

AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

January – December 2022



Cover photograph:

Pakistan. Twenty-nine-year-old Afghan refugee, Dr. Saleema Rehman, visits the refugee school in Pakistan that she attended as a child. During school visits, Dr. Saleema helps raise awareness about the importance of education and inspires young refugees, especially girls, to dream of a better tomorrow. She is the 2021 Regional Winner for Asia of the UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award. © UNHCR/Amsal Naeem

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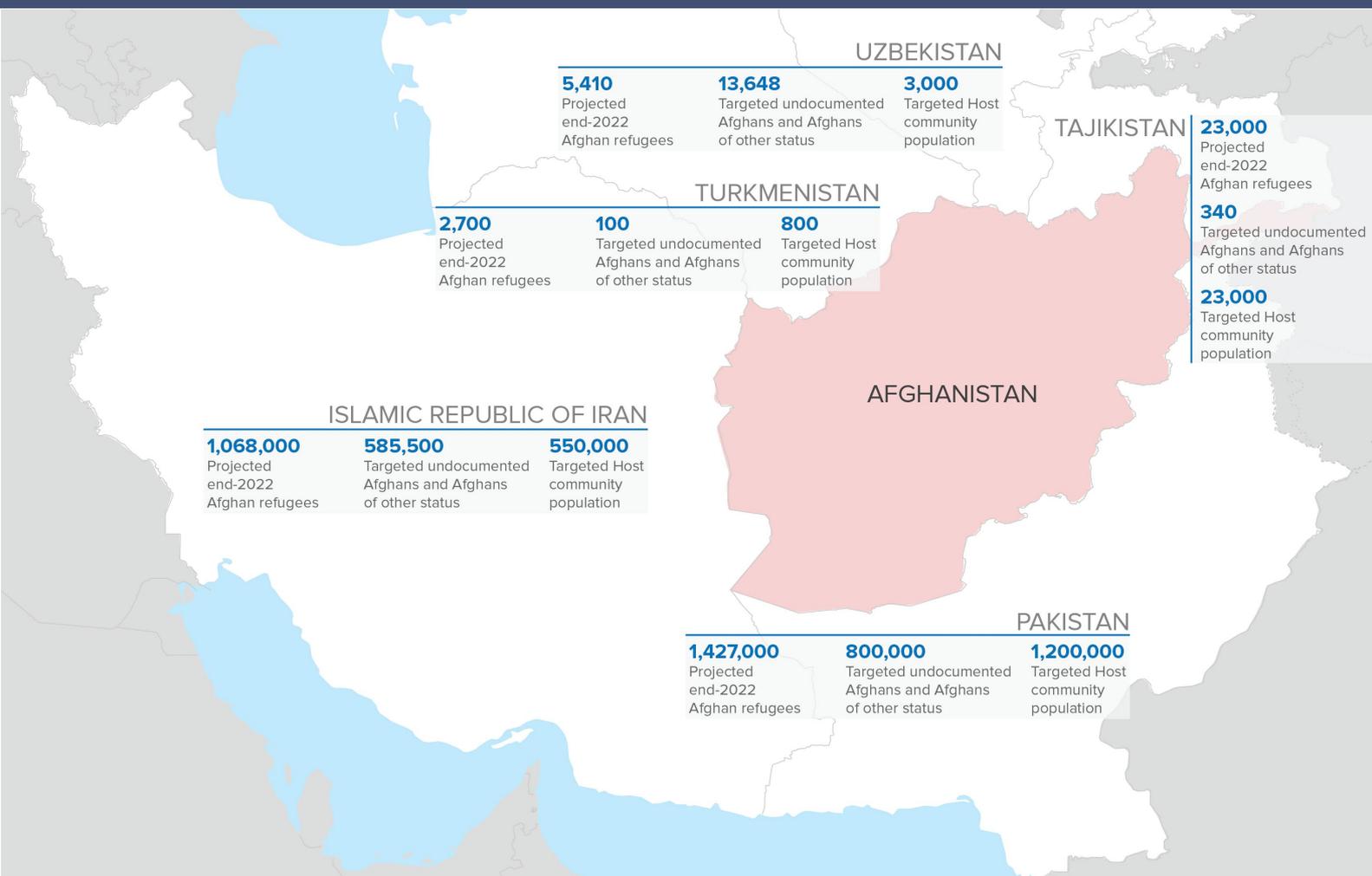
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PLANNED RESPONSE

5.7 MILLION
TARGET POPULATION
IN 2022

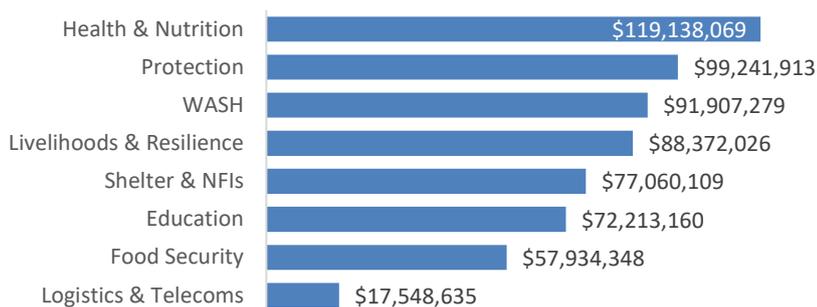
(INCLUDING AFGHANS OF VARYING
STATUS AND HOST COMMUNITY) *

US\$ 623 MILLION **40**
REQUIREMENTS FOR
2022 PARTNERS
INVOLVED



* Target population figures include registered Afghan refugees and asylum-seekers and a projection of new arrivals, in addition to a portion of targeted undocumented Afghans, Afghans with other status, and members of the host community.

Sector Requirements for 2022



Regional Overview

Introduction

The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan deteriorated dramatically in 2021, with significant consequences for the most vulnerable among the population. Even prior to the events of August 2021, the year had seen the highest number of conflict-related casualties on record and a striking decline in the security and human rights situation in large parts of the country. According to OCHA, close to 700,000 people (59 per cent children and 21 per cent women)¹ have been newly internally displaced by conflict in 2021, bringing it to a total of 3.4 million displaced by conflict inside Afghanistan as of December 2021. The situation remains uncertain and may evolve rapidly. The upsurge of violence across the country in 2021 and instability has had a serious impact on civilians and, combined with hardships caused by political uncertainty and the economic and food security situation, may cause further displacement, both internally and across borders. This would add to the 2.2 million registered refugees from previous waves of violence, and a further four million Afghans of varying status including undocumented persons. Many have been generously hosted in the Islamic Republic of Iran (hereafter “Iran”) and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (hereafter “Pakistan”) over the past four decades, with several generations of Afghans being born in exile.

With increased flows of new arrivals through official and unofficial border crossing points since the beginning of 2021 and increases in those approaching UNHCR, UNHCR has pre-screened over 68,000 newly arriving Afghans who may be in need of international protection in neighbouring countries.² The majority of those interviewed by UNHCR report leaving Afghanistan for security-related reasons. The total number crossing into neighbouring countries can be difficult to verify as undocumented Afghans may resort to irregular land border crossing points, in many cases due to restrictive border policies, non-registration, and limited information shared by the concerned authorities. As such, the overall number of Afghans in need of international protection is likely to be much higher. Despite UNHCR issuing a non-return advisory calling for a bar on forced returns of Afghan nationals in the current circumstances,³ there have been an increasing number of reports concerning deportations of Afghans from neighbouring countries. An analysis of available data and information has indicated a 190 per cent increase in the deportation rate from Iran in August 2021 compared to the same period in August 2020.⁴

In order to prepare for a potential worst-case scenario of influx into neighbouring countries, in August 2021, UNHCR led an interagency [Refugee Preparedness and Response Plan](#) for the remainder of 2021. The plan, which had 11 partners across the same five countries as the RRP 2022, focused on ensuring that emergency preparedness measures were in place, ensuring access to asylum including respect for the principle of non-refoulement, as well as reprioritizing certain underfunded elements of existing programmes for in-situ populations, in support of national systems and in furtherance of durable solutions. With Afghans and host communities in neighbouring countries facing increased challenges, the compelling need for greater burden- and responsibility-sharing from the international community remains. In line with the [Global Compact on Refugees](#), the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and the [SSAR Support Platform](#) launched in 2019, and the Sustainable Development Goals, the inter-agency 2022 Refugee Response Plan (RRP) for the Afghanistan situation will support host governments in their efforts to promote resilience, aiming to ensure that no one is left behind and that the needs of Afghans and their host communities are met. The 2022 RRP will focus on a response to existing populations in the neighbouring countries of Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, including registered Afghan refugees and asylum-seekers, Afghans of varying statuses including undocumented persons, host communities, and potential new arrivals. The RRP builds on the collective work already being done in these countries and promotes an area- and needs-based approach. There is a need for coordinated area-based investments in health, education, clean and renewable energy, vocational and entrepreneurship skills development, and social protection to support national systems and the progressive policies of the host governments, which benefit both refugees and their host communities. These investments will also aim to build the human capacity and resilience of Afghans and enable sustainable voluntary return and reintegration. In addition, there is a need to

¹ <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/afghanistan/idps>

² <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/afghanistan>

³ <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/611a4c5c4.pdf>

⁴ <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/89488>

enhance programmes and activities providing specialized support and assistance to the most vulnerable Afghans and members of the host community.



Iran: Afghan refugee sisters in Isfahan, Iran, go to school for the first time. © UNHCR/Mohammad Hossein Dehghanian

Regional Protection and Population's Needs

Most Afghans in neighbouring countries reside in urban and peri-urban areas, relying on national public services that are available to them. Despite their own challenges and the needs of their populations, for decades Iran and Pakistan, who host the majority of displaced Afghans globally, have upheld their international protection obligations and have pursued policies that provide refugees with access to public services, notably in areas of education, health care, and livelihoods. However, host governments in neighbouring countries are facing further challenges to continue their progressive policies towards refugees. Challenges include the difficult economic situation (including economic sanctions and the devaluation of the rial in Iran for example), the COVID-19 pandemic, and varying attitudes towards refugees in some host communities driven in large part by the protracted nature of the conflict.

In 2022, the situation inside Afghanistan is likely to remain fluid. Borders with some neighbouring countries are likely to remain tightly regulated and movement is taking place irregularly, increasing vulnerabilities and protection risks, including exploitation and abuse of those seeking documentation and crossing borders. Upon arrival, people moving through irregular channels are at increased risk of deportation, which may be in contravention of the principle of non-refoulement. RRP Partners continue to underscore the ongoing need for all countries to grant fleeing Afghans access to their territories and asylum procedures, and to respect the principle of non-refoulement. It is imperative that this fundamental human right not be compromised and that people in need of international protection be afforded asylum. In this context, it is equally important not to forcibly return Afghans, which UNHCR has cautioned against in its non-return advisory. Non-refoulement includes rejection of individuals seeking international protection at the frontier. Inter-agency partners will continue to monitor the situation in Afghanistan with a view to assessing the international protection needs arising out of the current situation. Exacerbating security concerns, according to UNDP's rapid appraisal on [Economic instability and uncertainty in Afghanistan after 15 August](#), Afghanistan may descend into universal poverty by mid-2022 and could face a total development collapse. An estimated 72 per cent of Afghans are already living below the poverty line, with a risk of this rising to 97 per cent of the population unless the country's political and economic crises are urgently addressed.

As highlighted above, some 80 per cent of those displaced internally in Afghanistan in 2021 are women and children, which would likely be replicated in the profile of those seeking safety by fleeing across borders. New arrivals in neighbouring countries in 2021 are comprised of an average of 26 per cent boys, 23 per cent girls and 26 per cent adult women.⁵ Due to their precarious protection situation, these groups face a heightened risk of, and exposure to, gender-based violence, exploitation, and trafficking, among other risks, which compounds the challenges already faced by those fleeing for their safety. Gender-based violence (GBV) and child protection risks are long-standing and severe threats in Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, which have high rates of intimate partner violence and child marriage. In addition, a significant number of Afghans are reported to be persons with disabilities,⁶ many of whom have faced systematic discrimination and barriers to accessing essential services. Others face heightened risk due to their ethnicity, with ethnic Pashtun, Hazara, and Tajiks, making up the majority of new arrivals in neighbouring countries.

In neighbouring countries, the situation of existing Afghan populations has deteriorated for several reasons, further explained in the needs analysis section below; the size of the population and the scale of needs necessitate an expanded response from the international community to ensure that the immediate needs of Afghans and their host communities are met. This means immediate multi-sectoral assistance, including protection (e.g. registration, documentation, legal assistance, case management, community-based protection, lifesaving GBV programming and targeted assistance and support for vulnerable at-risk women, children, and people with specific needs); food security; health and nutrition; education; shelter, water, sanitation, and hygiene; and livelihoods among other urgent needs. Longer-term investments are also needed in public infrastructure related to the existing and urgent needs in host countries to promote resilience, facilitate solutions, and stabilize displaced populations.

Women and girls in refugee-hosting countries are disproportionately affected by the crisis. Gender-based violence (GBV) is a long-standing and severe threat to women and girls in Afghanistan, and the current crisis has also introduced or exacerbated many gender-specific forms of persecution in Afghanistan.⁷ Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries have high rates of intimate partner violence⁸ and child marriage.⁹ Afghan women and girls are at heightened risk of gender-based violence in Afghanistan, during flight and in neighbouring countries. Refugee and displaced women and girls may also be suffering from heightened stress given the events in Afghanistan and the specific threats to women. Refugee girls also face barriers in attending school due to patriarchal norms as well as poverty. In 2019, the gross enrolment rate for refugee girls in primary school in Pakistan was 70 per cent compared with 92 per cent for boys.¹⁰ Refugee, asylum-seeking and displaced women and girls in neighbouring countries face many barriers in accessing basic health, including sexual and reproductive health, services, and in accessing livelihoods opportunities.¹¹ Covid-19 has exacerbated the already precarious economic situation of women, who are more likely to be in underpaid and unstable work, are disproportionately affected. An estimated 19 per cent of displaced women and girls are living with a disability and are even more vulnerable.

The inter-agency response will ensure that refugees' needs are identified and addressed in support of government efforts, with consideration of age, gender, and diversity (AGD) in programming across all sectors. In accordance with the principle of "accountability to affected populations" (AAP), elaborated upon below, partners will actively engage communities in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the response by consulting, hearing, and acting upon the voices and priorities of diverse women, girls, boys, and men, including the most marginalized and at-risk people among affected communities. In addition, measures to prevent and mitigate risks of GBV, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), will be prioritized and integrated in all sector programmes. Lifesaving response services for all survivors will be prioritised. Meanwhile, in the event of further large refugee movements to neighbouring countries, the plan may be revised as required by the developing situation.

⁵ Based on UNHCR pre-registration data, where available.

⁶ <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/model-disability-survey-afghanistan-2019>

⁷ Amnesty International, *Report 2020/21: The State of the World's Human Rights*, p.38, available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/English.pdf>

⁸ 50% of women in Afghanistan and 24.5% of women in Pakistan have experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Statistics available at: UNFPA, *Measuring the prevalence of violence against women in Asia-Pacific*, <https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/knownawdata>. Accessed on 31 August 2021.

⁹ 28% of girls in Afghanistan, 17% of girls in Iran, 18% of girls in Pakistan, and 12% of girls in Tajikistan are married before the age of 18. *Girls Not Brides*, <https://atlas.girlsnotbrides.org/map/>. Accessed 31 Aug 2021

¹⁰ UNHCR internal statistics

¹¹ For example, UNHCR Pakistan, 'Participatory Assessment Findings and Recommendations, Yearly (2019)' (31 January 2020), pp.6-7, available at: <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/73801> and Human Rights Watch, 'List of Taliban Policies Violating Women's Rights in Afghanistan', 29 September 2021, available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/09/29/list-taliban-policies-violating-womens-rights-afghanistan>

Regional Response Strategy and Priorities

Regional Protection Framework

Reaffirming the regional multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach which aims at strengthening the humanitarian response, as well as promoting development assistance and building community resilience, the RRP will deliver concrete actions, with a focus on community-based interventions incorporating an age, gender and diversity approach, cross-border collaboration, and durable solutions in line with the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR), within the framework of the SSAR Support Platform. The 2022 RRP will aim to:

- Ensure coordinated efforts and support towards durable solutions, by enhancing conditions and community-based investments in line with the solutions outlined in the SSAR. The response will support the resilience of refugee and host communities, including through investments in key areas of national infrastructure like education and health and by supporting livelihoods for Afghans and host communities.
- Support host governments to ensure access to asylum, and protection in accordance with international standards including respect for the principle of non-refoulement, admission, registration, and documentation.
- Provide multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance to targeted populations, anchoring the response in government systems wherever possible in line with the Global Compact on Refugees, paying particular attention to the needs of children, youth, women, older persons, persons with disabilities and other people with specific needs.
- Reinforce government efforts to ensure that emergency preparedness and response measures are put in place to respond to potential new arrivals.



