AFGHANISTAN

Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment

Shelter and WASH in Informal Settlements

November 2017

Global Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

WASH Cluster
Water Sanitation Hygiene

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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.
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SUMMARY

Conflict remains the most significant cause of displacement in Afghanistan.[1] Since 1 January 2017 alone, more than 318,000 recorded Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)[2] have been forced from their homes and more than 260,000 Afghans have returned from neighbouring countries, in addition to the large number displaced populations that have not been recorded throughout the country.[3] Many of these displaced populations reside in informal settlements (ISETs) across the country[4], in which poverty, poor shelter conditions and lowered hygiene standards are widespread[5].

To support evidence-based planning of targeted interventions in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (ESNFI) sectors in ISETs, REACH, in collaboration with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Food Security, WASH and ESNFI Cluster partners, conducted a multi-stage, mixed methods assessment of the vulnerabilities and needs of 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 five of Afghanistan's six 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 Herat, Farah, Ghor and Badghis in the West region, Faryab, Jawzjan, Saripul, 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, Nuristan, 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 five 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. Finally, a set of six Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted in the Central and East regions to guide the analysis and further substantiate quantitative findings. 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[6], insecure sources of income and a significant perceived 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 needs, the majority (69%) of ISET households intend to remain in their current location and locally integrate.

The key findings of this report were as follows:

Demographics and Displacement

- **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[7], 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 Paktekaa 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 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 AFN[8] per month. Further financial insecurity was noted in the West with households earning 5,547 AFN on average.

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[1] Afghanistan Protection Cluster, "Afghanistan Factsheet", April 2017.
[2] Humanitarian Response, "Afghanistan: Internal Displacement due to Conflict", September 2017.
[3] IOM, "Afghanistan: Weekly Situation Report", October 2017.
[4] REACH, "Informal Settlement Food Security Assessment", January 2017.
[5] Ibid.
[6] OCHA, "Afghanistan: Humanitarian Needs Overview", February 2017.
[7] Proportion calculated using the REACH Informal Settlement Profiling Master List, July 2017.
[8] 1 USD = 68 AFN – XE Currency Converter, at time of publication.

- Lacking a Tazkira[9] 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 male-headed households, in which 68% of households were found to be UNHCR-documented.

- **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.[10] 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 residents at risk of exacerbated needs and insecurity.

Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items Analysis

- **Shelter is considered the main priority need of ISET households (41%)**, followed by employment and food assistance.

- This is likely linked to poor shelter conditions, **with most ISET households living in mud brick shelters (56%)** which can crack in the summer heat and flood in the winter rain and snow, presenting significant shelter vulnerability. In addition, a high proportion of ISET households continue to rely on transitional shelters (35%) which provide limited structural integrity in the long-term.[11]

- Not only are ISET shelters a source of vulnerability, but **overcrowding within these shelters presents further insecurity, with an average of five individuals residing in every room**. In addition, 78% of shelters have no dedicated space for women and girls, further indicating overcrowding and increased protection concerns for ISET females.

- ISET households are **most likely to rent their accommodation (40%),** placing further strain on the poor financial conditions of ISET residents. However, a significant proportions of ISET households either own their accommodation without documentation (22%), own it with documentation (15%) or stay for free with the owner's consent (13%), providing some level of stability.

- **Half of ISET households rely on verbal permission (26%) or customary tenure (24%) for their tenure status**, explaining the high proportion of households which anticipate imminent eviction (66%). This strengthens the supposition that further displacements can be expected, leading to exacerbated financial insecurity and greater needs.

- **Most households were found to be in need of blankets and bedding (80%) followed by winterisation materials (76%) and fuel (70%**), indicating significant concerns for the upcoming winter, particularly in the East and South-East. In particular, women in ISETs were found to be the most in need of warm clothing and blankets; reported by 95% of households.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- WASH concerns in ISETs are also significant and manifold, beginning with 23% of households having insufficient access to drinking water.[12] This need for improved access to water is higher in the West, affecting 38% of households. In addition, 23% of households overall do not have sufficient access to water for cooking while 43% do not have sufficient access to water for bathing.

- **The large majority of ISETs households rely on public and private handpumps (72%)**, often provided by humanitarian organisations. However, specific limitations were flagged with handpumps freezing over or drying up, indicating a need for further WASH assistance.

- It was found that **15% of ISET households practice open defecation**, exposing this group to significant protection concerns and increasing risk of disease. FGDs found that open defecation is, in some cases, used to mitigate use of unhygienic latrines, despite the availability of such latrines.

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[9] A Tazkira refers to the national identification document of Afghanistan.
[10] REACH, "Informal Settlement Food Security Assessment in Kabul and Nangarhar", April 2017.
[11] See Annex 3 for full list of ESNFI Cluster definitions of shelter types in Afghanistan.
[12] Sufficient access to drinking water refers to access to an adequate amount of clean and safe water with which to meet household needs.

- Minimum hygiene standards in ISETs are also of concern, with **55% of households failing to have access to a bar of soap while 11% of households were found to not own at least two water containers**, heightening WASH and health vulnerabilities.

- **ISETs use poor waste disposal methods with 59% of households throwing waste in the street and 21% burning rubbish**, both of which are detrimental to health. Throwing waste in the street is of even greater concern in the West (73% of households) and South-East (70% of households) regions.

Contents

List of Acronyms

APC   Afghanistan Protection Cluster
BBB   Build Back Better
CI   Crowding Index
ESNFI   Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items
FGD   Focus Group Discussion
FSAC   Food Security and Agriculture Cluster
HNO   Humanitarian Needs Overview
IDP   Internally Displaced Persons
ISET   Informal Settlement
KII   Key Informant Interview
NSAG   Non-State Armed Groups
ODK   Open Data Kit
PIN   People in Need
SDR   Secondary Data Review
WASH   Water Sanitation and Hygiene

Geographical Classifications

Region   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.
Province   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.[13]

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.[14]

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.[15] 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.[16]

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.[17]

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[13] Humanitarian Response, "Household Emergency Assessment Tool", 2016.
[14] Ibid.
[15] 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.
[16] OCHA, "Humanitarian Needs Overview", 2017.
[17] Ibid.

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.[18]

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.[19]

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.[20]

Refugee – A non-Afghan national, forced to leave flee their country due to persecution, war, violence or threat to wellbeing, now residing within Afghanistan.[21]

List of Figures, Tables and Maps

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[18] Ibid.
[19] Ibid.
[20] Ibid.
[21] 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.[22] Afghanistan remains a country with one of the highest number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) world-wide,[23] with more than 318,000 individuals internally displaced between 1 January and 30 September 2017 due to conflict and natural disasters.[24] This contributes to an estimated total of 1.1 million IDPs in Afghanistan in 2017.[25] 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.[26] Finally, in addition to other displaced groups, an estimated 220,000 Pakistani refugees reside in the South-East of Afghanistan, and are increasingly being recognised as a vulnerable population within the humanitarian community.[27] Together, these groups contribute to the displacement of more than 80% of the Afghan population since the 1980s.[28]

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. To do so, 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:

- Outline the demographic profile of ISETs in Afghanistan, and identify the specific WASH and ESNFI vulnerabilities and needs of those living in ISETs, highlighting regional differences and variations among displacement groups and between men, women, boys and girls where possible.
- 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.
- 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 WASH and ESNFI results are then presented, followed by a summary of cross-cutting findings between food security, WASH and ESNFI findings, designed to highlight the inter-sectoral nature of needs and vulnerabilities, particularly in complex ISET settings. The report concludes by summarising key findings and advocating areas in which WASH and ESNFI interventions could be strengthened.

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[22] Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), "Global Report on Internal Displacement", 2017.
[23] Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) "IDMC Global Figures 2016", 2016.
[24] Humanitarian Response, "Afghanistan: Internal Displacement due to Conflict", September 2017.
[25] OCHA, "Afghanistan: Humanitarian Needs Overview", February 2017.
[26] IOM, "Afghanistan: Weekly Situation Report", October 2017.
[27] NRC, "Global Report on Internal Displacement", 2017.
[28] WHO, "WHO ERMO Displaced Populations", 2017.

METHODOLOGY

Throughout August 2017, REACH conducted data collection for the multi-cluster needs assessment in ISETs across five of Afghanistan's six regions: North, East, South-East, Central and West, excluding the South. 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.[29] 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 WASH, ESNFI, 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 WASH and ESNFI needs are most acute and displaced populations are highly prevalent.[30] 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 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
IDP	741	789	367	848	642	3,387
Returnee	116	687	586	685	663	2,737
Refugee	0	0	940	0	0	940
Total	857	1,476	1,893	1,533	1,305	7,064

Finally, a set of six focus group discussions (FGDs) were completed in the East and Central regions, with purposively sampled community leaders and shura members in the settlements, in order to identify the key WASH and ESNFI trends faced by residents and shape quantitative analysis.[31] Participants in these FGDs responded based on their specialist knowledge of the ISET, relaying needs on behalf of ISET residents. One FGD took place in each of Kabul, Logar and Paktya in the Central region, and Nangarhar, Kunar and Laghman in the East. One centrally located settlement containing a variety of displacement and ethnic groups was purposively selected in each of these provinces. Approximately six respondents were selected in each settlement based on their knowledge of the settlement and its resources. Male and female voices were included as follows:

Table 2: Focus Group Discussion sampling strategy, by region and participant gender

Participants	Central	East	Total
Male FGD	2 FGDs	1 FGD	3 FGDs
Female FGD	1 FGD	2 FGDs	3 FGDs
Total	3 FGDs	3 FGDs	6 FGDs

[29] SDR includes reports by Samuel Hall, NRC, Amnesty International, IOM, OCHA, UNHCR, Afghan Government Reports and previous REACH assessments, among others.
[30] OCHA, "Humanitarian Needs Overview", 2017.
[31] Shuras are religious gatherings in school like form, where elders and community members often meet to decide on political and community issues through consultation.

Data collection tools were designed in close collaboration with the WASH, ESNFI, 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.[32] Based on this selection process, the assessment covered ISETs in Herat, Farah, Ghor and Badghis in the West, Faryab, Jawzjan, Saripul, Balkh and Samangan in the North, Kabul, Kapisa and Logar in Central, Paktya, Khost and Paktika in the South-East and Nangarhar, Nuristan, Kunar and Laghman in the East. These provinces are displayed in Map 1 below.

Map 1: Reference map of provinces included in the ISET profiling and consequential multi-cluster assessment
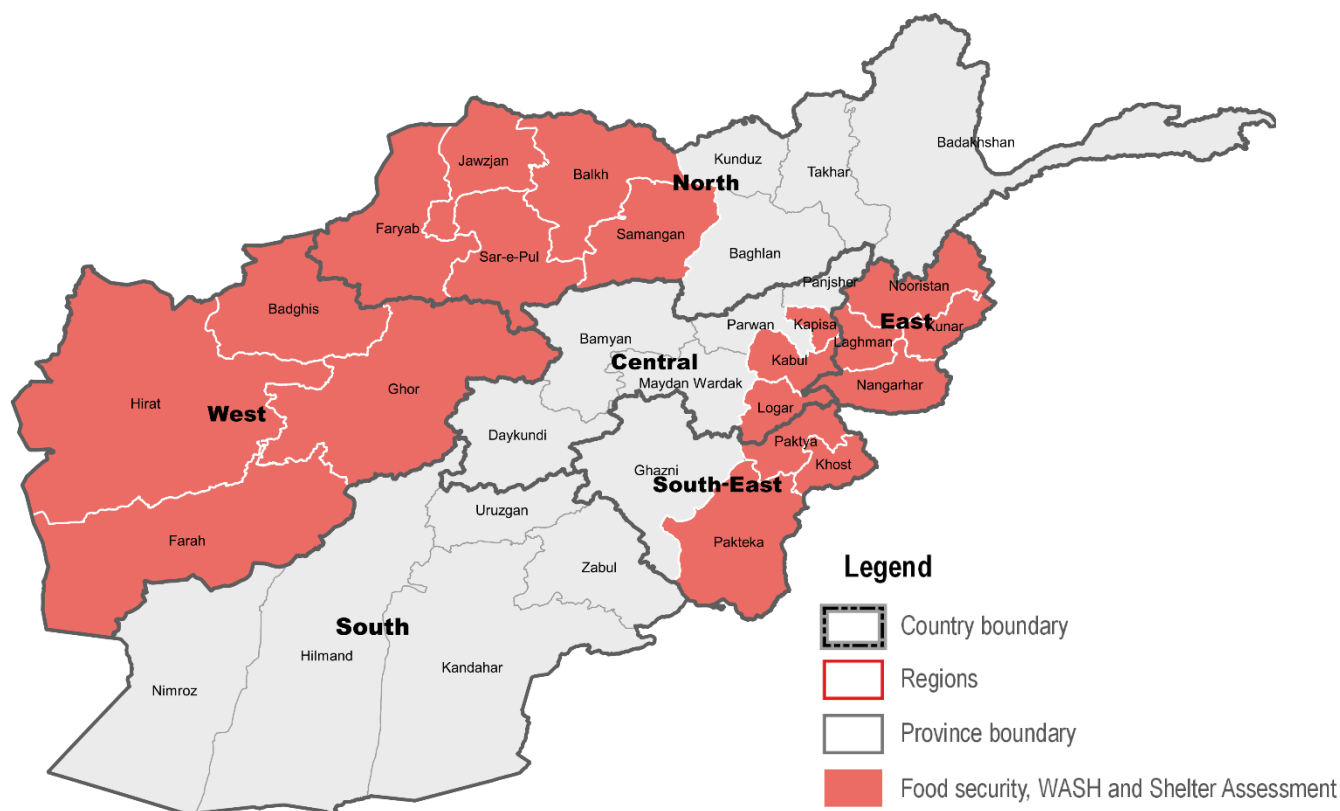
Extensive regional training was conducted with enumerators for ISET profiling, household level surveys and FGDs. Data collection for the KIIs and household-level surveys was conducted using Open Data Kit (ODK) software on smartphones, while data cleaning and feedback was provided on a daily basis to 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.

