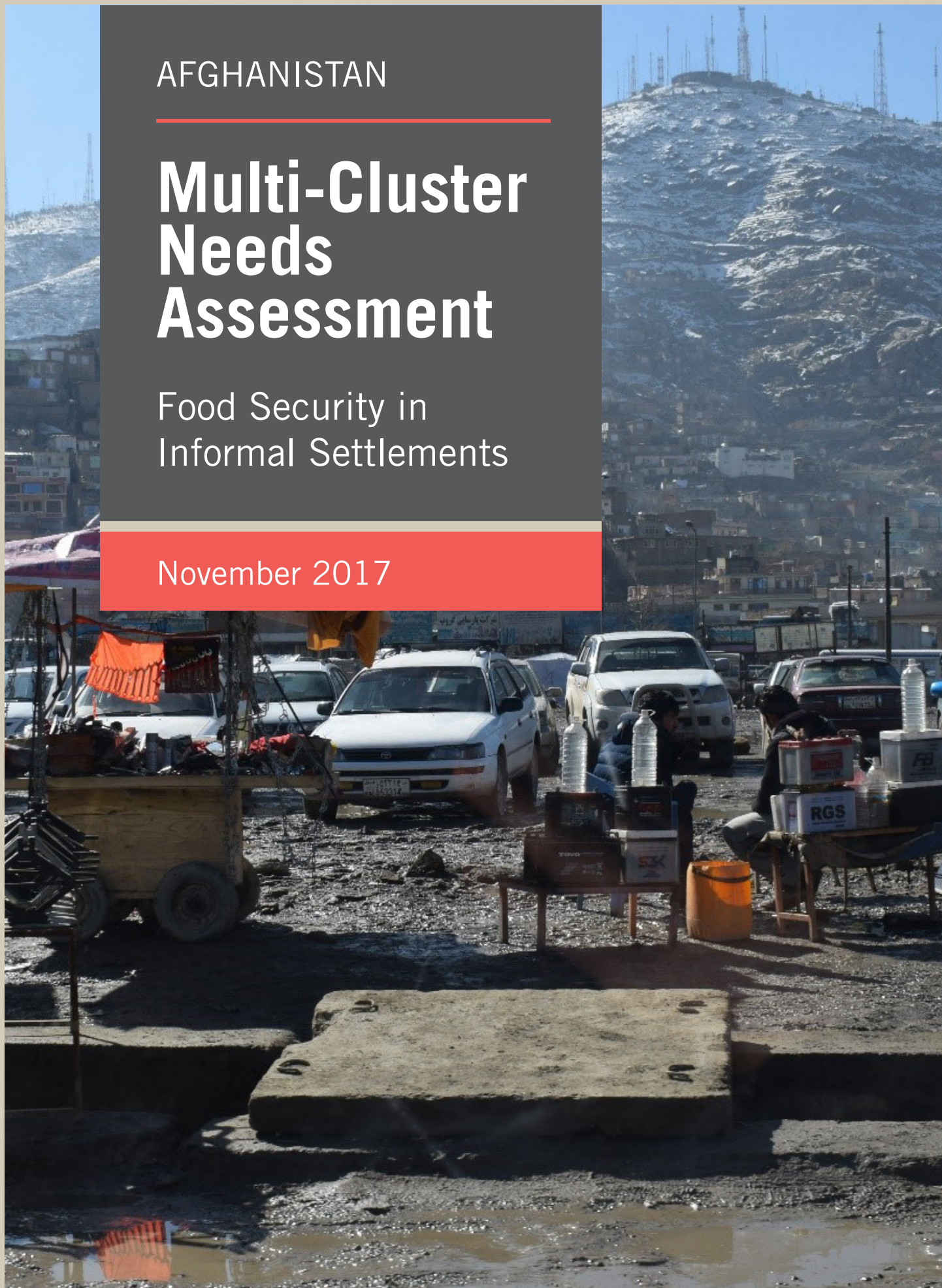


AFGHANISTAN

# Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment

Food Security in  
Informal Settlements

November 2017



AFGHANISTAN  
**FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER**  
*Strengthening Humanitarian Response*

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### **About REACH**

REACH is a joint initiative of two international non-governmental organizations - ACTED and IMPACT Initiatives - and the UN Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT). REACH aims to strengthen evidence-based decision making by aid actors through efficient data collection, management and analysis before, during and after an emergency. By doing so, REACH contributes to ensuring that communities affected by emergencies receive the support they need. All REACH activities are conducted in support to and within the framework of inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. For more information please visit our website: [www.reach-initiative.org](http://www.reach-initiative.org). You can contact us directly at: [geneva@reach-initiative.org](mailto:geneva@reach-initiative.org) and follow us on Twitter @REACH\_info.

## SUMMARY

Conflict remains the most significant cause of displacement in Afghanistan.<sup>1</sup> Since 1 January 2017, more than 318,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)<sup>2</sup> have been forced from their homes and more than 260,000 Afghans have returned from neighbouring countries.<sup>3</sup> Many of these displaced populations reside in informal settlements (ISETs) across the country<sup>4</sup>, in which poverty, poor shelter conditions and lowered hygiene standards are widespread<sup>5</sup>.

To support evidence-based planning of targeted interventions in the Food Security sector in ISETs, REACH, in collaboration with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Food Security cluster partners, conducted a multi-stage, mixed methods assessment of the vulnerabilities, needs and coping strategies used by ISET populations.

Data collection took place between 2 and 27 August 2017. Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were carried out to profile 623 ISETs throughout 19 provinces across 5 of Afghanistan's 6 regions, selected by the clusters based on the high density of displaced populations and the relevance of these provinces for cluster programming. The chosen provinces within the regions consisted of Hirat, Farah, Ghor and Badghis in the West region, Faryab, Jawzjan, Sar-e-Pul, Balkh and Samangan in the North region, Kabul, Kapisa and Logar in Central region, Paktya, Khost and Paktika in the South-East region and Nangarhar, Nooristan, Kunar and Laghman in the East region.

A total of 7,064 household-level surveys were then conducted across 369 of these sites, with the sample stratified by the 5 included regions and population displacement status (IDPs, returnees and refugees), allowing for comparison between these strata and providing generalisable findings at the regional and displacement group level with a confidence level of 95% and a 5% margin of error. Results were then used to give a preliminary findings presentation, informing the Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2018, and influencing intended response plans for the upcoming year.

The assessment found that ISET residents are a particularly vulnerable population, often consisting of mixed displacement groups with large household sizes<sup>6</sup>, insecure sources of income and a significant fear of eviction. Due to poor shelter conditions, shelter is considered the main priority need of ISET residents, followed by employment and food assistance. Despite these vulnerabilities, the majority (69%) of ISET households intend to remain in their current location and locally integrate. More specifically, the vast majority of ISET households exhibit poor food consumption and have a significant dependence on negative food-based coping strategies, contributing to widespread food insecurity. This assessment also identified refugee households and households headed by women to be the most vulnerable ISET residents, in need of targeted interventions.

### Household Characteristics

- **On average, ISET households consist of 1.9 families and 12 individuals**, of which 49% are male and 51% female, with most households headed by males (96%).
- The majority (59%) of ISETs contain a mix of different displacement groups<sup>7</sup>, though regional trends were noted with **the highest proportion of recent IDP households residing in the East (26%)**. The West had the highest proportion of non-recent IDP households (82%). All identified refugees were located in the South-East, almost entirely in the provinces of Paktika and Khost.
- ISET households exhibit vulnerability through their dependence on unreliable income sources, with **most households reliant on unskilled daily labour (72%) and skilled daily labour (12%)**. Not only do these not

<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan Protection Cluster, "Afghanistan Factsheet", April 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Humanitarian Response, "Afghanistan: Internal Displacement due to Conflict", September 2017.

<sup>3</sup> IOM, "Afghanistan: Weekly Situation Report", October 2017.

<sup>4</sup> REACH, "Informal Settlement Food Security Assessment", January 2017.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> OCHA, "Afghanistan: Humanitarian Needs Overview", February 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Proportion calculated using the REACH Informal Settlement Profiling Master List, July 2017.



offer a guarantee of employment on a given day, but they also provide low pay, reflected in the overall average household income of 9,156 Afghanis (AFN)<sup>8</sup> per month. Further financial insecurity was noted in the West with households earning 5,547 AFN on average.

- Lacking a Tazkira<sup>9</sup> perpetuates the vulnerability of ISET households as it prevents access to services and assistance. **This is a particular concern for female-headed households**, 18% of which do not have a Tazkira, compared to 3% of male-headed households. Female-headed returnee households were also significantly less likely to be registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (48%), compared to the higher proportion of registered households overall (67%). This highlights the distinct vulnerability of female-headed households in ISETs.
- **The majority of ISET households (69%) intended to remain in their current location over the following year.** This finding indicates ongoing vulnerability faced by ISET residents, as growing ISET dependence places further strain on the limited resources within the sites.<sup>10</sup> In contrast, 20% of ISET households overall reportedly intended to return to their place of origin, with this figure rising to 24% in the East. As displacement also contributes to economic vulnerability, this highlights the high proportion of ISET households at risk of exacerbated needs and insecurity.
- **Shelter is considered the main priority need of ISET households (41%),** followed by employment and food assistance.

## Food Security

- Food consumption was found to be a significant concern in ISETs, with **73% of households found to have poor food consumption.** In contrast, only 5% of households reached acceptable food consumption levels. Moreover, the West exhibited the greatest vulnerability, with 98% of households found to have poor food consumption. Similarly, **91% of refugee households and 83% of female-headed households** (compared to 73% of male-headed households) were found to be severely food insecure indicating the diversity and complexity of poor food consumption in Afghanistan.
- Overall, **30% of ISET households did not eat a sufficient variety of food**, exhibiting low Dietary Diversity (DD). Nutritional variation was also captured at the household level, where it was found that ISET girls were the most susceptible to iron deficiency, with only 87% of households noting that girls consume iron-rich foods if they are available compared to boys (92% of households), men and women (both 98% of households).
- **A high proportion (68%) of ISET households had a high dependency on negative-food based coping strategies**, further highlighting their vulnerability. The East was found to be particularly likely to implement these strategies, with 82% of households having a high dependence, in contrast to only 9% in the West. A relationship was also noted between the length of stay in the current location and coping strategy use, with 0% of refugee households having no or low dependence on coping strategies, compared to 29% of protracted IDP households.
- Triangulation of food consumption and coping strategy use findings indicated that overall, **84% of ISET households are severely food insecure**, highlighting the extreme vulnerability of ISET residents. However, no significant difference was found between the food insecurity levels of male- and female-headed households. Alternatively, food security levels differed across household sizes – the larger the household, the more likely it was found to be food insecure.
- Market access was not found to be a significant issue in ISETs, with most households residing less than one kilometre (km) (33%) or one to two kilometres (25%) from their nearest market. Similarly, the average time spent travelling to markets was 32 minutes. It was also found that protracted IDPs were the most likely to live less than one kilometre from their nearest market (25%) while **refugee households were the most likely to live four or more kilometres from their nearest market.** No significant correlation was identified between time to market and Food Consumption Score (FCS), suggesting that ISET households will likely travel to the

<sup>8</sup> 1 USD = 68 AFN – XE Currency Converter, at time of publication.

<sup>9</sup> A Tazkira refers to the national identification document of Afghanistan.

<sup>10</sup> REACH, “Informal Settlement Food Security Assessment in Kabul and Nangarhar”, April 2017.

market regardless of distance. These findings support the notion that ISETs may demonstrate a market dependence.

- A relationship was noted between Food Expenditure Share (FES) and food security, **with households with a high FES exhibiting poorer food security levels**. This may explain why households that received food assistance were twice as likely to be food secure than those without food assistance, as this assistance relieved the financial burden of food expenditure and improved household access to food.
- Finally, **land cultivation and livestock ownership were found to be used by a low proportion of ISET households** (2% and 7% respectively). Since land cultivation and livestock ownership are both a means of income generation and a way of improving self-sustenance, this low engagement by ISET households further indicates poor food security and may present a sector in which interventions could support ISET populations in becoming more financially and food secure.

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## List of Acronyms

<b>AFN</b>	Afghani (Afghan Currency)
<b>CI</b>	Crowding Index
<b>DD</b>	Dietary Diversity
<b>ESNFI</b>	Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items
<b>FCS</b>	Food Consumption Score
<b>FES</b>	Food Expenditure Share
<b>FSAC</b>	Food Security and Agriculture Cluster
<b>HH</b>	Household
<b>HNO</b>	Humanitarian Needs Overview
<b>IDP</b>	Internally Displaced Person
<b>ISET</b>	Informal Settlement
<b>KII</b>	Key Informant Interview
<b>NSAG</b>	Non-State Armed Group
<b>ODK</b>	Open Data Kit
<b>PIN</b>	People in Need
<b>rCSI</b>	reduced Coping Strategy Index
<b>SDR</b>	Secondary Data Review
<b>WASH</b>	Water Sanitation and Hygiene

## Geographical Classifications

<b>Region</b>	Unrecognised by Government but commonly used by the humanitarian community. This assessment refers to five regions of Afghanistan: North, East, South-East, Central and West regions.
<b>Province</b>	Highest form of official governance below the national level, with 34 provinces divided across Afghanistan's six regions.

## Key Concepts

**Household** – A housing unit in which there is one clearly defined head of household, with all other individuals living within the boundaries of the household. Members of the household typically share meals. The household can consist of multiple families and can include directly related and non-related members provided they are permanent residents at the time of interview.<sup>11</sup>

**Household head** – The decision maker in the household; the primary decider regarding financial spending, wellbeing of household members and movement decisions. They need not be the sole decision maker, provided they have the final say. While they need not be the primary breadwinner, in Afghanistan this is often the case.<sup>12</sup>

**Informal Settlement (ISET)** – A collection of households in a given community for which there is no written, legal agreement for occupancy, and thus there is a potential threat of eviction.<sup>13</sup> To explicitly capture displacement in Afghanistan, REACH profiled informal settlements in Afghanistan, in which at least 50% of the population has been displaced. This allowed separated settlements, that are isolated from host communities, to be included, as well as integrated sites in which residents reside among host communities.

**Recent IDP** – An individual forced to leave their home and travel to a different location within Afghanistan, in the six months prior to interview.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Humanitarian Response, "Household Emergency Assessment Tool", 2016.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Kabul Informal Settlement Task Force and Welthungerhilfe, "Winter Assistance in the Kabul Informal Settlements Winter 2015/2016 – Summary of Assessment Results, Approach and Interventions", January 2016.

<sup>14</sup> OCHA, "Humanitarian Needs Overview", 2017.

