



GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

Period Covered in this Report: 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2013
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Program Title: Common Operating Picture for Humanitarian Coordination
Country/Region: Afghanistan
Total Dollar Amount of Grant: \$5,955,801.00
Total Period of Performance of Grant: 11 July 2010–28 February 2014

GOAL[S]

Afghanistan is in the midst of a complex humanitarian crisis. Natural disaster events, coupled with growing insecurity throughout the country, increase the challenges faced by Afghans in accessing basic services, including education, health care, livelihoods, and economic opportunities. Humanitarian access to vulnerable populations is impeded by insecurity, natural disasters, difficult terrain, and climatic conditions. In this reporting period the Country has experienced flooding and earthquakes.

This project aims to provide the humanitarian community and relevant government actors with effective methods for reliably capturing, reporting, sharing, and analyzing information concerning the humanitarian situation according to baseline indicators, as well as safety and security information.

The overall goal of the project is to provide a common operating picture concerning humanitarian coordination and security, and this will be achieved by meeting the objectives as listed below.

ASSOCIATED OBJECTIVES OF THE GRANT

The project objectives are:

1. Improve the safety and security of humanitarian field operators.
2. Enhance and integrate current databases of humanitarian projects and activities and support distribution of related information in near real-time.
3. Provide a Common Operating Picture of humanitarian data and baseline indicators of the humanitarian situation.
4. Identification of hazardous areas and populations-at-risk.
5. Improvements in currently available datasets.

iMMAP has maintained its OASIS system in Afghanistan since the beginning of 2009. Although iMMAP has installed OASIS in over 70 organizations, and trained over 100 users, it is difficult to estimate the number of people in these organizations that directly benefit from use of the OASIS system. This depends very much upon the size of the organization and how OASIS is used to conduct operations management, security analysis and minefield status analysis. Field planners and security officers may have influence on only ten people, but in larger organizations, field planners and security officers can influence the movements of hundreds of employees.

Currently 3728 printed maps have been distributed to over 170 humanitarian organizations since the beginning of the project, while 342 digital maps were made available on websites such as iMMAP, OCHA and/or the clusters. **During this reporting period 31 new maps were created, 295 hardcopy maps were distributed, and 26 new maps were posted to the iMMAP website.**

iMMAP conducted portions of the project work in 2011 with funding provided by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement [PM/WRA], U.S. Department of State. While the PM/WRA project focuses upon the Humanitarian Mine Action [HMA] community, the OFDA funding allows a much wider reach throughout the broader humanitarian community. One major focus of the OFDA grant is to identify populations at risk to various disasters, and this report will demonstrate progress in those areas.

PM/WRA funding ceased in May 2011 with the successful conclusion of that project, and therefore all work conducted from this date is fully OFDA funded.

Information management tools and solutions provided to the humanitarian community originally under the PM/WRA grant are now updated to develop new synergies in the context of the OFDA grant, enhancing continuity and sustainability between programs.

SUB-SECTOR: COORDINATION

INDICATOR 1

Number of organizations coordinating relief operations, and through these entities, the number of implementing organizations coordinated through these efforts and reported upon through this project.

In the current reporting period the protracted humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan continues, with no abatement in the number of people affected by conflict and continuing large numbers of small quick onset emergencies. iMMAP has continued to provide time critical information products to a variety of humanitarian actors to improve the humanitarian community's overall situational knowledge, response planning decision making, and coordination. Key information products developed and disseminated by iMMAP, whether static maps or a dynamic common operating picture, have been used by humanitarian decision makers in the field, at regional, national, headquarter and donor capitals. In particular, iMMAP information products continued to provide key guidance in the development of flood contingency plans and other programs for Disaster Risk Reduction and Response.

Through this project, information management support has been provided to the Cluster groups directly involved in relief operations and the inter-cluster coordination mechanism. The following Clusters have benefited from iMMAP support during Q1:

1. Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)
2. Protection Cluster
3. Education Cluster
4. WASH Cluster

Examples of the work undertaken during the reporting period for the clusters include:

- Food Security and Agriculture Cluster:
 - iMMAP confirmed participation in the Spring Assessment to provide database development services.
 - iMMAP continued to participate in the Early Warning Information Working Group of the FSAC and iMMAP products have appeared consistently in the Early Warning Update Newsletter (Fig. 1).

