



# DTM

## AFGHANISTAN

# COMMUNITY-BASED NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## SUMMARY RESULTS

ROUND 14 • NOV – DEC 2021

Residents in Nuristan province walk through the snow after receiving life-saving winterization assistance from IOM's Humanitarian Assistance Programme (HAP). © IOM 2021



## ABOUT CBNA

DTM Afghanistan conducts the Community-Based Needs Assessment (CBNA) as an integral component of DTM's Baseline Mobility Assessment (BMA). The CBNA provides a comprehensive overview of the evolving vulnerabilities and multisectoral needs in communities hosting internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees from abroad. Data is collected at the community level, through focus group discussions with community focal points (CFPs) and direct observations. DTM teams assessed 13,173 communities across Afghanistan in November and December 2021 for Round 14 of the CBNA.

## OVERVIEW OF ROUND 14



## KEY FINDINGS AND FIGURES

- Over four out of five individuals (83%) are unemployed in Afghanistan. Unemployment in some provinces is as high as 95%. These extremely high levels of unemployment, in combination with the fact that the economy is highly informal and agricultural, leaves very few opportunities in urban areas that are hosting high numbers of IDPs, persons returning from abroad and other mobile populations. As a result of these increasingly dire economic circumstances, which are exacerbated by the withdrawal of international troops and changes in the government, Afghans are increasingly leaving to go abroad to Iran, Turkey and other destinations.
- Due to food insecurity and low access to markets, Afghans rely on eating less preferred foods and eat cereals almost every day of the week (5.6 and 6.7 days of the week respectively, on average). Lack of water for agriculture due to drought is the biggest barrier to food production nationwide. In the three months prior to this assessment, 98% of communities reported the price of cooking oil, rice, flour, and fuel increased. As a consequence, families result to coping mechanisms such as consuming less nutritious foods, borrowing money to buy food, limiting portion sizes and, in the most severe cases, skipping meals.

- Humanitarian assistance increased slightly since the last round: 38% of assessed communities reported receiving it, compared to 36% in the previous round. Life-saving assistance from response actors is vital to rescue Afghans from potential humanitarian crises.
- Four in five communities (81%) do not have a health clinic within the confines of the community. When healthcare is available, one in four households do not visit a healthcare provider when they are ill due to poor quality or lack of medicine, services, and staff. COVID-19 symptoms are widely reported throughout the country.



## IDP & MOVEMENT FIGURES



## METHODOLOGY

Since December 2019, the Community-Based Needs Assessment has been included as a standard component of the Baseline Mobility Assessment (BMA) exercise, which (in a jointly released report) tracks mobility and displacement.

The CBNA questionnaire uses the same methodology as the BMA, targeting the same communities hosting IDP and returnees from abroad. The objective of the CBNA is to provide a baseline for programmatic priorities and geographical targeting of assistance, by supplying summary statistics of socio-economic indicators such as employment, household finances, markets, safety and security, rule of law, health, education, food and nutrition, shelter, WASH and received assistance.

Enumerators collect quantitative data on the aforementioned topics at the community level through focus group discussions with community focal points (CFPs).

## COMMUNITY FOCAL POINTS

DTM's field enumerators collect data at the community level, predominantly through community focus group discussions with community focal points, IDP and returned population representatives, district authorities, coordinators of health and education programmes and Community Development Council (CDC) members.

**82,860**

CFPs interviewed

out of which:



**664**

female CFPs (1%)



**82,196**

male CFPs(99%)



**19,636**

CFPs from host communities (24%)



**30,238**

CFPs from multi-sectoral and social services (36%)



**6.3**

average number of CFPs per focus group



**17,859**

CFPs from local authorities (22%)



**8,222**

CFPs are IDPs or returnees from abroad (10%)

## COVERAGE

During Round 14 of CBNA data collection, DTM reached 82,860 community focal points in 13,173 targeted communities that host IDPs and returnees from abroad. This coverage is 14 communities fewer than achieved by the BMA (13,187 communities) during the same round. Due to recent conflict and natural disaster, enumerators were unable to conduct CBNA assessments with CPFs in these 14 communities.

### Overview of Coverage

Province	Total Districts	Districts Assessed	Communities Assessed	CFPs Interviewed
Badakhshan	28	28	939	5,573
Badghis	7	7	299	2,452
Baghlan	15	15	591	3,911
Balkh	16	16	682	4,403
Bamyan	7	7	234	1,575
Daykundi	9	9	273	1,847
Farah	11	11	380	2,257
Faryab	14	14	305	1,507
Ghazni	19	19	412	2,188
Ghor	10	10	299	1,679
Helmand	13	13	292	1,798
Herat	16	16	656	4,031
Jawzjan	11	11	333	1,999
Kabul	15	15	581	3,735
Kandahar	16	16	418	2,882
Kapisa	7	7	199	1,342
Khost	13	13	602	3,694
Kunar	15	15	360	2,340
Kunduz	7	7	316	1,795
Laghman	5	5	226	1,376
Logar	7	7	383	2,456
Nangarhar	22	22	927	5,523
Nimroz	5	5	292	1,811
Nuristan	8	8	70	439
Paktika	19	19	295	1,649
Paktya	11	11	439	2,453
Panjsher	7	7	115	849
Parwan	10	10	403	2,802
Samangan	7	7	233	1,200
Sar-e-Pul	7	7	304	1,997
Takhar	17	17	583	4,578
Uruzgan	7	7	102	567
Wardak	9	9	232	1,639
Zabul	11	11	398	2,513
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>13,173</b>	<b>82,860</b>

## COVID-19:

While collecting BMA and CBNA data, DTM also contributed to the COVID-19 response by engaging communities and mobilizing community leaders to raise contamination risk awareness, demonstrate effective infection prevention and control measures, and dispel misinformation and the stigma surrounding the virus. To mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus and ensure the safety of DTM staff, populations in movement and communities, teams maintained social distancing, practiced infection prevention and control measures, and used personal protective equipment in line with WHO guidelines.

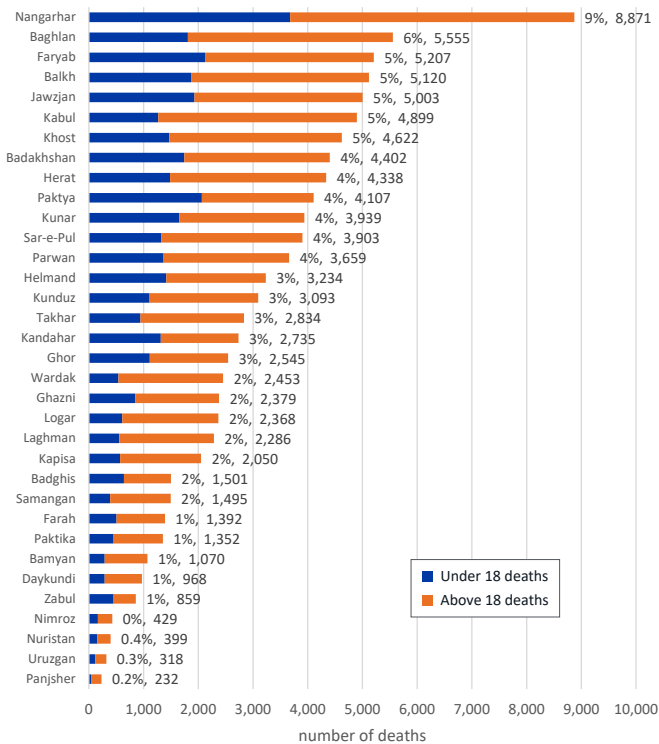
## DEMOGRAPHICS

Incidents of death increased by 22% compared to the previous assessment ([Round 13, April to June 2021](#)), which is likely related to the intensifying conflict accompanying the drastic military and political changes in mid-2021. Returning from displacement as well as fleeing conflict and natural disasters are the three primary reasons for which populations are arriving in the assessed communities, according to CFPs. Seeking employment and education as well as feeling natural disaster were

the three primary reasons residents were leaving their habitual residences in the assessed communities.

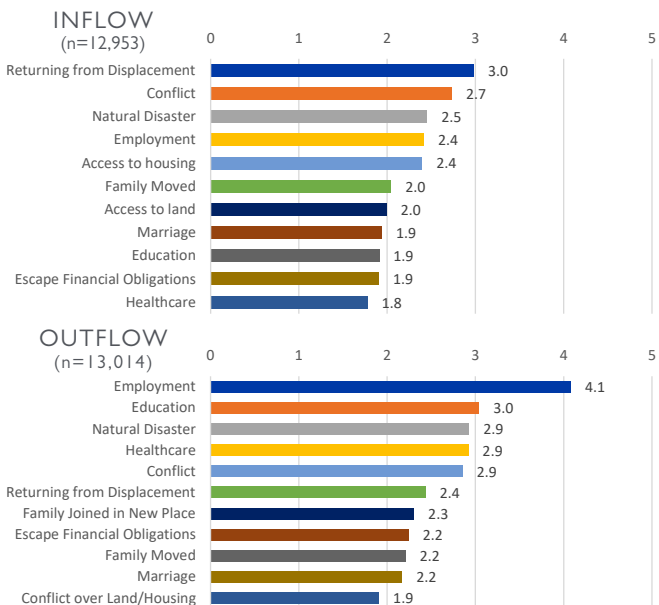
Nuristan, Farah, and Helmand ranked lowest in terms of Tazkira ownership. CFPs indicated that 30% of vulnerable individuals live in provinces with large urban centres, such as Kabul, Nangarhar and Balkh.

Incidents of Death During Past 3 Months | By age category and province

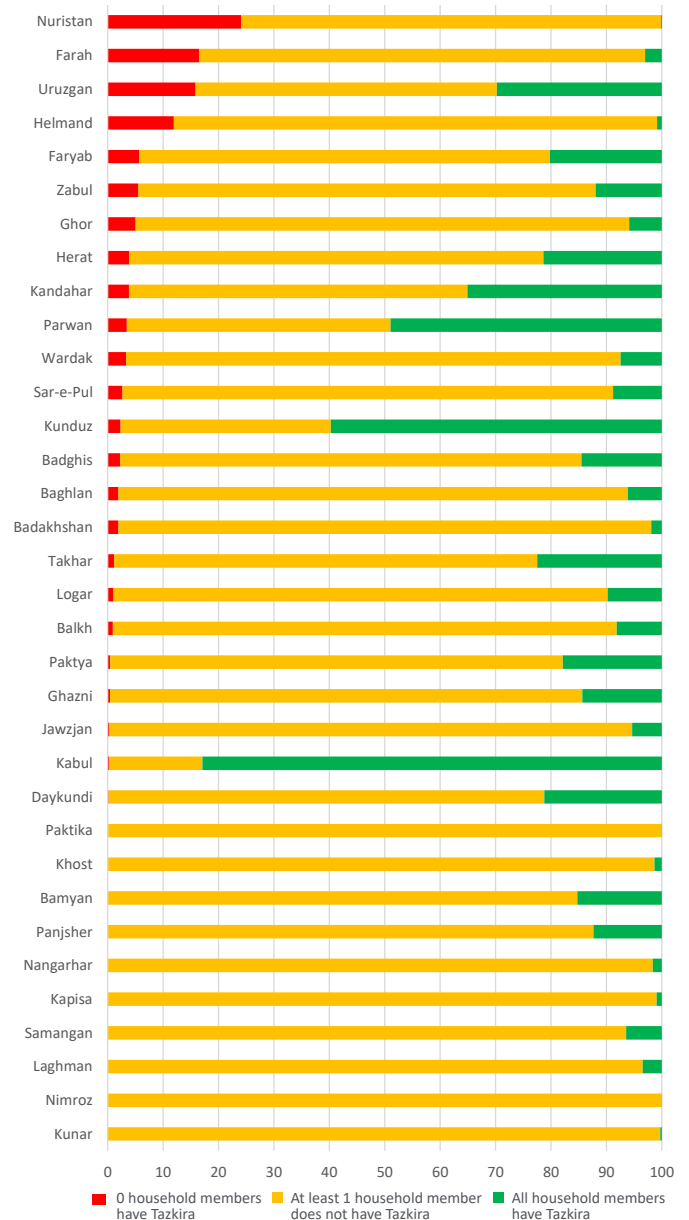


Reason for Population Inflow & Outflow Longer than One Month | Ranked by significance

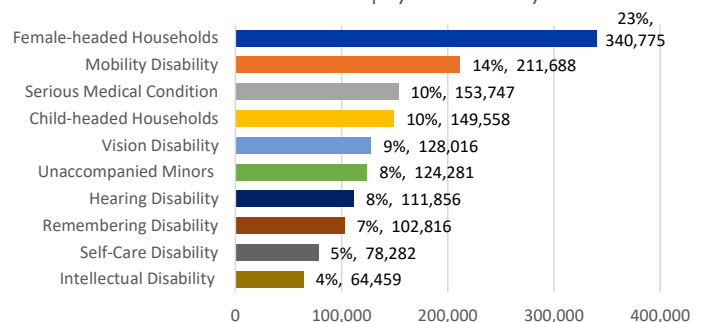
0 = not applicable; 1 = very unimportant, 2 = unimportant, 3 = slightly important, 4 = important, 5 = very important



Tazkira (National ID Card) Ownership | By province



Breakdown of Households | By vulnerability criteria





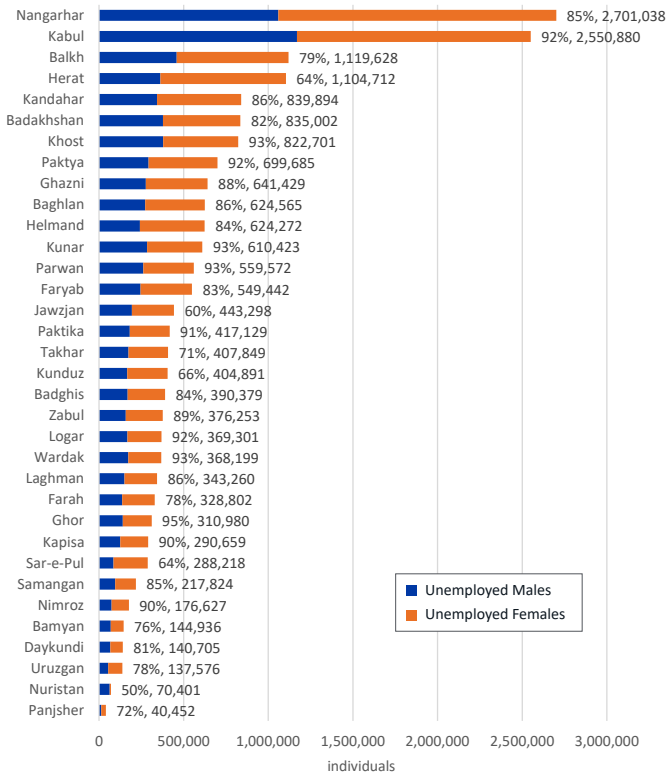
# EMPLOYMENT

Four in five (83%) Afghan nationals over 18 years old and 74% of all males over 18 years old are unemployed. Provinces such as Ghor, Khost, Kunar, Parwan, and Wardak witness the highest rates of unemployment. Provinces with lower numbers of unemployed individuals are mostly rural, remote and sparsely habited, such as Nuristan, Jawzjan, and Sar-e-Pul.

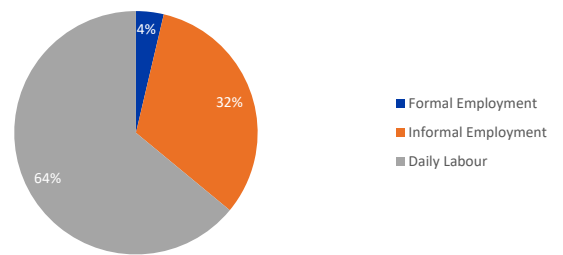
High employment in these provinces is likely due to a combination of low population and high labour demand for their unmechanised, agricultural economies.

Results show significant differences in the employment of children and elderly individuals between provinces. CFPs report that when hiring, employers prioritize prior work experience, relation to owner, and younger-aged employees. The top three barriers to employment are lack of opportunities, unstable work and lack opportunities for women.

