Regional Refugee Response Plan
For Afghanistan Situation
Final Report 2023

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

Uzbekistan. UNHCR and UNDP are partnering on a climate action and sustainability project that engages Afghan citizens in Uzbekistan and vulnerable people from host communities in afforestation activities through cash-for-work. Implemented in Surkhandarya region, bordering Afghanistan, the project seeks to enhance the resilience of local communities while addressing the damaging impact of dust storms on the population and the economy. © UNHCR/Elyor Nemat

Uzbekistan. Inside Termez Cargo Center © UNHCR/Elyor Nemat

Pakistan. A beneficiary woman from newly merged tribal districts has set up her own poultry business through skills provided by FAO under "Restoring Subsistence and Commercial Agriculture in Tribal Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" © UN-FAO Pakistan

Iran. Afghan refugee students have access to education © UNICEF Iran/Arfa

Iran. Afghan refugees who are part of the UPHI scheme being treated at Razi Health Post in Isfahan. © UNHCR/ Hossein Dehghanian

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AT A GLANCE

Regional Response Overview

11.9M individuals reached

7.7M estimated total Afghan population

1.6 M new arrivals since 2021

62.8K returned Afghan refugees since 2021

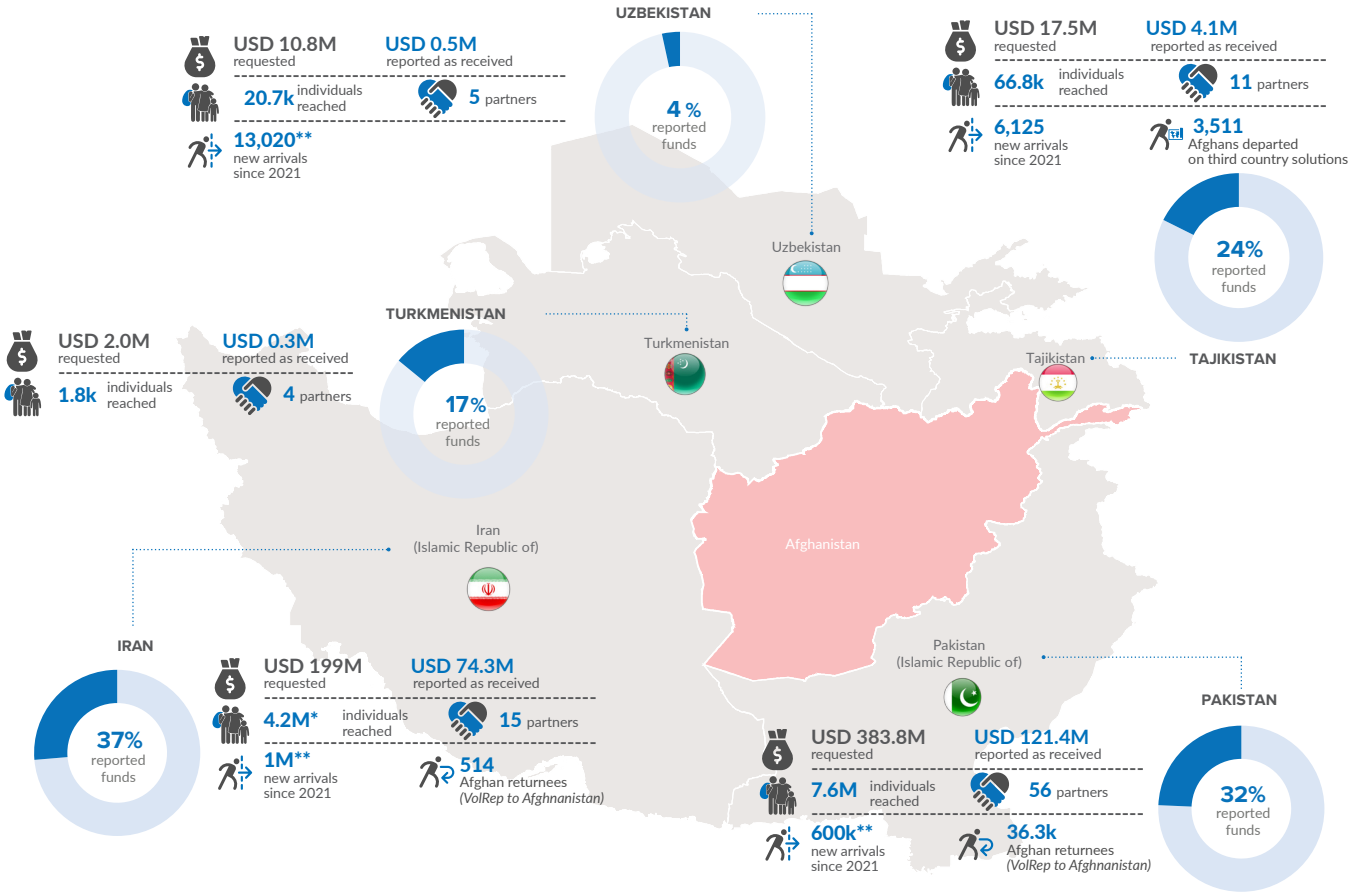
33% Reported funds

USD613M Funds required

USD200.6M Funds received

65 partners

Source: UNHCR dataportal - Afghanistan Situation



Note :

* Overall 2.0M beneficiaries were directly assisted through a combination of in-kind and cash-based assistance as well as tailored services.
A further estimated 2.2M individuals were indirectly assisted through support RRP partners provided to public services and infrastructure in support of GIRI inclusive policies.

** In Iran, UNHCR is using an average figure according to various government estimates and continues to follow-up with authorities to receive updated and disaggregated data as well as an estimate of how many presently remain in Iran. Of the average 1 million new arrivals, approximately 78,000 Afghans have approached UNHCR. Of the 600,000 new arrivals reported by the Government of Pakistan, over 323,000 have approached UNHCR. According to Government of Uzbekistan sources, some 13,020 Afghan citizens arrived in the country since January 2021. The majority arrived before August 15 with valid visas issued by the Uzbek consulate in Mazar-i-Sharif.

Disclaimer :
Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not been agreed upon by the parties.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Regional Situation Overview

The humanitarian and protection outlook for Afghans and host communities in neighbouring countries continues to be impacted by challenging socio-economic dynamics, the developing situation in Afghanistan, and policy shifts, including in relation to the issuance of documentation and inclusion in national services.

In Iran, the challenging socio-economic situation not only impacts the provision of inclusive services through national systems but, more generally, leaves Afghans struggling to make ends meet. As of November 2023, Iran's inflation rate stood at 45.5 per cent[1], marking the fourth consecutive year where inflation has exceeded 35 per cent. Due to the increase in the price of critical food imports following the depreciation of the Iranian Rial, food prices have been particularly impacted with the Statistical Centre of Iran (SCI) observing an almost 80 per cent rise in the cost of basic food items as of the end of June 2023, putting Iran in the top five countries with the highest rate of food inflation globally.

This difficult socio-economic situation has coincided with a rise in anti-Afghan sentiments, marked by an increase in xenophobic rhetoric and discriminatory behaviour towards Afghans. In addition, instances of arrest, detention, and deportation of Afghans in Iran have steadily increased since 2021. Against this backdrop, there is a growing need to actively engage with, and provide support to, national asylum systems to ensure that Afghans can access transparent and fair asylum procedures. Current dynamics act as a push-factor for Afghans – particularly undocumented Afghans – to leave Iran. While many may depart as part of a government-facilitated return scheme, purportedly on a voluntary basis, in practice the decision for many is likely influenced increasing difficulties for Afghan nationals to access documentation and livelihood opportunities, and to access public services. This underlines the need to continue supporting Afghan refugees and the Iranian Government to relieve the strain on public services.

Pakistan has been generously hosting millions of Afghans for over 40 years with movements of Afghans over time in both directions. Socio-economic crisis, exacerbated by the aftermath of the pandemic, the flood emergency in 2022, historically high inflation, political instability, and security challenges continue to have a toll in the country. . These factors have further constrained the protection environment for refugees and prospects for operationalizing solutions for both registered refugees, Afghans of other status, and new arrivals. Pakistan remains highly vulnerable to disasters triggered by recurrent natural hazards. In 2022, torrential rains and flash flooding caused extensive damage to housing, schools, and communal buildings in refugee villages and host communities. The impact of this disaster lingered into 2023, disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable in the affected districts and adversely impacting the country's economy.

