



Aftermath of Earthquake in Herat Province, ©Abdul Ghafar Sadiqi, October 2023

Regional Monthly Update

01 - 30 November 2023

KEY HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES



Since the beginning of year, ES/NFI clusters partners have reached **703,233 (59%)** individuals with multiple Emergency shelters (ES) and NFI assistance (Transitional shelter, Shelter repair or upgrade, winterization, standard ES and NFI assistance).



As of November, **438,171** individuals have returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan. This significant influx of returnees presents a pressing challenge due to a lack of resources for adequately supporting these individuals, particularly in terms of shelter and winterization need



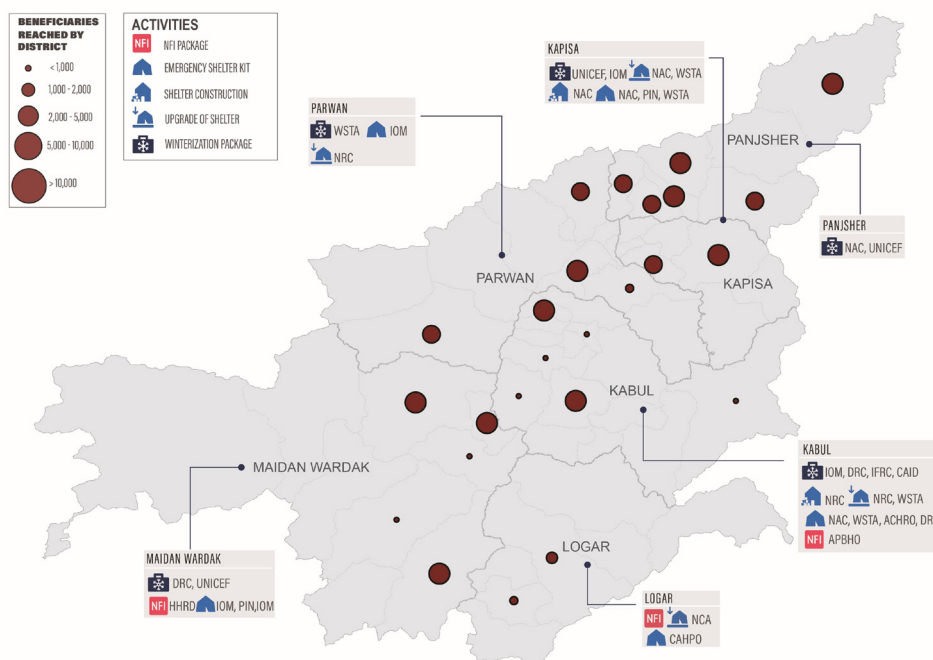
Urgent need for resources and funding to address unmet needs for Herat earthquake, more than **13,300** families remain in open space, makeshift, damaged houses, and in urgent need of emergency shelter kits including tents and tarpaulin



Resource constraints owing to multiple emergencies lack of funding, and stockpiles to address ongoing and emerging needs for earthquake and returnees.



Capital



In 2023 (HRP & ReportHub data)

337,357

PLANNED REACH

101,196 (30%)

