

# Humanitarian Bulletin Pakistan

Issue 30 | 20 August–19 September 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Late monsoon floods caused damages.
- Pilot assessment of families with specific needs completed.

## FIGURES

Pre-existing estimated IDPs in KP and FATA	930,000
NADRA-verified displaced families from NWA to other parts of Pakistan as of 23 September	60,586
Expected returnees to FATA in 2014 (FDMA)	270,000
Returnees to FATA since Nov 2013 (FDMA)	Over 100,000
Registered Afghan refugees (UNHCR)	1.6 million
Food insecure (National Nutrition Survey 2011)	58%

## 2014 FUNDING

### HCT Strategic Plan (US\$)

352m Initially required

112m Donated

240m Still required

### NWA IDP needs (US\$)

99m Requested

31.8m Donated

54.5m Still required



OCHA/Hussain Ullah

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## Late monsoon hits north-eastern Pakistan

Flash and urban floods ravaged north-eastern Pakistan and western India when late and concentrated monsoon rains started on 4 September. As of 19 September, the floods caused 326 deaths and affected approximately 1.8 million people in Pakistan. In addition to the loss of life and injury, there has been a social and economic cost: the partial and total loss of homes, significant loss of livestock and livelihoods and massive crop damage. Approximately 2.35 million acres of crops were lost at the height of the harvest period, according to the authorities. It could also have an impact on schoolchildren if their schools are used as relief centres which will disrupt their education.

This is not the first time that Pakistan has been hard hit with monsoon floods. Over the last two decades, the Global Climate Risk Index 2014, by the environmental think tank Germanwatch, ranked Pakistan the twelfth most affected country by climate-related events. On average, economic losses related to extreme weather have caused economic losses worth over 0.7 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product. At one point, Pakistan was in the top three most affected countries for three consecutive years.

Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan-administered Kashmir and Punjab are currently the most affected areas in Pakistan. Some of the areas most affected in Punjab are the same ones still dealing with the 2013 floods when some 1.5 million people were affected.

By creating breaches in various dykes along the Chenab River, Pakistani authorities decreased the water volume and velocity entering the catchment system. This resulted in large areas being inundated, but people were warned in advance. As the water flowed south, the strategic breaching slowed the pace and force of water, minimizing further damage.



Pakistan Red Crescent Society

A response team member of the Pakistan Red Crescent Society issues an alert to people near the junction of Jhelum and Neelum Rivers in Muzaffarabad District.

On 9 September the Government declared an emergency in Punjab and categorized the flood-affected areas as calamity-hit. Under the Calamity Act of 1958 this enabled the provincial government to provide for the “maintenance and restoration of order in the areas affected by certain calamities and for the prevention and control of relief against such calamities.”

*Approximately 2.35 million acres of crops were lost at the height of the harvest period.*



On 12 September, the National Disaster Management Authority requested assistance from the Humanitarian Country Team to conduct a rapid needs assessment in five districts of Punjab: Chiniot, Jhang, Hafizabad, Mandibahauddin and Multan. Refresher training for the assessment teams, composed of staff members from government, NGOs and the UN, began on 16 September. On 17 September the teams went into the districts where they continued collecting information for four days.

The assessment will enable a better understanding of the exact needs of the flood-affected people. The Government continues with their relief activities and rescuing or evacuating those who need support. The Government has announced a compensation package will be available, hopefully to start before Eid-al-Adha.

*NDMA has sent up 122 relief camps in six districts to provide immediate health care services, referrals, cooked food, water and non-food items, such as tents, blankets, soap and sleeping mats.*

Currently, physical access to reach the most affected areas requires a boat. In Gilgit Baltistan and PAK, landslides and avalanches have impeded access to the areas. To date, district and provincial authorities have managed the response with support from the federal level.

Authorities set up 151 relief camps in affected areas to provide immediate health care services, referrals, cooked food, water, and non-food items, such as tents, blankets, soap, and sleeping mats.

The water management system of Pakistan remains vulnerable with year-on-year damages and limited repairs and maintenance. Much of the land is below sea level with most of the arable land lies one to five metres below the elevated waterways and road structures. Water is unable to flow out of flooded areas because of limited disaster risk management features, such as culverts, drainage, and retrofitting. Water must be mechanically removed. Despite repeated warnings, many people continue to build homes in the flood plains, or *katcha* areas, because of the high agricultural yield.



Pakistan: Floods 2014 (as of 18 September)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## Assessment of families with specific needs

### Pilot assessment

*Pilot assessment of families of specific needs completed in Bannu will ensure that vulnerable people who were not able to register will still receive assistance.*

Physically disabled and elderly, Falana<sup>1</sup> is the sole bread winner for his wife and four children. They were displaced during the June 2014 military operation against insurgents in North Waziristan Agency (NWA). He was unable to register with the Federally Administered Tribal Area Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) as neither he nor his wife have one of the newer Computerized National Identity Cards (CNIC), however, he and his family need help to survive. Without this registration with the government he cannot receive any government financial assistance. To support his family he has gone into debt. His nephew also helps.

In August, the Protection Cluster Partners assessed families with specific needs in Bannu, Lakki Marwat and Peshawar for those displaced from NWA. Partners used six already-agreed upon vulnerability criteria for referral to assistance. Cases are referred from the Grievance Desks, from other partners or identified through community outreach.

This assessment was designed to identify genuine displaced persons from NWA who could not register themselves for a variety of reasons but particularly if a CNIC was unavailable and they have a specific vulnerability which requires basic assistance.

<sup>1</sup> Name has been changed to protect the identity of the affected person.



Once the assessment is completed and families are identified, they will be referred to UNHCR for non-food items and to WFP for food supports. Families with protection needs will be referred for additional protection services.

## Living in Jalojai Camp

Jalojai Camp is home to over 4,000 families from Khyber Agency. Many of them have been living here for several months after fleeing in advance of the military operations. While some families hope to return to their villages when the security situation improves for others their hope is diminished as their homes and livelihoods were destroyed. They wonder about their future.

Living in Jalojai is different from their home in many ways. Families displaced from the temperate climate of Tirah Valley bore the brunt of sweltering heat in the summer with just tents as their shelter. While men could go out in search of an income, the women and children stay within the tented camp as indicated by their culture. This may not seem very different from their daily routine in Kyber where women followed a strict tribal code of privacy. In Kyber, however, their large houses, the daily household chores and visits to relatives brought some activity to their daily life. In the camp, the women confine themselves to a tent, risking isolation.

*The Protective Learning and Community Emergency Services (PLaCES) offers a variety of activities for women and children in Jalojai Camp: psycho-social support to overcome post-trauma stress disorder, learning through recreational activities for children, vocational training and life skills for women, awareness raising activities on gender-based violence, health and hygiene, birth registration, mine risk education and positive parenting practices.*

For many women this has resulted in stress disorders. Recognizing the impact on women and children now faced to live in these circumstances, the Protection Cluster members established the Protective Learning and Community Emergency Services (PLaCES). This became their refuge where they spent time networking with other women and receiving messages from humanitarian partners. PLaCES offers a variety of activities for women and children: psycho-social support to overcome post-trauma stress disorder, learning through recreational activities for children, vocational training and life skills for women, awareness raising activities on gender-based violence, health and hygiene, birth registration, mine risk education and positive parenting practices.



Women and children playing in PLaCES.