

## CONTEXT

---

- Pakistan is highly susceptible to natural hazards, such as drought, earthquakes, floods, and landslides, which can generate widespread displacement and humanitarian needs, particularly among low-income households.
- Heavy monsoon rains and glacial lake outbursts prompted flooding and landslides across Pakistan between June and September 2022, adversely affecting an estimated 33 million people across more than 80 districts in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Punjab, and Sindh provinces, as well as Gilgit-Baltistan Region, according to the Government of Pakistan (GoP). The incidents resulted in more than 1,700 deaths, injured nearly 12,900 individuals, displaced an estimated 7.9 million people, and damaged or destroyed more than 2.3 million houses, particularly in Balochistan and Sindh.
- The 2022 floods significantly exacerbated household food insecurity by damaging or destroying millions of acres of agricultural lands—including grain stores, along with cotton, rice, and wheat crops—and killing approximately 1.2 million livestock, prompting further price increases for staple food items, the GoP and UN report. As a result of heightened food insecurity, approximately 8.6 million people nationwide faced Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity as of December 2022, according to the IPC National Technical Working Group.<sup>1</sup>
- Wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—remains prevalent among children five years of age and younger in Pakistan, particularly in Balochistan and Sindh. An estimated 5 million children were at risk of experiencing wasting in flood-affected areas, as of February, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). Additionally, the number of individuals experiencing wasting more than doubled between July 2022 and January 2023 in flood-affected areas, the UN agency reports. Lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation services contributes to malnutrition in Pakistan, and an additional 2.5 million children nationwide lack consistent access to safe drinking water due to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure damages from the 2022 floods, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reports.



## ASSISTANCE

---

- In response to the 2022 floods, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team to Pakistan from September 8 to October 27, to support the scale-up of critical humanitarian assistance—including food, health nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH programming. Between Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 and FY 2023, USAID/BHA provided a total of nearly \$80 million to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the floods, including \$21.5 million in FY 2023 to USAID/BHA partner WFP for the provision of emergency food assistance and logistics support. USAID/BHA partner WFP distributed more than

<sup>1</sup>The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

72,000 metric tons (MT) of in-kind emergency food assistance—including items such as vegetable oil, wheat, yellow split peas, and specialized nutritious foods to prevent acute malnutrition—and approximately \$8.7 million in cash-for-food assistance to more than 3.1 million flood-affected people across Balochistan, KP, Punjab, and Sindh with USAID/BHA and other donor support between August 2022 and January. This assistance included nearly 580 MT of specialized nutritious foods for more than 420,000 children younger than five years of age, as well as pregnant and lactating women across Balochistan, Punjab, and Sindh. In the same provinces, USAID/BHA partner the World Health Organization (WHO) is providing health and nutrition assistance to an estimated 600,000 internally displaced persons—including the establishment of eight nutrition stabilization centers, where individuals at risk of wasting could receive specialized medical attention.



USAID/BHA is supporting ACTED to provide flood-affected households with shelter and hygiene kits in Sindh. *Photo Credit: ACTED*

- USAID/BHA also provided more than \$13 million in FY 2022 to international non-governmental organizations to mitigate health risks faced by households in flood-affected areas through WASH assistance and the distribution of non-food items. In Balochistan and Sindh, USAID/BHA partner ACTED has provided safe drinking water to nearly 32,000 households while simultaneously working to restore 450 sources damaged by the floods. ACTED is also distributing 28,000 hygiene kits to flood-affected households and constructing more than 10,000 emergency latrines. USAID/BHA partner Concern reached over 5,000 individuals in FY 2022 with awareness-raising sessions on safe hygiene practices to mitigate the transmission of waterborne disease.
- USAID/BHA continues to support early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) activities, focusing on strengthening vulnerable populations’ resilience to natural disasters through food security and livelihood strengthening activities, such as facilitating training on drought-resilient farming and livestock management practices. USAID/BHA partners provide cash assistance to farming households to enable the purchase of essential agricultural inputs—such as drought resilient seeds—and conduct climate-resilient agriculture and livestock management workshops for households who depend on agricultural-based livelihoods.
- USAID/BHA partners also work alongside local, regional, and national GoP authorities to develop risk reduction plans and provide essential capacity-building training to help early warning systems and rapid response mechanisms, as well as emergency coordination and information sharing. This support—empowers local communities and first responders prepare to and mitigate the effects of natural disasters.

USAID/BHA Funding in the Pakistan <sup>2</sup>			
	Emergency <sup>3</sup>	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$43,633,659	\$3,000,000	\$46,633,659
FY 2023	\$36,136,606	–	\$36,136,606

<sup>2</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of January 12, 2023. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>3</sup> Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.