**Cover letter - Changes to application**

**The application is worthy of support on five (5) conditions. The applicant is requested to explain in detail:**

1. How will the suggested complaint mechanisms address and ensure the safeguarding of people against sexual harassment and exploitation? This condition is also valid for point 4.2 concerning MEAL.
   1. *DPA have expanded M & E systems working on different levels;*
      1. *M & E – Narrative and economic reporting. A dedicated M & E officer reports from the project and follows the LFA and work plan. Monthly reporting on the budget and the monthly report, setup after the LFA, is ran through with the humanitarian coordinator.*
      2. *Beneficiary committee – Committee existing of shuras, elders, women, local representatives and staff from DPA creates a beneficiary committee that oversees the selection of beneficiaries for the project based on surveys conducted. This list of beneficiaries is also checked with the clusters not to have double beneficiaries’.*
      3. *CFRM committee – The committee also exists of shuras elders, women etc., representing the local community. Complaints go through DPA’s CFRM system where all complaints are noted in a matrix and responded. Complaints can be received anonymously in order to force the PSEAH anonymity.*

*All personnel hired in DPA are trained in PSEAH. DPA’s Gender policy, Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults policy, and Equal opportunities and Non-discrimination policy, makes out the PSEAH protection and all staff are trained in these policies.*

*All personnel in DPA signs a CoC. Staff are protected internally through the ability of the anonymous complaint system. Therefore, a special focus from the staff and the committee are put on PSEAH during all aspects of the intervention.*

* + 1. *Theses 3 monitoring systems operates independently in order to have control with each other, but also operates in cooperation of each other to improve learning.*

1. Among the 15 provinces in Faryab, why are DPA choosing to assist vulnerable people in Almar + Qaisar?
   1. *DPA are active in Faryab and have feet on the ground for a fast intervention. The reason for the two districts (Almar & Qaisar) are chosen are the fact that there is a lack of humanitarian organizations present. In the past, these two districts have experienced continued conflicts between the Taliban and local government – where all aspects of the population have been affected. They are therefore considered very deprived districts in terms of receiving aids from the international community. The need with a high degree of IDP’s and vulnerable HH are the same as the rest of Faryab, but there is a lack in humanitarian assistance. DPA can assure no overlap with other organizations. This information is retrieved through clusters and from partner organizations.*
2. Why are women and men targeted equally (50/50) when the applicant clearly explains a desire to address the needs of the most vulnerable, who are described as being women and children, elderly and disabled?
   1. *The prioritization is women led HH, disabled persons and elders. But in Afghanistan right now the access to women are difficult. Taliban constraints and controls the access to women and their movement, both for beneficiaries and female staff. Therefore, the vulnerability criteria will be followed but which difficulties will occur when directing the aid directly towards women is unknown. This do not mean that the women won’t be targeted but they might be targeted in a more indirect manner- through HH with a high number of women.* The Aid communities are now discussion these challenges with the Taliban authorities at various levels to allow women envelopment both as beneficiary as well as worker to address women specific needs. The recent example of this effort is that on Oct 7th 2021, there was a high level meeting held between Aid workers and the Deputy Minister of Refugees and Repatriating in Kabul discussing these challenges among other relevant matters. DPA’s Humanitarian Coordinator in Afghanistan was also part of this meeting.
   2. *Moreover, are most households consisting of an equal amount of both men and women. The winterization packages and Cash are benefitting whole HH and therefore men and boys will gain from the intervention too. The Cash distribution combined with the Winterization packages addressing whole households enables a holistic intervention which hopefully is more long-lasting. All beneficiaries of the intervention are vulnerable.*
   3. *The risk for missing female participation have been added in the risk matrix – see application.*
3. Who will receive what and why? [Who will receive cash and who will receive in-kind assistance, and why?]. What is the rationale behind the identification and prioritization of families for in-kind assistance and unconditional cash?
   1. *The LFA shows you the following – annex B;*
      1. *Winterization: 750 families – IDP’s returnees and non-displaced conflicted affected people. (All vulnerable people need winterization packages to survive the winter)*
      2. *Cash: 865 families – IDP’s (Especially IDP’s needs Cash to establish themselves in new surroundings and survive)*
   2. *DPA’s vulnerability criteria for the intervention have been explained in the application.*
   3. *Above two interventions (Cash for NFI and Winterization Packages) are in line with the AHF and Cluster Priorities. [[1]](#footnote-1)*
4. Why are DPA choosing to self-implement, and what makes the organization the preferred implementing agency for this specific intervention in the selected area of intervention?
   1. *DPA got access to the population, already have projects running and staff hired to start a fast intervention. DPA are with the setup, international standards towards M & E and financial standards the best possible candidate to implement the project in the intervention area. Furthermore, the vulnerability of local organizations, the missing transparency in the local organizations and the affiliation with Taleban, makes it difficult and risky to do interventions with local partners at the moment. DPA needs to make sure that their partner is still operating in 6 months and this is not possible to guarantee right now. The transparency with DERF funds is also a high priority and this cannot be guaranteed through implementation with local partners. Besides the country director of Afghanistan, all other employees in Afghanistan are locals and the intervention will capacity build the local population through employment.*