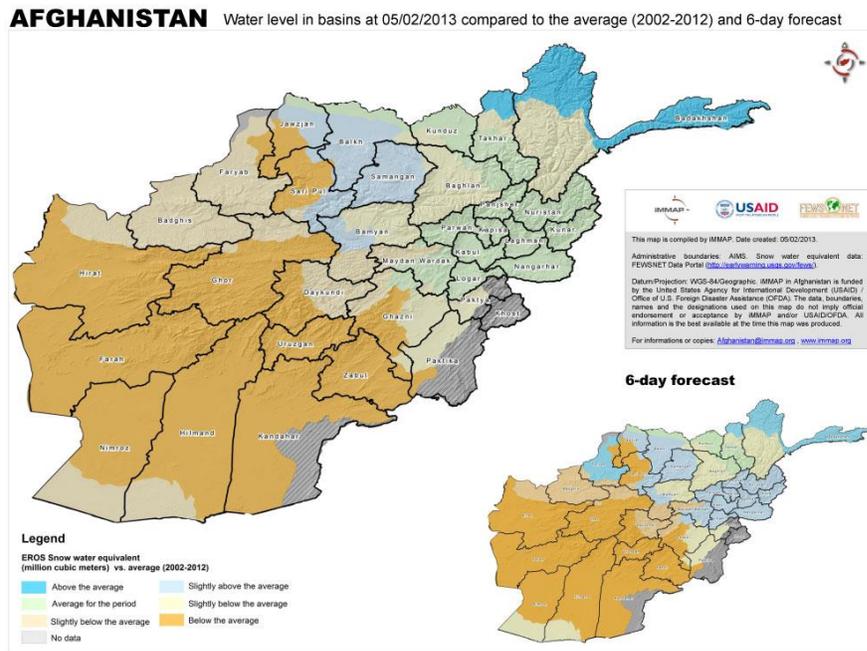


Fig. 1 – Drainage Basin Water Levels, for FSAC partners

Protection Cluster:

- A second CARE database for school incidents was finalized and data entry started. This database will be used to monitor security incidents related to educational facilities in the preparation of an upcoming UNICEF report to the UN Security Council.
- iMMAPP continued to work with DRC and the Protection Cluster in the development of a Kabul Informal Settlements (KIS) Atlas. Preliminary planning is finished and field work and data collection will begin in April, 2013.
- iMMAPP continued to provided database support to the UNHCR IDP data system with the development of new and revised reports, queries, and templates.

➤ Education Cluster:

- iMMAPP has completed the Save the Children (Uruzgan Program) School Mapping. The result is a series of base maps with hi-resolution satellite imagery for participative use, featuring highly accurate locational data for all project locations (Fig. 2).
- iMMAPP has continued to support the Education cluster with IM services and initiated an updated Who What Where map and data collection process, to be published in April, 2013.



Fig 2 - Save the Children, Education Atlas example

- WASH Cluster:
 - CARITAS WASH maps were completed, allowing CARITAS and partners to accurately identify project locations, beneficiary villages and water sources (Fig. 3).

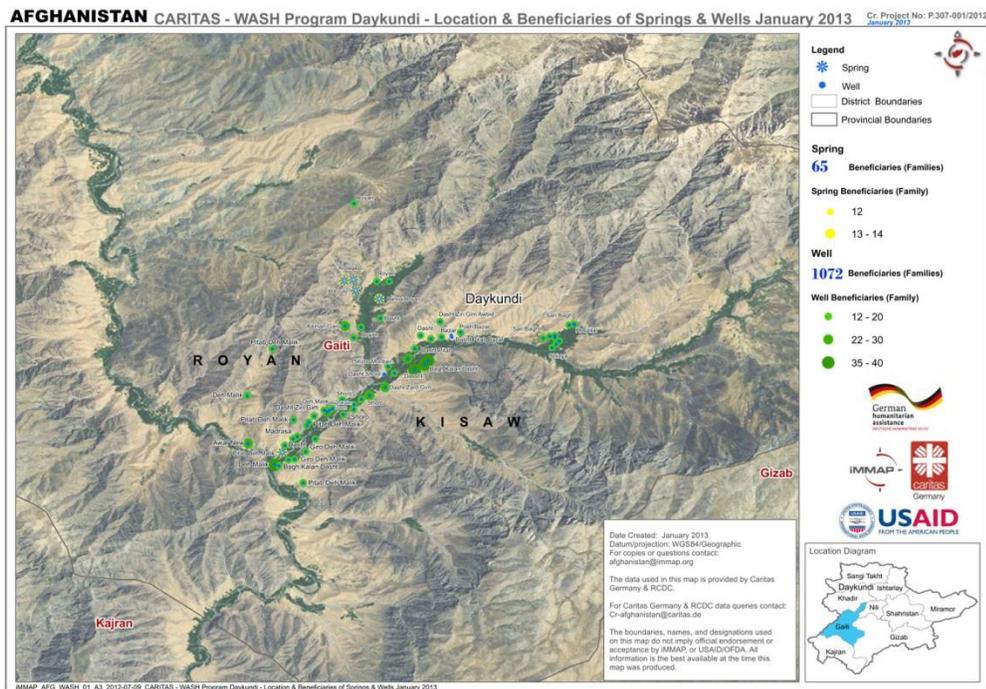


Fig 3 - CARITAS WASH Atlas

SUB-SECTOR: INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

INDICATOR 1

Number of organizations utilizing common information management services.

OASIS is currently used by 72 organizations with 145 installations, and approximately 110 trained users.

Other Cluster lead organizations, such as the International Organization for Migration are using OASIS (integration of priorities for intervention with the overall contingency plan for emergency response) and UNHCR (people movement tracking) to bring together agency specific programmatic information with the common operating picture delivered through OASIS.

