



IDP response: HERAT and QALA-I-NAW



vam
food security analysis

POST-DISTRIBUTION MONITORING with IDPs in Herat and Qala-I-Naw Cities

April 2019

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND KEY FINDINGS

- As a result of severe drought in Afghanistan's western provinces, thousands of people have been displaced and are living in temporary camps in the outskirts of Herat and Qala-I-Naw cities. The World Food Programme (WFP) has been providing in-kind food support to these internally displaced persons (IDPs) since October 2018.
- In March 2019, WFP carried out Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) by conducting phone interviews with WFP beneficiaries who were randomly selected from WFP's corporate beneficiary management platform, SCOPE. A total number of 300 mobile phone interviews were conducted with IDP households in both the provincial centres - 150 interviews for each city.
- Results from the surveys show that most of the respondents in Herat have been displaced from northern Badghis province, while some also originate from Faryab and Ghor provinces. Almost all IDPs surveyed in Qala-I-Naw are originally from nearby districts within Badghis.
- The majority of the respondents in Herat city and Qala-I-Naw indicated that they either do not want to return to their place of origin or are undecided about returning. They mention insecurity, lack of food, and poor agricultural conditions as reasons not to return.
- Food consumption is classified as "poor" for 27 percent of households in Herat and 39 percent of households in Qala-I-Naw. Many of these households still rely on food aid from WFP.

Household Characteristics

Household Composition:

Out of the 300 randomly selected respondents, we found:

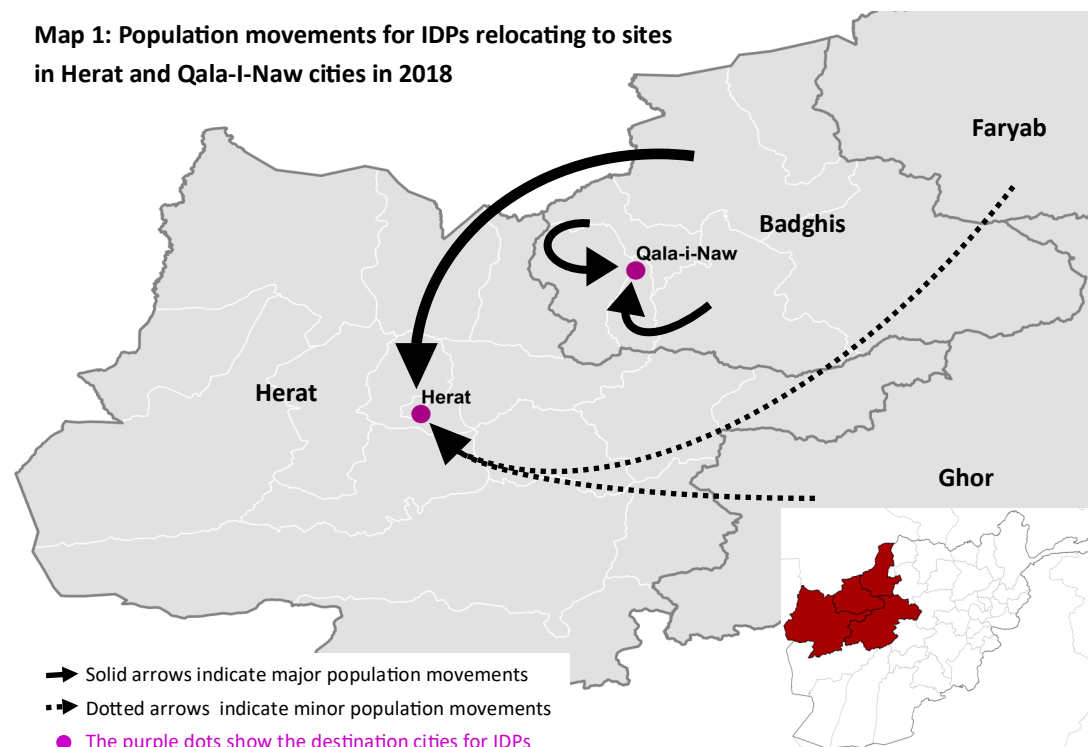
- In both IDP sites (Herat and Qala-I-Naw) the average household size is 5 persons.
- In general, the entire household relocated to the sites, with 97 percent of respondents saying no household members remained in the place of origin.
- 19 percent of households are headed by females and 81 percent are headed by males.

