



Students read during a break in classes at the Shahid Mohamad Akram Khakrizwal high school in which UNHCR improved facilities in a priority area of return and reintegration in Kandahar, Afghanistan ©UNHCR/ 2020

AFGHANISTAN

PRIORITY AREAS OF RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

AUGUST 2020

Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration (PARRs)

The Priority Areas for of Return and Reintegration are a key a component of UNHCR’s work to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan with strengthening essential facilities and services in communities where Afghan refugees are returning to.

The Government of Afghanistan’s Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations (MoRR) and UNHCR have identified 20 priority areas of return and reintegration where returnees are living side by side with displaced people and local communities. The objective is to strengthen essential services and facilities in the PARRs through an **area-based multi-sectoral multi-stakeholder humanitarian-development-peace investment to support durable solutions and create conducive conditions for the sustainable reintegration of returnees** by working with diverse actors (government, development actors, private sector, CSOs, CBOs etc.) for *Collective Outcomes* and in *Delivering as One*.

The projects fall within the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and its support platform, a regional initiative, which envisages a future in which displaced Afghans might finally return to their homeland permanently and prosper.

PARR selection criteria

- **Areas of origin:** locations where forcibly displaced people are originating from
- **Areas of high return and displacement:** locations where forcibly displaced people returning to and or living in displacement
- **Access:** secured environment for presence programmes implementation
- **National priorities:** Presence and implementation status of National Priority Programme, particularly Citizen’s Charter
- **Cohesion:** Benefits all people (*Whole of Society, Leaving No One Behind*) and promotes peace and strengthen social cohesion
- **Sustainability:** key elements for reintegration present (land, basic services, proximity to population centres and markets, livelihoods)

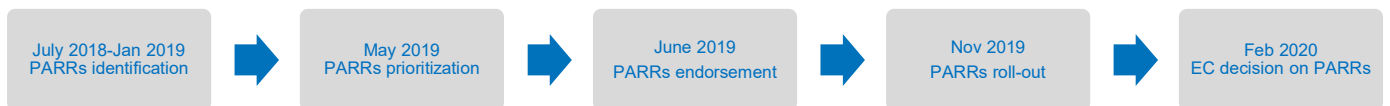
Decisions of the Secretary General, 25 March 2020 meeting of the Executive Committee:
Decision 2020/20 AFGHANISTAN: “As a concrete confidence-building effort in support of the peace process, ensure coordinated and targeted area-based humanitarian-development-peace investments in Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration (PARRs), identified by the Government of Afghanistan and UNHCR”

Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) interventions in PARRs range from cash assistance and in-kind support; improving access to safe shelter, land, and documentation; improving livelihoods opportunities and self-reliance through value chain investment and entrepreneurial support; developing public and economic infrastructure including schools, health clinics, community centres, roads, irrigation canals, water networks etc.; and promoting the inclusion of returnees in decision-making structures.

