



NDMA INSIGHTS



Towards a Disaster Resilient Pakistan

NOVEMBER 2023 *News Letter*



NDMA INSIGHTS

Towards a Disaster Resilient Pakistan

Chairman's Message

Pakistan is one of the first countries to fully remodel its Proactive Disaster Management System, incorporating high-tech processes and innovative solutions to enhance its resilience and preparedness through newly-established National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) at NDMA's Headquarters.



As the world faces the challenges of climate change and its impacts, NDMA is ready to share its best practices and learn from others at COP28, the 28th session of the Conference of Parties, to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 30 November until 12 December 2023. Pakistan will also seek to collaborate and learn from the latest scientific and technological innovations in climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as access the global research and early warning technical capacities that are available for all.

NDMA organized the Multi Hazards based Provincial Level Simulation Exercises at Quetta, in collaboration with PDMA Balochistan and Development Partners this month. The exercises aimed to enhance the preparedness and response capacities of the provincial and district authorities, as well as the humanitarian partners, to deal with multi hazards disasters. I hope that the exercises will help to strengthen the disaster management system in Balochistan, and to improve the resilience and safety of the people and communities in the province.

I would like to commend the proactive role of all stakeholders including related Federal Ministries, Provincial Disaster Management Authorities, line departments, donors and humanitarian organizations for their contributions to the enhancement of disaster management system in Pakistan and the improvement of the communities' ability to deal with the emerging challenges.

At NDMA, we aspire to sustain our achievements and excel at preparedness, enhancing the resilience of the Pakistani people.

NDMA Newsletter

November 2023

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Towards a Disaster Resilient Pakistan

November 2023

Prime Minister Visited National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) at NDMA Head Quarters

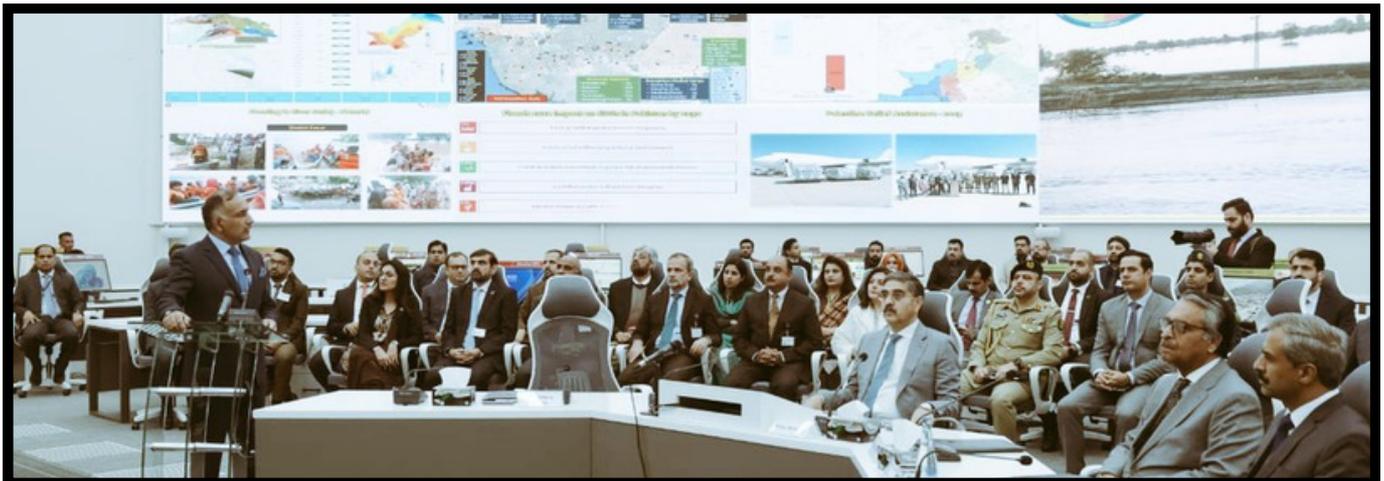
Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar visited the National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC), PM lauded the measures taken by NDMA in coping with natural disasters. However, he also stressed steps to enhance the capacity of Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs).

Prime Minister emphasized benefiting from the research of foreign and Pakistani experts on climate change and ways to reduce its disastrous effects. Pakistan will apprise the world about the harmful impacts of the climate change at COP 28.

