CURRENT SITUATION
Rainfall reported for the month of August 2021 was moderate to heavy rainfall events at most places in AJK, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and upper Punjab while rest of the county received light to moderate rainfall comprising GB and isolated areas in Balochistan.

DROUGHT OUTLOOK
Moderate to severe drought conditions are prevailing over NW areas of Balochistan and south east Sindh. Humanitarian partners may continue surveillance in these areas and plan DRM activities accordingly.

PRECIPITATION
During the month of September 2021, normal precipitation is expected over the country. Increase in water availability in the upper Indus basin and chances of some GLOF events over the Glaciers are expected. Precipitation during the month of August 2021 was not good enough for most of the drought prone areas of Sindh and Balochistan.

TEMPERATURE
The minimum temperature is expected to be around 25°C to 31°C in the start of September and drops down to degrees as per seasonal pattern during the end of specified period in Sindh and Balochistan. The maximum temperature would remain around 36°C to 40°C in these areas.

AGRICULTURE
The Kharif Crops season varies by region, starting at the earliest July-August. Kharif crops are usually sown at the beginning of the first rains during the advent of the south-west monsoon season, and they are harvested at the end of monsoon season (October). Depending on the region, Sunflower is at the Maturity stage in Sindh. Sugarcane is at the Tiller- ing stage. Threshing of rape Mustard is completed.

MARKET SITUATION
The market prices of essential food commodities generally remained stable during the last three months (May-July 2021), except for wheat flour which had a significant price increase in May compared to its price from the previous month. Moreover, live chicken also experienced significant price volatility during this period, however it is a usual phenomenon for poultry and products.

SUCCESS STORY (KS RELIEF)
King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre (Ksrelief) had distributed food bags in collaboration with National Disaster Management Authority in Badswat valley, Ishkoman north of Ghizer, Astore and Diamer districts.

One thousand food bags were distributed among affected people.
Each bag contained flour bag of 20kg, rice bag of 5 kg, cooking oil of 5 liters, 5kg of sugar, 5kg of Daal Channa, and 950 grams of black tea. The project benefited about 7,000 individual living in four totally cutoff villages i.e. Immit, Ishkoman, Mujawir and Tashnalote in district Ghizer, Diamer and Astore valleys of Gilgit Baltistan. The food bags were distributed by Hayat foundation teams in collaboration with NDMA under supervision of ksrelief.
Current Situation

More rains with a gradual decreasing tendency are likely to continue in the country with 2-3 spells over northern half; Punjab, Khyber Paktunkhawa, Gilgit-Baltistan, AJK, Sindh and Balochistan as well during the first and second weeks of the month. Monsoon is expected to retreat from Pakistan during the third week, however westerly waves will continue to pass across the north of the country.

Water Availability During the month of August 2021, decreasing trend of water inflow was observed in Khanpur, Tarbela and Mangla dams. There is a dire need for effective water management accordingly. (Source: PMD)

Drought outlook of September 2021

The month of August was not good enough for most drought prone areas of Balochistan and Sindh. In Balochistan, Districts Chagi, Kharan, Panjgor, Washuk and Kech are facing Moderate while Awaran and Quetta facing Mild Drought Conditions. In Sindh Province, Districts Mirpurkhas, Sanghar and Khairpur areas are facing Moderate Drought while Badin, Thatta, Sajawal, Nawabshah, Jamshoro are facing Mild Drought Conditions.
Precipitation

Generally, the month of September has been considered for the retreat of Monsoon as well as the start of transition period, resulting lower rainfall. It is expected that near normal rains may occur over most parts of Pakistan in the present month. The central parts of KP, Kashmir, Potohar, northeastern Punjab and parts of south Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan may receive slightly above normal rainfalls as compare to long-term climatic record. Whereas, slightly below normal rains are expected over the Northern Areas, north Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and southwestern Balochistan.

“Less water availability for next cropping season is expected because of low rainfall”

Source: FEWSNET, USGS
IRI probabilistic seasonal climate forecast product is based on a re-calibration of model output from the U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s North American Multi-Model Ensemble Project (NMME).

**Balochistan - Seasonal Agro-Climate outlook (Aug - Oct 2021)**

**North-Eastern Baluchistan** may receive few spells of light rainfall particularly during the mid of August, first decade of September & at the end of second week of October. At this particular time there is no prominent agricultural crops in most of the fields. However, orchids are there in vast areas and rice has been cultivated on a smaller scale which would be got benefited from the expected rain in mid-August. The minimum temperature is expected to be around 25°C in the start of August and drops down to 7°C as per seasonal pattern during the end of specified period. The maximum temperature would remain around 36°C in the start of August and drops down to 22°C due to changing season.

**Central Baluchistan** may receive 1-2 spells of light rainfall mainly during the mid of August and 1st week of September. Here in this area, at present there is no prominent agricultural crops in the fields. However, orchids are there on a smaller scale which would be affect from the expected dry period.

