



BACKGROUND

Nearly 70% of Afghan refugees in Pakistan live in urban and rural areas along with their host communities. This includes nearly 500,000 school-aged children, many of whom have been accessing Pakistan’s national education system. Despite the challenging education context in Pakistan, the Government has, over the years, maintained a generous approach of enabling access of Afghan refugee children to public schools, recognizing this as an essential investment in their human capital.

In recognition of this inclusive approach and policies, the RAHA education interventions seek to channel vital investments into Pakistan’s national education system with a view to enhancing its absorption capacity and the quality of services provided, with benefits for refugee and Pakistani children alike.

The RAHA education projects are designed based on the needs identified by the communities, and implemented in close consultations with local/provincial/federal Government authorities and other partners. The projects are fully aligned with and supportive of UNHCR Pakistan’s Education Strategy, as well as the regional multi-year Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) which identified youth empowerment through education, skills training and livelihoods as its cross-cutting priority theme.

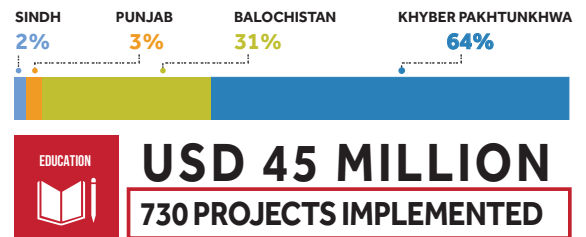
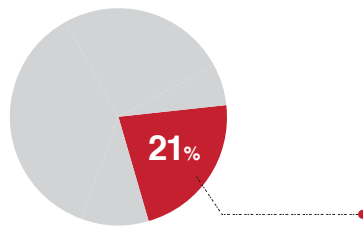
KEY OBJECTIVES

Benefit both refugees and the Pakistani host communities, and foster social cohesion

Demonstrate international burden and responsibility-sharing

Enhance the absorption capacity of schools to mitigate the impact of refugee inclusion on the national education system which is already confronted with the challenge to accommodate some 22.5 million out-of-school Pakistani children

TOTAL VALUE OF RAHA PROJECTS
USD 220 MILLION



MORE THAN 785,000 INDIVIDUALS BENEFITED FROM RAHA EDUCATION PROJECTS



PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN
30 DISTRICTS
COUNTRY WIDE



FOCUS OF RAHA EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS:

Rehabilitation and/or construction of public schools, additional classrooms, school infrastructure, boundary walls, playgrounds, and other missing facilities (e.g. school latrines, water facilities, teachers' offices)	Provision of school furniture, school materials and supplies, reading materials for students	Provision of teacher training on inclusive education, pedagogy, child protection, prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (e.g. identification and referral)	Social mobilization, capacity building of the Parent-Teacher Associations and awareness campaigns on the life-long merits of education for girls and boys, as well as the right to admission of all children regardless of nationality, including Afghans
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IMPACT OF RAHA EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS:

Enhanced capacity of public schools resulting in improved access to and quality of education for both Afghan and Pakistani children	More conducive and safe learning environment for children	Increased school enrolment and decreased drop-out rates in targeted communities	Greater awareness among students and their parents on the importance of education, health, hygiene and social cohesion between refugees and their host communities
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EXAMPLES OF RAHA EDUCATION PROJECTS

- Construction of the Government Primary School (GPS) Hayatabad, Peshawar
- Construction of the Government English Medium Primary School (GEMPS) Kalabat, Haripur
- Construction of the Government High School (GHS) Gandian, Mansehra
- Construction of the Government High School (GHS) Ekka Ghund, Muhmand
- Construction of the Government Middle School (GMS), Zafar Maidan, Mansehra
- Construction of the Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS), Topi, Swabi

Global Compact on Refugees calls on the international community to "contribute resources to expand and enhance the quality and inclusiveness of national education systems in refugee hosting countries to facilitate access by refugee and host community children to primary, secondary and tertiary education. Additional support could be contributed to expand educational facilities (including for technical or vocational training), teaching capacities, flexible certified learning programmes, development and implementation of national education sector plans that include refugees, and to facilitate recognition of equivalency of academic, professional and vocational qualifications."

KEY ADVOCACY MESSAGES

In line with the **2030 Sustainable Development Agenda**, in particular its overarching commitment to leave no one behind and the **SDG#4** which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable education for all; as well as the **Global Compact on Refugees** which calls for greater and more equitable responsibility-sharing by the international community, **UNHCR continues to advocate for:**

