

OUR RESPONSE

On 26 August, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif requested international assistance following a national emergency declaration in response to extreme flooding throughout the country. Airlink has activated its Asia & The Pacific Regional Response Plan following the impact of flooding across multiple regions of Pakistan. We are currently connecting with humanitarian, logistics, and airline partners in the region to assess main needs and response capabilities. Airlink will continue to monitor throughout the season to provide support to responding partners. Please reach out to ops@airlinkflight.org if your organization is planning to respond and/or has a request for transportation assistance.

THE SITUATION

The monsoon season in Pakistan, occurring between June and September, has been three times more intense than average, causing countrywide flash floods and landslides.

This year, flooding has affected over 33 million people, resulting in over 1,200 casualties, and displacing more than 3 million people. 992,000 homes were damaged or destroyed by the flood waters. Significant amounts of cropland and livestock have been lost, deepening food insecurity in the country. An estimated 5.9 million people will face food insecurity in Pakistan by November 2022, with an increase to 7.9 million people by March 2023. Humanitarian access is constrained after flooding damaged critical infrastructure, including roadways, 149 bridges, and communications systems following power outages in northern and central Pakistan, increasing the difficulty of humanitarian movements and further isolating communities.

Over 1,200 health facilities have sustained significant damage, leaving millions of people without access to medical care. Flooding has aggravated disease outbreaks, such as acute watery diarrhea, dengue fever, malaria, polio, and COVID-19. Increasing access to healthcare is a critical need, especially in displacement settings and areas where water and sanitation facilities were damaged.

One-third of Pakistan is estimated to already be under water, with officials predicting continued rainfall through the end of September.

Needs: Impact assessments are ongoing as flooding continues. The most critical needs are currently food, shelter, mosquito nets, safe drinking water, access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services, and healthcare.

Cargo Movement: Cargo movements from India and/or containing items originating in India may face additional restrictions and/or be barred from entering Pakistan. Airlink is currently working with our partners to gather the most up to date information on potential restrictions.

Personnel Movement: A negative PCR test for fully vaccinated inbound travelers is not required. However, non-vaccinated individuals will require a negative PCR, received no more than 72 hours prior to boarding. There may be further vaccination requirements to enter and/or exit Pakistan, review those [here](#). A valid Pakistani visa is required to enter the country, find more information [here](#).

SERVICE DELIVERY

Cargo Support

Airlink is supporting the humanitarian community through identifying flight options into affected areas in Islamabad (ISB) and Karachi (KHI). Airlink's logistics partners have capacity to support customs clearance and in-country transport. We continue to monitor other flight destinations supported by our network.

Personnel Flights

Round-trip passenger flights to Islamabad (ISB), Karachi (KHI), and Lahore (LHE) are available from the US and elsewhere in the world.

Customs Clearance: The Pakistani government issued a Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) on 30 August, 2022, initiating tax and duty exemptions on relief items certified by the National Disaster Management Authority or a Provincial Disaster Management Authority for a period of 90 days. Organizations are required to provide a Letter of Donation for tax and duty exemptions.

Airlink is coordinating with partners to keep NGOs up to date with customs processes and changes. The IMPACCT Working Group has shared guidance from the Government of Pakistan and Airlink will be consolidating these publications [here](#).

RESPONDING PARTNER AGENCIES

If you don't see your organization listed and you are responding, please email ops@airlinkflight.org.

Active Partners:

- Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE)
- Direct Relief
- GlobalMedic
- Global Logistics Cluster
- IMPACCT Working Group
- Save the Children
- ShelterBox