



## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The food security situation in Pakistan has significantly worsened, mainly due to drought, floods, desert locust and conflict, which have triggered population displacements and reduced agricultural production. In addition, the effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) have led to increased food commodity prices and unemployment, limiting livelihood opportunities, particularly for the most vulnerable households.

### Objectives

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Improve the food security of the most vulnerable people affected by multiple shocks.
- Strengthen the resilience of agriculture-based livelihoods.
- Improve coordination and harmonization of humanitarian response across all levels.

### Activities



#### Improve agricultural and livestock production

high yielding vegetable seed packages | poultry packages | farmer field schools | livestock vaccination campaign | livestock feed | rehabilitate productive infrastructure | cash-based transfers | grants to small and micro businesses



#### Strengthen food security coordination

co-chair Food Security and Livelihoods Working Group | needs assessments | analyses | information system



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## Pakistan

### Humanitarian Response Plan 2021



to assist

**470 000 people**



FAO requires

**USD 16 million**



period

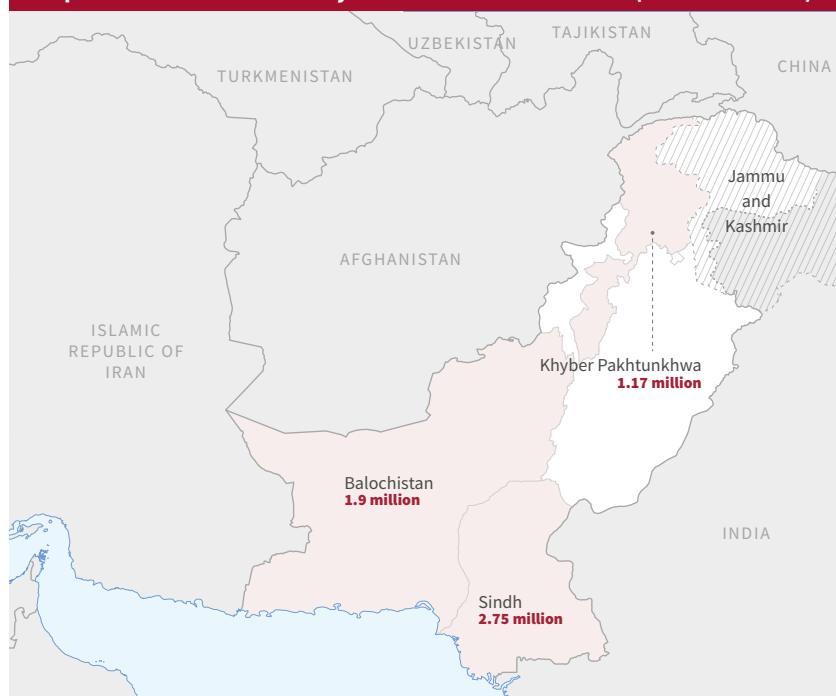
**January–December 2021**



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The number of people in need of food security and livelihoods assistance is projected to increase to over 6.1 million people in June 2021, making it critical to provide integrated agricultural support to vulnerable people devastated by multiple shocks.

## People in need of food security and livelihoods assistance (December 2020)



Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Source: United Nations Geospatial. 2004. *Pakistan map* [online]. [Cited 17 February 2021]. <https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/pakistan>. Modified with data added on the number of people in need cited from the forthcoming Pakistan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2021.

## Situation analysis



**5.82 million** people in need of food security and livelihood assistance in Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces



**2 million** people affected by severe floods in Sindh Province



**546 428** confirmed cases of COVID-19 and **11 683** deaths

## Impact on food security

Pakistan continues to be affected by multiple shocks – recurrent natural disasters, conflict, desert locust – as well as structural issues such as poverty that have driven high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition in the country.

The situation has worsened due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to high food prices in 2020, namely for wheat flour and other food items, further limiting vulnerable households' access to food. Vulnerable populations have thus increasingly adopted negative coping mechanisms, including reducing consumption of food and selling productive assets.

In 2020, Pakistan also experienced heavy monsoon rains with severe flooding that damaged crops, infrastructure and housing. In addition, desert locusts have caused significant losses to agricultural production, specifically reducing wheat

and rice yields in infested areas.

Conflict and terrorism have persisted in the northwestern part of the country along the border with Afghanistan for nearly a decade, causing large scale internal displacement, and affecting agricultural and livestock production. In addition, the presence of Afghan refugees has placed further pressure on the already limited resources of host communities.

Boosting agricultural and livestock production in 2021 through the provision of inputs and the rehabilitation of productive infrastructure is essential in order to improve vulnerable households' livelihoods and increase their food security.

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