



**BASELINE
MOBILITY
ASSESSMENT
SUMMARY RESULTS**

**AFGHANISTAN
MARCH 2017**



DTM AFGHANISTAN

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BASELINE MOBILITY ASSESSMENT

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is IOM's information management system used to track and monitor population displacement during crises. Composed of a variety of tools and processes, the DTM regularly captures and processes multi-layered data and disseminates a wide array of information products that facilitate a better understanding of the evolving needs of a displaced population, be on-site or en route.

BACKGROUND

Since 2008, the International Organization for Migration has supported undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan and Iran. In recent years, the numbers of undocumented returnees have increased.

A total of 762,000 undocumented Afghans have returned¹ to Afghanistan in the period between 1 January 2016 and 25 March 2017.² Furthermore, a total number of 708,043 IDPs (induced by conflict) were recorded between the period 1 January 2016 and 12 March 2017.³

In response to the dramatic increase in Afghan nationals returning home from neighbouring countries, as well as record levels of internal displacement, IOM launched the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Afghanistan in 2017. The main objective of the DTM in Afghanistan is to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and humanitarian partners to provide effective, targeted, cost efficient assistance to conflict and displacement affected populations.

The IOM DTM programme was implemented under the Flash Appeal launched by the Afghanistan Humanitarian Country Team in 2016 and is funded by the governments of Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. IOM launched Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) program in three provinces with the highest rate of return in Eastern Afghanistan: Nangarhar, Kunar, and Laghman. Following this first phase, IOM Afghanistan will expand the DTM's coverage to Baghlan, Balkh, Kabul, Kunduz, Paktya, and Takhar - six provinces with large displaced populations.

1 Per MoRR and IOM, these numbers are expected to increase, as an estimated 1.1 million undocumented Afghans and 1.3 million refugees remain in Pakistan, as of the end of Jan. 2017

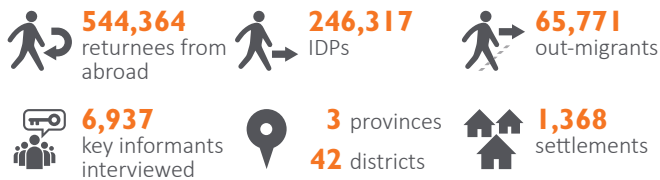
2 IOM (2017) "Weekly Situation Report - 19-25 March 2017" – Retrieved from: https://afghanistan.iom.int/sites/default/files/Reports/iom_return_of_undocumented_afghans_weekly_situation_report_19-25_march_2017.pdf

3 UNOCHA (2017) "Afghanistan - Conflict Induced Displacements in 2016 and 2017" – Retrieved from: <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/afg-conflict-idps>





POPULATION GROUPS



The total number of Returnees from abroad is 544,364 which in relation to the total base population of the three provinces (2,456,500) indicates that 1 person in 5 is a returnee. Migrants that left Afghanistan for another country, however, only amount to 65,771 (3% of the base population). These displacements occurred between 2012 and March 2017.

Nangarhar, which borders Pakistan, is the province most affected by displacement. The majority of returnees are from Pakistan and most enter through Torkham (in Nangarhar), the busiest border post between the two countries. Concurrently, the presence and activities of Taliban insurgents and ISIS fighters challenging the control of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANFS) regularly triggers displacement.

TARGET POPULATIONS

Under this Baseline Mobility Assessment the data collected covered five core, target populations, defined as follows:

1. Return migrants (Returnees)

Afghan nationals that have returned to their country of origin after having spent at least six months outside the territory of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

A. Returnees from Pakistan¹

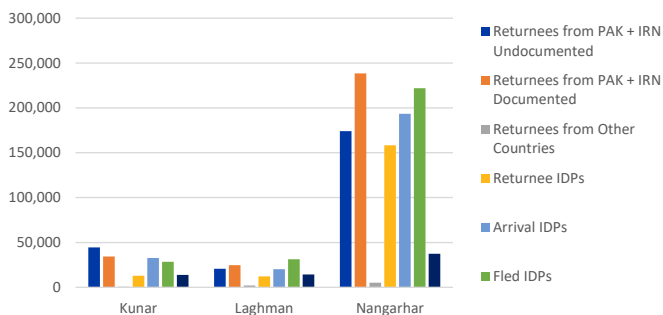
Migrants that have returned to Afghanistan after having spent at least six months in Pakistan. This group includes: documented returnees (those who were registered refugees in Pakistan and have requested voluntary return with UNHCR and

¹ In 2005-06, the Government of Pakistan and its National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) carried out a census/registration of Afghans residing in Pakistan. Those persons registered were issued with proof of registration cards (PoR cards). Based on the issuance of PoR cards UNHCR recognized card holders as prima facie refugees. For a variety of reasons many Afghans in Pakistan were unable to register. Recent return intention surveys carried out by IOM in Peshawar and Haripur have shown that 64% of undocumented Afghans residing in Pakistan did attempt to register for a PoR card but were unsuccessful due to distance to registration point, technical issues and the overall length of the registration process.

The definition of the undocumented does not refer to the possession of other forms of documentation including civil documentation in Afghanistan including tazkera and/or passports.

In terms of status, the undocumented show similar forms of vulnerability as registered Afghan refugees both in Pakistan and upon return to Afghanistan where many are now second and third generation born in Pakistan. At the most recent round of the Tripartite talks held in Islamabad on 15 February 2017, the governments of Pakistan, Afghanistan and UNHCR reached an agreement to register all undocumented Afghans in Pakistan by NADRA pending their repatriation. The process is estimated to take between 6-9 months to complete.

Individuals Displaced | Summary by Province



	Kunar	Laghman	Nangarhar	Total
Returnees from Pakistan + Iran Undocumented	44,430	20,624	174,122	239,176
Returnees from Pakistan + Iran Documented	34,273	24,804	238,409	297,486
Returnees from Other Countries	590	2,055	5,057	7,702
Total Returnees from Abroad	79,293	47,483	417,588	544,364
Returnee IDPs	12,830	12,315	158,280	183,425
Arrival IDPs	32,747	20,197	193,373	246,317
Fled IDPs	28,399	31,199	221,929	281,527
Out Migrants	13,973	14,325	37,473	65,771

COVERAGE

The DTM district-level assessment (B1) was conducted from 29 January to 9 February 2017 in 3 provinces: Nangarhar, Kunar and Laghman, covering a total of 42 districts. The DTM settlement (village-level) assessment (B2) was conducted from 11 February to 16 March 2017 covering a total of 1,368 settlements with existing target populations.

OVERVIEW

As of 16 March 2017, there are 246,317 IDPs and 183,425 returnees, who were formerly displaced, in the three provinces. 281,527 individuals left the three provinces either across a district or provincial boundary (fled IDPs) and 65,771 individuals left Afghanistan (out migrants).

relevant national authorities) and undocumented returnees (returning from Pakistan, not having requested voluntary return, but returning spontaneously, irrespective of whether they were or were not registered with UNHCR and relevant national authorities as refugees).

