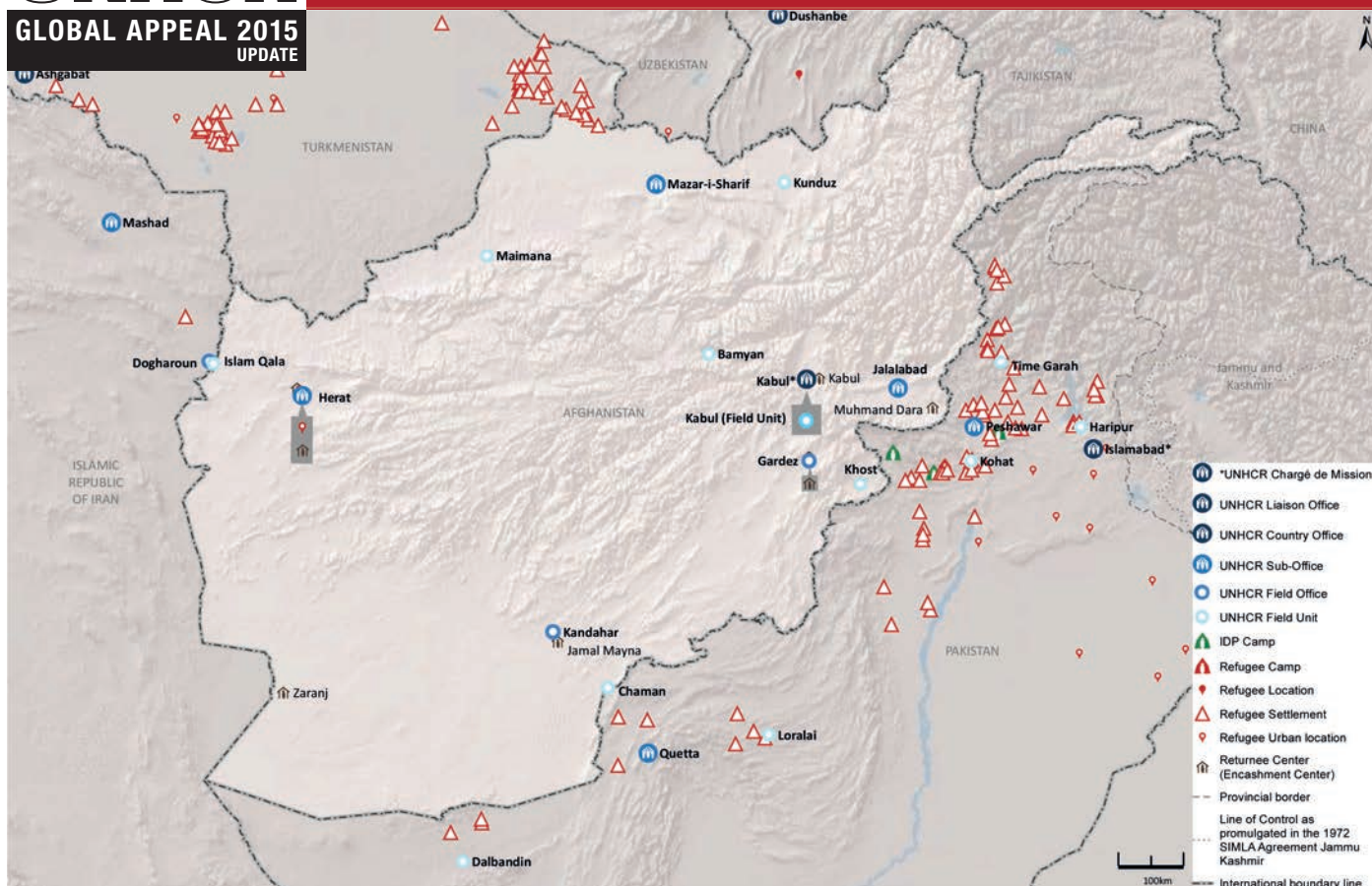




UNHCR

GLOBAL APPEAL 2015 UPDATE

AFGHANISTAN



Planned presence

Number of offices	6
Total personnel	267
International staff	34
National staff	222
JPOs	1
UN Volunteers	6
Others	4

2015 plan at a glance*

1.4 million	People of concern (PoC)
USD 134.6 million	Overall funding requirements

* All PoC figures refer to projected 2015 end-year information at time of planning (mid-2014)

| Overview |

Working environment

- It is anticipated that the newly-formed national unity Government will demonstrate commitment to creating an enabling environment for sustainable returns. The withdrawal of international security forces, as well as a complex economic transition are, however, likely to affect peace, security and development in Afghanistan. Humanitarian needs are not expected to diminish in 2015. Support and assistance from the international community will be essential to ensure a transition towards more stable development.
- The Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) remains the main policy framework for sustainable reintegration of those returning to Afghanistan. The National

Steering Committee established in 2014 aims to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the SSAR's initiatives.

