



FACTSHEET PAKISTAN JANUARY 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

381,275

Afghan refugees (PoR cardholders) repatriated to Afghanistan between 1 January and 31 December 2016

22,141

Births registered between 1 January till 31 January 2017

128

Individuals departed for resettlement to a third country from Pakistan between 1 January till 31 January 2017

4,238

IDP families returned to their areas of origin between 1 January till 31 January 2017

** 25,428 individuals using the multiplier 6 as the average family size*

Population of concern

A total of **1.99 million** persons of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total persons of concern
Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders	1,369,508
Afghan refugees without PoR cards	4,583
Somalia (Refugees)	217
Others (Refugees)	191
Asylum seekers	4,758
Total IDPs off-camp	448,956

**As of 31 January 2017 – source of NWA and Khyber IDPs population is FDMA while figures on IDP families are verified by NADRA*

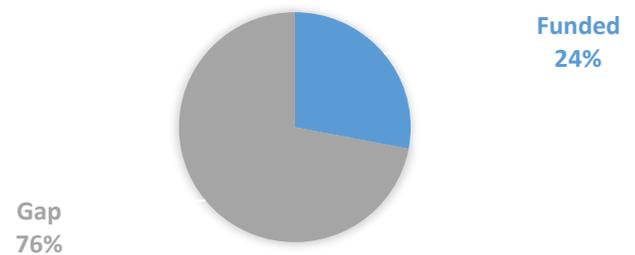
UNHCR Presence

Offices	International Staff	National Staff	Affiliate Staff	Total Staff
BOI Islamabad	23	72	17	112
Sub-Office Peshawar	8	68	21	97
Sub-Office Quetta	6	48	3	57
Total	37	188	41	266

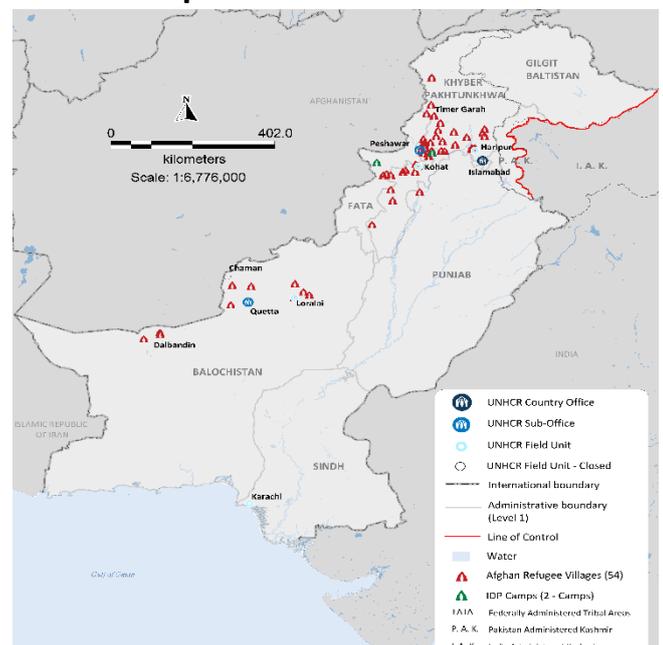
Offices located in: Islamabad, Peshawar, Quetta

Funding

USD 127 million requested



UNHCR Map



MAIN UPDATES

Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

- The regional multi-year **Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR, phase II 2015-2017)** provides a framework for cooperation between humanitarian and development actors to address the needs of Afghan refugees. The main goal of the SSAR is to identify and implement lasting solutions for refugees, while providing assistance to host communities. The cross-cutting thematic priority of SSAR is promoting youth empowerment through inter-linked interventions in the areas of education, vocational skills training and livelihoods.
- UNHCR supported the organisation of a joint World Bank-UNHCR assessment mission to Pakistan which took place on 31 January – 4 February 2016 to explore opportunities for potential future engagement of the World Bank in addressing the protracted Afghan refugee situation. The delegation met a number of key government officials at both federal and provincial levels; as well as the heads of UN agencies, national and international NGOs, donors and other stakeholders. The delegation undertook a one-day field trip to several refugee villages and urban locations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, held meetings with refugees and visited RAHA project sites, focusing on youth empowerment and education.

