



Project Annual Completion Report of Repatriation Cell

January - December 2014

Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees
Plot No. 6, Sector B-1, Office Enclave,
Phase - 5, Hayatabad
Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
Ph: 091 - 9217080, 9217718



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Repatriation Cell, Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees, Plot No. 6,
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Ph: 091 - 9217080, 9217718

Funded by:

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Prepared by:

Afsar Ali

Reporting / Monitoring Coordinator (Pillar 01)

Reviewed & Approved by:

Fazal Rabbi, Director Repatriation Cell, CAR

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Acknowledgment

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The Repatriation Cell is extremely thankful for cooperation that all the partners, stakeholders and AR communities entrusted in our work, our field and core teams. The Repatriation Cell would like to express its deepest thanks to its Pillar 01 partners of CAR including Project Directorate Health (PDH), Community Development Unit/Education (CDU/EDU), Care and Maintenance (CM), SSAR Cell Home Department and most importantly the ARC (HQs) of Commissionerate Afghan Refugees who remained helpful with backstopping support, understanding and readily available at all stages of implementation and smooth functioning of project activities.

The vigilance and sincere involvement of ACR (HQs) ensured controls and effective implementation as well as provided my staff members the opportunities to learn on many occasions. We dedicate this annual report to all the Afghan Refugees living in Pakistan for the last 35 years.

Abbreviations

CAR	Commissionerate Afghan Refugees (KPK)
ACR (HQs)	Additional Commissioner Headquarters
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
CCAR	Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees
SAFRON	Ministry of States and Frontier Regions
GoP	Government of Pakistan
PoR	Proof of registration
PCM	PoR Cards Modification Centre
IPPMR	Implementing Partner's Performance Monitoring Report
SSAR	Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees
AMRS	Afghan Management Repatriation Strategy
NADRA	National Database and Registration Authority
RAHA	Refugee Affected & Hosting Areas
VRC	Voluntary Repatriation Centre
VRF	Voluntary Repatriation Form
AR	Afghan Refugees
MoRR	Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation
DoR	Director of Refugees
IEC	Information, Education & Communication
IP	Implementing Partners
DAs	District Administrators
RVAs	Refugees Village Administrators
CDU	Community Development Unit
CM	Care and Maintenance
PDH	Project Directorate Health
IOM	International Office of Migration
DRC	Danish Refugees Council
SACH	Struggle for Change
IDPs	Internally Displaced People
Tazkira	National Identity Card of Afghani
KKF	Khyber Khasadar Force
SMS	Short Messaging Services

Contents

Messages	i
Overview	1
Project Name	1
Project Objectives	2
Problem and its Description	2
Geographical Areas	2
Achievement of Repatriation Cell of CAR 2014	3
Submission of IPPMR for the year 2014	3
Awareness Campaigns on SSAR	4
Field Visits (RVs, DA offices), monitoring visits	6
Monthly Coordination Meetings with Stakeholders	7
Coordination Platform	7
Conduction of One Day Policy Workshop on SSAR	8
Conduction of Two Days Orientation Workshop on	9
Orientation Workshop at Torkhum Border (PTDC Hotel)	11
Patrolling from Karkhano Market to Torkhum Border.	12
Incidence of Harassment and Extortion	13
Go & See Visit to Afghanistan with Coordination of DRC	14

Annual Completion Report of Repatriation Cell

16	Process of Renewal of PoR Cards (SCAC centres)
18	Visits to PCM Centres
19	Facilitating the AR returnees at VRC Chamkani
20	What Has Been Achieved?
21	Up-date the Repatriation Figures & Submission
21	Up gradation and Re-designation of Positions
22	Budget Review Meetings
23	Purchase of Office Furniture & Laptops Computers.
23	Purchase of Uniform/Paraphernalia for VRC Security Staff
24	Actively Participation in Training Sessions (DRC, UNHCR)
25	Prepared & Submission of Monthly, Mid-year.....



Message

The prolonged stay of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan in general and in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in particular has enormously affected the infrastructure and services delivery. There is no known parallel in history regarding the hospitality and generosity of the Pakistani community to Afghan Refugees. However, there was an urgent need for enhanced voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees in order to not only reduce the burden in KP but also to share the reconstruction process by the returnees in their homeland. In this context the Repatriation Cell deserves rightly the appreciation of achieving the set target of the voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees with honor and dignity. The whole process of repatriation is based on the spirit of voluntarily return of Afghan Refugees and push policy has never been an option in this regard. We reaffirm the resolve that the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees will serve and provide assistance till the last Afghan Refugee is voluntarily repatriated to Afghanistan.