The announcement of the "Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan" (IFRP) on 3 October 2023 led to a deterioration of the protection environment . While the first phase of the plan targeted undocumented Afghans the impact of IFRP was far reaching with Afghan communities reporting that a climate of fear prevented children attending school and curtailed employment opportunities. UNHCR, IOM, and other RRP partners have prioritised advocacy for a suspension of the plan in light of refoulement risks - based on UNHCR's Non-Return Advisory for Afghanistan - and the establishment of a screening mechanism to identify individuals with international protection needs, or those otherwise at risk, to prevent forced return. As a result of advocacy efforts and engagement with the authorities, some vulnerable families were protected from forced return

1 Statistical Centre of Iran (https://amar.org.ir/english)

UNHCR and IOM report that 490,891 individuals have returned to Afghanistan between 15 September 2023 and 8 February 2024, including over 29,000 being deported. In 2023, over 30,600 Afghans were arrested and detained, with spikes in incidents recorded in October and November. A generalized deterioration of the protection environment following the IFRP has resulted in a surge in demand to enrol in the voluntary repatriation program as well as an increase in unassisted returns to Afghanistan, with returnees reporting fear of arrest, deportation, and harassment by law enforcement agencies as major push-factors. This comes at a time when humanitarian needs inside Afghanistan were already dire before the recent earthquakes and the onset of a harsh winter. Hence, as well as continuing regular response programming providing critical assistance to the most vulnerable to meet their basic needs and mitigate protection risks, in the last quarter of 2023, RRP partners scaled up on protection and advocacy at all levels as a response to the IFRP.

In Tajikistan, the situation for Afghan refugees remains complex. Continued political and security uncertainties in neighbouring Afghanistan directly impact their lives, leading to a protracted refugee situation in Tajikistan. The Government of Tajikistan and RRP partners continue to collaborate to address the multifaceted needs of refugees. UNHCR prioritized enhancing the capacity of government counterparts to effectively manage a potential refugee influx, providing technical and expert capacity building to enhance interagency coordination and information sharing, based on lessons learned in recent years.

While ensuring timely humanitarian assistance remains crucial, UNHCR continues actively promoting effective socio-economic integration of Afghan refugees. Initiatives focused on creating and sustaining livelihood opportunities and provision of vocational training are crucial, equipping refugees with skills and resources required in the local labour market, allowing them to contribute to the local economy, thus advancing self-reliance, inclusion, and social cohesion. Programming sought to facilitate positive interactions between refugees and the host community, addressing refugees' specific needs and vulnerabilities, including those of women and girls, while promoting and empowering their participation in all aspects of community life. Partners remain committed to working with the Government to address immediate protection needs and promote access to basic services, expand opportunities for socio-economic integration and self-reliance, and advocate for durable solutions, including voluntary return in safety and dignity when feasible.

In Uzbekistan, in 2023, as in previous years, RRP partners did not have official access to this group to carry out systematic needs assessments or protection monitoring. According to the Government some 13,020 Afghan citizens were in the country on short-term visas as of end 2021. Informal communication and local partner assessments, however, currently estimate a population of between 2,000-8,000 people. Given the ongoing situation in Afghanistan, the absence of a national asylum framework in Uzbekistan, and based on the UNHCR Guidance Note on the International Protection Needs of People Fleeing Afghanistan, these Afghans are considered to be in a refugee-like situation. Visa renewal is a significant problem, involving expensive and lengthy processes. Those who do not have a valid passport and visa are excluded from social protection, education, healthcare, and legal employment. Afghans who cannot afford visa renewals, run out of pages in their visas, or turn 16 and need a new visa, must leave the country – risking their lives and safety. Afghan babies born in Uzbekistan cannot obtain passports. Most Afghan citizens in Uzbekistan reside in Termez district, Surkhandarya – the region bordering Afghanistan. In 2023, there have been increasing reports of people being told by authorities that they do not need visas as long as they stay in Termez. However, this has not been officially communicated to the UN or diplomatic community.

RRP partners observed an increasing need for health support, for example unvaccinated children, individuals with stress-related illnesses and vitamin deficiencies, and pregnant women soon to give birth. Where funds permitted, on a temporary case-by-case basis, RRP partners provided cash assistance to cover medical costs, and sought the support of the Ministry of Health to write off some expenses. Building on 2022 efforts, RRP partners continue to advocate with the Government of Uzbekistan for sustainable and systemic solutions to enable Afghan citizens to legalise their stay and access essential rights and services, while providing the most vulnerable with urgent humanitarian assistance.

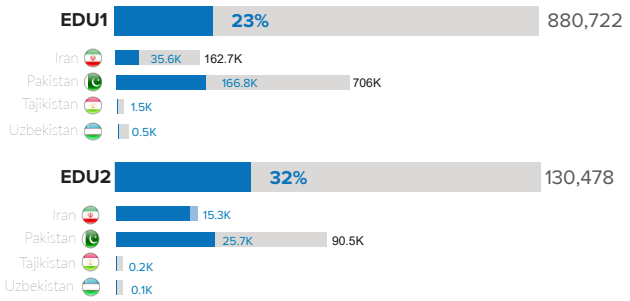
Turkmenistan adopted its Law on Refugees in 1997 (last amended in 2017), and established refugee status determination procedures in 2009. Since then, however, there have been no asylum-seekers registered with the Government. According to unofficial sources from the Embassy of Afghanistan in Ashgabat and Afghan community leaders in Turkmenistan, there are 4,000 to 5,000 Afghan citizens in the country, most of whom arrived in the early 1990s. While a small number are new arrivals, given the ongoing situation in Afghanistan and the length of stay for most Afghans in Turkmenistan, they are unable or unwilling to return and many have humanitarian and documentation needs, mostly linked to their legal status as non-citizens. In 2023, RRP partners focused on strengthening emergency preparedness, and advocating for safe access to territory and asylum. Given that there has been no refugee influx into Turkmenistan, partners did not receive any direct funding for the 2023 RRP. Preparedness activities were implemented by partners via regular budgets, including from softly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

Regional Key Achievements

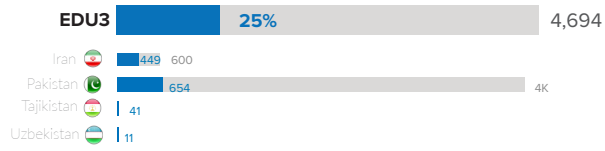
Actual | Annual Target | Above Target

EDUCATION

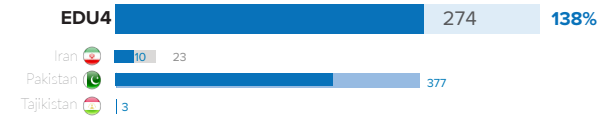
246,042 children (including Afghan refugees, Afghans of other status and members of the host community) supported to access **primary** (204,465 children) & **secondary** (41,577 children) **education**



1,155 Afghan students supported to access **tertiary education**

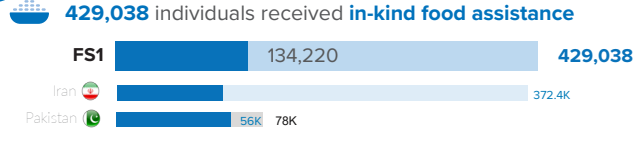


377 educational facilities **constructed** or **rehabilitated**



FOOD SECURITY

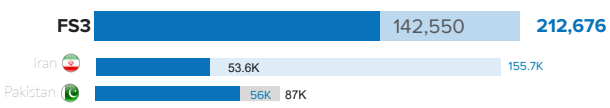
429,038 individuals received **in-kind food assistance**



Note: In Iran (Islamic Republic of), WFP reported to have provided food assistance to 31,640 unique beneficiaries monthly. The total number of reached by WFP at year-end is estimated to 372,744.

1 Post Distribution Monitoring (**PDM**) conducted in Iran(Islamic Republic of)

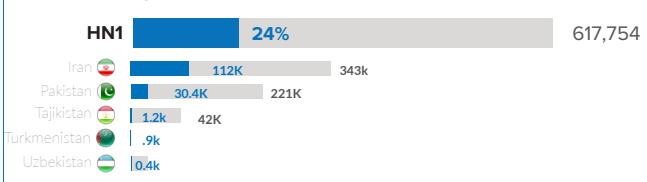
212,676 individuals received **CBI** for food security purposes



Note: In Iran (Islamic Republic of), WFP reported to have provided CBI for food security purposes to 31,755 unique beneficiaries monthly. The total number of reached by WFP at mid-year is estimated to 155,690.

