



Solutions to Afghan displacement:
a rapid review of the evidence
December 2018



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ACRONYMS

ADSP	Afghan Displacement Solution Platform
ACBAR	Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development
ALCS	Afghanistan Living Condition Survey
ALNAP	Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance
ATR	Assess, Transform, Reach Consulting
BAFIA	Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants Affairs
CSO	Central Statistics Organization
DiREC	Displacement and Return Executive Committee
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
EU	European Union
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
GBV	Gender Based Violence
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IRC	International Rescue Committee
ISET	Informal Settlement
KII	Key Informant Interview
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoRR	Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PoR	Proof of Registration
RI	Relief International
SAFRON	Ministry of States and Frontier Regions
SSAR	Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UPHI	Universal Public Health Insurance
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This review is the first step in creating a repository for research and a hub for the development, dissemination and transfer of knowledge to relevant actors. It will provide valuable insight to those seeking to promote legislative changes, inform policy development and ensure the appropriateness and effectiveness of interventions in the search for durable solutions for displaced Afghans in the region.

A total of 139 documents, published since 2012, on displacement in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan with a focus on durable solutions, namely return and reintegration, local integration and resettlement, were catalogued. The studies were identified through an extensive search of websites, in English and local languages. The review highlights key features, gaps in methodology and topics, and makes recommendations for further study.

KEY FINDINGS

Pages 24-25

Methodologies

Limited publicly available literature is the most evident gap

Most studies on Afghanistan were commissioned by the UN and NGOs. In Iran and Pakistan, they were largely conducted by academics. The lack of involvement by government institutions in developing and publishing studies is noticeable. Limited studies in Iran and Pakistan point to sensitivities in researching this topic.

Little is known about the effects of displacement on rural communities

Most studies were conducted in urban and peri-urban areas, where the majority of the Afghans affected by displacement live. While the lack of coverage of rural areas is mainly due to insecurity, the analysis of data from only the most accessible areas might not provide a representative picture of the displacement.

There is a need for quality primary data

There is an overreliance on secondary data deriving, in some cases, from studies carried out well before 2012. The collection of more primary data is essential to ensure accurate, up-to-date and unbiased information" and will help to fill this key gap in the methodology.

Pages 25-27

Target populations

There is a need to better define refugees and IDPs

While the majority of the studies carried out in Afghanistan targeted returning refugees and IDPs, it is often difficult to ascertain if the definition of returnees included returning refugees or returning IDPs. Uniform treatment is inadequate as refugees and IDPs will often have different experiences and needs, and so clearer distinction is required.

The situation of asylum seekers and migrants in Iran and Pakistan is under-reported

More information is needed on the actual situation and needs of asylum seekers and undocumented migrants. While a few studies provided insight on returning asylum seekers or migrants, with a particular focus on young people, there is insufficient data on both their experience in their host countries and the dynamics of their return.

More focus is needed on the needs of women, youth and vulnerable groups

Vulnerable groups were considered in 40% of the studies, with a few focusing on areas in which women are disproportionately vulnerable, such as gender-based violence and access to documentation, land and housing. Youth, particularly unaccompanied minors, were one of the leading groups targeted by studies discussing return from Europe.

Pages 27-29

Solutions

The dynamics of reintegration and what happens when IDPs return

Refugees occupied the most prominent place in the literature, with very few studies addressing the return and reintegration of IDPs. This gap in the research is likely exacerbated by the fact that such movements are often unassisted and consequently difficult to document.

Barriers to local integration and how to address them

In Iran and Pakistan, local integration is not considered to be a viable option and resettlement to third countries is limited to a few hundred cases per year. Local integration is mentioned in very few studies (one in Iran and two in Pakistan) and only in relation to policy development.

When reintegration fails, returnees migrate again

Only 10% of the studies examined the reintegration process following targeted voluntary and/or forced return from the EU. Most studies suggested that there was a need to enhance monitoring of the reintegration process to help understand why many of those who return decide to migrate again.

Pages 30-32

Thematic areas

Livelihoods and jobs remain a key concern

Access to economic opportunities featured prominently, with most studies focusing on localized, short-term vocational training programmes. Further research should also focus on strategies for supporting women to access the labour market. Few studies examined child labour in the context of displacement.

Access to basic services, a key challenge for all

Access to education, health services, land and housing, and legal and civil rights received adequate, if uneven, coverage. Gaps remain within these categories, however, as well as on access to WASH services and food. The few studies on access to health services considered only mental health.

Security is a precondition for sustainable solutions

Only one study in Afghanistan addressed security as one of the main topics. Security is addressed mainly as a cause of displacement and disregarded when looking at solutions. A more in-depth analysis of the security situation needs to be considered when exploring solutions for the displaced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Identifying gaps and addressing them by improving research methodology

Identify ways to carry out more diverse research studies on Afghans displaced in Iran and Pakistan that can be published online. The most evident gap is the limited literature publicly available related to Afghan displacement in Iran and Pakistan.

Increase participatory primary data collection to ensure more accurate and up-to-date information. Almost half of the studies analysed relied exclusively on secondary data and organizations dealing with displacement report a lack of quality primary data.

Advocate with relevant ministries, such as Ministry of Public Health or the Ministry of Education to consider the displaced in their sector studies. For example, Afghanistan's Ministry of Public Health has carried out several studies but data on health issues affecting IDPs or returnees are rarely disaggregated.

One size doesn't fit all

Consider differences between refugees and IDPs when carrying out studies on the process of return and reintegration. It may be useful to consider the differences between the experiences and needs of refugees and IDPs. More studies on IDP return and reintegration might help support the achievement of durable solutions.

Consider the challenges of disadvantaged groups such as the disabled or elderly. More attention should be given to these groups through either dedicated studies or disaggregating data by gender, age and disability in more general studies. Further studies should also be carried out to provide more insights on the relationship between displacement and gender violence.

Assess the actual involvement of communities affected by displacement in policy decisions. Participatory studies to understand the level of community participation would facilitate the design of policies and programmes that correspond to the needs of all affected by displacement.

Take a deeper look in the search for durable solutions

Carry out further studies on reintegration of Afghans returning from the EU. Studies on return from Europe call for further research on post-return reintegration; not only on the returnees and their families but also on the community. The impact of cultural ties and behavioural changes should be further explored.

Research the possibility of local integration of refugees in their country of first asylum. Although local integration might not be an option in Iran or Pakistan, it would be worthwhile to explore the current environment and determine whether additional opportunities exist or may be possible in the future.

Follow up on commitments made by the governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to identify shortfalls and measure progress. While governments have their own systems to measure progress and maintain accountability, independent studies could support them in finding ways to address shortfalls.

Join forces to learn more

Carry out comprehensive market assessments and value chain analyses to design livelihood strategies that go beyond localised, short-term vocational training. NGOs should consider advocating with UN organizations such as UNHCR or IOM to carry out high-quality studies or to pull funds together to do their own.

Conduct more research on access to basic services such as education and health and WASH for displaced and host communities. Ministries and organizations supporting such services should take the lead in developing studies that can better inform contributions in support of solutions for the displaced.

Conduct studies on access to land and housing to analyse the effectiveness of existing legal instruments. Issues related to land allocation schemes and informal settlements should also be further analysed, for example to determine how the Master Plan for Kabul addresses the needs of the most poor and vulnerable.



PART 1 – SCOPE OF THE REVIEW

A. Background and context

Nearly four decades of conflict in Afghanistan have forced large numbers of Afghans to leave their homes and seek refuge elsewhere, either abroad or in other parts of the country. While Afghan refugees have sought asylum in about 80 countries, some 2.4 million (91%,) are refugees in Iran and Pakistan.¹ Additionally, both countries host also a large number of undocumented Afghans, estimated to be between 1.5 to 2 million in Iran and between 350,000 and 550,000 in Pakistan.² In 2017, Afghans also constituted the second largest group of new arrivals in Europe, after Syrians.³

The protracted nature of the Afghan refugee situation in the two major host countries (Iran and Pakistan) highlights the need for long-term solutions (generally referred to as a) return and reintegration; b) local integration; c) resettlement). While durable solutions are difficult to achieve in long-standing refugee situations, violence, insecurity and natural disasters have continued to prompt further displacement, with about 2 million people estimated to be currently internally displaced. This situation poses numerous challenges to the sustainable return and reintegration of Afghans affected by displacement. Resettlement to third countries is an option for relatively few Afghans, with about 40,000 refugees resettled from Iran and Pakistan in the last 15 years.⁴

To promote legislative changes in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan, inform policy development and ensure the appropriateness and effectiveness of interventions, international and national organisations working to address Afghan displacement continue to conduct and commission research in an effort to establish a more comprehensive understanding of the situation on the ground. Donor agencies also rely on data to decide on funding and evaluate programmes and projects. Unfortunately, the wealth of data generated by these research activities has not always been widely disseminated and utilised; while some areas are over-researched, others tend to be disregarded and therefore poorly understood.

B. Scope and objectives of the review

The Afghan Displacement Solution Platform (ADSP), a joint initiative of the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Relief International (RI), has commissioned ATR Consulting to conduct a rapid review and policy analysis of available research studies relating to solutions for displaced Afghans. The desk study will support the ADSP in its development of comprehensive solutions for displaced Afghans in the region, including Afghans in transitional situations. The study will also help the ADSP to become a repository for research and a hub for knowledge development, dissemination and transfer to relevant actors.

1 UNHCR Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees, 2018-2018, <http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2018-2019%20Solutions%20Strategy%20for%20Afghan%20Refugees%20-%20October%202018.pdf>

2 Ibid

3 UNHCR Global Report 2017, http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/gr2017/pdf/GR2017_English_Full_Lowres.pdf

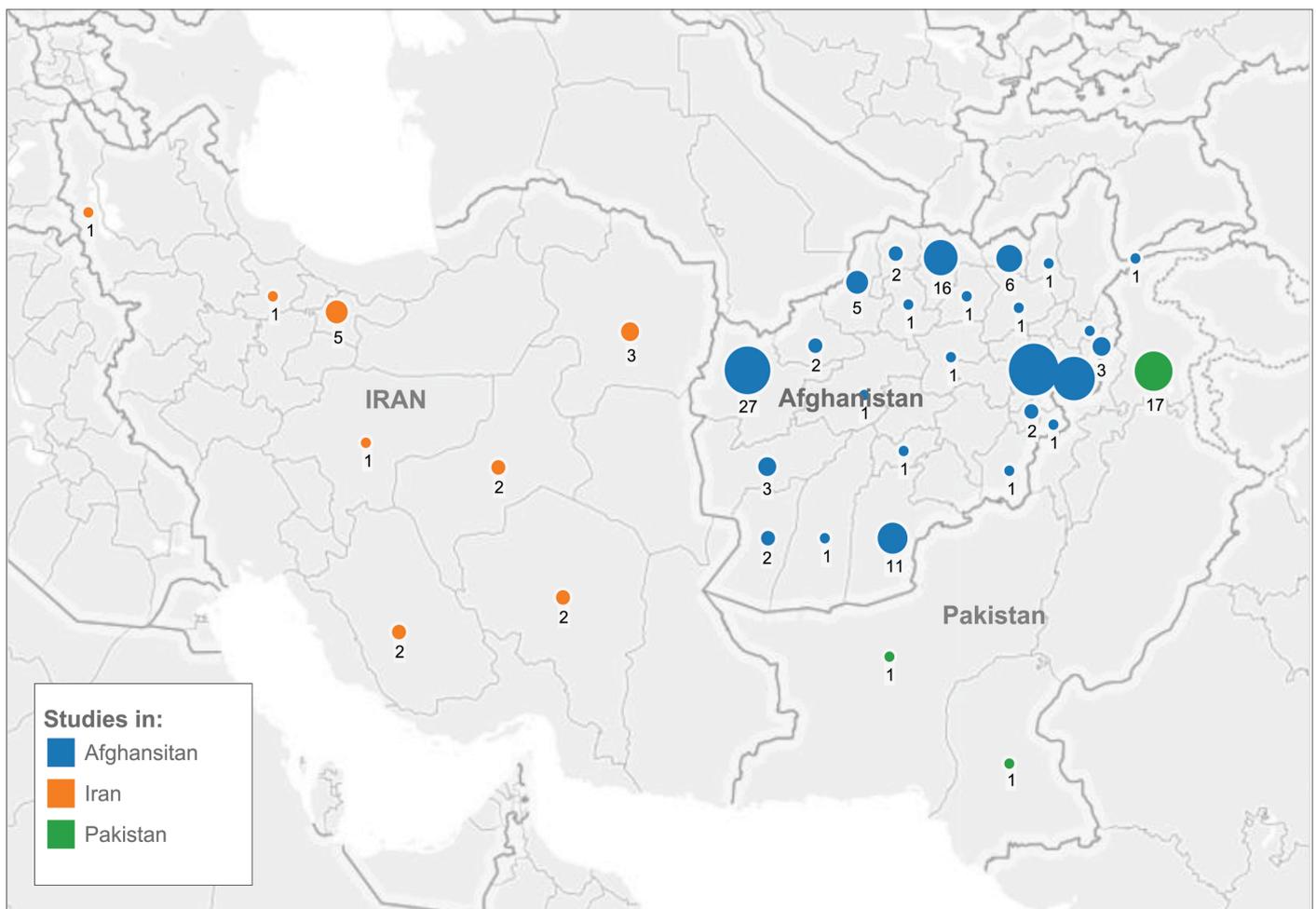
4 UNHCR resettlement data, <http://rsq.unhcr.org/en/#9eE5> from 2003 to 2017

This report, Solutions to Afghan displacement: a rapid review of the evidence, aims to provide an analysis of existing research on solutions, both durable and transitional, for displaced Afghans by:

- mapping areas of existing research on Afghan refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs);
- identifying gaps and recommending areas for further research; and
- developing a set of evidence-based recommendations, derived from the existing literature, that will support advocacy on solutions for Afghan displaced persons in the region.

The overall objectives of the study were met by answering the following two research questions:

1. What research exists relating to the achievement of solutions for Afghans affected by displacement in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan, published between 2012 and 2018?
2. Which recommendations, drawn from a thorough review of the literature, should be considered as the basis for the development of advocacy positions relating to solutions to Afghan displacement?



PART 2 – METHODOLOGY

The study consisted of selecting, compiling and organising secondary data, before analysing it so as to respond to the research questions. A detailed description of the methodology can be found below.

A. Data collection

1. Listing possible sources and developing the long list

First, to enable the initial selection of documents for review the researchers identified the main sources and repositories of research, which included websites of UNHCR, IDMC, Refworld, Reliefweb, ALNAP, World Bank, ACBAR, Government, UN agencies, NGOs and initiatives/platforms, major research companies and institutes, and academic institutions. The websites were thoroughly searched, and a total of 200 documents were identified and included in the long list. A large number of documents were also identified through a Google search of keywords and phrases,⁵ as well as through the snowball method, namely by checking selected documents for relevant references to research studies. The document search was not confined to English as it was also conducted in the relevant local languages, namely Farsi for Iran and Urdu for Pakistan.

While it was possible to identify many websites of national and international agencies containing documents related to displacement and solutions in Afghanistan, despite the extensive search, sources related to refugees and transitional/durable solutions in Iran and Pakistan were more limited.

2. List of parameters

In order to shortlist the relevant documents to be reviewed for the study, all 200 long-listed documents were reviewed against a set of parameters. The following parameters were provided by the Review Terms of Reference:

- Include any and all literature relating to ‘solutions’ for displaced individuals, broadly defined as either return of the displaced to their country of origin or – within Afghanistan – their area of origin, local integration and third-country resettlement. Solutions to displacement need not be the primary objective of the research, but the research must make a substantive contribution to the discourse;
- Focus primarily on information produced or commissioned by key stakeholders in humanitarian and development action. This includes, but is not limited to, humanitarian and development agencies, donors, policy and advocacy organisations, and academic institutions;
- Include government publications relating to displaced Afghans in the review, to the extent that it contributes to the development of policy and practice of solutions-focused programming; and
- Focus on data published between 2012 and 2018.
- Majority of data to be reviewed should be in English, national Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan languages were also considered.

⁵ Keywords and phrases used included, but were not limited to: Afghan refugees, returnees, IDPs, Afghan displaced, durable solutions, return, reintegration, integration, resettlement etc.

As the review focused on recommendations that could inform the work of actors working in the region, involved in the achievement of solutions for displaced Afghans, the literature selected included studies on solutions for the displaced in the country of origin, Afghanistan, as well as in the main countries of asylum, namely Iran and Pakistan. As a result, literature on resettlement is considered only in relation to the first country of asylum. However, resettlement may be a topic for further research.

Due to the large body of research available, the parameters were further refined as follows:

	Type of literature	Topics
To be included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of programmes and projects related to activities that support solutions for displaced Afghans • Review of policies or implementation strategies for the governments of Afghanistan, Pakistan or Iran or UNHCR country offices • Global level studies including case studies on displaced Afghans and published by major sources such as UNHCR, IOM or aid agencies • Articles, newsletters and meetings reports providing recommendations on solutions for displaced Afghans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugee resettlement but only related to Iran and Pakistan as first country of asylum
To be excluded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any type of publications that do not provide conclusions and recommendations such as situation reports, updates, bulletins, newsletters or articles. • Programme or project documents, strategies and plans. • Operational progress reports and updates. • Documents that are not published and/or not globally accessible (e.g. from websites accessible only from a specific country, such as from Iran or Pakistan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solutions outside the region • Displacement motivation, financing, risks en route • Displacement prevention and mitigation • Emergency assistance to displaced Afghans not linked to solutions (e.g. winter assistance)

Available government or mandated agencies' (e.g. UNHCR) policies or strategies were also included as reference documents in the catalogue as many are considered benchmarks.