- Many returnees have migrated to towns and cities, contributing to the country's rapid urbanization. As rising poverty and unemployment in urban centres prevent them from reintegrating into society, many will need basic assistance.
- Currently, there is no national asylum and refugee legislation in Afghanistan, so UNHCR is conducting refugee status determination (RSD). A draft national refugee and asylum law, prepared with UNHCR assistance, is awaiting inclusion in the 2015 legislation agenda.

- The Government of Afghanistan respects the principle of *non-refoulement* and host communities have provided generous support; however, refugees face protection concerns related to the volatile security situation, and difficulties in accessing basic services.
- Insurgency continues to spread from southern Afghanistan to large areas of the north and centre and is likely to remain a threat to stability in 2015. While violence may displace more people, insecurity is likely to continue restricting humanitarian access. Economic insecurity and the Government's limited capacity to provide basic services are also challenges. *Ipiet evel illa vellentusam, omni offictem. Nequote audisi coriae vitem incitatis et autatur, solori dolla am, odicia nis esseque porem et preptae*

People of concern

Since 2002, more than 5.8 million Afghan refugees have returned home, 4.7 million of whom were assisted by UNHCR. Representing 20 per cent of Afghanistan's population, returnees remain a key population of concern to UNHCR. Refugee returns have dwindled during the past five years and owing to insecurity and a difficult socio-economic situation, only around 10,000 refugees returned during the first seven months of 2014.

In June 2014, following military operations in North Waziristan Agency, Pakistan, more than 13,000 families

(some 100,000 people) crossed into Khost and Paktika provinces in south-eastern Afghanistan. Many of them settled within host communities, however approximately 3,300 families reside in Gulan camp, Khost province. A substantial number could remain in Afghanistan, despite expectations that an early return may be possible.

By mid-2014, 683,000 people were internally displaced by the conflict affecting 30 of the 34 Afghan provinces. More than half of Afghanistan's internally displaced people (IDPs) live in urban areas.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Jan 2015		Dec 2015	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Islamic Rep. of Iran	40	40	40	40
	Pakistan	50	50	60	60
	Various	10	10	10	10
People in refugee-like situations	Pakistan	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000
Asylum-seekers	Islamic Rep. of Iran	20	20	20	20
	Pakistan	40	40	50	50
	Various	10	10	10	10
Returnee arrivals during year (ex-refugees)	Afghanistan	172,000	172,000	172,000	172,000
Internally displaced	Afghanistan	765,000	765,000	900,000	900,000
Returnee arrivals during year (ex-IDPs)	Afghanistan	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Others of concern	Afghanistan	201,280	201,280	305,000	305,000
Total		1,204,440	1,204,440	1,443,170	1,443,170

| Response |

Needs and strategies

The SSAR remains the regional policy framework and aims to enhance the reintegration of refugee returnees by strengthening partnerships with development actors and advocating sustainable solutions for people of concern.

Shelter remains the most pressing need for returnees, IDPs and people in a refugee-like situation, particularly in large cities, where land issues are prevalent. Another critical issue throughout Afghanistan is a lack of both drinking and irrigation water.

Scarce resources and limited basic infrastructure are linked to poor employment opportunities, which also affect the sustainable reintegration of Afghan returnees.

Women and girls face challenges in attending school, obtaining identification cards, or participating in local decision-making structures. Standard referral

and response mechanisms for survivors of violence do not yet exist in Afghanistan. In rural areas, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) lack psychological and social support. UNHCR has a five-year plan to prevent SGBV in Afghanistan and promote women's empowerment.

Main objectives and targets for 2015

The following matrix contains examples of some of the main activities planned in 2015.

Using a selection of objectives from UNHCR's programme plans for the 2014-2015 biennium, it is designed to illustrate:

- what - under the global needs assessment planning and prioritization process - has been planned (**Planned activities**) for particular groups of people of concern (**People of concern**);
- the identified needs that can be covered if full and flexible funding is made available (**2015 comprehensive target**); and
- the needs that may not be met if funding falls short of the ExCom-approved budget (**Potential gap**). The estimation of a potential gap is based on the country operation's own assessment of the likely impact of a global funding shortfall. Calculations are based on various criteria, including the particular context,

strategic priorities and experience of resource availability for the respective area of activity in previous years.

