

# Information bulletin



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Pakistan: Floods

Information bulletin n° 01  
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5 August 2008

This bulletin is being issued for information only. Monsoon rains throughout Pakistan have created flood situations in various parts of the country. The Pakistan Meteorological Department has predicted more rains over the next few days. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has activated its 2008 floods contingency plan and formed a committee at the PRCS national headquarters. The national society's disaster preparedness stock has been made available. Assessment teams have been sent to the affected areas and further interventions will be made based on these assessment reports.

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society, with the support of the International Federation, has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)

### The Situation

Monsoon rains across Pakistan have caused hill torrents and river bank overflows, leading to flood situations in various parts of the country. The Pakistan Meteorological Department has forecasted more rains over the next few days. The Indus river at Tarbela and Guddu, Chenab river at Khanki and Qadirabad, Ravi river at Balloki and Kabul river at Nowshera are at a low flood level, while all other major rivers are flowing below the low flood level. Scattered to widespread thunderstorms, isolated moderate to heavy rainfall and gusty winds are expected over the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), north Punjab, southern parts of Balochistan and Kashmir during the next 24 hours. Isolated to scattered thunderstorms/rain is also expected over south Punjab and Sindh provinces.

In **Punjab** province, the district of Rajanpur in the southern part of the province was hit by hill torrents (from Baluchistan province) and river bank overflows on 3 August 2008. According to the Pakistan government, nine villages have been inundated in three tehsils<sup>1</sup> (Rojhan, Jampur and Rajanpur). In Rajanpur, seven deaths have been reported, with more than 2,000 people affected. Rice and cotton are the major crops affected due to the floods. In north-eastern Punjab, four areas are on high alert during the next 24 hours, viz. Sialkot, Gujranwala, Hafizabad and Gujrat, as these areas are at risk from persistent monsoon rains.

In the **North West Frontier Province (NWFP)** heavy rains have caused flash floods in different areas in Peshawar district during the past 24 hours. According to initial reports, the three areas of Ragi Lalma, Mathra and Dawood Zai have been affected. There have been damages to infrastructure and livelihood but, so far, no deaths have been reported.

In **Baluchistan** province, the Jhal Magsi district in the eastern part of the province has been cut off from the rest of the country. The coastal highway in the south of the province is not operational since the last 24 hours. Further information is awaited.

In the **Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA)**, according to latest reports, 35 houses have been damaged in two villages in the Khyber Agency.

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<sup>1</sup> Administrative divisions in a district

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has activated its recently developed floods contingency plan. An Emergency Operation Committee (EOC) has been established by PRCS/International Federation at PRCS national headquarter in Islamabad. This committee is headed by the PRCS Secretary General and comprises PRCS/International Federation personnel from various sectors including disaster management, health, water and sanitation, administration/logistics, finance, information technology and media. The EOC will meet on a daily basis.

The national society's disaster preparedness stock has been made ready for deployment in any part of the country. In addition, the emergency response units (water and sanitation plants) donated to the PRCS by partner national societies during the Cyclone Yemyin emergency operation in 2007, are being made ready for deployment, if needed based on assessments carried out. Further, 25 PRCS/International Federation staff, trained as part of the national disaster response team (NDRT), have been put on alert.

The PRCS national headquarters, along with the International Federation, is sending an NDRT assessment team to the affected district of Rajanpur in Punjab. The team is multi-sectoral and consists of five people. A second team is on standby in Islamabad and can be sent into the field if the need arises. The PRCS' provincial branch in Punjab is also deploying a health team in Rajanpur district.

A provincial disaster response team has been sent by the PRCS' provincial branch in NWFP to Nasir Bahg (seven kilometers southwest of Peshawar), where heavy rains have damaged houses and the local government has appealed for assistance.

In the FATA area, the PRCS' FATA branch has sent out an assessment team and volunteers have been put on high alert. The PRCS will carry out the FATA operation in coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as this is a conflict area.

