

Islamic Republic of Pakistan

*31 October 2018

***13,399** Afghan registered refugees (PoR cardholders) repatriated to Afghanistan from 1 March – 31 October 2018.

22,364 Afghan refugee births registered from 1 January – 31 October 2018.

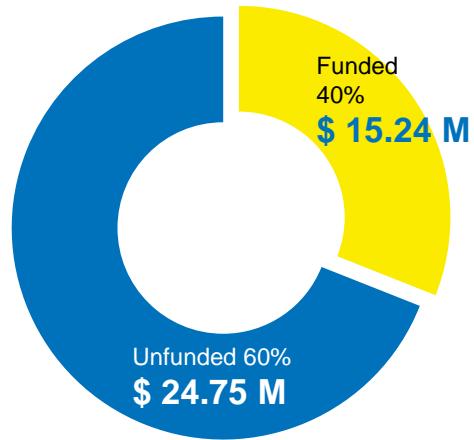
83,328 IDP individuals (13,888 families) returned to their areas of origin in Pakistan since 1 January 2018.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Country of origin	Total persons of concern
Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders	1,398,471
Afghan mandated refugees without PoR cards	3,318
Somalia (refugees)	183
Others (refugees)	309
Asylum seekers	4,850
Total out-of-camp IDPs	95,040

FUNDING

USD 39.99 million



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

161 national staff.
36 international staff.

Offices:

One country office in Islamabad.
Two sub-offices in Peshawar and Quetta.



* Figures are updated as of 31 October. Please refer to data portal and UNHCR Pakistan website for latest updates.

Working with Partners

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

Main Activities

Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (2018 – 2019)

- The regional multi-year Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) provides a framework for cooperation between humanitarian and development actors to address the needs of Afghan refugees. The main goal of the SSAR is to identify and implement lasting solutions for refugees, while providing assistance to host communities. The SSAR prioritises the promotion of youth empowerment through inter-linked interventions in the areas of education, vocational skills training and livelihoods. The Government of Pakistan endorsed the extension of the SSAR framework for 2018-19.

Protection and Durable Solutions

- Voluntary Repatriation: UNHCR operates two voluntary repatriation centres (VRCs) in Quetta, Balochistan and Nowshera, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for refugees wishing to repatriate to Afghanistan. Families who want to repatriate are de-registered at the VRC. Returnees receive a cash grant of approximately USD 200 per individual upon arrival at one of the three UNHCR encashment centres in Afghanistan.
- **Legal Assistance:** Nine Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) are operational in the main refugee-hosting areas in all four provinces and provide free legal support to persons of concern: four in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, one in Sindh and three in Punjab and Islamabad Capital Territory through partnership agreements with the Society for Human Rights and Prisoners' Aid (SHARP) and one in Balochistan run by the Society for Empowering Human Rights (SEHER).
- Birth registration, police harassment, information on repatriation, PoR card modifications and the registration exercise of undocumented Afghans were the issues of concern observed during October. Out-of-court legal assistance was provided to 116

In October:

3,806 people received legal assistance

72 people arrested/detained and then released

33 people receive court representation

660 provided individual legal counselling

1,075 people assisted through ALAC helplines.

162 police officers trained on international protection

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

- UNHCR and ALAC staff organised a total of 100 legal and shura meetings, reaching 1,825 participants (41 per cent of whom were women) in the reporting period. Seventy-three per cent of the legal sessions were held in refugee villages and the remaining sessions in urban areas of Pakistan. Through these legal sessions, refugees shared various issues affecting their communities. UNHCR partner staff informed refugees of the available free legal aid and UNHCR's helpline services.
- UNHCR provides support to four Proof of Registration Cards Modification (PCM) centres operated by the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) nationwide. The PCM centres support the modification/replacement of existing PoR cards, the registration of new born children up to the age of five, provision of PoR cards to registered children older than five years of age and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18. A total of 22,364 children were registered and 15,429 children received birth certificates between 1 January to 31 October 2018.

