



GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

Period Covered in this Report: 1 January 2014 to 31 March 2014
Organization: Information Management and Mine Action Programs [iMMAP]
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Country/Region: Afghanistan
Total Dollar Amount of Grant: \$ 7,707,959
Total Period of Performance of Grant: 11 July 2010–28 February 2015

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 79 organizations, and trained 148 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 4716 printed maps have been distributed to over 170 organizations since the beginning of the project, while 484 digital maps were published on websites such as iMMAP, ReliefWeb, OCHA, and/or the Cluster sites. During this reporting period 58 new maps were created, 207 hardcopy maps were distributed, and 44 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 people affected by conflict and natural disasters. iMMAP has continued to provide timely and 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 coordination bodies have benefited from iMMAP support during Q1:

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

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

- Food Security and Agriculture Cluster:
 - At the request of FSAC and OCHA, iMMAP is conducting a drought analysis using satellite imagery
 - An analysis of the new Landcover Map created by FAO and MAIL was completed with an accompanying document prepared to highlight the differences with the previous 1994 Landcover map.
 - iMMAP is providing assistance to the USDA/UCDavis/Salam Watandar eAfghanistan program with the production of a telephone assistance map.
 - iMMAP has continued to produce regular flood risk maps at the request of the FSAC Early Warning Group (Fig 1.)
- Protection Cluster:
 - Recruitment began for Information Management Officer for UNCR regarding secondment of iMMAP staff in 2014 to the Protection Cluster.
 - Continued technical support and training was provided to UNHCR for their Population Movement Tracking database.
- Education Cluster:
 - iMMAP began assistance to the World Bank/MoE DT3 school mapping project, including new MoUs with CoAR, and JACK (pending signatures).

