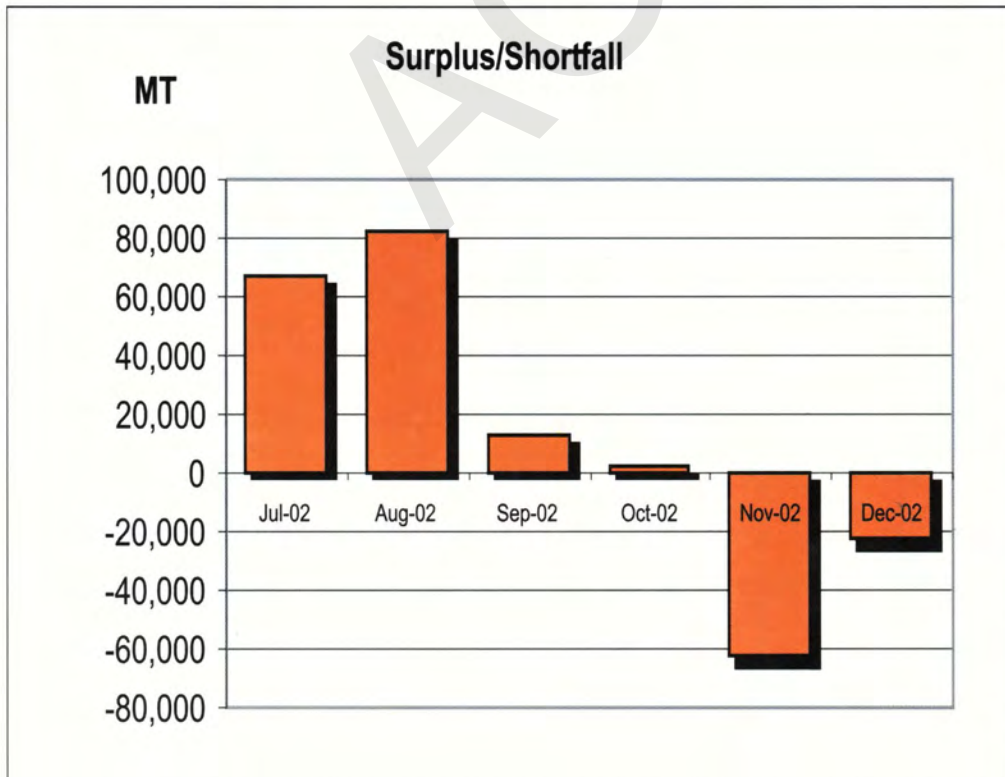
**Planned versus Actual Distribution
April-June 2002**



Charts



GRAPH 2 SHOWS THE REVISED PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR. THIS PLAN MAY CHANGE SUBJECT TO FOOD AVAILABILITY AND/OR OTHER CONSTRAINTS.



GRAPH 3 SHOWS THE AVAILABILITY OF FOOD AGAINST REQUIREMENTS. A SHORTFALL IS CLEARLY SEEN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

Programme Activities

As outlined in Emergency Operation 10155.0, WFP implements a variety of programme activities targeting various groups of Afghans in need of food assistance. In the first phase of the current operation, which covered the second quarter of 2002, emphasis was on support for drought-affected populations through projects such as Free Food Distribution and FoodAC. Bakery projects specifically targeted urban vulnerables and Supplementary Feeding activities focused on food aid for the severely malnourished. In support of the Government of Afghanistan's aim of rebuilding a national civil administration,

of agriculture and community infrastructure, Food for Education, and Food for Seed.

Emergency Pre-Harvest Drought Relief

Free Food Distribution targeted the settled population most seriously affected by drought and in need of food aid until the mid-2002 harvest. WFP concentrated Free Food Distribution primarily in the drought-affected districts of chronically food deficit provinces



WFP also provided food through a Civil Servants Salary Supplement scheme in concert with UNDP. The period between April and June was witness to an unanticipated but highly encouraging surge of Afghan refugees returning home; for these returnees, WFP provided vital food rations as part of their repatriation support package. For the internally displaced populations, WFP continued to provide assistance under diverse activities. As the emergency operation progresses, increasing emphasis will be laid on more development-oriented activities, which include: rehabilitation

such as Badakhshan and the Central Highlands (Bamyan, and parts of Wardak, Ghazni, Ghor, Sar-e-Pul, and Uruzgan), as well as food insecure areas located in the better off districts. The map of *Food Insecure Areas in Afghanistan* (p .5) indicates areas of food need according to severity, and thus the priority areas for Free Food Distribution. Under this project, each household received 50 kg of wheat per month. In the most severely affected areas, mixed commodities of oil and pulses were added to the standard ration of wheat (i.e. Enhanced Drought Relief).

