



AFGHANISTAN
FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE
CLUSTER

Monthly meeting October 2021

Food Security and
Agriculture Cluster
in Afghanistan



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Agenda of the meeting

S. No	Subject	Presenting Agency	Time
1	SFSA/ IPC presentation	FSAC	40 min
2	PiN, HRP targets and funding ask for 2022	FSAC	15 min
3	Advocacy Note	FSAC	10 min
4	FSAC updated response packages	FSAC	20 min
5	Presentation by AWAL on its activities in Afghanistan	AWAL	15 min
6	AoB; - - Date of next FSAC meeting	FSAC	5 min



SEASONAL FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT (SFSA 2021)

PRESENTATION OF THE KEY FINDINGS

11 October 2021

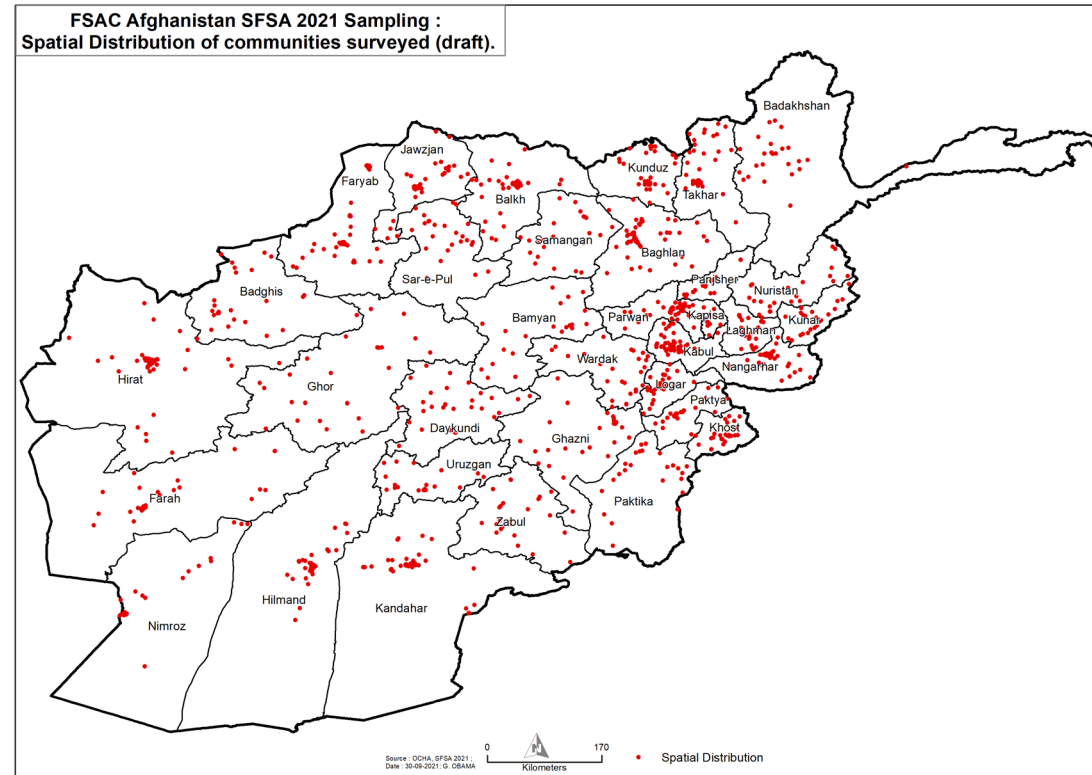
PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- ❖ Methodology
- ❖ Household's demographics
- ❖ Household's amenities
- ❖ Outcome elements (FCS, HDDS, HHS, rCSI, LCS, FES) of the SFSA 2021 and its comparison with the SFSA 2020 and Pre-lean season 2021
- ❖ Contributing factors (Disability, Shocks, Income and its changes, Debt, Agriculture, Livestock, Priorities, Market information)
- ❖ **IPC acute analysis findings**

METHODOLOGY

❖ Sampling

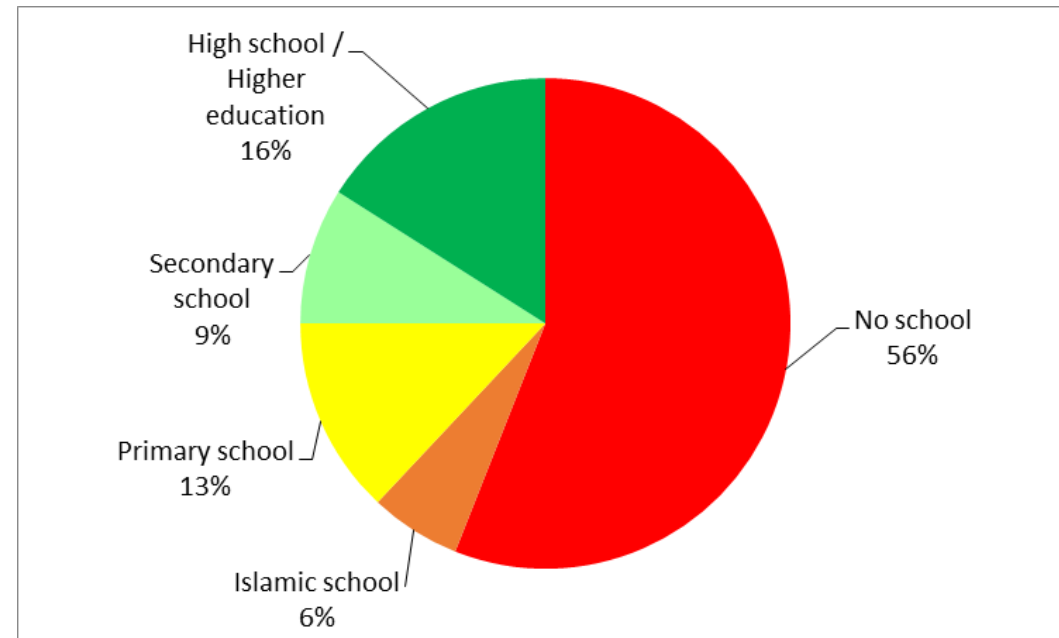
- **Type of Sampling: Probability**
- **Sample Frame:** NSIA EA list.
- Stratification by Rural and Urban.
- Equal allocation method of 25 EAs by strata.
- Within each strata a two-stage sampling method was applied:
- First Stage: PPS for EA Sampling (1,125).
- Second Stage: Systematic Random Sampling of 10 HHs.
- In total 11,250 household was sampled for the assessment.
- To address the none response issue 7 reserve sample also generated for each analytical domain.



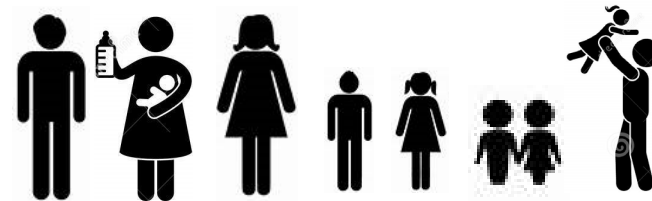
- 3 tools used (HH, Community and Trader)
- 350 field staff trained for 4 days in Kabul (9 -12th Sept).
- Data collected 13th – 27th Sept 2021.
- Kobo tools used for data collection
- SPSS software used for the data analysis

Household's demographics

- ❖ 6% of women-headed households
- ❖ 10% of elderly-headed households (+65 years old)
- ❖ 75% of household heads have a low level of education - especially women-headed households (84% vs. 54% for men-headed households)
- ❖ 9% of households are IDPs and 2% are returnees.
- ❖ 12% of the resident households host returnees or displaced households



Household's average size: 10 people



- 4 adults (> 18 years old) - including one PLW
- 2 teenagers (12-17 years old)
- 2 children (5-11 years old)
- 2 children (0-59 months)

Household's Amenities

❖ Type of shelter:

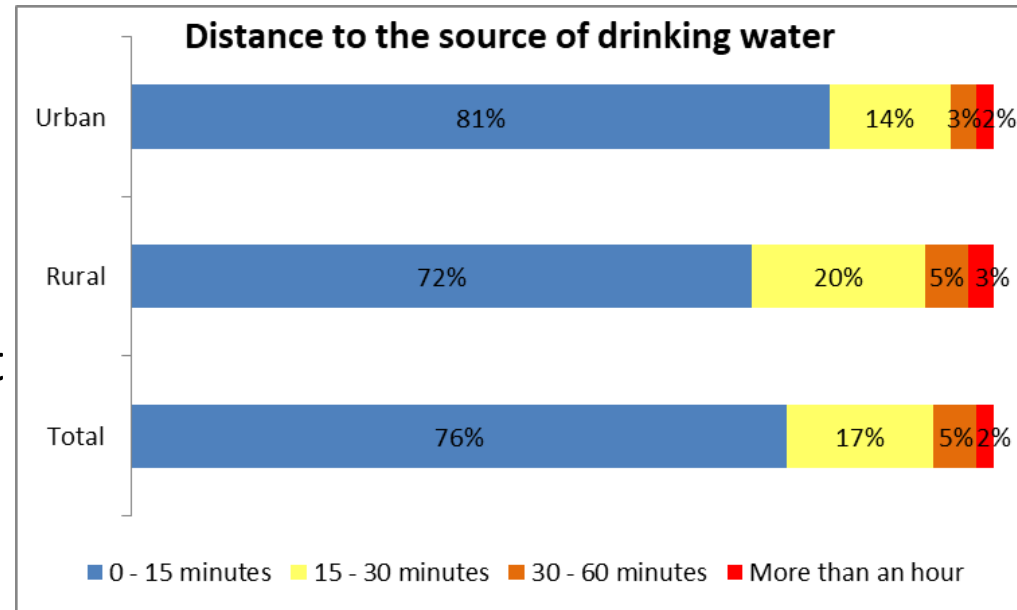
- Private house/flat (79%) and rented house/flat (15%)

❖ Type of toilet used:

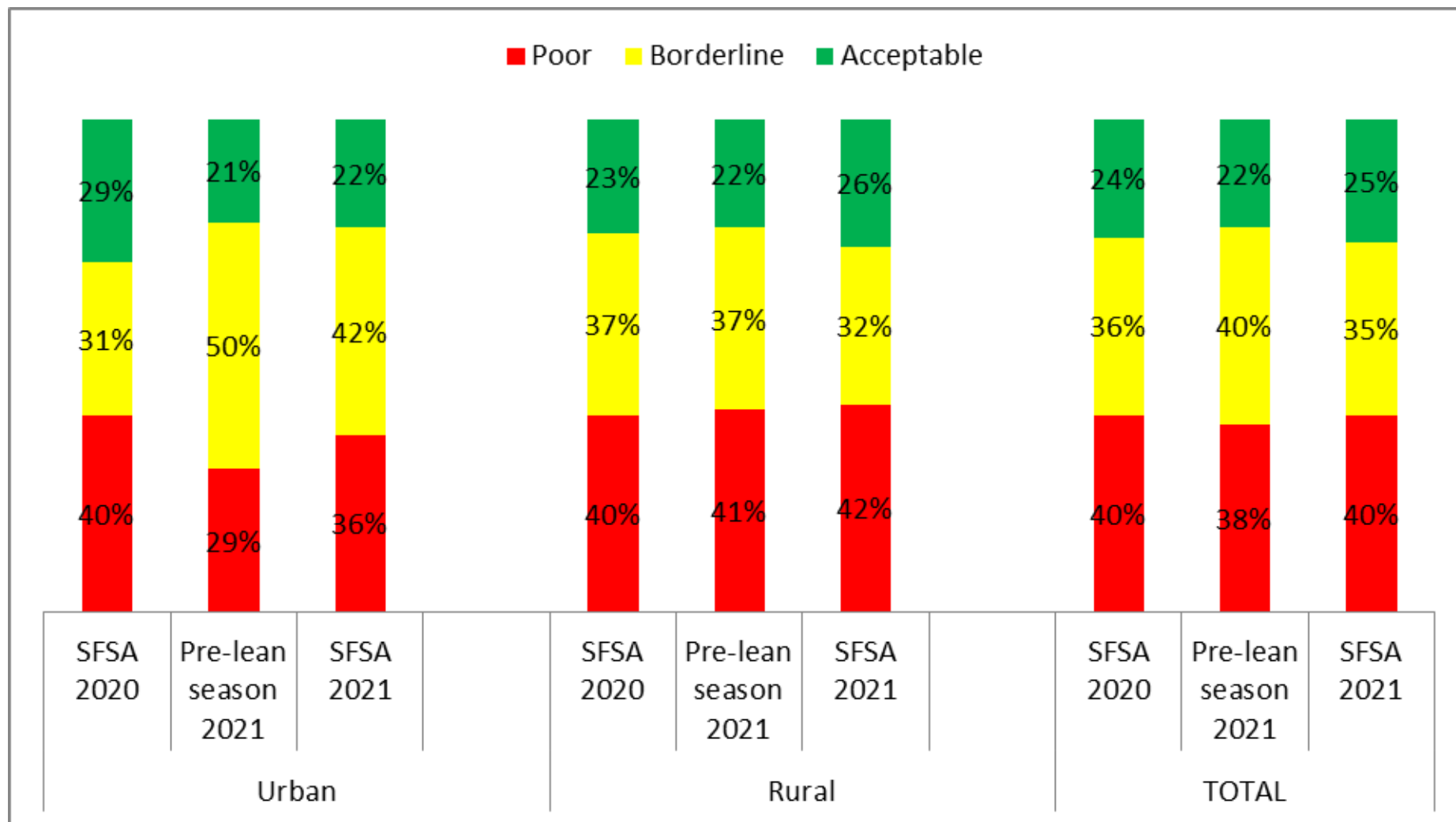
- Improved facilities for 52% of HH: an increase by 5% over the past 12 months

