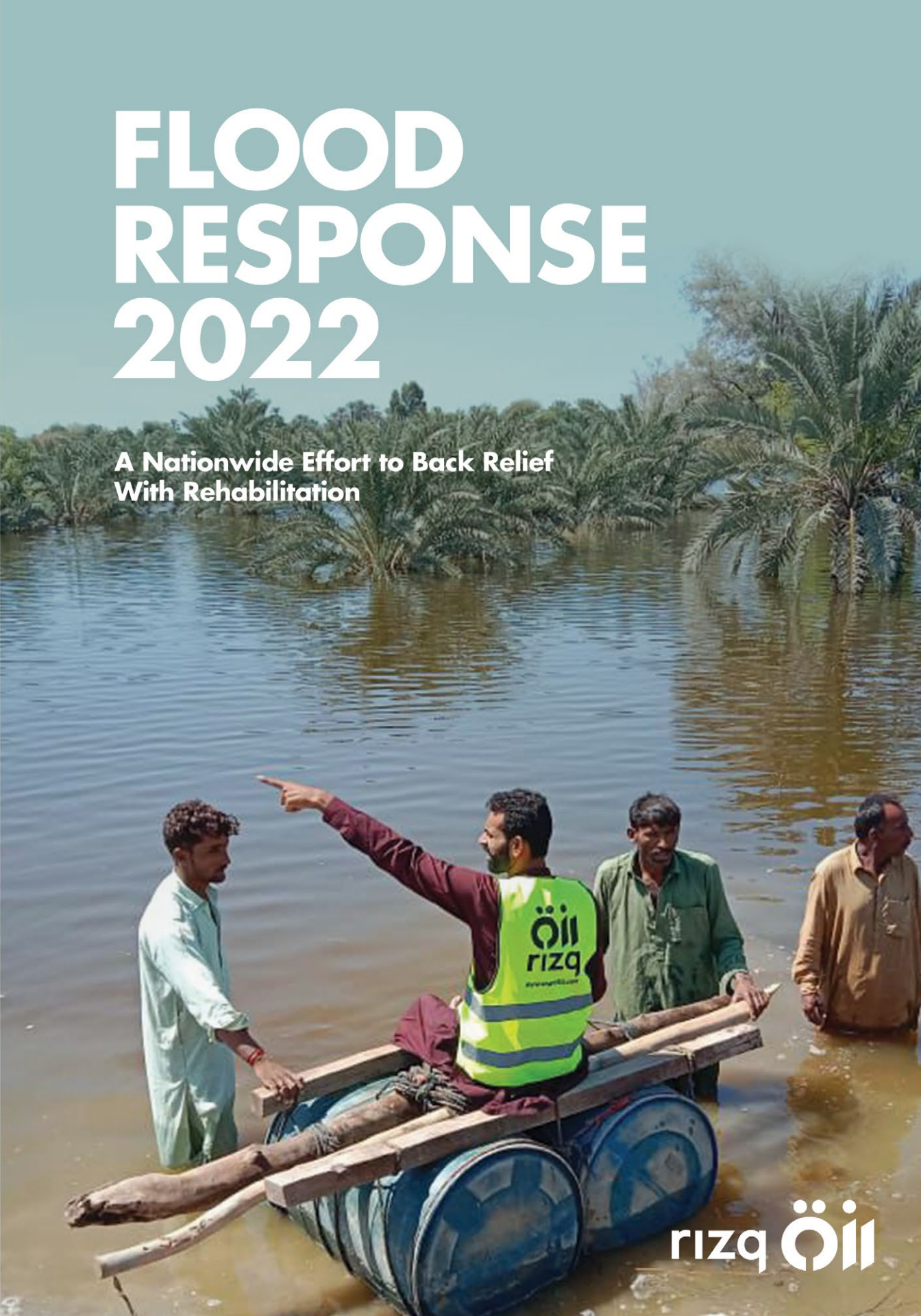
FLOOD RESPONSE 2022

A Nationwide Effort to Back Relief With Rehabilitation



CONTENTS

02
Message from the CEO

03
Executive Summary

04
Problem Overview

05
Project Overview

06
Operational Phases

10
Scope of Activitiesl

14
Key Impact

15
Way Forward

16
Geographical Coverage

18
Acknowledgements and Gratitude

19
Conclusion

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER

There are few projects and instances which can be termed as “defining moments” for an organisation. Floods 2022 were that project for us. We began this project with just one thought in mind, which was to bring relief to those who had witnessed their entire lives collapsing in front of their eyes. We mobilised our teams at record time, and through our tent cities and live kitchens, began providing the much needed relief to the people who needed it the most. It was an extremely humbling experience for all of us as we witnessed the destruction firsthand.

