

APPEAL FOR REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN FOR AFGHANISTAN



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Pakistan is currently hosting up to 1.1 million Afghans of other status than Proof of Registration (PoR), which includes both Afghan Citizenship Card (ACC) holders and undocumented Afghan nationals,¹ including new arrivals since 2021. These populations have limited or no access to services, fall outside the scope of most existing international assistance schemes and remain in a legal limbo in Pakistan, which increases their exposure to various risks as a direct consequence of their precarious legal status or the lack thereof. Since the last quarter of 2023, the enactment of the *Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan*² (IFRP) by the Government of Pakistan, whereby Afghans living in Pakistan without a valid visa are to be expelled in a phased manner, has further deteriorated the living conditions and protection environment of Afghans in the country, leading to a spike in returns and deportations of this vulnerable population.³ This situation, combined with ongoing economic hardship in Pakistan, is increasing uncertainties and vulnerabilities in communities hosting high levels of Afghan nationals.

In Pakistan, IOM supports ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals through multi-sectoral programming, including mobility and needs-related data collection for informing humanitarian programming and consequently reach the affected populations, shelter and housing, Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) for addressing basic needs, protection and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention, mitigation and response services, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), community services, livelihoods and health. This aims to contribute towards addressing multi-sectoral needs of the targeted communities, strengthening the protection environment, and promoting resilience and peaceful co-existence with host communities. In line with the strategic approaches adopted by the [Regional Refugee Response Plan \(3RP\) for Afghanistan \(2024-25\)](#), [IOM's Comprehensive Action Plan for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries \(CAP\) \(2021-2024\)](#), and [IOM Pakistan's Crisis Response Plan \(CRP\) 2023-2025](#), IOM Pakistan will build on the work conducted in the previous years to continue to support the most vulnerable communities hosting ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals across the country.

¹ Afghan nationals in Pakistan mostly have one of the following legal statuses: Proof of Registration (PoR) card, which grants a degree of safeguard against deportation and harassment, as well as access to certain rights; Afghan Citizen Card (ACC), a form of identity with less access to services; and undocumented, who have no form of identity nor access to services, benefits or protections.

² As of 26 September 2023, the GoP initiated a plan aimed at facilitating the forced repatriation of Afghan nationals residing within its borders. This plan, titled the Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan, was introduced by the Ministry of Interior. It outlines a phased approach for returning Afghan nationals to Afghanistan. The three phases are as follows: 1) compulsory repatriation of undocumented Afghans; 2) repatriation of ACC holders; 3) repatriation of individuals possessing PoR cards.

³ UNHCR – IOM, [Flash Update 14 – 15 September 2023 to 20 January 2024](#).

COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM's programmatic framework to support vulnerable Afghan nationals and host communities in Pakistan follows a needs and area-based approach with priority given to those with the greatest needs among ACC holders, undocumented Afghan nationals and host communities. IOM's interventions respond to both protracted and emerging needs in communities hosting high volumes of Afghan nationals in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Balochistan, and Sindh.

IOM works in close coordination with the UN Country Team (UNCT), UNHCR, other UN agencies and donors, while fostering localization and partnerships with an extensive network of well-established local and international NGO partners.⁴ IOM also works closely with communities to allow for their active participation in IOM programmes, thus promoting resilience, ownership and long-term impact.

IOM will continue to support and maintain robust coordination with Government stakeholders, including the Ministry of State and Frontier Region (SAFRON), the Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CCAR), other key Ministries and Departments as well as local authorities to identify synergies, areas of collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts. A risk-sensitive approach is applied to reduce vulnerabilities by investing in sustainable self-sufficiency of households and communities, minimise exposure of Afghan nationals to the threat of arrest and detention, and addressing exposure to natural hazards and other risks.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS (AAP) AND DIVERSITY INCLUSION

A 'do no harm' approach will be mainstreamed across all interventions, ensuring the prioritization of beneficiaries' safety and dignity. IOM will also ensure AAP through transparent and timely information-sharing and robust complaint and feedback mechanisms (for example, community-level consultations, information, education and communication materials, as well as suggestion boxes and information dissemination fora). In line with IOM's AAP framework, a participatory approach will form the basis of this action throughout the project cycle. IOM will tailor and adopt participatory methods and ensure that vulnerable populations are consulted throughout the design, planning and implementation stages so that interventions are fit for purpose, and potential barriers to beneficiaries' equal participation and access to services are identified and addressed. This will also increase ownership and sustainability, since the views and feedback of beneficiaries will contribute to adapting and informing the proposed action to ensure quality and responsive programming, in line with the evolving needs of beneficiaries. In addition, IOM will take specific dispositions for gender, disability and age considerations to be mainstreamed through all stages of its activities (planning, assessments, implementation and monitoring and evaluation), ensuring women, men, boys, girls, and other minority groups (for instance, tribal and religious minority groups, transgender populations) in affected communities are engaged. An intersectional approach will be streamlined to ensure meaningful participation, inclusion, equality, and empowerment of all affected persons, particularly those from vulnerable and minority groups including persons of diverse Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Expression and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC).



