



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

# Annual Results Report

**2022**

**Pakistan**

## Acknowledgements

UNHCR would like to thank all the stakeholders that contributed data and evidence to this report and reviewed their progress against the joint results of the strategy, including forcibly displaced and stateless people, host communities and host governments, United Nations agencies, and international and national non-governmental organizations, civil society and private sector. Their contributions enable us to create positive changes in the lives of the people we serve.

[Contact us](#)

[www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)

**Downloaded date:** 03/05/2023

# Table of Contents

## Section 1: Context and Overview

- 1.1 - Changes to the Operational Context
- 1.2 - Progress Against the Desired Impact
- 1.3 - Challenges to Achieving Impacts
- 1.4 - Collaboration and Partnerships

## Section 2: Results

- 2.1 - Outcomes and Achievements
- 2.2 - Age, Gender and Diversity

## Section 3: Resources

- 3.1 - Financial Data
- 3.2 - Resources Overview

# Section 1: Context and Overview

## 1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

Pakistan continues to be one of the largest refugee-hosting countries providing refuge to some 1.3 million registered Afghan refugees. Due to the precarious situation in Afghanistan, the risks of massive outflows into Pakistan continued to preoccupy the Government of Pakistan (GoP) alongside increasing spill-over security risks that have resulted in periodic fighting along and closure of the border. Pakistan also saw considerable domestic turmoil on economic, political, environmental and security fronts – including the change in government in April 2022, rising inflation, the drop of Central Bank reserves to historic lows, currency devaluation, uncertainty with IMF on debt relief, and the resurgence of domestic terrorism. Reflective of the catastrophic floods in 2022 affecting 33 million people, Pakistan is in the top ten countries most affected by extreme weather.

Against this backdrop, the Office faced considerable challenges in maintaining protection space and operationalizing solutions for registered refugees whilst addressing the considerable needs of those who have newly arrived since the events in Afghanistan in August 2021. The GoP estimates there some 600,000 Afghan new arrivals currently in the country. As the GoP does not have a national asylum system in place, nor has it adopted a policy for the management of new arrivals, risks of arrest, detention and refoulement have increased.

The regional Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees remains the main framework for realizing solutions for Afghan refugees. Solutions for Afghans, one of the most protracted refugee populations dating back to the late 1970s, however, remains marginal. Despite the uncertain situation in Afghanistan, some 6,000 refugees opted to return. With the resumption of the resettlement programme applications, some 3,500 Afghan refugees were submitted and another 80 refugees departed through complementary pathways programmes.

## 1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

### 1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

**Refugees and asylum-seekers can realize their rights in line with international protection standards**

**Stateless populations can realize their rights in line with international protection standards**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
1.1 Proportion of individuals seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	93.24%	0.00%
1.2 Proportion of PoC who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence. [GCR 2.1.2]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%

Pakistan is not a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967 Protocol, nor has it enacted national asylum legislation. The absence of a legal framework and the administrative management of the Afghan refugees through the Ministry of State and Frontiers Region and the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees has resulted in short-term approaches and exposed the management of refugees to uncertain political and security factors. As there is no Government-led mechanism to register new arrivals, UNHCR implemented its mandate function by registering new arrivals and providing them with asylum-seeker certificates. Since January 2022, however, pursuant to the Note Verbale issued by the Government of Pakistan to cease the registration and documentation of Afghans seeking asylum, UNHCR ceased issuing documentation. Throughout 2022, UNHCR advocated with key government interlocutors to agree on the way forward to continue mandate registration functions whilst a transition arrangement to a government-led mechanism is pursued. However, there was no progress on this and the lack of documentation has exposed refugees to risks of arrest, detention and refoulement and contributed to increasing fear and anxiety in the community. Despite UNHCR's advocacy against the forced return of all Afghans – in-line with the Guidance Note on the International Protection Needs of People Fleeing Afghanistan of February 2022 – some 2,300 Afghans were deported, largely those undocumented. To realize solutions for stateless people, UNHCR pursued a two-pronged approach comprising legal interventions that led to the issuance of documents, and advocacy efforts that enabled stateless people to receive birth registrations.

### 3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

**Refugees (of all age, gender, and diversity groups) can exercise their freedoms and rights and make use of access to public services leading to greater levels of gender equality and self-reliance.**

**Women and child refugees and asylum seekers are safe from violence, exploitation, harmful practices and other forms of rights violations**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
3.1 Proportion of PoC who have the right to decent work [GCR, 2.1.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	0.00%
3.2a Proportion of PoC enrolled in primary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17.18%	18.35%

3.2b Proportion of PoC enrolled in secondary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.60%	3.58%
--	-----------------------------	-------	-------

Reflective of their mobility (some 70 per cent live outside of refugee villages) and government general practice that precluded the collection of disaggregated data, UNHCR lacks the socio-economic data to guide planning and monitoring and evaluation. Joint advocacy with partners, however, is already underway to address this gap. Refugees will be added to the 2023 Pakistan census. Refugee enrolment data from refugee schools registered with the provincial authorities is being integrated into the national Education Management Information System. A Health Access and Utilization Survey was conducted and a Forced Displacement Survey with the Jafriya Disaster Management Cell Welfare Organization (JDC) will be implemented in 2023. These efforts are also paving the way to extend social protection programmes to refugees.

Legal barriers to the right to work and a slow economy created hurdles for refugees to be gainfully employed. Drawing on estimates of 50 per cent of refugees living below the poverty line, verification data that close to 25 per cent of refugees engage in daily wage labor and close to 70 per cent have no education, UNHCR pursued a multifaceted approach to livelihoods for some 7,500 individuals – of whom 50 per cent were women. A dashboard is underway to measure employment rates and salary scales.

UNHCR supported access to public education and health facilities. Enrolment increased overall by 8 per cent within which is a 1 per cent increase in the number of girls and increased by 18 per cent at the primary level. 56,594 primary and secondary students attended school by year end and targeted efforts were made to improve access to secondary education, especially for girls through Accelerated Learning Programmes. UNHCR also awarded 49 per cent of new university scholarships to refugee women, more than doubling the previous enrolment rate of 23 per cent.

GBV prevention and risk mitigation mainstreamed across various sectors and provided women and girls with opportunities to find safe spaces that provided peer support and with dedicated specialist support. Some improvements in women's participation at the community level were also made.

## 4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

**Options for solutions for refugees in Pakistan will be expanded to include resettlement and complementary pathways alongside voluntary repatriation**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin. [RF/GCR 4.2.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	435	6,039
4.2a Number of PoC who departed on resettlement. [GCR 3.1.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	16	19
4.2b Number of PoC who departed through complementary pathways	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	79
4.3a Number of stateless persons for whom nationality is granted or confirmed.	Stateless Persons	2,500	72
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0

The Operation continued to work towards expanding solutions despite limitations. A minority of Afghan refugees from the protracted population chose to return home with better economic opportunities and family reunification among the reasons cited. In 2022, 6,039 Afghan refugees (1,443 families) were assisted by UNHCR to return through the voluntary repatriation programme which is higher than the 435 returnees assisted in 2021.

