

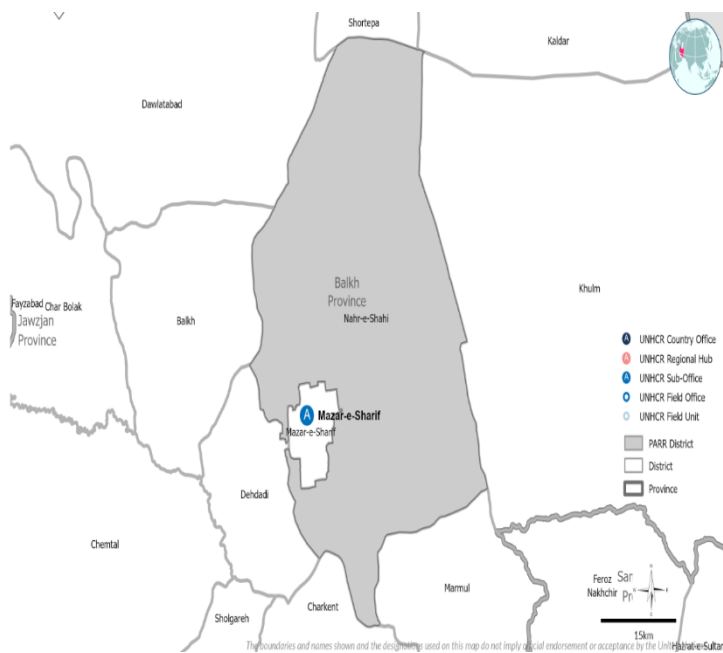
NAHR-E-SHAHI

BALKH PROVINCE, NORTHERN REGION

Fact Sheet as of August 2024

Beneficiaries	Total Population	IDPs	IDP Returnees	Refugee Returnees	Host Community
50,700 Female 51,300 Male	263,700 Female 266,300 Male	19,400 Female 19,600 Male	7,300 Female 7,700 Male	24,000 Female 24,000 Male	213,000 Female 215,000 Male
88,000	530,000	39,000	15,000	48,000	428,000







Balkh Province is in the Northern part of Afghanistan bordering Uzbekistan in the North, Tajikistan in the Northeast, Kunduz Province in the East, Samangan Province in the Southeast, Sare Pul Province in the Southwest, and Jawzjan Province in the West. The capital of the province is Mazar-e-Sharif City, one of the biggest businesses centres in the country. The province covers an area of 16,840 Km². Nearly half of the province is mountainous or semi mountainous terrain (48.7%) while half of the area (50.2%) is made up of flat land. Balkh Province is around 450 Km away from Kabul. The province consists of 14 districts which are, Balkh, Charbolak, Charkent, Chemtal, Dawlatabad, Dehdadi, Kaldar, Keshendi, Khulm, Marmol, Nahr-e-Shahi, Sholgara, Shortepa and Zari. The province is consisted of some 1,174 villages. Nahr-e-Shahi District, which covers 1,409 Km², has 24 villages and an estimated population of 530,000 individuals. Mazar-e-Sharif City is located within the Nahr-e-Shahi District and is divided into 12 municipalities. UNHCR has interventions in most of the villages where IDPs and refugee returnees are settled. UNHCR has been implementing Community-based Protection and Solutions Response Programme (Co-PROSPER) projects including livelihoods, WASH, shelter, energy, and protection activities in Nahr-e-Shahi District, which is also a Priority Area of Return and Reintegration (PARR). As a pilot district for Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG), Nahr-e-Shahi was selected due presence of large number of IDPs around the district and easy access for assessment. A joint team consisting of UNDP, UNHCR and IOM conducted assessment to identify the needs of communities in late 2023 and the findings shared were shared with the R-DSWG members.



