



UPDATE ON RETURN OF AFGHAN REFUGEES FROM PAKISTAN

6 November – 12 November 2016

TRENDS

- An average of over 1,950 Afghan refugees departed from Pakistan daily during the reporting period, with over 52,000 returns recorded in Afghanistan in November to date. Since the start of 2016, 364,348 Afghan refugees have returned from Pakistan – over six times the number of returns recorded for the same period in 2015.
- Around 81% of the population are returning from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province followed by 10% from Punjab, mainly via the Torkham border crossing. More than 73% of the returns are arriving in five provinces: Nangarhar, Kabul, Baghlan, Kunduz and Laghman.
- The return trend through Spin Boldak/Jamal Mayna Encashment Centre in Kandahar continues to remain proportionally high with 6,435 returnees through Spin Boldak thus far in November. Samar Khel Encashment Centre in Jalalabad has seen 23,813 returnees in November and 22,367 at the Kabul Encashment Centre.
- UNHCR's support to refugee returns to Afghanistan will soon be put on hold as per the practice in the region in anticipation of the harsh winter ahead and its inherent challenges. The number of returns is starting to decline.
- The impact of extreme and lasting winter temperatures are likely to pose further strain on Afghanistan's already fragile absorption capacity. Given the high levels of recent internal displacement in the Western region, UNHCR support will be targeted in overstretched host and IDP communities in and around Herat, Ghor and Baghdis throughout winter in addition to support provided to the Central, Northern and North-eastern regions.

NEEDS

- In response to the significant increase of Afghan refugee returns from Pakistan, UNHCR had to revise its initial Supplementary Appeal¹ to include additional financial requirements to support the additional returns. The revised appeal also includes the needs of vulnerable returnees, IDPs and host communities over the winter months.
- The revised financial requirements total some \$181.2 million², up from the \$104 million presented in the initial Supplementary Appeal issued on 19 September 2016. To date, resources against the revised requirements amount to \$97.2 million.
- Subject to donors' response to the revised Supplementary Appeal, UNHCR is prepared to support up to 25,000 households—IDPs, returnees and vulnerable local residents—in Afghanistan with winterization through cash assistance (between \$100 and \$300 per household) and provision of non-food relief items.

KEY FIGURES

(as of 12 November 2016)

366,693

Refugees already returned in 2016

- 364,348 (99.3%) from Pakistan
- 2,178 (0.6%) from the Islamic Republic of Iran
- 167 (0.05%) from other countries

26,322

refugees returned in the reporting period

More than

365,000

refugees expected to return in 2016

\$400

Repatriation cash grant per person as of 23 June

MOST URGENT FINANCIAL NEEDS

\$181.2 million

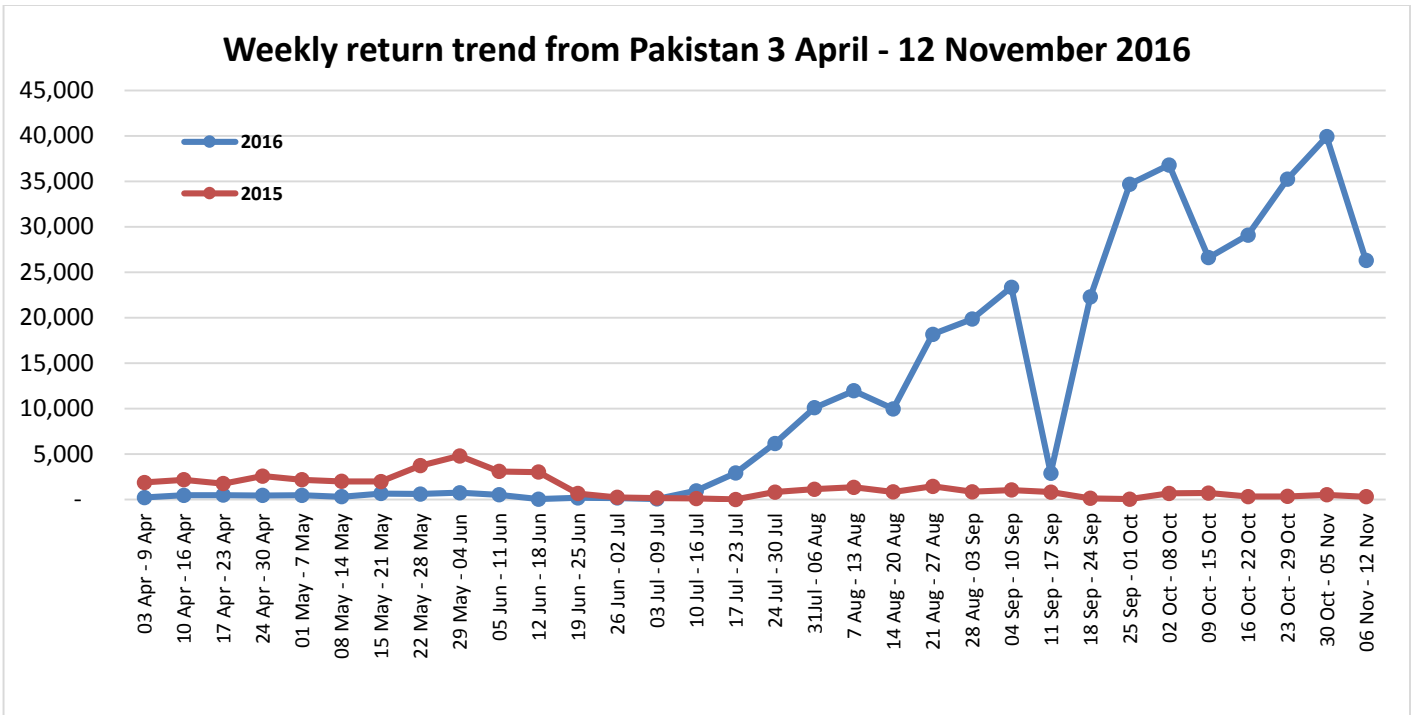
Required to support the repatriation and reintegration of Afghan refugees from Pakistan

Earmarked SWA donors: Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, private donors in Japan, United States of America

Donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2016: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Japan, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, and private donors in Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the USA,

¹ Supplementary Appeal dated 28 October 2016 <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/15676>

² All dollar signs in this document denote United States dollars.



Weekly return trends from Pakistan in September - November 2016					
Date	Individuals	Weekly %	Date	Individuals	Weekly %
4 Sep - 10 Sep	23,362	+ 17.7%	9 Oct - 15 Oct	26,608	-27.7%
11 Sep - 17 Sep	2,901	-87.6%	16 Oct - 22 Oct	29,084	+ 9.3%
18 Sep - 24 Sep	22,304	+ 668.8%	23 Oct - 29 Oct	35,226	+ 21.1%
25 Sep - 1 Oct	34,680	+ 55.5%	30 Oct - 5 Nov	39,903	+ 13.3%
2 Oct - 8 Oct	36,790	+ 6%	6 Nov - 12 Nov	26,292	-34.1%

