



PAKISTAN COUNTRY PROFILE

HUMAN CONCERN
INTERNATIONAL



HCI IN PAKISTAN

CURRENT AFFAIR

Pakistan exemplifies the challenges faced by low- and middle-income countries caught in a cycle of debt, climate vulnerability, and under-investment in human development. Ranked 137th out of 166 nations in the UN Sustainable Development Report 2024, Pakistan's progress on the SDGs is off track. While there are some improvements in certain areas, eight of the 17 SDGs are stagnant, and three are regressing.

Approximately 40 percent of Pakistan's population around 97 million people lives in poverty, with women disproportionately affected. Women and girls face significant barriers in accessing government services due to deeply rooted social and cultural norms. Nationwide, over 26 million children aged 5 to 16 are out of school, more than half of whom are girls. Pakistan now has the world's second-highest number of out-of-school children, with an estimated 22.8 million children in this age group not attending school—44 percent of the total population. The situation is particularly severe for younger children, with 5 million children in the 5-9 age group not enrolled in school. The number of out-of-school children doubles in the 10-14 age group, with 11.4 million adolescents missing out on formal education.

In addition, climate change presents a serious threat to Pakistan's water resources. Once relatively water-rich in the 1980s, Pakistan is now the 15th most water-stressed country in the world and is projected to become water-scarce by 2035. This is compounded by frequent climate-induced disasters, such as the catastrophic floods of 2022, which displaced 33 million people.

While there has been some progress in addressing nutrition, hunger remains a critical issue. Pakistan ranks 109th out of 127 countries in the 2024 Global Hunger Index. About 18 percent of children under five suffer from acute malnutrition, and around 40 percent of children experience stunted growth due to inadequate nutrition. Skyrocketing food and fuel prices, exacerbated by climate change impacts on agriculture and infrastructure, have worsened the situation for Pakistan's most vulnerable populations.

Source (UN, UNICEF, IOM, WFP)

HCI'S OPERATION METHOD

HCI's operation method in Pakistan through intermediaries involves a collaborative approach to project design, rigorous oversight during implementation, and thorough monitoring and evaluation to ensure the effective use of resources and maximize the impact on beneficiaries. This method leverages the local expertise and capacity of NGOs while maintaining stringent controls and accountability mechanisms to ensure project success.



COUNTRY STATS

	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES	AMOUNT INVESTED
Education	13	4,202	2,506,832
Emergency Relief	9	25,375	784,828
Zero Hunger and Malnutrition	9	71,068	891,739
Healthcare and Livelihood	2	3,451	52,183
Water, Sanitaton and Hygiene (WASH)	8	56,755	653,848
Ramdan	2	480	60,000
Zabih	1	2,625	25,000
TOTAL	48	5,899,085 CAD	

EDUCATION

Skills Development Centre,
Faisalabad, Punjab
Duration: 4 months

BACKGROUND

Around the world women constitute the majority of the poor. In fact, in many nations they are the poorest of the poor. Cultural norms and values in many communities place women at a disadvantage. Cultural norms and societal disadvantages define the kinds of resources available to women. In 2018, the World Bank reported that Pakistan ranks 143 out of 144 countries on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index, Female literacy in Pakistan is as low as 48 percent, which is 25 percentage points lower than male literacy. Female labor force participation, while it almost doubled from 13.3 percent in 1992 to 25 percent in 2014, remains one of the lowest, not just in South Asia but globally. Female empowerment is necessary to engage them in economic life and to achieve sustainable growth throughout the world.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project aims to provide skills training to women from low income families, widows, poor and vulnerable women in Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan. The project aims to train the widows and poor females on advanced stitching techniques on industrial sewing machines needed in garment factories thus equipping them with the skills necessary to succeed in obtaining employment at garment factories. The primary goal of this project is to provide decent work and economic growth in an effort to achieve SDG 8.

This project will provide 60 women with skills training and train 20 individuals in each course in 3 batches.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project empowered 60 women from low-income households, including widows and vulnerable individuals, by equipping them with advanced stitching skills aligned with industry needs. Training on industrial sewing machines enhanced their employability, opening pathways to stable jobs in garment factories. This intervention not only improved their economic independence but also contributed to household income security and overall well-being, fostering dignity, self-reliance, and progress toward achieving Sustainable Development Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Quaid Public School,
Azad Kashmir
Duration: 12 months

BACKGROUND

Azad Kashmir is an underdeveloped state with low income. In Farooq and Kai's 2016 critical study of Azad Kashmir's education system, it was found that primary education is the most neglected level of education as it is poorly financed and managed. The schools in Azad Kashmir face challenges which in part is associated with the population the schools serve.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

The aim of this project is to fund Quaid Public School in Azad Kashmir for a year. Quaid Public School was established after the earthquake at Kohwala Bagh, Garhi Dupatta, Azad Kashmir. The students of the school are from low socioeconomic status backgrounds. The school provides education to 250 students free of cost and employs 13 teachers and 1 staff member. The goal of the project is to provide inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning for all regardless of socioeconomic status.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project supported the continued operation of Quaid Public School, enabling 250 students from low socioeconomic backgrounds in Azad Kashmir to access free, quality education in a safe and inclusive environment. By funding teacher salaries and school operations, the project ensured stability in learning and promoted equal opportunities for all students. It contributed to the students' academic growth, confidence, and future prospects, while supporting the livelihoods of 13 teachers and one staff member—advancing the goal of inclusive, equitable education and lifelong learning.

**Saleem Shaheed Public
School, Azad Kashmir**
Duration: 12 months

BACKGROUND

Azad Kashmir is an underdeveloped state with low income. In Farooq and Kai's 2016 critical study of Azad Kashmir's education system, it was found that primary education is the most neglected level of education as it is poorly financed and managed. The schools in Azad Kashmir face challenges which in part is associated with the population the schools serve.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

The aim of this project is to fund Saleem Shaheed Public School in BandiKokial, Garhi Dupatta, Azad Kashmir for a year. Saleem Shaheed Public School was established after the earthquake at BandiKokial, GarhiDupatta, Azad Kashmir. The students of the school are from low socioeconomic status backgrounds whose families were economically impacted by the earthquake. The school provides education to 250 students free of cost and employs 8 teachers. The primary goal of the project is to provide inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning for all regardless of socioeconomic status.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project enabled 250 students from economically affected families in BandiKokial, Garhi Dupatta, Azad Kashmir to access free, quality education at Saleem Shaheed Public School. By supporting the school's operations and the salaries of 8 teachers, the initiative ensured continuity in learning for children from low-income backgrounds, helping bridge educational gaps caused by the earthquake's aftermath. It fostered a stable, inclusive learning environment that promoted long-term educational growth, empowered local youth, and supported the livelihoods of teaching staff—advancing the commitment to equitable education for all.

**HCI School & College Complex,
Azad Kashmir
Duration: 12 months**

BACKGROUND

Azad Kashmir is an underdeveloped state with low income. In Farooq and Kai's 2016 critical study of Azad Kashmir's education system, it was found that primary education is the most neglected level of education as it is poorly financed and managed. The schools in Azad Kashmir face challenges which in part is associated with the population the schools serve.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

The aim of this project is to fund HCI School & College Complex in Azad Kashmir for a year. HCI School & College Complex was established after the earthquake at Battlian, GarhiDupatt, Azad Kashmir. The students of the school are from low socioeconomic status backgrounds. The school provides education to 700 students free of cost up to grade 12 and employs 30 teachers and 9 staff members. The primary goal of the project is to provide inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning for all regardless of socioeconomic status.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project supported 700 students from low socioeconomic backgrounds in Battlian, Garhi Dupatta, Azad Kashmir by ensuring continued access to free, quality education up to grade 12 at the HCI School & College Complex. By funding the institution for a year, the initiative sustained learning opportunities in a region affected by past natural disasters, promoting academic achievement, personal growth, and future prospects for disadvantaged youth. Additionally, it provided stable employment for 30 teachers and 9 staff members, fostering community development and advancing inclusive, equitable, and lifelong learning for all.

**Hope Village Education & Skills
Development Centre
Duration: 12 months**

BACKGROUND

Pakistan, a low-middle income country has the sixth largest population in the world. Decades of conflict in Afghanistan has resulted in the displacement of Afghani's who have sought refuge in Pakistan, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Pakistan is host to over 1.4 million documented Afghani refugees with an additional estimated 1 million undocumented refugees. One of the greatest challenges refugees face is access to services. Education is one of the many resources that children in this vulnerable community lack access to.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project will fund the operation of the Hope Village Education & Skills Development center for one year. The students of the school are from low socioeconomic status backgrounds. The school provides education to 725 students free of cost up to grade 12 and provides 60 students with vocational training. The primary goal of the project is to provide inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning for all regardless of socioeconomic status

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES:

The project ensured that 725 students from low socioeconomic backgrounds received free education up to grade 12 at the Hope Village Education & Skills Development Center, fostering academic growth and equal learning opportunities. Additionally, 60 students benefited from vocational training, equipping them with practical skills to enhance their employability and self-reliance. By supporting both academic and skills development, the project promoted inclusive, lifelong learning and empowered youth to build brighter, more secure futures for themselves and their communities.

Empowering Deaf Kids to Learn: Deaf Reach Schools and PSL

Duration: 37 months

BACKGROUND

Over 1 million profoundly deaf school-age children reside within Pakistan, with a literacy rate that is greatly behind their hearing peers. The result is less than 5% of Pakistani children who are deaf attend school and become literate. The issue is compounded by a lack of access to educational resources for children who are deaf and the inability of parents to foster PSL (Pakistan Sign Language) in the home. Deaf students do not widely have access to high quality Special Education schools, nor good education, and this results in as high as 80% unemployment among persons with disabilities.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI implemented a student scholarship program and educational resource program in concurrence to improve access to education and the strength of available resources for students who are deaf. 300 students who are severely/profoundly deaf from underprivileged socioeconomic backgrounds will have access to education including specialty and life skills development and direct access to experts in PSL. The same cohort of students will be supported over 3 consecutive years. This project will also strengthen Pakistan Sign Language through the digitization of content (curriculum, filming, and interpreting to be shared with schools, students, and teachers across Pakistan. This content will be critically accessible via distance learning during COVID-19



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project provided 300 severely/profoundly deaf students from underprivileged backgrounds with access to specialized education, life skills development, and expert guidance in Pakistan Sign Language (PSL) over three years. By enhancing educational resources and providing scholarships, it empowered these students with the skills and knowledge needed for a better future. The digitization of PSL content ensured broader access to quality learning materials, especially through distance learning during COVID-19, improving educational opportunities for deaf students across Pakistan and strengthening the visibility and accessibility of PSL nationwide.

