

# Health & Nutrition Development Society (HANDS)

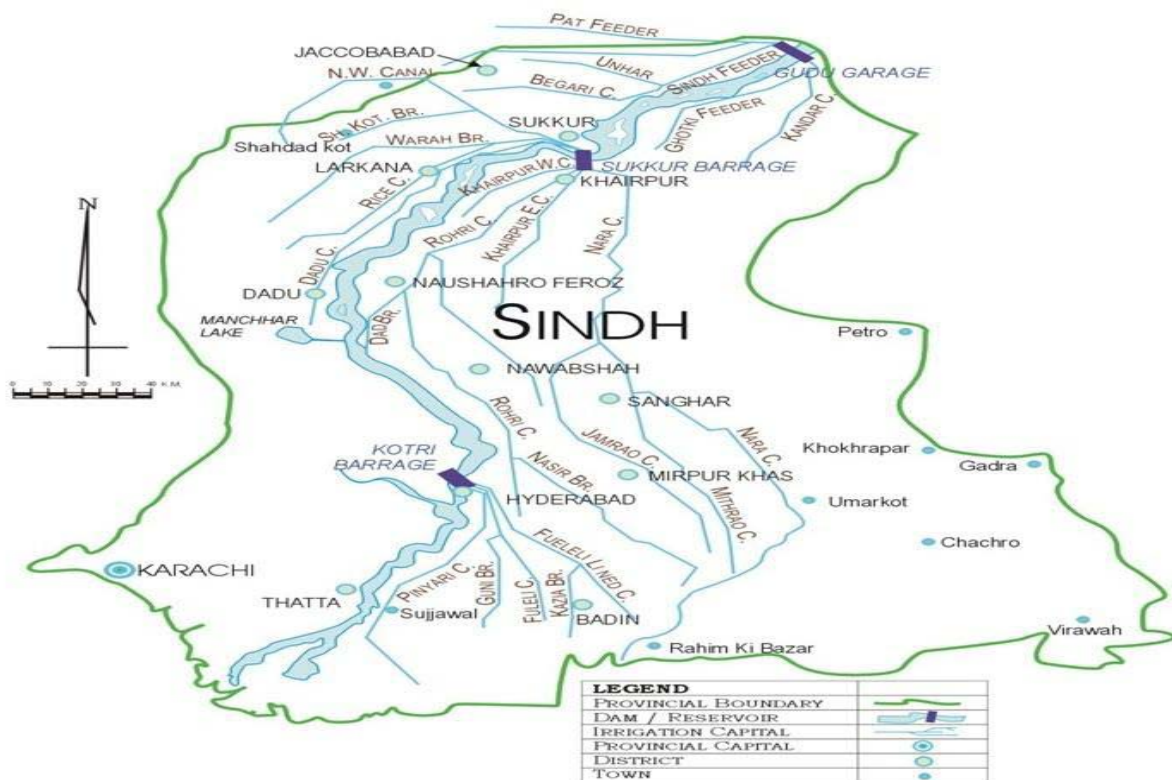


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## Demography of Sindh

The Province of Sindh is located in the South- Eastern part of the country (between Lat 23-35 and Lat 28- 30 N). Its gross geographical area is 140,914 Sq. km which is 18% of the country. The geographical area is 14 million hectares out of which almost 8.0 million hectare is cultivable, and the remaining area is not available for cultivation mostly lying in the northern hills of Khirthar Range, eastern desert of Thar Desert and Achharo Thar and the riverian area. Sindh's 60% land area is arid. Annual average precipitation is 5 inches yearly. The mighty River Indus flows in the middle of the province. There are seasonal streams which become active in the monsoon season, they emanate from the Khirthar hill range from west of province, which fallout in River Indus and Arabian Sea. The boundaries of Sindh are touched by Arabian Sea in South, India in east, and Punjab in north and Balochistan in west. Administratively Sindh province is divided in 23 districts , 119 Talukas ( Tehsils ) , 1100 Union Councils, 1439 Tapas and 5,871 Dehs (Mauza) having 66,923 human settlements, as per 1998 census.



The province took its name from River Sindh (as per the Greeks). Predominantly, it is an agricultural and pastoral economy. Lately minerals have been identified like petrol, gas, coal granite and cut stone etc. These are being exploited which contribute substantially to the national produce. Besides the province have industries of various kinds which include textile, chemical, cement, steel and others. Most of the industries are located in three Cities- Karachi, Kotri/ Hyderabad and Sukkur. There are two modern sea ports: Karachi Port and Bin Qasim Port both of which are situated in Karachi and serve the entire country including Afghanistan.