As part of efforts to promote international solidarity and responsibility-sharing with Pakistan and in view of the increased interest by resettlement countries to offer third-country solutions, UNHCR reached its resettlement quota in 2022. 3,504 Afghan refugees were submitted for resettlement to six countries while complementary pathways were expanded. Much of 2022 was focused on scaling up the resettlement programme – which was suspended in 2016 – and putting in place procedures to identify the most vulnerable and mitigate integrity risks. Resettlement countries also reopened processes that laid dormant for more than five years.

In 2022, UNHCR Pakistan worked closely with the International Refugee Assistance Project and directly with certain countries to facilitate family reunification for refugees with pending applications or those who may qualify through a family reunification programme. UNHCR piloted a project with Talent Beyond Boundaries to support skilled refugees who may qualify to migrate primarily to Australia or Canada through labour mobility schemes.

In 2022, 72 individuals also received their Computerized National Identity Cards – a de-facto proof of Pakistani nationality, which can also pave the way for acquisition of identity documentation/nationality for the individual's entire families.

## Other Core Impact Indicators

Country	Indicator	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
Pakistan	2.3 Proportion of PoC with access to health services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	80.96%

### 1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

The uncertainty in Afghanistan coupled with the security, political and economic turmoil were some of the main challenges the operation faced in Pakistan. In this context, Afghans' access to territory was mainly seen through a security and political lens. As such, Afghan asylum seekers were not always granted new status which deterred long-term efforts to develop a legal framework. Rising insecurity in the two main refugee hosting provinces, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, hindered UNHCR's access to refugees and further strained peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities. UNHCR's efforts to promote gender equality via education, livelihoods, community participation continued at a slow pace.

The unprecedented floods was an unforeseen emergency which added to UNHCR's already heavy workload, particularly in leading the Protection Sector. CRIs worth some US \$24 million were donated to provincial authorities with the latter requiring extra oversight efforts. UNHCR's limited presence in the worst hit province, Sindh, and a shortage of staff were other challenges.

In an increasingly volatile operating context, more global solidarity and responsibility sharing is needed. While the operation was well-funded in 2022 (89 per cent of the annual financial requirements of US \$143.4 million), alongside new contributions to operational partners via the Refugee Response Plan (US \$72.9 million) and the start of the release of World Bank funds (IDA 18 Refugee Sub-Window), the government remained skeptical of the sustainability of donor support and against the concept of securing loans in support of refugees. Such doubts could be heard in relation to recognizing new Afghan asylum seekers and in trying to advance on solutions for the protracted refugee population entering their fourth generation of refugee status.

## 1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

In 2022, the operation expanded its partnership network. Partners contributing to the RRP almost doubled from 32 in 2022 to 56 partners (9 UN, 17 INGOs, and 30 NNGOs) in 2023. With a funding level of 62 per cent, 2.7 million people (80 per cent of the target), including 1.3 million refugees and 1.2 million from the host community, benefited from multi-sectoral programming. An adapted Refugee Coordination Model was established, benefitting from the existing humanitarian sector coordination structure with the Refugee Protection Working Group, other sector working groups, and Pakistan Refugee Consultative Forums convening at the federal and provincial level. Within the inter-agency flood response, UNHCR sustained its leadership of the Protection Sector jointly with UNICEF and UNFPA, which led the child protection and GBV sub-sectors respectively, alongside some 80 participants during the emergency.

UNHCR made some positive steps in bolstering engagement with development partners. Improvements to public education and health facilities in major refugee hosting districts have begun to emerge from the World Bank's IDA-18 refugee sub-window. Development partners have also increased development funding in hosting areas and included refugees in their strategies and programmes, namely the EU, Netherlands, Japan, and Korea. New partnerships with the Asian Development Bank and the International Finance Cooperation are also being explored. Cooperation continued to grow with UN sister agencies notably with the inclusion of refugees in the 2023 – 2027 UNSDCF. The SSAR Support Platform continued to be advanced while efforts are underway for members to match Government pledges for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum.

In 2022, UNHCR funded 18 national organizations, seven government partners, two international non-governmental organizations and two UN agencies to provide protection and assistance across refugee hosting areas. Engagement with civil society and academia also continued.



## Section 2: Results

### 2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

#### 1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

##### Refugees in Pakistan have access to registration and identity documentation

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	92.82%	100.00%	83.91%
1.3 Proportion of PoC with legally recognized identity documents or credentials [GCR 4.2.2].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	84.20%	100.00%	74.47%

#### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In March 2021, UNHCR conducted the first large-scale Document Renewal and Verification Exercise (DRIVE) together with the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). This exercise was completed at the end of February 2022 and resulted in the verification of 1.28 million registered Afghan refugees (known as Proof of Registration or PoR card holders). Alongside verification, new identity cards containing biometric data and technologically compatible with systems used in Pakistan to authenticate the identities of nationals were issued. These smart cards facilitate access to certain essential services, including education, healthcare, banking, property rental and allied facilities. From July to the end of the year, those who were initially unable to make themselves available due to exceptional reasons, were given the opportunity to benefit from the exercise. As a result, some 22,500 additional PoR card holders received new smart PoR cards and close to 7,400 newborn refugee children were registered. In October 2022, following sustained advocacy, the issuance of birth certificates resumed.

With the aim of enabling refugees holding PoR cards to continuously update registration data, 11 Proof of Registration Card Modification Centres (PCMs) – operated by NADRA with the support of UNHCR – were opened in December 2022. The Centres continued the operationalization of the Government's decision in late 2022 to allow issuance of birth certificates of registered Afghan refugee children. Registered refugees are able to visit the PCMs to manage, modify and reissue PoR cards as necessary, as well as record and document vital events such as deaths. Specific protection and assistance needs were also identified via the PCMs and facilitated referrals to the appropriate actors.

Since the change in regime in Afghanistan in August 2021, the Government estimates that some 600,000 Afghans have come and remained in Pakistan. However, in January 2022, the Government requested UNHCR to cease registration and issuing asylum seeker certificates. In 2022, 4,113 asylum-seekers certificates and refugee cards were renewed for previously registered asylum seekers.

#### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

While the Government of Pakistan continues to provide documentation to the registered Afghan refugees, the response to the estimated 600,000 Afghans nationals who have arrived and stayed in Pakistan since August 2021 is not yet clear. Although the government has not overturned its request to stop issuing

documentation to newly arrived asylum-seekers. UNHCR continues to advocate that the GoP establish a response to manage new arrivals so that people with international protection needs are registered and documented.

