EMERGENCY SHELTER, NON-FOOD ITEMS & WINTERIZATION ASSESSMENT

December 2019

Herat Province, AFGHANISTAN

Introduction and Methodology

After 40 years of continued humanitarian crisis, Afghanistan remains one of the world's most complex humanitarian emergencies. The Humanitarian Needs Overview[1] and other country-wide needs assessments[2] have highlighted emergency shelter and non-food items (ES/NFI) as a priority need in Afghanistan. While these assessments have provided a general understanding of the priority areas and overall needs of ES/NFI aid, there remains a need for technical programmatic information that can help guide the response. To fill this gap, REACH, in partnership with the Shelter Cluster, conducted this assessment to provide more nuanced ES/NFI information on the critical areas identified in the Whole of Afghanistan Assessment (WoAA), in order to inform the Cluster strategy and programmatic response in Afghanistan.

Four priority provinces of Afghanistan were assessed, as identified by the WoAA: Herat, Badakhshan, Jawzjan and Kandahar. Across these provinces, three populations were targeted: Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), non-displaced disaster affected (NDDA), and host community[3]. A household survey of 5,475 households used cluster sampling methodology to identify respondents across the selected provinces, providing results with a confidence level of 95% and margin of error of 5% at the province and targeted population level. NDDA households were only assessed in Herat and Kandahar provinces, where large populations were affected by recent flooding. In addition to the quantitative survey, 20 focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted, one per gender for each population group in each targeted province, to triangulate and provide additional context to household survey findings. Data was collected from 11 – 29 December 2019.

This factsheet shows the findings from Herat Province, where 1675 surveys were completed: 621 IDP, 574 host community, and 480 non-displaced disaster affected.
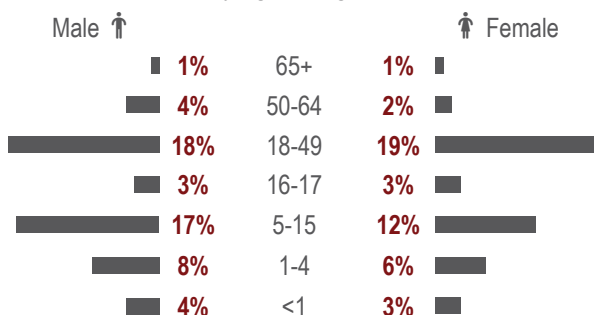

Assessed district
District not assessed

0   25   50 km
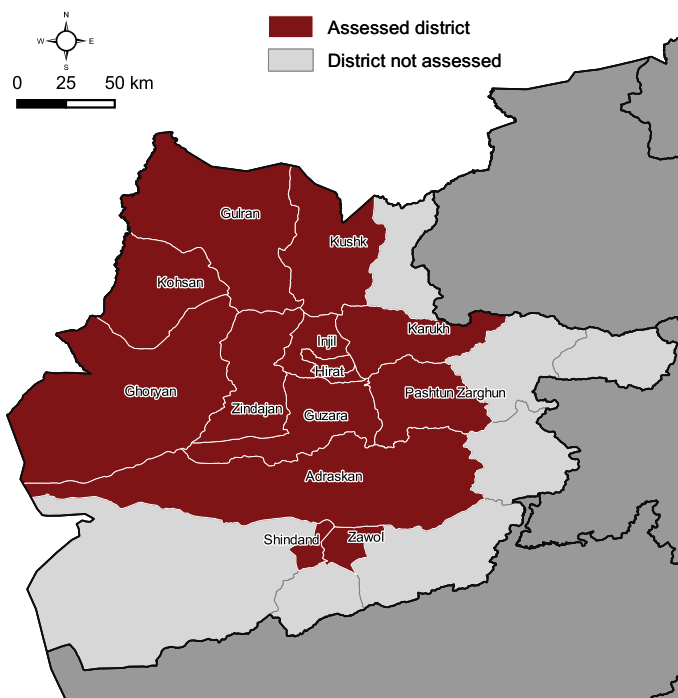
👥 DEMOGRAPHICS

Proportion of households surveyed, by population group

| IDP | **37%** | NDDA | **29%** | Host Community | **34%** |

Assessed households, by age and gender of members

Male 🧍		🧍 Female
1%	65+	**1%**
4%	50-64	**2%**
18%	18-49	**19%**
3%	16-17	**3%**
17%	5-15	**12%**
8%	1-4	**6%**
4%	<1	**3%**

