

Quarterly Protection Monitoring Report

AHF I Protection I Kapisa

Q2 I September - November 2020



Overview

Context

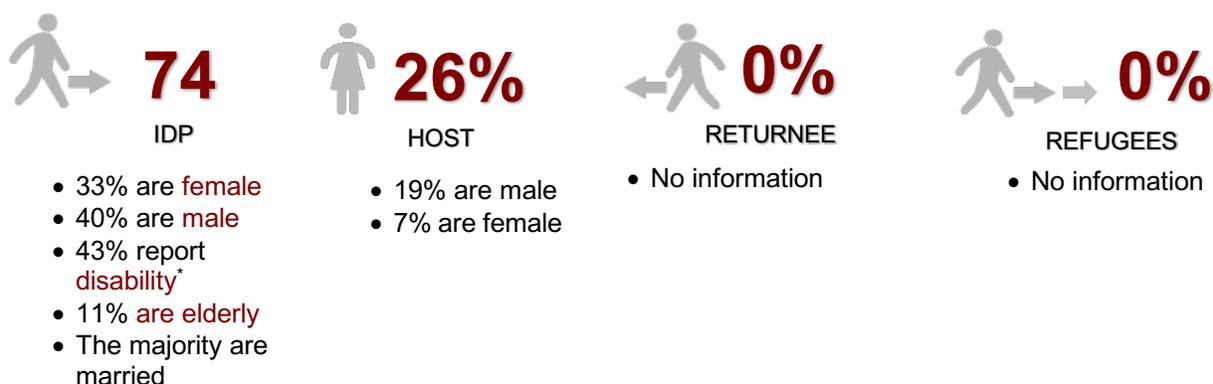
Kapisa is located in the centre of Afghanistan, between Laghman, Kabul and Parwan provinces. The total population of Kapisa province is 448,245, which consists of different ethnic groups including Pashtun, Tajik, Pashaye, Hazara, Parachi and Gujar.



Population Demographic

During the second quarter, DRC conducted **139** household (HH) surveys and **55** key informant interviews (KIIs) for the province of **Kapisa**.

The below infographics show the profile of HH survey respondents:



Trends and Analysis

A. Displacement

KII data shows that 80% of the community residents are IDPs, and 20% are host community members. Twenty-three percent reported that they have been displaced for more than three years while 25% have been displaced for more than one year. Forty-three key informants (KI) reported armed conflict as reason of displacement, while nine KI reported economic hardship. Other KI reported lack of services or infrastructure (3 KI), loss or damage of property (10KI), threats of violence (29 KI), environmental hazards (1 KI), presence of explosive hazards (15vKI), lack of humanitarian assistance (4 KI), and discrimination or exclusion (1KI).

• Based on the Washington Group of Question (Short version)

Regarding return intentions, only 52% showed intention to return compared to 36% who intended to integrate in their current location. Eleven percent intended to move onward.

HH survey results show that 11% of the community members have been displaced for more than three years, 18% have been displaced for more than one year, and 67% were displaced in the last one to three months. Ninety eight percent cited armed conflict as reason of displacement, 6% reported economic hardship, 1% reported lack of services or infrastructure, 54% reported threats of violence, 4% reported loss of/damage to property, 3% reported lack of humanitarian assistance and 12% presence of explosive hazards.

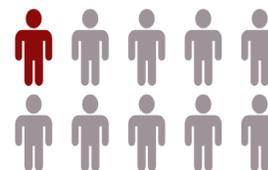
Regarding return intentions, 32% of IDPs intended to integrate in their current location, only 22% intended to return, 22% intended to move onward, and 23% are undecided. Regarding reasons for integration, 79% cited safety in their current location, 6% reported access to economic opportunities, 24% reported having family in their current location, 3% reported access to humanitarian assistance, 30% reported having relatives in their current location, 24% reported having friends, and 12% reported social cohesion.

