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Assessment of Vulnerabilities Faced to IDPs Settled in QARGHA Area of Kabul
(A Case Study)



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Disclaimer

The Case Study titled "Assessment of Vulnerabilities Faced to IDPs Settled in QARGHA Area of Kabul" is prepared as the Research Thesis for the "Master Degree in International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (MDICHA) of the Humanitarian Aid Studies Centre. This thesis is prepared and submitted jointly by Mohammad Sharif and Farid Ahmad students of the MDICH program (March 2012 batch).

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Acronyms:

CSO	Central Statistics Organization
DRC	Danish Refugees Council
EVI	Extremely Venerable IDPs
GoA	Government of Afghanistan
HASC	Humanitarian Aid Studies Center
HHs	Households
HLP	Housing, Land and Property
ICRC	International Committee of the Red
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IMF	International Military Forces
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
JIPS	Joint IDP Profiling Service
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock's
MDICHA	Master Degree in International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MOLSADM	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Disabled and Martyrs
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoRR	Ministry of Refugee and Repatriations
MoUD	Ministry of Urban Development
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
NRVA	National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OPD	Out-Patient Department
SHRDO	Service Health Relief Development Organization
UN	United Nation
UNCEF	United Nation Children Education Fund
UNHCR	United Nation High Commission for Refugees
US	United State
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Program of UN
WHO	World Health Organization

Executive Summary

The Case Study on "Assessment of Vulnerabilities Faced to IDPs Settled in QARGHA Area of Kabul" is carried out as a Research Thesis for the master program of MDICHA-HSACS. The research is aimed to explore and communicate the vulnerabilities faced to IDPs and their livelihood conditions from the QARGHA camp to the national and international actors. The findings and facts presented in the research Thesis is a combination of both primary data and secondary information. The research thesis initially provides a general overview on internal displacement in the country. It mainly focus on the specific types of vulnerabilities faced to IDPs in QARHA camp in terms of access to basic humanitarian needs (food, employment, shelter, water, sanitation, health, and education). The lastly report provides concrete recommendations for improving livelihoods conditions of IDPs settled in QARGHA Camp.

Migration as a livelihood strategy has a long history in Afghanistan and more than three decades of conflict and political instability resulted in large-scale forced migration movements both within the country and to abroad. The internal displacement has recently become most common and critical humanitarian problem in Afghanistan due the persistent armed conflicts, insecurity, natural and man-made disasters and unequal development. As of May 2012, the UNHCR estimated conflict induced IDPs around 396,808 persons corresponding to 62,308 families across the country. Most of the IDPs' families live in informal settlement. The number of new conflict-induced IDPs has been rising steadily since 2009 (80% of the total reported conflict-induced till 2012).

There are 850 IDPs families with estimated number of 8415 individuals informally settled in QARGHA area which are mainly displaced from Helmand as well as Kandahar and Orzgan provinces. They have been displaced here for over five years due to insecurity and armed conflict between IMF-US force and insurgent group of Taliban. They have come to Kabul looking for a viable place to live, but unable to pay the high rents in Kabul, they put up tents and mud-made-hut on a ground in QARGHA of District-5 of the Kabul province. The IDPs selected Kabul (Capital of the Country) for the displacement because of the relatively better security and access to services and livelihoods opportunities.

The majority of their adults (approximately 90 % male and almost all women) are illiterate and unable to write and read. The IDPs are from rural areas and they had used to work in farms and livestock in their home-provinces. In fact, most of the IDPs do not have land in their provinces and they had been working as farm labours in their town which could have contributed to the displacement as well. Most of them lost their houses and livestock's and even family members during the displacement due to armed conflicts.

Almost all of the respondents indicated that food insecurity, poor shelter and unemployment are their common and critical types of vulnerabilities threatening their life. The health problems and illiteracy indeed increase the degree of vulnerabilities faced to the population. As impact of the vulnerabilities, most of the families are under-loan (50%), some families lost their members due to sever condition of winter, illnesses and poor sanitation.

They do not have proper sources of income currently. Most of them are currently unemployed, some of the used to work as daily wages which is also hardly available. The average annual income of the IDPs is equal to AFN 72000 (estimated AFN 8000 per month). Comparing their current income and based on the World Bank poverty index (income is less than 1\$ per head per day), all of the IDPs are living with sever poverty. They income is mainly spent on food (90% of income) which is still very poor in terms of both quality and quantity. The remaining small amount of their expenditures includes health and medicine.

Most of the displaced HHs settled in QARGHA camp are uneducated and come from rural areas and they used to work in farms and livestock's in their hometown. They have limited experience and skills outside agriculture and have extremely high rates of illiteracy. The IDPs' employment opportunities are mainly confined with the poor and quality daily labor and self-employment with inadequate income compare to their expenditures. Sometime they are discriminated by the citizen while applying for daily labors as originated from the insurgents' living areas.

They live in mud-hut houses with no roofs in very poor condition. Last year 15-16 children and elders lives were lost due to cold winter conditions. They ask the government for providing them a permanent settlement as most of them do not want to be returned. They send are sending their children to near public schools in 90%of cases and in 50% cases their girls also have access to education. They have access to a mobile clinic in the camp as well as public city hospitals in the city. However, they cannot afford treatment of more complex illness.

The IDPs settled in QARGHA camp often existing on the margins of society, lacking basic protection and assistance, including inadequate access to food, water, shelter and health care and social safety. Many have also been dispossessed of property, are unable to generate incomes, and are denied basic education. They have received humanitarian assistants provided by the Government agencies, humanitarian organization, local NGOs as well as local rich people as charity, which was not sufficient in 80% of case. The assistances had been significantly reduced or even stopped for the last one year and exposing them to different types of shocks.

The government of Afghanistan, particularly, the MoRR is the primary responsible to assist and protect all IDPs and to find more durable solutions to their displacement. The MoRR needs to collaborate and work with the other government line ministries, international organization; the civil society - communities and their representatives, local NGOs and the media, for satisfying the basic needs (food, shelter, sanitation, education, health, employment) of the IDPs, to provide them social-safety and to find out a durable solution.

Introduction

The internal displacement is one of the most common and critical humanitarian problem in Afghanistan. The persistent armed conflicts, insecurity, natural and man-made disasters as well as unequal development could be the main reasons for displacement in the country. The IDPs population has been mostly concentrated in urban area, mainly in Kabul, Herat, Kandahar, Marzar and Jalalabad provinces. A number of studies have been conducted to explore livelihood conditions of IDPs across the country. We found through the background research that the IDPs camp located in QARGHA are have not been studied in-depth by any previous research. While a significant number of the displaced population (around 850 families) are living in very poor condition in this area.

With this view, we selected the Case Study on the IDPs settled in QARGHA area for our research Thesis of our master program -MDICHA-HASC. The title of our Research Thesis is "Assessment of Vulnerabilities Faced to IDPs Settled in QARGHA Area of Kabul". Our research question is that ""what types of vulnerabilities are faced to the IDPs and what types of resilience mechanisms are available for them". In addition, we strived to provide general overview on the IDPs and their demographic characteristics in the country.

Our research is aimed to explore and communicate the vulnerabilities faced to IDPS and their livelihood's problem in QARGHA camp to the national and international actors. The research intends to provide updated and accurate information (on the livelihoods condition of IDPs settled in QARGHA area) to the government ministries (mainly to the MoRR, MRRD, MAIL, MOLSADM, MoUD, MoF, MoPH, MoE); UN agencies in Afghanistan (UNOHCR, WHO, WFP and UNICEF); Humanitarian NGOs (DRC, NRC, etc.); civil society; other public and private organizations working for IDPs.

