

AFGHANISTAN

KHOST & PAKTIKA SITUATION UPDATE

14 January 2015

1. KHOST & PAKTIKA UPDATE



Distributions of UNHCR supplemental food packages began at the end of December and include pulses, oil and salt. With funds from the CHF, this supplemental food package augments the wheat being distributed from the Strategic Grain Reserve and the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock to address the food shortage during WFP's pipeline break. To date, 11,423 refugee families in Alisher, Gurbuz, and Matun districts, and Gulan camp in Khost have received this food, as well as 1,562 families in Barmal and Urgun districts, Paktika. These distributions will continue into January and February 2015, when WFP plans to

resume food distribution.

The Registration Mission from UNHCR Headquarters at the end of 2014 assessed the current process for accessing and registering refugee families for assistance. Registration of the refugee population is considered critical at this stage of displacement in order to authenticate population numbers, disaggregate data on gender and age, and help design further protection interventions targeting the most vulnerable. At the start of an emergency, it is customary to conduct basic assessments at the household level. However as the situation develops and the population increases, the initial profiling model is not appropriate for a large scale and prolonged emergency. A more in-depth assessment tool should be put in place, which provides more detailed data and helps agencies operating on the ground better respond to the situation. Protection concerns include extremely vulnerable families, female/elderly headed-households and children living with relatives other than their parents. Until a clear baseline is established, it will be difficult to know and meet the protection needs of the refugee population, and support return activities when appropriate.

Three modalities for registration were proposed and are currently being discussed as funding requirements range from USD 600,000 to strengthen the current practice of assessing families at the household level to USD 2.7 million to register the entire refugee population at the individual level. Although the modalities differ, there are a number of activities that at a minimum must take place to accurately monitor the increasing refugee population.

2.1 PROTECTION CONCERNS

There continue to be new reports of families crossing into Gulan camp and other districts. UNHCR staff are working to verify these reports. Refugee elders in Gulan camp report more than 2,000 unregistered families, while provincial officials have indicated more than 1,000 new arrivals in Matun district and at least 200 in Alisher. Given the harsh conditions, UNHCR is working to ensure that vulnerable families and persons with specific needs are reached as soon as possible after arrival. Additional registration dates are being scheduled to ensure that refugee details are recorded and that families can be included in future distributions.

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 & partners have distributed 46,137 food packages to families in Khost & Paktika since June 2014; UNHCR has distributed supplemental food to 12,985 families since 29 December; HNITPO & IMC are providing treatment for 657 children and 80 pregnant and lactating women for moderate and severe malnutrition in both provinces; UNICEF has supported 29 Outpatient centres to address severe acute malnutrition; Tameer Millat Foundation has 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; WHO has established 5 permanent polio vaccination teams in Alisher, Gurboz, Spera & Tani districts which have vaccinated 51,795 children; HNITPO set-up 2 mobile clinics in Khost serving 1,116 clients; UNICEF/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 650,556 m² in Gulan camp and 400,291 m² around the camp; ARCS, OMAR and MDC have provided mine/ERW risk education to 47,735 individuals.
- NFIs: CARE, IOM, IRC, NRC and UNHCR distributed NFIs to 26,167 families
- Tents: CARE, IOM, IRC and UNHCR distributed tents to 10,343 families
- Winterization: A total of 17,360 families have received winterisation assistance, including 10,410 in Khost and 6,076 in Paktika. 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 has supplied 1,550 family kits and winterisation assistance to Khost and Paktika; ARCS will distribute 500 kits in Paktika. WHO & partners distributed 15 acute respiratory infection kits in Khost & Paktika to respond to winter-related respiratory infection cases.
- WASH: 4 wells have been drilled in Gulan Camp and Solidarités is managing WASH activities. SI has also distributed 2,042 hygiene kits, 951 latrines and bathroom kits in Gulan camp; DAACAR has provided 435 emergency latrines in host communities, distributed 2,284 hygiene kits, and has 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
- Education: In Gulan camp, NRC set-up 80 transitional classrooms recruited and trained 80 teachers and started lessons; the Ministry of Education hired 54 out of a planned 100 teachers from among the refugees to improve refugee children's access to education; UNICEF supported the enrolment of 2,800 refugee & hosting community children in Khost & 600 in Paktika.
- <u>SGBV & Women's Health</u>: UNFPA distributed 850 dignity kits and delivered two reproductive health kits to clinics to support 10,000 people

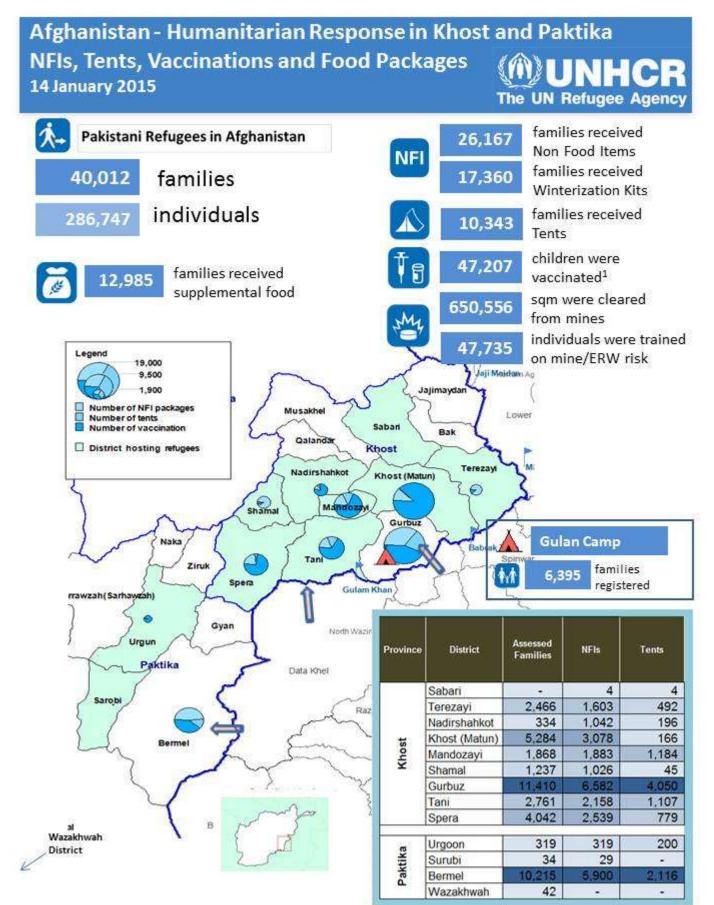
3.NEXT STEPS

Wednesday 21 January 2015: Kabul Task Force 2015 Planning 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.

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.



¹ In addition to this number, 47,280 vaccinations were carried out at the border.

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