

Female Key Informant Tool

AFGHANISTAN

Moderator name or code		KI Profession and age	
Date KII conducted		District, Province	
Time KII started at		Time KII completed	

[Note to moderator: Ensure that KI is above the required age range as specified per assessment location (i.e., can remember periods of high food insecurity).]

OPENING COMMENTS: WELCOME, INTRODUCTION, INSTRUCTIONS TO KI

[5 – 8 MINUTES]

- Welcome and thank you for volunteering to take part in this key informant interview on lived experience of severe and extreme food insecurity in Afghanistan. My name is [...] and I am the moderator. I am from [REACH], which is a part of ACTED that focuses on humanitarian information to inform the United Nations and the larger humanitarian community.
- You have been asked to share your point of view and experience about severe and extreme food insecurity in Afghanistan. With your participation, we are hoping to increase our understanding of how different communities experience periods of severe hunger, the processes and events that lead to this period, and how communities cope with this distress. While we understand that this might differ based on context, we hope to develop a better understanding of how to anticipate periods of severe hunger in the future.
- **It is important to recognize and acknowledge that this KII has no impact on whether you, your family, and your community will receive humanitarian assistance.**
- This KII will be entirely **ANONYMOUS**. Your name or personally identifiable information will not be shared outside of this interview by REACH.
- The interview will take approximately 70 minutes. You are free to decline answers to any questions or leave the interview. However, given our focus on your community's experience, we would encourage you to be as involved as possible.
- **Do you consent to participate in this interview?** Yes ☐ No ☐
- **Do you consent for this session to be recorded?** Yes ☐ No ☐
- Do you have any questions about the KII process? If not, let's start.

1. What do people in your community do if they do not have enough food or money to buy food during a typical lean season (*fasli-ye gorosnegi/fasli loga*)?

Probe: Do you notice different actions that women in your community tend to take during these periods as compared with men?

2. When was the last time this community experienced extreme food insecurity?

Note to interviewer: Try to determine the months, years or distinct events when this period took place, e.g., Aqrab 1400 – Hamal 1401

[If no specific period can be identified, skip to question 3]

- a. Why do you define that period as a moment of heightened food insecurity?

Probe: Were there changes in the health of your community, water and sanitation access, the availability of food, etc...?

- b. Were there any contributing factors that worsened this shock's effects on food security?

Probe: If so, what were they?

- c. Did this shock impact any members of your community differently than others?

Probe: If so, which members of your community?

- d. What did your community do to cope with the effects of this shock on food security?

Probe: Did women tend to use different coping strategies than men during this period?

3. What are the events in your community that cause higher levels of food insecurity than normal?

[Instruction: Make a table to list the events along with their impact.]

Probe: How about events affecting cultivation? Livestock? Casual labour opportunities? Markets? The ability to get physical cash? Disease? Policies?

- a. What are the effects of these events on food security?

Probe: Did those events affect the availability of food or income? Their access? The frequency of meals?

- b. Which of these events do you feel most often affect your community in a single year?

[Instruction: Rank the top three events from most to least frequently occurring from 1-3.]

Event/Shock	Effect/Impact on food security	Frequency
[Event 1]	[Effects of Event 1]	[No. 1-3]
[Event 2]	[Effects of Event 2]	[No. 1-3]
[Event 3]	[Effects of Event 3]	[No. 1-3]
...	...	
...	...	

- c. Of the events listed so far, are there any that commonly occur at the same time or are there any contributing factors that tend to worsen the effects of these events? If yes, can you explain which events and how they work together?

[Example: A flood on its own can impact food insecurity. If the community is affected by a flood that spreads a specific pest, the impact on food insecurity may be even higher.]

4. Are there any signals that you can observe in advance that indicate the onset of a shock? If so, how much in advance do you notice them?

Probe: Are there certain natural events (e.g., drying up of water sources, high levels of snow, reduced harvest in previous seasons, etc.)? Human behaviours (e.g., increased migration, etc.)? Animal behaviours (e.g., migration, hibernation, etc.)? Plant behaviours (e.g., fewer blossoms, smaller crop, thicker stems, etc.) Market signals (e.g., rise in prices, reduction in available products, etc.)?

[Instruction: Ask KI to discuss different signals they are able to observe and list them in the first column. Use the probes provided and the events discussed under previous question to get them to think about both natural and human made signals linked to a variety of shocks. One signal may be associated with one specific or multiple events. Use the second column to list all of the shocks one signal may be associated with and the last column to indicate how long before the onset of the shock those signals can be observed.]

Signal	Event/Shock	Timeline
[Signal 1]	[Event 1], [Event 2], [Event 3]	[3 months prior] [3 months prior] [1 months prior]
[Signal 2]	[Event 1]	[Previous harvest season]
[Signal 3]	[Event 1], [Event 2], [Event 3]	[years]
...	...	
...	...	