



**PAKISTAN**  
**ONE YEAR ON**

**CONCERN**  
worldwide

Boat transporting  
people from their  
flooded homes to dry  
land, Shikarpur, Sindh  
Province

*Pic: Jennifer O'Gorman  
August, 2010*



## PAKISTAN FLOODS

At the end of July 2010, Pakistan's worst ever flood ravaged the country, **affecting 20 million people** across four provinces, leading to Concern's largest ever emergency response in Pakistan.

**From emergency response to recovery: One Year On**

### Concern Pakistan

Concern has been working in Pakistan since 2001, when we responded to the influx of Afghan refugees to Balochistan province, on the border with Afghanistan. Concern built on this work by developing long-term programmes, initially in Balochistan and Punjab, and then in the province of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa (KPK) following the 2005 earthquake.

Concern is currently engaged in providing support to people affected by 2010 floods in every province in Pakistan, as well as those displaced by the conflict in KPK.

Through its emergency and early recovery activities following the floods, Concern has so far reached a total of **2,348,245 million** people.

Concern is a member of the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) and abides by international codes of conduct and practice.

### Floods Emergency 2010

At the onset of the floods, Concern started emergency activities in the province of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa (KPK). When the floods spread further south, Concern expanded its emergency response to Punjab, Balochistan and Sindh provinces. During the first six months, Concern provided approximately one million people with emergency assistance through its partners. Emergency assistance included the provision of drinking water, hand pumps, latrines, shelters, hygiene kits, non-food items, food packages, debris removal kits, and emergency medical services.

It is estimated that over 1.7 million homes were damaged or destroyed and 3.2 million hectares of agricultural land was flooded. Furthermore, road, rail and communication networks were destroyed; and livestock, crops and seed banks were washed away.

The loss of animals, poultry and seeds as well as damage to agricultural land, irrigation and transport infrastructure crippled farmers' ability to

produce food. The scale of the emergency was colossal. The sheer geographic reach and the enormous numbers of people requiring assistance made this one of the most challenging humanitarian responses in an already politically complex environment.

KPK, the province first hit by the floods, was affected by conflict in 2009 where 2.5 million people were displaced from their homes. By the time the flooding arrived in 2010, Concern was already working with 80,000 displaced people in this area. Of the 78 flood affected districts in Pakistan, **Concern commenced emergency programmes in 15 of the worst affected districts across all four provinces.**

Through the combined efforts of both Concern and our local partners, we were able to conduct **emergency activities** including **Shelter, Non-Food Item (NFI) distribution, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** and **Health**. A summary of our emergency impact is as follows:

**Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs):** Concern distributed 75,000 **Non-Food Item (NFI) kits**, including Kitchen Set (1); Jerry Cans (2); Plastic Sheets (1); Floor Mat - plastic (1), Candles/Match (15), benefitting **525,000 people**. At the onset of winter, we also distributed **blankets and temporary shelters**. Almost **45,700 temporary shelters, 100,000 blankets, 3,700 debris kits** and **5,100 tents** were distributed, benefitting over **500,000 people**.

**Food:** We distributed over **12,000 food packages**, benefitting **84,165 people**. Packages were designed to feed a family of seven for one month.

**Health:** Concern's medical teams, which each included one female doctor, provided free consultations and emergency treatment, along with free medication for people with more severe sicknesses, to **11,400 patients in 48 medical camps**.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):** Concern distributed over **30 million litres of clean drinking water** using water tanks throughout Pakistan. **Over 4,000 latrines** and **3,700 hand pumps** were built, benefitting **1,250,000 people**. Concern's total budget for the emergency response for the 12 months was **€30 million**. Our work would not have been possible without the generous support of our institutional donors and funding from trusts and individuals.

## Emergency Response

Pakistan faces a range of natural disasters, including floods, cyclones and earthquakes, as well as man-made disasters resulting from armed conflict, which regularly leave many thousands of vulnerable people in need of emergency assistance.