Beyond the official numbers and figures were visuals that stayed with us for a lifetime: images of a mother trying to console her hungry child, a father worrying about shelter and livelihood, distraught families with nowhere to go.

But while these scenes broke us, there was also a silver lining: a nation that was willing to give their all to help sustain those who had lost so much. Thousands of young volunteers who left the safety and comfort of their houses to rescue those who were stuck. We saw so many organisations and individual philanthropists on the ground who were working beyond their capacities to help bring relief in these dark times. We met some extremely dedicated individuals, reminding us that when we all work together for a shared cause, we are able to withstand the most difficult times.

This motivation helped us not only scale our impact across three provinces, but to also continue working beyond the initial relief phase. This project redefined how we viewed food security as well as human dignity. We did not just need to deliver food, we also had to strengthen the very root of our food systems: our farmers and agricultural lands. Floods 2022 marked Rizq’s entry into the agricultural landscape with an aim to make it resilient. Similarly, the visuals of so many individuals without a shelter over their heads reminded us that rizq goes beyond food, and is a sense



of security individuals feel, for which a safe, affordable home is a basic requirement.

I would like to thank all of our team members and volunteers who worked tirelessly as we conducted our first relief operation at such a large scale. These individuals showed unreal commitment, and we are so proud of them. We are also extremely grateful to our partners and donors for their support and trust in our abilities. Together, we were able to serve millions with dignity and compassion.

Huzaifa Ahmad

Co-founder Rizq / VP Operations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2022 floods were one of the most devastating climate disasters in Pakistan’s recent history, affecting more than **35 million people**, destroying over **1.5 million homes**, and inundating approximately **900,000 acres** of farmland. With agriculture and vulnerable communities among the hardest hit, the crisis extended far beyond immediate displacement, creating severe challenges related to food security, health, livelihoods, shelter, and long-term community resilience.

In response, Rizq launched its flood relief operations on 6 August 2022, initially focusing on providing fresh meals and dry rations to affected communities across South Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan. As the scale and complexity of the crisis became clearer, the response expanded into a comprehensive relief and rehabilitation effort encompassing food distribution, shelter, medicines and hygiene supplies, safe drinking water, housing repair, and agricultural recovery.

Rizq’s operations evolved through four key phases: needs assessment, rescue and emergency relief, repair and recovery, and long-term rehabilitation. Teams moved with the progression of the floods, beginning in Taunsa and expanding into Sindh and Balochistan. Throughout the response, particular attention was given to women, including pregnant women, and other vulnerable groups whose nutritional, health, and hygiene needs were especially acute.

Through partnerships with organisations including World Central Kitchen, Monal Foundation, Pakistan Air Force, Global Medic, Cargill, and Dawn Relief, and through the mobilisation of more than **2,000 volunteers**, Rizq was able to operate at significant scale. The response reached **486 villages across 16 districts**, distributing **30,972 ration packs** and **88,150 cooked meals**, setting up **450+ tents**, distributing **5,245 mosquito nets**, and installing **22 water filtration plants** that provided safe drinking water to affected communities.

Importantly, Rizq’s intervention extended beyond emergency relief. Recognising that affected families could not achieve sustainable recovery without restored livelihoods and safer homes, Rizq introduced livelihood and housing interventions. The 2022 flood response therefore marked a significant evolution in Rizq’s approach - from delivering immediate humanitarian assistance to addressing the structural vulnerabilities that leave communities exposed to recurring climate shocks. The experience demonstrated the importance of linking emergency response with livelihood restoration, climate-resilient agriculture, and disaster-resilient housing.



Moving forward, Rizq aims to build on these lessons by strengthening community resilience and supporting systems that enable vulnerable communities to recover with dignity and greater independence. The organisation’s post-flood initiatives reflect a long-term commitment to ensuring that relief is not simply a response to disaster, but a pathway towards stronger, more resilient, and better-prepared communities.

PROBLEM OVERVIEW

The monsoon season of 2022 was faced by extremely heavy rains and landslides, drowning over a third of Pakistan, hitting Sindh and Balochistan the hardest. In what the UN best described as “monsoon on steroids”, over 1,700 individuals lost their lives according to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) figures, with more than 12,000 injured. The country reportedly received 190% of its annual average rainfall during the months of July and August, destroying already weak infrastructure and impacting vulnerable communities. Reportedly, over 35 million individuals were affected by the floods across the country, with more than 1.5 million homes destroyed and 900,000 acres of farmland flooded.

