

Mapping the Multi-Cluster Rapid Assessment (McRAM) and Planning Appropriate Interventions Post-Flooding Pakistan 2010

Overview

In July and August of 2010, Pakistan was devastated by its most severe monsoon in history with record flooding and a staggering amount of its population forced to flee their homes. Over 17 million people were affected by the flood with around 8 million in need of external assistance.

From August 24-29, a rapid assessment of the situation was carried out by a wide variety of stakeholders, including the Pakistan government, UNICEF, UNOCHA, WFP, WHO, and a range of international organizations. Over 2500 households were surveyed with 27 districts covered including populations. The assessment included questions concerning Food Security, Demographic Data, Water and Sanitation, Security, and Livelihoods.

Purpose

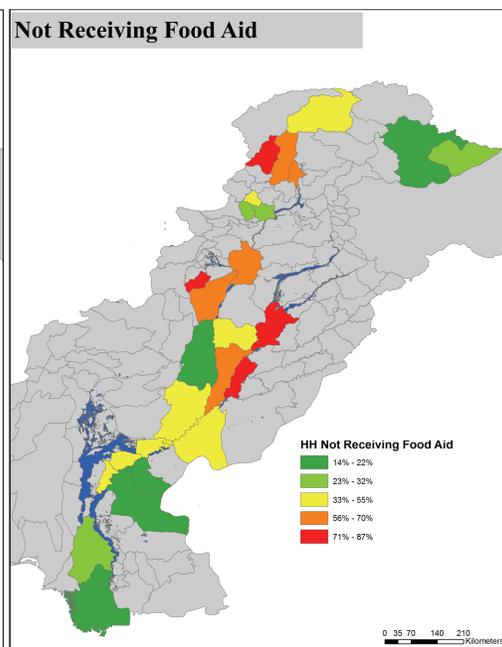
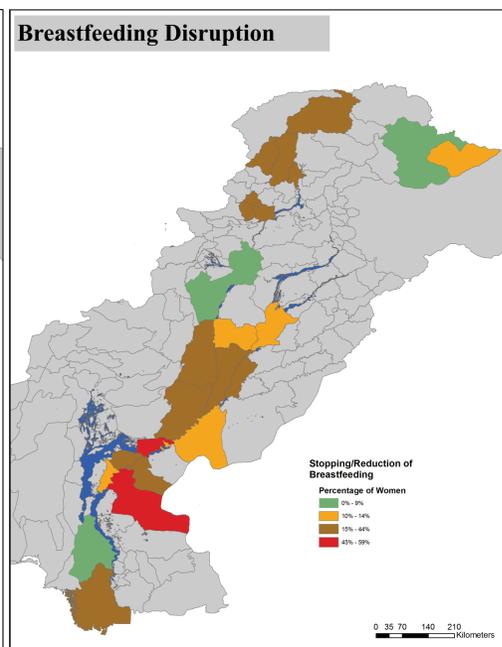
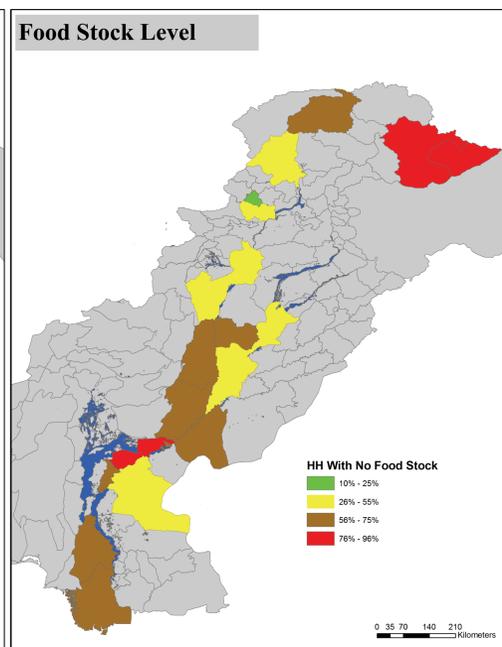
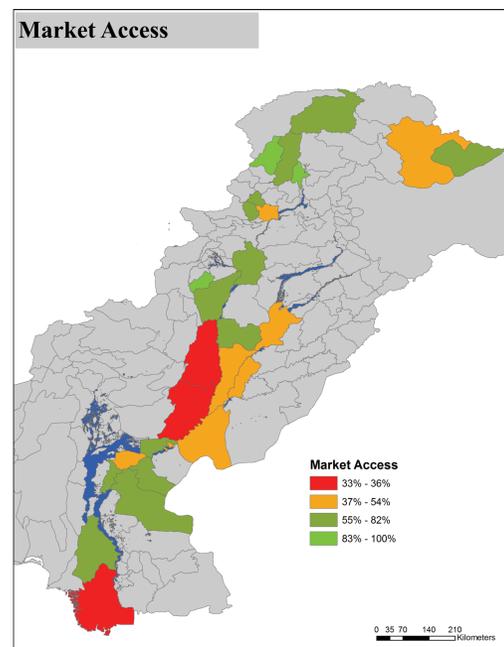
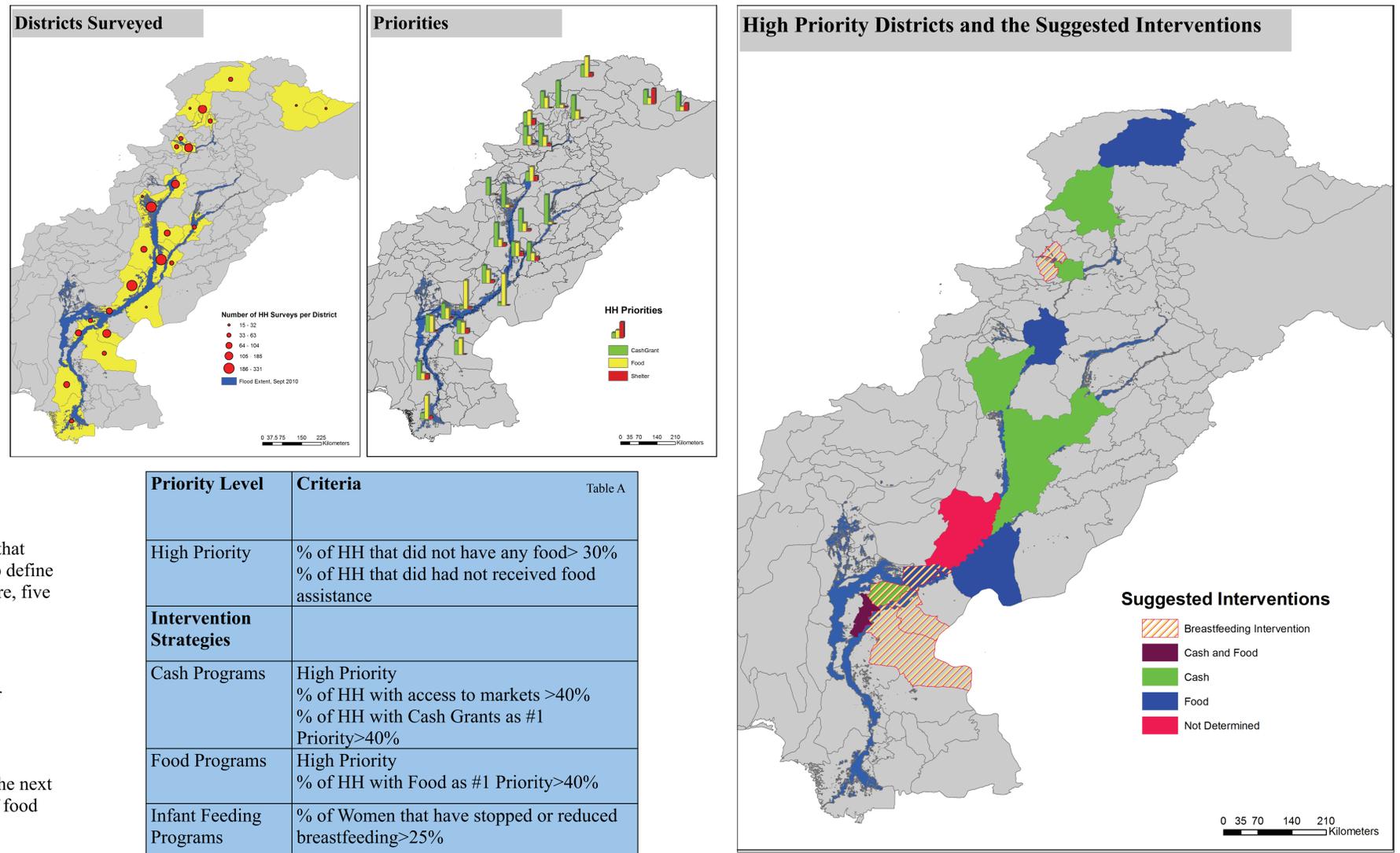
In order to geographically represent the immediate needs of certain districts, an analysis was carried out using the raw data from the McRAM household survey with a focus at the district level. The selected questions were then mapped out to give a clear representation of what areas were in immediate need and what appropriate strategies humanitarian agencies should choose with regards to food security.

Methodology

The first step was to organize the McRAM raw household data and identify key questions that would help define the needs of the affected population. The scope of this project was to help define food security problems and use this data to help construct appropriate interventions. Therefore, five specific questions concerning food security were chosen from the household survey:

1. How long will your current food stock at this household last?
2. Have you received any food aid in the last 2 weeks?
3. Is the local market open?
4. If there is a lactating woman in the household, has there been any change in feeding practices for children aged between 0-24 months before the floods and now?
5. What are the highest priority needs of your household now?

The household responses were then grouped at the district level and individually mapped. The next stage was to set up a weighing system and determine what districts were at a critical point of food insecurity and then determine what were the best types of interventions. Table A explains the weighing process and the criteria used to define the appropriate interventions.



Implications

It must be noted that the conclusions drawn from this analysis is not suitable for actionable purposes. It only serves to demonstrate how spatial representation of rapid assessment data can serve as a valuable communication tool for humanitarian organizations. In this particular case a analysis at the camp or village level will be necessary to construct proper intervention strategies. However, this project highlights the importance considering a variety of survey questions when constructing an appropriate strategy and the importance of its visual representation.