Managing Extreme Floods in Pakistan

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Monsoon 2010 : Extreme Rainfall - Flood

INTERACTION

Monsoon 2010 (July) Interaction of Westerly and Easterly Weather Systems occurred over <u>NW Pakistan</u> instead of NE Pakistan.

The DURATION of this interaction was **<u>24 - 36 hrs</u>**.

Source: PMD



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Pakistan: Flood / Rain 2010



Flood Forecasting anf Early Warning System



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Source: Flood Forecasting Division, Pakistan Meteorological Department



Flood Inundated Areas of Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh Provinces, Pakistan (August 14,2010)





Flood Situation 14 August



UNESCO Missions to Pakistan

To define areas of cooperation with Pakistani authorities to reinforce the country's capacity in:

- integrated flood and watershed management
- groundwater resources for emergency situations
- landslides and ground instability especially for relocation of affected population.



Time Frame

• Short term (within 1 year)

• Medium term (2 to 3 years)

• Long term (3 to 5 years)



Integrated flood and watershed management

Short term actions

 Identify areas of improvements of hydrological models for flood forecasting – augment local capacity



Integrated flood and watershed management

Medium to long term actions

- Real time flood inundation modeling linked with Flood Early Warning System (FEWS)
- Develop risk and hazard maps
- Enhance flash flood forecasting for pilot areas
- Mapping and modeling snow and ice cover



Integrated flood and watershed management

Medium to long term actions

- Diagnostic analysis of causes of floods
- Evolutionary analysis of river morphology
- Urban planning for flood resilient communities
- Facilitate transboundary data sharing using WMO and UNESCO networks such as Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data (FRIEND) and International Flood Initiative (IFI)
- Enhance radar coverage of the country to be able to forecast flash floods
- Use of remote sensed precipitation data for flood forecasting



Groundwater resources for emergency situations

Short term actions

 Groundwater vulnerability assessment and mapping with special regard to groundwater emergency resources in pilot areas in Mardan and Peshawar Valleys as well as in hydrogeology suitable sites in Baluchistan, Punjab (e.g. Kasur) and Sindh



Groundwater resources for emergency situations

Long term actions

- Assessment of groundwater recharge of aquifers safe to flood disasters
- Assessment of impact of floods on groundwater quality and groundwater related ecosystems
- Groundwater monitoring networks linked with Pakistan meteorological and hydrological networks
- Evaluation of high content of fluoride and arsenic in water in Peshawar area (fluoride) and Kasur District (arsenic)



Landslides and ground instability

Short term actions

- Capacity building in integrated hydrogeology modelling
- Update Policy Guidelines for dealing with geohazards triggered by land slides



Landslides and ground instability

Long term actions

- Improve institutional linkages and knowledge
- Analyse snow avalanche mechnisms
- Launch an integrated ecogeohydrology network using UNESCO networks
- Understanding the hydro-meteorological processes of landslides



Education and Capacity Building

Short term actions

Specialized training for politicians, policy makers and higher level managers in hydrological and related geohazard risk management to deal with uncertainty



Education and Capacity Building

Medium to long term actions

- Specialized education and training of flood forecasting specialists at the tertiary level
- Training of middle level technician and managers of water departments – update curricula of existing institutes in Pakistan
- Review and strengthen community and school education in managing geohazards



Education and Capacity Building

Medium to long term actions

- Map capacity of existing institutes in water education
- Revitalize the UNESCO Centre of Excellence in water management considering hydrological extremes and related geohazards in Pakistan



Management Options

- More storage dams are a must to manage floods from Kabul River
- Proactive scenario modelling on 6 hour basis is a must to decide on controlled flooding and downstream flooding in the Sindh province
- Introduce hydrograph delays using the link canals between Chenab, Ravi and Sutlej. This extra water can be use for artificial aquifer recharge through controlled flooding

