



HIGHLIGHTS

<p>32,430 Afghan refugees (PoR cardholders) repatriated to Afghanistan between 3 April (repatriation resumed) and 31 May 2017</p>	<p>87,243 Births registered between 1 January and 31 May 2017</p>	<p>4,785 Initial Screening Forms (ISF) were submitted between 1 January and 31 May 2017</p> <p><i>962 families comprising of 4,785 individuals.</i></p>	<p>616 POCs registered in proGRES between 1 January and 31 May 2017</p> <p><i>238 families comprising of 616 individuals. Backlog of 24 families with 70 individuals also physically interviewed.</i></p>	<p>29,187 IDP families returned to their areas of origin between 1 January and 31 May 2017</p> <p><i>175,122 individuals using the multiplier 6 as the average family size.</i></p>
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Population of concern

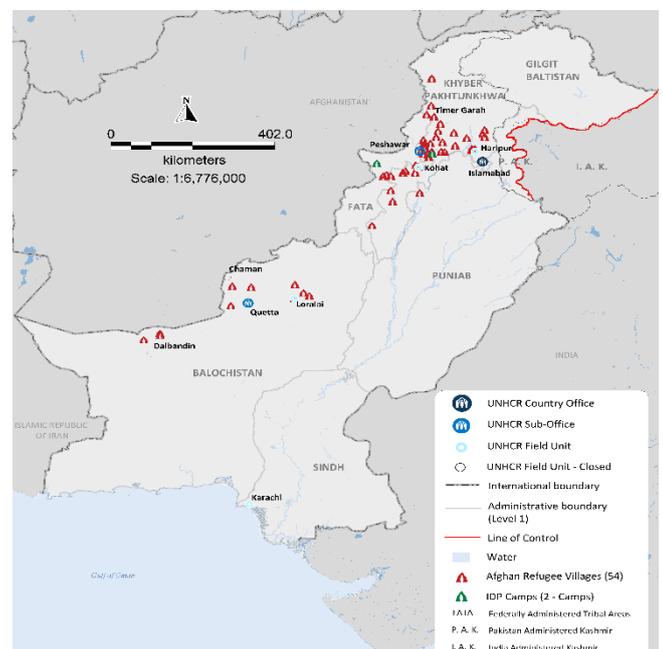
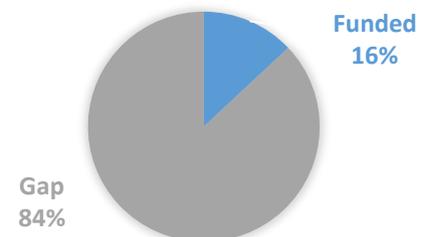
A total of **1.70 million** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total persons of concern
Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders	1,415,407
Afghan refugees without PoR cards	4,418
Somalia (refugees)	226
Others (refugees) Asylum seekers	201 3,869
*Total out-of-camp IDPs	276,990

Funding

USD 127 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Offices	International staff	National staff	Affiliate staff	Total staff
Islamabad	23	73	15	111
Peshawar	7	69	12	88
Quetta	6	47	4	57
Total	36	189	31	256

**As of 31 May 2017 – source of North Waziristan Agency and Khyber IDPs population is Federal Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) while figures on IDP families are verified by National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA)*

MAIN UPDATES

Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

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

Durable Solutions and Protection

- **Voluntary Repatriation:** UNHCR operates two Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) in Quetta and Peshawar for refugees wishing to repatriate to Afghanistan. Families who want to repatriate are de-registered at the VRC, and their Proof of Registration (PoR) card (an identity card for Afghan refugees that grants temporary legal stay in Pakistan and protection against *refoulement*) is cut in the corner. Returnees receive a cash grant of approximately USD 200 per individual upon arrival at one of the three UNHCR encashment centres in Afghanistan. Repatriation was paused for the winter break and resumed on 3 April 2017.
- **Legal Assistance:** To maintain the protection of refugees, UNHCR operates 10 Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) which provide legal assistance to refugees and conduct awareness-raising activities. In the month of May, 4,483 persons of concern have been assisted by ALACs. UNHCR intervened at police stations for 97 arrested/detained persons of concern and secured the release of 124 individuals. Out of all released, some were detained in the previous month. In the majority of all cases, UNHCR and its partners managed to obtain the release of the arrested refugees before the official lodging of charges against them which resulted in their release from detention within 24 hours. There were also 37 registered refugees (Proof of Registration cardholders) who were arrested and released without any charges in Balochistan, which brings the total number of those arrested in May to 119. ALAC lawyers also provided court representations for 22 refugees who were charged under the Foreigners Act and other preventive laws.
- UNHCR provides support to five Proof of Registration (PCM) centres operated by National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) nationwide. The PCM centres support the modification/replacement of existing PoR cards, the registration of new born children up to the age of five, provision of PoR cards to registered children older than five years of age and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18. A total of 87,243 children were registered and 43,745 children received birth certificates between January and May. In addition, up to three mobile registration vans (MRVs) operate in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan to deliver registration services in the field.