## 2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

**Refugees have access to asylum procedures which uphold procedural standards**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision (disaggregated by individual and group procedures).	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	344.00	270.00	322.00
2.3 Proportion of individuals undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	100.00%	100.00%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Following the developments in Afghanistan in 2021, resettlement countries offered new resettlement quotas for Afghans for whom resettlement was being used solely as a protection tool for a small number of cases since 2016. To streamline case processing, a simplified refugee status determination (RSD) and resettlement process for Afghans was established. This simplified process combined an RSD and resettlement interview to produce both an individualized RSD and resettlement registration form. Using this process, UNHCR was able to adjudicate the claims of more than 4,300 individuals in 2022. As the simplified process does not allow for rejections, cases not proceeding for resettlement were deprioritized and remained as asylum-seekers or prima facie refugees (PoR cardholders). The most common profiles assessed were Shiah Hazara and Afghan women and girls. If an individual's claim did not fit in a simplified profile, regular RSD was completed if the individual or a member of their family had significant vulnerabilities and needed resettlement.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

A shortage of caseworkers (particularly in Islamabad) was a challenge which meant that comprehensive trainings on RSD and simplified RSD as well as the available tools to support and further streamline casework could not be adequately developed.

## 3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

**Refugees' rights are strengthened under the national legal/policy framework**

**Stateless persons have access to civil registration systems to improve prospects for acquiring nationality and ensuring their rights are realized**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Not Adequate	Adequate	Not Adequate
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.	Stateless Persons	Not Adequate	Not Adequate	Not Adequate

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

A protective and inclusive refugee policy exists in Pakistan allowing refugees to enjoy a range of rights, namely freedom of movement, access to public health care, education and financial services. Refugees, however, do not have the right to work nor is there a national asylum law or specific administrative instrument regulating access to territory.

In 2022, advocacy on the enactment of national refugee law remained an integral part of UNHCR's advocacy strategy. However, progress on its enactment stalled – reflective of political instability and the deteriorating security situation. As part of its advocacy, UNHCR regularly met with government counterparts, including the Ministry of SAFRON, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Human Rights, the Prime Minister's Special Representative for Afghanistan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Deputy High Commissioner's visit to Pakistan in June 2022, alongside other global forums in which UNHCR's senior management participated, further provided opportunities to raise the refugee agenda at high levels of government. UNHCR also attended sub-committee meetings of the Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights. UNHCR equally employed the Guidance Note on the International Protection Needs of People Fleeing Afghanistan regularly and shared it with federal and provincial government officials and also briefed them on the key elements of the Guidance Note in meetings.

Efforts to build capacity of government officials and other stakeholders on international refugee protection continued. Advice and Legal Aid Centre (ALAC) partners trained and sensitized 1,742 officials in 82 training sessions. UNHCR also collaborated with the Lahore University of Management Sciences and held a national conference with educational institutions across the country on International Refugee Law to initiate a constructive discourse around solutions for protracted refugee situations.

UNHCR provided legal advice and assistance to 3,748 stateless individuals, exceeding the target of 3,500. 72 individuals received their Computerized National Identity Cards – a de-facto proof of Pakistani nationality, which enabled family members to obtain their identity documents. The success of the project is equally valued within the community. The number of people approaching the ALACs have increased and community referrals are also occurring. The Ministry of Planning and Special Initiatives continued to participate in the Bali Process and endorsed recommendations of the final assessment of the Bali Toolkit Pilot project.

## Challenges to Achieving Outcome

2022 proved to be a tumultuous year in terms of political and economic stability with the change in Government followed by worsening political instability and an acute economic crisis. This was compounded by devastating floods and a deteriorating security environment. This not only shifted the government's focus away from the refugee situation, it created a negative sentiment towards Afghans in general. This backdrop curtailed advocacy efforts to promote inclusion and ensure the rights of refugees and displaced communities.

The legal assistance project for stateless people targets two of the many settlements since expansion to other settlements where stateless populations reside was not possible due to financial constraints. A considerable number of stateless people remained unidentified and their difficulties in accessing basic services and civil documentation remained unaddressed.

## 4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

**GBV risks are reduced and all survivors have adequate and timely access to quality services to effectively address root causes of GBV**

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR and partners provided GBV case management services across Islamabad, Quetta and Peshawar. In refugee villages and urban areas, 654 survivors accessed GBV case management. To further refugees' access UNHCR renovated five safe shelters for women, GBV survivors and their children across the country, alongside funding a safe shelter in Islamabad.

A range of workshops and awareness raising interventions were conducted in 2022. 62 training sessions were held, reaching over 750 refugees. More than half were women who hold community leadership positions and serve as outreach volunteers or committee members. Close to 40 people, half of whom were women, and who are members of the Gender support groups engaged in a refresher on GBV and meaningful participation of women and girls in community affairs. UNHCR facilitated workshops for close to 200 partners on GBV case management and risk mitigation. UNHCR's efforts were complemented by UNFPA which helped train close to 60 partners, including the government, on GBV risk mitigation. 136 awareness raising sessions were held for over 2,300 refugees. The use of male religious scholars and tribal elders inspired confidence, enhanced messaging on the elimination of violence against women and promoted the equal participation of females in community activities. A workshop on survivors with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities was conducted for 31 case workers.

In addition, UNHCR also began to introduce Engaging Men in Accountable Practices. A training of trainers workshop was held for eight partner staff in Karachi, who trained 191 community volunteers and plan to continue their community outreach sessions in 2023.

GBV safety audits and participatory assessment tools also helped improve services. 13 partner staff were trained on safety audit tools. Resultantly 10 women refugee led safety audits were conducted. Two safety audits were finalized by partners in Balochistan to support the execution of quality approaches on GBV.

Moreover, in a bid to address gender inequality and discrimination, UNHCR worked with women, men, boys and girls, religious leaders, and tribal leaders to develop an animation highlighting the types of GBV identified by the women in the participatory assessment and safety audits.

As part of the flood response, UNHCR distributed dignity kits and shawls across all refugee villages and promoted the hygiene of some 15,000 women and girls. In Sindh province, UNHCR partnered with UNFPA and UNICEF to address protection risks and distributed over 270,000 dignity kits for displaced women and girls of a reproductive age. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, more than 24,000 dignity kits and shawls were distributed as an entry point to raise awareness of GBV referral pathways and women and girl's safe space in the community.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

GBV remained under-reported and survivors continued to face social stigma due to socio-cultural attitudes and a lack of effective grievance redressing mechanisms. Access to justice for girls and women and impunity for perpetrators continue to be exacerbated by a lack of community and social support. Limited knowledge of GBV, existing services within the community, and women and children's participation in programming, and scalable evidence-based behavioral change/impact evaluation humanitarian tools, were other challenges.

