

NGO Visit to the Asian Development Bank's
Chashma Right Bank Irrigation Project (CRBIP)
In Pakistan

(Annexes)

December 2003

As requested by Mr Gadi, the Inspection Committee has made available the Chashma Trip Report prepared by the Bank Information Center, as well as the Annexes to the Report. In doing so, the Inspection Committee does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the contents of the Report or for the opinions expressed in them. These are the responsibility of the parties that prepared the Report.

Annex I: Village Meeting Summaries

December 12, 11:00 am, Jadeywali village (West Side)

The divided village

This village was relocated by the authorities in 2002, against the wishes of its inhabitants, to the eastern side of the canal. The authorities claim this was done to protect the village from floods, whereas the villagers contest the flood danger. Sher Mohammad, a man in his seventies, said that Jadeywali has not been hit by floods in his lifetime.



The villagers were told they would receive compensation and an equivalent piece of land by December 8th so they could construct new homes on the eastern side. However, neither compensation nor the matching land has been received. Given this situation, only those families who owned plots of land on the other side of the canal (approximately 20 families) have moved and built new homes. Other families either share homes with relatives, or remain in the original village (approximately 10 families) since their only source of livelihood, i.e. their farmland, is on the western side. Others with no land in either location have simply moved away.

The involuntary move has had severe impacts on the lives of the inhabitants of Jadeywali. The lack of grazing land on the eastern side has forced about 40 to 50 families that previously owned livestock to sell it. This livestock was both a source of income and food.

Their drinking water sources have also been impacted. Previously, women would have to walk one kilometer to a stream (*khaala*) to fetch water, but the stream was destroyed by the Project. Now their only source of drinking water is the canal. Canal water has caused an increase in digestive illnesses in children, which has placed an additional burden on women.



The kinship ties of the residents of Jadeywali have been affected as half the village has moved to the other side of the canal and others have simply moved away. Their strong bond to the original village is demonstrated by the fact that they still prefer to celebrate their marriages in the "original" Jadeywali village, read their Friday prayers at the old mosque, and bury their dead in the ancestral graveyard on the western side. These activities are carried out despite the fact that the distance to the bridge that connects the two villages is approximately three to four kilometers, a distance that is usually covered on foot.



Women fetching water from canal.



Mosque in Jadeywali

The villagers claim that the canal has had other negative impacts on their lives. They point to the fact that disruptions in road networks caused by the canal means that the closest dispensary is in Vahuwah village, which is 20 kilometers away. Travel is made all the more difficult in the rainy season and after floods. Another unfortunate impact of the Project is the cancellation of 35 kilometers of road connecting their village to the Indus Highway. Villagers claimed that the Union Council cancelled this road after they learned about the Project.

Villagers said that they informed the GRSC in writing about the inadequacy of Rs. 12,000 as compensation for one acre of land, and the lack of any compensation for the landless. They have also asked for a bridge over the canal to facilitate access to villagers who have moved to the eastern side (also called Jadeywali). Moreover, they have demanded the resurrection of their original source of water supply so as to prevent their children from getting ill.

Villagers charged that the land acquisition collector (from the Provincial Revenue Department) and his staff demand a "commission" in exchange for their compensation payment. Since some villagers cannot pay this commission/bribe, they have not received any compensation. Those that did receive Rs. 12,000 compensation were paid by check.

In the end, the villagers said they do not want to move and would not blame the government in the unlikely event of the village being flooded. One old man simply said, "the government does not understand our suffering".

December 12, 1:00pm, Haibatwali village (East Side/Command Area)

The villagers have lost cultivable land as a result of construction of the main canal, the Flood Carrier Channel (FCC) and the distributary channel. They contend that most of this land was not needed by the Project. To buttress this claim, they point to the dry FCC and demand that the FCC be done away with so that they can have their land back.

