

PAKISTAN
IDP Operation
July 2010

Background

In August 2008, the Government of Pakistan (GoP) started its military operations in Bajaur Agency of the Federally-Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) causing the displacement of hundreds of thousands of families, who were seeking refuge in the safer districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and beyond.

In May 2009, renewed clashes in Swat and Buner in KPK caused another massive exodus. All together more than 3 million people are estimated to have left their homes, businesses and land since the GoP first launched its operations in August 2008.

There are still 139,852 internally displaced families (713,976 individuals) living in displacement areas. Out of the total, 16,253 families (80,918 individuals) are residing in camps while 123,599 families (633,058 individuals) are living in host communities.

Registration

IDP registration, which was conducted by the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) with support from UNHCR, has been finalised outside camps as well as in all five remaining camps (Benazir in Risalpur, Jalozai in Nowshera, Sumarbagh in Lower Dir, Pitao in Malakand and Togh Sarai in Hangu). However, registration for IDPs from Kurram Agency is still ongoing in Peshawar and is administered by the Ministry of Social Welfare with support from UNHCR.

So far, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) has verified a total of around 3.4 million registered IDPs, who originated from Bajaur and Khyber Agencies, Dir, Swat and Buner, Mohmand, South Waziristan and Orakzai Agency.

Camps

The five remaining camps are managed by CCCM and maintained by the Emergency Shelter Cluster. On 23 June, Jalozai, the largest of the remaining IDP camps, was hit by a storm that led to the destruction of around 6,000 tents and to the loss of around 500 (NFI) kits. So far, 5,880 tents have been replaced and the distribution of NFI kits is underway.



6,000 tents were destroyed at Jalozai during the storm

Displacement	Areas of Origin	Population
Camps	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	80,918
Host communities*	Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Buner, Upper & Lower Dir	126,742
Host Communities in Kohat, Hangu & Peshawar	Orakzai and Kurram Agency	279,206
Host Communities in DI Khan and Tank	S. Waziristan	227,110
Total Population still displaced	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	713,976

**(Peshawar, Nowshera, Charsada, Mardan, Swabi, Upper and Lower Dir, Haripur) Source: UNHCR*

UNHCR leads three of the 11 Clusters responding to the humanitarian situation in Pakistan: Camp Coordination and Management (CCCM), Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs) and Protection.

Non-food item (NFI) distribution and Temporary Shelter

UNHCR through its implementing partner, Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP), has distributed a total of 61,816 NFI packages to IDP families in 2010. Out of the total, some 28,894 NFI packages have been distributed in the camps in Lower Dir, Nowshera and Hangu while 32,922 NFI kits have been given to IDPs outside camps in Charsadda, Nowshera, Lower Dir, D.I. Khan and Peshawar. The distribution of NFI packages has also started in the return areas.

Return

Since 13 July 2009 when the GoP announced its return plan, 30 camps have been closed, which leaves five operational camps accommodating around 16,253 families (80,918 individuals). According to the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR), over 37,613 families (213,739 individuals) have left the camps and have returned to their areas of origin.

On 14 April 2010, the GoP announced the return for IDPs from Mohmand and Bajaur Agencies. So far some 2,899 families (16,014 individuals) have returned to Bajaur Agency while 100 families (841 individuals) have returned to Mohmand Agency.

UNHCR is supporting the GoP's return plan by distributing NFIs in the return areas and assisting transport for Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs).

UNHCR has setup 17 welfare centres in Swat, Lower Dir and Peshawar. The centres are providing psycho-social services to the returnees through the implementing partner Regional Institute of Policy Research & Training (RIPORE), Youth Resource Centre (YRC), and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). So far, some 21,128 cases have received direct assistance from the welfare centres while 293,559 people have been indirectly assisted (families of the assisted person).

Temporary Shelter

UNHCR aims to provide 11,800 temporary shelter units to families who have returned to their areas of origin, pending the construction of permanent housing. Through its implementing partners (IPs), operational partners (OPs) and government partners / organisations, UNHCR will provide training, technical expertise, materials and tools to beneficiaries.

UNHCR's six implementing partners for temporary shelters are: Community Motivation and Development Organization (CMDO), Relief International (RI), Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP), Pakistan Community Development Programme (Pak-CDP), Initiative to base Development on Rights and Knowledge (IDRAK) and Agency for Technical Development and Cooperation (ACTED).

Initially the temporary shelters were constructed in 15 Tehsils of Swat and Lower Dir as identified by the GoP. Since the returns to Mohmand Agency have started, the temporary shelter kits together with cash from the GoP will also be distributed there. This step is due to ensure the speedy distribution of the temporary shelter kits. The GoP will distribute 400,000 PKR to families with fully damaged houses while the families with partially damaged houses will receive 150,000 PKR. This amount will help the beneficiaries constructing their temporary shelter.

To date, 8,212 temporary shelters have been built along with 5,213 kitchens and 3,386 latrines. 2,358 Purdah* walls have also been completed. The walls are deemed to be the most important part of the shelter due to cultural sensitivities attached to it. Out of the 8,212 shelters, 6,279 have been occupied so far.

** In our last reports, the number indicating the completed Purdah walls actually stated the length in metres and not the number of walls*