❖ Source of drinking water:

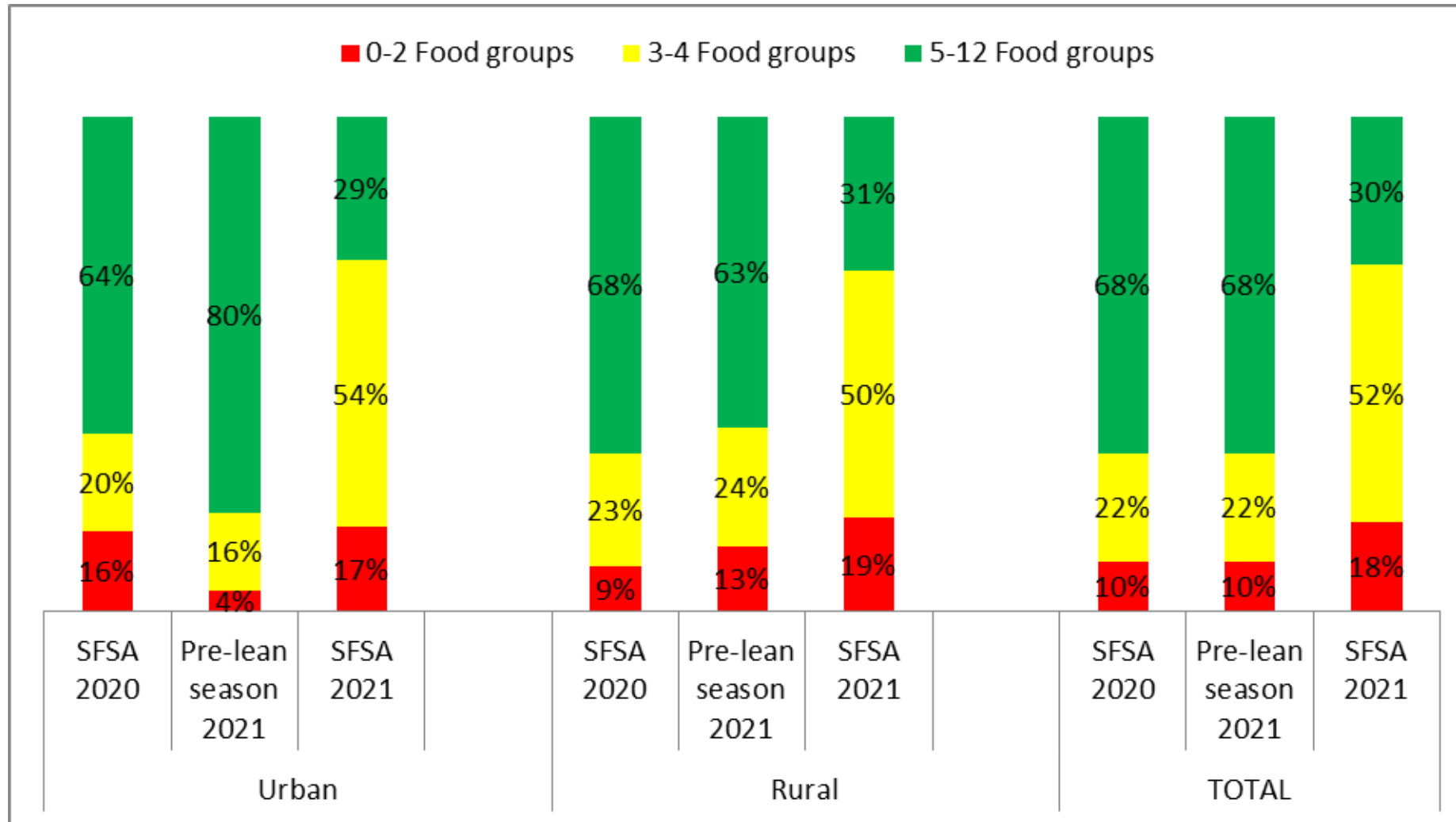
- Improved sources for 72% of HH: an increase by 11% compared to last year at the same period



Outcome element - FCS (evolution)



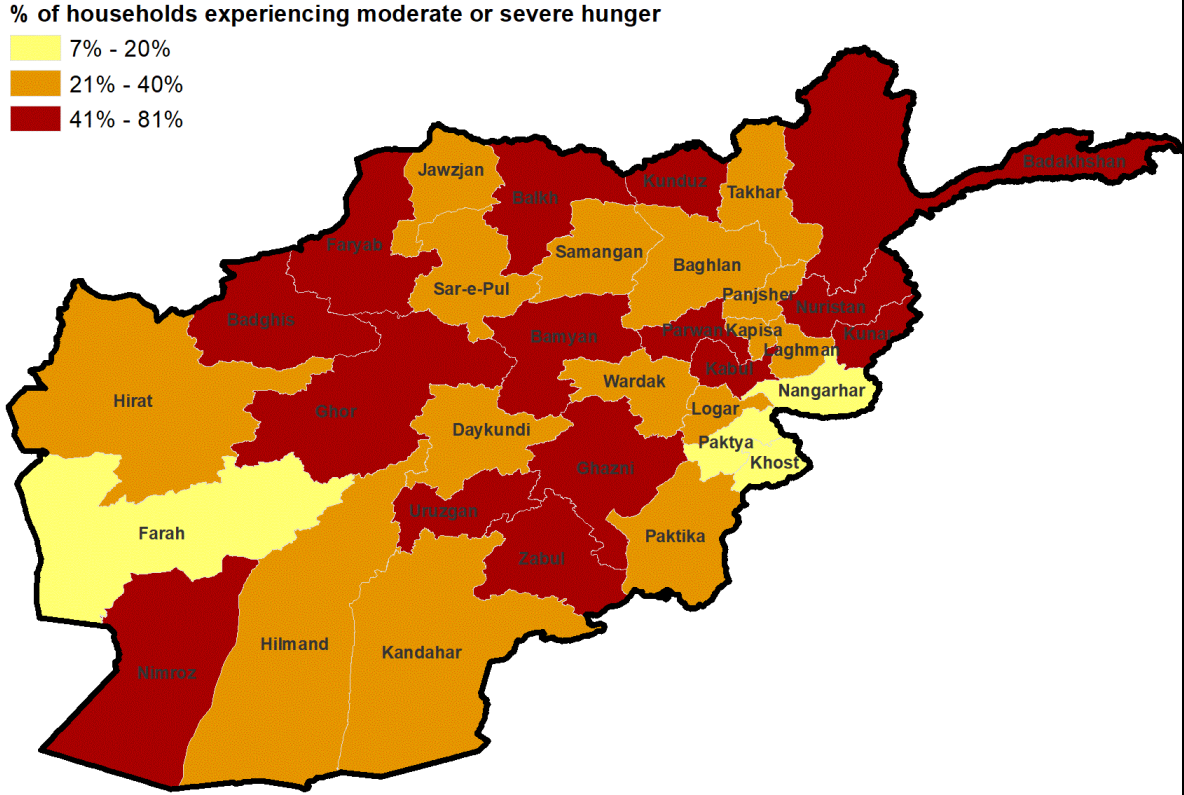
Outcome element - HDDS (evolution)



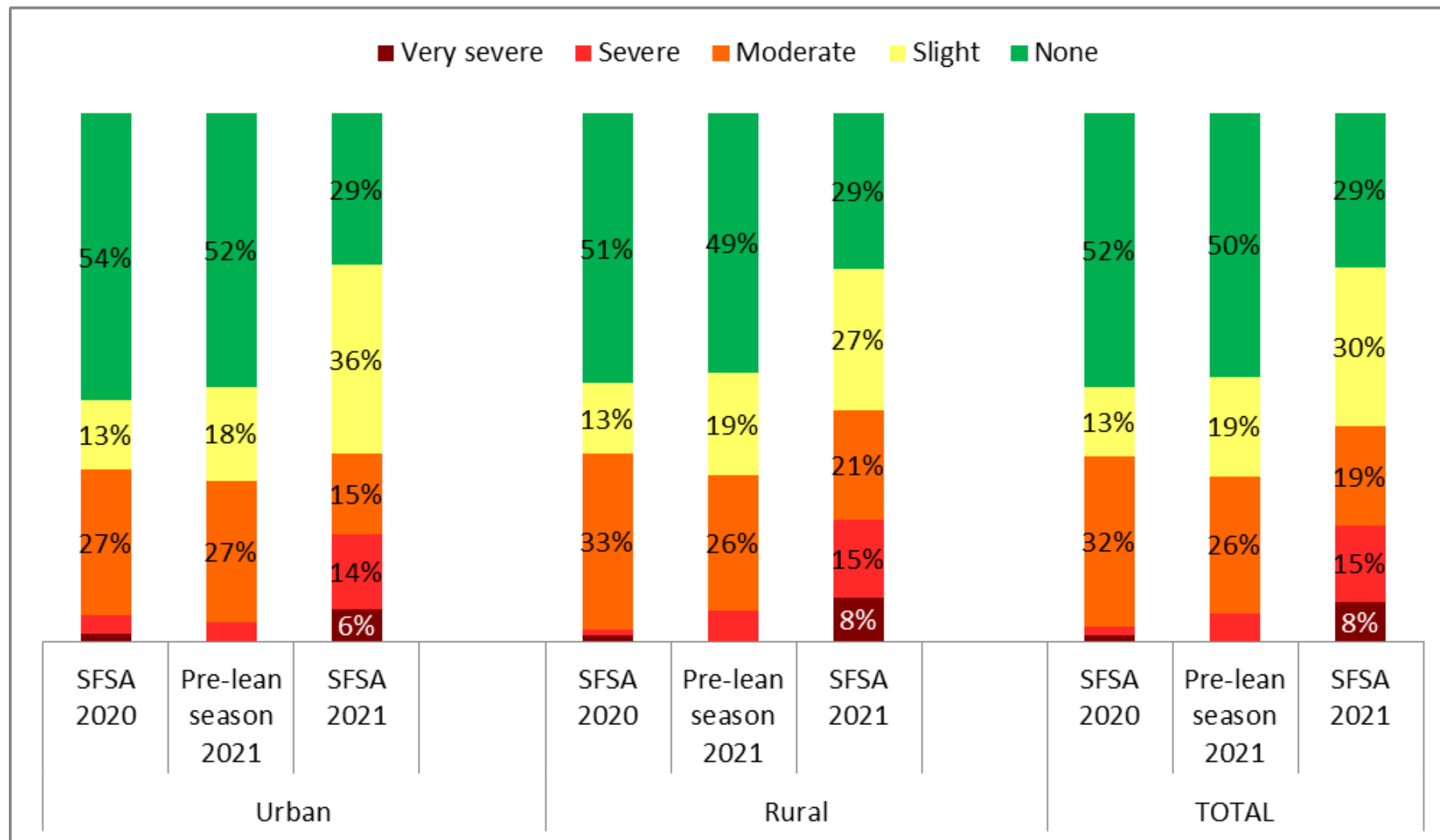
Outcome element - HHS

At national level :

- None: 29%
- Slight: 30%
- Moderate: 19%
- Severe: 15%
- Very severe: 8%



Outcome element - HHS (evolution)



Outcome element - rCSI

At national level :