Beyond the reported numbers, there were quieter wars that the affected individuals were fighting in the form of hunger, rising poverty and a spread of diseases. Agriculture was one of the worst hit sectors, with the crop losses pushing food prices out of reach for millions, while simultaneously causing a shortage of essential crops in the country. The situation was alarming especially for children, with UNICEF estimating a total of 3.5 million children to have been affected badly by the floods. The impact this situation would go on to have on the overall long-term health and well-being of women and children was nothing short of devastating.

In a national emergency of this magnitude, it became the need of the hour for all members of the civil society to act, and Rizq did not shy away from it.



PROJECT OVERVIEW



Rizq’s flood response was launched on 6th August, primarily focused on meeting nutritional needs of the affected population by provision of fresh, hot meals as well as dry food items across South Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan. However, as the teams travelled through the flood affected areas, the scope of activities continued to increase beyond the initially aimed operational scope, with teams working across fresh meals, ration distributions, medicines, set-up of water filtration plants, as well as housing projects. Beyond the urgent relief needs, Rizq further intervened to rehabilitate the impacted communities by launching agricultural support programs, as well as eco-friendly housing projects.

The floods 2022 response was one of Rizq’s largest-ever projects both in terms of geographical reach as well as the scope of activities. The first-hand experience of witnessing communities without shelters or livelihoods led to the expansion of Rizq into new divisions of agriculture as well as housing, which were not previously explored.

The backbone of the entire operation was a strong, nation-wide volunteer force, trained through Rizq Youth Republic. These young volunteers showed the utmost level of commitment, compassion and strength during the floods, reaching far-flung communities and bringing relief to as many individuals as possible.

OPERATIONAL PHASES



Phase 1
Needs Assessment

From 1st August Rizq teams began moving to the high-risk areas to conduct detailed needs assessments. The teams started from Taunsa and the nearby villages like Ahmedani, Sokar, Lashari, Mangrotha before moving further to Rajanpur and its surrounding districts.



Phase 2
Rescue

As soon as the situation deteriorated, Rizq began setting up tent cities and live kitchens in collaboration with major partners like Monal. During this phase, the focus was on meeting the immediate needs of affected individuals. Tents were provided according to family members along with charpayis, bedding, medication and sanitary products - especially for women.

In the same time, Rizq teams began registering the families for the next phase of support, where these families were provided with 3 meals a day over the course of the next 2-3 weeks through the live kitchen facility set up. A temporary tent school was also set up for the children where teachers were hired to allow education to continue.

During this phase, Rizq teams began visiting the damaged houses along with the male family members of the registered families to gauge the level of damage caused, and how these houses could be repaired.





Phase 3
Repair and Relief

After conducting a damage analysis of the houses, Rizq teams hired the male family members of the affected families on wages, tasked with repairing their own homes and bringing them back into liveable condition. This had dual benefits: it brought earnings back to the family while also reviving their damaged homes.

Once the houses were in adequate condition, the families were sent back from the ten cities to their houses along with the provision of basic ration as well as medication and sanitation products for women. The families were also provided with one solar plate each as well as LED bulbs to ensure basic electricity provision in the houses.

The registered families were provided with a second supply of ration after a couple of months to allow for continued sustenance for nutritional needs even if they were unable to get back on their feet.



Phase 4
Rehabilitation

After conducting a damage analysis of the houses, Rizq teams hired the male family members of the affected families on wages, tasked with repairing their own homes and bringing them back into liveable condition. This had dual benefits: it brought earnings back to the family while also reviving their damaged homes.

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SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES



The flood operations focused on the following main activities, targeting different urgent needs of the impacted individuals and families:

Live Kitchens

Rizq teams set up live kitchens in different flood affected districts in collaboration with World Central Kitchen (WCK) and Monal Foundation. These kitchens were utilised to provide freshly cooked meals to flood impacted families living in tent cities three times in a day. The meals were kept balanced in terms of nutrients, while cooked according to local tastes, focusing primarily on meeting protein, energy, and iron requirements of individuals.

The first Kitchen was established in Rojhan Tent City with the collaboration of Pakistan Air Force and Monal Foundation, while the second kitchen was established in Khairpur with the help

of WCK and Monal Foundation. The food was packaged in a disposable, dignified manner to make it easy to carry and distribute amongst beneficiaries.