Pakistan. Afghan refugee children in a settlement in Islamabad. © UNHCR/Asif Shahzad

Host Communities

In refugee-hosting areas, refugees and local populations face increasing challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This has placed additional pressure on a range of national services, particularly health services which have had a progressive approach to refugees for decades. The extra demand on public infrastructure places a strain on overall availability and quality of service provision and can exacerbate tensions between the host community and the Afghan population. The pandemic has affected all economies and populations adversely, including host communities, which creates a further strain on social cohesion. Programmes to support the existing Afghan refugee populations in the region have been critically underfunded in recent years, and this has also had an impact on support available for host communities. This further highlights the need for programmes aimed at fostering co-existence and strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus, to create additional capacity and contribute towards improving services. With this in mind, in addition to existing Afghan populations, the RRP will also benefit the local host communities in areas with a high concentration of Afghans.

RRP Partners will adopt community-based approaches to enable broad inclusion of host communities in their interventions. For example, in cooperation with local authorities, primary health care services are provided to refugees and surrounding host communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as supporting the national vaccination programmes. This is also the case in relation to investments in general health care and other public infrastructure like education. In this regard, RRP Partners will continue their efforts to contribute to local social/public services for both refugees and members of their host communities. Among the programmes supported, services for women and children will continue to be prioritized, as will measures to protect children and prevent, mitigate, and respond to GBV.

Accountability to Affected Populations

Refugees will be actively engaged in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of all response activities through consulting, hearing, and acting upon the voices and priorities of women, girls, boys, and men, including the most marginalized and at-risk people among affected communities. All sectors of the community have the right to participate and play an active role in decisions that will impact their lives, well-being, dignity, and protection. Partners will be responsive to input from communities and adapt approaches as needed. Refugees and other target populations will receive clear and tailored information about the content of provided and available assistance. Communities will also be informed about their rights, including the right to participate in decisions, expected behaviour of staff, and how to report concerns. The preferences and ease of access to communication channels from different age, gender and diversity groups will be used to inform the selection of communication channels and strategies for communication with communities. Where possible, community-based or community-led approaches will be used to improve the reach and effectiveness of communication initiatives. Partners will establish and support the implementation of accessible, confidential, and culturally as well as age, gender and diversity appropriate communication mechanisms for all refugees to provide feedback on services, the response in general, and report complaints, including sensitive ones such as on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) or fraud. Mechanisms must have accompanying standard operating procedures (SOPs) to ensure feedback is appropriately referred, action is taken, and the feedback loop is closed. Feedback data will also be systematically analysed and used in decision-making. Partners will consult with and integrate host communities in their humanitarian response planning and implementation to promote coexistence.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

PSEA is an integral part of RRP 2022. Sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) is a breach of accountability to affected population (AAP) and a major protection failure, and all actors involved in the plan are to uphold the zero-tolerance policy on SEA. In view of the ongoing displacement inside Afghanistan and movement across borders, it is paramount to strengthen the inter-agency networks and PSEA mechanisms and systems in affected countries, including establishment of safe reporting channels, provision of victim assistance and accountability, and investigation procedures. Capacity-building of humanitarian actors, local authorities, host community, and affected populations will also be prioritized and collaboration between PSEA and GBV coordination mechanisms to ensure complementarity will be a priority.

Gender equality and prevention, risk mitigation of and response to gender-based violence

Women and girls make around half of Afghan refugees, and they face many gender-specific barriers in accessing protection and assistance services. Gender equality measures will be incorporated into all areas of protection and assistance throughout the response, and there will be a specific and dedicated focus on promoting gender equality and equitable outcomes for women and girls in all sectors. The provision of life-saving prevention and multi-sectoral response programming will be prioritised alongside ensuring proactive GBV risk mitigation, including in relation to sexual exploitation and abuse, across all sector programmes and assistance. Risk mitigation measures will be informed by consultations with communities, in particular diverse women and girls and other groups at heightened risk. Strengthening of functioning referral pathways and access to specialised services appropriate to the specific needs of survivors is a continuous priority and will be in accordance with a survivor-centred approach and the GBV Minimum Standards.

Covid-19 prevention protocols

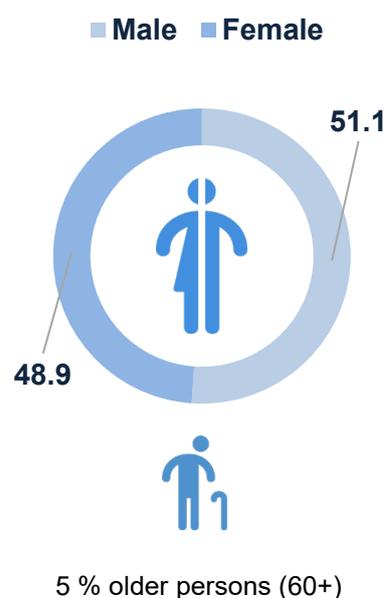
With cross-border movement into neighbouring countries during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, individuals involved in this response, including persons of concern, may be affected by, or infected with, COVID-19. While physical distancing may be difficult to maintain in all circumstances, COVID-19 prevention measures will be implemented in collaboration

and in line with the protocols and guidelines of the host governments. This will include risk communication and sensitisation at all operational sites; distribution of soap and the installation of hand washing facilities; health screening at all transit locations and health facilities; distribution of face masks at all sites; and the establishment of COVID-19 testing as well as isolation and quarantine facilities, if required. In collaboration with the host governments, the absorption capacity of public health facilities will be strengthened to provide treatment for any cases identified. RRP Partners will continue to advocate for vaccine equity and will strive to ensure that Afghans of all status and host populations can access the necessary vaccines.

Target Population

	Projected end-2022 Afghan Refugees	Targeted Undocumented Afghans & Afghans of other Status	Targeted Host community population	Total Targeted Population
Pakistan	1,427,000	800,000	1,200,000	3,427,000
Iran	1,068,000	585,500	550,000	2,203,500
Tajikistan	23,000	340	23,000	46,340
Uzbekistan	5,410	13,648	3,000	22,058
Turkmenistan	2,700	100	800	3,600
Total	2,526,110	1,399,588	1,776,800	5,702,498

Disaggregated Data of Planned Assisted Population*			
Age group	% of total	Female % of total	Male % of total
00-04 years	13.4%	6.6%	6.8%
05-11 years	18.0%	8.9%	9.1%
12-17 years	13.2%	6.5%	6.7%
18-24 years	14.6%	7.3%	7.3%
25-49 years	30.1%	14.5%	15.6%
50-59 years	5.8%	2.7%	3.0%
60-69 years	3.1%	1.5%	1.7%
70-79 years	1.4%	0.6%	0.7%
80+	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%
Total	100.0%	48.9%	51.1%



*Calculated based on the targeted population of each country, where data is available.

	Persons with Disabilities		
	15% of total		
	9% Women and girls		6% Men and boys

*For planning purposes, it is estimated that 15% of the population have a disability, with the prevalence of disability is higher among women (19.2%) than men (12%). Sources: WHO [World Report on Disability \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/world-report-2021) [Empowering and including women and girls with disabilities | UN Women – Headquarters](https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2021/10/empowering-women-and-girls-with-disabilities)

Coordination

In support of the national humanitarian response mechanisms and in line with the Refugee Coordination Model in the host countries and the Global Compact on Refugees, UNHCR and partners will support the concerned governments to respond to the situation of Afghans and their host communities in neighbouring countries. The 2022 RRP has been developed through an inclusive and participatory planning process. Under UNHCR's leadership, in each country, UN agencies and international and local NGOs, have worked together as part of the ongoing development of the plan, in consultation with governments. It is a broad partnership with 41 partners across the five countries (16 UN agencies and 25 NGOs). Meanwhile, outside of the RRP planning process, the World Bank (WB) and other development actors are engaged as part of the SSAR Support Platform Core Group. The RRP reaffirms a regional multi-stakeholder “whole-of-society” and multi-sectoral approach, by enhancing community-based investments in line with the GCR and working towards the solutions outlined in the SSAR. The coordination structures at country level will provide for a coordinated multisectoral response, including through UN agencies and national and international NGOs in their respective areas of expertise. Sector working groups will provide sector specific coordination and expertise in the areas of protection, including child protection and gender-based violence, education, health and nutrition, food security, WASH, shelter, core relief items, livelihoods, and logistics. Close collaboration and consultation will be maintained with relevant government counterparts and line ministries in host countries to support and ensure complementarity with the national response and development plans. At the regional level, partners will work together, through the inter-agency regional meetings on the Afghan situation led by UNHCR, to monitor and update on developments and to undertake planning and resource mobilization efforts. In addition, a regional IM technical working sub-group dedicated to cross-border refugee flows at the regional level has been established. Other regional coordination mechanisms such as Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA), AAP/PSEA Working Group, and GBV in Emergency Working Group also monitor the situation and challenges relevant to their respective areas of responsibilities and provide affected countries with necessary support in close coordination with their counterparts in country level.

Coordination related to the modality of assistance, and to cash-based interventions (CBI) in particular, is necessary not only to respond but also to get prepared. This will be ensured both at country and regional level, through existing cash working groups or ad-hoc mechanisms. It will look at both coordination and collaboration, including common cash transfer mechanisms, the calculation of transfer values, and joint studies and analysis.

Regional Financial Requirements By Agency

Organization	Acronym	Total Requirements (in USD) for 2022
Action Against Hunger - Pakistan	AAH	1,843,000
Aga Khan Agency for Habitat	AKAH	39,000
Bunyard Literacy & Community Council		281,000
CARE International in Pakistan	CIP	7,750,000
Concern Worldwide		1,725,000
Cooperazione e Sviluppo	CESVI	1,391,000
Federation Handicap International		2,100,000
Friends Welfare Association		536,000
Help in need		200,000
Hundreds of Original projects for Employment	HOPE'87	1,000,000
International Consortium for Refugees in Iran	ICRI	51,000
International Rescue Committee	IRC	7,242,000
INTERSOS		1,400,000
Kokkyo naki Kodomotachi Japan	KnK	800,000
Médecins Sans Frontières	MSF	3,510,000
Norwegian Refugee Council	NRC	25,000,000
Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education	PAGE	35,000

Participatory Rural Development Society	PRDS	1,015,000
Relief International	RI	19,050,110
Save the Children	SCI	2,896,000
Society for Human Advancement for Outreach Resource Pakistan	SHAOR	400,000
Special Talent Exchange Program	STEP	525,000
UN - Food and Agriculture Organization	FAO	13,000,000
UN - International Labour Organization	ILO	1,500,000
UN - International Organization for Migration	IOM	34,622,585
UN - Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	UNAIDS	120,000
UN - United Nations Children's Fund	UNICEF	80,051,038
UN - United Nations Development Programme	UNDP	19,350,757
UN - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNESCO	2,500,000
UN - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	UNWOMEN	404,000
UN - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	UNHCR	263,269,276
UN - United Nations Human Settlements Programme	UNHABITAT	3,500,000
UN - United Nations Industrial Development Organization	UNIDO	3,500,000
UN - United Nations Office for Project Services	UNOPS	10,650,000
UN - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	UNODC	1,150,000
UN - United Nations Population Fund	UNFPA	10,727,900
UN - World Food Programme	WFP	55,483,123
UN - World Health Organization	WHO	43,149,750
Voluntary Service Overseas	VSO	850,000
Women Empowerment Organization	WEO	798,000
TOTAL		623,415,539

By Sector

Sector	Total Requirements (in USD) for 2022
Education	72,213,160
Food Security	57,934,348
Health & Nutrition	119,138,069
Livelihoods & Resilience	88,372,026
Logistics & Telecoms	17,548,635
Protection	99,241,913
Shelter & NFIs	77,060,109
WASH	91,907,279
TOTAL	623,415,539

By Country

Host Country	Total Requirements (in USD) for 2022
Iran	258,735,082
Pakistan	310,442,000
Tajikistan	40,457,486
Turkmenistan	3,149,935
Uzbekistan	10,631,036
TOTAL	623,415,539

2022 Regional Financial Overview

Regional Summary by Organization & Country

Organization	Iran	Pakistan	Tajikistan	Turkmenistan	Uzbekistan	Total
AAH		1,843,000				1,843,000
AKAH			39,000			39,000
Bunyard Literacy & Community Council		281,000				281,000
CESVI		1,391,000				1,391,000
CIP		7,750,000				7,750,000
Concern Worldwide		1,725,000				1,725,000
FAO		13,000,000				13,000,000
Federation Handicap International		2,100,000				2,100,000
Friends Welfare Association		536,000				536,000
Help in need		200,000				200,000
HOPE'87		1,000,000				1,000,000
ICRI	51,000					51,000
ILO		1,500,000				1,500,000
INTERSOS	1,400,000					1,400,000
IOM	4,090,000	25,275,000	5,257,585			34,622,585
IRC		7,242,000				7,242,000
KnK		800,000				800,000
MSF	3,510,000					3,510,000
NRC	25,000,000					25,000,000
PAGE		35,000				35,000
PRDS		1,015,000				1,015,000
RI	15,450,110	3,600,000				19,050,110
SCI		2,896,000				2,896,000
SHAOR		400,000				400,000
STEP		525,000				525,000
UNAIDS	120,000					120,000
UNDP	4,520,757	10,930,000	3,000,000		900,000	19,350,757
UNESCO	1,500,000	1,000,000				2,500,000
UNFPA	6,826,900	3,000,000	152,500	481,000	267,500	10,727,900
UNHABITAT		3,500,000				3,500,000
UNHCR	119,394,269	128,160,000	9,983,189	1,898,935	3,832,883	263,269,276
UNICEF	23,442,000	37,299,000	12,909,385	770,000	5,630,653	80,051,038
UNIDO	3,500,000					3,500,000
UNODC	250,000		900,000			1,150,000
UNOPS		10,650,000				10,650,000
UNWOMEN		404,000				404,000
VSO		850,000				850,000
WEO		798,000				798,000
WFP	18,141,296	29,486,000	7,855,827			55,483,123
WHO	31,538,750	11,251,000	360,000			43,149,750
Total	258,735,082	310,442,000	40,457,486	3,149,935	10,631,036	623,415,539

The Islamic Republic of Iran

PLANNED RESPONSE

2.2 MILLION

TARGET POPULATION IN 2022

(INCLUDING AFGHANS OF VARYING STATUS AND HOST COMMUNITY)

US\$259 MILLION

REQUIREMENTS FOR 2022

16 PARTNERS INVOLVED



Sector Requirements for 2022



Situation Overview

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been host to millions of Afghans over the course of four decades, with a significant proportion of the current Afghan population having been born in Iran. According to the latest population figures shared by the Government there are some 3.5 million Afghans in Iran, 40 per cent of them are children comprising 780,000 Afghan refugees (*Amayesh* card holders), almost 600,000 Afghans who hold Afghan passports with Iranian visas and some 2.1 million undocumented Afghans - including former *Amayesh*-card holders.¹²

The deepening insecurity and the increasingly complex socio-economic situation in Afghanistan that has unfolded during 2021 has contributed to a worsening humanitarian situation inside the country and, in turn, a significant increase in Afghans seeking international protection. As of mid-November, over 25,730 newly arrived Afghans, 46 per cent of them are children) have approached UNHCR, 60 per cent of whom arrived in country between August and September. Protection screening in Iran indicates that these people have largely fled Afghanistan due to security concerns. The number of new arrivals is likely to be significantly higher than reported by UNHCR. Public statements from government officials indicate that daily crossings from Afghanistan to Iran may have increased from 2,000 to a peak of 5,000 between August and September although, as highlighted in the regional section, deportation rates have increased significantly in 2021.

Many of those who have crossed into Iran have likely been able to move to urban centres. Central and local authorities have reported an increase in both demand on healthcare centres and participation in school enrolment campaigns. However, despite the non-return advisory issued by UNHCR, Iranian authorities continue to return Afghans who are apprehended while trying to enter Iran, including when detected on Iranian territory. Humanitarian actors continue to advocate for the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran (GIRI) to uphold its commitment to the principle of non-refoulement and process the asylum claims of those fleeing Afghanistan, as well as to abstain from a policy of systematic detention of new arrivals. As part of ongoing emergency preparedness and response actions, RRP Partners are also working with the GIRI to develop two reception centres and establish at least one new site in the border provinces. Food and core relief items are also prepositioned in border areas. This support will be limited and part of a hybrid approach that looks to prioritize complementary urban responses to new arrivals, including identification and support for persons with specific needs such as children at risk and survivors of GBV.

The urban response also considers the situation of Afghans already living in Iran, some 96 per cent of whom live outside of refugee sites/settlements. Against the backdrop of recent developments – including an increase in new arrivals and a challenging socio-economic situation brought about by unilateral economic sanctions and the COVID-19 pandemic – the situation of these populations is increasingly precarious, with depleted income-earning opportunities contributing to deepening needs among existing Afghan populations and Iranian host communities alike.

