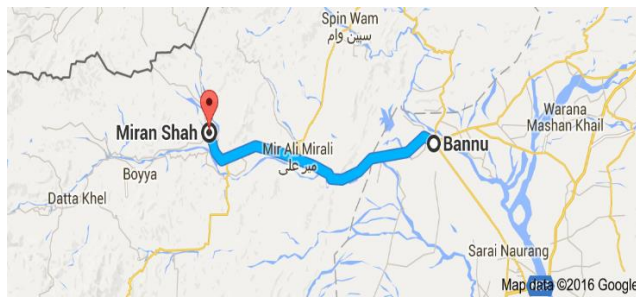


Overview of Community Restoration:

Following the Government's decision to start return of the IDPs to the 10 villages of Mirali Tehsil of North Waziristan Agency planned in January 2016, OCHA organised inter-cluster mission to the area from 26th – 29th January. UNDP represented the Community Restoration cluster in the inter cluster mission. The CORE cluster mainly looked in the availability of basic communal services, law and order situation in the area and assessed short term and longer term recovery needs.

Over all the extent of damages to public and private property is lesser as compared to South Waziristan or Khyber agencies. According to the military, during the clean-up operation the security forces faced less resistance in the area. With exception of Mirali and Miranshah bazars (major business markets) which are completely destroyed, rest of the public and private infrastructure is intact. Majority (70-80) houses are made of concrete which is a sign of better economic status. Those houses which are damaged are either because of mortar/rockets hits or due to weather (incase of mud construction). The displacement went for over 1.5 years therefore it is natural that compounds would need repair upon return. Availability of food and resumption of education were identified as major needs.

For more details please contact Abdul.haseeb@undp.org.



Google map snapshot of main highway from Bannu to Miranshah (62 km)

Below are key findings from Community Restoration cluster.

Village Karam Kot:

Karam Kot village is situated 41 km from Bannu on Miranshah road. Accordingly to military sources, the total population before crisis was 700 families mostly living in large concrete (or mud in few cases) compounds with extended families. Overall the damages were less in this village. Most of the water sources are dry now due to non-usage. Upon return of the IDPs, Pak Army will provide water through tankers while the communal or individual dug well will be repaired. Army has also established Field Treatment Center providing basic health services to returnees. Some houses situated on road side are either partially damaged or destroyed however the schools and mosques are intact.

Pak Army is doing re-registration of returnees. The returnees (above 10 years of age) are issued computerized identity cards. Incase any family member doesn't have CNIC (National identity card), they

receive a card linked with head CNIC of head of family. Access remains a challenge as anyone entering the area has to register his/her name one day in advance. Transportation due to critical emergencies are dealt separately.

Government middle and primary schools are intact however no teachers are deployed. Few private schools are opened with the support of Army in rehabilitation and provision of supplies. National power lines are broken however poles have been repaired. Pak Army has constructed a market in nearby village. The shops will be handed over to those returnees who lost their businesses during the crisis. One of the potential business is dates processing and packaging as there are date farms in the area.

Village Arab Kot:

Arab Kot is further 2 kms from Karam Kot. 900 families were displaced from this village. The school in Arab Kot needs to be operationalized whereas building need minor repairs.

Khadi Village:

The mission held meeting with Major Iqbal of Pak Army in Nizam Madrassa currently being used by Pak Army as base. According to Army record, 40,000 individuals have returned to the nearby villages. The movement is restricted by Army due to security once the return is completed, the procedures will be relaxed. Major Iqbal highlighted following main needs of the area a) Schools rehabilitation and provision of supplies/books. b) operationalization of BHU. c) livestock support and medicines. The civilian departments are not functional. Sports facilities for youth will have positive impact in de-radicalizing the youth. The Major requested WFP to open a dedicated food distribution for the villages on the lower periphery as it is difficult and expensive for the returnees to travel to Miranshah to receive monthly ration.

Village Palisin (written as Palestine in OCHA record):

The total population of the village is 3300 individuals. Army has rehabilitated the main tube well which is providing water to the village. There are three Government schools in the village. The buildings are intact but no teachers are available.

Village Tor Kot (Teerkot):

The entire population of the village has returned to Tor Kot. There are three schools and one BHU in the village. The agriculture land and farms need rehabilitation. The tube well providing water to the village needs repair as the pipes are rusted.

Village Pirano Lalai

According to Pak Army data, 136 families have returned to the village. There is one Girls High School which is intact but classes haven't started due to non-availability of the teachers. One tube well is functional with solar power. There is potential for crafting of olives in the area as there are many trees of wild olives.

Meeting with line departments in Miranshah:

Political Administration arranged meeting with line departments in Political Administration Compound, MiranShah Fort. The departments are not fully operational nor are the staff deployed. National Bank is functional however no other private commercial bank or ATM services are working. There is no cellular coverage beyond Bakka Khel area of Bannu.

CoRe cluster met with PHED (Public Health Engineering department), C&W (Communications & Works), Education department and Livestock department.

C&W department shared list of roads and BHUs which need rehabilitation. Lists of the schemes can be obtained from Abdul.haseeb@UNDP.org

Meeting with Col Iqbal, Rehabilitation and Development Incharge MiranShah:

This branch of 7th Division of Pak Army is coordinating all TDP operations including rehabilitation and development in the area. OCHA raised NOC and access issues with the Commanding Officer Col Nadir and requested for advocacy. The Colonel recommended to identify 'back up' NGOs in case any NOC is denied. The 7th Div cannot influence NOC process as the NOCs are dealt by different departments in Pak Army, however, he assured to raise the matter with higher levels. He recommended to do a 'background check' of the NGOs with military before selection of partners. The Colonel mentioned that they have faced challenges in bringing back the line departments staff. Around 38000 TDPs have migrated to Afghanistan, however, the Government of Pakistan is negotiating with Afghan Government for sustainable return of the TDPs. The short term needs include a) agriculture and farm rehabilitation (including poultry) b) business startup support c) imparting of marketable skills.

Overall observations/Recommendations:

- There were some villages where returns happened during the week of 17th January. The markets are not properly functional however the returnees were determined to restore living in the area and were repairing/cleaning houses as needed.
- Line departments were unable to share information or needs in the area. According to the officers, they haven't visited the entire area. Sub Engineer from Communications & Works (C&W) department informed that the list of schemes has been shared with their Peshawar head office and RRU of the FATA Secretariat.
- Pak Army officers stressed the need that unless the civilian departments don't re-open offices, it is unlikely that services will continue. Pak Army is providing services by all possible means however the mandate is of the civil line department.
- Short term needs and longer term needs: Before the crisis, the majority of the locals had established small or medium scale business including transport, business and agri business. For example, in one of the areas (Tapi) is famous for best quality grapes. Some locals we involved in ammunition and other illegal business. After the return, those who have abandoned illegal

businesses would need alternate income generation, such as short term livelihood needs restoration of farms/orchards and agriculture land, business startup support and skills training. Longer term needs have to be assessed in consultation with local communities, government and the military. Major roads are built by Pak Army, however access roads would need rehabilitation therefore there is a potential for UNDP in medium scale rehabilitation of such services.

- The mission didn't meet with community members in detail. It is recommended that the political administration or Army should be requested in future to arrange meetings with the communities to get firsthand information.
- Cash for Work is recommended for rehabilitation of water and irrigation channels. List of potential irrigation schemes can be obtained from the line department.