BENEFICIARIES REACHED

Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
2,800	-	-	-	-

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

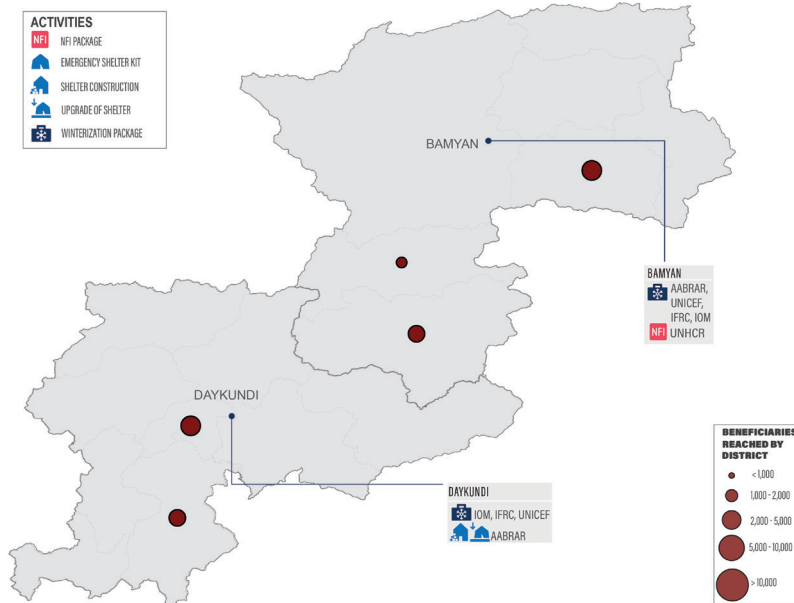
Needs Analysis

- No assessment reported in the central region of Afghanistan, the assessment conducted by various humanitarian organizations revealed the following:
 - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) conducted a comprehensive winterization assessment across five provinces, encompassing 860 families in Panjshir, 400 families in Kapisa, 662 families in Parwan, 375 families in Logar, and 504 families in Midan Wardak.
 - Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) performed a similar assessment in Kabul province, covering 1,103 families across different Provincial Districts (PDs) in November.
 - The International Rescue Committee (IRC) completed an assessment for 300 families specifically in the Kharwar district of Logar province.
 - Development and Humanitarian Services for Afghanistan (DHSA) concluded a shelter needs assessment for 450 households (HHs) in Kohband and Hessa-i-Du districts of Kapisa province.

Gaps / Challenges

- Several critical gaps were identified during these assessments:
 - The land distributed by the De facto Authority in Takana village, Jalrez district of Midan Wardak, presents a significant challenge. With a slope exceeding 50%, residents incurred substantial expenses for land cutting and leveling. Thus, the recommended shelter package by the shelter cluster, valued at \$1900 and \$1775, proved inadequate for their needs.
 - A technical and market assessment by the Danish Rescue Committee (DRC) team revealed a significant discrepancy in the exchange rate. Initially assessed at an OANDA rate of \$83 to AFN, the current exchange rate stands at AFN 68. This disparity renders the recommended package insufficient for constructing Shelters, impacting their feasibility.
 - Despite completing initial assessments and groundwork, DHSA faces delays in receiving funds from AHF (Afghan Humanitarian Fund) for their shelter project in Kapisa. This delay could hamper their operational progress and damage their reputation at the field level.

Central Highland



In 2022 (HRP & ReportHub data)

28,889
PLANNED REACH

16,176 (56%)
BENEFICIARIES REACHED

Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
2,612	-	-	-	-

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

Needs Analysis

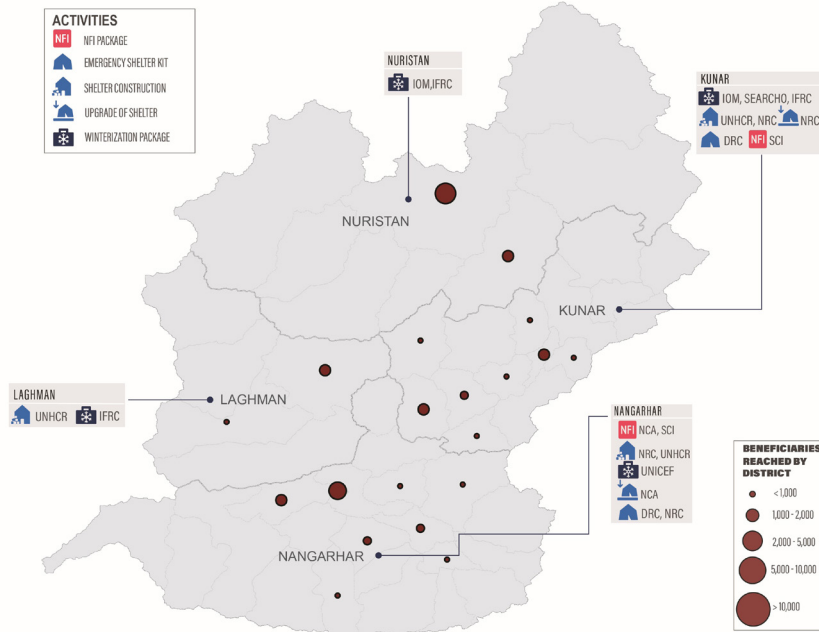
Multiple humanitarian organizations have conducted joint needs assessments for winterization assistance across various districts in Bamyan and Daikundi provinces:

- Solidarity International conducted a comprehensive needs assessment in the districts of Bamyan province, including Bamyan center, Sheber, Sighan, Waras, Panjab, and Kahmard. They have identified 13 households (HH) eligible for winterization assistance and 598 HH from AHF. The assessment is ongoing.
- International Rescue Committee (IRC) conducted a joint needs assessment in the central region of Bamyan province. They aim to identify around 300 HH comprising eligible beneficiaries, including IDPs, households affected by natural disasters and drought, and the most vulnerable host communities. The assessment is ongoing.
- Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) has initiated a joint needs assessment in Yakwalang, Sheber, and Waras districts of Bamyan province. Their target is to cover approximately 1,707 HH under winterization support. The assessment is currently underway.
- UNHCR/WSTA conducted a joint needs assessment in Daikundi province, focusing on reintegration, permanent shelter, and Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) in Bamyan Province. They plan to support 320 HH comprising IDPs, returnees, and the most vulnerable host communities under full MPCA, 256 HH for reintegration assistance, and 14 HH under Persons with Specific Needs (PSN). The joint assessment is ongoing.
- CORDIAD has initiated a joint needs assessment in Ashterlay, Khider, Miramor, Nili, and Sange-Takht districts of Daikundi province. They aim to support around 1650 HH with winterization assistance. The assessment is currently in progress

Gaps / Challenges

- Several challenges and gaps have been identified during the assessments:
- The ban on female employment by DfA (authorities) poses a significant challenge across the region, impacting various partners, especially in Daikundi province.
- There are evident gaps in winterization assistance, particularly in Daikundi province, which require urgent attention and strategic planning to address the unmet needs of the affected communities.

Eastern



In 2022 (HRP & ReportHub data)

62,396
PLANNED REACH

21,922 (35%)