B. Returnees from Iran

Afghan nationals that have returned to Afghanistan after having spent at least six months in Iran. This group includes: documented returnees, including deportees (those who were registered refugees in Iran, and have requested voluntary return with UNHCR and relevant national authorities) and undocumented returnees (those returned from Iran and never requested voluntary return, but have returned spontaneously irrespective of whether they were or were not registered with UNHCR and relevant national authorities as refugees).

C. Return migrants from non-neighboring countries

Afghan nationals that have returned to Afghanistan after having spent at least six months in non-neighbouring countries such as (but not limited to): Turkey, Gulf States, Europe and Australia. No distinctions are made between documented or undocumented returnees (including those with refugee status), this group includes all who have returned from non-neighbouring countries irrespective of their status. Breakdowns are presented by country of return.

2. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) that arrived in the location (Arrival IDPs)

Afghan nationals who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.²

3. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) that returned to the location (IDP Returnees)

Afghan nationals who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border

and have recently returned to their original place of habitual residence.

4. Populations that moved abroad (Out-Migrants)

Afghan nationals who have crossed an international border to leave the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. This encompasses any kind of movement of Afghan nationals, whatever its length, and causes. This category includes migrations of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people, and economic migrants across international borders.

5. Populations that fled into internal displacement (Fled IDPs)

Afghan nationals who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, particularly as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border, and still have not returned to the settlement.

² UN (1998) "Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement", UN Doc E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2.] in IOM Glossary, 2004).



RETURNEES FROM ABROAD



544,364

returnees from abroad



239,176

undocumented returnees from PAK + IRN



297,486

documented returnees from PAK + IRN



97%

returned from Pakistan



7,702

returnees from other countries



1,265

settlements with returnees

OVERVIEW OF RETURNEES

417,588 individuals returned from abroad to Nangarhar province between January 2012 and March 2017, representing 27% of the overall province population. Returnees were found in smaller absolute numbers and proportions in Kunar (79,293 returnees; 17% of the province population) and Laghman (47,483 returnees; 10% of the province population). These returnees are a portion of the 691,581 undocumented Afghans (284,054 from Pakistan and 443,527 from Iran) who returned in 2016, and the 663,295 undocumented Afghans who returned in 2015, largely due to push factors caused by an adverse and deteriorating protection environment.¹

Nangarhar is also the most affected in terms of outwards flows, with 37,473 migrants from 2012 to 2017, followed by Laghman with 14,325 residents that went abroad, and Kunar with 13,973.

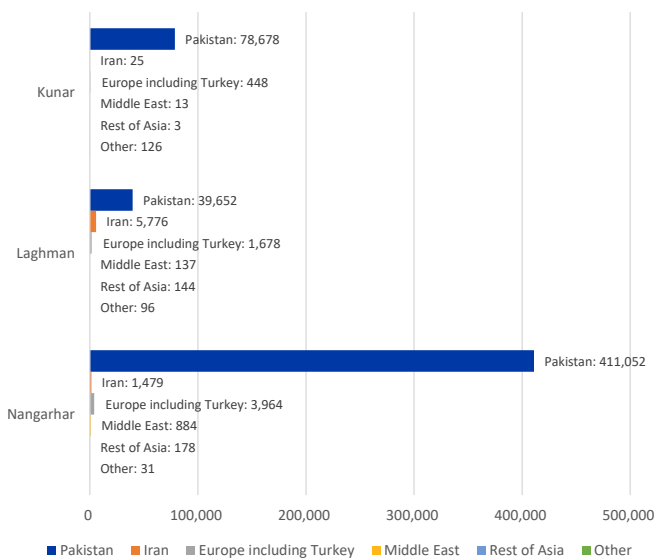
RETURNEES FROM PAKISTAN & IRAN

The overwhelming majority (98.6%) of the Returnees in the three provinces come from Pakistan. More than 50% of the returnees from Pakistan are documented, while the opposite is true for the returnees from Iran: 75% of whom are not in possession of personal identity documents.

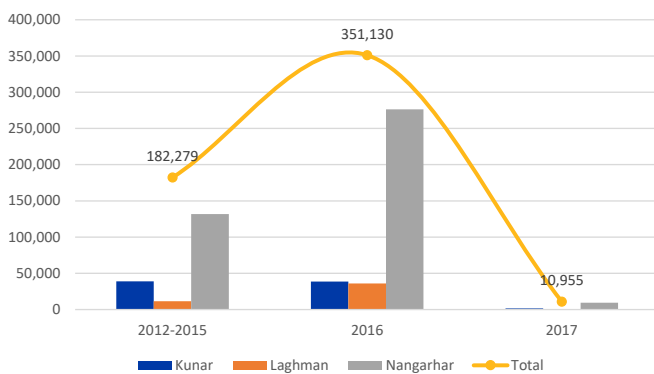
The highest number of returnees from Iran were found in Laghman (5,776 individuals or 12.71%), followed by 1,479 in Nangarhar (0.36% of returnees) and only 25 returnees in Kunar, as is to be expected in the eastern provinces that border Pakistan.

According to the District Focal Points' (DFP) observations, the relatively high number of returnees from Iran in Laghman province is due to the fact that migrants

Returnees from Abroad by Province | Overall



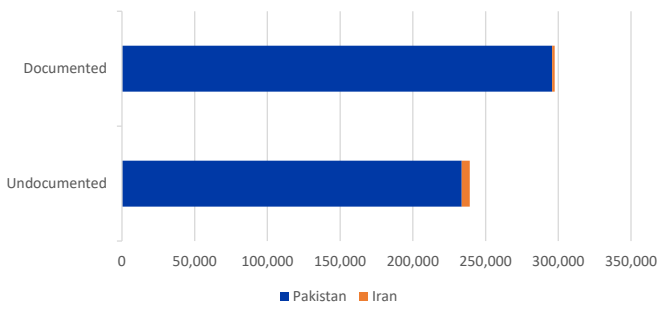
Returnees from Abroad by Province | Annual Trends



¹ IOM (2017) "Return of Undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran, 2016 Overview" - Retrieved from: https://afghanistan.iom.int/sites/default/files/Reports/iom_afghanistan_-_return_of_undocumented_afghans_from_pakistan_and_iran_-_2016_overview.pdf

→ Returnees from Abroad Total (Neighbouring + Non-Neighbouring)	2016 Individuals	2017 Individuals	2012 – 2015 Individuals	Total Individuals	% of Total Individuals
Neighbouring Countries					
Pakistan	344,190	10,671	174,521	529,382	97.25%
Iran	2,954	0	4,326	7,280	1.34%
Non-Neighbouring Countries					
Europe including Turkey	3,324	242	2,524	6,090	1.12%
Middle East	358	39	637	1,034	0.19%
Rest of Asia	176	2	147	325	0.06%
Other	128	1	124	253	0.05%
Total Returnees from Abroad	351,130	10,955	182,279	544,364	

