

UNICEF Situation Report (Pakistan) #12
31 August 2010

Highlights

- UNICEF’s Executive Director Anthony Lake visited Pakistan to witness the flood affected areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab and meet with children and women in relief centres. A joint press conference, together with the WFP Executive Director and the UNESCO Director General, demonstrated the combined resolve of the United Nations to help out in relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims.
- Further devastation continued in southern Sindh as embankments were breached at several places and an additional one million people were displaced from their homes, bringing up the total affected population in the country to about 18 million. Over 10,000 improvised shelters were established to cater to 50,000 flood affected persons in district Thatta alone of Southern Sindh.
- An estimated 2 million children are at risk of being unable to attend their schools at the start of the school year as nearly 10,000 schools were damaged and close to 6,700 schools occupied by flood victims need repair and rehabilitation.
- A cumulative number of 3.8 million patients since the onset of the flood sought health services in the affected districts as they suffer from increased incidences of skin infections, diarrhea, respiratory infections and suspected malaria.
- The number of people reached through UNICEF support in various sectors (including water, sanitation and hygiene as well as health and nutrition) is increasing and needs further scaling up.
- McRAM field data collection is completed in 28 most affected districts in different parts of the country. The report on the assessment is expected to be released in the first week of September.

Situation Overview

UNICEF’s Executive Director visited Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab to meet the affected children and women in relief centres and observe UNICEF-supported services for the affected population. The visit to Multan and Muzaffargarh in Punjab was organized jointly with WFP’s Executive Director. A joint press conference by the Executive Directors of UNICEF and WFP together with UNESCO’s Director General demonstrated the combined resolve of the United Nations to help out the flood victims during both the relief and rehabilitation phases.

The total number of population affected by the flood increased to 18 million, as more embankments were breached and nearly one million more people were displaced in southern Sindh. The number of affected children (below 18 years of age) stands at 9 million and the number of affected women (between the age of 15-49) is about 3 million. According to Sindh’s Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), approximately 900,000 people are living in camps and spontaneous settlements in the province. OCHA reports 10,000 improvised shelters are being set up from today by IOM in Thatta that will cater to 50,000 individuals. Irrigation experts warn that destruction due to floods would continue in Sindh until the end of September even after the water flow in the barrages normalizes. Flood affectees in Thatta district are facing problems in moving to camps in Karachi due to unavailability of transportation.

An estimated 2 million school age children will be unable to attend schools immediately after the summer vacation this year. Nearly 10,000 schools have been damaged and approximately 6,700 have been used as shelter by the IDPs. The number of affected people living in schools increased from 1.4 million to 1.6 million due to the population displacement in southern Sindh. A detailed assessment is being carried out in different parts of the country by the Education Cluster to verify the initial figures on damaged schools and assess the needs.

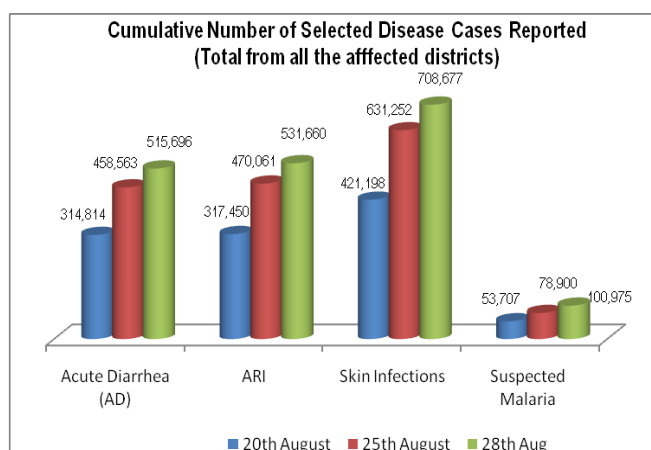
Province	Damaged schools	Schools used as shelter	Population in Shelter Schools
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	951	725	68,220
Gilgit Balthistan	81	-	-
AJK	389	-	-
Punjab	4,202	2,073	621,900
Balochistan	997	170	-
Sindh	3,140	3,675	917,349
Total	9,760	6,643	1,607,469

Source: Education Cluster (based on data collected from UNICEF field offices)

The reported cases of patients seeking health services due to skin infections, acute diarrhea, acute respiratory infections and suspected malaria are increasing in the flood affected districts. Acute diarrhea cases alone increased from around 0.3 million to 0.5 million within one week. A similar worrisome trend is observed in the case of the other three as well.

Humanitarian Needs

The urgent humanitarian needs for shelter, food, clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, medicines, immunization and fumigation are still persistent. Non-Food Items (NFIs) are also needed (clothes, mats, plastic sheets, cooking utensils, stoves, sanitary pads, soaps, jerry cans and others) for the affected population in all areas.



Source: Epidemiological Update GoP and WHO, 30 August

In Sindh, there is an immediate need of at least 500,000 tents to accommodate the people in the newly affected districts.

Early recovery interventions and rehabilitation of the physical infrastructures are required in areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab where people are beginning to return back to their native hometowns and villages.

Inter-Agency Collaboration, Coordination, Cluster Leadership and Key Partnerships

Field data collection for rapid assessment (McRAM) has been completed in 28 worst affected districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh and Gilgit-Baltistan. Results of the assessments will be available in a consolidated report for Pakistan during the first week of September. The findings of this assessment will provide key information to all clusters to indicate the overall needs of the affected population.

The Government of Pakistan's National Steering Committee on Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (HEPR) is coordinating foreign medical teams arriving in Pakistan to support health relief efforts in the country.

A consultation was arranged by National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), UNIFEM and PODA to design the advocacy and action strategy for the flood emergency and capture the voices of the women from the field.

