



HIGHLIGHTS

58,211

Afghan refugees (PoR cardholders) voluntarily repatriated to Afghanistan between 1st January and 31st December 2015

81,739

Births registered between 1st January and 31st December 2015

2,382

Individuals submitted for resettlement in a third country between 1st January and 31st December 2015

93,015

IDPs families supported with voluntary return form (VRFs) since January 2015

*558,090 individuals using the multiplier 6 as the average family size

Population of concern

A total of **2.7 million** persons of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total Persons of Concern
Afghan refugee Proof of registration (PoR) cardholders	1,554,910
Afghan refugees without PoR cards	5,391
Somalia (Refugees)	376
Others (Refugees)	184
Asylum seekers	6,443
Total IDPs In-Camp	10,368
Jalozai (Nowshera, KP)	3,504
Togh Sarai (Hangu, KP)	2,232
New Durrani (Kurram, FATA)	4,632
Total IDPs Off-Camp	1,135,740
Total IDPs in and off camps	1,146,108

*As of 31 December 2015 – source of NWA and Khyber IDPs population: FDMA, figures are of families verified by NADRA 2015

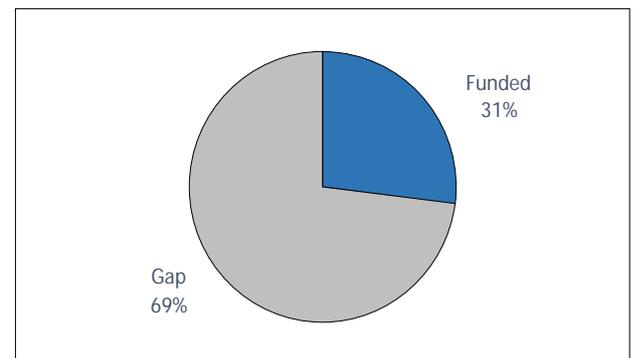
UNHCR Presence

Offices	International	National	Affiliate workforce	Total
BOI Islamabad	26	67	21	114
Sub-office Peshawar	10	80	12	102
Sub-office Quetta	7	51	6	64
Field unit Karachi	0	11	0	11
Total	43	209	39	291

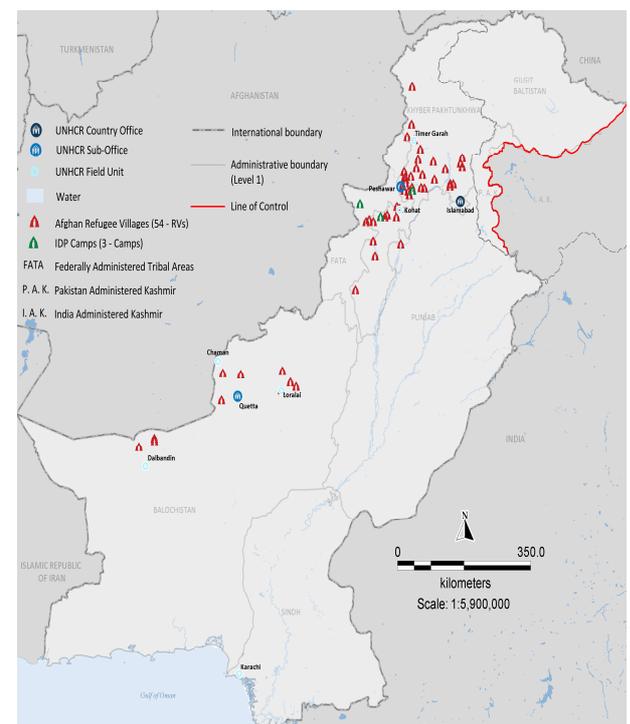
Offices located in: Representation Office Islamabad, Sub Office Peshawar, Sub Office Quetta, and Satellite Office Karachi

Funding

USD 136.7 million requested



UNHCR Map



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR's main governmental counterparts for refugees in Pakistan are the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), the Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CCAR) and the Commissionerates for Afghan Refugees (CARs) in the Provinces. In addition, UNHCR works with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, the Economic Affairs Division (EAD) and the Ministry of Interior.
- UNHCR continues to lead the Protection, Shelter / NFI and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) clusters and provides assistance to IDPs. UNHCR works in close coordination with the FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, as well as SAFRON at federal level for the complex emergencies in KP. UNHCR implements activities through national and international Non-Government Organizations at the national and provincial levels.

MAIN UPDATES

Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

- **The regional multi-year Solutions Strategy for Afghan refugees (SSAR, phase II 2015-2017)** provides a framework for cooperation between humanitarian and development actors to address the needs of Afghan refugees; identify and implement lasting solutions for refugees, while providing assistance to the host communities. The cross-cutting thematic priority of the implementation of SSAR in Pakistan is youth empowerment through inter-linked interventions in the area of education, vocational skills training and livelihoods support.
- The temporary legal stay of Afghan refugees is guided by the national policy on repatriation and management of Afghan refugees, due to expire at the end of 2015¹. The Government of Pakistan (GoP) draft Comprehensive Policy on Voluntary Repatriation and Management of Afghan nationals beyond 2015, includes, inter alia: a) a proposal for the extension of the Tripartite Agreement on Voluntary Repatriation and the validity of the Proof of Registration (PoR) cards until the end of 2017, b) temporary management arrangements depending on the profiles and needs of the remaining refugee population, and c) continued protection for those in need, in accordance with international standards and norms. The proposal is presently pending Cabinet approval.

