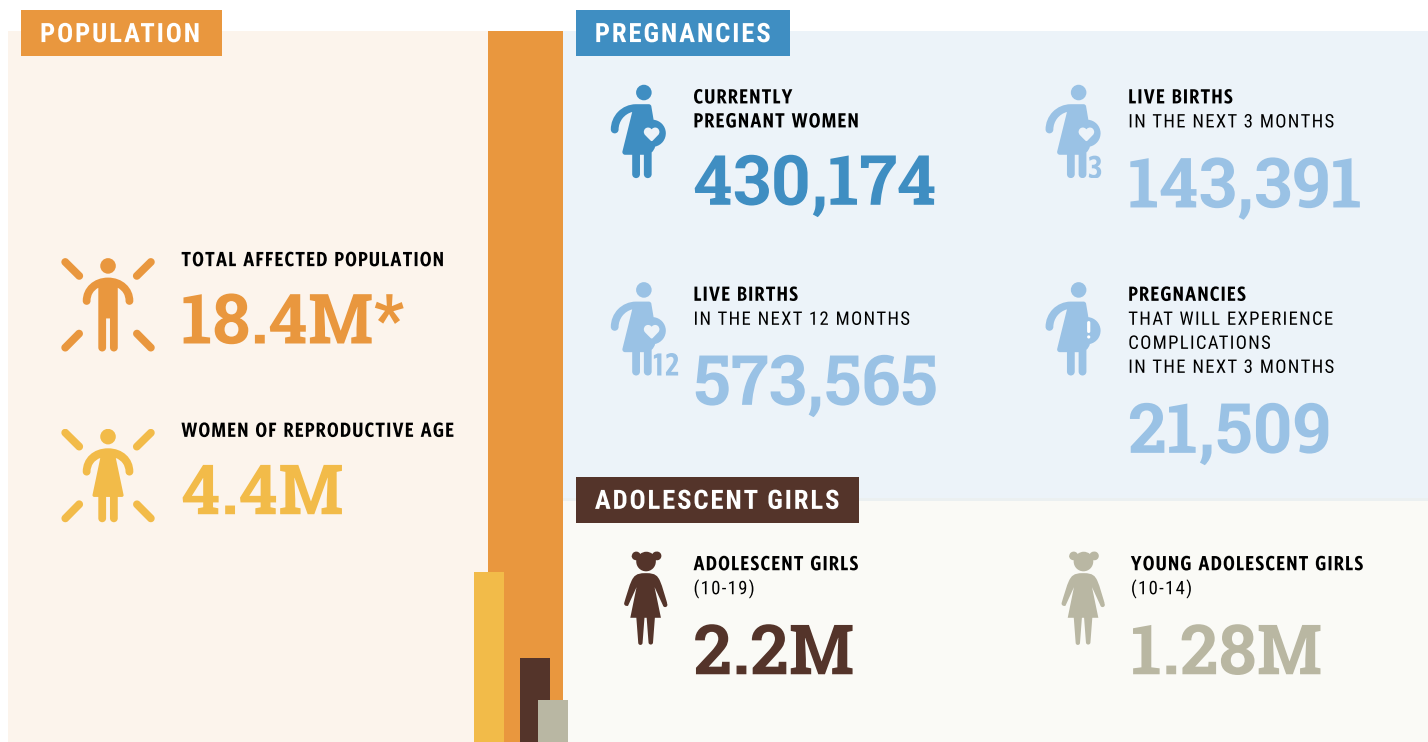


AFGHANISTAN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

MONTHLY UPDATE | NOVEMBER 2021





(*Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2021)

SITUATION OVERVIEW



The impact of the recent upheaval continues to be felt across the country, including in the social services sector. With the onset of winter, health care needs across the country are increasing, thereby adding burden to the already vulnerable health sector.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE WORLD BANK-FUNDED SEHATMANDI PROJECT KEPT MOST HEALTH FACILITIES CLOSED. FOR HOSPITALS THAT REMAINED OPERATIONAL, STAFF ARE WORKING UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS WITH DEPLETING MEDICAL SUPPLIES, UNPAID SALARIES, AND SHORTAGE OF HUMAN RESOURCES.

PROTECTION AND SAFETY ISSUES ARE ALSO ON THE RISE ESPECIALLY AMONG WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, ACCORDING TO UNOCHA.

UNFPA SUPPORTS 279 FACILITIES THROUGH VARIOUS PARTNERS ON THE GROUND TO SUPPORT UNINTERRUPTED PROVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN, CASE MANAGEMENT, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH AND PROTECTION SERVICES, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE MOST IN NEED.

123,000 RECEIVED REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND PROTECTION SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

UNFPA SCALES UP HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION IN AFGHANISTAN, REACHING 123,000 PEOPLE IN NOVEMBER AS THE CRISIS SURPASSED THE 100-DAY MARK AND IS NOW ENTERING A TOUGH WINTER.

THE NUMBER INCLUDES 4,612 BENEFICIARIES ASSISTED IN 171 FAMILY HEALTH HOUSES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, which provide maternity services (deliveries, antenatal and postnatal care). The Family Health Houses offer valuable support to the troubled health system as most health facilities remain closed following the suspension of the Sehatmandi Project.