Across Iran, humanitarian actors stand ready to scale-up assistance as part of well-established area-based approaches which have a particular emphasis on supporting GIRI in maintaining the inclusive policies it has extended to Afghans for over 40 years. In line with this, RRP Partners are already supporting the construction and maintenance of numerous schools and health facilities, while also providing multi-sectoral assistance to the most vulnerable Afghans. This includes assistance packages to some 30,000 Afghan refugees in 20 refugee settlements in Iran, cash for winterization to this population and to 3,700 of the most vulnerable living outside of sites, including female-headed households and people with disabilities, and distributing COVID-19 related items. In terms of protection, promoting access to fair and efficient registration, asylum procedures, and documentation remains a priority, with hotline capacity ramped up to respond to the related needs and queries of vulnerable Afghans and lawyers made available to support individual cases, including to prevent detention and deportation. Protection case management, including the Best Interests Procedure for children at heightened risk, GBV case management, alternative care, and multisectoral support, will be provided for children at risk and survivors of GBV as needed. Financial support continues to be provided to enable *Amayesh* card holders to maintain their status during the yearly renewal exercise, with financial barriers being the principal obstacle to renewal. While opportunities for durable solutions are currently limited, there have been ongoing efforts to enhance space for livelihood interventions, contributing to resilience, self-reliance, and readiness to capitalize on future opportunities.

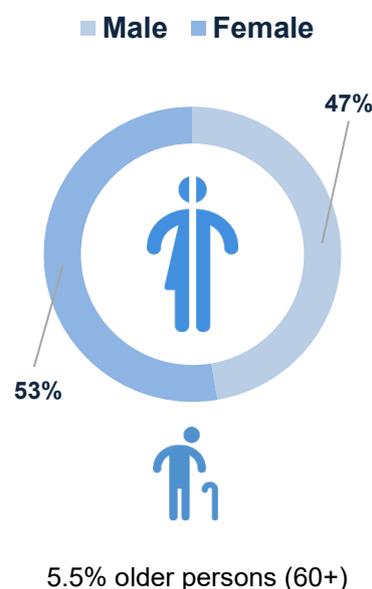
RRP Partners are working with GIRI to address challenges that hamper response and preparedness efforts. This includes enhancing access in border areas and urban contexts to facilitate ongoing preparedness efforts linked to site development, to deliver rapid humanitarian assistance/services to new arrivals, and to scale-up of interventions in urban areas. Improving information-sharing is also a key priority, including through the timely exchange of information on

¹² GIRI as of October 2020

population movements, the provision of sex and age disaggregated data and the enhancement of needs assessments. Strengthening partnerships between different stakeholders is crucial in expanding reach and maximizing coverage, with a need to increase the number of international and national partners with specialised capacities who can support – and are permitted to support – refugees.

Population Planning Figures

Disaggregated Data of Planned Assisted Population			
Age group	% of total	Female % of total	Male % of total
00-04 years	10.6%	5.1%	5.5%
05-11 years	13.9%	6.8%	7.1%
12-17 years	12.5%	6%	6.5%
18-24 years	15%	7.5%	7.5%
25-49 years	36.1%	16.7%	19.4%
50-59 years	6.4%	2.8%	3.6%
60-69 years	3.3%	1.4%	1.9%
70-79 years	1.5%	0.6%	0.9%
80+	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%
Total	100%	47.3%	52.7%



	Persons with Disabilities 15% of total	
	9% Women and girls	6% Men and boys

*For planning purposes, it is estimated that 15% of the population have a disability, with the prevalence of disability is higher among women (19.2%) than men (12%). Sources: WHO [World Report on Disability \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/world-report-2022)
[Empowering and including women and girls with disabilities | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

Needs Analysis

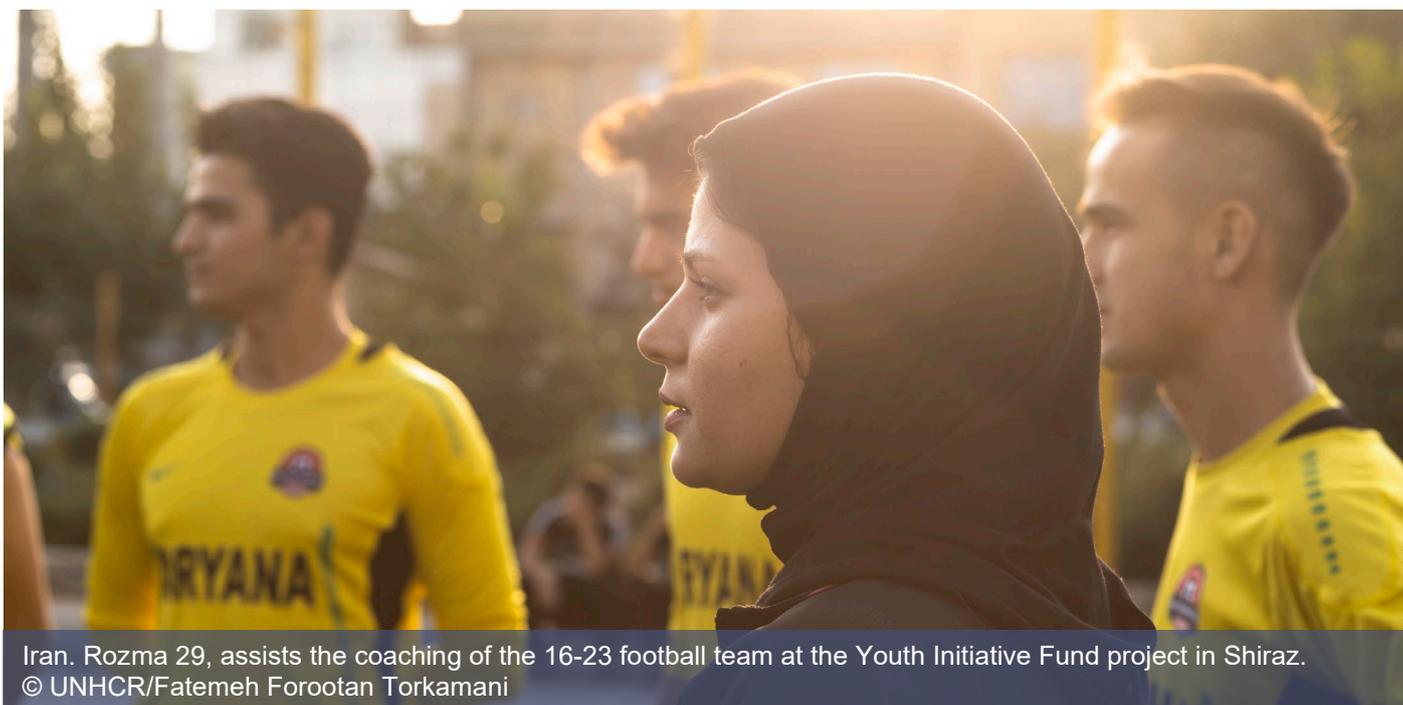
The 2022 RRP targets 2.2 million people in Iran, comprising some 794,000 *Amayesh* card holders, factoring in population growth; 274,000 new arrivals/ asylum-seekers, including those that have arrived in 2021 and a projection for 2022; 585,500 undocumented Afghans, including Afghan passport holders with valid and/or expired visas; and 550,000 members of host community. The drivers of vulnerability vary among these groups and are linked to interrelated factors including displacement, access to documentation, capacity to cover basic multi-sectoral needs, access to basic social services and access to livelihood opportunities. These groups are not monolithic, with the intersection of gender, age, ethnic, religious and disability compounding household-level vulnerabilities.

The situation of **new arrivals/ asylum-seekers** is particularly precarious. Based on protection screening of 2,195 newly arrived heads of households representing 8,326 individuals who approached UNHCR between 17 August and 31 December, the majority fled Afghanistan due to the security situation or specific threats (including 29 per cent who fled due to discrimination). Out of those who approached, UNHCR 56 per cent were women and 24 per cent of those who approached UNHCR are female-headed households. With no registration/documentation currently provided by GIRI, these households face specific protection concerns, and report fear of refoulement and detention as their top two concerns. Of those households who approached UNHCR during this period, 45 per cent of individuals were under the age of 18, 58 per cent were female and 23 per cent of households were female-headed. This represents a significant

increase in the prevalence of these groups from pre-crisis levels (pre-August 2021). The high proportion of these groups, combined with a reported lack of safe access to shelter, livelihoods, and food (the top three reported needs), increases the risk that new arrivals resort to harmful coping strategies such as begging, child labour, and sexual exploitation. Although no mass influx to Iran is anticipated in 2022, a steady flow of Afghan new arrivals will likely continue. New arrivals will require multi-sectoral assistance to cover their basic needs, at least in the short-term. This includes dedicated protection assistance, with the risk of detention and deportation likely to remain considerable, irrespective of the issuance of a non-return advisory, as well as food and nutrition assistance, given the acute levels of food security in Afghanistan.

In addition to new arrivals, the 2022 RRP targets an estimated 794,000 **Amayesh card holders** (de facto refugees). While their status and access to documentation affords *Amayesh* card holders additional protection, their situation is aggravated by challenging socio-economic circumstances. Household purchasing power fell as the prices of essential goods rose by more than 40 per cent in 2020 according to the IMF 2021 World Economic Outlook. The combination of inflationary pressures - with recent analysis by the Parliament Research Centre reporting a 50 per cent increase in the price of basic staples like bread and rice- and a reduction in livelihood opportunities, has eroded the purchasing power of refugees, leaving them less able to afford basic goods and services, including food and rent. An additional 1.0 to 1.6 million have become unemployed during the pandemic, disproportionately affecting unskilled and semi-skilled workers, a significant proportion of whom are Afghan refugees. As elaborated below, some *Amayesh* card holders are also facing difficult decisions around the renewal of their cards, with lower levels of participation in renewal exercises indicating challenges in affording the renewal fees.

Of the 585,500 **undocumented Afghans** targeted under the RRP, 150,500 are former *Amayesh* card holders, many owing to their vulnerability as households choose to prioritize other spending over renewal of their status (renewal fees constitute on average 8 per cent of a refugees' annual income). Women and girls are more likely to be deprioritized in household level decisions around *Amayesh* renewal, with men given greater weight to enable access to work permits and job opportunities. This exacerbates existing gender inequalities, excluding women and girls from services that are only available to persons with valid *Amayesh* cards. Furthermore, women are more likely to struggle to earn an income and are more likely to be in unstable work. Living without status, undocumented persons find themselves without the possibility to obtain documentation to move between provinces, to prove their identity, to register births/marriages, to access some social services and to obtain employment. Undocumented Afghans are subsequently at higher risk of statelessness, detention, and deportation, and especially vulnerable to different forms of exploitation. Many are engaged in the informal economy where they are reliant on unstable daily labour and lack social safety nets should they not find jobs. This problem is particularly acute for the thousands of Afghan refugee children, many of whom are engaged in child labour in order to support their families in Iran.



Iran. Rozma 29, assists the coaching of the 16-23 football team at the Youth Initiative Fund project in Shiraz.
© UNHCR/Fatemeh Forootan Torkamani

The 2022 RRP also targets 550,000 individuals in the **host community**, living in 13 provinces hosting Amayesh card holders, as well as the population of Zabul district which hosts the Niatak site under development. In areas with a high concentration of Afghans, pressure on existing social services is likely to be greater, reducing overall quality of services and potentially exacerbating tensions between communities. The most vulnerable host communities in Iran have also been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with one survey suggesting that lockdown restrictions have directly or indirectly impacted 60 per cent of Iran's workforce, and another suggesting that women's already low economic participation rate has been depressed by approximately 20 per cent.

According to the sex-age disaggregation, there are specific needs and vulnerabilities which must be prioritized within the response to all target population groups. Those whose needs should be identified on a priority basis include children at risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, pregnant women, people with disabilities, female-headed households, survivors and persons at-risk of gender-based violence, LGBTIQ+ individuals and older persons. In terms of new arrivals, single men may be at particular risk of detention and deportation.

Response Strategy and Priorities

Overall Strategy

The objectives of the Iran chapter of the 2022 RRP are complementary to the objectives of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and look to both enhance burden-sharing and facilitate solutions where conditions are viable (adopting a longer-term approach to build self-reliance and resilience by equipping refugees with the skills and security to capitalize on possible future opportunities for return).

In view of the continued uncertainty around the situation in Afghanistan, RRP Partners will maintain their support to government-led **emergency preparedness** efforts through 2022. Partners will continue to preposition in-kind food and non-food assistance and maintain stockpiles for some 150,000 people, including through advance prepositioning in border areas. In addition, partners will maintain support to the development of sites in the border provinces of Sistan and Baluchestan, Khorasan Razavi and South Khorasan. At present, this support will be limited in scope and scale, with a focus on up to two to three sites and complementary reception centres/ transit sites to ensure minimum geographic coverage as a contingency in case of significant influxes. In the short-term, shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) partners will prioritize site preparation and construction of infrastructure, with resources allocated to support service provision and provision of life-saving assistance upon activation of the sites in accordance with protection mainstreaming principles. This is conceived as part of a hybrid approach, which considers new sites as one of a number of options to support new arrivals. As such, RRP Partners will also seek to provide basic assistance to new arrivals in urban settings, including through cash-based interventions, while also working with the Government to regularize the status of these populations. The scope of emergency preparedness efforts will be reviewed as part of the 2022 emergency risk analysis exercise led by the Protection Sector and any subsequent contingency planning process.

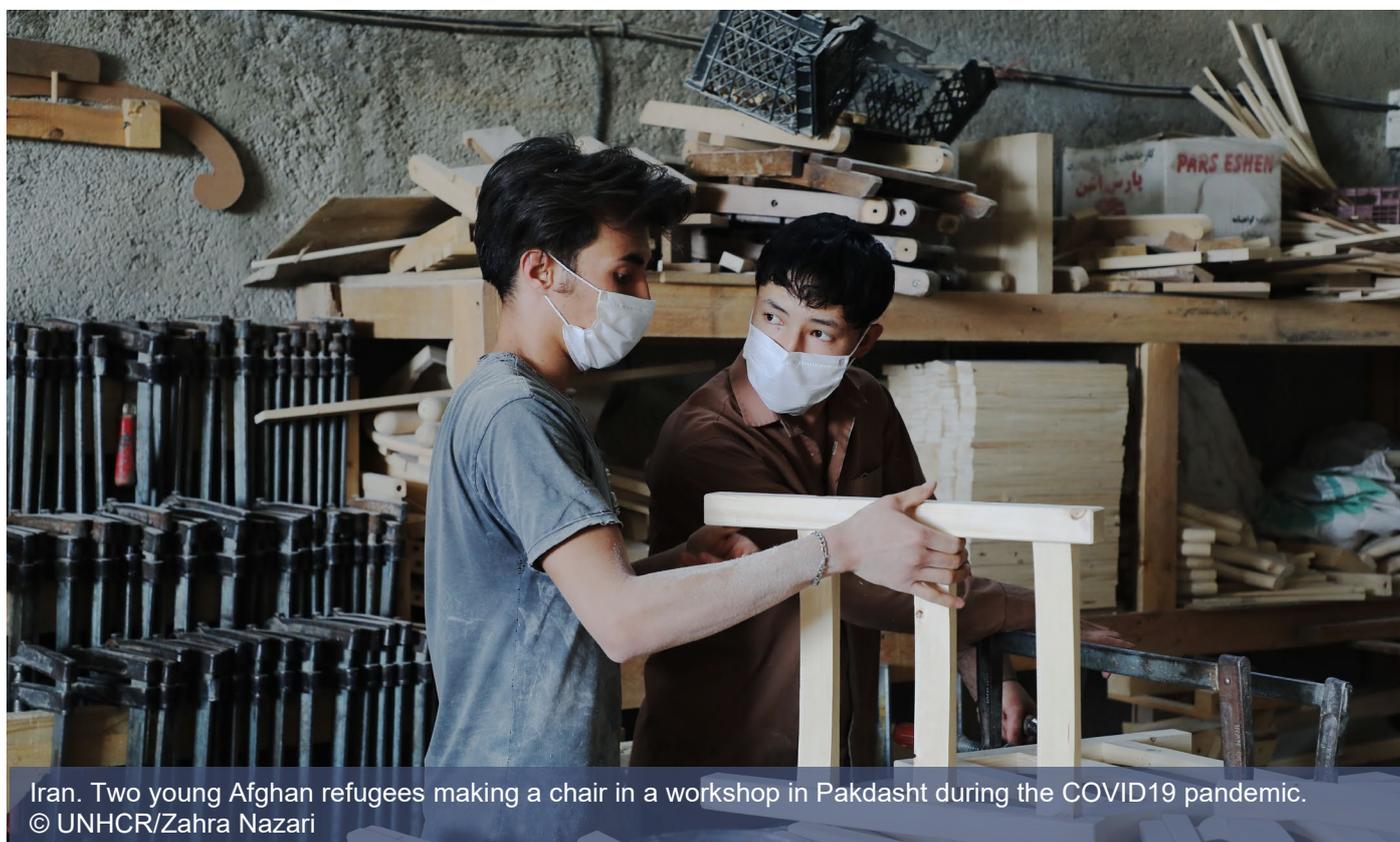
Given the increase in cross-border movements, it is assumed that more Afghans in Iran will be in need of international **protection**. Clarity continues to be sought from GIRI on asylum procedures and information about the process to obtain asylum remains limited for new arrivals. RRP Partners will continue to work with GIRI to clarify procedures and expand access to the asylum system and documentation for those in need, specifically newly arrived undocumented persons in need of international protection or at risk of statelessness. More broadly, RRP Partners will seek to provide protection assistance through referral to enhanced local services and community-based approaches to enable broad inclusion of affected Afghans and host communities, which will be based on protection needs assessments surveying different target groups. This will include advocating for and providing support to maintain inclusive policies, implementing community-based projects which promote inclusion and strengthening existing community structures. Further, RRP protection actors will contribute to mainstream protection by supporting other sectors in the identification and implementation of risk-mitigation strategies in consultation with the community, in particular but not only in the design and development of new settlements. In addition, RRP Partners will continue to prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable, analysing existing capacities, verifying potential service gaps, and working across sectors to ensure persons with specific needs receive the support they require including by expanding partnership as part of more localized, area-based community projects. Critical and lifesaving services for survivors of GBV and for children at heightened risk will be strengthened.