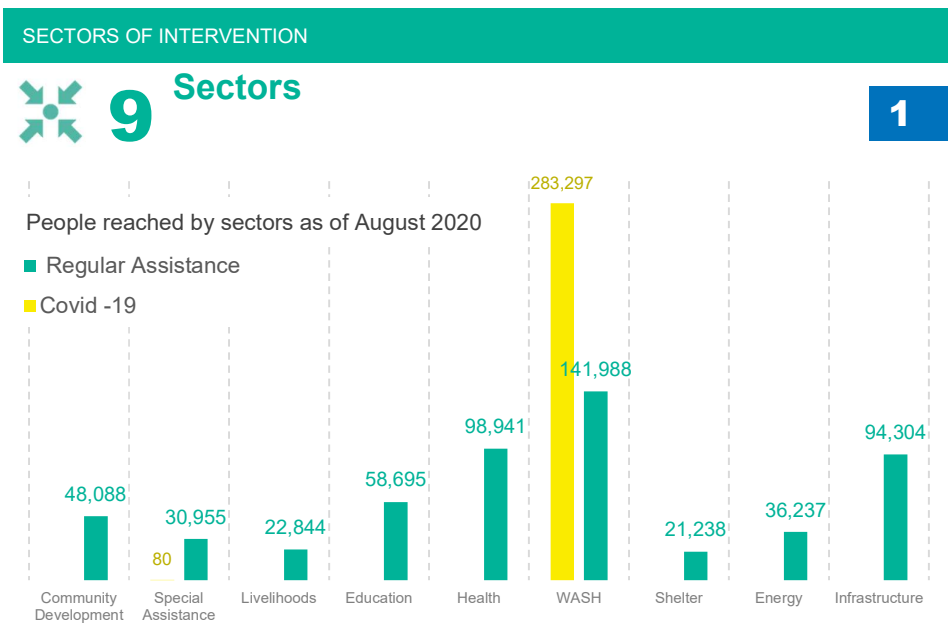
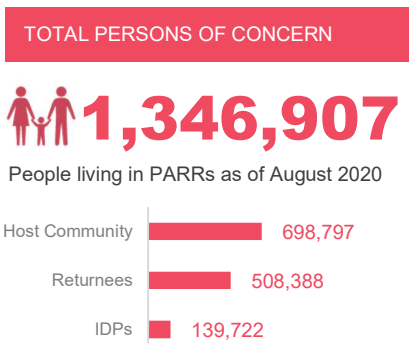
PARR HDP interventions contribute to achieving of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Evolution of PARRs: Promoting Sustainable Return and Reintegration



PARRs: Achievements (as of August 2020)





EDUCATION

SDG 4

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan's education system has been devastated by more than four decades of conflict. An estimated 3.7 million children are out of school, of whom 60 per cent are girls, and permanent dropouts may increase due to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. Insufficient schools and low quality instruction - with fewer than 50 per cent of teachers having minimum academic qualifications - are key impediments. Many returnee children and youth who have obtained education in the host countries are unable to continue schooling upon return due to the unavailability of schools. The portfolio of projects in the PARRs will increase access to formal education, especially for girls, through the construction of additional schools. This objective was one of the Islamic Government of Afghanistan's pledges at the Global Refugee Forum.



HEALTH

SDG 3

Insufficient funding, inadequate infrastructure and equipment, ongoing conflict, and recurrent outbreaks of communicable diseases paint a grim reality: one-third of the Afghan population does not have access to basic health services within a two-hour travel radius. Only half of children under the age of 5 have received the recommended vaccinations. The proposed projects would improve access to and quality of health care in the PARRs through construction of health clinics and enhancement of existing health facilities, with a focus on women and rural populations. Since 2019, UNHCR has been supporting midwifery training to enhance community-based reproductive healthcare and provide employment opportunities for women. This work will be further expanded.



LIVELIHOOD

SDG 4 & 8

Amidst soaring unemployment, lack of formal livelihoods and limited private sector opportunities, many households depend upon daily-wage labour, particularly in the agriculture and construction sectors, to meet their needs to increase self-reliance and build human capital, with particular focus on women and girls, the portfolio of projects in the PARRs prioritizes vocational training and entrepreneurship. Additional efforts will enhance the quality of national social protection services.



SHELTER AND ENERGY

SDG 7

Shelter remains one of the most pressing needs of returnees and IDPs in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Through UNHCR's Cash for Shelter project, vulnerable households receive a cash grant that enables them to build their own shelter and sanitation facilities, with the technical support of UNHCR and partners. This innovative approach aims to ensure safe, dignified and sustainable housing; empower households and communities while reducing their dependency on humanitarian assistance; address protection concerns; and inject investment into the local economy. Additional projects will improve access to clean, sustainable and renewable energy through provision of solar packages and the extension of power networks. All efforts will be made to link these initiatives to the Government of Afghanistan's Land Allocation Scheme.



WATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SDG 6 & 9

Particularly in the context of COVID-19, infrastructure interventions will improve access to potable water, construct WASH facilities, and build irrigation networks and roads.