During the second quarter, WFP began, wherever possible, to transition from Free Food Distribution to **Food for Asset Creation** (FoodAC) activities. Combining elements of Free Food Distribution and Food for Work (FFW), FoodAC enables food aid to be distributed to vulnerable community members while households with able-bodied members contribute labor to construct or rehabilitate a community infrastructure asset. Decision-making on who is vulnerable and what work is necessary is based on community meetings that include women and other vulnerable groups. Assets created benefit the entire community although they are of secondary importance to the critical provision of food aid.

Between April and June, a total of 89,684 MT of emergency food distributions reached over 9.3 million of the drought-affected population in Afghanistan.

While Free Food Distribution is not anticipated for the post-harvest period, FoodAC activities will continue in the worst affected areas, transitioning to more regular FFW activities elsewhere.



Programme Activities

Urban Vulnerable Bakery Projects

Three new Women's Bakeries were opened in Kabul with WFP support, bringing the total number of bakery projects in the city to 24. Run and operated by 360 women, the bakeries produce on a daily basis nearly 42,000 loaves of bread at 400 gm each. Distributed to families headed by widows, the disabled or the aged, each household receives five loaves daily at a heavily subsidized price. In the second quarter, the total

*As of 1 May,
all the Women's
Bakeries in Kabul
have been operating
on a cost recovery basis*

number of beneficiary households increased by 1,638 to 8,370, reaching some 41,850 people.

As of 1 May, all the Women's Bakeries in Kabul have been operating on a cost recovery basis. The bakeries manage all funds and make payment for all costs, from wages to materials and services

required. WFP provides fortified wheat flour and minimum production costs, including wages for managers. WFP also developed a simple management and accounting system, and provided regular training to bakery managers.

In Mazar-i-Sharif, 80 bakeries continued to be supported by WFP. Of these, 20 bakeries were run by women and 60 bakeries run by men. Altogether, the Mazar bakeries produce on a daily basis some 200,000 loaves of bread at 200 or 400 gm apiece for over 20,000 vulnerable urban households.

Supplementary Feeding

Through this project, WFP food serves to supplement the diet of malnourished children and expectant/lactating mothers, and to provide incentives to patients for the completion of treatment regimes in tuberculosis and leprosy. To these vulnerable groups, WFP provides a mixed ration of wheat flour, CSB or WSB, sugar, oil and pulses through supplementary feeding centers run by implementing partners, as well as through hospitals, outpatient clinics and orphanages. From April to June, a total of 1,708 MT of mixed commodities were confirmed distributed to beneficiaries numbering some 65,733.



Civil Servants Salary Supplement

The Civil Service of Afghanistan was in a critical state when the Afghan Interim Administration (AIA) came into authority in December 2001. Both the AIA and UN agencies acknowledged that urgent assistance was necessary for the Civil Service to function and that control of the Civil Service should be centralized with the authorities in Kabul. This was a major task because previously the salaries of civil servants had been approved and released at the provincial level. The UN SRSG requested UNDP to provide support for a centralized payroll and salary as well, and WFP to provide a salary supplement in the form of food rations. From January 2002, UNDP supported the Ministry of Finance's efforts to install a new payroll system. Government Departments in all provinces were requested to submit their payrolls and attendance records to the Ministry of Finance (MoF) in Kabul.

The system took considerable time to implement due to the limited infrastructure and communication networks in Afghanistan, combined with the overstretched workload of the new government. However, from February of 2002, the process began. Line ministries submit their payrolls to the MoF in Kabul, where they are verified and subsequently approved by UNDP, who release funds for salary transfer to the MoF. The scheme was initially implemented in Kabul province, where support of the civil service was essential for the immediate implementation of all other government programmes. Kabul has proportionally the largest number of civil servants, where 80,000 were registered by March.

The WFP input was designed to further strengthen the capacity of the new government. The food ration programme is completely managed and controlled by the Department of Rations (DoR) in the Ministry of Commerce. The DoR obtains the most

recent lists of registered civil servants from the MoF, and requests a corresponding amount of food from WFP. The ration provided is 12.5 kg of pulses and 5 litres (approximately 4.5 kg) of vegetable oil. Initially tea was also scheduled for the programme, but no donation has been made to date. WFP releases the commodities to the DoR, who store and distribute the food to civil servants registered on the MoF's centralized payroll.

The system took considerable time to implement due to the limited infrastructure and communication networks in Afghanistan, combined with the overstretched workload of the new government

For provinces outside Kabul, the MoF/UNDP did not begin to release salaries until late April and the DoR called forward commodities for 30 provinces outside Kabul in late May. A distribution was immediately effected.