Unemployment Figures (Aged 18+) | By sex and province



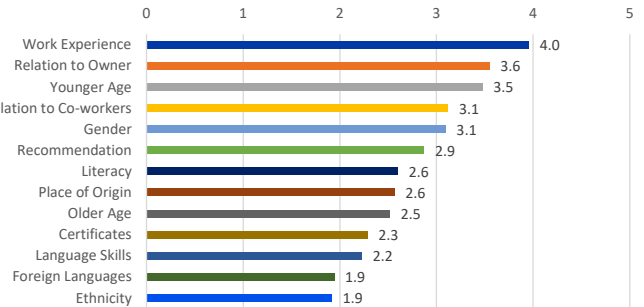
Types of Contracts



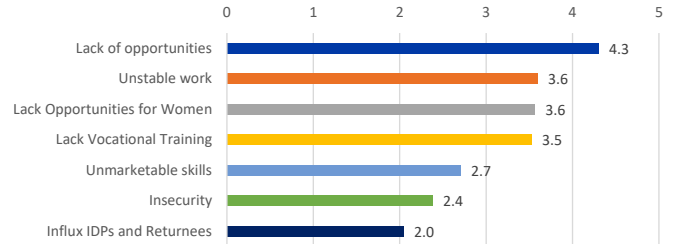
Employers' Hiring Priorities and Barriers to Employment | Ranked by significance

0 = not applicable; 1 = very unimportant, 2= unimportant, 3= slightly important, 4= important, 5 = very important

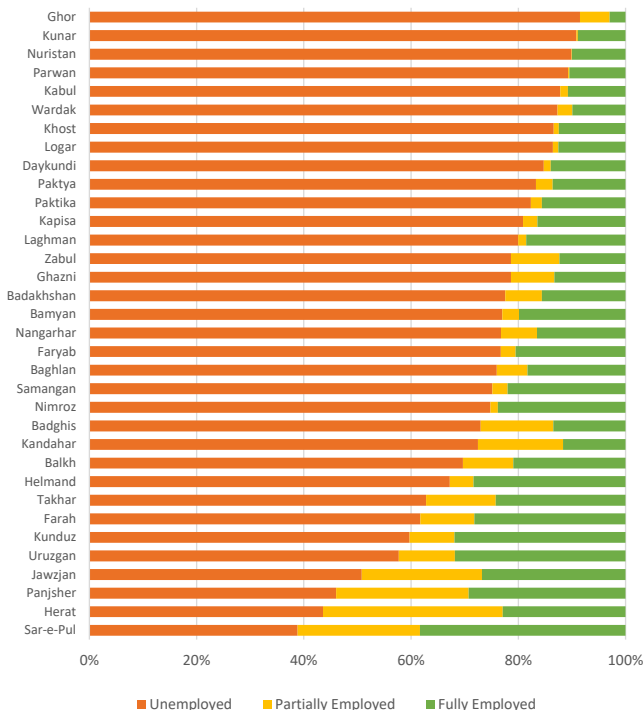
EMPLOYERS' HIRING PRIORITIES



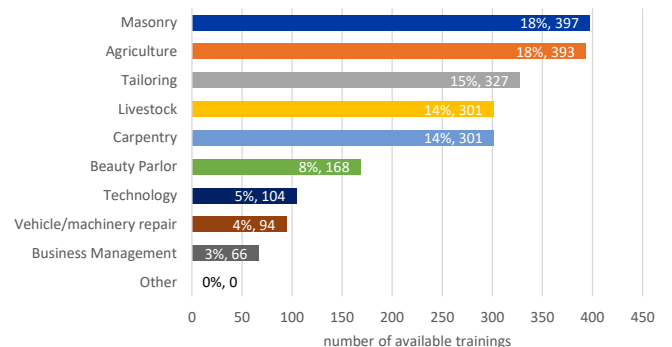
BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT



Employment Status Among Men (18+) | By province



Total Number of Available Vocational Trainings | By type





## FINANCE & ASSETS

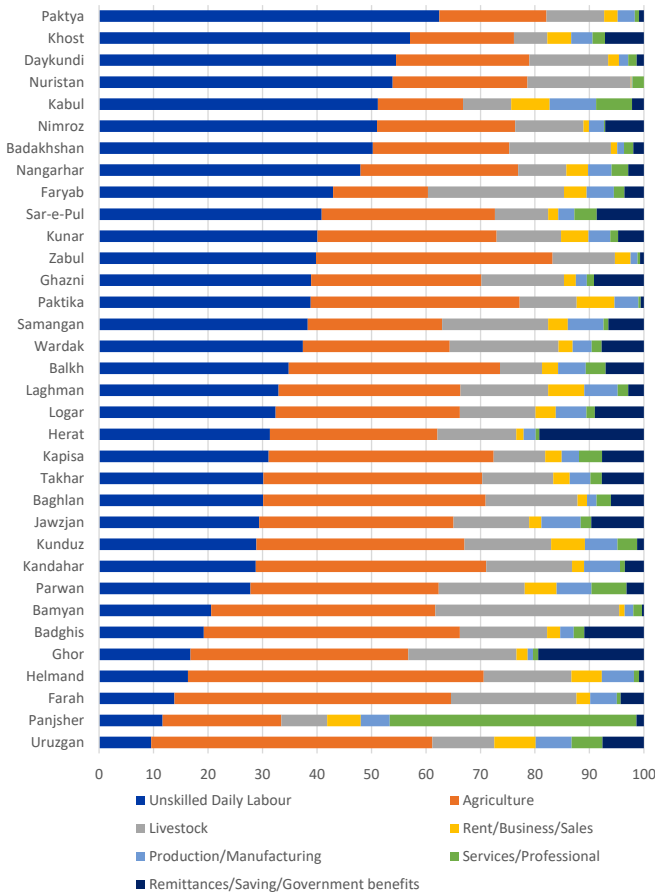
Highlighting Afghanistan’s reliance on the agricultural and informal sectors, less than 15% of the working population is employed in the industry or services economy. In Helmand, Farah and Bamyan provinces, over 70% of the population rely on agriculture and livestock for their living.

Average incomes are highest in Paktika, Kunduz, Kandahar, Panjsher and Uruzgan, owing to their urban centres, access to cross-border trade, and inclusion in the informal economy. Expenses are highest in Khost, Wardak, Paktika and Nimroz.

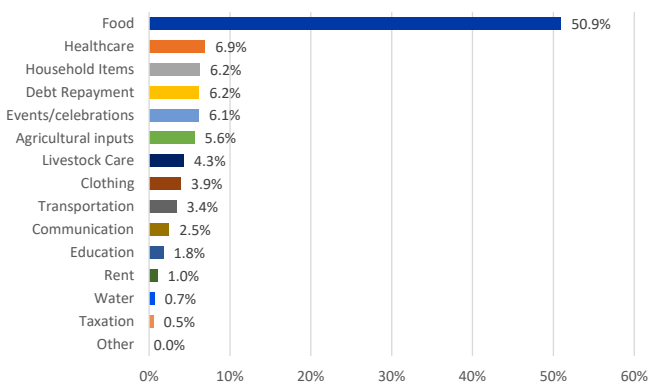
More than half (51%) of households’ disposable income is spent on food purchases, ranking highest in remote provinces such as Badghis (62%) and Panjsher (61%), and lowest in urban Kabul (33%). The largest monthly income gap (the difference between average

monthly income and average monthly expenses) is in Paktika, followed by Wardak. Over 3 million households (30% higher than the previous assessment, Round 13) are in debt, with average debt being AFN 42,775 or USD \$475 (exchange rate at time of data collection). Indebtedness is a major factor in decision-making, both for internal displacement and cross-border movements. Average debt is highest in remote, predominantly rural provinces, such as Daykundi, Bamyan and Khost, which are also amongst the most impoverished provinces in the country.

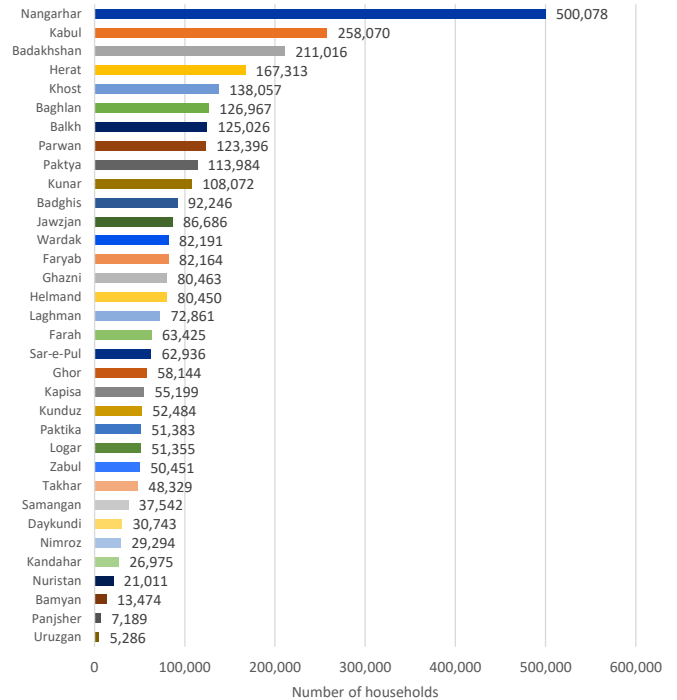
Income Sources | By province



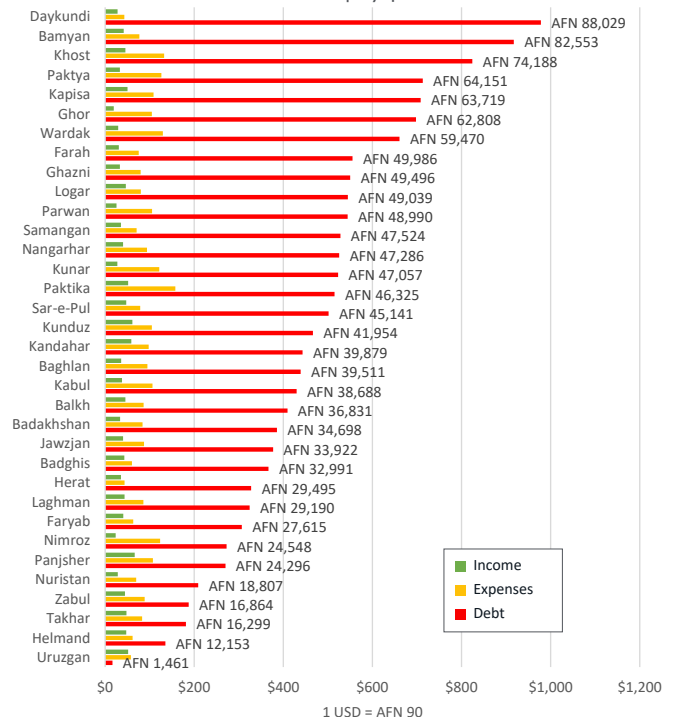
Average Household Expenditure | By category



Total Number of Indebted Households | By province



Average Monthly Household Income, Expenses & Total Debt | By province



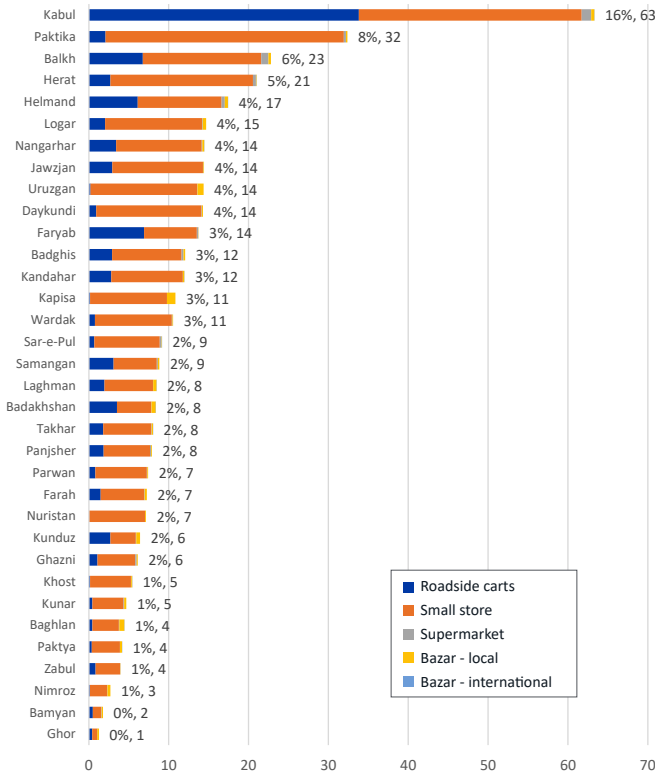
## MARKETS

Among provinces, DTM found large disparities in access to markets. Kabul, Balkh, Herat and Helmand have the greatest access to markets, due to their proximity to major border

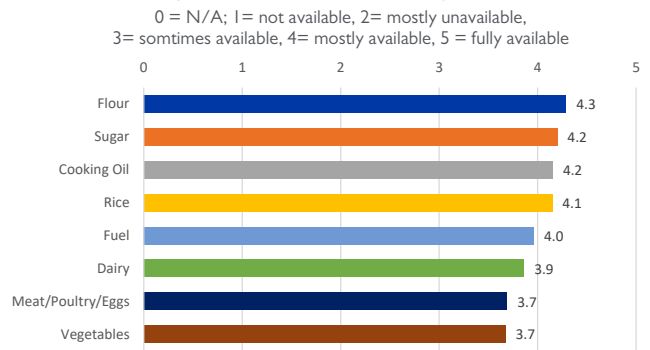
crossings and urban centres. Access is lowest in remote provinces, such as Bamyan, Baghlan, Kunar, Ghor, Paktya, Nimroz and Zabul. Women's access to markets is greatest in Panjsher, Laghman, Faryab, Sar-e-Pul and lowest in Badghis, Uruzgan and Zabul.

CFPs report flour, sugar, rice and cooking oil are mostly available, whereas meat, poultry and eggs and vegetables are only sometimes available. In close to all of communities surveyed in Round 14 (98%), the price of all commodities including fuel, cooking oil, rice and flour increased in the 3 months prior to the assessment, most probably due to inflation of Afghan currency and dependency of Afghanistan on imports.

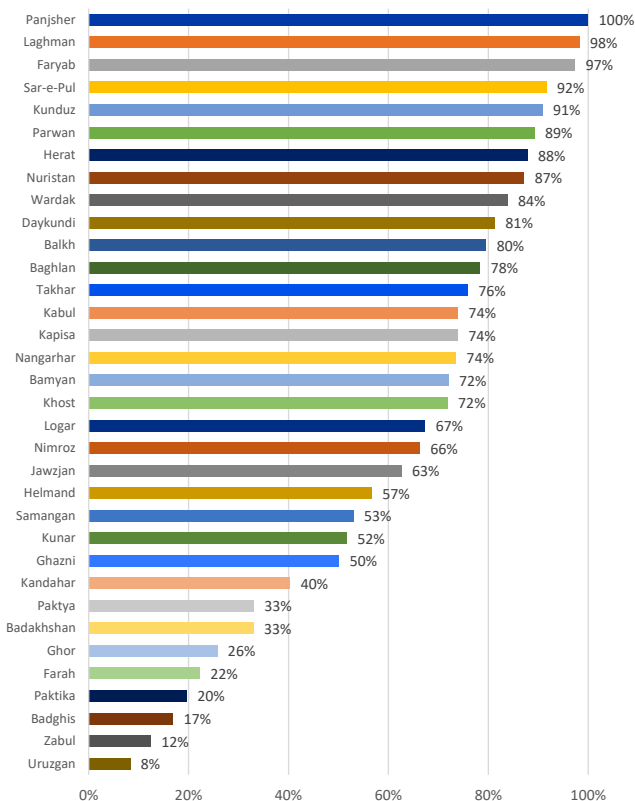
Availability of Markets | By province & type of market  
Average number of markets per community



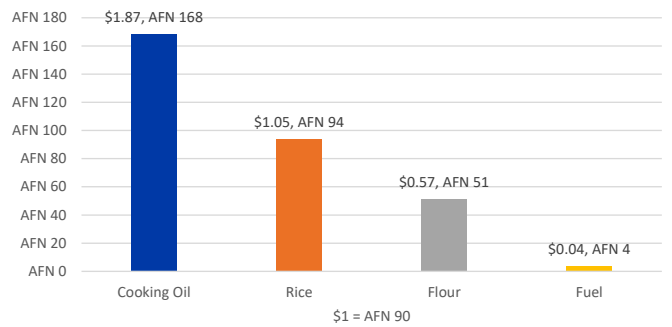
Availability of Commodities During Past 3 Months



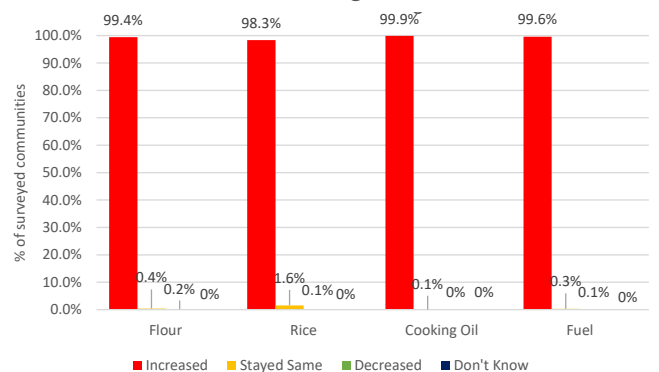
Women's Access to Markets | By province



Average Commodity Price Per Kilo/Liter



% Communities Reporting Fluctuations in Prices of Commodities During Past 3 Months

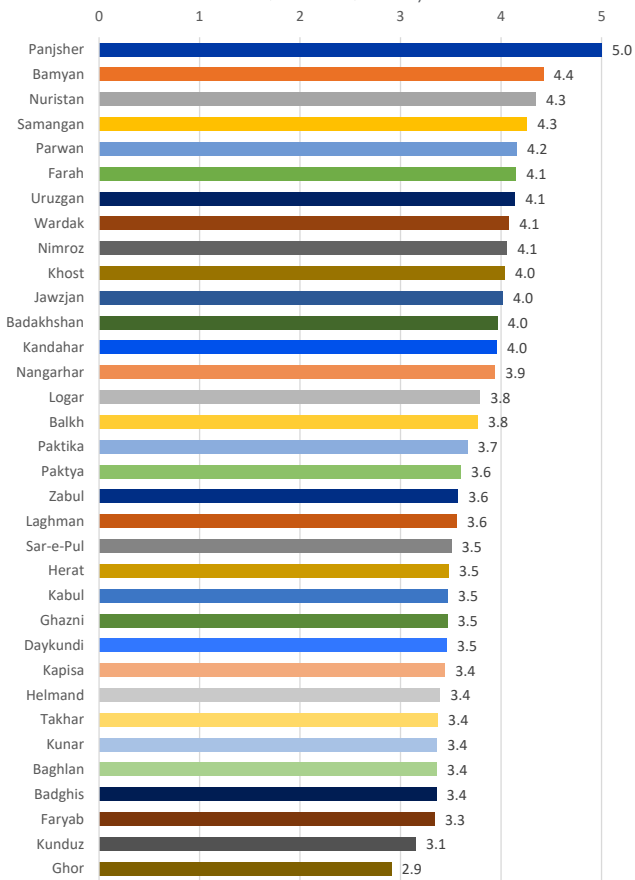


## SAFETY & SECURITY

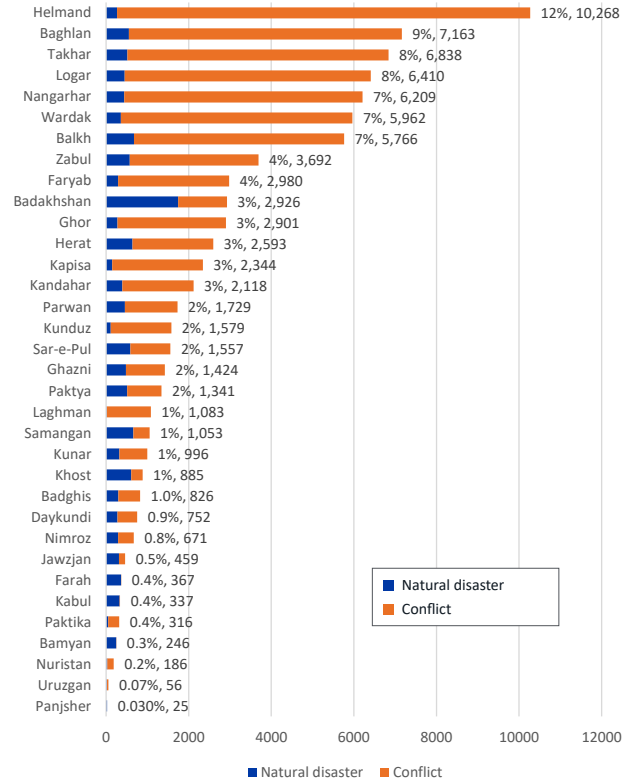
During the 6 months prior to the Round 14 assessment, 84% of reported incidents related to safety and security were due to conflict and 16% to natural disaster. There has been a 15% increase in the number of reported conflict incidents during the past 6 months, highlighting the post-July escalation of conflict happening throughout the country. Most of the security incidents involved armed conflict (70%), followed by IEDs (13%), mines/UXOs (10%) and extortion (6%).