**Shazia taking shelter, Multan, Punjab Province**  
Pic: Jennifer O'Gorman  
August, 2010

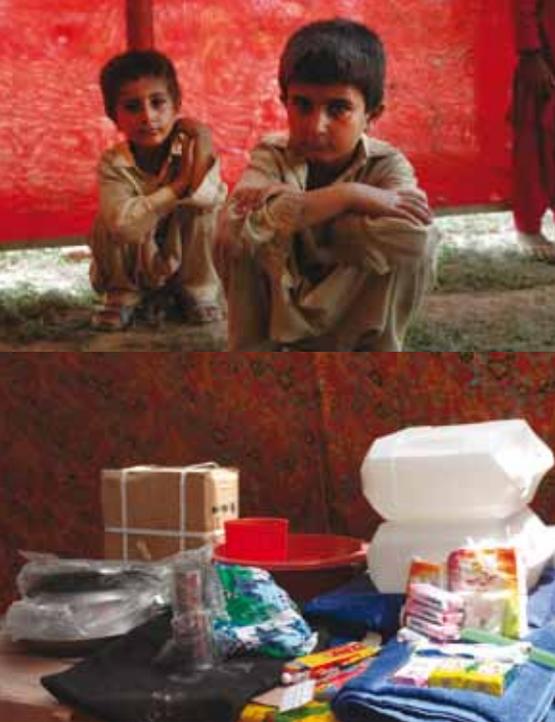
This exposure to vulnerability is predicted to be exacerbated by the future impact of climate change, especially for the poor and those communities who are already vulnerable and exposed to multiple natural disasters. Variations in rainfall patterns, storms, floods and droughts are predicted to increase and seriously affect areas previously untouched.

Under Concern's "Emergency Response Strategy", launched in 2007, local NGO partners from hazard prone districts have been provided with training in rapid emergency needs assessments and emergency response.

At the onset of the floods we reaped the benefits of this strategy and were able to rapidly respond to the emergency through our national partners in each of the provinces. Concern has been integrating disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies in all of its emergency and development projects in Pakistan. In addition, Concern has continued to maintain a stockpile of emergency response items, such as plastic sheets, hygiene kits, latrine slabs and jerry cans to enable us to respond to emergencies.

## CASE STUDY: Shameem Mai (42), Naiwala village (April 2011)

Before her husband (Armand Baksh) died six years ago, Shameem was spending six months of the year working in Karachi, and the other six months working as a domestic worker in households in Jampur. After some years though, she says that "Karachi became too expensive, and we came here to live in this village all year round. My husband took a job as an agricultural labourer, mainly working with seasonal crops, especially cotton. After my



**Clockwise from top left:**  
Jamshed and Mohammed Yousef at NFI distribution

Beneficiaries carrying NFI on their heads, South Punjab Province

Non-food items

Pics: Jennifer O’Gorman, August, 2010

husband died, supporting my eight children became very hard. I was not paid any money when I worked as a domestic worker in Jampur, but, as many of the local women, I was paid in cooked food that I brought home for my family. My children don’t go to school because, although there are no fees, I am unable to pay for their lunches, uniforms, and stationery.”

The floods last year washed away her house: *“The water level was lying at around eight to 10 feet. We had to live on the river bank until the community was dry enough to return to. I also lost two goats to diseases that they contracted following the floods. They were worth 20,000 Pakistani rupees (€160), which was a big loss. The poor living conditions also affected the health of my family. All of my children came down with various water-borne diseases and infections, especially malaria and diarrhoea. We stayed on the river bank with other families for around two months, surviving on the charity of local government, national and International NGOs that provided us with hot food, dry rations, and tents.’*

As soon as the flood waters subsided, she moved back to the community, and has since been living in her son’s house, which survived the worst of the monsoon. She said that before Concern’s intervention, life was extremely challenging: *“My grandchildren’s health began to suffer as a result of the contaminated water, and many of them came down with diarrheal diseases. The floodwater made the unprotected water pump unusable, and we had to walk 1km (an hour round-trip) to fetch clean drinking water from the hand-pump”.* Further, she and her son were struggling for their livelihood: *“Neither me nor my son have been able to return to work because we have both been busy re-building our shelter. However, soon I hope to be able to look for a new job as a domestic worker in Jampur”.*