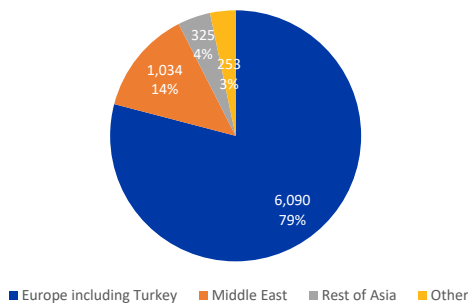
Returns from Pakistan & Iran | Document Status | Overall



originating from Laghman have developed and maintained an employment network in Iran since the early 1980s. As a result of the war in Afghanistan and the scarcity of employment opportunities in neighbouring Pakistan, a significant number of people traveled to Iran, where networks are predominantly established in and around the city of Mashhad.

RETURNEES FROM NON-NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

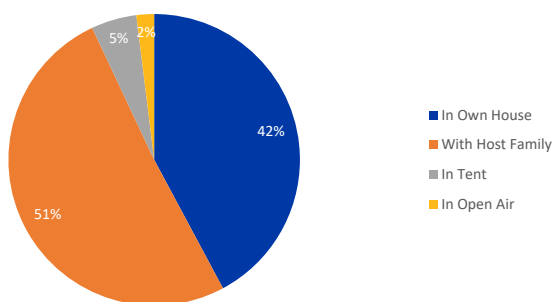
Returns from Non-Neighbouring Countries | Overall



79% of the returnees from non-neighbouring countries come from European countries (including Turkey). In 2016 the number of returnees from Europe are even higher than the previous four years combined.

RETURNEES CURRENT SHELTER

Returns from Abroad | Shelter



22,755 (7%) of returnees are particularly vulnerable, living in tents or in the open air. 51% reside with host families, which can potentially induce stress factors and lead to secondary displacement.

RETURNEES FROM ABROAD BY SETTLEMENTS

The below table shows the relative distribution of assessed settlements, grouped by the number of returnees located within the settlement. For example, there are 128 villages (5% of all villages assessed) that have between 500 to 999 returnees, totaling 90,017 returnees altogether, which represents 17% of all returnees in the three provinces.

Number of Returnees	Number of Settlements	Returns From Abroad	Percent Settlements	Percent Individuals
None	103	0	8%	0%
1 to 9	28	157	2%	0%
10 to 19	22	330	2%	0%
20 to 50	129	4,743	9%	1%
50 to 99	202	14,777	15%	3%
100 to 500	645	140,809	47%	26%
500 to 999	128	90,017	9%	17%
1,000 to 1,999	72	101,346	5%	19%
2,000 to 4,999	30	88,508	2%	16%
5,000 to 9,999	6	41,692	0%	8%
Over 10,000	3	61,985	0%	11%
Total	1,368	544,364	100%	100%

140,809 (26%) of the returnees are concentrated in 645 settlements (or 51% of all settlements with returnee populations) with an average 218 returnees per settlements. In other words, 26% of returnees are concentrated in more than the half of the settlements.

30% of all returnees from abroad settled in 81% of the settlements (or 1,026 out 1,265 where returnee populations are located). 70% of the Returnees are based in 19% of the settlements (239), thus observing concentration rather than dispersal of this population group.

Three settlements (0.2% of all villages assessed) in particular have over 10,000 returnees each, totaling 61,985 returnees altogether, which represents 11% of all returnees in the three provinces. On average, that would be 20,662 per settlement. These settlements are Ada, Chamtala, Hesa Awal Naj, all in Nangarhar.



INTERNALLY DISPLACED (IDPS)



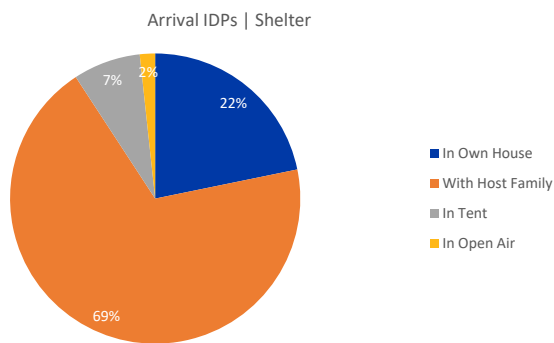
246,317
IDPs arrived



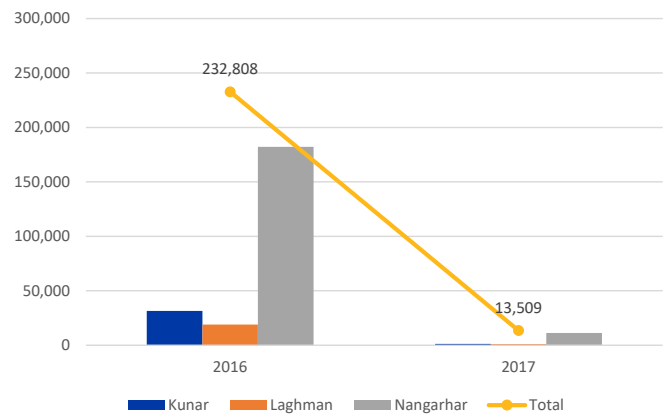
99.96%
displaced due
to conflict



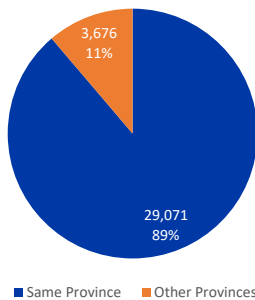
1,042
settlements
with IDPs



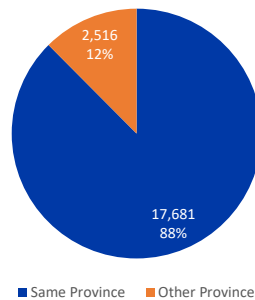
Arrival IDPs by Province | Annual Trends



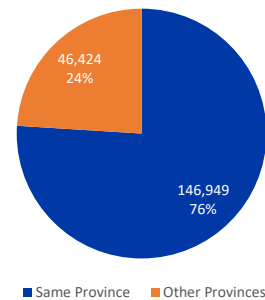
Arrivals of Internally Displaced Persons | Kunar



Arrivals of Internally Displaced Persons | Laghman



Arrivals of Internally Displaced Persons | Nangarhar



→ Arrivals of Internally Displaced Persons	2016 Families	2016 Individuals	2017 Families	2017 Individuals	Total Individuals	% of Total Individuals
All IDPs						
From Same Province	26,181	180,732	1,833	12,969	193,701	79%
From Other Provinces						
Other Province 1	4,620	32,253	44	309	32,562	62%
Other Province 2	1,338	9,354	17	119	9,473	18%
All others	1,547	10,469	16	112	10,581	20%
Other Provinces Total	7,505	52,076	77	540	52,616	21%
Total arrivals of internally displaced persons	33,686	232,808	1,910	13,509	246,317	

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)

Assessments identified 246,317 arrival IDPs; 183,425 IDPs who returned to their location of origin; and 281,527 who fled into internal displacement. The data collected for IDPs covers movements between January 2016 and March 2017.

