

REPATRIATION OF AFGHAN REFUGEES FROM PAKISTAN

Supplementary Appeal
September – December 2016



19 September 2016



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Cover photograph:

Minadar, 30, has eight children and they have all returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan. He is pictured here with his three-year-old son, Adnan. Minadar had been a refugee in Pakistan since he was one year old.

UNHCR/S. Rich

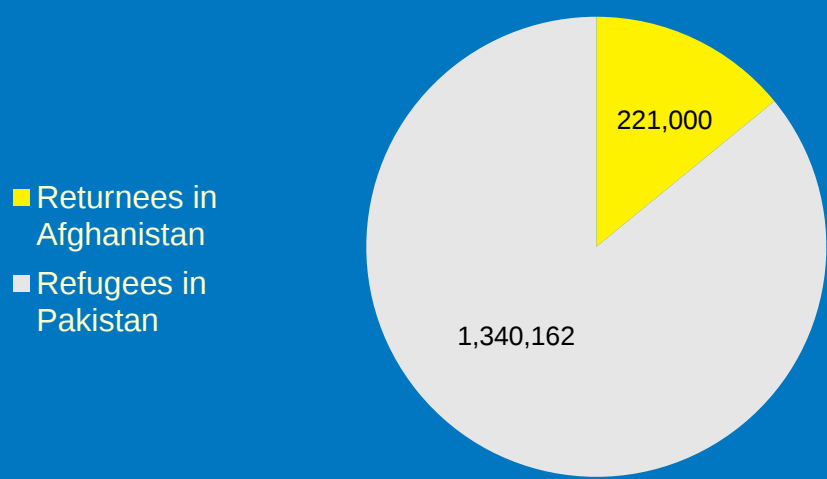
CONTENTS

AT A GLANCE.....	4
INTRODUCTION	5
Population data	6
Financial summary (US\$)	6
AFGHANISTAN.....	7
Existing response.....	7
Strategy and coordination.....	7
Planned activities	8
Financial requirements for Afghanistan (US\$)	8
PAKISTAN	9
Existing response.....	9
Strategy and coordination.....	9
Planned activities	10
Financial requirements for Pakistan (US\$)	11

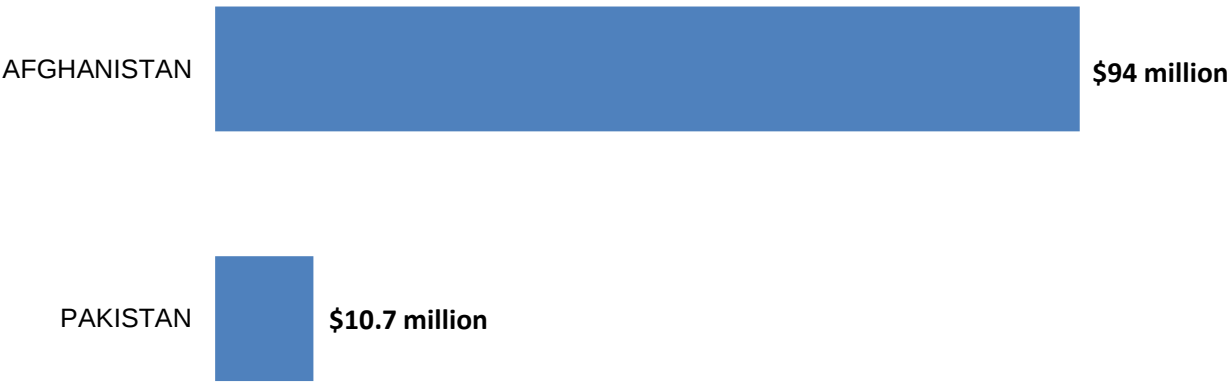
AT A GLANCE

PEOPLE OF CONCERN

A total of 1,561,162 people of concern



\$104.7 million¹ in financial requirements is needed until the end of the year to support the repatriation of Afghans from Pakistan, including \$64.2 million in supplementary requirements (\$53.5 million for Afghanistan and \$10.7 million for Pakistan, including support costs).



¹ All dollar signs in this document denote United States dollars. This total includes 7% support costs

INTRODUCTION

In July 2016, UNHCR issued its Regional Plan: Building Resilience and Solutions for Afghan Refugees in South-West Asia. Covering 2016 and 2017, the plan is embedded within the framework of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries (SSAR). It was presented in the context of Afghanistan's precarious security situation, a major push factor behind the outflow of Afghans towards Europe, while the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan have hosted 2.5 million refugees for more than three decades.

