

Introduction

UNHCR's 'Community-based Protection Measures (CPMs)' focus on mitigating protection risks, both at the individual and community level. CPMs adopt an integrated community-based approach to address the protection and solutions for refugees, returnees, and IDPs, while fostering social cohesion, peaceful coexistence and community resilience. CPMs are area-based and site selection and site-specific activities are informed by protection monitoring; thorough baseline socio-economic profiling; and protection



Photo 1 Community project aiming at improving access to safe drinking water, solar panels and batteries to build self-reliance and empower the community in Kandahar, 2017 / UNHCR

risk and market analyses. This enables the design of evidence-based programming to systematically address the protection risks and immediate to short and medium term needs of UNHCR's Persons of Concern (PoCs), while fostering linkages with development partners for continuum to long-term development and sustainability. CPM programme is aligned to the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANDPF, 2017-2021) and the relevant National Priority Programs.

Key components of CPM include:

- **Asset-based Community Development (ABCD)** which increases the communities' access to services and productive assets, enhancing peaceful co-existence and self-reliance
- **Promoting beneficiary Representation, Engagement, and Participation (PREP)** which reinforces community resilience and social cohesion
- **Employability, employment and entrepreneurship (EEE)** which promotes self-reliance through market-based TEVT, small business development and job placement in partnership with private sector
- **Women and Youth Empowerment (WYE) and Youth Excellence Action Hubs (YEAH).**

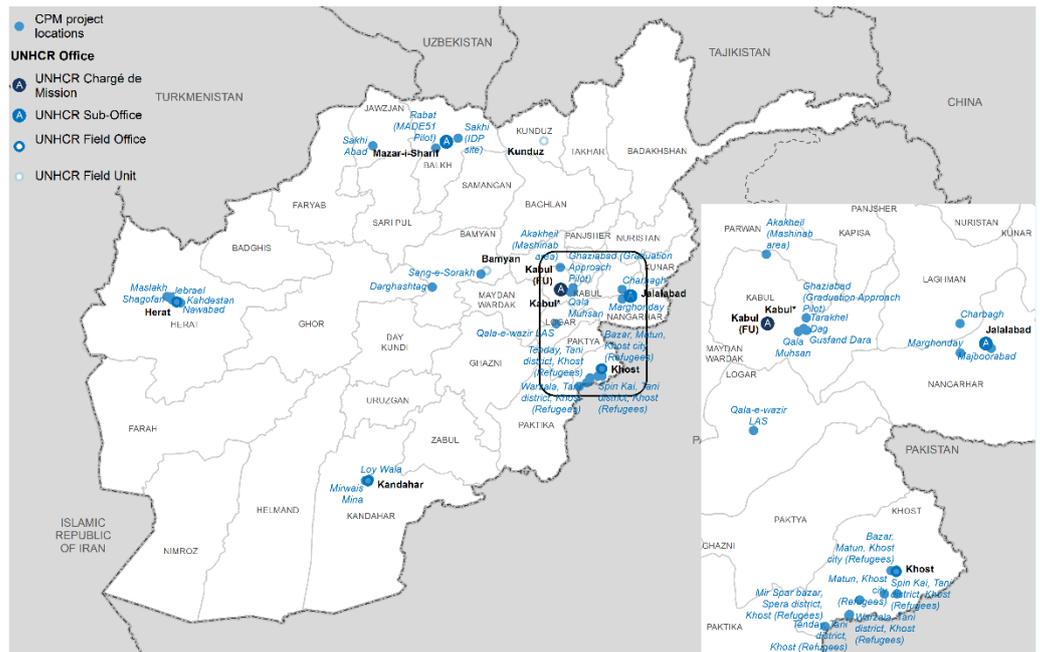
CPM activities in the short-term are aimed at preventing negative coping strategies, protecting assets, and diversifying income sources. In the short- to medium-term, through community mobilization and sensitization, CPMs aim at **Promoting Representation, Engagement, and Participation (PREP)** of returnees and IDPs in local Community Development Councils (CDCs) and *Shuras* for inclusion in community decision-making processes. This is complemented by self-help group model, which are organized around a livelihood activity together with basic administrative, management and financial literacy trainings.

In the medium-term, CPMs aim at building or improving livelihood assets and strategies through **Employability, Employment and Entrepreneurship (EEE)**. The key focus is on vocational and technical skills, life skills and entrepreneurship trainings together with job placement (apprenticeship/internship) in partnerships with the private sector; increasing access to financial services; and promoting small home-based businesses through seed capital grants and provision of assets for business development in local sectors (e.g. agro-processing, dairy products, greenhouses, nurseries, home-bakery products, bee-keeping, handicrafts, handlooms, carpet weaving etc.).