B. Denial of/or barriers to accessing services

Humanitarian Assistance

Four percent of KI reported that community members are denied access to humanitarian services, while 96% responded that they are not denied access. Respondents reported being denied access to the following major services: basic needs (2 KI), health

4% of key informants reported being denied of humanitarian services



(2 KI), livelihood support (1 KI), women protection (2KI), child protection (1KI), shelter (1 KI), documentation (1 KI), and support for people with specific needs (PSN) (1 KI). Respondent reported various access barriers including discrimination/exclusion, assistance does not reach the people most in need, assistance is not free and harassment or exploitation in exchange for assistance.

HH survey results show that 90% reported being unable to access basic needs, 95% reported being unable to access health services, 48% reported livelihood support, 41% reported women protection support, 36% reported child protection, 18% reported education, 38% reported psychosocial support (PSS), 31% reported PSN services, 13% reported documentation support, and 40% reported shelter support. Regarding access barriers, 51% reported that assistance does not reach people most in need, 5% reported discrimination/exclusion, 19% reported assistance is not what the community needs, 68% reported assistance is not free, and 11% reported that documentation is required to access assistance.

Existing Public Services

Fifty eight percent of KI respondents reported that community members are unable to access existing services, while 40% reported having access. KII analysis highlighted that community members are unable to access various services including access to basic needs (16 KI), health services (22 KI), livelihood support (15 KI), documentation support (10 KI), shelter support (11 KI), support for PSN (12 KI), PSS (11 KI), WASH (4 KI), women protection support (10 KI), child protection support (10 KI), and legal aid support (10 KI).

The most affected groups are single-male headed HHs (12 KI), female-headed HHs (22 KI), child-headed HHs (15 KI), unaccompanied and separated children (6 KI), elderly (15 KI), and people with disabilities (15 KI). Additional groups are men (15 KI), women (16 KI), boys (15 KI) and girls (17 KI).

Respondent reported various reasons for being unable to access these services including: the service is not available (19 KI); unable to pay for the service (19 KI); lack of documentation needed for the service (1 KI); discrimination/exclusion (4 KI); movement restrictions due to security concerns (7 KI); socio-cultural reasons (1 KI); the service is not inclusive of gender, age and disability (1 KI); and movement restrictions due to lack of transportation (4 KI).

Forty-seven percent of HH survey respondents reported that their community members are able to access existing services. However, 52% reported challenges on getting access including to basic services (68%), health services (94%), education (27%), livelihood support (55%), WASH services (8%), women protection support (56%), shelter (38%) and child protection support (44%).

The respondents reported different reasons for barriers to access: 86% reported that services are not available, 70% reported that they are unable to pay for the service, 8% reported lacking documentation needed for the service, 6% reported discrimination/exclusion, 9% reported movement restrictions due to security concerns, 6% reported movement restrictions due to lack of transportation, 8% reported socio-cultural reasons, and 9% harassment or exploitation in exchange for services, respectively.

Top 5 challenges in accessing services



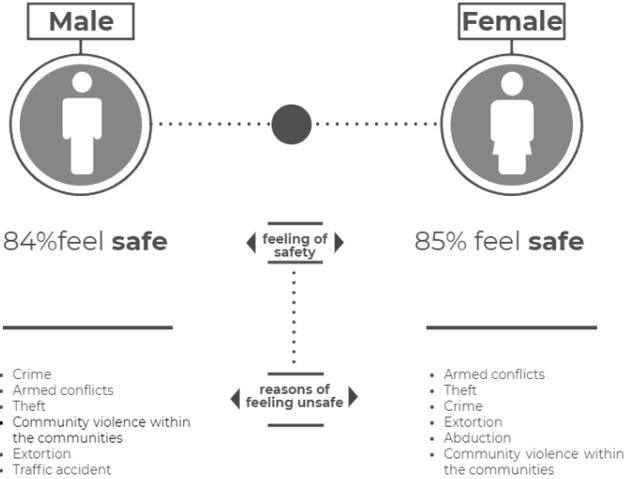
C. Safety and security

Safety issues

KII data analysis shows 84% of male respondents feel safe while 16% reported that they feel unsafe. KII data analysis show that those who feel unsafe reported crime (8 KI) as a major factor. Other reasons include theft (6 KI), extortion (4 KI), community violence within communities (5 KI) traffic accidents (1KI), and armed conflict (7KI).