**Prolonged IDP** – An individual forced to leave their home and travel to a different location within Afghanistan, between six months and two years before interview.<sup>15</sup>

**Protracted IDP** – An individual forced to leave their home and travel to a different location within Afghanistan, with their last displacement occurring more than two years prior to interview.<sup>16</sup>

**Non-Recent IDP** – A collective term for Prolonged and Protracted IDPs, sometimes used to compare groups of IDPs that are eligible for assistance based on the time period since they had been displaced.<sup>17</sup>

**Returnee** – An Afghan national who previously fled their home to live in another country, typically but not always Pakistan or Iran, and has since returned to Afghanistan but not to their exact area of origin.<sup>18</sup>

**Refugee** – A non-Afghan national, forced to flee their country due to persecution, war, violence or threat to wellbeing, now residing within Afghanistan.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> UNHCR, "What is a refugee?", 2017.



## INTRODUCTION

Armed conflict and natural disasters continue to blight the people of Afghanistan, contributing to persistent insecurity in 2017.<sup>20</sup> Afghanistan remains a country with one of the highest number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) world-wide,<sup>21</sup> with more than 318,000 individuals internally displaced between 1 January and 30 September 2017 due to conflict and natural disasters.<sup>22</sup> This contributes to an estimated total of 1,553,000 IDPs in Afghanistan in 2017.<sup>23</sup> In addition, more than 90,000 individuals have returned from Pakistan since the start of 2017, while cross-border return from Iran has risen since previous years, exceeding 171,000 individuals in 2017.<sup>24</sup> Finally, in addition to other displaced groups, more than 74,200 registered refugees were found to reside in the South-East of Afghanistan, and are increasingly being recognised as a vulnerable population within the humanitarian community.<sup>25</sup> Together, these groups contribute to the displacement of more than 80% of the Afghan population since the 1980s.<sup>26</sup>

A large sub-set of these vulnerable displaced population groups, dependent on mobility for their security and wellbeing, reside in Informal Settlements (ISETs) throughout the country. ISETs are a particularly useful barometer of the most vulnerable displacement conditions, typically containing poor shelter conditions and limited access to basic services, while hosting a representative range of marginalized communities from the key displaced population groups, including IDPs, returnees and refugees. However, due to their multifaceted and informal nature, ISETs have largely been neglected in terms of assessments, resulting in an overall lack of understanding of the needs and conditions in these sites.

The overall objective of this assessment is to support the evidence-based planning by humanitarian actors of informed food security, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (ESNFI) interventions within these insufficiently understood informal sites, with a separate WASH and ESNFI report published in tandem with this food security report. The research cycle and indicators were developed in collaboration with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Clusters and partners in order to inform the Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview and Response Plan 2018.

In addition to this overall objective, this report meets the following specific objectives:

1. Outline the demographic profile of ISETs in Afghanistan, and identify the specific food security vulnerabilities, needs and coping strategies of those living in ISETs, highlighting regional differences and variations among displacement groups and between men, women, boys and girls where possible.
2. Improve targeted interventions by informing the Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2018, through the inclusion of key indicators and consequential findings of the assessment in the multi-cluster severity scale and People in Need (PIN) calculations prepared by OCHA.
3. Provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of widespread displaced population self-identification methods used by humanitarian actors in Afghanistan, for research assessments and beneficiary identification.

The first section of this report details the methodological approach, including data collection methods, specific terminology used, analysis processes and limitations. Following this, the main findings of the assessment are presented, beginning with demographic profiling, displacement findings, future intentions, socio-economic status, priority needs and assistance received by ISET populations. Specific food security, agriculture and livestock results are then presented, followed by a summary of cross-cutting findings between food security, WASH and ESNFI, aimed to highlight the inter-sectoral nature of needs and vulnerabilities, particularly in a complex ISET setting. The report concludes by summarising key findings and advocating areas in which food security interventions could be strengthened.

<sup>20</sup> Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), "Global Report on Internal Displacement", 2017.

<sup>21</sup> Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) "IDMC Global Figures 2016", 2016.

<sup>22</sup> Humanitarian Response, "Afghanistan: Internal Displacement due to Conflict", September 2017.

<sup>23</sup> Afghanistan IDMC, "Afghanistan Country Information", 2017.

<sup>24</sup> IOM, "Afghanistan: Weekly Situation Report", October 2017.

<sup>25</sup> UNHCR, "Pakistani Refugees in Afghanistan", 2017.

<sup>26</sup> WHO, "WHO ERMO Displaced Populations", 2017.

## METHODOLOGY

Throughout August 2017, REACH conducted data collection for the multi-cluster needs assessment in ISETs across five regions of Afghanistan: North, East, South-East, Central and West. The purpose of this assessment was to profile the ISETs themselves, followed by a detailed profiling of ISET residents and multi-sectoral analysis of the key needs and vulnerabilities of these populations, focusing on food security, WASH and ESNFI.

Extensive secondary data review (SDR) was carried out during the planning stage of the research cycle, increasing knowledge of conflict, contextual understanding of Afghanistan and ISETs, and improving complementarity with existing research on the relevant topics.<sup>27</sup> In addition to this SDR, close collaboration with the Food Security, WASH and ESNFI Clusters in country, as well as the Afghanistan Protection Cluster was integrated to ensure all requirements of the assessment were met.

A mixed data collection methodology was implemented in three stages, with all tools developed with the Food Security and Protection clusters and subsequently translated into Dari and Pashto. Initially, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were carried out across 623 ISETs throughout the 19 provinces across the North, West, Central, South-East and East regions of Afghanistan, in which food security needs are most acute and displaced populations are highly prevalent.<sup>28</sup> This allowed the ISET profiling stage of the assessment to be completed, identifying the location, size, demographic profile and displacement history of all ISETs.

Secondly, cluster sampling was used to select participants for the household-level survey which asked demographic profiling and thematic food security, WASH and ESNFI questions. Accordingly, 7,064 IDP, returnee and refugee households (HH) were interviewed across 369 ISETs between 2 and 27 August 2017. The sampling strategy included stratification by displacement status (IDPs, returnees and refugees) and geographical regions, providing generalisable findings with a confidence level of 95% and a 5% margin of error, as seen in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Household survey sampling strategy, stratified by region and displacement status**

Displacement Status	West	Central	South-East	East	North	Total
<b>IDP</b>	741	789	367	848	642	<b>3,387</b>
<b>Returnee</b>	116	687	586	685	663	<b>2,737</b>
<b>Refugee</b>	0	0	940	0	0	<b>940</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>1,476</b>	<b>1,893</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>1,305</b>	<b><u>7,064</u></b>

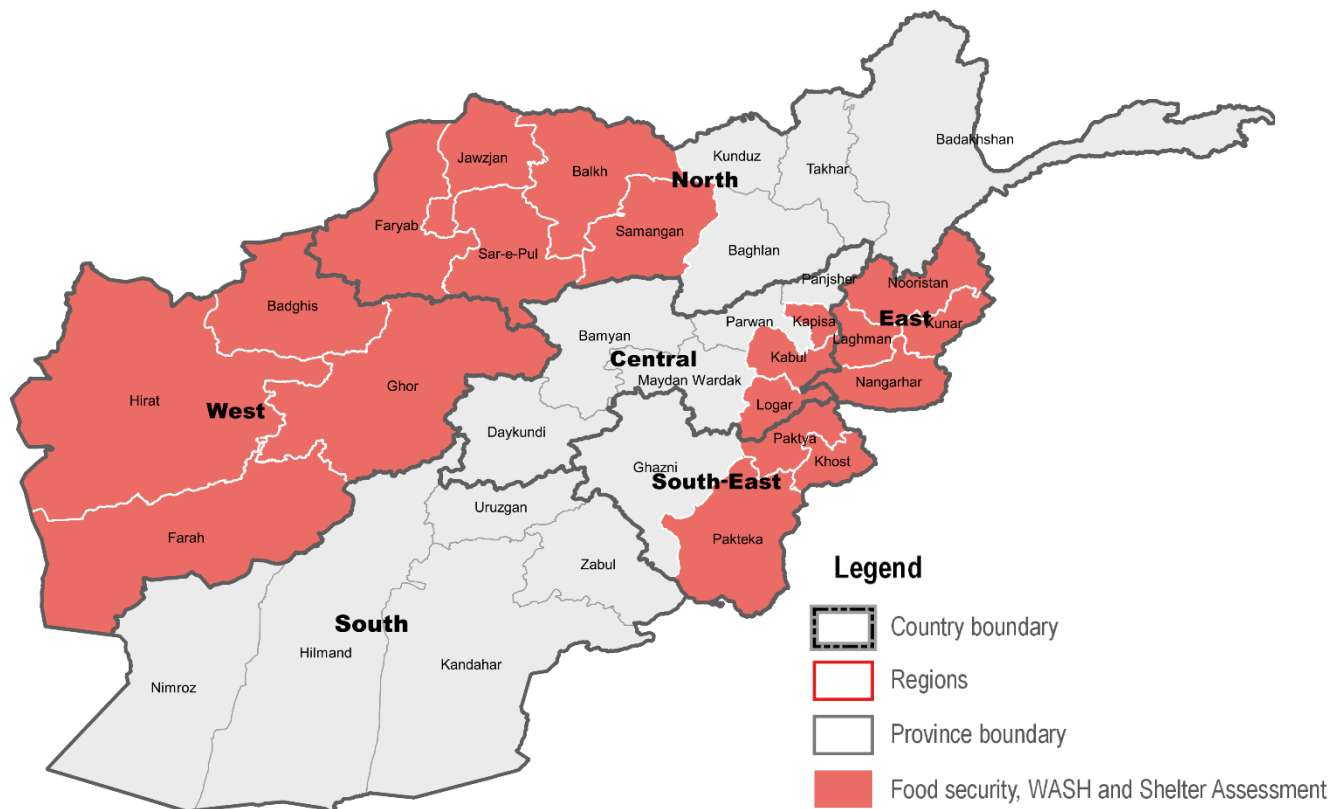
Data collection tools were designed in close collaboration with the Food Security and Protection Clusters in Afghanistan, and data collection was conducted in provinces selected by the clusters to represent each of the five priority regions. These regions are a collection of provinces, grouped based on geographical location, linked by similar vulnerability characteristics as defined by OCHA.<sup>29</sup> Based on this selection process, the assessment covered ISETs in Hirat, Farah, Ghor and Badghis in the West, Faryab, Jawzjan, Sar-e-Pul, Balkh and Samangan in the North, Kabul, Kapisa and Logar in Central, Paktya, Khost and Pakteka in the South-East and Nangarhar, Nooristan, Kunar and Laghman in the East. These provinces are displayed in Map 1 below.

<sup>27</sup> SDR includes reports by Samuel Hall, NRC, Amnesty International, IOM, OCHA, UNHCR, Afghan Government Reports and previous REACH assessments, among others.

<sup>28</sup> OCHA, "Humanitarian Needs Overview", 2017.

<sup>29</sup> OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.

Map 1: Reference map of provinces included in the ISET profiling and consequential multi-cluster assessment



Extensive regional training was conducted with enumerators for ISET profiling and household level surveys. Data collection for the KILs and household-level surveys was conducted using Open Data Kit (ODK) software on smartphones, while data cleaning and feedback was provided on a daily basis to improve data quality control.

## Data analysis

Findings were triangulated with SDR to guide analysis. Key comparisons were made throughout, focusing on regional trends, differences between displacement groups and between gender, largely identified by differences between male and female-headed households. Although comparisons were also made between elderly and non-elderly headed households, having an elderly household head was not found to be a significant indicator of vulnerability and was thus excluded from much of the analysis. Weights were applied throughout the analysis in line with the above detailed stratifications, based on the population figures recorded during the ISET profiling.

Within the household-level surveys, specific food security indicators were explored throughout the analysis, highlighting the key areas of insecurity and consequential needs. Given that this data was collected in tandem with WASH and ESNFI data, some cross-cutting analysis has been possible, with a short section included at the end of the analysis chapter.

Specifically for the following food security analysis, a set of global standard analysis measures were applied:

### Food Consumption Score (FCS)

Frequency of different food group consumption is an integral element of food security. To measure this, the FCS has been calculated, which is a measure of food consumption in each household in the seven days prior to interview. It is deemed a suitable proxy indicator by the World Food Programme (WFP) for identifying calorie intake

and diet quality at the household level<sup>30</sup>. The measure combines food consumption frequency with weighted nutritional importance of food groups (see Table 2). The sum of the number of days in the last seven a food group has been eaten, multiplied by its weight, constitutes the continuous FCS.

**Table 2: Food groups, items and weighting relevant for Food Consumption Score**

Food Group	Included Food Items	Weight
Meat	Beef, chicken, goat, eggs, fish, seafood	4
Dairy Products	Milk, yoghurt, other dairy	4
Pulses	Beans, peas, nuts and seeds	3
Staples	Rice, bread, cereals, tubers	2
Vegetables	Vegetables, leaves	1
Fruit	Fruits	1
Sweets	Sugar, sweets, honey	0.5
Fats	Oils, fats and butter	0.5

Having calculated the FCS, a categorisation system can be applied to indicate whether a household has poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption, as detailed in Table 3 below:

**Table 3: Food Consumption Score thresholds**

FCS Category	Score Threshold
Poor FCS	28 or less
Borderline FCS	28.1 to 42
Acceptable FCS	More than 42

### Dietary Diversity (DD)

In addition to the FCS, a nutrition-based measure of dietary diversity has been calculated to inform on the variety of food groups eaten by each household in the seven days prior to interview. Rather than considering the frequency food groups are eaten, DD observes the number of different food groups consumed. Households with fewer financial means are more likely to focus their resources on food staples whilst those with more flexibility are likely to widen their nutrient intake. DD sums the number of food groups in the following table, with a DD score of more than four being considered sufficient DD whilst less than four is considered poor DD.

**Table 4: Dietary Diversity food groups**

Dietary Diversity Score Food Groups
MEAT, FISH AND EGGS
DAIRY
PULSES, BEANS AND LEGUMES
CEREALS, ROOTS AND TUBERS
VEGETABLES
FRUIT
OILS AND FATS

<sup>30</sup> WFP, VAM Guidance Paper, 2014.

## Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

Household dependency on negative food-based coping strategies was measured using the reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI).<sup>31</sup> The rCSI is a proxy indicator for food insecurity which assigns a score to each household depending on their reliance on food-based coping strategies in the seven days prior to interview. Each coping strategy has a weight applied, indicating its negative severity. The following table outlines the strategies typically used in Afghanistan, with their WFP assigned weight.

