



Vulnerability Assessment Framework

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK UPDATE

VAF DATA SUPPORTING DAFI SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION

In 2016, there were 210 scholarships available through the DAFI program (160 funded by the German Government and 50 funded by the Said Foundation). Given the high volume of applications, a clear and well planned selection process was a priority.

The approach to the 2016 DAFI selection process was premised on indicative quotas to guide the decision making, and to ensure optimal equity amongst the 18 to 30 year old refugee population from different geographic locations and genders, academic performance, fields of study, as well as consideration given to levels of vulnerability.

The Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) provided the evidence for the decision making related to the urban contexts. The VAF Welfare Model used predicted expenditure as a proxy for multi-dimensional vulnerability. By predicting the approximate levels of expenditure that a case with a certain set of characteristics will have, the model is able to demonstrate where that case falls within the economic vulnerability thresholds.

There are differences in the levels of vulnerability across the four geographical regions. The Welfare Model identifies 64% of cases in the Northern region as highly vulnerable or above, versus only 30% in the Central region.

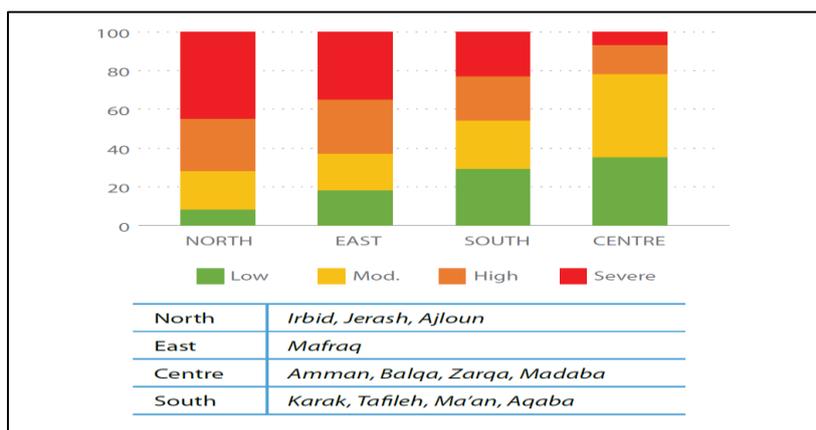


Chart 2

Source data: VAF home visits, Geo segments (1,433 records), Date: Jan - Feb 2015, Level: Cases

For the locations where low and moderate levels were more than 50% (Central and South), the percentages of candidates were scaled down by the specific percentages:

Centre: scaled down by -0.30 to deduct weighting of the population that has 'low' vulnerability (0.7 of population size)

South: scaled down by -0.25 to deduct weighting of the population that is 'low' vulnerability (0.25 of population size)

North: scaled up by 1.42 to add weighting to the population that is 'severely' vulnerable (1.42 of population size)

East: scaled up by 1.38 to add weighting to the population that is 'severely' vulnerable (1.38 of population size)

Although there were potential biases in the decision to select this scaling and weighting process based on a relatively small sample size, in the absence of other data, this approach was feasible to come to agreement for indicative quotas. The selection panels took into account other considerations throughout the selection process, and the exact numbers were altered based on inclusion of additional information. Other considerations per location included the number of students who had completed their Tawjihi results, protection concerns (i.e. early marriage, child labour, limited opportunities for volunteer work in urban areas) and level of capacity of UNHCR and JCEE to support successful candidates from highly vulnerable areas.

For more information on selection of DAFI scholarship selection process please contact Tatjana Klein klein@unhcr.org or Irene Ormond ormond@unhcr.org.

