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Emergency appeal operation update

PAKISTAN: Floods 2011

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Preliminary emergency appeal n° MDRPK007
GLIDE n° [FL-2011-000130-PAK](#)
Operation Update no. 1
15 September 2011

Period covered by this Ops Update: 9 to 13 September 2011.

Appeal target (current): CHF 10.6 million;

Appeal coverage: 1.7%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 9 September 2011 for CHF 10.6 million to assist 105,000 people (15,000 families) for four months.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 500,000 was initially allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society to respond to the flood in Sindh.



For the second time in as many years, severe flooding in Pakistan is forcing the most vulnerable to flee their homes into tented camps. **Photo:** PRCS

Summary: More than 300,000 people have been displaced by the floods in Sindh province, and Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), is conducting an emergency relief operation in the five most-affected districts of Badin, Mirpurkhas, Khairpur, Benazirabad, and Dadu. The initial PRCS response has reached almost 15,000 families (approximately 105,000 people) with various specifications of food and non-food items, and almost 10,000 families (70,000 people) with water and sanitation. Medical health units have made more than 11,000 consultations.

The situation

Weeks of monsoon rains battering the southern parts of Pakistan, primarily Sindh province, have caused severe flooding in these areas. The situation continues to deteriorate with the latest indications from Pakistan's metrological department indicate that a strong monsoon weather system now lies over southeast Sindh, due to which more widespread heavy to very heavy rain/thundershowers accompanied with strong gusty winds are expected in the districts of Badin, Mirpurkhas, Thar, Umarkot, Thatta, Hyderabad, Benazirabad (primarily known as Nawabshah), Dadu and Larkana districts including Karachi (capital of Sindh) and east Baluchistan province

during the next three days. In the last 24 hours, scattered rain with isolated heavy falls occurred across Sindh, with isolated rains in upper Punjab, Peshawar division (Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa province) and Kashmir.

The weather in the affected areas is seriously hampering ongoing response activities, as areas already inundated swell with more rain. On 11 September, district government authorities in Badin began the evacuation of some 100,000 people to adjoining locations in Thatta and requested urgent assistance in the form of tents and non-food items.

According to Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the current floods have killed 162 people and affected more than 5.3 million people. Some 300,000 people are also reported to be displaced and are staying in temporary relief camps. The floods have caused huge losses, damaging 1.2 million houses and destroying 1.5 million acres of farm land.

Coordination and partnerships

The IFRC country office has assumed its coordination role with in-country partner national societies, and have formally met with them twice – before the appeal launch on 9 September and again on 13 September (with ICRC in a Movement coordination meeting) to share plans and updates.

In the humanitarian country team meeting on 12 September which IFRC attended, the UN operations coordinator in Geneva was introduced and participants were assured that ongoing dialogue with the Pakistan government regarding visa issues will continue to facilitate international assistance to the floods.

The cluster system has been activated, and PRCS/IFRC will be participating in the shelter, WASH and health and nutrition clusters.

The country office is coordinating its response with the support of the zone office in Kuala Lumpur. Water and sanitation surge support arrived on 13 September, while communications and operation support is in the pipeline.

IFRC also coordinated a teleconference with in-country and global partner national societies on 14 September, while there is ongoing communications with other in-country institutional donors and embassies for support.

PRCS continues to be key in coordinating with the local authorities, with the director of operations attending a meeting at the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on 13 September. PRCS secretary general was appointed as a member of the parliamentary committee on the floods

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

PRCS is taking the lead in implementing the current operation, with the support of IFRC, partner national societies and in-country institutional donors. Its overall plan is to cater to some 23,000 families initially with the support of all partners, of which a total of 15,000 families (105,000 people) will be supported through this appeal.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: The basic food and essential household needs of 15,000 flood affected families are met within four months in five districts (Badin, Mirpurkhas, Khairpur, Benazirabad, Dadu) of Sindh province.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The immediate needs of flood affected families are met through the distribution of food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct on-the-ground assessments, selection and verification of 15,000 families with communities' participation in planning and distribution of relief items. • Mobilize required food assistance through international mobilization, international and local procurement following IFRC standards. • Provide assistance to 15,000 families through the procurement, warehousing, transport and distribution of food parcels (including wheat flour, rice, pulses, ghee, sugar, salt, tea, etc.).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and train approximately 100 National Society/community volunteers in assessment, distribution, monitoring and evaluation and Sphere minimum standards. • Establish a beneficiary complaints cells and a monitoring system for the continuous improvement of delivery system.
The immediate needs of displaced families are met through the distribution of essential household items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct on-the-ground assessments, selection and verification of 15,000 families with communities' participation in planning and distribution of relief items. • Mobilize required relief items through international mobilization, international and local procurement following IFRC standards. • Provide assistance to 15,000 families through distribution of household items (including tents, tarpaulin sheets, jerry cans, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene parcels, mosquito nets, as well as other non-standard items such as insect repellent). • Establish a beneficiary complaints cells and a monitoring system for the continuous improvement of delivery system. • Mobilize and train approximately 100 PRCS/community volunteers in assessment, distribution, monitoring and evaluation, and Sphere minimum standards. • Ensure the replenishment of the PRCS strategic stock of the items utilized for the immediate relief.

