



Islamic Relief WW UK



Food Distribution Programme
2010 / 1431
Bosnia and Herzegovina

20 years of Charitable Work of
Islamic Relief-a WW in Bosnia and Herzegovina
(1992 - 2012)

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Content

WAR YEARS (1992 - 1995)

Programs and projects of urgent assistance

Food Distribution Project	5
Food Production Projects in Zenica	6
Project of Water Distribution	7
Project: Section for Production of Orthopaedic Items in Sarajevo	8
Firewood Distribution	8
Clothing and Shoes Distribution	9
Distribution of Medicines	9

YEARS OF RETURN AND RECONSTRUCTION (1996 - 2002)

Reconstruction Projects

Reconstruction of Houses	10
Project of Reconstruction of Livestock Population - Cows	11
Reconstruction of Schools	11
Healthcare Centres Reconstruction	11

DEVELOPMENTAL AND IMPROVED PROJECTS (2001 - 2012)

Microloan Financing Project	12
A Story About a Loan: Rešid's Determination and Selflessness	13
Project Ramadan	14
Qurbani Project	15
Sponsoring Orphans	16
Adi's story	18
The Biggest Coffee Pot in the World	19
Humanitarian Actions - Sponsoring of Other People	20
Project "Pass it Forward"	21

GUIDELINES FOR THE FUTURE

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Sarajevo, 2012.

A Human Being - The Essence and Backbone of our Work

Islamic Relief in Bosnia and Herzegovina was established twenty years ago. Islamic Relief in the United Kingdom was established more than twenty six years ago as a solution to the suffering in the world. Today, with God's mercy, it is one of the greatest humanitarian organizations with the branch offices in more than 40 countries in the world. We closely cooperate with local communities, governments, United Nations (we are a member of UN and signatory of the "Code of Conduct") as well as with other NGOs fighting against poverty, suffering and social injustice.

Being supported by our generous donors we have been able to take care for more than 1,600 orphans and vulnerable children throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina and more than 25,000 children in thirty countries across the world. We helped self-supporting mothers to overcome the hardest moments of losing their partners and to bring up and educate their children. Our innovative projects have provided the poorest families with food, medical care, orthopaedic items, home returns, sanitary facilities and clean water, homes, chance for a new life beginning with non-interest loans, educations and psychological support and assistance.

Our focus to promote a sustainable existence has saved many people from poverty and our urgent intervention programs have eased sufferings of great number of people. We have strived to direct the donations to those who needed the real help mostly. This world is supplied with everything sufficiently and it is just a matter of distributing things appropriately. By awaking those who have too much and giving to those who have less, we will be the connection among those people. It is not hard to represent those who are in need.

We are living by the idea that we can make real changes in people's lives in practice. Human being is a perfect God's creation and we should care for his/her dignity and identity.

Velija - Semir Kukuruzovic, IRWW B&H director



Vision

A caring world where the basic requirements of people in need are fulfilled.

Mission

Inspired by Islamic values, Islamic Relief Worldwide strives to meet the needs of vulnerable people by capacitating them to enjoy self reliance and live dignified and self-confident lives. We assist the individuals, groups and institutions to develop safe and caring communities. We make it possible for those who wish to support others to reach people who need their help.

Work

We provide help where it is mostly needed and we act from best positions accordingly. This is provided to all notwithstanding their race, skin colour, political view, sex or religious beliefs and we expect nothing in return. We abate catastrophe consequences, prepare for its occurrence where possible and react with urgent help and rehabilitation. We promote a sustainable development and existence in education sectors, health and food, water and sanitary and existence in general.

We hope to contribute the achievement of UN Millennium Development Goals through our work and raise the public awareness about the issues tackling the poor communities.

WAR YEARS (1992 - 1995)

Programs and projects of urgent assistance

Food Distribution Project

The very beginning of the war has caused a great crisis which was reflected in the lack of food, water and heating. The hardest situation was in big towns with large population which resembled concentration camps with communication routes cut.

Islamic Relief WW helped the population in implementing a unique way of food distribution which was most probably not familiar to any other humanitarian organization at the time. Namely, volunteers delivered the food and water supply to home addresses. Unfortunately even besides this many people got killed while waiting in cues for food and water or heading towards market places.