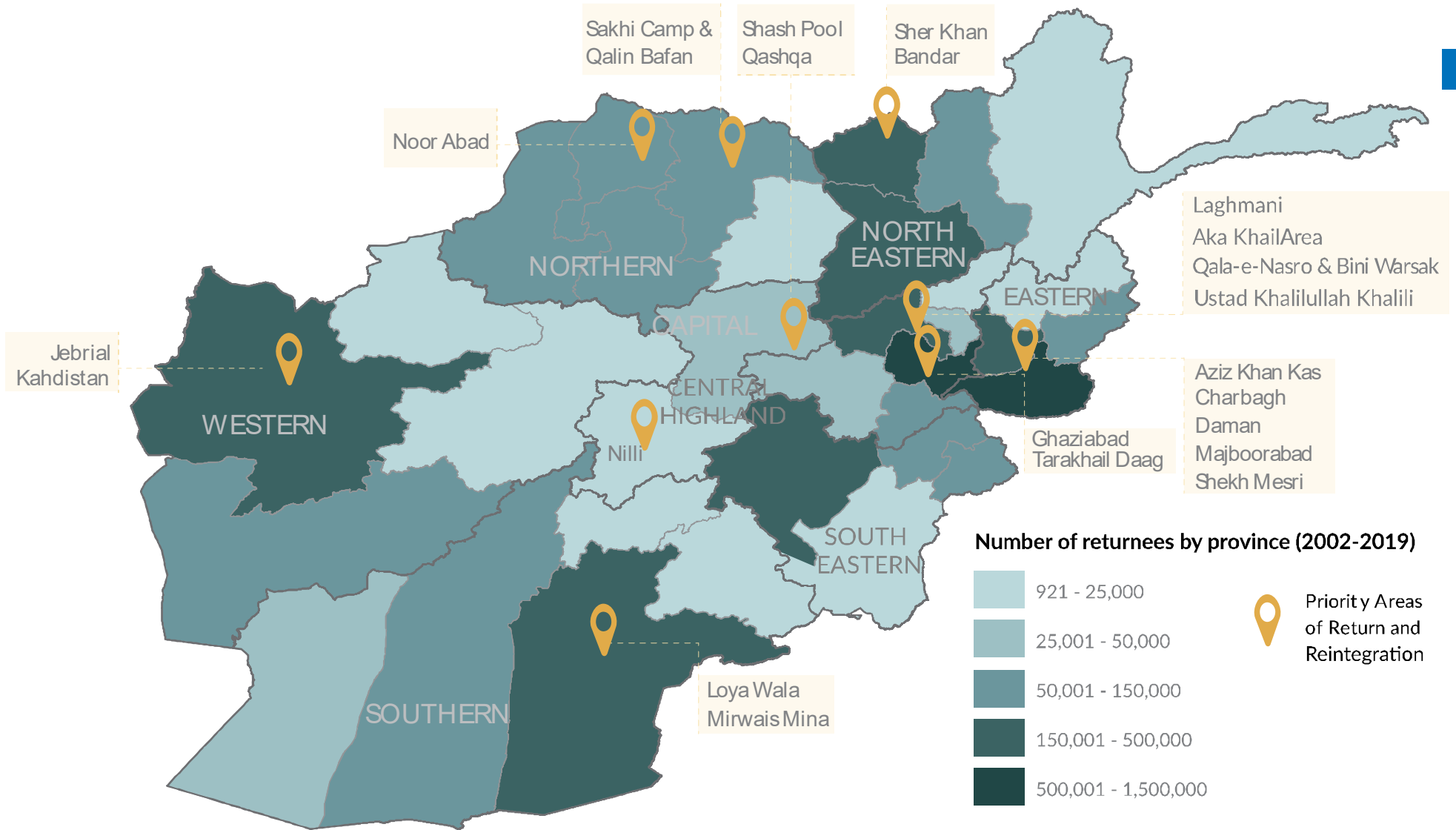


VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

SDG 10 & 16

UNHCR and partners continue to facilitate voluntary repatriation of registered Afghan refugees through services and support provided at four Encashment Centres located in Jalalabad, Kandahar, Herat and Kabul. Returnees receive a cash grant averaging USD 250 per person to meet immediate needs including transportation. Returnees also receive services including basic health screening, vaccinations for children, mine risk awareness training, referrals to legal assistance to obtain civil documentation, and referrals of persons with specific needs.