Table 5: Reduced coping strategy index weightings

Consumption-Based Coping Strategies	Severity Weight
Rely on less preferred and less expensive food	1
Limit portion size at meal time	1
Reduce the number of meals per day	1
Borrow food or rely on help from relatives or friends	2
Restrict consumption by adults for small children to eat	3

The assessment asked how many days, out of the previous seven, each strategy was used. The number of days each coping strategy is used is multiplied by its weight, and the totals are summed. The overall score indicates whether a household is highly dependent on negative coping strategies (scoring 18 or more), has a medium dependency on coping strategies (scoring 10 to 17) or has low or no dependence on negative food-based coping strategies (scoring less than 10).

## Overall Food Security Status

Findings on household food consumption levels and dependency on food-based coping strategies can be triangulated to determine household food security status. The following matrix outlines the relationship between these findings, in line with WFP's measures of food insecurity severity.

Table 6: Triangulation of FCS and rCSI for overall food security status

Food Consumption Group	Coping strategy group		
	High Dependence	Medium Dependence	Low Dependence
Poor	Severely Food Insecure	Severely Food Insecure	Moderately Food Insecure
Borderline	Severely Food Insecure	Moderately Food Insecure	Food Secure
Acceptable	Moderately Food Insecure	Food Secure	Food Secure

## Food Expenditure Share (FES)

Finally, Food Expenditure Share (FES) calculations were made to determine the proportion of a household's total expenditure spent on food. The expenditure on food is divided by the household's total expenditure to provide a percentage applicable to each household's food spending in the month prior to interview. A higher proportion reflects poorer food security, as it leaves fewer financial means to purchase other commodities and essential services, and a lower proportion indicates a more acceptable expenditure share. FES can be grouped as follows: very high (75% or more), high (65%-74.9%), medium (50%-64.9%) and low (less than 50%).

## Challenges and Limitations

- The assessment was conducted in five regions based on the needs of the relevant clusters at the time, thus excluding the South. Particular provinces within the regions were chosen by the clusters for this assessment due to the high proportion of displaced populations in them. In future assessments, nationwide data collection

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.



would provide a more encompassing indication of the situation in Afghanistan. Similarly, it is recognised that the findings only represent forcibly displaced households residing in ISETs and so do not represent the total population in Afghanistan.

- When profiling ISETs, some locations were inaccessible due to increasing security concerns and threats from Armed Opposition Groups (AOGs). Accordingly, the sample frame from which household-level survey numbers were calculated was biased towards secure locations. However, the proportion of ISETs in insecure areas is likely minimal given that most residents choose their new location for security.
- Data was collected throughout the day-time hours, when household heads were typically working. Thus, some interviews may not have been conducted with the lead decision maker in the household, though all efforts were made to come at a time when the household head was available. If it was not possible to speak with the lead decision maker, the interview was conducted with the secondary decision maker in the household.
- The sensitive nature of some questions may have led to underreporting, particularly regarding issues related to women and girls in the household. Simultaneously, some deflated results are possible in terms of income/expenditure as respondents may feel this would increase their likelihood of receiving assistance, despite it being explained that this assessment is independent and will not directly lead to any form of assistance.
- Livelihood coping strategies were excluded from the assessment as it was considered by cluster partners that ISET residents would not have the means to implement these strategies. It is hoped in future assessments that a new multi-sector coping strategy index, currently being designed in country by Oxfam, can be integrated, to provide further understandings of coping strategy use and help align findings across various assessments.

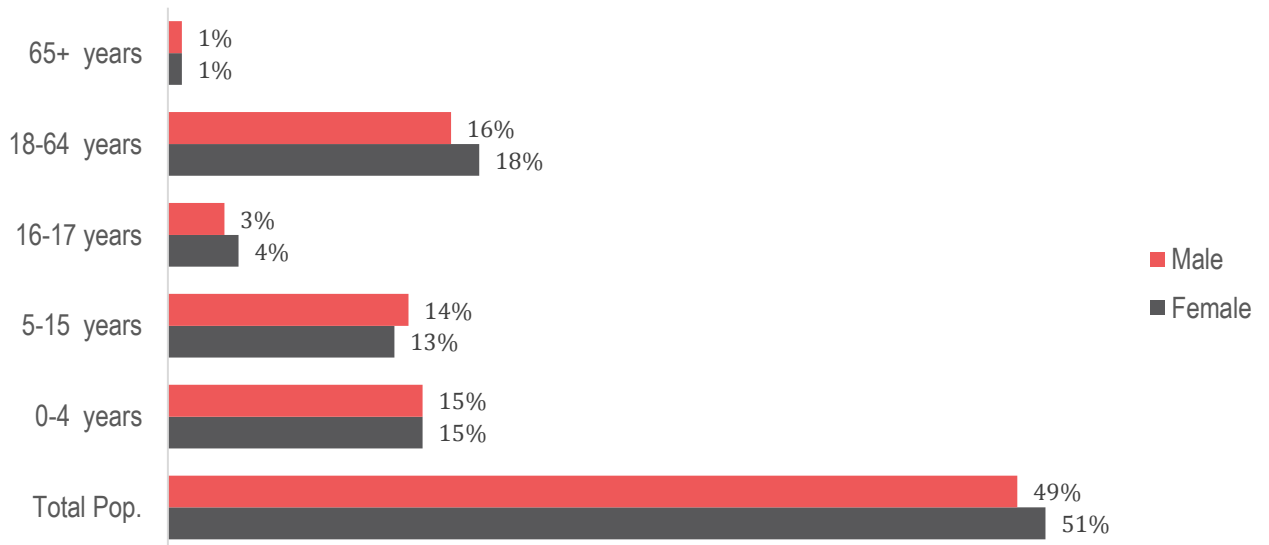
## FINDINGS

### Household Characteristics

#### Demographics

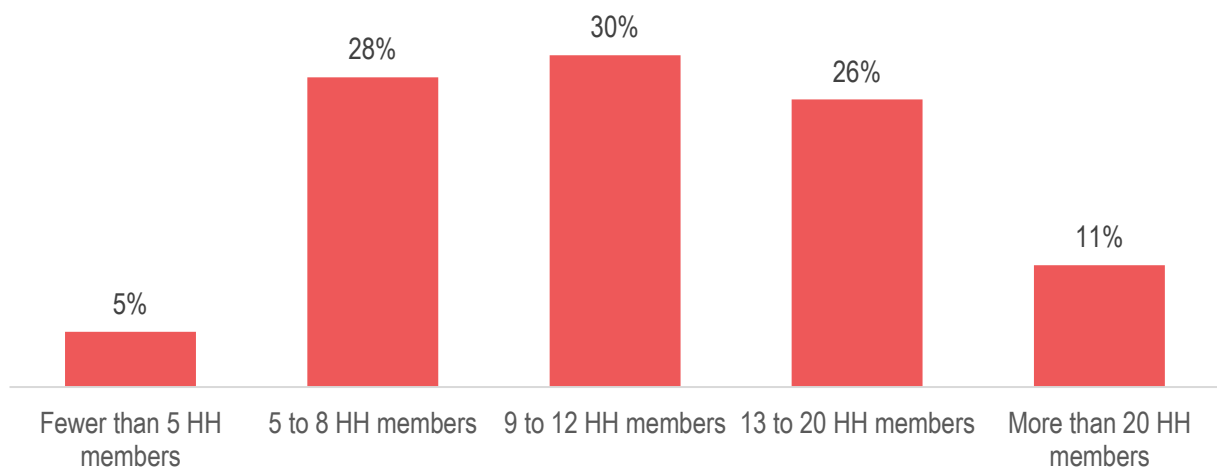
The constitution of ISETs is close to equally male (49%) and female (51%), as can be seen in Figure 1 below. **Children under the age of 16 years comprise 57% of the assessed ISETs' population.** Overall, ISETs have 117 boys for every 100 girls, although this ratio varies depending on region, from 123 boys per 100 girls in the South-East to 98 boys per 100 girls in the West.

Figure 1: Distribution of ISET residents by age and gender



Across Afghanistan, **ISET households were found to contain an average of 1.9 families consisting of 12 individuals.** This average household size is larger than that of displaced populations residing in formal settlements (1.6 families and 10 individuals), highlighting the crowded nature of ISETs.<sup>32</sup> Regional trends were identified, with households in the South-East consisting of 2.2 families and 13 individuals on average, compared to 1.3 families and 7 individuals in the West. The largest households were noted in the East with 14 individuals. However, overall, as can be seen from Figure 2, household sizes are mostly distributed between five and 20 household members.

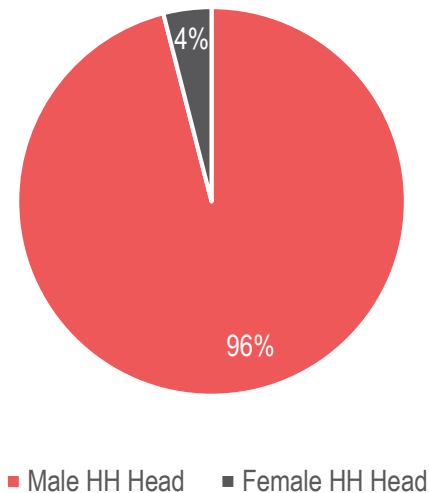
Figure 2: Proportion of households in each grouped household size



<sup>32</sup> REACH, "Joint Education and Child Protection Assessment", November 2017.

The average age of the head of household across all ISETs was 45 years old, which did not vary across regions, displacement status or household head gender. Only a minute proportion of ISET households were child-headed (0.3%), while 6.5% of households were found to be headed by individuals over the age of 64, and thus considered elderly household heads. While often considered an indicator of vulnerability, elderly headed household were not found to be significantly more in need than non-elderly headed households throughout most of the upcoming analysis and so is rarely included as a disaggregation.

Figure 3: Proportion of male and female-headed households



As can be seen in Figure 3, **the vast majority of household heads within ISETs are male (96%), with only 4% female-headed households.** Some regional trends were identified here, with higher proportions of female-headed households identified in the West (8%). The proportion of female-headed households was less varied across displacement groups, with the highest reaching 6% among recent IDPs.

Across all ISETs, **74% of households have at least one breastfeeding woman, while 28% of households contain at least one pregnant woman.** In addition, 45% of households care for at least one chronically ill member, and 21% have at least one disabled household member. While

disability, pregnancy and chronic illness do not vary across regions, a higher average number of breastfeeding women were noted per household in the East (1.2) and South-East (1.1) compared to other regions. This is a positive indication that women's health and nutrition may be higher in these areas as they are capable of breastfeeding, or it could indicate that women are choosing to breastfeed for longer, benefiting the infant's long-term health.<sup>33</sup>

An additional vulnerability at the household level in Afghanistan pertains to access to a Tazkira; the Afghan national identification documents. In some cases, limited access to a Tazkira can hinder employment seeking, school enrolment, tenancy arrangements and access to humanitarian assistance, among other restrictions.<sup>34</sup> Overall, **4% of households have no members that own a Tazkira**, 52% of household heads own a Tazkira, 24% of households have all adults with a Tazkira and 48% of households have at least some adults in the household holding a Tazkira.

Some regional variation was noted in this analysis, with a higher proportion of household heads owning a Tazkira in the North (63%). However, households in the West were the least likely to have Tazkira access, with 17% of households reporting no Tazkira ownership. No significant difference was identified between displacement groups. However, a significant difference was noted between male and female-headed households, with **significantly more female-headed households having no adults with Tazkira ownership Tazkira (18%) compared to male-headed households (3%).**

## Displacement

### Displaced Populations

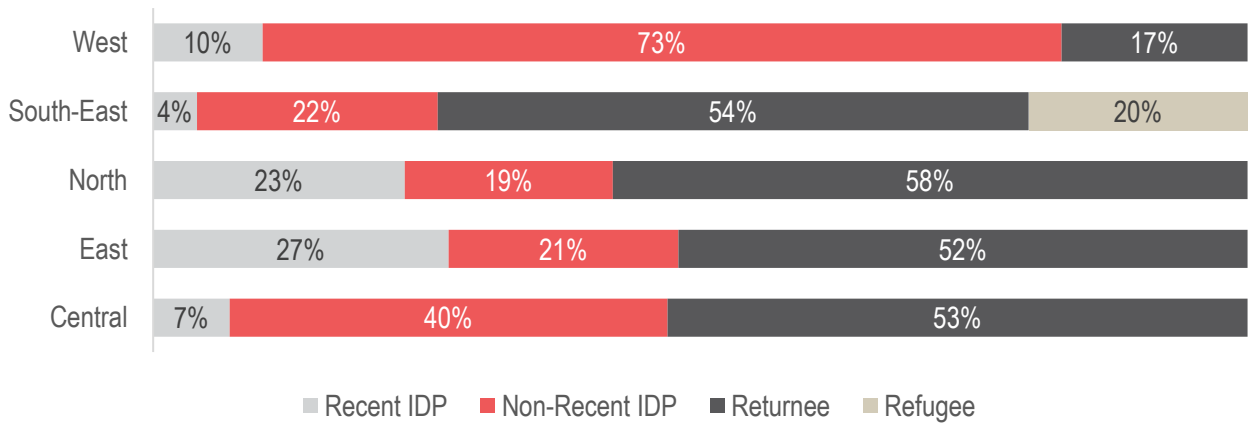
**Among all ISETs, the highest proportion of recent IDPs were residing in the East (27%),** as seen in Figure 4. In the West of Afghanistan, the large majority of the ISET population are prolonged and protracted IDPs, perhaps indicating that movement to the area may be declining. The proportions of returnees are most prominent in the East

<sup>33</sup> Corbett and McGrath, "Infant and young child feeding in emergencies", 2003.

<sup>34</sup> Samuel Hall, "Access to Tazkera and Other Civil Documentation in Afghanistan", November 2016.

(29%) and Central (25%). All identified refugees, all of whom were noted to be from Pakistan, were located in the provinces of Paktika and Khost, in the South-East region.