With the end of Ramadan, the rate of refugee return from Pakistan to Afghanistan has increased significantly, and has now surpassed initial projections for 2016. While only 7,804 refugees returned during the first six months of 2016, in July and August alone 72,585 refugees returned primarily from Pakistan, an increase of over 830 per cent in comparison to the beginning of the year. At the current rate, UNHCR projects that 221,000 refugees may return by the end of 2016.

Several factors are contributing to the increase in the number of refugee repatriations. Enhanced border management measures were introduced at the Torkham border crossing between Pakistan and Afghanistan, requiring every Afghan to be in possession of a valid national e-passport and Pakistani visa. In addition, while the validity of Afghan refugees' Proof of Registration (PoR) cards was provisionally extended to the end of March 2017, refugees are increasingly anxious about what may happen at the expiration of validity. Further, a number of returning refugees have reported incidents of harassment and decreased levels of acceptance by hosting communities. They also expressed unease about increased levels of security operations in Pakistan, despite assurances from the relevant Pakistani authorities as to their safety.

The increase in the number of returns is having immediate repercussions on the integration/reintegration of returnees in Afghanistan, compounding the challenges they face in accessing basic services, securing land tenure, adequate shelter and job opportunities, particularly for the youth. The doubling of the repatriation grant to \$400 per person on average – as foreseen in the Regional Plan and announced by the High Commissioner during his visit to Pakistan in June this year – aims to address these initial challenges and refugees interviewed upon arrival in Afghanistan are confirming the importance of this support.

The Conclusions of the Tripartite Commission meeting between the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan and Pakistan and UNHCR in July 2016 reaffirmed the commitment to the principle of voluntary return and the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees. It also further stressed the need to create an environment conducive for voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan, particularly by integrating returnee needs within national development planning processes across relevant line Ministries.

Against this background, this Supplementary Appeal presents the additional financial requirements for the Regional Plan to adjust to the evolving situation for the remainder of 2016, given the total number of projected returns of Afghan refugees have been adjusted upwards to 221,000. The response will continue to focus on monitoring and advocating for safe, voluntary and dignified returns of Afghan refugees, and supporting the initial phase of their integration/reintegration through the payment of repatriation grants.

Population data

		CONCERNED POPULATIONS <i>as of 30 August 2016</i>	PLANNED ASSISTED POPULATIONS <i>by 31 December 2016</i>
Afghanistan	Returnees	90,573	221,000
Pakistan	Afghan refugees	1,527,657	1,340,162*
TOTAL		1,618,230	1,561,162

* Based on the number of registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan at the end of 2015 (1,561,162), excluding 221,000 people projected to return by the end of 2016.

Financial summary (US\$)

UNHCR's Executive Committee (ExCom) budget for the Afghan situation in 2016 amounted to \$121.4 million for Afghanistan and \$105.4 million for Pakistan.

To address the needs of Afghan returnees from Pakistan, UNHCR established a supplementary budget for the needs presented in this appeal for \$64.2 million.

The total revised 2016 requirements for the Afghan situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan, including additional requirements, amount to \$291 million. Of this total, \$104.7 million is the requirement until the end of the year to support the repatriation (\$94 million in Afghanistan and \$10.7 million in Pakistan, including support costs for additional requirements).

OPERATION	EXCOM- REVISED BUDGET (excluding the Afghan RefugeeSituation ¹)	AFGHAN REFUGEE SITUATION			TOTAL REVISED REQUIREMENTS FOR 2016
		EXCOM- REVISED BUDGET ²	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL	
Afghanistan	16,373,817	121,360,048	50,000,000	171,360,048	187,733,865
Pakistan	21,960,914	105,391,442	10,000,000	115,391,442	137,352,356
Subtotal	38,334,731	226,751,490	60,000,000	286,751,490	325,086,221
Support costs (7%)	-	-	4,200,000	4,200,000	4,200,000
TOTAL	38,334,731	226,751,490	64,200,000	290,951,490	329,286,221

¹ Includes IDPs in Pakistan and refugees in Afghanistan.

² Includes the refugee and refugee-hosting area programmes (Pillars 1 and 3) in Pakistan; and the IDP and returnees programmes in Afghanistan (Pillars 3 and 4).

