



# JOINT MARKET MONITORING INITIATIVE (JMMI)

## Earthquake Response in Khost, Paktika, and Paktya Provinces

### Afghanistan



## OVERVIEW

A 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck the south-eastern region of Afghanistan on 22 of June 2022, which caused widespread destruction, disruption to services, and loss of life, to an already highly vulnerable population across Khost, Paktika, and Paktya provinces. Despite various market assessments conducted in affected areas, key information gaps were identified related to the functionality of markets, availability of non-food items and shelter materials, as well as the ability of retailers to scale up the supply to meet the expected increase in demand associated with the reconstruction phase of the response.

In coordination with the ES/NFI cluster and the CVWG, REACH initiated an ad-hoc round of the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) in the three south-eastern affected provinces. The JMMI assessment employs a quantitative key informant interview (KII) approach. The methodology includes surveys with purposively sampled traders, acting as key informants (KIs) for their respective markets. The findings are, therefore, indicative and may not always fully reflect market activity in the assessed areas.<sup>1</sup> More details on the approach are available in the methodology note section at the end.

Data from this round, was collected between August 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 by JMMI partner International Rescue Committee (IRC).

### Median cost of Food Basket

**87.68 USD | 7,903 AFN**

National indicative value<sup>2</sup>

**92.89 USD**

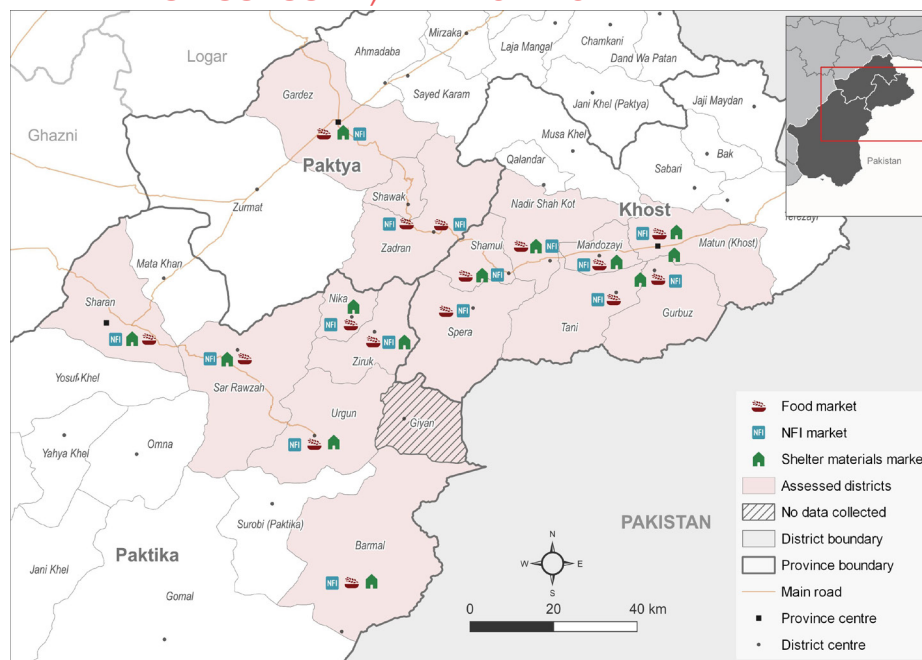
### Median cost of MEB<sup>3</sup>

**239.89 USD | 21,621 AFN**

National indicative value<sup>2</sup>

**239.28 USD**

## MARKETS ASSESSED, BY PROVINCE



16 Districts assessed  
131 Key informants (KIs) interviewed  
65 Commodities assessed

47 Food traders  
47 NFIs traders  
37 Shelter materials traders



## KEY FINDINGS

- All 16 assessed districts were found to have at least one market for food and NFIs, except for Shawak. Shelter material markets, however, were identified in only 12 districts. In those districts where markets were present, **nearly all shops assessed were operational**. In Spera though, 100% of KIs reported a decrease in the number of shops open due to earthquake induced damages.
- The majority of all traders reported an increase in prices with increased transportation costs appearing to be a main driver, in line with general nationwide trends. Findings further suggest that the earthquake (and its response) may have also contributed to the rise in the cost of NFIs. Additionally, **the earthquake was found to be driving the increase in the demand of shelter materials**, primarily as an effect of cash distributions in affected areas (73% of KIs).
