

**Afghanistan Humanitarian Action Plan 2010**

<b>Appealing Agency</b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC)</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	Emergency Response (Non-Food Items, Winterization, Emergency Shelter and Environmental Health/WASH) for crisis-affected, returnee and internally displaced families in Paktya Province, South-eastern Afghanistan
<b>Project Code</b>	AFG-10/S-NF/28627
<b>Sector/Cluster</b>	EMERGENCY SHELTER
<b>Refugee project</b>	No
<b>Objectives</b>	To reduce excess morbidity and mortality and mitigate the disruption of basic services to populations affected by natural or man-made disasters in Paktya Province through timely and effective emergency interventions.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Total: 40,000 Direct Female: 6,000 Children (under 18): 28,500 Other group: 100 Community Hygiene Volunteers
<b>Implementing Partners</b>	N/A
<b>Project Duration</b>	Jan 2010 - Dec 2010
<b>Current Funds Requested</b>	<b>\$506,000</b>
<b>Location</b>	Paktya
<b>Priority / Category</b>	A. IMMEDIATE
<b>Cash based Intervention</b>	<p>Is any part of this project cash based intervention (including vouchers)? <span style="float: right;">No</span></p> <p>Conditionality:</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <p>Estimated percentage of project requirements to be used for cash/vouchers: <span style="float: right;">0</span></p>

**Needs**

At the present time the Government and population of Afghanistan are poorly equipped to respond to widespread chronic and rapid-onset, natural and man-made, disasters. To exacerbate this lack of capacity, over the past five years, international community efforts have been largely focused on post-conflict reconstruction and development at the expense of a building a robust capacity to address emergency contexts across the country. The result of this shift in focus has been a slow degradation within the international communities capacity to respond to rapid onset humanitarian crises and the many situations of chronic humanitarian need across Afghanistan.

There are considerable existing humanitarian needs in Paktya, particularly among recent returnee and displaced families currently living in rural communities in host family arrangements. The existing host population in this province is already highly vulnerable, especially in the remote areas bordering with Pakistan. Typical problems faced by returnees and host communities include a lack of appropriate housing, inadequate sanitation and safe drinking water systems and widespread needs for winterization assistance and other Non Food Items.

In addition to this, each year large numbers of people in Paktya suffer from the effects of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and the onset of extreme winter conditions affecting large parts of the province. As one example, in the past two months widespread flooding affected seven districts in Paktya (including Gardez, Chamkani, Dand Patan, Ahmad khil, Zadran) but was met with an inadequate response from the humanitarian community due to lack of capacity. There are very few actors working in Paktya and none has the capacity to respond appropriately to meet the needs of people affected by predictable crises, much less the unexpected rapid-onset crises in the province. Aside from the IRC, only UNHCR is present working in any of the sectors mentioned here, providing families with shelters. This proposal would fill a critical gap by responding to meet urgent needs of many thousands of people affected by disasters and perilous living conditions.

The IRC has a long history of working in Paktya. The proposed actions here would complement IRC's existing programs in the province, which include providing assistance to many existing returnee families with shelter, water and sanitation.

#### **Activities**

The IRC will establish and train a standby emergency response team to carry out rapid assessments and provide immediate assistance in the sectors of environmental health, emergency shelter and non-food items (NFIs).

### 1. Rapid Assessments and Coordination of Emergency Response

This core seven-person emergency standby team, based in Herat, will be deployed to the affected crisis area within 48 hours to conduct a rapid multi-sector needs assessment. Assessment reports will be shared with all other humanitarian actors in the area to ensure a coordinated response and to ensure all needs are covered, particularly for sectors that are not included in the IRC's emergency response such as health, food distribution, education, child protection and livelihoods.

### 2. Emergency Response in Shelter, NFI and Environmental Health (WASH)

IRC response activities would normally begin within 72 hours and would continue for approximately one month, depending on the context and the scale of the disaster. The structure of the program is designed to be flexible in order to address needs as they arise, however during the course of 2010 the following activities are anticipated:

a. Shelter & NFI stocks: Establish a reserve stock of emergency shelter and Non Food Items at the provincial level.