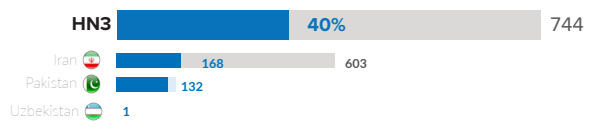
PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

145,782 Afghans supported to access **secondary** and **tertiary** healthcare services

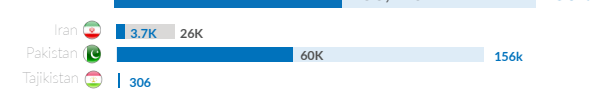


31 health facilities **constructed** or **rehabilitated**

301 health facilities supported with **equipment, medicines and medical supplies, salaries**



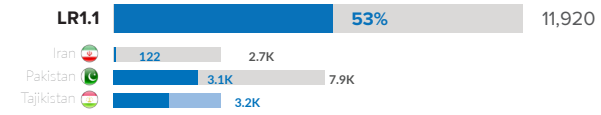
160,458 individuals received **CBI** for health and nutrition purposes



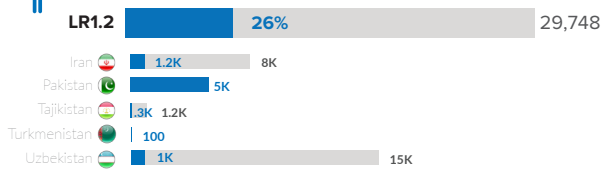
Actual | Annual Target | Above Target

LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE

6,366 individuals supported with business grants, cash for work, or in-kind **support to establish their own businesses**

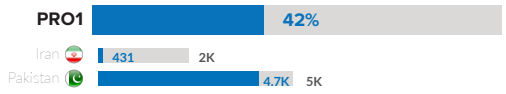


7,829 individuals benefited from **vocational training**

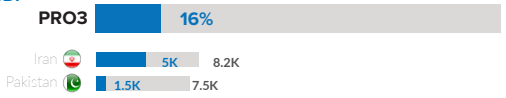


PROTECTION

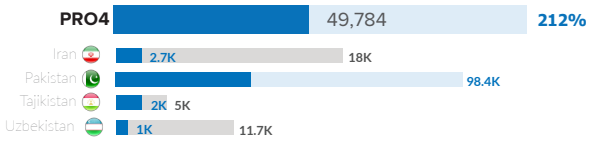
5,168 newly identified children at heightened risk supported by a Best Interests Procedure (**BIP**)



6,502 individuals received **CBI** for protection related purposes

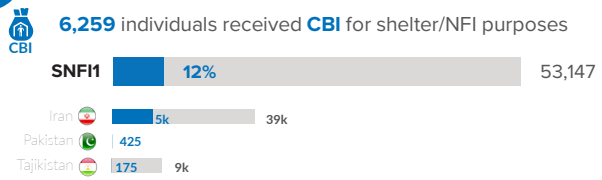


105,479 persons accessed **feedback and response mechanisms** (calls to hotline, messages to mailbox, or in-person approach)

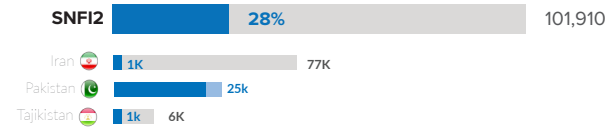


SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

6,259 individuals received **CBI** for shelter/NFI purposes



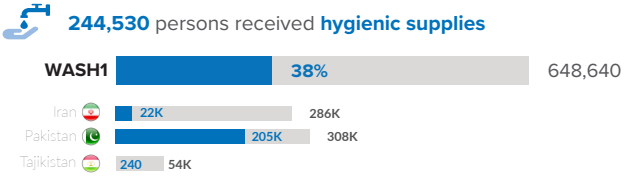
28,805 individuals provided with **core relief items**, including winterization assistance



98,546 individuals received **Multi Purpose Cash Assistance** (unconditional)

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

244,530 persons received **hygienic supplies**

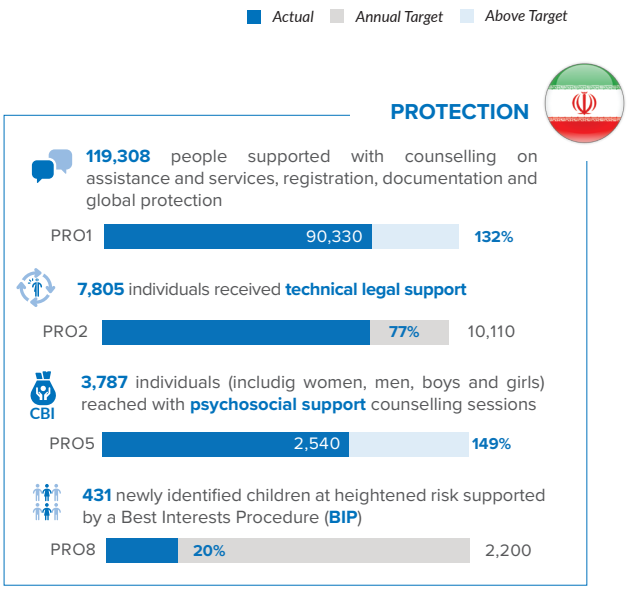


213,584 people reached with **improved access to basic drinking water services**

Progress towards achieving strategic objectives

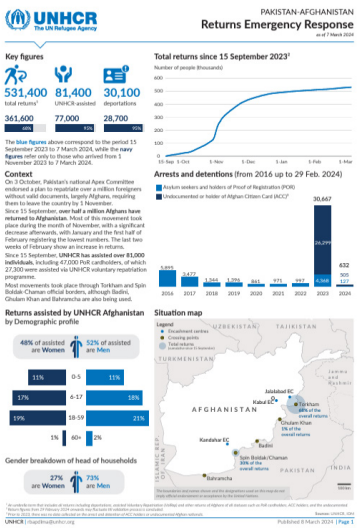
01 Ensuring access to territory and asylum

In Iran, RRP partners continued to advocate for all Afghans to have access to territory and asylum in accordance with international standards in 2023. The initiative of the Government in 2022 to conduct a headcount exercise of undocumented Afghans, including newly arrived individuals, resulted in the issuance of short-term documentation and stay arrangement for at least 2.6 million individuals, which was a positive development. While the benefits of this short-term measure persist, RRP partners continued to advocate for a more predictable longer-term approach to enable Afghans to regularize their stay in Iran and to reduce ongoing deportations. RRP partners continued to support the Government's inclusive policies through multi-sectoral interventions including infrastructure projects and Afghans have been provided with information, counselling, and assistance to help them to access to documentation and public services. Targeted cash-based interventions and legal support, provided to a combined total of more than 5,000 people helped to address protection needs, including access to documentation and prevention of harmful coping strategies.



For more information, on Iran's (Islamic Republic of) 2023 key achievements, refer to Annex I

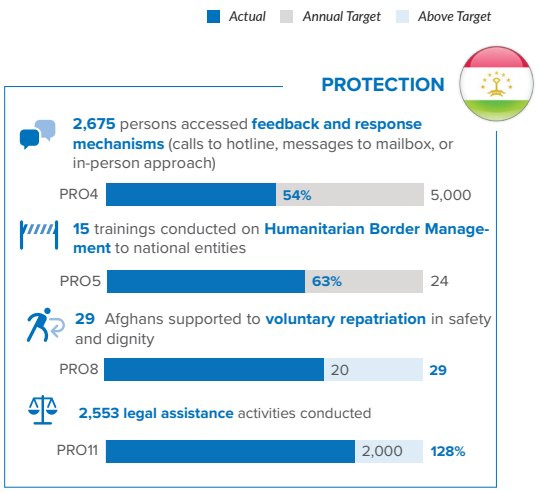
To identify protection concerns and barriers in accessing documentation and services, RRP partners prioritized communication with communities. In 2023, 119,000 Afghans were individually counselled by RRP partners after approaching either in-person or in a remotely/indirect way (e.g., phone, e-mail). This amounted to 132 per cent of partner target demonstrating the increasingly difficult situation of Afghans, especially those without proper documentation. Community outreach initiatives provided individuals with information on a range of issues including partner and government services, access to documentation and work permits, hygiene awareness, and parenting skills. Additionally, specialized, and targeted interventions such as child protection and gender-based-violence-focused case management, psychosocial support, and cash-based interventions were implemented by RRP partners to maintain dignity, wellbeing, safety, and uphold basic rights of Afghans, especially those in situations of vulnerability and heightened risk.with international protection needs, or those otherwise at risk, to prevent forced return.