**Wading through the flood waters, Sindh Province**

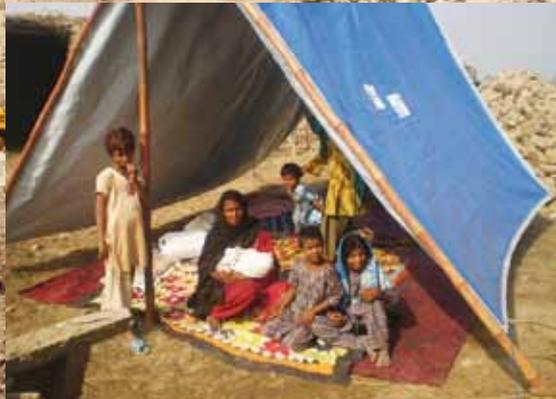
Pic: Jennifer O’Gorman, August, 2010

Concern’s Early Recovery project, implemented with funding from ECHO, provided Shameem’s community with shelter, and improved water and sanitation infrastructure. It also provided the community with an opportunity to boost their incomes in a ‘Cash for Work’ scheme that was being used to rebuild the community.

Shameem says that she is happy with the new shelter, and she is relieved that it will be finished before the monsoon returns again this summer. The new shelter is a better prospect than the old shelter because it is being built on higher ground. Of the new hand-pumps, she says that: *“they allow us to get easy access to clean drinking water, and we don’t have to walk so far now”.* Malaria and diarrheal diseases have decreased – to a lower level than before the flood. In the future, she hopes *“that more organisations will come to provide our children and adults with skills and training”.*

## Recovery and Beyond

While emergency relief is key to saving lives in the immediate aftermath of natural and manmade disasters, Concern recognises that those affected by disasters also need support in overcoming the inevitable loss of their possessions and damage to livelihoods and infrastructure. Concern’s strategy is to aid the most vulnerable people affected by the disaster in the transition from relief to recovery and rehabilitation once the emergency response phase is over. To date, Concern in Pakistan has responded to all major emergencies since 2005 in Pakistan,



**From left to right:**  
**Hand Pump in Jaffarabad**  
*Pic: Nusratullah  
 (Concern), May 2011*

**Shelter construction in Jaffarabad, Balochistan**  
*Pic: Nusratullah  
 (Concern), May 2011*

**Flood affected family living in the emergency shelter provided by Concern in Dadu**  
*Pic: Ms. Rabia Asif  
 (local partner staff, Indus Resource Centre),  
 December 2010*

**Goat beneficiary, Soghran Bibi, Muzaffargrah, Punjab province**  
*Pic: Luca Tommasini,  
 June, 2011*

The emergency phase of the flood response officially ended in April 2011. Although some families still reside in camps in Balochistan and Sindh, the UN reports that 97% of people affected by the floods have now returned to their homes and have begun re-building their lives. The UN estimates that recovery activities will focus on the 29 most-affected districts and should be completed in current affected areas by the end of 2011.

Concern has been at the forefront of the recovery efforts and has stepped up its multi-pronged programme of activities in all four provinces of Pakistan to ensure that the critical recovery needs of the flood affected population are addressed. Concern's focus has been on **Agriculture, Non-farm Livelihoods, Water and Sanitation, Small Business Rehabilitation, Shelter, Nutrition and Community Infrastructure**. The activities and progress to date are as follows:

- **Agriculture:** Concern has been enabling flood affected communities to return to their normal lives and livelihoods. Agricultural support is aimed at restoring agricultural production and labour opportunities to ensure food and income security for those involved in agriculture or agricultural labour. The major activities in this area have been the;
  - » provision of inputs such as tools, seeds, fertilizers and some machinery, such as tractor hire;
  - » the provision of livestock and livestock services;
  - » the rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure such as irrigation systems.

