

# CONFLICT-INDUCED INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT—MONTHLY UPDATE

UNHCR AFGHANISTAN

APRIL 2013



## HIGHLIGHTS

Total March 2013	Increase April 2013	Decrease April 2013	Overall change April 2013	Total displaced as at 30 April 2013	Total recorded in 2013
534,006	7,282	5,352	1,930	535,936	55,004

- **IDPs overall:** As at 30 April, 535,936 persons (83,856 families) are internally displaced due to conflict in Afghanistan.
- **April 2013\*:** 7,282 individuals (1,229 families) have been recorded as newly displaced due to conflict of whom 1,015 individuals (14%) were displaced in March, while 111 individuals (2%) were displaced in February, 2,719 individuals (37%) in January 2013. The remaining 3,437 individuals (47%) were displaced prior to January 2013. Meanwhile, 5,352 individuals decreased due to data verification in South and South-Eastern regions.
- The displacements which occurred in April 2013 are currently being recorded and verified.

\*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*).

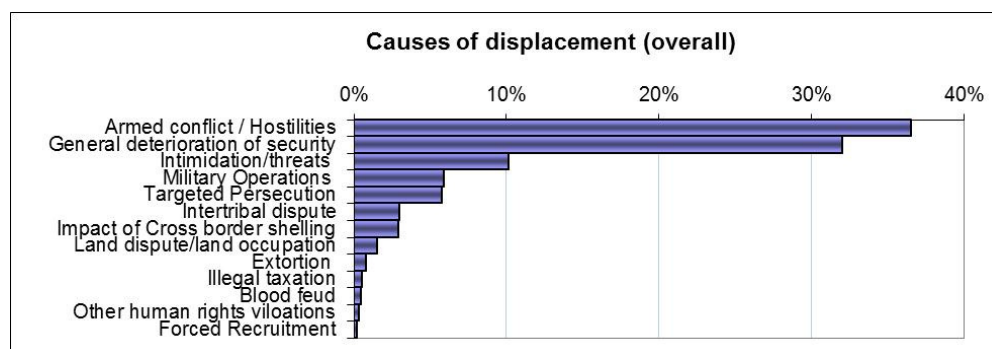
## DISPLACEMENT TRENDS BY REGION 2013

Of the total known displacement in April 2013, the Northern region reported the highest increase in the number of IDPs. The key causes of displacement cited by IDPs were due to military operation insecurity, AGEs threats and intimidation. The Western region reported the second highest number of displacements mainly due to general insecurity, threats, intimidation and extortion by AGEs and tribal conflict, followed by the Eastern Region where people displaced due to increased violence and harassment by AGEs, military/clean-up operation, including threat and intimidation by AGEs. No new displacement was reported in the South, Central and Central Highland in April.

Region	end-Feb 2013	Increase	Decrease	end-Mar 2013
North	60,606	3,506	-	64,112
South	156,952	-	5,325	151,627
Southeast	12,340	58	27	12,371
East	102,647	428	-	103,075
West	150,023	3,290	-	153,313
Central	51,438	-	-	51,438
Central High-lands	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>534,006</b>	<b>7,282</b>	<b>5,352</b>	<b>535,936</b>

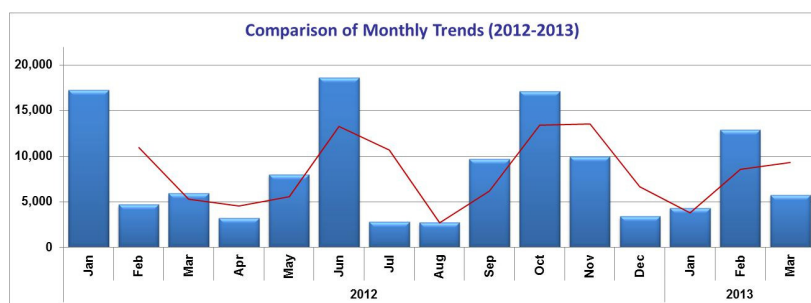
## CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT

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.

