This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), however, can be approached for discussions on direct assistance to the affected population.

<click here for detailed contact information or here for map>

Flooding in the northern parts of Pakistan due to seasonal monsoon rains have caused destruction and damage to homes and infrastructure, including road access to some villages. Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) branches in affected areas are engaged in relief distribution and assessments. Photo: PRCS AJK branch

The situation
Seasonal monsoon rainfalls across Pakistan in the third week of August 2012 continue, with expected flooding occurring, especially in the northern areas. While the situation has largely folded out according to conservative predictions of the authorities – chiefly the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) – provinces remain on high alert for flooding, with Gilgit Baltistan also ready for possible landslides. The government's contingency plan remains prepared with a worst-case scenario considering a caseload of 29 million people affected by severe climate conditions: while prolonged rain is the current risk, another is snow melting caused by extended heat waves and on the other extreme, drought could occur in the lower districts of southern Sindh.

Nevertheless, this season's below-normal monsoon rains has already caused significant damage and casualties in the provinces/states of Khyber Pakhtoonwa (KPK) and Azad, Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). So far, 28 people have lost their lives while some 1,200 houses and shops have been damaged\(^1\), 80 heads of cattle lost and infrastructure damage including to access links such as roads and bridges has occurred at affected locations\(^2\).

\(^1\) NDMA damage assessment, 27 August 2012
\(^2\) OCHA situation report, 24 August 2012
Local authorities, provincial and district disaster management authorities in KP, AJK and Punjab are providing humanitarian assistance to the affected people. So far, the government has not requested international support.

Red Cross Red Crescent action
The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has already begun its normal local disaster response with assessment and relief distributions in some affected areas. In AJK, flash flooding in Ghazi Mohallah, Shaheed Gali and Tariqabad caused landslides in two villages, destroying two houses and killing four. The PRCS AJK state branch distributed 42-kg food packs\(^3\) and non-food items (including 1 tent, 2 tarpaulins, 2 jerry cans, 1 cooking stove, 1 hygiene kit, 1 kitchen set and 5 blankets per family) to 36 families.

An assessment has just concluded in Nowshehra district of KPK, where the current response from the local government has not yet required additional intervention from PRCS. PRCS Balochistan branch has also conducted an assessment in Sibi district and reported normal conditions. PRCS Punjab branch is currently monitoring the situation where possible disaster is unlikely. Disaster response teams are on standby for deployment if necessary.

\(^3\) Procured and provided by the AJK State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)
Contact information

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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.

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.

Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation - IBPKfl29081201.mxd - Map produced by PMER/KUL

Pakistan: Floods