



Family living outside in open sky as houses are damaged and destroyed

Situation overview:

Another wave of earthquake with magnitude of 7.2 hit Baluchistan on 28th Sep-2013 which caused more damages in the already affected areas of Awaran and Kitch. District Awaran was the origin of the earthquake and Tehsil Mashkey was again destroyed. The Baluchistan Provincial Disaster Management Authority reports the earthquake caused 375 (329 from Awaran and 46 from Kech) deaths with 525 injuries from Awaran & 246 from Kech while figure reveals affected people are 185,000 people, 20,000 houses at Awaran and 1,000 houses at Kech partially or fully collapsed.

To date, NDMA affirmed that the government is able to respond to the earthquake in Balochistan, thus no humanitarian support in terms of assessments or relief items would be officially required. The HC emphasized the need for the humanitarian community to stand ready in case assistance would be requested in the near future, given that the magnitude of the disaster remains uncertain, and the number of affected people is continuously rising, up to 1,000 by the national media, and up to 300,000 reported by BBC. OCHA emphasized that for any type of response, any fundraising must be based on minimum assessment findings.

In Tehsil Mashkail and Awaran, majority of Health facilities are completely and partially damaged and non-functional; only DHQ is providing health care services in the district. According to PPHI report 7 BHUs at Awaran, 3 BHUs are fully damaged, 2 partially damaged while (02) BHUs are intact.

Disease Early Warning System is functional at both the affected districts. Daily disease data received from Awaran reveals cumulatively 4,141 consultations of which ARI 592 (14%), Acute Diarrhea 383 (9%) and Suspected Malaria 276 (7%) while injuries were 416 (10%) attended at DHQ, RHCs and camps established by Red Crescent. Similarly consultation received from Kech was from BHU Dhandaar and BHU Hoshab where 344 consultations made during 26-29th Sep of which ARI 26(8%), Acute Diarrhea 24 (7%) and Suspected Malaria 19 (6%). There was a sum of 151 injuries attended at BHU Dhandaar contributing the (44%) of the whole consultations.

Security situation:

Despite requests/meetings with the home department, security escorts for the DSS, WFP, OCHA and WHO security/logistics mission were not approved. CRS' NOC which was restricted to Las Belas has now also reportedly been revoked.

Health Response:

NGOs are working in the affected areas providing emergency health services in the affected districts of Awaran and Kech through mobile health units and support to static health facilities. Pakistan Red Crescent Society, Muslim Hands, Al-Khidmat Foundation, Khidmat-e-Khalq foundation, EDHI foundation and NRSP are working in the affected areas.

In Awaran 28 doctors and 53 paramedics are working 24/7 along with 34 ambulances and stock of essential medicines and supplies, one trauma kit and 5 emergency health kits provided by WHO. In Mashkay 18 doctors along with 10 paramedics are working along with 3 ambulances and stock of essential life saving medicines and supplies

Mini-MIRA training was conducted and 78 enumerators from 15 National NGOs were trained in Lasbela while 40 staff of the UNDP Area Development program was also trained today in Quetta as back up. Under the assessment arrangement 250 villages will be surveyed over the next 2 days and then the data will need to be cleaned and analyzed etc. Reports indicate that Mashkay (hit in the second earthquake) reported as the worst affected. NGOs are accessing the affected areas

DG Health Services has requested WHO for provision of medicines including Diarrheal Disease Kits (DDKs), malaria medicines, bed nets, RDTs, water purification tabs, water filters, soaps and hygiene kits. As the number of diarrheal cases is increasing, health department has requested for establishment of Diarrheal Treatment Center (DTC) in the affected areas.

According to District Health Officer Awaran, the Health Facilities in Awaran are partially or completely damaged including DHQ Hospital which was affected in second wave of earthquake. According Provincial government sources, the provincial government is willing to establish IDPs camps but the affected population are reluctant to reside in IDP camps. 90% of the houses are partially / completely damaged and about 300,000 people are affected. The displaced people are living under the open sky with no shelter and food. There is dire need to convince the community and establish IDP camps in the area. The climate of the area is mainly hot; there is extreme shortage of safe drinking water. Fixed health units are reporting malaria and diarrheal cases, these cases may derive unusual rise in coming days and results in outbreaks.

PICTORIAL VIEW:



Houses are collapsed and people are living in open sky-district Awaran



DEWS SO Kech along with DHO team demonstrating about water filter and providing purification sachets

For further information, contact:

Dr Fawad Khan Health Cluster Coordinator/Acting EHA Coordinator, WHO Pakistan,

Email: khanmu@pak.emro.who.int, Cell: 0300 5018530

Dr. Tahira Baloch

WHO Operations Officer, Baluchistan

Email: balocht@pak.emro.who.int, Cell: 0303 5552285

Mohammad Shafiq, Technical Officer – Health Cluster, WHO Pakistan

Email: shafiqm@pak.emro.who.int, Cell: 0303 555 2270