- All assessed commodities were found to be generally available in the market, with variations across items and districts. Whilst nearly all KIs reported not facing difficulties to meet demand, road transportation difficulties were reportedly affecting supply chains, and more so since the earthquake.
- Road damages as well as increased distance due to earthquake-induced damages to local markets have been hindering consumers ability to access markets (as reported by 39% of KIs and 27% of KIs respectively). Women's access to markets, generally low across all districts, and particularly in Nika and Ziruk however has remained constant after the earthquake.
- Functional money transfer systems able to deliver cash in or near the market were overall reported to be present in the assessed areas (81% KIs), with some key exceptions, such as Nika and Spera. Nonetheless, only 50% of traders reported being able to access cash.



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**REACH**

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more effective  
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# Earthquake Response Market Assessment

## Food Items

7 - 14 August 2022

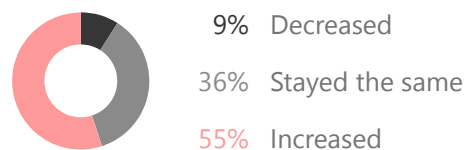


### MEDIAN FOOD ITEMS PRICES AT THE TIME OF INTERVIEW

Food Items	Unit	Price (AFN)	Price (USD)
Wheat flour (local)	1 Kg	53	0.58
Wheat flour (imported)	1 Kg	55	0.61
Local rice	1 Kg	47	0.52
Vegetable oil	1 L	155	1.72
Pulses <sup>4</sup>	1 Kg	102	1.13
Salt	1 Kg	14	0.16
Sugar	1 Kg	70	0.78
Tomatoes	1 Kg	20	0.22

### REPORTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF FOOD ITEMS SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE, AND REPORTED REASONS FOR PRICE INCREASE<sup>5</sup>

% of KIs reporting change in price for food items since the earthquake:



Out of those KIs reporting an increase in food items prices, the most frequently cited reasons were:<sup>6</sup>

- 1 65% Increased transportation costs
- 2 65% Increased price from suppliers
- 3 42% Reduced availability of commodities
- 4 42% General global inflation

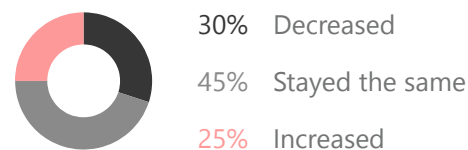
100% of KIs in Gardez and Matun reported an increase in the food prices since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 55%.

### CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF FOOD ITEMS FROM OPERATIONAL TRADERS

Food Items	Available (% KIs)	Unavailable (% KIs)	Median restock time (days)
Wheat flour (local)	68%	32%	1
Wheat flour (imported)	98%	2%	1.5
Local rice	98%	2%	2
Vegetable oil	98%	2%	2
Pulses <sup>4</sup>	92%	8%	2
Salt	100%	0%	2
Sugar	100%	0%	2
Tomatoes	98%	2%	1.5

### REPORTED CHANGE IN DEMAND OF FOOD ITEMS SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE

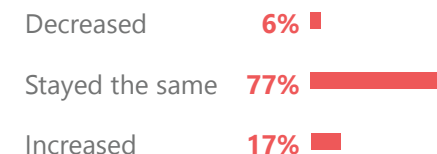
% of KIs reporting a change in demand for food items since the earthquake:



100% of KIs in Matun, Nadir Shah, and Spera districts reported an increase in demand for food since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 25%. Out of those KIs reporting an increase in demand for food items, the most frequently reported reason was cash distributions in response to the earthquake.

