

Annual Results Report

2025

Pakistan

Acknowledgements

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Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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- 4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2025, the Government of Pakistan launched phases two and three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan'. It also issued a relocation directive for Afghans living in Islamabad, Rawalpindi and adjacent areas, and de-notified the country's refugee villages. These measures had negative impacts on the rights of people in need of international protection. Only people holding valid visas were protected from forced deportation. Many were afraid to leave their homes and access to essential services became constrained.

In response to the evolving situation in Afghanistan, UNHCR published its "Guidance note on Afghanistan update II" in September 2025. The guidance highlighted that many Afghans would continue to require international protection and emphasized the importance of access to safety and asylum in Pakistan. It also underlined the need to support host communities while durable solutions were pursued for Afghan refugees, including sustainable, safe and dignified returns to Afghanistan.

UNHCR continued to engage with Government counterparts and advocated for exemptions from forced return and for clear procedures to regularize the legal stay of specific groups of Afghans. These included people facing risk of harm upon return, those with humanitarian needs, and people with links to Pakistan. UNHCR also promoted durable solutions, including resettlement and returns that were gradual, voluntary, orderly and sustainable, while advocating for continued access to essential services for refugees remaining in Pakistan.

By year-end, UNHCR continued discussions with the Government regarding exemptions from the plan's implementation for Afghans at heightened risk of harm if returned to Afghanistan. Proposed exemption categories included human rights activists, journalists, minorities and other people with concerning human rights profiles. In addition, UNHCR advocated that people with other humanitarian needs be allowed to remain in the country. These included unaccompanied children, people with disabilities, and those with links to Pakistan such as tertiary students and Afghans married to Pakistanis.

UNHCR offered its support and technical expertise to the Government in developing these protection mechanisms. Initially around 74,000 Afghans who arrived in Pakistan after 2021 and did not previously hold either Afghan Citizen Cards or Proof of Registration (PoR) cards would benefit. A further estimated 175,000 Afghans who previously held PoR cards could also fall within categories of people of concern, including minorities.

In the current context, UNHCR continued to intervene in high-risk cases, including those involving separated children and for heightened risk profiles such as journalists and human rights activists. Interventions through note verbales and direct engagements as well as legal partner interventions resulted in the release of 21 people who were at risk of harm upon return. The operation will continue to provide people with updated CwC, protection interventions and strong and consistent advocacy to build up momentum and appreciation for the need for the exemption categories.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

Forcibly displaced and stateless people can realize their rights in line with international protection standards.

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2025)
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.24%	100.00%
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	93.49%	0.00%
Stateless Persons	100.00%	100.00%

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momentum and appreciation for the need for the exemption categories.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

Women, children and vulnerable groups actively participate in society, are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse and harmful practices, and have equal access to quality public services.

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2025)
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	0.00%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	53.62%	23.63%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17.29%	2.28%

Two-way communication with communities remained crucial in 2025, as the second and third phases of the implementation of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' increased the vulnerabilities of refugees and stateless people. As a result of these heightened vulnerabilities, large numbers of people faced family separation, harassment, exploitation and abuse, arrest, detention and refoulement. Livelihoods were disrupted, resulting in harmful coping strategies, including increased reports of child labour.

Given the deteriorating protection environment, a 'do no harm' approach limited face-to-face engagement. Consequently, UNHCR's centralized national protection helpline became an increasingly important channel for sharing standardized information and identifying cases requiring referral, including for emergency cash assistance and individual case management, whether for mental health and psychosocial support, child protection or gender-based violence services. Through these channels, UNHCR also gathered real-time information on the situation of refugees and stateless people, including identifying cases requiring advocacy to access public services, particularly health and education. Building on these communication mechanisms, UNHCR adapted its working modalities and presence to respond to the emerging needs while ensuring that participation in community, livelihoods and education projects did not expose refugees to unnecessary risks.

Due to the denotification in refugee villages and in line with agreement with the local authorities, education services were adapted in some of the refugee villages and maintained in the urban areas. Preparatory work also began to shift towards non-formal education, while ensuring alignment with the national curriculum. This approach allowed UNHCR to continue discussions on exemptions that would enable people in need of international protection, including those with heightened risk profiles, to remain in the country.

Similarly, livelihoods programming continued although in many cases refugees were unable to complete courses due to deportation or the departure of family members. Livelihoods support remained one of the most requested forms of assistance.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

Sustainable solutions in safety and dignity continue to expand for forcibly displaced and stateless people.

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2025)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	25,634	18,806
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,475	1,542
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	424	163
4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed		
Stateless Persons	0	148
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0

In 2025, the Government of Pakistan continued to view return to Afghanistan as the primary objective for Afghans residing within its borders. Discussions on identifying local solutions were significantly constrained by the implementation of phases two and three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan', which deemed any stay without a valid visa as unlawful. These measures created widespread fear of arrest and deportation, prompting more than 1 million Afghans to return to Afghanistan. With the protection and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan deteriorating, compounded by mass returns from the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, the sustainability of these returns remained a concern. Although the Government of Pakistan acknowledged certain profiles within the Afghan population faced serious risk of persecution upon return, only people with valid visas were protected from forced deportation in the second half of the year.

In response to this situation, UNHCR developed and shared proposals with the Government, including support for a flexible visa regime under the "Afghan management and repatriation policy (2017)", to enable visa issuance to eligible Afghan nationals. The proposals also envisaged a protection mechanism that allowed people with heightened risk profiles, including those facing imminent harm upon return, to receive protective documentation shielding them from forced return long enough to explore durable solutions. UNHCR identified approximately 74,000 people who could fall under these categories, primarily Afghans who arrived after 2021. The Chief Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees (CCAR) had also identified an additional group of around 175,000 people registered as Proof of Registration card holders in the national database. Agreement on establishing the protection mechanism will likely depend on timebound, solution-oriented commitments from the international community, including third-country resettlement for a significant share of those granted temporary protection.

