**Coronavirus Update**

IOM is actively supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and WHO in addressing preparedness and emergency coordination actions through its Cross Border Return, Migration Health and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Units. IOM support is primarily focused across 4 of WHO’s Global Response Pillars include 1. Coordination; 2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement; 3. Surveillance/DTM; and 4. Points of Entry. Activities include training for frontline health workers, deployment of staffing to areas of need including placement in health facilities, secondment of staff to cross border surveillance, material support of PPE and other equipment, ambulance based referral services, distribution of MOPH-WHO IEC materials and community level awareness raising and sensitization efforts through health education sessions including within Displacement Tracking Matrix focus group discussions in 11,768 settlements across 34 provinces. For more information please refer to https://afghanistan.iom.int/IOM-COVID-19-Response

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**Highlights**

**488,578** total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2020

**485,599** total returns from Iran

**2,979** total returns from Pakistan

Over the past week **18,615** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran with **7%** of returnees from Iran (1,260 individuals) assisted

Over the past week **904** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan with **79%** of returnees from Pakistan (710 individuals) assisted

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**Return from Iran**

According to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), a total of **18,615** Afghans returned from Iran through the Nimroz (Milak) and Herat (Islam Qala) borders between 23-29 August 2020, a 6% decrease from the previous week (19,778). 9,393 persons returned voluntarily and 9,222 were deported. Since 01 January 2020, the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran is **485,599** individuals. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to 1,260 (7%) of all undocumented Afghans from Iran at its Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz during the past week.

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**IOM Thematic Support**

**Migration Health:**

During the past week, IOM’s 7 Mobile Health Teams provided **15,843** patients in need with basic health services. This bring the total number of patients served to **263,915** since late January. Over 200 health staff are presently deployed to support the Ministry of Public Health’s Response efforts in 5 provinces with a new deployment in Ghor province over the past week. Over **500** community health workers have also been trained on COVID awareness and personal protective measures in Nimroz, Helmand, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar.

Under Migration Health’s Global Fund multi-country TB grant, a total of **12,853** undocumented Afghans were screened for tuberculosis in IOM Transit Centers over the past week. Of the total screened, **3,774** persons were screened during OPD consultations, **187** suspects were identified, all **187** were tested and **3** persons were confirmed as positive TB cases.

**Protection:**

The Protection Unit completed case management assessments for 65 PSN cases in Kunduz, Kabul, Ghor, Sar-i-Pul, Balkh, Takhar, Herat, Nimroz, Nangarhar and Faryab, including 42 specific situations, 12 children at risk, 5 women at risk, 3 persons with medical conditions, and 3 persons with disabilities. In addition, COVID-19 protection monitoring assessments were conducted for 100 cases all of whom received specific information related to COVID-19.

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Return from Pakistan
According to the Directorate of Refugees, 2,979 undocumented Afghans have returned from Pakistan since 01 January 2020. Over the past week 904 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan through Torkham (13 deportees) and Spin Boldak (891 returnees) borders. The Afghan frontier with Pakistan at Spin Boldak officially opened on 21 August but the border with Torkham remains partially closed since 16 March, due to coronavirus restrictions however exemptions are in effect for the return of Afghan and Pakistani nationals holding official ID back to their respective countries.

Total Number of Assisted Returnees in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Herat Spont</th>
<th>Herat Deport</th>
<th>Nimroz Spont</th>
<th>Nimroz Deport</th>
<th>Total Spont</th>
<th>Total Deport</th>
<th>Turkham Spont</th>
<th>Turkham Deport</th>
<th>Kandahar Spont</th>
<th>Kandahar Deport</th>
<th>Total Spont</th>
<th>Total Deport</th>
<th>Overall Return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Jan-15 Aug 2020</td>
<td>13,351</td>
<td>9,541</td>
<td>8,777</td>
<td>21,926</td>
<td>53,595</td>
<td>20,462</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>1,223</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1,963</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>421,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01 Jan-31 July 2020</td>
<td>209,653</td>
<td>41,125</td>
<td>77,662</td>
<td>90,941</td>
<td>419,381</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>1,223</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1,963</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>421,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-22 Aug 2020</td>
<td>6,608</td>
<td>4,179</td>
<td>2,840</td>
<td>6,151</td>
<td>19,778</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>19,846</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-29 Aug 2020</td>
<td>7,282</td>
<td>3,904</td>
<td>2,111</td>
<td>5,318</td>
<td>18,615</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>19,519</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>235,107</td>
<td>55,943</td>
<td>85,533</td>
<td>109,016</td>
<td>485,599</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2,205</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2,979</td>
<td>488,578</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Iran Spont</th>
<th>Iran Deport</th>
<th>Pakistan Spont</th>
<th>Pakistan Deport</th>
<th>Overall Return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Jan-15 Aug 2020</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>2,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01 Jan-31 July 2020</td>
<td>13,351</td>
<td>9,541</td>
<td>8,777</td>
<td>21,926</td>
<td>53,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-22 Aug 2020</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>1,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-29 Aug 2020</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>1,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>14,226</td>
<td>10,984</td>
<td>8,982</td>
<td>24,141</td>
<td>58,333</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return of Undocumented Afghans from Iran and Pakistan—Weekly Trends for 2020

IOM Afghanistan wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to the below donors whose support has allowed IOM to assist a total of 60,886 undocumented Afghan returnees in 2020

The United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID), the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Japan, Switzerland, Canada, Germany, ECHO, United States of America, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.