

# Pakistan Floods 2022

Humanity First – Situation Update 05

30 September 2022



## Situation

For many months, above average rainfall has led to unprecedented flooding across much of Pakistan. Across the country, 80 districts have been declared as 'calamity hit' covering a massive area from Balochistan and Sindh in the south, to Gilgit and KPK in the north. There are recent signs that water levels are receding, but this is also revealing the scale of the longer-term damage inflicted by the floods in these areas.

Over 2 million homes have now been damaged or totally washed away, leaving 7.9 million people displaced. Whilst HF teams have been visiting provinces, their assessment is that at least 70% of mud brick homes have been washed away, and even brick homes are showing extensive cracks. Many families are in makeshift shelters on the side of roads.

Displaced families in temporary shelter have virtually no hygiene and sanitation, very little food, and no access to medication. An estimated 1,700 people have died and 12,800 injured, but the figures are likely to be higher due to the remote nature of many villages and that many health centres are flooded and unable to report. Children have had their education disrupted, and the latest UN report suggests that 25,100 schools have been damaged.

As the impact of the flooding continues, growing cases of Typhoid, Diarrhoea, Hepatitis A, Malaria and Dengue fever are appearing in villages and camps. Living conditions are also leading to growing skin complaints, and in these conditions, there is a growing risk of snake and scorpion bites.

Pregnant women are at heightened risk in a country that already had one of the worst rates of maternal mortality in the region.

## HF Response

Humanity First International responded at scale in Pakistan after the Kashmir Earthquake in 2005 and the national floods of 2010, and is working on the ground with partners.



So far, Humanity First has been able to deliver food rations packs for over 18,000 people consisting of 5kg of rice, 5kg of sugar, 3kg of lentils, 5kg of oil, 20kg of flour as well as packets of salt, chilli powder, tea, dates, pickles and hygiene items such as detergent and bath soap. Each pack will serve a typical family of 6 people for 3 to 4 weeks. HF teams have been able to deliver aid in the KPK, Punjab, Sindh and Baluchistan regions of the country.



In addition, shelter is a major concern for displaced families. HF has distributed 874 tents, 100 tarps, 15,388 water treatment tablets and 2,228 mosquito nets for families. The winter season is expected to start in the next month, so HF is exploring the provision of blankets and warm clothing for families, especially those exposed to the elements. So far HF has distributed 1,300 sets of bedding,

almost 6,400 pieces of clothing and 3,915 pairs of shoes. HF also plans to rebuild 500 homes.

Teams of doctors are running medical outreach clinics with medication to assess, treat or refer rural patients, particularly women and children. Many villagers have not seen a medical team for months and are in a difficult situation.

70 doctors have been serving, but more are being mobilised. So far 53 medical clinics have been held across the country and 17,102 patients have been treated so far. HF is ensuring the safeguarding of vulnerable patients, especially women and children.

Many farmers have seen their crops, particularly cotton, chillies and animal fodder totally wiped out through the inundation. HF has started providing farmers with feed for their livestock, many of which have perished through starvation, compounding the food security situation. It is often the farmers whose livelihoods have been destroyed who are staying to protect their land, even though they are exposed and at danger of animal bites.



In total, HF has so far assisted an estimated 24,000 people, and the operation continues to expand. We are grateful to over 3,200 volunteers serving around the world on this relief operation, whether on aid distribution, logistics, fundraising or co-ordination with the UN and other stakeholders. In total, they have contributed over 35,000 hours of effort to support our relief efforts.

As with the 2010 floods, longer term Humanity First will plan to assist affected communities with new homes and crop compensation for farmers, whilst also considering needs such as education and psychosocial support.



### **About Humanity First**

Humanity First (HF) is an international aid agency, with HQ in the UK and branches in 62 countries. HF provides emergency assistance using a global volunteer network, and works on the basis of need alone, irrespective of race, gender, age, religion or political affiliation. Since being launched in 1995, HF has responded to over 190 emergencies in 99 countries, and assisted around 2.5 million people.

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