UNICEF Response

1. WASH

- **Water Supply.** More than 2 million affected populations receive clean drinking water every day through restoration and rehabilitation of 926 water supply schemes to date as well as through 510 tankers, with the help of the network of partners in all provinces. Lady Health Workers (LHWs) and NGO partners have distributed more than 1.15 million water purifying tablets and sachets (each tablet to purify up to 5 litres of water). UNICEF is also collaborating with Pakistan Council for Research on Water Resources (PCRWR) to test and chlorinate all water sources functioning in flood affected areas of all provinces.

Province	Population being provided clean drinking water
Punjab	313,125
Sindh	56,201
KP	1,490,491
Balochistan	180,000
GB	26,031
AJK	100,415
Total	2,166,263

Source: UNICEF WASH section, Islamabad

- **Sanitation.** 2,000 latrines have been set-up in Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces serving at least 40,000 persons. A lot more is needed. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNICEF is supporting Tehsil Municipal Administrations (TMAs) for restoration of sanitation services, cleaning of roads and streets, as well as burial of dead cattle and animals.
- **Hygiene Promotion.** 59,000 hygiene kits have been distributed benefiting over 400,000 people. More than 64,000 hygiene promotion sessions have been conducted for over 450,000 people.

2. Health

- **Re-establishing routine EPI.** 57 districts have been reached and more than 30,000 LHWs are mobilized to provide vaccination, health education as well as other support related to Maternal and Child Health in the worst affected districts.

UNICEF-supported Immunization for children and women in the provinces

Province	Polio	Measles	BCG	TT	Vit. A	Penta
Punjab	116,656	59,838	8,132	14,675	48,212	16,380
Sindh	41,828	34,930	10,681	25,218	41,401	17,716
KP-Routine Immunization	15,029	21,089	462	23,191	449	1,995
KP-Measles Campaign	285,154	253,511	-	-	257,561	-
Balochistan	29,328	28,574	528	2,347	24,388	-
Total	487,995	397,942	19,803	65,431	372,011	36,091

Source: Provincial Health Departments

- **Health services.** Medical services are being provided to the affected population in all provinces through medical camps, mobile medical teams and static facilities. So far, around 80,000 people have benefited from these services, about 75% are women and children. To avert the outbreak of Malaria, UNICEF is supporting the Departments of Health for fumigation of standing flood waters in the 4 provinces of Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.
- **Health and Hygiene Messages.** Messages on safe motherhood, breastfeeding, clean drinking water, hand washing and immunization are continuously being provided through LHWs, the national MNCH programme as well as NGO partners and institutions. More than 300 sessions on health, hygiene and breastfeeding related messages have been conducted for over 3,500 beneficiaries.

3. Nutrition

Distribution of key nutrition supplies like High Energy Biscuits, Unimix, Plumpynuts, Micro-nutrient sachets and tablets is in progress every day. Affected communities are also being provided with ORS sachets, Zinc, Amoxicilin and de-worming tablets. Nutrition supplies in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Balochistan have so far benefited more than 36,000 children as well as pregnant and lactating women. In Sindh, Nutrition Kits (4 and 4A) were delivered to the Children's Hospital in Larkana, to to 3 months' needs of the severely malnourished children with complications. The pace of work is expected to pick up in all the provinces when several plane loads of nutrition supplies arrive in the next few days.

4. Child Protection

135 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) including 13 mobile CFSs have been established in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Balochistan, and Pakistan administered Kashmir, providing educational and recreational services to more than 23,000 children. Four 24 hours Help Lines are operating in Peshawar, Mardan and Swabi of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Karachi of Sindh. They provide counselling and referral services to children and women. More than 10,000 children and 900 women have been provided with psycho-social support. Out of 156 unaccompanied and separated children, 139 children have been reunified with family with support by Child Protection Helplines. In Sindh, MOU has been signed with

Social Welfare Department to establish more Help lines and Child Protection Units in Sukkur, Karachi and Hyderabad districts.

5. Education

The total number of Temporary Learning and Recreation Sites has increased to 95, with 18 additional ones established in Sindh and 4 in Balochistan, benefiting 12,782 children (Balochistan: 650, Sindh: 6132, Punjab: 6,000). Ed Links, a USAID funded programme for quality education, has agreed to provide UNICEF Sindh with school supplies including tents, maps, globes, and other teaching/learning materials for distribution to primary school children.

Rapid assessment of schools by the Education Cluster is in progress in Punjab, Balochistan and Pakistan Administered Kashmir. It is expected to start soon in Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan to make all assessment reports to be available by 7 September. UNICEF and the Education Cluster are providing technical support to Provincial Education Departments in designing the methodology and related tools for the assessment and taking the lead in conducting the assessments.

Funding

In response to the need for \$141 million as indicated in the revised Immediate Needs Document (IND), UNICEF has so far received \$60.2 million. Pledges have also been received for an additional \$17.2 million.

Media and Communication

So far over 145 media interviews have been given in different forums and to different media representatives.

International and national print and electronic media representatives travelled to the provinces with UNICEF's Executive Director Anthony Lake to cover his visit and interact with the flood affected women and children. The Executive Director gave a press conference in Islamabad (with national and international print and electronic media) jointly with the Executive Director of WFP, the Director General of UNESCO and the Director General of the National Disaster Management Authority.

Security

Overall security situation in the country has not improved. There are threats of terrorist attacks. The United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) continues to advise all humanitarian staff to be aware of security risks in affected areas, including those directly related to the floods, such as violent demonstrations and aid-related crime. In Sindh, OCHA has requested Pakistan military to provide security at the camp sites.