

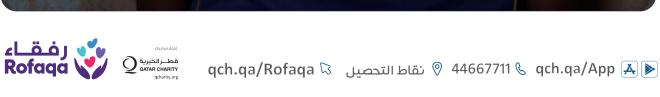
Alarming change in climate

'Warmth and Peace' for a safer winter

'I am not just a number' a drive for orphan care















Editorial

In 2009, the current Secretary-General of the United Nations and former UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres predicted that climate change will become the biggest driver of population displacements.

After 11 years, a report released by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) revealed that there were 40.5 million new internal displacements in 2020, including 30.7 million new disaster displacements.

According to NASA and Copernicus Climate Change Service, 2020 is jointly the warmest year on record together with 2016. Among the causes that made the last year one of the warmest years were human activities that produce carbon dioxide (CO2), which is the largest contributor to global warming.

This alarming situation requires all concerned bodes across the globe, especially UN agencies and international humanitarian organizations to bear their responsibilities, make double efforts and organize large-scale awareness campaigns to limit the impact of climate change on our planet.

As Qatar Charity is part of the humanitarian system, the calls for climate change mitigation found greater resonance in its orientation, projects, initiatives, and awareness-raising and educational efforts.

In this issue, the reader will find a report highlighting that Qatar Charity's projects and interventions take into consideration addressing the negative effects of climate change, in line with global trends.

Qatar Charity sets ups camps that take into account hygiene and a healthy environment and use alternative energy. It participates in international events like the Human Race challenge launched by UN OCHA to mark World Humanitarian Day 2021

The reader will find that the topics related to humanitarian media receive special attention in this issue of 'Ghiras'. Many specialists and experts participated in the symposium of the current issue, discussing the importance and role of human-interest stories in drawing attention and garnering support for charitable and humanitarian work.

As we are at the onset of the 2021-2022 winter season, which is predicted to be harsh for the displaced and refugees, we must remember this vulnerable community and extend early support to them so that the tragedies they experienced in previous seasons do not recur.

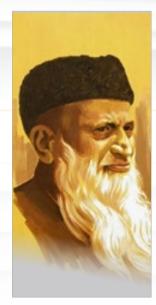
Here, we must make mention of Qatar Charity's 'Warmth and Peace' campaign that seeks to keep the vulnerable, the displaced, and refugees warm and well-fed in a safe and joyful winter. We should keep in our mind that 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure', and "Allah will remain in the aid of a servant so long as the servant remains in the aid of his brother."

Happy Reading!

Ghiras



In this Issue



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Angel of Mercy

A legendary philanthropist who spent his whole life in simplicity, but established one of his country's biggest social welfare organizations, which has more than 300 branches nationwide and the world's largest ambulance service



Role of humaninterest stories drawing attenti

interest stories in drawing attention to humanitarian issues (Symposium)

Apart from the statistics and figures that talks about victims of disasters and crises in the form of news or a picture of destruction; humanitarian-interest stories remain the most influential in media work.



Interview with CEO of Qatar Foundation for Social Work

'Ghiras' conducted an exclusive interview with Mr. Ahmed bin Muhammad Al Kuwari, CEO of the Qatar Foundation for Social Work (QFSW), discussing the great advancement of social work in Qatar, and QFSW's efforts in serving the various segments of the community.



Bulbul Timbasco complex brings stability to Darfur's

IDPs

This is a story of a region, which was an arena of suffering, displacement and death, and has turned into safe havens where IDPs enjoy health, security and education services.



Qatar's gift for displaced Syrians

A special gift from the people in Qatar to lessen the plight of displaced Syrians experiencing a prolonged suffering under tents. Do you know what this gift is?



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A glimpse into refugee camps

Touching stories about refugee camps by a renowned media figure of Qatar, Asma Al Hammadi. Among these stories is the story of a Syrian girl, not more than nine years old, who made Al Hammadi feel that the girl was in her twenties.



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Humanitarian Work Forum 2021

