



IOM Humanitarian assistance program distributed lifesaving humanitarian assistance, non-food, and emergency shelter items to 734 families (5,138 individuals) in Ghazni province ©IOM Afghanistan 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

	<p>5.5 million IDPs in Afghanistan</p>		<p>92% of communities report an increase in food prices in the past month (DTM, 1 Sept – 5 Oct)</p>
	<p>665,200 people displaced between 1 Jan – 6 Oct 2021 (source: OCHA, 6 Oct)</p>		<p>88% of communities report reduced income in the past month (DTM, 1 Sept – 5 Oct)</p>
	<p>Communities rank their priority needs as food, drinking water and immediate healthcare (DTM, 1 Sept – 5 Oct 2021)</p>		<p>26,217 undocumented Afghans arrived in Afghanistan from Iran and Pakistan this week (cumulative total from 1 Jan - 6 Oct: 959,295 undocumented Afghans)</p>

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 5 October, the Spin Boldak (Chaman) border crossing point between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Kandahar was closed to both vehicle and pedestrian traffic, with humanitarian and economic implications. All other border crossings operated as usual, with cyclical border movements continuing. 959,295 undocumented Afghan returnees from Iran (946,593) and Pakistan (12,702) were

recorded, between 1 January and 6 October. During the reporting period, 26,217 undocumented Afghans arrived in Afghanistan of which 25,048 from Iran and 1,169 from Pakistan. It is estimated that 665,200 people have been internally displaced by conflict around the country between 1 January and 6 October (source: [OCHA, 6 October](#)).

2021 FUNDING REQUIRED AND SECURED

Total Funding requirement: humanitarian and stabilization activities



1 - The overall requirement for humanitarian and stabilization activities includes IOM Afghanistan's original ask (in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan) as well as the USD 24 million flash appeal released in August. Of these total requirements, USD 46 million covers the period from August - December (USD 22 million original ask plus USD 24 million in additional needs), in line with the coordinated Flash Appeal, which is an addendum to the HRP. The total requirement includes: health, emergency shelter and NFI, protection, multi-sector response in border areas, WASH, DRR, DTM, and stabilization activities. This external sitrep does not report on the WASH or disaster risk reduction elements of the response plan.

IOM RESPONSE

Over the reporting period (30 September – 6 October), IOM provided direct assistance through essential health services, protection services, humanitarian post-arrival assistance for undocumented returnees, and emergency livelihoods creation.

Since January 2021, IOM Afghanistan has delivered direct assistance to 289,702 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and vulnerable

undocumented returnees through post-arrival assistance, emergency shelter and NFI, health and protection. IOM has a strong operational presence in the border provinces of Herat, Nangarhar, Nimroz and Kandahar, where vulnerable migrants coming from and going to neighbouring Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran receive assistance in reception and transit centres.

IOM provided humanitarian assistance such as post-arrival assistance, emergency shelter, health services, and **protection assistance** to **20,226 individuals** (9,795 female, 10,431 male) during the reporting period.

IOM's COVID-19 **Rapid Response Teams** (RRTs) screened **21,054** people for COVID-19.

In **eight operational centres** at the borders in Herat, Nimroz, Nangarhar and Kandahar, **2,536 undocumented migrants** were provided with **humanitarian assistance** such as temporary accommodation and hot meals.

IOM Protection teams provided **protection post-arrival assistance** to **101 undocumented returnees**, of whom **44%** are **women**.

IOM's **shelter programme** delivered emergency support to an estimated **14,444 people** displaced by conflict in Kunduz and Ghazni.



83,331

People received assistance since 1 Jan 2021

EMERGENCY SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (ES/NFI)

Between 30 September and 6 October, following a joint needs assessment conducted last week in Kunduz that assessed 475 families displaced by conflict, a distribution of NFI kits containing household items such as kitchen sets, blankets, and solar lamps, as well as emergency shelter support in the form of shelter tool kits, tents, and tarpaulins was organized and benefited an estimated 3,258 people (1,568 female, 1,690 male). Following the joint needs assessment of families displaced by conflict in Ghazni, concluded on September 27, IOM distributed NFI and ES support to 864 families so far estimated at 6,048 people (2,900 female, 3,148 male), with the distribution completing in the next reporting period.

Joint assessments continue to be conducted with partner organizations (Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees, Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, UNHCR, World Food Programme and Norwegian Refugee Council) in Balkh, Sari-e-Pul, Kunar, Takhar and Helmand provinces to assess the needs of people displaced by conflict.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)

Afghanistan is one of the most multi-hazard prone countries of Central Asia. Every year hundreds of families are displaced or in other ways impacted by natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods and droughts. IOM's DRR programme aims to reduce the risk of displacement and increase the resilience of populations affected by these hazards by supporting local communities with small scale infrastructure projects such as construction of protection/retention walls, small rehabilitation/upgrades and construction of water irrigation systems such as culverts, canals, water intakes, and small check dams.

During the reporting period, Disaster Risk Mitigation (DRM) infrastructures continue to be implemented in Herat and Nangarhar. Particularly, on 4 October, IOM commenced the works of a gabion wall in the village of Doghni Qanat Wakil, district of Kushk Rubat Sangai in the province of Herat. The gabion wall will protect around 14,000 households and is currently employing 67 men in the construction of the wall, simultaneously offering them on-the-job training.



36,697

People received assistance since 1 Jan 2021

HEALTH

IOM's Migration Health Unit provides essential health services to mobile and hard-to-reach populations. This includes medical screening and assistance at border crossing points with the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan and at reception/transit centres for returnees, and the deployment of Mobile Health Teams (MHTs) to provide essential services and COVID-19 Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) covering COVID-19 support.

