

OCHA facilitates registration of displaced women to enable them to receive assistance

By Shaista Attaullah, Humanitarian Affairs Officer

Displaced families seeking assistance to return to their homes in north-western Pakistan have to be registered in order to receive support.

In South Waziristan Agency, where security operations that commenced in 2009 displaced more than 50,000 families, over 20,000 families returning or seeking to return home had been registered by January 2013.

However, some displaced families, especially female-headed households from Dera Ismail Khan and Tank districts, missed the registrations either because they were not aware of them or due to bureaucratic hurdles such as the lack of proper documentation, absence of male family members, among other reasons.



OCHA and other humanitarian actors facilitate the registration of displaced women in Dera Ismail Khan and Tank to enable them to receive returns assistance.

Photo: OCHA/ Shaista AttaUllah

To address their plight, OCHA intervened by engaging local authorities, community leaders and humanitarian agencies to have the vulnerable female-headed households registered in order to receive returns assistance.

OCHA, UNHCR and community elders identified a special day (11 January 2013) for the registration of widows. Elderly and disabled people who had missed registrations were also included.

The community elders were grateful for the inclusion of female-headed families in the registration process, thus enabling them to receive assistance during their return to their homes.