

IN BRIEF: EU SUPPORT TO DISASTER RELIEF IN PAKISTAN

The 8 October 2005 earthquake measuring 7.6 at the reactor scale resulted in the death of at least 73,000 people in Pakistan, mainly in the AJK and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Due to the calamity another 70,000, were injured and 2.8 million people were left without shelter. The international community responded immediately lead by the UN Agencies as well as the international military resources and the INGOs, all seeking a role in the recovery and reconstruction process. Complexity of the relief and reconstruction efforts was further compounded by the proximity of the “Line of Control” along the disputed region in Kashmir. The Government of Pakistan (GoP) established the Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) and in AJK the State ERRA (SERRA) to carry out and supervise the huge reconstruction and rehabilitation work.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) provided a portmanteau arrangement by which an ADB loan of \$220 million and grant of \$137.5 million combined with Euro 30.0 million from the European Union was allocated for the construction of 300 schools in the earthquake-affected areas. It was a successful infrastructure project. The European Union Delegation to Pakistan was fully involved in design and reconstruction process as well as in the detailed monitoring of seismically safe schools construction. Moreover Euro 10.0 million were provided to UNICEF for reconstruction of the primary schools in the AJK and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Another Euro 10.0 million were provided to the UNDP for livelihood generation activities in the AJK and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province for the areas affected by the earthquake.

During 2010, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) was established which functions under the supervision of National Disaster Management Commission (NDMC) - headed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan. NDMA manages the complete spectrum of the disaster management cycle (DMC) including preparedness, mitigation, risk reduction, relief and rehabilitation phases. Under this initiative, offices of the disasters management authorities (PDMA) were established at the district levels in all four provinces as well as in the AJK and Gilgit-Baltistan.

As a result of the 2010 floods in Pakistan, more than 1.6 million housing units were damaged while 10407 educational institutions, mostly in Sindh and Punjab provinces were affected. In terms of irrigation and flood protection, the Sindh province was the worst affected followed by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In the transport and communications sector preliminary estimates indicated that 10 percent of the road network and 16 percent of the railways were damaged. While the water supply and sanitation infrastructure was damaged badly, the power sector also suffered enormously. Resultantly approximately 3.5 million people were without power. The hilly areas in AJK, Gilbit-Baltistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhawa and Balochistan provinces faced flash floods which swept away people, houses, crops, livestock and stores of feed, food and seed. In the plains, crops were destroyed but most people relocated to safer areas.

After the destruction caused by 2010 floods, the Government of Pakistan requested the international donors for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure. As a response European Union provided Euro 15.0 million through the UNDP for the construction of 120 public buildings, providing psycho-social counselling services to the affected communities, development of 774 small scale community projects, establishing 5 emergency control rooms operated by provincial governments (PDMA) - one each in four provinces and AJK linked with districts through electronic equipment for timely flood information. The project trained 1,900 provincial staff and community on DRM activities and provided facilities to 30,000 people in recovery of their land and property documents. The project successfully completed public buildings and established emergency control rooms at provincial level benefiting population living in flood prone areas of the country.

Please see **the [Factsheet](#)** for more details.

Factsheet Pakistan

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