

HUMANITARIAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (HIP)
AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN¹
AMOUNT: EUR 66 307 000

0. MAJOR CHANGES SINCE PREVIOUS VERSION OF THE HIP

Fifth modification

Since the intensification of the conflict between government forces and the armed opposition, the Afghan population is paying an increasing heavy toll through both civilian casualties and population displacements. In addition, at the end of October 2015, a 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck Badakhshan province, increasing needs for food assistance, NFIs, WASH and shelter. The number of IDP's in Afghanistan at the end of 2015 is well over 1 million. Moreover, the deterioration of both the security and economic situation is pushing Afghans to migrate to Europe: according to UNHCR figures, 150 000 Afghans have arrived in the EU in 2015 and 46 % of them have spent time in Iran before heading towards Turkey and then Europe. Iran is reporting 2 000 new arrivals of Afghans per day, adding to their 951 142 documented Afghan refugees and an estimated 3 million undocumented ones. In order to meet these growing needs in Afghanistan and Iran, in particular ahead of the onset of winter in Afghanistan, and additional EUR 12 000 000 is added to this HIP in view of reaching an additional target population of 400 000 persons affected by the escalation of the conflict in 2015 and October 2015 earthquake. Priority sectors are food assistance, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, non-food items and winterisation. Protection and health will also be addressed.

Fourth modification

With the dramatic increase in the numbers of the conflict-induced Internally Displaced People in Afghanistan, estimated at approximately 400 000 people, the humanitarian needs have increased in the country. For this reason an unallocated amount of EUR 385 000 is transferred from specific objective 4 (DIPECHO - DP/DRR) to specific objective 1 (Man-made crises) of this HIP. Conflict affected populations will be supported through multi-sector emergency assistance.

Third modification

An increasing number of civilians have been impacted by the expanding conflict inside of Afghanistan requiring immediate humanitarian assistance. At the same time, an increasing number of refugees and undocumented migrants have been forced to return from Pakistan. Furthermore, the number of Pakistani refugees in Afghanistan has remained stable, however a lack of funding has resulted in significant uncovered humanitarian needs.

In order to cover the needs of above populations an overall amount of EUR 2 900 000 had to be shifted from the allocation for Pakistan to the allocation for Afghanistan, all to the man made crisis specific objective. EUR 2 700 000 were shifted from the man made

¹ This HIP also covers Afghan refugees in Iran.
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crisis specific objective of Pakistan and EUR 200 000 from the natural disasters specific objective.

Second modification

For Afghanistan, due to humanitarian needs related to the conflict and the very high number of civilian casualties, the humanitarian response in all cases takes the needs of conflict affected people into consideration. For this reason, an amount of EUR 10 115 000 had to be shifted from natural disasters specific objective to man made crises specific objective.

First modification

Despite the acknowledged high level of humanitarian needs, challenges regarding access, effectiveness of response and capacity to implement have resulted in a decision to decrease the amount of the allocation in this Humanitarian Implementation Plan for Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Risk Reduction, Resilience by EUR 489 000 from EUR 2 296 000 to EUR 1 807 000.

1. CONTEXT

The countries covered by this Humanitarian Implementation Plan are prone to a variety of natural disasters (floods and droughts, landslides, GLOF², cyclones, earthquakes, avalanches)³. In addition, Afghanistan and Pakistan are affected by protracted conflict, and economic, political and social volatility. The impact of disasters is not felt uniformly. The poor are typically the worst affected as they tend to live in vulnerable areas, have low capacity to deal with loss of income and assets and limited access to risk sharing mechanisms such as insurance. Growing concerns about the impact of climate change are also of particular relevance in this part of the world. Social and political structures, demographic pressure, poor urban planning, fragile settlements, livelihood practices and low economic development entail a high vulnerability to a more frequent, more intense and unpredictable scale of events. Urban communities are increasingly at risk due to a combination of factors that include poor urban planning, building codes not enforced, inadequate essential infrastructure, ineffective health services and insufficient response capacity and planning.

