



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



**Ministry of
Refugees and Repatriations**
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan



AFGHANISTAN

PRIORITY AREAS OF RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

PRIORITY AREAS OF RETURN AND REINTEGRATION (PARRS)

The Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration are a key component of UNHCR's work to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan with strengthening essential facilities and services in communities where Afghan refugees are returning to.

The Government of the Afghanistan's Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) and UNHCR have identified 20 priority areas of return and reintegration where returnees are living side by side with displaced people and local communities. The objective is to strengthen essential services and facilities in the PARRs through an area-based multi-sectoral multi-stakeholder humanitarian-development-peace investment to support durable solutions and create conducive conditions for the sustainable reintegration of returnees by working with diverse actors (government,

development actors, private sector, CSOs, CBOs etc.) for Collective Outcomes and in Delivering as One.

The projects fall within the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and its support platform, a regional initiative, which envisages a future in which displaced Afghans might finally return to their homeland permanently and prosper.

“As a concrete confidence-building effort in support of the peace process, ensure coordinated and targeted area-based humanitarian-development-peace investments in Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration (PARRs), identified by the Government of Afghanistan and UNHCR”

EC decision 2020/20: AFGHANISTAN

Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) interventions in PARRs range from cash assistance and in-kind support; improving access to safe shelter, land, and documentation; improving livelihoods opportunities and self-reliance through value chain investment and entrepreneurial support; developing public and economic infrastructure including schools, health clinics, community centres, roads, irrigation canals, water networks etc.; and promoting the inclusion of returnees in decision-making structures.

PARR HDP interventions contribute to achieving of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PARRS



Areas of origin

Locations where forcibly displaced people are originating from



Areas of high return and displacement

Locations where forcibly displaced people returning to and or living in displacement



Access

Secured environment for presence programmes implementation



National priorities

Presence and implementation status of National Priority Programme, particularly Citizen's Charter



Cohesion

Benefits all people (Whole of Society, Leaving No One Behind) and promotes peace and strengthen social cohesion



Sustainability

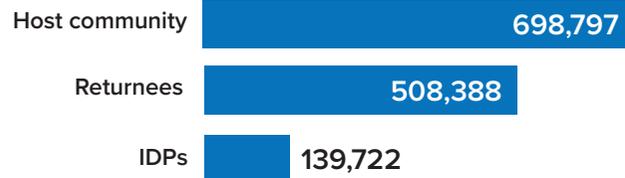
Key elements for reintegration present (land, basic services, proximity to population centres and markets, livelihoods)

EVOLUTION OF PARRs: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE RETURN AND REINTEGRATION