Resettlement and complementary pathways programmes continued in 2025 and were generally welcomed by the Government although resettlement quotas were significantly reduced. Departures exceeded new submissions – 1,570 refugees departed compared to 1,386 submissions – while an additional 163 people departed to five countries through complementary pathways. Departures were further hindered by the high exit permit fees introduced in 2023 for foreigners who overstayed visas or entered and remained in Pakistan irregularly.

Other Core Impact Indicators

Country	Population Type	Baseline	Actual(2025)
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services			
Pakistan	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	67.48%	61.18%

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

Protection space for refugees in Pakistan decreased considerably in 2025 following several major policy changes. Relocation directives prohibited Afghans without valid visas from residing in Islamabad and Rawalpindi, while the implementation of phases two and three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' in April and September 2025 rendered all Afghans – including former Proof of Registration card holders but excluding valid visa holders – 'illegal foreigners' and required them to return to Afghanistan following a grace period or face arrest and deportation. At the same time, the country's 54 refugee villages were also de-notified.

In the absence of a national asylum system and reliable visa system, many Afghans in need of international protection lost their ability to legally reside in Pakistan, increasing their vulnerability and restricting access to basic services, digital connectivity and livelihoods. Although authorities recognized that some Afghans with heightened risk profiles would not be able to safely return, no legal solution had been conclusively agreed upon and no clear Government guidance had been issued on the protection of these exemption categories by year-end. Nevertheless, advocacy efforts in this direction continue together with various stakeholders.

The Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees remained the only mandated Government entity responsible for Afghan refugee management. Despite requests from the Commissionerate and provincial authorities to maintain health and education services in refugee villages, multiple service disruptions occurred, including the sealing of schools by local law enforcement agencies in some of the refugee villages.

Fear of arrest and detention also pushed many refugees into hiding, resulting in the loss of livelihoods and increased negative coping strategies, mental health concerns and child protection risks.

In response, UNHCR and partners adapted implementation modalities to minimize exposure, including through remote and digital approaches. The helpline and outreach network became even more important, serving as essential communication channels for counselling, feedback and referrals. Lack of legal status also hindered partners' efforts to include refugees in their ongoing projects, prompting UNHCR to advocate for area-based programming that would benefit both refugees and host communities in Pakistan.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

In 2025, development engagement continued to progress despite the challenges posed by the implementation of phases two and three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan'. Collaboration with the Ministry of Planning fostered dialogue on refugee inclusion within Pakistan's national economic transformation plan, ensuring that displacement considerations were integrated into national planning processes and aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Under the WHR Strengthening Institutions for Refugee Administration initiative designed to improve institutional capacity for managing Afghan refugees and host communities, progress was substantial. With UNHCR support, the Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan strengthened its protection functions, completed a functional review, and rolled out protection learning programmes to enhance institutional capacity.

Engagement with international financial institutions continued, including the International Monetary Fund, the International Finance Corporation, the Asian Development Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The World Bank remained a key partner, particularly through the International Development Association 18 (IDA18) Window for Host Communities and Refugees in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Balochistan Human Capital Investment Project, both of which advanced refugee inclusion in health and education. Additional partners included GIZ and the Japan International Cooperation Agency

United Nations agencies – including UN-Habitat, IOM, UNICEF and UNFPA – contributed to the Global Refugee Forum UN Common Pledge 2.0. UNHCR and UNICEF also renewed their bilateral letter of understanding to further strengthen joint responses. Engagement under the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Outcome Groups continued, with the aim of revitalizing joint analysis and reinforcing refugee inclusion across sectors.

Progress on refugee-inclusive data was marked by two key initiatives. Refugees were included in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa multiple indicator cluster survey conducted in partnership with UNICEF, which collects household-level data on health, education, and living conditions. In parallel, UNHCR and the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees finalized a forced displacement survey aimed at strengthening the evidence base for policy development and programming.

The Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR), led by the Netherlands with UNHCR secretariat support, intensified advocacy efforts in response to the evolving context. Key priorities included maintaining a favourable protection environment and opposing forced mass returns, arrests, harassment and deportations. To support these efforts, UNHCR shared a proposal with the GoP for a protection mechanism targeting the most vulnerable Afghans.

UNHCR coordinated the refugee response through national, provincial and sectoral coordination mechanisms, engaging 42 partners, including nine UN agencies, 16 international NGOs, and 17 national NGOs. The Refugee Response Plan (RRP) served as the primary coordination framework, facilitating joint advocacy, resource mobilization, and strategic alignment. The implementation of phase two and three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' significantly affected the operating environment, making the RRP framework essential for timely information sharing, collective analysis, and coordinated donor engagement. While the RRP concluded at the end of 2025, UNHCR remained committed to inter-agency collaboration through a refugee coordination model to be implemented in 2026 and national coordination structures.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless people have access to registration and identity documentation

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	28.59%	100.00%	0.00%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator	
	Actual (2025)	
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	52,124	
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	69,570	
Stateless Persons	10,632	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

During the first half of 2025, progress continued toward preserving legal identity and documentation for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Smart Proof of Registration (PoR) cards – issued to 1.3 million refugees in 2023 – remained essential for accessing education, health care and other essential services. Between January and June, PoR card modification centres processed 78,706 applications. These included 5,261 replacements for lost cards, 12,290 birth certificates, and 4,061 family information cards. Approximately 20,000 new asylum-seekers approached UNHCR with ongoing data updates informed by protection claims and reports submitted through established channels. These efforts supported the maintenance of accurate population records.

However, progress was interrupted when the Government confirmed that the validity of PoR cards would not be extended beyond their expiry in June 2025. This decision triggered the implementation of phase three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' from September 2025.

The PoR card modification centres were closed at the end of July 2025, limiting refugees' access to documentation and legal stay procedures. This closure reduced refugees' ability to update or maintain identity documents and contributed to increased demand for repatriation processing at voluntary repatriation centres.

