



Rapid Needs Assessment Report

The impact of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's ongoing monsoon and cloudburst continues to worsen across the province, causing widespread destruction and escalating humanitarian needs, particularly in District Buner, Swat and Shangla

19 August - 2025



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1.BACKGROUND FACTS

Overview: Since June 26, 2025, heavy monsoon rains have caused severe flash flooding across Pakistan, with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province being among the worst affected. The districts of Buner, Swat, Shangla, Mansehra and Swabi have suffered extensive loss of life, widespread damage to infrastructure, and disruption of essential services. The situation worsened

dramatically on August 14th to 15th due to intense cloudbursts, particularly in Buner, where rainfall reached 150 mm per hour. According to PDMA, 358 people have died across KP, with Buner for 225, Swat 20, Shangla 36, Bajaur 22, Swabi 17 accounting fatalities. Thousands of homes, schools, shops, and infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and water systems have been destroyed or damaged. In Swat, Village Golkada, UC Landi Kas Tehsil Babuzai 80% infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and water sources have also been damaged, while in Shangla (Village Shahi Dand and Kuz Palaw), Bajaur, Swabi and Mansehra, multiple villages report extensive losses to housing, agriculture, and livelihoods. Clean drinking water sources, irrigation channels, electricity, and mobile networks are largely non-functional in affected areas. Communities urgently require food, shelter, water, health support, and recovery assistance as they face growing humanitarian needs.



Executive Summary:

WASH Services: The devastating floods have severely damaged WASH facilities in Buner (Villages Bishunai and Mira Gamshal) and Swat (Mingora, Village Golkada, UC Landi Kas, Tehsil Babuzai). The Rapid Needs Assessment indicates that over 90% of drinking water supply schemes (DWSS) in Buner, 79% in Swat and 67% in Shangla particularly in health centers, schools, and madrassas have been destroyed or rendered nonfunctional. Similarly, around 80% of sanitation facilities in Buner, 67% in Swat, 59% in Shangla have deteriorated. The loss of critical hygiene infrastructure, including handwashing stations in schools and health centers, has

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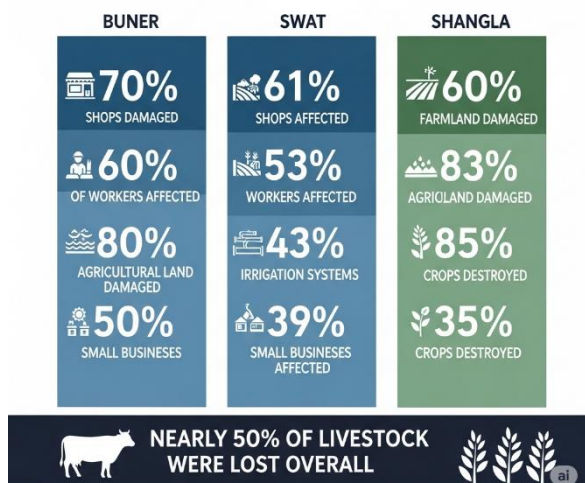
heightened the vulnerability of affected communities, while hygiene supplies have either been washed away or contaminated. Damage to water storage facilities has caused widespread water pollution, and nearly 90% of shops and 80% of homes remain filled with silt and mud, requiring urgent desilting and dewatering. Immediate response is vital to restore WASH services and reduce the risk of disease outbreaks. Community members in Village Shahi Dara, UC Ismail Khel, Tehsil Poran, District Shangla reported that floods had completely destroyed drinking water schemes and natural sources, filled bores with debris, and left irrigation channels and streets nearly 90% damaged. They emphasized the urgent need for restoration of water systems, provision of clean drinking water, repair of sanitation facilities, and large-scale debris clearance to prevent disease outbreaks and re-establish safe living conditions.

IMPACT OF FLOODS ON WASH FACILITIES IN BUNER, SWAT, AND SHANGLA



Livelihood Support: The recent floods have had a devastating impact on livelihoods across the assessed areas, resulting in widespread food and income insecurity. In Buner, 70% of shops and markets were damaged, while in Swat 61% were affected, disrupting local economies and access to essential goods. Food stocks have perished, and a large proportion of workers 60% in Buner and 53% in Swat are now unable to support their families. Farmers have suffered major losses to stored grains, standing crops, and orchards, with agricultural land severely damaged (80% in Buner and 83% in Swat). Critical road infrastructure has also been destroyed, limiting access to markets and compounding food insecurity. Irrigation systems were heavily affected, with 70% damaged in Buner and 43% in Swat. Livestock losses are equally alarming, with nearly 50% of animals washed away. Carcasses left decaying in stagnant water pose additional health hazards, while surviving livestock face shortages of fodder and drinking water. Small and medium businesses were also hit hard, with 50% affected in Buner and 39% in Swat, further undermining household incomes. In Shangla, the floods devastated agricultural livelihoods, damaging 60% of farmland and destroying 85% of crops due to waterlogging and

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT NEEDS AFTER PAKISTAN FLOODS

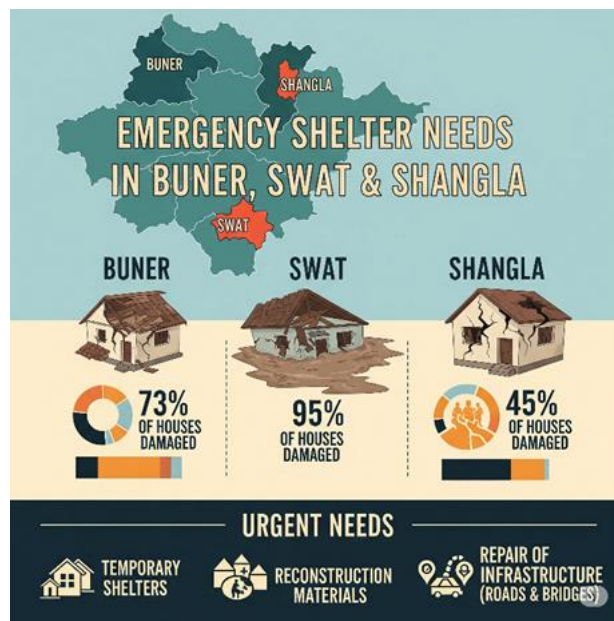


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landslides. Communities also reported the loss of 90 animals and the destruction of two water mills, which has severely disrupted food processing and local income generation. Community members have urgently requested food packages, agricultural seeds, tools, and rehabilitation of irrigation systems. These needs highlight the critical importance of restoring food production, protecting livestock, and re-establishing income-generating activities to enable recovery and build resilience against future shocks.

