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Earthquake Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Authority



Social Protection Interventions in the Earthquake Affected Areas



Rekindling Hopes - Rebuilding Lives





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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFIRM	Armed Forces Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine
AJK	State of Azad Jammu & Kashmir
ALE	Assistance Legal Expert
BRU	Basic Rehabilitation Unit
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBR	Community Based Rehabilitation
CMU	Central Management Unit
CPMU	Child Protection Monitoring Units
CRW	Community Relief Worker
DCO	District Coordinating Officer
DFID	Department for International Development
DHQ	District Headquarters
DRC	Data Resource Centre
DRAC	District Reconstruction Approval Committee
DRU	District Reconstruction Unit
ERRA	Earthquake Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Authority
EVI	Extremely Vulnerable Individual
GSP	Geological Survey of Pakistan
HHRD	Helping Hand for Relief and Development
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IEC	Information Education and Communication
LAC	Legal Aid Centres
LGRDD	Local Government and Rural Development Department
LSCG	Livelihood Support Cash Grant Programme
LVU	Land Verification Unit
MBR	Member Board of Revenue
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoSWSE	Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education
MOWD	Ministry of Women Development
MRC	Medical Rehabilitation Centers
MRPDEA	Medical Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in Earthquake Areas
MO	Medical Officer
NADRA	National Database and Registration Authority
NBP	National Bank of Pakistan
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NIRM	National Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine
NOC	No Objection Certificate
NWFP	North West Frontier Province
PIC	Public Information Campaign
PIMS	Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences
PKR	Pakistan Rupee
POs	Partner Organizations
PPAF	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
PWD	Persons With Disabilities
RIC	Resource Information Center
SMBR	Senior Member Board of Revenue
SPC	Social Protection Cell
SW&WD	Social Welfare and Women Development Department
SWC	Social Welfare Complexes
THQ	Tehsil Headquarters
TLE	Tehsil Legal Expert
TVS	Targeted Vulnerability Survey
UC	Union Council
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WDC	Women Development Centres
WHO	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The October 8, 2005 earthquake affected the lives of millions of people, however, it is the vulnerable groups like widows and women-headed households; children without parental care; persons with disabilities; the elderly; and, the landless due to the earthquake that have suffered the most. In order to address the particular needs of these vulnerable groups and to ensure their primary rehabilitation, Earthquake Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) devised a comprehensive Social Protection Strategy in July 2006. The Strategy incorporates concrete actions, recommendations and policy guidelines for the rehabilitation of the vulnerable groups.

In its effort to rebuild the lives of the affected people, ERRA, through its Social Protection Cell and partner governmental/non-governmental organizations, has been endeavoring to introduce specific rehabilitation interventions. These interventions have been tailored to address the specific needs of vulnerable groups.

Social Protection Interventions

- Livelihood Support Cash Grant Programme
- Medical Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in Earthquake Affected Areas
- Rural Landless Programme
- Legal Aid Centres
- Targeted Vulnerability Survey
- Social Welfare Complexes
- Women Development Centres

Despite the challenges, which include weak coordination and information sharing mechanisms between the numerous ongoing social protection programmes and accurate information on the scope and scale of social protection work completed and in progress, ERRA and other Partner Organizations have been striving to design efficient, holistic and coordinated social protection interventions;

pooling resources; and preventing replication of activities. Some of these interventions include:

The Livelihood Support Cash Grant programme, funded by the World Bank, is one of ERRA's flagship interventions which assisted approximately 268,000 affected families through a monthly support of PKR 3,000 per month for six months. This support was extended for the most vulnerable for an additional six months.

The Medical Rehabilitation for the Persons with Disabilities in Earthquake Affected Areas Project comprises components, which include, Community Based Rehabilitation, Institutional Strengthening of secondary and tertiary health facilities, and establishment of two fully equipped 50-bed Rehabilitation Centers in the districts of Muzaffarabad and Abbottabad.

ERRA's Rural Landless Programme is providing a financial assistance package of PKR 75,000 to each verified landless family for purchase of land and an additional PKR 175,000 for construction of their house on that land.

The Legal Aid for Earthquake Affectees Project is providing free legal assistance to vulnerable groups in the earthquake affected areas and assisting Government in passing legislation conducive to protecting the rights of vulnerable groups.

The Social Welfare Complexes (SWCs) Project would house the existing Social Welfare offices and facilities at the district level and provide integrated services under one roof to the vulnerable groups. These services would comprise medical services, educational services (for special children),

legal facilitation, psychosocial support, and vocational training for the vulnerable. The Complexes would also provide the residential facility for the elderly, orphans and widows.

The Women Development Centres (WDCs) Project will provide support and services for women in distress. The services would include, medical aid, legal aid, psychological counseling, and opportunities for sustainable income through the production and marketing of goods and services according to a market-based demand. The WDCs are envisioned to provide economic opportunities to the women and assist them in gaining sustainable livelihood options.

The Targeted Vulnerability Survey Project is aimed to collect comprehensive and accurate data on the vulnerable groups in the Earthquake Affected Areas, in order to assess the scope and scale of vulnerabilities and develop effective and sustainable rehabilitation interventions for the most

vulnerable.

The Non-Governmental Organizations have also been playing a significant role in the rehabilitation of the vulnerable groups. The NGO interventions can be categorized in the following five broad areas: (a) Psycho-Social Support; (b) Provision of Shelters / Houses for Vulnerable Groups; (c) Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities; (d) Women Protection; and (e) Child Protection.

The Social Protection programmes and interventions highlighted in this booklet and those that are in planning phase are aimed at translating the ideals of a vibrant and resilient community into a hardcore reality. These programmes weave a cobweb of dynamic communities by instilling the notions of self help and sustainable living skills. Social Protection has a potential to form a basis for Human Development - the most essential ingredient in the present day development paradigm.

ERRA'S SOCIAL PROTECTION STRATEGY

1.1 BACKGROUND

The devastating earthquake of October 8, 2007 took a heavy toll on human life and property, rendered thousands of people homeless, inflicted serious injuries to a number of persons, and caused immense damage to sources of income generation. The loss of family members left eternal scars on the consciousness of their surviving family members. Loss of male family heads exposed the women to the rigors of life, transforming their role from care giver to bread earner. Children who lost one or both parents were suddenly robbed of all the comforts of childhood. The loss of employment and lack of social safety nets placed many families in a precarious position. Destruction of houses compelled thousands of people to take refuge in the camps. The affectees were mainly from an already vulnerable group of people; living in comparatively inaccessible mountain areas with lower levels of income and service provision as compared to the national average.

1.2 SOCIAL PROTECTION

Social Protection can be broadly defined as public actions that enable people to deal more effectively with their vulnerability to crisis and changes in circumstances and help tackle extreme and chronic poverty.

