



INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WING

POST VISIT REPORT

COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION ON DISASTER-RESILIENT
CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

GILGIT-BALTISTAN



VISIT AT A GLANCE

Executive snapshot of the NDMA IA&PD field initiative in Gilgit-Baltistan



7 DAYS

VISIT DURATION

21 – 28 September 2026



650 KM

FIELD COVERAGE

Travel by road across the visit route



30 HOURS

TOTAL TRAVELLING TIME

Average 6 hours travelling



600 FAMILIES

COMMUNITY REACHED

Awareness & sensitization activities



3 DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS COVERED

Astore · Ghizer · Gilgit



4 COMPONENTS

TEAM / ORGANIZATIONAL WINGS

PCC · IA&PD · Plans · Media

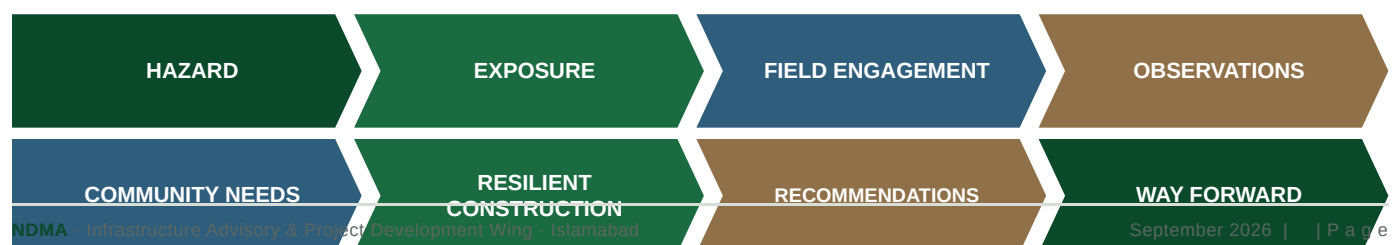
ASTORE

GHIZER

GILGIT

PARTICULAR	DETAILS
Purpose	Community sensitization on disaster-resilient construction practices in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB)
Dates	21st – 28th September 2026 (7 days)
Field coverage	650 km of travel in 30 hours (average 6 hours travelling)
Team	PCC – Mgr Qamar Abbas · IA&PD – DM Hamood Naeem, AM Salman Akbar · Plans – DM Haris Mir · Media – Shahzaib Hassan
Districts	Astore, Ghizer and Gilgit
Community reached	600 families

THE MISSION STORY



01 CONTEXT & NEED

Why the field visit mattered

Gilgit-Baltistan is exposed to a range of **recurring hazards**. Their repeated occurrence has resulted in **significant losses to houses and public infrastructure** and has highlighted the vulnerability of settlements located in hazard-prone areas.

RECURRING HAZARDS IN GILGIT-BALTISTAN



Avalanches



Heatwaves



GLOFs



Landslides



Floods

THE CYCLE THE VISIT SOUGHT TO INTERRUPT



Damage recorded

- Houses
- Roads and bridges
- Public infrastructure

Monsoon 2025 and 2026 figures are shown on the next page.



The shift intended

To move **beyond repeated post-disaster restoration** towards risk-informed planning, disaster-resilient construction and resilient reconstruction practices.

WHY THE IA&PD WING UNDERTOOK THIS INITIATIVE



1

Beyond restoration

Promote greater consideration of disaster risk during construction, repair and reconstruction.



2

Direct community sensitization

Provide direct sensitization on disaster-resilient construction practices and establish direct contact with affected communities.



3

Ground realities

Assess ground realities and existing construction practices; observe the conditions of affected settlements.