Protection
Special Assistance
Livelihoods
Education
Health
WASH
Shelter
Energy
Infrastructure

Projects already implemented by UNHCR (January 2022- June 2024)

BENEFICIARIES	ACTIVITIES
11,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) have been conducted with various groups of population within the communities ■ UNHCR distributed Non-Food Items (NFIs) and UNIQLO cloths for 754 IDP families in Nahr-e-Shahi District ■ In 2022, UNHCR conducted 'community mobilization and empowerment refresher training' for 60 community leaders
300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In 2022-2024, 300 Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) cases have been assisted in the district

	<p>7,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In 2023, UNHCR constructed a carpet processing centre in Nahr-e-Shahi, which will benefit around 300 families ■ In 2023, UNHCR delivered tailoring program for 200 households ■ Animal husbandry project was implemented to benefit 150 households in 2022 ■ 250 female SME cases are assisted for those beneficiaries who got Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) training and started their businesses in 2023 ■ Wool spinning program was implemented for 200 families in 2023 ■ Soap making training was conducted for 100 beneficiaries in 2023
	<p>850</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In 2022-2023, Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS) sessions were provided to 250 individuals ■ 40 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) were installed to expand the space of health centres
	<p>8,600</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 120 ladies received hygiene training as well as the trained ladies were assisted with hygiene kit assistance ■ Eight water wells including water reservoir and distribution of solar panel project was implemented in 2022-2023
	<p>1,400</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In 2022-2023, UNHCR constructed shelters for 200 households in the district
	<p>3,500</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In 2023, 500 solar panel packages were distributed for IDP families in Nahr-e-Shahi District
	<p>5,300</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7.5 km road graveling is completed in Omid Farda and Ferdawsi IDP site ■ In 2022, construction of two women community centres in Ferdawsi and Omid Farda IDP sites of Nahr-e-Shahi district in order to enhance women empowerment



Distribution of tent and permanent shelters for IDPs in Ferdawsi area within Nahr-e-Shahi District in 2022 @UNHCR








Inauguration of first phase of carpet processing and carpet weaving centre in Qalinbafan area of the district @UNHCR







Water supply project for IDP families in Takhta Pul area of Nahr-e-Shahi District in 2023 @UNHCR

UNHCR activities (planned/ongoing in 2024)

TARGET BENEFICIARIES	ACTIVITIES
 200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 individuals are receiving assistance through the PSN program in 2024
 500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalization of carpet processing and weaving centre is planned in Nahr-e-Shahi District 75 SME cases are planned to be assisted in Nahr-e-Shahi 260 families are receiving tailoring and carpet weaving trainings in 2024
 800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The construction of 8-classroom school with all the required facilities is planned in 2024
 45,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The construction of a Comprehensive Health Centre (CHC) is planned to be constructed in the district 120 individuals are receiving MHPSS counselling in 2024
 400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 shelters are being constructed in Nahr-e-Shahi District

Partnerships

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP is working in solarizing the schools and clinics in Nahr-e-Shahi district Construction of a primary school building for boys and girls
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ILO and UN Women will provide business trainings for those who would like to start small businesses IOM is planning to provide livelihoods support to individuals in the sectors of vehicle repairing, motorbike repairing, dress making and tailoring, bags and shoe making, mobile repairing, barbering, furniture making, distribution of asset replacement for 300 MSMEs, job retention for 500 beneficiaries, enterprise development training, branding and market linkages UNDP will improve access to finance and strengthen Women-led MSMEs and other businesses by creating value chain and strengthen market system through the provision of financial assistance, technical support and developing market linkages to enhance the cross-border trade/export in 2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply networks planned by IOM in for IDP population in 2024 Construction of water reservoirs and installation of solar panels in Nahri Shahi district by IOM UNDP is implementing 'Adopting Climate Resilient' approaches to reduce the impacts of natural disasters by establishing Watersheds through Cash-for-Work (CfW) for better irrigation and improving the water table and avoiding the risks of floods in targeted communities by UNDP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IOM has planned 15 Km road graveling and 21 culverts construction in Nahr-e-Shahi district in 2024 Provision of access to markets, hospitals, and schools through the rehabilitation of 20 km road by UNDP

Remaining Gaps



- Employment opportunities are needed in the area. Many youths are going to Iran in hope to find jobs
- Need of livelihoods and small business opportunities in village level observed during joint assessment (NR-DSWG team)



- The high prices of food caused that most of the families do not have access to proper food
- There are no adequate healthcare facilities in the area and community members are obliged to travel to far distance to reach the provincial hospital
- Lack of medicine observed in public hospitals and clinics in Nahr-e-Shahi District



- Lack of potable water is a challenge in the district and most of the residents purchase drinking water, which is not a permanent solution



- Some 200 families need their shelters to be repaired
- 500 protracted IDPs need shelter assistance



- Solar panel is one of the remaining needs in Nahr-e-Shahi district



- Road graveling is needed in 15 villages of Nahri Shahi where most of IDPs and returnees live

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