ACHIEVEMENTS OF PARRs as of August 2020

 **1,346,907**
persons of concern living in PARRs



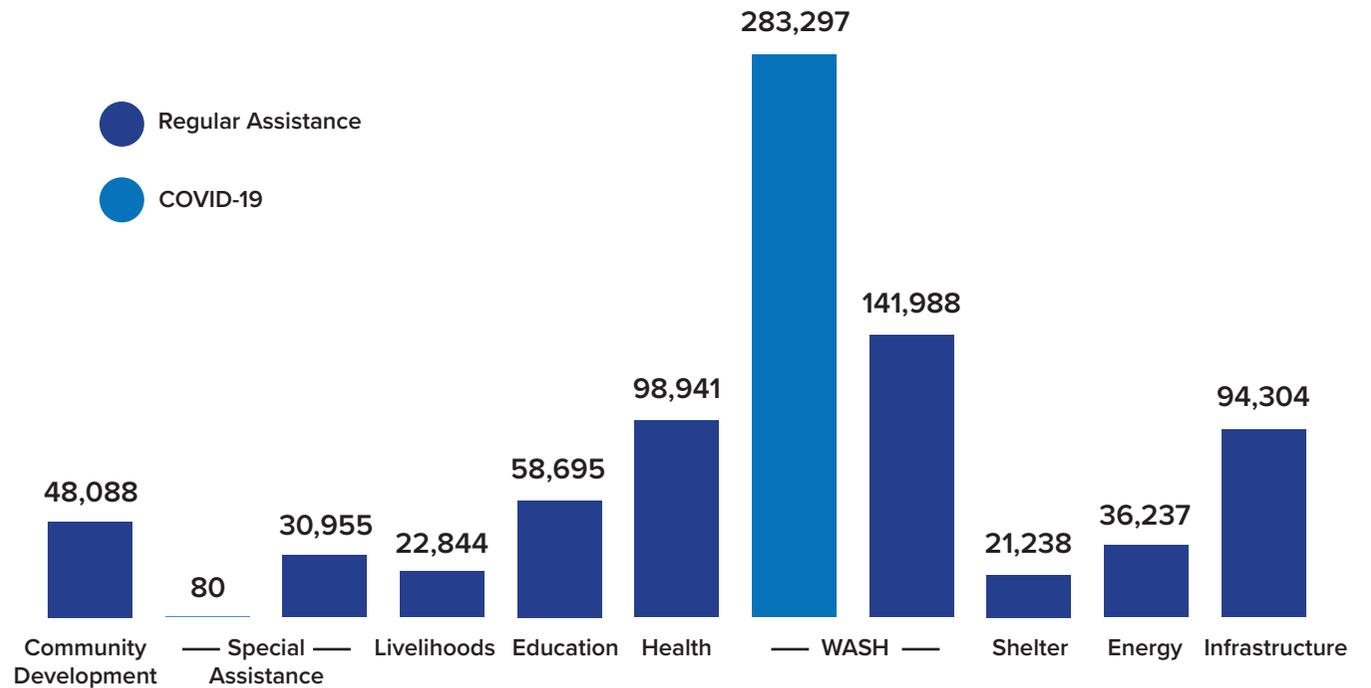
836,667
people assisted




In addition, UNHCR Afghanistan has delivered COVID-19 awareness raising sessions to **1.2 million** persons of concern living in PARRs.



People reached in each of the **9 sectors**



KEY AREAS OF FOCUS IN PARRS



EDUCATION

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan's education system has been devastated by more than four decades of conflict. An estimated 3.7 million children are out of school, of whom 60 per cent are girls, and permanent dropouts may increase due to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. Insufficient schools and low-quality instruction - with fewer than 50 per cent of teachers having minimum academic qualifications - are key impediments. Many returnee children and youth who have obtained education in the host countries are unable to continue schooling upon return due to the unavailability of schools. The portfolio of projects in the PARRs will increase access to formal education, especially for girls, through the construction of additional schools. This objective was one of the Islamic Government of Afghanistan's pledges at the Global Refugee Forum.

SDG 4: Quality education



LIVELIHOODS

Amidst soaring unemployment, lack of formal livelihoods and limited private sector opportunities, many households depend upon daily-wage labour, particularly in the agriculture and construction sectors, to meet their needs to increase self-reliance and build human capital, with particular focus on women and girls, the portfolio of projects in the PARRs prioritizes vocational training and entrepreneurship. Additional efforts will enhance the quality of national social protection services.

SDG 4: Quality education

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth



HEALTH

Insufficient funding, inadequate infrastructure and equipment, ongoing conflict, and recurrent outbreaks of communicable diseases paint a grim reality: one-third of the Afghan population does not have access to basic health services within a two-hour travel radius. Only half of children under the age of 5 have received the recommended vaccinations. The proposed projects would improve access to and quality of health care in the PARRs through construction of health clinics and enhancement of existing health facilities, with a focus on women and rural populations. Since 2019, UNHCR has been supporting midwifery training to enhance community-based reproductive healthcare and provide employment opportunities for women. This work will be further expanded.