4

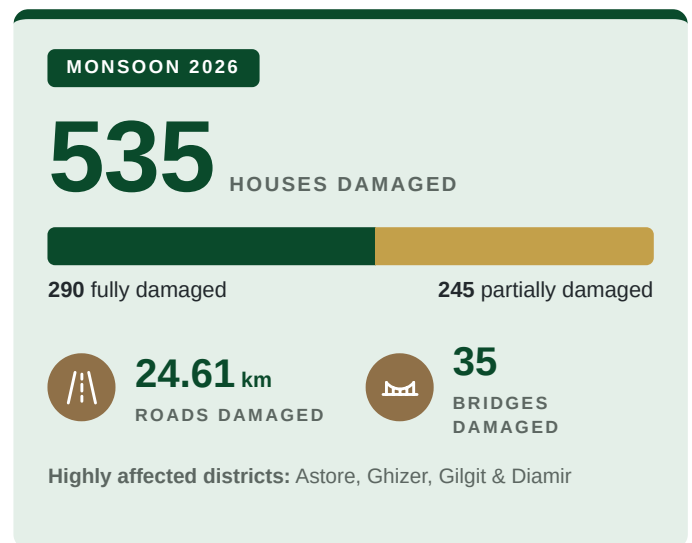
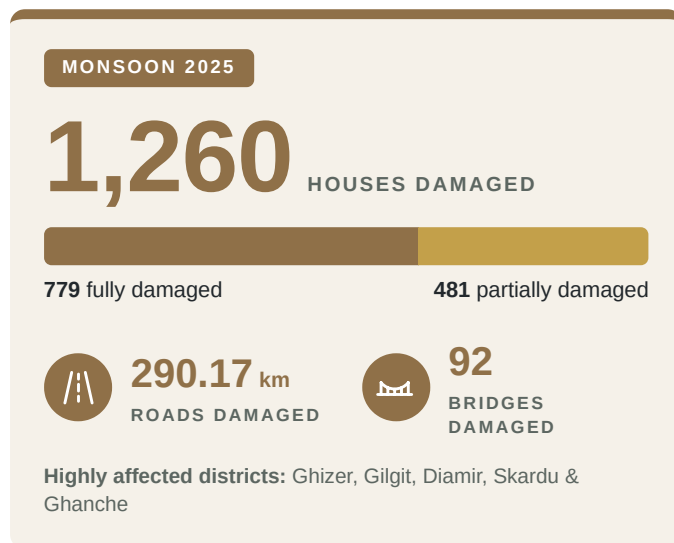
DRIM concept

Spread awareness of the Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Models (DRIM) concept for easy, economical and resilient reconstruction/rehabilitation.

Items 3 and 4 are drawn from the post-visit brief presentation; items 1–2 from the post-visit report.

