

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

April 2020



A zaranj in a community in Nangarhar shares information by loudspeaker as part of UNHCR's mass information campaign on COVID-19. BEST/U. Kazaemi

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2020, **306** individuals returned to Afghanistan, out of which 256 returned from Iran, 16 from Pakistan and 34 from other countries.

65,045 individuals have been displaced by conflict in 2020 and profiled by OCHA as internally displaced persons (IDPs) in need of protection and assistance.

Since March 2020, UNHCR has been supporting the Government's efforts in the **prevention of and response to COVID-19** in Afghanistan, in coordination with UN agencies and humanitarian actors. **UNHCR's COVID-19 response** includes: providing personal protection equipment and hygiene kits to government officials and UNHCR partner staff working on the frontline, conducting awareness raising campaigns on COVID-19 prevention measures in high risk areas and Priority Areas of Return And Reintegration (PARRs), providing tents and Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) to health facilities and registration spaces for new returnees from Iran, providing staff and equipment to strengthen monitoring at the points of entry to Afghanistan, renovating reception facilities, distributing soap to refugees in urban locations and in the Gulan settlement and constructing water tanks and hand washing stations. UNHCR also continues to lead the protection and ES/NFI clusters which are playing a key role in COVID-19 prevention and response efforts in Afghanistan and is also member of the Points of Entry working group.

KEY FIGURES

BENEFICIARIES

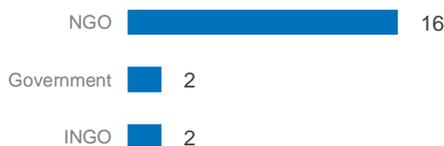
47,293

of persons of concern reached by UNHCR in 2020



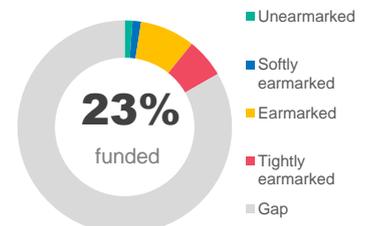
PARTNERS

20 # of partners implementing key UNHCR activities in 2020



DONORS

117.1M Funding required for 2020 (Apr 2020)



POPULATION DATA

306

of registered refugee returnees (UNHCR)