- To date, **112,400 people** have been provided with **agricultural tools, seeds and fertilizers**; **63,000 people** have been provided with **livestock services** such as vaccinations and training sessions; **21,500 people** have benefited from the provision of **goats**; **52,000 people** have benefited from the provision of **poultry**. **120 agricultural infrastructure schemes** have been rehabilitated, benefiting **43,000** and providing **11,500 days** of work to **1,600 people**.
- **Non-farm Livelihoods and Productive Assets:** Concern is working to revive people's non-farm livelihoods through the provision of income generation and employment opportunities. Livelihood support is being provided in the form of cash grants for enterprise or home-based businesses, skills development training, and the provision of trade-specific tool kits. Livelihood activities are helping vulnerable groups to access the much needed cash and income to meet their daily needs. Cash grants are being provided to extremely vulnerable and poor families who have no land, livestock or other economic assets and who are also not able to benefit from income-generation activities. So far, **15,000** people have benefited from the provision of **skill-specific tools kits**; **10,500** beneficiaries have benefited from the provision of **vocational skills/ training sessions**; **21,600** people have benefited from the provision of **business grants**. In addition, a total of **100,000 days** of work have been created under the **Cash for Work** scheme.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):** Major activities in the WASH sector include supplying clean water through hand pumps and tanks, hygiene kits, hygiene awareness sessions, household latrines and environmental health-related activities. These interventions



**From left to right:**

Cash for work beneficiary, Rukaia Mai; Muzaffargrah, Punjab province

Cash for work beneficiary, M. Omer; Muzaffargrah, Punjab province

*Pics: Luca Tommasini, June, 2011*

all contribute towards improving people's health and strengthening communities' ability to rebuild their lives. In the long-term, such activities help prevent morbidity and mortality caused by water-borne diseases. To date, Concern has rehabilitated or constructed over 3,500 **water sources**, benefiting **300,000** people; **4,800 household latrines** have been restored, benefiting **76,000** people; health and hygiene education and awareness was provided to 90,000 people.

- **Shelter:** Families have been helped to return to their places of origin during the recovery phase. Concern has supported **245,000** people to re-build their homes, with 177,000 people benefiting from new shelters, and from the opportunity to earn money from the reconstruction work through the Cash for Work scheme.

**Community Infrastructure:** Community support is also being provided to facilitate improvements in community infrastructure that was damaged by the floods. This includes: 45km of roads, 51 irrigation channels, 13 drainage systems, 60 paths, 55 culverts (small bridges), nine retaining walls and five pedestrian bridges. These activities have succeeded in improving access for the flood affected populations to markets, towns and villages. Improved irrigation systems have had a positive impact on agricultural yields. Much of this restoration and rehabilitation work is giving communities the opportunity to boost their incomes in the form of the 'Cash for Work' schemes.

**Clockwise from left:**

Cash for work beneficiary Khairan Mai; Basti Machi, UC Bait Meer Hazar Khan

One of the water courses rehabilitated after flood by Community Organization formed by Doaba Foundation; Basti Machi, UC Bait Meer Hazar Khan

Land irrigated for sowing of cotton crop; Basti Machi, UC Bait Meer Hazar Khan

*Pics: Luca Tommasini, June, 2011*



Barkat Ali Sand (40) in shelter at Ibrahim Sand Village, UC Mitho Babbar, Dadu

Concern is a member of Alliance2015, a seven-member European alliance engaged in humanitarian and development activities. There are five Alliance2015 members present in Pakistan – ACTED, Concern Worldwide, Cesvi, PIN and Welthungerhilfe, which immediately began large relief operations targeting people in some of the worst affected areas. Two large-scale ECHO (European Commission's humanitarian aid department) consortia grants have been awarded to the five Alliance2015 members in Pakistan. These are the largest-scale joint emergency operations Alliance2015 members have ever been involved in to date.