Working with UN Agencies, INGOs and NGOs we have been striving to provide assistance and relief to Afghan Refugees in all the 69 camps in KPK. We would continue to devise and implement strategies to achieve durable solution to the problem in the true spirit.

I congratulate the dedicated staff of Repatriation Cell for their untiring efforts of facilitating the Afghan Refugees for achieving the annual targets of 2014 as per the UNHCR work plan.

Muhammad Fahim Wazir

Commissioner Afghan Refugees
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Message

Afghan Refugees constitute the largest refugee population in the world. One of the key pillars in the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) is the support for voluntary repatriation. This multi-faceted strategy entails not only a dignified return but also emphasizes the “voluntary” nature of all returns.



On behalf of UNHCR Peshawar, I would like to dedicate this annual report of the Repatriation Cell at Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees (CAR), to the generosity of the Pakistani people. The SSAR presents a clear outlook of the goals, objectives achievements in supporting the country in meeting the international commitments it has made in finding durable solutions for refugees.

CAR has always played an important role in the promotion of voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Indeed, the formation of the Repatriation Cell in itself is a milestone achievement in the promotion of the welfare of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The fact that CAR has always promoted a “voluntary” return policy for Afghan refugees, is proof enough of its serious commitment to ensure that repatriation of these refugees is conducted in an honorable and dignified manner, without any coercion or pressure. The Repatriation Cell is playing a vital role in not only streamlining CAR's activities in this regard but also setting positive precedents for future interventions in this regard.

The Repatriation Cell has greatly enhanced coordination and cooperation between UNHCR and the provincial government at different levels, and also between the INGOs sector and other stakeholders in general.

I congratulate the Repatriation Cell on achieving its repatriation goals for 2014 within the policy framework of UNHCR and hope that this initiative will continue providing its invaluable support to the refugee cause in the future.

Jacques FRANQUIN

Head of UNHCR Sub Office Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



Message

The Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR) KP is to formulate and execute the Federal Government policies regarding the administration of Afghan Refugees residing in KPK. This office serves as a bridge between the Federal Government and the Provincial Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The CAR KP is playing its due role in the management and voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees. Surely, Afghanistan requires continuous and strong support from the international community in order to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees and help them to rebuild their lives.

Besides the assigned duties, the staff of Repatriation was also burden with extra work such as supervision of PoR card renewal process, preparation of contingency plan and projection of CAR activities to various visiting delegations from time to time.

The publication of annual report of Repatriation Cell of CAR has been a very positive step for highlighting the achievements and results.

Waqar Maroof

Additional Commissioner (HQ,s)
Commissionerate Afghan Refugees
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Message

It gives me great pleasure to present the publication of annual report 2014 of the Repatriation Cell of CAR. Our dedicated staff utilized their full potentials for achieving the stated objectives and results. However, without the valuable guidelines of senior management of CAR and the financial assistance of UNHCR, it would have been almost very difficult to reach the set objectives.



It has a new look and presents information in accordance with the work plan with a clear focus on priorities and environmental results. One of our most important goals was to reenergize the unit's performance and to become more accountable relating to performance. We still have a long way to go and I hope that this report demonstrates that the Repatriation Cell is making good progress.

I appreciate & would like to thank my team for their untiring efforts for realizing the outcome of our efforts. The resilience, cooperation & dedication to maintaining the quality of services exhibited by the team has illustrated the drive & commitment of our staff.

I would like to thanks UNHCR for the generous financial support without which all such activities would have not made possible. I would also like to thanks the UNHCR colleagues, District Administrators, CDU staff & other IPs for their cooperation during the year.

Mr. Fazal Rabbi

Director Repatriation Cell

Commissionerate Afghan Refugees, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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Overview:

The Commissionerate Afghan Refugees (CAR) was established in 1979 under the Federal Government Order to facilitate the Afghan Refugees who were crossing the borders and coming into Pakistan to find refuge due to the ongoing war in Afghanistan. The organization bench marked its role in providing humanitarian assistance and relief to Afghan refugees.

There is Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees in each province of Pakistan and is over sighted by Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees (CCAR) based in Islamabad. The CAR and CCAR are working under the guidance of the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON).

Under the mandate of CAR KPK, we are providing services to Afghan Refugees in all the 69 AR camps in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Repatriation Cell, Community Development Unit/Education, Project Directorate Health, Refugee Affected & Hosting Areas (RAHA) and Care & Maintenance (CM) are providing services to Afghan Refugees in different fields.

The Repatriation Cell has not only provided a strong platform of Coordination for all relevant stakeholders but is also conducting comprehensive awareness raising campaigns regarding Government of Pakistan policies for Afghan Refugees at regular intervals. Meetings with different stake holders & government line departments are also regularly arranged by the Repatriation Cell of CAR. Currently the Repatriation Cell focus is on Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and is looking after the affairs of registered Afghan Refugees in the context of voluntary repatriation all over Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Project Name:

The name of the project is “Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees in KPK 2014”.

