UNHCR’s Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) program is an integral part of the operation’s Protection and Solution Strategy. It aims to strengthen the protection environment for PSNs across Afghanistan, applying a whole of community approach. Assistance is provided on an individual basis to people assessed to have acute vulnerabilities and protection risks. Following the declaration of an emergency in the country, the PSN programme is to be scaled up. To simplify the PSN procedures, a new appendix to the PSN guidelines has been introduced, which provides clarity on the application of the Legal and Physical Protection Needs – Basic Needs (LPN-BN) vulnerability code to ensure broader reach. Further to this, the relevant tools have been updated so that assessments and beneficiary selection can be done once through the incorporation of a scoring methodology.

Of the 3,163 individuals assessed, cumulatively 844 directly benefited from cash and/or in-kind assistance while 1,965 were referred for medical, livelihoods, shelter and other assistance.

The ‘Other Protection Needs’ category includes assistance for transportation, civil documentation, and various other protection-related interventions.

**Beneficiaries by Status**

- **Assisted**: 431
- **Assisted and referred**: 413
- **Referred to Network**: 156

**Beneficiaries by Population**

- **Conflict-Induced IDPs**: 569
- **Host Communities**: 409
- **Refugee Returnees**: 12
- **Other population**: 8
- **Refugee**: 2

**Beneficiaries by Month**

- Jan: 149
- Feb: 370
- Mar: 281
- Apr: 200

*Includes individuals who received multiple assistance.*