



UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

# Afghanistan

## COUNTRY APPEAL

1 SEPTEMBER - 31 DECEMBER 2025

### Snapshot

On 31 August 2025 at 11:47 p.m. local time, a magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck Eastern Afghanistan, with the epicentre at Kama district, 30 km northeast of Jalalabad City at a depth of 8 to 10 kilometres.

Assessments conducted in Kunar, Laghman and Nangarhar provinces indicate that at least 2,205 people are confirmed dead, 3,640 are injured and 5,902 families have been affected. More than half of the casualties are women and girls. These numbers are expected to increase as assessments continue.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimates that 499,000 people are in urgent need of assistance, with Chawkey and Nurgul districts in Kunar and Dara-e-Nur district in Nangarhar mostly affected. Of the affected people, 119,760 are women of reproductive age, including 11,670 who are currently pregnant. The disaster compounds Afghanistan's ongoing returnee crisis with over **1.7 million** returnees from Iran and Pakistan, and the massive drought in the North and Northeastern regions affecting **3.4 million** people.

UNFPA is focused on restoring hope, health and dignity of earthquake-affected women and girls by delivering integrated maternal and reproductive health information and services, mental health and psychosocial support services, and prevention and response to gender-based violence. Working through mobile health teams, female-to-female service delivery, and community networks, the earthquake response will include the delivery of essential emergency medical supplies, dignity kits and menstrual hygiene kits. UNFPA is urgently appealing for US\$5 million to support critical, lifesaving services to 140,000 people in the earthquake-affected areas between September and December 2025.

## \$5,000,000

TOTAL REGIONAL APPEAL  
TO REACH 140,000 PEOPLE

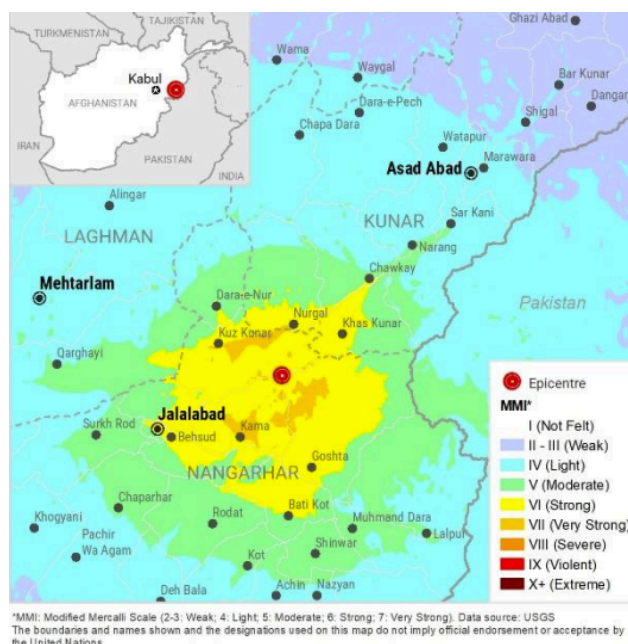


40% funded

## Situation Overview

Following the earthquake on 31 August, three more significant tremors hit the same region on 2 September (magnitude 5.3), and 4 September (magnitudes 5.6 and 5.2). No deaths have been reported from these aftershocks so far.

The initial assessment did not report any casualties among UNFPA personnel or its implementing partners, including over 2,500 female service providers supported by UNFPA. UNFPA has 20 static facilities in the affected areas, consisting of five Family Health Houses, which sustained minimal damage but remain operational; nine Mother and Child Health Centres; and six Psychosocial Counselling Centres, which are close to the epicentre and have remained fully operational. About 95 per cent of affected families are living in makeshift shelters, exposing women and girls to protection risks.



OCHA estimates<sup>1</sup> that approximately 499,000 people are in need of immediate lifesaving support, mostly from Chawkey and Nurgal districts in Kunar and Dara-e-Nur district in Nangarhar.

Tens of thousands of families are now living in makeshift shelters in two locations in Nurgal district with limited access to sanitation, food, hygiene and shelter supplies. A UN Emergency Hub, offering coordination and meeting facilities, as well as overnight accommodation, has been established near the Ghaziabad Valley.

## Target Population



<sup>1</sup> [OCHA. UN calls for \\$139.6 million to help half a million people in eastern Afghanistan affected by devastating earthquake. 9 September 2025.](#)

## UNFPA Response Strategy

UNFPA urgently seeks US\$5 million to rapidly expand lifesaving maternal and reproductive health services, as well as provide mental health and psychosocial support, and referral services in the most devastated areas from September 2025 to December 2025. Leveraging its robust operational footprint, established local partnerships, and unparalleled expertise in maternal and reproductive health, women protection, and mental health and psychosocial support, UNFPA is uniquely positioned to deliver rapid, impactful assistance, even in the most remote and underserved communities.

