

# Activity Appraisal Document ODA

## € 1.000.000 or more

### **I REQUESTED DECISION CONCERNS**

<b>Application number</b>	4000004419
<b>Short name application</b>	UNHCR Afghanistan Reintegration
<b>Long name application</b>	UNHCR Strengthening the sustainable reintegration of returnees and IDPs in priority areas of return and reintegration through a whole of community approach in Afghanistan
<b>Description application</b>	This project aims to strengthen the reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in a holistic manner to ensure sustainable solutions in the priority return areas, through three components: 1) strengthening evidence-based information system through protection monitoring, 2) expanding access of quality protection and solutions services to marginalized groups, and 3) enhancing human capital among communities through market-based training and business development in partnership with the private sector.
<b>Budget holder</b>	DSH
<b>Number business partner</b>	30012957
<b>Implementing organisation(s)</b>	UNHCR
<b><u>Legal relationship</u></b>	Arrangement/ contribution
<b><u>Commitment</u> in foreign currency (if applicable)</b>	USD 3.595.493
<b>Corporate rate</b>	0,89
<b><u>Commitment</u> in euros</b>	EUR 3.199.988,77
<b>Funds centre</b>	1704U02020001 (Migratie & Ontwikkeling)
<b>Activity start date</b>	01-11-2020
<b>Activity end date</b>	30-11-2021
<b>Contract start date</b>	01-11-2020
<b>Contract end date</b>	30-11-2021
<b>Has an evaluation been planned?</b>	No
<b><u>Aid modality</u></b>	Other programme aid
<b><u>Donor role</u></b>	Single donor

<b><u>Technical assistance</u></b>	N.a. Not applicable		
<b><u>Beneficiary's country/region</u></b>	Afghanistan		
<b>Countries within the region (if applicable)</b>	N.a.		
<b>Allocation country information</b>	Afghanistan, 100%		
<b>Location within the country (be as specific as possible)</b>	Choose an item.	<b>Name location(s)</b>	N.a.
<b><u>CRS Code</u></b>	15190 – Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility		
<b><u>Policy marker weight is 'principal' (no minimum or maximum amount)</u></b>	MnsRcht – Mensenrechten BrpOndw - Beroepsonderwijs		
<b><u>Policy marker weight is 'significant' (no minimum or maximum amount)</u></b>	GlkhMV – Advancing gender equality and empowerment of women		
<b><u>Special pledges made by the Minister or State Secretary / and/ or special marks regarding sensitive information</u></b>	N.a.		

## **II. ACTIVITY APPRAISAL**

### **2.1 Contribution made by the activity to BZ policy objectives (policy relevance)**

#### **2.1.1 Description policy relevance**

##### **Alignment with national policy objectives**

Since 2002, more than 5.2 million Afghan refugees have returned home through UNHCR's facilitated voluntary repatriation programme, including some 1200 persons this year alone. In addition, large numbers of undocumented Afghans are returning home: so far, more than 602.000 undocumented Afghans have returned to Afghanistan in 2020. Inside Afghanistan, returnees are living side by side with displaced people and members of the local community in areas where the capacity of the essential services, such as health and education, are strained under the additional pressure, impacting the reintegration of the returnees in the communities, and in certain occasions, leading to life threatening consequences. People's rights to safety, security and well-being are threatened not only by the conflict, but also by the economic implications of COVID-19. The majority of returnees and displaced people are stressed in their places of return due to a lack of employment, the loss of community support and concerns about what the future holds for them.

It is for these reasons that it is one of the Netherlands' priorities to strengthen the reintegration of returnees and displaced in a holistic manner to ensure sustainable solutions in priority return areas. By strengthening evidence-based information systems through protection monitoring, expanding the access to protection and services to marginalized groups, and enhancing human capital among communities, UNHCR aims to support durable solutions and create conducive conditions for return and sustainable reintegration, based on a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder humanitarian-development-peace approach.

The governments of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan are committed to the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR), a regional approach towards seeking durable solutions to the Afghan situation. In December 2019, a SSAR Support Platform was launched on the side-lines of the Global Refugee Forum, reaffirming the support of the international community to Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan. A core group for the SSAR support platform has been formed to play a leading role in generating political will and help raise awareness and visibility of the Afghan refugee situation including the critical need for responsibility sharing with the principal host countries. The EU will join the core group, and NL will stay informed on the progress of this initiative through active EU participation.

The return to and reintegration in Afghanistan are in line with the Dutch priorities as described in the policy note Investing in Global Prospects and the Comprehensive Agenda on Migration. As set out under 2.1.2, the project aligns with the Migration and Development priorities and results framework. In addition, Afghanistan is one of the 14+1 migration focus countries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

##### **Contribution to the indicators in the Migration and Development Results Framework**

Snapshot from results application:

Outputs: 2.4.2 Returnees receive reintegration support according to international standards			
Indicators	Baseline	Target 2020	Target 2021
ST 2.4.2 Number of migrants (m/f) that received (re)integration assistance (including reintegration counselling; housing assistance; child care support; education; vocational training; job placement; microbusiness grant; cash assistance)	null	null	3400
Medium-term Outcomes: 2.4c Returnees reintegrate in a sustainable manner			
Indicators	Baseline	Target 2020	Target 2021

##### **Policy markers**





MnsRcht: This project will contribute to the protection of human rights of returnees, with specific focus on the access to quality protection and solutions to marginalized groups.

BrpOndw: Part of this project will focus on increasing self-reliance capacities of persons of concern through market-based vocational and technical skills training, life skills and entrepreneurship trainings together with job placement in partnership with the private sector.

**Alignment with international policy objectives**

GlkhMV: Throughout the proposal, specific attention is paid to the unique needs of women and girls, including greater exposure to violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as separation. Women and girls are deprived of basic rights, particularly education and access to essential services. Women and girls who face multiple forms of discrimination are at increased risk of experiencing violence and are less likely to receive the support they need. Women and girls account for more than half of the total number of persons with specific needs assisted by UNHCR so far. Through this programme, these women and girls will be provided with access to protection and essential services.

**2.1.2 Appraisal**

No.	Criteria 2.1 Policy relevance	Indicators ( score 0, 1, 2)	Score	EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES
2.1.1	The proposed intervention ties in with the operational objectives in the Explanatory Memorandum and the related policy memorandum (policy theory and <a href="#">intervention logic</a> ).	 <p>The proposed intervention ties in with both the main objective and the secondary objectives .</p>	 <p>2</p>	<p>The intervention ties in with article 4.2 of the Explanatory Memorandum.</p> <p>In addition, the intervention ties in with the Migration and Development Theory of Change and Results Framework, specifically the priority of protection (pillar 2.1) and return and reintegration (pillar 2.4).</p>
2.1.2	The proposed intervention ties in with the ODA <a href="#">priorities</a>	 <p>The proposed intervention ties in with more than one of the result areas of the BH&amp;OS priorities.</p>	 <p>2</p>	<p>The intervention ties in with several of the policy priorities, as set out in the 'BHOS nota' (2018) of the Dutch government. In particular those goals relating to '2.4 Reception and protection in the region of origin and cooperation on migration'. It directly</p>

				contributes to: 'ensuring access to services for migrants, refugees and host populations' and 'the protection of vulnerable groups'.
2.1.3	The proposed intervention ties in with the annual plan and the result chain of the <a href="#">MIB/MASP</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>The proposed intervention ties in fully with the annual plan and the result chain of the MIB/MASP.</p>	1	'Improving situation and prospect of Internally Displaced Persons and returnees' is one of the priorities in the Multi Annual Country Strategy for Afghanistan.
2.1.4	The relevance of the proposed intervention to the crosscutting themes of women's rights and gender equality / climate / PSD / coherence and strengthening of civil society organisations	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>The proposed intervention is relevant to one of the crosscutting themes.</p>	1	Specific attention is paid to the unique needs of women and girls, including greater exposure to violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, and being deprived of basic rights, particularly education and access to essential services. Through this programme, vulnerable women and girls will be provided with access to protection and essential services.
Total score (maximum 8 out of 8 points)			6	

## **2.2 Problem analysis and lessons learned**

### **2.2.1 Description**

Conflict, fragility, political unrest and natural disasters in Afghanistan have internally displaced some 4.1 million Afghans, including more than 180.000 this year alone. In addition, there are some 4.6 million Afghans outside Afghanistan, of whom 2.7 million are registered refugees – a majority of them in the neighbouring countries Pakistan and Iran. In addition, Afghanistan has been significantly impacted by the spread of COVID-19. The pandemic has left some existing beneficiaries with more complex, deeper needs, while pushing others into humanitarian need for the first time.

The government and the Taliban have launched peace talks and while the progress is slow, it carries the potential to pave the way to create the conditions to return home. Since 2002, more than 5.2 million Afghan refugees have returned home through UNHCR's facilitated voluntary repatriation programme, including some 1200 persons this year alone. In addition, large numbers of undocumented Afghans are returning home: so far, more than 602.000 undocumented Afghans have returned to Afghanistan in 2020. Inside Afghanistan, returnees are living side by side with displaced people and members of the local community. The government of Afghanistan and UNHCR have jointly identified 20 priority areas of return and reintegration (PARRs), where the capacity of the essential services, such as health and education, are strained under the additional pressure, impacting the reintegration of the returnees in the communities, and in certain occasions, leading to life threatening consequences. People's rights to safety, security and well-being are threatened not only by the conflict, but also by the economic implications of COVID-19. The majority of returnees and displaced people are stressed in their places of return due to a lack of employment, the loss of community support and concerns about what the future holds for them.

Among the 14 million people in need of humanitarian assistance across the country, the most vulnerable include the rural poor, minority groups, forcibly displaced, returnees and refugees, children, the elderly, households headed by women, and people with disabilities. Many have resorted to severe negative coping mechanisms such as early/forced marriage, child labor and begging, a situation that is only exacerbated by COVID-19. Women and girls who face multiple forms of discrimination are at increased risk of experiencing (gender-based) violence and are less likely to receive the support they need.

For returnees, displaced populations and host communities, access to livelihoods and employment remains a challenge.<sup>1</sup> Returnees' presence within host communities increased pressure on shared scarce resources such as water, healthcare and education, and creates competition for livelihood opportunities. Returnees, especially those born outside of Afghanistan, are lacking the social ties to help them find work, and often move to relatively urban areas in search of safety, services and jobs, putting additional pressure on urban areas, which are already hosting IDPs. Furthermore, opportunities to generate income, mostly within the informal sector, have been dramatically reduced due to lockdowns aimed at curbing the spread of COVID-19. An estimated 93 per cent of households in Afghanistan are in immediate need of an emergency social safety net in 2020, as they earn less than USD 2 per day.<sup>2</sup>

To address these challenges, this project aims to strengthen the reintegration of the returnees and displaced in a holistic manner to ensure sustainable solutions in the priority areas of return. The project focuses on three key components creating a chain of inter-linked activities from the identification of the needs among the communities, to a short to medium term response that can be linked to a more sustainable longer term solution. The three components are 1) **strengthening evidence-based information systems**, 2) **expanding access of quality protection and solution services to marginalized groups**, and 3) **enhancing human capital among communities**.

Component 1: UNHCR uses protection monitoring to identify gaps and inform programming through evidence-based analysis of protection risks for returnees, refugees, displaced persons and members of the host communities. This analysis helps UNHCR and partners to identify protection risks early on, informs evidence-based actions by international, national and local actors and informs and supports the Government of Afghanistan to advocate for and implement national, regional and global frameworks and policies on return and displacement. Also, through protection monitoring, vulnerable individuals and families are referred to targeted assistance.

Component 2: UNHCR provides targeted support to individuals with acute vulnerabilities and protection risks to mitigate their immediate protection risks through cash, in-kind assistance and/or referral to specialized services.

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<sup>1</sup> IOM – UNHCR Joint summary report on Afghan returnees and the challenges they face inside Afghanistan, 2018  
UNHCR Survey by Orange Door Research and VOTO Afghanistan, November 2018

<sup>2</sup> Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan (2018-2022), June 2020





Component 3: UNHCR will focus on increasing self-reliance capacities of persons of concern by reinforcing human capital, through 1) market-based vocational and technical skills training, life skills and entrepreneurship trainings together with job placement (apprenticeship/internship) in partnerships with the private sector, and 2) promoting small home-based businesses through seed capital grants and provision of assets for business development in the local productive and economic sectors.

### Gender

While the consequences of conflict and disaster affect everyone, women and girls face unique risks, including greater exposure to violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as separation. The situation is only exacerbated by the COVID-19 virus. The virus is presenting safety risks for women both in terms of poor access to treatment and a surge of gender-based violence. Women and girls are deprived of basic rights, particularly education. While limited access to essential services affects everyone, displaced persons and returnees, particularly female IDPs and returnees, are especially disenfranchised due to either their loss or lack of appropriate civil documentation. While ownership of identity documents is a key determinant of people's ability to access the limited government services that do exist, only 38 per cent of women have a Tazkera, or ID card.

Furthermore, women and girls who face multiple forms of discrimination, including internally displaced women, women living in conflict-affected areas, older women, women living with disabilities and those living in rural and remote areas, are at increased risk of experiencing violence and are less likely to receive the support they need. Women and girls account for more than half of the total number of persons with specific needs assisted by UNHCR so far. Through this programme, women and girls will be provided with access to protection and essential services.

### 2.2.2 Appraisal

No.	Criteria 2.2  Contextual analysis	Indicators (score 0,1,2)	Score	EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES
2.2.1	The proposal is based on a careful and thorough contextual analysis, from which a logical problem definition and objective are generated.	 The proposal is based on a careful and thorough analysis and results in a logical problem definition and objective.	 2	Good contextual and needs analysis, resulting in a logical problem definition.
2.2.2	Based on the problem formulated, the proposal explains in a logical manner why the intervention is aimed at the specified geographical location.	 The proposal gives a realistic explanation of why the intervention is aimed at the specified geographical location and substantiates this with examples.	 2	The government of Afghanistan and UNHCR have jointly identified 20 priority areas of return and reintegration (PARRs), where the focus is on area-based multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder humanitarian-development-peace investments, which aim to support durable solutions

				and create conducive conditions for return and sustainable reintegration.
2.2.3	The proposal justifies the choice of <a href="#">target group</a> .	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>The proposal clearly justifies the choice of target group.</p>	2	Under component 2, UNHCR provides targeted support to individuals with acute vulnerabilities and protection risks, informed by protection monitoring. Under component 3, beneficiaries are selected through SOPs and UNHCR staff and partners are trained and aware of the selection criteria.
2.2.4	The proposal sets out which relevant actors were involved in formulating the proposal and what influence they had on the content of the proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>The proposal only sets out the involvement of actors in formulating the proposal OR only sets out the involvement of actors in the proposed intervention (including its management).</p>	1	The proposal has a focus on ownership by the Afghan government and aligns with national strategies and plans. It also sets out how targeted communities, national and local government, NGOs and the private sector are involved in the implementation of the project.
2.2.5	A <a href="#">stakeholder analysis</a> (incl. women and youth) has been carried out and the results incorporated in the	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	The proposal contains a stakeholder analysis and describes how different



	proposal.	The proposal sets out who has a stake in the programme/project but their relative interests are not set out in detail.		actors will be involved in the project, however, their relative interests are not set out in detail. A description of specific needs of women and girls is integrated in the context analysis and needs analysis of the proposal.
2.2.6	The proposal describes how the results of evaluations and/or studies feed into formulation of the proposal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal clearly sets out how results from evaluations and/or studies contributed to formulation of the proposal.	2	The proposal builds on several studies, such as a 2018 IOM-UNHCR joint study on returnees in Afghanistan, a UNHCR mobile phone survey carried out by Orange Door Research and VOTO Afghanistan about the needs of refugees, IDPs and host communities, and the Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan.
Total score (maximum <sup>12</sup> out of 12 points)			10	

## **2.3 Objectives (outcomes), results (outputs), activities and resources, based on the SMART principle**

### **2.3.1 Description**

Impact	Improved sustainable reintegration conditions for women, girls, men and boys in returnee, IDP, and vulnerable host communities	
Overall objective	Increased protection and sustainable solutions for returnee, IDP, and vulnerable host communities	
Outcome 1	Strengthened evidence-based and responsive information systems for informed programming ensuring delivery of quality services	% of protection situations of persons of concern monitored
Output 1	Information management systems strengthened through robust protection monitoring assessments and analyses for evidence-based programming, policies, strategies and legislation	# of persons of concern monitored (disaggregated by age and gender)\n Target: 1000
	Activities: - Protection monitoring of 1000 persons of concern through household-level interviews	
Outcome 2	Improved access of Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) to quality protection and solution services	% of persons of concern receive cash grants/in-kind support or referrals
Output 2	Vulnerable communities (PSN) resilience increased through provision of specialized, age and gender-appropriate protection and solutions services	# of PoC receiving cash grants/in-kind support or referrals  Target: 500
	Activities: - Provide 500 PSN with cash grants, in-kind assistance and/or referral to specialized services	
Outcome 3	Increased self-reliance capacities through market-based training and business development in partnership with private sector	% of youths aged 15-24 enrolled in certified livelihoods training
Output 3.1	Returnees, IDPs, and vulnerable host communities self-reliance and access to employment services improved through market-based employability and employment training.	Market analysis completed  # of PoC provided with entrepreneurship/business training (disaggregated by gender)  # of PoC receiving life-skills training for livelihood purposes (disaggregated by gender)  Target: 2000
	Activities: - Career guidance and counselling, job matching/placement, internships, apprenticeships, digital training and referral to training	
Output 3.2	Businesses (MSMEs) and business development services in productive and economic sectors supported for increased job creation	# of PoC receiving cash/vouchers for business startup (disaggregated by gender)  Target: 300
	Activities: - Investment in value chain infrastructure, social enterprises, awareness raising, training, coaching, mentoring and seed funding	

## Sustainability

The ownership of the Afghan Government is crucial for the sustainability of reintegration of returnees and displaced persons. UNHCR Afghanistan's Multi-Year Strategy is aligned to the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANDPF, 2017-2021), DiREC National Policy Action Plan and the relevant National Priority Programs. UNHCR is also working closely with the Government of Afghanistan, particularly the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MORR), to strengthen their capacities to address durable solutions for returnees and displaced persons.

In line with this approach, UNHCR's interventions are developed and implemented towards durable solutions while ensuring community ownership with a community-based approach that promotes social cohesion and peace-building. In line with the *New Way of Working*, UNHCR interventions are designed to play a catalytic role in linking the humanitarian response to sustainable development programmes (including the private sector) to improve collective outcomes and increase accountability on the basis of comparative advantages.

UNHCR programmes monitor the protection environment for returnees and displaced persons beyond the initial phase of return and displacement and respond to the protection risks of individuals and communities of concern in the initial emergency and medium period while acting as a catalyst to link the humanitarian to development continuum, through community based protection.

The interventions are planned in coordination with the government, development actors, and the private sector; and linkages are identified to the respective actor's ongoing programmes. UNHCR conducts a detailed mapping of stakeholders, particularly development actors, in each locations so as to identify the concreted synergies at the field level.

For example, Women's Economic Empowerment Rural Development Project (WEERDP)'s component Returnee Enterprise Development Programme (RED), implemented by MRRD – UNHCR is working with RED linking beneficiaries (women and youth) to the RED portfolio of social enterprises programming in carpet sector. Likewise, the small businesses such as gree house, dairy farms established are linked to FAO's national agriculture development programme.

### 2.3.2 Appraisal

No.	Criteria 2.3  Outcomes, outputs, activities and resources based on the SMART principle	Explanation of score (1 point per indicator)	Score
2.3.1	The objectives at outcome level are clearly formulated, fall within the proposal's span of influence and are realistic. The outcomes follow logically from the problem formulated.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The outcomes are specifically formulated.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The objectives follow logically from the problem formulated.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The objectives fall within the proposal's span of influence and are realistic (taking account of its duration and local circumstances).  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The objectives are acceptable to the target group and other stakeholders.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The objectives formulated are realistic bearing in mind the scope of the activities and the capacity of the (local) organisation(s).	5
<b>EXPLANATION/</b>			

<b>REFERENCES</b> <p>Additional appreciation gender indicator 3:</p> <p>The objectives include a explicit reference to women/ men, girls/ boys and gender equality. Please explain.</p> <p>The objectives of this intervention are specifically aimed to increase protection and self-reliance of vulnerable groups with increased protection risks, among which women and girls are specifically mentioned.</p>				
2.3.2	Progress in achieving the outcomes can be determined objectively on the basis of measurable performance indicators.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant performance indicators have been formulated for each outcome.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A baseline measurement and a measurable target (quantitative and/or qualitative) have been formulated for each performance indicator.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The verification method (the means by which data is collected and the sources of that data) is realistic and feasible.	3	
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b> <p>Additional appreciation gender indicator 1:</p> <p>For each outcome are relevant, gender specific performance indicators formulated. Please explain.</p> <p>UNHCR has a robust monitoring mechanism in place. Socioeconomic profiling done at the beginning of the activities form a baseline to measure the improvement over a period of time. Importantly, a 3rd party final-evaluation will be conducted at the end of the programme cycle, in line with the OECD_DAC criterial (relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability) to measure the improvement.</p>				
2.3.3	The outputs formulated are concrete and fall within the proposal's span of control. The outputs follow logically from the outcomes formulated.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The project proposal is divided into clear phases, each having concretely formulated outputs.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The outputs are specific.	5	

		<p>There is a clear link between the outputs and the out-comes, i.e. the outputs can be expected to contribute to achievement of the outcomes.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The outputs are acceptable to the target group and other stakeholders.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The outputs formulated are realistic bearing in mind the scope of the activities and the capacity of the (local) organisation(s) .</p>		
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b>				
2.3.4	Progress in achieving the outputs can be determined objectively on the basis of measurable performance indicators.	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant performance indicators have been formulated for each output.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A baseline and a measurable target (quantitative and/or qualitative) have been formulated for each performance indicator.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The verification method (the means by which data is collected and the sources of that data) is realistic and feasible.</p>	3	
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b> <p>Additional appreciation gender indicator 1 and 2:</p> <p>For each output are relevant, gender specific performance indicators formulated;</p> <p>Baseline, targets and verification methods are put on to collect gender specific information. Please explain.</p> <p>The results framework contains measurable indicators on the output level, disaggregated on gender and youth where relevant. Targets are formulated for each output indicator. Baselines are not included in the results framework, however, socioeconomic profiling done at the beginning of the activities form a baseline to measure the improvement over a period of time.</p>				
2.3.5	There is a logical link between the proposed activities and the outputs formu-		1	

	lated.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal sets out the nature of the activities and explains how the activities formulated will contribute to achieving the outputs.		
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b>				
2.3.6	There is a logical link between the activities and the project budget (efficiency).	<input type="checkbox"/> The budget is supported by figures on price and quantity (p x q).  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The budget is broken down by output and/or outcome.	1	
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b> The budget is specified per outcome. This is sufficient.				
2.3.7	When the activity ends, its envisaged outputs will have a lasting effect for the ultimate target group.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal contains a clear vision (with objectives) as to how the activities will be continued when the intervention comes to an end.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To achieve these objectives, specific measures will be taken during implementation of the activities to ensure that the target group will help continue the activities.  <input type="checkbox"/> The proposal contains suitable criteria against which progress in continuing the activities can be measured.  <input type="checkbox"/> The proposal includes a transition plan or exit strategy, identifying the various actors.	2	
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b>				

See above under 'sustainability'.			
2.3.8	At the end of the activity, the envisaged outputs will have a lasting effect on the local partners.	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposal contains a clear vision (with objectives) as to how the quality of the activities and/or financial independence of the local partner will be enhanced.</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To achieve these objectives, specific measures will be taken during implementation of the activity.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> The proposal devotes attention to the capacity of the local partner to generate income from various sources.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> The proposal sets out suitable criteria against which progress in regard to institutional sustainability can be measured.</div>	2
<b>EXPLANATION/ REFERENCES</b> <p>In line with the Grand Bargain, UNHCR increased the number of local partners it engages to implement its projects, and in 2020 UNHCR has 16 national, 2 international, and 1 Government partners. These local partners have strong links with the communities in the areas in which they operate and are constantly monitoring the developments in the operational environment including the security situation. These ties with the communities mean that partners are often able to implement activities albeit at different levels throughout changes in the situation.</p>			
Total score (maximum score 27 points)			2

## 2.4 Cooperation, harmonisation and added value

Partnership is a core focus of UNHCR Afghanistan's Multi-Year Strategy to link humanitarian response to development programmes to ensure long term sustainability. UNHCR works with MoRR (key counterpart), relevant government ministries, other UN agencies through joint programme/programming and coordination to: (i) support the return of Afghan refugees, (ii) promote and strengthen the linkages between humanitarian and development actors for the protection of and durable solutions for returnees and displaced persons.

UNHCR is coordinating and programming activities in complementarity with the Government, UN agencies and development actors. To ensure a coordinated and complementary approach, UNHCR maintains an active involvement in the Government's strategies via established mechanisms and frameworks (such as the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANPDF), UN Country Team, OneUN, UNSDCF, Durable Solutions Working Group among others) and works with diverse actors (Government, UN agencies, development actors, I/NGOs, private actors) through inclusive partnerships to strengthen durable solutions for forcibly displaced (returnees, IDPs, refugees) and affected population.

UNHCR continues to support MoRR to increase access to quality protection services to returnees, displaced persons, and host communities. In parallel, strategic interventions are carried out including strengthening (organizational and institutional) capacities of these national institutions to deliver effective services, particularly at the community level. To further strengthen the engagement with international organizations (UN agencies, development actors, private sector etc.), both at the strategic and field levels, UNHCR's community based protection approach in Afghanistan reflects on working effectively across the entire spectrum of forced displacement. UNHCR's catalytic role in linking humanitarian action to development programming including projects provide examples of good practice for development actors to scale up and support local authorities to prepare and implement localized plans and interagency, area-based programming through a CRRF approach. An example is the joint UNHCR, UNDP, ILO and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs initiative "Supporting Afghanistan Livelihoods and Mobility" (SALAM) which expanded UNHCR and ILO's good practices in promoting self-reliance of returnees and displaced persons through business support and job placement.

These interventions are aligned to NPP "private sector development" and its components viz. (1) Building efficient and competitive markets (Outcomes: Competitiveness of the Afghan artisanal products improved, while ensuring the fair and safe working conditions, and quality products; Regional and International market linkages for Afghan artisanal sector products established); (2) Enabling SMEs, particularly export-focused Afghan farms (SMEs in the Afghan artisanal sectors promoted); and (3) Encouraging Domestic Investment (SMEs in the local economic and productive sectors promoted (e.g. home-bakery, transport, services etc.); Access to credit (microfinance) for the local SMEs facilitated). Alongside, partnerships with ILO on SIYB model and access to finance; GIZ on private sector development; and UNDP on economic development.

The activities outlined in this proposal are closely coordinated with the IOM and other actors to further strengthen collective efforts and Delivering As One ensuring meaningful interventions, collective impact, and importantly for optimal resource utilization avoiding duplication.

Importantly, these interventions are in PARRs, where UNHCR coordinates the interventions with development actors. UNHCR-IOM at the country level has a concrete partnership and has an agreed action plan (prepared in 2018) – which is being currently being updated/revised, and will be finalized by January 2021.

In addition, UNHCR co-leads, with IOM, the OneUN Priority Working Group 'Return and Reintegration' – which is a key platform to strengthen the humanitarian development nexus. At the global and regional level, GCR/GRF and SSAR respectively, offers the platforms for effective coordination with diverse actors ensuring the sustainable solutions for Afghans.

## **2.5 Channel and aid modality (including alignment)**

As a multilateral organization, UNHCR is well equipped to implement this project. UNHCR's comparative advantage in Afghanistan are in the areas of protection – i.e. protection monitoring and field presence, community-based protection measures (CBP for reintegration), leadership in Protection and Emergency Shelter/ Non-Food Relief Items Clusters – regional leverage through the SSAR, catalytic programmes to link the humanitarian and development nexus, and evidence-based response and advocacy through information management.

As for the component focused on vocational training and business support: UNHCR has been working on providing market-based skills development, job-placement, and business support for persons of concern in Afghanistan since 2017. During 2019-2020, UNHCR has supported 1,047 job-placements for men and women; established 155 market-based small businesses; and another 331 men and women have benefitted from market-based technical and vocational trainings. At a community group level, UNHCR supported the establishment of two poultry farms and two dairy farms – which are linked through FAO to the National Agriculture Development Programme – to ensure the continuity of interventions. At the same time, with the support from ILO, Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) model is adopted. Importantly, through UNHCR's flagship Global MADE51 programme, three women's communities in the artisanal sector (e.g. carpet/kilim weaving) are connected to global markets and by working with local social enterprises. To really understand the impact of these interventions, an evaluation of these interventions, in line with the OECD-DAC criteria 9 (Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability) needs to be conducted, which is planned during first quarter of 2021.

## **V. IMPLEMENTATION**

### **5.1 Budget**

#### **5.1.1 Breakdown of costs**



Targeted activities/ outputs	Target (persons)	Year 1 (2020) (USD)	Year 2 (2021) (USD)
Situation of persons of concern monitored	1,000		83,000
Persons with specific needs supported through cash/ in-kind support and referrals	500		620,734
Market Assessment analysis conducted		10,000	
Access to self employment/business facilitated	600		954,599
Access to training and learning enabled	2,000		936,218
Cash grants or vouchers provided for business start up	300		771,499
Subtotals		10,000	3,366,050
Overhead (6.5%)		219,443	
<b>TOTAL USD</b>		<b>3,595,493</b>	

USD € 3.595.493

**NOTE: Payment must be transferred on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, not before.**

### **5.3 Monitoring**

#### **5.3.1 Narrative and financial reports**

See decisions tree; because of UNHCR's strong track record and the size of the project, we deem the risks manageable and came to 'outcome 9', financial and narrative report.

In accordance with the general arrangement with UNHCR, the reporting will be done by narrative report and certified financial statements.

#### **5.3.2 Audit opinion**

Not applicable.

#### **5.3.3 IATI - International Aid transparency Initiative**

AfDB	IMF	UN-Habitat
AsDB	IOM	UNHCR
EBRD	OCHA	UNICEF
FAO	OHCHR	UNODC
GAVI	UN Women	UNRWA
GFATM	UNAIDS	World Bank
IDB	UNCTAD	WFP
IDLO	UNDP	WHO
IFAD	UNEP	WTO
International Finance Corpora- tion (IFC)	UNESCO	WTO-ITC
ILO	UNFPA	

The responsible policy departments will coordinate the policy dialogue with the aforementioned organisation to ensure that the IATI standard is implemented in accordance with the BZ/DGIS publication guidelines. These departments will also monitor progress, so the budget holder is not required to take any other action in this matter.

#### **5.3.4 Annual plans and other reports**

#### **5.3.5 Monitoring calendar**

<b>Report type</b>	<b>Any specific requirements*</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Submission by</b>
<b>Narrative report</b>		<i>01-11-2020 – 31-12-2020</i>	<b><i>30-06-2021</i></b>
<b>Final narrative report</b>		<i>01-11-2020 – 30-11-2021</i>	<b><i>30-06-2022</i></b>
<b>Certified Financial Statement</b>		<i>01-11-2020 – 31-12-2020</i>	<b><i>30-06-2021</i></b>
		<i>01-01-2021 – 30-11-2021</i>	<b><i>30-06-2022</i></b>

#### **5.3.6 Evaluations**

No evaluation.