

Since 2017, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with the Government of Afghanistan, has been supporting durable solutions aimed at voluntary and safe return and sustainable reintegration through its **Community-based Protection and Solutions Programme Response (Co-PROSPER)** in 20 Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration (PARRs).

The PARR programme is a key component of UNHCR's work to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) by improving key services and infrastructure in areas where Afghan refugees are returning to through an area-based, multi-sectoral, humanitarian-development-based investment, including through inclusive partnerships, to create conducive conditions for sustainable reintegration and support solutions

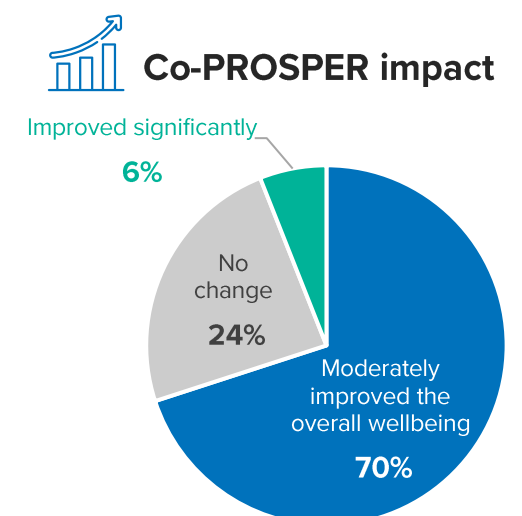
Objective:

This study is to understand what has been achieved in PARRs and how the Programme has contributed to and helped population to sustainable reintegration. Further, the evaluation help to better understand intra-community relations, and the impacts, successes, and limitations in promoting reintegration, resilience, and development from protection and solutions perspective.

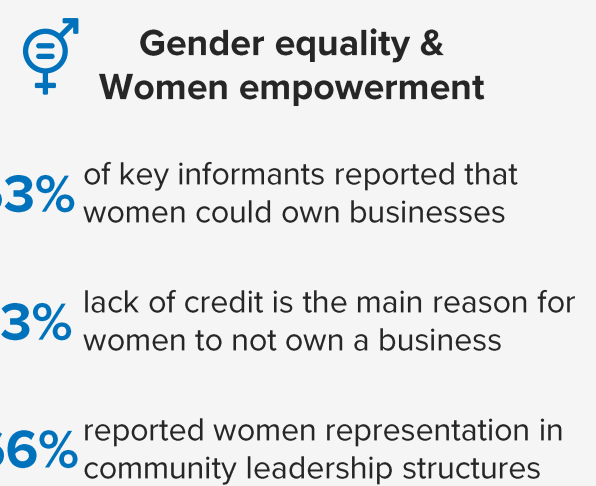
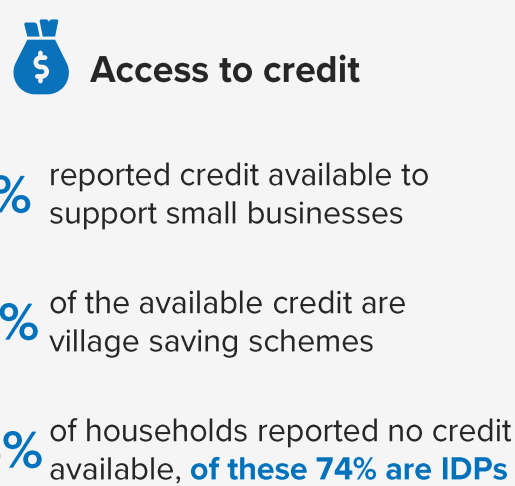
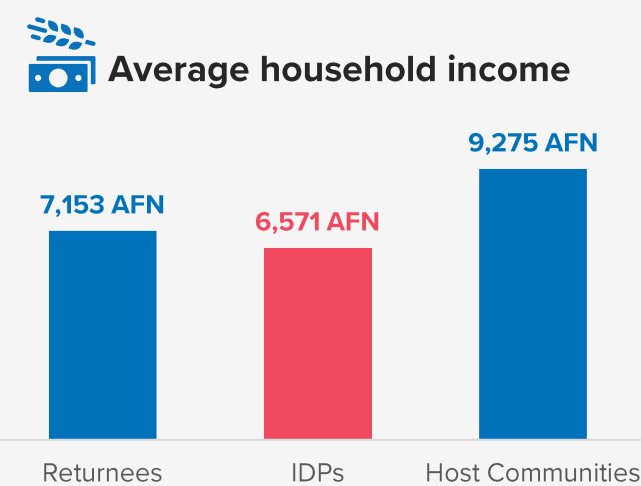
Importantly, the evaluation contributes towards an understanding of the context and conditions for sustainable reintegration and solutions in the 20 PARRs, including the challenges and gaps that returnees, IDPs, and host community populations face around reintegration, protection, and solutions. Such challenges and issues include access to rights and services, self-reliance and economic opportunities, peaceful coexistence and social cohesion, movement intensions, and intra-community dynamics, to determine the overall impact of the interventions, and how far they have contributed to sustainable reintegration.

Overall Summary of Findings:

Overall, much of the data suggests that the **Community-based Protection and Solutions Programme Response (Co-PROSPER)** was reported to have had moderate to large positive impacts on the overall wellbeing of households living in PARRs. Community institutions appear to be strong, and communities have made large gains in peacebuilding and community relations and cohesion indicators, which both Households and by Key informants attributed to the support they had received from the Co-PROSPER programme and other development programmes. However, most households were also reported that they were still living in sub-standard conditions, mainly due to poor access to livelihoods, and to a lesser extent poor access to services like healthcare and WASH. Greater focus on these specific areas could improve overall wellbeing of households even more than the Co-PROSPER programme already has.



Key Findings



Community relations tended to be reported as neutral to positive, and concerns over inter-communal violence were not reported as concerns by populations in any of the locations. Overall, concerns over violence seemed to be more individual, and tended to be linked to personal disputes over money, land, or criminality, rather than displacement status or ethnic group.

Overall dissatisfaction with the situation tends to centre upon livelihood opportunities, followed by service access. There seems to be a close relationship between poor livelihood opportunities and a poorer overall impression of the PARR. In the North healthcare remains a large concern, while improving WASH was a major concern in the North East. Insecurity was reported as a major issue in the South.

While most services were reported to be present, their service quality tended to be poor. Most KIs reported that a health clinic was present (77%), although many did not have enough drugs or lacked adequate staffing. While most households were able to get water from private hand pumps (37%), piped water (24%) or public hand pumps (27%), and nearly all KIs reported water sources to be close, about half of all households reported that water sources dried up at some point during the year. This was higher (61%) for IDPs.

Most households reported to be living in mud-brick or pakhsa shelters, many of these are substandard. Half reported to have access to adequate shelter in the PARR. Despite the substandard shelter situation, most community members would be much worse off without the community structures in place, nearly all KIs noted that there was support for newly arrived IDPs or returnees in finding shelter, which extended from findings land to finding a host community household to support them.

Nearly all key informants reported community leadership presence. These were most likely to be elected community leaders, although village leaders, such as arbabs and maliks, were also reported to be there about 2/3 of the time. Only 1/3 of KIs reported the presence of local government in regular affairs in the community.

About half of key informants reported the presence of CDCs and other develop programmers. These programmers were reported to have had the largest impacts on community inclusivity and overall community relations.