By contrast, KII data analysis for women and girls shows that 15% of women and girls feel unsafe compared to 85% who feel safe. Women and girls cited different reasons for feeling unsafe including theft (5 KI), extortion (5 KI), crime (5 KI), armed conflict (7 KI), community violence within community (4 KI), community violence with other communities (1 KI), abduction (4 KI) and forced marriage (2 KI).

HH survey results indicate that 91% of all respondents feel safe within the community while 9% reported that they feel unsafe. Those who feel unsafe reported theft (38%), crime (8%), extortion (8%), armed conflict (54%), and abduction (8%) as major reasons.



Mines or Explosives

KII data analysis shows that 65% are unaware of mines or other explosives in or around their area compared to the 27% who are aware.

HH survey results show that 80% are unaware of mines or other explosives in or around their area compared to only 13% who are aware.

Freedom of movement

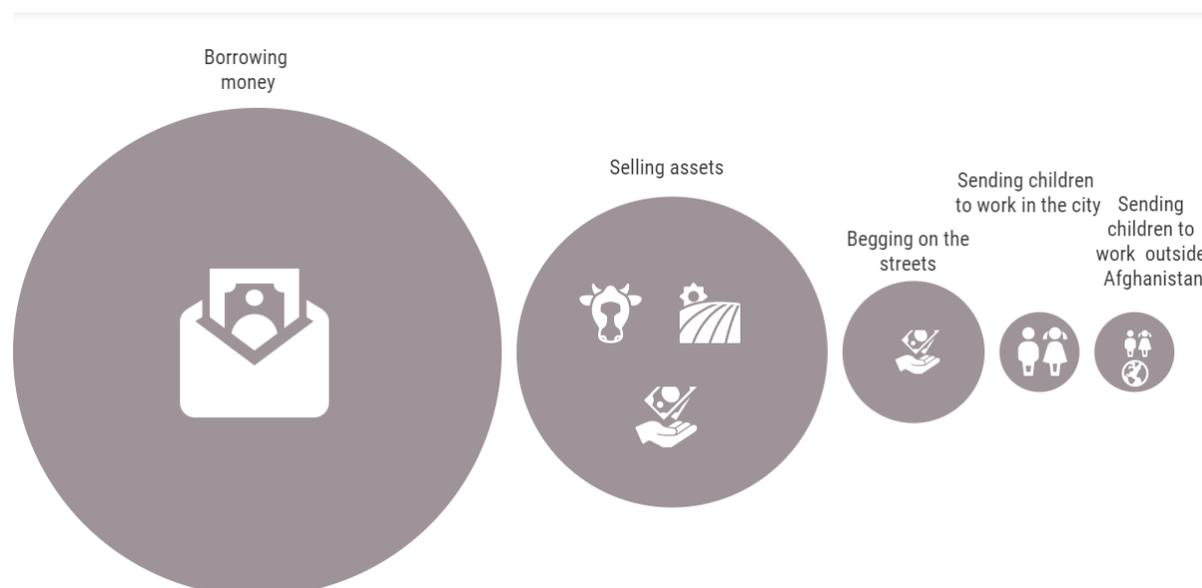
KII data shows that 87% of men and boys enjoy freedom of movement while 13% reported movement restrictions. The primary reason for movement restrictions is fear for personal safety (6 KI). Other reasons include socio-cultural barriers (1 KI), discrimination (2KI), and debt-related concerns (1 KI).

When asked about women and girls' movements, 85% reported they have free movement while 15% reported some movement restrictions. KII data analysis shows fear for personal safety (7KI) as a primary reason, while other reasons include socio-cultural barriers (2 K), debt-related concerns (7 KI) and discrimination (2 KI).

HH survey results indicate that 92% move freely without any restriction or fear while 8% reported that they cannot move freely. 45% percent reported fear for personal safety as a major reason, while other reasons included socio-cultural barriers (45%), and 5% reported other reasons including fear of theft, crime, and armed conflict and security.

D. Coping Strategies

Analysis of KII protection monitoring data from the past three months shows that the majority have borrowed money (55 KI) to cope with their livelihood needs. Other approaches include selling assets (35 KI), sending children to work outside Afghanistan (3 KI), sending children to work in the city (3 KI), begging on the streets (16 KI), remittances from outside Afghanistan (3 KI), recruitment by armed groups (2 KI), and engaging in hazardous work (4 KI).



