Key Highlights:

• The wheat price was decreasing in global markets started in December 2012 and continued up to March 2013, after an increasing trend from May to November 2012. In the current month (June 2013) the wheat price decreased in Delhi (India) and Afghanistan, while increased in Karachi and Lahore local markets.

• Wheat flour price in main cities started decreasing from April to June 2013, mostly due to harvest in the country, after an increasing trend from June to November 2012 and a stabilized status during December 2012 - March 2013.

• Compared to the same month last year (June 2012), the June wheat flour price in USD is in a normal range (3.8% increased); while in Afghani price it is significantly higher by 25% which was mostly attributed to Afghan currency depreciation.

Consumer Price Index (CPI):

On the monthly basis, the overall CPI in June 2013 was slightly decreased by 0.1 percent points (0.2 percent points in food items and 0.1 percent point in non-food items).

Compared with the same month last year (June 2012), CPI increased by 7.5% (9 percent points for food items and 8.2 percent point for non-food items). The CPI increased in all main cities. The highest increase happened in Badakhshan (13.0 percent point), Balkh (11.5), Khost (10.9), Kunduz (10.6), Kandahar (9.6), Kabul (7.4), Bamyan (7.0), Nangarhar (6.1), Hirat (4.1), and Hilmand (3.9) percent points.

Specifically, the annual increase in the food items of CPI was high in Khost (13.2 percent point), Badakhshan (12.1), Balkh (11.9), Kunduz (11.4), Bamyan (9.1), Kandahar (7.3), Nangarhar (6.3), Kabul (5.1), Hilmand (4.0) and Hirat (3.7). Meanwhile, for non-food items, the highest increase was in Badakhshan (14.7 percent point), Kandahar (12.3), Balkh (10.9), Kunduz (9.1), Kabul (8.9), Nangarhar (6), Khost (5.2), Hirat (4.7), Hilmand (3.5), and Bamyan (3.1).

Wheat Grain (Retail) Monthly Price in Regional Markets and Afghanistan:

The Wheat price was reported at US$ 326 per MT in Lahore (Pakistan) and US$ 355 per MT in Karachi (Pakistan) during June 2013. In Lahore it was 5.6% higher than the previous month (May 2013), 12.4% higher than the same month last year (June 2012) and 35.5% higher than Pre-crisis level (October 2007). In Karachi, the price was slightly higher by 1.1% than the previous month (May 2013), 13.2% higher than the same month last year (June 2012) and 39.1% higher than Pre-crisis level (October 2007).

In Delhi, the retail price of Wheat was reported at US$ 311 per MT in the reporting month (June 2013), being 2.2% lower than the previous month (May 2013), 12.3% higher than the same month last year (June 2012) and 19.1% higher than Pre-crisis level (October 2007).

In Afghanistan, the average retail price of Wheat in main cities was 371 US$/MT for the reporting month, being 6.3% lower than the previous month (May 2013), 12.3% higher than the same month last year (June 2012) and 23.6% higher than Pre-crisis level (October 2007).

Sources:
1. CPI Source: Central Statistics Organization (CSO). Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average price of consumer goods and services purchased by households. It is a price index determined by measuring the price of a standard group of goods meant to represent the typical market basket of a typical urban consumer.
2. WFP/VAM.