**Three (3) Good advice. DPA is advised to:**

1. Consider aligning the targeting for the intervention with the joint humanitarian Winterization plan 2021-2022. Page 6: <https://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/winterization_plan_2021_v3_23_august.pdf>
   1. The winterization distribution will be aligned with the joint Winterization plan for 2021-2022.
   2. Link have been changed in the Context Description in green writing.
2. Assess if providing the in-kind assistance earlier is possible. The Lessons Learn from the 2020 Afghanistan Winterization plan highlights the feedback from assisted people and their desire to receive winter assistance early in the winter season.
   1. *In the work plan Annex A – the Winterization hand out can be seen as scheduled for November. CISU have asked us to provide them with 12 days for assessing the application which the intervention can’t start before the 12th of October. 3-4 days is the usual amount of time for bank transfers from CISU to partner organizations. This will give us two weeks to get money into Afghanistan, doing beneficiary surveys and do the procurement of winterization packages. Realistically, it could be difficult to do it faster.*

1. Include covid-19 in their risk matrix, both for the safety of assisting and assisted people.
   1. *The proper COVID19 social distancing and hygiene particles are incorporated in all of DPA activities, but COVID19 are not a concerning factor for beneficiaries any more. Far too many crises have occurred to them since the COVID19 started and little thought is giving to this aspect. But DPA follows the internal COVID19 guidelines according to WHO. DPA have been doing two COVID19 projects in 2020, also for DERF funds, focusing on social awareness, hygiene, informing about the risk and spread of the virus, therefore DPA’s setup in the prevention and protection from COVID19 is incorporated essentially in the organization.*
   2. *The COVID19 risk have been added to the risk matrix in the application.*

**THE DANISH EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

**RAPID RESPONSE - INTERVENTION application form**

**Applying organisation**: *Danish People’s Aid – Dansk Folkehjælp*

**Title of the intervention**: *Humanitarian Crisis in Afghanistan*

All writing in green are adding to the application. Cut-offs can be found on the last page.

## The humanitarian intervention (describe within max. 4 pages)

* 1. ***The context:*** *Considering the description of the context submitted by the implementing partner (attached to this application), how have you ensured that the proposed intervention is appropriate and relevant (CHS 1) for the affected population and vulnerable groups? Describe how the proposed intervention is effective and timely (CHS 2) in relation to the described context.*

The take-over of Afghanistan by the Taliban culminated on 15 of August. This has caused a spike in the already humanitarian crisis. Therefore, immediate lifesaving humanitarian assistance is necessary in order to stop the ongoing crisis becoming worse. Basic utilities like food and clean water is a great need for IDP’s, returnees and vulnerable host communities in order to survive the winter ahead and can be provided through Cash distribution. Winterization packages is also essential for the areas around Faryab where degrees will drop in the coming months leaving vulnerable families in a life threatening state. Gas, blankets and warm clothes are essential items to keep a safe and healthy level for vulnerable families.

The intervention will focus on Cash distribution for IDP’s in order for them to establish their new lives in new surroundings filling the gap for food, medicine and other basic utilities until a job can be obtained in the new area or a return to their former house can be realised. Therefore, the Cash can also be used for paying rent in order to have a home to return to and maybe an income as well. The Cash gives the individual family ability and freedom to prioritize own needs.

