

PAKISTAN: Monsoon 2024 Flash Update #6

Monsoon Affected Districts

Latest Monsoon Developments and Response Efforts

As of 27 August 2024

This report is produced by OCHA Pakistan, covering the period from 1 July to 27 August 2024.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) of Sindh province reported a substantial increase of 26% in displacement in the Shangar district. As of 21 August, about 9,524 individuals were reportedly displaced, including 2,186 men, 2,471 women, and 4,867 children. Out of the total displaced, 2, 627 (429 men, 571 women, and 1,627 children) took shelter in the relief camps set up by the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), while the remaining displaced population are living with relatives.
- Latest data from an NGO called Bhittai Social Watch and Advocacy (BSWA) in Katcha (riverbank) areas of Sindh province indicated that 35,342 people were affected (14,277 men, 15,930 women, and 5,135 children). Of these, 290 families were displaced (130 live by the roadside, and 160 living in protected bunds), while most of the families chose to remain in their damaged and flooded houses to secure their remaining belongings.
- Cumulative data from July 1 to August 25 reveals a substantial increase in both losses and damages in the affected provinces. With a total of 243 deaths reported (83 *men, 40 women, and 120 children*), over 49% of the deaths are among children, highlighting their vulnerability during floods. A total of 446 were injured (*158 men, 107 women, and 181 children*). Flooding caused extensive damage to social infrastructure and livelihoods,

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Cumulative Losses / Damages 1 Jul to 25 Aug														
Loc	Deaths				Injured				Infra Damage					
	Male	Female	Child	Total	Male	Female	Child	Total	Houses FD	Houses PD	Total	Schools	Bridges (All Types)	Livestock Perished
Bln	10	1	10	21	1	0	11	12	45	215	260	0	5	120
KP	25	15	34	74	39	29	60	128	243	663	906	7	16	142
Punjab	31	16	45	92	84	63	84	231	100	152	252	0	0	44
Sindh	16	8	23	47	26	12	20	58	354	1611	1965	0	0	260
GB	1	0	3	4	0	0	1	1	65	109	174	0	14	0
AJ&K	0	0	5	5	8	3	5	16	28	69	97	1	0	4
Total	83	40	120	243	158	107	181	446	835	2819	3654	8	35*	570

Source: NDMA

with a total of 3, 654 houses damaged, while 570 livestock perished.

SITUATIONAL UPDATE

Sindh province

In a recent fact-finding mission led by OCHA and participated by IOM, WHO, FAO, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief, and the Alliance for Maternal and Reproductive Health (AMRDF), it found out that the number of displaced individuals in Sanghar district has increased substantially. The latest figures indicate that 9,524 people were displaced, with 2,627 living in a relief camp established by the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) and the remaining population staying with relatives. The displaced population face significant challenges and requires immediate assistance in the form of food, WASH facilities, fodder for the livestock, repair and rehabilitation of partially damaged schools and health facilities, cash assistance, seed and fertilizer for the rabbi crop season, and winterization kits.

The floods submerged nearly 20 villages in the Katcha (riverbank) areas Khairpur district in Sindh province.. The latest data from Bhittai Social Watch and Advocacy (BSWA) indicates that floods affected 35,342 people, including 14,277 men, 15,930 women, and 5,135 children. There were 290 displaced families (160 live in the protected bund and 130 reside in makeshift houses on the roadside). The lack of latrines has forced displaced families to resort to open defecation risking oral-feacal and waterborne diseases, while women are struggling to maintain personal and menstrual hygiene. Additionally, pregnant and lactating women (PLW) have not received screening for malnutrition. The affected people indicated their immediate needs as food, safe drinking water, WASH facilities, medical camps, hygiene kits, temporary learning centers and child-friendly spaces, cash assistance, and agricultural inputs. OCHA is advocating for local authorities and humanitarian actors to provide assistance to these people who are recurrently impacted by floods because of staying along the riverbanks to mitigate further impacted to the affected people.

The decision of many affected families in the Katcha areas to remain in their damaged homes, despite the imminent threat of upstream flooding, is a complex issue with multiple underlying factors. One primary reason for their reluctance to relocate is the fear that the government might reclaim the area once they leave. The Katcha area is a government-protected area, directly adjacent to the Indus River and susceptible to flooding during the monsoon season. Another factor contributing to their decision is the tribal clashes in the area. These clashes create a sense of insecurity and make it difficult for families to feel safe relocating to other areas. For the fact-find mission, access to these flooded villages was only possible by boat, which is costly.

Balochistan Province

An initial assessment conducted by Muslim Hands Pakistan in Quetta revealed that the recent flooding in Sohbat Pur district severely affected approximately 2,500 households. The disaster has displaced several residents from their homes, leaving them in urgent need of temporary shelter with kitchen sets, clothes, shoes, NFI, and dignity kits in health facilities and communities to ensure privacy, dignity and basic hygiene of vulnerable groups, especially women and girls; food assistance is needed for vulnerable households; cooked food; mosquito nets; and livestock management interventions Furthermore, the stagnant floodwaters pose a serious threat to public health, with a high risk of outbreaks of waterborne diseases. OCHA advocates for humanitarian actors in Balochistan to provide assistance in collaboration with PDMA and local authorities to mitigate duplicity.