Female-headed households: **4%**

Average household size: **6.6 members**

1% of households reported a female or child head of household without an adult male

 **26%** of households reported at least one member with a chronic illness or disability[4]

9% of households reported an elderly head of household

💰 Livelihoods

99% of households reported having at least one breadwinner.[5] Of these households, the median household earnings for the 30 days prior to data collection was **4500 AFG**.[6]

% of households reporting number of breadwinners per household:

| **2%** | None | **81%** | 1 | **13%** | 2 | **4%** | 3+ |

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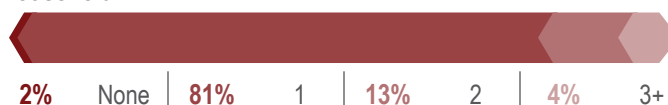
1. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Humanitarian Needs Overview 2019, November 2018.
2. REACH Afghanistan. Whole of Afghanistan Assessment, July 2019. Forthcoming.
3. A household was classified as 'IDP' if they reported that the location of their current shelter was not their area of origin. A household was classified as 'NDDA' if the household was living in it's area of origin, and reported that their shelter was damaged by natural disaster since the start of 2019. If the household did not report this damage, it was classified as 'host community'.
4. For this assessment, a person was considered to have a disability or chronic illness if they have a physical or mental condition which prevents them from taking care of themselves or participating in society on an equal basis as others. See UNHCR Emergency Handbook
5. A breadwinner is any individual over the age of 16 who is providing the main source of income for the household through work.
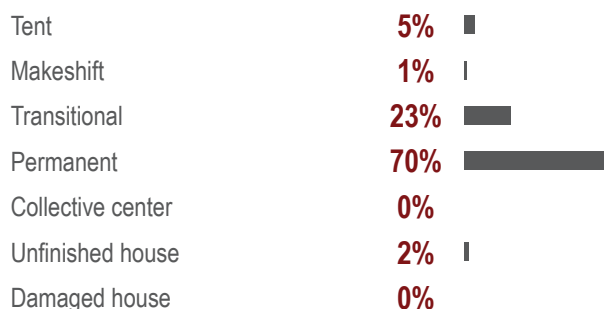6. 1 USD = 76.45 AFN as of April 16, 2020 (Source: www.xe.com)

SHELTER TYPOLOGIES

% of households reporting occupying different shelter types[7]

Tent	**5%**
Makeshift	**1%**
Transitional	**23%**
Permanent	**70%**
Collective center	**0%**
Unfinished house	**2%**
Damaged house	**0%**

8% of households reported living in 'unsafe' shelter types[8]

% of households by overall shelter condition[7]

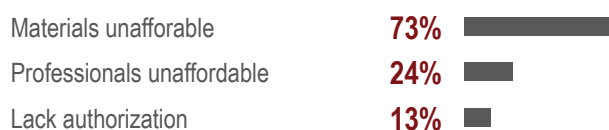|	
38%	Good
47%	Minor damage
15%	Significant damage
1%	Fully destroyed
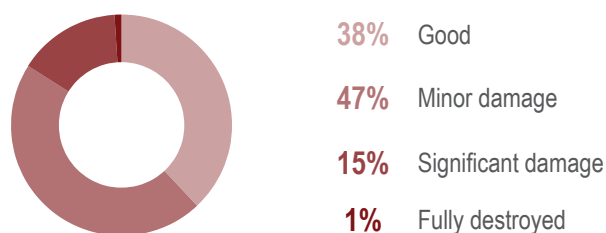
22% of households reported damage to their shelter in the 6 months prior to data collection

Of households reporting damage, the top three reported causes of damage to their shelters were:

