



Pakistan Flood Response

One Year Update August 2011

In the summer of 2010 heavy monsoon rains began to fall on the country of Pakistan. As the rains continued, rivers overflowed their banks. Homes, roads, bridges, crops, and livestock were damaged or washed away. By August 2010, approximately one fifth of Pakistan's land mass was under water. As families made their way to temporary camps they were faced with the additional challenges of finding access to safe drinking water, nutritious food, safe shelter, and proper sanitation. The situation was desperate. Through its partner, the Interfaith League Against Poverty

(I-LAP), CRWRC responded with food, water, shelter, medical aid, and other emergency supplies. Of the 4,000 families served, 250 were Christian.

On the following pages are a few stories about the difference you made through your support of CRWRC's work in Pakistan. CRWRC would like to thank you for your generosity.

This year, as CRWRC moved into a second phase of response, winter clothing and blankets were provided, food aid continued at ½ rations, and 50 Community Based Organizations were established as the basis for livelihood

programs. Farmers began preparing to plough the land in early May. However ice melting in the northern regions caused water levels to rise and rivers to flood. With heavy monsoon rains also expected, CRWRC seed and tool distributions had to be postponed to the next planting season. CRWRC therefore moved forward with programs in Disaster Risk Reduction in order to help communities become more resilient to future disasters.

Please continue to pray for this hurting country and for CRWRC as it continues to meet needs of Pakistani families and individuals.



An elderly woman receives food during a food distribution.

Winter blankets and clothing helped Khan's family survive the cold season. They also received monthly food rations from CRWRC and I-LAP for several months as they worked to rebuild their homes and lives.

A Survivor's Story

Before the flood, 38 year-old Faisal Khan was a school teacher. "I have my Bachelor of Arts from Peshawar University and I taught in a district government school. I am a married man with two sons and two daughters who were also getting an education from the same school where I taught," he said.

Then the river flooded and everything changed. "It was nighttime when I heard the voices of my neighbors shouting, 'Water is coming, run and save your lives.' All this happened so quickly that I didn't even get a chance to flee to a safer place. In fact all of a sudden we all got stuck and found ourselves trapped by floodwater. My family and I were left with no choice as water was spread everywhere and it had covered almost the whole village. Later I got onto the roof of my house with my family and rested there until the rescue team approached us the next day."

After being saved by the rescue team, Khan's family moved to a temporary

government camp but left after a few days because of the poor facilities and lack of supplies. "After spending some days I somehow managed to take my family to the I-LAP tent village where I was facilitated with all immediate basic needs," he said.

After spending three months in the I-LAP camp, Khan and his family returned home.

"When the water level receded, people started to go back to their places and take part in recovering the damages. I, too, along with my family came back to my village and found the massive destruction brought by the flood that left us with nothing. Winter season was at its peak and the hot temperature was turning to cold. I rented a room in my village for two hundred rupees per month, but I was missing many basic needs of life. Four days later, an I-LAP representative was at my doorstep giving me the information I needed to access aid. I was given a coupon and asked to visit the distribution center. Then I received goods that helped me get back on my feet."

Preventing Future Disasters

As CRWRC begins to move past the initial emergency response of helping people meet their basic needs, the next phase is to equip people with the capacity to prepare for and respond to future disasters. This is known as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Our partner I-LAP has established 50 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in the Nowshera district. These are highly disaster prone areas so it is vital that CRWRC and I-LAP empower these communities to become more disaster resilient. In the coming months, 2,000 men and women from these communities will be trained in DRR and mobilized to be champions in their respective communities. These champions will learn how to assess hazards that may occur and identify vulnerabilities and capacities that exist in their communities. They will then assure that their communities are prepared for future disasters and will know what steps to take in response. The champions will also learn first aid, and other preemptive measures that can protect lives, household crops, livestock, and other essentials when disasters are on the horizon.

Please continue to pray for the people of Pakistan and support CRWRC's ministry there as we enter this third phase that will empower the communities to prevent future disasters.



Above: Children sleeping in blankets donated by Mennonite Central Committee.

Left: Education on first aid techniques was part of Disaster Risk Reduction training.

Medical Aid Provides Healing and Hope

"I am really thankful to God, CRWRC and their local partner, the Interfaith League Against Poverty (I-LAP) for providing me free medical treatment and the medicines," said Rehman Yousaf, a 35 year-old labourer from Nowshera.

Like many flood survivors, Rehman had learned first hand that severe floods do not just wash away your property but they also wreak havoc on your health. By August 2010, the United Nations estimated that 1.5 million Pakistani people were struggling with health conditions caused by the floodwater.

"Following the flood, there was a lack of safe drinking water, cramped and crowded living conditions in temporary camps, and many poorly maintained latrines. In addition, contaminated flood waters were everywhere. This provided an ideal environment for diseases to spread and thrive," said CRWRC's Senior Project Manager, Grace Wiebe. "Respiratory diseases, cholera, diarrhea, as well as skin infections abounded. That's why providing essential medical services was a crucial component to CRWRC's response."

Through I-LAP, CRWRC established two stationary and one mobile health clinic that provided access to health care to families in five union councils in Nowshera district.

"The mobile clinics were essential," said Wiebe. "Many women were not able to access the stationary clinics due to socioeconomic and cultural barriers. The mobile clinics provided them with a way to access necessary health services."

