Proposed IDPs Response

Rural Development Organization (RDO) proposed response to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from North Waziristan Agency (NWA)

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The recent decade is one of the worsts for the tribal areas of Pakistan particularly, North Waziristan Agency due to the ongoing militancy and military operations against the terrorists groups including Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Al-Qaida and some foreign militants hiding in the region. Millions of people have been displaced in the last decade however; some of them return back when the situation gets better at times.

On June 15, 2014, as a result of the recent increase in terrorist’s attacks across the country, the state decided a military intervention in North Waziristan Agency (NWA). So far, 33,168 families comprising of 4,04,919 individuals have been registered fleeing from the conflicted areas of NWA. The following report aims at presenting the updates on IDPs status, government stance as of June 23, 2014 and RDO’s proposed response to IDPs’ crises in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

North Waziristan Agency (NWA)

North Waziristan Agency, a mountainous region in northern Pakistan covering 11,585 square kilometers (4,473 sq mi) is one of the 7 tribal agencies and 6 frontier regions. The NWA is situated alongside the Pak-Afghan border next to South Waziristan Agency (SWA), also bordering Khost and Paktiya provinces of Afghanistan and Bannu district towards the settled districts of Pakistan. The terrain of the NWA is mostly comprised of rugged mountains valleys. The total population is 361,246 (1998 census) estimated to be doubled by now, with a large number of displaced persons during the unrest in the area. The major tribes in NWA are Utmanzai Wazir and Dawars, while there are other minor tribal groups e.g. Gurbuz, Mehsuds etc.

The NWA; though technically part of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province is administered by the federal government as Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). Known as a lawless land, the tribal agencies are administered by the FCR (Frontier Crimes Regulation), a law established by the British colonial power based on the ‘collective responsibility’ of the tribes towards the political administration represented by the Political Agent (PA) an appointee of the federal government. Miran Shah, Mir Ali and Dhatta Khail are the main tehsils (urban centers) of North Waziristan Agency.

Military operation (Zarb-e-Azb) & the state of IDPs

On June 15, 2014, the government announced the long awaited military intervention (Zarb-e-Azb) owing to the increasing militant attacks on important government’s installations and civilians, particularly the terrorists’ attack on Karachi airport. As there were already speculations about the expected military offensive in the NWA, number of locals flee towards Khost province in Afghanistan and other adjoining districts, besides IDPs movement towards Banuu, Tank, DI Khan and Hungu districts in Pakistan northern part. In order to isolate the militants, fighter jets are striking the militant hideouts before the ground troops of Pakistan Army would be deployed. According the ISPR press releases, 25,000 to 30,000 troops will be engaged in ground assault expected in second week of operation once the air strikes by fighter jets softened the situation on ground.

1 FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) website http://fdma.gov.pk/
2 Press releases & daily newspapers of Pakistan
Curfew has been announced in the red zones in order to avoid collateral damage and isolate the TTP & other militant groups operating in the region. Due to the continuous tension in the region, the local population is finding it hard to move freely to safe areas, however; on June 18, 2014 the curfew was lifted, which provided an opportunity to the local population to migrate to safer places including Banuu, Lakki Marwat, Tank, Di Khan and other adjoining areas.

**Government Response & Humanitarian Aid**

According to the FDMA recent updates, the FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) has so far registered 33,168 families, with 4,04,819 individuals including men, women and children. Accordingly to the FDMA, a camp has been established in the adjacent FR region however; the government is not providing any food items instead providing 7000 PKR/month per family. The Government of Pakistan has also announced that the government itself would response to IDPs situation and would not allow any UN and/or other humanitarian agencies in IDPs response. Similarly, the government hasn’t announced emergency situation yet, which makes the situation difficult for relief activities to the displaced people (DPs). The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s Chief Minister said that provincial government has released 350 million PKR; the Federal Govt. has 500 million PKR, and the FATA civil secretariat has 100 million PKR for the new IDPs.

It is difficult to assess the situation and get the accurate data of the IDPs for the DPs’ influx as the sources reporting varying figures. In the FR Bannu region at Bakkakhel check post, a transit camp has been established by the FDMA for registration of the IDP families however; according to the FDMA, only 8 families are living the IDPs camp and the rest are opting to live with host families.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Registered IDPs June 22, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. of families</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>33,168</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

According to the FDMA updates on June 22, 2014 following facilities have been made available to the IDP's families’ so far i.e.

