

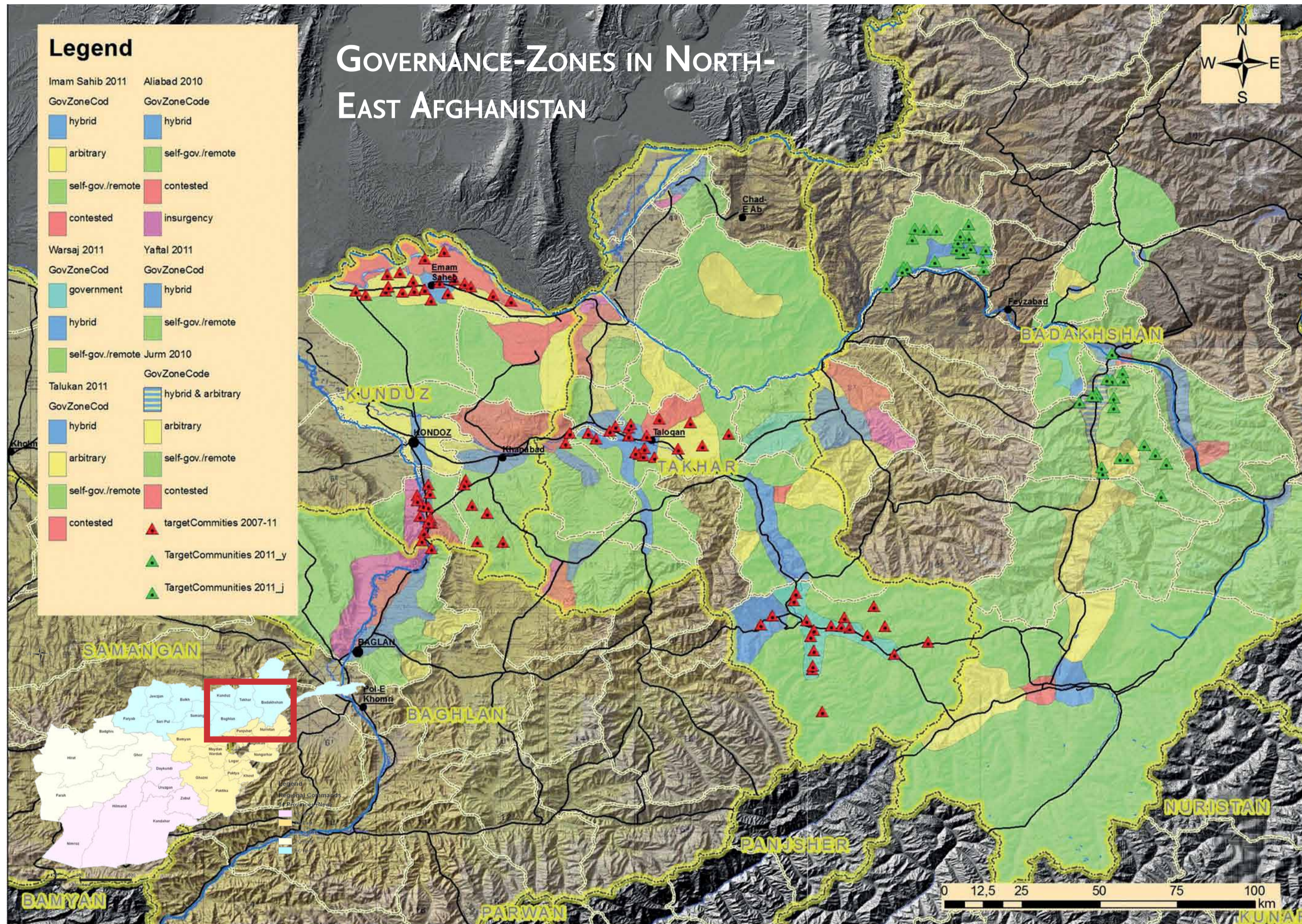
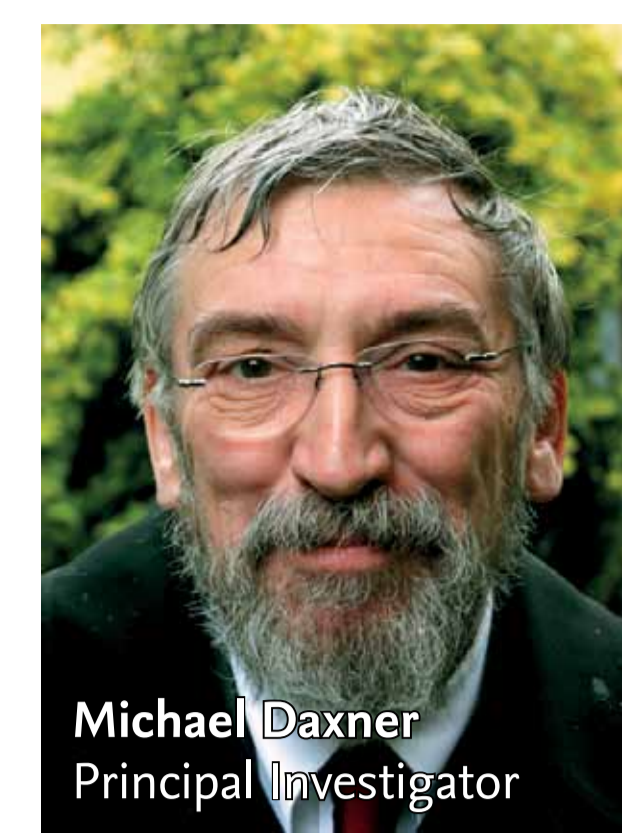
## Research Question

