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Information bulletin

Pakistan: Sindh Flash Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), 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>](#)

Summary: The monsoon spells that started on 9 August 2011, have caused inundation and affected a large number of people in Punjab and Sindh provinces. According to local authorities in Sindh, the flash floods have caused at least 23 deaths, injuries, extensive losses of livestock, mud (katcha) houses and field crops (cotton and rice crops and red chillies) in the two provinces.

PRCS response teams including trained staff and volunteers (response, first aid, health and care, water and sanitation) were on stand-by in case of any emergency and the PRCS branches in Punjab and Sindh have been closely monitoring the situation, along with regular coordination with the local government and authorities. PRCS has also conducted rapid assessment to investigate the extent of damages and needs of the approximately 750,000 affected and/or displaced people (as reported by local authorities). PRCS Sindh provincial branch has prepositioned relief stock for distribution at PRCS branch in Mirpurkhas.



Some 750,000 people have been affected by monsoon flash floods in Sindh province, according to Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). Sindh was the worst-affected province a year ago when the nation experienced the most destructive floods in its history. Photo: National Rural Support Programme, Pakistan

IFRC is working with PRCS and in-country partners to provide relief to the affected people in the form of food and non-food items (NFI), emergency health services, and clean water and sanitation facilities in the most affected districts (Mirpurkhas, Badin and Tarparkar) in Sindh province.

The situation

The intensity of rainfall (part of regular monsoon) increased from 9 August 2011, causing flash flooding in a few districts in Sindh and Punjab provinces. In Badin district (Sindh) alone, heavy intermittent rains played havoc prompting displacement of around 40,000 people to 86 relief camps set up in all five tehsils¹. The district government declared an emergency in district Tharparkar (Sindh) to contain the situation and mobilise the provision of relief and rescue the affected families. The district government also reported that approximately 2,000 households have been affected and 100 families displaced as a consequence of a canal breach in Tharparkar. Rescue teams have started to shift displaced families to relief camps already established in government buildings, i.e. primary schools, hostels, and union council offices. Health and care services will be provided by the health department of Tharparkar and primary health care initiative from the nearest district headquarters, tehsil headquarters hospitals, rural health centres and medical dispensaries.

According to the national and provincial disaster management authority (NDMA/PDMA) information and UN reports of 12 and 13 August, Sindh recorded 23 deaths related to the flash floods and approximately 750,000 people were affected. Extensive losses of livestock, mud (katcha) houses, cotton, rice crops and red chilies (cash crop of Tharparkar) are reported. Badin district has been the worst affected in Sindh. PRCS disaster management officers (DMO), part of the rapid assessment team deployed, reported that about 1,500 villages and crops over a large swath of land were flooded when more than 40 breaches occurred in the left bank outfall drain, along with over 20 saline water drains and irrigation canals, after heavy rain battered Badin.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The PRCS disaster management cell in Badin was activated to respond to the floods. However, the provincial branch disaster management team is also engaged in emergency assessment and response. PRCS has so far assisted the affected communities with non-food items in Mirpurkhas district with 500 blankets, 100 tents, 300 cooking stoves, 300 bedding (*chitaiyan*), 200 hygiene kits, 50 kitchen sets, 200 tarpaulin sheets, and 6,000 litres of bottled water.

The PRCS rapid assessment team completed its assessment where they identified the needs for relief, food, emergency health, and water and sanitation.

According to the initial findings of the team, six (6) tehsils of Mirpurkhas and a total of 215,500 people have been affected as stated in the table below:

Name of Tehsil	Union Councils affected	No. of people affected
Jhado	6	72,000
Deegri	6	60,000
Mirpur Khas	4	50,000
Kot Ghulam Muhammad	8	30,000
HB Mari	3	3,000
Sindhri	3	500
6 Tehsils	30 UCs	215,500 people

The IFRC country office will continue supporting PRCS with technical support and mobilization of resources.