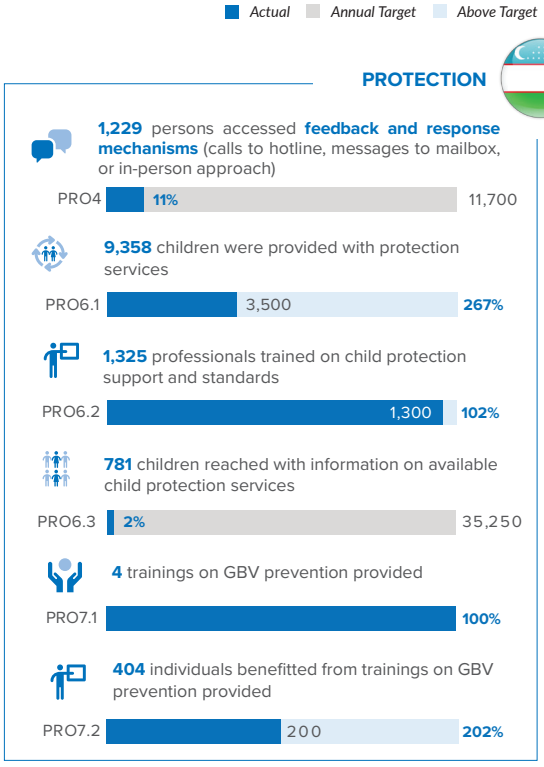
For more information, follow the Returns Emergency Response products on ***UNHCR data Portal / Afghanistan Situation***

In Pakistan, RRP partners continued to advocate in 2023 for the government to establish a screening mechanism to identify, register and document unregistered Afghans in need of international protection to ensure that they are not forcibly returned to Afghanistan. Initial progress made regarding a data sharing agreement was stalled due to the establishment of a caretaker government in August and changes of key government interlocutors. Under the caretaker government, on 3 October Pakistan's national Apex Committee endorsed the "Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan" (IFRP) which aimed to repatriate over a million foreigners without valid documents, requiring them to leave the country by 1 November. The plan outlined deportation measures to be taken after this date, restrictions of entry into Pakistan to just those with valid passports and Pakistani visas. Following the announcement, some half a million individuals have returned to Afghanistan, with over 30,000 being deported. Against this backdrop, in 2023 UNHCR continued to be approached by new arrivals, but ceased issuance of documentation to asylum-seekers, following the government directive. The lack of documentation has exposed refugees to heightened risk of arrest, detention and refoulement and contributed to increasing fear and anxiety in the community. As part of the response, protection partners have contributed to the rapid scale-up in key areas such as legal assistance, cash assistance for the most vulnerable, community-outreach to identify those with specific needs, and enhanced border monitoring.

In Tajikistan, a total of 2,553 legal counselling sessions were provided by RRP partners to uphold the rights of asylum seekers and refugees. As part of this, 1,077 new arrivals received assistance in lodging their asylum applications with state Refugee Status Determination (RSD) system, a crucial step in providing protection to those in need. In addition to in-house training of the Supreme Court's Judicial Training Centre (JTC), two training sessions were provided to the judiciary on adjudication of asylum appeal cases, and another five were provided to state RSD practitioners involved in the asylum process to enhance their capacity and expertise. RRP partners also trained legal officials on child justice practices and on advocating for favourable child protection policies. The Government of Tajikistan acknowledges the crucial role of collaboration between government agencies, UNHCR and RRP partners, Development partners, and other civil society organizations (CSOs) in achieving joint objectives. An excellent example of this has been the collaboration between Majlisi Namoyandagon of Majlisi Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan (Parliament) and UNHCR on drafting a new refugee law, demonstrating the Government's commitment to upholding Tajikistan's obligations under international law and national asylum-related legislation.



For more information, on Tajikistan's 2023 key achievements, refer to ***Annex III***



*For more information, on Uzbekistan's 2023 key achievements, refer to **Annex IV***

Uzbekistan is not a party to the Refugee Convention and does not have a functional national asylum system. The only existing legal avenue is the 2017 Presidential Decree on Political Asylum, however refugees who have tried to apply through this process are unable to lodge applications. Restrictions introduced in August 2021 limiting entry to Uzbekistan to only Afghan citizens with valid business, education, or diplomatic visas, remain. To support the Uzbekistan's considerations to accede to the Refugee Convention and develop a Refugee Law, the Government of Uzbekistan requested the UN to compare national legislation related to refugees with international standards and Uzbekistan's legal obligations, identifying gaps and best practices. On the basis of this request, an Analytical Report on the legislation and practice of Uzbekistan was presented together with the National Human Rights Centre of the Republic of Uzbekistan, at an event with government, academia, UN, and diplomatic missions. In 2023, authorities started preparing a first draft law on asylum – a critical step towards establishing a national asylum system and an opportunity to align the country's policies with international standards of refugee protection.

Turkmenistan adopted its Law on Refugees in 1997 (last amended in 2017), which outlines procedures for granting refugee status, protection-related legal provisions, the legal status of persons granted refugee status, legal and economic standards, and social guarantees for the protection of their rights. In 1998, Turkmenistan acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, and established refugee status determination procedures in 2009. However, no asylum-seekers have been registered with the Government since then. Nonetheless, according to the country's legislation, asylum-seekers should be granted access to registration and national asylum procedures and allowed unhindered access to territory and quality asylum procedures, including adequate referral mechanisms. Turkmenistan remains closed to Afghan citizens who do not have a valid passport with business, education, or diplomatic visa.

02 Working towards Durable Solutions

In Iran, partners prioritized support to the government's inclusive health and education policies. As part of this, RRP partners contributed to the construction of 10 schools and rehabilitation/ renovation of almost 200 classrooms and 3 health facilities, while a further 168 health facilities were supported through in-kind and financial assistance. As a result, an estimated 2.2 million people have indirectly benefited from partner assistance in areas where the needs of refugees and host communities intersect. By strengthening national systems, these interventions aim to promote more sustainable solutions and community resilience, thereby benefitting Afghan refugees and Iranian host communities alike.

In line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), the efforts of RRP partners and the wider donor community aim to make progress towards solutions. Prospects for large-scale and viable voluntary repatriation and reintegration are limited. While not promoting returns, RRP partners continue to offer support to those opting to return to ensure that such returns are informed, voluntary, safe, and dignified. Only 516 refugees were recorded as having returned voluntarily from Iran to Afghanistan in 2023. Nonetheless, RRP partners provide Afghans with portable skills that will enable them to capitalize on opportunities when the situation becomes conducive to return. Efforts to support the resettlement of the most vulnerable Afghan refugees to third countries continued to build on progress made in 2022. In 2023, more than 3,200 individual cases were submitted for resettlement consideration to third countries and by the end of the year, about 1,500 refugees successfully departed, which represents a tenfold increase in departures from the previous year. Alongside these activities, RRP partners continue promoting self-reliance and social cohesion as precursors to solutions. In line with these objectives, 1,050 individuals – of which more than two-third were women – received support through income generation, vocational/ skills training.

Iran: Nutrition programme for Afghan refugees and members of the host community are provided in selected provinces of Iran.

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In Pakistan, 36,337 refugees had their return facilitated through voluntary repatriation centres by UNHCR in 2023. This marks a significant increase from 2022 when approximately 6,000 refugees were facilitated to return. While the IFRP has targeted undocumented Afghans in its first phase, 24,971 Government-registered refugees have returned to Afghanistan since mid-September through the facilitated voluntary repatriation process, compared to only 11,366 in previous 8.5 months of 2023. While 45 per cent of those departing via Voluntary Repatriation cited socio-economic challenges/inflation as their main reason for return versus 25 per cent citing fear of harassment/arrest, the impact of the mobilization of law enforcement in the context of the IFRP leading to increased harassment, extortion, arrest, and detention cannot be underestimated and is reflected in the huge increase in the last three months of the year.

In 2023, Resettlement and Complementary Pathways programs upscaled, resulting in the submission of 4,198 refugees to 10 resettlement countries and the departure of 590 refugees to eight countries. Meanwhile, 106 individuals departed through complementary pathways. In mid-2023, departures were hampered when the Government introduced exit fines for foreigners who had overstayed their visas or had entered and stayed in Pakistan in an irregular manner, including UNHCR's resettlement and complementary pathways cases. Advocacy to reinstate a "free of charge" exit permit mechanism is ongoing.

In Tajikistan, in the education sector, 41 Afghan students were supported with scholarships for tertiary and higher education while 161 secondary and 1,040 primary school-aged students were supported to access formal education. Meanwhile, the needs of 521 children were addressed through non-formal education pathways. Collaborations with the Ministry of Education and Science and CSOs ensured smooth integration into the national system. In the livelihoods and resilience component, 71 individuals were supported with business grants or in-kind support to establish their businesses, and 209 individuals have benefited from vocational training, promoting self-reliance and economic independence among the refugee community, including increased social integration for women. Activities included business skills training, information sessions on job opportunities, and conflict management workshops with educational and social activities. Over 500 refugees benefited from these initiatives, including English and IT courses. Nonetheless, challenges remain in ensuring sustainable livelihoods for all refugees due to a difficult economic environment and limited job opportunities. Twenty-nine Afghans were supported to voluntarily repatriate to Afghanistan in 2023, with economic difficulties being the main reason cited for return.

