

UNHCR Education Activities for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan

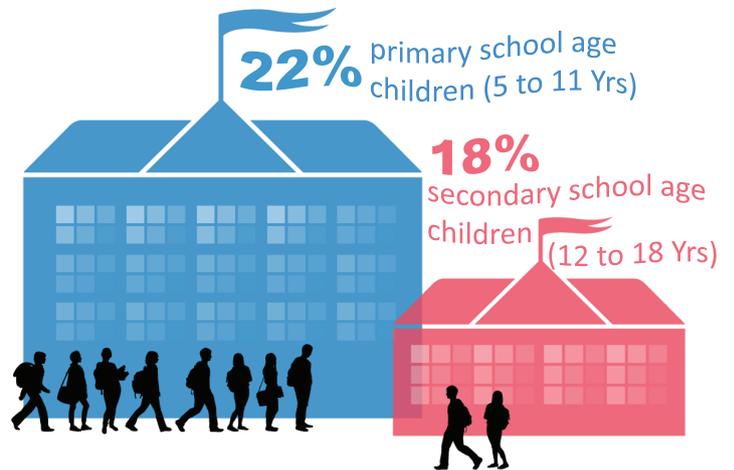
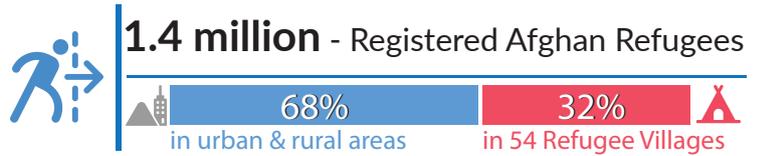


August - 2019

BACKGROUND

UNHCR has been providing access to primary education for Afghan refugee children in Pakistan for nearly 40 years. As is usual in cases of large scale influxes, the initial emphasis was on the provision of emergency education. At the outset of the refugee influx, 96% of refugees were living in refugee camps and villages, and education was provided on site. However, since the late 1990's a significant number of Afghan refugees have moved out of refugee villages, and today, 68 per cent reside in semi-urban and urban areas, while 32 per cent remain in 54 refugee villages throughout the country. 49 per cent of the registered Afghan refugee population (1,407,033) are children (including 18 years of age).

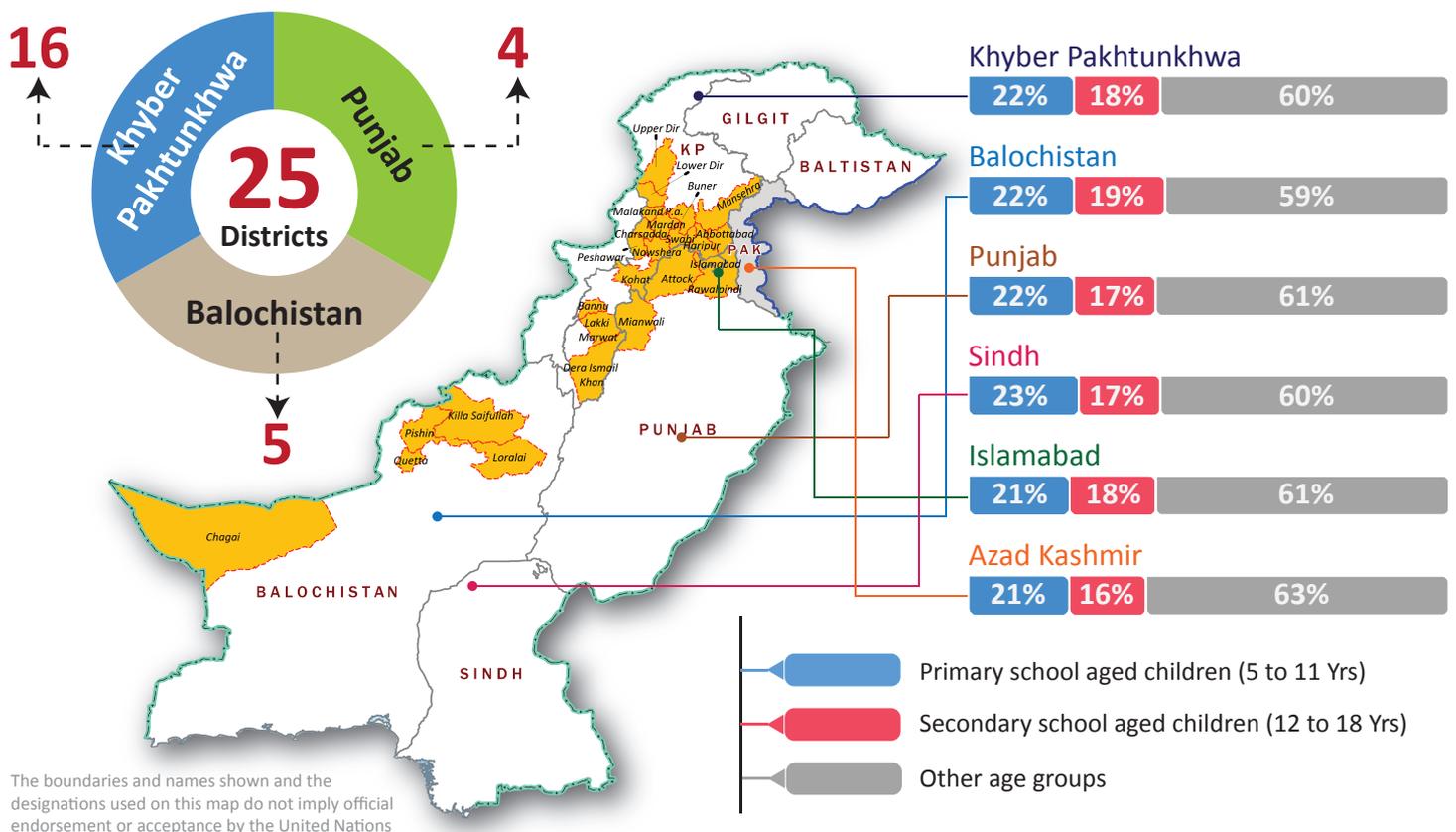
Based on the Afghan national database statistics, there are currently over 300,000 children of primary education age (5-11 years) and 250,000 secondary education aged children (12-17 years).



