

HIGHLIGHTS

- With the onset of winter, recent returnees to FATA and those affected by the earthquakes in Balochistan are among an estimated 1.2 million people living in vulnerable circumstances and in need of urgent winter support.
- Thousands of vulnerable people's access to critical assistance in KP and FATA continues to be constrained by delays in the processing of permits required for humanitarian activities.

FIGURES

Affected by earthquakes in Sept. 2013 (PDMA)	185,000
Returnees to FATA in 2013 (FDMA)	115,000
Estimated IDPs in KP and FATA (UNHCR)	1 million
Estimated returnees to FATA since 2009 (FDMA)	1.4 million
Registered Afghan refugees (UNHCR)	1.6 million
Affected by floods in 2013 (NDMA)	1.5 million
Food insecure (National Nutrition Survey)	58 %

2013 FUNDING

Complex Emergency in KP and FATA

68m(US\$)
Required until December 2013 under the Humanitarian Operational Plan (HOP).

209m* of 330m**(US\$)
Contributed up to November 2013 for projects in the HOP.

*Includes a Government of Pakistan \$25 million in-kind donation of 150,000 metric tons of wheat.

**The total requirements do not equal the total of gaps and funds received, as gaps are pro-rated monthly.



OCHA/Humaira Mehboob

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1.2 million people urgently need winter items

The lack of adequate shelter during the winter months will increase health problems among people affected by emergencies. Pneumonia, measles, frostbite and acute respiratory infections peak from November to February.

According to the shelter cluster 1.2 million people require non-food items (NFIs) such as blankets, quilts, shawls, kitchen sets, sleeping or plastic mats, jerry cans and solar lamps to cope with the harsh winter expected this year. This caseload comprises returnees and IDPs in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) as well as people recovering from earthquakes and floods in Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh.

The onset of winter poses particular concerns in relation to recent IDP returnees to the Tirah Valley in FATA, where the majority of houses are reported as destroyed. Returnees to Upper Swat, Kohistan, Upper Dir, Shangla, Buner and Lower Dir in KP; South Waziristan, North Waziristan and Kurram Agency in FATA and thousands of those affected by floods in Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan are still in need of shelter. Likewise, those affected by the earthquakes in Balochistan in September face serious risks; between 80 and 90 per cent of houses in the villages visited in Awaran and Kech districts were damaged or destroyed by the earthquakes, according to findings of an assessment conducted by non-governmental organizations.

In earthquake-affected areas of Balochistan, Government and humanitarian distributions have met the majority of immediate needs, but as the majority of tents and NFI packages that were distributed were not winterized, they will not provide adequate protection for families with damaged and destroyed houses in the coming months.

Health preparedness on-going ahead of the winter

In addition to the ongoing efforts with respect to shelter, Government authorities and humanitarian partners are undertaking public health preparedness for winter and cold waves to prevent and mitigate the adverse health effects of cold temperatures in high-risk areas, but some areas are inaccessible due to security concerns.

WHO has prepositioned 38 emergency health kits for 80,000 people for three months and two inter-agency emergency health kits with five additional boxes for 20,000 people for three months in snow-prone areas, to supplement the Department of Health's medical stocks, but some areas are inaccessible due to security concerns. WHO is also

Non-food items required during winter		
Relief item	Quantity	Cost (US\$)
Blankets/Quilts	657,049	4,680,688.36
Shawls	1,018,168	3,490,862.40
Kitchen sets	169,695	3,797,929.00
Sleeping/plastic mats	489,494	792,514.26
Jerry cans	169,295	217,664.61
Solar lamps	169,695	1,402,809.52
Total		14,382,468.15



boosting health partners' capacity to manage acute respiratory infections at health centres and district hospitals.

Heating facilities are urgently needed in health facilities, especially in children's wards, and referral mechanisms need to be strengthened in vulnerable areas.