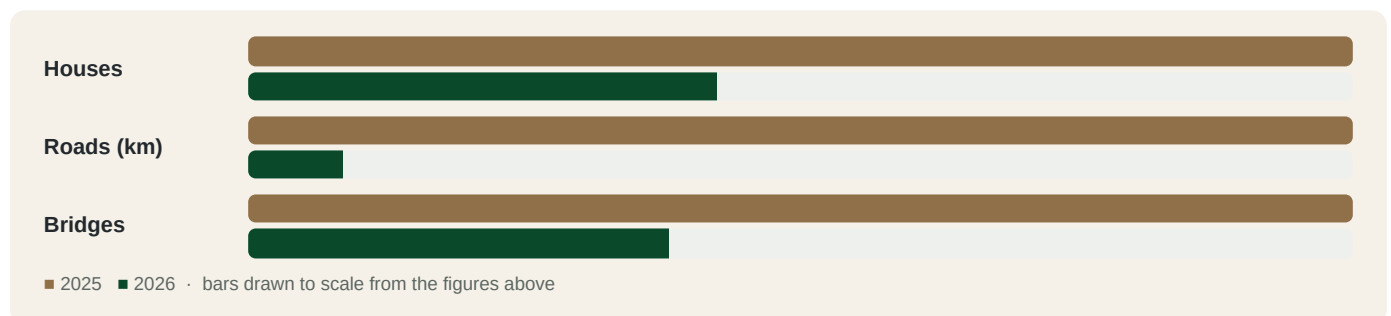
MONSOON DAMAGE SNAPSHOT

Gilgit-Baltistan · Monsoon 2025 compared with Monsoon 2026

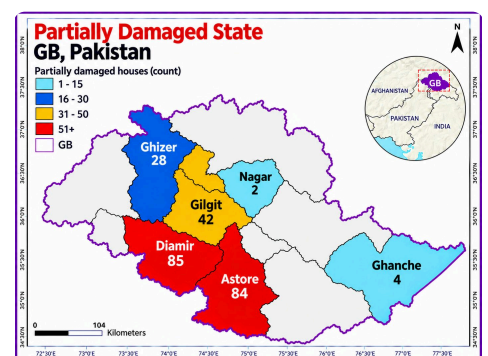
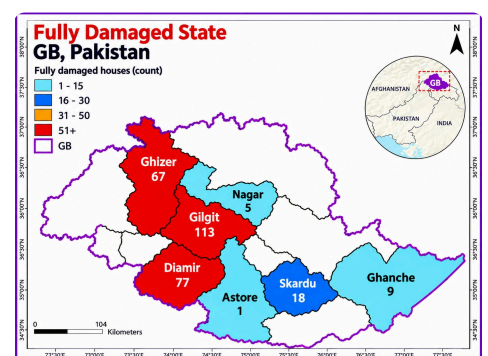
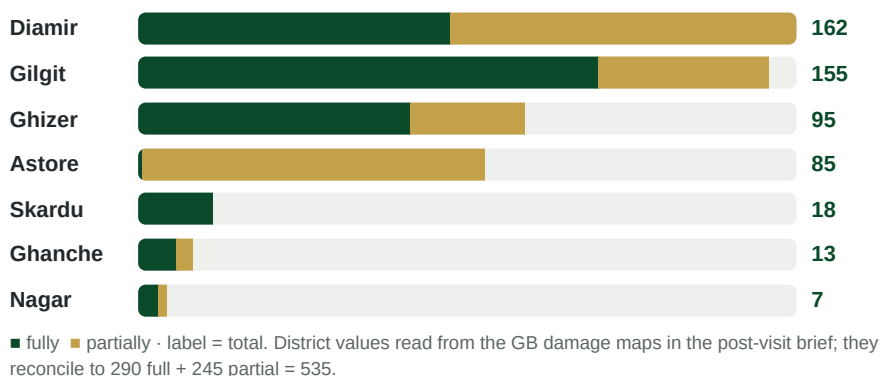


■ Fully damaged (darker segment) ■ Partially damaged

SIDE BY SIDE · COMMON SCALE (2025 = 100%)



MONSOON 2026 · HOUSES DAMAGED BY DISTRICT



02 OBJECTIVES

Four objectives of the programme



01

Community Sensitization

Raise awareness among communities and local stakeholders on disaster-resilient construction and the importance of safer construction in hazard-prone areas.



02

Ground Assessment

Assess infrastructure damage, ground realities and existing construction practices in affected locations.



03

Risk-Informed Reconstruction

Promote consideration of hazard exposure and site-specific risks while repairing, reconstructing or strengthening houses.



04

Stakeholder Engagement

Engage district administrations and relevant stakeholders to understand local constraints, resource limitations and resilience needs.

Programme intent

The IA&PD Wing undertook the field initiative to move beyond post-disaster restoration and to promote greater consideration of disaster risk during construction, repair and reconstruction.

Awareness material prepared by NDMA

NDMA prepared awareness leaflets and booklets on resilient construction practices for distribution and community interaction during the visit. Sample leaflets (Urdu) are shown alongside.



