

people, took the lives of 1,712, and damaged or destroyed 2.2 million houses in 94 calamity-hit districts (out of a total of 170 districts in the country). As a result, estimates indicate an increase in multidimensional poverty from 37.8% to 43.7%, meaning that an additional 1.9 million households (around 12.1 million people) will be pushed into multidimensional poverty, experiencing significantly increased deprivations in access to adequate health, sanitation, maternal care, electricity, as well as loss of assets.

Floods left an adverse gender-specific impact in areas such as women's health and wellbeing. A Protection Analysis Update in October 2022 reported high rates of vulnerability among girls and women nationwide as a result of the impacts of the floods on basic services. The floods reduced available support services in a context of increased demand for them. Heightened tensions, fear and uncertainty coupled with loss of income might be leading to increased violence against women and girls.

The EU reacted immediately to the floods starting with a Declaration of Crisis approved on 17 October 2022 and covering retroactively from 1 October 2022 to 30 June 2023. In response to the dire humanitarian situation, the EU and its Member States mobilised EUR 215 million by March 2023. The EU took also a major role – in close coordination with Asian Development Bank, World Bank, and the United Nations system – in support to the Government of Pakistan to complete in a record time the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and the subsequent Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Framework (4RF).

Balochistan, the province with the existing highest poverty rate (42.2 %), and as one of the three provinces most adversely affected by the flooding, accounted for, according to the PDNA report, 11% of national damages, 16.5% losses and 14% of the needs. There was an estimated consequential increase in the provincial poverty rate of between 7.5% to 7.7% with impact on the household welfare resulting from: (i) loss of household income and employment/livelihoods due to destroyed harvest, livestock killed, or inactivity of businesses; (ii) loss of assets, including homes, livestock, production equipment, and household effects; (iii) rising food prices due to shortages of food arising from lost food stocks and poor harvests; and (iv) loss of human capital, given the significant threat of disease outbreaks and food shortages, and prolonged school closures, with attendant learning losses.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity analysis<sup>2</sup> from July – August 2022 showed a high prevalence of food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty in 12 rural districts of Balochistan. In the first half of 2022, the Baluch population faced multiple shocks including high food and fuel prices, drought and flooding, livestock diseases, as well as resultant reduced employment opportunities. The impact of the floods exacerbated already existing inequalities. Several rights-holders (population groups in vulnerable situations) such as women and girls, children and persons with disabilities have been negatively impacted due to their limited access and availability to social protection and coping mechanisms.

The agriculture sector (including livestock and fisheries) plays an important role for the country (responsible for more than a fifth of GDP contribution (22.7% in 2021) and employing 68% of Pakistan's workforce). In Balochistan, in particular, the present action would support the recovery and reconstruction of one the most important economic sectors such as the livestock sector.

The overall decline in GDP as a direct impact of the floods is projected to be around 2.2% of FY22 GDP<sup>3</sup>. Among the major sectors, agriculture sector value added is projected to decline the most at 0.9% of FY22 GDP, with floods causing the most losses to cotton, dates, sugarcane, and rice crops. Around one million livestock (excluding poultry) are estimated to have perished. Furthermore, damage in the agricultural sector is expected to have spill-over multiplier effects on the industry and services sectors. Similarly, the local food processing and slaughtering industries will be negatively impacted by the expected reduction in food harvests and reduced supply of livestock<sup>4</sup>. Industry sector value added is consequently expected to shrink by 0.7% of FY22 GDP. Similarly, lower agricultural and industrial activity are likely to weigh on wholesale and transportation services activities, which account for around half of the service sector output.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1156103/?iso3=PAK>

<sup>3</sup> Nominal GDP at market prices for FY22 (PKR 66.9 trillion)

<sup>4</sup> Dawn (2022) Pakistan needs at least \$16.3bn for post-flood rehab: report, October 29