



HIGHLIGHTS

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|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p>52,247 Afghan refugees (PoR cardholders) repatriated to Afghanistan between 3 April and 30 September 2017.</p> | <p>94,635 Births registered between 1 January and 30 September 2017.</p> | <p>7,752 Initial Screening Forms were submitted between 1 January and 30 September 2017. <i>1,518 families comprising of 7,752 individuals.</i></p> | <p>1,236 Afghans and non-Afghans physically registered in UNHCR proGres database between 1 January and 30 September 2017. <i>491 families comprising of 1,236 individuals.</i></p> | <p>194,700 IDP individuals returned to their areas of origin between 1 January and 30 September 2017. <i>32,450 families using the multiplier 6 as the average family size.</i></p> |
|--|---|---|--|---|

Population of concern

A total of **1.65 million** people of concern

By country of origin

| Country | Total persons of concern |
|--|--------------------------|
| Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders | 1,389,754 |
| Afghan refugees without PoR cards | 4,146 |
| Somalia (refugees) | 266 |
| Others (refugees) Asylum seekers | 260 3,866 |
| *Total out-of-camp IDPs | 261,294 |

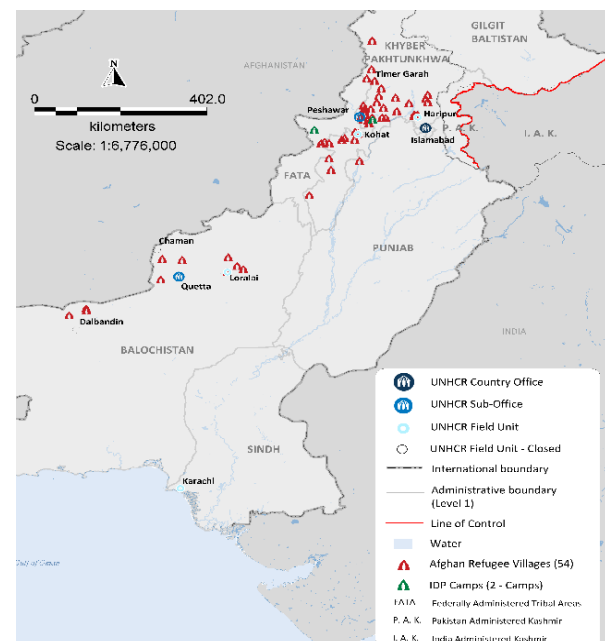
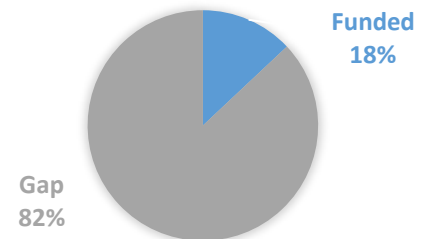
UNHCR Presence

| Offices | International staff | | National staff | | Total staff |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Regular | Affiliate | Regular | Affiliate | |
| Islamabad | 23 | 1 | 73 | 10 | 107 |
| Peshawar | 7 | 3 | 68 | 9 | 87 |
| Quetta | 6 | 1 | 47 | 4 | 58 |
| Total | 36 | 5 | 188 | 23 | 252 |

**As of 30 September 2017 – source of North Waziristan Agency and Khyber IDPs population is Federal Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) while figures on IDP families are verified by National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).*

Funding

USD 127 million requested



MAIN UPDATES

Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

- The regional multi-year Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR, phase II 2015-2017) provides a framework for cooperation between humanitarian and development actors to address the needs of Afghan refugees. The main goal of the SSAR is to identify and implement lasting solutions for refugees, while providing assistance to host communities. The SSAR prioritises the promotion of youth empowerment through inter-linked interventions in the areas of education, vocational skills training and livelihoods.

Durable Solutions and Protection

- **Voluntary Repatriation:** UNHCR operates two Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) in Quetta and Peshawar for refugees wishing to repatriate to Afghanistan. Families who want to repatriate are de-registered at the VRC, and their Proof of Registration (PoR) card (an identity card for Afghan refugees that grants temporary legal stay in Pakistan and protection against *refoulement*) is cut in the corner. Returnees receive a cash grant of approximately USD 200 per individual upon arrival at one of the three UNHCR encashment centres in Afghanistan for refugees returning from Pakistan. Repatriation was paused for winter and resumed on 3 April 2017.
- **Legal Assistance:** To maintain the protection of refugees, UNHCR operates 10 Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) which provide legal assistance to refugees and conduct awareness-raising activities. In September, 3,219 persons of concern were assisted by ALACs. ALACs intervened on behalf of 67 refugees at police stations upon arrest, securing the release of all, and provided court representations to 14 for those charged under the 1946 Foreigners Act and other preventive laws. In September individual legal counselling was provided to 666 persons of concern who visited ALAC offices as well as 823 people who sought legal advice through the ALAC helplines. Through 56 legal sessions, staff reached out to 1,565 participants during the reporting period (40 per cent were women). The issues of greatest concern for persons of concern seeking legal advice/assistance were regarding their PoR card, shelter, financial, medical needs and police harassment.
- UNHCR provides support to five Proof of Registration (PoR) Cards Modification (PCM) centres operated by National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) nationwide. The PCM centres support the modification/replacement of existing PoR cards, the registration of new born children up to the age of five, provision of PoR cards to registered children older than five years of age and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18. A total of 94,635 children were registered and 52,380 children received birth certificates between January and September.