Figure 4: Proportion of households in each displacement status, by region



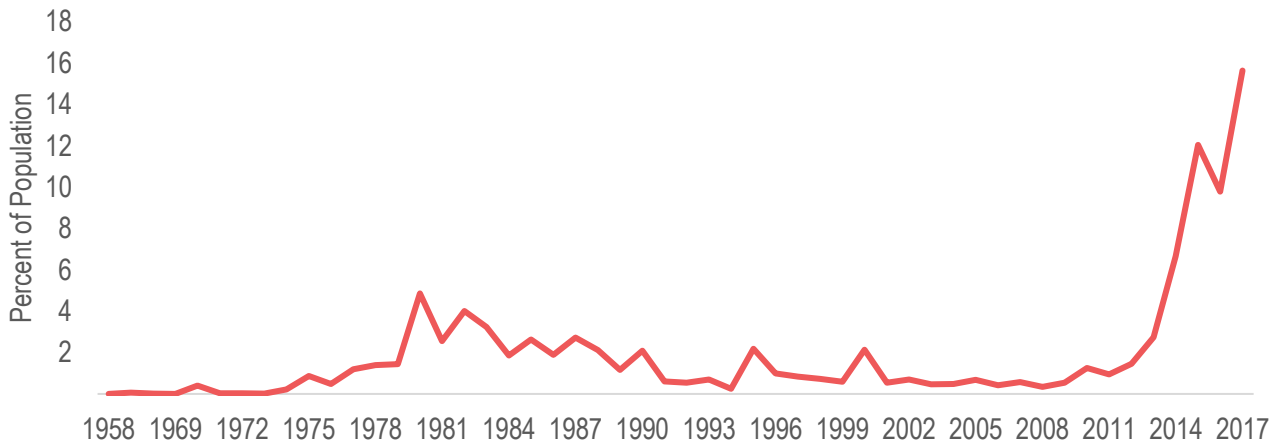
### Returnee Registration

Overall, **33% of returnee households were not registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, reducing their ability to claim assistance, enrol in education, or seek employment. This proportion rose to 52% in the South-East, compared to 6% in the West. It was also noted that female-headed returnee households are significantly less likely to be registered with UNHCR, with 48% registered compared to 67% of male-headed households. Since unregistered returnees are susceptible to barriers to assistance as well as other vulnerabilities, female-headed households and those in the Central (54% documented returnees) and South-East present greater needs and vulnerabilities.

### Displacement Patterns

As recent displacement tends to generate financial insecurity<sup>35</sup>, it is relevant to note that most displacements among ISET IDPs occurred in 2017 (16% of the displaced population). The second most common year of displacement was 2015 (12%), a year in which conflict was prevalent and led to high internal displacement. The rise in most recent displacements are summarised in Figure 5. While returnees are more evenly distributed across more than 20 years, refugees were most likely to have been displaced in 2014 (56%) and 2015 (35%), when a series of significant floods and ongoing military operations by the Pakistan government forced households to cross over the border into Afghanistan. Among IDPs and returnees, the most common season of displacement was the summer, with most being displaced in August (33%) and June (12%). Refugees were also most likely to travel in June (32%) however this can be attributed to the mentioned flooding in Pakistan.

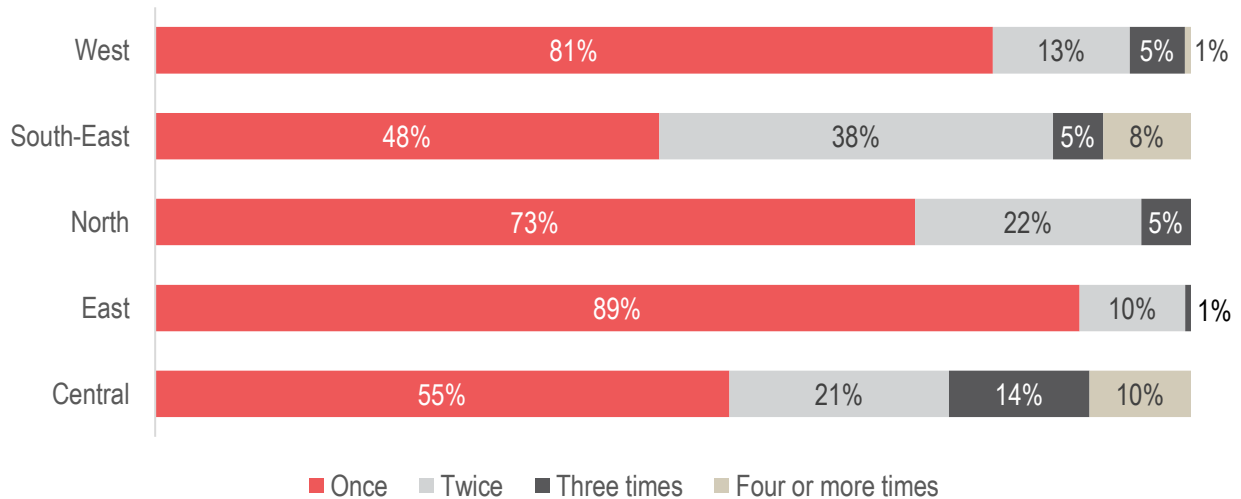
Figure 5: Displacement of ISET households over time, as identified in this assessment



<sup>35</sup> Samuel Hall, "IDP Movement Tracking, Needs and Vulnerability Analysis Afghanistan", 2014.

ISET populations have mostly not been subjected to secondary displacement as most households have only been displaced once (83%). This proportion rises to 90% for recent IDPs, indicating that new households are being displaced by recent and ongoing issues. Single displacement was found to be most prevalent in the East (89%) and least likely in the South-East (39%), as displayed below in Figure 6. As such, secondary and further displacement could serve as an indicator for secondary displacement given the unprecedented levels of returnees currently in country.

Figure 6: Number of displacements per household, by region



### Pull Factors for Displaced Populations

Given the ongoing conflict and insecurity in Afghanistan, **the main pull factor drawing displaced populations to their current location was security in the ISET (47%)**. Security in this assessment referred to both physical security from violence as well as security for wellbeing, through access to markets and other basic needs, implying that ISETs have developed around a market dependence. A further 35% of ISET households chose their location due to its affordability, given that houses and land in these sites are either free or cheaper than alternative housing options.<sup>36</sup> This is perhaps an indication of insecurity in that poor quality or damaged houses are being chosen for their low cost, due to the limited means and resources of the households.<sup>37</sup>

### Respondent Driven Identification

Many humanitarian actors in Afghanistan use self-identification as the primary means of categorising displaced groups, often using a tick-box whereby an individual is asked their displacement status and their response is accordingly noted; in some cases determining their level of assistance.<sup>38</sup> As such, this assessment intended to determine the extent to which displaced populations accurately self-identify the displacement group to which they belong. Respondents were asked a series of questions, conditional upon their previous response to each, questioning nationality, length of displacement and location in which the household previously resided. Ultimately, the responses to these questions profiled the household in alignment with the accepted definitions of each displacement group. At the end of the set of questions, the individual was asked which displacement status they belonged to, reflecting the typical process for displacement status identification.

### One in five displaced household heads could not correctly self-identify their displacement status.

Regionally it was found that the most incorrect responses came from the Central region, in which 47% of ISET households answered incorrectly, while households in the East were most accurate with 80% correctly self-identifying. This may be attributed to the high proportion of returnees who are able to self-identify correctly (86%) as seen in the figure below, the majority of whom reside in the East, having travelled across the border from Pakistan. In comparison, 59% of prolonged and protracted IDPs were unable to correctly self-identify. The specific

<sup>36</sup> REACH, "Informal Settlement Profiling Master List", July 2017.

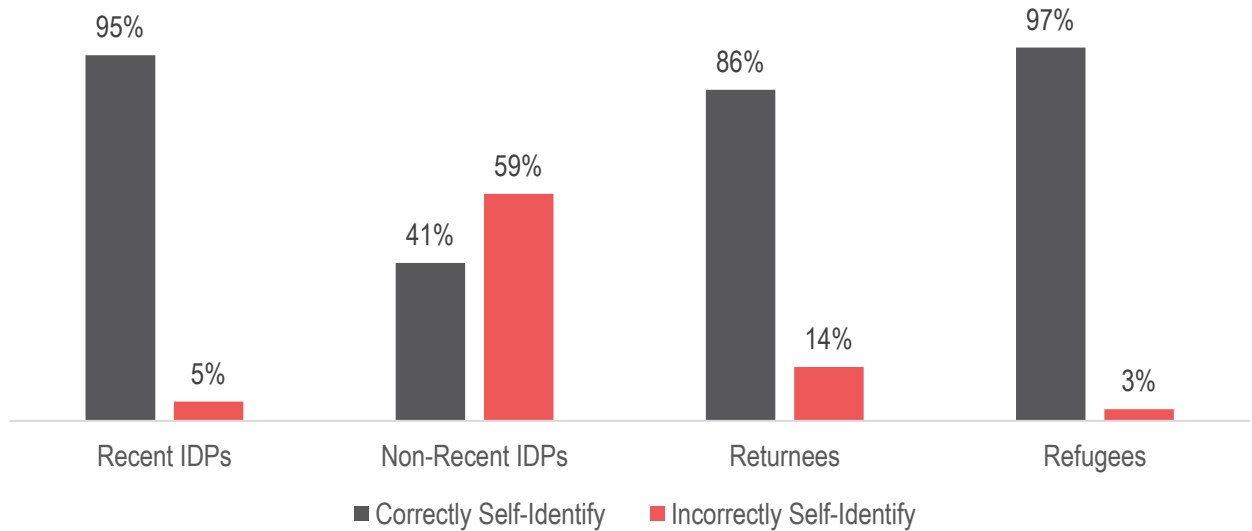
<sup>37</sup> Metcalfe, "Urban displacement and vulnerability in Kabul", 2012.

<sup>38</sup> Humanitarian Response, "Household Emergency Assessment Tool", 2016.



reasons for incorrect self-identification need further research, however since recent IDPs are more likely to receive assistance than non-recent IDPs<sup>39</sup>, prolonged and protracted IDPs might publically self-identify as recent to increase chances of receiving assistance.

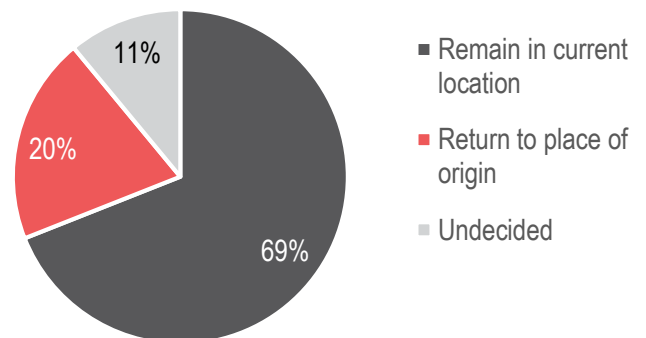
Figure 7: Proportion of households able to self-identify their displacement status, by displacement group



### Intentions

The future plans of displaced populations can provide a strong indication of foreseeable vulnerabilities. It was found that **the majority of displaced households (69%) residing in ISETs intend to remain in their current location over the year following this assessment**, as seen in Figure 8. This indicates that displaced populations may strain access to resources in parts of Afghanistan, possibly contributing to needs of both displaced and host communities.<sup>40</sup> In addition, 20% of households reportedly intended to return to their place of origin. This proportion rose to 24% in the East, which may be attributed to the high proportion of returnees who intend to return to their place of origin (16%). However, **refugees in this assessment were found to be the most likely to return to their place of origin in the coming year (69%)**, which could indicate further displacement as these populations travel across the South-East to Pakistan.

Figure 8: Future intentions of ISET households in coming year



### Socio-Economic Status

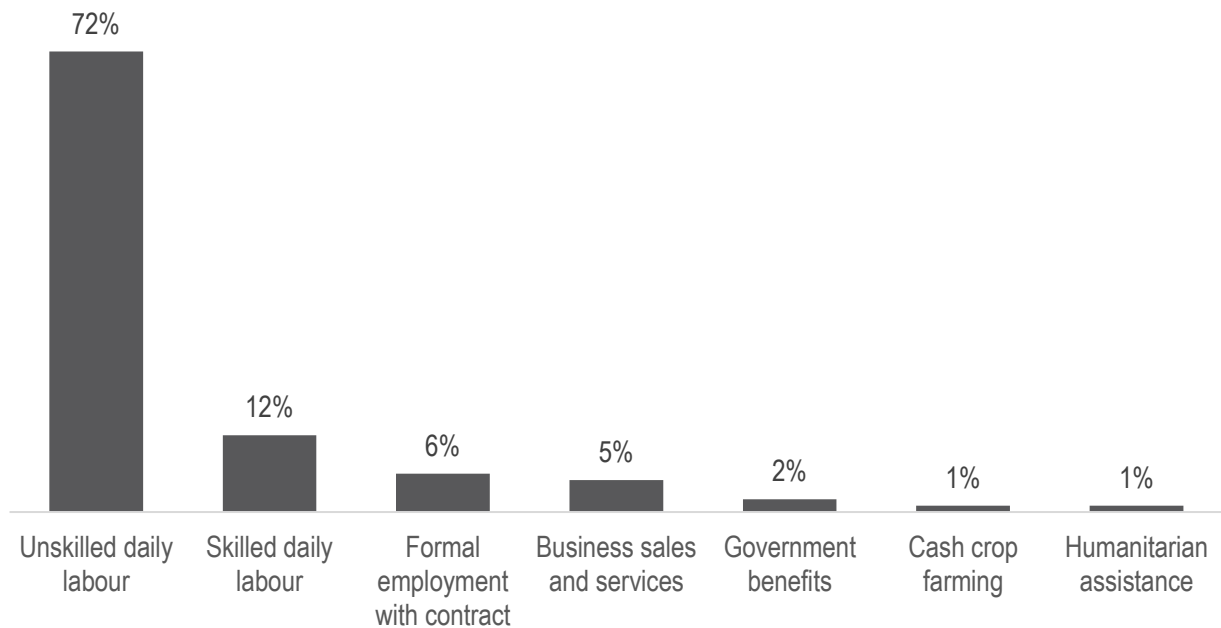
Across all ISETs, **the vast majority of households are dependent on unreliable sources of income, including unskilled daily labour (72%) and skilled daily labour (12%)**, with only 6% of the population formally employed. Daily labour tends to be an unreliable income source, with no guarantee of employment on a given day and low pay received in exchange. According to findings in the recent REACH Joint Education and Child Protection assessment, **displaced populations residing outside of ISETs are less dependent on unskilled daily labour**

<sup>39</sup> OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.

<sup>40</sup> Amnesty International, "Afghanistan: Number of people internally displaced by conflict doubled to 1.2 million in just three years", May 2016.

(44%)<sup>41</sup> than those residing in ISETs (72%), indicating particular financial vulnerabilities exhibited by those in ISETs.

Figure 9: Most common income and livelihood sources



Average monthly income in the ISETs was found to be 9,156 AFN<sup>42</sup>, which is not significantly below the national average monthly income of 10,648 AFN.<sup>43</sup> However, regional trends were noted, with a higher average monthly income generated in the South-East (10,512 AFN) compared to the West (5,547 AFN). Although displacement status was found to have no relationship with monthly income, a significant gender difference was noted, with **female-headed households earning significantly less (5,688 AFN) than male-headed households (9,298 AFN)** highlighting the financial vulnerability of female-headed households in ISETs. Incidentally, it was also found that elderly-headed households earned more (10,763 AFN) than non-elderly headed households (9,046 AFN).

