

# JMMI Quarterly Overview Methodology Note

AFG2002

Afghanistan

April-2025

Version 1

**REACH** Informing  
more effective  
humanitarian action

<b>Introduction</b>	<p>The quarterly market brief serves as a key analytical tool to reflect market functionality conditions by examining essential dimensions such as availability, affordability, resilience, infrastructure, and accessibility of goods and services during a quarter. This analysis places a particular emphasis on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), ensuring that economic assessments and market interventions are grounded in robust evidence. The findings contribute to informed decision-making processes for humanitarian and development actors.</p> <p>The quarterly brief is systematically prepared using data from the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI), Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA), Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM), Shocks Monitoring Index (SMI), and the Health Cluster. These data sources provide comprehensive insights into market conditions, consumer purchasing power, and systemic constraints and shocks affecting supply chains. Each quarterly report focuses on a specific objective, enabling an in-depth exploration of critical market dynamics.</p> <p>To maintain accuracy and alignment with organizational priorities, the quarterly brief undergoes a rigorous review and validation process. It is shared with headquarters (HQ) in the third week of the third month of each quarter, allowing for systematic oversight and quality assurance. The structured approach ensures that each quarterly publication delivers targeted, timely, and actionable insights, enhancing market monitoring and response strategies.</p>
<b>General Objective</b>	To evaluate the functionality of markets across the whole of Afghanistan in the year prior to analysis, so as to provide an evidence base for humanitarian response actors to determine the appropriate modality of assistance, identify priority areas for intervention, and anticipate seasonal disruptions to market functionality.
<b>Specific Objective(s) (SOs)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Evaluate the functionality and resilience of market supply for essential goods and services, including the availability of these items and how availability responded to seasonal trends and various shocks in the 12 months prior to the analysis.</li><li>2. Determine the cost of essential goods, including through estimation of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), and evaluate the affordability and accessibility of these items for various population groups in the 12 months prior to the analysis.</li></ol>
<b>Research Questions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What is the availability of essential goods in the marketplace? (SO1)</li><li>2. How does market supply respond to seasonal trends and shocks? (SO1)</li></ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. What is the minimum cost of living in Afghanistan, as estimated by the cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)? (SO2)</li> <li>4. To what extent are various population groups able to access essential items and afford the MEB? (SO2)</li> </ol>
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## Deliverables

These quarterly market briefs assess key market functionality dimensions, including availability, affordability, resilience, infrastructure, accessibility, and the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). The findings will support evidence-based decision-making for market interventions, provision of cash, voucher, and in-kind assistance, and economic assessments.

### **Four briefs will be published annually, each focusing on one of two themes.**

The Quarters 1 and 3 briefs will evaluate the availability of essential goods and services, as well as the resilience of local market supplies to seasonal and acute shocks, thus addressing SO1. JMMI provides data on availability of goods, vendors' stocks and ability to restock, and market infrastructure. It will be complemented by the Shocks Monitoring Index, which provides information on natural and man-made shocks which may affect market functionality.

The Quarters 2 and 4 briefs will assess the household dimensions of market functionality, thus addressing SO2. These include households' reliance on markets as opposed to their own production, accessibility of markets, and affordability MEB costs across population groups. These briefs will combine JMMI data, which provides information on the cost of goods and the MEB and accessibility of markets, with MSNA and HSM data, which provide insights into households' market access and purchasing power. Findings may be triangulated with secondary sources, including the World Food Programme's market monitoring, IPC food security and malnutrition assessments, and others.

As we will discuss the cost of the MEB, the components that contribute to the MEB values are derived from the JMMI assessment (such as food basket and WASH items components), the MSNA assessment (such as household income, household communication expenditure, household transportation expenditure, household education expenditure, and household health expenditure components), and the Rental assessments (such as monthly rental cost and fuel and electricity expenditure). Although REACH collects data on health expenditure, since the CWG acquires health data from the Health Cluster, we will ask the Health Cluster or CWG to share health expenditure data to be used in the brief. All briefs will include data covering a 12-month period of analysis. This will enable an analysis of seasonal dynamics, including market disruptions due to severe winter weather, and reduced food availability during the lean season. They will also highlight areas with particularly poor market functionality, which will help response actors to identify priority areas for intervention.

JMMI terms of reference can be found [here](#)