The Ferhadija Street Massacre was one of the most horrible crimes in the history of Sarajevo. On May 27th 1992 the Serb Army Forces killed civilians waiting for bread on the Sarajevo main street. Serb Forces fired three grenades from the direction of Borija which killed 26 and wounded 108 citizens of Sarajevo.



Employees of Islamic Relief transported wounded and crippled citizens of Sarajevo to the nearest hospitals and healthcare centres during those harshest war days when Sarajevo looked as huge “alive” graveyard. While doing this no one was killed or wounded. / “Indeed, charity extinguishes God’s anger and removes indispensable, hideous and burdensome death.” (Tirmizi, 658. Hadith) /

Those people gave priority to lives of the deprived rather than their own, often exposing themselves to sniper fire.

Food Production Projects in Zenica

War causes devastation of the human souls, destroys hope and joy and accumulates sorrow, fear and desperation. Islamic Relief's activities, besides the material, had great psychological support on the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the war. Due to its good strategic position, in comparison to other besieged towns in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Islamic Relief WW opened a special office in the city of Zenica and launched some significant activities there. Projects for production of herbs, tea, spices, tomato sauces, soup and marmalade, picking and drying of rosehip and other natural products was like a working and occupational therapy that restored self-confidence, sense of value and willingness to live to many people. They suddenly became productive and useful. Gardens have come to life and plants were growing. This brought happiness to people's faces, restored hope and strengthened the will for life. This psychological effect in human souls, initiated and caused by their physical engagement, shone with brightness of hope, optimism and life joy. Its peak was achieved in moments when fruits of the work were distributed to the sick in hospitals, orphans and refugees in camps. The circle of multiple benefits was perfectly closed in this way becoming thus a perfect good deed.

FOOD PRODUCTION PROJECT IN ZENICA INCLUDED:

Project "Ketchup" - 1993.

Project "Soup" - 1994.

Project "Silage" - 1993.

Project "Spices" - 1993.

Project "Mushroom" - 1993/1994.

Project "Tea" - 1993.

Project "Marmalade" - 1994.

Project "Fish-pond Bistričak" - 1993. do 1998.

At the same time this was the biggest project within the food production projects with 30,000 kilograms of fish produced that was about 240,000 KM worth.





Project of Water Distribution

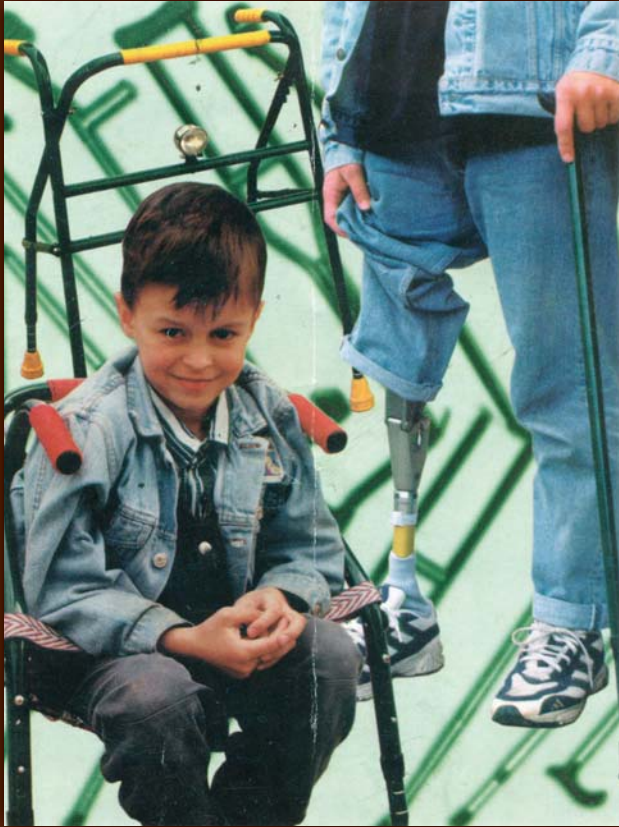
This case indicated the number of saved lives.

The war is cruel and enemies use all available devices to cause harm to the opposite side. The aggression on Bosnia and Herzegovina was no exception. In every possible way the enemy wanted to endanger human lives. Water, this source of life, was the first target and fighting for water was a fight for life. Many did not succeed in this fight while waiting in cues for water... Those who survived are witnesses to the truth of the ayah: „ Have you considered: if your water was to become sunken [into the earth], then who could bring you flowing water?“ (Qur’an, 67: 30).