Places of origin:

Herat: As indicated in Map 1, the majority of respondents in Herat city were displaced from Badghis province (81% of respondents), particularly from the northern districts of Bala Murghab and Ghormach. Some IDPs also originate from Ghor (9%) and Faryab (6%) provinces.

Qala-I-Naw: Almost all of the respondents in Qala-I-Naw city originate from Badghis province (97% of respondents), primarily from the neighbouring districts of Muqur, Qadis, Ab Kamari and Qala-I-Naw.

Map 1: Population movements for IDPs relocating to sites in Herat and Qala-I-Naw cities in 2018



- Solid arrows indicate major population movements
- Dotted arrows indicate minor population movements
- The purple dots show the destination cities for IDPs

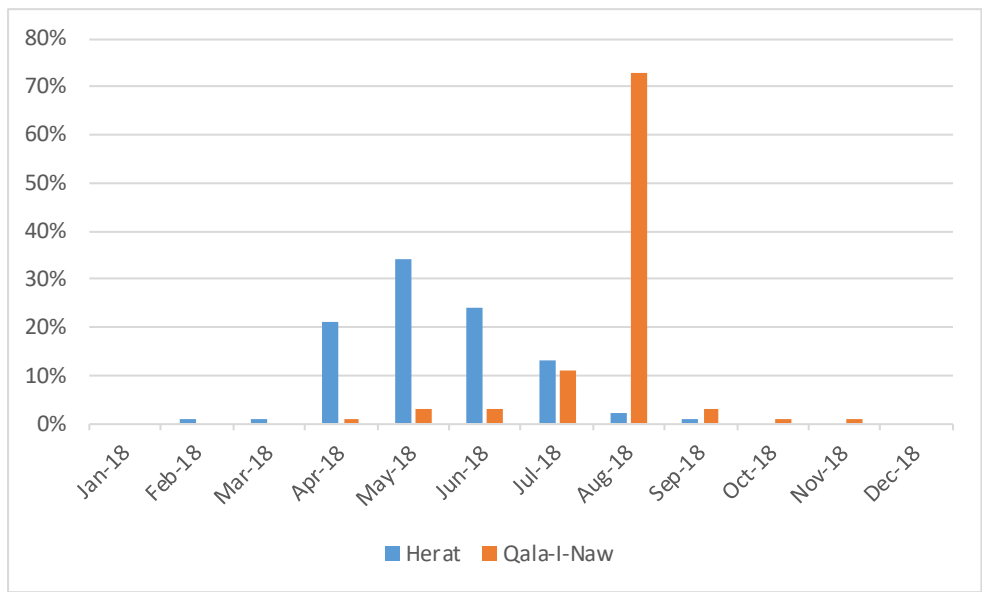
IDP Arrival and Return Intentions

IDP Arrival dates:

As shown in Chart 1, most respondents arrived in Herat City between April and July 2018, with very few IDPs arriving before April. IDPs in Qala-I-Naw arrived gradually in the months of April, May, June and July, followed by a surge of arrivals in August.

In both Herat and Qala-I-Naw, very few of the respondents arrived later than September 2018.

Chart 1: Month of arrival for respondents in Herat and Qala-I-Naw IDP sites



Humanitarian assistance:

According to respondents in Herat city, most IDPs first started receiving humanitarian assistance in the months August, September and October. In Qala-I-Naw, most IDPs said they first started receiving assistance during October, November and December. In both sites, this indicates a wait time of about 1-2 months before households started receiving assistance after arrival.