Reported Level of Security | By province

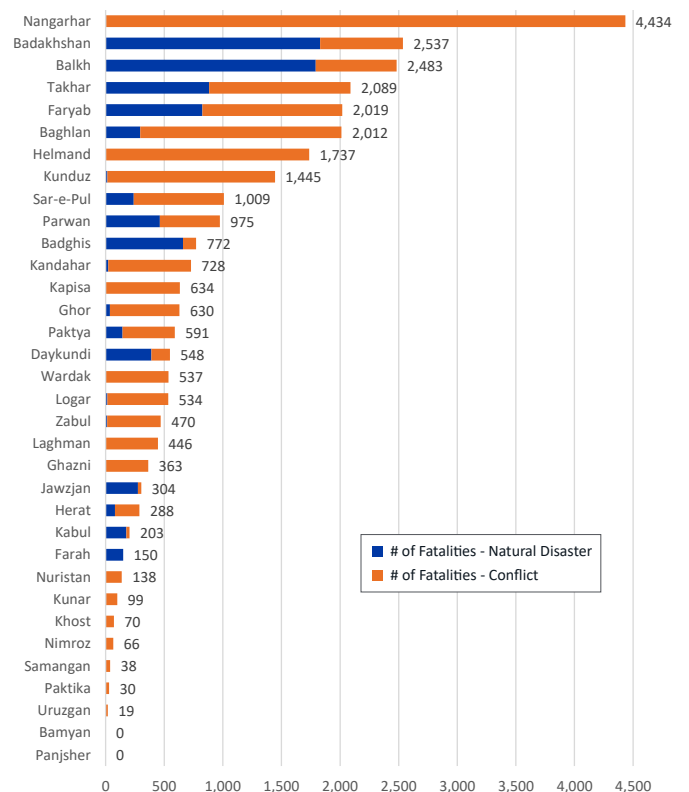
0 = not applicable; 1 = very insecure, 2 = insecure, 3 = neutral, 4 = secure, 5 = very secure



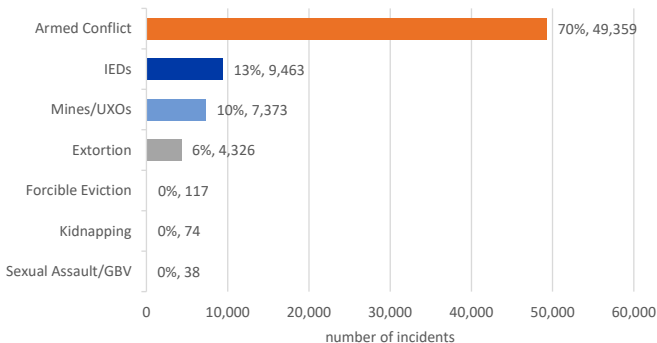
Total Natural Disaster and Security-Related Incidents in Past 6 Months | By province



Total Natural Disaster and Security-Related Fatalities in Past 6 Months | By province



Total Security-Related Incidents in Past 6 Months | By type

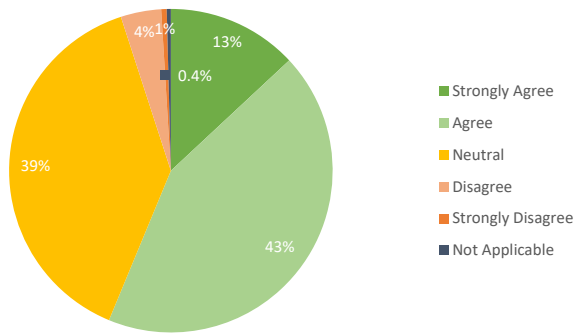


## SOCIAL COHESION

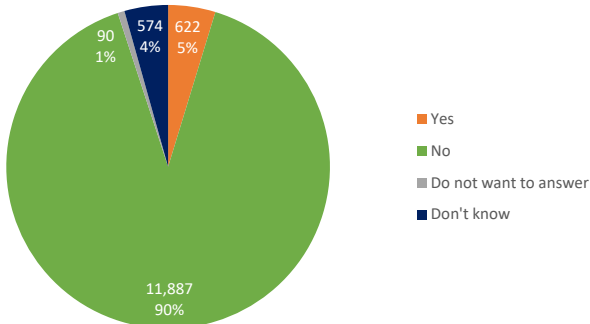
Only 55% of the interviewed CFPs feel confident in the formal justice system. Populations in Panjsher, Nimroz and Nuristan are all either fairly or completely confident (100%). Provinces ranking lowest in terms of confidence are Helmand (19%), Ghor (11%) and Kunduz (1.6%). Only three in five of all surveyed communities (56%) feel secure when engaging in outdoor activities. This lack of security in communities reduces people’s mobility, ability to access services, and disproportionately affects women.

Where inter-communal tensions exist (622 communities), they exist mostly between IDPs, returned populations and host community members, and herders and farmers. Tensions revolve around access to resources such as land, employment, or agriculture, or historical grievances. Sixty-two percent of CFPs noted that where such tensions exist, these often lead to physical attacks. Inter-communal tensions are usually resolved through mediation from people of the community, by a court or between the families involved.

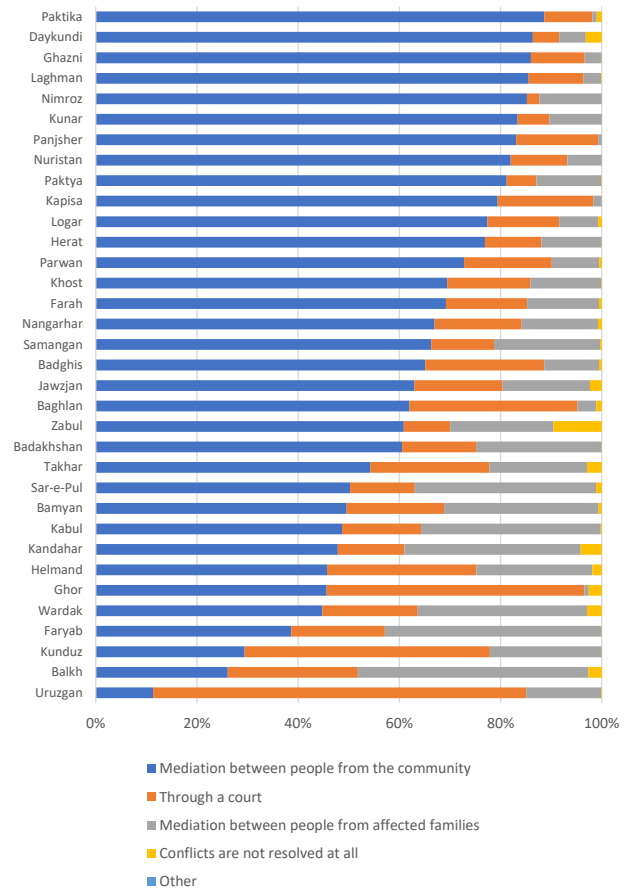
Reported Feelings of Security in Daily Outdoor Activities



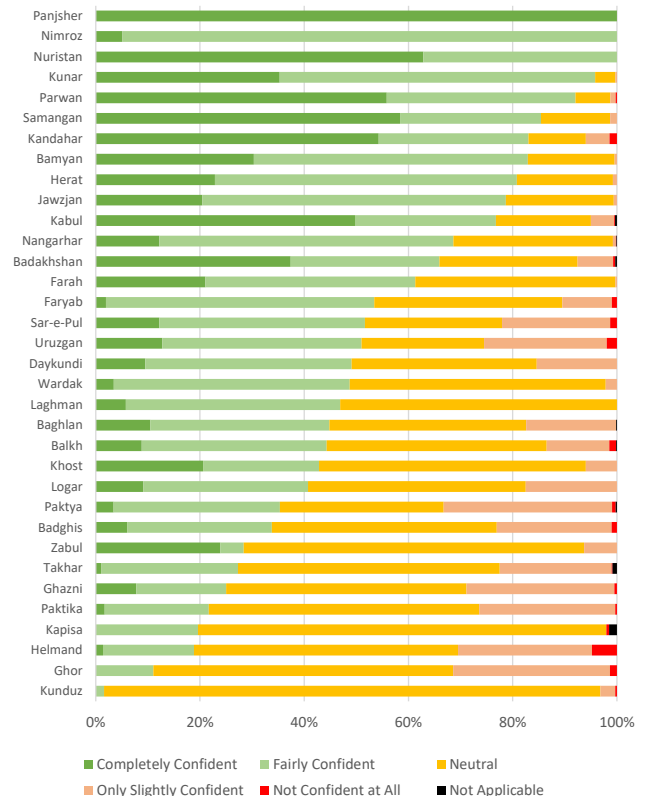
Reported Mistrust Between Groups Within Communities



Conflict Mediation | By type of mediation & province



Confidence in the Justice System | By province



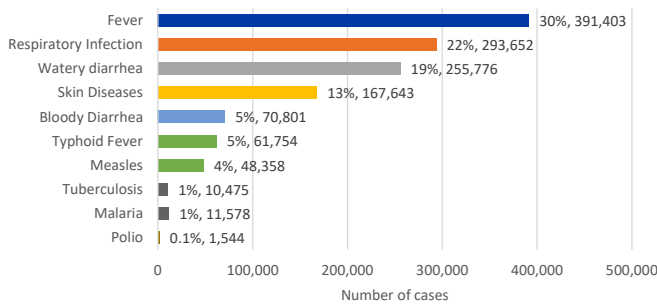


# HEALTH

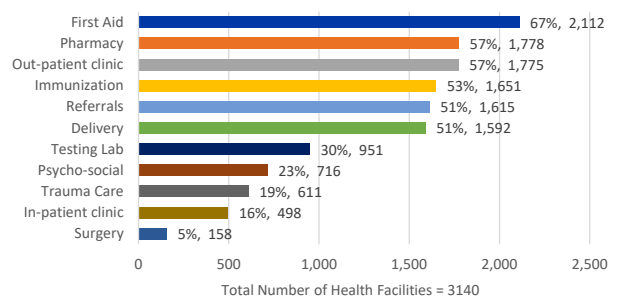
Symptoms similar to COVID-19, such as fever (30% of cases), respiratory infections (22%), and watery diarrhea (19%) are widespread, highlighting the need for continued community-based infection prevention and control measures. Only 19% of all surveyed communities have a health clinic located within the confines of their community, but with significant disparities between provinces. In Kandahar, where the closest health centre is on average 21.4 kms away, accessing essential healthcare is considered extremely difficult.

Over half of all health service providers offer first aid, pharmaceutical services, out-patient clinics, immunisation services, referrals and delivery services. However, 21% of the surveyed populations do not visit their closest health clinics when they are ill. More than one third of individuals in seven provinces (Ghor, Uruzgan, Helmand, Sar-e-Pul, Farah, Kapisa and Kunar) do not visit the closest health clinics due to poor quality or lack of medicine, services, or staff, and long distances.

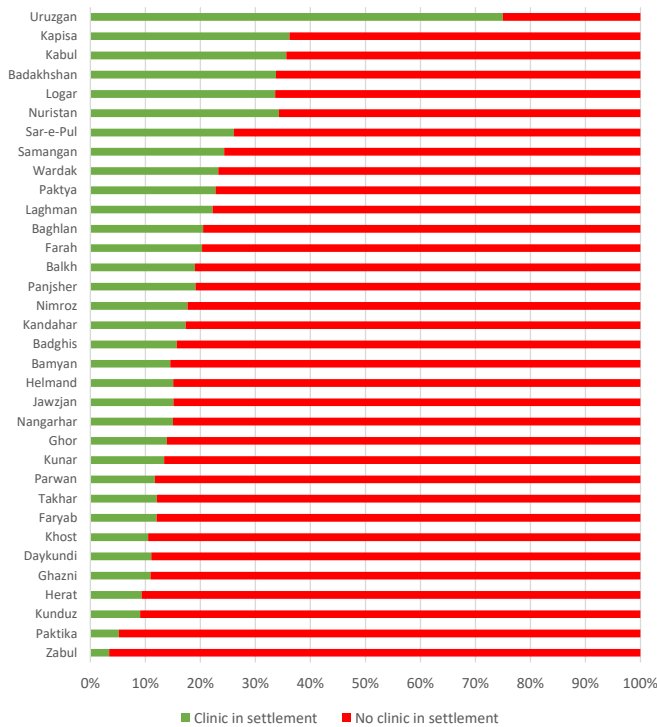
Cases of Diseases & Health Conditions | By type



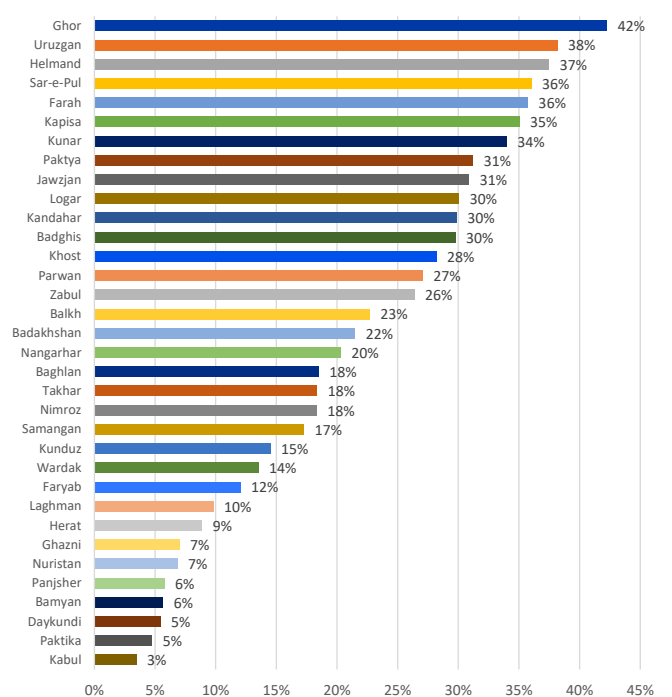
Services Offered at Health Facilities | By type



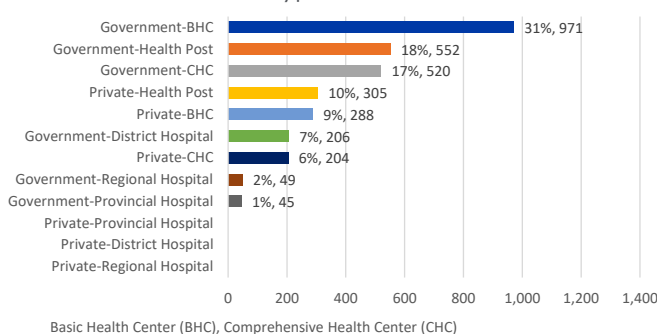
Access to Clinics | By province



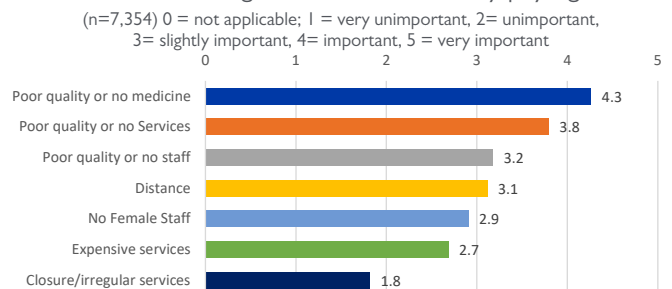
% Population Not Using Nearest Health Facility | By province