In Uzbekistan, RRP partners continued collaboration with the Educational Centre for Training of Afghan Citizens (ECTAC) in Termez – established by the Government of Uzbekistan in 2017 – for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). In 2023, 88 Afghan students graduated from TVET courses on information and communications technology (ICT), tourism, sewing, and agribusiness, while 100 students completed short-term courses on driving, hairdressing, and tailoring. A new cohort of 150 students started six-month TVET courses in November.

During 2023, local and Afghan youth participated in UPSHIFT, a youth skills development programme that combines workshops, mentorship, and seed funding to equip young people to develop entrepreneurial solutions to challenges they identify in their communities. Twenty-five young Afghans participated and developed their skills through the programme helping them to generate income for their families. During 2023, RRP partners were increasingly approached by female Afghan students who had completed their studies but, fearing violence and persecution in Afghanistan, wanted to stay in Uzbekistan or move on to a safe third country. Ten female ECTAC graduates were supported to continue master's studies in Tashkent. RRP Partners also supported 7 Afghan and 9 Uzbek women to develop small businesses.

Turkmenistan hosts 13 mandate refugees – nine from Afghanistan – all who have lived there for over 25 years. Without legal status, mandate refugees have no access to social protection, education, healthcare, or legal employment. In 2023, two mandate refugees received residence permits and RRP partners continue to advocate with the Government for durable solutions for the others through naturalization or residency.

03 Responding to immediate humanitarian needs

In Iran, RRP 2023 partners prioritized assistance to the most vulnerable populations through a combination of targeted in-kind and cash-based assistance as well as tailored services. Consistent with the GCR, this included targeted assistance to support vulnerable populations in overcoming barriers in accessing inclusive public services. More than 112,800 Afghans, including those with specific vulnerabilities and underlying health conditions, were supported through fully subsidized access to Universal Public Health Insurance (UPHI), which covers costs associated with a broad range of secondary and tertiary health services provided at government health facilities. Similarly, 3,000 primary and secondary school children and their families were supported with cash for educational purposes, helping them cover education-related costs and mitigating the risk of drop out. While the response prioritized investments in more sustainable solutions (like infrastructure support) wherever possible, targeted cash and in-kind assistance was also provided to the most vulnerable population to address immediate needs. This included NFI and winterization kits to 1,400 individuals, multi-purpose cash to 98,000 individuals and hygiene kits to 22,500 individuals.

In Pakistan, the 56 partners of RRP 2023 continued to provide multi-sectoral assistance with a focus on basic needs, education, health care, nutrition, livelihoods, social protection, clean energy, WASH, documentation, and protection, including child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) and social protection. The interventions within the RRP 2023 framework also supported Afghan-hosting communities to foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. Specific attention was put on women and girls' access to services, in particular to education. During 2023, some 364 schools were constructed or rehabilitated, and some 192,000 children were supported to access primary and secondary education. Meanwhile, 28 health facilities were constructed or rehabilitated, and 132 health facilities were supported with equipment, medicines, and medical supplies in 2023. Meanwhile, over 200,000 Afghans were supported with cash assistance and 30,432 individuals were supported to access secondary and tertiary healthcare services in 2023.

Pakistan: Nafeesa, 41 year old Afghan refugee posing with her embroidery work in a class of fashion at the Women Welfare & Development Centre in Islamabad

(C)UNHCR/
Asif Shahzad

In Tajikistan, partners prioritized ensuring access to essential healthcare, nutrition, shelter, non-food items (NFIs) and conducting socio-economic surveys to monitor the situation of the population. Through the Health & Nutrition sector, 306 Afghans received cash assistance, while 1,223 were supported to access secondary and tertiary healthcare services. In the Shelter & Non-Food Items sector, 5,336 individuals were provided with winterization assistance supported by UNIQLO. Some 340 individuals received multipurpose cash-based assistance for shelter and NFI purposes, addressing urgent needs during harsh winter months. Some 2,615 individuals also accessed feedback and response mechanisms demonstrating substantial interest from the targeted population. During 2023, partners carried out three socio-economic surveys to better understand the socio-economic conditions of refugees as well as capacities of host communities. This data is crucial for informing targeted preparedness measures and resource allocation. Close collaboration with the government facilitated smooth implementation of assistance programs, ensured alignment with national priorities, and ensured comprehensive data collection and analysis.

In **Uzbekistan**, unable to legalise their stay, Afghan refugees are unable to access social rights and services such as healthcare and legal employment and face dire conditions. In 2023 an increasing number approached RRP partners directly requesting assistance, expressing concern about unresolved visa matters, employment challenges, and difficulties affording winter expenses. Where funding permitted, RRP partners provided multi-purpose cash assistance to support payments for medical check-ups, social counselling, and psychological support, while 1,600 hygiene kits and kitchen utensils were also distributed to Afghans and vulnerable host community families. While all children in Uzbekistan are permitted to attend school – regardless of their legal status in the country – some families reported difficulties with language barriers, documentation, and bureaucracy. Through community outreach and advocacy, RRP partners supported the enrolment of 294 Afghan children in preschools and schools. In collaboration with the Ministry of Pre-school and School Education, RRP partners designed a support programme focusing on foundational learning, benefiting Afghan and local children with learning difficulties, facing language barriers, or missing schooling.

In Turkmenistan, RRP partners initiated a mobile resource centre project, involving four medical staff and a legal consultant to provide medical and legal advice, including to members of the Afghan community. In 2023, the mobile centre supported 1,062 individuals (247 men, 580 women, 102 girls, and 133 boys) in Gurbandurdy and Seydi villages.

04 Building resilient communities through a nexus approach/supporting national systems towards Durable Solutions

In Iran, adopting an area-based approach and consistent with Leave No One Behind, investments in areas where refugee and host communities' interest overlap aim to contribute towards the continuation and expansion of inclusive services – as part of efforts to promote longer-term/ more sustainable outcomes – while fostering social cohesion. This includes nutrition programmes which provide screening and treatment to entire communities, as well as support to health and education infrastructure which enhance access to services for refugee and host communities alike.

Partners have prioritized support to inclusive education services in Iran, the importance of which is further underlined by the fact that such an education will be unavailable to Afghan girls and women who return to Afghanistan, where they are excluded from secondary and tertiary education. Thus, access to Iran's education system while in displacement may be their only shot at receiving a proper education. In this regard, RRP partners call for increased responsibility-sharing to ensure that Afghan children and youth do not become a lost generation[1]. Meanwhile, during 2023 partners continue to facilitate active participation and inclusion of diverse groups across the refugee population in programming and communication with communities, including through the operationalization of feedback and response mechanisms. Participatory assessments and age, gender, and diversity specific focus group discussions have enabled affected populations to express their views and concerns, facilitating organizational learning to enhance programme impact while also ensuring identification and mitigation of risks related to assistance programmes.

In Pakistan, partnerships with development partners were strengthened in 2023, including with World Bank, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Netherlands, leading to increased development funding in hosting areas and improvements to education and health facilities benefitting refugees and host communities alike. In KP and Balochistan, improvements to public education and health facilities have emerged from World Bank IDA-18 refugee sub-window (RSW) projects, complementing investments under RRP 2023. In addition, nexus efforts have led to more inclusive information systems and national statistics. For the first time, Afghans have been included in Pakistan's census and efforts are underway to strengthen inclusive provincial information management systems, supported by development partners.

In Tajikistan, the Ministry of Education and Science and RRP partners collaborated in rehabilitation of an educational facility to strengthen the local education system, facilitating refugee children's integration and promoting social cohesion. Meanwhile, UNESCO held a joint event for refugee and host community youth, focusing on prevention of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), which helped to raise awareness, build capacity, foster resilient communities, and promote peaceful co-existence. Partners provided technical assistance to capacitate national entities on GBV prevention including the Republican Centre of Social Services for Victims of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence, expanded reporting mechanisms on violence against children (VAC)/GBV to prevent violence in schools, trained local authorities on identifying and referring vulnerable children, and provided psychosocial support to 300 children, adolescents, and caregivers. Nonetheless, cultural barriers and limited awareness have hindered progress in addressing this issue.

2 For more details, see "Education Away from Home - Supporting education for Afghan refugee children and youth in Iran Education Brief (November 2023)" https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/105138

In Uzbekistan, RRP partners provided support to local infrastructure including construction of climate-resilient WASH services in five primary healthcare facilities and one District Hospital in Termez. Capacity building activities were conducted for a variety of national authorities including: for healthcare workers on WASH in healthcare facilities and proper healthcare waste management; for medical institutions in Surkhandarya on antenatal care, and HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and counselling; for district service providers involved in GBV prevention such as mahallas and female preachers on gender equality in Islam, women's' rights, and reproductive health; and for 45 health and social protection professionals on integrating GBV risk mitigation in WASH response. Partners strengthened the capacity of protection and education systems by training 1,300 specialists on social welfare, social work, and child protection. Lastly, RRP partners conducted briefing sessions and training on asylum issues for 26 employees of the Center for Advanced Training of Lawyers at the Ministry of Justice, and 19 employees of the Ombudsperson's office.

