

AFGHANISTAN

KHOST & PAKTIKA SITUATION UPDATE

15 October 2014

1. KHOST & PAKTIKA UPDATE



Displacement of refugees from North Waziristan and South Waziristan Agency into Khost and Paktika provinces continues. When the influx began in mid-June agencies operating on the ground estimated that 13,000 families would be displaced. However, in the past month, when many organizations expected refugees to return, the number is increasing as military operations have expanded. The number of assessed families by ARCS, Directorate of Education, IOM, IRC, NRC and UNHCR/DoRR has now reached 33,000 families.

This figure represents the accumulated number of families that have been verified in Khost and Paktika provinces since the start of the crisis in June and consolidated in one single database managed by UNHCR. UNHCR and partners are making every effort, including verification of the camp, cross-checking records to reduce duplication and post distribution monitoring, to improve the accuracy of population figure as we are aware of some fraud cases and possible double registration.

It is clear that this refugee situation will extend into 2015. UNHCR is working with Government partners to draft the Government-led Refugee Response Plan. In addition UNHCR and agencies operating on the ground will be drafting a Refugee Chapter to be included in the 2015 Common Humanitarian Action Plan. Both strategies will identify core activities required to address a protracted refugee situation and the evolving needs of both the refugees and host communities. The provision of humanitarian assistance will move away from the emergency phase towards a stabilization phase while greater focus will be placed on support voluntary return and ensuring international protection standards are upheld.

UNHCR has also initiated a tent-to-tent survey and verification exercise in Gulan camp to gain a better understanding of the population and needs. In the first two days, 604 families were surveyed with a total of 3,203 individuals. There were a total of 548 tents with 586 adult males (18%), 669 adult females (21%) and 1,945 children (61%).

2.1 PROTECTION CONCERNS

On the Afghanistan side, supplies to support winterization efforts remain an urgent priority as there will be a significant number of refugee families remaining during the winter. Due to the expanding military operations, the difficulty of traveling during the winter and the expected level of destruction in the places of origin, the anticipated return is not taking place. At the same time, the ability of host communities to support the high number of refugees is expected to decrease as resources are exhausted and available shelter is limited during winter months. Partners are procuring materials to

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

support tailored winterization efforts in communities, however additional funding and prepositioning of materials is urgently needed.

Winterization assistance will include providing adequate clothing, especially for children, safe heating solutions as well as winterizing existing emergency shelter/tents, for refugees living in both the camp and host communities. In Gulan camp, a Site Planner is working with families to 'dig in' which involves digging down to as far as 100 cm depth and using the soil to insulate around the tents. In other communities, winterization efforts include wind and water-proofing of tents through the use of plastic sheeting with a Sandari or Buhari to provide heat and cooking facilities, while ensuring proper ventilation.

2.2 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE - SINCE 18 JUNE 2014

- Food Assistance: WFP & partners distributed one-month food rations to 22,063 families in Khost and Paktika with ongoing distributions; HNITPO & IMC are providing treatment for 572 children and 544 pregnant and lactating women for moderate and severe malnutrition in both provinces; UNICEF has supported 29 Outpatient centres to address severe acute malnutrition
- Health: WHO, UNICEF & IMC supported vaccinations for 47,280 children <10 in Khost and Paktika against polio with ongoing campaigns within districts. HNITPO has set-up 3 mobile clinics in Khost and UNICEF/IMC have set-up two mobile clinics in Paktika
- Mine Risk Reduction: MACCA/UNMAS partners Halo Trust and MDC have cleared 229,161 m² and; ARCS, OMAR and MDC have provided mine/ERW risk education to 20,543 individuals.
- NFIs: CARE, IOM, IRC, NRC and UNHCR distributed NFIs to 20,139 families
- Tents: CARE, IOM, IRC and UNHCR distributed tents to 10,264 families
- WASH: IRC distributed 440 emergency latrines & hygiene kits; DAACAR has provided materials to build 283 latrines in host communities and is providing clean drinking water in communities; 3 wells have been drilled in Gulan Camp and water is being trucked in to the camp
- SGBV & Women's Health: UNFPA distributed 850 dignity kits and delivered two reproductive health kits to clinics to support 10,000 people