Activities under objectives on child protection (including best interest determination), education and prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are core areas which are given priority in the allocation of funding (priority area). In order to ensure the necessary flexibility in the allocation of funds, UNHCR relies on unrestricted contributions from its donors.

It should be understood that in some cases, targets for activities or delivery of services may not be reached for reasons other than a funding shortfall, e.g. lack of access to people of concern, cases not reported, changing circumstances, security problems, insufficient capacity to implement all programmes planned, etc. In the Global Report 2015, an explanation of why any target may not have been reached will be provided.

Planned activities	People of concern (PoC)	2015 comprehensive target	Potential gap
BASIC NEEDS AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES			
Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and maintained			
In response to findings from a 2013 comprehensive needs assessment, shelter remains a cornerstone of UNHCR's reintegration activities in 2015. Identified as a key need for refugee returnees and IDPs, UNHCR will provide shelter and infrastructure assistance in all provinces. Interventions will also benefit the host communities to increase their absorption capacity, promote coexistence, and facilitate their ability to support the most vulnerable returnee families.			
Number of permanent shelters constructed	Afghan returnees	10,110	9,526
Number of emergency shelters provided	IDPs	2,037	1,710
DURABLE SOLUTIONS			
Reintegration made more sustainable			
While UNHCR has consistently worked towards ensuring that refugee and IDP returnees have the same access to rights and services as citizens, their access remains constrained in a number of areas. In 2015, UNHCR will continue to assume an advocacy role with development actors, financial institutions and other key stakeholders in order to address existing protection concerns and needs.			
Extent to which reintegration monitoring system is established	Afghan returnees	100%	50%

Planned activities	People of concern (PoC)	2015 comprehensive target	Potential gap
Potential for integration realized			
Information gaps regarding IDPs, particularly with regard to secondary displacement and spontaneous returns, present a challenge. Improving data collection, monitoring and sharing remains a priority in 2015.			
Extent to which area- or sector-based monitoring systems providing disaggregated data are established	IDPs	100%	63%
SECURITY FROM VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION			
Risk of SGBV reduced and quality of response improved			
Following on from the SGBV strategy developed for IDPs and refugee returnees, interventions will continue to focus on: promoting the establishment of women's <i>shuras</i> for improved representation; facilitating forums for women through skills development, while encouraging dialogue on culturally sensitive topics; tackling harmful practices, such as preventing girls from attending schools and being forced into early marriage; monitoring IDP and returnee children's education; and providing accurate information to relevant institutions to create more opportunities for women and girls.			
Number of community-based committees and groups working on SGBV prevention and response	IDPs	114	priority area

| Implementation |

Coordination

The national steering committee, under the auspices of the SSAR, was established in 2014. The Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation, and its provincial departments, remain UNHCR's main government counterparts for voluntary repatriation, sustainable return and reintegration.

UNHCR participates in the 2014-2019 Common Country Assessment/UN Development Assistance Framework

(CCA/UNDAF) process to ensure returnees and IDPs feature prominently in development priorities. The SSAR will be closely aligned with the UN Secretary-General's Policy Committee Decision on Durable Solutions.

UNHCR leads the protection cluster and co-leads the emergency shelter and non-food items cluster for IDPs. A road map for IDP policy implementation has been adopted and action plans will be drawn up.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies:

Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation, Departments of Refugees and Repatriation, Departments of Public Health and Departments of Education at the provincial level

NGOs:

Afghan General Help Coordination Office; Afghan Planning Agency; Afghan Red Crescent Society; Afghan Unique Development Organization; Ansari Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan; Assistance for Health, Education and Development; Central Afghanistan Welfare Committee; Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance; Coordination of Rehabilitation and Development Services for Afghanistan; Development Humanitarian Services for Afghanistan; Humanitarian Action for the People of Afghanistan, Mediothek Afghanistan; New Irrigation Organization; Norwegian Project Office/Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan; Organization for Development Care and Gender; Organization for Relief Development; Organization for Research and Community Development; Organization of Human Welfare; Razi Social Development Organization; Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan Organization; Rehabilitation Association and Agriculture Development for Afghanistan; Sanayee Development Organization; Shafaq Reconstruction Organization; Shelter Now International; The Liaison Office; Voluntary Association for the Rehabilitation of Afghanistan; Watan's Social and Technical Services Association; Welfare and Development Organization for Afghanistan; Women for Afghan Women; Youth Assembly for Afghanistan Rehabilitation