Schoolgirls are able to wash their hands following the rehabilitation of sanitation facilities in Peshawar by IOM. [Zeeshan Siddiqui/IOM Pakistan 2023]



IOM delivers assistance to vulnerable Afghan nationals across Pakistan, ensuring they are able to attend their specific needs. [IOM Pakistan 2023]

⁴ As of February 2024, IOM's implementing partners (IPs) are: International Rescue Committee (IRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), Legal Aid Society (LAS), the Society for Human Rights and Prisoners Aid (SHARP), the Society for Empowering Human Resource (SEHER), Blue Veins, the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP), the Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP), Women's Empowerment Organization (WEO), Sustainable Economic and Agriculture Development (SEAD) Foundation, Comprehensive Health and Education Forum, International (CHEFI), Innovative Development Organization (IDO), Maan Education and Health Development (MEHD) Foundation.

AREAS OF RESPONSE AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED

\$60,200,000

1. PROTECTION

1.1 Core Protection Interventions

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$8,425,000**

Achievements in 2023

In 2023, IOM expanded the scope of its protection programme in Pakistan, through partnerships with well-established international and local NGOs specialized in providing protection services to Afghan nationals. Through its partners, IOM provided legal services, protection case management, community-based protection as well as specialised services to prevent, mitigate and respond to risks of GBV, child protection and other risks faced by ACC holders and undocumented Afghans, reaching a total of 87,510 individuals in 2023 in Punjab, ICT, Balochistan, KP and Sindh. IOM also conducted protection monitoring and analysis activities to capture the protection situation of Afghan nationals across Pakistan and inform programmes and advocacy efforts.



IOM's partner, Blue Veins, explains how to use each item in the dignity kits that were distributed to Afghan women and girls in Peshawar. [Blue Veins 2023]

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will continue to implement activities aimed at strengthening the protection environment for ACC holders, undocumented Afghan nationals and host communities in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and Sindh, through the provision of individual protection assistance, community-based protection interventions, protection monitoring and analysis, and capacity building of partners and relevant stakeholders at national, provincial, district and community levels.

The following activities will be implemented:

- **Legal Services:** Ensure access to legal information and the provision of legal services to ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals, including legal awareness raising at community-level, legal aid and court representation, when required, in close coordination with UNHCR.
- **Legal Capacity Building:** Build and strengthen the capacities of Government officials, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society actors, lawyers and other relevant stakeholders on human and migrant rights as well as relevant legal frameworks.
- **Protection Case Management:** Provide protection case management as well as cash for protection or in-kind assistance to at-risk ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals, including but not limited to vulnerable groups such as women at risk, children at risk, persons with a disability and the older persons, to address protection risks by facilitating referrals, access to specialized services and timely provision of information.
- **Community-Based Protection:** Implement community-based protection interventions to strengthen the protective capacities of communities where ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals live, including through community outreach efforts, namely community outreach volunteers, information dissemination, awareness raising, support to community centres, vocational trainings, complaint and feedback mechanisms, and other activities at community level.
- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** Improve the protection of Afghan women and girls and provide specialized services to prevent, mitigate risks and respond to GBV cases, including support to local Afghan women's groups, engaging with men and boys as allies, establishment of community representative groups with representation of women and adolescent girls in leadership roles, promoting community dialogues and awareness sessions on gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), and GBV to address root causes.