During Q1, 2013 the partnership with the ERM consortium (Medair, ACF, Solidarites, People in Need, Mission East) working in Disaster Risk Reduction continued. A loss of institutional memory was mitigated following a high turnover rate in these organizations during the past three months. The presence of OASIS and the information management tools developed by iMMAP allowed the ERM Consortium to quickly recover from the departure of key staff by providing a knowledge base and a platform for data that remained in place regardless of staff departures. iMMAP was able to bridge the information gap and immediately engage with the new staff. The dynamic nature of staffing in Kabul has precipitated a re-examination of the use of OASIS training of ERM staff, and a new strategy under development may see a reduction in training initiatives to prevent the unnecessary expenditure of resources by all agencies involved. A likely future scenario will involve data collection by the ERM group in a standard Microsoft Excel format followed by data synchronization and analysis by iMMAP. A new series of ERM maps are in development and will be published in Q2, 2013.

INDICATOR 2

Number of information products made available through common information management services that are utilized by clients.

New or updated datasets that were developed and provided to clients via maps and OASIS exclusively during this reporting period include the following products:

Coordination Mechanism	New Information Products Made Available (Q1)
Food Security and Agriculture Cluster	➤ Water Basin Snow Accumulation
OCHA	➤ Security incidents summary ➤ Local (civilian) population targeted in security

	incidents, monthly
ANDMA, IOM, ERM, and DRR-related actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ANDMA 2012 disaster list ➤ District hazard information and mapping in Nuristan ➤ Population affected by natural disasters (Fig.4) ➤ Natural disaster IDPs
Education Cluster	➤ Updated Uruzgan CBE facilities
Protection Cluster	➤ School security database

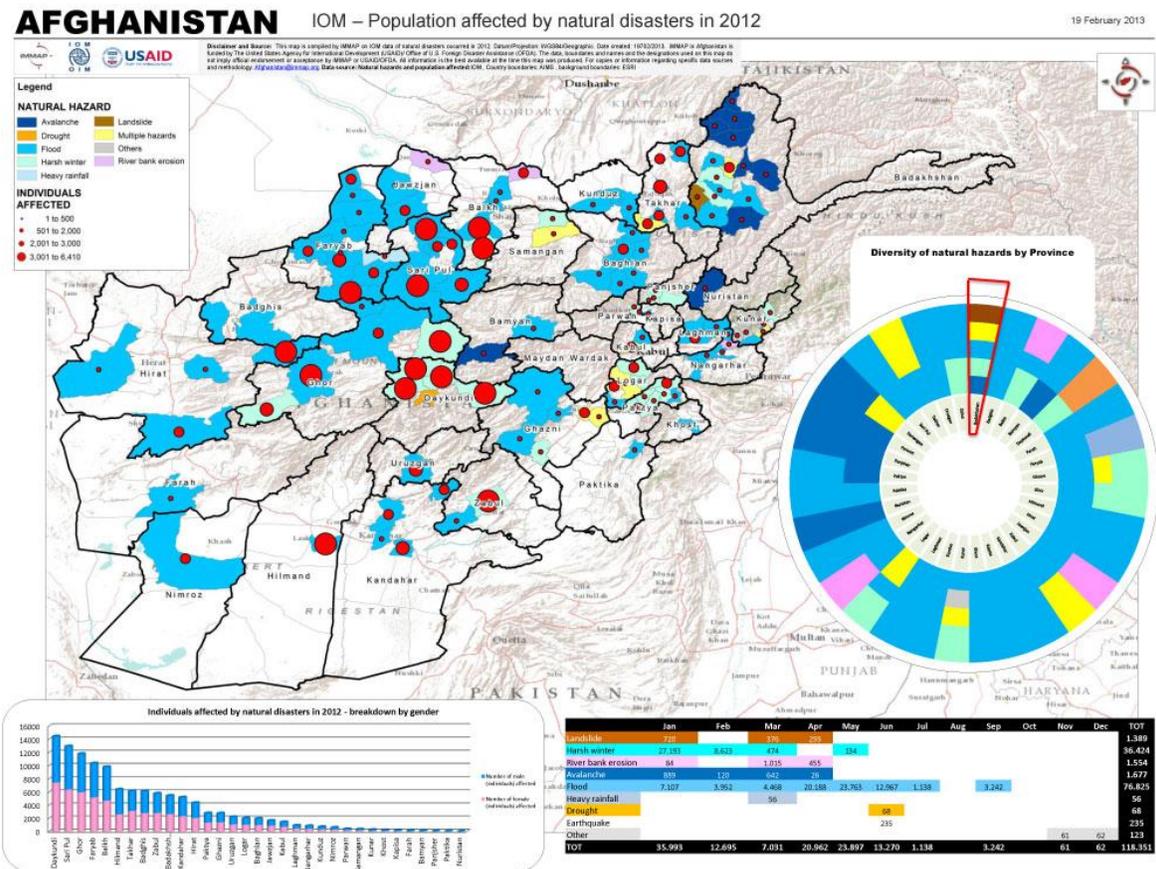


Fig. 4 – Population Affected by Natural Disaster in 2012

The following new maps were produced and published in the reporting period:

1. Afghanistan: Local (civilian) population targeted (dead and injured) in security incidents for the month of December 2012
2. Afghanistan: Chapa Dara District of Kunar Province
3. Afghanistan: Dara-i-Pech District of Kunar Province
4. Afghanistan: Local (civilian) population targeted (dead and injured) in security incidents for the year 2012

5. Afghanistan: Security incidents for the year 2012 - Total density of incidents, breakdown by month and by province
6. Afghanistan: Kabul City Map
7. Afghanistan: Local (civilian) population targeted (dead and injured) in security incidents for the month of January 2013
8. Afghanistan: Wata Pur District of Kunar Province
9. Afghanistan: Bur Kunar District of Kunar Province
10. Afghanistan: Ghazi Abad District of Kunar Province
11. Afghanistan: Nari District of Kunar Province
12. Afghanistan: Bargi Matal District of Nuristan Province
13. Afghanistan: Kamdesh District of Nuristan Province
14. Afghanistan: Mandol District of Nuristan Province
15. Afghanistan: Waygal District of Nuristan Province
16. Afghanistan: Kunar and Nuristan Provinces
17. Afghanistan: CARITAS - WASH Program Daykundi - Location & Beneficiaries of Latrines January 2013
18. Afghanistan: CARITAS - WASH Program Daykundi - Location & Beneficiaries of Springs & Wells January 2013
19. Afghanistan: Water level basins at 05/02/2013 compared to the average (2002-2012) and 6-day forecast
20. Afghanistan: IOM - Natural Disasters-induced IDPs in 2012
21. Afghanistan: IOM - Population affected by natural disasters in 2012
22. Afghanistan: Water level in basins at 11/02/2013 compared to the average (2002-2012) and 6-day forecast
23. Afghanistan: Kabul City, Police District Five (5)
24. Afghanistan: Kabul City, Police District Seven (7)
25. Afghanistan: Kabul City, Police District Eight (8)
26. Afghanistan: Kabul City, Police District Five (5)
27. Afghanistan: Water level in basins at 27/02/2013 compared to the average (2002-2012) and 6-day forecast
28. Afghanistan: Local (civilian) population targeted (dead and injured) in security incidents for the month of February 2013
29. Afghanistan: Water level in basins at 09/03/2013 compared to the average (2002-2012) and 6-day forecast
30. Afghanistan: Flood risk (est.) for the period 23/03/2013 to 29/03/2013
31. Afghanistan: Central Statistics Organization (CSO) Estimated Population 2012-2013

OBJECTIVE ONE OUTPUTS AGAINST INDICATORS

Improve the safety and security of humanitarian field operators.

NARRATIVE

In Q1, 2013 iMMAP continued to expand the OASIS database. A total of 97,117 security incidents reside in the database, and 4,293 new incidents were entered in Q1. This database allows humanitarian actors to obtain updated and historical information concerning the security situation in their areas of operation. The database is unique in the humanitarian community as it allows users to view spatial relationships with other layers such as roads, thereby providing the user with an overview of where hot spots are located over a specified time period. This enables field personnel to see an overview of historic security events in specific areas before or during deployment (Fig. 5).

AFGHANISTAN

Security incidents for the year 2012 – Total density of incidents, breakdown by month and by province

