

Voluntary Repatriation of Afghan Refugees

South West Asia - Quarterly Update October - December 2019

RETURNS PROCESSED AT ENCASHMENT CENTERS IN AFGHANISTAN

2,026
Returns from
Oct-Dec 2019

397

from Iran

1,617 from Pakistan

from other countries

8,079
Returns in 2019

1,939

from Iran

6,062

from Pakistan

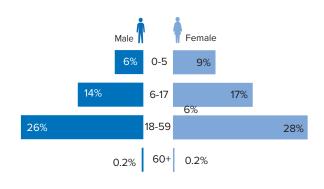
78

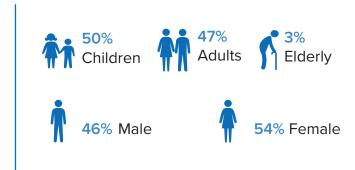
from other countries

Since 2002, more than 5.2 million Afghan refugees have returned to Afghanistan through UNHCR's facilitated voluntary repatriation programme. Returnees who avail of the voluntary repatriation programme are eligable for cash assistance at encashment centers in Afghanistan. In 2019 to date, of the 6,220 persons processed for voluntary reptriation in Pakistan 158 were identified as recycled cases - persons who previously received the cash grant and as such did not qualify for cash assistance a second time. In Iran, 13 of the 1,952 persons processed did not present themselves at the encashement centers to collect the grant.

During quarter 4 (October to December) there was a 32% decrease in returns compared with the previous reporting period. More than 2.14 million registered Afghan refugees continue to be hosted by the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan (951,000 and 1.4 million respectively).

RETURNEE DEMOGRAPHICS

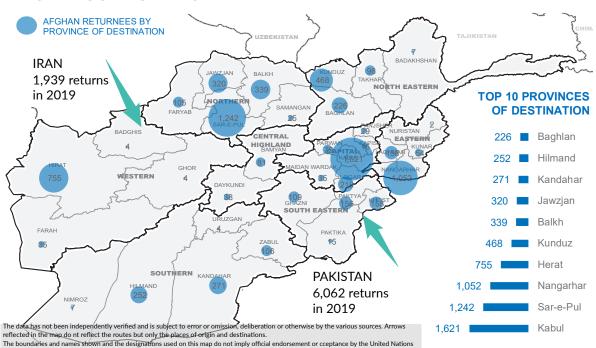




TOP 10 PROVINCE OF DESTINATION (Figures reflect returns processed at encashment centers in Afghanistan)

PROVINCES OF DESTINATION

01 January - 30 December 2019



ASSISTANCE AT ENCASHMENT CENTERS (ECs) IN AFGHANISTAN

In addition to cash grants, a range of inter-agency services are provided for returning refugees, including basic health and malnutrition screening and vaccination, mine risk awareness, information on school enrolment, and overnight accommodation, if needed.



USD 0.42M

was provided in cash assistance to returnees at ECs in Q4 out of a total of **1.68M** in 2019



107

Returnee head of households were interviewed at ECs to assess protection concerns in Q4

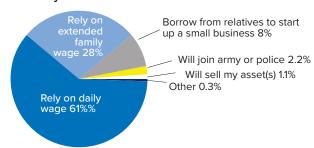
REASONS AND INTENTIONS RELATED TO RETURN

Source: Encashment center monitoring data Timeframe: Year to date in 2019

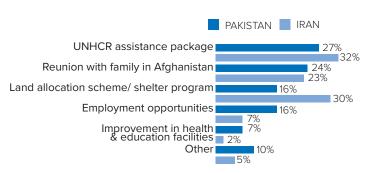
Reasons for leaving Pakistan and Iran



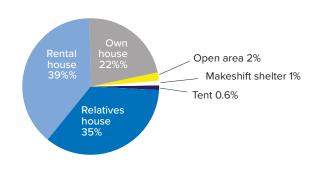
After you spend your cash grant, how will you support your family?



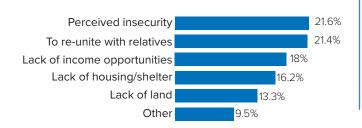
Reasons for return to Afghanistan (pull factors)



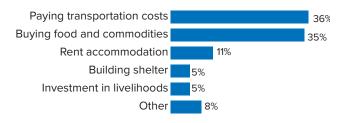
What will be your living arrangements after return?



Reasons for not returning to Province of Origin



Upon return, how do you plan to spend the cash grant?



REGISTERED VOLUNTARY REPARTIARTION (2018 and 2019)

