

**Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project  
(LEAFS)  
P174314**

**PRELIMINARY  
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)**

**JUNE 15, 2020  
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN**

## Contents

I-	Introduction .....	2
II-	Project Description.....	3
III-	Rationale and Objective of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).....	4
IV-	Stakeholder Identification and Analysis.....	5
A-	Methodology.....	5
B-	Affected Parties (APs) .....	6
C-	Other Interested Parties (OIPs).....	7
D-	Disadvantaged/Vulnerable Individuals or Groups .....	8
V-	Stakeholder Engagement Program .....	9
A-	Summary of stakeholder engagement during project preparation.....	9
B-	Summary of project stakeholder needs, methods, and tools for stakeholder engagement.....	11
C-	Proposed strategy for information disclosure and consultation process.....	13
D-	Reporting back to stakeholders .....	14
VI-	Resources and Responsibilities for Managing SEP Activities .....	14
A-	Management functions and responsibilities .....	14
B-	Resources .....	15
VII-	Grievance Mechanism .....	15
VIII-	Monitoring and Reporting .....	16
	Annexure 1 – NDMA Situation Report on Anti-Locust Operations.....	17
	Annexure 2 – PDMA Locust Awareness Advert .....	20

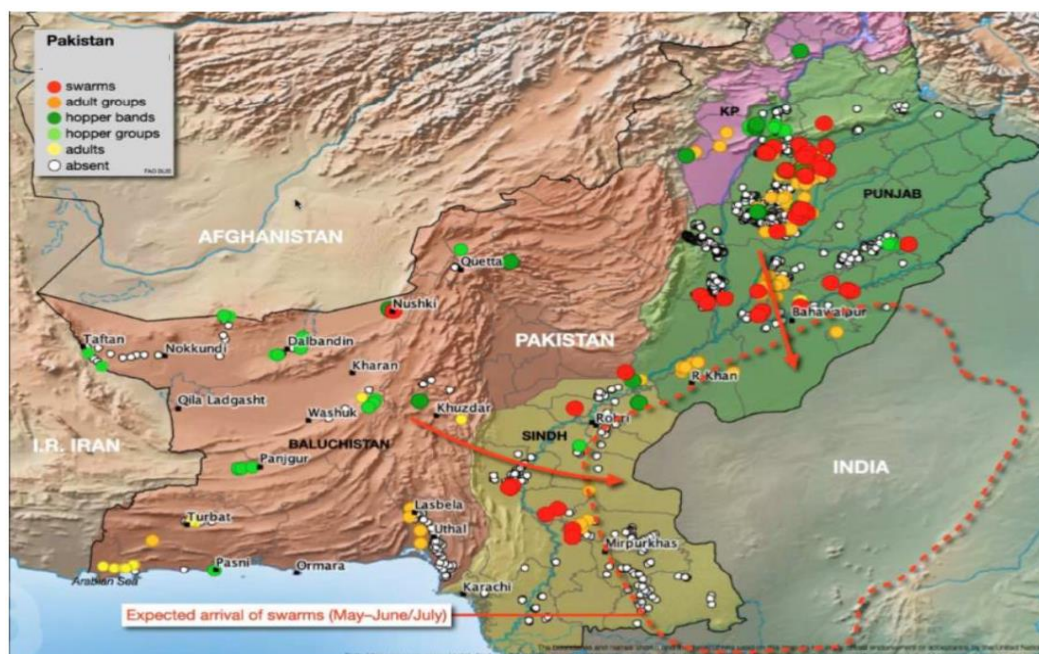
## **I- Introduction**

The spread of desert locust, compounding with COVID-19 pandemic, threatens Pakistan's national food security and agriculture sustainability. Locust spread leads to an alarming situation in Pakistan. Thirty-eight percent of the country's geographic area is breeding/recession area for desert locust, while the rest of the country is at risk of invasion. Moreover, Pakistan is one of the four countries (out of total 64 desert locust prone countries) that has two breeding seasons, i.e., Spring and Summer. Since early 2019, the population of desert locusts has been increasing exponentially, and it is now beyond the control of standard interventions. The current outbreak is the worst in the past two and half decades. The desert locust is the most dangerous migratory pest in the world, with a voracious appetite, high mobility aided by wind patterns, and a 20-fold increase in population with each generation during outbreaks. These traits make it a formidable threat to lives and livelihoods and a uniquely difficult and costly combat. The newest generations of locusts are emerging at the same time new crops are emerging, and experts fear that up to 100 percent of new crops could be lost. Even a small, one-square-kilometer locust swarm can consume the same amount of food in one day as approximately 35,000 people.

In Pakistan, about 20 percent of the population (around 40 million) are undernourished, 40 percent of the population experience multi-dimensional poverty, and 25 percent of the population is living under the national poverty line. The current inadequate capacity and measures result in large swarms spreading into Indo Pakistan border area in early May, followed by several waves of swarms later in May and June 2020 (see Figure 1). Further swarms are set to migrate into Pakistan from Iran and the Horn of Africa later in the year. According to FAO estimate, in the worst-case scenario, the agriculture loss could be \$16 billion, including both Rabi and Kharif crops. Without urgent and effective actions to control the locust spread, situation of food security and prospect of agriculture development will only be deteriorated.

Climate change poses a significant risk to Pakistan in general and creates favorable conditions for locust spread in specific. The Global Climate Risk Index ranks Pakistan among the top 10 most climate-vulnerable countries. In 2019, Pakistan was among 55 countries where extreme weather events resulted in an increased level of acute food insecurity. The desert locust spread in Pakistan is also an aftermath of the favorable conditions resulting from the continuously changing climatic conditions. The 2020 Global Food Report warns of the likely adverse impact of the locust infestation on domestic food production and vulnerable farming households (particularly the smallholder farmers).