BENEFICIARIES
REACHED

Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
-	63	-	-	-

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

Needs Analysis

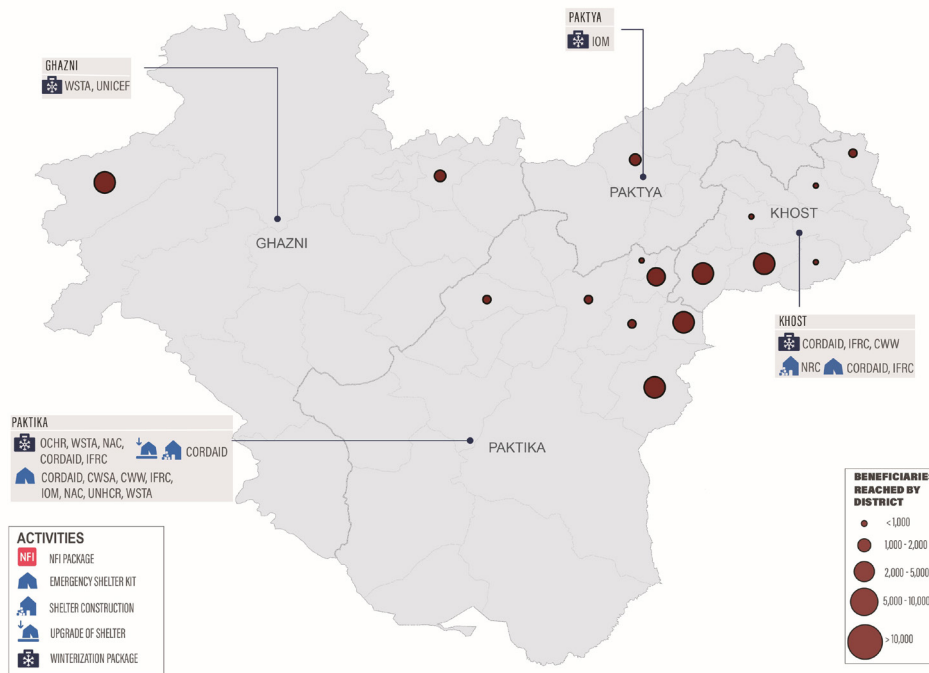
- In Nangarhar Province, joint assessment teams comprised of various organizations such as DRC, ANDMA, IRC, and DoRR have identified critical needs:
 - 19 families require shelter repairs and transitional shelter constructions according to assessments conducted by the joint DRC and ANDMA teams.
 - Out of 931 returning families, the joint IRC and DoRR assessment found that 622 families urgently need winterization assistance.
 - Also, joint assessment teams involving UN-HABITAT and ANDMA have identified 600 families needing winterization assistance (including heating support, winter clothing, and blankets), along with 600 families needing major shelter repairs.
- In Nuristan Province, joint assessments carried out by IOM and ANDMA identified 1,347 families in need of winterization assistance encompassing heating support, winter clothing, and blanket

Gaps / Challenges

Numerous challenges and gaps have been identified during the assessments:

- The significant influx of families returning from Pakistan poses a challenge, necessitating humanitarian agencies' engagement in border response efforts operating in double shifts.
- The current winterization capacity of partners is inadequate compared to the number of fresh returnee families requiring assistance.
- The emergency shelters/Cash for rent capacity is insufficient to meet the needs of the growing number of fresh IDPs.
- Steady coordination among humanitarian agencies is crucial to manage project duplication in winterization efforts.
- Extreme weather conditions in outreach areas could impede the implementation of T-shelters and shelter repairs.
- Challenges exist in sourcing local materials for shelter construction, particularly in Spinghar district, prompting the consideration of alternative materials like stone due to the unavailability of stipulated materials.
- Restrictions on female staff working in NGOs (Non Governmental Organizations) present a major challenge, hindering the identification of deserving vulnerable women beneficiaries for assistance.
- Delays in obtaining necessary letters/Maktoob and signing MoUs with relevant departments continue to impede the implementation process for cluster members due to bureaucratic hurdles imposed by the current government.

Southeastern



In 2022 (HRP & ReportHub data)

102,901
PLANNED REACH

59,371 (58%)
BENEFICIARIES REACHED

Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
-	-	-	-	478

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

Needs Analysis

- In Ghazni province Danish Refugee Council (DRC) conducted assessments in the remote Ajaristan district of Ghazni, identifying 549 highly vulnerable families requiring winterization support. Simultaneously, IOM completed assessments across various areas including Ghazni city, Waghaz district, Qarabagh, Nawa, Rashidan, and Gilan districts. They selected 625 families encompassing undocumented returnees, families affected by natural disasters, and the local host community for winterization support.
- In Paktika Province Organization of Human Welfare (OHW), with Cordaid's support, initiated assessments for 600 families in Barmal district of Paktika, particularly addressing families affected by the June 2022 earthquake.
- In Paktya Province IOM conducted assessments for winterization in various districts of Paktya including Gardiz, Ahmadabad, Dand wa Patan, Chamkani, Syed Karam, and Zadran. They identified 410 families, including undocumented returnees, families affected by natural disasters, and the most vulnerable families, in need of winterization support