However, in five provinces the DoR did not have the capacity to implement the programme and distribution

was planned to start in July. By the end of June, 6,530 MT of pulses and 2,416 MT of oil have been distributed.

The programme is scheduled to last nine months, from January until September. It is likely that support to teachers will continue after this date. Each distribution provides a two-month ration to enable the programme to be completed in the shortest possible time. All civil servants will ultimately be entitled to the same ration, thus retroactive payments will be made if and when sufficient resources are available.

The July distribution will provide salary supplements to 111,617 civil servants registered on the March and April payrolls in provinces outside Kabul and 96,725 civil servants registered on the May and June payrolls within Kabul Province.

Arifa's Story

Arifa doesn't exactly know her age. But she can perfectly remember the day, six years ago, when she left her home in the Shomali Plains. Takh, like many other villages in the area, was severely damaged by the 23 years of continuous conflict that has worn much of Afghanistan to shreds.

At the height of the fighting, Arifa took her 8 children and fled to Kabul, where she planned to meet her husband. He never appeared.

For the last two years, Arifa has been working at Bakery #7 in war-torn District #5. She is one of 360 women, mainly widows, who work in WFP-supported bakeries in Kabul.

Everyday, with the help of her 13 female colleagues, Arifa bakes 1,655 loaves of bread which help feed many of her destitute neighbors. The neighborhood around the bakery is no longer a war zone, but its air of decay indicates the forlorn conditions in which the most vulnerable households still live, in Kabul and across Afghanistan. Women-headed households are especially vulnerable due to lack of access to job.

Although Arifa is proud of her job, this is not what she dreams for her children, all of whom — both girls and boys — attend school near the bakery.

"If I could have studied and gone to school, I wouldn't have to be working in a bakery. I want them to have a choice. They are good students. They can be teachers or doctors."

Through its urban bakeries programme, WFP provides a daily ration of bread to approximately 250,000 people across Afghanistan. Of the 104 bakeries currently operating, 44 are operated and managed by women. In addition to Kabul, there is a bakery programme in Mazar and WFP is currently in the process of expanding the programme to Kandahar and Herat.



Programme Activities

Repatriation

Afghans are returning home at an unprecedented rate. The UNHCR/WFP repatriation programme started on 1 March. As of 30 June, 1.1 million refugees have been assisted in returning to Afghanistan.

This figure has far exceeded UNHCR's initial predictions for the early months of the programme: the total annual prediction was estimated in February as 500,000 and in May as 1.2 million. WFP was able to allocate resources for up to 1 million. The majority of the caseload to date has been from Pakistan, over 1 million by June 30, more than doubling the annual prediction of 400,000 from Pakistan. The remaining returns were from Iran (around 80,000) and other countries, mainly the Central Asian Republics.

The unexpected surge put immense pressure on WFP's resources in the pre-harvest hunger period. In the context of limited resources and high needs, it was decided that delayed distribution of returnee rations would be necessary from early May. Returnees were therefore able to collect only a 50 kg ration upon return and advised to retain the VRF (Voluntary Repatriation

Form) for the 100 kg balance of the ration when sufficient food commodities become available. From 22 May, returnee rations in the South were suspended completely, due to the limited availability of food for the vulnerable resident population and the IDP Camps.

In late June, WFP and UNHCR reached agreement that the overall repatriation package would be further reduced in the face of funding shortages and the timing of the harvest in Afghanistan, which will enable more food commodities to be available in local markets. All returning refugees and IDPs will therefore be entitled to a maximum 100 kg per family from 1 July 2002, of which 50 kg may be collected upon return and the balance when sufficient food commodities are available. A

new Letter of Agreement was signed between UNCHR and WFP on 1 July 2002 which provides coverage for a further 500,000 returns, bringing the total to 1.5 million.

*As of 30 June,
1.1 million refugees
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According to UNHCR, the majority of returns are to the Centre (50% of returns have been to Kabul) followed by the East (24%, especially to Nangarhar) and to the North (18%). UNHCR currently operates 22 relief distribution centres and 10 encashment

points throughout Afghanistan where returnees can collect food and non-food items as well as travel allowance to cover their transportation costs to their home villages.

In the beginning of the quarter, both UNHCR and the International Organization of Migration (IOM) were coordinating refugee returns, with IOM focusing on returnees from Iran. On 26 May, IOM ceased their refugee returnee assistance activities. UNHCR now coordinates all refugee returns.