Comprehension of the context of problem and resultant vulnerabilities is of paramount importance while defining Social Protection. Programmes under Social Protection generally aim to address the issues of the underprivileged and the risk and vulnerability stemming from chronic poverty through the instruments of social insurance, social assistance and investments in human development programmes. However, the vulnerabilities emanating from natural

disasters merit separate set of remedial measures and public actions. The Social Protection programmes employed to address the risks and vulnerabilities of natural disaster stricken population have usually different dynamics and objectives. Such Social Protection programmes are specifically tailored to address the immediate needs and vulnerabilities of affected population with a view to effectively mitigate disaster impact and enable them to restore their social life to pre disaster level.

1.3 VULNERABILITY

Vulnerability, in the context of earthquake, refers to “the characteristics of a person or group and their situation that influence their capacity to anticipate, cope with, resist and recover from the impact of a natural hazard (an extreme natural event or process)”¹.

Social Protection Strategy
To address the specific needs of the vulnerable groups and to ensure their primary to medium term rehabilitation, ERRA devised a comprehensive Social Protection Strategy, which incorporates, “concrete actions, recommendations and policy guidelines for the rehabilitation of the vulnerable groups, identified as widows and women-headed households; children without parental care; people with disabilities; the elderly; and the landless due to earthquake.”

Although all affected people in the earthquake affected areas were and still remain vulnerable to varying degrees, the groups identified by ERRA's Social Protection Strategy are at greater risk and require special attention and support for their rehabilitation.

Particular vulnerability in earthquake affected areas is understood as the inability of

¹Weisner, Ben: Tracking Vulnerability: History, Use, Potential and Limitations of a Concept http://www.vulnerability.se/files/Ben_Wisner.pdf

individuals and families to pursue livelihoods and to mediate risks and insecurity in the social context of their communities. This inability could be the product of social constructs (such as gender roles) or absolute limitations (such as illness), or in fact both. Considering this definition, ERRA, in consultation with various stakeholders, developed specific interventions to address the specific vulnerabilities.

1.4 RANGE OF VULNERABILITIES

The factors creating new vulnerabilities and compounding the existing ones include loss of family members; loss of livelihood, income and shelter, internal displacement; gender discrimination and social exclusion; age; impairments and disability; and loss of social support networks.

The consequences of these factors are severe. Separated children and women are at risk of being trafficked or abducted and subjected to violence and abuse. Single women and children face additional social and economic marginalization and physical threats. The injured are suddenly faced with physical and psychological impairments. The marginalized groups are unable to access assistance on an equal basis. Members of female-headed households, widows and orphaned children are at risk of having little or no access to essential services and supplies, and losing property claims. The elderly and the disabled have lost their support networks. And a large proportion of the internally displaced are those who have lost land in their areas of origin due to landslides and flooding.

1.5 SOCIAL PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS AND CHALLENGES

Faced with a tremendous challenge of the rehabilitation of the earthquake affected population, ERRA remains committed to design effective Social Protection programmes in due consideration of the

specific vulnerabilities and ground realities. Some of these rehabilitation programmes are more pronounced and visible, such as the comprehensive Medical Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in Earthquake Areas, Livelihood Support Cash Grant Programme (LSCG), and Rural Landless Programme; while others, which involve ascertaining the number of vulnerable and nature of vulnerabilities, building the capacities of Social Welfare infrastructure to effectively carry on programmes initiated by ERRA, and extension of legal assistance to the vulnerable groups to help them reclaim their property rights and lost identities, are meant to pave the way for a sustainable medium to long term rehabilitation of the vulnerable population. Nonetheless, these programmes will be instrumental in bringing about definitive and qualitative improvement in the lives of vulnerable population.

The challenges faced by the Social Protection Cell (SPC), ERRA include lack of coordination and information sharing mechanisms between the numerous ongoing social protection programmes in the Earthquake Affected Areas. One of the reasons for this lack of coordination is the cross-cutting nature of Protection Sector whereby many social protection programmes and activities are carried out under the umbrella of other sectors, such as Camp Management, Health, and Livelihoods.

Another challenge has been the difficulty in securing funding for specific protection related initiatives since donor priorities have been in areas of Housing Reconstruction, Education And Health. Yet another major challenge is that the majority of protection related projects are focused in accessible areas such as the Districts of Mansehra, Muzaffarabad and Bagh. As a result, there are similar projects (for instance Child Friendly Spaces) concentrated in certain areas and almost none in hard areas such as Kohistan, Shangla and Poonch etc.

2.1 INTRODUCTION

One of the key challenges, after providing immediate relief to the earthquake-affected people, was to help them recover from the shock and stand on their feet. Recognizing that many families had lost their means to earn a livelihood, ERRA decided to provide temporary financial support to the most vulnerable people, in the form of cash grants.

The Livelihood Support Cash Grant (LSCG) Programme was funded by the World Bank through a loan of US\$ 85 million. The design and implementation of such a large and exceptional programme was a huge challenge, since the government had never employed a programme of this nature and magnitude.

The project, which assisted approximately 268,000 affected families through a monthly support of PKR 3,000 per month for six months, was implemented in all nine affected districts of NWFP and AJK.

2.2 PROCESS, INPUTS & OUTPUTS

Preliminary work on the project began with the technical assistance of the World Bank in January 2006, which helped develop an operational manual for the project. The cash grant support amount was decided after careful assessment of the local economy, average household size and basic household needs.

Eligibility Criteria: The Program was applicable to the affected families who had suffered housing destruction/damage. Within this universe, the beneficiary families had to meet the following eligibility criteria:

- (i) A family headed by a female (widow, divorced, separated, never married) **OR**
- (ii) A family that has at least one disabled

person **OR**

- (iii) A family supporting five or more children (including other's orphans)

Programme Cost : US\$ 85 million

Objective: To provide subsistence of PKR 3,000 per month for six months to the most vulnerable segments of the affected population in order to ease out the difficult period after the earthquake.

Target Population: Families who suffered housing destruction/ damage, Female Headed Households or families supporting at least one person with disability or families with five or more children.

Total Applicants: 750,000

Number of beneficiaries: 268,000

The programme extended for another six months for approx. 22,000 most vulnerable households form among the beneficiaries.

Financial Outlay: The total budget of the program was earmarked to be US\$ 85 million; out of which US\$ 5 million was allocated to the operational budget, whereas another US\$ 5 million were put aside as reserve, thus leaving US\$ 75 million for disbursement.

Survey Methodology: The field survey, which involved effective targeting of vulnerable groups, was the building block for the project. The district authorities were tasked to review the number of Union Councils (UCs) selected for the project and constitute the targeting teams.