The villagers are also not satisfied with the rate per acre set as compensation for the land acquired for the Project. They said they were offered Rs. 12,000 per acre, whereas the market rate is Rs. 200,000 per acre. Furthermore, compensation has still not been offered for:

- 80 acres of land
- 40 acres of rain-fed crop which was destroyed during construction of the canal
- 500 trees that were cut by Project authorities (no record was kept)
- Soil which was excavated for construction
- Drinking water sources that were destroyed by the Project
- A small dirt road to the market and to the main road, which was also lost due to the Project.
- 9 homes that were destroyed to construct the FCC

Despite all of these losses and the lack of compensation, the villagers are not even allowed to use the service road alongside the main canal since the authorities fear it will be degraded. Moreover, the distributary channel which carries water from the main canal towards the fields is too low and does not “feed” the smaller channels (*nakkas*) which carry water to the fields. The distributary has to be blocked to raise the water level, an act considered by the Irrigation Department to be illegal, although no alternative solution has been provided.



Distributary channel blocked to raise water to level of smaller channels.

When asked how their land was acquired in the first place, the villagers said that about five years ago contractors simply started excavating soil without their knowledge or consent and in violation of the Land Acquisition Act (1894). The villagers approached the local courts and obtained a stay order against the construction activity. As a result, construction was halted for 15 days, but then resumed in violation of the court order. The case is still pending. Villagers therefore assert that their land was acquired through an illegal process.



The villagers claimed that they had very little knowledge of the GRSC and have not interacted directly with its members. They said that they filed complaints with the GRSC only when they were informed about it from their neighbors from Ramak village. Upon receiving this information, Haibatwali villagers filed complaints in Ramak Union Council and Jalluwali Union Council. They also said they have no information about the entitlements due to them via the GRSC process.

December 12, 2:15 pm, Dhamaaka near Distributary Channel 24

During an informal chat over tea, some farmers told us that since the level of the distributary channels was misaligned (high banks and low water levels), they had to install motorized pumps or "Peter Pumps" which draw water from the distributary channels to the smaller channels (*nakkas*) leading to their fields. These pumps are illegal and the Irrigation Department fines anyone who installs them. Yet, without addressing the issue of how the distributary channels are constructed, there is no option for the farmers but to use these pumps to irrigate their land.

December 12, 2:30 pm, Katehrawali (West Side)

The walled village

This village is one of the eight villages that have a wall, or flood protection bund, around it to protect it from periodic flooding. The wall around Katehrawali village was built three years ago and villagers feel as though they are in prison. They associate a number of problems, such as lack of privacy, difficulty of access, lack of outlet for rainwater, and lack of grazing and watering areas for livestock, with the wall.

Villagers have also not been compensated for:

- Grazing land on the west side of canal which was lost as a result of ponding caused by the floodwater which is blocked by the canal. The ponding occurs in a 5 kilometer x 2 kilometer area (the east side has no grazing land as it is all irrigated)
- A brick kiln
- Land lost during canal construction
- Drinking water sources which were destroyed

The villagers say the GRSC visited them once in October 2003 and recommended that the wall be moved away from the homes. Villagers say they prefer to be resettled on the other side of the canal and want to have the wall moved only if resettlement is not possible. They said they feared the embankment (of the wall) might break during floods or rain and flood their homes away. They showed us places in the embankment that were already starting to degrade; however, the Government has taken no responsibility for the wall's maintenance.



The wall around Katehrawali village

Despite the one visit by the GRSC, villagers did not know about the GRSC entitlement matrix or recommendations.

Women said the unclean canal water makes their children ill (stomach problems, rashes).

One of the villagers, lamenting WAPDA's arrogance, said "only Bush can deal with WAPDA; our President can't handle WAPDA". Another villager stated, "Haji Wilayat of WAPDA is taunting us and saying 'you will continue to suffer inside your prison'".

December 12, 4:00pm, Mappal village (West Side)

The village of landless peasants

Most of the villagers of Mappal (about 30-32 households) own no land and work in town or earn a living as tenants on someone else's land. Some of them own livestock, which they graze on the west side. They said that about three or four years ago WAPDA officials came to their village to ask them to leave because they were in danger of being flooded. WAPDA offered to pay Rs. 10,000-12,000 per household. Since most households do not own land anywhere in the Project area (their existing homes are also built on land to which they hold no title), they could not contemplate moving to the eastern side of the canal or further westward (which is too dry).