AFGHANISTAN: PRIORITY AREAS OF RETURN AND REINTEGRATION



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

| CH1 | Shash Pool & Qashqa |
|-----|--------------------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | TM |
| | Gov, UNHCR |
| | Gov, UNHCR |
| | UNHCR |
| | UNHCR |
| | UN-Habitat, IRAN PARS CC |

| CH2 | Nilli |
|-----|-----------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | GW |
| | GOV |
| | GOV |

| CR1 | Tarakhail Daag |
|-----|----------------------|
| | WFP,ADRA,UNHCR, |
| | GOV,SCI,UNHCR,UNICEF |
| | WHO,UNICEF |

| CR2 | Ghaziabad |
|-----|-------------|
| | WFP,CI,ADRA |
| | SCI |
| | WHO,UNICEF |

| CR3 | Aka Khail Area |
|-----|-------------------|
| | GOV, ACARDA |
| | GOV,WFP,MC,UNHCR |
| | RET-INTERNATIONAL |

| CR4 | Laghmani |
|-----|--------------------|
| | AWSDC,CAF,UNHCR |
| | GOV, ICRADA |
| | GOV,CL,PVT,TPO,WFP |
| | GOV,WHO,UNICEF |
| | GOV |
| | GOV,ISAF |

| CR5 | Ustad Khalilullah Khalili |
|-----|---------------------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | OMER,HALO TRUST |
| | CARE |
| | SOZO,SC |
| | ACF,SOZO |
| | ACF,DRRD,SOZO |
| | UMCR |
| | GOV,CARE,SC |

| CR6 | Qala-e-Nasro & Bini Warsak |
|-----|----------------------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | EA |
| | GOV,CESVI |
| | GOV,CESVI |
| | GOV,ACF |
| | CESVI |
| | GOV,MPW |

| ER1 | Majboorabad |
|-----|----------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | IOM |
| | GOV |
| | GOV,UNICEF,UNHCR,WCC |
| | GOV |
| | UN-HABITAT |

| ER2 | Charbagh |
|-----|----------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | IOM,UNHCR,WADAN, GOV |
| | GOV,UNHCR |
| | GOV,HNTPO |
| | GOV,DACAAR,NRC |
| | GOV,NRC |
| | GOV |
| | GOV |

| ER3 | Daman |
|-----|---------------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | GOV,IOM,UN-HABITAT, UNHCR |
| | GOV,NRC,UNHCR |
| | GOV |
| | DACAAR,GAA,IRC,NRC,UNH CR |
| | GOV,NRC,UNHCR |
| | SCA,UN-HABITAT |

| ER4 | Shekh Misri |
|-----|------------------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | UN-Habitat, UNICEF,IRC |
| | GOV,UN-HABITAT |
| | RCNRO |
| | UN-HABITAT, |
| | GOV,USAID |

| ER5 | Aziz Khan Kas |
|-----|-----------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | GOV,UNICEF |
| | UNICEF,WHO |
| | DACAAR |
| | GOV |

| NR1 | Noor Abad |
|-----|-----------------|
| | Land Allocation |
| | Gov,WADAN |
| | GOV |
| | GOV |
| | ZOA |

| NR2 | Sakhi Camp & Qalin Bafan |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| | Citizen Charter, Land Allocation |
| | GOV,SCI,UNICEF |
| | GOV,INTERSOS, |
| | UNICEF,DACAAR |
| | GOV,NRC,UNHCR |
| | GOV |