Number & Type of Health Facilities



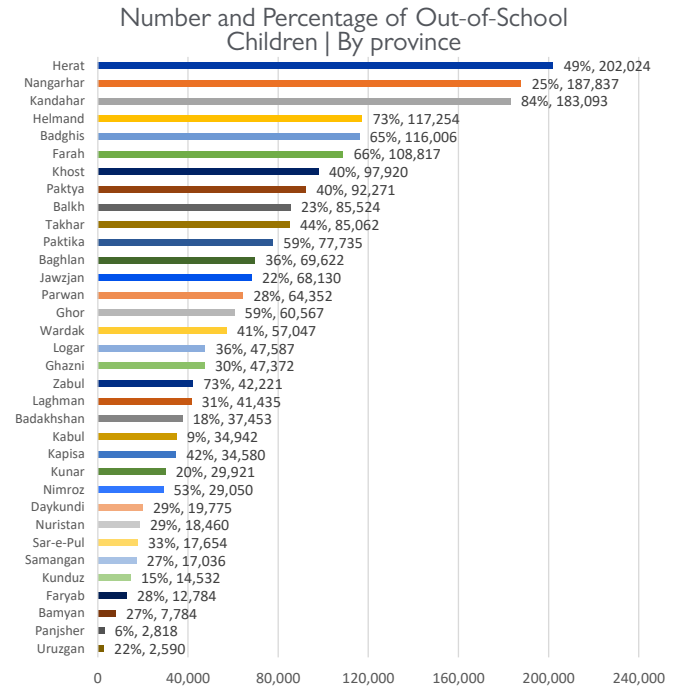
Reasons for Not Using Nearest Health Facility | By significance



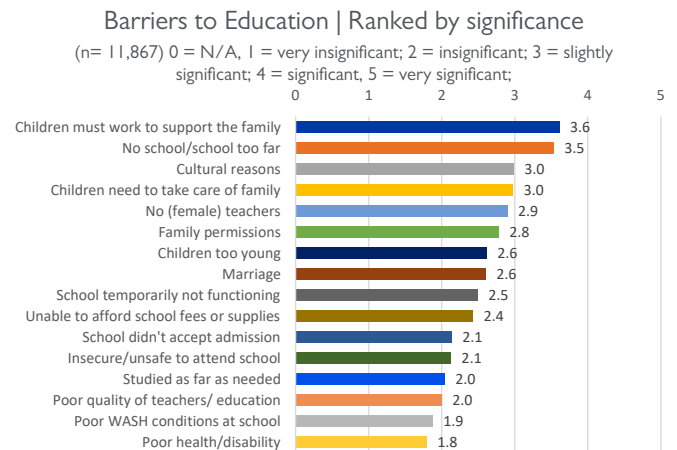
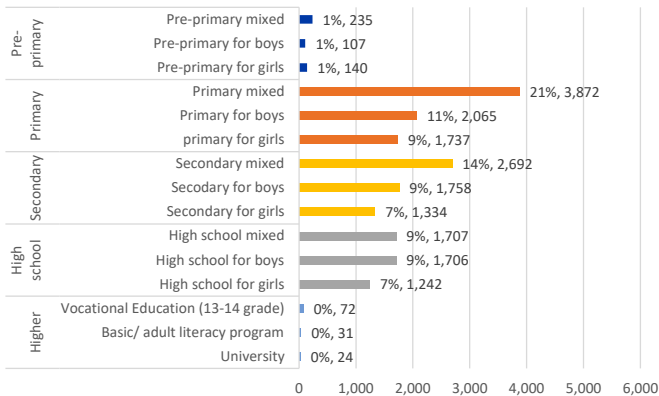
## EDUCATION

The availability of schools differs widely among provinces. More populous, urbanised areas are more likely to have education facilities; their higher population density results in a higher number of students per education facility. Kabul has, on average, one school for every 2,868 school-aged children, whereas Nimroz and Panjsher have the best coverage with one school per every 398 and 420 children, respectively. The highest percentages of children not attending school are found in Kandahar (84%), Helmand (73%) and Zabul (73%), while the provinces with the highest absolute numbers of out-of-school children are Herat (202,024) Nangarhar (187,837) and Kandahar (183,093).

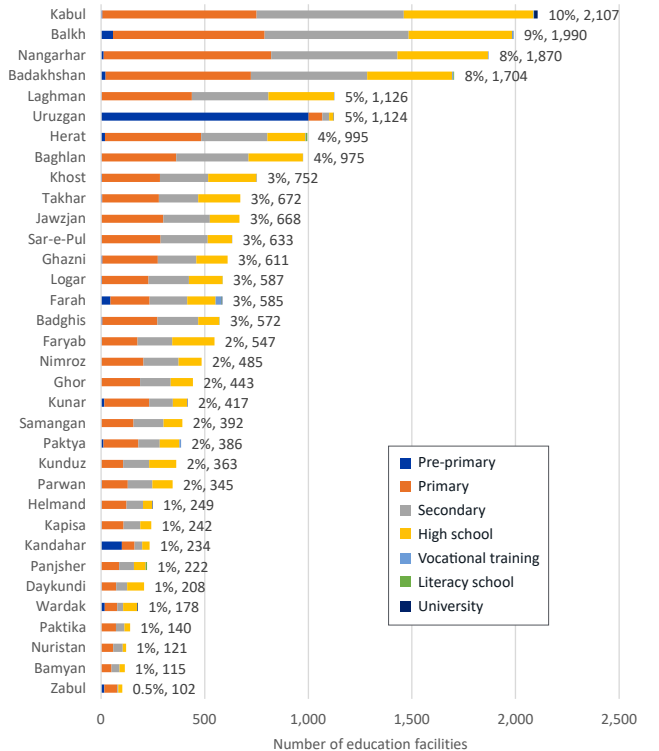
The diversity in types of schools, especially at higher education levels, such as vocational training, literacy programs and universities, is more favorable in provinces with more urban areas compared to more rural provinces. According to CFPs, the top barriers to education that rank between slightly significant and significant are the fact that children must work to support the family instead of attending school and schools are nonexistent in the area or too far away. CFPs also on average rated cultural reasons as the third highest barrier to education.



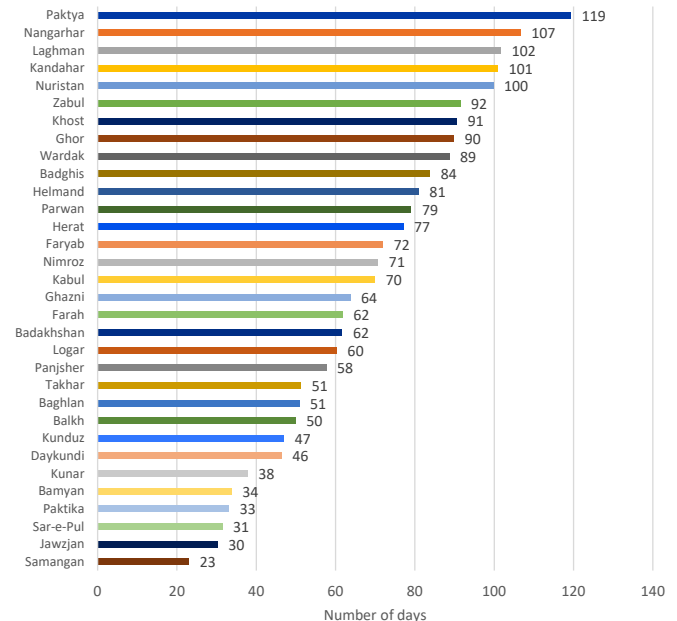
Total Number of Education Facilities Available | By type



Total Number of Education Facilities | By type & province



Average Number of Days Schools Remained Closed, Destroyed, or Occupied in the Past 6 Months | By province



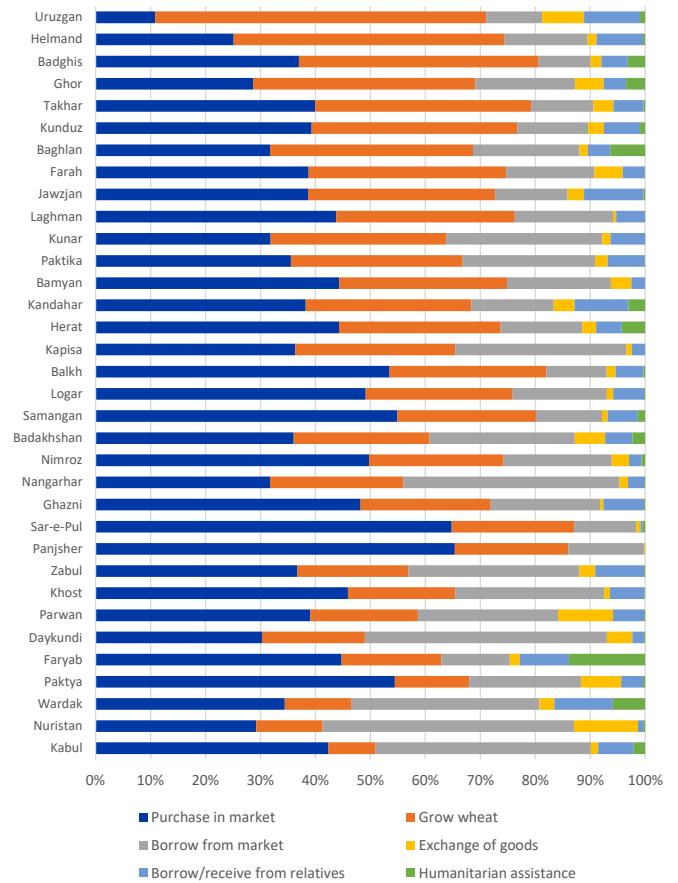
## FOOD & NUTRITION

Afghanistan’s vulnerability to conflict and natural disasters frequently leads to high levels of food insecurity. As a result of overall food scarcity in the country, the diversity of food intake by families in the country is limited. Cereals are consumed daily. Oil or butter and sugars are consumed more than four times a day. Foods containing important sources of protein and micronutrients, such as meat and fruits, are consumed less than once per week and vegetables are consumed less than twice per week.

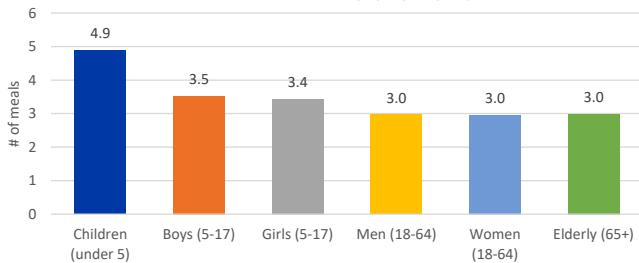
Wheat, the primary ingredient for bread, is mostly purchased at local markets (41%) or grown (27%). The provinces most dependent on growing their own wheat are also prone to seasonal droughts and flooding: Uruzgan, Helmand, Badghis, Ghor and Takhar. The primary constraints to food production are limited or no water for agriculture due to drought, no access to seeds, and limited access to land due to poverty. The provinces most affected by these constraints are Farah, Wardak, Balkh, Nimroz, Samangan and Uruzgan.

As a result of food scarcity, families continue to rely on a variety of coping mechanisms. The most common coping mechanism is relying on less preferred foods, which is practiced by families close to every day of the week (5.6 days per week). Borrowing money for food nationwide is practiced on average about one day per week (1.3) and is most commonplace in Nuristan, Wardak, Helmand and Uruzgan. Skipping entire meals, the most severe coping mechanism recorded, is relied upon most by households in Takhar, Wardak, Jawzjan and Daikundi.

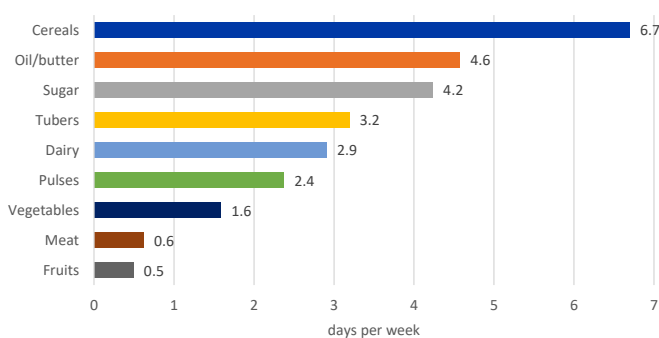
### Methods of Obtaining Wheat, Flour, & Bread | By province



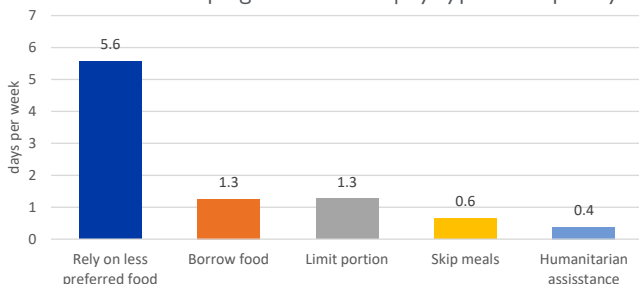
### Number of Meals Eaten Daily | By age group & sex



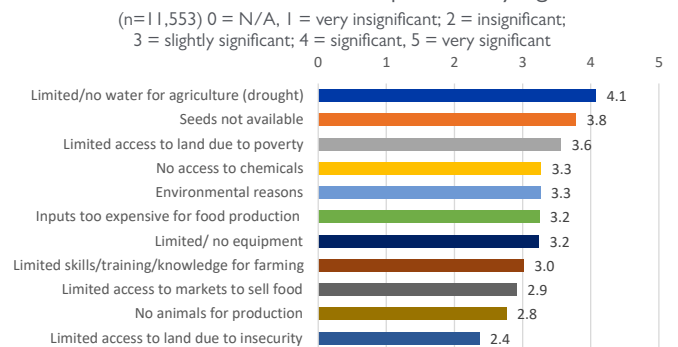
### Food Diversity | By type & frequency eaten per week



### Food-Related Coping Mechanisms | By type & frequency



### Constraints to Food Production | Ranked by significance



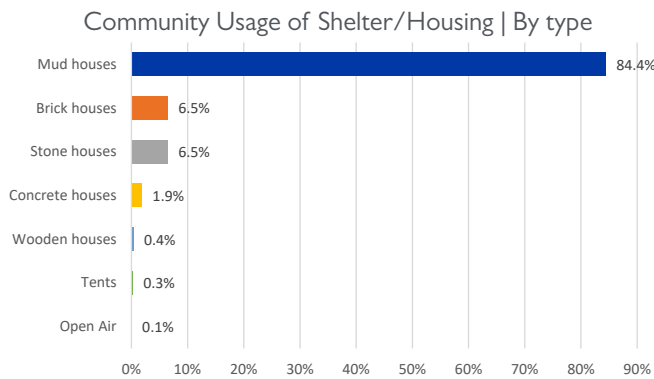
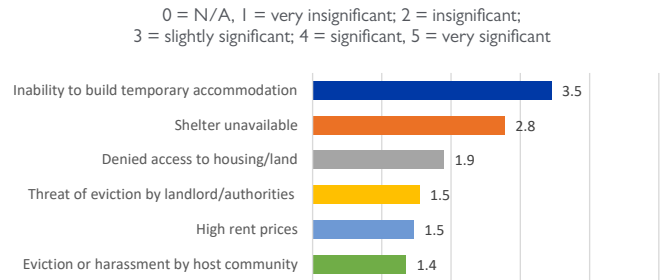
## SHELTER

Eighty-four percent of households in Afghanistan live in mud housing, which is often unable to withstand natural disasters. Less than 1% of the population, mostly IDPs, live in either tents or the open air. These are often in conflict-affected provinces like Kandahar or Badghis, where respectively 3% and 2% of households live in tents or the open air.

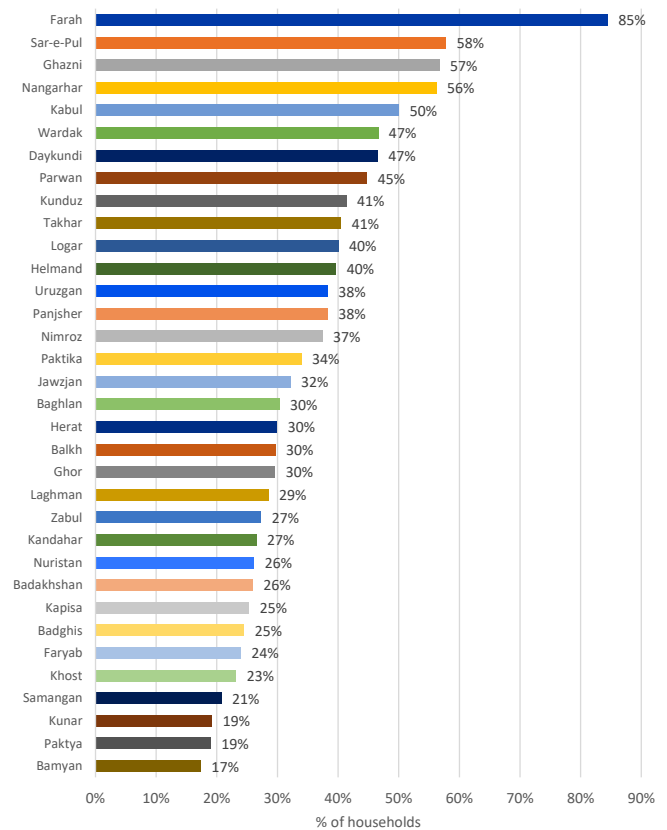
A significant number of households in Sar-e-Pul (39%), Uruzgan (37%) and Parwan (35%) provinces, which have been heavily affected by natural disaster and conflict, live in shelters that are either completely damaged or severely destroyed.

The primary barriers to housing are the inability to build temporary tents or accommodation, shelter being unavailable, and being denied access to housing or land. High rent costs throughout the country push families into sub-par shelters. Four in five (85%) households living in Farah, and more than half in Sar-e-Pul (58%), Ghazni (57%), and Nangarhar (56%) could not afford rent during the 6 months prior to the assessment.