School Supplies For Children In Need

Duration: 2 months

BACKGROUND

Access to education plays a significant role in improving the lives of vulnerable children. Education contributes to a child's psychosocial development and provides a safe environment for them to grow and expand their horizons.

Poverty is a big barrier which prevents children from attending school. Due to economic hardships, families have a tough time sending their children to school. Even if they can cover the tuition, expenses related to school supplies and appropriate attire prove to be just too much for poor parents. School dropout rates are increasing in Pakistan, as families can barely afford food on a monthly basis.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI provided children coming from poor families with school supplies and uniforms, so their parents are not burdened with this expense. These students attended HCI's school in Kashmir, Pakistan. Objectives included to provide 117 children with school supplies and uniforms and to lessen the financial burden of education for 117 poor families.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project alleviated the financial burden of education for 117 families in Kashmir, Pakistan, by providing essential school supplies and uniforms to their children. This support enabled the students to attend school without the stress of additional costs, ensuring they had the necessary resources to succeed academically. By removing these financial barriers, the project fostered an inclusive educational environment, allowing these children to focus on their learning and paving the way for a brighter future.

Hope Village Project (Pakistan)

Duration: 33 months

BACKGROUND

The Afghan refugee's crisis is the most protracted displacement situation where thousands of children and young people grow up in seemingly unending exile. The recent fall of Kabul exacerbated the situation further not only for Afghans residing inside the country but also for the millions of Afghans who live abroad who are concerned about their future. Since Pakistan is home to over 1.5 million Afghan refugees, most of them yet struggling for permanent settlement in Pakistan to continue their business, children education and health care. As such, the international community including the UN focuses on the protracted nature of the situation and proposes solutions that encapsulate the right of children and youth to education as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)



HCI'S INTERVENTION

To help overcome the issue of Afghan refugees' continued education other than primary level and supplement the broader humanitarian agenda of GOP and UNHCR, HCI operates a school from elementary to higher secondary for Afghan boys. The project is implemented in Akora Khattak where no such opportunity is available for Afghan refugee children. The Akora Khattak is known to be the refugees' densely populated area of KP. Around 30,000 Afghan refugees have been living in Akora Khattak for the last four decades. As a start, HCI's school provides education from nursery to higher secondary level for boys.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project provided vital educational opportunities for Afghan refugee boys in Akora Khattak, a densely populated area with limited access to secondary education. By offering education from nursery to higher secondary level, HCI empowered these children with the knowledge and skills needed for a better future. This initiative addressed a significant gap in educational services for Afghan refugees, contributing to their personal development and integration into society, while also supporting the broader humanitarian goals of the Government of Pakistan (GOP) and UNHCR. It gave hope to families by ensuring their children received an education despite the challenges of displacement.



Hope Village Project (Kashmir)

Duration: 31 months

BACKGROUND

The education deficit is particularly acute in developing countries where problems caused by lack of funding are compounded by disasters, conflicts, population growth, and gender discrimination. In much of the developing world, the education provided to children is of an abysmal quality. Schools; a crumbling building without access to clean water, and mostly without toilets. Millions of children are being taught by poorly trained teachers in classrooms, which lack a blackboard, chalk, chairs, or desks. As a consequence of these hazards, the dropout rate is increasing alarmingly.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI contributed to the development of the education sector in Kashmir by providing secondary and higher secondary education in three underprivileged rural areas: Garhi Dupatta, Bandi Kokayal, and Kohwan Wala Bagh, Azad Kashmir.

This initiative was implemented at key educational institutions, including the HCI Complex School in Garhi Dupatta, Saleem Shaheed School in Bandi Kokayal, and Quaid Public School in Kohwan Wala Bagh.

The goal of the project was to create adequate learning spaces and enhance classroom experiences for students in these areas. The project aimed to provide continued education through model schools, catering to the educational needs of surrounding villages. Additionally, it sought to improve the health and hygiene of schoolchildren and actively engage local communities in education, disaster preparedness, and emergency response efforts.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project significantly improved access to secondary and higher secondary education for students in three underprivileged rural areas of Azad Kashmir. By supporting key educational institutions, including the HCI Complex School, Saleem Shaheed School, and Quaid Public School, the initiative created better learning environments and enhanced classroom experiences for students. It provided continued education for children in surrounding villages, empowered communities through education, and promoted awareness on health, hygiene, disaster preparedness, and emergency response. Overall, the project contributed to the educational and socio-economic uplift of local communities, fostering long-term development and resilience.



Enhancing Continuous Professional Development of Teachers

Duration: 21 months

BACKGROUND



Pakistan has faced challenges in providing high-quality pre-service teacher education and training. Many of the pre-service courses have lacked the necessary strength and quality to enable student teachers to develop the required conceptual understanding and expertise for a successful teaching career. In 2006, under a funded project, the traditional pre-service courses such as the Primary Teaching Certificate (PTC), Certificate in Teaching (CT), and Bachelor degree in Teaching (BT) were replaced with the Associate Degree in Education (ADE), while the 2-year Bachelor in Education (B.Ed) degree course was replaced with a 4-year B.Ed Honors program. However, the majority of universities and teacher training institutes (TTIs) across Pakistan did not demonstrate sufficient commitment to these programs, rendering them largely ineffective within a few years. Consequently, schools continue to receive teachers with "professional qualifications" in teaching, but lacking the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be effective educators. As a result, schools and educational organizations have to organize intensive in-service training programs to further develop the skills of newly inducted teachers.

A significant majority of schools under HCI are situated in remote rural areas. Despite employing the best available teachers through a rigorous recruitment and selection process, the local teachers in these regions often lack the necessary level of professional expertise. Many of them do not possess formal teaching qualifications. Moreover, they have little or no exposure to quality teaching practices. Consequently, they face challenges in meeting the increasingly demanding requirements of quality in modern education. Teachers inducted in the urban areas demonstrate slightly better skills but are not enough to make them effective teachers. In order to address this issue and support the professional growth of teachers both in rural and urban schools, it is crucial to provide them with opportunities for continuous in-service professional development.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project HCI aims to provide comprehensive continuous professional development (CPD) to 600 teachers from 30 schools in 8 districts in Pakistan. The project is based on the CPD Framework for in-service professional development of teachers. The objective is to enhance the skills and knowledge of teachers through a series of well-structured professional development activities for improved student outcomes. By investing in teachers' professional development, the project aims to ensure the ongoing enhancement of teaching quality and ultimately improve the learning experiences of students.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project empowered 600 teachers from 30 schools across 8 districts in Pakistan by providing them with continuous professional development (CPD) opportunities. Through a series of structured training and activities, teachers enhanced their skills and knowledge, which directly translated into improved teaching quality. This investment in educators contributed to better learning outcomes for students, creating a more engaging and effective classroom environment. Ultimately, the project fostered long-term educational growth by ensuring that teachers were better equipped to meet the needs of their students, positively impacting both teacher performance and student success.

Empowering Deaf Kids to Learn

Duration: 37 months



BACKGROUND

Over 1 million profoundly deaf school-age children reside within Pakistan, with a literacy rate that is greatly behind their hearing peers. The result is less than 5% of Pakistani children who are deaf attend school and become literate. The issue is compounded by a lack of access to educational resources for children who are deaf and the inability of parents to foster PSL (Pakistan Sign Language) in the home. Deaf students do not widely have access to high quality special education schools, nor good education, and this results in as high as 80% unemployment among persons with disabilities.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI has implemented a student scholarship and educational resource program for 300 students to improve access to education for students who are deaf in south-central Pakistan, particularly in two schools around the city of Hyderabad. The program has targeted severely or profoundly deaf students from underprivileged socioeconomic backgrounds, providing them with access to education, life skills development, and direct interaction with experts in Pakistan Sign Language (PSL).

The same group of students has been supported over three consecutive years to ensure continuous development. Alongside the scholarship initiative, the project has strengthened PSL by digitizing educational content, including curriculum development, filming, and interpretation. This digital content has been made accessible to schools, students, and teachers across Pakistan, serving as a critical resource for distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The project has aimed to ensure that deaf students have access to quality education, thereby enhancing their future employment opportunities. It has supported a scholarship program and developed educational resources that have empowered students from low-income families to participate in both in-person and distance learning during the pandemic.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project has significantly improved access to education for 300 severely or profoundly deaf students from underprivileged backgrounds in south-central Pakistan. By providing scholarships, life skills development, and direct engagement with experts in Pakistan Sign Language (PSL), the program has empowered these students with the tools they need to succeed academically and in their future careers. Over three years, the students have benefitted from continuous support, enhancing their learning experiences and employability. The digitization of educational content has expanded access to PSL resources across Pakistan, ensuring that both in-person and distance learning opportunities were available during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, these students now have greater opportunities for integration, education, and future employment, fostering a more inclusive and equitable educational environment.