**Figure 1. Desert Locust Situation Overview June 2020**



The current alarming situation highlights an urgent need to strengthen national authorities' capacity to address the locust crisis. Significant capacity gaps exist at the federal, provincial, and district levels as the previously existing locust control structure of the Department of Plant Protection (DPP) has almost diminished. Over the past 25-years, the technical experts and officers at the DPP have retired and their posts remained vacant, implying that the concerned government department is not prepared to deal with the locust outbreak of this scale and magnitude. Other challenges hampering the locust eradication efforts in Pakistan include: i) acute shortage of human resources and limited technical capacity of the key government departments engaged in locust control operations; ii) the absence of an effective surveillance system with equipment for monitoring of the situation, early warning, forecasting, data collecting and disseminating; iii) obsolete equipment of control operations; and finally, iv) horizontal and vertical coordination challenges between various tiers of the government departments. Pakistan is located at a crossroads for migration of desert locust in South Asia. Therefore, effectively controlling the locust crisis is not only crucial for Pakistan itself, but also is critical for the entire Southwest Asia region.

## II- Project Description

The objective of the Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) is to control the locust outbreak, mitigate associated negative social and economic impact and strengthen the national food security system. The project will achieve this through the following components:

**Component 1: Surveillance and Control Measures (\$100 million).** The objective of the Component is to limit the growth and spread of current desert locust populations, while mitigating the risks associated with control measures and their impacts on human health and the environment. Component 1 will improve the capacity for surveillance of breeding and infestation areas and for gathering meteorological data. It will also support locust control activities (spraying) and implement risk mitigation measures for workers and affected communities. This Component will also improve pesticide management and

upgrade infrastructure for safe storage, including disposing of obsolete pesticides. The Component will make special efforts to support women's participation in locust surveillance and control.

**Component 2: Livelihood Protection and Rehabilitation (\$50 million).** Component 2 aims to provide a robust protection scheme that ensures immediate relief to affected farmers and livestock owners. It includes two types of measures: i) creation of temporary employment opportunities; and ii) restoration of lost assets. Crisis also represents opportunity and hence the Component 2 will make efforts to promote the agriculture transformation through the promotion of climate-smart crop and livestock management practices, and the diversification towards high value crops.

**Component 3: Early Warning Preparedness and Food Security (\$30 million).** The objective of Component 3 is to i) strengthen national capacity for early warning and early response, linking these efforts to regional (outside) and provincial (inside of Pakistan) existing locust surveillance and control networks; and ii) strengthen the capacity of MNFSR by strengthening the Food Security and Nutrition Information System.

**Component 4: Project Management, and Monitoring and Evaluation (\$20 million):** The objective of the Component 4 is to i) support the Project Management Unit's (PMU) capacity to ensure high quality project implementation; ii) monitor the progress towards achievement of the PDO and provide timely feedback to PMU.

### **III- Rationale and Objective of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)**

The proposed Project is prepared under the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework (ESF). As per the Environmental and Social Standard 10 (ESS10): Stakeholders Engagement and Information Disclosure, implementing agencies should provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.

The SEP recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation. Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle. Where properly designed and implemented, it supports the development of strong, constructive, and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's environmental and social risks.

The overall objective of this SEP is to define a plan of action for stakeholder engagement, including technically and culturally appropriate approach to public consultation and information disclosure, throughout the entire project cycle. The SEP outlines ways in which the project team will communicate with stakeholders and includes a mechanism by which people can raise concerns, provide feedback, or make complaints about project activities.

The involvement of different stakeholders, including the local population and farmers is essential to the success of the project in order to ensure smooth collaboration between project staff and local communities.

**The present document is a Preliminary SEP, given the COVID 19 pandemic and the emergency nature of the project. Detailed consultations could not be held due to social distancing protocols, COVID 19**

**restrictions and multiple stakeholders' preoccupation with the national and local level locust emergency response. This SEP will be reassessed and updated within 45 days of project effectiveness.**

The SEP will, eventually:

- Establish a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that will help Borrowers identify stakeholders and build and maintain a constructive relationship with them, in particular project-affected parties.
- Assess the level of stakeholder interest and support for the project and to enable stakeholders' views to be taken into account in project design and environmental and social performance.
- Promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the project life cycle on issues that could potentially affect them.
- Ensure that appropriate project information on environmental and social risks and impacts is disclosed to stakeholders in a timely, understandable, accessible, and appropriate manner and format.
- Provide project-affected parties with accessible and inclusive means to raise issues and grievances and allow Borrowers to respond to and manage such grievances.

#### **IV- Stakeholder Identification and Analysis**

Stakeholder analysis identifies and determines the likely relationship between the project and the different stakeholders. Stakeholders are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively. It is a useful tool for managing communication between the project team and stakeholders. Project stakeholders are defined as individuals, groups or other entities who:

- Are impacted or likely to be impacted directly or indirectly, positively or adversely, by the Project (also known as 'affected parties'); and,
- May have an interest in the Project ('interested parties'). They include individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the Project and who have the potential to influence the Project outcomes in any way.

In all phases of the project, cooperation and negotiation with stakeholders is required. Persons within the groups who act as legitimate representatives of their respective stakeholder group and entrusted by their fellow group members will be identified in the process of engagement. Community representatives may provide helpful insight into the local settings and act as main means for dissemination of the Project information and as a primary communication/liaison link between the Project and targeted communities and their established networks. Legitimacy of the community representatives can be verified by talking informally to a random sample of community members and heeding their views on who can be representing their interests in the most effective way.