Targeting teams were formed to conduct the Survey. A targeting team comprised three members, an event organizer (local counselor), a verification facilitator (Patwari), and a data collector (local government schoolteacher). The targeting process was completed in four weeks. Extensive guidelines about filling of targeting forms and other processes were developed and disseminated. Master Trainers were trained, which in turn trained the targeting teams in

carrying out the survey. Approximately 750,000 families were enrolled in the targeting process.

Public Awareness Campaign: Before the targeting process, a comprehensive Public Information Campaign (PIC) was undertaken by ERRA through electronic and print media. Newspaper advertisements were given in all the prominent national and local newspapers, and radio shows were organized to create awareness and understanding about the project amongst the public. The conceptual premise of the PIC was to publicize the rationale, design, targeting and payment process, as well as the appeal and grievance redress process of the project.

Monitoring and MIS: The central database and MIS served as the nerve centre for the project. Modern computing techniques and computer-administered protocols enabled efficient handling of data at the central database. The application of eligibility criteria, selection of beneficiaries and process of payments were all managed through the central database. The creation of software capable of handling such a large database, scanning and entering the data, and making lists of the beneficiaries for release of payments were outsourced to National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). The module to handle forms and data entry and subsequent application of eligibility criteria was developed painstakingly, and with the active assistance of World Bank's technical team. Different checks were introduced to ensure the transparency and efficiency of the project. Safeguards to check duplicate applications, and ensuring that only one payment was made into a bank or post office account, were embedded in the system. In addition, an elaborate data entry mechanism was agreed by NADRA, where each form was first scanned and then entered twice by two separate operators; only after matching and verification of the information by a third person would the data be saved.

Implementation Arrangements: The Programme Manager/Coordinator at ERRA, assisted by two Regional Coordinators (one each for the NWFP and AJK), managed the programme. There was one Provincial Coordinator for NWFP and a State Coordinator for AJK. A focal person from each district government was appointed as the Component Manager who was assisted by the Field Coordinators/Master Trainers. Union Council Relief Committees (in NWFP) and Revenue Circle Relief Committees (in AJK) and Targeting Teams, which consisted of local councilors, citizens, teachers and revenue department officials, were formed in affected districts. A Data Resource Centre (DRC) was established in each district, where applicant data could be accessed, and MIS was available for the project.

Cash Grant Disbursement Mechanism: ERRA released monthly payments to targeted beneficiaries through Member Board of Revenue (MBR)/Provincial Relief Commissioner (PRC), Peshawar in case of the NWFP, and Senior Member Board of Revenue (SMBR)/State Relief Commissioner in case of AJK. PRC and SMBR released the monthly payments to the National Bank of Pakistan's (NBP) main branches at the Civil Secretariats of Peshawar and Muzaffarabad for further disbursement to individual accounts through partner banks or post offices. Approximately, 268,000 beneficiaries were paid through this mechanism.

Grievance Redress Mechanism: For the success of the project, it was important that the exclusion of deserving vulnerable people should be kept to the minimal possible. An appeal and grievance redress mechanism was established to minimize the chances of complaints and queries from claimants. This mechanism was made functional at the UC and district levels. The availability of appeal and grievance redress forums and actions required by potential beneficiaries were widely publicized. Besides newspapers' ads, local

exclusion, and to have a system for responding to complaints and queries from claimants. This mechanism was made functional at the UC and district levels. The availability of appeal and grievance redress forums and actions required by potential beneficiaries were widely publicized. Besides newspapers' ads, local publicity solutions were also devised and low-cost pamphlets and handouts were published and distributed across the affected areas. Community-based publicity approaches, where mosques and local people were used to disseminate information about the right of applicants to appeal against ineligibility decisions, worked well. Appeal and grievance redress was designed not only to appeal against the eligibility decision, but also to highlight any other grievance people might have had against the staff and any other activity associated with the project. Appeal

and grievance redress opportunity was provided to all the applicants, and the process was concluded successfully. Approximately, 20,000 to 25,000 beneficiaries were included in the list of beneficiaries from a total of 65,000 cases received.

Outputs: A total of 750,000 targeting forms were collected from the nine districts and entered in the Programme database. Six installments were released to approx. 268,000 beneficiaries of the project against the original target of 250,000 families. The original Cash Grants project had a provision of extending the cash grants to the most vulnerable families, subject to the availability of funds. Hence, approx. 22,000 families were selected from among the beneficiaries for the payment of a monthly grant for another six months.

RURAL LANDLESS PROGRAMME

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The earthquake caused physical disappearance of land due to landslides and flooding, rendering a substantial number of vulnerable families landless. It is estimated

75,000 for the purchase of land under the Rural Landless Programme and PKR 175,000 for construction of house under the Rural Housing Programme) to approximately 12,000 landless families. The organizational expenditures for the programme is covered

Programme Objective provision of grant of PKR 250,000 (75,000 for purchase of land and 175,000 for construction of house) to each landless family in earthquake affected areas.

Programme Cost: US\$ 50 million (PKR 3 billion) funded by USAID

Implementation Cost US\$ 730,000 funded by DFID

Land Verification Units functional in 7 most affected Tehsils

As of January 31, 2008, **8,050** people have been interviewed, **4,960** claims registered and **540** cases verified and issued Certificates of Entitlement.

Grant has been disbursed to **100** beneficiaries

Grievance Redress Committees have been established

that about 10,000 families lost the land on which they had their homes and need land before they could actually rebuild their houses.

through a financial assistance of US\$ 730,000 by DFID.

3.2 IMPLEMENTATION METHODOLOGY

Consequently, ERRA's Social Protection Cell formulated its Rural Landless Programme, under which a financial assistance package² of PKR 75,000 is provided to a rural landless family for purchase of land. A rural landless is defined as, "a person who owned land on or before the 8th of October, 2005, as indicated in the revenue land records or a registered sale deed, and has, as a result of the earthquake, lost whole or part of the land, provided that the part of land not destroyed is less than 5 Marlas. ERRA's Rural Landless Programme was initiated in July 2007 and is being implemented with the support of UN-Habitat.

The project costs are covered by USAID, which has committed US\$ 50 million for the rehabilitation of the landless in the earthquake affected areas. This amount will provide for a financial package of PKR 250,000 (PKR

Land Verification Units (LVU) have been established at Tehsil level in Mansehra, Balakot, Muzaffarabad, Hattian, Neelum, Bagh and Haveli to facilitate the process of disbursement. LVUs provide information on the financial assistance process, register landless persons, verify their claims and maintain database of landless persons. LVUs comprise representatives from the Revenue Departments, Civil Society and army. The objective behind the establishment of LVUs is to ensure disbursement of compensation in an effective, transparent and efficient manner.

