

Emergency Response Mechanism 11 (ERM11) Afghanistan

December 2021



Overview

The Emergency Response Mechanism (ERM) is a rapid response facility funded by the Directorate-General for European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) to provide immediate, humanitarian assistance to shock-affected populations. The response in Afghanistan is currently implemented in a coordinated manner by six humanitarian organisations: Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID), and REACH Initiative. The response consists of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), cash for food, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance across 28 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. This factsheet provides key figures on ERM activities and caseloads. More information on the process and methodology can be found on the last page of this factsheet.

Assessment Coverage

Households assessed in December 2021

Households: 6,417¹

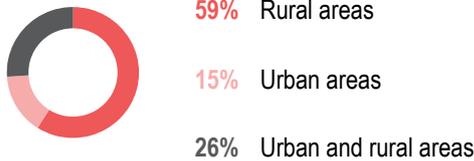
Provinces Covered

Provinces covered in December 2021

Badakhshan, Badghis, Baghlan, Balkh, Farah, Faryab, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Herat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kapisa, Kunduz, Logar, Nangarhar, Uruzgan, and Maidan Wardak.

Urban-Rural Areas

Percentage of households assessed by all ERM partners in December 2021 in urban and rural areas.



Household Demographics

Average household size: 7 individuals

% of household members by sex and age:

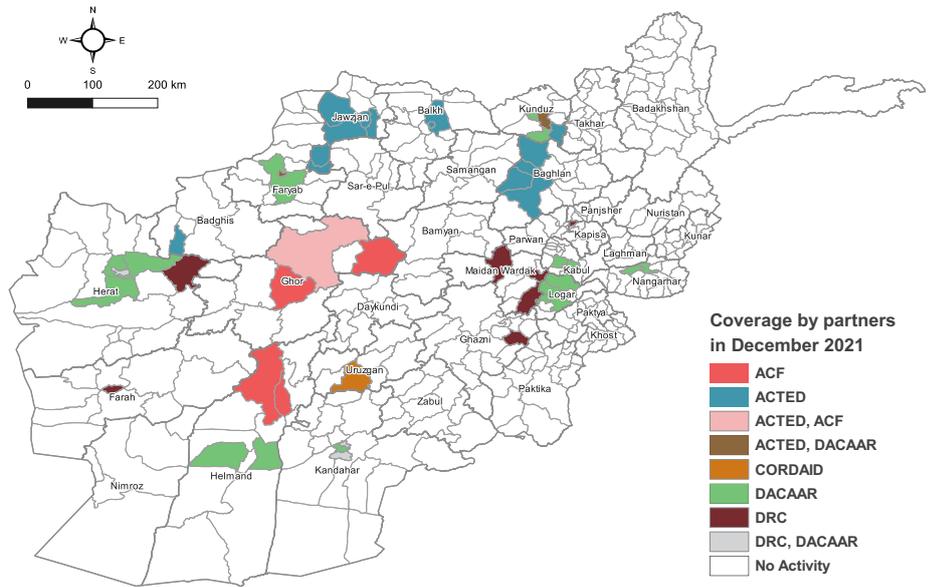
Female (53%)	Age	Male (47%)
2%	60+	2%
17%	18-59	13%
19%	6-17	19%
14%	0-5	13%

25% of the assessed households are female-headed households.

40% of the assessed households have pregnant and/or lactating women.

