

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Pakistan currently hosts 1.61 million registered Afghan refugees, 37 per cent of whom live in 76 refugee villages, of which 75 are located along the borders with Afghanistan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan. UNHCR in close coordination with the Government of Pakistan has commenced the issuance of renewed Proof of Registration (PoR) cards to 1.6 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

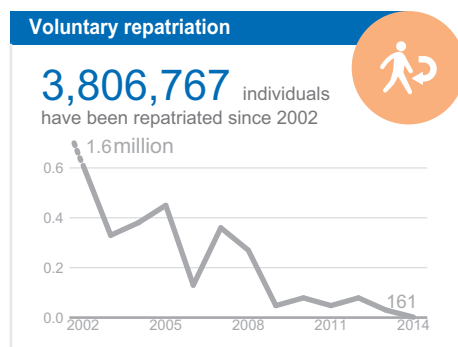
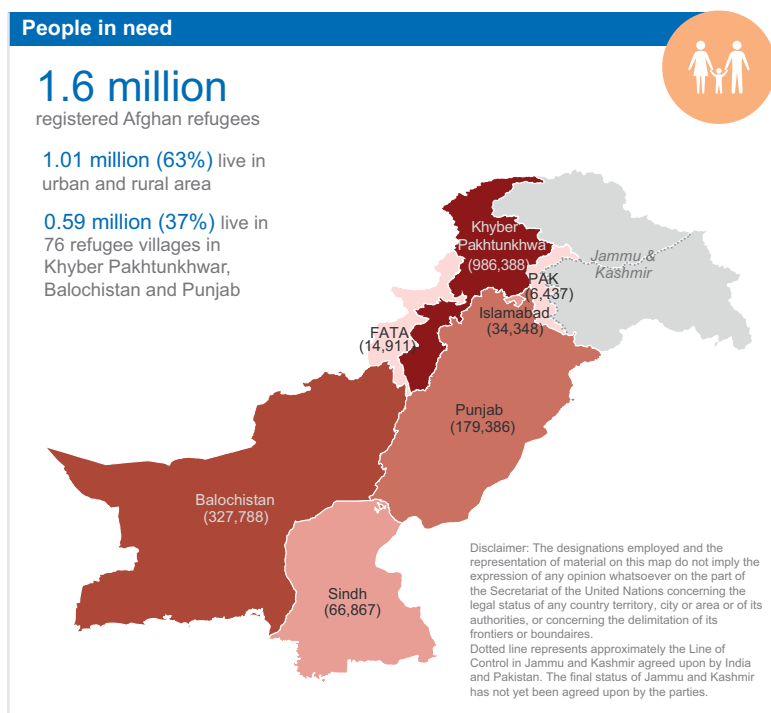
Since the launch of the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) programme in 2009, the Government of Pakistan, UN agencies and GiZ have carried out 2,027 projects for the benefit of some 4 million people, of whom 15 per cent are Afghan refugees. These projects are undertaken in 41 districts in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh provinces and five agencies in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). These initiatives cover health, education, water and sanitation, community infrastructure (including irrigation and farm-to-market roads), environment and, to a limited extent, livelihoods sectors. Urban development was included in 2013.

Since 2002, UNHCR has facilitated the return of 3.8 million registered Afghans from Pakistan in the world's largest voluntary repatriation operation. Some 31,224 refugees (6,318 families) returned in 2013.

Due to funding constraints, UNHCR is compelled to reconsider its care and maintenance assistance in refugee villages, especially for education, health and reproductive health services as well as water and sanitation needs.

Information and data provided by UNHCR.

KEY FIGURES



Source: UNHCR Voluntary Repatriation Statistics

FUNDING 2014

\$ 148 million
REQUIRED (US\$)

16%
FUNDED

\$ 23 million
RECEIVED (US\$)

* 16% of comprehensive needs assessment level budget (148 million US\$) or 45% of the operational level budget (52 million US\$) has been received.



PROTECTION



Assist the Government of Pakistan in the re-issuance of Proof of Registration (PoR) cards based on the existing data from the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).