#### **A- Methodology**

Stakeholder analysis helps to know the perceptions, interests, need, and influence of actors on the project. Identifying the appropriate consultation methodology for each stakeholder throughout the project lifecycle is necessary. In order to meet best practice approaches, the project will apply the following principles for stakeholder engagement:

- **Openness and life-cycle approach:** public consultations for the project will continue during the whole project lifecycle from preparation through implementation. Stakeholder engagement will be free of manipulation, interface, coercion, and intimidation;
- **Informed participation and feedback:** information will be provided and widely distributed among all stakeholders in an appropriate format; conducted based on timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information related to the project; opportunities provided to raise concerns and assure that stakeholder feedback is taken into consideration during decision making;
- **Inclusiveness and sensitivity:** stakeholder identification will be undertaken to support better communications and building effective relationships. The participation process for the projects is inclusive. All stakeholders are always encouraged to be involved in the consultation process. Equal access to information is provided to all stakeholders. Sensitivity to stakeholders' needs is the key principle underlying the selection of engagement methods. Special attention is given to vulnerable groups, particularly women headed households, youth, elderly and the cultural sensitivities of diverse ethnic groups.

For the purposes of effective and tailored engagement, stakeholders of the proposed project(s) can be divided into the following core categories:

1. Affected Parties
2. Other Interested Parties
3. Disadvantaged/Vulnerable Individuals or Groups

#### **B- Affected Parties (APs)**

Affected Parties are those groups of people that are directly influenced (actually or potentially) by the project and/or have been identified as most susceptible to potential risks and impacts associated with the project and who need to be closely engaged including local community members and other parties that may be subject to direct impacts from the Project. Specifically, the following individuals and groups fall within this category:

Sector	Affected Parties
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desert Locust Control Centers (DLCCs) staff as local level locust monitoring and surveillance personnel</li> <li>• Early Warning and Response (EWR) teams composed of the Agricultural Officer, Community Development Officer, and Secretary for Production as field monitoring and reporting personnel for all Desert Locust sightings</li> <li>• Department of Plant Protection (DPP) staff under MNFSR (project personnel)</li> <li>• National Locust Control Center (NLCC) as provincial coordination</li> <li>• Provincial Locust Coordination Centers for provincial monitoring</li> <li>• Staff of Early Warning and Locust Control outposts for on-ground monitoring</li> <li>• Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MNFSR) as surveillance/monitoring sensitization and provision of control personnel</li> <li>• Field officers directly involved in handling and spraying operations</li> </ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture farmers and workers</li> <li>• Livestock farmers</li> <li>• Women involved in livestock rearing</li> <li>• Rural communities/populations at risk of losing crops, livestock and livelihoods</li> </ul>

Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) P174314  
Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture and livestock farmers benefiting from livelihood restoration, early recovery activities under Component 2.2</li> <li>• Agriculture and livestock farmers benefiting from strengthening resilience and promoting the agriculture transformation activities under Component 2.3</li> <li>• Communities at risk in areas in which spraying is carried out</li> <li>• Community level Farmers Organizations</li> <li>• Water Users Associations (WUA) as local resources and management</li> <li>• Community Project Coordination Committees, and Community Facilitators as monitoring personnel to provide information on sighting of locusts to EWRs</li> </ul>
Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pakistan Farmers Association (<i>Pakistan Kissan Ittehad</i>)</li> <li>• Pakistan Agriculture and Dairy Farmers Association (PADFA)</li> <li>• National and local level Farmers Associations of crops that have or are expected to suffer most damage, eg.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mango Growers Association</li> <li>○ Pakistan Cotton Growers Association</li> <li>○ Sugarcane farmers associations</li> <li>○ Sindh Abaadgar Board</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local NGOs involved in mobilization and preparation of communities' readiness for implementation.</li> <li>• Contracted workers, consultants, scouts, vehicle and aircraft operators.</li> </ul>

### C- Other Interested Parties (OIPs)

Other parties interested in the Project are identified as individuals, groups, or organizations who may not be directly affected by the Project but who can help play a role in identifying potential risks, impacts, and opportunities for the Borrower to consider and address in the assessment process and throughout project preparation. The following Other Interested Parties (OIPs) have been identified as stakeholders of the Project:

Sector	Other Interested Parties (OIPs)
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Plant Protection (DPP)</li> <li>• Federal Project Management Unit (PMU) at MNFSR</li> <li>• Provincial Project Implementation Units (PPIUs) at Agriculture Departments</li> <li>• National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)</li> <li>• Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs)</li> <li>• Politicians (local leadership in affected areas)</li> <li>• Ministry of Water Resources</li> <li>• Provincial Irrigation Departments</li> <li>• Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination</li> <li>• Provincial Health Departments</li> <li>• Provincial Environment Protection Departments/Agencies</li> <li>• Food Security Commissioners/Commodity Commissioners, Animal Husbandry Commissioners, and Agriculture Policy Institute (API)</li> <li>• Economic Wing/Economic Consultants</li> <li>• Crop Reporting Services (CRS) of provincial agriculture departments</li> <li>• Users of Food Security and Nutrition Information System (FSNIS)</li> </ul>



Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) P174314  
Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IG's Office</li> </ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public at large</li> </ul>
Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association</li> <li>• All Pakistan Textile Mills Association</li> <li>• Pakistan Sugar Mills Association</li> <li>• Private sector companies providing agriculture inputs/ support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Seed suppliers</li> <li>○ Pesticide manufacturers</li> <li>○ Fertilizer manufacturers</li> <li>○ Agriculture equipment / machinery manufacturers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN FAO</li> <li>• Members of FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (SWAC)</li> <li>• Universities and research institutions, eg.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ National Agricultural Research Center (NARC)</li> <li>○ University of Agriculture Faisalabad</li> <li>○ Arid Agriculture University etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Other Local NGOs</li> </ul>

#### **D- Disadvantaged/Vulnerable Individuals or Groups**

Disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups are those peoples or groups highly vulnerable to potential project impacts and often do not have a voice to express their concerns or understand the impact and risk of the project. They may be disproportionately be impacted or further disadvantaged by the project as compared with any other groups due to their vulnerable status, and usually require special arrangement to ensure their equal representation in the consultation and decision-making process associated with the project. Their vulnerability may stem from person's origin, gender, age, health condition, disability, economic deficiency and financial insecurity, disadvantaged status in the community (e.g. ethnic and religious minority groups, Indigenous peoples), dependence on other individuals or natural resources, etc.