About 7 % of the 52 million⁴ acutely under-nourished children world-wide live in Afghanistan (1 %)⁵ and Pakistan (6.5 %)⁶. Pakistan has the third largest caseload (3.3 million) of acutely under-nourished children in the world.

Against a backdrop of armed conflict between military and non-state armed groups, inter-ethnic, sectarian disputes, and conflict over scarce resources, the number of **conflict-affected internally displaced people (IDPs)** continues to rise in both Afghanistan and Pakistan. In Afghanistan, the ongoing transition of security responsibilities from international to Afghan forces has led to increased instability and conflict. In Pakistan, fresh waves of displacement continue due to on-going armed conflict between the military and non-state armed actors, primarily in Federally

² Glacier Lake Outburst Flood

³ The European Commission's Integrated Analysis Framework (IAF) 2014/15 identified high humanitarian needs in both countries. According to the Global Needs and Vulnerability Assessment (GNVA): Afghanistan is classified: Vulnerability index 3, Crisis index 3; and Pakistan: Vulnerability index 2, Crisis index 3.

⁴ http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/key_facts_figures.pdf

⁵ Aghanistan National Nutrition Survey 2013

⁶ <http://apps.who.int/nutrition/landscape/report.aspx?iso=PAK&rid=161&template=nutrition&goButton=Go>

Administered Tribal Areas (FATA); this has led to an increase in the number of IDPs in Khyber Paktunkhwa (KP) / FATA which, as a result of the protracted nature of the displacement, has increased the vulnerabilities of both host communities and IDPs, despite government efforts to return the IDPs to their place of origin .

Afghan Refugees: More than three decades of conflict in Afghanistan have resulted in the largest refugee crisis in the world. Decades of war have led to millions fleeing their homes and seeking refuge mainly in the neighboring countries of Pakistan and Iran or countries further abroad. Currently 2.45 million⁷ registered Afghan refugees remain both in Iran (over 824 000) and Pakistan (1.63 million). Humanitarian needs relating to these groups are also addressed in this HIP.

This HIP includes provisions for **disaster preparedness (DP)/disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience building** in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The overriding objective is to reduce the vulnerability of the populations living in hazard prone areas through improved preparedness and response capacities of both local communities and authorities.

2. HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

2.1 Affected people / potential beneficiaries:

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Internally Displaced People: The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports over 70 600 newly displaced people in 2014, bringing the number of conflict-induced displaced people to more than 700 000 as of end of July 2014. The IDPs are mainly located in the South, East and West of the country⁸.

Returns: Refugee returns since the beginning of the voluntary repatriation programme in 2002 are currently at an all-time low. From January to July 2014, a total of 10 055 Afghan refugees voluntarily repatriated to Afghanistan. In comparison, during the same period in 2013, 28 800 Afghans returned⁹. Areas of highest return include the eastern border provinces (Nangarhar and Laghman), central region provinces and major urban centres, Kabul City primarily.

Afghan refugees: There are 1.6 million registered and an estimated 1.5 million undocumented Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and over 824 000 in Iran. In terms of population growth, nearly 83 000 newborns are added to this population each year.

Pakistani refugees in Afghanistan: As a result of conflict and military operations in the North Waziristan Agency of Pakistan, around 120 000 Pakistani refugees have been displaced into Afghanistan in 2014. The majority of them are staying in Afghan host communities with very limited resources.

Nearly half of Afghanistan's 400 districts are hazard-prone. On average **400 000 people are affected by recurrent natural disasters** each year, compounding the precarious economic situation where 36% of the population lives below the poverty line, and 20% just above.

⁷ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre Report, 2013

⁸ UNHCR IDP monthly update July 2014

⁹ UNHCR Voluntary Repatriation Report, August 2014

Emergency Health assistance is required by 5.4 million people, especially in trauma care for war-wounded and containment of epidemic outbreaks.

