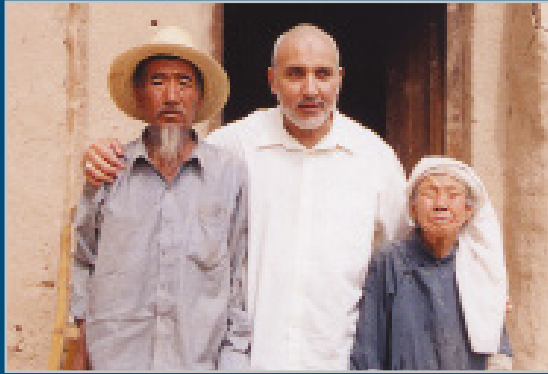




**Islamic Relief Australia**  
MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE





02 “Islamic Relief began as a simple response to a desperate need. I could not have foreseen that the plastic bag of coins in my hand would become the multinational humanitarian operation of today. By the will of God and the love and care of our supporters, small seeds have grown into great forests; a single drop of water has expanded into oceans of hope.

### **Dr Hany El Banna**

Co-founder of Islamic Relief Worldwide



“As one of the world’s leading Muslim humanitarian aid agencies, Islamic Relief has responded to some of the most devastating disasters and worked with some of the world’s most vulnerable communities. We are grateful for the continued trust and faith that our donors and beneficiaries place in us and for the efforts of our volunteers, staff and partners. Together we have brought hope to millions of people over the years and God-willing, will continue to do so for many years to come.”

### **Dr Mohamed Ashmawey**

CEO of Islamic Relief Worldwide



# Where we work



04

## Islamic Relief Worldwide is based in Birmingham, UK, with partners in:

- 1 • Australia
- 2 • Belgium
- 3 • Canada
- 4 • Germany
- 5 • Italy
- 6 • Mauritius
- 7 • Malaysia
- 8 • Netherlands
- 9 • South Africa
- 10 • Sweden
- 11 • Switzerland
- 12 • UK
- 13 • USA

## Our humanitarian work is carried out through our partners in:

- 1 • Afghanistan
- 2 • Albania
- 3 • Bangladesh
- 4 • Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 5 • Chad
- 6 • China
- 7 • Egypt
- 8 • Ethiopia
- 9 • India
- 10 • Indonesia
- 11 • Iraq
- 12 • Jordan
- 13 • Kenya
- 14 • Kosova
- 15 • Lebanon
- 16 • Libya
- 17 • Mali
- 18 • Malawi
- 19 • Niger
- 20 • Occupied Palestinian Territories
- 21 • Pakistan
- 22 • Russian Federation (Chechnya / Ingushetia)
- 23 • Somalia
- 24 • South Africa
- 25 • Sri Lanka
- 26 • Syria
- 27 • Sudan
- 28 • Tunisia
- 29 • Turkey
- 30 • Yemen

Islamic Relief's vision is of a caring world where the basic requirements of people in need are fulfilled.

## What

Inspired by Islamic humanitarian values, Islamic Relief Worldwide works to meet the needs of vulnerable people and empower them to become self-sufficient so that they can live with dignity and independence. We help individuals, families and communities overcome the challenges of living in poverty and work closely with them to achieve sustainable development. In doing so we make it possible for those who wish to support others, to reach people in need of their help.

## Where

We provide help where it is needed most and wherever we are best placed to assist. We do this irrespective of race, religion or gender and without expecting anything in return.

We work to mitigate the effects of disasters, preparing for their occurrence where possible and responding with emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes.

We promote sustainable development through our work in the sectors of education, health and nutrition, water and sanitation and livelihood support. We also carry out seasonal food distributions and provide support for vulnerable people including widows and orphans.

We advocate on behalf of the poor and raise awareness of the issues that affect the communities we work with.



# Islamic Relief Worldwide

Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) is an international relief and development agency working towards a caring world where the basic requirements of people in need are fulfilled.

IRW responds to disasters and emergencies and works with local communities to reduce poverty by promoting sustainable economic and social development.

IRW was established in 1984 by Dr Hany El Banna and fellow students from the University of Birmingham, in response to the famine in Africa. It has since grown into a respected worldwide organisation with seven figure budgets, giving millions of people a lifeline out of poverty and hope for a better future.

IRW is an independent non-political, non-governmental organisation (NGO) supported by hundreds of thousands of individual donors

as well as institutions including UN agencies and the European Commission (EC). Based in Birmingham, UK, IRW has partner offices in over 30 countries that co-ordinate, fundraise for and implement its emergency and development programmes.

At the international level, IRW has consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council, and is a signatory to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Code of Conduct. IRW is committed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through raising awareness of the issues that affect poor communities and through its work on the ground.

Islamic Relief Worldwide endeavours to work closely with local communities, focussing on capacity-building and empowerment to help them achieve development without dependency.

*Opposite page: A boy from Akuen, south Sudan where Islamic Relief has been providing water, healthcare and basic services to some of the country's most impoverished communities.*



## Responding to **disaster**

**Natural and man-made disasters claim millions of lives each year. Survivors are often pushed back into poverty as they struggle to cope with their losses.** Some are made homeless or forced out of their homes, resettling elsewhere in the country or fleeing across borders to begin life as a refugee.

Islamic Relief's emergency teams are ready to respond to humanitarian disasters in the shortest possible time. Our priority is to provide as many people as possible with the basic necessities of food, water, shelter and medical treatment. After the emergency phase, we stay on to help communities rebuild their lives wherever possible, and work with them to restore their livelihoods and achieve long-term development.

Although disasters often come without warning, their impact can sometimes be mitigated if those living in high-risk areas are prepared for their occurrence. Our disaster risk reduction work involves strengthening community capacity to respond to disasters, stockpiling relief items in strategic locations and improving infrastructure. We provide training to local community organisations in disaster management and first aid, and we work with communities to develop their traditional coping mechanisms.

In the Horn of Africa we have been helping people diversify their sources of income so that they are more resilient to recurrent drought. In Bangladesh, we help families build flood-proof homes and provide training in how to keep safe during a flood or cyclone.

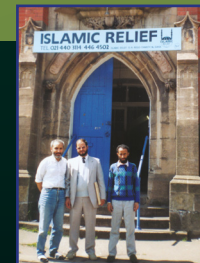
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Famine in the horn of Africa mobilises Birmingham students Dr El-Banna, Dr Shabib, Dr El-Haddad and many volunteers to establish Islamic Relief.

An appeal is launched for Africa; door-to-door and mosque collections take place and one of the first donations is from a nine year old boy.

Islamic Relief has a PO Box number in Birmingham and its first project is sponsoring a chicken farm in Sudan.

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Islamic Relief hires a small office in Moseley, Birmingham and volunteers distribute leaflets that help raise over £100,000 for the Africa famine.