## 5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

**Children are protected from violence, abuse, exploitation and discrimination (in reference to baseline data) and have access to child friendly procedures and services**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	24.99%	60.00%	30.16%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	Unknown	1.00%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an appropriate alternative care arrangement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	70.00%	95.11%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR and partners collaborated to bolster best interest procedures (BIPs) to optimize effective identification of children at risk, including strengthening appropriate alternative care arrangements for unaccompanied and separated children, establishing mechanisms for the prevention and response to abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation, and promoting durable solutions in the child's best interests. 723 children at heightened risk were supported with BIPs whilst 2,397 children were identified as being at risk during the reporting period. Children supported with BIPs received comprehensive and child-centered case management and child protection services, including mental health and psycho-social support, care arrangements and cash-based interventions, and were referred to service providers to address, mitigate or prevent the various protection risks children face (child labour, child marriage, substance abuse, abduction, and violence against children).

Children's participation and capacity are integral to their protection as well as their families and communities. In 2022, 58 children-led initiatives were supported by UNHCR and partners which ensured the meaningful participation of 5,384 children in community-based child protection programmes and enhanced their capacity and resilience. Similarly, UNHCR and partners conducted training and sessions for 6,365 community members on various child protection topics with a view to increasing their knowledge and awareness of child protection and child rights.

UNHCR also strengthened and supported national and provincial child protection system and increased its collaboration with child protection actors to advocate for the inclusion of refugee children within national and provincial child protection systems. In this regard, UNHCR contributed to the child protection Case Management & Referral System Training Manual for provincial child protection actors and facilitated the child protection sessions on the protection of refugee children in the workshops organized by UNICEF and provincial child protection and welfare commission for child protection actors. UNHCR supported the capacity building of 409 partner and government staff on child protection and BIPs. To improve reception conditions and facilitate access of refugee children, UNHCR's sub-office I Quetta supported the renovation of the SWD Transit Shelter for children in Quetta and the country office supported in establishing a child friendly space at the SHARP Reception Centre in Islamabad.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

The operation faced difficulties supporting all children identified to be at risk with the BIPs, primarily due to the limited human and technical capacity of UNHCR partners – most of whom were new to refugee child

protection. Due to limited staffing capacity, UNHCR and partners prioritized those with more heightened risks, particularly unaccompanied and separated children and child survivors of violence. Supporting children with BIPs and their participation in community-based protection programmes was challenging due to cultural barriers in refugee villages in particular in Balochistan. The reluctance of NGO and civil society and government child protection actors organisations to engage in refugee child protection areas and partner staff retention was also noted. Although UNHCR is collaborating with UNICEF and implementing partners, the integration of refugee children within the national child protection and welfare systems remains challenging.

## 6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

**Protection interventions are implemented to ensure the prevention of refoulement and access to justice is ensured for refugees and asylum-seekers**

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, the general protection environment remained fragile in the wake of the situation in Afghanistan and the government's policy on the new arrivals. The general security and law and order priorities of law enforcement agencies were also a contributing factor. Refugees and asylum-seekers continued to be subjected to arrest and detention alongside the undocumented as well as Afghan Citizenship Card (ACC) holders. For POR cardholders or those with UNHCR documentation, UNHCR's legal assistance partners were able to secure their release although the situation remained challenging for undocumented, particularly in Sindh where a provincial wide-drive to apprehend "illegal immigrants" began in the second half of the year. UNHCR, together with Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees and the legal assistance partner continued to advocate at various levels in the government and LEAs in the light of its global guidance on International Protection needs of Afghans. UNHCR and partners continued to monitor the situation of detainees and the situation at the borders. Developing effective, systematic, and continuous coordination with UNODC on issues of trafficking and asylum remained a work in progress.

In 2022, UNHCR's nine Advice and Legal Aid Centers (ALAC) enhanced their capacity and provided legal assistance to 40,406 people. The legal assistance provided included interventions by ALAC teams at the police stations and court interventions securing the release of 968 people arrested and detained by LEAs across the country. Legal camps/shura meetings were held with the communities in which some 10,939 people participated. ALAC staff provided individual legal counselling to 11,932 people. In addition, 26,128 people were counselled through ALAC helplines. Individual (out-of-court) assistance was provided to 930 people countrywide. The counselling assistance provided was mostly related to police harassment, PoR card renewals and modifications, asylum procedures, rental agreements, and affidavits.

Lahore University of Management Sciences continued to teach a refugee law course. UNHCR participated in 18 training sessions for Pakistani peacekeepers organized by the Center for International Peace and Stability and spoke to 239 armed forces personnel (including 48 foreign participants) on UNHCR's mandate.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

The issue of undocumented Afghans continued to be challenging. The information on arrests of the undocumented that UNHCR received was based on media, refugee community and other sources. Accessing information on arrests and detentions or getting regularly verifications from law enforcement agencies (LEAs) was a constraint. Securing access to detainees was also identified as a major constraint, including following the arrest and detention by the military or paramilitary forces. The pause on the issuance of UNHCR documents to asylum-seekers since January 2022 exacerbated the protection risks faced, including the risk of arrest/detention/police harassment for asylum-seekers. Inadequate awareness among LEAs, especially on refugee protection and coordination, continues to be a challenge, as does timely exchange of information and coordination.



## 7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

**Persons we serve (of all age, gender and diversity groups) have enhanced participation in programme design, implementation and evaluation thereby ensuring the full engagement of women, children and vulnerable groups at the decision making level**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
7.1 Proportion of PoC who participate meaningfully across all phases of the OMC.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	8.00%	8.09%
7.2 Proportion of PoC who have access to effective feedback and response mechanisms.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	4.00%	3.98%
7.3 Proportion (and number) of active female participants on leadership/management structures.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	45.00%	44.86%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

To ensure community participation, UNHCR adopted an Outreach Volunteers system. This network of community interlocutors (363 in Islamabad, Punjab and Sindh, 1,845 OV's in Peshawar and 400 in Quetta) was instrumental in maintaining communication with communities on UNHCR and partners' protection and assistance programmes. Of this, 90 from Islamabad, Punjab, and Sindh were women, a further 200 in Quetta and 880 in Peshawar, representing 38 per cent of the 3,088 OV's.

As part of ensuring communities' access to complaints and feedback mechanisms, a variety of communication channels were implemented in the main refugee languages. These mechanisms included helplines, complaint boxes, email, community dialogue and feedback sessions and protection desks. 44,126 individuals were reached through these mechanisms. A network of 210 complaint boxes were also installed and maintained across refugee hosting areas in Islamabad, Punjab, Sindh, Quetta and Peshawar. Overall, key topics of inquiry and feedback included registration and documentation, resettlement and RSD, cash assistance, PCM services, and legal aid.