Others:

Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, UNV

Operational partners

Government agencies:

Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock; Ministry of Energy and Water; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled; Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development; Ministry of Women's Affairs

NGOs:

Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief; Afghan Red Crescent Society; Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council

Others:

Asian Development Bank, ILO, IOM, OCHA, UNICEF, UN Women, UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and UN Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan (UNMACCA), World Bank, WFP

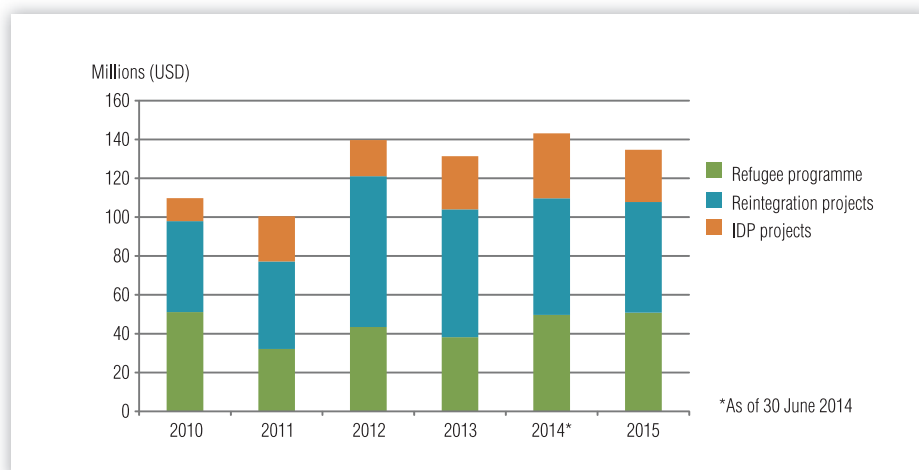
| Financial information |

The decrease in the Afghanistan operation's budget from 2012 to 2013 reflected dwindling returns associated with heightened uncertainty amongst refugees and a complex transition process.

The new refugee situation (people fleeing the conflict in North Waziristan in Pakistan) into Khost and Paktika provinces that has arisen since June 2014 will require additional resources that were not planned and therefore not reflected in the 2014 budget.

For 2015, the comprehensive needs are estimated at USD 134.6 million.

Budgets for Afghanistan | 2010–2015



2015 budget for Afghanistan | USD

Budget breakdown	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
2014 revised budget (as of 30 June 2014)	49,639,497	60,084,704	33,441,595	143,165,796
Favourable protection environment				
Law and policy	87,000	0	145,456	232,456
Access to legal assistance and remedies	0	3,717,130	1,103,190	4,820,320
Subtotal	87,000	3,717,130	1,248,646	5,052,777
Security from violence and exploitation				
Prevention and response to SGBV	0	3,870,415	1,993,846	5,864,261
Subtotal	0	3,870,415	1,993,846	5,864,261
Basic needs and essential services				
Health	432,672	0	0	432,672
Shelter and infrastructure	0	19,977,477	5,582,190	25,559,667
Basic and domestic items	575,672	5,893,994	6,997,918	13,467,584
Services for people with specific needs	0	0	1,028,066	1,028,066
Subtotal	1,008,344	25,871,472	13,608,173	40,487,989
Community empowerment and self-reliance				
Coexistence with local communities	0	10,348,012	4,382,773	14,730,785
Self-reliance and livelihood activities	0	2,263,205	0	2,263,205
Subtotal	0	12,611,218	4,382,773	16,993,991
Durable solutions				
Voluntary return	46,714,886	0	0	46,714,886
Reintegration	0	4,372,583	0	4,372,583
Integration	0	0	4,233,796	4,233,796
Resettlement	67,000	0	0	67,000
Subtotal	46,781,886	4,372,583	4,233,796	55,388,264
Leadership, coordination and partnerships				
Coordination and partnerships	0	0	1,412,981	1,412,981
Subtotal	0	0	1,412,981	1,412,981
Logistics and operations support				
Logistics and supply	0	6,482,280	0	6,482,280
Operations management, coordination and support	2,961,344	0	0	2,961,344
Subtotal	2,961,344	6,482,280	0	9,443,625
2015 total budget	50,838,574	56,925,099	26,880,214	134,643,886