### How we work

**All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.**

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

#### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

### Contact information

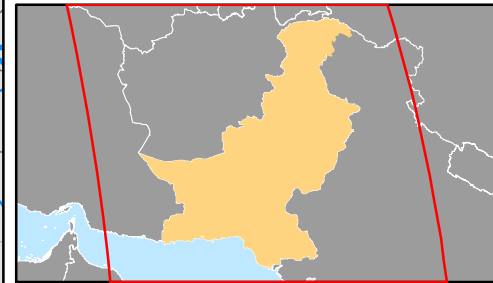
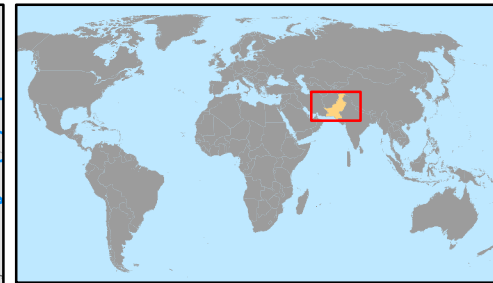
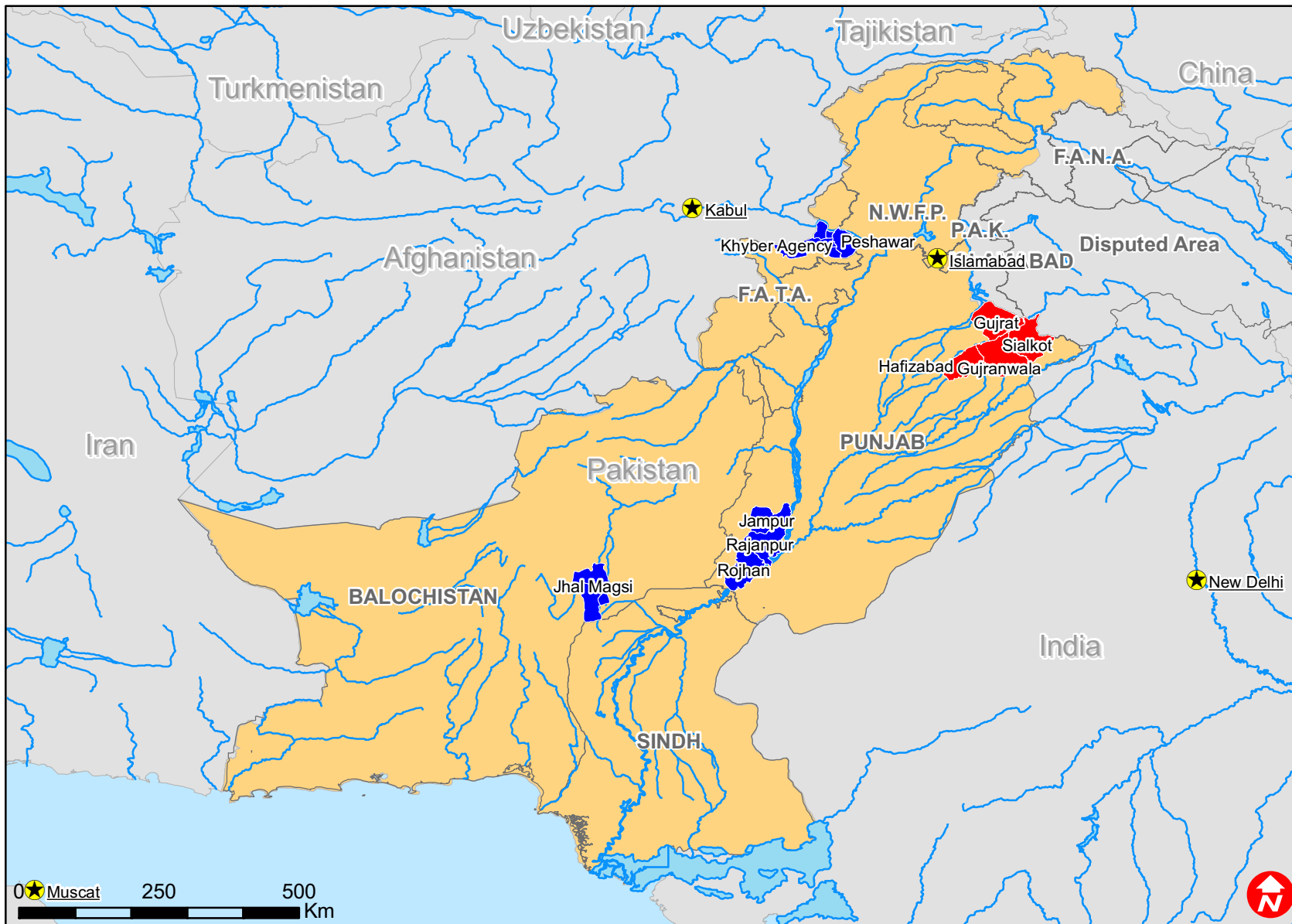
**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**




- Pakistan Red Crescent Society: Ilyas Khan (secretary general), phone:+92 51 925 0407 (NHQ), +92 333 511 4223 (mobile); email: [sec.general@prcs.org.pk](mailto:sec.general@prcs.org.pk)
- Federation office in Pakistan: Udaya Regmi (deputy head of office), phone +92 51 9250416, (office), +92 300 555 4502 (mobile); Fax +92 51 925 0418; email: [udaya.regmi@ifrc.org](mailto:udaya.regmi@ifrc.org)
- Federation South Asia regional delegation in India: Al Panico (head of regional delegation), New Delhi, phone: +91 11 2411 1125; fax: +91 11 2411 1128; email: [al.panico@ifrc.org](mailto:al.panico@ifrc.org)
- Federation Asia Pacific zone in Malaysia: Amy Gaver (head, disaster management unit), Kuala Lumpur; email: [amy.gaver@ifrc.org](mailto:amy.gaver@ifrc.org); phone: +603.9207.5724, fax: +603.2161.1210

**[map below; click here to return to the title page](#)**



# Pakistan: Floods



-  Areas in red alert
-  Affected areas
-  Capitals