

PAKISTAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

JUNE 28, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

5 million

Estimated Population Affected by Drought in Balochistan and Sindh
GoP – March 2019

1.4 million

Registered Afghan Refugees in Pakistan
UN – April 30, 2019

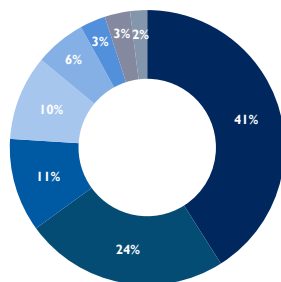
1,834

Voluntary Returns of Registered Afghan Nationals from Pakistan in 2019
UNHCR – June 21, 2019

10,309

Undocumented Afghan Returnees from Pakistan in 2019
UN – June 15, 2019

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2018–2019



- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (41%)
- Multi-Sector Emergency Response Grants (24%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (11%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (10%)
- Health (6%)
- Shelter & Settlements (3%)
- Risk Management Policy and Practice (3%)
- Other (2%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2018–2019



- Local & Regional Food Procurement (38%)
- Complementary Services/Twinning (24%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (26%)
- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (12%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ambassador Paul W. Jones, Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., declares a disaster due to drought in Balochistan and Sindh
- USAID/OFDA provides \$5.4 million in FY 2019 to date to support humanitarian response activities

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE PAKISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA	\$15,065,692
USAID/FFP	\$21,512,755
USAID/Pakistan	\$1,900,000
State/PRM ³	\$4,100,000
Total	\$42,578,447

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On February 15, 2019, Ambassador Paul W. Jones, Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., declared a disaster due to drought in Balochistan and Sindh provinces. The Government of Pakistan (GoP) estimated that drought had affected approximately 5 million people in 26 of Pakistan’s 133 districts as of early March.
- In response to drought-induced needs, USAID is supporting relief actors to provide emergency food assistance, address water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) gaps, and support livelihoods programming to assist affected communities in Balochistan and Sindh and build resilience to future shocks.
- In early March, following drought conditions that impacted the soil’s absorptive capacity, heavy precipitation resulted in flash flooding in Balochistan. The flooding displaced 8,000 to 10,000 people and led the provincial government to declare a state of emergency in Qilla Abdullah District, according to the GoP’s National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The Pakistan Army supported local search-and-rescue operations in affected areas and establish displacement camps in Lasbela and Makran districts. Pakistan Army relief staff also provided medical treatment and food rations to 3,500 households.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION, AND LIVELIHOODS