Field team with community members



Group interaction during the field visit



FIELD TEAM & COVERAGE

Four organizational components · three districts · 650 km



PCC

Mgr Qamar Abbas



IA&PD

DM Hamood Naeem
AM Salman Akbar



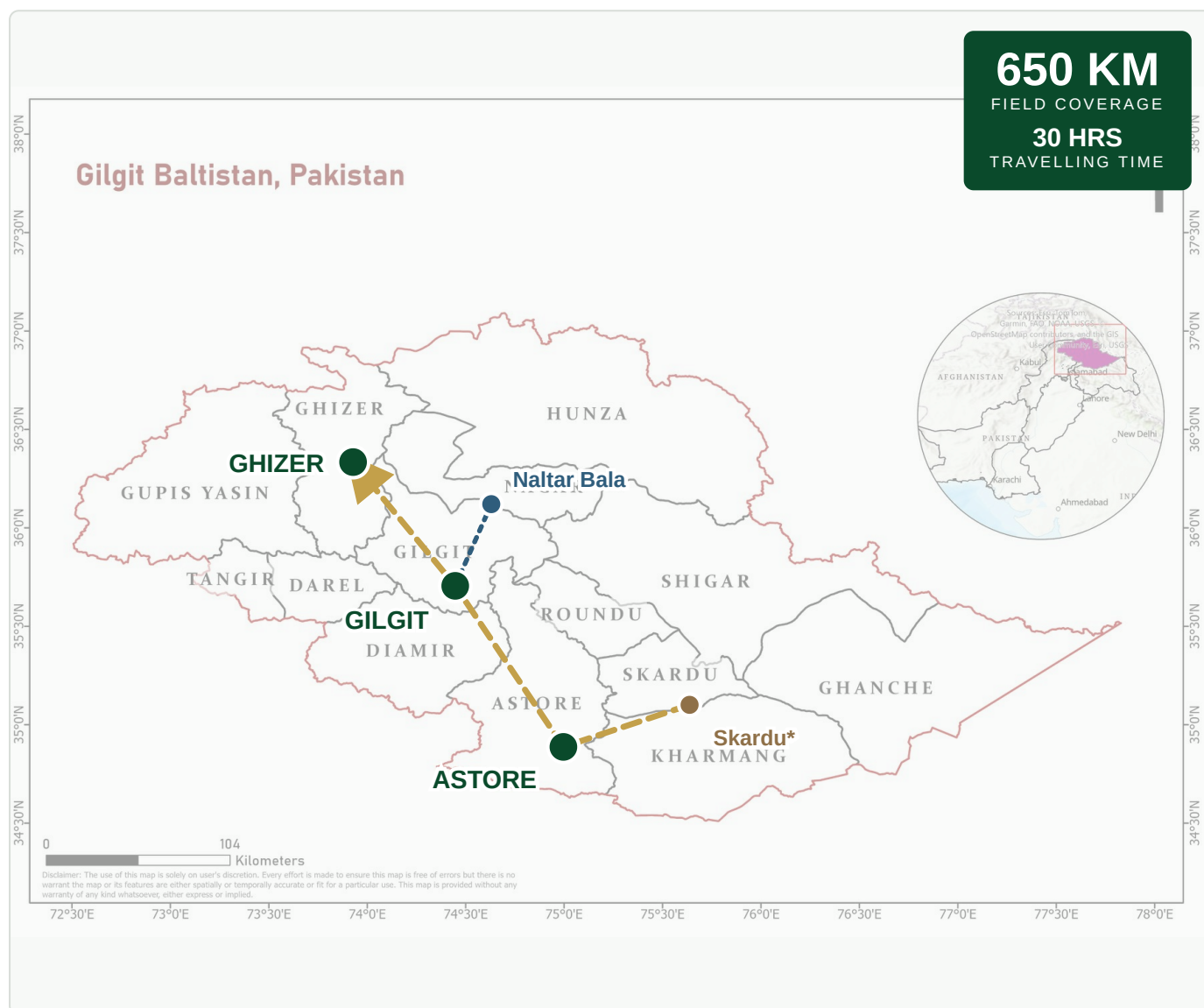
Plans

DM Haris Mir



Media

Shahzaib Hassan



*Illustrative route diagram — not an exact GIS map. District positions are approximate, placed on the Gilgit-Baltistan district outline from the post-visit brief. *Skardu is shown as the arrival/departure point per the NDMA visit programme and the post-visit brief; the report's districts covered are Astore, Ghizer and Gilgit.*

7

DAYS

650

KM TRAVELLED

~6

AVG. TRAVELLING HRS

FIELD VISIT TIMELINE

Sequence of field engagements as recorded in the post-visit report

DAY
1

ASTORE

- DC Office, Astore — discussion on community sensitization and resilient construction
- Briefing on the **Khachak Nallah** incident
- Community awareness: **Lous Bala** and **Lous Pain**



DC Office, Astore

DAY
2

GHIZER

- Meeting with the DC Ghizer
- Community awareness at **Maulabad**
- Riverine erosion observed; groundwater and sewerage issues



Meeting with District Administration — Ghizer

DAY
3

NALTAR BALA · GILGIT

- Community awareness and sensitization at Naltar Bala
- Observation of existing and damaged structures



Damaged structures — Naltar Bala

DAY
4

DC GILGIT & FCNA

- Meeting with the DC Gilgit — district-level challenges and constraints
- Visit to **Air-Crete Dome Structures** at FCNA



Meeting with District Administration — Gilgit

The post-visit report itemises field engagements for Days 1–4; the visit as a whole ran 21 – 28 September 2026 (7 days).

