

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

OCTOBER 2019



A vulnerable refugee returnee family provided with shelter support in a UNHCR priority area in Jalalabad. UNHCR/H.Macdonald

HIGHLIGHTS

As of 31 October, **7,089** registered refugees voluntarily returned to Afghanistan, out of which 5,301 returned from Pakistan, 1,719 from Iran and 69 from other countries.

379,849 individuals have been displaced by conflict in 2019 and profiled by OCHA as internally displaced persons (IDPs) in need of protection and assistance.

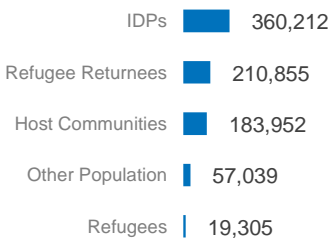
A series of briefings took place to raise awareness on the **Global Refugee Forum** and to engage in discussions on how the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community can contribute to addressing the needs of Afghan refugees and returnees. This included donors, UN organizations and national and international humanitarian agencies and development actors.

The **UNHCR led (together with NRC) Protection Cluster** in Afghanistan finalized inputs for the **2020 Humanitarian Response Plan**, with five core objectives; 1) monitoring of key protection issues, 2) provide emergency protection assistance and services, 3) develop community-based protection responses, 4) strengthen the capacity of partners and service providers, 5) mainstream and integrate protection into all sectors and cluster-specific humanitarian responses.

KEY FIGURES

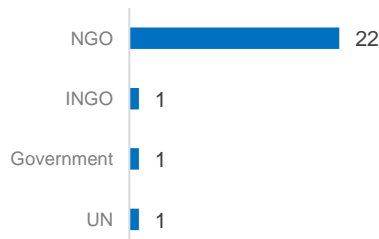
BENEFICIARIES

831,363 # of persons of concern reached by UNHCR in 2019



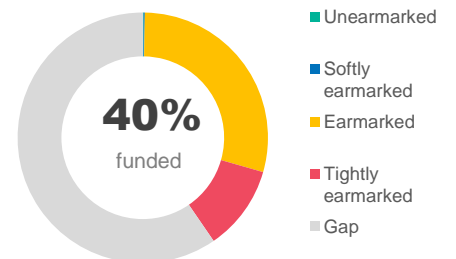
PARTNERS

25 # of partners implementing key UNHCR activities in 2019



DONORS

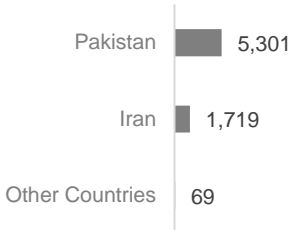
121.7M Funding required for 2019 (14 Oct 2019)



POPULATION DATA

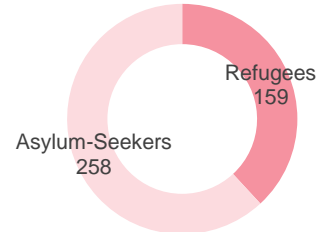
7,089

of registered refugee returnees (UNHCR)



