

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

May 2020



Adela, 12, uses a handwashing station set up by UNHCR in a priority area in Balkh, northern Afghanistan. UNHCR/F.Hamdard

HIGHLIGHTS

So far in 2020, **342** individuals returned to Afghanistan, out of which 292 returned from Iran, 16 from Pakistan and 34 from other countries.

86,419 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

172,690 # of persons of concern reached by UNHCR in 2020

Refugee Returnees	101,994
Conflict-induced IDPs	70,425
Host Communities	256
Other Population	15

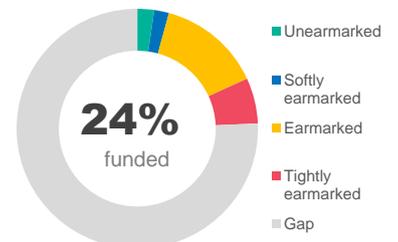
PARTNERS

27 # of partners implementing key UNHCR activities in 2020

NGO	22
Government	2
INGO	2
UN	1

DONORS

117.1M Funding required for 2020 (May 2020)



POPULATION DATA

342

of registered refugee returnees (UNHCR)

Iran 292

Pakistan 16

Other Countries 34

408

of urban refugees and asylum seekers in 2020 (UNHCR)

Asylum-Seekers 238

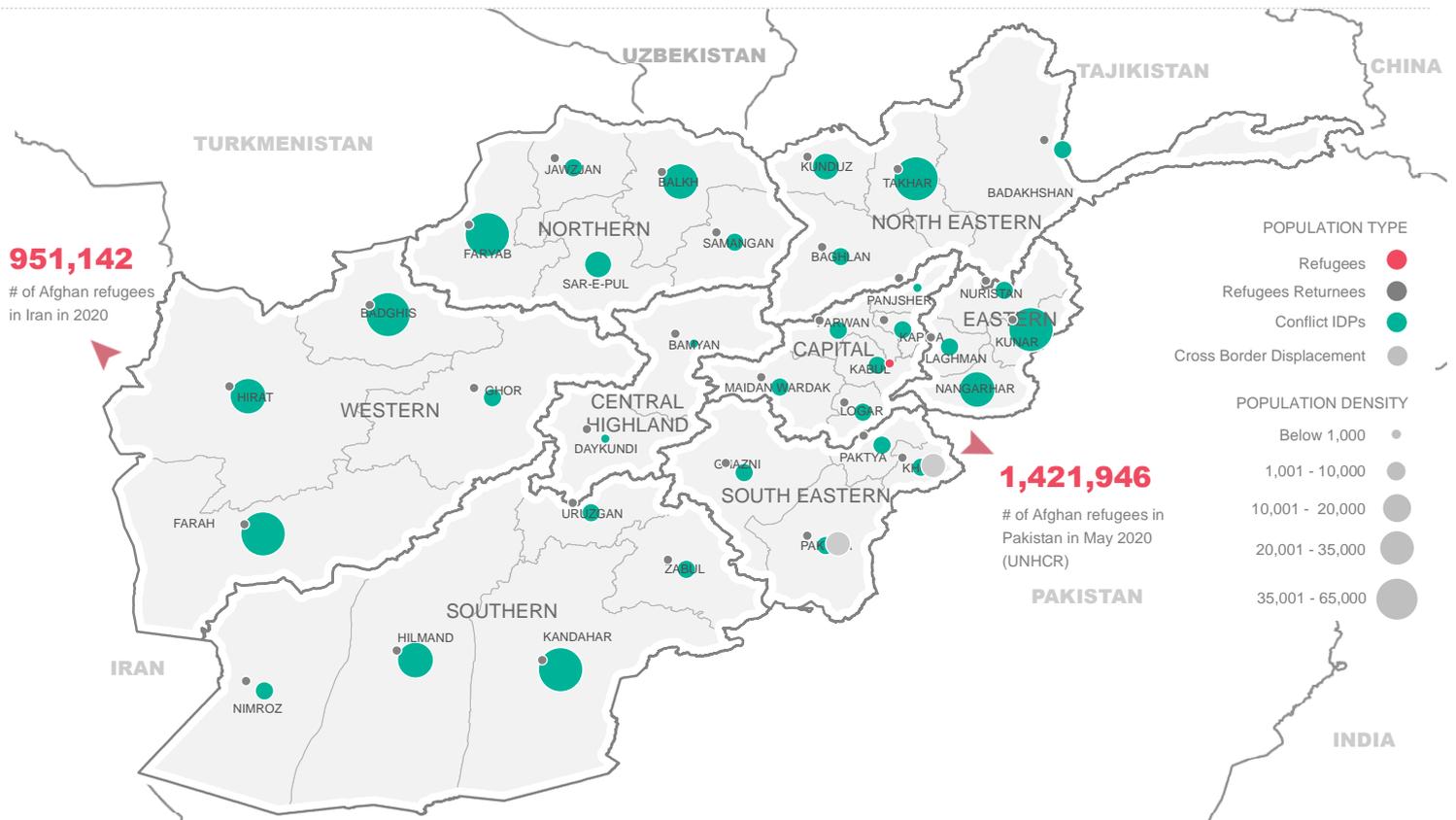
Refugees 170

2,373,088

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

Iran 951,142

Pakistan 1,421,946



OTHER POPULATION OF CONCERN IN 2020 (SECONDARY SOURCES)

300,512

of undocumented Afghan returnees in May 2020 (IOM)

86,419

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

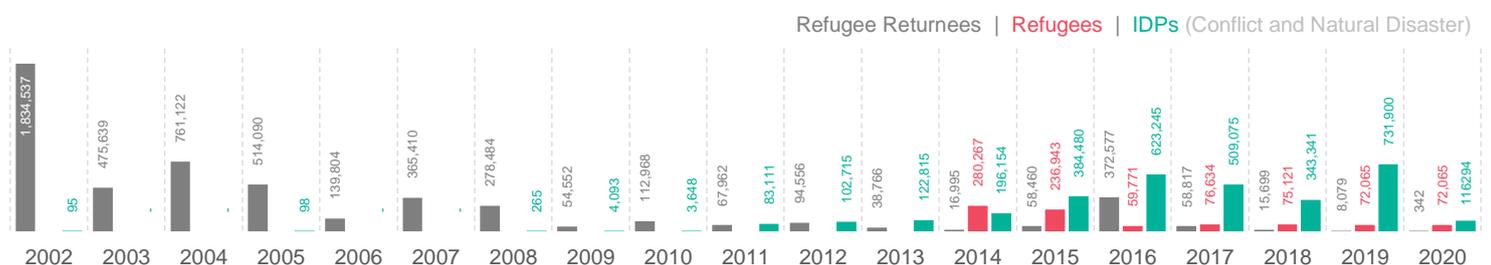
29,875

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

35.7 M

Total population in Afghanistan (Flowminder and UNFPA 2018)

POPULATION TRENDS (2002 – 2020)

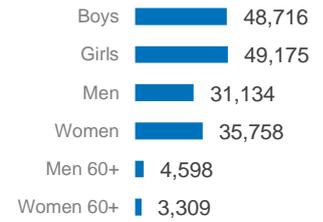
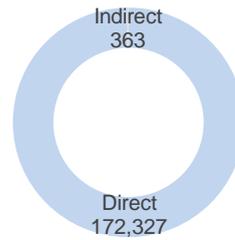
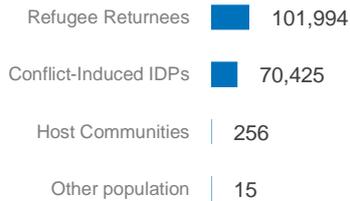


KEY ACTIVITIES

172,690