These reserve stock items will be distributed to crisis-affected populations in coordination with donors and other implementing partners to ensure impact, and to avoid overlap. Wherever possible the IRC will use complimentary donor funding to replace the stock used so as to create a 'revolving' capacity. Pre-prepared NFI kits (blankets, cooking set, jerrycans, soap and clothing) will be distributed to 1000 households; family tents will be distributed to approximately 500 households;

b. Winterization assistance will be provided to families living in districts affected by extreme low temperatures and snow. Approximately 1000 families will be provided with winterization kits (wooden stove, blanket, clothing, wood, soap, plastic pail), and 500 extremely vulnerable children will be identified through IRC's existing network of community-based schools for extra winter clothing.

c. Sanitation and Hygiene needs will be addressed through the construction of 400 emergency family latrines; training and support to 100 community hygiene volunteers (CHVs) who will conduct hygiene promotion sessions to pass key messages; and the distribution of 500 hygiene kits (water containers, chlorine, soap, food covers and latrine cleaning equipment)

d. Clean water supply increased to a minimum emergency Sphere standard of 15l/p/d by either: (a) water trucking; (b) chlorination at household or communal level; and/or (c) borehole construction with training and support to water and hygiene committees.

### 3. Monitoring and Evaluation

During and after response activities, several phases of monitoring will be implemented:

a. Immediate post-distribution monitoring, to ensure that immediate needs are met and beneficiaries are served in secure environments that take into account specific protection concerns and especially vulnerable groups;

b. Ongoing monitoring, at least on a fortnightly basis during the first three months, to ensure that infrastructures are maintained and assistance utilized appropriately by the beneficiary population;

c. Final post-intervention monitoring and evaluation missions to conduct evaluations of all interventions, normally taking place three months after the intervention to assess: the impact of the humanitarian assistance, how it has been used by the beneficiaries, and the level of needs coverage.

The IRC response team will include a dedicated M&E unit to conduct regular follow-on visits to an area of intervention for a period of six months after the initial emergency activities have been completed.

### **Outcomes**

Emergency Assessment Capacity

- A standby emergency response team is established and trained in emergency assessment and response methodology;
- Multi-sector assessments are conducted within 48 hours of rapid-onset crises in the targeted area by the IRC’s response team as security and access permits;
- At least six multi-sector assessment reports are produced during the project period; or, assessment reports are produced for all rapid-onset crises that necessitate an emergency response by multiple NGO/UN actors; and
- 100% of multi-sector assessment reports are shared with the wider humanitarian community (other actors such as NGO, UN and government) to inform a coordinated and efficient emergency response.

Reserve Emergency Shelter & NFI stock

- A reserve NFI stock with household and shelter materials is procured, stored and managed by the IRC in Gardez (Paktya Province) within the first month of the project period; and
- The shelter NFI reserve stock items are used to respond to urgent needs of approximately 1,500 crisis-affected families by the end of the project period.

Winterization NFI Assistance

- Approximately 1000 families are assisted with a Winterization NFI package at the onset of winter next year
- 500 extremely vulnerable children are provided with additional winter clothes at the onset of winter next year

Environmental Health (WASH)

- 400 vulnerable households construct an emergency family latrine using materials and technical support provided by the IRC staff, and are each given a hygiene kit including water containers, chlorine, soap and latrine cleaning equipment;
- 100 Community Hygiene Volunteers (CHVs) are identified, trained and supported with key materials such as printed hygiene training aids and 100 demonstration hygiene kits;
- 100 CHVs conduct hygiene promotion sessions to pass key messages to the crisis-affected population; and
- Urgent water needs of crisis-affected populations are addressed through one or more of the following methods: water trucking for up to 15,000 individuals for a three month period; construction of up to 15 bore wells each reaching 175 individuals (but with longer term impact); or chlorination at household or communal levels for up to 40,000 individuals.

<b>International Rescue Committee(IRC)</b>	
<b>Original BUDGET items</b>	<b>\$</b>
Staff	116,000
Direct Program Inputs	302,000
Program Support Costs	55,000
Administration (7%)	33,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>506,000</b>

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