SDG 3: Good health and well-being



VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

UNHCR and partners continue to facilitate voluntary repatriation of registered Afghan refugees through services and support provided at four Encashment Centres located in Jalalabad, Kandahar, Herat and Kabul. Returnees receive a cash grant averaging USD 250 per person to meet immediate needs including transportation. Returnees also receive services including basic health screening, vaccinations for children, mine risk awareness training, referrals to legal assistance to obtain civil documentation, and referrals of persons with specific needs.

SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions



SHELTER AND ENERGY

Shelter remains one of the most pressing needs of returnees and IDPs in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Through UNHCR's Cash for Shelter project, vulnerable households receive a cash grant that enables them to build their own shelter and sanitation facilities, with the technical support of UNHCR and partners. This innovative approach aims to ensure safe, dignified and sustainable housing; empower households and communities while reducing their dependency on humanitarian assistance; address protection concerns; and inject investment into the local economy. Additional projects will improve access to clean, sustainable and renewable energy through provision of solar packages and the extension of power networks. All efforts will be made to link these initiatives to the Government of Afghanistan's Land Allocation Scheme.

SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy



WATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Particularly in the context of COVID-19, infrastructure interventions will improve access to potable water, construct WASH facilities, and build irrigation networks and roads.

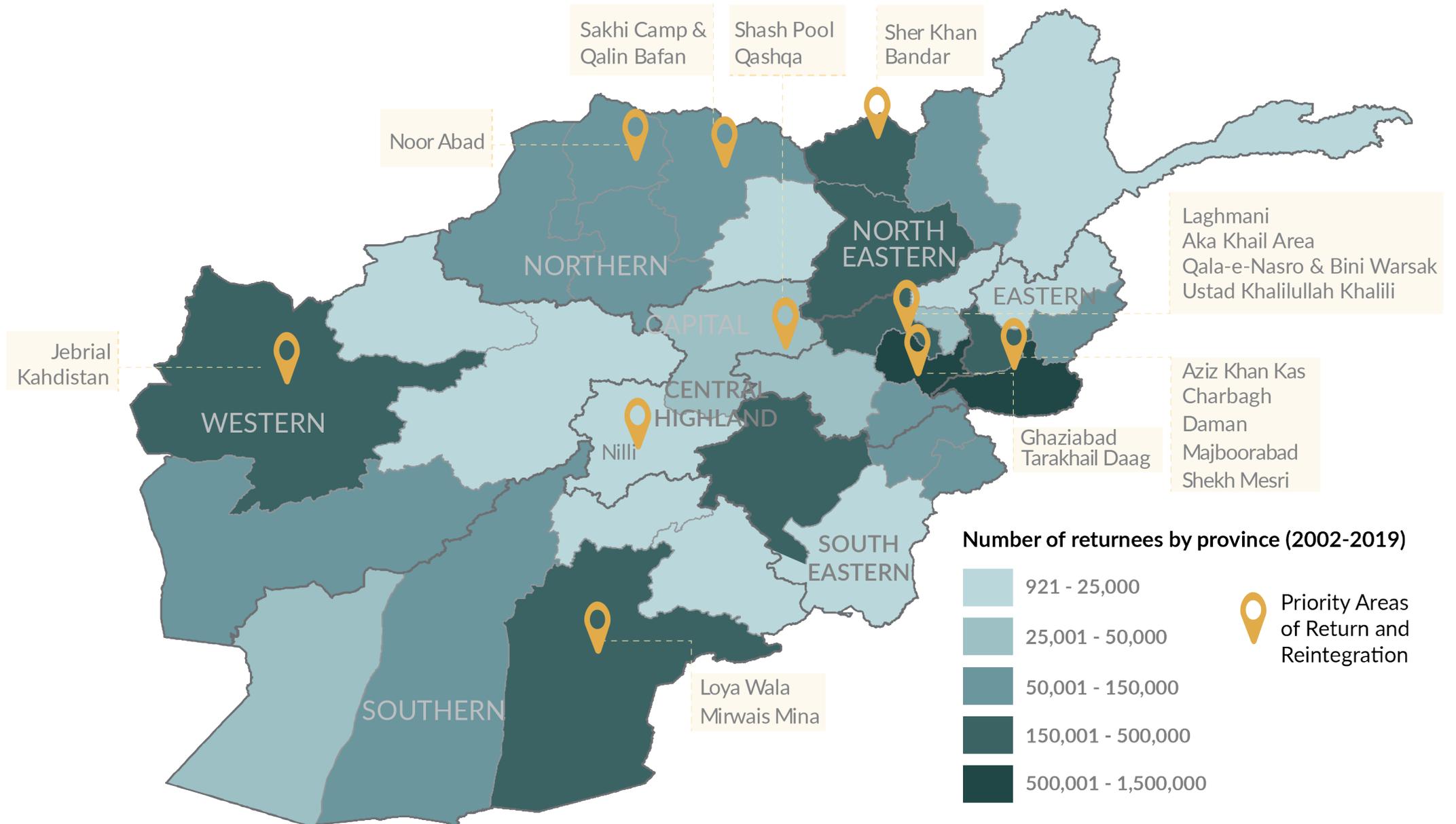
SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation

SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure



High school students during their reading break in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

MAP OF PARRS ACROSS AFGHANISTAN



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

GOVERNMENT AND OPERATIONAL PARTNERS' PROJECTS IN PARRS

CH1	Sshash Pool & Qashqa
	Land Allocation
	TM
	GOV, UNHCR
	GOV, UNHCR
	UNHCR
	UNHCR
	UN-Habitat, IRAN PARS CC

CH2	Nilli
	Land Allocation
	GW
	GOV
	GOV

CR1	Tarakhail Daag
	WFP, ADRA, UNHCR,
	GOV, SCI, UNHCR, UNICEF
	WHO, UNICEF

CR2	Ghaziabad
	WFP, CI, ADRA
	SCI
	WHO, UNICEF

CR3	Aka Khail Area
	GOV, ACARDA
	GOV, WFP, MC, UNHCR
	RET-INTERNATIONAL

CR4	Laghmani
	AWSDC, CAF, UNHCR
	GOV, ICRADA
	GOV, CL, PVT, TPO, WFP
	GOV, WHO, UNICEF
	GOV
	GOV, ISAF

CR5	Ustad Khalilullah Khalili
	Land Allocation
	OMER, HALO TRUST
	CARE
	SOZO, SC
	ACF, SOZO
	ACF, DRRD, SOZO
	UMCR
	GOV, CARE, SC

CR6	Qala-e-Nasro & Bini Warsak
	Land Allocation
	EA
	GOV, CESVI
	GOV, CESVI
	GOV, ACF
	CESVI
	GOV, MPW

ER1	Majboorabad
	Citizen Charter
	IOM
	GOV
	GOV, UNICEF, UNHCR, WCC
	GOV
	UN-HABITAT

ER2	Charbagh
	Citizen Charter
	IOM, UNHCR, WADAN, GOV
	GOV, UNHCR
	GOV, HNTPO
	GOV, DACAAR, NRC
	GOV, NRC
	GOV
	GOV

ER3	Daman
	Citizen Charter
	GOV, IOM, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR
	GOV, NRC, UNHCR
	GOV
	DACAAR, GAA, IRC, NRC, UNHCR
	GOV, NRC, UNHCR
	SCA, UN-HABITAT

ER4	Shekh Misri
	Land Allocation
	UN-Habitat, UNICEF, IRC
	GOV, UN-HABITAT
	RCNRO
	UN-HABITAT,
	GOV, USAID

ER5	Aziz Khan Kas
	Land Allocation
	GOV, UNICEF
	UNICEF, WHO
	DACAAR

- Community Development
- Special Assistance
- Livelihoods
- Education
- Health
- WASH
- Shelter
- Energy
- Infrastructure
- Government Projects