Minimum temperature during the whole period would remain 26°C to 13°C as per seasonal pattern. Maximum temperature may remain within the range of 41°C to 26°C with changing season.

“Light to moderate rainfall is expected”
Sindh - Seasonal Agro-Climate outlook (Aug - Oct 2021)

**Upper Sindh** is expected to have almost dry weather during the entire period. However, a light rainfall event is expected in mid of August. Besides sugarcane, Rice is the major crop in the area which is at initial stages and would be affected by the dry weather conditions.

The minimum temperature would be around 30°C at start, it may go on increasing and approach 33°C by start of September and then drops down and attains its lowest value as 19°C at the end of specified period. The maximum temperature may remain within the range of 43°C to 34°C as per seasonal pattern. Consistent hot and dry conditions would increase the water requirement for the standing crops in the region.

**Lower Sindh** may receive 2-3 spells of light to moderate rainfall mainly during the 1st & 2nd decade of August and during the 1st week of September. Kharif crops like Cotton, Sugarcane etc. in this area are well ahead in comparison to the rest of the country. Therefore, due to the prolong dry conditions the standing crops would be got affected in the region.

The minimum temperature would be around 28°C in the start, continue increasing and finally may reach 31°C by start of September and then drops down and attains its lowest value as 22°C at the end of specified period following the seasonal pattern. The maximum temperature may remain within the range of 40°C to 35°C due to changing season.

**Normalized Difference Vegetation Index**

*eMODIS 250m( NDVI, 21-31 Aug)*

Anomalies represent a subtraction of the median NDVI values (2003-2017) for a 10-day period from current-year values for the same period, rendering an image where negative values portray less vigorous vegetation than average, and positive values represent areas that are more vigorous in the current year.

Source: USGS/EROS/FEWSNET
Market Situation

The market prices of essential food commodities generally remained stable during the last three months (May-July 2021), except for wheat flour which had a significant price increase in May compared to its price from the previous month. Moreover, live chicken also experienced significant price volatility during this period, however it is a usual phenomenon for poultry and products.

Wheat Flour: During the last three months (May-July), the average retail price of wheat flour significantly increased by 11% in May compared to its price from the previous month. However, in the next two months its price remained stable with only negligible increases in June (0.6%) and July (0.3%). Its average price was recorded at PKR 57.45 per kg in July 2021.

Rice Basmati
The price of rice basmati remained somewhat stable during the last 3 months with only slight increases observed on month-to-month comparison in May (0.2%) and June (0.4%) along with a slight increase in July.

Live Chicken
The price of live chicken remained volatile during the last three months (May-July). After a significant price increase of 16.5% in May compared to its price from the previous month, its price dropped by 29% in June. While, in July, it further decreased by 12% compared to June and was recorded at PKR 192.05 per kg.

Vegetable Ghee and Cooking Oil
The prices of vegetable ghee and cooking oil remained more or less stable during the last 3 months (May-July) with only negligible increases in the price of vegetable ghee on month-to-month comparison in May (0.2%) and June (0.4%) along with a slight increase in July.
The average Terms of Trade, which reflects the purchasing capacity of poor households was recorded at 16.35 kgs of wheat flour purchased with one day wage. The ToT increased by 3% compared to the previous month. City-wise ToT of major cities are shown in graph.

Hope within the Stones - Success Story

My name is Yadgar and I am the resident of Badswat valley. One month ago, a massive flood destructed our beautiful village. It also destroyed our house where we use to live. I used to work as a daily wager. I also have a piece of land for agricultural purpose.

Nowadays there is no work as flood destroyed everything including roads. We were totally cut-off from the main city. Our agricultural land was also destroyed by the flood. We were compelled to live in a tent. I don’t have any funds to rebuild our house. Life becomes very hard. We were suffering from hunger. We lost everything in the flood. We were upset due to our problems. But we didn’t lose hope and today we received our food package which contain rations for

(5.6%). Whereas, for cooking oil, only a negligible increase was observed on month-to-month comparison in May (0.4%) along with slight increases in June (1%) and July (5.3%). The average price of vegetable ghee was noted at PKR 327.70 per kg and for cooking oil at PKR 327.60 per litre in July.

Pulse Masoor
The price of pulse Masoor remained somewhat stable during the last three months (May-July). Its average price registered a slight decrease of 1.6% on a month-on-month comparison in May, a slight increase in June (3.6%) and again a slight decrease in July (1.1%). Its average price was recorded at PKR 157.75 per kg in July.

Refined Sugar
The average price of refined sugar remained more or less stable during the last 3 months with only a negligible decrease in May (0.3%) on month-to-month comparison and an increase in June (0.7%). In July, with a slight increase of 4.7% compared to its price in June, its average price was recorded at PKR 103.33 per kg.
a month. We as a family would like to thank King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre for their utmost support.

Source: KS Relief