The LVUs submit the verified lists of applicants to ERRA Headquarters

²The governments of NWFP and AJK conducted surveys in February 2007 to establish the cost of rural land, which indicated that in NWFP, rural land cost varies from PKR 1,000 to 10,000 per Marla (One Marla = 230 sq. ft.), while in AJK, it costs PKR 10,000 to 15,000 per Marla. Based on these figures, on February 8, 2007, the ERRA Council announced a financial assistance package of PKR 75,000 per landless family.

through Revenue Departments. ERRA transfers the financial assistance, based on the lists, to the Revenue Departments, which send the relevant amounts to respective District Revenue Officers and District Coordination Officers.

- The LVUs disburse the grant to verified landless persons during '**one window operation**'. One Window Operation is a mechanism devised to disburse the grant through mobile banks, organize mutation of land and disbursement of financial assistance at one spot on the same day.
- Grievance Redress Committees have been established to receive, record and decide upon any complaint / representation made with regards to the preparation of the list of landless persons.

3.3 SUCCESS STORIES (Case Studies)

1. Abdul Hameed (village Khanian, UC Kaghan):

Abdul Hameed a resident of village Khanian, Union Council Kaghan, district Mansehra lived with his wife, three sons and two daughters in a small mud house near a mountain side quite happily. On the morning of 8th of October, Hameed was lucky to run out of his house along with his family before it collapsed. As they ran away from the falling mountain side to an open field along with other terrified villagers, Hameed saw his home collapse under a giant rock.

Hameed shifted his family to the camps and despite losing all his possessions he was extremely grateful that his family had survived. Then one day Hameed read about the ERRA's Rural Landless Policy on a poster while visiting Tehsil Balakot. The poster explained the parameters of the policy and contacts of the Land Verification Unit offices.

After visiting the Land Verification Unit (LVU) office, where the Revenue Officer explained him the procedure to apply, Hameed returned next week with the required information and the LVU officer filled out a form for him. In a few days, the Revenue Officer with his team went to Hameed's village to visit the site of the destroyed home and land. In a few weeks time Hameed received a letter from the LVU informing him that he has been declared as landless according to the policy and that he qualified for purchasing 5 Marlas of land at the identification of land and its seller. Once he identified the seller, LVU officials in its 'One-Window-Operation' completed all the financial, legal and mutation procedures for the subject land. The whole process took about three months. It was a dream come true the day his family began reconstructing their new home on the newly acquired land.



Mr. Hameed in his newly constructed house

1. Ali Akbar Shah (village Gacha, UC Jabar Devli)

Ali Akbar Shah, lived in village Gacha, district Mansehra. His house was badly damaged in the earthquake and his family had to shift into a tent. On the third day of the earthquake, a large landslide washed away whatever was left of his house and land. Although he became landless, he felt fortunate to have survived the earthquake.

Then Shah heard about the ERRA landless policy from his neighbor. He approached the

DCO Office in Mansehra, which guided him to the LVU Office where the Revenue Officer took a detailed interview and filled out the required forms for him. In two weeks time the LVU team visited his village and verified Shah's claim. Within a week Shah was informed by the LVU that he had qualified for the program and should proceed to identify a piece of land (worth up to PKR 75,000) and its seller. After Shah found a suitable piece of land in the adjacent village and provided the

required information, the LVU Office issued him the Certificate of Entitlement. Within a weeks time Shah received another letter from LVU to come to Mansehra along with his family, the seller, and two witnesses for the One-Window-Operation, where the entire process of the purchase and transfer of land, on Shah and his family members' names, was completed. Shah and his family are happy and looking forward to build their house.

4.1 BACKGROUND

The earthquake triggered several thousand landslides, mainly rock falls and rock slides, especially near the cities of Muzaffarabad, Bagh, and Balakot. Hazardous land is a result of landslides and floods, which are a natural phenomenon involving movement of earth materials (Soils / Rocks) on different scales varying from small insignificant rock falls to huge movements of materials producing catastrophic effects.

4.2 SCOPE OF POLICY

ERRA is already providing a grant of PKR 75,000 to each landless family whose land has been totally destroyed due to the earthquake. However, considering the plight of people living on high hazard zones and whose land is virtually destroyed, ERRA is in the process of developing a Hazardous Land Policy to rehabilitate these affectees.

The State/Provincial Governments have provided information and data on potential hazardous areas (unfit for housing reconstruction and of potential danger to residents) to ERRA. The Geological Survey of Pakistan will conduct technical survey of these sites for determination on hazard level and subsequent mitigation measures. It will propose solutions depending on level of 'hazardous' which may include financial compensation for buying land (as per the landless policy) for those who require relocation and land/slope stabilization options and structural housing solutions as have been employed by some of ERRA's partner organizations.

4.3 HAZARDOUS DEFINITION AND CATEGORIZATION

ERRA in partnership with the Geological

Survey of Pakistan has developed the following three-tiered definition of hazardous land:

High Hazard Zone: This is a zone in a hazard-zonation map of an area with the probability of occurrence of a Catastrophe e.g. Mass movement (Landslide, Rock Slide, Debris Flow, Mud Flow, Rock Fall, etc.) Flooding, snow avalanches, slope failure and earthquake of high severity or magnitude, with in a specific period of time with in the limits of the boundaries of this zone, threatening to the element/elements at risk e.g. people, property, infrastructure etc. Possible Mitigation: Residents have no option but to relocate as threat is too severe.

- **Policy Objective:** Relocation of households living on High Hazard Areas
- Technical Survey of High Hazard Areas identified by State/Provincial Governments is being conducted by Geological Survey of Pakistan to identify the affected households.
- These households will be relocated through provision of landless grant for purchase of new piece of land for construction of house.
- This programme will be dovetailed with Landless Programme after its conclusion in April 2008.

Moderate Hazard Zone: This type of zonation is where/either the severity/magnitude of the catastrophe is not very high and or the recurrence period of the event is larger and the catastrophic process could be manageable by mitigation. Possible Mitigation: Village or area could be secured through land/slope stabilization measures.

Low Hazard Zone: This zone includes the areas where the probability of the occurrence of the catastrophe is either low or the elements at risk could be saved by mitigation measures. Possible Mitigation: Some nominal housing

reinforcement techniques could be utilized individually by house-owner.

4.4 IMPLEMENTATION

Role of Geological Survey of Pakistan

Given the requirement of specialized expertise and equipment for technical survey of high hazard areas, ERRA is partnering with the Geological Survey of Pakistan (GSP), a Government Department under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources. ERRA entered into the agreement with the GSP as it is the competent government department with the mandate to conduct geological mapping, mineral resource assessment and determine geotechnical engineering problems of the country. Based on this agreement The GSP is conducting a comprehensive survey of hazardous land in the affected areas in order to objectively determine the number and nature of hazardous land affectees, which will feed into the development of a Hazardous Land Policy for the affected areas.