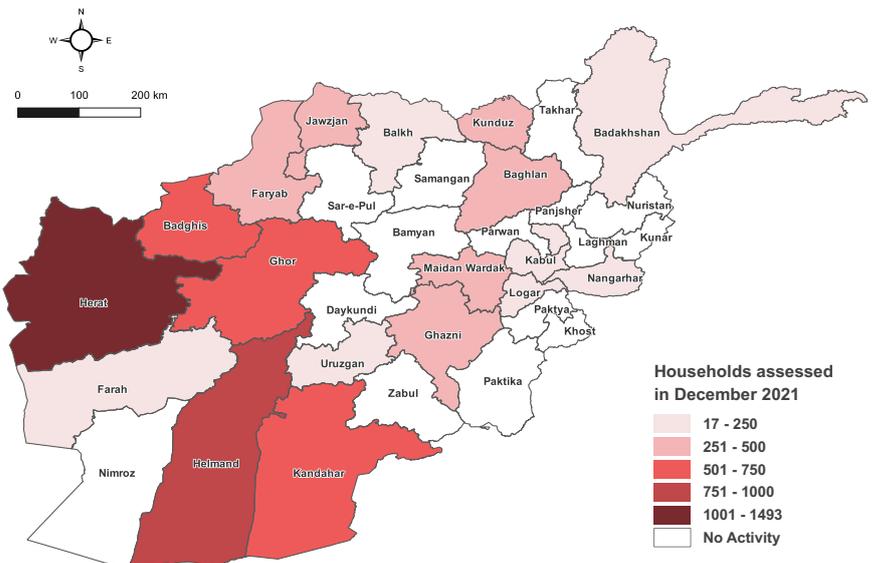
Intervention Coverage

The map represents the districts covered by partners at the district level in December 2021.



Assessed Households

Number of households assessed by partners in December 2021, by province.



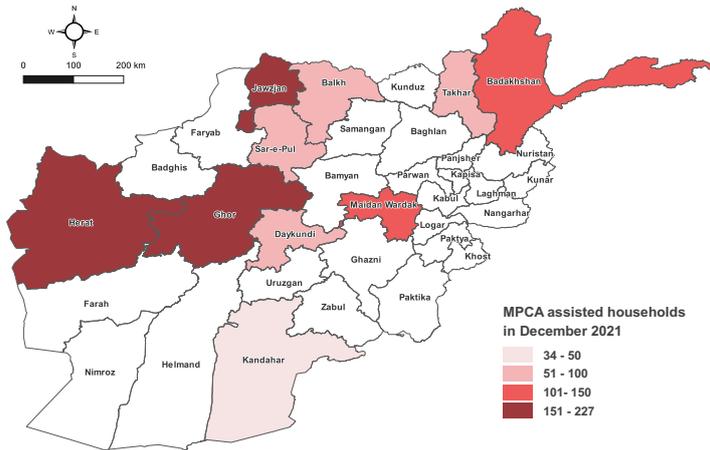
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December 2021

MPCA

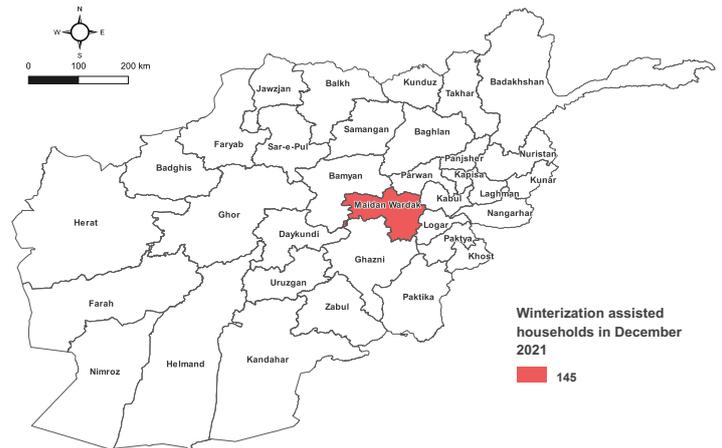
Number of households receiving MPCA assistance by ERM partners in December 2021, by province.



Households assisted: 1,199²

Winterization

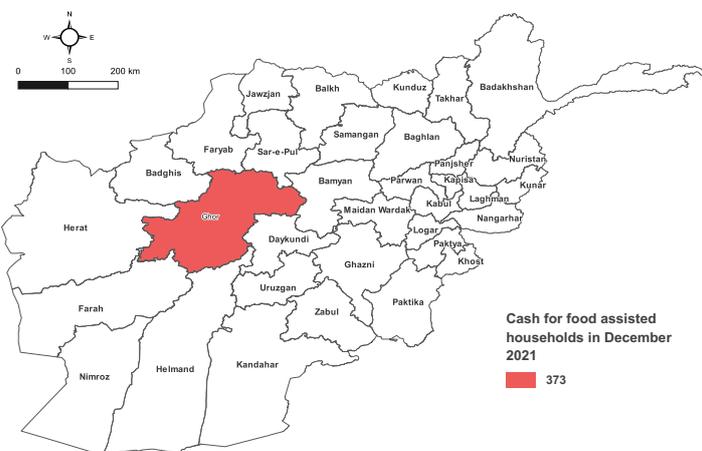
Number of households receiving winterization assistance by ERM partners in December 2022, by province.