In Kalat district with an estimated population of 272,000, 11 Union of Councils (UCs) were severely affected by heavy rains and floods which caused significant damage to roads and infrastructure. In a recent joint field mission organized by OCHA and humanitarian partners, the district authority requested for heavy equipment and machinery for road rehabilitation and agricultural supplies such as seeds and fertilizers.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)

OCHA and partners from IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, Agha Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH), Health Education and Development Society (HEaDS), and Secours Islamique France (SIF) led a recent fact-finding mission that revealed the severe consequences of floods in Upper Chitral district, affected multiple areas including Rech, Brep, Power, Khurzg, Reshun, Booni, and Oweer leading to Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs), flash floods, soil erosion, and landslides caused widespread destruction of property and loss of lives. Data from DDMA indicates that the GLOF displaced 154 families in Upper Chitral, with 35 families residing with their relatives and 43 families residing in tents. Immediate needs included: food items, clean drinking water supply, restoration of water supply and irrigation channels, water health, hygiene, and sanitation; shelter and NFI kits; winterization kits; restoration of school facilities; nutrition supplies; food supplements for children; school supplies; WASH in schools; emergency medical supplies; first aid kits; cash assistance; agriculture supplies; restoration of basic infrastructure; and the removal of debris. Persons with specific needs highlighted that they

have limited access to humanitarian assistance. Furthermore, the affected people highlighted the importance of protection walls, early warning systems, disaster preparedness training, environmental restoration, and facilities to restore affected ecosystems, prevent soil erosion, and promote sustainable land use practices.

COORDINATION AND RESPONSE

OCHA in coordination with humanitarian partners initiated fact-finding missions to Sindh, KP and Balochistan. The ECHO funded District Coordinators are coordinating with local authorities in affected districts, while OCHA at provincial and national levels is coordinating with PDMA/NDMA, Emergency Working Group/ISCG to mobilize and advocate for response to the affected vulnerable people, with the government taking the lead role.

In Sindh province, the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) of Sanghar has implemented vital relief measures to support the displaced population (IDPs) in both relief camps and spontaneous settlements. The DDMA has provided daily cooked meals to ensure food security for the displaced individuals and has deployed a well-equipped mobile medical unit with trained health staff on-site to address their health needs. Mosquito nets have been distributed to pregnant women, shielding them from mosquito-borne diseases like malaria and dengue fever. Livestock were vaccinated to protect their health and stop the spread of diseases. Three hand pumps in the relief camp were installed to guarantee the displaced population's access to clean water.

In Khaipur district of Sindh province, the DDMA has been engaged in coordinating the response, including de-watering and providing relief to the affected people.

OCHA and humanitarian partners are advocating with the PDMA in Sindh province to integrate affected population data into their daily situation reports. This would offer a more precise and comprehensive understanding of the needs in the Katcha areas. The PDMA has indicated a need for data validation before inclusion in the official daily report.

In Balochistan, the district authorities gave tents and food supplies to the families in Kalat district whose houses were damaged. The PDMA carried out relief work in the Chaghai district. The PDMA distributed ration packages and other essential items like tents, coolers, and plastic mats to the affected people.

The humanitarian response in KP province to the monsoon floods has highlighted the collaborative efforts of various organizations to provide immediate assistance to the flood-affected population. UNHCR has procured fumigation spray, dengue and malaria testing kits, and insecticidal nets as part of the monsoon contingency plan and will distribute these items through the health department to be utilized in refugee villages and host communities or in areas prone to malaria and dengue outbreak. To avoid duplication, the insecticidal nets will be distributed through UNHCR implementing partners in close coordination with the health department. The Aga Khan Foundation for Habitat's partnered with the DDMA to provide water supply pipes is a vital step in addressing the immediate needs of the affected population. To mitigate food insecurity "Work for Cash" program will be al implemented. UNICEF on the other hand, will provide hygiene kits, winterized kits, and domestic hygiene support to improve living conditions for the flood-affected populations. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), through the BRAVE program in partnership with Concern Worldwide and Aga Khan Foundation, has provided food and non-food items, 122 debris removal kits, and repaired 21 drinking water supply schemes and 56 irrigation channels.

The Accountability to Affected People (AAP) working group, led by Community Word Service Asia developed safeguarding messaging that is currently being translated into the local languages. The finalized common message will be shared with partners for use in communicating with affected people.

WEATHER FORECAST

The current spell of rainfall is likely to continue during the week in the southern & central parts of the country. The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) predicted that a deep depression currently located North of Gujrat (India), is likely to reach adjoining areas of Pakistan (Eastern Sindh) during the next 24 hours. Due to this weather system, strong monsoon currents are penetrating in the country (especially southern parts). A westerly wave is also likely to affect the upper parts of the country from 29 August onwards.