The Winterization packages will be distributed to all vulnerable families including vulnerable host communities, returnees and IDP’s. The winter can be a massive health factor for families living in vulnerable housing and blankets and gas for heating can cover the life threatening conditions for families to survive the winter and bring down health issues.

The two interventions compliments each other and creates a holistic approach in the intervention following both the Winterization plan for 2021-2022, as well as the HRP 2021.

**1.2 Content of the intervention:**

*a) Describe the intervention’s activities, the results these will have and what the outcome of these will be.*

As stated in the LFA (Annex-B): *The overall objective of the project is to reduce the suffering and improve the living conditions and dignity of the most vulnerable people (IDPs and vulnerable host communities) during winter by providing standard packages of Winterization Packages and providing Unconditional Cash Transfer in Faryab provinces. While providing this assistance to the most vulnerable communities, DPA will take into account AHF’s standards both for the Winterization and Cash Interventions.*

***Outcome 1:*** *IDP, returnee and non-displaced conflict-affected women, men and children of all ages are protected from the risks of the harsh winter through provision of Standard Winterization Package, which reduce the likelihood of disease and deaths*

* ***Output 1.1****.: 750 families (5250 individuals) in Faryab Provinces assisted through in-kind assistance for winterization (heating equipment and fuel). The support is based on the cluster standard ($200 /family for heating and fuel through in-kind distribution - as per ES/NFI standard.*

***Outcome 2****:* *Vulnerable IDPs are protected through provision of Unconditional Cash Transfers aimed at building their resilience and preventing the affected communities from slipping back into humanitarian need*.

* ***Output 2.1****: 865 IDP families (6055 individuals) in Faryab Provinces assisted through Cash Transfer modality. The support is based on the cluster standard ($105/family)*

Thus in total, 1615 households (11.305 individuals) will benefit from the action.

*b) Describe in a few sentences the change your intervention will bring to the people affected by the crisis. What do you expect the short-term impact to be after completion of your intervention?*

The short-term impact of the action is expected to be that the target beneficiaries will not go back in to the crisis and catastrophic situation that they face currently. As the result of the action, DPA expects significant reduction in the diseases, which occur due to the extreme harsh winter among the most vulnerable groups such as women, children and aged persons of the target population - through non-food assistance and Cash distribution as described above.

*c) How will you measure the achievement of results and outcomes?*

To measure the success as well as the progress of the action, DPA will be using the indicators that are formulated in the Logical Framework Approach (LFA). *See Annex B.* In the Log-Frame, DPA has provided two level indicators i.e. Outcome and Output level indicators. Both level indicators shall be used to measure the result and success of the action. DPA will be conducting regular monitoring activities to document progress and success of the program. Monitoring reports shall be shared with concerned stakeholders/entities including DERF. An M&E officer will be supporting field staff in data collection, monitoring & evaluation.

*d) Considering the mode(s) of assistance your intervention includes (Cash Based Assistance, Voucher Based Assistance, Goods, Services), please justify the choices made. Why are you choosing one mode instead of another, or why do you combine the modes as you do?*

DPA includes the modalities such as; Winterization and Cash Based Assistance to undertake. This modality has been chosen/prioritized based on the current & urgent needs of the target population. As stated earlier under the section 1.1. (context), the prolonged armed conflict particularly the recent ones and natural disaster (COVID-19 & drought) have caused large size displacement and significant poverty among the target population. The affected population is currently lacking proper shelter, who also need winterization assistance through provision of Winterization Package and Cash-Based Assistance.

Food Assistance is addressed by WFP in the target locations and thereby does the Cash and Winterization complement the needs of the beneficiaries. Beneficiary selection for each modality will be done through proper needs assessment exercises (survey) where specific needs of the household will be identified and responded to. These needs have also been identified in the “*Whole of Afghanistan Assessment (WoAA*)” report[[2]](#footnote-2).

*e) How does your intervention consider the priorities mentioned in the DERF Call? How do you ensure that resources are managed and used in an effective, efficient and ethical manner (CHS 9)?*

DPA believes that all the priorities listed in the DERF Call are important. However, taking into account the needs and current living conditions of the target population (IDPs & Vulnerable Host Communities) in Faryab, DPA prioritized two different, but similar and inter-connected interventions. They are; 1) Winterization, 2) Cash-Based Assistance. All these assistances are included in the proposed action, because the Harsh Winter is approaching just in a couple of months - that could badly affect the target population. DPA will make sure that the assistance is distributed to most vulnerable households in the target locations according to DPA’s vulnerability criteria’s following UNOCHA (Almar & Qaisar districts). In order to reach the goal of making a rapid intervention in an effective manner, Cash distribution is preferred as well as the distribution of winterization packages. DPA will establish effective monitoring and Complaint & Feedback Mechanism to ensure transparency and effectiveness in the program.