Goal:

PF- Protection and Mixed Solutions

Project Objectives:

The objective is as under

Voluntary Repatriation (611)

Outputs:

- Potential for voluntary return realized (611AH)
- Information provided to PoC (611 AI)

Problem and its Description:

Voluntary return has greater potential as a durable solution. Afghan Refugees may not be aware of the conditions and benefits of voluntary return. Living from the last thirty five years, AR families find it difficult to get support to return and require logistic and financial support to return and reintegrate in their places of origins in Afghanistan. There is a need of coordinated efforts for facilitating voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees in the light of SSAR Policy.

Geographical Areas:

The project is continuously implemented in all over Khyber Pakhtunkhwa which is being divided into three zones and each zone is given under the supervision of Assistant Director Repatriation Cell with overall guidance of the Director Repatriation. A Repatriation Facilitator is also working in each zone for facilitating the Assistant Directors. These geographical zones are given below:

Central Zone: Peshawar, Peshawar, Charssada, Nowshera, Haripur and Mansehra.

North Zone: Mardan, Swabi, Buner, Mardan, Dir and Chitral.

South Zone: Kohat, Hangu, Kohat, Bannu, Lakki Marwat & D. I. Khan.

Achievement of Repatriation Cell of CAR 2014:

In order to facilitate the voluntary return of Afghan Refugees, the CAR in collaboration with UNHCR established the Repatriation Cell at CAR headquarters in July 1987. Since its inception, the Repatriation Cell has facilitated the return of 2.28 million Afghan Refugees from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa out of the total 3.8 million from Pakistan till December 2014.

The repatriation Cell has successfully conducted two workshops in the light of Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and Refugees Protection. In these workshops, the CAR highlighted all the issues & given suggestions for future plan. As the Government of Pakistan has extended the repatriation process till December 2015, the process of repatriation remained slow due to another extension of refugees stay in Pakistan.

The Repatriation Cell conducted 37 awareness and sensitization campaigns on account of SSAR in all the AR camps. Furthermore, 73 monitoring visits were also carried out in various camps to provide mass information to target refugees. IEC materials were also distributed during

awareness and monitoring visits. The Cell also conducted regular patrolling from VRC Chamkani to Torkham border including meetings with in charge of each security check posts enroot to Torkham for reducing the incidence of harassment and extortion of AR returnee.

The Cell also established an effective coordination platform for relevant organizations including SSAR Home Department, MoRR, UNHCR, DRC and other line departments. A total of 29 meetings were held under this coordination platform. Besides, the Repatriation Cell also provided inputs in the monthly coordination meetings which were held at the start of each month in the CAR office.

The Cell in coordination with DRC under the financial support of EU conducted “Go and See” visit to Afghanistan in the reporting period of 2014. Regular visits were also

conducted to SCAC for over sighting the process of the renewal of PoR cards. The Repatriation Cell remained the focal unit during the entire PoR card renewal process.

During the year 2014, the deputed staff of Repatriation Cell at VRC Chamkani facilitated the voluntary return of 1387 AR families consisting of 6454 individuals. The routine official work was also carried out on daily basis.

The Repatriation Cell has successfully carried out the following activities during the year 2014.

Submission of IPPMR (Narrative & Financial) for the year 2014:

The Repatriation Cell achieved all the set targets during the year 2014. IPPMR was submitted to UNHCR highlighting all the achievements. However, the voluntary repatriation remained slow throughout the year despite the fact that the repatriation Cell conducted comprehensive awareness and sensitization campaigns in all the AR camps.

However, despite the fact that the Cell achieved its stated objectives, a total of two IPPMR were submitted to UNHCR due to the fact that the agreement was reduced to six months instead of full calendar year. The first IPPMR (January-June) was submitted in July 2014 and the second (July-December 2014) was submitted in February 2015.

Besides the IPPMR, the Repatriation Cell also prepared and submitted the project description and work plan for 2014 along with financial implications.

Awareness Campaigns on Account of SSAR:

Under the supervision of Director Repatriation Cell, a total of 37 awareness and sensitization campaigns were carried out in all the AR camps relating to Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR). Refugee's elders including Shura Members were particularly involved in the awareness campaigns and the

staff tried to convince refugees for voluntary return to their homeland with dignity. A two prong strategy was adopted during these sensitization campaigns; i.e. (a) to provide comprehensive information about SSAR as well as available facilities in the areas of return, (b) provide information about refugee's rights. Some of these campaigns were jointly conducted with SSAR Cell Home Department KP, Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR), UNHCR staff as well as District Administrators.