The villagers we met said that they want land in the command area (eastern side) and would need help to construct new homes if they were to move. They do concede that floods impact the area surrounding their homes and their mobility is affected.

GRSC staff visited the village three to four months previously. After their visit, villagers submitted a complaint stating that they do not want to move unless they are provided sufficient land on the eastern side of the canal. If housing and land is not provided, then their preference is to stay at the current location, as there is no grazing land. GRSC has not contacted them since that single visit.

The villagers acknowledged receiving Rs. 12,000 per household for their homes and did not face any corruption in the process; they were paid via checks in their village. They used this money to deal with the recent drought and to buy fodder for their animals.

Their drinking water supply scheme had been rendered useless by the Project and now their only source of drinking water is the canal, which is a fair distance away. The government decided not to restore their original drinking water source since they believed the village would be moving soon. The villagers told us that under a policy revision, they would now have to bear operation and maintenance costs of a restored drinking water supply scheme, which they cannot afford.



Villagers in Mappal

December 13, 11:30am, Laloo village (East Side/Command Area and Riverine Belt)

This village experienced its worst flooding in recent memory during the 2003 monsoon rains. The villagers estimate that they lost about 30 tubewells and 25 houses. 250 acres of land were also badly degraded due to the August 2003 floods. The families that lost their homes moved to village Daira Din Panah, which adjoins Laloo. Besides compensation for their losses, the villagers want concrete embankments along the Sanghar and its extension all the way to river Indus so that they will be safe from floods.

Floods occurred when the Sanghar hill torrent broke its banks and rushed towards their village. The villagers believe that these floods were caused in part by the Project. Previously, because the farmers used this water to irrigate their fields, they knew how to divert and manage it. Thus floods were therefore avoided, as there was never such a large amount of water in one particular channel. After the construction of the canal, very few farmers used the *rowed kohi* system as a source of irrigation water. This increased the amount of hill torrent water that reaches Laloo village from the mountains.

The villagers had never heard of the GRSC.

December 13, 12:30pm, Daira Din Panah village (East Side/Command Area & Riverine Belt)

This village was also affected badly by the floods caused by the Sanghar hill torrent breaking its banks. Villagers, in the company of a Councilor from the Union Council, said that their cotton crop was destroyed when Sanghar overflowed its banks. They estimated that approximately 5,000 acres were impacted by flooding and provided the following rough details for some villages:



Flooding damage near Daira Din Panah

<u>Area</u>	<u>Acres impacted</u>
Laloo Mauza	500
Daira Shah Mauza	1,000
Nari Shah Mauza	1,000

Their second crop (following cotton) is wheat. However, the farmers do not want to sow wheat because they believe that Sanghar will flood their village again after the winter rains, destroying their crop again. They said several families had been so severely impacted financially by the flooding that there are real food security concerns in at least four mauzas.

Villagers contend that floods have become increasingly large over the last two years, as a result of the Project's disruption of the *rowed kohi* system. Since the Sanghar hill torrent is not one of the official FCCs for the Project, it is not maintained in any manner.

During a visit to the flood-degraded land, we were told that no government agency or the GRSC has visited the village to get an estimate of the damages since the flooding. The villagers demanded compensation for all flood-related damages and the consideration of Sanghar as an FCC.

December 13, 3:00pm, Shiranwah Drain/Hill Torrent/FCC

We were accompanied to this site by villagers belonging to Langah village; these were Faiz Khan, Aashiq Hussain, and Ghulam Abbas. They said that Shiranwah was a hill torrent which is now also functioning as an FCC with an Escape Drain diverting water from the main canal into it.

Faiz Khan told us that Shiranwah used to receive less water since most of it was diverted/used upstream by farmers for their irrigation purposes. But since the Project, all available water flows through Shiranwah and the magnitude of water causes floods and destroys homes, irrigation systems, and crops.

