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Background

In early September 2012, flash floods due to heavy rains caused widespread damage in over 20 districts of eastern Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh. The five most affected districts are Jacobabad, Kashmore, Jaffarabad, Naseerabad and Rajanpur. As of 24 October, the government has registered 455 deaths 2,884 injuries and over 1.1 million acres of crop area affected.

The first phase of TSSU assessment profiled the multi sector needs of the population in temporary settlements in districts Jacobabad, Shikarpur, Kashmore. Data collection in Qamber Shahdadt, Larkana and Ghotki still underway.

TSSU also incorporates a capacity building component that aims to develop the knowledge of actors involved in managing temporary settlements. To-date 80 people including camp managers, social-mobilizers, community-members, displaced population have received four on-site trainings in Shikarpur, Jacobabad and Kashmore.

KEY FINDINGS

201 temporary settlements hosting 32,269 individuals have been assessed in Jacobabad, Kashmore and Shikarpur.

Settlements lack proper structure; 78% are spontaneous settlements.

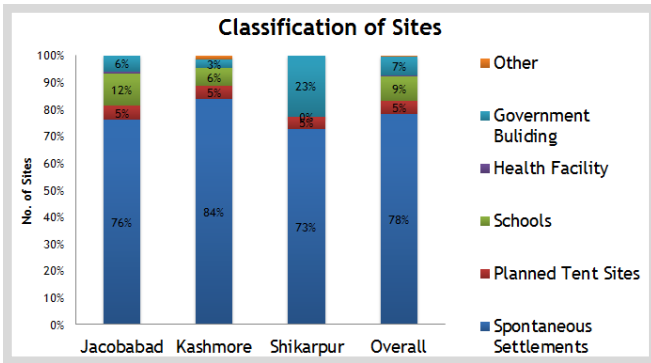
The number of displaced population assessed during the TSSU assessment is significantly lower than expectations projected by the MIRA findings.

Field reports indicate many families have left temporary settlements as:

- Water has receded or is only about 1 feet deep in many areas allowing people to circulate and go back to their place of origin.
- With the approaching harvesting season people want to salvage what remains of their crops.
- Little humanitarian assistance in camp-like settings discouraged prolonged displacement.
- Evictions from temporary settlements and public buildings forced people to go back.

Types of Settlements

Preliminary data indicates that the displaced population lacks access to proper shelter spaces and spontaneous settlements form a major proportion of temporary settlements. Out of the 201 settlements visited so far, 78% are spontaneous settlements; whilst only 5% are planned tent sites with various services including water supply and access to relief items, education, and health care facilities.

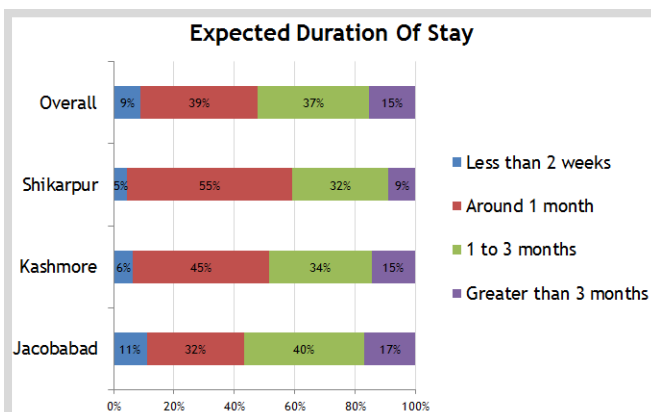


Site Management

The living conditions in temporary settlements are poor; cramped living space has been observed in the settlements visited. With an average family size of 6 or above and a high proportion of un-planned, spontaneous settlements, a significant proportion of the sites have been reported as crowded (43%).