Emergency Shelter: In Buner district, shelter needs are urgent and widespread, with approximately 73% of houses fully or partially damaged across affected villages, including Gokan (Dogar) at 70%, Bishonai (Gadezir) at 90%, Peer Baba at 70%, and Charghazi at 65%. Over 2,000 families have been displaced, currently residing in temporary camps or with relatives. Many homes require repair or full reconstruction to restore safe and habitable conditions. In Swat district, shelter damage is extensive, with 95% of houses in Mingora filled with mud and debris, destroying furniture, bedding, and household items. Three bridges were completely washed away, and one partially damaged, isolating parts of the community. Immediate priorities include temporary shelters, home reconstruction materials, and repair of streets and bridges to restore access and living conditions. In Shangla district, 45% of houses in the assessed villages were damaged, along with 57 shops. Floods caused 65% damage to roads, washed away main streets, and destroyed three bridges, isolating the community. In Kuz Palaw, UC Ismail Khel (900 households), 97 houses were fully damaged and over 300 partially damaged. In another village (90 households), 12 houses were fully damaged and 78 (86%) partially damaged. Communities urgently require tents, tarpaulin sheets, and rehabilitation of homes, shops, roads, and bridges, as well as protection walls and check dams to prevent future disasters.



Non-Food Items (NFIs): Across the flood-affected districts of Buner, Swat, and Shangla, there is an urgent and widespread need for non-food items (NFIs) to support displaced and affected families. In Buner, more than 2,000 families require essential household items, including 500 winterized tents, 1,000 family-size tents, 300 mattresses, 500 hygiene kits, 500 tarpaulin sheets, 500 solar lamps, 1,500 blankets, 1,000 mosquito nets, 1,000 kitchen sets, 1,000 plastic mats, and 1,000 pillows. In Swat, 1,534 families have lost most of their furniture, bedding, and

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household items due to widespread damage, with immediate needs including tents, blankets, cooking utensils, clothing, and support for debris clearance to begin recovery. In Shangla, affected households require tents, tarpaulin sheets, clothing for men, women, and children, kitchen sets, blankets, mats, hygiene kits, and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits. Across all three districts, the provision of NFIs is critical to help families restore daily living conditions, maintain hygiene, and reduce exposure to health risks while shelter and home reconstruction efforts are underway.

Medical Supplies and Health Services: Flood-affected communities in Buner, Swat, and Shangla are facing acute health risks, with stagnant and contaminated water, poor sanitation, and disrupted health facilities contributing to the spread of diseases. The Rapid Needs Assessment indicates that nearly 72% of health facilities in Buner and 65% in Swat have been either damaged or rendered partially functional, while in Shangla, around 58% of basic health units have been affected. This damage has severely limited access to essential healthcare at a time when communities are most vulnerable. Tagnant water and inadequate sanitation have significantly increased the risk of waterborne and communicable diseases. Early reports highlight that over 40% of households in Buner and 37% in Swat have already reported cases of diarrhea, fever, and skin infections, while malaria risk remains high due to widespread stagnant water.

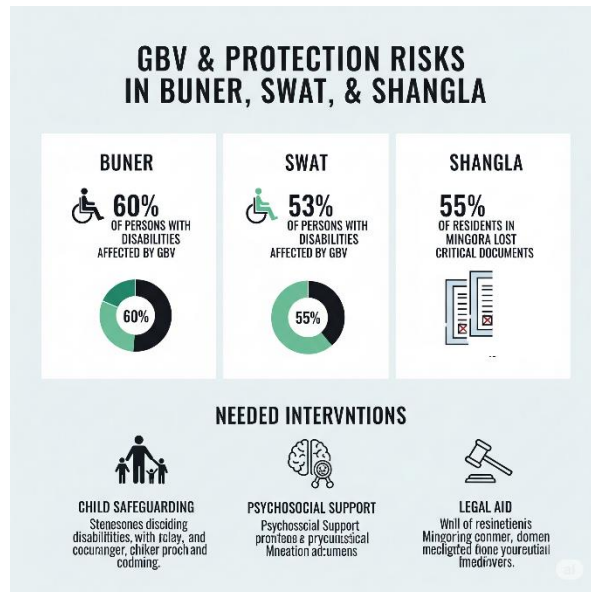
Immediate medical support is urgently needed through the establishment of mobile medical camps, equipped with essential medicines, first aid supplies, and emergency treatment kits, to provide accessible and timely healthcare to displaced families. Maternal and child health is also at severe risk, with an estimated 20% families in the three districts including pregnant women, lactating mothers, and infants who urgently require Mother and Child Health (MCH) kits and dedicated care. Additionally, psychosocial impacts are profound, with around 30% of affected individuals in FGDs reporting trauma, anxiety, or distress following displacement and loss of livelihoods. Provision of psychosocial support services is therefore essential to help communities cope with trauma and rebuild resilience.



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GBV and Protection: The recent flash floods and cloudbursts have caused extensive infrastructural damage, exposing vulnerable groups particularly women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities to heightened protection risks. In Buner, approximately **60%** of persons with disabilities in Bishunai and Mira Gamshal face significant challenges, while in Swat, **53%** of persons with disabilities in Babuzai (UC Landi Kas, Tehsil Babza, Mingora) are similarly affected. In Mingora, **55%** of residents reported losing critical documents, including national identity cards and property papers, severely hindering access to humanitarian aid and legal services. In Shangla district, **45%** of houses and **57%** shops were damaged, with **80%** of bridges and **3 km** of roads destroyed. These conditions have increased the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), particularly due to overcrowded shelters and lack of privacy, although strong family and clan structures often lead to underreporting. Communities are calling for urgent protection interventions, including child safeguarding, psychosocial support, GBV prevention and response services, legal aid, and the construction of protective infrastructure such as retaining walls. Immediate and inclusive protection responses are essential to ensure the safety, dignity, and resilience of affected populations. Given the scale and severity of the disaster, a prompt and well-coordinated humanitarian response is essential in these districts. Islamic Relief is actively engaged, but effective collaboration among government agencies, humanitarian organizations, local authorities, and community leaders remains critical to ensure the timely delivery of aid, prevent duplication of efforts, and maximize the impact of limited resources. Any delay in response could result in further loss of life, outbreaks of disease, and prolonged suffering for already vulnerable communities.



