

AFGHANISTAN

KHOST & PAKTIKA SITUATION UPDATE

11 February 2015

1. KHOST & PAKTIKA UPDATE



New arrivals continue to be reported in both provinces, which underscores that there will be a significant caseload into 2015. As a result, humanitarian agencies will need to continue to respond to both emergency needs for new arrivals as well as the longer term protection, social and economic concerns that emerge from a protracted displacement.

In Paktika, additional displacement has been reported at the end of January, bringing the number of refugee families to an estimated 11,936 families or 83,700 individuals with 96% in Barmel

district. Approximately 100 new families have come from Kher Tangi area of Datta Khail district of North Waziristan following an aerial bombing of the area. Access is limited in Barmel, however UNHCR staff spoke with new arrivals. The main needs of the population are food, domestic items and supplies to winterize shelters and stay warm. Some of the new arrivals have been reported to be injured which raises additional protection concerns as well as the need to ensure that medical facilities can handle more serious cases. Moreover, newly arriving refugees appear to be more physically vulnerable. This could be linked to the winter as well as the length of conflict.

UNHCR together with UNICEF, OCHA and UNAMA undertook a mission to Sharana on 11 February to continue coordination with the provincial Governor's office, partners, the Operational Working Group (the coordinating task force on the ground) and the PDMC. A concept note outlining the context, achievements and strategy is currently being developed, while assessments and delivery of humanitarian assistance are ongoing. UNHCR and partners continue to deliver tents, NFIs, shelter and winter materials, food as well as supplemental food, wheat and nutrition services. In addition, IMC, UNIECF and WHO are providing vaccinations, health services and have supported WASH projects throughout the affected districts while UNICEF is supporting education efforts

2.1 PROTECTION CONCERNS

To strengthen response efforts on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and protection issues, community gender focal points, including community services and protection staff from Khost, attended a country-wide SGBV training, which will be also be replicated in Khost for additional staff and partners. Following the SGBV mission in December, Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) partners have also been identified in Khost province and Gulan Camp to help establish PSN networks. The PSN network will provide support and assistance to vulnerable refugee women, girls, boys and men.

This situation update provides a snapshot of the inter-agency regional humanitarian response in full coordination with host Governments and partners across the region.

2.2 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE - *SINCE 18 JUNE 2014*

- Food Assistance: WFP, UNHCR & partners distributed over 100,000¹ food packages and wheat rations to families in Khost & Paktika since June 2014; UNHCR distributed supplemental food to 23,281 families since 29 December; HNITPO & IMC are providing treatment for 657 children and 80 pregnant and lactating women for moderate and severe malnutrition; UNICEF supported 29 outpatient centres to address severe acute malnutrition; Tameer Millat Foundation provided nutrition support to 426 mothers and 1,227 children
- Health: WHO, UNICEF, IMC & HNITPO supported polio vaccinations for over 47,000 children <10 in Khost and Paktika; UNICEF & WHO established 5 permanent polio vaccination teams in Alisher, Gurboz, Spera & Tani districts that vaccinated 51,795 children; UNICEF supported Khost DoPH to supply 54 centres with vaccines; conducted 3 'catch-up' vaccination campaigns in Khost targeting refugee and host community women and children and gave 4,000 new born kits to DoPH Khost and 1,900 to DoPH Paktika for safe deliveries; HNITPO set-up 2 mobile clinics in Khost serving 4,557 clients; IMC set-up two mobile clinics in Paktika; Tameer Millat Foundation provided basic health services to 12,983 people; ACTD is developing a vaccination plan for Gulan camp</p>
- <u>Mine Risk Reduction</u>: MACCA/UNMAS partners Halo Trust and MDC have cleared 770,000 m² in Gulan camp and 530,000 m² around the camp; ARCS, OMAR and MDC have provided mine/ERW risk education to 51,718 individuals.
- NFIs: CARE, IOM, IRC, NRC and UNHCR distributed NFIs to 26,474 families
- Tents: CARE, IOM, IRC and UNHCR distributed tents to 10,817 families
- Winterization: A total of 24,590 families have received winterisation assistance, including 18,290 in Khost and 6,300 in Paktika. CARE distributed winterization assistance to 1,590 families in Gurboz and Matun; IRC distributed winterisation assistance to 1,000 families in Tani, Mandozai & Nadir Shah Kot; NRC distributed winterization kits to 130 families and is providing 176 bukharis to schools in Gulan Camp and communities; UNICEF supplied 1,550 family kits and winterization assistance to Khost & Paktika; ARCS will distribute 500 kits in Paktika. WHO & partners distributed 15 acute respiratory infection kits to treat winter-related respiratory cases
- WASH: 5 wells have been drilled in Gulan Camp and Solidarités is managing WASH activities. SI distributed 2,042 hygiene kits, 951 latrines and bathroom kits in Gulan camp; DAACAR provided 435 emergency latrines in host communities, distributed 2,284 hygiene kits, and provided 9.6 million litres of drinking water in communities; IRC distributed 671 emergency latrines & hygiene kits; UNICEF is funding MRRD for building 50 wells for 1,350 families in Paktika; NCA distributed 1,360 family & female hygiene kits in Khost and 400 in Paktika and conducted hygiene awareness
- Education: In Gulan camp, NRC set-up 83 transitional classrooms and recruited 83 teachers for 2,100 children, including 900 girls; with UNICEF, NRC constructed 93 classrooms with 93 teachers for 2,924 students, including 993 girls in Gurboz, Tani, Mandozai and Khost (Matun); In Paktika, DoE hired 54 out of a planned 100 teachers from among the refugees to improve refugee children's access to education and UNICEF supported an additional 15 classes for 250 students
- In camp Gulan, NRC covers a total 2100 (1200 boys, 900 girls) in 83 transitional classrooms of which 2000 (1200 boy, 800 girls) are from refugee community, while 100 (all girls) Afghan children are from host community. A total 83 teachers are recruited for teaching. The project is generously funded by Norwegian Ministry for Foreign Affairs (NMFA).
- <u>SGBV & Women's Health</u>: UNFPA distributed 850 dignity kits and delivered two reproductive health kits to clinics to support 10,000 people

