



Drought threatens the livelihoods of 7 million farmers in Afghanistan

FAO calls for urgent humanitarian assistance for the winter wheat season

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has appealed for humanitarian assistance to be scaled up as Afghanistan continues to be hit hard by an ever-worsening drought that threatens the livelihoods of more than seven million people who rely on agriculture or livestock.

Many of these people are already among the 14 million people - one in three Afghans - who are acutely food insecure and need urgent humanitarian assistance.

"Farmers and livestock owners must not be forgotten in today's humanitarian crisis," said FAO Director-General, QU Dongyu. "Urgent agricultural support now is key to counter the impact of the drought and a worsening situation in Afghanistan's vast rural areas in the weeks and months ahead."

The combination of severe drought, COVID-19 related economic impacts and widespread displacement have hit Afghanistan's rural communities hard, particularly its farmers and herders, who are the backbone of the country's economy. Food production and agricultural livelihoods are under extreme pressure.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Drought threatens the livelihoods of 7 million farmers in Afghanistan
- UN warns of 'urgent imperative' to avoid acute Afghan food insecurity
- FAO Director-General QU Dongyu will address the High-Level Event on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan
- Afghanistan: FAO appeals for \$36 million to urgently save rural livelihoods and avoid massive displacement
- Afghanistan: prioritizing agriculture and food production amidst a multifaceted crisis
- Afghanistan: FAO urges G20 countries to increase support for rural farmers

“If we fail to assist the people most affected by the acute drought, large numbers will be forced to abandon their farms and be displaced in certain areas,” the Director-General added. “This threatens to further deepen food insecurity and poses yet another threat to the stability of Afghanistan.”

Winter wheat season: urgent support is needed

FAO aims to assist 250 000 vulnerable farming families - some 1.5 million people - for the upcoming winter wheat season. Planting begins in late September and runs into October in many areas. However, current funding will only enable FAO to support 110 000 families. There is a funding shortfall of USD 18 million in support for FAO’s Drought Response Plan in Afghanistan.

“The window of opportunity to provide this assistance is closing quickly. We must act before it is too late,” said Richard Trenchard, FAO’s Representative in Afghanistan. “If farmers cannot get the seeds they urgently need by the end of September or early October, then the winter wheat season will fail. This will be a disaster for millions of Afghans, both farmers and consumers.”

“FAO and its partners are already supporting millions of rural people. But far more needs to be done,” Trenchard added.

With the current harvest expected to be 20 percent below the 2020 harvest and 15 percent below average due to the acute drought, the next winter wheat planting season will be crucial to prevent a further deterioration in the country’s food security, and to protect agricultural livelihoods, the mainstay of millions of people across the country.

Afghanistan’s important cereal requirements - mainly wheat and flour - are already projected to be some 28 percent higher than last year at 3.6 million metric tonnes. There are also concerns that traditional government seed distribution systems may have been severely affected by the recent crisis, piling up the pressures on Afghanistan’s already hard-hit farmers.

“This next winter wheat season is a tipping point. If we miss it, disaster looms,” Trenchard said.

The impact of drought on livestock

Afghan herders and livestock owners also need urgent assistance to counter the impact of drought during the coming winter season. Three million animals are estimated to be at risk, making livestock protection urgently critical for herders and livestock owners across the country.

FAO’s assessment shows that a high percentage of marginal herders and livestock owners are at a crucial stage and unless they are supported, they may have no other option than to sell their livestock holdings due to increased fodder/feed prices and also be displaced.

The long-term outlook is also challenging as farmers and herders, affected by drought, typically need three to five years to recover fully, according to recent FAO research. Another difficult wheat season will hit them hard.

FAO’s commitment to Afghanistan

Despite the funding gap and the difficult circumstances, FAO is committed to serving the people of Afghanistan and still aims to assist 3.5 million people in Afghanistan in 2021 according to its Humanitarian Response Plan. Through its anticipatory work early this year the UN organization has been able to raise the alarm about the severe drought working with vulnerable farmers and their families.