40 years of protracted displacement

563,000 school aged children constituting 40% of the total refugee population

GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS OF UNHCR EDUCATION ACTIVITIES BY DISTRICT



PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2016 - 2018



POLICY & AGREEMENTS MILESTONES

- Inclusion of an Afghan nationality indicator in the National Education Management Information System (NEMIS) to collect enrolment data on Afghans enrolled in public schools.
- Inclusion of refugees in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan education sector plans.
- Same tuition fee concessions as registered Afghan refugees for other UNHCR registered persons of concern (non-Afghans).
- Reduction in delays in the issuance of equivalency certificates for Afghan refugee students.



CAPACITY - BUILDING

- Training/capacity - building for 1,122 RV teachers from 2016 to 2018.
- Pre-service teacher provided to 90 Afghan teachers in KP through the Directorate of Curriculum and Teacher Education, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- In-service teacher training provided to 701 Afghan teachers in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa through the Provincial Institute of Teacher Education .



SCHOOL MATERIALS/ SUPPLIES TO CHILDREN

- 407,000 textbooks provided to school aged children in refugee villages and 131,064 uniforms provided to children in refugee village schools from 2016-18.
- 12,200 school bags provided to children in refugee village schools from 2016-18. 41,990 classroom supplies (stationery) provided. 19 refugee village schools equipped with sports equipment.
- Provision of 9,446 attendance- based incentives to all the students in grade 6 to 8. 500 units of primary school furniture sets and 200 units of secondary school furniture sets provided to public schools in 2017.



DAFI SCHOLARSHIPS

- Since 1992 DAFI scholarships have supported more than 1,700 students with financial support from the Federal Republic of Germany.
- All current beneficiaries of scholarship programme in Pakistan are registered Afghan refugees holding a valid Proof of Registration (PoR) card, mostly in the 19 to 30 years age group.
- The students in Pakistan are both from refugee villages and urban/rural settings in KP, Balochistan, Punjab and Islamabad. In 2019, DAFI is supporting 147 Afghan refugee students studying in various HEC recognised universities in Pakistan.

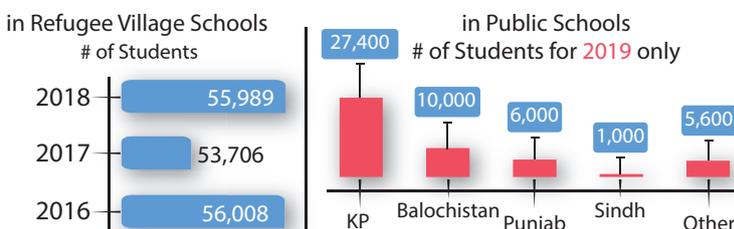


INFRASTRUCTURE

- 126 educational facilities rehabilitated or constructed in the period 2016-18, including classrooms, toilets, boundary walls, solar panels or flooring.



ENROLLMENT



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DAFI SUCCESS STORY

Arzoo was born in Malista, but her family shifted to Ghazni after her birth. It was the time when Taliban's emerging power and rule took over major cities and provinces including Ghazni. Their practices forced her family to flee and seek refuge in Pakistan, at the time of their migration, her father was already working in Islamic Republic of Iran as a laborer and used to send money for his family. She has three brothers; the eldest works in a shop, second brother is in Iran and works there and the third is working in Kabul and residing there with his family.

Being an enthusiastic, active and social individual, Arzoo works as a volunteer with the Organization of Women Initiators. Moreover, she is a member of ARSA (the Afghan Refugee Student Association) and the Afghan Union. Arzoo has also been selected as the representative of all Afghan refugee students. She has a keen interest in sports and has won gold, silver and bronze medals in martial arts.



"I am grateful to DAFI, UNHCR and Inspire Pakistan for providing scholarship opportunities to Afghan refugee students. It is indeed a great platform that has not only opened doors for self-development but has enabled students to create social networks. Organizing workshops, career counseling, trainings and the internship has been very effective and useful, and it is a clear reflection of the hard work and dedication of the team to support Afghan refugee students" - **Arzoo Sultani**

WAY FORWARD 2019 - 2021

EDUCATION BUDGET 2016 - 2019 in USD

\$31.5 million over the past 4 years

- ▶ **Reinvesting UNHCR's education resources:** to complement and support the Government of Pakistan education reform programs.
- ▶ **Introducing the Pakistani curriculum in Refugee Village schools:** to improve access to the Government of Pakistan board examinations and certificates.
- ▶ **Working with other development partners:** to include refugees in existing education reform programmes.
- ▶ **Supporting Chief Commissionerate of Afghan Refugee (CCAR) and Provincial Commissionerate Afghan Refugee (CARs):** to liaise and coordinate with the provincial education authorities (and supporting Sustainable Development Goals - SDG).
- ▶ **Mainstreaming registered refugee children:** within nearby government schools – through a phased-approach.

DONORS



This project is co-funded by the European Union

Denmark

Italy

Republic of Korea



Educate a Child



LDS Charities