In line with this needs-based approach, RRP Partners will look to scale-up the delivery of **multi-sectoral assistance** to vulnerable populations, through an inclusive approach. CBI, and in particular multi-purpose cash (MPC), will be the

primary modality to support vulnerable families where possible, aligning transfer values with the national social safety net), prioritizing those least able to make ends meet due to disruption to incomes/livelihoods and pre-existing vulnerabilities. This includes new arrivals, who according to UNHCR protection screening face significant needs around access to shelter and food. In addition to MPC, more specialized assistance will also be provided to vulnerable populations, including basic assistance to rehabilitate and repair infrastructure, including urban shelters, with a focus on persons with specific needs.

Strengthening livelihoods and resilience

These interventions will further enhance self-reliance among refugee populations and help deliver rights to undocumented populations in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the SSAR. Building on this, RRP Partners will seek to provide more targeted support to strengthen the resilience response. This will include working with GIRI to expand space for livelihood interventions, particularly targeting longer-stay populations. Key to this approach will be the recognition that investments in resilience, livelihoods and inclusion represent a more cost-efficient approach that maximizes outcomes for targeted Afghan populations by prioritizing investments in human capital (skills training, facilitating enterprise). RRP Partners will work with GIRI to strengthen linkages between livelihoods and durable solutions, with enhanced access to livelihoods, including greater access to the job market, seen as part of a transitory approach to capitalize on opportunities for durable solutions, including voluntary repatriation, and resettlement, and complementary pathways in the longer-term.



Iran. Two young Afghan refugees making a chair in a workshop in Pakdasht during the COVID19 pandemic.
© UNHCR/Zahra Nazari

Host Communities

RRP Partners will seek to provide meaningful assistance to host communities as part of an area-based development approach. This assistance will be targeted to areas with a high concentration of Afghan refugees, to enhance the reach of public services in these locations so that inclusive government policies in relation to health, education and protection can be maintained. As well as helping to mitigate possible tensions between host communities and Afghans, particularly new arrivals, these responses will also benefit the most vulnerable subsets of the host community. In areas where new sites are planned, there will be an emphasis on mitigating communal tensions by, for instance, ensuring access to water is secured in a conflict and climate sensitive manner or investing in community infrastructure in proximity to new sites which will benefit the host community and promote social cohesion. Furthermore, RRP Partners will look to engage the

host community in construction works, possibly including by offering cash-for-work opportunities, and exploring opportunities to procure through local markets.

Strategic Objectives

- Supporting the Government in ensuring that Afghan refugees have access to and enjoy their fundamental rights, by mitigating the risk of arbitrary arrest and detention through targeted advocacy and the adoption of referral procedures for new arrivals.
- Supporting the Government in ensuring that all Afghans seeking asylum/protection in Iran are registered, issued with appropriate documents, and have access to the fair and efficient asylum system, upholding the principle of non-refoulement.
- Expanding urban responses to address the immediate protection and basic needs of new arrivals and other undocumented Afghans in need of international protection, as part of a hybrid approach.
- Applying a needs and area-based approach which looks to scale-up life-saving assistance through in-kind and cash-based assistance as well as basic services which address pressing protection and humanitarian needs and promote inclusion of host communities.
- Ensuring that requirements for persons with specific needs are considered in ongoing preparedness efforts, including through increased engagement with refugee communities across all phases of the response, including safe and ethical participation of women, children, and persons with disabilities, and that referral and case management systems are activated to support identification of and support to particularly vulnerable persons, including new arrivals. Supporting the Government in ensuring that Afghan refugees and undocumented populations enjoy equitable access and inclusion in national education, child protection and health systems.
- Bolstering the resilience and self-reliance of Afghan refugees and undocumented persons including through more meaningful access to livelihood opportunities.

Partnership and Coordination

Overall leadership for ongoing preparedness for any new refugee arrivals lies with the Government of Iran, through BAFIA, in collaboration with RRP Partners. Under its own overall leadership, the Government has expressed support for UNHCR to facilitate coordination among UN agencies and international NGOs.

In the spirit of partnership and in line with UNHCR's global mandate, as of July 2021, the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) has been activated and strengthened in Iran, tailored to the specific context. The Refugee Emergency Coordination Group (RECG) is the main platform for strategic-level inter-agency coordination. This forum is chaired by UNHCR and includes UN agencies and international NGOs supporting this plan. The RECG is responsible for overall strategic planning, government liaison, policy (including collective positioning in relation to minimum operating standards and principles of engagement) and resource mobilization.

As of September 2021, an Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) was established in Iran under the RCM. The ISCG facilitates operational coordination among agencies/ between sectors and enhances inter-sectoral linkages between the seven Sector Coordination Groups currently activated in Iran under the RCM: Protection including Child Protection and Gender-based Violence (GBV) sub-working groups, Food Security, Shelter and non-food items (NFI), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), Health and Nutrition, Education and Supply and Logistics. A livelihoods and self-reliance sector is also in the process of being activated. The ISCG will also enhance linkages with the RECG, ensuring that relevant topics/ issues are elevated for decision/ guidance/ advice. Iran has a UNCT coordination mechanism on PSEA, led by UNFPA, which can be consulted by the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) as required.

The seven sectors so far activated are supported by a designated Coordinator and Co-Coordinator, with six different agencies leading sectors, under the overall leadership of UNHCR. In collaboration with the ISCG, sector strategies will be developed to support the operationalization of the RRP. Sector Coordinators will also support any updates to the Inter-Agency Contingency Plan for 2022, as well as ongoing response coordination/ planning including through tools such as the 5Ws (to be rolled out in 2022).

Planned Response Priorities for 2022

Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy with the authorities to ensure that all individuals seeking international protection have access to registration and documentation, and that asylum procedures are available and utilized when necessary to enhance access to assistance and protection or facilitate a solution. • Operate and enhance legal services. • Enhance interventions to prevent and address Arrest-Detention-Deportation (ADD). • Establish effective case management procedures for individuals with specific needs. • Support community-based protection, including through strengthening of AAP initiatives. • Deliver protection training for partners on relevant legal framework for refugees and asylum-seekers, PSEA, child protection, and how to identify and work with different groups. • Facilitate voluntary repatriation where conditions are viable and engage in advocacy with the Government institutions to support resettlement and complementary pathways and remove barriers associated with exit visa procedures. • Strengthen the inter-agency coordination to ensure SEA risk mitigation measures are integrated in all sectors and confidential and safe reporting mechanisms are in place.
GBV Sub-sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure GBV survivors can safely access quality services which include healthcare and clinical management of rape, GBV case management and psychosocial support. • Mainstream GBV risk mitigation and survivor support across sectors. • Provide legal aid to protect survivors' rights and support their access to justice. • Provide dignity kits and cash and vouchers to reduce GBV risks and promote safety and dignity. • Establish referral systems to connect women, girls, and other at-risk groups to appropriate multi-sector GBV prevention and response services. • Identify GBV risks and vulnerable groups through quality, gender-sensitive assessments and support adoption of risk mitigation measures across sectors.
Child Protection Sub-Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the Best Interests Procedure and referral pathways for child protection services • Mainstream child protection in all sectors. • Enhance capacities of partners, key Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) actors, and host and refugee community members through trainings on CPiE, MHPSS and Identification, Documentation, Tracing and Reunification (IDTR) and alternative care. • Preposition ECD kits (for children under 6); Recreational kits (school-aged children); CFS supply items; IDTR kits for unaccompanied and separated children. • Enhance families, caregivers, and community's role in protecting children through cash assistance and community-based child protection programming. • Establish Safe Spaces (including provision of MHPSS services) and other group-based, age and gender appropriate activities for children of all ages, with the engagement of host and refugee communities, particularly in new sites. • Ensure unaccompanied and separated children are placed in appropriate alternative care arrangements and provided with family tracing services in accordance with their best interests.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide formal/non-formal education services, supporting inclusive policies for all Afghan children with particular emphasis on adolescent girls. • Provide education kits/supplies in formal and non-formal settings in both refugee settlements and urban areas. • Establish/rehabilitate/expand safe learning spaces, including through school construction and rehabilitation as well as TLS establishment. • Equip and furnish learning spaces (i.e. schools, classrooms, TLS). • Support teacher, volunteer and facilitator incentives and trainings (EIE, PSS, CPiE, GBV including safe disclosures and referrals and CoC). • Build capacity for school management committees and government officials through training • Identify and monitor GBV risks through regular consultation and assessment, together with protection actors. Implement measures recommended.
Livelihoods and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand and strengthen livelihoods programmes and vocational training initiatives, with a focus on safety, and on capitalizing on opportunities for durable solutions (including through enhanced cross-border job market analysis) and as an investment in human capital. • Advocate for increased space to support livelihood-based interventions, including by expanding the job categories/sectors open to refugees. Supporting programmes for women, youth and people with specific needs, and advocating for simplification of work license issuance processes and the implementation of GBV and other protection risk mitigation measures in the workplace.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake entrepreneurship programming for self-employment to support PoCs in obtaining qualifications and facilitating cross-border approaches.
Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide food assistance (combination of unconditional in-kind and cash transfers) to approximately 31,000 Afghan refugees in 20 settlements across the country. Provide food assistance for newly arrived Afghan refugees in newly established sites. Establish bakeries and bread ovens in the newly established sites. Undertake market assessments and identify longer-term solutions to link newly established sites to markets, with due consideration of the specific risks and barriers for women, girls and persons with specific needs. Provide food assistance (cash-for-food transfers) to newly arrived Afghan refugees in urban areas/host communities. Ensure distribution and cash transfer modalities are based on an assessment of GBV and protection risks and aim to mitigate risks as well as promote gender equality.
Health and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance existing MoH-led inclusive Primary Health and Referral Care (for secondary and tertiary health) system countrywide with a focus on refugee hosting provinces, the three eastern border provinces and newly established site(s) - this includes renovation of existing health facilities, construction of new health posts, covering running costs (including personnel) and providing medical equipment and core medicines including nutrition supplies through local and international procurement. Enhance existing MoH-led inclusive mental and psychosocial health services with a focus on refugee hosting province, these three eastern border provinces and newly established site(s). Support health awareness raising sessions for refugees, including through enhanced communication with communities through a network of health volunteers. Support existing MoH-led inclusive minimum reproductive health services for new arrivals and provide training to midwives and other health cadres, including on referral pathways and services for survivors of GBV. Support capacity-building initiatives led by the Ministry of Health for health staff members as per national/ international guidelines. Enhance existing MoH-led disease surveillance capacity for infectious endemic diseases in border areas, including for COVID-19, and support disease-specific control measures Enhance support to existing MoH-led Universal Public Health insurance to expand coverage among PoCs to subsidized secondary and tertiary health care.
Logistics and Telecoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of technical assistance, capacity-development, evidence-based guidance and information sharing to Logistics Sector partners. Transportation of relief items to/from response locations in settlements and out-of-camp remote areas. Establishment and expansion of warehousing capacities in proximity to response locations.
Shelter and NFIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In consultation with communities, including women, children and people with disabilities, construction of new camps, expansion/upgrade of existing settlements, reception centres and transit points, including shelter construction (utilizing cash-for-work). Stockpiling of essential core relief items, tents (shelter kits) and energy kits at household level to meet the needs of potential new arrivals. Multi-purpose cash assistance in urban areas, winterization, and seasonal support to new arrivals in camps, settlements, or urban areas as in-kind or cash. Training of local partners to respond to Shelter and NFI needs in camps, including on protection, AGD and GBV and child protection risk mitigation and safe referrals. Support transition from tents to longer term shelter solutions in new sites that are suitable to the environment in Iran (extreme cold and heat, high winds in some locations). Provision of shelter in settlements and host communities through construction, rehabilitation, or provision of cash for shelter using market-based approaches. Provision of household items in sites and urban areas through cash where possible. Provision of energy kits, to meet the household energy needs (cooking and lighting) in camps, settlements, and urban areas. Provision of energy solutions to those in camps, settlements, and urban areas. Provision of appropriate and sustainable shelter in school and healthcare settings.
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockpiling of hygiene kits to meet the WASH needs of potential new arrivals. Develop WASH infrastructure in sites and reception centres, and train local WASH responders, including on GBV risk mitigation and safe disclosure and referral.

- Develop culturally appropriate, gender- and age-sensitive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) products related to hygiene and Covid-19.
- Support WASH infrastructure in schools and health care facilities in camps, reception centres and host communities near to settlements.
- Provision of safe, equitable and a sufficient quantity of water for drinking, cooking, personal and domestic hygiene, in a conflict and climate sensitive manner.
- In consultation with women, children, and people with disabilities, implement safe, appropriate, and locally acceptable sanitation facilities that take into account GBV risks, and appropriate solid waste management facilities and services focusing on site-based populations.

2022 Financial Requirements Summary

By Organization & Sector

Organization	Education	Food security	Health and Nutrition	Livelihoods and Resilience	Logistics and Telecoms	Protection (incl. GBV and CP)*	Shelter and NFIs	WASH	Total
ICRI	6,375	6,375	6,375	6,375	6,375	6,375	6,375	6,375	51,000
INTERSOS			900,000			500,000			1,400,000
IOM			1,600,000	780,000		560,000	900,000	250,000	4,090,000
MSF			3,510,000						3,510,000
NRC	8,000,000	3,000,000		3,000,000		2,000,000	5,000,000	4,000,000	25,000,000
RI	2,154,156	1,926,000	631,648	4,575,427		336,622	1,525,820	4,300,437	15,450,110
UNAIDS			120,000						120,000
UNDP			1,207,982	2,676,906			400,869	235,000	4,520,757
UNESCO	1,500,000								1,500,000
UNFPA			4,000,000			2,826,900			6,826,900
UNHCR	11,874,109	2,200,000	25,242,552	13,074,109	4,474,109	19,387,372	34,748,218	8,393,800	119,394,269
UNICEF	3,100,000		642,000			1,700,000		18,000,000	23,442,000
UNIDO		1,500,000		2,000,000					3,500,000
UNODC				250,000					250,000
WFP	912,975	13,652,146	297,820	679,145	2,599,210				18,141,296
WHO			31,538,750						31,538,750
Total	27,547,615	22,284,521	69,697,127	27,041,962	7,079,694	27,317,269	42,581,282	35,185,612	258,735,082

*Breakdown of Protection requirements

Organization	Protection	Child Protection	GBV	Total Protection (incl. GBV and CP)
ICRI	6,375			6,375
INTERSOS	200,000	200,000	100,000	500,000
IOM	410,000		150,000	560,000
NRC	2,000,000			2,000,000
Relief International	44,405	29,960	262,257	336,622
UNFPA			2,826,900	2,826,900
UNHCR	16,487,372	1,100,000	1,800,000	19,387,372
UNICEF		1,700,000		1,700,000
Total	19,148,152	3,029,960	5,139,157	27,317,269

