

ACT Alliance

Appeal **AFG 251** Emergency

Assistance to Earthquake affected communities in Eastern
Afghanistan

actalliance

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Appeal Summary Sheet	
Appeal Code and Title	AFG 251 <i>Emergency assistance to earthquake affected communities in eastern Afghanistan</i>
Budget (USD)	<p>NCA Total Requesting Members' Budget: 621,792 USD SMC 2% : 12,436 USD Total Budget: 634,228 USD</p> <p>CA/OCHR Total Requesting Members' Direct +Indirect Budget: 544,389 USD SMC 2% : 10,888 USD Total Budget: 555,277 USD</p> <p>HIA Total Requesting Members' Direct +Indirect Budget: 499,362 USD SMC 2% : 9,987 USD Total Budget: 509,350 USD</p> <p>CWSA Total Requesting Members' Direct Indirect & Budget: 803,963 USD SMC 2%:16079 USD Total Budget: 820,042 USD</p> <p>Total budget: 2,518,897 USD</p>
Revision Schedule	
Location	<i>Afghanistan/East/ Kunar & Nangarhar Provinces</i>
Response Period	<p>Start Date 01/10/2025</p> <p>End Date 30/09/2026</p> <p>No. of months 12</p>
Requesting Forum	<p><i>Name of ACT forum: Afghanistan Regional forum</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The ACT Forum officially endorses the submission of this Appeal (tick box to confirm)</p>

	<p>List all organisations' names</p> <p>Christian Aid (CA)/OCHR Hungarian International Aid (HIA) Community World Service Asia (CWSA)</p> <p>NCA</p>												
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Appeal Coordinator	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name</td><td>Hamidullah Afghan</td></tr> <tr> <td>Email</td><td>hamidullah.afghan@nca.no</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID)</td><td>WhatsApp: +93 747 499 886</td></tr> </table> <p>CWSA: Hizbur Rehman Email: hizbur.rehman@communityworldservice.asia Other means of contact: +93 77 949 6012</p> <p>CAID/OCHR Name Yaqoob Rauf Email yrauf@caid-global.org</p> <p>Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID) +9 3(799205557)</p> <p>HIA Name Ahmad Khalid Omary Email Khaled.omary@hunaid.hu</p> <p>Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID) +93 (795 307 970)</p>	Name	Hamidullah Afghan	Email	hamidullah.afghan@nca.no	Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID)	WhatsApp: +93 747 499 886						
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Outcome(s)	<p>Outcome 1: EQ affected HHs received MPCA to meet their priority basic needs in a dignified and flexible manner.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Psychosocial well-being and coping mechanisms of earthquake-affected individuals are improved</p> <p>Outcome 3: Improved accountability and community engagement mechanisms</p> <p>Outcome 4: Earthquake-affected households are protected from harsh winter conditions through provision of cluster-standard in-kind winter clothing and blankets</p> <p>Outcome 5: Earthquake-affected households have improved living conditions and household functionality through provision of ESNFI-standard non-food items (NFI)</p> <p>Outcome 6: Earthquake-affected households have access to safe and resilient shelters.</p> <p>Outcome 7: Community are more aware of disaster-resilient construction</p>																																					
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to earthquake-affected households to enable them to meet their priority basic needs in a flexible and dignified manner. (CAID, HIA)2. Improve the psychosocial well-being and resilience of earthquake-affected individuals through targeted mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions. (NCA, HIA)3. Enhance the protection, living conditions, and resilience of earthquake-affected households through the provision of winterization support, essential non-food items (NFIs), safe shelter solutions, and disaster-resilient construction awareness (CAID, HIA, NCA, CWSA)																																					
Target Participants	<table><tr><th colspan="4">Profile</th></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Refugees</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>IDPs</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>host population</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td colspan="3">Non-displaced affected population</td></tr></table> <p>No. of households (based on average HH size): 2,314 HHs (Assuming that each HH has 7 average family size)</p> <p>CWSA</p> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Sex and Age</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>0-4</td><td>5-11</td><td>12-17</td><td>18-59</td><td>50-59</td><td>60 +</td></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>170</td><td>177</td><td>140</td><td>342</td><td>46</td><td>19</td></tr></table>	Profile				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Refugees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IDPs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	host population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-displaced affected population			Sex and Age								0-4	5-11	12-17	18-59	50-59	60 +	Male	170	177	140	342	46	19
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Male	170	177	140	342	46	19																																

	Female	186	183	158	205	48	27
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Sex and Age Disaggregated Data: CAID/OCHR

Sex and Age						
	0-5	6-12	13-17	18-49	50-59	60 +
Male	397	581	354	972	178	246
Female	398	557	341	1,016	170	250
Total:	795	1,138	695	1,988	348	496

Women headed households: 15%

Persons with disability: 15%

HIA:

	0-4	5-11	12-17	18-59	60+
Male	571	667	484	1809	132
Female	562	656	476	1780	129

NCA:

	0-4	5-11	12-17	18-59	60+
Male	12	50	200	540	165
Female	15	65	250	590	213

Reporting Schedule

This section is filled out by ACT Alliance Regional Secretariat

Type of Report	Due date
Situation report	31/12/2025. <i>First SitRep due</i> quarterly
Interim Report (narrative and financial)	30/03/2026
Final narrative and financial report (60 days after the ending date)	30/11/2026
Audit report	31/12/2026

(90 days after the ending date)	
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Please kindly send your contributions to this ACT bank account:

US dollar

Account Number - 240-432629.60A
IBAN No: CH46 0024 0240 4326 2960A

Account Name: ACT Alliance

UBS AG
8, rue du Rhône
P.O. Box 2600
1211 Geneva 4, SWITZERLAND
Swift address: UBSWCHZH80A

Please note that as part of the revised ACT Humanitarian Mechanism, pledges/contributions are **encouraged** to be made through the consolidated budget of the requesting members, and allocations will be made based on agreed criteria of the forum or task group. For any possible earmarking, budget targets per member can be found in the [Appeal Summary Sheet](#), and detailed budgets per member are available upon request from the ACT Secretariat. Updates on funding levels are available through this link [00 Appeals reports](#), which provides a monthly update for an overview of existing pledges/contributions and associated earmarking for the appeal.

Please send an email to Humanitarian Finance (humanitarianfinance@actalliance.org) of pledges and contributions, **including funds sent directly to the requesting members**. Please also inform us of any pledges or contributions if there are any contract agreements and requirements, especially from back donors. In line with Grand Bargain commitments to reduce the earmarking of humanitarian funding, if you have an earmarking request in relation to your pledge, a member of the Secretariat's Humanitarian team will contact you to discuss this request. We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

For further information, please contact:

Asia and the Pacific

Regional Representative, Alwynn Javier (alwynn.javier@actalliance.org)
Humanitarian Programme Officer, Muhammad Waqas (wagas@actalliance.org)

Visit the ACT website: <https://actalliance.org/>

Niall O'Rourke

Head of Humanitarian Affairs
ACT Alliance Secretariat, Geneva

Context Analysis

A devastating 6.0 magnitude earthquake hit eastern Afghanistan on 31 August, causing massive destruction in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Laghman provinces. This was followed by another strong earthquake of 5.6 magnitude in the Kunar province, north-eastern Afghanistan on 4 September.¹ The most severely affected districts include Nurgal and Chawkay (Kunar Province), Dara-e-Nur (Nangarhar Province), and parts of Laghman Province.² According to the latest estimate, more than 2200 people have been reported dead, over 3600 injured, and nearly 6800 homes destroyed. Many families are still displaced, struggling to find shelter after losing their homes.³

Aid and health workers deployed to support the response have been injured during aftershocks. Additional road blockages have further hindered access in and out of the worst-affected areas, as well as to humanitarian distribution points in Chawkay and Nurgal districts, Kunar Province.