FGDs were analysed using qualitative analysis software with themes derived throughout the process. Focus was placed on availability, access and quality of WASH and shelter facilities, using situation analysis to provide an overview of the

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[32] OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.

conditions in ISETs. These findings shaped the route of quantitative analysis. Rather than frequency of responses, findings were integrated based on specificity and extensiveness of answers, as well as observing the main areas in which data saturation was reached. FGDs were also used to expand upon and explain trends identified in the quantitative analysis, adding depth to the presented findings.

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

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 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 Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs). 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 understanding 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
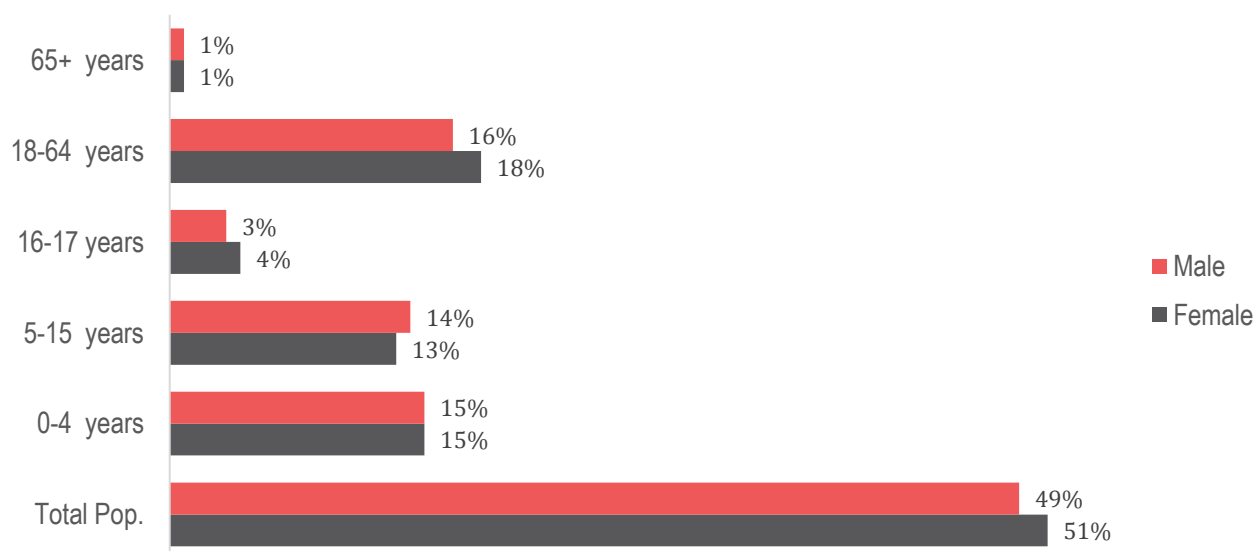
Across Afghanistan, **ISET households were found to contain an average of 1.9 families consisting of 12 individuals.** This average household size is larger than that of displaced populations residing in formal settlements (1.6 families and 10 individuals), highlighting the crowded nature of ISETs.[33] 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

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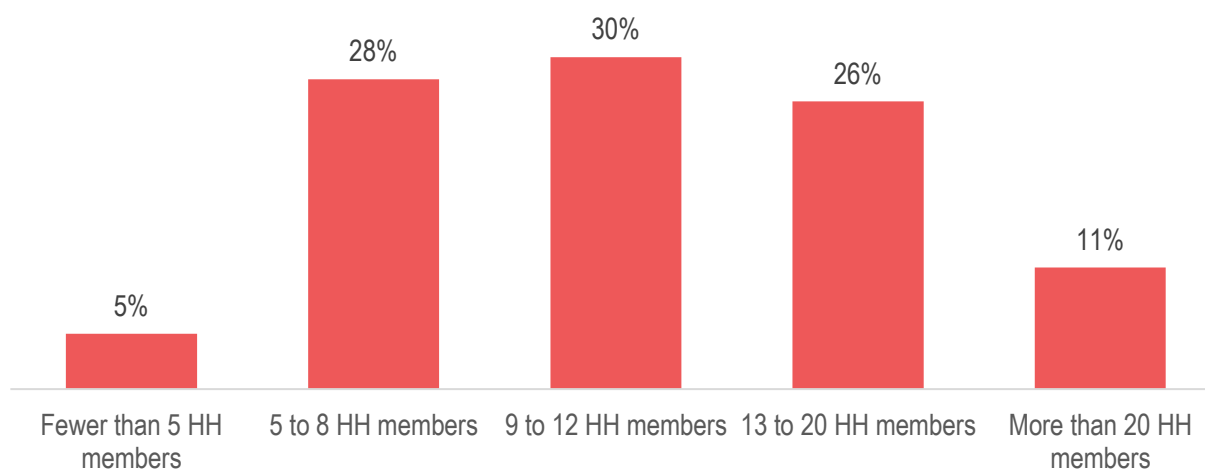
[33] REACH, "Joint Education and Child Protection Assessment", November 2017.

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

■ Male HH Head   ■ Female HH Head
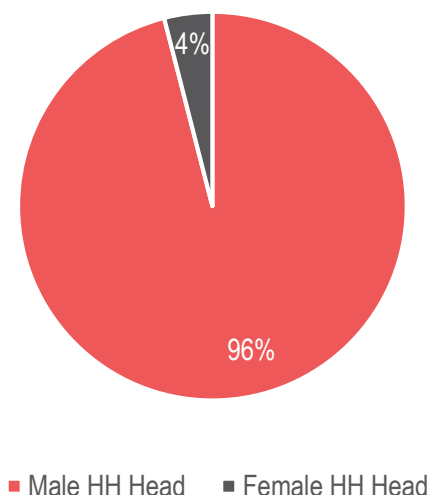
As can be seen in Figure 3, **the vast majority of household heads within ISETs are male (96%), with only 4% female-headed households**. Some regional trends were identified here, with higher proportions of female-headed households identified in the West (8%). The proportion of female-headed households 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.[34]

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 further services, among other restrictions.[35] 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 (29%) and Central (25%). All identified refugees, all of whom were noted to be from Pakistan, were located in the provinces of Pakteka and Khost, in the South-East region.

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[34] Corbett and McGrath, "Infant and young child feeding in emergencies", 2003.
[35] NRC and Samuel Hall, "Access to Tazkera and Other Civil Documentation in Afghanistan", November 2016.

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

Region	Recent IDP	Non-Recent IDP	Returnee	Refugee
West	10%	73%	17%	
South-East	4%	22%	54%	20%
North	23%	19%	58%	
East	27%	21%	52%	
Central	7%	40%	53%	

■ Recent IDP   ■ Non-Recent IDP   ■ Returnee   ■ Refugee
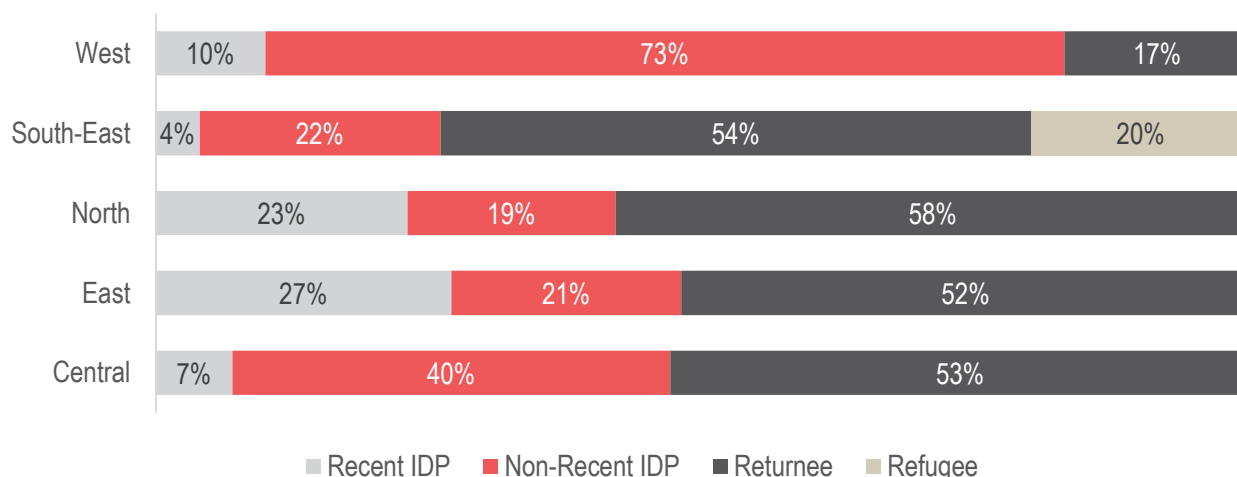
Returnee Registration

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.[36] This 33% comprises the undocumented returning refugee population in Afghanistan, which previously resided outside of Afghanistan without a formal registration card. Reasons for lack of registration vary, but can include non-participation in registration exercises, failure to keep their registration status updated or arrival after registration processes have concluded. In contrast, those which are registered are guaranteed rights in line with international refugee law, further highlighting the potential insecurities of those without documentation.[37]

Moreover, the proportion of undocumented returnees rose to 52% in the South-East, compared to only 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[38], 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 is summarised in Figure 5. While returnees were 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 activity 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.

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[36] NRC and Samuel Hall, "Access to Tazkera and Other Civil Documentation in Afghanistan", November 2016.
[37] OCHA, "Afghanistan: Returnee Crisis – Situation Report No. 6", January 2017.
[38] Samuel Hall, "IDP Movement Tracking, Needs and Vulnerability Analysis Afghanistan", 2014.

Figure 5: Displacement of ISET households over time, as identified in this assessment
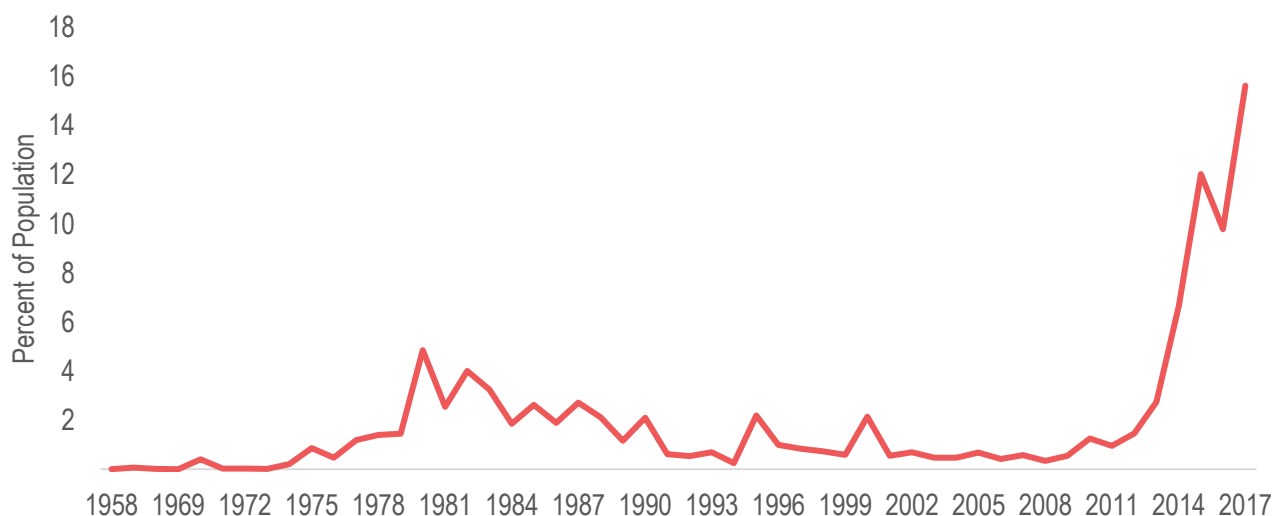
ISET populations have mostly not been subjected to secondary displacement as most households have only been displaced once (83%). This proportion rises to 90% for recent IDPs, indicating that new households are being displaced by recent and ongoing issues. Single displacement was found to be most prevalent 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