The Research Thesis initially provides a general overview on internal displacement in the country. It further explores the specific types of vulnerabilities and access to humanitarian assistances of IDPs settled in QARGHA with respect to the UNHCR manual for emergency. The report further detailed the types challenges faced to IDPs in terms of access to basic humanitarian needs including Shelter, Water, Health, Food Security and Education. It has a conclusion and provides concrete recommendations for improving livelihoods conditions of IDPs settled in QARGHA area.

This Research Thesis is based on the qualitative data and supported by quantitative figures. We initially conducted a literature review on IDPs in Afghanistan and we were thereby able to capture information about the overview of IDPs in the country and their demographic characteristics. Much of the required data for this research was collected directly from IDPs settled in QARGHA area through the semi-structured interviews; focus group discussions;; and direct observation. A questionnaire (checklist) was for collecting the primary and we used simple random sampling method for the study. A total number of 100 HHs was interviewed for the stud from the same camp. The data was processed through a database in Ms Excel and analysed in different type of charts, graphs and narrations.

Overview of IDPs in Afghanistan

As cited in the UN Guiding Principles on Internal displacement 1998; the IDPs are those individuals or groups who have been forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or human-made disasters, and have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.¹ The UNHCR Manual for Emergency defined IDPs as persons who have been forced to flee their homes suddenly or unexpectedly in large numbers as a result of armed conflict, internal strife, systematic violations of human rights or natural or man-made disasters and who are within the territory of their country.²

Over 50 millions of people in some 50 countries have been displaced over in the world by conflicts, human right violation as well as disasters and infrastructural projects. The internally displaced persons are often the most neglected and forgotten in many emergencies around world. They mostly suffer from server deprivation, hardship and discrimination. As quoted from Secretary-General of UN (Kofi Anan); "the internal displacement is the great tragedy of our time; the internally displaced people are among the most vulnerable of the human family.

Migration as a livelihood strategy has a long history in Afghanistan and more than three decades of conflict and political instability resulted in large-scale forced migration movements both from and within Afghanistan. The armed conflict triggered by the Communist coup in April 1978 and the Soviet invasion in 1979 led to the largest coerced movement of people in recent times. In the early 1990s, 7.5 million people were displaced: 3.2 million registered as refugees in Pakistan; 2.4 million in Iran; and approximately 2 million within Afghanistan's borders. The end of Taliban rule in December 2001 triggered significant repatriation movements from neighbouring countries.³

At the same time, conflict with international forces led to new internal displacement from Taliban strongholds⁴. Over the three decades in Afghanistan, thousands of Afghan families have been internally displaced from their hometown to the large cities due conflicts and natural or man-made disasters, seeking for better security, shelter, employment and basic services. As of end May 2012, the UNHCR report estimate as of May 2012 - an estimated 396,808 persons/ 62,308 families across the country remain internally displaced due to reasons of conflict. The number of new conflict-induced IDPs has been rising steadily since 2009 and 80% of the total reported conflict-induced IDPs claim to have been displaced between June 2009 and May 2012.

Due to security and economic situation in Afghanistan, it is difficult to differentiate of forced and voluntary displacement from each other. Security and conflict force people to leave their original province and thus causes forced displacement. Household and individuals also

¹ Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, OCHA, UN, September 2004

² Handbook for Emergencies, Second Edition, UNHCR,

³National Profile of Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Afghanistan, 2008, UNHCR, JIPS-IDMC ⁴

⁴ WB and UNHCR, Research Study on IDPs in urban settings – Afghanistan, Kabul, May 2011

migrate to urban in search of economic opportunities and causes voluntary displacement due to rural-urban migration. In most of the cases voluntary and forced displacement are mixed with each other and make it difficult for humanitarian interventions.⁵

The security in south, west and eastern regions of Afghanistan is worse than other regions and more people migrate to centre of these regions from neighbouring provinces and cause the number of displaced persons increase in the mentioned regions. According to available data, 30% of the reported conflict-induced IDPs originate from the South (provinces of Kandahar, Helmand and Urzgan). A total of 25% of the reported IDPs are from provinces in the West with Badghis, as the top province of origin for all reported IDPs in the country. A total of 19% of the entire IDP population is recorded as originating from the provinces in the East (Kunar, Nangarhar and Laghman). A total of 12% are from North and North-Eastern provinces, and 13% are from Central and Central Highland provinces, while 1% is reported from the South-East.⁶

The top 10 provinces of displacement are currently led by the South at 34%, followed by the East at 24% and West at 23%. The majority of these informal settlements⁷ or slums are located in Kabul, Herat, Mazar-i-Sharif, Jalalabad and other cities. They have created informal settlements, often slums, on governmental or private land. Sometimes, local authorities or landowners have given permission for the IDPs to settle there, though generally with no security of tenure. In other instances, IDPs have settled without asking permission or getting authorization to live there. The majority of the recorded IDP populations belong to the Pashtun ethnicity.

Globally, there are several major causes of internal displacement: conflict (including armed conflict and generalized violence); violations of human rights; natural disasters; human-made disasters and development projects. Research on IDPs indicate that 75.6 per cent of the cases arm conflicts and insecurity are the reasons for the displacement⁸ of them had been displaced due to conflict, 16.9 per cent by natural disasters and 6.7 per cent by both.⁸ Another research indicates that total of 36% of IDPs refer to armed conflict and 37% refer to general insecurity as the key causes of their displacement. A total of 12% cite internal tribal conflict, impact of cross border shelling, extortion, illegal-taxation and land disputes as causes of displacement.⁹

⁵ WB and UNHCR, Research Study on IDPs in urban settings – Afghanistan, Kabul, May 2011

⁶ Conflict Induced Internally Displaced Persons in Afghanistan, Interpretation of Data as of May 2012, UNHCR

⁷ Definition of informal settlements adopted by UNHABITAT, which encompasses both unplanned and illegally occupied areas. Informal urban settlements are areas of a municipality where most residents lack formal legal deeds for their property. These areas are characterized by the lack of legal recognition by the municipality and other government bodies of the residents' right of occupancy, and inadequate public services, such as education, health care, public markets, roads and drainage, water supply, sanitation, waste management and electricity services. For a relevant discussion of how rapid urban growth can lead to slums' development see for example UNHABITAT (2003) "The Challenge of Slums: Global Report on Human Settlements". <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=1156>

⁸ Challenges of IDPs Protection, Research Study on Protection of IDPs in Afghanistan, October 2012, NRC, IDMC, JIPS, SMEUL HALL

⁹ Conflict Induced Internally Displaced Persons in Afghanistan, Interpretation of Data as of May 2012, UNHCR

Lack of humanitarian access remains a key constraint almost in all regions across the country, e.g. in the South-East, humanitarian actors do not have access to almost 95% of the IDP locations- in the Northern region humanitarian access is estimated at 80% while in the North-east it is at 55%. Therefore, delay in identification, assessment and timely assistance is a significant challenge. Access to basic protection in place of displacement, i.e., personal and physical security and shelter are critical needs¹⁰.