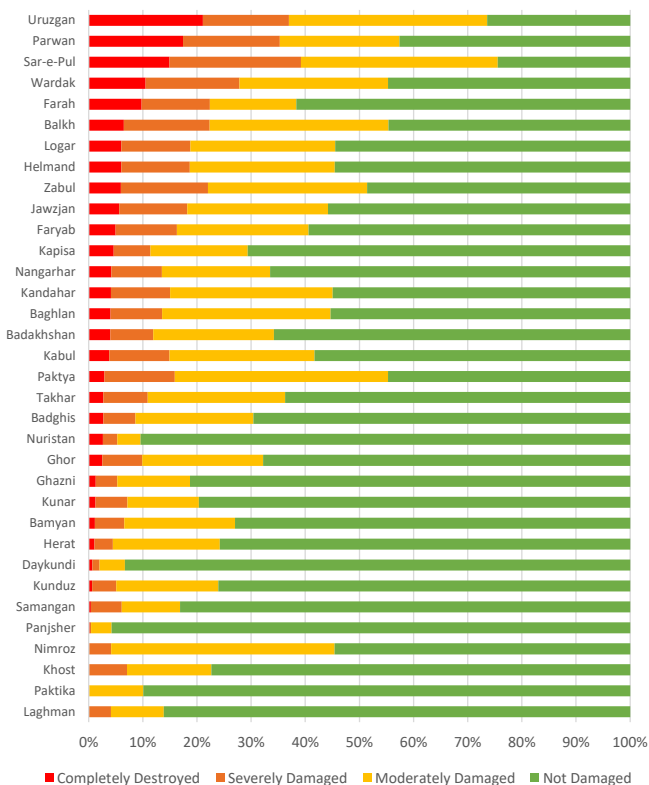
### Barriers to Accessing Housing | Ranked by significance



### % Households Unable to Afford Rent in the Past 6 Months | By province | n=2,157



### Shelter Conditions | By level of damage and province



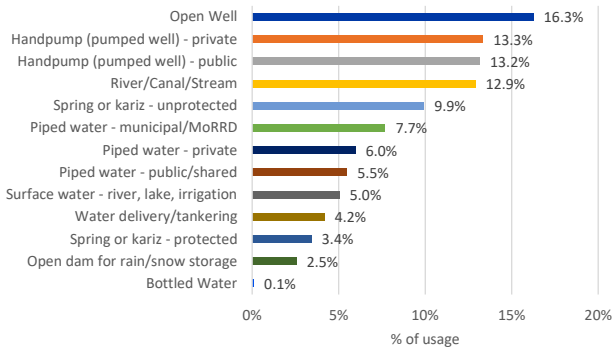
A severely damaged house in Badghis province. Over 35% of housing in Parwan, Sar-e-Pul and Uruzgan provinces are severely damaged or completely destroyed. © IOM 2021

# WASH

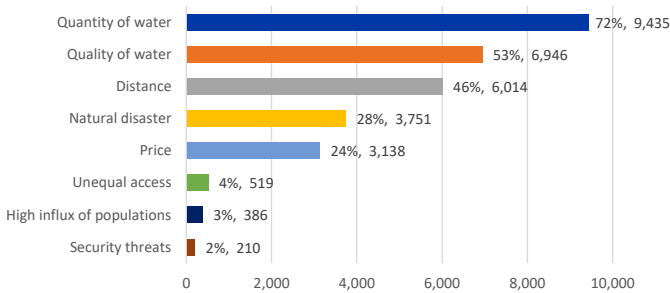
More than 55% of all households reported a shortage of drinking water and water for agriculture. Ghor and Daykundi have the most acute need for drinking water, where more than 85% of the population has insufficient access to drinking water. Daykundi is most affected by shortages in the overall water supply for drinking, agriculture and livestock, followed by Zabul, Nimroz and Samangan, where communities noted multiple, overlapping water needs.

Three-fourths (76%) of the population lacks access to safe latrine facilities, with Nuristan (100%), Jawzjan (97%), Kapisa (97%), Helmand (96%) and Khost (95%) ranking highest in terms of sanitation needs. Approximately one third of the population practice open defecation. Of those with access to WASH facilities, more than half use a pit latrine.

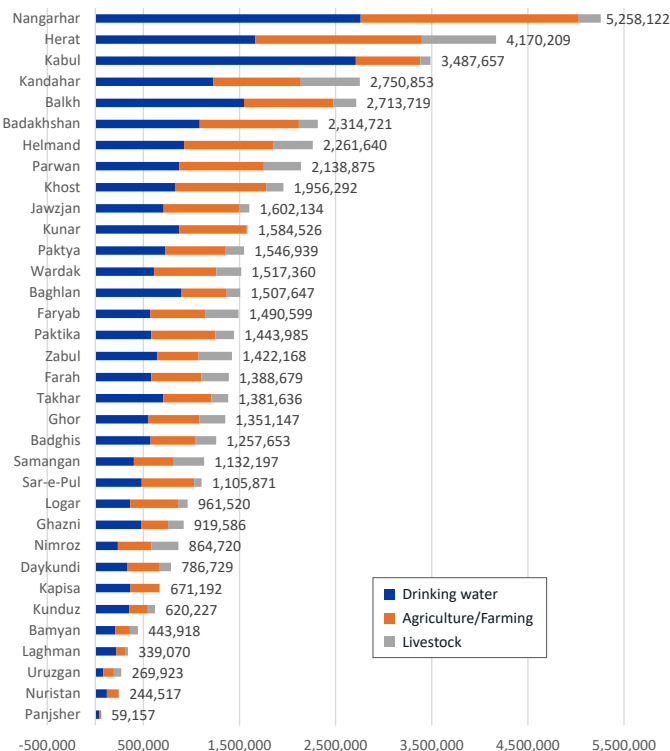
Drinking Water Sources | By usage



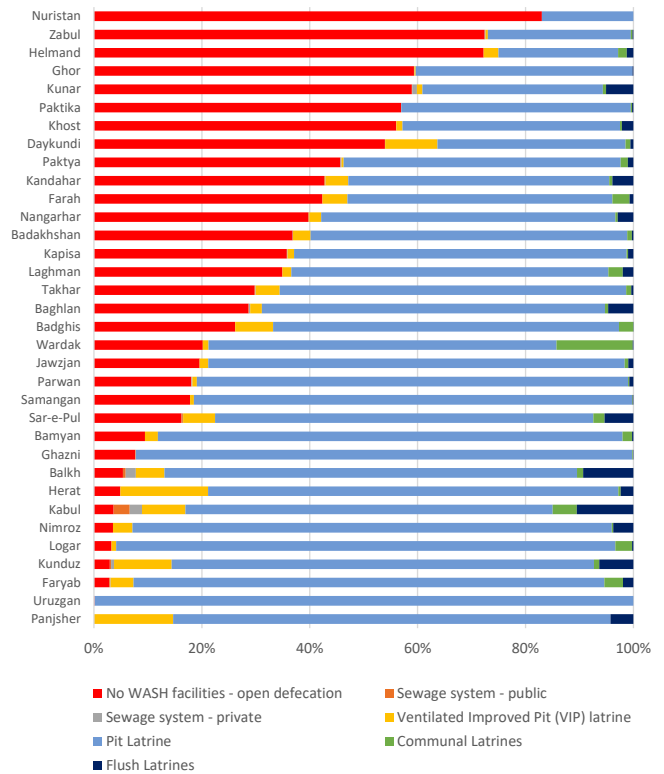
Number of Communities Facing Water-Related Problems | By type



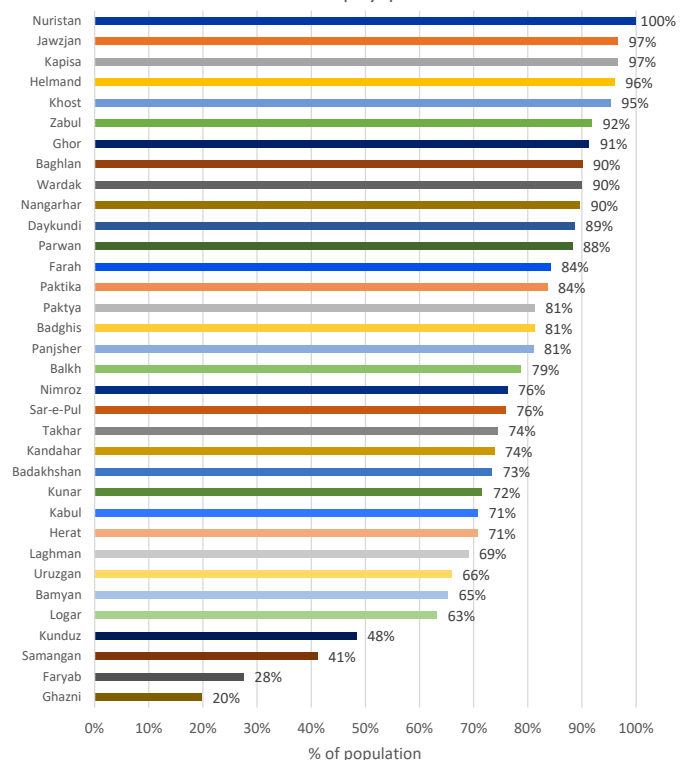
Population in Need of Water Sources | By province



Types of Latrines | By Province



% Households Without Access to Safe Latrines | By province

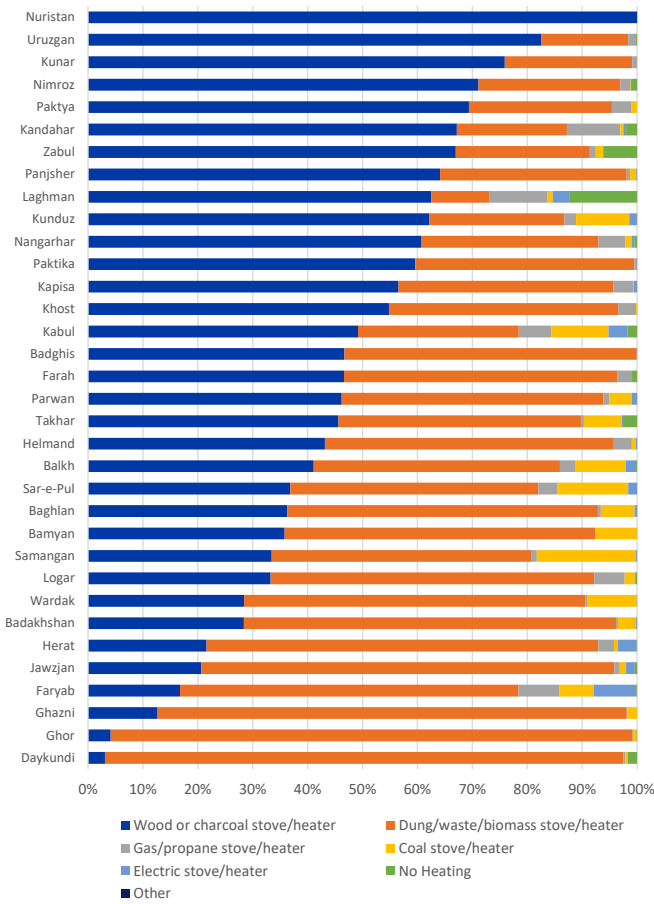


## UTILITIES

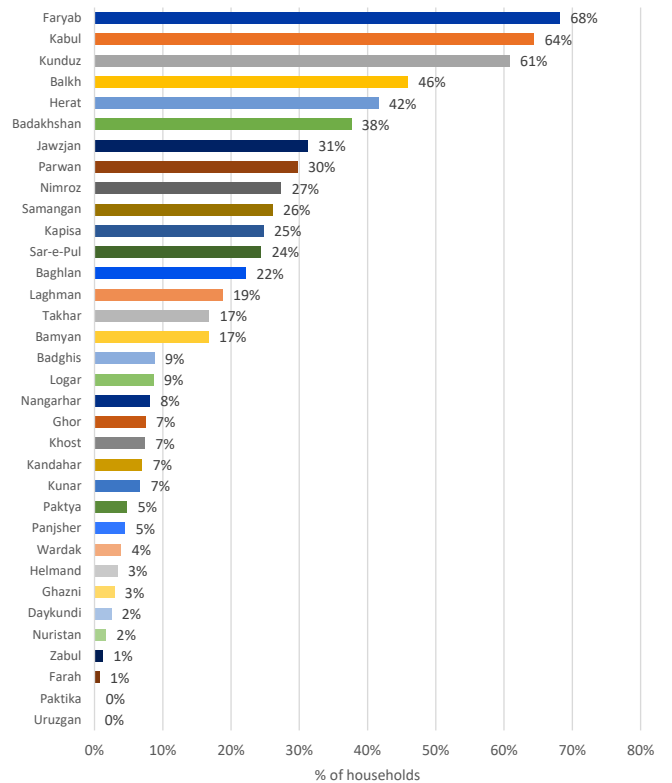
Nine out of 10 (92%) households reported using wood/charcoal, dung/waste or biomass as a source for heating. While only 22% of households have access to national or regional electricity grids, 7% of households use shared solar power in their communities, mostly in Daykundi (99%), Paktika (98%) and Uruzgan (96%), and Panjsher (95%). CFPs reported electricity shortages occur on average 11 days out of the month and last more than one hour per day.

While 72% of households have a mobile phone, 27% report not having a signal or service in their communities. Uruzgan has the lowest connectivity, with 95% of households receiving no signal and 0% having access to the internet.

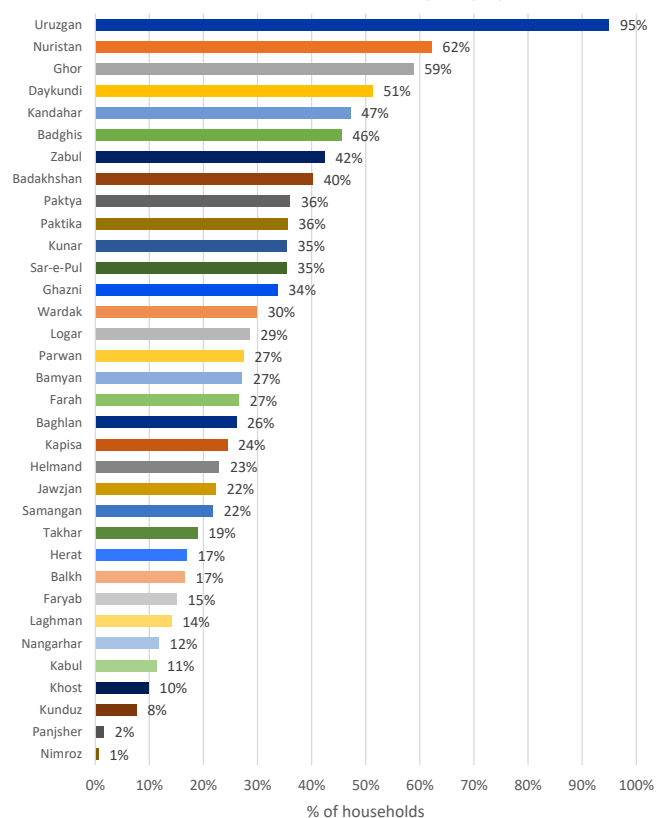
Heating Sources | By province and household usage



% Households Connected to Public Electricity | By province



% Households Without Phone Signal | By Province

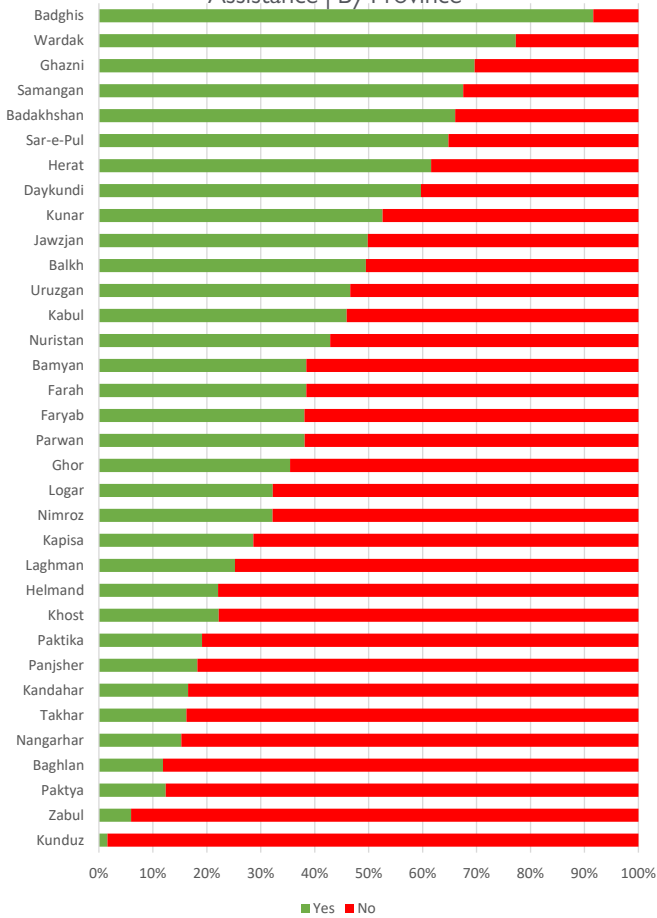


A truck in Parwan province carries wood that will be used for heating. Wood constitutes 44% of all heating sources used nationwide. © IOM 2021

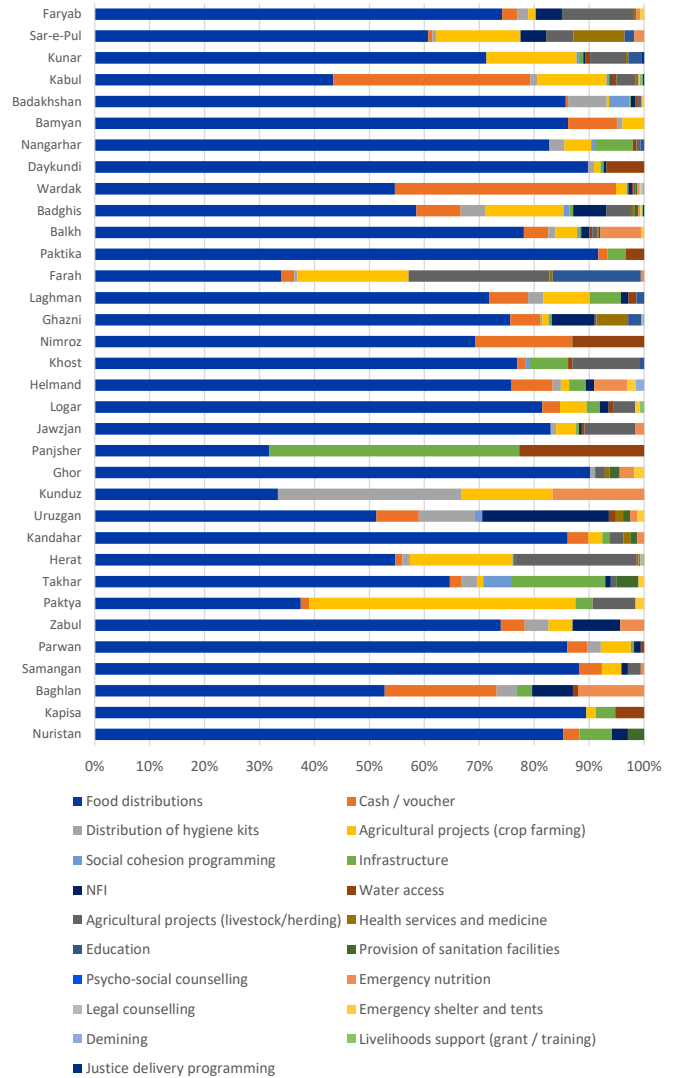
## ASSISTANCE

Over one-third (38%) of the assessed communities indicated having received assistance during the 6 months prior to assessment, which is 2% higher than the previous round of this assessment (Round 13, April to June 2021). Assistance most frequently came in the form of food distributions (69%), cash/vouchers (7%), agriculture projects (7%), non-food items (2%), and the distribution of hygiene kits (2%). In Kunduz, Zabul, Baghlan, Paktya and Nangarhar over 85% of communities reportedly received no assistance.

