



Global Report 2024 - Situation overview

Abdulrahim Jamshidi, 47, has returned to his native Afghanistan from the Islamic Republic of Iran and now runs a tailoring business. He is supported by one of UNHCR's small business grants, which enable many returnees and displaced Afghans who have skills and ideas to become self-reliant.
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Afghanistan situation

UNHCR country operations: Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and Kazakhstan Multi-Country Office.

2024 year-end population figures

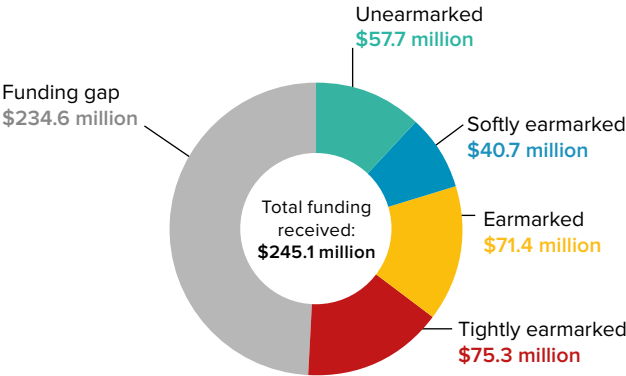


¹ Refugees and asylum-seekers, including people in a refugee-like situation: 5.3 million, 24% women and 51% children.
² IDPs: 3.2 million, 21% women and 62% children.

2024 financial overview

Funding received (USD)

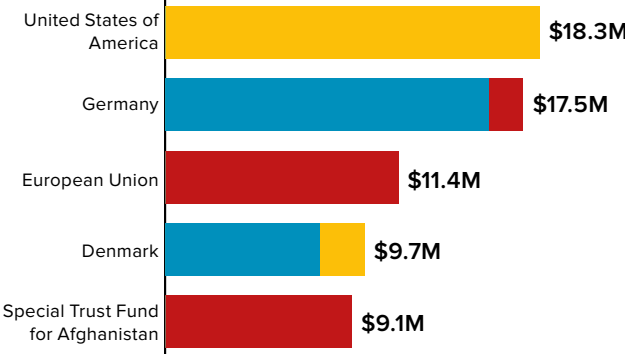
In 2024, UNHCR required a total of **\$479.7 million** to address the emergency situation in Afghanistan and received only **51%** of the needed amount.



The percentage funded (51%) and total funding amount (\$245,057,427) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$234,600,300 representing 49% of the financial requirements.

Top 5 Contributions (USD)

Legend: Unearmarked (green), Softly earmarked (blue), Earmarked (yellow), Tightly earmarked (red)



Afghanistan grappled with deepening humanitarian crises in 2024, worsened by economic upheaval, extreme weather events and volatile regional political dynamics. Since 2021, systematic restrictions violating the rights of women and girls have exacerbated the humanitarian needs. UNHCR remained [committed to remaining](#) to assist displaced people, but dwindling funding has constrained the ability of UNHCR and its partners to effectively address urgent needs. The funding gap grew from [40% in 2023](#) to [49% in 2024](#), with a much larger gap only avoided thanks to unearmarked contributions from donors.

3.2 million Afghans remained internally displaced due to previous conflict, with smaller numbers (22,700) returning to their areas of origin in 2024. Over 53,000 Afghan refugees, mainly from Pakistan, returned to Afghanistan under UNHCR's assisted voluntary repatriation programme – an increase from 36,800 in 2023. Assisted returns from Iran remained steady at around 1,000, in line with previous years. [An assisted return](#) means refugees receive cash grants, basic health care, vaccinations for children, mine risk education, access to waiting areas and playgrounds for children, overnight accommodation when needed, and protection referrals.

Large-scale returns and deportations of Afghans from Iran and Pakistan continued in 2024. Since the launch of Pakistan's Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan in late 2023, over 800,000 Afghans returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan, including some 38,700 deportees. Iran deported over 764,000 undocumented Afghans in 2024. These returns and deportations took place despite a [non-return advisory](#) and strong advocacy by UNHCR.

Amid these challenges, [UNHCR delivered humanitarian assistance and protection services](#) to over 1.7 million people across all 34 provinces, up from 1.5 million in 2023.

1.4 million people benefited from community-based and in-kind support, such as shelter and the distribution of relief items, while over 350,000 received cash-based assistance. UNHCR also refined its [Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration \(PARRs\)](#) approach, ensuring a more focused delivery of prioritized assistance in provinces with high returnee populations. This included supporting 21,580 children through school construction, providing access to health care for nearly 330,000 people by building health facilities, and improving water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure for over 95,000 people through construction and rehabilitation efforts.

The [Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees](#) remained a vital mechanism for keeping Afghan displacement high on the international agenda. Through targeted consultations with governments, donors, and operational partners, the Platform kept attention on Afghan refugees and reinforced long-term commitments for Afghan refugees both within Afghanistan and in host countries. In parallel, UNHCR advanced the [ReSolve Multistakeholder Pledge](#), mobilizing resources and policies to improve access to solutions, livelihoods, and protection for Afghan refugees. UNHCR and partners also supported Afghan refugees and host communities across Pakistan and Iran via the inter-agency [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#).

UNHCR expanded skills and self-employment initiatives in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan, helping refugees and returnees fill labour market gaps. UNHCR collaborated with vocational training institutions and business incubators in Iran and Pakistan to help refugees' businesses to start and scale up. In Afghanistan, 12,000 people, including women, benefited from cash-for-work, vocational training and entrepreneurship programmes. UNHCR improved access to education for refugees in Pakistan, Iran and returnees in Afghanistan. In Pakistan, over 58,000 children and 415 youth in tertiary education were supported and around

300 youth benefited from the [DAFI \(Albert Einstein\)](#) scholarship programme. In Afghanistan, UNHCR built close to 30 schools across 24 districts and covered most of the construction costs for four new schools in Iran.

UNHCR submitted more than 8,300 Afghan refugees for resettlement and facilitated the departure of over 5,700 to resettlement countries, compared to 3,300 in 2023. In addition, UNHCR recorded more than 2,480 Afghan refugees departing on complementary pathways from India, Pakistan, Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia, and other countries of asylum, less than half the number in 2023.

UNHCR's [community-based protection monitoring](#) reached 109,000 people in Afghanistan, while [feedback and response mechanisms](#) operated by UNHCR and its partners received 64,000 queries, a 25% increase from 2023. UNHCR's partners also conducted 146,600 [border monitoring interviews](#) with people leaving and entering the country. The experiences of Afghans who return were summarized in UNHCR's "[Post-return monitoring report](#)", based on 4,220 interviews with households who returned at the end of 2023.

In October 2024, UNHCR published its "[Afghanistan protection and solutions strategy \(2025-2027\)](#)", providing strategic direction for its activities over the next three years. The collective humanitarian response to the crisis in Afghanistan since August 2021 was also the subject of an [inter-agency humanitarian evaluation](#) published in 2024.

Afghans arrive at the Islam Qala border in Afghanistan's Herat Province, after being deported from the Islamic Republic of Iran. Many face uncertainty as they seek to rebuild their lives in Afghanistan. © UNHCR/Oxygen Empire Media Production