The three priorities identified as top protection needs of IDPs and each of these protection needs is shown below together with its rights-based equivalent. (i). Employment: IDPs should not be discriminated against as they exercise their right to seek work and engage in economic activities (Guiding Principle 22b). (ii) 2. Housing, Land and Property (HLP): IDPs cannot be arbitrarily deprived of property and possessions they had to leave as they fled (Guiding Principle 21). (iii) Food Access and Quality: IDPs have a right to an adequate standard of living and authorities are obliged to provide them with safe access to essential food and potable water (Guiding Principle 18).¹¹The UNHCR and WB report on IDPs also encounter unemployment, food security and housing main problems for IDPs.¹²

Actors Involved and Responsibilities

As stated in the principle three of the UN guiding principles on IDPs provide that “national authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction”. Therefore the government of Afghanistan, particularly, the Ministry of Refugee and Repatriation is the primary responsible to assist and protect all IDPs and to find durable solutions to their displacement.

Accordingly, the MoRR, based on its strategic goals, mandated to provide the Afghan repatriates and IDPs opportunity of settling and to get initial re-integration support, including legal support, employment opportunity and professional-technical training in their place of origin in collaboration with other national and international stakeholders. Accordingly, government and humanitarian actors is committed to adopt appropriate strategies and programmes, including developing a national policy for IDPs, to ensure protection prior to, during and after the displacement.¹³

In the context of Afghanistan, the MoRR need to work coordinate with a number of stakeholders including; line ministries (MRRD, MoLSADM, MoF, MAIL, MoE, MoPH); international organizations (UNHCR, WFP, NRC, DRC, etc.); the civil society - communities

¹⁰National IDP Task Force meeting minutes, plus inputs from the regional Task Forces.<http://ochaonline.un.org/afghanistan/Clusters/Protection/IDPTaskForce/tabid/5731/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

¹¹MoRR website, <http://morr.gov.af>

¹² Challenges of IDPs Protection, Research Study on Protection of IDPs in Afghanistan, October 2012, NRC, IDMC, JIPS, SMEUL HALL

¹³MoRR website: www.morr.gov.af

and their representatives, local NGOs and the media to satisfy the basic needs (food, shelter, education, health, employment) of the IDPs and to find out a durable solution. Hence, the IDPs need for a multi-dimensional and holistic response to address their needs and provide a durable solution for their needs.

The recent policy making initiatives of the MoRR aimed to develop a national policy for the IDPs is much appreciated. In reference to the MoRR website, the IDPs Taskforce (consisting MoRR, UHCR and other stakeholders has been recently drafting the IDPs policy. the initial outline of the policy seem more comprehensive. In reference to the policy outline on MoRR website, the policy address issues including identification of internally displaced persons; special Vulnerabilities of IDPs and other affected communities, preventing internal displacement, preparedness and mitigation (Early Warning); providing protection and assistance in displacement and eventually finding durable solutions for IDPs.

The policy must address issues like: it addressed key issue behind the IDPs including: Definition, application and identification of internally displaced persons; Special Vulnerabilities of IDPs and of Hosting and other Affected Communities; Preventing Internal Displacement , Protecting from Arbitrary Displacement; Preparedness and Mitigation (Early Warning); Displacement in Emergency Phase – Assistance and Access; Providing Protection and Assistance in Displacement; Finding durable solutions; Implementation of the Policy Institutional Roles and Responsibilities.

Research Findings: Vulnerabilities Faced to IDPS in QARGHA Camp

The analysis in this section is based on the preliminary finding collected from IDPs through a small scale survey. Besides providing basic information on socio-demographic profile, this section provide in-depth analysis and direct findings on the vulnerabilities faced to the HHs, their settlement and welfare (housing and access to education and health, availability of safety nets and food security). Lastly, this section concluded consensus of the IDPs regarding their plan for settlement.

There are 850 IDPs family with estimated number of 8415 individuals mainly displaced from mainly from Hilmand province due insecurity and armed conflict between IMF-US force and insurgent group of Taliban. Majority of them have been originated from Helmand Province (Sangin, Grishk and Nawzad district) and few of them are belong to the Kandahar and Orzgan provinces. They have come to Kabul looking for a viable place to live, but unable to pay the high rents in Kabul, they put up tents and mud-made-hut in a ground in District-5, QARGHA area of the Kabul province.

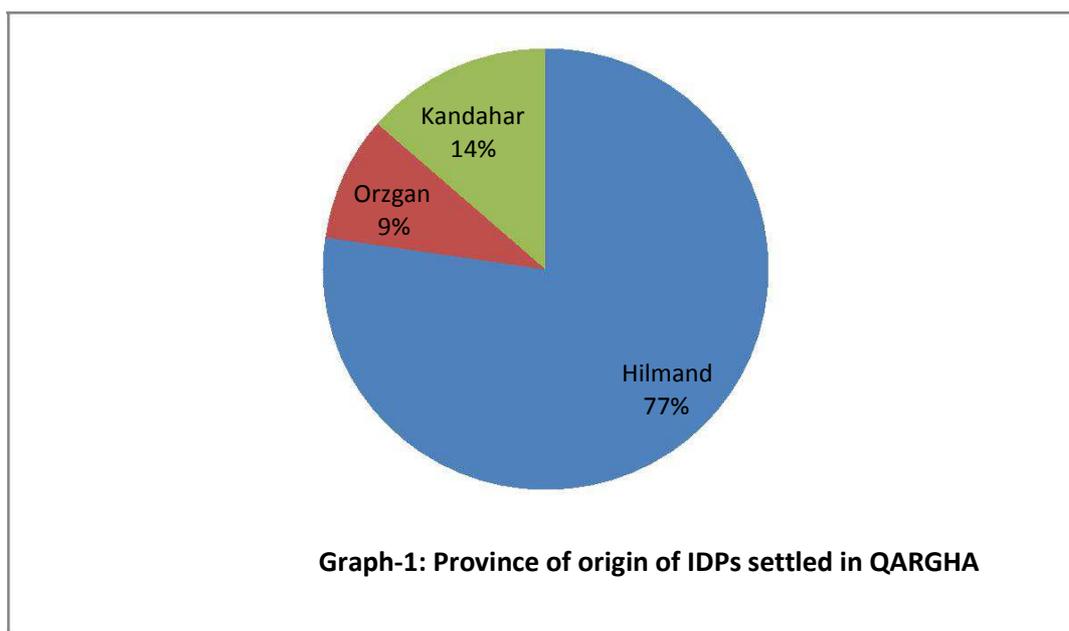
They suffer from high level of vulnerabilities mainly in terms of sever food insecurity, very poor shelter and unemployment. Almost all families in the settlement continue to live below the poverty line and face serious sanitation and health problems. Children and women are the two main groups deprived of their basic human rights,” says Stefano Cordella. The IDPs settled in QARGHA camp suffer considerable protection concerns related to their displacement,

often existing on the margins of society, lacking basic protection and assistance, including inadequate access to food, employment, shelter and health care. Many have also been dispossessed of property, are unable to generate incomes, and are denied basic education.¹⁴

The following section of the report analyzed and explored the Livelihood's problem and vulnerabilities faced to IDPs in QARGHA camp. The section provides an in-depth analysis on the socio-demographic profile, vulnerabilities and basic humanitarian needs (Shelter, Water, Health, Food Security and Education) of the IDPs. Based on the analysis, the report provides concrete recommendations for improving livelihoods conditions of IDPs settled in the area.

A. Socio Demographic and Immigration Profile of IDPs:

There are 850 living in an informal camp in QARGHA area, actually close to the recreational sites of QARGHA. As referred by head of the camp, most of the families have been displaced from Hilmand (77%) mainly from Sangin, Grishk and Nowzad districts. There are also few families from Orzgan (Chora districts), Kandahar provinces (Panjwayee districts) displaced in the camp, and all of them belong to Pashtuns ethnicity.