### SUPPLIER OF FOOD SELLER

% of KIs reporting a change in the number of food suppliers since the earthquake:



Median restock time (days) of food items: **2**

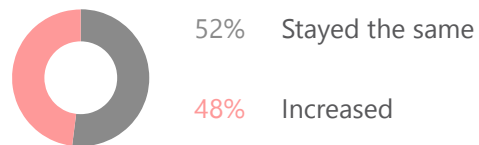


### MEDIAN NFIs (WINTERISATION) PRICES AT THE TIME OF INTERVIEW

NFI Items	Unit	Price (AFN)	Price (USD)
Firewood	1 Kg	15	0.17
Coal or Charcoal	1 Kg	20	0.22
Solar panel <sup>7</sup>	1 Piece	5350	59.35
Blanket	1 Piece	1275	14.14
Mattress	1 Piece	1500	16.64
Wood Heater	1 Piece	2000	22.19
Winter Jacket	1 Piece	750	8.32
Diesel	1 Liter	110	1.22

### REPORTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF NFIs SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE, AND REPORTED REASONS FOR PRICE INCREASE<sup>5</sup>

% of KIs reporting a change in price for NFIs since the earthquake:



Out of those KIs reporting an increase in NFIs prices, the most frequently cited reasons were:<sup>6</sup>

- 41% Increased transportation costs
- 36% Demand increased
- 32% Earthquake induced inflation
- 32% General global inflation

100% of KIs in Gardez, Gurbuz, Nadir Shah, Matun, and Spera districts reported an increase in the NFI price since the earthquake compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 48%.

### CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF NFIs FROM OPERATIONAL TRADERS

NFI Items	Available (% KIs)	Unavailable (% KIs)	Median restock time (days)
Firewood	100%	0%	2
Coal or Charcoal	65%	35%	1.5
Solar panel <sup>7</sup>	75%	15%	1.5
Blanket	74%	26%	1.5
Mattress	83%	17%	2
Wood Heater	98%	2%	2
Winter Jacket	75%	15%	2
Diesel	96%	4%	2

### REPORTED CHANGE IN DEMAND OF NFIs SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE<sup>5</sup>

% of KIs reporting change in demand for NFIs since the earthquake:



100% of KIs in Gardez and Matun districts reported an increase in demand for NFIs since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 24%. Out of those KIs reporting an increase in NFIs demand, the most frequently reported reason was reduced number of open shops since the earthquake.

### SUPPLIER OF NFI SELLER

% of KIs reporting a change in the number of NFI suppliers since the earthquake:



Median restock time (days) of winterisation items: **2**



# Earthquake Market Assessment

## Shelter Materials

7 - 14 August 2022

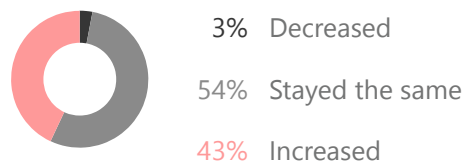


### MEDIAN SHELTER MATERIALS PRICES AT THE TIME OF INTERVIEW

Shelter Materials	Unit	Price (AFN)	Price (USD)
Cement	1 Bag	450	4.99
Sand	1 m³	1100	12.2
Soil	1 m³	450	4.99
Building stones	1 m³	800	8.87
Wooden poles <sup>8</sup>	1 Piece	600	6.65
Wooden window <sup>9</sup>	1 Piece	4500	49.92
Wooden door	1 Piece	4000	44.38
Gypsum powder	1 Kg	10	0.11
Lime	1 Kg	12	0.13
Mud bricks	1 Piece	3	0.03

### REPORTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF SHELTER MATERIALS SINCE THE EARTHQUAKE, AND REPORTED REASONS FOR PRICE INCREASE<sup>5</sup>

% of KIs reporting a change in price for shelter materials since the earthquake:



Out of those KIs reporting an increase in shelter materials price, the most frequently cited reasons were:<sup>6</sup>

- 54% Increased price from suppliers
- 46% General global inflation
- 38% Earthquake induced inflation

100% of KIs in Gardez, Shamul, and Ziruk districts reported an increase in the shelter materials price since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 43%.

### CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF SHELTER MATERIALS FROM OPERATIONAL TRADERS

Shelter Materials	Available (% KIs)	Unavailable (% KIs)	Stock & Restock*
Cement	97%	3%	●
Sand	100%	0%	●
Soil	93%	7%	●
Building stones	90%	10%	●
Wood poles <sup>8</sup>	80%	20%	●
Wooden window <sup>9</sup>	90%	10%	●
Wooden door	90%	10%	●
Gypsum powder	97%	3%	●
Lime	100%	0%	●
Mud bricks	83%	17%	●

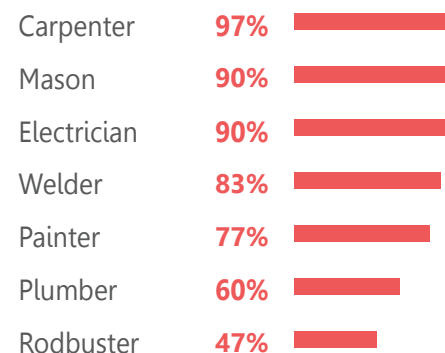
#### \*Stock & Restock

This indicator captures whether stock is likely to be depleted by comparing the number of days of stock remaining to the number of days it takes to restock

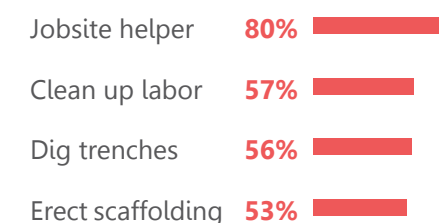
- Days of stock - days to restock > 5
- Days of stock - days to restock in >0 and <=5
- Days of stock - days to restock <= 0

### CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF CONSTRUCTION LABOUR

% of assessed KIs by the reported availability of skilled construction labour in all markets:<sup>6</sup>



% of assessed KIs by the reported availability of unskilled construction labour in all markets:<sup>6</sup>







# Earthquake Response Market Assessment

## Market Supply

7 - 14 August 2022



### LOCATION OF MAIN SUPPLIERS FOR FOOD, NFIs AND SHELTER MATERIALS

Proportion of retailer KIs by reported location of their main supplier of **food items**:



- 53% Province capital city
- 15% Same province<sup>10</sup>
- 28% Different province
- 2% Imported from abroad

Proportion of retailer KIs by reported location of their main supplier of **NFIs**:



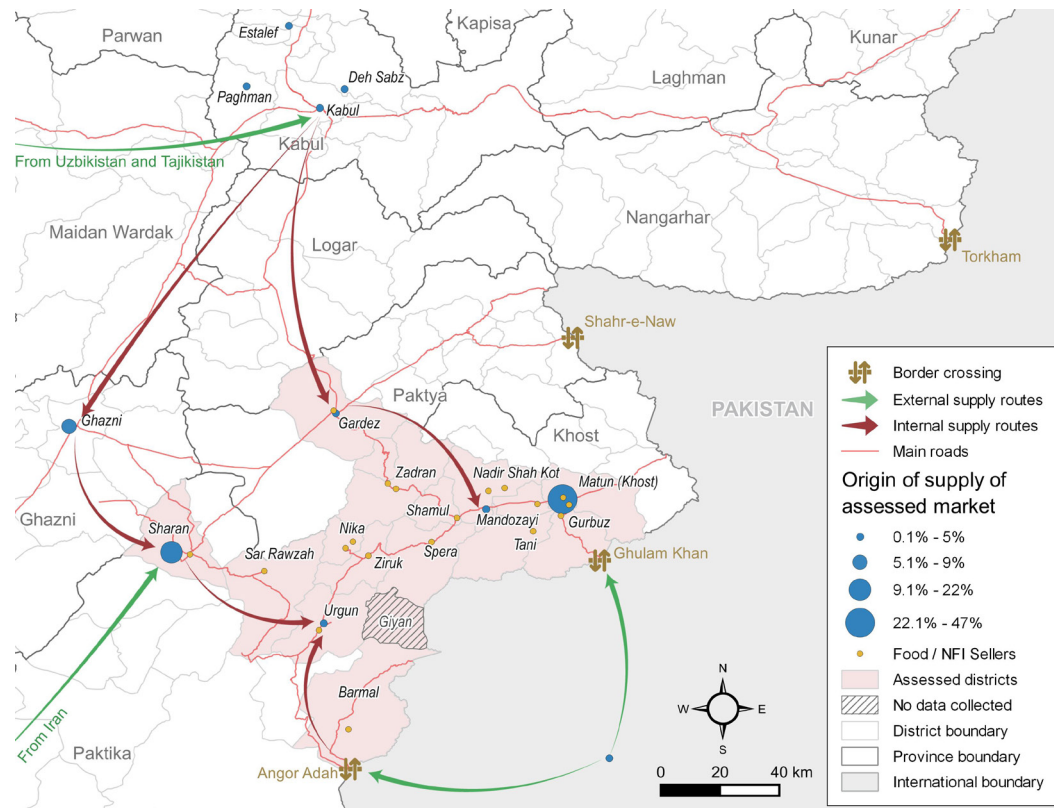
- 52% Province capital city
- 9% Same province<sup>10</sup>
- 37% Different province
- 2% Imported from abroad