To respond to these changes, two modification centres were repurposed as voluntary repatriation centres while measures were taken to ensure returnees could continue registering their children to maintain family unity. Throughout 2025, 45,473 families (187,547 people) accessed voluntary repatriation centre services in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan and were processed and were issued with voluntary repatriation documents

To support accurate planning figures and advocacy on exemption categories under the implementation of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan', UNHCR conducted a rapid verification exercise. This exercise identified approximately 110,000 people registered with UNHCR who remained in Pakistan without documentation recognized by the authorities. A further verification at mid-year identified around 74,000 people who were at heightened risk of harm or with specific vulnerabilities if they returned to Afghanistan.

UNHCR also strengthened protection visibility and case management through individual registration and digital transformation initiatives. In parallel, a successful pilot of electronic filing supported the transition to digital case management, improving file management and ensuring long-term data integrity. These system improvements helped reinforce the protection framework at a time of significant operational shifts. From July 2025 onwards, the registration approach was adjusted, focusing on heightened profile at risk categories, in line with the guidance note, preparing for a digital platform roll out and continuing advocacy to support the establishment of a protection mechanism.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Refugees have access to asylum procedures in line with international standards

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	638.00	360.00	759.00

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2025)
02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Despite a High Court directive instructing the Government to establish a mechanism allowing foreign nationals to seek asylum in Pakistan, there was no progress on the enactment of asylum legislation or other steps towards establishing a State-led asylum system in 2025. In the absence of national asylum system, UNHCR continues to conduct Refugee Status Determination (RSD) to facilitate resettlement for people in need of international protection. Further details of the activities and achievements related to RSD and resettlement are available in Outcome Area 15. Resettlement in this report. In the context of IFRP, UNHCR has been consistently advocating with the Government for protection of vulnerable groups from forced return, particularly those with international protection needs, including minorities, activists, journalists, female headed households, as stipulated in UNHCR's updated Guidance Note on Afghanistan of September 2025. UNHCR proposed a mechanism for identification, issuance of

documentation and protection of such individuals from refoulement. This is work in progress, and UNHCR continues to advocate in this regard. Furthermore, to strengthen its advocacy, UNHCR shared the data with the Government, of those who it considers to be in need of international protection. These efforts are ongoing in parallel with efforts of CCAR that is working on the concept note on possible Government led mechanism for the above-mentioned categories as well as adoption of a humanitarian approach to persons with specific vulnerabilities, medical conditions, and those in mixed marriages with Pakistanis

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

A national legal and policy framework is established to uphold the rights of refugees and stateless people

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol			
None	Not yet aligned	Progressing toward alignment	Not yet aligned
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Not yet aligned	Progressing toward alignment	Not yet aligned

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2025)
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes
Stateless Persons	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The implementation of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' continued in 2025 with the expiry of Proof of Registration cards mid-year and the formal commencement of the Plan's third phase in September. Consequently, PoR card holders were rendered 'illegal foreigners' and subject to arrest, detentions and deportation, shrinking an already compromised protection space for refugees and asylum-seekers.

Despite a High Court directive instructing the Government to establish a mechanism allowing foreign nationals to seek asylum in Pakistan, there was no progress on the enactment of asylum legislation or other steps towards establishing a State-led asylum system in 2025. In view of the heightened risks of refoulement in the current repatriation-focused context, UNHCR intervened with authorities on individual cases to prevent refoulement. It also conducted sustained profile-based advocacy for exemptions from forced deportation for people at imminent risk of serious harm upon return to Afghanistan, those with humanitarian needs, and those with links to Pakistan. In addition, UNHCR advocated for and offered technical support toward the establishment of a protection mechanism that would enable the Government to verify people falling within vulnerable profiles and issue protection documentation to prevent their forced deportation.

Capacity building of the Government of Pakistan and other stakeholders on international refugee protection continued. Under the World Bank (IDA 18)-funded project, Strengthening Institutions for Refugee Administration, and with technical support from UNHCR, the Lahore University of Management Sciences delivered a training course on refugee protection for more than 200 staff of the Commissionerate Afghan Refugees and its provincial offices. The course aimed to strengthen staff knowledge and skills to support effective refugee management.

In addition, UNHCR and its legal partners trained and sensitized law enforcement, judicial and civil society actors across Pakistan. In 2025, 1,335 law enforcement personnel, 44 judges, 69 public prosecutors and 157 members of civil society received training on refugee protection and legal status. UNHCR also facilitated 13 sessions at the National University of Sciences and Technology, sensitizing 319 military officials deployed in United Nations peacekeeping and observer missions.

UNHCR, in collaboration with NUST Law School and other leading academic institutions in Pakistan, also held a three-day workshop on teaching refugee law in Pakistan. The workshop aimed to strengthen the capacity of law educators and practitioners to integrate refugee law into the legal curricula, promote informed discourse on refugee protection and support the development of national mechanisms for people in need of international protection. Participants agreed to establish a Pakistan academic consortium on refugee law and migration, which will work on refugee law and migration issues and promote a well-coordinated, consistent and updated curriculum tailored to the Pakistani context.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Gender-based violence risks are reduced, root causes addressed, and survivors receive quality services

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	42.60%	100.00%	87.98%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.95%	100.00%	92.67%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2025)
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5,843

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR worked to address the root causes of gender-based violence, reduce risks and ensure survivors received timely and quality support. Survivors were supported through case management, including safe referrals to psychosocial support, health services, legal aid and protection services. More than 500 people at serious risk were also referred to safe homes for temporary protection. Community awareness was a key focus in 2025. UNHCR and its partners held sessions on gender-based violence, safe disclosure and available support services, reaching 15,876 people, including 6,967 women,

3,910 men, 4,067 girls, and 922 boys. In addition, 11 safety audits helped identify physical and systemic dangers to 183 people. UNHCR supported 21 safe spaces for women and girls through its partners, providing physically and emotionally secure environments for 3,436 people (2,324 women and 1,112 girls) to socialize, rebuild social networks, and access multi-sectoral services.

Targeted programmes aimed at prevention and empowerment were implemented across Pakistan. The Engaging Men through Accountable Practices – a multi-session programme guided by the voices of women and girls and designed to prevent gender-based violence by encouraging male participants to rethink belief systems – was rolled out across Pakistan. 14 groups (six men and eight women) were comprised, reaching 108 men and 136 women across six locations, including refugee villages and urban areas. In addition, 24 Girls Shine programmes empowered adolescent girls aged 10 to 19 with life skills and knowledge about gender-based violence, reaching 439 adolescent girls.