## Monsoon Hazards in Sindh

Floods are a potential threat to land, property, lives, and the ecosystem. Floods cause revenue loss and damage irrigation and drainage channels. There are large seasonal variations in almost all river discharge, which further affect adversely the river course. The most important local factors, to

Muslehuddin's eye, is temperature obtaining in central Pakistan -- southern Punjab, upper Sindh and north-eastern Balochistan -- during the monsoon months. "If these areas are having temperatures below 40 degree centigrade, the country will have a weak monsoon." If the current heat wave sweeping across the central parts of the country persists, expect monsoon to bring more showers than it normally does."

According to the experts, global temperature has increased by 1.5 degree centigrade, making weather patterns unpredictable. Also, rains have become inconsistent. They are now usually a sudden and heavy downpour than a steady shower.

River Indus after receiving water from 5 rivers system causes floods in the northern and southern parts of the Sindh province. The upper regions of the Sindh Province constitute the districts of Kashmore, Shikarpur, Jacobabad, Larkana and Kambar Shahdadt on the right bank of River Indus and Ghotki, Sukkur, Khairpur, Naushahroferoze and Shaheed Benazirabad on the left bank of River Indus. These districts on the right and left of River Indus pose a severe threat owing to passing of River Indus. The districts in the lower Sindh prone to Riverine flooding includes Dadu, Jamshoro and Thatta on the right bank of River Indus and Tando Muhammad Khan, Matiari and Hyderabad. The length of River Indus along the province is 750 kms long.

In addition to Riverine flood threat faced by the districts of Kambar Shahdadt and Dadu, they are also vulnerable to hill torrents which cause flash flooding, the early warning mechanism for which is very minimal.

Monsoon hazards in Sindh emerge as a result of heavy precipitation and subsequent flooding along the Panjnad including Indus river and through flash flooding in numerous hill torrents on the southern part of the Province. The province is also vulnerable to precipitation generated flash flooding and urban flooding, primarily in the cities of Karachi and Hyderabad. In fact historical evidence suggests that natural and manmade disasters exact a significant toll in human lives in Karachi alone. Given the complexity, the simultaneous occurrence of riverine and flash floods, heavy precipitation and cloud burst phenomenon can worsen the impacts of monsoons instigated disasters in province.

## **Rapid Assessment Monsoon Rains 2011**

### **Purpose of Rapid Assessment:**

The overall purpose of rapid assessment is to collect first hand information of losses and damages happened due to torrential rains showering since 10 August 2011.

In order to obtain realistic information and to assess acute needs of the affected communities, HANDS decided to visit physically badly affected areas and conduct meetings with affected communities. In this regard, HANDS assessment teams were mobilized in affected districts to collect exact information. Assessment Teams consisted on four different multi-professionals people for these physical visits. The visits were taken place during 01-05 September 2011.

### **Rapid Assessment Tools:**

HANDS Assessment teams during rapid assessment met with District Government Authorities, Internally Displaced People, Communities, NGO representatives, CBO members, notables, doctors, engineers, lawyers and teachers to collect first hand information at every level. Physical

observations, focal group discussions, individual meetings and interview with key stakeholders were conducted during rapid assessment.

### Source of Information:

- Physical Assessment
- Consultation with IDPs
- Consultation with Communities
- NGO representatives
- Government Officials

### Districts Assessed:

District Badin, District Tando Mohammad Khan, District Mirpurkhas, District Tharparkar, District Umerkot, District Sanghar, District Jamshoro, District Shaheed Benazirabad, District Dadu and District Tando Allahyar

### General Conditions:

Monsoon rainfall with thunderstorm has been observed since 10 August 2011, in all over Sindh Province but a bit heavy in district Thatta, Badin, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot, Tando Mohammad Khan, Sanghar and Tharparkar. Due to torrential rains, living condition of the people especially lower areas got worse, and forced them to move from their origin to settle in nearby highland areas and on the embankment/ roadsides with makeshift huts. In addition, majority of people have taken shelter within government buildings which are mostly educational institutions.



Due to this recent heavy rains, a significant losses and damages to crops (especially cotton and chillies; partially rice and sugarcane), household infrastructure and government infrastructures have been observed. Moreover, significant damages occurred especially to water supply sources for domestic use. Hand pumps were found inundated, ponds are flooded by rainwater runoff, irrigation canals are overflow, and breaches occurred in the Left Bank Outfall Drain (LBOD) and irrigation canals which led acute scarcity of safe drinking water for the community.

