



# CONFLICT-INDUCED INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT—MONTHLY UPDATE

UNHCR AFGHANISTAN

JUNE 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS

Total May 2013	Increase June 2013	Decrease June 2013	Overall change June 2013	Total displaced as at 30 June 2013	Total recorded in 2013
570,705	3,622	0	3,622	574,327	93,368

- **IDPs overall:** As at 30 June, 574,327 persons (89,530 families) are internally displaced due to conflict in Afghanistan.
- **June 2013\*:** 3,622 individuals (524 families) have been recorded as newly displaced due to conflict of whom 112 individuals (3%) were displaced in June, while 307 individuals (8%) were displaced in May, 996 individuals (27%) in April and 340 individuals (9%) in January 2013. The remaining 1,867 individuals (52%) were displaced before 2013.

\*Since often displacement is only recorded several months after the displacement occurred, the monthly figures are continuously updated.

IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons) are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to, avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border (*UN Secretary General, Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, 11 February 1998*).

## DISPLACEMENT TRENDS BY REGION 2013

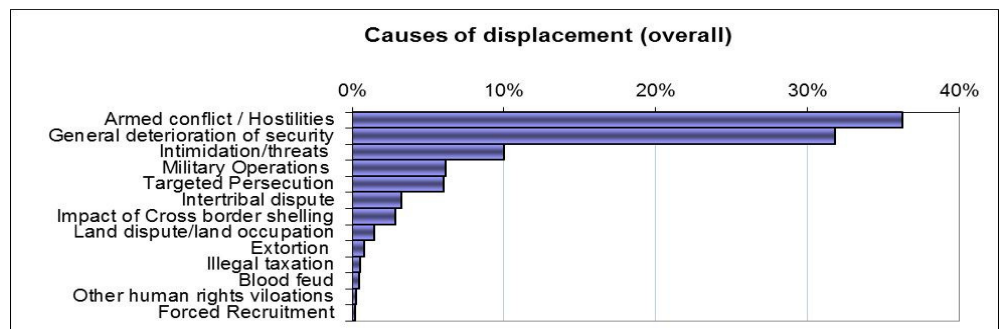
Of the total reported displacement in June 2013, the Southern region reported the highest increase in the number of IDPs. The key cause of displacement in this region has been military operations in Helmand and Uruzgan provinces. The Northern region reported the second highest number of displacements mainly due to forced recruitment by AGEs, armed conflict, generalized violence, harassment, illegal taxation and extortion by AGEs and general deterioration of security situation. The Western region reported the third highest number of displacement where people moved due to frequent confrontations between ANSF and AGEs, tribal conflict, intimidation and extortion by Illegal Armed Groups and general deterioration of security situation. The main reasons for displacement in the Eastern region included harassment and intimidation by AGEs. South-east region reported tribal

Region	end-May 2013	Increase	Decrease	end-June 2013
North	65,081	1,095	-	66,176
South	179,333	1,627	-	180,960
Southeast	12,371	119	-	12,490
East	103,700	141	-	103,841
West	158,782	640	-	159,422
Central	51,438	-	-	51,438
Central Highlands	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>570,705</b>	<b>3,622</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>574,327</b>

conflict and intimidation of AGEs as main causes of displacement. No displacement reported for Central region. The displacement of Central Highland has not been included in the data system in June but will be added to the data of July.

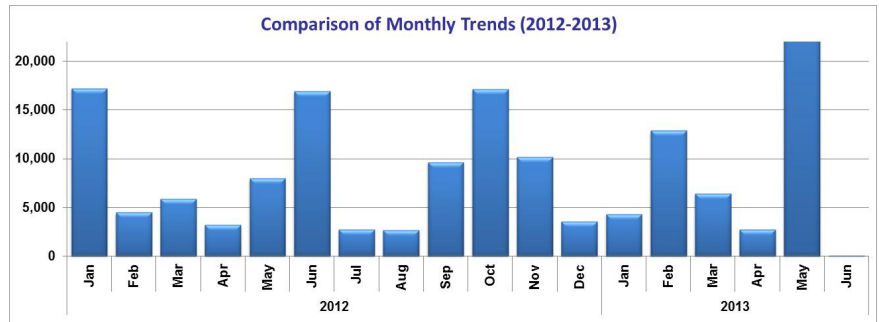
## CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT

During assessments, IDPs are asked about the main reasons why they left their homes. Overall, most IDPs cite armed conflict as the main reason for their flight. However, general insecurity and AGE intimidation and / or threats are increasingly stated as the trigger to move.

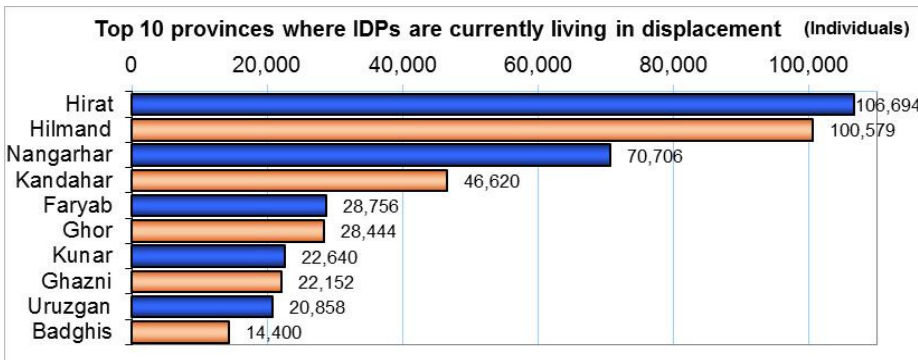


### COMPARISON OF MONTHLY TRENDS (2012-2013)

This chart describes the displacement trends by month in 2012 and 2013. Since often displacement is only recorded several months after the displacement occurred, the monthly figures are continuously updated.



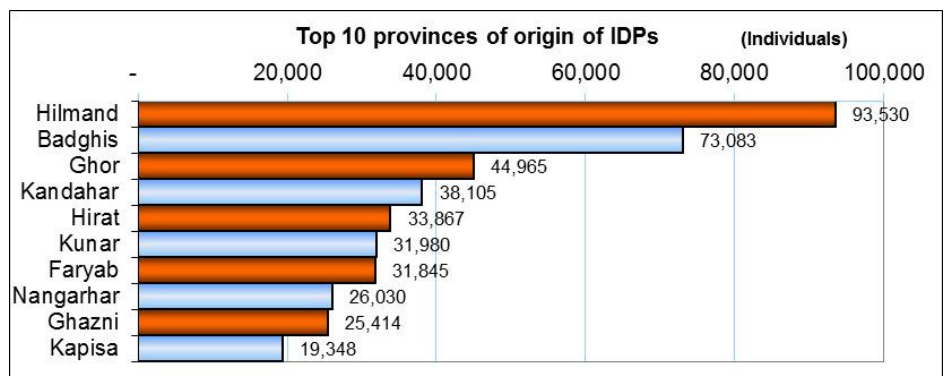
### TOP 10 PROVINCES OF DISPLACEMENT



The Province of Hirat currently hosts the largest conflict-induced IDP population (19%) in the country, followed by Hilmand (18%), Nangarhar (12%), Kandahar (8%), Faryab (5%), Ghor (5%), Kunar (4%), Ghazni (4%), Uruzgan (4%), and Zabul (3%).

### TOP 10 PROVINCES OF ORIGIN OF IDPS

Overall, the province of Hilmand in the South has produced the largest number of displacements (16%), followed by Badghis(13%), Ghor ((8%), Kandahar (7%), Hirat (6%), Kunar (6%), Faryab (6%), Nangarhar (5%) Ghazni (4%),and Kapisa (3%).