Role of UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat is ERRA's implementing partner in the Rural Landless Programme. The Hazardous land Policy envisions that high hazard land affectees who have no alternate land for their houses and therefore require relocation, will be considered 'landless' and will be provided financial assistance to purchase new land. As the Rural Landless programme is near completion, the same mechanism and infrastructure (field infrastructure, land verification units, staff, financial compensation mechanism of 'one

window operation', etc.) is expected to be extended to take on the caseload of hazardous land affectees who are virtually 'landless.'

Use of Satellite Imagery

Potentially hazardous areas within the earthquake affected areas are very large and vast. In order to ensure effectiveness and efficiency in surveying hazardous areas, ERRA, through the UNDP Environmental Recovery Programme, is obtaining high resolution satellite imagery to help narrow down/shortlist areas for GSP to conduct further ground survey. These areas include the Neelum, Jhelum, Kaghan, Siran and Allai Valleys.

Monitoring of Hazardous Sites

ERRA will also ensure that hazardous areas are monitored for at least 3 years after they have been surveyed for early warning of potential shift in the hazard level which will help ERRA and the District Governments take immediate measures for evacuation, relocation and other mitigation measures.

4.5 EXPECTED OUTCOME

ERRA with the support of the GSP, UNDP and UN-Habitat, will ensure that all potentially hazardous sites are surveyed and appropriate mitigation measures and solutions are proposed for the rehabilitation of hazardous land affectees depending on their hazard level. The Hazardous Land Policy is expected to be finalized and approved in March 2008, after the results of the GSP survey are available.

5.1 INTRODUCTION

As a result of the earthquake a number of men, women and children have become physically disabled and require specialized medical attention and support. The disabilities following the earthquake include spinal cord injuries, amputations, fracture contractures and peripheral nerve lesions. Majority of the Spinal Cord Injuries resulted due to trapping of the people in falling structures.

strengthen tertiary level health facilities to provide rehab services for the persons with disabilities (medical rehab equipment, physiotherapy and artificial limbs and support devices for amputees and paraplegics)

- Establishment of two 50 bedded sustainable **Rehabilitation Centres** providing Comprehensive Rehabilitative services in Muzaffarabad and Abbottabad

**Project Cost : PKR 742.41 Million (GoP funding)
Approved by ECNEC in November 2006**

Project Components:

- Institutional Strengthening
- Community Based Rehabilitation
- Establishment of two 50 bedded Rehabilitation Centres

Progress: No. of Beneficiaries

<i>Physiotherapy Sessions</i>	<i>Occupational Therapy sessions</i>	<i>Prosthetic Devices</i>	<i>Orthotic Devices</i>	<i>Wheelchairs/ Crutches</i>
57,239	413	1,532	3,070	1,401

In order to ensure comprehensive rehabilitation of the Persons With Disabilities, ERRA, with the technical assistance of World Health Organization (WHO) and support of the National Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine (NIRM), Ministry of Health, has developed a project titled "Medical Rehabilitation for the Persons with Disabilities in Earthquake Affected Areas". The total cost of the project is PKR 742.41 Million and it is funded by the Government of Pakistan.

5.2 PROJECT COMPONENTS

- Institutional Strengthening** of NIRM and DHQ Hospitals Mansehra, Battagram, Bagh and THQ Hospitals Balakot, Atthmuqam, Hattianbala. The objective of this component is to

- Community Based Rehabilitation** component will ensure that people with disabilities are able to maximize their physical and mental abilities, to access regular services and opportunities, and to become active contributors to the community and society at large. Four Resource Information Centres are being established at Muzaffarabad, Bagh, Shangla and Mansehra. These RICs will mobilize awareness through Community Rehab Workers (CRWs) in the communities and family members to facilitate the Persons with Disabilities, impart training to PWDs to promote independent living skills, distribute assistive devices, promote the concept of inclusive education, and foster livelihood generation programmes.

- **Central Management Unit:** located in Islamabad this unit serves as a regulatory body to supervise, plan, coordinate and monitor the entire project in the earthquake affected areas

The project, which is in the implementation stage, ensures provision of comprehensive rehabilitation for People With Disabilities; and builds the capacity of PWDs, their families and the community to identify and manage disabilities. The project is in line with the ERRA Rehabilitation Strategy as approved by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on July 21, 2006.

Project Activities:

- Recruitment of project staff completed; 32 Community Rehab Workers and 03 Field Coordinators from 16 Union Councils of district Mansehra selected for the Community Based Rehabilitation Programme.
- Trained 46 CRW's and carried orientation of project staff in collaboration with PPAF; initiated technical training of the MO's and mid-level rehab staff in collaboration with AFIRM; developed and translated training curriculum into Urdu for CRWs.
- Held four IEC material committee meetings at CMU with all partner organizations, whereby responsibilities were distributed.
- Awareness raising campaign launched and international Disability Day celebrated in collaboration with all the organizations working for the cause of disability at national level.
- Construction of pre-fabricated buildings awarded to URUMQI China; all essential office equipment for CMU purchased; and Tender for purchase of electro-medical equipment advertised.
- Operational plans prepared for field activities in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra and temporary hubs

established at AIMS Hospital in Muzaffarabad and Helping Hand office Mansehra.

Major Achievements:

- Establishment of Central Management Unit (CMU) for conducting meetings of the partner organizations to plan, coordinate and devise mechanisms for effective and smooth functioning of activities.
- Preparation of the layout plan for Medical Rehabilitation Center (MRC) and Resource Information Center (RIC) at AIMS Hospital, Muzaffarabad finalized.
- Coordination and capacity building of the organizations working for disability in the affected areas carried out.
- MOU signed with Helping Hand (HH) for relief and development of joint field collaboration in 24 UCs of Muzaffarabad and Mansehra.
- Monitoring and evaluation framework discussed with all partners and physical verification of work reported by the partners started.
- 12 sites for the construction of MRC's, RIC's & BRU's finalized with the Provincial and State authorities.

5.3 SUCCESS STORIES *(Stories of Hope and Courage)*

1. Salma Akhtar, twenty three years old divorcee with a three year old daughter, got admitted at NIRM on 15 February 2006. On 8 October 2005, she was teaching children in Madrassa when the roof fell down on her and she was trapped in the rubble. Salma was rescued after 3 days and sent to DHQ Hospital Rawalpindi.