The IEC (Information, Education & Communication) materials were developed & published by UNHCR and then the Repatriation Cell distributed these materials during the awareness campaigns. In each awareness campaign, the Afghan elders were requested to distribute these materials for further dissemination.

During the above mentioned awareness and sensitization campaigns, a total of 6,170 Afghan elders were reached and more than 40,00 IEC materials were



distributed in all the camps. Each AR elder was made responsible for further dissemination of the campaign in their respective neighbourhood.

Since the religious elders have the best available platform, therefore Khateeb (Imam) of each mosque within the camps were convinced for conveying the SSAR messages in the Friday congregations; thus the Repatriation Cell was able to reach at least 80% of the total population of refugees in each camp.

Despite the above efforts, the repatriation still remained slow. There were three main reasons for slow repatriation during 2014. First the refugees remained indecisive to voluntary return to Afghanistan due to election in Afghanistan and the perceived violence in face of electoral process. Most of the refugees adopted the wait and see mindset. Secondly the decision of withdrawal of NATO forces from Afghanistan also made many refugees reluctant to return because majority of them were thinking of further deteriorating law and order situation inside Afghanistan. Thirdly and most importantly the renewal of PoR cards made most of the refugees decide to stay in Pakistan as the Govt extended the period of stay for PoR card holders till December 2015.

Field Monitoring Visits:

The Repatriation Cell of CAR has a well-organized Monitoring team. During the year 2014, a total of 73 monitoring visits were conducted to various AR camps.

In these monitoring visits, meetings with the Afghan Refugees were held for listening to their concerns &



learning the entire situation of AR residing in the camps. In majority of these monitoring visits, open discussion was conducted and all the issues/concerns of refugees were listened to and further reported to Director Repatriation for redressed purpose. Moreover, some of genuine concerns of the refugees were resolved on the spot.

Monthly Coordination Meetings:

The coordination meeting took place in the first week of each month which provided an important platform for coordination among various entities. A total of 14 Monthly

coordination meetings were held in the office of Commissionerate Afghan Refugee in which all relevant IPs participated including DRC, SSAR Home



Department, MoRR, SACH, BEFARe, FRD and FPHC. Out of the 14 meetings, twelve were held with all the implementing partners wherein individual progress as well as issues arising during implementation were thoroughly discussed. The remaining two meetings were held with District Administrators and UNHCR staff.

These coordination meetings played a significant role in avoiding the duplication of resources and activities. Moreover, issues, problems, communication gaps and needs of Afghan Refugees were also thoroughly discussed in these meetings.

Coordination Platform:

The Repatriation Cell of CAR played a key role in the establishment of an effective coordination system which is functional between CAR, MoRR, UNHCR, SSAR Home Department & other line government department for implementation of various policies regarding the voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees. All such coordinated efforts helped the Secretary Home in decision making. Government Departments were made more functional by convening review meetings periodically and tasks assigned for joint

implementation of the strategy. Meetings of member Departments / stakeholders were also arranged on need basis for efficient and effective implementation of the strategy. Policy updates were also share as and when emerged.



One Day Policy Workshop on SSAR:

The Repatriation Cell in collaboration with UNHCR and Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MORR) held one day policy workshop on Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) on 24th September, 2014. Participants from UNHCR, DRC, NRC, SACH, MoRR, SSAR Home Department, AR Students Union, AR elders & other IPs also participated in the workshop. The Deputy Commissioner Peshawar, Syed Zaheer ul Islam was the chief guest of the workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders regarding the Solutions Strategy for



Afghan Refugees (SSAR) in the light of the Government of Pakistan extension for voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees till December 2015.

The representatives from each organization was sensitized for further dissemination about the GoP policy of Afghan Refugees current situations. The workshop emphasised the need for enhanced voluntary repatriation of Afghan Refugees from Pakistan within the specified period of time. The participants were reminded that the deadline of current policy for the voluntarily repatriation of Afghan refugees will expire at the end of December 2015. However the whole process of repatriation will be based on the spirit of voluntarily return of Afghan Refugees and no push policy will be adopted in this regard. In the workshop it was reaffirmed that UNHCR will remain in Pakistan to provide humanitarian assistance till the last Afghan refugee is voluntarily repatriated.



The three pillars of Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) based on accelerated voluntarily and dignified repatriation from Pakistan, development of host communities and sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan was also highlighted during the workshop.

Two Days Orientation Workshop on Refugees Protection:

Reflecting the commitment of UNHCR and the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees to protecting Refugees from all forms of violence and to increase the visibility of the issue of violence against refugees, the Repatriation Cell in coordination with UNHCR conducted two days Orientation Workshop on Refugees Protection in the office of Commissionerate Afghan Refugees. This was the first time in

the history of Commissionerate Afghan Refugees that a workshop on Afghan refugee's protection was organized under the financial assistance of UNHCR.



