Situation overview:

On Tuesday 16 April, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake has struck South-East Iran. The epicentre was 83km (53 miles) east of city of Khash, near Pakistan-Iran border U.S. Geological Survey. The preliminary reports show main affected areas are border districts of Balochistan with minor damages in Sindh.

*Mashkel* is western Tehsil of district *Washuk* approximately 250 Kilometres from Washuk town which is at centre of district. Washuk is the district headquarters of Washuk District. Washuk District is further subdivided into 3 tehsils or sub-districts, 10 union councils and 216 mauzas (villages). Washuk District has a total population (in 2011) of 118,171, comprising 62,114 males and 56,059 females, with a population density of only 4.0 per km2. The population is mainly rural with the average household size being 5.4. *Kharan, Chagai, Kalat, Khuzdar, Awaran* and *Panjgur* are adjoining districts. Mashkel Tehsil is at western edge of district, due to poor road condition journey takes around 8-10 hours to reach from Khuzdar. District Chagai has bordering district with Washuk and easy to reach Mashkel. The distance from Dalbandan – Chagai is same around 250 Km but due to better road condition can reach easily. At present no medical officer is available at RHC Ladghast which is serving the area. Moreover, no hospital is functioning in the affected area, DHQ *Kharan* and *Dalbandin* will be nearest point for evacuation of critical patients.

As of this morning NDMA reports 25 casualties, 150 injured of which 16 critical; and hundreds of mud houses damaged or destroy in the Mashkeli area. Mashkail is almost at a distance of 600 Km’s away in south west of the province capital, Quetta.

*Sindh*

In Karachi 5 people injured from building debris in Kharadar area but no casualties reported from neither Karachi nor any districts in the province.
Response:

- Besides Pakistan ARMY in location, after instruction of secretary health, a team was composed by DHO Chagai having medical doctors and other health care providers including WHO DEWS SO part of the team is on the way to visit the area of Mashkail.
- Two military hospital helicopters have been deployed with medical supplies and Army paramedics are in search and rescue mode.
- DGHS, emergency cell has been established at DG office.
- As per the request of DG/PDMA, WHO dispatched a surgical kit (One trauma kit is for 100 major surgical interventions)
- A coordination meeting will be conducted this morning.

Needs/Gaps:

- One serious challenge is that the affected area is inaccessible by road due to tough mountainous terrain and insecurity
- No health partner (NGO) in the affected areas
- Nearest health facility (RHC) with no medical officer
- Most of the health facilities in the far flung border areas have low capacity and they are unable to serve the injured people.

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