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Ghiras Editorial



This edition of Ghiras includes a variety of perspectives on a number of issues, but our prioritizing of refugees and the displaced remains a big focus for us. In addition to the allocation of more than QAR 36 million (USD 9.9 million) at the beginning of 2015, Qatar Charity relief teams provided support for refugees during the numerous snow storms and sponsored the 'Third Conference on Syrian Refugees in Lebanon', which was held in Istanbul in February 2015. During this conference, Qatar Charity committed to implement a number of projects in cooperation with partners and at a cost of over QAR 40 million (USD 11.0). The total expenditure of Qatar Charity in assistance to the Syrian people from April 2011 until January 2015 amounted to QAR 205 million (USD 56.2), benefitting 4.2 million people.

Believing that everyone in the community should be involved in voluntary work and that their capacities should be used in mobilizing support for humanitarian action, the 'Competitors 2' team implemented several unique projects on the Syrian-Turkish borders, one of which was an portable bakery. Qatar Charity also benefited from the support of a number of celebrities (media professionals, athletes and preachers) as part of the 'Snafi' and 'Gust of Wind' programs. The celebrities were appointed as Qatar Charity ambassadors, and will work with students in marketing charitable projects through community innovation. In this issue the reader will learn about four prizes that Qatar Charity has been awarded at the Qatari and Gulf States levels over the last four months. The awards came in appreciation of Qatar Charity's unique efforts, projects and services in the field of humanitarian work and for its distinction in modern electronic applications. Such technology adds significant value to the work of Qatar Charity and encourages us to continue to strive to keep up-to-date with technological development while recognizing maintaining organizational excellence can in fact be harder than working towards it.

Our readers will get the chance to read all about our new campaigns and the important projects being implemented, such as the Al-Aqsa Waqf Campaign and will also benefit from academic and translated articles in addition to interviews and columns which contribute to disseminating and enriching the culture of humanitarian work.

In regards to distribution, there have been significant developments: in addition to the usual print version, the latest edition of Ghiras was distributed by email to 18,000 subscribers, and we are looking forward to sending more copies in this manner over the coming months, meaning that we are able to reach even more people, spreading the word about the plight of the needy across the world and what we can do to help.

Chief Executive Officer

Yousef Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari

#علمني

التعليم حق أساسي. هذا مانصّ عليه الإعلان العالمي لحقوق الإنسان. لذا، نحن في برنامج "علم طفلاً" التابع لمؤسسة "التعليم فوق الجميع"، وبالشراكة مع قطر الخيرية، نحاول مساعدة أكثر من 10 مليون طفل محروم من التعليم الابتدائي في مناطق مختلفة من العالم.

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Ghiras

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The Secretary General of the Federation of Relief and Development Organizations in Lebanon explains...
The Tragic Reality Facing the Syrian Refugee in Lebanon

14



Helping out closer to home...
Qatar Charity Distributes Winter Bags to 600 Low-Income Workers in Qatar

22



Being helped through the Ra'd program...
Meet Adam Awashira from Palestine

24

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Qatar Charity fieldtrips coincided with a major snowstorm

Projects for Displaced and Refugee Syrians Valued at Tens of Millions

Qatar Charity announced, at the beginning of 2015, the allocation of QAR 36.5 million (USD 10 million) for the relief of the Syrian people.

The announcement was made in conjunction with the allocation of QAR 2 million (USD 550,000) emergency aid for over 73,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon and on the Turkish-Syrian border, enabling them to face the winter storm dubbed 'Huda' that hammered the Levant in January.

Donations

Qatar Charity has seen donations from Qatari benefactors flooding in, with the collected funds going

towards relief projects for Syrians, with a focus on those inside the country. These projects included the 'Before They Freeze' campaign which raised QAR 33 million (USD 9.1 million) up until the end of January 2015.

Qatar Charity is working to implement projects that help mitigate the worsening conditions of the Syrian people at home, particularly the growing numbers of displaced persons, who are proving difficult to reach for humanitarian and charitable organizations.

Model villages

The construction of a new

model village, the fourth of its kind, providing all the necessary services for the population, is currently in the final stages of completion. The village will provide housing for 100 Syrian families, amounting to around 600 people, helping alleviate their suffering by providing them with fully equipped temporary shelter.

Distinguished facilities and services

The village is comprised of 100 apartments (caravans) with each apartment covering an area of 17.5 square meters, in addition to a communal kitchen measuring 70 square



meters, a 140 square meter mosque, a 140 square meter school, bathrooms for men and women, laundry facilities, playgrounds for children and separate water distribution and garbage collection points. The caravans are fully equipped with carpets, mattresses, blankets, pillows and kitchen equipment, and include free daily meals, education services, primary health care, religious lessons and laundry services for residents.

Qatar Charity is expected to announce the establishment of a number of other similar villages in the coming months.

Focus on the interior

Approximately 57 % of aid provided by Qatar Charity aid has been directed inside Syria, due to the harsh conditions the growing number of displaced people are experiencing and difficulties of access.

Project priority has been focussed on the provision of life-saving food and medicine. More than 34 % of the total aid distributed was food, 33 % was spent on health projects, 25 % on shelter and non-food items

Allocation of QAR 36.5 million (USD 10 million) for the relief of the Syrian people at the beginning of 2015 Qatar Charity's 'Before They Freeze' campaign for the benefit of affected Syrians raises QAR 33 million (USD 9.1 million) up until January 2015

and 68 % on education.

Aid distribution

Qatar Charity recently distributed a large batch of urgent aid to Syrian refugees across Lebanon, with a focus on Arsal, the Shebaa Farms and the Syrian-Turkish border. The aid was intended to meet the most urgent needs of the refugees and included heaters, heating fuel, blankets, carpets, tents, mattresses, pillows, warm clothing and medicines for children. In addition mobile medical clinics were established

at a cost of QAR 2 million (USD 550,000).

Winter aid

In addition to this continuing aid, Qatar Charity provided additional emergency aid for Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Iraq, at a cost of over QAR 2 million (USD 550,000) in order to alleviate the effects of the cold weather by providing them with heating and shelter support.

Qatar Charity is also distributing food to refugees in camps in the Bekaa Valley and the north of Lebanon, expected to benefit around 500 Syrian families for a period of six months.

This support will include the sponsorship of 50 families that include orphans or widows.

Qatar Charity will also establish an integrated charity market in the Ashiqaa Camp in the Bekaa region, providing basic services to the population of the camp at the lowest possible price, in addition to providing jobs for unemployed residents.

One of the most important projects that falls within the allocated amount of QAR 36.5 million (USD 10 million) is the purchase and installation of an electric elevator at a medical complex in Arsal. Other vital projects include a sewing project in Armoun residential complex, the 'Pillar of Life' campaign to support camps housing Syrian refugee families, such as the Mercy Camp in Akkar, 'Support', a project to support productive Syrian refugee families and involve the distribution of 5000 daily meals in the Bekaa and Arsal.

Health projects

Qatar Charity also implemented health projects for the benefit of displaced Syrians inside Syria, including a project to vaccinate millions of children against polio and measles, at a cost of approximately QAR 2 million (USD 550,000). Another project for the treatment of sick and wounded Syrian refugees at



Allocation of QAR 36.5 million for the relief of the Syrian people at the beginning of 2015

a cost of QAR 1 million (USD 225,000) was also begun, in addition to oxygen generating and filling station for several hospitals inside Syria. The charity has also established a three-month psychological support program for 500 Syrian refugee children in the north of Lebanon and the province of Akkar.

