

Sitrep number	2
Date of situation report	Tuesday, 21 January 2020
Type of disaster	Snowfall
Affected state	Balochistan
People died	21
People injured	23
Families affected	136,836
Livestock damaged	382,386
People Affected	1.1 million
Response agency	Muslim Aid (MA)
Reporting country	Pakistan
Muslim Aid funding secured	GBP 40,000
Key contacts in the country	Syed Shahnawaz Ali (CD-Pakistan), Jannat Durrani (HoP)

This situation report is prepared to highlight the current situation of the affected areas of the province of Balochistan due to the recent snowfall and heavy rains. Muslim Aid (MA) Pakistan emergency response team in close collaboration with the sector partners and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) – Balochistan is carrying out relief activities to save lives. The information presented in this document is collected to the date of release and might change in the coming days. The first situation report is published on Relief Web [click here](#) for review.

Summary Highlights

The number of people who died in the recent snow spell has increased to 105, with the highest reported in AJ& K (78) and Balochistan (20). National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has reported that the damage to houses has significantly increased mostly located in Balochistan (1,057) during the reporting period. The total number of affected people in Pakistan due to this ongoing disaster isn't officially communicated by the government authorities.



After a spell of heavy rain and snowfall across the province of Balochistan, the Government of Balochistan has declared a state of emergency in 11 which includes Quetta, Ziarat, Pishin, Kila Abdullah, Kachhi, Mastung, Harnai, Kila Saifullah, Loralai, Kalat and Kech. Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has provided weather forecasts which anticipates another wave of rain/snowfall to enter Balochistan in the last week of January. The current weather conditions and the forthcoming spell will further worsen the situation. PMD is monitoring the situation and will issue weather alerts to the relevant authorities for timely action.

Rescue efforts are ongoing and major highways and link roads are being cleared in the affected provinces, however, access to remote areas/villages is extremely limited.



Humanitarian agencies and national and provincial disaster management authorities have decided to carry out a rapid needs assessment to understand the needs and funding requirements across sectors in the affected areas while the response is ongoing by the authorities, NGOs and the UN.

Below is the key development of the situation during the reporting period by Muslim Aid's Emergency Response Team.

- On 20th January Chairmen NDMA visited PDMA office where he was briefed about the current declared emergency of the province. Further to this visit, NDMA might declare a national emergency. Subsequent to that notification, PDMA will inform and allowed the humanitarian

- organisation to execute relief activities in support of existing efforts of PDMA.
- On the ground humanitarian organisations have activated emergency response and asked their field teams to remain to stand by till PDMA give a green signal.
 - On 21st of January, OCHA delegation has arrived in Quetta for a meeting with Director General (DG) PDMA Balochistan. After the meeting, restructuring and reactivation of working groups will be finalised.
 - On 21st of January, Muslim Aid ERT attended the 1st meeting of food security working group.
 - Muslim Aid has planned to immediately distribute 250 winterised kit in district Killa Saifullah. ERT has conducted a meeting with DG PDMA to acquire NOC for the distribution of winterised.
 - National level coordination group has been developed by PDMA
 - PDMA Balochistan has developed relief and vaccination camps in targeted districts.
 - FAO has arranged 590 metric tons of animal compounds for affected areas.
 - WFP has planned to distribute food items to 30,000 families in affected districts.

Situation Overview

The people of the north and south-west provinces of Pakistan namely Balochistan and AJ&K, Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) faced an unexpected heavy spell of rain/snowfall and avalanches during the last week. Most of the areas are cut off with limited access to remote areas in the affected districts.



As rapid assessment conducted by PDMA in affected districts, it shows that approximately 1.1 million people are impacted, 136,836 families have been affected by snowfall and heavy rains. The total population of the province is 1,775,937 families. The affected families are living with the host families and no communal camps have been established by authorities to date.

