

PHF BULLETIN

Together for Resilient & Prosperous Pakistan

FEBRUARY 1ST–15TH. 2023

**THEY'VE LOST
THEIR HOMES
DON'T LET THEM
LOSE THEIR HOPE**

Photo Courtesy by: Alight

Dear Readers,

Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) shares bi-monthly news bulletin to enhance information sharing, with a focus on highlighting PHF member organizations' contributions to humanitarian and development work in Pakistan.

Message from the Country Coordinator

International humanitarian response is underway in earthquake-affected areas of Türkiye and Syria. INGOs have sent their emergency teams and those already on the ground are working closely with the government and other partner organizations to provide relief and rescue services to earthquake victims. There is a dire need to strengthen collaborative efforts to reach out to the most affected, even though hundreds have been evacuated and local stakeholders are doing their best to cater to earthquake victims. PHF voices solidarity extends condolences to the people of Türkiye and Syria and stands together with them in these difficult times.

Syed Shahid Kazmi

Country Coordinator – PHF

About PHF

Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) is an independent organization mandated to coordinate, collectively represent, and support INGOs working across Pakistan's humanitarian and development sphere. PHF currently represents 41 International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) delivering humanitarian assistance and development projects in Pakistan along with 8 Affiliate members, including the National Humanitarian Network (NHN) and IFRC/ICRC as well.



PHF Updates



Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) hosted General Members Meeting (GMM) at PHF Secretariat Islamabad. SAPM/Convener SDG Secretariat MNA Romina Khurshid Alam addressed the participants of the meeting.



Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) working group meeting held at PHF Secretariat Islamabad. The meeting was headed by Country Coordinator Syed Shahid Kazmi. Representatives of PHF member organizations and UN agencies were the participants of the meeting.



Country Director Pak Mission Society giving memento to PHF Country Coordinator Syed Shahid Kazmi at an exposure visit to Haryali Hub, an upscaling unit for solid waste management.

PHF Press Release

“International Humanitarian Response Underway in Earthquake-affected areas of Turkey and Syria.”

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

International humanitarian response is underway in earthquake-affected areas of Türkiye and Syria. Due to the utmost efforts of the rescue workers, over 100,000 victims have been evacuated so far, said Syed Shahid Kazmi, Country Coordinator, Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF). While talking to the media representatives, he mentioned that INGOs

have sent their emergency teams and those already on the ground are working closely with the government and other partner organizations to provide relief and rescue services to earthquake victims. He also said that PHF member organizations that operate in Pakistan, namely Muslim Hands, MSF International, Save the Children, International Rescue Committee, Care International, Islamic Relief, and Action Against Hunger are

also engaged in relief and rescue operations in Turkey and Syria. Syed Shahid Kazmi expressed that INGOs have global experience in dealing with emergencies and have trained human resources and contextual knowledge to work with local communities and relevant authorities. He emphasized the dire need for all international and national organizations to assist the Turkish and Syrian governments and those severely

affected by the earthquake. At least 41,209 people died in just nine days after 7.7 and 7.8-magnitude earthquakes that hit southern Türkiye and northern Syria, he added. Cold winter weather, lack of access to shelter, and inaccessibility of essential and life-saving supplies are the key challenges during the relief and rescue operations, he maintained. Kazmi said that more assistance and coordination are required to reach out to the most

affected, even though hundreds have been evacuated and local stakeholders are doing their best to cater to earthquake victims. Syed Shahid Kazmi expressed that Pakistan is a disaster-prone country and has faced a similar disaster in the form of the devastating flood of 2022, and PHF voices solidarity, extends condolences to the people of Türkiye and Syria and stands together with them in these difficult times.



An exclusive meeting of the PHF leadership was held with the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister with the portfolio of Minister of State for Revenue, Mr. Tariq Mehmood Pasha, at the Federal Board of Revenue Head Quarters to request facilitation on taxation issues faced by the INGOs in Pakistan.



Special guest lecture with Executive Director UNEP Ms. Inger Andersen, on Environmental Governance in addressing plastic pollution and the role of CSOs.



Sri Lanka Preparedness Partnership (SLPP) delegation visited PHF Secretariat to learn about the best models and practices for humanitarian networks, management practices, and advocacy strategies.

PHF Members Highlights



H.E. Ms. Leslie Scanlon, High Commissioner of Canada for Pakistan was in the flood affected areas of Sindh where Islamic Relief is carrying out relief activities since August 2022.



Based on the increasing need Oxfam distributed winterization kits to facilitate families face the extreme cold.



Muslim Aid Pakistan, in support of UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief, recently extended their support to the flood-affected communities in Mirpur Khas, Sindh.



Muslim Hands, with the support of USAID Pakistan, and Concern continued the relief work in the flood-affected areas of Baluchistan hygiene kits and shelters were distributed.



ACTED Pakistan in collaboration with Right to Palya and ABES implemented a project "Leaving No Girl Behind" funded by FCDO in Sindh and KPK provinces. The program targeted a total of 5,500 beneficiaries including 4,400 girls who have never been to school.



Muslim Aid Pakistan, with the support of USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance and Concern Worldwide US, provided winter aid to the flood-affected community of District Kila Saifullah, Balochistan.

Remembering the Human in Humanitarian – Turkey-Syria Earthquake



Muslim Aid team handing out bread and water to earthquake victims. We're providing round-the-clock support to thousands of people in Syria and Turkey.



CARE International is delivering much-needed humanitarian aid, ranging from clothing to tents, mattresses, blankets, food, and non-food items in Turkey.



ACTED teams distributed food supplies and blankets to earthquake-affected populations in Antakya, Hatay province, Turkiye.



Action Against Hunger is distributing healthy nutritious food, baby kits, clean water, hygiene and sanitation products blankets and heaters among the earthquake affected people.