Convoys for Syrian interior

Other recent charitable projects for people displaced within Syrian and refugees outside the country, include a

convoy of 11 trucks carrying food aid, clothing and winter clothing especially for children, the implementation of agricultural projects in Syria related to the cultivation of wheat and potatoes for the benefit of hundreds of thousands of Syrians as well as the sponsorship of 15 Syrian refugee centers in Lebanon. In addition, Qatar Charity has established numerous educational centers and sponsored a number of international conferences focused on better

coordination and response to the Syrian crises.

Field delegations

Delegations have also been sent to distribute emergency relief aid to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries following a wave of snowstorms that hit the area. Members of the Qatar Charity delegation in Jordan reported successful continuation of distributions in a number of areas, including Mafraq Governorate and Zaatari Camp, benefitting hundreds of people, particularly children,



who received clothing including shoes and hats, meat, other food, clothes and blankets. The Qatar Charity delegation which visited the refugee camps in Jordan included both Abdul Aziz Al-Mohannadi and Sheikh Lashkar Shahwani with 20,000 people are expected to benefit from the provided assistance over the coming period. The delegation explained that the conditions of the Syrian refugees necessitate the concerted efforts of all philanthropists.

'Before They Freeze' campaign

The 'Before They Freeze' campaign continues, focusing on refugees and displaced persons affected by the current cold weather, carried out in cooperation with hashtag «#سندسند» The campaign also involves the collection of winter clothing, electric generators, blankets and other means of heating, and children's games.

Qatar Charity's 'Before They Freeze' campaign for the benefit of affected Syrians raises QAR 33 million up until January

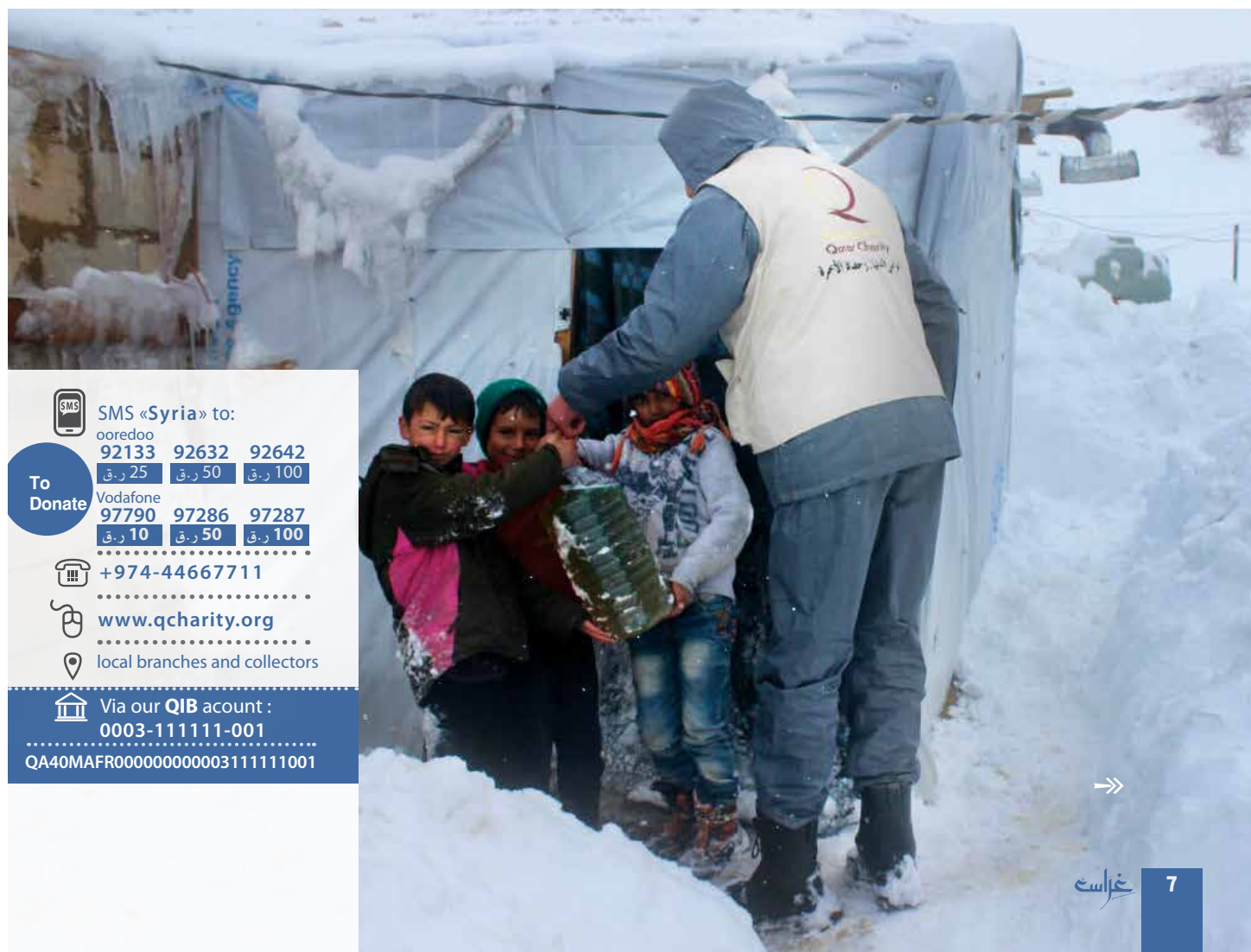
In-kind donations
Qatar Charity urges all Qatari benefactors and philanthropists to participate in the campaign by making cash or in-kind donations via the hot lines from Duhail area to the north on 66348510, Rayan and its suburbs on 66314798, Doha and its suburbs on 66448212 and Al-Wakra and its suburbs on 66467838.

Donate to the campaign

You can also call the hotlines 55524646 and 70700792, and

the call center on 44667711, as well as donating via the Qatar Charity website qcharity.org, where donors can purchase shares, and can donate as little or as much as they wish, with a caravan without services priced at QAR 2500 and QAR 2700 with services.

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Qatar Charity Allocates QAR 32 Million (USD 8.8 Million) for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

Qatar Charity has allocated QAR 32 million (USD 8.8 million) for the implementation of projects for Syrian refugees in Lebanon, out of a total QAR 40 million (USD 11 million).

The projects included the establishment and equipping a model village, economic empowerment programs, a medical support fund and the development of certain areas. The announcement was made at the charity evening, which was held on the sidelines of the third conference to study the situation of Syrians in Lebanon, held in Istanbul, 5 to 7 February 2015, organized by the Federation of Relief and Development Organizations in Lebanon, and hosted by Qatar Charity in cooperation with the Turkish NGO IHH. The event was held in the presence of 200 figures representing more than 60 local, international, Arab and Islamic organizations. The projects will be

implemented in cooperation with partners such as the Organization of Islamic Dawa, Human Appeal and the Federation of Relief and Development Organizations in Lebanon and cover the areas of health, shelter, food and psychological support.

'Ray of Hope' village

Qatar Charity also announced its intention to build and equip a village at a cost of QAR 16.4 million (USD 4.5 million) within the framework of the 'Ray of Hope' program, which is implemented by the Federation of Relief Associations in Lebanon, as well as the allocation of QAR 1.8 million (USD 500,000) for the economic empowerment program 'Productive Family' which is also implemented as part of 'Ray of Hope'. Qatar Charity has also allocated QAR 1.8 million (USD 500,000) to support a medical fund in order to provide medicines and treatment for sick and wounded Syrian

refugees in Lebanon, and will also support 'Smiles', a special psychological support program for children.