The widespread loss of housing and resulting displacement have placed affected populations in highly vulnerable conditions, with women and children in particular facing heightened protection risks. One of the critical reasons why earthquake-resilient housing is urgently needed lies in the contrast between construction standards in developed countries and those in Afghanistan. In earthquake-prone nations such as Japan and Chile, for example, buildings are designed to withstand severe earthquakes of magnitude 7.0 and above, due to the use of reinforced concrete, steel, and other advanced construction materials.⁴ By contrast, in many parts of Afghanistan, houses are predominantly constructed from mud, wood, and stone. These traditional materials typically fail under comparatively low magnitude earthquakes (around 5.5–6.0 magnitude) resulting in disproportionately high levels of damage and destruction even from moderate seismic events.⁵

The fragility of housing not only increases the scale of casualties and injuries but also prolongs displacement, complicates rescue operations, and exposes communities to further risks such as landslides, extreme weather, and secondary disasters. Moreover, women, children and persons with disabilities (PWDs) are the most vulnerable groups and the hardest to reach out to. Women are not allowed to travel independently without a mehram (male member of the family) and there are limited options of safe public transport. Moreover, there's less women representation in the government (provincial/district/local tiers) as well as aid agencies and civil society, making it difficult to coordinate with affected women on the ground.

Without resilient housing, families are forced into unsafe temporary shelters exacerbating protection, health, and livelihood challenges. The assessment of the affected provinces also highlights limited community awareness of disaster preparedness and earthquake-resistant construction methods, meaning that without intervention, reconstruction will likely replicate unsafe housing that cannot withstand even moderate tremors. If these needs are not addressed, the cycle of destruction, displacement, and vulnerability will continue, putting communities at risk of repeated loss in future seismic events.

Reports from joint ACT partner field assessments completed thus far in 49 villages across five districts (Chapa Dara, Chawkay, Dara-e-Pech, Nurgal and Watapur) in Kunar Province, two

¹ <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/eq-2025-000153-afg>

² <https://ercportal.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ECHO-Products/Echo-Flash#/echo-flash-items/29620>

³ <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/afghanistan-earthquake-who-situation-report-no-7-7-september-2025>

⁴ <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2023/03/how-to-make-buildings-earthquake-proof-chile-japan/>

⁵ https://www.preventionweb.net/news/multiple-factors-make-afghan-communities-vulnerable-earthquakes?utm_source

districts (Dara-e-Nur and Kuz Kunar) in Nangarhar Province and one district (Alingar) in Laghman Province indicate that 5,902 families (38,269 people) have been affected, with 5,230 homes destroyed and 672 damaged. The human casualty toll has been high, with 1,475 people confirmed killed (400 women, 329 men, 398 girls and 348 boys), and a further 2,381 injured (1,319 females and 1,062 males). Numbers are expected to continue to rise as assessments continue across four further villages. Overall, the de facto authorities (DfA) are reporting 2,205 people killed, a further 3,640 people injured, and 6,700 homes destroyed and 84,000 people affected.

Following the first shocks, CAID's partner the Organization for Coordination of Humanitarian Relief (OCHR) conducted a rapid needs assessment in Kunar Province from 1–2 September 2025. A total of 300 households were interviewed, including 120 in Chawki district and 180 in Nurgal district. Approximately 10% of surveyed households were female-headed. The assessment confirms widespread destruction of housing, severe disruptions to livelihoods, food insecurity, lack of access to safe water and sanitation, and urgent demand for emergency shelter and non-food items (NFIs).

The OCHR rapid needs assessment revealed severe and widespread impacts of the earthquake on affected communities. Nearly all households (91%) reported being directly affected, with 77% of homes completely destroyed and 15% partially damaged and unsafe. Families lost livestock, food stocks, and essential household assets, while critical community infrastructure, including water systems, sustained significant damage. Landslides triggered by the earthquake blocked roads, isolating remote communities. Financially, most households lost productive assets, with 66% losing income sources and pre-existing debts of over 74% increasing due to emergency borrowing.

Food security has been severely compromised: 71% of households reduced meal portions, and 40% borrowed food or relied on neighbors. Vulnerable groups, including children under five, pregnant women, and lactating mothers, face heightened malnutrition risks, highlighting the urgent need for food distribution or multipurpose cash assistance.

Shelter needs are critical, with most households living in open-air conditions, makeshift tents, or with relatives due to collapsed or damaged homes. Essential non-food items such as blankets, cooking sets, and bedding were lost, and urgent support is required to provide tents, tarpaulins, blankets, and cooking materials, especially as cooler nights approach in the mountainous areas.

Assessments reveal that more than 5,800 families lost essential household items such as clothing, blankets, kitchen supplies, and tools, while over 5,400 families lost their food stocks (OCHA). The combination of destroyed shelter, loss of livelihoods, and limited access to markets has left families unable to meet their basic needs.

Humanitarian partners are responding, but access remains constrained by blocked roads, damaged infrastructure, and security concerns. Cluster partners have begun distributing family tents, NFI kits, blankets, and winter clothing; however, coverage remains limited compared to the scale of need. Families in the most affected districts face immediate risks to health, safety, and dignity without urgent support to restore their capacity to meet basic needs, prepare for winter, and re-establish minimum household functionality.

In this context, the provision of MPCA, winterization support, and ESNFI-standard NFI—including kitchen sets—are critical to help earthquake-affected populations in the east region address

urgent gaps, protect themselves from worsening vulnerabilities during the winter season, and begin rebuilding their lives.

There is currently a significant gap in support for housing reconstruction, with an urgent need for safe shelters that can protect communities from future risks. At the same time, community knowledge and awareness of disaster preparedness and earthquake-resistant construction practices remain limited. Strengthening local awareness of disaster risk reduction and promoting earthquake-resilient building techniques will be essential to ensure that affected households can access transitional housing solutions that not only address immediate needs but also lay the foundation for long-term resilience and preparedness against future seismic events.

Response Strategy

Forum response strategy over the Appeal period

The Forum's collective response will focus on delivering timely, inclusive, and complementary assistance to communities of Kunar & Nagarhar province which are mostly affected by the earthquake. The overall goal is to provide immediate relief and support to the earthquake-affected population in Kunar and Nangarhar.

The 3 main objectives are:

1. Provide multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to earthquake-affected households to enable them to meet their priority basic needs in a flexible and dignified manner.

(CAID, HIA)

2. Improve the psychosocial well-being and resilience of earthquake-affected individuals through targeted mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions. (NCA, HIA)

3. Enhance the protection, living conditions, and resilience of earthquake-affected households through the provision of winterization support, essential non-food items (NFI), safe shelter solutions, and disaster-resilient construction awareness (CAID, HIA, NCA, CWSA)

Main outcomes are:

Outcome 1: EQ affected HHs received MPCA to meet their priority basic needs in a dignified and flexible manner. (CAID 780 HHs, HIA 1034 HHS)

Outcome 2: Psychosocial well-being and coping mechanisms of earthquake-affected individuals are improved (NCA 600 PPs, HIA 1034 PPS)

Outcome 3: Improved accountability and community engagement mechanisms

Outcome 4: Earthquake-affected households are protected from harsh winter conditions through provision of cluster-standard in-kind winter clothing and blankets (CAID, winter clothes and blankets (780 HHS); NCA winter blankets to 300 HHs, NCA fuel to 300 HHs)

Outcome 5: Earthquake-affected households have improved living conditions and household functionality through provision of ESNFI-standard non-food items (NFI) (NCA, 300 HHs, CAID 780 HHs)

Outcome 6: Earthquake-affected households have access to safe and resilient shelters. (NCA, 200 HHs, CWSA 300 HHs)

Outcome 7: Community are more aware of disaster-resilient construction (CWSA, 300 participants, Nangarhar and Kunar)

Details of each partner are below:

CWSA will implement a comprehensive shelter and capacity-strengthening intervention in Nangarhar and Kunar provinces to address both immediate and long-term needs of earthquake-affected households. The response will combine transitional shelter construction with technical training, ensuring both relief and recovery are achieved.

1. Construction of earthquake-resistant transitional shelters

A total of **200 affected households** in targeted communities will be supported to construct **earthquake-resistant transitional shelters**. Each household will receive **cash assistance and essential tools**, enabling them to build safe and durable shelters that meet **Afghanistan ESNFI Transitional Shelter Guidelines (2022)**.

Each shelter will include:

- **Two rooms** for sleeping and living,
- **One kitchen**, and
- **One washroom/latrine**.