The project asks under which conditions the presence of external actors and their interaction with community and district level actors leads to effective and legitimate governance in North- East Afghanistan. The project continues a longitudinal study of the

impact of military and civil interventions on peace- and state-building processes in North East Afghanistan over the twelve year funding period of the SFB 700. The Afghan case represents an “once-in-a-lifetime” opportunity for researchers to observe in real time and

in the field the impact of external policies on state-building and the dynamics of social order, and thus, to evaluate the SFB’s overall research question concerning the scope and conditions of effective and legitimate governance in areas of limited statehood.

## Project Team



## Contribution to the SFB 700

In our research in Period I and II we noted significant regional and local variance regarding the modes of governance provision in North-East Afghanistan. We suppose that this variance is linked to differences in the effectiveness and legitimacy of governance in the research region. In line with the third central research objective of the SFB 700, in Period III we thus (1) intend to understand how the empirically observed variance in the

quality and modes of governance emerges and how these differences lead to different outcomes regarding the legitimacy and effectiveness of governance. (2) In a subsequent step we will then explore how different degrees and forms of legitimacy and effectiveness of governance impact on the stability of social order. (3) Finally we thus seek to understand the link between the quality of governance and the stability of social order in a conflict setting.



Policeman in new uniform in Badakhshan, 2003



Notorious, partly renovated prison in Pul-e Charkhi



Research team interviewing a village shura in Kunduz province



Protection for a German CIMIC Team in Kunduz



Bridge in Takhar before it was rebuilt by aid organisations in 2009



Girls doing homework after school, Takhar



Judges in Takhar—a whip symbolises Sharia law, the writing refers to a 3-days training organised by the ministry



Former jihadi commander now running the District Development Assembly in Barak, Takhar province