Turkmenistan: As part of World Refugee Day celebrations, UNHCR delivered a guest lecture in Ashgabat to 80 students of the International University for Humanities and Development, the Turkmen State University named after Makhtumkuli, and the institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkemnistan

(C)UNHCR/ Sergui Gaina

In Turkmenistan, throughout the country, standard operating procedures for supporting female survivors of gender-based and domestic violence were updated, and training conducted for 300 staff from police, medical and social sectors, and civil society. Activities continue on tackling toxic social norms on masculinity and educating men and young couples on gender equality and GBV prevention. RRP partners continue to support two civil society organisations in Ashgabat city and Lebap region to provide essential GBV services to support female GBV survivors – this includes support for two Hotlines, two Crisis centres with psychological counselling, legal advice, and social services, and two Shelters. Capacity building training was conducted in 2023 for over 250 professionals from the healthcare, social sectors, civil registration offices and academia on psychological counselling for women GBV survivors. To support livelihood generation and integration, RRP partners supported 50 Afghan women in Mary region with sewing courses.

05 Building emergency preparedness

In Iran, building on the significant emergency preparedness and response interventions supported since 2021, under the 2023 RRP, partners adopted a hybrid approach to respond to new arrivals. Limited support was provided to settlement construction and expansion, both to assist the most vulnerable, including by potentially supporting the registration of residents, and providing contingency capacity in case of a deterioration in the situation (i.e., increase in cross-border arrivals). This included the construction of 48 new transitional shelters and the upgrading of 70 emergency shelters to transitional shelters in the Niatak settlement in Sistan and Baluchestan province. In addition, 140 shelters in Torbat-e-Jam were constructed to accommodate new arrivals previously residing in the Fariman supervisory site in Razavi Khorazan and further 50 new units were built in Saveh settlement, Markazi. RRP partners also supported an effective interagency multi-sector response to Iranians affected by the Khoy earthquake in West Azerbaijan province.

In Pakistan, in the wake of the IFRP, RRP partners and specifically the Refugee Protection Working Group mobilized for preparedness and response to mass repatriation and its likely impacts. Close coordination with the UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator has been established and a coordinated approach to advocacy was developed drawing on the Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) Support Platform Core Group in Pakistan as well as the RRP's coordination structures. With the participation of several RRP members, an interagency contingency plan was developed in response to the IFRP and a response plan was elaborated which focused on operational measures including scaling up hotlines, community outreach, protection monitoring, legal assistance and emergency cash assistance. Border monitoring and Communication with Communities (CWC) modalities were reviewed and enhanced to adapt for the developing scenario.

In Tajikistan, UNHCR initiated several activities to build emergency preparedness for potential refugee influx. Five trainings were held on Humanitarian Border Management with a focus on aspects like asylum profiling, referrals, and registration, and ensuring adherence to international protection principles. Collaboration with relevant government entities was crucial for effective delivery of training components. In cooperation with the Committee on Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoESCD), UNHCR Tajikistan and UNHCR's e-Centre, a Simulation Exercise was held involving over 70 participants from 47 government entities, UN agencies, development partners and civil society organizations, ensuring a multi-sectoral approach, and underlining the Government's commitment to strengthening response mechanisms.

In Turkmenistan, the assumption remains that in case of refugee movement, only authorities and the National Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan would have access to displaced populations in the early stages. As such, RRP partners continue to focus on consolidating partnerships for emergency preparedness and targeted, multi-sectoral humanitarian response. In partnership with the National Red Crescent Society and Government of Turkmenistan, in 2023 RRP partners conducted a workshop on refugee emergency response for 15 participants from the Ministries of Interior and Defence, NGOs, and UN partners, with the aim of building capacity to respond to a potential influx of refugees, in line with international standards.

ReSolve

Resolve – for Resilience and Solutions, a Pledge for the Afghanistan Situation Multi-Stakeholder Pledge (ReSolve MSP) was developed to further the strategic objectives of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees[1]. Presented at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, the pledge advances the Global Compact on Refugees' principle of burden and responsibility-sharing through country-specific pledges for Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan. As of 23 January 2024, twelve pledges have been made towards the ReSolve MSP by 10 actors (six Member States, two UN bodies, one international organization and one non-governmental organization). They are: Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Japan, the Netherlands, Nexus 3.0, Switzerland, UNCT Afghanistan, and UNDP. Pledges supported all three target countries, with most of the commitments geared towards Afghanistan and Pakistan. While pledges were largely financial in nature, they also included commitments to provide technical support and third country solutions for Afghan refugees. Basic needs, self-reliance initiatives, and protection represent the most common thematic areas of pledges.

By 2027, through these pledges, we expect to see:

- Enhanced access to educational, health and other basic needs;
- Increased number of Afghans resettled to third countries;
- Increased self-reliance of displaced Afghans and host communities;
- Enhanced access to protection services.

Gaps & Challenges

In Iran, access challenges continued to impede effective needs identification and response. The socialization of key principles, particularly around accountability to affected populations and community-based protection, are critical in developing a more conducive operating environment /positive protection environment. Linked to this, government interlocutors continued to prioritize some population groups defined by documentation status (Amayesh card holders) over others. Additional emphasis on leveraging investments in infrastructure to advance broader sectoral and protection outcomes is needed, including by promoting more integrated interventions (e.g., school construction as an indivisible package of education and multi-sectoral interventions) and expansion of target groups for multi-sectoral support. Additionally, the lack of office/ field presence outside of Tehran for some partners limits opportunities to scale-up in distant provinces with a high concentration of Afghan populations. This also weakens monitoring and oversight of interventions. At procedural level, despite improvements, bureaucratic bottlenecks continue to cause delays. Inflation also remains a persistent and disruptive challenge for planning and implementation.

In Pakistan, the rising cost of living in 2023 added further strain to already challenging circumstances, making it difficult for individuals to meet their basic needs. Funding gaps for the RRP made it difficult for partners to meet their targets in service provision to the most vulnerable and in scaling up interventions during the emergency. Expansion of legal assistance, best interest determination for children, establishment of friendly spaces for Afghan women and girls and provision of adequate dignity materials is limited due to funding gaps. Support for improving access to quality secondary education, primary healthcare, safe and clean water, as well as food security and livelihoods activities were also impacted by underfunding in 2023.

The IFRP has led to a severe deterioration of the protection environment in Pakistan and has disrupted the search for durable solutions. It also negatively impacted prospects for social cohesion within the host community. UNHCR and RRP partners have been jointly advocating for a suspension of the plan in light of refoulement risks pursuant to UNHCR's Non-Return Advisory in place for Afghanistan, and for the establishment of a screening mechanism to identify individuals with international protection needs or who are otherwise at risk – thus preventing their forced return to Afghanistan. The unpredictability of the situation of Afghan refugees following the IFRP has posed challenges in planning and response due to the need to adjust programming. The security situation and access to certain areas also limits outreach and interventions of partners. Lastly, challenges for women's access to GBV and livelihoods services as well as girls' access to education have been reported by partners, attributed to community socio-cultural norms.

While **Tajikistan** strives to uphold its obligations towards refugees and asylum-seekers, several challenges hinder comprehensiveness of country's response. The government's financial constraints limit support for refugees, particularly in healthcare, education, and social protection. Overstretched infrastructure in host communities, especially educational and healthcare institutions, creates strain on both locals and refugees. The current limited capacity of host communities to accommodate refugees calls for increased and targeted support for infrastructure development and social cohesion. Meanwhile, security considerations associated with a potential refugee influx have resulted in the government enacting strict border control policies. RRP partners in collaboration with the Government of Tajikistan, promote several ways to address these gaps including: strengthening of partnerships with development actors and expansion of resource mobilization for refugee support; prioritizing refugee inclusion in education, skills development, and job opportunities, to foster self-reliance and reduce resource pressure; and supporting local government to improve infrastructure in refugee-hosting areas to further ease tensions and promote peaceful coexistence. These strategies, if implemented in a coordinated manner, will address existing gaps and challenges.

