

IDPs

IDPS HAVE A TOUGH LIFE

IDPs **suffer more** than other groups



ARE YOU new here?

THE URBAN POVERTY STUDY
CONFIRMS THAT NEWLY
DISPLACED FARE **SIGNIFICANTLY
WORSE** THAN OTHER IDP
GROUPS AND THE
URBAN POOR IN
GENERAL

36%

OF IDPS EXPERIENCE **POOR
FOOD CONSUMPTION**

compared to 26-27% for economic
migrants and 16 to 18% of returnee
households.



IDPS LIVING IN **INFORMAL
SETTLEMENTS**

identified by humanitarian agencies as
areas of high vulnerability, have **lower
resilience** than other groups.



THE INFORMAL CREDIT SYSTEM
CAN BE **EXCLUSIONARY**

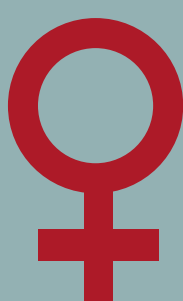
especially for recently displaced
households; **exacerbating the suffering
of IDPs.**

IDP WOMEN'S LOW STATUS



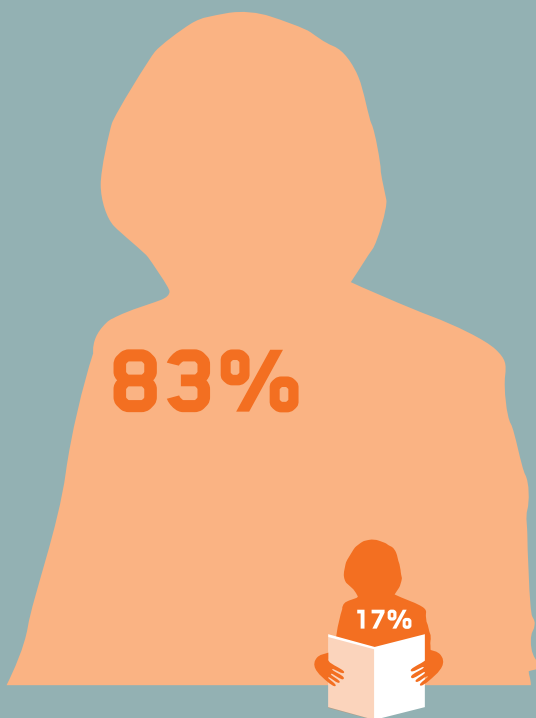
FEMALE HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS

and widows face extreme difficulty accessing the labour market and typically have to rely on the generosity of relatives to survive.



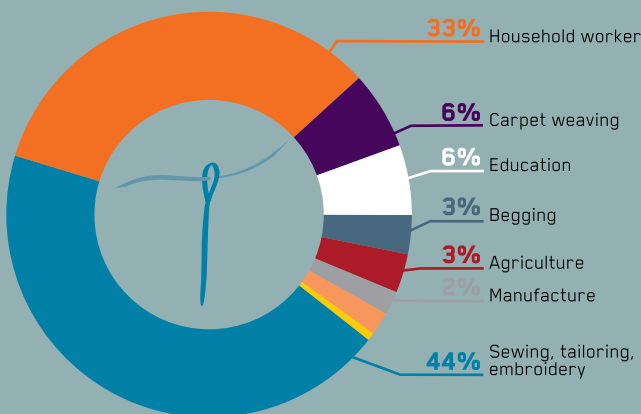
FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

and widows suffer **extreme poverty, food insecurity** and **vulnerability**.



ILLITERACY RATES AMONG WOMEN ARE EXTREMELY HIGH

A significant difference exists between genders, with **illiteracy at 83% among female respondents** and only 53% for males. Urban dwelling is not necessarily linked with improved access to education, particularly for adults. **Lack of access to education for women** further contributes to the vulnerability of female-headed households.



ONLY 13% OF HOUSEHOLDS

had an adult female earning an income. Women's paid work is seen as a last resort for families with no other choices: for widows and households in which men are unable to work.



RESILIENCE

60%

over the past 12 months, particularly in Herat and Mazar-e-Sharif.

