

Floods in Pakistan

Situation Overview

The flood water continues to flow further south of Pakistan as it entered Jati city in Thatta district on Friday (3 September). Some 200,000 residents of Jati and the adjacent Shah Bundar city were evacuated to safer areas in the province.

Simultaneously, an emergency has been declared in Khairpur Nathan Shah, Dadu district as floodwater has entered the city. Local administration has evacuated 90 percent of the residents (280,000 people) to safer areas.

The estimated population displaced from Dadu district is around 600,000 to 800,000 people in the past four days. Currently, there are some 150,000 people still marooned in the flood areas in Dadu with damaged houses and no available assistance.



A school building in Sibi district, Balochistan after the water receded from the area.

As the flood water is receding from the northern parts of Sindh, the flood victims who were displaced to Sibi in Balochistan have started to return to their areas of origin. However there are still families unable to return owing to their limited resources and are in need of support in their return to Sindh.

Response

UNHCR has so far assisted more than 450,000 flood affected persons all over Pakistan by distributing 31,698 tents, 214,702 blankets, 82,590 quilts, 38,054 kitchen sets, 61,139 mosquito nets, 53 MT soap, 76,225 jerry cans, 71,662 plastic buckets, 145,022 sleeping mats, 80,575 plastic sheets.



A flood affected family in Karampur camp in Sukkur district, Sindh.

Shelter

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNHCR has so far established 14 formal distribution hubs in Peshawar, Charsadda, Swat, Kohat, Nowshera, Kohistan, Shangla, Dera Ismail Khan, Lower and Upper Dir districts. In addition, three temporary distribution points have also been set up to better cater to the flood affected population in Haripur, Mansehra and Chitral districts.

In Sindh, UNHCR is assisting the government in site planning and coordination of the government managed camps for the flood affected population. On the request of the concerned authorities, UNHCR has started the site planning and tents alignment in camp in Thatta. This exercise is expected to be complete in the next two days.

In Balochistan, UNHCR's implementing partner Taraqee Foundation is distributing an additional 1,500 non food items kits in Nasirabad district. 1,500 flood affectees have already received the non food items kit in the previous two days only.

On request of the district authorities, UNHCR through its implementing partner WESS has started distribution of tents and blankets in various camps located in and around Quetta.

Protection

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNHCR through its implementing partner Social Welfare Department is in the process of establishing seven welfare centers in Charsadda, Nowshera, Peshawar and Mardan districts. The welfare centers are due to start operations by the last week of September. The assistance provided through the welfare centers include information dissemination and outreach to communities, legal assistance and to build up a referral mechanism which would help the flood victims to access assistance immediately.



Sibi district, Balochistan after the flood water receded from the streets.

To ensure that the protection issues faced by the flood victims are highlighted through protection monitoring, UNHCR protection teams have planned focused group discussions with communities. The protection issues include loss of property, livelihood, and discrimination to vulnerable groups such as women and child headed household and minorities.

In Balochistan: a UNHCR mission went to Sibi district to assess the situation of the government established camps in the area. In the four camps that were

assessed, comprehensive data of the resident population was not available. Based on the observations of the mission, majority of the present flood affectees are women and children. The medical staff present in the four camps reported 24 SGBV cases in total assisted in the last one week.



Focus group discussion held for women in Karampur camp Sukkur, Sindh.

Focus group discussions were held with the flood victims in the four assessed camps. The common protection-related concerns raised in the discussions included discrimination during the food and NFI distribution, insufficient access to pre-natal health care for the pregnant women and medical attention for persons with physical and mental disabilities. In addition to the protection needs, women also expressed the need for clothing.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

In Balochistan, the overall situation remains highly critical as hygiene conditions are getting bad to worst in flood hit districts of Jaffarabad and Nasirabad.

UNHCR is assisting the government in camp coordination and camp management by training and capacity building of the government's staff working in the camps. The training sessions include site planning and management of the camps.

In Sindh: UNHCR and partner agencies are in the process of developing the CCCM operational structure which will operate over four levels: 1) camp/group of camps level; 2) Mobile monitoring

and capacity building teams; 3) District level - where coordination cells regrouping the main clusters into one coordination body will meet every other day under chairmanship of the DCO (main clusters are: food, health, wash, shelter and CCCM); and finally the regional level where issues are discussed in the respective clusters and in the inter-cluster.

Afghan Refugee Villages:

So far, UNHCR has assisted flood affected Afghan refugees in 11 refugee villages of the total 16 refugee villages affected by the floods around the country. Currently, UNHCR's implementing partner Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), is assessing the needs and damages in three refugee villages including Mohib Banda, Pushtoon Garhi and Soukai in Nowshera district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Distribution of relief items has resumed in Azakhel refugee village.

To better assist the refugee villages affected by the floods, UNHCR has approached WFP for provision of food to the Afghan Refugees in addition to the on going distribution of emergency shelter and essential household items by UNHCR.

Funding

UNHCR has revised its budget upwards to 120 million USD from the initial 41 million USD. In these revised requirements, UNHCR's overall objective is to meet the shelter needs of some two million persons and household needs of some one million individuals. Provision of different types of shelters (family tents, plastic tarpaulins or transitional shelters) is determined by their vulnerabilities, size of the families as well as level of the damage to their homes. The one million beneficiaries of household items could also receive shelter assistance. Therefore, for planning purposes, the total planning figure of two million shelter recipients is inclusive of those who may receive NFIs. UNHCR will mainly concentrate its assistance activities on the provinces of KPK and Balochistan, while the provision of protection support will target all four provinces severely affected by the floods.

Donations

If you wish to make a donation for the flood victims in Pakistan you can either visit <http://www.unhcr.org/donate> or use the following bank details:

UNHCR Special a/c

Account number: 08-7316410-02

Swift Code: SCBLPKKX

Bank Name: STANDARD CHARTERED BANK (PAK) LTD

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