

PRESS RELEASE



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Expo 2015 - Saving lives across Pakistan

Over 50 organisations who annually provide 20 million Pakistanis with humanitarian relief and development assistance along with the government of Pakistan demonstrated their work to reach Pakistan's most vulnerable people at Expo 2015 on 31 March.

Hundreds of visitors enjoyed interactive displays set up by humanitarian and development organisations at the Jinnah Convention Centre, Islamabad. These displays ranged from basic life-saving interventions like, education, shelter, nutrition, food security, water and sanitation, hygiene to development projects focused on health, social welfare and disaster risk reduction. Visitors included students, academics, business people, media personnel and representatives from research institutions.

PHF Policy and Communications Advisor, Nargis Khan, said,

'This unique event is an opportunity to showcase the work of humanitarian and development organisations working in partnership with the government of Pakistan to deliver humanitarian relief and development projects across Pakistan. The impact of our work is immense but because the public doesn't often have the opportunity to see its implementation in remote areas of Pakistan, we have brought it to them. Ultimately, we want to work with the government of Pakistan to reach the most vulnerable in our society and we hope that this exhibition informed and educated visitors about the important work that NGOs, government, and partners in humanitarian and development are doing collectively and the positive impact it is having on the lives of their fellow citizens.'

She added,

'All of the organisations at the Expo 2015 are working within the frameworks and priorities set by the Government of Pakistan and work directly with the government at all levels to strengthen communities' access to assistance and services.'

Notes for Editors

About PHF

The Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) represents over 55 International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) delivering humanitarian assistance and development projects in Pakistan.

The PHF was formed in June 2003 as a coordination forum, after needs for increased partnerships and information sharing between NGOs was identified during the earthquake in the northern areas in 2002. All the leading INGOs working in disaster management signed on to an informal membership.

Today the PHF is an informal coordinating forum that supports and facilitates the work of INGOs to effectively address the humanitarian and development needs across Pakistan. All PHF members are required to sign and adhere to the PHF code of conduct and in doing so commit to providing humanitarian and/or development assistance to the people of Pakistan based on need alone regardless of nationality, gender, background, political affiliations, or religious beliefs. Member organisations operate independently from political, economic, military or other objectives and will never knowingly – or through negligence – act as instruments of foreign policy of donor governments. PHF operates in a spirit of transparency, impartiality and cooperation, as defined by its vision, mission and mandate.

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