



Church World Service
Pakistan / Afghanistan

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On August 7th, CWSP/A conducted a one day training workshop on Sphere standards in Hyderabad, Sindh. The training was attended by staff members from Strengthening Participatory Organisation (SPO) who are our partners in flood response, and other NGOs. Altogether there were thirty participants. Similar training for staff of SPO will be held on August 9th and 10th in Turbat, Balochistan. Our Sphere training has already received very positive feedback by other agencies working in the flood hit areas.

Last month, one day workshops in Urdu and English were conducted by CWS-P/A on July 16th and July 18th respectively for NGO staff, including members of the Pak-Humanitarian Forum (PHF) who are actively involved in the implementation of the South Asian flood/cyclone assistance project in Pakistan. Thirteen participants attended the Sphere training.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has issued a warning of a cyclone expected to cross over the coastal belt of Sindh and Balochistan on August 9th/10th. It will be followed by forecasted widespread rains and dust storms in parts of the province. Coastal areas of Balochistan might get hit as well.

Provincial governments are on alert for any emergency situation that may arise, while fishermen have been advised to avoid going in deep waters from 9th to 11th August. The cyclone is predicted to be of a similar force to Yemyin which hit Pakistan in June, and is likely to cause flash floods in Balochistan.

The NDMA also shared an update on relief status in the flood affected areas which will also receive water purification plants. Currently there are 483 relief camps in total and foreign aid of 18.24 billion PKR has been pledged, and an accord with the World Bank regarding this is due soon.

Elsewhere in Punjab, 25 villages in Chinniot have been submerged with flood waters from the Chenab river. Local authorities have asked people to start evacuating to safer areas.

CWS-P/A UPDATE