



# NDMA INSIGHTS



## MARCH 2024

### News Letter

## *Towards a Disaster Resilient Pakistan*



# NDMA INSIGHTS

**NDMA Newsletter**  
March 2024

**Patron in Chief**  
Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik,  
HI (M)

**Patron**  
Brig Julian Muazzam  
James

**Editorial Team**  
Maj Kanwal Kiani  
Sara Malik  
Paris Safdar

**Design/Layout**  
Shahrukh Shibli

**Event Photography**  
Kashif Raza  
Zargham

**Contact Us**  
 051-111-157-157  
 [pro.ndma@gmail.com](mailto:pro.ndma@gmail.com)

 [@NdmaPk](https://www.facebook.com/NdmaPk)









 [@ndma\\_pk](https://www.instagram.com/ndma_pk)

 [@ndmapk](https://www.x.com/ndmapk)

 [@ndmapakistan](https://www.youtube.com/ndmapakistan)

 [@ndmapakistan](https://www.linkedin.com/ndmapakistan)

## In This Issue

-  **Chairman Message**
-  **Gwadar Visit**
-  **Spring Thaw 2024**
-  **Pakistan School Safety**
-  **KS Relief- Gawadar**
-  **Strategic Engagements**
-  **Forest Fire Containment**
-  **Women in Disaster**

# NDMA INSIGHTS

## Chairman's Message

Pakistan has taken a leading role in the comprehensive overhaul of its Proactive Disaster Management System. Through the integration of advanced technology and innovative methodologies, the nation is enhancing its readiness for emergencies. This pivotal transformation is centered around the establishment of National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) at headquarters of NDMA.

In alignment with NDMA's forward-thinking strategy, a two-day National Simulation Exercise (Sim Ex) was conducted on March 4-5, 2024, at NDMA Headquarters, emphasizing disaster readiness. The objective of this exercise was to proactively



prepare for potential disasters and emergencies that could arise in the spring and early summer periods. The simulation exercises witnessed enthusiastic participation from all principal stakeholders.

Dedicated to fostering resilience via community involvement, NDMA has proactively collaborated with educational institutions. A consultative session was organized with stakeholders to develop the Pakistan School Safety Framework (PSSF).

The PSSF is designed to foster secure educational settings, augment hazard preparedness in schools, and advocate for disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures, all while actively involving children in the process of building resilience.

I extend my appreciation for the active engagement of all parties involved, including pertinent Federal Ministries, Provincial Disaster Management Authorities, departmental agencies, and humanitarian groups. Their joint efforts have substantially fortified Pakistan's disaster management capabilities and have enabled communities to adeptly navigate the spectrum of emerging challenges.

At NDMA, we are committed to maintaining our progress and continuously advancing our preparedness initiatives to further strengthen the resilience of the Pakistani populace.

## Prime Minister & Chairman NDMA Visited Rain/Snow-affected areas of Gwadar and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



In wake of torrential rains & heavy snowfall in last week of February, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik visited Gwadar and Peshawar on 5 March and 6 March respectively to show solidarity with affectees and oversee the relief in affected areas.

During the flight, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif received a detailed brief from Chairman NDMA on losses & damages and ongoing rescue and relief efforts including arrangement of 7,000 dry rations packs (95 kg each) in coordination with KS relief for Gwadar which will be distributed on 7 / 8 March 2024. PM during his visit to Gwadar also announced ex gratia assistance to the affectees, of 2 million to each decease, 0.5 million for injured, while 0.7 million for fully and 0.35 million for partially damaged house all over the country.

In Peshawar, Prime Minister handed over 37 cheques of Rs 2 million each to the NoKs of deceased in rain / snow related incidents, while 13 cheques amounting to Rs 500,000 each to the injured while 10 x cheques were given to individuals who had lost their homes. The Prime Minister also announced house damage compensation after joint survey to be completed immediately.

He also announced the awarding of commendation certificates to the employees of organizations who performed exceptionally well in the recent relief operations and to those involved in relief and rehabilitation work.

# Prime Minister & Chairman NDMA Visited Rain/snow-affected areas of Gwadar and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



## Two-day National Simulation Exercise the “Spring-Thaw 2024” held on March 4-5, 2024, at NDMA Headquarters, focused on disaster preparedness



As part of NDMA’s proactive approach, two-day National Simulation Exercise (Sim Ex) held on March 4-5, 2024, at NDMA Headquarters, focused on disaster preparedness. The exercise aimed to address potential emergencies during the spring and early summer seasons.

Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik inaugurated the “Spring-Thaw 2024” simulation exercises. Key stakeholders, including representatives from PDMAs/, SDMA/GBDMA, PMD, WAPDA, SUPARCO, NHA, Armed Forces, ICT, and Emergency Response Agencies including Rescue 1122 and UN Agencies including humanitarian organizations actively participated in the simulation.