To promote fair and meaningful participation of women and girls in community structures, proactive outreach was conducted, including with male elders to shift attitudes towards the incremental participation of females in community empowerment initiatives. Efforts to improve helpline caller rates for women and girls were made through proactive recruitment of female helpline staff in Islamabad, Quetta and reassignment of some female staff to support helpline activities in Peshawar during the year.

To ensure the participation of communities, a countrywide Participatory Needs Assessment was conducted in 45 distinct refugee settlements across Islamabad Capital Territory, Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and KPK provinces. A total of 2204 respondents including women, girls, boys, men and members of minority groups participated in the exercise in which data collection methodologies included use of FGDs (198), key informant interviews (50) and semi structured interviews (four). Key areas of prioritization as identified by communities included registration and documentation, women empowerment, MHPSS, GBV, child protection, legal assistance, PSN support, health, education, livelihoods, CWC, domestic energy and minority groups.

Support to community led initiatives was also carried out during the year whereby 16 community-led initiatives were supported in Islamabad, Punjab and Sindh, 30 in Quetta and 20 in Peshawar. Of these 66 community led projects, 36 percent were women-led.

## Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Overall, the meaningful participation of refugee women and girls in programmes design and implementation remained a challenge across all implementation sites with cultural norms and attitudes being a major contributor to the prevailing situation.

## 8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

**People we serve receive cash transfers and/or in-kind assistance.**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
8.1 Proportion of PoC in need that receive cash transfers or in-kind assistance.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	100.00%	100.00%
8.2 Proportion of PoC with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology [SDG 7.1.2 Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	26.00%	26.36%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR's initial approach towards this outcome changed drastically following the onset of the floods in August 2022. Following a large-scale cash distribution programme by the Government of Pakistan for impoverished flood affected Pakistanis, UNHCR, in consultation with the government, decided to launch a large-scale multi-purpose cash assistance to address the impact of the floods on the economy alongside soaring inflation rates. This intervention largely mirrored the government's programme and sought to address the immediate and basic needs of over 1.3 million registered refugees (320,000 households). Preparations for this large-scale cash assistance started in the last quarter with all the necessary arrangements completed, including the identification of Financial Services Providers. While preparing for the large-scale cash assistance, targeted emergency cash assistance was provided to a limited number of refugees whose personal properties were damaged by the floods: 701 flood affected households identified by UNHCR received CBI through implementing partners in Balochistan and 970 households in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

A blanket distribution of 68,012 energy efficient cooking stoves was completed for refugees residing inside the RVs. This cooking stove is at least 30 per cent more efficient than the mud stoves mostly used in the RVs and has a chimney to reduce indoor smoke. 400 refugee women and 497 schoolgirls also participated in awareness sessions about clean cooking practices.

## Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Finding the right Financial Service Provider with the capacity to distribute to over 1.3 million beneficiaries across the country, including in remote locations, proved difficult. The availability of accurate data caused delays in distributing the cooking stoves. Warehouse space was also a challenge, which was temporarily resolved by utilizing WFP warehouse facilities.



## 9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

### Proportion of refugees who have sustainable and affordable access to energy and adequate water systems and sanitation

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
9.2 Proportion of PoC that have energy to ensure lighting (close to Sphere).	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	20.00%	26.36%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR's focus on green energy was particularly timely. UNHCR distributed 68,012 solar lamps, 68,012 energy efficient cooking stoves, 2,000 solar school bags and a further 154,542 solar lamps, as part of the flood response. As planned, UNHCR continued to solarize public facilities. In 14 Refugee Villages (RVs), 34 water supply schemes were completed. In refugee hosting communities, another 41 other facilities were solarized or given clean energy access. Feasibility surveys on the installation of solar streetlights in three RVs were completed for some 8,000 households. To complement this, workshops and awareness sessions related to renewable energy and energy efficient systems were conducted. In addition, 1,000 refugees participated in four-day training sessions. 400 refugee women and 497 schoolgirls participated in awareness sessions about clean cooking practices. In Balochistan, portable water was supplied in 10 RVs and 11 Water Management Committees were established. Furthermore, 70 garbage collection points and disposal mechanisms were also constructed and managed by multisectoral committees.

As a member of the NFI & Shelter Sector for flood response, UNHCR contributed core relief items (CRIs) and refugee housing units. Country-wide UNHCR donated 30,274 tents and CRIs kits to provincial authorities in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. CRI kits included 454,034 blankets, 97,043 buckets, 98,377 jerry cans, 51,544 kitchen sets, 169,179 plastic mats, 283,927 mosquito nets, 95,689 tarpaulin sheets, 42,761kgs soap. Refugee housing units were installed as temporary solutions for schools and communal places, including 68 units installed in Balochistan and another 120 installed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNHCR released 28,500 propylene bags to manage river levels. Affected refugees and host communities received 540 family tents, 1,062 core relief kits, 3410 mosquito nets, 52,893 dengue response kits and 1,200 shelter kits. 34 RV Schools, nine ALP centers, six RVA Offices, one DA Office, one community center and two MCH centers were rehabilitated. Seven RVs were upgraded with concrete streets and drainage systems. UNHCR also supported the Social Welfare department in Peshawar to rehabilitate the Integrated Women Crises Center and Mera Ghar Shelter Home.

In Balochistan, water distribution lines and drainage needs assessments were conducted in the four most affected RVs leading to the repair of 800 foot waterlines and the opening of 16 water drainages to support water flow. Two boreholes were constructed in three RVs.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Two RVs initially selected to benefit from solar mini-grids were affected by the floods. Subsequently, implementation modality was changed to the provision of portable solar kits at household level.

Depleting foreign reserves, fluctuating USD/PKR exchange rate, unprecedented inflation and supply chain barriers interrupted the supply of solar equipment. Five public facilities could not be solarized due to import restrictions although UNHCR is exploring ways to procure solar equipment internationally in 2023 to mitigate these risks. Following the absence of a clear policy on housing strategy for refugees and the continued position that only temporary structures can be built in RVs, future natural disasters will continue to put refugee housing structures at risk.

## 10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

### Persons we serve have access to health care facilities and services leading to improvements in their health status

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	95.00%	82.10%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel. [SDG 3.1.2 Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	68.00%	85.00%	83.99%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Health Access and Utilization Survey results showed that 83 per cent of women delivered with a skilled birth attendant and 83 per cent of children between 12 and 59 months old received measles or MMR injections.

The Government of Pakistan has generously granted refugees access to public health facilities as well as other Afghans who cross the border seeking medical care. In recognition of this access, and the reality that some 70 per cent of refugees live outside of RVs, UNHCR discontinued parallel refugee health facilities. Refugees are encouraged to receive health services from government hospitals and health facilities. In turn UNHCR has invested close to \$7 million on government primary, secondary, and tertiary level public health facilities in the form of supply of critically needed equipment, infrastructure upgrades and solarization to enhance capacity and to improve overall quality of health services. UNHCR mainly focuses on health facilities frequently used by refugees.

