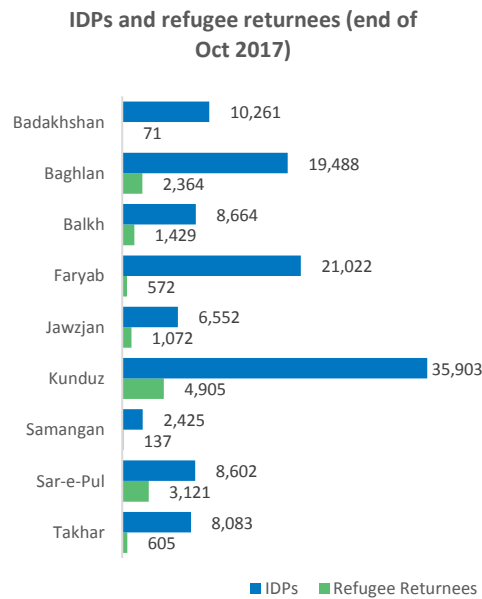


## HIGHLIGHTS

- Displacements:** The major displacement reported in October was caused due to skirmishes between two anti-government elements' (AGEs) groups in Jawzjan province which occurred on 25 and 26 October. As many as 1,450 households were displaced out of which 700 families in hard to reach areas. Joint assessments are in progress and 107 from 516 families visited so far. Assessment of the remaining families is ongoing and the provision of emergency assistance is in the pipeline.
- Ghormach Caseload:** The response to Ghormach caseload (1,185 families) remained pending during the reporting period mainly due to insecurity of the road as well as uncertainty on partnership arrangement between Faryab Afghanistan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) and some humanitarian partners. It was therefore planned that the distribution will be carried out by a local NGO partner.
- Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:** During the month of October, a total of 11 incidents of killing and maiming of children by parties to the armed conflict were verified. 22 children (19 boys and 3 girls) were killed and injured. In addition two incidents affecting education and health services and one case of abduction were reported and verified during the same reporting period.
- Child Protection in Emergencies:** Psychosocial support activity continue for Mirzolang IDPs in Saripul province covering 2,040 children (1,504 boys and 536 girls). 45 children were referred to other service providers.
- Mine Action:** 951,000 sqm area was cleared, 196 mines and 499 unexploded ordnances (UXOs) were destroyed. As many as 19,000 civilians including IDPs received mine risk education (MRE) during the reporting month.
- Specialized Services:** ACAP III program has ended and will only provide response in case of massive displacements and emergencies.
- Protection of Civilians:** The trend of incidents causing civilian casualties reduced by 50% in comparison with same period last year while the number of casualties have declined by 80%. The number of casualties caused by ground engagement show a decrease of 7.5% and number of civilian casualties resulted by improvised explosive devices' (IED) explosions has gone down by 90%.



## SITUATION OVERVIEW



**7,196** internally displaced persons identified in need during October (**121,000** in 2017)



**1,159** registered refugees returned from other countries in October (**14,276** in 2017)

**3,311** undocumented returnee families returned in 2017)

**73,177** verified protracted IDPs (2016-2017) in the Northern region



*Protection Monitoring data (WAW/NPO)*

**228,902** un-verified protracted IDPs as of end of 2015



**27** protection cluster partners active:

**7** UN agencies: IOM, UNAMA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMAS, UNOCHA, WFP

**9** INGOs: ACTED, Afghan Aid, DACAAR, IMC, NPO, NRC, PIN, SCI, WAW

**8** NNGOs: ACBAR, AHEAD, CHA, ERDO, HEWAD, NPO, OHW, YHDO

**2** other: GIZ, USAID

**1** observer: ICRC

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## GAPS AND CHALLENGES

- Findings from IDP assessments and protection monitoring of the Northern region protection Cluster (NRPC) members highlights that those displaced from Darzab and Qush Tippa districts of Jawzjan left their belongings behind, access to education and means of income halted. IDPs also reported illegal taxation, banned education for girls and intimidations imposed by AGEs in places of origin.
- The capacity of community leadership structures within conflict induced IDP groups and high rate of forged displacement petitions are still reported as major challenges in most of the provinces within the region. NRPC is working in close coordination with OCHA Northern Region to mitigate the effects and waste of resources.
- Access to Faryab and provision of humanitarian assistance to IDPs displaced in hard to reach areas such as Ghormach, Dawlatabad and Qaisar remains a key challenge. In addition, a vast area of highway between Andkhoy and Maimana in Faryab province is highly infiltrated by non-state armed groups.

## KEY MESSAGES

- Petition system needs harmonization with a uniform application of the same procedures across the country for assessments and response. Roles of responsibilities of all actors participating the humanitarian response need to be clearly specified. Definition of the Internally Displaced Person shall be applied in the same manner by all partners responding to the humanitarian needs.