“Thanks to our partners who heeded this warning, we have been able to support over one million vulnerable people across 30 provinces with time-critical agricultural inputs, livestock feed, agronomic

training, and cash-based assistance so far in 2021,” said Kaustubh Devale, Head of FAO’s Emergency and Resilience Programme in Afghanistan.

FAO’s cash assistance programmes are also supporting the most vulnerable families headed by women, people with disabilities or elderly in rural areas. The provision of unconditional cash transfers help to cover the most immediate food and basic needs.

UN warns of ‘urgent imperative’ to avoid acute Afghan food insecurity



A child at the Indira Gandhi Children’s Hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan. Since 14 August, hundreds of children have been separated from their families

Humanitarian Aid

With food aid running out, Afghanistan is facing the collapse of basic services, said UN agencies on Tuesday, releasing a flash appeal for more than \$600 million to support around 11 million across the crisis-wracked country to the end of the year.

The unfolding situation has caused significant disruption and threatens Afghanistan’s critical winter wheat season, which is about to begin, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)¹ warned, ahead of a major fundraising conference which is slated to take place in Geneva on 13 September.

Shape Farmers cultivate potatoes in Bamyan, Afghanistan. Without urgent support, farmers and pastoralists could lose their livelihoods and be forced to leave rural areas

Farmers cultivate potatoes in Bamyan, Afghanistan. Without urgent support, farmers and pastoralists could lose their livelihoods and be forced to leave rural areas, by ADB/Jawad Jalali

“One in three Afghans are acutely food insecure, a situation that is dramatic by any stretch of the imagination,” said FAO Director of the Office of Emergencies and Resilience, Rein Paulsen, speaking from Islamabad.

Emphasizing the dire situation in the country, spokesperson for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)², Jens Laerke, warned that “basic services in Afghanistan are collapsing and food and other lifesaving aid is about to run out”.

A ‘very short window’

Mr. Paulsen noted that there will likely be a “25 percent deficit on the national wheat crop this year”. Half of the average Afghan’s daily calorific intake comes from wheat, and most of the supply grown in

¹ <http://www.fao.org/home/en/>

² <https://www.unocha.org/>

the country is sourced to the upcoming rainfed winter season, the FAO expert said, adding that there was “an urgent imperative towards the end of September”.

“We need to make sure that that planting is starting. There’s a very short window of time to be able to address that. The seeds can’t wait. The farmers can’t wait. We need to do everything we can to ensure that those vulnerable households are supported”.

Threats to rural livelihoods

In addition to food insecurity, Mr. Paulsen noted that 70 percent of all Afghans live in rural areas, and agriculture provides livelihoods benefits to 80 percent of the population.

Threats to rural livelihoods have been a growing concern for FAO for months, he said. Without urgent support, farmers and pastoralists could lose their livelihoods and be forced to leave rural areas, adding pressure to supplies in towns and cities as they become internally displaced.

As of August 2021, FAO has provided livelihood and cash assistance across 26 out of 34 provinces, to more than 1.5 million people.

In August alone, FAO managed to reach over 100,000 people, despite the upheavals resulting from the Taliban takeover.

Flash Appeal for Afghanistan

OCHA is seeking USD 606 million to assist nearly 11 million people during the four remaining months this year, which includes two million people not previously covered in the overall humanitarian response plan, the agency announced on Tuesday.

Around USD 193 million of the overall appeal total, is for “new and emerging needs and changes in operating costs,” said Mr. Laerke.

Donations will deliver “critical food and livelihood assistance to nearly 11 million people, essential health services to 3.4 million” and “treatment for acute malnutrition for more than a million children and women,” said Mr. Laerke.

300 unaccompanied children evacuated

Since 14 August, hundreds of children have been separated from their families amidst chaotic conditions in and around the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)³ warned on Tuesday.

The agency and its partners have registered approximately 300 unaccompanied and separated children evacuated from Afghanistan to other countries such as Germany and Qatar.

UNICEF said it expects this number to rise, and Executive Director Henrietta Fore, emphasized in a statement⁴ that these children “are among the most vulnerable” in the world.

“It is vital that they are quickly identified and kept safe during family tracing and reunification processes...preferably with extended family members or in a family-based setting”.

