

UPU Emergency and Solidarity Fund response report – supporting Pakistan Post following the 2022 floods

In 2022, Pakistan was struck by some of the worst flooding in its history. Torrential monsoon rains affected over 33 million people, resulting in loss of life, widespread displacement and the destruction of critical infrastructure – including the country’s postal network.

As the floodwaters surged through vast areas, **postal infrastructure suffered severe damage** across two provinces. A detailed report submitted to the UPU’s **Emergency and Solidarity Fund (ESF) unit** considered support to Pakistan Post as being an urgent priority.

UPU Emergency and Solidarity Fund responds

In the spirit of global solidarity, the **UPU** activated the **ESF** to respond to Pakistan Post’s call for assistance. The ESF is the UPU’s dedicated mechanism for providing rapid, coordinated support to postal operators impacted by natural disasters and emergencies.

Under the ESF, the **disaster risk management (DRM) team** at the UPU International Bureau facilitated communication and coordination between Pakistan Post and international postal stakeholders. An appeal via **circular** was issued to the global postal community to garner financial support for Pakistan Post’s recovery efforts.

Global solidarity in action: support from Japan

The response was encouraging. In particular, the **Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) of Japan**, along with **Japan Post**, generously donated to aid in restoring postal operations in Pakistan. This funding was allocated to support immediate recovery priorities, such as infrastructure repair, procurement of essential equipment, and resumption of basic postal services in the hardest-hit regions.

This timely support not only demonstrated the effectiveness of the UPU’s ESF but also highlighted the deep commitment of the international postal community to standing with one another during times of crisis.

Conclusion

The 2022 floods in Pakistan posed extraordinary challenges; however, the swift mobilization of support through the UPU’s ESF DRM team ensured that help was not delayed. The collaboration between the UPU, Japan’s MIC, Japan Post and the DRM team underscores the critical importance of international cooperation in building postal resilience.

This case serves as a compelling example of how the **ESF enables a real, tangible impact**, ensuring that postal services – lifelines in times of crisis – are protected, restored and strengthened.