Pakistan | 16

Other Countries | 34

Iran | 256

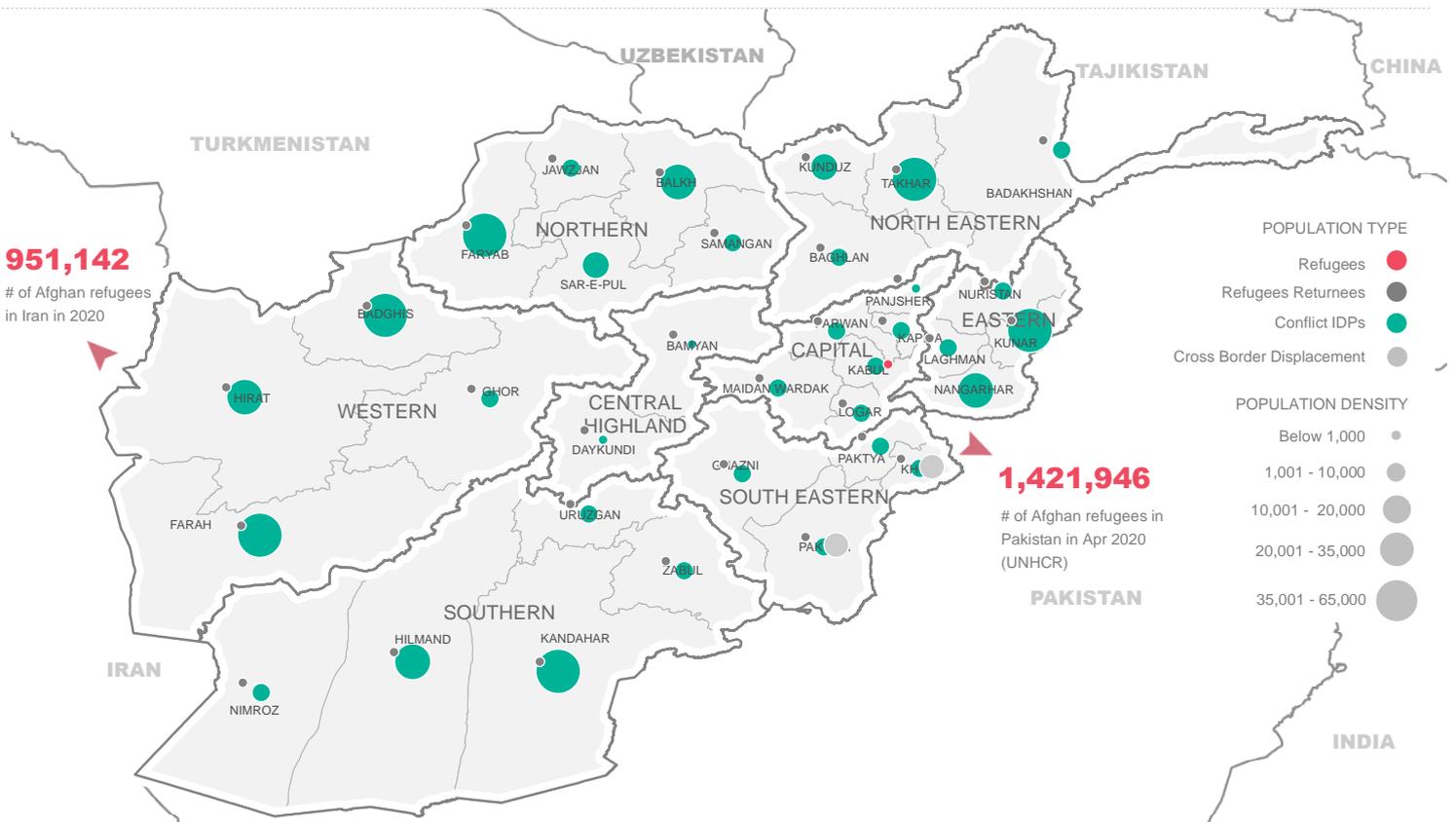
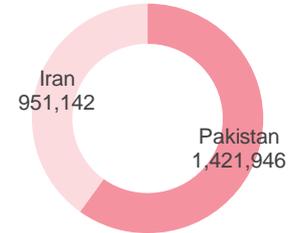
407

of urban refugees and asylum seekers in 2020 (UNHCR)



2,373,088

of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran in 2020 (UNHCR)



OTHER POPULATION OF CONCERN IN 2020 (SECONDARY SOURCES)

272,868

of undocumented Afghan returnees in April 2020 (IOM)

65,045

of newly displaced IDPs due to conflict in April 2020 (OCHA)

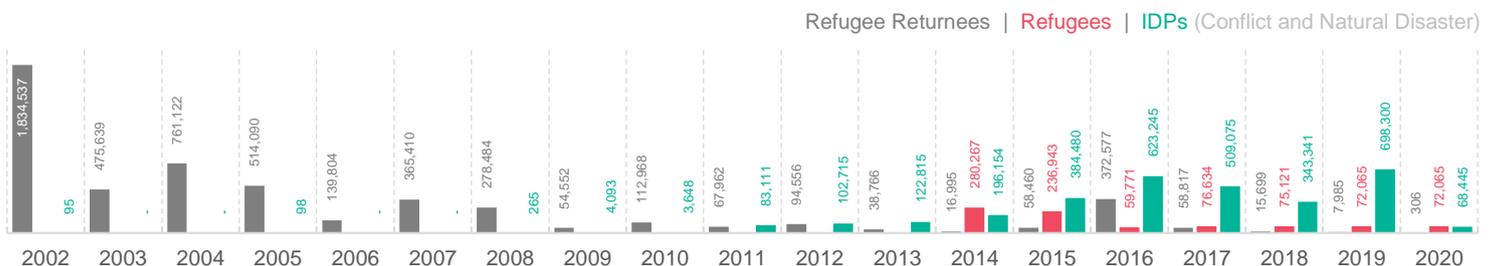
3,400

of newly displaced IDPs due to natural disasters in April 2020 (OCHA)

35.7 M

Total population in Afghanistan (Flowminder and UNFPA 2018)

POPULATION TRENDS (2002 – 2020)