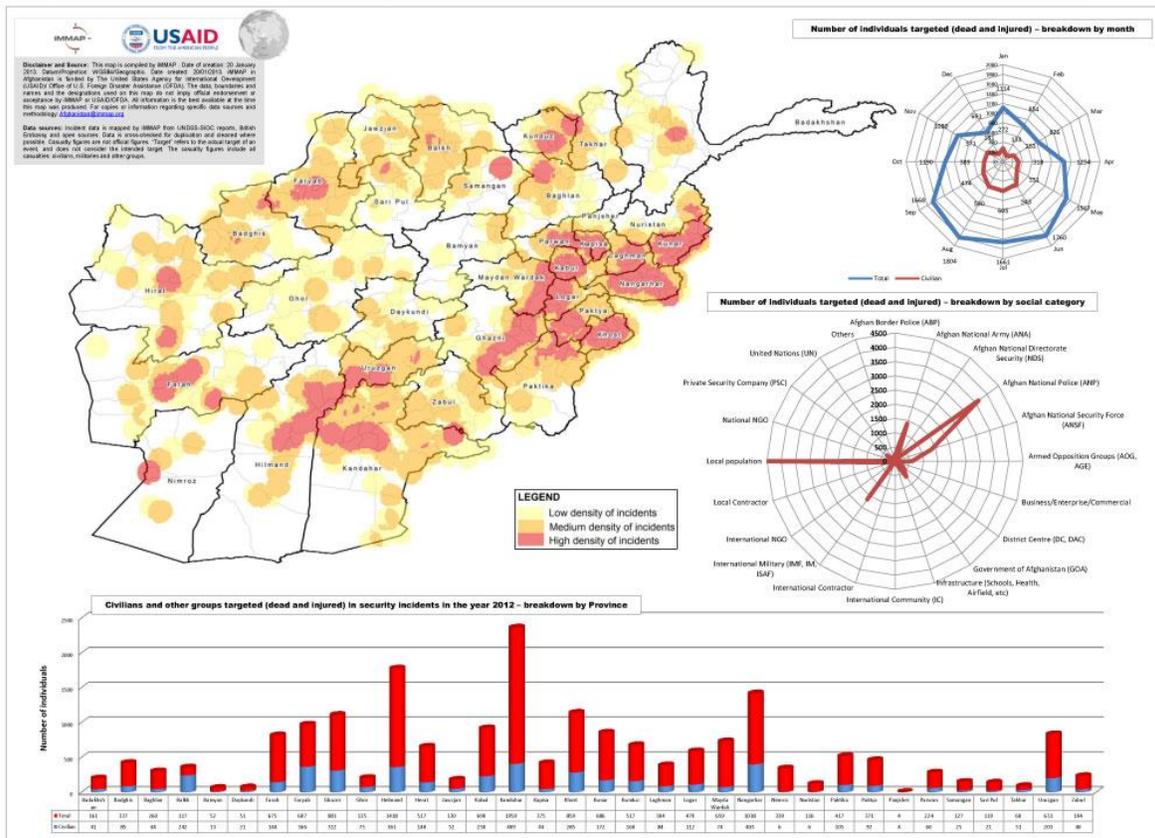


Fig. 5 – Density of security incidents in 2012

Below is a list of current and new OASIS clients, data partners and agencies that have been supplied with software and training support:

Q 1, 2013 OASIS installations and trainings

- EUPOL
- Edinburgh International
- Sterling Services

Previous Oasis Clients

1. Acted
2. Action Contre la Faim [ACF]
3. Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority [ANDMA]
4. Afghan Technical Consultants [ATC]
5. Afghan Women's Educational Center [AWEC]
6. Afghanistan Civil Support Service [ACSS]
7. Afghanistan Information Management Systems [AIMS]
8. Aga Khan Foundation [AKF]
9. Canadian International Development Agency - Canadian Program Support Unit
10. Care International
11. Caritas Germany
12. ClearPath International [CPI]
13. Catholic Relief Services [CRS]
14. Danish Demining Group [DDG]
15. Deloitte [supporting USAID projects]
16. Demining Agency for Afghanistan [DAFA]
17. Dyncorp
18. Education Cluster [various members]
19. EOD Technology
20. European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan [EUPOL Afghanistan]
21. Ex-Med
22. Focus Humanitarian Assistance [FOCUS]
23. Food Security and Agriculture Cluster [FSAC] [various members]
24. Food and Agriculture Organisation [FAO]
25. G4S Afghanistan
26. Halo Trust [HT]
27. Helvetas
28. Independent Election Commission [IEC] of Afghanistan
29. International Assistance Mission [IAM]
30. International Foundation for Electoral Systems [IFES]
31. International Organization for Migration [IOM]
32. International Relief and Development [IRD] - Human Resources and Logistical Services program [HRLS]
33. International Relief and Development [IRD] - Strategic Provincial Roads [SPR]

34. International Rescue Committee [IRC]
35. Madera
36. Medair
37. Mercy Corps
38. Mines Advisory Group [MAG]
39. Mine Clearance Planning Agency [MCPA]
40. Mine Detection and Dog Centre [MDC]
41. MineTech International
42. Norwegian Refugee Council [NRC]
43. Nutrition cluster [various members]
44. Office for Weapons Removal and Abatement [WRA] Afghanistan
45. Organisation for Mine Clearance & Afghan Rehabilitation [OMAR]
46. Oxfam GB
47. Oxfam Novib
48. RONCO Consulting Corporation
49. Save the Children [SC]
50. Shelter Cluster [various members]
51. Sicuro Group
52. Solidarites
53. Swedish Committee for Afghanistan
54. Swiss Development Cooperation [SDC] - Swiss Cooperation Office Afghanistan
55. Swiss Foundation for Mine Action [FSD]
56. United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF] Education
57. United Nations Development Program [UNDP] - Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow [ELECT]
58. United Nations Development Program [UNDP] Country Office [CO]
59. United Nations High Commission for Refugees [UNHCR]
60. United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre Afghanistan [MACCA]
61. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs [UN-OCHA]
62. United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime [UNODC]
63. United States Embassy
64. USAID's Capacity Development Program [CDP]
65. UXB International
66. War Child Holland
67. World Conservation Society [WCS]
68. World Food Program Education
69. World Food Program – Global GeoPortal
70. World Vision

PROJECTIONS

In Q1, 2013 iMMAP continued to expand the OASIS database with daily additions of security information updates. Due to the varying nature of security reporting iMMAP has eliminated the reports from some providers whose data contained substantial amount of unconfirmed information. The reduction of data sources has not necessarily resulted in fewer reported incidents, but rather increases the confidence of the accuracy of the data. All available sources will continue to be rigorously evaluated.

