MONSOON UPDATE
Pakistan

Issue 3 | 3 - 8 August 2013

OCHA

This report identifies the current trends, events, and short-term forecast associated with the 2013 monsoon season.

OVERVIEW

- Countrywide heavy monsoon rains experienced from 31 July to 4 August triggered flash floods and caused widespread losses and damage across the country.
- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) reports the rains have claimed 84 lives, displaced 81,674 people, affected 135,076 acres of crops, and damaged or destroyed 4,315 houses.
- District authorities, supported by Provincial Disaster Management Authorities and the NDMA, have provided assistance in affected areas to save lives and limit losses of crops, livestock and assets. The army and navy have supported search and rescue, and de-watering efforts.
- Heavy rainfall continues in north-eastern Punjab, causing flooding in Sialkot, Narowal and Gujrat districts along the water channels astride the Chenab and Ravi rivers.
- The humanitarian community stands ready to support ongoing relief efforts by the Government, as requested.
- Meteorological forecasts indicate relatively heavier rains are expected in upper Punjab and KP and moderate rains across western and southern parts of the country in the coming days.

MONSOON EVENTS AND IMPACT

Rainfall: During the past week, heavy rainfall was recorded in Karachi (136mm) and Jacobabad (153mm) in Sindh; Sialkot, Narowal (160mm each) and Gujrat (136mm) in Punjab; and Mansehra (105mm) in KP. Islamabad and Thatta in Sindh received over 90 mm rainfall.

Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, Chitral and Peshawar districts in KP and Frontier Region Tank in Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) are among the hardest-hit areas in north-western Pakistan. Other worst-affected districts are Sialkot, Narowal, Dera Ghazi Khan and Rajanpur in Punjab; Loralai, Jhal Magsi, Jaffarabad, Naseerabad, Sibi and Lasbela in Balochistan; Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Qambar Shahdadkot and Jacobabad in Sindh; and South Waziristan, Khyber and Kurram Agencies in FATA.

Karachi and parts of Hyderabad District experienced urban flooding due to inadequate water drainage infrastructure and blocked flood water channels.

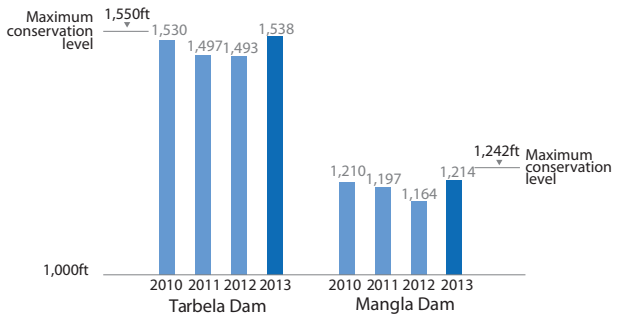
Floods have severely affected agriculture-based livelihoods, especially because many affected regions are still recovering from the impact of the 2012 floods. Reports indicate less emphasis on proactive life-saving responses and dissemination of early warning in some instances. This was particularly evident during urban flooding in Karachi, where monsoon preparedness needs to be reinforced.

Response: District authorities in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Punjab and Sindh provinces, supported by Provincial Disaster Management Authorities and the NDMA, have so far distributed 25,898 tents, 4,296 food packs, 500 blankets, 14,000 mosquito nets, 8 dewatering pumps and other non-food items to affected people.

River flood situation: As of 7 August, the Indus River is in medium and low flood, while the Kabul River is in medium flood, and the Chenab and Swat rivers are in low flood.

Water reservoir levels: As of 7 August, the Tarbela and Mangla dams are at elevations of 1538 feet and 1213.55 feet respectively, 12 feet and 28.45 feet below their respective maximum conservation levels of 1550 feet and 1242 feet. The combined live storage position of Tarbela, Chashma and Mangla reservoirs is 11.268 million acre-feet (MAF), compared with last year's 6.269 MAF.

