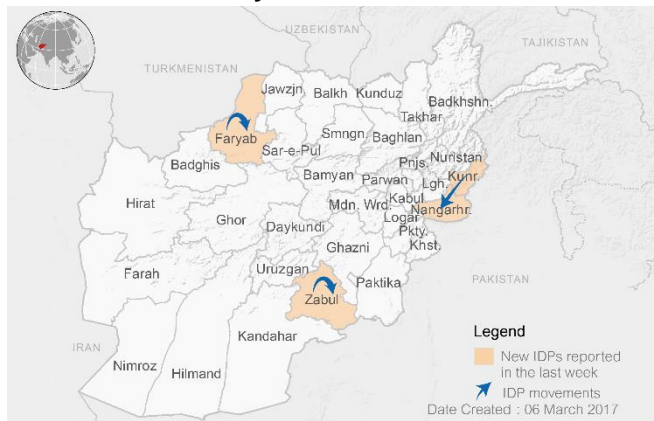


Week of 26 February to 4 March 2017



Countrywide Conflict Displacement

The total number of individuals displaced by conflict in 2016 has risen slightly from last week to 652,594 as joint teams finalise assessments of those displaced last year.

In 2017 so far, 22,602 individuals have been verified as displaced, with 20 provinces recording some level of forced displacement. 36 per cent are located in hard to access areas.

Northern/North Eastern: On 1 March, NSAG temporarily captured the Tala-wa-Barfak district administrative center in Baghlan, which was later recaptured by government forces on 3 March. No displacements were reported yet. Fighting also continued in Kunduz and Faryab, with reports of 2,800 unverified individuals displaced from Shirintagab district in Faryab to the district centre. Assessments will be challenging given the ongoing insecurity in the area.

Eastern: While no further cross-border shelling or artillery fire was recorded in Nangarhar last week, resumed shelling in Kunar reportedly impacted some residential areas. Early reports indicate up to 1,100 individuals have been displaced in Kunar from the shelling, with assessments to commence shortly. Intensified government clearance operations in Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar and Pakistan also continued, with further displacements expected.

Central: In Kapisa, conflict in Tagab district continued to cause displacement. Armed clashes were reported in Shikari Valley, an area covering three districts of Bamiyan. No humanitarian impact has yet been reported, however the fighting could result in increased conflict in neighboring areas of Baghlan and Parwan provinces.

Western: Armed clashes occurred in Farah, Hirat and Badghis, with Farah recording increasingly intense confrontations between NSAG and government forces. During the reporting period, 491 IDPs were verified in Hirat from surrounding provinces; 171 IDPs were verified in Ghor from districts north of the provincial capital Chaghcharan; and 408 IDPs were verified in Farah city from surrounding districts.

Southern: As the weather improves, the intensity of the fighting across the southern region has increased week on week. Frequent frontline clashes and airstrikes were reported, particularly around Lashkar Gah in Hilmand and Tirin Kot in Uruzgan. Assessments of IDPs are ongoing in both cities. In Zabul and Kandahar provinces, assessments of individuals recently reported displaced have commenced. In Nimroz, heavy floods in Khashrod and Chakansur displaced around 770 individuals, some to hard to reach areas.

Refugees and Returnees

The Torkham and Spin Boldak borders remain closed. Accordingly, the total number of undocumented returnees for 2017 has only risen slightly from last week, to 9,641. From 26 February - 4 March, IOM reported 34 undocumented Afghans were deported from Pakistan, an 86 per cent decrease from last week. No other returnees from Pakistan were recorded.

UNHCR's repatriation program is scheduled to resume on 1 April 2017 following the winter pause.

Ongoing Response Activities* (please see page 2)

Northern/North Eastern: In Kunduz, WFP, NRC, DACAAR and ACTED provided food, NFIs, hygiene kits and cash to 1,645 IDPs. In Faryab, ANDMA and UNICEF provided food and NFIs to 189 IDPs, while in Jawzjan, WFP, IOM and SCI distributed food and NFIs to 518 winter-affected individuals. In Badakhshan, ACTED distributed cash to 168 conflict IDPs.

Eastern: For IDPs, ANDMA, ARCS, NPO/RRAA and WFP provided food, NFIs and cash to 3,745 individuals in Nangarhar and WFP provided food to 196 individuals in Nuristan. For natural disaster-affected families, RI distributed cash to 2,086 individuals in Kunar and IOM provided 119 individuals in Nuristan with winterisation kits. For returnees, CWSA, NPO/RRAA, PU-AMI, IR, NRC, DRC, WHO, UNFPA, AADA, IOM and UNICEF provided cash, tents, NFIs, hygiene kits, winter kits, vaccines and health services.