UNICEF is providing technical support to governments who have evacuated children and those who are hosting them. Teams are on the ground at the Doha air base in Qatar and the Ramstein air base in Germany, and the agency is calling on the Taliban to provide unimpeded humanitarian access to all parts of Afghanistan to gather an accurate picture of those displaced.

Remittances from overseas, vital: IOM

Remittances to struggling Afghan families are needed now more
3 <https://www.unicef.org/>
4 <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/statement-unicef-executive-director-henrietta-fore-un-accompanied-and-separated>

than ever, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said on Tuesday⁵, calling on the nearly six million workers living outside the country to continue providing this vital lifeline.

The financial system is on the brink of collapse, IOM warned, with remittances too in “a parlous state”.

Following the Taliban’s takeover of the country, the United States froze USD 7 billion of Afghan reserves, while the International Monetary Fund (IMF)⁶ shut off financing to the country, including hundreds of millions of dollars in Special Drawing Rights, which can be converted into currency during times of crisis, said the IOM.

Afghanistan’s Central Bank can only access a fraction of its usual financing. This has meant that Afghan banks’ coffers cannot be easily refilled, resulting in ATMs running out of cash and withdrawal limits being put in place.

In turn, prices for essential goods are soaring. There are fears of food shortages, higher inflation, and a slump in the currency all resulting in an intensification of the humanitarian emergency across the country.

In 2020, formal remittances into Afghanistan totalled upwards of USD 788 million – approximately 4 per cent of Afghanistan’s total GDP. According to the 2016-2017 Afghanistan Living Conditions Survey (ALCS), remittances represent an income source for almost one in every ten Afghan households.

The emergency response must now better coordinate with Afghans who are abroad, the IOM said.

FAO Director-General QU Dongyu addressed the High-Level Event on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan



A farmer in Afghanistan.

On 13 September, the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), QU Dongyu, addressed a High-Level Ministerial Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan.

The High-Level Meeting was convened by the **UN Secretary-General, António Guterres**, in Geneva to highlight the Afghanistan’s acute needs and draw attention to the need for urgent funding support.

The Event was livestreamed on UN Web TV⁷. It took place in a hybrid format, combining limited participation in Geneva with a virtual platform.

5 <https://www.iom.int/>

6 <http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>

7 <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

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FAO's views and work in Afghanistan:

DEEPENING CRISIS. Millions of people in rural Afghanistan depend on agriculture for their livelihoods and household food security.

- 70 percent of all Afghans live in rural areas; agriculture generates 25.5 percent of GDP, directly employs 45 percent of the workforce and provides livelihoods benefits (direct + indirect) to 80 percent of the population.

HUNGER. Food insecurity and threats to rural livelihoods have been a growing concern for months.

- The last IPC analysis (March-May) found that one in three Afghans are acutely food insecure: 14 million people.

WINTER WHEAT SEASON. The unfolding situation is causing new disruptions - cash availability, markets, the availability of agricultural inputs, credit and labor - threatening Afghanistan's critical upcoming winter wheat season.

- Over half of an average Afghan's daily caloric intake comes from wheat.
- Most of the wheat grown in the country is sourced to this upcoming rainfed winter season.

WE CAN'T WAIT. The window of opportunity to assist farmers for the fast-approaching winter wheat season is narrow and time bound. Seeds can't wait. Farmers can't wait. We must scale up support now.

- FAO's standard wheat cultivation package (high-quality certified seeds, fertilizers, and training) can generate enough wheat to meet the cereal needs of an average household for an entire year.

KEEPING LIVESTOCK ALIVE. Keeping farmers in their fields and livestock owners with their herds will be key to preventing deepening crisis and cascading humanitarian needs.

- To keep livestock healthy and productive, vulnerable herders urgently need concentrate animal feed, veterinary care for their animals, and training in health and feeding best practices.

DROUGHT, MALNUTRITION AND DISPLACEMENT. In addition to wheat, Afghanistan's entire agricultural sector is reeling from a severe and ongoing drought. 7.3 million people who rely on agriculture and livestock have been badly affected. Drought now affects 25 out of 34 provinces.

