Standard Project Report 2015

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

PAKISTAN

Logistic's Cluster Coordination to Support the Humanitarian Community and Enhancement Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity

Project Number	200181
Project Category	Single Country Special Operation

Project End Date Financial Closure Date	30 Jun 2015
Project End Date	31 Mar 2015
Actual Start Date	13 Aug 2010
Planned Start Date	13 Aug 2010
Project Approval Date	19 Aug 2010

Approved budget as 31 December 2015 in USD						
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	70,331,725					
Direct Support Costs	7,981,624					
Indirect Support Costs	5,481,934					
Total Approved Budget	83,795,283					



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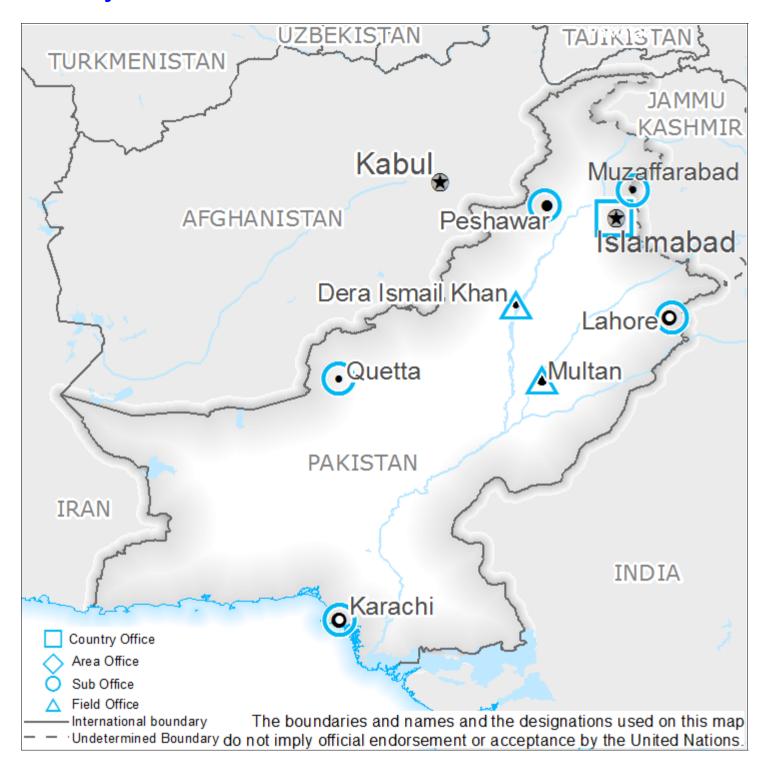
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COUNTRY BACKGROUND

In 2015, despite political uncertainties, energy shortfalls and natural disasters, Pakistan's macro-economic indicators improved and the country's economy demonstrated its resilience. In addition, Pakistan further progressed towards establishing peace and stability in the country's north-west. The Government of Pakistan established a phased plan in order to ensure progressive and sustainable return of the population displaced from the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) by the end of 2016 with its first phase beginning in March 2015.

Being a staple food surplus country and the 8th largest producer of wheat globally, Pakistan has sufficient national production of staple commodities to meet the needs of the country's estimated 190 million people. However, considerable social disparities and limited employment opportunities have made access to sufficient food and an adequate diet difficult, particularly for the poorest and most vulnerable segments of the society. Almost half of the population of Pakistan is estimated to be food insecure. Nationwide Global Acute Malnutrition rates amongst children under five exceed the World Health Organization's (WHO) critical threshold of 15 percent, and are as high as 23 percent in some parts of the Sindh province. Progress in narrowing the gender gap remains slow and significant disparities also persist between urban and rural populations, most notably in the access to social services such as healthcare and education.

While Pakistan's core inflation rate registered a 10-year low in September, efforts to build livelihoods and resilience continued to be undermined by natural and human-induced disasters. Approximately 1 million individuals, out of the 1.67 million progressively displaced since the beginning of law enforcement operations in 2008, are still in displacement and in need of humanitarian assistance. In March 2015, the government initiated the implementation of its Return and Rehabilitation strategy, as a result of which 677,000 previously displaced individuals returned to their areas of origin as of the end of the year. Natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes also affected the country in 2015. Monsoon rains which began in July caused flooding mainly in Sindh, Punjab, and Balochistan provinces, affecting 1.6 million individuals. A 7.5 magnitude earthquake in October affected large areas of Pakistan leaving 280 fatalities, 1.800 people injured and 100.000 houses damaged.