Durable Solutions and Protection

- **Voluntary Repatriation:** UNHCR operates three Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) in Pakistan for refugees wishing to repatriate to Afghanistan. Two of these VRCs are located in Peshawar while the third VRC is located in Quetta. In September 2016, a second VRC opened in Peshawar to respond to the increasing number of refugees wishing to return to Afghanistan from KP. Families who want to repatriate are de-registered at the VRC, and their Proof of Registration (PoR) card (an identity card for Afghan refugees that grants temporary legal stay in Pakistan and protection against *refoulement*) is cut in the corner. Returnees receive a cash grant once they have reached one of three UNHCR encashment centres in Afghanistan.
- On 23 January, the MoU between UNHCR and UNICEF was signed on the joint UNHCR-UNICEF U-Report project – a platform for youth empowerment and outreach through free SMS technology. On 24 January, the second round of national consultations on Afghan refugees was organised by Cursor of Development and Education Pakistan (CODE) NGO with support from UNHCR and SAFRON, with the aim of developing a strategy for the voluntary repatriation and management of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The consultation event resulted in converging 18 practical recommendations on six themes, such as legal and institutional mechanisms to manage Afghan refugees, economic growth potential for Afghan refugees, political response. The Government of Pakistan representatives, NGOs, academia and UN agencies also discussed mini-action plans for their recommendations. Between 26-31 January, UNHCR protection team were on a cross-border mission to Kabul and Khost. The objective of the mission is to familiarise with the situation in Khost in the context of the increased returns to Pakistan organised by FATA and elders as well as to discuss the preparations for the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees in 2017, returnee monitoring, data collection, and new education initiatives for returnees, protection challenges and the way forward.
- **Legal Assistance:** In order to maintain the protection of refugees, UNHCR operates 10 Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) which provide legal assistance to refugees and conduct awareness-raising activities. In January 2017, 3,969 persons of concern have been assisted by ALACs. ALAC intervened on the behalf of 160 refugees at police stations upon arrest, securing the release of all, and provided court representations to 54 for those charged under the 1946 Foreigners Act and other laws. In January individual legal counseling was provided to 776 persons of concern who visited ALAC offices as well as 839 who sought legal advice through the ALAC helplines. 72 legal camps helped reached 1,926 participants during the month. The issues of greatest concern for persons of concern seeking legal advice/assistance were regarding their PoR card, shelter, financial, medical shelter issues and police harassment.
- UNHCR provides continues to support five **Proof of Registration (PCM centres)**, that are operated by NADRA nationwide. The PCM centres support the modification/replacement of existing cards, the registration of new born children up to age five, provision of PoR cards to registered children who have reached five years of age and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18. A total of 22,141 children have been registered and 13,705 children have received birth certificates in January. In addition, up to 3 mobile registration vans (MRVs) operate in KP and Baluchistan to facilitate refugee registrations.

Education

- UNHCR Pakistan continues to provide students access to free primary education through 170 schools, 48 satellites classes, 44 home-based girls schools and 13 early childhood education centres in refugee villages. Around 54,000 refugee children living in 54 refugee villages across Pakistan receive education through these interventions. The number of children attending schools in refugee villages has decreased over the last four months due to the increased rate of repatriation of Afghan refugees from July 2016 onwards. Pakistan is a pilot country for the roll-out of UNHCR's Global Education Strategy (2012-2016) and has developed a country-level education strategy that focuses on increasing access to and improving the quality of primary education, especially for girls. The

strategy also emphasises the provision of safe learning environments, improved teacher training and the provision non-formal education and vocational training opportunities for Afghan refugees.

- Youth empowerment through education and skills training remains UNHCR's major priority in 2017. Up to 70 per cent of registered Afghan refugees live outside of refugee camps and have access to Pakistan's national education system. Critical investment is needed to support these national systems, particularly the delivery of quality education through public schools. In January 2017 an Access to Education survey in I-12 settlement, Islamabad. The survey targeted the Afghans in this area to assess the access of children to education, where the estimated population of Afghans (on Capital Development Authority temporary allocated land) is 3,500 – 5,000 individuals (500-700 families). The purpose of this survey is to help UNHCR and its partners to assess the access to education situation in the I-12 settlement and to identify the need and type of interventions required in the education sector to allow Afghan children access to education in their locality.

Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

- Since 2009, Pakistan has been implementing the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative. RAHA is a government-led programme that also serves as a cornerstone for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and a principal burden-sharing platform for maintaining temporary protection space for Afghan refugees. Since the launch of the programme in 2009, nearly **4,185 RAHA projects** have been implemented across all provinces of Pakistan and five agencies in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). RAHA implements a wide variety of projects in the education, health, livelihood, infrastructure, water & sanitation and social protection sectors. It has benefitted over **10.94 million people**, including both Afghan refugees and their host communities.
- In 2016, nearly **430,000 people** (of whom **26 per cent** are registered Afghan refugees) benefitted from **51 RAHA projects**. In 2017, RAHA will focus on youth empowerment through education, skills training and livelihood support in line with the countrywide strategic priorities of UNHCR. In 2017 RAHA is also embarking on a countrywide Skills Development Project that will target 60 per cent Afghan refugees who are planning to repatriate during the course of the year and 40 per cent Pakistani youth from host community areas.
- UNHCR handed over four community projects to Sindh government on 27 January 2017 in Karachi as part of efforts to bridge gaps between Pakistani and Afghan refugee communities. In 2016 in Karachi, under the refugee-affected hosting area (RAHA) programme, two schools were renovated, one sewage pipeline installed and a shelter home for vulnerable families was upgraded. UNHCR has completed 17 projects – eight in education; two in health; four in the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene; one in the social protection sector; and two in infrastructure from 2012 to 2016 in Sindh province. The approximate cost of these projects is USD \$1.8 million.

