



DTM field staff registering drought-induced IDP family in Shedaye, Herat. © IOM 2018

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team mobilized to respond to critical levels of internal displacement, caused by what is being described as the worst drought in Afghanistan in decades. Throughout the country, the drought has impacted an estimated 2.2 million Afghans in regards to access to water, crop production and agricultural output. It has particularly affected rural dwellers who depend on farming for survival. As a result, tens of thousands of Afghans have fled their homes in search of stable water sources, heading to areas close to rivers or towards cities. In coordination with ANDMA, DoRR, OCHA and WFP, DTM provides emergency support by monitoring flows and registering drought-affected IDP families.

Herat province has been severely impacted, in terms of hosting drought-affected IDPs from neighbouring provinces, most particularly from Badghis. On 9 September, in response to the emergency, DTM has established emergency flow monitoring points (FMPs), strategically positioned on major highways connecting to Herat City and surrounding, peri-urban districts. At each FMP, DTM teams monitor incoming and outgoing flows of IDPs, identify and register drought-affected IDP families, and provide newly arriving families with IDP Cards to facilitate their registration for humanitarian assistance.



DTM distributed IDPs Cards to families to identify them as newly arrived IDPs and to expedite registration processes for assistance.

HIGHLIGHTS



6 Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) established at checkpoints on major highways connecting to Herat at Shedaye, Band Pashtun, Karokh, Kamar Kulagh, Armalek and Chaharsoy Guzara



9,506 IDPs have been enumerated across all FMPs (inflow & outflow)



8,787 arriving IDPs are drought-induced (92% of all IDPs)



663 arriving IDPs are conflict-induced (7% of all IDPs)



8,309 arriving IDPs' intended destination is Injil district (88%), mainly in informal settlements in Shedaye

6,375 arriving IDPs are from Badghis province (67%)

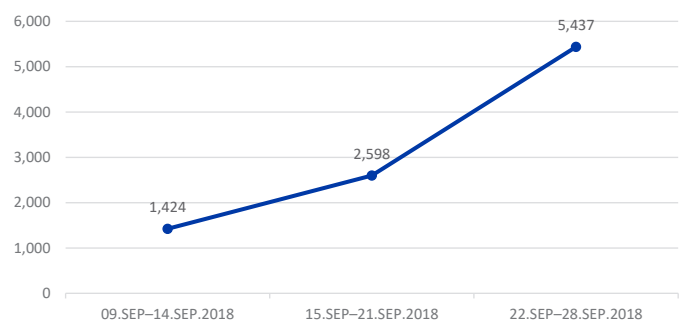


7,181 arriving IDPs intend to live in tents or in the open air (76%)



