

**Situation Report 7 – Earthquake in Pakistan
18 November 2008**

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) reports that at least 5,000 winterized tents are required immediately. NDMA, Government of Balochistan, UN Agencies and the humanitarian community are working on the Winter Response Plan in the earthquake affected areas of Ziarat and Pishin districts.**
- **According to WHO-Ministry of Health (MoH) joint assessment, it is estimated that 30 to 35% of the affected population need some kind of psychosocial support.**

SITUATION

1. An earthquake of magnitude 6.4 has hit Balochistan province in south-western Pakistan on 29 October. According to the US Geological Survey, the epicenter of the quake was in Chiltan mountains, 80 kilometers northwest of Quetta. The first tremor struck at 4:09 am local time (23:09 GMT) at a depth of 10 kilometer while the second one came at 5:15 am. The affected region is the mountainous area extending from Ziarat, about 110 KMs northeast of Quetta to Pishin, Qilla Abdullah to Chaman (border town along Afghan border). Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) reports that the worst hit area falls within villages Khanozai and Topa Achakzai in eastern Pishin district and Wachun Kawas village in Ziarat district and possibly Harnai district (east of Ziarat).

2. With the current freezing temperatures, reconstruction of houses will not be possible until April and transitional housing will be required for the affected population. Women and children specifically are at a greater risk of illness and display more significant signs of depression and trauma. The Government of Balochistan, NDMA and humanitarian community are working on the Winter Response Plan which focuses on the distribution of winterized tents and NFIs and constructing transitional shelters for the affected population.

RESPONSE

SHELTER AND NFIs

3. The Shelter Cluster coordination is co-led by the Provincial Disaster Management Agency and IFRC and is based in Quetta. Among partners, Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP), UN Habitat and the Emergency Shelter Coordination (ESC) Information Management are providing shelter services.

4. As of 13 November NDMA/PDMA, Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA), the Military and BRSP have collectively distributed more than 9,000 tents and 65,000 blankets/quilts. The military has supported a number of organisations with the distribution of relief good. Currently 25 national and international organisations are involved in the shelter/NFI relief activities. In total, about 50 transitional shelters/shelter kits have been constructed/distributed, 2,000 are in the pipeline and 11,500 are being planned for distribution. More than 5,500 winterized tents have been distributed and approximately 5,000 additional will be distributed soon. According to the Provincial Disaster Management Authority, at least 5,000 additional winterized tents are required immediately. The data distribution of NFIs is not centralised yet but is expected to be compiled this week.

5. PRCS has dispatched 6,042 normal tents, 1,491 winterized tents, 34,206 blankets, 12,370 plastic sheets, 560 coal stoves, 2,580 kerosene stoves, 3,233 kitchen set, 6,530 jerry cans, 1,996 quilts, 5000 jackets and 3,875 hygiene kits to Ziarat and Pishin districts. So far, 3,361 normal tents, 1,491 winterised tents, 16,386 blankets, 4,420 tarpaulin sheets, 1,996 quilts, 2,580 kerosene stoves, 6,530 jerry cans, 1,000 food packs, 1,380 jackets along with miscellaneous items have been distributed benefiting 7,141 families.



6. CWS distributed winterised tents and blankets in various villages of the three affected areas of Zindra, Kawas, and Kech. Over the past week, the team distributed a total of 496 winterized tents and 1,984 blankets. The team also reported looting of 15 tents and 35 blankets by a local community in Ziarat. The action was out of desperation for winterised tents. The team plans to distribute another 200 winterised tents and 800 blankets in Khanozai and Balozai, Pishin district, an area from which people do not migrate during winter.

FOOD

7. WFP will provide 700 tons of food to meet the needs of 20,000 earthquake affected people for two months. WFP and NDMA have agreed to closely coordinate in order to avoid any duplication of effort. WFP food distribution started on 3 November. As of 11 November approximately 300 tons of food assistance has reached 20,000 people in Ziarat and Pishin districts.

8. Government of Pakistan and various NGOs also provided food relief. As of 11 November, the Pakistani Army distributed 517 tons of food to approximately 50,000 people. NGOs distributed up to 336 tons of food in Ziarat district. In Pishin and Harnai districts, there are few NGOs working and total NGO food assistance in these districts may be less than 20 tons.

9. In total, as of 11 November, approximately 1,170 tons of food was distributed to 55,000 people. This represents 40 days of food needs (based on WFP's ration size). The food situation in the earthquake affected area is considered saturated. Additional distributions will only be required in late December and early January. However, access problems due to snowfall may need consideration when deciding on distribution schedule for certain locations.