'Five Fingers' program

Qatar Charity has also allocated QAR 2 million (USD 550,000) for the 'Five Fingers' program, an integrated development project, aimed at the development of five areas of Lebanon containing the highest numbers of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. The areas are in Aarsal, in remote places surrounded by mountains and lack of roads and infrastructure and are as follows: Rabbit Valley, Al-Hisn Valley, Atta Valley, Babain and Wara Al-Hafr areas.

Joint projects

Qatar Charity and the Organization of the Islamic Dawa are also financing a number of joint projects for the benefit of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, including the model village for the injured and widows.



Qatar Charity CEO Yusuf Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari gave a speech at the opening of the conference in which he said that Qatar Charity, on the occasion of this conference, renewed its absolute commitment to continuing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Syrian people. He explained that it confirms the statistics from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) that Qatar Charity was the first non-governmental organization in the world in terms of the volume of aid raised from its own sources to assist the Syrian people in 2012, 2013 and 2014 in 2014, which exceeded QAR 205 million (USD 56.3 million) and covered projects in the areas of shelter, health, food, water and sanitation and education, among others. Secretary General of the Federation of Relief and Development Organizations in Lebanon, Sheikh Ahmed Al-

Omari, gave his sincere thanks to Qatar Charity, the official sponsor of the conference, for its significant efforts for the benefit of the Syrian people, particularly refugees. He also expressed his thanks to IHH, which co-sponsored the conference, adding that Lebanon has the largest number of refugees in the world, in relation to its area, size and capabilities, noting that the Federation seeks to provide shelter and most essential needs for 25% of these refugees during the 2015.

At the end of opening, the Federation of Relief and Development Organizations in Lebanon presented special shields to honor Qatar Charity as the official sponsor of the conference, in addition to some of the participants.

Workshops

The delegates discussed papers and organized workshops, with themes including: the situation of the wounded and sick, urgent relief and humanitarian needs,

shelter, education (covering educational problems and education as a priority strategy), the psychological situation, the role of relief organizations in transforming a refugee from consumption to production as well as the role of international organizations.

Second conference

Qatar Charity sponsored the second conference of the Syrian refugees a year ago, allocating around QAR 14 million (USD 3.8 million) for the benefit of refugee projects, specifically for the completion of the construction of schools, the management of and support for health centers and medical complexes and the establishment of a center for psychological support to meet the needs of refugee children in Lebanon as well as other project that met the urgent and essential needs of the refugees.



مدیته الریان الإنسانية للسوريين -RAYAN HUMANITARIAN CITY FOR SYRIAN ID

حفل توقيع الاتفاقية، إسطنبول 5 فبراير 2015
Signing Ceremony, Istanbul, Feb 5th 2015



Qatar Charity and IHH to Provide Accommodation for 7000 Displaced Syrians

Qatar Charity and the Turkish NGO IHH will provide accommodation for 7000 displaced Syrians.

Al-Rayyan City, which is expected to reach completion within 6 months, will include 10 villages, each containing

100 residential units, valued at QAR 44 million (USD 12.1 million) and managed by the beneficiaries themselves.

The agreement between Qatar Charity and IHH was signed by Qatar Charity CEO Yusuf Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari and

IHH's Bulent Yildirim at the IHH headquarters in Istanbul, Turkey. Under the agreement Qatar Charity will allocate QAR 33 million (USD 9.1 million) for the establishment of this city, while IHH will provide QAR 7 million (USD 1.9 million) and



oversee the management and implementation of the project.

Distinguished partnership

During the signing ceremony in early February 2015, Yildirim said in a press statement that the city comes in response to Qatar Charity and IHH's focus on the suffering of the Syrian people and their most vital need of shelter.

Yildirim gave his sincere thanks to what he named their "outstanding partner", Qatar Charity, on their significant humanitarian efforts across the world, particularly their prioritizing of the Syrian people. Al-Kuwari similarly praised IHH's efforts in solidarity with the Syrian people, expressing his pleasure at working with such a

prestigious organization and the signing of such a major project, hoping that it will be the first of many such initiatives.

Environment friendly

Al-Rayyan City will house Syrians displaced on the Syrian-Turkish border with each unit being built on an area of around 17.5 square meters, with a width of 2.5 meters, a length of 7 meters and a height of 2.5 meters and consisting of two rooms, accommodating families of 6 to 7 people. Each unit will come fully equipped with mattresses, blankets, heaters, water tanks, garbage disposal, portable wardrobes and cooking utensils. The city will also include a number of services and facilities including 30 classrooms, a

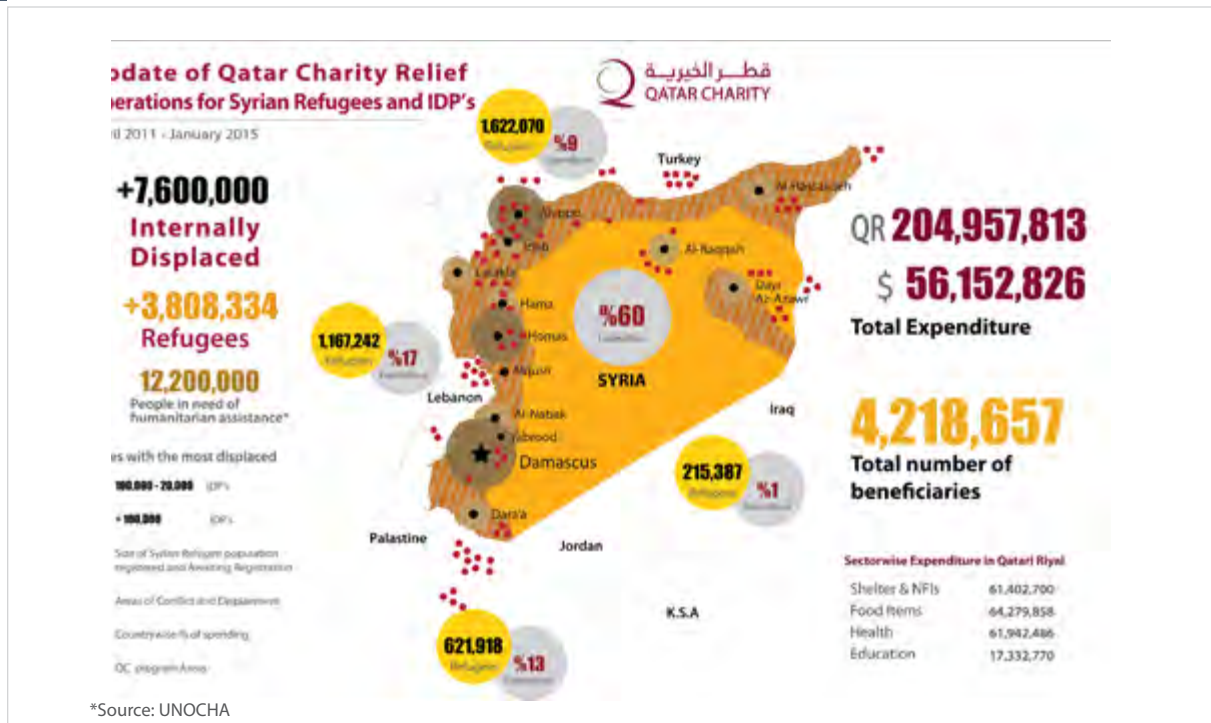
health clinic and administrative offices for the management of the camp and play space for the children. The camp will be surrounded by a security fence and will be environmentally friendly, using solar power.