The workshop hosts 70 participants from United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), SSAR Home Department, Repatriation Cell and Community Development Unit of Commissionerate Afghan Refugees. In addition the workshop was also attended by all the District Administrators (DAs) along with Refugees Village Administrators (RVAs) of all the AR camp of KP. The interactive workshop, which was designed for CDU & Repatriation Staff working at the field level in refugee-related issues, provided participants with the opportunity to share their experiences and insights to ascertain of the knowledge they should possess for the matter. The workshop also highlighted increasing challenges, exacerbating vulnerability and the need for providing efficient and timely relief support and assistance to those refugees who are in need.

The workshop provided an opportunity to further strengthen the protection programme in all the 69 Refugees camps in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. At the end of the workshop, CAR presented a robust strategy and action plan to be started in all the refugee camps in the context of refugees' protection. The proposed protection staff of existing Community Development Unit would largely monitor and report incidence of violation of refugees' rights and would further refer for the provision of immediate assistance, including legal help, to the victim's family and witnesses.

As a whole the three thronged strategy presented by Commissionerate Afghan Refugees in the workshop is given below:



- To reinforce the pledge of CAR in monitoring of refugees rights violations, in particular violence against women and children;
- To reinforce partnerships between UNHCR and CAR for the realization of an effective and robust protection strategy for Afghan Refugees, and
- With the ultimate aim of strengthening the system to identify, monitor and address violence against refugees, especially against women and children in all the 69 AR camps.

Training Workshop on Repatriation and Protection:

UNHCR in collaboration with Repatriation Cell of CAR conducted one day training workshop on Protection & Repatriation issues of Afghan Refugees for Border Monitors and Government Officials at Torkham Border. Participants from UNHCR, CAR, SSAR Home Department, Political Tehsildar Landi kotal & Torkham, Political Mohrars, Post Commanders from KKF, JCO from FC, MoRR, DOR, IOM representative from Afghanistan participated in the training workshop.

Mr. Nasir Jalil from UNHCR explained in detail the role of UNHCR and its activities related to the issues/problems of Afghan refugees in the broader context. The Director Repatriation Cell of CAR gave presentation on SSAR (Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees) and shared the information

pertaining to the new SSAR policy and the role of C A R in the context. This was followed by presentation from Chief Coordinator of SSAR Home



Department wherein he explained in details the new SSAR policy and the views of the Government of Pakistan.

The whole session was based on interactive learning wherein participants shared their views regarding the voluntary repatriation and protection issues of refugees. The representatives from Afghanistan also shared their views and information regarding the problems and issues faced by the Afghan Refugees during repatriation process in Afghanistan.

Patrolling from VRC Chamkani to Torkham Border:

The Patrolling Assistant of Repatriation Project conducted 36 patrolling visits from Voluntary Repatriation Centre (VRC) Chamkani to Torkham Border in order to facilitate the returnee Afghan Refugees enroot to Border. However the entry point for some visits were from Kharkhano to Torkham. In some of these visits, the patrolling assistant was also accompanied by



Assistant Directors of the Repatriation Project. In each visit the patrolling assistant enroot to T o r k h a m c o n d u c t e d meetings with in charge of each

security check post for discussing issues of harassment and extortion of the returnees via Torkham Border. Any reported incidence of harassment of AR returnees were thoroughly discussed with the in charge of concerned check posts and remedial measures were adopted with follow up visits. These regular visits of the patrolling assistant, significantly reduced the incidence of harassment and extortion of refugee. UNHCR also acknowledged the elimination of harassment and extortion of returnee refugees due to the vigilant patrolling from Chamkani to Torkham Border.

It was due to the above-mentioned patrolling that resulted in the protection situation of Afghan refugees and put a halt to reported instances of harassment faced by refugees while returning to Afghanistan. It also enabled the refugees to travel freely in Pakistan without any fear of intimidation or harassment.

It is worth mentioning that regular coordination was also kept with UNHCR deputed staff at Torkham Border. The staff remained cooperative with patrolling assistant during various visits. Various issues were regularly shared with the border deputed staff for taking remedial measures.

Incidence of Harassment and Extortion:

Normally Danish Refugees Council (DRC), Struggle for Change (SACH) and Community Development Unit (CDU) CAR received information about harassment or other related issues of Afghan Refugees. These issues were shared with patrolling assistant who immediately reported such incidence to Director Repatriation Cell of CAR. The Director Repatriation then quickly responded and referred these cases to SSAR Home Department for taking action against the perpetrators. The Director Repatriation Cell also conducted follow up of each harassment/extortion case in order to resolve the issues and also to prevent the occurrence of such incidence in future. UNHCR was always kept in the loop during the whole process.

