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Emergency appeal operation update PAKISTAN: Floods 2011

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Preliminary emergency appeal n° MDRPK007
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000130-PAK](#)
Operation Update no. 2
23 September 2011

Period covered by this Ops Update: 14 to 21 September 2011.

Appeal target (current): CHF 10.6 million.

Appeal coverage: To date, the appeal is 1.8 per cent covered in cash and kind; and 25.6 per cent covered including contributions currently in the pipeline. Funds are still urgently needed to support the Pakistan Red Crescent Society in this operation to assist those affected by the floods. [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 9 September 2011 for CHF 10.6 million to assist 105,000 people (15,000 families) for four months.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 500,000 was initially allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society to respond to the flood in Sindh.

Summary: According to latest updated from the government, the floods in Sindh have affected more than 7.5 million people, displacing half a million. The relief operations of Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), continue to progress despite logistical challenges, reaching 14,020 families with food, and almost 10,000 families (70,000 people) with water and sanitation. Medical health units have made more than 17,000 consultations.



Despite serious accessibility challenges, PRCS/IFRC continues to distribute food and non-food items much needed by flood-affected families. **Photo:** PRCS

The situation

The latest flooding catastrophe to hit Pakistan has brought Sindh to crisis, described by authorities as the worst floods to have hit the province in living memory. A total of 347 people have lost their lives while 500,000 people out of 7.5 million affected have fled to temporary relief camps only to face severe overcrowding and alarming sanitary conditions.

Despite some dry weather bringing the briefest of respite from the rains in many affected districts, water levels remains high, and access remains the single largest problem for government and humanitarian organizations in reaching people with much-needed aid.

Aerial surveys of the province show stranded populations huddled onto patches of higher land surrounded by stagnating floodwater. Scarce health and sanitation facilities are overwhelmed and coupled with the lack of safe drinking water, the risk of waterborne diseases is increasing daily.

Coordination and partnerships

The IFRC country office continues a coordination role with in-country partner national societies, with the latest partner national society teleconference taking place on 14 September, allowing sharing of plans and updates and exploring possible support to the appeal. There are ongoing negotiations and contact with various in-country institutional donors and embassies.

The cluster system has been activated and PRCS/IFRC is participating in the shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and health and nutrition clusters. The first inter-cluster coordination meeting took place on 22 September and was attended by PRCS/IFRC representatives.

The country office continues to coordinate its response with the support of the zone office in Kuala Lumpur, with the latest teleconference due on 21 September. Water and sanitation surge support has been provided by the zone, assisting with the deployments of PRCS water treatment plants, and the zone operations coordinator arrived on 20 September to assist with management of the flood response operation. Communications and longer-term operational support is being finalized.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

PRCS is leading the current flood response operation, with the support of IFRC, partner national societies and in-country institutional donors. PRCS, with IFRC support, is currently working on refining the plan of action in line with the current developments of the first stages of the operation. A project agreement with a joint plan of action for PRCS and IFRC was signed on 21 September, specifying the roles and responsibilities for response activities currently funded.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: The basic food and essential household needs of 15,000 flood-affected families are met within four months in five districts (Badin, Mirpurkhas, Khairpur, Benazirabad, Dadu) of Sindh province.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The immediate needs of flood affected families are met through the distribution of food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct on-the-ground assessments, selection and verification of 15,000 families with communities' participation in planning and distribution of relief items. • Mobilize required food assistance through international mobilization, international and local procurement following IFRC standards. • Provide assistance to 15,000 families through the procurement, warehousing, transport and distribution of food parcels (including wheat flour, rice, pulses, ghee, sugar, salt, tea, etc.). • Mobilize and train approximately 100 National Society/community volunteers in assessment, distribution, monitoring and evaluation and Sphere minimum standards. • Establish a beneficiary complaints cells and a monitoring system for the continuous improvement of delivery system.
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essential household items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize required relief items through international mobilization, international and local procurement following IFRC standards. • Provide assistance to 15,000 families through distribution of household items (including tents, tarpaulin sheets, jerry cans, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene parcels, mosquito nets, as well as other non-standard items such as insect repellent). • Establish a beneficiary complaints cells and a monitoring system for the continuous improvement of delivery system. • Mobilize and train approximately 100 PRCS/community volunteers in assessment, distribution, monitoring and evaluation, and Sphere minimum standards. • Ensure the replenishment of the PRCS strategic stock of the items utilized for the immediate relief.
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Relief distributions are taking place in Khairpur district, a district that was also badly affected by the floods in 2010. **Photo:** PRCS

Progress:

As of 19 September, initial food distributions have reached 14,020 families.