### EMERGENCY NFI ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-INDUCED IDPS

Region	UNHCR	SCI	IOM	NRC	Total
North	7,818	1,846	-	1,392	11,056
Northeast	1,766	-	-	-	1,766
South	26,771	-	-	-	26,771
SouthEast	-	-	-	-	-
East	2,156	-	-	348	2,504
West	5,050	-	-	522	5,572
Central	9,456	-	-	-	9,456
Central Highlands	-	35	531	-	566
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,017</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>57,691</b>

Following joint humanitarian assessments undertaken under the auspices of the IDP Task Force 57,691 conflict-induced IDPs were assisted by the Emergency Shelter/ NFI cluster members in 2013. In June 2013, a total of 4,635 conflict-induced IDP individuals received a NFI package which consists of a minimum of six blankets, one plastic sheet, two jerry cans, cooking gas cylinder, kitchen set and plastic buckets.

## KEY PROTECTION ISSUES BY REGION

### Northern Region

#### Badakhshan

**Situation:** 99 families (627 individuals) were displaced from War-duj district of Badakhshan to Baharak district of the same province due to forced recruitment by AGEs, armed conflict and generalized violence in their places of origin. These families were displaced during May, but identified, assessed and entered into the data system during June. The assessment of this group was conducted by a joint team including UNHCR IP Ahead, DoRR, ARCS, DoWA, Mission East and representatives from provincial and district governor of Baharak in early June. The families were found to be in need of food and non-food items. Some families are living in a school compound, some others in their relatives' houses, while the rest are living in rented accommodations. Tents were the most demanded items by those families living in the school compound. According to the IDPs, they will be very soon expelled from the school building. Health clinic is available in Baharak district center which is about 2 hours by walk from where IDPs are located. Cases of diarrhea, cold and cough diseases have been observed amongst IDP children. IDPs are using the river and water from the canal. Due to the recent displacement children are not yet enrolled in school. The IDPs do not want to return to their places of origin until they are completely peaceful.

**Response:** On 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2013, all 99 families received NFIs from UNHCR and food items for three months from WFP through UNHCR FO Kunduz.

#### Baghlan

**Situation:** 8 families (62 individuals) were displaced from Bala Murghab district of Badghis to Faryab Province and later from there to Baghlan-e-Jadid district of Baghlan province. They have been displaced in Mid-December 2012 but identified, assessed and entered into the data system during May-June 2013. Reason of displacement has been the harassment by AGEs and armed conflict between government and AGEs. All families are Pashtun. They are all lacking Tazkira. IDPs are living in the houses of the local community. The community has assisted them with kitchen sets and some other house items. They are treated well by the local authorities as well. No other protection issue has been reported by IDPs. Some IDPs work sometimes for daily wages but most of the times they are jobless. Local authorities have given them two motor-bikes to use for transportation. The nearest health facility is located one and half Km from IDPs location that is 800 meters away from the paved road between Kunduz and Poli Khumri; hence they have easy access to the market. There is a school in the village, but the IDP children are not attending, however they are studying in the mosques. IDPs are willing to return back to their place of origin in Badghis province, but at this stage considering the insecurity in their place of origin this option is still remote. They claimed they would prefer to relocate if they find a safer location due to the reported presence of some AGEs in their current location. **Response:** UNHCR and DoRR provided NFIs to the IDPs on 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2013. According to ARCS, all families are in their pending list to be provided with food assistance.

#### Faryab

**Situation:** 38 families (228 individuals) were displaced from Pashtunkot district of Faryab province to Maimana city within the same province. They have been displaced during March 2013 but identified, assessed and entered into the data system in June. Initially the IDPs claimed that 65 families were displaced from the mentioned district, but during the assessment, the team identified only 38 families as IDPs. The remaining families (28 families) were protracted IDPs which were locally integrated. Most of the displaced families are relatives of a former commander who has already fled the area because of threats he received from another local commander. The active commander in the area and also AGEs regularly asked the IDPs to pay them illegal taxation. Those who could not provide the mentioned taxation, decided to leave their place of origin. Most of the IDPs are living in rental houses while some of them have been temporarily provided accommodation by their relatives. The IDPs face difficulties in access to proper amount of food for their families because they don't have enough incomes to buy sufficient food from the market. The IDPs are wishing to return to their places of origin whenever the security situation improves. All of the families have access to basic services such as water, health, school, electricity and also to market. Some of the men are working as daily laborers with little income while the majority of the IDPs are jobless. To be mentioned that the women have skills (handicrafts), however they do not have money to purchase materials to start small businesses. The immediate needs of IDPs were identified as food and NFIs.