*f) Briefly describe how you intend to start your activities within 7 days of receiving the first transfer of funds from the DERF.*

Up on approval of the proposal, DPA will submit a request for the first instalment. Additionally, DPA will take necessary actions to start up the initial project activities. This will among others things include; recruitment of staff, orientation training, developing detailed implementation plan (DIP), coordination with concerned stakeholders including target communities, OCHA and government authorities and other start up activities that might be required. This network is already established and DPA has feet on the ground in Faryab implementing a AHF/UNOCHA) Cash project. Therefore, a fast intervention is possible.

**1.3 The target group:**

*a) Describe the* ***direct target group*** *of the planned intervention, including their characteristics and needs. Justify how you have selected this particular target group among those affected by the crisis (i.e. which inclusion criteria did you use?). Specify also how many people will benefit from each of your main activities.*

In total 11.305 vulnerable people will benefit from the action. 5250 will benefit from the Winterization assistance, while 6055 individuals will benefit from the Cash-Based Assistance. As per the breakdown of target beneficiaries in below table, women and children makes the highest percentage. Also according to the various need assessments, women and children are the most vulnerable groups, who need urgent and articulated assistance. *See WoAA report.* Lack of proper shelters and winterization facilities during the harsh winter, could make direct negative impact over the health condition of the target population - particularly women and children. Thereby, DPA follows the criteria for the *Whole of Afghanistan Assessment.*

b) Quantify your planned target group by gender and age group in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PLANNED TARGET POPULATION (INDIVIDUALS)** | | | |
| **Age Group** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
| Number of persons | Number of persons | Number of persons |
| < 5 | 1,356 | 1244 | 2,600 |
| 6-17 | 2148 | 2035 | 4,183 |
| 18-49 | 1696 | 1809 | 3505 |
| 50 - Above | 452 | 565 | 1017 |
| > 65 | - | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | **5,652** | **5.653** | **11,305** |

*c) Describe who and how many of your direct target group are* ***particularly vulnerable people****. How have the vulnerable groups been identified and selected (inclusion criteria), and how does the intervention address their particular needs? Also describe how the intervention addresses protection needs of particularly vulnerable groups, as relevant.*

Women and children are the particular vulnerable groups for this action. As stated above, 6,783 beneficiaries are children only under the age of 18 years. This makes 60% of the total target population. 40% of the target population are above the age of 18 years. People with disability will also be particularly included as the prioritized vulnerable groups, as well as women led HH and elders. These vulnerable groups will directly benefit from the proposed interventions (Winterization and Cash-Based Assistance).

As stated, the vulnerable groups which includes women led HH and HH with elders and disabled people, will be the target of the intervention and the vulnerability criteria for beneficiary selection will be guidelines.

The households headed by the female member of the family are either widowed or their male head of household is out of the area for daily labour or any other business. There are reports that many male members of the household are traveling to the neighbouring countries (Iran & Pakistan) for works.

DPA recognises that reaching women led HH carries challenges because of the difficult direct access to women caused of control and rules by the Taleban. This is both challenges for getting female staff to be working freely but also a challenge when reaching female beneficiaries. An indirect strategy to reach female beneficiaries will be created, focusing on HH with a high number of females etc.

The Aid communities are now discussion these challenges with the Taliban authorities at various levels to allow women envelopment both as beneficiary as well as worker to address women specific needs. The recent example of this effort is that on Oct 7th 2021, there was a high level meeting held between Aid workers and the Deputy Minister of Refugees and Repatriating in Kabul discussing these challenges among other relevant matters. DPA’s Humanitarian Coordinator in Afghanistan was also part of this meeting.

The approximate counting of age and gender in HH is based on the National Statistics from NSIA. The goal is to reach more female beneficiaries in the intervention but the numbers in the beneficiary chart is seen as realistic. There are an approximately of 7 people per household in Afghanistan.