Once   Twice   Three times   Four or more times
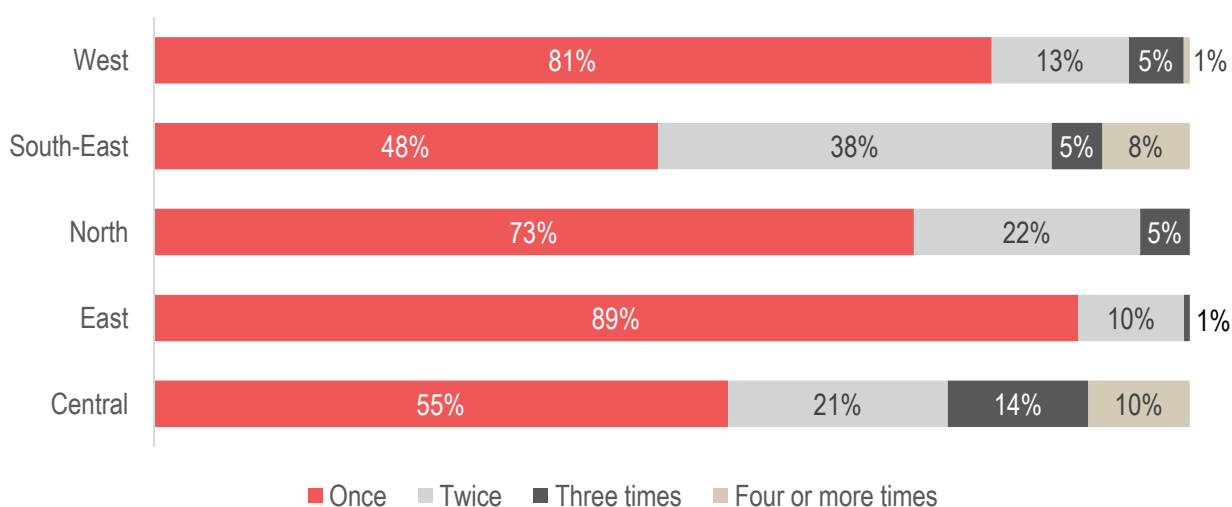
Pull Factors for Displaced Populations

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.[39] This is perhaps an

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[39] REACH, "Informal Settlement Profiling Master List", July 2017.

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.[40]

Respondent Driven Identification

Most 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.[41] 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, with the most prevalent misaligned responses coming from prolonged and protracted IDPs self-identifying as recent IDPs. 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 reasons for incorrect self-identification need further research, however since recent IDPs are more likely to receive assistance than non-recent IDPs[42], 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

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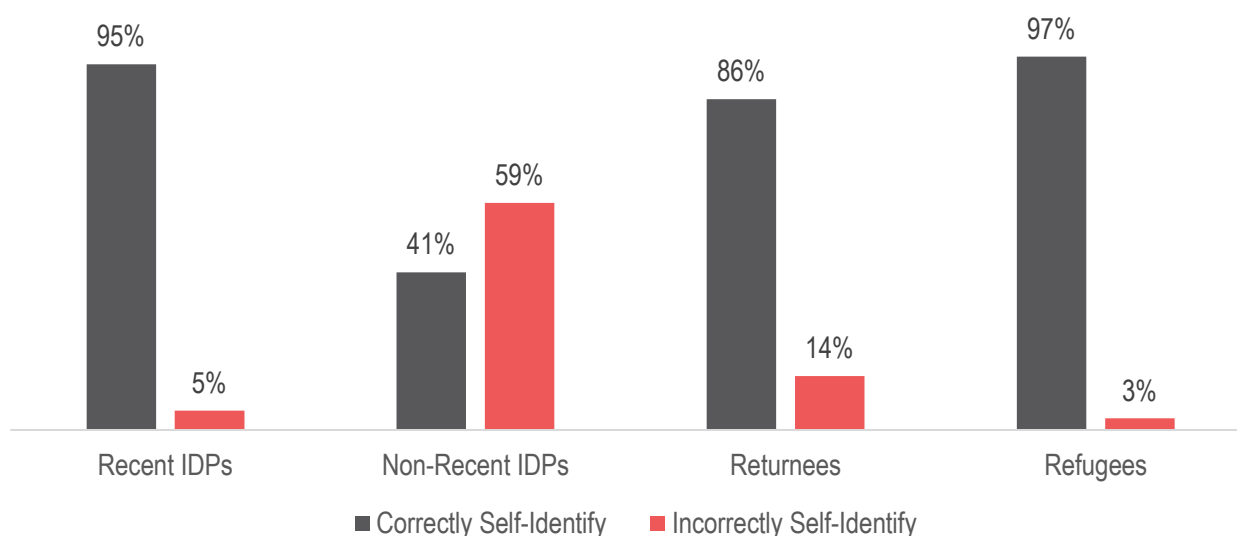
[40] Metcalfe, "Urban displacement and vulnerability in Kabul", 2012.
[41] Humanitarian Response, "Household Emergency Assessment Tool", 2016.
[42] OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.

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.[43] 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 were 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.

- Remain in current location
- Return to place of origin
- Undecided
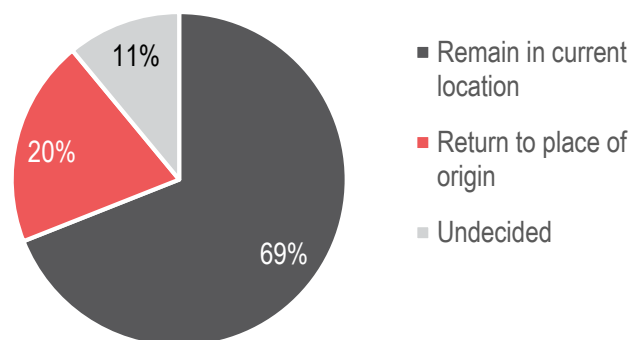
Socio-Economic Status

Across all ISETs, **the vast majority of households are mainly 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 (44%)[44] than those residing in ISETs (72%)**, indicating particular financial vulnerabilities exhibited by those in ISETs.

Figure 9: Most common income and livelihood sources
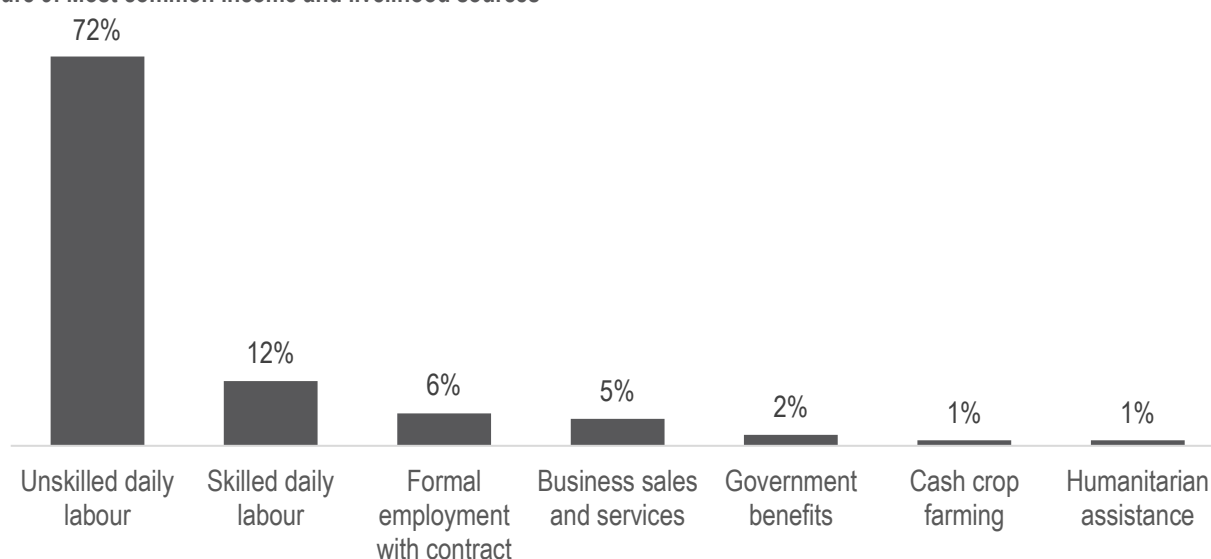
Average monthly income in the ISETs was found to be 9,156 AFN[45], which is not significantly below the national average monthly income of 10,648 AFN.[46] However, regional trends were noted, with a higher average monthly income generated in the South-East (10,512 AFN) compared to the West (5,547 AFN). Although displacement status was found to have a limited impact on 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

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[43] Amnesty International, "Afghanistan: Number of people internally displaced by conflict doubled to 1.2 million in just three years", May 2016.
[44] REACH, "Joint Education and Child Protection Needs Assessment", November 2017.
[45] 1 USD = 68 AFN – XE Currency Converter, at time of publication.
[46] OWiD, "Human Development Index Data Trends - Afghanistan", 2015.

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).**[47] In line with the finding that more than half of ISET households (54%) reportedly paid no rent for their accommodation or land use, this lower rent payment may reflect the high proportion of ISET residents 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.

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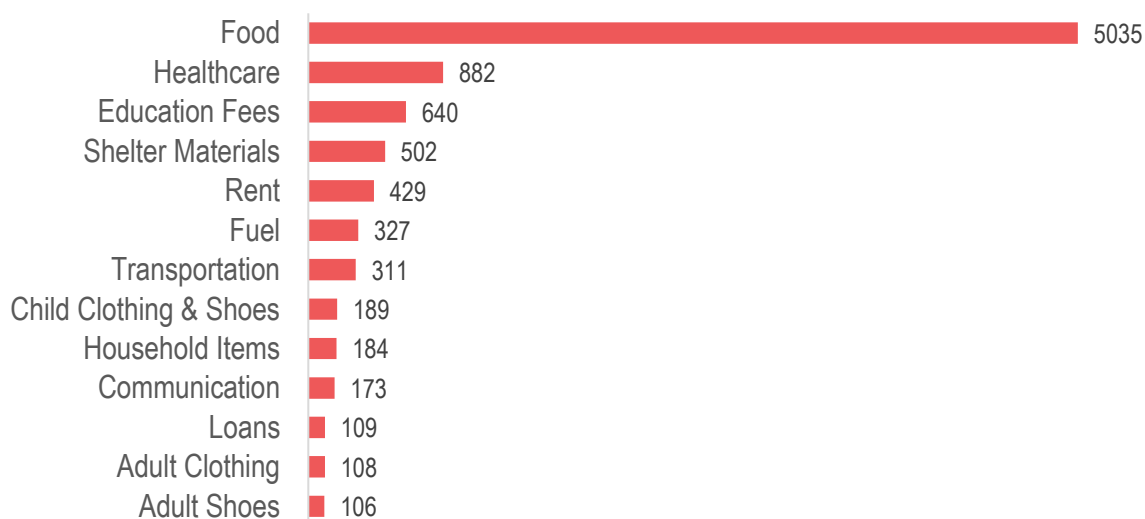
Priority Needs & Assistance

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, either regarding training on the upgrading of shelters or on livelihood opportunities, could provide long-term support to ISET residents.

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[47] REACH (HDX), "Afghanistan: Joint Education and Child Protection Dataset", October 2017.

