PAKISTAN FLOODS 2022-
RESOURCE PAPER

Ms Shaiza Khawaja

Dr Nimra Iqbal Choudhary

Ms Anusha Manahil

Dr Nibedita Ray Bennet

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Contents

Background

Pakistan is one of the most disaster-prone nations in the world (Ahmad and Afzal, 2020). According to Tariq and Van De Giesen (2012), floods are the most frequent and damaging natural hazards in the country. According to Santos (2006) of the total population affected by natural hazards, 90% are subject to flooding. The mid-June 2022 floods in Pakistan caused huge destruction due to monsoon flooding and torrential rainfall which resulted in major public health challenges and submerged nearly one-third of the country (Sands, 2022).

The Natural Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) declared this mid-June flood a national emergency after more than 33 million people were severely affected (Iqbal et al., 2022). The impact of the floods was such that it had killed over 2000 people, 8.2 million people were in need of health assistance, 600,000 people displaced, over 1 million houses were destroyed and 736,459 animals perished (Ochani et al., 2022;WHO, 2022)).

Usually, Pakistan receives two to three monsoon cycles per year, yet in 2022, it went through its eighth cycle. According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department, the country has witnessed 181% above-average rainfall in 2022, breaking a record of 62 years (The Express Tribune, 2022). The most destruction occurred in the province of Sindh and Balochistan, where the rainfall recorded was over 308% (The Express Tribune, 2022).

Lack of proper water drainage, inadequate water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities and stagnant water gave rise to infectious disease and vector-borne disease outbreaks including malaria, dengue fever, acute gastroenteritis, as well as vector-borne respiratory diseases (Reliefweb, 2022).

In the aftermath of the floods, according to the World Food Program, 7 million children required nutrition services and 4 million children lacked access to health services, 5.5 million people no longer had access to safe drinking water and according to a revised UN appeal, 20.6 million people still required humanitarian assistance (Reliefweb, 2022).

A humanitarian crisis such as this requires an urgent response from the government and non-government organisations, as well as international relief agencies. There is a need for the allocation of basic resources such as food, shelter, safe drinking water, medicines as well as the need for female hygiene products

This resource paper was developed by the Future Leaders of the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN) under the mentorship of Dr Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett. The Future Leaders are Dr Nimra Choudhury, Ms Anusha Manahil and Ms Shaiza Khawaja (also ADN's Regional Coordinator - Pakistan).

This resource paper provided a list of one-hundred and twenty government organisations and NGOs that were actively involved in the relief and rescue efforts, along with essential details such as contact information, type of relief delivery, and the area of coverage.

The resource paper also aimed to highlight the type of relief and response that is still required for the flood-affected victims, including which provinces of Pakistan are most affected and are in need of assistance. For this purpose, the resource paper was directed by the following,

Objectives:

1. To distinguish and classify existing networks of organizations working to provide aid in the flood-   affected areas

2. To identify and quantify the connectivity of the existing networks in flood affected provinces of Pakistan

3. To produce a credible resource to aid provision of donations to Pakistan for the relief efforts.

Methods

From August to October 2022, data were collected through national and state-level electronic newspapers, NGO portals, Google search engine, and social media platforms. Where necessary, word of mouth was utilized to gather data especially for organisations or startups without an online presence. Data were gathered individually for each of the four provinces of Pakistan (Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) and collectively for the federal territories of Islamabad, Azad Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan.

To gather data; seven content analysts were divided into groups of either one or two analysts per province, with their efforts being coordinated by a group coordinator for each.

The following details were gathered for each frontline organization (name, contact number, location, source of information, description of service). These details of the collected data were inserted into a customized excel sheet. Please see **Appendix 1**.

Limitations

The content analysts were unable to include each and every organization that is working for flood relief efforts in their allocated province. The majority of the organization's that were omitted were due to a lack of the organisation's online presence.

Results and Outcomes

The ADN was able to mobilise existing interns as well as integrate new interns into this project; in total, nine interns took part in this project.

Each of the groups was able to produce a comprehensive list of credible organizations (Appendix 1) to which donations and aid can be made. Donations to these credible organisations can be given with full trust that the donation would be utilised to assist the affected people in the flood impacted areas.

The entries in the customised excel sheet also provide a starting point for illustrating existing networks in relation to state run and not-for-profit organizations working collaboratively.

The data regarding the one hundred and twenty-eight organizations provides an illustrative concept of where these organizations tend to function from.

It was found that the majority of the not-for-profit organizations (112) were setup and based in metropolitan cities of each province, with the majority of these not-for-profit organizations in Islamabad and Lahore. These organizations work throughout the country alongside area-specific organizations. Thirty area-specific organizations were also identified in developed areas of the regions or provinces, for example, Quetta, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, and Gilgit, amongst other major areas.

The one hundred and twenty-eight organizations that were identified through the content analysis cover a wide range of objectives, all compliant with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2019). Some common objectives that were identified across almost all these organizations include:

- Minimising disaster risks
- Prevention and alleviation of human suffering
- Strengthening resilience of the communities through development projects
- Raising awareness, advocacy and building capacity of the community through access to education and health services

Overall, the findings highlight the organizations that are working to build up the communities that were severely affected by the mid-June floods of 2022.

A large number of informal field-work was being undertaken by citizens of Pakistan to assist the individually affected communities. This was done by providing manpower and resources to rebuild communities by the field-workers in collecting and distributing basic necessities including food, water, blankets, clothes, and erecting temporary shelters.

We anticipate that the findings of this project should play a pivotal role in acting as a launching platform for any future research on the importance of existing networks for supporting community rehabilitation and minimising future disaster risks. This should be undertaken to prevent human loss of life through mitigation and preparedness measures.

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