The food parcel is expected to last a family of seven individuals for one month and will consist of the following:

Food item	Calorie Value	Calories per month
Wheat flour (50kg)	3,390kcal/kilo	169,500kcal/family/month
Rice (20kg)	3,650kcal/kilo	73,000kcal/family/month
Lentils (12kg)	3,380kcal/kilo	40,560kcal/family/month
Chick peas (12kg)	3,617kcal/kilo	43,404kcal/family/month
Ghee (15kg)	8,760kcal/kilo	131,400kcal/family/month
Sugar (5kg)	3,870kcal/kilo	19,350kcal/family/month
Tea (1kg)	10kcal/kilo	10kcal/family/month
Salt (1kg)	0kcal/kilo	0kcal/kilo
Jute Bags (2 pieces)	n/a	n/a
Total	477,224 kcal/family/month	

Progress:

August, PRCS emergency response teams have been distributing urgently needed food and non-food items. PRCS provincial branch contacted local suppliers for food supplies, while the non-food items are being mobilized from the disaster preparedness stocks at provincial and district headquarters. During the initial stage, PRCS distributed food in Thatta, Hyderabad, Tharparkar and T. Muhammad Khan districts. PRCS distributed food mainly in five districts (Badin, Benazirabad, Mirpurkhas, Dadu and Khairpur). As of 13 September, 14,873 families have been reached with food distributions. A breakdown of these figures is given below:



Relief distributions are hampered by adverse weather conditions. Nevertheless, relief activities are being carried out wherever possible. **Photo:** PRCS

District	Families reached with food ¹²
Mirpurkhas	2,083
Badin	4,920
Thatta	1,000
Tharparkar	150
Khairpur	5,800
Benazirabad	920
Hyderabad	0
T. Muhammad Khan	0
Grand total	14,873³

IFRC has supported all the transportation and administration costs for the relief distributions being carried out by PRCS. Due to the urgency, initially, non-standard food packs were being distributed with support from in-country RCRC partners. However, the IFRC disaster management team is in the process of placing requisitions of standard IFRC food packages as outlined in the appeal. Out of the distributions achieved, 2,500 families have been reached by food procured through IFRC funds.

Although food has been the priority, non-food items (NFI) have been distributed to some of the families based on need. The NFIs have been mobilized from PRCS disaster preparedness stocks and will be replenished by IFRC through its emergency appeal. An overview of the NFI distributions is provided:

District	Tarpaulins	Tents	Blankets	Mosquito nets	Hygiene parcels	Jerry cans	Kitchen sets	Kerosene stove	Sleeping mat	Insect repellent
Mirpurkhas	431	389	500	100	250	450	50	650	300	-
Badin	200	820	500	-	202	-	1,400	200	310	-
Thatta	200	100	500	-	200	-	-	200	300	-
Tharparkar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Khairpur	2,030	1,470	-	2,200	400	1000	-	-	-	500
Benazirabad	435	353	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyderabad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T. Muhammad Khan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3,296	3,132	1500	2,300	1,052	1,450	1,450	1,050	910	500

¹ Families reached have been calculated on the basis of food distributed. Non-food items were distributed to some of the same families who also received food, on need basis.

² According to the availability, two kinds of food parcels were distributed: a 27.5-kg food parcel and a 14.5-kg food parcel to meet the emergency food needs. A total of 292 people were also provided with a single 10-kg bag of flour.