Speedy implementation

The land on which the city will be built has already been purchased and the project will be implemented in three stages with the homes being delivered in an orderly manner until completion in six months.

The city will be run by the residents themselves, with each village choosing ten representatives who then chose a general supervisor of the city's affairs.





Qatar Charity Spends QAR 205 Million (USD 56.3 Million) for the Benefit of 4.2 Million Syrians

Qatar Charity projects valued at QAR 205 million (USD 56.3 million) helped 4.2 million displaced and refugee Syrians between April 2011 and January 2015.

These projects covered a wide-range of sectors including education, health, food and shelter. Nearly 59% of the aid was directed inside Syria at a cost of around QAR 121.2 million (USD 33.3 million). The remainder supported refugees in the neighboring countries of Jordan, where 13% of the amount (QAR 26.9 million - USD 7.4 million) was spent, Lebanon where 17% (QAR 34.7 million - USD 9.5 million) was spent and Turkey where 9% (QAR 19 million - USD 5.2 million) was spent, while 2%, equivalent to around QAR 3.3 million - USD 900,000, was split between Iraq and other countries hosting

Syrian refugees.

Shelter

Regarding shelter and non-food items, Qatar Charity spent approximately QAR 61.4 million (USD 16.9 million) for the benefit of 419,000 refugee and displaced Syrians. This amount covered a number of projects, including the establishment of villages for the displaced, payments of rent and the distribution of items such as blankets, refrigerators, toiletries, fans, and mattresses.

Food aid

In the food sector, Qatar Charity has implemented projects valued at QAR 64.3 million (USD 17.7 million) for the benefit of 1,878,985 people, with projects

including food distribution and the equipping, construction and operation of bakeries.

Health and Education

In the area of health, Qatar Charity provided treatment for thousands of wounded and sick Syrians, as well as providing medical equipment and supplies and the provision of ambulances to transport the wounded and sick to health centers. The cost of these projects approached QAR 62 million (USD 17 million) for the benefit of nearly 1.8 million displaced and refugee Syrians. In the area of educational projects, Qatar Charity covered the educational needs of schools for Syrian refugees in Turkey at a cost of over QAR 17.3 million (USD 4.8 million) for the benefit of 124,980.



Qatar Charity Kosovo Training Center Earns International Training License

Qatar Charity Kosovo's training center has been awarded an international license to train in Autodesk global programs. Autodesk is a group of specialized programs in the fields of architecture, architectural planning, mechanical engineering, decoration and design, design media and animated simulations, and enables student to gain an internationally accredited certification in the field of software.

This training center is the first and the only to receive an INFINIT license in Kosovo.

Qatar Charity Kosovo held a special ceremony to celebrate the granting of the license. The event was attended by a large number of scientists and officials,

including university professors and heads of departments, ministry staff, officials of engineering companies, designers, engineers and university students.

The license is considered a significant success for Qatar Charity Kosovo in dissemination of modern skills and the development of Kosovar society.

During his speech at the ceremony, Mahmoud Abbas Shaker, Qatar Charity Kosovo Director praised the organization's recent achievements in Kosovo during the past period, which he named as, "fruitful and distinct", saying: "Today represents a big success as this certificate will enable students to use Autodesk software and improve their careers."

"It also gives students the self-confidence to complete their academic study and help them by awarding them with professional certifications," he added.

The ceremony included a variety of activities including a video highlighting the work of the center, the services provided to the trainees, and the method and means of delivery, which was followed by a detailed presentation on the Autodesk software, outlining the potential and benefit of the process in various fields and what it represents in terms of additional expertise to the students.

At the end of the ceremony the first batch of graduation certificates for students trained in the 3D MAX program were distributed.

Secretary General of the Federation of Relief and Development Organizations in Lebanon:

The Reality of the Syrian Refugee in Lebanon is Tragic Because Hosting is Not Regulated by Official Bodies

On the sidelines of the third conference to study the situation of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, organized by the Federation of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon, and held in Istanbul, in February 2015, under the auspices of Qatar Charity, Ghiras met with Sheikh Ahmad Al-Omari, Secretary-General of the Federation. We asked him his thoughts on the conference, the differences between the first and second editions, the most important needs of the Syrian refugee in Lebanon and the Federation's priorities in the coming period.

What are your thoughts on the third conference to study the situation of Syrian refugees in Lebanon sponsored by Qatar Charity in Istanbul? What would you say was the most important outcome of this conference?

With the grace and help of God Almighty, we were able to organize this third conference under the patronage of Qatar Charity, in the Turkish city of Istanbul. A number of important themes were covered in the conference sessions, which came from the best scientific minds and social figures; all leaders in their fields. Priorities for each subject were presented, covering health, relief, social, educational, emotional and legal issues.

We must not stop or despair because of the longevity of the crisis

The most important outputs of the conference:

1. The transition from the first stage, which involved understanding the reality of refugees and establishing their needs and providing a variety of relief, to the development, construction and leadership phase.
2. Focus on the social and

fraternal connections between the Syrian and Lebanese peoples through the productive village project.

3. Attention to the most disadvantaged in the badly affected regions such as Aarsal; hence the idea of the 'Five Fingers', an integrated development project for the area.

4. The continued support of donor institutions for our Syrian brothers in Lebanon in light of their difficult circumstances, and implementing development projects. Qatar Charity comes at the top of those donor institutions.

5. The focus of the project on all aspects (medical, developmental, educational and psychological).

What marks the difference between the first and second editions of the conference?

The third conference is distinguished from its predecessor by:

- Good support and focus on essential needs
- Qualitative attendance from global institutions and personalities
- Accuracy of organization and distribution of workshops commensurate with specialists

What is the importance of this kind of conference?

This kind of conference helps us to exchange experiences and provide appropriate solutions to the main obstacles in relief work.

What are the priorities of the



We should not stop or despair because of the longevity of the crisis

Federation right now? As well, what are the biggest obstacles you face?

Our current priorities are securing support for the transition from absorbing the largest share of the refugees to intensive care and attention to qualitative and sustainable development stage by stage.

Our biggest obstacles are lack of support, delays in the arrival of aid especially at times of emergency and poor coordination with some official agencies.

How would you describe the reality of Syrian refugees in Lebanon? What are their most important needs?

The reality of the Syrian refugees in Lebanon is tragic because the hosting process is not regulated by the state, and this is the biggest responsibility of the Federation. No doubt, the security implications that cause fear and anxiety to the refugees.

What about your partnership with

The Federation's priority in projects for Syrian refugees is for the transition to sustainable development

Qatar Charity? What are the most important manifestations and achievements of this relationship?

Our partnership with Qatar Charity is based on the mutual trust, commitment and standards of the two organizations, and we are both keen to increase health, educational and psychological development projects.

Are you currently working on any joint projects concerning the future of Syrian refugees or in the context of humanitarian work in general?

Yes, we have joint projects in the model camps, health institutions and quality schools.

What is required of humanitarian

institutions, charities and philanthropists in general,

whether they are businesspersons, government officials, or private individuals, in regards to the Syrian people, and humanitarian work in general?