Awareness raising and stakeholder engagement with disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups on the project must consider such group's or individuals' sensitivities, concerns and cultural differences to ensure a full understanding of project activities and benefits. Engagement with these vulnerable groups and individuals often requires the application of specific measures and assistance aimed at the facilitation of their participation in the project related decision making so that their awareness of and input to the overall process are commensurate to those of the other stakeholders.

Within the proposed Project, the vulnerable or disadvantaged groups may include, but not limited to, the following:

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Disadvantaged/Vulnerable Individuals or Groups</b>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women agriculture and livestock farmers</li> <li>• Women benefiting from livelihood restoration, early recovery activities under Component 2.2</li> <li>• Women benefiting from strengthening resilience and promoting agriculture transformation activities under Component 2.3</li> </ul>

Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) P174314  
Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pastoralists</li><li>• Indigenous Peoples</li><li>• Ethnic/religious/gender minorities</li><li>• Affected households – reliant on cropping activities and already facing food insecurity</li><li>• Elderly people in hard-hit areas and facing food shortages</li><li>• Female headed households</li><li>• Children and youth heads of households</li><li>• Agriculture labor dependent on share-cropping (<i>Haarees</i>)</li><li>• Communities practicing subsistence farming</li><li>• People with disabilities.</li><li>• People with special needs such as Pregnant women, children, those in poor health (i.e. with respiratory illnesses)</li><li>• Poor people, including ex-pastoralists</li><li>• Illiterate persons</li></ul>
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Vulnerable groups within the communities affected by the project will be further confirmed and consulted during Environmental and Social Assessment preparation through dedicated means, as appropriate.

## **V- Stakeholder Engagement Program**

### **A- Summary of stakeholder engagement during project preparation**

The Government of Pakistan (GOP) declared a nationwide emergency on Desert Locust threat on February 1st, 2020. GoP has developed a National Action Plan aimed at surveillance, prevention and control of the desert locust infestation across the affected provinces in three stages in the next 18 months. National Locust Control Center (NLCC) has been established, comprising of key federal and provincial agencies such as Ministry of National Food Security and Research/DPP, NDMA and Provincial Chief Secretaries, etc., to oversee preparedness efforts and coordinate actions across provinces for maximizing effectiveness of desert locust control. Key actors have reached the following consensus, namely, i) Pakistan cannot afford to lose time in dealing with the locust emergency; ii) resources must be pooled together for timely control operations; iii) coordination needs to be strengthened in line with the National Action Plan; and iv) additional financial resources should be mobilized from international and community levels and development donors.

The speed and urgency with which this project is being developed to meet the growing threat of locust invasions in the country, combined with government restrictions on gatherings of people due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the stakeholder engagement by the Project at this stage has focused on technical discussions with the Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MNFSR)/Federal Department of Plant Protection (DPP), NDMA, PDMAs and FAO.

Provincial Agriculture Extension Departments and PDMAs have consulted with select farmers in locust hit areas and conducted training sessions<sup>1</sup>. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) and National Locust Control Center (NLCC) have launched

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<sup>1</sup> <http://pdma.gop.pk/node/472>

various public awareness and advertisement campaigns through print and electronic media, and their websites. This includes publishing of a periodic Situation Report on Anti-Locust Operations by the NDMA (see Annexure 1 for latest report), and advertisements in electronic and print media in local language by Punjab PDMA with updates on presence of desert locusts, spraying activities, and WhatsApp and Hotline numbers for seeking farmers' support in timely reporting of locust incidents (Annexure 2 and 3).

In addition, there has been extensive coverage by electronic and print media, including frequent coverage in newspapers, headline news bulletins and prime time Talk Shows on different news channels. Media coverage has focused on consultations between farmers, federal and provincial governments and experts in the field.

The key issues raised by the stakeholders through various means include:

- Coordination, roles and responsibilities among Federal and Provincial governments and justification for involving NDMA/PDMAs.
- Compensation (subsidy) and budget allocation against the damages already done or anticipated
- Concerns by the President Pakistan Farmers' Association on targeting of response activities and subsidies
- Lack of resources and capacity (no aircraft / or borrowed ones; staff capacity, equipment etc.)
- Anticipated impacts including lost crops and jobs, food security, high inflation, compounded by COVID-19.
- Environmental, health and safety issues for farmers, staff involved for operation and community at large.

As a result, project activities have been added based on previous stakeholder engagements and feedback from at risk communities. These activities include cash-based assistance for temporary employment creation, risk reduction and management from pollution, livelihood resumption, and food security, responses for livelihood restoration and early activity, and stakeholder engagement.

The Project will continue to coordinate with other Government agencies, communities, NGOs, private sector, research institutions etc., as laid out in the SEP to receive additional feedback from stakeholders and use it to refine the approach, procedure and implementation arrangements for project activities. Specifically, consultations with representatives from: (i) potential project beneficiaries; (ii) vulnerable groups including Indigenous Peoples; (iii) farmers associations; and (iv) private sector will be carried out prior to project effectiveness. Issues raised/discussed during the consultations, will be used to update the SEP, as required.