→ No or low coping: 14%

→ Medium coping: 55%

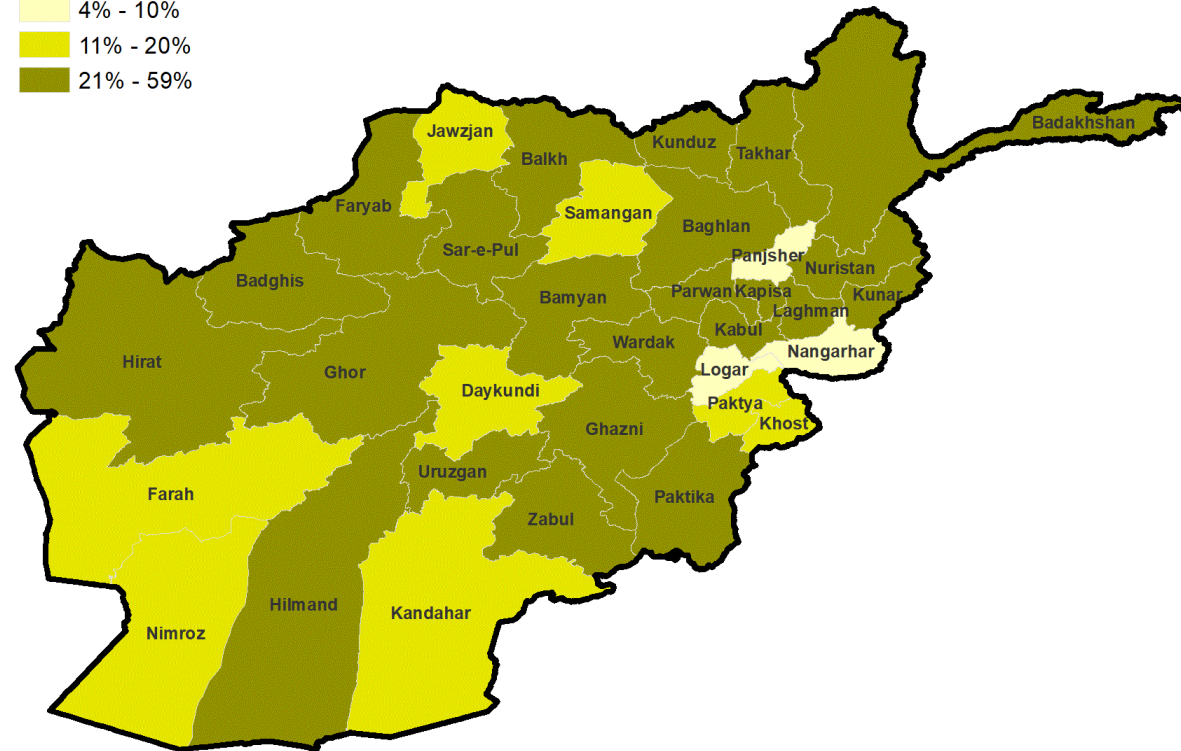
→ High coping: 31%

% of households engaging in high consumption-based coping strategies

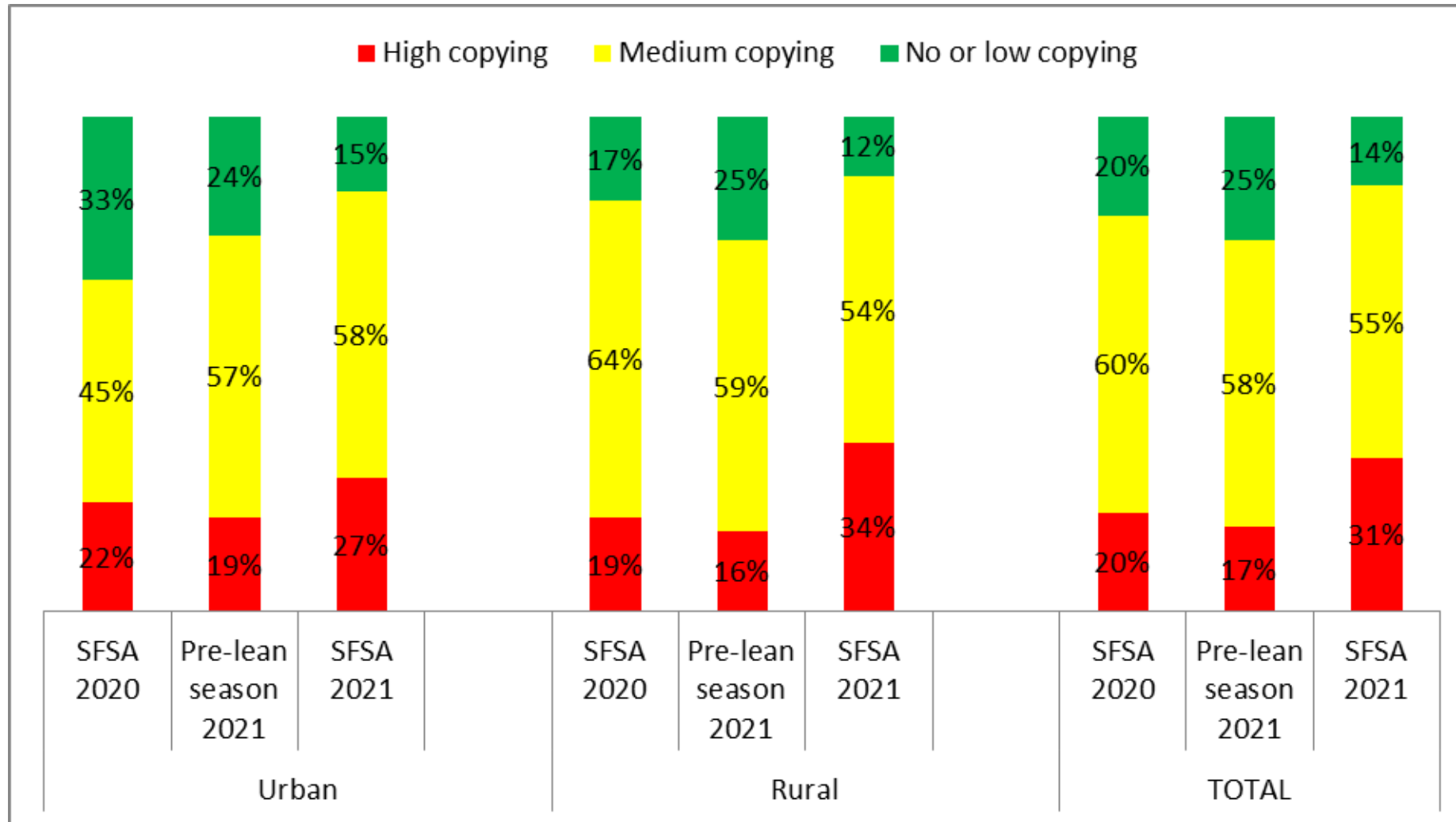
4% - 10%

11% - 20%

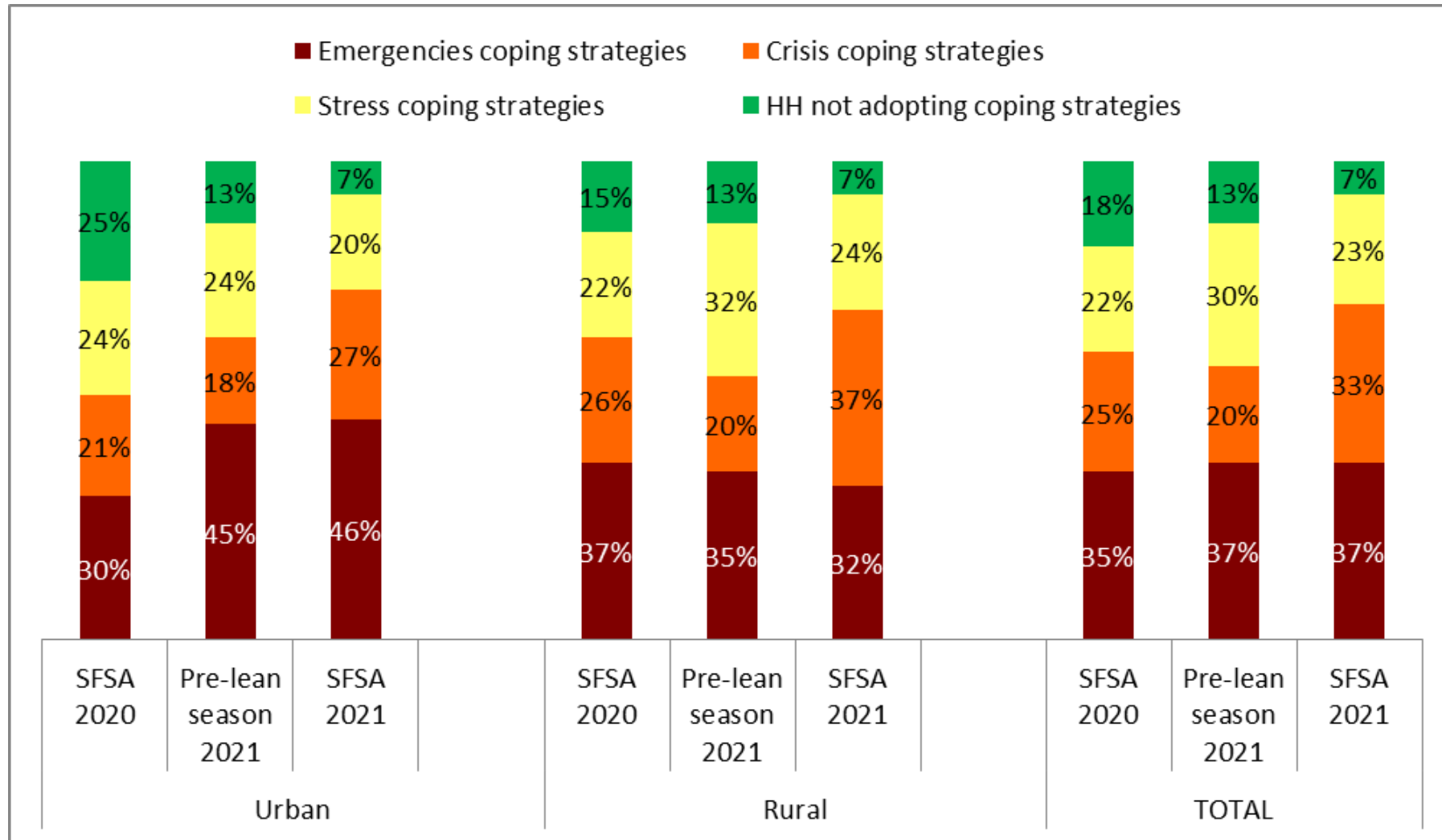
21% - 59%



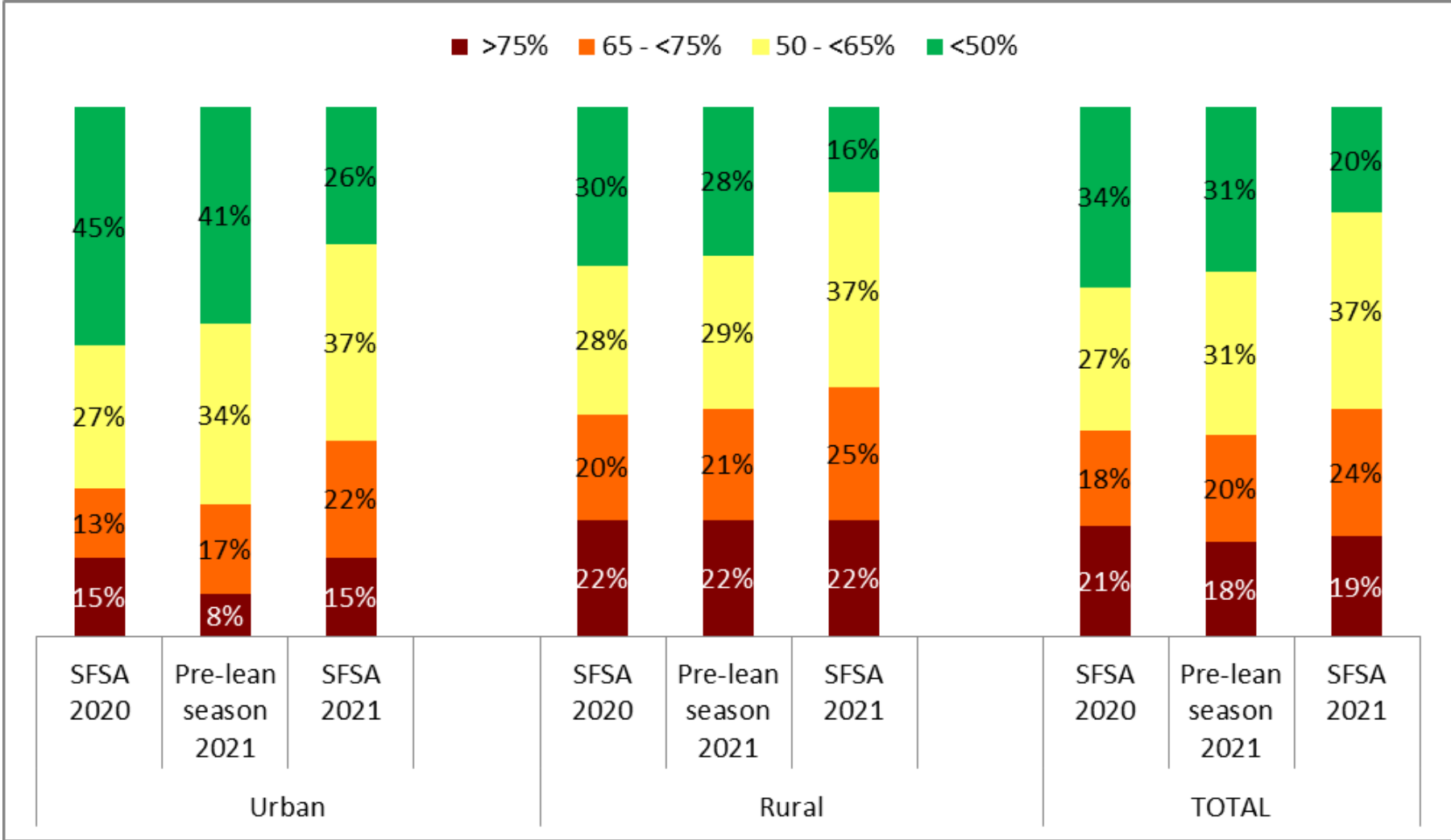
Outcome element - rCSI (evolution)



Outcome element - LCS (evolution)