As per the direct interviews with the IDPS, the average household size seems to be higher in such a venerable s population as it is calculated about 9.9 (persons per family) However the National Risk and Venerability Assessment report (2012) indicate the average household size of Hilmand province 7.8 persons per family.¹⁵ The majority of their adults (approximately 90 % male and almost all women) are illiterate and unable to write and read. However, their children start going to the primary schools recently (50%). The IDPs used to live in rural areas and they used to work in farms and livestock in their home-provinces.

¹⁴DRC website: <http://www.drc.dk/relief-work/where-we-work/central-asia/afghanistan/>

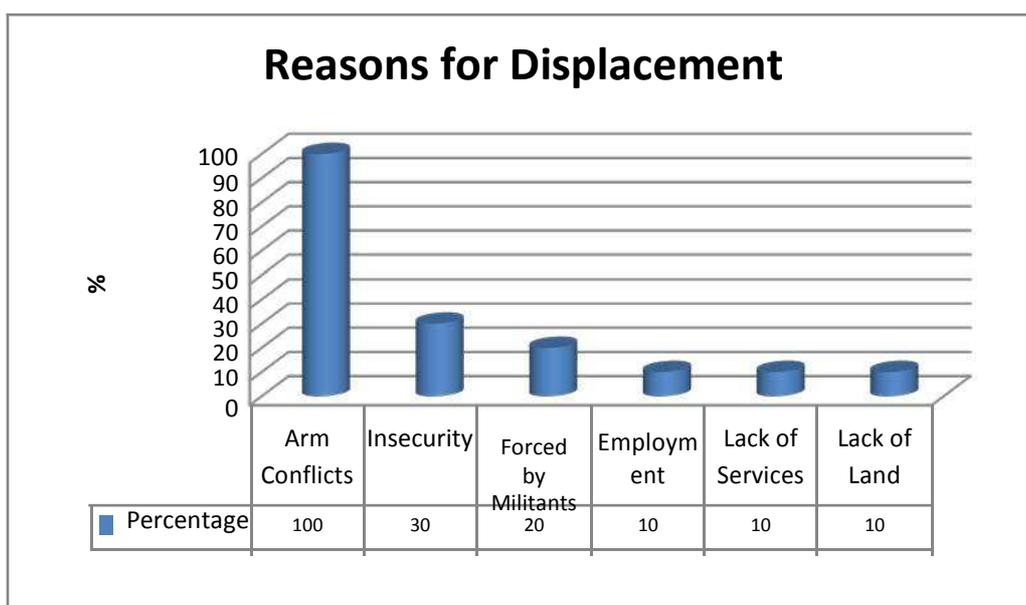
¹⁵NRVA Report 2011-2012, Preliminary Findings, Central Statistics Organization of Afghanistan

B. Immigration History:

The findings indicate that 50% of the IDPs have a refugee history immigrated to Pakistan during the USSR invasion in Afghanistan, but most of the refugees had been returned back to their hometown (90%) before the displacement.

The families in the QARGHA camp have about 5.6 year's history of displacement and they used to live in this camp for 4.9 years. Most of the families were directly displaced to the same camp, while some these families spent 1-3 years in Kandahar province before coming to Kabul.

The arm conflicts, insecurity and militant forces constitute main reasons behind the displacement as stated by responded of the interview. Some of the respondents also mentioned lack of access to services and unemployment reasons for the displacement. Some of the families lost their family members, houses as well as animal during the arm conflicts as a catastrophe. Few respondents also indicate that lack of land could be reason for the displacement.



In response to a question that why the IDPs selected Kabul (Capital of the Country) for the displacement, the respondents had a consensus that the capital could be more secure compare to other provinces. The IDPs said that they could have relatively better access to services and livelihoods opportunities in Kabul.

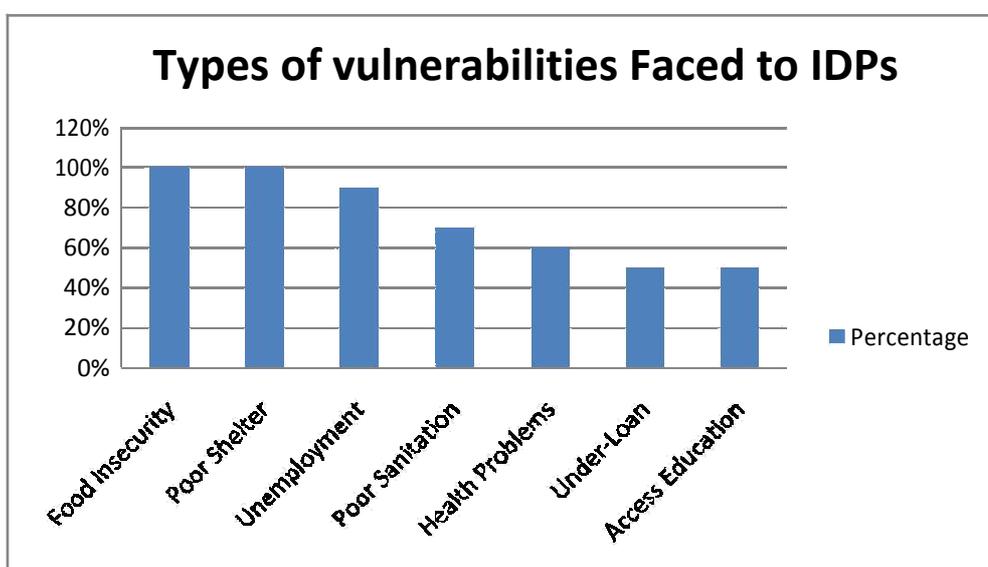
S. N	Reasons for Selecting Kabul	Percentage of Response
1	Better Security	90%
2	Access to services (health, education, shelter, aids, etc..)	20%
3	Availability of Livelihoods Opportunity	20%
4,	Encouraged by Relatives	20%

The IDPs started their life in the camp initially from a tent in the ground as an informal setting which is a private property of a landlord/ businessman. They have been continuing life here since the beginning and none of them change the location yet.

During the study, it was discovered that most of the IDPs coming under the extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI) living in the camp. The majority of this group is extremely poor families without having an adult male support and some of them have a chronic mental or systemic illness in the family.¹⁶

C. Vulnerability and Resilience Mechanism:

The major types of vulnerabilities faced to IDPS in QARGHA camp are: Food Insecurity, Lack of Shelter and unemployment. All of the respondents indicate food insecurity and poor shelter as well as unemployment main types of vulnerabilities being faced to them. They also indicated that illness and lack of education increase the degree of vulnerabilities faced to the population. As impact of the vulnerabilities, most of the families (50%) are under-loan as they borrowed cash from neighbours and relatives to provide food and cope with health problems of their families. Some of the families said that they lost family members (either head of family or depends) during the arm conflicts which posed for the displacement. Half of the families (about 20% of the HHs) have a chronic illness and/or mental disorder and they are not able to afford their treatment.