While a commitment to food and nutrition security continues to be an important focus for the government, the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1 was not achieved. However, the government adopted the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), actively pursued its Vision 2025, and the Zero Hunger Challenge which is clearly linked with SDG 2 "end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture". Formulated in 2014, Vision 2025 set the national development agenda, recognising food and nutrition security as a critical component in human development. Pakistan continued to be closely and actively engaged in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) collaborative approach. Since 2013, significant in-kind contributions of wheat to WFP total 519,000 mt (USD198 million) demonstrate the government's continued commitment to the country's humanitarian needs. Since 2013, the government has been one of the largest donors to WFP operations in the country, second only to the United States. In 2015, it ranked first as host government donor to WFP globally.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

In 2015, which marked the final year of the three-year operation, WFP continued to implement activities with the aim of complementing the government's efforts in enhancing food security and nutrition amongst vulnerable populations, providing technical, policy and advocacy support to develop relevant national strategies. The programme of work was designed to reinforce government-led initiatives and support MDGs 1-5 and 7 (recently replaced by SDGs), in alignment with the strategic priorities identified in the Humanitarian Operational Plan and the One-UN Operational Plan II (OPII). In order to place nutrition at the centre of the national development agenda and aim toward achieving SDG 2, WFP supports the government in initiatives such as Zero Hunger and SUN to formulate multi-sectoral policies and strategies.

During the year, WFP implemented two operations in the country. The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200250 intended to assist 7.7 million food-insecure people from 2013 to 2015. The Special Operation 200181 aimed to strengthen the disaster preparedness and response capabilities of the government and the broader humanitarian community, contingency planning and capacity augmentation through the construction of Humanitarian Response Facilities (HRF) across the country.

WFP continued to strengthen partnerships and coordinate interventions with the government, United Nations (UN) agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and donors. WFP supported the Universal Salt Iodization (USI) programme in Pakistan, in partnership with the Micronutrient Initiative (MI) It also provided policy and advocacy support to the National Fortification Alliance (NFA), SUN and the SUN Business Network. Pakistan underwrites the SUN collaborative approach, which brings together the people and resources needed to rapidly scale up nutrition-sensitive interventions and cross-sectoral strategies.

WFP supported national authorities such as the Ministry of Climate Change on climate analysis and the Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MNFSR) on undertaking food security analysis in 2015, which provides an evidence base for informed programming and policy decision-making. In addition, WFP sustained partnerships with the public and private sectors to produce specialised nutritious foods for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition. Joint investments between the government and WFP contributed to the strengthening of emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Along with the government and other partners, WFP was involved in a range of assessment exercises such as the Livelihoods and Food Security of FATA Returnees study, assessment of unregistered vulnerable families, and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC).

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	446,681	446,715	893,396
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	628,616	572,485	1,201,101
Number of adults	593,217	954,856	1,548,073
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	1,668,514	1,974,056	3,642,570
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	1,635,406	1,806,018	3,441,424
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	1,839,796	2,077,710	3,917,506

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	238,692	17,231	22,006	12,736	3,150	293,815
Total food distributed in 2015	238,692	17,231	22,006	12,736	3,150	293,815
Total food distributed in 2014	190,316	11,474	15,633	10,951	2,616	230,990
Total food distributed in 2013	157,713	12,510	14,507	16,570	2,239	203,538

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND RELEVANCE

The Special Operation was originally launched in response to the devastating 2010 monsoon floods which affected many parts of Pakistan. In 2012, the Special Operation shifted its focus to contingency planning and capacity augmentation, and continued from 2013 to its conclusion in March 2015. The operation, which contributed to the former WFP Strategic Objective 5, enhanced preparedness measures by developing a strategic Humanitarian Response Facilities (HRFs) network across the country to augment the emergency and disaster response capabilities of the Government of Pakistan and the humanitarian community. WFP's main counterparts in the project were the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs).