Chairman NDMA, Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik, briefed the Prime Minister about Pakistan's preparedness for disasters, post-disaster recovery efforts, and proposals for Pakistan's representation in the 28th United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP-28) to be held in the United Arab Emirates. The meeting was informed that an action plan is in place under the NDMA to deal with disasters. This plan includes early warning two months prior to natural disasters and practical measures to mitigate their damages. Federal Ministers Jalil Abbas Jilani and Shamshad Akhtar attended the meeting.

In the context of COP-28, the meeting was briefed about the risks Pakistan faced in terms of climate change and geography. It was highlighted that Pakistan had been among the most affected countries by climate change, leading to challenges such as glaciers melting, floods, GLOF (Glacial Lake Outburst Floods), snow avalanches, landslides, wildfires, and other hazards.

The meeting was apprised about the tools, including mobile disaster vehicles and satellite monitoring, used by the NDMA to assess the high-risk areas. With a coordinated approach, the data collected was shared with the provincial and local administration.



USARCENT DELEGATION VISITED NATIONAL EMERGENCIES OPERATION CENTER (NEOC) AT NDMA HEAD QUARTERS



Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik held a meeting with a delegation from USARCENT led by Lt Gen Patrick D. Frank, CG, at NDMA headquarters. Both sides engaged in discussions aimed at expanding mutual cooperation in disaster management.

Chairman NDMA provided an overview of the National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC)'s capabilities in handling various hazards and vulnerabilities. Chairman NDMA highlighted NEOC's strategies involving predictive modeling, early warning systems, and effective risk communication. The advanced technology and real-time monitoring systems that enable early detection of potential disasters, such as hurricanes, floods, or wildfires. It allows authorities to take preventive measures and issue timely alerts to communities at risk. Additionally, he outlined NDMA's contributions to international relief efforts and its global outreach initiatives.

Lt Gen Frank praised NDMA's proactive approach in disaster management and acknowledged the NEOC's pivotal role in mitigating potential hazards within Pakistan. He expressed a keen interest in exploring future collaborative opportunities focused on shared learning and exchanging experiences.

There was a shared sentiment of mutual interest in intensifying cooperation to enhance disaster management efforts. The discussion revolved around identifying areas where NDMA's expertise and initiatives could complement the objectives and operations of USARCENT in managing and responding to disasters effectively.

In essence, the meeting centered on enhancing collaboration between NDMA and USARCENT, acknowledging the strengths and proactive measures taken by NDMA while expressing mutual interest in further cooperation for bolstering disaster management efforts.

NDMA ORGANIZED PROVINCIAL LEVEL SIMULATION EXERCISE FROM 15-17 NOVEMBER 2023 IN QUETTA, BALOCHISTAN



NDMA hosted the first-of- its kind Provincial Level Simulation Exercise (SimEx) in Quetta spanning from November 15th to 17th, 2023. This SimEx, focusing on multiple hazards, aimed to bolster the preparedness and response capacities of Balochistan's key stakeholders during emergencies and disasters. The inauguration took place at Quetta Club, led by the Caretaker Home Minister, Captain (R) Zubair Jamali.

Captain Jamali commended NDMA's efforts and stressed the imperative need for effective coordination and collaboration among all agencies engaged in disaster management. The SimEx involved six syndicates, representing PDMA Balochistan, DDMA's, and humanitarian agencies, tasked with devising response plans for scenario-based situations like cyclones, forest fires, floods, and earthquakes, adhering to existing SOPs and guidelines.

As the Provincial Level Simulation Exercise progressed into Day 2, syndicates presented their pre-disaster preparedness plans, recommendations, and coordination strategies with various government and humanitarian stakeholders. The comprehensive SimEx encompassed a wide array of topics aiming to enhance the disaster management cycle, inclusive of gender and child protection components. Participants applied these learned concepts to simulate responses to disasters at both local and national levels.

The Simulation Exercise concluded with a closing ceremony graced by Prof. Dr. Qadir Bakhsh Baloch, Provincial Minister for Education and Tourism, as the Chief Guest. The Minister lauded NDMA for conducting vital exercises benefitting PDMA Balochistan, district authorities, and local NGOs in Balochistan. Participants expressed gratitude for the SimEx, praising its practical approach in facilitating better understanding of concepts. They acknowledged NDMA's role in fostering resilience and proactive disaster preparedness.

NDMA DISPATCHES SECOND TRANCHE OF RELIEF AID FOR PALESTINE



Amid the continued aggression, siege and attack on Palestine, particularly Gaza, the Government of Pakistan swiftly organized immediate relief aid for the affected population.