THROUGH 23 MOBILE HEALTH TEAMS, 58,469 PEOPLE IN THE MOST REMOTE AREAS RECEIVED MATERNAL, NEWBORN, CHILD, AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH CARE. The two helplines supported by UNFPA - Midwifery Helpline and Youth Health Line - also remained open and responded to a total of 13,475 queries and calls for support. There were also 3,751 young people assisted at 26 Youth Health Corners.

Protection and psychosocial support services available through **81 STATIC FACILITIES AND MOBILE TEAMS REACHED 42,697 PEOPLE DURING THE MONTH.**



SUPPORTED FACILITIES

171

FAMILY HEALTH HOUSES

23

MOBILE HEALTH TEAMS

4

EMERGENCY CLINICS*

81

PROTECTION AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FACILITIES

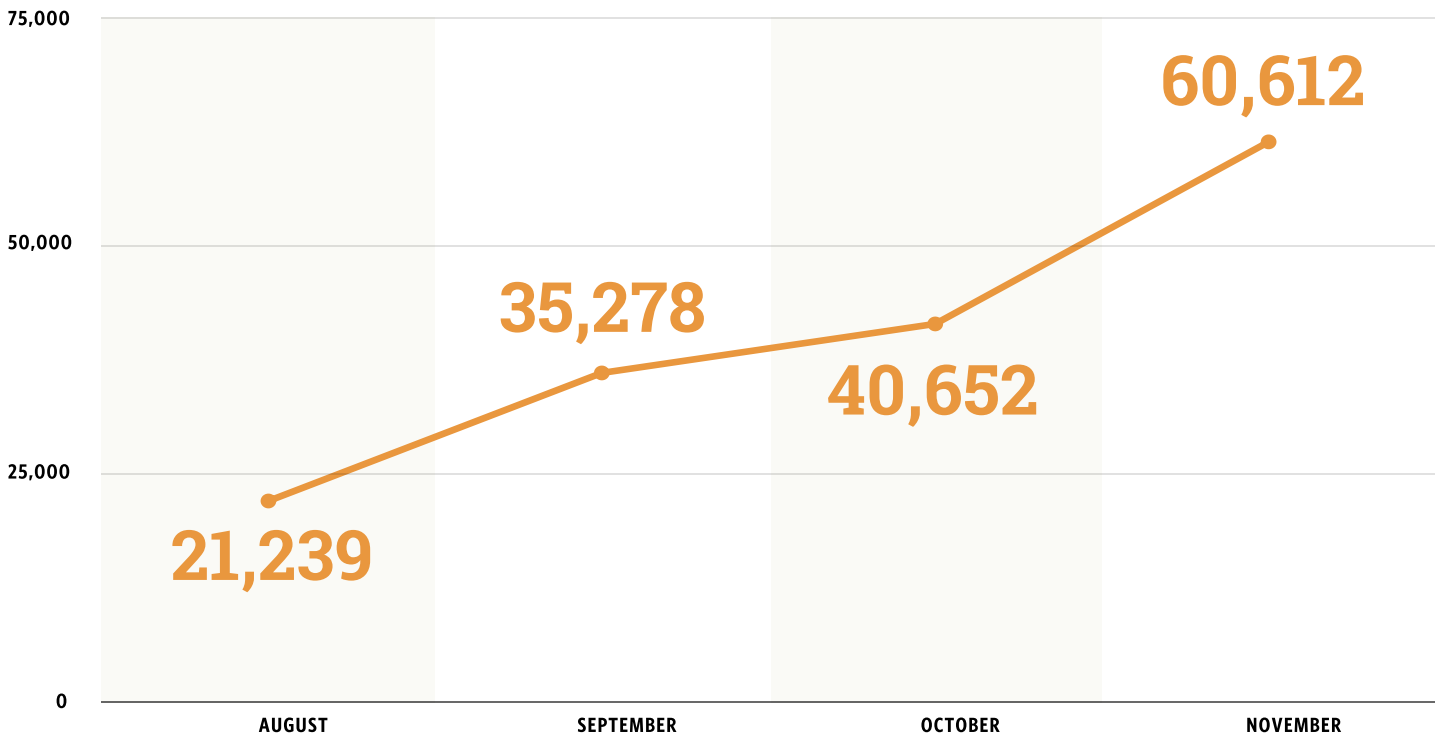
(*Milak border in Nimroz, Torkham border in Nangarhar, Spin Boldak in Kandahar, and returnees transit center in Herat)

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES: AN INDISPENSABLE INTERVENTION

Psychosocial support services are as life-saving as food, water and shelter in any humanitarian response, especially for people who have experienced extremely distressing events or have been displaced.

UNFPA INTEGRATES PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES INTO ITS REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS. SINCE THE TUMULTUOUS MONTH OF AUGUST, MORE THAN 150,000 PEOPLE HAVE SOUGHT PSYCHOSOCIAL COUNSELING THROUGH MOBILE OUTREACH TEAMS AND STATIC CLINICS.

