

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

DECEMBER 2019



Najiba, 18, a refugee returnee, showcases leather goods that she designs and makes as part of UNHCR'S Made 51 project in Herat, Afghanistan. UNHCR/H.Macdonald

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2019, **8,079** individuals returned to Afghanistan, out of which 6,062 individuals returned from Pakistan, 1,939 Individuals from Iran and 78 Individuals from other countries.

436,000 individuals have been displaced by conflict in 2019 and profiled by OCHA as internally displaced persons (IDPs) in need of protection and assistance.

Leaders from the Islamic Republics of **Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan** along with UNHCR and refugee representatives gathered in Geneva to launch a new Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) on 16 December on the margins of the inaugural **Global Refugee Forum**.

UNHCR's **Encashment Centres** in Kabul, Jalalabad and Kandahar will be closed for the winter break from 1 December 2019 – 1 March 2020. The Encashment Centre in Herat will remain open during for this period

KEY FIGURES

BENEFICIARIES

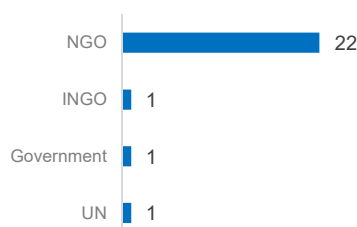
1,120,920

of persons of concern reached by UNHCR in 2019

Conflict IDPs	■	548,539
Refugee Returnees	■	252,720
Host Communities	■	189,545
Other population	■	93,489
Refugee	■	31,144
Natural Disaster IDPs	■	5,483

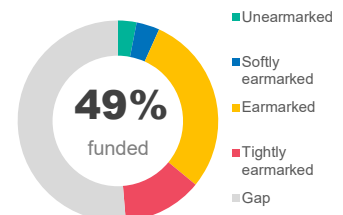
PARTNERS

25 # of partners implementing key UNHCR activities in 2019



DONORS

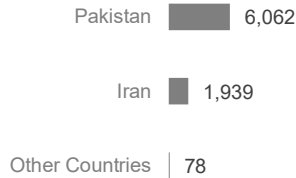
\$60M Funding received in 2019
\$121.7M Funding required for 2019



POPULATION DATA

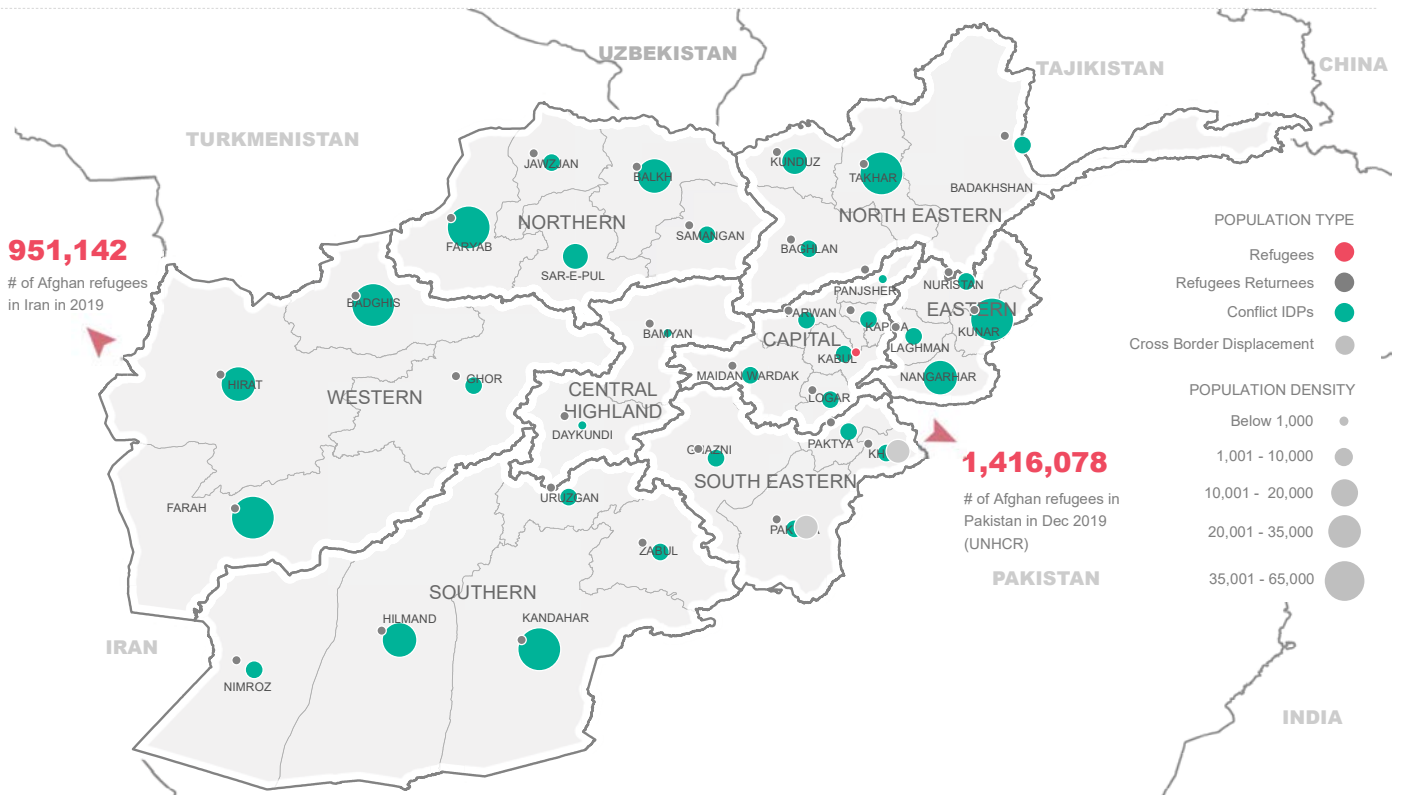
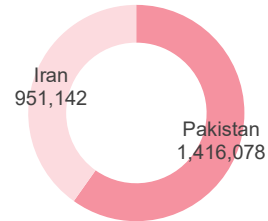
8,079

