

Improving Food Security & Disaster Risk Reduction

March 2016

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Slope stabilisation through bioengineering ©SDC

Safer Lives in the High Valleys of Pakistan

Pakistan is a disaster-prone country due to geo-physical conditions, climatic extremes and high degrees of exposure and vulnerability. The earthquake in 2005, consecutive floods since 2010 and the recent earthquake in October 2015 are some of the most significant disasters over the last few years. The losses could have been reduced had the population been less vulnerable and more resilient, and had the mitigation planning been better. In order to assist the Government of Pakistan (GoP) in its effort to minimise the impact of disasters, SDC - in partnership with WFP - is supporting a community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) Project in the Chail Valley, Upper Swat in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), and in Bajaur & Mohmand Agencies in the FATA.

Aim of the Project

The project seeks to make local communities more resilient to floods and improve food security of about 35,000 flood-affected people through a Cash for Work (CfW) programme. It addresses the root cause of flash floods and aims to protect widely-spread livelihoods and community infrastructure in the valley bottom by controlling water runoff through check damming and stabilising slopes against landslides. The upstream check dams and stabilising schemes in combination with bio-engineering measures have proved to be successful. The CBDRM also aims at raising sufficient awareness and improving disaster preparedness among the communities. It has also made the local communities better understand the importance of a smooth operation and maintenance of the measures and initiated similar structural and non-structural measures on self-help basis. This project also aims to strengthen the capacities of the

government's line departments, which is necessary for the sustainability and a possible extension of the programme.

Entry Points for Upscaling the Approach

The CBDRR project has received a lot of appreciation from government authorities as well as other donors, some of who have even replicated the project in other parts of the country. Together with WFP, SDC has also implemented this model to Bajaur and Mohmand Agencies of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), where needs are similar but where slight adaptations had to be made. The project aims to protect the returnees and their livelihood assets and infrastructure from natural disasters, especially floods. The prevention of such losses and creation of income-generating opportunities in the area through WFP's Cash for Work (CfW) programmes will reduce the economic pressure and contribute to social cohesion and stability in the area.

Time Frame:	October 2011 to June 2017
SDC total Budget:	CHF 2,250,000
WFP total Budget:	CHF 4,250,000
Geographic Focus:	Chail Valley, Upper Swat in KP Bajaur & Mohmand Agencies in the FATA

Partners:

- World Food Programme (WFP)
- HUIRA (Local NGO)
- Malteser International (international NGO)
- Provincial/FATA Disaster & Management Authorities (P/FDMA) and Line Departments
- World Food Programme (WFP)

Further information

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