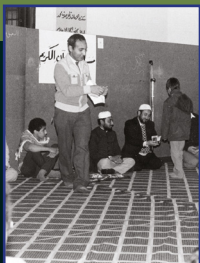


## Highlights

- ™ During the Bosnia war in the early 1990s, Islamic Relief provided food, ambulances and medical supplies, as well as support for women and orphans.
- ™ In Darfur, Sudan, Islamic Relief has been managing the Kerinding II camp for over 20,000 people, providing water and sanitation facilities, two health clinics and a camp school for children.
- ™ Islamic Relief's life-saving work with war-affected communities in Afghanistan and Iraq has continued throughout periods of war and instability.

- ™ We have been working in Gaza, in the Occupied Palestinian Territories for over 15 years, helping the population survive the effects of ongoing conflict and instability.
- ™ In 2004, Islamic Relief responded to the Asian tsunami with a massive emergency relief and rehabilitation programme in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, rebuilding homes, health centres, water supplies, schools and restoring livelihoods.
- ™ In 2005, the devastating earthquake in Pakistan-administered Kashmir led to Islamic Relief's largest ever operation worth over £35 million and including the construction of more than 20,000 homes.

*Opposite page: Islamic Relief distributes emergency food supplies in Malawi in response to a drought in 2006.*

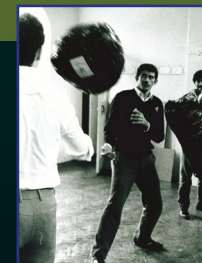


A Zakat Fund is established to allow donors to pay their annual zakat to Islamic Relief in accordance with Islamic principles.

Islamic Relief joins forces with Muslim Alyateem and Widow Fund headed by Dr El-Alfy in Bradford, which sponsors 200 Afghan children.

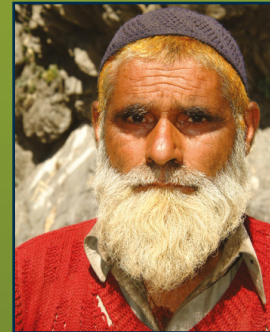
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A new 'Support an Orphan' project begins to help care for vulnerable children, which later becomes the 'One-to-one Orphan Sponsorship' programme.



300 tonnes of wheat flour and clothing is sent to help communities facing a famine in Mozambique.

## Surviving the earthquake



Habib Ullah, aged 50, is a blacksmith from the village of Uchhar in Neelum Valley, Pakistan-administered Kashmir. In the October 2005 earthquake he lost five members of his family.

"I had no one to help me get my family out from under the rubble. I had to do it on my own but by that time it was too late. Only my son was still alive but he died a couple of hours later.

"We had nothing to eat and no shelter. We slept out on the road under the open sky. It was raining and cold. It was hard to cope, but somehow we survived.

"Most of the help we received came from Islamic Relief, even though it was very difficult for anyone to reach this area. Once Islamic Relief arrived we no longer faced any problems receiving the help we needed."

Islamic Relief provided Habib and his family with food and a tent and before the winter set in, his family was moved to a transitional shelter.



The first aqiqa project is implemented in Pakistan for Afghan refugees and Qurbani projects begin in Malawi, Sudan, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Islamic Relief begins working in Jalalabad, Afghanistan and Peshawar, Pakistan, providing mobile health clinics and support for orphans.

Islamic Relief's Board of Trustees is expanded to include Dr El-Alfy, Dr Zahir, Dr Tolba and Mr Bilali.

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A volunteer swimmer raises £1,200 for Bangladesh, which later leads to the concept of annual Islamic Relief Games which continue for a decade.

# Working in warzones

**In times of war, it is not only the violence that kills and injures.** The destruction of medical facilities, water and sanitation systems, homes and infrastructure leave the population without essential services and puts their lives at risk. People of a war-torn nation are affected by its impact for many years after the violence has ended and often remain traumatised long after they begin rebuilding their lives.

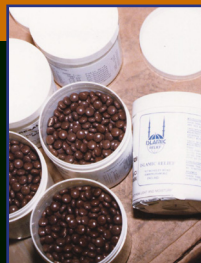
More than 40 million people around the world are currently displaced by conflict or persecution, both within and outside the borders of their own countries. People caught up in conflict often need urgent, life-saving help, but assisting them is a hazardous business. The impartial humanitarian space where relief organisations can work safely has been steadily shrinking as aid workers are increasingly becoming a target.

Islamic Relief often has to work in dangerous areas and our staff are given security training to help ensure their safety. However in their efforts to reach people in their time of need, our staff have been injured, detained and even killed in the line of duty. Many continue to make personal sacrifices in order to do the work they believe in. It is because of their commitment and bravery that we have continued to deliver life-saving aid to people affected by conflicts around the world including Iraq, Afghanistan, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen.

Opposite page: A child from a refugee camp in northern Iraq. Photo: Wendell Phillips/Islamic Relief

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Floods in Sudan create a turning point for Islamic Relief. £200,000 is raised, making it the largest relief operation to date.



Islamic Relief manufactures high-protein biscuits and multivitamins in the UK for malnourished communities in Afghanistan and across Africa

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Islamic Relief is incorporated under the Companies Act and registered with the UK Charity Commission.

Humanitarian aid is sent in response to chemical attacks in Halabjah in northern Iraq.



**For many poor communities, the lack of opportunity to work and make a decent living is one of their greatest concerns.** Whether poverty exists in an ongoing cycle of deprivation and disadvantage or has resulted from war, disaster or climate change, reviving people's ability to earn a living reduces their dependency on aid, restores their dignity and gives them hope.

Islamic Relief aims to make a lasting difference to the lives of the poor by empowering local communities to become self-sufficient. Our work focuses on increasing the economic, social and physical capacity of communities to sustain their livelihoods and we do this by providing training, tools and assistance to help people find skilled work or start their own businesses.

We provide Islamic microfinance loans that follow ethical principles such as risk-sharing, which encourages people to make a success of their business. Our Islamic microfinance programmes around the world have a high success rate with most loans repaid on time and borrowers then applying for a second or even third loan as their businesses expand.

Islamic Relief also supports women who often face greater difficulties in earning a living. Women who are suddenly widowed may find they have to start earning a living but do not have the skills. These women are also less likely to inherit land or property, and therefore cannot get the credit they need to start a business. Islamic Relief works to redress the gender imbalance by providing livelihood support to women who are the main breadwinners as well as carers for their families.

## Supporting livelihoods

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Islamic Relief implements both relief and development programmes with offices opening in the early 90s in Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.



Almost £200,000 of aid is provided to survivors of an earthquake in Iran, including essential hygiene items to prevent the outbreak of disease.

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91

Islamic Relief sends aid to help refugees in northern Albania and to Chechnya where tensions are escalating after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Islamic Relief opens offices across Europe and begins structuring as a global organisation. Its first staff training workshop is held with Oxfam and the British Red Cross.