Internally Displaced Persons

During the report period, the International Organization of Migration (IOM) coordinated all returns for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Due to funding shortages, IOM ceased assistance to IDP returns on 26 May. An improved resource allocation enabled long-distance assisted returns for IDPs to recommence on 12 June for the West and the North and from 26 June for the Central Region. Since the beginning of the year IOM has assisted approximately 225,000 IDPs to return.

IOM also continued to manage the five IDP camps in the West of Afghanistan, which house approximately 160,000 IDPs, for whom WFP provides a daily ration of bread (400 gm per person) and a monthly family ration of 12.5kg pulses and 4.5 kg oil, distributed through the Ministry of Repatriation. Porridge is also provided for children under five years of age and nursing mothers.

WFP commenced assistance to a large IDP population in the South of Afghanistan in May, further to extensive research regarding the most appropriate form of humanitarian intervention for the large caseload of IDPs in Spin Boldak Camp. 60% of this population are drought-affected Kuchi nomads, who are unable to return to their seasonal migratory lifestyle due to the severity of the drought and decimation of their livestock. The remaining 40% are conflict-affected IDPs, including Pashtuns from the North who have fled their homes in recent months due to feared or actual ethnic persecution. It is estimated that there are approximately 60,000 IDPs living in the Spin Boldak Camp and the Chaman 'waiting area' on the border between

Pakistan and Afghanistan. WFP is providing a monthly ration to the Spin Boldak IDPs and will support UNHCR's plan to relocate this group to twelve smaller camps away from the border, by continuing a monthly ration of wheat, pulses and vegetable oil when the relocation takes place. The move is the result of Government concerns regarding the coercion of camp residents for involvement in undesirable activities due to their location on the border.

Vulnerable IDPs resident in host populations in Afghanistan (estimated to be up to 1.3 million in total) are assisted by WFP through targeted FFW and FOODAC projects. UNHCR are currently providing Cash for Work opportunities e.g. for reconstruction of houses. In the coming months, WFP intends to programme food assistance into projects that contribute to food security and anchor returning IDPs and refugees in their areas of return, to avoid reflux movement.



Programme Activities

Food for Work (FFW)

FFW activities that target up to 74,420 beneficiaries were implemented on a limited basis in the initial months of the current operation. As of the end of June, a total of 3,721 MT of food has been confirmed distributed. Along with FoodAC projects, some tangible infrastructure achievements have been made. For example: 634 km of roads have been upgraded and 527 km irrigation canals desilted and returned to normal operation. The rehabilitation of such canals brings more land under cultivation, contributing to overall food security. Approximately 1,161 small karezes (underground water canals) and 23 springs have also been restored. To provide safe drinking water in the drought-affected districts around the country, some 530 shallow wells were dug. In addition, 4 fruit tree nurseries were established to provide saplings and seedlings for rehabilitation of orchards and vineyards throughout drought-affected areas.



Food for Seed (FFS)

A joint endeavour on the part of WFP and FAO, the FFS project aims to promote agricultural productivity and enable self-sufficiency in major staple food crops. Under FFS, high quality seed-producing farmers receive food wheat in exchange for wheat seed at a fixed ratio (with variations for other crops). Farmers, particularly in food-deficit regions, are thereby provided high-yielding seed varieties in crops such as wheat, maize, rice and barley in order to achieve

countrywide food security in the quickest possible time.

WFP plans to distribute 10,000 MT of wheat while FAO will contribute \$ 2,292,500 in the form of fertilizers, equipment, seed processing, packaging and distribution charges, as well as technical support. The project will cover 17 provinces of Afghanistan. Over 5,000 contract seed growers will participate in producing 7,336 MT of quality seed and 146,720 returnees and resident farmers across the country will receive 50 kg of the high-yielding seed. During the second quarter, 300 MT of food were confirmed received by FAO, and as of the end of June, 150 MT had been confirmed distributed.

Food for Education (FFE)

One of the major initiatives of the Government in Afghanistan is an ambitious “back to school” programme in which WFP plays a significant role. WFP and the Ministry of Education have established close working relations in the development and implementation of the FFE programme. Components of the programme and their objectives are as follows:

- Food for children: on-site feeding 834,000 children to alleviate short-term hunger, encourage enrolment, attendance and school performance, particularly for girls.
- Food for 50,000 teachers and assistants: to encourage teachers’ attendance and support teachers’ status and self-esteem.
- Food for 50,000 teacher trainees: to support training of new teachers and update training for previously trained teachers.
- Food for 150,000 trainers/trainees in non-formal education programmes: to encourage enrolment in courses providing vocational and basic literacy training, particularly for women and ex-combatants.
- Food for Work: to rebuild new schools and establish bakeries to provide bread to schoolchildren.