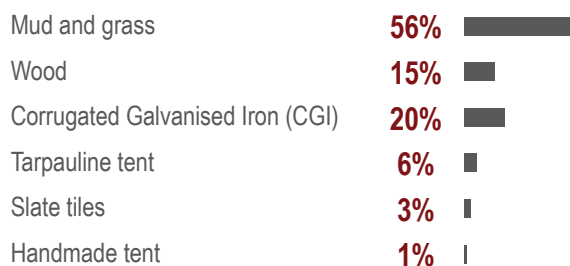|	
Natural disaster	**89%**
Poor shelter materials	**10%**
Violence	**1%**

Of households reporting shelter damage in the 6 months prior to data collection, **94%** reported that they were unable to make the shelter repairs they wanted
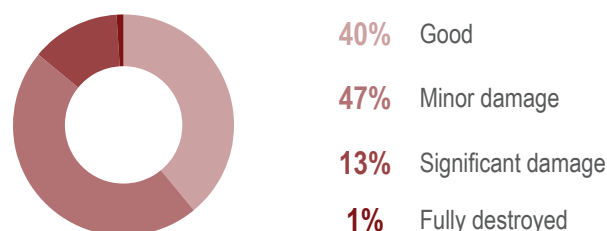
Of households reporting that they were unable to make the repairs they wanted, the top three reported reasons for being unable to make these repairs were:[9]
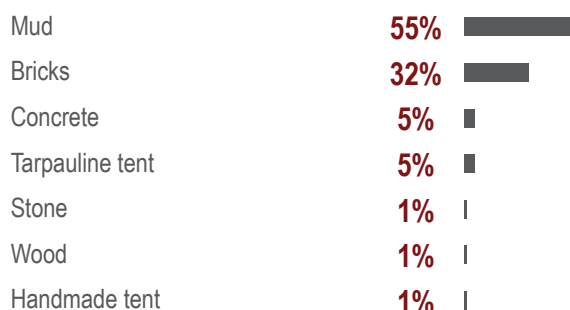
Materials unafforable	**73%**
Professionals unaffordable	**24%**
Lack authorization	**13%**

% of households by main shelter roof material[7]

Mud and grass	**56%**
Wood	**15%**
Corrugated Galvanised Iron (CGI)	**20%**
Tarpauline tent	**6%**
Slate tiles	**3%**
Handmade tent	**1%**

% of households by condition of shelter roof[7]

40%	Good
47%	Minor damage
13%	Significant damage
1%	Fully destroyed

% of households by main shelter wall material[7]

Mud	**55%**
Bricks	**32%**
Concrete	**5%**
Tarpauline tent	**5%**
Stone	**1%**
Wood	**1%**
Handmade tent	**1%**

% of households by condition of shelter walls[7]

42%	Good
45%	Minor damage
12%	Significant damage
1%	Fully destroyed

7% of households reported keeping livestock in the indoor living space used by household members
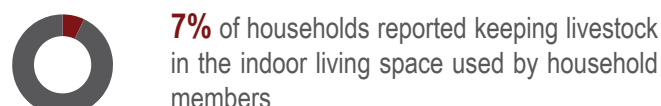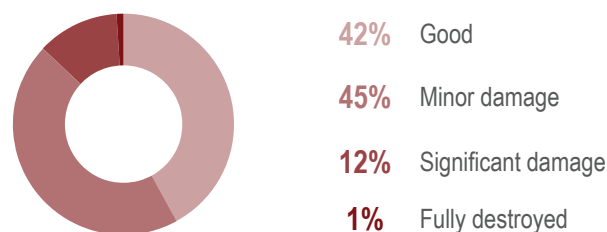
7. Reported by enumerator observation
8. A household is considered to be living in an unsafe shelter if they reported living in a collective centre, unfinished or makeshift shelter as a shelter type.
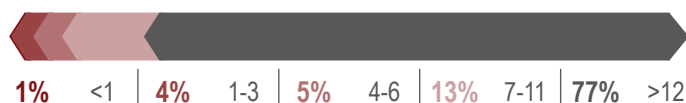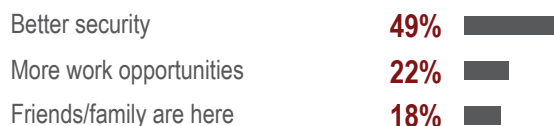9. Respondents could select multiple options.