CPMs' long-term interventions, in partnership with development actors and the Government, are aimed at promoting and improving beneficiaries' access to the labour market and key institutions, markets and services, and to information (services, entitlements and rights).

In 2017, UNHCR's community-based protection measures supported **23 communities** and nearly **80,000 families** (over 500,000 individuals), including approximately 10,000 families from the host community (12% of the targeting on an average).

In 2018, CPMs will target **100 communities** benefitting nearly **2 million individuals**.



2017 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



- Rehabilitation and Construction, through cash for work, 1,240 m irrigation canal
- Rehabilitation and Construction, through cash for work, 5 pipe schemes
- Construction of Micro Hydro Power Project (through cash for work)
- Rehabilitation and Construction, through cash for work, 1 youth council building and 1 community centre
- Rehabilitation of 3 schools (school boundary wall, solar powered pipe scheme, sanitation facilities, water points)
- Construction, through cash for work, labour room in basic health centre (BHC) clinic
- Construction of 57 bore wells; 6-deep bore-wells
- Rehabilitation and upgrading of 443 shelters
- Construction, through cash for work, 2 flood protection walls
- Rehabilitation, through cash for work, 5 km access road, 3 culverts, 3 drainage channels (through Cash for Work)
- Provision of 1,222 Solar Panel home lightening system (each contains 2 solar panels, one battery, 2 fans, 4 lights and other related accessories)
- 366 Job placements in partnerships with private sector
- Established and supported 147 self-help groups in local businesses: agriculture (4 dairy, 1 poultry, 1 grape, 1 honey-bee keeping, 40 greenhouses), handicrafts and handlooms (2 carpet, 60 embroidery and tailoring, 10 leather), Services (1 transport – zaranaj/motorized tuktuk),
- Supported 401 micro businesses (Battery and solar repairing, mobile repairing, shoe-making, confectionary, digital receiver, photography, Bicycle Repairing, Carpentry, Embroidery, Gas Selling Shop, Grocery Shop, Metal Work, Mobile & Scratch Cards Seller, Mobile Repairing, Motor Mechanic, Poultry Shop, Shoes Maker, Tailoring, Vehicle Tire Pancharmani, Welding Work)
- Supporting 350 women artisans in carpet sector in Bamyan, Mazar; and Kabul and linking them to INTERNATIONAL markets under MADE51 programme (partners: Turquoise Mountain, Label STEP, ARZU, UNIQLO)
- Providing youth and women friendly spaces for youth and women empowerment including Youth Excellence Action Hubs (YEAH) and CODE4FUN initiative

Cash-based interventions (e.g. conditional or unconditional cash/vouchers for work, community contracting) is the key modality to improve access to basic services by creating and/or rehabilitating community common assets such as water points, education and health facilities as well as to improve communal productive and economic facilities within the local productive sectors (e.g. agriculture, livestock, fish farming etc.).

Mashino Akhakil - high returnee area

Mashino Akhakil village, in Qarabagh district of Kabul province is composed of 1,050 returnee families, including 600 recent returnee families and 80 internally displaced families. Most of the returnees (64%) are skilled, however a lack of access to assets/tools hindered their socio-economic well-being. A key issue also faced by the village included limited access to basic facilities, importantly water and decent shelter. Following a comprehensive socio-economic profiling and local market analysis, UNHCR enhanced the capacity of the community through a cash-for-work modality for the construction of 22 bore wells and a 700m flood protection wall, and rehabilitation of 120 shelters. Capitalizing on the existing skill-sets of the community, 4 community dairy farms, 10 honey-bee keeping and 35 solar grape drying facilities were established/provided. Importantly, these activities were linked with FAO's national agriculture and dairy programmes to ensure the long-term continuum to sustainability.



