

UNICEF Pakistan Update

2011 Floods: Needs and Response in Sindh and Balochistan

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



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A UNICEF-supported lady health worker gives a deworming tablet to a young boy in Umerkot district.

Months after heavy monsoon rains caused widespread flooding in Sindh and Balochistan, vulnerable children still struggle to cope with the impacts of the floods and the mud and water damage to homes, public infrastructure and livelihoods. Health conditions remain of significant concern with reported outbreaks of water and vector-borne diseases in flood affected areas. Since the floods, availability of adequate sanitation has been scarcer, making basic hygiene education even more critical. It is of importance to continue supporting essential services in the flood affected areas, including social mobilizers who advocate hand-washing with soap and good hygiene practices; explain the importance of education, especially for girls who are too often deprived of education; and stress the need to protect children from violence and abuse. Children fare worst in disasters like the floods of 2011 and need continued support.

Funding shortages are constraining relief and early recovery activities that are essential to the health and wellbeing of flood affected children. In a recent Inter Cluster Coordination Meeting it was agreed that a Union Council ranking exercise will be conducted to prioritize the most affected Union Councils for the implementation of early recovery interventions in the government-declared thirteen worst affected districts in Sindh.

9 February 2012

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The Pakistan 2011 Floods Early Recovery Framework covering early recovery activities until September 2012 is currently under review by the Government of Pakistan. The Early Recovery Framework provides the foundation and structure for the early recovery response supporting the flood-affected people of Sindh and Balochistan.

Sindh:

- 4.8 million affected, of which 2.4 million are children and 1.2 million women.
- 46% of the health facilities were damaged by the floods.
- Open defecation increased by 11-17%, increasing exposure to disease.
- 410,697 children were pushed out of school due the flood destruction to school facilities. Some 729,000 children lost all their learning materials.

Balochistan:

- In Balochistan 0.3 million people are affected.
- 531 schools were damaged during the monsoon rains.

UNICEF RESPONSE

UNICEF and partners have mounted a large scale life-saving assistance programme, but require additional resources in order to transition into early recovery.

Health

- UNICEF continues to support delivery of maternal, newborn and child health services and counselling through health facilities, providing around the clock services in seven priority districts in Sindh: 42,222 women have been provided with antenatal care; 4,221 women have been provided with postnatal care; 3,643 deliveries have been assisted by skilled birth attendants; and 130,609 women have been vaccinated against tetanus to date.
- 6,709 UNICEF-supported Lady Health Workers continue providing follow up sessions on key health messages covering treatment of malnutrition and common yet killer illnesses including diarrhoea, malaria and pneumonia to women in flood affected areas. Nearly 1.2 million women have been reached in over 172,000 health education sessions to date.



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A lady health worker gives a tetanus shot to a pregnant woman in a rural health centre in Badin district, Sindh

Nutrition

- UNICEF continues its outreach of life-saving nutrition services to children and pregnant and lactating women. There has been a significant increase in the Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding

Programme (OTP) sites established, from 72 to 105 over the past fortnight. These OTPs, in addition to 131 nutrition sites operational since the 2010 flood response, provide life-saving nutrition services to flood affected children and women.

- To date, out of 521,979 children screened, 26,879 children have been admitted into OTPs as severely malnourished and 59,234 children have been admitted into WFP-run Supplementary Feeding Programmes (SFP) as moderately malnourished. This is an addition of 45,013 children screened and 1,939 malnourished children receiving nutrition services over the past two weeks. Also, 33,983 malnourished pregnant and lactating women have to date been enrolled in SFP.
- Over 188,825 women have been reached with messages on the importance of exclusive breastfeeding, early initiation of breastfeeding after birth, and timely and age appropriate complementary foods for children, through information sessions on infant and young child feeding, an addition of 4,887 women reached over the past two weeks.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Water is currently being provided daily to over 971,234 people, including 495,329 children, through household water treatment options and installation of hand pumps in Sindh. This is an addition of 51,394 people reached over the past two weeks. 2,409 hand pumps have to date been installed in return communities, an addition of 441 hand pumps installed over the past fortnight. Also 54 additional water tanks of 1,200 litre capacity have been installed for water storage in Temporary Learning Centres and communities bringing the cumulative total of water tanks to 483.
- In Balochistan, restoration of water supply schemes for 15,000 people and 1,900 emergency latrines benefiting 30,000 people is on-going.
- To date, 22,376 temporary latrines have been constructed in Sindh, 95% of which are in return communities. Also, 3,133 bathing cubicles have been installed in relief camps and in returnee areas benefitting 389,200 people, thereof 196,490 women. This is an addition of 64,200 people benefiting from the construction of bathing cubicles over the past two weeks.
- Nearly 12 million water purification tablets and sachets have been distributed to date for