The overall dependency ratio per breadwinner was found to be 6.6, **meaning that on average nearly seven household members are dependent on the income of one breadwinner.** Some regional trends were identified, with a dependency ratio as high as 7.1 observed in the East compared to 4.5 in the West. **Refugees were found to have the lowest dependency ratio of 5.4 and returnees the highest with 6.8.** Female-headed households were found to have a lower dependency ratio (5.6) than male-headed households (6.6).

As typically found in needs assessments in Afghanistan and as seen in Figure 10, **food is the highest household expenditure, averaging at 5,035 AFN per month.** Again, this varied between regions, with households in the West spending an average of 2,870 AFN on food. Following food, healthcare (882 AFN) and education expenses (640 AFN) were the highest sources of expenditure, on average. In addition, **average expenditure on rent was found to be much lower in ISETs (429 AFN) than outside of ISETs (1,294 AFN).**<sup>44</sup> This lower rent payment may reflect the high proportion of ISET households relying on informal tenancy arrangements, such as squatting, as identified in the settlement profiling component of this assessment. It may also reflect the poor quality of housing which may require less rent, highlighting the insecurity of ISET populations. It was found that male-headed households spent significantly more than female-headed households on all monthly expenses except for loans and communication expenses. This finding may simply be due to the fact that female-headed households have less monthly income than male-headed households and thus are able to spend less.

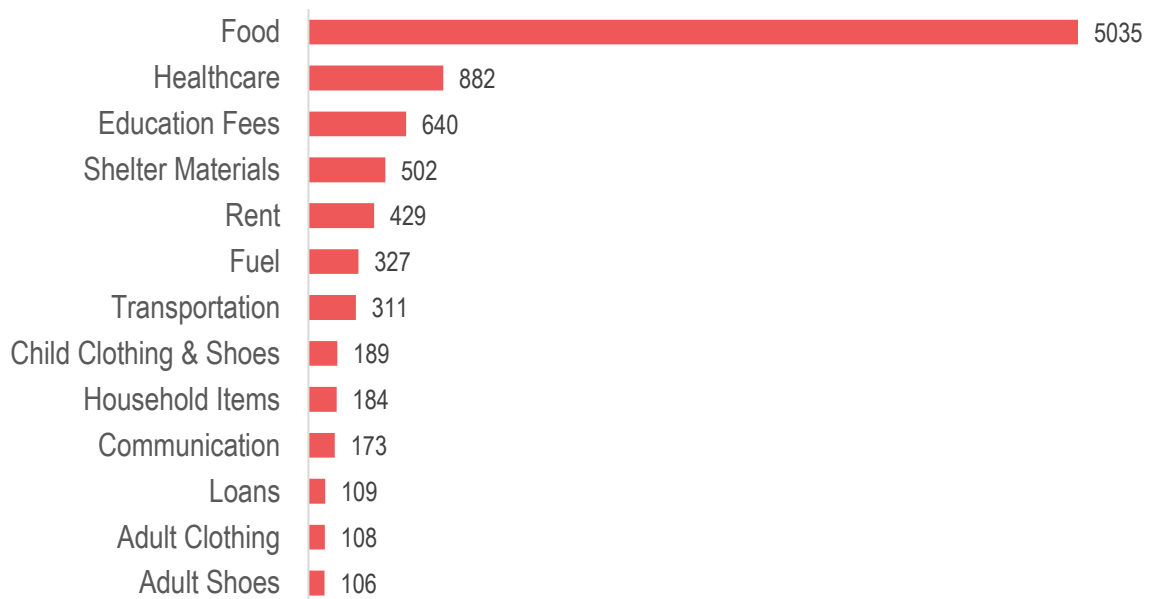
<sup>41</sup> REACH, "Joint Education and Child Protection Needs Assessment", November 2017.

<sup>42</sup> 1 USD = 68 AFN – XE Currency Converter, at time of publication.

<sup>43</sup> OWiD, "Human Development Index Data Trends - Afghanistan", 2015.

<sup>44</sup> REACH (HDX), "Afghanistan: Joint Education and Child Protection Dataset", October 2017.

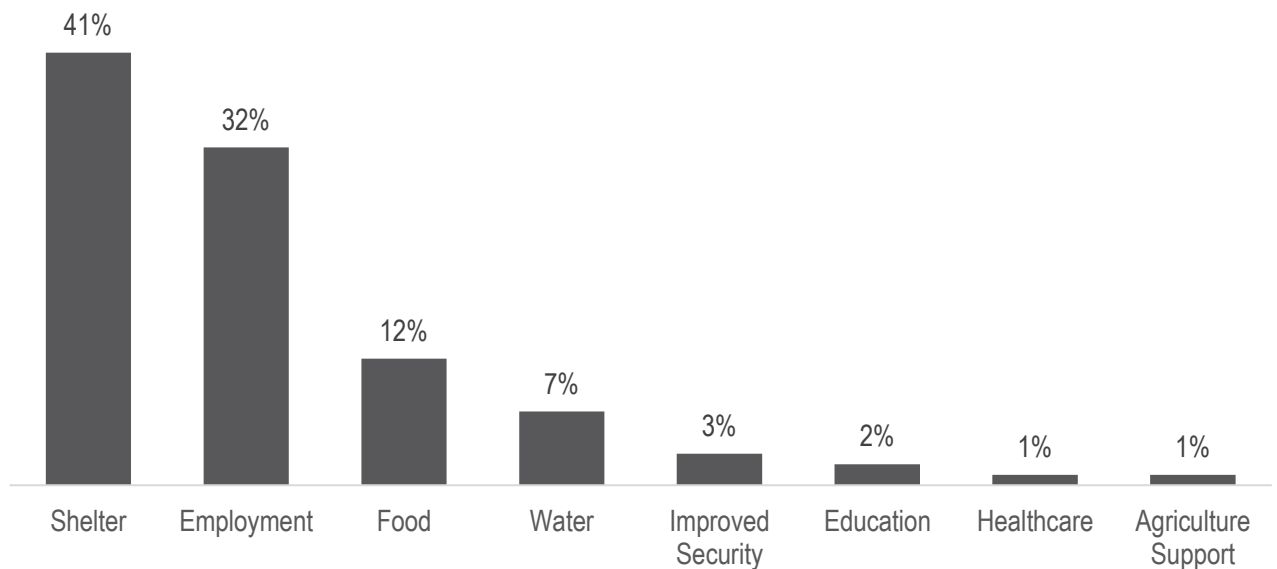
Figure 10: Average households expenditures in the last 30 days, in AFN, on each expenditure item



### Priority Needs & Assistance

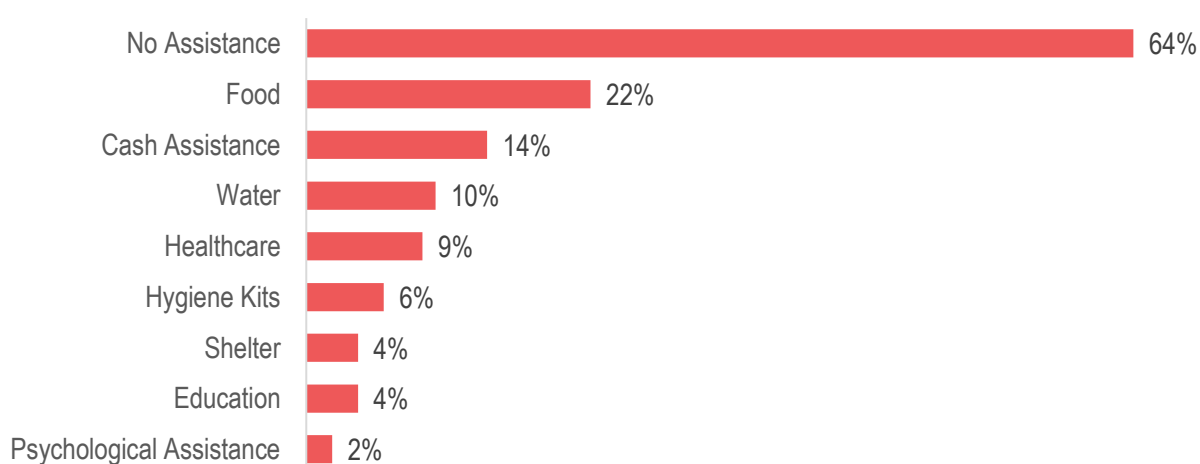
As displayed in Figure 11, **displaced populations residing in ISETs consider shelter to be their most critical need (41%) at the time of the assessment.** Given the generally poor quality of ISET shelters, dependent on transitional shelters, mud brick and tents, this high need for shelter assistance may be expected. Following this, the high reported need for employment assistance is particularly relevant to the high dependency ratios reported; thus, capacity building interventions could provide long-term support to ISET residents.

Figure 11: Main priority need of ISET households at time of data collection



As can be seen in Figure 12 below, when asked what assistance has been received in their current location, **most ISET households reported no assistance received (64%), while those that did receive assistance were most likely to have received food assistance (22%).** In contrast, only 4% of households received shelter assistance.

Figure 12: All types of assistance received by ISET households, in their current location



Some regional trends were noted in assistance delivery, with households in the **South-East being more likely to receive healthcare assistance** (22% compared to 9% overall), hygiene kit training (22% compared to 6% overall), drinking water (18% compared to 10% overall) and shelter (14% compared to 4% overall) assistance. This may be due to the high delivery of assistance for returnees located at and near borders with Pakistan.<sup>45</sup> Alternatively, **households in the North were the most likely to report having received no assistance (95%) and received comparatively low levels of food assistance (3%), healthcare (0.7%) and drinking water (0.3%) assistance.**

In terms of displacement status, **refugees were most likely to report having received assistance, with 87% reportedly having received food assistance, 56% having received shelter and 68% having received healthcare assistance.** Alternatively, returnees were the least likely to receive healthcare assistance (4%) while protracted IDPs were the least likely to receive education assistance (1%). It was also found that female-headed households were statistically significantly more likely to receive food assistance (29%) than male-headed households (21%).

Table 7: Proportion of households receiving each type of assistance, in their current location, by displacement status

	Shelter	Food	Health	Water	Hygiene Kits	Cash	Education	Psychological Support
Recent IDP	0%	11%	12%	8%	8%	4%	8%	2%
Prolonged IDP	0%	18%	12%	10%	6%	3%	6%	6%
Protracted IDP	1%	28%	8%	8%	2%	4%	1%	0%
Returnees	3%	20%	4%	7%	4%	17%	3%	1%
Refugees	56%	87%	68%	52%	54%	63%	20%	0%

It was found that the main assistance-related issue reported by beneficiaries was receiving too little (70%), with the highest proportion of those reporting having received too little assistance among prolonged IDPs (82%). The other reported assistance-related issues included receiving less than other households of perceived equal need (11%) or receiving the wrong type of assistance (9%). All of these issues with assistance indicate ongoing vulnerabilities, with existing needs not being sufficiently met. No significant difference was noted in terms of gender, with male and female-headed households equally likely to face barriers to assistance.

The **majority of ISET households that have received assistance in their current location received this assistance in 2017 (60%)** while a further 20% received some level of assistance in 2016. While this indicates that most ISET households have recently received support, it also highlights that 20% of the ISET households have not received any assistance, either in their current or previous location. This indicates greater need of, or highlights the lack of assistance available to, non-recently displaced populations.

<sup>45</sup> OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.

## Food Security

The following section details the food-based findings, including levels of food consumption, coping strategy dependence, overall food security status, as well as basic nutrition, agriculture and livestock situations of ISET residents across Afghanistan. Typical analysis methods have been applied, allowing food-security findings to emulate findings in other food security assessments, such as WFP's 2015 study of winter needs in Kabul's ISETs<sup>46</sup> or the REACH 2017 Food Security Assessment in Informal Settlements across Kabul and Nangarhar. Detailed explanations of these analysis methods can be found in the methodology section of this report.

### Food Consumption

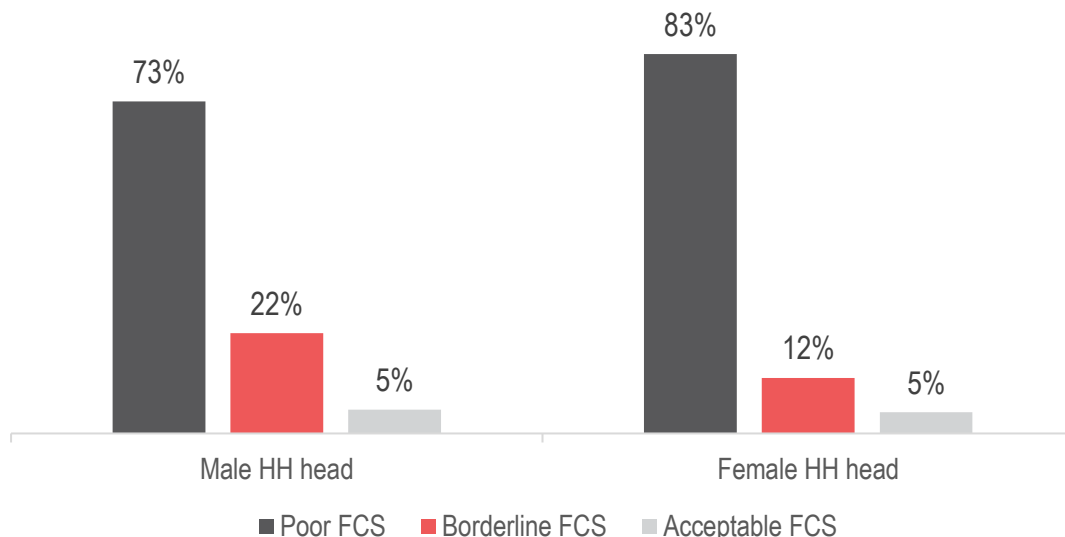
#### Food Consumption Score

Inadequate food consumption is a significant concern in Afghanistan, with **73% of ISET households having poor FCS**. In addition, 22% had borderline FCSs and only 5% reached acceptable FCS scores. Regional trends were noted as nearly all households in the West (98%) exhibited poor FCSs, compared to only 29% in the Central region. Central ISET households were also the most likely to have acceptable FCSs (43%); far higher than the second highest acceptable food consumption levels, found in the South-East (4% of households).

FCS also varied depending on displacement status. **The vast majority of refugee households (91%) were found to have poor FCSs**. Protracted IDPs had the lowest proportion of poor FCSs, yet this was still high at 66% of protracted IDP households. Protracted IDPs were also found to have the highest proportion of households with acceptable FCSs (9%). This finding could be expected since Protracted IDPs are relatively more physically secure in their current location, having not moved for at least two years; perhaps due to the availability and accessibility of food.