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For sanitation, community forced to defecate at the high land especially land which is not flooded whether it is embankment of ponds or canals or roadside or near to home. This create significant problem for the privacy and dignity of the women and adolescent and enhance faecal contamination of water sources. Before this, community use to go for bushes or designated areas which is away from water sources as well as their residents.

## Assessment Findings:

### General Findings

- District Badin, Tando Mohammad Khan, Mirpurkhas, Tharparkar, Umerkot, Sanghar, Jamshoro, Shaheed Benazirabad, Dadu and Tando Allahyar are badly affected areas where torrential rains are going on since last two weeks.
- While assessing the most affected 10 districts of the province, primary data was collected from different sources and it revealed that as a result of torrential rains, 11,422 villages, 276 union councils and 38 talukas are badly affected in 10 Districts of Sindh Province. Total 3.14 million people are affected whereas 944,000 acres crop area is badly damaged. Total 144 casualties are reported in assessed districts and 408 injuries are reported. According to District governments, 1,152 relief camps are established accommodating 133,226 IDPs. These heavy rains also perished around 100,570 cattle heads.
- According to Metrological department during current monsoon spell, average rains are recorded from 250 mm to 1150 mm which is very high level and have broken all previous records.



Sr.#	District	Affected Taluka	Affected Ucs	Affected Villages	Affected Crop Area (Acres)	Partially Damaged Houses	Fully Damaged Houses
1	Badin	5	46	3,730	221,000	290,000	189,000
2	Tando Mohammad Khan	3	16	1,560	145,000	26,000	26,500
3	Tando Allahyar	3	19	770	75,000	18,000	4,100
4	Mirpurkhas	6	41	2,239	160,000	13,000	25,300
5	Umerkot	4	27	1,705	70,000	25,000	10,250
6	Tharparkar	4	11	1,379	11,000	13,000	7,000
7	Sanghar	6	53	255	260,000	6,000	2,450
8	Shaheed Benazirabad	4	51	2,999	125,000	135,000	95,000
9	Jamshoro	4	25	305	16,000	3,100	750
10	Dadu	4	33	210	82,000	1,100	600
	<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>11,422</b>	<b>944,000</b>	<b>240,200</b>	<b>171,950</b>

- Women privacy, dignity and protection issue is another area of concern.
- Army and Navy have been deployed to search and rescue the inundated people and coordinate relief work in affected areas.

- Local NGOs at own and with support of philanthropists and local funding partners have started rescuing inundated people and providing cooked food, NFI kits, raw food and tents.

Sr.#	District	Affected population			Casualties				Injuries	Livestock Perished
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Children	Total		
1	Badin	543,000	683,000	<b>1,226,000</b>	15	7	10	32	15	36,050
2	Tando Mohammad Khan	242,000	142,000	<b>384,000</b>	10	6	3	19	10	945
3	Tando Allahyar	69,800	95,000	<b>164,800</b>	4	1	2	7	5	28,000
4	Mirpurkhas	183,000	210,000	<b>393,000</b>	6	12	9	27	214	15,000
5	Umerkot	106,000	80,000	<b>186,000</b>	4	3	2	9	12	5,000
6	Tharparkar	60,000	70,000	<b>130,000</b>	6	1	7	14	45	6,500
7	Sanghar	41,000	35,540	<b>76,540</b>	5	1	5	11	65	7,010
8	Shaheed Benazirabad	250,000	310,000	<b>560,000</b>	5	5	7	17	9	1,800
9	Jamshoro	6,500	5,000	<b>11,500</b>	1	1	1	3	5	120
10	Dadu	6,100	6,700	<b>12,800</b>	1	3	1	5	28	145
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,507,400</b>	<b>1,637,240</b>	<b>3,144,640</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>100,570</b>

#### WASH:

- During assessment, it was observed that overall situation in all assessed districts is getting more worsen as torrential rains are continuing battering the affected areas.
- People are helpless to leave homes with empty hands and are unable to find safe place to shift as rainwater is everywhere and level of water is increasing day by day. At one hand torrential rains are contributing in increasing the water level in canals and saline drains and on other side breaches in canals and saline drains are overwhelming the areas
- Safe drinking water was observed critical issue of IDPs. Scarcity of safe and adequate drinking water is observed as primary sources of drinking water like ponds, tube wells, open well and hand pumps are inundated/ contaminated by floodwater which yet to be disinfected/ repaired, ponds and canals are also remaining flooded. It is also observed that overall environmental conditions of the villages are worst. Women and children were observed more vulnerable and victim of the situation.

