



FACTSHEET PAKISTAN JANUARY 2018

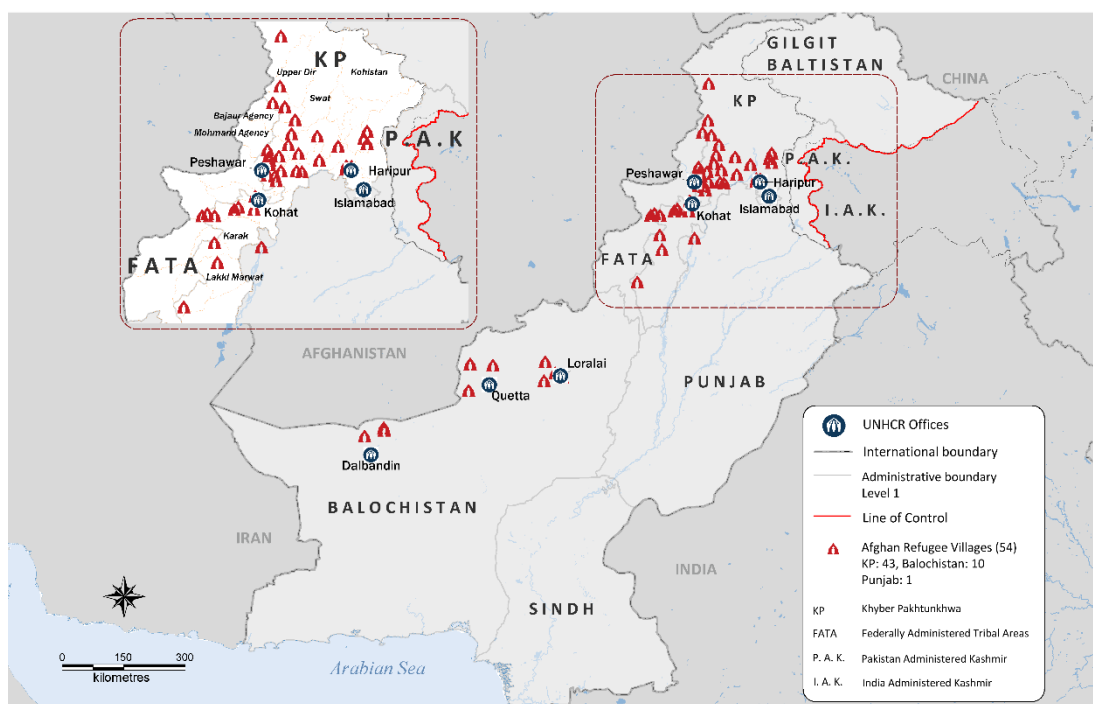
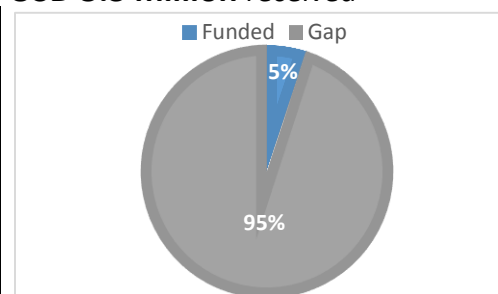
HIGHLIGHTS

<p>59,020</p> <p>Afghan refugees (PoR cardholders) repatriated to Afghanistan between April and November 2017. <i>(Repatriation is currently paused for the winter).</i></p>	<p>2,415</p> <p>Births registered between 1 – 31 January 2018.</p>	<p>386</p> <p>Initial Refugee Screening Forms were submitted between 1 – 31 January 2018.</p> <p><i>76 families comprising of 386 individuals.</i></p>	<p>103</p> <p>Afghans and non-Afghans registered in UNHCR's proGres database between 1 – 31 January 2018.</p> <p><i>25 families comprising of 103 individuals.</i></p>	<p>96</p> <p>IDP individuals returned to their areas of origin between 1 – 31 January 2018.</p> <p><i>16 families using the multiplier of 6 as the average family size.</i></p>
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Population of concern Total of 1.57 million

Country of origin	Total persons of concern
Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders	1,391,921
Afghan refugees without PoR cards	3,176
Somalia (refugees)	231
Others (refugees)	392
Asylum seekers	3,554
Total out-of-camp IDPs	176,262

Funding for 2018 USD 99.2 million requested USD 5.3 million received



MAIN UPDATES

Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

The regional multi-year Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR, phase II 2015-2017) provides a framework for cooperation between humanitarian and development actors to address the needs of Afghan refugees. The main goal of the SSAR is to identify and implement lasting solutions for refugees, while providing assistance to host communities. The SSAR prioritises the promotion of youth empowerment through inter-linked interventions in the areas of education, vocational skills training and livelihoods.