Gaps / Challenges

- A ban on female aid workers has resulted in delays in both assessment and response efforts.
- Delays in establishing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with line ministries have hindered AHF partners from commencing winterization assessments in Khost, delaying essential assistance to families in need winterization assessments in Khost, delaying essential assistance to families in need

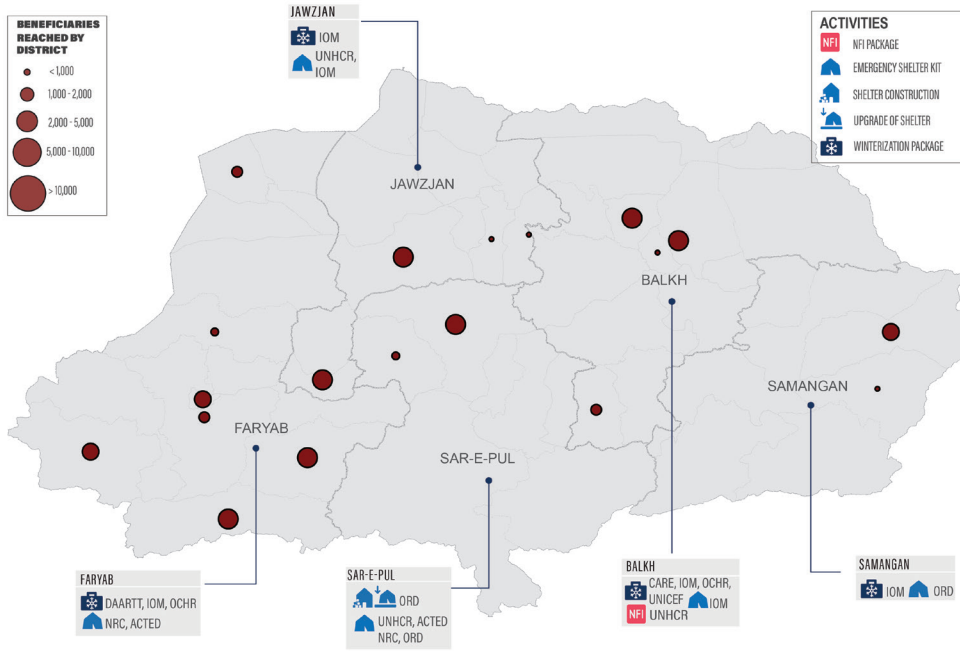
Northern



In 2022 (HRP & ReportHub data)