Building A Foundation College For 600 Female Students Duration: 21 months



BACKGROUND

Education is a bedrock for progress and development, empowering both individuals and nations with the essential tools and knowledge required to create a brighter and more sustainable future. Within the context of Pakistan, the prevailing challenges encompassing economic hardships and widespread poverty are deeply rooted in the unequal dispensation of educational opportunities and constrained access to high-quality education. The project is trying to address advancing lifelong learning opportunities and promoting equitable education as a non-profit, non-governmental organization with the aim to address the pressing issues of access, quality, and equity in education.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI has funded a project to construct a school that will provide quality education to 600 female students from underprivileged and low-income families. The project includes the construction of a three-floor, 13,700 ft² seismic-compliant building, featuring 18 classrooms with a seating capacity of 30-35 students each, an Innovation & Discovery Laboratory for STEAM education, a library, and three science laboratories for Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. Additionally, a Teacher Resource Room will be established, and the science labs will be equipped with apparatus, equipment, furniture, and supplies. The school will also include a childcare facility to support students with young children. Through this project, the quality of education and learning at Barnala High School will be significantly improved, benefiting 600 girls and empowering them with a strong foundation for their future.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The construction of the new school will provide 600 female students from underprivileged and low-income families with access to quality education in a state-of-the-art, seismic-compliant building. The school's 18 classrooms, science labs, Innovation & Discovery Laboratory, and library will enhance the learning experience, providing a well-rounded education that includes STEAM subjects and essential life skills. The Teacher Resource Room and equipped science labs will support educators in delivering high-quality instruction. Additionally, the childcare facility will enable young mothers to continue their education without the barrier of childcare responsibilities. This project will empower girls with a strong educational foundation, equipping them with the knowledge and skills needed for future success and contributing to long-term socio-economic development in the community.



Empowering Deaf Kids to Learn – Student Scholarships for Deaf Education

Duration: 21 months

BACKGROUND

Over 1 million profoundly deaf school-age children reside within Pakistan, with a literacy rate that is greatly behind their hearing peers. The result is less than 5% of Pakistani children who are deaf attend school and become literate. The issue is compounded by a lack of access to educational resources for children who are deaf and the inability of parents to foster PSL (Pakistan Sign Language) in the home. Deaf students do not widely have access to high quality Special Education schools, nor good education, and this results in as high as 80% unemployment among persons with disabilities.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI has implemented a student scholarship program and educational resource program in concurrence to improve access to education and the strength of available resources for students who are deaf. 300 students who are severely/profoundly deaf from underprivileged socioeconomic backgrounds have access to education including specialty and life skills development and direct access to experts in PSL. The same cohort of students is supported over 3 consecutive years.

This project will also strengthen Pakistan Sign Language through the digitization of content (curriculum, filming, and interpreting to be shared with schools, students, and teachers across Pakistan.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project has significantly enhanced access to education for 300 severely or profoundly deaf students from underprivileged backgrounds. By providing scholarships, life skills development, and direct access to experts in Pakistan Sign Language (PSL), the initiative has equipped students with essential knowledge and skills, supporting their academic growth and future employability. Over three consecutive years, this cohort of students has benefitted from continuous support, ensuring their sustained development. The digitization of educational content, including curriculum, filming, and interpreting, has strengthened PSL and made these resources widely accessible to schools, students, and teachers across Pakistan, fostering a more inclusive and accessible learning environment. Ultimately, this project has empowered deaf students, improved their educational outcomes, and contributed to the broader development of PSL in the country.



EMERGENCY RELIEF

COVID-19 Emergency: Sustenance Support to 400 Families in Pakistan
Duration: 2 months

BACKGROUND

It had become tough for the beneficiary families to meet their sustenance needs in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

The project has helped 445 underprivileged, resource-poor and low-income families towards their sustenance needs during COVID-19 pandemic. In the first category, HCI distributed food baskets to 245 families. Each family received 40 kg wheat flour, 5 kg rice, 3 liters edible oil, 4 kg assorted pulses, 3 kg sugar, 800 grams iodised salt and 15 bars of handwashing soap. A further 120 families were supported with food baskets receiving 20 kg wheat flour, 5 kg rice, 2 liters of edible oil, 4 kg assorted pulses, 4 kg sugar and two packets of 800-gram salt. Moreover, sustenance support packages for 80 families were provided. The food items were inclusive of 40 kg wheat flour, 5 kg rice, 3 liters edible oil, 4 kg assorted pulses, 3 kg sugar, and 800 grams iodised salt and 15 bars of handwashing soap.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The distribution of food baskets ensured that families had access to essential food items and hygiene products, reducing the burden of food insecurity. The food and sustenance packages enabled families to maintain their nutrition levels and practice proper hygiene, particularly during a time when access to basic resources was limited. This support helped alleviate the financial strain on vulnerable families, contributing to their well-being and resilience in the face of economic hardship.



Emergency Relief Food Assistance During Ramadan
Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic wreaked havoc to lives and livelihoods across the globe. In Pakistan, the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus increased to 1,526 and continued to spike across all provinces and regions of the country. The government imposed a lockdown situation in all the provinces including AJK, with stay-at-home orders or advisories in place across the country.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

Like any crisis, those who were already vulnerable were at higher risk. For women-headed families with no source of income, people on low incomes and those with inflexible jobs, getting critical access to food became incredibly challenging. This project sought to help 400 such families towards their month-long sustenance needs. Each family received sustenance support to help them toward the following package of the food items: 20 kg wheat flour, 5 kg rice, 3 litres edible oil, 4 kg assorted pulses, 3 kg sugar and 800 grams iodised salt. This project helped reduce the hunger rate of families living in poverty amid the coronavirus pandemic.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The sustenance packages, which included essential food items, helped reduce food insecurity and hunger during the COVID-19 pandemic. By addressing the immediate nutritional needs of these families, the project ensured that they had access to basic sustenance, thereby alleviating the burden of hunger and contributing to the health and well-being of families living in poverty. This support played a critical role in strengthening their resilience during a time of crisis.



Emergency Relief – Balochistan Earthquake

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

A magnitude 5.9 earthquake hit different parts of Balochistan in the early hours of October 7, 2021, killing at least 20 people and injuring another more than 300, according to Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA). Most of the deceased were children according to the media. Hernai was the district most affected by the earthquake which affected Quetta, Sibi, Pishin, Qila Saifullah, Ziarat and Job in addition to Hernai. The Home Minister of Baluchistan, Mir Ziaullah Langove, said five to six districts were affected on a "major scale", and sources were reporting that thousands of houses and buildings have either been destroyed completely, or have suffered major damage. The district administration of Hernai has reported that several buildings have collapsed, and many people have been left buried under the rubble. People are afraid to go back into their houses and schools have been closed.

A state of emergency was declared in district hospitals. The DHQ hospital of Hernai was facing shortages of medicine, and the DHO also appealed for an immediate supply of emergency drugs and surgical instruments. Similarly, an emergency was declared in the hospitals of Quetta, and the government was receiving data on the damages in Ziarat, Qilla Saifullah and Sibi.

The government imposed an emergency and Frontier Corp Balochistan was called to help in the rescue efforts. The National Disaster and Management Authority (NDMA) started rescue and relief operations, but they were overwhelmed, and so the special rescue and relief team of the Pakistan Army was called in. The area is quickly becoming inaccessible as there were reports of land sliding due to the earthquake and aftershocks, and the government was finding it harder to clear the area, as most of the affected areas were far away, and the machinery and rescue teams were taking their time to reach there. There was a need for a quick humanitarian response.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI provided crucial assistance to 350 families affected by the earthquake by distributing essential food rations. Each family received a food pack containing 5 kg of rice, 10 kg of wheat flour, 1 kg of Channa (White Gram), 2 kg of Daal Channa (Bengal Gram), 3 kg of sugar, 2 litres of cooking oil, and 2 packets of salt. Additionally, 186 families whose homes were damaged received tents measuring 4x4 meters (12x12 feet) with a double fly design, featuring tarpaulin on top and cloth underneath. Each tent, weighing 34 kg with bamboo, included wooden tent pegs and a waterproof ground sheet, ensuring immediate shelter relief.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The distribution of essential food rations ensured that families had access to basic nutrition, helping to mitigate hunger and food insecurity in the aftermath of the disaster. For 186 families whose homes were damaged, the provision of durable, weather-resistant tents provided critical shelter, offering protection from the elements. These efforts significantly improved the overall well-being of the affected families, allowing them to stabilize and begin rebuilding their lives after the earthquake.

Aid to Earthquake-Affected Families in Balochistan Pakistan
Duration: 1 month



BACKGROUND

Pakistan is one of the most seismically active regions in Asia, at the intersection between the Indian, Eurasian, and Arabian tectonic plates. In 2013, a magnitude 7.7 earthquake hit the Balochistan state of Pakistan, killing up to 1000 people, and a magnitude 5.9 earthquake struck the same region in 2021, killing upwards of 300 people. In a region where poverty is prevalent, repeated earthquakes have damaged the structural integrity of the region's buildings and increased vulnerabilities. On May 6, 2022, a category 5.2 earthquake struck the Balochistan state again. While the death toll remains at zero, the earthquake leveled around 80 homes made of mud and crude brick, devastating families' shelter, food, and personal items.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project took place in the heavily impacted region of Aurnaj in Balochistan state, roughly 600 km North of Karachi and 1000 km Southwest from the capital of Islamabad. The region is hilly and not easily accessible by major roads. HCI provided emergency food and shelter relief for households whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged in the latest earthquake. This included the provision of a food hamper of staple items for one month for 265 families, and an additional 75 households will receive tents and floor mats as temporary shelters.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

This intervention provided critical emergency support to 265 families in Aurnaj, Balochistan, whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged by the earthquake. The food hampers ensured that these families had access to essential staples, helping them meet their immediate nutritional needs during a time of crisis. Additionally, the 75 households that received tents and floor mats were provided with temporary shelter, offering protection from the elements and a safe space to rest as they began to recover from the disaster. The relief efforts helped stabilize the affected families, reducing their vulnerability and enabling them to start rebuilding their lives.