## The Next Phase:

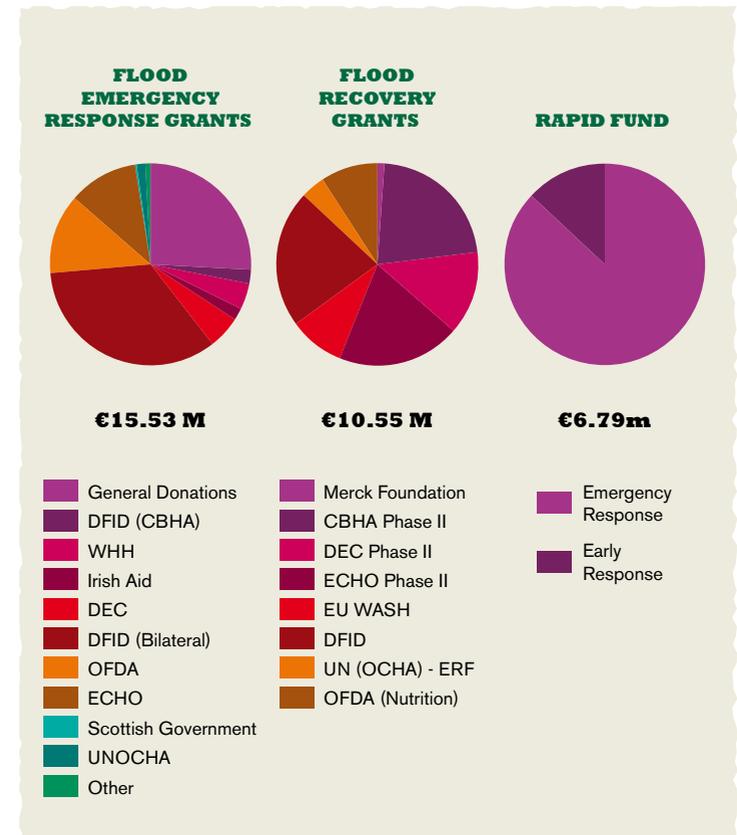
Families continue to be in need of assistance with an estimated 40% of those affected by the floods still living in harsh and hazardous conditions. The upcoming monsoon rains, are predicted to be 'normal', but even normal rains will have a serious effect on families who have not been assisted following the 2010 'super' flood. Concern will continue to assist families and communities through the following interventions:

- **Agriculture:** Concern will assist communities to recover their agricultural livelihoods by assisting with improved seeds, tools, fertilizer, and training in crop diversification.
- **Non-farm Livelihoods:** There will be an expansion in the provision of grants, skill-specific tool kits and training programmes for various groups of targeted beneficiaries.
- **Shelter:** This continues to be a huge need for many families throughout the flood affected areas. Concern will assist families to rebuild shelter through the provision of materials, cash-for-work and training on disaster risk reduction methods of construction.
- **Water and Sanitation:** Concern will consolidate its WASH activities by rehabilitating/reconstructing WASH services and building the capacity of local service providers and communities in flood-affected districts.
- **Nutrition:** In order to reduce the mortality, morbidity and suffering associated with moderate and severe acute malnutrition among flood affected populations, Concern has initiated nutrition programmes which plan to reach 220,000 people by December 2011.
- **Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM):** Concern will work with communities to assist them in understanding how they can minimise damage to lives and livelihoods from disasters to which their communities are prone.

Additionally, in-kind contributions of emergency shelter material, blankets as well as hygiene and non-food item kits were received from United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH) and Irish Aid.

## RAPID

Responding to Pakistan's Internally Displaced (RAPID), is a funding mechanism which has been established under a cooperative agreement between Concern Worldwide and the USAID Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). RAPID is responding to both the IDP emergency in KPK and the flood emergency across all four provinces in Pakistan. Since the onset of the floods, 36 RAPID funded projects have been successfully implemented. RAPID funded projects in water, sanitation, income generation, shelter and settlements, agriculture, health and non-food item distribution and reached an estimated 964,176 flood affected people.