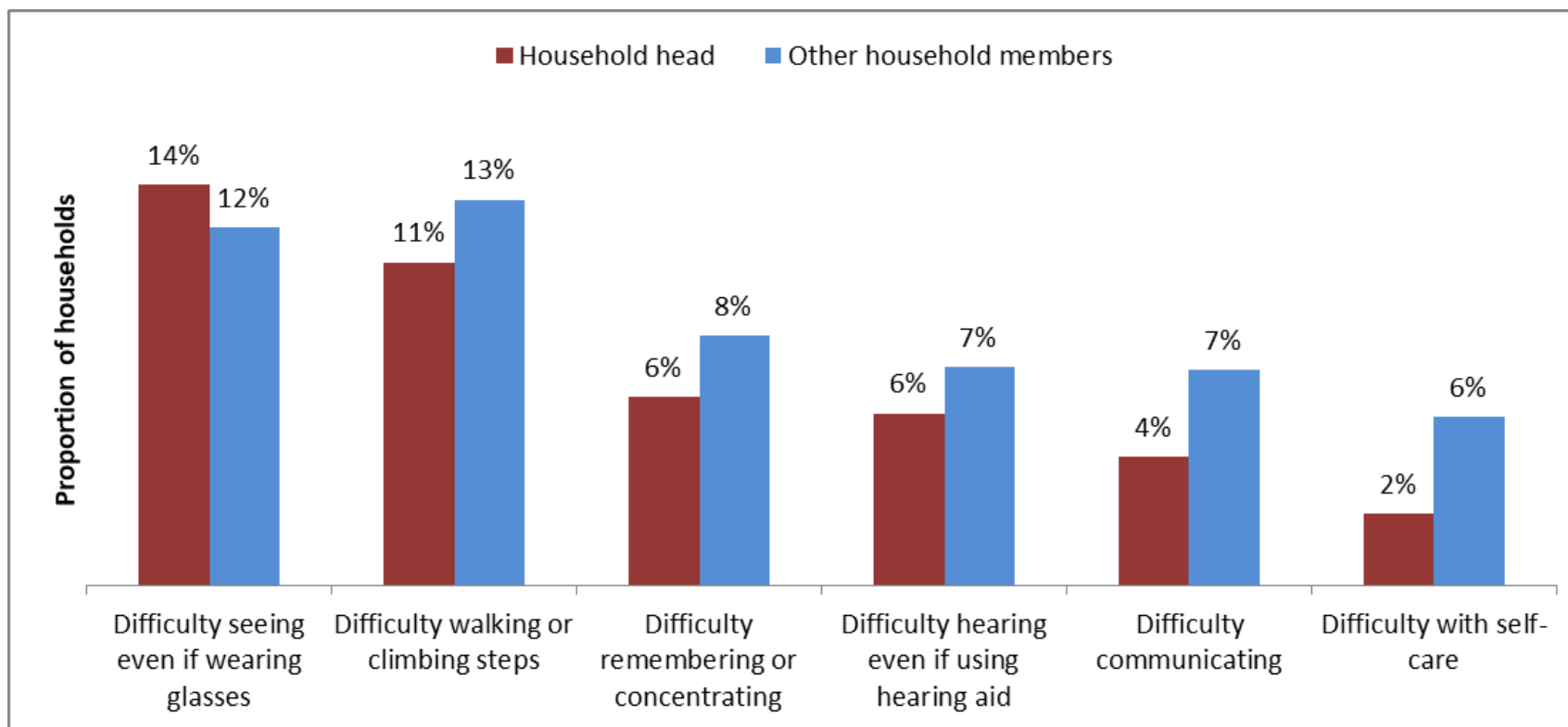


Outcome element - FES (evolution)



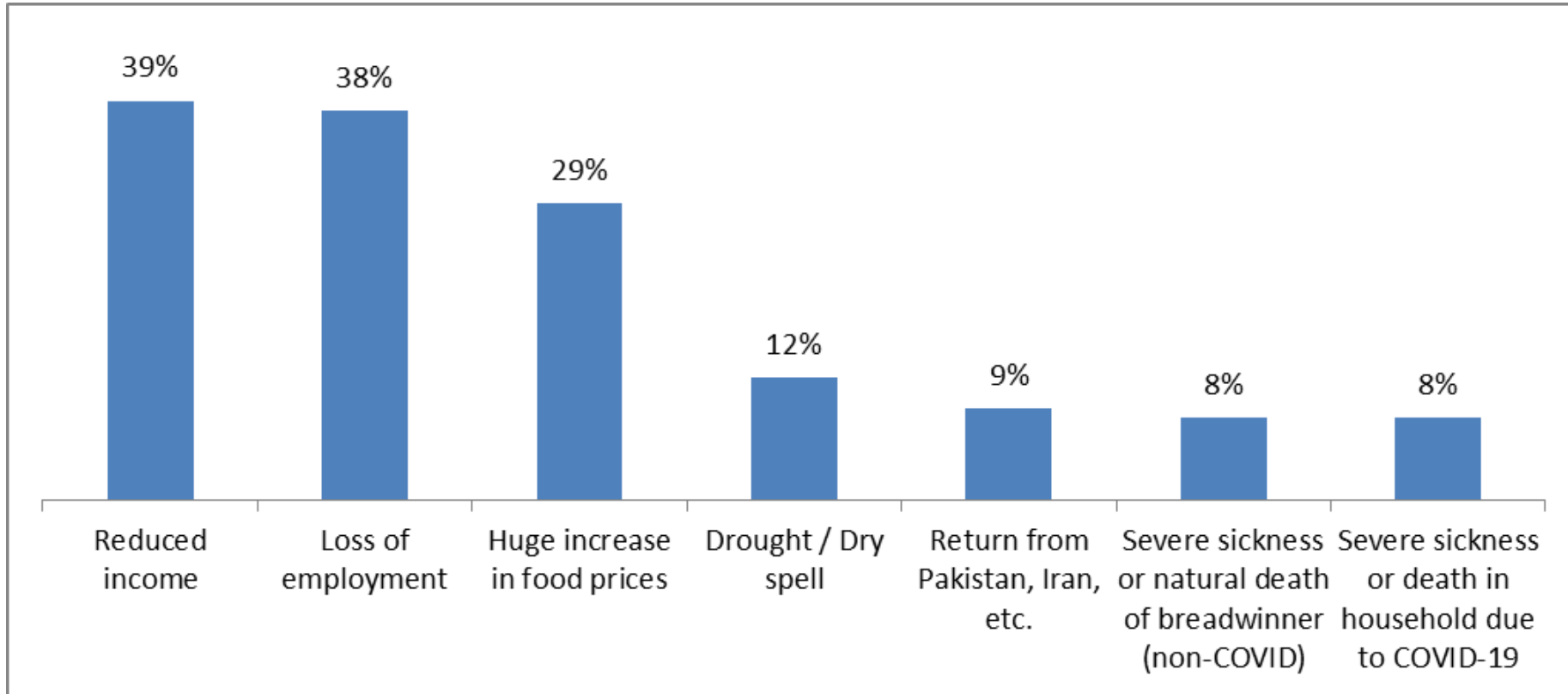
Contributing factor - Disability

- ❖ 31% of households have at least one PwD and for 87% of these households it includes the household head



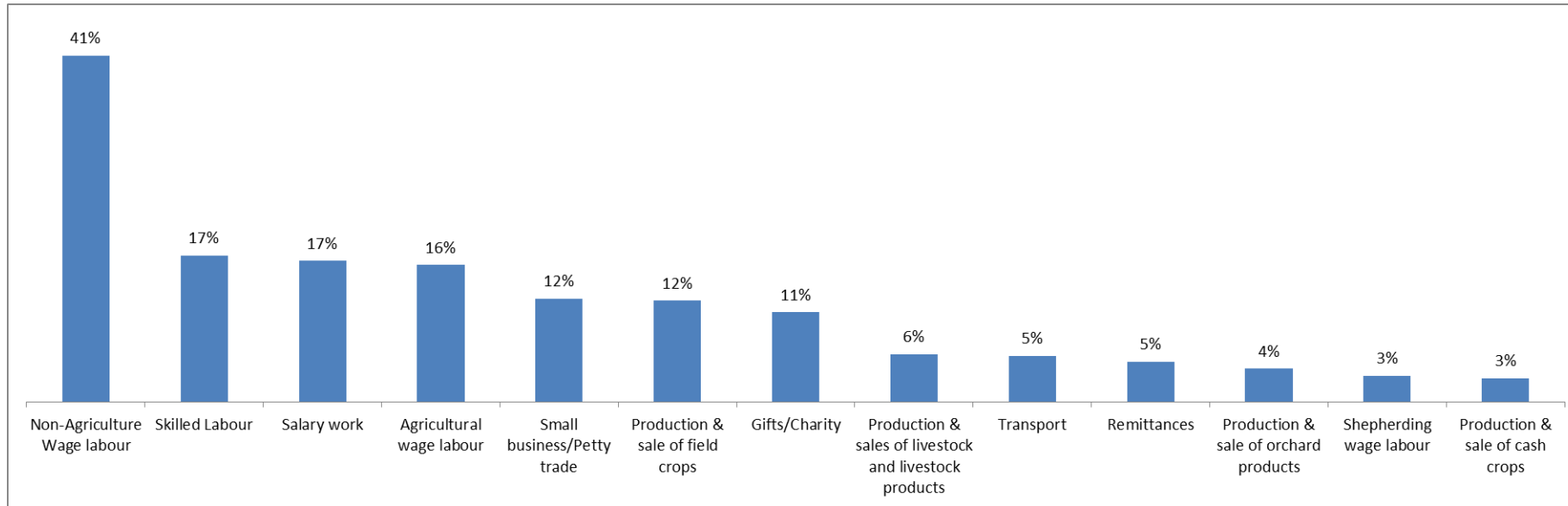
Contributing factor - Shocks

❖ 67% of households have been affected by at least one shock



Other type of shocks not represented as less than 3% of households have affected

Contributing factor – Income & Debts



- ❖ Compared to last year, income decrease for 85% of households (including 76% of households for which it was significant)
 - Mainly due to reduced employment opportunities (42%) or conflict (41%)
- ❖ 87% of households have borrowed money or in-kind items: mainly for food (88%) or health - including COVID-19 related expenses (7%)

Contributing factor - Agriculture

- ❖ **A decreased access to agriculture land:**
 - Only 25% of households own or have access to agriculture land (vs. 44% last year)
 - In rural areas, 36% of households own or have access to agriculture land (vs. 6% in urban cities)

- ❖ **Land cultivation difficulties:**
 - Irrigation/precipitation water shortage (60%)
 - Crop pests and diseases (55%)
 - Unability to obtain fertilizer (27%) or seed (18%)
 - Damaged irrigation systems (20%)

- ❖ **Leading to a reduced production and cereals stock (from own production):**
 - Less than 3 months for 57% of farming households - including the 19% with less than a month (28% a year ago – including 7% with less than a month of cereals food stock)

Contributing factor - Livestock

❖ A decreased livestock ownership :

- Only 28% of households own livestock (vs. 45% last year)
- In rural areas, 39% of households own livestock (vs. 9% in urban cities)

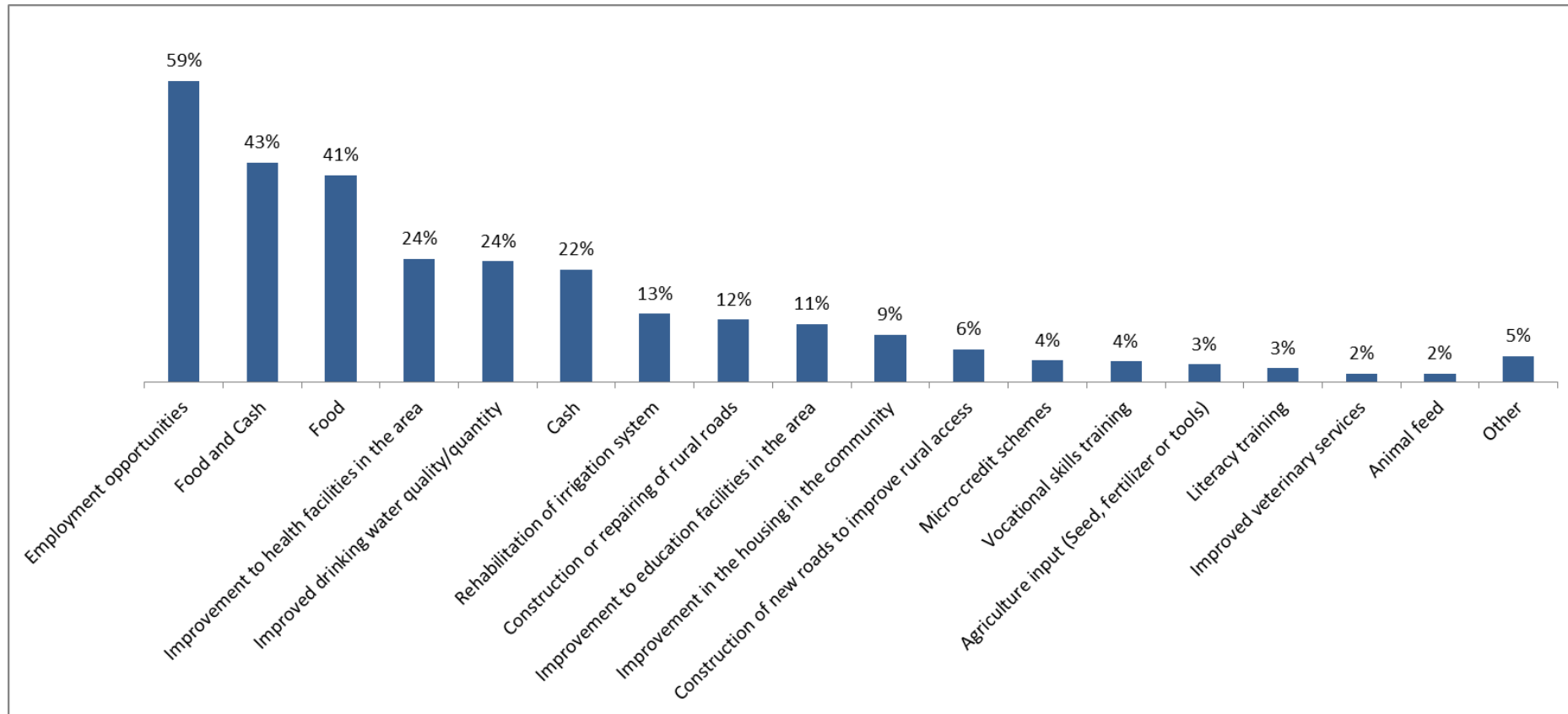
❖ Difficulties in raising animals:

- Lack of pasture and fodder (45%)
- High price of fodder and concentrates (27%)
- Lack of water (23%)
- Unusual Animal diseases (20%)
- Lack of access to veterinary services (18%)
- Livestock deaths (14%)

❖ Herd size: 6 animals in average (vs. 8 animals last year)

- Compared to last year, the number of livestock own has decreased for 42% of households as well as the livestock productivity for 56% of households

Contributing factor - Priorities



Employment opportunities (59%) + Food and/or Cash (82%)



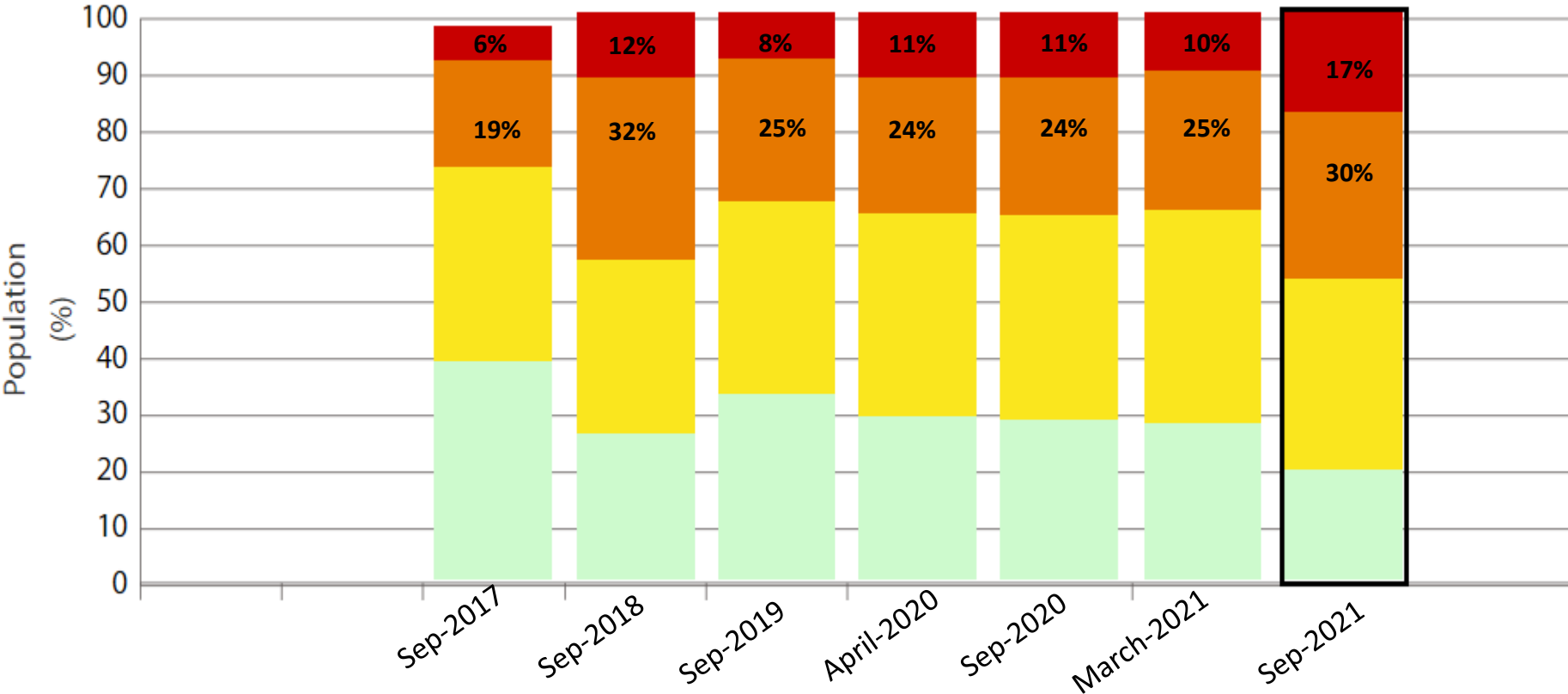
IPC Post-Harvest Analysis Findings

October 2021

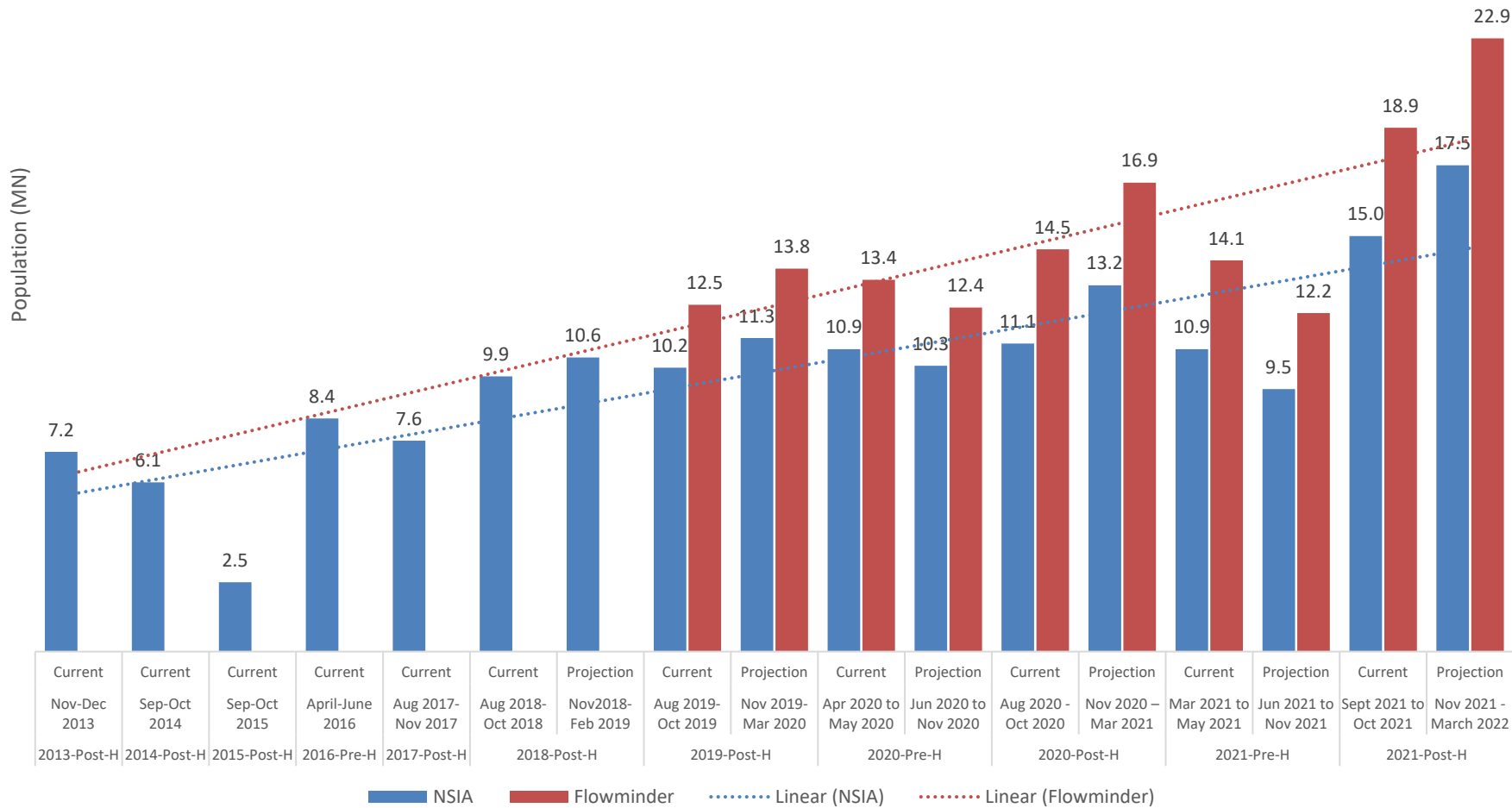
Integrated Food Security Phase Classification



IPC Analysis Trends Over Time



IPC Analysis Trends Over Time

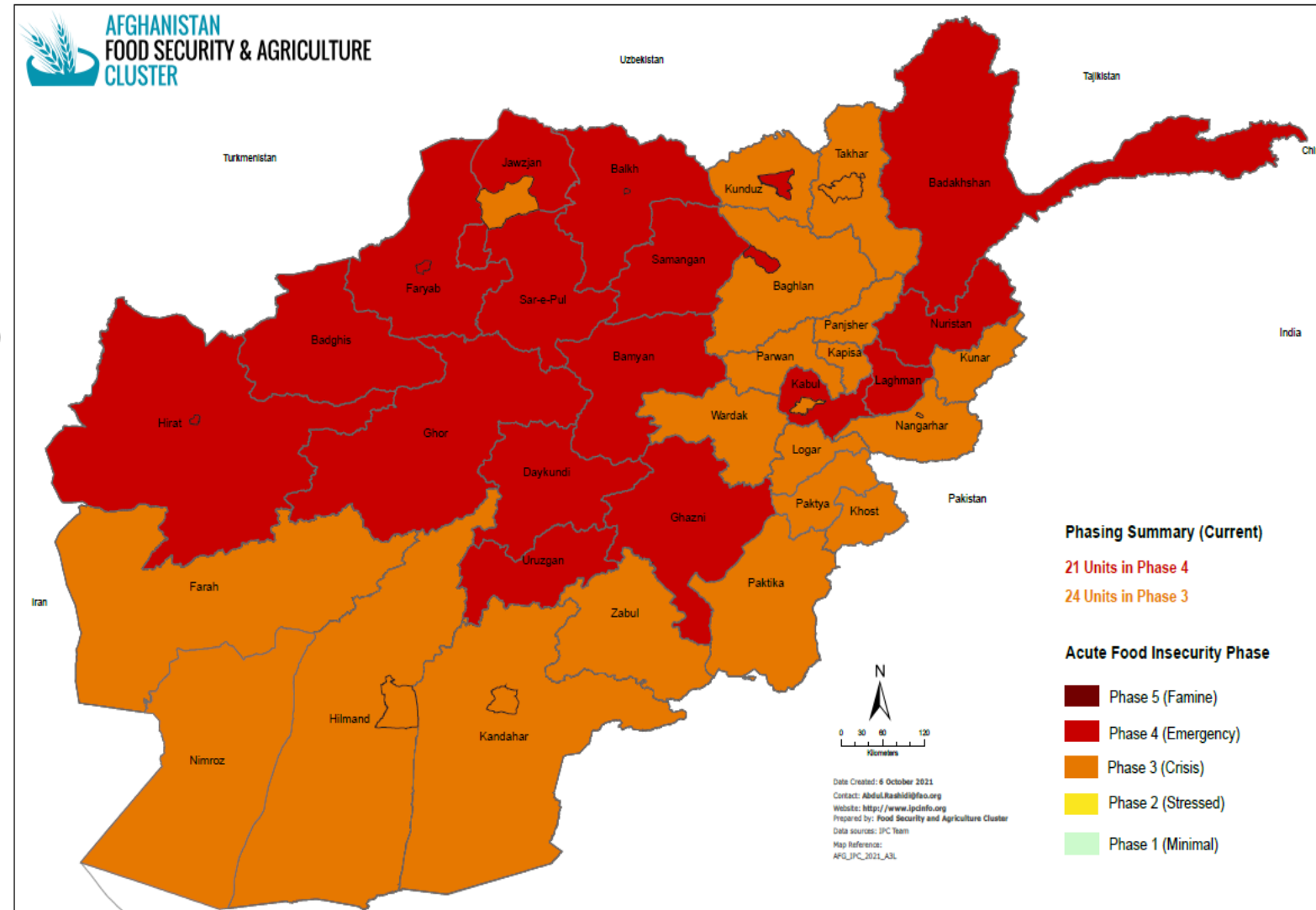


IPC Analysis Findings

Current September– October 2021

18.9M
47% in IPC
Phase 3 and
above (FLM)