Our humanitarian family carrying proudly the name Islamic Relief has never had a single incident with the population. And with its organisation of work – delivering help to home addresses - has

achieved a double effect: avoided mass gatherings of people at one place where they are prone to become grenade and sniper targets and at the same time raised awareness about the needs of vulnerable persons.

This massacre took place on August 23rd, 1992 at Baščaršija, the old part of Sarajevo during the fifth month of the siege. On this day a grenade was launched from Serbian positions and killed eight civilians with additional three of them wounded while waiting for the water.



Project: Section for Production of Orthopaedic Items in Sarajevo

As the war time was continuing the number of disabled persons was increasing in BIH. Young men in the most productive years, children, the elderly, women, the weak and suffering were not able to move. They could not live without the help of others. In a single day they became dependant on others.

Islamic Relief launched a project called "Production of Orthopaedic Items" in 1993. And with this we were changing the circumstances of those people by them stand on their feet, restoring their hope and easing the sufferings and desperation of the families for whom this was the first time ever to come across such a situation. This project was active until 1999.

Firewood Distribution

With the blockage of traffic communications as well as gas and power supply system, the population of BIH had no solutions for the heating during winter. Focusing on the needs of the vulnerable IR initiated a firewood distribution.

Anguished people faced starvation during wintertime with the horribly cold Bosnian winters reaching even below -20°C . It was especially difficult for the children, elders, wounded and sick people whose lives depended on heating. This project included significant number of people, namely over 540,000 and the amount of the money spent in the project was 5 million KM.



Clothing and Shoes Distribution

Having in mind the huge devastation caused by the war, majority of the population fled their homes leaving all their property behind. The IR initiated a huge project of distribution of bed linens, blankets, clothes and shoes for the refugees. Clothes and shoes were distributed for children and adults, usually in refugee camps and shelters for children without one or both parents in the area of Zenica, Tuzla, Sarajevo and many other places. The project was done in cooperation with social services of municipalities in order to be able to have a better insight in the records of the most vulnerable categories in those individual municipalities and in order to find the most efficient way to distribute the things to them.

Number of project beneficiaries was over 540,000 and the amount of the money spent 5,500,000 KM.



Distribution of Medicines

IR continually distributed medicines to the war zones and refugee camps as well as to the places where there was a lack of medicines. Parcels with medicines first underwent the regular control of medicines in Public Healthcare Institutions and IR was licenced to carry out their distribution in cooperation with the Inspection for Control of Medicines in Sarajevo, Zenica and Tuzla.

YEARS OF RETURN AND RECONSTRUCTION (1996 - 2002)

Reconstruction Projects

Reconstruction of Houses



When the war ended the priority was to return those who were violently expelled, displaced and refuged to their homes which were mostly devastated or completely destroyed. Accordingly, it was necessary to work on the reconstruction of houses, healthcare facilities and schools and IRWW did exactly that. We mostly helped reconstruction of houses for people in the area of North-eastern Bosnia who faced most horrible devastation during the war.

This project covered returnees' settlements in the North Bosnia and surroundings of Sarajevo.

Donors who supported this project were friends of ISWW: "Zayed Foundation" from UAE and "Cap Anamur" from Germany. In total 600 houses were renovated and reconstructed in two phases. 400 houses in the first phase and 200 in the second phase. Number of project users was 12,000 and the amount of the money spent was 1,000,000,000 KM.

Project of Reconstruction of Livestock Population - Cows

The war caused many war victims and migration of the population was huge which almost completely destroyed the livestock population and which has not recovered event until today. Many people came to IR asking for cows and in this way we helped them find get basic food items for their families. Those were mostly people who were jobless and without other sources of income and they found a solution for themselves in animal husbandry.



Islamic Relief found the sources to buy the animals through “Zayed Foundation” and one of the donors for this project was also respected Dr. Jusuf Qaradawi.

This project was implemented according to the revolving system so that one person receives a cow and gradually returns its worth in money so that a new cow could be bought and distributed to another user. This project started in 1998 and lasted for three years. 480 cows were distributed during this period.

Reconstruction of Schools

Five primary schools were reconstructed in Tjentište - Foča, Kula Grad and Križeviči - Zvornik, Kute - Sokolac and Ilijaš.

Healthcare Centres Reconstruction

This project provided reconstruction of the healthcare centre in Kula Grad.