FIELD OBSERVATIONS · ASTORE

District-wise · Debris flow · connectivity · community awareness



Briefing at DC Office, Astore



Field interaction with residents — Astore

KHACHAK NALLAH

1,600 ft

of road damaged by debris flow
(approx.)

ASTORE ↔ GILGIT

**Connectivity
disrupted**

link between the two districts affected

ROAD CONNECTION
RESTORED

8 DAYS

restoration period reported

INCIDENT SEQUENCE

DEBRIS FLOW
Khachak Nallah

~1,600 ft
ROAD DAMAGED

ASTORE–GILGIT
LINK DISRUPTED

RESTORED
WITHIN 8 DAYS



Community engagement

Following the DC briefing, awareness and sensitization activities were conducted in **Lous Bala** and **Lous Pain**, both affected by debris flows.

The engagement focused on raising awareness of **resilient construction practices** and understanding the challenges faced by affected communities.



Community sensitization activity — Astore

DEBRIS FLOW + CONNECTIVITY + COMMUNITY AWARENESS

FIELD OBSERVATIONS • GHIZER

District-wise • Riverine erosion • groundwater • settlement vulnerability

MAULABAD

26

houses completely damaged by
riverine erosion



Community awareness — Ghizer



Meeting with District Administration — Ghizer



Community discussion in the field — Ghizer

WHAT THE TEAM OBSERVED — DOWNSTREAM OF MOULABAD LAKE, ALONG THE GILGIT RIVER



Riverine erosion observed in residential areas



Groundwater table reported (DDMA Ghizer & local residents) to have risen significantly — approaching the existing ground surface



Nearby houses affected



Agricultural land affected



Sewerage systems disrupted

Need identified: appropriate assessment of groundwater conditions, riverine erosion and associated impacts on settlements and local infrastructure.

RIVERINE EROSION + GROUNDWATER + SETTLEMENT VULNERABILITY

FIELD OBSERVATIONS • GILGIT / NALTAR BALA

District-wise • Community sensitization • damaged structures • relocation concern



Observation of damaged structures — Naltar Bala



Field observation of affected structures — Naltar Bala



Community sensitization

Awareness and sensitization activities carried out in Naltar Bala.



Existing & damaged structures

Observed during the field visit.



District challenges

DC Gilgit highlighted challenges and constraints in managing disaster situations.

NALTAR BALA INCIDENT

14

families temporarily relocated to a government school

THE ASSOCIATED CONCERN



Temporary relocation to a government school



Disruption of children's education



Need for a structured, sustainable relocation & resettlement mechanism

Temporary arrangements may provide immediate shelter; however, where continued habitation or reconstruction at the existing site could result in recurring losses, a structured and sustainable relocation and resettlement mechanism is required.



Meeting with District Administration — Gilgit



Community sensitization activity — Naltar Bala

EXPLORING RESILIENT HOUSING OPTIONS

Air-Crete Dome Structures — FCNA



Air-Crete Dome Structure, FCNA — exterior (left) and interior views (right)

What the team observed

During Day 4, the team visited an **Air-Crete Dome Structure at FCNA**, an opportunity to examine an alternative construction approach that may be considered as a **potential resilient housing solution in hazard-prone areas**.

What the report supports

The structures were identified as a **potential alternative residential model** — providing a basis for considering whether such structures could be technically and practically assessed for appropriate applications in hazard-prone areas.



STATUS OF THE OBSERVATION

Potential model — subject to technical and practical assessment.

The report does not describe the technology as universally suitable or as adopted by NDMA.