Capacity building remained central to UNHCR's work on gender-based violence. UNHCR and partners trained more than 1,000 people on gender-based violence case management, Girl Shine, Engaging Men through Accountable Practices, caring for child survivors, basic gender-based violence concepts, safe disclosure, referral pathways and standard case management procedures

Cross-sectoral assessments also informed programming and response planning. An assessment co-led by UNHCR, WFP and IOM examined the protection, health and nutrition needs of refugees and host communities. Findings highlighted obstacles such as access to health, livelihoods and the need for cash assistance, which informed the development of a targeted response plan

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Children have access to quality child protection services that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, and exploitation

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	37.89%	100.00%	23.03%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1.74%	20.00%	9.70%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	93.92%	100.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2025)
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	59,468

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Child protection interventions in 2025 focused on strengthening the protection environment and improving individual support for vulnerable children. Through best interest procedures and case management, 14,741 children received targeted support, including 488 unaccompanied and separated children who received specialized protection services alongside other children facing heightened risks.

Protective mechanisms in refugee-hosting areas continued to expand, reaching 59,419 people and

enhancing measures to reduce risks for children. 10 children’s clubs and 92 community-based child protection committees provided structured protection and psychosocial support to 26,615 refugee children. These structures enabled UNHCR and its partners to support early risk identification and meaningful child participation in activities.

Community engagement initiatives sought to prevent harmful practices and promote child well-being. Key messages addressing child labour, child marriage, drug use and sexual violence reached 30,512 people, including parents, caregivers and young people. In addition, 2,341 parents and caregivers completed structured parenting programmes that promoted non-violent discipline, improved communication and the early identification of risks. To enhance children’s emotional well-being, 1,150 mental health and psychosocial support kits were distributed, helping children manage stress and build resilience. Institutional capacity-building remained a key priority. Through training and technical support, 538 Government officials, UNHCR staff and partner personnel enhanced their knowledge of child protection standards and child-friendly procedures, contributing to improved service quality and a more consistent application of protection principles.

In parallel, UNHCR and UNICEF also collaborated under a new joint country plan of action to strengthen coordination and advocate for the rights and protection of forcibly displaced children. Within this framework, UNHCR contributed to Ministry of Human Rights consultations for Pakistan’s submission to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, highlighting key challenges faced by refugee children, particularly barriers to birth registration, documentation and access to protection services.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Refugees and asylum-seekers enjoy access to justice, are aware of their rights, and are safe from refoulement

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		Actual (2025)
Population Type		
06.1.1 Number of people who received legal assistance		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		106,374
Stateless Persons		7,662

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, the Government of Pakistan expanded its ‘Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan’, with phases two and three targeting Afghan Citizen Card and Proof of Registration card holders. The expiry of these cards, combined with the non-recognition of documents issued by UNHCR for refugees and asylum-seekers, rendered all Afghans – except valid visa holders – ‘illegal foreigners’. Following a grace period, they were subject to arrest, detention and deportation.

UNHCR and partners continued to monitor arrests and detention in the country and worked with IOM to enhance protection monitoring, response and advocacy capacity. Overall, arrests and detention across all categories of Afghans increased 13-fold and 12-fold specifically for refugees and asylum-seekers. Legal support remained a central component of UNHCR’s response. Through 10 advice and legal aid centres, UNHCR and its legal partners assisted 106,374 refugees and asylum-seekers through interventions at holding sites and police stations, as well as in and out of court. The roll-out of the ‘Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan’ and the increased risk of refoulement, particularly in locations where refugees and asylum-seekers gather in groups, led to a 60% reduction in participation at legal camps and community awareness sessions, with 12,661 people attended in 2025. Consequently, staff at advice and legal aid centres mainly focused on individual legal counselling including interventions delivered in person and through its helplines. UNHCR also continued to monitor strategic litigation cases although limited progress observed in 2025.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Communities, especially women, children and vulnerable groups, meaningfully participate in decision making through inclusive approaches

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Moderate	Extensive	Moderate
Stateless Persons	Limited	Extensive	Moderate
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	60.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	46.41%	50.00%	46.14%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator	Actual (2025)
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		335
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		767,135
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		459,236

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, UNHCR sustained its commitment to engaging refugee communities in Pakistan through its outreach volunteers programme. During the first half of the year, 5,141 volunteers were actively involved in community-based protection interventions – of whom 46% were female and 10% were people with disabilities. By the last quarter, however, many volunteers – particularly in Punjab and Sindh – had returned to Afghanistan or, in some instances, been deported. Implementing community-led initiatives such as communal spaces, women and girls safe spaces and learning centres became increasingly difficult in Islamabad, Punjab and Sindh, with only a few remaining active in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa .

To support communication with refugee communities, UNHCR's helpline responded to 131,305 calls, of which 56% were from men and 44% from women, mostly aged 25 to 59. Only 1% of callers were people with disabilities. Additionally, 84% of the calls were requesting information, and 16% was requesting assistance. Through UNHCR and partner staff, 3,466 people received protection counseling support. Assistive devices and physiotherapy sessions were provided to people with disabilities to support mobility and rehabilitation. The advisory committee for people with disabilities was also expanded beyond Islamabad to Karachi, Lahore, and Attock, strengthening geographic coverage and community

engagement. Advisory meetings engaged 201 people (20% of whom were women) while awareness-raising sessions reached an additional 196 people.

Community outreach activities reached 36,189 people with information on Government policy changes, community-based complaints mechanisms, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, psychological and social support services, fraud prevention and voluntary repatriation. Individual mental health and psychosocial support sessions were provided to 5,296 people, while 549 community members – including outreach volunteers, committee members and elders – were trained in basic psychological and social support and psychological first aid. Emergency cash assistance was distributed to 1,655 people with specific needs, including women and children at risk of harm, survivors of gender-based violence, and people with serious medical or mental health conditions.

