



Religions for Peace



A.C.R.P /RfP Asia
Asian Conference of Religions for Peace
Religions for Peace
Pakistan Chapter

Floods and Climate Change in Pakistan

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Super floods in Pakistan



What has happened in Pakistan

- ▶ Torrential monsoon rains triggered the most severe flooding in Pakistan's recent history, washing away villages and affecting **33 million people and in which more than 1730 lost their lives**. They have particularly impacted the poorest and most vulnerable districts. The situation is still evolving, with flood waters stagnant in many areas, causing water-borne and vector-borne diseases to spread, and **more than 8 million displaced people now facing a health crisis**. The crisis thus risks having profound and lasting impacts on lives and livelihoods. Loss of household incomes, assets, rising food prices, and disease outbreaks are impacting the most vulnerable groups like Women, children and elderly have suffered notable losses of their livelihoods, particularly those associated with agriculture and livestock.

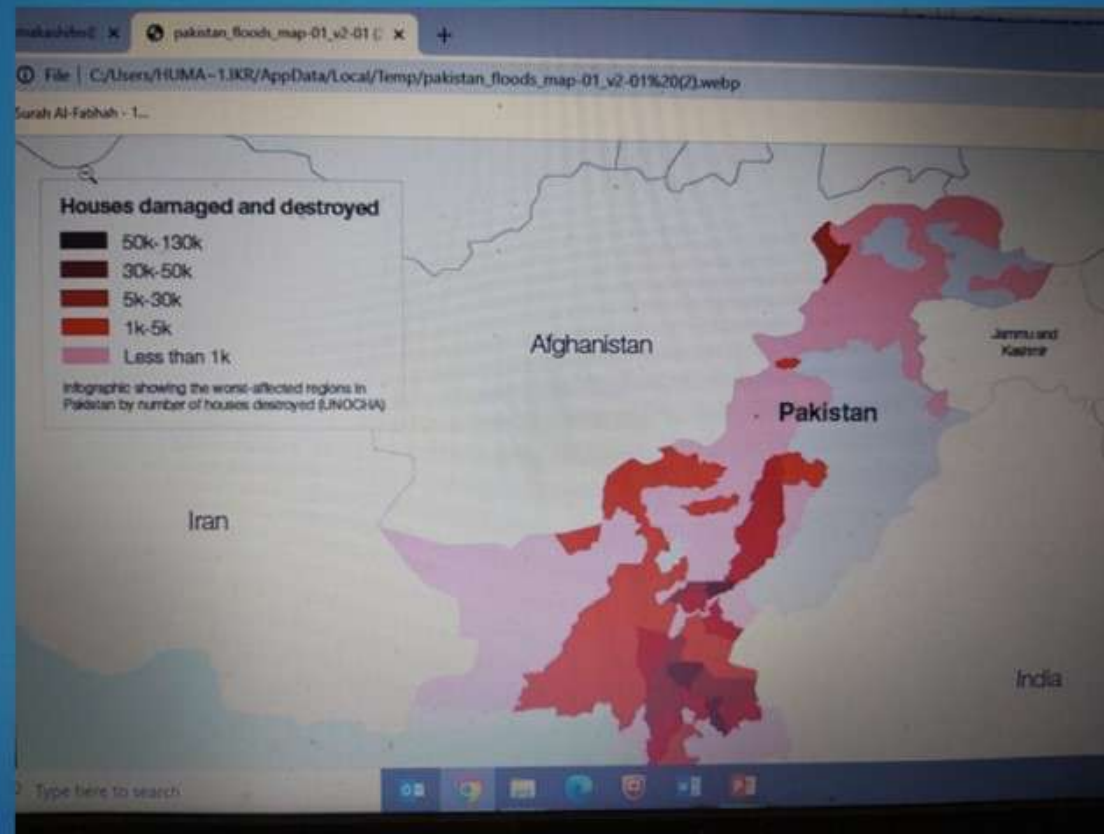
Hundreds of thousands of homes have been damaged or destroyed, while many public health facilities, water systems and schools have been destroyed or damaged. As the floodwaters have receded, the crisis has become an acute child survival crisis. Frail, hungry, children, women, old are fighting a losing battle against severe acute malnutrition, diarrhoea, malaria, dengue fever, typhoid, acute respiratory infections, and painful skin conditions. As well as physical ailments, the longer the crisis continues, the greater the risk to people's mental health. **Potentially pushing between 8.4 and 9.1 million more people below the poverty line.**

Food is in short supply after water covered millions of acres of crops and wiped out hundreds of thousands of livestock.