Proportion of retailer KIs by reported location of their main supplier of **shelter materials**:

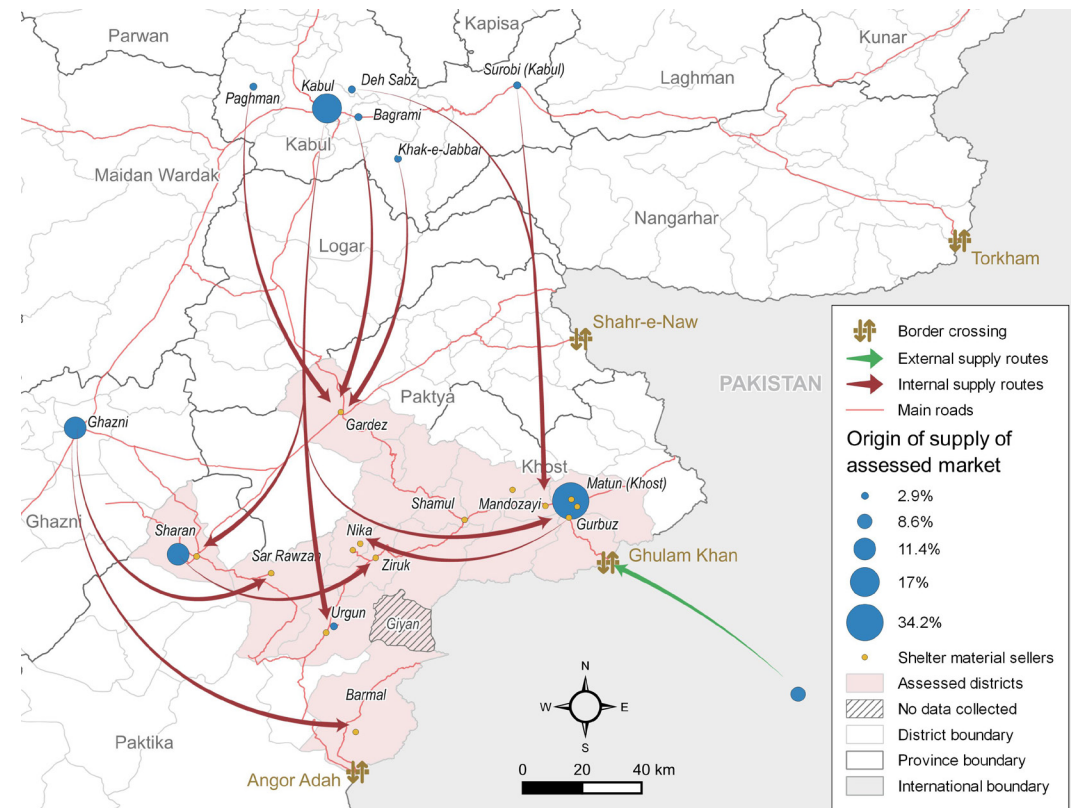


- 30% Province capital city
- 10% Same province<sup>10</sup>
- 53% Different province
- 7% Imported from abroad