Durable Solutions and Protection

- **Voluntary repatriation** remains the most preferred solution for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Between January and December 2015, a total of 58,211 Afghan PoR cardholders (representing 10,294 families) have voluntarily returned in safety and dignity to Afghanistan with UNHCR support through its two voluntary repatriation centres (VRC) in Quetta and Peshawar.
- **Protection needs assessment and resettlement:** UNHCR ensures access to asylum persons seeking international protection in Pakistan. The registration of new asylum seekers is preceded by protection needs assessments (PNA). Between January and December 2015, 6,745 asylum applications (mostly Afghans) were processed through UNHCR's mandate refugee status determination procedures at the first and second instance and a total of 2,488 were recognized as refugees under UNHCR's mandate. Since April 2015, a merged refugee status determination and resettlement process for Afghan Proof of Registration (PoR) cardholders has been launched and rolled-out, leading to a significant decrease in case processing time. As of end of December, 2,382 individuals (740 cases) of the target of 2,200 individuals have been submitted to a resettlement country. A total of 1,158 individuals (387 cases) have departed to third resettlement countries. Main resettlement countries are the United States, Australia and New Zealand.
- **Registration activities:** In addition, in light of the increasing urbanization of the refugee population (68 percent living outside of the refugee villages), UNHCR followed up with GoP on the development of an urban refugee policy. Mobile registration teams have been deployed to remote areas in KP and Balochistan, by the GoP's National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), supported by UNHCR. Between January and December 2015, a total of 217,291 Afghan refugees received modified or duplicate PoR cards. In addition, a total of 81,739 children have been registered and 42,878 birth certificates were issued.
- **Legal assistance:** UNHCR through its 10 Advice and Legal Aid Centres (ALACs) provided legal assistance to over 17,000 Afghan PoR cardholders. Between January and December 2015, over 3,600 PoR cardholders were arrested or detained with an increased during the first quarter of the year. With interventions by ALAC, UNHCR advocate for the continued protection of refugees and supported arrested or detained PoR cardholders with court representations, provided legal

¹ According to SAFRON communication, the POR card has been extended for 6 months as an interim decision pending the Cabinet's formal consideration of the GOP strategy.

counselling to individuals, legal group session and the provision of basic information and referral through helpline system. UNHCR in collaboration with its implementing partners carried out capacity-building, awareness-raising activities and trainings session for police and law enforcement officials, implementing and operational partner staffs and media, as well as advocacy activities in view of the expiration of the PoR cards by the end of 2015.

Education

- UNHCR Pakistan continues to provide access to free primary education through 175 conventional schools, 48 satellites classes, and 13 Early Childhood Education (ECE) centres to approximately 77,000 refugee children living in 54 refugee villages across Pakistan. Pakistan is a pilot country for the roll-out of UNHCR's Global Education Strategy (2012-2016) and has developed its country-level education strategy which is focused on increasing access to primary education, providing safe learning environments, quality learning by improving teacher training, providing non-formal education and vocational training opportunities to ensure a sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan. To complement its Education Strategy at country-level, UNHCR has developed a monitoring and evaluation plan on education and completed a mapping of public and private learning facilities nearby refugee villages.
- UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador in China Ms. Yao Chen in mission to Pakistan:** The UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador in China Ms. Yao Chen visited Pakistan (14-18 December 2015) where she visited Kot Chandana Refugee Village in Punjab to meet beneficiaries and the **2015 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award Laureate, Aqeela Asifi**; an Afghan refugee teacher, who has dedicated her life to giving refugee girls an education. Mrs. Asifi is also among the top 50 contenders for the 2016 Global Teacher Prize. Ms. Yao Chen expressed concerns over the staggering number of out-of-school Afghan refugees and local Pakistani children. She expressed support and optimism regarding UNHCR's work on SDG 4 within Pakistan and at the global level to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030. She also thanked the Government and the people of Pakistan for their generosity in hosting Afghan refugees and their hospitality shown during her stay, particularly by ensuring her safety and security in the field.

Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA)

- Since 2009, Pakistan implements the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) initiative who is a government-led initiative and an integral part of the SSAR. Between January and December 2015, some 62 RAHA humanitarian projects are being implemented (for around USD 13 million) in the sectors of education (39 percent), health (31 percent), WASH (13 percent), infrastructure and livelihood (8 percent each) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Baluchistan, Punjab and Sindh provinces. The projects aimed at improving the living conditions of nearly 1 million people including 23 percent of Afghan refugees. In December, the Federal Task Force endorsed the revised RAHA program document (2014-2017), signed by SAFRON, CCAR, UNDP and government officers from KP, FATA and Balochistan. This revision takes into consideration various changes since the original 2009 RAHA, such as the Phase II of the One-UN program, and incorporates RAHA into the regional SSAR (phase II 2015-2017).

Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

- As of end of December, some 193,708 IDPs registered families (1,162,248 individuals) are internally displaced in and off camps in the KP province and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). That includes a total of 10,368 IDPs individuals (1,728 families) living in the three IDPs camps, namely Jalozei, Togh Sarai and New Durrani. As part of the inter-agency response, UNHCR continued to lead the protection, CCCM and emergency shelter/NFIs clusters. The agency continues to support existing displaced populations, through mobile protection teams in the KP province and existing grievance desks activities, with more than 46,107 grievance desk recorded between January and December.
- Assisting the GoP and FATA authorities in facilitating the return of IDPs from South Waziristan, Bara in Khyber Agency and North Waziristan, UNHCR has provided voluntary return forms (VRFs) to 93,015 IDP families of Khyber, South and North Waziristan Agencies as well as organized five different embarkation points in FATA. By the end of year 2015, a total 112,773 families (representing 676,638 individuals) have returned. UNHCR continued to conduct protection monitoring in areas of displacement and return.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Canada](#) | [CERF](#) | [Denmark](#) | [European Union](#) | [Germany](#) | [Japan](#) | [Luxembourg](#) | [KfW](#) | [Norway](#) | [Private donors](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [UNDP](#) | [UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) | [USA](#) |

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