In parallel, UNHCR regularly conducted participatory assessments to ensure community perspectives were systematically incorporated into programming. Three quarterly assessments, complemented by two feedback sessions, reached 335 people.

To ensure the consistent prioritization of cases involving vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers requiring durable solutions or other forms of support – including cash assistance, psychosocial support, registration, legal aid, medical care and visa assistance – UNHCR established a case coordination meeting in Islamabad. Through this mechanism, 107 urgent cases were reviewed by the panel and recommended for appropriate interventions

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Refugees and asylum-seekers have access to sustainable housing and clean, affordable energy

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	12.98%	25.00%	19.07%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	71.86%	85.00%	71.86%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2025)
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	283,254

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, UNHCR provided sustainable, climate-resilient solutions for refugees and host communities in Pakistan, ensuring protection-sensitive and gender-responsive interventions. Significant progress was in enhancing access to clean and affordable energy and improving infrastructure.

Solar energy solutions were implemented across public and community facilities. 54 facilities, including schools, health centres, and community hubs, received solar installations while 6,505 households in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were provided with solar home systems. These interventions added to an estimated 1,832

kW of clean energy capacity in 2025, generated nearly 3 million units of energy annually and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 1,206 tonnes of CO₂e each year. Both refugees and host communities benefited, with projected reductions in electricity costs of over \$450,000 annually for the Government and the facilities.

Community awareness and infrastructure improvements complemented energy interventions. Awareness sessions on energy, environment, gender mainstreaming and climate resilience reached approximately 21,500 people, fostering sustainable settlement management and community ownership. Solid waste management campaigns were run in five refugee villages, improving infrastructure and benefiting nearly 25,000 people. 327 water facilities were also improved in refugee villages via solarization to support more equitable, reliable and affordable water access.

The Government's decision to de-notify refugee villages in the second half of the year impacted UNHCR's infrastructure and energy interventions, resulting in delays in project implementation. While essential services continued in refugee villages where people remained, an official hand-over process was initiated jointly with the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees and district authorities. This process aimed to transfer community infrastructure and assets to relevant Government line departments to ensure continued service delivery for the local population

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

Refugees and host communities have access to quality health services

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	89.19%	100.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator	
	Actual (2025)	
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	141,060	
10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5,088	

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, UNHCR delivered a broad range of health interventions across the country, ensuring refugees continued to access essential primary health care, disease prevention, and referral services. Through funded partners, refugees living in refugee villages received primary health care, with over 134,000 people accessing services nationwide, including referrals to district and tertiary hospitals. Nearly 140,000 people also participated in sessions promoting stronger community health awareness and preventive health practices.

Partnerships with national health programmes remained central to UNHCR's approach. Collaboration with the national tuberculosis control programme included refugees in national screening and treatment initiatives, reaching 110,804 refugees. When phase three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' commenced, health activities continued within Government health systems to maintain refugees' access and service continuity.

Efforts to strengthen health information and systems integration advanced in 2025. Refugees in four districts were incorporated into a pilot of the district health information system, supported by 120 tablet computers provided to district health authorities. UNHCR also supported periodic upgrades to public health facilities, including the solarization of major hospital blocks, which contributed to a more reliable power supply and greater quality of care.

Community-based initiatives and maternal-child health remained a priority. In collaboration with the Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, UNHCR launched the Hamdard Force volunteer network, establishing a community-based referral mechanism to improve the early identification of vulnerable people and linking them to essential services. More than 27,000 refugees received maternal and child-focused care and 3,364 infants under the age of one were immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Renewable energy solutions supported sustainability and cost savings in health services. UNHCR partnered with Longi Green Energy Technology to solarize one site, covering its full energy needs and projecting savings of approximately \$250,000 annually. These funds were redirected toward medicines and essential services benefiting both refugee and host communities

11. Outcome Area: Education

Refugees and asylum-seekers have access to equitable, inclusive, safe, and quality education

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	20%	25.00%	20.18%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2025)
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	60,120

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, UNHCR supported access to education for refugee children in Pakistan through assistance to 139 refugee schools across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, and Punjab. Through these schools, 49,292 refugee children accessed primary education, including 29,043 boys and 20,249 girls. A further 4,881 students attended secondary education, including 2,625 boys and 2,256 girls. Approximately 92,000 refugee children were reported to be enrolled in the national education system. At the tertiary level, 261 students continued their undergraduate studies, including 112 men and 149 women. All enrolled students received essential learning materials such as textbooks and stationery and benefited from UNHCR's digital learning programme, which expanded access to innovative and adaptive learning modalities.

Teacher development and professional capacity remained a priority. Continuous professional development strengthened subject knowledge and learner-centred pedagogy. In Balochistan, training emphasized digital and blended learning approaches, while in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa it focused on inclusive education through online modalities. Teachers were also trained in mental health and psychosocial support to enhance their ability to address students' well-being.

Community engagement strengthened education outcomes through awareness and capacity-building

initiatives. UNHCR conducted 128 education awareness sessions and 3,188 members of school management committees and parent teacher associations received training on education, child protection, gender-based violence, and mental health and psychosocial support.

Targeted initiatives addressed education barriers for adolescent girls. In 2025, 1,716 girls participated in accelerated learning programmes through 44 community-supported home-based centres, with strong engagement from mother committees – community-based groups established by UNHCR to address the specific protection, health and social needs of refugee women and children. In addition, 1,697 girls received targeted cash assistance to attend public secondary schools, primarily covering safe transport costs. These interventions improved retention and contributed to gradual positive shifts in community attitudes toward girls' education.

Learning environments were bolstered through school rehabilitation and infrastructure upgrades. UNHCR rehabilitated 35 refugee village schools in Balochistan, 30 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and eight in Punjab prior to the implementation of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan'. Renovations at three Government schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including classroom improvements, water sanitation and hygiene facilities, solar systems, and the construction of classrooms, increased access for both refugee and host community children.

