



Situation Report No. 2: Monsoon Floods in Pakistan - 30 July 2010

This situation report is based on information received from UN Agencies, humanitarian partners and government sources.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The loss of lives and the extent of damage from the heavy rains and flash floods across the Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) over the last three days are still not clear as access to affected areas is limited and most of the communication networks are disrupted. According to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the death toll in KPK alone has reached more than 290 and several hundreds of injured are reported. The total affected population is estimated at nearly one million.

Additionally, there are major damages to infrastructure: thousands of houses and roads have been destroyed and at least 45 bridges all over the Province have been damaged. As a result, search and rescue as well as assessments operations are still patchy and do not cover the whole of the affected area.

The worst affected districts in KPK are Charsadda, Swat, Nowshera, D. I. Khan, Tank, and Lower and Upper Dir.

Several dozen deaths were reported in Charsadda, where thousands of people are still stranded in their houses. The District is cut off from the Provincial Capital Peshawar and large areas of the town are under several feet of water.

Water from Kabul River entered also parts of Nowshera district, flooding houses and stranding thousands of people in their homes. An important humanitarian hub and warehouse complex in Pirpai was also flooded, making it impossible to move relief items to affected areas.

In the Swat District, the Swat River has washed away most of the bridges along with dozens of shops, hotels and private residents. Thousands of civilians had to be evacuated to high grounds north of the District Capital Mingora.

Also, the Districts of Tanks and D. I. Khan have been affected, where several hundred mud houses have been destroyed by the rain and floods. The water entered the district capitals and set parts of both cities under water.

NEEDS

Search and rescue operations are currently the most urgent and imminent need. In addition, requests were also made for boats to facilitate access, rescue and assessment efforts. In terms of relief assistance, the authorities at provincial as well as national level requested support in emergency shelter, food (mainly ready-to-eat-food), health and sanitation (mainly provision of drinking water and dewatering efforts).

RESPONSE

The Government is leading the relief efforts, with support from the Pakistan Army and the authorities of the affected provinces. The Army is using assets like helicopters and heavy trucks in rescue operations and provides shelter and food rations for several thousand affected civilians. The Provincial Disaster Management Authority of KPK is coordinating the relief efforts at the provincial level and provides as well food rations, tents and plastic sheeting.

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) made ambulances, medical teams and medicines available to assist in the response.

WFP stands ready to provide additional food rations, once the access to its hub in Pirpai is secured.

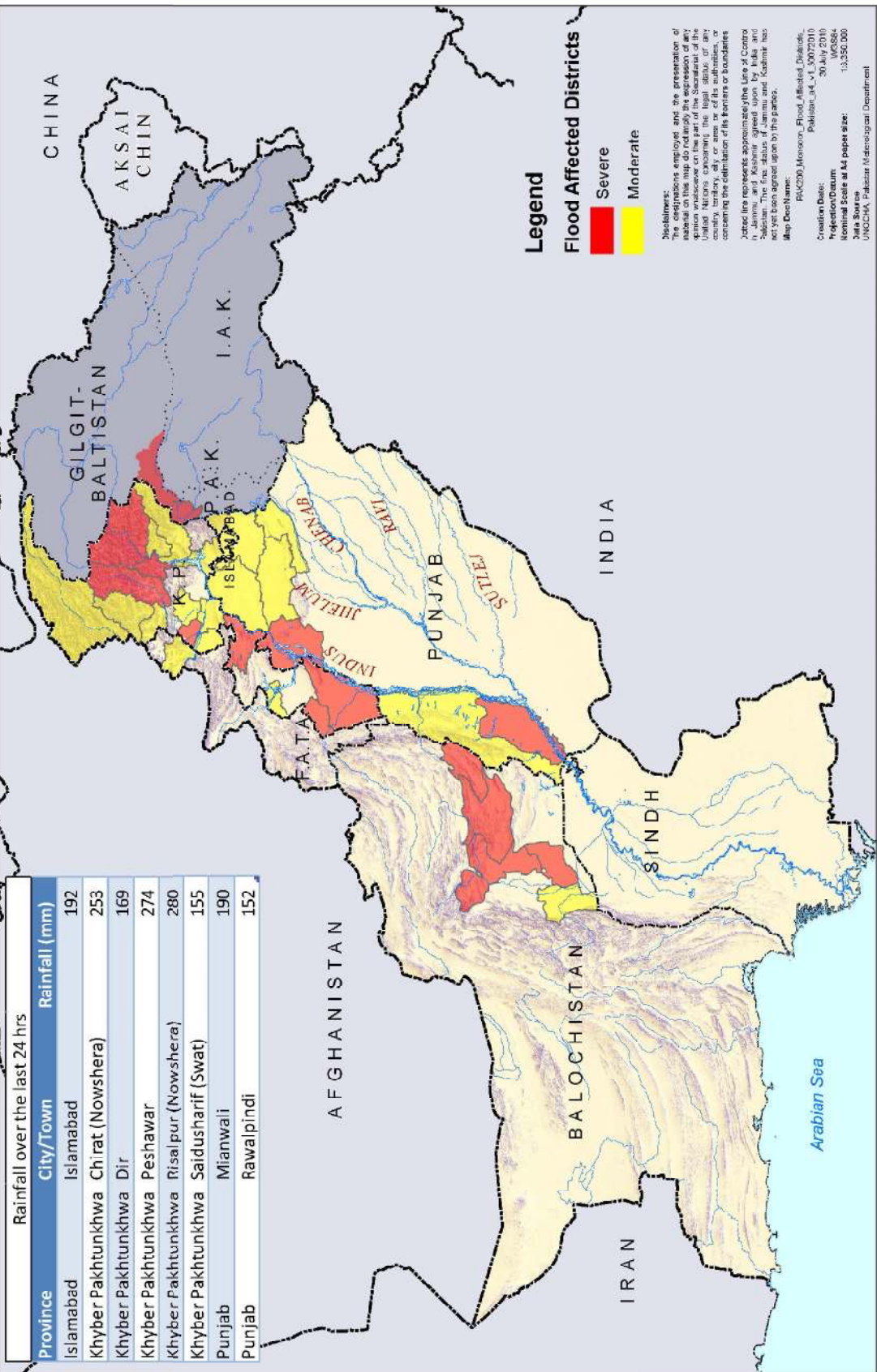
WHO has provided medical kits to the Department of Health, and has established an emergency health response unit in the Office of the KPK Health Authorities in Peshawar.

UNICEF and its partners have set up nine medical camps in Swat and are providing medicines, aqua tabs and jerry cans. UNICEF is also supporting the local authorities in providing clean drinking water through water tankers. The Nutrition Cluster plans a blanket feeding programme for children under five and pregnant and lactating women in the affected areas.

UNHCR has dispatched the first consignment of relief items to assist flood-affected districts in Baluchistan, in particular to Sibi District, where a more detailed assessment is planned over the weekend.



Pakistan - Floods Impact Profile
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