Special meeting of Friends of SSAR (FOSSAR)

- A special meeting of Friends of SSAR (FOSSAR) was organised by the German Ambassador, H.E. Martin Kobler, on Thursday 18 January. Due to the short notice and absence of Secretary SAFRON in Islamabad on that day, the Government of Pakistan was not represented at the meeting. More than 40 representatives of the international community attended the meeting, including Ambassadors of the EU, Netherlands, Canada, Switzerland and the Country Director of the World Bank. The German Ambassador opened the meeting by noting that the recent Cabinet decision was of great concern and that it was also discussed prominently at the meeting of the Ambassadors of the EU countries. The Afghan Ambassador, H.E. Zakhilwal stated that even though refugees were traditionally the first victims of the ups and downs in bilateral relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the situation is different and more worrisome this time when external relations with a third country (US) considerably affect the tensions. He reiterated that the Government of Afghanistan wants refugees to return as long as returns remain voluntary. The Ambassador has been meeting government of Pakistan officials, politicians and representatives of the international community and remains positive that repatriation will remain voluntary, as per the stated policy of the government of Pakistan. However, if there is increased pressure or encouragement of returns, the government of Afghanistan will seek to address the situation through a trilateral framework (GoA-GoP-UNHCR).

Durable Solutions and Protection

- **Voluntary Repatriation:** UNHCR operates two Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) in Quetta and Nowshera for refugees wishing to repatriate to Afghanistan. Families who want to repatriate are de-registered at the VRC, and their Proof of Registration (PoR) card (an identity card for Afghan refugees that grants temporary legal stay in Pakistan and protection against *refoulement*) is cut in the corner. Returnees receive a cash grant of approximately USD 200 per individual upon arrival at one of the three UNHCR encashment centres in Afghanistan for refugees returning from Pakistan. Repatriation is currently paused for the winter break and will be resumed on 1 March 2018.
- **Legal Assistance:** UNHCR operates nine Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) which provide legal assistance to refugees and conduct awareness-raising activities. In January, 3,339 persons of concern were assisted by ALACs. ALACs intervened on behalf of 136 refugees at police stations upon arrest, securing the release of all, and provided court representations to 15 of those charged under the 1946 Foreigners Act and other preventive laws. In January, individual legal counselling was provided to 808 persons of concern who visited ALAC offices, as well as 1,013 people who sought legal advice through the ALAC helplines. Through 46 legal sessions, staff reached out to 1,197 participants (36 per cent were women) during January. The issues of greatest concern for persons of concern seeking legal advice/assistance were the extension of PoR cards, shelter, financial, medical needs and police harassment.
- UNHCR provides support to five Proof of Registration (PoR) Cards Modification (PCM) centres operated by the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) nationwide. The PCM centres support the modification/replacement of existing PoR cards, the registration of new born children up to the age of five, provision of PoR cards to registered children older than five years of age and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18. A total of 2,415 children were registered and 2,035 children received birth certificates between 1 January to 31 January 2018.

Education

- UNHCR Pakistan continues to provide students access to free primary and secondary (in some areas) education through 171 schools, 48 satellites classes, 55 home-based girls schools and 13 early childhood education centres in refugee villages. Around 57,000 refugee children living in 54 refugee villages across Pakistan receive education through these interventions. UNHCR also provides tertiary-level scholarships to Afghan refugee youth through the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI). The beneficiaries are mostly in 17 to 30 years old. Some, 400 students are currently studying in different Pakistani universities on a DAFI scholarship.
- UNHCR Pakistan has developed a country-level education strategy (2016-18) that focuses on increasing access to and improving the quality of primary education, especially for girls. The strategy also emphasises the provision of safe learning environments, improved teacher's training and the provision of non-formal education and vocational training opportunities for Afghan refugees.

Community-based protection

- Community-based protection (CBP) staff participated in the 4th National Steering and Coordination Committee Meeting for Civil Registration & Vital Statistics (CRVS), convened by Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms (Technical Unit for CRVS). UNHCR attends this forum to support inclusive birth registration practices for all children in Pakistan, including UNHCR's persons of concern.

Livelihoods

- UNHCR Pakistan has provided livelihoods opportunities to more than 5,000 families in Pakistan in 2017 and helped them to achieve self-reliance. The support is inclusive of a skills development package, start-up tool kit and enterprise development.
- The Poverty graduation project has successfully entered phase-II, through which UNHCR is helping 2,000 vulnerable families to graduate from extreme poverty and achieve economic self-reliance.
- UNHCR through the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC) is providing vocation skills to 1,800 Afghan and host-community youth in recognised institutions in Pakistan.

Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

Since 2009, the Government of Pakistan has been implementing the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative, which serves as a cornerstone for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and a principal burden-sharing platform for maintaining protection space for Afghan refugees. RAHA implements a wide variety of projects across the sectors of education, health, livelihoods, infrastructure, water and sanitation and social protection. Since the launch of the programme, over 4,100 projects have been implemented across all provinces of Pakistan and five agencies in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), benefitting over 10.94 million people. In 2017, nearly 623,000 people (of whom 35 per cent are registered Afghan refugees and 65 per cent are their Pakistani host communities) benefitted from 36 RAHA projects. RAHA focuses on youth empowerment through education, skills training and livelihood support in line with the countrywide strategic priorities of UNHCR. In 2018, project partnership agreement for eight projects (education, livelihoods and water) are under review. UNHCR continues to line up further projects approved by the provincial task forces as well as the Ministry of SAFRON, should further funding become available.

Health

UNHCR continues to support the provision of basic health services in refugee villages in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Punjab provinces. In January, 680,535 people in refugee villages received health services from 59 health facilities. Refugee women and children enrolled in preventive and reproductive health care programmes received antenatal, perinatal, postnatal care and routine immunisation services. Some 1,995 women received antenatal care, 1,511 deliveries were conducted by a trained birth attendant and 8,160 children received routine immunisations. Polio eradication campaigns were conducted in refugee villages by WHO, UNICEF and the health department, with the assistance from UNHCR's partners.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

- As of 31 January 2018, 29,377 IDP families (176,262 individuals) were registered as internally displaced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). UNHCR continues to lead emergency shelter/non-food items clusters, as part of the inter-agency response. UNHCR also providing technical support to FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) in the protection cluster. In addition, UNHCR continues to support displaced people and returnees through mobile protection teams and grievance desks.
- Since 1 January, 96 individuals have returned to de-notified areas (areas declared safe for returns after military operations). A cash grant of PKR 35,000 (USD 350) is distributed to returnees at the return embarkation points by the government. UNHCR has supported the return of IDPs mostly through protection monitoring in displacement, return areas and the provision of targeted assistance to vulnerable individuals.

Working with partners and donors

- UNHCR's main counterparts for refugees within the government of Pakistan is the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions, the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees and the Commissioners for Afghan Refugees, at the provincial level. In addition, UNHCR works with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Ministry of Interior (MOI) and the Economic Affairs Division (EAD).
- UNHCR continues to lead the Shelter / NFI and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) clusters and works in close coordination with the FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, as well as SAFRON at the federal level for complex emergencies in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- UNHCR implements activities through national and international non-government organisations.

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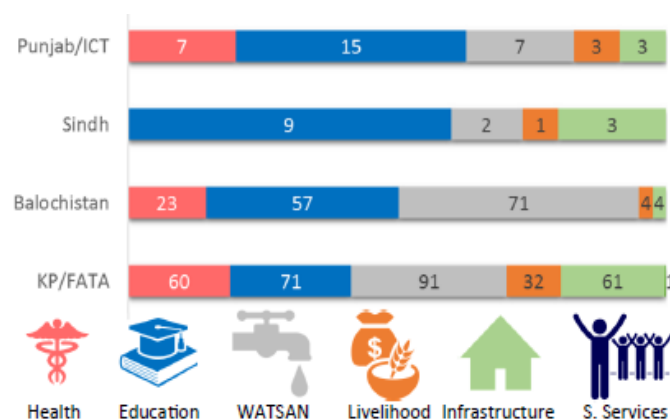
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UNHCR staffing in Pakistan

Offices	International staff		National staff		Total staff
	Regular	Affiliate	Regular	Affiliate	
Islamabad	19	0	62	5	86
Peshawar	8	0	58	6	72
Quetta	6	0	43	4	53
Total	33	0	163	15	211

*As of 31 January 2018 – source of North Waziristan Agency and Khyber IDPs population is Federal Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) while figures on IDP families are verified by National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).

Humanitarian projects implemented under RAHA (2009 – 2017)



- UNHCR is grateful for the contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR along with those donors who have directly contributed to the operation. Donors include [Canada](#) | [Czech Republic](#) | [Denmark](#) | [Educate A Child Programme](#) | [European Union](#) | [Germany](#) | [IKEA Foundation](#) | [Japan](#) | [KfW](#) | [Luxembourg](#) | [Norway](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) | [United States of America](#) | [UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#) | [Various private donors](#)