Figure 11: Main priority need of ISET households at time of data collection
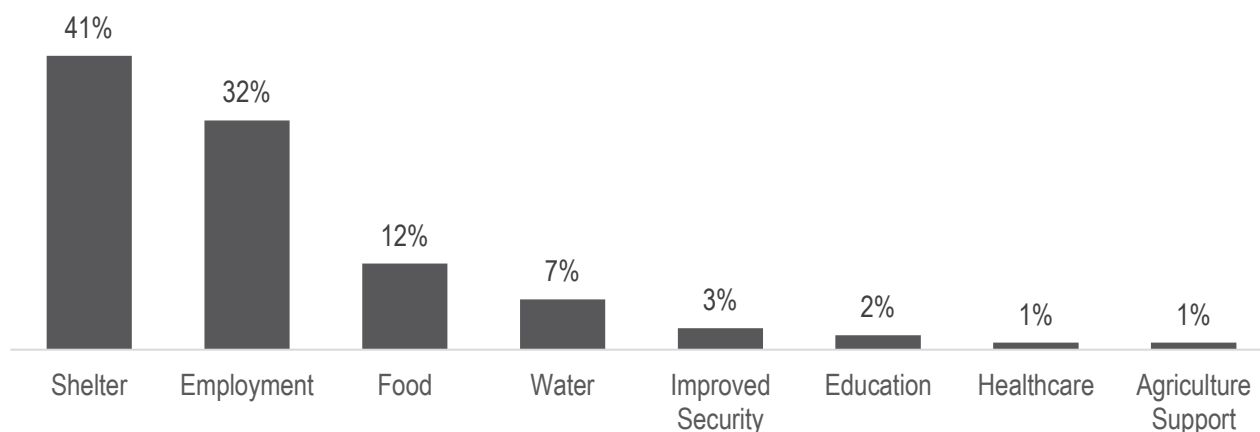
As can be seen in Figure 12 below, when asked what assistance has been received in their current location, **most ISET households reported no assistance received (64%), while those that did receive assistance were most likely to have received food assistance (22%).** In contrast, only 4% of households received specific shelter assistance; however, some beneficiaries of the ESNFI cluster received cash for rent, which is included in the cash assistance total of 14%. As such, further interventions specifically providing shelter materials or labour could help address the specific shelter needs of ISET households, in addition to the financial provisions targeting rent needs.

Figure 12: All types of assistance received by ISET households, in their current location
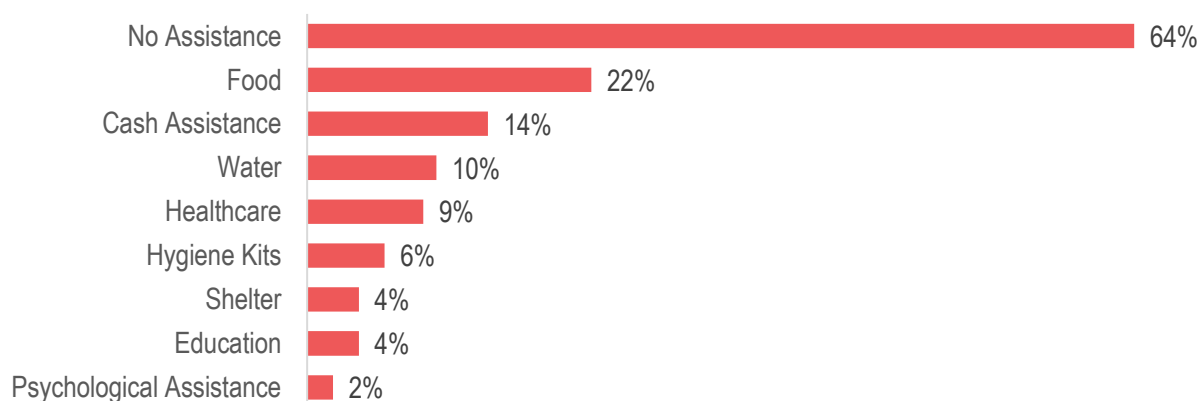
Some regional trends were noted in assistance delivery, with the households in the **South-East being more likely to receive healthcare assistance** (22% compared to 9% overall), hygiene kit training (22% compared to 6% overall), drinking water (18% compared to 10% overall) and shelter (14% compared to 4% overall) assistance. This may be due to the high delivery of assistance for returnees located at and near borders with Pakistan.[48] 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**, although 7% of households in the North were found to have received shelter assistance, reflecting the support provided to damaged shelters.

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%). Household head gender had little impact on the overall assistance received, though female-headed households were statistically significantly more likely to receive food assistance (29%) than male-headed households (21%).

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[48] OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.

Table 3: 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 perceived 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.

WASH

The following section of the report details specific WASH-based findings, indicating water availability and accessibility concerns, latrine use, methods of solid waste disposal and the extent to which ISET residents meet minimum hygiene standards. Relevant indicators included in the assessment are explored, considering key comparisons between regions, displacement groups and between male and female-headed households, to highlight the profile of those displaying the most acute vulnerabilities and consequential needs within Afghan ISETs.

Water

Sufficient Water Access

Access to water is a significant issue in ISETs: overall 23% of households reported insufficient access to drinking water in the 30 days prior to the assessment. **A significantly higher proportion of ISET households in the West (38%) reported they were unable to sufficiently access drinking water**, as can be seen in Figure 13 below. Alternatively, it was found that displacement status and household head gender had little implication on access to sufficient drinking water. In addition, 23% of households also did not have sufficient access to water for cooking, though this did not vary between regions, displacement groups or between households with male or female heads.

Figure 13: Proportion of households in each region with and without sufficient access to drinking water in the 30 days prior to assessment
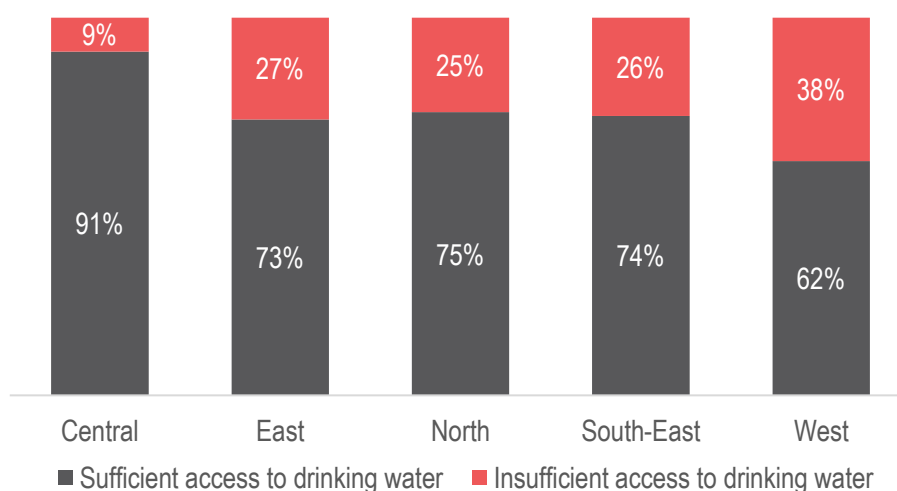
FGDs found that ISET residents were typically able to meet drinking and even cooking water needs, but that **most significant concerns arose in meeting water needs for bathing and cleaning**. As such, river and surface water is more commonly used for bathing and cleaning, potentially indicating a further health and hygiene vulnerability among ISET residents. This was supported by the household survey, which indicated that access to cooking water over the last 30 days was similar to that of drinking water (75% of households had access) while bathing water access was lower, at 57%. However, access to water for bathing was found to vary between regions, with as high as 85% of ISET households in the Central region having access, compared to **only 45% in the West**. Protracted IDPs were the most likely to have access to bathing water (70% of protracted IDP households) compared to only 43% of refugees. Again, no significant difference was observed in the level of access to bathing water between male and female-headed households.

Table 4: Proportion of households with insufficient water access, by displacement status

	Insufficient access to drinking water	Insufficient access to cooking water	Insufficient access to bathing water
Recent IDP	23%	24%	45%
Protracted IDP	26%	24%	30%
Prolonged IDP	34%	30%	46%
Returnees	25%	23%	40%
Refugees	21%	19%	57%

A final water accessibility issue emerged during FGDs, indicating that **in times of limited water access, households will try to use the private handpumps of other households.** However, since some private houses refuse entry of children, while other households do not allow their wives or daughters to fetch water from another house, water consumption can fall during these low-water periods, given that women and children are the main water gatherers. As such, this could indicate a particular vulnerability exhibited by ISET residents, motivating a need for heightened interventions during peak seasonal points.[49]

Water Sources

T**he large majority of ISET households rely on public and private handpumps (72%),** with 49% of households use a public handpump, followed by 23% which have a private handpump within their household or compound perimeter. Properly installed public handpumps are a method of water retrieval approved by the WASH Cluster, and tend to provide a free source of water to the ISET residents.[50] According to FGDs, **public handpumps are customarily provided by humanitarian organisations**, which indicates the successful provision of WASH support to ISETs through this modality.

Public handpumps are most prevalent in the Central region, used by 64% of ISET households and are least prevalent in the North (36%). Private handpumps are most common in the East (30%). FGDs indicated that **an increase in handpumps was needed in both the Central and East regions, especially since too many people were using too few pumps in public areas**. However, FGDs also noted some accessibility issues related to handpumps, particularly when handpumps freeze in winter or the well from which water is pumped dries up in the summer heat. Both these incidents cause residents to use more unsustainable sources during the height of summer and winter, using potentially unsafe tankered water at a cost.

Table 5: Proportion of households using safe and unsafe water sources as their main source, per region, in line with the WASH cluster categorisations[51]

	Central	East	North	South-East	West
Surface Water	0%	4%	3%	1%	1%
Unprotected Well	0%	2%	2%	9%	12%
Tankered Water	6%	2%	7%	12%	0%
Other Source	2%	5%	1%	0%	6%
Protected Well	1%	7%	1%	12%	12%
Municipal Pipe	2%	1%	15%	13%	2%
Public Pump	64%	46%	36%	42%	46%
Private Pump	20%	30%	9%	9%	5%
Private Pipe	3%	2%	27%	2%	16%

It was also found that **male-headed households were significantly more likely to have a private handpump (23%) compared to female-headed households (13%).** This is a potential protection concern, as travel to and from public water pumps can heighten exposure to harassment and violence in the community on a repeated basis. Furthermore, FGDs findings indicated that private handpumps were always built and maintained at the individual household's expense. As such, the provision of private handpumps or the capacity with which to build them, particularly targeted towards female-headed households, could improve the WASH security level and the protection status of ISET residents.

Despite widespread dependency on handpumps, households using unsafe, surface water, face significant vulnerability. Overall, 3% of ISET households were dependent on surface water, however this proportion increased to 9% for prolonged IDPs and 7% for refugees. Similarly, **refugees are the least likely to have safe sources of water**, with only 4% using protected spring wells and as few as 0.4% owning private handpumps, though they are the most likely to use municipal piped water (31%).

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[49] Peak seasonal points fall in the middle of the winter period (typically January and February) and middle of the summer period (typically July and August).
[50] OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017 & ReliefWeb, "Afghanistan WASH Cluster Detail Operation Plan" February 2017.
[51] UNICEF, "Water and Environmental Sanitation in Afghanistan, 2016.

In addition, 12% of ISET households in the South-East region primarily used tankered water, indicating recurring costs. One FGD indicated that this tankered river water can be of questionable quality and can drain financial resources, costing 600 AFN for a ten day supply; a considerable share of average monthly expenditure.

Distance to Water Source

In terms of access to water, **the majority (67%) of households travel outside of their home to collect water, with 10% travelling more than 20 minutes in each direction to reach their water source.** Travel time to a water source can indicate a lack of resources, while females and children - as the main water carriers - can be exposed to increased protection concerns. It was found that **households with a water source inside their compound were the most likely to have sufficient drinking water (90%) while those travelling more than 20 minutes to reach the source were the least likely (34%).** This highlights the unsurprising relationship between proximity to a water source and sufficiency of access to water, outlining the importance of having safe and accessible water sources available to ISET communities.

Notably, while no difference was identified between the distance male and female-headed households travel to their water source, households in the South-East were the most likely to travel more than 20 minutes to reach their water source (41%). In addition, as seen in Figure 14 below, **of all population groups, refugees were most likely to travel farthest** to access water, with 34% travelling more than 20 minutes to their water source.

Figure 14: Distance to water source by displacement status
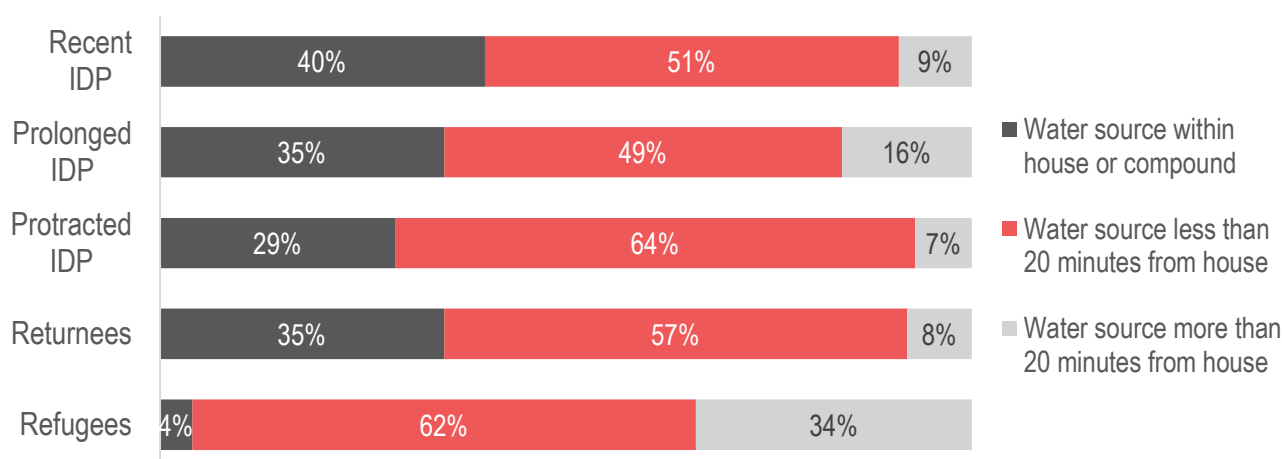
Refugees are the most in need in terms of access to WASH facilities, while there were minimal differences between IDPs and returnees. FGDs indicated that as IDPs and returnees integrate within ISETs, rather than remaining segregated, the assistance provided to returnees also benefits IDPs. Furthermore, FGDs highlighted the high WASH assistance received by returnees, which also benefits IDPs, through the provision of handpumps by either the government or particular humanitarian organisations. As such, the positive externalities of assisting one group within a settlement ought to be considered, with the benefit multiplying across other population groups residing in the same area. This could be used to extend support to refugees through community integration programs of this vulnerable population.