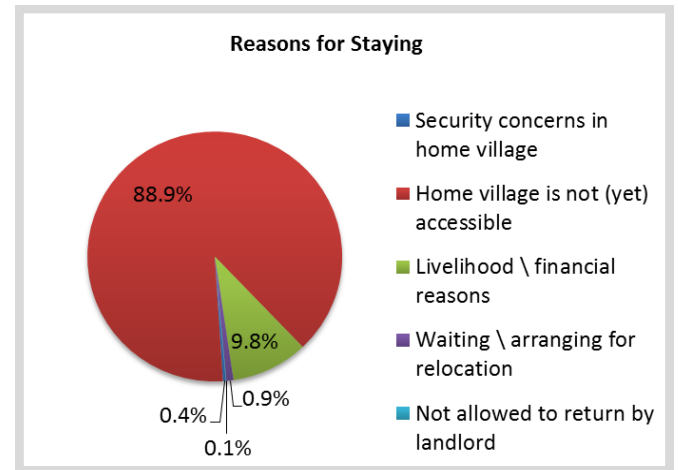
Duration of Stay

Expected duration of stay in temporary settlements is high amongst the displaced population. 15% of the respondents expect to stay in their current locations for more than 3 months, 37% expect to stay between 1-3 months whereas 39% anticipated to stay approximately for one month.



Reasons for Staying

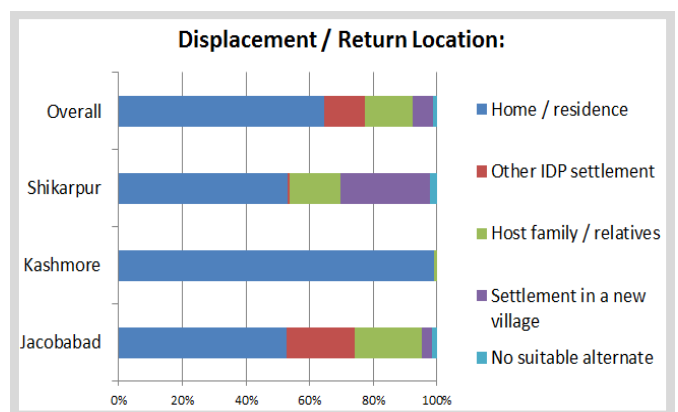
88.9% of the remaining respondents have cited inaccessible areas of origin as the primary reason for stay in temporary settlements. The loss of livelihood activities and consequently the higher chances of finding employment (as casual laborers) is another reason for the delayed return to areas of origin.



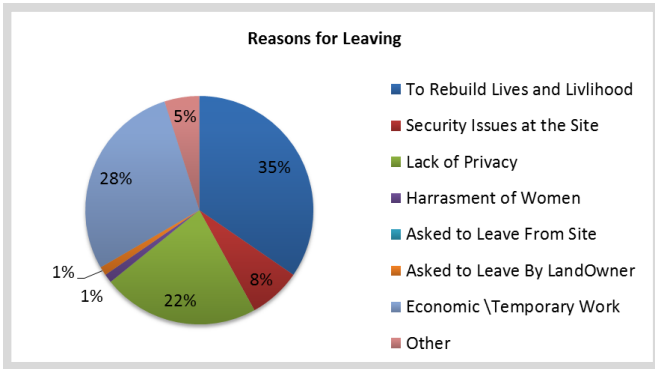
Population Movement

The TSSU teams observed population movement from the displacement areas, with the majority of people returning back to their villages despite standing water and partial flooded. Whilst many people are returning to rebuild their houses and resume livelihood activities (35%), a small number of sites have been forcibly evicted by the landowners(1%). The onset of winter and lack of assistance are also forcing people to move from the temporary settlements to their villages.

TSSU is now reassessing the situation in these areas with initial findings indicating significant outstanding humanitarian needs that require an urgent coordinated response.

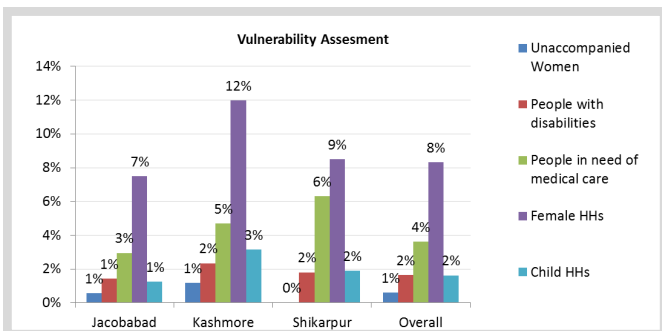


Respondents also shared intentions to shift to host families / relatives, other IDP settlements or resettle in new villages.