HEALTH

10. WHO reports that in Ziarat district, 20 of the total 38 health facilities are completely damaged including two rural health centres (RHCs), eight basic health units (BHUs) and four civil dispensaries (CDs); five BHUs and one dispensary are also partially damaged. The population serviced by these facilities is more than 60,000 people. In Pishin district, 9 out of 57 health facilities are damaged, including the Tehsil Headquarters Hospital in Khanozai, a 20-bed facility, and 4 BHUs; in addition, 3 BHUs and 3 dispensaries are partially damaged. The Khanozai Hospital staff is providing health services outside the facility and there is no in-patient facility. Patients with minor ailment are admitted for day-care in an open area with limited facilities while those requiring long term in-patient treatment are referred to tertiary level care hospitals in Quetta. In Harnai district, two BHUs have been destroyed.

11. Disease Early Warning System (DEWS) activated in Ziarat and Pishin districts, reports no outbreak of communicable diseases in the affected areas. However, the number of cases of acute respiratory infections is increasing mainly due to harsh cold weather and poor shelter conditions. In Ziarat district, acute respiratory infections are the leading cause of consultation and account for 51% (3048 cases) of all consultations. Acute diarrhoea accounts for 4% (253) of consultations and bloody diarrhoea, scabies, malaria and fever for 1% each. In Ziarat, 15 sources of drinking water were found to be contaminated with faecal coliform. In collaboration with the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and UNICEF, WHO is working on water quality control and on ways to address water and sanitation issues in affected districts.

12. Due to the high number of patients reporting symptoms of post traumatic stress syndrome, WHO has launched a mental health initiative with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and partners. Since 3 November, four mental health teams of psychiatrists and physicians have been working in Kawas and Ahmadoon RHCs and Khan BHU in Ziarat district and in Khanozai Hospital in Pishin district. According to a joint WHO-MoH assessment mission, it is estimated that 30 to 35% of the affected population need some kind of psychosocial support. According to the first week consultations from three mental health team, 55% of the cases relate to psychosomatic disorder, 25% to grief reaction, 10% to old cases with relapse (psychoses & depression), 7% to acute stress reaction and 1% each to acute psychotic symptoms, anxiety disorder and seizure disorder due to head injury. WHO pharmacist visited the affected health facilities of Ziarat and Pishin districts and provided on-the-job training to the relevant staff on inventory management in order to organise the medicines effectively at facility level.



13. WHO and UNICEF are supporting the Department of Health (DoH) to conduct measles and routine immunization campaigns in Ziarat, Pishin and Harnai districts. In Ziarat, campaigns have been completed in four out of 10 affected Union Councils. Overall, 9,346 children received routine immunization and 8,097 children aged 6 months to 13 years were vaccinated against measles. UNICEF has sent 950 cartons of BP-5 biscuits to Quetta to support nutrition services in affected districts. UNICEF hired the services of several male and female religious leaders to conduct community sessions on psychosocial trauma.

14. Mercy Corps is providing health services in Kawas and Ahmadoon RHCs, Ziarat district. They have also established a diagnostic laboratory in Ahmadoon RHC and are planning to establish another in Kawas. They are planning to continue their services for the next 3 months in Ahmadoon. Mercy Corps has deployed mobile teams in Thangi, Killi Haji Rahim and Killi Ghulam Nabi, in Wam area, Ziarat district and is planning to train community on psychosocial trauma.

15. MSF-H has two mobile units in the affected areas, providing general health and mental services. MSF-H provided temporary structures and necessary equipment for the Kan Bangla BHU, Ziarat district.

16. IOM medical teams are conducting daily outreach clinics in Union Council Kach and Kawas Union Councils of Ziarat district, 70km north-east of Quetta, the Balochi capital. The two teams, which include female psychologists and social workers, have so far assessed the physical, social and psychological needs of affected people in several remote villages including Wam, Kili Ahmed Khan, Kili Sarang Zai and Warghargai.

17. With the support of Relief International, the Taraqee Foundation has two mobile units providing primary health care, health education and mental health services in Ziarat district. They plan to continue their services for the next two months. They are working in close coordination with Ziarat Health Executive District Officer. In collaboration with CARE International, they distributed hygiene kits and NFIs for 200 households in Ziarat.

18. Medics and paramedics from IMC are providing around 180 consultations daily. They are planning to support the DoH for mental, physical and social health. Johanniter International mobile units have treated 2,175 patients between 1 to 10 November in Ziarat and Pishin districts.