### FOOD & NFI SUPPLY ROUTE MAP



### SHELTER MATERIALS SUPPLY ROUTE MAP





# Earthquake Response Market Assessment

## Access, Challenges, Traders & Market Functionality

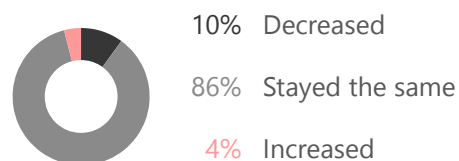
7 - 14 August 2022



### TRADER PRESENCE IN THE MARKET

KIs perceived the following changes in the number of shops that have been open since the earthquake:

Among those KIs who reported having perceived a decrease in the number of shops open in the marketplace, the most cited reasons for this decrease were:<sup>6</sup>



- 1 65% Lack of commodities
- 2 35% Shops damaged / destroyed
- 3 23% Purchasing power of customers increased

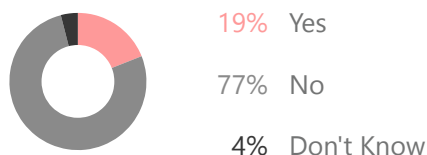
KIs in Spera (100%), and Gurbuz (33%) reported having perceived a decrease in the number of shops open in the marketplace since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 10%.

### DIFFICULTIES TO TRANSPORT OR PROCURE SUPPLIES

43% of KIs reported being aware of current difficulties in road-based transportation of goods between suppliers and their business. The most frequently cited difficulties were:<sup>6</sup>

% of KIs who reported new difficulties in road-based transportation of goods between suppliers and your business since the earthquake:

- 1 34% Natural disaster
- 2 15% Damaged roads
- 3 9% Seasonality

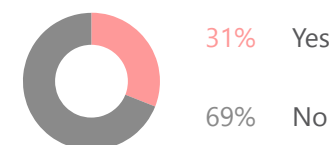
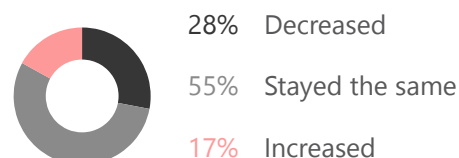


KIs in Gardez (100%), Mandozay (89%), Nika (83%), Urgun (78%), Ziruk (71%), and Sharan (67%) reported being aware of current difficulties in road-based transportation of goods between suppliers and their business, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 43%.

### CONSUMER PRESENCE IN THE MARKET

KIs perceived the following changes in the number of customers in the market since the earthquake:

% of KIs who reported noticing customers coming from different areas or new settlements since the earthquake:

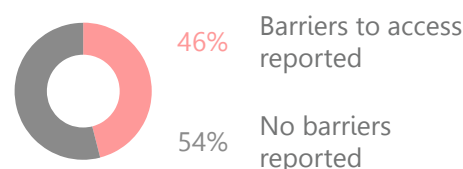


KIs in Sharan (89%), Gardez (78%), Urgun (67%), and Matun (55%) reported noticing customers coming from new settlements since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 31%.

### BARRIERS TO TRAVEL TO MARKETS FOR CONSUMERS

Proportion of KIs reporting consumers faced barriers to travel to market since the earthquake:

Among those KIs reporting that people face barriers to travel to markets, the most frequently cited reasons were:<sup>6</sup>



- 1 39% Roads damaged by the earthquake
- 2 27% Seasonality and floods
- 3 25% No access for women alone

KIs in Shamul (100%), Mandozay, (100%), Zadran (83%), Nadir Shah Kot (78%) and Ziruk (71%) reported consumers faced barriers to travel to market since the earthquake, compared to the average over assessed areas<sup>1</sup> of 46%.