AFGHANISTAN

Existing response

To respond to the increased returns of Afghan refugees from Pakistan, UNHCR has scaled up the reception and processing capacity at its Encashment Centres in Jalalabad and Kabul. UNHCR provides cash grants to the returnees at the Encashment Centres at \$400 per person on average. Cash grants remain a central part of the assistance to returnees during the critical period of their initial integration/re-integration. UNHCR returnee monitoring documented that the cash grants help cover immediate needs including transport costs, initial expenses upon return, and facilitate the initial stages of integration.

In addition to cash grants, UNHCR will continue to provide services to returnees at the Encashment Centres, as well as enhanced protection interviews and monitoring. Emergency medical services and vaccinations, as well as mine risk awareness education, are provided at the Centres in collaboration with partners. Given the limited capacity of health infrastructure in Afghanistan, medical services provided at Encashment Centres may be the only opportunity for women and children to receive such assistance.

UNHCR also conducts enhanced interviews with returnees, as well as focus group discussions with returnee groups (men/women, boys/girls), at the Encashment Centres to identify protection concerns, the results of which inform UNHCR's monitoring activities and advocacy in Pakistan.

Strategy and coordination

The current context and trends apply to both refugees (Afghans holding PoR cards) and undocumented Afghans. According to IOM, the month of August alone saw more than 60,000 spontaneous returns and deportations of undocumented Afghans, increasing the annual total to 124,836, compared to 60,743 refugees returning in August and 90,573 for the year-to-date.

There is also a significant level of internal displacement in Afghanistan this year, with 229,000 people confirmed as newly displaced due to ongoing conflict in areas accessible to the UN and its partners. This number continues to grow. UNHCR will continue working with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), with its response part of the overall humanitarian action addressing the needs of different types of population movements.

Based on the recent trends, UNHCR is anticipating there may be 221,000 returning refugees in 2016, with high overall levels of vulnerability. Many have few resources and little time to prepare for return. In addition, many have lost vital community linkages with Afghanistan and risk becoming secondarily displaced without access to land, shelter and livelihoods, in particular with the approach of winter.

UNHCR and IOM as members of Afghanistan's HCT have been advocating for timely support for the needs associated with returns of refugees and undocumented Afghans, as well as IDPs. A collective inter-agency approach is key to providing humanitarian assistance to returnees to meet their immediate needs as the winter approaches. To respond to the humanitarian needs as a result of the sharp increase in returns and internal displacement, the HCT launched an inter-agency Flash Appeal, within which UNHCR's requirements under this Supplementary Appeal are included.

UNHCR requires \$90.5 million to address the immediate needs of 221,000 returnees in 2016. Of this amount, \$50 million included in this Supplementary Appeal is urgently needed to continue the provision of cash grants to 120,000 returnees.

Planned activities

Durable solutions

Potential for voluntary return realized

- Provide cash grant to 120,000 returnees to help address their immediate needs upon return to Afghanistan.

Financial requirements for Afghanistan (US\$)

UNHCR's 2016 ExCom-revised budget for Afghanistan to support refugee returns from Pakistan to Afghanistan amounts to \$121.4 million. To address the needs of returnees during the critical integration/re-integration period, UNHCR has established a supplementary budget for the requirements presented above for Afghanistan amounting to \$53.5 million, including support costs, as shown in the table below.

	EXCOM-REVISED BUDGET (Afghan Situation)	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL
Basic Needs and Essential Services	24,308,068	-	24,308,068
Population has sufficient basic and domestic items	6,891,542	-	6,891,542
Services for persons with specific needs strengthened	727,085	-	727,085
Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and maintained	16,689,441	-	16,689,441
Community Empowerment and Self Reliance	16,641,394	-	16,641,394
Peaceful co-existence with local communities promoted	12,069,799	-	12,069,799
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	4,571,595	-	4,571,595
Durable Solutions	57,890,753	50,000,000	107,890,753
Potential for voluntary return realized	55,509,224	50,000,000	105,509,224
Reintegration made more sustainable	2,381,529	-	2,381,529
Fair Protection Processes and Documentation	4,259,794	-	4,259,794
Quality of registration and profiling improved or maintained	4,259,794	-	4,259,794
Favourable Protection Environment	6,633,672	-	6,633,672
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	5,106,086	-	5,106,086

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18088