**Response:** No assistance has yet been provided to IDPs. UNHCR Mazar will provide NFI while food assistance (three months rations) will be given by WFP.

#### Sarepul

**Situation:** 30 families (178 individuals) were displaced from Sancharak, Kohistantat and Sozmaqala districts of Sarepul province to Sarepul center from February up to April 2013. They have been identified, assessed and entered into the data system in June. The mentioned group was assessed by a joint team consisting of DoRR, WFP, NRC and NPO in June 2013 and it was found that they were displaced mainly because of general deterioration of security due to presence of AGEs and their regular extortions. During house to house visit, the assessment team found the living condition of IDPs very poor, but they have access to electricity and other social facilities available in the area. Some of the IDPs are living in the houses of their relatives while the others in the rental accommodations. They have access to drinking water, school, clinic, justice and other social facilities but due to poverty, their children are not attending school. Most of the children are doing heavy works. The male members of the families are working as daily laborers. They rarely find jobs in the city and the money they earn is not sufficient to maintain

their families. Food, non-food items and potable water are found to be their first needs. Some of the families prefer to locally integrate in Sarepul center where security is better than their place of origin and they have partially access to jobs.

**Response:** Assistance will be provided in July.

### Western Region

#### Badghis

**Situation:** 67 families (359 individuals) in 3 caseloads were added to the IDPs data of Badghis during June. Out of them, one caseload was assessed during June and two others during the previous month, but all of them were added to the statistics during June. The families originally belong to **Moqor district of Badghis province**. These IDPs were **displaced to Qala Naw**, center of Badghis. IDPs stated that they moved due to the frequent confrontations between ANSF and AGEs. IDPs also complained about the AGEs extortions such as requests of food, accommodation, money and man power. Majority of the IDPs are residing in rented houses in Qala Naw while some of them are using UNHCR and IRC donated tents.

**Response:** IDPs have been provided with food and NFIs by WFP, UNHCR and IRC.

**Note:** the situation of the IDPs, who were displaced in May due to the tribal conflict in Abkamary of Badghis (669 families reflected in the report of previous month), was closely monitored during June. Government-led reconciliation attempt between the two rival tribes is ongoing and the IDPs will start returning to their places of origin soon.

#### Ghor

**Situation:** 36 families (186 individuals) in 8 caseloads were assessed during June. Assessment reports indicate that these IDPs belong to **Cheghcheran, Charsada, Dolaina, Shahrak, Taiwara and Passaband districts of Ghor province**. IDPs have been displaced due to tribal conflict, intimidation and extortion by Illegal Armed Groups. All the IDPs are currently residing in **Cheghcheran center** and majority of them are residing in rented houses while some families are under ACF donated tents.

**Response:** All IDPs have been provided with food and NFIs by UNHCR, ACF and WFP.

#### Farah

**Situation:** During June, 20 IDP families (95 individuals), all ethnically Pashtun, were displaced from **Khaki Safed, Lash wa Juwain and Anar Dara districts of Farah** to the vicinity of **Farah city center**, an area called **Bagh-e-Pul-e-Naw**. The main reason for their displacement was reported as general deterioration of security situation. They reported that the AGEs used to regularly approach people which ended up with more military operations resulting to disturbances to the normal life of the people in the area and forced these families to leave their places of origin. The assessment on the situation of IDPs was taken place jointly by WFP, DoRR Farah, and VARA (UNHCR's Partner).