³ The figures for Tharparkar, Benazirabad, Hyderabad and T. Muhammad Khan have been revised since the last figures in the preliminary emergency appeal on 9 September. The figures used previously were in fact dispatched food parcels, which have not been distributed.

Challenges:

PRCS emergency response teams access to the flood-affected population is being hampered by continuous rainfall is impeding assessment and response efforts. This is causing delays in clarifying the exact needs of the affected populations as well as the planning of the overall emergency response.

There are reports emerging of dissatisfaction from flood-affected people due to the huge losses and delayed response by humanitarian organizations. Demonstrations and looting incidents of relief goods on the way to distribution points continue to pose security risks to aid workers. PRCS district branches are coordinating with the district government before planning any distribution to overcome this challenge – this has caused several distribution points to be relocated and delayed planned distributions.

Emergency health and care

Outcome: Immediate health risks of 15,000 flood-affected families are reduced through the provision of primary health care services for three months in five districts (Badin, Mirpurkhas, Khairpur, Benazirabad, Dadu) of Sindh province.	
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Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Target population have improved access to basic preventive, curative and referral health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid assessment to determine immediate public health needs of the population as well as gaps in health services. • Deploy ten mobile medical health teams to provide basic health services in areas not covered/reached by health authorities and partners. • Carry out communicable disease prevention and health promotion activities in relief camps through mobilisation of volunteers and communities. • Contribute to the implementation of active surveillance, disease early warning system as well as response to outbreaks. • Coordinate/collaborate implementation of emergency health services with health authorities and humanitarian partners.

Progress:

PRCS mobile health units responded immediately after the floods struck in Sindh with the mobilisation of three mobile health teams by provincial branches on the 19th of August. As of 12 September, five mobile health teams are operational in field located in Badin, Mirpurkhas, Benazirabad, Hyderabad and Tharparkar provinces, providing emergency health support to the flood affected people. An overview of the consultations carried out by PRCS health teams are given below:



Mobile health units have been active in Sindh since 19 August, providing emergency health services to affected populations.
Photo: PRCS

Name of District	Consultations⁴			
	Male	Female	Children	Total
Badin	2,181	2,122	2,010	6,313
Mirpurkhas	1,251	1,056	815	3,122

⁴ The numbers of male, female and children consultations were not available initially; thus the totals may differ.

Benazirabad	103	226	391	720
Tharparkar	70	80	60	210
Hyderabad	3	19	25	47
Totals ⁵	3,608	3,503	3,301	10,412

The major diseases observed remain acute watery diarrhoea (AWD), acute respiratory infections (ARI), skin infections and fever (suspected malaria). Three more mobile health teams, along with essential medicines, have reached Mirpurkhas and Benazirabad and will be starting their work from 14 September. The main aim of the PRCS mobile health units is to increase access to essential health care services for the flood affected population, particularly those in relief camps, and to reduce health risks resulting from the disruption of service resulting from inundation of health facilities.

PRCS is represented in the inter-ministerial working group dealing with health issues led by the national health and emergency preparedness response network (NHEPRN). Meetings of health and nutrition clusters are being attended regularly at national level.

Challenges:

Extreme weather conditions are the biggest challenge at the moment. Due to continuous rainfall and flash flooding, the affected areas are inaccessible. As a result, the mobile health units have to change their locations accordingly. Moreover, rains are expanding the vector habitats (such as mosquito) leading to increased risk of vector-borne diseases. People taking shelters in spontaneous camps and along roadsides live in poor conditions and are more vulnerable to communicable diseases.

More than 100 health facilities have been damaged, increasing the need for the delivery of basic health services to protect people from communicable disease threats. The operation of more mobile health units will temporary fill this gap.

Water and Sanitation.

Outcome: Water and sanitation related diseases are reduced for 15,000 flood affected families for four months by increased access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Target population have increased access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation facilities and practice good hygiene .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess water and sanitation needs in flood affected areas, with emphasis on women and children. • Treat and distribute safe drinking water through three water treatment plants. • Distribute water purifying tablets or sachets together with jerry cans using trained volunteers for household water treatment • Construction of up to 1,000 latrines in camps using PRCS community consultation approaches. • Conduct emergency hygiene promotion activities and clean up campaigns in camps. • Coordinate with Government and other humanitarian partners

⁵ Though now active in 6 districts, reporting information is only available for 5 districts, including Tharparkar and Hyderabad, which were only visited once and are not part of the appeal's target districts.