This design ensures a minimum of **3.5 m² per person**, aligning with cluster standards, while also respecting cultural norms around family living arrangements and privacy.

CWSA technical teams will provide continuous **oversight and on-site guidance** throughout the construction process to ensure compliance with **earthquake-resilient standards** and quality assurance at each stage (foundation, walls, roofing, finishing). This activity will restore dignity, security, and protection for the most vulnerable families while promoting **community ownership and self-reliance**. CWSA will adhere to SPHERE and ESNFI Cluster Transitional Shelter Guidelines.

2. Strengthening local disaster preparedness and technical capacity

To reinforce recovery efforts, CWSA will deliver structured **training on earthquake-resistant construction techniques and disaster risk reduction (DRR)** to **300 participants** across the two provinces. This will include:

- **20 community-based sessions** with 15 participants each, targeting households, local builders, and illiterate beneficiaries at shelter sites.
- **2 specialized sessions for university students**, focusing on technical knowledge and innovation in earthquake-resilient construction.

- **2 sessions for professional engineers**, reinforcing adherence to technical standards and best practices.
- **1 session for NGOs and community leaders**, strengthening institutional capacity and promoting wider adoption of resilient construction practices.

Through these sessions, **300 project participants** of affected communities will gain **practical knowledge and skills** on earthquake-resistant construction. This will directly support the **quality of transitional shelters** being built and contribute to a **local knowledge base** that communities can apply to the reconstruction of **permanent homes and community infrastructure** in the future.

Integrated Relief and Recovery Approach

By combining the construction of **200 earthquake-resistant transitional shelters** (each with two rooms, one kitchen, and one washroom) with **capacity-strengthening for 300 participants**, this intervention bridges **immediate relief and longer-term recovery**. Families will not only receive safe, dignified housing but will also be empowered with the **skills, knowledge, and resources** needed to build safer homes and reduce vulnerabilities in future disasters.

These interventions have been designed as per Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP 2025).

Planned Activities

1. Shelter Construction (200 Transitional Shelters)

- Registration and coordination with relevant authorities, CDCs, and community elders.
- Finalization of target villages in Nangarhar and Kunar provinces.
- Pre-verification and **baseline assessment** of potential beneficiary households.
- Household-level surveys to identify 200 eligible households based on agreed selection criteria.
- Technical guidance and continuous on-site supervision by CWSA engineers to ensure adherence to earthquake-resilient construction standards.
- **Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM)** to assess progress, challenges, and satisfaction.
- **Endline evaluation** to measure resilience outcomes and document learning.

2. Training and Capacity Strengthening (300 Participants)

- Coordination with universities, engineering bodies, CDCs, and NGOs to finalize training participants.
- Development and contextualization of training modules based on **ESNFI Cluster Transitional Shelter Guidelines** and DRR frameworks.
- Delivery of 2 community-based training sessions (approx. 15 participants each), targeting households, local builders, and illiterate beneficiaries at shelter sites.
- Specialized training: 2 sessions for university students, 2 sessions for professional engineers, and 1 session for NGOs and community leaders.
- Practical demonstrations at construction sites to reinforce learning.
- Continuous monitoring of training uptake and feedback from participants.
- **Endline evaluation** to assess knowledge retention and application of earthquake-resilient construction practices. Through this dual approach of construction of 200 transitional shelters and training on earthquake-resilient infrastructure CWSA will ensure that affected

households are better prepared for winter while also building long-term community resilience.

The female social mobilizers are important, as they will facilitate and address concerns of women, PWDs and elderly members of the community. They will help in identification of participants, mobilize communities for training and community sessions. Training will be given to all community/social mobilizers on selection criteria, project criteria, methodology information, survey, social mobilization, interviewing techniques, SOPs of CWSA, gender norms, CFM.

NCA

Under this appeal, Norwegian Church Aid will deliver a package of lifesaving and recovery-focused interventions. These include distribution of standard blanket packages, NFI kits and heating fuel to 300 HHs and shelter repair for 300 damaged households.

In addition, NCA will conduct psychological first aid (PFA) and psychosocial support training to address trauma and promote community well-being for 600 individuals. The response will prioritize female-headed households, persons with disabilities and other highly vulnerable groups. Activities are designed and will be implemented in a way that enables equal participation of women and men, while ensuring safe and accessible services.

Coordination with ANDMA and national clusters will ensure alignment with government-led frameworks and other humanitarian actors.

CAID

CAID and its Partner OCHR will focus on MPCA to enable affected households to meet urgent and diverse needs in a dignified manner. 780 HHs will be selected for MPCA, that will be given in 1 round/tranche of USD 150. CAID/OCHR will give winter clothes and blankets & NFI Kits to 780 HHs. This winterization support through the provision of cluster-standard clothing and blankets to protect men, women, boys, and girls from cold weather risks, NFI assistance, including the distribution of ESNFI-standard kitchen sets, to restore essential household functionality.

All activities will adhere to humanitarian quality standards and be measured against the Appeal Results Framework. The response will be delivered through close forum coordination, ensuring complementarity amongst Christian Aid (CAID) and partners, alignment with ESNFI Cluster standards, and maximum coverage for the most affected communities. Gender and inclusion are fully mainstreamed: women, girls, persons with disabilities, and other at-risk groups will be prioritized, with distributions and cash transfers designed to ensure safety, accessibility, and dignity.

Each partner across the ACT consortia will contribute according to their technical strengths. This coordinated and inclusive approach ensures that all deliverables are complementary, responsive to assessed needs, and maximize impact for earthquake-affected households.

HIA

HIA will support earthquake-affected households with a focused response combining multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and accountability mechanisms and will cover below objectives:

Meeting Basic Needs through MPCA: HIA will provide two rounds of MPCA to 1034 HHs, each MPCA tranche will be 156 USD, enabling them to cover essential needs such as food, shelter, and healthcare.

Enhancing Psychosocial Wellbeing: To address stress caused by the earthquake, HIA will conduct MHPSS sessions for 1,034 individuals. These sessions will promote coping mechanisms, emotional recovery, and community resilience. Particular attention will be given to women, children, and persons with disabilities who may face heightened vulnerabilities.

Strengthening Accountability and Community Engagement: HIA will establish a Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) to ensure 100% follow-up on issues raised by communities. Beneficiaries will have safe and accessible channels to voice concerns, increasing transparency, trust, and inclusivity in project delivery.

Cross-Cutting Considerations: Gender, age, and disability inclusion will be central throughout implementation. Vulnerable groups—such as female-headed households, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities—will be prioritized. Female staff and community mobilizers will ensure the safe and equal participation of women and girls in project activities.

Coordination: HIA will coordinate closely with ACT members, community stakeholders and humanitarian clusters to avoid duplication, ensure alignment with sector standards, and maximize coverage of affected populations.

Selection Criteria of Project Participants

In general, priority will be given to women-headed households, widows, differently-abled persons, households with orphans, and families with larger numbers of members. Gender, age, and disability will be cross-cutting themes of the project.

Overall Selection criteria for intervention will include:

- Households with orphans, injured, or those who lost family members in the earthquake.
- Households whose homes are fully or partially destroyed, currently living in open spaces or makeshift shelters.
- Households with pregnant and lactating women, elderly, chronically ill members, or persons with disabilities (PWDs).
- Large families (7+ members, reflecting the national average household size in Afghanistan) as per the United Nations Household Size and Composition
- Women-headed households.
- Families who have not yet received similar assistance from government or humanitarian agencies.
- HHs whose houses/shelters have been partially/fully destroyed by the earthquakes.
- HHs living in open spaces, damaged, makeshift and poor shelter conditions.

Furthermore, women will be given priority in the selection process, given they are the ones who are most affected in any crisis situation. Inclusion of vulnerable groups including women, girls, elderly people and people living with disabilities is also ensured by getting inputs regarding their needs through CDCs. community mobilizers/officers will coordinate with local volunteers, village leaders and CDC members for identification of participants. It is important to note, that members are closely working with CDCs, however there are limited women members in the committee, the lack of women leadership and representation is a challenge in the relief efforts.