## THE FAST FACTS:

1. Through its emergency and early recovery activities following the floods, Concern has so far reached a total of 2,348,245 million people.
2. The emergency phase lasted until April 2011 – by which time Concern had distributed 75,000 non-food item (NFI) kits and 12,000 food packages, provided 45,700 temporary shelters, and built over 4,000 latrines and 3,700 hand pumps.
3. Concern's total budget for the flood response for the 12 months was €30 million.
4. Concern's highly effective emergency response was enabled by having NGO partners from hazard prone districts already selected and provided with training in rapid emergency 'needs assessments' and 'emergency response'.
5. Concern's recovery activities are helping people to make their livelihoods more resilient to future shocks, such as natural disasters or food price volatility.
6. Concern's recovery activities are focussing on Agriculture, Non-farm Livelihoods, Water and Sanitation, Small Business Rehabilitation, Shelter, Nutrition and Community Infrastructure.
7. Agriculture is crucial part of the economy in rural areas, and is also important for health and nutrition: Concern is therefore providing agricultural tools, seeds, fertilizers, goats and poultry birds; and is also facilitating access to livestock services.
8. A family's livelihood will be more stable and prosperous if one or more of its members has skills, training or a small business: Concern is providing cash grants for enterprise or home-based businesses, skills development training, and trade-specific tool kits.
9. Shelter and housing is more likely to be able to withstand future flooding if it is built to a high standard and on safer, less flood-prone ground: Concern incorporates disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies in all of its projects.
10. Throughout the next phase, Concern will continue to provide support to people and communities so that they can work together with local authorities to make their livelihoods better and more sustainable in the future.



Damages caused by flood water in Talli village near Sibi, Balochistan

*Pic: Abdul Wasay, Project Manager Tameer-e-Khalaq Foundation*

## STORIES FROM THE FIELD

### CASE STUDY: The new beginning

“We never knew this rain would make us homeless – we are literally left with nothing,”

– Abdul Rehman, a father of seven forced to flee the floods.

The agriculture-dependent rural settlements of the southeastern plains of Balochistan long for rains like any other rain-fed agriculture-based area of Pakistan. The monsoon rains, however, can be a mixed blessing for the people as they not only bring prosperity to the region but also cause flashfloods as well. Flooding is not therefore an alien phenomenon for the people. However, recent rains and the consequential flooding proved exceptionally ruthless for the population of the region, particularly districts of Sibi, Naseerabad, and Jaffarabad.

Abdul Rehman is a poor farmer from Talli village in Sibi District. He used to live in a mud house and cultivate a piece of land as a tenant to earn a living for his poor children and parents. Life was tough for Abdul Rehman, as he was living under the burden of a loan which he took out to cover his cultivation and domestic needs. He would buy agriculture inputs at the time of sowing, and he used to pay back some of his debts at the time of harvest; yet even after paying back his debts and dues he was still faced with many obligations. In short, he was living hand to mouth.



**Abdul Rehman's new shelter, constructed with RAPID Fund support**

*Pic: Abdul Wasay, Project Manager Tameer-e-Khalaq Foundation*

It was this fragile living situation that Abdul Rehman was suffering even before the floods hit. He explains: *"One morning of September 2010, we heard the people of the village talking about the flood hitting the areas, and soon the flood was the biggest concern for all of us. We tried to make necessary arrangements to protect our home and family but nothing worked."*

Abdul Rehman's house was among the houses that collapsed during the tide. The loss of household articles, food items, and clothes was not the only damage caused by the flood water; the flood also ruined the standing crops on Abdul Rehman's land. Although the financial loss on the whole was quite distressing for Abdul Rehman, yet the biggest worry for him was the destruction to his house. The house had provided his family - particularly his wife and children - with dignity and privacy, and without it, both of these things were immediately taken away.