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Communities affected by food insecurity and undernutrition: The Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 15.1%¹⁰ in Pakistan is classified as critical as per the WHO emergency threshold and represents one of the highest world-wide.¹¹ Alarming high nutritional and food insecurity trends persist in the disaster-prone province of Sindh. 72% of the population there are food insecure and 1 million children acutely undernourished, 400 000 of whom suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In rural Sindh, GAM rates of over 20% are routine, with spikes to over 25% in districts systematically affected by floods, and with high concentrations of marginalised and disadvantaged communities. Nutritional vulnerabilities also remain critical in the conflict affected regions of KP and FATA.

IDPs: According to government reports, over 1 million people have been displaced in KP in 2014 alone. Humanitarian organisations estimate that 500 000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance. These figures compound a pre-existing and protracted caseload of 958 000 IDPs in KP and FATA.

Communities affected by natural disasters: Both rural and urban communities are highly vulnerable to natural hazards, with millions of people affected annually by large-scale natural disasters, notably with four consecutive years of floods since 2010.

2.2 Description of the most acute humanitarian needs

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Food Assistance

Due an erosion of livelihood assets, food consumption in crisis-affected households falls below acceptable levels in terms of quantity and quality. An estimated 2.2 million people are severely food insecure and require emergency food assistance.¹²

Nutrition

There is a clear risk of moderate and severe acute malnutrition among crisis-affected populations. An important issue in addressing nutrition is the limited human resources and technical capacities of nutrition actors, the lack of adequate nutrition situation analysis, and suboptimal coverage of nutrition services.

WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion)

Crisis-affected populations lack access to disaster-resilient drinking water systems, sanitation facilities and hygiene awareness.

Health

Emergency health assistance is required by 5.4 million people, especially in trauma care due to the rise in war and weapon wounded casualties, in different parts of the country,

¹⁰ National Nutrition Survey 2011

¹¹ 2013 UNICEF: State of the World's Children report

¹² OCHA Common Humanitarian Action Plan 2014

notably Helmand. A lack of surveillance, preparedness and response to epidemics in high risk areas is also observed.

Shelter and Non Food Items (NFI)

There is a specific need for emergency, shelter and NFI for those affected by conflict and natural disasters. By mid-2014, it is estimated that approximately 700 000 people are in need of emergency shelter and NFI support, of which only 16% could be reached.

Protection

Protection assistance is required on a priority basis for the 1.5 million people suffering from the impact of conflict, in addition to refugees in neighbouring countries, and victims of natural disasters.

Coordination and information management

For enhanced humanitarian coordination, there is a need for systematic and timely needs assessments, data collection, analysis, presentation and dissemination.

The most acute humanitarian needs of **Afghan refugees** in Iran and Pakistan include protection, health care services, assistance in case of voluntary repatriation.

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Nutrition

At national level, the overall burden of acute under-nutrition is significant. Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) affects particularly the severely disadvantaged rural communities of Sindh, that face the most significant humanitarian risk from consecutive flooding, and conflict affected IDPs and host populations in KP and FATA.¹³

Food Assistance

According to the Pakistan National Nutrition Survey Report 2011, 58% of the population suffer from severe or moderate food insecurity. Food Assistance needs are critical in disaster prone regions and particularly in Sindh province where protracted disasters have severely damaged the livelihoods and coping capacities of the population, and where 72%¹⁴ of the population are food insecure. IDPs rely on international food assistance to meet part of their food needs. In past ECHO¹⁵ interventions, cash has proven to be the most effective transfer modality.

Protection

Conflict and natural disasters, protracted displacement, and repeated cycles of renewed displacement and return, all exacerbate IDPs' vulnerabilities and the need to strengthen protection. Access to basic services remains a concern as it is often linked to the IDPs' legal status and documentation, making the situation of IDPs precarious. Ensuring protection with a particular attention to the social groups most at risk in a holistic fashion with strengthened and effective referral mechanisms is critical.

¹³ In Sindh province, GAM rates at district level are either approaching or far in excess of 20%. In KP/FATA the rates are below the critical emergency threshold but the population remains at risk due impact of the ongoing displacements.

¹⁴ National Nutrition Survey 2011

¹⁵ Commission's Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion

Access to clean water and sanitation is problematic in Pakistan and is amplified at times of crises. High dependence on unprotected and poor quality water sources for drinking is a serious concern, exacerbated by inappropriate hygiene behavior and practices.