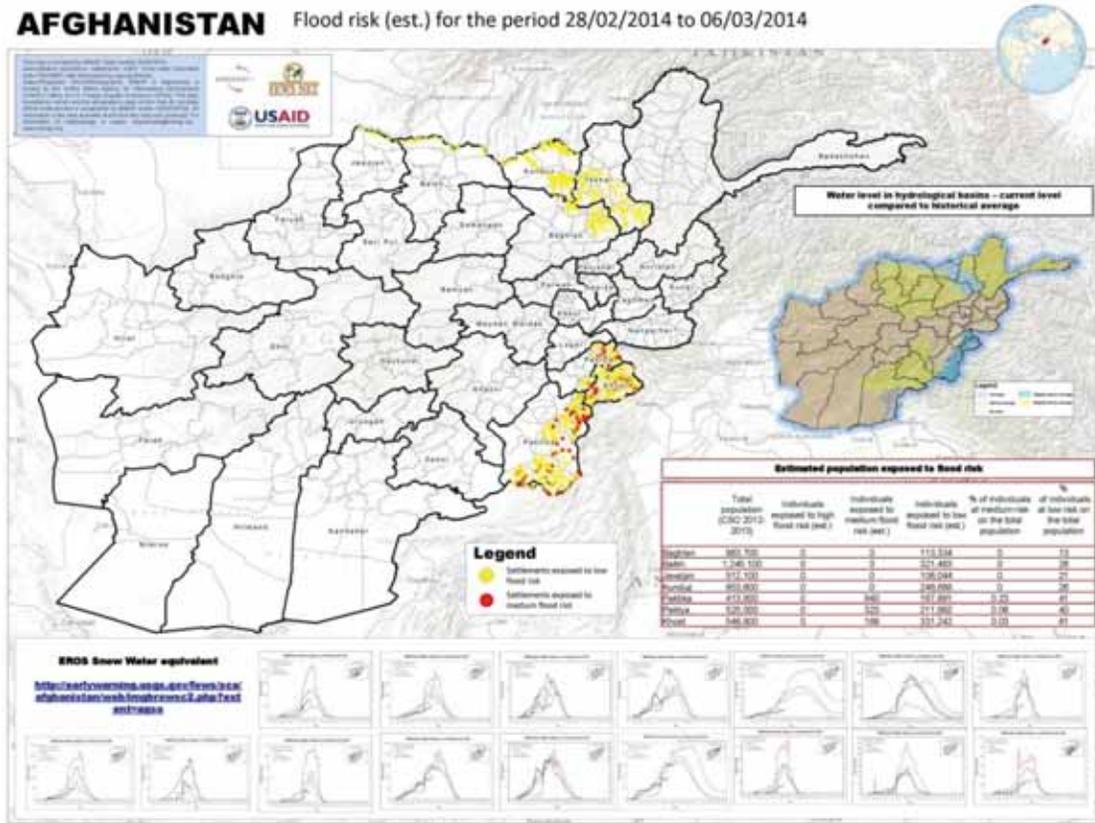


Fig 1 - Flood Risk Map

SUB-SECTOR: INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

INDICATOR 1

Number of organizations utilizing common information management services.

OASIS is currently used by 79 organizations with 162 installations, and approximately 148 trained users. In Q1, iMMAP provided 10 new packages and trainings to 4 organizations, including organizations working on Afghanistan issues remotely from outside Afghanistan.

iMMAP has also engaged with ACBAR to produce a series of Who What Where maps that will capture information from 121 member organizations. Other new clients during Q1 include Democracy International, the French Embassy (Peace Council Project), and the DT3 Education project coordinated by CoAR and funded by the World Bank.

Other NGOs and Cluster lead organizations are using OASIS to bring together agency specific programmatic information with the common operating picture delivered through OASIS. Examples from this reporting period include the increased use of OASIS for human rights organizations, namely Humanitarian Outcomes and Global Witness.

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)
FSAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landcover Map analysis/comparison ➤ Flood Risk mapping
OCHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Security incidents summary ➤ Local (civilian) population targeted in security incidents
DRR (MRRD, IOM, ERM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rapid Assessment reporting (Fig. 2) ➤ Natural disaster IDPs mapping ➤ Common Operating Picture Provincial and National maps ➤ Selected provincial disaster and assessment mapping
Education Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BEACON school mapping ➤ FOCUS school mapping
Protection Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provincial Security incident maps

30. Badghis Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
31. Farah Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 fro all the monitored categories
32. Hilmand Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
33. Hirat Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
34. IOM Province Affected by Natural Disasters Natural disaster incident as recorded by IOM from 1st of January 2013 to 31st of December 2013
35. Khost Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
36. Kunar Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
37. Laghman Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
38. Logar Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
39. Nangarhar Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
40. Paktika Province -Projects impelemented by IRC
41. ACBAR members operational presence (3W).
42. Afghanistan: Daykundi Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
43. Afghanistan: Flood risk (est.) for the period 23/03/2014 to 29/03/2014
44. Afghanistan: Flood risk (est.) for the period 28/02/2014 to 06/03/2014
45. Afghanistan: Ghazni Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
46. Afghanistan: Hilmand Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
47. Afghanistan: IOM Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP) Stock update at 27 February 2014 Data by UN Regions
48. Afghanistan: IOM Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP) Stock update at 27 February 2014 Data by District
49. Afghanistan: Kandahar Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
50. Afghanistan: Natural Disaster - induced IDPs in 2013 by place of origin and documented movements
51. Afghanistan: Nimroz Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
52. Afghanistan: Nuristan Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
53. Afghanistan: Paktika Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
54. Afghanistan: Panjsher Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
55. Afghanistan: Parwan Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
56. Afghanistan: Uruzgan Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
57. Afghanistan: Zabol Province - Observed security incidents 2007 - 2013 for all the monitored categories
58. Kabul City Map

OBJECTIVE ONE OUTPUTS AGAINST INDICATORS

Improve the safety and security of humanitarian field operators.

NARRATIVE

In Q1, 2014 iMMAP continued to expand the OASIS database. A total of 118,555 security incidents reside in the database, and 5,226 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. 3).