First phase of Tirah Valley returns concludes

39 per cent of registered IDPs from Tirah Valley supported to return home

The first phase of facilitated returns to the Tirah Valley in FATA concluded on 5 November, with nearly 31,000 registered internally displaced people (6,187 families) supported to return home, according to UNHCR and the FATA Disaster Management Authority.

The returnees represent 39 per cent of the 80,000 registered people displaced from the valley earlier this year due to increased hostilities between rival armed groups and security operations.

The returning families received free transportation, monthly food packages, non-food items, drinking water, basic health-care, nutrition and protection services. The returns were facilitated through two centres; one in Jerma, Kohat District, and the other in Sadda in Kurram Agency; and monitored by humanitarian partners. The table below shows statistics of registered families supported to return to Tirah Valley during the first phase:

Return centre	Camp families	Off-camp families	Total returnee families
Jerma, Kohat District	4	2,400	2,404
Sadda, Kurram Agency	513	3,270	3,783
Total	517	5,670	6,187

Source: UNHCR

The next phase of the returns is slated for March 2014. Humanitarian partners are working with local authorities to address logistical and bureaucratic challenges experienced during the first phase of the returns to ensure more principled returns in March. The table below provides statistics of all IDP returns in 2013 as of 5 November:

Month	Kurram	South Waziristan	Mohmand	Bajaur	Khyber (Tirah Valley)	Total returnee families
June	0	0	186	559	0	745
July	10,263	1,900	0	0	0	12,163
August	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0	1,712	1,712
October	0	0	0	0	3,640	3,640
November	0	0	0	0	835	835
Total	10,263	1,900	186	559	6,187	19,095

Source: UNHCR

Meanwhile, nearly 1 million people remain displaced in KP and FATA. Humanitarian partners require \$68 million to continue to provide assistance to the IDPs and returnees until the end of the year.

Humanitarian partners are working with local authorities during the current pause in returns to address logistical and bureaucratic challenges experienced during the first phase of the returns. The next phase is slated for March 2014.

Access constraints remain in KP and FATA

INGO Memoranda of Understanding¹

While it is expected the Government's recent consultations on the draft INGO registration guidelines and legislation will support the work of INGOs in Pakistan, in their absence, INGOs continue to face delays in the renewal of their Memoranda of Understanding, four-month interim permissions to work in Pakistan, visas, and project implementation permits. While these consultations continue, organizations hope for speedy issuance of interim permissions as it is expected the Parliamentary process to adopt the draft legislation may be a lengthy one.

The processing of NOCs required for the implementation of humanitarian activities needs to be expedited to facilitate the provision of assistance to IDPs and returnees in need in KP and FATA.

Delays in processing permits hamper the provision of critical assistance

Thousands of vulnerable people's access to critical assistance in KP and FATA continues to be constrained by delays in the processing of "Non-Objection Certificates" (NOCs) required for the implementation of humanitarian activities, as evidenced by data collected on project and travel NOC applications submitted from July to September 2013 from 10 international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and seven national NGOs (NNGOs).

Project NOCs

Project NOCs are required to implement any humanitarian activities in designated areas in Pakistan. The data collected indicate the average time required to process project NOCs in KP and FATA has been reduced from three months during the second quarter of 2013 to 10 weeks, against the official processing time duration of six weeks.

While this is an improvement, a processing time of 10 weeks continues to hamper the provision of assistance to IDPs and returnees across northwestern Pakistan and speedier issuance of Project NOCs could help to save lives .

Travel NOCs

Travel NOCs are required to travel to a project after the project NOC is issued. The refusal rate for travel NOCs for KP and FATA dropped to seven per cent) during the third quarter, (compared to 40 per cent and 20 per cent during the first and second quarter, respectively).

For the first time, however, three-week delays were noted in the processing of travel NOCs, instead of the official one week, delaying the provision of assistance.

The UN continues to advocate with authorities to expedite the processing of NOCs to facilitate the provision of assistance to people in need.