Health

Basic health care services and outreach remain weak, particularly in rural areas, and communicable disease outbreaks are common, especially in disaster settings.

Shelter, Non Food Items

In both natural and man-made disasters, provision of shelter and NFIs remain key especially at the onset of an emergency. Attention should be given to developing adapted intervention strategies for those living in host communities, while for camps, services need to be adapted based on comprehensive analysis of the camp situation.

Coordination and Advocacy

The complex nature of the different crises in Pakistan demand concerted efforts on coordination and the adherence and application of humanitarian principles in response actions by humanitarian organizations. Ensuring neutral, impartial and independent actions is fundamental to ensure the safe delivery of assistance to the civilian population and the safety of the humanitarian workers.

Disaster Preparedness, disaster risk reduction, resilience

The hazards most seriously affecting both countries are:

- Hydrological and meteorological hazards – highest level of occurrence and affecting the highest number of people.
- Geophysical hazards: resulting in the highest level of fatalities.
- Extreme climatic events, such as extreme temperatures and drought.

These recurring hazards often translate into the loss of housing, assets and livelihoods and lead to population displacements and acute humanitarian needs.

3. HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

3.1 National / local response and involvement:

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The responsibility for the coordination of response to natural disasters lies with the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). The Authority has provincial representations.

For conflict-related displacement, the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR), which is supported by UNHCR, leads the response and is assisted by the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS). In conflict affected areas without government accessibility, ARCS/ICRC¹⁶ often takes the lead.

¹⁶ Afghan Red Crescent Society / International Committee of the Red Cross
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Overall national and local response is restricted by limited capacity, weak governance, high staff turnover and an increasing number of districts challenged by AOGs¹⁷.

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The government of Pakistan serves as the first responder to a crisis. Responsibility for the coordination of response to natural disasters lies with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMA) with the latter also overseeing response activities. In FATA, the FATA Disaster Management Authorities (FDMA) is responsible. The management, coordination and response in conflict IDP settings is rather different with several government agencies being engaged – FDMA, FATA Secretariat, the Home and Tribal Affairs Department, PDMA, 11 Corps of Pakistan Army Force.

While the government of Pakistan has the proven capacity to respond in an emergency and (e.g the cash transfer mechanism for conflict and natural disaster affected populations, such as the Citizens’ Damage Compensation Programme and the more recent mobile cash transfer mechanism for NW displaced persons), significant levels of exclusion of vulnerable families to access these schemes remains a key concern.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RESILIENCE

While the relevant Afghan and Pakistani government agencies responsible for disaster management are developing national strategies that should address DRR needs, these strategies are generally not adequate to the local needs and capacities, thus are neither properly understood and adequately implemented. National DRM¹⁸ strategies are not supported by appropriate tools and mechanisms, and are often in competition with other strategic priorities imposed by conflict situations and political instability. Local implementation capacities are particularly limited at sub-national and grassroots levels which suffer from lack of dedicated and trained human resources and insufficient financial allocations.

Regional mechanisms and initiatives in South Asia, such as the SAARC DMC¹⁹, have not been successful in supporting the development of sound, cost-effective country-level DRR mechanisms, particularly in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

3.2 International Humanitarian Response

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The 2014 Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP) , budgeted at USD 408 million, is 51 % funded as of August 2014.

The increased “bunkerisation” of the international humanitarian community has resulted in limited access to, and interaction with, the population in need. This led the humanitarian community to reflect on how to implement humanitarian activities in remote and difficult areas as well as how to ensure adequate funding. Following this process, the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) was introduced in 2014; it replaced the

¹⁷ Armed Opposition Groups

¹⁸ DRM: Disaster Risk Management

¹⁹ South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation’s Disaster Management Centre
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previous Emergency Response Fund (ERF). The aim is to provide timely and appropriate response as well as predictable and strategic funding to UN agencies and international and local NGOs working in Afghanistan. Several issues such as access, remote management, quality control, monitoring and evaluation still need to be addressed.