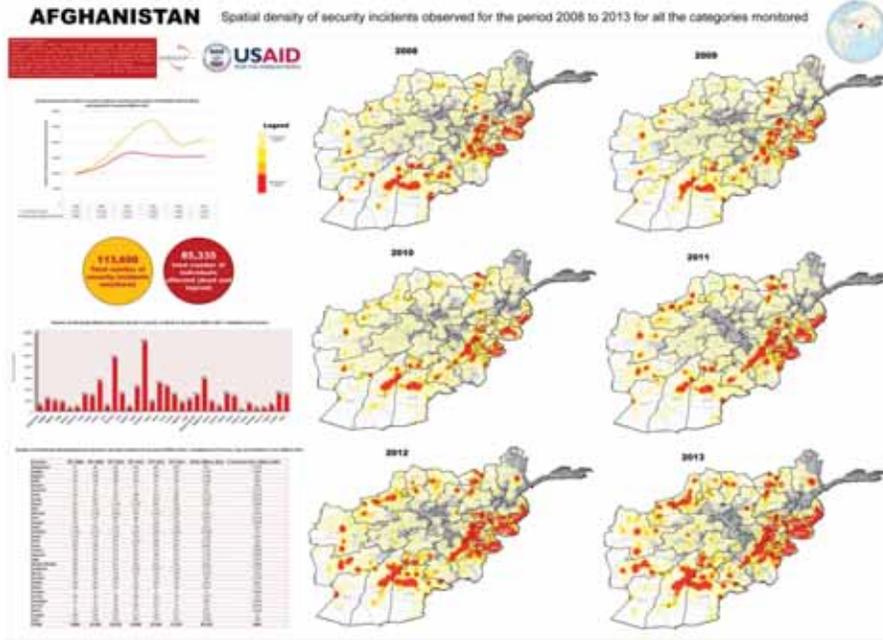


Fig. 3 – Security incident map 2008- 2013

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

Q1, 2014 OASIS - new installations and trainings

- Humanitarian Outcomes
- UNHCR
- Global Witness
- IRD

Current Oasis Clients

- | | |
|--|---|
| Acted | Afghanistan] |
| AECOM | Ex-Med |
| ANDMA | Focus Humanitarian Assistance [FOCUS] |
| Afghan Technical Consultants | Food Security and Agriculture Cluster [FSAC] |
| Afghan Women's Educational Center | Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] |
| Afghanistan Civil Support Service | G4S Afghanistan |
| Afghanistan Information Management Systems [AIMS] | Halo Trust [HT] |
| Aga Khan Foundation [AKF] | Helvetas |
| Canadian International Development Agency - Canadian | Host Nations Perspective |
| Program Support Unit | Independent Election Commission [IEC] of Afghanistan |
| Care International | International Assistance Mission [IAM] |
| Caritas Germany | International Foundation for Electoral Systems [IFES] |
| ClearPath International [CPI] | International Organization for Migration [IOM] |
| Catholic Relief Services [CRS] | International Relief and Development [IRD] |
| Danish Demining Group [DDG] | International Rescue Committee [IRC] |
| Deloitte [supporting USAID projects] | INTERSOS |
| Demining Agency for Afghanistan [DAFA] | Madera |
| Dyncorp | Medair |
| Edinburgh International | Mercy Corps |
| Education Cluster [various members] | Mines Advisory Group [MAG] |
| EOD Technology | Mine Clearance Planning Agency [MCPA] |
| European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan [EUPOL | Mine Detection and Dog Centre [MDC] |

MineTech International
Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
Norwegian Refugee Council [NRC]
Nutrition cluster [various members]
Office for Weapons Removal and Abatement [WRA]
RONCO Consulting Corporation
Save the Children [SC]
Shelter Cluster [various members]
Sicuro Group
Solidarites
Swedish Committee for Afghanistan
Swiss Development Cooperation [SDC] - Swiss Cooperation
Office Afghanistan
Swiss Foundation for Mine Action [FSD]
United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF] Education
United Nations Environment Program
United Nations Development Program [UNDP] [ELECT]
United Nations Development Program [UNDP] Country Office
[CO]
United Nations High Commission for Refugees [UNHCR]
United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre Afghanistan

Afghanistan
Organisation for Mine Clearance & Afghan Rehabilitation
[OMAR]
Oxfam GB
Oxfam Novib
[MACCA]
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian
Affairs [UN-OCHA]
United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime [UNODC]
United States Embassy
USAID's Capacity Development Program [CDP]
UXB International
War Child Holland
Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
World Conservation Society [WCS]
World Food Program Education
World Food Program – Global GeoPortal
World Vision