Photo 2 Solar drying chambers in Mashino Akhakil, 2017 / UNHCR

INNOVATION

CODE4FUN: A SAFE, SECURE, AND LEARNING PLATFORM TO IMPROVE THE CREATIVE SKILLS OF YOUNG GIRLS AND BOYS

CODE4FUN aims at providing an opportunity for students to improve their creative skills by creating a safe, secure, and friendly place where girls and boys can learn, communicate and enjoy being in an educational environment. In addition to teaching the coding skills to develop mobile applications (for iOS and Android) on child protection, education, and environment, CODE4FUN also focuses on enhancing students' self-esteem and confidence through interactive sessions on interpersonal, leadership, and teamwork skills. In 2018, CODE4FUN will target 1,000 youth (500 girls and 500 boys)



Photo 3 CODE4FUN teaching class, 2017 / UNHCR

MADE51: EMPOWERING ARTISANAL WOMEN

UNHCR's Global MADE51 (Markets, Design and Empowerment of refugee artisans) aims at empowering refugee/returnee artisans by linking them to international markets whilst ensuring safe working conditions and fair trade. Currently, the initiative supports 350 women in Mazar, Bamyan, and Kabul in partnership with Turquoise Mountain, Label STEP, ARZU HOPE, and UNIQLO. In 2018, MADE51 will target 1,200 women in artisan sectors (carpet, handicrafts, jewellery making, handlooms etc.).



Photo 4 MADE51 catalogues of products from Mazar-e-Sharif, 2017 / UNHCR

THE NEW WAY OF WORKING: STRENGTHENING HUM-DEV NEXUS

CPMs key focus is on strengthening the linkages between humanitarian and development actors including the private sector. Noteworthy to mention in this regard are the partnerships with UNDP, ILO, and Ministry of Social and Labour Affairs under Sustainable Alternative Livelihoods for Mobility (SALAM) project; complementary programme partnerships with ILO's Road to Jobs project in the northern region; FAO's agricultural development including nationwide dairy farming project; UNHCR-FAO-WFP joint livelihoods and vulnerability assessments in the northern and southern regions; and partnership with the national and provincial Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Industrial Unions over the apprenticeship programme.

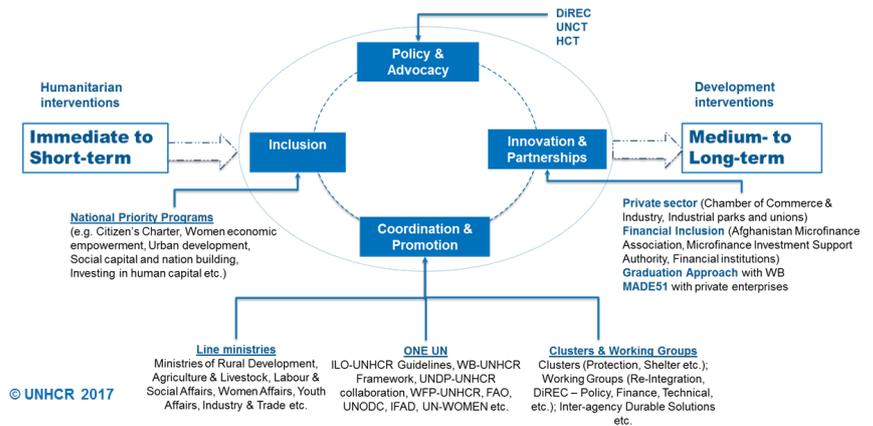


Figure 1 UNHCR Afghanistan HUMDEV model for Durable Solutions

Notably, UNHCR reinforced the ongoing partnership with the World Bank (WB) by linking CPMs to the WB's long-term development projects. An example of complementary programming is the WB-funded Citizens Charter (CC) and Returnee Enterprise Development Programme (RED). A joint beneficiary selection process under RED has been completed in areas of high return (Kabul, Kandahar, Herat, Mazar, Jalalabad). UNHCR and RED will jointly support women's self-help groups with social enterprise development and link them to the RED portfolio (agri-business, household goods productions).

Under the WB-funded Citizens Charter, field level coordination mechanisms have been established with the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). UNHCR data is being used by the World Bank to inform the selection of sites for projects in areas with high return and IDPs under the Citizens Charter (CC). It is agreed, that once the Community Development Councils prioritise the needs and identify projects, UNHCR and MRRD will work with other agencies in these locations to complement the interventions for a holistic approach. UNHCR and MRRD are also advocating for the inclusion of IDP and returnee locations in the Citizens Charter.

Further, an inter-agency durable solutions initiative – aiming to implement the national policy framework – led by the Government (Governor's Office and Provincial Displacement and Return Executive Committee) commenced in the Eastern Region (Nangarhar). The initiative includes UN agencies, led by UNHCR and supported by UNDP, IOM, WFP, FAO, UNHABITAT and ILO. Site selection for the joint profiling and programming is currently in progress.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