The school year started in late March, and as of the end of June, a total 188,641 students — of which 67,467 are girls — were receiving a loaf of bread for lunch provided by WFP-supported bakeries, and in the case of Badakhshan Province, take-home rations. In Kabul, 11 out of 24 bakeries have been contracted to bake bread for students benefiting from the FFE programme. In Mazar, women cooperatives comprising largely of parents of the students have been established to produce bread for the schools.

During the reporting period, a joint WFP/ UNESCO mission assessed the impact of the pilot FFE programme in the northern province of Badakhshan. Among the findings and recommendations:



- there is an increased awareness among families and school administrators regarding the importance of education for girls;
- the project has had remarkable impact on increasing the enrolment of girls and thereby reducing gender gaps in enrolment;
- there is increased community participation regarding education as evidenced by community contributions towards the improvement and expansion of school infrastructures;
- there is a reduction in the drop-out rate of students up to grade 12;
- attendance among both teachers and students have improved;
- in view of the positive impact the project had on the quality of and access to education, the mission highly recommends the project’s continuation.



Winds of Change in Dhani-Ghori

Educational opportunities for girls have been virtually nonexistent in rural areas of Afghanistan, particularly in the recent past. But Dhani-Ghori, in the remote reaches of mountainous northern Afghanistan, offers a telling story of new opportunities and emerging hopes.

In late spring of 2002, a joint WFP and NGO team visited one of the most isolated schools in Dhani-Ghori. There, they found an encouraging scene: 150 boys aged 6 - 14 in classrooms 5 days a week. But where were the girls?

Meetings with the parents were arranged. Female members of the mission met with the mothers inside a house, while male staff met with the fathers and the mullah, or religious leader of the community, under the shade of a tree in the schoolyard.

All it took was half an hour. It was not really a fight. It was the sharing of an idea, and it was as simple as taking a rusty key and opening a door that had been locked for too long, letting the breeze air out a musty room.

The mullah, the voice of the village, proclaimed that 41 girls — previously only allowed to learn the Koran — should be sent to school.

Through Food for Work, WFP helped the fathers of the community build a classroom for the girls. Under Food for Education, all students, boys and girls, receive a loaf of bread for lunch. Nearly 190,000 boys and girls are now participating in the programme.

Operational Framework

The operational framework in which WFP Afghanistan implemented its activities includes a number of key players including the Government of Afghanistan, Implementing Partners and WFP's own support units.

Government Collaboration

WFP makes every effort to coordinate and cultivate productive relationships with Afghan authorities at the local, provincial and national levels. In fact, WFP activities fundamentally benefit from close collaboration with Afghan authorities, and WFP not only seeks actively to support government priorities but to seek out and/or respond to government input. In particular, FoodAC projects necessitate local community involvement and leadership; through the salary supplement scheme, WFP aims to help stabilize and consolidate the national Civil Service; Food for Education was given pivotal impetus by the Interim Administration; and finally, repatriation activities have been prioritised as determined by the Government of Afghanistan.

Programme Secretariat

The Afghanistan Interim Administration in April 2002 presented a National Development Framework which set out key orientations and priorities for the programming of recovery and development activities in Afghanistan. In support of the Interim Administration, Programme Secretariats were established, i.e. a UN organization, NGO, bilateral or international financial institution to enter into an agreement with an assigned counterpart Ministry, also co-signed by the Executive Director of AACA and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General (DSRSG). Programme Secretariats are intended to support the counterpart in coordination, identifying the various service levels to be provided as well as identifying and providing guidance on main policy issues, and lastly, helping to develop the capacity of the counterpart ministry.

During discussions with donors and other food aid organizations, a Programme Secretariat- for Food Security rather than Food Aid was proposed. However, this suggestion was not supported by AACA or UNAMA, because of the

cross-sectoral nature of food security and the need for Programme Secretariats to be sector-focused.

In a meeting with the DSRSG, establishment of a food security / livelihood working group, linked primarily to the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), was proposed. While this possibility will be pursued with the MRD, coordination of food aid-related activities will continue to be the responsibility of WFP under a sub-group.

Until a decision has been made, WFP will continue to organize provincial food coordination meetings as well as Food Aid Forum meetings at the national level, during which policy issues can be discussed. WFP, furthermore, has already been actively engaging with a number of Ministries, including the Ministry of Education and the Department of Rations in the Ministry of Commerce, undertaking capacity building activities related to its support for Education and Civil Servants Salary Supplement programmes.