OBSERVE

ASSESS TECHNICALLY

ASSESS PRACTICALLY

CONSIDER FOR
APPROPRIATE
APPLICATIONS



Team at FCNA, Day 4



Air-Crete Dome Structure — interior

03 KEY OBSERVATIONS

Six observations from the field visit



01

e-MHVRA

Need for e-Multi-Hazard Vulnerability and Risk Assessment, emphasized by the District Administration — to understand exposure of settlements and infrastructure to multiple hazards and to support development and reconstruction decisions.



02

Climate Impact Assessment

Climate-impact assessment for development projects is the need of the hour, so that climate and hazard-related impacts are considered during planning and implementation.



03

Relocation & Resettlement

A structured mechanism is needed for communities repeatedly exposed to hazards — relevant to the 14 Naltar Bala families temporarily relocated to a government school.



04

District Capacity Constraints

District administrations reported limited financial, human-resource and machinery capacity — affecting preparedness, response, recovery and risk-reduction measures.



05

Restoration vs Risk Reduction

The majority of available funds are used for restoring public infrastructure (roads, bridges, power-houses), limiting investment in mitigation and adaptation — highlighting the need to balance the two.



06

Alternative Housing Models

Air-Crete Dome Structures at FCNA identified as a potential alternative residential model, to be technically and practically assessed for appropriate applications in hazard-prone areas.

From observation to need: assessment · planning · relocation · capacity · balance · alternatives

COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION

How the engagement approach worked



Community members and team — Astore



Community sensitization — Naltar Bala



Awareness session — Ghizer

Process diagram synthesizes the sensitization objectives and field activities recorded in the post-visit report.

Components of the field initiative

across Astore, Ghizer and Gilgit districts · 21 – 28 September 2026



These are presented as components of the field initiative, not as measured outcomes.

WHERE

**Lous Bala · Lous Pain ·
Maulabad · Naltar Bala**

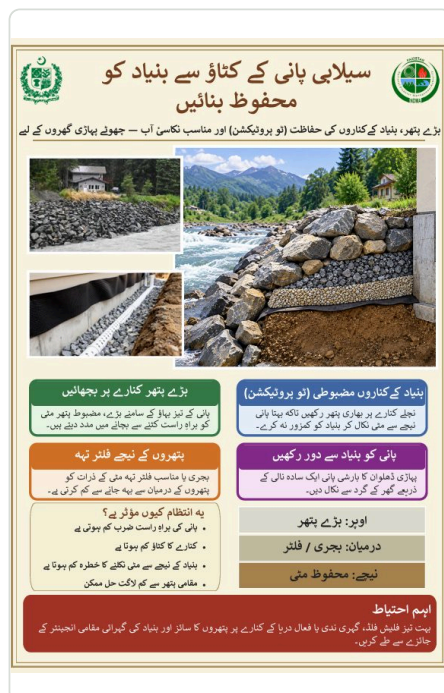
WHO WAS ENGAGED

Communities, local stakeholders, DC Astore, DC Ghizer, DC Gilgit, DDMA Ghizer

WHAT WAS SHARED

Resilient construction awareness material

NDMA AWARENESS LEAFLETS ON RESILIENT CONSTRUCTION (URDU)



Leaflets shown in the post-visit brief; NDMA prepared leaflets and booklets for distribution and community interaction during the visit.



KEY ISSUES & RISK THEMES

Observation matrix · hazard → impact → need

HAZARD / SITUATION	IMPACT OBSERVED	NEED IDENTIFIED
Debris flow Khachak Nallah, Astore	~1,600 ft of road damaged; Astore–Gilgit connectivity disrupted (restored within 8 days)	Protective and risk-reduction infrastructure; avoid reconstruction in debris-flow paths
Riverine erosion & high groundwater Maulabad, Ghizer	26 houses completely damaged; houses, agricultural land and sewerage affected	Assessment of groundwater, erosion and settlement impacts
Naltar Bala incident Gilgit	14 families in a government school; children's education disrupted	Structured relocation and resettlement mechanism
Recurring hazards Gilgit-Baltistan	Repeated damage to houses and public infrastructure (535 houses in Monsoon 2026)	e-MHVRA; climate-impact assessment; resilient construction
Funding & capacity District level	Limited financial, human-resource and machinery capacity; funds mostly used for restoration	Balance restoration with mitigation and adaptation