Progress:

The PRCS national disaster water and sanitation response team (NDWSRT) from Sindh has installed a water treatment plant in Benazirabad. Due to standing water and flooding, the team had difficulties in accessing a safe location to install the equipment. The water treatment plant will be operational as of 14 September and will distribute water to the affected population. Additional water treatment plants are on standby in the Karachi warehouse to be dispatched as and when needed, and assessments are being undertaken to determine possible additional locations. Currently, the water treatment plant in Badin has been operational since 21 August and another water treatment plant has been installed in Mirpurkhas. Through these plants, PRCS teams have distributed 325,700 litres of safe drinking water that has reached almost 65,140 people.

PRCS is also supplementing the provision of safe drinking water through distribution of water purification tablets/sachets to the flood affected people. As of 12 September, 21,924 water purification tablets have been distributed, with another 200,000 have been dispatched to Sindh for distribution. Hygiene promotion briefings are being conducted by trained volunteers to ensure the purification tablets are used as intended and distribution will be accompanied by materials explaining the use of the tablets.

PRCS/IFRC has pre-positioned emergency stocks for 350 emergency latrines in Karachi to commence latrine construction. However, standing water in most of the affected areas is preventing this activity.

Challenges:

Standing water and continuous flooding in the targeted areas is hampering the assessments and ongoing operation.

Another challenge is that displaced people are either residing in government schools or buildings identified as temporary residences or have set up tents on road sides, and PRCS are still identifying suitable locations for setting up emergency latrines as soon as possible.

Logistics

IFRC is providing transportation for food and NFI to PRCS for the ongoing flood operation. From 6 September, PRCS, with the support of IFRC, has dispatched 75 truckloads (20-foot containers and 10-metric tonne trucks) of NFIs from its warehouses in Islamabad, Haripur, Nowshera and Karachi to the five flood-affected districts of Badin, Benazirabad, Mirpur Khas, Khairpur and Dadu in Sindh province. PRCS Sindh branch has also dispatched NFIs from the provincial stocks to the affected areas for distribution. This entire operation was completed in three days.

The following items were dispatched:

1.	Tents	4,500
2.	Blankets	10,000
3.	Tarpaulins	8,000
4.	Kitchen sets	5,400
5.	Jerry cans – 20 litre	4,000
6.	Hygiene kits	5,000
7.	Mosquito nets	11,000
8.	Insect repellent	2,000

Learning from the experience of the flooding in 2010, IFRC logistics team is well prepared for the procurement of food.

The mobilization table has been finalized after detailed discussion with PRCS and posted on DMIS by the Kuala Lumpur RLU. Mobilization for this operation will be a mix of local procurement, international mobilisation from the Kuala Lumpur and Dubai RLU warehouses and direct from international suppliers.

Donors are requested to coordinate with the Kuala Lumpur RLU regarding outstanding needs. Shipping instructions will be provided to donors with a consignment tracking number to be issued before shipping any goods to the operation. Procurement of goods and transport can also be arranged through RLU. The logistics team stress that all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners wishing to donate goods to this operation should coordinate via the RLU in Kuala Lumpur.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The communication team made a field visit to Badin, and collected photos and videos of the situation, relief distribution as well as health and water and sanitation activities. The team also documented interviews with beneficiaries who received health and water and sanitation services. All audio visual materials will be provided to the Geneva-based audio visual and web teams to share with the media, National Societies and the general public through the usual IFRC communication channels including the online photo gallery, Cumulus (av.ifrc.org) and Flickr (www.flickr.com/ifrc). The first set of photos from the field are already on Cumulus.

A web story highlighting the situation and experiences of one of the beneficiaries who were interviewed has been posted on the IFRC website.

A team consisting of a videographer and photographer is visiting the flood affected areas on 15 September to gather more photos and videos of the situation.

Senior management members of the IFRC country office gave interviews for BBC, Saudi TV, and Inside Story on Al Jazeera English to draw attention to the current situation and immediate needs of the affected population, as well the Red Cross Red Crescent's response to the emergency.

Further efforts are being made to secure interviews with international media representatives, including the BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera English and Arabic, Saudi TV, Alsharqiya TV, Abu Dhabi TV, Al Ekhbariya TV and Reuters.