Latrines

Overall, the type of latrines used in ISETs are varied with most households using latrines which do not present the most concern nor are they the best type available, with 33% using slab-covered family pit latrines. A further 25% of ISET households primarily had access to an uncovered family pit latrine. Of concern is that 15% of ISET households were reliant on open defecation; typically considered the most vulnerable defecation practice. Moreover, it is typical for women to be unable to defecate in the open during the day time due to possible exposure in the community, potentially leading to serious health issues, further highlighting the vulnerability of women in ISETs. In contrast, 14% of ISET households used family Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines, which provide the best hygiene situation, with some further households using community latrines (6%), household flush toilets to sewer systems (3%) and toilets poured to septic tanks or pits (3%).

FGDs indicated that the majority of latrines were made of mud, unless the household had had some level of assistance, in which case the latrine was likely to be made of either mud or concrete, often with a septic tank.

When comparing access to latrines in male and female-headed households, it was noted that 18% of female-headed households were found to resort to open defecation, exposing women to greater community threats and hygiene concerns, compared to 14% of male-headed households. However, they were also slightly more likely to use family VIP latrines (18%), providing the highest latrine hygiene standard, compared to 13% of male-headed households.

The issue of open defecation was explored during FGDs. It was indicated that a household is mostly dependent upon their own means to provide a household latrine and given the limited financial situation of ISET residents, this accounts for the relatively high level of open defecation. In addition, some public ISET latrines are not used as they are poorly maintained, smell and have a high prevalence of mosquitoes. As such, in some cases residents stay away from these latrines, choosing to defecate in the open as a measure to prevent disease such as malaria. However, open defecation was reportedly used primarily by men, with male FGDs stating that they would not allow women in the house to engage in such activities. As such, interventions could include latrine maintenance awareness and focus on the provision of VIP latrines to avoid stagnation and bad odours.

FGDs also explored the significance of a household having direct access to water and whether this raised the likelihood of having flushable toilets. Discussions indicated that those with a water source may in fact be more motivated to save and allocate financial resources towards a flushable toilet, which they would not otherwise have striven for. As such, a relationship could perhaps be explored in future assessments, noting the benefits of providing a private water source in improving both health and hygiene standards of ISET residents. FGDs further emphasised this is a need which, if addressed, could specifically help women and girls as they are the most likely to spend the entire day within the household.

Solid Waste Disposal

Across all ISETs, 59% of households reported that they most commonly throw waste outside in the streets, while 21% burn their waste, 15% have the waste collected and 5% bury the waste. However, these findings are subject to regional trends, with the highest proportions of households throwing waste outside in the West (73%) and South-East (70%), while only 16% of ISET households use this method in the Central region. Alternatively, most households in the Central region were likely to have their waste collected (46%); the most hygienic and least concerning waste disposal method. Burning of waste is also a concerning method of waste disposal given the health implications of inhaling smoke and the residual waste left over in the process. This method of waste disposal was found to be highest in the North (14% of households), indicating a need for awareness-based interventions highlighting the benefit of safe waste disposal processes.

Displacement trends were noted, as displayed below, with protracted IDPs the most likely to use the unhygienic method of throwing waste into the streets (68%). In addition, it was noted that household head gender did not affect solid waste disposal habits.

Figure 15: Solid waste disposal methods in ISETs, by displacement status
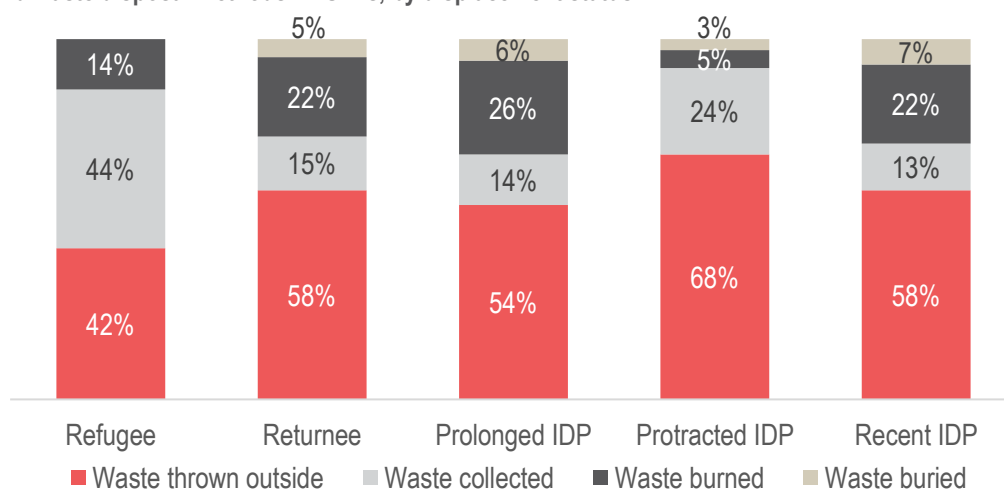
Minimum Hygiene Standards

In order to meet minimum hygiene standards in Afghanistan, it is expected that households should currently have in their possession at least one bar of soap and at least two narrow neck water containers, usually in the form of jerry cans.[52] As such, ISET households were asked whether they had access to these basic items.

In response, as can be seen in Figure 16, **it was found that 55% of households did not have access to a bar of soap and 11% did not own two water containers, exhibiting hygiene needs.** However, these findings varied between regions, as displayed in Figure 16, with the **West being noticeably in need of soap given that 80% of ISET households reported having no access**. Similarly, displacement trends were identified, with 76% of refugee households having access to soap in their house, compared to only 41% of returnee households. Again, female-headed households exhibited greater vulnerability, with 35% of households having access to soap compared to 45% of male-headed households. On the other hand, water container ownership did not vary significantly between regions, displacement status or household head gender.

Figure 16: Proportion of households in each region with access to minimum required WASH items
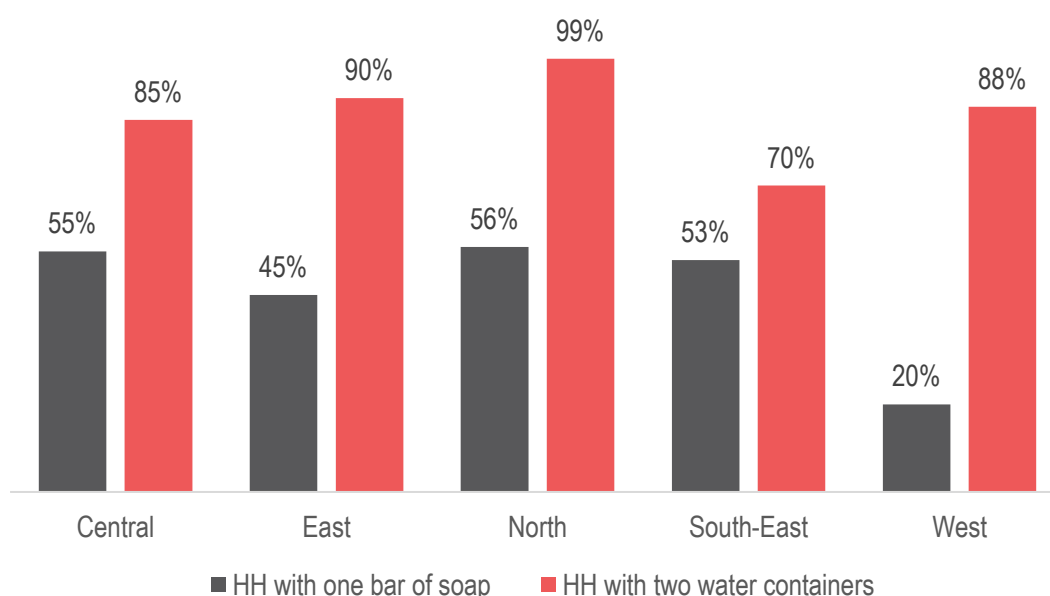
However, an interesting finding indicated that minimum hygiene standards were more typically met among households with a breastfeeding mother, and consequently a new-born child, compared to those with a pregnant woman. For example, households containing at least one pregnant woman were equally likely to have one bar of soap than those without (both 45%). However, 46% of households with at least one breastfeeding woman had access to soap compared to 40% of those without. While this 6% difference may not be drastic, this finding can be triangulated with other results in this assessment, such as those in the shelter concerns section, indicating the particular needs of pregnant women.

Shelter and Non-Food Items

Continuing from the above WASH section, the following section reports the primary shelter and NFI findings from the assessment. Shelter type, accommodation arrangement and primary shelter concerns are explored in this analysis chapter. Coping strategies through the use of Build Back Better (BBB) techniques[53] are also explored, followed by a discussion specifically on non-food items (NFIs). ESFNI indicators throughout this assessment have been analysed, outlining the key vulnerabilities and needs exhibited by groups, with integral regional trends, displacement group comparisons and other

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[52] OCHA, "Humanitarian Response Plan", 2017.
[53] Build Back Better techniques refer to a set of shelter restricting methods to improve the integrity and durability of a shelter, improving its ability to withstand a higher level of damage. Measurement of these technique use within the household also serves as an indicator of the ability of areas to withstand any upcoming threats, providing an indication of geographical areas of particular concern to the ESNFI cluster.

priority differences noted, emphasising those most in need among ISET residents. Similarly to the previous section, most findings reflect quantitative analysis gathered from the household-level surveys, with integration of key FGD findings.

Shelter Types

Given the level of exposure faced by residents of ISETs, shelter type is a significant indicator of vulnerability, with **the majority of households living in vulnerable mud brick shelters (56%),** as seen in Figure 17. This shelter type provides some level of security but can wear away during extreme rainfall or snow, and can crack and collapse during intense heat. A further **34% of households live in transitional shelters**; a shelter type intended to provide lifesaving support but not intended as a long term living solution.[54] Notably, female-headed households are more likely to live in stable houses, with only 28% living in transitional shelters, compared to 35% of male-headed households.

Figure 17: Primary shelter type used by ISET households

Mud brick shelters	56%
Transitional shelters	35%
Tarpauline tent	4%
Timber/wooden house	3%
Handmade tent	2%

Given that transitional shelters present unsustainability and vulnerability, a relationship was identified, with **households that received shelter assistance in their current location also being the most likely to reside in transitional shelters (53%) compared to those that had not received shelter assistance (27%).**[55] This indicates that some level of emergency shelter assistance was received, possibly following a shock.[56] While this assistance is crucial, **FGDs indicated a need for further assistance, focused on the provision of or access to shelter materials and labour to improve the structural integrity of more permanent shelter types,** such as those made of mud bricks or concrete. It was also indicated through FGDs that many ISET residents remain in partially damaged shelters as they do not have the means to fix the house or move, supporting the need to improve existing shelters rather than provide transitional shelters.

Accommodation Arrangements

In ISETs in Afghanistan, the owner of the land on which ISETs are established is not always known, contributing to a strong fear of eviction and potentially leading to the financial burden of further forced migration. It was found that **40% of ISET households rent their accommodation**, with FGDs noting the Government of Afghanistan as the main landowner, to which most rent is paid. Since average rent is 429 AFN per month, comprising 21% of all household expenditures on average, rent is likely a significant drain on the limited resources of ISET residents, increasing the likelihood of eviction if rent payments cannot be met. The **second most typical accommodation arrangement for ISET populations was ownership without documentation (22%)** further signalling high risk of eviction due to no proof of ownership. Therefore, the main accommodation arrangements of ISET residents indicates likely further displacement.