14.9 M
47% in IPC
Phase 3 and
above (NSIA)

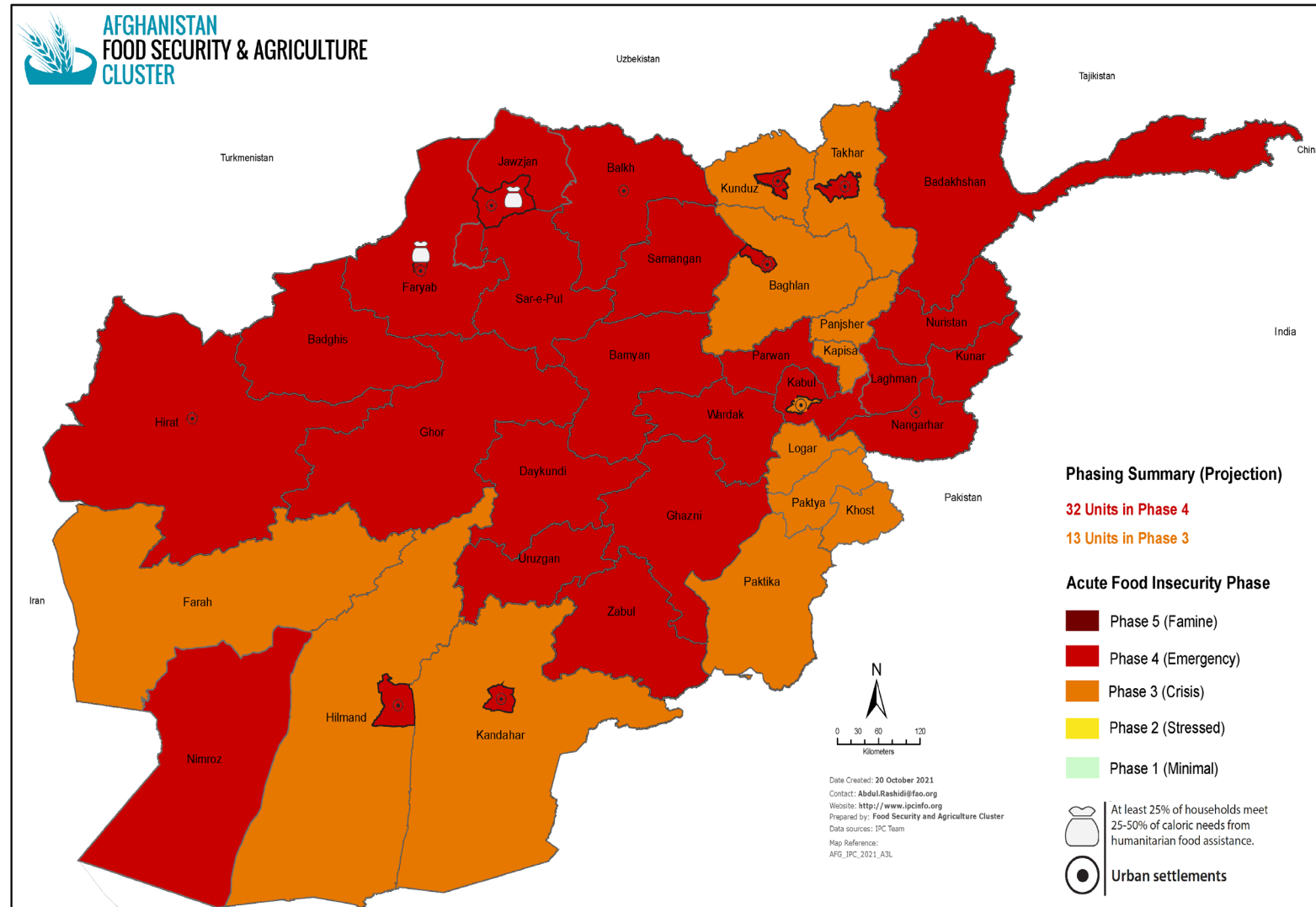


IPC Analysis Findings

Projection November 2021– March 2022

22.9M
55% in IPC
 Phase 3 and
 above (FLM)

17.5M
55% in IPC
 Phase 3 and
 above (NSIA)

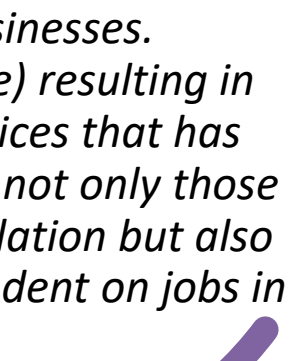


Focus on Urban Food Security Situation

Urban Centers	September 2020 Analysis		March 2021 Analysis		September 2021 Analysis	
	Current	Projection	Current	Projection	Current	Projection
Baghlan Urban	3	3	3	3	4	4
Balkh Urban	3	3	3	3	4	4
Faryab Urban	4	4	3	3	4	4
Helmand Urban	3	3	3	3	3	4
Hirat Urban	3	4	3	3	4	4
Jawzjan Urban	3	3	3	3	3	4
Kabul Urban	3	3	3	3	3	3
Kandahar Urban	3	4	3	3	3	4
Kunduz Urban	3	3	3	3	4	4
Nangarhar Urban	3	3	3	3	3	4
Takhar Urban	3	3	3	3	3	4
Population	3,882,847	4,432,518	3,317,091	2,644,127	3,982,629	5,795,686
Percentage	36%	41%	36%	29%	43%	52%




Key Drivers

- **Drought:** Cumulative precipitation has been below average during the wet season in compare to normal years resulting to a **2.46 MMT to 3MMT** wheat deficit.
 - **Conflict:** Conflict has resulted in population displacements and damage to livelihoods. From January - September 2021, an estimated **664,200 new people** were displaced internally due to conflict.
 - **Collapse of the government:** Collapse of the previous government has disrupted government systems ongoing projects, services and has limited the international presence in the country. A financial freeze has disrupted payments and businesses. Currency devaluation (12.5% since June) resulting in increase in food and non-food items prices that has led to poor economic access to food of not only those already chronically food insecure population but also for the “Middle class” who were dependent on jobs in government and private sector.
- 



Key Drivers

- **Reduced Income and Unemployment** : Households are facing an increased stress on their financial access due to reduced income and unemployment. Around 500,000 Afghan security forces have got unemployed. **Civil service staff are yet to receive their salaries of the past 2 months.** The construction sector is at a standstill, affecting urban labor markets. In rural areas, on-farm labor opportunities have dropped.
 - **High food prices:** Abrupt food price hikes(+28% for **wheat flour** in September compared to June) further exacerbate food access of households and their purchasing power especially those already living below the poverty line. An increase in prices for fuel is also noted.
- 

IPC Key Messages

- **Urgent action is needed to save lives and save and protect livelihoods.** Almost **half of the population is in acute food insecurity** with around 19 million people having acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above)-this translates to about 12 million people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and over 7 million people are in Emergency food insecurity (IPC Phase 4).
- Afghanistan is facing a food insecurity crisis that has been compounded La Niña weather patterns and may continue into the next wet season moving the country towards a second consecutive drought year.
- **Sanctions on Afghanistan** de-facto government are sharply reducing the flow of cash within country and traders are struggling to carry on regular business. This can have serious implications on food imports during the winter.
- **An increase of 8% in IPC Phase 3 or above** is estimated from the current to projection periods, considering the most likely scenarios.

IPC Key Messages

- **Foreign aid**, amounting to 40% of Afghanistan's GDP, **is facing an uncertain future**, though some countries promised to help through UN agencies. Similarly, donor's restriction will most likely negatively affect implementation of specific women empowerment projects and a consequence the female headed households (prominently in the urban areas). The departure of many foreign NGOs also has impacts on employment and income.
- The **agricultural inputs cost will likely increase** and will subsequently impact the access to food of the farmers.
- **Early action/ timely provision of timely humanitarian food and livelihoods assistance** to severely food insecure population may reduce the impacts of upcoming winter lean season and avoid the people in need from slipping into higher IPC Phases.

Notes on the data and way forward

- **Timely monitoring of the prevailing food insecurity conditions** will be critical to factor in any prevailing changes considering the projection analysis is undertaken based on the most likely scenarios.
- Data collection for the SFSA took place right after the fall of Kabul, when food security conditions were changing rapidly.
- The projection will be updated as more information comes to light on key food security drivers (macroeconomic trends and the provision of humanitarian assistance).
- The TWG will put in place a monitoring plan, to allow for data acquisition and support an update of this analysis before March 2022 if needed.
- The Afghanistan food security and nutrition clusters will need to collaborate to acquire up to date information on nutrition, emanating from the Afghanistan Health Management Information System, screening and surveys carried out by cluster members.

IPC



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security and Nutrition Decisions



Thank You!

<http://www.ipcinfo.org>

FSAC PiN, Target and budget for 2022

S. No	Vulnerable group	FSAC PIN 2022	Food			Livelihoods		
			Target for food assistance	Duration of assistance/ months	Total budget	Target for livelihoods support	Number of months	Budget
1	People displaced due to conflict and natural disaster	504,370	504,370	3	25,722,870	100,000	1	3,500,000
2	People affected by sudden onset natural disaster	150,000	150,000	2	5,100,000	100,000	1	2,300,000
3	Refugee returnees from Iran and Pakistan	100,000	80,000	4	5,440,000			
4	Undocumented returnees from Pakistan	78,830	78,830	4	5,360,440			
5	Undocumented returnees from Iran	121,314	121,314	4	8,249,352			
6	Number of Pakistani refugees	72,380	72,000	6	3,672,000			
7	Seasonal Support (IPC Phase 3)	22,813,658	11,793,658	8	1,037,841,904	7,045,758	1	162,052,424
	Seasonal Support (IPC Phase 4)		8,740,000	12	1,153,680,000			
	Asset Creation					2,050,000	6	221,400,000
	Back vegetable cultivation / home gardening					1,050,000	1	11,550,000
	Backyard poultry support					350,000	1	12,950,000
Total		23,840,552	21,540,172		2,245,066,566	10,695,758		413,752,424
Funding requirement for 2022								2,658,818,990

Half rations are not enough

- The COVID endline PDM round shows 79% of beneficiaries still have 'poor' consumption scores after 2 months of assistance (6,000 AFG). The data shows people spent the entire allotment in a month.
- The Winterization endline PDM shows some impact, but still half of beneficiaries left with poor FCS after having received a 50% ration.

Chart 3: Food Consumption Score (FCS) disaggregated by household size, gender of the head of household, and province

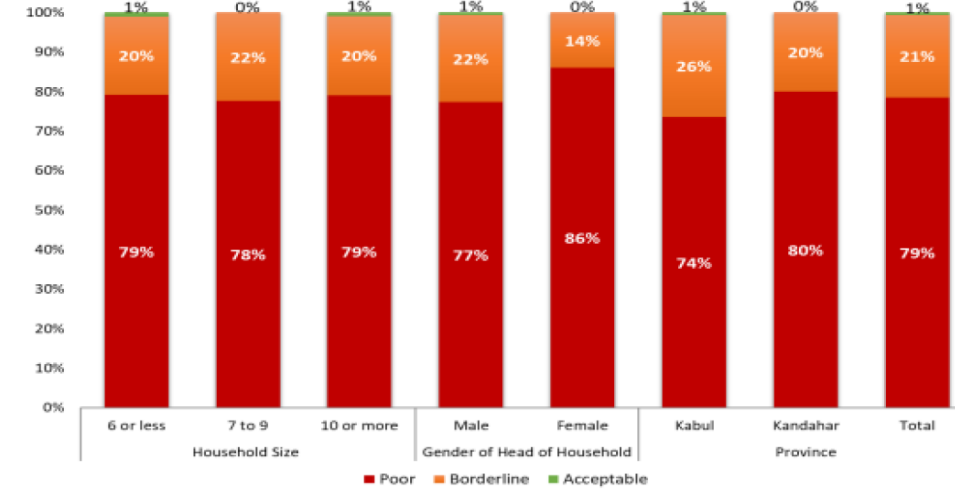
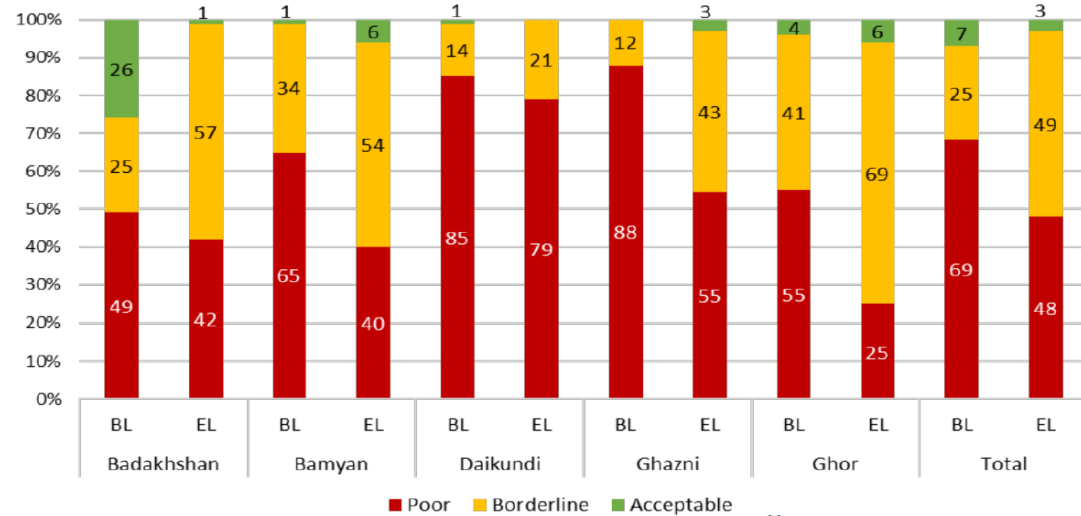
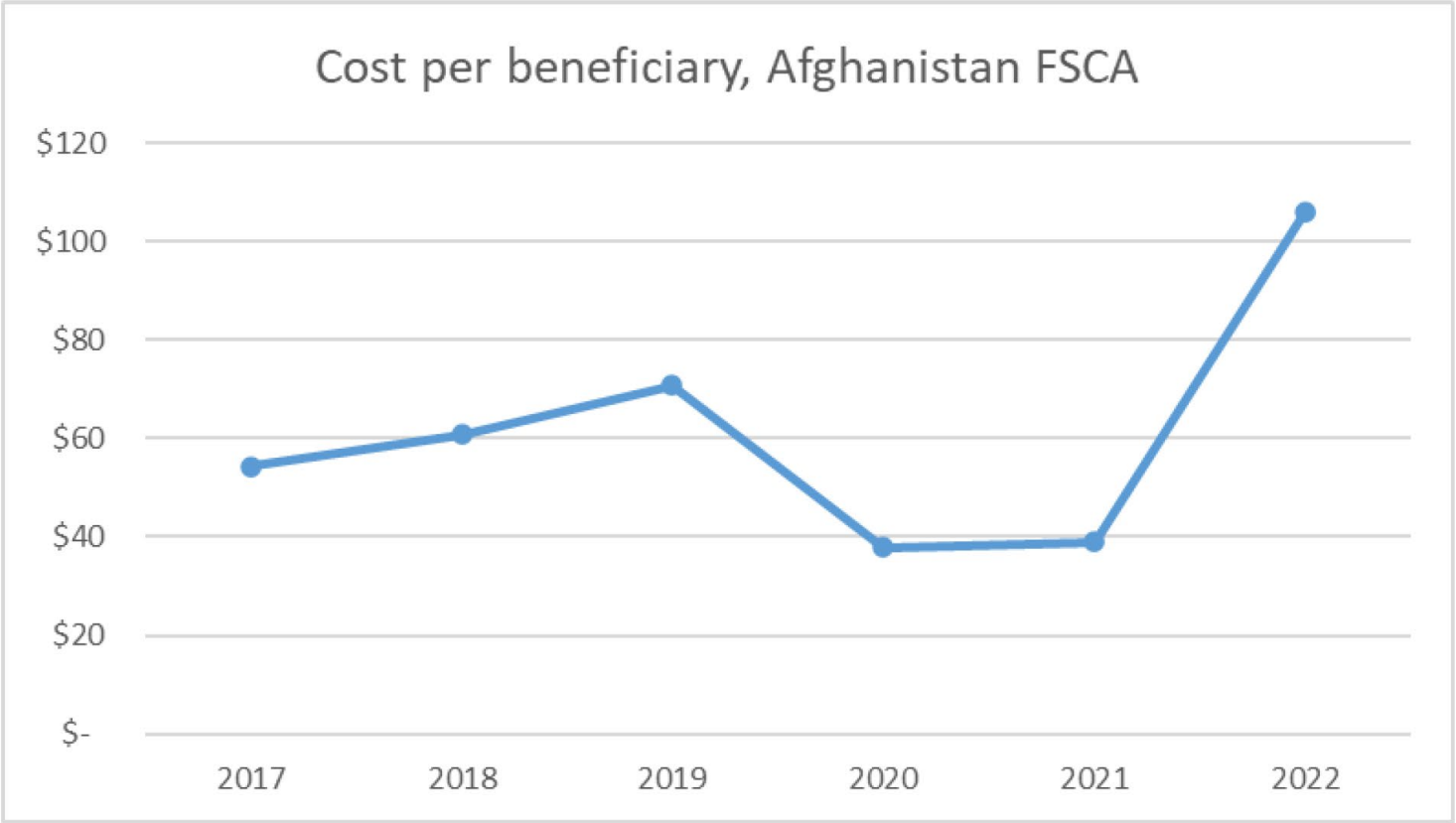


