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Disaster Risk Reduction, Population Dynamics, & Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Afghanistan

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Introduction

- Afghanistan is in the middle of its transformational decade, having experienced huge gains since the fall of the Taliban. However, it remains a fragile state.
- A mountainous and landlocked country, Afghanistan has been confronted with decades of conflicts and war in addition to large and medium-scale natural disasters, including; earthquakes, landslides, floods and avalanches.
- An estimated 50% of the population are in need of humanitarian assistance. The 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for Afghanistan estimates that close to a million people on the move shall need humanitarian assistance by the end of the year. The Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2018-2021 further identifies the needs of 7.1 million people acutely affected by the humanitarian consequences of the country's four decades-long conflict, as well as natural disasters.
- The country ranks 169 of the 188 nations on the UN Human Development Index (2015). Poverty in Afghanistan compounds challenges faced particularly by rural communities.



Climate Change

A country in need for economic development juxtaposed against one also battling food in-security, is one of the many factors that classified Afghanistan among the world's most vulnerable countries to the impact of climate change.

Climate change projections and observed trends show that Afghanistan's environment will experience considerable changes over the remainder of this century.

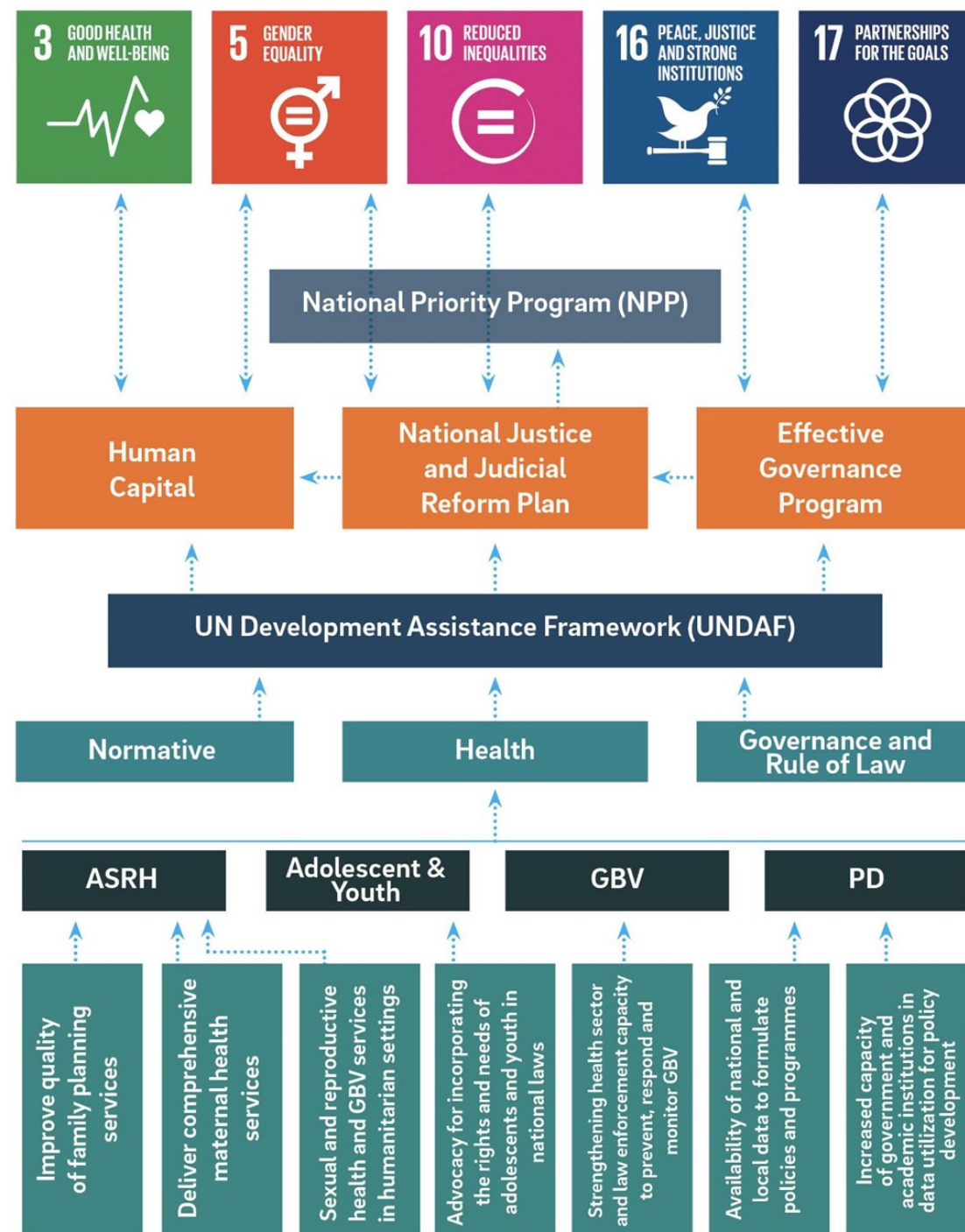
Expected increases in the incidence of extreme weather events which is likely to increase in frequency and intensity, could further disrupt Afghanistan and increase fragility. Since the majority of the population relies directly or indirectly on natural resources for their livelihoods, these changes pose an unprecedented threat to the foundation of the country's fragile economy, stability, and resources.