- IDPs observed helpless to use the water with high turbid, stored in open plastic containers with no lid and outlet tap. IDPs are using same water for drinking and sanitation purposes as no running water in the toilets. Diarrhea, fever, vomiting, skin diseases were noticed during visits especially with children and women.
- Cases of Diarrhea and vomiting have identified especially in children's and women. No of mosquito is increasing as well due to rain stagnate water inside and surroundings by the camps.
- Major issue is sanitation facilities in villages; more than 90% people used to go for open defecation and demarked/ designated areas before flood. But after flood, situation become worse as sanitation areas have been damaged completely/ partially by floodwater which leads people for defecating near to the water sources, near to home, temporary shelter, in the water etc which is high public health risk.
- Tent cities at various locations were observed inundated and sanitation facilities were not adequate compare to number of IDPs which led overall sanitation conditions become worsen.
- Government buildings were also observed in poor conditions due to crakes and many buildings were inundated so IDPs who first left their homes with empty hands, thereafter they were helpless to evacuate these government buildings.
- Hygiene conditions in the camps were found so unhealthy. There is not separate designated cooking areas, therefore, they cook their food outside of the main building or room where solid waste, waste water drainage, etc exist.
- Mosquito is increasing dramatically due to stagnant water in and around the vicinities.



### Shelter:

- It is estimated that Around 240,200 houses are partially damaged and 171,950 houses are fully damaged.
- Traditionally the local people live in the huts, which made by mud. As a result, significant mud houses are fully or partially damaged. Due to continue rains, thousands of concrete buildings were also observed getting crakes.
- People have been taking shelter in the different location such as educational institutions and along with canals and roads. But due to continue rains, people observed helpless to evacuate government buildings as these buildings are inundated and observed getting crakes.
- Many people have been taken shelter at embankment along with their livestock.

### Livelihood:

- Devastating rains across Sindh province have not only caused loss of precious life and property, but heavy downpour has adversely affected Kharif crops of cotton and paddy (partially sugarcane) and washed away vegetables and fodder on thousands of acres in lower region of the province.
- It is estimated that 944,000 acres crop area is badly affected



- Main markets in various locations observed non functional as towns and villages were inundated
- The Physical visit of villages revealed that rainwater has accumulated in fields, houses and around the villages which has badly damaged and affected crops of cotton, chilli and sugarcane standing. Houses and paths have also been partially damaged.
- The major issue in most of the areas observed inaccessibility to the main roads from villages because of standing water around the villages.
- Towns and villages observed disconnected as almost all link roads, and main access roads were overtopped and somewhere observed washed away.
- A significant hike observed in prices of daily use items
- People have been displaced from the villages and moved to official and unofficial camps in different affected.
- A huge movement was also observed towards desert Thar. A large number of people from Badin, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot and Sanghar observed shifting to desert areas along with their livestock.
- Most of the displaced people are tenant farmers so due to standing water in fields their farming activities are ceased and they are unable to feed themselves, their kids and livestock as well



#### **Livestock:**

- It is estimated that around 100,570 cattle heads perished in monsoon rains.
- People are facing severe shortage of fodder and forage for their livestock

#### **Condition of women and children:**

Women and children are more vulnerable during disasters than men because they have less access to resources, are victims of the gendered division of labour and are the primary caregivers to children, the elderly and the disabled. Women are also less able to mobilize resources for rehabilitation, more likely to be unemployed following the disaster and overburdened with domestic responsibilities leaving them with less freedom to pursue sources of income to alleviate their economic burden.



While assessment, this crude reality also observed in affected areas. Women are the more than 50% of the total population who lives in vulnerable condition especially in camps. Women and adolescent are under risk of sexual harassment, dignity especially latrine use & personal hygiene, shortage or less access to food, dignified water and sanitation facilities. Women cannot go for defecation until dark, which has fallen women in danger diseases. There are no facilities for personal hygiene especially in ministration period of women. Also due to the limitation of space and water facilities, women

cannot change or washing their usable cloths and others. They are using floodwater for washing utensils and bathing.

### **Initiatives/ action taken by Government Organizations/ Non-government Organization**

- District Government establish camps, providing cooked and dry food though these are not adequate to meet their needs
- Water tankering by TMA, adequate but inadequate and not up to the standard quality
- IOM and local NGOs e.g. Pakistan Fisher Folk Forum, PDI, LEAF, NRSP, BIRDS, HANDS, LHDP, BDRO, SPO, SAFWCO, TRDP, Sami Foundation, Sukkar Foundation, Community Development Organization, Imran Khan Foundation, Merlin Pakistan, Agha Khan Health Care, Islamic Relief, Muslim Aid, Plan International and many others observed assessing the situation and providing relief goods to IDPs with support of philanthropists and local funding partners.
- It was observed in somewhere in Mirpurkhas and Tharparkar that teams of doctors were deputed by district Government livestock vaccination