The de-notification of refugee village, following the launch of phase three of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' led to significant disruptions in education. Seven schools in Punjab and nine in Balochistan were closed and overall enrolment in the remaining 124 schools declined by 27% by year-end. To minimize disruption, different measures to adapt the educational services were undertaken including engagement with authorities for inclusion of children in public schools and creating non formal and community based education services.. UNHCR continued its engagement with the Government to advocate sustained access to education, including exemptions for tertiary students. DAFI scholarship recipients and self-financed students were able to continue although some faced deportation. Advocacy with Government authorities, the Higher Education Commission and provincial education departments continued to support access, particularly for girls and out-of-school children.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

Refugees and asylum-seekers have greater access to sustainable livelihood opportunities and economic inclusion

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	4.51%	15.00%	4.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2025)
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,800

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, UNHCR's livelihoods and economic inclusion programming across Pakistan provided refugees and host communities with expanded opportunities for income generation, skills development and financial

inclusion. Activities focused on market-oriented vocational training, entrepreneurship support, and greater access to local markets.

Urban livelihood programmes targeted Afghan refugees and host communities. More than 3,800 people benefited from targeted livelihood activities across urban and refugee village settings. In urban areas, at least 575 women, primarily Afghan refugees, completed Government-certified vocational training in trades such as tailoring, embroidery, IT, English language, and carpet weaving. Of these, 490 graduates received toolkits to launch or expand home-based enterprises. Additional market-driven skills training through urban cohesion hubs supported 150 people, expanding their access to more diverse income sources. Post-training monitoring indicated that 68% of graduates reported improved household income, demonstrating the effectiveness of tailored skills and enterprise support.

Livelihood activities in refugee villages bolstered agricultural and vocational capacities. 980 people – 61% women – participated in livelihood programmes, including livestock management, agriculture, and vocational skills development with most receiving toolkits to support their work. A small group repatriated before toolkit distribution. UNHCR also collaborated with the National Incubation Centre to train 100 young people, including refugees and host community members, with 36 people receiving business grants based on the strength and sustainability of their business plans. Financial literacy initiatives reached 1,805 people. Economic inclusion efforts extended to job placement schemes, apprenticeships and support for small business start-ups. Hundreds of refugees were supported to connect to local labour markets and improve food security through agriculture-related activities. Partnerships with well-known hospitality and retail chains improved market access for Afghan artisans while a model industrial home initiative assisted 87 Afghan artisans to strengthen product development skills and expand market links.

Overall, these interventions contributed to greater self-reliance, enhanced income earning capacities and more meaningful economic participation. However, the implementation of phase three the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan' in the second half of the year hindered refugees' economic engagement and disrupted financial inclusion efforts

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

Refugees are able to make informed decisions to return to their country of origin in safety and dignity through facilitated voluntary repatriation

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2025)
14.1.1 Number of people who received counselling and/or information on voluntary repatriation	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	192,831

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, in conjunction with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), UNHCR supported the returns of 187,547 Afghan refugees through repatriation centers in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during 2025. Most (71%) were processed through the center in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In addition to registered returns, spontaneous returns continued. Some 140,135 Afghans returned spontaneously, as the return package remained accessible to all returnees. In total, 327,682 returns were reported in 2025.

The launch of phase three of the Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan in the second half of the year targeting Proof of Registration card holders led to a significant increase in the number of returnees approaching the voluntary repatriation centres as well as those returning spontaneously. The centres

provided an essential avenue for recording changes in family composition among returnees and supporting their access to assistance upon arrival in Afghanistan.

Many returnees continued to use the voluntary repatriation centres despite alternative arrangements. While UNHCR informed them that return assistance could be accessed directly in Afghanistan, many continued to use the centres as they considered the voluntary repatriation form a useful documentation to support access to reintegration services as well as hasten the return administrative processes on the other side of the border upon return. A key concern echoed by the returnees was the progressive reduction in the return grant that occurred in the year, which materially affected the prospects of their initial reintegration in Afghanistan.

UNHCR also maintained community engagement and counselling on conditions in Afghanistan. To respond to fluctuations in demand for voluntary repatriation centre services, the number of working days was adjusted throughout the year in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Refugees have access to resettlement and complementary pathways

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2025)	Actual (2025)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,161	6,500	1,386
15.3 Number of people admitted through complementary pathways from the host country			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	424	250	163

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, mandate refugee status determination, resettlement and complementary pathways remained critical protection tools, ensuring the most vulnerable people were prioritized for third country solutions. Refugee status determination primarily supported resettlement and complementary pathways. During the year, 832 individual asylum applications were adjudicated, with the average processing time from registration to first instance standing at approximately 759 days.

Resettlement remained a key pathway for durable solutions. In 2025, 1,386 refugees were submitted for resettlement to five countries: 516 to Australia, 850 to Canada, nine to Germany, six to Italy, and five to New Zealand. During the same period, 1,542 refugees departed for resettlement, including 793 to Australia, 645 to Canada, 69 to Italy, 33 to the United States, and two to the United Kingdom.

UNHCR expanded access to complementary pathways through new partnerships and pilot initiatives. In 2025, 163 UNHCR-registered individuals departed through complementary pathways: 137 through humanitarian pathways, 16 through family reunification, four through labour mobility, three through sponsorship, and three through education pathways. Key destination countries included the United States, Australia, Canada, Italy, and France.

Labour mobility efforts were also bolstered through partner collaboration. UNHCR's partners – the Society for Human Rights and Prisoners' Aid, in collaboration with Talent Beyond Boundaries and the Society for Empowering Human Resources in Balochistan – conducted 29 community outreach sessions reaching 1,063 people, emphasizing increased female participation. In total, 1,636 new candidates registered in the Talent Catalogue with 50 profiles submitted for potential employment opportunities.

Family reunification pathways advanced through targeted partnerships. Collaboration with the International Refugee Assistance Project and dedicated pathways with several countries facilitated referrals. A mechanism with the German Family Assistance Programme was established while new pathways with the French and Spanish embassies led to several case referrals and two positive decisions, including one family departure.

Education and employment pathways were further supported through innovative partnerships. UNHCR worked with the British Council to provide International English Language Testing System vouchers to 19 refugees pursuing study opportunities abroad. UNHCR also supported Australia's Community Sponsorship Program through best interests procedures for minors and assisted around 60 families, which resulted in 43 visa grants.