Yousaf was one of those who benefitted. After his home was destroyed by the flooding, he and his family went to Mardan. A few months later, they returned home, but Yousaf had cholera and skin infections. Thanks to the mobile medical clinics he was able to receive treatment.

"I am very poor and it's very difficult for me to get to a doctor," he said. "I was facing a lot of medical problems after the flood and when I came to know that there was a medical clinic in Nowshera, I felt happy. CRWRC and I-LAP provided a free medical clinic for the poor people. Thank you. May God bless you."

CRWRC's Pakistan Flood Response At a Glance

During **PHASE ONE** of its response, CRWRC worked with its local partner the Inter-faith League Against Poverty (I-LAP) to provide aid to 13,507 households (approximately 108,056 individuals) in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and Southern Punjab. This included:

Food Aid

- 4501.8 metric tons of food (flour, rice, cooking oil, sugar, ground lentils, iodized salt, chili powder, tea leaves, match boxes).
- During Ramadan, CRWRC also provided iftari evening meals to 500 families living in IDP tent camps

Shelter

- 4,825 tents, of which 484 were donated by Disaster Aid Canada

Non-Food Items

- 8,065 hygiene kits with items such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and feminine hygiene products. This included 2,000 "Bathroom in a bucket" kits from the Mennonite Central Committee
- 8,065 Mosquito Nets
- 8,065 Kitchen Sets which included items such as pots, pans, cooking utensils, and fuel for gas cylinder stoves.
- 7,915 Single Burner Gas Cylinder Stoves

Water and Sanitation

- 8,000 10-liter jerry cans for carrying and storing water
- Delivery for 2 months of safe, reliable drinking water to 8,041 families displaced families (over 3.8 million liters of water)
- 5,000 "Life Straws" individual water filter systems
- 7 "Sky Juice" water filtration systems

Health

- Essential Medical Services to 6,311 individuals (4,029 female, 2,292 male) in Nowshera district
- \$75,000 of medicines, which were donated by Heart to Heart

During **PHASE TWO**, due to limited resources CRWRC focused its attention on 4,000 households in KPK. During this phase, CRWRC provided:

Food Aid

- 1,244.34 metric tons of food to 4,000 households for 4.5 months

Non-food items

- 16,000 quilts to provide warmth during the winter season. Of these,

15,260 were donated by Mennonite Central Committee

- 12,000 mattresses
- 24,000 children's jackets and 8,000 adult chadars to provide warmth during the winter season
- 4,000 fuel cylinders for heaters

Disaster Risk Reduction

- 51 individuals have been trained in disaster risk management and in first aid. These included teachers, union council leaders, social activists, community leaders and project staff.
- Radio campaigns provided public service announcements to increase public awareness about disaster prevention techniques.

For **PHASE THREE**, CRWRC will send North American staff to Pakistan to help manage the seeds and tools distribution. They will also help design and implement the last phase of the response, which will likely include the distribution of goats, rebuilding of homes, and the repair or reconstruction of wells and latrines.

Special Thanks

CRWRC's response in Pakistan has been made possible through the faithful support of many individuals, churches, schools, and organizations. This includes:

- Canadian Baptist Ministries
- Christian Reformed Churches of Australia
- Christian Reformed Church in North America
- Canadian Reformed World Relief Fund
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) (via CFGB)
- Disaster Aid Canada
- Dorcas Aid
- Emergency Relief and Development Overseas (ERDO)
- Evangelische Omroep Metterdaad
- Food for the Hungry
- Heart to Heart
- ICCO – Kerk in Actie
- Lakar Mission
- Medical Teams International (MTI)
- Mennonite Central Committee of Canada (MCCC)
- Relief Arm of the Netherlands Reformed Congregations (RA-GG)
- Stichting Red een Kind (Help a Child Foundation, NL)
- Tearfund NZ
- United Church of Canada
- Woord en Daad
- World Concern
- World Relief Canada
- World Relief USA
- ZOA Refugee Care

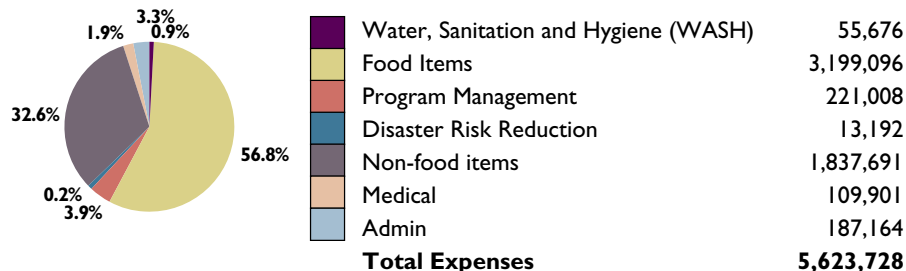
Financial Information

As of June 30, 2011 CRWRC has received US \$5,725,154, for its Pakistan flood response, of which \$1,713,187 is from churches and individuals, \$1,974,559.67 from Institutional donors, \$1,592,104.63 from CIDA, and \$445,303 in gifts in kind. CRWRC has spent \$5,623,728 of this. The remaining \$101,426 will be spent as CRWRC continues the third phase of its response.

Where our Resources Came From



Where our Resources Went



CRWRC

Living Justice, Loving Mercy

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