¹ A *tehsil* is an administrative unit within a district.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

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

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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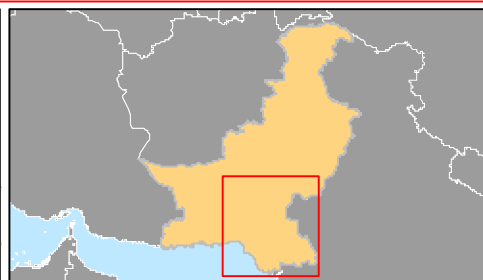
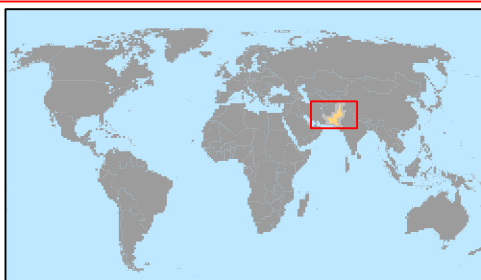
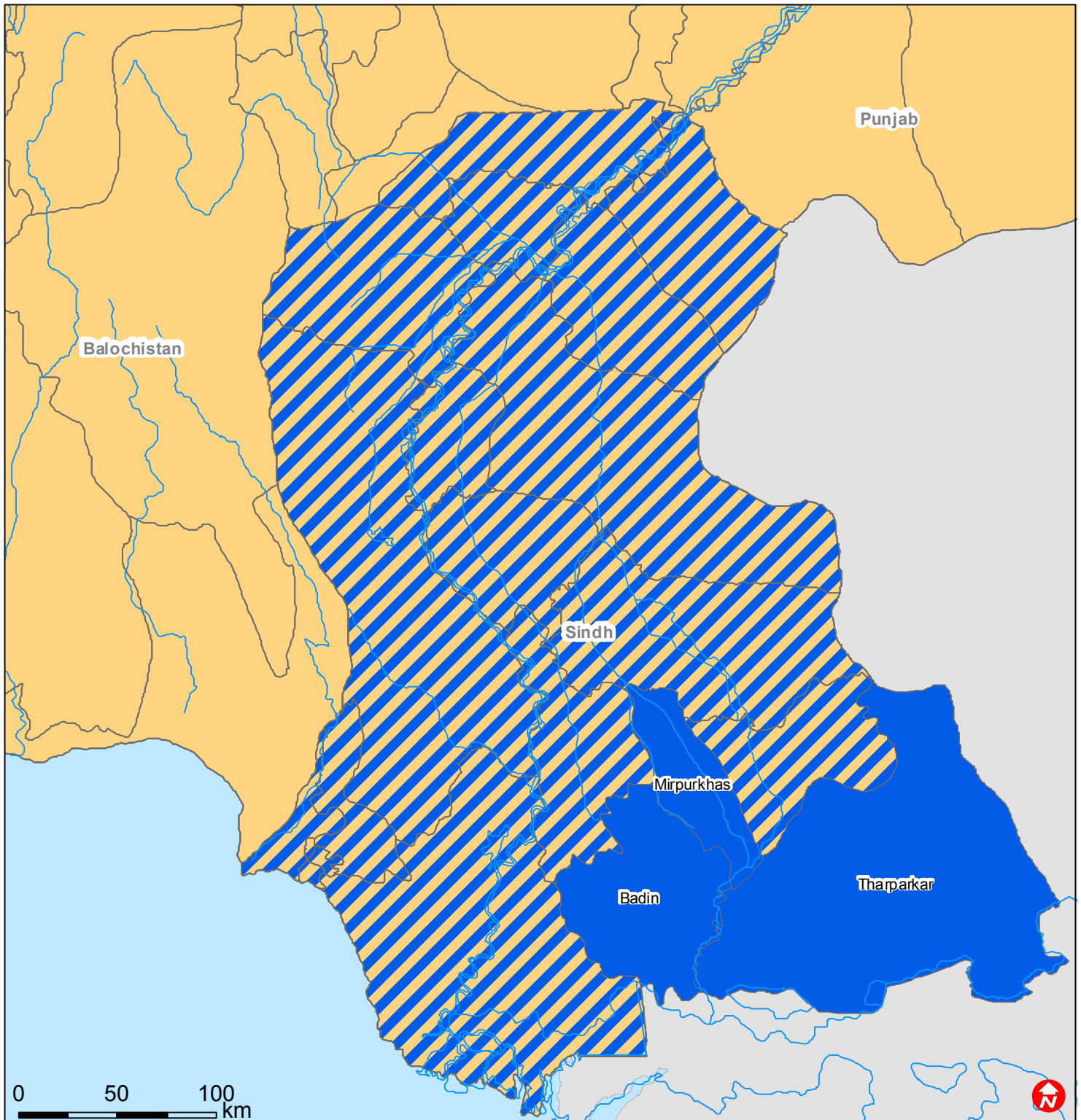




The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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Pakistan: Floods



-  Affected districts
-  Affected province