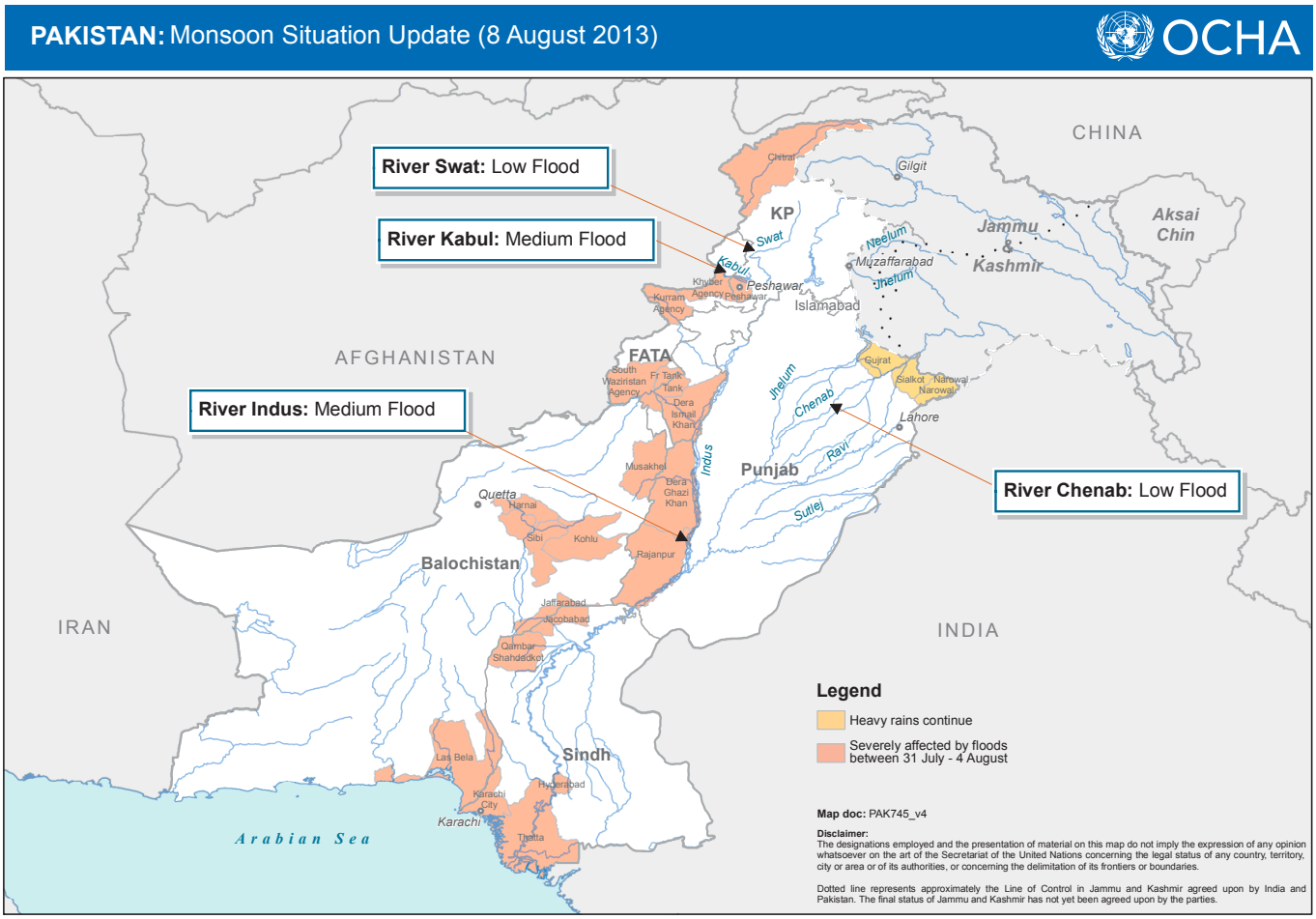
Water Reservoirs Elevation (7 August 2013)

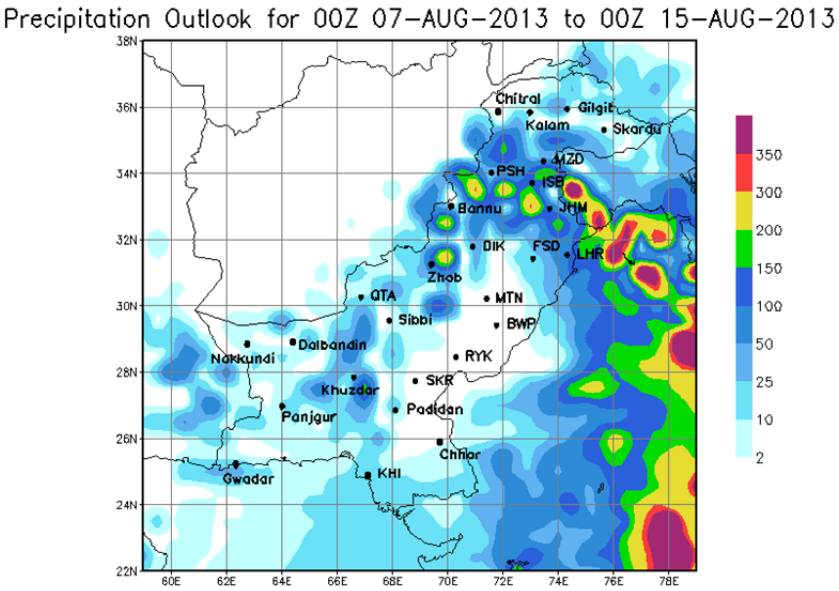


FORECAST

Relatively heavy rains are expected in northern Punjab and KP and moderate to heavy spells in western and southern parts of the country in the coming days. The Pakistan Meteorological Department has issued flood warnings for north-eastern Punjab and Dera Ghazi Khan Division in south-western Punjab.

MONSOON EVENTS & IMPACT





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For more information, please visit: http://www.pakresponse.info

References:

Pakistan Meteorological Department: http://www.pmd.gov.pk
Federal Flood Commission: http://www.ffc.gov.pk
NDMA Monsoon Updates

Media reports