Pakistan, which was already grappling with political and economic turmoil, has been thrown into the front line of the human-induced climate crisis.

Numbers are changing all the time but we sadly expect the number of people affected to go up as the floods aftermath continues.

Map of Pakistan showing the damage-The impact is unimaginable.



Migration of People to Cities as Homes destroyed- Coverage by news channels all over the world



The Damage – Situation Overview

- ▶ <https://www.dw.com/en/pakistan-floods-climate-change-likely-worsened-impact/a-63142625>
- ▶ The number of damaged and destroyed houses now exceeds 2 million. Around 23,900 schools, 1,460 health facilities and 13,000 km of roads have also reportedly been damaged. More than 5,000 schools are being used as temporary relief camps.
- ▶ Some 7.9 million people are reportedly displaced as a result of the heavy rains and floods, including some 598,000 people living in relief camps.
- ▶ Increasing floodwaters observed in parts of Sindh, Balochistan and Punjab while stagnating or receding water is observed elsewhere.
- ▶ **805K** houses destroyed
- ▶ **1.2M** houses damaged
- ▶ **13.1K** kilometres of roads damaged
- ▶ **1.6K** people killed
- ▶ **12.9K** people injured
- ▶ 1.1M livestock lost
- ▶ 59 health facilities are fully damaged and 461 partially damaged, further limiting access to primary health care.
- ▶ Sindh is the worst affected province with close to 70 percent of total damages and losses, followed by Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab.
- ▶ The practice of open defecation has increased from one-fifth before the floods to over one-third of the affected population, with 6 million no longer having home sanitation facilities.

Food Crisis





**HOMES
DESTROYED**



**STAGNANT WATER
, CROPS
DESTROYED**



LOSS OF LIVELIHOODS, HOMES



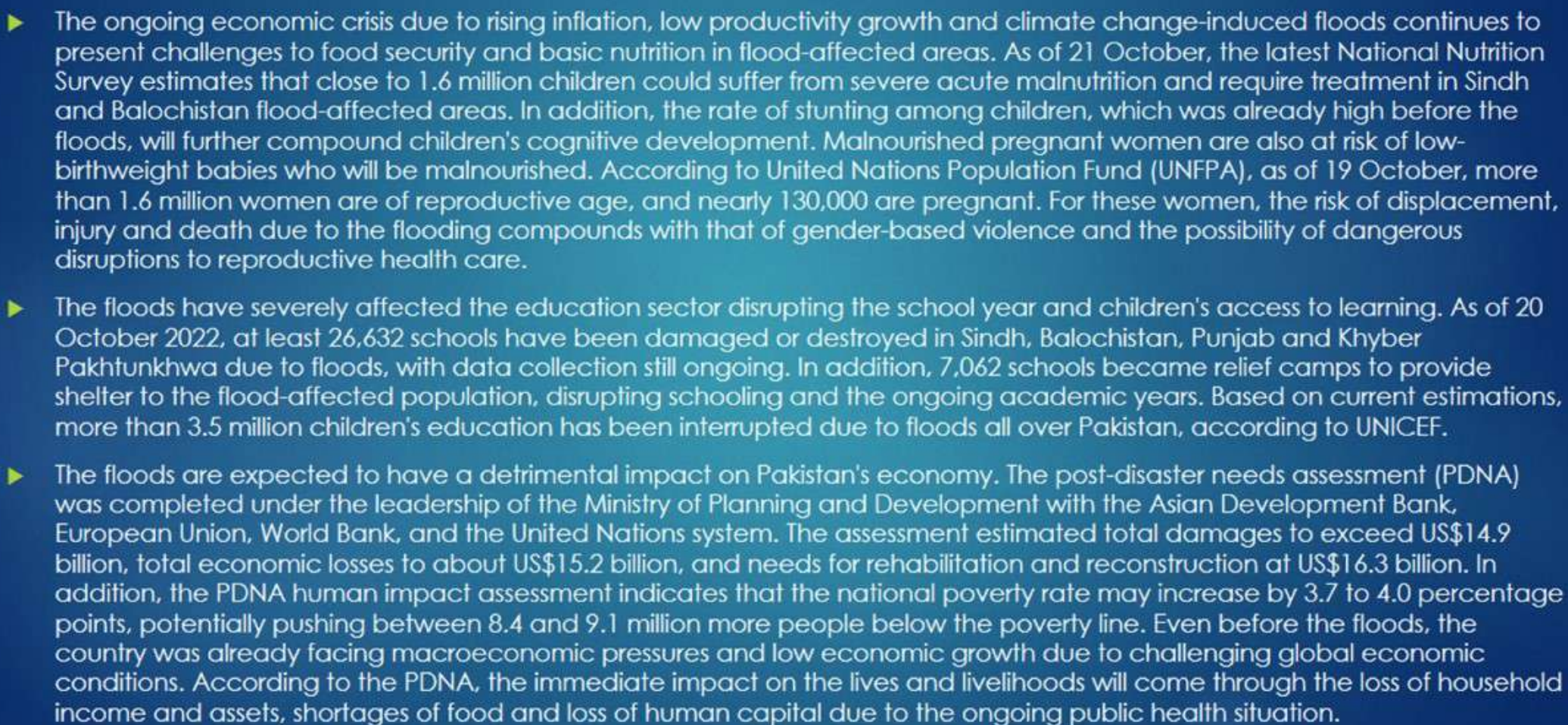
**CHILDREN, Women and
vulnerable sections AFFECTED**