307,779
PLANNED REACH

90,269 (29%)
BENEFICIARIES REACHED



Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
-	-	1,493	-	20,692

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

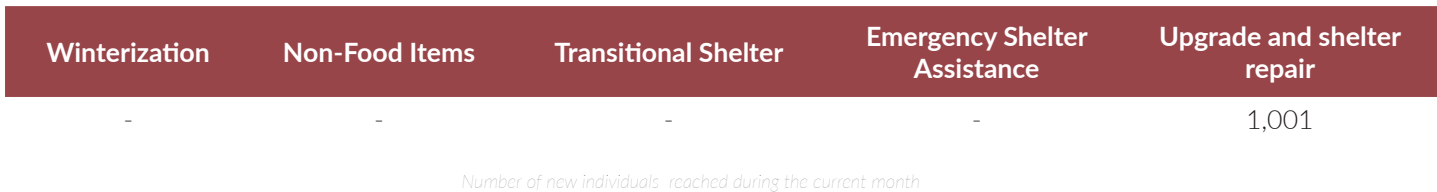
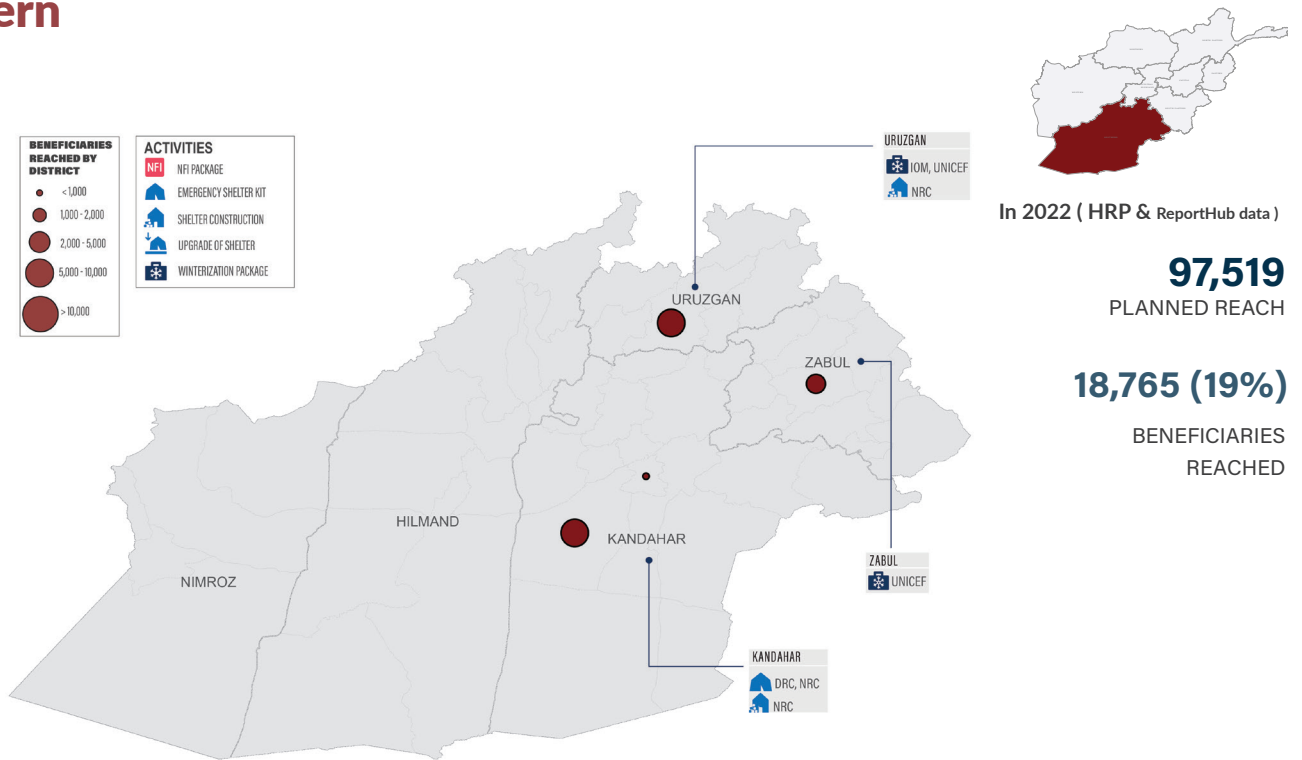
Needs Analysis

- In Faryab Province Danish Assistance to Afghan Rehabilitation and Technical Training (DAARTT) is implementing a winterization project in two districts of Faryab Province. As of now, 610 households have been assessed and selected for assistance in Kohistan district, with an additional 610 households slated for assessment/selection in Garziwan district shortly. This project, funded by AHF, will provide comprehensive winterization assistance to the selected beneficiaries.
- IOM has completed beneficiary selection assessments for winterization assistance in two provinces—Faryab (500 households) and Balkh (700 households). However, assessments are ongoing in the remaining three northern provinces of Samangan, Saripul, and Jawozjan.

Gaps / Challenges

- There is an influx of returnees from Pakistan, posing an additional challenge in the Northern Region.