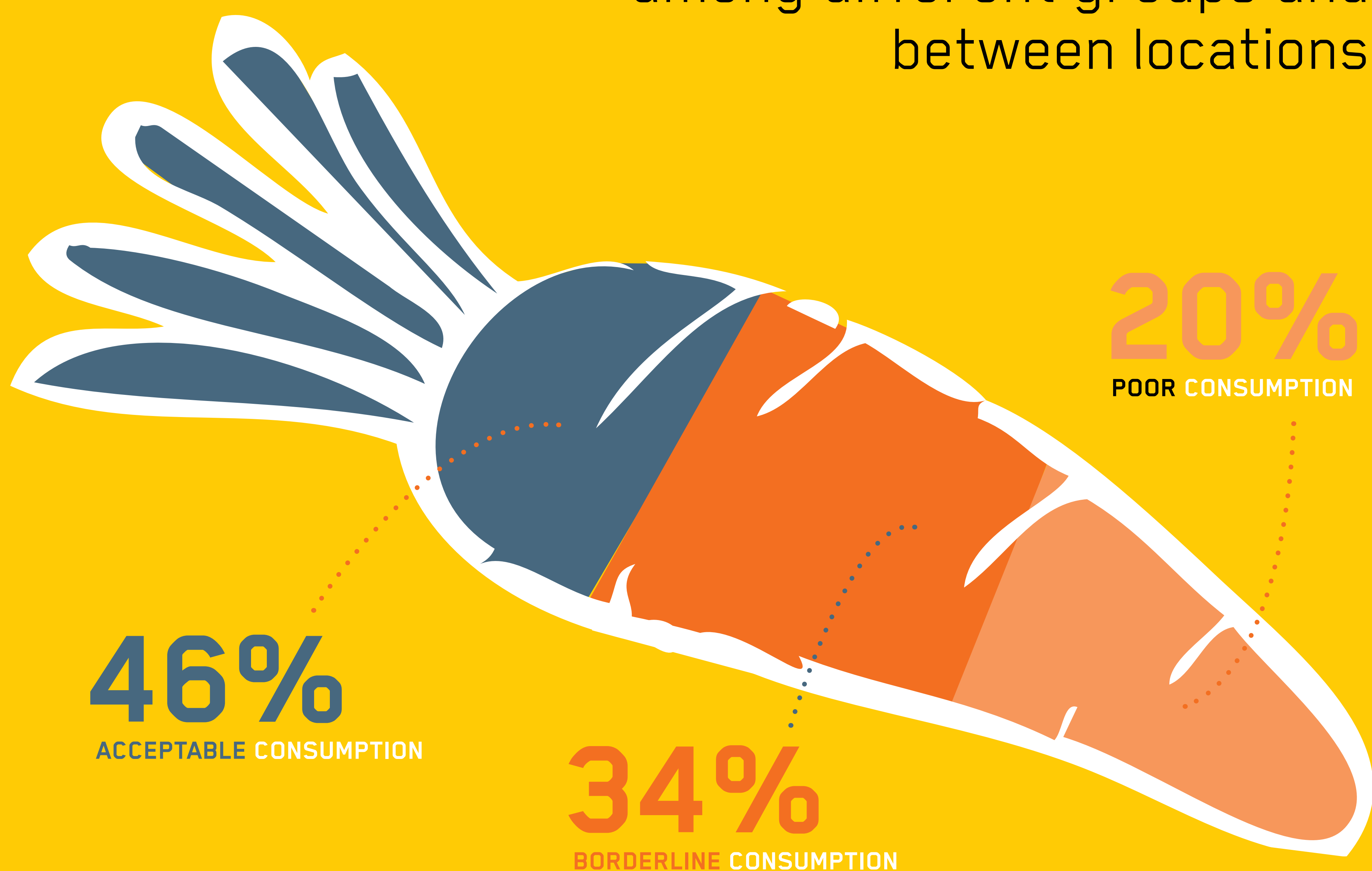


The economic situation for the urban poor has **deteriorated** significantly in the last 3 years.