Towards the end of 2025, UNHCR began implementing its Digital Innovation Fund project. This initiative aims to develop a digital pathways platform to expand access to third country solutions, with piloting expected in 2026

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

Forcibly displaced and stateless people have increased access to durable legal status and civil registration, improving prospects for acquiring nationality

Core Output Indicators

Indicator		Actual (2025)
Population Type		
16.1.1. Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		Limited
16.2.1 Number of people supported by UNHCR to acquire nationality, permanent residency status or to access naturalization procedures		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		0
Stateless Persons		3,758

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2025, UNHCR implemented targeted activities to support stateless people across the three major settlements in Karachi. Sustained engagement with communities and relevant authorities contributed to improved birth registration rates, particularly for children with only one documented parent.

Legal advice and assistance focused primarily on securing identity documentation. This included follow-up with relevant government authorities, resulting in 91 people receiving identity documents that served as de facto proof of Pakistani nationality, enabling families to proceed with documentation for other members. In addition, 57 children received their birth certificates or B-forms.

Overall legal assistance reached 10,632, exceeding the original annual target by 52%. Services included individual case management, counselling, community outreach and awareness sessions.

Compared to 2024, conditions in 2025 were more conducive to advancing cases within the district judiciary. This contributed to a steady increase in applications throughout the year, reflecting increased engagement with and trust among stateless communities in UNHCR's services.

Other Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Actual (2025)
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance	
Host Community	303
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8,807

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2025, UNHCR strengthened its commitment to age-, gender- and diversity-inclusive programming in Pakistan, ensuring protection and engagement efforts reached groups facing different risks. Accountability and prevention measures were reinforced through a prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse assessment conducted for 13 partners. Improvement plans were developed for 10 partners requiring further capacity strengthening and three training sessions were delivered, reaching 59 staff members across participating organizations.

Engagement with refugee communities also expanded. In 2025, 5,141 outreach volunteers supported community-based protection activities, of whom 46% were women and 10% were people with disabilities. Feedback mechanisms remained active throughout the year with 44% of queries received from women. Four advisory councils for people with disabilities were established, providing structured spaces in the community for members to share challenges and receive feedback. UNHCR also organized training and dialogue sessions to support the participation of marginalized groups, including outreach volunteers, and supported 10 women-led community initiatives that created safe spaces for women and children while contributing to local resilience-building.

Quarterly participatory assessments further strengthened participation and consultation. Three nationwide assessments were conducted across urban areas and refugee villages, engaging 321 people through 23 focus group discussions and 15 key informant interviews. Particular attention was given to marginalized minorities, people with disabilities, and legal and physical protection risks. The data collection reflected the increasingly urban nature of displacement.

UNHCR reinforced its commitment to women and girls and gender equality through a qualitative gender analysis conducted in Peshawar, Nowshera and Quetta. The study identified risks faced by women, girls, and other refugees, contributing to a more comprehensive understanding of protection needs. Findings from the gender analysis and participatory assessments were integrated into programme planning for 2026, ensuring age, gender and diversity core actions were mainstreamed and programming remained inclusive and evidence-based.

Section 3: Resources

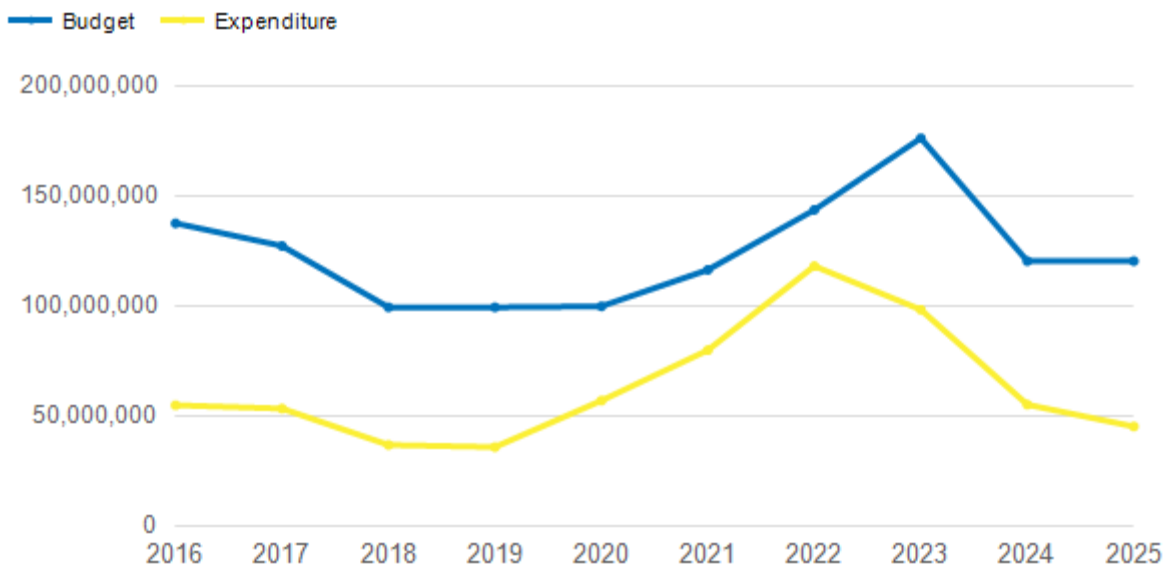
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