“Go & See” and “Come & Tell” Visit to Afghanistan:

The practice of “Go & See” and the “Come & Tell” visits allows for more targeted information provision wherein representatives of refugees along with officials visit their areas of origin to obtain first-hand information on the prevailing situation. During a “Come & Talk” visit on the other hand, a representative of the local refugee's community (Aziz Kass Township. Laghman) visits to provide information and discuss the main concerns of the refugees.

In line with the above objective, the Director Repatriation Cell in collaboration with colleagues from Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and refugees representatives under financial assistance of European Union (EU) conducted five days “Go & See Visit” to

Afghanistan from 22nd June to 26th June 2014. During this exercise the refugees intended places of return inside



Afghanistan were visited, correct information were obtained and then the same information were shared with refugees in Pakistan for enabling them to make an informed decision prior to return to Afghanistan.

The visiting team held meeting with DORR officials in Laghman and various issues were discussed; specifically the following topic came under detailed discussions.

Townships for returnees and IDPs

DRC activities

Process and issues regarding land allocations

Later on the team also conducted a meeting with UNHCR staff members in Jalalabad. Discussions also took place for the proposed community meeting. In coordination with DRC local office in Jalalabad, the visiting team held a detailed meeting with community members. Various issues were openly discussed with community members. During the discussion, the community members informed the team about various issues facing by them.

The other issues discussed during the meeting are given below.

- 80 square kilometre of land is under water which has serious repercussions for agriculture land and houses.
- Special attention is needed to alternative land. If alternative land is not available, then a protection wall may be constructed for the safety purpose.
- Due to the limited livelihood opportunities in the area, it was strongly suggested that a skill training centre may be established, which will positively result in income generation activities for the community.
- The none-availability of land and construction materials was also a primary concern of the community members.
- Only two rooms can be constructed on the proposed land allocation. Therefore there is no space for constructing kitchen and washroom. Moreover there is no planning for boundary wall which is a great concern for the community members while keeping in view the prevailing culture and norms.
- The community is also facing the problem of acquiring the national passport (Tazkira).
- A comprehensive awareness campaign is required in order to sensitize the community and make them aware of the prevailing situation.

Later on the visiting team held a meeting with the Deputy Governor of Laghman and discussed the issues being raised by the community. The team requested



the governor for his personal interference in order to resolve the problems being faced by the community. During the meeting it was also highlighted that there is instances the documentation is available with some of the returnees but the land has not yet being provided to them. However, the governor disclosed that some of the bottlenecks in the land acquisition are due to the property ownership dispute. The case of land ownership is pending with the judiciary and will be resolved soon. The Deputy Governor assured the team that once the issue of ownership dispute is resolved in the court of law, then the land will be transferred to the returnees on priority basis. The governor also informed the team that a request has already being sent to the federal government for resolving the issue of 80 square kilometres under water land. The governor was optimistic that the federal government will soon allocate grant for the construction of protective wall and the rehabilitation of agriculture land. It was also informed that the development work will soon start in two townships in Laghman (Mehterlam Baba) which will be utilized for both the returnees and IDPs.

Process of Renewal of PoR Cards (SCAC Centres):

The proof of registration (PoR) card is an important identity document that provides temporary legal stay of registered Afghans in Pakistan. Prior to the start of renewal process for the PoR cards, the repatriation cell conducted comprehensive awareness campaigns wherein all the registered Afghan Refugees in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were urged to renew their

PoR cards by the deadline of 31st December 2014 & then extended up to 28th February 2015, in order to continue to be considered as refugees. For this purpose the repatriation cell continuously informed the target refugees to approach their nearest registration centre (SCAC centre)



before the deadline and collect their renewed PoR cards. The UNHCR help line number 0300 858 5600, NADRA hot line number 0343 855 5151 and the SMS number 7000 were also shared with the Afghan Refugees in case they required more information for finding out where to collect their renewed PoR cards.

Following the decision by the Government of Pakistan through its federal cabinet in July 2013 announced the extension of the Tripartite Commission Agreement governing the voluntary return of Afghans and the validity of the PoR cards



until the end of 2015. Therefore to extend the validity of the PoR cards, the process of replacing PoR cards that expired in December 2012 with the new cards started in February 2014

year and concluded on 31st December 2014. However the AR can collect their renewed PoR card remained in PCM center up

to 28th February 2015. A total of 799,266 renewed PoR cards were issued to Afghan Refugees up to 28th February 2015 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

During the process of sensitization campaigns, the Repatriation Cell informed Afghan Refugees that the renewed PoR card is a very important identity document that grants legal status and protects Afghan refugees from arbitrary detention and deportation during their temporary stay in Pakistan. The Repatriation Cell also informed them that it is also required for Afghan refugees who wish to avail UNHCR's cash assistance to repatriate to Afghanistan.