DEVELOPMENTAL AND IMPROVED PROJECTS (2001 - 2012)

Microloan Financing Project

After the war, many global banks and microloan organizations came to destroyed and demolished Bosnia with the majority of its population expelled and displaced. Unfavourable loans with high interest rates captured the population at the micro and macro level. The economy stagnated and decayed. Unemployment was rising and people were losing their homes, jobs, livestock resources and basic resources for survival. The ability of repaying the incurred debts was rapidly falling and the economic crisis deepened. A large number of heavily indebted persons fell into a severe mental crisis and many of them committed suicide. In response to the problems and needs of this category of people we introduced a new type of credit financing in this region.

In such a situation, in the spirit of the name of Islamic Relief, we implemented a micro-credit project of offering finances according to the Islamic rules. Based on the Islamic principles, this project was established back in 2001 and assisted a lot in returning of displaced persons to their homes.

Unlike the Western banking system, the loans that IR provides are free of interest and are not linked to foreign currency. This type of program also aims to help those categories of people who are not indicated as poor, those who are trying to reach a higher level of independence. This type of micro-crediting is powerful in helping overcoming consequences caused by the armed conflicts, natural disasters and other similar reasons.

Microloans are approved for various uses and here are some of them:

1. Loans for the construction and reconstruction of houses and flats
2. Loans for start-up and expansion of businesses
3. Education loans
4. Social loans and
5. Credits for orphan's communities

Initially, the Islamic Relief independently fully subsidizes the program, also supporting activities in credit processing and other related activities. Later, in accordance with the new banking law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the project became an independent legal entity under supervision of Federal Banking Agency. Than we corrected its initial conception in order to meet the national legislative framework and at the same time the terms of Islamic Relief mission. Therefore administrative costs for microloan had to be expressed in percentages. MFI (Islamic Microloan Organization) used these funds to support administrative expenses incurred, without making any profit. MFI activities encompass many cities within Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska. The target groups are families of children without parents, disabled persons, returnees, students, veterans, farmers and alike. This humane Project would have a brilliant prospective if the funds were greater and if the conditions for debt repayment would be more affordable.

REVIEW OF MFI FROM YEAR 2001 TO 2012.

TYPES OF LOANS	ZONE	TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY MFI LOANS
Housing	Federation and RS	5.757
Housing for orphans	Federation and RS	568
Business	Federation and RS	3.270
Educational	Federation and RS	323
Social	Federation and RS	1.145
TOTAL		11.063



A Story About a Loan: Rešid's Determination and Selflessness

Rešid lives near Bratunac, Glogova, in a village called Hadžići. This is a place inhabited mainly by returnees. He is originally from Srebrenica. His father was killed in the Srebrenica massacre. His wife is unemployed and they have three children. They work in agriculture and it is his only source of income. The 10 kilometres long road toward village Hadžići is the only path that is not paved and is very bad. The village has no plumbing infrastructure nor telephone. Rešid used to be a user of MFI credit. He invested the funds in the cultivation and production of raspberries. He repaid the loan regularly and again applied for a business loan.

The cultivation of raspberries has proven to be a good deal, but the problem was their processing and transport. He used to carry them in a wheelbarrow going to town on foot on this 10 km long gravel road. This resulted in a lower quality of raspberries and he decided to buy a horse with the new loan. That made things easier for him and his family. Rešid also goes mushroom picking and he also picks and transports firewood for winter heating. He also generously borrows his horse to neighbours and returnees in order to help them cultivate the land.



Project Ramadan

During Ramadan Muslims around the world fast from dawn to dusk in the spirit of empathizing with those who regularly have a lack of food and water. In this month, Islamic Relief delivers Ramadan packages to vulnerable individuals and communities facing the lack of basic living resources. People who benefit from this project are members of the most vulnerable groups in society, such as orphans, widows, refugees and displaced persons, the disabled and seriously ill people and people affected by war or natural disasters. Number of people covered by this project is bigger each year. This is the longest food distribution project of Islamic relief in generals and in our country as well. A Ramadan parcel/package includes foodstuff sufficient to supply an average family for a month.

The foodstuff contains all items characteristical for a certain area. Foot like rice, flour, sugar and oil, and even dates are inevitable. In general, in the war, when a person has absolutely nothing that he/she would gladly enjoyed, he/she begins to think about the essential life matters,

the meaning of existence in this world, life and death. Perhaps that is why, during Ramadan, many people become fasting and finding spiritual solace, taking strength in faith.