As per the Prime Minister's directives, NDMA has dispatched a second shipment of humanitarian aid totaling 90 tons for the people of Gaza. This includes 40 tons of food packs from the Government of Pakistan, alongside 3 tons of food bags, 10.8 tons of medicines, and 26 tons of hygiene and baby kits, facilitated with the support of NGOs in Pakistan. The send-off ceremony at IIA was attended by Caretaker Foreign Minister Mr. Jalil Abbas Jilani, Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights Mr. Khalil George, Palestine Ambassador Ahmed Rabei, NGO representatives, senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and NDMA.

Earlier, NDMA had dispatched relief supplies, including 1,000 Special Winterized Tents, 4,000 Blankets, and over 3 tons of Medicines, aimed at aiding the distressed population of Gaza.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Chairman NDMA, Lt. General Inam Haider Malik, delivered a keynote speech at Pre-COP 28 Conference aimed at crafting a collaborative framework for the upcoming COP28 in Dubai next month. He focused on outlining potential disaster risks, stressing the importance of readiness, local gap analysis, and assessing relief requirements during emergencies. He emphasized the pivotal role of advanced technology and proactive measures in implementing an efficient disaster management system in Pakistan. The Pre-COP28 conference, organized by the Ministry of Climate Change in partnership with the Embassy of UAE in Pakistan, the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), and the Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change (CSCCC) in Islamabad.

NDMA hosted a briefing at the newly established National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) for Allied officers from the National Defense University (NDU). The presentation highlighted NEOC's advanced capabilities in early warning systems, proactive preparedness, worldwide engagement, and effective risk communication.



STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



NDMA held a briefing session for newly built, state-of-the-art National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) for International Non-Governmental Organizational (INGOs) in Pakistan. The session showcased NEOC's capabilities in an early warning system, proactive readiness, global engagement, and efficient risk communication.

NDMA held a briefing session for state-of-the-art newly built National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) for Ambassadors from different countries. The session highlighted NEOC's abilities in early warning systems, proactive readiness, global engagement, and effective risk communication.



STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen Inam Haider Malik participated at UNDP's organized session titled "Pakistan's Vulnerability to Climate-induced Disaster: Policy & Institutional Harmonization of Insurance Risk Financing". He stressed the importance of boosting national capacity in Pakistan through investments in advanced technology, emergency responder training, and establishing resilient infrastructure to minimize the impact of climate-induced disasters. Emphasizing the necessity of resilient communities, infrastructure, strategic planning, and effective risk communication.



Chairman NDMA Lt. Gen Inam Haider Malik attended "Urban Disaster Preparedness SimEx-2023" as Chief Guest at CDA Training Academy. He lauded initiative under INSARAG & said that it is a valuable opportunity to develop our capabilities in the wake of disasters & emergencies. He stressed the importance of improving knowledge creation, integrating instructional capacities, and enhancing community-level coping mechanisms. He emphasized the need for a measured dialogue, determination, and shared wisdom to foster a safer and more resilient Pakistan.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Chairman NDMA Lt. Gen Inam Haider Malik held a meeting with Caretaker Foreign Minister Mr. Jalil Abbas Jilani at NDMA HQs. FM visited newly built National Emergencies Operations Center (NEOC), where he was briefed on capabilities of the emergency center. The Minister praised the state-of-the-art facility and emphasized the need for regional coordination to effectively address and manage disasters and climate-related challenges.

On 21st November 2023, NDMA hosted a visit from affiliated departments to showcase our state-of-the-art National Emergencies Operation Center. This cutting-edge facility empowers the National Disaster Management Authority with advanced capabilities to forecast disasters and proactively address potential adversities. The visit provided a comprehensive insight into our proactive approach to disaster management, emphasizing the importance of preparedness and swift response.



RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES



ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, 2023, AT 2 PM, A FRIENDLY VOLLEYBALL MATCH TOOK PLACE BETWEEN NDMA AND THE 45 ENGINEERS DIVISION. THE MATCH CONCLUDED WITH A VICTORY FOR THE ENGINEERS DIVISION. THE GAME LIKELY INVOLVED SPIRITED PLAYS, STRATEGIC MOVES, AND ENTHUSIASTIC SPORTSMANSHIP FROM BOTH TEAMS. THE ENGINEERS DIVISION SHOWCASED THEIR SKILL AND TEAMWORK, SECURING THE WIN IN THIS FRIENDLY SPORTS EVENT AGAINST NDMA. SUCH MATCHES OFTEN SERVE AS A PLATFORM FOR HEALTHY COMPETITION, AND A BREAK FROM ROUTINE ACTIVITIES, FOSTERING A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND COLLABORATION AMONG THE PARTICIPATING GROUPS.



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