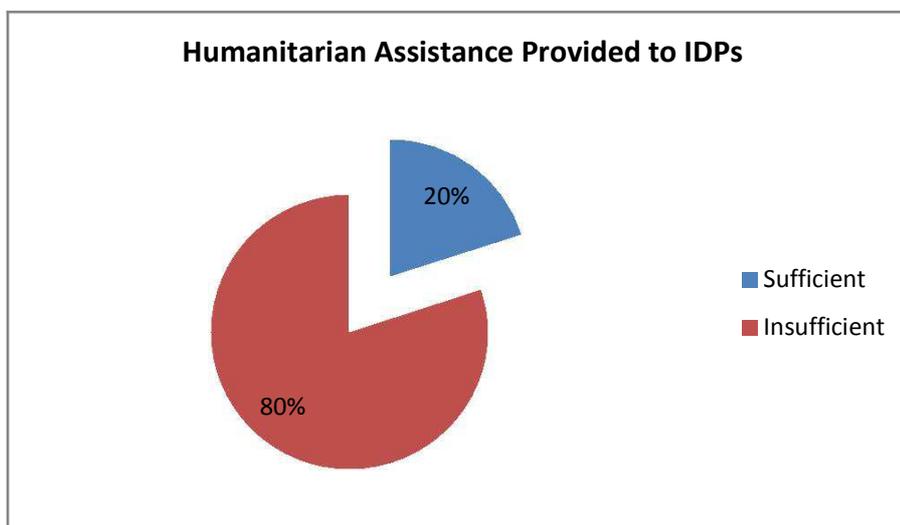


The IDPs said they initially received humanitarian assistants provided by Government agencies (Ministry of Refugee and Repatriates, Ministry Public Health), Humanitarian Organization (WHO, UNHCR) and some local NGOs (ASHYANA, HSDRO) and from local rich people as charity. The humanitarian's assistances were including on providing food, blankets, tents, medicine, mobile clinics, winter assistance and emergency primary schools. They were also provided a skills development course of tailoring along with some incentives

¹⁶The UNHCR EVI guidance defines extremely vulnerable as people who may be in a life threatening situation, unable to help themselves, lacking family and community support or suffering from physical or mental trauma.

for a while as well. The skill development course was organized by DRC aiming at employment and self-employment, thus creating the conditions for voluntary return and - where possible - for self-reliance in a sustainable livelihood.

The research indicate that the assistance were not enough sufficient. As 80% of them said that assistances were not sufficient and 20% said that they were sufficient to some extent.



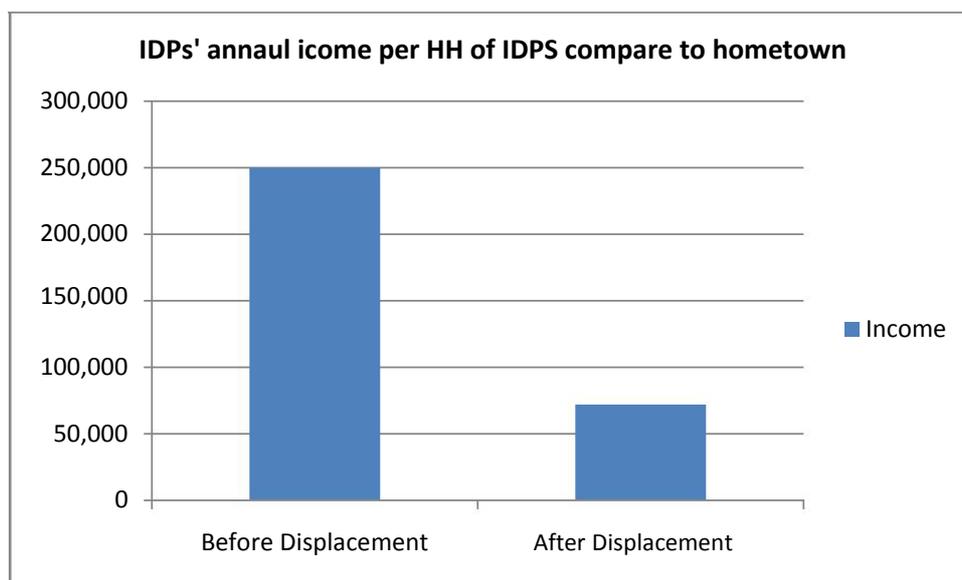
The respondents have doubt about transference during distribution of the assistance. The explained some cases for instance: as once they were promised 1000 blankets, but they were provided only 80 blankets on front of media (said by head of the camp).The humanitarian assistance has been decreased over the 6-12 months, even some of the respondents said that the assistance are stopped which augmented the degree of vulnerabilities faced to the population.

Over the past 12 months, the IDPs experienced a number of serious shocks impacted by external factors, as they used live without any social safety mechanism. The major types of shocks addressed by the respondents are: high food price, reduce in family income, reduce in humanitarian assistance, server winter conditions without and serious illnesses. In most the cased the IDPS was unable to cope with the shocks as they do not have access to alternative opportunities. But some of the take loan, or collect charities or refer to public services as a coping strategy for the shocks. As an impact of the shock, the HHs further reduce the quality and quantity of the food as it is already very poor to some home resist.

E. Economic Situation:

The economic situation and HHs income of the IDPs have been significantly decreased compare to their home province. Farming, livestock, farm labor (may be poppy) were the main occupations and sources of income of the IDPS before displacement. The average annual income of HHs is calculated AFN 250,000 as stated by respondents. The amount was good enough to meet their livelihood needs and expenditures. As far as most of the IDPs lost their houses and sources of income during the arm conflict.

They do not have proper sources of income currently. Most of them are currently unemployed, some of the used to work as daily labor (construction work), and running small business (selling of used cloths, raw backs for construction of home) which still does not make enough income for them. The average annual income of the IDPs is equal to AFN 72000 (estimated AFN 8000 per month) which is almost 3.4 times less the annual income earned them in their province through working in farms and livestock's as stated by them.



Comparing their current income and based on the World Bank poverty index (income is less than 1\$ per head per day), all of the IDPs are living with sever poverty. Their income is contributed by daily wedge of the family's heads and male adults, begging by their children, self-employment, alms from rich peoples and humanitarian assistances.

In reference to the respondents, the monthly expenditure of IDP household are around 800 Afghani, significantly less than the average household expenditure from the NRVA-CSO sample of urban poor adjusted to 2010 prices They income is mainly spent on food (90% of income) which is still very poor in terms of both quality and quantity. The remaining small amount of their expenditures includes health and medicine.

Most of the displaced HHs settled in QARGHA camp are uneducated and does not have any other skills, apart from working in farms which is also not available anymore. The come from rural areas and they used to work in farms and livestock's in their hometown. They have limited experience and skills outside agriculture and have extremely high rates of illiteracy. The IDPs’ employment opportunities are mainly confined with the poor and quality daily labor and self-employment with inadequate income compare to their expenditures.

Nevertheless, the IDPs are themselves are victims of the arm conflicts of Taliban, but they are still discriminated by the citizen while applying for daily labors. Some of the citizens looking for the IDPs as relatives of Taliban as they are emerged from the most insecure province of Helmand which is known as centre of Taliban. The majority of the respondents

said that their livelihoods conduction has been worse after the displacement. At the same time, most of them seem satisfied from their living condition in the camp because of security and access to basic services i.e. education and health.

F. Infrastructures and Shelter:

The IDPs are settled in an informal camp and living in mud-huts which are in very poor quality. The hut is surrounded by raw mud made walls and sealed by tarpaulins (provided as through the humanitarian assistances) without having doors or window. Every family occupied one or two huts there.

The HHs do not have access to proper sanitation system, the either used to use traditional toilets or open defecation in the camp. The IDPs does not have electricity and nor any other heating system. The camp area looks very small where 850 HHs are concentrated. In addition, that is also a private property of a land-lord and they IDPs have been already warned to leave the area at the earliest convenience. Insecurity and illegality of the land hampers IDPs from building relatively safer and better shelters. Due to the same reason, they might be deprived from the basic urban development services i.e. electricity, sanitation, water supply.

We ask the government and other humanitarian organization to provide a formal settlement in the city. We first need land and then other infrastructures of a permanent settlement which includes construction materials, latrines, windows, doors, electricity and so else. We also request for additional infrastructures (mosques, graver, and community hall) for their religious and social events.

