

# Islamic Republic of Pakistan

\*31 January 2019

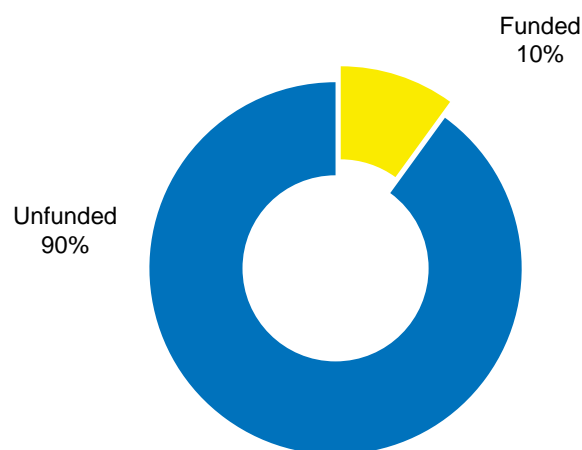
<b>*14,017</b> Afghan registered refugees (PoR cardholders) repatriated to Afghanistan from 1 March – 30 November 2018.	<b>829</b> Afghan refugee births registered from 1 January – 31 January 2019.	<b>1,966</b> people received legal assistance since 1 January 2019.
<b>153</b> schools supported by UNHCR in which <b>56,000</b> refugee children are studying.	<b>8,541</b> patients being treated in <b>45</b> health facilities supported by UNHCR.	<b>4,199</b> persons (Afghan refugees and Pakistani nationals) received livelihood assistance from till 31 January 2019.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

Country of origin	Total persons of concern
Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders	1,401,060
Afghan mandated refugees without PoR cards	3,288
Somalia (refugees)	182
Others (refugees)	318
Asylum seekers	5,658
Total out-of-camp IDPs	96,384

## FUNDING

USD 37.14 million



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

160 national staff.  
36 international staff.

### Offices:

One country office in Islamabad.  
Two sub-offices in



\* Repatriation has been paused since 1 December 2018 for winter break. It will resume from 1 March 2019. Please refer to data portal and UNHCR Pakistan website for latest updates.

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR's main counterparts for refugees within the Government of Pakistan are the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions, the Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees at the federal level and the Commissionerates for Afghan Refugees, at the provincial level. In addition, UNHCR works with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Ministry of Interior (MoI) and the Economic Affairs Division (EAD).
- UNHCR implements activities through national and international non-governmental organisations.

## Main Activities

### Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (2018 – 2019)

- The regional multi-year Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) 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. The Government of Pakistan endorsed the extension of the SSAR framework for 2018-19.

### Protection and Durable Solutions

- **Voluntary Repatriation:** UNHCR operates two voluntary repatriation centres (VRCs) in Quetta, Balochistan and Nowshera, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 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.
- **Legal Assistance:** UNHCR operates nine Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) in the main refugee hosting areas of four provinces and provide free legal support to persons of concerns. ALAC teams are proactive in advocacy, capacity building and sensitization with law enforcement agencies to mitigate risk of arrest and detention. Birth registration, police harassment, information on repatriation, PoR card modification and the registration exercise of undocumented Afghans were the issues of greatest concern observed during the reporting period. Out-of-court legal assistance was

#### *In January:*

**1,966** people received legal assistance

**64** people arrested/detained and then released

**14** people receive court representation

**468** provided individual legal counselling

**471** people assisted through ALAC helplines.

provided to 58 persons of concern, mostly related to police harassment, PoR card verifications, rental agreements and affidavits.

- UNHCR and ALAC staff organised a total of 53 legal and shura meetings, reaching 878 participants (41 per cent were women) in the reporting month. Fifty per cent of the legal sessions were held in refugee villages and the remaining sessions in urban areas of Pakistan. Through these legal sessions, refugees shared various issues affecting their communities.
- UNHCR and its legal partner organised one training session on UNHCR's mandate and international protection at Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy (KPJA) where 17 Judicial Officers participated.
- UNHCR provides support to four Proof of Registration Cards Modification (PCMs) centres operated by the 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 829 children were registered between 1 January to 31 December 2019.

