

#### CONTEXT

As one of the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change, Pakistan has been facing the brunt of climate induced hazards. In the summer of 2022, the country experienced the largest amount of rainfall leading to severe floods that affected more than 33 million people in 94 districts, resulting in the loss of 1,739 lives mostly in Sindh and Balochistan provinces.

According to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)<sup>1</sup> 2022, the floods caused losses and damages exceeding US\$ 30 billion and wrought havoc on the livelihoods of the people living below the poverty line. Agriculture and Shelter Sectors faced the brunt of the floods with losses and damages exceeding US\$ 13 billion and US\$ 6 billion respectively. The damage is spread across 17 key sectors with recovery needs estimated at more than US\$ 16 billion across all sectors.

The floods have seriously undermined progress made in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to preliminary estimates during the PDNA, the floods will cause an increase in poverty by about 4 percent, which translates to almost 9 million people being pushed into poverty while disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups such as women, children, refugees and people with disabilities.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The Floods Recovery Programme (FRP) outlines UNDP's strategy on how to support resilient and integrated recovery following the 2022 floods, contributing to achieving the objectives of Pakistan's Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Framework (4RF)<sup>2</sup>. The overarching objective is to transition from relief and expedite resilient and sustainable recovery in the flood affected areas in an integrated manner. UNDP's approach to recovery sets in early on by bridging the gap between relief, recovery and long-term development.

#### **STRATEGY**

The Programme builds on four pillars reflecting UNDP's core strengths and comparative advantages, including providing targeted support for housing and basic services, livelihoods, enhancing government's capacity for service delivery and promoting disaster and climate risk reduction. Across these areas, the FRP proposes a set of recovery interventions focusing on the settlements level. An integrated approach will be applied to ensure a coordinated and integrated service delivery.

<sup>1.</sup> https://www.undp.org/pakistan/publications/pakistan-floods-2022-post-disaster-needs-assessment-pdna

 $<sup>2. \</sup> https://www.pc.gov.pk/uploads/downloads/Final\_4RF.pdf$ 

#### Pillar 1:

# Housing and Community Infrastructure



According to the findings of the PDNA, the floods caused destruction of 780,000 houses while more than 1.27 million houses were partially damaged. Rural houses were particularly impacted, especially in Sindh province, which accounted for approximately 83 percent of the total housing damages.

Following the approach adopted by the Government of Pakistan, UNDP would undertake reconstruction of the

destroyed houses and community infrastructure through a community driven approach with a focus on resilience and sustainability.

Through this pillar, housing and infrastructure recovery would be initiated in the affected areas in line with the needs of the communities, mostly focusing on the involvement of the vulnerable groups of the affected areas especially women headed households.

#### Pillar 2:

### Livelihoods Recovery



The floods have caused losses and damages to the agriculture sector to the tune of US\$13 billion. The affected communities also suffered losses to livelihoods exceeding US\$600 million.

According to estimates, an additional 7.6 million people face food insecurity at the national level, increasing from 7 million to 14.6 million people due to loss of production and price increases. The expected delays in the sowing of rabi crops, particularly wheat, will in all likelihood, further reduce food availability and drive price increases in the coming months, making access to food more difficult, particularly for low-income groups in hard-hit areas. Women will be disproportionately impacted by the losses in the agricultural sector suffering significant loss of livelihoods opportunities.

Under this pillar, UNDP aims to expedite livelihoods recovery and community resilience in the affected areas in line with the needs of the communities especially women while engaging the youth in the recovery programme. This would empower and capacitate the communities including women and youth and reduce their vulnerabilities to future disaster episodes.

The livelihoods recovery activities would comprise of onfarm interventions as restoration of agricultural land and associated community-based infrastructure, provision of agricultural inputs, training and cash grants for enterprise development under the overall approach of community led development model.

