



# Special Report about Pakistan Floods 2010

## Release by [Ecotourism Society Pakistan](http://www.ecotourism.org.pk)

### Flood Highlights

**Human deaths were 1,750**

**Livestock deaths were approximately 1.20 million**

**2,710 people were seriously injured**

**Household damage figure was 1.48 million**

**Population affected figure was 20 million**

**District affected were 82**

**Tourism industry losses were estimated as 567\$ million**

**Devastating floods inflicted losses on different sectors of the economy to the tune of \$43 billion.**

**Over 2 million homes were destroyed, rendering over 7.5 million people displaced.**

**Country has suffered Rs350 to Rs500 billion or \$4-6 billion worth of damage to infrastructure, livestock and crops.**

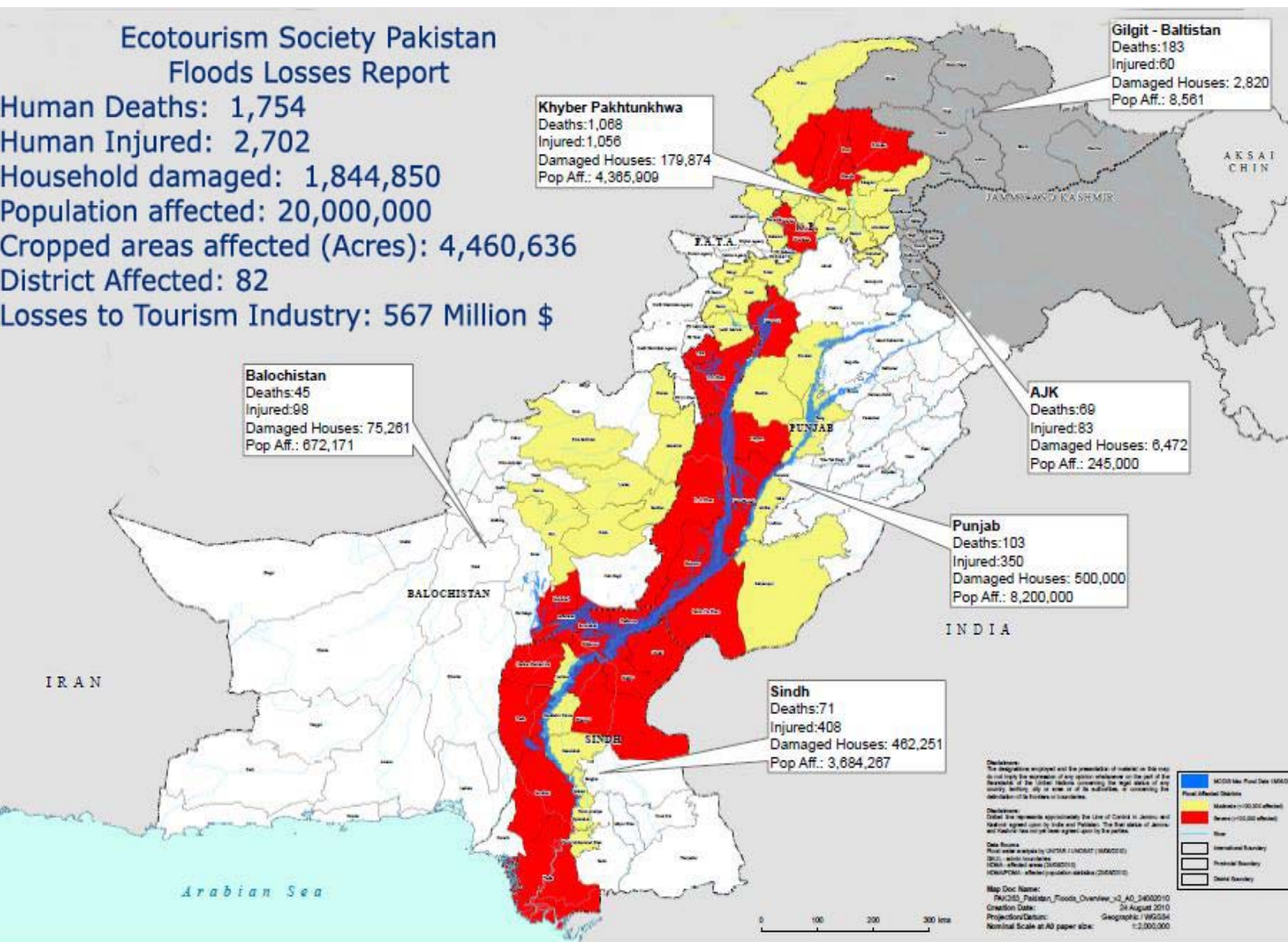
**Approximately \$200 million would be required for recovery/relief efforts whereas repair cost of key damaged infrastructure could exceed \$1 billion.**

**1000 bridges and over 4,000KM long roads have been damaged.**

**Re-construction would cost Rs8 to 9 billion.**

**1/5th of the irrigation infrastructure, livestock and crops have been destroyed.**

This map indicates deaths, area damaged, population affected injuries and all damages province wise. The most hit area was province of Pakhtunkhwa (formally known as N.W.F.P. This area was hub of domestic tourism. Now it needs reconstruction of tourism industry to enable people to fight ever-increasing poverty.



## Acknowledgement

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The recent floods in Pakistan could turn out to be the worst impact of climate change to date, according to UN climate experts. Scientists at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said that there is no doubt that higher global temperatures were behind the floods. "There's no doubt that clearly the climate change is contributing, a major contributing factor," Ghassem Asrar, director of the World Climate Research Programme and the WMO, said in an interview.

Warmer temperatures likely contributed to the heavy rains. Satellites reveal that around one-fifth of Pakistan is submerged underwater. Mudslides in eastern China and the heat wave and fires in Russia have also been linked to the same cause. The connecting factor was that clearly the warming is a driver for all these events.

Pakistan floods that began in July 2010 after heavy monsoon rains affected the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, lower Punjab as well as parts of Balochistan have left over 20 million people homeless according to United Nations estimations with over 160,000 square kilometres (62,000 sq mi) areas affected as a result of the flooding

[Infrastructure Damaged Report on line—click here](#)



[Country-wise Assistance Report online—click here](#)

## Angelina Jolie helps again



American movie star Angelina Jolie who helped Pakistan in 2005 earthquake again came forward to help Pakistan. She met flood victims in northwestern on September 7, 2010 and appealed to the international community to provide aid needed to help the country recover from its worst natural disaster.

## Impact of Disaster

### **Estimated losses crossed 43 billion US dollars----says Prime Minister Pakistan--- Report prepared by Ecotourism Society Pakistan**

Devastating floods have inflicted losses on different sectors of the economy to the tune of \$43 billion to. A detailed briefing was given to the Federal Cabinet of Pakistan and the meeting was headed by the prime minister who spoke about the initial damage assessment and informed the cabinet that a comprehensive plan has been chalked out for relief and rehabilitation of the flood affected people.

Devastating floods inflicted losses on different sectors of the economy to the tune of \$43 billion, Federal Cabinet

Report indicated. Over 2 million homes were destroyed, rendering over 7.5 million people displaced. The floods have resulted in the largest number migration since partition. Cabinet indicates:

Country has suffered Rs350 to Rs500 billion or \$4-6 billion worth of damage to infrastructure, livestock and crops.

Approximately \$200 million would be required for recovery/relief efforts whereas repair cost of key damaged infrastructure could exceed \$1 billion.

Cabinet was informed that 1,000 bridges and over 4,000KM long roads have been damaged, re-construction of which would cost Rs8 to 9 billion and 1/5th of the irrigation infrastructure, livestock and crops have been destroyed.

Electricity transmission line infrastructure has totally eroded by floods in effected areas and an initially estimated an accumulated loss of Rs4 billion to this installations while total losses to this sector is around Rs13 billion. The actual figures may be higher once the physical survey is carried out.

Floods affected 30 percent of all agriculture land and more than 10% population of the country, crop destruction, livestock deaths, damaged homes and losses in terms of infrastructure i.e. roads, bridges, energy, irrigation and social structures are massive.

It is estimated that manufacturing may also fall far below the target level of 5.6%. Services sector (including wholesale and retail trade) constituting more than 50% of GDP, is dependent on

agriculture, manufacturing, imports, exports and government's current expenditure.

Over 13,49,000 people were rescued by helicopters and boats by our valiant army personnel. American helicopters have also played a key role in the relief efforts, he added. Different mobile clinics have been set up to provide support to tens of thousands of people affected by the disaster. The prime minister said 60 flood affected districts in all the four provinces shared disaster

A total of 5,15,696 acute diarrhoea cases, 5,31,660 ARI, 7,04,677 skin diseases and 1,00,970 malaria cases have been reported from all over, for which 38,06,804 medical consultations were given.

### **Tourism Industry impact**



Recent floods that made around 20 million people homeless in Pakistan also collapsed Tourism Industry in the country that was already becoming fragile due to bad law and order situation in the country. Swat valley that geared up domestic tourism after a lull 2 years due to terrorism again faced total disaster due to heavy rainfalls and floods. Around 101 hotels on the bank of



Swat River flushed out in floods because these hotels were constructed on the bank of the river against the law of nature and law of land. Around 277 people including 6 domestic tourist lost their lives in Swat valley. Thousands of tourists were stranded in Kalam and Bahrain areas affected by the devastating rain-triggered floods. There was no electricity in the entire district for 14 days and no road network left to evacuate tourists therefore Pakistan Army provided helicopters to airlift them to Islamabad. . All business activities and factories are lying closed in Swat.

Kalam in northern Pakistan, was a popular tourist destination famous for its terrain, view and natural beauty. The worst flood in memory has wreaked havoc to the tourist facilities and left locals wandering about their future. There were only two sources of income of Kalam. One is agriculture and other is tourism, both are destroyed and seriously affected,said a resident. Kalam had some four hundred hotels and restaurants before the floods. Dozens of which have been swept away in the raging water. Most of the major hotels were either on the river bed or overlooking it from the edges of River Swat. The water swept dams, swallowed fertile land and torn down bridges effectively dividing the Valley into two.

The floods that have caused massive devastation across the country struck at a time when tourism was in full swing, especially in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit Baltistan. Damages inflicted on tourism infrastructure in these areas are estimated to run in billions. Apart from claiming so many human lives, the floods took serious toll on hotels, motels, bridges, roads, houses. It rendered thousands of people jobless, who were affiliated with tourism. Gilgit Baltistan and Kaghan valley also affected by floods and rain and collapse of infrastructure. Karakoram Highway that was already blocked due to Aliabad landslide now totally shutdown for traffic. Balakot-Kaghan road is also impassable.

Ecotourism Society Pakistan estimation indicated around 550 million \$ damaged to private sector. That include postponement of confirmed tours, damage to property and transportation. Ministry of tourism damages are hereunder:

Absence of tourism regulatory framework, fragile security situation in the country and recent floods have all contributed to the ranking of Pakistan as low as 103 out of the 124 countries in terms of tourism. According to the World Economic Forum (WEF), low prioritization of the travel and tourism industry proved instrumental in relegating Pakistan to the lower position and lately floods turned out to be a last nail in the coffin. According to the Ministry of Tourism's Economic Analysis Wing, as many as 854,905 foreign tourists visited Pakistan in 2009, while in 2010 the number drastically dropped to 398,469. According to sources in the ministry, privatization of

PTDC motels, low effectiveness of marketing, poor tourism infrastructure and lack of interest on the part of incumbent minister Attaur Rehman, with little experience in the tourism industry, have all ruined the country's profit earning sector. Furthermore, ministry's website has not been updated and does not have any information pertaining to hotels and tourist resorts in the country. Neither Foreign Tourist Arrivals And Tourism Receipts have been updated since 2007. Sources elaborated that firstly lawlessness in major parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and then floods proved 'a blessing in disguise' for the ministry's high ups including the minister, who is now waiting for the restoration of communication and transportation network in the country that may take over three years.

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ESP appreciates volunteerism of these researchers and members and journalists.

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