Humanitarian and charitable institutions need to increase their efforts and support for the Syrians in Lebanon and continue with their support and look for development projects that mitigate the crisis.

What is your assessment of the performance of civil society organizations, private charities and institutions in the Arab world with respect to the Syrian crisis?

The performance of Arab civil society has sadly been infected with laziness and apathy, owing to the longevity of the crisis. Therefore, it is important to remind people that good and righteous deeds do not stop as long as they are needed. However, associations and organizations play a substantial role and provide support for different projects.

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Oxymoron or a Necessary new Reality??

By Olivier Delarue, Lead, UNHCR Innovation, February 2015 ,18

Innovation is nothing new. Since the beginning of humanity, we humans have innovated. And by that I mean we've continually adapted ourselves and have found new ways to cope with complex challenges and crises, all the while improving our daily lives.

The word 'innovation' emerged

more than 100 years ago, and 50 years later the private sector started to codify innovation as a process. The industrial and service worlds have truly honed the concept of innovation as a necessary reality within the competitive nature of the free market.

Fundamentally speaking,

companies have to innovate or die.

In the public and NGO sectors, in the United Nations systems or, more precisely, in the humanitarian world, the word innovation is perceived as an exception, not the rule. Whenever I talk about innovation and UNHCR, the initial reaction is



always a perplexed yet polite smile followed by, "UN and innovation. Really? No... really?!"

Let's unpack this.

While it may appear so, the reality is much more complex. Let's take UNHCR as an example: one of the largest humanitarian organizations in the world, which, over 65 years of existence, has faced enormous odds and hardship yet managed to find solutions to protect and care for over 60 million people forced to flee their homes because of conflict or persecution.

Faced with unprecedented emergencies, UNHCR staff adapted themselves and found solutions to impossible situations. They innovated.

They innovated in the face of some

of this century's worst humanitarian crises, ranging from the aftermath of WWII, the Cambodian and Vietnam crises in the 60's, to the more than 12 million refugees fleeing the India-Pakistan conflict in the 70's. From the one million Rwandans crossing into the Democratic Republic of Congo in less than a week, the Bosnia crisis where staff heroically provided relief to a stranded population across mine fields in Sarajevo, to the current Syria crisis.

So why is it, then, that innovation and UNHCR is considered an oxymoron?

As I see it, there are three main reasons. First, over the years, as UNHCR staff would initiate an incremental or disruptive solution in the field, we missed the opportunity to document, evaluate, and share these as good practices across the organization. Second, we haven't as yet incorporated into management practice the process of learning from setbacks, mistakes, and wrong assumptions. And third, the budgetary rigidity of an organization like UNHCR makes experimentation difficult. The controlled risk associated with the process of rapid prototyping has not been endorsed as a natural process.

What is true for UNHCR is very much the case for the rest of the humanitarian ecosystem. And, to add to all the complexities that make innovation particularly challenging in our sector is our tendency to work in silos. This has led to the disturbing phenomena of reinventing the wheel and not learning from lessons. The humanitarian system has for too long tolerated the syndrome of the "pilot project". Symptoms of this syndrome include starting pilot project 2# without learning why pilot project 1# failed, or starting from scratch rather than iterating. The good news is that the humanitarian sector knows that 'business as usual' is no longer sustainable, especially as we continue to confront crises of increasing complexity in

increasingly insecure environments. And, as a whole, we are starting to embrace the concept of innovation as a management priority. From a taxpayer perspective, every effort should be made to find better, faster, cheaper, and more impactful interventions to provide relief to the millions of survivors of conflicts and natural disasters.

This is where innovation management comes in. Very much like the private sector, innovation management is about creating an enabling environment in which organizational leadership values innovation as a core function; an environment in which staff are encouraged to innovate and are rewarded for doing so. Several UN agencies are embracing innovation management, as is evidenced by setting up dedicated innovation units. These innovation units, like UNHCR Innovation, are established not to own innovation, but facilitate and manage the innovation process across field operations.

As a sector, while there is still much discussion around what a complete framework for managing the innovation process should look like, we are beginning to have a sense of what some of the individual components of that framework should be. These include setting up systems and tools for enabling rapid prototyping; securing flexible and dedicated funding to enable the design and adoption of new practices; and driving a human-centered design approach to new solutions, where the end-user (survivors of crises) are continually consulted for their opinion and feedback.

This new reality within the UN system is the result of good leadership. Luckily at UNHCR we have a High Commissioner and a Deputy High Commissioner who both understand the necessity for innovation within the agency. Without good leaders and partners to champion the necessity of innovation and innovation management, we are likely to continually hear, "UN and innovation. Really, no really?"

Qatar Charity Wins Prestigious Awards

Qatar Charity recently won two prestigious awards. The first award was the 'Award of Excellence in the Field of Care for Orphans in the Gulf Cooperation Council (Kafil) for 2014', awarded by the Regional Network for Social Responsibility in the Kingdom of Bahrain, in cooperation with regional organizations and international bodies. The award was presented to Qatar Charity CEO Yusuf Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, on behalf of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Nasser Bin Jassem Al-Thani.

The award was presented at a ceremony held at the beginning of a forum on the training of leaders and experts in care for orphans in the Gulf Cooperation Council, held at the Diplomat Hotel in Manama, Bahrain i held 29-28 December 2014. This forum was held in collaboration with the humanitarian sector management of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Programme of the Global Compact of the United Nations, sponsored by His Excellency Ahmad Bin Ibrahim Al-Mulla, Chairman of the House of Representatives of Bahrain, under the patronage of Sheikh Hisham Bin Abdul-Rahman Al-Khalifa, Governor of the province of Manama.

The award came in recognition of Qatar Charity's role in support of programs, events and services for the financial, educational, and recreational care of orphans and other needy groups.

Social responsibility

Qatar Charity also won 'Dar Al-Sharq' award, in the category of civil society organizations for social responsibility, 2014. Qatar Charity was one of ten institutions selected across a number of sectors.

Al-Kuwari was presented with this award by His Excellency Salah Bin Ghanim Al-Ali, Minister of Youth and Sports and Vice President of the 'Support' Fund, in a special ceremony organized by 'Dar Al Sharq' under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Abdullah Bin Saud Al-Thani, Governor of the Central Bank, in the presence of His Excellency Mohammed Bin Ahmed Bin Towar Al-Kuwari, Vice Chairman of the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Abdul Latif Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, CEO of Dar Al-

Sharq which organized the award.

Qatar Charity received this award for excellence in initiatives in terms of positive interaction with the real needs of beneficiaries.





Qatar Charity to Establish Largest Hospital Building in the Gaza Strip

Qatar Charity has signed an agreement for the preparation of the detailed drawings of the internal medicine hospital building to be located in the

Al-Shifa Hospital Complex in Gaza City. The project is the first of its kind and is supported by a coalition of local and international consultants at a cost of QAR 582,000 (USD 160,000). The hospital building will be the largest health building in the Gaza Strip, with a capacity of 432 beds, with overall area of 20,000 square meters. The building will include several internal medicine departments, including kidney dialysis, an intensive care unit, general internal medicine, a department of neurology, a department of endoscopy, a heart department, a department of haematology, oncology, and other departments, as well as a laboratory, pharmacy and other ancillary services. The current internal medicine building used was built about 60

years ago and no longer meets the requirements of patients. The replacement was at the top of the priorities included within the five-year health plan of the Ministry of Health that was prepared half way through last year.