2. METHODOLOGY

The assessment employed a mixed-method approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques to capture the scale and severity of the disaster. Islamic Relief (IR) deployed assessment teams to the districts of Buner, Swat, and Shangla to gather first-hand information and identify the most affected villages.

In Buner, the team conducted 2 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 5 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with district administration officials, including the Assistant Commissioners (General and Relief). In addition, 2 short stories were documented to capture community voices

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and lived experiences. In Swat, the assessment included 1 FGD and 3 short stories, which provided valuable insights into the challenges faced by affected families and the coping strategies being employed. In Shangla, the IR team carried out 2 FGDs, 2 KIIs, and collected 3 individual stories in the affected villages, highlighting the extent of damages and priority needs. This multi-source data collection ensured a comprehensive understanding of the local context, humanitarian gaps, and emerging needs, allowing for evidence-based recommendations for immediate and longer-term response.

Table 1: Data Collection/Sampling

Sr#	Province-District	Focused Group Discussions (FGDs)	Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)	Short stories
1.	KP- Buner	02 (Villag Bishunai and Mira Gamshal)	05	02
2	KP-Swat	01 Village Golkada, UC Landi Kas Tehsil Babuzai	03	03
3	KP-Shangla	01 Village Shahi Dand 01 Village Kuz Palaw	02	03

3. KEY SECTORAL HUMANITARIAN NEEDS:

The Affected Population:

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Islamic Relief's rapid assessment conducted in Buner and Swat districts, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, reveals devastating impacts from recent floods. In Buner, the disaster has caused 184 deaths, damaged over 500 houses and 1,200 shops, and severely damaged roads, bridges, and local markets, leaving many villages cut off. In Swat, 22 deaths were reported while more than 450 houses were damaged. Basic services like drinking water and communications are disrupted with severe infrastructure damage. The affected communities urgently need cooked food, clean water, emergency shelter, medical supplies, and sanitation support. Immediate humanitarian assistance is critical to address these urgent needs and support recovery efforts



SECTORAL FINDINGS

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The devastating floods have severely impacted WASH facilities in Buner, particularly in villages Bishunai and Mira Gamshal, as well as in Swat, including Mingora, Golkada, and UC Landi Kas in Tehsil Babuzai. The Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) revealed that over 90% of drinking water supply schemes (DWSS) in Buner and 79% in Swat, particularly in health centers, schools, and madrassas, have been damaged. Similarly, approximately 80% of sanitation facilities in Buner and 67% in Swat were adversely affected by the flash floods. This destruction has left communities increasingly vulnerable, as critical hygiene infrastructure, such as handwashing stations in schools and health centers, has been destroyed, and hygiene supplies were either washed away or contaminated. Water storage facilities have also been damaged, leading to widespread water pollution. Furthermore, about 90% of shops and 80% of houses in the affected areas are filled with silt and mud, creating an urgent need for desilting and dewatering to restore both residential and commercial spaces. An immediate response is essential to address these pressing needs.

In Buner, district officials including Mushtaq Tehsildar and Syed Ali Afsar, Naib Tehsildar, confirmed that the drinking water supply schemes had been severely damaged and stressed the urgent need for immediate repairs to restore clean water access. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) revealed that floodwaters from Chinar Khwar rose approximately 15 feet above normal levels, submerging nearly all water infrastructure. Around 95% of water bores were contaminated with mud and sand, rendering them unusable, while drinking water supply schemes were completely disrupted. Streets were also choked with debris, further worsening sanitation

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challenges. Communities highlighted their urgent need for clean drinking water, the restoration of water systems, and the provision of sanitation kits to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases. Hygiene promotion and the establishment of temporary latrine facilities were also identified as immediate priorities. In a Key Informant Interview (KII), Mr. Waseem Akhtar, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) General of Buner, shared that the worst-affected villages included Gokan (Dogar), Bishonai (Gadezir), Peer Baba, and Charghazi, where widespread destruction of homes, infrastructure, water sources, and markets has left communities in dire need of food, shelter, water, and medical support.

In Swat, an FGD conducted in Village Babuzai, Tehsil Babuzai, revealed that the village of around 500 households, with a population of 4,800, was severely hit. Floodwaters rose to nearly 15 feet, destroying all means of communication and access. Electric poles and transformers were damaged, and all roads and sub-streets were blocked by mud and sand. Approximately 95% of houses were severely affected, with interiors filled with debris and rendered uninhabitable. Residents reported a persistent foul odor from the settled mud, further worsening living conditions. It was also revealed that 95% of water bores in the village are filled with mud and sand, leaving residents without a clean water source. A KII with the ADC of Swat confirmed the extensive damages, particularly in Mingora city, where housing, schools, markets, and roads were heavily impacted. He underscored the urgent humanitarian needs of displaced and affected families, including food, safe drinking water, emergency shelter, and essential non-food items. The information gathered through these government sources is crucial for Islamic Relief and other humanitarian actors to prioritize interventions, allocate resources effectively, and coordinate timely and targeted responses.

In village Shahi Dara, UC Ismail Khel, Tehsil Poran, community members described how the floods severely damaged their water infrastructure. Drinking water supply schemes and natural water sources were destroyed, leaving the entire village without access to safe water. Bores were clogged with debris, irrigation channels were 90% damaged or disconnected, and nearly 90% of the streets were destroyed, creating severe sanitation hazards. Residents emphasized their urgent need for water system restoration, clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, and debris clearance to prevent outbreaks of disease. About half of the water bores were washed away or filled with sand, completely cutting off supply. The electric system, including poles and transformers, was also destroyed, disrupting pumping systems that supported water access. Streets and mosques remain filled with mud and sand, worsening hygiene and sanitation concerns.