She had suffered with spinal cord injury and was operated at DHQ Hospital and then she was shifted to NIRM for rehabilitation. At this time she was very depressed, in severe pain and unable to walk. Since then she has been under treatment at NIRM. At present she is not only able to walk on her own but is taking care of her daughter as well. Being a Hafiz-e-Quran (learnt Quran by heart), she is committed to continue her profession of teaching Quran to the children.

2. Rubina Bibi, twenty two years old, fourth amongst seven siblings, got admitted at NIRM on March 8, 2007. On 8 October 2005, she was at home on her bed when the earthquake hit. The roof fell down on her and as a result she suffered spinal cord injury and fractured her left leg. She remained under the building for ten minutes before she was rescued. She was first brought to CGH and then taken to PIMS where she stayed for six months before being referred to NIRM. At NIRM she has recovered with the support of Medical officers, Psychologist and Physiotherapists. She recounts, ".....at NIRM the psychologists provided us moral support, encouragement, and the physiotherapist's enabled us to move independently without support. I can move more independently and confidently now." Safia has also successfully accomplished training as a Community Rehabilitation Worker and become a useful citizen.



3. Sehrish Yasmeen is a 21 year old lady from Muzaffarabad, studying for a Bachelors degree. On 8 October, 2005, she was sitting in her room when the earthquake struck. She struggled between life and death for three hours before she was recovered from the rubble. As she suffered a Spinal Cord Injury, her sister died on the spot. She was initially

brought to DHQ Hospital, Rawalpindi and later operated at PIMS Hospital, Islamabad. After being referred to NIRM as an 'Asia A' paraplegic, Yasmeen showed no sign of improvement during the first seven months of her treatment. However, with the help of medical officers, psychologists and physiotherapists her status changed from Asia A to Asia B. When she came to NIRM, she could not move any part of her body but now she can walk with support and the level of injury is L1.



She has been recruited as a Community Rehabilitation Worker at NIRM and now courageously takes care of other people like her. Her high spirit reemphasizes Earnest Hemingway sayings, "Man can be destroyed but can't be defeated".

4. Safia Anyat is a 22 year old lady studying for her Bachelors degree. She was sitting in her college at Bagh, chatting with friends when the earthquake caused a wall to fall on her. She regained her senses at the Al-Shifa Hospital and discovered she had suffered Spinal Cord Injury. According to Safia, her mind could accept the reality and she become solitary and suicidal. At NIRM she has recovered miraculously. She has normal appetite, no fear, no weeping spells and stable mood patterns. She is highly motivated and active in studies and extracurricular activities. The lady whose hands were immovable after the disaster can now do stitching, drawing and paintings.



LEGAL AID FOR EARTHQUAKE AFFECTEES

As a consequence of the earthquake, the affected people and the Government is facing a host of legal issues. These issues are related to the loss of documents, such as property titles; birth, death, marriage and disability certificates; court records; and bank account

Norwegian Refugee Council. The project is a sub-component of ADB's Earthquake Emergency Assistance Project, which was launched shortly after the earthquake to rehabilitate and restore damaged and destroyed infrastructure. The total project

The project is funded by ADB at the cost of US\$ 512,900 (PKR 30.77 Million)

The project will be implemented over two years.

Contract with Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) signed on November 21, 2007

Commencement date November 23, 2007

Objective: To provide free legal assistance to the vulnerable groups (widows, orphans, disabled and elderly) in the Earthquake Affected Areas. The project will address legal issues pertaining to entitlements, succession, dispute resolution, and protection and enforcement of other legal rights relevant to the sustainable rehabilitation and reintegration of vulnerable groups in the communities.

As of January 31, 2008, 3,518 cases have been registered and their status is as under:

Administrative Assistance: 303 out of 1341 resolved

Court Cases: 18 out of 98 resolved.

Documentation Cases: 1732 out of 2079 resolved.

and pension documents. Similarly, due to the loss of life there are issues related to proof of death, disability, custody, fostering and adoption of children, and the inheritance of real and personal property.

In an effort to address these problems, the Social Protection Cell, ERRA came up with the concept of Legal Aid Centers (LACs) to support the Government in developing a legislative framework for the post-earthquake reconstruction period and enable special legal provisions for people and property affected by the earthquake.

The Project is being implemented by the

cost is PKR 30.77 million. The project will run for an initial period of 12 months commencing, November 2007.

The LAC offices are located in the District Courts of 18 Tehsils. This arrangement is meant to make it easier for the beneficiary population to obtain legal aid. Each LAC Tehsil Office has a Tehsil Legal Expert (TLE) and an Assistance Legal Expert (ALE).

LAC Field Offices have been established in the 18 Tehsils for the purpose of administrative supervision of the project. The Field Offices have been established at the following locations:

District	Tehsil
Muzaffarabad	Athmaqam, Hatian, Hajira, Rawlakot, Bagh, Muzaffarabad
Battagram	Dassu, Pattan, Puran, Alpurai, Bisham, Alai, Battagram
Abbottabad	Abbottabad
Mansehra	Balakot, Ughi, Mansehra

TARGETED VULNERABILITY SURVEY (TVS)

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The earthquake of 8 October affected a large area and population of NWFP and AJK. Amongst the affected population, a considerable number of families fall in "vulnerable" category, which are deemed to be at a greater risk after the earthquake. Although ERRA catered for the **immediate need and sustenance** of these groups through various short-term programmes; their **long-term rehabilitation** requires access to basic

rehabilitation programmes for the vulnerable population in the affected areas.

The project is being funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Government of Pakistan (GOP) at a cost of US\$ 670,622 (PKR. 40.237 million).

The TVS Form comprises of 26 distinct fields and is designed to elicit demographic data such as residence, gender, age, marital status, educational level, employment status, present

- The project is jointly funded by ADB and GoP at the cost of US\$ 670,622 (PKR 40.237 Million).
- Field Survey Completed (360,000 forms collected)
- Results of the Survey would be available in March 2008

Objective: Collection of detailed data on vulnerable population and vulnerability indicators in the earthquake affected areas for effective planning, designing and implementation of rehabilitation programmes for the vulnerable groups.

information on their size and characteristics. Various national and international agencies, NGOs, Federal as well as Provincial government departments have carried out piecemeal damage and loss assessments, however, there has been no comprehensive survey/census to determine the number of vulnerable population and their specific needs.

