



*The head of a family collects the IOM winter assistance kit in Kabul @ Schwoerer/IOM 2017*

### Highlights

- 481** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan
- 13,412** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran
- 97,288** total returns from Pakistan since 01 Jan 2017
- 441,466** total returns from Iran since 01 Jan 2017
- 96%** of returnees from Pakistan (461 individuals) assisted
- 6%** of returnees from Iran (812 individuals) assisted
- 193** Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC) from Iran among those assisted, 0 from Pakistan
- 112** Medical Cases (MC) from Iran among those assisted

### Return from Pakistan

A total of **481** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through the Turkham (Nangarhar) and Spin Boldak (Kandahar) border crossings from 10-16 December, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total returnees, 446 were spontaneous returnees and 35 were deported. This number marks a **5% increase** compared to the previous week (457). The total number of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan since 01 January 2017 is now 97,288. IOM provided post-arrival assistance to **96%** of undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan (461 individuals), including 292 individuals in poor families, 154 individuals in single parent families, 13 special cases and 2 mentally ill cases. The assistance provided includes meals, accommodation, basic medical screening, Non-Food Items (NFIs), onward transportation cash grants and referral services, as well as support from partners.

### IOM Winter Assistance

With the generous contribution of the Czech Republic, IOM began household level winterization assessments in partnership with the Directorate for Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR) on 06 November for several hundred returnee families from Pakistan in four provinces of high return to identify those families who are most vulnerable to harsh winter conditions.

Thus far, IOM staff have completed the assessment and distribution of 100 winter kits in Kabul, 148 winter kits in Nangarhar, and 48 winter kits in Laghman. In the next few days, IOM will finish the distribution of winter packages to remaining families in Nangarhar, Laghman and Kunar.

Each winter package consists of the following items: 1 family sized tent, Blankets, Gas Heater, and 60 USD cash to cover fuel costs for heating/cooking for three months.

### Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since 01 January 2017, over 538,754 undocumented Afghans have returned due to diverse push factors, including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan and Iran. This figure represents a significantly lower rate of return than in previous years. Most of those returning have lived outside of Afghanistan for decades, and will need support from the government and humanitarian actors both on arrival and as they seek to reintegrate. As the rate of return is influenced by a number of political, security and other related factors both in Afghanistan and neighboring countries, another surge in returns could occur at any time. IOM estimates that approximately 558,526 undocumented Afghans could return from Pakistan and Iran in 2017, and is working to scale up its support to returnees in coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and other humanitarian partners.

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Return from Iran

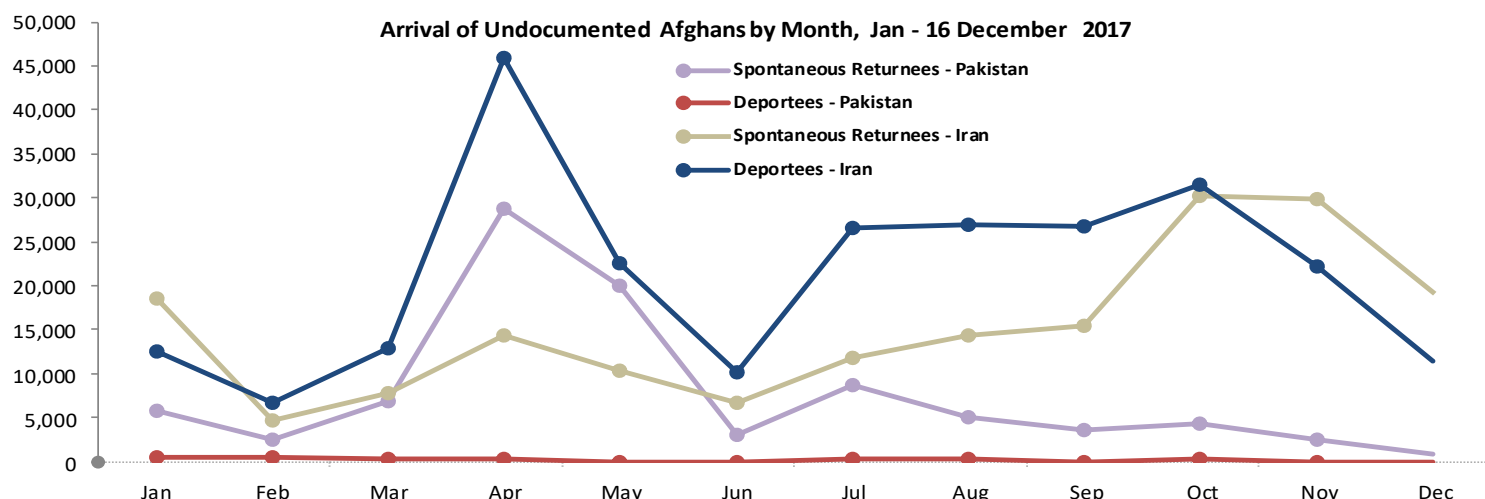
A total of **13,412** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through the Milak (Nimroz) and Herat (Islam Qala) border crossings between Dec 10— 16, **32% More** than in the previous week. Of the total deported undocumented Afghans, 2,727 individuals were deported through Islam Qala (Herat) and 3,624 were deported through Milak (Nimroz). Of those who spontaneously returned, 5,249 returned through Islam Qala (Herat) and 1,812 through Milak (Nimroz). Out of the total deportees, 356 individuals (6%) were deported with family members whereas 5,995 (94%) were deported as individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran since 01 January 2017 to 441,466. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **812 (6%)** undocumented Afghans deported from Iran at its Transit Centers in Nimroz and Herat, including 266 individuals in Deported Families (DF), 193 Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), 135 Special Cases (SC), 112 Medical Cases (MC), and 33 Physically Disabled (PD).

Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2017 (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			
January - October 17	58,466	30,708	41,411	92,010	2,386	1,208	19,799	202,456	92,768	355,676	448,444
01 Nov - 2 Dec 17	1,466	1,757	26,074	9,878	111	248	8,276	18,027	3,582	62,255	65,837
03 - 09 Dec	185	241	3,924	1,515	31	0	2,284	2,400	457	10,123	10,580
10 - 16 Dec	244	202	5,249	1,812	35	0	2,727	3,624	481	13,412	13,893
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,361</b>	<b>32,908</b>	<b>76,658</b>	<b>105,215</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>33,086</b>	<b>226,507</b>	<b>97,288</b>	<b>441,466</b>	<b>538,754</b>

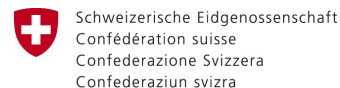
IOM Assisted Undocumented Afghans in 2017 (Turkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total Pakistan	Total Iran	Grand Total
	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Turkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz			
January - October 17	55,812	22,685	222	605	502	614	2,255	14,955	79,613	18,037	97,650
01 Nov - 2 Dec 17	1,466	1,564	85	95	49	13	744	2,014	3,092	2,938	6,030
03 - 09 Dec	185	171	20	7	3	0	201	400	359	628	987
10 - 16 Dec	244	202	34	10	15	0	248	520	461	812	1,273
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,707</b>	<b>24,622</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>3,448</b>	<b>17,889</b>	<b>83,525</b>	<b>22,415</b>	<b>105,940</b>



IOM Afghanistan has assisted 105,940 undocumented Afghans returning from Iran and Pakistan between 01 January and 16 December 2017 thanks to the dedication of our staff and the generosity of our donors.

Migration for the benefit of all.



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