During the reporting period, a total of 3,218 persons (2,175 female, 1,043 male) in Herat, Kandahar, Nangahar and Nimroz provinces were reached with basic health services, such as out-patient department (OPD) and reproductive health services. Of these people, 147 persons (127 female, 20 male) received mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services and 480 critical patients (382 female, 98 male) were referred for emergency care in Nimroz, Nangarhar and Herat. In addition, IOM's RRTs screened 21,054 people for COVID-19 in Herat, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Ghor and Nimroz, and together with the MHTs they have reached 16,363 persons (6,343 female, 10,020 male) with promotive health messaging on COVID-19 prevention measures and sensitisation on other transmittable diseases.



120,370

People received assistance
since 1 Jan 2021



40,528

People received assistance
since 1 Jan 2021

From 30 September to 6 October, protection post-arrival assistance was provided on the Iranian border by female and male staff at the reception and transit centres in Nimroz and Herat. A total of 633 undocumented returnees were screened for protection concerns, and of these cases, a total of 103 undocumented returnees (45 female, 58 male) with specific needs received protection assistance such as information on how to access basic services, referrals, and in-kind assistance including family tracing and reunification.

Protection case management is taking place either in person or remotely by phone in 11 provinces where IOM's protection team is present, namely Nimroz, Sar-E-Pul, Takhar and Faryab, Herat, Kandahar, Ghor, Balkh, Badakhstan, Nangahar and Kabul. Over the past few weeks, protection case management has primarily focused on follow-up, including preparation of cash distribution, and case closure. During the reporting period, 266 cases were closed. Following weeks of extensive work on the reactivation of referral pathway mechanisms and access negotiation, IOM has been able to take on new protection cases in four provinces, namely in Herat, Kandahar, Nimroz and Takhar.

Additionally, protection monitoring, under the form of community consultations, is ongoing in these same provinces, and actively involved 28 people (8 female, 20 male) during the reporting period. A protection monitoring report was produced to inform donors, humanitarian and development actors and the international community of protection trends, including recommendations on access negotiation, accountability to affected communities and protection mainstreaming across health and livelihood services.

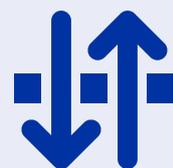
In Balkh and Kabul, female and male members of the protection team have access to communities; in all other provinces, solely male staff have access to communities and case management and protection monitoring takes place under remote modalities for female staff. IOM continues to work on access negotiation to extend IOM's physical reach beyond the provinces of Balkh, Kabul, Herat, Faryab, Sar-E-Pul, and Takhar.

MULTI-SECTORAL ASSISTANCE AT THE BORDERS

IOM and partners continue to provide vulnerable undocumented Afghans returning from the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan with immediate humanitarian post-arrival assistance at the major border crossings with Pakistan at Torkham and Spin Boldak and with the Islamic Republic of Iran at Islam Qala and Milak through a network of IOM constructed and managed reception and transit centres.

Operations are up and running in all eight reception and transit centres providing immediate humanitarian assistance such as temporary accommodation, hot food, onward transportation, and distribution of food packages in Herat, Nimroz, Nangarhar, and Kandahar provinces, though in Kandahar flows, and therefore operations, ceased from 5 October following the border closure.

A total of 2,536 people (1,008 female, 1,528 male) received post-arrival assistance during the reporting period in Nimroz (1,063 individuals), Kandahar (894 individuals), Herat (408 individuals), and Nangarhar (171 individuals).



47,799

total people received assistance
since 1 Jan 2021



12

Total community development projects implemented since 1 Jan 2021

STABILISATION, REINTEGRATION AND RESILIENCE (SRR)

IOM's SRR programme continues to strengthen social cohesion and community resilience by improving access to basic services, offering technical and vocational training opportunities, and providing MHPSS services. From 30 September to 6 October, activities continued to be implemented across eight provinces.

Community-based development projects (CDP) aim to improve access to essential socio-economic infrastructure while offering short-term employment and income-generating opportunities to communities, by hiring community members for skilled and unskilled labour for construction works. Eleven CDPs continue to be implemented, with construction works ongoing in Kabul, Kunar, Herat, Laghman and Nangarhar provinces, which focus on improved access to water, education and protection of agricultural land, and have offered temporary employment to 240 men up to 6 October. A women-led processors' association, which produces children's beds, kitchen sets, brocades, women's clothing and noodles, is offering temporary employment for 100 women in Balkh.

With the aim of creating sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable populations, particularly IDPs and returnees, IOM continues its support to Small and Medium Enterprises (SME). In Baghlan, 24 jobs were created and safeguarded for young men working in a food production and tomato ketchup production company. In Laghman, 12 young men are being supported with a shoe making enterprise and a soft mask and sanitary pads production enterprise. Additionally, the support to 413 people (178 female, 235 male) participating in apprenticeships continues in Kandahar, Balkh, Kabul, Nangarhar and Herat, with beneficiaries strengthening their skills on for example tailoring and repairing mobile phones.

Finally, MHPSS awareness campaigns are ongoing in Kabul, with 37 people (15 female, 22 male) participating up to date. These campaigns are organized in coordination with local organizations and allow community members in these provinces to increase their awareness on mental health psychosocial support services.

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

In the latest [Emergency Event Tracking \(EET\) report](#) covering 1 September to 5 October, IOM conducted data collection among 1,716 new communities this week, bringing the total number of assessed communities since the initiation of the EET to 8,376. Data collection has covered 359 districts across 34 provinces in Afghanistan.

Community focal points in Helmand, Kunduz and Zabul most frequently reported an increase of IDP arrivals in their communities. Meanwhile, communities in Baghlan, Faryab and Kunduz in the north reportedly experienced an increase in departures more frequently than communities assessed in other provinces.



8,376

total number of assessed communities in EET

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