

## Latest News: Integral Responds to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan



17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Integral Members are responding to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and are meeting together frequently to coordinate and share information on the unfolding situation. Twelve Members are actively involved in this Integral response<sup>1</sup>.

Afghanistan continues to be affected by multiple compounding crises - 14 million people are acutely food insecure including 2 million children at risk of malnutrition. Afghanistan already has one of the world's highest rates of stunting in children under five at 41% [Source [here](#)]. Over 570,500 people have been internally displaced by conflict since January, in addition to over 3 million before 2021 - 80 percent of these are women and children. COVID-19 continues to spread with 153,148 confirmed cases.

Following the recent transfer of power, Afghanistan faces uncertainty and a serious economic crisis as the price of everyday items skyrocket. Hunger is expected to continue mounting as wheat and other food prices climb. [Source [here](#)].

Two Integral Members have offices in Afghanistan, with others supporting the work of their long-term Partner organisations. Members are also supporting refugee resettlement in their HQ countries, as well monitoring the movement of refugees into the countries bordering Afghanistan. A number of Integral Members have launched fundraising appeals to support humanitarian work in Afghanistan.

Corine Verdoold, Tearfund UK's Country Director Iraq and Afghanistan says, "The growing humanitarian needs in Afghanistan- exacerbated by increased conflict, the Covid-19 pandemic, food insecurity, growing numbers of internally displaced people (IDPs) and an ongoing drought- require critical, life-saving assistance. Tearfund is working with its Partners on the ground, who are identifying how to support people who have been displaced, by providing emergency food supplies, relief commodities and trauma counselling. Working with the Integral Alliance, we are able to maximise our impact together by drawing on our collective expertise, experience and resources."

Anna Coffin, Medair's Head of Country Programmes for Afghanistan & Somalia says, "The humanitarian needs in Afghanistan are alarmingly high. Medair is responding to critical needs in health, nutrition, safe water and food security. Collaboration with Integral Alliance Members is helping us to raise awareness of the needs in Afghanistan to a wider audience around the world and will help us to reach more people in need as we share resources."

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<sup>1</sup> Cedar Fund (Hong Kong), Food for the Hungry (US & Canada), International Health Partners (UK), Medair (Switzerland), Medical Teams International (USA), Mission East (Denmark), Tearfund Switzerland, Tearfund Australia, Tearfund New Zealand, Tearfund (UK), Transform Aid Australia, World Relief (US)

In the initial stages of an Integral response, calls are held as frequently as necessary, so that Members can share information in the critical phase when needs are acute. The Integral online platform enables Members to share photos and stories, response plans and funding needs.

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### **Extra information:**

#### **Integral's Vision**

Christian agencies uniting globally, alleviating suffering and restoring hope, in disasters and beyond.

#### **Integral's Mission**

Integral exists to see God's Kingdom demonstrated by uniting our Members. We champion, encourage and facilitate collaborative working across the Alliance, particularly in disasters.

#### **On Integral Collaboration:**

Integral's goal is for all its Members to become more effective and efficient in their work and to see greater impact and reach as a result of working collaboratively.

Integral Members have a collaborative strategy for responding to disasters, with the Integral Disaster Response Process coordinating the emergency activities of its Members. The aim of the Integral DR process is to combine resources to ensure that as many people as possible are reached with the assistance they need. The Integral Secretariat plays a coordinating role to facilitate better communication between all Members in disaster situations with the aim of increasing support and avoiding duplication.

Integral has 21 Members with headquarters in 13 countries. Integral Members work over 85 countries, across 34 sectors, and have a network of over 580 local partners. To watch a short film introducing Integral click [here](#).

See [here](#) for more information about Integral's commitment to Quality Standards

Integral Members are:

[CEDAR Fund](#) - **Hong Kong**

[Food for the Hungry](#) – **USA & Canada**

[Integra](#) - **Slovakia**

[International Health Partners](#) – **UK**

[Medical Teams International](#) – **USA**

[Medair](#) – **Switzerland**

[Mission East](#) – **Denmark**

[SEL France](#) - **France**

[Tearfund Australia](#) – **Australia**

[Tearfund](#) - **Netherlands**

[Tearfund](#) – **Belgium**

[Tearfund](#) - **Canada**

[Tearfund](#) - **Ireland**

[Tearfund](#) – **New Zealand**

Tear Fund - **Switzerland**

Tearfund - **UK**

Transform Aid International - **Australia**

World Concern - **USA**

World Relief - **USA**

World Renew - **Canada & USA**

ZOA - **Netherlands**