Vulnerability Assessment

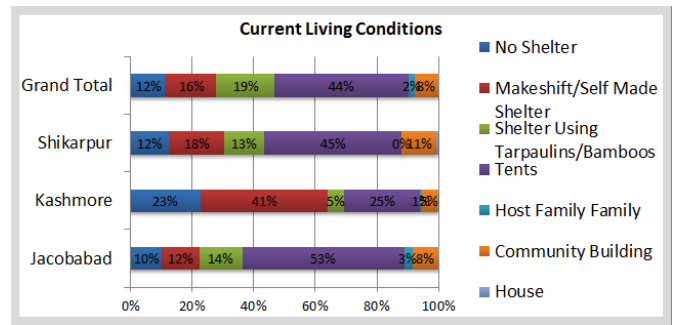
An integral part of the TSSU is the vulnerability assessment. The figure below summarises the proportions of vulnerable population for districts Jacobabad, Kashmore and Shikarpur. Amongst the population residing in the temporary settlements, 1% are unaccompanied women, 2% are disabled persons and approximately 4% require medical attention. 8% of the households are female headed whereas 2% are child headed families.



Multi Sector Findings

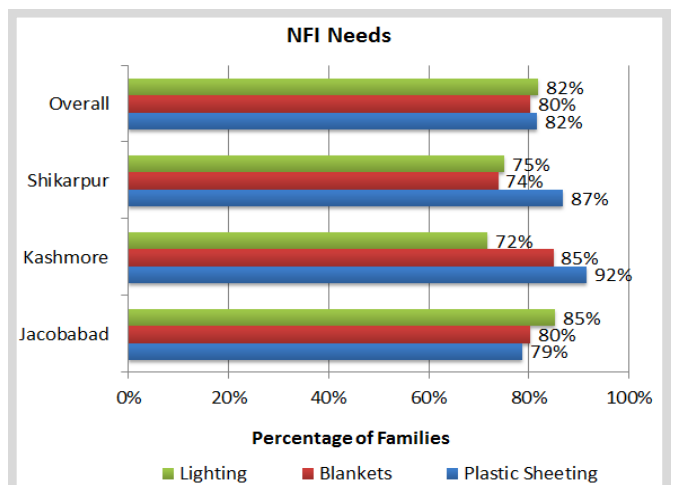
Shelter/NFI

Shelter needs are acute in affected areas and majority of the affected population lacks adequate shelter; almost one-third of the population is residing in makeshift shelters. In district Kashmore 64% of families urgently need shelter support. Amongst populations with access to some form of shelter, 44% are residing in tents mostly recycled from 2010 flood response.



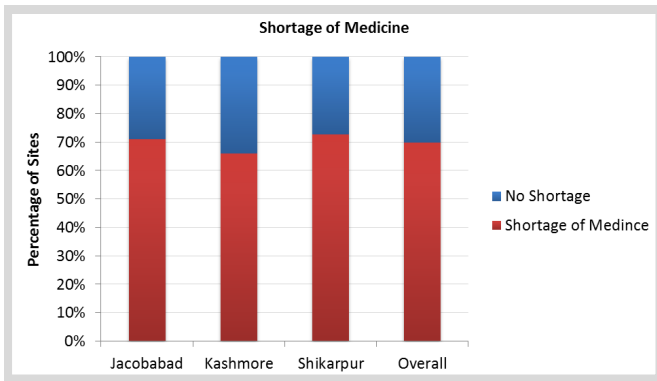
Non Food Items (NFIs)

The displaced population has identified lighting, blankets and plastic sheets as the priority needs. With majority of the population living in spontaneous settlements without any proper sources of illumination or winterization support, 82% of the respondents have indicated that they urgently require some source of lighting while 80% require blankets. With the onset of winter and the affected population using salvaged items (in certain instance even clothes) to construct shelter, the need for winterization and shelter support items particularly blankets and plastic sheets is high. Respondents indicated the need for plastic sheets for making their shelters airtight and coping with the dropping temperatures.