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

342

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.

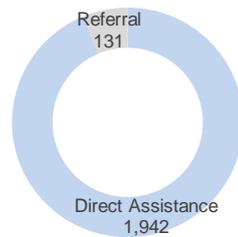
USD 71,080

Has been provided to 342 refugee returnees to support their immediate humanitarian needs as well as transportation costs.

PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

2,073

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

127,345

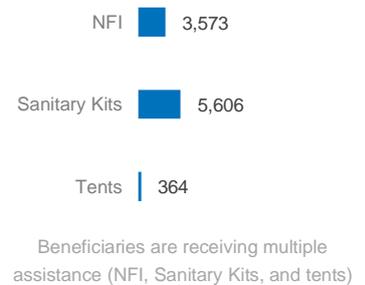
UNHCR engages with communities to identify and address their needs through skills training, business support and community mobilization to mitigate protection risks, strengthen resilience, facilitate reintegration, and promote peaceful coexistence with host communities.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

15,929

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



REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

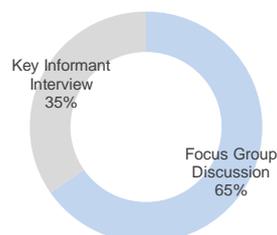
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of refugees assisted with birth registration, NFI distribution, emergency shelter, winterization, and camp management and coordination in Gulistan Refugee Camp

PROTECTION MONITORING, REFERRAL AND RESPONSE

693

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.

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

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION



482,440

 # of beneficiaries reached by the Protection Cluster



6.99 M  People in need

1.79 M  People targeted

59.9 M  Funding required



419,496

 # 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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