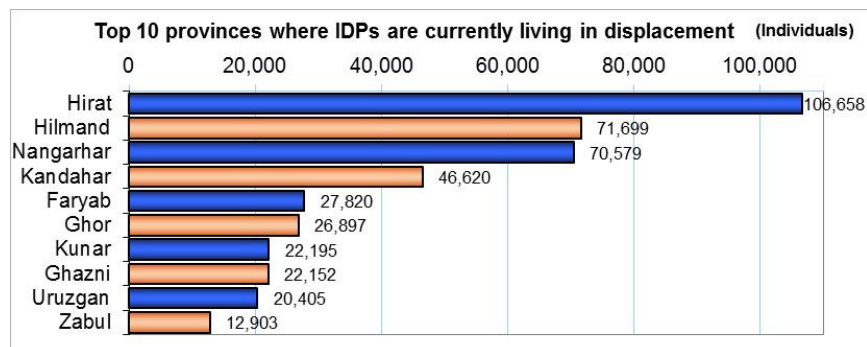


## COMPARISON OF MONTHLY TRENDS (2012-2013)

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.



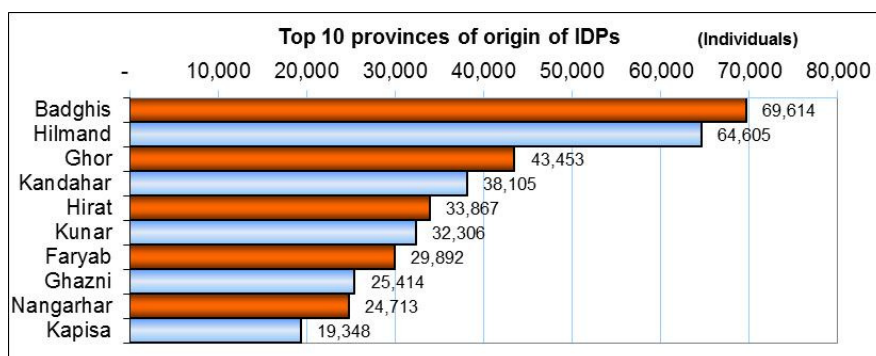
## TOP 10 PROVINCES OF DISPLACEMENT



The Province of Hirat currently hosts the largest conflict-induced IDP population (20%) in the country, followed by Hilmand (14%), Nangarhar (13%), Kandahar (8%), Faryab (5%), Ghor (5%), Kunar (4%), Ghazni (4%), Uruzgan (4%), and Zabul (2%).

## TOP 10 PROVINCES OF ORIGIN OF IDPS

Overall, the province of Badghis in the West has produced the largest number of displacements (13%), followed by Hilmand (12%), Ghor (8%), Kandahar (7%), Hirat (6%), Kunar (6%), Faryab (6%), Ghazni (5%), Nangarhar (5%) and Kapisa (4%).



## EMERGENCY NFI ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-INDUCED IDPS

Region	UNHCR	SCI	IOM	NRC	Total
North	5,349	1,846		1,392	8,587
Northeast	948	-			948
South	8,054	-			8,054
SouthEast	-	-			-
East	959	-		348	1,307
West	3,153	-		522	3,675
Central	9,348	-			9,348
Central Highlands		35	531		566
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,811</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>32,485</b>

Following joint humanitarian assessments undertaken under the auspices of the IDP Task Force, 32,485 conflict-induced IDPs were assisted by the Emergency Shelter/NFI cluster members in 2013. In April 2013, a total of 4,337 conflict-induced IDP individuals have 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

### Eastern Region

#### Nangarhar:

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** Due to AGEs physical harassment and intimidation as well as military/clean-up operation against AGEs conducted by IM/ANSF, 65 families/333 individuals were displaced from Hesrak and Khygyani districts of Nangarhar (28 families), Kamdesh district of Nuristan (35 families) and Tagab district of Kapisa (2 families) to Behshud, Chaparhar, Khygyani and Rodat districts of Nangarhar. They were displaced in November 2012 (27 families) and in March and April 2013 (38 families).