## Highlights

- ™ We help people diversify their means of earning a living when their livelihoods are affected by conflict or the effects of climate change.
- ™ In Pakistan-administered Kashmir, we provide skills-training to women affected by the 2005 earthquake, some of whom were widowed in the disaster and have become the main breadwinners of their family.
- ™ In Bangladesh we help ensure people do not lose their livelihoods due to the occurrence of floods and help them manage their resources so that they are able to survive periods when they are unable to work.

- ™ Our Islamic microfinance initiatives enable people who do not qualify for a bank loan to access credit and set up or expand their businesses.
- ™ After the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia, we provided small businesses with tools, training and financial support, including boats for fishermen and motorised rickshaws (below) for taxi drivers.



*Opposite page: Khawaja Azad, from Bagh in Pakistan-administered Kashmir tends to his vegetables having received livelihood support from Islamic Relief.*

## Carving a living



Before the war in Kosova, Besnik Loshi (far left), his wife and three children lived comfortably. They had a nice house and a thriving carpentry business in a village in Skenderaj. But the war changed everything. The family fled to Macedonia and returned to find their house and workshop destroyed.

Although he was a skilled carpenter, 30-year-old Besnik could no longer support his family. His tools and machines were gone and he had nothing to

show for all the years spent building up his business.

In post-war Kosova, many people lost everything they owned in the war, which is why Islamic Relief started a microfinance programme to help restore lost livelihoods. Besnik used the Islamic Relief loan to buy carpentry materials. He set up a small workshop and worked long hours. Soon he had so much work that he had to hire help. He was able to earn enough to support his family, pay his employee and repay his loan.

With increasing demand for his work, Besnik took out a total of four successive loans to expand his business. His talents have earned him an excellent reputation and his business continues to thrive.

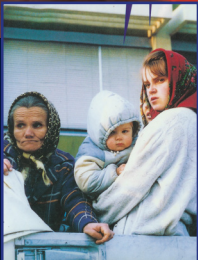
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The Bosnia war leads to a huge increase in the organisation's work, with life-saving aid delivered throughout the war and the siege of Sarajevo.

International headquarters of Islamic Relief move to Digbeth in Birmingham, where they remain to date.

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93

The Independent newspaper in the UK raises £37,000 for Islamic Relief's Bosnia Appeal, raising its profile more widely.



Ambulances, medical supplies and food are provided for the people of Bosnia, and support and counselling is provided for widows and rape victims.

Islamic Relief acquires NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN.



Islamic Relief is the first organisation to carry out canning of Qurbani meat to ensure it reaches areas where fresh distributions are difficult.

Islamic Relief opens an office in California, USA.

# Islamic microfinance

**Providing small loans to the poor can help tackle poverty in developing countries, as many people are desperate to make a living but need help to get started.** Although many organisations offer microfinance to poor communities, few initiatives have used Islamic financing principles, even when working with Muslim communities.

As Islam prohibits the use of interest, Muslims are often reluctant to take interest-based loans. This has created a huge demand for Islamic microfinance amongst the world's 1.3 billion Muslims, particularly amongst the poor.

Islamic Relief has pioneered the use of Islamic financing techniques in development and has been providing microfinance loans for over a decade. These loans follow strict Islamic principles such as sharing the risk between lender and borrower, and ensuring

the business venture is morally and ethically acceptable. Our Islamic financing techniques include *murabaha*, *mudaraba*, *qard hasan* and *ijarah*, and some even employ a combination of techniques depending upon the type of loan, the venture and the experience of the borrower.

Islamic Relief has microfinance programmes in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosova, Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Occupied Palestinian Territories as well as emerging projects in Kenya, Sudan and Mali. These projects benefit tens of thousands of small-scale entrepreneurs and also their wider communities. In the near future Islamic Relief is also hoping to expand these initiatives to Malawi, Chad and Ethiopia.

Opposite page: 32-year-old Bedana Begum from Bangladesh bought two cows with Islamic microfinance loans and now has two calves which produce enough milk for her to sell and support her husband and five children.



Islamic Relief is the first Muslim NGO to receive UK government funding, with £180,000 for a Community Training Centre in North Kordofan, Sudan.



Islamic Relief runs 13 projects in Bangladesh benefiting over 200,000 people, many of them affected by recurrent natural disasters.

Islamic Relief runs its first jointly-funded project with Oxfam, Christian Aid, the UN and others, supporting families on the Bosnia/Croatia border.



# Orphan and child welfare

**Children who are orphaned due to war, poverty, HIV and AIDS or natural disasters, are some of the most vulnerable members of society.**

In addition to coping with the emotional impact of losing one or both parents, orphans often face worse living conditions than those of other poor children. Although relatives or guardians are usually willing to offer a home, they cannot always afford to meet the child's basic needs.

Orphaned children are more likely to drop out of school and seek work to help support their family's income. Without a proper education or skills, the work available to them is usually poorly paid and physically demanding. Orphans can also be socially vulnerable to criminal activity.

Islamic Relief has been working with orphans since 1986 and our orphan welfare programmes now support around 35,000 children in over 30 countries. The One-to-one Orphan Sponsorship programme enables individual donors to support children who are in need of help. The regular financial support allows them to go to school, improve their diet and housing conditions and get access to medical care.

Many of Islamic Relief's education, housing and health programmes are also focussed on helping orphaned children, their families and wider communities. In Kenya and Mali we have established microfinance projects for widows to help them earn a living and in Kabul, Afghanistan, we run an education centre providing orphans and their guardians with training in literacy and computing, which increases their employment skills.

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The Srebrenica massacre takes place in Bosnia and Islamic Relief provides over 700 tonnes of aid as the humanitarian crisis intensifies.



Aid is sent to Rwanda and Burundi following the genocide, in conjunction with UNHCR, and trucks are provided to help transport water.

War breaks out in Chechnya and Islamic Relief is the first aid agency to deliver aid in Grozny, providing food, clothing, blankets and medicine.

Emergency relief items are sent to survivors of devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Algeria.



## Highlights

- ™ As part of the sponsorship programme our child welfare officers help children with special health or educational needs and offer them advice and assistance.
- ™ In Mali we have set up 'Child-Friendly Village' projects to improve standards of living for children and their communities.



Above: An orphan from Ethiopia with her mother. Photo: Shaista Chishiy/Islamic Relief.

- ™ Islamic Relief donors have helped improve the quality of life for thousands of children orphaned in wars and conflicts including many Bosnian, Iraqi and Palestinian children.
- ™ Islamic Relief Bangladesh organises Scouts and Girl Guide groups to provide educational and sporting activities for sponsored orphans.
- ™ In Albania, Kosova and Bosnia-Herzegovina, Islamic Relief organises activity-packed summer camps for orphans.
- ™ At the beginning of the academic year, we provide Palestinian orphans with school bags full of stationery and books to ease the financial burden on their families.