Households assisted: 145²

Cash For Food

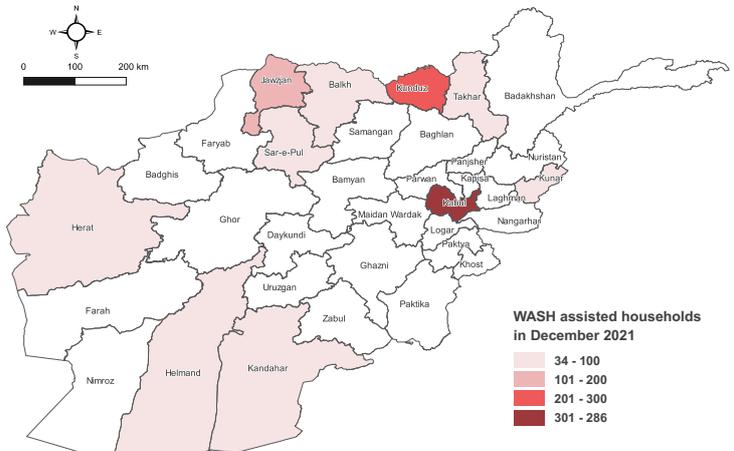
Number of households receiving cash for food assistance by ERM partners in December 2021, by province.



Households assisted: 373²

WASH Assistance

Number of households receiving WASH assistance by ERM partners in December 2021, by province.



Households assisted: 1,265²



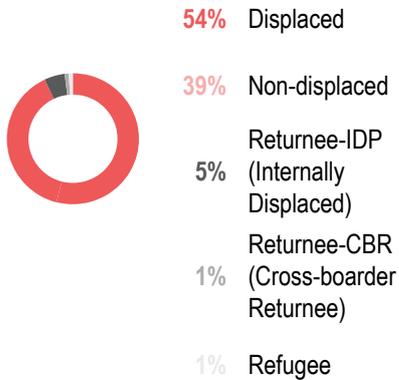
Emergency Response Mechanism 11 (ERM11) Afghanistan

December 2021



Current Status³

% of households by displacement status:



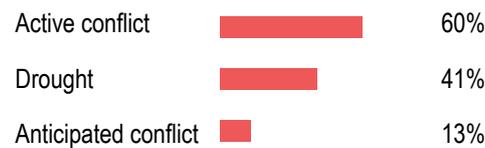
Households Movement

% of households by movement intentions:



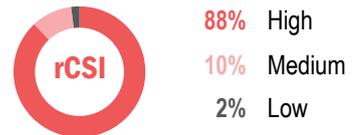
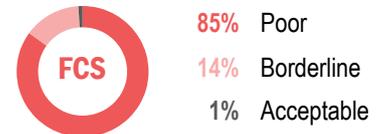
Shock Affected

% of households negatively impacted by the following shock/event in the six months prior to data collection:^{3,4}



Food Security

% of households per FCS and rCSI⁵ category:



Households Livelihood Coping Strategies

% of households by livelihoods coping strategies they reported having had to adopt in the 30 days prior to data collection due to a lack of food or money to meet households' essential needs⁴:

- 93% Borrow money
- 59% Seek employment
- 53% Medical attention
- 47% Working (child labour)
- 17% Sold asset

Debt

% of households reporting being in debt:

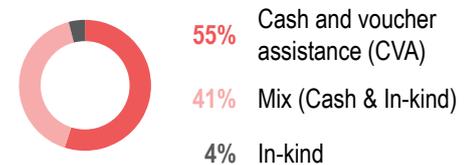


Among those households, most frequently reported reasons for contracting debt:^{4,6}