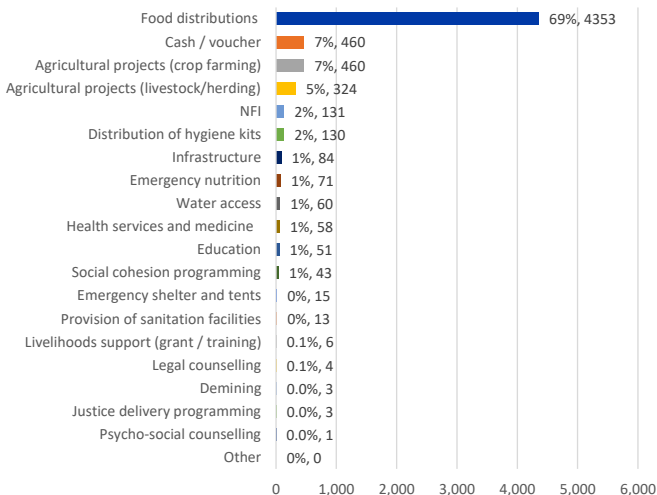
### Ongoing or Completed Humanitarian/Development Assistance | By Province



### Assistance Provided Over the Past 6 Months | By type & province | n = 4,936



### Instances of Communities Receiving Assistance Over the Past 6 Months | By type



Residents in Badakhshan province work to improve a road in order to connect their community to the district center. © IOM 2021



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**CONTACT US**

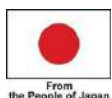
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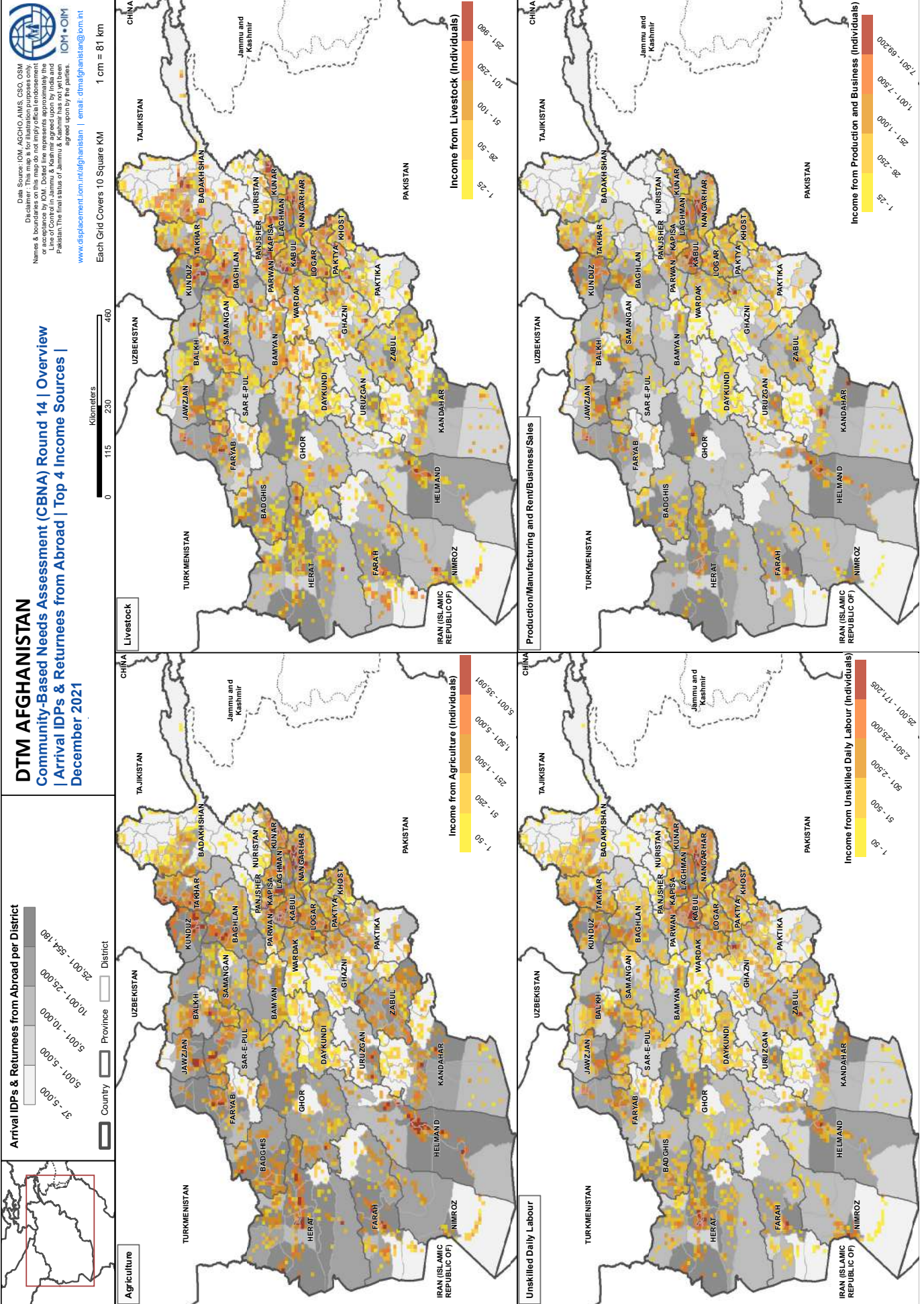
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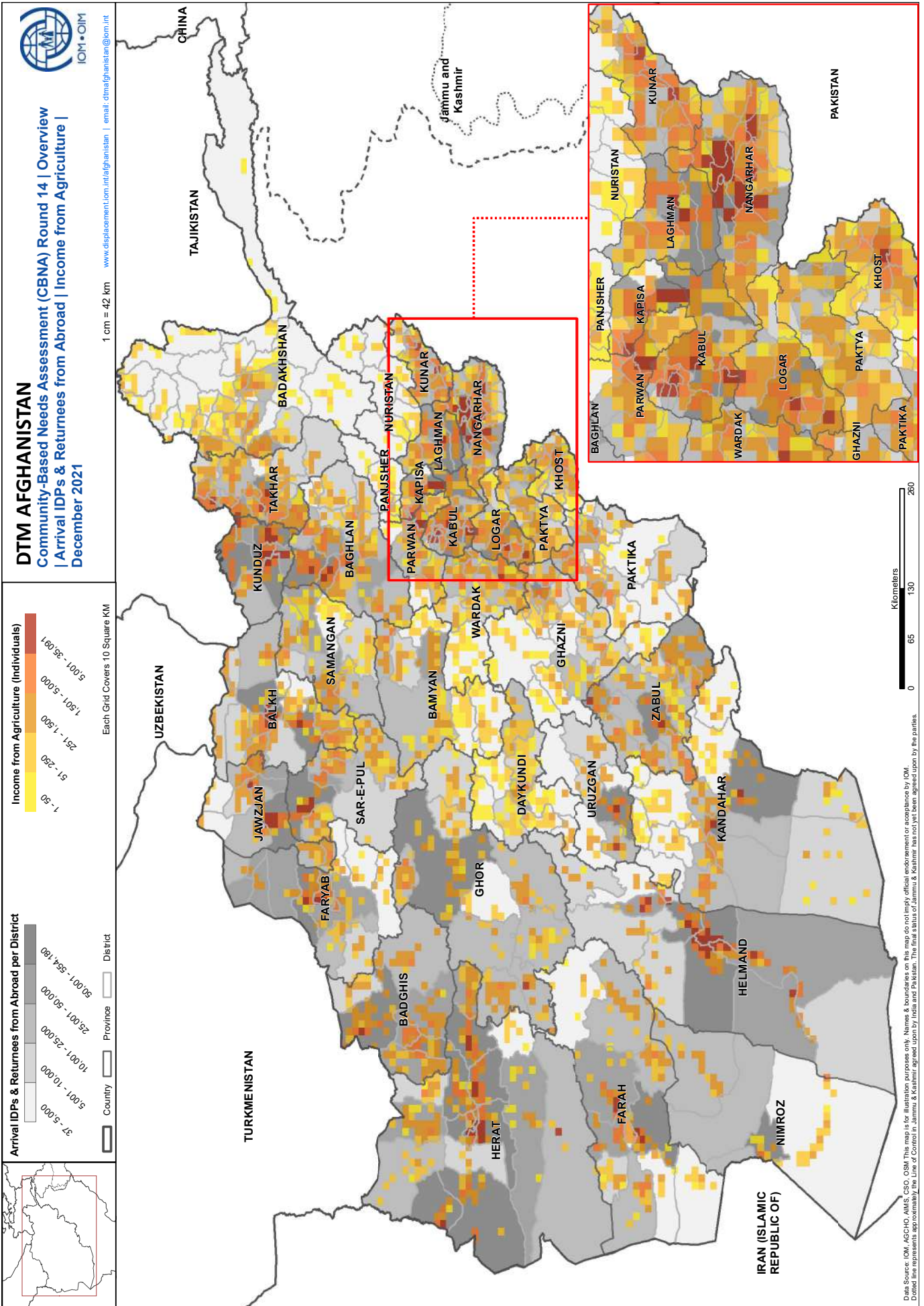


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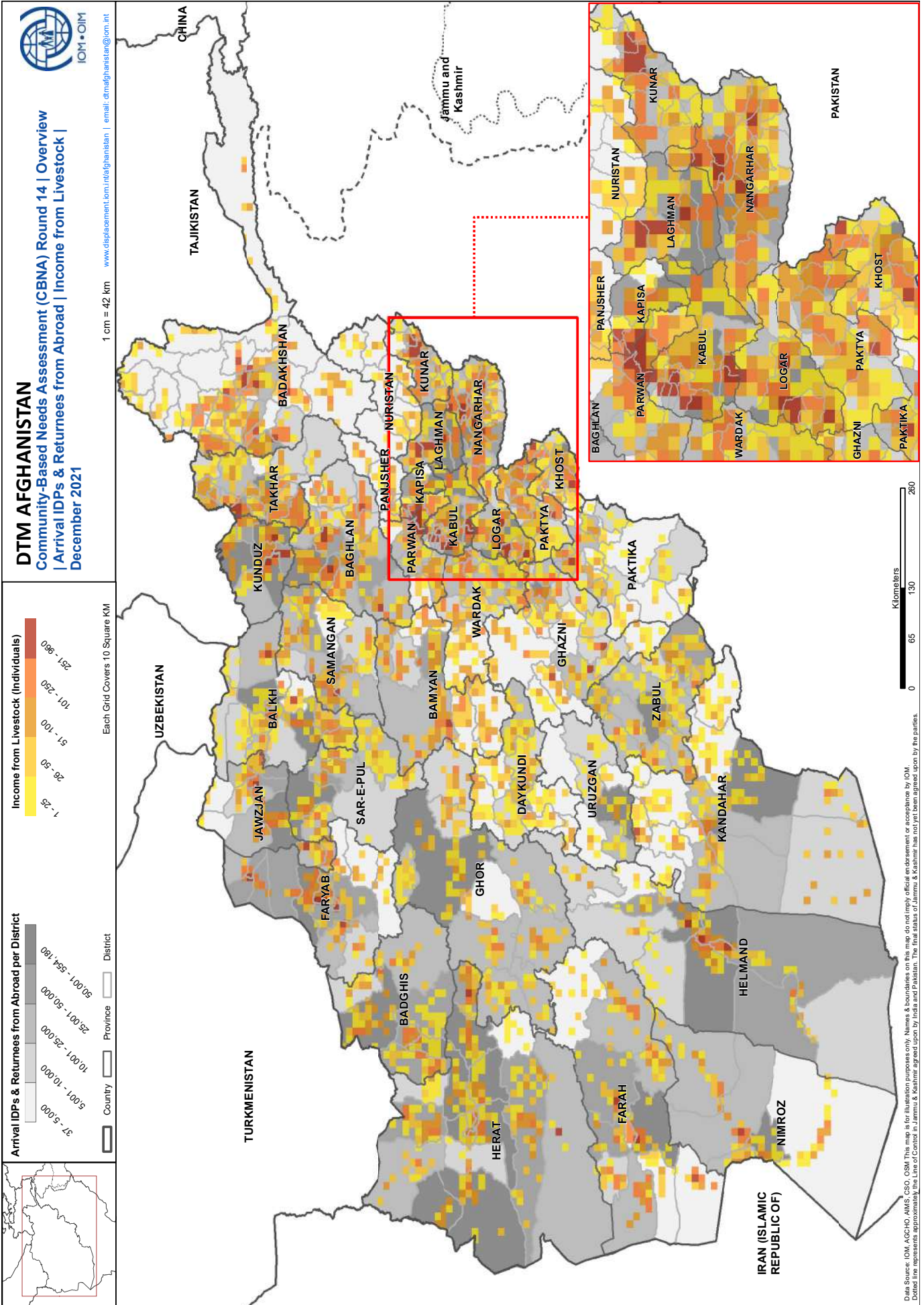