**Response:** Food and non-food items have been provided to the entire group by NHCR and WFP following the assessment.

### Southern Region

#### Kandahar

**Situation:** 133 families (1,174 individuals) from **Washer, Sangin, Musa Qala, Kajaki and Nawzad districts of Helmand province** were displaced to **Lashkargah city**, center of Helmand province during June. Joint team including DoRR, PDMC, WFP, IOM and the Liaison officer of UNHCR assessed the situation of IDPs in Lashkargah. The reason for displacement was the military operation and mine fields in their places of origin. The current situation of these IDPs reported to be poor and in need of assistance in terms of food and non-food items. One major protection concern was physical security of IDPs. The IDPs were living in rented and shared houses with poor living condition. Civilian casualties among the IDPs including women and children were also reported. The existing hospital in Lashkargah is responding to the victims of conflict. Their children are not attending schools because of the official closure of schools at this season. Reports from field show that most of the IDPs were willing to return back to their place of origin once the military operation is ended, other IDPs showed interest to stay in place of displacement because of mine fields in their places of origin.

**Response:** The Food and NFI assistance is on-going and all the families will receive the package soon.

**Note:** as an update on the situation of 27,706 individuals who were displaced in Helmand province during the previous month (reflected in last monthly report), it should be mentioned that a joint team consisting of (PDMC, UNHCR, WFP, and IOM) managed to conduct an assessment on the situation of IDPs in Lashkargah city on 12 June 2013 and also in the other districts where the displacement happened. One of the major protection concern found by the assessment team was the civilian casualties. Over 100 injury cases have received medical treatment by nearby hospitals. Cases of death were also reported but the number is not yet known. Assistance has been provided to IDPs in Lashkargah city as well as in other districts although it was delayed due to security constraints. The assistance will be delivered by a joint team consisting of UNHCR, IOM, WFP and PDMC when the situation will allow distribution.

#### Uruzgan

**Situation:** 52 families (453 individuals) were displaced from **Shahid Hassass district of Uruzgan to Trinkot city** within the same province. They were assessed by a joint team of DoRR, PDMC, WFP and the Liaison officer of UNHCR. The displacement occurred in May 2013, but identified, assessed and entered into the data system in June. The reason for the displacement has been a military operation in Shahid Hassass district. As per the assessment team, the IDPs are in need of assistance in terms of food and Non-food items and are living in a poor situation. One of the major protection concern has been reported as their physical security. Access to their place of origin through the main road is difficult due to the presence of land mines along the road. IDP children are not attending school due to the official closure of schools in this season. As per the reports, most of the IDPs are willing to return back to their place of origin when the operation is over, but the land mines along the road are a seri-



ous concern for their return.

**Response:** Following the assessment, food assistance and non-food items have been distributed to the entire group.

## Eastern Region

### Kunar

**Situation:** 12 families (74 individuals) were displaced from some villages of Kunar and Nuristan provinces to some other villages in Khas Kunar, Asadabad and Marawara districts of Kunar. The main reasons for their displacement have been reported as physical harassment and intimidation by AGEs. The families are all of Pashtun ethnicity. Reportedly out of 12 families, 6 families have been targeted by AGE groups operating on bordering belt between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The AGEs have been suspecting this particular community of being supportive of the government. They had warned the community to stop their support to the government otherwise they would face serious consequences. Although the Governor's office deployed two ANA and three ALP check points in the area to protect the people against AGEs, the community decided to leave that area for safer areas. Though the deployment of the check points has improved the security yet in the last couple of months incidents of armed clashes between governmental forces and AGEs have been observed. IDPs have mentioned that, in case the situation doesn't get back to normal, they will stay in displacement for longer time and even may explore the possibility of secondary displacement within Kunar or even to Nangarhar and Kabul. Meanwhile the IDPs reported that amongst their group, there are some families of whom the head of household have been working for AGEs. Since the beginning of May 2013, they formally surrendered joining the Government reconciliation program. As the reconciliation process was done in presence of media, community representatives and governmental authorities, the AGEs were informed about it. According to the IDPs, in the eastern part of Nuristan province, AGEs have announced that anyone joining reconciliation process will be killed. Therefore, the families were obliged to leave the area to save their life. In terms of accommodation, four families are living in rental houses while the rest are hosted by their relatives. Therefore no need for emergency shelter was identified.