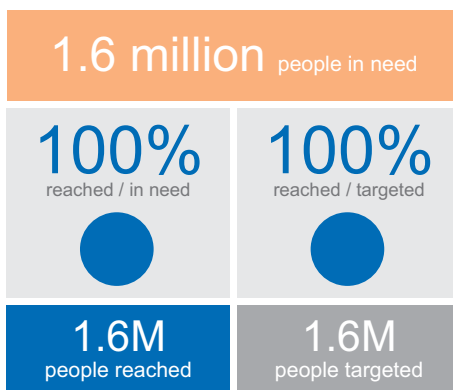
Needs

- Access to the territory improved and risk of refoulement reduced.

Response

- Continue to support the existing 6 Proof of Registration (PoR) Card Modification (PCM) centres for modification of existing PoR cards and issuance of birth certificates at these centres.
- Maintain access to legal assistance and legal remedies to 70% of persons of concern who are in need of legal assistance and remedies to address arbitrary arrest and detention as well as cases of civil/family, tenancy and monetary issues within refugee communities.

SOLUTIONS STRATEGY FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES (SSAR)



Maintain policy in delivering protection and assistance, and working towards achieving comprehensive solutions for the protracted Afghan refugee caseload while building/providing support to long term protection structures in the country.

Needs

- Comprehensive Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees further enhanced, strengthened and implemented.
- Potential for voluntary return realized.
- Through Refugee Affected Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative, peaceful co-existence with host communities further enhanced.

Response

- Maintain protection and assistance framework through streamlining comprehensive solutions/approaches in close cooperation with the Government of Pakistan (GoP) to ensure that a holistic approach is found to implement permanent solutions for Afghan refugees living in Pakistan.
- Actively support and monitor the implementation of the new GoP strategy to ensure comprehensive durable solutions to the protracted Afghan refugees' situation.
- Provide credible and updated information to potential returnees so that they are able to make an informed decision.
- Provide information through "shura" meetings and focus group discussions in close coordination with the Ministry of Refugee Rehabilitation (MORR) and Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR).
- Disseminate information on assistance in the return areas via Mass Information (MI) campaigns.
- Provide information on the reintegration prospect in Afghanistan through joint visits by UNHCR Afghanistan, Pakistan and MORR to the potential returnees communities.
- Ensure the voluntary nature of the return process through protection and exit interviews at the Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) and at the border.
- Provide information on the reintegration prospect in Afghanistan through joint visits by UNHCR Afghanistan, Pakistan and MORR to the potential returnees
- The RAHA initiative will improve public services in selected target areas, building and strengthening the capacities of the refugees, vulnerable population, community-based organisations, government entities and hosting communities that will lead to social cohesion among the refugees and the local population.
- Rehabilitation of existing Basic Health Units (BHUs) construction of labour rooms, female wards, and provision of medical equipment, furniture, electricity, water facilities, solar panels.
- Support 13 environment protection projects in identified areas which includes distribution of solar cookers to reduce deforestation, fuel efficient stoves, establishing green belts/plantations through communities, launching an "one plant a house" campaign to enhance tree planting, awareness raising and capacity-building of communities on irrigation, agriculture, maintaining rangelands and solid waste disposal techniques.
- Self-reliance capacities of communities will be further enhanced through the implementation of projects that focus on livelihoods skill development and capacity-building of youth, particularly targeting women

EDUCATION

0.35 million people in need

Provide free primary education through 174 schools in 53 satellite classes to approximately 73,000 refugee children

21%

reached / in need



76%

reached / targeted



Needs

- Refugee children have optimal access to education.

0.07M
people reached

0.10M
people targeted

Response

- Maintenance of 1,362 teachers (salaries and trainings); rehabilitation of 40 classrooms, sanitation and drinking water facilities in 30 schools, and construction of security walls of these schools; classroom supplies and notebooks for school children; maintenance of School Management Committees (SMCs) of 174 refugee village schools.
- Established advocacy activities towards inclusion of refugee children in Pakistani public schools, especially those children living off refugee villages.
- Involve all stakeholders to coordinate and streamline education.
- The MOUs signed with UNICEF and UNESCO as well as the One UN planning will continue to provide the framework for UNHCR to work towards ensuring access to public schools for refugee children living in rural areas.
- Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative Fund (DAFI) scholarships will continue to be provided in close coordination with UNHCR Headquarters, facilitating access to tertiary education in Pakistan for a limited number of Afghan refugees.