Under the National Programme supported by the Global Fund, tuberculosis control services were provided in all 10 RVs of Balochistan, and 30 RVs of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, covering 609,908 people.

Where public facilities are not within close proximity or unable to support more refugees, UNHCR works with partners to ensure access to health care. In Balochistan, the Prime Minister Primary Health Initiative provided primary healthcare services through over 700 basic health units, including in refugee hosting districts. Through this, 10 BHUs close to RVs in Quetta, Pishin, Chaghi and Killa Saifullah districts were supported by UNHCR. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNHCR worked with the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees, which provides maternal and child health services in 16 RVs while Frontier Primary Health Care runs four community labour rooms and MCH services in 15 RVs. During the reporting period, women received antenatal care, skilled delivery, postnatal care and children received routine vaccination services.

UNHCR also signed a MOU with the Balochistan Institute of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences to train Afghan refugee medical graduates and extend free mental health services. A digital lab was established with the aim of improving access to 2,000 medical students to digital labs worldwide.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Promising progress has been made by Pakistan to advance a national health insurance scheme. UNHCR has advocated for the inclusion of refugees and although the Ministry of Health showed a willingness to include refugees, sustained support by the international community is needed to cover the cost of the proposed inclusion.

UNHCR planned to train paramedics in professional training courses although COVID restrictions limited the number of available slots. Cultural norms hindered finding qualified female candidates for courses since some families were reluctant to let them enroll in residential training institutes away from their home districts.

## 11. Outcome Area: Education

**Persons we serve have access to education facilities – primary, secondary, and tertiary – leading to higher education status among the persons we serve**

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR continued supporting 144 refugee village schools in Balochistan (35), KP (101), and Punjab (8), reaching 49,352 primary and 6,057 secondary aged children, with 39% female enrolment. In line with the multi-year strategy UNHCR advocates for the inclusion of refugee children in national systems and in November saw the closure of two RVs and mainstreaming of students into nearby government schools in KP. All RV schools were registered with provincial education authorities and UNHCR convened a national refugee data workshop in Islamabad, bringing together for the first time federal and provincial authorities, to identify ways to improve refugee data disaggregation.

The transition to the Pakistani curriculum was successfully completed in all RV schools up to primary grade, thus providing a vital pathway for students to progress to public schools. 1,195 teachers (385F, 810M) received continuous professional development training in enhancing their language skills to implement the SNC and classroom management. In KP, new teacher training was provided on blending learning through digital platforms; 89 LED sets and 612 tablets were distributed across 89 RV schools and new partnership with University of Peshawar was established to improve teaching competencies.

To strengthen accessibility and absorption capacities of the national education system, UNHCR supported 40 public schools with school improvement, construction of new classrooms and provision of school furniture across KP and Balochistan, reaching 14,914 students (15% Afghan and 85% host). RV school environments were also improved, including the provision of new furniture to 68 schools in KP. Both RV and ALP students received 151,942 notebooks in KP and 9852 sweaters were provided in Balochistan.

To increase girls' access to quality education, 1185 girls were supported through the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) in KP with 412 girls on track to complete their primary education and 773 girls completing up to Grade 8. To mitigate the economic barriers, UNHCR provided transportation allowance to 2,818 girls to access nearby government secondary schools, which included a new pilot in KP supporting 825 adolescent girls. Community awareness remained critical in advance access to girls' education and 280 sessions were held and 406 trainings were provided to school level communities.

UNHCR supported 684 students (480M, 204F) under the DAFI programme. 504 students received financial assistance and mid-year 180 new scholarships were launched. UNHCR and INSPIRE conducted a comprehensive advocacy and outreach campaign and reached a new benchmark where 49% of new scholarships were awarded to female Afghan refugees, more than doubling the previous enrolment rate of 23%. New strategic cooperation agreements were signed with the University of Balochistan, Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's and BUIITEMS to increase refugee enrolments, including supporting four infrastructure facilities in the universities.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Refugees' access to education remained a significant challenge, especially for girls. Socio-economic and cultural barriers prevent girls enrolling. Because of the high drop-out rates, literacy rates remained low among refugee girls. As a result, there are fewer female teachers which makes it increasingly difficult for each generation to break the learning crisis cycle.

While efforts transition to the Pakistani curriculum have largely been positive and received favorably by refugee communities, both teachers and students face language barriers. UNHCR continues to invest in in-service teacher training to improve language acquisition. In addition, gaps in national data have also constrained UNHCR's ability to report on the outcome indicators on national enrolment since government authorities do not collect disaggregated refugee data.

## 13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

**Refugees and asylum seekers have increased access to livelihood opportunities leading to higher number of self-reliant refugees and asylum-seekers**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
13.1. Proportion of PoC with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider [SDG 8.10.2 Tier 1].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	25.00%	0.05%

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR and partners are pursuing a multi-pronged approach which includes a “graduation approach”, vocational training, private sector engagement and value chain businesses within and outside Pakistan. To date, seven private sector and industry partners are actively supporting efforts linking refugees to markets.

With Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund employing the graduation approach, 3,000 refugee households received livelihood assets along with workshops on enterprise development, asset management, financial literacy in district Lower Dir and Loralai. The graduation approach aims to build refugees’ confidence, develop sustainable livelihoods, and improve access to financial services. In Lower Dir, seven Afghan refugees successfully opened a bank account.

Tapping into the National Authority of Vocational Training & Technical Training Commission’s programme, 1,811 refugee and host youth were trained, and 1,377 tool kits distributed. Upon successful completion of these workshops, 207 refugee youth were placed on two-month long internships in the local industry. In addition, three government institutes were upgraded.

### Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Due to their legal status, refugees are not allowed to establish and register businesses. As such, refugees are engaged in limited informal sectors. Maximizing female participation in institution-based skill trainings remained a challenge since male community members in many locations did not allow women to attend these workshops. In addition, the limited funds were unable to address all the needs. The volatile security situation restricted staff movement and hindered regular monitoring. The ongoing economic crisis continues to affect the labor market with only 27.5 per cent of the labour force employed in the formal sector.

## 14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

**Refugees are able to make informed decisions to return to their country of origin and may avail themselves of the facilitated volrep programme**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
14.2 Proportion of PoC who wants to receive the CoO information actually receives it.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, 6,039 Afghan refugees (1,443 families) were assisted by UNHCR to return through the voluntary repatriation programme which is higher than the 435 returnees assisted in 2021. 33 per cent returned through Azakhel VRC and 66 per cent returned through the Baleli VRC. 31 per cent returned from Refugee Villages and 69 per cent were from urban areas. 90 per cent of returnees were Pashtun with the majority returning to Saripul, Kabul, Jawzjan, Kunduz, Kandhar and Nangahar.

