## **Rationale**

According to the "Integrated Food Security Phase Classification" (IPC) over a third of Afghanistan's population (14.2 million people) are still experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity, classified in IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) and in urgent need of humanitarian food assistance. Of particular concern, the 2.9M people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), the majority of whom is located in Badakshan, Baghdis, Ghor, Ghazni, helmand, Herat (urban and rural), Kunduz, Kandahar and Takhar provinces. The situation driven by years of man-made and natural disaster crises that made the marginal Afghan communities vulnerable to the impacts of these crises.

CRDSA acknowledges that access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food is a basic human right, with priority given to the most vulnerable population, and is linked to the economic stability, long-term health, and women's empowerment. Food insecurity impacts human health - especially children' physical and mental health and development, and academic outcomes, which can result in long-term, adverse health and economic outcomes in adulthood. CRDSA also recognizes that in the absence of such assistance, the population or a significant proportion of it would be seriously undernourished or, in extreme cases, face famine.

In the current dire economic condition of Afghanistan, one of the ways to tackle food-insecurity and hunger, is to provide food assistance with a priority given to the most vulnerable communities. Provision of food security assistance leads to greater economic stability, better health, empowerment of women and a reduction in climate problems.

CRDSA's interventions in 2024 focused mainly on livelihood and food security aiming to respond to the acute food-insecurity conditions in the most marginalized districts of western provinces of Afghanistan with the objective to save the lives of the poor and vulnerable Afghan families. Summary of CRDSA's intervention in 2024 outlined as below:

<u>i)</u> <u>Herat province:</u> 26,823 most vulnerable and food insecure families in 7 districts of Herat province including, Farsi, Adraskan, Zerkoh, Shindand, Zawol, Pusht-t-Koh, and Koh-e-Zor received with 9,345.6 MT of food assistances. Overall 187,761 individuals including men, women, girls and boys

benefited from our food assistance program in 2024.

Table one: number of HHs received food assistances in each district

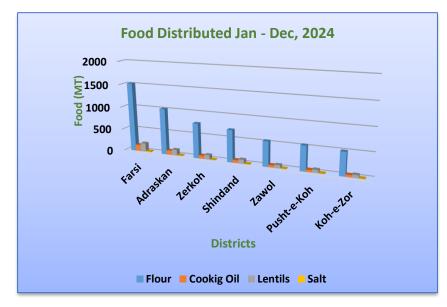
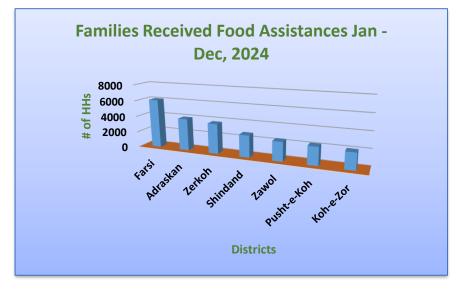


Table 2: amount of food distributed in each district

The food package consisted of:

- > Flour 7,622.8 MT
- Cooking Oil -693.7 MT
- ➤ Lentils -952.9 MT
- ➤ Salt 76.2 MT



Additionally, 37,480 children under 5 years of age and 21,387 pregnant and lactating women received supplementary nutrition assistances in 7 districts of Herat province. Each monthly package consisted of, 1.5kg Lipid-based nutrient supplements (LNSs) and 3kg of Super Cereal Plus - Wheat Soya Blends (WSBs) manufactured from fresh wheat grain and soya beans blended with sugar, dried skimmed milk and oil, and fortified with various micronutrients.

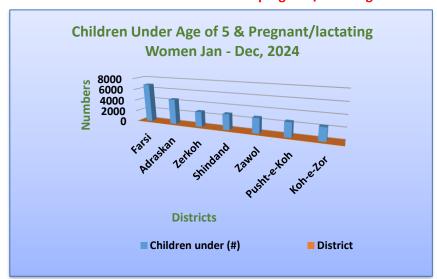


Table 3: number of children under 5 and pregnant/lactating women

Table 4: amount of LNS and WSB distributed per district

## ii) Ghor province:

48,366 most vulnerable and food insecure families in 3 districts of Ghor province received 10,730 MT of food during 2024. Overall 338,562 individuals including men, women, girls and boys directly benefited from the assistances in 2024.

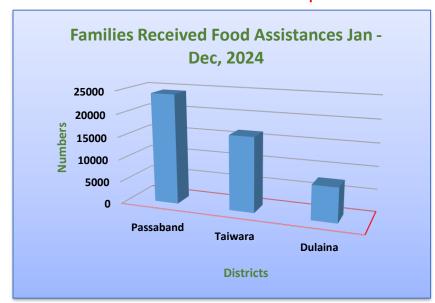
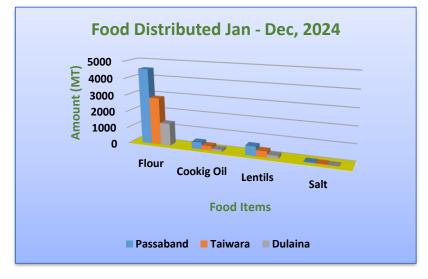


Table 5: HHs received food assistances per district

Table 6: amount of food distributed per district

- ➤ Flour 7,622.8 MT
- Cooking Oil -693.7 MT
- ➤ Lentils -952.9 MT
- ➤ Salt 76.2 MT



Additionally, 37,480 children under 5 years of age and 21,387 pregnant and lactating women received supplementary nutrition assistances including:

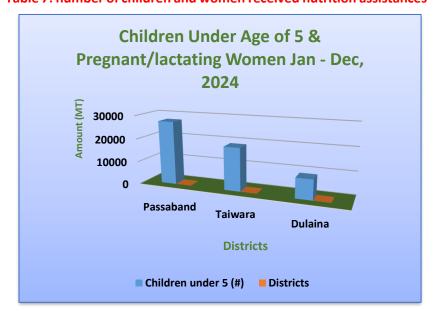
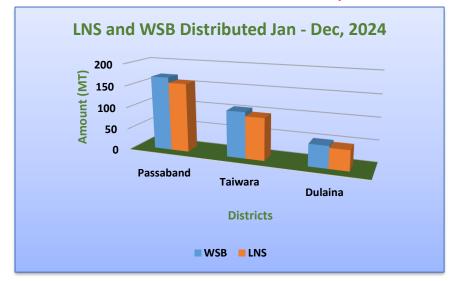


Table 7: number of children and women received nutrition assistances

Table 8: amount of LNS and WSBs distributed per district

- ► LNS 344.1 MT
- ➤ WSB 718.2 MT



Furthermore, during this year, CRDSA provided emergency Lifesaving Food Security Assistance to 803 Drought and Conflict Affected Communities in 5 districts of Badghis Province of Afghanistan" funded WFP aims to ensure access to food for acute food insecure households and access to humanitarian, lifesaving, equitable health, providing increased equitable access and enable utilization of quality, life-saving nutrition services in high-priority districts of Badghis Province.



## The food distribution process

Mobilization 1. Community Awareness Raising: CRDSA conducted community mobilization separately for men and women to raise people's awareness on food security and nutrition and to ensure community participation and meaningful engagement throughout implementation phases. During the community mobilization process communities were oriented about the scope and objectives of the program.

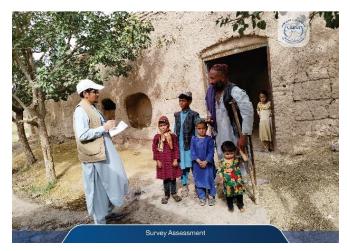


2. Establishment of Community Food Assessment Consultation (CFAC)s: CRDSA extensively engages affected communities through both beneficiary selection committees and distribution monitoring committees to ensure that beneficiary selection and distribution are conducted in a way that addresses beneficiaries' specific needs and vulnerabilities. CRDSA employs community-based targeting via community food assistance



consultations (CFAC) to ensure effective identification of households in need, with a focus on households headed by women and other vulnerable household categories. CFACs provide a crucial community platform for women to voice their needs. CFAC members include local community elders, men, women, persons with disabilities and representative of youth etc. In cases where women's participation in CFACs are limited by the political environment or prevailing social norms, WFP strives to set up separate consultations with women to gauge their particular needs.

3. Beneficiary Verification process: CRDSA conducted the door-to-door beneficiary verification process to ensure our assistances reach the right beneficiaries. The project team go door-to-door to check directly with the beneficiaries to verify that they are indeed eligible based on personal data they provide. The process for the door-to-door verification done in parallel to the creation of the initial list provided by the CFACs.



4. SCOPE Registration process: Αll beneficiaries were registered in our SCOPE registration system through accurately entering beneficiary data into the SCOPE system while maintaining professionalism and ensuring data integrity. The process aims to verify that beneficiaries have met program criteria which is set by WFP.

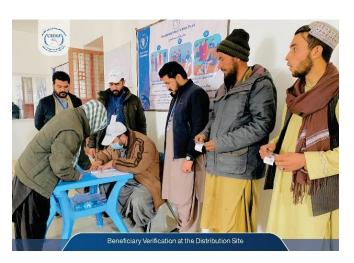


Distribution Sites: WFP dispatched the food commodities to CRDSA's food distribution points. The commodities were stored in CRDSA's stock/warehouse on a pallet racking system to keep them away from potential contaminants and reduce the risk of them becoming damaged. The commodities are being well spaced, so that there is adequate level of ventilation.





6. Food distribution process: CRDSA's project team arranged the distribution process calling each beneficiary on his/her mobile number. During the process, beneficiaries' distribution identities were being verified to ensure the right person was receiving the food. All beneficiary had to show their Identification National Number (Tazkera) to the verification team and sign or fingerprint the distribution list. The food items were taking out of the warehouse by CRDSA's laborers. Vulnerable individuals including elderlies, people with disabilities and/or children were always prioritized to receive their foods.





7. Baking Test process: CRDSA's project team carried out baking tests before distributed the food items to determine the quality of flour. During the test the team assessed the dough and baked goods properties of the flour because no exact statement could be made as a result of the laboratory analytic examinations.



8. Post Distribution process: CRDSA's MEAL team in collaboration with the project team carried out position distribution monitoring to verify that the correct recipients received the correct rations, and all eligible recipients could access their rations. During the activity the team captured more detailed feedback on the use, storage, preparation, and commodities appropriateness of distributed.



9. Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM): We believe that there is always immense value in listening to our people of concern. The people we serve know best what they need, and once they receive assistance, they are the best sources to let us know how relevant and appropriate our interventions are. Their feedback has always provided us with comprehensive, and very accessible reference for planning, designing, and implementing of our programs. CRDSA



introduced a comprehensive and accessible CFM to its people of concern on its interventions across its areas of operations.