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan

PLANNED RESPONSE

3.4 M

TARGET POPULATION IN
2022

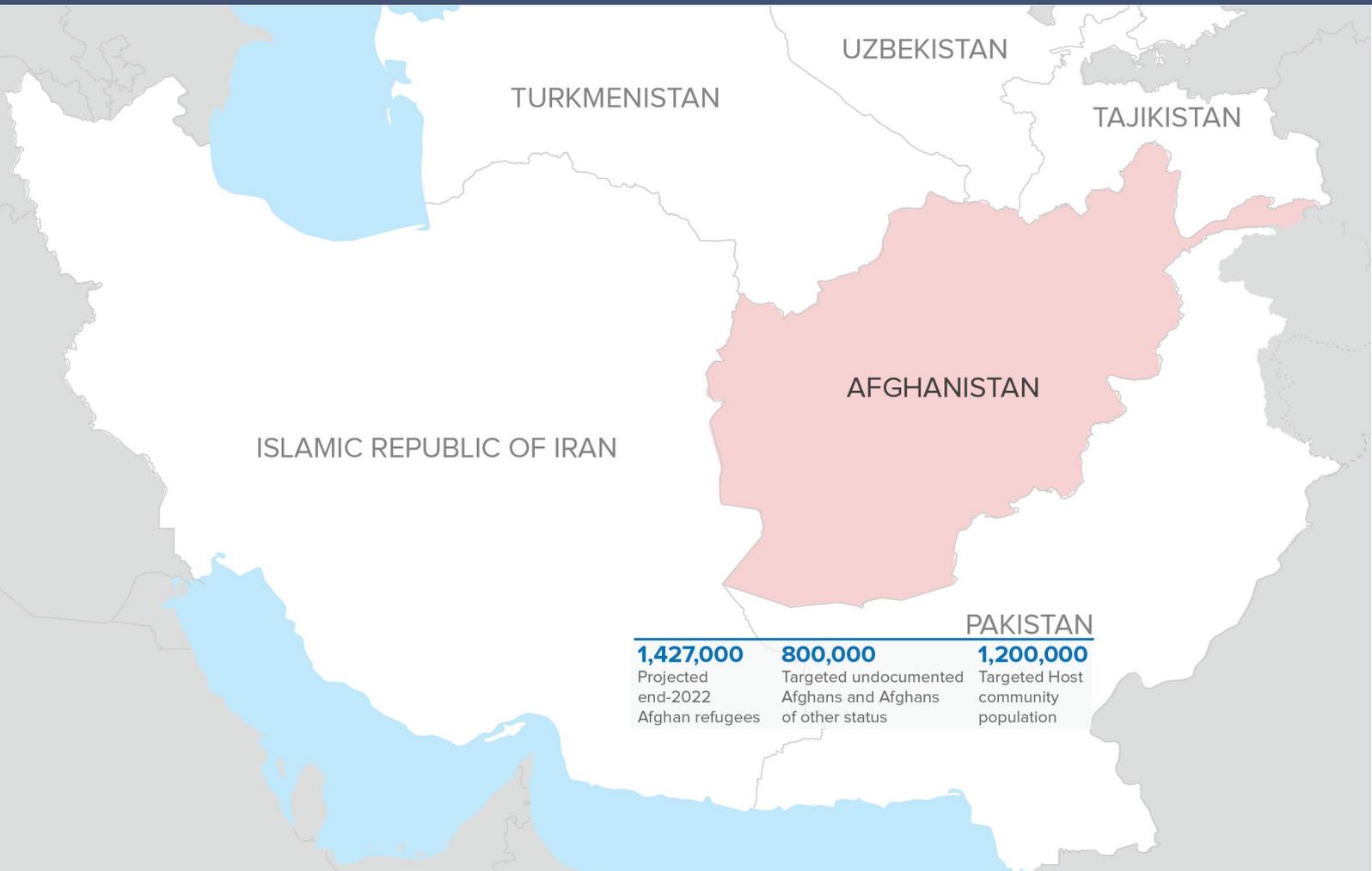
(INCLUDING AFGHANS OF VARYING
STATUS AND HOST COMMUNITY)

US\$ 310 M

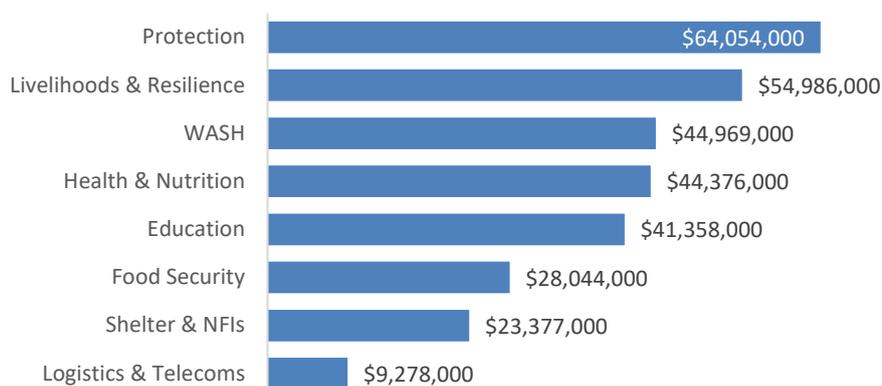
REQUIREMENTS FOR
2022

32

PARTNERS INVOLVED



Sector Requirements for 2022



Situation Overview

Pakistan has hosted millions of Afghans for over 40 years, during which significant movements of Afghans have occurred in both directions. Currently, Pakistan hosts some 3 million Afghans, 49 per cent of whom are under the age of 18, including 1.4 million refugees with Proof of Registration (PoR) cards, some 840,000 with Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) holders and an estimated 775,000 undocumented Afghans. In this response plan, the targeted population of 3.4 million comprises 1.4 million Afghan refugees in addition to a portion of Afghans of other status and members of the host community.

Pakistan is not signatory to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. Also, the country does not have national asylum legislation. Pakistan has, however, had a decades-long history of providing asylum and protection to Afghan refugees. It has also permitted Afghan refugees' freedom of movement and granted them access to public facilities. Afghans, including those travelling temporarily from Afghanistan, can seek care at public health facilities but the PoR card does not provide the right to work.

In the face of a growing humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, the Government of Pakistan is playing a key role to avoid a worse-case scenario. In conjunction with calls on the international community to enhance their support Afghanistan, it has proactively engaged in global, regional, and bilateral diplomacy efforts. Additionally, it has donated humanitarian aid and facilitated humanitarian action in support of the people of Afghanistan. In response to security concerns, the Government of Pakistan has also implemented a series of measures, resulting in a more regulated border management.

In view of the significant presence of Afghan refugees and other Afghan nationals in Pakistan, for whom programming has been chronically underfunded, this country chapter is the outcome of inter-agency consultations, including with the Government, that sought to increase support to the ongoing efforts of the Government and people of Pakistan. In particular, the country chapter aims to safeguard the protection of, and build the self-reliance and human capital of, the Afghan population to ultimately realize durable solutions, namely voluntary return to Afghanistan, as well as to further assist members of host communities in Pakistan. Existing and new programmes, focusing on health interventions, education, livelihoods, food security, water and sanitation, protection, and provision of green energy, have been encompassed in this multi-sectoral plan in a manner that efficiently bridges the nexus between humanitarian and development assistance. Cross-border dimensions and a heightened focus on gender, aiming at supporting the most vulnerable, are also integrated across the various sectors.

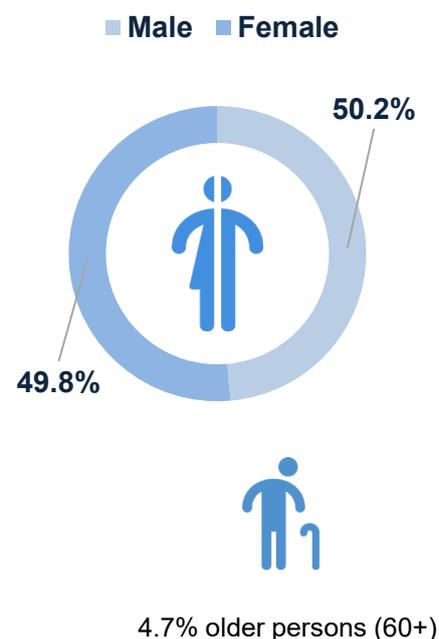
With a call to global solidarity, the Solution Strategy for the Afghan Refugees (SSAR) continues to guide the strategic direction of refugee programming in Pakistan. Jointly developed by the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan in 2012, the SSAR enables alignment with the Global Compact on Refugees. In 2020, a Core Group was established under the umbrella of the SSAR Support Platform to mobilize support for realizing solutions and to enhance the sustainable commitment for greater responsibility-sharing by the international community. Within the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON) sits the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR), the main governmental body for the management of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. SAFRON/CAR work closely with the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs on refugee policy matters. The present plan has been coordinated with SAFRON/CAR and developed with 32 partners, including UN agencies, and international and national NGOs.



Pakistan. Shifat Ullah, age 23, at his shop in Al-Asif Square market in Karachi. © UNHCR/Roger Arnold

Population Planning Figures

Disaggregated Data of Planned Assisted Population ¹³			
Age group	% of total	Female % of total	Male % of total
00-04 years	15.1%	7.5%	7.6%
05-11 years	20.7%	10.3%	10.4%
12-17 years	13.5%	6.7%	6.8%
18-24 years	14.3%	7.3%	7.0%
25-49 years	26.5%	13.2%	13.3%
50-59 years	5.2%	2.6%	2.6%
60-69 years	3.0%	1.4%	1.6%
70-79 years	1.3%	0.6%	0.7%
80+	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
Total	100.00%	49.8%	50.2%



	Persons with Disabilities			
	15% of the total Planned Assisted Population in 2022 ¹⁴			
9% women and girls		6% men and boys		

¹³ Methodology and data source:

^{13.1} Refugee data is broken down using the data collected during the Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise (DRIVE) in Pakistan. As the DRIVE verifications are still going on until 31 December 2021, the data in DRIVE is not yet complete. However, as DRIVE has been carried out at 40 operational sites across Pakistan, it can be treated as a representative sample for the total refugee population. It's reasonable to assume the sample and total population has a similar demographic structure.

^{13.2} As no updated data for the Afghans of other status is available, it is assumed this group has the same age and gender data as refugees.

^{13.3} The targeted host community population in Pakistan for the Refugee Response Plan (2022 RRP) is broken down by age and gender with the data from the [World Population Prospects 2019](#) (WPP). The assumption is that the demographic structure of the host community population is in line with the total population of Pakistan.

¹⁴ Sex and disability-disaggregated data are informing programme design, monitoring, results measurement and in reporting. The analysis has been made using existing data sources. For planning purposes, a gender breakdown has been used, revealing that prevalence of disability is higher among women than men. This confirms information provided in the WHO World Report on Disability (who.int) and in the UN Women's report, [Empowering and including women and girls with disabilities](#).

Needs Analysis

In Pakistan, the decades-long generous hosting of Afghan refugees has inevitably had a strain on available resources, especially given that the country has been one of the largest refugee-hosting countries in the world for over 40 years. In 2021, Pakistan remains the third-largest refugee-hosting country globally, hosting over 1.4 million Afghan refugees holding Proof of Registration (PoR) cards issued by the Government of Pakistan. In addition, Pakistan hosts some 840,000 ACC holders¹⁵ and an estimated 775,000 undocumented Afghans. Pakistan allows refugees' freedom of movement, as well as access to public services, and in 2019, the Government enabled refugees to open bank accounts.

The hospitality and generosity of the country in extending protection and assistance to generations of Afghan refugees is commendable and helps promote a conducive environment for building refugees' self-reliance. Continued investments in the resilience and human capital of refugees in Pakistan can help them contribute to the socio-economic development of their host communities, and eventually serve Afghanistan's reconstruction efforts. Noting the pressures that the long-standing presence of refugees has placed on infrastructure and service delivery systems, as well as the severe socio-economic impact of COVID-19, the need for greater international support to, and burden-sharing with, Pakistan has never been greater.

The provinces of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that host the vast majority (81 per cent) of the existing Afghan population in the country have the highest multi-dimensional poverty levels. According to the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund, more than half of the refugees are in the category of extremely poor/ultra-poor. Of the 1.4 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan, some 54 per cent are children and 22 per cent are women, while 15 per cent are people with disabilities. Some 31 per cent of refugees live in refugee villages, and the remaining 69 per cent live in urban, peri-urban, and rural areas alongside host communities. According to IOM,¹⁶ on average, 20 per cent of the Afghans who are ACC holders in Pakistan live in refugee villages, 31 per cent have temporary/ad hoc employment, and 52 per cent live on less than the minimum wage with an average family size of six. Several studies are foreseen in 2022 to address known gaps in available socio-economic data for the targeted populations, the analysis of which will be integrated into programming when available. The finalization of the Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise (DRIVE) in Pakistan will also provide updated information related to Afghan refugees, including their socio-economic circumstances, skillsets, level of education, sources of income, and places of origin in Afghanistan. This will provide a greater evidence base and support programmatic interventions in relation to health, education, and livelihood support to the most vulnerable.

Despite the high degree of acceptance, Afghan refugees and Afghans of other status in Pakistan have several multi-faceted protection needs. These include the need for access to registration and documentation to enjoy basic rights, facilitate access to services, and to mitigate the risk of arrest and detention. Violence against children and gender-based violence are largely under-reported, and access to justice for refugee girls and women is often impeded by the lack of family/community support. Intimate partner violence, child, early and forced marriage and denial of resources, services, and opportunities are prevalent issues amongst refugee communities in Pakistan. Further, gender inequalities result in lower levels of education, fewer work opportunities and lower levels of participation in decision-making processes and community-based planning. Children without documentation, including those whose births have not been registered, are also particularly vulnerable to trafficking and being detained and prosecuted as adults. Child marriage and child labour are prevalent, and access to education remains one of the most critical issues disproportionately affecting girls. Limited services for children with specific needs, mental health, and psychosocial support, most recently in relation to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, have been highlighted by the communities, with over 50 per cent of children with specific needs having no access to schooling. Medical needs are high, particularly related to maternal, new-born and child health, as well as reproductive health, and access to adequate quality and equitable health care remains a major concern for the community.

¹⁵ The ACC holders were previously undocumented Afghans residing in Pakistan together with other Afghans registered as refugees. The Government of Pakistan issued ACCs to this population after an agreement was reached with the Afghan government in 2017-2018. Approximately 775,000 Afghans remain undocumented in Pakistan.

¹⁶ IOM Pakistan Data Collection at ACC Registration Centers, April – August 2018 and Return Intention Survey: Undocumented Afghans in Pakistan, (November 2019), <https://pakistan.iom.int/sites/pakistan/files/publications/Return%20Intentions%20Survey%20%20report%202019.pdf>.

In the last three years, refugee returns have decreased significantly. This decline can be attributed to the political, security and economic situation in Afghanistan and the impact of COVID-19. Stabilization and economic development in Afghanistan are crucial elements to enable Afghan refugees to voluntarily return home in a timely, safe, and dignified manner, and to reintegrate in a sustainable manner.

Response Strategy and Priorities

OVERALL STRATEGY

The response plan, which targets 3.4 million people, of whom 1.4 million are Afghan refugees and a portion are Afghans with other status and members of the host community, will be guided by the following strategic objectives:

- Strengthening the protection environment and enhancing prospects for realizing sustainable solutions.
- Providing multi-sectoral assistance with a focus on basic needs, education, health care, nutrition, livelihoods, social protection, clean energy, WASH, documentation, and humanitarian protection, including child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) programming, while efforts continue to advance the humanitarian-development nexus.
- Supporting Afghan-hosting communities to foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.
- Empowering Afghans with a heightened focus on gender by implementing prevention programming across all sectors to address root causes of gender inequality and GBV.

An area-based and needs-based approach responding to the needs of Afghan refugees and other Afghan communities, alongside host communities, will be promoted. The plan foresees a holistic approach that:

1. Supports access to public health, including nutrition, education facilities, and, shelter and water and sanitation services.
2. Expands access to public social protection services and other forms of assistance.
3. Supports business development skills, vocational training, alongside job placement, for gainful employment.
4. Provides access to clean and renewable energy.
5. Strengthens the prevention, risk mitigation of and response to GBV and child protection programming.
6. Conducts participatory assessments that are inclusive of vulnerable groups.

The plan will strengthen the humanitarian-development nexus approach in support of the Government of Pakistan's efforts. Access to education for Afghan children through formal and non-formal education, with a specific focus on girls' education, will be encouraged. The equal provision of quality education for refugee and host communities alike, while increasing the absorption capacity of education facilities, will be pursued. Access to health systems will be further promoted through support to increase the absorption capacity of health structures and provision of support for health services, with a view to improving the health status of refugees and hosting communities, including maternal health. Access to provincial child protection policies, plans and service delivery platforms will be promoted to meet the protection needs of children. WASH activities will remain a priority, with increased safe access and use of services and facilities. This will help contribute to the reduction in the incidence of diseases caused by unsafe water, and poor hygiene and sanitation. Capacity-building and institutional support to local service providers, as well as government counterparts such as CAR and SAFRON, are a key component of the plan in all sectors.

Strengthened coordination on nutrition and food security to address and prevent malnutrition, with a focus on children and pregnant women, will also be part of the inter-agency response. Malnutrition among children under the age of five and pregnant and lactating women will be managed through community-based approaches, establishing nutrition services integrated within the basic health units, and by promoting the adoption of optimal nutrition behaviours. Woven into these interventions are continued investments in community-based structures with specific measures to advance gender equality, including the empowerment of women and girls, as well as assisting persons with special needs. Given the challenges facing the country in relation to climate change, an environment-sensitive approach will be pursued to promote the use of clean energy including installing solar-powered energy sources in schools, as well as in health care

and communal facilities. The plan will support the enhancement of registration and documentation processes, and improved access to civil registration. Avenues will be explored to strengthen the national refugee administrative framework, while also continuing to advocate in line with international protection standards. The response plan will expand options for solutions for refugees in Pakistan to include resettlement and complementary pathways alongside voluntary repatriation, and RRP Partners will also work to include the voices of refugees in peace and reconstruction dialogue in Afghanistan. Moreover, strengthened livelihood opportunities in Pakistan will ultimately aim to foster the conditions for voluntary return by better equipping refugees ahead of their return home.



Pakistan: Afghan refugee and Pakistani students wait for their class teacher at the Government Primary School for Girls in Kohat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. There are a total of 186 primary students in the school, including 12 Afghan refugee girls. © UNHCR/Asif Shahzad

Strengthening Livelihoods and Resilience

Inter-agency partners aim to strengthen the self-reliance of Afghan refugees. Due to limited access to the formal labour market, a key challenge will continue to be job placement. In recognition of limited formal employment options and freedom of movement for women, support will be provided to skills training graduates to establish small, often home-based businesses. Inclusion in value chains, e-commerce and display centres will also be pursued. Livelihood opportunities will be used to create synergies among other sectors including education and health to help realize gains for improved health outcomes and school attendance. In 2022, partners will continue market assessments that inform skills training programmes.