Opposite page: Shakila, aged 13, with her mother in Kabul, Afghanistan. Shakila is sponsored by an Islamic Relief donor and also studies English at an Islamic Relief education centre. Photo: Wendell Phillips/Islamic Relief.

# War child of Sarajevo



Eldin was a premature baby, born in Srebrenica in 1992, as war was escalating in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was rushed to Sarajevo Hospital for specialist care but the city was besieged and his parents had no way of knowing if he was okay.

Amidst heavy bombardment, the hospital appealed for temporary foster families to take care of babies and a Sarajevan couple took in baby Eldin. The couple decided to flee to Germany so they put out a radio appeal to locate Eldin's parents, who gave their consent for him to go.

Eldin's father later became one of many Muslim men presumed dead in the Srebrenica massacre. Eldin's mother, Ifa (above), got in touch with the foster family in Germany and asked if they could bring her son back home.

Eldin and his mother were reunited after four years and when Ifa saw her child she fainted. Eldin now knows he has two loving families. He spends most of the week with his birth mother and younger brother who live in a refugee centre in Sarajevo.

In September 2003, Eldin joined Islamic Relief's Orphan Sponsorship Programme and was put in touch with a donor from the UK. The sponsorship means all his basic needs are met and has brought greater stability to his life. Once again, a stranger has taken an interest in Eldin's life and helped take care of him.

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Islamic Relief provides emergency relief to Lebanese refugees fleeing from villages during the conflict in the south of the country.

During the sanctions against Iraq, Islamic Relief begins three major projects providing food, leukaemia treatment and promoting hospital hygiene.



TIC International, a recycling company established to manage clothes donated to Islamic Relief, begins operating in the UK.

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97

Small business loan schemes are set up to help Palestinian families make a living amidst increasing instability during the intifada.



Islamic Relief establishes a general fund to support orphan welfare projects, in addition to its successful One-to-one Orphan Sponsorship programme.

Islamic Relief ambulances enter Grozny in Chechnya after the end of the first war, providing essential medical care.

Islamic Relief sends food and medical supplies to those affected by an earthquake in northern Iran.

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98

Two educational centres funded by DFID are established for vulnerable children including those with disabilities, in Rafah and Deir Balah, in Gaza.

# Tackling HIV and AIDS

**Around 40 million people are currently living with HIV and AIDS, most of them in developing countries.**

In the worst-affected areas, AIDS is so widespread that it has wiped out entire generations. In sub-Saharan Africa, over 12 million children have been orphaned by AIDS.

Although HIV and AIDS affects many Muslims, the subject remains largely taboo in Muslim communities. There has been little or no Islamic perspective on the issues around HIV and AIDS and this has left Muslim organisations without guidance on effective and religiously acceptable ways to tackle its spread and alleviate its impact.

Islamic Relief has pioneered an international effort to develop an Islamic perspective on HIV and AIDS in its efforts to help Muslim communities deal with some of the challenges

they face. In November 2007 we organised a conference in Johannesburg, South Africa, that helped generate practical responses based on a sound Islamic framework. The conference brought together Islamic scholars, people living with HIV, and HIV practitioners.

Islamic Relief's work has helped increase HIV and AIDS awareness amongst religious scholars and Muslims, and encouraged support for individuals and communities affected by HIV. Our aim is to encourage an understanding and compassion that leads to action. We also have programmes in South Africa that take a compassionate and sensitive approach to helping HIV and AIDS affected communities and hope to expand these to other parts of the world.

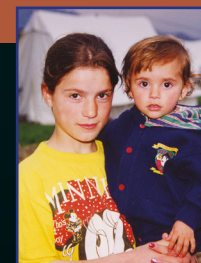
*Opposite page: Children at a playgroup at an Islamic Relief centre in Johannesburg, South Africa, that provides support for orphans affected by HIV and their families.*

Over 50 tonnes of medicine donated by Medicare is sent to Albania and Islamic Relief also opens vocational training centres in Skhodre and Pogradec.

Mobile health clinics are established for Chechens displaced in Ingushetia camps in Sputnik, Severni and around Nazran

Islamic Relief rebrands as Islamic Relief Worldwide to reflect the global nature of its programmes and partners.

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99



Islamic Relief provides emergency aid in Kosova during the war and later runs a massive shelter programme for over 100,000 returning refugees.

Emergency Water Supply and Sanitation Activities in Cyclone SIDR Affected Districts  
 Hygiene Education Session  
 Patuakhali  
 Islamic Relief Bangladesh



**Access to healthcare is one of the most pressing needs of poor communities.** For some, even visiting the doctor or getting basic medication is not possible because it is either not available or too expensive. As a result, 30,000 people in the developing world die every day from diseases that could have been treated. Over half a million women die every year in pregnancy and childbirth even though most of these deaths are preventable.

Poor health also affects people's ability to make a living and prevents children from getting an education. Around a quarter of all children in developing countries are underweight and at risk of having their futures blighted by the long-term effects of malnutrition. Communities that are burdened with caring for the sick or the dependents of those who have died prematurely find it difficult to work their way out of poverty.

Islamic Relief works to improve access to healthcare for poor communities with an emphasis on reducing maternal and child mortality. We build and equip health clinics, train midwives and traditional birth attendants, provide medicine and nutritional support and carry out health and hygiene training in local communities. As our aim is always to empower communities, we also train local health workers so that they can meet the everyday healthcare needs of their communities.



Above: Doctors at an Islamic Relief clinic in Balochistan, Pakistan perform a cataract operation in a programme that restored eyesight for people from poor communities.

# Health and nutrition



Refugee camps are established in Shkodre, Albania and the first baby born in the camp is named Munier after the Emergency Response Manager.



A £1 million appeal is launched to provide food and shelter for Chechen families displaced by conflict and a refugee camp is set up in Ingushetia.

Islamic Relief distributes medical supplies and sets up a refugee camp in Adapzari, Turkey, for survivors of the Izmit earthquake.

Islamic Relief signs the Red Cross Code of Conduct, an international standard on dealing with people affected by emergencies in a non-biased manner.

## Highlights

- ™ We provide emergency food and nutrition during periods of drought in east Africa, and screen and treat children for malnutrition.
- ™ In the immediate aftermath of the tsunami in Indonesia we organised ambulances and mobile clinics for the injured and sent two plane-loads of medical supplies to the worst-affected regions.
- ™ We immunise children in developing countries against common diseases that can cause death or disability.
- ™ We tackle sensitive health issues such as drug addiction in Iraq and reproductive health issues in Bangladesh by working closely with local communities and taking into account their cultural and religious perspectives.