7.2 OBJECTIVE

In order to ascertain a holistic picture of vulnerable population in the affected districts, ERRA is carrying out the Targeted Vulnerability Survey (TVS) under its Social Protection Strategy. TVS will provide detailed data on vulnerable population in the earthquake affected areas. Based on TVS data, long-term interventions in health, education and livelihood support will be designed. The Survey will provide basis for effective planning, designing and implementation of

skills and skills development needs, disabilities, household size, identification and bank account numbers, type(s) of aid received, source(s) of income, etc. at the household and individual level. In terms of the geographic area, 271 most affected Union Councils (UCs) of the nine affected districts of AJK and NWFP were covered directly, wherein designated survey teams conducted the survey at the UC level; while the remaining UCs were covered indirectly, wherein the vulnerable populations were requested through the Public Information Campaign to appear at designated District/Tehsil Offices and get themselves registered.

7.3 PROCESS/METHODOLOGY

The Survey engaged the services of staff from the Revenue Departments, District Administration Offices and Union Councils of NWFP and AJK. The Survey was conducted by 327 Targeting Teams; each team comprised

of three members, a Data Collector (local government school teacher), a Verification Facilitator (Patwari/local revenue official) and an Event Organizer (local councillor). The Targeting Teams were trained and supervised by 35 Master Trainers (local government staff /school teachers) who in turn were headed by 9 Component Managers (district government officials), one for each of the nine affected districts, working under the supervision of two Regional Coordinators, one each for AJK and NWFP. ERRA headquarter is engaged in overall supervision and coordination.

The targeting process was launched on November 20, 2007 and concluded on January 5, 2008. It was carried out simultaneously in all the earthquake affected districts except District Shangla where law and order situation prevailed. An extensive media campaign both through print and electronic media was

launched before and during the field targeting, which proved to be quite effective. So far, approx 360,000 vulnerable households have been registered, and the total number of vulnerable people to be registered is anticipated at approx. 400,000.

Data collected through the field exercise will be scanned and entered at a central database. It is envisioned that the TVS database will serve as a benchmark for many social protection interventions in the earthquake affected areas. TVS data will be made available to Partner Organizations (POs), NGOs, INGOs, different government departments, and other sectors within ERRA for better planning and funds allocation; needs assessment; and designing of effective and sustainable long-term rehabilitation interventions for the most vulnerable groups.

8.1 SOCIAL WELFARE COMPLEXES

ERRA's institutional and operational structure and the various rehabilitation interventions spearheaded by them are time bound and will eventually phase out. ERRA's Social Protection Strategy therefore, recognizes the need to strengthen the Social Welfare Departments which are primarily responsible to respond in the long term to the needs of the vulnerable population and ensure their rehabilitation on sustainable basis in the earthquake affected areas. In the spirit of 'building back better' and to augment the capacity of the Provincial/State Social Welfare Departments, ERRA has proposed an innovative concept of establishing Social Welfare Complexes (SWC) at district level in the affected areas. Proposed SWCs will integrate the Social Welfare Departments' district offices, facilities managed by the Provincial/State Social Welfare Departments and other critically required services to address the vulnerabilities created or compounded by the earthquake.

Project Description

ERRA's vision behind establishment of Social Welfare Complexes is to strengthen the Social Welfare infrastructure at district level for provision of effective, efficient and sustainable social services to the vulnerable population in the affected areas. These complexes will be constructed in all nine affected districts of Bagh, Muzaffarabad, Neelum and Poonch in AJK, Abbotabad, Battagram, Kohistan, Mansera, and Shangla in NWFP. The SWCs will be constructed in Mansehra and Muzaffarabad on priority basis.

The proposed complexes would house district level Social Welfare offices and facilities managed by Provincial/State Social Welfare

Departments. The SWCs will also provide integrated services, such as medical, educational (for special children), legal facilitation, psycho-social support, vocational training, and hostels for vulnerable groups. The Social Welfare Complexes will serve as hub of Social Welfare activities at the District with outreach to the communities through existing infrastructure at grassroots level. The establishment of complexes will provide easy access for vulnerable groups to social welfare services by integrating facilities/services functioning in various places. The complexes will also be instrumental in planning, coordinating and supervising Community Based Rehabilitation Programmes for reintegration of vulnerable groups in their respective communities.

Services package for Social Welfare Complexes

The proposed Social Welfare complexes will house District level offices of the Social Welfare Department and other facilities managed by the respective departments. SWCs would, in the first place, integrate all existing facilities managed by the respective departments for instance Special Education Centre, Kashana, Vocational Training Centres, etc. In order to effectively cater to the vulnerabilities created and compounded by the earthquake, the SWCs would also integrate the following services:

- Psycho-social support
- Legal assistance for the vulnerable groups
- Basic level medical care
- Vocational Training programmes
- Database for referral services
- Child Protection Services
- Hostel facilities for deserving cases (orphans, elderly, disabled and distressed)

- women, as explained below)
- Special Education Centre
- Canteen for visiting people

Design of Social Welfare Complexes

Each Complex will be divided into three blocks i.e. **Office Block** containing district office, **Services Block** integrating various services such as medical, legal, psycho social support, vocational training, Special Education Centre etc. and **Residential Block** comprising hostels for vulnerable women, orphans and elderly.

8.2 WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

As a consequence of the earthquake, women's roles have shifted, partly as a result of the loss of male partners. Women's responsibilities have increased as they assume the additional burdens of caring for orphaned children and persons with disabilities, and emerge as heads of households and decision makers. As the main bread earners of their household they require support on protection/legal matters and on taking up activities to generate income to support their families. Considering this, ERRA's Social Protection Cell felt an even greater need for the women to access economic and social opportunities in order to effectively care for their families.

The project involves construction of Women Development Centers and a pilot initiative on making markets work for women headed households in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra. ERRA has decided to offer financial support while the recurring expenses will remain the responsibility of MOWD and the land will be made available by the governments of AJK and NWFP.

The WDCs will offer support and services for women in distress (i.e. medical aid, legal aid,

psychological counseling, etc.) and provide opportunities for sustainable income through the production and marketing of goods or services according to a market-based demand. The WDCs are envisioned to provide economic opportunities to the women and assist them in gaining sustainable livelihoods options.

Three different categories of building have been identified for the WDCs:

- Category A: 25 rooms, accommodating up to 50 residents (3 centers)
- Category B: 15 rooms, accommodating up to 30 residents (4 centers)
- Category C: 10 rooms, accommodating up to 20 residents (1 centre)

WDCs and Social Welfare Complexes will preferably be constructed in the same compounds but the WDCs will be managed separately, with possible referrals for services from the WDC to the SWC and vice versa.

Services

Component A: Services for Women/Girls in Distress

Under this component support will be extended to women in distress with 24 hour free services, including medical aid, legal aid, social and psychological counseling, investigation of cases of violence, establishing linkages with law enforcement agencies, rehabilitation through micro-finance and provision of interest free credit of up to PKR 15,000 per case (covered by MOWD recurrent budget). Secondly, refuge will be provided to women who require shelter for more than 24 hours and up to a maximum of 60 days. Additional assistance may include referral to schools for accompanying children, and vocational training.