Support will focus on the economic empowerment of young Afghans, and self-reliance will be promoted through digital skills and entrepreneurship trainings. These trainings will be enhanced through mentoring to help with the transition from learning to the application of skills and employment, including non-traditional livelihoods. IT-friendly policies, cost-effective IT/internet infrastructure, access to technologies, human resources development, and local pools of trainers will also support employment. Collaboration with the private sector will be expanded from the perspective of advocacy, joint programming, co-financing, and job creation, in line with the GCR.

Building on innovative community engagement models, community listening, and dialogue will be fostered among refugees, host communities and local government. Dedicated sessions on social cohesion for women, youth, people with disabilities and other groups in the context of livelihoods training, sports and cultural events will also provide opportunities for inclusivity, peaceful co-existence, and resilience.

Self-reliance, livelihoods outcomes and access to the labour market will serve a wide spectrum of Afghans in line with their education levels. In turn, the targeted population will be better equipped to move up the poverty ladder, achieve greater food security and increase their economic self-reliance to meet basic needs. The response plan will: support

female empowerment programmes and access to financial services; promote livelihood programmes, including in relation to green energy; and provide support for internships, on-the-job training and self-employment. The increased absorption capacity of public facilities will also be crucial in this regard. Moreover, technology and innovation will be leveraged to increase impact and reduce the overall cost of livelihoods programming. The response plan will raise awareness and stimulate action to ensure decent working conditions and prevent GBV, including exploitation and harassment in work settings. Efforts to strengthen livelihoods and resilience will also be inclusive of host communities.

Host Communities

Programming inclusive of the host communities has been a long-standing component of the Afghan refugee response in Pakistan, namely through RAHA (Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas) programme which constitutes the cornerstone of the implementation of the SSAR in Pakistan. RAHA remains the principal responsibility-sharing platform for mitigating the impact of the protracted refugee presence, supporting protection space, and enhancing the community acceptance of Afghan refugees. In recognition of the generosity and hospitality of host communities, these communities are themselves supported, and social cohesion and peaceful co-existence with refugees is further reinforced. RAHA projects are drawn from development plans and aim to address key needs in critical sectors, including education and health. RAHA also aligns with and complements Pakistan's efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals and to realize the 2030 Agenda's commitment to "leave no one behind".

In the spirit of RAHA and as part of the World Bank's effort to assist large refugee-hosting countries, four projects under the World Bank's IDA-18 refugee window at the value of USD 321 million were approved in March 2021 by the Government of Pakistan. These projects, which are not part of but are complementary to the RRP, focus on the health and education sectors in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, building human capital and strengthening government institutions for refugee administration.

Partnership and Coordination

To enhance the inter-agency collaboration, the Pakistan Refugee Consultation Forum (PRCF) provides the overall coordination of the refugee response. The PRCF is co-chaired by the Ministry of SAFRON/CCAR and UNHCR and includes RRP Partners and other operational partners supporting refugee programming, including UN agencies, national and international NGOs. The PRCF ensures effective communication with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the UN Country Team (UNCT) as well as other relevant coordination forums. As with the preparation of the RRP, the PRCF will continue to tap into the Sectoral Working Groups to draw on operational partners' sectoral expertise from both humanitarian and development communities. The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 is currently being prepared, and close coordination will be maintained between the PRCF and Outcome Group work for the UNSDCF therein better contributing to the Government's efforts to achieve the SDG goals while ensuring that "no one [is] left behind". The PRCF would also fall under the umbrella of the SSAR and have linkages with the two structures already existing: Friends of the SSAR (FOSSAR) and the Core Group of the SSAR Support Platform. Alongside the PRCF and feeding into it, the Refugee Protection Working Group (RPWG) will be established for focused attention on refugee protection, including sub-working groups on Child Protection and GBV, working in tandem with the existing Protection Sector Working Group for other vulnerable groups. The RRP Coordination Forum (PRCF) will work with other sectors and thematic working groups, particularly the Inter-Agency PSEA network, to ensure that PSEA prevention, mitigation and response measures are fully incorporated in humanitarian programmes. To reflect this essential requirement, a dedicated indicator has been included in the monitoring framework at country-level on PSEA risk mitigation.

Planned Response Priorities for 2022

Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate access to education, health and protection services through awareness-raising and advocacy with service providers. Facilitate refugee access to registration and identity documentation. Provide legal assistance, individual and group counselling, and awareness-raising. Identify, refer and/or provide individual assistance and protection services to persons with specific needs and persons with disabilities. Establish community-based complaint/feedback mechanisms with referral structures. Identify and facilitate durable solutions, including voluntary repatriation by providing repatriation grants, where conditions are viable. Mainstream protection and gender considerations in activities in all sectors. Prevent forced labour, including human trafficking and modern slavery, through awareness and self-assessment tools for businesses and employers. Establish a protection mechanism for citizen engagement and build state institution capacity. Conduct baseline, mobility, and vulnerability assessments.
GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide timely access to quality services for GBV survivors (psychosocial support, safety support, medical and legal assistance) and case management. Implement interventions addressing GBV survivors' physical safety, health concerns, psychosocial needs, and access to justice, in line with a survivor-centred approach. Establish women and girl safe spaces as an entry point for access to specialized services and empowerment activities. Support specialized shelters and safe homes for women and children. Provide dignity kits to ensure privacy, dignity and basic hygiene and reduce risks. Conduct awareness-raising sessions on GBV referral pathways and existing services. Provide technical support across sectors to mainstream GBV risk mitigation measures. Provide capacity-building on GBV response, prevention, and case management.
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide child protection response services through integrated child protection case management/ Best Interests Procedure and a referral system, linked to existing child protection facilities. Prevent family separation, identify, and register unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), support family tracing, and family-based care or suitable, safe, community-based alternative care arrangements. Provide community-based, age and gender appropriate mental health and psychosocial support activities to children and their caregivers, including through safe spaces for children and referral mechanisms. Provide children, families, and communities with information on child protection risks and referral pathways to access available child protection services and strengthen community-based child protection mechanisms. Provide capacity-building for social service workers to expand coverage and quality of prevention and response child protection services. Protect children against child labour through enhanced capacity of service providers, civil society organizations, workers, and employers' organizations. Mainstream child protection into other sectors and areas of assistance to ensure that their activities prevent and respond to child protection risks.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support schools in host communities which have refugee children to increase the absorption capacity of education facilities. Improve access to quality education for refugee children through formal and non-formal education, with a specific focus on girls' education and the challenges they face. Establish a mechanism to promote non-formal education for refugee women and girls post primary. Strengthen community engagement and post-primary education for refugee children, including through accelerated education, vocational training, and skills development. Train teachers on psychosocial support, health and hygiene promotion, technical and vocational skills, GBV and methodology to teach in a challenging environment. Develop linkages between the local community and education departments to foster accelerated learning centres for refugee children post primary.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for a higher quota for admittance of refugees into tertiary education institutions, with a focus on female students. • Provide training for school management committees. • Carry out awareness-raising/back-to-school campaigns.
Livelihoods and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide market-driven vocational and technical trainings and employable skills, including on local and cross-border livelihood opportunities. • Offer job placement services, entrepreneurship training, business set-up, market linkages, and productive kits/assets for the establishment of businesses. • Support to increase absorption capacity in vocational and technical training institutes. • Support small agricultural businesses by providing agricultural inputs (seeds, livestock/poultry, milking kits to dairy producers) and livelihoods kits. • Undertake surveys in target areas, including social and economic vulnerability profiles to develop vulnerability indexes, and looking at risks, barriers, and opportunities for women in the workplace. • Conduct market analyses including cross-border trading, commodity market and labour market. • Rehabilitate and/or construct irrigation facilities/water storage/flood protection structures adopting a disaster risk reduction approach. • Link local farmer marketing cooperatives, and international and national value chains to refugee-hosting areas. • Implement the poverty graduation programme. • Provide materials to teachers in non-formal centres where refugee women and girls are trained to facilitate the teaching of technical and vocational skills in a safe space. • Provide cash-for-work opportunities through engagement in rehabilitation of infrastructure and municipal services. • Create awareness about decent work and the risk of GBV including exploitative practices and violence and harassment in the world of work.
Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide conditional cash for food or assets assistance to vulnerable persons. • Provide conditional cash assistance to promote girls' education in areas bordering Afghanistan. • Provide school meals to children living in refugee villages/host communities. • Ensure distribution modalities assess and mitigate GBV and other protection risks.
Health and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce the public health care system by filling gaps in human resources, capacity-building, supplies, equipment, and life-saving commodities, and strengthen infection prevention and control. • Increase access to quality sexual and reproductive health care for women. • Provide tools, laboratory support and capacity-building for disease outbreak identification, surveillance, and response, including to support routine immunization (polio and COVID-19), both at fixed sites and at the outreach level. • Support the integration of mental health and psychosocial support into the primary care interventions, and the establishment of referral pathways for MHPSS services. • Strengthen risk communication and community engagement on public health, including community-based essential primary health services. • Promote gender responsive nutritional treatment services for severe acutely malnourished with and without complications (SAM) and moderately acute malnourished (MAM) children, and pregnant and lactating women. • Support appropriate maternal, infant, and young child nutrition (MIYCN) practices, early childhood stimulation, and health and hygiene services. • Provide micronutrients for addressing micronutrient deficiency problems of girls and boys under five, adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women.
Logistics and Telecoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide transportation of goods, such as school supplies, uniforms and furniture, office and medical equipment, etc. • Advance warehouse management.
Shelter and NFIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a shelter survey and vulnerability assessment in urban areas and refugee villages to determine the scope of interventions. • Provide core relief items, including winterization assistance, cash-for-rent, shelter upgrades and shelter repair kits for extremely vulnerable. • Equip education, health, and livelihood facilities with clean and renewable energy.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install solar streetlights in urban areas and refugee villages. • Provide sustainable source of energy for cooking and lighting for vulnerable refugee and host community households. • Advocate for housing, land, and property (HLP) rights.
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to basic drinking water services through installation or rehabilitation of water supply system, including solarization. • Improve access to basic sanitation through installation of household or communal toilets, and improvement of existing drainage systems. • Promote awareness-raising of safe hygiene practices.

2022 Financial Requirements Summary

By Organization & Sector

Organization	Education	Food security	Health and Nutrition	Livelihoods and Resilience	Logistics and Telecoms	Protection (incl. GBV and CP)*	Shelter and NFIs	WASH	Total
Action Against Hunger - Pakistan				1,451,000				392,000	1,843,000
Bunyard Literacy & Community Council	281,000								281,000
CARE International in Pakistan (CIP)			1,000,000	6,000,000				750,000	7,750,000
CESVI Pakistan			201,000	511,000		170,000	180,000	329,000	1,391,000
Concern Worldwide			943,000	782,000					1,725,000
FAO				13,000,000					13,000,000
Federation Handicap International				700,000		400,000		1,000,000	2,100,000
Friends Welfare Association	117,000		100,000			30,000	200,000	89,000	536,000
Help in Need	50,000							150,000	200,000
Hundreds of Original Projects for Employment (HOPE'87)	1,000,000								1,000,000
ILO				1,300,000		200,000			1,500,000
IOM			5,874,000	6,746,000		7,540,000	4,150,000	965,000	25,275,000
IRC	770,000	1,094,000	1,249,000	685,000		1,513,000	966,000	965,000	7,242,000
KnK Japan	800,000								800,000
Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education	35,000								35,000
Participatory Rural Development Society (PRDS)				365,000				650,000	1,015,000
Relief International	1,500,000	800,000		600,000				700,000	3,600,000
Save the Children	2,125,000		325,000	108,000		158,000	94,000	86,000	2,896,000
Society for Human Advancement for Outreach Resource Pakistan	400,000								400,000
Special Talent Exchange Program (STEP)	525,000								525,000
UNDP	4,430,000			4,000,000		2,500,000			10,930,000
UNESCO	1,000,000								1,000,000
UNFPA			1,700,000			1,300,000			3,000,000
UNHABITAT							3,500,000		3,500,000
UNHCR	18,438,000		11,838,000	18,738,000	9,000,000	44,639,000	7,887,000	17,620,000	128,160,000
UNICEF	8,239,000		8,860,000			5,200,000		15,000,000	37,299,000
UNOPS			1,350,000				6,400,000	2,900,000	10,650,000
UNWOMEN						404,000			404,000
Voluntary Service Overseas	850,000								850,000
WFP		26,150,000	3,058,000		278,000				29,486,000

WHO	7,878,000							3,373,000	11,251,000
Women Empowerment Organization	798,000								798,000
Total	41,358,000	28,044,000	44,376,000	54,986,000	9,278,000	64,054,000	23,377,000	44,969,000	310,442,000

***Breakdown of Protection requirements**

Organization	Protection	Child Protection	GBV	Total Protection (incl. GBV and CP)
CESVI Pakistan	105,000	41,000	24,000	170,000
Federation Handicap International	400,000			400,000
Friends Welfare Association		30,000		30,000
ILO	100,000	100,000		200,000
IOM	7,240,000		300,000	7,540,000
IRC	284,000	602,000	627,000	1,513,000
Save the Children		158,000		158,000
UNDP			2,500,000	2,500,000
UNFPA			1,300,000	1,300,000
UNHCR	35,783,000	4,678,000	4,178,000	44,639,000
UNICEF		5,200,000		5,200,000
UNWOMEN			404,000	404,000
Total	43,912,000	10,809,000	9,333,000	64,054,000

CENTRAL ASIA

Situation Overview

Tajikistan

At the onset of the recent situation in Afghanistan, in early 2021, Tajikistan started receiving an increasing number of asylum-seekers. From January 2021 to the end of October, UNHCR partners registered 5,598 individuals, thus bringing the total number of the registered Afghan population in the country to around 12,000 persons. Some 40 per cent of the newly arrival are children under 18 (of these, 22 per cent are girls and 18 per cent are boys). Despite the initial statements of the Tajik Government on open border policy, the situation drastically changed after the Collective Security Treaty Organization meeting when the country, raising issues of national security, imposed tight border control without allowing for cross-border movement from Afghanistan. This situation may also give rise to people-smuggling activities, thus putting the lives of refugees at high risk. Though Tajikistan is a party to 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol with enacted national refugee legislation clearly contemplating adherence to the principle of non-refoulement, recent actions include pushbacks of asylum-seekers. Moreover, the existing protection space for Afghans who are already in the country continues to shrink with the refusal of asylum authorities to register asylum applications and issue documentation, thus putting people seeking asylum in a legal limbo.

UNHCR Tajikistan provides technical and operational support to the Government and coordinates the efforts of other UN agencies, international organizations, and NGOs in strengthening refugee emergency preparedness and response. Despite borders remaining closed, the likelihood of an influx is still high through informal crossing points. In preparation for this plan, RRP Partners have held discussions with the Government regarding potential refugee accommodation areas, as well as temporary reception facilities close to eight official border checkpoints north of Kunduz, Takhar, and Badakhshan provinces which span the riverine border. RRP Partners will continue to advocate for a non-camp policy and the placing of settlements close to existing communities. Preparedness and response activities envisage the engagement of all the participating agencies under relevant sectors at reception at border crossing points and at locations for refugee accommodation in areas allocated by the Government. Assessments have already been done in some areas and, separate to the RRP, International Financial Institutions (Asian Development Bank – ADB – and World Bank – WB) have engaged with the government on the possibility of supporting the rehabilitation of a temporary accommodation centre for 1,200 refugees as a start.

Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan shares a 144 km border with the north of Afghanistan. Likely entry points for refugees would be through the town of Hairatan in the northern Balkh province of Afghanistan to Termez in the Surxondaryo Region of Uzbekistan, along the riverine border. Uzbekistan is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and does not have a national asylum system. Humanitarian programmes to support the existing Afghan populations in the region, including Uzbekistan, have been critically underfunded in recent years.

The RRP reflects on inter-agency efforts to ensure that humanitarian partners in Uzbekistan have the response capacities to support of the Government and authorities to meet the critical needs of Afghan citizens already in Uzbekistan requiring international protection as well as potential new arrivals. Partners' focus will be on monitoring and coordinating actions with respective authorities to ensure protection through assistance and resilience building activities in host communities. Partners will also support the host Government in registration, including with human resources and engagement of local partners to provide community-based protection and address basic needs. The response will also aim to support the resilience of Afghans and their host communities, including through investments in key areas of national infrastructure like education and health, and by supporting livelihoods for Afghans and host communities.