Aasiq Hussain said that his fields had embankments around them to prevent damage from floods, but the floods that came on August 28, 2003 were so severe that they breached the embankments and flooded his field.

The three villagers estimated that approximately 1,250 acres in Mauzas Langaha, Jabujah, Deeyah and Paluwan were flooded. Cotton is the main crop planted during the flood season and wheat is sown once the cotton is picked (called Rabi and Kharif crops). However, since the flood, not many farmers are sowing wheat for fear of the winter rains and resulting floods.



Discussing flood damages with villagers

Recounting some of the impacts of the floods, villagers said they lost crops and had to borrow from commercial banks to cover their losses. They said that now the banks don't want to lend to them since they know the villagers' ability to repay has been severely diminished. Some people sold their livestock because there was no fodder available and the villagers had no other source of income to feed themselves. The loss of the recent crop has also caused many men to migrate to the cities to find work.

Mobility was restricted during the floods and for a period afterwards until the water drained away. Their ability to reach the nearest town or visit the hospital was affected, and some people who were sick died as a result. They said that standing floodwater usually remains on their land for about a week before it drains naturally towards the river. This has forced some villagers to move their homes to safer ground.

The three villagers said they had filed complaints to the GRSC after the inspection requesters told them about the GRSC, but had not received any response. The villagers said that they had proposed options to deal with the floods, which are as follows:

(i) The preferred option is to have three channels constructed from the FCC to carry water towards fields where the water could be used productively. A regulating pond at the point of diversion could ensure effective management of the flow and level of the water that is released into the three channels. They said that the farmers will provide their land to construct these channels.

(ii) If the above option is not feasible, then the government should simply ensure that a straight flowing FCC with concrete embankments is constructed to carry the water to the Indus. They emphasized that the FCC should be straight, since a curving FCC could divert unmanaged floodwater towards their fields.

The three villagers told us they did not have information about the FCC when it was originally being constructed. Villagers whose land was taken to construct the FCC, as Aashiq Hussain's was, have still not received compensation.

They said that the system in place before the canal was built was much better. They have not received a response from the Irrigation Department regarding their applications for new watercourses, as some officials are demanding bribes prior to application approval.

December 13, 4:00pm, Mallana village

We were told by villagers that when the August 2003 rains caused the adjoining distributary channel to overflow its banks, the villagers breached an embankment of the Escape Drain so the water would flow into it and prevent the floods from reaching the village. However, the area around the village was still surrounded by ponded floodwater, which prevented their access to the nearby hospital and roads.



Meeting with villagers at Mallana

Although the village was saved, fields and crops were damaged. One villager, Sher Mohammad, told us that his cotton crop worth Rs. 400,000 was destroyed and estimated that at least a total of 5,000 acres belonging to different farmers were damaged.

When asked what the solution to the flooding problem could be, they suggested that 3 channels be constructed to carry water towards fields where it could be used productively by farmers. This was the same proposal as the one provided by the villagers of Langah. The problem, however, with this proposal is that some villagers whose land would have to be taken to extend the FCC have not agreed to have their land acquired. This is because these same villagers have lost land upstream to the FCC and have still not been compensated. Thus their lack of trust in the land acquisition and compensation process has made them extremely reluctant to give up more land.

The villagers said they had heard of the GRSC but that no one from that office had visited them. They also said that they had not filed any complaints with the GRSC prior to the deadline because at that time they were still unaware of its existence. They have not received any compensation for their land or other damages.



Ponded floodwater in Mallana

December 14, 10:00am, Churkin village (East Side/Command Area & Riverine Belt)

This village was flooded in August 2003 when the Vahuwa hill torrent breached its banks. The villagers repeated the same cause for the floods that we had heard from other villages. The force of the water in the Vahuwa hill torrent caused it to breach its banks and flood villages and fields, destroying houses and the standing cotton crop.

We were told that approximately 40,000 acres have been impacted by floods in the following locations: Mauza Nishori, Kalluwala, Gadi Shumali, Mauza Phaggan Marral, Leghari, Churkin, Dao Shumali, Nutkani, Bet Fateh Khan, Rakh Fateh Khan, Punj Girayeen. Total losses were estimated at Rs. 50 crore.



Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise with villagers in Churkin

The Union Council submitted a resolution documenting these losses, and the loss of three local roads and four drinking water supply systems, to canal authorities. Settlements in Churkan and Buzdaran villages were still flooded and the village graveyard was inundated. Similarly, we saw damaged and destroyed homes and fields which were ravaged by the flood water. Since the water had stood in the field for weeks after the flood, the soil absorbed a lot of this water and then cracked and became hard after the water drained off. Farmers we met said that it was very difficult now to plough the fields using the traditional oxen plough and they have to hire tractors (which they cannot really afford) to turn over the tough soil. They also pointed to the hillsides that had been eroded by the flood and cautioned that the edge of the eroded hillsides was fast approaching the cultivable area, thus increasing the danger of the next flood carrying cultivable land away with it.

Once again, when asked how they were coping with the flood damages, the villagers told us they have taken loans from the Agriculture Development Bank of Pakistan (ADBP) which dramatically increased their level of indebtedness. They said that the ADBP released a list of 350 defaulters and has threatened to arrest those that do not start repaying. A villager, Munir Khan, said he lost his house to the flood and also the wheat that he had stored. He said the life of his family was threatened.



Meeting with women in Churkin

In a separate meeting with women, we were told that livestock is being sold to cope with monetary losses caused by the flood, and also because there is less fodder now. The women said the Vahuwa and Khad Buzdara *rowed kahi* impacted the surrounding eight villages the most. The loss of drinking water sources is being felt acutely by the women, who now have to walk longer distances to fetch water. The water they are able to get is not clean and causes digestive illnesses in their children.

December 14, 1:30 pm, Visit to Phaggan Marral Middle School

We were taken to see the middle school, whose construction had still not been completed due to five years of floods. Although the villagers of Phaggan Marral have not maintained lists of the losses they suffered due to floods, they estimated that 70% of the buildings (homes, storage rooms, etc.) in their village were impacted, which people have been forced to reconstruct or repair.

Villager showing level that floodwater reached in August 2003



December 14, 5:00pm, Gat village

While driving up to this village, we went past Distributary 28. We noted that the flow of the water in this fairly large distributary had been diverted by an embankment (bund) causing it to flow towards Gat village itself. The water from this distributary, combined with the water from the Vahuwa hill torrent which also runs along the village, are causing massive soil erosion around the village. The villagers we met estimated that approximately 100 acres of land had been carried away by the combined force of the waters released by both these sources. At the moment there are 20 homes remaining in Gat on the right side of the Vahuwa hill torrent. Villagers made a request to the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Department to protect the village from further erosion (since every year approximately 15-20 acres are lost to floods and subsequent soil erosion) by constructing a spur, but they have not received a response. The request was made six months ago. Villagers informed us that further upstream, a spur had been constructed by the Irrigation Department to protect the land of a large landowner.



Massive erosion at Gat

The villagers complained that the distributary was constructed in such a way that its banks are very high and the water level is low. This means that water can only be drawn from it by using sump pumps, as the gravity-flow system does not work. The village has given written requests to the Irrigation Department to divert water from the distributary by digging smaller channels from it (via a *mogha* and *nakka*), but there has been little progress.

Referring to the distributary 28, they said that its construction had impacted crops and trees worth approximately Rs. 400,000 on more than three acres. WAPDA's assessment for the damage was only Rs. 28,000, and even this amount has not been paid. Villagers have filed a case against WAPDA challenging the compensation amount, which is still pending.

The villagers fear that since the Vahuwa hill torrent (like the Sanghar hill torrent) is not considered an FCC, they will not be eligible for compensation from the Chashma Project. However, villagers have filed their complaint with the GRSC, which they had learned about from pamphlets that the GRSC had distributed along the roadside. They have not received a response from the GRSC.

The villagers highlighted that even distributaries 28 and 29 are under threat of erosion if the banks of the Vahuwa hill torrent are not strengthened and its course extended to the Indus.