ARRIVAL IDPS

The majority (79%) of the 246,317 Arrival IDPs are located in Nangarhar. 79% of Arrival IDPs moved to settlements within the same province of origin and 21% fled to other provinces. 99.96% of Arrival IDPs were displaced, due to conflict, whereas 98 (0.04%) IDPs fled natural disasters.

RETURNEE IDPS

The majority (86%) of the 183,425 Returnee IDPs are located in Nangarhar. 90% of Returnee IDPs returned to a settlement within the same province in which they were displaced.

FLED IDPS

The majority (79%) of the 281,527 Fled IDPs are located in Nangarhar. 83% of Fled IDPs moved to another location within the same province.



FLED ABROAD (OUT-MIGRANTS)

65,771
fled abroad

52%
fled to
Pakistan

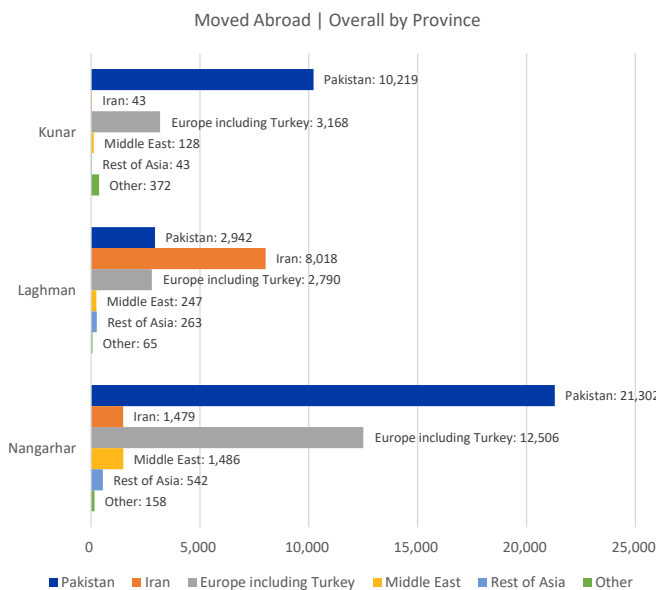
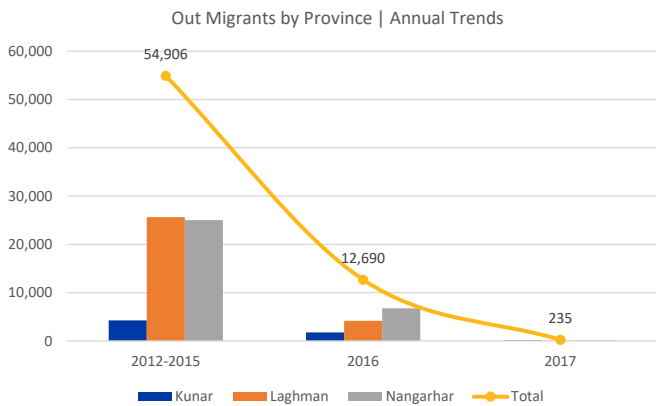
961
villages with
Out-Migrants

OUT-MIGRANTS MOVED TO PAKISTAN AND IRAN

44,003 individuals from the three provinces fled to neighbouring countries, in either a regular or an irregular manner. 78% went to Pakistan and 22% to Iran. The majority of out-migrants, originating from Nangarhar and Kunar, moved to Pakistan (93% and 99%, respectively). However, in Laghman, 73% (8,018) of out-migrants moved to Iran.

OUT-MIGRANTS MOVED TO NON-NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

21,768 individuals moved to non-neighbouring countries between 2012 and early March 2017. The large majority - 18,464 individuals (85%) moved towards Europe (including Turkey). A sharp spike in out-migrants is observed in 2016, with 9,747 leaving for Europe compared to a total of 8,321 making this journey between 2012 and 2015.



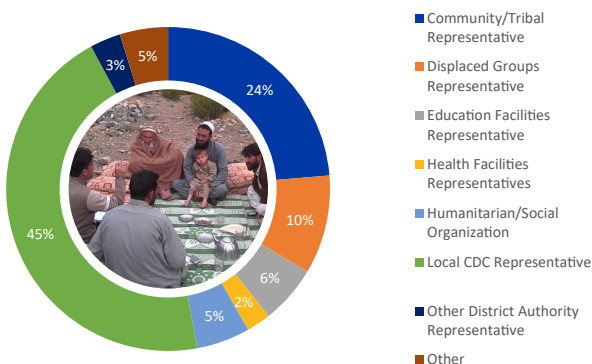
← Moved Abroad Total (Neighbouring + Non-Neighbouring)	2016 Individuals	2017 Individuals	2012 – 2015 Individuals	Total Individuals	% of Total Individuals
Neighbouring Countries					
Pakistan	9,649	169	24,645	34,463	52%
Iran	3,786	133	5,621	9,540	15%
Non-Neighbouring Countries					
Europe including Turkey	9,747	396	8,321	18,464	28%
Middle East	723	88	1,050	1,861	3%
Rest of Asia	447	21	380	848	1%
Other	332	25	238	595	1%
Total Moved Abroad	11,249	530	9,989	65,771	

METHODOLOGY

The Baseline Mobility Assessment (BMA) is a DTM tool designed to track mobility, determine numbers and locations of forcibly displaced people, reasons for displacement, place of origin, displacement location and time of displacement, along with basic demographics of the group, as well as vulnerability and priority needs. This assessment focuses on three provinces and five mobile populations of concern. The assessment collected structured data to define: 1) population categories; 2) when mobility took place; 3) reasons for in and out migration into particular areas; and 4) priority needs.

Information on these key data areas were collected from presumably knowledgeable and reliable sources, including key informants (KIs) from national and local authorities, community leaders and elders, district registries and local level assessments, representatives of different population groups.

Key Informants by Type



Key Informant (KI) Type	Total KIs	%
Community/Tribal Representative	1,642	24%
Displaced Groups Representative	683	10%
Education Facilities Representative	405	6%
Health Facilities Representatives	168	2%
Humanitarian/Social Organization	370	5%
Local CDC Representative	3,122	45%
Other District Authority Representative	213	3%
Other	334	5%
Total	6,937	100%

Data collection was completed on two levels:

1. District level assessment (B1): This assessment aims to identify settlements with high IN and OUT flows of Afghan nationals and provide estimated numbers of each population category presence.
2. Settlement (village) level (B2): Based upon identified settlements under B1, this assessment collected information on IN and OUT flows of Afghan nationals

at the settlement level (village or neighbourhood), defined as the primary unit of observation.