OBJECTIVE TWO OUTPUTS AGAINST INDICATORS

Enhance and integrate current databases of humanitarian projects and activities and support distribution of related information in near real-time.

NARRATIVE

In support of DRR data coordination, the following datasets have been gathered, and are undergoing preparation for addition to the OASIS database: ANDMA 2012 disasters, IOM & ERM Reported Incidents, Snowfall, Flood Risk Priority (FSAC). Although not yet directly available to users, the data will be included in the upcoming release of OASIS 4.0.

During Q1, iMMAP also made significant progress on the joint project with MRRD following on the signature of the MoU in Q4, 2012. The MRRD database has undergone several initial revisions and the Beta testing will begin in MRRD in April, 2013. This information system will allow the Social Protection Department to utilize a single information tool to record, track, report and analyze on all of its disaster related programs and interventions.

PROJECTIONS

Efforts at coordinating and consolidating disaster data sets have revealed a plethora of issues regarding disaster data in Afghanistan. Inconsistencies in reporting formats, dates, place names, descriptions, and other fields make reconciling the data sets extremely difficult. Even fairly solid partners such as IOM and FSAC have drastically different data sets regarding single events such as floods. ANDMA data is highly irregular with no formal reporting requirements or ways of quickly consolidating numerous records. A survey of the existing data shows that a significant portion of the 2012 ANDMA is deficient and will require a good deal of effort to clean. It is envisioned that a significant part of creating a common picture for disasters will require very basic data cleaning and processing to allow it to be used in a formal database.

OBJECTIVE THREE OUTPUTS AGAINST INDICATORS

Provide a Common Operating Picture of humanitarian data and baseline indicators of the humanitarian situation.

NARRATIVE

The iMMAP Afghanistan OASIS team has established a large network of OASIS clients and as

such a large number of data sharing opportunities, which contribute to building the Common Operating Picture [COP], ranging from Explosive Remnants of War [ERW] and the HMA environment in Afghanistan to topographic maps [incorporates 1:250,000, 1:100,000 and 1:50,000 American topographic maps, as well as Russian topographic map series], satellite imagery, high resolution town imagery, accurate elevation data, settlement lookups, water sources, snow cover, soils, land cover, health facilities, military and security locations, etc., are all essential information to properly plan activities in the field.

To ensure appropriate data gathering and dissemination, relationships have been developed with:

- United States Geological Survey [USGS, supplied aerial photography for Afghanistan];
- Famine Early Warning System [FEWS];
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization [UNFAO];
- World Food Programme [WFP]
- Afghanistan National Disasters Management Authority [ANDMA];
- Afghanistan Central Statistics Office [CSO];
- Afghanistan Information Management Services [AIMS]
- Information Technology for Humanitarian Assistance Cooperation and Action [ITHACA, snow cover data]

In this reporting period, iMMAP continued to focus on the interoperability of the Common Operating Picture developed in the previous phases of the project with the activities of the Cluster groups. The primary aim of this activity was to provide simultaneously a platform to share findings and strategies among a wide variety of humanitarian actors and raise awareness on current security in remote areas to evaluate the options to access vulnerable communities.

In support of OFDA partners iMMAP has begun the development of a project tracking database for FOCUS. This enterprise system will allow the rapid integration and reporting of data related to FOCUS projects across Afghanistan.

iMMAP has initiated a sub-project of this objective to develop a Common Operating Picture for Disasters in Afghanistan. The vision of this project is to enable DRR actors operating in Afghanistan to review, analyze and understand current and recent disaster data. iMMAP is integrating information from key DRR actors such as ANDMA, IOM, ERM, MRRD, and others to create an information platform to share this data through OASIS.

The databases that have been newly developed or enhanced during Q1 are:

- International Organization for Migration [IOM]: As in Q4, the Non-food Items [NFI] distribution database and IDP database were updated and mapped. iMMAP

continues to work with IOM to assist with NFI and natural disaster IDP information. This data is also processed by iMMAP in conjunction with data from FSAC to rectify and produce a single IDP dataset for Afghanistan.

- The Emergency Response Management (ERM) Consortium: Medair, ACF, Solidarites, People in Need, and Mission East: a common database on disaster risk profiling is currently under development. Following the implementation of the hazard mapping module, iMMAP has developed maps to track the humanitarian assistance provided to communities affected by natural disasters. iMMAP has temporarily halted the training program for ERM data managers due to the high turnover of staff.
- International Medical Corps [IMC]: iMMAP completed the DRR participatory mapping and DRR related activities with IMC. The result is an original series of hazard maps for Nuristan and Kunar Province that will be used for the Common Operating Picture, as well as for IMC's DRR program.
- UNHCR continues to update and modify its IDP tracking and reporting system in OASIS. iMMAP provided advisory and technical assistance on site to enhance the system.
- Kabul Informal Settlements was further refined in preparation for the upcoming Atlas
- Education facilities in Uruzgan Province was completed
- IOM natural disasters and IDPs was updated
- ERM project and disaster data was updated

PROJECTIONS

As of February 28, 2013 iMMAP ended the current funding cycle and began a new one year budget modification as of March 1. Although funding levels remained the same, the budget surplus that had accumulated through 2011-2012 was exhausted. This surplus allowed iMMAP to hire three additional international staff whose activities covered food security, education, provincial information, and database development.

