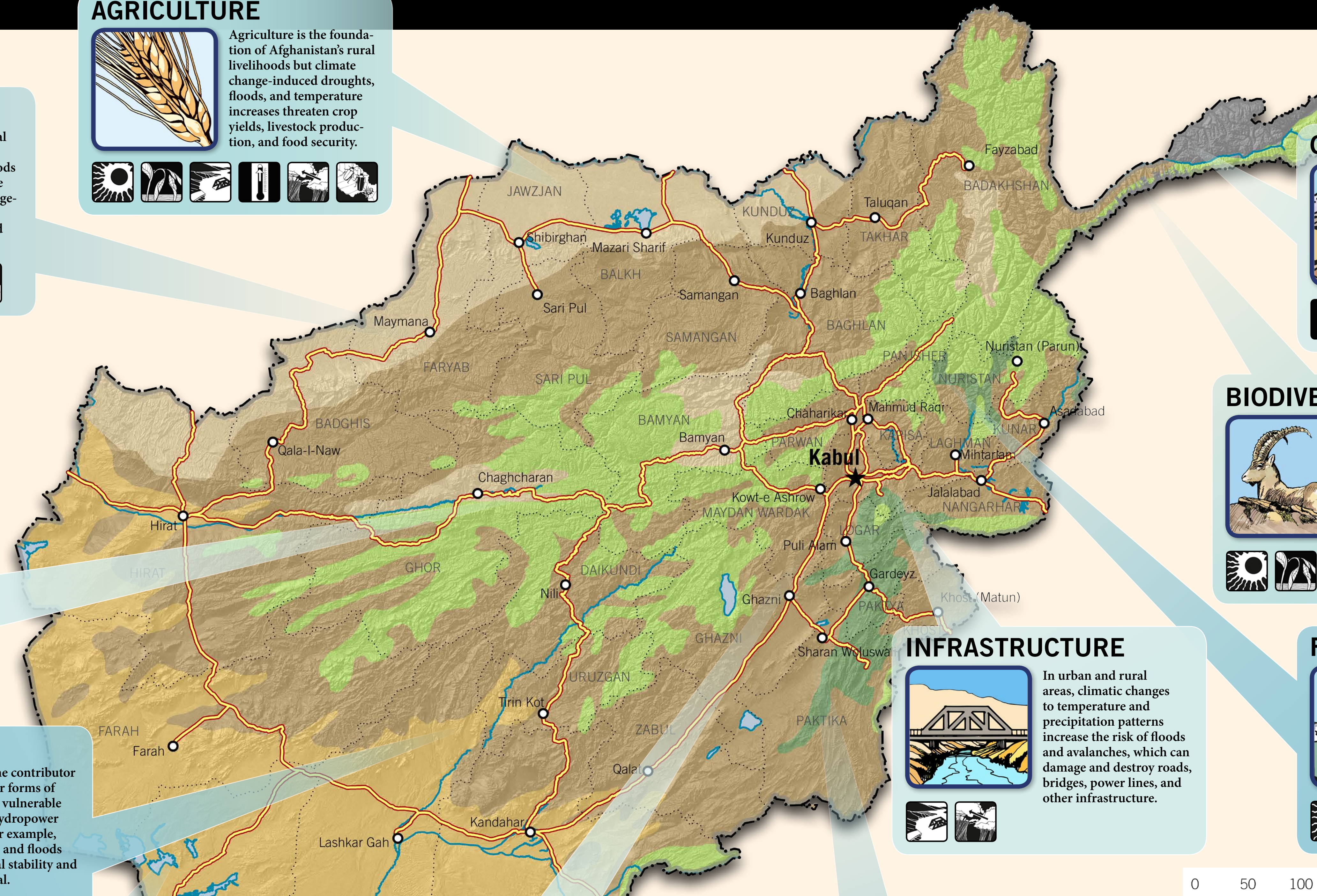






CLIMATE CHANGE THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES IN AFGHANISTAN




AGRICULTURE




Agriculture is the foundation of Afghanistan's rural livelihoods but climate change-induced droughts, floods, and temperature increases threaten crop yields, livestock production, and food security.




RANGELANDS




Rangelands support animal husbandry and are a vital resource for rural livelihoods but native plant species are vulnerable to climate change-induced droughts, floods, temperature increases, and desertification.




GLACIERS



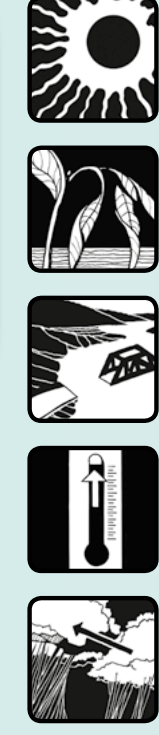
Temperature increases and glacial melting, which have already begun, put Afghanistan's mountains and rivers at risk, which directly impacts the availability of water resources across the country.




WATER




Afghanistan has abundant water resources but depends on mountain snows that are highly vulnerable to climate-induced changes in temperature and precipitation.




BIODIVERSITY




Climate change is becoming one of the largest drivers of biodiversity loss and threatens Afghanistan's many diverse native plants and animals.




ENERGY




Fossil fuel energy is a prime contributor to climate change but other forms of energy generation are also vulnerable to climate change. Large hydropower and micro-hydro dams, for example, are vulnerable to droughts and floods that impact their structural stability and energy generation potential.