Qatar Charity is implementing a number of health projects in the Gaza Strip, at a total cost of more than QAR 43 million (USD 11.8 million) benefitting more than 366,200 Palestinians. These projects include the donation of ambulances, rehabilitation and maintenance of health centers, the provision of medical equipment and generators to twenty health centers and supporting costs related to the provision of artificial limbs and wheelchairs



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Qatar Charity Lays Foundation Stone for ISESCO Educational Center in Chad

Qatar Charity has laid the foundation stone for a new Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) educational center it has part-funded in the Chadian capital of N'Djamena. The center will provide teacher training for primary school Arabic teachers, benefitting

around 1000 students annually across 11 African countries. The opening was attended by the Chadian Prime Minister, Kalzeubet Pahimi Deubet, Director General of ISESCO, Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Al-Tuwaijri, Qatar Charity CEO Yusuf Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari and Qatari Ambassador, Hamad Bin Abdul-

Hadi Al-Hajri. Qatar Charity and ISESCO have signed agreements for the implementation of a number of projects in several African countries, valued at more than QAR 26 million (USD 7.1 million) and covering the areas of literacy, teaching Arabic to non-native speakers,



vocational training, economic empowerment, Islamic cultural action outside the Islamic world and writing the languages of Muslim peoples in Africa using the Quranic calligraphy. Al-Kuwari said: "Qatar Charity is thrilled to be partners in the completion of this strategic project, along with the Ministry of National Education of Chad, and ISESCO, with which we have a strategic relationship." "It is our established belief that the best investment today is the one that is directed to building the human and strengthening their ability to acquire science and knowledge from various sources and in various languages," he added. He also revealed that Qatar Charity has decided to open a field office in the Republic of Chad in order to contribute to

the development of the country. During the visit, Prime Minister Deubet met with the Qatari delegation accompanied by ISESCO's Al-Twajri, welcoming and thanking them for their important efforts in Chad, and in particular their vital role during the refugee crisis. The delegation also met with the Minister of National Education, Mohammed Ahmed Asail, who expressed his thanks to Qatar Charity for their support for the Ministry through the provision of a range of schools, particularly in rural areas. The Regional Educational Center is the first of its kind in Chad and aims to contribute to the achievement of linguistic duality, after Arabic was made the official language in government circles alongside the French language; providing

refresher training for teachers of Arabic and bilingual schools, assisting in the preparation of education, research and studies related to training, and teaching methods for teaching the Arabic language to non-native speakers.

The center has been built on an area of 10,000 square meters and consists of 7 administrative offices, four classrooms, a teachers' room, a meeting room, language laboratory, library, bathrooms, 10 waqf shops, car park, a security room, corridors and green spaces. It was built at a cost of QAR 4.3 million (USD 1.2 million) with Qatar Charity's contribution amounting to QAR 1.8 million (USD 494,000).

Qatar Charity Distributes Winter Bags to 600 Low-Income Workers in Qatar

Qatar Charity has distributed winter bags to 600 low-income workers living in camps and ranches across the State of Qatar, in conjunction with the Friends Cultural Center. The bags, which bear the names of Qatar Charity and the Center in Arabic and English, contained a variety of essential items including blankets, indoor and outdoor winter clothing, scarves, hats and socks in order to help the beneficiaries survive the harsh winter weather.

The workers are mostly migrants from countries including Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan.

The project comes within the framework of Qatar Charity's mission to provide humanitarian services to the most vulnerable groups in society.

Distribution of bags

The distributions were made after Qatar Charity carried out visits to a number of camps and ranches located in the municipality of Al-Kraana in the road of Abu Samra, Rawdat Rashid, Um Shabram, Mkenes, Um Ghuailena, Al-Gharafa, the Industrial Zone and other areas throughout the State of Qatar.

The visits were carried out by Habib ul Rahman, Executive Director of the Centre, and 15 volunteers and employees of the center.

More is needed

In a speech during the implementation of the project, Habib expressed his satisfaction and contentment at the completion of the project which he said had met all of

its objectives. He also confirmed that the target group was in dire need of these winter items and explained that there were more needy workers who would benefit from such support.

"These campaigns have contributed to creating a culture of volunteerism, and we have noted an increasing willingness by



many young people to participate in light of what has been accomplished," Habib said. Habib gave his sincere thanks and appreciation to Qatar Charity officials and employees for the funding of the project, while noting that more such projects were desperately needed.



Adam Awashira, Suffering from Birth



Occupied Palestine

Adam Raed Awashira was born with problems in his respiratory system and a rare heart condition known as 'situs inversus', which means that the heart is situated further to the right than normal, in addition to other severe deformations. Adam struggled to survive and depended on expensive

monthly medicines which became a serious burden when his father, a teacher, and the only breadwinner, abandoned him and his mother when he was just four years old.

Adam's mother Kholoud, who is 36, was forced to return to the home of her mother,

unable to cope with the costs of keeping a home on top of caring for a sick child.

Stroke

Adam's doctor stressed that Adam urgently needs 15 types of medicines on a daily basis for life. These medicines amount to a monthly cost of

around QAR 1200 (USD 330). Without them, he is at huge risk. When he was five years old he was taken to intensive care because there was a delay in receiving his medicine which resulted in heart failure and a stroke which left his right hand useless.

A glimpse of hope

Adam's mother did not lose hope and did her best to find someone to help her with her with the crippling costs of looking after her child. The stricken housewife and compassionate mother left no stone unturned. She went to numerous local charities, including Qatar Charity's Ramallah Office which studied the health condition of the child and the social condition of his mother. Consequently, the office recommended the payment of the cost of medicines for a full year as part of the Ra'd Program, funded by Qatar Charity and the Islamic Development Bank and seeking to economically empower vulnerable families as well as providing health care aid to other families.

Dreams

Adam's health condition has improved since he has begun receiving his medicine on a regular basis. His mother expressed her sincere gratitude for the help she received for her child. She hopes she will find someone to sponsor the treatment costs in the coming years so that Adam will continue to remain healthy and happy.



Qatar Charity Implements 50 Income-Generating Projects in Albania

Qatar Charity has implemented 50 income generating projects for the benefit of poor families and orphans across Albania.

Productive woman

The projects ranged from the distribution of sewing machines to female heads of households, with a focus on widows and divorcees, and dairy cows, food and clothes shops and small factories for the manufacture of pastries and sweets, enabling poor families to secure an income. The projects have made a massive difference in the lives of the beneficiaries who were located in a number of Albanian cities including Tirana, Kavajë, Durrës, Bulqizë, and Peshkopi where poverty and unemployment rates are particularly high and large numbers of orphans and widows are present.

Selection and follow-up

The projects part of a range of quality programs implemented by Qatar Charity Albania. The beneficiaries were chosen on the basis of specific and transparent criteria, including the need and the reality of the living conditions of the family, the experience of the family in the type of work of their project, the seriousness and feasibility of the project and the ability to implement and succeed in it.

Qatar Charity Albania also carried out follow-up with the beneficiaries and helped them to overcome any administrative difficulties with local authorities, who cooperated throughout implementation.





Qatar Charity Establishes 'Qatar Educational Complex' and Four Mosques in Indonesia

Qatar Charity has completed a number of charitable projects in Indonesia, including a multi-service center, income-generating projects, the building of mosques, digging wells for drinking water and health campaigns, benefitting tens of thousands of needy people.