In Uzbekistan, in partnership with the National Human Rights Centre, in 2022 the UN facilitated discussions between representatives of Ministries, the General Prosecutor's Office, the National Security Service, as well as other State agencies and international organizations on the establishment of provisional solutions to allow forcibly displaced persons in need of international protection in Uzbekistan access to rights guaranteed by international and national law. It was agreed at the time that, as an interim solution, Afghan citizens could apply for asylum under the 2017 Presidential Decree on Political Asylum. However, all refugees who have tried to apply through this process are unable to lodge applications, and continue to be excluded from accessing healthcare, legal employment, education, and other public services.

In **Turkmenistan** without legal status, refugees have no access to social protection, education, healthcare, or legal employment. Afghan nationals in Turkmenistan who do not have legal status experience problems accessing employment, healthcare, education, and other social services. In addition, children born to non-Turkmen citizens cannot obtain a passport and face restrictions in accessing higher education.

Partnership in Action

In **Iran**, consistent with GCR Objective 1 "Ease the pressures on host countries," the response includes many multi-stakeholder interventions involving RRP partners and government line ministries/ entities. For example, UNICEF, the National Organization of Migration (NoM), the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Relief International, Norwegian Refugee Council, and other WASH sector members in Iran collaborated to provide hygiene promotion training, essential items, and sanitation facilities to secure hygienic practices in populations with newly arrived Afghan refugees in Yazd city and Torbat-e-Jam settlement. The project sought to ensure the well-being and dignity of women and girls by including menstrual hygiene essentials in family hygiene kits, attending to a crucial aspect of women's hygiene and also contributing to their empowerment. To enhance inclusivity and accessibility, female staff from local NGOs were strategically present at the distribution locations, ensuring that girls and women felt comfortable and respected during distributions.

Iran: Afghan refugee children received hygiene kits at a school in a settlement, Yazd province, Iran.

© UNICEF Iran/Mehdi Sayyari.

While local organizations cannot directly appeal under RRP in Iran, a substantial portion of the response was delivered through these organizations. Under RRP 2023, 60 percent of the overall response was implemented through local NGOs. Moreover, to promote inclusion and advance national ownership, strategic partnerships continued with the State Welfare Organization (SWO), the Iran Health Insurance Organization (IHIO) and the Technical and Vocational Training Organization (TVTO). RRP partners continue to provide coordinated training and capacity-building opportunities for LNGO staff across a range of issues including administrative and financial procedures as well as humanitarian standards. This along with engagement with the Iranian Government to consolidate and expand partnerships with local NGOs is essential, especially for those areas where there is limited international presence.

In Pakistan, RRP partners worked closely with the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), the Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CCAR), the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), provincial Commissionerate and provincial Governments to respond to the emerging needs and maximize the impact of interventions supporting resilience. The Pakistan Refugee Consultative Forum (PRCF) at both federal and provincial levels oversees overall coordination of the refugee response. The PRCF is co-chaired by the Ministry of SAFRON/ CCAR and UNHCR and includes all RRP partners and other stakeholders supporting refugee programming; around 60 partners (both appealing and implementing agencies) regularly attend coordination structures across Pakistan. In 2023, PRCF at the national level and PRCF meetings at provincial level were convened. These meetings are used for strategic planning, resource mobilization, advocacy, and coordination. The Refugee Inter-Sector Working Group continued as the working-level coordination forum that brought together the leads of Sectoral Working Groups on a quarterly basis in 2023, in addition to monthly Refugee Protection Working Group (RPWG) Meetings. RPWG ensured focused attention on refugee protection, working in tandem with the existing broader Protection Sector Working Group that addresses the needs of other vulnerable groups.

In Tajikistan, a three-day Field Simulation Exercise "SIMEX 2023" was conducted in Preparedness for a Mixed Refugee/Disaster-displaced Scenario. The exercise tested interagency coordination between humanitarian actors to support the Government in providing relief assistance and international protection. It also aimed to increase national preparedness and capacity to effectively respond to a potential refugee emergency – particularly relevant since Tajikistan has the longest border with Afghanistan of all Central Asian countries (1,358 km). Some 70 emergency response practitioners from 47 government agencies, UN agencies, and NGOs participated in SIMEX 2023. The exercise drew attention to the possibility of a refugee influx in Tajikistan and tested actions to improve the interagency refugee contingency plan.

Tajikistan: UNHCR drives efforts with the Government of Tajikistan to bolster interagency capacities to respond to a possible refugee influx. The 2023 Simulation Exercise brought together 47 development, humanitarian, and governmental agencies.

© UNHCR/ Muhammadkhuja Davlyatov

In Uzbekistan, ahead of the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, the UN Country Team came together to articulate and commit to a common pledge "to improve access of persons in need of international protection, and stateless persons, to legal and socio-economic rights and social services – in line with international standards – through their inclusion in UN projects and programmes and strengthened joint UN advocacy, in partnership with key development actors and stakeholders". Separately, UNHCR and UNDP partnered on a climate action and sustainability project that engaged Afghan citizens in Uzbekistan and vulnerable people from host communities in afforestation activities through cash-for-work. Implemented in Surkhandarya region, the project sought to enhance the resilience of local communities while addressing the damaging impact of dust storms on the population and the economy.

Partnership and Funding

RRP 2023 partners: the following 65 partners participated as directly appealing partners in the response across the 5 countries (14 UN agencies, 18 INGOs, and 26 NGOs, four faith-based organizations, and three women-led organizations), continuing a steady increase from 11 partners for the first Afghan RRP in 2021: Action Against Hunger Pakistan | Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development | Alight | Azat Foundation | Balochistan Rural Support Program | CARE International | Catholic Relief Services | Comprehensive Health and Education Forum | Concern Worldwide | Cooperazione e Sviluppo | Direct Focus Community Aid | Dopasi Foundation | Foundation for Rural Development | Hashoo Foundation | Health And Nutrition Development Society | Human Appeal Pakistan | Hundreds of Original Projects for Employment | Indus Hospital and Health Network | Initiative for Development & Empowerment Axis | Integrated Social Services Program | International Medical Corps-UK | International Rescue Committee | Intersos | Islamic Relief Worldwide | Khwendo Kor | Kokkyo naki Kodomotachi | Mercy Corps | Mission East | Muslim Hands | Norwegian Refugee Council | Pak Mission Society | Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education | Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund | Participatory Rural Development Society (PRDS) | Poverty Eradication Initiative | Rabt Development Organization | Relief International | Rural Development Organization RDO Buner | Rural Support Programmes Network | Salik Development Foundation | Save the Children | Secours Islamique France | Society for Human and Environmental Development | Takal Welfare Organization | Tameer-e-Khalaq Foundation | Taraqee Foundation | The Awakening | UN - Food and Agriculture Organization | UN - International Organization for Migration | UN - Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS | UN - United Nations Development Programme | UN - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization | UN - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women | UN - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees | UN - United Nations Industrial Development Organization | UN - United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund | UN - United Nations Office for Project Services | UN - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime | UN - United Nations Population Fund | UN - World Food Programme | UN - World Health Organization | Voluntary Service Overseas | Water, Environment & Sanitation Society | Women Empowerment Organization | Youth Organization

RRP partners acknowledge the huge generosity of host countries for their continued hosting of Afghans over several decades. These countries must be supported through even greater responsibility sharing by the international community, in the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees.

The work of RRP partners would not have been possible without the extremely generous support of donors. As of end 2023, the RRP 2023 response was 32 per cent funded across the region with USD 197 million received of USD 613 million requirements. However, this represents a significant drop in the funding percentage compared to previous years. Since the onset of the emergency in 2021, when the interagency response was 58 per cent funded, funding has steadily dropped to 52 per cent in 2022 and now to its lowest figure of 32 per cent in 2023. With a variety of other emergencies developing globally, this decline represents a real risk looking ahead towards 2024. Further information on response funding is available on the Refugee Funding Tracker which tracks interagency funding for the response.

RRP Partners gratefully acknowledge government donors, private donors, charities, and other organizations for their valuable contributions to RRP 2023 through earmarked funding as well as flexible funding at a global, regional, or sub regional level which has contributed to the response. RRP partners reiterate the message on the importance of flexible funding, which allows partners to prioritize the most pressing needs across the region, as well as multi-year funding, which facilitates a more predictable response. These were important commitments by donors as part of the Grand Bargain and remain integral to the humanitarian response for the Afghanistan Situation.

RRP 2023 donors: Australia | Austria | Belgium | Canada | CERF | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Private Donors | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | The Global Fund | United Kingdom | United States of America | UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe | UN Peacebuilding Fund

Annex Chapter

Actual | Annual Target | Above Target

EDUCATION

51,127 children (including Afghan refugees, Afghans of other status and members of the host community) supported to access **primary** (35,590 children) & **secondary** (15,537 children) **education**

EDU1 — **22%** — 162,682

EDU2 — 14,070 — **110%**

449 Afghan students supported to access **tertiary education**

EDU3 — **75%** — 600

10 educational facilities (schools) **constructed** or **rehabilitated**

EDU4 — **43%** — 23

FOOD SECURITY

372,744 individuals received **in-kind food assistance**

FS1 — 52,000 — **372,744**

Note: WFP reported to have provided food assistance to 31,640 unique beneficiaries monthly. The total number of reached by WFP at year-end is estimated to 372,744.

