



World Food Programme

Monsoon Flooding In Pakistan



OPERATIONAL UPDATE

23 AUGUST 2010

Situation Overview

The most recent data from NDMA and PDMA place the number of people affected by the flooding across the country at approximately 16.8 million.

The second wave of floodwaters to hit Sindh and Balochistan is continuing to inundate additional expanses of land and force the evacuation of families from low-lying areas along the Indus River. In recent days, more than 100,000 residents have fled the city of Shahdadkot in Sindh, with a further 100,000 evacuated from Thatta. Persistent heavy rain is expected to continue during the course of this week – particularly in the north – which may yet exacerbate conditions here too.

The current scale of the humanitarian response, particularly in the southern provinces, remains insufficient to meet the full extent of needs. Significant obstacles continue to be faced in reaching those affected; with the vast geographical dispersion of the floods, the immense damage to infrastructure, and ongoing monsoon rains. While these impediments are constraining the progress of assistance activities in the immediate term, additional donor support is urgently required to allow for a necessary scale-up of responses from September, when access is expected to improve.

WFP Response

WFP's current planning scenario of up to 6 million people in need of emergency food assistance is likely to increase as further damage unfolds and new assessment data comes in. WFP is now conducting monthly distributions of family food rations in 29 districts of KPK, Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir (AJK); supported by almost 30 cooperating partners. This emergency assistance allows beneficiaries to maintain an adequate level of food consumption; while fortified supplementary food for infants and young children also helps to prevent nutritional declines amongst these vulnerable groups. Up to 615,000 children have now received these supplementary commodities since distributions began on 1 August.

WFP is also operating as lead of the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters; providing support services to the humanitarian community at operational hubs in Islamabad, Peshawar, Sukkur and Multan.

Operational Highlights

- As of 22 August, WFP had reached almost 1.6 million flood-affected beneficiaries with close to 19,000 metric tons of food assistance. Almost 265,000 additional individuals were provided with monthly relief rations during the last two days alone. A further 324,000 individuals displaced by conflict in KPK and FATA have now also benefited from August-cycle distributions under a separate emergency operation. In KPK, the majority of distribution points for both operations have established separate waiting areas and other facilities for female beneficiaries, to encourage their participation.
- A WFP-led rapid food needs assessment initiated in Sindh last week has now been completed, with results from 15 flood-affected districts currently under process. WFP is also conducting an assessment of affected families in the Upper Dir district of KPK, which will facilitate targeting for distributions that are expected to commence in the coming days.

- Engaging sufficient partner capacity to conduct distributions in Sindh has been a key challenge; and additional international and national NGOs are now being contracted to expedite the progress of operations in the province. Similarly, those partners working in districts where planned August distributions have now been completed are being re-deployed to neighbouring areas to scale-up the response.
- Physical access remains a further obstacle, and WFP continues to use all available means of transport – including by air, mule, boat and pulley bridges – to reach communities residing in cut-off areas. On 22 August, three dedicated heavy-lift helicopters arrived in Pakistan, each with the capacity to carry 3.5 metric tons of food. These will be deployed to Multan tomorrow, to service immediate requirements in isolated areas across the province, and comprise the first three aircraft in a dedicated humanitarian fleet to be managed by UNHAS. Other helicopters and fixed-wing C-130 aircraft made available to WFP by the Government of Pakistan are continuing to operate; and to date, approximately 368 metric tons of food has been transported in KPK, Sindh and Punjab – sufficient to feed 30,000 people for one month.



- With a current total of 46 milling facilities contracted across the country, the quantity of fortified wheat flour available for distribution is steadily increasing. Other logistical capacities necessary to ensure the timely delivery of food to affected areas are also being strengthened; and despite the continued closure of key roads and bridges, a total of more than 3,000 metric tons of food was delivered to partners yesterday for distribution.

Resourcing Update

At a total value of US\$ 150 million, WFP's food assistance operation responding to the needs of flood-affected populations continues to face a shortfall of almost US\$ 103 million. While many donors have announced pledges, WFP urges them to confirm their donations in order to avoid breaks in the food pipeline in September. Logistics and emergency telecommunications clusters are also seeking a combined total of US\$ 13.9 million for the provision of related services to the entire humanitarian community; and have so far received US\$ 1 million for air operations.

Donations to WFP's Pakistan flood emergency response can be made at: www.wfp.org/donate/pakistanflood

District	Beneficiaries Reached	MT Distributed
KPK		
Peshawar	160,132	1,967
Nowshera	457,128	5,713
Charsadda	244,153	2,996
Mardan	53,900	662
Swat	107,107	1,229
Shangla	30,835	381
D.I. Khan	47,929	582
Tank	17,808	221
Kohistan	28,350	349
Lower Dir	13,748	169
Sub Total	1,161,090	14,269
Sindh		
Khairpur	40,691	415
Kashmore	39,137	492
Shikarpur	26,978	221
Sukkur	17,297	208
Ghotki	14,700	194
Jacobabad	38,745	79
Sub Total	177,548	1,609
Punjab		
RY Khan	50,141	615
Rajanpur	59,199	729
Muzaffargarh	62,923	775
Layyah	27,650	341
DG Khan	8,372	101
Sub Total	208,285	2,561
Balochistan		
Jaffarabad	8,701	107
Naseerabad	9,961	122
Killa Saifullah	1,400	17
Loralai	1,400	17
Harnai	1,050	13
Sibi	10,234	126
Shirani	1,050	13
Sub Total	33,796	415
AJK		
Haveli	4,606	57
Sub Total	4,606	57
TOTAL	1,585,325	18,911