19. Since 3 November, a mobile unit, comprising one female doctor, one male doctor, one midwife, one dispenser and two health promoters, is providing comprehensive primary health care services (including maternal and child health and delivery) in Union Councils Kach, Kawas and Zawar in Ziarat district. The mobile unit has conducted 1,368 curative consultations, 72 antenatal, 37 postnatal consultations, eight family planning consultations and three deliveries. Merlin will be distributing clean delivery and hygiene kits to pregnant women with the support of UNFPA. As of 13 November, UNFPA 3 Mobile Service Units (2 MSUs in district Ziarat and 1 in Pishin) have treated a total of 10,245 patients. A total of 822 injured patients and 884 cases of gastroenteritis, and 81 cases of scabies have been treated among general out patients so far. Antenatal consultations have increased to 255 with 145 postnatal consultations. A total of 17 deliveries were conducted with support of UNFPA while 9 post abortion care and 285 cases of STIs have been treated in district Ziarat and Pishin. UNFPA is providing support to Tehsil Hospital Khanozai in Pishin district by providing medicines, RH kits and referral support.

20. Three medical teams of Pakistan Army Medical Corps are working continuously in Ziarat and Pishin districts. Two medical teams from the Pakistani Red Crescent Society are also working in Ziarat district

WASH

21. As of 13 November, about 25,826 earthquake affected people have been reached with safe drinking water through WASH Cluster interventions. Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED), with UNICEF support, is providing safe drinking water to 6,671 individuals in Ziarat district through water tankering (six tankers supplying 81,000 liters of water/day). PHED has installed thirteen 13 water tanks in Ziarat having a capacity of 5,000 (11 water tanks) and 10,000 liters (two water tanks). PHED, with UNICEF support, has restored five partially damaged water supply schemes in Khawash and Warchi, providing drinking water to 18,645 individuals. PHED has mobilized and installed 10 water

filtration units, from the Clean Drinking Water for All (CDWA) project, to five affected villages in Ziarat and five affected villages in Pishin.

22. 5,000 families are benefiting from the distribution of 9,886 /10 liter collapsible jerry cans for safe household storage and handling of drinking water in both districts.

23. UNICEF implementing partners Participatory Integrated Development Society (PIDS) and BRSP have provided approximately 8,100 persons with adequate sanitation facilities through the construction of 405 latrines and work is in progress on an additional 495 latrines. 50 bathing facilities for displaced populations have been constructed in Ziarat district and an additional 100 are under construction. PIDS, BRSP and Water Environment and Sanitation Society (WESS) have reached 24,000 people through dissemination of appropriate hygiene education messages on the risks associated with drinking contaminated water and unsafe hygiene practices. 2,000 families have been reached through the distribution of 2,000 hygiene kits by UNICEF. An additional 4,000 are being distributed by CWS.

24. Water Quality analysis at 16 sites has been done in Ziarat district with the support of Oxfam GB. It has found that all sources are safe for provision of drinking water purposes.

25. The WASH Cluster has completed WASH response mapping at the Union Council level. Mapping at the village level will be initiated.

26. **Gaps:** issues identified by the cluster:

- a. Due to the weather conditions, the sustainability of latrines constructed using tarpaulin sheets and bamboo has been an issue of concern for the Cluster. Designs are being reviewed and modified by Cluster members to ensure adequate lifespan of the latrines.
- b. A joint strategy is being developed for integration of water and sanitation interventions in the transitional shelter strategy. The Government of Balochistan has also highlighted the importance of this integration.
- c. Monitoring of WASH interventions is being addressed by Cluster members with the development of a monitoring strategy

EDUCATION

27. 76 winterized school tents will be delivered by 20 November to the affected areas. 250 recreational kits and 70 School In a Box kits have been mobilized from contingency stock and delivered to Quetta warehouse.

28. UNICEF partner organisations SCSPEB (Society for Community Support for Primary Education in Balochistan) and SEHER are engaged in Ziarat and Harnai districts to setup Temporary Learning Centres.

29. **Gaps:** issues identified by the cluster:

- a. The Department of Education has announced automatic promotion for all children in earthquake-affected areas of Karezat, Ziarat and Harnai. However, it is important that children are facilitated to complete the remaining part of the curriculum.
- b. During the winter vacation the teachers are usually not available in the communities therefore special measures are required to engage them in continuing educational activities in Temporary Learning Centres.

PROTECTION

30. With the assistance of UNICEF, the rapid registration process by the Department of Social Welfare has identified 1,380 vulnerable children and 444 vulnerable women in the affected areas of the three districts of Ziarat, Pishin and Harnai. Analysis of the report is ongoing. To date, 1,075 blankets, 800 sweaters, 200 shawls, 400 socks, 620 shoes and 127 carry bags have been distributed to 1,200 children and 200 women in Ziarat and Pishin districts

31. More information can be found on Reliefweb at www.reliefweb.int.



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