Health

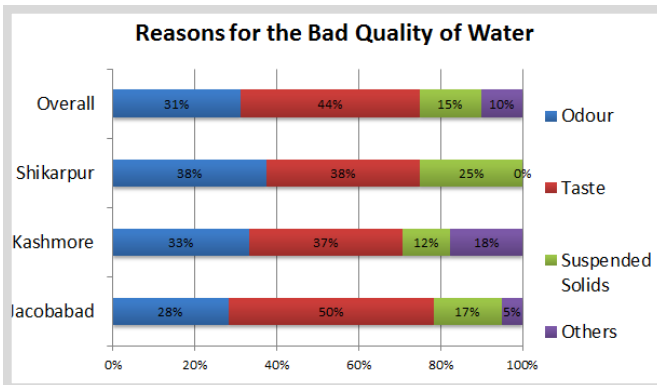
Several health issues have been reported with skin infections being the most prevalent in all the districts (24% of the sites), followed by water borne diseases including diarrhea and malaria (19% and 21% respectively). A few cases of measles and respiratory infections have also been reported.



Access to mobile health facilities is minimal (only at 1% of the sites) and over 36% of the affected population travels for more than 3kms to access the closest health facility. Data from assessed districts indicates comparatively better health services in Shikarpur with improved access to health facilities and comparatively higher number of mobile health clinics. A shortage of medicine has been reported by 70% of key informants in all districts.

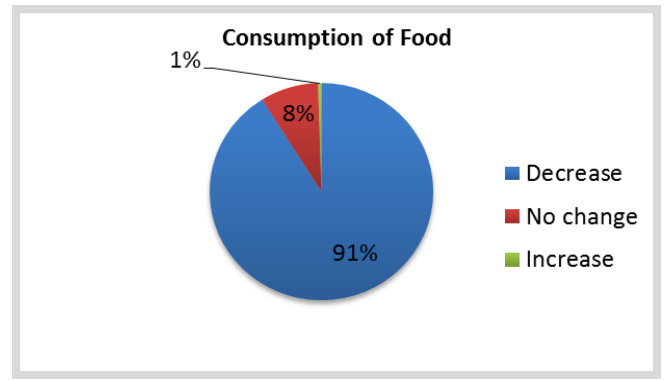
WASH

Availability of clean drinking water is a critical problem faced by the affected population with bad taste and odor being the two primary water issues reported by the respondents.



Food Security

91% of key informants reported that the affected population's food consumption has declined following the floods. Approximately 80% of the households reported that they can no longer afford to buy enough food.



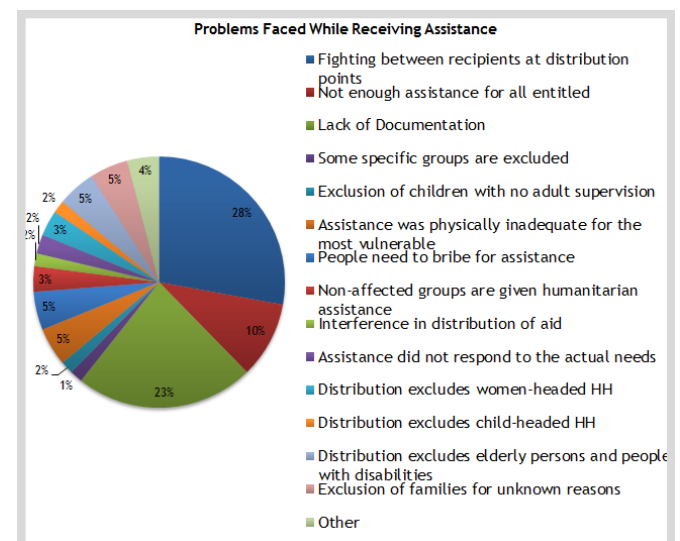
Education

Floods and consequent displacements have caused disruption in education activities. Generally, temporary Learning Centres (TLCs) are the only avenue of education for the displaced population; however 90% of the assessed displaced population does not have a TLC close to their location.

Protection Concerns

Respondents have reported the following concerns regarding the availability of relief assistance:

- Fighting between recipients at distribution points (28%)
- Inadequate relief items (10%)
- Loss of necessary documents in floods and unavailability of assistance due to lack of documentation (23%)
- Unfair selection of beneficiaries (5%)
- Some of the most vulnerable households particularly the physically handicapped and female headed families are unable to reach the distribution points (8%)



Locations of Monsoon 2012 Temporary Settlements - Jacobabad, Shikarpur and Kashmore 24th October 2012