The primary objective is to collect quantitative data in Nangarhar, Laghman, and Kunar, through two rounds of two-layered assessments (B1 & B2) to obtain in-depth information on population categories, mobility, their locations by settlement level, and lay the foundation for more in-depth community level needs assessments, including current conditions and secondary displacement.

A comprehensive geographic mapping of the settlements with displaced and returnee populations was also elaborated with the KIs. This mapping process aims to facilitate the timely identification of these settlements, in order to support the Government of Afghanistan and other humanitarian actors to flag urgent concerns and expedite the delivery of assistance.

The time frame of data collected on displacements is divided into three periods: displacements that occurred in or before 2015 (2012 – 2015), in 2016, and in 2017.

In addition to the quantitative data collection mentioned above, qualitative information was also collected based on field research and observations by the DTM District Focal Points (DFPs) operating in the three provinces. See the “Situational Overview”, “Stories from the Displaced”, and “Current Conditions” sections below.

In order to collect current information on factors related to displacement, the DFPs developed a far-reaching network of sources, including representatives from host communities and displaced populations, schools, health facilities, humanitarian organizations, and local authorities.

Apart from compiling numerical data sets related to migration movements and displacement and the causes of (in or out) displacement, the DFPs regularly approached the key informants for updates on the current situation within their respective districts and provinces.

This information was collected in each district in the three target provinces, using a questionnaire to capture issues related to 1) safety and security, 2) secondary movement intentions, 3) existing restrictions on freedom of movement, 4) socio-economic situation in the provinces (covering unemployment rates, 5) employment opportunities, rent rates affecting the displaced populations as well as prices’ fluctuations), 6) WASH needs, 7) access to education, and 8) population vulnerabilities. The personal observation of the DFPs, who largely originate from their respective districts of operation, additionally contributed to the detailed presentation of facts and developments.

SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

NANGARHAR

Security remains unstable in the province as ISIS affiliated groups are more active compared to the other Afghan provinces. Military clashes between government forces and ISIS and/or the Taliban are reported on a daily basis. Check points are established either by the Taliban or ISIS fighters and people are being stopped and searched. Additionally, the local population is threatened by abductions and forced recruitment, as well as reprisal violence.

The mid-February closure of the border check point at Torkham resulted in price increases of imported goods. Pakistani military operations also caused new displacements in border districts in Nangarhar province. There is a lack of health services in the conflict-affected districts and the Taliban constantly hinder vaccination programs implemented by healthcare authorities. 90% of the population (including groups targeted in the DTM assessments) do not have regular access to water. DFPs report extremely poor hygiene which increases the risk of epidemics. Insurgents are reported to have closed down a number of schools that they now use as operational bases.

IDPs report having lost ownership of land and property after being expelled from their homes by insurgent groups. DFPs report that most IDPs aim to move to the provincial capital. Approximately 90% of the displaced populations live in dilapidated and abandoned properties, due to lack of financial means to rent properties.

LAGHMAN

Taliban groups are active in Mehtarlam and the surrounding districts. There are regular skirmishes between Taliban groups and the national security forces. Additionally, Laghman was affected in February by cross-border shelling, following the border closure between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which triggered new population displacement. The majority of returnees from Pakistan stay briefly in Jalalabad before continuing to their places of origin in Laghman. A considerable number of the returnees have never been to Laghman before and they are unaware of the security and cultural environment within the province.

Some returnees envisage a secondary journey abroad, aiming for Iran or Turkey where they hope to find employment. However, the primary seasonal options for finding work within Afghanistan are predominantly either Jalalabad or Kabul. Almost all males in the population

groups targeted by this assessment commute short distances in search of jobs. The large majority of IDPs and returnees remain unemployed and rely on humanitarian organizations for humanitarian aid and assistance.

An increasing number of mental health issues are reported by the DFPs, as well as with longstanding problems related to maternity deaths and child malnutrition. Access to water sources is limited in a number of districts and existing sources are not treated to prevent contamination.

KUNAR

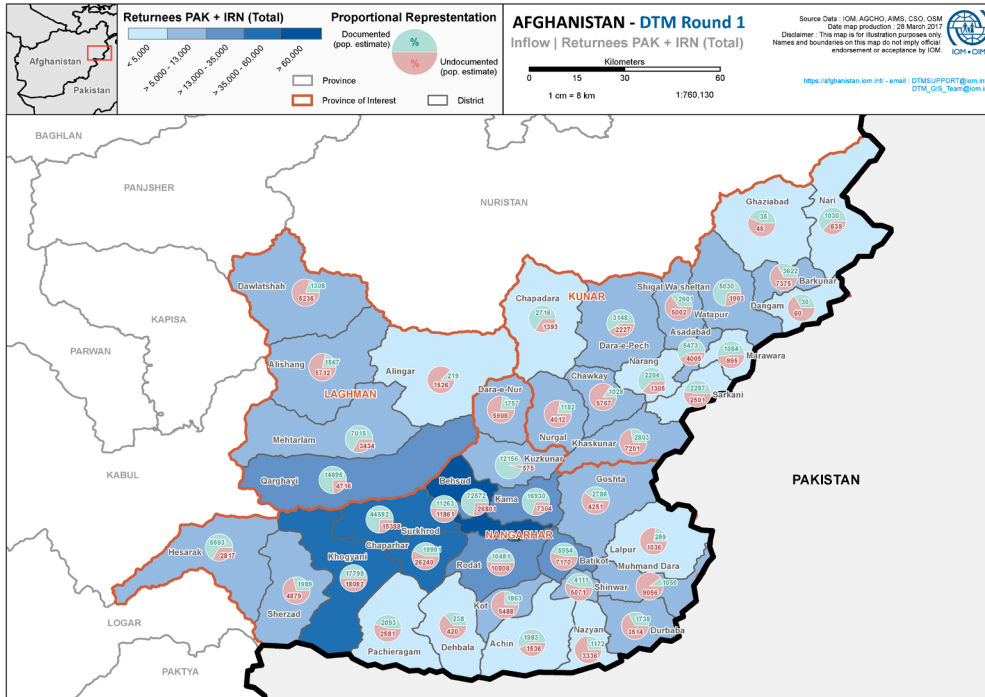
Kunar is less affected by the presence of ISIS and the Taliban in comparison with Nangarhar, although government sources and tribal elders informed the assessment team that ISIS is developing recruitment schemes, predominantly targeting young and unemployed males. At the same time, Taliban fighters made an attempted attack on the governor travelling en route to a provincial district.