In Shangla, according to a KII with Mr. Ayoub Khan, a member of the Youth Development Organization in Kuz Palaw UC Ismail Khel, the recent cloudburst-induced floods caused extensive damage. The village council, home to 900 households, lost the majority of its communal and household-level water facilities. Latrines and bathing places were also damaged, creating a dire need for sanitation and hygiene items. The restoration of water facilities and drinking water sources was identified as an urgent priority alongside sanitation support. Another

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KII with a local activist in Shangla confirmed that drinking water sources and sanitation systems had been washed away, leaving communities unable to fetch water or meet their immediate hygiene needs. He emphasized that the most pressing requirement is access to clean water and the urgent restoration of water and sanitation infrastructure so that community members can resume basic living conditions.

Story of Ahmad Bakht:

Ahmad Bakht (CNIC: 15602- 6835659-1) age 65 is a local resident of Landy Kas, Saidu Sharif, Mingora, Swat. He works as a shopkeeper and runs a carpet shop. He lives in the same compound with his brother's family. Their household consists of 9 family members, including 5 children. During the flood, all family members were at home. According to Ahmad Bakht, on 13 August 2025, a flood warning was issued by the local government, advising people to move to safer places. However, they decided not to leave and stayed in their home. Ahmad Bakht said, *“On the morning of 15 August 2025, around 8:30 AM, the first wave of floodwater entered our village. It wasn't very destructive and lasted for about an hour. But at around 9:30 AM, a second, much stronger flood hit our village with heavy water flow. We quickly moved to the roof of our house because the entire first floor was flooded.”* He added that the floodwater was filled with mud, sand, and pieces of wood. They lost everything except the clothes they were wearing. All their furniture, electronic items, mattresses, clothes, kitchen items and other belongings were washed away. He shared that their village are completely cut off from other areas the roads are destroyed which stopped transportation, flood damaged the village communication systems (mobile network and internet), drinking water infrastructure destroyed completely drinking water is not available, gas supply, and other basic services.



Food Security Livelihoods

The flash floods have severely disrupted food security and livelihoods across Buner, Swat, and Shangla. Crops, markets, and food stocks were destroyed, income sources collapsed, and livestock perished in large numbers. Families are left without sufficient food, income, or resources to recover, making immediate support essential.

Agriculture

The floods have caused catastrophic damage to agricultural land and crop production. In Buner, 80% of farmland and farm-to-market roads were destroyed, while in Swat, 83% of farmland was

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similarly affected. Irrigation channels and small reservoirs were also badly damaged, with 70% destroyed in Buner and 43% in Swat, leading to long-term challenges in agricultural productivity. Farmers lost their stored grain, and standing crops in fields and orchards were submerged, rendering them unusable.

In Shangla, 70% of agricultural land was destroyed, and up to 85–90% of crops (mainly maize and rice) were lost due to flooding, waterlogging, and landslides. Irrigation systems were blocked with mud and silt, making them dysfunctional. Communities highlighted an urgent need for agricultural inputs, including seeds, tools, fertilizers, and irrigation rehabilitation, to resume food production.

Income Generation Opportunities affected:

The destruction of markets, small businesses, and local enterprises has severely undermined livelihoods. In Buner, 70% of shops and markets were damaged, while in Swat, 61% sustained significant damage. On average, 60% of workers in Buner and 53% in Swat lost their income sources, leaving households unable to support their children or purchase food. Small and medium enterprises were heavily impacted, with 50% of small businesses/shops destroyed in Buner and 39% in Swat. FGD findings in Swat revealed that grocery stores and small businesses were filled with mud and debris, and 40 vehicles used for transport were lost. In Shangla, 21 shops were completely washed away, while 130 vehicles were badly damaged, further reducing household incomes. Communities emphasized the need for cash assistance, cash for work schemes, and market recovery support to restore livelihoods.

Livestock

Livestock, a vital source of income and food security, suffered significant losses. On average, 50% of small and large animals perished in Buner and 44% in Swat. Surviving animals faced shortages of drinking water and fodder, increasing the risk of further mortality. In Shangla, 90 animals died, including buffaloes and cows that represented the primary income source for poor families. In one village, 130 animals perished, while remaining herds face severe feed and water shortages. The loss of livestock not only affects income but also disrupts milk and meat availability, worsening nutritional insecurity. Communities urgently require fodder support, veterinary care, and safe water for livestock to avoid further losses.

Food Consumption

Flooding destroyed food stocks at household and community levels. Families lost stored grain, while homes and food storage areas were filled with mud and debris. In Buner and Swat, large proportions of households reported loss of perishable and non-perishable food supplies, leading to acute shortages. In Shangla, food insecurity is particularly severe. Communities reported that stored food supplies were completely washed away, leaving families dependent on external aid.

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Loss of food-processing infrastructure, such as two washed-away water mills, has further reduced food availability. Households are struggling to feed their children and meet daily needs, with many skipping meals or relying on borrowed food. Communities identified urgent needs for emergency food packages (both cooked and dry rations), as well as longer-term livelihood restoration to restore access to adequate and diverse food supplies.

Story of Shah Rawan-Shangla

Shah Rawan-Shangla (CNIC number 15505-0206109-7), a 58-year-old medical technician from Kuz Palaw village, operated the only medical store and clinic in his community. This facility was a lifeline for the entire village, providing essential health services to residents who had no alternative access to medical care. He lives with a family of 11 members, including 3 women, 1 man, 4 boys, and 3 girls. The clinic was managed by Shahrawan, and just before the disaster, he invested heavily in medicines and medical books to improve services. During the recent flood, water surged through the clinic from one side and exited from the other, washing away all medicines, medical instruments, and supplies. His agricultural land was also destroyed, eliminating another source of income. Now, Shahrawan finds himself in a critical situation, emotionally overwhelmed and financially paralyzed. “I am so tense and depressed, I don’t know how I will re-establish my clinic.” At his age, he feels unable to pursue any other work and currently lacks the resources to restart his practice.