Between April and June, WFP approved new contracts with 156 Implementing Partners, of which 118 or 76% were national NGOs

Implementing Partners

With the commencement of the current emergency operation in April, the second quarter witnessed a sharp increase in the number of Implementing Partners, particularly of national NGOs. Between April and June, WFP approved new contracts with 156 Implementing Partners, of which 118 or 76% were national NGOs [in comparison, from October 2001 – March 2002, just 64 IPs were contracted, of which 29 or 45% were national NGOs].

During the reporting quarter, WFP approved 297 projects to reach out to the different target groups under EMOP 10155.0. Including carryover food from the previous operation, a total of 130,117 MT has been distributed to Afghans in need with the support of Implementing Partners.



Logistics

Over the quarter, Logistics transported a total of 154,241 MT of food commodities to external logistics hubs outside Afghanistan and from these external hubs to Extended Delivery Points (EDPs) inside Afghanistan. In addition, it handled a further 101,256 MT of food, which included shipments and local procurement in Pakistan and Kazakhstan.

Local purchases in Kazakhstan of 49,397 MT of wheat involved re-bagging in Turkmenabad prior to despatch to EDPs inside Afghanistan. Similarly, local purchase in Pakistan of 2,371 MT and cereal loan of 36,300 MT from the Government of Pakistan involved movement from warehouses located in remote areas of Pakistan. Both the Kazakhstan and Pakistan operations involved complex logistical coordination and supervision in order to ensure timely deliveries to Afghanistan.

During the period, due to geopolitical conflicts in the southern corridor, trucking capacity in Pakistan was limited as trucks were commandeered by armed forces. It limited the ability of logistics to move the food according to schedule. However, with the easing of cross border tensions, the situation improved and the constraint is now limited to the southern Punjab.

Repair work at Spin Boldak logistics base was completed during the quarter, including telecommunication facilities. Transportation via the Salang Pass to Mazar continued to prove efficient in moving food from the Pakistan corridor. The Friendship Bridge at Termez also continued to permit WFP to transport food to Afghanistan via the northern corridor by rail and road in addition to barges.



Monitoring and Evaluation

The new monitoring system based on activity-specific checklists has now been adopted in all six WFP Area Offices (AOs). Monitoring and reporting focal points together with WFP Heads of AOs conducted a meeting in Kabul in June, in which problems encountered were resolved and a performance rating system for Implementing Partners was finalized.

From April to June, a total of 1,619 monitoring field visits had been planned countrywide. The actual number of visits conducted was 1,214 or 75%. Some of the planned visits were postponed due to security concerns, e.g. in Paktia, Khost in Kabul Province and Zabul in Kandahar Province. The earthquake in Nahrin necessitated postponement of planned visits by the Mazar AO as WFP monitors were deployed for the disaster response.

During the period, WFP monitored 226 on-going and completed projects in more than 287 districts; however, as some projects were visited more than once, the number of project visits reached 538. Up to 84 national and international WFP programme staff were involved in the spot check visits, and they spent 1,447 working days

in the field. The total amount of food monitored represented 84,440 MT and 7,292 direct food recipients were interviewed during the monitoring visits.

Beneficiary Contact Monitoring revealed that 96% of the beneficiaries contacted were aware of the ration to which they were entitled. The overall percentage of beneficiaries who reported receiving their full food ration amounted to 95%. The remaining 5% did not receive full rations due to delays in the arrival of some commodities as a result of pipeline and resourcing issues, as well as reduction in the repatriation package from 150 kg to 100 kg of wheat. Monitoring reports have also revealed that just 8% of returnees' food rations has been sold or exchanged in the local markets.



Human Resources

Human Resources

One of the principal developments in Human Resources during the second quarter was the official relocation of 39 international staff in Afghanistan. Additionally, the new Country Office organigram was approved, and a directive issued to ensure the expeditious filling of positions in order to meet emergency staffing needs. During the report period, staffing levels increased by approximately 40%. By the end of June, WFP Afghanistan numbered a total of 739 staff members, of which 80 are international and 650 are national, including staff at UNHAS, UNJLC and the external hubs (Termez, Osh, Turkmenabad).

WFP recognizes the importance of increasing the gender balance, particularly in regard to national female staff, and continues to pursue innovative ways of addressing this important issue. With this effort in mind, a total of 50 women have been interviewed for positions with WFP in conjunction with the International Organization of Migration's "Return of Refugees" programme.

Capacity building was an ongoing priority with staff training in English language, computer applications, report writing, secretarial skills, communication skills, and safe driving skills.

Another significant development was the shifting of the Afghanistan Country Office from Islamabad to Kabul, while maintaining a Liaison Office in Islamabad comprising Regional Logistics, Finance, Administration, and part of Human Resource. The services provided by these units cannot be sustained in Afghanistan at



When Islamabad was declared Security Phase 3, a total of 56 dependants of WFP staff were evacuated within a week

present, due to lack of adequate infrastructures and banking facilities.