SCHOOLS, SHELTERS DESTROYED



SKIN DISEASES

- 
- ▶ The ongoing economic crisis due to rising inflation, low productivity growth and climate change-induced floods continues to present challenges to food security and basic nutrition in flood-affected areas. As of 21 October, the latest National Nutrition Survey estimates that close to 1.6 million children could suffer from severe acute malnutrition and require treatment in Sindh and Balochistan flood-affected areas. In addition, the rate of stunting among children, which was already high before the floods, will further compound children's cognitive development. Malnourished pregnant women are also at risk of low-birthweight babies who will be malnourished. According to United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), as of 19 October, more than 1.6 million women are of reproductive age, and nearly 130,000 are pregnant. For these women, the risk of displacement, injury and death due to the flooding compounds with that of gender-based violence and the possibility of dangerous disruptions to reproductive health care.
 - ▶ The floods have severely affected the education sector disrupting the school year and children's access to learning. As of 20 October 2022, at least 26,632 schools have been damaged or destroyed in Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa due to floods, with data collection still ongoing. In addition, 7,062 schools became relief camps to provide shelter to the flood-affected population, disrupting schooling and the ongoing academic years. Based on current estimations, more than 3.5 million children's education has been interrupted due to floods all over Pakistan, according to UNICEF.
 - ▶ The floods are expected to have a detrimental impact on Pakistan's economy. The post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA) was completed under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning and Development with the Asian Development Bank, European Union, World Bank, and the United Nations system. The assessment estimated total damages to exceed US\$14.9 billion, total economic losses to about US\$15.2 billion, and needs for rehabilitation and reconstruction at US\$16.3 billion. In addition, the PDNA human impact assessment indicates that the national poverty rate may increase by 3.7 to 4.0 percentage points, potentially pushing between 8.4 and 9.1 million more people below the poverty line. Even before the floods, the country was already facing macroeconomic pressures and low economic growth due to challenging global economic conditions. According to the PDNA, the immediate impact on the lives and livelihoods will come through the loss of household income and assets, shortages of food and loss of human capital due to the ongoing public health situation.

What are the impacts of climate change in Pakistan?

The fingerprints of climate change are present in these unprecedented floods.

Though areas of Pakistan expect rain in these months, the country has seen continuous rainfall for two months.

In April, Pakistan also experienced a different extreme: record-breaking heat, with temperatures reaching over 40 degrees Celsius. On one day, the country recorded one of the highest ever temperatures - 49 degrees Celsius.

Higher temperatures means glaciers melt faster in the Himalayas and Hindu Kush region, which feed the Indus river.

These temperatures have also made it harder for flood water to be absorbed into the baked hard ground.

- ▶ The 2022 monsoon rainfall in Pakistan is nearly three times higher than the 30-year average and rains and consequent flash floods have continued throughout July and August. It will take months for the water to subside.
- ▶ Extreme weather events are happening more frequently all over the world, putting more and more people in danger.



