The aim of UNHCR Pakistan’s Community-based Protection (CBP) strategy is to empower Persons of Concern (POCs) to have an effective role as protection actors and meaningfully participate in the design, planning and implementation of activities that are most needed within their communities. CBP seeks to restore positive roles within a community and rebuild community-based support mechanisms and protection structures. UNHCR, in collaboration with its partners; International Catholic Migration Committee (ICMC), Society for Human Rights and Prisoners Aid (SHARP), DANESH, Water, Environment and Sanitation Society (WESS) and Commissioner for Afghan Refugees (CAR), continue its efforts to implement CBP interventions throughout the country.

The four key priorities of the strategy covers:
1. Enhance outreach and communication
2. Ensure access to needed services
3. Promote empowerment leading to self-reliance
4. Strengthen partnership and coordination

**BACKGROUND**

The refugee community in I-12, Islamabad partnered with two NGOs to inaugurate a community-managed school within the settlement.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- The refugee community in I-12, Islamabad partnered with two NGOs to inaugurate a community-managed school within the settlement.
- UNHCR’s CBP team in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa started conducting a social and physical mapping exercise of 3 new refugee settlements in Peshawar, Nowshera and Kohat. Through the mapping exercise, the team has also strengthened community outreach to introduce the community-based protection approach and to identify potential outreach volunteers.
- CBP team at SO Quetta held 37 monthly meeting with community committee members in various parts of the province including RV and urban settlements. Out of 368 committee members 41% were female representation.

**OUTREACH VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

- Outreach Volunteers (OVs) and UNHCR’s CBP partner in Peshawar district organized an awareness session for refugee youth in Nowshera on DAFI scholarships, including the criteria, application procedures, available courses and the monthly stipend.
- In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNHCR’s CBP team and NGO partners developed and distributed pocket guides for the Outreach Volunteers in the CBP focused areas for outreach volunteers. The provided pocket guides are translated in Pashto and Dari language and provide information on the available services, address and contact details.

**STATISTICS**

- Since 1 January 2020
  - 353 Community visits and meetings conducted
  - 128 Individual referrals to services
  - 11 Community-led interventions

1,294 Outreach volunteers identified

524 Female (40%)
770 Male (60%)

Since Jan 2018

Data source: UNHCR and its Partners
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COMMUNICATION WITH COMMUNITIES

- UNHCR’s CBP team in Peshawar supported two refugee families with family tents and core relief items (CRI) kits after their houses were damaged due to heavy rainfall in Kohat District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The families were also supported with emergency cash assistance to help rebuild their homes. Similarly, one refugee family in Attock District, Punjab District Attock was facilitated for with a CRI kit after their home was destroyed in a fire.

- To ensure the participation and engagement of female refugees in the Community-Based Complaint/feedback Mechanism (CBCFM), the CBP team organized a community awareness session in Kohat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The session took place at the female communal place, where UNHCR has placed a complaint box for the use of refugee women in the community.

- Three refugees in Islamabad (Faisal Bank), Taxila, and Chakwal (Meezan Bank) were facilitated by CBP team for opening of bank accounts.

- During the month, UNHCR’s CBP team in Islamabad conducted 125 individual counseling sessions for refugees in order to answer questions and facilitate challenges related to health, education, livelihoods and psychosocial issues.

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH MECHANISM

Outreach Volunteers | Radio and TV | E-mail Accounts (UNHCR & Partners)
Complaint & Feedback Boxes | Helplines (UNHCR & Partners) | Community and Shura Meetings
Mass Information Materials | Social Media (Facebook, Twitter) | In-Person Inquiries

and facilitate challenges related to health, education, livelihoods and psychosocial issues.

LINKAGES WITH OTHER SECTORS

- UNHCR’s CBP team in Peshawar, together with NGO partners, completed an assessment of 272 persons with specific needs (PWSN) across 9 RVs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Out of the 272 assessments, 150 individuals were referred for various services including education, livelihoods, and medical support. 69 extremely vulnerable individuals were also referred for cash assistance.

- UNHCR’s CBP team at Quetta conducted 43 community sessions for 817 refugee community members on CBP interventions, legal assistance ALAC, and identification of PWSN.

- UNHCR, in coordination with MoRR, conducted 5 Shura meetings in Rahim Yar Khan, Multan and Faisalabad districts of Punjab. The purpose of these meeting is to disseminate information on voluntary repatriation, CBP, education, health, livelihoods, ALAC and other services.

- CBP team at SO Quetta identified and referred 14 PWSN for various services including SGBV and medical.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- UNHCR’s CBP team in Quetta, together with NGO partners, conducted 24 capacity building sessions for 245 refugee community structures to refresh their understanding on protection, identification of PWSN, ALAC services, service providers and referrals.

- A two-day training for 21 CBP NGO partner staff in Quetta was held covering the revised strategy of CBP, child protection, SGBV, and facilitation of protection measures.

PROTECTION HELPLINE

- During the reporting month, the majority of calls received in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab were in regards to Asylum, RSD and Proof of Registration (PoR) Card modification procedures. So far in 2020, 1,712 calls have been attended through the protection helpline.

- UNHCR’s protection mandate.

- A refresher session on revised CBP strategy was held for 24 senior NGO partner and an INGO staff form DANESH, WESS, TF, SCSPEB, SEHER, IDO, and GIZ.

UNHCR’s COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION PARTNERS

- Society for Human Rights and Prisoners’ Aid (SHARP)
- Water, Environment & Sanitation Society (WESS)
- Drugs and Narcotics Educational Services for Humanity (DANESH)
- International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)
- Commissionerate of Afghan Refugee Punjab (CAR/CDU)