Flood Relief for Pakistan's Monsoon Season

Duration: 3 months

BACKGROUND

The impacts of climate change are drastic, and they are already beginning to impact the world's most vulnerable. As patterns of monsoons were distorted by la niña weather patterns (which push more atmospheric water towards Asia), flooding, landslides, and torrential downpours will only become the norm. Recent extreme weather events have spread across the Balochistan region of Pakistan, which earlier was hit with earthquakes that destroyed family homes, livelihoods and took dozens of lives. Pakistan received 60% of its monsoon season rain in just 3 weeks and the death toll stood at over 419 persons including 168 women and 77 children. Hundreds were injured, and their medical care and relief were severely restricted due to washed out roads and bridges, especially in remote communities. Over 30,000 people across Balochistan required urgent humanitarian assistance, while over 3200 homes were entirely destroyed with another 23,800 homes severely damaged. This region was hit hard in the first half of 2022, and it was unlikely that their vulnerability would have drastically changed without significant intervention from local governments and NGOs willing to help.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI provided emergency assistance to families in 5 towns across Khuzdar district of Balochistan state. 1000 of the most vulnerable families including the disabled, elderly, and a large number of children received food baskets with basic pantry staples for the immediate response. Drinking water was also provided in addition to one large family-sized tent for 6-7 persons.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

By distributing food baskets containing essential pantry staples, the project helped ensure these families had access to necessary nutrition during a critical time. The provision of drinking water addressed the immediate need for safe drinking water, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases. Additionally, the supply of large family-sized tents gave these families shelter, offering them protection and a place to regroup as they dealt with the aftermath of the crisis. This intervention directly supported vulnerable individuals, including the disabled, elderly, and children, enabling them to maintain their well-being in a time of great need.

Flood Relief for Deaf Reach Families

Duration: 3 months

BACKGROUND

Recent extreme weather events have spread across Pakistan leading to extreme floods, and the current death toll stands at nearly 1000 people. Hundreds are injured, and relief is severely restricted due to washed out roads and bridges, especially in remote communities. Over 36,468 homes have been destroyed across the province. Current floods have impeded the ability of families to commute and earn income, schools have been shut down, and are unlikely to reopen until the floodwaters recede. The Deaf Reach schools in Sukkur are currently closed, and have not been able to reopen due to the floods. Only minor damage to schools has been incurred due to water pumps, one school's roof was destroyed, and the schools have remained inaccessible as roads remain closed. The changes that were put in place due to covid (i.e. remote learning) will not be successful because students cannot access school internet to download their learning materials.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI provided emergency cash transfers to 500 families of Deaf Reach School students who have lost income, access to food, and have been put at increased risk for illness due to the lack of accessible healthcare

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The emergency cash transfers provided by HCI significantly improved the living conditions of families with Deaf Reach School students who were severely impacted by the crisis. These funds helped families regain access to food, mitigate the loss of income, and alleviate the financial burden caused by the lack of accessible healthcare. By addressing their immediate financial needs, HCI supported these families in maintaining their well-being and resilience during a challenging period. The intervention also contributed to reducing the risk of illness by enabling families to seek necessary healthcare services and essential resources, ensuring that the most vulnerable were not left behind during the crisis.

Provision of RO Plants and WASH Facilities in Flood Affected Areas of Sindh, Pakistan

Duration: 4 months

BACKGROUND

Since mid-June, more than 33 million people in Pakistan have been affected by unprecedented rains and floods across the country, leaving 6.4 million people in dire need of humanitarian assistance. Intense rainfall is expected to continue in October in Sindh Province. Sindh is the hardest hit area by flood and the expected rains will worsen the situation for the at-risk population. The flood has contaminated the water and due to the lack of drinking water people are forced to drink contaminated water. This resulted in an outbreak of water-borne diseases such as diarrhea, skin diseases, and eye infections in flood-affected areas. On September 1, 2022, Sindh reported 90,000 diarrhea cases in one day. UNICEF has reported more than 134,000 cases of diarrhea and 44,000 cases of malaria. According to the health ministry, on September 21, 2022, 12,000 cases of asthma, and respiratory and chest-related infections were reported in Sindh. Along with water, there is a great concern for hygiene and sanitation needs as the shelter homes are often unhygienic and have poor sanitation facilities, hence causing widespread infectious diseases.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI ensured the provision of clean water through tankers and by the installation of 5 RO plants. In addition, the project also constructed 45 makeshift latrines, and provided 500 families with jerry cans and hygiene kits. 10,000 people and 1800 families had access to safe and clean water.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

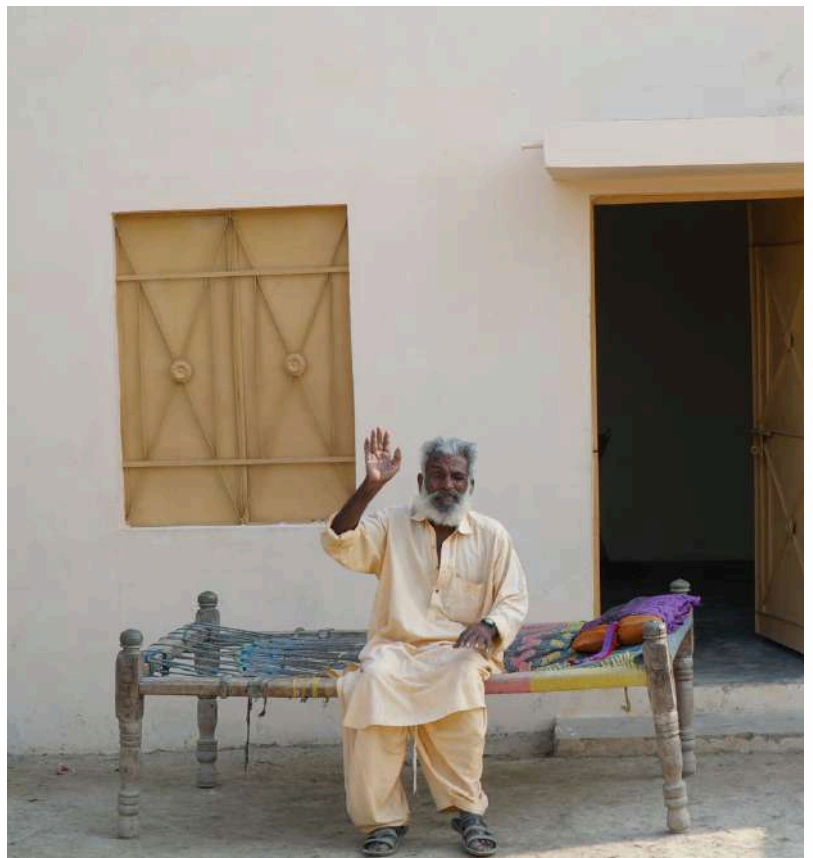
The provision of clean water through tankers and the installation of 5 RO plants ensured that 10,000 people, including 1,800 families, had reliable access to safe drinking water. The construction of 45 makeshift latrines helped improve sanitation conditions, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases. The distribution of 500 hygiene kits and jerry cans further supported the health and hygiene needs of the affected families, empowering them to maintain proper hygiene practices. This intervention significantly contributed to the well-being of the community, reducing the spread of diseases and enhancing the overall living conditions of vulnerable households

Pakistan: House Rebuilding

Duration: 11 months

BACKGROUND

Devastating floods caused by excessive rain across Pakistan in the 2022 monsoon season caused over 14.9 billion USD in damage and 15.2 billion in economic losses. Around 33 million vulnerable people were displaced, most significantly in the province of Sindh. Around 16 billion USD is urgently needed for reconstruction across the country to restore basic infrastructure, health facilities and schools to working order. Housing remains one of the greatest needs faced by vulnerable families, as homes were destroyed and severely damaged. Families are currently living in temporary housing including tents, and lack essentials including private WASH facilities, safe places to sleep, and sanitary food preparation spaces



HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI's approach to the next phase of emergency response includes support for the housing of 40 families who have lost their homes. Our approach is to prioritize communities which have been overwhelmed by the task of rebuilding, and face a significant lack of resources. An initial 25 homes are being constructed side-by-side with additional sites to follow

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The construction of 25 homes for families who have lost their homes, along with plans for 15 additional homes, directly addresses the urgent housing needs of 40 vulnerable families. This intervention provides them with safe, stable shelter, significantly improving their living conditions and reducing their risk of exposure to the elements. By prioritizing communities overwhelmed by the challenge of rebuilding and lacking resources, this project helps restore a sense of security and stability to the affected families. It also contributes to the broader recovery efforts, ensuring that displaced families have a foundation for rebuilding their lives.



NFI Distribution for HCI Village Families

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

The 2022 heavy monsoons in Pakistan caused catastrophic floods, sinking one-third of the country. Over 1700 people died and 33 million people were affected by these floods. Sindh province was one of the worst affected regions, with 23 districts and 18% of the province being flooded. Despite several months since the floods, the situation on the ground for the flood victims has not significantly improved. Numerous families continue to struggle in their quest for stability in their lives. Based on partners' needs assessment, most of the affected families are struggling with food security apart from other essentials like cots, bedding, kitchen utensils, dining chairs and emergency lights are still lacking for many people.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI provided food security and assistance to households who have sustained significant losses due to the devastating floods. As part of this initiative, the project provided the 530 food packs to deserving families and NFIs. Each food pack contained food items (Rice 3kg per family, Wheat flour (10kg per family), liters per family), Salt (2 packets per family). Pulses-Channa (White Gram) (2kg per family), Sugar (3 kg per family, Cooking Oil (3 litres).

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The distribution of 530 food packs to families affected by the floods has provided essential sustenance to vulnerable households. By supplying basic food items such as rice, wheat flour, pulses, sugar, cooking oil, and salt, the project alleviates food insecurity and supports the nutritional needs of families during their recovery. This assistance helps stabilize their immediate food supply, reducing hunger and improving their overall health and wellbeing. In addition, providing Non-Food Items (NFIs) supports the broader recovery process by addressing some of the fundamental needs of families affected by the devastation caused by the floods.

RAMADAN

Ramadan Family Assistance Program 2020

Duration: 1 month



BACKGROUND

The beneficiaries of this project were primarily families facing significant economic hardship. In 2020, during the holy month of Ramadan, HCI's Ramadan Family Assistance Program provided critical support to these families, ensuring they had enough food to meet their nutritional needs. Ramadan is not just a month of fasting, but also a time for compassion and charity, where the well-being of the less fortunate is a shared responsibility. This program embodied those values, offering relief to those most in need.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a profound impact worldwide, and in Pakistan, the situation was particularly difficult. The country, with its limited resources, could not sustain prolonged lockdowns without severe economic consequences.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This initiative aimed to benefit 500 families, including 200 Pakistani families, 150 refugee families, and 150 families from Azad Kashmir. Each food packet was designed to sustain a family of 5-6 members for the entire month of Ramadan. The food distribution included essential items such as 20 kg of flour, 10 kg of rice, 5 kg of sugar, 4 kg of pulses, 2.5 liters of cooking oil, ½ kg of tea, and 1 kg of milk powder per family. In total, 1,060 families received 21,200 kg of flour, 10,600 kg of rice, 5,300 kg of sugar, 4,240 kg of pulses, 2,650 liters of cooking oil, 530 kg of tea, and 1,060 kg of milk powder.