Water Filtration Plants

In collaboration with local partners and individuals, Rizq teams helped install multiple water filtration plants in numerous affected areas including Dadu, Mirpurkhas, Naushero Feroze,

Khairpur, Jacobabad and Sanghar, to meet the needs of the families. These plants provided safe drinking water to thousands.



Ration Distributions

Beyond freshly cooked meals, Rizq teams also participated in distributing ration packs amongst the flood affected families staying in the tent cities. A team of volunteers were responsible for packaging of the ration packs at the back-end warehouse in Lahore, taking daily dispatched quantities up to 1,000 on some days. These packaged bags would be carried to the local warehouses at the flood affected sites through an effective logistics network and distributed amongst verified beneficiaries.

Ration distribution carried a stringent verification process as follows:

1. Survey form for the area and family identification.
2. Data collection form to collect family information
3. Tokens distributed amongst shortlisted families for the ration distribution
4. Families to be provided with a specific time and date for collection
5. Tokens to be verified against links and ration packages provided to families with dignity.



Medicines and Hygiene Products

Through its partnership with Global Medic, Rizq distributed hygiene kits, medicines, and mosquito nets to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases. Additionally, Rizq teams also distributed hygiene kits and female sanitary products to reduce chances of diseases.



Shelter and Clothing

Rizq teams helped set up tent cities in different flood affected areas, providing families with safe shelters along with bedding, clothes and other necessities to keep them safe. Moving further, Rizq also helped in the construction of houses in Sehwan in collaboration with Cargill and Dawn Relief.



Farmer Rehabilitation

After the floods, Rizq launched its Kissan Dost Program in different regions of South Punjab like Taunsa and Rajanpur. Under this program, Rizq distributed zero interest, zero collateral loans amongst smallholder farmers in the form of agricultural inputs and land levelling. The aim was to prepare the land for farming after it had been ruined by the floods, without forcing the farmers to rely on exploitative middlemen for finances.



IMPACT

The impact of the flood operations was seen across all the districts in which Rizq teams were operational, reaching far-flung areas with relief and rehabilitation efforts. Some of the major achievements from this program were:

486
villages served in 16 districts

88,150
cooked meals served

30,972
ration packages distributed

5,245
mosquito nets distributed

450+
tents set up

2,000+
volunteers mobilised

22
water filtration plants installed



WAY FORWARD



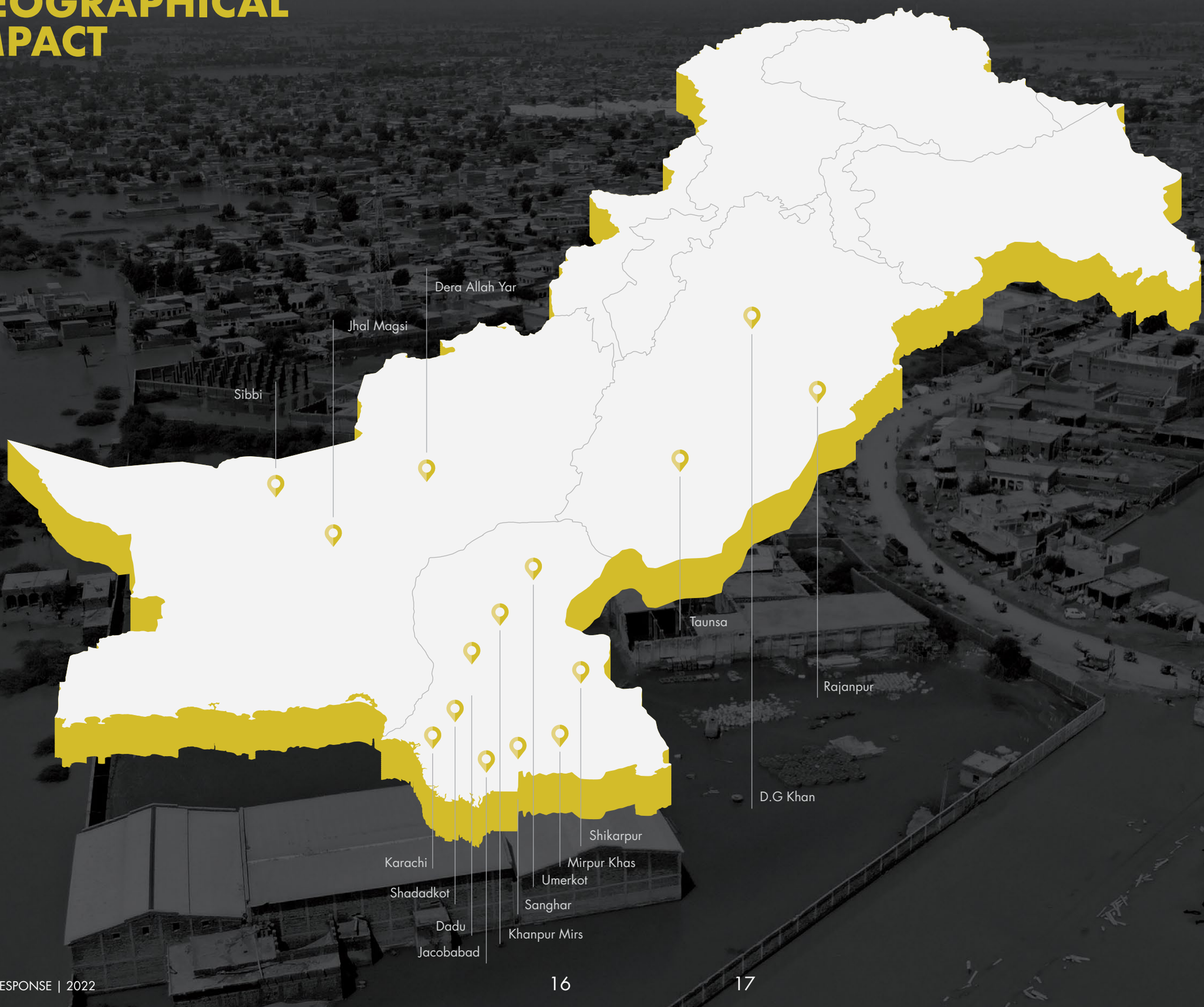
Pakistan remains in the list of countries most vulnerable to impacts of climate change, and unless drastic measures are taken, the country will continue to face disasters and unpredictable weather patterns. The best course of action to take in this situation are efforts to mitigate impacts and build long-term communal resilience to allow quick recovery.