Staff security continued to be a major concern. Special security measures were put in place when Islamabad was declared Security Phase 3, and a total of 56 dependants of WFP staff were evacuated within a week of UNSECOORD's decision.

Administration

One of the priorities for Administration in the second quarter was the re-establishment of Area Offices and Sub-Offices. Kabul Country and Area Offices were completely established and officially opened on 26 June by WFP's Executive Director along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Afghanistan. Special emphasis was given to the procurement of essential equipment such as communications, vehicles and generators in order to build up the infrastructure necessary for WFP activities in all Area and Sub-Offices.

Special Operations

SO 10130.0

Operating concurrently with the Emergency Operation 10155.0, from April to December 2002, Special Operations (SO) 10163.0 and 10130.0 provide essential support services to WFP operations and to the general humanitarian aid community in Afghanistan. The aim of these common services is to support and coordinate assistance activities, thus maximizing efficiency and impact. There are three components under SO 10130.0: Standby Partners, Information Communications Technology (ICT), the Regional Fleet; and two under SO 10163.0: UN Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC) and UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS).

Standby Partners

Over the second quarter of 2002, the services of three standby partners were significant in facilitating the successful implementation of humanitarian operations in Afghanistan.

Swiss Federation for Mine Action (FSD) plays an indispensable role in Afghanistan, which is one of the most heavily-mined countries in the world. FSD supports WFP operations by assessing delivery routes and warehouses, surveying mined areas, destroying mines and unexploded ordnances, and conducting mine awareness training courses for WFP and IP staff and transport personnel. During the second quarter of 2002, the FSD teams based in Bamyan, Herat, Mazar and

Kandahar destroyed 21 anti-tank mines, 8 anti-personnel mines, 576 items of unexploded ordnance and over 8,000 rounds of small arms munition, bringing the total since deployment in December 2001 to 85 anti-tank mines, 194 anti-personnel mines and 18,487 items of unexploded ordnances.

Swedish Rescue Services Agency (SRSA) has provided a number of valuable services since deployment in October 2001, such as road assessments, snow clearance, base camp facilities, communications support, office facilities and augmented transport capacity in remote areas. Although SRSA's agreement with WFP under the Special Operation terminated on 31 May 2002, their commitment was extended to UNJLC in order to establish an air cargo handling facility at Kabul Airport.

Canadian Avalanche Control Unit (ACU) offered specialized skill in snow/mountain pass management and equipment logistics beginning in November 2001. Before ACU's contract terminated on 15 April 2002, its three-member team contributed critical support in the opening of the Salang Pass. A vital transportation route between Kabul and Northern Afghanistan, the Salang Pass is essential for commercial as

well as emergency relief traffic. In coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and ACTED, ACU helped ensure the safety and efficiency of the Pass.



April-June 2002

Information Communications Technology

SO 10130.0

The Special Operation funded comprehensive ICT activities in Afghanistan according to the following framework:

Phase 1: Deploy ICT infrastructure in support bases around Afghanistan, including Pakistan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

Phase 2: Re-instate ICT infrastructure at all bases in Afghanistan to pre- September 11 level

Phase 3: Extend ICT infrastructure and services inside Afghanistan.

Phase 2 had begun with the re-entry of international staff in Afghanistan. The initial priority was to reach Minimum Security Telecommunication Standards (MISTS) in all areas of operation and enable the deployment of staff. Once this goal was achieved, the rebuilding of infrastructure commenced.

Principal ICT activities and achievements included:

- re-installation of the ICT infrastructure that existed before the crisis for all the bases in Afghanistan (Kabul, Faizabad, Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar, Mazar);
- installation of ICT infrastructure for the new bases in Bamyán, Kunduz and Ishkashim;
- strengthening the ICT infrastructure in Termez, Quetta and Peshawar;
- successfully testing and in progress of migrating the cmail users of Kabul to Lotus Notes;
- organization of a major generator maintenance and overhaul tour in Afghanistan and Pakistan;
- purchase and dispatch of all ICT equipment for deployment in Afghanistan (such as computing, telecommunications and power systems);
- reinstallation and complete electrical overhaul of the new WFP compound in Kabul;
- electrical upgrade of all WFP guesthouses;
- active participation in interagency coordination;
- continuing ICT user support.



Regional Fleet

The objective of the Regional Fleet is to supplement local transport resources in Afghanistan and ensure the timely delivery of emergency food assistance. Where there is a lack of viable local transport, in terms of availability or cost-efficiency, the Regional Fleet fills in with WFP-owned transport resources. During the second quarter of 2002, an additional 51 International Harvester trucks were deployed.