Data from the past three months shows that 89% borrowed money to meet their livelihood needs, 18% reported selling assets, 4% reported sending children to work in the city, 1% reported sending children to work outside Afghanistan, while 20% cited other coping strategies.

E. Civil documentation status

On the issue of civil documentation, according to KII data analysis 91% reported possessing civil documentation compare to 9% who reported that they do not. Those who have civil documentation reported possession of paper *tazkira* (49 KI), *e-tazkira* (1KI), birth certificates (4 KI), marriage certificates (5 KI), death certificates (3 KI), and passport (1 KI).

When asked about reasons for not possessing these documents, respondents reported that they never obtained them (28 KI), they were lost or destroyed (19 KI), cannot be reissued (1 KI), concerns for personal safety (6 KI), unaffordable fees (1 KI), unable to travel to area of origin for reissue (1 KI).

Respondents reported that those who do not possess documentation are unable to access basic services (39 KI), unable to move freely (1 KI), have property ownership disputes (18KI), and are unable to access emergency assistance (8 KI).

HH survey data analysis shows that 68% possess civil documentation while 32% do not. Those who lack civil documentation reported lacking paper *tazkira* (95%), *e-tazkira* (9%), birth certificate (9%), marriage certificates (91%), death certificates (7%), and passport (9%).

Regarding reasons for lacking civil documentation, respondents reported that they never obtained them (66%), unable to travel to area of origin for reissue (38%), lack of knowledge about procedures (31%), they do not need them (27%), lost or destroyed (16%). Respondents also mentioned that they are unable to issue these documents because of concerns for personal safety (2%).

Respondents reported that those who do not possess documentation are unable to access basic services (89%), unable to move freely (9%), suffer from property ownership disputes (20%), and are unable to access emergency assistance (39%).

F. Land related issues

KII data analysis on land disputes shows that 31 KI reported land-related problems are experienced by people in the community. Respondents reported rent disputes (23 KI), property ownership disputes (4 KI), threat of eviction (15KI), harassment by landlord or others (5KI), and inheritance issues (2 KI).

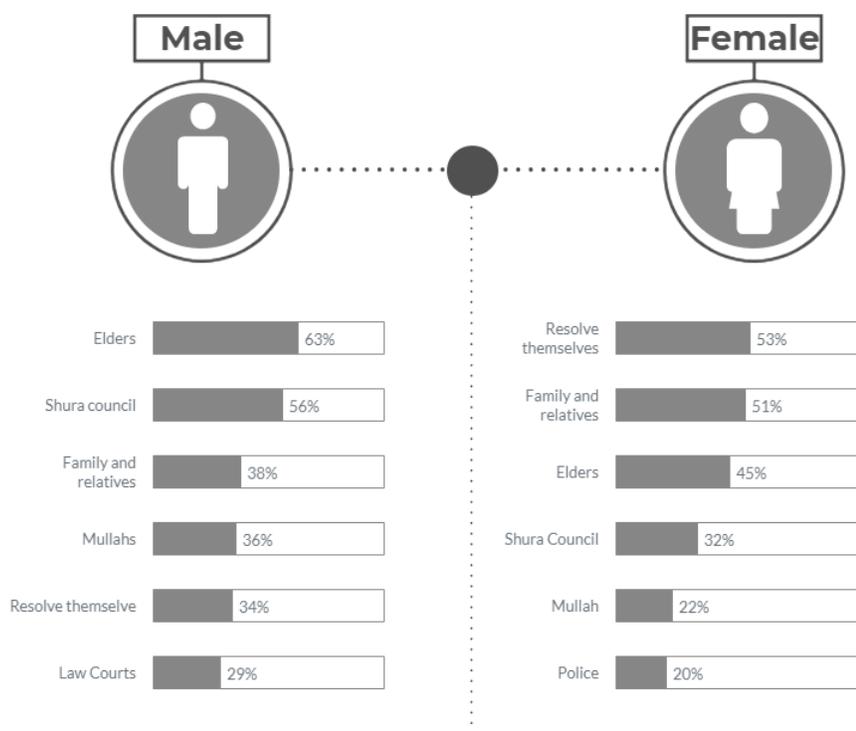
HH data analysis shows that 82% experience land-related problems including rent disputes, property ownership disputes and looting of property.