A major health-related issue is the limited availability and access to health centres and the impossibility to reach existing centers, due to weather conditions and roads that become blocked. The population relies on kariz (aquifers) and dug wells for water. Although about 80% of the IDP and returnee children attend school, it is perceived that poor living conditions as well as parents' attitudes hinder many children from obtaining a basic education.

Average rent prices currently reach up to \$90 per month, which is unaffordable for some of the population groups targeted by this assessment, thus compelling them to live in tents or dilapidated buildings. The DFPs report that, as of February and March 2017, IDPs were not willing to move again, thus effectuating secondary displacement. Around a third of the displaced residents commute on a daily basis in search of short-term employment within their district. This movement is regularly hindered by military operations.

GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Map 6. Number of Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by Documented and Undocumented



List of district-level maps:

Map 1 • Number of Documented Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017

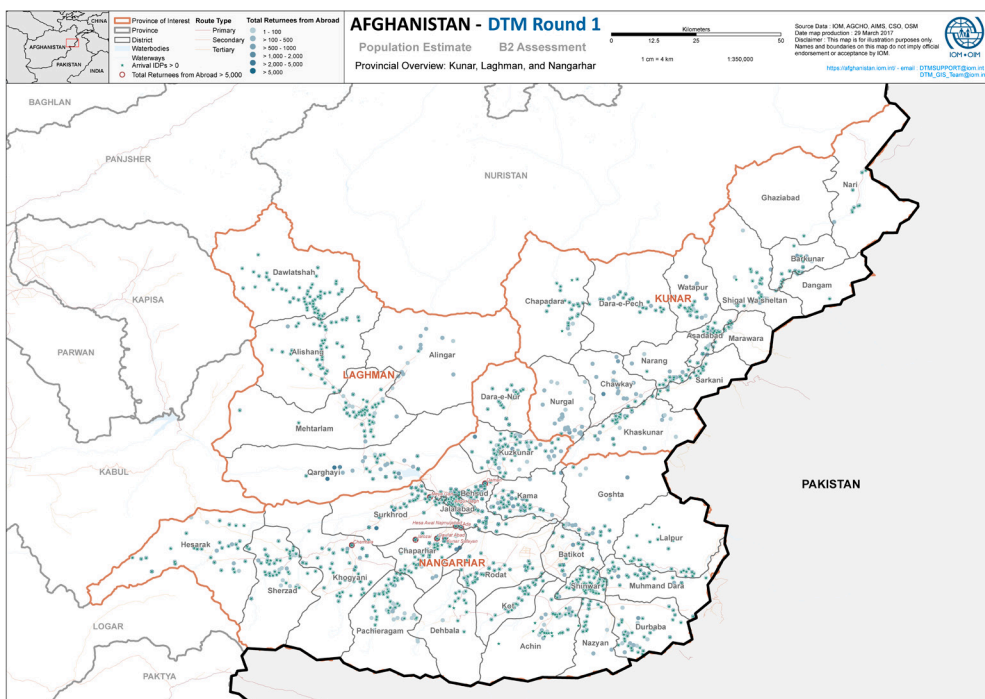
Map 2 • Number of Undocumented Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017

Map 3 • Number of Total Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017

Map 4 • Number of IDPs Arrival per district and breakdown by year 2016 and 2017

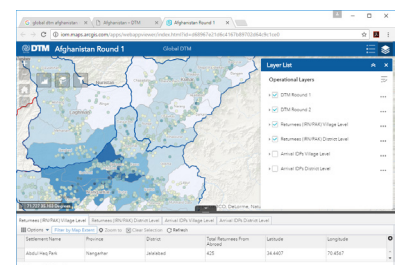
Map 5 • Number of Returnees from other Countries per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017 (all other countries, excluding Pakistan and Iran)

Map. Settlements by Number of Returnees and IDP arrivals, provinces overview, by each province and by district



List of settlement maps and datasets:

1. Dataset by Settlements DTM AFG Round1_30_March 2017 with data dictionary and export of data by Settlement rows (1368) (xlsx file)
2. Province and District atlases in PDF format
3. Settlements by Number of Returnees and IDP arrivals, interactive maps



STORIES FROM THE DISPLACED

PARCHAOW VILLAGE (CHIKNAWAR) ▪ LAL POR DISTRICT ▪ NANGARHAR

“I was preparing to bring my cow to the pasture and then to accompany my son to school, when the first projectile fell in front of the house. All I could see was dust and I was hearing the children cry. I realized my cow was badly hit, so I took a knife to slaughter the animal. My wife was trying to stop me, because the cow was all we had. The second projectile hit the house and transformed it into a bunch of ruins within only a second. Then, I saw my son lying on the ground, bleeding and covered in dust. I grabbed the boy and started running, followed by my wife. All the villagers were running, carrying their children. I managed to reach Jalalabad and we all went to a hospital where the doctors treated the wounds of my son. Two days later, we went back to our district but we did not go home. There was no home anymore. Instead, we went to Sori village where we currently stay with relatives.”

LAMBARI VILLAGE ▪ DAWLAT SHAH ▪ LAGHMAN

“I was the leader of my village Community Development Council (CDC). Until 2011 our district was safe and we were working on infrastructure projects funded by the government and the World Bank. Unfortunately, masked gangsters started abducting people. Then, the army was chasing these people and the skirmishes became more frequent. 2014 was the worst year. Many people died, many others moved to other districts to escape this war. In February 2016 a mortar hit our house. Luckily, my sons were out working and their children were at school. We left our home and settled in Poli Jogi, near Mehtarlam. We are now trying to build a house, but it is very hard. The children go to school but we cannot afford to buy them notebooks. We all share the little amount of food we are able to find. Often, it’s hard to provide even water.”



Returnee Family living in a tent in Rodat district, Nangarhar province.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

February – March 2017

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Nangarhar

ISIS controlled groups are present within Jalalabad and surrounding districts. The Taliban operate within Chardihi area (Bati Kot district). DFP report that clashes between the ANSF and the Taliban occurred in Lal Por district that killed one civilian and injured another two. On 16 February 2017, Pakistan sealed its border with Afghanistan (including the busiest border check point in Torkham) after a suicide bombing in Pakistan's Sindh Province which killed more than 80 people, claiming that the perpetrators had sanctuaries in Afghanistan.

The Pakistani military launched border shelling targeting insurgent groups' bases. The Lal Por district villages of Rina Parchaw, Sangaki, Shikhan, and Mich Gaki were badly affected by the shelling and 946 families were forced to move to neighbouring villages within the same district. Another 133 families relocated to Mohmandra district bringing with them some household items and their cattle.

During this period, displacement was reported from Deh Bala District caused by the Afghan National Army (ANA) operation: DFP's report that 600 families moved to Rodat, Behsood, and Surkhrod districts. The DFP's report two main reasons for displacement: cross border shelling and insurgency attacks.

