### Scenario 1 - Floods in Pakistan (2010) Livestock support (Group work on the joint use of Sphere and LEGS)

##### Background

In early August 2010, severe flooding moved southward along the Indus River from severely-affected northern regions toward western Punjab and to the southern province of Sindh in Pakistan. On 7 September 2010, the International Labour Organization reported that more than 5.3 million jobs have been lost due to the floods. On 24 September [World Food Programme](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Food_Programme) announced that about 70% of Pakistan's population do not have adequate access to proper nutrition. In total floods have submerged 17 million acres (69,000 km2) of Pakistan's most fertile crop land, have killed 200,000 head of livestock and have washed away massive amounts of grain.

##### Situation in Dadu District in the west of Sindh Province

Dadu District was particularly affected by the floods. The estimated population of the district is 1.6 million, with 70% rural-based. Nearly half the population have been displaced, their homes damaged or destroyed.

The displaced people have used diverse coping strategies: the highest concentration of people are staying in damaged houses, whereas an equal amount of households were evenly distributed between host families, spontaneous settlements and camps, with camps ranking the lowest. Large areas of land are still under water and some communities remain surrounded by flood waters.

The rural people of Dadu depend largely on vegetables, wheat, [pulses](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulses) and [animal fodder](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal_fodder) for their livelihoods. Most farmers and many landless people have some livestock ranging from poultry to sheep, buffalo and cattle. Daily wage labouring for farming households forms an important part of subsistence for many poorer families particularly women, throughout the District.

The flood hit Dadu district two weeks ago. Water sources are contaminated and there is a severe shortage of drinking water. Aid agencies, including the UN and local and international NGOs, have responded with food aid, materials for temporary shelter and medical supplies and services. Efforts are also underway to provide safe drinking water. However, some of the more remote villages are hard to reach

In 2010, the monsoon season in Pakistan overwhelmed the country with floods which affected 21 million people. In Thatta district, Sindh province, an NGO responded with a programme that involved re-stocking of livestock to affected families. This scenario explores how the organisation dealt with principles and key indicators that were difficult to implement in context.

##### Situation Report from Development Action (international NGO)

From: Mehar Field Office, Dadu District

To: HQ

Subject: Recent news updated – concerns about human nutrition and health, and livestock feed

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Please share this information with the rest of the team:

The situation in many areas remains desperate.

Whilst people were warned in advance of the flood, in many cases they refused to leave, and after the deluge they had to be rescued often by the army.

About 65,000 people in the district – mostly women and children – are stranded in their villages with no shelter on small tracts of land accessible only by boat or helicopter. The risk of waterborne disease from the stagnant floodwaters grows daily, and the challenge of getting supplies into these areas has become increasingly difficult.

There is no animal feed as many pastures are still underwater, straw and stovers have been washed away and traders are not servicing the rural markets. The remaining livestock are severely short of feed.

FAO has initiated a veterinary programme with training of community animal health workers and providing veterinary vouchers.

Prices of the few food commodities that remain available in the district have risen sharply.

**References in the Sphere Handbook and LEGS Handbook for the case study discussion**

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|  | **Related Elements of the Sphere handbook** | **Sphere pages** |
| Humanitarian Charter and Code of Conduct Principles 1, 5-9 | 20-24; 370-372 |
| Protection Principle 1 | 33 |
| Core Standards 1, 3 and 4 | 55, 61, 65 |
| Food Security Standard 1: General food security | 176 |
| Food Security – Livelihoods Standard 1: Primary Production | 204 |
| Food Security – Food Transfers Standards 1-6 | 180-197 |
| Food Security – Cash and Voucher Transfers: Standard 1 | 200 |
|  | **Related Elements of the Companion handbook LEGS** | **LEGS pages** |
|  | Feed Decision Tree – Figure 6.1 | 155 |
| Feed Standard 1: Assessment and planning | 156 |
| Feed Standard 2: Feeding levels | 158 |
| Feed Standard 3: Feed safety | 159 |
| Feed Standard 4: Sources and distribution of feed resources | 160 |
| Table 3.6: Options for using cash and voucher mechanisms to deliver LEGS technical interventions | 66 |

### Information for the debriefing (Notes for the facilitator. Can also be distributed to participants at the end of the exercise)

##### Key issues and outcomes

Many of the affected population are still struggling to gain access to adequate food for their families, because they are stranded, the markets have been affected, a significant portion of crop land and pasture is under water and they have lost their livestock, a key source of household food (milk, eggs, meat etc.). If those needs are not also met, then the long term impact on household nutrition and income will be severely exacerbated.

The Sphere Handbook and LEGS Handbook can be used jointly to protect the livelihood of the affected population. Sphere Food Security standard 1 provides guidance on the provision of food support to affected populations in a way that promotes their dignity, meet their primary needs, prevents erosion of assets and builds their resilience.

One of its key actions and guidance note 7 on coverage, access and acceptability specifically deal with the issue of access which is also covered in more detailed by Food security-food transfers standard 1 and 5 on general nutrition requirements and on targeting and distribution.

The economic activities in Dadu centre mainly on the primary sector. Sphere Food Security – livelihoods Standard 1 focuses on the protection and support to primary production mechanisms.

The impact of the floods on livestock is significant. The scenario suggests that livestock feed is a priority in this situation. In many cases, food aid is shared with livestock in order to keep vital livelihood assets alive following a crisis, therefore, if the needs of the surviving livestock are not met, the impact of the food transfers may be limited.

The Sphere Handbook and the LEGS standards both address this issue. In the Sphere Handbook guidance note 1 – prioritising life-saving responses under Food security standard 1: General food security recommends considering fodder provision in response to food insecurity. The LEGS handbook provides more in-depth guidance in this regard. Its standards help analyse whether a livestock feed intervention is appropriate (see Feed Standard 1: Assessment and planning; and the Feed Decision Tree (fig 6.1, p155). The subsequent LEGS Feed Standards provide more details on implementing a livestock feeding programme, with guidelines for determining the amounts required and distribution mechanisms, including whether feed should be delivered in situ or through feed camps. Vouchers for livestock feed purchase are one distribution mechanism that may be considered, but as for food distribution, this will depend on the availability of feed in the market. If vouchers are used for livestock feed and human food transfers, it may however be possible to integrate them into a single scheme, which would increase efficiency and management of the process.

At this stage of the crisis, given that there is insufficient feed for the remaining livestock, the provision of livestock/restocking is not appropriate. Similarly it is probably too early for the provision of seeds. However, both these options should be considered once livestock feed and other support resources such as adequate veterinary care are available, and the floods are beginning to recede so that planting can take place. Both the Sphere Handbook (see Appendix 2-Seed assessment checklist and Sphere Food Security-livelihood standard 1) and LEGS Handbook (see Chapter 9 on provision of livestock) would help in this area.

##### Lesson learned

Considering primary production needs, including understanding the role of livestock, is an important part of providing humanitarian aid in contexts where they make a significant contribution to livelihoods. Using Sphere and LEGS standards together helps take into account and respond to these needs.