#### Pillar 3:

# Restoring Government Services



A total of 2,396 government buildings were damaged or destroyed by the floods with Sindh and Balochistan bearing more than 90 percent of the damages. The effects of the floods on the governance sector are estimated to be more than US\$ 80 million with most of the losses centred around provision of justice services and administrative buildings.

The floods have seriously affected government offices along with office equipment and have disoriented the

workflow for service delivery. Key areas of support needed under recovery support include repair and reconstruction of damaged and destroyed offices; replacement of damaged equipment and hardware for quick reactivation of services; provision of special expertise to complement government capacities; the provision of additional skills in recovery coordination, participatory planning and implementation; support for efforts to restore and recover official records; and the

inclusion of risk reduction in the local government development planning process.

The activities proposed under this pillar would expedite resumption of service delivery and governance affected by the floods. The restoration and resumption of administrative activities by the government offices will focus on access and facilitation to women and other vulnerable segments of the community.

Under this pillar, UNDP would adopt a three-pronged approach to restore governance and service delivery in

the affected areas. The interventions would be designed around repair and reconstruction of damaged and destroyed government buildings with provision of needed automation and communication equipment. Additionally, important documents such as land records that have been lost and damaged due to the floods would be restored and digitized to improve business process efficiency within the government. Lastly, the government officials in the affected areas would be provided tailormade trainings to enhance their capacities in digitization and modern business practices.

#### Pillar 4:

## Disaster Resilience and Environmental Protection



As part of its diagnostic review of the DRM systems in Pakistan, the PDNA identified that the institutions and authorities responsible for disaster response were not prepared for the magnitude of floods that were experienced during the monsoon season. It also highlighted limited understanding of and awareness about risks and hazards, as well as lack of an end-to-end early warning system as one of the key factors behind the slow response and significant damage caused by the floods.

The floods of 2022 caused damages and losses in forestry and protected areas, which were also impacted by landslides. Forestry accounts for approximately 60 percent of total damages to the environmental sector and almost 99 percent of losses. The full extent of damage to forests, biodiversity, land, and pollution clean-up is yet to be fully accounted for and requires more detailed investigations.

Beyond the immediate needs identified in the 4RF, an expanded environmental recovery strategy is also

recommended to achieve an appreciable level of resilience to climate change-induced disasters and check the pace of environmental degradation and pollution. The 4RF had also suggested ecosystembased adaptation and nature-based solutions as key approaches in addressing floods and droughts that are exacerbated by climate change in Pakistan.

The interventions designed under this pillar would aim to identify priorities and accelerate clean-up efforts in the affected communities through technical grants and cashfor-work activities for safe removal, recycling and disposal of debris while strengthening the capacities of the local governments to deliver WASH and solid waste management services in line with the National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS). Mapping and assessment of hazards will inform strengthened disaster risk management, including improved community-level disaster preparedness, risk-informed development planning and developing alternative risk financing solutions.



### GENDER INCLUSIVE RECOVERY

The UNDP Flood Recovery Programme recognizes the critical role of women in the recovery process. Recovery and stabilization solutions offer significant scope to jump-start structural changes, reset negative social norms and open opportunities for women's full and equal participation in economic life.

By providing housing and thereby reducing women's exposure to gender-based violence, and by advancing equal access to knowledge, skill-building and credit through employment and livelihood initiatives, the Programme will help ensure that the physical and economic security and empowerment of women are central to sustainable recovery initatives.

Expected Programme results include:



women will benefit from repair and re-constructed homes that are climate resilient

3,400

women receive inputs and training for Garden Kitchens

women entrepreneurs and women-led small-scale businesses supported and/or revived

### 3,480

women to directly benefit from agricultural inputs (feed, fertilizer, equipment) to restore agricultural production

8,000

women beneficiaries to undertake specialized vocational skills training

7,500

women to be trained in Community Based Disaster Risk Management

4,260

women beneficiaries to receive cash grants for enterprise development

Overall, the Programme will directly benefit

76,140

women in flood-affected areas





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