

Survival and sustenance

Emergency support for students and their families affected by floods, Pakistan

Over 33 million Pakistanis are affected by the catastrophic flooding in Pakistan. One-third of the country is submerged by historic flooding. The Citizen's Foundation (TCF) is stepping up to provide vital assistance to TCF students' families, delivering food, rebuilding homes, and rehabilitating schools.

The problem

Pakistan contributes less than 1% to global carbon emissions but is one of the top 10 countries affected by climate change². One third of the country is currently under water - the area flooded is the size of the UK and the population affected is the size of Texas.

Many TCF students, their families, faculty and staff have lost their homes and do not have access to food. TCF schools, if they are not flooded, are serving as shelters to families whose homes have been destroyed.

Communities in Balochistan and Sindh have been hit hard, and other areas in Khyber Paktoonkhwa and Southern Punjab are at risk¹. The rains have not ceased, and the impact of the floods is expected to grow in terms of its geographic spread as well as the intensity of misery it inflicts.

The partner

With over 1,800 schools across Pakistan the Citizen's Foundation (TCF) is one of the leading organizations in the field of education for the less privileged. TCF currently enrolls over 280,000 students, 48% of which are girls. TCF hires only female teachers so that parents will send girls to school. Over half of TCF schools are located in the flood-affected areas.

The philanthropic solution

As before, TCF immediately stepped up to help address immediate needs and enable rehabilitation in the future.

TCF's flood response consists of three major activities: delivering food, cash transfers to rebuild homes, and rehabilitating schools. Food, shelter, and the rapid physical rehabilitation of schools is crucial to the survival and sustenance of teachers and students, and ensuring that children do not have yet another disrupted school year.

The evidence

This is the fourth time since 2005 that TCF is stepping up to respond to a national disaster.

TCF has schools in hundreds of remote communities across Pakistan, which means the organization has deep local knowledge and an ability to mobilize relief in places that are typically forgotten, thanks to their faculty, staff, and alumni.

The impact

- Delivering 1 Million Meals: TCF procured 600,000 meals so far (flour, rice, lentils, and dried chickpeas) and are in the process of transporting and distributing them to the most affected families in the communities surrounding TCF schools.
- Re-building 5,000 homes: defining a program to provide cash assistance to TCF students' families whose homes have been severely damaged or destroyed
- Rehabilitating 100+ Schools: Rehabilitation is needed due to both water damage and heavy use of TCF schools as shelters³. TCF will ensure that education in all other TCF schools continues this year.

All programmatic data provided by The Citizen's Foundation. The UBS Optimus Foundation is a grant-making foundation that offers UBS clients a platform to use their wealth to drive positive social and environmental change. The Foundation selects programs that improve children's health, education and protection, ones that have the potential to be transformative, scalable and sustainable as well as programs tackling environmental and climate issues.

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