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Story of Zahir shah

Zahir Shah, a 45-year-old shopkeeper from Kuz Palaw village in District Shangla, is the sole breadwinner for a family of eight, comprising one man, two women, four boys, and one girl. He had invested approximately 7 million PKR into his business, which specialized in selling clothes, shoes, and sports items. Tragically, the recent flood completely destroyed his shop, washing away all the goods and merchandise. This business was his only source of income, and its loss has plunged his family into a severe financial crisis. Now, Zahir Shah is struggling to meet even the basic needs of daily life. With no alternative income and a large family depending entirely on him, he is deeply concerned about their future. The flood not only devastated his livelihood but also severely impacted the surrounding environment. The harsh reality faced by small business owners in disaster-prone areas underscores the urgent need for humanitarian support to help affected families recover and rebuild their lives.



Shelters and NFIs:

The shelter needs in the flood affected areas of District Buner are urgent and extensive. With approximately 73% of houses fully damaged in villag Bishunai and Mira Gamshal, Buner whereas 61% in village Golkada, UC Landi Kas Tehsil Babza, Mingora, Swat. More than 2,000 families have been displaced in Buner and 1,534 in Swat and most of them currently residing in temporary camps or with relatives and neighbors. There is a critical need for emergency shelter materials, including tents and tarpaulin sheets, to provide immediate protection from the elements. Additionally, many homes require repair or rebuilding to restore safe and secure living conditions. Support is also needed to provide essential household items and non-food items to help families rebuild their daily lives. Without prompt shelter assistance, displaced communities remain vulnerable to harsh weather, health risks, and further hardship.

In District Buner, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) conducted by Islamic Relief teams in Village Bishonai revealed an urgent and extensive need for shelter support across several flood-affected villages. The most critically impacted areas include Gokan (Dogar) with 70% damage, Bishonai (Gadezir) with 90%, Peer Baba with 70%, and Charghazi with 65%. Overall, approximately 73% of houses in the assessed areas are either fully or partially damaged. Many families have been displaced and are currently living in temporary camps or staying with relatives and neighbors.

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There is a critical and immediate need for emergency shelter materials, including tents and tarpaulin sheets, to protect affected families from the elements. This assessment has been corroborated by the Assistant Deputy Commissioners (ADCs) of Buner. In addition to temporary shelter, a large number of homes require repairs or full reconstruction to restore safe and habitable conditions. Support in the form of essential household and non-food items (NFIs) is urgently needed to help families rebuild their lives and meet daily needs. Without timely intervention, displaced families remain at risk of exposure, health hazards, and prolonged hardship.

According to meeting updates from the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Buner, the following immediate needs were requested to support affected families:

- ⇒ *500 winterized tents*
- ⇒ *1,000 family-size tents*
- ⇒ *300 mattresses*
- ⇒ *500 hygiene kits*
- ⇒ *500 tarpaulin sheets*
- ⇒ *500 solar lamps*
- ⇒ *1,500 blankets*
- ⇒ *1,000 mosquito nets*
- ⇒ *1,000 kitchen sets*
- ⇒ *1,000 plastic mats*
- ⇒ *1,000 pillows*

In Swat district, FGD held in Mingora revealed widespread shelter damage, with 95% of houses filled with mud and debris. Most furniture, bedding, and household items were destroyed. The community reported urgent needs for tents, debris-clearing tools, and labor support to begin recovery. Three bridges were completely washed away, and one was partially damaged, leaving parts of the village isolated. Immediate priorities include the provision of temporary shelters, reconstruction materials, and NFIs such as cooking utensils, blankets, and clothing. Community members emphasized the urgency of home and street rehabilitation to restore basic living conditions.

In Shangla district, the FGD revealed that shelter damage was extensive, with 45% of houses in the village damaged and 57 shops destroyed. Approximately 3 km of roads and 80% of bridges were either washed away or severely damaged, while 20–25 motorcycles and 10 vehicles were lost. The community emphasized the urgent need for non-food items (NFIs), temporary shelters, and rehabilitation of roads, streets, and bridges, as well as protection walls and check dams to prevent future disasters. The floods caused 65% damage to roads, washed away main streets,

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and destroyed three bridges, isolating the community. Many homes and shops were damaged, and essential household items were lost. According to a key informant interview (KII) with Mr. Ayoub Khan of village Kuz Palaw, UC Ismail Khel, a member of a youth development organization, the village council comprises 900 households. He reported that due to the recent cloudburst-induced flood, 97 houses were fully damaged and more than 300 partially damaged. He highlighted an urgent need for tents with tarpaulin sheets and other domestic items such as clothing, shoes, mats, and basic household utensils. Another KII activist reported from a village of 90 households that 12 houses were fully damaged and 78 (86%) partially damaged, with 25 shops affected by the flood. The community urgently requires tents, hygiene and menstrual hygiene management kits, kitchen sets, and clothing for women, men, and children, as well as repair of houses, shops, and marketplaces

Story of Muhammad Alam

Muhammad Alam (CNIC: 15602-9385919-9) is the local citizen of village Landy Kas, Saidu Shirf Mingora Swat. His occupation is daily wage and only earning head of the house. He is living with his family in a mud house, household size are 09 with 5 children. At the time of flood, he was at home with his family. According to Muhammad Alam at 13 August 2025 flood prediction was shared for flood announcement was done by local government for shifting to safer places, but we didn't shifted our house. Muhammad Alam said "*In the morning of 15 Aug*



2025 me and my family was at home at 8:30 am flood came to our village it was very destructive it continued with heavy water flow till 11:30 am and afterwards flood pressure started decreasing. Me with my family members shifted to the roof of our neighbors.

The flood washed boundary wall of our house also furniture, electronics items, mattresses, cloths, kitchen items, everything is gone. My house is completely damaged and full of mud, saint and wood pieces. I and my family are left with nothing, except cloths which we are wearing rest everything is destroyed or gone with flood "The females of the village are shifted to the relatives houses the infrastructure of all the houses in the villages is completely destroyed and staying in these is not possible".