household water treatment, inclusive of information session on the benefits of water purification and demonstration of usage. This is an increase of nearly three million water purification tablets and sachets distributed over the past fortnight.

- Hygiene sessions, including follow up sessions, have thus far reached 1.5 million people. Also, 305,079 jerry cans, 379,246 buckets with lids, 701,177 bars of soap and 159,379 hygiene kits have been distributed to the displaced population.

Education

- 100,185 children (45% girls and 55% boys) are currently enrolled in 1,970 UNICEF Temporary Learning Centres (TLC) in Sindh and Balochistan. Of these children, 40% are 'first timers'. Among those enrolled, more than 12,000 children are 3-4 years old and are enrolled in Early Childhood Education classes.
- 3,338 teachers (29% female and 71% male) have been trained to date on classroom management, usage of UNICEF school kits, psychosocial support and hygiene education.
- The Government of Sindh has agreed to mainstream all TLC children within the Sindh school system, ensuring that more than 100,000 flood affected children will be retained in the school system and will be able to continue their education in next academic year.

Child Protection

- A total of 191,858 children (48% girls and 52% boys) and 75,459 women are currently engaged in psychosocial, recreation and learning activities in 543 PLaCES (Protective, Learning and Community Emergency Services). This is an addition of 1,598 children and 2,726 women reached in the past two weeks. Currently 95% of PLaCES are in areas of return and 5% are in camps.
- A total of 119,100 community members have been reached with messages on child protection issues such as how to prevent and address abuse and exploitation and on risk awareness of landmines and unexploded ordnance. An additional 11,200 community members were reached with these messages over the past two weeks.
- Life skills-based education sessions were conducted over the past fortnight with 5,780

adolescents in six severely flood affected districts in Sindh.

- 73,900 children and their caregivers have to date participated in 20 UNICEF-supported Children's Fairs in five flood affected districts in Sindh. The fairs involve stalls of different organizations, puppets shows on the importance of birth registration, dangers of child marriages, and awareness of abuse, exploitation and other child protection themes, cultural events and speeches.



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Young girls enjoy playing with a ball at a UNICEF protective space in Tando Allahyar district.

Funding

As part of the Pakistan Rapid Response Plan for the 2011 Floods, UNICEF requires US\$50.3 million to cover the immediate needs of children and women for six months (September 2011 to March 2012). To date, UNICEF has received US\$ 19.8 million and a funding gap of 61% remains. UNICEF has submitted project sheets to the Early Recovery Framework for the 2011 Floods Response which is currently being reviewed by the Government of Pakistan.

UNICEF wishes to thank all the donors that have provided support to the life-saving humanitarian activities in the flood affected areas - Australia, Canada, the Central Emergency Relief Fund, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the National Committees for UNICEF in Canada, Finland, France, Germany, New Zealand, Poland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

For more information contact:

Dan Rohrmann, Representative – drohrmann@unicef.org, tel: (+92) 51 209 7700

Karen Allen, Deputy Representative, kallen@unicef.org, tel: (+92) 300 500 2588

Kristen Elsby, Chief of Advocacy and Communication, kelsby@unicef.org, tel: (+92) 300 500 2595

Lóa Magnúsdóttir, Resource Mobilization Specialist, lmagnusdottir@unicef.org, tel. (+92) 345 500 3620