The national Directorate of Security (NDS) discovered rocket- propelled grenade (RPG) launchers hidden in the premises of a private school in Jalalabad and an undisclosed amount of cash. The Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) visibly increased their presence in Jalalabad due to information that ISIS militants had moved into the city and were preparing attacks against government and INGO employees.

27 clashes involving the ANSF, the Taliban and ISIS occurred in the second half of February as reported by the DFP. 12 ISIS fighters and 5 Taliban fighters were killed. Airstrikes and military operations were conducted by the ANSF in Achin, Deh Bala and Bati Kot districts.

About 60 residents of Rodat district established two small- size defence points aiming to protect the local population from ISIS attacks. The DFPs reported that the local authorities provided the residents manning the defence points with weapons.

Kidnappings for ransom remain a major security issue in the province, generally targeting people with medium-sized businesses or those working with international humanitarian organizations. Two local residents were kidnapped in Mohmandara district during the reporting period.

Laghman

The DFPs report a poor security situation and increased presence of insurgent and criminal groups in the provincial capital Mehtarlam and surrounding districts. Abduction for ransom is a significant threat. Kidnappers target people who are employed by local authorities or NGOs operating in the area.

At least 10 civilians were killed when unknown gunmen attacked a house in Bad Pakht district during the reporting period. Another two civilians were killed by a roadside explosion on the way to a mosque in Mehtarlam. On 20 February, a group of Taliban opened fire and murdered five students who were playing volleyball in Sakhra village, Alinegar district. The next day the Taliban attacked and captured a police check-point in Armal. Another roadside explosion on 23 February killed five civilians in the outskirts of Mehtarlam.

The same town was attacked by about 500 Taliban fighters on 2–3 March. The Taliban force managed to enter the town, but were pushed back by the ANSF. ANSF implemented a "search & clean" operation against the insurgents during the following days in Midani, Dawood Qala, Shakarman, Alishang, and Dawlat Shah districts. About 2,000 people were displaced as a result of this military operation. Some displaced families went to Kabul where they settled in tents in the capital's outskirts. On 10 March, 18 insurgents were killed in eastern Laghman. A Taliban commander and another 3 insurgents have been killed by the ANSF in Alishang district on 12 March.

Kunar

The border shelling that followed the border closure also affected Kunar province. 12 projectiles fell in Sarkani, Khas Kunar and Dangam districts between 15–23 February. As a result, 41 families moved to safer settlements within Sarkani districts. Another 90 shells launched from the Pakistani side of the border targeted Dangam, Sarkano and Khas Kunar districts between 1–15 March, resulting in the displacement of 190 families to safe locations within Sarkani and Khas Kunar districts where they found refuge in tents. Provincial High Peace Council officials and local elders informed DFPs that ISIS has increased its activities aiming to recruit young men within the province.

According to the Kunar Labour Association, ISIS targets unemployed men, of whom there are many. Earlier, on 5 February 2017, Taliban fighters attacked the province governor and other officials while they were en route to Watapur district. All escaped unharmed.

HEALTH SITUATION

Nangarhar

The Taliban and ISIS hinder vaccination programs in the districts where they operate. From reports, there are also no medical services in the areas controlled by ISIS and all health centres are closed down. Apart from this, there is a general lack of qualified health professionals in the province. Long distances and lack of means for travel also affect the timely provision of health care. Most health centres remain poorly equipped.

Laghman

DFPs report inaccessibility of medical centres in the remote districts and insufficiency of medical supplies. DFPs' observations include high rates of child malnutrition amongst families and cases of anaemia due to successive pregnancies and poor diets. IDPs report mental health issues and suffering from stress disorders. According to DFPs' reports the IDPs do not receive adequate help and assistance. Female IDPs do not have access to basic healthcare, health promotion or family planning education. Child labour and poor working conditions threaten the health of children and expose them to the risk of physical and sexual abuse.

Kunar

IDPs and returnees experience difficulties in reaching medical centres, due to the long distances from their villages and the lack of transportation. There is at least one health centre per district, but it is often hard to reach. DFPs report that IDPs cannot afford prescribed medications, once they are referred to private pharmacies. However, in late January, the Ministry of Public Health started implementing a vaccination program covering returnee children.

Medical centres and hospitals in operation are:

- 1 provincial hospital (Asadabad)
- 2 District Hospitals (Manogi, Chowki)
- 9 Community Health Centres (CHC)
- 14 Basic Health Centres (BHC)
- 19 Sub Centres
- 1 prison clinic
- 1 private hospital
- 3 mobile clinics
- 1 maternity centre

The DFPs report severe cases of TB, skin related disorders and diarrhoea.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION

Nangarhar

The main income sources for IDPs and returnees are:

1. Daily labourers
2. Agriculture and farming
3. Livestock rearing
4. Skilled labour
5. Small business: shop keeping, small-size entrepreneurship

Interviewed IDPs reported having they lost their property and assets in their places of origin due to the continuing fighting between the Taliban, ISIS and government forces. There were reports that ISIS set houses on fire.

The high numbers of IDPs and returnees concentrated in the urban districts of Nangarhar (specifically in Jalalabad) have affected the rental market, substantially increasing the housing prices. Additionally, the border closure from 16 February until 20 March 2017 resulted in price inflation, for example in Jalalabad:

Before the border closure	After the border closure	Increase
Tomatoes 32AFS/per kg	100AFS/per kg	213%
Sugar 50AFS	67 AFS	34%
Oranges 25AFS	65AFS	160%
Potatoes 25AFS	35AFS	40%

Laghman

The majority of IDPs and returnees are unemployed and rely on the humanitarian aid and assistance provided by various humanitarian agencies in the area, as reported by the DFPs. The displaced populations are forced to commute on a daily basis to find temporary and ad-hoc jobs in neighbouring settlements. The high level of illiteracy prevents IDPs and returnees from securing skilled employment.

Kunar

The main income sources of IDPs and returnees include: daily labour, small business, road side stalls, taxis, livestock rearing, and agriculture. The fluctuation of the food prices is strongly related to the security situation in Kunar and the political tensions with Pakistan, the primary supplier of food to Afghanistan. There are no major industries nor substantial private businesses in the province that provide employment.

Before the border closure	After the border closure	Increase
Tomatoes 35AFS	100 AFS	186%
Sugar 52AFS	70AFS	35%
Chicken 200 AFS	250AFS	25%
Potatoes 25AFS	35AFS	40%
Fuel (gasoline) 44AFS	48AFS	7%
Oranges 25AFS	35AFS	40%

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Nangarhar

The main water sources for IDPs and returnees are: bore-well pumps, spring waters, rivers and ponds. Proper sanitation and hygiene remain a major issue. Preventative measures and development of water/sanitation infrastructure are badly needed, as 90% of the rural population does not have access to tap water or sewage systems. Often people, especially women and children, must walk long distances and queue for hours every day in order to fetch drinking water. Open defecation is a major issue in rural areas, and personal hygiene is at a very low level.

