



# Pakistan

## Humanitarian Situation Report No. 1



Reporting Date: 31 August 2022

### Highlights

- Heavy rains and floods have affected 116 districts with 72 districts officially declared 'calamity hit' by the government. 6.4 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.
- Rainfall nationwide is almost 3 times higher than the national 30-year average, with some provinces receiving more than 5 times as much rainfall as their 30-year average.
- UNICEF is participating in rapid needs assessments, coordinating sector response and has initiated multi-sectoral responses in the provinces of Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- UNICEF focusses its response to most vulnerable children by providing support in WASH, Health, Nutrition as well as Education and Child Protection.
- Despite access challenges, UNICEF has started delivery of much needed services including provision of safe drinking water to 55,000 people through water tankering, installation of water filtration plants, and restoration of water systems as well as provision of lifesaving medical equipment and medicines and deployment of 14 mobile clinics.
- UNICEF requires US\$ 37.16 million to provide immediate lifesaving support to address the needs of 3.4 million children in the most affected areas. This appeal is part of the UN flash appeal that was launched on 30 August 2022.

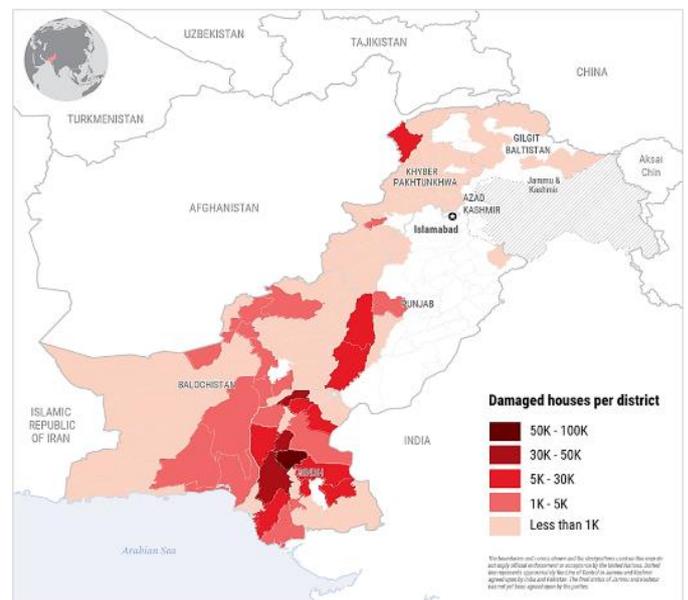
### Situation in Numbers

-  **33 million**  
People affected by heavy rains and floods
-  **3,400,000**  
Children in need of assistance
-  **6,400,000**  
People in need of assistance
-  **5,200,000**  
People targeted for assistance (OCHA, Flood Response Plan, 2022)

**UNICEF Floods**  
**Response requirement**  
**US\$ 37.16 million**

### Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Pakistan has been impacted by severe monsoon weather since mid-June. Since then the situation deteriorated significantly due to rainfall that has been equivalent to nearly 3 times the national 30-year average. This has caused widespread flooding and landslides, with severe repercussions for human lives, property and infrastructure. To date, 72 districts<sup>1</sup> have been declared 'calamity hit' by the Government of Pakistan. Many of the 72 hardest-hit districts are amongst the most vulnerable districts in Pakistan, where children already suffered from high rates of malnutrition, poor access to water and sanitation, low school enrollment and other deprivations. Some of these same districts also host over 400,000 refugees from Afghanistan who have fled to Pakistan over the past decades.



<sup>1</sup> (Balochistan 31, Sindh 23, KP 9, GB 6 and Punjab 3)

More than 6.4 million people, of whom an estimated 3.4 million children, are in need of humanitarian assistance. Southern and central Pakistan have been most affected, particularly Balochistan and Sindh provinces but also Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are badly hit. Over 370,000 houses have been destroyed and over 730,000 partially damaged.

Public health facilities are significantly damaged with loss of essential medicines-this includes 501 health facilities in Sindh (including 88 completely destroyed), and 244 health facilities in Balochistan. Vaccine cold rooms have been destroyed with vaccines washed out in floods. These districts were already among those which had the poorest health indicators before the floods hit.