Education

- UNHCR Pakistan continues to provide students access to free primary education (and secondary education in one refugee village in Balochistan) through 171 schools, 48 satellites classes, 45 home-based girls schools and 13 early childhood education centres in refugee villages. Around 56,000 refugee children living in 52 refugee villages across Pakistan receive education through these interventions. UNHCR also provides tertiary-level scholarships to Afghan refugee youth through the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI). The beneficiaries are mostly between 19 to 30 years old. In 2017, 174 students are studying in different Pakistani universities on a DAFI scholarship. UNHCR Pakistan has developed a country-level education strategy (2016-18) that focuses on increasing access to and improving the quality of primary education, especially for girls. The strategy also emphasises the provision of safe learning environments, improved teacher training and the provision of non-formal education and vocational training opportunities for Afghan refugees.

Community-based Protection

- UNHCR Pakistan conducted a targeted Participatory Assessment (PA) with a focus on Community-Based Protection (CBP) concepts and areas of implementation in selected urban Afghan communities. The objectives of the Annual 2017 PA is to (1) gather information on the specific protection concerns faced by Afghan refugees, the underlying causes of the protection concerns, and to understand community capacities and proposed solutions; (2) analyse information on community capabilities and resources that contributes to self-reliance; (3) incorporate the community's input into the implementation phases of UNHCR's recently endorsed CBP and Outreach Strategy 2017-2019; and (4) to inform 2018 operational planning. A One-day National Consultative Participatory Assessment Workshop was held in Islamabad followed by Provincial level trainings for the multi-functional team members responsible for conducting the Participatory Assessment interviews in selected CBP intervention areas. Provincial level findings and recommendations will be submitted to UNHCR Islamabad for consolidation into a National Participatory Assessment report.

Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

- Since 2009 the Government of Pakistan has been implementing the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative, which serves as a cornerstone for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and a principal burden-sharing platform for maintaining protection space for Afghan refugees. RAHA implements a wide variety of projects across the sectors of education, health, livelihood, infrastructure, water and sanitation and social protection. Since the launch of the programme, over

4,100 projects have been implemented across all provinces of Pakistan and five agencies in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), benefitting over 10.94 million people. In 2016, nearly 430,000 people (of whom 26 per cent are registered Afghan refugees and 74 per cent are their Pakistani host communities) benefitted from 51 RAHA projects.

- In 2017 RAHA is benefitting 443,625 people – 31 per cent Afghan refugees. RAHA focuses on youth empowerment through education, skills training and livelihood support in line with the countrywide strategic priorities of UNHCR. At present there are 27 projects under RAHA in three provinces - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Punjab. All three UNHCR offices are lining up further projects approved by the provincial task forces as well as the Ministry of SAFRON should funding be forthcoming. The skills development project that started in January came to a conclusion in April 2017. 755 youth from both the Afghan refugee and host communities benefitted from the project that provided training in eight trades for both men and women. Discussions are ongoing for a further phase of the Skills Development Project (SDP) taking into consideration the lessons learned.

Health

UNHCR continues to support the provision of basic health services in the refugee villages in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Punjab provinces. During the month of September, a total of 10,752 patients received treatment in these health facilities. Refugee women and children enrolled in preventive and reproductive health care programmes received antenatal, perinatal, postnatal care and routine immunisation services. In the reporting period, 1,359 women received antenatal care, 1,127 deliveries were conducted by a trained birth attendant and 6,895 children received routine immunisation. Polio eradication campaigns were conducted in the refugee villages by WHO, UNICEF and the health department, with the assistance from UNHCR's partners.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

- As of 30 September 2017 some 43,549 IDP families (261,294 individuals) were registered as internally displaced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). UNHCR continues to lead the protection, Camp Coordination Camp Management and emergency shelter/Non Food Items clusters, as part of the inter-agency response. In addition, UNHCR continues to support displaced persons and returnees through mobile protection teams and grievances desks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Since 1 January 2017, 371 grievances have been recorded and 97 per cent of these cases have been resolved.
- Since 1 January 194,700 individuals have returned to de-notified areas (areas declared safe for returns after military operations). A cash grant of PKR 35,000 (USD 350) is distributed to returnees at the return embarkation points by the Government of Pakistan. UNHCR has supported the return of IDPs mostly through protection monitoring, with some targeted assistance to very vulnerable individuals. Protection monitoring activities in displacement and return areas have also been conducted.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS AND DONORS

- UNHCR's main counterparts for refugees within the Government of Pakistan is the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions, the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees and the Commissioners for Afghan Refugees, at the provincial level. In addition, UNHCR works with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Ministry of Interior (MOI) and the Economic Affairs Division (EAD).
- UNHCR continues to lead the Protection, Shelter / NFI and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) clusters and works in close coordination with the FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, as well as SAFRON at the federal level for complex emergencies in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- UNHCR implements activities through national and international non-government organisations.
- UNHCR is grateful for the contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR along with those donors who have directly contributed to the operation. Donors include [Canada](#) | [Denmark](#) | [Educate A Child Programme](#) | [European Union](#) | [Germany](#) | [IKEA Foundation](#) | [Japan](#) | [KfW](#) | [Luxembourg](#) | [Norway](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) | [United States](#) | [Various private donors](#)