

# **RETURN OF UNDOCUMENTED AFGHANS**

WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT 28 JAN — 03 FEBRUARY 2018



## **Highlights**

**590** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

**10,593** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

**2,163** total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

**50,242** total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018

**88%** of returnees from Pakistan (520 individuals) assisted

3% of returnees from Iran (277 individuals) assisted

**54** Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC) from Iran among those assisted, 0 from Pakistan

**26** Medical Cases (MC) from Iran among those assisted, 0 from Pakistan

#### **Return from Pakistan**

A total of **590** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 28 Jan —03 Feb 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 520 were spontaneous returnees and 70 were deported. This number marks a **48% increase** compared to the previous week (400). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 2,163. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **88%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (520 individuals), including 380 individuals in poor families, 133 individuals in single parent families and 7 special cases. The assistance provided includes meals, accommodation, basic medical screening, Non-Food Items (NFIs), onward transportation cash grants and referral services, as well as support from partners.

On February 01, 2018, IOM held a donor conference in Kabul to present its priorities for 2018 to a number of current and potential future donors.

### **ACC Registration** — Pakistan

As of 6 February 2018, the Government of Pakistan's National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) supported by the Government of Pakistan and IOM has received over 804,000 applications from undocumented Afghans for Afghan Citizen Cards (ACC) across 21 registration centers. registration exercise commenced on 20 July 2017 and is expected to continue until February 15 2018 as per the original 6 months project period. Between February 15-28 2018, 6 of the 21 registration points will stay open and continue registration. NADRA is seeking clarity from cabinet over whether or not the exercise will continue past that date.

### **Situation Overview**

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since 01 January 2018, over 52,405 undocumented Afghans have returned due to diverse push factors, including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan and Iran. Most 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. As the rate of return is influenced by a number of political, security and other related factors both in Afghanistan and neighboring countries, another surge in returns could occur at any time. The governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan together with UN counterparts are presently discussing options to extend Proof of Registration card validity for 1.4m Afghan refugees in Pakistan and to begin the issuance of Afghan Citizenship Cards for more than 700,000 undocumented Afghans. IOM is working to scale up its support to returnees in coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and other humanitarian partners in line with the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). In a series of high level meetings in early February, the Government of Afghanistan with support from IOM and UNHCR are working on a phased return plan for Afghans living in Pakistan. The planning figure for 2018 is 700,000 persons.

#### **CONTACT US**

http://afghanistan.iom.int

#### Return from Iran

A total of 10,593 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 28 Jan—03 Feb 2018, 15 % more than in the previous week. Of the total deported undocumented Afghans, 1,892 individuals were deported through Islam Qala (Herat) and 6,384 were deported through Milak (Nimroz). Of those who spontaneously returned, 2,234 returned through Islam Qala (Herat) and 83 through Milak (Nimroz). Out of the total deportees, 226 individuals (3%) were deported with family members whereas 8,050 (97%) were deported as individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2018 to 50,242. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to 277 (3%) undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 134 individuals in Deported Families (DF), 54 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 33 Special Cases (SC), 26 Medical Cases (MC), 11 Unaccompanied Elderly (UAE), 6 Physical Disabled (PD), 1 Single Females (SF), 1 Chronically III (CI), 6 Drug Addicted (DA).

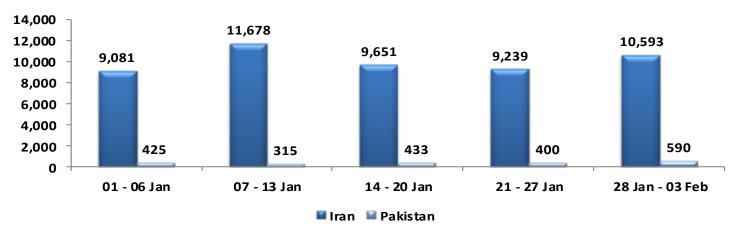
#### Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees					Depor	tees	Total	Total	Grand	
	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	Total
01 - 06 Jan	140	242	3,334	1,466	21	22	1,655	2,626	425	9,081	9,506
07 - 13 Jan	176	112	4,568	1,848	27	0	2,322	2,940	315	11,678	11,993
14 - 20 Jan	133	221	4,027	1,161	33	46	2,166	2,297	433	9,651	10,084
21 - 27 Jan	207	163	4,020	1,237	30	0	1,971	2,011	400	9,239	9,639
28 Jan - 03 Feb 18	235	285	2,234	83	70	0	1,892	6,384	590	10,593	11,183
Total	89 I	1,023	18,183	5,795	181	68	10,006	16,258	2,163	50,242	52,405

IOM Assisted Undocumented Afghans 2018 (Turkham. Spin Boldak. Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand
	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Bold	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	Total
01 - 06 Jan	140	231	22	7	0	0	110	485	371	624	995
07 - 13 Jan	176	112	16	4	2	0	76	331	290	427	717
14 - 20 Jan	133	206	13	4	10	16	90	263	365	370	735
21 - 27 Jan	207	154	0	3	2	0	56	311	363	370	733
28 Jan - 03 Feb 18	235	278	5	0	7	0	63	209	520	277	797
Total	89 I	981	56	18	21	16	395	1,599	1,909	2,068	3,977

## **Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week**



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 3,180 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan between 01—27 January 2018, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

Migration for the benefit of all.