Visits to PCM Centres: (Modification & New Birth Registration):

The Repatriation Cell conducted regular visits and held by weekly meetings with staff of PCM (PoR Cards Modification Centre) in Peshawar and Haripur. Out of the total six PCM Centre's, two are functioning in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa which are operated by NADRA with the active facilitation of Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees. Registered Afghan

Refugees are required to modify their renewed PoR cards and register the births of their children up to age five. It was due to the continuous efforts & timely information of the



Repatriation Cell that 13449 new born children were registered with parents in the PoR cards and 7747 new born Afghan children above five years were issued individual PoR cards in 2014. Besides, a total of 16140 cases of modification in PoR cards were processed in the reporting year in KPK.

Facilitating the AR Returnees at VRC Chamkani: (Repatriation Process)

The Voluntary Repatriation Center (VRC) Peshawar is located in GulAbad, Chamkani on main Grand Trunk (GT) road and remain open from Monday to Friday 08:00 am to 4:00 pm with the exception of Friday as a half day till 12:00 pm. The voluntary repatriation of registered Afghan Refugees are daily processed though this VRC under the financial assistance of



UNHCR. Upon arrival to Voluntary Repatriation Centre (VRC) Chamkani, the Afghan returnees sign a Voluntary Repatriation Form (VRF). When reach to Afghanistan, they approach the nearest Encashment Centre and receive UNHCR assistance against one of the copies of the VRF and the cash grant named as individual settlement grant of US \$ 200 per person.

The Repatriation Cell's priorities when it comes to AR return are to mobilize Afghan Refugees through comprehensive awareness campaigns, to promote enabling conditions for voluntary repatriation and to ensure the exercise of a free and informed choice. The



Repatriation Cell believes that the provision of information on the prevailing situation in Afghanistan is crucial to help Afghans refugees make an informed decision about their return. Therefore information on the voluntary repatriation programme and conditions in Afghanistan was disseminated through sensitization and awareness campaigns in all the 69 refugees' camps in KPK. Mass information activities were also disseminated through thematic leaflets and other IEC materials.

The Repatriation Cell under the financial assistance of UNHCR has facilitated the voluntary return of 1387 Afghan families comprised of 6454 individuals during the year 2014 via VRC Chamkani. At the end of 2014, a total of 3.86 million Afghan Refugees have voluntary return to Afghanistan from all over Pakistan. The Repatriation Cell always makes sure that the Afghan Refugees approaching the VRC Chamkani must bring their own and family members' valid proof of registration cards along with two family group photos in colour besides to wind up their business or shift the belongings to Afghanistan. In addition to their personal belongings, the Repatriation Cell makes sure that AR returnees also bring other valuables with them such as used building material etc. Moreover, for the first time the Repatriation Cell in 2014 introduced the system of group's repatriation which resulted in considerable reduction of the incidence of harassment and extortions enroot to Torkham Border.

What has been Achieved?

Between 2002 and 2014, the Repatriation Cell in coordination with UNHCR has facilitated the voluntary return of 2.28 Million out of the total 3.86 million AR returnees from Pakistan.

However, some incidence of recycling was also observed and discussed in the meetings. The Repatriation Cell raised the concern of recycling in important meetings and suggested that in order to control the recycling of voluntary repatriated Afghan

Refugees as well as sustainable repatriation process, a biometric system should be put in place at the exit/entry point of the Pak-Afghan border.

Up-date the repatriation figures & submission reports to all concerned:

The Repatriation Cell received by-weekly updated statistics on assisted repatriation figure from VRC Chamkani. The data was consolidated, compiled and then shared with relevant quarters. Furthermore, the consolidated yearly achievements and financial reports including next year's planning with project description & work plans were prepared and submitted to UNHCR.