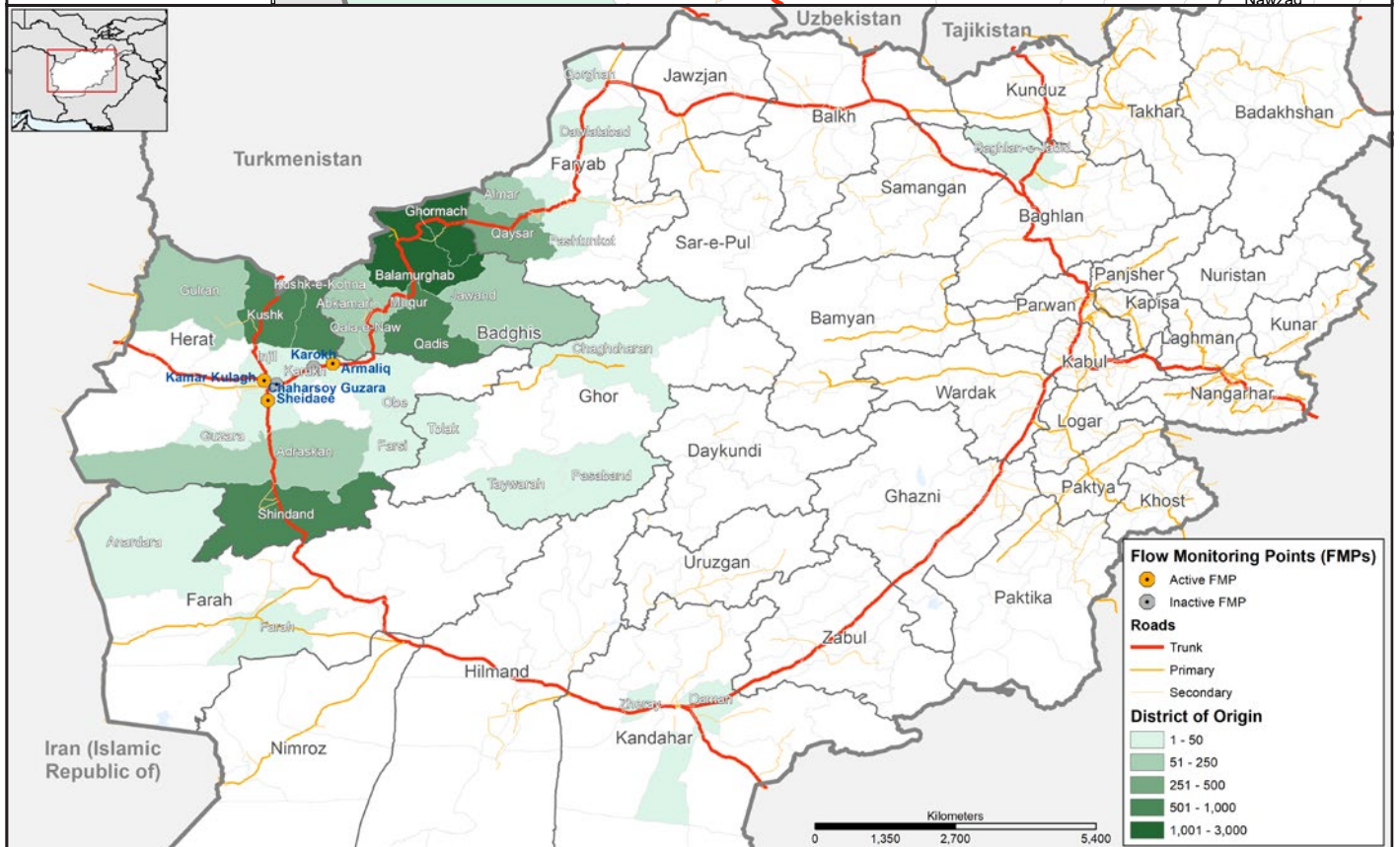
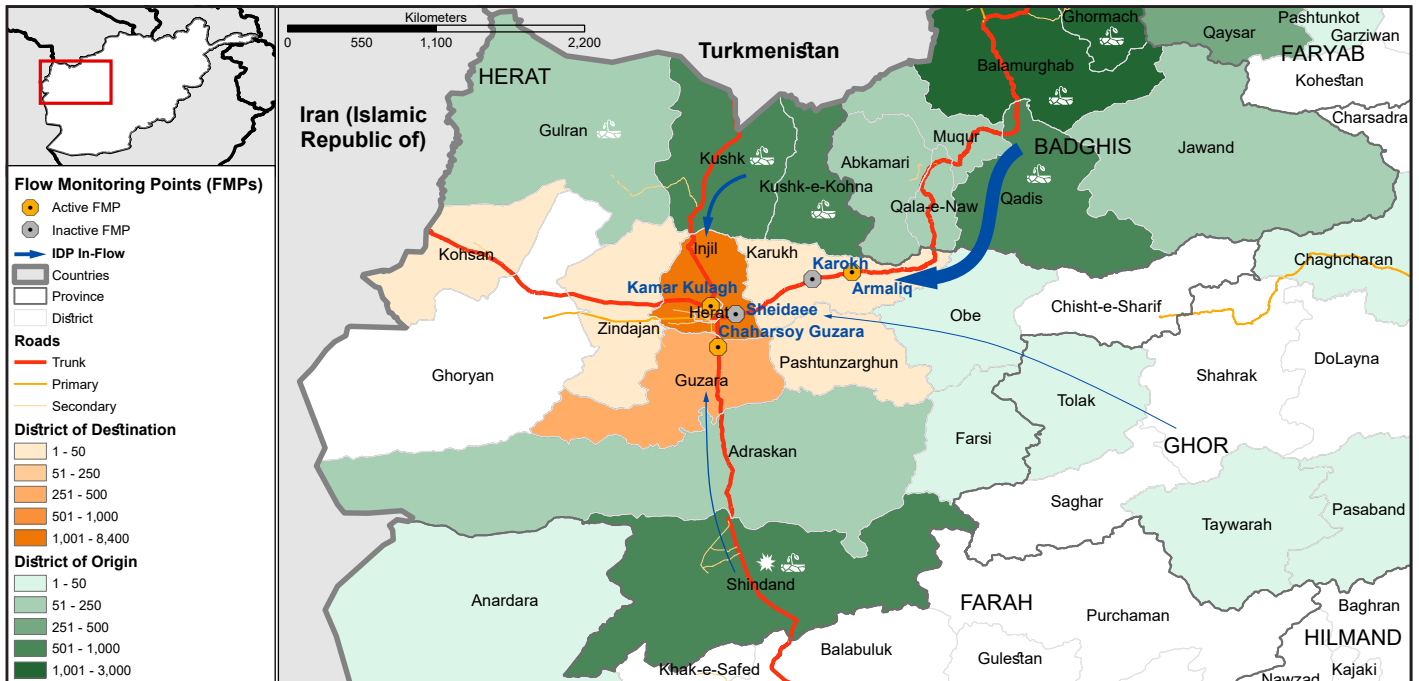
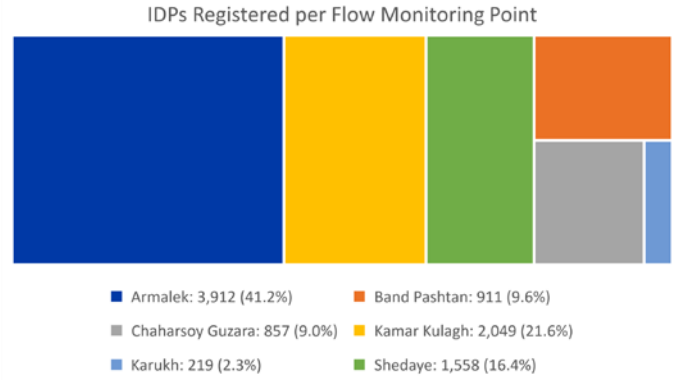
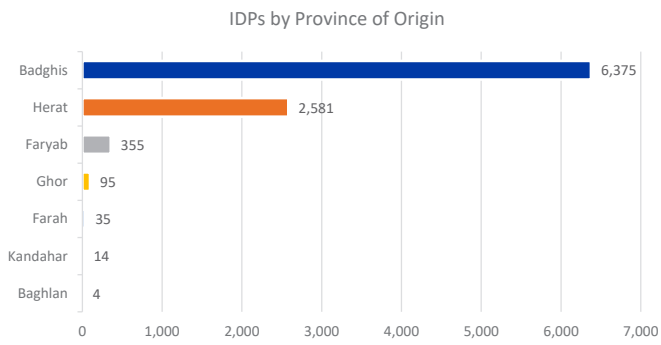
6,975 arriving IDPs do not intend to return home (74%)

