

9 February 2022

Dear Colleague,

Afghanistan Crisis

In recent weeks the desperate situation of millions of people in Afghanistan has been hitting our news headlines. The United Nations estimates that **95% of the 40 million people in the country, currently in the grip of winter, do not have enough to eat**. More than 8 million people are on the brink of famine, and there are fears that without emergency relief some 23 million people will face desperate hardship in the coming months. This has come about due to the worst drought in 27 years, the recent conflict and change in government, economic collapse and mass unemployment, causing the cost of food and basic necessities to soar. The country's healthcare system is also very close to collapse and the Covid-19 pandemic continues.

I want to encourage members of our congregations to **pray earnestly for those who are experiencing such unimaginable hardship and suffering at this time, and to consider giving financially**. I am conscious that there are already many existing appeals for support of numerous good causes, and many people in our own country are feeling pressured by the increase in the cost of living. Nonetheless, in the face of this unfolding disaster in Afghanistan, I ask that you **please give generously through the emergency appeals of Christian Aid or Tearfund, PCI's relief and development partners**. Both charities are working through local organisations on the ground to bring food and aid to the people most affected. In addition, you may wish to support the work of one of our partners in global mission – SAT-7, broadcasting the Christian message of hope into Afghanistan through the SAT-7 PARS Channel, especially supportive of the small Christian community.

For more information go to:

[Christian Aid Afghanistan resources – prayer and PowerPoint](#) | [Christian Aid Afghanistan Crisis – donations](#)


[Tearfund Afghanistan – information and prayer points](#) | [Tearfund Afghanistan Crisis – donations](#)

[SAT-7 – Afghanistan News and Information](#) | [SAT-7 – donations](#)

A PowerPoint presentation is attached which may be helpful for you to share with your congregation as you encourage them to pray and support the people of Afghanistan.

I am constantly reminded of the generosity of Presbyterians across this island in supporting others both locally and globally, and I trust that our members will play their part in supporting the people of Afghanistan, including our brothers and sisters in Christ living there at this time of great need.

Yours in Christ,



Rt Rev Dr David Bruce