Data also show an increasing number of people who access the services, demonstrating the need to maintain or scale up psychosocial support services throughout the crisis response.





EMERGENCY HEALTH KITS ENSURE MATERNAL AND NEWBORN CARE

➤ The Malalai Maternity Hospital is one of Kabul's busiest, welcoming around 85 babies into the world every day, including 20 by Caesarean section. But the ongoing crisis in the country is drastically undermining the staff's capacity to care for their patients.

"SHORTAGES OF EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND MEDICINE, A LACK OF FUEL AND HEATING FACILITIES, ESPECIALLY NOW WITH WINTER APPROACHING, AND UNCERTAIN SUPPORT FROM PARTNERS ARE JUST SOME OF THE CHALLENGES WE'RE FACING," said Shahla Oruzgani, head midwife at the maternity hospital.

At the Ahmad Shah Baba Hospital, where **Dr. Aqila Bahrami** works, the outlook is no less bleak. **"WE USED TO RECEIVE REGULAR SUPPORT FROM AN INTERNATIONAL NGO, BUT THEIR STAFF LEFT IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE EVENTS IN AUGUST. NOW WE ARE IN SERIOUS NEED OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES,"** she told UNFPA.

These two hospitals were among the first in Afghanistan to receive emergency reproductive health kits from UNFPA. The kits contain essential drugs, medicine and equipment to ensure safe deliveries and support the reproductive, maternal and newborn health needs of at least 328,000 people.

More than 300 kits are being provided to hospitals and through mobile health teams, both in Kabul and across 15 provinces, with additional distributions planned for the coming weeks.

Since Kabul fell to the Taliban in August, more and more women have been seeking maternal health care from the Malalai hospital, many of them internally displaced from the northern provinces of Afghanistan into the capital. Although the number of patients has gradually returned to normal as the displaced moved elsewhere, the hospital's supplies have been left badly depleted.

Ms. Oruzgani fears the situation could get far worse should the healthcare system fail completely. In a country where a woman dies every two hours from pregnancy-related complications, **Ms. Oruzgani** said: **"THE KITS ARE CRITICAL AT THIS TIME, AS HOSPITAL RESOURCES ARE RUNNING OUT AND THE SUPPORT WE WERE RECEIVING HAS DWINDLED. WE CAN'T BE SURE WHERE OUR NEXT ASSISTANCE WILL COME FROM."**

FUNDING STATUS

FUNDING REQUIREMENT(\$)

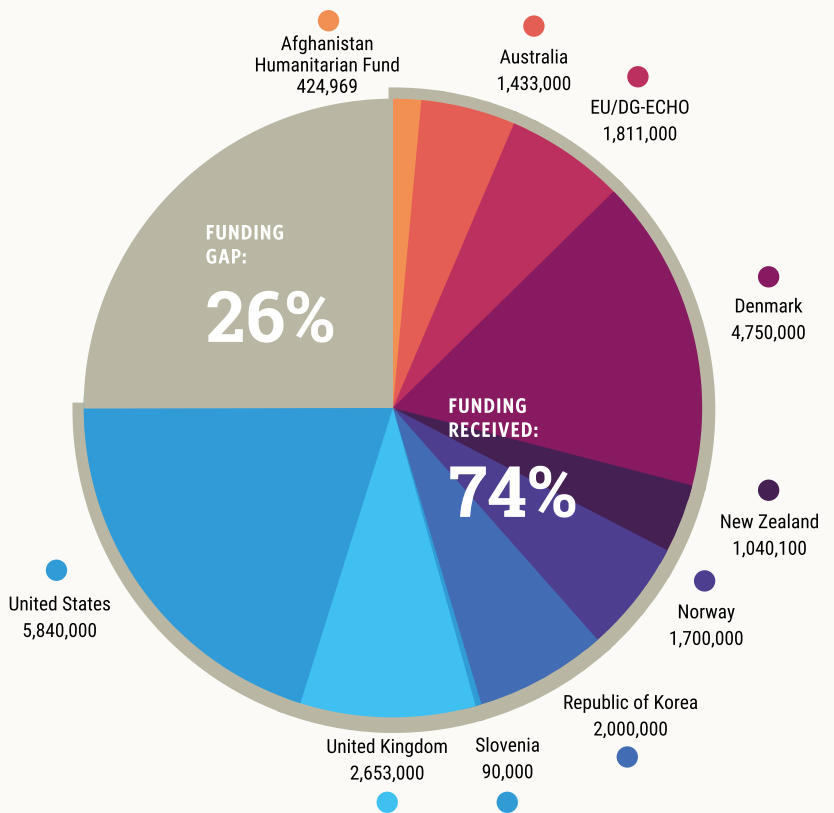
\$29.2M

FUNDING RECEIVED(\$)

\$21.7M



MONEY RECEIVED	AMOUNT IN USD (US\$)
Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund	424,969
Australia	1,433,000
EU/DG-ECHO	1,811,000
Denmark	4,750,000
New Zealand	1,040,000
Norway	1,700,000
Republic of Korea	2,000,000
Slovenia	90,000
United Kingdom	2,653,000
United States	5,840,000
TOTAL RECEIVED	21,742,069



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