The selection process will be conducted collaboratively with Community Development Councils (CDCs), local government, community elders, and CWSA staff to ensure fairness and transparency. Given cultural sensitivities and limitations on women's mobility, CWSA will recruit **female social mobilizers from local villages** to facilitate the inclusion of women, PWDs, and elderly community members.

Capacity to respond

CWSA has been working in Afghanistan since the 1980s, implementing several humanitarian assistance and development projects. Its sectoral expertise includes humanitarian response, DRR, Cash Transfer programming, food security, livelihood, WASH, health, education, as well as a major focus on quality & accountability. It has a historic presence in Kabul, Nangarhar, and Laghman provinces having

CWSA works in close coordination with key emergency actors including the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), WHO, the Afghanistan Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), food and health clusters and Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development (ACBAR). This long-term presence and well established linkages with governmental and non-governmental organizations has enabled CWSA to successfully carry out long term and short term projects.

NCA

NCA has extensive experience in humanitarian action, operations in Kunar, with a strong track record in shelter, WASH, cash assistance, psychosocial support, and disaster risk management. NCA has also actively engaged in national and provincial coordination mechanisms, including cluster meetings, PDMCs, and technical working groups, ensuring alignment with humanitarian standards and government frameworks.

For this response, NCA will utilize its available capacities to jointly conduct assessments with forum members and actively participate in coordination meetings to strengthen complementarity and information sharing.

Christian Aid (CAID): CAID's partner OCHR:

OCHR has been working in Afghanistan Since 2015 and has successfully implemented 101 projects across the country; OCHR is currently active in Four Regions especially in east region of the country with active office spaces and 10 ongoing projects.

With its Main/HQ office in Kabul and OCHR sub-offices in Kunar, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Herat, Faryab, Sar-e-Pul, with Four ongoing projects at east Region, OCHR Sub offices in Nangarahr, Laghman, Kunar, Nuristan with one ongoing project in East region and two ongoing project in north region and one project in Central region.

OCHR has implemented a number of CAID funded projects and has a vast/professional experience in managing and implementation of Humanitarian response projects, emergency response interventions, relief/emergency service, advocacy, climate change, Food security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC), ES/NFI, protection, and Community development/livelihoods. In the implementation of projects with short implementation window resulting into major and effective life-saving achievements, Controlling tough conditions, very high technical and managerial capacity and smooth coordination with line departments, DFAs, UN Agencies, INGOs and international donors.

CAID

CAID has been working in Afghanistan with its offices in Afghanistan; main office is in Herat, and sub-office is in Kabul for last 28 years under 4 regimes, including earlier Taliban rules, which has provided it programmatic maturity. CAID has implemented a significant number of ACT Appeal funded projects regionally and globally. CAID has been working through its local partners and has vast technical and management capacity in areas of humanitarian relief/emergency service, advocacy (including supporting local partners to engage with various social, political, and governance structures around equality, justice, and human rights), human rights, women's empowerment and gender equity, and Peacebuilding.

CAID's humanitarian initiatives are supporting IDPs, returnees, and host communities in Herat, Badghis, Kunar, Laghman, Kabul, Nangarhar, Paktika, and Kunduz provinces of Afghanistan. CA has strong proven technical capacity in humanitarian response (WASH/hygiene promotion/potable water/durable solutions, shelter, cash assistance, food security/nutrition, NFIs, and protection/EVAW/GBV), advocacy, peace-building, women's empowerment, and gender equity.

For additional resources, if needed, CAID will seek to access funds from other donors including: DEC; Irish Aid; START Network; UNOCHA. CAID also has its own internal fundraising Appeal structures mobilised via UK churches and wider general public sources. HIA

Hungarian International Aid (HIA) has a proven track record of implementing emergency lifesaving livelihood activities and projects, particularly in the northern and northeastern region, with a focus on Baghlan province. In May 2024, HIA successfully implemented a rapid response mechanism project funded by UNICEF, aiding 1,136 flood-affected households in Baghlan-e-Jadid district, distributing AFN 22,400 per household.

HIA is a member of the FSAC and Nutrition Clusters and currently supports more than 25,000 households (175,000 individuals) in monthly basis through food and cash distribution under the General Food Distribution project funded by World Food Programme (WFP) in Faryab province.

HHIA maintains excellent communication and coordination with OCHA OCT members and other authorities. HIA holds MOUs with ANDMA and MRRD for implementing emergency lifesaving projects and a history of working on disaster mitigation projects in the North and Southeastern region, ensuring effective coordination at both national and provincial levels.

Appeal response plan in the first three months

In the initial three months, **CWSA** will prioritize the identification and selection of project participants in Kunar and Nangarhar provinces through transparent and community-validated processes, ensuring that only the most vulnerable earthquake-affected households are targeted in line with the agreed criteria. Technical training on earthquake-resistant techniques and DRR for engineers, university students, and stakeholders will be conducted after the third month, preparatory work for these sessions will begin during the initial phase. This includes the development of training materials in simplified formats, adapted to the needs of illiterate beneficiaries as well.

NCA will deliver immediate lifesaving assistance through the provision of cash-for-food, blanket distributions, NFI, and cash for fuel and heating materials to earthquake-affected households in Kunar province.

In the first three months of the response, **CAID and partner OCHR** will focus on critical early recovery and lifesaving interventions in close coordination with the ESNFI Cluster, local authorities, and inter-agency partners.

Activities will prioritize household mapping, coordination, and direct delivery of MPCA to ensure earthquake-affected families can meet their immediate needs.

to identify affected households, access constraints, and potential distribution points. This exercise will be carried out in consultation with community leaders, religious elders, CDCs, and Shuras, ensuring inclusivity of internally displaced persons (IDPs), youth, women, and people with disabilities (PWD). CAID and OCHR will conduct detailed village mapping in targeted districts. Findings will inform beneficiary selection and distribution planning.

A total of 780 households (approximately 5,460 individuals, assuming 7 members per household) will be targeted for MPCA. Each household will receive USD \$150 (in AFN equivalent) to meet immediate needs such as food, shelter repair, clothing, or health costs.

To uphold humanitarian quality standards, CA's Community Accountability Assessments (CAAs) will be conducted in the targeted villages. Feedback will be collected through Compass Kobo tools and managed within Compass to ensure timely analysis and program adaptation. Regular updates will be shared with communities in accessible formats to strengthen trust and transparency.

In the first three months, HIA will conduct preliminary coordination and project registration with relevant line departments and local stakeholders. After that, HIA will conduct beneficiary selection and verification in targeted communities. Once the lists are validated, HIA will deliver MPCA distribution to 1,034 earthquake-affected households, ensuring they can meet their priority basic needs.

At the same time, HIA will initiate MHPSS sessions for 1,034 individuals, with trained facilitators providing group and individual support. Accountability will be strengthened through the establishment of Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM), community sensitization, and regular monitoring to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and responsiveness.

Response plan after first three months**Primary participants**

The appeal members will prioritise locations based on the severity of earthquake impact and level of damages in coordination with the ANDMA . According to assessments, the most affected areas include **Nurgal and Chawkey districts in Kunar province, Dara-e-Nur district in Nangarhar province, and parts of Laghman province**, where thousands of homes have been destroyed and families remain displaced. Kunar and Nangarhar districts will be given priority for interventions.

The selection of participants will follow clear, transparent, and needs-based criteria. Priority will be given to:

- Households whose homes have been partially or fully destroyed by the earthquake.
- Households currently living in open spaces, damaged shelters, or unsafe makeshift housing.
- Families in urgent need of non-food items (NFIs).
- Vulnerable groups, including low-income households, elderly persons, injured or differently-abled members, and pregnant or lactating mothers.
- Women-headed households.
- Female- or child-headed households or elderly without adult male support.
- - Households where the head of household or any member has a disability.
 - Households with pregnant or breastfeeding women.
 - Households with no access to cultivable land
 - Households owning no or few livestock
- Occurrence of severe medical conditions or disabilities in the household.

The selection process will be impartial, focusing on the most vulnerable families without discrimination. Community elders and local committees will be consulted to ensure transparency, while mechanisms will be in place to prevent favoritism or exclusion.