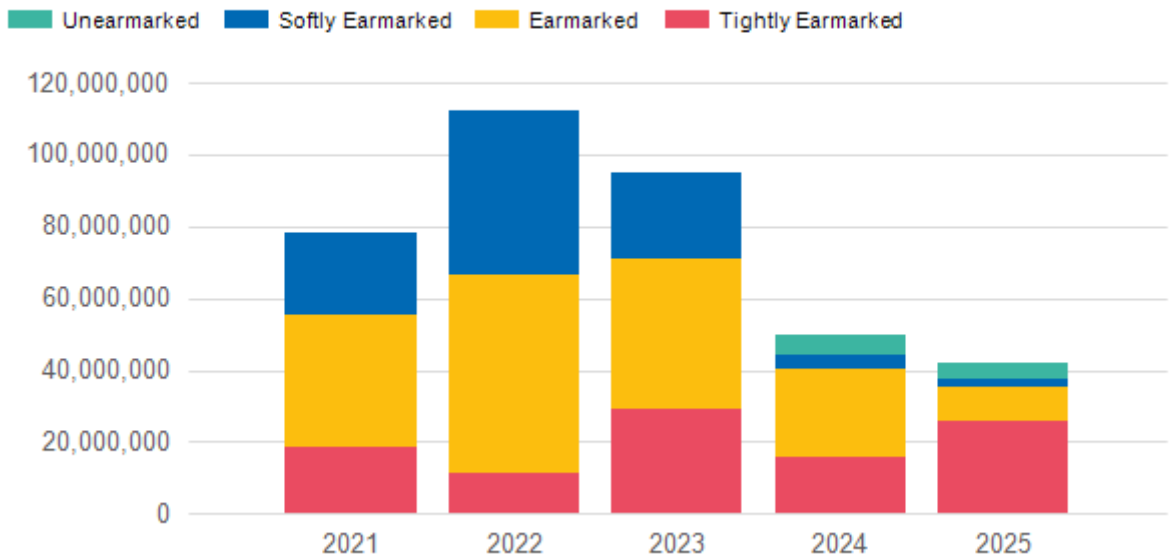
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	16,403,634	11,698,340	71.32%	11,628,131	99.40%
IA3: Empower	85,364,314	26,698,594	31.28%	26,698,594	100.00%
IA4: Solve	18,411,552	6,741,602	36.62%	6,741,602	100.00%
All Impact Areas		25,000			
Total	120,179,500	45,163,537	37.58%	45,068,327	99.79%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	7,640,594	5,351,395	70.04%	5,351,395	100.00%
OA2: Status	550,302	182,418	33.15%	112,208	61.51%
OA3: Policy/Law	2,855,966	3,154,233	110.44%	3,154,233	100.00%
OA4: GBV	8,302,595	1,886,890	22.73%	1,886,890	100.00%
OA5: Children	5,885,195	1,682,649	28.59%	1,682,649	100.00%
OA6: Justice	5,356,772	3,010,295	56.20%	3,010,295	100.00%
OA7: Community	13,202,479	6,190,543	46.89%	6,190,543	100.00%
OA9: Housing	17,138,696	2,391,734	13.96%	2,391,734	100.00%
OA10: Health	4,039,556	3,930,183	97.29%	3,930,183	100.00%
OA11: Education	21,665,483	5,956,240	27.49%	5,956,240	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	15,130,311	4,660,355	30.80%	4,660,355	100.00%
OA14: Return	9,937,569	2,836,892	28.55%	2,836,892	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	6,802,573	3,082,872	45.32%	3,082,872	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	1,671,410	821,838	49.17%	821,838	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		25,000			
Total	120,179,500	45,163,537	37.58%	45,068,327	99.79%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

UNHCR’s work in Pakistan was fairly resourced for prioritized activities in 2025. The operational budget of \$120.2M was 35% funded, with significant contributions from traditional donors including Australia, Canada, Denmark, the European Union (development and humanitarian), Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States. In addition, private sector donors from China, Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates supported UNHCR’s work.

Most funding was earmarked for multi-year programmes, providing flexibility to sustain critical protection, education and livelihoods services. However, the operational context evolved significantly during the year. The implementation of the ‘Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan’ created challenges for

programmes tied to specific outcome areas, some of which were later deprioritized due to global funding cuts and the de-notification of refugee villages. The suspension of United States funding at the beginning of 2025 further affected operations. Subsequent resource reprioritization exercises and staff optimization measures were implemented although UNHCR maintained its presence in Balochistan, Islamabad, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh.

In response to the shrinking protection space, UNHCR prioritized advocacy, community-based and legal protection interventions. This required adjustments to ongoing donor agreements to reflect evolving realities on the ground, incorporate emerging priorities and mitigate funding gaps resulting from uncertainty around United States funding.

Throughout the year, UNHCR engaged with donors to provide updates on operational challenges and to seek alignment on necessary programme adjustments, ensuring services could continue despite a complex and fluid context.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Despite significant push factors and the ongoing implementation of the 'Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan', return trends and other data from 2025 indicate that a considerable number of Proof of Registration card holders and Afghans with other documentation status are likely to remain in Pakistan in the foreseeable future. However, only some of those remaining will be people with heightened protection risks. These groups are expected to continue seeking humanitarian assistance and protection support. At the same time, the Government of Pakistan's overall position on Afghan repatriation is unlikely to change in the near term given ongoing bilateral tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Sustained advocacy will be needed to support the establishment of a State-led protection mechanism that would exempt categories of Afghans at heightened risk of harm upon return and other humanitarian categories from the Plan's implementation. Such a mechanism would also help to regularize the legal status of Afghans with heightened vulnerabilities and humanitarian needs, enabling humanitarian and development actors to continue engaging with these populations and their host communities. It is vastly understood that any developments regarding implementation of protection mechanism will depend on the future of bilateral relationships with Afghanistan.

In the meantime, outreach and assistance activities will need to adapt to the evolving context, where no legal solution currently exists for many people in need of international protection. This will require increased use of digital and remote modalities, alongside individual case follow up, in order to minimize exposure of refugees to the risks of arrest and detention.

With the phase out of the Refugee Response Plan, UNHCR will maintain its coordination role on refugee matters, and work toward operationalizing a route-based approach to support the systematic identification of people at imminent risk of harm upon return to Afghanistan. Durable solutions, including voluntary repatriation, resettlement and complementary pathways, will remain essential, alongside continued advocacy for a protection mechanism and efforts to secure civil documentation for stateless people.

Coordination with development partners will remain a priority to support national systems and services for host communities in Pakistan. Through close collaboration with the Government of Pakistan, UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders, efforts will focus on promoting inclusive national and provincial planning and programming.



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