RISK THEMES



HAZARD EXPOSURE

- Floods
- Riverine erosion
- Debris flows
- Landslides
- GLOFs
- Avalanches & heatwaves



SETTLEMENT VULNERABILITY

- Hazard-prone locations
- Repeated exposure
- Vulnerable housing
- Temporary relocation



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Roads
- Bridges
- Sewerage
- Public infrastructure & power-houses



INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

- Limited finances
- Limited human resources
- Limited machinery
- Local implementation constraints

Hazard exposure · settlement vulnerability · limited capacity — the recurring themes of the visit

04 RECOMMENDATIONS & WAY FORWARD

Seven actions emerging from the visit



01

LAND USE & RELOCATION

Consider land-use planning and relocation options for settlements exposed to recurring hazards, particularly where sites are repeatedly affected.

RESPONDS TO · OBS. 03



02

RESILIENT RECONSTRUCTION

Incorporate disaster-resilient considerations into ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction works so restored structures are less vulnerable to future events.

RESPONDS TO · OBS. 01 · 02 · 06



03

RISK REDUCTION

Prioritize risk-reduction and protective infrastructure interventions within development projects, alongside restoration of damaged public infrastructure.

RESPONDS TO · OBS. 05



04

AVOID HIGH-RISK SITES

Discourage reconstruction in active river channels, debris-flow paths and other locations identified as high risk.

RESPONDS TO · OBS. 01 · 03



05

COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION

Continue community-level sensitization and engagement with local stakeholders on safer construction practices and hazard-aware site selection.

RESPONDS TO · PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE



06

DISTRICT COORDINATION

Maintain coordination with district administrations so that local resource constraints, development priorities and resilience requirements are reflected in future interventions.

RESPONDS TO · OBS. 04



MEDIA & AWARENESS

Appropriate media coverage may be ensured for NDMA's sensitization programme on resilient construction in the GB region, to support wider awareness of the initiative.

07

"Responds to" links are editorial cross-references to the key observations on the preceding pages.



FROM RESTORATION TO RESILIENCE

Strategic way forward

◀ REPEATED RESTORATION

RISK-INFORMED RESILIENCE ▶



STEP 1

ASSESS

→ Multi-hazard assessment



STEP 2

PLAN

→ Risk-informed land use



STEP 3

ENGAGE

→ Community & district stakeholders



STEP 4

DESIGN

→ Disaster-resilient construction



STEP 5

RECONSTRUCT

→ Build back better



STEP 6

MONITOR

→ Continued coordination and risk reduction

Way forward

The recommendations identified during the visit may be considered in planning and implementing rehabilitation, reconstruction and disaster-risk-reduction interventions in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Six-step framework is a visual synthesis of the report's recommendations and observations.

FIELD MOMENTS

Astore · Ghizer · Naltar Bala

ASTORE



Team with community members — Astore



Community sensitization — Astore



Meeting with District Administration — Astore

GHIZER



Community awareness — Ghizer



Community discussion — Ghizer



Meeting with District Administration — Ghizer

GILGIT / NALTAR BALA



Community meeting — Naltar Bala



Community sensitization — Naltar Bala



Awareness activity — Naltar Bala

FIELD MOMENTS

FCNA · Stakeholder engagement · Community sensitization

FCNA



Team at FCNA — Day 4



Team at FCNA



Air-Crete Dome Structure — exterior

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



Meeting with District Administration — Gilgit



Meeting with District Administration — Ghizer



Meeting with District Administration — Astore

COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION



Field team with community members



Group photograph during the visit



CLOSING MESSAGE

BUILD BACK BETTER — AT COMMUNITY LEVEL

The visit confirmed the importance of sustained community sensitization, particularly in areas repeatedly affected by natural hazards. The recommendations identified may be considered in planning and implementing rehabilitation, reconstruction and disaster-risk-reduction interventions in Gilgit-Baltistan.

7

DAYS

3

DISTRICTS

600

FAMILIES

Saleem Raza

Executive Director (IA&PD)

National Disaster Management Authority

F. No. 8007/IA&PD/Monsoon/NDMA/2026 · Islamabad, 2nd October 2026

INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WING

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

https://www.ndma.gov.pk/infra_advisory