The primary objectives of this program were to improve food security for poor families during Ramadan, address malnutrition issues, particularly among children and women, and support the well-being of families living below the poverty line. Through this initiative, the program provided much-needed relief, ensuring that vulnerable families had access to adequate nutrition during the holy month.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

This initiative provided essential support to 1,060 families, improving food security and alleviating hunger during the month of Ramadan. The food packages helped ensure that families from diverse backgrounds, including Pakistani families, refugees, and families from Azad Kashmir, had access to adequate nutrition. By addressing malnutrition and supporting basic needs, the program contributed to the overall health and well-being of children, women, and vulnerable community members. The distribution of essential food items enhanced the capacity of these families to sustain themselves throughout Ramadan, helping them cope with the challenges of poverty and food insecurity. Additionally, this initiative fostered a sense of community solidarity and resilience during difficult times.



Food Assistance for Families in Need

Duration: 1 month



BACKGROUND

16,000 children die every day due to hunger related illness. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc to lives and livelihoods across the globe. In Pakistan, the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus continues to spike. It is a lockdown situation in all the provinces including AJK, with stay-at-home orders or advisories in place across the country. Like any crisis, those who were already vulnerable are at higher risk. For women-headed families with no source of income, people on low incomes and those with inflexible jobs, getting critical access to food has become incredibly challenging. This project proposal seeks to help 600 such families towards their month-long sustenance needs. Each family shall receive sustenance support to help them toward the following package of the food items: 20 kg wheat flour, 5 kg rice, 3 litres edible oil, 4 kg assorted pulses, 3 kg sugar and 800 grams iodised salt. This project will help reduce the hunger rate of families living in poverty amid the coronavirus pandemic

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI sought to help 600 needy families in Pakistan towards fasting during the month of Ramadan by providing them with their month-long food needs. The distribution of the food parcels shall be held adhering to the social distancing guidelines. The project benefited about 3,600 people coming from 600 families. The beneficiaries included children, women, men and the elderly. Amid lockdowns, the prices of the food items were changing daily. The availability of food supplies in local markets was also becoming a challenge. Trucking and distribution of the food supplies was also a significant risk at that moment because of the ongoing ban and restrictions on movement and public gatherings. The provision of cash support in this landscape-scale crisis afforded the beneficiaries to put this assistance to optimal utilization in accordance with the immediate needs of each family.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

This project significantly supported 600 families (3,600 individuals) during the month of Ramadan by providing them with food packages, ensuring that they could fast without the added burden of food insecurity. The intervention helped address the immediate needs of children, women, men, and the elderly, many of whom were experiencing heightened vulnerability due to the economic strain of the pandemic. By providing essential food supplies and cash support, families were able to cope with the rapidly changing prices, limited food availability, and transportation challenges posed by lockdown restrictions. The project also empowered beneficiaries to make decisions based on their unique needs, ensuring that they could meet their most pressing requirements in a context of limited resources and uncertainty. Ultimately, this initiative improved the overall well-being of the families, allowing them to observe Ramadan with dignity while alleviating financial stress.



ZABIHA

**Food Assistance for
Families in Need**
Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

In a world where 16,000 children die every day due to hunger-related illness, HCI's Zabiha/Qurbani Program provides meat and brings smiles on the faces of families in need. HCI strongly believes that everyone deserves to celebrate Eid and enjoys a joyful environment within their families.

CSP's families are very poor and needy cannot purchase expensive meat. The Zabiha project gives a chance to eat meat. Results are sustainable, beneficiaries feel relaxed and minimize inferiority complexes as they feel they are inferior to other communities.

This project should be continued in order to complete social rehabilitation of CSP's Children and their families and also it is our religious responsibility to distribute Qurbani Meat among "Mustehqeen". For the un-keep, continuous improvement and sustainability of all the aspects of the project certain measures were taken. From this project, CSP Children & their families were provided free meat on the occasion of Eid Ul Azha by HCI. This project helped reduce the hunger rate of families living in poverty.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

The activity involved the distribution of Zabiha/Qurbani meat. A total of 21 cows were slaughtered, providing meat to 525 households. Each family received 4 kilograms of meat, resulting in a total distribution of 2,100 kilograms across the community.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

Food and nutrition deficiencies were addressed among families living in poverty. Mental well-being of beneficiaries improved.



WASH

Water and Sanitation Project

Duration: 11 months



BACKGROUND

The United Nations has estimated that every person needs from 20 to 50 liters of drinking water each day. The water right implies the right to safe water and adequate sanitation. For many citizens in Pakistan, the drinking water still comes from open, unsafe sources. In rural areas, over 40 million people lack access to safe drinking water, while 60 million lack adequate sanitation. An estimated 250,000 child deaths occur each year in Pakistan due to water-borne diseases. The lack of access to clean water is one of the most significant causes of poverty in Pakistan. Without water, the chances of the poor breaking out of the cycle of poverty become incredibly slim. The WHO estimates a return of \$3 to \$34 for each \$1 invested in water provision. Education is critical for breaking the cycle of poverty, yet many schools in Pakistan lack access to safe water. As little as 28.53% and 31.40% of schools have a drinking water facility in the target districts of Bagh and Bhimber, respectively.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Education (WASH) project aimed to provide and promote quality education for about 5,000 pupils—approximately 75% of whom were female students—and 200 teachers, with almost 90% being women, by providing potable water, safe toilets, and handwashing facilities at 25 schools in rural areas of Pakistan. Children also learned about hygiene and how to protect themselves and their families from infectious diseases.

Water at these schools was made available through boreholes, up to 130 feet deep, equipped with submersible electric pumps, a 500-gallon water storage facility, and three drinking taps connected to the storage tank at each school. Similarly, each school received an average of four toilets for pupils and teachers, along with appropriate hand washing facilities. Each WASH project benefited approximately 300 pupils, teachers, and ancillary staff on average.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The direct impact of the project includes improved access to clean water and sanitation for 5,200 pupils, teachers, and ancillary staff at 18 schools through the construction or rehabilitation of boreholes and 72 gender-disaggregated toilets. These facilities have enhanced hygiene, reduced the risk of waterborne diseases, and created a safer, more supportive learning environment—particularly for girls. As a result, school attendance and students' ability to focus and perform academically have improved.

Indirectly, the project has contributed to better hygiene practices within the broader community as students bring lessons home. The provision of gender-sensitive toilets has empowered girls by supporting their continued education. Over time, these changes are expected to lead to improved educational outcomes, reduced healthcare costs, and increased economic productivity. Additionally, establishing boreholes in 50 villages ensures sustainable access to water, benefiting both schools and surrounding communities.



Water Well Project

Duration: 6 months

BACKGROUND

Tharparkar is a drought-prone area with scarce safe water resources. Residents rely on unsafe water sources, as that is all that is available, and depend on rain-fed agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods. Water shortages are a major issue, leading to malnutrition, higher child mortality, and the spread of water-related diseases.

Through the construction of wells around the villages, clean and safe water became readily accessible to the communities and their livestock. Livelihoods improved, allowing people to attend school, go to the mosque, maintain hygiene, and care for their livestock without having to travel long distances.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

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IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The construction of 25 water wells significantly improved the daily lives of residents in Tharparkar. The total beneficiaries for the project were 1,800 people and 2,500 heads of livestock. With clean and safe water readily available, communities experienced better health outcomes due to reduced exposure to waterborne diseases. The burden of traveling long distances—often shouldered by women and children—to fetch water was eliminated, freeing up time for education, religious activities, and income-generating opportunities. Access to water also supported agricultural and livestock activities, leading to improved food security and livelihoods. Overall, the intervention enhanced the quality of life, dignity, and resilience of the affected communities.



Supporting a Quality Education for Underprivileged Children: Provision of Safe Drinking Water

Duration: 5 months



BACKGROUND

Water is essential for the survival of all human beings. The right to water is a fundamental human right and a prerequisite for realizing other human rights. The United Nations has estimated that every person needs from 20 to 50 liters of drinking water each day. The water right implies the right to safe water and adequate sanitation. For many citizens in Pakistan, the drinking water still comes from open, unsafe sources. Over 40 million people lack access to safe drinking water in rural areas. In contrast, 60 million lack adequate sanitation. An estimated 250,000 child deaths occur each year in Pakistan due to water-borne diseases. The lack of access to clean water is one of the greatest causes of poverty in Pakistan. Without water, the chances of the poor breaking out of the cycle of poverty become incredibly slim. The WHO estimates suggest returns of \$3 to \$34 for each \$1 invested in the provision of water.

Education is critical for breaking the cycle of poverty, yet many schools in Pakistan lack access to safe water. The lack of safe water seriously affects students' academic performance and attendance rates. The lack of clean water can cause even the best students to lose concentration as they deal with stomach pains and diarrhea from disease and hunger. Schools cannot run educational programs if they cannot provide water to students and faculty.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project, HCI created provision of drinking water through 30 hand pumps to provide safe drinking water for up to 4,500 pupils and 150 teachers at 30 public sector and low-fee private schools.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

HCI's intervention significantly improved the health and learning environment for 4,500 pupils and 150 teachers by providing access to safe drinking water through 30 hand pumps. Students experienced fewer waterborne illnesses, leading to better attendance, improved concentration, and enhanced academic performance. Teachers also benefited from a healthier work environment, contributing to more consistent and effective instruction. The availability of clean water at schools reduced the burden on children to fetch water, allowing them to focus on their education and overall well-being.