**Assessments:** of IDP situation were conducted by DoRR, UNHCR Partner (APA) and WFP in April. IDPs stated that AGEs used to approach their residences and asked for man power support to fight against the government and they threatened the villagers, if they deny supporting Taliban. AGEs often approached their residences during the night, asking for food as well as threaten them through the villagers and night letters to quit working with IM and supporting Afghan government, otherwise they would face serious consequences. Reportedly, AGEs seized 30 to 100 goats of 4 families in Kamdesh district of Nuristan whose family members have been working with IM and ANA. Majority of displaced families are living in rented houses, while some with relatives and friends, two families are living in empty houses for free.

**Response/Intervention:** 53 IDP families were provided with food and NFIs by WFP and UNHCR, while 12 families were not recommended for humanitarian assistance.

#### Kunar:

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** 15 families/95 individuals of Pashtun ethnicity from Nari and Marawara districts of Kunar, were displaced in March 2013 to Asadabad and Sarkani districts of Kunar province due to insecurity, AGEs threats, harassment and intimidation.

**Assessment:** The IDP families were assessed by UNHCR Partner (APA), WFP and DoRR at end of March 2013. IDPs reported that AGEs announced via local mosques that people must stop working for government and military forces. Hence, five adults of the IDP caseloads have been working as employees for ANA, NDS (National Directorate of Security), District official and skilled labor with special force had to leave their villages. Some IDP families are hosted by their relatives and friends for free while some others are living in rental houses. No intention for return till the situation gets improve.

**Response/Intervention:** All IDP families were assisted with food and NFIs by WFP and UNHCR.

### South-Easter Region

#### Paktya:

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** In March, due to fragile security situation, AGEs threat and harassment, 9 Families/58 individuals were displaced from Jaji Aryob district of Paktya to Gardez City.

**Assessment:** UNHCR Partner (APA) and DoRR Paktya visited the displaced families in April. The IDPs reported that they were threaten because of their affiliation and working with the government by the AGEs. Reportedly, the displaced families are in good economic situation. Majority of IDPs are rented houses in Gardez City, while some staying with relatives. IDPs have access to health and education services as well as job opportunity. No intention for return till the situation gets improve in their place of origin.

**Response/Intervention:** As per the assessment team findings, the IDPs are not considered for humanitarian assistance.

**IDP Returnees to Place of Origin:** DoRR and UNHCR Partner (APA) informed that the IDP caseload of 200 families who were displaced in the first week of March from Jaji Maydan district of Khost to different villages within the same district due to conflict between locals and AGEs, have returned to their home villages, following intervention of elders from the local tribes with the AGEs. The April statistics have not yet incorporated this data which will be reflected in May after a final verification.

### Western Region

#### Herat:

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** Due to general deterioration of security, high presence of Taliban and AGEs intimidation, extortions/illegal taxation, forced recruitment and military operation, 375 families/2,038 individuals were displaced from Herat, Badghis, Ghor and Faryab (North) provinces to Guzara and Injil districts and Herat City. 59% were displaced during 2012 (Feb-Nov), while 41% in 2013 (Feb-Mar). Inter-tribal dispute in Jawand district of Badghis also caused the displacement as well as killing (one person) and serious injuries of two IDPs. Reports indicate that the security situation of Jawand district in Badghis has been unstable and fragile.

**Assessment:** In March, assessment by DoRR, WFP, UNHCR Partner (ARAA), DRC and NRC conducted in Herat. IDPs are of Pashtun (20%), Tajik (70%), Uzbek (4%) and Arab (6%) ethnicities. Reportedly, the majority of displaced families are staying with their relatives and friends, while some rented houses in Herat City.

**Response/Intervention:** As per the assessment, all IDP families were recommended for food and 269 families were recommended for NFI assistance.

#### **Ghor:**

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** 145 families/973 individuals were displaced from Taywara, Dulayna and Chaghcharan districts of Ghor to Dulayna (94 families) and Chaghcharan (51 families) of Ghor province in December 2012 (35%) and March 2013 (65%) due to general insecurity and dispute between two local IAGs.

**Assessment:** DoRR and UNHCR Partner assessed the situation of displaced families during March and April, 2013.

**Response/Intervention:** Food and NFIs distributed to 51 families by UNHCR and WFP. ACF assessed the situation of 94 families in Dulayna and distributed NFIs and tents to displaced families. ACF is coordinating the food needs of IDP families with WFP.

