



Afghan children attending Children's Literature Festival at Lok Virsa, Islamabad



UNHCR and MORR attending shura with refugee community in Camp Jadeed, Karachi

1,802 Outreach volunteers identified



Since Jan 2018

Since 1 January 2019

1,492 Community visits and meetings conducted

1,129 Individual referrals to services

84 Community-led interventions

BACKGROUND



The aim of UNHCR Pakistan's Community-based Protection (CBP) strategy is to empower Person of Concerns (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 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), continues its efforts to implement CBP interventions throughout the country.

The four key priorities of the strategy covers:

1. A Network of outreach volunteers (OVs) to facilitate effective and efficient outreach and communication with communities.
2. Training and capacity building of UNHCR, partners, and communities in the practice of community-based protection.
3. Community-level referral pathways to services and accountability mechanisms.
4. Support to positive behavior change to reduce incidence of harmful social practices.

HIGHLIGHTS

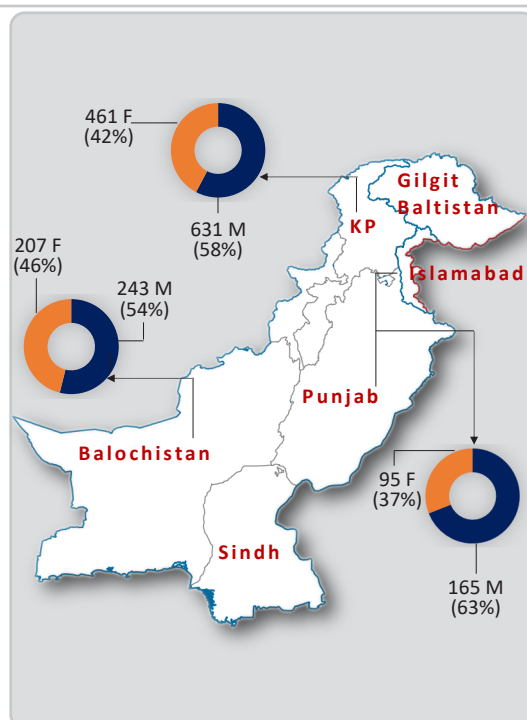


- ⇒ UNHCR and partners completed 2019 Participatory Assessment exercise in all targeted locations of Islamabad, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Balochistan. The Participatory Assessment was conducted through focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) on the topics of communication structures within communities, the protection of women and girls, livelihoods, education, and evictions. The inputs provided by the diverse group of refugees will help UNHCR in finalizing the Country Operational Plan (COP) for 2020.
- ⇒ UNHCR distributed tents, blankets, and plastic sheets to 60 Afghan families in districts Jehlum and Mirpur of Pakistan Administered Kashmir (PAK), who were affected after the recent earthquake. UNHCR also distributed Core Relief items (CRIs) to 53 Afghan families who were evicted from their homes in Taxila Punjab. The CRIs included; family tents, plastic sheets and blankets.

OUTREACH VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES



- ⇒ As part of an Outreach Volunteer (OV) led initiative in Refugee village in Posti, Balochistan, additional four solar panels and three computers have been installed at the Computer Learning Center. The center is in a remote district where no electricity is available. With the additional solar panel and computers, the capacity of the center will be enhanced.



COMMUNICATION WITH COMMUNITIES



- ⇒ A workshop on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) was organized for 13 Adolescent Girls in Peshawar, who are participating in a pilot project aiming at reducing vulnerabilities among girls aged 13-18 years old through empowering them with knowledge, life skills, education, and coping mechanism to build self-esteem and cope with day to day challenges of life and to serve as advocates and role models within their communities.

LINKAGES WITH OTHER SECTORS

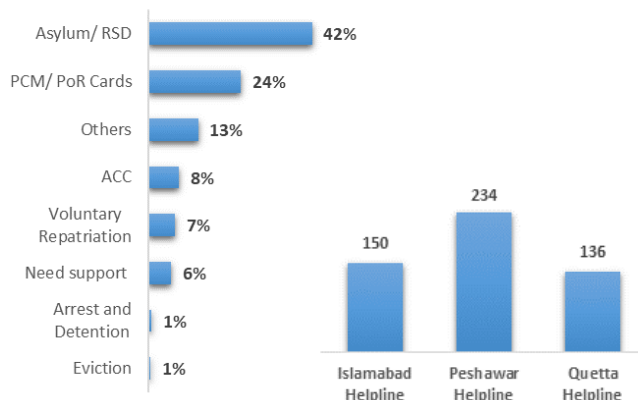


- ⇒ UNHCR and partners led a series of discussions, consultations and FGDs with refugee leaders, Shura members, refugee youth, outreach volunteers, UNHCR and partner staff, and government representatives from the Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees (CAR), on the revision of UNHCR Pakistan's Community-based Protection (CBP) strategy for 2020-2022.
- ⇒ UNHCR's partner, ICMC, organized an exposure visit of refugee children from different Afghan schools to a Children's Literature Festival arranged by a local NGO, Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi. The purpose of the event was to engage and motivate refugee children on education

PROTECTION HELPLINE



- ⇒ During the reporting month, the majority of calls received in Punjab Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan were in regards to Asylum, RSD and Proof of Registration (PoR) Card modification procedures. So far in 2019, 6,422 calls have been attended through the protection helpline.



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

through different learning activities.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING



- ⇒ 15 mandate refugees in Islamabad completed a three months' Urdu language course organized by UNHCR's partner, ICMC. The language classes were organized to help the refugee children to successfully integrate into local public schools and for adults to improve their livelihoods prospects. The graduates received certificate at the end of the course and UNHCR and ICMC are planning for additional courses in the coming months.
- ⇒ 31 ALAC lawyers and 19 pro-bono lawyers attended a training on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Code of Conduct (COC) organized by UNHCR Islamabad. Ten Outreach Volunteers (OVs) also attended trainings on the same subject during a separate session in Islamabad.
- ⇒ In order to reinforce the capacity of UNHCR partner (SHARP and CAR) staff on community-based protection approaches and psychological first aid (PFA), a two-day ToT refresher workshop was organized that was attended by 26 participants in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. The trained staff members are expected to orient OVs on PFA given the important role they play in their communities as first line respondents to emergency cases. Also, one-day Psychological First Aid training was conducted for outreach volunteers of Mughal Abad, Sabzal, Kuchlak, Ghaus Abad and Bashir Chowk clusters in Quetta-Balochistan. The session was facilitated by a professional Psychiatrist at Bolan Medical Collage (BMC) Hospital Quetta and attended by 23 male OVs.

UNHCR's COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION PARTNERS



Society for Human Rights and Prisoners' Aid



Water, Environment & Sanitation Society



Drugs and Narcotics Educational Services for



Rural Empowerment and Institutional



Commissionerate of Afghan Refugee Punjab