Although iMMAP intends to continue to provide services to these sectors, it is likely that the same level of service cannot be maintained and that requests from partners will be carefully examined for necessity, and require a longer delivery data for associated products.

OBJECTIVE FOUR OUTPUTS AGAINST INDICATORS

Identification of hazardous areas and populations at risk.

NARRATIVE

In this reporting period efforts have continued to promote data interoperability among different sources (e.g. IOM, FSAC, NGOs, Government) in order to fill the existing gaps in the identification of hazardous areas and populations at risk, as well as to support the coordination of humanitarian response with specific attention to enhancing the safety of relief operators.

- **IOM:** In the current reporting period iMMAP has mapped the IOM disaster database on selected disaster-affected IDPs and NFIs. The maps produced allow a comparison to other disaster data sources (ex. FSAC, ANDMA) and the subsequent integration of that data into a single source of disaster data (Fig. 6)

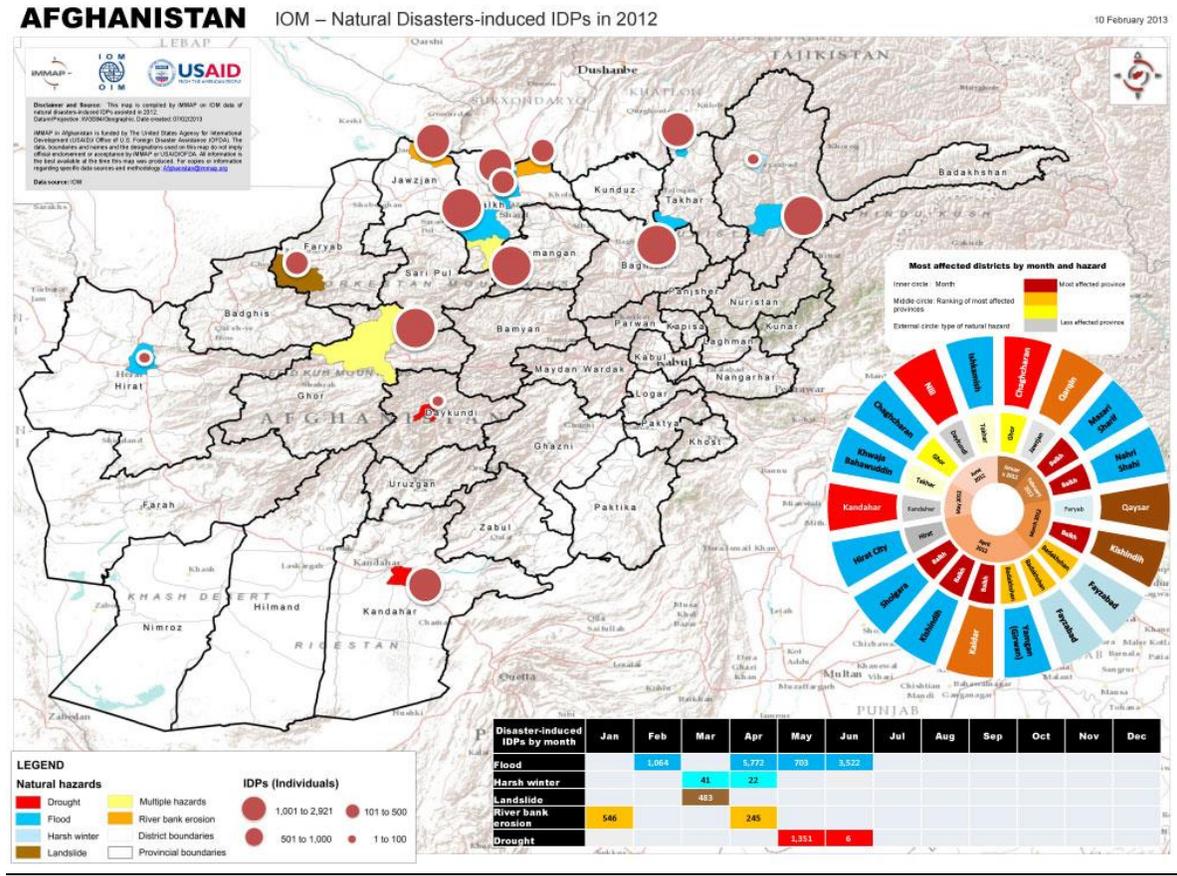


Fig. 6 – Natural disaster IDPs in 2012

- The collaboration with IMC on disaster mapping in Nuristan and Kunar was concluded. The resulting dataset identifies and maps dozens of new hazard areas in these provinces (Fig. 7). In addition the exercise delivered capacity building and training to IMC staff who are now able to conduct participatory mapping exercises unassisted.