Packages that were distributed brought so much joy to people and even today they remember their content. Today, the project of distribution of Ramadan packages brings joy into the homes of the growing number of vulnerable persons. In comparison to its origins when the Project was entirely donated by the Islamic Relief, the project now has its donors within our country as well, and they want to help the most vulnerable chategories.

Only in this year 2000 Ramadan packages were delivered. The number of beneficiaries of this project and of the Qurbani meat distribution project is really big. Since 1992 until today over 1.6 million people given this gift amounting to nearly 8.5 million Convertible Marks.

Qurbani Project

It has been passed on that the Prophet Muhammad a.s. when he was asked, "What the Qurbani is?" replied, "It is the sunnah of your father Ibrahim (a.s.). For every Qurbani hair you sacrifice, you will get reward from Allah (s.w.t.)." (Hadith transmitted - Trimizi)

During the season of sacrifice, Muslims around the world sacrifice animals and give the meat to those who are unable to buy it. The distribution of Qurbani meat during Aid-ul-Adha allows everyone to enjoy its pleasures. Our donors have been especially generous in these days of the year, enabling us to supply canned or frozen Qurbani meat to those who struggle every day to feed their families.

The Qurbani project is one of the most developed Islamic Relief projects with a long tradition. Invaluable was the Qurbani meat that

has been distributed to households suffering during the war. The meat was supplied in the cans, which was the best method of preservation and delivery in the time and circumstances. After the war, the project has been developed as result of the new way of working and fundraising. Today's Qurbani meat distribution project is supported by more than half of the total national population. As an illustration, the number of beneficiaries of this project since 1992 year to date is over 1.6 million people, and the money spent is around 8.5 million convertible marks.





Sponsoring Orphans

“Did He not find thee an orphan and give thee shelter? And He found thee wandering in search for Him and guided thee unto Himself, And He found thee in want, and enriched thee? So, the orphan oppress not, And him who seeks thy help, chide not, And bounty of the Lord, proclaim.” (Qur’an 93: 6 - 10)

One of the largest projects, which has been successfully implemented by Islamic Relief for the very beginning has been the project of sponsoring the orphans. The term “orphan”, by Islamic Relief stands for a child under the age of 18 who has lost a father or both parents or whose father has been absent for at least 4 years. Children who have lost their fathers in the war, natural disasters or otherwise, often live extremely difficult lives. Besides having to deal with the loss of their parents, they are burdened further with issues of education, health care and inadequate living conditions. The relatives of these children may be ready to take care of them, or may be also in a vulnerable category themselves. With the support of our sponsors, orphans sponsorship program scheme allows children to live a better life. We ensure that every sponsored child has sustainable living conditions, adequate food, clothing, medical care and attends school. We support all children regardless of religion, race and ethnicity. Over 25,000 children have been sponsored by Islamic Relief in the world and in Bosnia and Herzegovina we successfully sponsored about 1,600 orphans so far.

We want also to emphasize the local sponsorship of the project, which occurred spontaneously in 2005 as a result of the joint efforts of the Islamic Relief employees and their fellow citizens. So far, this project has included 117 local children. Thank God for enriching our country with such noble people who have not forgotten the hard times and who are trying to make the world more beautiful place to live. Within the Sponsorship of Orphans Project, “OGF” Project has been developed, and it collects funds for other (psycho-social, educational and health) needs of these children and supports other activities as well. “OEC” - Orphans Educational

Centre is one of the most recent but a very important project which has risen from this fund in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although it was launched in 2009, it recorded great results. It has included a rich variety of activities such as summer and winter schools, consultative and individual therapy, group therapy for mothers and veterans, art therapy, occupational therapy and educational groups, computer courses, language courses of English and Arabic, swimming, organizing joint iftars during Ramadan and making bridges of friendship and hope. The purpose of this project has been to improve the physical and mental condition and personality of the child, improving his/her broken self-confidence and self-esteem through psychotherapeutic support. In the past two years, through these activities we included other family members of a sponsored child, as well as members of the wider community.

While working on this project, new ideas were born and slowly they came into effect. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds, the OEC Project has stopped this year, but Islamic Relief is trying to restart the project as soon as the opportunity arises.