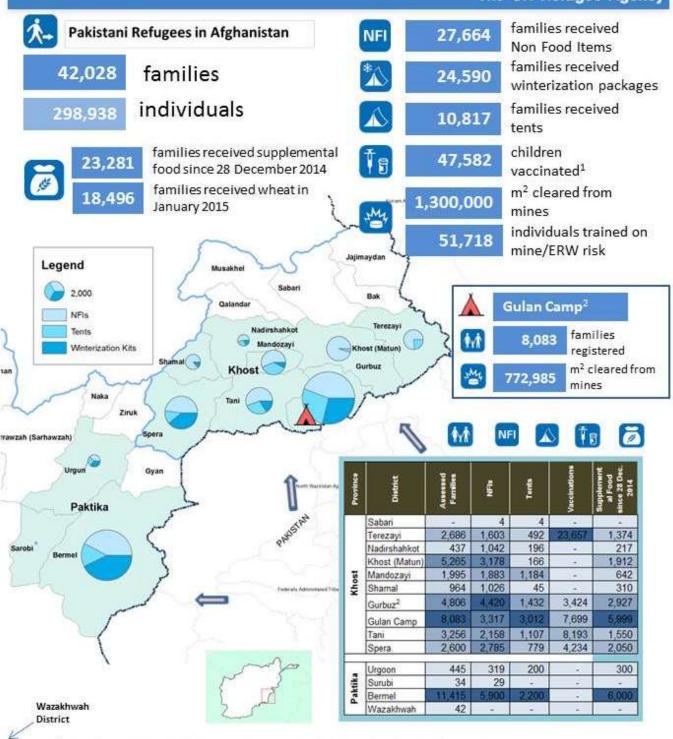
3.NEXT STEPS

Wednesday 18 February 2015: Kabul Task Force Meeting, 14h00 UNHCR, Kabul

Agencies operating on the ground are encouraged to continue to provide updates regarding planned and completed activities to ensure information is accurate for coordination and reporting purposes.

¹ This figure includes food packages for 37,000 families, wheat rations for 45,000 families and supplemental food for 23,000 families collectively since 18 June 2014.

Afghanistan - Humanitarian Response in Khost and Paktika NFIs, Tents, Vaccinations and Food Packages 10 February 2015 The UN Refugee Agency



¹ In addition to this number, 57,306 vaccinations were carried out at the border.
² Gulan Camp's data are specified in the table, separated from the rest of Gurbuz district.

Summary

In mid-June, following military operations in North Waziristan Agency, Pakistan, families began crossing into Khost and Paktika provinces, Afghanistan. Many families left suddenly, with few belongings and settled in host communities, or Gulan camp, Gurboz district, Khost. UNHCR and partners have been on the ground since the situation began, conducting assessments, delivering assistance and coordinating response efforts. Food, water, sanitation, shelter, health and mine clearance continue to be urgent priorities.

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