IDP In-Flow | Weekly Trends



The numbers of IDPs have been exponentially increasing each week. In week 2 in-flow increased by 82%, after which it more than doubled (109%) in week 3.

ORIGIN & DESTINATION



IDPS

IDPs are Afghans who have fled from other settlements in Afghanistan with the aim to arrive and reside at a different location / host community, as a result of, or in order to avoid, the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, protection concerns, or natural and human-made disasters. At the FMPs surrounding Herat City, IOM's DTM teams register IDPs newly arriving to Herat (inflow) and IDPs leaving Herat (outflow), presumably to return home or as a result of secondary displacement.



9,506
total IDPs
enumerated



92.5%
displaced by drought
or flood (8,796)

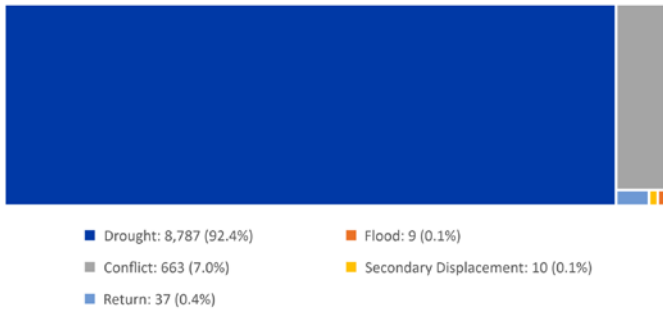


7%
displaced by conflict
(663)

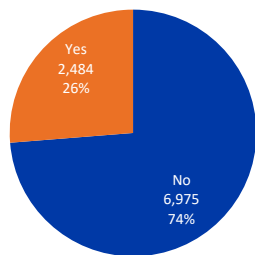


0.5%
secondarily displaced
or returned home (47)

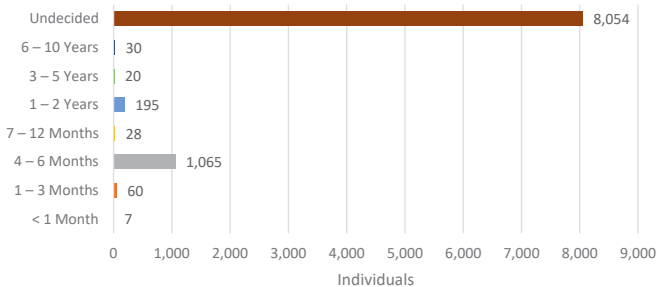
IDPs | Reason for Displacement



IDPs | Return Intention



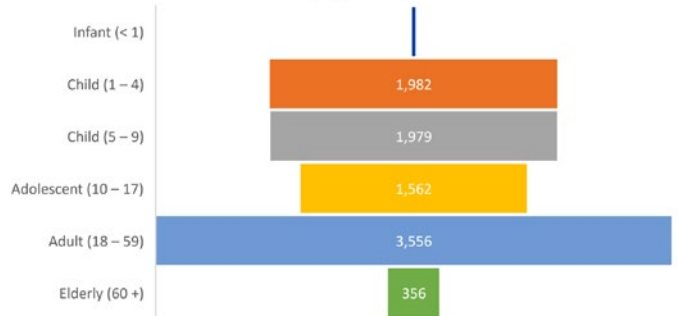
IDPs | Intended Length of Stay



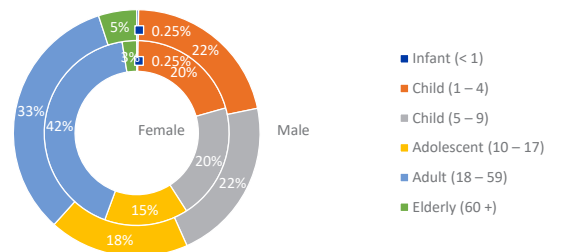
SEX & AGE COMPOSITION

Children and adolescents under the age of 18 represent 59% (5,547) of the newly arrived IDPs, among which 2,006 (21%) are under 5 years old. The male to female ratio among arriving IDPs is practically even, with only 31 more females than males.

IDPs | Age Groups



IDPs | Age & Sex



Age Group	Female	Male	Total	% of Total
Infant (<1)	12	12	24	0.3%
Child (1-4)	967	1,015	1,982	21.0%
Child (5-9)	964	1,015	1,979	20.9%
Adolescent (10-17)	696	866	1,562	16.5%
Adult (18-59)	1,986	1,570	3,556	37.6%
Elderly (60+)	120	236	356	3.8%
Grand Total	4,745	4,714	9,459	



Crowds of IDP families include the elderly and children

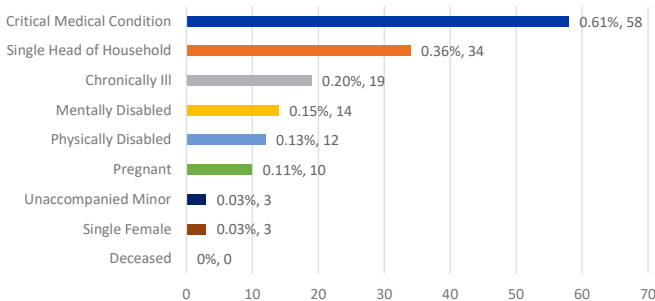
SPECIFIC NEEDS

Shelter is the prevailing, immediate need of IDPs. An alarmingly high number of IDPs (7,181 / 76%) intend to live in tents or in the open air, making them highly vulnerable to Afghanistan's extreme weather conditions and related health threats.