In Balochistan, refugees' interest in return increased with 3,989 individuals (917 households) voluntarily repatriating through the VRC in Baleli compared to 2021 when 437 individuals (111 households) returned. As a result, VRC Baleli expanded its operation from two to three days per week since August 2022. The main reasons for return were the precarious socio-economic situation in Pakistan, adjusted cash assistance and desire to rejoin family members in Afghanistan. UNHCR established a helpline in Quetta for scheduling purposes and to better ensure protection safeguards to facilitate safe, dignified, and voluntary return. The resumption of shura meetings in May 2022 improved communications with communities. 120 meetings were conducted with 2,781 participants who were informed on voluntary repatriation and reintegration schemes.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 2,050 individuals (526 households) voluntarily repatriated through the VRC in Azakhel. More than half of these individuals departed between August and October 2022. Out of these families, 49 per cent (221) resided in RVs whereas 51 per cent (231) resided in urban areas. 277 of these families were returning to either Kabul or Nangarhar. The situation in Afghanistan and issues related to unregistered family members, specifically after Pakistani authorities banned the exit of undocumented Afghan through the Torkham Border, rendered the situation difficult. Those families who chose to voluntarily repatriate have expressed their inability to deal with continued inflation in Pakistan and increasingly strict border entry requirements. A helpline continues to assist with widening access by providing important information on voluntary repatriation, including the possibility to schedule voluntary returns in a safe and dignified manner – in-line with updated guidelines.

## Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Security concerns coupled with the uncertain economic situation, lack of social services in the areas of return in Afghanistan and limited large-scale take up of the UNHCR voluntary repatriation programme were some of the main challenges. Technical issues with NADRA on data synchronization, resolving PoR card errors and border closure due to security incidents affected voluntary repatriation processing and required continuous engagement with authorities.

## 15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

**Resettlement is used as protection tool to ensure the most vulnerable are able to achieve solutions and complementary pathway opportunities are expanded**

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7	3,500	3,504

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, Pakistan increased its submission target from less than 50 in 2021 to 3,500 and submitted 3,504 refugees to eight countries: Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. This was made possible by resettlement countries' renewed interest to resettle Afghan refugees.

In preparation, UNHCR significantly upscaled resettlement and complementary pathways staff in addition to other key protection staff involved in Child Protection, GBV and Registration to support resettlement. UNHCR also capitalized on the recent verification of the POR cardholders in 2021 which improved the accuracy of the Afghan refugee population data, established better integrity systems and captured vulnerabilities. To mitigate fraud, UNHCR implemented robust integrity measures and put in place Integrity Officers in each office and established procedures, reporting mechanisms and a communications strategy. In addition to extensive training for newly recruited staff, resettlement case processing safeguards were also incorporated such as audio recordings, case audit reports and case reviews by senior RSD and RST staff.

To streamline case processing, a simplified refugee status determination (RSD) and resettlement process for Afghans was established. This simplified process combined an RSD and resettlement interview to produce both an individualized RSD and resettlement. Using this process, UNHCR was able to adjudicate the claims of more than 4,300 individuals in 2022.

In July 2022, UNHCR piloted a project with Talent Beyond Boundaries to support skilled refugees who may qualify to migrate primarily to Australia or Canada through labour mobility schemes. 170 individuals were reached via several outreach sessions in six months. UNHCR also worked closely with the International Refugee Assistance Project and resettlement countries to facilitate family reunification for those who might qualify. In 2022, 79 individuals registered with UNHCR departed through complementary pathways programmes.

## Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Progress on expanding complementary pathways programmes was limited because of the push to meet resettlement quotas. Staff who were initially assigned to work predominantly on complementary pathways were tasked to support the simplified RSD-resettlement process. A shortage of caseworkers in the country office also meant that staff who were assigned to focus on programme development, technical support and review, had to conduct interviews and draft cases to meet quotas. As such, the roll-out of comprehensive trainings and tools to support and streamline casework could not be adequately developed.



## 2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

UNHCR continues to pursue inclusive programming across all areas of the operation. UNHCR coordinated campaigns to encourage parents to enroll girls in school to increase representation which remains low. Women's participation in the DAFI programme increased from 23 per cent to 49 per cent. Safety audits were conducted to identify gaps in accessing quality services for GBV survivors from a multi-sectoral perspective, including health and livelihoods. 45 per cent of participants in livelihoods projects are women. A comprehensive mapping of some 35 organizations led by or offering services to diverse groups was completed. Consultative workshops were also held with key actors to promote the inclusion of refugees in existing support programs. Capacity building sessions were held with UNHCR and partner staff to promote open dialogue and improve inclusion for diverse groups.

In the flood response, multi-sectoral Rapid Needs Assessments highlighted the most reported risks affecting women and girls included the lack of safe spaces, traveling to receive aid, sexual violence and violence in the home. A Protection Analysis Update prepared by the Protection Sector led by UNHCR highlighted the inherent risks facing the most vulnerable and the need to strengthen community-based protection mechanisms and ensure protection mainstreaming across sectoral interventions.

Approximately 2,200 Afghan girls and boys, women and men participated in the annual Participatory Assessment. Key thematic areas included health, livelihoods, education, child protection, GBV and complaints and feedback mechanisms. Minority groups such as the Somali community and people with disabilities were also consulted. Key recommendations include the need to strengthen accountability to affected population mechanisms, improve women's participation, increase MHPSS support and specialised support for people with disabilities, including children.

