

## About ERRA

**At 8:52** a.m. October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005, a massive earthquake of 7.6 magnitudes struck the mountainous northern regions wreaking devastation across a 30,000 sq km area of Pakistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

More than 73,000 people lost their lives and at least the same number again were severely injured. Over 3 million people were left displaced when more than 600,000 houses were destroyed. 5344 education facilities, 350 health facilities, 949 Government buildings, 6440 km of roads, 4,000 water and sanitation facilities, and almost 70% of power, telecommunications and other infrastructure were destroyed or severely damaged. Loss of crops and arable land, shops and businesses, deprived many of their livelihoods. With winter approaching, the Government of Pakistan was faced with a catastrophe of immense proportions and a reconstruction cost of more than US\$ 5 billion.

### Overview of Damages

- Affected area 30,000 sq km
- 73,000 people dead
- 3 million people affected
- 600,000 houses destroyed
- 5344 education facilities destroyed
- 350 health facilities destroyed
- 949 government buildings destroyed
- 6440 km of roads swept away
- 4000 water resources damaged
- 70% of power, telecommunications & other infrastructure collapsed

The Government and Armed Forces of Pakistan, foreign military contingents, the people and governments of numerous other countries, bilateral and multilateral donor organizations, international and local volunteers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector organizations responded to the emergency in an outstanding combined rescue and recovery effort with compassion and camaraderie.

There were no national precedents for dealing with a disaster of this scale and no existing institution within Pakistan was adequately equipped to manage the rescue, relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation activities. Responding to the emergency, the Government of Pakistan quickly established the Federal Relief Commission (FRC), on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2005 to oversee the relief operations. However, as disasters of this magnitude require a long term commitment of resources, funding planning and expertise to rebuild and rehabilitate the region and lives of the affected communities, the Government then established the Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2005. ERRA was established as an independent organization at the Federal level with affiliates at State and Provincial levels - the State Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Agency (SERRA) in AJK, the Provincial Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Agency (PERRA) in NWFP and, the District Reconstruction Units (DRUs) at the District levels both in AJK and NWFP.

### Partner Organizations

- Pakistan & foreign military
- Multilateral donor organizations
- Private sector organizations
- International & local volunteer
- International & local NGOs

ERRA's overall mandate is to *plan, coordinate, monitor and regulate reconstruction & rehabilitation activities in EQAAs, encouraging self reliance via private public partnership and community participation, ensuring financial transparencies*

Working in close coordination with the UN and other multi-lateral and bilateral donors, national and international NGOs, ERRA is implementing a comprehensive reconstruction and rehabilitation programme covering twelve major sectors - Housing, Education, Health, Social Protection,

Livelihood, Governance (Govt. Buildings), Power, Telecommunications, Water & Sanitation, Roads/Transportation, Environment and Industry & Tourism, with cross cutting themes such as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Gender Equality. In addition to these 12 target areas, a Transitional Recovery Cell (TRC) has been established to cater for the safe stay/ return of the Individually Displaced People (IDP).

To look after the smooth and efficient interaction with the Partner Organizations (POs) a “ONE WINDOW OPERATION” known as the “Donors & Sponsored Coordination Cell (D&SCC)” has been established acting as a focal point for facilitating these POs. The aim of this cell is to facilitate these POs in selecting their areas of interest for their funding.

ERRA is an organization that operates in a most transparent and professional environment with high standards of governance. Programmes are properly monitored and evaluated to ensure that the funding provided by donors is used in the most effective and efficient manner. A dedicated team of professional managers plan and implement a multitude of programmes and activities with a tightly administered budget well in excess of **US \$ 5 billion**. The organization is audited both internally and externally. All information on the earthquake damage, district profiles, sector strategies, planning, rules, progress, other reports, and all other organizational information is publicly available on ERRA’s website [www.erra.gov.pk](http://www.erra.gov.pk)

- | <u>Major Sectors</u> |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| •                    | <b>Hardware</b>        |
| ○                    | Housing                |
| ○                    | Education              |
| ○                    | Health                 |
| ○                    | Water & Sanitation     |
| ○                    | Government Buildings   |
| ○                    | Power                  |
| ○                    | Telecommunications     |
| ○                    | Roads / Transportation |
| •                    | <b>Software</b>        |
| ○                    | Livelihood             |
| ○                    | Social Protection      |
| ○                    | Environment            |
| ○                    | Industrial & Tourism   |

Life in the EQAAs is gradually returning to normal for the communities. Seismically resistant houses and buildings are constructed as per the new building codes, meeting ERRA's earthquake resistant planning requirements all across the EQAAs. Schools are better equipped and more comfortable for students. Medical facilities are vastly improved. More villages have easy access to clean water. Power, telecommunications and roads are all being rebuilt or repaired. Social protection programmes are in place to support the needs of the most vulnerable people. Thousands of people have received skilled training, livelihood programmes are being implemented and steps are underway to revive tourism in the area, but there is still much to be done and ERRA's work will continue for some time yet.

ERRA is an organization that operates in most transparent professional environment with high standards of governance with efficient Monitoring & Evaluation system.
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With a philosophy to “Build Back Better” and the support of its partners, ERRA is fulfilling its mission and achieving outstanding success in helping Pakistan and the people of the EQAAs by turning "Adversity into Opportunity".