In addition to providing transitional shelters, CWSA will also focus on **building community resilience** by training masons, engineers, NGOs, and community members on earthquake-resilient construction techniques. This approach will not only address urgent housing needs but also reduce future risks by promoting safer construction practices and improving disaster preparedness.

The selection process will be conducted impartially and in consultation with community elders and local committees, with mechanisms in place to prevent favoritism and exclusion.

Monitoring and evaluation

To ensure that project deliverables are **timely, transparent, and compliant with humanitarian quality standards** (CHS and Sphere), a robust **MEAL framework** will be embedded throughout the project cycle. The MEAL team has been involved since the design stage and will continue to guide implementation, monitoring, and reporting.

The outcomes and indicators in the logical framework will serve as the basis for tracking progress and ensuring that project objectives are met. The MEAL team will conduct **regular monitoring and verification** (physical visits and remote follow-ups via mobile/virtual platforms) to ensure activities are relevant, timely, and responsive to community needs. Monitoring tools will integrate **Do-No-Harm principles** and will collect **gender- and age-disaggregated data** to ensure inclusivity.

In line with CHS Commitments 7.1 & 7.2, communities will be actively involved in monitoring processes. CA, CWSA, NCA and HIA has established **Complaint and Feedback Mechanism (CFM)** will be adapted for the project, and all households will be oriented on their rights to feedback and complaints. All complaints will be investigated per organizational policy, with timely feedback to complainants. Regular **accountability meetings** will be held with CDCs, local authorities, and other stakeholders to review progress and share learning.

Verification and Selection:

The selection criteria agreed in the project design will be transparently shared with government entities, CDCs, and focal persons and other stakeholders. The MEAL team will support the project team in **verification of beneficiaries** through in-person or remote assessments. Final lists will be validated by CDCs to ensure fairness and compliance with criteria.

- **Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM):**

PDMs will be carried out for MPCA, shelter, and winterization kits with statistically valid sample sizes (90% confidence, 5% margin of error). Feedback from beneficiaries will be collected through CFMs, interviews, and spot checks to ensure assistance is delivered transparently and as intended.

- **Inclusivity and Safeguarding:**

The project will pay special attention to **persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups**, ensuring their voices are included in assessments and that assistance is tailored to their needs. Safeguarding standards will be enforced to protect both staff and communities.

- **Learning and Adaptive Management:**

Findings from monitoring, PDMs, CFMs, and spot checks will be documented and shared with management and project teams for **course correction**. Lessons learned will inform adaptive programming, ensuring timely response to emerging needs. A **strategy testing and outcome harvesting approach** will capture early results and support adaptive decision-making.

- **Data Management and Reporting:**

Digital tools (mobile applications, SMS, WhatsApp, phone calls, photos) will be used for data collection and analysis. Reports will be shared on a monthly and quarterly basis with relevant stakeholders and clusters. Reflection sessions and learning reviews will provide

opportunities to improve project quality and accountability.

Through this approach, Appeal members **and its local partners will ensure compliance with CHS, Sphere standards, and humanitarian principles**, while fostering transparency, inclusivity, and community ownership.

Monthly and Quarterly project meetings will be held and ongoing participation at cluster meetings ensured and sharing in various CSO's technical working group meetings with incorporated review performance, decision making, sharing of learning, and identification of improvements. Process learning will focus on action learning approaches to project activities and reflection based on monitoring data collected on an ongoing basis. ACT Secretariat Monitoring: ACT secretariat will conduct regular monitoring of the appeal and its activities in the field. Together with the requesting members (RMs) a detailed monitoring plan will be developed for the appeal during the inception meeting. Situational reports will be prepared on a quarterly basis and will be shared with the funding members. As per the ACT humanitarian monitoring policy, HPO will be conducting a field visit every six months of the appeal to monitor the activities and its process. As well as onsite visits, quarterly progress review meetings will be arranged to monitor the appeal and provide timely support to RM.

MEAL approach will prioritize the inclusion of vulnerable groups, including women, children, and differently-abled individuals, while adhering to Do-No-Harm principles to prevent unintended negative impacts. Impact assessments—including baseline, PDM, and endline evaluations—will measure project effectiveness and guide timely adjustments to interventions. Comprehensive documentation through reports, photographs, and case studies will also be gathered to support evidence-based decision-making, strengthening HIA's capacity to deliver accountable, inclusive, and responsive assistance to affected households.

Risk Management

To minimize any unforeseen risks during the construction/provision of earthquake-resilient housing, CWSA will ensure close presence and oversight throughout the construction process. The CWSA technical and field teams will remain in regular contact and provide guidance as needed to ensure quality, safety, and timely progress. Strong relationships have already been established with communities, CDCs, and local authorities, which will further support smooth implementation and address any challenges related to land use, community acceptance, or construction activities.

Being a member of the International NGO Safety Office (INSO), CWSA staff attends their meetings and keeps constant liaison with them for regular information on alerts and advisory. Staff movement and mobility is also carried out in line with the information and advisory issued via different modes of communication such as the WhatsApp groups of NGO Security Coordinators, which includes the UN representatives as well. The local contacts in communities are also consulted by the organization in reference to safety and security measures.

Moreover, in addition to ACT Safety and Security guidelines, CWSA has comprehensive security protocols and guidelines in place that are ensured by staff to comply with, in-house as well as in the field. CWSA security team will be in regular contact with field staff and provide advisory as needed. The team will establish good contact in the community, with community Shura and local government to provide security support whenever required. Besides, ethnic clashes on religious days can lead to tension among the communities, for which CWSA has put in place a mechanism to

avoid such occasions. Effective utilization of the village structures/volunteers and close coordination with respective local governments will help keep the project progressing. Moreover, CWSA has put in-place and continuously improving their staff's skills and knowledge for effective remote management. This, together with provision of appropriate safety gears for the frontline staff, certainly allows for mitigating the delays in implementation of the project interventions.

Risks:

Risk	Control Measures Please detail any measures you have or are planning to put into place to control and manage the identified risks
<p>Contextual Risks:</p> <p>1. Women affectees are difficult to access owing to the mobility restrictions placed by the Taliban administration. They are not allowed to travel independently without a mehram (male member of the family) and there are limited options of safe public transport. Moreover, there's less women representation in the government (provincial/district/local tiers).</p> <p>Also Afghanistan's Taliban-run administration has ordered all local and foreign nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) to stop female employees from coming to work, making it difficult for humanitarian organizations to coordinate with affected women on the ground.</p>	<p>CWSA will work in close coordination with local authorities and the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and its provincial offices.</p> <p>CWSA already has MoU with ANDMA and will work closely with them.</p> <p>CWSA will involve CDCs, community focal persons especially women to help access the communities.</p> <p>CWSA will hire male and female community mobilizers from local, nearby villages/areas that will reduce travel distance.</p> <p>These women mobilizers will assist in outreach, mobilization and facilitating women on the process.</p> <p>CWSA will follow security protocols to ensure that CWSA women can safely travel, within villages and communities.</p> <p>CWSA is a member of the International NGO Safety Office (INSO), CWSA staff regularly attend their meetings and coordinate with them for regular information on alerts and advisory.</p> <p>Staff movement and mobility is also carried out in line with the information and advisory issued.</p>
<p>2. There could be an outbreak of violence due to acts of terrorism.</p>	<p>The current governance structure is gradually getting hold of the security situation. It is anticipated that the security situation under the new regime will remain stable. CWSA works in close coordination with local communities, shura, CDCs and local, provincial government to monitor the security situation.</p>