### Community-based protection

- In January 2019, UNHCR signed three Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with shelter partners working in different areas of Punjab. Through newly developed referral mechanisms, these partners expand on UNHCR's capacity to provide safe accommodation and assist survivors of sexual and gender based violence throughout the province. Outreach and partnership building has taken place with additional shelters providing services to women and children. Agreements are expected to be signed in the coming weeks.
- As part of community development initiatives, UNHCR in Peshawar established a child-friendly space for urban refugee children and encouraged community participation to improve health and hygiene conditions within the community. Activities included the garbage clean-up, the placement of waste bins, pavement of sanitation lines, and installation of a hand-pump. These activities were jointly conducted with community sensitization sessions on health and hygiene for community members.

### Education

*UNHCR supports:*

**153** schools

**30** satellite classes

**60** home-based schools

**235** DAFI scholars

UNHCR's education strategy aims to facilitate access of Afghan children into nearby public schools where these are available to avoid maintaining a parallel education system, maximise resources and encourage peaceful co-existence amongst refugees and local children. One of the strategies used by UNHCR to support this process is directing Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) resources

towards improving existing public sector educational facilities within accessible distances to refugee villages. This reinforces the absorption capacity of the institutions to benefit both host and refugee communities and contributes to social cohesion.

## Health

- UNHCR continues to support the provision of basic health services in refugee villages in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Punjab provinces. Refugee women and children enrolled in preventive and reproductive health care programmes received antenatal, pre-natal, postnatal care and routine immunisation services. Polio eradication campaigns were conducted in refugee villages by WHO, UNICEF and the health department, with assistance from UNHCR's partners.

### *UNHCR supported:*

**45** health facilities

**8,541** patients treated

**1,853** antenatal care cases

**1,487** deliveries conducted by trained birth attendants

**1,414** postnatal care cases

## Livelihoods

- UNHCR provided economic empowerment opportunity to 200 refugee women in Islamabad and Karachi. These women were provided with artisanal skill trainings in home décor, tailoring, Jewellery making, beautician and leather bags making. A fashion brand FNK Asia was introduced to the artisanal skill development which added value to the crafts value chain.
- UNHCR Pakistan is collaborating with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) to assist 2,000 Afghan and host households through Poverty Graduation Approach to build food security and sustainable livelihoods of Afghan refugees and host community in district Pishin, Balochistan and Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan. The refugees and host families have been provided assets with relevant skillset and tool kits to start an economic activity.
- UNHCR has assisted the most vulnerable 120 refugee women through Safe from the Start Project) in Quetta, with an aim to minimize the risk of Gender Based Violence (GBV).
- The women at risk of violence has been supported integrated and sustainable livelihoods development approach by involving them in safe livelihood activities, GBV education and services, basic literacy and numeracy, health and hygiene, early childhood care activities, market-led technical skills training, provision of start-up tool kits and linked them with main markets through e-commerce website and a display center established in Quetta, which helped the artisans women in marketing the products.
- UNHCR also provided vocational skill trainings to 126 refugees in seven Refugees villages located at Chaghi, Pishin, Qilla Saifullah and Quetta districts in Balochistan.
- UNHCR provided paramedical skill trainings to 21 Afghan refugees have been graduated from the diploma level course in Peshawar, who have been awarded diplomas at the end of training.

## Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

**4,258** projects completed since 2009

**12.4** million beneficiaries

**21** projects in 2018

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 responsibility-sharing platform for

maintaining protection space for Afghan refugees. RAHA implements a wide variety of projects across the sectors of education, health, livelihoods, infrastructure, water, sanitation and social protection. UNHCR along with the Government of Pakistan is in the process to revise the RAHA programme document, which will be applicable till December 2020. RAHA is key function for UNHCR livelihoods, education and health strategies which intends to mainstream the Afghan refugees in public facilities.