The proposed intervention could have both short and long-term impact over the lives of the population. DPA will also be looking into the protection issues. Rights of women, children and people with disabilities shall be taken special care of throughout the project implementation. “Do No Harm” approach, DPA’s “Code of Conduct”, PSEAH policy and CHSs[[3]](#footnote-3) shall be applied in all aspects. Local customs and culture including privacy of each family shall be respected. DPA will make sure that the four humanitarian principles (humanity, impartiality, independence and neutrality) are considered during the assessments, monitoring and implementation of the project.

## The implementing partner (describe within max. 1,5 pages)

* 1. **Capacity, experience and expertise:**

*a) What is the capacity, experience, and expertise of the implementing partner(s) (CHS 8)? Describe also the organisational and financial capacities.*

DPA got extensive technical and managerial capacity of the program development as well as program implementation. DPA has implemented similar projects (NFI, Winterization and Cash distribution) that were funded by the UNOCHA under the AHF in Parwan and Kapisa provinces. DPA is currently implementing another ES/NFI intervention, which is also funded by UNOCHA in Faryab province.

DPA has established very effective financial and administrative systems within the country office. DPA has recruited qualified technical staff, who are effectively managing the financial parts of the organization, conducting surveys and establishing CFRM and Beneficiary committees. DPA has also established a field office in Faryab province that is managing day-to-day activities of the program implementation as well as financial matters. At the country office, DPA is using a specific software called; “Microsoft Dynamic Navision”, which is also used by DPA in the head Office (Denmark). To ensure full transparency and compliant with donor’s requirement, DPA or sometime the donor assigns third party audits on the annual basis - and when needed during the year.

DPA’s country office is fully supported by technical assistance in M & E, policy adapting and reporting by the head office in Denmark through the humanitarian department.

*b) How does the organisational set-up ensure access to the people at-risk, including particularly vulnerable people?*

Since DPA has been working now for several years in the province (Faryab), it is not difficult to access the target population in the districts (Almar & Qaisar). DPA has sufficient knowledge from the area and about the target population. DPA’s local staff are well familiar with the geographical and sessional conditions of the areas. With the recent changes in the government structure/system, access to the target location is not a problem anymore. Community shuras and local government departments shall also be supporting DPA to ensure proper and timely access. Through clusters, ACBAR (NGO network) and the community DPA are constantly in dialog with the beneficiaries and the organisations working in the area.

*c) If the Danish CSO is self-implementing describe a) how you are best placed for this specific intervention in this context; b) how participation of local actors is enhanced through implementation; and c) how you have access to the target group and particular vulnerable groups?*

As stated above, DPA has the required capacity to implement the proposed action in Faryab province. DPA got necessary knowledge, experience and good reputation at the national and subnational levels. DPA also got very strong and experienced technical staff to ensure smooth implementation of the action.

As usual DPA shall involve the local partners (community and government structures) in the process of the implementation from beginning till the end. Regular coordination and communication shall be maintained throughout the process. Due to the lacking governmental structures DPA will take a greater responsibility in coordinating with organisations in the humanitarian interventions.

With regards to access, as stated in the previous sections, DPA has well established facilities in the provincial capital of Faryab. DPA can access all the districts and villages in the target locations - without any serious concern.

The reason for the two districts (Almar & Qaisar) are chosen are the fact that there is a lack of humanitarian organizations present. In the past, these two districts have experienced continued conflicts between the Taliban and local government – where all aspects of the population have been affected. They are therefore considered very deprived districts in terms of receiving aids from the international community. DPA have the capacity and present to do a fast lifesaving intervention. The need, with a high degree of IDP’s and vulnerable HH, are the same as the rest of Faryab, but there is a lack in humanitarian assistance in these areas. DPA can assure no overlap with other organizations. This information is retrieved through clusters.

DPA got access to the population, already have projects running and staff hired to start a fast intervention. DPA are with the setup, international standards towards M&E and financial standards the best possible candidate to implement the project in the intervention area. Furthermore, the vulnerability of local organizations, the missing transparency in the local organizations and the affiliation with Taliban, makes it difficult and risky to do interventions with local partners at the moment. DPA needs to make sure that their partner is still operating in 6 months and this is not possible to guarantee right now. The transparency with DERF funds is also a high priority and this cannot be guaranteed through implementation with local partners. Except for the country director of Afghanistan, all other employees in Afghanistan are locals and the intervention will capacity build the local population through employment.