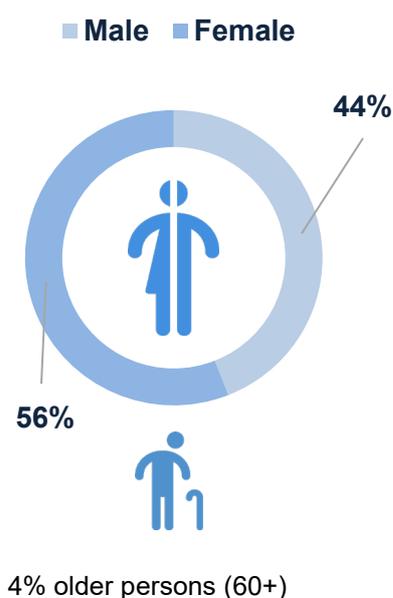
Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan lies along the northwest frontier of Afghanistan, adjacent to the Afghan provinces of Herat, Badghis, Faryab, and Jowzjan. The 744 km border sits in a plain that extends from northern Afghanistan into the Karakum Desert of Turkmenistan. Likely entry points would be through one or both of the two border checkpoints (BCPs) Torghundi (AFG) -Serhetabat (TKM) (road and rail); Aqina (AFG) - Ymamnazar (TKM) (rail); as well as through informal crossing points. Due to COVID-19 preventive measures, movement of people across Turkmenistan borders remains suspended since August 2020. In Afghanistan, the Turkmen population accounts between two to three per cent of the total population, equating to approximately 0.8 – 1.1 million people of Turkmen ethnicity. The number of potential refugees

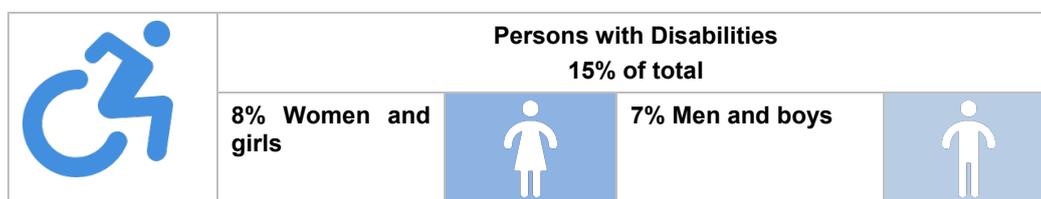
who may arrive in Turkmenistan is expected to be low, considering the nature of the border, its strict management, and the socio-economic situation of the country. Nonetheless, national law provides for asylum registration and refugee recognition. RRP Partners will provide technical and operational support to the Government and authorities to address the immediate protection and assistance needs of newly arriving Afghan asylum-seekers and will strengthen the resilience of refugees and host communities.

Population Planning Figures

Disaggregated Data of Planned Assisted Population*			
Age group	% of total	Female % of total	Male % of total
00-04 years	16.0%	9.0%	7.0%
05-11 years	17.0%	9.5%	7.5%
12-17 years	17.0%	9.5%	7.5%
18-24 years	16.0%	9.0%	7.0%
25-49 years	15.0%	8.4%	6.6%
50-59 years	15.0%	8.4%	6.6%
60-69 years	4.0%	2.2%	1.8%
70-79 years	0.0%	0%	0%
80+	0.0%	0%	0%
Total	100.0%	56.0%	44.0%



*Disaggregated figures are for Tajikistan as disaggregation for the other countries is unavailable.



For planning purposes, it is estimated that 15% of the population have a disability, with the prevalence of disability is higher among women (19.2%) than men (12%). Sources: WHO [World Report on Disability \(who.int\)](http://who.int)
[Empowering and including women and girls with disabilities | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

Needs Analysis

Tajikistan

Most new arrivals from Afghanistan are ethnic Tajiks (58 per cent), followed by Hazara (30 per cent). Most refugees and asylum-seekers who are currently in the country, including new arrivals, reside in peri-urban areas near the capital Dushanbe and there are elevated levels of poverty among the Afghan population. As job opportunities in Tajikistan are low, this further increases the overall vulnerability of the refugee population.

Thus, the main issues of concern for the current population remain:

- Suspension of registration, access to asylum and issuance of documentation
- The difficult economic situation, exacerbated by COVID-19, resulting in a lack of employment opportunities, as well as employers' negative perception of a refugees in the country.
- Difficulties in finding appropriate and cost-effective accommodation, as well as restrictions to choose place of residence (as per Resolution #325),¹⁷ compounded by an increase of new arrivals.
- Limited capacity of public services, notably healthcare.

In the event of a large refugee influx, the immediate protection needs of the population would be access to the territory, protection from refoulement, access to life-saving assistance, emergency healthcare, safe shelter, food, and water/sanitation. Other priority protection and assistance needs would include full and comprehensive registration and documentation; identification of those with heightened protection needs, emergency education, identifying and addressing GBV and child protection risks, identifying and supporting persons with specific needs, including persons with disabilities, and family tracing and enhancing the community-based protection capacities. A rapid needs assessment and a protection analysis will be carried out at the onset of emergency. Special attention will be given to people with specific needs and those at heightened risk, including: pregnant women; unaccompanied and separated children, and other children at risk; people with disabilities; single-parent families; single women and girls; people with physical or mental health needs; and survivors of violence and torture, including GBV survivors. The impact on host communities would depend on the scale and duration of the displacement. The provision of services to the host communities will be essential. Accordingly, essential services must be available for both the host communities and the refugees, including local public infrastructure (particularly health facilities and schools).

National systems responsible for the range of interventions addressing the prevention and response to GBV in emergencies will be strengthened through capacity-building for local and national authorities in order to ensure access to comprehensive health services for GBV survivors, including clinical management of rape, distribution of dignity kits, and the creation of safe spaces for women. In addition, survivor-centered and functional referral systems will be put in place to facilitate GBV survivors' access to psychosocial support, safety and security, justice and legal aid and socio-economic support. GBV risk mitigation will be a priority across sectors.

Uzbekistan

During the first three quarters of 2021, some 13,019 Afghans arrived in Uzbekistan. A further deterioration in Afghanistan could lead to the arrival of an additional 5,400 Afghan new arrivals in 2022, while the Uzbekistan plan will also target some 3,000 members of the host community population. New arrivals will likely include: high numbers of older persons; children, including unaccompanied and separated children and other children at risk; women-headed households; survivors of gender-based violence; persons with serious health conditions; persons with legal or physical protection needs, LGBTIQ+ persons, and persons with disabilities.

Host communities in border and other areas where Afghans may be hosted are equally in need of humanitarian assistance and support for access to quality services since some of those are already economically marginalized, facing poverty, while environmental and population stressors drive labour migration. Therefore, it will be important to align support provided to refugees with support for communities – addressing critical needs through a holistic programme and also benefiting the local population. The joint RRP partner response will also focus on community-based interventions, cross-border collaboration, and durable solutions. Among the most vulnerable of the host and refugee populations, women and girls will continue to be targeted for assistance and support to prevent gender-based violence

¹⁷ <https://www.refworld.org/docid/415a68a54.html>

and sexual exploitation and abuse, given the heightened risk during humanitarian emergencies. Children at risk and their families and caregivers will also be prioritised, and child protection risks identified and addressed in all areas of the humanitarian response.

Turkmenistan

A further deterioration in Afghanistan may result in outflows of new refugees, who upon arrival could face several risks including a lack of legal status, insufficient assistance programmes, and interrupted education, worsened by the lack of community and family support networks. These risks would have greater impact on people with specific needs and people with disabilities including children and unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and other children at risk, who may also face other risks such as trafficking, child marriage and other forms GBV. In the event of a refugee influx, the immediate protection and humanitarian needs will be safeguarding access to the territory, protection from refoulement, access to life saving assistance, emergency medical care, safe shelter, food, and safe access to water/sanitation. Other priority needs include access to registration and identification of those with heightened protection needs, emergency education, addressing GBV, identification and assistance for unaccompanied and separated children and other children at heightened risk, care of persons with specific needs and family tracing. A rapid needs assessment and a protection analysis will be carried out. Special attention will be given to people with specific needs and vulnerable cases, women, UASC and other children at risk; disabled; single headed families; people with physical or mental health needs; and survivors of violence and torture, including GBV survivors. Sexual and reproductive health needs including access to obstetric care, family planning, prevention and response to HIV will also be prioritized. Host communities in border areas are equally in need of humanitarian assistance and support for access to quality services. The impact on host communities will depend on the scale and duration of the displacement. The plan will also target host communities, including local infrastructure (including health facilities, and schools).



Tajikistan. An Afghan refugee girl and a Tajik girl visiting an art exhibition. ©UNHCR/Didor Sadulloev

Response Strategy and Priorities

OVERALL STRATEGY

Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan

The aim of this Plan is to ensure that humanitarian partners in Central Asia have the preparedness and response capacities to meet the immediate critical needs of the displaced population at the onset of emergency. In close collaboration with the host governments, the response will seek to apply innovative, cost-effective, and sustainable approaches to deliver protection, basic needs, and essential services, including life-saving assistance. Activities envisaged under the RRP will be implemented in accordance with core protection principles, maintaining an AGD approach, considering the vulnerabilities of the population, and ensuring equal access to protection and assistance. It will focus on:

- Ensuring safe and unhindered access to territory, respect for the principle of non-refoulement, efficient registration, provision of proper documentation, including support to the government in their efforts to ensure proper admission and asylum procedures, that are child friendly and gender-sensitive, including application of screening protocols. Advocacy with the government on preserving the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum.
- Advocacy for alternatives to encampment and securing refugee can settle near host communities; as well as upgrading and setting reception facilities at the border crossing points for ensured efficient screening mechanisms.
- Ensuring the provision of accurate relevant information on procedures and access to assistance and support.
- Identifying people with specific needs and heightened risks. Conducting rapid needs assessments in conjunction with displaced and host communities with relevant government authorities.
- Supporting the government and civil society in protection of the affected population against GBV and providing adequate survivor-centered care and lifesaving support, including case management, in accordance with the GBV Minimum Standards, GBV risk-reduction measures will be addressed across.
- Provision of child protection, counselling and psychosocial assistance and services and support for national child protection services to extend their services to refugee and host communities.
- Provision of multi-sectoral assistance to refugees and host communities with a view to anchor the response in government systems, with particular attention to the needs of children, youth, and women.
- Facilitating safe and dignified access of children and women, including the most vulnerable groups, to emergency services such as comprehensive health, including sexual and reproductive and HIV, mental health and psychosocial support, vaccines, nutrition, and risk communication, through national health systems.
- Application of a community-based approach and the inclusion of host population in humanitarian assistance programmes to promote social cohesion.
- Support the logistics hub in Termez, Uzbekistan for pre-positioning and rapid delivery of in-kind assistance to Afghanistan, opening an alternative route of aid. Essential shelter supplies and core-relief items, such as kitchen sets, and plastic tarpaulins), will be trucked to Mazar-i-Sharif in Afghanistan via Dubai supporting thousands internally displaced persons.

Strengthening Livelihoods and Resilience

Tajikistan

Interagency response envisages a package of integrated activities to address the urgent needs of both refugees and asylum-seekers as well as to prepare and capacitate the local host communities to integrate newcomers into community life and to ensure safe and decent livelihoods for all affected population. The key priorities for the integrated inter-agency actions will be the following:

1. Strengthening the capacity of local public services, including but not limited with local secondary education and vocational education facilities to provide inclusive and quality services.
2. Promoting economic integration through support to local job creation and livelihoods and economic inclusion programmes in partnership with the private sector and local civil society.

RRP Partners will focus on improving access to vocational trainings and skill development programs, including local language courses and legal awareness for refugees and host community, ensuring women and youth have safe access. An assessment of employable skills and capacities for self-employment among refugees will be initiated, as well as the assessment of local labour needs amongst the host communities and potential for integration of refugees in the local employment schemes. The response plan envisages awareness-raising on business development and legal/regulatory frameworks for employment and livelihoods in the country.



Tajikistan. Afghan refugee children and Tajik children during taekwondo training. © UNHCR/Didor Sadulloev

Uzbekistan

Government efforts to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic included sizable additional spending on health care and social assistance and financial support to businesses. According to a recent UN/World Bank study aimed at identifying drivers of risk and resilience in Central Asia, Uzbekistan border areas are already economically marginalized, with high poverty levels, while environmental and population stressors drive labour migration. RRP Partners aim to promote self-reliance and livelihoods programmes, fostering socio-economic support and income generation initiatives, through promoting local peaceful coexistence projects, in support to the local community, including with basic infrastructure support, where needed, expanding local economic development approaches, supporting entrepreneurship and SME development, and improving access to finance, for youth and women. Refugees, as well as host communities, will benefit from the targeted livelihoods projects, including through income generation or employment programmes, enhancing the linkages to the local employment market and provision of support to businesses, in addition to cash-for-work and other cash-related programmes.

Turkmenistan

Government efforts to mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic include sizable additional spending on health care and social assistance and financial support to firms. The difficult economic situation necessitates a scaled-up response from the international community to ensure that the immediate needs of refugees and host communities are met, promoting resilience, and facilitating solutions. Interagency response envisages a package of integrated activities including preparing and capacitating the local host communities to integrate newcomers into community life, ensuring safe and decent livelihoods for all affected population. Partners aim to promote self-reliance and livelihoods

programmes, support income generation initiatives, and promote local peaceful coexistence projects, in support to the local community. This will include basic infrastructure support, supporting local economic development, supporting entrepreneurship and SME development, and improving access to finance, including for youth and women. Refugees, as well as host communities, will benefit from the targeted livelihoods projects, including income generation and employment programmes, enhancing the linkages to the local employment market and provision of support to businesses, in addition to other cash-related programmes.

Host Communities

Tajikistan

Response programmes will be mainstreamed and aligned with the local development planning processes and will inform the policy and decision making by local authorities and communities aimed at sustainable local development. The RRP will work to promote social cohesion and peaceful co-existence between refugees and host communities through the implementation of targeted self-reliance and resilience programmes, fostering socio-economic support for local livelihoods. It will foster economic self-reliance and durable solutions for refugees, and host communities, by expanding the use of cash assistance, reducing the dependency on humanitarian aid, and promoting socio-economic growth in line with national and development plans. In addition, integrated support to livelihoods and economic integration of refugees will be accompanied with support to area-based local economic development as well as capacity building and institutional strengthening efforts targeting local government, local community leaders and key stakeholders.

Uzbekistan

RRP Partners will promote peaceful coexistence initiatives, alongside other humanitarian and development interventions in refugee-hosting areas, encouraging opportunities for refugees and local populations to engage with each other, building positive encounters and ensuring self-reliance. To prevent tensions and conflict between refugees and host communities related to the use of land, partners will increase awareness-raising and campaigns on environmental protection, to contribute to minimizing environmental degradation of the refugee-hosting areas. Together with the host government, livelihoods investments will be geared towards host communities, in consideration of local development plans, the financial situation of the refugee-hosting areas, and local market conditions.

Turkmenistan

The response will promote social cohesion and peaceful co-existence between refugees and host communities through the implementation of targeted self-reliance and resilience programmes, fostering socio-economic support for local livelihoods and durable solutions for refugees and host communities, by expanding the use of cash assistance, and promoting socio-economic growth in line with national and local development plans. Support to livelihood and economic integration of refugees will be accompanied with support to area-based local economic development as well as capacity building and institutional strengthening efforts targeting local government, community leaders and key stakeholders.

Partnership and Coordination

Tajikistan

In support of relevant authorities in the Government of Tajikistan, and within the Inter-sector Coordination Group, UNHCR is leading the interagency preparedness and response efforts, in collaboration with UN agencies, international organizations, civil society and other humanitarian actors. UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, WHO and UNHCR will take the lead in the sectors according to their mandate and capacity and are mobilizing resources in collaboration with partners. An Inter-Agency Working Group on Emergency Preparedness and Contingency Planning (EPCP) for Refugee Issues, co-chaired by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and UNHCR, held its first meeting in September 2021 to agree on refugee-hosting areas, to pool resources and expertise, and to coordinate on geographical presence to strengthen response capacity to any population influx. Within this framework, UNHCR supports the efforts of the Government, including the repositioning of emergency relief items and the assessment of secure sites and locations that may receive asylum-seekers in the event of an influx. The Government will manage border reception areas and ensure full and unhindered access to the newly arrived population to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance by UN agencies and

international organizations in support of the national response. Moreover, IFIs, like WB and ADB have been also invited to join the preparedness and response mechanism to support mid- to long-term solutions for both refugees and host communities.

The Refugee Coordination Model includes a clear coordination structure covering different thematic areas and sectors of response. Depending on the context and capacity, other agencies are assuming chair and co-chair responsibilities under relevant sectors and sub-sectors in coordination with UNHCR. A Joint Preparedness and Response Action Plan, cascading down from current Response Plan, contemplates detailed description/checklist of activities to be carried out by each agency at the Border Crossing Points (BCPs) and potential refugee accommodation areas.

Uzbekistan

In Uzbekistan, RRP Partners' focus will be on monitoring and coordination with respective authorities to ensure protection space. In the event of new arrivals, RRP Partners will support the host Government with registration and human resources and engage local partners to provide protection services. In terms of management and coordination for the response, the host Government will: mobilize resources to respond; ensure unhindered access of displaced population and to newly arrived population into the territory of Uzbekistan for delivery of humanitarian assistance by UN agencies and international organizations; and manage security in border reception areas (including screening). Coordinated by UNHCR with support from the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office in Uzbekistan, UN agencies, international organizations, and NGO partners, the response will contribute directly to the relief efforts with provision of targeted humanitarian assistance as well as technical assistance related to coordination of various sectors within their respective areas of expertise and available capacities.