The UNFPA Flash Appeal is fully integrated with and directly supports the recently issued [UN Flash Appeal for the Eastern Region Earthquake](#) for US\$139.6 million to reach 457,000 individuals for the period of four months (September-December 2025). Immediate and decisive action is critical to avert further loss of life.

### Maternal and reproductive health priorities

- Continue provision of essential maternal and reproductive health services, including safe deliveries, antenatal and postnatal care, family planning, and nutrition, especially in areas where health facilities have been damaged.
- Continue integrated maternal and reproductive health, mental health and psychosocial support, and referral services through mobile health teams in Dara Valley, where displaced populations are temporarily relocating.
- Enhance female-to-female service provision through Mother and Child Health Centres.
- Deploy prefabricated containers as temporary, static health facilities in areas where permanent health infrastructure is needed but currently unavailable.

Community mobilization will be strengthened to ensure that affected communities are informed of available services, including referrals to specialized health facilities.

### Gender-based violence/psychosocial support priorities

- Lead efforts to deliver life-saving, survivor-centred protection and mental health and psychosocial support services integrated into Mother and Child Health Centres for comprehensive care.
- Scale up mental health and psychosocial support for women and girls to address trauma and distress, especially for those who are at increased risk of gender-based violence and exploitation. The scale-up will include the deployment of trained mental health and psychosocial support professionals, establishment of safe spaces for women and girls, and provision of culturally sensitive and gender-responsive psychosocial counselling. Mental health and psychosocial support will be integrated with other essential services, such as health, protection, and livelihood support.
- Conduct safety audits through the GBV Area of Responsibility led by UNFPA to tailor-fit risk mitigation measures. Referral pathways will be strengthened and key service delivery standards will be mainstreamed amongst GBV partners.
- Adapt mobile women-led service delivery to ensure cultural sensitivity.

UNFPA has deployed high-performance tents to establish safe spaces for integrated health and mental health and psychosocial support services, addressing immediate infrastructure challenges. UNFPA will gradually introduce pre-fabricated connex facilities to serve as permanent structures with ample supply storage.

## Cross-cutting priorities

- **Disability inclusion:** Service providers will receive training on implementing the standard operating procedures for mainstreaming disability inclusion, and partners will be assisted in monitoring and reporting services for persons with disabilities.
- **Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment:** Together with partners, UNFPA led the activation of an emergency task team on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment, ensuring coordinated approaches across UN agencies, NGOs and civil society organizations. In partnership with the International Development Law Organization, a female lawyer serves as the Victim Rights Advocate in Nangarhar, providing an essential entry point for victims and staff to receive guidance and support.
- **Accountability to Affected People:** The Accountability to Affected People Working Group has formed an Earthquake Response Task Force to foster collective community engagement and enhance system-wide accountability among all humanitarian partners. Efforts include the activation of an Accountability to Affected People/Community Feedback Mechanism in Kunar and Nangarhar, the dissemination of a dedicated [Accountability to Affected People/Community Engagement Guidance](#) and the launching of a [Community Engagement Tracker](#).

## Expected Outcomes and Results\*

**Overall Goal:** To provide life-saving maternal and reproductive health services and mitigate and respond to gender-based violence risks among the affected population, particularly women, girls and young people, and promote their mental health and well-being.

**Objective:** To address the immediate needs of the earthquake-affected population, ensuring that essential health and protection services are accessible to those most impacted.

UNFPA appeals for US\$5 million to provide critical, life-saving maternal and reproductive health services, mental health and psychosocial support, and gender-based violence risk mitigation and response to 140,000 people affected by the earthquake. This appeal, covering September to December 2025, aims to address the urgent needs of people affected by the earthquake, leveraging existing facilities, mobile health teams and psychosocial support teams supported by UNFPA, as well as ensuring that essential medical and non-medical supplies are available.

UNFPA will target the following people in need with direct support:

**100,000**

people reached with SRH programmes

**40,000**

people reached with GBV programmes

**20,000**

Young people and adolescents reached

**14,000**

people with disabilities reached

**50**

people trained on various services



## Funding Requirements\*

Programme	Funding Required (USD)	% Funded
Sexual and reproductive health	3,800,000	1,520,000 (40%)
Gender-based violence	1,200,000	480,000 (40%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000 (40%)</b>

\*This update is of 5 September 2025 and includes funds from agreements that have been signed and are yet to be received.

## For more Information

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**“Our goal is to support their emotional and mental health and provide whatever assistance we can, including medicines and dignity kits. At this critical moment, the affected people need our help.”**

— Maska, Psychosocial Counsellor