

Vulnerability Assessment for Delivering Policy Advice on Repeated Disasters in Balochistan

Background

UN-Habitat provides a cross-cutting approach for reducing vulnerabilities and risks before and after the disasters. The organization's approach to disaster risk management/disaster risk reduction, reconstruction and recovery is based on its long-standing experience in working closely with the communities, provincial and local authorities to meet their needs for land, shelter, basic services, secure tenure and infrastructure while simultaneously addressing the longer-term development needs and suggesting policy guidelines.

UH-Habitat Pakistan has vast experience in DRR/DRM. Under the One UN Programme 2009-2012 (OP-I), UN-Habitat led the component on Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) that focused on empowering communities, vulnerable groups, grassroots organizations and local authorities in high risk areas and enhancing their resources and capacities to prepare, respond and recover. UN-Habitat Pakistan is the lead convener of the 2nd generation One UN Programme 2013-2017 (OP-II) Strategic Priority Area 3 (SPA-3) that focuses on "increased national resilience to disasters, crises and external shocks".

Development Objectives and Purpose

The project aims to build capacities of local authorities and communities at district and provincial level in disaster preparedness and response. The specific purpose of conducting vulnerability assessment is to develop multi-hazard and vulnerability risk profiles at district level that will facilitate formulation of policy advice for disaster response and resilience building measures, particularly of the vulnerable population. The scope of work would involve investigating in detail the following broad aspects. The draft report on Baluchistan is ready and a stockholders workshop will be held towards the end of October 2014.

- Socio-economic profiling: poverty level - opportunities for livelihood
- Social Dynamics: Gender equity - gender adaptability to climate change
- Recognition and relevance of DRR strategies and DRM mechanism: availability of financial and human resources for DRM and DRR
- Hazards in the settlement: human geography and migration; impacts of climate change on urban growth into more slums, relevance of the migration, humanitarian consequences of climate change
- Research and development for appropriate material in the regional and climatic context of construction