Intention to return to place of origin:

Within the next three months: Only one percent of respondents in both Qala-I-Naw and Herat said they plan to return to their place of origin within the next three months. Most people either said no (41.5 percent) or are undecided (57.5 percent).

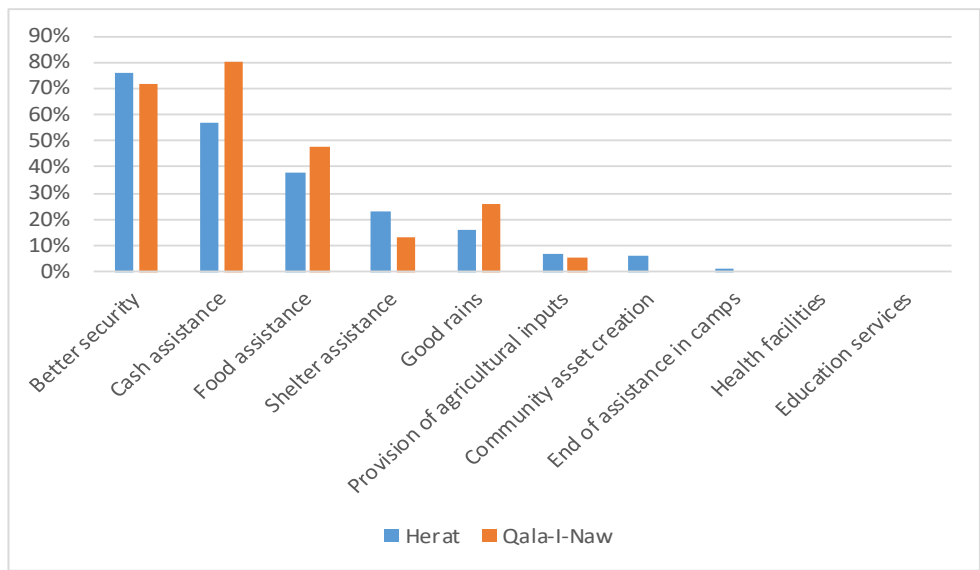
Later than three months: When asked whether they plan to return later than three months, more than a third of respondents said no, and around half said they were undecided.

Push and pull factors

Most people cited insecurity, a lack of food, and poor agricultural conditions in their places of origin as reasons for leaving. They were drawn to the cities of Herat and Qala-I-Naw because of availability of humanitarian assistance as well as access to urban labour markets and services.

When asked about the factors that would motivate them to return home, most people mentioned better security, the provision of humanitarian assistance, and better conditions for agriculture (Chart 2 below).

Chart 2: Key motivations for IDPs to return to their place of origin



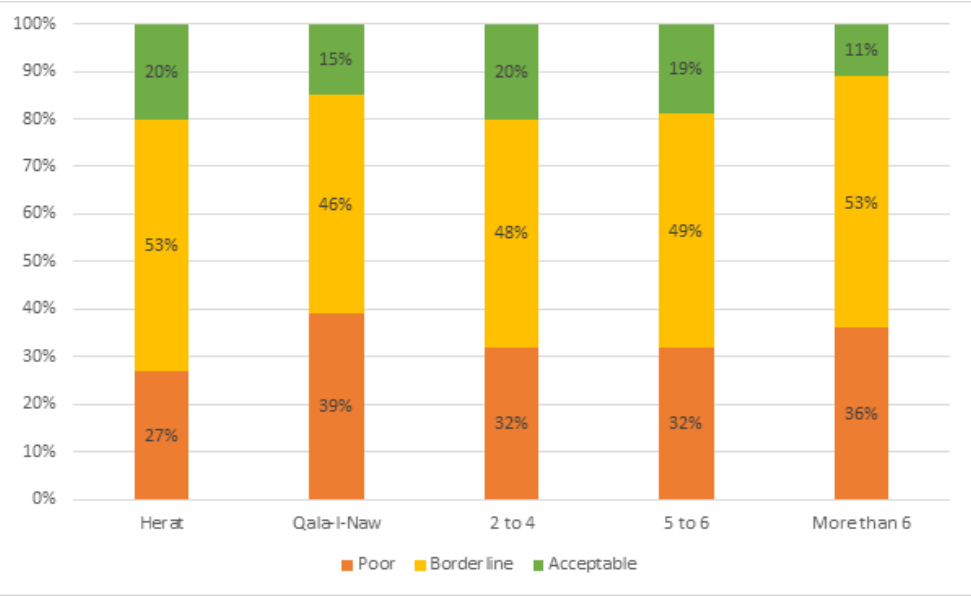
Household Food Consumption

Food Consumption Score (FCS):