As shown in Figure 13, **female-headed households were significantly more vulnerable, with 83% of households having poor FCS compared to 73% of male-headed households**. However, the proportions of food secure male- and female-headed households were equal, both at 5%, indicating greater food-based inequality amongst female-headed households. Alternatively, although it has previously been indicated in other assessments that elderly-headed households were more likely to have poor food consumption due to mobility and market access concerns as well as a lower earning potential,<sup>47</sup> this was not found to be the case in this nationwide assessment. There was no statistically significant difference noted between elderly and non-elderly headed households.

Figure 13: Proportion of male- and female-headed HH in each food consumption group



<sup>46</sup> Kabul Informal Settlement Task Force and Welthungerhilfe, "Winter Assistance in the Kabul Informal Settlements Winter 2015/2016 – Summary of Assessment Results, Approach and Interventions", January 2016.

<sup>47</sup> ReliefWeb, "Afghanistan Seasonal Food Security Assessment (SFSA)" April-June 2016.



Furthermore, a gender bias in favour of males was found within the household, as significant correlations were identified between households' FCSs and gender ratios. A positive correlation, significant at the 95% confidence level, was found between the Gender-Ratio and FCS,<sup>48</sup> indicating that the more males there are in the household, the higher the FCS. This could be attributed to more male breadwinners in a household or a greater ability for household members to physically access the market. Similarly, a positive correlation significant at the 99% confidence level was noted between the Boy-Girl ratio and FCS,<sup>49</sup> indicating that the higher the proportion of boys in the household, the higher the FCS. This could imply a gender bias at the household level, as households may choose to spend more on nutritious and varied foods for boys compared to girls, or it could indicate that households with more boys are able to send boys to work, generating more household income, increasing the ability to buy and consume food. Further research on the causality and implications of these findings is thus needed.

### Nutrition

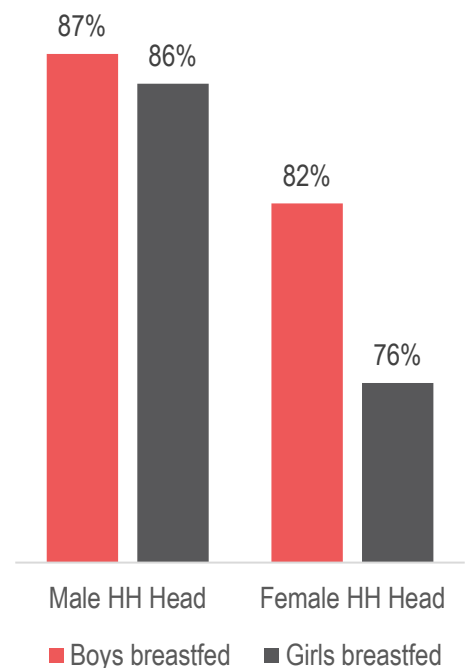
In complementarity to the FCS, DD scoring provides more acute nutrition analysis. It is supposed that less vulnerable households will spend their resources on variously macronutrient dense food, providing an overall higher level of DD, whilst more vulnerable households will prioritise nutrient-lacking but sustaining food staples; largely carbohydrates. Thus a variety of more than four food groups consumed is considered sufficient DD while consumption of fewer groups is considered low DD. Overall, the majority of ISET households (70%) consumed sufficient DD while **30% exhibited low DD**. Again, the West was found to have poorer DD, with 74% of ISET households falling into the low category, whilst 83% of the Central ISET population had sufficient DD. Alternatively, no relationship was identified between displacement status and DD, implying that geographical location, rather than household status, plays a role in reaching sufficient DD.

**Again, female-headed households were found to be more vulnerable, with 43% exhibiting low DD compared to 29% of male-headed households.** Since female-headed households, and those in the West, were earlier found to have lower average incomes, this supports the notion that financially vulnerable households prioritise staples compared to wealthier households that are capable of purchasing a greater variety of food groups.

It has been documented that in Afghanistan, different household members may eat different foods of varying nutritious quality<sup>50</sup>, indicating that whilst the FCS and DD can be used to highlight the most vulnerable population groups, it does not consider variation in consumption between household members. A lack of iron-dense food consumption could indicate possible health and nutrition deficiencies at the household-level, particularly relevant for maternal health or child wellbeing. As such, **most households (98%) indicated that male household members were the most likely to consume red meat, beans and pulses, followed by women (95% of households), boys (92% of households) and girls (89% of households)**. This suggests that **girls are the least likely to consume iron**, when available, presenting a possible area of nutrition deficiency.

This assessment found that whilst boys and girls were equally likely to be breastfed between six months and two years overall (87% and 86% of households respectively), **children were less likely to be breastfed in female-headed households than male-headed households** (see Figure 14). However, these findings varied between regions, with breastfeeding found to be lower for both boys and girls in the West, where overall food security was also found to be low, indicating that women perhaps did not have the health and wellbeing to continue breastfeeding. As such, this could indicate a nutrition-based need in which infants in female-headed households are more vulnerable.

Figure 14: Breastfeeding of boys and girls in male and female-headed households.



<sup>48</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = 0.026$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.026$ .

<sup>49</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = 0.060$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ .

<sup>50</sup> Heinrich Boell Foundation, "Food discrimination against women in Afghanistan", August 2017.

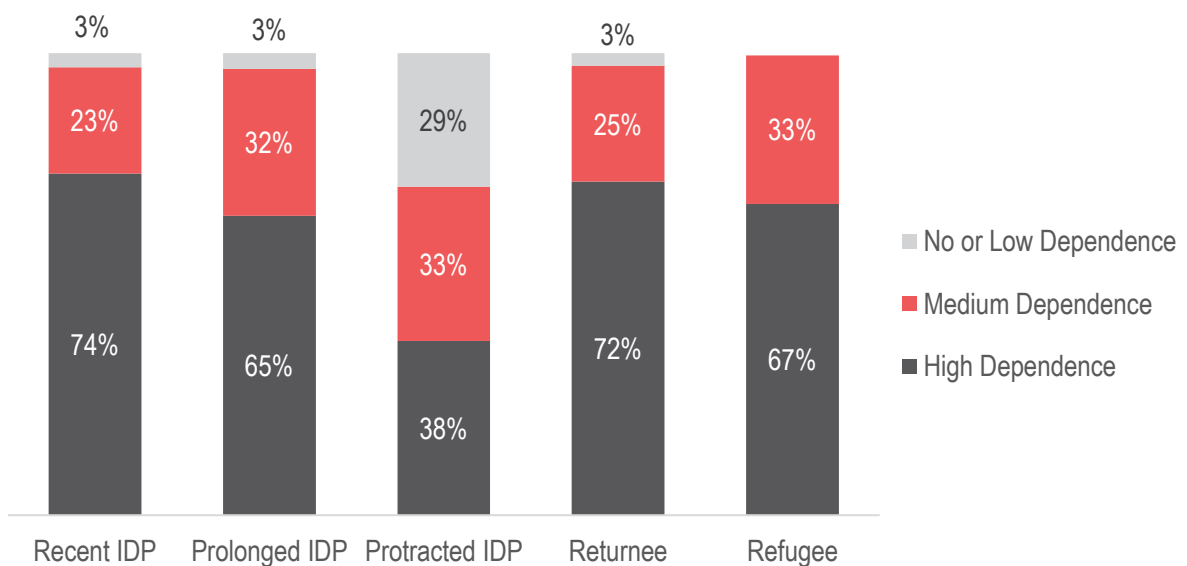
## Food-Based Coping Strategies

Throughout Afghanistan, dependency on negative food-based coping strategies is common. Within ISETs, where food consumption and dietary variation have already been determined to be poor, reliance on coping strategies is expected to be higher. Overall, **the consumption of less preferred or less expensive food was the most commonly implemented strategy, with 93% of ISET households having resorted to this strategy at least one day in the week** prior to data collection, and 18% of ISET households every day in the week prior to assessment. Alternatively, borrowing food from neighbours, family and friends was found to be the least commonly used strategy, implemented by 55% of households at least once over the past seven days. However, this may reflect that neighbours, friends and family did not have sufficient amount of food for others to borrow, rather than a lack of need experienced by ISET households. Further assessments are needed to test this hypothesis.

Based on these findings it was determined that **68% of all ISET households had a high dependency on food-based coping strategies, indicating vulnerability**. An additional 26% of households had a medium dependency, and only 6% of households had no or low dependency. The highest dependency was found in the East (82%) and the lowest in the West (9%). Though in contrast, given the poor FCS noted in the East, it may be supposed that households were unable to use coping strategies such as further reducing portion sizes or buying cheaper food, thus generating a lower coping strategy dependence despite still having poor food security.

It was noted that protracted IDPs were the least likely to use negative coping strategies, as 29% of protracted IDP households had no or low dependency on coping strategies (see Figure 15). **This implies a relationship between the choice of a more permanent location of residence and the ability to develop sustainable solutions to meet food-based needs.** In contrast, refugees, households that are likely to have recently arrived in Afghanistan, given displacement trends, had 0% of households reporting no or low dependence on coping strategies, further highlighting the negative implications recent displacement has on the wellbeing of households.

Figure 15: Proportion of households dependent on negative coping strategies, by displacement status



Household head gender was found to not have any relationship with coping strategy dependency, with 68% of male-headed households highly dependent compared to 67% of female-headed households. In terms of gender, it was also supposed that women and girls would be the most affected by negative coping strategies within the household.<sup>51</sup> However, when asked which household members were affected by food-based coping strategies, 94% of households reported men as being affected, followed by 74% of households reporting women, 43% reporting boys and 38% reporting girls. Although there may be some bias in response to this question, given the

<sup>51</sup> Majidi & Hennion, "Resilience in displacement? Building the potential of Afghan displaced women", *Journal of Displacement*, (January 2014).

sensitive nature of the indicator and the high proportion of male respondents, this finding could highlight that women and girls are not significantly more vulnerable to negative coping strategies than men.

However, it should be noted that the negative food-based coping strategies included in this assessment are reversible and could be considered short-term coping strategies, bridging the gap between current food insecurities and future potential food security. As such, interventions ought to consider durable solutions in ISETs, such as improving self-sufficiency through livestock ownership or focusing on livelihood-based capacity building, rather than short-term food assistance. This would provide a sustainable mitigation to coping strategy dependence.

## Food Access

Limited access to food can significantly contribute to food insecurity, thus it is supposed that ISETs strategically congregate in close proximity to markets, to help mitigate this barrier. Accordingly, the majority of assessed households were found to live less than one kilometre (km) from their nearest market (33%) or between one and two km away (25%). However, **12% of households resided more than 4km away from their nearest market, leaving these settlement residents more vulnerable to protection concerns when travelling to their market.**

Regional trends were identified, with **households in the South-East being most exposed to market access problems, with 27% of households travelling more than 4km to their market.** In contrast, ISET populations from the Central region were the most likely to be close to a market, with 90% of households living less than 1km from the market. This could be attributed to displacement group differences, **with refugee households, all of whom were located in the South-East, the most likely to reside more than 4km from the market (45%),** while protracted IDPs were more likely to live less than 1km from the market (25%). These displacement findings emphasise the role food security and market access play in stabilising displaced populations, since those with sufficient market access may be more inclined to remain in one place, leading to their protracted displacement status. No significant difference was noted in the distance to markets between male- and female-headed households, indicating no heightened protection concern for either household type in that regard.

Findings on access to markets did not indicate particular vulnerabilities, with households travelling a reported average time of 32 minutes. Given that most ISET households were located less than two km from the market, it can be deduced that the majority of the ISET population walk to the market. Time to the market varied across regions in line with distance, varying from an average of 44 minutes in the South-East down to 20 minutes in the Central region. However, despite differences in the time travelling to markets, no significant correlation was identified between time to market and FCS<sup>52</sup>, indicating that food consumption does not decrease the longer a household has to travel to the market. This highlights the imperative nature of food for the household, with households travelling to the market regardless of distance, further strengthening the market-dependence of displaced populations.

This assessment identified **carbohydrate-dense foods, such as bread, rice and potatoes, to be staples for ISET households,** despite their limited nutritional variation, since a positive correlation was found between the price of bread, rice and potatoes and consumption of cereals and tubers.<sup>53</sup> This implies that as the cost of these carbohydrate-dense foods increase, consumption also increases. In contrast, a strong negative correlation between the price of oil<sup>54</sup> and of beans<sup>55</sup> and their consumption was noted, indicating that as the price of oil or beans increases, households are less likely to consume these items. As such, interventions perhaps ought to consider the role of price stability in the food market to encourage greater consumption levels and dietary diversity amongst settlement residents.

## Overall Food Security Status

By triangulating FCS and rCSI, it was identified that **the vast majority of ISET households are severely food insecure (84%), while as few as 3% of households were found to be food secure.** Regional trends were

<sup>52</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = -0.021$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.079$ .

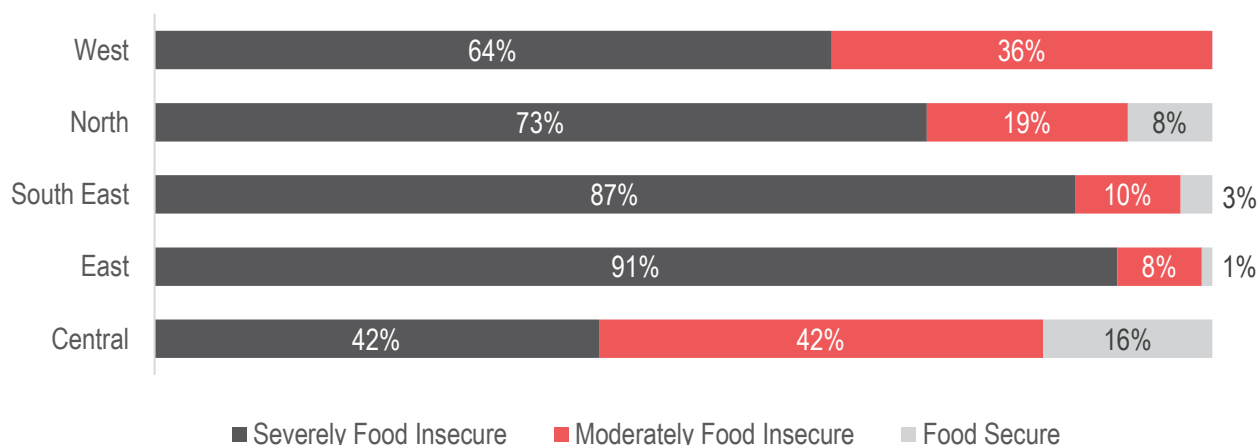
<sup>53</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = 0.205$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ .

<sup>54</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = -0.024$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.047$ .