## Section 3: Resources

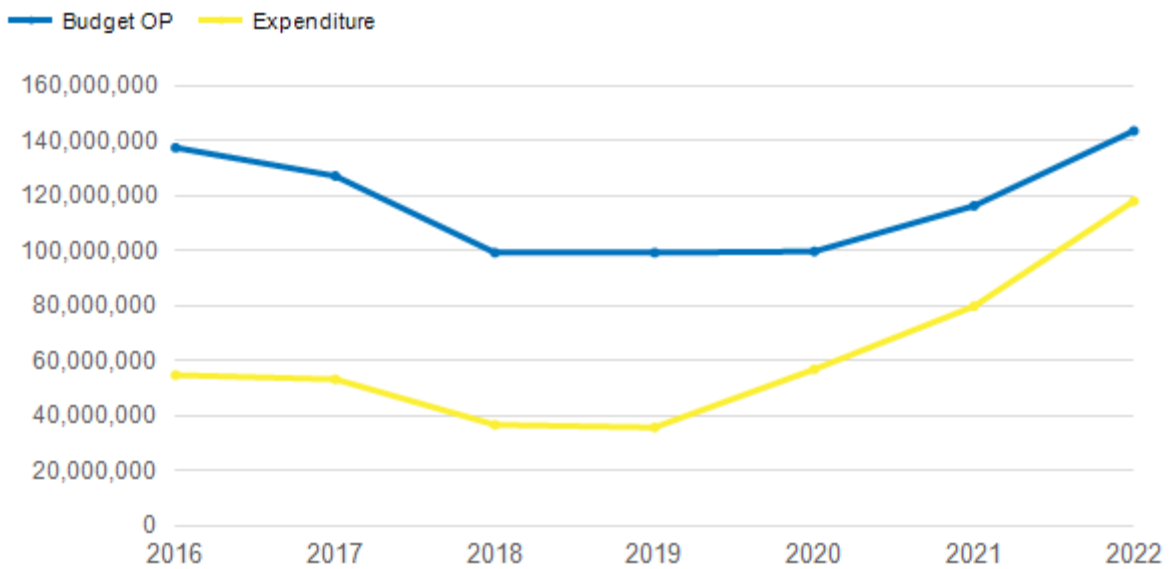
### 3.1 Financial Data

Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	16,935,278	12,106,654	71.49%	12,106,654	100.00%
IA2: Respond		1,502	0.00%	1,502	100.00%
IA3: Empower	99,749,913	89,806,669	90.03%	90,061,277	100.28%
IA4: Solve	26,761,643	15,768,776	58.92%	15,768,776	100.00%
All Impact Areas		254,983	0.00%		0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,446,834</b>	<b>117,938,584</b>	<b>82.22%</b>	<b>117,938,209</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

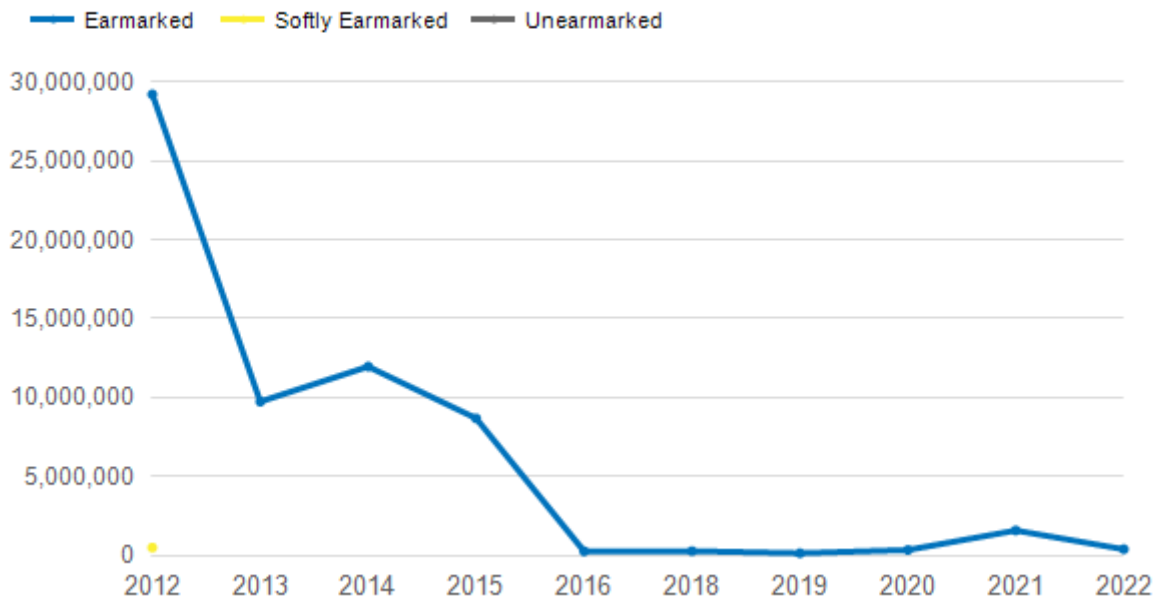
Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	5,621,388	3,322,563	59.11%	3,322,563	100.00%
OA2: Status	3,122,736	1,694,448	54.26%	1,694,448	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	5,468,203	4,844,262	88.59%	4,844,262	100.00%
OA4: GBV	6,182,785	4,865,987	78.70%	4,865,594	99.99%
OA5: Children	4,894,980	3,549,992	72.52%	3,549,992	100.00%
OA6: Justice	2,722,952	2,084,486	76.55%	2,084,486	100.00%
OA7: Community	7,134,923	4,544,135	63.69%	4,586,135	100.92%
OA8: Well-being	10,159,914	47,527,700	467.80%	47,527,700	100.00%
OA9: Housing	8,158,533	5,808,180	71.19%	5,808,180	100.00%
OA10: Health	10,306,439	5,093,623	49.42%	5,093,623	100.00%
OA11: Education	39,182,749	11,617,809	29.65%	11,830,809	101.83%
OA13 Livelihood	13,729,590	6,949,720	50.62%	6,949,720	100.00%
OA14: Return	7,098,736	3,239,144	45.63%	3,239,144	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	19,662,907	12,533,912	63.74%	12,533,912	100.00%
EA17: Systems		2,730	0.00%	2,730	100.00%
EA18: Support		4,909	0.00%	4,909	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		254,983	0.00%		0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,446,834</b>	<b>117,938,584</b>	<b>82.22%</b>	<b>117,938,209</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



### Budget and Expenditure Trend



### Contributions Trend by Type



## 3.2. Resources Overview

While UNHCR was well-funded in 2022, receiving \$117.9M against the budgeted needs of \$143.4M, the timing of the allocation of the funding to the operation with about a third being made in the fourth quarter created challenges for a more development focused programme serving a protracted refugee population. The floods, which occurred in the middle of the year, was an additional unforeseen challenge that was further exacerbated by an economic crisis.

The Office adeptly responded balancing total available funds in line with the strategic directions of the MYS. To expand opportunities for solutions, the operation significantly ramped up its activities towards Resettlement and Complementary Pathways, with expenditure under Impact Area 4 (Solve) of \$15.8M, which included adequate funds for Voluntary Repatriation and Sustainable Reintegration to meet the needs of the increased number of people voluntarily returning. Expenditure of \$12.1M

under Impact Area 1 (Protect) and \$90.1M under Impact Area 3 (Empower) enabled the operation to continue key activities in Gender-Based Violence, Child Protection, Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment Safety and Access to Justice, Protection Policy and Law, Status Determination and Access to Territory, Registration and Documentation. To empower communities and advance gender equality, these funds permitted vital activities to advance in Self-Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods, Education, and Healthy Lives. Clean energy efforts were significantly advanced by expenditure under Sustainable Housing and Settlements.

For the floods, the operation swiftly launched a multi-year appeal and reprioritized the budget to allocate spending on Well-Being and Basic Needs, namely for CRI and Cash Based Interventions that largely mirrored the Government's programme treating refugees on par with nationals while addressing the impacts of the floods and soaring inflation rates.



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

[www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)