Qatar Educational Complex
The multi-service center, known as the Qatar Educational Complex is located in Bogor, Indonesia, and incorporates a school with six classrooms, toilets, a library, multi-service halls, a library, a large hall, a clinic that will provide medical services to 1000 people a month, a mosque and a shop for the provision of school needs and clothing for students, at a total cost of over QAR 1,000,000

(USD 275,000).

The educational complex will benefit 300 students, providing educational services and housing for them, in addition to 100 students from a nearby center who will also be allowed to take advantage of the various services of the complex.

Qatar Charity Indonesia Director Karam Zeinhom, inaugurated the projects, giving a speech in which he praised the role of Qatari philanthropists and donors for all their charitable efforts for the benefit of poor people across the world. He also highlighted the large number of projects Qatar Charity has implemented in Indonesia, particularly in the field of education, which he said is the basis of change and progress for a society.

Other projects

Qatar Charity has constructed four mosques in different parts of the country, benefitting thousands of worshipers. Each mosque includes wash areas, toilets and the necessary sound equipment.

Qatar Charity has also drilled 10 wells in order to provide clean drinking water in the Indonesian city of Bigorre, with each well benefitting 350 families and ensuring that a total of 17,500 people a day gain access to safe drinking water.

A health campaign entitled 'recovery' was also carried out in the Subang region with 200 local residents taking part; most of whom were students and poor people.





Qatar Charity Delegation and 'Competitors 2' Team Launch Latest Round of Projects for Syrian Refugees in Turkey

The delegation was headed by CEO Yusuf Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, in the presence of Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Jassim Al-Thani, members of the 'Competitors 2' team and a number of prominent social figures, and the projects will cover food, health and education for the benefit of internally displaced Syrians and those living as refugees in Turkey.

On the first day of its trip the delegation visited Rihaniyya on the Turkish-Syrian border where they inaugurated a mobile automated bread baking oven to provide bread for the displaced and distributed food baskets to the refugees. They also inspected Hope Hospital which Qatar Charity contribute to its operation, opened an eye surgery clinic, provided financial aid to patients and visited a Qatar Charity operated bakery, where they received a briefing on its progress and work.

The 'Competitors 2' contest attempts to engage Qatari society, in a unique way, in charitable work through competition, spreading the culture and values of charity through media and marketing, helping foster a sense of community and bring people, particularly young people,

together in humanitarian and charity work.

The 'Competitors 2' team has raised QAR 12 million (USD 3.3 million) during the last period; money which will go towards projects that serve displaced and refugee Syrians.

The mobile automated bread baking oven is the first of its kind in the region and will provide 4,500 loaves of bread per hour, benefitting around 120,000 people per month

Members of 'Competitors 2' team

The 'Competitors 2' team comprised: Khalid Mohammed Bomozh, Mohsen Fahad Al-Hajri, Ahmed Salem Al-Bakri, Shahira Hamad Shahwani, Adel Al-Khalaf, Rashid Majid Al-Kuwari, Abdul Aziz Mohammed Amin Zaman, Nasser Mubarak Al-Khulaifi, Flares Khaled Subaie and Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Jaham Kuwari.

The Qatar Charity group included: Khalifa Ali Al-Kaabi, Abdul Hamid Mir Riahi, Dr. Ayesha Ahmed Al-Qahtani,

Suhail Behzad, Ali Rashid Al-Mohannadi, Nasser Al-Abdul-Jabbar, Abdullah Rashidi, Jassim Al-Kuwari, Abdul Rahman Saleh Al-Shammari, Mohammed Jassim Al-Sulaiti, Hossam Rohi, students Rashid Ali Al-Mohannadi and Mohammed Ali Al-Mohannadi (who at 10 years old is the youngest volunteer in the team), Mariam Abdullah Qutba, Nabila Abdul Aziz Obeidan, Fawzia Mohammed Al-Isaac, Moza Al-Nasr, Hind Matawaa, Salima Hussein, Ibrahim Mohammed Zainal, Faisal Rashid Alfahidh, Assistant Executive Director for Operations Management at Qatar Charity, Ibrahim Ali Abdullah, Director of Management and Kalid Aunallah

Surgical operations

In a speech made on the occasion of the visit, which was attended by Jamal Demir Yilmaz, member of Turkish parliament and head of the refugee's affairs, Dr. Hamdi Osman, General Manager of Hope Hospital, thanked Qatar Charity and the 'Competitors 2' team for their efforts in equipping the eye surgery clinic and running the hospital during the past three months. He also pointed out that during the past year the hospital has treated more than

“The Competitors contest is one of the outstanding ideas that are widely acclaimed and accepted in Qatari society. It has achieved considerable success in attracting Qatari youths to join volunteer work and contributed to the marketing of many charitable programs and projects,” Al-Kuwari said

60,000 patients in the areas of bones and nerves; performing over 2500 surgeries, including those on complex facial deformities associated with the effects of war, in addition to the installation of artificial limbs.

Osman explained that Qatar Charity has been a supporter of the hospital since its establishment, by equipping its departments and operations theatres as well as by providing supplies and paying the salaries of its staff.

More than QAR 1 million (USD 275,000) has been spent on equipping the eye surgery clinic, while the cost of running the hospital in the last three months amounted to approximately QAR 1.5 million (USD 410,000) with funding from the ‘Competitors 2’ team.

Qatar Charity CEO Yusuf Bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari thanked those in charge of the Hope Hospital for their outstanding efforts in the provision of health services for wounded and sick Syrians arriving from inside Syria, in light of the fact that it is located close to the Turkish-Syrian border. He praised the quality of the operations carried out by the hospital staff, stressing that Qatar Charity will continue to support care for Syrian refugees, helping to alleviate their suffering. He also thanked the ‘Competitors 2’ team for their efforts in carrying out a number of field visits to camps for Syrian refugees in Jordan and Turkey, and in collecting donations.

Impact of donations

Al-Kuwari stressed the importance of the visit by the ‘Competitors 2’ team, not only due to the donations that they worked to collect, but also in creating a positive image of the Qatari philanthropists, who have contributed considerably to supporting affected Syrians, highlighting the impact their contribution has had in various fields.

“This contest is one of the outstanding ideas that are widely acclaimed and accepted in



A Qatar Charity delegation has launched a number

The eye surgery clinic has treated 60,000 displaced and refugee Syrians, conducting 2500 operations during last year

Qatari society. It has achieved considerable success in attracting Qatari youth who are distinguished in media, sports, advocacy and scientific fields to join volunteer work, involving them in various humanitarian projects in Qatar and abroad and contributing to the marketing and finance of many charitable programs and projects within the framework of competition in doing good and supporting needy groups," Al-Kuwari said.

Al-Thani thanked the Turkish government and the people of Qatar for their continued support for the Syrian people since the beginning of the crisis.

Name of the State of Qatar

Member of Turkish parliament, Jamal Demir Yilmaz, said that he was delighted by the visit of the Qatar Charity delegation to Syrian refugees in the country, and for their support for the Syrian people in general. He highlighted the fact that Qatar Charity has been present in Syria, longer than any other charity and thanked the organization for its continued support of the hospital and to the 'Competitors 2' team for their equipping of the eye clinic.

The delegation opened the eye surgery clinic and inspected the operating room of the hospital, before visiting sick and wounded Syrian patients and providing them with the financial aid.