This is a Preliminary SEP that has been prepared due to the emergency nature of the Project. The Preliminary SEP will be improved within 45 days of project effectiveness. The SEP will also be continuously updated throughout the project implementation period, as required. Component 4 of the project includes resources to implement the actions included in the Plan.

## **B- Summary of project stakeholder needs, methods, and tools for stakeholder engagement**

Desert Locust threat is declared a national emergency in Pakistan and has received extensive coverage by the Federal and Provincial governments and the media. The Project has materialized and been designed on the request of the main stakeholders including the government and affected communities. In this regard, the Project will rely heavily on stakeholder feedback and engagement during the life of the project. Specifically, the following components of the Project will be reliant on the feedback of stakeholders, and amongst others, will be used as tools for stakeholder engagement, especially Component 4.4:

- **Sub-component 1.2: Control measures (\$60 million).** Appropriate control measures will be undertaken to reduce locust populations and prevent their spread to new areas. The government led control operations will be made more effective by mobilizing and involving local communities.
- **Sub-component 1.3: Risk reduction and management (\$10 million).** Monitoring and assessing environmental and human health risks associated with locust control will be undertaken to inform implementation of health, environmental and safety measures to reduce risks to an acceptable minimum. Public awareness campaigns and a robust communication strategy will keep the public informed about possible environmental and health effects of insecticides, before, during and after locust control operations. Support will be also be extended for women's participation at the community level by encouraging rural women to take on the role of preventing packaging materials for treatment products (pesticides) from being reused at home, and employ rural women to alert children to keep away from chemical products and storage areas.
- **Component 2: Livelihood Protection and Rehabilitation (\$50 million)** is entirely designed on community feedback to provide a robust protection response that ensures immediate relief to affected farmers and livestock owners.
- **Sub-component 2.1: cash-based assistance for temporary employment creation and food security (\$25 million)** will enable vulnerable farming households in meeting their basic needs coupled with the resumption of livelihoods. Specifically, cash for work (CFW) will provide temporary income support to poor and resource deficient households and enhance their resilience to locust-induced shocks by engaging them in intensive and unskilled labor work.
- **Sub-component 2.2 Livelihood restoration and early recovery (\$20 million)** will ensure vulnerable farmers access to quality inputs without resorting to negative coping strategies to meet their crop production needs. The component will promote adoption of climate-smart agriculture and livestock management practices, combined with awareness generation of farmers on locust spread, prevention, and mitigation through farmer field school and extension approaches. It will also support adoption of community/village level integrated natural resource management.
- **Sub-component 4.4: Communications and Stakeholder Engagement (\$2 million):** The objective of this sub-component is to enhance Communications about the desert locust and their debilitating impact on affected communities, with a special focus on Stakeholder Engagement and Social Accountability. It will support the dissemination of information generated by the early warning systems; aid in the post swarm recovery and promote the resilience of communities as

they rebound from the crisis. It will also support community awareness programs about the effects and risks of the locust swarms such as the right types of pesticides to be used and the appropriate mechanisms for their application in a sustainable manner. To ensure counterpart leadership of the communications process, communications capacity will be built within PIU for the effective implementation of a Communications Strategy, impact assessment and sharing of results achieved through this intervention

Strong citizen and community engagement are preconditions for the effectiveness of the project. Accordingly, different tools, techniques and methods will be used for engagement to cover different needs of the stakeholders. Given the nature of the project, the strategy for stakeholder engagement is heavily focused on on-going information disclosure and dissemination that is efficient, transparent, and addresses the needs of different stakeholders. Stakeholder engagement activities will take into consideration the additional threat posed by COVID-19 outbreak risks. The design and means of stakeholder engagement will be adapted to the current government mandated social distancing requirements and based heavily on electronic and virtual modalities, where possible. The implementing entities will work on ensuring that virtually disseminated information is in line with the standards of information sharing that was implemented pre-COVID 19.

For consultations with rural communities, vulnerable individuals and groups, and Indigenous Peoples that must take place in person, a precautionary approach will be taken to prevent infection and/or contagion, given the highly infectious nature of COVID-19. In light of the current COVID-19 situation, the following are some considerations for selecting channels of communication:

- Avoid public gatherings (taking into account national restrictions or advisories), including public hearings, workshops and community meetings;
- If smaller meetings are permitted/advised, conduct consultations in small-group sessions, such as focus group meetings and deploy social distancing and hygiene practices. If not permitted or advised, make all reasonable efforts to conduct meetings through online channels;
- Diversify means of communication and rely more on social media and online channels. Where possible and appropriate, create dedicated online platforms and chatgroups appropriate for the purpose, based on the type and category of stakeholders;
- Employ traditional channels of communications (TV, newspaper, radio, dedicated phone-lines, and mail) when stakeholders do not have access to online channels or do not use them frequently. Traditional channels can also be highly effective in conveying relevant information to stakeholders, and allow them to provide their feedback and suggestions;
- Where direct engagement with project affected people or beneficiaries is necessary, identify channels for direct communication with each affected household via a context specific combination of email messages, mail, online platforms, dedicated phone lines with knowledgeable operators;
- Each of the proposed channels of engagement should clearly specify how feedback and suggestions can be provided by stakeholders.

Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) P174314  
Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Engagement Approach	Appropriate application of the approach
<b>Correspondences (Phone, Emails)</b>	Distribute information to Government officials, NGOs, Local Government, private sector and other organisations/agencies Invite stakeholders to meetings and follow-up
<b>Focus group meetings</b>	For communities, farmers organizations/groups, women beneficiaries, disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals/groups Present Project information to a group of stakeholders Allow stakeholders to provide their views on targeted baseline information Build relationships with communities Record responses
<b>Project website</b>	Present project information and progress updates Disclose ESIA, ESMP and other relevant project documentation
<b>Visibility/ Signage</b>	Share information door-by-door, respecting social distancing, on project activities; project investment location; hazards of spraying; project disclosure; Educational materials
<b>Project leaflet</b>	Brief project information to provide regular update Site specific project information.
<b>Mass media (TV, radio, print and electronic newspapers, social media)</b>	Communication channels with the public to disseminate situation reports, latest information presence of desert locusts, and project activities

### C- Proposed strategy for information disclosure and consultation process

The strategy for information disclosure and consultation may vary depending on the regional and local context including the changing situation of COVID-19. However, it is important that the different activities are inclusive and culturally sensitive, to ensure that vulnerable groups outlined above will have the chance to participate in and benefit from the Project while contained from potential pesticide risks. This can include, among others, household-outreach activities, group discussions, use of local radios, use of local mosques and the use of verbal communication or pictures, etc. While country-wide awareness campaigns will be established, area specific communication and awareness raising consultation will be conducted when combating the infestation of locust in a given locality.

The Kalash people residing in the Kalash Valleys in District Chitral, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, are the only recognized Indigenous People in Pakistan. As per information provided by the local Agriculture Department in Chitral, the district is not a risk of Desert Locust attack due to its elevation and climate, because of which the temperatures are too cold for locusts to survive. This was witnessed in May 2020, when a small swarm of locusts which reached Chitral due to a windstorm died instantly when they reached the district. In the case of locust presence in Chitral, an effective and accessible communication channel will be established for the Kalash people, with specific and focused consultations as per the requirements of ESS10 and ESS7 for Indigenous Peoples.

As envisaged under Sub-Component 4.4, the Project will strategize and implement communications, engagement and social accountability to conduct effective consultations with the local community members and other concerned stakeholders before, during and after the spray of pesticides, using

communication channels outlined above as deemed appropriate. The SEP will serve as a precursor and a guiding document for this Component and will be refined as the project progresses.

During preparation and implementation of cash for work schemes, livelihood restoration and safety net response, communities will be consulted, and their full participation will be sought. In addition, consultations will be conducted during the preparation of ESMF/ESIAs/ESMPs. The draft and final ESMF/ESIAs/ESMPs and SEP will be disclosed prior to formal consultations.

The approaches taken will thereby ensure that information is meaningful, timely, and accessible to all affected stakeholders, use of different languages including addressing cultural sensitivities, as well as challenges deriving from illiteracy or disabilities, tailored to the differences in geography, livelihoods and way of life. The project will also ensure the establishment of a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) that is accessible to all project stakeholders and beneficiaries. If required, a specific GRM will be established for the indigenous Kailash people in Chitral as per the requirements of ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities.

#### **D- Reporting back to stakeholders**

Stakeholders will be kept informed as the project develops, especially regarding guidelines on operations in line with health and safety procedures and taking into consideration the COVID -19 guidelines and restrictions. This will include reporting on project environmental and social performance and implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan and grievance mechanism. This will be important for the wider public, but specifically critical for the directly impacted community members.

This SEP defines the approach for communication and engagement about the technology used by the project. Given the use of new technology; such as, satellite maps, drones, eLocust3, GPS enabled cameras and meta-data analysis and climate information for locust risk mapping to better pinpoint outbreaks and to aid in damage assessments and response programming there is a need to educate stakeholders.

### **VI- Resources and Responsibilities for Managing SEP Activities**

#### **A- Management functions and responsibilities**

A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be set up in the MNFSR. The role of PMU will be overall project management and implementation, providing leadership to locust management and coordination with all implementing partners, and effective communications and stakeholder engagement. In addition, Provincial Agriculture departments being relevant to locust will lead the implementation by setting up of Provincial Project Implementation Units (PPIUs) under direct supervision of the Secretary for Agriculture. The PMU and the PPIUs will be responsible for the implementation of the activities in this SEP. Each Unit will designate a focal person responsible to track SEP activities. The stakeholder engagement activities will be carried out and documented by the relevant PPIUs through quarterly progress reports, to be shared with the World Bank.

The Project will also make use of the existing PIUs of World Bank projects in Agriculture Departments of Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for enhancing SEP related activities.

## **B- Resources**

As mentioned earlier, SEP will serve as a guiding document for Sub-Component 4.4: Communications and Stakeholder Engagement of the Project, which has a budget of USD 2 million. The Sub-Component will be designed as per recommendations of the final SEP (available 45 days post project effectiveness). Accordingly, all activities related to improving communications and engagement capacity within PIUs will be financed under this Sub-Component, including activities for effective implementation of SEP recommendations.

## **VII- Grievance Mechanism**

The project will prepare a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) through which, the project affected persons as well interested persons, local communities and the public are able to raise issues on the project. The GRM will guarantee privacy and confidentiality on the part of the aggrieved party.

The main objective of a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is to assist resolve complaints in a timely, effective and efficient manner. Project-level GRMs can provide the most effective way for people to raise issues and concerns about project activities that affect them. The project-level GRM will be culturally appropriate, effective, accessible and should be known to the affected population. The PIUs will conduct awareness raising for the affected communities about the presence of the GRM and inform their right to file any concerns, complaints and issues they have related to the project.

The GRM provides a transparent and credible process for fair, effective and lasting outcome. It also builds trust and cooperation as an integral component of broader community consultation that facilitates corrective actions. Specifically, the GRM:

- Provides affected people with avenues for making a complaint or resolving any dispute that may arise during the project implementation;
- Ensures that appropriate and mutually acceptable redress actions are identified and implemented to the satisfaction of complainants; and
- Avoids the need to resort to judicial proceedings.