- 10 Shaded waiting Area
- 20 Registration Desks
- 4 Mobile Health Units
- 20 Water Tanks
- 5 ambulances
- 4 NADRA registration & facilitation points
- Water & food for all arriving families
- Polio vaccination
- 6 Latrines
- Electricity facility is available

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3 FDMA website June 22, 2014  
4 Express tribune newspaper report June 20, 2014  
5 Health Cluster updates: June 19, 2014  
6 FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) website [http://fdma.gov.pk/](http://fdma.gov.pk/)
The available data shows that there is a dire need of humanitarian response to the IDPs as the government efforts are not sufficient. The government should take back its decision and allow humanitarian and relief agencies to response to IDPs issue. Following is the general analysis and minimum standard response of RDO,

**Immediate needs and responses to IDPs’ situation**

The major thematic areas for RDO’s response includes the following,

- Registration & legal issues
- Shelter
- Food security
- Health & hygiene
- Education
- WASH
- Protection (Women & children)
- Social inclusion

**Profile of RDO**

Rural Development Organization (RDO) is a non-partisan, non-governmental public interest/humanitarian organization working in KPK since 1997 to uplift the socio-economic condition of the marginalized segments of the society with the philosophy for dire needs of the community empowerment. The great stress of the era is to reach and address the needs of the vulnerable population everywhere in the World at large and the region in particular for helping the marginalized and poverty ridden communities.

RDO is working with innovative approaches for sustainable development as well as in critical situations such as natural calamities and disasters at gross root level to get the affected communities out of quagmires and help them rehabilitate towards routine life. RDO works through a chain of community groups and volunteers in different communities to facilitate the local population to contribute in eradicating the prevailing situation of poverty and social distress. The purpose of the organization is to provide assistance to groups, communities and especially to children, women, elders and people with disability to make them able to fight against illiteracy, hunger, homelessness, exploitation, abuse and to work for positive behavioral change. RDO wants to improve socio-economic situation of the marginalized segments (women, elders & children) throughout the region.

**Organization Approach**

RDO works through a chain of community groups and volunteers in different communities to enable them to eradicate the prevailing situation of poverty and distress keeping in view its core principles e.g. need based, participatory & cost sharing with the remembrance of its past lessons learnt. RDO is striving to come forward with innovative approaches to meet its objectives effectively and ensure sustainability of its interventions. Provision of assistance to groups, women, children, youth and elders in the fields of education, right to education, health, skills development and gender equality through participation and collaboration, are our approaches to develop sense of entrepreneurship among the masses.
**Organization Strength**

Our team of highly professional and dedicated individuals and 100 volunteers around the Province work together like a family keeping in view the objectives of the organization and 55 community based organization (CBOs/CCBs/PTCs & sports wings) who have made possible strong intervention for the organization at gross root level.

**Organization Vision**

Establishing a society where every citizen has access to basic human rights and improved socio-economic conditions without any discrimination.

**Organization Mission**

To empower marginalized communities especially women, youth and disabled focusing on awareness raising, advocacy, community participation, gender mainstreaming, improved livelihood and access to basic facilities.

