



UPDATE ON RETURN OF AFGHAN REFUGEES FROM PAKISTAN

Update no. 9: 20 November – 26 November 2016

TRENDS

- The number of returning Afghan refugees continued to decrease over the week, with a total of 907 refugees arriving in Afghanistan during the reporting period. This was a reduction of 79 per cent compared to the previous week.
- An average of just under 100 Afghan refugees departed from Pakistan daily during the reporting period. While over 57,900 returns have been recorded in Afghanistan in November to date, the number of scheduled returns from Pakistan are decreasing each day (see chart overleaf on weekly return trends).
- During the winter months (from December–March 2017), Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRCs) in Pakistan will be used as Proof of Registration Card Monitoring (PCM) centres, in order to record birth registrations or modify PoR cards.
- On 22 November, UNHCR visited the Torkham border to observe returns, as well as to meet with authorities and key stakeholders in the area to enhance coordination.
- On 23 November, the Federal Cabinet of Pakistan approved the extension of PoR cards until 31 December 2017. Further recommendations related to the management of Afghans residing in Pakistan are expected to be reviewed at the next Cabinet meeting.
- On 26 November, on the margins of the UN Global Conference on Sustainable Transport, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif and the President of Afghanistan, Ashraf Ghani met and confirmed the need for continued engagement for the coordination of smooth, safe and dignified repatriation of Afghan refugees and their sustainable integration in Afghanistan.

NEEDS

- In response to the number of Afghan refugees returning from Pakistan UNHCR revised its initial Supplementary Appeal¹ to include additional financial requirements. The revised appeal also includes the needs of vulnerable returnees, IDPs and host communities over the winter months.
- With the prospect of a harsh winter to come, UNHCR is prepared to support up to 25,000 households—IDPs, returnees and vulnerable local residents—in Afghanistan through cash assistance (between \$100² and \$300 per household) and provision of non-food relief items.

KEY FIGURES

(as of 26 November 2016)

371,960

Refugees already returned in 2016

- 369,580 (99.3%) from Pakistan
- 2,213 (0.6%) from the Islamic Republic of Iran
- 167 from other countries

907

refugees returned in the reporting period

More than

390,000

refugees expected to return in 2016

\$400

Repatriation cash grant per person as of 23 June

MOST URGENT FINANCIAL NEEDS

\$181.2 million

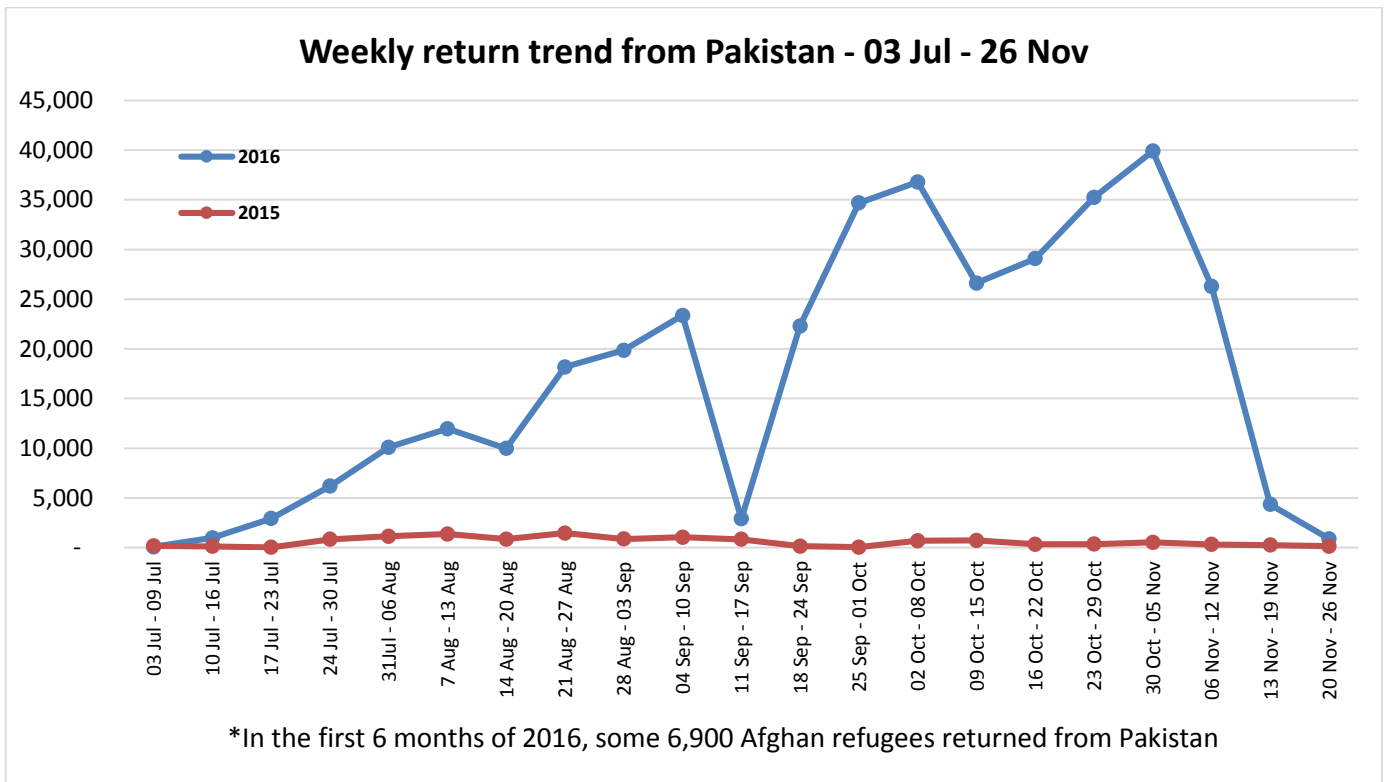
Required to support the repatriation and reintegration of Afghan refugees from Pakistan, and provide winterization assistance.

Earmarked SWA donors: Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, private donors in Japan, United States of America

Donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2016: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Japan, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, and private donors in Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the USA

¹ Supplementary Appeal dated 28 October 2016 <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/15676>

² All dollar signs in this document denote United States dollars.



Weekly return trends from Pakistan in September - November 2016					
Date	Individuals	Weekly %	Date	Individuals	Weekly %
18 Sep – 24 Sep	22,304	+ 668.8%	23 Oct – 29 Oct	35,226	+ 21.1%
25 Sep – 1 Oct	34,680	+ 55.5%	30 Oct – 5 Nov	39,903	+ 13.3%
2 Oct – 8 Oct	36,790	+ 6%	6 Nov – 12 Nov	26,292	-34.1%
9 Oct – 15 Oct	26,608	-27.7%	13 Nov – 19 Nov	4,339	-83.5%
16 Oct – 22 Oct	29,084	+ 9.3%	20 Nov – 26 Nov	893	-79.4%