DISPLACEMENT

Top three reported main reasons for IDP households choosing to leave area of origin:

Armed conflict	**59%**
Natural disaster	**18%**
No work opportunities	**9%**

Top three reported main reasons for IDP households choosing to come to current location:

Better security	**49%**
More work opportunities	**22%**
Friends/family are here	**18%**

% of IDP households by length of time (in months) living in current location:

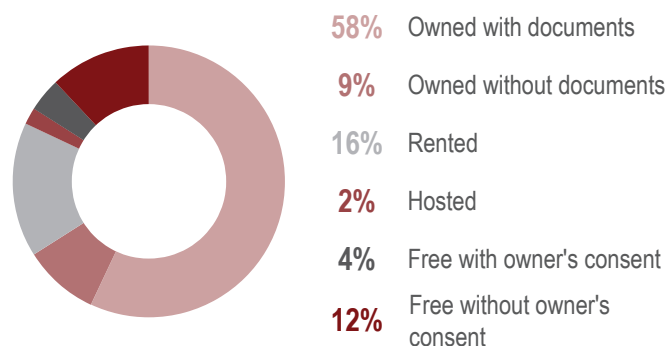| **1%**	<1	**4%**	1-3	**5%**	4-6	**13%**	7-11	**77%**	>12

41% of households reporting all adult members with a tazkera[10]

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

% of households reporting accommodation arrangements for their shelter:

|	
58%	Owned with documents
9%	Owned without documents
16%	Rented
2%	Hosted
4%	Free with owner's consent
12%	Free without owner's consent

24% of households reported living in their shelter with an insecure tenure agreement[11]

Of households reporting renting shelter, the average reported rent in the month prior to data collection was **1592 AFN**

This is indicative data. Not enough households reported renting their shelter for this indicator to be representative of Herat province.

Of households reporting renting their shelter, % of households reporting the length of rental agreement validity (in months):

0%	<1	**2%**	1-3	**7%**	4-6	**30%**	7-11	**61%**	>12
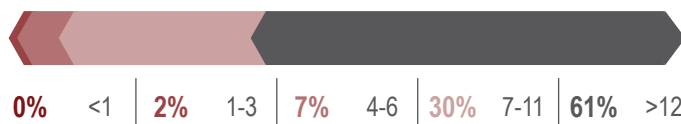
87% of non-displaced households reported hosting another family in their shelter

SECURITY & DIGNITY

28% of households reported renting shelter reported being unable to afford their rent in the 3 months prior to data collection

According to these households, the cost of rent developed in one of the following ways in the 3 months prior to data collection:

5%	Increase	**94%**	Stayed same	**1%**	Decrease	**0%**	No answer
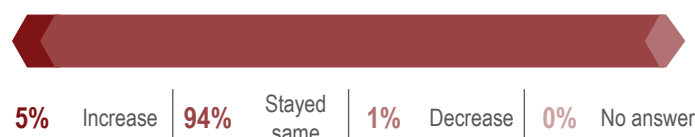
2% of households reported reported having been evicted in the 3 months prior to data collection

22% of households reported having a fear of being evicted in the next 3 months. Of these households, the top three most commonly reported reasons for fearing eviction were:[12]

Rent unaffordable	**46%**
Shelter on private land	**25%**
Dispute about rental price	**22%**
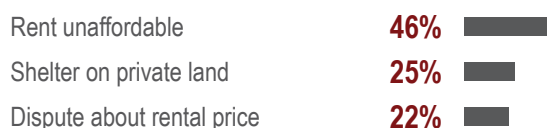
74% of households reported feeling unsafe in their shelter. Of those households, the reasons for feeling unsafe were:[12]

