



WHO's Surveillance Officer collecting disease data from Field Hospital (Photo: WHO)

Highlights

- Stagnant water in the affected areas may cause severe health issues along with dengue and other water borne diseases.
- 74 health facilities affected by flood, 326 Mobile Medical Teams and 367 Medical Camps are operational.
- LLITNs are needed for prevention of Malaria specially among pregnant women and under 5 children in flood affected districts.
- Vitamin A supplementation will be part of NID starting from 29th September 2014.
- Partners are on the ground, working closely with local authorities to support the affected populations with much needed food, non-food items, health services including medicines, emergency health kits, and monitoring the situation for water borne diseases.
- Despite challenges in terms of physical access to where the affected communities are located, due to floodwater and damaged roads, partners continue to work among the affected populations
- According to NDMA, an estimated 346 people are reported to have lost their lives and 620 people have been injured due to the flash floods. The number of fatalities is likely to increase as communication lines are re-established. According to NDMA more than 55,200 houses have been reported as damaged or destroyed while nearly 2.4 million acres of crop area has been affected by the floods. To provide immediate assistance to the affected families, 459 relief camps have been set up in the affected areas, providing emergency health care, cooked food, some non-food items and temporary shelter. The authorities expect an estimated total 3 million people to be affected by the floods in the coming days.
- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) requested the Humanitarian Community to roll out the Multi-sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) in five of the worst affected districts in Punjab -Jhang, Mandi Bahauddin, Multan, Chiniot and Hafizabad. The MIRA data is now available and under process for analysis and assessment report. To date, no formal request for international assistance from the federal Government has been received.
- Currently, the worst affected areas are in Punjab, Gilgit Baltistan, and Kashmir and Jammu. In northern and central Punjab, the water has been seen to recede. Physical access is a challenge as many roads are destroyed, and water covers access routes.
- The heavy spell of monsoon rains have resulted in exceptionally high levels of water in rivers Indus, Chenab and Jhelum causing flash floods in different areas of the country affecting Sialkot, Narowal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Mandi Bahauddin, Gujrat, Hafizabad, Jhelum, Chiniot, Sargodha and Okara in Punjab; Hattian Bala, Haveli and Sudhnoti in Azad Jammu & Kashmir; and Diamir in

Situation Update

Public Health Concerns

- High risk of water born diseases due to stagnant and contaminated water in the affected areas.
- Increase in ARI, Diarrhea, and Skin Diseases in affected population
- Damage to roads and infrastructures thus compromising access to information and health services.
- Shortage of essentially required medicines due to substantial magnitude of problem
- Accidents & injuries
- Shortage of Anti-Snake Venom & Anti-Rabies Vaccines
- Interruption in routine vaccination activities

Health needs, priorities and gaps

- The priority areas regarding health needs include potable drinking water, medicines for treating cases of ARI, Diarrhea and skin infections especially among children. There is urgent need for ORS in sufficient quantity. Anti-Malarial treatments and test kits are also required in the camps.
- Structured assessment of extent of damages and health needs is immediately required to know the magnitude of damages to health facilities and health needs including facilities in terms of HR, medicines, supplies and equipment etc.
- Appropriate sanitation & disposal services, health and hygiene education.
- Supplies for water purification & chlorination
- MNCH Services, RH and new born kits needed in the affected areas
- Transportation and Referral services to secondary and tertiary level health care facilities.
- Vaccination for commonly occurring diseases and routine EPI
- Prevention of Malaria by distributing LLITNs specially for pregnant women and under 5 children in affected areas.
- Clean delivery practice by providing Safe delivery kit (one for each pregnant woman)
- Vitamin A supplementation will be part of NID starting from 29th September 2014.
- The number of mobile teams and camps are reducing as flood waters from districts of Eastern and central punjab are receding. Health facilities in affected areas are resuming services delivery.
- As the floods are moving towards southern part of province and also water is accumulating in the villages and towns, chances of vector borne diseases like Malaria and Dengue fever is increasing.
- Search and rescue, Health (emergency medicine, Anti snake venom, emergency health kits, etc.) Food, Shelter, and safe drinking water, aqua tabs, are the prior needs of affected population. The government is currently providing cooked food to very limited people.

WHO's Action

- Establishment of Daily Reporting System involving DEWS from all affected districts, Data Collection, Analysis and sharing.
- Regular visits of WHO Field teams (Polio & DEWS) to the affected camps in all districts and report sharing regularly
- A rapid situation assessment exercise was conducted with the support of Polio Eradication Teams in all affected districts.
- Assessment of Intensified EPI campaign in affected districts by the Polio Team
- Sectoral Coordination meeting started at provincial level attended by UN, NGO, INGOs and Department of Health.
- Coordination mechanism with National Health Emergency Preparedness and response Network (NHEPRN), NDMA, UNICEF and UNFPA and NGO partners is in place at federal level in Islamabad.

Medicines and supplies provided:

Sr. No	Item Description	Number Provided	Remarks
1	Emergency Health Kits	35 Kits	1 EHK for 9000 population
2	Diarrheal Kits	15 Kits	1 DDK for Avg. 500 patients
3	Assorted Medicines	3 trucks	Additional to EHKs
4	Primaquine Tablets	100000	For Vivax Rx
5	ACTs (Adult & Child courses)	5800 courses	
6	Anti-Snake Venom	500 vials	
7	Aqua Tabs 67mg	1468000	1 tab for 10 liters
8	Aqua Tabs 33 mg	80000	1 tab for 4-6 Liters
9	Aqua Tabs 1.67gm	600	1 tab for 200 Liters
10	Aqua Pur Sachet	78000	For turbid water
11	Jerry Cans, containers & Buckets	900	10 & 20 Liters capacity
12	Dettol Soaps	7575	
13	Water Testing kits to IPH		Good for 10000 tests
14	Nerox Water Filter+ Life Straw	600+180	Water filtration at home
15	Safety Box + Syringe Cutters	1100+78	
16	Female Hygiene Kits	37	

Resource mobilization

Emergency health kits, ASVs, aqua tabs and medical supplies were provided from contingency stock available in WHO Warehouses in Multan and Lahore. The medicines need to be replenished to maintain supply chain for emergency response.

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