In 2019 and 2020 displacement due to ongoing conflict and natural disasters have continued to drive humanitarian needs in Afghanistan. According to the UNOCHA report, more than 332,920 in 2019 and 282,800 in 2020 people have left their homes due to fighting and 104,170 persons affected by natural disasters in 2020.



Afghanistan It is the 17th most vulnerable, and the 11th least ready country in the world to face challenges of climate changes.

UNFPA Transformative Results



Result 1:

Ending the unmet need for family planning.

Result 2:

Ending preventable maternal death.

Result 3:

Ending gender-based violence and harmful practices.

Afghanistan Priority SDGs

There are 17 SDGs and 169 targets in total.



GOAL THREE: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure healthy lives
and promote well-being
for all at all ages



GOAL THIRTEEN: CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to
combat climate change
and its impacts



GOAL SEVENTEEN: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen implementation
and global partnership for
sustainable development



THE GLOBAL GOALS

AFGHANISTAN POPULATION PROJECTION AND ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT (2017-2030)




Resources vs Population


Year	Decreased fertility (3.01)	Constant fertility (5.3)
2017	35,715,104	35,715,104
2018	36,774,852	36,805,112
2019	37,846,196	37,951,328
2020	38,925,616	39,153,464
2021	40,009,692	40,411,860
2022	41,095,116	41,727,304
2023	42,178,368	43,100,596
2024	43,255,612	44,532,600
2025	44,323,472	46,024,352
2026	45,378,596	47,577,060
2027	46,417,356	49,192,072
2028	47,435,912	50,870,752
2029	48,430,228	52,614,352
2030	49,396,168	54,424,092



Climate Change & Sexual Reproductive Health

- Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) reduced from an estimated 1,600 per 100,000 live births in 2002 to 638 in 2017; however, still, it means every two hours a mother dies because of pregnancy-related complications and the country remained at the top rank of highest maternal mortality in the Asia and Pacific region.

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- The extreme weather conditions, conflicts and increased population growths will further disrupt the delivery of health services and restrict access to essential health services, particularly to lifesaving maternity services.

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- Women and girls as the most vulnerable population. They will be directly affected and more pregnant women will lose their lives due to a lack of access to improved obstetric and newborn care services.

Addressing Climate Change Impact in Afghanistan

KEY INDICATOR	ACTIVITY / PROJECT	DATA / OUTCOME
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate	Contraceptive supplies provided to address the unmet need of family planning	CPR increased to 17.8 %
Availability of Age and Sex disaggregated data	Supported the conduction of Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey at country level	The survey completed in 21 out of 34 provinces
District Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans prepared	Technical support provided to develop District Disaster Preparedness and Response Plans	The District Disaster Preparedness and Response Developed for 9 districts