By city: Chart 3 shows that IDPs living in Herat generally have better diets than those in Qala-I-Naw, with 27 percent of households in Herat classified as having a “poor” FCS, compared to 39 Percent in Qala-I-Naw. IDP populations in both sites, however, generally have better food consumption than beneficiaries living in rural areas of Badghis and Herat*.

By household size: Chart 3 also shows that larger households tend to have poorer food consumption. For instance, 20 percent of households with 2-4 people have an “acceptable” FCS, compared to 11 percent of household with more than 6 people.

Chart 3: Food consumption Score (FCS) disaggregated by cities and household size



*Post-distribution monitoring of WFP beneficiaries in rural Badghis and Herat show much higher levels of household with “poor” food consumption scores (FCS).

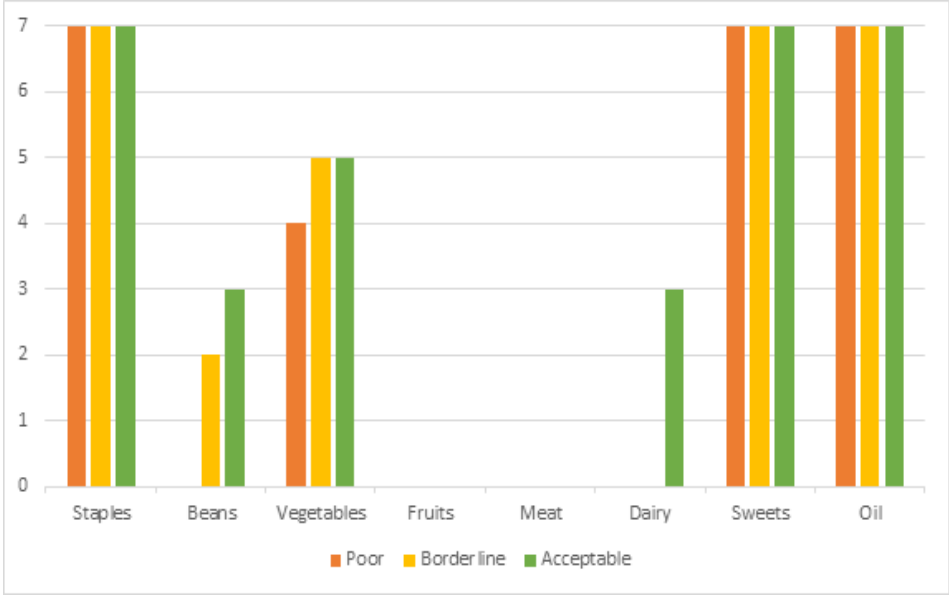
Consumption of different food groups:

Chart 4 shows the average number of days each food group is consumed across both Herat and Qala-I-Naw, disaggregated by the FCS classification of the household.

Households with “poor” FCS typically eat wheat/bread, sugar and oil on a daily basis, while consuming vegetables four times a week. The additional consumption of beans around twice a week is what pushes households from “poor” into “borderline” FCS. Households with “acceptable” FCS have very similar diets to those with “borderline” FCS, except with the inclusion of dairy around three times a week.

Sources of food: Foods consumed in the sites are either from direct food aid from WFP, or purchased by households using cash assistance or by using their own cash or credit. Some households also reported relying on gifts from friends and relatives.

Chart 4: Median number of days each food group consumed, Herat and Qala-I-Naw



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