

Recovery from Floods in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

<Overview>

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Aim: To compile a database from primary surveys for the assessment of the vulnerability and resilience of the rural economy against unexpected and nationwide floods that occurred in Pakistan in July–August 2010.

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Coverage: Peshawar District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

Pilot surveys: First round (December 2010–February 2011); second round (December 2011–January 2012). Both surveys covered the same 10 sample villages and 100 sample households. The sample villages were selected on the basis of being similar in terms of size, ethno-social backgrounds, and tenancy structure; however, they are characterized by different levels of economic development, especially in terms of agricultural technology (irrigated vs. rain-fed) and the nature of flood damage. Additionally, two villages surveyed in the 1990s by the same research team were included in the sample.

Ongoing task: Scaling-up of the household and village survey. Linking the survey with the household panel data collected in the 1990s.

Major findings:

There were both between- and within-village variations in flood damage, while different types of damage were not highly correlated.

External aid was distributed to households that had suffered greater damage to their houses than others, but not to households with significant damage to land, crops, or other assets.

Aid distribution tended to slightly favor households with lesser initial assets.

Aid recipients did not show a recovery better or worse than non-recipients, particularly in recovering damage to houses.

With regard to initial recovery, households that originally had fewer assets and were hit by greater flood damage had more difficulty in recovery.

After one year, the overall recovery had improved as initially rich households recovered faster; however, the speed of recovery decelerated.