Accommodation arrangements, however, were found to vary across different regions with **those in the South-East exhibiting the highest vulnerability, with 53% of households owning their house without documentation**, 9% unaware of their accommodation arrangement and only 2% hosted by friends and family, as seen in the table below. Similarly, female-headed households were significantly less likely to own their house with documentation (10%) compared to their male counterparts (15%), further highlighting the shelter-based vulnerabilities of female-headed households. In contrast, households in the North exhibited greater security as the most likely to live in owned houses with documentation (27%).

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[54] NRC, "Afghanistan: Shelter Response Options", 2014.

[55] As a finding relevant to a sub-set of the data, this result has a lower confidence level and margin of error than other findings in this assessment.

[56] Afghanistan Shelter Cluster, "Afghanistan Emergency Shelter and NFI Cluster Strategy 2017", 2017.

Table 6: Proportion of ISET households reporting each accommodation arrangement, per region

	Rented	Owned with Document	Owned – No Document	Free – With Consent	Free – No Consent	Hosted	Don't Know
Central	31%	12%	18%	19%	6%	5%	9%
East	47%	15%	20%	13%	2%	3%	0%
North	49%	27%	6%	13%	1%	4%	0%
South-East	16%	4%	53%	5%	8%	2%	9%
West	29%	14%	26%	18%	1%	6%	0%

In terms of tenure status, ISET households were mostly distributed between having a written rental agreement (29%), relying upon verbal permission (26%) and having customary tenure (24%). Those dependent upon verbal permission are indicative of significant vulnerability as it heightens the likelihood of eviction.

Figure 18: Proportion of households with each tenure status
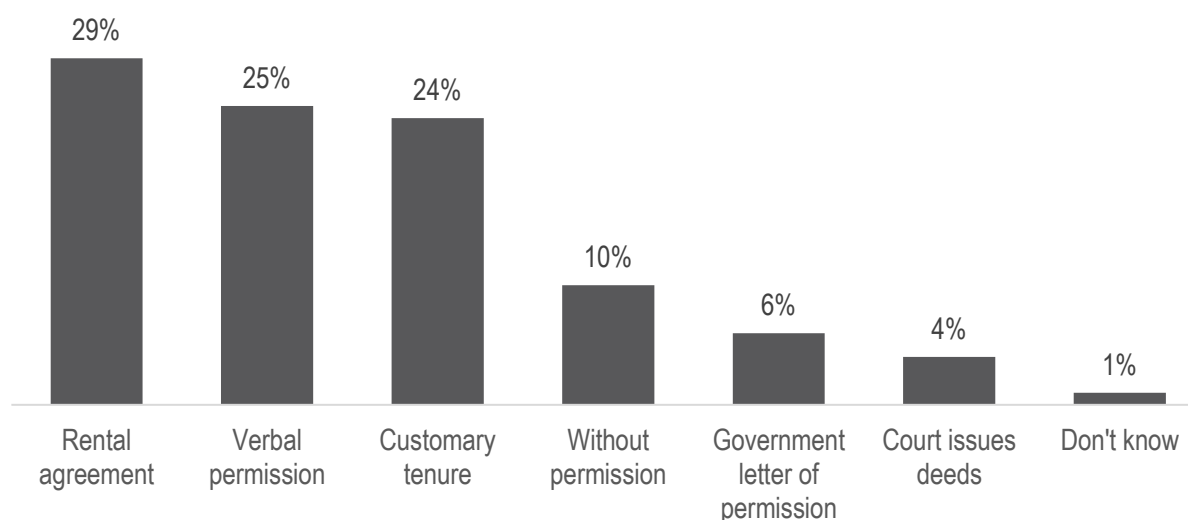
Shelter Concerns

Following on from the previous analysis, fear of eviction is generally high given the nature of ISETs. However, this notion was reinforced by the fact that **66% of ISET households fear imminent eviction.** This varies across regions, with residents in the South-East, perhaps due to their volatile accommodation arrangements, being the most likely to fear imminent eviction (89%). In contrast, households in the North, in which most households own their house with documentation, were the least likely to fear eviction (33%). Displacement trends were also noted, again in line with accommodation arrangements, with refugees the most likely to fear eviction (81%). However, it should be noted that no significant difference was identified between eviction fears of male and female household heads.

Shelter overcrowding was noted in FGDs to be a significant shelter and protection concern in ISETs, with quantitative analysis identifying an average of 2.7 rooms per shelter. While the average area of these rooms is not known, an average Crowding Index (CI) of 5.1 was generated, indicating **that across all households, approximately 5 individuals reside in every room within the shelter**. Some regional trends were noted, with a higher CI of 5.6 identified in the East and a lower CI of 3.1 in the West. CI did not differ significantly between displacement groups, with the lowest being among protracted IDPs (4.2), who are the most likely to have found a sustainable living situation as they have not been displaced in more than two years, and the highest being refugees (5.6). Female-headed households were found to have a lower crowding

index (4.7) than male-headed households (5.1). However, this may be a reflection of the fact that the shelters of female-headed households are smaller, with an average of 2.2 rooms compared to 2.7 for those of male-headed households.[57]

From a gender perspective, a specific safe space within the shelter for women and girls is a requirement for improved security and wellbeing of vulnerable females. However, **it was found that 78% of ISET households do not have a space specifically for women and girls within the shelter.** This proportion rises to 88% in the West and 87% in the South-East. In line with the findings on overcrowding of ISET shelters, refugees were the most likely to have no space for females (96%), indicating that shelter security may also have positive implications for female wellbeing and further emphasising the shelter needs of refugees. The relationship between overcrowding and the lack of safe space for women and girls within the shelter is supported by the finding that shelters with space for women are significantly more likely to have a higher average number of rooms (3.7) than those that do not (2.3).

As seen in Figure 19, the likelihood of having space for females was higher amongst male-headed households than female-headed ones. This may again be attributed to the greater average number of rooms in the shelters of male-headed households, given the relationship between the number of rooms in a shelter and the likelihood of having a safe space for women and girls. Although female FGD participants acknowledged that a safe space for women and girls is a high priority need for ISET households that is often overlooked, the need was recognised less by male respondents, particularly in the East.

As found in the WASH section, there are indications that the needs of breastfeeding women are considered more relevant than the needs of a pregnant woman, perhaps due to the consequential needs of the new-born. In this case, households with at least one pregnant woman were less likely to have a safe space for females within the shelter (17%) than those without pregnant women (24%). However, households containing at least one breastfeeding woman were significantly more likely to have a safe space for women and girls (23%) than those without (17%). As such, it may be deduced that the privacy required for a woman to breastfeed in Afghanistan is considered of significant importance.
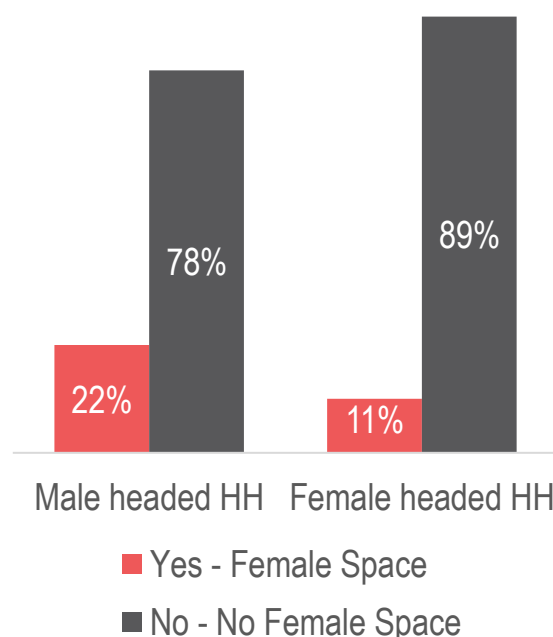
A final indicator of severe shelter-based insecurity, and a commonly implemented coping strategy in Afghanistan, is the keeping of livestock in space intended for human residents. This can either be by keeping livestock within the main house, or moving household residents to an animal shelter due to shock or overcrowding of the main house. This increases overcrowding of shelters, lessens the likelihood of having female-specific space available and can pose a health and security risk, particularly to small children. As such, **across all ISET households, only 6% were found to keep livestock indoors**. However, as found in the agricultural analysis in the complementary food security component of this assessment presented in an independent report, it was found that only 7% of households keep any livestock. Therefore, 86% of households that keep livestock reportedly keep at least some of their livestock indoors. As such, shelter interventions may consider the merit of providing shelter means for livestock, improving the earning potential of these households through sustainable livestock-based income sources, as well as improving the protection and security of shelter residents.

Build Back Better

Build back better (BBB) techniques in Afghanistan are both an indicator of stability within ISETs and a form of shelter-based coping strategies at the community level, in that a settlement with a strong contingency of BBB usage increases the coping ability of the community in the future.[58] Accordingly, little or no BBB use is a proxy indicator for shelter insecurity of vulnerable

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[57] It is relevant to note that the size of rooms in ISET households was not recorded in this assessment and thus no definitive conclusions can be drawn on the level of overcrowding in ISETs.
[58] Practical Action, "Build Back Better", 2016.

population groups.[59] It was noted during FGDs that BBB measures are known to be an important step in improving the structural integrity of the shelter and thus ISETs do strive to include these in their shelter building or repairing process.

As such, the most commonly implemented BBB techniques were those that required limited resources and labour to implement; installing window lintels (78%) and ensuring water drains away from the shelter (51%). On the other hand, cutting trees down from the surrounding area to limit damage to shelter foundations or to limit landslide risk was only implemented by 15% of households while only 39% of households included corner bracing to improve the structural integrity of the walls. It was also found that only 1% of all ISET households had implemented all eight BBB methods, while 9% had implemented no stabilising coping strategies. The majority of these households implementing no BBB techniques were found in the Central region (19%) indicating that houses are perhaps older and thus use fewer of the methods. Incidentally, a promising finding indicated that the highest proportion of households implementing all eight BBB strategies was in the North (10%); the most natural disaster prone region and thus the households most in need of these coping strategies. Notably, it was found that displacement status and household head gender did not impact the average number of BBB coping strategies used by households.

Table 7: Proportion of households using BBB techniques in each region

	No Hazards	Crack-Free Foundation	Plinth Bands	Corner Bracing	Window Lintels	Safe Windows	Water Drains	Trees Removed
Central	60%	63%	48%	46%	62%	61%	60%	3%
East	48%	32%	50%	41%	82%	39%	46%	15%
North	67%	74%	53%	41%	96%	96%	69%	17%
South-East	50%	48%	69%	46%	77%	56%	78%	28%
West	23%	48%	47%	53%	61%	54%	58%	13%

Non-Food Item Needs

Moving on from the main shelter-based findings of this assessment, it is integral to consider the non-food item (NFI) requirements of ISET residents. Given the time-frame of the assessment, in the lead up to winter, winterisation were prioritised. Overall, most households were in need of blankets and bedding (80%) followed by winterisation materials (76%) and fuel (73%), as seen in Figure 20. This indicates the significant concern for the upcoming winter held by settlement residents. Regionally, the highest proportions of households in need of blankets and bedding were found in the East (84%) and South-East (80%), while those in need of winterisation materials were also in the South-East (84%), as well as the North, indicating geographical areas to be prioritised for intervention. Winterisation material needs were also notably higher amongst refugees (84%) compared to all other displacement groups, again highlighting the specific needs of refugees. Overall, this further supports the significant need for these items, particularly blankets and warm clothing in the wake of winter.

Figure 20: Proportion of households reporting each NFI item as needed

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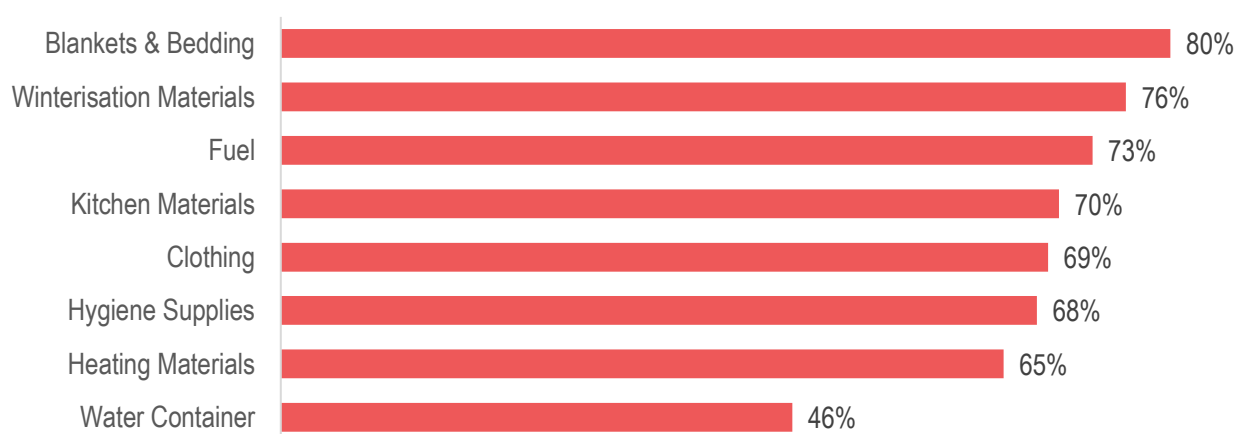
[59] WHO, "Risk Reduction Indicators: TRIAMS Working Paper", 2006.