<p>3. There is a lack of clarity on the roles and responsibilities within the local government and the Community Development Councils (CDC) structures in the area are weak which slows down the coordination mechanisms.</p>	<p>To overcome the coordination gaps,</p> <p>CWSA will ensure continuous involvement of communities, CDCs and the government authorities throughout the implementation of the project.</p> <p>CWSA has already established strong linkages with all relevant stakeholders including clusters, UN agencies and other NGOs, relevant government directorates, community development councils (CDCs), and village focal persons.</p>
<p>Programmatic Risks:</p> <p>1. The power structures influence the process of selection of the target population.</p>	<p>CWSA will follow the criteria of project participant selection. Alongside close coordination with local government, CDCs, UN clusters, I/NGOs, CDCs and community elders, efforts will be made to build rapport with the group in power and keep them in the loop on the nature of the project and importance of following the selection criteria.</p>
<p>2. Community Acceptance and Cultural Sensitivities causing reluctance to accept new housing designs</p>	<p>CWSA will involve community leaders and households in design consultations and adapt designs to local culture (privacy, gender norms, family size).</p> <p>CWSA will conduct awareness and training sessions with the community for both capacity building and promoting earthquake resilience benefits.</p>
<p>3. Technical and Material Constraints in terms of shortage of quality materials and skilled labor</p>	<p>CWSA will source locally available materials where possible and will partner with suppliers for bulk procurement and transport solutions.</p> <p>CWSA will also provide training to local masons/builders on earthquake-resilient techniques.</p>
<p>4. Long-Term Sustainability Risks in terms of shelters becoming semi-permanent without durability</p>	<p>CWSA will design transitional housing with potential for upgrade to permanent housing.</p> <p>CWSA will provide training on maintenance and incremental upgrading.</p> <p>CWSA will integrate shelter support with longer-term recovery and resilience programs.</p>

<p>Institutional Risks:</p> <p>1. Corruption, fraud/embezzlement of project resources</p>	<p>CWSA has effective financial, operational and HR policies with robust mechanisms in-place to prevent incidents of fraud and embezzlement from happening. Internal audit mechanism is fully functional. External audits are mandatory.</p>
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The following key risks have been identified for the project,

1. **Women's Rights & Gender Equality:** There is a high probability that restrictions by the Taliban DfA may prevent female I/NGO staff from participating in project activities, which would have a high impact on implementation. To mitigate this, NCA will engage with local authorities and negotiate access at district and provincial levels, where officials may be more receptive. Stakeholders will be kept informed to ensure compliance and the safety of all staff.
2. **Financial Risks:** There is a medium probability that significant inflation could occur during the implementation period, which would have a medium impact on project costs. NCA will closely monitor market prices using REACH's Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) and follow cluster guidance on standard cash-based response packages. Resources will be reallocated within the approved budget, if necessary, donor will be updated on budget impacts, and additional funds may be sourced to supplement the response if required.
3. **Climate & Environmental Risks:** There is a medium probability that heavy rains or adverse weather conditions could impede access to response sites, resulting in a medium impact on timely delivery. NCA will factor seasonal conditions into project planning and reschedule activities when access is restricted due to weather to minimize disruption.

CAID: Principal Threats identified: and (Risk Mitigation plan)

Threat 1: Damage to transport infrastructure delay or impede the delivery of winterization kits and shelters to affected households in the target district.

Mitigation plan: CAID/OCHR will use strong and 4-wheel drive trucks and vehicles to deliver the items safely, we will advocate and work with other actors to work on the road construction, we try to use the alternatives road, we will encourage and work with other actors for cash for work programs to reconstruct the road and make it ready for safe transportation.

Threat 2: Mobile cash transfer services are not available in all the target communities.

Mitigation plan: CAID/OCHR will ensure the money supplier contracts the safety and delivery of cash to the beneficiaries, will screen the suppliers, and will negotiate with the suppliers to deliver the cash in a way that the beneficiaries can reach and access.

Threat 3: Interference in the implementation of humanitarian activities.

Mitigation Plan: CAID/OCHR will work with other actors, especially with OCHA as the main humanitarian body. CAID will also coordinate with local authorities to advocate ensuring quality of

delivery in programs with no interference highlighting, strong monitoring advantages and work with communities.

Threat 4: Violence/ threats against humanitarian personnel/ assets/ facilities Mitigation plan: Covered in next section - 'Safety and Security Plan'

Threat 5: Deterioration of overall security and changing political situation, surge in military Operations and increasing criminal incidents, like robberies, kidnapping, theft, target killing etc.

Mitigation plan: Covered in next section - 'Safety and Security Plan'

HIA:

HIA has identified several key risks for MPCA distribution in earthquake-affected areas and has measures in place to address them. Staff access may be restricted due to authorities mobility rules, which will be mitigated through coordination with ANDMA and hiring local community mobilizers. Outbreaks of community violence or local conflicts are addressed by close coordination with local authorities, CDCs, and shura, along with pre-activity security assessments. Cultural sensitivities and potential community resistance are managed through early consultations, engagement with stakeholders, and awareness-raising sessions. Delays in fund transfers due to banking challenges are mitigated by direct cash transfers through a FSP using the Hawala system. Finally, risks of corruption or fraud are minimized through strong financial and operational policies, internal and external audits, and strong accountability mechanisms.

Safety and Security plans

In the target areas of Kunar and Nangarhar provinces, the general law and order situation is relatively stable with functioning community structures, and the likelihood of theft or targeted insecurity is low. However, risks such as localized tensions, sporadic conflict, and ethnic or religious clashes particularly around sensitive days may affect access and operations. Natural hazards, including aftershocks and landslides, also remain possible in the aftermath of the earthquake.

Frontline staff, community mobilization, and shelter training may face challenges related to large gathering, road safety risks due to mountainous terrain, and possible harassment or intimidation of female staff in conservative rural settings. Stress and fatigue linked to working in disaster-affected environments may also be experienced. To address these risks, all distributions will be directly supervised by CWSA staff with security focal points present and coordination with local Shuras, CDCs, and authorities. Movement protocols will be followed in line with CWSA security SOPs, including pre-travel risk assessments and clearance procedures. Gender-sensitive duty of care measures, such as pairing female staff with supportive colleagues and holding activities in culturally safe environments, will be ensured. Staff training on stress management, personal security awareness, and crowd management will also continue.

The project also recognizes potential "Do No Harm" concerns, including tensions between participants and non-participants, the risk of gender exclusion in trainings. These will be mitigated through transparent selection processes validated by communities, the use of accountability mechanisms such as a Complaints and Response Mechanism accessible to all groups, and gender-

sensitive consultations to ensure women's participation. Local leaders will be engaged to promote equitable access and avoid aggravating community tensions.

CWSA maintains established security protocols and SOPs in line with ACT Safety and Security Guidelines. As a member of the International NGO Safety Organization (INSO), CWSA receives regular alerts and advisories, and its security team liaises closely with NGO Security Coordinator groups, UN representatives, Shuras, and provincial authorities. Remote management protocols, COVID-19 SOPs, and provision of PPE are in place to safeguard both staff and communities. While CWSA has sufficient systems in place, further support such as refresher training on staff security and stress management, enhanced communication equipment for remote areas, and continued advisory support from the ACT Security Unit would strengthen implementation in the evolving Afghan context.



NCA has conducted a security risk assessment for the project area, identifying potential challenges such as restricted access and natural hazards. Frontline staff may face risks related to movement in remote areas, adverse weather, and operational restrictions; these will be mitigated through staff briefings, adherence to safety protocols, regular communication, and mobile monitoring. To uphold the Do No Harm principle, local communities are consulted in the design and allocation of activities, participate in assessments and delivery, and have their voices and feedback heard to ensure accountability and minimize risks to participants and partners. NCA will provide necessary training, staffing support, and communication tools, and make site enhancements where needed to ensure staff and beneficiary safety.

CAID and partner OCHR follow all security policies and procedures to mitigate security risks to project staff. At field level: CAIDs partners have a good reputation in communities where they work and have good linkages with both governmental officials and community structures. CAID and partner's participatory approach of involving community in all aspects of project implementation and establishing community volunteers' groups has significantly helped in acceptance at community level. This in turn has been found to have helped improve security for staff and field workers mitigating risk of robbery and attack on project staff. Prior to distributions, CAID will coordinate and inform local structures and sectorial governmental agencies to ensure that food and hygiene kits are safely transferred to the communities. CAID will also get regular updates from INSO which helps monitoring of the security situation.