It is a great benefit to be involved in this work in any way as the poem says:

**Spread the shadow of shelter over the head of an orphan,
Remove the thorn out, and shake the dust from him,
Beware of his tears, because when crying
The Lord’s Throne trembles
Gently wipe the tears from his innocent eyes,
And softly wipe the dust from his face
If he lost the father’s safe shade,
Offer him shelter under your wing.**



Adi's story

Adi and his family lived in their apartment before the war and had a good, normal life. Today everything is different. Adi lost his father, his home and two times they have been evicted from their temporary apartment. They have been fighting all these years to get back and finally call it a home again. Adi, his mother and sister live in harmony and love each other. Presently they are settled in one room apartment in very bad conditions. The bathroom is also in poor conditions and does not have all necessary items. They live in fear that they will be evicted again soon because the apartment belongs to municipality. They have no other income apart from the child's allowance. Every day they seek for a solution to their question: how to survive with such a small amount of money. The mother cleans other people's apartments in order to earn for Adi's and his sister's education. Both are very kind children. Adi is nice and well brought up boy. He travels to school by bus. He likes sports very much and natural way of living. He has handball trainings every day after school. It is their great happiness that they are healthy and they are thankful to Allah almighty for that. Adi's mother told us: "I am a very rich person. I have children, who are healthy, thank to Allah. I shall

be here for them as long as He wishes". It is hard to live in constant expectation of losing a shelter, a roof over one's head. Local community should have done more for this family. They are simply left on their own and those people who are ready to help. Adi's mother heard about Islamic Relief from a friend who strongly recommended her to address us. "Allah has sent you to me. You are the reason that I sleep calmly because I can afford basic things to my children and do not have think whether we will have food to eat or not tomorrow. Before, I could not sleep and I was thinking how to solve tomorrow's problems. But now I have somebody to rely on when I have a problem, somebody who really cares about my son", she said. "I hope Allah will give me ability and health and the IR support to continue educating my children in future to have them stay on the right path. There are no words that could express my gratitude to Adi's sponsor for his kindness and what he does for us, but I hope Allah will reward him with all the best and award his generosity in multiple ways. I pray for him every day because his help in these days of hardship is very precious to us. We feel like it is Aid every day".



The Biggest Coffee Pot in the World

The newest project which was created and launched by the IR BiH was the project: “The Biggest Coffee Pot in the World”. The biggest Turkish coffee pot found its place in the Guinness Book of Records. This pot was made by Bosnian craftsmen and is not just a decoration but real, working pot as well. It is simple to use: install Turkish coffee pot, make coffee and serve warm coffee to people passing by in exchange for their financial contributions. This money is then used for those who need it the most. Last year we made coffee from this largest pot at Baščaršija in Sarajevo and this year we are plan to do it in several municipalities in Turkey and God willing we shall visit Germany, Switzerland, UAE and other countries as well. We planned to gather finances on the 20th anniversary of IR and also use a smaller version of the pot, “a daughter pot” to collect funds for Syrian people.

The aim of this project is to establish a Fond for support of the socially vulnerable people who are not already in groups of returnees, refugee, orphans and their families. Because of the worlds’ economic crisis which BiH is also facing, the number of unemployed people, families to care for and those who are sick and need other’s assistance and cannot afford basic medicines is constantly growing. They are the main target group of this project.



Humanitarian Actions - Sponsoring of Other People

Islamic Relief B&H organized the action of collection of finances to help and support Gaza in Palestine in 2009. Amazingly 200,000 € were collected and BiH Islamic Community headed by Dr. Mustafa Cerić donated 100,000 €! This was a great success if we take into account the life difficulties in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the fact that we were not the only ones who assisted those people at times of hardship.

Furthermore, we have organized aid collection for people suffering from serious and incurable diseases called "Humane Phone Call". So far we have had two such actions and we plan to have more since success was obvious.

Project “Pass it Forward”

This project should start at the end of this year. The origin of the project comes from OEC IR Tuzla office. The aim of the project is to provide psychotherapy support and help, influence the improvement of psychological state of a child; restore self-confidence and trust in one-self and others. IR B&H has once more opened its door to all the others who are not members of orphan families and those who need any kind of psychological help.

