

Revised Requirements Pakistan

Emergency Assistance to
Flood-Affected Populations



Donor Relations and Resource
Mobilisation Service
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Cover Photo
UNHCR trucks loaded with emergency relief items
in Charsadda, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Credit: UNHCR

Pakistan

Emergency Assistance to Flood-Affected Populations

Background

Pakistan is experiencing a humanitarian crisis of an unprecedented magnitude caused by the worst flash flooding in over 80 years. The floods were initially confined to Balochistan, however, the rains quickly spread to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and later to Sindh and Punjab provinces. While the rains have diminished or ceased in certain areas, the prospect of further downpours cannot be ruled out especially in southern Punjab and Sindh provinces. Furthermore, the overflow of the River Indus has been displacing communities along its banks, and has caused further destruction in the southern areas.

According to Government figures, torrential rains have claimed the lives of some 1,600 people and affected more than 20 million people. Vast agricultural lands have been washed away and the damage to infrastructure is considerable. While a comprehensive needs assessment is not fully completed, it is estimated that more than six million people are in need of emergency assistance and will continue to need relief in the months to come due to the loss of access to livelihoods; primarily farming and livestock husbandry. According to the Federal Flood Commission, more than 450,000 houses have been damaged or completely destroyed, leaving an estimated 3,150,000 persons homeless. The Commission further reported that at least 2.6 million acres of crop land have flooded across the country and more than 20,000 cattle have perished since the floods started. With major drainage water systems destroyed and drinking water contaminated with dead animal carcasses, health experts fear an outbreak of water borne diseases and cholera.

UNHCR's Response

At the outset of the crisis in Balochistan and KPK, UNHCR responded to the Government's request for assistance by delivering tents and non-food items (NFIs) to the affected populations. These relief items were sourced from the existing stockpiles available in the UNHCR warehouses, although the warehouse located in Peshawar sustained significant damage during the floods. So far UNHCR has assisted more than 335,000 people in Balochistan, KPK, Punjab and Sindh provinces with the provision of 20,000 tents, 78,000 plastic tarpaulins, 105,000 blankets, 75,500 sleeping mats, 23,000 kitchen sets, 43,000 jerry cans, 36,000 plastic buckets, 26 MT soap and 42,000 mosquito nets. In addition, some 5,000 NFI kits and 4,000 tents were sent to Punjab and Sindh. Since the floods have had an equal impact on the local population, Afghan refugees and displaced Pakistanis, the provision of assistance has been rendered on a non-discriminatory basis, although durable solutions for the three groups will be tailored accordingly. UNHCR and partner multi-functional teams, composed of staff with protection, field and logistics backgrounds, have been present at the distribution points to ensure that assistance is

provided in a transparent and impartial manner and that vulnerable persons, including women, the elderly and persons with disabilities, have equal access. Pending completion of an inter-agency protection assessment and elaboration of a protection strategy by the national and local protection clusters, these multi-functional teams will obtain first hand information on the profile and living conditions of the affected populations and offer any further support required.

Given the magnitude of the needs and UNHCR's well-established presence in KPK and Balochistan, (traditional refugee-hosting regions of Pakistan), the Office has prioritised these areas, while contributing to the relief efforts in the other provinces (Punjab and Sindh), either directly or via humanitarian partners. These arrangements were agreed upon by the humanitarian country team during the allocation of operational responsibilities through the cluster approach.

UNHCR is establishing two out-posted mobile units (one in Swat and one in Kohat) in order to facilitate the distribution of relief items and assess the situation in these two seriously affected areas. Access to many affected areas has been problematic; however, with water levels receding in some areas, more surveys can soon be carried out.

Afghan Refugee Settlements

A total of 16 Afghan refugee settlements have been affected by the flooding in Pakistan, the majority of which are located in KPK. An assessment carried out by UNHCR in KPK found that 13 Afghan refugee settlements are severely affected by the floods, five of which have been completely destroyed. In relation to the Afghan refugees in KPK, UNHCR has so far delivered relief items to the following settlements: Hajizai, Khazana, Khurasan, Utmanzai and Azakhel. A total of 2,583 tents, 15,498 blankets, 5,155 quilts, 2,483 kitchen sets, 5,166 mosquito nets, 3.8 MT of soap, 5,166 jerry cans, 5,166 buckets, 10,332 sleeping mats and 4,482 plastic were provided to the refugees. At the policy and operational level, a task force composed of UNHCR, key government line departments, UNHCR partners, and headed by the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees has been established to review the urgent measures needed to facilitate the safe return of the refugees to their former place of settlement pending a solution. The Government has expressed its assurances that Afghan refugees will not be forcibly returned home and that the right to access their former dwellings will be respected.