Laghman

Available water sources for IDPs and returnees include: wells, natural water sources, and water tankers (20 AFS per 100 litres of water). However, the access to water is limited in certain parts of Alishang, Dawlat Shah and Alingar districts, where women must walk long distances to collect water. In many cases the water is not treated and potentially contaminated with dysentery, cholera, and hepatitis A.

Villages with observed insufficient Water, Sanitation and Hygiene affecting displaced populations include:

- Korangal, Gadyala, Nala Chak (Dawlat Shah district)
- Botyan, Masmot, Qandali (Alishang district)
- Sangar, Salingar, Qasaba (Alingar district)

Kunar

Water sources for IDPs and returnees include: kariz (aquifers), dug wells, springs and water pipes. Returnees and the IDPs live in host communities and must therefore share the same sources. As a result, there are observed water shortages in the villages surrounding Asadabad, including:

- Shagai
- Andersir
- Tabakoot Karamar

EDUCATION

Nangarhar

Problems experienced include an insufficient number of schools and teachers, lack of text books, and reluctance of families to allow children (specifically girls) to attend school. DFPs report that in areas with better security, parents are more willing to allow girls to attend school, but one essential deterrent still remains – the lack of female teachers.

A number of schools have closed down in remote areas where ISIS militants are operating and schools are used to accommodate ISIS units. The Taliban control education in

the areas under their rule by allocating a representative to supervise the school programme. The fact that the returnee children from Pakistan had followed the Pakistani educational curriculum causes them additional difficulties, as the curriculum in Afghanistan is different.

Many schools enroll all children of different ages into the same grade, due to the lack of teachers and teaching premises, which limits the quality of education that can be provided. The existing outdoor schools, set up in the open air, especially in rural villages, are highly affected by weather conditions and are practically non-functional during the winter. Many children are deprived of education, because their parents force them to work. The long distances that some children must travel to attend school is another factor hindering education.

Laghman

About 75% of the girls of school age do not attend school due to militants groups' warnings not to do so, as reported by the DFPs. Many families are afraid to send the girls to school, due to fears that they could be poisoned. Another reason for barring children from school is the lack of money needed to afford educational materials.

Kunar

According to DFP reports, the large majority of IDP and returnee children attend school (about 80%). 20% do not attend school, due to either poverty, which forces the children to work in order to contribute to the family budget, or lack of interest by the parents. DFPs report observed shortages of educational materials, text books and notebooks.

POPULATION VULNERABILITY

Nangarhar

Observed needs of the displaced population include:

- Limited or no access to health facilities or services
- Unemployment
- Shelter
- Drinking water
- Lack of cash, food, and household items, electricity and fuel
- Regular access to education
- Road (re)construction and maintenance

Laghman

Unemployment among the displaced population contributes to the deterioration of living conditions they live within, including undernourishment and malnutrition. IDPs and returnees living in the districts of Alishang, Dawlat Shah, and Alingar face the worst conditions in February and March, due to heavy snowfalls that cut off roads, isolating communities.

Observed needs of the displaced population include:

- Lack of functioning medical facilities
- Insufficient number of shelters
- Limited access to water
- Limited access to roads
- Unaffordability of fuels

Kunar

Observed needs of the displaced population include:

- Unavailability of employment opportunities
- Destroyed or dilapidated shelters or no shelter at all
- Deteriorated security
- Food shortages

SHELTER

Nangarhar

Property rents have significantly increased since the second half of 2016. For example, the cost of renting a medium-sized house in Jalalabad rose from USD 120 to USD 210 per month between July 2016 and March 2017.

Prices are expected to further increase, if the returnee influx from Pakistan continues in 2017.

Laghman

90% of the returnees experience difficulties in securing accommodation. The majority of people are living in dilapidated and abandoned properties or in basic tents with limited or no amenities. This unsuitable shelter affects the health of adults and children, especially during the winter season.

Kunar

The returnees either stay with relatives or rent accommodations. Depending on the type of property, the rent ranges between AFS 2,000 (\$30) – AFS 6,000 (\$90) per month. Those who cannot afford to rent live in half-ruined and abandoned constructions. About 20 families live in tents in Shagai village in close proximity to Asadabad, the provincial administrative centre.

LIST OF PRODUCTS

REPORT: BASELINE MOBILITY ASSESSMENT ▪ Summary of first results for DTM Round 1 for provinces Kunar, Laghman and Nangarhar ▪ March 2017 ▪ <http://www.globaldtm.info/afghanistan/>

ANNEXES:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTUmdUaFhuTDIDU0U

DISTRICT MAPS AND DATASETS:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTYURIQV9hVTdaSFE

Map and dataset 1 ▪ Number of Documented Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTUTA5eTBvc3RJNnc

Map and dataset 2 ▪ Number of Undocumented Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTcVhKRGFwSXR6Zms

Map and dataset 3 ▪ Number of Total Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTN1I3bm8yREtnU00

Map and dataset 4 ▪ Number of IDPs Arrival per district and breakdown by year 2016 and 2017 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTRjVTWINSX0ZIODg

Map and dataset 5 ▪ Number of Returnees from other Countries per district and breakdown by year 2012_2015, 2016 and 2017 (all other countries, excluding Pakistan and Iran) ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTQU1DdS14bXZ5ME0

Map and dataset 6 ▪ Number of Returnees from Pakistan and Iran per district and breakdown by Documented and Undocumented ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTdGVPV043NW5TS3M

Table 1, 2 and 3 ▪ Table 1: Settlements by Number of Returnees from Abroad - Grouped by size all Provinces (1); By each Province (2); By District (3) ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTR2Q1Rk5YX0tQM00

SETTLEMENT MAPS AND DATASETS

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTNDdIZktUbExNWG8

Settlements by Number of Returnees from Abroad - Grouped by size

MAPS

All Provinces (region) A1 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTWFIUSGtITDFRanM

By each province A3 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTcTNya2JyUnlpLW8

By District A4 ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTS19uWUJ1REo3aFE

GIS DATA PORTAL

<http://iom.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d68967e21d6c4167b89702d64c9c1ce0>

DATASETS

Dataset by Settlements DTM AFG Round1_30_March 2017 with data dictionary and export of data by Settlement rows (1368) (xlsx file) ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTVmphR1VxUHBnYlk

DTM METHODOLOGY

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTUGpFT1hyYWEzZWM

DTM Strategy-Methodology for Baseline Area and Location assessments ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTbXgxNDZfQzZDdW8

Data collection form (B2) Settlement level ▪ https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_3VYzW3ndOTR3hvUIVTQWsyWDA

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