Road accessibility was the major challenge in the affected areas of Balochistan. Heavy snow had caused severe blockade of roads infrastructure in the districts. In Balochistan, most of the villages in remote areas are also not accessible as roads are blocked by heavy snow and affected communities require food, warm clothing, cooking fuel and NFIs to survive the harsh the weather. In the absence of proper clothing, shelter and health care in the affected areas, the affected people, particularly children and elderly are vulnerable to pneumonia and respiratory infections.

It is worth mentioning here that Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecasted further heavy rains and snowfall during the last week of January and it is feared that situation may deteriorate. The provincial government has requested humanitarian organisations to support in conducting a needs assessment, providing shelters, Non-Food Items (NFIs), food, medicines, the establishment of relief camps, reconstruction/ rehabilitation of houses, water, health and educational facilities, and for reviving livelihood of the affected population.



Snowfall Affected Areas

PDMA with support of district governments and other humanitarian organisations is collecting data. To date, the official assessment reports are not yet compiled and shared with the general public. However, according to PDMA control room preliminary information (information that has been received through district administration), the following districts, tehsils and number of families have been affected.

Districts in Need	Tehsils Affected	Families Affected	Description
Ziarat	Whole district	22,917	As majority people of the said districts are living in mud houses, so there is high probability that their houses may have been damaged either partially or fully by the heavy rain and snowfall. -Moreover, most of these tehsils are located at rural areas where livestock is the main source of livelihood, so, it has estimated that 382,386 animals have been affected by the recent snow and heavy rain.
Pishin	Karezat and Barshore	34,555	
Kachhi	Dadar	6,064	
Mastung	Dasht	9,252	
Killa Saifullah	Muslim Bagh	11,228	
Loralai	Bori	7,822	
Kalat	Khaliqabad	9,380	
Harnai	Khoast	1747	
Kech	Tump and Mand	28,157	
Quetta	Sadar	5714	



Map 1: The above map exhibits districts where PDMA Balochistan has declared an emergency and extending rescue and relief services. Muslim Aid has joined hands with the authority in district Killa Saifullah.

Gaps and Needs

PDMA has officially requested below support from humanitarian organisations.

- Supporting in assessing the damages for different sectors
- Providing relief to affected communities which may include shelter, food and non-food items
- Establishing free medical camps for the affected communities
- Supplying live-saving medicines
- Supporting in the establishment of relief camps
- Supporting communities in rehabilitating houses, water reservoirs, health and education facilities
- Supporting the affected communities for reviving their livelihood
- If any other need could be identified through the assessment

Response Update

Immediate Response by MA Pakistan

- Muslim Aid has already deployed staff to coordinate a response with provincial authorities and humanitarian partners in the affected provinces.
- Muslim Aid provincial team is in close coordination with PDMA and other stakeholders for rescue operations in District Killa Saifullah.
- Further PDMA has sought support from Muslim Aid and other humanitarian agencies for rescue and relief activities. The humanitarian agencies and the PDMA (Balochistan) are conducting rapid needs assessments to better understand the need and funding requirements across sectors in the affected areas.
- Muslim Aid has developed a proposal for distribution of winterised kits among 250 affected families of district Killa Saifullah.

Project Name	Donor	Budget	Beneficiaries	Progress
Balochistan Snowfall Emergency Response (BSER)	MA UK	20,000 GBP	5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA-HQ has launched an appeal and runs a fundraising campaign to support the response. • MA-HQ is requested to approve a total of GBP 25,000 to facilitate relief efforts in Balochistan.
	MA USA	25,000 USD	3,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA USA has launched an appeal and runs a fundraising campaign to support the response. • MA USA is requested to approve a total of GBP 25,000 to facilitate relief efforts in Balochistan.

Immediate Response by PDMA Balochistan

- PDMA sent relief items and salt bags to various vulnerable districts for pre-stocking so that to cope up with the emergency.
- For highway clearing, PDMA deployed 20 tractors and 10 graders at different spots
- To support metropolitan Quetta, PDMA supplied 3 d-watering pumps.
- 3000 individuals including women and children have been rescued by PDMA who were stuck up at different site (highways) and provided them with cooked food and warm clothes.
- As the heavy rain and snowfall caused a humanitarian crisis's in the province, PDMA with support of health department established five medical camps.
- Provided relief to six thousand families through heli service.