For Rizq, the floods of 2022 were an eye-opening experience, allowing our teams to understand the structural weaknesses that exist in our infrastructure, our houses, as well as our agricultural practices, which make them even more vulnerable to such disasters. While the initial plan was to provide relief to those affected, it was during these efforts that the team made a decision to intervene beyond one-time relief measures, and collectively build structures which are dependable.

After the floods, Rizq launched two new interventions: the Kissan Dost Program and Housing Innovation Lab. The former is an effort to not only rehabilitate flood-affected farmers by providing them with interest-free agricultural loans, but to also strengthen food systems through climate-friendly agricultural practices. Housing Innovation Lab (HIL) researches and constructs eco-friendly housing models which are built to withstand floods and disasters, while also being low-cost and easy to rebuild as they incorporate local materials and construction practices.

Moving forward, these initiatives aim to build communities which are stranger, resilient, and prepared in the case of disasters.

GEOGRAPHICAL IMPACT



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND GRATITUDE

The successful completion has been made possible through the support of multiple partners, volunteers and individual donors. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to World Central Kitchen (WCK) for choosing Rizq as their official operational partner in Pakistan to set-up live kitchens and provide food kits, as well as to Monal for their support in setting up kitchens and training Rizq staff during the process.

We would also like to thank all our implementing partners including Kausar Group, Careem, Cargill, Shakarganj Food Products, Syngenta, Pepsico, Total Parco, Al-Jalil Developers, Jugnu, Junoon Restaurant, Global Medic, Deal Cart and others for extending their support.

Rizq is also extremely grateful to, and proud of the Youth Republic network that helped mobilise over 2000 volunteers from all around Pakistan, who helped make these efforts possible.

CONCLUSION



Floods 2022 were a nation-wide calamity, requiring a collective, comprehensive response from all members of the society. For Rizq, as an institution that aims to sustain human lives, it was absolutely necessary to mobilise all resources to act, and reach as many individuals as possible. Through a strong network of partners, donors and volunteers, a seemingly impossible task was completed at scale with professionalism and dignity. Rizq's approach went beyond merely providing relief to the families impacted by the calamity, but rather it was an effort to bring back normalcy in their lives by rehabilitating their livelihoods, and building back a stronger, more resilient community.

Rizq believes that beyond mere relief, it is necessary to build structures which are able to withhold mitigate shocks, and develop community resilience to ensure affected communities are able to maintain dignity, and build back on their own.