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Story of Hamid Ullah through his son

He Belong to district Shangla of village Shahi Dara. He shared with deep sorrow that his father is working in Karachi at small tandoor shop along with his brother on daily wage basis. "The recent flood ruined my family within no time. My 07 family members vanished including women, girls and boys. My house is completely damaged along with animals and other belongings. My family suffering from severe depression now I have nothing to share furthermore....". He stared at weeping with long breathing. We are just in the custodianship of God.....".



GBV and Protection:

GBV-Protection concerns have been raised as a result of the extensive infrastructural damage to homes, leaving affected families particularly women, children, and the elderly vulnerable to safety risks and exposure. Heavy rains and flash floods have drastically worsened living conditions across all affected areas, especially in rural parts of the assessed districts. The sudden cloudburst left no time for parents, teachers, and caregivers to safeguard children in schools, hospitals, or homes, resulting in 150 children reported missing. Approximately 60% of people with disabilities in Buner (village Bishunai and Mira Gamshal) and 53% in Swat (village Babuzai, UC Landi Kas Tehsil Babza, Mingora) face significant challenges, as able-bodied family members struggle to protect children, livestock, and belongings. Older adults and persons with disabilities have become increasingly vulnerable due to the emergency. Damage to and insufficient access to WASH, shelter, food, and water facilities have compounded these cross-sectional vulnerabilities. The risk of gender-based violence (GBV) has increased, as many displaced people are living in overcrowded camps or with relatives, limiting privacy and security. However, strong family and clan structures in the area often lead to underreporting of GBV cases, making it difficult to fully assess the extent of the problem. Immediate protection interventions including child safeguarding, support for people with disabilities, and confidential GBV prevention and response services are urgently needed.

The FGD further confirmed in Mingora of District Swat, 55% of residents reported losing critical documents, including national identity cards and property papers. This loss significantly hinders their ability to access humanitarian aid, legal services, and begin the process of rebuilding their lives. Vulnerable groups particularly women and children face increased protection risks due to

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displacement, lack of privacy, and the absence of secure shelter. There is an urgent need for protection services that include legal aid, support for documentation recovery, and community-based protection mechanisms to ensure the safety, dignity, and rights of affected populations.

In Shangla district, the FGD highlighted extensive flood damage, with 45% of houses and 57 shops damaged, and approximately 3 km of roads and 80% of bridges either washed away or severely damaged. These losses have left vulnerable groups especially women, children, and the elderly at heightened risk. The community stressed the urgent need for safe shelter, legal support for property recovery, and community-based protection mechanisms to ensure safety and dignity during the recovery process. The destruction of retaining walls and weakened infrastructure poses additional safety hazards, particularly for children and the elderly, prompting a strong demand for protection walls and retaining structures to mitigate future disasters. According to a key informant interview with a local activist, women and boys are experiencing severe trauma and fear, while damaged water sources force them to travel long distances to fetch water. The community identified key needs including psychosocial support for women and children, the establishment of child- and women-friendly spaces, and the construction of protection and retaining walls as essential measures for both immediate safety and long-term disaster risk reduction.

Story of Mehran:

Mehran (CNIC: 15607-039970-5), a 40-year-old resident of Landi Kass, Saidu Sharif, Mingora, Swat, works as a fruit and vegetable seller on a cart to support his household of seven, including five children. On the morning of 15 August 2025, the first wave of floodwater entered his village around 8:30 AM. Although it was not very destructive and lasted about an hour, a second, much stronger flood struck at 9:30 AM. The floodwaters, reaching 10 to 12 feet and carrying mud and debris, forced Mehran and his family to climb onto the roof of a neighbor's house to stay safe. The flood completely destroyed Mehran's home, leaving it uninhabitable, and the entire village was displaced, with families moving in with relatives. Mehran shared, "We have



lost everything; only the clothes we are wearing remain." Beyond material losses, the disaster has heightened protection risks for his family, particularly women and children, who are vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV) while displaced and living in temporary arrangements. The family urgently needs safe shelter, psychosocial support, child- and women-friendly spaces, and protection measures to ensure dignity and safety during recovery. Mehran's story highlights both the severe physical impact of the floods and the critical need for protection interventions to safeguard vulnerable community members.

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Health:

Flood-affected communities in Buner, Swat, and Shangla are confronting severe health challenges as a result of extensive damage to infrastructure and poor environmental conditions caused by the recent floods. The Rapid Needs Assessment reveals that nearly 72% of health facilities in Buner and 65% in Swat have been either completely damaged or rendered partially functional, while approximately 58% of basic health units in Shangla have also been compromised. This widespread disruption has drastically limited access to essential healthcare services, leaving communities extremely vulnerable during a time of heightened health risks. The combination of stagnant and contaminated water, inadequate sanitation, and damaged healthcare infrastructure has substantially increased the prevalence of waterborne and communicable diseases. Early reports indicate that over 40% of households in Buner and 37% in Swat are already experiencing cases of diarrhea, fever, and skin infections, and the risk of malaria remains high due to extensive stagnant water across affected areas.

Immediate medical support is critical, including the establishment of mobile medical camps equipped with essential medicines, first aid supplies, and emergency treatment kits, to provide accessible and timely healthcare to displaced families. Maternal and child health is particularly at risk, with an estimated 20% of families across the three districts including pregnant women, lactating mothers, and infants who urgently require Mother and Child Health (MCH) kits and dedicated care to prevent complications and ensure proper nutrition and immunization. The psychosocial impact of the floods is also significant, as approximately 30% of affected individuals participating in focus group discussions reported experiencing trauma, anxiety, and distress due to displacement, loss of livelihoods, and the destruction of their homes. Provision of psychosocial support services is therefore essential to help communities cope with trauma, regain a sense of stability, and rebuild resilience in the aftermath of the disaster. Given the scale and severity of the situation, a prompt and well-coordinated humanitarian response is essential to prevent further loss of life and mitigate the spread of disease. Islamic Relief is actively engaged in delivering aid, but effective coordination among government agencies, humanitarian organizations, local authorities, and community leaders is critical to ensure timely delivery of assistance, avoid duplication of efforts, and maximize the impact of limited resources. Any delay in response could exacerbate suffering, lead to additional disease outbreaks, and prolong the hardships faced by already vulnerable communities, highlighting the urgent need for a comprehensive, multi-sectoral intervention to address both immediate and long-term health needs.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