Muslim Aid is Extending Rescue Support

Deployment of 4x4 Vehicle in District Killa Saifullah

Muslim Aid has a dedicated field office located in district Killa Saifullah which is one of the districts where snowfall emergency is declared by the PDMA. As the death count grew within few hours of snowfall and heavy rainfall Muslim Aid management decided to join hands with PDMA to facilitate the rescue operation by deploying a 4x4 vehicle. The vehicle is still being used by PDMA for rescue operations.



Key Informants' Interviews and Meetings

Meeting of Food Security Working Group at PDMA Office

The first meeting of Food Security Group was conducted at PDMA Balochistan Quetta office which was attended by Muslim Aid ERT. In the meeting, the general situation of emergency, issues faced by the affected families and challenges faced by the humanitarian organisation was discussed. It was requested to allow the organisations for timely response to affected districts. Further, it was also discussed by member organisations that due to PDMA restriction, organisations are facing difficulties to estimate the losses related to Food Security and Livelihood. PDMA assured this issue of access will be resolved by 22nd of January.



List of key stakeholders

Following are the key stakeholders identified in the first 24 hours of response.

Sr. #	Department	Respondent	Title	District/Region
1.	PDMA Balochistan	Mr. Imran Zarkon	Director General PDMA	Quetta
2.	PDMA Balochistan	Mr. Abdul Gaffar	Representative	Quetta
3.	PDMA Balochistan	Mr Liaqat Baloch	Director revenue and planning	Quetta
4.	Deputy Commissioners Office			Balochistan
5.	Islamic Relief Pakistan	Mr Ali Dost	Head of Baluchistan	Quetta
6.	HANDS Pakistan	Mr. Dawood	Program manager	Quetta
7.	Balochistan Rural Support Programme			Balochistan
8.	National Humanitarian Network			Balochistan

Potential Donors

Below is the potential list of funding opportunities:

Agency	Amount	Status
Pakistan Diaspora UK	GBP XXX	1.1 million Pakistan diaspora lives in the UK – Muslim Aid UK office is approaching them through a fundraising campaign.
Oxfam Pakistan	GBP XXX	
Pak Aid	GBP XXX	
Qatar Charity	GBP XXX	

Media/Communication

- Developing daily media monitoring reports for internal and external stakeholders.
- Developing daily situation reports.
- Generated web dust using social media platforms through infographics, pictures and footage collected from the field.
- A dedicated web page is established on the official Muslim Aid Pakistan website: collating information related to this disaster.

Visit disaster's section by clicking below link:

<https://www.muslimaid.org.pk/disasters/balochistansnow/>



BALOCHISTAN SNOWFALL EMERGENCY RESPONSE 2019
HEAVY SNOWFALL CRIPPLES LIFE ACROSS BALOCHISTAN



Life came to a standstill across Balochistan due to heavy rain and snowfall with the provincial government declaring emergency.



Bound in snow-cold weather, vulnerable and underprivileged women have become a worrisome picture of helplessness, leaving people heartbroken.



The north and west of Balochistan has been blanketed by snow as extreme cold has hit the region. People are stuck in their partially or fully damaged houses.



Due to snowfall major highways were blocked and hundreds of vehicles were stranded in certain areas of the province.



An estimated 382,386 animals have been affected by the recent snow and heavy rain. Livestock is the main source of livelihood in rural settings in Balochistan.



Muslim Aid is on the ground to assess the needs of the affected families who are in dire need of shelter, food and water. They are helplessly waiting for rescue and relief support.

For more information visit: www.muslimaid.org.pk [/MuslimAidPakistan](https://www.facebook.com/MuslimAidPakistan) [/MuslimAid_PK](https://www.instagram.com/MuslimAid_PK)

Picture credits: Provincial Disaster Management Authority – Balochistan

Contact Us

For more information regarding MA Pakistan's response to the drought/drought-like situation in Pakistan please contact:

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