Community-based protection

- The Community-Based Protection and Urban Outreach Strategy (2017-2019) for refugees in Pakistan was endorsed in July 2017. The overall goal of the strategy is for refugees living in Pakistan to be empowered and their resilient capacity strengthened, enabling them to minimise their exposure to protection risks and improve their overall protection environment, with a special focus on the most vulnerable.
- UNHCR's community-based protection partner in Balochistan province organised sessions with 23 religious leaders to discuss concerns of child protection and sexual and gender-based violence in the community and how they can be involved to reduce harmful practices. The leaders agreed to advocate for behavioural changes when interacting within their community and Friday prayer speeches.
- The community of Gandaf refugee village in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province recently established a labour room and pharmacy utilising community funds. To sustain the health services, refugees provide contributions based on an agreed upon fee structure.
- Females outreach volunteers in Hazara town in Quetta, Balochistan initiated a skills training centre for women to learn sewing and tailoring. Nine machines were donated by outreach volunteers for use by the participants of a three-month training course.
- An outreach volunteer in Saranan refugee village in Quetta, Balochistan province, has started free English language classes for refugee children in the community. Currently 15 students are enrolled.



Safia, an Afghan refugee maths teacher in a primary school in Khazana refugee village in Peshawar © UNHCR Pakistan.

Education

UNHCR supports:

153 schools

48 satellite classes

55 home based schools

57,000 refugee children

400 DAFI scholars

UNHCR's education strategy aims to facilitate access of Afghan children into nearby public schools where these are available to avoid maintaining a parallel education system, maximise resources and encourage peaceful co-existence amongst refugees and local children. One of the strategies used by UNHCR to support this process is directing Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) resources towards improving existing public sector educational facilities within accessible distances to refugee villages. This reinforces the absorption capacity of the institutions to benefit both host and refugee communities and contributes to social cohesion.

Health

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

In October:

56 health facilities were supported

10,241 patients treated

1,965 antenatal care cases

1,563 deliveries conducted by trained birth attendants

1,763 postnatal care cases

Livelihoods

- UNHCR Pakistan is collaborating with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) to assist 2,000 vulnerable families to graduate from extreme poverty and achieve economic self-reliance in Pishin, Balochistan and Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- UNHCR Pakistan is assisting Afghan refugees and host populations to learn artisanal skills; male and female trainees are currently producing 43 different types of crafts. The artisans have been assisted in creating linkages with national and international markets by developing an e-commerce website ([www.artianshoponline.com](http://www.artisanshoponline.com)). The website is helping various groups of artisans from refugees and hosting communities particularly marginalised women to market their products and earn a decent income.

Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

4,100 projects completed since 2009

10.94 million beneficiaries

21 projects in 2018

Since 2009, the government of Pakistan has been implementing the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative, which serves as a cornerstone for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and a principal responsibility-sharing platform for maintaining protection space for Afghan refugees. RAHA implements a wide variety of projects across the sectors of education, health, livelihoods, infrastructure, water, sanitation and social protection. In 2018, projects are implemented through government line departments, NGOs and through UNHCR direct

implementation. A total of 21 projects are being implemented throughout Pakistan, out of which 14 projects (education, health, water and community infrastructure) are implemented in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, three projects (livelihoods and health) in Islamabad and four projects (education and health) in Balochistan.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

UNHCR continues to lead the emergency shelter/ non-food items cluster, as part of the inter-agency response. UNHCR is also providing technical support to the FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) in the protection cluster. UNHCR has supported the return of IDPs mostly through protection monitoring in return areas and the provision of targeted assistance to vulnerable individuals.

In 2018:

95,040 (*individuals*) were registered IDPs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

83,328 *individuals have returned to de-notified areas since 1 January 2018.*

33,000 PKR is distributed to *returnee families at the return embarkation points by government of Pakistan.*

External / Donors Relations

Earmarked contributions to UNHCR Pakistan in 2018¹

Australia | Canada | Denmark | European Union | Germany | Italy | Japan | Norway | Switzerland | United States of America | Private Donors United States of America | Private Donors Japan | Private Donors Qatar (Education a Child Programme) | Private Donors Republic of Korea

Softly earmarked contributions to UNHCR Pakistan in 2018²

Canada | Czechia | Japan | Norway | Sweden | United States of America | Private Donors