**NO HOMES, NO SANITATION, LIVING IN HARSH ELEMENTS NO DRINKING WATER – WOMEN AFFECTED, HOUSEHOLDS DESTROYED .
PEOPLE PUSHED BELOW POVERTY LINE**

Donation of baby food to Jamia Islamia Clifton by Religions for Peace Pakistan – Religious leaders In Action



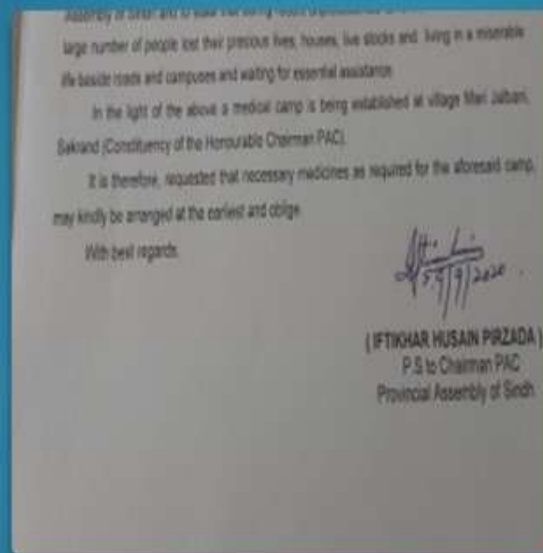
Religious leaders In Action



Religious leaders In Action



Religious leaders In Action



Religions for Peace Pakistan assistance to flood effectees in Sindh and Balochistan



Religions for Peace with Rotary President (Partner Organization)



Tents and mosquito nets
distribution in flood affected areas



Vice President Religions for Peace
Pakistan Muhammad Hanif Khan



Security arrangements for
distribution

Religions for Peace Christian Pastor and Partner Organization Sixoneone foundation- Christian Churches Alliance and religious leaders



Food distribution



Tent and food by Pastor Ateeq
Bhatti



Dry food and medicines

Religions for Peace Christian Pastor and Partner Organization Pakistan Legal United Society- Religious leaders In Action



Distribution of food in ships



Food and basic supplies to women and households by religious leaders



CEO PLUS with women development minister and flood food drive

Religions for Peace collaboration with Parliamentarians for Christian Pastor and Partner Organization Sixeone foundation



Distribution of medicines in medical camp by Parliamentarians



Medical Camp In Sakrand

Medicines donated by Religions for Peace Pakistan for Medical Camp in Sakrand Sindh to Parliamentarians



Medicines for treatment of water borne diseases donated



Water borne, viral and skin diseases treatment

Visit of Jamia Islamia Clifton and donation by Religions for Peace Pakistan- Islamic religious organization and leaders



Flood relief work by Jamia Islamia Clifton partners of Religions for Peace Pakistan - Religious leaders In Action



Way Forward

- ▶ **Recovery and reconstruction to build back a better future for the most affected people in Pakistan.** While the recovery will require massive efforts for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, buildings and livelihoods, it will also be an opportunity to strengthen institutions and governance structures.
- ▶ **This tragic disaster can be a turning point, where climate resilience and adaptation, increased domestic revenue mobilization and better public spending, and public policies and investments better targeted to the most vulnerable populations; all figure at the core of policy making going forward.**
- ▶ In the short term, targeted mechanisms such as social assistance and emergency cash transfers, provision of emergency health services, and programs to restore shelter and restart local economic activities, particularly in agriculture, should be prioritized. **Reconstruction and rehabilitation should rest on key principles of:** *participatory, transparent, inclusive, and green recovery for long-term resilience—"building back better"; pro-poor, pro-vulnerable, and gender sensitive, targeting the most affected; strong coordination of government tiers and implementation by the lowest appropriate level; synergies between humanitarian effort and recovery; and a sustainable financing plan.*

PLEDGE

- ▶ Together we all can work for betterment. Religious leaders, parliamentarians, civil society organizations, government departments, international donors with the motto of **Service above self and Leaving No One Behind.**
- ▶ Let us all pledge today to work together for a harmonious, peaceful, united world with the aim of protection , conversation and sustainable development of a clean and healthy environment not only for our selves but for our future generations.