

## UNDP PAKISTAN RESILIENT FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM VISION (2022)

### 1 CONTEXT

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Pakistan is in the middle of its severest monsoon in a decade. The rains have impacted 33 million people, and more than 1,500 people have died. More than two million houses have been damaged, and over 3.5 million acres of crops have been lost, with farmlands, orchards, bridges, and road networks destroyed. The loss of livestock and severe impact on production in the agricultural sector has led to increased imports causing increased market prices across Pakistan, risking a deterioration in food security. This is in addition to increasing prices due to global increase in prices for energy and commodities. The disruption of access to essential services is leaving people vulnerable to health risks and hazards. The urgency of the situation is amplified by the upcoming winter which, due to the widespread destruction of houses and agricultural infrastructure, will have a devastating impact. The pre-existing gender-based inequalities and violence have deteriorated due to increasing social tensions, which are escalating with loss of livelihoods, jobs, assets, lack of shelter and slow rate of emergency response. Women and girls, including lactating women are facing additional hardships and exposed to security threats due to lack of access to safe WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) facilities and private spaces. The number of vector and water-borne diseases are on a high rise, while malnutrition amongst children has increased.

The scale and magnitude of the current floods is unprecedented due to extreme rainfall, combined with record levels of melting glacier ice water. The events are a grave manifestation of climate change induced disaster leaving one-third of the country underwater.

### 2 UNDPS VALUE PROPOSITION

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The heavy rainfall due to changing weather patterns, and melting glacier ice caused by climate change, are the key underlying causes of the devastating floods in Pakistan. Similar extreme weather events and disasters will become more frequent and intense in the future. The segments of society with the highest vulnerability to climate change, and who will be impacted the most, are the poorest with the least resources to adapt to the new climate reality.

In this new development paradigm, climate action and disaster risk reduction go hand-in-hand. More risk reduction and resilience building efforts will be integrated into response and recovery strategies of the humanitarian organizations, development partners and the Government of Pakistan to adapt to the impact of climate change and protect the most vulnerable. The current climate catastrophe has clearly highlighted Pakistan's climate vulnerability and the urgent need for investing in national climate and disaster preparedness and resilience building.

### 3 UNDP'S RESILIENT RECOVERY APPROACH IN PAKISTAN

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**Our Vision:** UNDPs vision of resilient and integrated recovery will be guided by the needs on the ground and government priorities, while implemented in coordination with humanitarian and development partners. UNDP's approach to resilient recovery in Pakistan spans the humanitarian-development nexus, and will bridge short, medium- and long-term dimensions of the response, with underlying principles of gender equality and environmental sustainability integrated into all activities. Given immediate needs of the affected population due to upcoming winter and rising health risks, UNDP will in the short-term (0-6 months) support communities to stabilize through restoration of basic community infrastructure, housing, livelihoods, and reinstatement of core governance functions.

In the medium and long term (6-24 months), UNDP will contribute to an integrated social, physical, environmental, and economic transition, as well as build capacity of national and local institutions to reestablish governance systems and the provision of service delivery. The activities will follow a USD 30 million (0-6 months), plus USD 60 million (6-24 months) approach with the aim of delivering a total of USD 90 million within the first 2 years of the recovery window.

**UNDPs short-term intervention (\$30 million over 6 months):** In parallel with on-going humanitarian efforts, UNDP will support communities stabilize their situation through the creation of emergency employment opportunities and reviving the agricultural sector. To kick-start the recovery, UNDP will rely on cash-for-work activities to generate immediate income to those affected and to facilitate debris removal, supporting housing and infrastructure rehabilitation to enable provision of health and education services while reviving economic activities. UNDP will deliver initial response activities through a combination of cash assistance, conditional cash assistance for asset replenishment and crop inputs (seeds) for the upcoming plantation season.

Due to the swiftly approaching winter season, UNDPs resilient recovery intervention will integrate and accelerate support across targeted activities that prepare the affected populations for winterization, meaning ensuring temporary shelter conditions and a minimum income to overcome the first post-flood winter season.

**UNDPs medium-term interventions (\$60 million over 18 months):** Building on these short-term interventions, UNDP will engage with the federal and provincial governments to promote the integrated approach of *Resilient Recovery*; putting in place the right incentives and guidance for all the stakeholders involved in short, medium, and longer-term recovery and rehabilitation in accordance with the “*Building-Back Better*” principle. Our recovery programme will work towards building service delivery capacity of national, provincial, and local institutions, bridging humanitarian – development interventions, continuing with shelter reconstruction, strengthening economic recovery, and supporting communities to establish policies and governance systems that build resilience. The integrated focus of recovery program will continue to address multiple issues faced at the community level stemming from floods while supporting government to adapt a risk-informed development approach considering increasing frequencies and intensities of the climate-related hazards. Specifically, UNDP will support the integration of climate and disaster resilience into all activities to address underlying vulnerabilities and protect communities from multiple risks emanating from the changing climate. Innovative approaches will be introduced around risk-transfer and climate financing mechanisms, based on the findings from the PDNA implemented through bankable projects at the community level.