CONTACTS

Faisal Azam Khan

khanfais@unhcr.org, Tel: +92-51-2600860, Cell (+92) 302-851-9908

Uzma Irum

irum@unhcr.org, Tel: +92-51-2600860, Cell (+92) 322-508-8668

Dan McNorton

mcnorton@unhcr.org, Tel: +92-51-2600860, Cell (+92) 300-054-0320

LINKS

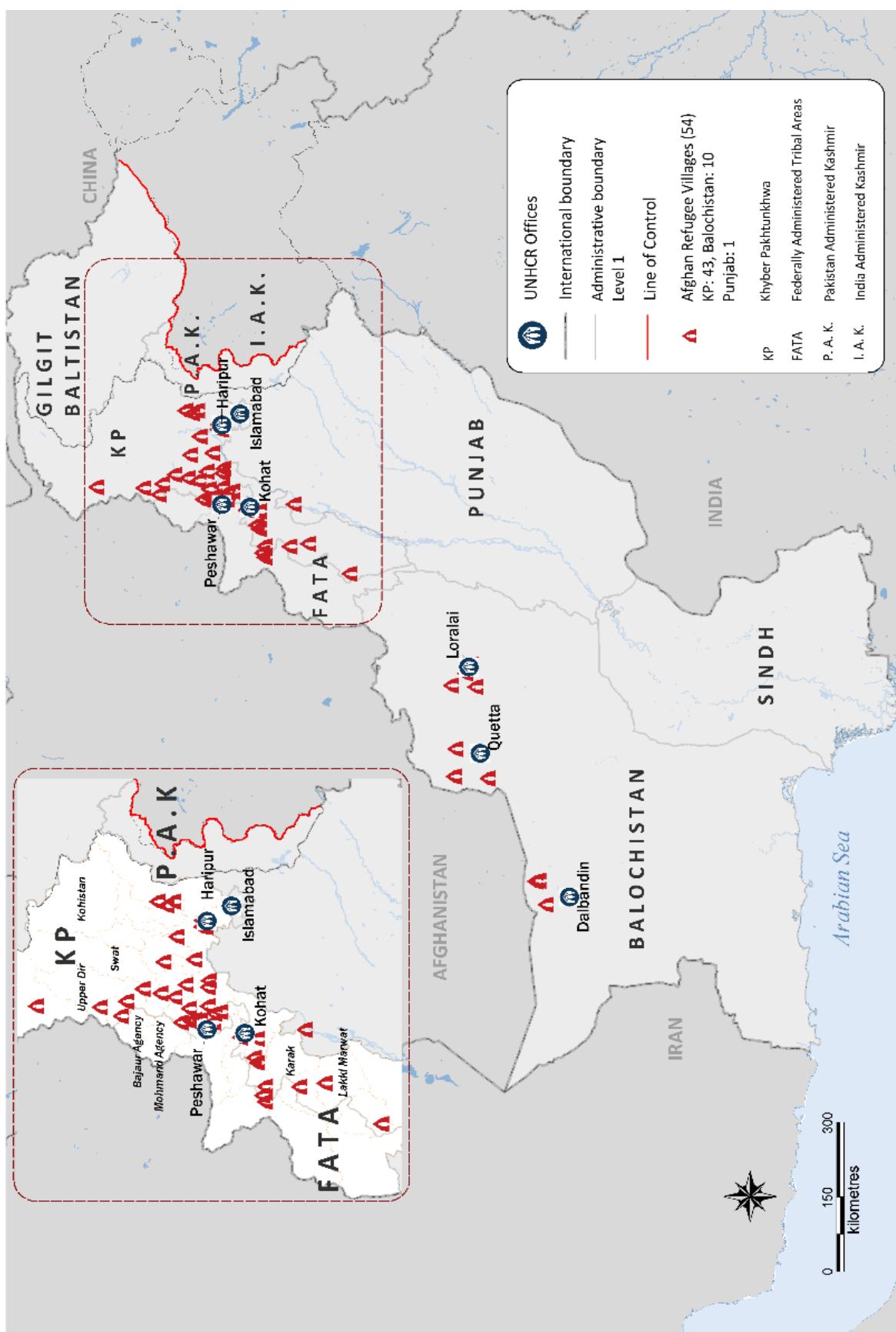
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1. Contributions are shown by the level of flexibility in the earmarking. Contributions earmarked to a situation within a country are allocated at country level.
2. Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Pakistan.