- ™ In Gaza, in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, we provide physical and psychological care programmes for children traumatised by conflict.
- ™ We raise health and hygiene awareness among communities as a preventative measure to help tackle the spread of disease, especially after a disaster.



Above: Islamic Relief's Shortepa clinic in Balkh Province, Afghanistan, provides essential medical care for the community, especially women and children.

Opposite page: Islamic Relief conducts hygiene education sessions in Patuakhali, Bangladesh, after Cyclone Sidr in 2007.



A £2 million appeal helps provide food and shelter, raise mine awareness and support the rehabilitation of Kosovan refugees.

Islamic Relief begins implementing Waqf projects, reviving the great Islamic tradition of charitable giving that has ongoing benefits.

## Dreaming of a new life



Dawlat is a 46 year old farmer from Shortepa District in Afghanistan's Balkh Province. His addiction to opium has prevented him from living a normal life. Dawlat is undergoing treatment at the Islamic Relief's Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation clinic and is desperate to turn his life around.

"I don't remember when I started using drugs. It was just something I grew up with. But now I realise that the main cause of our problems is our addiction. I

live with my mother and three brothers and all of us are addicted to opium. My brothers and I have been unable to get married because of our financial and health problems. We earn very little because our bodies are too weak for hard labour and most of our income goes on opium.

"Life has always been difficult for my family but now I am hopeful because my brother and I are receiving treatment at the Islamic Relief clinic. We are so fortunate to have this clinic here because without it so many people would have no hope of being treated.

"If Allah wills, He will give us good health and we can start dreaming of a new life. It's not a change in income that I've been hoping for but a change within myself. If I can overcome my addiction I can start hoping for great things.

"All these years I've thought about why I am alone, why I have no wife and children like other men. All I want is to be a normal man."

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Islamic Relief establishes an office in Afghanistan in response to chronic drought and helps farmers revive their livelihoods.



Following 9/11, Islamic Relief advocates on behalf of the Muslim charity sector and sets up the Humanitarian Forum.



The war in Afghanistan begins and Islamic Relief supplies food and healthcare services, with work continuing despite aerial bombardment.

Islamic Relief supplies emergency food packs and tents for 5,000 people affected by the devastating Gujarat earthquake in India.

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02



Islamic Relief works with the WFP in Chechnya and Albania in a massive programme providing food aid to vulnerable communities for a number of years.

# Disability and disadvantage

*Opposite page: Edin aged 13, with his mother Adila at their home in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Edin is sponsored by an Islamic Relief donor which helps his mother meet his basic needs and pay for his healthcare.*

Islamic Relief provides 700 microfinance loans based on Islamic principles to help Bosnian families repair and return to their war-damaged homes.

Islamic Relief begins working in China's western provinces providing food, water, sanitation, education, livelihood support and disaster response.

A Framework Partnership is signed with the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department recognising Islamic Relief's capacity to deliver aid to a high standard.

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03



The Iraq war begins and Islamic Relief launches a £9 million humanitarian appeal at the House of Commons in the UK.

**Around one tenth of the world's population suffers from some form of disability.** For many, disability goes hand in hand with poverty. Living with a disability can push people further into poverty and without access to specialist medical care, poor people can face a greater risk of incurring injuries and suffering from health problems. Disabled people can also face stigmatisation and isolation in societies that neither understand nor accept their disability.

One of the major causes of disability is conflict; nine million children around the world were disabled through conflict in the 1990s. Countries that have experienced prolonged conflict are also less likely to have health services capable of providing specialised care and rehabilitation.

Islamic Relief provides care for people with physical and mental disabilities through a range of programmes, many of them aimed at children. We work with children in conflict zones who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health problems. Our work includes counselling, group therapy and art classes to help children come to terms with their experiences.

In Egypt, we run a specialist care centre for disabled children and offer a range of therapies as well as training for teachers. In the Occupied Palestinian Territories we provide psycho-social support for disabled and traumatised children and support the Artificial Limbs and Polio Centre in Gaza, which is the only centre providing prosthetic limbs in the region.



# Education and training

Islamic Relief is the first international agency permitted to work in the Blue Nile region of Sudan after the civil war that displaced over 100,000.

Dr El-Banna becomes President of Islamic Relief Worldwide, Haroun Atallah is appointed CEO of and the first Global Strategy process begins.



Islamic Relief loses its first staff member in the line of duty; Zulfiqar Ali is killed on the Line of Control in Kashmir's Neelum Valley.

Islamic Relief signs a partnership agreement with UNHCR that reaffirms both organisations' principles of giving aid without discrimination.

## Education is at the heart of breaking out of poverty.

Children who complete even primary level education benefit considerably in their income, health and social wellbeing. But in many poor communities education is the first thing to go when sacrifices have to be made. Millions of children around the world do not attend primary school; some cannot afford to, others cannot reach a school and in too many cases, children have no choice but to take on some of their family's burdens.

Islamic Relief's education programmes are aimed at getting more children into school by providing better access to education facilities and making regular attendance a realistic option. We prioritise the needs of some of the most vulnerable groups including girls, those living in remote or conflict areas, orphans and children living with disabilities. We also work to improve the quality of education and

ensure young people leave school and college with vocational skills that they can use in the workplace.

We work directly with local communities to ensure our education programmes are relevant to their needs. In some areas adult education and literacy programmes are a priority, in others there is a desperate need to build and equip schools. To help improve the quality of education we run teacher training programmes, and to encourage children from poor families to attend we provide incentives in the form of hot school meals and the provision of school bags, uniforms and stationery that help ease the financial burden of getting an education.

*Left: 15-year-old Wajiha studies at the Kabul Integrated Family Development Centre in Afghanistan that aims to empower widows and orphans through education.*



## Highlights

- ™ We attempt to restore education facilities as quickly as possible after a disaster as going to school can bring a sense of normality back to children's lives and help them overcome their trauma.
- ™ In India we help provide access to education for girls from the disadvantaged minority Muslim community in Uttar Pradesh.



- ™ In Kandahar, Afghanistan, we restored schools and a key teacher training centre that improved the quality of education for many war-affected children.
- ™ After the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia and the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, we provided temporary education and rebuilt schools that were destroyed in the disasters.
- ™ In Iraq, we rebuilt and equipped 16 primary schools that had been severely damaged in the war.
- ™ In Chechnya, in the Russian Federation, we have restored vocational training centres in schools, allowing young people to acquire the skills they need to find work or set up their own businesses.

*Left: Pupils in a science class at the Haji Shamia School for boys in Albania supported by Islamic Relief, where students achieve excellent grades.*

## Schools of joy



In late 2007, Cyclone Sidr caused widespread destruction in south Bangladesh including damage to schools. Many children were traumatised by the experience and were left with nowhere to study or no incentive to get an education. School dropout rates rose sharply, motivation was at an all-time low and some children were forced to work to supplement their family's income.