155,690 individuals received **CBI** for food security purposes

FS3 — 53,600 — **155,690**

Note: WFP reported to have provided CBI for food security purposes to 31,755 unique beneficiaries monthly. The total number of reached by WFP at mid-year is estimated to 155,690.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

112,763 Afghans supported to access **secondary** and **tertiary** healthcare services

HN1 — **33%** — 342,932

3 health facilities **constructed** or **rehabilitated**

HN2 — **14%** — 22

168 health facilities supported with equipment, medicines and medical supplies, salaries

HN3 — **27%** — 630

3,693 individuals received **CBI** for health and nutrition purposes

HN4 — **14%** — 26,220

LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE

122 individuals supported with business grants, cash for work, or in-kind **support to establish their own businesses**

LR1.1 — **4%** — 2,725

1,286 individuals benefited from **vocational training**

LR1.2 — **15%** — 8,361

PROTECTION

119,308 people supported with counselling on assistance and services, registration, documentation and global protection

PRO1 — 90,330 — **132%**

7,805 individuals received **technical legal support**

PRO2 — **77%** — 10,110

3,787 individuals (includig women, men, boys and girls) reached with **psychosocial support** counselling sessions

PRO5 — 2,540 — **149%**

431 newly identified children at heightened risk supported by a Best Interests Procedure (**BIP**)

PRO8 — **20%** — 2,200

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

5,374 individuals received **CBI** for shelter/NFI purposes

SNFI1 — **14%** — 39,525

1,373 individuals provided with **core relief items**, including winterization assistance

SNFI2 — **2%** — 77,225

98,261 individuals received **Multi Purpose Cash Assistance** (unconditional)

MPC1 — **37%** — 266,205

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

22,516 individuals received **hygienic supplies**

WASH1 — **8%** — 286,100

4,281 people benefitting from **construction and/ or rehabiliation of wastewater treatment** plant

WASH7 — **28%** — 15,504

Actual | Annual Target | Above Target

EDUCATION

192,571 children (including Afghan refugees, Afghans of other status and members of the host community) supported to access **primary** (166,788 children) & **secondary** (25,783 children) education

EDU1	24%	706,055	
EDU2	28%	90,473	

654 Afghan students supported to access **tertiary education**

EDU3	16%	4,038	

364 educational facilities **constructed** or **rehabilitated**

EDU4	250		149%

FOOD SECURITY

56,294individuals received **in-kind food assistance**

FS1	72%	78,300	

56,986 individuals received **CBI** for food security purposes

FS3	65%	87,550	

PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

30,432 Afghans supported to access **secondary and tertiary healthcare services**

HN1	14%	221,273	

28 health facilities **constructed or rehabilitated**

HN2	11%	248	

132 health facilities supported with equipment, medicines and medical supplies, salaries

HN3	100		132%

156,459 individuals received **CBI** for health and nutrition purposes

HN4	60,000		261%

LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE

3,001 individuals supported with business grants, cash for work, or in-kind **support to establish their own businesses**

LR1.1	38%	7,930	

5,025 individuals benefiting from **vocational training**

LR1.2	5,022		100%

PROTECTION

4,737 newly identified **children at heightened risk** supported by a Best Interests Procedure (**BIP**)

PRO1	93%	5,075	

3,627 persons with disabilities supported through protection services

PRO5	2,500		145%

98,867 persons accessed **feedback and response mechanisms** (calls to hotline, messages to mailbox, or in-person approach)

PRO4	15,000		98,867

291,605 individuals reached during **GBV awareness raising activities**

PRO6	235,000		291,605

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

25,600 households provided with **core relief items**, including winterization assistance

SNFI2	10,000		25,600

131,150 households provided with energy efficient **cooking stoves**

SNFI6	20,000		131,150

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

221,774 persons who received **hygienic supplies**

WASH1	72%	308,300	

205,987 people reached with improved **access to basic drinking water services**

WASH2	13%	1,583,577	

Actual *Annual Target* *Above Target*

EDUCATION

1,722 children (including Afghan refugees, Afghans of other status and members of the host community) supported to access **primary** (1,561 children) & **secondary** (161 children) **education**

EDU1	26%	5,935	
EDU2	3%	5,935	

41 Afghan students supported to access **tertiary education**

EDU3	91%	45	

3 educational facilities **constructed** or **rehabilitated**

EDU4	1		3

PROTECTION

2,675 persons accessed **feedback and response mechanisms** (calls to hotline, messages to mailbox, or in-person approach)

PRO4	54%	5,000	

15 trainings conducted on **Humanitarian Border Management** to national entities

PRO5	63%	24	

29 Afghans supported to **voluntary repatriation** in safety and dignity

PRO8	20		29

2,553 legal assistance activities conducted

PRO11	2,000		128%

PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

1,223 Afghans supported to access **secondary and tertiary healthcare services**

HN1	3%	42,600	

CBI

306 individuals received **CBI** for health and nutrition purposes

HN4	250		122%

LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE

3,218 individuals supported with business grants, cash for work, or in-kind **support to establish their own businesses**

LR1.1	1,240		260%

377 individuals benefiting from **vocational training**

LR1.2	30%	1,265	

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

240 persons received **hygienic supplies**

WASH1	240	54,240	

7,597 people reached with **improved access to basic drinking water services**

WASH2	33%	23,000	

37,606 households benefited from safe sanitation facilities

WASH3	20,050		188%

424 Afghan refugees trained on **Health and Hygiene**

WASH4	92%	463	

LOGISTICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1 **warehouse** maintained for safe storage of relief items in Termez, Uzbekistan

LT1	100%		

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

CBI

175 individuals received **CBI** for shelter/NFI purposes

SNFI1	2%	9,450	

1,832 households provided with **core relief items**, including **winterization assistance**

SNFI2	28%	6,490	

Actual *Annual Target* *Above Target*

EDUCATION

622 children (including Afghan refugees, Afghans of other status and members of the host community) supported to access **primary** (**526** children) & **secondary** (**96** children) education

EDU1 **9%** 6,050

EDU2 **1%** 17,500

11 Afghan students supported to access **tertiary education**

EDU3 **100%**

PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

415 Afghans supported to access **secondary** and **tertiary** healthcare services

HN1 **4%** 10,000

1 health facility supported with equipment, medicines and medical supplies, salaries

HN3 **100%**

2 maternities supported to implement NMCR methodology

HN6 **67%** 3

LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE

25 individuals supported with business grants, cash for work, or in-kind **support to establish their own businesses**

LR1.1 **100%**

1,041 individuals benefited from **vocational training**

LR1.2 **7%** 15,000

MULTI PURPOSE CASH

CBI

278 individuals received **Multi Purpose Cash Assistance** (unconditional)

MPC **19%** 1,477

PROTECTION

1,229 persons accessed **feedback and response mechanisms** (calls to hotline, messages to mailbox, or in-person approach)

PRO4 **11%** 11,700

9,358 children were provided with protection services

PRO6.1 3,500 **267%**

1,325 professionals trained on child protection support and standards

PRO6.2 1,300 **102%**

781 children reached with information on available child protection services

PRO6.3 **2%** 35,250

4 trainings on GBV prevention provided

PRO7.1 **100%**

404 individuals benefitted from trainings on GBV prevention provided

PRO7.2 200 **202%**

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

6 renovated **handwashing facilities**

WASH3.1 **38%** 16

349 health care providers and school teachers were trained on **WASH , Health and Hygiene**

WASH3.2 8 **349**

Actual *Annual Target* *Above Target*

PROTECTION

2 GBV hotlines operated

144 individuals were covered by **protection activities**

PRO5 **11%** 1,300

3 trainings on GBV prevention provided to national entities (**550** personnel from police and social services)

PRO7.1 **60%** 5

5 service providers capacitated on **GBV prevention**

PRO7.2 3 **167%**

550 individuals benefitted from trainings on GBV prevention provided

PRO7.3 **79%** 700

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

949 Afghans supported to access **secondary** and **tertiary** healthcare services

HN1 **100%**

LIVELIHOODS AND RESILIENCE

100 individuals benefiting from **vocational training**

LR1.2 **100%**

MULTI PURPOSE CASH

2 vulnerable mandate Afghan refugee households (7 individuals) reached with cash based interventions (CBI)

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN FOR AFGHANISTAN SITUATION

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Regional Refugee Response Plan for Afghanistan Situation **2023**