Chart 5: Food Consumption Score (FCS) groups, disaggregated by province

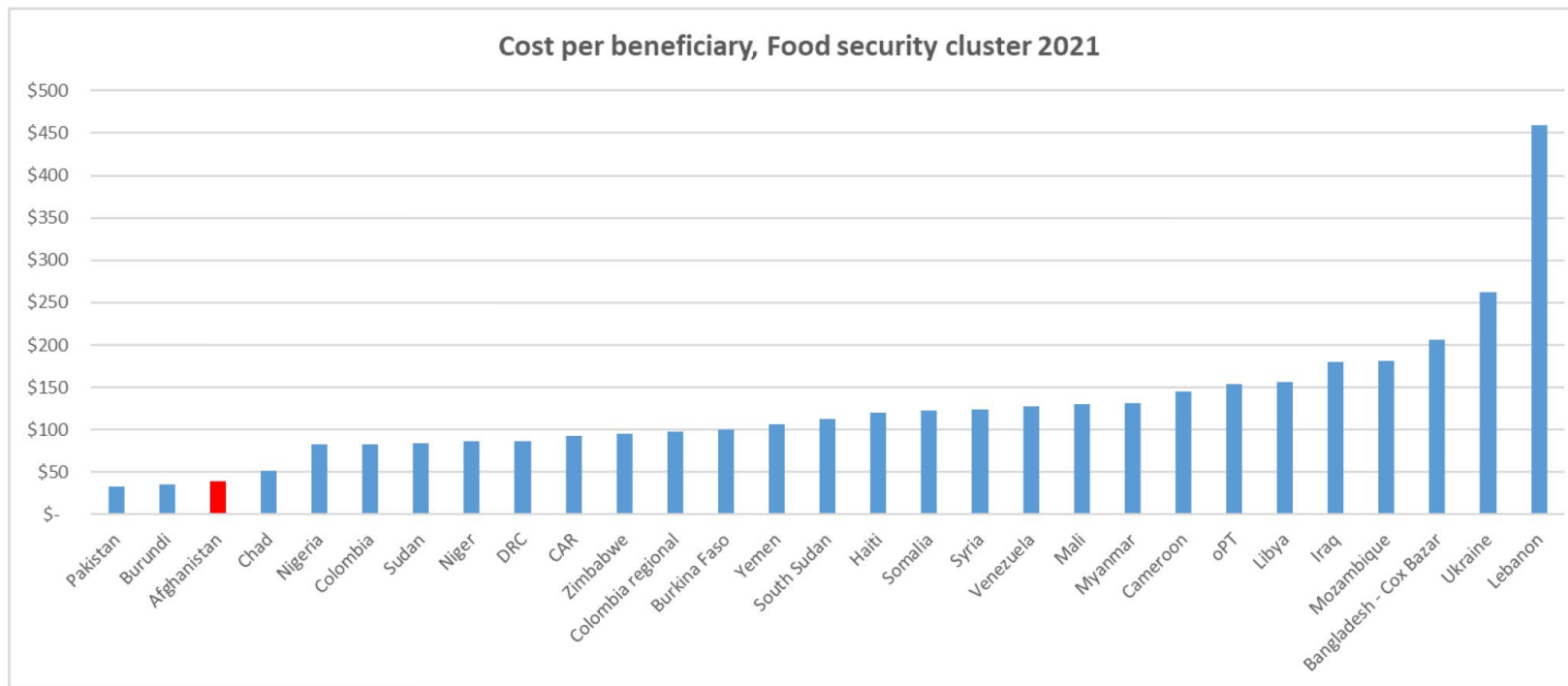


In Afghanistan the FSCA cost per beneficiary has been at low levels for the past 2 years



Source: 2021 gFSC tracker

The Afghanistan FSCA cost per beneficiary has been among the lowest in the world



Source: 2021 gFSC tracker

Advocacy Note

FSAC updated response packages

In-kind food basket

in-kind	Wheat flour	Vegetable oil	Pulses	Salt	Kcal	Protein	Micronutrients	FAT (17%)
FSAC Original in-kind package	100	7	7.50	0.50	2,100 Kcal	BL	Below MR	Below MR
FSAC Revised in-kind package	100	8	8	1	2,179 Kcal	OK	OK	OK
WFP in Kind full ration package	92	9.10	12.50	1	2,100 Kcal	OK	OK	OK

Below are changes made considering dietary requirements and available packages in the market to FSAC in-kind package:

1. Wheat flour is kept as 100 Kg due to availability wheat flour in 50 Kg bags in the local market.
2. The Oil, Pulses and Salt amounts have been revised to ensure adequacy of Minimum Kcal, minimum Protein, Micro-nutrients and also percentage of energy coming from fat (17%).
3. The revised package is providing minimum Kcal, protein, micro-nutrients and energy from fat.

WFP provides a slightly adjusted package. The reason for 100Kg against 92 Kg of wheat flour in WFP full ration is that WFP is providing in-kind support with already adjusted package, while other FSAC partners are buying from the market as wheat flour packages are only available in package of 50 Kgs in the market..

- The current revision has been done to re-check the nutritional value of the basket and to adjust the basket cost with the current market prices.
- The revised package meets the minimum requirement of calories, protein, percentage of energy coming from fat and micro-nutrients.
- Based on nutrition expert advice, sugar has been removed from the basket since it doesn't add nutritional value to the basket apart from Kcal.
- Rice as the second staple food is kept considering the consumption pattern, but the amount was adjusted based on basket nutritional adequacy.
- Oil and Pulses amount was also balanced.
- Prices of the package has been revised based on Sept 2021 prices; 7% inflation is also added as the normal inflation rate each year.

FSAC updated cash-based food basket						
Items	Original Cash Basket (Kgs)	Revised Cash Basket (Kgs)	Sept 2021 avg prices (AFN/Kg)	Sept 2021 prices + 7% inflation	Revised package cost with Sept 2021 prices	Revised FSAC package cost with Sept 2021 prices+7% inflation
Wheat Flour	60	62	40	43	2,505	2,677
Rice	29	24	93	99	2,232	2,386
Vegetable Oil	6	9	155	165	1,391	1,487
Pulses	14	15	96	102	1,436	1,534
Salt	1	1	14	15	14	15
Sugar	6	-	57	-	-	-
Total (AFN)					7,578 AFs	8,100 AfS
Total (USD)	116 KG	111 KG			\$ 84	\$ 90



ASEEL Emergency Response

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ASEEL Emergency Response

“Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) Afghanistan”

National FSAC Meeting (27 October 2021)



Nasrat Kahlid

Founder, Washington DC Based, Served in Afghanistan with US State Department and World Bank. Worked in over 10 countries. Technical Background, BSc, Computer Science and MSc, Business Management.



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Problem

Facts and figures:

- Over **18 million** people rely on humanitarian aid to survive.
- Fighting across the country has claimed the lives of over **40,000** people since 2009.
- Some **664,000** people have been displaced by the latest violence since January, bringing the total number of internally displaced people to more than **3.5 million**.
- The United Nations flash aid appeal for Afghanistan calls for nearly US **\$606 million** to help people in need but has only been **%20** funded.
- **1 in 3 Afghans** acutely hungry, according to the World Food Programme. Over 93% of households consumed insufficient food in the past week, according to the latest WFP phone surveys.

Afghanistan is expected to go through a universal poverty (97%) by 2022. (UNDP)

ASEEL Before August 15, 2021



Vendors Empowered
40



Countries Covered
4



Artisans Empowered
820



Job Created
411



Products Sold
Globally
10K+



Access to FinTech Enabled Market

In Afghanistan & other developing countries, there is no reliable access to technological or finance infrastructure that would allow local artisans to access local, national and global markets. Aseel changes that <https://www.un-page.org/page-and-sustainable-development-goals>



One The Most Impactful Companies Globally

ASEEL contributes directly to 10 SDGs out of 17. It has the impact capacity to become the most impactful company in the world.



Job Creation

Through this platform, ASEEL aspires to create 10,000 direct and indirect jobs in Afghanistan first, its first pick up country. Eventually, we can create millions of jobs globally.



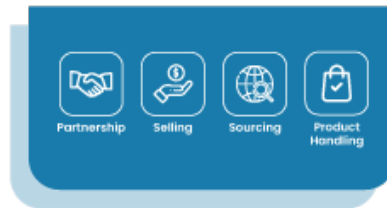
ASEEL Directly contributes to 11 out of 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Prior Solution Developed

Technology-driven, end-to-end solution for underdeveloped markets.



The back-end solution that empowers artisans anywhere to sell products to Customers Anywhere by creating both in-ASEEL (Etsy-like) and their own websites and apps (Shopify-like) digital presence that accept all payments and feed into our global shipping. All in one place.



A supply chain platform that includes pick-up countries (Currently only Afghanistan) and Drop-off countries (Current: US, Australia, Afghanistan) including sourcing, handling, partnerships and selling. All in one place.



ASEEL currently serves as the FinTech platform that accepts payments from customers (via Stripe, PayPal etc) and provides direct access to vendors/sellers via the FERNI Platform in form of (Cash, Bank Transfers, MobileMoney) and in future through our own fintech platform and crypto-tokens.



Amazing customer buying experience with the Web Stores, Mobile apps and external platforms.

ASEEL Post August 15 2021:

ASEEL emergency response is our effort to use technology and innovation to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. As of **October 25, 2021**, we have completed our pilot round and are ready to scale. The pilot round results are provided below:

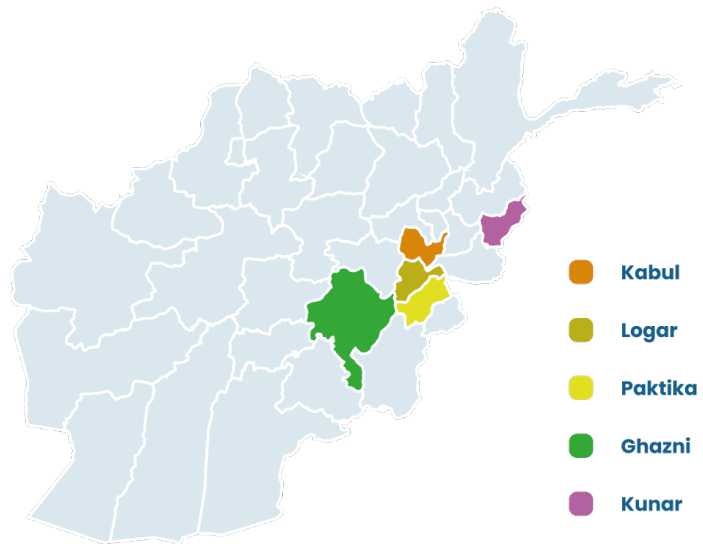
Real-time Aseel Emergency Response Update



ASEEL Post August 15 2021:

In total, the ASEEL ER team has supported over ten thousand people throughout Afghanistan with different packages. The donations have all come from individual donors from all around the world that use the Aseel mobile apps and the websites

Our areas of coverage within Afghanistan mainly focused on central provinces around Kabul. We also reached out to Kandahar, Jalalabad, and Ghazni Provinces.



The provinces that we are currently supporting for now and expanding to other provinces.