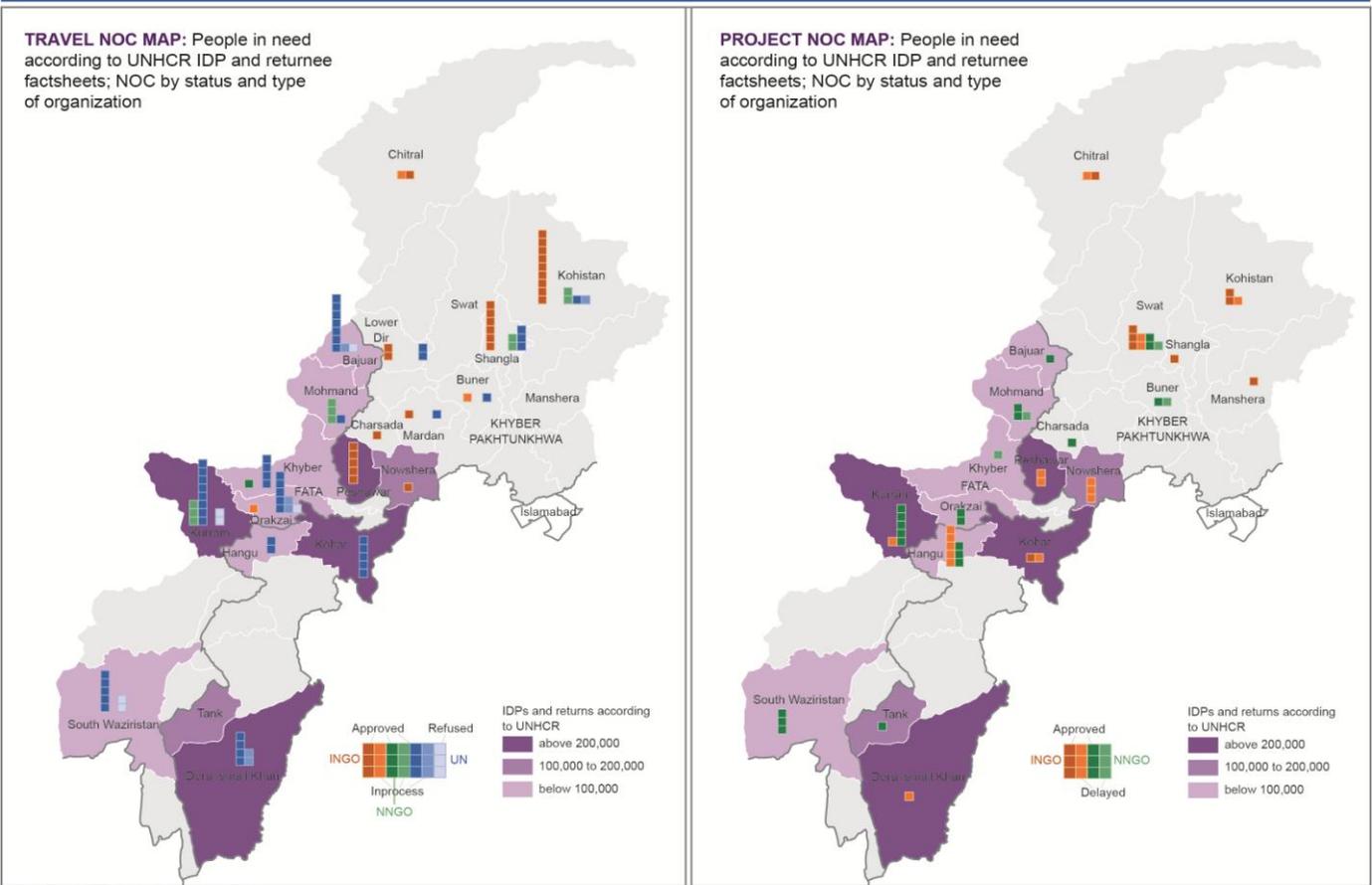
Continued limited humanitarian space for INGOs in FATA and southern KP

Access to IDPs and returnees in FATA and southern KP is particularly limited for INGOs. During the third quarter of 2013, only one INGO applied for a project NOC in FATA, which was still pending at the end of the reporting period, despite significant needs in FATA. Dera Ismail Khan in southern KP hosts 200,000 IDPs in need of assistance that could be delivered by INGOs. However, NGOs have gained greater access to people in need in northern KP during the third quarter. By contrast, 64 per cent of an average 59 UN travel NOC for FATA were approved during the second and third quarter.