Turkmenistan

In support of relevant authorities and within the Inter-sector Coordination Group, UNHCR is leading the interagency preparedness and response efforts according to Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) and its mandate, in collaboration with UN agencies, international organizations, civil society and other humanitarian actors. The RCM includes a clear coordination structure covering different thematic areas and sectors of response. UN agencies are contributing directly to the relief efforts with provision of targeted assistance as well as technical assistance related to coordination of various sectors within their respective areas of expertise and available capacities. In the event of an influx, sector working groups could be activated in the areas of protection (including sub-working groups for GBV and child protection), education, health, food security, WASH, shelter, core-relief items, livelihoods and economic inclusion, and camp management, as required. Close collaboration and consultation will be maintained with relevant government counterparts, such as the State Commission for Emergency Situations and line ministries in the countries of asylum to support and ensure complementarity with the national response. Other participating agencies including UNFPA and UNICEF are ready to support coordination efforts in their respective areas of focus.

Planned Response Priorities for 2022

Tajikistan

Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of training and capacity-development for refugee reception and registration. • Screening at border crossing points (BCPs). • Family tracing and reunification. • Ensuring adherence to the principle of non-refoulement. • Undertake strategic advocacy in coordination with partners, on all issues related to safe and effective access to territory, relevant procedures, and solutions. • Provision of training and capacity building for identification of victims of human trafficking and smuggling. • Provision of refugee protection related capacity building to relevant authorities. • Support for registration of arrivals at reception centres and in refugee settlements and early identification and referral of persons with specific needs.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish provision and/or referrals of newly arrived population at the border, in transit sites or other sites as required, to emergency and other services. • Ensure protection intervention maintain AGD principles with enhanced focus on persons with specific needs including older persons. • Strengthen protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) through enhanced coordination with relevant sectors, sensitization, and capacity building.
GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure GBV response mechanisms, including community outreach and safe referral of GBV survivors and those at risk. • Coordination framework established and quality and specialized service providers identified and included in the GBV referral pathway. • Capacity building activities for service providers. • Distribution of dignity kits. • Creation of women and girl safe spaces. • Provide GBV outreach services through mobile health clinics.
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the capacity of child protection actors for the identification and referral of children at risk. • Ensure that children at heightened risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, access Best Interests Procedure/ case management services. • Ensure appropriate alternative family and community-based care for unaccompanied and separated children and activate family tracing mechanism. • Identify and address protection needs of children. • Prevention of family separation. • Strengthen access to birth registration. • Provide age and gender appropriate psycho-social support and recreation activities at all stages of displacement. • Strengthening capacities of the service providers, including child protection mainstreaming in other sectors and services. • Mapping existing child participation mechanisms. • Enhance families, caregivers, and community's role in protecting children through community-based child protection programming.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to inclusive and protective learning opportunities/settings (formal, and non-formal) for children and adolescents, including identifying and addressing risks and barriers for girls in accessing education. • Build Institutional capacity to deliver evidence-based, coordinated education refugee response.
Livelihoods and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote economic integration through support to local job creation and livelihoods through partnership with private sector and local civil society, including: vocational training and skills development (supporting renovation, construction and material for education and vocational institutions), awareness on business development and legal/regulatory framework for employment, safe and supportive apprenticeship programmes for youth and women, employment of refugees in local agriculture and agri-processing through partnership with local farmers associations, access to microfinance. • Assessment of employable skills, capacities for self/employment among refugees and the local labour demands among the host communities. • Maintain feedback mechanisms as part of livelihoods projects, including specific feedback sessions with women to identify and address risks and barriers. • Establishment of local productive facilities and livelihoods workshops, including microfinance products. Provision of equipment and infrastructure to support small business by refugees in the services sector. • Promote civic engagement and volunteer movements to support the most vulnerable refugee groups, including joint actions with host communities to promote income generation and local community development activities. • Institutional strengthening for local /host authorities, security/law enforcement and border authorities, through technical assistance, coordination, networking, and information sharing.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal awareness and social cohesion strengthening program to ensure safe and effective access of target population to formal employment support, state/public services, and integration in private sector. • CBI provided for livelihoods purposes.
Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of basic food packages. • Provision of hot meals at reception centres. • Ensure distribution modalities assess and mitigate GBV and other protection risks.
Health and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support safe access to and utilisation of comprehensive health services through national health systems and/or emergency health services as needed including reproductive health services and MHPSS. • Ensure availability of immunization services as per the national protocol, including against Poliomyelitis, measles and against COVID-19. • Ensure availability of nutrition services including assessments and screening on nutrition; screening of children on their nutrition status; provision of curative and preventive nutrition services, including Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition, IYCF in Emergency, micronutrient interventions and maternal nutrition interventions; nutrition messaging and community mobilization on nutrition and care practices of pregnant and lactating women and caregivers.
Logistics and Telecoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage and distribution of emergency supplies in partnership with key partners/suppliers. • Relocation modalities from reception areas close at BCPs to refugee accommodation areas inside the country.
Shelter and NFIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of non-food items (NFIs). • Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) for shelter/NFI purposes. • Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) - Multi Purpose. • Ensure physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities available. • Setting up tents/pre-fabs. • Ensure distribution modalities assess and mitigate GBV and other protection risks.
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector assessment including site assessments and separate consultation with women and girls, and boys and men, as well as persons with disabilities. • Water System Development (including water source development, abstraction, pumping, storage, treatment, and distribution). • Construction/installation of sanitation facilities including toilets, showers, cesspools, drainage, and solid waste facilities. • Communication for Development (Hygiene promotion and messaging). • WASH services in healthcare facilities and schools in host communities and/or camps. • Water Supply: Ensure safe and equitable access to a sufficient quantity of potable water per capita in line with standards, including GBV risk mitigation standards. • Sanitation: Improved access to safe and adequate sanitation. • Hygiene: Increased awareness and adapted behaviours on suitable hygiene practices in line with IPC protocols. • Waste Management: Safe management of solid and liquid waste is practiced.

Uzbekistan

Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic advocacy on safe and effective access to territory and prevention of refoulement. • Capacity building support for relevant authorities. • Registration of arrivals at reception centre and in refugee settlements and early identification and referrals of persons with specific needs.
GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) through enhanced coordination with sectors, sensitization, and capacity building. • Individual case management for GBV survivors and further support through multisectoral services. • GBV- assessments; referral systems and pathways; case management; trainings. • Mainstreaming of GBV and child protection risk mitigation in all sectors.

Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and support (including alternative care) to UASC and other children at risk through mobile outreach teams. • Operation of Child-/Youth Safe Spaces and community-based, age and gender appropriate mental health and psychosocial support activities to children and their caregivers, identification, and referral of children at heightened risk, provision of MHPSS. • Enhance national Best Interests Procedure, including SOPs and referral mechanisms, and strengthening capacities of frontline workers. • Enhance families, caregivers, and community's role in protecting children through community-based child protection programming.
Shelter and NFIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) – multipurpose (including vulnerable host population). • Allocation of self-standing family tents for reception at the border. • Distribution and monitoring of core-relief items to refugees. • Ensure distribution modalities assess and mitigate GBV and other protection risks
Health and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure safe access and utilization of comprehensive tri-level health services through support to health systems building blocks in curative health, reproductive health, mental health, and psychosocial support preferably through national health systems and services addressing risks, barriers and needs for women and girls. • Ensure access to immunization services as per the national guidelines including against measles, polio and COVID-19 • Support comprehensive nutrition programming including sectoral coordination, treatment of SAM and MAM, Infant and young child feeding, and nutrition screenings and assessments for children.
Livelihoods and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity development to service providers, local authorities, communities, including on GBV risk mitigation. • Livelihoods activities and employment programmes, including host communities. • Peaceful coexistence infrastructure projects for refugees and host communities. • Support to businesses, cash-for-work and other cash-related programmes. • Expand local economic development approaches to enhance livelihoods, skills building in line with labour market gaps, employment facilitation, support entrepreneurship and SME development, improve access to finance, including for youth and women.
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activation of WASH sector and establishment of coordination with other sectors (Health and Nutrition). • In consultation with communities, including women and girls, installation/renovation of safe water points. • Establish decent and safe toilet facilities for women, men, and children at shelters. • Provision of safe water, sanitation and handwashing facilities at health care facilities, education institutions and child friendly spaces. • Dissemination of life-saving hygiene messages including menstrual hygiene management. Provision of hygiene and dignity kits for affected population. • Ensure waste management system is functioning.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in Inter-agency coordination for rapid assessment and development of a road map. • Support government in procuring appropriate education/learning related materials. • Supply of education materials to children and adolescents in need. • Recruit and train learning facilitators in appropriate teaching practices, including on GBV risk mitigation and child protection. Organize safe temporary learning spaces for children. • Build capacity for school management committees. • Awareness raising and back to school campaigns, including on safe access to education for girls.
Logistics and Telecoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage/distribution of emergency supplies in partnership with NRCS and other key partners/suppliers. • Support the logistics hub in Termez for pre-positioning and rapid delivery of in-kind assistance to Afghanistan, opening an alternative route of aid.

Turkmenistan

Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic advocacy on safe and effective access to territory and prevention of refoulement. • Refugee protection related capacity building to relevant authorities. • Registration of arrivals at reception centre and in refugee settlements and early identification and referral of persons with specific needs. • Referrals of newly arrived population to emergency and other services.
GBV Sub-Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management for GBV survivors and further multisectoral support. • Prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) through sensitization and capacity building as well as confidential and safe reporting channels to be in place. • Strengthening of key protection mechanisms for GBV prevention and response. • GBV risk mitigation mainstreaming and capacity building on referral pathways for GBV, SRH services, in line with SOPs. • Case management and MISP trainings in coordination with key stakeholders. • Host Community Support initiatives, including support for inclusion of refugees in GBV specialised services. • Ensuring communication on GBV issues and services. • Social services support for victims of domestic violence with support of CSOs.
Child Protection Sub-Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance identification and support, including alternative care, to UASC and children at risk through mobile outreach teams and case management/ Best Interests Procedure. • Operation of Child/Youth Safe Spaces and community-based, age and gender appropriate mental health and psychosocial support activities to children and their caregivers, and identification and referral of cases of children at risk. • Ensure clear procedures (case management, Best Interests Procedure and practices; referral; family tracing and reunification, alternative care arrangements, etc.;). • Strengthen the capacities of local authorities, partners and frontline workers in child protection and protection standards. • Enhance families, caregivers, and community's role in protecting children through community-based child protection programming. • Mainstream child protection into other sectors and areas of assistance to ensure that their activities prevent and respond to child protection risks.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support gender responsive and safe education for refugee children, focusing on vulnerable children. • Provide education teaching and learning materials essential to support temporary learning spaces/facilities, and trainings for teaching staff, including on GBV risk mitigation and child protection. • Adapt key materials to local languages. • Capacity building of MoE, MoH, NRCS and other partners on MHPSS.
Livelihoods and Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful coexistence infrastructure projects for refugees and host communities. • Capacity development to service providers, local authorities, communities, including on GBV risk mitigation in the workplace. • Income generation activities, employment, and entrepreneurship programmes, incl. host communities and with specific consideration of the risks, barriers, and opportunities for women. • Support to businesses, cash-for-work and other cash-related programmes.
Health and Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure safe access and utilization to comprehensive health services including reproductive health by supporting health systems (capacity building, medical supplies and equipment, laboratory support, surveillance and targeted infrastructure improvements, and infection prevention and control, etc.) and health promotion. • Provision of life-saving nutrition supplies and promotion of interventions to refugee children, including treatment and management of SAM/MAM; Infant and young child feeding programs and nutrition assessments. • Ensure access for children to routine immunization (polio, measles, etc.) through national health systems and COVID-19 vaccination. • Ensure access to MHPSS.

Shelter and NFIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash Based Interventions (CBI). • Ensure that 100% of people have access to adequate and safe shelter, as defined in consultation with communities, and women and girls. • Allocation of self-standing family tents, where required. • Distribution and monitoring of core-relief items to refugees. • Ensure distribution modalities assess and mitigate GBV and other protection risks.
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building of NRCS, national and local government authorities on WASH in emergency settings (technical assistance on WASH), including on GBV risk mitigation and safe disclosure and referral. • Procurement/prepositioning of essential items to support WASH in emergency, including water tanks, hygiene and dignity kits and sanitation and handwashing supplies (superstructure kit for latrine slabs, including complementary materials). • Development and production of WASH leaflets and communication materials on life-saving health and hygiene promotion, and other key messages such as GBV risk mitigation.

2022 Financial Requirements Summary

By Organization & Sector

Tajikistan

Organization	Education	Food security	Health and Nutrition	Livelihoods and Resilience	Logistics and Telecoms	Protection (incl. GBV and CP)*	Shelter and NFIs	WASH	Total
AKAH							39,000		39,000
IOM			1,413,256	1,497,508	543,560	491,922	815,340	495,999	5,257,585
UNDP				3,000,000					3,000,000
UNFPA			114,000			38,500			152,500
UNHCR	484,423		583,641	738,307	116,728	2,229,511	5,830,579		9,983,189
UNICEF	1,593,122		779,595			500,000		10,036,668	12,909,385
UNODC	500,000		100,000			300,000			900,000
WFP		7,605,827	250,000						7,855,827
WHO			360,000				39,000		360,000
Total	2,577,545	7,605,827	3,600,492	5,235,815	660,288	3,559,933	6,684,919	10,532,667	40,457,486

*Breakdown of Protection requirements

Organization	Protection	Child Protection	GBV	Total Protection (incl. GBV and CP)
IOM	491,922			491,922
UNFPA			38,500	38,500
UNHCR	2,214,511		15,000	2,229,511
UNICEF		500,000		500,000
UNODC	300,000			300,000
IOM	491,922			491,922
Total	3,006,433	500,000	53,500	3,559,933

Uzbekistan

Organization	Education	Food security	Health and Nutrition	Livelihoods and Resilience	Logistics and Telecoms	Protection (incl. GBV and CP)*	Shelter and NFIs	WASH	Total
UNDP				900,000					900,000
UNFPA			144,450			123,050			267,500
UNHCR						663,643	3,015,320		3,832,883
UNICEF	600,000		1,000,000	153,920	530,653	2,500,000		1,000,000	5,630,653
Total	600,000		1,144,450		530,653	3,286,693	3,015,320	1,000,000	10,631,036

*Breakdown of Protection requirements

Organization	Protection	Child Protection	GBV	Total Protection (incl. GBV and CP)
UNFPA			123,050	123,050
UNHCR	663,643			663,643
UNICEF		2,500,000		2,500,000
Total	663,643	2,500,000	123,050	3,286,693

Turkmenistan

Organization	Education	Food security	Health and Nutrition	Livelihoods and Resilience	Logistics and Telecoms	Protection (incl. GBV and CP)*	Shelter and NFIs	WASH	Total
UNFPA						481,000			481,000
UNHCR				54,329		443,018	1,401,588		1,898,935
UNICEF	130,000		320,000			100,000		220,000	770,000
Total	130,000		320,000	54,329		1,024,018	1,401,588	220,000	3,149,935

*Breakdown of Protection requirements

Organization	Protection	Child Protection	GBV	Total Protection (incl. GBV and CP)
UNFPA			481,000	481,000
UNHCR	443,018			443,018
UNICEF		100,000		100,000
Total	443,018	100,000	481,000	1,024,018

ANNEX I: Regional Response Sector Target Summary (targets aggregated regionally)

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This plan has been designed in a manner that allows it to evolve with the changing circumstances on the ground. Monitoring and evaluation remain key components to ensure that key outcomes are met and where necessary corrective action is taken to ensure outcomes and impacts are achieved. Accordingly, outcome indicators were selected to measure progress towards the RRP's strategic objectives and establish key performance targets. It will also develop output level indicators.

The sector working groups will also outline a monitoring framework which will among other things delineate what information is needed to gauge performance, impact, and overall success of the response plan. Importantly, the framework will be designed to ensure that vulnerable persons and women are not being put at greater risk by the implementation of this response plan. It will also establish coordinated and common reporting tools, determine methods of obtaining indicators, assign responsibility for information gathering, determine timeframe and frequency of data collection and importantly establish clear mechanisms for knowledge and information sharing.

In order to maintain the AAP, feedback mechanisms will be established, allowing affected/target populations and RRP Partners to regularly communicate. This is aimed at ensuring that the needs and concerns of affected populations guide the response.



PROTECTION

230,200	# of new arrivals (since 1 Jan 2021) able to access asylum procedures
49,261	# of individual who received CBI for protection related purposes



EDUCATION

2022 Target	Indicator
401	# of educational facilities constructed or improved
51,901	# of individual who received CBI for educational purposes



FOOD SECURITY

2022 Target	Indicator
212,000	# of population group receiving food assistance
Yes	Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) conducted during the reporting year and written report done (Yes or No)
181,053	# of individual who received CBI for food security purposes



WASH

2022 Target	Indicator
622,110	# of persons receiving hygienic supplies
263,410	# of individual who received CBI for WASH purposes



HEALTH & NUTRITION

2022 Target	Indicator
262	# of health facilities constructed/supported
56,746	# of individual who received CBI for health and nutrition purposes



SHELTER & NFIs

2022 Target	Indicator
131,803	# of individual receiving Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance
73,900	# of individual who received CBI for shelter/NFI purposes
231,100	# of individuals receiving in-kind assistance



LIVELIHOODS & RESILIENCE

2022 Target	Indicator
786,996	# of population group included in livelihoods projects/programmes
37,142	# of individual who received CBI for livelihoods purposes