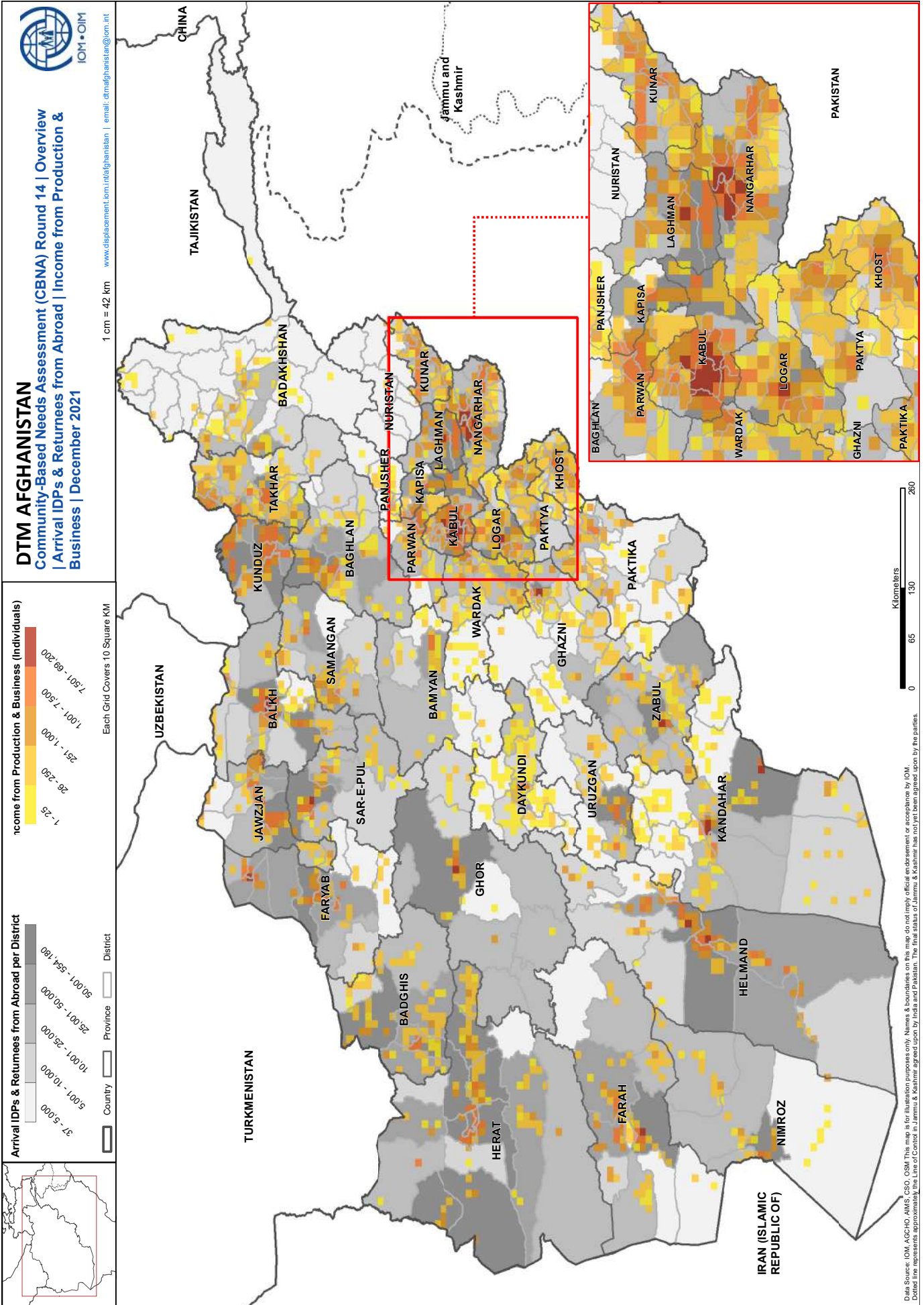


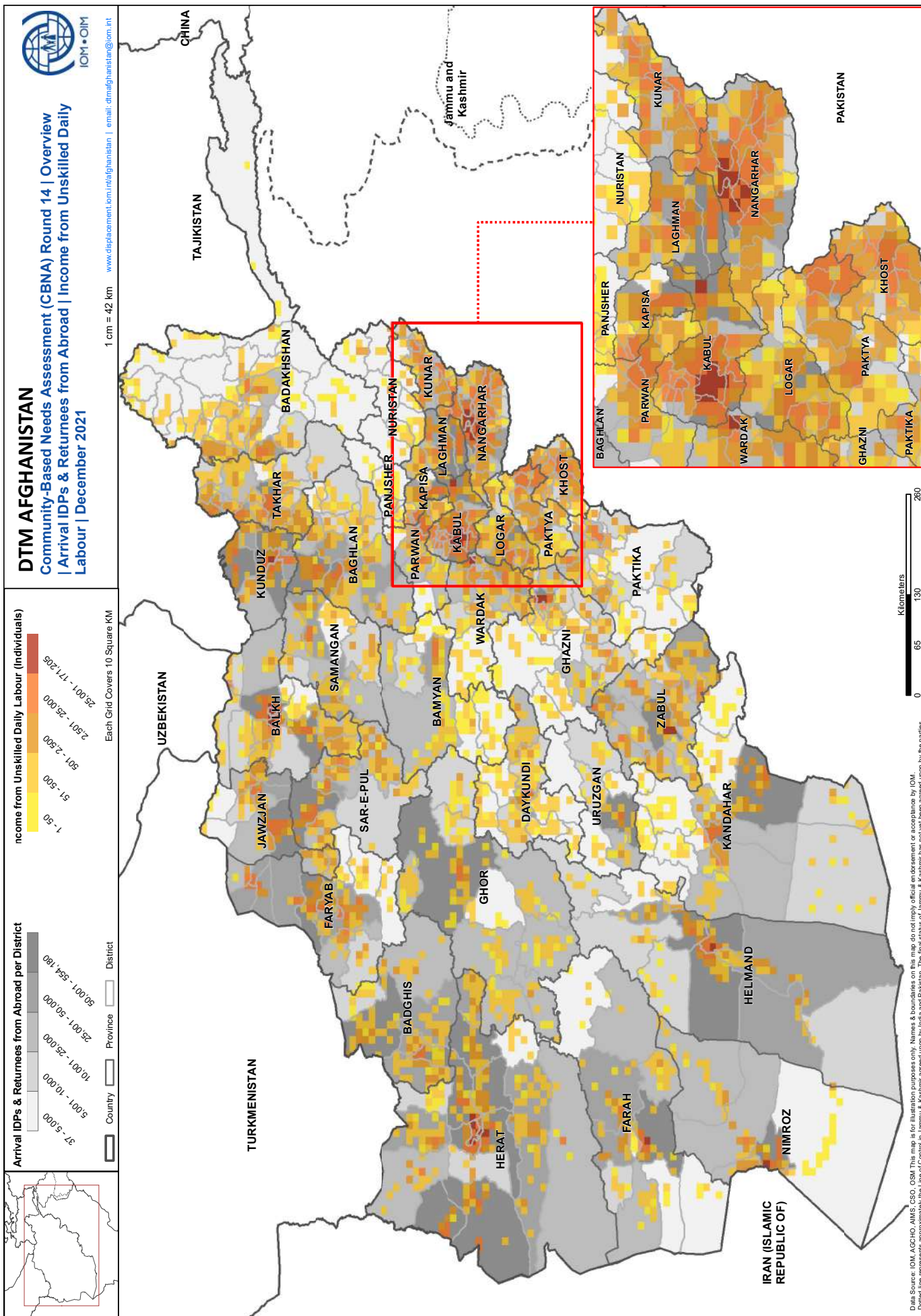


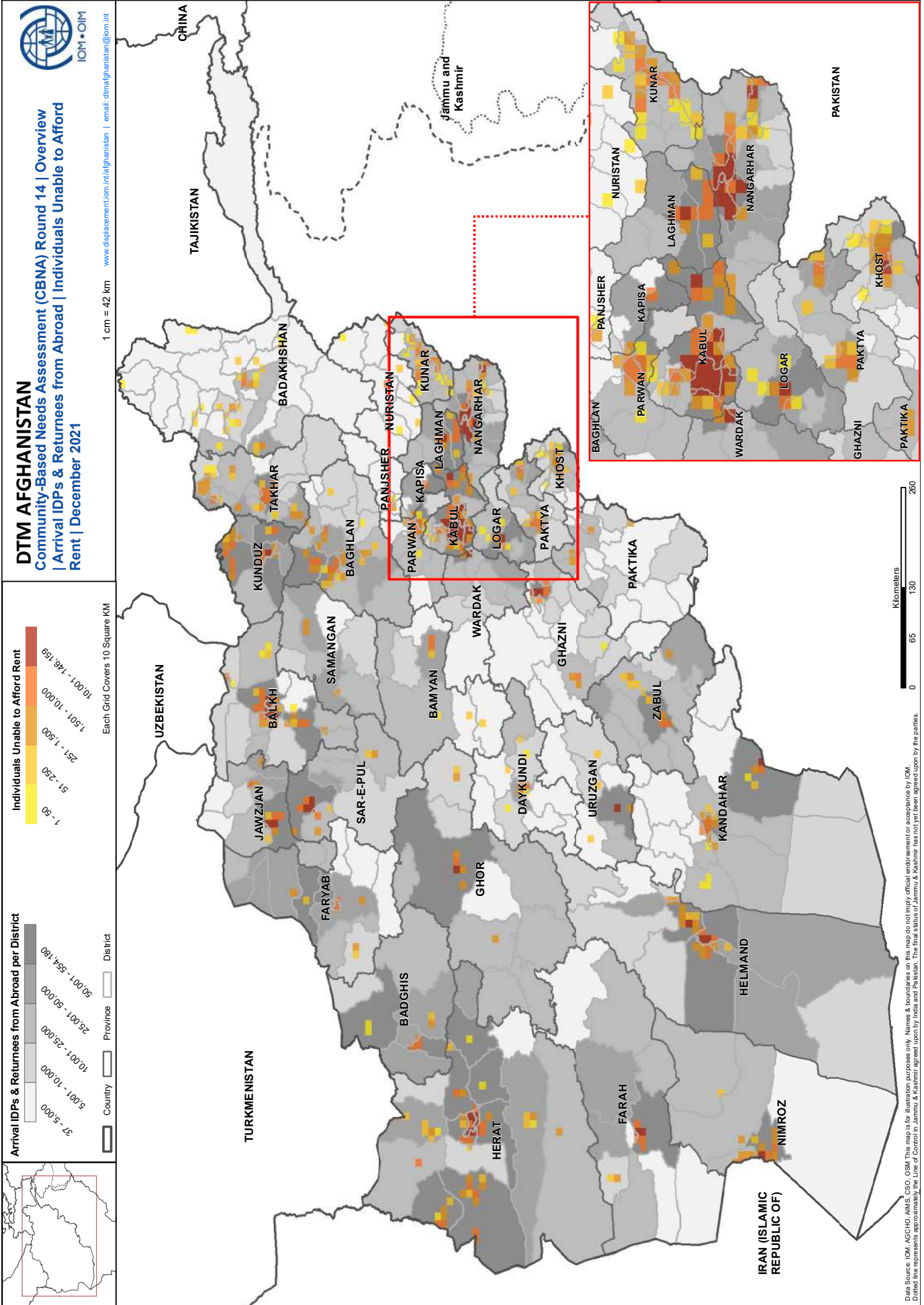


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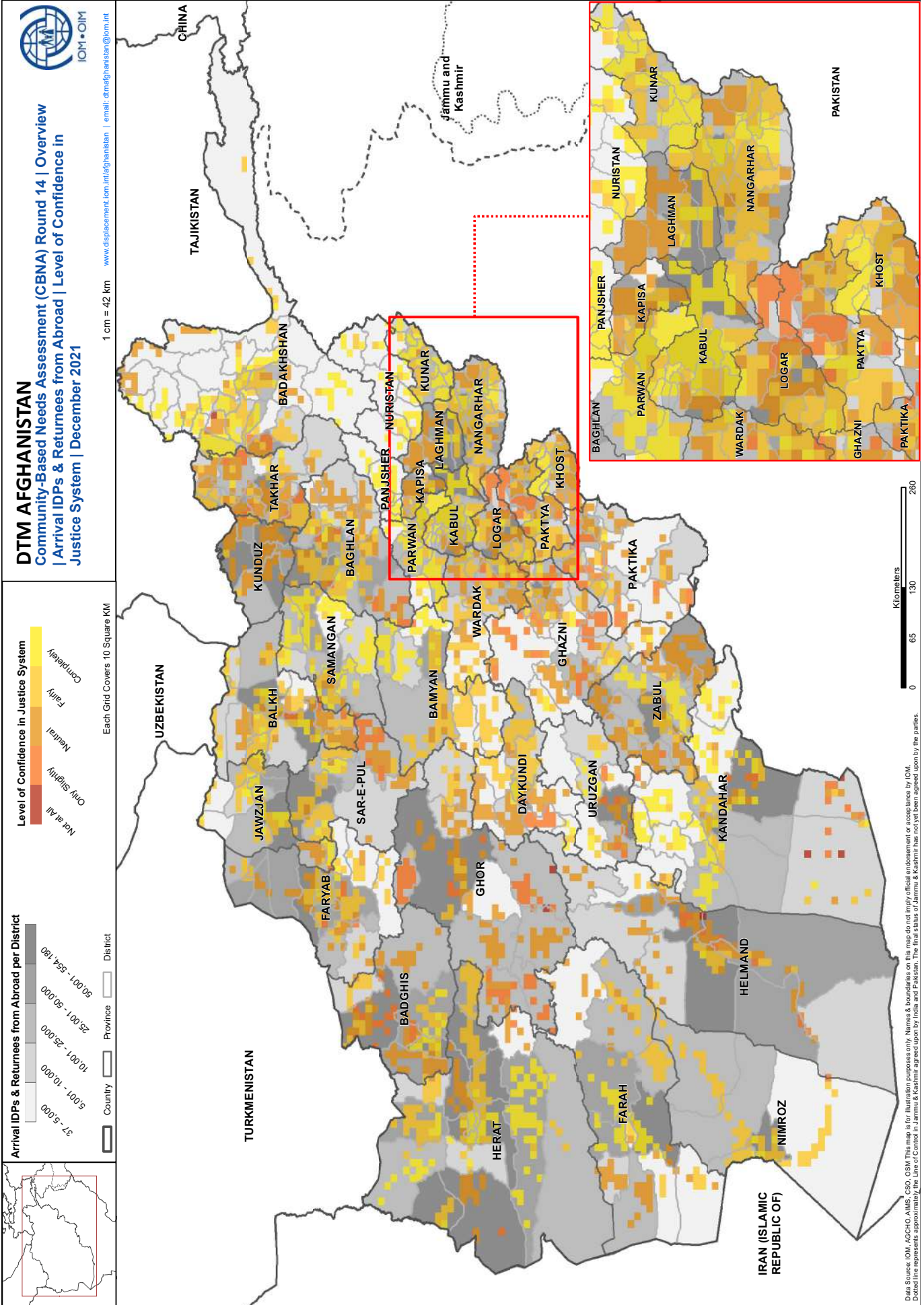