- **Housing, Land and Property (HLP):** Carry out dedicated research and assessments on the dynamics and challenges related to HLP and the linkages with emergency and recovery efforts to inform IOM programmes. In addition, provide capacity building sessions on HLP standards as well as relevant laws and policies to stakeholders, including but not limited to IOM staff, IP staff, (I)NGOs, UN agencies and government stakeholders.
- **Protection Monitoring, Analysis & Research:** Conduct protection monitoring and ad hoc analysis activities to strengthen evidence-based approaches by analysing the overall protection situation and specific risks of ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in Pakistan and advocacy efforts to safeguard the protection space for Afghan nationals in Pakistan.
- **Protection Mainstreaming:** Build the capacities of IOM staff, partners and relevant stakeholders at national, provincial, district and community levels on protection topics, including protection mainstreaming, safe referral pathways, GBV principles, child protection, AAP, prevention from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), disability inclusion, transgender inclusion, among other topics.

1.2 Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$510,000**

Achievements in 2023

In response to the IFRP, IOM Pakistan significantly scaled up the implementation of its flow monitoring activities, through which information is collected at four official border crossing points along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border – Torkham, Chaman, Badini, and Baram Chah – to identify cross-border mobility patterns and profiles of mobile populations, in coordination with IOM Afghanistan, UNHCR and other partners. This culminated in the bi-weekly IOM-UNHCR flash updates which are the first joint flow monitoring product produced anywhere in the world. IOM Pakistan is also continuing to produce and disseminate its statistics and dynamic flow monitoring dashboards which capture information on the demographics of groups crossing the border with Afghanistan, with detailed analysis on migration flows, factors behind decisions to return, information on the journey (routes, mode of transport and intermediaries) as well as data on return intentions, expectations and perceptions of individuals returning to Afghanistan.

In addition, in 2023, DTM in Pakistan completed its first Afghan Baseline Mobility Assessment (BMA) and Community Needs Identification (CNI) survey, providing an overview of the presence of Afghan nationals in Pakistan as well as their related needs. Considering the ongoing IFRP, the report for this first round will be disseminated in 2024 to a select



An Afghan female community outreach volunteer leads a community awareness session in Quetta on Gender-Based Violence. [Zeeshan Siddiqui/IOM Pakistan 2023]

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and Sindh, as well as relevant partners and Government stakeholders.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 103,000

number of organisations, as it may be used against the interests of undocumented Afghans in Pakistan if disseminated too widely.

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will continue its flow monitoring data collection, in coordination with UNHCR, focusing on key border crossing points and scaling up to additional border crossings, to better understand the migration outflows of Afghan returnees. IOM will also continue to produce weekly, bi-weekly, quarterly, and annual flow monitoring reports to provide a reliable evidence base for operational partners, including donors, UN agencies and humanitarian stakeholders, and to inform their programming. These flow monitoring outputs are utilized in various publications, including but not limited to the lash update reports.

IOM is actively engaging with relevant partners and beneficiaries to ascertain that the conditions are and remain in place prior to engaging with in-person assessments involving Afghan nationals, including for subsequent rounds of BMA and CNI surveys during IFRP. IOM also expects to roll out for the first time in Pakistan its climate change and human mobility survey.



IOM DTM enumerator collecting flow monitoring data at Chaman border. [IOM Pakistan 2023]

Specifically, the following activities will be implemented:

- **Flow Monitoring (FM):** Monitor and quantify mobility trends and patterns of Afghan nationals departing from Pakistan.



1.3 ACC Registration Round 2⁵

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$10,000,000**

Previous Achievements

IOM, in collaboration with Ministry of SAFRON, CCAR, CAR, and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), conducted a documentation exercise for undocumented Afghans from July 2017 to March 2018. During this exercise, 878,929 undocumented Afghans came forward to document themselves and approximately 840,000 were documented and received an identity document known as an “Afghan Citizen Card” (ACC).

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM is currently in discussions with SAFRON, CCAR, CAR, and NADRA about conducting a new exercise with the purpose of re-validating existing ACC card holders and documenting newly undocumented Afghans who arrived in Pakistan recently, or who missed the previous exercise, or whose visas have expired. This proposed exercise, known as ACC 2, will have an estimated caseload of 1.5 million Afghan nationals. A detailed proposal is being developed in coordination with NADRA with further inputs from CCAR.

- **Baseline Mobility Assessment (BMA):** Collect new data on Afghan nationals’ presence at the union council level to identify villages for further assessments.
- **Community Needs Identification (CNI):** Collect detailed data on the living conditions and needs of Afghan nationals and host communities, in particular in villages identified through the baseline mobility assessments.
- **Climate Change and Human Mobility Survey:** Collect household level data throughout various seasons to gauge people’s willingness to migrate to urban areas, and how this is impacted by sudden and slow onset changes in the natural environment, such as floods or droughts.