After this the delegation opened mobile automated bread baking oven, the first of its kind in the region and which is expected to provide 3000 to 4500 loaves of bread per hour and no less than 40,000 loaves a day, benefitting around 120,000 people per month.

The bread will support Syrian families in rural Aleppo and Idlib, who are witnessing a severe deterioration in their living conditions, particularly in terms of access to food.

The 'Competitors 2' team funded the mobile oven along with the cost of running it for one month at a cost of around QAR 1,650,000 (USD 450,000).

Following the launch, CEO Al-Kuwari said: "I am very proud of this project, which is the first of its kind in the region, helping compensate for a lack of basic food items by providing large amounts of bread."

The delegation concluded by distributing food baskets to 200 refugee families in the region and visiting another bakery, that the 'Competitors 2' team funded for a period of 3 months, including the cost of providing flour, fuel and other operating expenses, at a cost of more than QAR 1.2 million (USD 330,000).

The bakery was established in cooperation with the Turkish humanitarian relief organization, IHH, in order to provide 170,000 loaves a day, to meet the needs of 75,000 Syrians a day.

The team later visited a refugee camp on the Syrian-Turkish border and opened a kitchen and bakery in the town of Kilis.



of projects for Syrian refugees in Turkey





Qatar Charity Receives Ministerial Praise for Yemen Projects

Qatar Charity has received high praise from the Yemeni Government in response to the launch of a number of projects on the island of Socotra, benefitting tens of thousands of people.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Jassim Al-Thani, General Supervisor of Projects in Yemen, launched a variety of projects including health, education and shelter, during a recent field trip to the island.

In the area of health, the delegation launched a major health project including the receipt of Doha Center building for medical and social services and the initiation of maintenance and restoration

at Qalansia hospital building, which will be the only birthing hospital on the island. The projects were launched in the presence of His Excellency the Governor of the island, Saeed Salem Bahguiba.

The delegation also inaugurated the start of the maintenance and restoration of the Children's Hospital and provided it with an ambulance vehicle to visit villages in the Directorate of Qalansia in order to examine patients and distribute medicines. The hospital will be the only children's hospital on the island.

The work came after the acceptance of a proposal to renovate the obstetrics hospital

and convert the reproductive health center into a hospital for children. It also includes the restoration of existing housing for doctors of the general hospital.

Qatar Charity is also currently involved in a selection process to choose a number of students from the area to study medicine under the sponsorship of Qatar Charity.

In addition to the above, three health camps will be established during the first three months of this year, with one dedicated to the fight against blindness, the second to combatting cancer, including testing and early detection of tumors, providing medicines and carrying out



operations, and the third to treat epilepsy patients.

In support of the fishing sector, Al-Thani signed a contract with a company that will work to build an ice factory.

In the education sector, the foundation stone was laid for the construction of a secondary school and a large hall for activities. The building would be a landmark in the area considering its geographic location.

Construction is also underway on two kindergartens, which will

accept 200 boys and girls and is the first of its kind on the island.

Mosque Construction

The delegation met with the Women's Agricultural Society to consider providing them with support in the forms of payment of monthly and annual membership subscriptions for all 90 female members. The possibility of buying the group a tractor is also being considered, along with helping them purchase a variety of pesticides. Qatar Charity is also studying the possibility of providing them with a water network to deliver water from the main source to all 300 homes in the area.

Six mosques, a home for the Imam of the Grand Mosque and five classrooms for the teaching of the Quran annexed to some mosques are being built, in addition to building a wall to a large mosque on the seafront as well as a house for the Imam in Nojed area.

The delegation also considered proposals to improve the stadium in Hadibo, Socotra, visited the proposed locations for a factory for dates to serve the Island, and

discussed a plan to buy a water pump to be installed in order to supply water to the population of the Directorate of Qalansia.

A high-level delegation from the Yemeni government praised Qatar Charity during its visit to some of the projects, and handed over the location of the large rainwater reservoir project in Raqbana area, funded by Qatar Charity.

The government delegation included His Excellency Dr. Izzat Hibatullah Shuraim, Minister of Water and Environment, HE Dr. Ghaleb Motlaq, Minister of State for the Implementation of National Dialogue Outputs, Shehab Nasser Mohammed al-Haidari, Head of the General Authority for Rural Water Projects, Anisa Nasser, Director General of the Department of Arab Non-Governmental Organizations and Foreign Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation as well as Safa Mesleh Ismail, Director General of the Department of Arabic and Islamic NGOs in the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.

The delegation was fully briefed on Qatar Charity projects and activities on the island and noted that Qatar Charity pays the island special attention due to it being in drastic need of a variety of support due to the low level of services and high poverty rate. The island is in fact one of the poorest Yemeni regions.

The trip included a visit to the ice factory which Qatar Charity is currently constructing in the city of Hadibo the island's capital.

They also visited the Qalansia Hospital complex, the Nour mosque which is being built in the Qalansia area and the Doha Center for Medical and Social Services which Qatar Charity founded in the city of Hadibo.

At the end of the visit the government group visited the homes of Qatar Charity-sponsored orphans, widows and elderly people, expressing their deep appreciation to Qatar Charity for its support for Yemen in general and the island of Socotra in particular, praising its efforts in serving the poor and needy via projects outstanding in terms of quality and delivery.



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Qatar Charity Launches Fourth Edition of 'I Am Snafi' and 'A Gust of Wind' Programs

Qatar Charity, in the first half of February 2015, launched the fourth editions of the 'I am Snafi' and 'A Gust of Wind' programs. The popular national programs aim to promote good values among school students were launched at Qatar Charity headquarters. This was done so under the auspices of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, in partnership with Supreme Education Council (SEC), Holy Quran Radio, Shafallah Center for the Disabled, Girls' Creativity Center, Qatar Photographic Society and Qatar Charity ambassadors. The launch was attended by representatives of some of the sponsors and partners. Nasser Mohammed Al-Yafei, Qatar Charity Executive Director for Local Development, Ahmed Youssef Mullah, General Supervisor of 'I am Snafi' and 'A Gust of Wind' and Ahmed Al-Ali, Director of Programs and Projects for Local Development Management, in addition to Qatar Charity

ambassadors Adel Lami, Ibrahim Al-Ghanim, Abdulaziz Al-Sulaiti, Ismaa Hammadi, Salma Al-Harami, Sheikh Muftah and Badria Yaqout were in attendance.

Testimonials and appraisal

"These national programs have proven their helpfulness over the past three years and we have witnessed the enthusiasm of the students and their excellence in drama, theatre and photography," Al-Yafei said.

Mona Fadel Abdullah Sulaiti, Chairperson of Girls' Creativity Center, expressed her pride at the partnership with Qatar Charity and her hope that its achievements and success continue.

Jamil Al-Shammari of the Ahmad ibn Hanbal Independent School for Boys praised the role of the two programs launched by Qatar Charity in an effort to promote positive behavior in the hearts of students.

Reinforcement of values

The program seeks to promote values for school students

annually, through student competitions, in the areas of technical, social and scientific skills, covering different areas of intelligence, according to Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences.

It also aims to contribute to promoting the value of education for students and reinforce positive behavior through interesting and attractive content with a cognitive component that motivates students to be creative and engage in constructive communication with others. The fourth edition is unique in its application of Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences, whereby students are given the opportunity to maximize their individual skills, whether musical, visual, physical, logical or verbal. Cash prizes of over QAR 340,000 (USD 93,000) are allocated to be distributed among winning schools, students and supervisors.