**2.2 The partnership:**

*a) Kindly explain whether you have entered into partnership agreement(s) the main features of such agreement(s) and whether the agreement(s) were developed with the local partner.* N/A.

*b) Describe the contributions, roles and areas of responsibilities of all partners (including the Danish CSO) within this intervention.* - N/A in the case of the proposed project.

## Local strengthening (describe within max. 1 page)

***3.1 How does the intervention strengthen local capacities and avoid negative effects (CHS 3)?***

The proposed intervention will assist the local population under the rapid humanitarian response approaches and thus strengthen their resilience level and positive coping mechanism/strategy. DPA will adapt “Do No Harm” Policy throughout the project implementation. DPA will make sure that the planned intervention does not affect by any mean the already devastated humanitarian situation. Rather through the proposed project, DPA will ensure that the planed components of the project bring about positive changes over the lives of the population. Through the project activities, DPA will make efforts to promote the humanitarian principle of “Independence” and “self-reliance”. By providing equal opportunity, a transparent process and assistances to the targeted population, DPA will ensure to avoid conflicts among the beneficiaries. Local Shuras will be involved in the selection of beneficiaries and distribution of assistance. DPA will make sure to prevent discrimination at all the stages of the project implementation.

***3.2 Describe strategies for informing and involving affected people in the intervention (CHS 4)***

DPA always encourage active community participation at every step of the project implementation. DPA will make sure that Community Shuras and members of the BSC are actively involved in the process of selection as well as distribution of assistance. DPA’s field staff will establish a mechanism of regular meetings and coordination with the local representatives. Minutes will be taken from the meetings. DPA will make sure that all the beneficiaries are treated equally – without any discrimination and favour. DPA will also be sharing progress reports with the concerned government authorities at the provincial and central levels. DPA’s field staff (community mobilizers) will be conducting community mobilization activities at the beginning of the action and will continue it throughout the project.

**3.3 Environment marker (only for monitoring purposes)**

a) Choose which of the following three descriptions best characterises your intervention (tick only one box)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MARK |  | DESCRIPTION |  | EXPLANATION |
|  | → | **The intervention includes environmentally harmful components without incorporating mitigation measures to reduce anticipated impact** | → | The intervention duly identifies and considers the environmental impact of its collective activities as harmful without being able to apply substantiated remedial action (e.g. sourcing, procurement, supply chains, logistics, transport, waste and service delivery). |
|  | → | **The intervention includes environmentally harmful components and incorporates some mitigation measures to reduce anticipated impact** | → | The intervention duly identifies and considers the environmental impact of its collective activities as harmful and applies some substantiated remedial action (e.g. sourcing, procurement, supply chains, logistics, transport, waste and service delivery). |
|  | → | **The intervention includes environmentally harmful components and incorporates significant mitigation and environmental enhancement measures to reduce anticipated impact** | → | The intervention duly identifies and considers the environmental impact of its collective activities as harmful and includes significant substantiated remedial action as well as environmental enhancement components (e.g. sourcing, procurement, supply chains, logistics, transport, waste and service delivery). |

b) Briefly explain your answer.

The proposed action does not really cause any harmful environmental effect. It is true that under the Winterization assistance, DPA will provide heating equipment with Gas for heating purpose. This will be addressed during the community mobilization stage, beneficiaries will be asked and thus encouraged to use Gas in a responsible way to keep their houses warm. Under the Cash distribution assistance, no environmental issue will occur under the distribution. DPA’s community mobilizers will conduct and thus enhance community awareness regarding the negative impact of the environmental issues and concerns.