According to the RNA 80% communities in Buner and 76% in Swat are in severe trauma. They are still worried that flood is not yet stopped it will further affect their families. They are confused about how to manage the situation because their livelihoods sources have been badly damaged. Their productive assets have been washed away in the flood. Their children and family members are in critical condition. More than 90% children in Buner and 87% in Swat, women and person with disabilities are fully distressed. According to FGDs families lost homes, livelihoods, and

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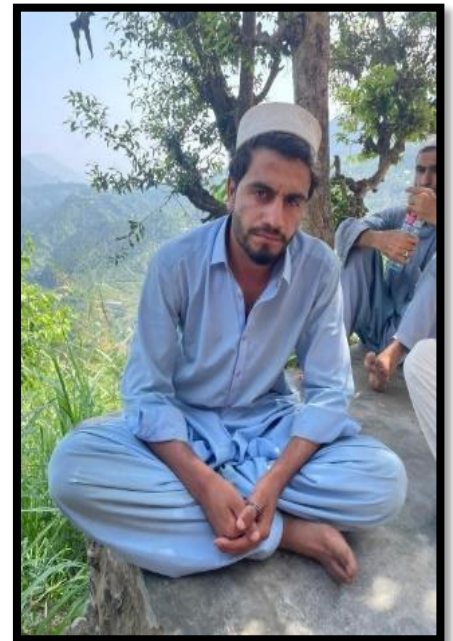
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loved ones. The trauma of witnessing the flood and its aftermath, especially among children and elderly, necessitates mental health support. The community requested medical camps, which should include psychosocial services, counseling, and safe spaces for emotional recovery. Mobile MHPSS teams and community healing activities are recommended.

The FGD conducted in District Shangla revealed that the community is grappling with significant emotional distress following the flood disaster. With three reported deaths, widespread destruction of homes, livelihoods, and infrastructure, residents are experiencing high levels of trauma and psychological stress. The need for comprehensive psychosocial support is urgent. Participants emphasized the importance of mental health services, including counseling, community healing activities, and emotional support mechanisms, to help individuals cope with grief, rebuild their resilience, and begin the process of recovery. While not explicitly mentioned, the scale of destruction and loss of livelihoods suggests a high likelihood of psychosocial distress among affected families. **Key Needs:** Community-based psychosocial support, counseling services, and safe spaces for children and vulnerable groups

Story of Syed Masood Shah from district Buner village Gangshal

In the village of Gangshal, District Buner, the recent cloudburst triggered a catastrophic flood that left behind unimaginable devastation. Syed Masood Shah, a 21-year-old BS Chemistry student at Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan, shared his heartbreaking story during a community discussion. “We had never seen such a disaster in our lives,” he said. “The flood came with such force and speed that it washed away everything—our homes, our village, our loved ones in no time. We couldn’t do anything. Now we are stranded in debris and mud-filled areas, trying to survive.” His personal loss was immense he lost 11 family members, including his father Nomaish (a retired PST teacher), three sisters, three nephews, one niece, his aunty (wife of uncle Duranzeb), his sister-in-law, his Uncle Aurangzeb, and Aurangzeb’s wife. Four other relatives were critically injured and hospitalized. The flood also destroyed four houses and killed 25 large and 30 small ruminants, wiping out the family’s livelihood. “Losing 11 family members has severely hit my life,” Syed Masood shared, “and now I feel completely alone.”



Story of Muhammad Sudais of district Buner village Gangshal

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In the village of Gangshal, located in the Chagharzai area of District Buner, the catastrophic flood triggered by a cloudburst on August 15th, 2025, left behind a trail of destruction and heartbreak. Among the many affected was Muhammad Sudais, an 18-year-old belonging to the Syed Rasool Khan family, who shared his painful experience during a community discussion. “I remained helpless when I lost my family members and all the assets during the disaster,” Sudais said, reflecting on the moment the flash flood swept through his village. The force of the water was overwhelming, destroying homes, livestock, and lives in mere moments. Sudais witnessed the death of seven loved ones, including his grandfather Syed Rasool Khan (aged 75+), four female cousins, one aunty, and his sister-in-law. In addition, six relatives were injured, five of whom are in critical condition and hospitalized, while one aunty sustained two fractures. His uncle Sulaman Shah remains missing. The flood also caused severe damage to property and livelihoods. Two houses were completely destroyed and swept away, and 15 large ruminants, including cows and buffaloes, perished.



Limitations

A major limitation during the assessment was the ongoing flood situation which posed significant safety risks to field staff. Access to some of the hardest hit villages was restricted due to flooding, resulting in delayed or rerouted visits. This limited access may have caused gaps in data collection from frontline communities, potentially affecting the completeness of the findings. Additional challenges included time constraints, unavailability of district focal points in their offices, poor communication signals, damaged or cut bridges and roads hindering accessibility, and panic among local communities.

Immediate Plan of Action:

Based on the rapid needs assessment and the current humanitarian context, Islamic Relief’s response should be structured around two key phases: the Life-Saving (Emergency) Phase and the Recovery & Rehabilitation Phase.

Life-Saving Phase: Immediate Needs and Response Priorities: The assessment highlights the urgent and multi-sectoral needs of the affected communities, requiring prompt humanitarian action across the following areas:

Food Assistance: Immediate provision of cooked meals, food packs including high energy biscuits, dates, and other dried or ready to eat food items to address widespread food insecurity.

Emergency Shelter: Distribution of tents and tarpaulin sheets for families who lost their homes or whose houses have been severely damaged.

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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): Provision of bottled water, water trucking, storage tanks for collection points, aqua tabs, and chlorination for safe drinking water. Emergency WASH support also includes debris removal from homes and wells, dewatering of flooded areas, and installation of temporary latrine slabs to restore basic sanitation.

Non-Food Items (NFIs): Supply of essential items including Household kits, kitchen sets, clothing, plastic sheets, hygiene kits, and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits to restore dignity and meet daily survival needs.

