

Relief Activity Report No. 4

27 September 2010

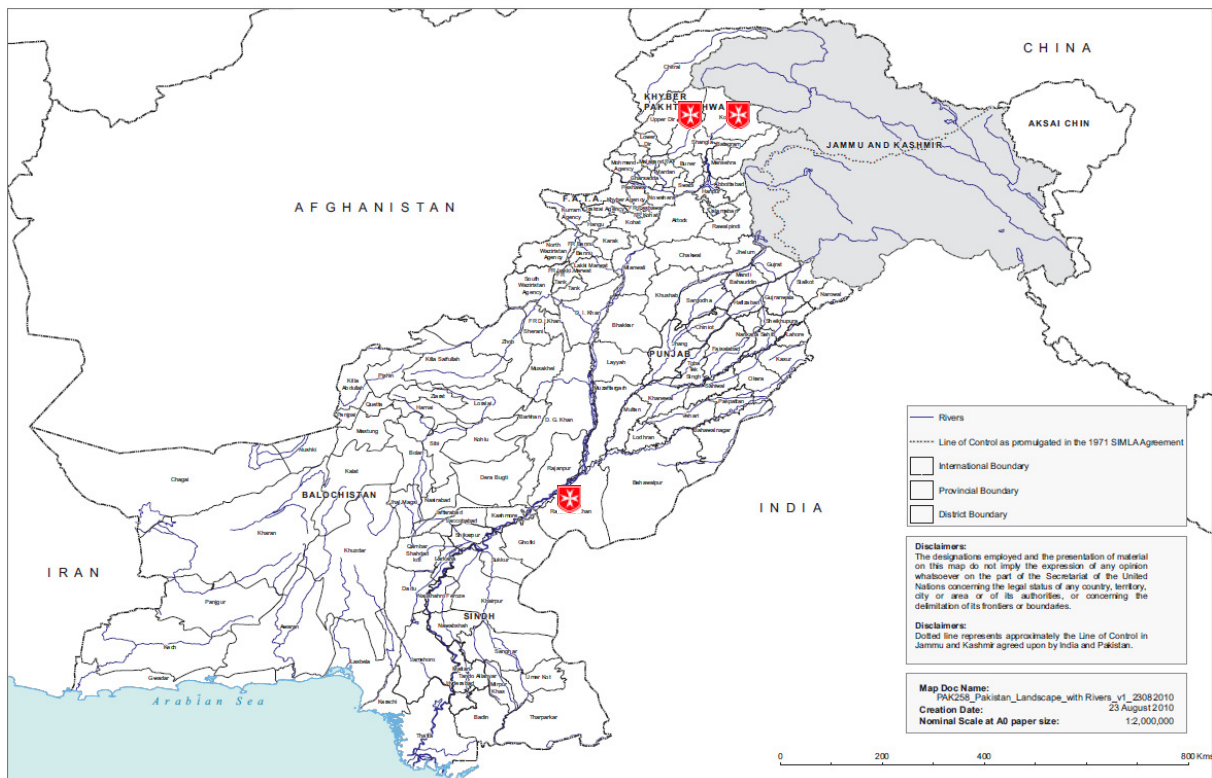
Pakistan: Flood Relief

I. Overall situation

Heavy monsoon rains started to hit Pakistan from 22 July onwards. Following continued rainfall, rivers breached their banks, and riverine floods gradually moved from north to south along the Indus River. Floodwaters are by now for the most part either receding or have already receded, allowing people to begin returning to their places of origin, where most will require a significant level of assistance for several months. The crisis at a glance:

- An estimated 20 million persons are affected, an estimated 14 million thereof are in need of humanitarian aid.
- An area of at least 160,000 km² (larger than England) has been ravaged by the floods.
- Almost 1.9 million homes were destroyed or damaged; at least 10 million people are currently without shelter.
- Floods have caused widespread damage to public infrastructure, with roads submerged and bridges swept away, and many schools (an estimated 7,173) and health facilities severely damaged.
- At least 2.4 million hectares of standing crops have been lost. An estimated 1.2 million livestock and 6 million poultry have been lost, and more may die without proper feeding and veterinary support.

Source: United Nations Pakistan, OCHA



Regions where Malteser International is providing relief:
Swat and Kohistan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (in the northwest), Rahim Yar Khan in Punjab (in the south)

II. Malteser International activities

a) KPK Province (Khyber Pakthunkhwa, North Pakistan)

In **Swat and Kohistan**, the relief efforts continue as described in the last Relief Activity Reports.

In the **Swat District**, three medical teams are working at governmental health facilities and two other teams are going to areas cut off from access to health facilities. These teams started their activities immediately after the beginning of the floods. They are integrating hygiene awareness sessions and the distribution of hygiene material like water treatment tabs and jerry cans into their workflow at the health facilities and in the villages.