Planning figures

In these revised requirements, UNHCR's overall objective is to meet the shelter needs of two million persons and household needs of one million persons. 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.

The geographical breakdown and target numbers of beneficiaries is shown below. However, given the fluid nature of the situation, the numbers shown are for planning purposes and may change.

Provision of family tents (a family of 7)	
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	55,000 affected domicile families / 385,000 persons and 35,000 affected refugee families / 245,000 persons
Balochistan	25,000 affected domicile families / 175,000 persons and 5,000 affected refugee families / 35,000 persons
Other affected provinces	20,000 affected domicile families / 140,000 persons and 3,000 affected refugee families/ 21,000 persons
Sub-Total	143,000 families / 1 million persons of whom 43,000 are affected refugee families
Provision of plastic tarpaulins (a family of 5)	
Two 4 m x 4 m plastic sheets per family	
Sub-Total	200,000 families / 1 million persons geographical breakdown to be determined
Provision of transitional shelter (a family of 7)	
Sub-total	15,000 families / 105,000 persons geographical breakdown to be determined
Grand Total	358,000 families / 2,105,000 persons

Strategy and Activities

UNHCR's response is guided by the principles of impartiality and non-discrimination. UNHCR's interventions target the most vulnerable flood-affected populations in KPK and Balochistan and cover both Pakistani nationals and Afghan refugees. The provision of protection support, especially to the most vulnerable among the population affected by the floods, is UNHCR's strategic priority in the design of the response mechanisms and the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Overall, the activities will be tailored to ensure that persons with specific needs, identified in the process of protection monitoring and the distribution of assistance, are primarily targeted, not only by UNHCR and its partners, but also through interventions with other operational agencies.

Protection

The Office's support activities in Pakistan are guided by basic protection principles. The emergency response will concentrate on advocating for and enabling the rights of all affected persons, particularly their rights to adequate shelter and to access basic services. These interventions will serve all persons, irrespective of their status as refugees, displaced Pakistanis, or affected local communities. Particular attention will be paid to persons with special needs and their increased vulnerability due to the emergency. The provision of protection support will be delivered through a combination of advocacy, referrals to organisations with specific mandates or expertise, and other relevant interventions.

Ongoing protection assessments and monitoring activities are identifying priority protection concerns and gaps and will inform the elaboration of a responsive protection strategy in cooperation with relevant partners, including the Government. Displacement due to natural disasters can lead to an increased risk of family separation, gender-based violence, early-marriage and premature, involuntary or unsafe return. The loss of critical personal documentation – affecting access to other rights and services – as well as restitution of property are also common protection problems following a natural disaster.

As lead of the Protection Cluster and in its own interventions, UNHCR will advocate that a rights-based approach is adopted in the disaster response and ensure that strategies for early recovery and durable solutions are incorporated in the response as early as possible. Welfare centres/information points will provide the affected population with information on their rights and offer immediate care, particularly for women, children and persons with disabilities. Such centres will also enable a level of participation of beneficiaries in decision-making that affects them. Multi-functional monitoring teams in the field will identify vulnerable groups and individuals in communities and support an integrated response to their needs. UNHCR will also assist the Government and local authorities in ensuring that return and relocation processes occur according to accepted international standards, such that they are voluntary, informed, safe and sustainable.

The Government has requested UNHCR to lend its support and expertise for the registration of flood-affected people in collaboration with the National Database Registration Authority (NADRA), and the Office is positively responding to this request. The registration will provide solid data for protection support activities geared towards Pakistani communities as well as Afghan refugees. The Office will advocate for the inclusion of all affected persons, including Afghan refugees, in any compensation schemes eventually developed. Data obtained from the registration will also be helpful in tailoring specific communities' assistance programmes through the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) framework.

Separated, unaccompanied and missing children will be traced and reunited with their families. Persons who lost personal documentation during the floods will be facilitated with re-issuance of the documentation. Activities to support access to land and restitution of lost properties will need to be addressed in collaboration with partners through the UNHCR-led Protection Cluster.

While the Emergency Shelter and NFI Cluster will conduct its own activities, as specified below, UNHCR as lead of the Protection Cluster will ensure that protection approaches are mainstreamed throughout the general response to the floods and in its own assistance programmes. These activities include but are not limited to: carrying out detailed technical assessments for the rehabilitation of communal facilities for both refugee and locally affected communities; rehabilitating access roads to affected refugee and other settlements; improving water supply, public health and sanitation in Pakistani host communities; restoration of livelihoods; and restoration of health services in affected areas through provision of medical and non-medical facilities as well as training of personnel. Mindful of their particular needs and the limited alternatives available to them, the Office will pay particular attention to interventions needed to ensure Afghan refugees have access to livelihood schemes pending durable solutions. At the same time, it recognises that there will be extensive and critical need for livelihoods support among the internally displaced and locally affected communities as well.

Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI) Distribution

The floods also affected UNHCR warehouses and stockpiles in the country. Certain items were damaged or lost and some were not immediately accessible for distribution. UNHCR plans to provide emergency shelter to two million persons (358,000 families) and basic domestic items to one million persons (143,000 families) under this revised appeal. In-country frame agreements and those negotiated by UNHCR headquarters will be used for urgent procurement and delivery of emergency shelter and basic domestic items for distribution to affected persons. Airlifts have already been used for the delivery of some items and are planned in case of need.

UNHCR has an existing distribution mechanism in place which was activated during the humanitarian crisis in 2009. This system is currently being expanded throughout the areas of intervention to allow for greater outreach to the vulnerable families in need. Relief items are assembled by UNHCR partners with the capacity to prepare 3,000 kits per day. Items are then dispatched to areas in the districts and union councils, as agreed upon with Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA). Three distribution hubs have been set up in the most affected districts in the Peshawar valley in KPK. UNHCR multi-functional teams carrying out assessment and protection monitoring are issuing tokens for distribution to flood-affected families. These families can then approach the distribution hubs to receive their emergency shelter and NFI assistance. In Balochistan, the distribution of tents and NFIs is carried out through the PDMA and existing implementing partners. In Sindh and Punjab, UNHCR will closely coordinate with other UN Agencies and humanitarian organisations in the distribution of emergency shelter and non-food items.

In the damaged Afghan refugee villages, UNHCR will rehabilitate facilities such as water points and sanitation facilities, clinics, schools and access roads. These projects will be community-based and target Afghan refugees and their immediate Pakistani host communities.

In addition to the emergency shelter provision, and while the assessments are yet to be completed, UNHCR will provide 15,000 of the most vulnerable families with transitional shelters at their place of return, including refugee families from the villages that have been completely destroyed, and will ensure that families at risk, particularly female headed households, are provided with the necessary support in the aftermath of the floods, pending more structured recovery and rehabilitation programmes. UNHCR will also provide 143,000 families with tents and NFI kits (plastic tarpaulin, blankets, sleeping mats, quilts, mosquito nets, jerry cans, buckets, kitchen sets and soap). With the plastic tarpaulins being provided for 200,000 families, some one million persons can also benefit from emergency shelter support. This brings the total number of beneficiaries of emergency shelter up to two million persons. The target figures for this revised appeal are:

- 143,000 families / 1 million individuals will receive tents as emergency shelter;
- 200,000 families / 1 million individuals will receive plastic tarpaulins as emergency shelter;
- 15,000 families / 105,000 individuals will receive transitional shelter at the place of origin upon return; and
- 143,000 families / 1 million individuals will receive non-food items;
- UNHCR warehouses will be repaired and will be fully operational.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Most collective centres and public buildings have now reached their full capacity. Although the Government had earlier stated that camps would not be established, various provincial management authorities are now requesting UNHCR's support in the establishment and management of camps in all key provinces. Budgetary provisions are

therefore included in these revised requirements to cater for this activity in Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab and KPK provinces.