INFRASTRUCTURE



In urban and rural areas, climatic changes to temperature and precipitation patterns increase the risk of floods and avalanches, which can damage and destroy roads, bridges, power lines, and other infrastructure.




FORESTS




Afghanistan's forests have been heavily degraded by human activity over recent decades. With a warmer climate, these forests are vulnerable to droughts, invasive species, and diseases.



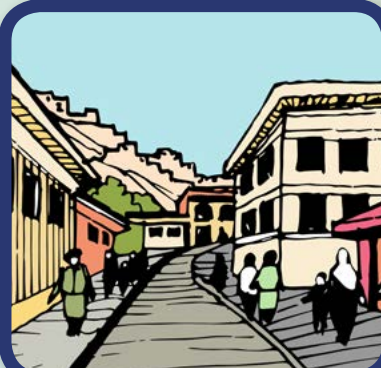
WETLANDS




Afghanistan's wetlands are globally significant ecosystems, particularly for migratory birds, but also highly sensitive to changes in temperature and precipitation, and the introduction of invasive species and diseases.




URBAN




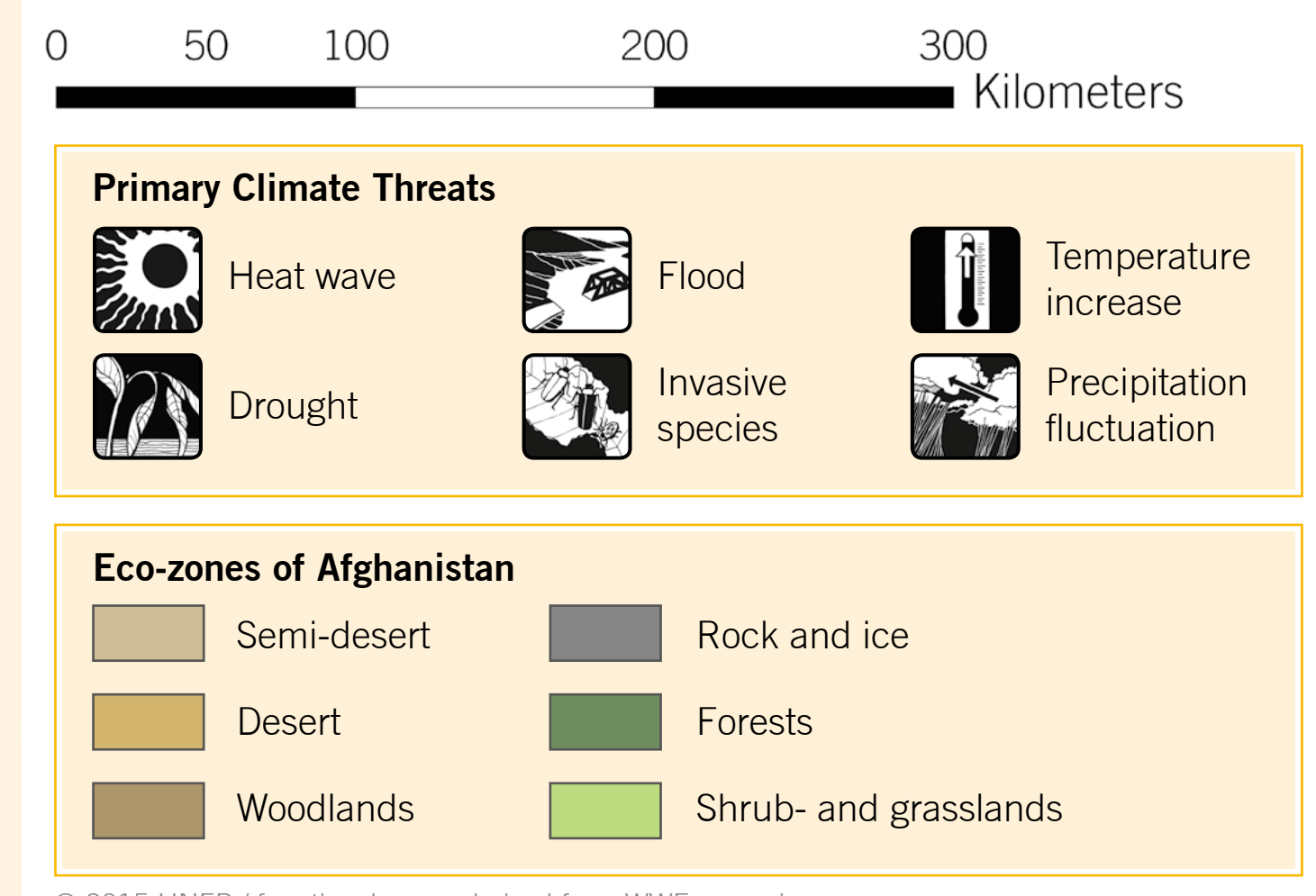
Cities consume more than 70 percent of Afghanistan's energy and produce more than half of its CO2 emissions but are also highly vulnerable to heat waves, drought, extreme weather, and invasive diseases.



HEALTH



In both urban and rural areas, a warmer climate will increase the risk of invasive diseases, heat-related illnesses, and worsen air quality. Lower crop yields will also decrease food security and impact nutrition across the country.

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