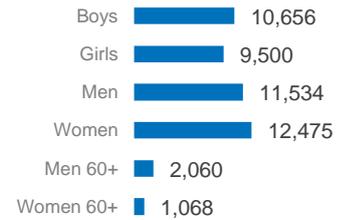
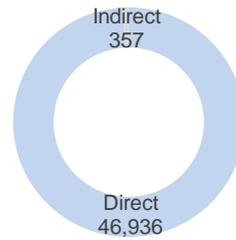
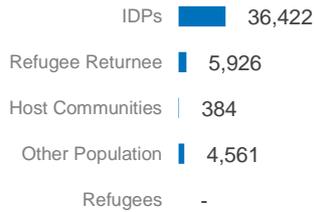


KEY ACTIVITIES

47,293



of persons of concern directly and indirectly reached by UNHCR in 2020



DISCLAIMER: The number of persons of concern shown above includes individuals who received multiple forms of assistance and does not represent the unique number of individuals assisted.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

306

of refugee returnees who received cash grants in close coordination with MoRR. UNHCR and its partners manage four encashment centers in Herat, Jalalabad, Kabul and Kandahar with services including basic healthcare, malnutrition screening, mine risk education, child friendly spaces, back to school information, legal counselling, SIM card distribution, SGBV awareness raising, and transit accommodation.

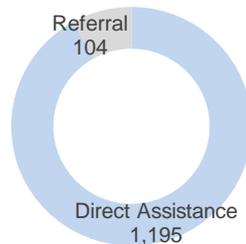
USD 63,579

Has been provided to 306 refugee returnees to support their immediate humanitarian needs as well as transportation costs.

PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

1,299

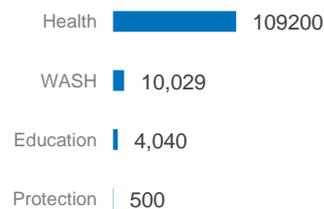
persons with acute vulnerabilities and protection risks receiving cash or in-kind assistance and/or referral to specialized services, such as medical assistance, employment, skills development, shelter, food and education.



COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

123,769

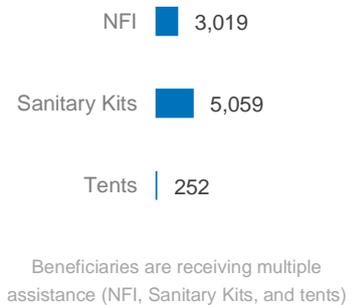
UNHCR engages with communities to identify and address their needs through skills training, business support and community mobilization to mitigate protection risks, strengthen resilience, facilitate reintegration, and promote peaceful coexistence with host communities.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

12,261

of beneficiaries assisted, in coordination with the Government, through non-food items, sanitary kits, and emergency shelter.



REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

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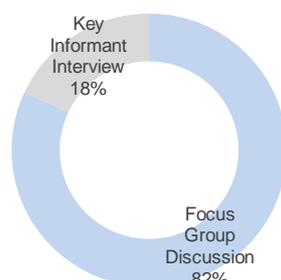
of refugees assisted with birth registration, NFI distribution, emergency shelter, winterization, and camp management and coordination in Gulistan Refugee Camp

*Refugee figure reduced due to double counting of assistance received through NFI

PROTECTION MONITORING, REFERRAL AND RESPONSE

478

of protection monitoring missions to systematically and regularly collect, verify and analyze information to assess the protection situation of IDPs, returnees and host communities in order to plan and implement more effective responses.



POLICY SUPPORT AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

UNHCR is part of the Tripartite and Quadripartite mechanisms established with the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran to plan, coordinate and undertake repatriation of Afghan refugees within the framework of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR).

HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT-PEACE NEXUS

UNHCR works to strengthen linkages between humanitarian initiatives and development programmes through partnership with the Government, development actors and the private sector, including in coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team, the Displacement and Return Executive Committee, and the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and other government initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable reintegration and harmonizing response to the needs of refugees, returnees, IDPs and members of host communities.

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION



348,629

 # of beneficiaries reached by the Protection Cluster



6.99 M  People in need

1.79 M  People targeted

59.9 M  Funding required



382,628

 # of beneficiaries reached by the Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items Cluster



3.69 M  People in need

1.05 M  People targeted

85.5 M  Funding required

UNHCR is grateful for contributions by:



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