- 92% Food
- 56% Healthcare
- 37% Rent
- 26% Clothing and fuel

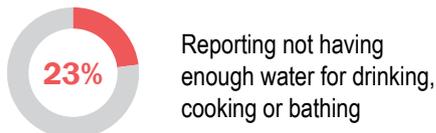
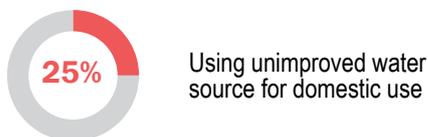
Accountability to Affected Populations

% of households by reported preferred type of assistance:



WASH

% of households reporting using an unimproved water source⁷ and not having enough water for domestic use at the time of the interview:



- 14% of households reported their main water source to be further than 500 metres away
- 64% of households reported not having hand washing facilities available
- 96% of households reported not having access to soap or hand sanitizer

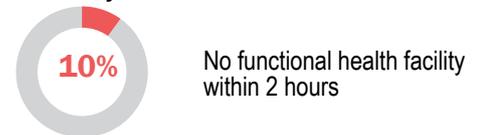
Households Shelter

% of households by type of shelter:

- 81% Mud house
- 11% Concrete
- 3% Partially damaged shelter
- 2% Open space
- 1% Partially built shelter
- 1% Makeshift
- 1% Tent

Health

% of households reporting there being no functional health facility within 2 hours of where they live:



87% of households reported facing at least one barrier to accessing healthcare. The most frequently reported barriers were:⁴

- 69% Cost of medicines
- 65% Cost of healthcare
- 52% Cost of transport
- 12% Distance and travel time

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Methodology

This monthly factsheet presents a visual snapshot of the current ERM interventions from the alert through to the assessment and distribution phases of the response.

Primary data is collected by ERM implementing partners through the Household Emergency Assessment Tool (HEAT), a comprehensive multi-sector emergency assessment tool used in Afghanistan for the purpose of identifying household vulnerability and emergency assistance needs at the individual household level.

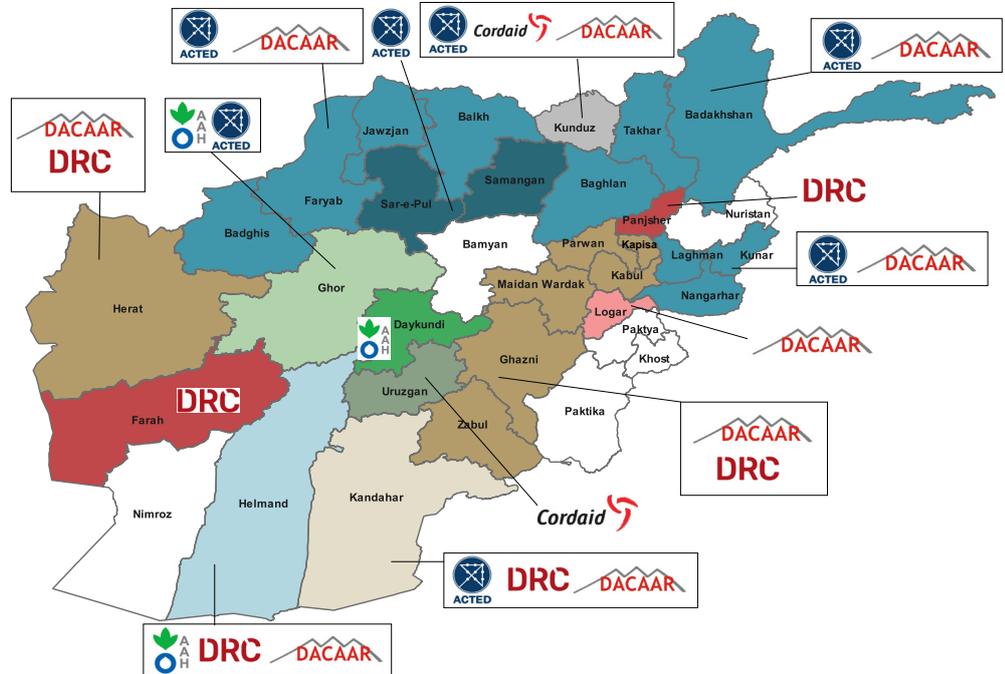
Findings are not generalisable with a known level of precision, hence should be considered indicative, rather than representative, of the situation and experiences of shock-affected households in Afghanistan.