Natural hazards	**64%**
Weak structure	**46%**
Crime	**18%**
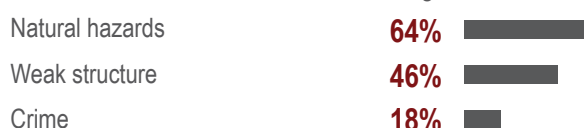
10. A tazkera is the primary Afghan personal identification document and is "necessary to receive a variety of government services, employment in the government/private sector, and are necessary to obtain other identity documents such as passports and drivers' licenses. Samuel Hall and the Norwegian Refugee Council, Access to Tazkera and other civil documentation in Afghanistan, 2016.
11. For this assessment, a household was considered to have an insecure tenure agreement if they selected 'verbal rental agreement' or 'none' when askedd about their tenure agreement
12. Respondents could select multiple options

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CHALLENGES & COPING

8% of households reported receiving humanitarian aid in the 3 months prior to data collection

% of households reporting main source of fuel for heating
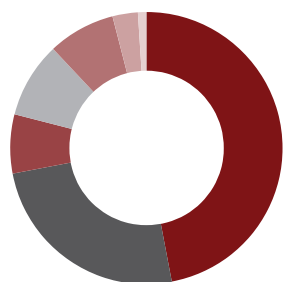
48%   Wood/bushes
25%   Waste
7%   Animal dung
9%   Electricity
8%   Charcoal
3%   Liquid Petroleum Gas
1%   Coal

18% of households reported receiving information on how to receive shelter and NFI aid in the 6 months prior to data collection

89% of households that reported needing to buy NFIs but were unable to find or afford them in markets in the three months prior to data collection

% of households reported ownership of no key winter clothing, by population group[13]

IDP	NDDA	Host Community
65%	**76%**	**48%**

% of households reporting an inability to find shelter in the 3 months prior to data collection, by population group

IDP	NDDA	Host Community
17%	**6%**	**6%**

77% of households reported needing to buy shelter materials but were unable to find or afford them in markets in the three months prior to data collection

Of these households, the top three reported reasons for being unable to access shelter materials at the nearest market were:[14]

Items unaffordable	**98%**
Items not available	**1%**
Security concerns	**0%**

PRIORITY NEEDS

Top five reported households priority needs, by sector:[15]

Food	**80%**
Winterization	**60%**
Shelter	**43%**
NFI	**31%**
Debt repayment	**23%**

% of households reported ES/NFI as a top three priority need for their family, and top ES/NFI priority need, by population group

IDP	NDDA	Host Community
97%	**98%**	**92%**
Fuel **49%**	Shelter repair **49%**	Fuel **45%**
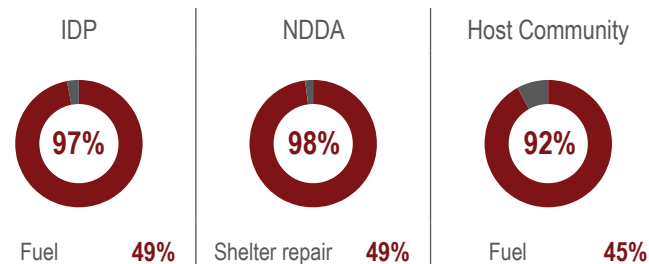
❶ Top three reported first priority ES/NFI needs during the winter period:

Fuel	**46%**
Shelter repair	**26%**
Blankets	**9%**

❷ Top three reported second priority ES/NFI needs during the winter period:

Fuel	**26%**
Blankets	**25%**
Clothing	**16%**

❸ Top three reported third priority ES/NFI needs during the winter period:

Blankets	**35%**
Clothing	**17%**
Stove	**9%**

13. For this assessment, key winter clothing includes: one jacket per person, one pair of gloves per person, one winter hat per person, one pair of winter shoes per person.
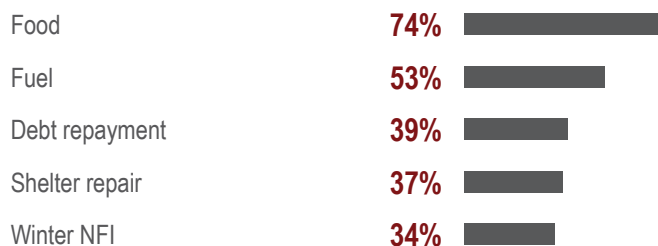14. Respondents could select multiple options
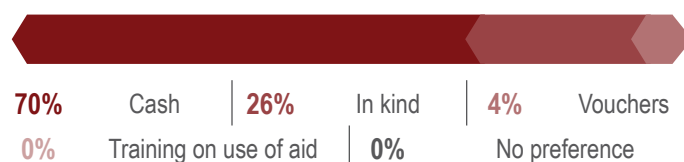15. Respondents could select up to 3 options