Total humanitarian assistance, as of August 2014, is estimated at USD 364 194 143, the main donors being the United States (32%), Japan (12.6%) and the European Commission (11.7 %), with Canada, Sweden, Norway, UK and the Republic of Korea accounting for a further 27 %²⁰.

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Over the past few years, the government of Pakistan has been increasingly reluctant to utilise the Cluster approach as a mechanism to support humanitarian response even in natural disasters. The government has not authorised public Consolidated Appeals for any recent emergency, favouring instead bilateral assistance and other forms of in-kind support. As a consequence, successive and at times overlapping response plans by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) are drafted addressing the different humanitarian contexts for both man-made and natural disasters. For 2014, two main documents are in place i.e. the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Strategic Response Plan (SRP) where funding requirements amount to EUR 223 million (USD 295 million) to meet the needs of KP/FATA IDP crisis, under-nutrition and Afghan Refugees. In addition, for the North Waziristan IDP crisis a specific response plan has been drafted which requires EUR 75 million in order to respond to the needs until end of 2014.

As of 2014, a new United Nations humanitarian coordination structure came into force at national and provincial level. The Cluster system has been deactivated in Sindh and Baluchistan, and replaced by national and provincial humanitarian coordination mechanisms (NHCM and PHCM) with specific working groups. In KP/FATA, Clusters are maintained for health, education, nutrition, community restoration, food security, WASH, CCCM²¹ and Protection, and the KP/FATA inter-cluster coordination mechanism/Humanitarian Regional Team (HRT) and the NHCM report directly to the HCT.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RESILIENCE

Given the high risk profile of Afghanistan and Pakistan, disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and resilience building are a focus for an increasing number of donors, international organizations, UN agencies and INGOs. DRR efforts are mainly directed at central and sub-national levels, looking at developing national strategies and response capacities, generally through a top-down approach, with little support for the role of communities in addressing DP/DRR and too often through programmes substituting government services and duties.

3.3 Constraints and ECHO response capacity

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²⁰ Financial tracking system managed by OCHA.

²¹ Camp Coordination and Camp Management

An increase in insecurity and criminality has led many NGOs as well as ECHO to review their modus operandi and operational set-up. The uncertainty regarding the 2015 security situation may also require further implementation adaptations. In general, humanitarian partners still lack comprehensive access to populations in need. Capacity building is needed in the area of access negotiation. Often, however, access depends on the local context, security and political considerations that are outside an organisation's mandate. ECHO has been promoting such capacity building, better enabling partners to implement humanitarian activities in remote and difficult areas. Similar access strategies are being developed by other organisations and a close coordination and exchange of information is to be maintained.

Although humanitarian agencies have started to refocus on emergencies and building some capacity to deploy rapidly, it is not always easy to scale up humanitarian interventions in areas of greatest needs, not to mention the most insecure areas of the country. Coordination and support services sectors constitute a pre-condition for effective and secure humanitarian work in Afghanistan.

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Access for humanitarian organizations to operate independently and where the needs are greatest is increasingly restricted. Compounding this, the insecure operational environment and administrative requirements pose implementation and coordination challenges.

The government of Pakistan has adopted a legal framework for International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) to operate in Pakistan, which came into force on 28 November 2013. The clearance process by the different government departments at federal and provincial level takes time, particularly to obtain Memoranda of Understanding (MoU), and project and travel "No Objection Certificates" (NoCs), negatively impacting the ability of humanitarian organisations to deliver emergency assistance to vulnerable communities. At times, different directives by different government agencies, combined with the high military presence in the hosting areas of the NWA IDPs, give rise to concerns with regard to humanitarian space and organisations' ability to operate in a principled manner.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RESILIENCE

Disaster Preparedness actions implemented so far in Afghanistan and Pakistan, in particular through successive DIPECHO Action Plans, have allowed the development and testing of methodologies ("models") that enhance communities' and sub-national authorities' capacities to identify and mitigate risks through the implementation of priority actions in accordance with local development mechanisms. However, there are strong capacity-related, cultural and administrative obstacles to the ownership of these methodologies by local stakeholders that should be addressed.

