

## Relief Activity Report No. 2

27 August 2010

# Pakistan: Flood relief

## I. Overall Situation

Latest government figures indicate that the number of people directly affected by the floods remains at 17.2 million, spread across an area that stretches from the Chinese border to the mouth of the Indus River. The death toll has risen slightly to 1,542 with 2,327 confirmed as injured. A total of 1.2 million houses have either been damaged or destroyed (all figures from provincial and national disaster management authorities).

As efforts to scale up the response in Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan gather pace, the threat of outbreaks of water borne diseases in the worst affected areas continues to grow. On 24 August the Government announced the establishment of a national committee to intensify and streamline the overall health response.



Monsoon currents from weak to moderate intensity continue to move across central and upper parts of the country. Isolated rain and thunderstorms are expected over Punjab [...] . Scattered rain is also forecast over Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and Gilit-Baltistan. (Pakistan Meteorological Department).



Concerning health: Key needs at this points are ensuring access to health services, sustained supplies of medicines, vaccinations against various communicable diseases (in particular for woman and children under five) and restoration of public health facilities (around 400 of which have been damaged or destroyed). ... Health cluster partners treated 3.2 million people between 29 July and 23 August. The cluster has distributed medicines to treat 2.6 million people during the past two weeks alone including 100.000 suffering from diarrhoea.

*(Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Situation Report No. 17 on 25 August 2010)*

## II. Malteser International Activities

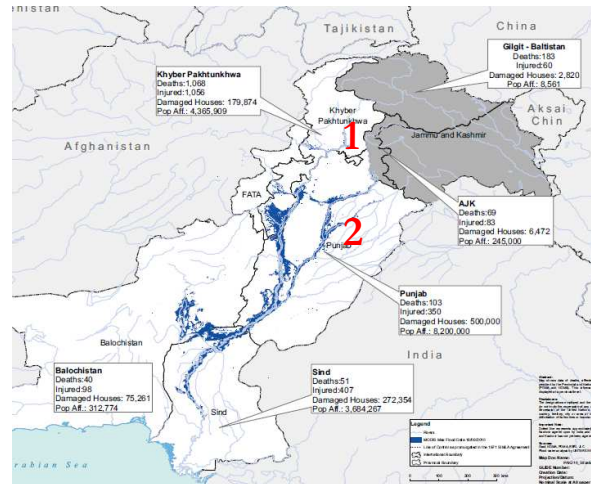
Malteser International is continuing its relief efforts in the districts of Swat and Kohistan (indicated with 1 on the map). In these mountainous regions, people in need are not easy to reach as for example medical teams have to continue their way by foot as lots of roads are still blocked and bridges destroyed.

Malteser International medical teams are supporting five government health units in Swat and in Kohistan while in addition one to two teams every day continue to hold mobile clinics in villages and cities where the access to health facilities cannot be assured. These medical teams are headed

by a medical doctor as team leader and normally consist of one doctor, one midwife or lady health visitor, one or two social mobilisers to conduct health and hygiene awareness sessions, one emergency medical technician and one pharmacist. Pneumonia, anaemia, diarrhoea and skin diseases continue to be widespread. The treatment of the sick is combined with hygiene awareness sessions for the communities and the distribution of soap and water treatment tabs.

As there was one case of acute watery diarrhoea in Swat, Malteser International prepares for a possible epidemic by procuring diarrhoea treatment kits. In case of an epidemic, treatment centres could be set up easily with these. Moreover, hygiene awareness sessions are also conducted in places where acute watery diarrhoea has occurred.

Malteser International will furthermore distribute food and non-food relief items to 2800 families in Swat and Kohistan. Distributions have already started. The affected will be cared for three month to cover the acute needs following the floods. Non-food relief items are for example hygiene items like soaps or towels, kitchen items like pots or tarpaulins to protect against further rain.



Source: United Nations



This weekend, Malteser International will furthermore conduct an assessment in Punjab (indicated with 2 on the map). It is planning to provide medical relief with three additional teams comparable to those in northern Pakistan for at least three month. It will possibly also be able to support some Health Units and the patients there with drinking water in cooperation with the German Caritas. Punjab is, in contrast to Swat and Kohistan, a lowland area and therefore the water can not recede as easily as in the mountainous regions.

In the long term, Malteser International will engage in the sector of disaster risk reduction: In Swat, several destroyed Health Units will be rebuilt and reequipped and together with several existing ones prepared for further disaster.

### III. Funding

Up to now, the relief efforts of Malteser International in Pakistan have a volume of around 3.6 million Euro. The majority of funding is provided by the German Federal Foreign Office and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Further funds are made available by the World Health Organisation and other organisations via the UN Cluster System, and the German Relief Coalition. In addition, we receive donations from several national associations of the Sovereign Order of Malta, companies and individual donors.



The German Bishop's Conference has initiated a special collection for the flood affected in Pakistan which will be held on 4 and 5 September in all German churches.

#### **IV. Appeal for donations**

Despite the very good donor funding, Malteser International still needs donations to cover accompanying programme expenses and is therefore highly appreciating all financial contributions to the benefit of the people in Pakistan. Your contribution will directly support the medical relief efforts. You will also make the provision of desperately needed food, drinking water, cooking equipments and hygiene material possible. Our relief efforts are based on the greatest needs of the flood victims.

In order to avoid “fundraising confusion” and high bank fees, we suggest that all associations should first use their own internal system for collecting donations and afterwards transfer donations to the following Malteser International bank account:

Donation Account 2020122  
Pax-Bank Köln, von-Werth-Str. 25-27, D-50670 Köln, Germany,  
Sort Code 370 60 193  
IBAN DE93 3706 0193 0002 0201 22  
BIC GENODED1PAX  
Reference: “Pakistan floods”  
For further enquiries, please contact Mr. Ingo Radtke  
Phone: + 49-221-9822-170, Cell: + 49-171-30 44 983  
<mailto:ingo.radtke@malteser-international.org>

We shall keep you informed about all further developments.  
Yours sincerely

Ingo Radtke  
*Secretary General*



Hygiene awareness session with the community in Gulibagh