**Organization Values**

1. Honesty
2. Commitment
3. Accountability & Transparency
4. Non-discriminatory
# Rural Development Organization (RDO) proposed response to IDPs of NWA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation/issue</th>
<th>Reasons/factors</th>
<th>Proposed response/s</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>estimated budget</th>
<th>Assumptions &amp; risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration &amp; legal issues</td>
<td>- Displacement</td>
<td>- Proper registration with the help of FDMA, PDMA &amp; NDMA</td>
<td>Rural Development Organization (RDO) with the support of Humanitarian agencies</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>- Govt. would allow UN &amp; humanitarian agencies to work with IDPs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Legal documentations</td>
<td>- Registration of off-camp IDP’s families</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Availability of funds</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Proper shelter &amp; residence (in-camp &amp; off-camp)</td>
<td>- Sensitization of law enforcement agencies (mainly police in area of residence) &amp; communities rights awareness sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Interaction with law enforcement agencies (e.g. police &amp; army etc.)</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Security situation</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>- Displacement</td>
<td>- Establishment and administration of camps at accessible locations</td>
<td>RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>As above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Lack of shelter</td>
<td>- Off-camp protection of IDPs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Availability of rented houses in areas of residence (off-camp)</td>
<td>- Proper ventilated tents due to extremely hot weather</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Hot weather &amp; ventilated tents</td>
<td>- Culturally sensitized camp formation in order to protect the concept of “pardah” for the tribal families</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Cultural values</td>
<td>- Protection of women, children &amp; elderly population</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Establishment and administration of camps at accessible locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food security</td>
<td>- Camps locations always away from the main population</td>
<td>- distribution of food items</td>
<td>RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>As above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Displacement</td>
<td>- distribution of non-food items (NFI)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Loss of regular and evenly income sources</td>
<td>- income generation activities (entrepreneurship &amp; vocational trainings)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- loss of livelihood</td>
<td>- sensitization sessions with IDP’s families</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Loss of agriculture &amp; livestock</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- insufficient food supply</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- health &amp; hygiene</td>
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</table>
| Health & Hygiene | - prone to change of dietary & safe drinking water | - Provision of basic health care  
- *Medical*  
- *Physical*  
- *Psycho-social (counselling)*  
- Provision of safe drinking water (water cleaning tablets, kits and trainings for boiling water)  
- Organization of free medical camps (in-camp & off-camp)  
- Ensuring proper sanitation in camps  
- Sensitization workshops for IDP's families on health and hygiene  
- Distribution of clean delivery and newborn baby kits  
- Deployment of polio teams and vaccination drives in camps & off camps | RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies | TBD | As above |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Education       | - Displacement  
- Destruction of schools  
- Access & availability of educational facilities  
- Trained teachers  
- Loss of books and stationary  
- Parents trust in new settlements  
- Safety and protection of children  
- Discontinuation of academic year  
- Stress & trauma | - Establishment of shelter schools  
- Enrollment of school going age children  
- Training of teachers  
- Provision of books and stationary  
- Establishment of ALS (alternate learning spaces) & summer camps  
- Social mobilization & organization of parents  
- Child protection trainings  
- Medical & psychosocial support to school going children & their families | RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies | TBD | As above |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Issues/Actions</th>
<th>RDO Responsibility</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</table>
| **WASH (Water & Sanitation)** | - Transit camps & facilities  
- Camps locations  
- Lack of water resources  
- Proper sanitation systems  
- Availability of safe drinking water  
- Access & use of toilets  
- Unhygienic conditions  
- Lack of education (contributing factors) |  
- Camps management  
- Temporary sanitation systems  
- Construction of water tube-wells  
- Installation of hand pumps  
- Construction of temporary (shelter toilets)  
- Education of IDP’s families on health and hygiene  
- Trainings on water cleaning etc. | RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies  
TBD  
As above |
| **Protection (Women & Children)** | - Culture & value system  
- Political participation  
- Gender inequality  
- Empowerment  
- Decision making processes  
- Economic independence of women  
- Trauma, displacement & war effects  
- Illiteracy & access to education  
- Social mobilization & organization  
- Alternative education systems  
- Early marriages & pregnancies |  
- Women political empowerment  
- Skills development center  
- Income generation activities  
- Entrepreneurships trainings  
- Psychosocial support to conflict affected women  
- Awareness raising about honor killing, early marriages, domestic violence and girls education.  
- Alternative education centers for children & women  
- Sports & cultural festivals  
- Publication and IEC materials on gender education | RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies  
TBD  
As above |
| **Social Inclusion** | - Culture  
- Social stigma & gender  
- Discrimination on the basis of caste, class, tribe, ethnicity, race, faith, color and faith  
- Displacement increases the chances of stigmatization & social exclusion |  
- Trainings of community on CBDRM  
- Trainings on gender sensitization & equality  
- Trainings on Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)  
- Training on interfaith harmony | RDO with the support of Humanitarian agencies  
TBD  
As above |
- Seminars on Peace promotion & development
- Promotion of peace through sports initiatives
- Distribution of sports kits among school students and sport clubs.

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*Photos by Reuters, AFP & Tribune Pakistan*