(Said by Mullah Sheer; Head of an IDPs Family in QARGHA Camp)



G. Food Security:

Food security is more common and urgent problem in the camp. Almost all the HHs (90%) complains that they are not able to provide enough food for their children during all time. Nevertheless, the IDPs do not have a sustainable source of livelihoods, so their food security is mainly depends on daily wedges and humanitarians assistance which is not sufficient at all.

Most of the time their children sleep during night without having anything for dinner. They do not have enough income to use different items of the food. They would feel much happier if they could provide wheat-bread for their children. They have frequently either taken short-term credit from neighbours or sold family assets for buying foods. They mentioned that they could not get credit from the shopkeeper because are not known to them. The lack of an

appropriate social -safety mechanism, unemployment, inconsistency and reduce in humanitarian assistance increase their vulnerability for food-insecurity.

The IDPs have relatively better access to clean water. Their water source is public-hands pumps, which are available inside the camp.

H. Health Problems Faced to IDPs:

Hence all of HHs lives under the poverty line and they do not have enough income to cope with the shocks including illnesses. The type diseases are which treats health of the displaced population depends on the climate situation. Pneumonia and Upper Respiratory Diseases are most common during the cold winter which took life of 15-16 children during the last winter. Diarrhea and skin disease are rather common during the summary. Few respondents addressed that their families' members still suffers from system diseases like high blood pressure, kidney diseases and mental disorders.

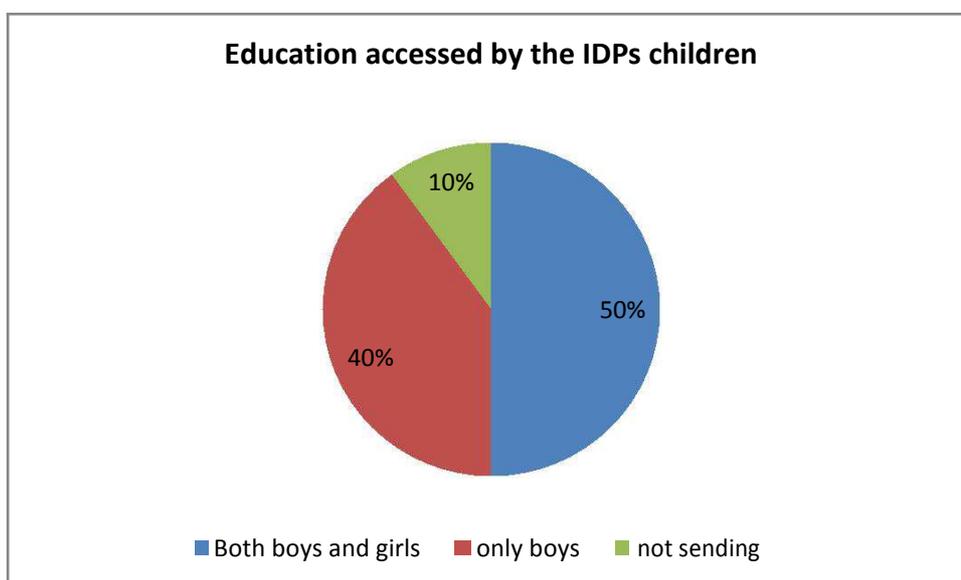


There is a mobile clinic located inside the camp which runs by a local humanitarian NGO called SHDRD. The clinic provides OPD services for the HHs. In 60% of cases the IDPs referred to the local clinic for treatment and in the rest of 40% case they went out to other public and private hospitals for treatment of more complex disease which could not be control in the local clinic. Half of the responses were satisfied from the health services provided by the mobile clinic and another half says that the services are not effective. They were reasoning that the clinic gives them just one or types of the same medicine for every sickness which is not good enough effective. The HHs are not able to afford expensive prices of better treatment in private clinics. So, if there is a chronic illness in a family, they would continue suffering from it.

I. Access to Education:

In this camp education does not seem to be a major problem and access to education was addressed as an encouraging factors for their displacement during the interview. Most of the HHs is eager to send their children both boys and girls for primary education. There was one mobile primary school there which was initially established by a local NGO called ASHYANA which was well used and received. However, the mobile school has been closed for the last year as it was a emergency project. But the households are still committed for education of their children.

The majority of HHs (50%) still sends their children both boys and girls to a public school which is located in 1km distance from the campy and 40% of them send only children to the school. Only 10% of the respondents said that their children are smaller and they cannot send them to the public school. The same respondents requested for re-establishment of a primary-nursery school inside the camp which can be easily accessed even by smaller children.



Heads of the families said that they want their children to be educated which will help them to up-come on the existing livelihood problem. Their children do have clean and proper uniform in the school and they are sometime discriminated for the same reason in the school.

J. Future Plan of the IDPs:

The future of IDP population settled in QARGHA camp is unclear yet. Most of the respondents (80%) had a consensus that they do want to be returned back to their hometown without consideration of the situation in their hometown. The rest of them said they want to return back if the security situation improves in their hometown. The majority were reasoning that they lost their houses, animals, family member and livelihood opportunities during the arm conflicts. They mentioned the security is still bad in their hometown and they never want to re-experience the past tragedy. Some of the household mentioned that they do not have land

there, so that is not much courage to return back. Some of the respondents say that they could have comparatively better access to security, education and health facilities in Kabul.

Among the respondents, 50% said that want to want continue life in the city due to better security and access to education and health services in the city. They IDPs request the government and other humanitarian organizations to provide them formal and permanent settlement. The rest of 50% said that hence they are either land-less or house-less, so they want to settle wherever house/land, security and other basic services are provided for them.

K. Case Studies:

Case Study-1:

Mr. Muallah Sheer a 36 years old head of a family displaced from Kajkee district of Helmand province for the past five years to this camp. He was displaced due arm conflicts. He lost both his parents and a brother during armed fighting between US force and insurgent group of Taliban. He is head of the family. He has six family member including two wives. He is father of three children all under 7 years. He is a local Mullah/clergy who work a trainer of religious affair for the camp children.



Mullah Shir said that he had good living condition in Kajakee. He was working in farms and livestock there which made enough income for his family. During the arm conflicts, his house was destroyed and he also lost his animals. He chose to immigration to Kandahar province initially and from there he came in to Kabul.

Case study 2:

Abdul Karim, 23-year -old man, has been displaced from Sangin Districts of Helmand province for six years. There are 13 members in his family. His brother was injured during the fighting between the government and Talib militants. Has one brother is addicts and has mother was lost from Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease due to lack of proper treatment. Before displacement, he was working as a farmer and currently unemployed. Has family is often satisfied with food needs and only this year, he borrowed 50,000 AFs. His one brother is in primary school, another one is studying Islamic studies, and five other children are not attending school, because his family cannot provide proper clothing to their children for school and if they go to school with torn and poor clothing other children laughs at them and they are get discouraged and disappointed.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Internal displacement is not a new phenomenon in Afghanistan, but it has been recently become a growing humanitarian emergency and important policy issue for the national and international stakeholders in the country. The three decades of armed conflict, ethnic tensions and recurrent natural disasters have displaced millions of Afghans. As of May 2012, the UNHCR estimated conflict induced IDPs around 396,808 persons/ 62,308 families across the country and most of them live in informal settlement. The number of new conflict-induced IDPs has been rising steadily increased by 80% since 2009 due to persist insecurity, armed conflicts lack of livelihoods opportunities in rural areas as well as due natural disasters. Lack of humanitarian access remains a key constraint almost in all regions across the country. The UNHCR and WB report on IDPs also encounter unemployment, food security and housing main problems for IDPs.