<sup>55</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = -0.128$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ .

identified (see Figure 16), with 91% of households in the East considered severely food insecure compared to 42% in the Central region. Similarly, most food secure households were found in the Central region (16%), while 1% of ISET households in the East and less than 1% of households in the West were food secure. Food security also differed among displacement groups, with **97% of refugees severely food insecure compared to 54% of protracted IDPs**. This further supports the notion that sustainable food-based solutions are developed over time, such as by protracted IDPs, with longer residence in a particular location and improved food security perhaps being related.

Figure 16: Overall food security status by region



However, no difference was found between male- and female-headed households, with 83% of male-headed households and 85% of female-headed households found to be severely food insecure and in both cases only 3% were food secure. Furthermore, no relationship was identified between overall food security status and either the Gender-Ratio or the Boy-Girl Ratio. This means that the proportion of males in the household compared to females is unlikely to have any bearing on food security and a higher proportion of boys or girls ought not to be considered a significant indicator of food-based vulnerabilities.

Alternatively, **larger ISET households were found to be significantly more likely to be severely food insecure**, with 86% of households with 21 or more household members found to be severely food insecure. In contrast, 67% of households with fewer than five members were found to be severely food insecure; 19 percentage points less than large households. However, no significant relationship was found between household size and the likelihood of being food secure, with all household group sizes having between 3% and 5% of food secure households.

It was also found that **households with additionally vulnerable residents, such as having at least one breastfeeding or pregnant household member, were slightly more likely to be severely food insecure** (see Table 8). This highlights the interconnected nature of vulnerability within ISET households in Afghanistan. Greater food insecurity may in these cases be attributed to greater spending on healthcare and thus less on food, or it may be due to lower earning potential of vulnerable household members reducing the ability to purchase food.<sup>56</sup> Additional research is needed to explore these relationships further.

Table 8: Proportion of severely food insecure households depending on additionally vulnerable household members

Additional vulnerability	At least one vulnerable member	No additionally vulnerable members
Disabled	89%	82%
Breastfeeding	85%	79%
Pregnant	89%	82%
Chronically ill	89%	79%

<sup>56</sup> Samuel Hall, "A Study of Poverty, Food Security and Resilience in Afghan Cities", 2014.

Finally, this assessment indicated the potential effectiveness of food assistance, **with households that received assistance twice as likely to be food secure (16%) than households that did not received assistance (8%)**. Furthermore, households were slightly less likely to be severely food insecure if they received assistance (17%) than if they did not (20%), though a significant difference here was not identified. This therefore highlights the importance of further evidence-based targeting in future food interventions, to ensure effective assistance provision.

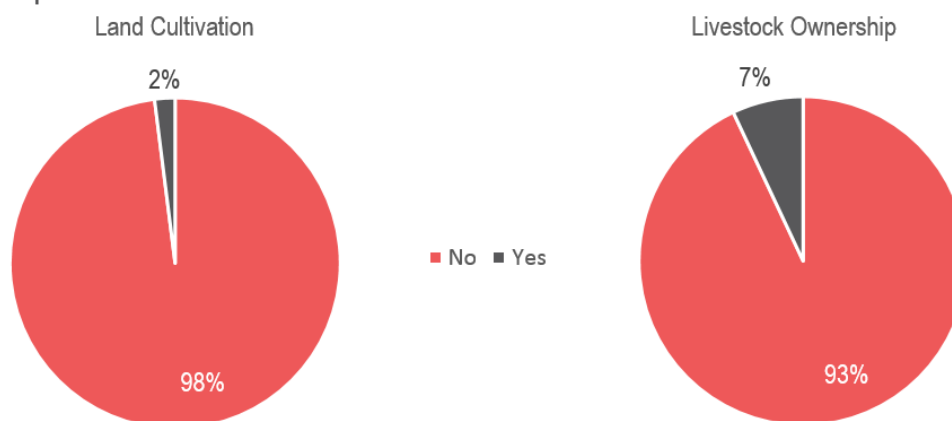
### Food Expenditure Share (FES)

Among ISET households, monthly food expenditures were found to drain a significant proportion of household finances, **with households spending 56% of their monthly expenditures on food, on average**, leaving a relatively small proportion of household income for other essential expenditures. FES was found to be as high as 60% in the West, where food consumption was low, indicating that access to food may be a concern if households are spending a significantly high proportion of their financial resources but still have poor consumption. No significant difference was noted between FES amongst displacement groups or between male- and female-headed households.

### Agriculture and Livestock

**This assessment found that land cultivation (2%) and livestock ownership (7%) was very limited among ISET households** (see Figure 17). These low rates indicate a level of insecurity as cultivatable land and livestock ownership are both a means of self-sustenance and a potential source of income. However, these low figures may be attributed to a lack of space in ISETs, particularly as crowding in ISETs is known to be high.<sup>57</sup> Households also have limited financial capacity, perhaps restricting their ability to build shelters for livestock or pay start-up costs needed to cultivate land or keep livestock.

Figure 17: Proportion of households that cultivate land or own livestock



However, some regional trends were identified, with land cultivation found to be higher in the North region (6%) than the average 2% of households. This further supports the notion that land is simply not available to displaced populations in other regions, as cultivatable land is most prevalent in the North.<sup>58</sup> No difference was identified in the likelihood of cultivating land among displacement groups, supporting the notion that it is not a case of household assets and financial means but rather physical access to land that prevents land cultivation amongst ISET residents.

Of the 2% of ISET household that cultivated land, 44% owned the land, 44% rented land and the remaining 12% sharecropped land. However, given the limited proportion of households engaged in land cultivation, these findings cannot be generalised and thus only refer to those 2% of ISET households that cultivated land. For reference, the average expenditure on agricultural inputs of households that were found to cultivate land was 733 AFN per month. This constitutes a significant proportion of household monthly expenditure, indicating that the value of land cultivation may be high to allow for continued engagement in activity. Further research is required on this topic.

<sup>57</sup> REACH, "Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment: Shelter and WASH in Informal Settlements", November 2017.

<sup>58</sup> UNODC, "Afghanistan Opium Survey 2017 – Cultivation and Production", November 2017.



Similarly, regional trends were also identified in livestock ownership. **The proportion of households in possession of livestock was highest in the South-East (15%), followed by the East (8%).** Among households found to keep livestock, the main types of animals kept were chickens (8 per household, on average) followed by cows (4 per household, on average); both of which are asset-based livestock, producing eggs and milk to be consumed or sold by the household.<sup>59</sup>

However, livestock ownership, particularly within ISETs, presents a protection concern. **Amongst all ISET households, 6% keep livestock in space where household residents are living; either keeping animals inside the main house or household members reside in livestock accommodation due to shelter damage.** Given that only 7% of ISET households keep livestock, it can be deduced that a very high proportion of these households (86%) keep at least some of their livestock in space intended for humans. This generates health concerns and further crowding issues.<sup>60</sup>

Finally, **it was found that households that did cultivate land were equally likely to be food insecure (66%) than those that did not (71%).** Similarly, 73% of households that were found to keep livestock were severely food insecure compared to 71% of households which did not keep livestock. This could indicate the financial burden of maintaining land cultivation or livestock, thus draining limited household resources. Ultimately, this finding questions whether the typically sustainable activities of cultivation and livestock ownership are appropriate for ISET populations, or whether alternative sources of livelihood may be more relevant, particularly given limited financial resources and physical space available.

## Cross-Cutting Issues

During presentations of assessment findings, as well as throughout the HNO preparation process, clusters noted that they would like to know more about the interconnected nature of vulnerabilities. As data was collected for this food security report in conjunction with data on WASH and ESNFI needs and vulnerabilities among the same households, the following outlines a short cross-cutting section of key findings identified. This results indicate how needs are intrinsically linked.

### Food Security and WASH

Firstly, water and food security were found to be related. For instance, **among ISET households found to have sufficient drinking water, households were significantly more likely to be food secure (84%) than food insecure (74%).** Thus interventions to support food or water security may have positive implications on the other insecurity.

Similarly, access to sufficient water also indicated food security, **with households with a water source within their compound more likely to be food secure (43%) than be severely food insecure (32%).**

It was also noted that severely **food insecure households were significantly less likely to have at least one bar of soap (22%)** than households that were food secure (58%). This demonstrates a potential relationship between WASH and food needs, as a significant proportion of ISET households that failed to meet their food needs also did not meet their WASH needs.

Finally, households without a bar of soap or two hygienic water containers were found to travel for a longer period of time to reach their nearest market, on average. This indicates **that the distance and ease in reaching a market relate to the likelihood of a household meeting hygiene requirements**, again emphasising the market dependence and interrelatedness between WASH and market access.

### Food Security and Shelter

A relationship was noted between shelter type and food security level, **with those in vulnerable, transitional shelters the most likely to be severely food insecure (36%).** In contrast, those in permanent shelters were the

<sup>59</sup> FAO, "Afghanistan National Livestock Census", 2003.

<sup>60</sup> REACH, "Afghanistan (North) Shelter Flood Response", April 2017.

most likely to be food secure (54%). Since transitional shelters are an indicator of vulnerability for displaced populations<sup>61</sup>, this finding relates poor shelter conditions with lower food security.

A relationship was also noted between shelter expenditures and food security levels. **A strong negative correlation was identified between household spending on shelter costs, such as rent and damage repairs, and spending on food.**<sup>62</sup> Thus, ISET residents chose to either spend on shelter costs or food, since the proportion of expenditure was inversely related; if shelter spending goes up, food spending goes down, and vice versa. As such, interventions could consider how assistance in either food or shelter may also aid the other given that it eases the financial burden on the household.

**Finally, households that feared imminent eviction were significantly more likely to be severely food insecure (70%) than those that did not fear eviction (30%).** Given that food insecurity was higher amongst households displaced four or more times (48%) and the proportion of food secure households was highest among those displaced only once (68%), it can be deduced that secondary or subsequent displacement will have further negative implications on food security. As such, shelter insecurity and additional displacement are inherently linked with food insecurity, outlining the complex nature of ISET population vulnerabilities.

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<sup>61</sup> REACH, "Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment: Shelter and WASH in Informal Settlements", November 2017.

<sup>62</sup> Pearson correlation  $r = -0.401$  &  $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ .

## CONCLUSION

This assessment aimed to profile the composition of ISETs in Afghanistan, and to understand the specific demographic characteristics and food-based needs, vulnerabilities and coping strategies used by ISET residents. Findings from this assessment enhance understanding of the complex situation faced by ISET residents, informing the humanitarian community of the needs and vulnerabilities of various displacement groups and contributing to better targeting interventions in 2018.

### Understanding of the profile of ISET residents

This assessment has identified ISET residents as a particularly vulnerable population group for a number of reasons. Firstly, household size averages 12 individuals, which is larger than the average of seven household members, used to calculate a one-month food assistance package in Afghanistan.<sup>63</sup> This limits the benefit of household-based assistance received and places strain on the few household breadwinners. Similarly, ISET residents are significantly more dependent on insecure sources of income such as unskilled daily labour (72%) than displaced populations residing outside of ISETs (44%), indicating further vulnerability. Finally, given the nature of ISETs, the populations have a significant fear of eviction, increasing vulnerability and the likelihood of further displacement.

Despite their high fear of eviction, the majority of households intend to remain in their current location and locally integrate (69%). Should households' fear of eviction be realised, however, secondary or subsequent displacement is likely to not only further strain household resources but also lead to an increase in the number of ISETs across Afghanistan. As upcoming displacements and increase in dependence on ISETs can be anticipated, this highlights a need to monitor the needs and track flows of displacement between ISETs. Similarly, the specific needs of those facing additional displacement should be considered.

Finally, ISET residents noted shelter to be their main priority need. ISETs are exposed, facing both harsh Afghan winters and summers with often damaged houses.<sup>64</sup> However, given this high need for shelter assistance, as well as employment and food assistance, it was found that the majority of households (64%) received no assistance in their current location. As such, not only are the needs greater for ISET populations, but access to assistance is limited, further contributing to the vulnerability of residents. It is therefore recommended that ISET populations be considered as an independent target of future intervention planning in 2018.

### Identification of food security vulnerabilities, needs and coping strategies of ISET residents

This assessment found that food consumption level is a main concern, with 73% of ISET households exhibiting poor food consumption. This is subject to regional trends, with greater food consumption vulnerability noted in the West. Given the health and wellbeing consequences of poor food consumption, greater interventions aimed at increasing food intake would be encouraged. However, it was found that dietary diversity and access to the market were not significant areas of concern. It should also be noted that households with additional vulnerabilities, such as household members being disabled or chronically ill, heightened the food insecurity of the household. As such, this presents a further layer of insecurity and indicates the need for assistance to target additionally vulnerable households.

Accordingly, food consumption is the main food-based need amongst ISET residents. However, given the limited insecurities surrounding market access it can be deduced that the main barrier to food consumption is the cost. As such, ISET households are in need of direct food assistance to assist the 84% facing severe food insecurity. However, cash assistance in the short-term and capacity building to improve earning potential in the long-term is needed to increase purchasing capabilities of ISET populations to improve consumption.

Finally, food-based coping strategy use is prevalent in ISETs, with 68% of ISET households exhibiting a high dependency on these strategies. The most commonly used strategies are using less preferred or less expensive food. ISET households are less likely to use strategies such as borrowing from friends or family. Households are

<sup>63</sup> Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, "Food Security Cluster: Afghanistan", 2017.

<sup>64</sup> REACH, "Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment: Shelter and WASH in Informal Settlements", November 2017.

also less likely to reduce the number of meals eaten in a day though this may be due to an inability to reduce food consumption any further as minimal intake is already in place. This limited reliance on coping strategies therefore highlights a further vulnerability rather than a lessened need for concern in ISETs.

### **Outline of the specific food insecurities faced by different displacement groups in ISETs**

When comparing the food security situation amongst IDPs, returnees and refugees it was found that refugees were the most critical in terms of food consumption. In contrast, protracted IDPs were found to have the highest levels of food consumption and the lowest dependence on negative food-based coping strategies. Given that refugees in Afghanistan are likely to have been displaced in the last 6 to 18 months<sup>65</sup>, while protracted IDPs must have been displaced more than two years ago, this indicates the relationship between recent displacement and food insecurity. As it has already been established that secondary and further displacement can be anticipated in the near-future, the relationship between instability and heightened food insecurity is an additional indication of vulnerability and should thus be considered in the evidence-based planning of 2018 interventions.

### **Outline of the specific food insecurities of women and girls in ISETs**

It was found that in particular cases, female-headed households were more vulnerable than their male counterparts. Specifically, female-headed households were found to have poorer food consumption (83% compared to 73%). In addition, infants aged between six months and two years were less likely to be breastfed in female-headed households than male, whilst infant girls were less likely to be breastfed overall than infant boys.