3. The catalogue

All 200 long-listed documents which appeared to meet the parameters in a first review were downloaded and thoroughly reviewed. Sixty-one documents (30%) were removed as, upon in-depth review, they did not meet the parameters. The typical reasons for disqualification were: focus on reasons for migration; developed prior to 2012; updates or articles without findings and recommendations; focus on relief assistance without link to solutions; focus on displacement outside the region (Europe in particular). A few summaries of studies which were included in the long list were excluded as the full version was already in the catalogue.

A table for cataloguing the documents was developed, tested and then used to compile the catalogue. The catalogue, which contains 139 documents is divided into six parts:

1. Afghanistan – listing research studies related to displacement within Afghanistan;
2. Pakistan – listing research studies related to Afghan refugees in Pakistan;
3. Iran – listing research studies related to Afghan refugees in Iran;
4. Region – listing research studies related to more than one of the countries in the region on displaced Afghans (e.g. Afghanistan and Pakistan);
5. Global – listing research studies related to world-wide displacement but, at a minimum, with case studies on displaced Afghans;
6. Policies & Strategies – listing the policies and strategies of key governments and organisations or institutions (such as UNHCR or EU) related to displaced Afghans; this also includes some global policies or strategies considered relevant and used as benchmarks.

Each list, except Policies & Strategies, includes the following data categories:

- Title
- Year Published
- Author
- Commissioning Agency
- Type of Document
- Report Internet Link
- Target Population (refugees; returning refugees; IDPs; returning IDPs; asylum seekers/ undocumented migrants)
- Type of Solution (return and reintegration; local integration; resettlement; self-reliance)
- Thematic Area (access to land and housing; access to health services; access to education; access to WASH services; access to food; access to fuel and electricity; access to legal and civil rights; security)
- Objective
- Main Topics
- Main Findings

Before proceeding further, it may be helpful to explain how key terms are used in the catalogue:

Refugees – means only displaced Afghans who are formally registered as refugees. In the case of Iran this means those who hold the Amayesh, and in the case of Pakistan those who hold the Proof of Registration (PoR).

IDPs – as the review targets only displaced Afghans, IDPs were considered only in the literature related to Afghanistan.

Returning refugees and returning IDPs – some of the studies mentioned “returnees” more generally, which might include returning refugees or IDPs or both. The research tried to differentiate between the two as their experience and needs might be different.

Asylum seekers/undocumented migrants – as most of the literature does not seem to make a real distinction between the two, the research does not differentiate them.

Self-reliance – used in Iran and Pakistan as an additional solution when the literature does not look at refugees acquiring citizenship rights but rather using own resources or minimal external assistance to meet basic needs.

It should be noted that while magazines or journals are listed as one document, even when containing multiple articles, the catalogue lists the articles separately to allow for easier identification of topics and findings of each piece of research.

Upon completion of the catalogue, each entry was reviewed to ensure accuracy. The full catalogue can be found annexed to this report.

B. Data analysis

1. Document review

The 139 documents were analysed and coded based on publication date, commissioning agency, type of document, data collection method and location, population targeted, type of solution and thematic area addressed. Subsequently, a gap analysis was conducted in order to assess areas for further research. Additionally, the recommendations for further research given in these documents were analysed and the most relevant ones included in the last chapter in this report.

2. Analysis of recommendations

The recommendations were evaluated and analysed using a set of benchmarks used to assess their current relevance.

Specific **changes in political settings** considered as benchmarks were:

- The 2014 transition in Afghanistan (i.e. the withdrawal of the International Security Assistance Force and the direct economic impact);
- The 2018 elections in Pakistan;
- The US position toward Iran and Pakistan, especially the most recent sanctions imposed on Iran;
- The deteriorating security in Afghanistan that affects displaced Afghans (e.g. while return to a particular area could be possible for instance in 2012, it is not possible now as the area is the theatre of ongoing fighting).

A number of **policies and strategies** were developed during the period considered for the review. The following were used as benchmarks:

- The Afghanistan IDP Policy (adopted in November 2013);
- The Afghan Government Policy Framework on Returnees and IDPs and the Displacement and Return Executive Committee (adopted in 2017);
- Presidential Decree on Land Allocation 305 (replacing Decree 104 and issued in August 2018);
- The expansion to rural and urban areas of high return and displacement by the Citizens' Charter National Priority programme which was launched in September 2015;
- The 2015 decree issued by the Iranian Supreme Leader addressing access to primary and secondary education and the inclusion of all refugees into its Salamat Universal Public Health Insurance (UPHI) (2015).

Changes in population figures over time were also considered as they could affect the relevance of the recommendations:

- In 2012 there were estimated to be 400,000 displaced individuals in Afghanistan, as of September 2018 the estimated number is estimated at about 2 million;
- In 2016 more than 370,000 refugees and nearly 693,000 undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan and Afghanistan.

All recommendations included in the document and evaluated as relevant were then compiled and analysed using ATLAS.ti, a software that supports qualitative analysis. Recommendations were then organised by themes and sub-themes and whether related to policy or programme. This system allows for a much more rigorous analysis of large amount of qualitative data, including secondary data.

From the total of 139 documents actually considered for the review, the benchmarking resulted in the selection of 96 documents meeting the criteria for the analysis of the recommendations. It should be noted that during the analysis, when the recommendations were related to the same topic, care was taken to ensure that only those deriving from studies of different researchers were considered, in order to avoid duplications.

From the analysis of the studies most of the recommendations were related to the following topics:

1. Recommendations related to policy development and implementation, contained in 60 studies, and focusing on two main topics:
 - a) Implementation of Afghanistan policy framework on returnees and IDPs;
 - b) Development of regional migration policy;
2. Recommendations on access to economic opportunities were provided in 52 studies;
3. Recommendations on coordination and collaboration among government and non-governmental organisations on solution for displaced Afghans, present in 42 studies;
4. Recommendations on forced returns, mentioned in 24 studies.

C. Challenges

The identification of websites and documents related to displaced Afghans in Iran and Pakistan was particularly challenging, despite the fact that the search was also conducted in national languages with the support of national ATR researchers experienced in working in both Iran and Pakistan, for Pakistan, only 20 documents responding to the parameters were identified and included in the long list. In the case of Iran – an environment in which it is already challenging for NGOs to carry out research – the ability to search for documents was further constrained by the fact that some relevant documents were published on websites to which access was restricted.

Only a few studies were found in the government websites on displacement, and only in Afghanistan. In Iran, the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants Affairs (BAFIA) website⁶ does not have any research studies or documents. In Pakistan, in September 2018, the federal government decided to dissolve the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON)⁷ following the merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.⁸ The four Afghan Commissionerates and Chief Commissioner for Afghan refugees are reported to be currently under the Ministry of Interior.⁹ However no documents were found in SAFRON or Ministry of Interior websites.

Additionally, the documentation available online did not always allow verification of whether specific policy or programme recommendations were implemented and, if not, why not. While some analysis could have been undertaken if Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) had been conducted with key actors, such interviews fell outside the scope of the research methodology and would not necessarily have provided the methodological rigour required to draw firm conclusions.

6 <https://moi.ir/portal/home/?29392/%D8%AF%D9%81%D8%AA%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AA%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B9-%D9%88%D9%85%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%AC%D8%B1%DB%8C%D9%86-%D8-AE%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%AC%DB%8C>

7 <http://www.safron.gov.pk/>

8 <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/367266-govt-decides-to-dissolve-ministry-of-safron>

9 <https://www.interior.gov.pk/>

PART 3 – REVIEW OF THE RESEARCH

A. Description of the selected literature

A total of 139 documents were analysed for the review. The majority (62%) of them were related to Afghanistan, while only some concerned Iran (11%) and Pakistan (15%). A few studies were also identified covering the region as a whole (5%), while others featured Afghan displacement as part of global studies (7%). Most of the literature consisted of research study reports (40%), articles (25%), and assessment and evaluation reports (13%). All the documents analysed were published in English, with only few policy or strategy documents, included in the catalogue but not in the review of the research, found published in local languages.¹⁰

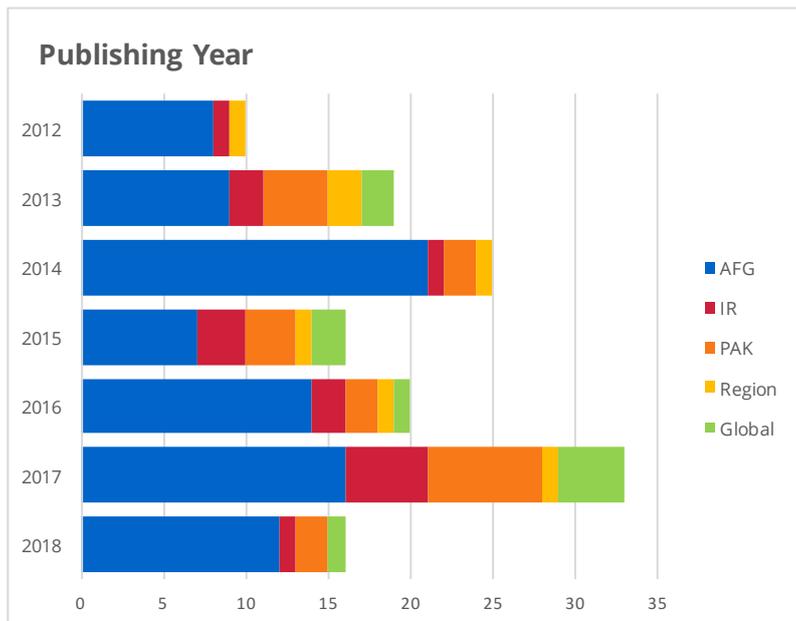


Chart 1: Number of studies published per year and per country

Most of the studies analysed were published in 2017 (24%) followed by 2014 (18%). 24% of the studies related to Afghanistan were published in 2014, while 33% of the studies related to Iran and 35% of those related to Pakistan, as well as 40% at the global level were published in 2017.

¹⁰ It is worth keeping in mind that the studies catalogued and analysed were those that could be discovered after extensive online research. However, there might be other documents online which were difficult to find, and which were not considered. Additionally, there could be studies not put in the public domain and/or distributed widely due to a variety of reasons, from intentional decisions made by the commissioning agencies due to the value or sensitivity of the research, to the lack of systematic publication practices among many research firms.

The reasons for the increase in studies are different for 2014 and 2017. The high number of Afghanistan-related documents developed and published in 2014, most of them policy briefs, working papers, and academic articles¹¹ might be associated with an enhanced focus on Afghanistan because of the presidential elections and the “transition” and the increase in internal displacements. Many are also related to the launch of the Afghanistan IDP Policy, which was approved at the end of 2013.

The 2017 documents, by contrast, focused on two specific issues: the 2016 return influx from Pakistan and Iran, and returns from Europe, following the signing of the Joint Way Forward agreement between the European Union (EU) and Afghanistan in 2016. Particularly notable documents published in 2017 related to policies and institutional frameworks including: *“EU Migration Policy and Returns: Case Study on Afghanistan”*,¹² which discussed European return policies from Europe and the implications of the Joint Way Forward; and *“Afghanistan’s Forced Displacement Legal & Policy Framework Assessment”*¹³ and *“Migration Governance: The Evolution of Concepts and Institutional Framework in Afghanistan”*,¹⁴ both of which reviewed the institutional frameworks on displacement in Afghanistan.

Among the five studies published on Iran in 2017, it is worth highlighting the NRC study *“Afghan Children’s Access to Education in Iran. What happened after the Supreme Leader’s Decree?”* as it is the only study identified through the review published by an NGO based in Iran.¹⁵ In Pakistan, and in line with the studies published on Afghanistan, most of the literature published focused on the 2016 mass return and human rights violations.

Overall, it appears that most of the studies published were commissioned by NGOs (36%) followed by UN and the World Bank (27%) and academic institutions (26%). While this was particularly true for Afghanistan, the trend did not hold for Iran and Pakistan, where most of the studies available were carried out by academic institutions. Such differences between country of origin and asylum might be related to the number of organisations in Iran and Pakistan with an interest in displacement, a more advanced academic sector, or to limited funds available for research studies. The challenging environment for NGOs to commission or conduct research studies in Iran should also be considered.

Only 9% of the studies were commissioned by governments, with half of them commissioned by the US government. Only one study in the catalogue was published by a national government, the Afghan government,¹⁶ and none by the Iranian or Pakistani governments. Policies and strategies could however be found in the websites of the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation in Afghanistan, while updates and news could be found in the BAFIA website in Iran.

11 In 2014 the Forced Migration Review (FMR) titles its issue n. 46, Afghanistan’s displaced people: 2014 and beyond, publishing several articles which are part of the review.

12 EU Migration Policy and Returns: Case Study on Afghanistan, 2017, ECRE, <https://www.ecre.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Returns-Case-Study-on-Afghanistan.pdf>

13 Afghanistan’s Forced Displacement Legal & Policy Framework Assessment, 2017, World Bank Group, https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/29195/122556-WP_AfghanistanForcedDisplacementLegalandPolicyFrameworkAssessmentF-PUBLIC.pdf

14 Migration Governance, 2017, AREU and German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, <https://areu.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/1718E-Migration-Governance.pdf>

15 Other two studies were carried out by an INGO, Human Rights Watch (HRW), in Iran, but it should be noted that HRW, differently from NRC, is not based in Iran

16 Report of the Public Inquiry into Land Usurpation, 2014, Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, http://www.mec.af/files/2014_11_01_Final_Report_of_the_Public_Inquiry_Into_Land_Usurpation_ENGLISH.pdf

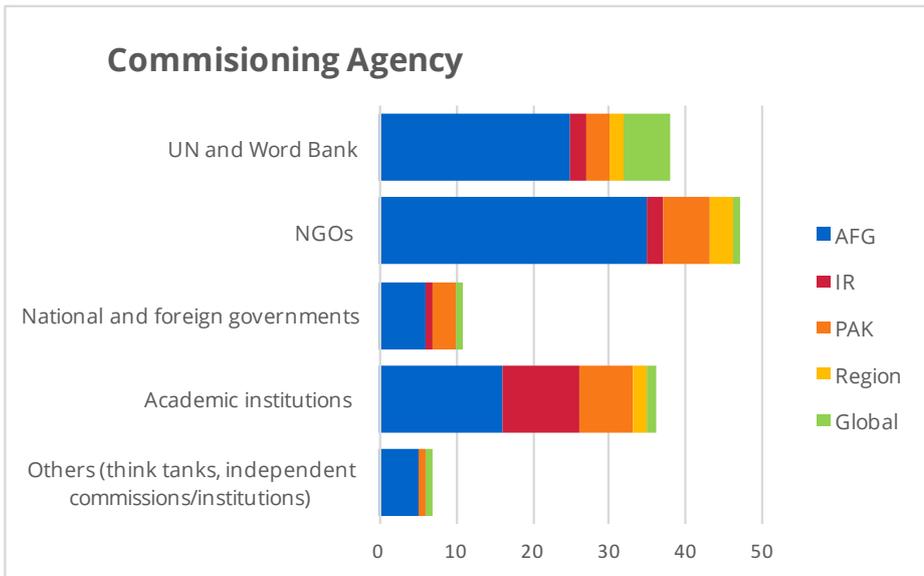


Chart 2: Number of studies featuring commissioning agencies, per country

Nearly half (47%) of the documents analysed, based their findings on secondary data (including the frequent use of data collected well before 2012), 30% used both secondary and primary data, and 23% were based exclusively primary data. Among those studies that used primary data, 63% had collected both quantitative and qualitative data, 30% only qualitative data and the remaining 7% only quantitative data.

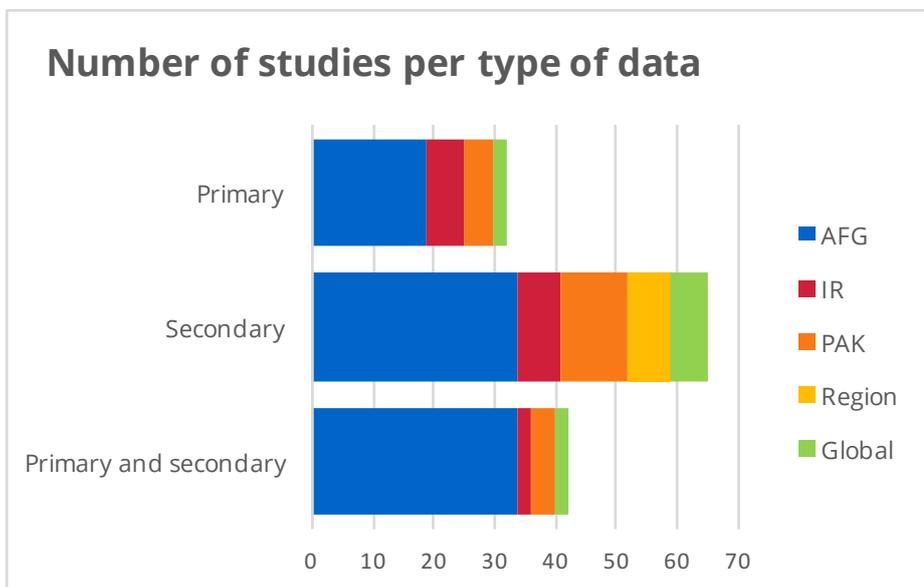


Chart 3: Number of studies featuring data from primary, secondary or both sources, per country

From the analysis of the documents using quantitative data collection methodologies, although the population frame is not always explained it appears that 57.5% of the researchers use a representative sampling size, ranging from 501 to more than 17,000 individuals. 30% use sampling that does not appear to be statistically representative, while 12.5% do not provide any indication of the sampling size in their reports. Interestingly, one researcher uses qualitative data to draw quantitative results, which are presented as statistically representative, but which are not considering the limited number of interviewees. While another uses a confidence level of 90%. These results show that commissioning agencies should require that their reports contain comprehensive methodology sections which clearly establish any limitations.