Islamic Relief's child welfare officers noted that school was not a pleasant experience for some children; few recreational activities were on offer and some schools even practised corporal punishment.

In order to encourage children back into school, Islamic Relief launched an alternative education programme called Anondo Biddaloy, or School of Joy. This holistic approach to schooling addresses not only children's educational needs but also their emotional, social and physical wellbeing. Pupils are given healthy food during their school day, receive regular health checks and have access to a range of recreational activities.

The 20 schools set up by Islamic Relief in Bagerhat and Patuakhali districts provide education and care for 600 primary and secondary school pupils. These children learn about their rights and independence and responsibility is encouraged. The aim is that by the time they leave school they are educated, healthy, confident and empowered adolescents with a range of skills to help them in the workplace and in living happier, more fulfilled lives.



Islamic Relief sets up and manages the Kerinding II camp in Darfur, Sudan, initially providing 8,700 people with water, sanitation, healthcare and schooling.



The devastating Asian tsunami kills 300,000 people and Islamic Relief launches a massive emergency and relief operation in Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

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The tsunami response programme includes rebuilding homes, health centres, water supplies, schools, homes and restoring livelihoods.

Islamic Relief is the first Muslim charity to join the Disasters Emergency Committee which coordinates leading UK charities' response to disasters.

Hurricane Katrina hits New Orleans and Islamic Relief launches its largest USA operation providing food, shelter, healthcare and counselling.

# Investing in Waqf

**Waqf is a form of charity, similar to an endowment, that has always been part of the Islamic charitable tradition.** It is a donation of money, property or other items that cannot be sold or spent but is invested or used to create a charitable return, for the benefit of the poor.

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) gave charity through Waqf and encouraged others to do the same. Waqf is highly regarded in the Islamic tradition because of the benefits to both the donor and beneficiaries. It is considered to be a form of 'Sadaqah Jariyah,' or ongoing charity that continues to bring spiritual benefit to the donor whilst helping the poor for many generations.

Waqf donations have historically included waterways built to bring water to villages, hospitals providing free medical treatment,

schools providing free education, and kitchens established to feed the poor. During the Ottoman Empire the income generated from over 20,000 Waqf projects was equal to a third of the state's wealth.

Islamic Relief receives Waqf donations in the form of cash and also in-kind. Donors can choose to invest in Waqf shares of fixed values, or donate variable amounts to our various sectors of work. The Waqf donation is invested according to Islamic guidelines and at the end of the year the profit generated by the invested Waqf capital contributes towards Islamic Relief's humanitarian work.

In offering this service, Islamic Relief is reviving a great Islamic charitable tradition that has historically protected poor and vulnerable communities throughout their lives.

Opposite page: A girl from south Bangladesh, in an area affected by Cyclone Sidr in 2007. Photo: Shaista Chisty/Islamic Relief.



The devastating earthquake in Kashmir leads to a massive £35 million operation including clearing debris, restoring water and sanitation supplies, providing emergency food, healthcare services, access to education, supporting livelihoods and building more than 20,000 homes.

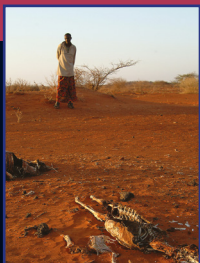
Islamic Relief is awarded third place in the Charities Online Accounts Awards in the UK, in recognition of the transparency of its accounts.

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Lebanon faces a humanitarian crisis and Islamic Relief is one of the few agencies providing life-saving aid in the south amidst the conflict.



# Access to water and sanitation



Prolonged drought in the Horn of Africa puts 15 million lives at risk and Islamic Relief provides food, water, health services and feeding centres.

Islamic Relief signs the Partnership Programme Agreement with DFID recognising the organisation's capacity in the delivery of the MDGs.

Islamic Relief provides emergency relief and manages a site for refugees of the Sri Lanka conflict that forces 60,000 people from their homes.

Islamic Relief signs an agreement with WFP to deliver food to the world's poor and also signs a MoU promoting cooperation with the IOM.

**Water is the most basic of human needs but over a billion people around the world struggle to access safe, clean drinking water.** Every day almost 5,000 children die from diseases caused by dirty water. Over two billion of the world's population also lack proper sanitation facilities and this has a serious impact on their health.

Poor access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities also affects people's ability to earn a living. Shortages in water for livestock or irrigation can lead to harvest failure, loss of livelihoods and even famine. For young people, poor health and the daily burden of fetching water – especially for girls - means they are less likely to go to school and improve their prospects for the future.

Islamic Relief addresses many of the problems that lead to poor access to water

and sanitation, from drought to a lack of infrastructure. We work closely with local communities to establish water and sanitation facilities that are sustainable and train communities to manage and support these essential services. We also raise awareness about the importance of good hygiene practices such as washing hands with soap, which can almost halve the number of infections.

Tackling issues of scarcity, access, or quality, we apply innovative solutions from harnessing wind and solar-power for water pumps in Pakistan to harvesting rainwater in China. We are also committed to the Millennium Development Goal to 'halve the number of people without sustainable access to safe water and basic sanitation by 2015.'

## Highlights

- ™ In emergency situations we provide urgent help to people threatened by disrupted water and sanitation facilities, to prevent outbreaks of deadly disease.
- ™ We have helped to rehabilitate rural Afghanistan's canals and traditional 'karezes' or underground water channels, some of which date back thousands of years.



Above: A schoolgirl in Gaza is able to access clean water following an Islamic Relief programme to install water supplies in schools in 2009.

- ™ In China we work with local communities to establish rainwater-harvesting systems in drought-struck areas, including 400 water cellars in Gansu province.
- ™ In drought-affected regions of Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia we have helped to improve water supplies for thousands of nomadic pastoralists and their livestock.
- ™ We have helped communities tackle arsenic-poisoning from contaminated water wells in Bangladesh.
- ™ In north-east Kenya, we constructed a sub-surface dam along a riverbed to raise the water table for shallow wells in the area.

Opposite page: Women in North Kordofan, Sudan have better access to clean water after Islamic Relief built a well in their village.

## Women working for water



Access to water had always been a problem in the village of Bun Chattar in Neelum Valley, Pakistan-administered Kashmir. Women faced a daily two-hour journey over mountain paths to collect a single pot of contaminated water from a spring. Islamic Relief proposed setting up a Community Organisation (CO) in the village that would bring people together to tackle problems like access to water, but the idea was only met with enthusiasm by the women.

"The problem was that the men did not appreciate how difficult fetching water was because it was always the women who did it," explained Tafheem, now a senior Social Organiser for Islamic Relief Pakistan. But braving village disapproval, the women set up a CO and began working with Islamic Relief's water and sanitation experts.