Regarding compensation, villagers said that the land acquisition collector demands 20% of any payment he releases as a bribe.

Annex II:
Survey Report of Damages Caused by *Rowed Kohi* Vahuwa for Eight Villages

From left to right, chart reads: Total - Estimate for trees lost - Trees lost - Estimate of loss for houses - Affected houses/structures - Cost of rehabilitating land - Estimate of losses - Affected population - Affected land (acres) – Villages

سرور رپورٹ نقصانات جو حصہ روڈ کوئی وھوا 2003ء

نام موضع	تاثیر رقبہ	تھاڑا کھاری	تخمینہ نقصان	رہائی تیار کی گئیاں	تھاڑا کھاری	تخمینہ نقصان	تھاڑا کھاری	تخمینہ نقصان	تھاڑا کھاری	تخمینہ نقصان	تھاڑا کھاری	تخمینہ نقصان	تھاڑا کھاری	تخمینہ نقصان
نسکائی	1250	3500	1,87,50,000	62,50,000	20	2,00,000	35	14,00,000	2,66,00,000					
داؤ شالی	2000	4000	3,00,00,000	1,00,00,000	15	1,50,000	20	8,00,000	4,09,50,000					
جورکن	5500	6500	8,25,00,000	2,75,00,000	85	8,50,000	220	88,00,000	11,96,50,000					
بیٹ فم خان	1200	3000	1,80,00,000	60,00,000	8	80,000	6	24,000	2,41,04,000					
پھلکن نزل	1800	4700	2,70,00,000	90,00,000	75	7,50,000	45	18,00,000	3,85,50,000					
لشاری	5500	4570	8,25,00,000	2,25,00,000	78	7,80,000	85	34,00,000	11,41,80,000					
گھادی شالی	2000	4480	3,00,00,000	1,00,00,000	25	2,50,000	35	14,00,000	4,16,50,000					
لھاری	500	1300	75,00,000	25,00,000	5	50,000	6	24,000	1,02,190,000					
میزان	19750	32050	2,962,50,000	882,50,000	311	3,110,000	452	1,76,64,000	39,59,74,000					

نوٹ: کھوئے جانے والے درختوں کی تعداد 1000 سے زیادہ ہے۔

۱۵ تیارہ موسمحات ایسے کہ آگیا
خوار کی آگیا دگا ہے

۱۶ ڈیڑھ لاکھ کیرسک پائی مس
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۱۷ شیخ میٹرونی کے سروے کے مطابق
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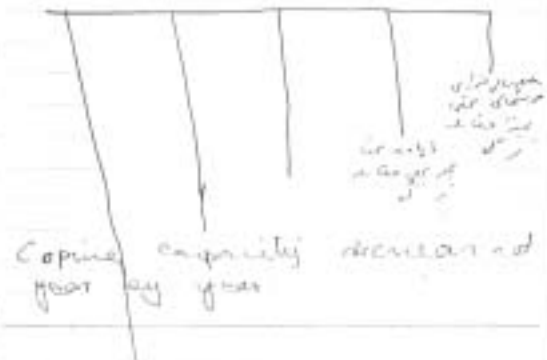
۲۲ زمین پرست زیادہ رہت لگی
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کو دہی کے پانی کے ساتھ آتی ہے اور

۲۴ سبب کی صورت میں کیفیت میں
صحیح ہو جاتی ہے

۲۵ لاکھ تیار کیرسک پائی کیرسک پائی
کم سو تیار ہے

سیدھی ٹرائل



Even graveyard are not secured. There are specifically two villages of Buz near North of Cherkau. These are under threat on flooding in the absence of drain. threat due to increased erosion of land

→ The bank erosion of will torment - lot of agriculture land also lost.

→ Income reduced due to damages to agricult. → increase indebtedness of ASBP loan and bank offer are hurting people.

→ No yields no crop. → Residential houses damaged

Situation of Haldwani

۲۶ ہر سال زیادہ آگیا اور تیار
۲۷ ۳۰ کروڑ تیار ہیں

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