District	Families reached with food ¹²
Mirpurkhas	2,950
Badin	5,500
Thatta	1,000
Tharparkar	150
Khairpur ³	2,000
Benazirabad	1,420
Hyderabad	500
T. Muhammad Khan	500
Grand total	14,020

IFRC continues to support the transportation and administration costs for the relief distributions being carried out by PRCS. Initial requisitions have now been made through PRCS's own procurement process for 9,000 food parcels. The content of the food parcel has been revised to include food that is ready to eat, given the lack of cooking facilities faced by many of the assisted population. The size of the food parcel has also been fixed to

¹ Families reached have been calculated on the basis of food initially distributed. Non-food items were distributed to some of the same families who also received food, on need basis.

² According to the availability, two kinds of food parcels were distributed: a 27.5-kg food parcel and a 14.5-kg food parcel to meet the emergency food needs. A total of 292 people were also provided with a single 10-kg bag of flour.

³ Numbers previously given were of dispatched, rather than distributed food items.

last a family of seven for two weeks, reducing the parcel weight to 53.5 kg, allowing for easier transport by the recipients. The contents of the food parcel is as below:

No	Item	Packing
1	Wheat flour	20 kgs
2	Rice	10 kgs
3	Lentils (dal channa)	6 kgs
4	Black channa, roasted	3 kgs
5	Ghee	4 kgs
6	Sugar	6 kgs
7	Tea Leaves	1 kg
8	Salt	1.5 kg
9	Dates	1 kg
10	Biscuits	10 Packs

The previous week has focused more on the distributions of non-food items (NFI). As of 19 September, the following items have been distributed:

District	Tarpaulins	Tents	Blankets	Mosquito nets	Hygiene parcels	Jerry cans	Kitchen sets	Kerosene stove	Sleeping mat	Insect repellent
Mirpurkhas	1,031	869	500	139	295	1,550	300	1,600	300	100
Badin	200	1,625	580	-	798	-	2,750	1,580	310	332
Khairpur	2,030	1,470	-	2,200	400	1,000	-	-	-	500
Benazirabad	1,718	1,391	895	1,497	783	685	396	-	-	368
Thatta	200	100	500	-	200	-	-	200	300	-
Total	5,179	5,455	2,475	3,836	2,476	3,235	3,446	3,380	910	1,300

Three national disaster response teams (NDRT) were deployed to Sindh on 21 September. Due to continuing access problems they are initially supporting ongoing relief activities. Once the floodwaters have receded sufficiently they will assist with further assessments in the five worst-affected districts.

Challenges:

Access to affected districts remains the continuing challenge for delivering much needed relief assistance. Current limitations in assessment data are being met through field reports being provided by PRCS branches and relief teams deployed and secondary data shared by humanitarian partners.

Emergency health and care

Outcome: Immediate health risks of 15,000 flood-affected families are reduced through the provision of primary health care services for three months in five districts (Badin, Mirpurkhas, Khairpur, Benazirabad, Dadu) of Sindh province.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Target population have improved access to basic preventive, curative and referral health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct rapid assessment to determine immediate public health needs of the population as well as gaps in health services. Deploy ten mobile medical health teams to provide basic health services in areas not covered/reached by health authorities and partners. Carry out communicable disease prevention and health promotion activities in relief camps through mobilisation of volunteers and communities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the implementation of active surveillance, disease early warning system as well as response to outbreaks. • Coordinate/collaborate implementation of emergency health services with health authorities and humanitarian partners.
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Progress:

As of 19 September, PRCS has deployed 10 mobile health units in the districts of Badin, Dadu, Benazirabad, Jacobabad and Mirpurkhas. A basic health unit is also operational in Larkana. So far, these units have treated 17,209 patients (see table below). The major conditions being treated are skin disorders, acute respiratory infections and acute gastro-enteritis.

Summary of people reached by PRCS health services.

District	Consultations	Health education
Badin	9,362	250
Mirpurkhas	4,952	
Tharparkar	210	
Benazirabad	1,985	
Dadu	232	165
Hyderabad	47	
Jacobabad	223	
Larkana	198	
Total	17,209	415

PRCS mobile health units have also conducted health education sessions, highlighting measures to prevent and control the above-mentioned conditions. This will be expanded as soon as information, education and communication (IEC) materials are available.

Psychosocial activities have been conducted through 70 group sessions with 1,232 individuals. The data is as follows:

Beneficiaries			
Male	Female	Children	Total
25	50	70	145
20	35	70	125
25	55	90	170
20	25	50	95
35	45	80	160
20	15	45	80
25	50	80	155
25	15	50	90
30	60	85	175

225	350	620	1,195
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PRCS health clinics have also started routine immunization activities in Mirpurkhas and Nawabshah.

The PRCS director of health will be travelling to Sindh on 25 September to coordinate and streamline the activities of the various health units, while the IFRC country office's health coordinator will also conduct a follow-up visit in the same week.