- The collapse of agriculture will lead to increased malnutrition, more displacement and increases in acute humanitarian caseloads and needs.
- Without urgent support, farmers and pastoralists could lose their livelihoods and be forced to leave rural areas, adding further pressure to urban and peri urban areas as internally displaced people (IDPs). The costs of assistance to IDPs are much higher than assisting them at their place of origin.

RURAL CRISIS. While the airport and movements into and out of the country have rightfully been a focus over the past two weeks, we can't lose sight of rural communities, which are more remote and difficult to access but where the situation is relatively calm and opportunities for scaling up support are growing. FAO remains on the ground in Afghanistan and delivering in rural areas to meet rising needs, but more resources are required.

- As of August 2021, FAO has provided livelihood and cash assistance across 26 out of 34 provinces to over 1.5 million people. In August alone, FAO has reached over 200 000 people
- FAO enjoys long-established relationships with a network of partners and financial institutions in Afghanistan as well as with at-risk communities themselves.
- Despite the fluidity of the current situation, FAO has been able to continue operations in 28 out of the 31 provinces where we work. Afghanistan has 34 provinces.
- We hope to provide support to more than one million people in farming and livestock owning families in the coming few weeks.

Afghanistan: FAO appeals for USD 36 million to urgently save rural livelihoods and avoid massive displacement



A farmer standing in a wheat field in Afghanistan.

Director-General QU Dongyu stresses that time is of the essence in address to UN High-level Ministerial Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), QU Dongyu, today called for urgent assistance to help save Afghanistan's next wheat harvest, keep life-sustaining farm animals alive, and avoid a deterioration of the country's already severe humanitarian crises.

FAO is seeking USD 36 million to speed up its support to Afghan farmers and ensure they will not miss the upcoming winter wheat planting season, and to assist the agriculture-based livelihoods of 3.5 million vulnerable Afghans until the end of the year.

"The window of opportunity to assist Afghan farmers before winter is very narrow. It is critical that support be scaled-up and speeded-up immediately. Without urgent and rapid assistance, farmers will miss this crucial planting season, which is just starting," Qu told a High-Level Ministerial Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan convened by UN Secretary-General António Guterres in Geneva.

Some 70 percent of Afghans live in rural areas, with millions depending on agriculture for their livelihood. Over half of an average Afghan's daily caloric intake comes from wheat, most of which is domestically grown.

The political turmoil in the country comes on top of a severe drought and the lingering economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning one in three Afghans -- 14 million people -- are already experiencing high acute food insecurity.

FAO is also aiming to provide veterinary care and nutrition support to keep life-sustaining farm animals alive and productive, as well as deliver poultry and vegetable garden start-up kits that will allow families to feed themselves and earn supplemental incomes. Unconditional cash payments are given to highly vulnerable households headed by women, disabled persons and the elderly.

Without urgent support, farmers and pastoralists could lose their livelihoods and be forced to leave rural areas, adding further pressure to urban and peri-urban areas as internally displaced people (IDPs). The costs of assistance to IDPs are much higher than assisting them at their place of origin. For instance, with less than USD 150, a winter wheat seed package with fertilizer, certified seeds and training, can produce enough food to cover a family's needs for a year.

“We need to keep farmers in their fields and livestock owners with their herds to prevent a deeper crisis with increased humanitarian needs in the future,” Qu said.

Ongoing assistance in Afghanistan

Despite the current political turmoil, FAO has been able to continue operations in 28 out of the 31 provinces where it operates and aims to provide support to more than one million people in farming and livestock-owning families during the coming weeks.

FAO has already provided livelihood and cash assistance to over 1.9 million people so far this year. FAO has long-established relationships with a network of partners and financial institutions in Afghanistan, as well as with at-risk communities themselves.

With today’s appeal, FAO is seeking USD 21 million in urgent funding to fill a commitment gap in its humanitarian response, which currently totals USD 36 million.

“FAO stands with the girls, boys, women and men -- and farmers -- of Afghanistan. We count on you to stand with us for the vulnerable, to ensure that no one is left behind,” QU said.