## **A- Approach to GRM Establishment**

Grievance redress committees will be established at the provincial and district levels to ensure accessibility and transparency of the GRM. The GRM will serve as a location for addressing grievances related to the project with provision of appropriate training for the committee members regarding the requirement in the project.



Grievances relating to the project will be handled at the provincial level by the PIUs at the provincial Agriculture Departments for Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; and by the PMU at the MNFSR for Federal level.

Where available, the PIUs will build upon and use the existing GRM systems developed for the ongoing World Bank projects. They will ensure the GRM guidelines detail the procedure, timing, indicative committee members, etc as defined in the ESCP. Resources will be allocated for the GRM. The complaints recorded, resolved and referred will be reported quarterly and annually together with the environmental and social implementation performance report.

If the project decides to conduct activities in the Kalash Valleys of Chitral, a specific GRM will be established for the Kalash people as per the requirements of ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities.

### **VIII- Monitoring and Reporting**

In the course of project implementation, the SEP will be periodically updated, as necessary, consistent with the requirements of ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Bank. Any major changes to the project related activities and to its schedule will be duly reflected in the SEP. MNFSR will prepare and submit to the Bank quarterly and annual SEP implementation reports including ESHS performance and other environment and social instruments of the Project, including the grievance mechanism. The quarterly summaries will provide a mechanism for assessing both the number and the nature of complaints and requests for information, along with the Project's ability to address those in a timely and effective manner.

Information on public engagement activities undertaken by the Project during the year will be conveyed to the stakeholders in following the ways: (i) publication of a standalone annual report on project's stakeholder engagement; and (ii) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will also be included and monitored by the project on a regular basis as part of the Community Communication and Outreach Guideline.

Further details will be outlined in the updated SEP, to be prepared within 1 month of effectiveness, including the establishment of detailed stakeholder's communication guideline.

## Annexure 1 – NDMA Situation Report on Anti-Locust Operations

1 of 15



Government of Pakistan  
Prime Minister's Office  
National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)  
ISLAMABAD



### SITUATION REPORT ON ANTI-LOCUST OPERATIONS - 107

(UPTO 01 JUNE 2020)

1. **Locust Threat. Annexure A.** No Change from our Sitrep No 102.
2. **Overall Situation.** Keeping in view the climatic and soil conditions, **locust prone districts** were identified in all provinces. Anti-Locust Survey and Control Operation in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders is in progress, with presence of Locust in following districts / areas:-

Serial	Province	Prone Districts	Reported Presence in Prone Districts (24 Hours)	Remaining Districts	Reported Presence in Remaining Districts (24 Hours)
a.	Balochistan	11	11 (Khuzdar, Awaran, Nushki, Chaghi, Gawadar, Uthal, Kech, Panjgur, Kharan, Washuk, Quetta)	22	22 (Barkhan, Dera Bughti, Duki, Harnai, Jaffar Abad, Jhal Magsi, Bolan, Kalat, Killa Abdullah, Killa Saifullah, Kohlu, Loralai, Mastung, Musakhail, Naseerabad, Pishin, Sherani, Sibi, Surab, Sohbat Pur, Zohb, Ziarat)
c.	KP	14	7 (Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, South Waziristan, North Waziristan, Lakki Marwat, Karak, Kurram)	21	2 (Peshawar, Khyber)
b.	Punjab	13	3 (Bhakkar, DG Khan, Mianwali)	23	0
d.	Sindh	8	0	21	6 (Naushero Feroze, Sh. Benazirabad, Shikarpur, Kashmore@Kandhkot, Kambar Shahdadkot Jamshoro)
e.	Total	46	21	87	30

3. **Summary - Survey & Control Operation.** Province-wise update on survey and control in **prone districts** during **Stage-1** from 9 March to date as per NAP-DL-20 based on latest SUPARCO Habitat Analysis is as under (**District-wise detailed report for Survey at Annexure B and Control at Annexure C**):-

Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) P174314  
Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan

2 of 15

Province	Prone Districts	Remaining Districts	Surveyed (Sq Km)		Treated (Sq km)		Resources Employed		
			Last 24 Hours	To Date	Last 24 Hours	To Date	Vehicles	No of Teams	Man-power
Balochistan	11	22	1152	88959	38	2814	96	166	1205
KP	14	21	707	33354	8	411	78	80	758
Punjab	13	23	695	51284	1	1491	260	771	2682
Sindh	8	21	1127	68482	6	306	31	105	382
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>3681</b>	<b>242079</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>5022</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>1122</b>	<b>5027</b>

4. **Aerial Effort** (Since 12 March 2020)

Org	Aircraft	Available for Spray	Present Location	Total Area Treated* (Ha)	Area Treated Last 24 hours		
					Location	Area (ha)	Mortality
Army	4 x BJR	3*	3 in Multan	5996	-	-	-
DPP	3 x Beaver	1	Sukkur	2400	-	-	-
NDMA	Piper Brave	1 (leased)	Bwp	-	-	-	-

\* One more helicopters shall be operational by 4<sup>th</sup> Jun 2020.