Supporting a Quality Education for Underprivileged Children in Rural Areas of Pakistan

Duration: 8 months



BACKGROUND

Water is essential for the survival of all human beings. The right to water is a fundamental human right and a prerequisite for realizing other human rights. The United Nations has estimated that every person needs from 20 to 50 liters of drinking water each day. The water right implies the right to safe water and adequate sanitation. For many citizens in Pakistan, the drinking water still comes from open, unsafe sources. Over 40 million people lack access to safe drinking water in rural areas. In contrast, 60 million lack adequate sanitation. An estimated 250,000 child deaths occur each year in Pakistan due to water-borne diseases. The lack of access to clean water is one of the greatest causes of poverty in Pakistan. Without water, the chances of the poor breaking out of the cycle of poverty become incredibly slim. The WHO estimates suggest returns of \$3 to \$34 for each \$1 invested in the provision of water. Education is critical for breaking the cycle of poverty, yet many schools in Pakistan lack access to safe water. The lack of safe water seriously affects students' academic performance and attendance rates. The lack of clean water can cause even the best students to lose concentration as they deal with stomach pains and diarrhea from disease and hunger. Schools cannot run educational programs if they cannot provide water to students and faculty.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project, HCI created the provision of drinking water through 115 hand pumps to provide safe drinking water for up to 13,500 pupils and 450 teachers at 115 public sector and low-fee private schools.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

Students experienced fewer waterborne illnesses, leading to better attendance, improved concentration, and enhanced academic performance. Teachers also benefited from a healthier work environment, contributing to more consistent and effective instruction. The availability of clean water at schools reduced the burden on children to fetch water, allowing them to focus on their education and overall well-being.



Water For Life Project 2023

Duration: 7 months

BACKGROUND

Unsafe drinking water causes waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, typhoid, giardiasis, intestinal worms, cryptosporidium infections, gastroenteritis etc. The problem of unclean drinking water is created mostly by anthropogenic activities which constitute 80 percent of all diseases and 33 percent of all deaths[2]. In Pakistan, 50 percent of all diseases and 40 percent of all deaths are due to poor water quality and 40 percent of all communicable diseases are waterborne. Moreover, 60% of infants' deaths are caused by water-related diarrhea.

The province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) is particularly affected by the problem of a lack of clean drinking water. In rural communities, 46% of people are using water from the surface and dug wells which are mostly unsafe for drinking. This problem also extends to schools with severity and worse consequences. Many schools in KPK do not have clean drinking water. According to the Tribune news, one-fifth of all government schools lack clean drinking water. Additionally, it is noted that in Charsadda, the dropout rate is 54 percent by the time they reach primary levels according to the 2018-2019 statistics by the Education Directorate. Hence, the literacy rate is only 31 percent pertaining mainly to the poor infrastructure and the backlog of missing facilities water being among one them

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project, HCI provided the provision of 52 deep-tube wells for 52 selected schools in Charsadda, Mardan, and KP districts in Pakistan.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

HCI's intervention improved access to clean drinking water for students and teachers at 52 schools in Charsadda, Mardan, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The total number of beneficiaries for this project is 10,400 (5,200 girls, 5,200 boys). The provision of deep-tube wells significantly reduced the incidence of waterborne diseases, leading to better health outcomes and fewer school absences. With clean water available, students were able to focus on their education, improving attendance rates and overall academic performance. This intervention also helped reduce dropout rates, providing a healthier, more conducive environment for learning and enhancing the prospects for students' future success.



Innovative Clean Water Supply for Pakistan Duration: 4 months

BACKGROUND

This project seeks to address the lack of access to clean reliable sources of water and its negative impacts on adults and children in rural Pakistan and more specifically Balochistan which is the most under-resourced province in Pakistan. The negative social, economic, agricultural and health impacts that arise from poor access to safe water are especially severe in communities across Pakistan where 84% of the country lacks access to safe water. The country's home to a number of under-resourced and poorly connected communities that lack easy access to water. In addition the communities are cut off from access to any electricity grid making solar energy the only viable power source for delivering a clean sustainable supply of water to hundreds of thousands of inhabitants. Water consumed in our target communities often comes from contaminated sources found in canals or hand-dug wells with no adequate filtration. Unfortunately conventional hand pumps relied on in water scarce communities across Pakistan do not possess the same level of longevity, safety, sustainability as our solution.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project HCI installed 5 solar water boxes in 5 communities, with each water box having the capacity to provide 10,000 liters of filtered water.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

HCI's installation of 5 solar water boxes in rural communities in Balochistan provided access to 10,000 liters of filtered water per box, significantly improving health and sanitation for 8290 beneficiaries. Beneficiaries experienced a reduction in waterborne diseases as they transitioned from unsafe, contaminated water sources to clean, reliable water. The sustainable, solar-powered water supply also ensured continuous access to water, even in remote areas without electricity, supporting better agricultural practices and enhancing overall community well-being. This intervention contributed to improved health, education, and livelihoods in underserved communities.



Water for Life Project 2024

Duration: 6 months

BACKGROUND

According to an Alif Ailaan District Education Ranking Report, approximately 14.29% of schools were reported to lack drinking water facilities. Furthermore, the quality of drinking water in numerous schools falls below acceptable standards, primarily due to insufficient borehole depths. Particularly in some rural parts of the Charsadda district, the water table lies at a mere depth of 4 meters, significantly increasing the risk of contamination with agrochemicals.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI aimed to address the critical issues by ensuring the availability and accessibility of quality water for all children and staff in targeted schools, thereby contributing to the achievement of several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including access to water and sanitation (SDG 6), quality education (SDG 4), health and well-being (SDG 3), and poverty eradication (SDG 1). The project aimed to increase access to safe drinking water and reduce instances of preventable diseases by constructing 50 water wells and conducting community engagement sessions

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The construction of 50 water wells provided safe drinking water to students and staff in rural Charsadda schools, reducing waterborne diseases and improving health and attendance. A total of 150 students and 5 staff members were benefited. The intervention also enhanced learning conditions, contributing to better educational outcomes and overall well-being.



Ensuring Sustainable Water And Sanitation Solutions (ESAS) for Poor Communities

Duration: 5 months

BACKGROUND

The multifaceted challenges in securing safe water and sanitation facilities in District Umerkot pose significant threats to public health and well-being. With a predominantly rural population comprising 77.31% of the total population 1,073,469 as per the 2017 census and a literacy rate of 35.07%, particularly low among females, educational and awareness gaps hinder effective WASH practices. The district's reliance on groundwater sources in a water-scarce environment exacerbates water quality concerns, with varying depths ranging from 60 ft to 350-400 ft across different areas. Despite the presence of hand pumps, piped water, unprotected wells, and public water taps as primary water sources, their inconsistent availability and questionable quality contribute to significant health risks, especially among vulnerable populations susceptible to waterborne diseases and malnutrition. In light of these challenges, urgent interventions are needed to address the pressing WASH needs of District Umerkot.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI addressed the pressing WASH needs in District Umerkot through installation of sustainable water and sanitation services within schools and target communities through construction of 20 deep hand pumps in vulnerable communities and twin latrines in schools. Approximately 300 households benefited from this intervention.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

HCI's intervention provided reliable access to clean water and sanitation, reducing waterborne diseases and improving health in vulnerable communities. The installation of deep hand pumps and twin latrines in schools enhanced hygiene practices, contributed to better educational outcomes, and improved overall well-being for students and their families.



ZERO HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION

Fresh Meat for Families in

Need 2021

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

In a world where 16,000 children die every day due to hunger-related illness, this project seeks to bring smiles on the faces of families in need in Pakistan by providing them with the celebratory gift of meat on the auspicious occasion of Eid Al Adha under HCI's Zabiha/Qurbani Program. This project subscribes to the HCI's belief that everyone deserves to celebrate Eid and enjoys a joyful environment within their families.

Nearly 39 percent of Pakistanis live in multidimensional poverty. Deprivation in education contributes the largest share of 43 percent to this poverty. Khuzdar district, like most of the districts in Balochistan, experiences high intensity of poverty, with the poor facing deprivation in 51% of the weighted dimensions on the multidimensional poverty index. More than half, 61%, of the households are living in poverty. 18% households fall in ultra-poor and 23.8% households fall in vulnerable poor bands of poverty. Lack of child enrolment in schools, poor educational status of the household members and lack of safe drinking water respectively contribute 14.18%, 11.25% and 4.18 to the multidimensional poverty index score respectively. Khuzdar district ranks 28th on the multidimensional poverty index among 33 districts of Balochistan.

In this backdrop, the Qurbani project not only provided the means of accessing the Divine blessings, but also proved instrumental in helping poor and downtrodden celebrate the Eid festival and have a valuable source of nutrition by making meat available to them over the Eid days.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

The project involved the distribution of Zabiha/Qurbani meat, where 75 cows were slaughtered to provide 3,000 households with 3 kg of meat each, resulting in a total of 9,000 kg of meat. This initiative benefited approximately 21,000 individuals, including children, women, men, and the elderly, from about 3,000 households.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The goal of this project was to enhance the food security of the beneficiaries during Eid Al Adha, to bring joy and happiness to the hearts of the beneficiaries and to improve the mental well-being of the beneficiaries.



Zero Hunger & Malnutrition

2021 – Seeds of Hope

Duration: 10 months

BACKGROUND

Despite progress in tackling socio-economic challenges, around 25% of Pakistan's population roughly 53 million peoples till lives below the poverty line, with 20–30% facing food insecurity. In northern rural areas like Kashmir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab, limited market access due to geography and weather conditions worsens malnutrition and food scarcity, especially after COVID-19. While short-term food aid is life-saving, it often fails to create lasting change, as families relapse into poverty once support ends. To break this cycle, sustainable, community-driven solutions that equip people with skills, resources, and knowledge for long-term self-reliance are urgently needed.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

The only long-term and sustainable solution to food insecurity is to therefore meet the immediate food security needs of beneficiary families, while simultaneously training them to develop their own sustainable source of food production. There were two core elements to this program of HCI, consisting of a short-term monthly food parcel distribution, running concurrently with, and conditioned upon, beneficiary engagement in more long-term sustainable household food production activities. Food parcels sufficient to feed one family for one month were distributed to 500 families on a monthly basis to meet their immediate food needs. This helped free up household income to be spent on securing other essential needs, although this was indirect and not guaranteed. For the same cost of continuing the full food parcel for 10 months, the contents of the food parcel were gradually reduced (subject to ongoing monitoring), in place of and in proportion to the productivity of household food production. This included sustainable activities such as small-scale subsistence farming and animal husbandry. Beneficiaries were provided with all the relevant resources, training, and ongoing technical and community support needed to generate food produce sufficient to meet their food security needs, along with a potential surplus that could contribute towards improving their livelihoods, all from within their own home or community garden.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project successfully met the immediate food needs of 500 families through the provision of a monthly food parcel, ensuring that they had enough resources to cover their basic requirements. In the long term, the initiative improved the food security and nutritional status of beneficiary households by gradually reducing the reliance on food parcels and promoting sustainable food production through small-scale subsistence farming and animal husbandry. This shift not only enhanced the long-term food security of the beneficiaries but also increased their livelihoods potential, as they gained the skills and resources needed to generate food and potentially improve their income through surplus production from their own homes or community gardens.