Food security

FOOD SECURITY IS UNEQUAL

among different groups and between locations



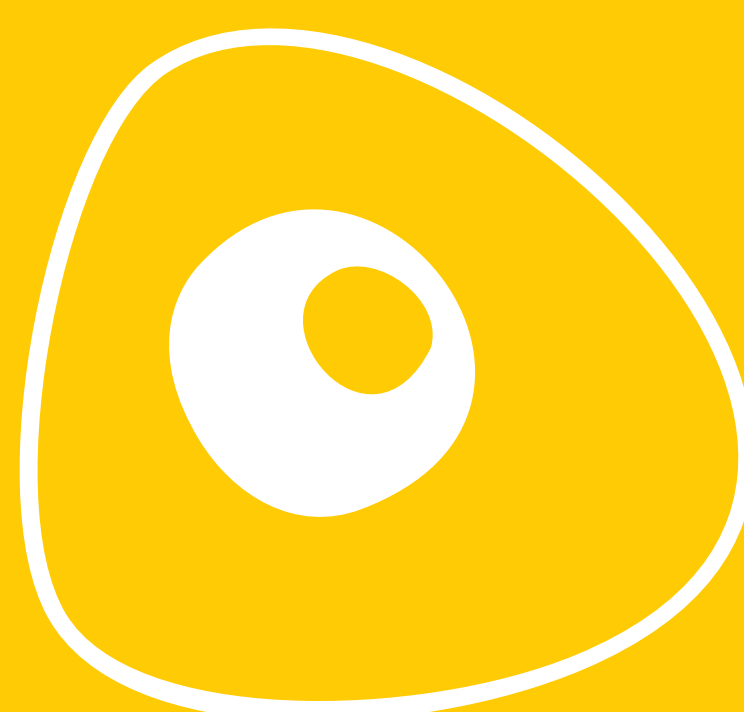
DIETARY DIVERSITY IS LOW

Most households report eating only bread and vegetables, accompanied by tea, for all three meals each day. **Tea consumption with meals inhibits iron absorption**, limiting the utilisation of nutrients - a key aspect of food security.



EATING MEAT, FRUIT, OR DAIRY PRODUCTS

is relatively rare for the urban poor. The diet is based around cereals, usually bread. **Protein is largely missing** from urban diets: Meat consumption varied from once a week to once a month, with eggs a more common source of protein. Fruit was reported as too expensive.



POOREST FOOD CONSUMPTION REPORTED IN MAZAR-E-SHARIF AND HERAT

Dietary diversity is generally low, but there are marked differences between cities: Households in Kandahar report a more diversified diet than the poor in other cities.



68%

OF IDPs ARE CATEGORISED AS SEVERELY FOOD INSECURE

36% of IDPs report poor food consumption, compared to 26-27% of economic migrants and 16-18% of returnee households.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

How can we address
urban poverty in
Afghanistan?

1

IMPROVE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- Use community-based programming interventions to promote **sustainable urban development**.
- Invest in **infrastructure** improvements to further consolidate resilience among the urban poor.
- Advocate for improved **social protection mechanisms**.



2

PROVIDE **EDUCATION** PARTICULARLY FOR **GIRLS AND WOMEN**

Education is a key determinant of **household resilience** and protects against the inter-generational transmission of poverty. **Education for girls and women** is clearly linked with improved health, nutrition and livelihoods outcomes.

3

ENHANCE **SKILLS** IN HIGH DEMAND IN **URBAN CONTEXTS**

- Build **in-demand skills** as the foundation for more sustainable livelihoods. Ensure that training programs provide participants with **recognised qualifications**.
- Develop existing **female livelihood strategies** to promote women's economic empowerment and support the **most vulnerable** female-headed households.

4

RAISE **AWARENESS** ON **NUTRITION** AND **HYGIENE**

- Target male household members for **food literacy** training and pilot **kitchen gardening** for women in urban settings to improve dietary diversity and nutrition.
- Promote **breast-feeding** to improve infant and child health.
- Improve awareness of **hygiene practices**, particularly among women and children, to reduce diarrhoeal disease morbidity.

5

PRIORITISE SUPPORT TO IDPS

- IDP households, especially the **recently displaced**, are the most severely disadvantaged group among the urban poor.
- Identify and address **immediate** IDP household **needs** and advocate for **durable solutions** to internal displacement.