Internally, CAID with its partner OCHR has strict internal control mechanisms of checks and balances designed to detect/prevent fraud, theft, and corruption. Segregation of duty allows decision-making to be distributed among individuals across departments. The scheme of delegation enables an employee to make a request to incur expenditure, gives another individual the authority to review and recommend for either approval or rejection, and another staff responsibility to review and verify execution and approval. Additional oversight of terrorist financing and sanctions risks will take place via CA's corporate Anti-Diversion Oversight committee, with additional risk-based due diligence (e.g. screening against counter-terrorism and sanctions lists) applied. Every new staff starter at CAID must complete compulsory online mandatory training, with refresher training for all staff annually, supplemented by live training on specific areas of risk. CAID uses an Independent Procurement Committee (IPC) responsible for all procurements above a threshold. Project procurement will follow CAID and its partner OCHR's strong procurement policies. based on international rules/norms set for procurement and reviewed/endorsed by ACBAR. There will be security planning to mitigate risks during distribution; procurement plan and adherence of procurement procedures. For all other security risks, CAID will follow its internal protocols for ensuring strong mitigation mitigation plan for other risks

HIA operates by taking precautions to ensure staff and beneficiary safety during MPCA distributions. Strong relationships with communities, CDCs, and local authorities help manage risks. Staff follow ACT and INSO security guidelines, maintain regular communication with field teams, and consult local contacts. Frontline staff are equipped with safety guidelines, and SOPs are updated to address evolving challenges. Community tensions are mitigated through engagement and sensitization.

Budget

					
Requesting Forum/Country	Afghanistan				
Appeal Number:	AFG 251				
Appeal Title:	Emergency assistance to earthquake affected population in eastern Afgh				
Implementing Period:	1/10/2025 to 30/09/2026				
http://www.floatrates.com/historical-exchange-rates.html		http://www.floatrates.com/historical-exchange-rates.html?currency_date=2023-06-05&base_currency_code=USD&f			
Budget rate / FX: Local currency to 1 USD (please input exchange		1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
	Appeal Total	Norwegian Church Aid	CAID-OCHR	CWSA	Hungarian International Aid (HIA)
		USD	USD	USD	USD
Direct Costs	2,243,909	557,220	481,599	743,470	461,620
1 Project Staff Salaries	406,550	120,000	100,400	118,680	67,470
2 Project Activities	1,615,094	394,220	303,585	566,990	350,299
2.1 Advocacy	-	-	-	-	-
2.2 Education	-	-	-	-	-
2.3 Food and Nutrition	52,320	52,320	-	-	-
2.4 Health	-	-	-	-	-
2.5 Livelihood	-	-	-	-	-
2.6 Multipurpose Cash	520,244	61,200	125,145	-	333,899
2.7 Protection and Psychosocial	36,400	20,000	-	-	16,400
2.8 Shelter and Settlement	1,006,130	260,700	178,440	566,990	-
2.9 WASH	-	-	-	-	-
3 Quality and Accountability	55,704	13,000	12,104	8,000	22,600
4 Logistics	150,360	24,000	65,160	46,800	14,400
5 Assets and Equipment	16,201	6,000	350	3,000	6,851
Indirect Costs	225,597	64,572	62,790	60,493	37,742
Staff Salaries	148,827	32,760	51,462	37,423	27,182
Office Operations	76,770	31,812	11,328	23,070	10,560
Total Budget	2,469,507	621,792	544,389	803,963	499,362
ACT Secretariat management cost SMC @	49,390	12,436	10,888	16,079	9,987
Total Budget + SMC	2,518,897	634,228	555,277	820,042	509,350

Quality and Accountability

Please be mindful of [ACT Alliance mandatory policies](#) including the [ACT Alliance Code of Good Practice](#) which outlines the commitment of all ACT Alliance members of continuous improvement while striving to achieve best practice principles.

As ACT Alliance secretariat is CHS certified, ACT appeals will be implemented with adherence to CHS commitments.

As ACT Members all organizations will abide by Act Alliance Mandatory Policies and Act Alliance Code of Good Practice. All ACT members will abide by the following policies:

- ACT Code of Conduct (2024)
- ACT Code of Good Practice (2024)
- Safeguarding Policy Framework (2024)
- Gender Justice Policy (2025)
- Complaints Policy (2021)

All ACT members will follow the ACT Alliance Code of Good Practice. All related staff, vendors, volunteers will sign the code of conduct and orientation will be given to staff on the ACT policies before project implementation.

Code of Conduct

ACT Alliance members involved in the appeal are signatories of the ACT Code of Conduct (CoC) that is mandatory for adherence and must be practiced with commitment from every staff member. CWSA has practiced the CoC to promote greater accountability and outline the key responsibilities of staff. It seeks to protect all staff as well as every community member whom the ACT Alliance seeks to assist. The primary aim is to prevent misconduct, including corruption, fraud, exploitation and abuse (including sexual abuse) and to ensure child safeguarding.

It is ensured that besides the codes of conduct and member organization's own policies, staff is aware of and adheres to the ACT Alliance's policies on the prevention of misconduct including corruption, fraud, exploitation and abuse (including sexual) and child safeguarding, as well as the ACT Alliance Guidelines for Complaints Handling and Investigations.

It is ensured that all the staff involved directly or indirectly in the project are fully aware of the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) while implementing project activities. The establishment of a Complaint Response Mechanism (CRM) will be prioritized from project inception, to enable project participants to file complaints or grievances related to project activities and even staff.

All NCA staff and anyone involved in the response have signed the ACT/NCA Code of Conduct and receive regular training and briefings to ensure strict compliance, particularly regarding the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, corruption and other misconduct. . To ensure awareness among affected communities, the CoC and NCA's commitment to safe, respectful, and accountable assistance are communicated through community briefings, information sessions, and visible messaging at distribution and project sites, enabling beneficiaries to report concerns or misconduct safely.

CAID is a Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) /HAP certified agency and has mechanisms in place to ensure that all its humanitarian program/rapid response delivery adhere to standards, quality and accountability commitments. CAID team and partners will sign to say they abide by the Core

Humanitarian Standards (CHS) standard policies and procedures, and to ensure our conduct is in keeping with the standard beliefs, values and aims. d

This Code of Conduct supports the achievement of organisational vision, mission and values of CAID. It underpins the behaviours that are expected of CAID representatives to demonstrate their commitment to CAID's ways of working. CAID and partners are fully committed to ensuring that individuals are not discriminated against because of gender, marital or civil partnership status, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, or because they work part time or on a fixed-term contract

HIA is committed to upholding integrity, accountability, and ethical conduct in all project activities. All staff and volunteers involved are required to sign ACT Alliance Code of Conduct, demonstrating commitment to preventing misconduct, including corruption, fraud, exploitation, abuse, and safeguarding children. Humanitarian assistance is provided solely based on need, without discrimination.

To integrate the CoC into project implementation, HIA conducts regular staff training, disseminates informational materials, and ensures continuous monitoring by project managers. Clear protocols are in place to address any violations, including confidential reporting, investigations, and appropriate disciplinary measures.

Safeguarding

As a member of the ACT Alliance, Start Network, CHS Alliance, Sphere and others, CWSA has a very comprehensive Safeguarding Policy in place to prevent sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment of children, young adults and vulnerable groups that it works with. The policy is aligned with the six principles of IASC on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) The organization is committed to comply with the Safeguarding Guidelines of the ACT Alliance., From the project level up to the staff, partners, direct and indirect stakeholders, all need to adhere to these policies. There is Zero tolerance towards non-compliance and mandatory orientation is part of project implementation on child protection and sexual exploitation and abuse. Staff, partners and communities will also be sensitized on utilization of complaint response mechanisms with emphasis on issues related to safeguarding. Confidentiality principles will be practiced strictly to collect, document and address sensitive complaints related to any incidents of exploitation, abuse and violation of safeguarding principles.

NCA is fully committed to the ACT Safeguarding Policy Framework to ensure the protection of all staff, beneficiaries, and vulnerable groups, particularly women and children. Safeguarding commitments are integrated into the project through staff training, orientation, and ongoing supervision, ensuring that all team members understand their responsibilities and adhere to safe practices. Specific measures include screening of staff, clear reporting lines, and the establishment of confidential complaint mechanisms accessible to beneficiaries and communities. In the event of a safeguarding-related incident, predefined protocols are in place, including immediate reporting, investigation, referral to relevant authorities, and the implementation of corrective actions to prevent recurrence, ensuring accountability and protection of all affected individuals.

