BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

- After months of severe drought, heavy rains in March and April 2019 caused devastating flash flooding in many provinces across Afghanistan, washing away homes and livestock. As part of a large-scale response to support flood-affected populations, the World Food Programme (WFP) provided cash assistance to 1,600 households in Farah province. Each household received AFN 6,000 per month over two months (April and May) in 2019.
- In June 2019, the World Food Program (WFP) conducted Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys in the provincial capital of Farah province, Afghanistan. The PDM involved phone-based interviews with 100 beneficiaries, randomly selected from WFP’s SCOPE beneficiary management system. The questionnaire consisted of 14 questions, classified into four sections namely; (i) respondents’ demographics, (ii) food consumption score, (iii) consumption of the cash entitlements, and (iv) protection.

Key Findings

Use of Entitlements via household size

The PDM studied the consumption patterns of the cash given to beneficiaries in terms of the household size. As shown in chart one, larger households tend to allocate more money to food consumption than small households. For instance, households with 1-3 members have disbursed AFN 1,400 to food, four times less compared to AFN 5,652 spent on food by households with more than ten members.

While, allocation of cash to reconstruction work has negative correlation with the household size, meaning that as the size of the households get higher, the amount spent on reconstruction drops down. For example, households with 1-3 members have spent AFN 4,800 on rebuilding, which is higher compared to households with 4-7 members AFN 4,425, 8-10 members AFN 4,323 and households with more than ten members AFN 3,652.

The data further reveal that small-size households spent more on other expenses, as households with 1-3 members have spent AFN 5,800 on this category, more than twice higher compared to households with more than ten members, who have spent AFN 2,696 on other expenditures. While households with 4-7 and 8-10 members have disbursed AFN 3,404 and AFN 3,548 on other expenses, respectively.
Key Findings

Use of Entitlements via consumption category

The PDM similarly looked at the use of entitlements (cash) disaggregated by household food consumption category. The data suggest that on average, households with acceptable food consumption spent AFN 6,550 on food. In addition, they have spent AFN 3,900 on reconstruction work and AFN 1,550 on other expenses such as rebuilding income sources and means of livelihoods.

The data also indicate that households with borderline food consumption spent relatively less cash (AFN 3,743) on food. However, compared to households with acceptable food consumption, these households spent more on reconstruction with AFN 5,206 and other expenses with AFN 3,501. Households with poor food consumption spent most of the cash on other expenses (AFN 4,489), followed by food and reconstruction expenditure with AFN 3,867 and 3,644, respectively. Overall, the surveyed households have spent AFN 4,630 on food, followed by rebuilding work with AFN 4,232.

Food Consumption Score

The PDM demonstrates that household food consumption tends to be worse for larger households. The data show that 57 percent of households with more than ten members have poor food consumption - the highest among all household size categories. On the other hand, just 20 percent of households with 1-3 members have poor food consumption.

In addition, 41 percent of households with 4-7 members have poor food consumption, 37 percent are rated as borderline and the remaining 22 percent as acceptable. Moreover, 45 percent of households with 8-10 members are found to have poor food consumption, followed by borderline and acceptable with 35 percent, and 19 percent, respectively.

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