As of the end of this reporting period, the Regional Fleet consisted of:

- 90 International Harvester trucks, 5-ton: 20 in Tajikistan, 21 in Herat, 10 in Kandahar, 11 in Quetta, 7 in Jalalabad, 10 in Kabul, 11 in Peshawar;
- 50 Kamaz trucks, 15 of which are 7-ton and 35 that are 10-ton, located in Faizabad;

- 50 Hino trucks, which range from 4 to 6 to 11-ton trucks located in Peshawar (currently awaiting commission; i.e. adjustments necessary for Afghan terrain);
- 100 Hino trucks, 5-ton, located in Peshawar (also awaiting commission);
- 56 Hino trucks, 15-ton, including 3 which are fuel tankers, 4 that are mobile workshops (with a repair capability that includes welding equipment and compressors);
- additional repair resources that include another mobile workshop, a tow truck and a hoist crane.

The Regional Fleet employs a staff that includes 10 mechanics as well as a pool of over 350 drivers.

SO 10130.0



April-June 2002

SO 10163.0

The objective of the UN Joint Logistics Centre is to optimize and complement the logistics capabilities of UN agencies, IOs and NGOs. While each organization operates its own transport facilities, UNJLC collects, analyzes and disseminates relevant logistics information, thus enabling cooperative prioritization and efficient use of the limited transport infrastructure in Afghanistan. Providing logistics support at the operational planning, coordination and monitoring levels, UNJLC responsibilities for the second quarter included: summary of movements (food and nonfood commodities); identification of logistical bottlenecks such as road/airspace restrictions; facilitation and co-ordination with local civil and military authorities; and communication of all relevant logistics information to concerned organizations.

Significant activities between April to June 2002 included:

- facilitation of continued emergency relief to Nahrin earthquake site;
- coordination for the development of UN agency logistics plans, including commercial transport contracts and preparations for winterisation planning;
- facilitation in resolution of Kabul Airport and Afghanistan air traffic control issues;
- design and project planning for the establishment of a humanitarian air cargo facility at the Kabul airport in cooperation with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA);
- coordination of the regional airlift comprised of three Hercules aircraft for the transport of non-food items;



- provision of flight and road transport for the FAO locust campaign in Kunduz, Aybak and Pul-e-Khumri area;
- active participation in Loya Jirga process including operational support to Aviation Support Operations Centre (ASOC) which transported 1,153 delegates over two days and 55 air missions, also transportation of tents to Loya Jirga site, assistance to the election office in Herat and collection of equipment from area offices;
- completion of road assessments covering priority and parallel routes through the Panjsher Valley, Salang Pass, Spin Boldak, etc.;
- completion of bridge assessments in Bala Murghab, Takhteh Pol and Koshka in collaboration with the Coalition Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force (CJCMOTF);
- coordination of UN agency logistics base operations in Herat, Kandahar, and Mazar;
- coordination between UN agencies, NGOs and the two military bodies involved in humanitarian assistance – the Coalition Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force (CJCMOTF) and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF);
- maintenance of a UNJLC website providing comprehensive information on logistical operations/capabilities in Afghanistan and border countries.

UNHAS

In January 2002, WFP assumed from UNOCHA management of the UN passenger air service for Afghanistan. WFP established the United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) to assume this role. The purpose of UNHAS is to provide safe, efficient and cost-effective air transport services in Afghanistan (and where necessary in neighbouring countries) to staff of UN agencies, the Government of Afghanistan, eligible NGOs and representatives of donor countries in the region.

During the second quarter of 2002, UNHAS accommodated a substantial increase in both passenger and cargo activities. Per month, UNHAS processed approximately 3,000 applications from its Kabul office alone. More critically, UNHAS has now extended its domestic flight service from Kabul to eight destinations throughout Afghanistan: Bamyan, Faizabad, Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar, Kunduz, Maimana, and Mazar. Two Beechcraft (19 passengers and 10 passengers) efficiently service these destinations. Internationally, UNHAS continues to service its primary gateway, Islamabad, with eight flights per week via Fokker F-28. In June, a bi-weekly service from Kabul to Dubai was initiated.

Until the end of May, UNHAS carried out air cargo service via two workhorse C-130 Hercules aircrafts from Islamabad and Dubai to Afghanistan. Each flight transported 12 to 15 MT of cargo, ranging from general office supplies to vehicles, radar equipment,

fuel, food, medical supplies and hospital equipment. Air cargo service was ultimately terminated on 31 May due to lack of clearly defined requirements.

SO 10163.0



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