GOVERNMENT AND OPERATIONAL PARTNERS' PROJECTS IN PARRS

NR1	Noor Abad	NR2	Sakhi Camp & Qalin Bafan	NR3	Sher Khan Bandar
	Land Allocation		Citizen Charter, Land Allocation		Citizen Charter
	GOV, WADAN		GOV, SCI, UNICEF		SCI, UNHCR, GOV, ACTED
	GOV		GOV, INTERSOS		GOV, SCI, UNHCR
	GOV		UNICEF, DACAAR		JACK
	ZOA		GOV, NRC, UNHCR		
			GOV		
SR1	Loya Wala	SR2	Mirwais Mina	WR1	Kahdistan
	Citizen Charter		Citizen Charter		DACAAR, UNHCR
	DRO, NRC, PROMOT, YHDO		DRC, NRC, PROMOT, YHDO		GOV, UNHCR
	DRC, UNHCR		UNHCR		GOV, DACAAR, UNHCR
	GOV, SCI, UNICEF, UNHCR		GOV, SCI, UNICEF, MC, UNHCR		UNHCR
	INTERSOS		GOV		UNHCR
	UNICEF, DACAAR		UNICEF, DACAAR, INTERSOS		
	NRC, UNHCR		NRC, UNHCR		
	UNICR, UNICEF, HRDA		GOV, UNHCR, HRDA		
WR2	Jebrial				
	Citizen Charter				
	DACAAR, NRC, UNHCR				
	GOV, DACAAR, UN-Habitat, UNHCR				
	GOV, UN Habitat, UNHCR				
	DACAAR, UNHCR				
	UNHCR				
	GOV, UNHCR				
	GOV, UN Habitat				

- Community Development
- Special Assistance
- Livelihoods
- Education
- Health
- WASH
- Shelter
- Energy
- Infrastructure
- Government Projects



An elderly man who returned from Pakistan takes a rest in Dasht-e Tarakhi, Kabul, Afghanistan.



EDUCATION



HEALTH



LIVELIHOODS

Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 schools constructed 158 RHUs provided to expand class room space 2 playgrounds constructed Solar panels for 4 schools 140 men and women certified in ICDL (International Computer Driving License) 2 women-only internet cafés for young women to increase their skills and knowledge 200 returnees/IDPs children received English language trainings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 clinics constructed and equipped with solar panels, electricity and lighting 12 RHUs to expand clinic space 40 women trained in midwifery 3 health and hygiene trainings One ambulance provided to the main city hospital <p>COVID-19 response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 283,300 people benefitted from provision of face masks, hygiene and sanitary kits etc. Awareness raising sessions benefitted 1.2 million persons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,047 job placements provided for men and women 155 market-based small business established 331 men and women benefitted from market-based technical and vocational trainings 3 women communities linked to global markets through MADE51 programme in carpet/kilim weaving 3 partnerships with Chamber of Commerce and Industry (at sub-national level) for apprenticeship and business development 2 poultry farms and 2 dairy farms established
Gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited space for children in schools (need for the expansion of current school buildings) Support returnee/IDP children to obtain civil documentation Construction of kindergarten schools and nurseries Inadequate WASH facilities in schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction and renovation of secondary health clinics Inadequate medical supplies, equipment and staff in the clinics Mobile health services to improve access to the rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of market-based investment for employment promotion and business development in productive/economic value chains e.g. horticulture, animal husbandry, dried nuts/fruits, honey bee keeping etc. Limited technical and vocation training centres



WASH



SHELTER



ENERGY

Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 bore water wells constructed 48 solar operated water points and 5 water reservoirs installed Implementation of solar-powered pipe scheme projects 10 semi-deep wells and 1 water reservoir constructed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 161 permanent shelters (two rooms, a corridor and a latrine) constructed 980 households benefitted from cash for shelter programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One micro-hydro dam project benefitting 250 households 203 solar panels installed which improved access to electricity 280 street poles with solar lights erected
Gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate WASH facilities within the communities Lack of access to safe drinking water Lack of proper communal sanitation facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to adequate shelter/housing is a critical need in all the locations Lack of private sector engagement investment in the communal housing in PARRs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of access to electricity is one of the key constraints. Insufficient use of renewable energy for the lack of resources to improve living conditions