Similarly, respondents were asked which household members have insufficient access to warm clothing, blankets and bedding materials, with women found to be the most in need of blankets, warm clothing and bedding (95% of all households). While there is an evident need for all household members, this indicates that women may require prioritisation during winterisation interventions. However, these needs vary across regions, with women, men, girls and boys all in need of blankets and warm clothing in the South-East, as seen in Figure 21 below. Overall the needs for these materials, by all household members, was lower in the Central region. Displacement and household head gender had limited impact on the need for blankets, bedding and clothing, indicating that environmental factors noted between regions may be the main driving factor in prioritising these items.
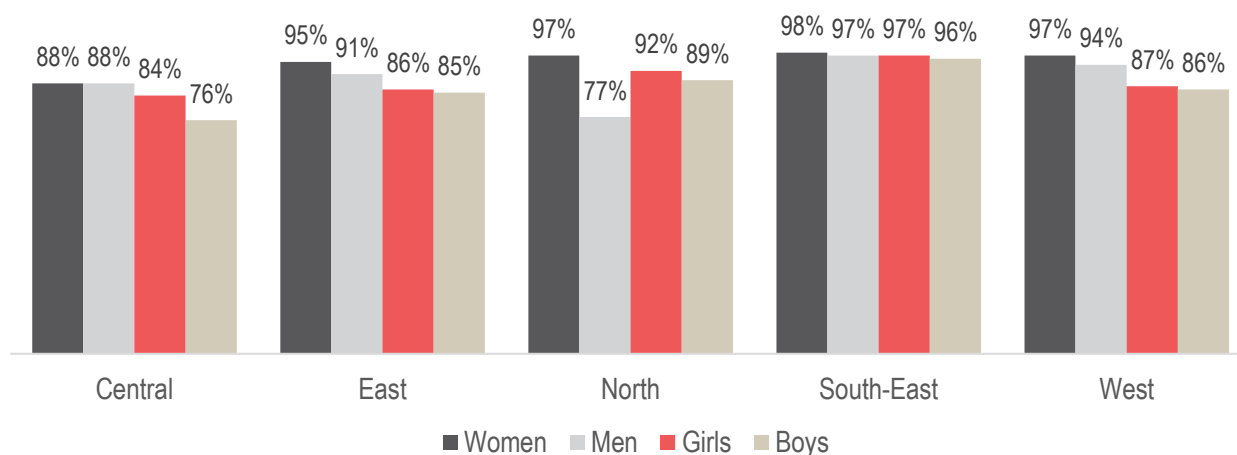
Finally, respondents were asked which members of the household have access to hygiene kits, inclusive of menstrual kits. In this case, 96% of households reported women in need, followed by 92% reporting girls, 88% reporting boys and 87% reporting men. This may not be a reflection of the fact that men and boys have received these kits, but may rather indicate that women and girls are perceived to have greater need of a hygiene kit and thus have insufficient access. In this case, findings did not drastically vary between regions or between male and female-headed households. However, it was found that refugee men were significantly more in need of hygiene kits (97%) than men in any other displacement group. As such, aside from the particularly high need of refugee men, it is evident that further hygiene kit interventions are required to meet the needs of displaced women and girls in ISETs.

Cross-Cutting Issues

The WASH and ESNFI data in this report was collected in conjunction with food-based needs and vulnerabilities information among the same households - published in a separate report. As such, upon the request of the relevant clusters, a short cross-cutting section of key findings identified throughout analysis has been included in the following section. The purpose of this is to indicate how needs are intrinsically linked, in the hope that this analysis can further encourage collaboration between the clusters as well as facilitate future multi-cluster assessments across Afghanistan.

WASH & FSAC

- Food and water insecurities are related, as **those without sufficient access to drinking water were also more likely to be severely food insecure (26%) than be food secure (16%).** This highlights the need for food and water-based needs to be considered together as the vulnerabilities caused by a lack of access to food or water are indicative of interrelated needs.

- **Households with a water source within their house or compounds were more likely to be food secure (43%) compared to 32% that were severely food insecure**. This indicates the positive impact water security can have on other aspects of the security and wellbeing of displaced populations in ISETs, supporting the needs for water connected WASH and food security assistance.

- In supporting the notion that ISETs congregate close to markets, it was found that the **highest proportion of those travelling more than 20 minutes to reach their water source also travelled more than three km to reach their market (46%)**, as seen in Figure 22. This travel time to both water and food in the market exposes ISET households to violence and insecurity during the journey, indicating protection concerns. As such, there is further evidence of a market dependence by ISETs, both for food and water needs, indicating that humanitarian interventions ought to consider the food and water needs of ISET residents in collaboration, to improve their health, wellbeing and protection situation.

Figure 22: Distribution of households by time travelling to their water source and distance to the nearest market
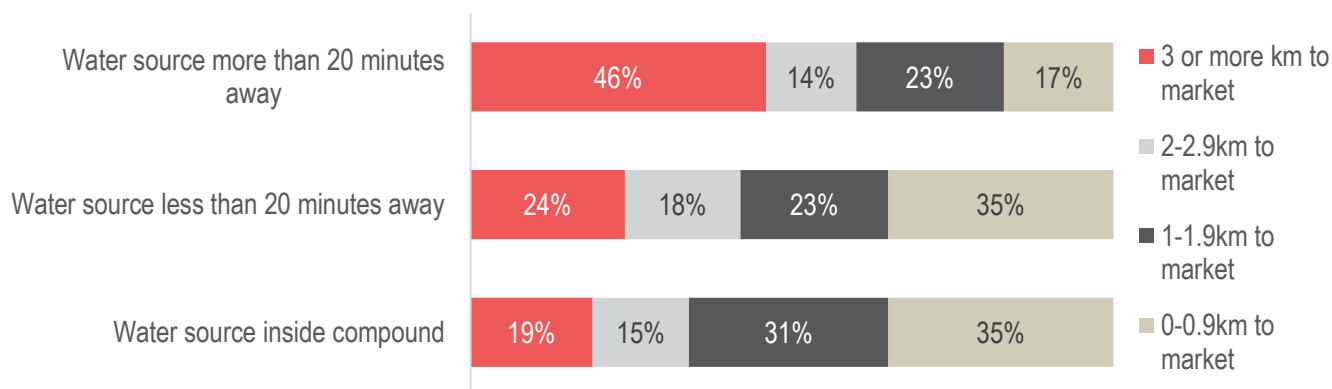
- In terms of WASH item possession, it was noted that households with at least one bar of soap were significantly more likely to be food secure (78%) than severely food insecure (42%).

- Finally, households with one bar of soap or two hygienic water containers spent a statistically significantly shorter time travelling to the market (28 minutes, on average) than those without these items required to meet minimum hygiene standards (36 minutes). Thus, those with better market access are more likely to use this advantage to improve their WASH conditions, again emphasising market dependence and interrelatedness between WASH and market access. As such, multi-sector interventions could be considered to address needs together for a maximized impact, in order to benefit those most in need.

ESNFI & FSAC

In addition to WASH, there is also linkage between the food security and shelter situation of those living in ISETs:

- Firstly, a clear relationship was noted between shelter type and food security level, with **those residing in transitional shelters most likely to exhibit severe food insecurity (36%) while those in permanent shelter types, such as concrete, were most likely to be food secure (54%).**

- Similarly, **those residing without documentation were the most likely to be severely food insecure (22%)** while renters, indicating some level of financial security, were the most likely to be food secure (56%). This indicates that a higher level of shelter structural integrity and permanence, in both shelter type and accommodation arrangement, increase the likelihood of also having food security, while shelter and accommodation insecurity increases food insecurity.

- In addition, the relationship between shelter expenditure and food security levels was identified, highlighting how households choose between shelter and food needs. To do this, a correlation between shelter expenditure share (SES) and food expenditure share (FES) was calculated. A strong negative correlation was identified.[60] This demonstrates

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[60] Pearson correlation r = -0.401 & p-value = 0.000.

that **ISET residents choose between shelter and food, given that as the proportion of expenditure on shelter increased for a household, the proportion of food expenditure decreased**. It is unlikely the household's food or shelter needs decreased accordable, indicating that as either a food or shelter need is met, vulnerability in the other sector increased. 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.

- A strong negative correlation was also identified between household expenditure on NFIs and FES.[61] This implies the same as for shelter expenditure, in that **households are choosing between NFI spending and food expenditure.** Given the absolute necessity of food, it can be deduced that both shelter and NFI needs are not being met by ISET households, indicating a widespread need.

- Finally, a key relationship was also noted between imminent fear of eviction by the household and food security levels. Households that fear eviction are significantly more likely to be severely food insecure (70%) than those that do not (30%). In contrast, 36% of ISET households that fear eviction are food secure compared to 64% that do not. Given that food insecurity is higher among households displaced four or more times (48%) while food security is highest among those only displaced once (68%) it can be deduced that secondary or higher displacement will have further negative implications for food security. As such, further shelter insecurity, as well as a higher likelihood of further displacement, is linked with food insecurity, presenting a further layer of vulnerability both currently and in the long-term.

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[61] Pearson correlation r = -0.557 & p-value = 0.000.

CONCLUSION

This multi-cluster needs assessment had two intended purposes: to profile the composition of ISETs in Afghanistan, and to understand the specific demographic characteristics, needs, vulnerabilities and coping strategies used by residents of these sites. Using analysis from the extensive household-level survey, shaped by SDR and collaboration with the WASH, ESNFI and Protection clusters, this report has outlined key shelter, NFI and WASH related issues and concerns. Together, these findings shape understanding of the insecure and complex situation faced by ISET residents, informing the humanitarian community of specific vulnerable groups with the aim of shaping targeted interventions through the 2018 HNO and HRP processes in Afghanistan.

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.[62] 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%)[63], 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.

ISET residents noted shelter to be their main priority need. ISETs are exposed, facing both harsh Afghan winters and summers with often damaged houses. 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 WASH vulnerabilities and needs of ISET residents

It was found that ISET residents have a high dependence on water sources which may freeze in the winter or dry up in the summer. It was also found that the majority of households, particularly in the Central region (64%), use public handpumps, exposing water collectors to greater protection concerns by moving through the community regularly. In addition, the number of pumps is reportedly insufficient to meet the needs of ISET residents, and FGDs indicated that humanitarian interventions to increase the number of handpumps in these sites would improve the wellbeing of residents.

Open defecation was also highlighted as a significant concern, exposing ISET residents to health risks and protection-based vulnerabilities by leaving their home. Accordingly, there is a need for financial support or the provision of materials in order to build ventilated latrines. Similarly, awareness campaigns and information sharing on the importance of latrine maintenance could improve the standard and durability of existing latrines.

Finally, the majority of households were found to have insufficient access to soap, failing to meet minimum hygiene standards. Therefore, the provision of soap, particularly to households containing additionally vulnerable members such as pregnant women, would be of significant value.

Identification of ESNFI vulnerabilities and needs of ISET residents

The majority of ISET shelters are made of mud brick, which can be destroyed in heavy snow, rain or extreme heat. Like water-based vulnerabilities, this indicates the seasonal trends in ISET vulnerability, exhibiting greater needs in the peak of both the summer and winter. Therefore, ISET residents need either cash assistance, or the direct provision of materials to

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[62] Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, "Food Security Cluster: Afghanistan", 2017.
[63] REACH, "Joint Education and Child Protection Needs Assessment", November 2017.

mitigate limited access to markets, in order to repair damaged shelters and build more permanent structures. These needs were noted during FGDs to be more pertinent than the provision of transitional shelters.

This assessment also identified the explicit needs for winterisation materials and fuel. As such, particularly in the period before the harsh Afghan winter, it is encouraged that intervention planning includes the provision of heating materials, blankets, bedding and fuel.

Outline of the WASH and ESNFI vulnerabilities faced by different displacement groups in ISETs

In comparing the WASH situation of different displacement groups in ISETs, it was found that refugees were significantly more vulnerable that other displacement groups, as they were the least likely to have drinking water, travelled the furthest to reach their water source and were found to be most dependent on surface water. No significant difference in water access and source dependence was identified between IDPs and returnees. This may be attributed to the multiplier effect, whereby assistance intended for returnees also benefits IDPs in ISETs.