Southern



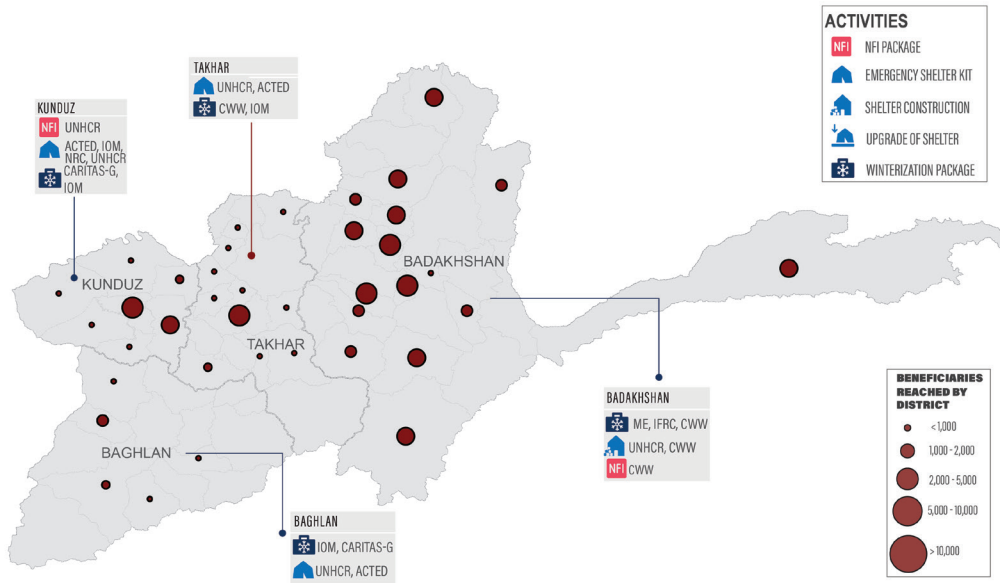
Needs Analysis

- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has assessed and verified 285 families for cash-for-rent assistance in Kandahar city.

Gaps / Challenges

- UNHCR reported that the provision of shelter assistance to women remains limited, primarily due to the lack of land ownership rights, posing a significant challenge in the region.

Northeastern



In 2022 (HRP & ReportHub data)
136,502
PLANNED REACH
50,755 (37%)
BENEFICIARIES REACHED

Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
1,169	-	-	-	1,236

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

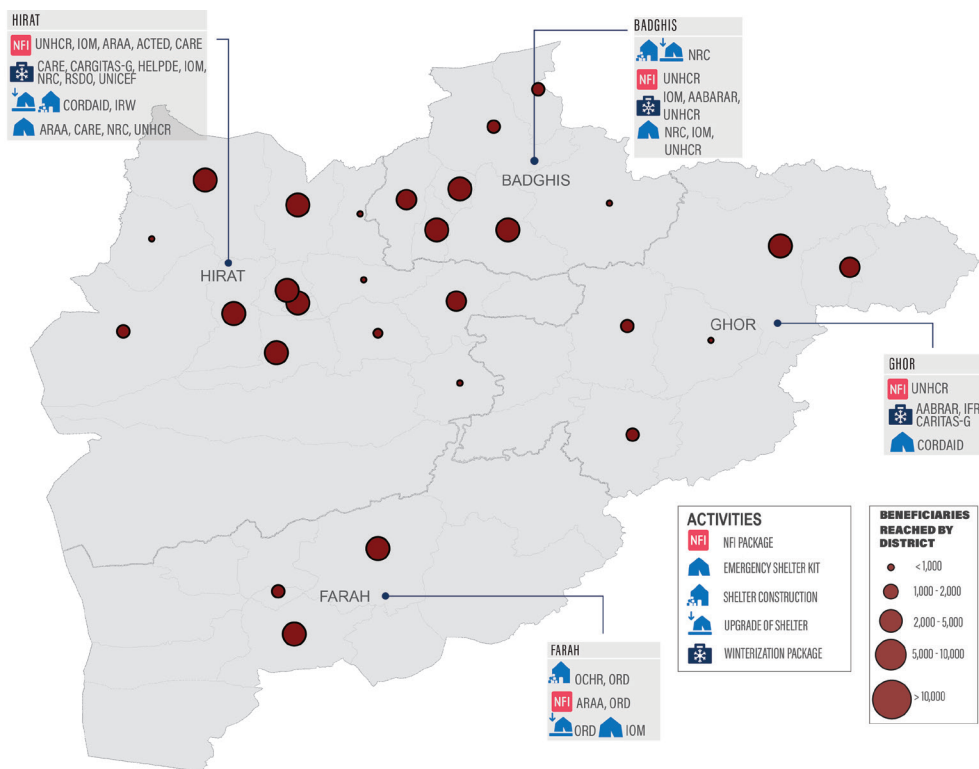
Needs Analysis

- In the Northeastern provinces, a total of 6,096 families, comprising approximately 43,000 individuals, have returned, except for Badakhshan province, which has seen the return of only 40 families, totaling 280 individuals among the returnees. A critical imperative exists to assess all deported returnees individually by joint teams led by OCHA to accurately ascertain and address their genuine needs.
- Furthermore, there are identified caseloads of families affected by natural disasters in both Takhar and Badakhshan provinces, requiring urgent winterization assistance this season and permanent shelters in 2024. These caseloads include:
 - 89 families from Jukhan village in Badakhshan
 - 147 families from Raghistan and Yumgan, where transitional shelters have been recently allocated
 - 23 families in need of winterization and shelter in Eshkashim district of Badakhshan province
 - Additionally, 248 families in Khoja Bahaudin urgently require winterization assistance, with 133 shelters recently allocated to meet their shelter needs. The practical implementation of these shelters by the WADAN partner is set to commence next month.

Gaps / Challenges

- The significant influx of returnees to the Northeastern Region presents a pressing challenge. There is a notable lack of resources to adequately support these returnees, particularly in terms of their shelter and winterization needs. Addressing these shortages effectively is imperative to meet the immediate needs of the affected population.

Western



In 2022 (HRP & ReportHub data)

128,072
PLANNED REACH

344,779 (269%)

BENEFICIARIES
REACHED

Winterization	Non-Food Items	Transitional Shelter	Emergency Shelter Assistance	Upgrade and shelter repair
---------------	----------------	----------------------	------------------------------	----------------------------

19,613	121,743	4,615	74,534	45,263
--------	---------	-------	--------	--------

Number of new individuals reached during the current month

Needs Analysis

- Norwegian Refugee Committee (NRC) conducted assessments in earthquake-affected areas of Herat province, selecting 516 families for cash-based winterization assistance. Additionally, in Bala Morghab District of Badghis province, they identified 90 families eligible for shelter upgrade assistance.
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS) assessed earthquake-affected areas in Zendajan district, identifying 1,412 eligible families for winterization assistance.
- IOM conducted assessments in earthquake-affected districts of Herat province, selecting 1,677 families eligible for NFI assistance and 4,186 families eligible for cash-based winterization assistance.
- Organization of Human Welfare (OHW) assessed 175 families in Injil district, Herat province, identifying 150 families eligible for transitional shelter assistance.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with Agency for Humanitarian and Development Assistance for Afghanistan (ARAA) and AHDAA partners, conducted assessments in various earthquake-affected districts of Herat province, verifying 4,184 families eligible for humanitarian assistance.

Gaps / Challenges

- There is an elevated level of urgent needs reported by shelter cluster partners and OCHA in Herat and Ghor provinces, encompassing emergency tents, NFIs, winterization kits, blankets, winterization support (heating, fuel, winter clothing), transitional shelter, and major and minor shelter repair assistance. These critical needs require immediate attention from humanitarian actors to advocate and find comprehensive solutions to bridge these gaps effectively.
- The ban on female employment imposed by DFA poses a major challenge, especially impacting activity implementation, access to beneficiaries, and service delivery. This is notably hindering assessment processes and the distribution of assistance to beneficiaries across all provinces in the western region