Health

- UNHCR continues to support provision of basic health services in 54 refugee villages in KP, Balochistan and Punjab provinces. In the month of December, a total of **36,983 refugee patients** suffering from respiratory tract infections, diarrheal disease, skin infections and other common diseases received treatment from these health facilities. Refugee women and children enrolled in preventive and reproductive health care programmes received antenatal, perinatal, postnatal care and routine immunisation services. In the reporting period, **1,754 women** also received delivery care, with 80 per cent deliveries conducted by a trained birth attendant while up to **2,087 children** received routine immunisation. Polio eradication campaigns were conducted in the refugee villages by WHO, UNICEF and the Health Department, with assistance from UNHCR's partners.
- In Balochistan UNHCR continues to provide health care services through maternal child health centres and mobile teams in ten refugee villages. The services include curative consultation through mobile units, maternal and child healthcare services, immunisation services and community health services as well as patient referrals. Around 197,092 benefitted from the 13 health facilities in ten refugee villages during the reporting period. In January, a total of 4,492 consultations were carried out. Out of the total consultations, 43 per cent (1,925) comprised of respiratory tract infections, 9 per cent (352) of diarrheal disease and 4 per cent (173) of skin infections. A total of 372 women had successful deliveries with four or more antenatal visits while postnatal care was provided to 360 women within three days of their delivery. A total number of 218 (47 per cent) births were conducted out of which 29 patients (4 obstetric cases) were referred through UNHCR ambulances to tertiary hospitals in Quetta. Total number of fully immunised children was 603 (77 per cent). Apart from routine immunisation, polio campaigns were also conducted in all the refugee villages by WHO, Department of Health and UNICEF HIV prevention services continued in Quetta. Eight (PoR card holders) clients received detoxification services and 5 of them completed livelihood skills training. 6,128 syringes were distributed among injecting drug users. 120 blood samples were screened and two of them were found positive for HIV. 23 (existing and new) HIV positive cases were followed up for family counselling and HIV treatment.

- UNHCR in Peshawar continues to provide health care services through its basic health units in 41 refugee villages. The services include curative consultation through mobile units, Maternal and child healthcare services, Immunisation services and community health services with referral of patients to the basic health units and also to higher level of hospitals in public sector. The catchment population of around 618,668 is benefited from the 41 health facilities in the refugee villages. All the health facilities with partner Frontier Primary Healthcare have been converted to maternal child healthcare centres, with referral mechanisms established for referral of curative cases. In January a total number of 10,317 consultations were carried out. Out of the total consultations 45 percent (1,682) comprised of respiratory tract infections, 11 percent (1,184) diarrheal disease and six percent (668) of skin infections were reported. A total of 1,513 women delivered with four or more antenatal visits and postnatal care within six weeks of delivery was provided to a total of 1,507 women. A total number of 1,239 (77 percent) births were conducted by skilled personnel. Total number of fully immunised children was 1,442, apart from routine immunisation polio campaigns were conducted in all refugee villages by WHO, Department of Health and UNICEF.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

- As of 31st January, 2017, some 70,588 IDP families (423,528 individuals) were registered as internally displaced persons in host communities in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). As part of the inter-agency response, UNHCR continues to lead the Protection, CCCM and Emergency Shelter/NFIs clusters. In addition, UNHCR continues to support displaced persons and returnees through mobile protection teams and grievances desks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Since 1st January 2017, 58 grievances have been recorded and 47 percent of these grievance cases have been resolved.
- Since 1st January 2017, 25,428 individuals have returned to de-notified areas. A cash grant of PKR 35,000 (USD 350) will be distributed to returnees at the return embarkation points by the Government of Pakistan. Return intention surveys have been conducted, along with inter-cluster assessment missions when access was granted by local authorities. UNHCR has supported the return of IDPs. Since 1st January 2017 a total of 4,238 families returned and were provided Voluntary Return Forms (VRFs). Protection monitoring activities in displacement and return areas have also been conducted.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS & DONORS

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