Specific displacement-based differences were also identified throughout the ESNFI analysis. Again, refugees were identified as the most vulnerable, as they are the most likely to fear imminent eviction and were most in need of winterisation materials. In contrast, protracted IDPs were identified as having the lowest crowding index and some of the most secure accommodation arrangements. Since refugees have most typically been displaced in 2017, while protracted IDPs have not faced displacement for at least two years, recent displacement may be interpreted as an indicator of ESNFI vulnerability. Thus, anticipated secondary and further displacement of populations in Afghanistan ought to be considered in the evidence-based planning of 2018 interventions.

Outline of the WASH and ESNFI vulnerabilities of women and girls in ISETs

Female-headed households are significantly less likely to have a private water pump than male-headed households, and more likely to defecate in the open, thus they are more exposed to protection threats by regularly travelling in the local community. It was also noted during FGDs that many households have poorly maintained latrines, with men choosing to defecate in the open rather than use available facilities, yet women and girls in the households continue to use these insufficient facilities, increasing exposure to health concerns and malaria. As such, women and girls must be integrated into WASH based interventions in upcoming humanitarian planning, particularly focusing on awareness campaigns to improve latrine standards.

In addition, women and girls were found to be the most in need of hygiene kits and blankets and bedding. Shelters were also found to lack a dedicated space for women and girls, indicating protection and crowding concerns. It was also noted that a higher proportion of female-headed households relied on shelter-based coping strategies, such as living with friends or family, which could be a further indication of overcrowding. Therefore, it is encouraged that the needs of women and girls, as well as the heightened vulnerabilities of female-headed households, be considered during evidence-based planning of 2018 humanitarian interventions.

Recommendations for further research

Certain findings from this assessment highlighted further research gaps. In order to increase understanding of the needs and vulnerabilities of ISET residents, the following areas could be included in future research:

- Firstly, FGDs indicated some household members chose to defecate in the open due to the poor maintenance of latrines. Therefore, an assessment identifying the health implications of insufficient and poorly maintained latrines in ISETs would help direct the most appropriate type of assistance required to improve this situation.

- Further exploration of perceptions of the specific needs of pregnant and breastfeeding women would improve the targeted assistance provided to these groups and highlight the different vulnerabilities exhibited by them.

- In addition, improved shelter-based indicators, such as level of household insulation and size of rooms within the shelter would strengthen understanding of the living conditions of ISET residents.

- Furthermore, greater understanding of household dynamics and decision making could indicate how prioritisation of needs is conducted and could highlight gendered biases at the household level.

- Finally, profiling of ISETs on a national 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.

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+)
		Household members by additional vulnerability	F_4	How many household members are:	# of HH members with disability
					# 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 Tazkera?	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
					Don't know
		Arrival at current location	G_5_1	When did the FIRST household member arrive at this location?	Year
					Month
			G_5_2	When did the LAST household member arrive at this 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	I_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	I_2	Do all household members consume meat, beans and pulses when they are available in the household?	Women
					Men
					Girls
					Boys
		Food source of boys/girls aged 6 months to 2 years	I_3_1	What is the main food source of HH boys aged between 6 months and 2 years?	Solid food
					Breastfeeding
					Other (Specify)
			I_3_2		Solid food

				What is the main food source of HH girls aged between 6 months and 2 years?	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
					# days reduce number of meals eaten in a day
			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 kilometers, is the nearest functioning market?	Less than 1 km
					2km
					3km
					4km
					5 or more km
		Time to nearest functioning market (in minutes by foot)	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 (incudes 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 sufficient access to water for drinking?	Yes
					No
		Access to sufficient water for cooking	L_4	Does the household have sufficient access to water for cooking?	Yes
					No

		Access to sufficient water for bathing	L_5	Does the household have sufficient access to 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 liters)	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)
		Current accommodation arrangement of household living space	M_2	What is the accommodation arrangement of the indoor living space used by the household?	Owned with documentation
					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
					no
			M_8_2	Is the shelter foundation free from cracks?	yes
					no
			M_8_3		yes

					Does the shelter have ANY plinth bands?	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)

MCNA Focus Group Discussions			

Date _ _/_ _/_ _	Province_____	District_____	ISET Name _____
			ISET Key _____

Moderator Name _____

Note-taker Name_____

Participant details

First name	Family name	Age (Years)	Gender	Displacement Status
		_ _	□ M □ F	
		_ _	□ M □ F	
		_ _	□ M □ F	
		_ _	□ M □ F	
		_ _	□ M □ F	
		_ _	□ M □ F	

- **Facilitator's welcome, introduction and instructions to participants [5 minutes]**
- Welcome and thank you for volunteering to take part in this discussion group. You have been asked to participate as your point of view is imp appreciate your time.
- This focus group discussion has been designed to understand the broad range of vulnerabilities and needs faced by those residing in informal settlements in Afghanistan. Specifically this discussion will address the core WASH and shelter needs and concerns of displaced populations in settlements. You have been asked to take part as you possess a unique and in-depth knowledge and understanding of the situation in your settlement and are a willing and vocal participant. Your answers to the following questions will be used to create a report which outlines the key needs and vulnerabilities in your settlement, and discusses ways in which education programs could be improved in Afghanistan.
- **Please note that this meeting does not have any impact on whether you, your family, your settlement or your broader community receives any assistance in the future. These discussions are only meant to help inform humanitarian actors.**
- **Anonymity:** We assure you that the discussion will be anonymous and REACH will not share your details with any other party without first contacting you to check if you agree. I and the other group participants would therefore appreciate that you do not discuss the comments of other group members outside the group.

- **Ground rules [2 minutes]**
- The most important rule is that only **one person speaks at a time.** There may be a temptation to jump in when someone is talking but please wait until they have finished.
- **You do not have to speak in any particular order**
- **When you do have something to say, please do so**. There are many of you in the group and it is important all your views are included
- There are **no right or wrong answers**
- **You do not have to agree with the views of other people** in the group

– If there are any **questions or discussions that you do not wish to answer or participate in, you do not have to do so;** however please try to answer and be as involved as possible, your views are important.

1: What are the main water sources available in your settlement?
    Prompts:
- Provide all types of water sources available in the settlement
    Probing Questions:
- If water is provided by a mosque or other building, what type of water source do they use?

2: Do households in your settlement have enough water for drinking, bathing and cooking?
    Prompts
– Answer for each type (drinking, bathing and cooking).
    Probing Questions:
– If no, what do households do if they do not have enough water?

3: How is water provided to the settlement?
    Prompt:
- i.e. who organises for water to come to the settlement? Is it government provided or private or publically available (stream etc)?
    Probing Questions:
- If it is private, who provides it?

4: Does the settlement pay for access to water?
    Probing Questions:
– If yes, who is money paid to? Does each household pay or is it a collective payment? If it is collective, is the money gathered from households by one body, or is it paid by someone else?

5: If water is paid for, how much does the settlement pay in total?
   Prompt:
− If water is provided for free, skip this question.
− Either provide a total monthly amount for the whole settlement or a monthly amount per household in AFN. Specify whether it is a total monthly or household monthly being provided.

6: How could the water access be improved?

7: Are there any concerns about the water in your informal settlement?
   Prompt:
− i.e. is the water quality bad or is there not enough water or is there water for washing but not for drinking etc.

8: What type of latrines are available in your settlement?
   Prompt:
− Provide all types of latrine available in the settlement: No facility, community latrine, family pit latrine (slab/covered), family pit latrine (without slab/open), family VIP latrine, family flush toilet to sewer system, family flush/pour toilet to septic tank/pit, other (specify)
   Probing Questions:
− Which of these latrines are most commonly used?

9: Who provides latrines in your settlement?

− **Prompt:**
− i.e. who builds them? Is it each household or do labourers help or is it another source?

10: How could the settlement latrines be improved?

11: Are there any gendered facilities in your settlement?
Probing question:
– If yes, which facilities are gendered?

12: What are the main WASH needs in your settlement?

13: What are the specific WASH needs of women and girls in your settlement?

14: Does access to WASH facilities differ depending on displacement status in your settlement?
– **Probing question:**
– If yes, which facilities do different groups (IDPs/returnees/refugees/other residents) access?

15: Who owns the land on which the settlement is based?
Prompt:
– i.e. Government or private or don't know or other
Probing Questions:
– If private, can you explain what private person/organisation owns the land

16: Is rent paid for the use of the land?
Probing questions:
- If yes, how much rent is paid per month in AFN? Is this amount a total for the settlement or is it per household? If it is a total for the whole settlement, how is rent money collected for the settlement?

17: What material are most houses made of?
Prompts:
- Handmade tent, tarpaulin tent, permanent mud bricks, transitional mud bricks, timber/iron sheets, other etc

Probing Questions:

- Is there one main material for the entire house or are walls usually one material and roof another? Give details of houses

18: What are the general conditions of houses in your informal settlement?
Prompts:
- i.e. have they been damaged by an event or are residents unable to fully build the structure or any other comments on the state of houses.

Probing Questions:

- If they have been damaged, are most houses partially or severely damaged?

19: What are the main shelter needs of your settlement?

20: Do most households have a safe space for women and girls?
Probing Questions:

- If yes, what kind of space is this?

21: What are the main shelter needs of women and girls in your settlement?

22: Do different displacement groups have different shelter needs?
Probing Questions:

- If yes, how do these needs differ for IDPs/returnees/refugees/other residents?

Conclusion [5 minutes]

- ➢ **Thank you for participating. This has been a very successful discussion**
- ➢ **Your opinions will be a valuable asset to the study**
- ➢ **We hope you have found the discussion interesting**
- ➢ **I would like to remind you that any comments featuring in this report will be anonymous**

Moderator comments

نظریات سروی کننده

Annex 3: ESNFI Cluster Definition List of Shelter Types For Displaced Populations in Afghanistan

ESNFI Cluster Document - Current shelter Types of IDPs and Returnees in Afghanistan

No.	Types of Shelter	Description	Commonly used by whom	Commonly used Location
1	**Tents (emergency Shelter)**	Different sizes/types of family tents. For example of UNHCR tent (Family tent of total area 23 sqm. Approximate weight 55.0 kg. Having complete accessories, poles, beams, rope… Poly-Cotton: (Polyester/Cotton blended Composition: fibres yarns). Cotton: 40% (±10), polyester: 60% (±10) = Polyester: 50% to 70%, with balance in cotton. Specific weight: 350 g/m2 ±15% in finished state.)	IDPs, Returnees,	All Provinces were used in some occasion even for a short time, but it may not be applicable for a long time in some provinces as it is not applicable for very hot and very cold conditions.
2	**Makeshift**	Using local materials like cloths, wooden boards/piles and plastic sheets to cover around or provide a shadow during the day. It is only to use the local available material to deal with their shelter need and is not a proper solution.	IDPs, Returnees	During high influx of return or IDPs for a short period of time in the east, north and western regions.
3	**Transitional (Mud or bricks)**	Using mud bricks walls, mud walls and covering the roof with GI sheets, or wooden boards.	Mostly returnees	Eastern region
4	**Permanent (bricks or Mud)**	Using sun dried or fired breaks and covering the roof with appropriate type of roofing according to respective region. according to applicability according to the local options different type of roofing are used, for example arch slabs are	IDPs, Returnees,	All provinces

		used in the west region provinces like Herat and Iron beams and wooden boards are used in the central region.		
5	**Collective Centres (not meant for living resident)**	Governmental and public buildings like schools, mosques or stadiums used to live for a short period of time, but it may be extended in some provinces for longer period as well.	IDPs and returnees	North and west
6	**Rented accommodation (house)**	Renting the host community private houses. It may have different conditions according to the capacity of the IDPs for paying the amount of rent. It is normally a better solution rather than tent for covering the emergency shelter needs.	IDPs and returnees	Eastern, central, northern and western regions
7	**Open space**	Living under bridges, trees, open surrounded areas by the fences and so on,,,,	IDPs and returnees, it is seen in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster and when there is risk of ND event as well	All provinces
8	**Unfinished shelter (house)**	When there is a large scale of hazards, people are trying to use any means of accommodation to settle even the damaged and unfinished houses. The cluster is not recommending it.	IDPs and returnees	Conflict IDP prone regions like north, north east
9	**Partially Damaged Shelter (house)**	When there is a large scale of hazards, people are trying to use any means of accommodation to settle even the damaged and unfinished houses. The cluster is not recommending it.	IDPs and returnees	Conflict IDP prone regions like north, north east
10	**Owned house**	Some of the returnees or IDPs have the capacity of using their own houses upon their arrival or in displacement. It has been reported	IDPs and returnees	All provinces

		during the high return influx from Pakistan in 2016		
11	**Hosted**	It happens during all displacements that people are hosted by their relatives and friends for some time, but it can't show the actuall need, as they may have the capacity for accessing or providing a proper shelter for themselves. And it can be used for the natural disaster affected till their damaged houses are repaired.	IDPs and returnees	All provinces,