The below maps illustrate the status of project and travel NOC applications in KP and FATA during the third quarter and locations of vulnerable IDPs and returnees affected by delays and refusals.

¹ See Bulletin Issue 16, June 2013, for more details on this issue.

Pakistan: Travel and Project NOC Factsheet for KP and FATA (July 2013 - September 2013)



Sources: Humanitarian partners

Partners seek to combat rising polio cases

Four main 'reservoir' areas of wild poliovirus (type 1) prioritized in eradication campaign

While Pakistan has made significant progress towards the eradication of the wild poliovirus type 3, which has not been reported in the country since April 2012, 'reservoir' areas for the poliovirus type 1 remain and are considered to be of top priority if Pakistan is to eradicate polio. Such persistent wild poliovirus (type 1) transmission in Pakistan is restricted to Karachi (specifically Gadap Union Council), the Quetta Block (Quetta, Pishin and Killa Abdullah), KP, and FATA.

The volatile security situation and targeting of frontline health workers and security personnel in affected areas has resulted in the establishment of provincial and district security committees to engage law enforcement agencies and police forces in campaign planning and implementation.

Two new wild polio cases (type 1) reported

In November, three new wild polio cases (type 1) were reported; two from Punjab (District Toba Tek Singh) and one from FATA (North Waziristan Agency). This brings the total number of wild polio cases to 59 in 2013 in 17 districts/towns/tribal agencies ("areas") as compared to 56 cases in 2012 spread over 28 areas this time last year.

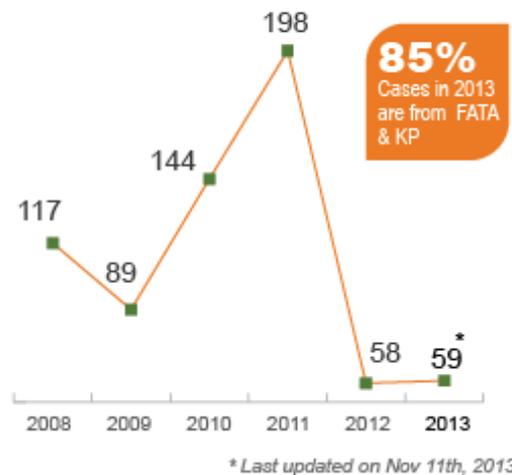
Further, genomic sequencing of the recent polio outbreak in Syria indicates that the virus isolated there is closely linked to a virus detected in environmental samples in Egypt in December 2012. Those samples were linked to wild poliovirus circulating in Pakistan as was the poliovirus detected in environmental samples in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip in February 2013.

As long as polio exists in enclaves like North Waziristan, where vaccinators have been unable to reach children for more than a year and where cases are on the rise, the world will always be at risk of outbreaks.

Vaccination campaigns to stamp out the virus

In an effort to extend the campaign reach, immunization provisions (for type 1 and type 3) are now staggered in localized campaigns in selected areas rather than engaging in highly publicized National Immunization Days across the country on specified dates.

Pakistan Polio Case Counter



Health workers conducted an additional vaccination round in October in all the planned districts, except Swabi in KP, due to administrative issues. The last nation-wide, but low profile vaccination campaign this year is scheduled for the second half of November, depending on the security situation and targeting some 34.5 million children.

This progress is the result of concerted efforts of the Government and all levels of civil society to implement a national polio emergency action plan, aimed at overcoming long-standing

challenges during polio activities.

More children are being reached than ever before, in particular, in the traditional reservoir areas of Peshawar, Karachi and Quetta Block.

For further information, please contact: ochapakistan@un.org

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