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Information bulletin

Pakistan: Monsoon Flooding 2012

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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>](#)

The situation

The seasonal monsoon rainfalls across Pakistan began in the third week of August 2012 affecting the provinces of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa (KPK), Gilgit Baltistan (GB), and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).

A second spell of seasonal monsoon rainfalls started over the southern parts of the country from the end of the first week of September and peaking on 9 and 10 September across Pakistan, with flooding spanning over the provinces of Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan. According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department, the current monsoon spell has penetrated into the upper parts of the country. More rains are expected in the northern areas of Pakistan by the end of the week of 10 September.

Though the second wave of monsoon weakened by 10 September, the season's below-normal monsoon rain has already caused significant damage and casualties in the affected areas. To date, 217 people have lost their lives while 654 people have been injured. Some 13,602 houses and shops have been partially/fully destroyed.¹ Infrastructure has suffered damages, including access to links such as roads and bridges. Further, the rains have washed away tens of thousands of acres of standing crops, 160 head of livestock and over 2,000 poultry. The provincial government has declared an emergency in the affected areas of Sindh, Balochistan and Punjab to activate a local response but international support has not been requested at this stage.²

The total number of affected people remains unclear, as various sources have provided different figures. The government's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has reported 160,633 people affected in



The mobile health unit of Kumber Shehdad Kot (K S Kot) moved to the affected villages of union council Gaji Khuwahar to respond in village Bhan, where breach in the canal occurred and people were at the mercy to be helped immediately. **Photo:** PRCS Sindh

¹ NDMA report Sept 14, 2012 http://ndma.gov.pk/Documents/monsoon/2012/damages/september/damages_details_14_09_2012.pdf

² OCHA report Sept 12, 2012

Punjab and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Balochistan has reported 7,361 people in Balochistan. According to the media reports 32,000 people are reported affected in Sindh.

The worst affected districts in the second wave include Rajanpur and Dera Ghazi Khan, in Punjab province, Jacobabad and Shikarpur in Sindh province, and Jaffarabad, Naseerabad, Killa Saifullah, Jhal Magsi and Loralai in Balochistan province. On a positive note the present rains are likely to mitigate the previously feared drought situation in Sindh and marginally in Balochistan.³

NDMA, PDMA and local district authorities are providing humanitarian assistance to the affected people including tents, blankets and food in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan provinces.

Red Cross Red Crescent action



Other than out patient services, the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) health team also conducted health sessions in the community and awareness about water born diseases and prevention of the causes.

Photo: PRCS.

PRCS has begun local disaster response with assessment and relief distributions in some affected areas in first monsoon rains. In total AJK branch has assisted 182 families in Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot and Bagh districts with non-food items and emergency shelters, whereas Muzaffarabad additionally provided food items.⁴

An assessment was undertaken in the district of Newshehra of KPK province where no assistance gap were identified.

After coordination with PDMA and local authorities, PRCS Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan branches have submitted their proposed response plans to national headquarters and have received approval to assist a total of 7,500 families with food, non-food items, and emergency health and shelters.

PRCS Balochistan plans to carry out assessments and assist in the districts of Nasirabad, Jafarabad, Loralai, Killa Saifullah.

PRCS Sindh plans assistance in Shikarpur, Jacobabad, Kumber Shehdad Kot (K.S.Kot) and Khairpur districts. Relief teams and emergency response teams are carrying out assessment for selection of beneficiaries to start distributions in close coordination with district government authorities. The PRCS Sindh branch has already dispatched 1,500 tents, 1,963 hygiene kits, 2,500 tarpaulins, and 3,500 mosquito nets to the affected districts. The PRCS Sindh branch attended to 3,414 patients (mostly scabies, diarrhoea, and malaria) in the affected areas. The branch has redirected the existing two mobile health units (Shikarpur and Larkana) and three basic health units (Jacobabad, Larkana and Sukkur) to assist those affected. Mobile health units are also conducting health and hygiene awareness sessions, including preventive measures from waterborne diseases.

Lastly, PRCS Punjab branch have undertaken an assessment and have deployed disaster response teams. PRCS plans to assist in Dera Ghazi Khan and Rajhanpur districts. The first 200 tents have already been dispatched from Multan warehouse to Dera Ghazi Khan (D.G. Khan) district.

PRCS national headquarters is holding frequent Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination meetings, from 12 September onwards, for the 2012 monsoon floods operation updates, and is in regular contact with NDMA.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners are coordinating their possible support to the PRCS response activities.

³ OCHA monsoon update Sept 07, 2012

⁴ Food 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.

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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.

Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