- The 2018 May-to-August monsoon season produced precipitation 45 percent below average rainfall levels in Balochistan and 70 percent below average rainfall levels in Sindh, exacerbating the impacts of consecutive years of below-average precipitation, according to the Pakistan Meteorological Department. The drought has negatively impacted agricultural and livestock production, leading to a reduction in livelihood opportunities and affecting 5 million people in the provinces, according to the UN.
- Drought conditions had resulted in a 23 percent decrease in wheat production and an approximately 35 percent decrease in sorghum and rice production among households surveyed in affected areas of Sindh for the 2017/2018 agricultural year as compared to 2016/2017, according to October 2018 UN-led needs assessments. Surveyed households also reported high levels of livestock mortality, with 25 percent of surveyed cattle owners, 54 percent of goat owners, and 45 percent of sheep owners reporting at least one death in the previous six months. The assessments estimated that more than 70 percent of households in affected areas of Sindh were food-insecure—including approximately 32 percent estimated to be severely food-insecure—and in need of food assistance. Conditions have prompted pastoral communities in drought-affected areas to employ various coping strategies, including selling livestock, abandoning primary assets, and migrating to other districts, NDMA reports. Additionally, more than 70 percent of assessed households reported having incurred new debt in the previous six months to meet basic food and health needs.
- Drought conditions are also exacerbating the prevalence of malnutrition in affected areas and vulnerable households remain in need of nutrition assistance, according to relief actors. In Balochistan and Sindh, global acute malnutrition rates among children and pregnant and lactating women in most of the drought-affected districts have surpassed the UN World Health Organization's 15 percent emergency threshold, according to the 2018 GoP National Nutrition Survey. In addition, Balochistan, Sindh, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPk) provinces have a higher prevalence of wasting and stunting than the 2018 national average, according to the survey.
- In December 2018, NDMA requested international support to complement GoP-led drought response efforts in Balochistan and Sindh. The UN requested approximately \$96 million to provide humanitarian assistance to drought-affected populations in the provinces. The request includes \$65 million for emergency food and nutrition assistance to at least 2 million food-insecure individuals, including vulnerable agro-pastoral communities. The UN request also included support for conditional cash assistance, as well as agriculture and livelihood support aimed at facilitating early recovery. The UN also requested approximately \$31 million to support WASH programs for drought-affected populations. As of May 23, international donors had committed nearly \$41 million toward drought response efforts, reports the UN.
- USAID/FFP continues to support the UN World Food Program (WFP) to provide emergency food assistance—including locally and regionally procured in-kind food assistance and cash transfers for food—to vulnerable households in Pakistan affected by conflict and natural disasters, including drought-affected households in Balochistan and Sindh. In April, the UN agency provided more than 4,700 metric tons of food assistance to approximately 274,000 people across Pakistan. Additionally, WFP is conducting community-based acute malnutrition activities in drought-affected districts of Balochistan and Sindh.
- In addition, USAID/FFP continues to partner with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to provide nutrition assistance aimed at preventing and treating malnutrition in children younger than five years of age and pregnant and lactating women in Balochistan and KPk, including the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) that have comprised part of KPk since May 2018.
- Through the Responding to Pakistan's Internally Displaced (RAPID) Fund, USAID/OFDA is supporting 13 local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assist more than 250,000 drought-affected people in Balochistan and Sindh with cash grants, livestock support, nutrition assistance, and WASH interventions. The local partners, in close coordination with the GoP, are working across six districts to reach vulnerable populations.
- With \$2 million in FY 2019 funding and ongoing funding from prior years, three USAID/OFDA implementing partners are targeting nearly 100,000 people in Sindh through drought assistance programs intended to meet immediate needs while also building resilience to future shocks. Program activities include rehabilitating WASH infrastructure to

increase water access; distributing livestock fodder and drought-resilient seeds to preserve or restore livelihoods and improve food security outcomes; conducting hygiene promotion campaigns to reduce the risk of disease and malnutrition; and building the capacity of communities to maintain the rehabilitated WASH systems, improve agriculture and livestock practices, and mitigate disaster risks. USAID/OFDA also provided \$150,000 to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to expand drought programming in Sindh in response to the February disaster declaration.

- USAID/OFDA is supporting partner organizations in North and South Waziristan districts in the former FATA area of KPK with more than \$3 million in FY 2019 to assist internally displaced persons (IDPs) returning to areas of origin, including support for agriculture, food security, livelihoods, nutrition, and WASH activities.