**Response:** After the assessment on the situation of the IDPs on 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2013 by UNHCR IP, WFP and DORR, they were provided with NFIs and sanitary kits from UNHCR and food from WFP.

### Nangarhar

**Situation:** 10 families (67 individuals) were displaced to Bihsud district of Nangarhar. These families are originally from Narang district of Kunar. They had been initially displaced from their place of origin to Mohmand Agency in Pakistan in June 2008, due to blood feud with their cousins over a land dispute. Later on they were obliged to leave Mohmand Agency as well due to the same blood feud. They moved back to Afghanistan and were settled in Batkot district of Nangarhar province. The main reason for them to leave Batkot was military clean-up operation in that district. The families also described about intensification of AGEs activities in their area of residence. They also had experi-

enced the frequent armed conflicts between AGEs and Governmental forces. The situation of the families has been assessed on 10 June 2013 by UNHCR IP (APA), NRC, WFP and DoRR. All the families are living in rental houses.

**Response:** Following the assessment, UNHCR provided sanitary kits, WFP provided food and NRC provided NFIs for the entire group of families.

## South-East Region

### Paktya

**Situation:** 15 families (96 individuals) left Garda Siry district of Paktya for Samad Khail village of Tera area in Gardez. A joint team consisting of APA and DoRR assessed the situation of families in the place of displacement. The main reason for displacement of the IDPs was reported as tribal conflict between two tribes and intimidation of AGEs with the intention to support one of the tribes. The IDP families are living in rented houses. They have access to hospital, primary school and market. The majority of head of households are working for daily wages in Gardez while 4 head of households have machinery and are digging wells for people. The assessment team did not consider the families in urgent need of food & NFIs for the time being.

Another 4 families (23 individuals) were displaced from Sayed Karam district of Paktya to Gardez. As per the IDPs, two members of their group have been working with ANA. AGEs warned them to cease their job with the government and join them; otherwise they will face serious consequences. These families left their places because of these threats, insecurity in the area and harassment by AGEs. Currently they are living in rental houses. The two ANA employees still continue their jobs while the rest of head of households are working for daily wages. They have access to local market, hospital, drinking water and primary school, but yet the IDP children are not attending school because the first half of the educational year is passed and they have to wait until the beginning of the next educational year to get enrolled in the school.

**Response:** Following the assessment, the families were not considered for immediate food/NFI assistance by the assessment team.

## Central Highlands

### Maidan Wardak

**Situation:** An AIHRC mission in mid-June confirmed a number of families being displaced from both districts of Behsud I and Behsud II due to possible threat of conflict with nomad Kuchis. However, on 30 June, the district governor of Behsud II reported that armed confrontation had started between the local population and Kuchis in frontline villages resulting in one dead in the local community and several houses burnt (numbers not confirmed so far). Due to lack of contacts, there has been no report on the casualties and injuries sustained by Kuchis. Most of the IDPs (480 families) are accommodated by their relatives and other villagers in places of displacement. As it has been experienced in previous years, the displacement cycle in Behsud is normally going to be short-term, and possibly IDPs will return to their villages of origin as soon as Kuchis withdraw from the area around the end of July/early August.

**Response:** Due to the volatility of the situation as well as to avoid attracting other villagers out of their villages, it has been agreed to withhold humanitarian assistance for the time being. This decision has been taken in consultation with the other UN and humanitarian agencies concerned.

**Note:** the figure of this displacement is not added to the increased number of displacement reported in this update, since it has not been added to the data system due to some technical reasons, but will be added in statistics of July.