Challenges:

Access and the constantly changing landscape has meant that health teams are moving from location to location even in a single day. This has affected data management for health, with late and sporadic reporting from the field complicating the compilation process. Steps are being taken to ensure a more systematic reporting, but until the health teams are better able to plan their locations when access improves, reporting will continue to be done at district-level and, therefore, include all supporting partners of PRCS.

Water and Sanitation.

Outcome: Water and sanitation related diseases are reduced for 15,000 flood affected families for four months by increased access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Target population have increased access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation facilities and practice good hygiene.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess water and sanitation needs in flood affected areas, with emphasis on women and children. • Treat and distribute safe drinking water through three water treatment plants. • Distribute water purifying tablets or sachets together with jerry cans using trained volunteers for household water treatment. • Construction of up to 1,000 latrines in camps using PRCS community consultation approaches. • Conduct emergency hygiene promotion activities and clean up campaigns in camps. • Coordinate with government and other humanitarian partners.

Progress:

The PRCS national disaster water and sanitation response team (NDWSRT) from Sindh has successfully installed three water treatment plants in Badin, Benazirabad and Mirpurkhas. Four more teams are being deployed and are expected to be operation by the end of the week. Three new water treatment plants will be established in two new locations closer to the displaced populations in Badin and Benazirabad, while the third one will expand the production capacity at the existing location in Mirpurkhas.

As of 19 September, through these plants, PRCS teams have distributed 638,700 litres of safe drinking water that has reached a catchment population of approximately 127,000 individuals. This meets the minimum standard of five litres per person currently recommended by the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster.

PRCS is also supplementing the provision of safe drinking water through distribution of water purification tablets/sachets to the flood affected people. As of 19 September, 34,202 water purification tablets/sachets have been distributed to 6,244 individuals through trained volunteers.

The IFRC Asia Pacific Zone water and sanitation coordinator and IFRC water and sanitation delegate conducted a support visit to Mirpurkhas and Badin on 16-17 September to strengthen the quality of the water treatment plant work and assess the proposed new site locations. During this visit, the IFRC water and sanitation delegate conducted two hygiene promotion trainings for new volunteers in Badin and Mirpurkhas on 16 and 17 September. These volunteers will supplement the volunteers trained in the 2010 floods operation, who have conducted two hygiene promotion sessions in Badin and three sessions in Mirpurkhas, reaching 402 beneficiaries.

Additional NDWSRT volunteers are also being mobilised to install sanitation facilities in the PRCS camp in Mirpurkhas for 100 families.

Challenges:

Access and the unavailability of tankers in the operational areas mean that water is primarily being distributed at the production sites through tap stands. It is expected that tankers will be available by the week's end, allowing water to be distributed at more strategic distribution points and to a much wider vulnerable population.

Logistics

IFRC is providing transportation for food and NFI to PRCS for the ongoing flood operation. From 6 September, PRCS, with the support of IFRC, dispatched 75 truckloads (20-foot containers and 10-metric tonne trucks) of NFIs from its warehouses in Islamabad, Haripur, Nowshera and Karachi to the five flood-affected districts of Badin, Benazirabad, Mirpurkhas, Khairpur and Dadu in Sindh province. PRCS Sindh branch has also dispatched NFIs from the provincial stocks to the affected areas for distribution. This entire operation was completed in three days.

The mobilization table (https://www-secure.ifrc.org/DMISII/Pages/03_response/0307_logistics_mobTab.aspx) has received several responses and negotiations are ongoing with several partners to cover the needs. Mobilization for this operation will be a mix of local procurement, international mobilisation from the Kuala Lumpur and Dubai regional logistics unit (RLU) warehouses and direct from international suppliers.

Donors are requested to coordinate with the Kuala Lumpur RLU regarding outstanding needs. Shipping instructions will be provided to donors with a consignment tracking number to be issued before shipping any goods to the operation. Procurement of goods and transport can also be arranged through RLU. The logistics team stress that all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners wishing to donate goods to this operation should coordinate via the RLU in Kuala Lumpur.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Media coverage in the Pakistan floods has been sporadic and the IFRC communications team has been proactively pitching senior management to draw attention to the current situation and immediate needs of the

affected population, as well the Red Cross Red Crescent's response to the emergency. To date, interviews have been secured with BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera English and Arabic, Saudi TV, Alsharqiya TV, Abu Dhabi TV, Al Ekhbariya TV and Reuters.

The IFRC's two-person communication team has now been reinforced by a staff on loan from the Australian Red Cross. The team will continue to produce fresh photos and videos that capture the evolving humanitarian situation and ongoing relief operation. News stories and blogs will also be produced for IFRC online platforms. All audio visual materials are being distributed to National Society communicators and the media by the IFRC's audio visual team in Geneva via the IFRC Newsroom. Web stories have also been posted on ifrc.org together with online photo galleries on cumulus (av.ifrc.org) and Flickr (www.flickr.com/ifrc). A weekly update for National Societies including key messages, and facts and figures has been being produced in collaboration with the zone office and distributed via the IFRC Newswire.