of registered refugee returnees (UNHCR)



2,367,220

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



OTHER POPULATION OF CONCERN IN 2019 (SECONDARY SOURCES)

504,977

of undocumented Afghan returnees in December 2019 (IOM)

436,000

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

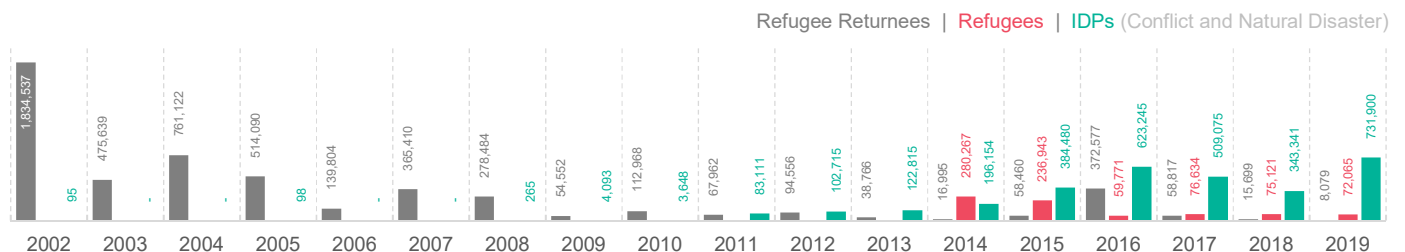
295,900

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

35.7 M


Total population in Afghanistan (Flowminder and UNFPA 2018)

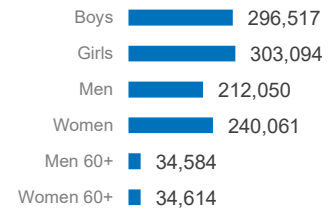
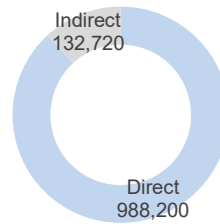
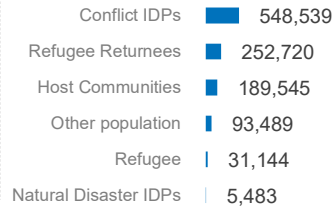
POPULATION TRENDS (2002 – 2019)



KEY ACTIVITIES

1,120,920

 # 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

8,079

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.

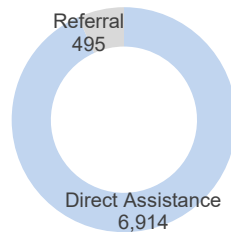
USD 1,675,840

Has been provided to 8,079 refugee returnees to support their immediate humanitarian needs as well as transportation costs.

PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

6,914

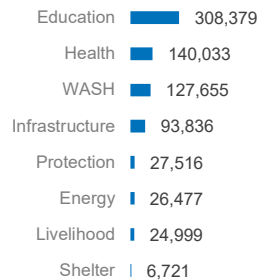
persons with acute vulnerabilities and protection risks receiving cash or in-kind assistance and/or referral to specialized services, such as medical assistance, employment, skills development, shelter, food and education.



COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

755,616

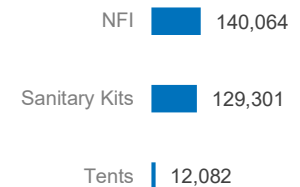
UNHCR engages with communities to identify and address their needs through skills training, business support and community mobilization to mitigate protection risks, strengthen resilience, facilitate reintegration, and promote peaceful coexistence with host communities.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

140,064

of beneficiaries assisted, in coordination with the Government, through non-food items, sanitary kits, and emergency shelter.

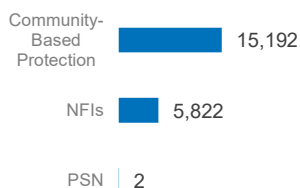


Beneficiaries are receiving multiple assistance (NFI, Sanitary Kits, and tents)

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

21,016

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

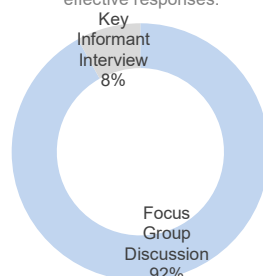


*Refugee figure reduced due to double counting of assistance received through NFI

PROTECTION MONITORING, REFERRAL AND RESPONSE

1,744

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



1,259,833

 # 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

783,704

 # 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

21,016

 # 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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