Contact information

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All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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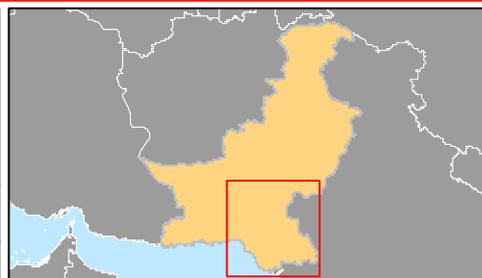
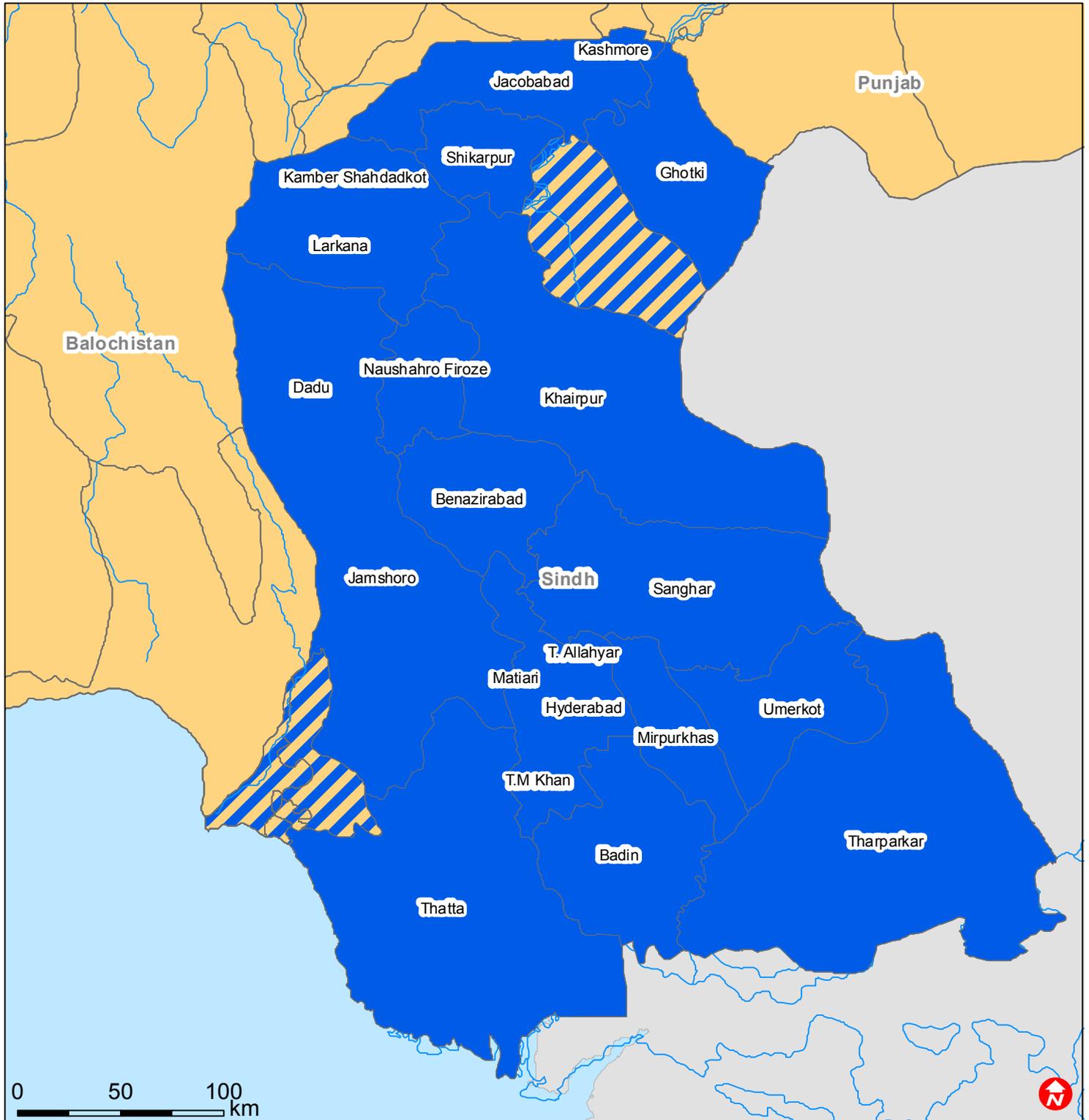


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1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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Pakistan: Floods 2011



-  Affected districts
-  Affected province