

## World Bank bid to free Afghan funds

## The World Bank plans to deliver up to \$500 million from a frozen Afghan reconstruction fund to humanitarian agencies, as millions of Afghans face food shortages and growing poverty



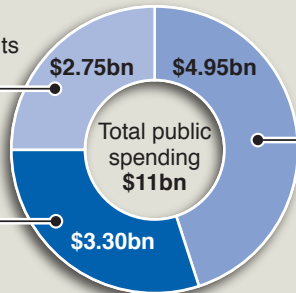
■ **Aug 2021, Taliban takeover of Afghanistan:**

## World Bank stops all disbursements from \$1.5 billion *Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF)*

■ **Afghanistan public spending:** Foreign grants finance **75%** of total expenditures

**Government own-revenues: 25%**

**ARTF: Biggest donor contributes 30% \_\_\_\_\_**



**Other foreign governments: 45%**



**Health spending:**  
**\$312 million** – just  
**\$8** per person



**Education: \$630 million**

Spending has decreased by 13% over past five years

## ■ ARTF plan for humanitarian aid to bypass Taliban

**1. U.S. dollars:** Transferred to international accounts of Afghan private institutions



## 2. Afghan institutions:

Disburse local currency from their Afghan bank accounts directly to aid groups

**3. Aid groups:** Agencies to use funds for coronavirus vaccines and food aid. Less than **7%** of population is vaccinated. **39 million Afghans face food shortages**