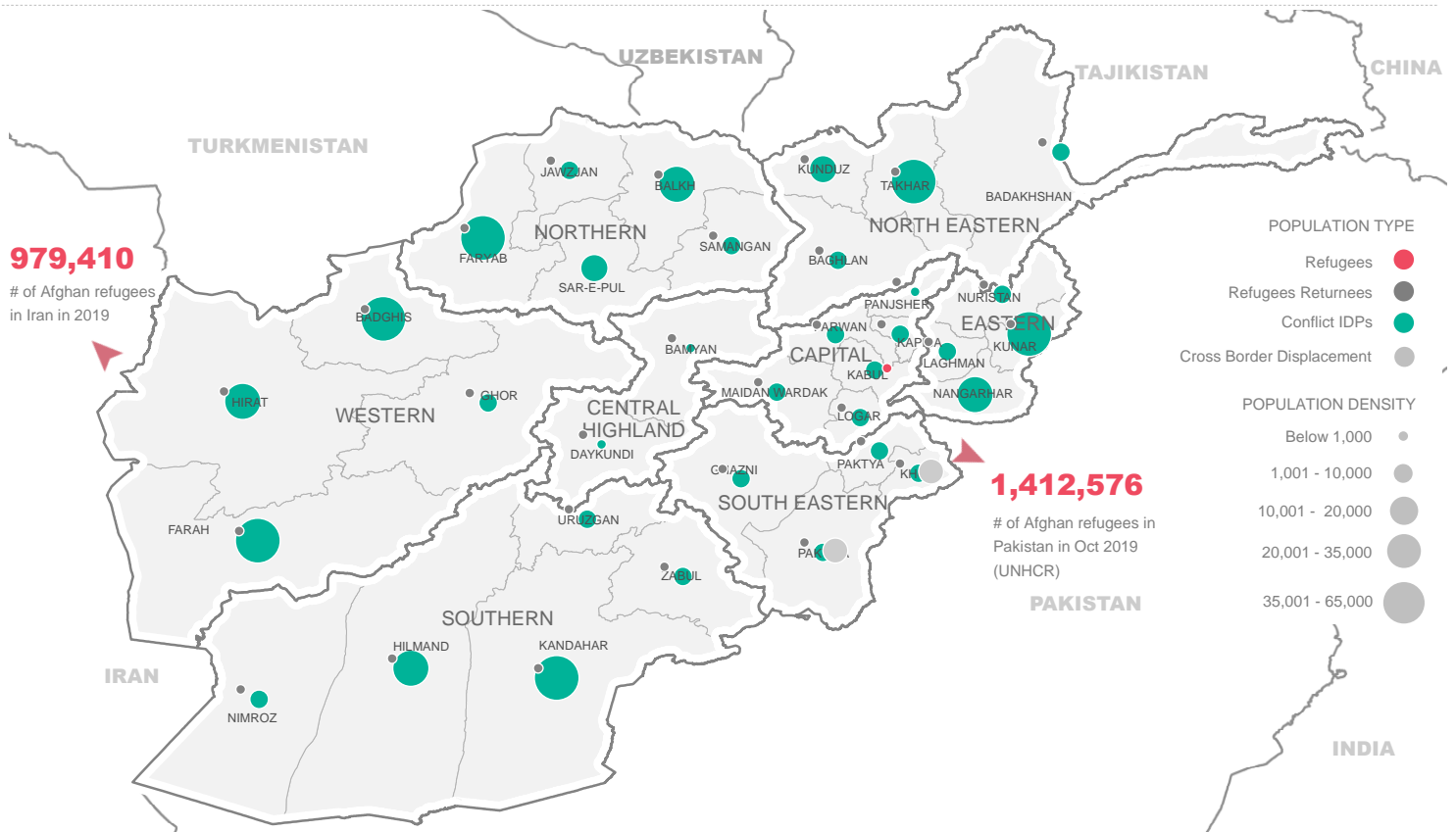
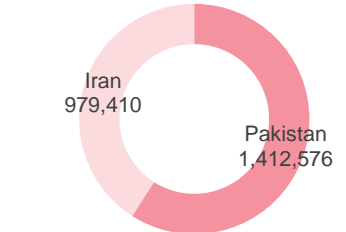
417

of urban refugees and asylum seekers in 2019 (UNHCR)



2,391,986

of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran in 2019 (UNHCR)



OTHER POPULATION OF CONCERN IN 2019 (SECONDARY SOURCES)

414,550

of undocumented Afghan returnees in October 2019 (IOM)

379,849

of newly displaced IDPs due to conflict in October 2019 (OCHA)

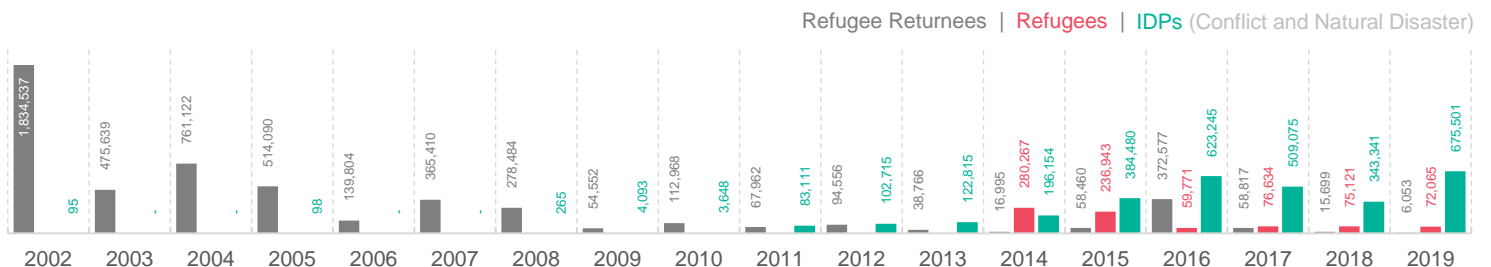
295,652

of newly displaced IDPs due to natural disasters in October 2019 (OCHA)

35.7 M


Total population in Afghanistan (Flowminder and UNFPA 2018)

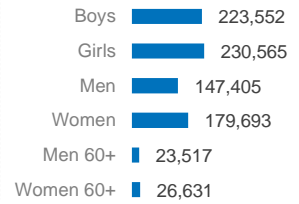
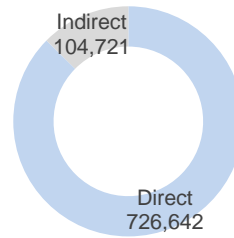
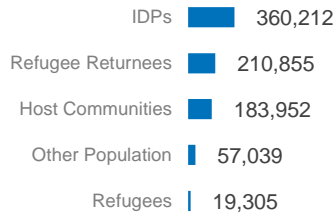
POPULATION TRENDS (2002 – 2019)