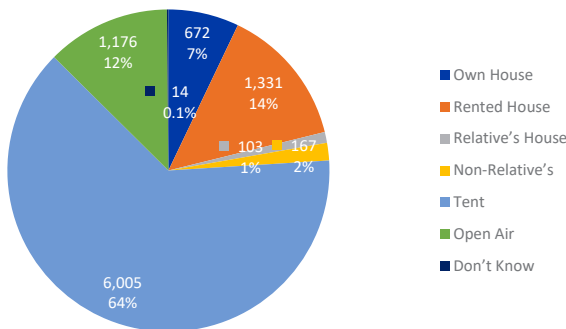
Among the specific needs identified within the caseload of newly arriving IDPs, 58 IDPs claimed to be suffering from critical medical conditions, 34 were single heads of households, 26 had physical or mental disabilities, and 10 were pregnant.

With regard to official ID, the vast majority of registered IDPs claimed to not have a *taskeera* (91%). Only 896 IDPs, most of whom were heads of households, had a *taskeera*. Consequently, without unique IDs, it is extremely challenging for humanitarian partners to detect families and individuals registering for assistance multiple times without the use of biometrics.

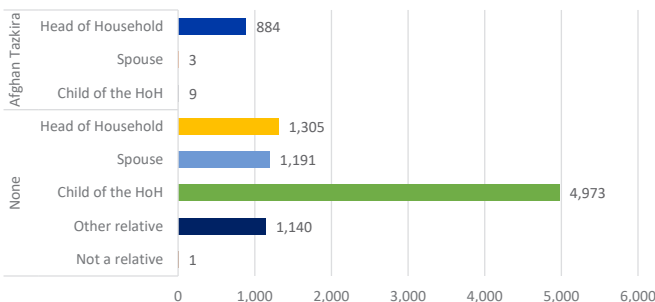
IDPs | Specific Needs



IDPs | Intended Shelter



IDPs | Identification Document



CHALLENGES

Identifying DTM's target population, the newly arrived drought-induced IDPs, from among other pre-existing, long-term IDPs already residing in Herat has been a difficult task, most particularly in Shedaye, where large numbers of existing IDPs have been pressuring, intimidating and threatening DTM staff, demanding be registered to obtain IDP cards for assistance. They have, in many instances, been renting trucks in Herat City, driving to the FMP checkpoints, using back roads, claiming to be new drought-induced IDPs.

On Friday, 21 September, this situation escalated out of control and the police, who were providing support, were overwhelmed by angry mobs. As a result, IOM closed DTM registration activities in Shedaye and moved the team 50 km away to the Armalek FMP. To handle increasing inflows from Badghis, DTM hired additional staff and positioned one enumerator on the highway in Qala-e-Now, Badghis, to issue tokens to outgoing IDPs to clearly identify them as new IDP arrivals for the FMP team in Armalek.



Crowds of IDPs overwhelm our staff at the Shedayee FMP, Herat.

Other related challenges faced by IOM's DTM teams include instances of IDP families attempting to bribe DTM staff to obtain IDP cards and making false claims of corruption against local authorities, causing authorities to withdraw their support of DTM teams.

It is also important to note that DTM's emergency drought response has been made possible, as a result of the hard work and determination of our FMP staff. Originally, as recommended by OCHA, DTM had planned to only include 2 FMPs. However, upon implementation and at OCHA's request, DTM's field staff were quickly overstretched to cover 4 FMPs. As a result, DTM staff have been working 10-12 hours per day, often under highly stressful situations. IOM is most grateful for the dedication and resilience that our colleagues have shown.



IDP families waiting for registration at Shedayee FMP, Herat.

DTM in Afghanistan is generously supported by:



in coordination with