PROJECTIONS

iMMAP continues to update the OASIS database with daily additions of security information updates. This data has become a core component of humanitarian information management and is used extensively by a wide variety of clients. The inclusion of this data in the CHAP 2014 (for the 3rd consecutive year) as a proxy indicator signifies the credibility and utility of the information. The Protection cluster has come to rely on this data, and iMMAP is also assisting UNHCR with regional security information products. iMMAP intends to continue to provide this service to the community and will continue to integrate the data into a variety of regional and country-wide analysis.

Also in Q1 iMMAP initiated a new series of security mapping products to allow a more localized analysis of specific attributes. These new maps were provided to NGOs working in specific areas and consist of both an overview of provincial security incident types (Fig. 4), and an overview for the entire country (Fig. 5) The entire series of security maps will be finished early in Q2, 2014.

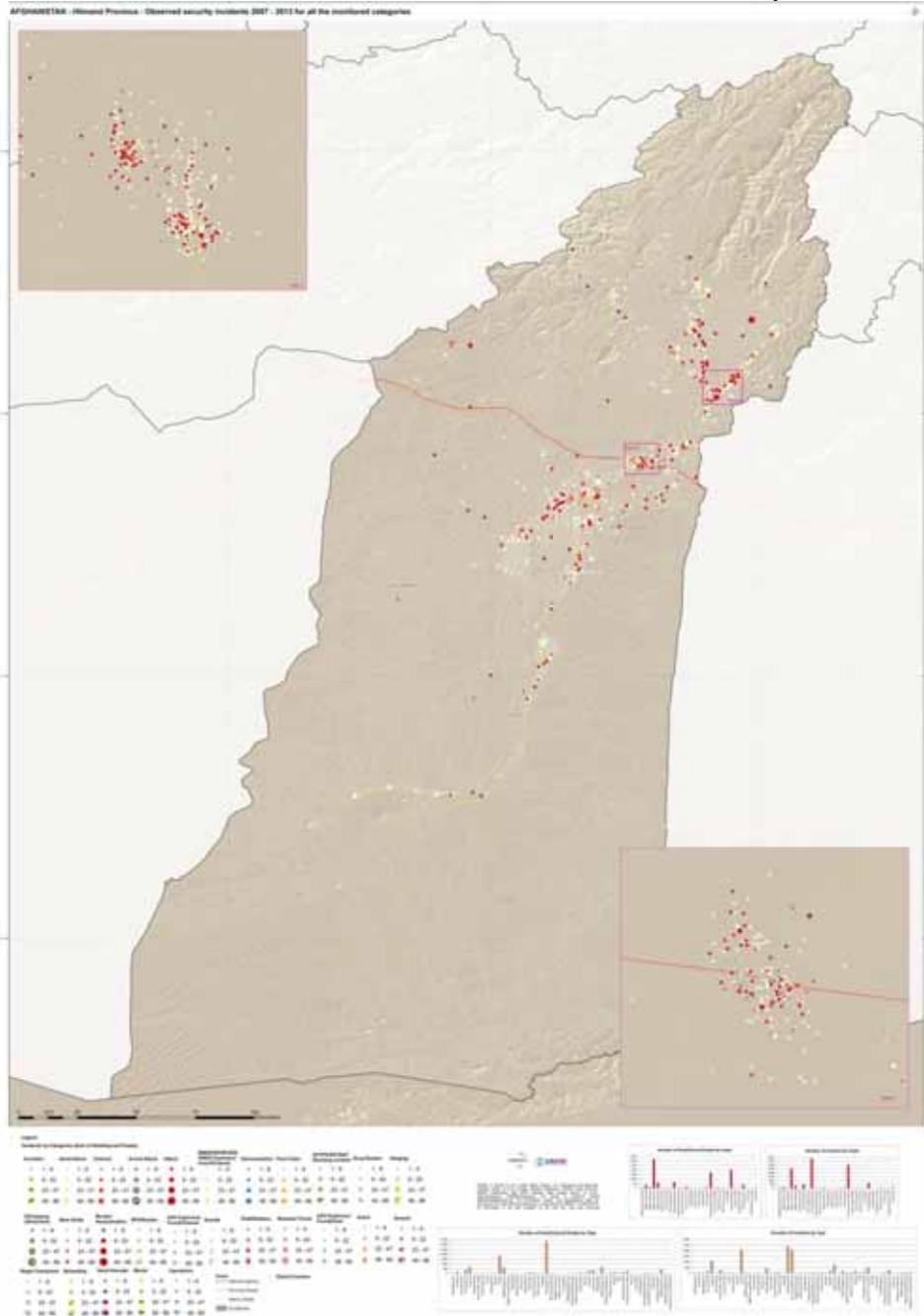


Fig. 4 – Nangahar security profile

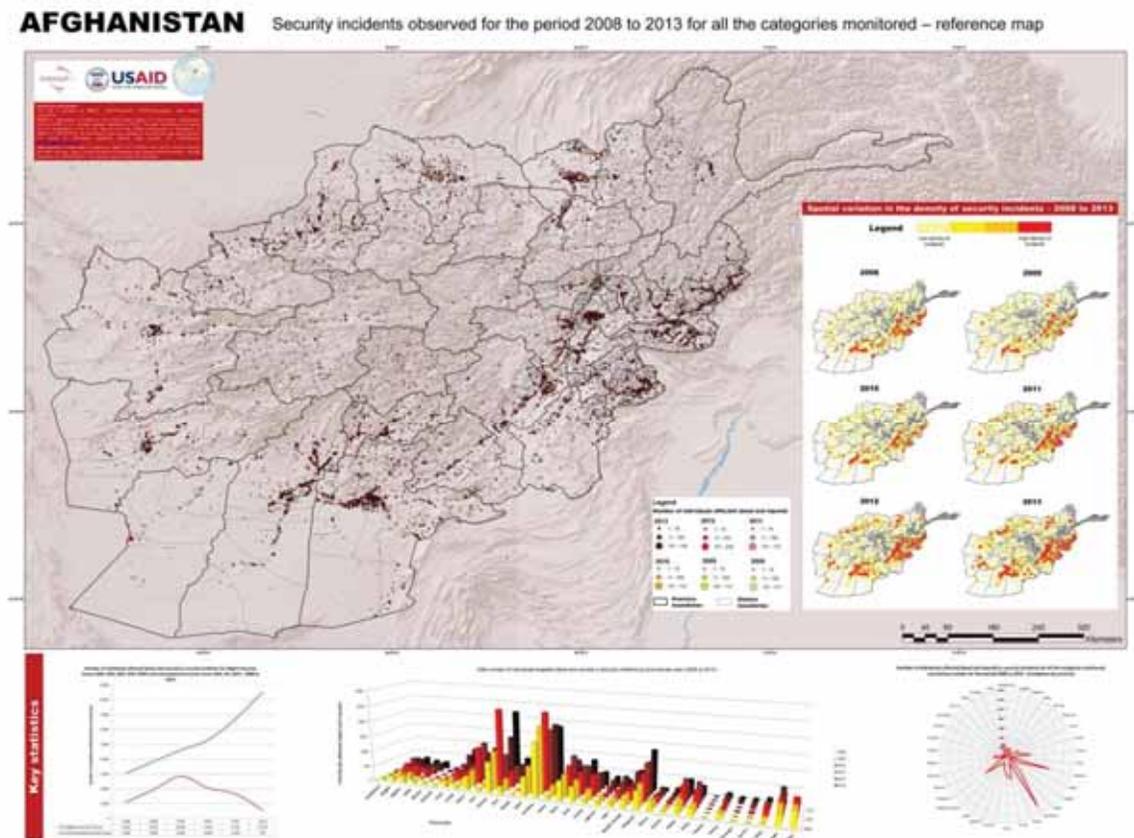


Fig. 5 – Security Incident Overview

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 during the reporting period, and are undergoing preparation for addition to the OASIS database: IOM reported incidents, populations, and assisted figures (Fig. 6), and MRRD Disasters. The data has been mapped both at a national level and district level, and is available through .pdf maps on the website.

