Pakistan

Head Office: Islamabad

Where We Work: Balochistan Province, Khyber Pakhtoon Khwa Province, Sindh Province

People We Serve: more than 600,000 Afghan and Pakistani refugees in Surkhab, Saranan and Mohammad Khail refugee camps

Current Grant Funding for Programs: 1,583,855 USD

HIGHLIGHTS

- In response to the 2010 flood, ARC facilitated 156 hygiene promotions for 6,000 individuals, installed 119 hand pumps to provide safe drinking water to 13,950 community members, and constructed 1399 latrines to provide coverage for up to 10,000 individuals
- In partnership with UNHCR, ARC restored and updated a reproductive health unit that serves a population of 460,000 people
- In 2010-2011, ARC provided response and psychosocial support to flood affected persons who experienced gender based violence (GBV) in 8 districts of KP and Balochistan

Since the 1970's, three million Afghan refugees have fled into Pakistan to escape drought, and constant conflict and threats. ARC has provided health care and other services to these refugees since establishing operations in Pakistan in 2002. In addition to being a refuge for persons displaced by ongoing conflicts, in the past decade ARC has provided services to Pakistanis following several natural disasters: earthquakes in 2005 and 2008 and floods in 2007, 2010 and 2011.

In refugee and emergency situations, ARC responds with clean water/sanitation/hygiene (WASH) systems, emergency medical care, medical supplies, food, shelter, sanitation, GBV prevention and treatment, psycho-social support and protection services. ARC also provides primary and comprehensive reproductive healthcare and livelihood opportunities. Partnerships with local community organizations are essential to ARC’s approach. ARC works to build the capacity of existing organizations and ensure they have the technical and operational support to resume and sustain future disaster resilience and sustainable development.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In 2005, ARC was one of the few INGOs able to launch a rapid emergency response in the first 48 hours after the massive earthquake that shattered communities through mountainous northern Pakistan. Program efforts were focused on working with 250,000 people in their communities to rebuild clinical health services and WASH systems. ARC also launched an Emergency Response and Recovery Program in June 2009 to assist 250,000 survivors of the Swat Valley conflict with essential life sustaining programs that provide medical care, GBV response activities, and safe and sanitary living conditions. ARC provided emergency and early recovery support to 80,000 people of Pakistan who were impacted by the July 2010 floods in Khyber Pakhtoon Khwa, Baluchistan and Sindh. In 2011, ARC responded to flooding in Sindh province by providing shelter assistance and health services.

SHELTER
ARC supports the creation of sound temporary structures meeting international standards that can provide protection from changing weather patterns and transition into traditional homes. To the extent possible, shelter materials are reused by the community for construction of permanent houses.

In the shelter-building process, ARC:
- Targets extremely vulnerable families such as widows, children, and elders;
- Mobilizes communities to obtain salvaged material;
- Conducts training in construction and seismic awareness; and
- Utilizes skilled and unskilled laborers and encourages community participation.

In response to the 2010 flood, ARC constructed emergency and transitional shelter for 2,000 households in Balochistan province; 200 in Sibi, 800 in Naserabad and 1,000 in Jafferabad.

LIVELIHOODS

In the area of livelihoods, ARC provides Afghan men and women with life skills and technical training that will allow
them to be more self-sufficient whether they return to Afghanistan or choose to stay in Pakistan. ARC helps develop marketable and technical trade skills among Afghan refugees and host communities.

In partnership with the government, ARC is improving existing skill centers. Courses include technical trades that are in demand in both the Afghan and Pakistan construction sector such as masonry, woodwork, plumbing, domestic electric fittings, welding, motor winding, AC/refrigerator repair and auto repair. Women are targeted by introducing new skills, such as basic numeracy/accounting, entrepreneurship and savings. Target beneficiaries include 120 men and 120 women. Vulnerable groups such as widows, women-headed households, especially large families and disabled members will be prioritized. After successfully completing the basic training course, graduates receive a starter kit for income generation based on the relevant skills learned.

Apart from the technical skills trainings for women and men, English and computer learning centers are supported to improve their effectiveness and impact on livelihood opportunities of Afghan refugees.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

ARC’s multi-sectoral WASH programs focus on strengthening sanitation and water infrastructure, allowing communities to restore the availability of safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene practices. To ensure local ownership and successful operation and maintenance of WASH infrastructure, communities are involved in planning, designing, implementation and supervision.

HEALTH

ARC works in partnership with local health systems to strengthen existing services through provision of infrastructure repair and rehabilitation, equipment and supply replenishment, and staff capacity building. ARC trains Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) to provide skilled services in GBV, HIV prevention/treatment, reproductive health, mother and child care, and prevention/treatment for common diseases such as malaria and diarrhea. To date, ARC has established or renovated 25 health facilities with provision of electrical and medical equipment and served 197,427 individuals in emergency obstetrics, HIV/AIDS awareness, adolescent reproductive health, and programs to address GBV.

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