INSECURITY AND POPULATION MOVEMENT

- The security situation in Pakistan remains volatile. While the number of conflict-related civilian deaths declined from 5,258 fatalities in 2014 to 1,191 fatalities in 2018, armed conflict, targeted attacks, and other conflict-related incidents continue to impact civilian populations, according to the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED). Between January 1 and June 1, ACLED recorded 537 conflict-related deaths, representing a nearly 60 percent increase from the number of fatalities recorded during the same period in 2018.
- From March 1–June 20, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) facilitated the voluntary repatriation of more than 1,800 registered Afghan refugees from Pakistan to Afghanistan, following a pause in the agency’s repatriation program during the winter. In 2018, approximately 14,000 refugees voluntarily returned to Afghanistan, a decrease from the more than 59,000 refugees who returned in 2017 and the more than 380,000 refugees who returned in 2016.
- Between January 1 and June 15, more than 10,300 undocumented Afghans returned to Afghanistan through the Torkham border between KPK and Afghanistan’s Nangarhar Province and the Chaman border linking Balochistan to Afghanistan’s Kandahar Province, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Returnees cited the desire to return to areas of origin, economic opportunities, and reunion with relatives as primary factors influencing their returns to Afghanistan. IOM also noted a decrease in the number of people returning who cited fear of deportation as a reason for leaving Pakistan.
- On May 1, the State Bank of Pakistan issued a directive requiring banks to allow refugees to open bank accounts with their Proof of Registration (PoR) cards. Prior to this announcement, refugees in Pakistan were unable to access bank accounts for personal or business purposes. This development will allow refugees—many of whom are experiencing protracted displacement—to continue living in the country in an increasingly self-sufficient manner and to more directly engage in and contribute to the Pakistani economy.
- State/PRM NGO partners continue to support Afghan refugees in Pakistan, including providing protection and education assistance. In addition, with State/PRM support, UNHCR provides multipurpose cash assistance of approximately \$200 per individual upon arrival at UNHCR transit centers in Afghanistan to support refugee reintegration. State/PRM also supports advocacy and diplomacy efforts regarding refugee protection concerns.
- USAID/OFDA support to the RAPID Fund also assists IDPs, returnees to Pakistan, and other vulnerable populations. Since 2013, the RAPID Fund has provided more than 100 grants to local and international relief agencies to deliver multi-sector support, including critical health and WASH interventions, to conflict- and disaster-affected populations in Pakistan.

HEALTH

- As of May 29, health actors had reported 19 confirmed cases of wild polio virus in Pakistan in 2019; identifying the majority of cases in KPK. The number of new polio cases in Pakistan has declined in recent years—from 306 confirmed cases in 2014 to 12 confirmed cases in 2018—as a result of heightened surveillance, vaccination, and response efforts. In March, through the GoP-led Pakistan Polio Eradication Program, health actors vaccinated

20.5 million children younger than five years of age against polio in 97 districts and towns as part of a Sub-National Immunization Days campaign. During the month, the GoP also introduced all-age polio vaccinations for travelers crossing between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

CONTEXT

- Since 2008, ongoing conflict between the GoP and militants in KP had displaced an estimated 5.3 million Pakistanis as of May 2018, with nearly 29,700 households remaining displaced in KP, including the former FATA, as of December 2018, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Although both spontaneous and GoP-assisted returns to areas of origin continue amid improved security conditions, the overall security situation in Pakistan remains volatile, with security incidents and sectarian violence—as well as limited livelihood opportunities and service availability in areas of return—contributing to continued humanitarian needs.
- In addition, Pakistan frequently experiences natural disasters, including drought and floods. Recurring disasters, combined with chronic poverty, limit the ability of vulnerable households to recover and result in additional displacement and humanitarian needs. Since 2010, natural disasters have displaced more than 17 million people across Pakistan, according to the UN.
- Pakistan continues to host refugees fleeing conflict in Afghanistan, with approximately 1.4 million Afghans holding GoP-issued PoR cards residing in Pakistan as of April. Since 2002, UNHCR has facilitated the return of more than 4.3 million refugees from Pakistan to Afghanistan.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE PAKISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2018-2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$14,700,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Sindh	\$150,000
	Program Support		\$215,692
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$15,065,692
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Azad Jammu and Kashmir (ADK), Balochistan, KPk	\$2,512,755
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food, Complementary Services, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$19,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$21,512,755
USAID/Pakistan			
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,900,000
TOTAL USAID/PAKISTAN FUNDING			\$1,900,000
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partner	Assistance for Conflict-Affected Populations	Countrywide	\$4,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$4,100,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE PAKISTAN RESPONSE IN FY 2018-2019			\$42,578,447

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents committed or obligated amounts as of June 28, 2019.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>