G. Community Resolution

KII data analysis shows that the majority of men rely on the informal justice system for resolution of their issues and disputes. Respondents reported that they approach *Shura* council (31 KI), elders (35 KI), religious leaders (11 KI), *Mullah* (20 KI), community development centers (14 KI), family and relatives (21 KI), or resolve it themselves (19 KI). Some men reported accessing the formal justice system including police (11 KI), and law courts (16 KI).

Data analysis of women KII shows that the majority of women also rely on the informal justice system for their disputes/issues including *Shura* council (18 KI), elders (25 KI), family and relatives (28 KI), religious leaders (2KI), *Mullas* (12 KI), community development centers (2 KI), or resolve it themselves (29 KI). Fewer women reported accessing the formal justice system including police (11 KI) and law courts (10 KI).

Community Resolution



HH data analysis shows that the majority of people rely on the informal justice system for resolution of their disputes/issues. This includes 40% who rely on *Shura* council, 59% on elders, 4% on religious leaders, 18% on *Mullas*, 9% on community development centers, 30% on family and relatives, and 22% who resolve it themselves. Few people reported access to formal justice system, including 19% of respondents going to the police and 14% to law courts.

H. Social Relationship

KII data analysis shows that 93% reported positive social relationships within the community, while 2% reported negative social relationships and 5% remained neutral. The 2% who reported negative social relationships cited tensions between different groups in the community (6 KI), social-cultural reasons (5 KI), discrimination (2 KI), corruption/extortion (1 KI).

Regarding social relationships between different community groups, 95% described them as positive, while 2% reported them to be negative, 2% remained neutral and the rest had no information. The 2% who reported negative social relationship cited tension between IDPs/returnees and the host community (9 KI), tension with host communities (46 KI), IDPs have lived in the areas for a while (5 KI), discrimination (2KI), IDPs have friends/relatives in the area, different ethnicities (2KI each), social cultural reasons (8 KI) and strain on infrastructure (1 KI).

Recommendations:

In light of the above findings, the following recommendations have been formulated.

- Investment to support durable solutions including return and local integration to ensure that these solutions are sustainable and to prevent secondary and/or multiple displacements.
- While emergency response is required, longer-term development projects should be implemented to support durable solutions.
- Increase funding for services and assistance to respond to the acute needs of IDP populations but also include host communities who share the burden with IDPs in their areas, in order to reduce tensions.
- Ensure that available services and assistance are not arbitrarily denied on the grounds of status or lack of documentation and are accessible to all groups.
- Invest in longer-term solutions to land issues in consultation with communities, applying the principles embedded into legal mechanisms related to access to land for IDPs.
- Community-based protection structures should be established, trained and operationalized, particularly with a view to increasing community engagement including women.
- Since the majority rely on informal and/or traditional justice systems, humanitarian actors should encourage the inclusion and representation of community members, as well as equal gender representation, in informal justice structures. Humanitarian actors and other stakeholders (government) should promote the inclusion and equal representation of women and other groups not traditionally present at leadership levels in these structures. Formal and informal trainings need to be conducted to these structures on national laws, especially laws on violence against women and women protection. At the same time, formal mechanisms need to be strengthened so as to gain the trust of Afghan citizens and become more sensitized to needs, including raising capacity and resources to allow for more female judges, lawyers and police officers across all provinces.
- More livelihood projects/opportunities are needed for the communities especially given the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing third wave. Such opportunities should be made available on a needs-basis rather than status-based, ensuring that both IDPs and host communities are able to become self-reliant and resilient. International organizations need to plan livelihood-related interventions and support in a way that does not jeopardize access to income for communities and which is compatible with market needs.
- Protection projects focusing on gender-based violence (GBV) and child protection should be funded and implemented. Although GBV and child protection needs always exist in displaced communities, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has further accelerated the need to address these issues at the community level and involving more longer-term interventions.
- Explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) activities are recommended to increase coverage to ensure a higher level of awareness, especially among populations on the move.