After the completion and handing over of two HRFs in Muzaffargarh and Quetta in 2014, the Lahore, Peshawar and Hyderabad HRFs were completed and handed over to the respective PDMAs in 2015. The HRF in Sukkur is under construction and scheduled for completion by mid-2016.

RESULTS

'Story Worth Telling'

Ine Knyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province is particularly prone to human-induced and natural disasters due to its strategic and geographical location. The Peshawar HRF, which stood ready with contingency relief items after its handover to the government in March, played an important role in the response to the floods and earthquake that affected the province in 2015. The highest level of government commitment and ownership was demonstrated when the Peshawar HRF served as a staging and coordination centre for the provision of relief and emergency support to disaster-affected communities. The government allocated and disbursed funds required for the functioning of the HRF in a timely manner. Various life-saving food and non-food relief items such as wheat flour, tents, blankets, tarpaulins, floor mats, and quilts were transported out of the Peshawar HRF to the earthquake-affected areas of KP (Battagram, Buner, Chitral, Lower Dir, Lower Kohistan, Malakand, Mardan districts, Shangla, Swat, Torghar, Upper Dir, and Upper Kohistan) for distribution among the affected population. WFP provided warehouse management and firefighting trainings to 18 KP PDMA staff members in charge of the facility management. "In this two-day training, we learned the latest logistics techniques to effectively manage different types of commodities", one of the training participants commented.

As soon as the flood emergency operations concluded, the authorities refilled the facility with contingency relief food and non-food items which then became critical in the October earthquake response. This attention to restocking essential supplies constitutes a good practice to ensure a timely and adequate response to sudden-onset emergencies.

Outputs

Initially planned for completion in 2014, the Peshawar and Hyderabad HRFs were finished and handed over to Sindh and KP PDMAs in March 2015. Operational delays that were mainly caused by land disputes were eventually resolved by authorities, which subsequently allowed WFP to finish the construction of the two facilities.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned	
SO 5: Capacity Development: Strengthening National Capacities					
Number of Logistics hubs (Humanitarian Response Facilities) established	number	2	2	100.0%	

Outcomes

The HRFs have enhanced the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of the government and wider humanitarian community in Pakistan. Increasing available storage capacities allowed for the pre-positioning of emergency relief stocks which improved the response time to sudden onset emergencies. The presence of HRFs enable timely delivery of critical relief items to disaster-affected and especially vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, disabled and injured. Women and children comprise the majority of Pakistan's population. During an emergency, the cultural norm is that men depart the affected area in search of employment while women stay behind as caretakers of the homes. Especially in hazard prone and highly food-insecure areas, women and children benefit significantly from stockpiles of food and non-food relief items stored at the HRFs. Each HRF has an average covered storage capacity of up to 10,000 cubic metres and a large open space to set up mobile storage units if needed.

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

WFP continued the HRF construction project in strategic locations across the country on the land provided by the government. After completion, the facilities were handed over to the respective PDMAs, significantly contributing to increased civilian storage capacity for humanitarian preparedness and response actions. Since the start of the HRF construction project, five facilities, with a total covered storage capacity of up to 63,860 cubic metres, were completed and handed over to the government in Hyderabad, Lahore, Muzaffargarh, Peshawar, and Quetta. WFP also provided training in warehouse management and firefighting to the PDMAs to reinforce their capabilities in carrying out operations at the facilities. Additional trainings in facility management will be provided to the PDMA staff members administering the facilities.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

The HRF construction project is the result of a collaboration among WFP, NDMA and PDMAs whereby each PDMA provided the required land and then operated and maintained the HRF after its handover. In turn, WFP designed, situated and constructed the facilities and provided technical assistance, training and support for the effective management and utilization of the facilities, which serve the wider humanitarian community across the country.

Lessons Learned

Some of the land that was selected by the government for the HRFs had legal issues that needed to be resolved, causing delays in the commencement of construction at those sites. As a result of the delays, the HRFs were not completed on time as planned. WFP constantly raised these concerns with the government and ensured that there were no disputes for future designated land that would impede the start or progress of HRF construction. This ongoing communication ensured the timely completion and handover of the facilities to the government so that they could be used immediately for preparedness and emergency response.