#### 4 SCOPE OF UNDPs RESILIENT RECOVERY STRATEGY

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The four pillars of UNDPs resilient recovery strategy include:

- I. **HOUSING AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE:** With a view to reducing the burden on the scarce lifesaving humanitarian resources and to prevent secondary disasters such as disease outbreaks, human trafficking, resorting to violent extremism, Gender Based Violence (GBV), crime or other undesirable coping strategies, UNDP will support:
  - Community-led reconstruction and repair of housing and infrastructure through Cash-for-Work (CfW) activities, and support recovery through conditional cash grants and technical assistance, to ensure resilience to future climate shocks. Women-headed households will be given the priority.

- Restoration of access to critical social facilities, educational buildings, health centers, WASH facilities, waste management infrastructure, and general access facilities (i.e., local roads, bridges, culverts, flood protection infrastructure).
- II. **LIVELIHOODS RECOVERY:** UNDP livelihoods and economic recovery has a three-track approach; to take actions to stabilizing livelihoods; to support local economic recovery through employment and income generation; and to generate sustainable employment and inclusive economic growth over the longer-term. The recovery interventions will include:
- Reviving rural and urban livelihoods through cash grants to support asset replacement of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers) and livestock to affected rural communities.
  - Rehabilitation of productive as well as WASH related infrastructure (water supply schemes, sanitation facilities, irrigation systems, marketplaces etc.) through the provision of Cash for Work (CfW) and cash grants for renting machinery.
  - Cash grant support to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for rehabilitation of business premises and acquisition of assets (tools & production equipment, material inputs, and restocking), with focus on women-led businesses.
  - In parallel, UNDP will commence the delivery of vocational training and value chain analysis, to explore innovative income streams for affected businesses.
- III. **RESTORING GOVERNMENT SERVICES:** UNDP helps restore public administrative capacities by enabling the government apparatus at various levels to restore essential service delivery that has been disrupted in the flood-affected areas in Pakistan. These efforts will include:
- Restoration of critical local administrative governance documents, including land ownership records, identity documents, etc.
  - Providing technical support to national, provincial, and local authorities to ensure effective and accountable recovery planning, coordination, and critical services.
  - Replacement of office equipment and the rehabilitation of district-level offices to support local governance.
  - Strengthen downwards accountability mechanisms and legal aid support at provincial and local level through legal aid facilities and hotlines.
- IV. **DISASTER RESILIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** Using recovery as an entry point, UNDP will support the integration of climate and disaster risk reduction in recovery interventions to address underlying vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience of communities towards floods. These measures include:
- Support community clean-up efforts through provision of technical support and cash grants for the safe removal, recycling, and disposal of debris.
  - Strengthening capacity of local stakeholders to deliver WASH and Solid Waste Management services according to National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS).
  - Technical assistance to build capacities, conduct flood risk assessments, reduce landslides and Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding (GLOF) impacts on communities.
  - Support community-based disaster risk management, through enhanced preparedness measures and integration of disaster and climate risk reduction into socio-economic development planning processes.
  - Mapping of 5,000 glaciers in northern Pakistan to quantify the melting of ice caused by warming temperatures and set up early-warning systems to help adapt to future risks.
  - Support national and provincial authorities to design and apply bankable projects focusing on socio-economic recovery.

- Construction and retrofitting of community-level multi-purpose shelters.
- Support government in exploring opportunities for developing alternative disaster and climate risk financing and risk transfer solutions, including disaster and climate risk insurance.

## 5 GROUNDED IN PARTNERSHIPS

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UNDP places critical importance in building partnership for integrated recovery in crisis and post crisis in support of local and national governments. UNDP works with national and local governments, donors, UN agencies, the private sector, Non-government Organizations (NGOs), and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and communities to assess needs, design strategies and implement solutions to improve capacities and systems to prevent and cope with crises and “*Building Back Better.*”

UNDP has been actively contributing to the Humanitarian Response Plan especially in the areas of Shelter, WASH, Agriculture, Food Security & Livelihoods, Education and Health to ensure inclusion of early recovery considerations at all phases of the response and recovery and to identify areas of joint programming and implementation of early recovery activities within these sectors.

UNDP is actively coordinating with partners, including the European Union (EU), World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and UN agencies, with lead roles in Disaster Risk Reduction, Livelihoods and Community Physical Infrastructure to fully assess economic losses and recovery needs in a Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) exercise requested by the government, including:

- *Damage* which refers to the monetary value to repair or rebuild the completely or partially destroyed infrastructure and assets (buildings, equipment).
- *Losses Understood as the changes in economic flows in the production of goods and services and access to goods in services in terms of forgone income* and the additional costs to put back the services.
- *Recovery Needs* measured as the cost of rebuilding lost assets and restoring lost services in improved conditions - that is the cost of for building back, reducing risks and vulnerabilities, including those of social nature.

UNDP will implement its Resilient Recovery Vision aligning to the overall national recovery strategy set up in the Humanitarian Response Plan and the PDNA, and in close coordination with the relevant government agencies, and through partnership with the civil society organizations, the private sector, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), and other UN Agencies. UNDP will support the operationalization of the PDNA through the formulation of a prioritized action plan through the Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF) that would focus on a) institutional arrangements for recovery, b) coordination across sectors and levels of government, c) financing mechanisms, and d) implementation including monitoring and evaluation.