Health and Hygiene: Medical supplies and support to health departments for setting up medical camps, along with Mother and Child Health (MCH) care kits. Special attention will be given to women, girls, persons with disabilities, and older people who are particularly vulnerable in such crises.

Multi-Purpose Cash Grants (MPCG): Unconditional cash transfers to allow affected families to address their most urgent needs with flexibility and dignity.

Nutrition Support: Focused assistance for pregnant and lactating women through dietary support and the distribution of newborn baby kits.

Recovery & Rehabilitation Phase:

Following the emergency response, Islamic Relief will focus on sustainable recovery and resilience-building efforts, including:

Livelihood Restoration: Support for small businesses, farmers, and daily wage earners through asset replacement, skills development, and cash-for-work programs.

Shelter Reconstruction: Assistance for repairing and rebuilding partially or fully damaged homes using disaster-resilient techniques.

Rehabilitation of WASH Infrastructure: Restoration of water systems, sanitation facilities, and inclusion of accessible infrastructure for persons with disabilities.

Community Physical Infrastructure: Repair and reconstruction of farm to market roads, small bridges, culverts, and other vital community assets to restore mobility and access.

Reconstruction of Schools and Health Facilities: Repair and rebuilding of damaged schools and health centers to resume essential services and ensure access to education and healthcare.

This two-phased response ensures that immediate life-saving needs are met while laying the groundwork for long-term recovery, resilience, and dignity for flood-affected communities.

Islamic Relief has a strong operational footprint in managing disasters of this nature, maintaining a continued presence across all provinces. Over the years, the organization has effectively responded to various emergencies, including heavy and flash floods, earthquakes, conflict-

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induced displacement, and cross-border shelling, demonstrating its capacity and commitment to humanitarian response in high-risk areas.

4. KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the extensive damage caused by flash floods across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), particularly in District Buner and Swat, the following multi-sectoral recommendations are proposed to guide immediate relief efforts and support long-term humanitarian response and recovery:

Scale Up Immediate Humanitarian Assistance

- **Rapid Deployment of Emergency Relief:** Urgently deliver cooked food, high energy biscuits, and dry rations to address widespread food insecurity and malnutrition, especially among vulnerable groups (children, pregnant women, the elderly, and PWDs).
- **Establish Temporary Shelters:** Provide tents, tarpaulin sheets, plastic sheeting, and sleeping items for families who have lost homes or are living in unsafe structures.
- **Restore WASH Services:** Supply clean drinking water through water trucking, bottled water, and aqua tabs. Rehabilitate or replace damaged water systems, install temporary latrines, and ensure hygiene kits (including dignity and MHM kits) reach all affected households.
- **Desilting and Debris Removal:** Mobilize teams and equipment for immediate removal of mud and debris from homes, wells, shops, and public spaces to restore habitability and prevent waterborne disease outbreaks.

Strengthen Health and Protection Services

- **Medical and MCH Support:** Set up mobile health units with medical staff, emergency medicines, and mother-child health kits. Prioritize services for pregnant and lactating women, infants, and people with chronic conditions.
- **GBV and Child Protection Response:** Deploy trained protection staff to provide confidential GBV case management, establish safe spaces for women and children, and support child tracing for the 150 missing children reported in assessed districts.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS):** Integrate basic psychosocial first aid services into all health interventions, and train local staff to provide ongoing emotional support to individuals experiencing trauma, stress, and anxiety.
- **Inclusive Support for Vulnerable Groups:** Design and implement interventions that address the unique needs of people with disabilities and older people, who are disproportionately impacted by the emergency.

Enable Economic Recovery through Cash and Livelihood Support

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- **Multi-Purpose Cash Grants (MPCG):** Disburse unconditional cash grants to allow flood-affected families to meet their most urgent needs with dignity and choice.
- **Livelihood Rehabilitation:** Support the restoration of small businesses, market infrastructure, and agricultural activities through cash-for-work programs, restocking of livestock, provision of tools, seeds, and irrigation repair.
- **Revive Markets and Transport Links:** Rehabilitate damaged roads, bridges, and culverts to re-establish access to markets, healthcare, and schools, particularly in villages that are still cut off from district centers.

Invest in Recovery and Reconstruction

- **Permanent Shelter Solutions:** Develop and implement shelter reconstruction programs using disaster-resilient designs, ensuring community participation and compliance with local building codes.
- **WASH Infrastructure Rebuilding:** Reconstruct water supply schemes and sanitation facilities in public buildings (schools, health centers, madrassas), prioritizing accessible infrastructure for PWDs.
- **Rehabilitate Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):** Repair schools, healthcare units, and other public facilities to restore access to essential services and support long-term recovery.

5. Ensure Coordinated and Inclusive Humanitarian Response

- **Strengthen Coordination with Government and Partners:** Maintain strong coordination with P&D KP, PDMA, District Administrations, and humanitarian partners to avoid duplication, ensure accountability, and align response efforts with government priorities.
- **Engage Local Communities and Leaders:** Work with community elders, religious leaders, women's groups, and youth representatives to ensure that the response is contextually appropriate, culturally sensitive, and locally led.
- **Ensure Data Collection and Real-Time Monitoring:** Continue conducting needs assessments and monitoring activities, even in hard-to-reach areas, using mobile data collection tools and community focal points.

6. Plan for Future Preparedness

- **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR):** Incorporate DRR strategies in recovery efforts to reduce vulnerability to future flooding, such as flood-resistant housing, early warning systems, and community preparedness training.
- **Resilience Building:** Invest in community-based programs that strengthen coping mechanisms, diversify income sources, and promote sustainable water and land use practices.

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These recommendations are designed to ensure a holistic and needs-based response that saves lives, restores dignity, and sets the foundation for long-term recovery and resilience in flood-affected areas of Buner, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

7. ANNEXURE



Emergency

Declaration Notificatio



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8. PICTORIAL VIEW



FGD with Community at village Bishori Buner

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KII with ADC Relief Buner

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KII with Manager Al-Hidmat Foundation at Buner

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KII with ADC General at Buner



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