"The men weren't willing to help so we took turns and dug out rocks, gravel, and sand from the river and carried it on our heads. That was the hardest part, but we managed to do it," said Sabina (above), another CO member. "When the men saw that the work had started for real then slowly everybody started joining the COs and helping out with the project."

The water project was a great success, providing every house in the village with its own water pump. "If you were to ask anyone in the village how much everything cost or how much work was carried out, they would be able to tell you because they did all it themselves," said Tafheem. "This is what COs are all about."



Dr El-Banna receives an honorary doctorate from the University of Birmingham in recognition of Islamic Relief's achievements.

Islamic Relief pioneers discussions on Islam and HIV/AIDS at a conference in South Africa and establishes the HIV Fund to help address the issues.

Islamic Relief helps establish the Muslim Charities Forum that aims to improve British Muslim charities' contribution to development.

Almost £5 million of food, shelter and survival items are provided for those affected by Cyclone Sidr in southern Bangladesh.



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Cyclone Nargis hits Myanmar and Islamic Relief provides emergency aid, builds over 1,000 houses and repairs and equips schools.



A new site funded by the European Commission is established for 10,000 vulnerable Rohingya refugees from Myanmar living in Bangladesh.

Dr Zahir retires as the first Chair of the Board of Trustees after 20 years, handing over to his deputy, Dr El-Haddad.

Dr El-Banna retires as President of Islamic Relief to take on the role of President of the Humanitarian Forum.

# Green development

**Poverty and the environment are closely linked. Poor communities are often worst affected by the impact of climate change as they rely on natural resources to make a living.**

The depletion of fertile land, forests and water sources deprives them of food and livelihoods and sometimes forces them to exploit remaining resources, leading to further environmental degradation.

As an organisation inspired by Islam, we are committed to environmental sustainability. In the Islamic worldview, mankind is the guardian of the earth and has a duty to protect and preserve it for future generations, as well as to maintain the balance created by God. As environmental conservation, development and relief are all related, we aim to integrate the principles of sustainability into all of our projects.

We are increasingly assessing the environmental impact of each of our projects as a standard part of the planning process. We also implement projects aimed at creating sustainable livelihoods through environmental protection, regeneration and promoting environmentally sound practices.

We are currently expanding our projects to meet the increasing challenges posed by climate change. During emergencies, we will incorporate Rapid Environmental Impact Assessments into our disaster response operations. We are also committed to reducing the organisation's collective carbon footprint and are members of the Stop Climate Chaos coalition in the UK as well as other environmental networks around the world.

*Opposite page: A sheep herder watches over his animals near the mountainous village of Lukomir in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where Islamic Relief has distributed food to villagers isolated by severe weather during the winter months. Photo: Wendell Phillips.*

Saleh Saeed is appointed as CEO of Islamic Relief Worldwide. An internal change programme begins to improve the organisation's efficiency.

Dr El-Alfy leads a Governance Committee to strengthen the Islamic Relief family of organisations.

Islamic Relief sets up the Jalozaï camp in Noshera, north-west Pakistan, providing 30,000 displaced people with water, sanitation and healthcare.

Islamic Relief USA is awarded the highest rating of four stars from Charity Navigator, America's largest charity evaluator.



## Seasonal programmes



Islamic Relief launches a £20 million appeal for Gaza and provides life-saving aid throughout the devastating 22-day war.

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Islamic Relief provides 97,000 people displaced by fighting in north-west Pakistan with water, sanitation, healthcare, education and trauma counselling.

### Qurbani

Every year on Eid-ul-Adha, Muslims mark an Abrahamic tradition that includes the sacrifice of an animal, a portion of which is donated to the poor. Since 1986, Islamic Relief has been carrying out a massive global Qurbani operation on behalf of its donors, providing enough meat to feed an average family. In most countries, Qurbanis are carried out within the locality to ensure the meat is fresh and to support the local economy. In areas where livestock levels are low or where there is ongoing conflict, canned or frozen meat is used as an alternative. The meat is also distributed in orphanages, hospitals, prisons and in homes for the elderly.

**Twice a year, Islamic Relief Worldwide carries out seasonal food distributions to millions of people around the world to mark the Islamic festivals of Eid.**

Muslims donate generously to feed the poor, helping them to take part in the celebrations of these holy days and enjoy food they would not ordinarily be able to afford.

### Ramadan

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims are required to fast from sunrise to sunset, increasing empathy with those who regularly go without meals. It is also a time when Muslims are encouraged to give more charity. Every Ramadan, we deliver food parcels to poor families around the world ensuring they food to break their fast with and to celebrate the end of the holy month on Eid-ul-Fitr.

Islamic Relief Italy responds to an earthquake in L'Aquila by providing food, clothing, blankets and hygiene kits for over 2,000 people.



## Food security

One billion people around the world do not have enough food. War, climate change, trade and agricultural policies and the rising cost of food are all causing more and more people to go hungry. In recent years, the global food crisis has had a devastating impact on poor communities. Every day, 25,000 people die as a result of hunger related causes, the majority of them children.

Islamic Relief has many programmes around the world that help provide short and long term solutions to the problem of hunger.

™ In Kenya and Ethiopia we provide emergency food aid and during periods of severe food shortages, we run supplementary and therapeutic feeding

centres, providing high energy food and healthcare to severely malnourished people.

™ In Ghourma Rharous in Mali, many pastoralists struggle to feed their families during periods of drought. Islamic Relief supports community cereal banks that ensure food security throughout the year and empowers the women who manage it to take control of their lives.

™ In Bangladesh, where almost half of all children are underweight, Islamic Relief runs a camp for Rohingya refugees with a feeding centre to help tackle the enormous challenge of malnutrition.

*Opposite page: A man collects food for Ramadan in China, where Islamic Relief carries out seasonal distributions and implements development programmes in some of the poorest provinces.*

Islamic Relief is placed top of the Charity 250 Index in the UK, reflecting the tremendous efforts of staff and volunteers in recent years.

The Board of Trustees approve a new governance structure for the Islamic Relief family of organisations and appoint Dr El-Alfy as the new Chair.



Islamic Relief provides emergency aid in east Africa where millions face hunger, 25 years after a famine led to the birth of Islamic Relief.

Islamic Relief celebrates its 25th anniversary with global events including a Gala Dinner in London with HRH The Prince of Wales as guest of honour.

## Fighting hunger



In late 2009, around 20 million people across east Africa faced starvation as a result of drought, conflict and rising food prices. For 33-year-old Mariam from Mandera, Kenya, the drought meant all her livestock died and she no longer had a supply of meat and milk to feed her six children.

“My children are hungry,” she told Islamic Relief. “Milk used to cost 30 shillings but now it is 100; meat was 70 shillings per half kilo but it has doubled. If

this situation continues for much longer we may have to migrate to an area that has water and pasture. Life is difficult but we are praying to Allah to make things better.”