5. **Foreign Assistance and Procurement**

- a. **FAO**. DFID (UK) has provided assistance of **£ 1 Mn** for locust control in Pakistan, which will be spent through FAO. FAO will provide following equipment:-
  - (1) 50 x ULV Mist Micronair sprayers (Likely by end Jun 20)
  - (2) 100 x eLocust devices
  - (3) 10 x Vehicles to DPP for Locust Survey & control
- b. **China**. China has provided assistance package including 300,000 litres of Malathion 96% ULV and 50 x vehicle mounted sprayers to Pakistan. Last batch was received in Karachi on 25 April 2020.
- c. Community World Service Asia (Japanese Govt) has pledged to donate 58,502 litres of Lambda EC 2.5% to Pakistan in June 2020.
- d. **NDMA Procurement**. Procurement of following items is underway:-
  - (1) 175,000 litres of Malathion ULV (50,000 lits shall be delivered by 30 June, remaining by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020).
  - (2) Amount for purchase of 83 x ULV Micronair sprayers has been transferred to Pakistan Embassy in UK. 14 x sprayers shall reach Pakistan by end-Jun, while remaining will be delivered in July 2020.
  - (3) 20 x indigenously developed ULV sprayers for DPP, being manufactured in Multan, to be delivered by 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
  - (4) 15 x ULV sprayers are being procured from R&D Company (Private), Karachi,

Pakistan: Locust Emergency and Food Security Project (LEAFS) P174314  
Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan

3 of 15

to be delivered by mid-June.

(5) Air Tractors for aerial wing of DPP.

6. **Provincial Procurement**

- a. **Balochistan**. Nil.
- b. **Punjab**. Nil.
- c. **KP**. Nil.
- d. **Sindh**. Nil.

7. **Miscellaneous Actions by Various Stakeholders**


- a. **Balochistan**. Nil.
- b. **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**. Nil.
- c. **Punjab**. Nil.
- d. **Sindh**. Nil.
- e. **MoNFSR / DPP**. Nil.
- f. **FAO**. Nil.
- g. **NDMA**. Nil.
- h. **TOC Meeting**. Nil.

8. **Distribution and Functionality of Equipment**.

Attached at **Annex D**.

9. **Stocks of Pesticides**. Attached at **Annex E**.

10. **Challenges / Problems Faced**. Nil.

  
Major  
For Chairman NDMA  
(Muhammad Noman Ul Haq)  
Phone No 051-9030858  
Fax No 051-9030848

Annexure 2 – PDMA Locust Awareness and Alert Advert



**صحرائی  
ٹڈی دل کا غیر معمولی حملہ**

پنجاب بھر میں فصلوں کے لیے  
انتہائی خطرناک ہو سکتا ہے

حکومت پنجاب کی جانب سے

ٹڈی دل کے حملہ سے پنجاب کے متاثرہ 15 اضلاع میں

**79** لاکھ ایکڑ سے زائد رقبے پر ٹڈی دل کی موثر نگرانی

جدید ترین آلات و مشینری کے ذریعے

**2** لاکھ **40** ہزار ایکڑ سے زائد رقبے پر سپرے

کاشتکار حضرات اپنے علاقے میں ٹڈی دل کی موجودگی کی فوری اطلاع دینے کے لیے  
اپنے علاقہ کا نام، تھانہ اور ویڈیوز **0317-8371900** پر **WhatsApp** کریں  
یا اپنے متعلقہ ڈی سی آفس یا پی ڈی ایم اے کی ہیلپ لائن **1129** پر کال کریں

آپ کے جان و مال کے تحفظ کے لیے ہر پہل کو نشان

پراونشل ڈیزاسٹر مینجمنٹ اتھارٹی حکومت پنجاب

[http://www.pdma.gov.pk](https://www.pdma.gov.pk) [/pdmapunjab](https://www.pdma.gov.pk) [/Pdmapunjab0](https://www.pdma.gov.pk) [/pdma.punjab/](https://www.pdma.gov.pk)



Annexure 3 –Locust Response Advertisement for National Urdu Daily newspapers



**نیشنل لوکسٹ کنٹرول سنٹر (NLCC)**  
آئیے مل کر ٹڈی دل کا خاتمہ کریں

**عوامی آگاہی مہم**

حکومت پاکستان ٹڈی دل کے خاتمے کے لیے موثر اقدامات اٹھا رہی ہے۔ وزارت قومی غذائی تحفظ و تحقیق، تمام صوبائی محکمہ زراعت، پاکستان آرمی اور کیونٹی کی مشترکہ ٹیمیں ملک کے مختلف اضلاع میں ٹڈی دل کے خلاف بھرپور سروے اور کنٹرول آپریشن کر رہی ہیں اور متاثرہ علاقوں میں 1150 مشترکہ ٹیمیں اس مہم میں حصہ لے رہی ہیں۔

زیر استعمال ذرائع	گزشتہ 24 گھنٹے میں	آپریشن	سروے
ٹڈی دل کے موثر تدارک کے لیے زمینی آلات (سپرے مشینز، ٹریکٹرز) کے ساتھ ساتھ ہوائی جہازوں اور میٹلی کلپرز کی مدد سے ایریل اسپرے بھی کیا جا رہا ہے۔	3633 مربع کلومیٹر رقبہ پر سروے اور 49 مربع کلومیٹر رقبہ پر کنٹرول آپریشن کیا گیا۔ جس میں تقریباً 4151 لیٹر کیڑے مار درواہ کا استعمال کیا گیا۔	بلوچستان میں 2775، پنجاب میں 1489، خیبر پختونخوا میں 403 اور سندھ میں 300 مربع کلومیٹر رقبہ میں کنٹرول آپریشن کیا جا چکا ہے۔	اب تک 1238399 اسکوائر کلومیٹر (تقریباً 2.4 کروڑ ہیکٹر) رقبہ پر سروے کیا جا چکا ہے، جبکہ 4967 مربع کلومیٹر (تقریباً 496700 ہیکٹر) رقبہ میں ٹڈی دل کی موجودگی پر آپریشن کیا جا چکا ہے۔