Emergency First Aid Package



Emergency Baby Care Package



Emergency Life Package



Emergency Food Package



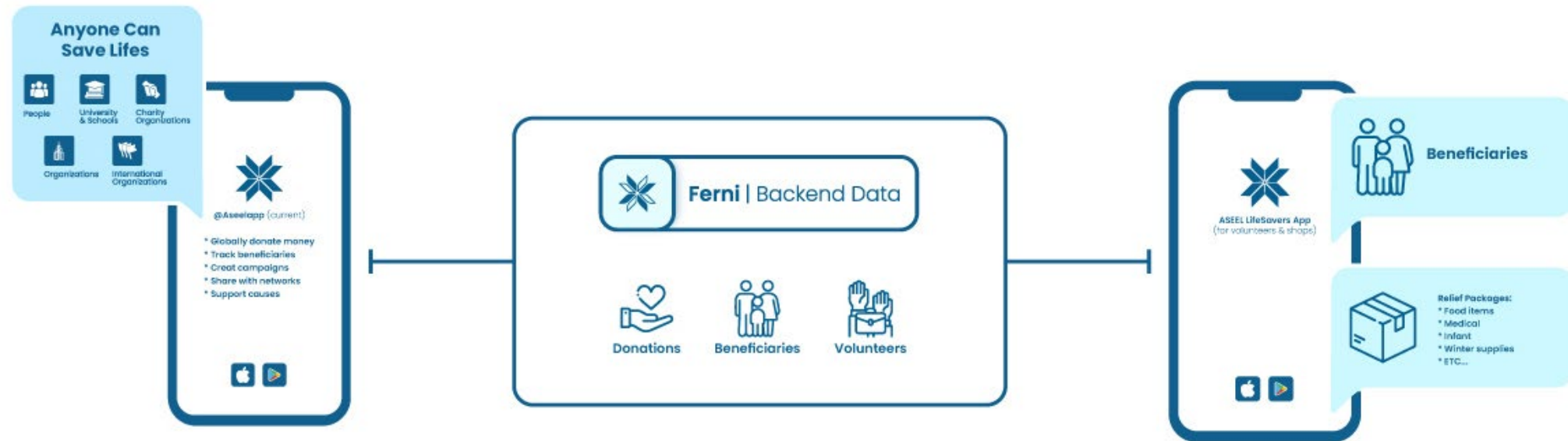
Emergency Food Package

The packages provided to families included the following items.

ASEEL ER Current System V1.0

RESULTED IN – **(PILOT SUCCESSFUL)**

ASEEL SUCCESSFULLY SUPPORTED 11,168 PEOPLE IN 67 DAYS AFTER LAUNCH.



Questions Round 1

(Before we get into what is next with ASEEL ER and how we can collaborate)

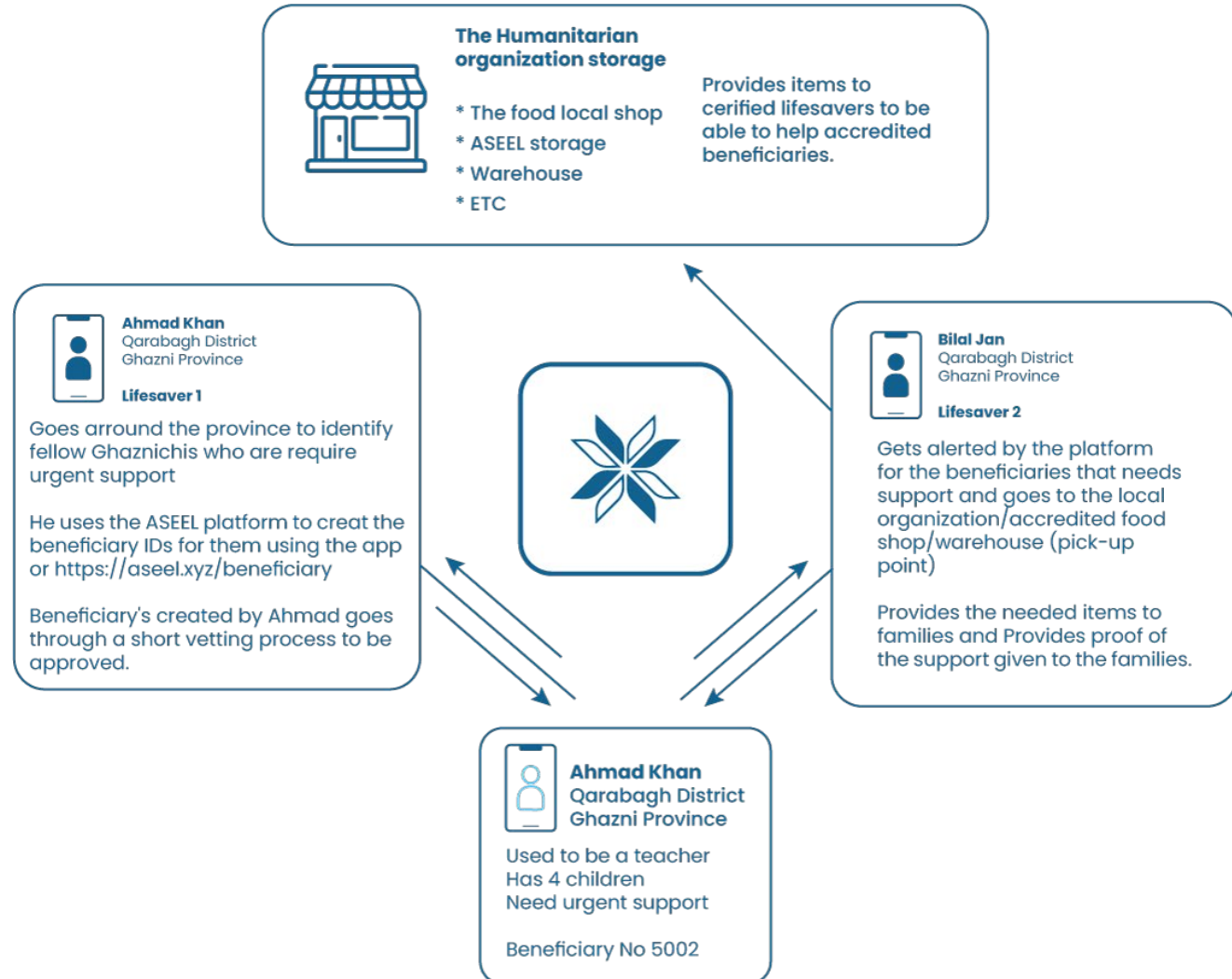
Current Opportunities (ASEEL ER V2.0)

Together we can collaborate and create a people-powered system that can get help from the people (in all provinces) to support respond to this humanitarian crisis.

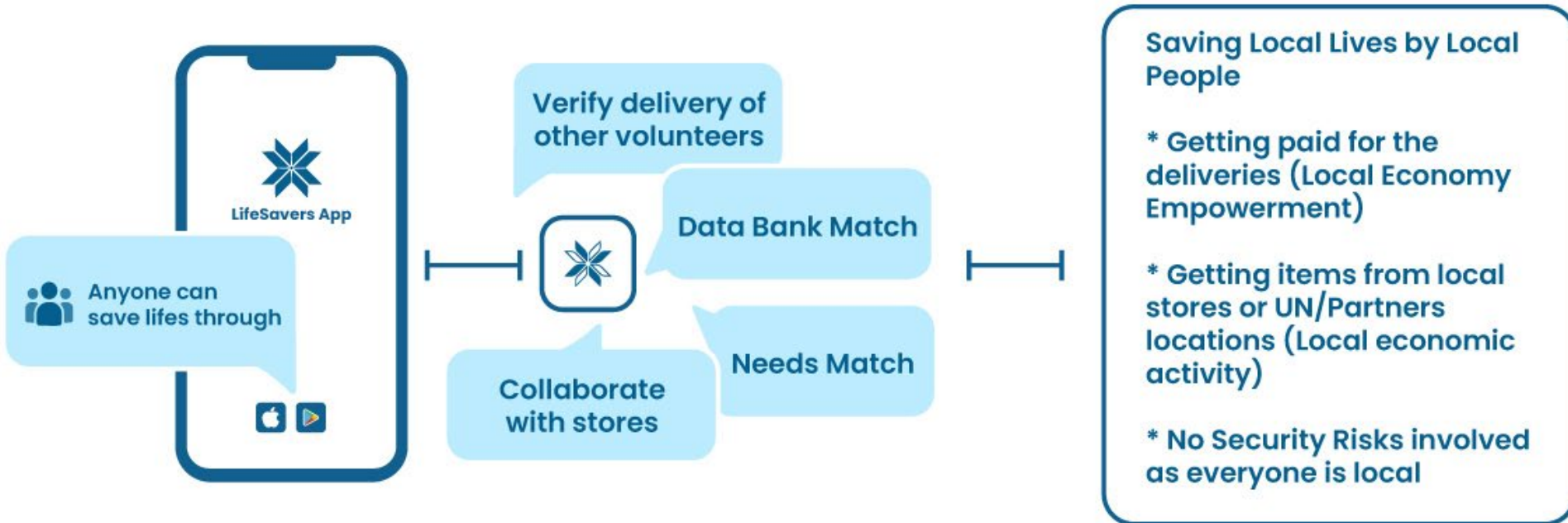
By bring in 2 category of people into the platform now and 'rewarding' them to help us in the process.

1. Lifesavers (Volunteers throughout Afghanistan)

2. Suppliers (Vendors, Warehouses, Storage locations, partner locations, etc)



ASEEL Volunteer Process



The Opportunity

- Create the first ever emergency response system that is people-powered (Community-based Aid) – other examples include, Waze for navigation, GoFundMe for crowdfunding, etc
- Coverage of the whole country within 6 months (estimated by Aseel team).
- Maximum usage of all the resources that are currently available (Donors, Vendors,
- No Security Problems for all international or local organizations
- Maximum Local Economic Activity and thousands of local jobs
- Fully transparent on-the-go and accountability provided for every single beneficiary, in turn full visibility of every single dollar spent.
- No issues with the international community – OFAC and excluded parties lists.
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- No Issues with the Taliban
- People powered

What do we need:

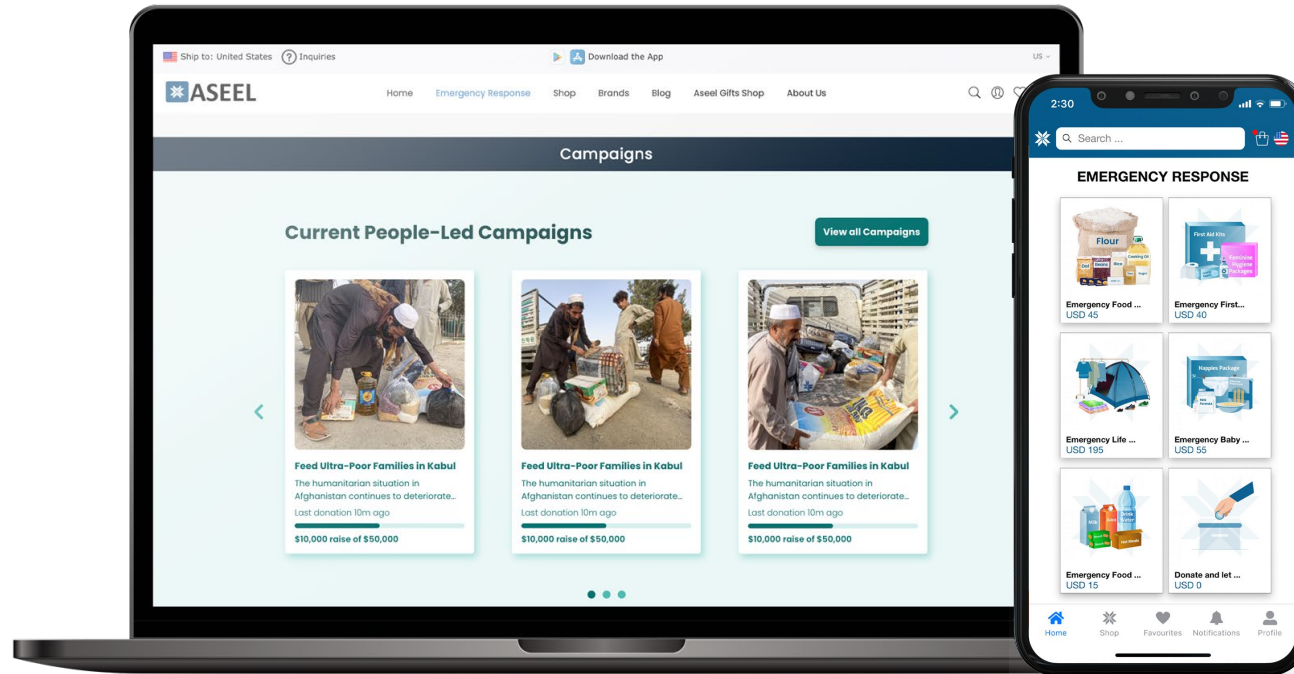
Current State:

- Pilot Phase: in 60 days, people donated campaign helped over 11 thousand people.
- We can work with you on all the current distributions that you have by sharing needs and getting access to your resources and vice versa.
- Full access to the ASEEL supply chain and logistics network, ASEEL System development units, ASEEL Fintech Platform (Funds Transfer, Local cash, Crypto trusted-POCs, and reward systems).
- The ability to raise funds through the ASEEL powered campaigns.

We need partners for the next phase (Phase 2):

- Development of the fully people-powered-platform
- Resource Bucket Expansion (Donors, Resource Banks and Personnel).
- Discussions with every FSAC Partner on how we can collaborate with them on their provinces.
- Implementation of V2 in at least 3 provinces post-development

Platform Demo





<https://www.aseel.xyz/er.html>

@aseelapp



AOB

Thanks 😊

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