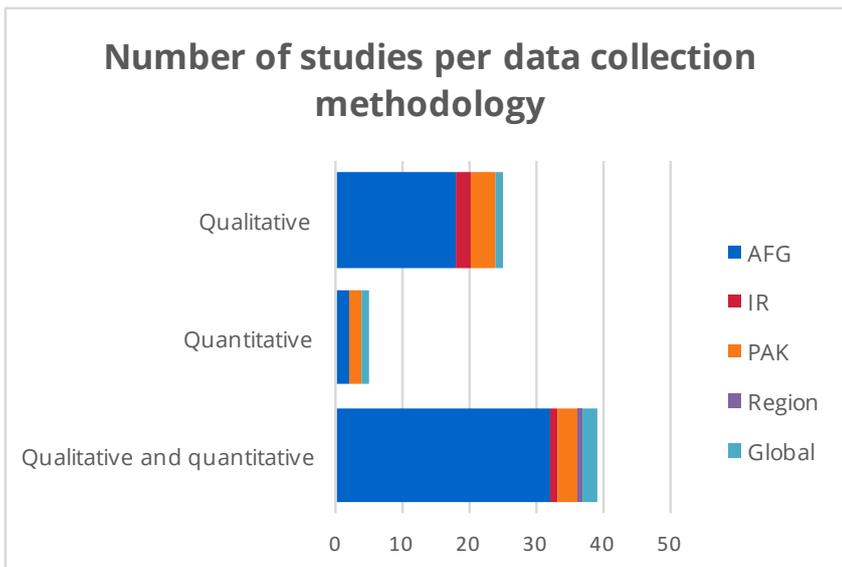


Chart 4: Number of studies featuring qualitative, quantitative or both data collection methodologies, per country

From the review of the literature analysed it appears that primary data was collected in a total of 28 out of the 34 provinces in Afghanistan. In nearly half of these provinces (46%), data were collected only once. The most common locations for data collection were Kabul (27%), Herat (16%), Nangarhar (14%), Balkh (10%) and Kandahar (7%). In Iran, 30% of the studies were carried out in Tehran, followed by Khorasan Razavi and Fars, Yazd and Kerman. In Pakistan, almost half of the studies (47%) were carried out in Peshawar followed by Charsada, Mardan and Swabi. The interest in those specific areas is most probably related to the presence of the commissioning agencies in those areas and the need to inform their programmes. As noted elsewhere, it is likely that more data has been collected but not made public and therefore cannot be used by the broader humanitarian community.

The table below shows the provinces and states where primary data collection took place:

Afghanistan						Pakistan		
No	State/Province	Studies	No	State/Province	Studies	No	State/Province	Studies
1	Kabul	45	15	Paktia	2	1	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	17
2	Herat	27	16	Samangan	1	2	Balochistan	1
3	Nangarhar	23	17	Sar-e Pol	1	3	Sindh	1
4	Balkh	16	18	Takhar	1	Iran		
5	Kandahar	11	19	Urozgan	1	No	Province	Studies
6	Kunduz	6	20	Badakhshan	1	1	Tehran	5
7	Faryab	5	21	Bamyan	1	2	Khorasan Razavi	3
8	Farah	3	22	Kapisa	1	3	Fars	2
9	Kunar	3	23	Khost	1	4	Yazd	2
10	Laghman	3	24	Baghlan	1	5	Kerman	2
11	Badghis	2	25	Nuristan	1	6	Esfahan	1
12	Jowzjan	2	26	Paktika	1	7	West Azarbaijan	1
13	Logar	2	27	Ghor	1	8	Qazvin	1
14	Nimruz	2	28	Helmand	1			

B. Main areas addressed by the literature

1. Target groups

Out of the 87 studies carried out in **Afghanistan**, 46% targeted returning refugees and 53% percent targeted IDPs. Thirty-six per cent of these studies targeted both returning refugees and IDPs. The high number of studies on returning refugees appears to have been triggered by the 2016 mass return from Pakistan as half of the studies on returning refugees were carried out in 2016 and 2017. In many studies, it was difficult to identify whether the definition of returnees included returning refugees or returning IDPs, with the distinct targeting of returning IDPs being clearly discernible in only three studies. This indicates that additional studies on IDP return and reintegration – including obstacles to return – may be needed.

In both **Iran and Pakistan**, the literature focused on refugees, asylum seekers and undocumented migrants. In Iran, attention was focused relatively evenly between the different categories of migrants while in Pakistan, refugees were the primary focus. The better coverage of asylum seekers and undocumented migrants in Iran is due to the fact that most of the studies are related to health and education and analyse the access to these services of documented and undocumented Afghans.

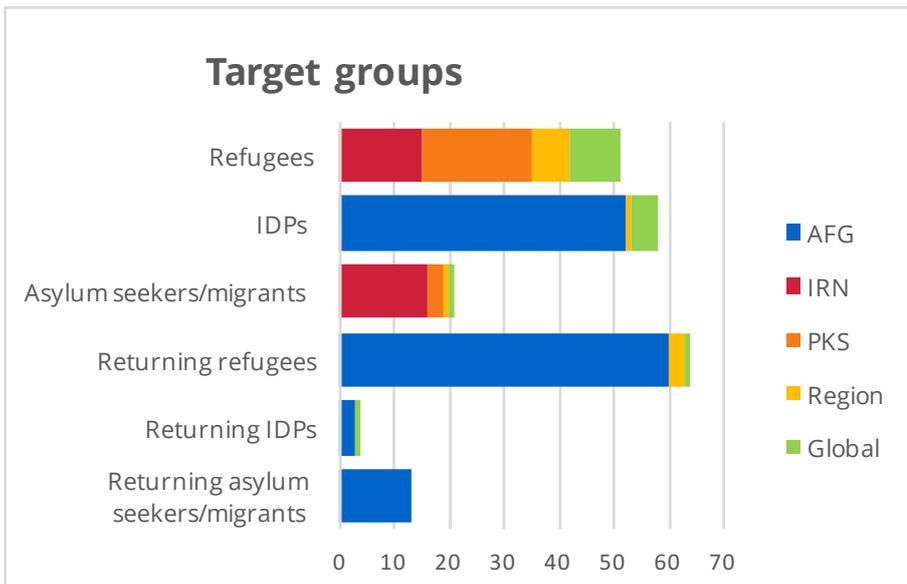


Chart 5: Number of studies per type of targeted population, per country

Vulnerable groups, women and minors in particular, were considered in 40% of the studies. A few studies looked specifically at **women's** issues in Afghanistan, such as access to documentation, access to land and housing, and issues relating to gender-based violence (GBV). Additionally, the challenges faced by female refugees, IDPs and returnees were considered by about half (47.5%) of the studies related to access to rights and basic services, as well as economic opportunities available to these groups.

In all three countries, 10% of the studies focused specifically on **youth**, mainly in relation to access to education or economic opportunities. Youth, particularly unaccompanied minors, were one of the main groups targeted by studies discussing return from Europe. In Iran, some of the studies also looked at the differences between the first and the second generation of Afghan refugees.

The table below summarises the main issues according to their coverage:

	GOOD COVERAGE*	ADEQUATE COVERAGE	INSUFFICIENT COVERAGE
Refugees			
IDPs			
Asylum seekers/migrants			
Returning refugees			
Returning IDPs			
Returning asylum seekers/ migrant			
Women			
Youth			
Children			
Disabled and/or elderly individuals			
Second/third generations			
Urban and peri-urban areas			
Rural areas			

* *Good coverage indicates that areas were well addressed, many studies exist and that quality data are still relevant, no specific gaps were identified by the review; Adequate coverage indicates that the areas have been generally addressed in an adequate matter but gaps could be found in quantity and/or quality in specific sub- areas data ; Insufficient coverage indicates that there are gaps in quantity and/or quality and there is definitely a need to collect more evidence.*

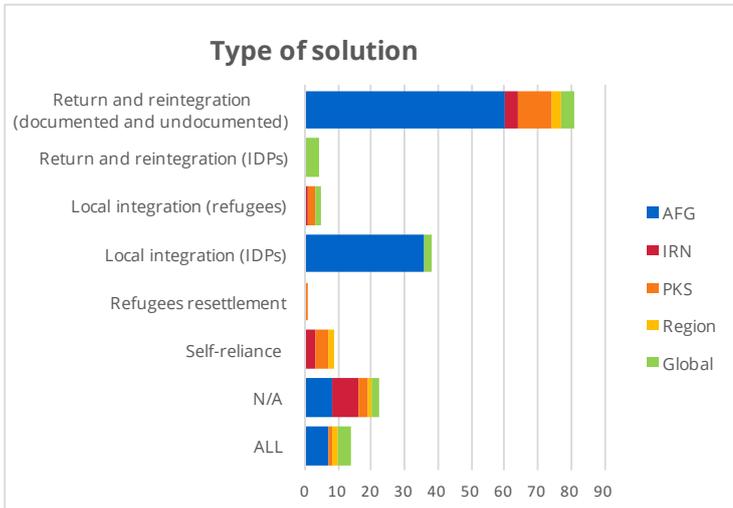
2. Solutions

The main solutions addressed by the research carried out on Afghanistan related to the **return and reintegration of refugees** as well as the **local integration of IDPs**. The focus on IDP integration during the period considered by the review is linked to the increasing number of IDPs and the interest in bringing local integration higher up the agenda, given the inability to consider sustainable return as an option for many IDPs due to insecurity and lack of services and economic opportunities in their area of origin. IDP resettlement to other locations in Afghanistan is barely mentioned, with limited references found only in some studies related to the National IDP Policy.

In both Iran and Pakistan, the main solution considered for displaced Afghans is **return**, which is in line with the positions of both governments as, thus far, local integration is not considered to be a viable option and resettlement to third countries is limited to a few hundred cases per year. Local integration is mentioned in very few studies (one in Iran and two in Pakistan) and only in relation to policy development. Refugee resettlement is the topic of only one study on refugees in Pakistan. This indicates a need for studies that consider both local integration and resettlement, in order to support advocacy on solutions.

Only 10% of the studies targeted voluntary and/or forced return from the EU, in order to examine the reintegration process. Most of these studies suggested that there was a need to enhance monitoring of the reintegration process to understand why many of those who return decide to migrate again.

Chart 6: Number of studies per type of solutions, per country



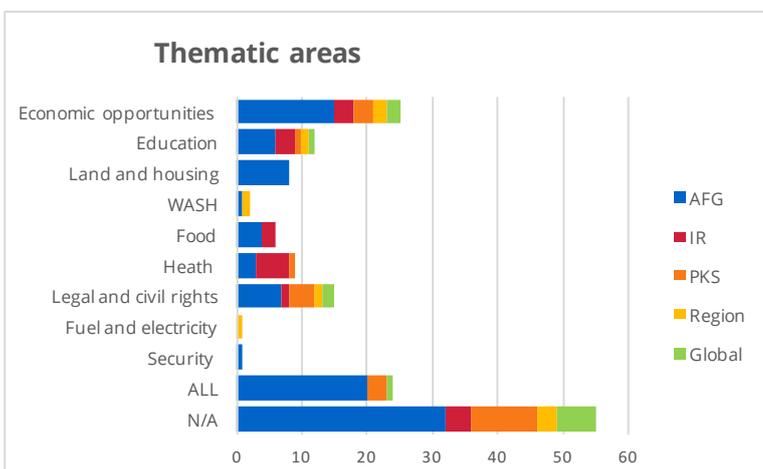
3. Thematic areas

Among all studies analysed that focused specifically on Afghanistan, the thematic area most often addressed, either as a single thematic area or jointly with others, was the **access to economic opportunities** for displaced Afghans, followed by **access to land and housing** and **access to legal and civil rights**. Quite interestingly, the few studies looking at access to health services among displaced Afghans considered only **mental health**, which is often considered to be an under-prioritised area for intervention.

In stark contrast, in Iran, the main thematic area addressed was **access to health services** followed by **access to education and access to economic opportunities**. In Pakistan half of the studies considered did not address any thematic areas and the remaining half privileged **access to civil and legal rights**, with access to documentation and renewal of the Proof of Registration (PoR) noted as the main concern for Afghan refugees, followed by **access to economic opportunities**.

Regional and global level studies which consider thematic areas focus on displaced Afghans’ **access to economic opportunities** and **access to legal and civil rights**.

Chart 7: Number of studies per thematic area, per country



Looking at the type of issues addressed by the studies and therefore the type of recommendations provided, 63% of the research on Afghanistan considered **programmatic issues**. The percentage was much higher in Iran with about 85% of the studies considering programmatic issues only. The exact opposite can be observed in Pakistan with almost 85% of the studies looking at **policy issues**. This focus was due to the need to solve the issue of documentation of Afghan refugees to avoid future forced return by the Pakistan authorities.

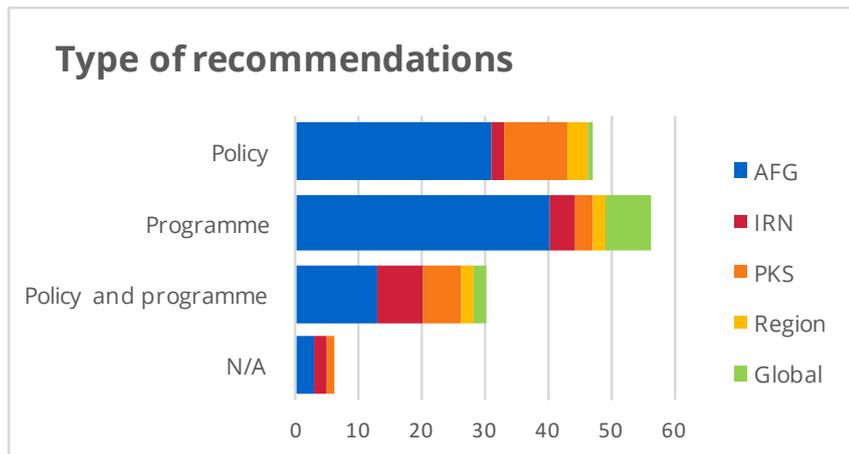


Chart 8: Number of studies per type of recommendations, per country

C. Main findings and gaps in the literature

1. Locations

The most evident gap was the limited literature publicly available related to Afghan displacement in **Iran and Pakistan**. In the case of Iran, few studies were available online, and those that were had been published mainly by academic institutions. As previously mentioned, there was only one study carried out by an NGO in Iran which could be included in the catalogue.

Most of the documents collected in Iran were articles with a focus on access to health services and education. While documents collected on Pakistan were also limited in number, topics discussed appeared to be more diverse, albeit with a strong focus on return to Afghanistan as the main solution.

Studies were primarily conducted in urban and peri-urban environments. Although those areas are the destinations of most displaced Afghans and displacement in urban areas is an issue requiring attention, **rural communities affected by displacement** should not be neglected, particularly in Afghanistan. While the insufficient coverage of rural areas is mainly due to insecurity, which limits outreach capacity by organisations researching and assisting communities affected by displacement,¹⁷ the analysis of data from only the most accessible urban or peri-urban areas might not necessarily be representative of the situation of displacement.

¹⁷ See "Humanitarian Action in Hard to Access Areas", January 2017, https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/afghanistan_monthly_humanitarian_bulletin_january_2017.pdf

2. Data

The strong reliance on secondary data derived, in some cases, from studies carried out well before 2012 shows a gap in the methodology used to collect data. This might be due to the limited mobility that researchers face in light of increasing insecurity or because of limited funds available to carry out extensive field research. Both hypotheses are supported, in part, by the preference that research studies have for urban and peri-urban locations. Thus, the conclusion found in a report from a refugees and returnees coordination workshop¹⁸ held in Kabul in 2014 remains relevant to this day: "...The lack of access to impacted communities contributes to the lack of data". Thus, the collection of **more primary data is essential** to ensure accurate, up-to-date and unbiased information.

The World Bank study on the socio-economic conditions of displaced Afghans identified the need to use comparable data and suggested the **Afghanistan Living Condition Survey (ALCS)** data as a **baseline for studies**. *"These data will yield their full benefit when they can be compared in series with findings from subsequent iterations of the survey, giving a sense of how socio-economic outcomes are evolving"*.¹⁹

3. Target Groups

The limited number of studies in Iran and Pakistan addressing issues related to displaced Afghans suggests that **Afghan refugees, asylum seekers and undocumented migrants**, are not only hard to research but could also be sensitive subjects for research studies both in Iran and Pakistan. A better understanding of the real environment in which research studies are commissioned and undertaken and what are the needs might support the identification of possible solutions.

Although the distinction between refugees and asylum seekers and/or undocumented migrants was not always clear, **asylum seekers and migrants** received better coverage in Iran than Pakistan. This might be due to the fact that most studies were related to health and education and therefore the access of both documented and undocumented migrants was analysed. In both Iran and Pakistan there is a need to better understand the actual situation and needs of these groups, to inform the possible development of policies aimed at regularising their situation as well as facilitating regular migration.

A 2016 article on the **cultural identity of Afghan refugees in Pakistan** argued that *"for a considerable number of Afghan refugees who prefer to stay in Pakistan the prime concerns of repatriation to Afghanistan are not solely insecurity, corruption, gender inequality or ethnic bias, but rather it is socio-cultural diversity that encumbers their reunification to their homeland"*.²⁰ Such conclusions might call for further research on the topic which does not seem to appear often in the literature under review. Again, on Afghans in Pakistan, in a 2016 academic research study the argument was made that refugees not only lacked the possibility to **participate in the decision-making process** before, during and after return but also that, as refugees, they were largely ignored by their government in any electoral process.²¹ Considering the recent parliamentary elections as well as the upcoming presidential election, it would be interesting to carry out further studies to **analyse Afghan refugees' interests and options for participating in political processes in Afghanistan**.

18 Afghan Refugees: Challenges & Opportunities the region's first coordination workshop, 2014, Samuel Hall and ACBAR, <http://samuelhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/First-International-workshop-refugees-2014.pdf>

19 Afghanistan's Displaced People: A Socio-Economic Profile 2013-2014, 2018, The World Bank Group, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30267/Afghanistans-displaced-A-socio-economic-profile-ALCS-2013-14.pdf>

20 Pakistan's Inconsistent Refugee Policies: Identity and Cultural Crisis of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan, 2018, Hidayat Siddioglul, [https://aybu.edu.tr/gpm/contents/files/Report%201-%20%20Hidayet%20S%C4%B1dd%C4%B1ko%C4%9Flu\(2\).pdf](https://aybu.edu.tr/gpm/contents/files/Report%201-%20%20Hidayet%20S%C4%B1dd%C4%B1ko%C4%9Flu(2).pdf)

21 Repatriation of Afghan Refugees from Pakistan: Participation, Consultation and Consent in the Resettlement Process, 2016, Nauroz Khan, Lund University, Center for East and South-East Asian, <http://lup.lub.lu.se/luur/download?func=downloadFile&recordId=8890744&fileId=8890745>

An article ²² on **durable solutions for IDPs**, published after the approval of the national IDP policy in 2013, states that *“So far government stakeholders have treated IDPs as second-class citizens and ‘outsiders’” and that “there is [a] need for a change in the mindset of the political elite in Afghanistan”*. Five years later, when the number of internally displaced is currently estimated at almost 2 million people, understanding the current political “mindset” would better inform advocacy strategies related to the implementation of the IDP policy.

A few studies discuss the specific challenges that particularly vulnerable groups face while displaced. In Afghanistan, the focus is on women’s human rights, such as access to documentation, access to land and housing and gender violence. An academic article ²³ on displacement and violence against women recommends further investigation into **the impact of displacement on violence against women**, including the possible impact that the implementation of the Afghanistan National IDPs policy could have on preventing and addressing this issue. As this area does not seem to be sufficiently addressed by the literature reviewed, there may be a need to carry out further studies on the impact of displacement on violence against women whether IDPs, refugees or returnees.

No specific attention has been given to the challenges faced by other vulnerable groups, such as the disabled or elderly refugees, IDPs and returnees. Due to the high numbers of **persons with disabilities** in Afghanistan²⁴ who struggle to access health care, rehabilitation services, education and employment, more attention needs to be given to this group, either through studies focusing on the challenges of displaced individuals with disabilities or considering the group as part of broader studies.

About 13% of the research studies looked specifically at children and youth, mainly in relation to access to education or economic opportunities in Afghanistan. A few studies compared **first and second generation** of Afghans living in Iran, while there are no such studies published on this topic in Pakistan.

The evaluation of the WFP-PRRO in Iran recommends the **involvement of refugees in monitoring the assistance they receive**. Although this is not a new concept – other studies also recommend the involvement of programme beneficiaries in monitoring or designing projects – this might indicate that additional research is required to assess the actual participation of communities affected by displacement in the programme cycle.

4. Solutions

Despite extensive treatment of return and reintegration generally, there are few studies specifically targeting **IDP return and reintegration** – a gap in the research that is likely exacerbated by the fact that such movements are often unassisted and consequently difficult to document. In some of the studies reviewed the definition of returnees might include both returning refugees and returning IDPs. Such a uniform treatment of the two is likely inadequate as refugees and IDPs will often have different experiences and needs. Further analysis should focus on IDPs’ return and reintegration processes to better understand such differences. For many IDPs, particularly those who have been displaced for many years, return might not be the preferred solution – in the event that it is even possible. Additional

22 Myth or Reality: Durable Solutions for IDPs in Afghanistan, Laurie Wiseberg & Shobha Rao, The Newsletter of The Global Protection Cluster - 6th Edition vol. 01/2014, http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/_assets/files/news_and_publications/GPC-Article-01-2014.pdf

23 Displacement and violence against women in Afghanistan - Forced Migration Review - Issue 46, 2014, Camille Hennion, <https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf>

24 About 1.5 million people of Afghanistan’s estimated 33 million population have some kind of physical disability, according to a national survey in 2015, <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/afghanistan-record-number-disabled-afghans-seek-assistance-icrc-s-30th-year>

research is needed to understand the viability of IDP return while providing further arguments for local integration as a possible alternative.

Regarding the return of **Afghan refugees** from Iran, a 2014 article suggested that further research needed to be carried out to **examine the functioning of cross-border linkages** and that *“remittances, cross-border traffic, kinship, friendship and business networks and refugees’ perceptions of future life in the watan (homeland) all merit further investigation. Understanding why most returnees do not seem to have retained useful social and economic ties to their homeland and addressing cross-border programming approaches to strengthen these ties could enable Afghan refugees both to make reasonably well-informed decisions about return and to improve their prospects of sustainable reintegration”*.²⁵ Another study on refugees’ **return and reintegration**²⁶ highlights that *“there [a] is gap in evidence on whether those who return with external support have a better shot at reintegrating sustainably than those who self-repatriate, or return ‘spontaneously’*. Both topics might indeed need more research as the studies reviewed point to gaps in these areas.

Returnees who were interviewed reported that experiences of *“engagement with formal institutions while abroad affected the way they engaged with Afghan institutions upon return”* and therefore requested that research *“examine how different approaches to engaging with the government are shaped by the experience of migration, and affect the interactions between state and citizens in Afghanistan”*.²⁷ Similarly, a conflict analysis study suggested that *“targeted research is needed to better understand how population change will influence dynamics of trust, influence, and decision-making”*.²⁸ More studies on this topic would allow a better understanding of how such engagement impacts on state legitimacy and security.

There is also a need to carry out more studies on the process of reintegration for those Afghans who were forced to return, as many of them decide to migrate again. An article on the forced return of young Afghans from Europe recommended that *“better, more reliable information about what happens to forcibly removed young people is needed”*.²⁹ Similarly, another article on deported Afghans³⁰ argues that *“there is very little in-depth data on what happens post-deportation”* and recommends carrying out further research to *“explore the outcomes of deportation for those deported, their families, and their communities”*. **The impact on communities** seems indeed to be the least explored and including also communities’ perspectives would further help in the design of reintegration support.

Studies suggest also that there is a need to better understand **the impact of migration on the achievement of solutions for refugees, returnees and IDPs**. A 2017 study recommends that *“policymakers should bear in mind the development benefits migration can hold for Afghan families as well as for the nation as a whole. Further research on*

25 Returning from Iran - Forced Migration Review - Issue 46, 2014, Armando Geller Maciej M Latek, Forced Migration Review, <https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf>

26 “Thematic series - The invisible majority - Are today’s returning refugees tomorrow’s IDPs?”, 2017, Rosalind Evans Claudia Lo Forte Erika McAslan Fraser, UNHCR, <http://www.unhcr.org/events/conferences/5a12a6467/internal-displacement-global-compact-refugees-todays-returning-refugees.html?query=studies%20afghanistan>

27 “Return Migration and Fundamental Rights in Afghanistan: Perceptions and Practices”, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Netherlands, APPRO, 2018, <http://www.appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/2018-06-30-Returnees-Perceptions-of-Rights.pdf>

28 Sayara Research for DRC -DDG Conflict Analysis,2017, <http://www.acbar.org/upload/149510094351.pdf>

29 Skodo, A., 2018, The Impact of Forced Migration on Afghanistan’s Domestic Politics and Foreign Relations. (UI Briefs; No. 3). Utrikespolitiska Institutet, Stockholm. http://portal.research.lu.se/ws/files/38911431/UI_Brief_No3_2018.pdf

30 “From Europe to Afghanistan - Experiences of child returnees, 2018, Marion Guillaume Nassim Majidi, Save the Children, https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/SC-From_Europe_to_Afghanistan-screen%201610.pdf

this dynamic in the Afghan context is needed to provide the evidence required to support policy decisions".³¹ While some studies exist, more and updated data might need to be collected and analysed to further support the development of policies and strategies that regulate migration.

Although **local integration** in Iran and Pakistan does not appear to be an option for Afghan refugees, the current situation in Afghanistan makes return a difficult choice for many refugees. Due to the dearth of existing literature on local integration, it may still be worth exploring whether there is any possibility for such a solution in the current political environment, particularly in Pakistan where the new government seems to be open to exploring granting citizenship to Afghans born in Pakistan.³² In Iran, an academic article analysing the (negative) attitude of Iranians toward Afghan refugees suggested that *"studies should be conducted on **citizens' attitudes towards Afghan refugees in Iran or other countries hosting Afghan refugees**"*.³³ Similarly, a 2017 article on the (negative) impact of the refugees on Pakistan economy suggested the need to carry out further studies *"to identify some of the key positive and negative economic effects of the refugee crises in the country. This can be done through a rigorous elucidation of the refugee crises on the sectoral performance of the host country... Research work is also required to identify how the host country can amplify the positive benefits of refugees while mitigating their negative economic consequences"*.³⁴ The study suggested exploring the issue *"by noting the effects of refugees' impact on the political and economic institutions in the host country"*. Another study carried out in Peshawar that analysed Afghan refugees' social networks,³⁵ recommended additional studies be conducted *"to further demonstrate the local economic impact of the Afghan community in the form of investments and job creation"*.

A study looking at integration in host societies and return to home countries recommended collaboration in formulating integration and/or reintegration policies while recognising conflicting interests between home and host countries and the lack of institutionalised mechanism for such collaboration. The study recommended host and home countries to carry out *"research to investigate the **mechanisms by which integration and re-integration policies can be jointly formulated and implemented**"*.³⁶

While some literature related to the process of integration of resettled Afghan refugees in third countries exists, only a couple of studies were found on the process of **resettlement**. Additional research on the topics from the perspective of refugees in the country of first asylum might benefit the whole process of resettlement.

31 Majidi, Nassim. 2017. From Forced Migration to Forced Returns in Afghanistan: Policy and Program Implications. Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/TCM2017-Afghanistan-FINAL.pdf>

32 <https://ariananews.af/pm-imran-khan-offers-citizenship-for-afghans-born-in-pakistan/>

33 Assessing attitudes of citizens of Qazvin city towards Afghan Refugees via Cybernetics, 2017, Keshavarz, Babak Naderpour, International Journal of Human Sciences, <https://jhumansciences.com/ojs/index.php/IJHS/article/view/4486/2284>

34 The Economic Effect of Refugee Crises on Neighbouring Host Countries: Empirical Evidence from Pakistan, 2017, Amdadullah Baloch, Zaleha Mohd Noor, Said Zamin Shah, Miloud Lacheheb, IOM, https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Amdadullah_Baloch2/publication/319654235_The_Economic_Effect_of_Refugee_Crises_on_Neighbouring_Host_Countries_Empirical_Evidence_from_Pakistan/links/59d5aea2a6fdcc874695717f/

35 Mapping the Structure of Well-Being and Social Networks of Refugees, 2017, Ammar A. Malik, Edward Mohr, Yasemin Irvin-Erickson and Loren B. Landau, Caroline Wanjiku Kihato, Benjamin Edward, URBAN INSTITUTE, U.S. Department of State, https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/91351/2017.04.04_s-prmco-15-ca-1118_peshawar_case_study_fbreview_final_for_urban_website.pdf

36 "Abbasi-Shavazi, Md. J, Sadeghi, R., Mohammadi, A. (2017) 'Migrants' Integration in Host, Societies, and Return to Home Countries: The Case of the Middle East and South Asia', in McAuliffe, M. and M. Klein Solomon (Conveners) (2017) Ideas to Inform International Cooperation on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, IOM: Geneva.

5. Thematic areas

When looking at thematic areas the interest of commissioning agencies in a specific sector needs to be considered. In fact, only the few NGOs and UN agencies specialised in specific sectors such as health or education, commissioned studies addressing displaced Afghans' access to those services. Although it is likely that displaced individuals were mainstreamed in the general population in many sector studies, the small number of such studies targeting communities affected by displacement might indicate limited attention of government institutions and agencies regarding the challenges that these communities face in accessing services.

While all thematic areas were addressed in Afghanistan, in Pakistan, 50% of the studies in the catalogue did not look at specific thematic areas and concentrate only on general policy issues. This would not necessarily imply a gap in the literature if there were more studies from Pakistan. However, given the relatively low number of studies, the policy focus of research in Pakistan leaves some key themes with minimal attention or even totally unaddressed. Notably, access to education and healthcare were only addressed by one study each, while there were no studies published on access to food, housing or WASH services. The range of literature in Iran is even more limited, with nearly all topics other than access to healthcare and education unaddressed by the studies available in the catalogue.

Access to **economic opportunities** was a frequently addressed issue, and there are documents publicly available on Afghanistan and to a lesser extent also on Iran and Pakistan. The recent *"Market Systems Analysis for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan"*,³⁷ looked at livelihood programming through a long-term and strategic lens, unlike many market assessments which are carried out with the aim to develop vocational training projects. The study carried out a value chain analysis, in the construction sector, in particular, linking skills development and market growth in Pakistan to return to and trade with Afghanistan. Providing both policy and programme recommendations the study constitutes a valuable tool for developing targeted livelihood programming to support refugee self-reliance so that *"the acquired skills and knowledge will be beneficial for them while in refuge in Pakistan and upon return to [the] homeland"*.

A study recommended further research for understanding women's access to the labour market, proposing studying the extent to which skills taught at vocational training actually create employment opportunities as part of an effort to understand the ultimate financial impact. This study also suggested exploring *"new strategies that link women to the labour market"*.³⁸ Updated market assessments and value chain analyses that look at the long-term impact of activities and go beyond the identification of a few skills for training would, for many organisations, constitute extremely valuable tools for the development of sustainable livelihood strategies.

Additionally, a market mapping and analysis conducted in Afghanistan suggested that *"child labour should be better monitored to advocate for child protection"*.³⁹ Few studies on displacement appeared to examine child labour.

Access to WASH services, a critical sector, had only one dedicated study for Afghanistan and one covering Afghanistan and Pakistan together. In both cases, WASH was treated jointly with other sectors. This is natural, since access to food and health services, for example, are related to access to WASH services, yet all of these sectors were in need of additional attention.

37 Market Systems Analysis for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan, 2018, International Labour Organization, https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/genericdocument/wcms_636574.pdf

38 "Samuel Hall Consulting (2014), "Evaluation of NRC's Youth Education Pack (YEP) projects in Faryab, Herat, and Nangarhar" commissioned by NRC Afghanistan

39 Labour and Housing market systems in Nangarhar Province, Eastern Afghanistan (Complex Conflict, Displacement, and Returnee Influx, 2017, Oxfam, <http://www.acbar.org/upload/1502019721324.pdf>

Access to health services was indeed one of the gaps identified when looking at the different thematic areas as it focused only on mental health in Afghanistan and the number of studies in Iran and Pakistan was very limited. A health study carried out on Afghan women in Tehran ⁴⁰ recommended further research “to elaborate on the behavioural changes among Afghan men after migration” regarding access to maternal health care.

Access to land and housing was a sector discussed in 9% of the studies in Afghanistan. Although the Presidential Decree 305 on land allocation was only recently issued, it could be useful to understand the extent to which the shortfalls identified in the implementation of the Presidential Decree 104, approved in 2005, and the related recommendations made through some of the studies analysed, were effectively addressed through the mechanism spelled out in the new decree and its actual implementation.

In the particular case of Kabul, a few studies ⁴¹ highlight the need for a new master plan recommending that *“the rights and needs of poor and vulnerable populations must be at the centre of such planning processes”*.⁴² As a new Master Plan for Kabul has recently been developed, it is now possible to consider the extent to which the needs of the displaced, particularly those living in the informal settlements (ISETs), have been addressed through the master plan. A multi-cluster needs assessment carried out in informal settlements in several provinces of Afghanistan also recommends that *“Further profiling of ISETs, on a nation-wide scale, is required to fully understand the regional and provincial trends of these locations”*.⁴³

Access to food, although important, appeared to be insufficiently addressed, as was **access to fuel and electricity**, with only one study considering access to electricity in connection to access to economic opportunities. Access to fuel is considered only as emergency assistance in winter. These thematic areas, especially access to food and the nutrition status of displaced, will need further attention by government institutions and mandated agencies, in particular considering areas affected by drought.

Access to security was addressed as one of the main topics by only one study in Afghanistan. While security, or its lack, is generally addressed mainly as a cause of displacement, this is a topic often disregarded when looking at solutions, although it is one of the preconditions for the sustainability of any of them. A more in-depth and detailed analysis of the security situation will need to be considered by researchers when analysing solutions for the displaced, as situations can be perceived differently by different people and returns take place in areas considered to be unsafe.

With regard to research focusing on **legal and policy frameworks**, there seems to be a lack of regular follow up on the Afghan government commitments. While the government should have its own system to measure progress and maintain accountability, independent studies might further support the government in identifying shortfalls and ways to address them.

40 Experiences of inequitable care among Afghan mothers surviving near-miss morbidity in Tehran, Iran: a qualitative interview study, 2017, Soheila Mohammad, Aje Carlbom, Robabeh Taheripanah, Birgitta Essén, International Journal for Equity in Health, <https://uu.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1150455/FULLTEXT01.pdf>

41 See “Migration and Urban Development in Kabul: Classification or Accommodation? Newcomers and Host Communities in Districts 5, 7, and 13 in Kabul, Afghanistan”, 2012, Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization <http://appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/131206631-Migration-and-Urban-Development-in-Kabul-Classification-or-Accommodation.pdf> and “Sanctuary in the city? Urban displacement and vulnerability in Kabul” 2012 HPG and ODI, <https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/7722.pdf>

42 “Sanctuary in the city? Urban displacement and vulnerability in Kabul,” 2012 HPG and ODI, <https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/7722.pdf>

43 Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment Food Security in Informal Settlements, 2017, OCHA, CHF, http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resourcedocuments/reach_afg_report_mcna_food_security_in_informal_settlements_november2017_1.pdf

Similarly, although **developing the capacities of government institutions** in the implementation of policies and strategies appears to be a recurrent recommendation, no evidence of any evaluations of the government's capacity was found in the public domain. The distribution of information related to the implementation of capacity development interventions, at least through summary capacity assessments and evaluations reports, could support coordination of such interventions to yield sustainable results if distributed to a wide audience.

D. Conclusions and recommendations for further research

Although the studies analysed cover a wide and varied spectrum of typologies and topics of research, the body of evidence collected still shows that there are areas that need more or renewed attention. As the gaps identified are derived from the analysis of the literature collected, the recommendations included are not meant to provide any prioritisation. Agencies working on furling solutions to displacement should use these lists of gaps and recommendations in order to prioritise areas for further research and agree on a plan of action.

Additionally, since the documents identified and considered for the research might not be the only relevant documents available on solutions for displaced Afghans – as some might not be published or, if published, may not be easily identifiable or accessible by the wider public – the review recommends a wider distribution of research studies.

1. Research gaps

1.1. Target groups and solutions

Consider differences between refugees and IDPs when carrying out studies on the process of return and reintegration. While it is assumed that in some cases the definition of returnees might include both returning refugees and returning IDPs, it may be useful to consider the differences between the experiences and needs of refugees and IDPs upon return, in addition to factors such as duration of displacement, assets, community of origin, ethnicity etc. More studies focusing specifically on IDP return and reintegration, as well as obstacles to both, might help to support the achievement of solutions, whether return and reintegration or local integration.

Consider the challenges of disadvantaged groups such as the disabled or elderly in studies related to solutions. As no studies on displaced elderly or people with disabilities appear to have been published during the period under consideration by the review, additional attention should be given to these groups through either dedicated studies or greater attention to their challenges in more general studies. Further studies can also be carried out to provide more insights into the relationship between displacement and gender-based violence, whether related to IDPs, refugees or returnees.

Research the possibility of local integration of refugees in their country of asylum. Although local integration might not be an option in Iran or Pakistan, it would be worthwhile to explore the current environment further and determine whether additional opportunities exist or may be possible in the future. Particularly interesting could be to further study how second generations of refugees have achieved some degree of integration. Such research could enhance the understanding of how, over time and through the implementation of policies and programmes, efforts to support and strengthen self-reliance and seek durable solutions evolve, and how the attitudes of host communities toward Afghan refugees change. This would ultimately allow the identification of lessons and support the design of strategies and programmes with long-term, positive impact.

Carry out further studies on reintegration of Afghans returning from the EU. Almost all studies on return from Europe, whether voluntary or forced – and of youth in particular – call for further research on post-return reintegration. It is therefore recommended to carry out research on the impact that forced return can have, not only on the deported and their families but also on the community as a whole, which is indeed an under-reported issue.

Explore the impact of cultural ties and behavioural changes in the process of return and reintegration. Topics such as the influence that social and economic ties to the country of origin and the country of asylum have on the decision to return or in supporting reintegration need further research. Additionally, questions regarding how the experience of displacement modifies the behaviour of Afghan men or women after migration can be further explored. A better understanding of such phenomena would help in designing cross-border programming approaches to strengthen the prospects of sustainable reintegration.

Follow up on commitments made by the governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to identify shortfalls and measure progress in implementing legal and policy frameworks. There seems to be a lack of regular follow up on commitments made by governments through their legal and policy frameworks. While the government should have its own system to measure progress and maintain accountability to its population, independent studies might further support the government action of identifying shortfalls and ways to address them. Studies need to be carried out at regular intervals not only looking at institutions directly dealing with the displaced (such as MoRR in Afghanistan) but also at government institutions that are mandated to provide services in support of solutions, such as the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Health. Additionally, with regard to land allocation and the recently issued Presidential Decree 305, regular assessments will be required to ensure that the decree is implemented appropriately and that the land allocation system is effectively addressing the needs of returnees and IDPs.

Assess the actual involvement of communities affected by displacement in policy decisions that affect their future and in designing activities that favour solutions for the displaced. While a few studies approach the topic, and many recommend the involvement of displaced in decisions related to their future, there seems to be a lack of evidence on whether and how communities are actually involved or consulted in policy or programme decisions. While research findings can be shared with communities to develop recommendations that better fit their needs, studies to understand the level of community participation would facilitate the design of policies and programmes that correspond to the needs of all affected by displacement.

1.2. Thematic areas

Carry out market assessments and value chain analyses which look at a comprehensive set of activities for the design of livelihood strategies. Market assessments and value chain analyses that support the development of sustainable livelihood strategies and go beyond the purpose of designing localised, short-term vocational training projects might often require high financial investments. To be able to access the quality and quantity of information required to inform the design of such programmes, NGOs might like to either advocate with UN organisations such as UNHCR or IOM to carry out high-quality studies or decide to pull funds together to carry out such research. The activities carried out to support employment or self-employment will also need to be evaluated – particularly when activities target women – to understand whether the skills taught provide actual employment opportunities and what the financial impact will be. Due to the difficulties that women have in accessing markets, research to identify innovative and efficient strategies to link women to the labour market should be carried out. A few studies on displacement were found to look at child labour, in the context of displacement. This topic needs to be further explored to advocate for child protection.

Develop more studies to assess access to essential services such as education and health for communities affected by displacement. The research topics in Pakistan appear to be more diversified than those related to the Afghan refugee caseload in Iran, although only one study was found in Pakistan on access to education and another one on access to health services. No specific studies were identified on access to WASH services, food, or housing. In Afghanistan, the only studies that address access to health were studies related to mental health. More thematic research should be carried out and published, particularly in priority areas such as education, health and WASH. Sector ministries and organisations supporting the provisions of such services will need to take the lead and develop studies that can better inform their contributions to national or provincial plans, such as the DiREC, in support of solutions for the displaced.

Develop studies on access to land and housing to analyse the effectiveness of the new Presidential Decree on Land Allocation as well as how recently developed master plans address informal settlements. As access to land for landless returnees and IDPs was addressed by the new Presidential Decree 305 (replacing 104 which did not include IDPs) an analysis of the extent to which the shortfalls identified in the implementation of the Decree 104 and the related recommendations made through some of the studies reviewed have been effectively addressed through the mechanism spelled out in the new decree and its actual implementation. Issues related to informal settlements should also be further analysed, including how master plans, such as the newly developed master plan for Kabul, address the needs of the most poor and vulnerable living in informal settlements.

2. Advocacy

Conduct research studies to further support evidence based advocacy. Additional data and analysis is required to support the further development of advocacy positions on the five topics identified:

a) **The Government of Afghanistan should enhance its efforts to implement the Policy Framework on Returnees and IDPs through adequate planning, coordination and resource allocation.**

To properly design this advocacy position a thorough review of the progress achieved shall be carried out, in particular at the sub-national level, including a collection of best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the policy framework and the impact on communities affected by displacement. Additionally, research on the current political mindset toward IDPs is needed to support further advocacy on the implementation of the Afghanistan IDP Policy. As, at the time of the approval of the Afghanistan IDP Policy, IDPs were assessed to be considered second-class citizens, understanding whether the political mindset has changed five years later and, if so, how, will be essential in the creation of advocacy positions to support the implementation of the Policy. In this case, a longitudinal study would allow organisations to adjust advocacy over time. Similar studies can be conducted in both Iran and Pakistan to understand government and citizens' attitudes towards Afghan refugees.

b) **The governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan should work together and develop and implement long-term and sustainable migration policies and strategies for Afghan citizens.**

Although studies exist on the topic, more and stronger evidence is required to inform the development of this advocacy position. Therefore, it is recommended that researchers collect comprehensive and updated data on migration; deepen the understanding of how the current frameworks address the protection of Afghan workers; assess the implementation of the Afghan National Labour Migration Strategy; and identify and analyse positive political and social discourses on the contributions of Afghans to host countries; as well as the benefits that migration for economic reasons can bring not only to migrants' families but also to host communities and communities of origin, in the country of origin and country of destination.

- c) **Governments hosting displaced Afghans should recognise that return is not the only solution and that returnees unable to reintegrate will be displaced again.** Updated and accurate pictures of the situation of Afghans who have been forcibly returned – especially those who have returned from EU countries – can better inform of the challenges faced by Afghans upon return and further support advocacy with host governments.
- d) **The design and implementation of livelihood interventions should lead to sustainable economic improvements.** This advocacy position will require a review of the current labour policies to identify restrictions for displaced Afghans in access to economic opportunities as well as the development of market assessments and value chain analyses that support the design and implementation of sustainable livelihood strategies.
- e) **The governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan and other partners should work together to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of coordination and collaboration at all levels.** To support this advocacy position the current coordination structures at different levels and their effectiveness in supporting the achievement of durable solutions should be assessed. The level of actual involvement of communities affected by displacement in policy decisions and in designing and monitoring activities that favour solutions also needs to be explored.

3. Research features and methodology

Identify ways to carry out more diverse research studies on Afghans displaced in Iran and Pakistan that can be published online.

The most evident gap is the limited literature publicly available related to Afghan displacement in Iran and Pakistan. While it is known that there are difficulties in conducting research in Iran and that it might be difficult to discuss some topics, this does not seem to be the case for Pakistan, although access to some areas might be restricted. As this can be an area for advocacy by organisations working in the respective countries, an in-depth analysis might need to be carried out to identify reasons for the limited number of research studies and propose possible solutions, such as advocating with donors for more funds for research and evaluations.

Use more often primary data collection methods to ensure more accurate and up-to-date information.

Almost half of the studies analysed relied exclusively on secondary data and organisations dealing with displacement report a lack of quality data. Considering that in most studies analysed the primary data collection was carried out mainly in urban and peri-urban areas, further data collection should also consider rural and less accessible communities, using researchers that have adequate outreach and community acceptance.

Advocate with relevant Ministries, such as the Ministry of Public Health or the Ministry of Education to consider displaced in their sector studies.

In Afghanistan, for example, the Ministry of Public Health has carried out several studies, but data on health issues affecting IDPs or returnees are rarely or never disaggregated from those of the general population. Relevant ministries might like to consider collecting specific data on IDPs, or returnees access to services, in their research.

4. Capacity building

Carry out capacity gap assessment and evaluations of capacity development interventions for Afghan government institutions. Developing the capacities of Afghan government institutions in the implementation of policies and strategies appears to be a recurrent recommendation. Since no capacity assessments or evaluations of capacity development interventions were found to be published online, this may be a promising field for further studies. Publishing or distributing at least the summary of such documents to a wide audience could encourage better coordination that could result in maximising the impact of such interventions.

Conduct targeted capacity assessment and develop interventions at the institutional and individual level to support the government of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan in implementing solutions for the displaced. Advocacy for the development and implementation of policy frameworks, whether in the country of origin or host countries, requires a thorough understanding of the actual institutional, human and financial capacities available, as well as long-term engagement by the institutions and the agencies and donors supporting them.

The government should enhance its engagement and ownership of studies on solutions for the displaced. The fact that there is only one published study carried out by the government points to the need of enhanced engagement by government entities (MoRR in Afghanistan, in particular) throughout the life of relevant studies, from the design of ToRs through review and publication.

5. Knowledge sharing

Although the identification of the studies was the result of a thorough search carried out throughout a period of two months, there may exist some additional studies that have not been published due to contractual restrictions, the sensitivity of the topics, or confidentiality of some data. It is known, for example, that assessments, such as market assessments, or evaluations are often produced to inform only one organisation and/or its donor, while a wider number of stakeholders cannot access such information. Although some documents were indeed published online, they were difficult to find through simple searches. At the other extreme, some studies continued to appear several times in the search and among the references of other studies, despite the availability of more recent studies. As there is a need to publish more and better advertise available studies online, a few recommendations in this regard are made below:

Support the Afghan government in disseminating studies. While the Afghan government could be supported in developing more studies, it can also be supported in becoming a repository for research. In the best Afghan government websites, it is possible to find policies, strategies and updates, but it is quite rare to find research, assessments or evaluation reports. Agencies might, therefore, like to support the MoRR (or others) to use its website more efficiently and effectively, properly archiving not only laws and policies but also the most relevant research studies.

Update the catalogue. Ensure that the compiled catalogue remains updated, and take steps to ensure that it is available online. The catalogue will need to be updated regularly to ensure that it remains an effective working tool for members of the platform as well as the wider public. The catalogue should be digitised to ensure it can be accessed by a wide range of actors, including research firms, and ask for inputs to enrich it and keep it up-to-date. New studies published online can be listed in a regular information bulletin, which can be distributed through different means (mailing list, Facebook, Twitter) and published online.

Diversify the format and means through which key findings, conclusions and recommendations – including best practices/lessons learned – are disseminated.

As the audience of the studies published online can be very different, diversifying the ways and the means through which such knowledge can be distributed would aid in reaching a wider audience. Studies can be presented by the authors and commissioning agencies either in person or through a webinar (or a short pitch on YouTube about the main findings, conclusions and recommendations), articles can be written by the author and submitted to different organisations' newsletters, or academic journals. ADSP might like to take the role of facilitating presentations or supporting relevant governments in doing so. ADSP might need to have a mechanism to review the quality of such studies and have them approved by its members before starting such actions. It would eventually be interesting to understand, in a regular and systematic manner, what impact the possibility to access more evidence and knowledge has on agencies and, in particular, whether and how studies are used effectively to design policies, strategies and programmes.

More evaluation studies should be published and more widely distributed. While very few evaluations were identified for this review, it is reasonable to assume that many are carried out but not published. While for many donor agencies and partner NGOs evaluation reports might be considered to be confidential information, the wealth of lessons learned and best practices that could be gathered from such studies would provide useful inputs for the design of future policy or programme strategies. Both reintegration and local integration require the involvement of many actors, including development actors; thus it is particularly important that joint initiatives be regularly evaluated – especially when they are 'piloted' – and that lessons learned from these initiatives be collected, disseminated and discussed.

Finally, **more research is needed on the follow-up to the recommendations provided by studies and their implementation, or lack thereof.** The lack of evidence on whether recommendations provided through studies, either to national governments, donors or the international community, have been put into practice calls for further identifications of the factors that have favoured or blocked the implementation of reiterated recommendations and what could be the possible options to remove blockages. This report could be used as a baseline to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations provided, and the impact made by the advocacy positions developed based on the review.

PART 4 – SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The table below shows a summary of key findings and recommendations for further studies deriving from the analysis of the literature collected as well as the recommendations provided by the studies. This part also includes recommendations made for the development of advocacy positions as further evidence might be needed to support such positions.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Commissioning agencies			
UN, NGOs,	Adequate	NGOs, followed by the UN, commissioned most of the studies in Afghanistan. In Iran and Pakistan, most of the studies are carried out by academic institutions. Such differences between country of origin and asylum might be related to the number of organisations in Iran and Pakistan with an interest in displacement, or to limited funds available for research studies. The unfavourable environment for NGOs to commission or conduct research studies in Iran should also be considered.	An in-depth analysis is needed to identify reasons for the limited number of research studies on displacement available online in host countries and propose possible solutions (e.g. advocate with donors for more funds for research studies and evaluations).
Governments	Insufficient	Only one study related to displacement was found to be commissioned directly, carried out, and published by the government of Afghanistan and none for Iran and Pakistan. Policies, strategies and updates are, however, available on government websites of the three countries.	The governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan should enhance engagement and ownership of studies on solutions for the displaced. Relevant ministries in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan, such as Ministry of Public Health or the Ministry of Education, should consider collecting specific data on access to services for refugees, IDPs, and returnees in their research studies.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Type of documents			
Research study reports, articles, and evaluation reports	Adequate	Very few evaluations were identified. It can be assumed that evaluations exist but are not shared as they are considered to be confidential information.	More evaluation studies should be published and more widely distributed as the wealth of lessons learned and best practices that could be gathered would provide useful inputs for the design of future policy or programme strategies.
Type of data			
Primary	Insufficient	Nearly half of the research studies do not use primary data. This might be due to the limited mobility that researchers face in light of increasing insecurity or because of limited funds available to carry out extensive field research.	<p>Primary data collection methods should be used more often to ensure more accurate, up-to-date and unbiased information.</p> <p>Agencies should be more careful when discussing or proposing methodologies for research studies.</p>
Secondary	Adequate	Researchers made frequent use of the same secondary data, often outdated, due to difficult and time-consuming online searches and the limited number of documents published online.	<p>Publish more online and advertise available studies better.</p> <p>Disseminate and update the catalogue produced by the rapid review of evidence regularly to maximise its utility.</p> <p>Support the Afghan government in becoming a repository for research and for disseminating studies.</p>

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Locations for data collection			
Urban and peri-urban areas	Good	Most of the data were collected in Kabul, Tehran and Peshawar followed by other main urban and peri-urban areas. The locations correspond to where most of the Afghans affected by displacement reside and likely also where commissioning agencies have activities and therefore need to inform programming.	No further studies or specific actions recommended.
Rural areas	Insufficient	Displacement also occurs in rural areas, especially in Afghanistan. The insufficient coverage is mainly due to insecurity, leading to a limited outreach capacity by organisations assisting communities affected by displacement, as well as by researchers.	Data collection should also consider rural and less accessible communities, using researchers that have adequate outreach capacity and community acceptance.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Target groups			
Refugees	Insufficient	Limited number of studies in Iran as well as in Pakistan. The environment in Iran is not conducive to research, while Afghan refugees can be a sensitive topic in Pakistan. Some researchers highlight: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) refugee exclusion from any electoral processes; b) attitude of host communities toward refugees; and c) behavioural differences between first and second generation refugees. 	Analyse Afghan refugees' interests in and options for participating in Afghanistan's political processes. Analyse how the attitudes of host communities toward Afghans change over time. Carry out further studies to compare the level of self-reliance and search for solutions between first and second generations of Afghans.
IDPs	Good	Well covered throughout the period considered due to their increasing number and the development of policy frameworks in Afghanistan. A research study issued at the time the National IDP Policy was approved pointed to the fact that the government perceived IDPs as second class citizens.	Conduct longitudinal studies to analyse how the political mindset toward IDPs changes, allowing organisations to adjust advocacy over time.
Asylum seekers/ migrants	Insufficient	Coverage is better in Iran than Pakistan, although in most documents refugees, asylum seekers/migrants are considered together. The better coverage in Iran is due to the fact that most studies are related to access to health and education and therefore documented and undocumented access analysed.	More information is needed on the situation and needs of these groups to inform any development of policies to regularise their situation and facilitate regular migration. More evidence is needed on the benefits that migration for economic reasons can bring benefits not only to migrants' families but also to communities and countries of origin and destination.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Target groups			
Returning Refugees	Good	Most of the studies cover returning refugees as target group. Almost half of the studies on returning refugees was carried out in 2016 and 2017 due to the 2016 mass return from Pakistan and Iran.	No further studies or specific actions recommended.
Returning IDPs	Insufficient	Few studies address this group. This might be due to: a) the limited return of IDPs or difficulties in recording such movements, especially when displacement is of short duration; and b) the lack of differentiation in some studies between returning refugees and returning IDPs.	More studies focusing specifically on returning IDPs and their process of reintegration
Returning asylum seekers or migrant	Insufficient	Returning asylum seekers or migrants, especially youth, are considered in studies related to return from Europe, in particular since the signing of the “Way Forward Agreement” between Afghanistan and the EU; but not by many other studies.	More evidence on whether the reintegration of those who return assisted would be more sustainable in the long term than those who return without external support.
Vulnerable groups	Adequate	Issues related to women and children are generally sufficiently addressed, although the impact of displacement on gender violence needs further analysis.	Carry out further studies on the impact of displacement on violence against women. Consider conducting studies on the impact of displacement on disabled and elderly individuals.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Solutions			
Return and reintegration (refugees, asylum seekers/ migrants)	Good	<p>Return and reintegration are considered in most of the literature – whether related to Afghanistan or countries of asylum – since the countries of asylum, or migration, do not consider local integration to be viable.</p> <p>Researchers report limited data on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) cross-border linkages and how they influence the decision to return; b) how the experience abroad impacts on the interaction between returnees and the state; c) reintegration of Afghans returning from the EU and the impact that forced return has on the individuals, their families and communities. <p>The many recommendations provided by studies analysing return, including forced return, point to the need to advocate with governments hosting displaced Afghans to recognise that return is not the only solution and that returnees unable to reintegrate will be displaced again.</p>	<p>Examine how cross-border linkages are retained and managed and how they impact on return and sustainable reintegration.</p> <p>Develop a better understanding of how population changes during displacement would impact the dynamics of trust, influence and decision-making upon return and how such engagement impacts on state legitimacy and security.</p> <p>Carry out further studies on reintegration of Afghans returning from the EU and the impact that forced return can have, not only on the deported and their families but also on the community as a whole.</p>

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Solutions			
Return and reintegration (IDPs)	Insufficient	The insufficient coverage might be due to difficulties in tracking these movements as they are typically unassisted. For many IDPs, especially those who have been displaced for many years, return might not be possible or might not be the preferred solution.	Further analysis should be provided on IDPs' return and reintegration to enhance understanding of the viability of IDPs' returns while strengthening arguments for local integration as a possible alternative.
Local integration (refugees)	Insufficient	The insufficient coverage is due to the fact that, although the current situation in Afghanistan makes return a difficult choice for many refugees, local integration is not considered an option in Iran or Pakistan. A research study looking at integration in host societies and return to home countries recommended collaboration in formulating integration and/or reintegration policies, while recognising conflicting interests between home and host countries and the lack of institutionalised mechanisms for such collaboration.	<p>Further explore the current environment to understand whether opportunities exist in Iran and Pakistan or may in the future.</p> <p>Study how second generation refugees have achieved some degree of integration.</p> <p>Carry out research in host and home countries to investigate the mechanisms by which integration and reintegration policies can be jointly formulated and implemented.</p>
Local integration (IDPs)	Adequate	There is adequate coverage, mainly due to the awareness raised by the IDP National policy.	No further studies or specific actions recommended.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Solutions			
Resettlement (refugees)	Insufficient	Only a couple of studies were found on the process of resettlement. Many studies focus on integration in the third country.	Additional research on the topics from the perspective of refugees in the country of first asylum can improve activities in support to resettlement.
Self-reliance (refugees)	Adequate	Self-reliance is relevant to studies in Iran and Pakistan where local integration is not an option and is generally addressed in studies related to programmatic interventions.	Gain a better understanding on how Afghans' self-reliance and search for solutions evolve and how the attitudes of host communities toward Afghans change, in order to draw lessons learned and support the design of strategies and programmes that can have long-term impacts.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Sectors			
Access to economic opportunities	Adequate	<p>This thematic area was specifically addressed by most of the studies as it is a crucial element for self-reliance and the achievement of durable solutions. Most of the studies available aim at the development of vocational training projects.</p> <p>Research studies recommend to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) further understand women's economic opportunities and financial outcomes; and b) to better monitor child labour. <p>As the design and implementation of livelihood interventions leading to sustainable economic improvements is a topic for advocacy, there is a need to further understand the current labour policy framework in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.</p>	<p>Carry out market assessments and value chain analyses which go beyond the purpose of designing localised, short-term vocational training projects and consider a comprehensive set of activities for the design of livelihood strategies.</p> <p>Conduct evaluations of projects that support employment or self-employment – particularly when activities target women – to better understand whether the skills taught provide actual employment opportunities and what their financial impact is.</p> <p>Carry out research to identify innovative and efficient strategies to link women to the labour market.</p> <p>Further explore child labour in the context of displacement to advocate for child protection.</p> <p>Review current labour policies to identify restrictions for displaced Afghans in access to economic opportunities, such as limiting refugees to only specific categories of employment.</p>

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Sectors			
Access to legal and civil rights	Adequate	This is the second most addressed thematic area, especially in Pakistan where the renewal of the Proof of Registration is a recurrent concern.	No further studies or specific actions recommended.
Access to education	Adequate	Access to education is generally addressed through a few studies in the country of origin as well as in countries of asylum. While general population data might exist, disaggregated data might not exist.	Advocate with mandated institutions, such as MoE and UNICEF, and NGOs providing support to the education sector to disaggregate data and provide analysis on access to education services for displaced individuals. In Afghanistan, for instance, collecting and analysing such data can better inform mandated institutions contributions to national or provincial plans, such as the DiREC in Afghanistan, in support of solutions for the displaced.
Access to health services	Insufficient	This was the main topic addressed by the literature in Iran. In Pakistan, however, there was only one study addressing access to health services, while in Afghanistan only mental health was considered. While a wealth of data exists on health for the general population, at least in Afghanistan, it cannot generally be disaggregated. A study in Iran recommends to understand behavioural changes among Afghan men after migration in regard to maternal health.	Same as above, advocacy with mandated institutions, such as MoPH, WHO, UNICEF and NGOs is needed. Carry out studies on the impact of behavioural changes of Afghans after displacement to other countries in regard to maternal health.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Sectors			
Access to land and housing	Insufficient	Addressed by few studies and only in Afghanistan where access to land for landless returnees and IDPs had been recently addressed by the new Presidential decree 305 (replacing 104 which did not include IDPs). Issues related to informal settlements should also be further analysed, including how master plans, such as the newly developed master plan for Kabul, address the needs of the most poor and vulnerable living in informal settlements.	<p>Conduct studies to understand how the shortfalls identified in the implementation of the Presidential Decree 104 and the related recommendations made through some of the studies analysed were effectively addressed through the mechanism spelled out in the new decree and its actual implementation.</p> <p>Conduct further profiling of informal settlements where IDPs reside on a nation-wide scale, to fully understand the regional and provincial trends of these locations.</p> <p>Analyse whether the new Kabul master plan addresses the need of displaced living in informal settlements.</p>
Access to food	Insufficient	Very few studies.	Same recommendations as for access to other services, advocacy with mandated institutions, such as MAIL, WFP, FAO and NGOs is needed.
Access to WASH services	Insufficient	Only two studies were identified where access to WASH services is addressed together with other services. As it is for other essential services, general population data are very likely to exist but might not be disaggregated so that to understand displaced affected communities access to WASH services.	Same recommendations as for access to other services, advocacy with mandated institutions, such as MRRD, MoEW, UNICEF and NGOs is needed.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Sectors			
Access to fuel and electricity	Insufficient	Only one study considers access to electricity in connection to access to economic opportunities. Access to fuel is considered only as emergency assistance in winter.	Same recommendations as for access to other services, advocacy with mandated institutions, such as MoEW and NGOs is needed.
Security	Insufficient	While insecurity is addressed as a cause of displacement, security is a topic that appears as a main issue in only one study, although it is one of the preconditions for the sustainability of solutions.	More in-depth and detailed analysis of the security situation will need to be incorporated in research studies which analyse different solutions.

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Cross-cutting issues			
Implementation of the Afghanistan Policy Framework on Returnees and IDPs	Adequate	<p>In Afghanistan, studies are available online that analyse existing policy frameworks.</p> <p>As advocacy with the Government of Afghanistan to enhance its efforts to implement the Policy Framework on Returnees and IDPs through adequate planning, coordination and resource allocation is recommended, further data collection and analysis is required.</p>	<p>Review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the policy framework on refugees and IDPs and the impact on communities affected by displacement.</p> <p>The collection of best practices and lessons learned, including the possibility of replicating programmes implemented to support the policy framework – for example, the development of Maslakh in Herat or other initiatives.</p> <p>An assessment of government capacity gaps and needs at national and subnational levels to support the implementation of the returnees and IDPs policy framework.</p>
Development of migration policies and strategies	Insufficient	<p>While the number of research studies on the impact of migration on the achievement of durable solutions is limited, there are many recommendations calling for the governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to work together to develop and implement long-term and sustainable migration policies and strategies for Afghan citizens. As this is a possible area of advocacy by the ADSP, further studies are needed.</p>	<p>Collect comprehensive and updated data on migration to support the development of policies that correspond to the actual mobility patterns and needs.</p> <p>Deepen the understanding of how the current frameworks address the protection of Afghan workers, including how they relate to the processes of obtaining and renewing visas, trading across international borders, and utilizing available remittance services.</p> <p>Assess the implementation of the Afghan National Labour Migration Strategy, including current challenges, lessons learned and best practices.</p>

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Cross-cutting issues			
Development of migration policies and strategies	Insufficient		<p>Assess human and financial capacities needed by governments to effectively address the development, review and implementation of migration laws, policies, strategies and capacities.</p> <p>Conduct studies to further demonstrate the local economic impact of the Afghan community in Iran and Pakistan.</p> <p>Identify and analyse positive political and social discourses on the ways in which Afghans contribute to Iranian and Pakistani society.</p>
Coordination and collaboration on solutions	Insufficient	<p>No specific data exist on the effectiveness and efficiency of the current coordination and collaboration in regard to solutions. As advocacy is recommended with the governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan and partners to work together to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of coordination and collaboration at all levels, this topic calls for further research studies.</p>	<p>Assess the current coordination structures at different levels, and their effectiveness in supporting the achievement of durable solutions that can provide recommendations for needed improvement.</p> <p>Assess the actual involvement of communities affected by displacement in policy decisions that affect their future and in designing and monitoring activities that favour solutions.</p> <p>Share research findings with communities to develop recommendations that better fits their needs.</p>

Area	Coverage	Main findings	Recommendations for further studies (or actions)
Cross-cutting issues			
Capacity development	Insufficient	Although developing the capacities of government institutions in the implementation of policies and strategies appears to be a recurrent recommendation, no evidence of any evaluations of the government’s capacity was found in the public domain.	<p>Carry out capacity gap assessments and evaluations of capacity development interventions for Afghan government institutions.</p> <p>Disseminate information related to capacity development interventions carried out – at least through summary capacity assessments and evaluations reports – to support coordination and maximise the impact of such interventions.</p>
Accountability	Insufficient	Although the government should have its own system to measure progress in the implementation of policy frameworks and strategies in support to solutions and maintain accountability, there is a lack of regular follow up on commitments made.	Carry out follow up studies on commitments made by the governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to identify shortfalls and measure progress in implementing legal and policy frameworks. Studies need to be carried out at regular intervals not only looking at institutions directly dealing with the displaced (such as MoRR in Afghanistan), but also at government institutions that are mandated to provide services in support of solutions.

ANNEX - document catalogue

Afghanistan

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
DISPLACEMENT DYNAMICS IDP Movement Tracking, Needs and Vulnerability Analysis Herat and Helmand Afghanistan	2014	Samuel Hall	IOM	http://www.afghandata.org:8080/xmlui/bitstream/handle/azu/15584/azu_acku_pamphlet_hv640_5_a28_d587_2014_w.pdf
AGENCY AND CHOICE AMONG THE DISPLACED Returnees' and IDPs' choice of destination in Afghanistan Behind the decision making process	2015	Samuel Hall	DACAAR	http://www.afghandata.org:8080/xmlui/bitstream/handle/azu/15576/azu_acku_pamphlet_hv640_5_a28_a433_2015_w.pdf
Strengthening Displaced Women's Housing, Land and Property Rights in Afghanistan	2014	Jelena Madzarevic and Shobha Rao	NRC	http://dx.doi.org/10.2458/azu_acku_pamphlet_hv640_5_a28_m339_2014
Myth or Reality: Durable Solutions for IDPs in Afghanistan -The Article of The Global Protection Cluster - 6th Edition vol. 01/2014	2014	Laurie Wiseberg & Shobha Rao	Global Protection Cluster	http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/_assets/files/news_and_publications/GPC-Newsletter-01-2014.pdf
Evaluation of the UNHCR Shelter Assistance Programme	2012	"Samuel Hall & Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSOG) "	UNHCR	http://www.unhcr.org/research/evalreports/57a4a9d47/unhcr-shelter-assistance-programme-evaluation-2012-afghanistan.html
Multi-purpose Cash and Sectoral Outcomes AFGHANISTAN CASE STUDY	2018	Sara Pavanello	UNHCR	http://www.cashlearning.org/downloads/multi-purpose-cash-and-sectoral-outcomes---afghanistan-case-study.pdf
ESCAPING WAR: WHERE TO NEXT? Research Study on the challenges of IDP protection in Afghanistan	2018	Samuel Hall	NRC	http://samuelhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/NRC-IDP_Afghanistan_FINAL.pdf
Challenges of IDP Protection	2012	Samuel Hall	NRC	http://samuelhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Challenges-of-IDP-Protection-in-Afghanistan.pdf
My Children will die this winter	2016	Amnesty International	Amnesty International	https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ASA1140172016ENGLISH.PDF
Designing livelihood programmes for displaced populations in urban settings in Afghanistan and Pakistan labour market assessment in Kabul, Jalalabad, Herat, Kandahar, Charsadda, Mardan, and Peshawar.	2013	Samuel Hall	DRC	http://www.afghandata.org:8080/xmlui/bitstream/handle/azu/15577/azu_acku_pamphlet_hv640_5_a28_d485_2013_w.pdf
Return Migration and Fundamental Rights in Afghanistan: Perceptions and Practices	2018	Lucile Martin - APPRO	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Netherlands	http://www.appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/2018-06-30-Returnees-Perceptions-of-Rights.pdf
Female IDPs and Conflict: Kunduz, September-October 2015	2015	Dana Holland Saeed Parto Khalid Siddiqi	Cordaid	http://appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/2016-11-22-Female-IDPs-and-Kunduz-Conflict.pdf
Return Migration and development Nexus: Casual Labourers of Kabul	2014	Jos Winters	Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization (APPRO)	http://appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/226157811-Return-Migration-and-Development-Nexus.pdf

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
Migration and Urban Development in Kabul: Classification or Accommodation? Newcomers and Host Communities in Districts 5, 7, and 13 in Kabul, Afghanistan	2012	Saeed Parto, Ahmad Shaheer Anil, Jos Winters, Ehsan M.Sadaat, Mohsin Usyan, Asad Shadan, Zarghona Saify, Nafasgul Karimi and Wahab Hazivi - Afghanistan! Public Policy Research Organization (APPRO)	Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	http://appro.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/131206631-Migration-and-Urban-Development-in-Kabul-Classification-or-Accommodation.pdf
Return to Afghanistan: Migration as Reinforcement of Socio-Economic	2014	Marieke van Houte, Melissa Siegel and Tine Davids	Maastricht Economic and social Research institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT)	https://www.merit.unu.edu/publications/uploads/1411742701.pdf
Does shelter assistance reduce poverty in Afghanistan?	2014	Craig Loschmann, Christopher R. Parsons and Melissa Siegel	United Nations University	https://cris.maastrichtuniversity.nl/portal/files/1277128/guid-bee98717-9269-46ef-a957-d3173d8e26c4-ASSET1.0
Afghanistan Migration Profile	2014	Katrin Marchand Melissa Siegel Katie Kuschminder Nassim Majidi Michaela Vanore Carla Buil	IOM	https://afghanistan.iom.int/sites/default/files/Reports/afghanistan_migration_profile.pdf
Afghanistan Return and Circular Migration - Annex to Migration profile Annex to Afghanistan Migration Profile	2014	Katie Kuschminder Nassim Majidi Katrin Marchand	IOM	https://www.merit.unu.edu/publications/uploads/1442240250.pdf
Returning to fragility: exploring the link between conflict and returnees in Afghanistan	2018	OXFAM	OXFAM	https://d1tn3vj7xz9fdh.cloudfront.net/s3fs-public/file_attachments/rr-returning-fragility-afghanistan-310118-en.pdf
Afghanistan Informal Settlement Food Security Assessment	2017	REACH	Food Security Cluster-FAO	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/reach_afg_report_informal_settlement_food_security_assessment_january_2017.pdf
Access to Tazkera and other civil documentation in Afghanistan	2016	Samuel Hall	NRC	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/af-civil-documentation-study-081116.pdf
Urban Displaced Youth in Kabul Part One: Mental Health Matters	2016	Samuel Hall	Samuel Hall	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/udy-chapter-1-mental-health.pdf
The Impact of Cash Transfer Programs on Protection Outcomes in Afghanistan	2015	NRC	UNHCR	http://www.cashlearning.org/downloads/erc-nrc-action-research-afghanistan-web-final.pdf
Still at risk: Security of tenure and the forced eviction of IDPs and refugee returnees in urban Afghanistan	2014	Caroline Howard - IDMC Jelena Madzarevic - NRC	IDMC	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/still-at-risk-idmc-february-2014.pdf
Evaluating IOM's Return and Reintegration Activities for Returnees and Other Displaced Populations - Afghanistan	2014	Samuel Hall	IOM	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/return-and-reintegration-for-returnees-and-other-displaced-populations.pdf
Evaluation of NRC's Youth Education Pack (YEP) Projects in Faryab, Herat, and Nangarhar	2015	Samuel Hall	NRC	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/evaluation-of-the-nrc-youth-education-pack-projects-in-afghanistan.pdf
Cash Programme Review for IDPs in Kabul Informal Settlements, Afghanistan	2013	Samuel Hall	DRC	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/cash-programme-review-for-idps-in-the-kis%281%29.pdf

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
Complexities and Challenges in Afghan Migration -Policy and Research Event	2014	United Nations University	United Nations University	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/complexities-and-challenges-in-afghan-migration.pdf
Sustaining the Working Poor in the Kabul Informal Settlements	2012	Samuel Hall	Solidarities International	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/sustaining-the-working-poor-in-the-kabul-informal-settlements.pdf
"Kandahar Integrated and Sustainable Services for Returnees and Host Communities (BPRM 3), Afghanistan	2012	Prof Richard C Carter	Tearfund	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/top-afghanistan-eval-rep-bprm-2012.pdf
Sanctuary in the city? Urban displacement and vulnerability in Kabul	2012	Victoria Metcalfe and Simone Haysom, and Ellen Martin - HPG/ODI	DANIDA	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/7722.pdf
EU Migration Policy and Returns: Case Study on Afghanistan	2017	Claire Rimmer, Kris Pollet, Minos Mouzourakis	European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)	https://www.ecre.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Returns-Case-Study-on-Afghanistan.pdf
FROM FORCED MIGRATION TO FORCED RETURNS IN AFGHANISTAN Policy and Program Implications	2017	Nassim Majidi	MPI	https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/TCM2017-Afghanistan-FINAL.pdf
The Returnees (An Overview of the Situation of Returnees in Afghanistan)	2016	Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC)	Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC)	http://www.refworld.org/docid/5948e6074.html
Afghanistan's Displaced People:A Socio-Economic Profile, 2013-2014	2018	The World Bank Group	World Bank	https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30267/Afghanistans-displaced-A-socio-economic-profile-ALCS-2013-14.pdf
Afghanistan's Forced Displacement Legal & Policy Framework Assessment	2017	World Bank & UNHCR	World Bank	https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/29195/122556-WP-fghanistanForcedDisplacementLegalandPolicyFrameworkAssessmentF-PUBLIC.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y
The Forced Return of Afghan Refugees and Implications for Stability	2016	Belquis Ahmadi Sadaf Lakhani	USIP	https://www.usip.org/publications/2016/01/forced-return-afghan-refugees-and-implications-stability
Migration Governance: The Evolution of Concepts and Institutional Framework in Afghanistan	2017	Wali Mohammad Kandiwali and Helen Seese -Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU)	German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development	https://areu.org.af/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/1718E-Migration-Governance.pdf
Sayara Research for DRC -DDG Conflict Analysis	2017	Sayara Research	DRC	http://www.acbar.org/upload/149510094351.pdf
Going "home" to displacement Afghanistan's returnee-IDPs	2017	Samuel Hall	NRC	http://www.acbar.org/upload/1517373901391.pdf
Broken Promises, Displaced Afghan Girls	2017	NRC	NRC	http://www.acbar.org/upload/149474608177.pdf
Seeking Durable solutions for Afghans in a fragile and volatile context	2016	DRC	DRC	http://www.acbar.org/upload/1494306246528.pdf
Market Assessment -Field Research Report	2016	Edgescope Business Consulting (EBC)	DRC	http://www.acbar.org/upload/1495101571105.pdf
Labour and Housing market systems in Nangarhar Province, Eastern Afghanistan (Complex Conflict, Displacement, and Returnee Influx) Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis	2017	Stuart Kent	OXFAM	http://www.acbar.org/upload/1502019721324.pdf

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
AFGHAN REFUGEES / RETURNEES : CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES THE REGION'S FIRST COORDINATION WORKSHOP 21 AUGUST 2014 QUEEN PALACE BABUR GARDEN KABUL	2014	Samuel Hall	ACBAR	http://samuelhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/First-International-workshop-refugees-2014.pdf
Assessment of livelihood opportunities for returnees/ internally displaced persons and host communities in Afghanistan	2013	International Labour Organization	International Labour Organization	https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-islamabad/documents/publication/wcms_213661.pdf
Labour migration for decent work in Afghanistan: Issues and challenges	2013	Piyasiri Wickramasekara and Nilim Baruah	International Labour Organization	https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_229671.pdf
Afghanistan World Bank Phone Survey of Afghan Returnees	2018	World Bank	World Bank	http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/298881533562809348/pdf/129252-REVISED-PUBLIC-Phone-Survey-Methodology-Draft-upload.pdf
FRAGILITY AND POPULATION MOVEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN	2016	World Bank Group	World Bank	http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/315481475557449283/pdf/108733-REVISED-PUBLIC-WB-UNHCR-policy-brief-FINAL.pdf
The Afghan Refugee Crisis in 2016	2017	Belquis Ahmadi Sadaf Lakhani	USIP	https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/2017-02/PB220-The-Afghan-Refugee-Crisis-in-2016.pdf
Afghanistan: Forced back to danger: Asylum-seekers returned from Europe to Afghanistan	2017	Amnesty International	Amnesty International	https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ASA1168662017ENGLISH.PDF
AFGHANISTAN:SEVEN POINT HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA FOR PRESIDENT GHANI	2014	Amnesty International	Amnesty International	https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/4000/asa110102014en.pdf
OPEN LETTER: AFGHANISTAN NATIONAL POLICY FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS	2013	Amnesty International	Amnesty International	https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/12000/asa110052013en.pdf
Afghanistan: Fleeing war, finding misery: The plight of the internally displaced in Afghanistan	2012	Amnesty International	Amnesty International	https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/20000/asa110012012en.pdf
APRRN Statement: Afghanistan Remains Unsuitable and Unsafe for Returning Refugees	2018	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)	http://aprrn.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/APRRN_Statement_Afghanistan_14May2018_FINAL.pdf
Protection Assessment of Conflict-Affected Populations	2018	REACH	OCHA-CHF	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reach_afg_report_protection_assessment_of_conflict_affected_populations_may2018_0.pdf
Education and Child Protection	2017	REACH	OCHA-CHF	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reach_afg_report_education_and_child_protection_joint_needs_assessment_november2017_0.pdf
Fragmented Families Assessment	2018	REACH	OCHA-CHF	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reach_afg_report_fragmented_families_assessment_may2018_0.pdf
Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment Food Security in Informal Settlements	2017	REACH	OCHA-CHF	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reach_afg_report_mcna_food_security_in_informal_settlements_november2017_1.pdf
Migration from Afghanistan to Europe (2014-2017) drivers, return and reintegration	2017	REACH	MPP-Ukaid	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reach_afg_report_mmp_drivers_return_and_reintegration_october_2017.pdf
MULTI-CLUSTER NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF PROLONGED IDPS	2017	OCHA	OCHA-CHF	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reach_afg_report_multiclust_needs_assessment_of_prolonged_idps_january_2017.pdf

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
RAPID ASSESSMENT OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN HERAT, AFGHANISTAN DISPLACEMENT PROFILE, APRIL 2015	2015	REACH	REACH	http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/afg_profile_herat_displacement_profile_april_2015.pdf
Shortcomings in assistance for deported Afghan youth - Forced Migration Review - Issue 44	2013	Nassim Majidi	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/detention.pdf
Young Afghans facing return - Forced Migration Review - Issue 50	2013	Kim Robinson Lucy Williams	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/dayton20.pdf
Enhancing security of land tenure for IDPs - Forced Migration Review - Issue 46	2014	Shobha Rao Jan Turkstra	Forced Migration Review (FMR)*	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
Afghan Refugees and Returnees: Corruption and Lack of Afghan Ministerial Capacity Have Prevented Implementation of a Long-term Refugee Strategy	2015	SIGAR	Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR)	https://www.sigar.mil/pdf/audits/sigar-15-83-ar.pdf
Urban Poverty Report A Study of Poverty, Food Insecurity and Resilience in Afghan Cities	2014	Samuel Hall	DRC	https://drc.ngo/media/1181597/Urban-Poverty-Report-A-Study-of-Poverty-Food-Insecurity-and-Resilience-in-Afghan-Cities.pdf
Breaking Barriers - Challenges to Implementing Laws on Violence Against Women in Afghanistan and Tajikistan with special consideration of displaced women	2016	Center for Gender & Refugee Studies	United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women	https://drc.ngo/media/2470176/breaking-barriers_challenges-to-implementing-laws-on-violence-in-afghanistan-and-tajikistan-with-special-consideration-of-displaced-women.pdf
AFGHANISTAN GENDER & SHELTER REVIEW	2017	Christine Wiik	NRC	https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/nrc-gender_and_shelter-rev-screen-030517.pdf
Listening to women and girls displaced to urban Afghanistan	2015	Susanne Schmeidl and Dan Tyler -TLO	NRC	https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/reports/listening-to-women-and-girls-displaced-to-urban-afghanistan.pdf
Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA) programme evaluation	2014	NRC	NRC	https://www.nrc.no/globalassets/pdf/evaluations/afghanistan--information-counselling-and-legal-assistance-icla-programme-evaluation.pdf
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO LAND USURPATION	2014	INDEPENDENT JOINT ANTI-CORRUPTION MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE	INDEPENDENT JOINT ANTI-CORRUPTION MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE	http://www.mec.af/files/2014_11_01_Final_Report_of_the_Public_Inquiry_Into_Land_Usurpation_ENGLISH.pdf
Seeking Safety, Jobs, and More: Afghanistan's Mixed Flows Test Migration Policies	2016	Nassim Majidi Vivianne van der Vorst Christopher Foulkes	MPI	https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/seeking-safety-jobs-and-more-afghanistan%E2%80%99s-mixed-flows-test-migration-policies
The European Parliament must immediately address the Joint Way Forward Agreement between the EU and Afghanistan	2016	Group of INGOs	Group of INGOs	https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/joint_statement_eu-afghanistan_deal.pdf
Domesticating the Guiding Principles in Afghanistan- Twenty Years of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement- Forced Migration Review - Issue 59	2018	Nassim Majidi Dan Tyler	Forced Migration Review (FMR)*	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/GuidingPrinciples20_0.pdf

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After Return	2016	Catherine Gladwell, Emily Bowerman, Bryony Norman and Sarah Dickson, with Abdul Ghafoor	Refugee Support Network (RSN)	https://hubble-live-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/rsn/attachment/file/8/After_return_April_2016.pdf
Deconstructing Afghan displacement data: Acknowledging the elephant in the dark -MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	2016	Susanne Schmeidl	MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migration_policy_practice_journal_27.pdf
Return and reintegration to Afghanistan: Policy implications -MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	2016	Nassim Majidi Laurence Hart	MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migration_policy_practice_journal_27.pdf
Implications for displacement - Forced Migration Review-Issue 46	2014	Aidan O'Leary	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
The changing nature of return migration to Afghanistan - Forced Migration Review-Issue 46	2014	Katie Kuschminder Melissa Siegel Nassim Majidi	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
Displacement and violence against women in Afghanistan - Forced Migration Review-Issue 46	2014	Camille Hennion	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
No longer a child: from the UK to Afghanistan - Forced Migration Review - Issue 44	2013	Catherine Gladwell	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/detention.pdf
The Impact of Forced Migration on Afghanistan's Domestic Politics and Foreign Relations	2018	Admir Skodo	SWEDISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	http://portal.research.lu.se/ws/files/38911431/UI_Brief_No3_2018.pdf
What happens post deportation? The experience of deported Afghans	2013	Liza Schuster Nassim Majidi	City, University of London Institutional Repository	http://openaccess.city.ac.uk/4717/1/2013%20Schuster%20Majidi%20.pdf
From Europe to Afghanistan - EXPERIENCES OF CHILD RETURNEES	2018	Marion Guillaume Nassim Majidi	Save the Children	https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/SC-From_Europe_to_Afghanistan-screen%201610.pdf
Practical approaches and good practices in return and reintegration to Afghanistan and Pakistan KEY FINDINGS	2014	The European Migration Network (EMN)	The European Migration Network (EMN)	http://www.emnhungary.hu/sites/default/files/emn_inform_return_to_pakistan_afghanistan_final_9feb2015_0.pdf
Broken futures: young Afghan asylum seekers in the UK and on return to their country of origin	2012	Catherine Gladwell Hannah Elwyn	UNHCR	http://www.unhcr.org/research/working/5098d2679/broken-futures-young-afghan-asylum-seekers-uk-return-country-origin-catherine.html?query=studies%20afghanistan

Iran

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
The Enduring Health Challenges of Afghan Immigrants and Refugees in Iran: A Systematic Review	2017	Nasim Sadat Hosseini Divoklaye	PLOS	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/the-enduring-health-challenge.pdf
Iran Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation 200310 (2013-2015) - Food Assistance and education incentive for Afghan and Iraqi Refugees	2015	Pierre Legu��n�� Nastaran Moossavi Ana Rodriguez Bel��n D��az -Dara	WFP	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/wfp-opev-iran-prro200310-evaluation-report.pdf
Refugee movement and development – Afghan refugees in Iran	2012	Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi Graeme Hugo Rasoul Sadeghi	National Institute of Population Research, Iran	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mohammad_Abbasi-Shavazi/publication/271926694_Refugee_movement_and_development_-_Afghan_refugees_in_Iran/links/55d54a3208ae43dd17de51b7/Refugee-movement-and-development-Afghan-refugees-in-Iran.pdf
Unwelcome Guests: Iran's Violation of Afghan Refugee and Migrant Rights	2013	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	https://www.hrw.org/report/2013/11/20/unwelcome-guests/irans-violation-afghan-refugee-and-migrant-rights
The Enduring Health Challenges of Afghan Immigrants and Refugees in Iran: A Systematic Review	2017	Nasim Sadat Hosseini Divoklaye	PLOS	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/the-enduring-health-challenge.pdf
Iran Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation 200310 (2013-2015) - Food Assistance and education incentive for Afghan and Iraqi Refugees	2015	Pierre Legu��n�� Nastaran Moossavi Ana Rodriguez Bel��n D��az -Dara	WFP	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/wfp-opev-iran-prro200310-evaluation-report.pdf
Refugee movement and development – Afghan refugees in Iran	2012	Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi Graeme Hugo Rasoul Sadeghi	National Institute of Population Research, Iran	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mohammad_Abbasi-Shavazi/publication/271926694_Refugee_movement_and_development_-_Afghan_refugees_in_Iran/links/55d54a3208ae43dd17de51b7/Refugee-movement-and-development-Afghan-refugees-in-Iran.pdf
Unwelcome Guests: Iran's Violation of Afghan Refugee and Migrant Rights	2013	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	https://www.hrw.org/report/2013/11/20/unwelcome-guests/irans-violation-afghan-refugee-and-migrant-rights
Illicit Drug Use Among Afghan Refugees in Iran	2015	Mitra Ahmadinejad Sattar Mehraban Hossein Raghfar	Florida International University, Miami,USA	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305904185_Drug_use_among_refugees_Case_of_Afghan_refugees_residing_in_the_five_most_refugee-populated_provinces_of_Iran
Assessing attitudes of citizens of Qazvin city towards Afghan Refugees via Cybernetics	2017	Hossein Keshavarz Ghasemi Babak Naderpour	International Journal of Human Sciences	https://j-humansciences.com/ojs/index.php/IJHS/article/view/4486/2284
Drugs, HIV Treatment and Harm Reduction Services for Afghan Refugees in Iran	2015	Roya Noori Abbas Deylamizade	UNHCR	https://cdn.neoscriber.org/cdn/dl/9939d184-3860-11e7-8333-6b3b8fea6504
A comparative study of the quality of urban life between the first- and second- generation of Afghan immigrants residing in Iran: A case study of southeast of Tehran	2018	Saeed Zanganeh Shahraki Hossein HatamiNejad Yaghob Abdali Vahid Abbasi Fallah	University of Mohaghegh Ardabili	http://gsj.uma.ac.ir/article_647_65ad2a515500dbc4bad7ed87a519d0bd.pdf
Experiences of inequitable care among Afghan mothers surviving near-miss morbidity in Tehran, Iran: a qualitative interview study	2017	Soheila Mohammad Aje Carlbom Robabeh Taheripannah Birgitta Ess��n	International Journal for Equity in Health	https://uu.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1150455/FULLTEXT01.pdf