## 4. Risk Management & MEAL (describe within max. 1 page)

***4.1 Describe the intervention’s risk management approach and which systems and mitigation measures are applied.*** *Describe how the chosen risk management approaches are appropriate in the specific context?*

*Below table describes Potential Risks and Mitigation Measures for the proposed intervention:*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk** | **Level of Likelihood** | **Level of Impact** | **Mitigation Measures** |
| Restriction by the current government on the work of female staff | High | Medium | * Negotiation with government authorities * Coordination with other NGOs through ACBR (advocacy work). * The female staff adapts Parda (dress code) during the work * Obtaining support of the community Shuras to help reducing problem to some extent |
| Restriction/limitation on the Bank Transactions for the Cooperative Accounts such as DPA’s Account. | High | High | * Looking for other options such as Hawala for instance. * Coordination with other NGOs to adapt the unified approach for the solution of the problem * Negotiation with donor to accept the Hawala system * Negotiation with government authorities |
| Recruitment of qualified staff - given the fact that a lot of the highly educated people left the country | Medium | Medium | * Widely announce the positions through different platforms * Given more time to closing deadline * Arrange necessary training for the newly recruited staff members * Consider staff retention policy at the organizational level |
| Limited or no cooperation from the Government Departments | Low | Medium | * Maintain constant coordination and communication with government authorities at national and sub-national level * Advocacy through NGO forum (ACBAR) |
| Rapid change/rise in the prices of goods and other supplies in the local markets for the project beneficiaries | Medium | High | * Keep flexibility in budgeting * Put a side some extra money for the extra costs in the budget - contingency * Bulk purchase of the goods |
| COVID19 spread because of gatherings in distribution areas | Medium | High | * Do crowd control – social distancing * Hand out masks + sanitation |
| Female participation in the project are limited caused of Taleban – beneficiaries + staff | High | High | * Dialog with the Taliban * Strategy to reach the group indirectly * PSEAH protection system |

DPA has an extended Risk Management System for all interventions which follows the ECHO standards.

***4.2 Describe the implementing partner(s) approach to monitoring, feedback and accountability systems (CHS 5), including the contextual complaint mechanisms.***

Considering the nature of the project, DPA will establish a comprehensive M&E system. Through the M&E system and activities, DPA’s country office will receive information from the field and timely feedback shall be given to the concerned people. Keeping in mind the CHS-5 (Performance, Transparency and Learning), DPA will make sure to achieve high level result of the action through including and considering the CHS-5 guiding points. Monthly reports are carried out based on the LFA for the project; adjusting and following the development. DPA shall also establish a Complaint & Feedback Mechanism (CFM) that will be working at various levels. Tool Free Mobile number will be provided to all the beneficiaries that will be active 24/7. Compliant will be addressed by the concerned officials on the timely basis in coordination with the field staff. Additionally, senior staff from the country office shall also be visiting project activates from time to time and feedback shall be given to the concerned staff members for improvement. Monthly and quarterly reports (if needed) shall be generated and shared with country office. PDM will be carried out at the end of the project.

CFRM committee – The committee exists of Shuras elders, women, staff from DPA, and relevant actors representing the local community. The CFRM system are setup together with the local community in a community sensation and mobilization process. Complaints goes through DPA’s CFRM system where all complaints are noted in a matrix and responded in due time. Complaints can be received anonymously in order to force the PSEAH anonymity. Phone connections and complaint boxes are setup in all intervention areas. The beneficiaries are informed about the CFRM system, and the fact is emphasized, that no complaints has an impact on selection of beneficiaries for services. The fact that DPA is an independent organization without affiliation to any political parties are also emphasized.

All personnel hired in DPA are trained in PSEAH. DPA’s Gender policy, Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults policy, and Equal opportunities and Non-discrimination policy, makes out the PSEAH protection and all staff are trained in these policies. All personnel in DPA signs a CoC and are trained in the anti-corruption policy. Staff are protected internally through the ability of the anonymous complaint system in DPA.

Therefore, a special focus from the staff and the committee are put on PSEAH during all aspects of the project.

***4.3 Describe how learning and reflection will be applied in terms of improving future humanitarian interventions (CHS 7)?***

DPA will be collecting data and information through M&E section. The M&E staff as well as other senior staff members shall be documenting lesson learned from the project that will be used for future planning and strategic decision. DPA will make sure that learning is taking place at different levels within and outside the organization - through reports, meetings and other communications means. Success stories shall be collected, documented and shared as widely as appropriate. A lesson learnt work shop will be carried out at the end of the project and the learning will be shared with relevant stakeholders.

