

# **People's perspective and feasibility of Kitchen Gardening under different geographical and environmental contexts (Pakistan)**

## **Introduction**

As cited by World Health Organization (WHO), malnutrition is the greatest single threat to global public health and Pakistan has some of the worst malnutrition rates in South Asia. The National Nutrition Survey (NNS) 2011 compiled by the Ministry of Health and Aga Khan University indicates that 58.1% of households in Pakistan are food insecure and 9.8% out of these are food insecure with severe hunger; acute malnutrition stands at 15% in Pakistan. At the same time, Pakistan remains susceptible to natural and manmade disasters. Presently in Pakistan, communities in Sindh and Punjab are inundated by flood water, communities in southern Sindh are drought affected and the population of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) is displaced by law enforcement operation into various locations across the neighboring province of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa (KP). In light of this, large scale humanitarian responses continue across the country with many positing their nutritional outcomes and linkages between relief, early recovery and development (LRRD). Kitchen gardening is one of the commonly cited interventions as part of the early recovery remit with the distribution of seeds and tools coupled with trainings. However, the nutritional outcomes of such interventions are unclear as the planning does not systematically consider important factors in part due to the rapid implementation of such interventions.

## **Study Objectives**

This study which is a combination of formative and feasibility research aims to answer key research question and to share results for setting grounds for proper designing kitchen-garden interventions according to the specific contexts (flood, drought and displacement). This study will be carried out in the areas of Badin and Dadu districts (Sindh) and Bannu (KPK). Both of the districts of Badin and Dadu are affected by drought and floods while Bannu currently hosts the largest number of Temporarily Displaced Persons (TDPs) who have been displaced from the North Waziristan Agency (NWA) of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). The findings generated from this study will be helpful for a number of stakeholders to not only learn about best practices but also scale up the study. It will also lead to policy recommendations, advocacy and provision of technical support to Government and relevant stakeholders; the research study will therefore underpin any future interventions.

## **Partners**

Action Against Hunger (ACF), Pakistan.