| NR3 | Sher Khan Bandar |
|-----|------------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | SCI, UNHCR, GOV, ACTED |
| | GOV,SCI,UNHCR |
| | JACK |

| SR1 | Loya Wala |
|-----|----------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | DRO,NRC,PROMOT,YHDO |
| | DRC,UNHCR |
| | GOV,SCI,UNICEF,UNHCR |
| | INTERSOS |
| | UNICEF,DACAAR |
| | NRC,UNHCR |
| | UNICR,UNICEF,HRDA |

| SR2 | Mirwais Mina |
|-----|--------------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | DRC,NRC,PROMOT,YHDO |
| | UNHCR |
| | GOV,SCI,UNICEF,MC, UNHCR |
| | GOV |
| | UNICEF,DACAAR,INTERSOS |
| | NRC,UNHCR |
| | GOV,UNHCR,HRDA |

| WR1 | Kahdistan |
|-----|------------------|
| | DACAAR,UNHCR |
| | GOV,UNHCR |
| | GOV,DACAAR,UNHCR |
| | UNHCR |
| | UNHCR |

| WR2 | Jebrial |
|-----|------------------------------|
| | Citizen Charter |
| | DACAAR,NRC,UNHCR |
| | Gov,Dacaar,UN-Habitat, UNHCR |
| | Gov,UN Habitat,UNHCR |
| | DACAAR,UNHCR |
| | UNHCR |
| | Gov,UNHCR |
| | Gov,UN Habitat |

PARR Sectors: Key Achievements & Gaps (as of 31 August 2020)

EDUCATION

HEALTH

LIVELIHOODS

| | | | |
|--------------|--|--|---|
| Achievements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 24 schools constructed ■ 158 RHUs provided to expand class room space ■ 2 playgrounds constructed ■ Solar panels for 4 schools ■ 140 men and women certified in ICDL (International Computer Driving License) ■ 2 women-only internet cafés for young women to increase their skills and knowledge ■ 200 returnees/IDPs children received English language trainings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 4 clinics constructed and equipped with solar panels, electricity and lighting ■ 12 RHUs to expand clinic space ■ 40 women trained in midwifery ■ 3 health and hygiene trainings ■ One ambulance provided to the main city hospital <p>COVID-19 response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 283,300 people benefitted from provision of face masks, hygiene and sanitary kits etc. ■ Awareness raising sessions benefitted 1.2 million persons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1,047 job placements provided for men and women ■ 155 market-based small business established ■ 331 men and women benefitted from market-based technical and vocational trainings ■ 3 women communities linked to global markets through MADE51 programme in carpet/kilim weaving ■ 3 partnerships with Chamber of Commerce and Industry (at sub-national level) for apprenticeship and business development ■ 2 poultry farms and 2 dairy farms established |
| Gaps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Limited space for children in schools (need for the expansion of current school buildings) ■ Support returnee/IDP children to obtain civil documentation ■ Construction of kindergarten schools and nurseries ■ Inadequate WASH facilities in schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Construction and renovation of secondary health clinics ■ Inadequate medical supplies, equipment and staff in the clinics ■ Mobile health services to improve access to the rural areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of market-based investment for employment promotion and business development in productive/economic value chains e.g. horticulture, animal husbandry, dried nuts/fruits, honey bee keeping etc. ■ Limited technical and vocation training centres |

WASH

SHELTER

ENERGY

| | | | |
|--------------|--|---|---|
| Achievements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 23 bore water wells constructed ■ 48 solar operated water points and 5 water reservoirs installed ■ Implementation of solar-powered pipe scheme projects ■ 10 semi-deep wells and 1 water reservoir constructed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 161 permanent shelters (two rooms, a corridor and a latrine) constructed ■ 980 households benefitted from cash for shelter programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ One micro-hydro dam project benefitting 250 households ■ 203 solar panels installed which improved access to electricity ■ 280 street poles with solar lights erected |
| Gaps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Inadequate WASH facilities within the communities ■ Lack of access to safe drinking water ■ Lack of proper communal sanitation facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Access to adequate shelter/housing is a critical need in all the locations ■ Lack of private sector engagement investment in the communal housing in PARRs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of access to electricity is one of the key constraints. ■ Insufficient use of renewable energy for the lack of resources to improve living conditions |

INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

| | INFRASTRUCTURE | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | SPECIAL ASSISTANCE |
|--------------|---|--|---|
| Achievements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10.2 Km main roads constructed and rehabilitated through cash-for-work ■ 2 irrigation canals rehabilitated ■ 2 flood protection walls constructed ■ 58 culverts constructed/rehabilitated ■ 4 small bridges constructed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 3 multi-purpose community centres constructed ■ 2 training centres for women and youth ■ 2 sports centres constructed, equipment for 1 local women gym provided, and uniforms for youth playing cricket and football provided ■ One minibus provided to facilitate transportation from rural to urban areas and marketplaces ■ 2,823 male and 3,849 female youth communities organized and sensitized on rights and obligations ■ 32 psycho-social counselling sessions organized | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10,716 vulnerable Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) assisted with Cash for protection, self-reliance, medication and provision of food items. This includes individuals with acute vulnerabilities, female headed households, individuals with disabilities, unaccompanied children, persons displaced in emergencies and members of the host communities |
| Gaps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of secondary, tertiary road networks ■ Lack of proper drainages and culverts ■ Inadequate irrigation canals and channels for increasing agriculture productivity and increasing access to water ■ Insufficient flood protection walls | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Insufficient community centres, especially for women ■ Lack of transport facilities to market places ■ Inadequate sports facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of unconditional cash assistance to most vulnerable population of the community ■ Need for special assistance programmes, particularly livelihood support for vulnerable women to promote self-reliance |

WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE TOGETHER IN PARRS`

 **USD 800**

one family receives a solar package and has access to clean energy

 **USD 800 + USD 1,500**

one person receives vocational training and business start-up assets, improving the well-being of the whole family

 **USD 3,300**

one family receives cash for shelter and has a place to call home

 **USD 12,000**

people have access to WASH facilities, improving their health and hygiene

 **USD 50,000**

an entire community of 3,500 has a new solar-powered potable water scheme

 **USD 170,000**

Construction of 6-classroom school = 600 more children go to school per year

 **USD 300,000**

Construction of a 12-classroom school = 1,200 more children got to school per year

 **USD 300,000**

Construction of basic health clinic = 10,000 people can access basic healthcare

An Afghan woman teaches a midwifery training course in Tarakhil Daag, a priority area of return and reintegration in Afghanistan © UNHCR/ Claire

| Programme | Activity | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | NPP OBJECTIVES | | | | | ANPDF | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|----------------|---|---|---|----|-------|-----|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 16 | 17 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 2.5 | 6 |
| Voluntary Repatriation Programme | Service provision through Encashment Centres | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | | ■ | | | | | ■ | |
| | Facilitate voluntary return process | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | ■ | | | | | ■ |
| Persons with Specific Needs | Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) | | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | | | | |
| Community-based protection measures (CPM) | Skills training | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| | Business support | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| | Community mobilization and peaceful-coexistence | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| Emergency assistance | Winterization | | | ■ | | | | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| | Emergency Response (Emergency Shelter and NFI) | | | ■ | | | | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| | Provision of solar panel | | | ■ | | | | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | | | | | |
| Refugees and Asylum Seekers | Refugees in Khost & Paktika | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| | Urban Refugees and Asylum Seekers | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| Protection | Protection and Return monitoring | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| | Legal assistance | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| Policy Support and Capacity Development | Capacity building of MoRR | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| | Policy support to GoIRA | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| Hum – Dev-Peace Nexus | Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus and Innovations for Solutions | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| Coordination | Emergency Shelter / Non-Food Items and Protection Clusters | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ |



Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)
 National Priority Programs (NPP)
 Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANPDF)