



## Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund Delivering Prosperity

### POVERTY GRADUATION PROJECT (PGP) FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) are jointly taking forward the Poverty Graduation Approach with the poorest members of the Afghan Refugee population to help them climb out of poverty by providing them with livelihood opportunities leading to sustainable income generation. The support has resulted in the economic empowerment of Afghan Refugee families by creating a greater degree of self-reliance and enhancing their economic independence.

Productive assets have been provided to over 11,129 Afghan Refugee families, promoting income generation and sustainable livelihoods.

Since its inception in 2017, the PPAF-UNHCR partnership has resulted in the successful completion of four phases of the Poverty Graduation Programme for Afghan Refugees. Backed by PPAF's on ground partner organisations, Phases I and II focused on identifying, mobilising, and providing skills training to Afghan refugee families. In Phases III and IV, the programme shifted to enhancing self-reliance and improving livelihoods. Phase IV also included startup support and entrepreneurship skills training for 25 DAFI scholars, including 10 participants directly from refugee camps.

Phase V will continue to support Afghan refugees in achieving economic self-sufficiency. Through innovative approaches, it aims at empowering refugees, building their resilience, and enhancing their productive capacities, enabling them to become active and contributing members of their communities. The Phase V will benefit 990 individuals including 90 DAFI scholars.

### OBJECTIVES

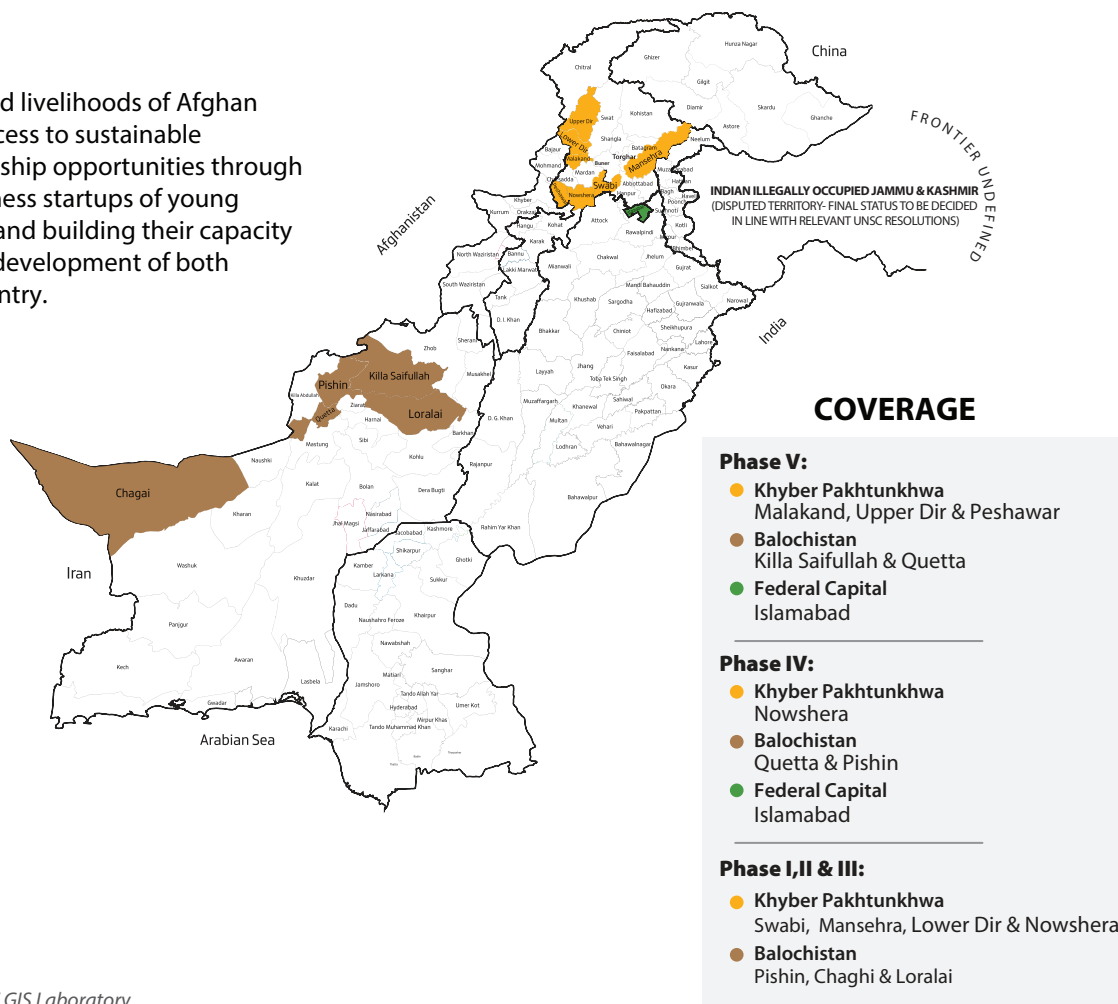
To enhance the self-reliance and livelihoods of Afghan refugees by increasing their access to sustainable employment and entrepreneurship opportunities through skills training, supporting business startups of young Afghans to accelerate growth, and building their capacity to contribute positively to the development of both Afghanistan and their host country.

### GOAL

To assist the ultra-poor and very poor Afghan Refugee households in graduating out of poverty through provision of productive assets, skills enhancement and innovative schemes.

### FINANCIAL OUTLAY (PHASE V)

PKR 142.06 Million



## Summary of Programme Phases

Phase	Duration	Financial Outlay (PKR in Million)	Project Districts	Achievement
Pilot and Phase I	July - Dec 2017 January 2018 - March 2019	131.315	Pishin & Swabi	Identification of beneficiaries, skills training and productive livelihood asset transfer for 1,463 Afghan HHs
Phase II	January 2020 – December 2021	331.85	Mansehra & Chaghi	Skills training and productive livelihood asset for 2,766 Afghan HHs
Phase III	Jan - Dec 2022	366.81	Lower Dir, Nowshera & Loralai	Skills training and productive livelihood asset for 3,000 Afghan HHs
Phase IV	Jan - Dec 2023	616.53	Quetta, Pishin, Nowshera, Islamabad	Entrepreneurship Skills training, and productive livelihood asset through cash transfer for 3,025 Afghan HHs

## PROGRAMME'S IMPACT

A third-party impact assessment study was conducted in 2023 covering the three phases of the programme. Overall, the programme has a profound impact on economic, educational, and social dimensions. A total of 54% of the sampled population has successfully graduated out of poverty, achieving a Poverty Scorecard (PSC) greater than 23. Moreover, 92% of the beneficiaries experienced an improvement in their PSC scores. The programme has yielded significant positive outcomes across several key areas, as summarised below:

- Income of target beneficiaries increased by 28% with few reporting monthly incomes between Rs. 120,000 to Rs. 200,000.
- 96% reported asset quality, and 78% of households participated in asset procurement
- 98% said assets matched their skills, promoting economic growth.
- Financial training improved numeracy skills for 87%.
- Women reported improved quality of life, with 38% feeling better equipped for challenges.

## MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF PHASE-V:



Identification of **2,000** ultra-poor Afghan refugee households for targeting



Enterprise Development Trainings (EDT) for **900** targeted households



Cash Transfer to **900** households directly by UNHCR service provider



Start-up Support and Entrepreneurship Skill Training at National Incubation Centres for **90 DAFI Scholars**



Awareness Sessions on Gender/Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and abuse (PSEA)