3.4 Envisaged ECHO response and expected results of humanitarian aid interventions

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ECHO will maintain the current focus on acute humanitarian needs and primarily those conflict-induced. At the same time, ECHO will ensure the capacity to respond to unmet natural disaster induced needs and maintain a strong focus on supporting access to contested and underserved areas. Priority will be given to:

Life-saving medical support to victims of conflict, in the form of first aid and war surgery in conflict-affected areas and referral hospitals; preparedness and response to outbreaks of epidemics.

Relief assistance and support for the reintegration and recovery of civilian populations, internally displaced people (whether affected by conflict or natural disasters), and returning refugees requiring urgent humanitarian food and nutrition assistance, shelter materials, health, water, hygiene and sanitation and NFIs.

Protection for conflict affected populations including those displaced, detainees in detention facilities, and voluntary and forcibly returned refugees. Given the history of conflict and cultural specificities of Afghanistan, particular attention must be paid to gender-based violence (GBV) and the needs of children both in conflict and natural disasters situations. There is also an urgent and pressing need to promote International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and recall to the parties to the conflict their obligations under it.

Care and maintenance support for the most vulnerable among the Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan; relief support for any new influx of displaced people, including the Pakistan refugees in Afghanistan. ECHO's response will remain fully aligned with the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) in all its main pillars.

Coordination and coherence of humanitarian needs assessments and response, as well as support to a civil-military dialogue on humanitarian issues through established formal coordination mechanisms and the different access initiatives under development.

Support Services, including the support of dedicated common services to facilitate access (humanitarian air transport) and to provide safety & security support to humanitarian agencies.

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With the overall aim of promoting the **resilience of the most vulnerable**, ECHO's strategy for Pakistan in 2015 will be to respond to the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected communities and scale up direct life-saving interventions to address acute undernutrition, notably in Sindh, complemented by nutrition-sensitive interventions. Adherence and application of humanitarian principles will be a pre-requisite for funding.

Nutrition

The general crisis of undernutrition that exists across Pakistan is particularly acute among extremely poor flood-affected communities in Sindh Province. There is an urgent requirement to strengthen information management systems. This will foster a coordinated nutrition response, which is targeted and informed on the basis of a solid nutritional situation/causal analysis and tackles both the immediate and underlying causes of under nutrition. Nutrition partners need to better articulate and apply common strategic multi-sector approaches so that their collective response is more effective in terms of both nutrition outcomes and strengthened systems. Interventions should focus

on optimising comprehensive coverage of needs in priority "hot spot" districts with flexibility to respond to needs that emerge in the course of 2015.

Food assistance: The access to, availability and consumption of appropriate food for the most vulnerable will be supported. Livelihoods will also be strengthened with a view to restoring of self-reliance.

Protection: Interventions should ensure a holistic approach with strengthened and effective detection, monitoring, prevention and response to violence, abuse²² and exploitation through counseling, legal assistance, civil documentation support and robust referral mechanisms during all phases of the displacement cycle. Particular attention should be given to ensure the inclusion and access of the most vulnerable, including women, children, the elderly, disabled and other marginalized groups such as minorities, to existing social schemes, basic services and adapted assistance, irrespective of their status (registered/unregistered).

WASH: Interventions should adopt a broader community approach to ensure adequate overall coverage of water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion within the targeted communities. Equally, robust engagement with relevant authorities should be ensured from the very onset of the intervention to ensure appropriate levels of sustainability.

Health: Access to primary health care with attention to strong and effective referral mechanisms, obstetric services and child health action campaigns with linkages to nutrition, epidemiological surveillance and response to disease outbreaks remain key priorities.

Shelter,NFI: While the focus will be on emergency shelter assistance, attention should be given to develop adapted intervention strategies for those living in host communities; for camps, services need to be adapted based on comprehensive analysis of the camp situation; this should be combined with strengthened referral systems and mechanisms that ensure appropriate services to those living in camps.