There are 850 IDPs family with estimated number of 8415 individuals mainly displaced from Sangin district of Hilmand province mainly due insecurity and armed conflict between IMF-US force and insurgent group of Taliban for the past five years. They have come to Kabul looking for a viable place to live, but unable to pay the high rents in Kabul, they put up tents and mud-made-hut in a ground in District-5, QARGHA area of the Kabul province. The IDPs selected Kabul (Capital of the Country) for the displacement because of the relatively better security and access to services and livelihoods opportunities.

Almost all of the respondents indicated Food insecurity, poor shelter and unemployment common and critical types of vulnerabilities being faced to them. They also indicated that illness and lack of education increase the degree of vulnerabilities faced to the population. As impact of the vulnerabilities, most of the families (50%) are under-loan. The IDPs settled in QARGHA camp suffer considerable protection concerns related to their displacement, often existing on the margins of society, lacking basic protection and assistance, including inadequate access to food, water, shelter and health care. Many have also been dispossessed of property, are unable to generate incomes, and are denied basic education.

The IDPs settled in QARGHA camp come from rural areas and they used to work in farms and livestock's in their home town. They have limited experience and skills outside agriculture and have extremely high rates of illiteracy. The IDPs' employment opportunities are mainly confined with the poor and quality daily labour and self-employment with inadequate income compare to their expenditures. In particular, the limited earning opportunities and lack of social networks to manage risk and the negative impact of shocks make the first year of displacement particularly precarious with vulnerability to food insecurity.

Their basic needs in terms of employment, food security, shelter, sanitation, health and ensure their access to education needs to be addressed as an urgent humanitarian's emergency. We called the government and all the humanitarian organizations, to continue their humanitarian assistances for the IDPs, particularly in QARGHA camp. Otherwise, all of us would witness of a secondary tragedy in the camp.

The MoRR need to work with the MoRR, MRRD, MoLSADM, MoF, MAIL, MoE, MoPH–international organizations as well as the civil society - communities and their representatives, local NGOs and the media to satisfy the basic needs (food, shelter, education, health, employment) of the IDPS, provide social safety and to find out a durable solution.

Displacement in informal settlements should not be encountered as a temporary Phenomenon as the majority of the IDPS are not willing to return back either due to insecurity or unemployment and lack of services in their hometowns. Regularization of informal settlements is recommended as a top priority for the GoA (MORR) urban municipalities and the donor community to satisfy the minimum living requirement of the IDPs.

Hence almost all IDPs plan to settle permanently in the city irrespective of the continuation of conflict, therefore will require assistance in developing skill sets appropriate for urban areas. In addition, improved urban planning is necessary; for example, regularization (land tenure) and upgrading of informal settlements (access to services), as well as assisting IDPs living in hazardous or unsafe area

The government in collaboration with the other national and international partners needs to come up with a durable solution for the phenomenon. The humanitarian assistance to help IDP families in their immediate needs after conflict induced displacement must be accompanied by longer-term developmental interventions which promote integration of those families who state the intention of settling permanently in their current locations.

Monitoring and coordination efforts must target the immediate food security and income needs of IDPs, especially in the initial phases of displacement when most vulnerable. The role and responsibilities of the national and international stakeholders needs to be further defined. An appropriate monitoring mechanism need to be set-up for the IDPs on national level which should provide evidence based inputs for policy making as well as to ensure transparency accountability during the humanitarian assistances.

Last and foremost, developing a national policy is essentially an exercise of sovereignty and, as such, a core responsibility of the Government to address the situation of IDPs in Afghanistan. The policy making efforts of the MoRR must be accelerated. In order to provide a holistic and more coordinated response for preventing displacement, mitigating the worse effects of displacement and bring about durable solutions for IDPs.

Annexes 1: Questionnaire

A. Personal profile:	
S. N.: _____	
Name of Interviewee: _____	Mobile No: _____
Gender: _____	Age: _____
Family Responsibility (a, Head of family b, dependent)	Date: ____ May 2013
Location of Interview (Area): _____	
B. SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND IMIGRATION HISTORY	
1. Province of Origin: _____	
2. District of Origin: _____	
3. Number of family members: _____	
4. Number of educated People in Family: No One -----:Primary Education: _____ Secondary Education: _____ University: _____	
5. What is your ethnicity? 1. Pashto 2. Tajik 3. Hazara 4. Uzbek 5. Turkman 6. Other: _____	
6. Did your family live in an urban or rural area? 1. Urban area 2. Rural area	
7. Have you ever been as a refugee? 1. Yes, in Iran 2. Yes, in Pakistan	
3. Yes, elsewhere: _____ 4. No	
8. When you returned to Afghanistan, did you go back to live in the same location where you lived before your migration? 1. Yes 2. No	
9. How long you have been displaced. Year _____ Months _____	
10. How long have you been living in this area? No. Years: No. Months:	
11. Does one or more of these descriptions fit with the description of your household? 1. Single female / female headed household 2. Single parent household 3. Unaccompanied elder or minor 4. Physically disabled 5. Mentally ill 6. Chronically ill 7. Poor family (no livelihood strategy) 8. Drug addicts in the household 9. None	
12. Forced IDPs or not? 1. Yes 2. No	
13. Reason of displacement? 1. persecution/conflicts 2. natural disaster, please specify 3. Armed conflicts 4. Ethnic tensions 5. Forced by militants 6. Lack of land / housing 7. Insecurity 8. Animals los 9. Looking for employment 10. Lack of basic services 11. Other: Specify: _____	

14. What was the main reason you came to Kabul and this particular are? 1- Geographic proximity
 2- Presence of relatives/friends
 3- Ethnic ties
 4- Better security situation
 5- Best economic / employment opportunities here
 6- Best access to services here (health, education, food) 7- I had heard of assistance being given in this location 8- Comp available
 9. Other: Specify: _____

15. When you first arrived in this urban area, where did you live with your family?
 1. Camp / Formal settlement
 2. Formal urban area / at the house of relatives or friends
 3. Formal urban area / rental house
 4. Informal settlement / temporary shelter, tents, squatting
 5. Informal settlement / at the house of relatives or friends
 6. Informal settlement / rental house
 7. Other, Specify: _____

16. Since you arrived in this urban area, how many times did you change the location of your home?
 1. I have never changed my location since my return.
 2. Yes, I have changed our household's location: _____ times

C. DEGREE OF VULNERABILITIES

17. What are the main vulnerabilities that your family is suffering?
 1. Food insecurity
 2. Lack of Appropriate Shelter
 3. Lack of Improve water
 4. Health problems (diseases)
 5. Sanitation facilities
 6. Lack of Access to Education
 7. Insecurity
 8. Unemployment
 9. Conflicts, Social discrimination
 10 Other: Specify

18. What types of impact had the vulnerabilities on your family:
 1. Lose of family members due to disease: _____
 2. Lose of family members due to insecurity: _____
 3. Sold children
 4. Sold family assets
 5. Mental disorders
 6. Disability
 7. Under loans
 8. Other, specify: _____

19. Since you settled in this urban area, have you received any assistance? 1. Yes 2. No If yes, from whom did you receive assistance? 1. Government
 2. International organization: Specify: _____
 3. Local/Afghan organization: Specify: _____
 4. Personal / Family support network

If yes, which type of assistance did you receive?