During Q1, the ANDMA database was revised and updated to MS Access to allow for a more sustainable maintenance. The MRRD database continued to be used successfully and was also transferred to MS Access, and new MRRD maps were produced during Q1 (Fig. 7).

PROJECTIONS

Efforts over the past year at coordinating and consolidating disaster data sets have achieved significant results. The delivery of standardized systems into major government offices is a noteworthy accomplishment, although these offices have been slow to adopt the systems in their daily work. They are being used to varying capacities by the government and future efforts will focus more on institutional work-flows to enable the proper management of the data.

Within MRRD the system was accepted, although not without problems. The Ministry is using the database daily to record disaster information and MRRD activities. Some challenges remain regarding data flow, and staff capacity, and there is the tendency to fall back on familiar methods. iMMAP will focus its efforts on fixing the bottle necks in the information flow and in capacity building for the database team. In Q2 iMMAP will also address the compatibility of MRRD data with that being used by the humanitarian community.

In ANDMA the challenges are greater. In Q1, ANDMA was absent from key meetings and unresponsive to overtures of collaboration. Future efforts will continue to focus on the use of information management as part of an ANDMA business model and the adaption of IM systems as a daily routine. The secondment of staff by OCHA and IOM has helped facilitate this process and data entry has begun. ANDMA is currently constructing reporting formats that may be programmed into the 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.

In this reporting period, iMMAP continued to focus on 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 humanitarian partners iMMAP has provided advisory services to:

- the Mercy Corps global information team,
- the ERM consortium on improving data collection practices,
- Intersos on DRR data collection,
- FOCUS for project tracking
- IRC on activity mapping and data collection

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.
- UNHCR continues to request assistance from iMMAP to update and modify the IDP tracking and reporting system in OASIS. iMMAP provided advisory and technical assistance on site to enhance the system including several new installations and trainings
- Atlas of disasters for all Afghanistan was updated
- DT3 school locations database
- ACBAR partners Who What Where
- Medair project mapping

PROJECTIONS

With the release of the 34 provincial Common Operating Picture maps, a major portion of the Common Operating Picture for Disaster Risk Reduction was completed. This effort collated disaster data sets from a variety of disparate sources into a single information product. In addition, the COP promotes data standards and aims to become the primary reference for DRR information. In the coming months iMMAP will continue to receive data sets from established partners, will examine and clean the data, and will add it to the common operating picture. The COP will continue to be available both through hard copy maps and the website mentioned above.

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 updated and mapped the IOM disaster database on disaster and affected IDPs.
- 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 data strategies for the coming year.
- ANDMA: iMMAP updated the ANDMA disaster database and facilitated the discussion of reporting formats.
- MRRD / Social Protection Department: MRRD database of disasters and responses is being used daily by MRRD. iMMAP has continued to publish these maps in both English and Dari

PROJECTIONS

As iMMAP works with clusters and with bilateral partners, an expanded inventory of disaster data was developed and more readily accessible through the Common Operating Picture for DRR. iMMAP will facilitate the integration of information on different options for mitigation and disaster response mechanisms developed by the Cluster groups, and remains a key member of the Early Warning Information Group. Information Management tools and techniques will contribute to an overall enhanced understanding of the situation for the end user, especially Clusters, and government partners. These efforts will be realized through the the continued provision of services to DRR actors and coordination bodies. It is worth noting that iMMAP is one of the only sources for updated and confirmed disaster and IDP maps from either government, the UN, or NGOs

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:

- IOM Populations affected by natural disasters
- IOM natural disaster IDPs
- Security Incidents
- ACBAR donor/activity mapping
- Medair project mapping
- IRC project mapping
- French Embassy/CPAU regarding Peace Council project mapping
- DT3 school locations
- MRRD Disasters
- UC/Davis USDA assistance mapping

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 develop new datasets, as well as improving their existing ones. iMMAP will continue these efforts in Q2 by continuing to collaborate with partners to ensure they are using information management to enhance their activities, and contributing to the overall improvement of humanitarian information in Afghanistan.