



OES IN BRIEF

This quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Enduring Sentinel (OES) summarizes the events that took place in Afghanistan this quarter, including the status of terrorist organizations, such as ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K) and al-Qaeda, as well as U.S. diplomatic and humanitarian efforts related to Afghanistan.

ISIS-K Maintains Intent and Capability to Conduct Attacks Outside of Afghanistan

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- The **UN** questioned the Taliban's ability to provide security in Afghanistan and warned of **continued ISIS-K recruitment** and dispersal in the region.
- **Al-Qaeda** maintained a **low profile** in Afghanistan with **no plans or capability** to conduct external operations.

Security Conditions in Pakistan Worsen

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- The Tehreek-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) **killed 722 people** in attacks during the quarter.
- The TTP's ability to operate from Afghanistan is a major source of **tension** between the **Taliban and Pakistan**.

Taliban Issues a New Morality Edict

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- The edict particularly affects women, declaring female voices **forbidden in public**.
- USAID and State fear the morality edict could further **limit** the ability to provide **aid**.
- Members of the UN Security Council **condemned** the morality edict. Pakistan condemned it as "**doubling down on misogyny**."

State: \$1.4B Available for Afghan Relocation Effort

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- State reported that it obligated \$800M this quarter, reducing available funds to **\$1.4B as of September 30** for relocation expenses.
- State issued more than **9,000 Afghan Special Immigrant Visas (SIV)** during the quarter.
- In FY 2025, State plans to continue reviewing **Afghan applications** in Albania, Pakistan, and Qatar **to determine eligibility** to travel to the **United States**.

Humanitarian Needs in Afghanistan Rose Significantly After Taliban Takeover

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- The U.S. Government remains the **largest humanitarian donor** to Afghanistan.
- The 2024 Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan has only received **25%** of the required **\$3.1B** in needed funding.

Afghanistan's Economy Lacks Drivers for Sustained Growth

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- Formal **financial institutions** in Afghanistan **struggle** to remain operational.
- The size of the Afghan economy **declined to \$15B**, down from \$20B before the Taliban takeover.
- USAID programs seek to **promote economic growth** in agriculture, local business, and other industries.

Food Insecurity Remains High

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- **12.4M Afghans** are **food insecure**.
- **4M children experience food insecurity**, and pregnant and breastfeeding women require assistance.
- USAID provided **\$130M** to the World Food Programme to help them reach **2.5M** people with **food support**.

Oversight and Investigations

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- State followed its established procedures to **screen and vet Afghan SIV applicants**.
- State OIG recommended **data sharing improvements** with the DoD during military assisted evacuations.
- State had not established a consistent method to capture **post-evacuation** lessons learned for either **Afghanistan or Ukraine**.
- State and USAID use **third-party monitors** in lieu of traditional site visits, though USAID does not have third-party monitoring for many programs.