The United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, convened the international community for the High-Level Ministerial Meeting to express solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and pledge tangible support to address their critical humanitarian needs.

Afghanistan: prioritizing agriculture and food production amidst a multifaceted crisis

Connecting live from Kabul, FAO Director of Emergencies and Resilience Rein Paulsen briefed journalists on the food security situation in Afghanistan, and the response of FAO and partners at today’s noon briefing, held by the Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Spokesperson

Conflict, rural poverty, and recurrent and severe drought⁸, are among the main drivers of food insecurity in Afghanistan, now being compounded by the current political upheaval and the still-present economic downturns from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Joining today’s press briefing live from Kabul was FAO Director of Emergencies and Resilience, Rein Paulsen, who is currently in Afghanistan after taking the first UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flight into Kabul since the service resumed last Sunday.

“FAO is on the ground here in Afghanistan, and our focus is very much on shoring up livelihoods and support to local food production, and the reason why we are concentrating on this area is because the importance of agriculture to the lives of rural populations in Afghanistan simply cannot be overstated,” Paulsen said, stressing that “agriculture is indispensable in keeping the people of Afghanistan fed, keeping them alive, and keeping them self-reliant”.

A hidden crisis in the countryside

With seven out of ten Afghans living in remote and rural areas and up to 80 percent of the country’s population depending directly or indirectly on agricultural livelihoods, FAO has been closely monitoring the situation on the ground to identify the needs to respond to an acute crisis where one-third of Afghans do not know where their next meal will come from. An urgent scale up of support

⁸ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1436950/icode/>



An Afghan rural resident

to agricultural livelihoods is imperative to keep Afghans fed today and in the future. The agriculture sector directly employs 45 percent of the Afghan workforce and generates 25.5 percent of national GDP, Paulsen explained.

“There is a severe drought that is impacting fully 7.3 million Afghans. It is the second drought in four years,” Paulsen moved on to say, underscoring the detrimental knock-on effects felt when successive crisis take place on already vulnerable populations, especially with drought currently affecting 25 out of the 34 provinces in the country. Concretely, this is taking place against a backdrop where 14 million Afghans who are in food crisis or emergency situations (IPC 3 or IPC 4, respectively); four million of those are in emergency status and contending with extreme gaps in food consumption, very high levels of acute malnutrition and excess mortality, Paulsen outlined.

Moreover, there are approximately 400 000 newly displaced people this year alone, mainly from rural areas, and the numbers are on the rise, Paulsen said, before adding that three million life-sustaining livestock are also at risk from drought due to lack of adequate pastureland, fodder or feed.

Paulsen spoke of an unfolding situation compounded by challenges on the cash and banking system, on market access, and on the availability of agricultural inputs. “All of this is threatening the most important cropping season in Afghanistan: the winter wheat season,” he said. “Farmers needs to start planting now, this month, by the end of September,” he warned.

The critical winter wheat season is due to begin in October, a deadline that translates into food or lack thereof for millions, as 80 percent of staple foods for Afghans come from wheat and over half of Afghans’ daily caloric intake depends on this vital staple good.

Investing today to prevent an insurmountable hunger and displacement crisis tomorrow

Echoing the sentiment expressed by FAO Director-General QU Dongyu⁹ at this week’s High-level Ministerial Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan¹⁰, Paulsen underscored the extreme urgency behind supporting farmers before the winter in order to prevent the collapse of the agricultural sector and, with it, the livelihoods of millions who would be forced to leave their lands and homes to become internally displaced.

Acting now and accelerating delivery before a crisis deteriorates further or before new compounding disasters surface¹¹ remains the best bet in fending off future losses of life and livelihoods.

“The single-most important factor to mitigating displacement as we look at this drought is keeping farmers in their fields and herders with their flocks. This is absolutely key to preventing a deepening crisis”. The collapse of agriculture will drive up malnutrition,

⁹ http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1438899/icode/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social+media&utm_campaign=fao

¹⁰ <https://www.unocha.org/high-level-ministerial-meeting-humanitarian-situation-afghanistan>

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1438342/icode/>

displacement, and the overall humanitarian burden, he said. “For less than USD 150,” Paulsen continued, “a winter wheat seed package, with fertilizer, can produce enough food to cover a family’s wheat and flour needs for a year”.

