

UNICEF Pakistan Update

2012 Monsoon Preparedness Measures



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Monsoon Preparedness

In 2010 and 2011, Pakistan experienced some of the worst floods in history. The mega-floods of 2010 affected over 18 million people. In 2011, major floods affected Sindh and part of Balochistan provinces affecting at least 5.2 million people. Although the Pakistan Meteorological department forecasts that the monsoons in 2012 may only range between 5-15% above normal levels, it is vital to prepare for the likelihood of serious floods in 2012, as the 2010 and 2011 unexpected floods proved. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) foresees the worst case scenario would affect 29 million people affected in 29 districts across Pakistan. Provincial and regional meteorological forecasting is for localized flooding and also areas of drought. This has already been occurring.

UNICEF has made extensive preparations, with partners, for disasters, whether drought, floods or man-made crisis; however, funds are needed to prepare and pre-position supplies for the eventuality of a crisis. UNICEF has identified a need for **US\$ 2.8 million** to ensure that critical responses can be made without delay.

UNICEF has defined critical response packages in Health, Nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), based on UNICEF's Core Commitments to Children in Emergencies, with the aim of ensuring maximum coverage of life-saving interventions with the most basic emergency items for children

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OVERVIEW

UNICEF Pakistan needs **US\$ 2,828,000** to achieve the **critical level of preparedness** required to enable an immediate emergency response, given the indication of major floods, combined with areas of drought, affecting the country for the third year in a row.

Funds will be used to pre-position a critical package of emergency supplies, which will allow UNICEF to reach immediately large numbers of affected people in three key-life saving sectors, Health, Nutrition and WASH. Funds will also be utilized to secure the minimal coordination capacity in WASH and Nutrition.

UNICEF has already started prepositioning sufficient supplies to cover an overall caseload of 100,000 people with maternal and child health services and vaccinations; community management of acute malnutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene services; Temporary Learning Centers; and Protective Learning and Community Emergency Services (PLaCES).

and women. Given projected needs and available supplies, funds for education and child protection will be requested at the onset of an emergency.

The Government of Pakistan, the United Nations (through individual agency plans, OCHA and Cluster mechanisms) and a number of international and national NGOs have made crisis preparedness a key priority in 2012. Led by NDMA/PDMA and OCHA, national contingency plans have been developed and regional workshops organized in Balochistan and Sindh.

UNICEF Preparedness

The UNICEF Pakistan Country Office developed multi-hazard Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans for 2012 at federal and provincial levels. UNICEF Pakistan has put in place additional long-term agreements with suppliers, and developed contingency project cooperation agreements covering five provinces. Current project cooperation agreements can also be amended to enable an immediate emergency response. UNICEF Pakistan has prepositioned contingency stocks at Islamabad and Karachi warehouses.



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All staff is on call during the summer holidays and 82 emergency focal points were requested to take no leave in the most critical period. Standby partners are already in place, in cluster functions, working on preparedness. Contingency agreements have been signed with 36 NGOs and with over 100 contractors, including suppliers. A roster of qualified staff, in and outside of Pakistan, have been identified and alerted to facilitate the immediate filling of emergency positions should a large scale emergency occur so that UNICEF can effectively lead Clusters and provide services.

UNICEF Plans by Sector

Health (US\$ 598,403)

UNICEF needs US\$ 598,403 to complete an essential pre-positioned package of health interventions to respond to a caseload of 500,000 people in the first month of the emergency. The package will include vaccinations and vitamin A supplementation for 90,000 children, oral rehydration salts and Zinc tablets to treat almost 51,800 children suffering from diarrhoea, and equip 2,050 Lady Health Workers with kits that contain a set of supplies against pneumonia and to provide preventive health care to 205,000 mothers, newborns and children. UNICEF Pakistan has already allocated US\$ 100,000 of its own resources for this purpose.

UNICEF emergency interventions will be primarily delivered through the Government healthcare network, including through the Lady Health Worker system, a national network covering 70% of districts in Pakistan. UNICEF will provide incentives and supplies to enable them to perform their functions in their communities. Additionally, UNICEF is planning to improve emergency information management within the government sector to ensure the quick availability and reliability of government health reporting systems during the emergency. This will include the organization of training events for government data focal points at the district level as well as provincial programme managers.

Nutrition (US\$ 267,295)

UNICEF is in need of US\$ 267,295 to ensure that critical contingency supplies are available in country to launch an immediate response targeting an overall caseload of 500,000 people. The essential nutrition package will allow the screening of 45,500 children and the treatment of 4,626 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition in Outpatient Therapeutic Centres. UNICEF will remain, as provider of last resort, ready to cover the needs of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition with medical complications needing services in Stabilization Centres, if required. Also, UNICEF is supporting the treatment of children suffering from moderate acute malnutrition in collaboration with the World Food Program. Information sessions for pregnant and lactating women on Infant and Young Child Feeding will be an integral part of the implementation package and are already integrated in standard contingency project cooperation agreements. UNICEF Pakistan has reallocated US\$15,000 of its own resources to enable basic prepositioning of supplies.

UNICEF interventions will be delivered either over the existing network of 556 Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) centres or through the establishment of new centres in areas currently not covered by the existing programme. UNICEF outreach will be extended through its coordination of 32 partners active in the UNICEF-led Nutrition Cluster. Also, the Nutrition Information System is active in four provinces, which will allow timely reporting and improved targeting. The existing country-level cooperation between UNICEF, WFP and WHO will ensure a comprehensive response to improve the nutrition security of the populations at risk, prevent children from falling further into a state of acute malnutrition and recover over 90% of those children suffering from severe acute malnutrition.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) (US\$ 1,492,056)

UNICEF needs US\$ 1.49 million to pre-position an essential package of WASH interventions aimed at mitigating water and sanitation related disease, and ensuring that 500,000 affected people have immediate access to safe drinking water and basic hygiene, including soaps and sanitary cloths for women. At least 30% of the funds will be used to cover water tankering. This minimum package is chiefly intended to prevent diarrhea and water-borne diseases by focusing on the provision of safe drinking water and of soap, with the objective of reaching the maximum number of people in the minimum amount of time possible.



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UNICEF will scale up its interventions progressively using the prepositioned contingency stocks. UNICEF will ensure that interventions focus on the most vulnerable children and women enrolled in the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition programme, Temporary Learning Centres and Protective Learning and Community Emergency Services (PLaCES), including sanitation and hygiene promotion.

UNICEF has long-term agreements in place with national level water trucking companies and has developed contingency project cooperation agreements to expedite the response, potentially enabling the quick scale up of the response beyond the current one month target.

UNICEF is the lead agency as well as active member of the WASH Cluster. UNICEF, along with NDMA, has led sector preparedness plans through its coordination with line ministers, government counterparts and implementing partners across the country. UNICEF contributed between 60% and 70% of the overall Cluster response in 2010 and 2011.

Total Estimated Funding Requirement

The following table shows the total funding requirement as described above:

Sector	Requirements (US\$)
Maternal and Child Health	598,403
Nutrition	267,295
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	1,492,056
Cluster Coordination	204,930
Cross-sectoral Costs	265,360
Total	2,828,044

UNICEF wishes to thank all the donors that have provided support to humanitarian activities in recent years, both natural disasters and other crisis.

We remain available for any additional information on the impact of UNICEF's work and the priorities moving forward.

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