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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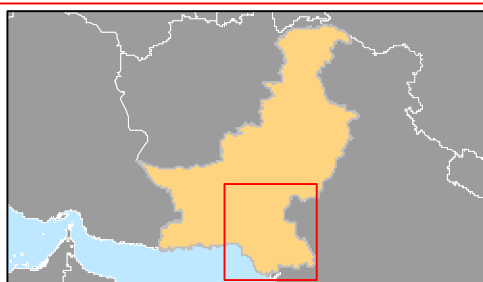
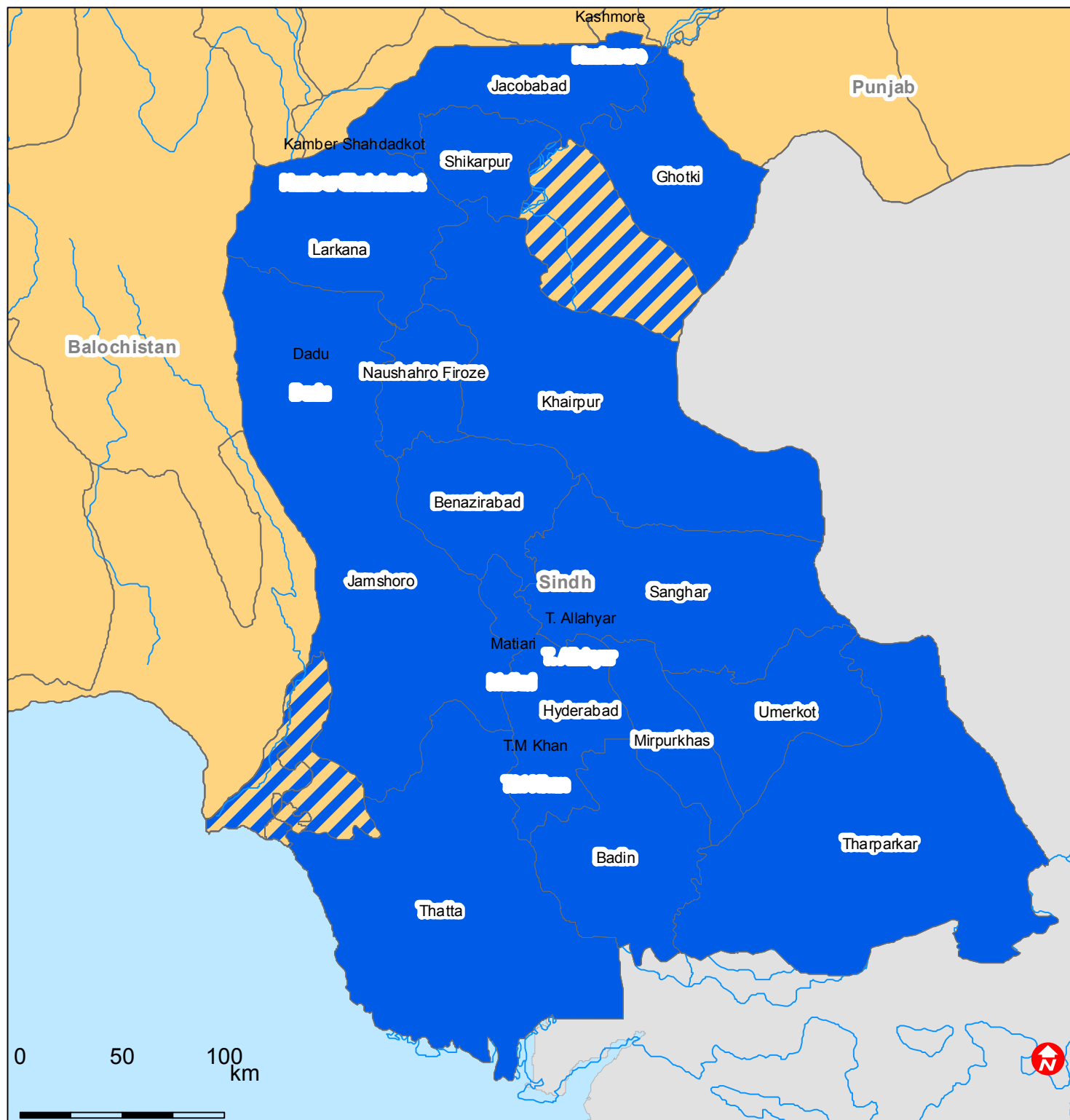


The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

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 2011



- Affected districts
- Affected province

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 - MDRPK007.mxd