These exercises aimed to enhance coordination during the disaster management cycle, and relief activities. The scenarios included drought, forest fires, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF), heat waves, and industrial fires. The exercise provided valuable insights and strengthened the collective ability to handle emergency situations effectively under the umbrella of NDMA.

# NDMA Holds National Consultation on Pakistan School Safety Framework



NDMA's Gender and Child Cell organized a meeting on Pakistan School Safety Framework (PSSF) to sensitize stakeholders about its implementation nationwide.

Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik while presiding the consultative meeting highlighted that efficient disaster response necessitates development of a widespread network of trained individuals in households, schools, places of worship even in the remotest village, who would serve as first responder, providing crucial assistance during various emergencies.

NDMA plans to develop simulation exercises for students and faculty to enhance disaster awareness. Participants commended NDMA's efforts in promoting school safety and preparedness.

## NDMA in collaboration with KS relief-Pakistan mobilize an emergency relief convoy to support the flood victims of Gwadar



Under auspices of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) Pakistan, has mobilized an emergency relief convoy to support the flood victims of Gwadar. This humanitarian initiative included the dispatch of five containers loaded with 9,000 food packages and 9,000 shelters, totaling 875 tonnes, from Islamabad to the rain-impacted areas of Gwadar.

The departure ceremony, held at the Jinnah Stadium, Sports Complex, Islamabad this morning, was graced by the presence of Honourable Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mr. Sarfraz Bugti, H.E. Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al Maliky, Saudi Ambassador, along with esteemed officials from NDMA.



# STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif received a comprehensive briefing from Chairman NDMA Lt. General Inam Haider Malik on NEOC capabilities i.e. early warnings and proactive disaster preparedness. The briefing covered recent rescue operations in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, along with seasonal forecasts. Federal Ministers and senior officials attended the session.

Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal visited NEOC at NDMA Headquarters, The Minister was briefed about the capabilities of the emergency operation center to deal with hazards & vulnerabilities and disaster management outlook through predictive modeling. He praised NDMA's proactive approach and launch of a mobile app for early warnings. The Minister lauded efforts to create awareness through anticipatory actions.



# STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Chairman NDMA, Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik, held a meeting with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mission Pakistan at NDMA headquarters .



Ghazi University's Vice Chancellor, Dr. Muhammad Ali (SI) (TI), along with key university officials, visited NDMA to sign a Letter of Agreement (LoA) for collaboration in disaster management, acknowledging NEOC's capabilities and discussing advancements in academic research and regional integration. The formal signing ceremony underscored the pivotal role of disaster management in Pakistan, marking progress in bolstering preparedness and response strategies.

# STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS

Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Dr.Mehmet Pacaci visited National Emergencies Operation Center at NDMA HQs and was briefed by Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik on NEOC's capabilities. The Ambassador praised NDMA's efforts to enhance coordination for efficient early warning systems, proactive preparedness, global outreach and risk communication.



Mr.Muhammad Yahya, Resident Coordinator United Nations called on Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik followed by brief of newly built NEOC at NDMA Headquarters. He was briefed about the capabilities of Pakistan's new NEOC and its predictive modeling for disaster management.

# STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Chairman NDMA, Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik, met with ADB Mission, Pakistan at NDMA HQs.



NDMA organized an interactive session for briefing of the newly established, National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC), for Bahria University Students. The session showcased the capabilities of NEOC to provide early warning systems, proactive preparedness, global outreach and risk communication in an efficient manner.

## Forest Fire Containment Efforts in Kho-e-Khandaran Area



An intense forest fire erupted in the Kho-e-Khandaran area, on the border of Barkhan and Kholu, on March 16, 2024.

NDMA coordinated response to contain forest fire with support of Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Balochistan, Forest Department, Frontier Corps and District Administration. The latest updates from the ground indicate that the fire has been confined and the risk of further spread is minimal. The Forest Officer has verified that situation is under control and the area remains under strict surveillance by the Forest Department and District Administration to prevent any resurgence.

NDMA continues to oversee the firefighting efforts closely, working in tandem with provincial departments to monitor the situation and allocate resources as needed. Ongoing monitoring and assessment are being conducted to safeguard affected communities and ensure complete suppression of the forest fire.

NDMA is in contact with PDMA Balochistan and related departments to ensure safety of locals and will provide further updates as the situation evolves.

