

# INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## PAKISTAN: FLOODS/LANDSLIDES

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

### In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

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### The Situation

According to the Pakistan meteorological department, monsoon season will continue till the first half of September. The situation is under control though as the rains have moved towards southern parts of the country. River Indus (passing from Punjab and Sindh provinces) is on high alert for the coming week.

The approximate death toll due to landslides and floods is 350 with half of the deaths occurring in North West Frontier Province (NWFP). More people have died in the Sindh province because of heavy rains on 17 August. Approximately 400 villages have been affected and 12,500 houses damaged. Rains have also damaged the crops throughout the country. The Pakistan meteorological department is also frequently assessing the monsoon situation in India as three of the rivers into Pakistan come from there. All five dams of the country almost reached their limit in the first week of August, but water has come down since then. Livelihood of people in rural areas has also been badly harmed. There are risks of outbreaks malaria and skin-related diseases in the southern parts. The Pakistan meteorological department has predicted that this year's monsoon season will continue till first half of September, with heavy rains expected by the end of the spell; however scattered rains are anticipated till then throughout the country.

Government has started to give out compensations to the families affected by the torrential rains. Authorities have increased the number of relief camps in all the provinces (especially in near the areas of River Indus) to tackle of any kind of emergency situation in short time.

In recent state in the provinces:

- *Sindh*: Sindh province received heavy rainfall on 17 August killing approximately 20 people in various cities. Sugar cane crop has also been damaged badly. Torrential rains also disrupted the electricity supply caused

heavy traffic jams bringing the day to day workings to a stop. River Indus is still on high flood alert making the areas around it dangerous. Authorities have increased the number of relief camp and are evacuating people from the villages which are most likely in danger of floods. More rains are expected in the next two days.

- *North West Frontier Province (NWFP)*: In Mardan, where a central bridge collapsed due to flash floods, Army and government have been able to start the traffic across the bridge on temporary basis. Though, most of the houses are still damaged and people are waiting for the compensations from the government. In Batagram district, seven deaths have been reported due to virulent diarrhea; however the epidemic is under control now. So far, a total of 3,380 diarrhea cases have been treated. The drinking water supply to Batagram has been restored by the authorities after having received initial support from the Federation's Water and Sanitation team. Due to flooding of River Kunhar, water damaged many houses and families are now shifting to the newly developed (by United Nations High Commission for Refugees) Jaba camp. UNHCR has also shifted families to this new camp from the residual camp (as the camp was also under threat from the river) for the earthquake affected people. NWFP is scheduled to receive some heavy rain by the end of September, still the Government and non-governmental organizations are on high alert as due to earthquake the land is soft and is prone to landslides even by scattered showers.
- *Pakistan administered Kashmir (PaK)*: Pakistan administered Kashmir has also received heavy rainfall and because of the earthquake the soil has become soft, making it an easy target for landslides. Government has paid compensations and provided relief to the affected families. Like NWFP, authorities are monitoring the situation very closely.
- *Punjab*: Punjab situated south of NWFP endured the most agriculture loss. Most of the rivers in Pakistan pass through Punjab, and as all had high floods alerts, the majority of the villages were under threat. However, Lahore city suffered death losses and damages to properties on a medium scale.
- *Balochistan*: Balochistan also received heavy rains, affected approximately 40 villages. More rains are expected.

### Coordination

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and the Federation delegation is working in close coordination with the district governments in Mansehra and Batagram. It has played a vital role in assisting the authorities in responding to this year's floods situation. Pakistan Red Crescent's provincial branches are in close coordination in the local authorities and are totally prepared to provide assistance to affected people by themselves or through the government.

National headquarters of Pakistan Red Crescent receives daily situation reports from all the provincial branches.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Pakistan Red Crescent, the Federation delegation and French Red Cross have continued to provide medical support for the virulent diarrhea outbreak to the ministry of health in the Batagram district. Apart from PRCS/Federation delegation/French Red Cross, the ministry of health is also getting support from the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other NGOs. For the past 20 days (since the outbreak) PRCS/French Red Cross four mobile health teams, who have been provided with two diarrhea kits by the Federation, have been visiting the floods affected people in the Batagram area. The Federation has provided health facilities with two diarrhoea kits and has provided three tents to the Batagram District Headquarter Hospital.

The Federation delegation also provided water purification equipment to the Batagram district hospital to purify the river water for the period when the natural water supply was cut off. The water and sanitation delegate also made sure that technical expertise are available from the Federation's side (to run the equipment properly) and visited the site on regular basis. Federation assesses the situation weekly and decides whether to offer the assistance or not.

Pakistan Red Crescent/Federation/ French Red Cross have also mobilized 5,000 kg of medical equipment in the area of Batagram. The equipment includes antibiotics, oral re-hydration solution, IV drip, soap, disinfectants, and chloride tablets.

Due heavy rains in Manshra district in the first week of August, PRCS/Federation has distributed relief items to around five hundred families in three union councils. The details are as follow:

Union Council	Families	Tents	Hygiene Parcel
Balakot	232	232	232
Garlat	234	234	234
Sathbani	34	34	34

PRCS/Federation has already provided 150 tents to UNHCR for Jaba Camp. It has committed a total of 400 tents for this purpose.

In Sindh, PRCS Sindh provincial branch is assessing the coastal areas very closely and has helped many dispersed people. In Sukkur district, north of Karachi, PRCS provincial branch along with the district branch has created a camp to offer medical assistance to flood affected people. The provincial branch has distributed relief items to a total of 60 families. Details of the distribution to 60 families are as follow:

District	Families	Blankets	Kitchen utensils	Stoves	Plastic Sheets
Badin	60	60	157	60	232

Following the collapse of bridge in Mardan city, PRCS NWFP provincial branch provided relief items consisting of; 200 tents, 200 food packages, 200 kitchen sets, 100 plastic sheets and 10000 water purification tablets. The provincial branch also sent out relief items to Swat district, which included 60 tents, 30 plastic sheets, 50 food parcels and 4000 water purification tablets. With the help of PRCS/Federation, a cholera kit has been issued to Mardan District Headquarters Hospital.

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*The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve 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.*

*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.*

*For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