Remembering the Human in Humanitarian – Turkey-Syria Earthquake



Relief International teams are on the ground in Türkiye and Syria providing medical care to the injured, and our humanitarian relief response has been activated.



Save the Children teams & local partners are working to distribute essential items, Provide cash to families to buy vital supplies, Ensure access to clean water, Give psychological support to kids & caregivers.



Save the
Children



The relief work of Muslim Hands continues in Turkey, distribution of food, clean water, dry ration to the affected people in the earthquakes affected area.



After the earthquakes in Syria and Turkey, many people have been left without adequate shelter, food and necessities. The IRC is on the ground and scaling up humanitarian response.



Buzz of the Week



There is an international humanitarian response underway following the 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude earthquakes and aftershocks which affected southwestern Turkey and northwestern Syria in the early morning of Monday 6 February, as governments pledge assistance and NGOs try to reach the worst affected areas. At the time of writing, the death toll has just passed over 11,000 and counting, but as the scale of devastation continues to be uncovered, the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned it could rise to more than 20,000. While serve conditions including freezing temperatures, unstable infrastructure [Read More](#)

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif in a telephonic conversation with his Syrian counterpart, Hussein Arnous, extended heartfelt sympathies over the loss of life in the wake of the earthquake and offered all possible support in the relief efforts, according to a PM Office statement. He said a medical team from Pakistan would also support the humanitarian efforts in Syria. The National Disaster Management Authority sent 16 containers, loaded with blankets and tents, for the quake-hit areas, according to the authority's spokesperson. Also, Pakistan Air Force in [Read More](#)

What is the IRC doing to support victims?

The IRC immediately responded to the crisis by providing critical financial support to 10 of our partner organizations working in northwest Syria and Turkey. We are launching an integrated response to support affected communities in northwestern Syria and Turkey as humanitarian needs soar in both countries. This will include providing thousands of households with cash and essential items, such as household kits, dignity kits for women and girls and [Read More](#)



The Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR) and International Rescue Committee (IRC) have agreed to facilitate Afghan refugees in access to health and essential services in the country.

Both the sides on Tuesday signed an MoU here that outlined operations and activities where they intend to collaborate.

The IRC in Pakistan has been working proactively with Afghan refugees since 1980s with a wide range of programming under emergency relief, health, education, cash assistance [Read More](#)

The UN and humanitarian partners launched a Flash Appeal calling for \$397.6 million of emergency assistance to provide relief to 4.9 million people in most acute need following the earthquakes. The United Nations Secretary General welcomed the opening of the additional two crossing points of Bab Al-Salam and Al Ra'ee from Türkiye to north-west Syria for an initial period of three months to allow for the timely delivery of humanitarian aid. ([OCHA, 15 Feb 2023](#)) In Türkiye, over 36,100 people were killed [Read More](#)

Stakeholders reaffirm commitments for girls' education in Pakistan

Pakistan faces significant challenges in providing its citizens with quality education. The Gross Enrollment Rate (GER) for primary education in Pakistan was only 61% in 2020, and only 51% of children complete primary school. Thus, Pakistan has one of the largest populations of out-of-school children in the world. While the exact number of out-of-school [Read More](#)



Development and Humanitarian Publications

Pakistan: 2022 Monsoon Floods - Situation Report No.13

Based on the latest analysis of the United Nations satellite imagery (UNOSAT) of flood extent, an estimated 5 million people remain exposed to or living close to flooded areas. Due to the damage severity, and propensity for severe cold weather, 35 districts across the country have been identified as most exposed to difficult winter conditions. In Sindh Province, an estimated 89,000 [Read More](#)

UK pledges extra support to help Pakistan rebuild after floods

UK and international partners join a conference co-hosted by Pakistan and the UN in Geneva to help garner support for Pakistan's flooding response and recovery. Minister Andrew Mitchell will announce funding package at international conference in Geneva British support will provide water, sanitation, cash, and shelter, on top of funding already pledged to boost climate [Read More](#)

Pakistan's rains may have stopped, but children are still dying - UNICEF

Heavy rains and flooding between June and August 2022 have led to what the UN has termed an "unprecedented climate-induced disaster" in Pakistan, with deaths, injuries, large scale displacement, and a loss of livelihoods in the country. The flood waters are beginning to recede, and the medium to long term impact on people's economic and social rights in [Read More](#)

More than 1 in 9 children in flood-affected areas of Pakistan suffering from severe acute malnutrition

In the aftermath of the devastating floods in Pakistan, health facilities are reporting alarming levels of severe acute malnutrition among children in affected areas, UNICEF warned today. More than 1 in 9 children under five admitted to health facilities in flood-affected areas [Read More](#)



Solidar Sussie Pakistan



Solidar Suisse Pakistan is working with more than 3000 children in collaboration with non-formal schools in the slum areas of Pir Wadhai, Khanna, Golra and Bari Imam under "Strengthening of learning and protection of children living in the slum areas of Islamabad". The main focus of the project is to educate Out Of School Children (OSC) between the age of 5-16 years. The project provided these children with school uniforms and other learning aids and materials to make learning a joyful experience. It is expected that this intervention will help reduce dropout, retaining the children in the classroom till the completion of ALP condensed curriculum.

Helvetas Pakistan

According to Mulazim Hussain from village Kohawar, District Khyber Pakhtunkhwa "Floods 2022 had huge flooding impacts upon the affected communities, families and individuals which included loss of human life, damage to property (houses), destruction of crops, loss of livestock, and deterioration of health conditions owing to waterborne diseases. The in-time support from Helvetas Pakistan in shape of food hampers, prepared us for winter and provided medical support. We still need support in reconstructing our houses."

