



Background

Six months after the second consecutive year of devastating monsoon floods in Pakistan, the Government, in partnership with the international community, is transitioning response activities from the humanitarian to early recovery phase.

The 2011 monsoon floods began in early August. In many areas of Sindh and Balochistan provinces, flood waters persisted for several months. A multi-sector needs assessment conducted in October estimated that 5.2 million people were in need of assistance.

The 2011 Pakistan Floods Rapid Response Plan was launched on 18 September 2011 with a total funding requirement of almost USD 357 million for humanitarian activities over six months. To date, over USD 170 million has been pledged, representing almost 48 percent of needs. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has received USD 13.3 million out of USD 18.9 million requested, (over 70 percent funded).

The Pakistan Floods 2011 Early Recovery Framework, launched on 21 February 2012, seeks an additional **USD 440 million** for a continuation of the response until September 2012.

FAO will serve as the co-lead agency of the Food Security Cluster along with the World Food Programme (WFP). The Cluster objectives are to: (i) contribute to the rehabilitation of disrupted livelihoods of the most food-insecure groups; and (ii) ensure effective coordination of needs analysis and response planning and dissemination of timely information.

Challenges facing food security

Approximately 70 percent of the people in the affected areas depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. The floods left 3 million people in urgent need of agricultural support, of which 35 percent were affected by flooding in 2011 as well as 2010. Currently there are about 250 000 households experiencing severe food insecurity in Sindh and Balochistan – almost as many are moderately food insecure.

More than 2 million acres of crops were destroyed or damaged by the floods. Many farmers were unable to plant wheat for the *Rabi* season in the autumn owing to slow water recession rates and lack of access to inputs. Significant losses were reported for cotton, rice, pulse, maize and vegetable crops. The next monsoon is less than six months away; the planting for the *Kharif* season must be carried out in March and April to ensure a successful harvest.

The livestock sector contributes to 11.5 percent of national GDP and more than half of agricultural GDP. About four in five households in the affected areas owned livestock; at least 116 000 head of cattle (more than one-third of livestock in the area) perished in the aftermath of the floods. Livestock often represents a family's savings and provides a source of food, income and traction power necessary for land preparation. Recovery of the livestock subsector is particularly important for women who are often responsible for animal husbandry.



©FAO/Farooq Naeem

Flood-affected farmers cultivating sunflowers in Sindh province.

The floods also disrupted the livelihoods of fisher groups living along rivers and estuaries. Although fewer in number than farmers and livestock holders, fisher communities experienced twice as much non-farm income losses as a result of the floods and are more likely to adopt negative coping strategies.

The 2011 floods reconfirm the need for a coordinated, effective response to food security. Continued coordination by FAO and WFP of early recovery food security assistance, in

partnership with sectoral stakeholders, is critical to maximize the impact of support and accountability to flood-affected communities.



FAO response

FAO's component of the Pakistan Floods 2011 Early Recovery Framework amounts to **USD 28.2 million** and seeks to assist 1.1 million flood-affected farmers, fishers and herders who lack the agricultural support required to fully restart food production and income generation.

FAO's emergency response activities aim to:

- **support resumption of critical agricultural production** through the distribution of seeds and fertilizers;
- **support livestock recovery** through the provision of animals, feed and animal health services;
- **restore fisheries production** through the provision of gear and nets, improvement of boats, rehabilitation of fish habitats and training in sustainable fishing practices; and
- **provide coordination and leadership** in needs analysis, response analysis and planning and the dissemination of timely information to support food security interventions.



FAO'S COMPONENT OF THE PAKISTAN FLOODS 2011

EARLY RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

Total funding requirements: USD 28.2 million

Early recovery assistance to support agriculture-based livelihoods of vulnerable flood-affected food insecure households.	Funds requested
<p>Objective: to restore the food security and agriculture-based livelihoods of vulnerable farming households (23 136 in Sindh and 15 000 in Balochistan) in severely flood-affected districts by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rice seed packages sufficient for the cultivation of 1 acre of land, vegetable seed kits and fertilizers (28 000 households); portable household seed silos/storage bins (38 000 households); and technical assistance and training to beneficiaries, government institutions and implementing partners on the optimal use of inputs. 	<p>Sindh USD 7 832 140 PAK-12/A/49325</p> <p>Balochistan USD 5 643 669 PAK-12/A/49326</p>
Early recovery assistance to support livestock-based livelihoods of food insecure and vulnerable flood-affected households.	Funds requested
<p>Objective: to restore the food security and livestock-based livelihoods of vulnerable farming households (139 174 in Sindh and 6 942 in Balochistan) in severely flood-affected districts by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a one-month supply of concentrated animal feed for one large or two small ruminants for one month (emphasis on ensuring the survival of pregnant and lactating animals), urea molasses as supplemental feed and de-worming blister packs to protect livestock from helminthes infestation (114 000 households); sorghum seed, urea fertilizer and vegetable seed kits for the <i>Kharif</i> 2012 season (84 000 households); more than 300 000 12-week-old birds and feed (30 000 households); technical assistance and training to beneficiaries, government institutions and implementing partners on the optimal use of inputs. 	<p>Sindh USD 9 598 913 PAK-12/A/49327</p> <p>Balochistan USD 531 867 PAK-12/A/49328</p>
Livelihoods rehabilitation through early recovery interventions supporting vulnerable flood-affected riverine/estuarine fishing communities in Sindh.	Funds requested
<p>Objective: to restore food access and food security of 7 500 riverine/estuarine fishing-dependent families by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> critical fishing livelihood inputs such as hooks, lines, nets, storage boxes and inner tubes; support for emergency boat repair; and training on best practices/management, and handling and processing of fish products. 	<p>Sindh USD 4 127 751 PAK-12/A/48750</p>
Coordination of early recovery food security assistance and enhancement of food security analysis capacity.	Funds requested
<p>Objective: to ensure effective coordination of strategic joint needs analysis, response analysis and planning, and dissemination of timely information to improve impact on food security interventions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> providing ongoing support for a coordination structure that will continue to share technical inputs and facilitate information sharing among all relevant stakeholders; and creating a unit that will lead efforts on food security analysis and that also links to response planning. 	<p>Sindh and Balochistan USD 447 500 PAK-12/CSS/48748</p>

For more information please contact:

Rajendra Aryal

FAO Senior Emergency and Rehabilitation Coordinator
 FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation
 Coordination Unit
 House #3, Street 58, F-7/4, Islamabad – 44000
 Tel: +92 346 854 4155
 Email: Rajendra.Aryal@fao.org

Daniele Donati

Chief
 Emergency Operations Service
 Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division
 Viale delle Terme di Caracalla; Rome 00153, Italy
 Tel.: +39 06 570 53032
 Email: Daniele.Donati@fao.org