Limitations

All data was collected by ERM partners through their own organisational procedures, with standardised scoring methodologies and eligibility for MPCA. While there was no standardised methodology for primary data collection, and data consolidation might vary between REACH processed and partners processed data, efforts were made to consolidate the data in the most standardized way possible.⁸

Partner Coverage

ERM partners providing MPCA, winterization, cash for food, and WASH assistance to eligible households, per province.



Target Beneficiaries

The ERM targets shock-affected populations, affected either by natural disaster, conflict, or economic shocks (including disease outbreaks). Any household that has experienced a significant shock and meets the selection criteria (displaced within six months or less, and has a vulnerability scoring meeting the threshold for assistance) is eligible for support through ERM.

ERM Activity Phases

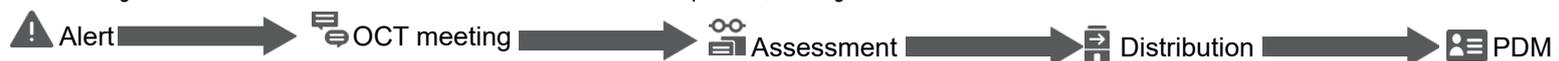
Alert Phase: The alert phase begins when notification or the petition of a new shock-affected caseload is received by ERM partners (related to their respective province of intervention) through community-based alert networks. Once an ERM partner receives a notification, information is triangulated to verify need, an official alert is raised and coordinated action with other humanitarian partners is initiated.

Assessment Phase: Following the alert, the Operations Coordination Team (OCT) meets to determine the needs of the affected population and the necessity for partners to conduct the assessment. Then partners mobilise coordinated assessment teams, which assess the eligibility of caseloads by conducting a household level needs assessment using the HEAT.

Distribution Phase: Partners coordinate responses to provide eligible households with appropriate emergency assistance according to household need. ERM assistance is provided in the form of multi-purpose cash, protection and/or WASH assistance.

Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) Phase: Finally, during the PDM phase, a representative sample of households is surveyed to ensure assistance provided was perceived by shock-affected households as appropriate to meet their immediate needs, delivered in a dignified and transparent manner, and effective in meeting the primary objectives of the ERM programme.

The following flow is aimed for in the ERM common rationale for the ERM process, although it is not in effect for all the assessments:



Endnotes

1. The figure is based on ERM partners HEAT data collected during the calendar month. However, reported figures exclude data from Cordaid and are based on a total of 6,187 households.
2. These figures are based on ERM partners monthly reported data. WASH assistance is also provided to HHs not necessarily assessed through the HEAT tool by an ERM partner as a leading agency of the assessment.
3. The data displayed is not intended for use to track all shock-affected populations or to provide statistical data representative of all need in Afghanistan. The data represents ERM partner activities only and cannot be considered representative of the frequency or location of shocks (natural disaster or conflict related) occurring or overall humanitarian needs and responses across Afghanistan.
4. Respondents could report multiple options. Findings may therefore exceed 100%.
5. The food security composite indicators are food consumption score (FCS) and reduced coping strategies index (rCSI). The methodologies used to calculate these indicators are available [here](#).
6. Most frequently reported reasons for accruing debt from households who reported being in debt.
7. Households were asked to report their main source of water for domestic use. Improved water sources include: hand pump/bore well, piped water, protected spring, or purchased water. Unimproved sources include: dug well, stream/river, *kandas*, unprotected spring, pond/lake, or other.
8. The assessed and assisted indicators include data from all ERM partners, while the HEAT indicators include data from ACTED, ACF, DRC, and DACAAR. Partners used different eligibility scoring methodologies.