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
Migrants' Health in Iran from the Perspective of Social Justice: a Systematic Literature Review	2016	Ehsan Shamsi Gooshki Raheleh Rezaei Verina Wild	Arch Iran Med	http://www.ams.ac.ir/AIM/NEWPUB/16/19/10/0012.pdf
IRAN 2017 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT	2017	United States Department of State	United States Department of State	https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/277485.pdf
Food Insecurity and Its Sociodemographic Correlates among Afghan Immigrants in Iran	2013	Nasrin Omidvar Mahmoud Ghazi- Tabatabaie Rasoul Sadeghi Fatemeh Mohammadi Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi	INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DIARRHOEAL DISEASE RESEARCH, BANGLADESH	http://bioline.org.br/pdf/hn13043
Integration of Afghans in Iran: Patterns, levels and policy implications -MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE-Vol. VI, Number 3	2016	Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi Rasoul Sadeghi	MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migration_policy_practice_journal_27.pdf
Returning from Iran - Forced Migration Review- Issue 46	2014	Armando Geller Maciej M Latek	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
Afghan Children's Access to Education in Iran What happened after the Supreme Leader's Decree ?	2017	NRC	NRC	https://media-openideo-rwd.oengine.com/attachments/e821bf7c-2036-470d-8ee0-9325f4cd9634.pdf

Pakistan

Title	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
PAKISTAN National Refugee Youth Consultation Summary Report	2015	The Global Refugee Youth Consultations (GRYC)	The Global Refugee Youth Consultations (GRYC)	http://www.unhcr.org/protection/globalconsult/59f84c7e7/pakistan-national-consultation-summary-report.html
Sanctuary in the city? Urban Displacement and Vulnerability in Peshawar, Pakistan	2013	Irina Mosel Ashley Jackson	ODI	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/8389.pdf
Accessing Services in the City: The Significance of Urban Refugee-Host Relations in Cameroon, Indonesia and Pakistan	2013	CHURCH WORLD SERVICE	Church World Service, New York Immigration and Refugee Program	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/cws-accessing-services-in-the-city-final-2013.pdf
Refugee Resettlement from Pakistan: Findings from Afghan Refugee Camps in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP)	2013	Ilyas Chattha - European University Institute Badia Fiesolana	European Union	http://www.know-reset.eu/files/texts/00696_20130530122128_carim-knowresetr-2013-01.pdf
Protracted Afghan Refugee Situation: Policy Options for Pakistan	2017	Amina Khan	Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad	http://issi.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/3-Amina_SS_Vol_37_No.1_2017.pdf
The Fate of Durable Solutions in Protracted Refugee Situations: The Odyssey of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan	2017	Waseem Ahmad	Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons	https://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1866&context=sjsj

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
The Economic Effect of Refugee Crises on Neighbouring Host Countries: Empirical Evidence from Pakistan	2017	Amdadullah Baloch Zaleha Mohd Noor Said Zamin Shah Miloud Lacheheb	IOM	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Amdadullah_Baloch2/publication/319654235_The_Economic_Effect_of_Refugee_Crises_on_Neighbouring_Host_Countries_Empirical_Evidence_from_Pakistan/links/59d5aea2a6fdcc874695717f/The-Economic-Effect-of-Refugee-Crises-on-Neighbouring-Host-Countries-Empirical-Evidence-from-
Pakistan Coercion, UN Complicity - The Mass Forced Return of Afghan Refugees	2017	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=search&docid=58a195374&skip=0&coi=AF-G&advsearch=y&process=y&allwords=&exactphrase=&atleastone=refugees%20idps%20solutions%20&without=&title=&monthfrom=01&yearfrom=2012&monthto=&year-to=&coa=PAK&language=&citation=
"What Are You Doing Here?" - Police Abuses Against Afghans in Pakistan	2015	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	Human Rights Watch (HRW)	http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=search&docid=564eeb464&skip=0&coi=AFG&advsearch=y&process=y&allwords=&exactphrase=&atleastone=refugees%20idps%20solutions%20&without=&title=&monthfrom=01&yearfrom=2012&monthto=&year-to=&coa=PAK&language=&citation=
Market Systems Analysis for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan	2018	International Labour Organization	International Labour Organization	https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/genericdocument/wcms_636574.pdf
Pakistan: Widespread human rights violations continue: Amnesty International Submission for the UN Universal Periodic Review, 28th Session of the UPR Working Group, November 2017	2017	Amnesty International	Amnesty International	https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ASA3365132017ENGLISH.PDF
Legal Stay for Afghan Refugees in Pakistan Again Comes Down to the Wire	2018	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network	http://aprrn.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/APRRN_PressRelease_PoR_26June2018.pdf
Pakistan's Inconsistent Refugee Policy: Identity and Cultural Crisis of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan	2016	Hidayet Siddikoglu	Migration Policy Implementing and Research Center (MPC)	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Hidayet_Siddikoglu/publication/317429423_Pakistan%27s_Inconsistent_Refugee_Policy_Identity_and_Cultural_Crisis_of_Afghan_Refugees_in_Pakistan/links/593a9a2fa6fdccca3b6464b4/Pakistans-Inconsistent-Refugee-Policy-Identity-and-Cultural-Crisis-of-Afghan-Refugees-in-Pakistan.pdf
Socio-Economic Survey of Afghan Refugees Living in Pakistan	2013	DRC	U.S. Department of State	https://drc.ngo/media/1182394/Socio-Economic-Survey-of-Afghan-Refugees-Living-in-Pakistan.pdf
Pakistan 2017 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT	2017	US Department of State	FMR	https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/277535.pdf
Violence and vulnerabilities: Afghans in Pakistan - Afghanistan's displaced people: 2014 and beyond plus mini-feature on statelessness - Issue 46	2014	Sanaa Alimia	U.S. Department of State	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
Repatriation of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan: Voluntary?	2014	Valentina Hiegemann	University of Oxford	http://oxmofm.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Repatriation-of-Afghan-Refugees-in-Pakistan-Voluntary_Valentina-Hiegemann.pdf
Repatriation of Afghan Refugees from Pakistan: Participation, Consultation and Consent in the Resettlement Process	2016	Nauroz Khan	LUND UNIVERSITY • CENTRE FOR EAST AND SOUTH-EAST ASIAN STUDIES	http://lup.lub.lu.se/luur/download

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	LINK
Mapping the Structure of Well-Being and Social Networks of Refugees	2017	Ammar A. Malik Edward Mohr Yasemin Irvin-Erickson and Loren B. Landau Caroline Wanjiku Kihato Benjamin Edward - URBAN INSTITUTE	U.S. Department of State	https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/91351/2017.04.04_s-prmco-15-ca-1118_peshawar_case_study_fbreview_final_for_urban_website.pdf
Walking with Broken Crutches: Exploring the Effects of Host-State Fragility upon Refugees	2015	Mark Foreman	School of People, Environment and Planning Massey University	https://mro.massey.ac.nz/bitstream/handle/10179/10215/Foreman%20research%20report.pdf

Region

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	COUNTRY	LINK
Breaking the cycle: Education and future for Afghan Refugees	2015	Charlotte Jenner	UNHCR	PAK, IR	http://www.afghandata.org:8080/xmlui/bitstream/handle/azu/17436/azu_acku_pamphlet_hv640_5_a28_j466_2015_w.pdf
Protection of the Displaced - 2011-2013 END OF PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT In Afghanistan & Pakistan	2013	AAN Associates (Pakistan)	DRC	AFG, PAK	https://drc.ngo/media/1181594/Protection-of-the-Displaced-in-Afghanistan-Pakistan.pdf
The "invisible" Afghans in Central Asia- MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	2016	Anita Sengupta	MIGRATION POLICY PRACTICE	AFG	http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migration_policy_practice_journal_27.pdf
Report on the First Regional Meeting of National and International NGOs working in refugee related domains in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan	2013	Association for Protection of Refugee Women and Children	Association for Protection of Refugee Women and Children	AFG, PAK, IR	https://archnet.org/system/publications/contents/9444/original/DTP101927.pdf
Past and present responsibility -sharing arrangements for refugees in the Asia Pacific region	2017	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)	Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)	AFG, PAK, IR	http://www.unhcr.org/5968c2c67.pdf
Reframing solutions for Afghan refugees - Forced Migration Review- Issue 46	2014	Dan Tyler	Forced Migration Review (FMR)	AFG	https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/afghanistan.pdf
Migration mobility and solutions, an evolving perspective - Labour Mobility for Refugees	2012	UNHCR	UNHCR	AFG	http://www.unhcr.org/events/workshops/509a83f49/migration-mobility-solutions-evolving-perspective-alessandro-monsutti.html

Global

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	DOCUMENT	COUNTRY	LINK
Multi-Purpose Cashand Sectoral Outcomes: a Review of Evidence and Learning	2018	Paul Harvey and Sara Pavanello	UNHCR	Research Report	Afghanistan Greece	http://www.unhcr.org/research/evalreports/513f37bb9/unhcrs-engagement-displaced-youth-dr-rosalind-evans-claudia-lo-forte-dr.html
A Global Review UNHCR's Engagement with Displaced Youth	2013	UNHCR	UNHCR	Research Report	Ethiopia Jordan Kenya Iran Bangladesh	http://www.unhcr.org/research/evalreports/513f37bb9/unhcrs-engagement-displaced-youth-dr-rosalind-evans-claudia-lo-forte-dr.html
Thematic series - The invisible majority - Are today's returning refugees tomorrow's IDPs?	2017	Rosalind Evans Claudia Lo Forte Erika McAslan Fraser	UNHCR	Briefing Paper	AFG	http://www.unhcr.org/events/conferences/5a12a6467/internal-displacement-global-compact-refugees-todays-returning-refugees.html
Displacement and Disconnection? Exploring the Role of Social Networks in the Livelihoods of Refugees in Gaziantep, Nairobi, and Peshawar	2017	Loren B. Landau, Kabiri Bule, Ammar A. Malik, Caroline Wanjiku Kihato, Yasemin Irvin-Erickson, Benjamin Edwards, and Edward Mohr - URBAN INSTITUTE	U.S. Department of State	Research Report	Gib, PAK	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/2017-04-02-final-report-for-editing-finalized-for-urban-org.pdf
Positive Practices in Refugee Protection in the Asia Pacific Region	2015	Evan Jones Julia Mayerhofer Amy Testa - Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network	Act for Peace	Research Report	Gib, PAK	https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/positivepracticesasiapacific.pdf
Migrants' Integration in Host Societies, and Return to Home Countries: The Case of the Middle East and South Asia	2017	Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi Rasoul Sadeghi Abdullah Mohammadi	International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Briefing Paper	PAK, AFG, IR	https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/host_societies.pdf
Sustainable Refugee Return: Triggers, constraints and lessons on addressing the development challenges of forced displacement	2015	World Bank	World Bank	Research Report	Afghanistan, Angola Bosnia-Herzegovina Burundi Cambodia Iraq Liberia South Sudan	https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/sustainable-refugee-return-triggers-constraints-and-lessons-on-addressing-the-development-challenges-of-forced-displacement/@@download/file

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	AGENCY	DOCUMENT	COUNTRY	LINK
A Dignified Approach: Legal Empowerment and Justice for Human Rights Violations in Protracted Refugee Situations	2013	Anna Lise Purkey	Journal of refugee studies	Academic Article	Canada	http://digitool.library.mcgill.ca/webclient/StreamGate?folder_id=0&dvs=1540371465825~797
SETTING STANDARDS FOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO REINTEGRATION	2017	Samuel Hall	IOM	Research Report	Afghanistan Ethiopia Iraq Senegal Somalia.	https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/DMM/AVRR/IOM_SAMUEL_HALL_MEASURE_REPORT%202017.pdf
SETTING STANDARDS FOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO REINTEGRATION	2016	Samuel Hall	Samuel Hall	Presentation	AFGHANISTAN SOMALIA	https://www.emn.sk/phocadownload/emn_conference_sustainable_returns_2016/sk_emn_conference_2016_Nassim_Majidi.pdf

Policies & strategies

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	COUNTRY	LINK
Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees, to support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries	2012	UNHCR	AFG	http://www.unhcr.org/afghanistan/solutions-strategy.pdf
National Policy on Internally Displaced Persons	2013	Afghan Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation	AFG	http://morr.gov.af/Content/files/National%20IDP%20Policy%20-%20FINAL%20-%20English(1).pdf
New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants	2016	United Nations	N/A	http://www.unhcr.org/57e39d987
EU Strategy on Afghanistan	2016	EU	N/A	https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/eu_final_booklet_revised_4.pdf
UNHCR regional plan-building resilience and solutions for Afghan refugees in south east asia	2017	UNHCR	N/A	http://unhcr.org.ir/uploads/news/Afghan%20Resilience%20and%20Solutions%20_FINAL_eng_1.PDF
Health Sector Strategy For Afghan Refugees Living in Pakistan 2014-2018	2018	UNHCR	N/A	https://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Health-Strategy.pdf
REFUGEE EDUCATION STRATEGY 2016 -2018	2018	UNHCR	N/A	https://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Pakistan-Education-Strategy-2016-18.pdf
LIVELIHOODS STRATEGY 2018–2021	2018	UNHCR	N/A	https://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/UNHCR-Pakistan-2018-2022-Livelihood-Strategy.pdf
COMMUNITY BASED PROTECTION AND URBAN OUTREACH STRATEGY FOR REFUGEES 2017–2019 PAKISTAN	2017	UNHCR	N/A	https://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Community-Based-Protection-and-Urban-Outreach-Strategy-2017-2019-1.pdf
Quadripartite steering committee -Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries	2018	UNHCR	N/A	https://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Conclusions-of-the-fifthmeeting-of-the-Quadripartite-Steering-Committee-December-20171.pdf
29 tripartite meeting	2018	UNHCR	N/A	https://unhcrpk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Conclusion-of-the-29th-Tripartite-Commission-meeting-November-2017.pdf

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR	COUNTRY	LINK
AFGHANISTAN NATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (ANPDF) 2017 to 2021	2017	The Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework	AFG	http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/afg148215.pdf
Strategy for refugees returnees and IDPs (MoRR and ANDMA) 2008-2013	2013	MoRR and ANDMA	AFG	http://morr.gov.af/Content/Media/Documents/DariRefugeeStrategy_final1992011829118381458322570.pdf
Decree 104 President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan On Land Distribution for Housing to Eligible Returnees and IDPs	2005	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan	AFG	http://morr.gov.af/Content/Media/Documents/Presidentialdecree104218201110421115553325325.pdf
Decree 305 - Decree President of Afghanistan On Land Distribution for Housing to Eligible Returnees and IDPs and ANDSF martyred families	2017	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan	AFG	http://morr.gov.af/Content/Media/Documents/%D9%81%D8%B1%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%86305492018152615872553325325.pdf
"Joint Commission-EEAS non-paper on enhancing cooperation on migration, mobility and readmission with Afghanistan	2016	European Commission and European External Action Service (EEAS)	N/A	http://statewatch.org/news/2016/mar/eu-council-afghanistan-6738-16.pdf
AFGHANISTAN NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY	2014	Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Ministry of Information and Culture Office of the Deputy Ministry of Youth Affairs	AFG	http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/afg159770.pdf
The global compact on refugees	2018	UNHCR	N/A	https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/5b3295167.pdf
The General Policies of the 6th 5-Year Development Plan	2015	Islamic Republic of Iran	IR	N/A
Policy Framework for Returnees and IDPs	2017	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan	AFG	http://morr.gov.af/Content/Media/Documents/FINALPolicyFrameworkforReturneesandIDPs-01Mar171212201712311045553325325.pdf
SOLUTIONS STRATEGY FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES Enhancing Resilience and Co-Existence through Greater Responsibility-Sharing	2018	UNHCR	AFG, IR, Pak	http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2018-2019%20Solutions%20Strategy%20for%20Afghan%20Refugees%20-%20October%202018.pdf
Terms of Reference Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG) On Displacement and Return	2017	N/A	AFG	N/A
POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR RETURNNEES AND IDPS ACTION PLAN MATRIX	2017	N/A	AFG	N/A
AFGHANISTAN LIVING CONDITIONS SURVEY 2016 - 2017	2018	"Central Statistics Organization of Afghanistan	AFG	http://cso.gov.af/Content/files/Surveys/ALCS/Final%20English%20ALCS%20Highlight(1).pdf
Citizens' Charter	2016	"Government of Afghanistan	AFG	http://www.acbar.org/upload/1474264894316.pdf
Pakistan National Action Plan	2014	Goverenmnt of Pakistan	PKS	https://nacta.gov.pk/nap-2014/
MoU Pakistan Tahreek-e-Insaf and Balochistn national Partys_2018	2018	Goverenmnt of Pakistan	PKS	N/A



ADSP

Afghan Displacement Solutions Platform



NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL



The Afghan Displacement Solutions Platform is a joint initiative of the Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council and Relief International, which aims to contribute to the development of comprehensive solutions for Afghans affected by displacement. Drawing upon its members' operational presence in the region, the ADSP engages in constructive dialogue and evidence-based advocacy initiatives to support improved outcomes for displaced Afghans.

Assess, Transform, Reach Consulting (ATR), an Afghan company founded in 2012, provides five streams of complementary services to its clients: monitoring and evaluation, socio-economic research, polling, strategic advisory and capacity development. In order to provide reliable data and analysis in volatile environments, ATR emphasises gaining safe access, controlling the reliability of all data collected and gathering the expertise needed to properly contextualise the information gathered and analyses provided. ATR has offices in Afghanistan, Mali and the United Arab Emirates.