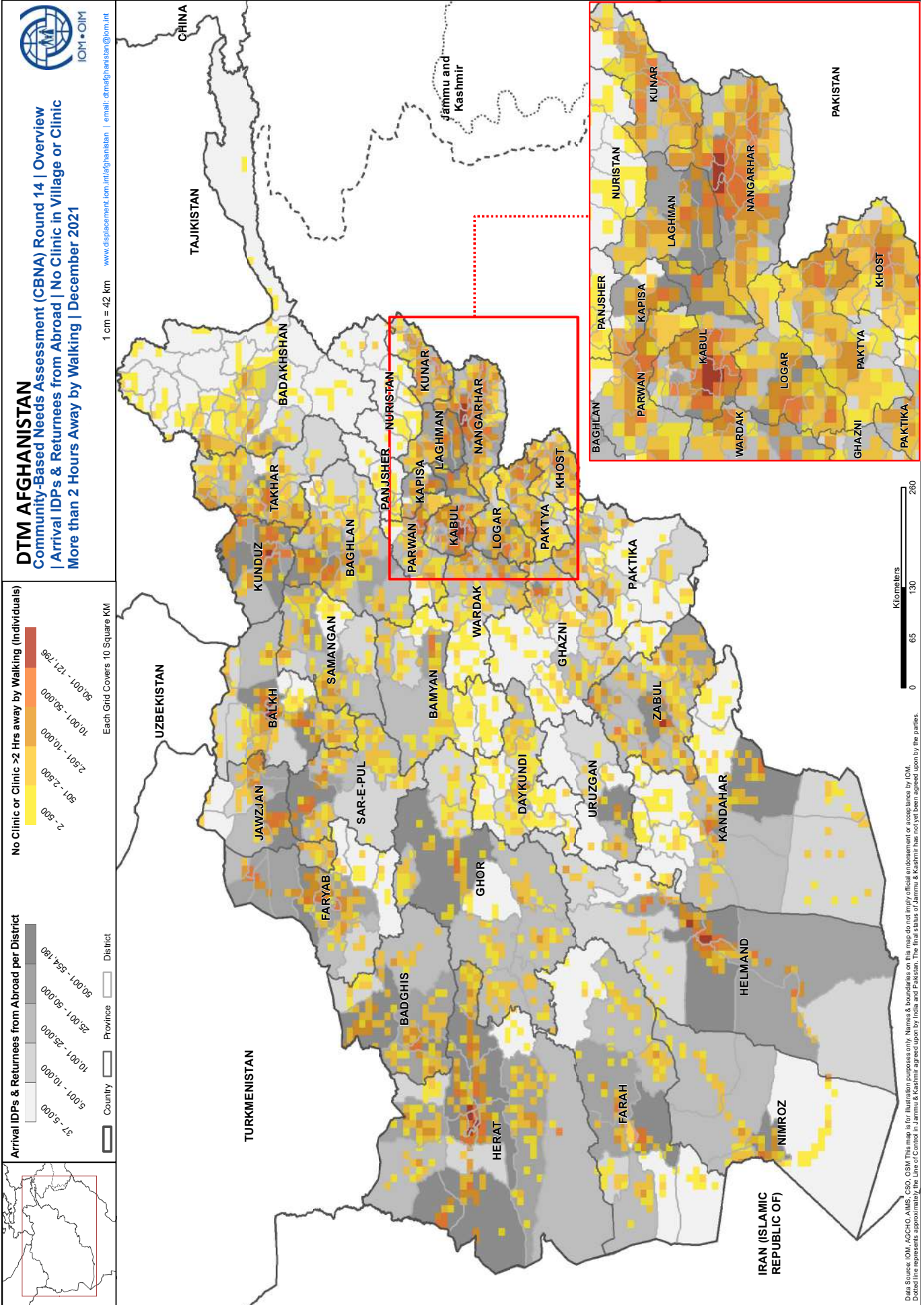




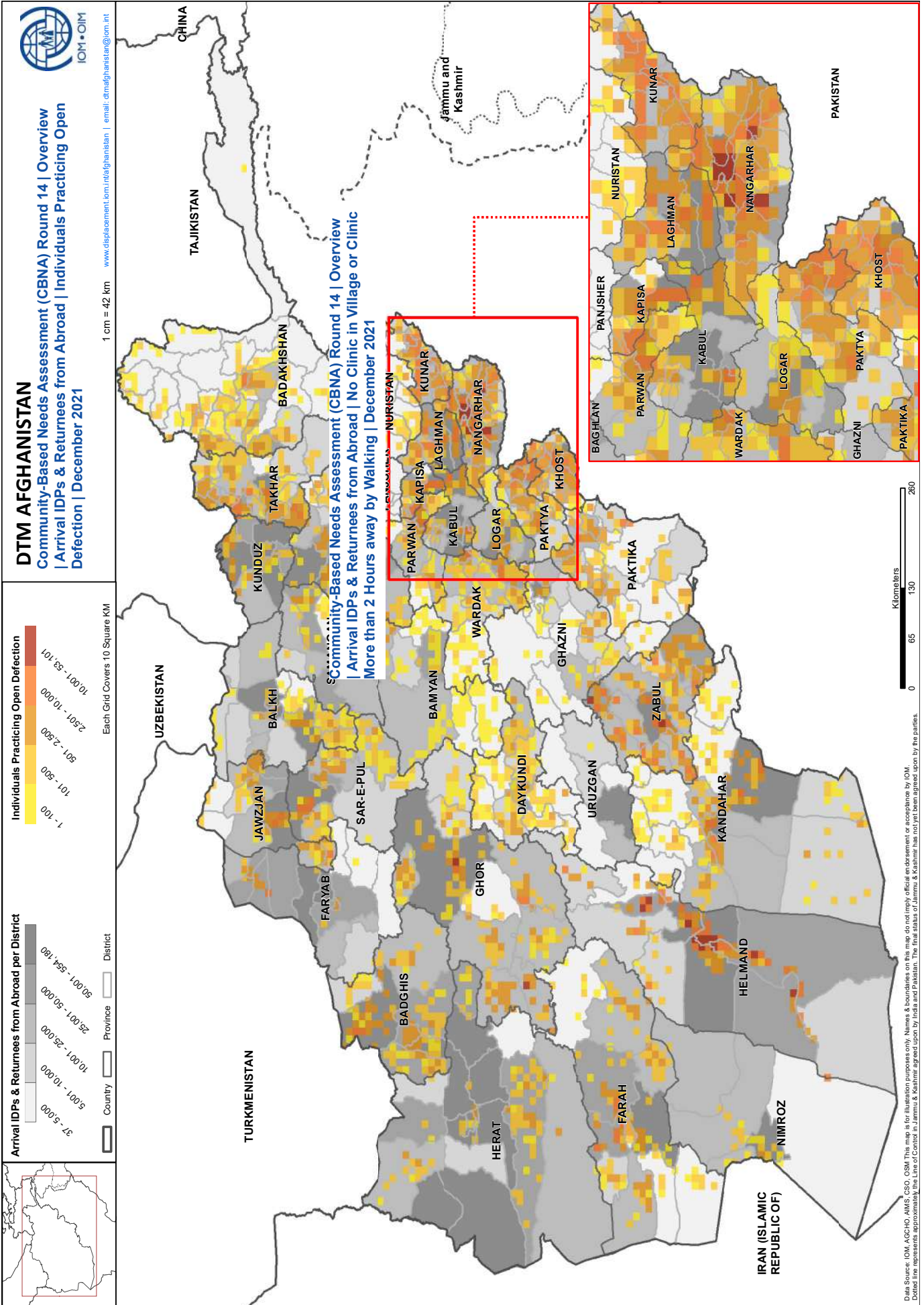


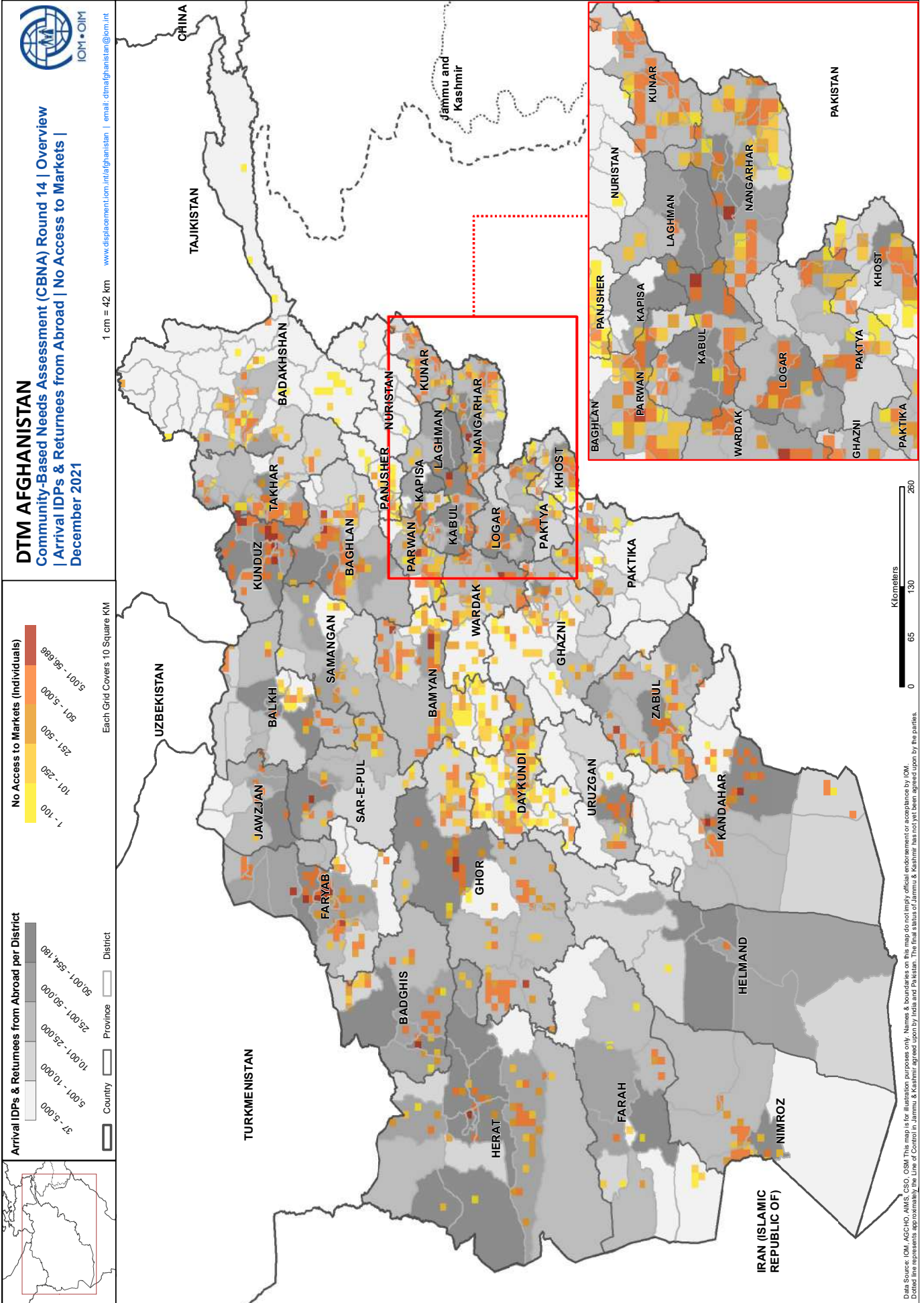
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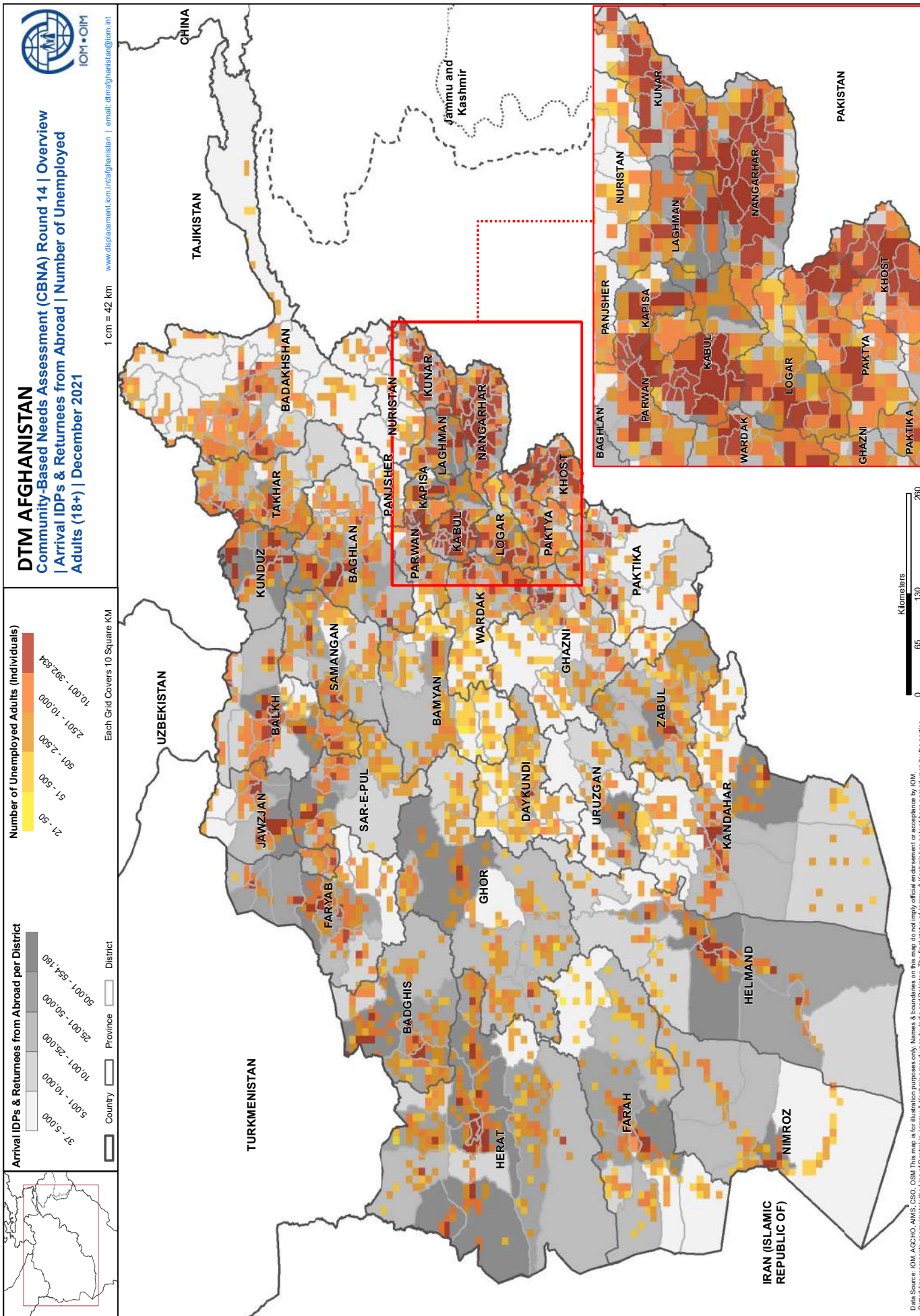




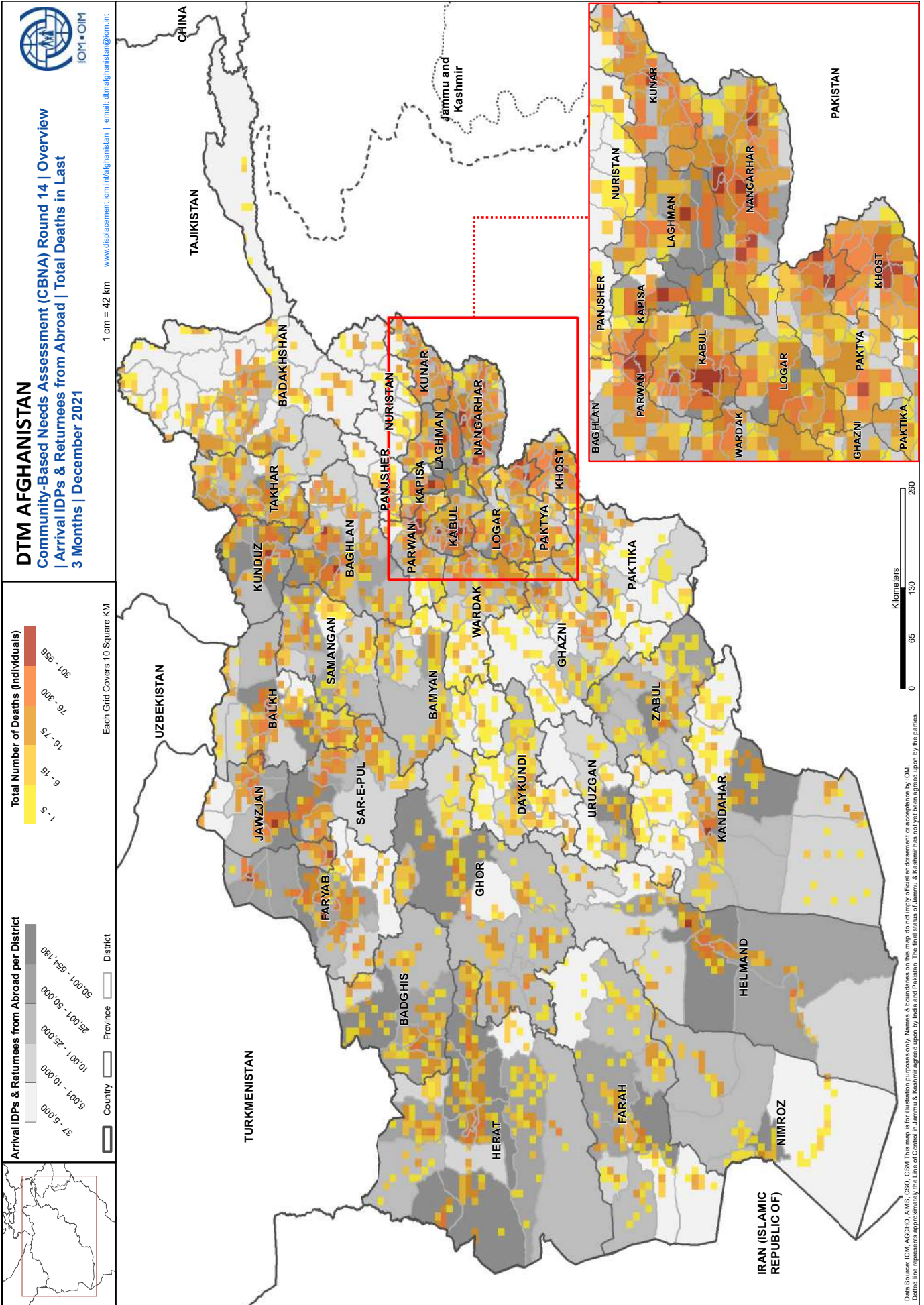


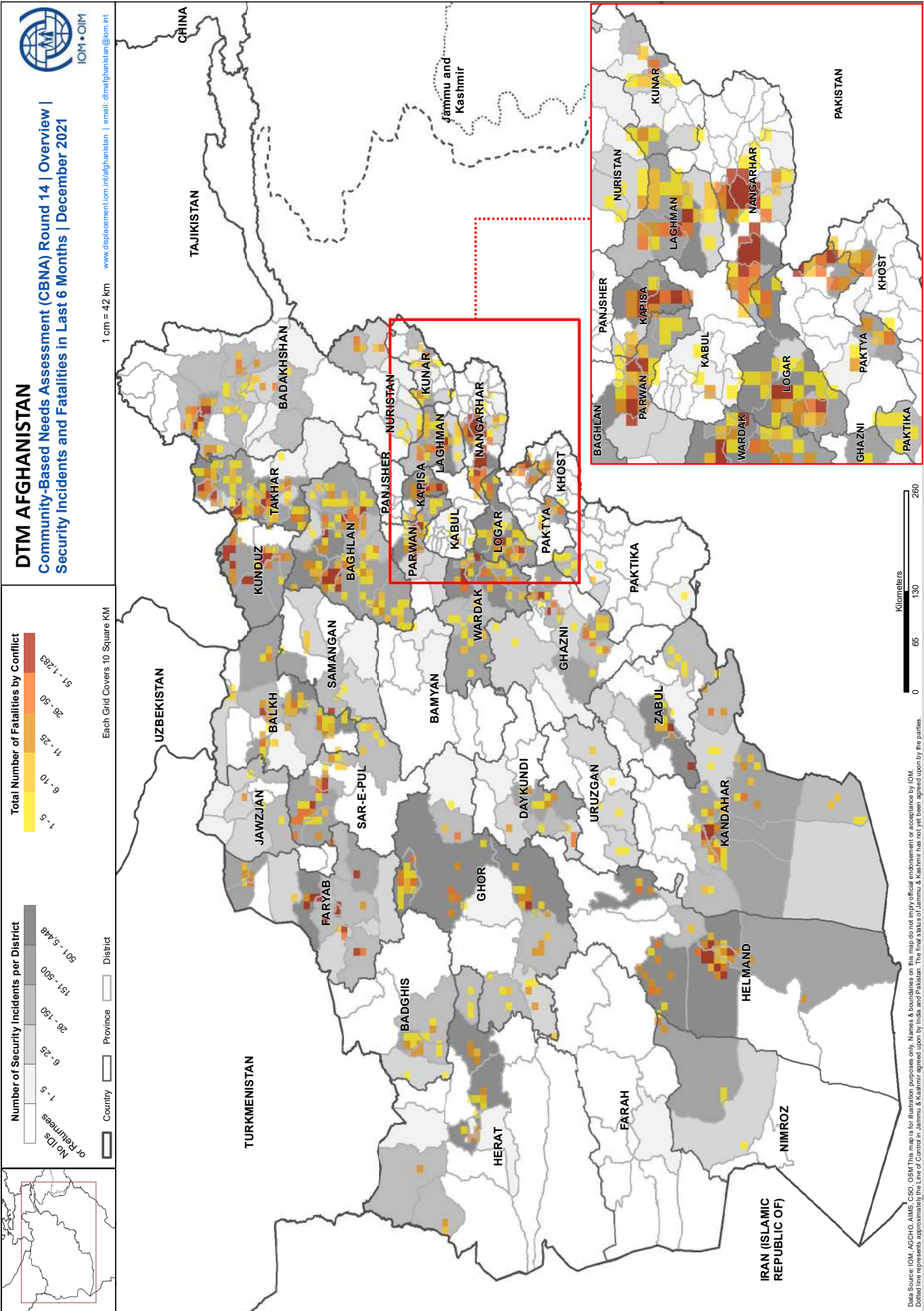






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