#### **Badghis:**

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** Due to insecurity and armed conflict between ANSF/ALP and Taliban, 35 families/173 individuals forced to flee their place of origin. IDPs complained about extortion and forced recruitment by the Taliban in their place of origin.

**Assessment:** In April, UNHCR partner and DoRR assessed situation of 35 families (173 individuals) who were displaced from Muqur and Qades districts to Qala-e-Naw center of Badghis province in October 2012 (20 families) and March 2013 (15 families). IDPs are staying in rented houses in Qala-e-Naw.

**Response/Intervention:** Some of the IDP families have been assisted with NFIs by IRC, UNHCR is coordinating food needs of IDPs with WFP.

#### **Farah:**

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** 17 families/106 individuals of Pashtun ethnicity were displaced from *Bala Bluk* district to *Farah* district in September 2012, due to deterioration of security and presence of AGEs, intimidation and military operation.

**Assessment:** DoRR, WFP and VARA-UNHCR Partner assessed situation of IDPs in April, 2013. All displaced families staying with their relatives in Farah.

**Response/Intervention:** 9 families were identified as vulnerable and assisted with NFI by UNHCR, meanwhile their food need is coordinated with WFP.

## Northern Region

#### **Badakhshan:**

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** 217 families of Tajik ethnic origin displaced from Warduj district of Badakhshan to Baharak district of the same province in March 2013. Armed conflict, military operations and generalized violence were reported to be the main causes of their displacement.

**Assessment:** Assessment of the situation of IDPs were jointly conducted in Baharak by DoRR, IOM, ARCS, WFP, UNHCR Partner (AHEAD), FOCUS and ANDMA March and April. IDPs are provided accommodation by host communities, relatives and some 120 families are living in rental houses. Access to safe potable water is a challenge for IDPs, meanwhile cases of water-borne diseases such as scabies, diarrheal, pneumonia and urinary tract infections have been identified amongst the IDPs. UNICEF tries to provide water purification tablet for IDPs for 6 month. Displacement is still ongoing, reports of new displacement is received by UNHCR.

**Response/Intervention:** Humanitarian intervention and response in terms of Food, NFIs, WASH, Education and Health were made through WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, ARCS and other relevant actors. 210 IDP families provided NFIs (by UNHCR) and food items (by WFP).

#### **Faryab:**

**Situation/Causes of Displacement:** 378 families/2,253 individuals of Uzbek ethnic origin, displaced from *Pashtun Kot* district of Faryab province to *Maimana City* due to armed conflict, AGEs threats, harassment and intimidation. They were displaced in December 2012 and in 2013 (January and February).

**Assessment & Response:** In April, UNHCR, WFP and DoRR assessed situation of IDPs. Most of the IDP families are provided accommodation by the host community, while some are living in rental houses in Maimana City. IDPs are in need of food and NFIs. UNHCR coordinate with WFP to responds to their needs.

## Unconfirmed / Unverified Displacement Information

### **Nangarhar Province:**

Gushta District: In May, due to armed clashes between Pakistani - Afghan national security forces in Gushta district of Nangarhar province, reportedly 220 families were displaced from Garo, Gary, Karwanda and Ziartday villages of Gushta to Dawal Khel and Gushta villages of Gushta district. Currently the above mentioned displaced families are living with their relatives and host community. Further details will be provided once the caseload is assessed and information verified.

### **Faryab Province :**

Qasir and Almar Districts: an estimated number of 3820 families have reportedly been displaced from Qaisar (1300 families), Almar (400 families) and Ghormach (2120 families) districts of Faryab province during the last quarter of April mainly due to military operations and armed conflict between AGEs and ANSF. Those displaced from Qaisar and Almar have sought refuge to surrounding villages within the same districts while families from Ghormach have reportedly been displaced within Ghormach and Balamurghab district of Badghis province. Further details will be provided once the caseload is assessed and information verified.

### **Badakhshan Province:**

Baharak district: Local authorities reported that 229 families were displaced from Warduj district to Baharak district of Badakhshan in late April. They were displaced due to insecurity and armed conflict in Warduj district. Further details will be provided once the caseload is assessed and information verified.