Detail of Year Wise Repatriation of Afghan Refugees				
CUMULATIVE AS OF 2002	WHOLE PAKISTAN		KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA	
	Families	Individuals	Families	Individuals
Repatriation in 2002	281,720	1,565,095	144,174	811,299
Repatriation in 2003	62,524	343,074	32,257	181,053
Repatriation in 2004	67,023	383,598	32,096	186,945
Repatriation in 2005	79,727	449,520	52,046	290,873
Repatriation in 2006	24,232	133,015	14,365	80,625
Repatriation in 2007	61,399	364,476	48,447	290,554
Repatriation in 2008	50,841	282,496	41,818	222,665
Repatriation in 2009	10,138	51,290	5,637	27,396
Repatriation in 2010	19,821	109,383	15,630	83,739
Repatriation in 2011	9,976	52,096	6,978	35,235
Repatriation in 2012	15,348	83,423	10,682	53,850
Repatriation in 2013	6,318	31,224	3,311	16,043
Repatriation in 2014	2,486	11,931	1,387	6,454
Grand Total	691,553	3,860,621	408,828	2,286,731

Budget Review Meetings:

After the staff rationalization of Pillar 01 Projects, budget was carefully calculated and revised during the review meetings with UNHCR. Based on mutual understanding with UNHCR, the saving amount after staff reduction was utilized for increasing salary of the available remaining staff. The increase in salary was based on the fact that the staff was already assigned additional activities on account of staff reduction. Furthermore, the increase in salary resulted in the achievement of maximum inputs of the agreed deliverable of Pillar 01 projects.

As per mutual understanding between UNHCR and Commissionerate Afghan Refugees during the rationalization of CAR staff, it was agreed and decided that some positions were either redesigned as well as up graded.

Furthermore, the three Assistant Directors of Repatriation Cell were deputed zone wise. These zonal deputations were carried out on the request of UNHCR during



the rationalization meetings. As a result the Assistant Directors were deputed at north, south and central zone for effective implementation of the activities. Moreover one Repatriation Facilitator was also deputed with the Assistant Directors for supporting the project activities.

However, after the rationalization exercise the strength of the staff of significantly reduced which resulted in overburden of duties on the available staff.

Purchase of Laptops and Office Furniture:

The Repatriation Cell carried out some necessary procurement for office use. During the budget revision (July-December 2014), the request of Reporting/Monitoring Coordinator for provision of laptop and office furniture was also discussed with UNHCR and the amount was allocated in the Repatriation Budget for the necessary purchase of laptops and office furniture.

After following all the procurement rules and other codal formalities, request for quotations from reputed suppliers was sought. Three reputed vendors/suppliers were short-listed by the purchase committee and the bidding process was completed. The purchase committee strictly followed and observed the procurement guidelines. The short-listing was based on market reputation of the bidders, competitive rates, quality, financial background and expertise in the field. Based on the recommendation of the purchase committee, the administrative approval was granted. As per comparative statements, the lowest rate for best quality of the supply of Laptops was offered to MS Fast Technologies, whereas, the supply of office furniture was granted to MS Artisan Furnishers. A total of four laptops including office/computer tables, side rakes and chairs were purchased from the qualified bidders.

Purchase of Uniform/Paraphernalia for VRC Security Staff (H.C & F.C)

The Repatriation Cell has deputed all the security staff members including foot constable and head constables at the Voluntary Repatriation Centre in Chamkani for security purpose. They are also required not only to secure the premises and make sure the entry and exit control but also to facilitate the smooth repatriation process at the VRC including physical search of incoming refugees, crowd control and guidance to designated places and secure departure of AR returnees from VRC.

The repatriation cell has always ensured that the necessary equipments are made available to the security staff deputed at the VRC Chamkani.

Therefore, during the year 2014, the uniform including necessary paraphernalia for 42 security staff members was purchased from



the Frontier Constabulary supply store. Prior to the purchase, quotations were sought from bidders. However, keeping in view the sensitive nature of the supply items, the Repatriation Cell could not find other bidders in the open market for the same supply. Therefore, after the administrative approval of the Commissioner Afghan Refugees Peshawar, the award for the same supply under exceptional circumstances was awarded to the Frontier Constabulary store. This recognized store is already supplying uniform to Frontier Constabulary and other government law enforcing agencies. These supply included uniform, shoulder badges, jercy and shoes etc.

Actively Participation in Training Sessions: (DRC, UNHCR)

The Repatriation Cell always makes sure the capacity building of its staff members and continuously provides coaching and guidance to its staff. Whether training workshops or sensitization seminars/sessions, the Repatriation Cell actively participated in it. Based on its commitment, the Repatriation Cell ensured the active participation in all the training workshops arranged by Danish Refugees Council and UNHCR during the year 2014. Relevant staff was designated

for participation in these workshops, then feedback was received during internal review meetings in the office of the Director Repatriation.

Prepared & Submission of Monthly, Mid-year & Annual Situation Reports:

As per article 2.08 of 2014 Partner Agreement between CAR and UNHCR, the Repatriation Cell made sure to submit monthly, mid-year and annual reports to UNHCR. In this regard the Cell provided the monthly situational reports on time for further sharing with UNHCR. Mid-year and annual reports were also prepared and then shared with UNHCR within the specified period of time. All relevant supporting documents were also annexed with the submitted reports.