Ramadan 2022 Food Assistance

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

In 2021, Pakistan ranked 92nd out of 116 countries on the Global Hunger Index, with a serious hunger level score of 24.7. According to the 2018-19 Household Integrated Economic Survey, 16% of the population faced moderate to severe food insecurity—impacting 20% of rural versus 9.2% of urban residents. Alarming, 61% of households in the lowest income brackets are food insecure. Since 2018, rising food prices and inflation have worsened affordability, with the average household spending over half its income on food. The COVID-19 pandemic, economic slowdown, and inflation—especially in rural areas—have deepened the crisis, hitting wage laborers, farmers, women, and children the hardest. Prices often spike further during Ramadan due to hoarding, pushing annual inflation to 11.1% in April 2020.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project helped the vulnerable families in Pakistan to celebrate the joy of Eid Al Adha by distributing Qurbani fresh meat. A total number of 1240 households got food baskets which included 8,185 beneficiaries.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

This distribution helped alleviate food insecurity, ensuring that families, especially those in rural areas facing economic hardships and inflation, had access to nutritious food during a time of increased vulnerability. By reducing the financial burden on these households, the project also contributed to improving their overall well-being and ability to cope with the economic challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Family Food Assistance – Qurbani 2022 in Pakistan, Kashmir

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

In 2021, Pakistan ranked 92nd out of 116 countries on the Global Hunger Index, with a serious hunger level score of 24.7. The 2018-19 Household Integrated Economic Survey found that 16% of the population faced moderate or severe food insecurity—twice as high in rural areas (20%) compared to urban (9.2%). Among the poorest households, 61% were food insecure. Rising food prices since 2018, worsened by COVID-19, have left the poor—especially wage laborers, farmers, women, and children—struggling, as they spend over half their income on food. Inflation surged from 5% in 2018 to 8.2% in 2020, with rural inflation doubling. Food prices spike further during Ramadan due to hoarding, pushing annual inflation to 11.1% in April 2020, reducing the poor's purchasing power and worsening hunger.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project helped the vulnerable families in Pakistan to celebrate the joy of Eid Al Adha by distributing Qurbani fresh meat. A total number of 1240 households got food baskets which included 8,185 beneficiaries.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

This distribution helped alleviate food insecurity, ensuring that families, especially those in rural areas facing economic hardships and inflation, had access to nutritious food during a time of increased vulnerability. By reducing the financial burden on these households, the project also contributed to improving their overall well-being and ability to cope with the economic challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Food Distribution and Skills

Training

Duration: 9 months

BACKGROUND

During the 2022 monsoon season, Pakistan faced devastating floods and landslides that affected over 33 million people, caused 1,730 deaths, and displaced 7.9 million—particularly in vulnerable regions like Sindh, where 6.5 million were uprooted. The disaster impacted 72 districts across all provinces and damaged more than 2.1 million homes. The economic toll was staggering, with total damages estimated at PKR 3.2 trillion (US\$14.9 billion), and recovery needs reaching PKR 3.5 trillion (US\$16.3 billion), especially in housing, agriculture, and transport. Sindh and Balochistan accounted for two-thirds of recovery needs. The floods deepened Pakistan's economic crisis, severely disrupting agriculture, health, education, and infrastructure, leading to increased food insecurity and inflation.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI's project assisted 200 families with short-term food aid and sustainable livelihoods. Activities included collaboration with government bodies for skill data, selecting vulnerable families from Sindh and Kashmir, adhering to procurement policies, identifying skill training providers, distributing monthly food packs, providing tailored vocational training, establishing market links, and offering livelihood support like toolkits and shop assistance. 200 individuals received skill training and 200 families received food packs for 12 months.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The intervention provided critical support to 200 families, ensuring they received monthly food packs for 12 months, alleviating immediate food insecurity. Additionally, 200 individuals received vocational training, empowering them with skills for sustainable livelihoods, while the provision of toolkits and shop assistance helped enhance their economic resilience. This support not only met urgent needs but also contributed to long-term recovery and self-sufficiency for vulnerable families affected by the 2022 floods.

Food Distribution and Cow

Sacrifice

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

In mid-July 2022, Pakistan experienced its worst floods in a decade, with over 78,000 sq km of farmland submerged, primarily affecting Sindh province. This disaster damaged more than 80% of crops and disrupted transportation, exacerbating an already dire food security situation. Prior to the floods, 36.9% of the population faced food insecurity, with high rates of malnutrition among children. Economic and political instability, along with inflation and rising food prices, have further strained vulnerable populations, pushing many below the poverty line. With inflation exceeding 40%, marginalized groups are seeking assistance from donors to cope.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project aimed to support 330 households by providing a month's food supply and meat from sacrificed animals, offering essential nutrition during Qurbani and these challenging times.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project provided immediate relief to 330 flood-affected households in Sindh through the distribution of monthly food supplies and Qurbani meat. This intervention addressed urgent food insecurity by ensuring access to essential calories and nutritional diversity at a time when livelihoods were disrupted, markets were inaccessible, and food prices were unaffordable. The inclusion of meat in the food basket, a rare dietary component for many low-income families, improved protein intake and overall diet quality. By stabilizing food consumption, the project reduced the risk of malnutrition, especially among children, and alleviated financial pressure on households already struggling with inflation and economic uncertainty. Overall, the assistance restored a sense of dignity and hope to vulnerable families during Eid and contributed to their short-term food security and resilience.

Qurbani 2023 – Pakistan

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

This project aimed to provide meat as a celebratory gift to families in need in Pakistan during Eid Al Adha, recognizing the significant poverty and deprivation in the country. The project was implemented in the Khuzdar district of Balochistan, where a high percentage of households were living in poverty. By performing Qurbani with 60 cows, the project sought to reduce hunger among these vulnerable families and allowed them to celebrate Eid with access to valuable nutrition.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project, HCI promoted SDG 2 by ensuring it reaches the most vulnerable families and provides them with meat during the Eid Al-Adha festive season, from the Qurbani meat. 2400 families received Qurbani meat in total.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries were able to celebrate the joyous occasion without the burden of food insecurity and had mental satisfaction of enjoying the holy month without looming deprivation.

Ramadan Food Distribution

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

Pakistan is seeing the highest inflation rate of the last 50 years right now at 31.5% in the month of February 2023. At the same time, the consequences of last year's devastating floods have accumulated economic difficulties, leaving low-income households under extreme pressure on account of being disproportionately exposed to inflation in non-discretionary items. According to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, the cost of food in Pakistan has increased 45.10 percent in the February of 2023 over the same month in the previous year, leaving households living under the poverty line unable to meet the basic requirements of their nutrition needs. Historically, food prices have always gone up in Pakistan during Ramadan due to high demand. This is going to put further pressure on the already suffering poor strata of society.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

To contribute to ameliorating this situation in the targeted area of Sindh, this project proposed to distribute food packs to 495 households to help them spend the holy month of Ramadan in peace without having to worry about food.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

This distribution helped alleviate food insecurity, ensuring that families, especially those facing economic hardships and inflation, had access to nutritious food during a time of increased vulnerability. By reducing the financial burden on these households, the project also contributed to improving their overall well-being and ability to cope with the economic challenges.

Qurbani 2024

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

As of 2024, Pakistan faces significant malnutrition and hunger issues, with nearly 40% of children under five suffering from stunted growth due to chronic undernutrition. Food insecurity is exacerbated by economic instability, poverty, and climate change impacts on agriculture. The rural population, particularly in regions like Baluchistan and Sindh, is most affected. Government efforts and international aid are in place but are often insufficient to meet the widespread need. Comprehensive strategies addressing poverty, agricultural sustainability, and healthcare are crucial for long-term improvement.

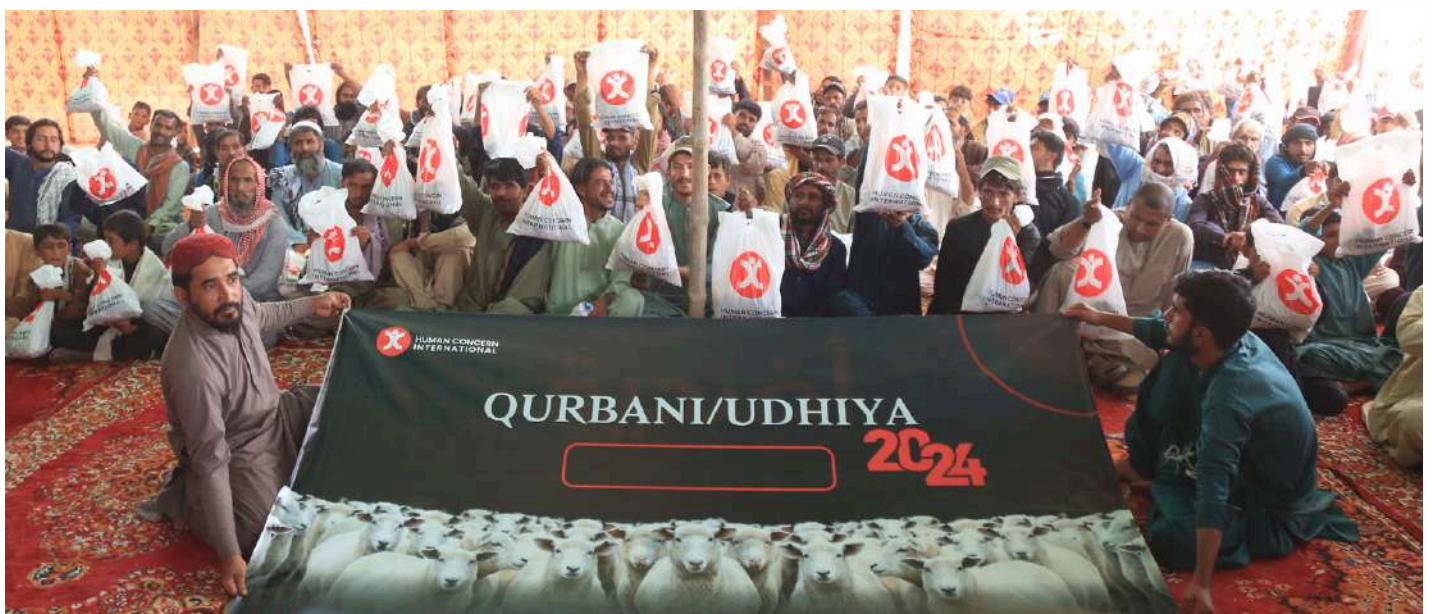
HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI distributed fresh meat to the most vulnerable families.



IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

HCI aimed to include poverty-stricken households in Khuzdar, Balochistan, in the auspicious celebrations of Eid Al Azha. The objective was to share blessings with economically challenged individuals, uplifting their emotional well-being and providing essential nutrition through the availability of meat during Eid days. To achieve these goals, HCI proposed the Qurbani sacrifice of 60 cows, totaling 420 shares and 7200 kg of meat. This initiative aimed to distribute 3 kg of sacrificial meat per household, enhancing the nutritional intake of 2400 households. Based on Esri Inc.'s data indicating an average household size of 6.4 individuals in Pakistan for 2022, the project was estimated to benefit approximately 7,550 children, 3,340 women, and 3,189 men, totaling around 14,073 individuals. Additionally, the proceeds from the animal hides would be used for the education of underprivileged children.



CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Child Support Program: Educational Sponsorship of 300 Orphans in Pakistan

Duration: 9 months

BACKGROUND

Pakistan ranks second globally for out-of-school children, with 22.6 million aged 5–16 not attending school 44% of all children, including 49% of girls and 40% of boys. Among children aged 5–9, 5 million are out of school, and this number doubles by ages 10–14. The Net Attendance Ratio (NAR) for primary school is just 59.9%, with only 52% completing it. Attendance drops further at middle and secondary levels (37% NAR). Many children can't enroll due to the absence of nearby schools or poor infrastructure lacking basic facilities. Even for those enrolled, poor teaching quality, lack of resources, and unsafe conditions contribute to high dropout rates and minimal learning, leading families to see little value in continuing education.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project, HCI sponsored 300 orphan children in Pakistan for their yearly educational needs. The project helped 300 poor and disadvantaged children who lost their parental love and care receive a quality education. This education is relevant and responsive to their needs. Under the supervision of experienced and trained teachers, it promoted peace, tolerance, understanding, life skills, and values in an enabling learning environment. Orphan children are protected and get regular access to free and quality education as a support towards a successful career.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project provided 300 orphaned and disadvantaged children in Pakistan with free, quality education in a supportive environment, fostering life skills, peace, and values. It ensured their protection, emotional well-being, and laid the foundation for a brighter, more secure future.



Child Sponsorship Program

Duration: 59 months

BACKGROUND

Pakistan holds the troubling position of being second in the world for the highest number of out-of-school children, with an estimated 22.6 million aged 5 to 16 not attending primary, middle, or secondary school—44% of all children, including 49% of girls and 40% of boys. Around 5 million children aged 5–9 are not enrolled, and this number rises sharply to 11.4 million among adolescents aged 10–14. School participation is low nationwide, with a Net Attendance Ratio (NAR) of just 59.9% at the primary level and a completion rate of only 52%. Middle and secondary school attendance is even lower at 37%. Many children are unable to attend school due to distance, while existing schools often lack basic infrastructure like toilets, clean water, and boundary walls. Even when enrolled, students face poor learning environments, with inadequate teaching quality, limited resources, and high dropout rates—one-third leave by grade 2. With little educational support and poor outcomes, many low-income families see no benefit in continuing formal education.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

Through this project, HCI sponsored 300 orphan children in Pakistan for their yearly educational needs. The project helped 300 poor and disadvantaged children who lost their parental love and care receive a quality education. This education is relevant and responsive to their needs. Under the supervision of experienced and trained teachers, it promoted peace, tolerance, understanding, life skills, and values in an enabling learning environment. Orphan children are protected and get regular access to free and quality education as a support towards a successful career.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project provided 300 orphaned and disadvantaged children in Pakistan with free, quality education in a supportive environment, fostering life skills, peace, and values. It ensured their protection, emotional well-being, and laid the foundation for a brighter, more secure future.



HEALTHCARE AND LIVELIHOOD

Restoration of Sight to 3401 Affected

Individuals

Duration: 3 months

BACKGROUND

The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) 2017 report states that the third leading impairment impacting individuals was blindness and vision impairment. Visual impairment decreases quality of life and can have additional negative effects on those suffering from chronic diseases. This is notable because vision impairment is treatable in many cases. Eye health is also internationally called for through the UN's Universal eye health: a global action plan 2014–2019. As a low-middle income country, Pakistan has made strides consistent with the World Bank development indicators; however, there is still a need to improve access for those who are unable to afford eye healthcare.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

This project provided free vision restoration cataract surgeries for poverty-stricken women in Punjab, Pakistan, over the course of six months. The surgeries took place in Khanewal, Arifwala, Pasrur, Shahpur, and along Lahore Multan Road. These five LRBT hospitals, located in remote and underprivileged areas, served communities with limited access to eyecare, primarily consisting of crop sharers struggling to make ends meet. The project benefited 3,401 impoverished individuals.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The project significantly improved the quality of life for 3,401 impoverished individuals by restoring their vision through cataract surgeries. Women who were previously unable to contribute to their households or move independently due to impaired vision regained their autonomy and dignity. The intervention reduced their dependency on others, enhanced their ability to work and care for their families, and allowed many to reintegrate into their communities as active, self-reliant members.

Self Sustainability of Skill

Development Center

Duration: 3 months

BACKGROUND

The Skill Development Center in Faisalabad, Pakistan, was set up to train women in stitching, aiming to prepare them for jobs in the city's textile mills and promote economic independence. However, most trainees used the skills for personal or local tailoring needs rather than formal employment. Due to financial constraints, many couldn't dedicate time to training without earning. Stakeholders concluded that offering earning opportunities during training could better motivate women to complete the program and pursue careers in the textile industry.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

The objectives of HCI's intervention were to provide training to females with the aim of helping them become self-reliant and earning members of their families, thereby gaining esteem within both their families and society. The training was also intended to prepare them for securing jobs or work opportunities with large textile mills.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The intervention had a positive and empowering impact on 50 beneficiaries. Through the training, many female participants gained valuable stitching skills that enhanced their confidence and sense of self-worth. The initiative enabled them to contribute to their households—either by stitching clothes for family members or by offering tailoring services within their communities. This not only helped reduce household expenses but also created small-scale income-generating opportunities. The program played a vital role in promoting self-reliance among women and laid the foundation for future economic participation, paving the way for greater independence and social recognition.

WINTER RELIEF

Winter Emergency Relief

2021

Duration: 3 months

BACKGROUND

Pakistan has extremely high vulnerability to climate change due to its extreme weather. The Global Climate Risk Index 1993–2012 has ranked Pakistan 12th in the list of countries most affected by extreme weather events. Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJ&K) is still facing the lack of availability of basic health facilities, quality education, proper housing structure and employment opportunities etc.. And despite the fact that AJK produces more than 2300 megawatts of electricity, power outages in the area last up to 10 hours a day. As a result, the region, including the capital Muzaffarabad, is experiencing load shedding. The whole of AJK, except for a few parts of the wealthy Mirpur district, is without piped gas supplies, forcing people to rely on cylinders or wood for cooking. If extreme winters hit on the same magnitude as last year, which according to BBC reached historic levels, with Astore valley receiving 100 years record-breaking snowfall, the people in the area will find it hard to even keep themselves warm.



HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI helped 180 families prone to the adverse effects of extreme weather conditions through intervention packages which contained the following items: jacket, winter dress, winter cap, winter gloves, socks and quilt.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

The initiative contributed to enhanced dignity, security, and health outcomes for those most at risk during extreme weather events.

Winter Relief for Flood-Affected Families in Pakistan

Duration: 1 month

BACKGROUND

Winter weather hit Pakistan early in November 2022, with snow and low temperatures directly impacting flood-affected families who were already vulnerable and resource-depleted. There is a heightened need for shelter, food items, and non-food items in Mirpurkhas, Sindh regions where climate change has caused greater strain on families due to extreme weather, and further flooding, extreme heat, and extreme cold is likely to be more frequent in the future.

HCI'S INTERVENTION

HCI provided winter relief packages to 115 flood affected families in Sindh province to help raise the resiliency of households through the winter months and in preparation for the winter 2023 season. Distribution included food staples, winter quilts, winter clothes for the family including the children, a heater with wooden pellets.

IMPACT ON BENEFICIARIES

Access to food staples, warm clothing, quilts, and heating supplies reduced health risks associated with cold exposure, particularly for children and the elderly. The assistance strengthened household resilience, improved overall well-being, and offered a sense of security as families recovered from the devastating floods and prepared for the winter season.





Your support is crucial in sustaining our mission to deliver vital aid and long-term development assistance to the people of Pakistan. Together, we are creating meaningful change and improving lives during these challenging times. Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment.



Website

[www.https://humanconcern.org/](https://humanconcern.org/)



Email

info@humanconcern.org

CHARITY NO. 1206222

f @ @ @hcicanada