<b>People in Camps</b>	<b>468 K</b>
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>1,191</b>
<b>Injured</b>	<b>3,641</b>
<b>Crops Affected (in acres)</b>	<b>3.5M</b>
<b>Total Houses Damaged</b>	<b>1.1 M</b>
<b>Fully Damaged</b>	<b>372 K</b>
<b>Partially Damaged</b>	<b>733 K</b>
<b>Livestock Lost</b>	<b>732 K</b>
<b>Roads Damaged (in km)</b>	<b>5 K</b>

Preliminary data from the provinces indicate major damage to WASH infrastructure in the most affected districts. Estimates range from 20 per cent of water systems to be damaged in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 30 per cent in Balochistan and up to 50 per cent in the hardest hit areas of Sindh and Punjab provinces. A recent rapid assessment in Balochistan indicated 63 per cent of respondents consider lack of access to drinking water as a primary concern. For displaced persons, many who will be unable to return home for weeks, access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion is critical. There is significant risk of disease outbreaks with people resorting to open defecation and drinking unsafe water.

Flood-affected areas are among the parts of Pakistan where children already suffered some of the highest rates of chronic and acute malnutrition. Increases in diarrhoea and decreased access to food, on top of pre-existing poor nutrition, is a critical threat to some 682,000 people in flood-affected areas.

Provisional data from the provincial Education Departments indicate that at least 17,566 schools (15,842 schools in Sindh, 1,180 in Punjab, and 544 in Balochistan) have been damaged or destroyed with infrastructure assessments still ongoing. Schools in flood hit areas are also being used as shelters for displaced populations further limiting access to learning opportunities.

The floods are undermining the resilience and psychosocial wellbeing of children and their caregivers, leaving many experiencing distress with limited or strained support systems. In a recent UN Rapid Needs Assessment 43 per cent of girls, 45 per cent of boys and 55 per cent of caregivers were reported to be showing signs of stress. Girls and boys are exposed to wide range of new flood-related physical risks and hazards, including from damaged buildings, drowning in flood waters and being bitten by snakes. Marginalized children, such as those with disabilities, are experiencing increased vulnerability due to disrupted access to essential services. Existing referral pathways for child protection services have limited capacity to respond to the increased needs that have emerged. Gender discrimination and societal norms may place women and girls, particularly adolescent girls, at additional risk including to child marriage and forms of sexual violence (rape, harassment, exploitation, trafficking). According to the findings of the RNA, some families may be resorting to negative coping mechanisms such as child marriage in response to the flood.

The significant loss of livestock and crops are also having a negative impact on livelihoods as well as on the overall food security at a time when the economic situation in Pakistan is also worsening with rising prices of basic commodities.

## Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF appeals for US\$ 37.16 million to sustain provision of life-saving services for women and children in Pakistan. The existing HAC for Pakistan will be revised soon to reflect the additional flood related needs. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions that have supported flood relief. Without sufficient funding people will not have access to adequate health, nutrition, WASH, education, and protections needs. To meet the immediate response needs, UNICEF has repurposed US\$ 2 million from regular resources and has delivered US\$1.3 million in prepositioned supplies, with an additional US\$ 1 million of supplies to be urgently delivered to worst affected districts.

## Summary of Programme Response

UNICEF Pakistan has field offices in all four affected provinces and has been working with the government, other UN agencies and NGO partners to respond by repurposing existing resources and drawing on lifesaving stockpiles of

supplies. While mounting an initial response, UNICEF has participated in rapid needs assessments and is leading sectoral coordination in the Education, Nutrition and WASH sectors and Child Protection Sub-sector. An inter-agency UN flash appeal to respond to the flood was launched on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022. UNICEF is part of this appeal and requires US\$ 37.16 million to provide immediate lifesaving support to address the urgent needs of 3.4 million children in the most affected areas.

## Nutrition

In Balochistan, eight new OTPs<sup>2</sup> were established last week along with 3,340 children and around 1,000 pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) reached with nutrition services and supplies. In Sindh, 1,300 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food and 6,000 packs of Folic acid were immediately mobilized in 6 prioritized flood affected districts with 62 camps in addition to existing services. With reports that infant formula is being distributed and to protect and promote breastfeeding, a notification from Government of Pakistan was issued and any Breast-milk Substitutes (BMS) violations are recorded and supported with appropriate actions by UNICEF.

The prolonged impact of disease, lack of food, exposure to elements and poor sanitation and water will further impact the nutritional status of already fragile women and children. Additional stocks of nutrition supplies and support to sites to screen and treat the mounting cases of malnourished children and mothers will need to be stepped up.

## WASH

It is estimated that 2.2 million people are in need of WASH services across four provinces. In response, UNICEF has initiated the WASH interventions in all the four provinces and has activated partnerships with counterparts, CSOs and the private sector, mobilizing over US\$ 700,000 worth of supplies. Initial supplies have been distributed and a full range of WASH activities initiated in five districts in Sindh and the two worst hit districts in Balochistan, with distribution of hygiene kits in Punjab and KP provinces. Thus far approximately 55,000 people have been reached with access to safe drinking water through water tankering, installation of water filtration plants, and restoration of water systems. In coordination with WASH government counterparts, UNICEF has also initiated emergency WASH coordination at provincial level, in Sindh and Balochistan, with coordination in KP and Punjab beginning this week. An estimated US\$17.3 million is required to meet the WASH needs of prioritized populations and enable UNICEF to scale-up the WASH response in the four provinces, including rapid scale up of water supply, sanitation for displaced persons, hygiene education, supplies and restoration of damaged infrastructure.

## Health

With the damage to the public health facilities, provision of healthcare is currently constrained. The risk of waterborne diseases is also high, including cholera. In response to the health needs, UNICEF is providing lifesaving medical equipment, essential medicines, vaccines and safe delivery kits, and by supporting outreach services for people who are displaced and now live out in the open. 14 mobile clinics are operational in Balochistan and more are being established in other provinces. The cold chain system is being assessed and vaccines to prevent Cholera and Polio<sup>3</sup> have already been administered to over 4,000 children. Behaviour change messages to prevent acute watery diarrhoea, cholera, measles, respiratory diseases, and other illnesses have been delivered via outreach sessions and other platforms. Additional quantities of lifesaving medical supplies, essential drugs, and vaccines will be needed, as well as further support to health outreach services, to deliver lifesaving treatment and disseminate behaviour change messages to prevent some of the most common diseases that affect displaced populations following floods.



## Education

To date, over US\$ 200,000 of prepositioned supplies have been mobilized, including tents, SIB<sup>4</sup>s, recreational kits, blackboards, school bags, tarpaulin, face masks, etc. and distributed in Balochistan and Sindh. UNICEF established a Temporary Learning Centre in Lasbela district in Balochistan province reaching 100 children with education services

<sup>2</sup> Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Program

<sup>3</sup> Pakistan is one of two countries in the world that have not yet eradicated polio

<sup>4</sup> School in a Box

and supplies, with plans to open additional TLCs in the most affected districts. The experience of past disasters and of the COVID-19 pandemic shows that absence from school not only affects learning outcomes for children but also can lead to more serious psycho-social problems. There is a need to expand support to more TLCs, provide supplies, dewater/clean affected schools, provide psychosocial support to children through training and support to teachers, conduct health screenings, and organize back-to-school and enrolment activities for cleaned/cleared schools once they reopen.

### Child Protection

UNICEF is working to provide children, families and communities with information on child protection and how and where to access available child protection services, supporting community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions and updating referral mechanisms for specialized child protection and MHPSS interventions. In Lasbela district, in partnership with the Social Welfare Department, UNICEF has established a stronghold in the community and is supporting child protection situation monitoring, individual and group-based psychosocial support interventions with displaced children, self-directed psychosocial support through the distribution of adolescent and child wellbeing kits and providing information on child protection risks and available services. UNICEF has also supported the replication of the government's Child Protection Unit to support children at risk and survivors of protection violations this includes the deployment of case workers and psychologists. There is a need to expand the reach of formal and informal child protection services to provide immediate psychosocial support to children and families and expand/re-establish mechanisms to identify and support children at risk and survivors of child protection violations.

### Funding Requirement:

Sector	Requirements in US\$
Nutrition	3,980,000
Health	6,500,000
WASH	17,300,000
Child Protection	3,260,000
Education	6,120,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,160,000</b>

Next SitRep: 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

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