Health

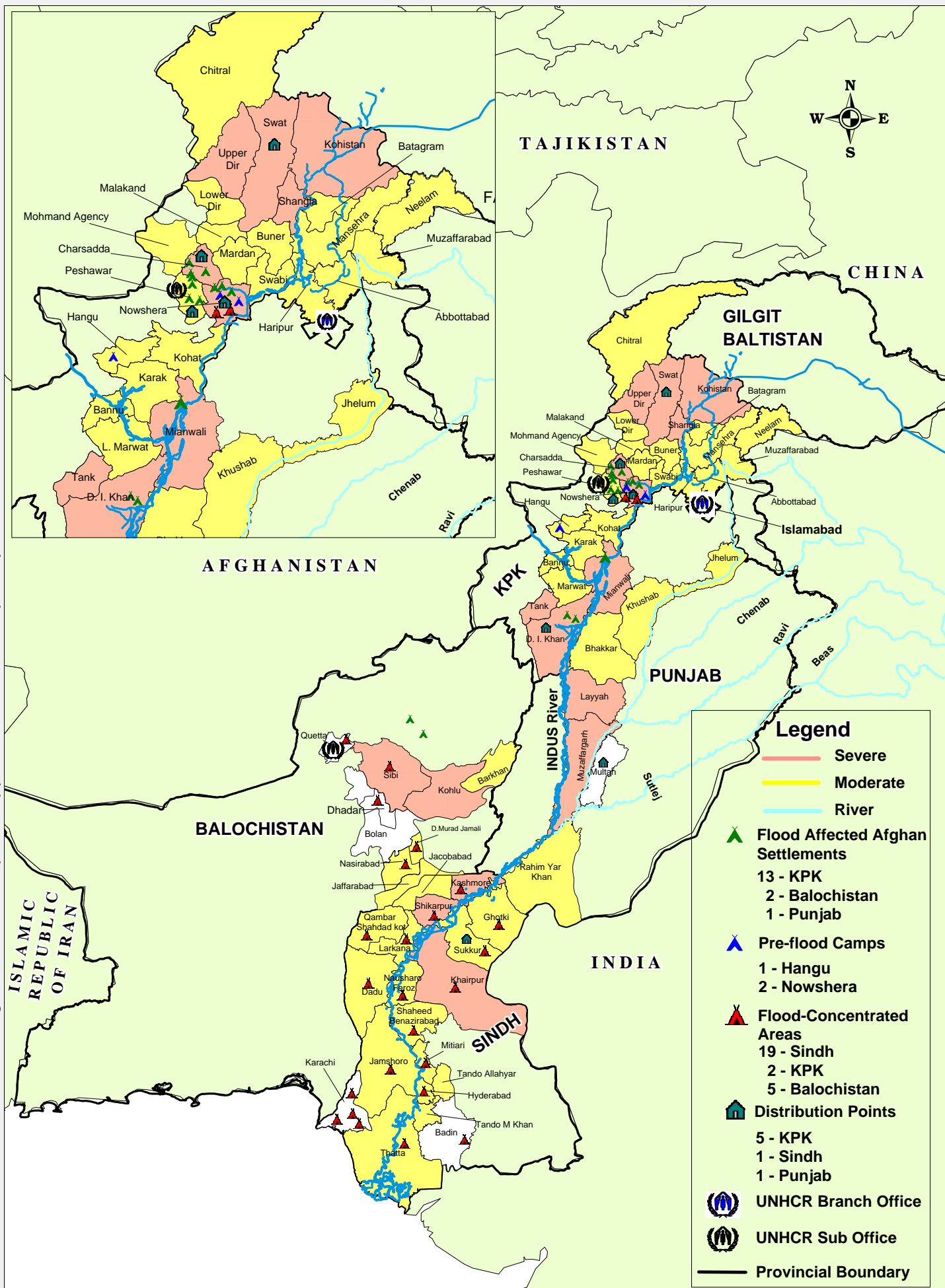
UNHCR maintains a stockpile of medicines for Afghan refugees. As this stockpile was destroyed due to the recent flood, replenishment will take place to ensure that UNHCR will have enough stock to distribute to Basic Health Units in refugee villages. The goal for this sector is: UNHCR will maintain medical stockpile for Afghan refugees.

Government Coordination

All UNHCR activities are carried out in coordination with the Government's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) at the federal level and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) at the provincial level. For assistance related to Afghan refugee communities, UNHCR liaises with the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR) and the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON).

2010 UNHCR Revised Supplementary Budget for Emergency Assistance to Flood-Affected Populations in Pakistan (USD) Requirement until the end of 2010

Rights Groups and Objectives			
	Pillar 1	Pillar 4	Total
Basic Needs and Essential Services			
Shelter and infrastructure improved	24,197,001	43,616,114	67,813,115
Population has sufficient domestic and hygienic items	6,288,157	20,673,143	26,961,300
Health of the population improves or remains stable	500,000		500,000
Services for groups with specific needs strengthened	492,000	1,508,000	2,000,000
Subtotal	31,477,158	65,797,257	97,274,415
Community Participation			
Community self management (CCCM)	200,000	2,850,000	3,050,000
Subtotal	200,000	2,850,000	3,050,000
Fair Protection Processes			
Registration and profiling	448,000	1,052,000	1,500,000
Subtotal	448,000	1,052,000	1,500,000
Security from Violence and Exploitation			
Impact on host communities	1,500,000	1,500,000	3,000,000
Subtotal	1,500,000	1,500,000	3,000,000
Logistics and Operations Support			
Logistics and supply optimised to serve operational needs	1,534,000	4,820,000	6,354,000
Programme management and coordination	330,000	1,320,000	1,650,000
Subtotal	1,864,000	6,140,000	8,004,000
Total	35,489,158	77,339,257	112,828,415
7% Support Costs			7,897,989
Grand Total			120,726,404



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