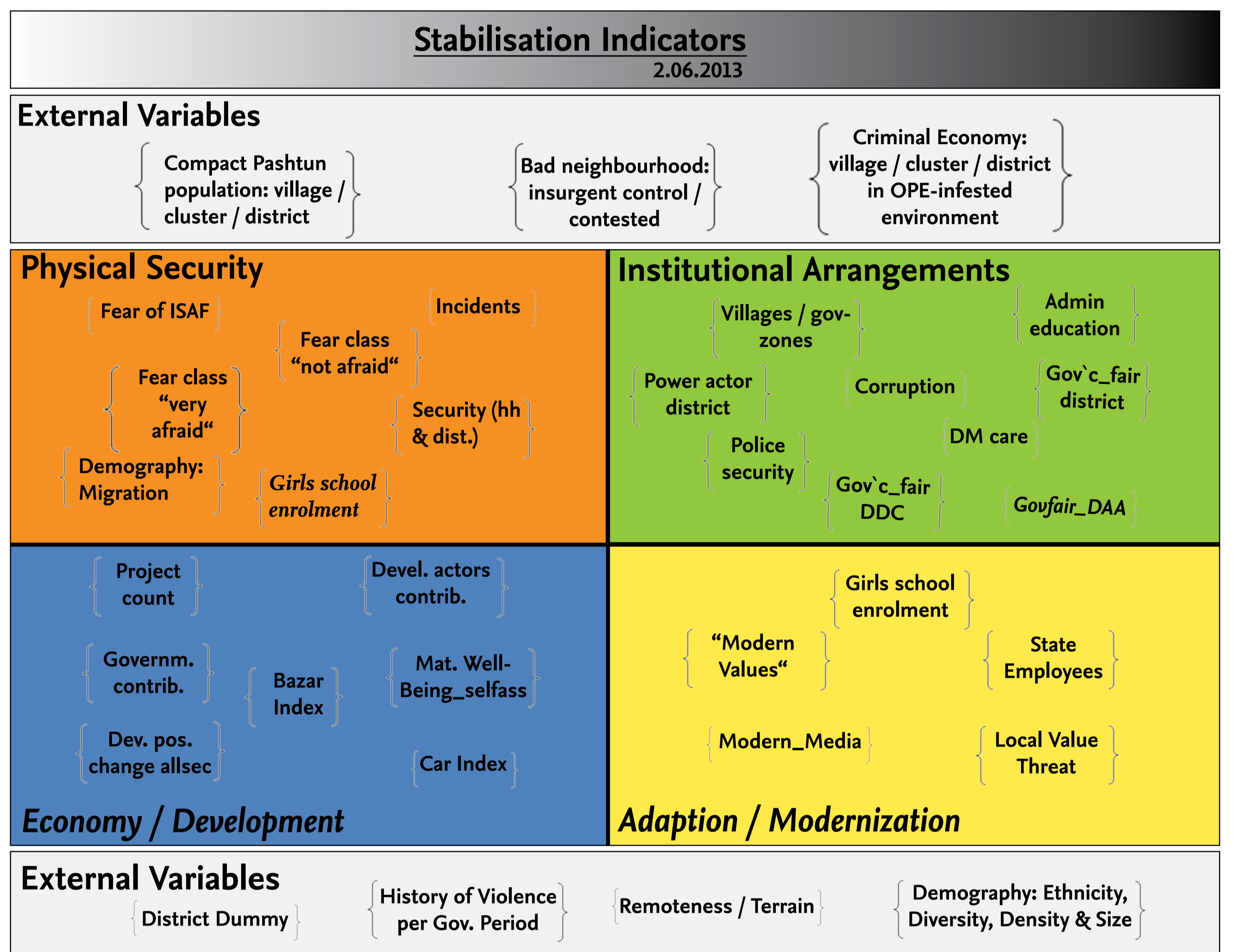
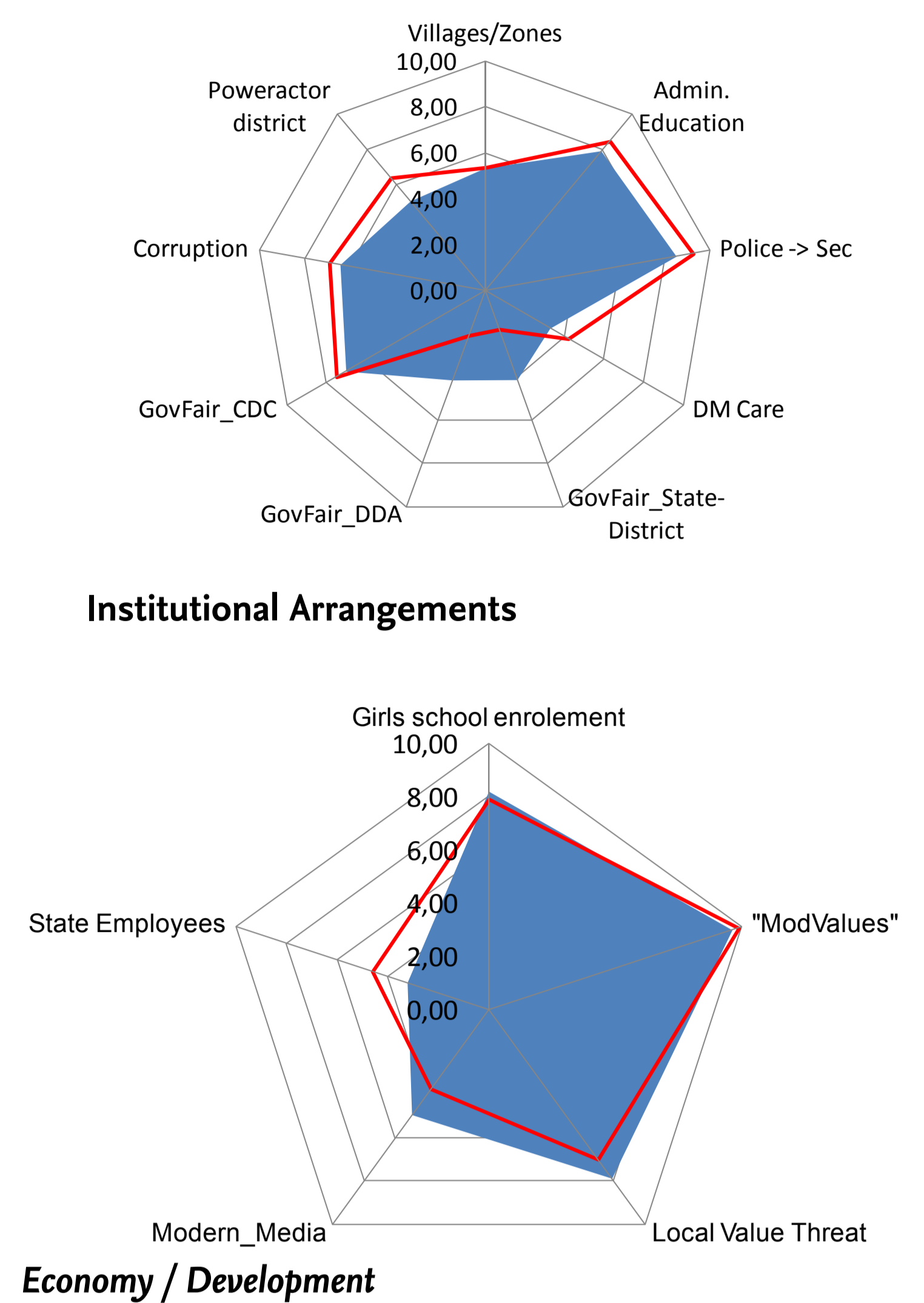
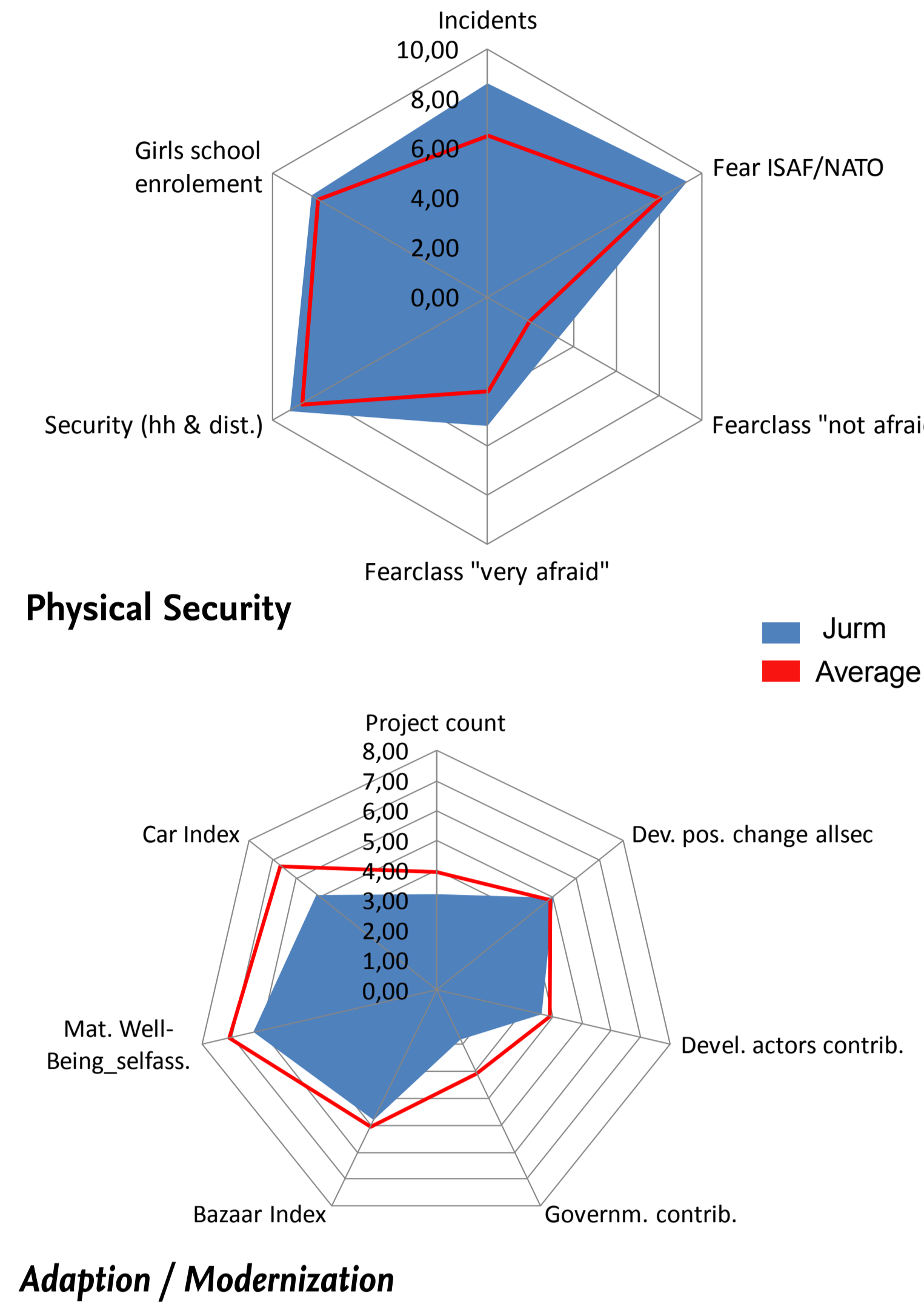
Candidates for Provincial Council Elections in Takhar



Former jihadi commander now running the District Development Assembly in Barak, Takhar province



Idle filling station at remote former drug market in Laghman



## Implementation

This study is based on a mixed method approach, combining qualitative guideline interviews, fieldwork and case studies with quantitative household surveys which will be repeated in 2015 and 2017 during the third funding period of the SFB. As an empirical and inductive meso-sociological research project we

are observing, assessing and analyzing a range of intervention effects on local societies in Afghanistan. In this final funding period we will use the wider inductive research results to develop and test the stabilisation model of the intervention drawing on concepts of dynamic stability and social order.