KEY ACTIVITIES

831,363

 # of persons of concern directly and indirectly reached by UNHCR in 2019



DISCLAIMER: The number of persons of concern shown above includes individuals who received multiple forms of assistance and does not represent the unique number of individuals assisted.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

7,089

of refugee returnees who received cash grants in close coordination with MoRR. UNHCR and its partners manage four encashment centers in Herat, Jalalabad, Kabul and Kandahar with services including basic healthcare, malnutrition screening, mine risk education, child friendly spaces, back to school information, legal counselling, SIM card distribution, SGBV awareness raising, and transit accommodation.

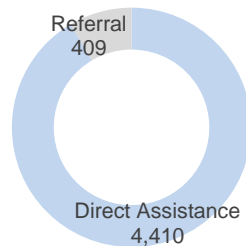
USD 1,464,148

Has been provided to 7,089 refugee returnees to support their immediate humanitarian needs as well as transportation costs.

PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

4,819

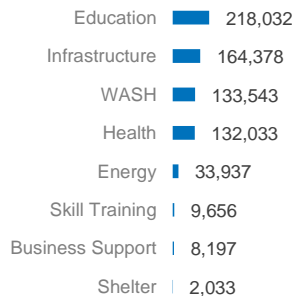
persons with acute vulnerabilities and protection risks receiving cash or in-kind assistance and/or referral to specialized services, such as medical assistance, employment, skills development, shelter, food and education.



COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

701,809

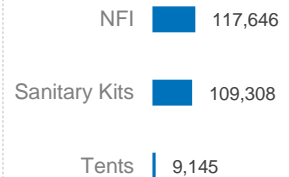
UNHCR engages with communities to identify and address their needs through skills training, business support and community mobilization to mitigate protection risks, strengthen resilience, facilitate reintegration, and promote peaceful coexistence with host communities.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

117,646

of beneficiaries assisted, in coordination with the Government, through non-food items, sanitary kits, emergency shelter and solar panels. (note that some beneficiaries received multiple assistance on NFI, Sanitary Kit, and Shelter.)

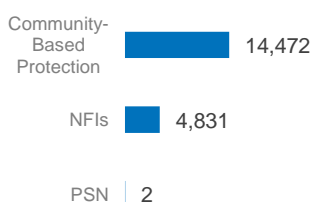


Beneficiaries are receiving multiple assistance (NFI, Sanitary Kits, and tents)

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

19,305*

of refugees assisted with birth registration, NFI distribution, emergency shelter, winterization, and camp management and coordination in Gulistan Refugee Camp

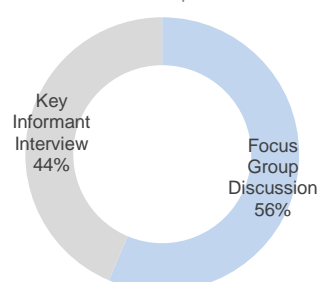


*Refugee figure reduced due to double counting of assistance received through NFI

PROTECTION MONITORING, REFERRAL AND RESPONSE

1,294

of protection monitoring missions to systematically and regularly collect, verify and analyze information to assess the protection situation of IDPs, returnees and host communities in order to plan and implement more effective responses.



POLICY SUPPORT AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

UNHCR is part of the Tripartite and Quadripartite mechanisms established with the Governments of the Islamic Republics of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran to plan, coordinate and undertake repatriation of Afghan refugees within the framework of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR).


HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT-PEACE NEXUS

UNHCR works to strengthen linkages between humanitarian initiatives and development programmes through partnership with the Government, development actors and the private sector, including in coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team, the Displacement and Return Executive Committee, and the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and other government initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable reintegration and harmonizing response to the needs of refugees, returnees, IDPs and members of host communities.

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION



738,334

 # of beneficiaries reached by the Protection Cluster

■ Reached ■ Gap




2.4 M  People in need

1.3 M  People targeted

44.7 M  Funding required

546,651

 # of beneficiaries reached by the Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items Cluster

■ Reached ■ Gap




1 M  People in need

0.8 M  People targeted

48.3 M  Funding required

19,305

 # of beneficiaries reached through Inter-Agency Refugee Coordination

■ Reached ■ Gap



50 K  People in need

50 K  People targeted

8.8 M  Funding required

UNHCR appreciates the partnership and financial contributions of both unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds from donors, as well as for those who have contributed regionally and directly to Afghanistan and the Afghan situation:



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