3. NEXT STEPS

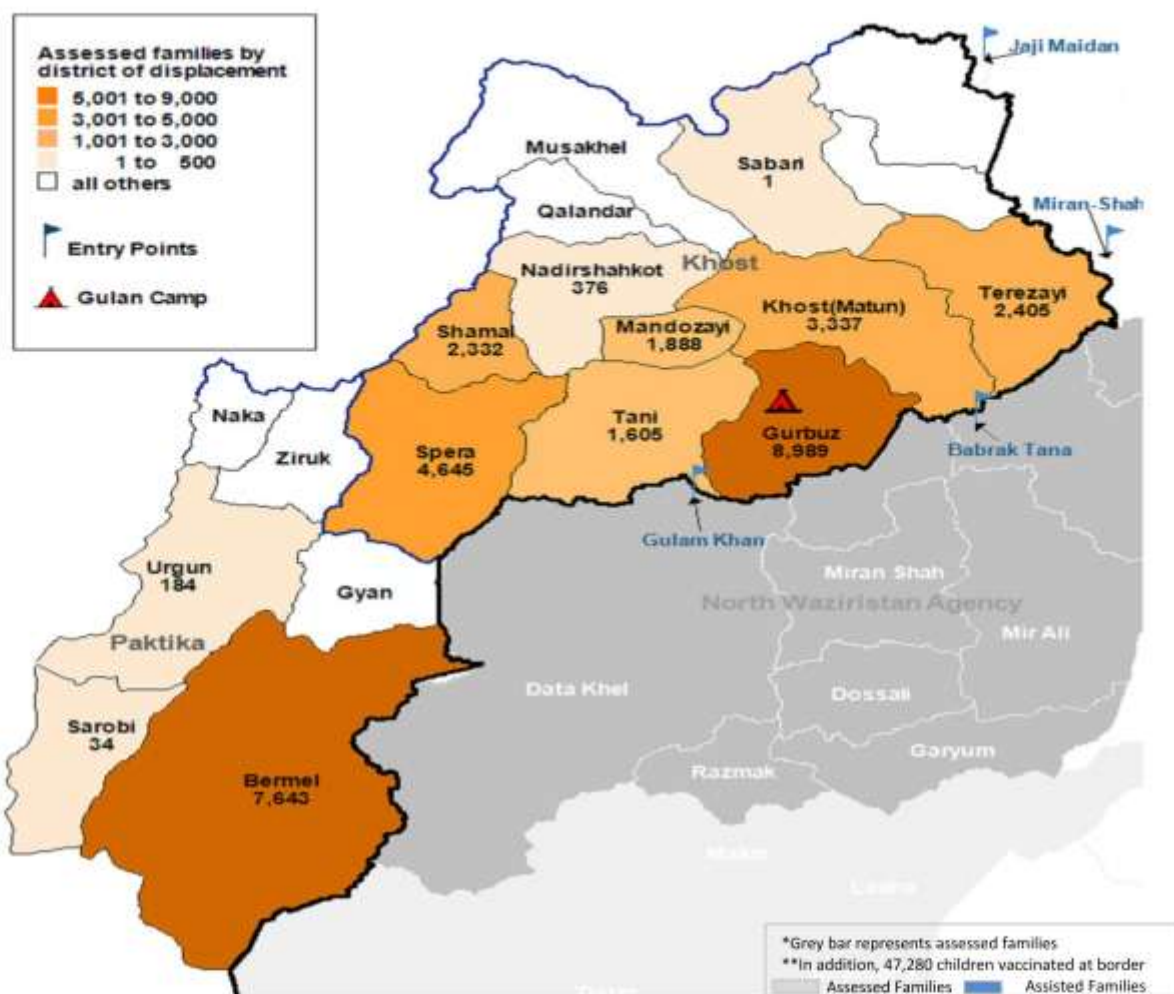
Wednesday 22 October 2014: Kabul Task Force Meeting 14h00 UNHCR Compound, Kabul

Agencies operating on the ground are encouraged to continue to provide updates to ensure information is up-to-date and accurate

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.

Humanitarian Response to Khost and Paktika - 14 October 2014



Mine cleared area and Vaccination Campaign Coverage for Refugee Children

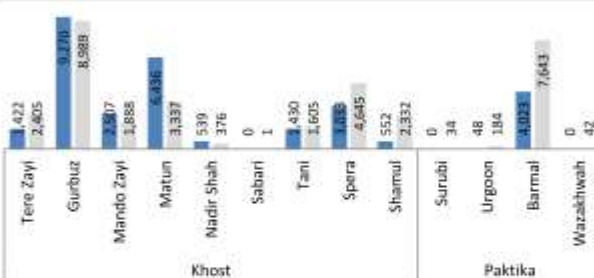
229,161 m2

Cleared from mines in
Gulan Camp

47,280

Children vaccinated at
the border – ongoing
Campaigns in Khost and
Paktika province

Families Assisted with Food



Families Assisted with NFIs



Families Assisted with Tents



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