Psychotherapy is very expensive here and in other countries so that the average citizen cannot afford it. It helps solving conflicts, decreases sorrow, interrupts so called conspiracy of silence within a family, reprocesses traumas and minimizes its consequences. Specifically, for our protégés who have to carry on living with trauma of losing one or both parents this kind of help means a possibility to express their emotions of fear, sorrow, anger, hatred, remorse and self-accusation and jealousy. It helps healing serious psychosomatic sicknesses and disorders and depression, consequences caused by molestation in early childhood and so on. This project was named by a scheme where one person who has received a good action is obliged to do a good action himself/herself too. Since this is a money collecting project, all our protégés and their families have free psychotherapy. Others are motivated through the therapy to become donors and while doing this good deed they help themselves and others as well. Namely, each activity that we undertake to ease somebodies trouble and make one happy at the same time increases our happiness as well.



GUIDELINES FOR THE **FUTURE**

Twenty years!

Reaching adult age. Just like a child born during the war without having a chance to meet his/her father. It is one third of the average lifetime of people in this part of the world. This was the period which was sufficient to initiate and grow a fruit of one noble idea which has outgrown itself now. Islamic Relief, as humanitarian organization founded in the west but based on Islamic charitable principles has this unique position and a role of bridging cultural and civilizational differences. There is no single greater priority in the heart of each employee of this organization than to make sure that whatever they do has the biggest possible impact on the people they serve. For those of you who might possibly ask: "Since the war ended a long time ago and there are much more endangered places in the world today, should Islamic Relief still remain in Bosnia?"

We answer: twenty years after the war, Bosnia and Herzegovina is still carrying burdens of the war consequences. Many people were forced to leave their homes and settle somewhere else and they started new lives there and might never return. Thousands of people lost their lives and their families were left sorrowful and crippled. Those who fought for their country and have lived to see peace are today facing great economic crises, unemployment, post-war trauma and devastating consequences. Misuse of drugs is also unfortunately present. And not much is said about it. We hope our voice shall reach its destination in time. Marriage and families are in crises and all the glitter that TV screens are blinding young generations with influences their belief that somewhere else there is a better life and that it is easy to be successful

there and earn good money. That is why majority of young people daydream to find a way to leave their homeland. There is no consistent plan for return to some parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina and there are still many people missing since the wartime. Death rate of middle-aged men is increasing and number of widows – single parenting mothers and orphans is increasing. This is why the presence of such firm and responsible organization as Islamic Relief, which obtained great trust among its people, is necessary here.

We have questioned values, motivation and approach that our work is based on and decided that our understanding of humanity and development in future will be more based on the principles of religious teaching. This is obligatory in order to reinstate the universal human values and moral image of an individual which includes respect, safety, trust as well as truth. Kindness, beauty, justice and holiness. Treating all people equally no matter what their origin or any other affiliation is. We engage our effort to make a better and more beautiful world. The main idea of our work is sincerity towards the Most Merciful Allah and the need to fulfil our obligations towards people. Our activities directed towards decreasing of poverty came out of our outmost devotion and involvement of our best abilities and in favor of people that we serve. We believe that protection and improvement of each life presents the pinnacle of goodness, therefore we strive to join with other humanitarian families to jointly achieve humane aims that we all head toward.



Our work in future will also be based on encouraging individuals and institutions to respect the rights of vulnerable persons and to restore people's self-confidence in their own abilities that God has given them.

We shall continue with all activities in future as long as the need is present and will strive to shift from satisfying the basic needs for living and head towards the approach based on the rights of vulnerable and the poor for whom we all are responsible as it is defined in the Qur'an and the Sunnah.

In our future work we shall do our best to maintain the trust that we earned during the past twenty years as humanitarians who strive to have transparent and responsible actions. We shall do our best to perform our tasks given by God and people.

In future we shall work on preserving the Bosnian and Herzegovinian family which is in deep crisis.

We shall invest more forces and means in education, and financing of gifted pupils and students in order to motivate them to stay and support their own country.

We shall work on preserving natural surroundings and environment which is on the verge of becoming over contaminated together with our rivers, the natural water resources that are at risk.

We shall pay more attention to physical and psychological health of our citizens.

We shall invest in education about addiction dangers and raise awareness about risks of early intimate intercourse; juvenile pregnancy and abortions.

We shall work on developing empathy and affection towards humane work among our protégés because we believe that the help they receive from noble people from around the world should be the seed of good that will give multiple fruits.

There, this was the answer to the question: why is there a need for Islamic Relief in Bosnia and Herzegovina twenty years after the war.