Target Beneficiaries

The collected and analysed data and reports will be disseminated through an up-to-date database of over 300 organizations working to support Afghans in Pakistan, as well as the donor community and other relevant stakeholders, who use DTM products to guide their programming and priorities. ACC holders, undocumented Afghans and other Afghan nationals living in Pakistan as well as their host communities will indirectly benefit from DTM’s activities, as they inform the humanitarian community on the populations most in need.

The purpose of this project will be the overall improvement of living conditions of Afghan nationals by formalizing their stay in Pakistan without the granting of formal refugee status, providing them with an identity document which will allow them to stay in Pakistan temporarily, subject to notification from the Government of Pakistan. This ACC 2 exercise is also expected to fill information gaps from the previous exercise, improve humanitarian assistance and service provision, and strengthen advocacy and protection support to Afghan nationals based on the evidence collected.

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan, Sindh, Gilgit Baltistan, and Pakistan-Administered Kashmir, relevant partners and Government stakeholders. Communities hosting a high number of ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in the above-mentioned provinces will be particularly targeted.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 700,000

⁵ Funds initially planned for ACC Registration Round 2 under the RRP 2024 could be used upon agreement from donors to contribute to other verification exercises deployed in coordination with the Government of Pakistan and relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to mechanisms that could be established to assess the needs for international protection of Afghan nationals in Pakistan.

2. BASIC NEEDS AND LIVELIHOOD RESILIENCE

\$ 2.1 Basic Needs (Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance - MPCA)

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$3,900,000**

Achievements in 2023

In 2023, IOM was able to assess 26,220 households, identifying their immediate needs by conducting preliminary needs and vulnerability assessments. Out of these identified households, 7,590 Afghan families (comprising both ACC holders and undocumented) were supported through MPCA across KP, Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and ICT.

MPCA is aimed at supporting vulnerable households to meet their most basic and immediate needs, with the assistance transfer amount being based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and calculated in coordination with the Cash Working Group.

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will continue its support to vulnerable Afghans with a focus on ACC holders in 2024 by providing a one-off multi-purpose cash distribution in the amount of an estimated PKR 46,800 per household, which is expected to cover the basic needs of households for the period of one month, based on the MEB revised in January 2024. The assistance will come with the possibility of a second distribution for families with high vulnerabilities. This cash assistance will be provided through a financial service provider in the form of cash in hand.

🏠 2.2 Livelihoods and Resilience

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$18,600,000**

Achievements in 2023

As part of IOM's response to the Afghan crises and to support livelihood and employment opportunities for Afghan nationals and host communities in Pakistan, in 2023 IOM conducted a market assessment in targeted locations to identify the demand-oriented sectors and gaps in the labour market. The results indicated a need for greater uptake of occupational trades and skills development for individual livelihoods assistance (ILA) and informed the sectors to be engaged under Enterprise Development Funds (EDF). In total, 1,102 individuals took part in Business Development Service (BDS) trainings and were granted a Business Support Package (BSP) to initiate or expand their businesses. Additionally, IOM implemented 19 Quick Impact Projects (QIP) at the community level, focusing on availability and restoration of basic services, such as schools, water supply systems or basic health units, to further enhance targeted communities'

⁶ To ensure social cohesion and if confirmed by IOM and its government counterparts, particularly vulnerable persons among the host community may be targeted as well, based on their needs.

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and Sindh provinces.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 19,500 Households (136,500 individuals)



IOM providing cash assistance to Afghan migrants through its Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance programme. [IOM Pakistan 2023]

resilience and social cohesion.

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will continue to improve the living conditions of undocumented Afghan nationals and ACC holders⁶ in 2024, by providing livelihood support and enhancing community resilience in targeted locations in Balochistan, KP, Sindh, Punjab and ICT. The following activities will be implemented:

- **Individual Livelihoods Assistance (ILA):** IOM is sustaining the provision of targeted livelihood support to individuals who have existing skills and experience in business, individuals who are facing challenges starting a micro-business, or individuals who lack professional skills to access the labour market.

These efforts are promoting the development of a trained workforce for local enterprises as well as increased aggregate demand for locally produced goods and services. Given the current negative economic context of the country affecting somewhat the capacity of different businesses to hire at the same levels as prior to the crisis, IOM provides technical and financial support to improve the stability of the targeted businesses which allows for expansion and job creation.