Especially woman and children are suffering from diarrhoea, respiratory and skin diseases. (Photo: Stefan Trappe/ADH)

Up to now, no epidemic of acute watery diarrhoea broke out, also thanks to the work of Malteser International to detect the water sources which were contaminated. As a preventive measure, Malteser International provided diarrhoea treatment units.

Malteser International also continues with the distribution of food and cash grants so that people can buy food from the local market, as well as kits with relief and hygiene items and drinking water. It was even able to extend the distribution activities to further affected areas of the Swat District. The distribution targets those that have been most affected by the floods.



Distribution of cash grants to flood affected families in the Swat District

In **Kohistan**, the activities of Malteser International are implemented by a partner organisation. The relief measures are similar to those in the Swat Valley but with just two mobile medical teams, two diarrhoea treatment units and the distribution of food/cash grants, relief and hygiene items to at least 800 flood affected families.

In both **Swat and Kohistan**, cash for work measures are planned, for example to rehabilitate fields, field terraces and irrigation canals. Additionally, seeds, fertilisers and tools for farmers will be distributed with an additional training input for the beneficiaries. These measures will start in October in order to ensure the next cropping season.

Staff: Cesar Russo, Malteser International chief logistician in Myanmar after Cyclone Nargis and in Haiti after the



Distribution of relief kits to flood affected families

earthquake, will support the team in Pakistan for two months as Emergency Logistics Coordinator to coordinate the distribution as well as the procurement for further relief items. He will also build up logistics capacities in Malteser International's local staff team.

b) Punjab (Southern Pakistan)

In Punjab, the assessment is now finished. Malteser International will start activities in Rahim Yar Khan which is located in southern Punjab. By now, the local staff for three medical teams that will support governmental health facilities is being recruited. Comparable to the precaution measures in Swat and Kohistan, three diarrhoea treatment centres will be set up for the case of an epidemic of acute watery diarrhoea.



A destroyed village in Punjab: rebuilding life between ruins and mud

In the field of water and sanitation, three water treatment plants, which will produce 1,200 litres of drinking water per hour, will be installed at three health facilities in Rahim Yar Khan by the Malteser International water engineer Rainer Eckart who just returned from Haiti to work in Pakistan now. Additionally, 2,000 flood affected families will receive household water filters to assure their access to safe drinking water.

Furthermore, there is the option to distribute other relief items and also food. Definitive decisions are still to be taken.

III. Outlook on future projects: rehabilitation and reconstruction, health and disaster risk reduction



Much has to be rebuilt.
(Photo: Alexander Bühler)

In the future, Malteser International will be active in the fields of rehabilitation and reconstruction, health and disaster preparedness. Project areas will definitely be Swat and Kohistan comparable to the emergency relief phase, but also Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The decision about a commitment in additional regions will be made after having analysed the emergency relief activities.

In the field of rehabilitation and reconstruction, at least three health facilities in Swat will be extended and rehabilitated with approved funding. The local health staff will be further qualified in medical issues, but also in proper reaction in case of future natural and/or civil disasters. The capacity building will also have a focus on mother-child health. There are options to rehabilitate further health facilities and schools in Swat and Kohistan depending on the results of an assessment in the coming weeks.

Malteser International will also continue to work in the health sector and the provision of primary health care with a special attention to mother-child health. The focus will be on outreach activities to attend also families in remote villages. In this process, it is an objective to better integrate the target population by voluntary health workers; especially the traditional birth

attendants - who are called lady health workers in Pakistan - will be (further) qualified and trained.

As Pakistan is a country which is prone to natural disasters like floods and earthquakes, disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction are important issues. In 2011, Malteser International will implement a disaster preparedness project in Muzaffarabad which is in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir region. It will focus on the threat of earthquakes but will also include general measures like first aid as well as search and rescue trainings for volunteer groups in the city. The aim is to develop a model that can be replicated in other regions. Other projects in the sector of disaster risk reduction will probably follow.



Providing health care also for people in remote areas will be one of Malteser International's objectives in Pakistan in the years to come. - Here: distribution of soaps, aqua tabs and education about adequate hygiene behaviour.

IV. Funding

Up to now, the relief efforts of Malteser International in Pakistan have a volume of almost five million Euro. Donations via Germany's Relief Coalition (ADH), national associations of the Sovereign Order of Malta, companies and individual donors make up the majority of the funding.

Further funding is provided by the German Federal Foreign Office and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Health Organisation and other organisations via the UN Cluster System.

V. Appeal for donations

Despite the very good funding, Malteser International still is in need for further donations. Especially the long-term measures described under III need a sound financial base. All in all, the reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in Pakistan will endure several years. Malteser International always has the aim to "build back better", knowing that such programmes will have to last for a long time. Simultaneously, preventive measures have to be initiated in order to reduce the exposure of the Pakistani people to disasters as strong as this year's monsoon floods or 2005's earthquake.

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:



A girl is carrying 10 litre jerry cans that her family received to store drinking water.

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"

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

Ingo Radtke
Secretary General