INFRASTRUCTURE



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

	INFRASTRUCTURE	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	SPECIAL ASSISTANCE
Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10.2 Km main roads constructed and rehabilitated through cash-for-work ■ 2 irrigation canals rehabilitated ■ 2 flood protection walls constructed ■ 58 culverts constructed/rehabilitated ■ 4 small bridges constructed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 3 multi-purpose community centres constructed ■ 2 training centres for women and youth ■ 2 sports centres constructed, equipment for 1 local women gym provided, and uniforms for youth playing cricket and football provided ■ One minibus provided to facilitate transportation from rural to urban areas and marketplaces ■ 2,823 male and 3,849 female youth communities organized and sensitized on rights and obligations ■ 32 psycho-social counselling sessions organized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10,716 vulnerable Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) assisted with Cash for protection, self-reliance, medication and provision of food items. This includes individuals with acute vulnerabilities, female headed households, individuals with disabilities, unaccompanied children, persons displaced in emergencies and members of the host communities
Gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of secondary, tertiary road networks ■ Lack of proper drainages and culverts ■ Inadequate irrigation canals and channels for increasing agriculture productivity and increasing access to water ■ Insufficient flood protection walls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Insufficient community centres, especially for women ■ Lack of transport facilities to market places ■ Inadequate sports facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of unconditional cash assistance to most vulnerable population of the community ■ Need for special assistance programmes, particularly livelihood support for vulnerable women to promote self-reliance



A returnee who previously lived in Pakistan poses with his children in Pajhman, Kabul, Afghanistan.

WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE TOGETHER IN PARRS



one family receives a solar package and has access to clean energy



one person receives vocational training and business start-up assets, improving the well-being of the whole family



one family receives cash for shelter and has a place to call home



people have access to WASH facilities, improving their health and hygiene



an entire community of 3,500 has a new solar-powered potable water scheme



Construction of basic health clinic = 10,000 people can access basic healthcare



Construction of 6-classroom school = 600 more children go to school per year



Construction of a 12-classroom school = 1,200 more children got to school per year

People chatting in a shop in Dasht-e Tarakhil, Kabul, Afghanistan.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Alignment to Sustainable Development Goals, National Priority Programmes and Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework

Programme	Activity	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS											NPP OBJECTIVES						ANPDF				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	16	17	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	2.5
Voluntary Repatriation Programme	Service provision through Encashment Centres			■	■	■				■		■	■			■						■	
	Facilitate voluntary return process			■	■	■				■		■				■							■
Persons with Specific Needs	Persons with Specific Needs (PSN)			■		■			■	■										■			
Community-based protection measures (CPM)	Skills training	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■		■	■	■	
	Business support	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■		■	■	■
	Community mobilization and peaceful-coexistence	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■		■
Emergency assistance	Winterization			■				■														■	
	Emergency Response (Emergency Shelter and NFI)			■				■														■	
	Provision of solar panel			■				■											■				■
Refugees and Asylum Seekers	Refugees in Khost & Paktika				■	■	■	■		■		■	■									■	
	Urban Refugees and Asylum Seekers				■	■	■	■		■		■	■									■	
Protection	Protection and Return monitoring											■	■									■	
	Legal assistance											■	■		■	■							
Policy Support and Capacity Development	Capacity building of MoRR											■	■										
	Policy support to GoRA											■	■										
Hum – Dev-Peace Nexus	Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus and Innovations for Solutions											■	■										■
Coordination	Emergency Shelter / Non-Food Items and Protection Clusters											■	■									■	■