CAID has robust corporate Whistleblowing and Safeguarding (SG) policies in place. A digital feedback system is used to collect, document, and confidentially handle sensitive complaints related to fraud, corruption, exploitation, abuse, and protection. The system is designed to escalate sensitive complaints internally to authorised staff (e.g. Safeguarding Manager) for immediate investigation and action. FCRM is used to collect, document, and confidentially handle

fraud, corruption, exploitation, abuse complaints alongside protection concerns. Safety and confidentiality will be ensured, and communities informed on what constitutes abuse, how to report. The SG concerns will immediately be flagged in the tracking system for action by Safeguarding specialists. CAID will regularly update in country safeguarding risk maps to identify hotspot areas, groups facing increased safeguarding risks and put in place mitigating measures.

CAID has a zero-tolerance approach to serious misconduct and will not tolerate its staff, trustees, volunteers, consultants, partners or any representatives associated with the work of its partners carrying out any form of violence, abuse, harassment or exploitation. It is the responsibility of each individual to prevent and report the physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect of any community member. All community members without exception have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, or belief. Every member of CA community have the responsibility to raise any concerns that we may have or those which are reported to us according to this policy.

HIA is committed to ensure the safety and protection of all individuals, particularly vulnerable populations, through Child Safeguarding and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) measures. All staff and individuals sign the PSEA Code of Conduct and receive comprehensive training on safeguarding, equipping them to prevent, identify, and respond to risks effectively.

Accessible reporting channels, including email, WhatsApp and AWAAZ 410 allow staff and community members to confidentially report concerns. Community engagement sessions raise awareness of safeguarding principles, empowering beneficiaries to recognize and report risks.

Regular monitoring and review, along with lessons learned from incidents, strengthen safeguarding practices over time. In the event of a safeguarding incident, immediate support, transparent investigations, and follow-up actions are implemented to protect individuals and improve project systems, ensuring a safe and accountable environment in earthquake-affected communities.

Conflict sensitivity / do no harm

The project has been designed by following the *Do No Harm* and conflict-sensitive approach. Cultural sensitivities and community participation were kept in mind while planning each activity. Project staff will be trained to respect local traditions and behave in ways that are acceptable to the communities. People of different age groups will be able to engage and take part in project activities.

Appeal members will make sure that project interventions do not create any harm or add to existing conflicts in the target areas. Special care will be taken to protect women, elderly people, children, and persons with disabilities. Assistance will be given based on need, with priority to the most vulnerable, without any discrimination based on gender, age, ethnicity, disability, religion, or political views. The process of selecting project participants will follow principles of neutrality and impartiality to ensure that the most deserving families are supported and treated with dignity and respect.

To avoid pressure, favoritism, or bias, members will encourage local community involvement in decision-making. The *Do No Harm* approach will be applied at all stages of the project from planning and implementation to monitoring and reporting. At the start of the project, orientation

will be provided to staff on local dynamics, power relations, and gender roles. The project's impact will also be regularly assessed to ensure that it reduces tensions, strengthens local capacities for peace, and supports positive relations within communities.

Complaints mechanism and feedback

CWSA is fully committed to ensuring that target groups and stakeholders can raise concerns and provide feedback at all stages of the project cycle. A Complaint and Feedback Mechanism (CFM), aligned with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS), is in place and will be applied throughout this project.

Information about the CFM will be displayed at all intervention sites and events. Communities will be informed of the different channels available, which include complaint boxes at project venues, SMS/calls on designated CFM numbers (available five days a week and extended to six in emergencies), and in-person communication with staff. During beneficiary selection, verification, distribution, and monitoring, staff will actively share details of the mechanism to ensure accessibility and clarity.

All complaints are reviewed and investigated by a committee independent of project implementation staff to guarantee impartiality. Sensitive complaints, including those related to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), are managed directly by CWSA's Safeguarding Committee. Confidentiality, dignity, and data protection are ensured in all cases.

The Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) team is responsible for timely follow-up and response to complainants. Each complaint is categorized and addressed according to established procedures, with feedback provided promptly. In addition, project staff and Community Development Committee (CDC) members will receive orientation sessions on the CFM to strengthen understanding and enable them to further disseminate information within their communities.

Through this approach, CWSA ensures that concerns are heard, feedback is acted upon, and communities remain at the center of the project's accountability framework.

To ensure accountability and transparency, NCA has established robust Complaint and Response Mechanism at the community level. Each targeted household will receive an NCA compliance card containing dedicated phone numbers for reporting concerns or complaints directly to NCA. In addition, the project will utilize the 410 AWAZ free hotline, managed by the UN, which will be advertised on visibility banners in the community. To further strengthen accessibility, every cash envelope distributed to households will clearly display the AWAZ hotline number and NCA's complaint email address. Alongside these measures, NCA staff will conduct regular mobile and in-person monitoring visits from CO to ensure households have multiple safe and accessible channels to raise concerns.

CAID with its partner OCHR is using a digital feedback system: COMPASS. COMPASS works on and offline, synching to the global database enabling collection of information from the communities. The system provides live updates on feedback collected from communities: using phones/tablets. The feedback system works through existing community structures via local partners and communities to identify key trusted focal points e.g. faith-based leaders, community representatives/influencers collecting feedback on CA's response. Feedback to communities on a regular basis is key in building trust. CAID/OCHR staff will close a feedback loop with communities regularly to ensure action is taken, misinformation and rumours addressed, and beneficiary satisfaction ascertained. Collection and addressing of feedback enable meaningful communities'

engagement & influence. Safeguarding, fraud, corruption, will be reported and escalated internally. for immediate action. Protection concerns including GBV/SGBV raised through the system will be referred externally to mapped out GBV service providers for prompt response.

HIA's Complaint and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) takes participants and stakeholders in due consideration so that they can voice concerns and provide feedback on project activities and staff behavior. A dedicated CFM Focal Point and trained staff will manage grievances through multiple channels, including AWAAZ 410, email and WhatsApp.

Communication and visibility

CWSA will fully comply with the ACT Alliance Branding Policy and Guidelines, ensuring that all communication and visibility materials reflect co-branding with the ACT Alliance logo alongside CWSA's own. This includes publications, digital platforms, social media posts, and visibility at project sites.

The field teams will be responsible for collecting quality photographs, human-interest stories, and project updates. These will be reviewed by CWSA's communications office to ensure accuracy and consistency before dissemination to external stakeholders.

Project information including progress updates, humanitarian assistance status, and community stories will be shared on CWSA's website and social media platforms with the ACT Alliance logo clearly displayed. Communication materials and visibility items, such as banners at distribution sites, will feature both ACT and CWSA logos, with placement and design decided in coordination on a case-by-case basis.

Through this approach, CWSA will strengthen the visibility and identity of ACT Alliance while adhering to both ACT's communication protocols and CWSA's own communication policies and strategies.

NCA will ensure full compliance with the ACT Alliance Branding Policy and Guidelines by displaying ACT Alliance logos and visibility materials across all communication, distribution activities, and project sites. Donor contributions will be clearly acknowledged in reports, visibility materials, and community communications, while regular updates and success stories will be shared with ACT Alliance and donors to ensure transparency and recognition of funding support.

HIA will in place ACT Alliance and transparent communication of donor funding by following ACT Alliance communication protocols and HIA's internal strategies. Field teams will collect project information, photos, and human-interest stories. All materials, including website content, social

media posts, and project updates, will display ACT Alliance (if applicable) and HIA logos, with site banners used as appropriate.

CAID: Effective communications will be integral to achieving the objectives of this initiative, by engaging with various stakeholders and audiences, providing accurate, relevant, and timely information about the activities of the program, its objectives, the issues it is tackling, and its results and impact. Detailed communication plans will be developed at all levels to ensure program activities and communications are delivered in line with ACT Alliance communications, branding and visibility guidelines. External communications within Afghanistan will have to consider possible threats and backlash because of faith identity. CAID and partner communications, branding and visibility will also be guided by risk assessments and mitigation strategy. CA will aim to make all communications people-centred, encouraging and amplifying the voice, perspectives, and participation of vulnerable sections of the community, particularly women.