## External / Donors Relations

### Earmarked contributions to UNHCR Pakistan in 2019<sup>1</sup>

European Union | Japan | United States of America | UN programme on HIV/AIDS | Private Donors Republic of Korea

### Un-earmarked contributions to UNHCR Pakistan in 2019<sup>2</sup>

Denmark | Germany | Norway | Netherlands | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | Private Donors

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## LINKS

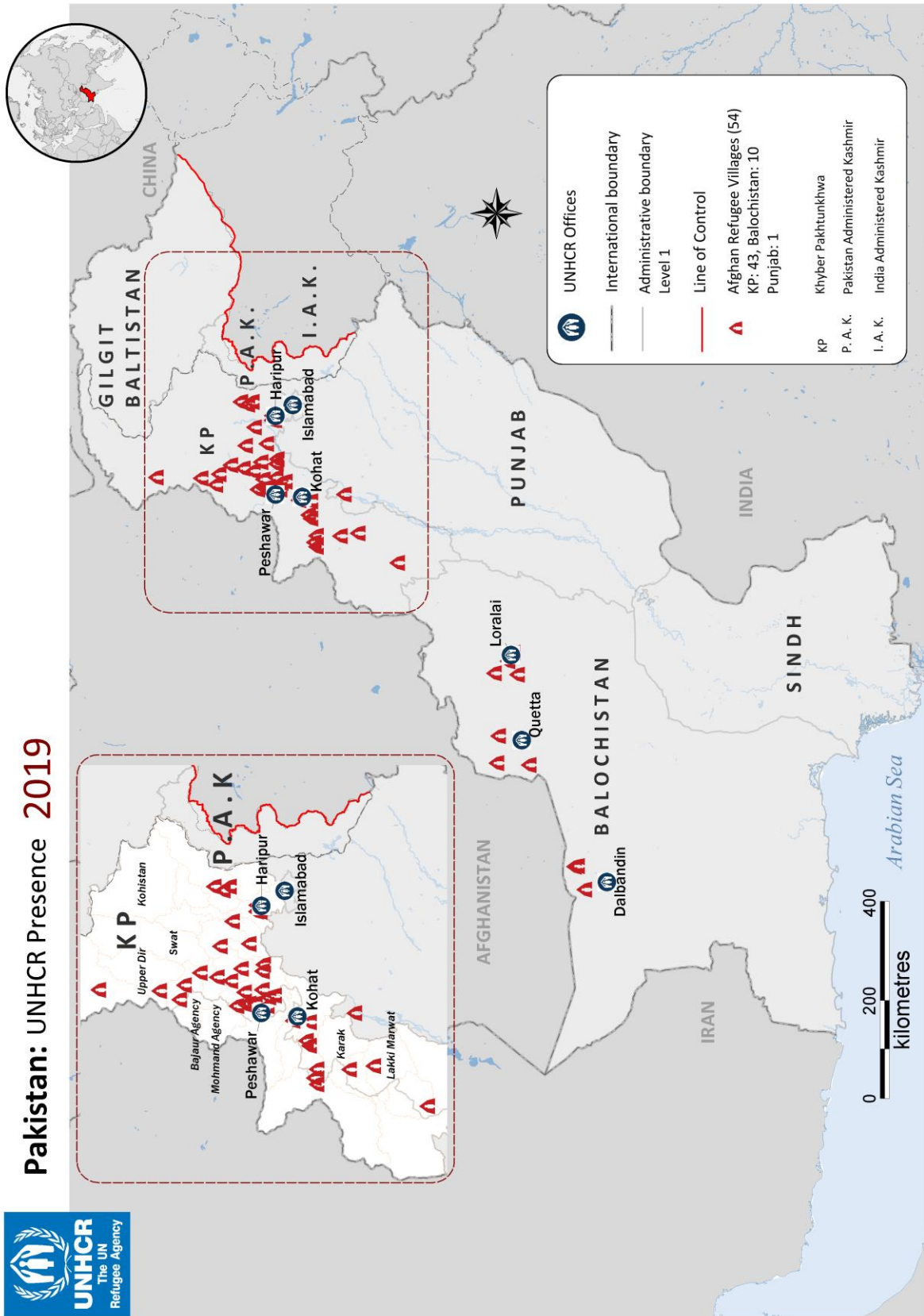
Website: <http://unhcrpk.org>

Twitter: [@UNHCRPakistan](https://twitter.com/UNHCRPakistan)

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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/unhcrpakistan/>

Data portal: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/pak>



- Contributions are shown by the level of flexibility in the earmarking. Contributions earmarked to a situation within a country are allocated at country level.
- Unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contribution \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.