Central: In Kabul, DRC provided cash to 159 IDPs, and CARE, IOM and WFP provided cash, NFIs and food to 880 weather-affected individuals.

Western: In Hirat, DRC and DACAAR provided NFIs, winter and hygiene kits to 364 individuals, and UNHCR and WFP continued distribution of NFIs, hygiene kits and food to 816 individuals. In Ghor, ACF and UNICEF provided cash and NFIs to 342 individuals. In Farah, DRC and WFP continued distribution of food and cash to 406 IDPs.

Southern: UNICEF and WFP are planning to provide food assistance, NFIs, hygiene kits and winter assistance to 4,235 natural disaster-affected families in Qalat district, Zabul.

Access Constraints and Security Incidents

Northern/North Eastern: Fighting and temporary NSAG control of Tala-wa-Barfak district centre in Baghlan resulted in the suspension of demining activities in the area, and the evacuation of some NGO staff. In Kunduz, humanitarian access remains highly challenging, with much of the province under NSAG control.

Eastern: Reported significant displaced caseloads in Kunar from cross-border shelling are in insecure, hard to reach areas which will hamper assessments.

Central: On 25 February, a joint assessment team in Kapisa ceased work for one week due to intimidation from NSAG.

Southern: In Nimroz, humanitarian partners have been unable to access flood-affected families in insecure districts.

Key dates

- WR Hirat HRT Meeting (06.03)
- CR Kabul ReportHub Workshop (07.03)
- CR Kabul EiEWG Meeting (08.03)
- ER Mehtarlam Laghman PDMC (08.03)
- SR Kandahar Regional Protection Cluster Meeting (08.03)

Coordination Saves Lives

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors. <http://afg.humanitarianresponse.info/>

Humanitarian Response for Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in February and March 2017

Region	Cluster	Response Type	People assisted Since February and March 2017	Partners	Newly Identified IDPs (People in need)		
					Feb-Mar 2017	2016 and Jan-Mar 2017	
Capital	ESNFI	Cash	451	DRC	196	36,653	
		Family kits	1,253	UNHCR			
		Winter Kit	196	IR			
	FSAC	Cash for food	292	DRC			
		Food Package	1,449	IR, WFP			
WASH	Hygiene kits	1,253	DACAAR				
Central Highland Eastern	Other	Unconditional cash				382	
North Eastern	ESNFI	Cash	5,915	ACTED, NRC	5,178	44,930	
		Kitchen sets	735	ACTED			
		Winter Kit	735	ACTED			
	FSAC	Cash for food	2,583	ACTED, NRC			
		Food Package	910	WFP			
	WASH	Hygiene kits	3,584	DACAAR, ACTED			
Northern	ESNFI	Other	350	UNHCR	1,099	69,897	
		Food Package	7,252	ANDMA, UNICEF, WFP			
	Other	Unconditional cash	6,418	NRC, PIN, SCI			
Souther Eastern	ESNFI	NFI Kits (Complete)	1,029	CARE	686	28,994	
	Other	Unconditional cash	1694	PIN, SI			
Southern	ESNFI	Cash	248	DRC	1,349	186,387	
		Clothing	248	SCI			
		NFI Kits (Complete)	1,246	ICRC			
	FSAC	Cash for food	248	DRC			
		Food Package	1,246	ICRC			
		Blankets	1,371	ACF, CRDSA, UNHCR, UNICEF			
Western	ESNFI	Cash	2,305	DRC, ACF, IRC, NRC	1,669	99,789	
		Clothing	436	UNICEF			
		Family kits	217	DRC			
		NFI Kits (Complete)	1,970	DRC, ACF, CRDSA, UNHCR, UNICEF			
		Plastic Sheets	245	CRDSA, UNHCR, UNICEF			
		Tarpaulins	199	UNICEF			
		Winter Kit	1,093	DRC, ACF, IRC, NRC			
	FSAC	Cash for food	2,777	ACF, IRC, NRC			
		Food Package	1,918	WFP			
		Other	199	UNICEF			
	Other	Unconditional cash	1,556	ACF			
		Chlorine	405	DACAAR, IRC			
		WASH	Emergency latrines	56			IRC, UNICEF
			Hygiene education	1,094			DACAAR, IRC
			Hygiene kits	2,015			DACAAR, DRC, CRDSA, IRC, UNHCR
			Water treatment tablet	332			IRC

Data source: OCHA Displacement Tracking System (Please note: data available as of 5 March 2017, numbers are expected to change as more information becomes available).

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