Islamic Relief has been providing food, nutrition and healthcare for communities affected by drought in east Africa and runs supplementary feeding centres in Mandera. Islamic Relief’s health teams visit local villages to assess children and pregnant women who are at risk and ensure they receive highly nutritious food and urgent healthcare.

Mariam’s four-year-old twins Nima and Noor, were among those who were assessed by Islamic Relief and found to be malnourished. “Were it not for Islamic Relief coming to my village I would not have realised that my children were malnourished,” said Mariam. “Luckily they were admitted to the health centre where they are receiving food and medical care, and they are now recovering well.”



# Advocating on behalf of **the poor**

Islamic Relief Worldwide campaigns and advocates for social and political change as a way of ending inequality, suffering and poverty. Our partners around the world actively support many campaigns and initiatives that aim to improve conditions for poor communities by raising awareness of important issues such as debt and climate change.

Islamic Relief's work in fostering partnerships and cooperation among humanitarian and charitable organisations has resulted in the establishment of the Humanitarian Forum and the Muslim Charities Forum.

The Humanitarian Forum, initiated in 2004, brings together Western aid organisations and charitable organisations from Muslim countries. It provides a platform for dialogue and promotes mutual understanding and cooperation as well as supporting capacity-building and promoting international humanitarian standards. The Forum has since become an independent organisation, registering as a charitable trust in 2007.

The Muslim Charities Forum (MCF) is a network of British Muslim-led charity organisations working in international development. Islamic Relief Worldwide teamed up with four leading Muslim-led organisations to found the MCF in 2007. The MCF aims to support the development and professionalisation of the Muslim charity sector by promoting the exchange of experience, ideas and information amongst its members, and also between UK and international NGOs and institutions.

# Working in partnership



Islamic Relief would like to acknowledge and honour every person who has supported us in delivering aid and the message that we care to millions of people around the world. God knows best those who have contributed, be it little or great.

Islamic Relief has also enjoyed the support and partnership of many organisations over the years. We would like to thank all those who have supported and facilitated our work, including the following organisations:

- Al Eslah Society – Human Welfare Committee, Bahrain
- Al Rahma Society
- Arab League
- Arab Medical Union
- Austrian Development Agency
- BOND
- British Embassies, High Commissions and

*Above: Labourers in Panpotti, Potuakhali, employed as part of Islamic Relief's Cash-for-Work programme, gather earth to raise the level of the roads so that villagers can escape during a flood or cyclone. Photo: Shaista Chishty/Islamic Relief*

*Opposite page: The Mayor of Sylhet marches with children on International Disaster Risk Reduction day in Bangladesh.*

- Consulates around the world
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- CARE
- Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD)
- Christian Aid
- Comic Relief
- Common Humanitarian Fund
- CONCORD
- Department for International Development (DFID, British Government)
- Emirates Airlines
- European Commission
- HSBC Bank
- Human Aid
- Human Concern International
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- International Development Relief Foundation (IDRF)
- International Islamic Charitable Organisation
- Islamic Development Bank
- Islamic Solidarity Movement
- Kuwait Joint Relief Committee
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs - The Netherlands
- Mushin Al Hada, UAE
- Muslim Aid
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Oxfam
- People in Aid
- Qatar Charity
- Qatari government
- Qatar Red Crescent
- Reach Out To Asia (ROTA)
- Save the Children (UK)
- Sheikh Abdullah Al Nouri Charity Society
- Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
- The Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation
- UN agencies including UNAMID, UNDP, UNHABITAT, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNMACC, UNFPA, UNOCHA, UNWFP and UNWHO
- VOICE

# Looking forward

In the coming years we will, God-willing, continue to work towards our humanitarian goals and meet the needs of our donors, supporters and beneficiaries more effectively, by:

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- Providing essential services and support to poor communities around the world irrespective of race, religion or gender.
- Improving our capacity to respond rapidly to emergencies, mitigating their impact wherever possible.
- Promoting sustainable development in the fields of healthcare, water and sanitation, education and livelihood support.
- Caring for vulnerable groups including women and children, and reducing their vulnerability through capacity-building and community development.
- Advocating on behalf of the world's poorest people and protecting and promoting their human rights.
- Working in the spirit of our Islamic humanitarian values and further developing an Islamically-inspired approach to relief and development.

“In its early days Islamic Relief was one of the few agencies that enabled the Muslim community to fulfil its religious duty of giving charity and caring for those in need around the world.

Islamic Relief has continued to connect people, bringing together the donor and beneficiary, east and west, rich and poor. The sincerity of our staff and volunteers has helped us to gain the trust of the people we work with. Over the years many organisations have supported us, recognising our professionalism and capacity to effectively deliver humanitarian aid.

Islamic Relief will continue to work tirelessly to improve the quality of people's lives, especially for women and children. Poverty has not been eliminated and we face new challenges that Islamic Relief and other agencies must work together to overcome in order to make a real impact and bring about lasting, positive change.

In the coming years, Islamic Relief will increasingly advocate on behalf of the poor and use its neutrality and humanitarian vision to assist in helping people move from illness to health, illiteracy to education, dependency to independence and ultimately, towards equality and peace.”

**Dr Mohammed El-Alfy**

Chair of the Board of Trustees



“At first I thought a relief agency with such a name would only help Muslims. But what I saw was completely different. More than 80 families in our village were given a new house by Islamic Relief and none of us are Muslims. They also gave us food, clothes and hygiene kits. Because of Islamic Relief my family has been reunited and we can start to live again. We will not forget the name ‘Islamic Relief’ for the rest of our lives.”

Daw Waing, aged 68, from Dedaye Township, Myanmar, was made homeless by cyclone Nargis in 2008.



“I have no means to face this famine. Everyone is starving because nobody harvested last year. I have no food, livestock, nothing. I only have God. Islamic Relief saved our lives the day the food was distributed. Without that aid some of us might have died. Others might have been forced to steal, from desperation. Fortunately God is good, and He does not close all paths to His faithful.”

Zali Amadou, aged 90, from Tondikiwindi, Niger, struggled to survive the food crisis in 2005.

“Verily, Allah has men whom He created for the needs of the people, who rush to them in times of need. They are those who are safe from the punishment of Allah the Exalted.”

Hadith Tabrani

“Work; soon Allah will see your work and so will His Messenger and the believers; soon you will be brought back to the Knower of the unseen and the seen, then He will show you the truth of what you did.”

Qur'an (9:105)





**Islamic Relief Australia**

**Sydney - 56 Auburn Road, Auburn NSW 2144**

**Melbourne - 829 Sydney Road, Brunswick VIC 3056**

**1300 308 554**

**Charity No. NSW - 21816 : VIC - 11864**

**[islamic-relief.com.au](http://islamic-relief.com.au)**