He explains: *"I just wanted to have a safe shelter for my family where my wife, children and parents could live safely with some respect until I could make my house once again, but I had no resources to do so."* In the disaster-stricken areas the community had become overwhelmed with melancholy and despair. Abdul Rehman was no exception. He did not have any resources to construct a shelter for his family; consequently, he was slowly becoming a victim of depression like all other affected members of his community.

Abul Rehman's family was one of the 375 households assisted by the RAPID Fund through the provision of shelters.

**The new beginning: Abdul Rehman with his family in his newly constructed shelter**

*Pic: Abdul Wasay, Project Manager Tameer-e-Khalaq Foundation*

*"Me and my family are so thankful to Allah and Concern RAPID Fund for the help they gave us in our time of need. I was scared that my children and sick mother would not be able to survive the severity of the weather. I had become so hopeless that I couldn't even think of ways to compensate for my loss. But my all worries are now over, as my family is happy. My wife has started looking after the entire family once again. My mother prays for the ones who have felt our pain. Allah is great!"* Abdul Rehman said, expressing his feelings. He added: *"Now that my family has a safe place to live, I am ready to work hard to make up for my loss, and build my house once again."*

Concern's RAPID Fund is providing assistance to thousands of families, like Abdul's, across Pakistan. Since August 2010, the RAPID Fund has considered Shelter as the most urgent need, allocating 25% of its total budget for shelter through 9 projects in various flood affected areas across Pakistan. These projects were completed in partnership with national and international organizations. The RAPID Fund's interventions benefitted 156,582 people in Punjab (Muzaffargarh, Mianwali and DG Khan), Sindh (Thatta), Balochistan (Sibi, Jaffarabad and Naseerabad) and Khyber Pakhtoonkhaw (Nowshera).



From left to right:  
Mosa Khan with his children in Kas, UC Dubair Pain, Kohistan district

Shawls and warm cloths protected Mosa Khan and his family from harsh winter

Pics: Noor Muhammad, M&E officer PRDP

### CASE STUDY: Vulnerable families able to cope with the harsh, chilled weather

*"We had experienced floods in the past as our village is situated close to the river. But this time it was horrible"* said Mosa Khan, a 65-year-old man living in a small village Kas, UC Dubair Pain, District Kohistan in the northern mountain of Pakistan. He was living in a mud house with his wife, Zainab and their three children. Flood waters carried off his house and ate away at the land that it stood on; he managed to escape with his wife and children. Flood waters rushed south, uprooting tall trees and sweeping away cornfields. *"The water was so fast and we saw the animals, windows and doors of the houses floating away,"* he said.

Flood waters washed away the houses and infrastructure in the area. The flood-affected families in the area lost almost everything they had in their houses. *"It is so unfortunate that we lost our belongings with our house. Had we known that it would be so disastrous, we could have shifted our belongings to safer places,"* Mosa Khan added. *"In the beginning we felt hopeless as Kohistan is such a remote area and we were imagining that no one would pay attention to our miseries and losses. We were in dire need of shelter, food items and non-food items,"* he continued.

In Kohistan, a handful of organizations were working for the provision of shelter and food items when Concern's RAPID Fund intervened in the area in partnership with a local organization, 'Pakistan Rural Development Programme (PRDP). Together RAPID and PRDP assisted the affected communities by providing non-food items. *"The weather in this area is very hard and we were afraid of the upcoming winter season as we had nothing to protect ourselves and our children with from the chilling winter,"* he added. Mosa Khan's family was among other 1200 families who received the NFI kit from the RAPID Fund. Through this intervention flood affected families were provided with a fuel efficient cooking stove, shawls for women, shawls for men, a torch with batteries, warm clothes for men and women, and quilts.

*"Concern's RAPID Fund gave us everything we needed to protect ourselves from the harsh winter, and these items saved us and our children. We are most grateful."*

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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**Cover Image:**

*Goat beneficiary, Irshad Mai  
in Basti Machi,  
UC Bait Meer Hazar Khan  
District, Muzaffargarh,  
Punjab, Pakistan.*

*Pic: Luca Tommasini,  
June, 2011*

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