

## SITUATION UPDATE



An International Medical Corps midwife examines a patient in Goshta district, Nangarhar province.

## FAST FACTS

- International Medical Corps reached 290,686 people with WASH, health, nutrition, and protection services in August 2022.
- In the last month, we have distributed 2,816 hygiene kits and 1,313 water kits in Balkh, Faryab, Kunar, Nangarhar, Paktika and Sari-Pul provinces.

On August 16, flash floods affected various districts in Nuristan, especially in Kamdish district, resulting in loss of human life as well as damage and destruction to personal property, agricultural lands, livestock and infrastructure (including health facilities, bridges, roads, watermills, schools, shops and mosques). An International Medical Corps mobile team in the field reported that 25 people were killed and many injured, hundreds of livestock were lost and many roads leading to villages were cut off. Our mobile health team provided 23 people with lifesaving health services, including first aid, outpatient consultations, reproductive health services, immunizations and nutrition services to children with acute malnutrition. In addition, the mobile team provided education about personal and environmental hygiene, COVID-19, acute watery diarrhea or cholera, psychological first aid, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services. The team also provided guidance on preventive measures that people can take to reduce the impact of natural disasters.

In addition, International Medical Corps continues to provide humanitarian assistance to people in Afghanistan's north, eastern and southern provinces, and since August 2021 has been running mobile health teams to respond to increasing humanitarian needs.

### Health

In August, International Medical Corps continued to respond to health needs across Afghanistan by supporting the health system, strengthening community capacity and providing services in remote, hard-to-reach areas in Balkh, Faryab, Kabul, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nuristan and Paktika provinces. In addition, we expanded services to support victims of the earthquake in Paktika province. International Medical Corps currently supports 49 mobile health teams, five first-aid trauma posts, 17 static health centers and one 50-bed COVID-19 hospital, providing vital healthcare services that include outpatient consultations, trauma care, malnutrition screening and diagnosis, antenatal and postnatal care for women, and health and hygiene awareness.

Through the 17 static health centers, International Medical Corps provided 21,269 people with outpatient consultations. Clinics helped 601 women with family planning, while 1,368 women attended antenatal care and 693 patients received minor and major surgeries. In addition, the clinics provided 1,480 people with trauma-care services. In August, the mobile health teams reached 53,432 people through outpatient consultations. The teams also provided health education sessions for 33,924 people in 15 provinces of Afghanistan.



An International Medical Corps staff member delivers health education in Debala district, Nangarhar province.

**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH).** In August, 119,907 people attended hygiene promotion sessions, where they learned about how to prevent acute watery diarrhea and about water treatment at the household level. International Medical Corps also distributed handwashing supplies and educational materials about sanitation, food hygiene, handwashing, personal care and environmental hygiene. Additionally, we distributed 1,313 water kits and 2,816 hygiene kits in Balkh, Faryab, Kunar, Nangarhar, Paktika and Sari-Pul provinces. We also are working to construct 10 piping systems in various provinces, such as Kunar in the east and Faryab and Sari-Pul in the north.

### **MHPSS/Protection**

In August, we reached 19,764 men and women through one-on-one and group MHPSS assistance in Balkh, Faryab, Kabul, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nuristan and Sari-Pul provinces. In addition, International Medical Corps continued to deliver community-based health education sessions, reaching 36,588 people.

International Medical Corps is providing MHPSS awareness and psychoeducation group sessions to promote mental health and well-being among those who have experienced loss, grief, stress and anxiety, and is providing individual psychosocial support—including case identification and referral, psychological first aid, case management, and more intermediate psychosocial support—for those in need. During the last month, we provided 26,170 people in seven provinces with these services.

### **Nutrition and Food Security**

International Medical Corps' mobile health and nutrition teams provided vital nutrition services in remote areas of Afghanistan. Staff received training on integrated management of acute malnutrition (IMAM), which covered several topics, including malnutrition and its causes, assessment of acute malnutrition through various anthropometric measurements, and admission and discharge criteria for the outpatient severe acute malnutrition (SAM) program. The mobile nutrition teams provided nutrition education, nutrition screening for children 6–59 months, admission of identified children in the outpatient department (OPD) SAM program for treatment, and established mother-to-mother support groups at the community level for the promotion of optimal maternal, infant and young child feeding practices.

The number of screened children aged 6–59 months in August was 9,104. Out of these, 712 (291 boys and 421 girls) were identified with SAM and admitted to OPD SAM for treatment. Our mobile nutrition teams also distributed 45 scarves, along with messages, to mother-to-mother support groups in Nangarhar province during Global Breastfeeding Week and educated people on the importance of breastfeeding.



*A pipe system under construction in Nurgal district, Kunar province.*