### **Recommendation**

- After reviewing the overall situation in villages and camps, teams strongly recommend to intervene in affected areas on emergency basis.
- Coordination with active stakeholders e.g. district government, local NGOs, National NGOs, Corporate philanthropists, and Funding Agencies
- Provision of safe drinking water through water tankers and placing safe water tanks at relief camps and spontaneous camps.
- Provision of safe storage containers e.g. Jarry cane (2-of each household)
- Provision of ORS
- Provision of Tents to IDPs
- Provision of raw food package for at least one month
- In term of food security they have need cash grant to fulfil their food and basic needs
- Provide fodder for animals to protect productive assets of the IDPs
- Extensive WASH programme needs to launch on immediate basis
- Provide household water treatment agents e.g. water purification tablets (WPT), PuR sachets along with proper orientation
- Provision of adequate water for hand washing activity
- Provision/construction of temporary latrines
- Provision of latrine cleaning kits and disinfectant agents (bleaching powder)
- Provision of solid waste cleaning kits
- Provision of hygiene kits
- Provision of NFIs related to family and personal hygiene (menstrual management cloths)
- Need of strong hygiene mobilization and Participatory approaches to IDP have in order to cope with current situation.
- Formation of women monitoring and operation & maintenance group in each camp, equip and mobilize for taking necessary onward action
- Follow up and support IDPs through Health Volunteers
- Provision of Mosquito nets vector control to malaria

### **HANDS Profile:**

Health And Nutrition Development Society (HANDS) is a registered Not for Profit organization working in social sector since 1979 to develop the communities to meet the challenges of 21st

century. HANDS is benefiting directly to more than 13 million population of 16,703 villages in 18 districts of Pakistan, that is, Matiari, Tando Mohammad Khan, Tando Allahyar, Hyderabad, Shikarpur, Jacobabad, Sukkur, Dadu, Umerkot, Sanghar, Badin, Thatta, Larkana, Ghotki, Shahdadkot, Kandhkot, Khairpur, Karachi (three towns), Quetta (Balochistan) Jafferabad, Lasbela, and Islamabad (liaison office) and indirectly through Research, Capacity building and information & communication resource to million throughout country.

HANDS focus centrally on the delivery of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the promotion of human security in impoverished rural areas through community-based integrated interventions and community-based capacity building. HANDS is working in health, education, poverty alleviation and emergency response sectors with cross cutting themes of Social Mobilization, Advocacy, Gender and development, behavior change communication, human resource development, monitoring, evaluation & research and resource mobilization.

HANDS evolved with three key programs that are Health Promotion, Education & Literacy Promotion and Poverty Alleviation. Several programs developed as cross cutting theme that is Gender and Development Monitoring, Evaluation and Research, Human Resource & Institution Development and Information & Communication Resource. Like its previous extensive experience to work in emergency response and relief, HANDS have mobilized its' all possible resources, HR, Financial resources, to help rain affected communities of most vulnerable and affected areas at this very hard time.

#### **HANDS Mission:**

HANDS is mission to provide basic health services, primary education, income generation opportunities and development of institutions to empower the under privileged communities

#### **HANDS Strength:**

HANDS is therefore positioned well to play a leadership role in the humanitarian and development phases as the focus moves to achieving impact, and this was noted in the recent emergency response and its regular development and poverty reduction program. HANDS's strong local existence and great experience with community-based program makes it an ideal partner to focus on the community, and on ensuring demand for and access to social services and reconstruction of infrastructure at the community level. This can be accomplished by ensuring an effective strategic approach to be implemented at community level. Following is strength of HANDS

- Strong field existence with over 1,500 staff located in 20 field offices
- National- and local-level advocacy, communication and mobilization for poor and affected people;
- Strong relations with public institutes and government departments;
- Proven procurement capacity;
- Expertise in Community capacity development, advocacy, communication and social mobilization;
- Experience in complex situations and difficult places; and
- Monitoring and evaluation

#### **HANDS Relevant Experience in Emergencies:**

HANDS has extensive experience of working for emergency response in many times like Cyclone in Thatta & Badin (1999) and in Baluchistan (2003), Cyclone in Badin (2003), Earthquake in Northern area & Kashmir (2005), floods in many districts of Sindh in the last 10 years and last years' super

flood 2010. HANDS worked in emergency response, rescue and relief, and also further in rehabilitation of the affected families. HANDS mobilized it's all possible resources including HR, logistics and financial resources, with the collaboration of district/ provincial government and community organizations or their net-works.

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