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Emergency assistance: Water, Food, Transportation | 2.Shelter / Housing |
| 3. Medical treatment | 4.Financial Support |
| 5. Information, Counselling, Legal Assistance | 6.Training courses: Specify: _____ |
| 7. Job placement | 8.Business start-up grant |
| 9. Education | 10.Other / Specify: _____ |

20. How much the assistances was sufficient to meet your needs

1. Not sufficient 2. Sufficient 3. Very sufficient

21. During the last 12 months, has your household been negatively affected by any of the following shocks?

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. High Food Price | 2.Reduce family income |
| 3. Reduce humanitarian assistances | 4.Severe winter conditions |
| 5. Lose of Employment | 6. Serious illness / accident of working household member |
| 7. Death of a working household member | 8.Death of another household member |
| 9. Insecurity / violence / theft | 10.Reduced drinking water |
| 11. Reduced agricultural water quantity | 12. Unusually high level of human disease |
| 13. Large influx of returnees | 14.Large increase in house rent |
| 15. Eviction / forced to change housing | 16. No external shocks SKIP to Q. 43 |
| 17. Other / Specify: _____ | |

22. What did your household to do cope with any of these shocks?

1. Reduced quality of food / diet
2. Reduced quantity of food / diet
3. Decreased expenditures
4. Spent savings or investments
5. Loans from family / friends
6. Loans from employers / money lenders
7. Received help from other people in the community
8. Worked for food only
9. Worked on relief programmes from government/NGOs/International
10. Household member migrated within Afghanistan
11. Other: _____

23. Do you plan to return to your home or previous community in the near future? 1- Yes 2- No

If no, why do you not want to return?

- 1- Conflict / insecurity 2- Food insecurity 3- Rising land prices
- 4- Increased rents 5- Land grabbing 6- Lack of land / housing 7- Natural disasters
- 8- Unemployment / lack of labour opportunities 9- Animals lost 10- Arable land not available 11- Pasture land not available 12- Lack of basic services (school, clinics, electricity, water)

If yes, what is the main reason for this travel?

1- Work 2- Assets / money left behind 3- Housing / land left behind 4- Reunite with family, friends
5- Medical treatment 6- Social visit (wedding, funeral) 7- Education 8- Other: _____

24. Do you plan to settle here in this city? 1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know

25. Are conditions in the area you left conducive for return in safety and dignity?
1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know

D. ECONOMIC PROFILE

26. What was your main occupation in your province of last residence (the place you left before coming to this location)?

1. Farmer
2. Daily labourer (construction, farms
3. Self-Skill Employed (Carpenter, Meson, Welder, toiler, etc.)
4. Seller, trader
5. Teacher
6. Employee of Government
7. Working with NOG
8. None / unemployed
9. 8.Unpaid family worker
10. Other services: Specify: _____

27. How much was your monthly income in your in your province of last residence (the place you left before coming to this location)? _____ AFA

28. What is your main occupation or source of income now?

- a) Farmer
- b) Daily labourer (construction, farms
- c) Self-Skill Employed (Carpenter, Meson, Welder, toiler, etc.)
- d) 2. Seller, trader
- e) Teacher
- f) Employee of Government
- g) Working with NOG
- h) None / unemployed
- i) 8.Unpaid family worker
- j) Other services: Specify: _____

29. What are your household's average monthly expenditures today? _____ AFA

30. How do you compare the overall economic situation of your household with 1 year ago? 1- Much worse 2- Slightly worse 3- Same 4- Slightly better
5- Much better

E. HOUSING AND SHELTER

30. What is your current housing arrangement?

1. We live in a camp dwelling
2. We live under a tent
3. We live in a temporary shelter / shack
4. Other / Specify: _____

31. How does your current housing condition compare to the house you forcibly left?

- 1- Worse 2- Same 3- Better

32. What is the main assistance you would need to improve the standard / conditions of your dwelling?

1. More space / additional rooms
2. Proper door / window / roof
3. Better quality mud / cement
4. Shelter
5. Latrine inside house /compound
6. Adequate piping / water system
7. Paved road leading to the house
8. None
9. Other: _____

33. Interviewer Evaluation: Code general physical condition

1. Good quality shelter _____
2. Poor quality shelter: _____
3. Other, specify: _____

34. Since your arrival, have you ever had a dispute over the ownership of your dwelling and associated land?

- 1- None (go to question 37) 2- Yes, with municipality 3- Yes, with some ministry (including provincial office, police.)
 4- Yes, with a private developer 5- Yes, with a private person claiming to be the owner
 6- Yes, with a neighbour

35. How have the dispute(s) been resolved?

- 1- Remain unresolved 2- Solved without any external help 3- Solved with help from community leader 4- Solved with help of the court 5- Solved with help of an organization
 6- Other / Specify: _____

36. Was the dispute or decision about the resolution recorded anywhere?

- 1- No
- 2- Yes in court
- 3- Yes in the local official records
- 4- Yes with a local organization
- 5- Other: Specify: _____
- 6- Don't know

F. FOOD SECURITY
37. Are you able to afford sufficient amount of food to your family in all time? A. Not at all B. Can afford on type of food (bread) C. Yes can afford
38. How often in the last year did you have problems satisfying the food needs of your household? 1. Never 2. Rarely (1 to 2 times) 3. Sometimes (3 to 6 times) 4. Often (a few times every month) 5. Mostly (this happens a lot)
39. How often in the last year did you have to borrow money (loans) to pay for food purchases? _____ Number of times
40. What is your main source of drinking water for your household? 1- Public well inside compound 2- Public Hand pump inside compound 3- Pipe scheme 4- River / lake / canal 5- Water tank 6- Other:
41. Do you have access to safe drinking water? 1- Yes, we boil water 2- Yes, free potable water 3- Yes, we buy potable water 4- No
G. HEALTH
42. Was any member of your household sick or injured in the last three months? 1- Yes 2- No SKIP TO Q. 72
43. What was his problem 1. Diarrhea, 2.Heart Attack 3.Injured, 4.Eyes problem, 5.Fever 6.Throat Sore 7.Blood pressure, 8. Malaria 9.TB 10. Labour of children 11. Cancer 12. Gynaecologic problem 13. Other: _____
44. What was the main type of health provider that this household member used in the last three month? 2. Clinic / mobile clinic 3. Hospital (government) 4. Traditional healer 5. Traditional birth attendant 6. Private doctor 7. None
How was result of treatment a. Good b. Still suffering. Passed away
If someone from the household was sick or injured in the last 4 weeks, why did he or she not use any health services? a) It was not a serious illness b) Too expensive c) Too far d) No available services e) Other: Specify _____

H. EDUCATION

45. Are your children enrolled in school?

- a) Yes, all my children (boys/girls) attend school
- b) Yes, only the boys attend school
- c) Yes, some (but not all) of my children (boys/girls) attend school
- d) No
- e) I have no children / too young for school SKIP TO Q 47.

46. What is the main reason that some or all of your children are not enrolled in school?

- a) Education rights not given to my children because we are IDPs
- b) They did not attend classes because of conflict / insecurity
- c) Too expensive
- d) Employment / my child works
- e) Health / disabilities
- f) Schools are too far away
- g) Poor quality of schools/ teaching staff
- h) Lack of books / learning materials
- i) Not interested
- j) Other: _____

I. FUTURE

What is your plan?

- a. I will stay in this location
- b. I will go back to my previous home (place that I left to come here)
- c. I will go back to my home / community of origin
- d. I will move to another location in Afghanistan
- e. I will move with my family abroad
- f. I will move alone abroad – to my country of exile: _____
- g. I will move alone abroad – to another country: _____
- h. I have not decided yet

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