Education

- UNHCR continues to ensure access to free primary education through 170 schools, 48 satellites classes, 44 home-based girls schools and 13 early childhood education centres in 52 refugee villages, as well as secondary education in one refugee village in Balochistan; benefitting some 56,000 refugee children. Pakistan's country-level education strategy (2016-18) focuses on increasing access to, and improving the quality of, primary education, especially for girls. The strategy also emphasises safe learning environments, improved teacher training, non-formal education and vocational training opportunities for Afghan refugees.
- A second phase of the school mapping exercise of 945 education facilities was carried out by UNHCR Pakistan in 15 districts of three provinces in April and May 2017. The mapping exercise focused on mapping the schools in areas where there is a high density of Afghan refugees living in urban areas. The objectives of the exercise were to collate disaggregated information about the number, type and level of education institutions outside of refugee villages, map the enrolment of Afghan children in education institutions in and outside of refugee villages; and collect information on the most critical needs in mapped schools (lack of infrastructure and equipment) with a view to design potential future interventions aimed at enhancing access of Pakistani and Afghan children to public schools.

Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

- Since 2009, the Government of Pakistan has been implementing the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative, which serves as a cornerstone for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and a principal burden-sharing platform for maintaining temporary protection space for Afghan refugees. RAHA implements a wide variety of projects across the sectors of education, health, livelihood, infrastructure, water and sanitation and social protection. Since the launch of the programme, over 4,100 projects have been implemented across all provinces of Pakistan and five agencies in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), benefitting over 10.94 million people. In 2016 nearly 430,000 people (of whom 26 percent are registered Afghan refugees and 74 per cent are their Pakistani host communities) benefitted from 51 RAHA projects.
- In 2017 RAHA focuses on youth empowerment through education, skills training and livelihood support in line with the countrywide strategic priorities of UNHCR. At present there are 24 projects under RAHA in three provinces - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Punjab. All three offices are lining up further projects approved by the provincial task force as well as the Ministry of SAFRON should

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funding be forthcoming. The skills development project that started in January came to a conclusion in April 2017. 755 youth from both the Afghan refugee and host communities benefitted from the project that provided training in eight trades for both men and women. Discussions are ongoing now for a further phase of the Skills Development Project (SDP) taking into consideration the lessons learned.

Health

UNHCR continues to support the provision of basic health services in 52 refugee villages in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Punjab provinces. During the month of May, a total of 13,477 patients received treatment in these health facilities. Refugee women and children enrolled in preventive and reproductive health care programmes received antenatal, perinatal, postnatal care and routine immunisation services. In the reporting period, 1,640 women received antenatal care, 1,332 deliveries were conducted by a trained birth attendant and 8,755 children received routine immunisation. Polio eradication campaigns were conducted in the refugee villages by WHO, UNICEF and the health department, with the assistance from UNHCR's partners. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the district health officers agreed to provide Injunctive Polio Vaccine (IPV) for inclusion into routine immunisation in all the refugee villages.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

- As of 31 May 2017 some 46,165 IDP families (276,990 individuals) were registered as internally displaced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). UNHCR continues to lead the protection, CCCM and emergency shelter/NFIs clusters, as part of the inter-agency response. In addition, UNHCR continues to support displaced persons and returnees through mobile protection teams and grievances desks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Since 1 January 2017, 343 grievances have been recorded and 83 per cent of these cases have been resolved.
- Since 1 January 175,122 individuals have returned to de-notified areas (areas declared safe for returns after military operations). A cash grant of PKR 35,000 (USD 350) is distributed to returnees at the return embarkation points by the Government of Pakistan. UNHCR has supported the return of IDPs mostly through protection monitoring, with some targeted assistance to very vulnerable individuals. Protection monitoring activities in displacement and return areas have also been conducted.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS & DONORS

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