# Earthquake Response Market Assessment

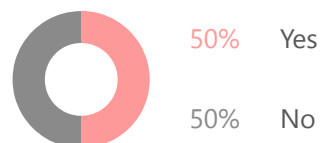
## Cash Availability, Endnotes, Methodology

7 - 14 August 2022



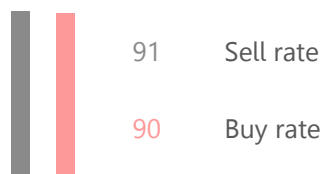
### CASH ACCESS

Proportion of KIs reporting on being able to access cash:



### USD TO AFN EXCHANGE RATE

Exchange rate of 1 USD to AFN during data collection period:



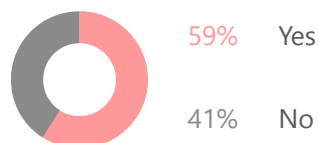
### PRESENCE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

Proportion of KIs reporting on the presence of functional money transfer services in or near their market area, by type:<sup>11</sup>



### USD TO AFN EXCHANGE

Proportion of KIs reporting exchanging USD to AFN is possible in their marketplace:



### METHODOLOGY

For each district the partner conducted 3 KIIs per type of market (food, NFIs, and shelter construction materials) with both retailers and wholesalers. 2 KIIs with retailers and 1 KIIs with a wholesalers for food and NFI markets -1 KII with a retailer and 2 KIIs with wholesalers for shelter materials markets. KIIs were asked information encompassing the days since the June 2022 earthquake. Findings rely on the knowledge of the KIIs regarding their respective markets. All reported findings are based on data collected from the operational and partially operational shops.

### About the Afghanistan Cash and Voucher Working Group, the Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Cluster, and REACH Initiative

The Afghanistan Cash and Voucher Working Group (CVWG) is an inter-cluster technical working group set up to ensure cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Afghanistan is coordinated, follows a common rationale, is context specific and is undertaken in a manner that does not inflict harm or exacerbate vulnerabilities of the affected population. The working group was initially established in 2012 under the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) and since 2014 has become an inter-cluster working group. It is overseen by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Team (ICCT). The working group is currently co-chaired by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the World Food Programme (WFP). For more information, please visit <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/afghanistan/cash-voucher>.

The Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Cluster supports the provision of basic lifesaving services by coordinating the delivery of emergency, transitional, and permanent shelter solutions, as well as winterization assistance. This helps to mitigate further protection risks and allows for safer and more dignified living conditions. The ES/NFI Cluster supports these efforts through the development of tools, management of assessments, and development of coordinated strategies to improve cooperation between humanitarian organization and government entities. For more information please visit the Shelter Cluster Website or contact the ES/NFI Cluster directly at: [coord.afghanistan@sheltercluster.org](mailto:coord.afghanistan@sheltercluster.org).

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection, in-depth analysis and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT). 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.

### ENDNOTES

1. Assessed areas are Spera, Shamul, Tani, Gurbuz, Nadir Shah Kot, Mandozayi, Matun (Khost), Ziruk, Nika, Barmal, Urgun, Sar Rawzah, Sharana (Paktika), Shawak, Zadrar, Gardez (Paktya). Although originally in the sampling frame, no data could be collected in Giyan.
2. National indicative values are based on the July round of JMMI.
3. The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a seven-person Afghan household for one month.
4. Pulses in this table are calculated as the median (normalised) price of all three types of pulses monitored: lentils, beans, and split-peas.
5. All KIIs were asked about changes in prices of food items, NFIs, and shelter materials in general. KIIs that reported an increase or decrease were asked to report on the main reason for this.
6. Respondents could report multiple options. Findings may therefore exceed 100%.
7. Solar panel: 1 piece of size 50 x 100cm
8. Wooden poles (20 cm diameter and 5 m length) (piece)
9. Wooden window frame: 1 piece of size 1.5 x 1.5m
10. Same province: location of the main supplier is the same district and the same province, except the provincial capital city.
11. The hawala system is an informal method of transferring money, including across borders, through a network of money brokers. Hawala is used today as an alternative remittance channel that exists outside of traditional banking systems.