Coordination, advocacy and common services: to improve the safety and effectiveness of humanitarian action continue to be required.

In both Afghanistan and Pakistan as in all crisis situations, effective coordination is essential. ECHO supports the **Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Transformative Agenda (ITA)** and encourages partners to demonstrate their engagement in implementing its objectives, to take part in coordination mechanisms (e.g. Humanitarian Country Team/Clusters) and to allocate resources to foster the ITA roll-out.

Partners will be expected to ensure full compliance with **visibility requirements** and to acknowledge the funding role of the EU/ECHO, as set out in the applicable contractual arrangements.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RESILIENCE

²² Arbitrary detentions, killings, robberies and so called 'honor' killings are among the most reported security incidents from men and women IDPs, with no mechanisms in place to respond to those incidents for 78% of all IDPs (90% in some districts) and no action taken in 56% of cases reported (ref. Protection cluster detailed assessment- areas of return and areas of displacement, May 2014)

In Afghanistan, ECHO will focus on consolidating further the achievements from the previous DIPECHO Action Plan in rural setting for Community-Based and School-Based Disaster Preparedness, promoting institutionalisation with a view to a broader resilience approach.

In Pakistan, a similar approach will be pursued and extended to the urban context. For the latter, a more pilot-oriented methodology will be required at first in order for partners to develop the required expertise, while utilising the relevant learning from previous achievements in rural setting.

Partners will be required to promote a leading role of government services and civil society in the development and implementation of common “models” for DRR, while ensuring that neglected disaster prone areas and excluded population categories are involved in a fair and adequate manner. Actions should be primarily multi-hazard, but can be complemented by sector-based approaches (e.g. early warning systems, earthquake preparedness, etc.), as relevant to the targeted areas and partners' expertise.

ECHO supported actions must be in line with the Hyogo Framework of Action and the post-2015 DRR framework. They should also be implemented in conjunction with the respective national strategies and appropriate institutions of the Afghan and Pakistani governments, in particular the National Disaster Management structures and line ministries, as well as relevant regional initiatives.

4. LRRD²³, COORDINATION AND TRANSITION

4.1 Other ECHO interventions

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In 2014, in addition to the initial HIP allocation, the Commission, through ECHO allocated an additional EUR 3 million in response to victims of floods, and people fleeing violence in Pakistan. An amount of EUR 117 562 was also allocated to the International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent (IFRC)'s **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund** (DREF) for the floods response.

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In 2014, in addition to the initial HIP allocation, the Commission, through ECHO allocated an additional EUR 1.7 million in response to additional IDP caseloads in Pakistan.

4.2 Other services/donors availability

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There has been a major on-going international effort to stabilize Afghanistan, and secure its transition and future development. However, limited counterpart capacity and difficult operating conditions have posed a challenge to the efficiency and effectiveness of the stabilization and development response. This challenge will be increased following the

²³Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development

2014 elections and final withdrawal of International Military Forces (IMF), which are likely to impact negatively on local economic opportunities and conditions, leading to significant social tensions.

The EU's overarching strategic goal for 2014-16 is the development of Afghanistan's institutions to provide the resilience needed to safeguard progress to date and provide the platform for a more effective and ultimately sustainable Afghan state. In line with this EU Strategy, an implementation plan was agreed in June 2014 to ensure coordination and coherence of EU and Member States' actions and initiatives in promoting peace, stability and security in the region, reinforcing democracy, encouraging economic and human development, and fostering the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Under the EU Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2014-2020, the **focal sectors of intervention are Agriculture and Rural Development, Health and Governance**. ECHO's efforts in LRRD are focused on the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction, resilience, gender, nutrition and water, sanitation and health.

The European Commission's regional Aid to Uprooted People budget line finances reintegration activities (notably through UNHCR and NGOs).

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Other donors such as European Union Delegation and EU Member States, in particular the Department for International Development (DFID), Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) remain key donors in Pakistan and opportunities to develop synergies with ECHO programmes exist. ECHO will continue to promote enabling conditions to strengthen these synergies and to contribute towards the resilience agenda.