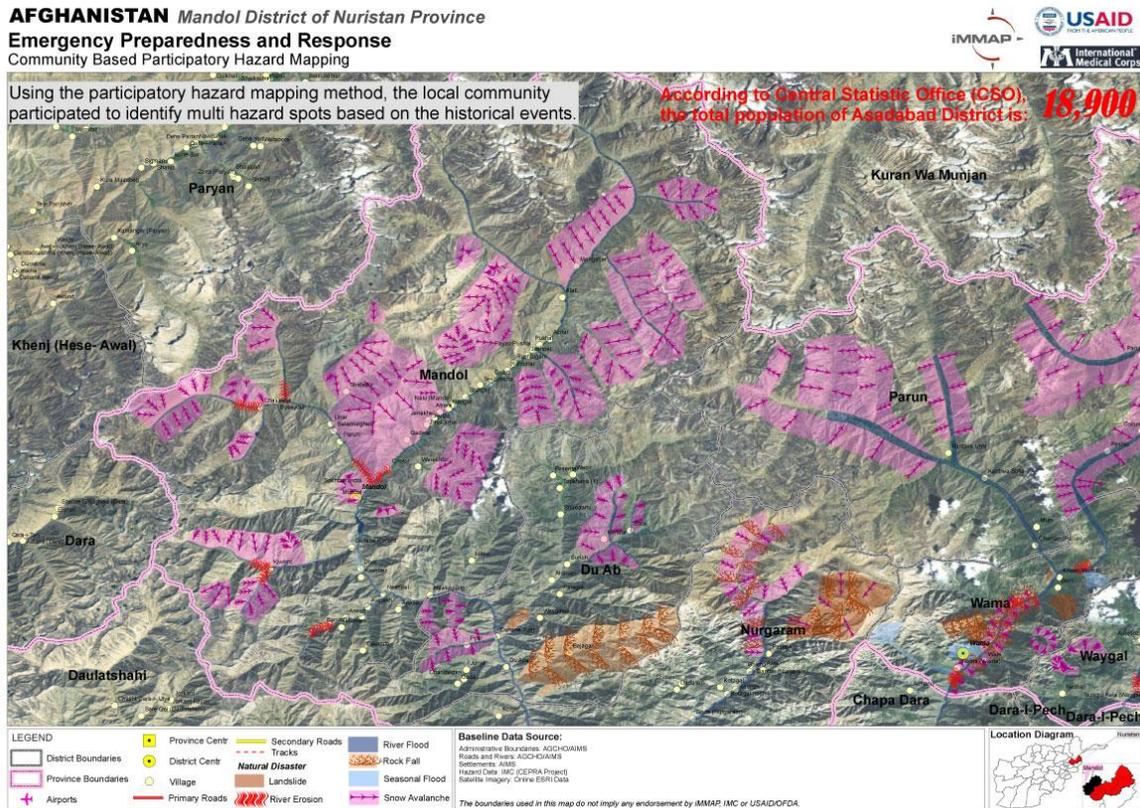


Fig. 7 – IMC Participator hazard mapping

- ANDMA: iMMAP is preparing to renew its annual MoU with ANDMA, for the third year. iMMAP will continue to assist ANDMA with information management and disaster mapping, in addition to conducting an evaluation of information systems and providing recommendations to maximize efficiency within ANDMA. During the reporting period, iMMAP received the complete 2012 ANDMA disaster data set in order to clean and prepare it for integration into the information system currently being developed.
- ERM: iMMAP continually provides assistance to the ERM group with information management, advisory services, and mapping. The activities in this reporting period were centered on updating the information in the database, the preparation of new maps, and discussions for handover of duties to new incoming staff.

PROJECTIONS

As iMMAP continues to work within the clusters and with bilateral partners, an expanded inventory of disaster data will be developed and more readily accessible. iMMAP will facilitate the integration of information on different options for mitigation and disaster response mechanisms developed by the Cluster groups. Information Management tools and techniques will contribute to an overall enhanced understanding of the situation for the end user, especially Clusters, and government partners

OBJECTIVE FIVE OUTPUTS AGAINST INDICATORS

Improvements in currently available datasets.

NARRATIVE

iMMAP has collated, cleaned and error-checked multiple datasets from various sources. The new and updated datasets exclusive to this reporting period are:

- Kabul Informal Settlements
 - IOM Populations affected by natural disasters
 - IOM natural disaster IDPs
 - MRRD disaster database
 - Save the Children Uruzgan CBE data
 - Education cluster 3W
 - CARITAS WASH activities
 - Food Security Cluster - flood risk
 - Food Security Cluster - Water basin level
 - Security Incidents
- Nuristan and Kunar natural disaster/hazard areas

PROJECTIONS

Many of the current datasets mentioned in this report, as well as past reports are constantly updated as new information is gathered, processed and added to the knowledge base. Indeed, ensuring relevant and timely data is one of the key functions of providing information services to the humanitarian community. iMMAP works with partners to not only develop new datasets, but to help them improve their existing ones as well. iMMAP will continue these efforts in Q2 with the intention of ensuring partners are using information management to enhance their activities, and contributing to the overall improvement of humanitarian information in Afghanistan.