It was also found that ISET households with a higher proportion of girls were more likely to have poorer food consumption, perhaps indicating a preference to spend food on other expenditures rather than invest in a sufficient about or nutritiously varied meal plan for girls. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that girls are the least likely household members to consume iron-rich foods; a proxy indicator for iron deficiency. However, this assessment indicated no significant difference between coping strategy use amongst male and female household heads. Thus the expected female-based protection concerns, stimulated by heightened exposure to the community, are not a significant concern in ISETs, perhaps due to the market dependence of these settlements in Afghanistan.

### **Recommendations for further research**

Having completed the assessment, particular findings have drawn attention to recommended areas of future research which could further highlight the needs and vulnerabilities of ISET populations:

- A specific assessment exploring the role market dependence plays in the establishment of a new ISET or growing ISET locations. It has been supposed throughout this assessment that ISETs congregate in areas with close proximity to a market, however the direction of causality is unknown. Since many ISETs in Afghanistan have been in existence for many years, it is possible that markets have developed in ISET-dense locations given the customer presence. Further analysis could shed light on additional interventions to improve income generation amongst market workers and food security amongst ISET residents.
- The inclusion of more detailed nutrition indicators is required. Not only would this strengthen understanding of the multi-sectoral nature of needs and vulnerabilities within ISETs, but it would also move beyond consumption measures to fully indicate nutrition deficiencies and accessibility issues.
- Since the assessment found that very few households maintained agricultural activities or livestock ownership, it may have been suggested that these activities ought to be encouraged in ISETs as a sustainable form of livelihood coping. However, findings indicated that those households which did engage in land cultivation or livestock maintenance did not have an improved food security situation. As such, a full cost-benefit analysis of livestock and agriculture engagement within an ISET context would be a valuable area of research.
- Finally, further profiling of ISETs, on a nation-wide scale, is required to fully understand the regional and provincial trends of these locations, particularly in lieu of a formal camp structure in Afghanistan. Once full profiling is underway, regular monitoring of displacement between these ISETs will indicate flows of movement, ultimately aiding targeted assistance of particularly vulnerable population groups across the country.

<sup>65</sup> NRC, "Global Report on Internal Displacement", 2017.

## Annex 1: MCNA Household-Level Survey

RQ Match	Sector	Indicator	Index	Questionnaire	Choices	
RQ1.6	Demographic Profile	Household head by age, sex, and disability	F_1_1	Household head is male or female?	Female	
					Male	
			F_1_2	Household head age?		
				F_1_3	Household head has disability?	No - no disability
						Yes - disability
		Families per household	F_2	Household is how many families?		
		Household by sex and age	F_3_1	Household is how many individuals in total?		
			F_3_2	How many household members are:	# of Female New born (<1yr)	
					# of Male New born (<1yr)	
					# of Female children (1< 5yr)	
					# of Male children (1< 5yr)	
					# of School-aged girls (5<16)	
					# of School-aged boys (5<16)	
					# of Female adolescents (16<18yr)	
# of Male adolescents (16<18yr)						
# of Female adults (18<50yr)						
# of Male adults (18<50yr)						
# of Female older adults (50 < 64yr)						
# of Male older adults (50 < 64yr)						
# of Male elders (65+)						
# of Female elders (65+)						
	F_4	How many household members are:	# of HH members with disability			

		Household members by additional vulnerability			# of female HH members breastfeeding
					# of pregnant HH members
					# of chronically ill members
		Access to tazkira	F_5	How many adults in the household have a Tazkira?	Head of household
					All adult household members (aged 18 +)
					Some adult household members (aged 18+)
Dependency ratio (breadwinners in the household)	F_6	How many breadwinners (currently working and over 16 years) are in the household?			
RQ1.7	Displacement	Current displacement status	G_1	RDID question set	
		Documented or undocumented returnee	G_2	For returnees, are you registered with UNHCR?	yes
					no
		Previous location of residence		What was your previous location of residence (country for returnees or province and district for IDPs)	
		Length of displacement	G_3	When was the first household member displaced from the previous location?	Year
					Month
		Highest number of times displaced	G_4	What is the highest number of times a HH member has been displaced?	Once
					Twice
					Three times
					Four of more times
		Arrival at current location	G_5_1	When did the FIRST household member arrive at this location?	Year
			G_5_2	When did the LAST household member arrive at this location?	Month
Primary reason for choosing current location	G_6	Primary reason for choosing to come to current location	Year		
			Month		
Primary reason for choosing current location	G_6	Primary reason for choosing to come to current location	Family / friends are here		
			Better employment opportunities		



					Only staying temporary until moving to next destination
					Better security
					Better access to services
					Only destination we could afford
					Other (Specify)
RQ1.8	Economic Characteristics	Household income	H_1	What is the average monthly income (in AFN) of the hh?	
		Primary source of income covering household expenditures	H_2	What source covered MOST of HH expenses in the most recent 30 days?	Income from cash crop farming
					Income from livestock farming
					Income from rent
					Income from business / sale of goods / services
					Unskilled daily labour / no contract
					Skilled daily labour / no contract
					Formal employment / with contract
					Government benefits
					Humanitarian assistance
					Gifts / remittances
					Borrowing / loans
		Savings			
		Other (Specify)			
		Percentage of household expenses covered by primary source	H_3	What % of HH expenses in the most recent 30 days, was covered by this source?	
Secondary source of income covering household expenditures	H_4	What source covered SECOND MOST of HH expenses in the most recent 30 days?	Income from cash crop farming		
			Income from livestock farming		
			Income from rent		
			Income from business / sale of goods / services		
					Unskilled daily labour / no contract

					Skilled daily labour / no contract
					Formal employment / with contract
					Government benefits
					Humanitarian assistance
					Gifts / remittances
					Borrowing / loans
					Savings
					No further source
					Other (Specify)
		Percentage of household expenses covered by secondary source	H_5	What % of HH expenses in the most recent 30 days, was covered by this source?	
		Tertiary source of income covering household expenditures	H_6	What source covered THIRD MOST of HH expenses in the most recent 30 days?	Income from cash crop farming
					Income from livestock farming
					Income from rent
					Income from business / sale of goods / services
					Unskilled daily labour / no contract
					Skilled daily labour / no contract
					Formal employment / with contract
					Government benefits
					Humanitarian assistance
					Gifts / remittances
					Borrowing / loans
					Savings
					No further source
		Other (Specify)			
		Percentage of household expenses covered by tertiary source	H_7	What % of HH expenses in the most recent 30 days, was covered by this source?	
		Expenditures on essential items in the past 30 days	H_8	How much did the HH spend in the most recent 30 days on:	Food
					Loan repayments
					Livestock

					Agricultural inputs (e.g. Fodder, seeds, tools)
					Health care
					Education
					Other education spending
					Shelter materials/labour
					Rent
					Fuel
					HH items
					Transport
					Communication
					Tobacco
					Adult clothing
					Adult shoes
					Children's clothing and shoes
					Other (specify)
RQ2.1	Food Consumption	Food consumption by household in past 7 days	l_1	In the most recent 7 days - on how many days did household members eat any of the following foods?	# days Rice, bread, potatoes, maize (all cereals & tubers)
					# days Beans, peas, chickpeas, peanuts, cashewnuts, other nuts (all pulses & nuts)
					# days All vegetables
					# days All fruits
					# days Beef, goat, poultry, eggs, fish, sheep (all meat & fish)
					# days Milk, yoghurt (all dairy products)
					# days Sugar, honey (all sugar products)
					# days Oil, fat, butter
		Consumption of meat/beans/pulses by men/women/boys/girls	l_2	Do all household members consume meat, beans and pulses when they are available in the household?	Women
					Men
Girls					
Food source of boys/girls aged 6 months to 2 years	l_3_1		Solid food		
			Breastfeeding		

				What is the main food source of hh boys aged between 6 months and 2 years?	Other (Specify)
			I_3_2	What is the main food source of hh girls aged between 6 months and 2 years?	Solid food Breastfeeding Other (Specify)
		Coping strategies by household in past 7 days	I_4_1	In the most recent 7 days - on how many days did household members do any of the following?	# days rely on less preferred / less expensive food
					# days borrow food from friends and relatives
					# days limit portion size at mealtimes
					# days restrict consumption by adults
		I_4_2	Which household members are affected by food-based coping strategies?	Women	
				Men	
				Girls	
				Boys	
RQ2.2	Food Access	Change in key food and non-food commodity prices	J_1	How much do the following items cost (in AFN)?	1 piece of naan
					1 kg rice
					1 kg potatoes
					1 kg beans/lentils/pulses
					1 L oil
		Distance to nearest functioning market (in km)	J_2	How far away in kilometres, is the nearest functioning market?	Less than 1 km
					2km
					3km
					4km
		5 or more km	J_3	How far away in minutes by foot, is the nearest functioning market?	
RQ2.3	Agriculture	Access and current cultivation of agricultural land	K_1_1	Does the HH currently cultivate any land?	yes
					no
		K_1_2	If yes, what is the land arrangement?	Owned land	
				Rented land	

					Sharecropped land
					Other (Specify)
					Don't know
		Livestock ownership	K_2_1	Does the HH currently own any livestock?	yes
					no
			K_2_2	If yes, which type? How many?	# of cattle
					# of goats
					# of sheep
					# of poultry
					# of camels
# of donkeys					
# of other					
Other - specify animal type and how many					
RQ3	WASH	Primary source of drinking water used by household	L_1	Which type of drinking water source is MOST used by the household?	Handpump (pumped well) - private
					Handpump (pumped well) - public
					Piped water - private
					Piped water - municipal
					Spring, well or kariz - protected
					Spring, well or kariz - unprotected
					Surface water (Stream/river/irrigation)
					Water trucking / tankering
					Other (Specify)
		Time to water source for a round trip by most often used mode of transport (includes on foot)	L_2	How far away is the most used drinking water source, using the usual mode of transport / time taken for a round trip (includes on foot)	Inside house/compound;
					less than 20 minutes
					more than 20 minutes
		Access to sufficient water for drinking	L_3	Does the household have access to enough sufficient water for drinking?	Yes
No					
	L_4		Yes		

		Access to sufficient water for cooking		Does the household have access to enough sufficient water for cooking?	No
		Access to sufficient water for bathing	L_5	Does the household have access to enough sufficient water for bathing?	Yes No
		Primary latrine type used by household	L_6	What type of latrines are used by the household?	No facility - open field, dearan, bush Community latrine Family Pit latrine - with slab / covered Family Pit latrine - without slab / open Family Ventilated improved pit latrine Family Flush toilet to sewer system Family Flush/pour toilet to septic tank/pit Other (Specify)
		Primary solid waste disposal type used by household	L_7	How does the household mainly dispose of solid waste?	Buried Burned Collected Thrown outside/in the street
		Availability of basic minimum hygiene items	L_8	Does the family has at least one bar of toilet soap for handwashing	Yes No
		Availability of water storage	L_9	Does the family has at least two narrow neck water containers (10 - 20 litres)	Yes No
RQ4	ESNFI & Land	Primary shelter type of household living space	M_1	What is the main shelter type of the indoor living space used by the household?	Handmade tent Tarpaulin tent Permanent mud bricks Transitional mud bricks Timber/Iron sheets Other (Specify)
			M_2		Owned with documentation



		Current accommodation arrangement of household living space		What is the accommodation arrangement of the indoor living space used by the household?	Owned without documentation
					Rented
					Hosted by friends/family for free
					Staying in accommodation for free with owner's consent
					Staying in accommodation for free without owner's consent
					Don't know
		Household land tenure status in current location	M_3	What is the land tenure status of the living space used by the household?	Land title deed issued by Court of Law
					Customary tenure document
					Letter of permission from Government Authorities
					Safayee Notebook
					Rental agreement (written or verbal)
					Verbal permission
					None (occupied without permission)
					Don't know
					Other (specify)
		Crowding index	M_4	How many rooms are there in the indoor living space used by the household?	
		Livestock in indoor space	M_5	Are livestock kept in the same indoor living space as household members?	yes
					no
		Indoor living space for female household members	M_6	Is there a separate room available for female household members?	yes
					no
		Fear of eviction	M_7	Do you fear your household may be evicted from this living space?	yes
					no
		Use of BBB techniques	M_8_1	Is the shelter safe from site hazards?	yes
			M_8_2		no
					yes

				Is the shelter foundation free from cracks?	no
			M_8_3	Does the shelter have ANY plinth bands?	yes no
			M_8_4	Does the shelter have ANY corner bracing?	yes no
			M_8_5	Do ANY doors and/or windows have lintels?	yes no
			M_8_6	Are all door and window edges starting AT LEAST 60 cm from all corners?	yes no
			M_8_7	Does water drain away from the shelter?	yes no
			M_8_8	Have any trees been cut down and/or hillsides been excavated?	yes no
			M_8_9	Do any hh members have insufficient clothing, blankets or bedding?	Women Men Girls Boys All hh members have sufficient clothing/blankets/bedding
			M_8_10	Do any hh members have insufficient hygiene supplies?	Women Men Girls Boys All hh members have sufficient hygiene supplies
			M_8_11	What are the priority NFI needs of the household?	Kitchen items Heating materials Clothing Blankets/Bedding Water container

					Hygiene supplies
					Fuel
					Winterisation materials
					No NFI needs
					Other (Specify)
RQ1.9	Assistance	Assistance received	N_1_1	What assistance has the HH received in the current location?	Shelter
					Food
					Health care
					Drinking water
					Hygiene training / kits
					Cash assistance
					Education for children under 18
					Psychological support
					Other (Specify)
					No assistance received
	N_1_2	When was the most recent assistance received in the current location?	Year		
			Month		
	N_1_3	What type of assistance was this?	Give all options above (N_1_1)		
Barriers to assistance	N_2	Have HH members faced any of the following difficulties when trying to access assistance?	Household received too little assistance		
			Household received less assistance than others		
			Household received no assistance as they don't have a Tazkera		
			Household received no assistance for other reasons		
			Household received assistance but is not in need		

					Political interference
					Type of assistance was not the one needed
					Other difficulty (specify)
					No assistance needed
RQ1.10	Priority Needs	Priority needs of the household	O_1	What is the main priority needs of the HH?	No needs
					Employment
					Training
					Agricultural / livestock support
					Food
					Health care
					Water / sanitation
					Shelter
					Legal advice
					Security
					Education
					Land mine risk education
					Psychological support
					Other (Specify)
RQ1.11	Intentions	Preference for a permanent place to live	P_1	Over the upcoming year, what is the HH plan for a permanent place to live?	Return to place of origin
					Stay at current location (locally integrate)
					Resettle somewhere else
					Migrate abroad
					Undecided
					Other (specify)