IOM is providing individual livelihood assistance (ILA) in the form of business support packages (BSP) for existing micro-business or start-ups, vocational training (VT), and on job training (OJT). These three ILA services are based on market assessments where IOM analyses the economic conditions and identifies the private sectors that are most conducive to entrepreneurship in different locations based on jobseekers' and recruiters' interests and based on consumption trends.

- **Enterprise Development Funds (EDF):** Support existing businesses through EDF cash grants to expand, increase productivity and generate new employment. It is fit for purpose in the context of Pakistan, where Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are considered the engine of economic growth and have high potential for scaling up and creating new sustainable jobs.

IOM is currently exploring the possibility of organising a yearly event gathering EDF and ILA business owners for

networking purposes, raising awareness on child labour, exploitation, working conditions, among other relevant topics.

- **Quick Impact Projects (QIP):** As part of community resilience programming, rehabilitation of local infrastructure and services is critical. IOM will implement QIPs, such as doing minor works to improve community facilities (health clinics, schools, community centers, training centers, communal playgrounds, sports facilities, etc.), or rehabilitating community infrastructure facilities such as (water supply systems, communal WASH facilities, roads, water canals, etc.). Where possible, systems linked to renewable energy and/or green technologies will be used to ensure climate adaptation, especially the installation of solar systems on community structures.
- **Cash for Work (CfW):** Enable community members to take part in IOM's response by participating in activities requiring minimal skills such as preparation work for QIPs and cleaning of communal spaces, while paying workers daily wages, which enable them to cover their basic needs.

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and Sindh, host communities, relevant partners and Government stakeholders.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 120,000

3. HEALTH

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$2,865,000**

Achievements in 2023

By working with DTM data and coordinating with the Ministry of Health, IOM targeted areas with high number of Afghans and significant gaps in accessibility to health services to upscale its medical assistance through nine mobile teams, providing essential health and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services to both Afghan nationals and host communities. This included lifesaving health care through the provision of outpatient services (consultations for communicable and non-communicable diseases, including child health and sexual and reproductive health, as well as emergency referrals), health promotion, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), and integrated MHPSS. IOM also delivered psychological first aid, counselling, and health promotion messages, alongside trainings for frontline health workers to strengthen local capacity and ensure quality of services. Finally, critical gaps in the supply of medicines and equipment to existing health facilities were addressed, and seven health units were rehabilitated.



IOM's mobile medical team member provides primary health consultations to women and children in Karachi. [Zeeshan Siddiqui/IOM Pakistan 2023]

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will continue to provide health assistance through mobile medical teams working in underserved areas, targeting both Afghan nationals and vulnerable host communities.

The following activities will be implemented:

- **Provision of life saving primary health care (PHC) services** ensuring access to emergency health care for target populations, including referrals for secondary health care and other essential services. IOM closely coordinates this activity with the District Health Office (DHO), the health department at the district level in Pakistan.
- **Enhancement of health services' capacities** through training of frontline health workers, particularly female health workers, aiming to improve the quality of health care provided. Trainings will cover key health topics, such as preparedness and response to outbreaks of infectious diseases (including acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and dengue) and Psychological First Aid (PFA). Female health workers are specifically targeted because there is an existing gap in terms of availability of female health workers and their skills. In addition, due to the prevailing cultural sensitivities in Pakistan, female health workers are more sought after for women and child healthcare.
- **Integration of MHPSS services into health services**, by including qualified counsellors in all mobile medical teams to ensure greater access to psychosocial support to vulnerable Afghan and host communities.
- **Awareness raising campaigns** to promote the utilisation of available healthcare services, increase knowledge on key health-related topics, and provide opportunities for improved community engagement.
- **Strengthening of existing health facilities' functionality and capacities** by supporting basic health units repair and rehabilitation efforts, alongside the provision of medicines, equipment, and furniture to improve the standard of health care provided.

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in KP, Balochistan and Sindh, host communities, relevant partners and Government stakeholders.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 60,360

4. HOUSING, SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$7,260,000**

Achievements in 2023

As part of the 2022 emergency flood response, IOM established a SNFI operational and sectoral coordination team structure, including information management support, which benefitted both the flood and Afghan responses in the country. By the end of 2023, IOM had provided housing, and SNFIs support to over 170,000 households in Sindh, Balochistan and KP, delivered through a mix of direct implementation and through local partners. In 2023, IOM merged the housing, shelter, and WASH teams to create one integrated team to facilitate the delivery of multisectoral support to both flood-affected and Afghan communities. IOM conducted a series of field visits to Afghan communities in urban, peri-urban and rural communities in multiple districts, gathering qualitative information on their shelter, HLP and WASH conditions. In late 2023, IOM issued a call for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) from local NGOs to implement an integrated housing, shelter and WASH project in areas hosting high number of vulnerable Afghan national and host community members.

