



A delegation from the UK embassy visited IOM in Herat to better understand mobility and displacement dynamics with regards to cross border return and drought © Ahmad Shah / IOM Afghanistan

Highlights

721,276 total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

691,637 total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2018

29,639 total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2018

28,360 undocumented Afghans returned from Iran

587 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan

2% of returnees from Iran (585 individuals) assisted

87% of returnees from Pakistan (513 individuals) assisted

Return from Iran

A total of **28,360** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between 11 - 17 Nov 2018, **127% more** than in the previous week (12,475) and **the highest weekly return number from Iran this year**. This sharp increase is a result of the winter weather and consequential fewer economic opportunities in Iran due to continuing economic woes. With ongoing funding constraints, IOM was only able to assist a limited number of 585 (2%) of Afghans returning from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 101 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 53 Medical Cases (MC), 42 members of Single Parent Families (SP), 2 Single Females (SF), 6 Physically Disabled (PD), 35 Special Cases (SC), 0 member of Poor Families (PF) and 14 Unaccompanied Elderly (UE).

Protection Assistance for Returnees

The Protection Unit provided assistance for 45 PSN cases in Herat, Kabul, Balkh, Sari Pul and Nimroz provinces, including 20 Unaccompanied Migrant Children, 19 Female-headed households, 4 Single Females and 2 Medical cases.

The assistance included food, household items and blankets, new clothing, cash for transportation, cash for rent or accommodation, and referral services to hospitals (including payment) for medical cases.

In addition, 131 Female Headed Households received household items and blankets in 4 districts of Nangarhar Province.

Situation Overview

Since 01 January 2018, IOM is responding to the return of over 700,000 undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Undocumented returns from Iran in particular are seeing a massive increase of more than 200,000 to over 460,000 total between January-July 2018 versus 187,000 during the same time period in 2017, largely driven by recent political and economic issues in Iran including massive currency devaluation. As Afghans primarily work in the informal economy in Iran the demand for this type of work is drastically reduced. Further as all Afghans typically send home their earnings in the form of monthly remittances, the Afghan economy itself, already evident in the drought affected provinces of Herat, Badghis and Ghor, is suffering direct and immediate effects.

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Return from Pakistan

A total of **587** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 11 to 17 November 2018, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 551 were spontaneous returnees and 36 were deported. This number marks an **52% increase** compared to the previous week (387). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2018 is now 29,639. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **87%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (513 individuals).

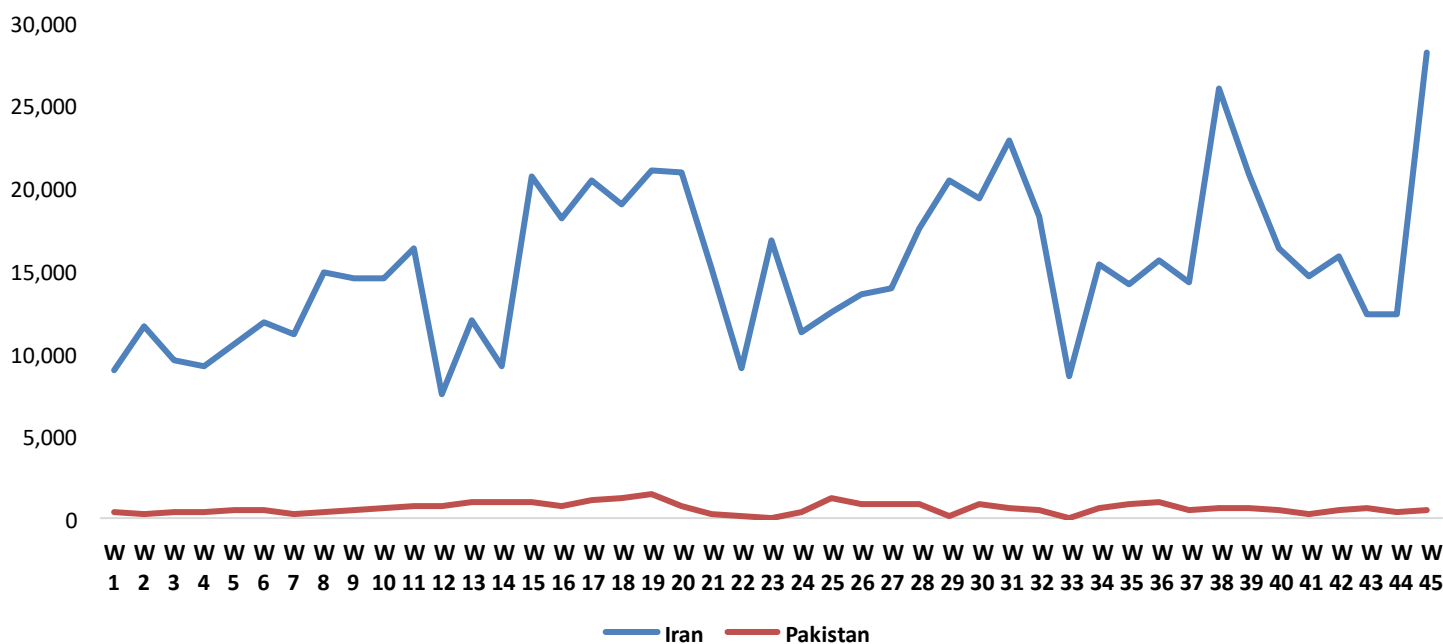
Number of Undocumented Returnees 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - Oct 18	13,295	13,086	218,356	80,708	1396	591	147,007	201,317	28,368	647,388	675,756
01 - 03 Nov	96	135	681	1,058	26	40	476	1,199	297	3,414	3,711
04 - 10 Nov	115	230	3,997	2,505	42	0	1,520	4,453	387	12,475	12,862
11 - 17 Nov	189	362	6,716	3,933	19	17	3,280	14,431	587	28,360	28,947
Total	13,695	13,813	229,750	88,204	1,483	648	152,283	221,400	29,639	691,637	721,276

IOM Assisted Undocumented Afghans 2018 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
Jan - Oct 18	12,574	10,966	548	1,247	257	43	9,719	11,519	23,840	23,033	46,873
01 - 03 Nov	96	113	1	0	0	7	37	63	216	101	317
04 - 10 Nov	109	219	7	0	0	0	170	315	328	492	820
11 - 17 Nov	180	333	10	0	0	0	319	256	513	585	1,098
Total	12,959	11,631	566	1,247	257	50	10,245	12,153	24,897	24,211	49,108

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 49,108 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2018, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

Migration for the benefit of all.