Despite the upheaval, FAO has been able to assist more than 200 000 people with essential livelihoods support in August alone. Since the beginning of the year, FAO has reached more than 1.9 million people, Paulsen noted, adding that FAO has provided cash and livelihood assistance in 28 out of the 34 provinces this year so far.

While FAO remains on the ground in Afghanistan and is well poised to deliver in rural areas to meet rising needs, more resources are required, Paulsen stressed. Under the Flash Appeal for Afghanistan, FAO is urgently requesting USD 36 million to support an additional 3.5 million people between now and the end of the year.

Afghanistan: FAO urges G20 countries to increase support for rural farmers



Afghanistan is suffering its second drought in four years.

Safeguarding local agri-food production and livelihoods must be a priority as hunger threatens rural population

Among Afghanistan’s many challenges, it is urgent that the international community tackle the dramatic hunger risk conditions faced by a third of the population and the livelihood risks in rural region areas where 70 percent of the population live, QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), told G20 Foreign Ministers late Wednesday.

“Supporting local agri-food production and safeguarding rural livelihoods must be a priority,” the Director-General said at the Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the G20 Countries, including Spain as permanent guest, the Netherlands and Singapore as guests, and Qatar.

The virtual meeting was held in view of an extraordinary G20 summit on Afghanistan announced by Mario Draghi, Prime Minister of Italy, holder of the G20 presidency¹². United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, and the head of the UN’s Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs (OCHA), Martin Griffiths, also spoke at the event, alongside representatives of other multilateral institutions.

¹² <https://www.g20.org/>

QU emphasized the need to urgently support Afghanistan’s farmers to have access to agricultural inputs for the winter wheat season, a mainstay for food security and livelihoods and source of more than half of the average daily calorie intake in the country.

“Failure to step up and speed up efforts immediately to support and salvage rural agricultural livelihoods will lead to enormous increases in hunger and malnutrition, massive displacement and vast increases in acute humanitarian situations going into the winter season,” he said.

“Agriculture provides livelihoods, either directly or indirectly, to nearly 80 percent of the Afghan population,” the Director-General said. “Agriculture can and must play a central role in addressing the root causes of repeated humanitarian crises.”

He pointed to FAO’s long history of working in Afghanistan’s rural communities and called for the G20 to rapidly release resources to prevent a worsening humanitarian crisis, advocate for safe and sustained access to the most vulnerable, and contribute to rebuilding an economically prosperous agri-food system.

“The window of opportunity to assist Afghan farmers before winter is very narrow,” QU said. “FAO stands with the farmers of Afghanistan. We count on the G20 to stand with FAO.”

FAO remains operational in the countryside

FAO continues to deliver vital livelihood intervention at scale in Afghanistan and is working to provide livelihood and cash assistance to more than 1.9 million people in 26 provinces. More than 200 000 beneficiaries were reached in August alone.

Among the Organization’s activities in the country are provision of wheat cultivation packages, including locally-supplied seeds and fertilizers, which can generate enough wheat to meet the cereal and flour needs of a family for an entire year at the cost of just USD 150, around one-fourth of the usual market cost.

This year’s wheat harvest is expected to be as much as 25 percent below average, due to the conflict as well a drought¹³ that is affecting 25 of 34 provinces. Another year of poor production will exacerbate conditions that have already put some 14 million people, one-third of the population¹⁴, in a food security crisis, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report released by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. FAO also provides materials to help smallholders, especially rural women who often face restrictions on movement, grow vegetables and raise backyard poultry, as well as offering feed and veterinary assistance to the country’s livestock herders.

FAO has appealed¹⁵ for an additional USD 36 million to boost its provision of fertilizers, seeds and livestock protection as well as expand a cash-for-work programme and unconditional cash transfers to the most vulnerable, including households headed by disabled people

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1436950/icode/>

⁸ <http://www.fao.org/afghanistan/news/detail-events/en/c/1397449/>

⁹ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1438899/icode/>

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