

# **RETURN OF UNDOCUMENTED AFGHANS**

WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT 13-19 NOVEMBER 2016



Mohammad Khan, 16, and Ahmad Jan, 16, returnees from Peshawar at Ganberi informal settlement outside of Jalalabad on 10 November 2016.

# **Highlights**

A total of 5,056 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan between 13-19 November, a 33.7% decrease from the previous week.

• A total of 9,115 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran during the same period. This is a 2.4% decrease from the previous week.

A total of 232,556 undocumented Afghans have spontaneously returned or been deported from Pakistan and 399,683 from Iran since the beginning of the year.

## **Returns from Pakistan**

From 13-19 November 2016, a total of **5,056** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through Nangarhar province's Torkham border crossing and Kandahar province's Spin Boldak border crossing according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). 4,816 were spontaneous returnees in family groups and 240 were deported individuals. This brings the total number of Afghan undocumented returnees from Pakistan to **232,566** in 2016. The total this week represents a **33.7% decrease** from last week, whereas deportation increased by 63%.

During the reporting period, IOM assisted **2,587 (51%)** of all undocumented Afghans returnees through the Torkham crossing with post-arrival humanitarian assistance including meals and accommodation at the IOM Transit Center, NFIs for families, special assistance to Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs), a one-month food ration from WFP, family and hygiene kits from UNICEF and dignity kits from UNFPA.

# **Situation Overview**

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the number of undocumented Afghans returning from Pakistan and Iran. Since the beginning of 2016, over 630,000 undocumented Afghans have returned to Afghanistan, due to a number of diverse push factors including a deteriorating protection space in Pakistan.

Many of those returning have lived outside of Afghanistan for decades, and will need support from the government and humanitarian actors both on arrival and as they seek to reintegrate into a country already struggling with widespread conflict and displacement.

At its Transit Camps near the four major border crossing points in Torkham, Spin Boldak, Herat and Nimroz, IOM staff provide post-arrival humanitarian assistance to returnees.

IOM has appealed for USD 21 million to provide life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable undocumented Afghans returning home from Pakistan before the end of 2016. The appeal can be found online at <a href="http://www.iom.int/appeal/iom-afghanistan-undocumented-afghan-returnees-appeal-september-december-2016">http://www.iom.int/appeal/iom-afghanistan-undocumented-afghan-returnees-appeal-september-december-2016</a>. As of 21 November 2016, the Appeal is 50% funded.

#### CONTACTS

facebook.com/iomafghanistan twitter.com/iomafghanistan

### **Returns from Iran**

From 13-19 November, a total of **9,115** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through Herat and Nimroz province's Islam Qala and Milak border crossing points according to the Border Monitoring Team of the



Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). This represents an **2.4% decrease** in the return from Iran in comparison with last week. Out of the total returnees 188 (4%) were spontaneous families and 5,079 (96%) were individuals. Similarly, out of the total deportees 345 (9%) were in families whereas 3,503 (91%) were individuals. This brings the total of undocumented returnees in 2016 to **399,683** from Iran.

IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **337 (3.7%)** undocumented Afghans through Islam Qala and Milak border crossing points at the IOM Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz Provinces. As per the continued observation of the Border Monitoring Team of the DoRR, about 10% of the undocumented Afghans returning spontaneously or involuntarily from Iran are in need of humanitarian assistance.

### Return Projection to 31 December 2016

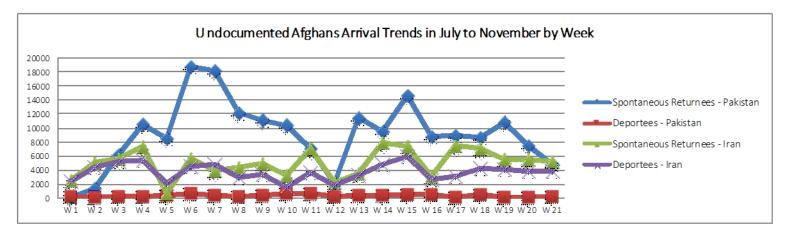
This projection changes based on the weekly trends from Pakistan through Torkham and Spin Boldak border crossing points. Based on the trends from 13-19 November 2016, the projection for the remainder of 2016 is 86,484 individuals.

### IOM-Assisted Undocumented Afghans at Torkham, Islam Qala and Milak Border Crossing Points:

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Cread
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	Grand Total
Jan-Oct, 16	45,819	0	894	954	1665	0	9327	6048	47484	17,223	64,707
Nov 1 - 5	2,259	0	3	14	0	0	96	71	2259	184	2,443
Nov 6-12	2,058	0	3	13	20	0	59	119	2,078	194	2,272
Nov 13-19	1,576	959	0	11	6	46	118	208	2,587	337	2,924
Total	51,712	959	900	992	1,691	46	9,600	6,446	54,408	17,938	72,346

### Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2016 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak Border Crossing Points):

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	Grand Total
Jan-Oct,16	174,035	18,446	176,746	31,406	12,187	9,259	107,621	60,048	213,927	375,821	589,748
Nov 1 - 5	5,485	445	2,610	367	13	12	1,749	683	5,955	5,409	11,364
Nov 6-12	6,857	682	4,918	635	42	47	2,454	1,331	7,628	9,338	16,966
Nov 13-19	3,601	1,215	4,650	617	23	217	2,216	1,632	5,056	9,115	14,171
Total	189,978	20,788	188,924	33,025	12,265	9,535	114,040	63,694	232,566	399,683	632,249



IOM Afghanistan's Returnee Response is generously supported by:

**CZECH REPUBLIC** 





Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschal Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra



AFGHANISTAN Intended Final Destination of Undocumented Afghan Returnees and Deportees from Pakistan Jan 2016–30 Oct 2016