³The WDCs will amalgamate the existing Darul Aman facilities, where these are presently available.

Component B: Making Markets Work for Women Headed Households

Under this component, participation of vulnerable woman, particularly widows, and women-headed households, will be ensured in sustainable income generation activities. Women will have access to skills training, micro-credit schemes, and business start-up and self-employment programs, including training in small business development and management, and referrals to vocational training programs/centers. These pilot initiatives will be based in the Women's Development Centers to be built in Mansehra and Muzaffarabad.

Under this component, a feasibility study will be conducted during the construction period of the WDCs and based on its results a full project proposal will be developed. The feasibility study will:

- Explore the opportunities and constraints for a multi-stakeholder programme involving GoP, governments of NWFP & AJK, civil society organization's, private sector organizations, financial

institutions, etc.

- Identify the products and/or services for which demand exists, building capacity to improve quality and production, as well as marketing the chosen goods or services.

Governance Structure

The governance structures for the WDC will attempt to reflect the partnership arrangement for and contributions to this initiative among the following stakeholders: ERRA, MOWD, the Governments of AJK and NWFP, and civil society organizations. A Management Committee will be formed to supervise the activities of WDCs. Decisions related to hiring of staff, procurement and day to day activities will be carried out under the supervision of the Management Committee.

The project will be implemented initially for 3 years by the MOWD, thereafter, respective departments from province and state will assume the responsibility to continue the functioning of support services and programs for women and girls in distress from affected districts.

PROJECTS BY PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The Non-Governmental Organizations have been complementing ERRAs rehabilitation efforts while working within policy parameters defined in Social Protection Strategy. The broad areas of NGO projects and their numbers are given below:-

earthquake by improving the positive coping strategies of the affected population.

PIN's Psychosocial programme is providing culturally acceptable community based psychosocial education, support, and

professional counseling to earthquake affected communities within district Bagh. The programme is also providing supportive counseling techniques like, co-curricular and sports activities among youth.

9.2 CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTERS AND HOUSING

Shelter is the critical determinant for survival in the initial stage of disaster. Most of the earthquake affected areas are in the mountainous region with access impeded by the landslides that blocked the roads, destroying existing infrastructure and leaving a large number of people homeless in NWFP and AJK. In order to facilitate the vulnerable population, ERRAs encourages the NGOs to assist the widows and other vulnerable groups in construction of their houses as an exception to ERRAs 'owner driven' Housing Programme. In this context, ERRAs has issued NoCs to seven NGOs till date working for provision of shelters to about 5000 vulnerable households. These NGOs include Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH), Ultimate Peace Foundation, ACTED, International Blue Crescent, Humanity Hope, Caritas Pakistan,

and Community Appraisal and Motivation Programme (CAMP).

9.3 REHABILITATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In addition to ERRAs project for rehabilitation of the PWDs, NGOs are also implementing various programmes for their rehabilitation in the affected areas in collaboration with the Central Management Unit of ERRAs project. Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) is implementing a comprehensive programme for PWDs while Handicap International is at preliminary stage of establishing four information and resource centres for their Community Based Rehabilitation programmes for persons with disabilities. Milestone Society for Special Persons has initiated the establishment of four independent living centres.

Helping Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD) delivers Physical Rehabilitation Services, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Orthotics, and Prosthetics, all under one roof, to the patients with "special abilities" in earthquake hit areas of AJK and NWFP. HHRD has established two Rehabilitation Centers in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra and it extends its services to people suffering from Musculo-skeletal and Neuromuscular conditions including cerebral Palsy, Polio, Stroke, head injuries, fractures, spinal injuries and other congenital/acquired anomalies and deformities.

9.4 WOMEN PROTECTION

UNFPA initiated a programme in June 2006 to address women's risks and vulnerabilities in earthquake affected areas through setting up of 20 Women Friendly Spaces in collaboration with partner NGOs. The Women Friendly Spaces were established in eighteen Union Councils in aggregate by ARC at Bagh; PAVHNA at Muzaffarabad; SACHET at Mansehra; Shirkat Gah, Omar Asghar Khan Foundation and SUNGI at Mansehra and

Muzaffarabad. ERRAs issued blanket NoC to UNFPA and partner NGOs to provide support to the vulnerable women in the earthquake affected districts. The services included psychosocial support and trauma counseling; legal aid for access to compensation and for property related issues; health and hygiene information and activities; vocational training; capacity building through awareness raising programmes about domestic violence and women's rights.

9.5 CHILD PROTECTION

The October 8, 2005 earthquake was the "children's catastrophe" because about 17,000 children lost their lives in school buildings, an estimated 42,600 children lost one or both of their parents and thousands more were separated from their families. In addition, thousands of children were injured physically and psychologically and around 23,000 acquired long term or permanent disabilities. UNICEF is implementing a comprehensive programme for the rehabilitation of the vulnerable children with the support of 11 partner NGOs.

UNICEF through its Child Protection Programme has so far provided the following services:

- Psycho-social Support to nearly 18,300 children through 122 Child Friendly Spaces in Communities and IDP Camps.
- The NGOs working in partnerships with UNICEF have referred almost 1,796 orphans and vulnerable children to various Government and NGO schemes.
- 3,000 orphans and children have been reintegrated into their families.
- Awareness raising and sanitation sessions with 365 parents and care givers and 180 members of community based organizations were held to strengthen and develop community based mechanism.
- 400 children committee have been formed in NWFP and 40 children councils set up in AJK.

S. No.	Area of Intervention	No. of Projects
1	Psycho-Social Support	04
2	Construction Of Shelters / Houses For Vulnerable Groups and Provision of CGI sheets	07
3	Rehabilitation Of Persons With Disabilities	05
4	Women Protection	04
5	Child Protection	13
6	Others	02
Total		35

9.1 PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT

The earthquake left the survivors, amongst other ailments, with post traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety related disorders, somatic problems and above all psychosocial trauma, which called for provision of psychosocial support. Psychosocial support refers to community based activities and interventions that support normal human coping mechanisms to deal with the stress and shock caused by natural calamities such as the earthquakes. Pakistan Red Crescent Society in collaboration with Danish Red Cross and Terre Des Hommes have completed their projects while Church World Service Pakistan / Afghanistan and People in Need are conducting work in the affected communities.

People In Need (PIN), an International NGO, carried out a needs assessment in January 2006 and identified Bagh as a target district. The needs assessment found that the survivors were in urgent need of a multi-sector response. Consequently, PIN implemented a psychosocial program in district Bagh with the objective to reduce the traumatic effects of the

