1. **What are the main objectives of the Model Disability Survey of Afghanistan (MDSA)?**

Specific objectives of MDSA 2019 included the following:

- Determine the prevalence severe, moderate and mild disabilities among Afghan adults (age 18+ years), nationally and for major geographic regions.
- Determine the prevalence of severe, moderate and mild disabilities among Afghan children (age 2–17 years), nationally and for all major geographic regions, including Kabul provide as an individual region.
- Measure the healthcare utilization patterns, experience and satisfaction among people with disabilities in Afghanistan.
- Identify the current conditions, needs and challenges faced by persons with different levels of disability in Afghanistan, specifically as pertaining to overall functioning, health conditions, personal assistance (including assistive products and facilitators), well-being and empowerment.
- Understand the key macro, community and household-level determinants of disabilities outcomes in Afghanistan.
- Provide the information necessary for the setting and pursuit of future policy priorities to improve the lives of disabled populations in Afghanistan.

2. **How was the questionnaire developed?**

The MDSA was based on the Model Disability Survey (MDS) developed by World Health Organization, the World Bank and other key stakeholders for global application and comparability to provide reliable and detailed data on all aspects of disability – impairments, activity limitations, participation restrictions, related health conditions, environmental factors. The MDS survey questionnaire and core modules were adopted for MDSA 2019 with adaptations and translations made for the local context.

Three core tools were developed covering:

- Household characteristics
- Adult disabilities (related to functioning, health conditions, personal assistance, assistive products and facilitators, health care utilization, well-being and empowerment)
- Child disabilities (related to functioning and health conditions)

3. **Who conducted the fieldwork?**

Face-to-face interviews were conducted by 1185 interviewers, 617 females and 568 males. All interviewers had previously worked on The Asia Foundation (the Foundation) projects. All enumerators were residents of the provinces where they conducted interviews. Fieldwork was led by the Afghan Center for Socio-Economic and Opinion Research (ACSOR), while third-party field verification was led by Greenwich.

4. **When was the fieldwork conducted?**

Fieldwork interviews were conducted from April 14, 2019 to May 06, 2019.

5. **What is the MDSA’s margin of error?**

Assuming a Design Effect of 2.67 and p= 0.5, at the 95% CI level with n= 14, 290 the resulting complex Margin of Error is 1.34%
6. **Does the MDSA account for quality control?**

Quality controls were implemented at each step of the process by both the Foundation and its partners. Overall, 36% of surveys were subject to some form back checks. The back-checks consisted of: direct observation during the interview (686 interviews, 4.8%), a return visit to the residence where an interview took place by the supervisor (2,907 interviews, 20.3%), and quality control by an external validator (1,021 interviews, 7.1%).

The MDSA included third-party validation. ACSOR supervisors provided the fieldwork schedule to the validation team following the training briefings. The Foundation personnel also participated in validation for some sampling points. Validators and/or the Foundation personnel met with ACSOR interviewers during the field period and observed fieldwork to verify the correct administration of the survey, including of the starting point, the random walk, and respondent selection in 120 sampling points.

In order to improve accuracy and verify fieldwork, interviewers collected GPS data using phones. GPS coordinates for 1,191 out of 1,210 sampling points (98.4%) were collected.

The World Health Organization was involved across the entire implementation of the project to ensure reliability and global consistency with other implementations of the MDS.

7. **How did security issues in the country affect the results of the Survey?**

No notable security incidents affected fieldwork.

8. **Who funded the Survey?**

The MDSA was funded through generous support from the United States Agency for International Development.

9. **What is The Asia Foundation?**

The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia. Informed by six decades of experience and deep local expertise, our work across the region addresses five overarching goals—strengthen governance, empower women, expand economic opportunity, increase environmental resilience, and promote regional cooperation.

10. **What does The Asia Foundation do in Afghanistan?**

The Foundation began working in Afghanistan in 1954 and re-opened its Kabul office in 2002. Programs focus on governance and law, women’s empowerment, education, regional cooperation, and the signature Survey of the Afghan People.

11. **Why does The Asia Foundation conduct the MDSA?**

The Foundation’s goal is to provide timely data and analysis to support of Afghan government and citizens’ efforts in building a stable, prosperous society.

12. **Where can I read or download the survey report?**


13. **Who should I contact for more information?**

Please contact the Foundation’s Afghanistan office at country.afghanistan@asiafoundation.org.