In line with the Agenda for Change as the EU global policy document for development cooperation, in response to the national development agenda in Pakistan and in compliance with the EU's wider strategic and political priorities as set out in the EU – Pakistan 5-Year Engagement Plan, over the period 2014–2020 the EU is expected to maximise the impact of its assistance programme by focusing in three key sectors: **i) rural development, ii) education and iii) good governance, human rights and rule of law**. The 2014-2020 Pakistan Country programme is defined in the EU Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2014-2020, adopted on the 11 August 2014.

Within the framework of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), two programmes with important components that link relief, rehabilitation and development will be adopted before the end of 2014:

(i) Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS), aimed at stimulating community-based socio-economic development and reducing poverty in eight poor rural districts in Sindh. The SUCCESS programme includes many elements which complement and build upon humanitarian interventions.

(ii) Balochistan Education Support programme (BES), aimed at supporting the Government of Balochistan in implementing its Education Sector Plan (BESP) with a particular focus on girls.

Both programmes complement the on-going EU project portfolio in these sectors: rural development through community mobilisation, undertaken principally in KP and Balochistan, as well as education reform in KP and Sindh and TVET²⁴ support across

²⁴ Support to the Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Pakistan.

Under the thematic programme for Non-state Actors and Local Authorities in Development, for the period 2014-2020, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and local authorities in Pakistan will be supported as actors in governance and accountability as well as in enhancing social development and provision of social services and goods.

Furthermore, the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) for 2013/2014 supports initiatives with a focus on combating violence against women, including through economic and social empowerment.

The Women and Infant Nutrition in Sindh (WINS) programme which is supporting nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities in Sindh, was designed with ECHO to build upon some of its emergency nutrition funding in the province, fostering resilience.

4.3. Other concomitant EU interventions

After having supported local governance rehabilitation, the European Union's Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), formerly the Instrument for Stability (IfS) now focuses on electoral reform, peace building, countering violent extremism and counter-terrorism (under preparation).

4.4 Exit scenarios

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Although concrete commitments have been reaffirmed to ensure long-term security (Chicago Conference) and continued economic development (Tokyo Conference), 2014 witnessed an increasing number of conflict related incidents and an increase in IDPs. With an uncertain and unstable national and regional security context (new government, withdrawal of International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) at the end of 2014, as well as the unpredictable status of refugees currently living in Iran and Pakistan) and an economic downturn, ECHO does not envisage an immediate exit scenario.

PAKISTAN

The emergency nutrition strategy for Sindh developed by ECHO in 2013/2014 strives to bridge the gap between emergency interventions and development funded government programmes. There is currently opportunity and momentum as Pakistan is part of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement in which national leaders have committed to prioritising efforts to address malnutrition. The World Bank will support the Government of Pakistan (GoP) with its Planning Commission 1 (PC-1) to be implemented in the coming 2-3 years. Nevertheless, while recent efforts by GoP in acknowledging and undertaking initial policy and strategy initiatives to address under-nutrition are important, the real challenge in moving towards improved nutrition status and resilience more generally, will be in tackling the underlying causes. Through a nutrition strategy for Sindh which focuses on emergency nutrition and nutrition sensitive interventions, combined with strong evidence building, it is envisaged over the next 2-3 years to demonstrate replicable models that will lay the ground work for longer term initiatives.

The continued complex emergencies in KP/FATA causing significant waves of displacement for protracted periods continue to require the solid engagement of ECHO.

There is a need to influence and promote a strong humanitarian agenda including advocacy to preserve humanitarian space in order to meet the most essential needs of the conflict-affected.

ECHO will advocate for opportunities for Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD) with other longer-term donors and GoP spear-headed programmes to promote resilience and ensure sustainability.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RESILIENCE

It is expected that the methodologies and tools developed and consolidated under this HIP and the previous DIPECHO Action Plans, often acknowledged as relevant at national level, will enhance the resilience of populations at risk in rural and urban settings. Nevertheless, international support will remain necessary to accompany the process of capacity building of local stakeholders through the integration of disaster preparedness and mitigation measures into local development planning.