Iran has been one of the world’s leading refugee hosts for over forty years. In August 2021, following the Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan and the subsequent deterioration of the security and humanitarian situation, many Afghans fled to Iran. UNHCR rapidly scaled up its operation in Iran to respond to the large number of new arrivals and their urgent needs for assistance.

**3.5M AFGHANS IN IRAN**
- 780,000 refugees
- 2.1 M undocumented
- 586,000 passport holders

**800,000 REFUGEES**
- 780,000 Afghan
- 20,000 Iraqi

**879** Remaining Afghan refugees

**38,175 Newly Arrived Afghans**
*since January 2021 based on information from Afghans approaching UNHCR’s receptions directly*

**VOLREP**
By the end of May, UNHCR facilitated the repatriation of 124 returnees to Afghanistan and one returnee to Iraq. This represents a decrease compared to the 635 returns facilitated in the same period in 2021. Voluntary repatriation declined by 80% compared to the same period in 2021. This decrease is due to the instability and deteriorating humanitarian situation in Afghanistan.

**RESETTLEMENT**
While in 2021 UNHCR received no quota for resettlement of Afghan refugees, in 2022 it is working with resettlement partners and the Government of Iran to resettle 3,000 refugees, given the increasing protection needs of refugees in Iran combined with the security situation in Afghanistan.

**UNHCR Iran is grateful for the generous contributions of its main donors in 2022.**

*According to the data received from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in October 2020.
For more information, please contact: Farha Bhyroo, External Relations Officer. bhoyroo@unhcr.org*