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will expand its housing and SNFI activities to support vulnerable Afghan households and host community members

through the provision of in-kind, cash and technical assistance to allow improved access to solutions, providing enhanced physical protection. IOM will continue to liaise closely with and support the UNHCR-led shelter technical coordination structure for refugees, government actors (especially the CAR and District Commissioners), other UN agencies, and relevant stakeholders contributing to the housing and shelter response activities for Afghan nationals and host communities in Pakistan, to align efforts and avoid duplication.

The following activities will be implemented:

- **In-kind support to cover the standard core relief non-food items** including household kits, NFI kits, solar lights, and winterization kits.
- **Cash assistance for shelter and housing improvements or repairs**, together with the provision of in-kind tool kits. In technically complex situations (e.g. repair of unsafe *pukka* structures), IOM might engage contractors or partners to carry out the work, while still involving beneficiaries throughout the process.

- **Cash for rent assistance:** This activity is aimed to support families who did not receive multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) but are still at risk of eviction. This will help families facing challenges to cover their housing rental costs to cope better with immediate challenges. Cash in hand will be provided through a financial service provider (FSP).
- **Technical assistance** to guide repairs and improvement or expansion of existing shelter and housing structures,

including engineering support provided by qualified technical staff from IOM and its implementing partners, to ensure shelter and housing upgrades are safe and resilient.

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders, undocumented Afghans and new arrivals in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and Sindh.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 77,500

5. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Overall Projected Cost for 2024: **\$8,640,000**

Achievements in 2023

In 2022, as part of the emergency flood response, IOM established a WASH team and response structure, which now comprises 12 staff members based across four offices in Pakistan, aiming to improve access to safe water, sanitation facilities, hygiene items and improved hygiene practices. Since 2022, IOM has rehabilitated or constructed over 750 water supply systems and over 2,600 latrines, provided over 1,500 hygiene promotion sessions and delivered hygiene and dignity kits to almost 20,000 households. In 2023, IOM established an integrated housing, shelter and WASH team, to facilitate the delivery of multisectoral support to both flood-affected and Afghan communities, through engagement with local implementing partners. IOM conducted a series of field visits to Afghan communities in urban, peri-urban and rural communities in multiple districts, gathering qualitative information on their shelter, HLP and WASH conditions. In late 2023, IOM issued a call for EoI from local NGOs to implement an integrated housing, shelter and WASH project in areas hosting high number of vulnerable Afghan nationals and host community members.

Planned Activities for 2024

IOM will expand its WASH activities to support vulnerable Afghan households and host communities⁷ through in-kind, infrastructure rehabilitation and technical assistance to provide improved access to clean water, improved sanitation infrastructure, access to hygiene items and knowledge of safe hygiene practices.

The following activities will be implemented:

- **Water supply:** Rehabilitate water supply systems and/or establish new WASH infrastructure to ensure access to safe drinking water and hygienic living environments (for example, drilling of new boreholes, rehabilitating existing

water supply systems that have been damaged, improving water collection points, carrying out water testing).

- **Sanitation facilities:** In Pakistan, latrine coverage per household remains very low, increasing health risks among communities, especially children and women. IOM will work to ensure access to sanitation is increased through the rehabilitation and construction of sanitation facilities, particularly in areas and communities hosting Afghan nationals which have lower than average access to basic WASH facilities. IOM will also promote the formation of WASH committees, and deliver trainings on infrastructure Operations and Maintenance (O&M). Activities can extend to health centres, community centres, schools and other public infrastructures where no sanitation facilities are present.
- **Distribution of WASH kits coupled with hygiene promotion:** Distribute WASH kits, while bolstering personal health and hygiene. For this, IOM will conduct awareness raising campaigns focused on hygiene promotion as an immediate action to prevent the spread of diseases, focusing on long-term and sustainable behaviour change that aim to bring about changes in practices and perceptions.

Target Beneficiaries

ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in ICT, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and Sindh, communities hosting a high number of ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals in the above-mentioned provinces, relevant partners and Government stakeholders.

Expected number of individuals to be reached: 110,000

⁷ To ensure social cohesion and if confirmed by IOM and its government counterparts, particularly vulnerable persons among the host community may be targeted as well, based on their needs.