



# PARTNERSHIP

*Pakistan Edition*

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## **497 Families Get Shelters**

**Islamic Relief Working in flood-affected areas with an integrated village rehabilitation approach**

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## 497 flood-hit families get shelters in Muzaffargarh

Islamic Relief has handed over 497 permanent shelters to the flood-affected people of district Muzaffargarh. So far IR has constructed 1522 permanent one room shelters for victims of 2010 floods in Muzaffargarh.

In its 2010 flood response programme, Islamic Relief immediately responded the immediate needs and early recovery of the flood-affected people and started its long-term development programmes in district Muzaffargarh with an integrated village rehabilitation approach, said Programme Manager Farooq Khan during handing over ceremony of shelters to community in Muzaffargarh

Since the commencement of its services to the flood-hit communities, Islamic Relief has provided 1522 permanent shelters, 1546 toilets, implemented Qurbani project, distributed 959 non-food items and provided livelihood support to 1529 families, 111,015 people were benefitted from its health interventions. We are still working on integrated village rehabilitation programme with a focus on livelihood and education sector in close collaboration with the stakeholders, he said.



## AECID, IR sign an agreement of worth €1m

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and Islamic Relief, a humanitarian and development organisation, have signed an agreement worth €1million (PKR 118,382,000) for the initial recovery phase of flood response in Sindh. The project will focus on providing the means to save and rehabilitate lives and livelihoods of the people affected by 2011 floods in the three Union Councils – Hadi Bukhsh, Dagan, Bugury of district Mirpurkhas, Sindh targeting 9,437 families. Keeping in view the needs of the flood affected and displaced populations in Sindh, the project, funded by the Spanish Government, will focus on emergency livelihood support, provision of clean drinking water, and distribution of critical winterization items.

The Spanish Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Gonzalo Quintero, has expressed that this support constitutes a clear example of the commitment of Spain with the people of Pakistan, even in this time of economic and financial pressures for Spain.

Talking about addressing the needs of flood-hit communities, Islamic Relief Head of Humanitarian Programme Umair Hasan said that Islamic Relief is still working for the rehabilitation of 2010 flood victims across Pakistan with an integrated approach and also responding to the needs of Sindh flood-affected people. The organisation has also conducted a situational analysis in response to 2011 floods and became a part of the immediate relief activities initiated by relief and aid agencies including national authorities, Umair maintained.

He said that onset of winter season brings more misery for the affected families and the timely contribution of Spanish Agency will address the urgent and significant needs of the flood-hit communities in Sindh.

## Children's Recreational Day Organised



As part of its efforts to raise awareness about child-related issues and child rights in Pakistan as well as to provide some child-friendly space for poor orphaned children sponsored by it, Islamic Relief holds regular “Children’s Recreational Day” at a local hotel. Children from poor areas of Rawalpindi took part in recreational activities and met with civil society, educationists, university students, and the media to share their issues with the public.

Pakistan is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, according to which every child has an equal right to life, health, nutrition, education and freedom of expression. It is our duty to take care of children and provide them all the necessary facilities to exercise these rights and as an Islamic country it is even more essential to implement the teachings of Islam which make it obligatory to treat all children with love, give them their rights and prevent exploitation.

The Head of Islamic Relief Pakistan’s Development Programmes, Adnan Bin Junaid said children are capable of great things when they grow up in the right conditions-with love and enough food and water for a healthy start to life, with equal opportunities to learn, free from threats of violence and exploitation which is something that no boy or girl should ever have to face. “To survive and thrive, children need guidance. They need education, health, safety, security and chance to develop their abilities in order to take full advantage of their potential”

## IR participates in polio eradication campaign

Islamic Relief goes hand-in-hand with the health department in Muzaffargarh to eradicate polio and raise awareness in the area. According to the figures given by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the number of polio cases in the country has risen to 173 in 2011. The highest number of polio cases has been registered in Balochistan 68, 50 from FATA, 30 from Sindh, 19 from KPK, 5 from the Punjab and one from Gilgit-Baltistan. In 2010, 144 polio cases were reported while 2009 witnessed 116 polio cases. In district Muzaffargarh, 3 cases of polio were reported in 2010 but fortunately no cases were reported in 2011. Muzaffargarh is high risk district for polio virus as many nomads come from Balochistan and Sindh here where many cases of polio exist. District Health Department Muzaffargarh arranged a meeting regarding polio campaign from 12th December 2011 in which national and international NGOs participated. Health department requested for support in upcoming polio eradication campaign. Islamic Relief provided a vaccinator and logistics support to health department, advocacy and awareness material was provided and social mobilization was arranged. In union council Budh, district Muzaffargarh, Islamic Relief staff vaccinated more than 700 children in collaboration with the health department.



## Winter brings more misery to Sindh flood-hit people



After the August floods that hit Southern Pakistan, millions of people are still at great risk as humanitarian problems in the country continue to mount. Over 9 million people have been affected by the recent monsoon floods which hit slightly over a year after the devastating floods of 2010. Millions of homes in Sindh, the worst hit region in the country have been destroyed or damaged. The onset of the winter season will cause further misery to these long-suffering people as the cold weather makes adequate shelter and warm clothing a major priority for the 800,000 people still displaced from their homes. Millions of flood-affected poor people who have managed to find some form of shelter need blankets and warm clothes to protect them against the harsh, wintery conditions. It's worrying

how poor the response has been to raise funds face this crisis. Without adequate funds, aid agencies won't be able to reach many of those affected by this year's floods; particularly the vulnerable as well as women and children. Aid agencies need more funds to do vital, life saving work.

## 4-day annual review & planning meeting held



A 4-day annual review and planning meeting was held to strategize IR programme activities. Core team of Islamic Relief planned and finalized strategic objectives to fill the gaps and benefit the right holders of IR interventions.

### News in Brief

#### Interest-free loans provided to 386 families

To improve the standards of living through provision of Islamic Microfinance services to the vulnerable communities in Pakistan, Islamic Relief has provided interest-free loans of worth Rs. 184, 770 to 386 families start their own business. 134 males and 252 female headed families get interest-free loans to start their business. Currently, Islamic Relief-Pakistan is implementing two major projects funded by the Scottish Government, IR-UK and IR-Netherlands. With their support, the Microfinance Programme (MFP) has been able to expand its services to cover urban areas in Punjab, Balochistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

#### Walking tracks, water supply schemes inaugurated in AJK

2 walking tracks and 3 water supply schemes have been inaugurated in Neelum district, AJ&K. Islamic Relief area office has constructed walking tracks and water supply schemes under its development programme in AJ&K to benefit the local communities. These walking tracks will help ease the routine life of the villagers and they will be able to get easy access to clean drinking water.



#### AX Training conducted

Microsoft Dynamics AX training for Islamic Relief staff was conducted in Pakistan Country Office. Team from Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) imparted training sessions to the staff. Microsoft Dynamics AX will help Islamic Relief in organising its admin, procurement, finance and programmes systems. Certificates were also given away to the participants.