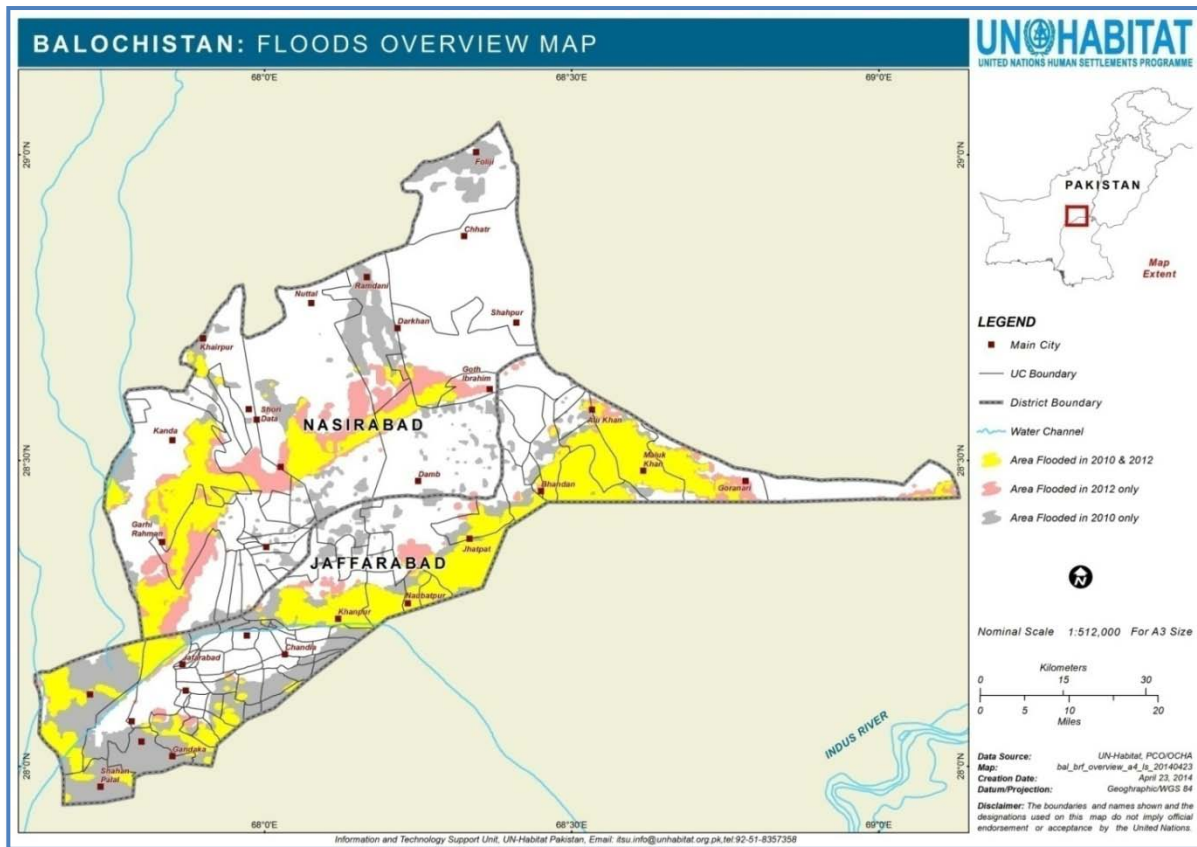
Expected Outputs and Outcome

- Multi-hazard Vulnerability Risk Profiles and Risk Atlas of districts Jaffarabad and Naseerabad in Baluchistan and Jacobabad in Sindh province of Pakistan
- Workshop for sharing of analysis and finalizing of policy options for adaptation.

To provide long term solution for local government and communities for better adaptation arising out of repeated disasters, particularly addressing vulnerable and marginalized groups through community-led initiative.

Key features of the project

- Development priority:** The project is consistent with the priority themes/areas and objectives of the National Disaster Management Plan 2012-2022, National Disaster Risk Management Framework, National DRR Policy, DRM Needs Assessment, United Nations' Hyogo Framework for Action, and Strategic Priority Area 3 on increased national resilience to disasters, crises and external shocks under the One UN Programme 2013-2017 (OP II).
- Project sustainability:** The project aims to achieve the result of providing a policy advice to PDMA and local government authorities for adaptation to repeated disaster, which is a strong key point of sustainability. Adaptation, which includes awareness of DRM, may empower vulnerable and marginalized communities towards the process of self-recovery and as consequence, the “domino” phenomena of migration will be mitigated and the rural area might be pave a way towards their social and economic growth, improving livelihood and social service, or generally speaking their quality of life.
- Socio-economic benefits:** The awareness of DRM of vulnerable and marginalized communities will be enhanced, therefore they will be empowered towards the process of self-recovery and as consequence the “domino” phenomena of migration will be mitigated and the rural area might be pave a way towards their social and economic growth.
- Gender assessment:** Gender analysis is part of the vulnerability assessment, the target groups are indeed focused on the selection of mostly vulnerable marginalized households such as female headed households, child headed households, older person headed households, households headed by person with disabilities (physical, intellectual, sensory), households headed by persons with a chronic diseases. A gender segregated data will be part of the vulnerability assessment.
- Strategy to engage and address women:** UN-Habitat, as UN Agency, has a proper strategy to engage with women. Mainstreaming gender is not an end in itself but a means to the goal of gender equality. Mainstreaming involves ensuring that gender perspectives and attention to the goal of gender equality are central to all activities - policy development, research, advocacy/dialogue, legislation, resource allocation, and planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects. Half of the hired enumerators will be female to facilitate the proactive female participation in the interviews, which can be achieved only with female enumerators and who will interact with the groups of female in such a sympathetic “gender” way of interviewing, The project will benefit women specifically since women’s groups are targeted as essential part of the beneficiaries. Women’s needs, as well gender mainstreaming in general, will be properly addressed by a specific focused framework strategy.



For further details, contact:

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