# WOMEN FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE

Gender and Child Cell (GCC) NDMA has made significant strides in providing guidelines and frameworks to address the specific needs of women during all phases and types of disasters across Pakistan. These include policy documents at the federal level, such as "GBV Guidelines & SOPs to Prevent, Mitigate and Respond in Humanitarian Settings," "Gender Mainstreaming and GBV in Disaster Setting in Pakistan Context 2017," and "Proposed Strategy for Action on International Frameworks for Gender Mainstreaming and Integration of GBV Risk Mitigation in Humanitarian Action and DRR Programs 2017."

Furthermore, initiatives like "Adaptation, Protection, GBV Prevention and Response Tools in Emergencies, 2021," "Gender/GBV Monitoring & Reporting under global commitments (SDGs and SFDRR)," and "Implementing MISP – SOPs for Effective & Efficient Implementation of MISP for RH" have been instrumental in ensuring a gender-sensitive approach in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

Recognizing the disproportionate vulnerability of women in disasters, GCC NDMA has prioritized their needs and concerns since its inception in 2010. This commitment is underscored by the development of key policies like the "National Policy Guidelines on Vulnerable Groups in Disasters."

In addition to policy initiatives, GCC NDMA has taken concrete actions on the ground, establishing Women and Child-Friendly Centers in Harnai, Balochistan, and Mirpur, AJK, following the floods of 2019 and 2021. These centers aim to address the psychosocial needs of women affected by disasters, providing crucial support during challenging times.

**Zulekha**  
**Project Manager, GCC**

# WOMEN FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE



**Ambassador Iffat Imran Gardezi**  
**Consultant International Cooperation (NDMA)**

*International*  
On International Women's Day, I reflect on the impact of Pakistan in empowering women. It has provided me a platform to champion women's rights both within our communities and beyond. However, as a society, we must do more. I draw inspiration from the courage and tenacity of Pakistan's young women who refuse to accept the status quo and relentlessly strive for change. We stand with you!

Together, let us amplify the voices of these remarkable women, celebrating their achievements and advocating for equal opportunities. By supporting education, breaking down barriers, and fostering inclusivity, we can create a brighter future for all.

# WOMEN FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE



**Zahra Hassan**  
**GIS-Lead NEOC**

In the male-dominated arena of disaster management, women are often underrepresented, their contributions overshadowed by gender roles and societal norms. Zahra Hassan, as the Lead GIS at National Emergencies Operations Center (NEOC), has spearheaded initiatives along with her team for the development of early warnings in disaster management. One of Zahra's remarkable career achievements is the creation of National Common Operating Picture (NCOP) anticipatory platform—the first of its kind in Pakistan. This platform provides up to six months' projections of prevalent disasters nationwide. By utilizing advanced predictive analysis and modeling, Zahra and her team have empowered decision-makers with invaluable insights, enabling proactive measures to mitigate the impact of disasters before they occur. As the world celebrates International Women's Day, Zahra Hassan's efforts, along with those of other capable young female officers, serve as a reminder of the significant contributions of women in disaster management. Their trailblazing initiatives have not only saved lives but have also paved the way for a more inclusive and resilient future in Pakistan.



# WOMEN FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE



**Syeda Qalb e Zahra**  
**Assistant Manager**  
**INGOs**

## To What Heights Can I Not Rise?

In the vast expanse of dawn's early light,  
Amidst the struggle, the constant fight,  
Lies a dreamer, fierce and bright,  
Questioning, "To what heights can I not rise?"  
From scholarly halls where knowledge was sought,  
To corporate battles, valiantly fought,  
In every lesson life has taught,  
Echoes, "To what heights can I not rise?"  
NDMA - a pinnacle now reached,  
A testament to the goals I've beseeched,  
Yet beyond, more summits, yet to be breached,  
Whispers, "To what heights can I not rise?"  
With every setback, every fall,  
I gather strength, surmounting all,  
For within me, I hold the call,  
Roaring, "To what heights can I not rise?"  
Through glass ceilings, through storms, through fire,  
With every step, I climb higher,  
Fueled by a relentless, burning desire,  
Singing, "To what heights can I not rise?"  
For I am the dreamer, and the doer too,  
Crafting futures with a vibrant hue,  
To the stars, to the vast, endless blue,  
I ask again, "To what heights can I not rise?"  
Yes, in my heart, the answer, clear and bright,  
With passion, with purpose, I take flight,  
In the grand tapestry of the night,  
I know, to infinite heights, I will rise.

# PAKISTAN'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL EXPO



NDMA Organizing Pakistan's first-ever

# INTERNATIONAL EXPO

ON

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION-2024

23 to 25 April

Pak-China Friendship Center Islamabad

*Resilience through Innovation and Collaboration*





# **NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

## Media Directorate Publications

Address: National Disaster Management Authority (HQ) Main Murree Road  
Near ITP Office, Islamabad

---