## Coordination (describe within max. 0,5 page)

**5.1 Describe how the intervention complements the humanitarian and/or development efforts of the national and local authorities, as well as those of other stakeholders?**

The proposed action will be coordinated with all the concerned stakeholders. This will among others include; government departments, UNOCHA, WFP and other NGOs present in the province. DPA will make sure that all the coordination meetings are attended at national and sub-national levels. DPA will specifically work very closely with the NFI cluster to avoid duplication of activities. Community Shura members shall be involved in all the stages of the project implementation and monitoring. The selected and targeted locations shall be communicated with other stakeholders in the province and thereby trying to build a holistic approach.

**5.2 Describe how the implementing partner(s) participate in relevant coordination mechanisms?**

Since DPA is an active member of the various clusters namely; EiEWG, NFI/Winterization and WASH Clusters, its relevant staff members will be participating in the coordination meetings that are organized by these clusters and perhaps other relevant entities. Coordination with OCHA, WFP and relevant government authorities remain the highest priority for DPA’s staff to undertake. Coordination will be carried out both at national and sub-national levels. In this stage of Afghanistan, the need for a broad coordination between NGOs is needed because of the lacking governmental structure, and this will be DPA’s focus.

**Cutoff’s:**

* 1. **The context**

The take-over of Afghanistan by the Taliban culminated on August 15. This has caused a spike in the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan during the weeks that followed. The situation worsened following this event, causing the UN on 12, September 2021 to appeal to member states for $606 Million for humanitarian responses in Afghanistan. The spike comes in a complex crisis situation characterized by long-term conflict, forced displacement, and disasters such as drought and COVID19. More than 6 million people are displaced[[4]](#footnote-4) and 18.4 million people are in the urgent needs of humanitarian assistance.[[5]](#footnote-5)

Many people have lost their jobs due to the collapse of the previous government system in center as well as in the provinces. This situation has particularly affected women and girls, who are not allowed to carry on their duties in the government and non-governmental offices. With the collapse of the economic system, the vast majority of the people are now struggling to find food for themselves and their family members. There are concerns that instability and upended humanitarian efforts, compounded by an ongoing drought, could further endanger lives and plunge Afghanistan toward famine. To respond to the current & anticipated crises due to the recent changes in the governments system, the UN had appealed for the urgent assistance in Geneva Conference on Sept 12, 2021. Luckily the international community has committed to contribute around $ 1.2b. The U.N. says “recent developments" have increased the vulnerability of Afghans who have already been facing decades of deprivation and violence. A severe drought is jeopardizing the upcoming harvest, and hunger has been rising. The U.N.'s World Food Program is to be a major beneficiary of any funds collected during the recent conference. Officials at UNHCR have expressed concerns that some people could try to seek refuge in what have been traditional havens for fleeing Afghans in neighboring Pakistan and Iran, which both have large populations of Afghans who had fled their country earlier to escape war and violence.[[6]](#footnote-6)

This pattern seems set to continue throughout 2021 and beyond with implications for service delivery. It is estimated that over 6 million people who have fled their homes since 2012, remain internally displaced. Almost half (47 per cent) of those displaced longer-term indicate that they never intend to return to their areas of origin, making their recovery and prosperity a significant challenge for the country over the years ahead.

Social, health and economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be felt across all demographic groups and are undermining the coping capacity of an already vulnerable population. In Afghanistan, from January 3, 2020 to September 10, 2021, there have been 153,962 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 7,164 deaths, reported by WHO. As of 29 August 2021, a total of 1,979,652 vaccine doses have been administered. It is still a long way to cover the entire population, who are eligible for Vaccine[[7]](#footnote-7)

The dramatic contraction of the country’s burgeoning economy, loss of informal livelihoods and household debt are pushing all population groups to adopt dangerous coping strategies, placing women and children at increased risk. COVID-19 resulted in an estimated 5.5–7.4 per cent contraction in the economy in 2021 - a significant spike in food prices and reduced income for 59 per cent of households. Higher prices combined with lower incomes have driven unsustainable levels of household debt. Almost one in five displaced households in the most recent were found to have taken on catastrophic levels of debt, mainly to cover immediate food, healthcare and shelter related needs. Recovery from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to be an uphill struggle for years to come.

1. HRP 2019 - 2021 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. WoAA report. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Core Humanitarian Standards and Spare Standards [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. *IMO/UNOCHA reports* [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. *HRP 2019-2021* [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. *UNHCR Report 2021* [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. WHO report [↑](#footnote-ref-7)