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PREFERRED AID

Top five reported priority expenditures if given cash as aid, by sector[16]

Food	**74%**
Fuel	**53%**
Debt repayment	**39%**
Shelter repair	**37%**
Winter NFI	**34%**

Top five reported priority ES/NFI purchases households would prefer to make themselves if given cash as aid[16]

Fuel	**79%**
Blankets	**70%**
Winter coats	**41%**
Winter shoes	**29%**
Winter hats	**18%**
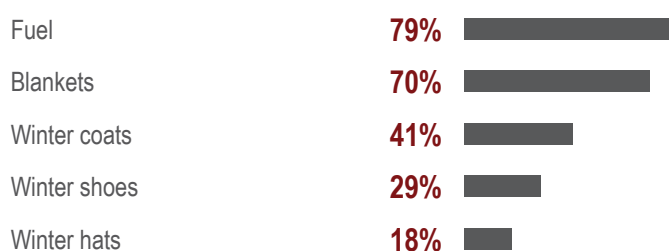
% of households reporting preferred form of NFI aid:

70%	Cash	**26%**	In kind	**4%**	Vouchers
0%	Training on use of aid		**0%**		No preference

% of households reporting preferred form of shelter aid:

63%	Cash	**33%**	In kind	**2%**	Vouchers
2%	Labour		**0%**		Training on use of aid
0%	Discounted rent		**0%**		No preference
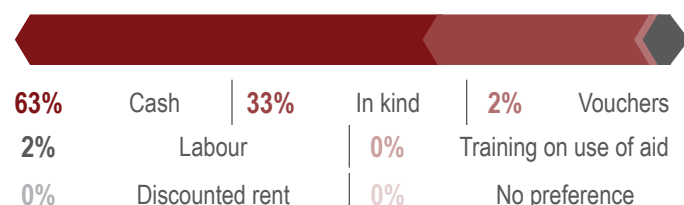
% of households reporting preferred form of winterization aid:

69%	Cash	**22%**	In kind	**8%**	Vouchers
1%	Training on use of aid		**0%**		No preference
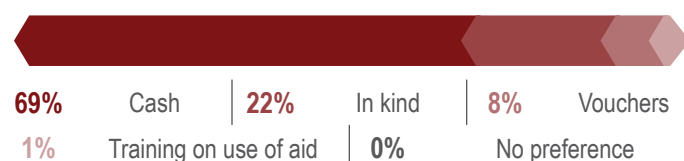
FOCUS GROUPS

Shelter damage and repair

"These tents are not sustainable to be safe and warm in the winter... the speed of the wind here is so high, people here are some nights losing their tents, because the tents aren't safe and can't stand with the wind."

- Female IDP

NFI needs

"'There are two types of support which we need: 1) The shelter ; 2) the facilities for living (keeping warm and safe). We need shelter first, warming utilities, heater, wood or gas, blanket, carpet or something to put in the floor, plastic to put on the tent during the raining days."

- Female NDDA

Winter preparation

"Winter is the most difficult season in all for IDPs, for the people displaced due to conflict and now we are facing to more challenges than war. You see there is no difference between war and lack of income or source of bread."

- Female IDP

Market access

"We can find vital needs such as rice, flour, oil, and materials of shelter such as cement, brick, metal sheets and also quilt, shoes and clothes in the market. But the cost of materials in nearest market is more expensive than cities."

- Male Host community

Cash assistance

"That would be really [helpful] to receive building materials instead of cash. Cash is bit risky, because we won't be able to receive it - there are representatives that are ... receiving the money and won't be submitted to us"

- Male NDDA

Preference for aid delivery

"The problem with aid [is that aid providers] think that when we receive food then everything is ok, and they are going and won't come back. We are asking them to please help us and do something sustainable, [like] build our house to keep us safe there"

- Male NDDA

16. Respondents could select up to 3 options

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