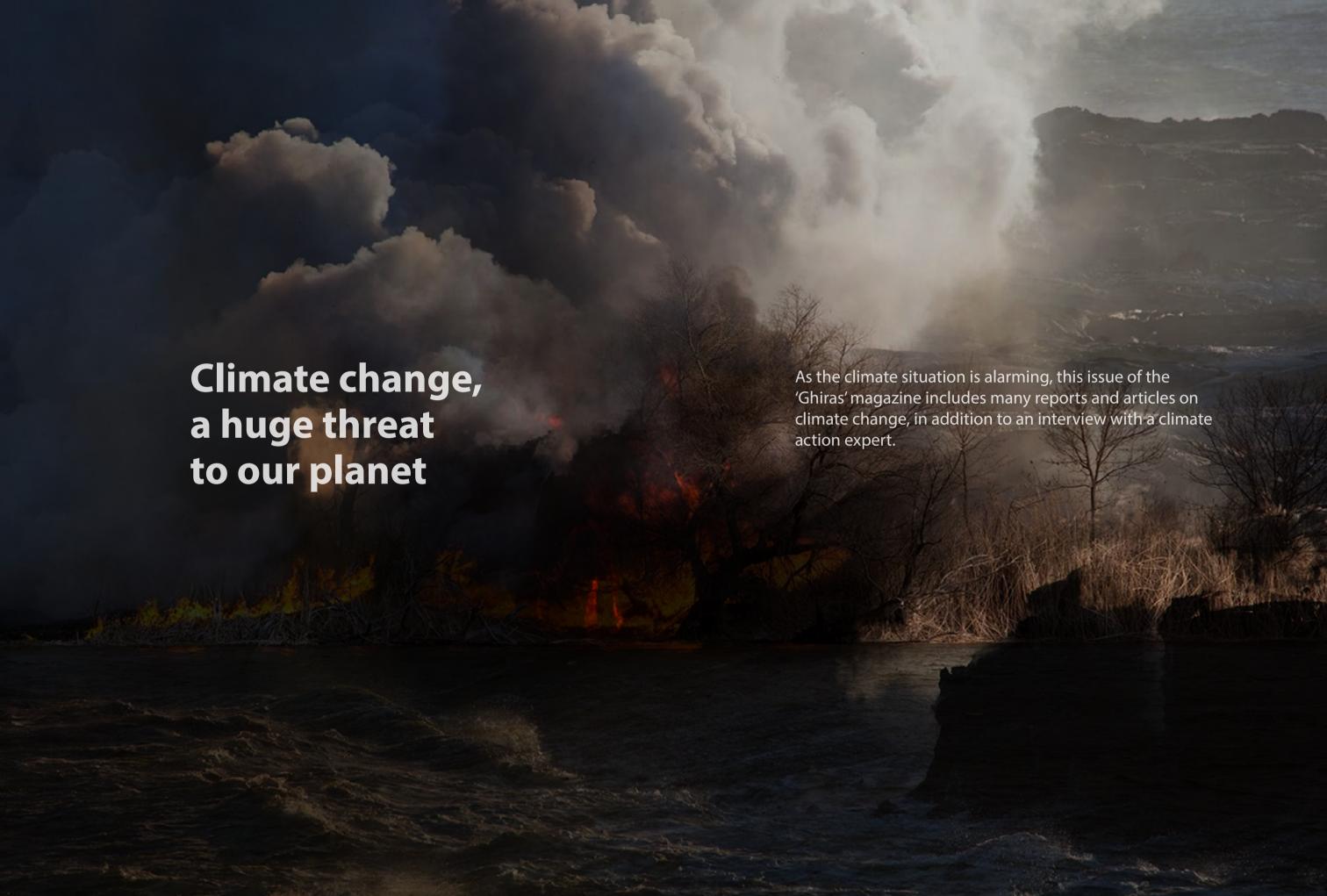
Under this forum organized by Qatar Charity in cooperation with Qatar University, an elite group of local and international experts and specialists discussed important topics and came up with valuable recommendations.



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Child-friendly spaces for humanitarian crisis-affected children

Qatar Charity ensured easy access for displaced children to the centers by providing transportation for all children, including children with special needs.





Climate change at unprecedented rate

Heatwaves, droughts, cyclones and flooding are increasing in frequency and ferocity, and a key temperature limit is being broken in just over a decade. This grave situation of climate change poses a direct threat to humankind's ability to survive, grow, and thrive, leads to the destruction of infrastructure critical to the well-being of humankind, and causes the outbreak of many deadly diseases, especially among vulnerable communities across the globe.

"Extreme weather is the new normal. From Germany to China, to Canada or the United States – wildfires, floods, extreme heat waves – it is an ever-growing, tragic list," says the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

"The scale of recent changes across the climate system as a whole and the present state of many aspects of the climate system are unprecedented over many centuries to many thousands of years," said the report issued by the Geneva-based Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an intergovernmental body of the United Nations for assessing the science related to climate change.

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres described the report as a «code red for humanity». «The alarm bells are deafening,» he said in a statement. «This report must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels, before they destroy our planet.»

According to the report, global warming is dangerously close to spiraling out of control, and the world is already certain to face further climate disruptions for decades, if not centuries, to come.

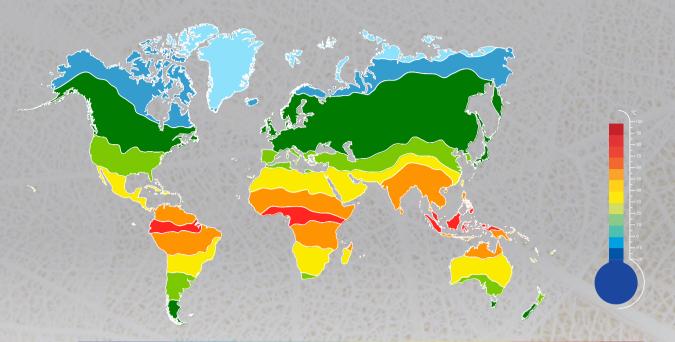
"Global surface temperature has increased faster since 1970 than in any other -50year period over at least the last 2000 years," says the report.

According to UN scientists, temperatures on Earth will rise by about 1.5C in around two decades, and that a near2-m rise in sea levels by the end of this century «cannot be ruled out.»

The report, which was compiled by 234 experts from 66 countries, is the most comprehensive to be released by the UN panel since 2013.

Commenting on the scientists' findings, UN Secretary General António Guterres said: «If we combine forces now, we can avert climate catastrophe. But, as today's report makes clear, there is no time for delay and no room for excuses. I count on government leaders and all stakeholders to ensure COP26 is a success.»

Scientists say a catastrophe can be avoided if the world acts fast. There is hope that deep cuts in emissions of greenhouse gases could stabilize rising temperatures.



Alarming Indicators

- Global surface temperature was 1.09C higher in the decade between 2020-2011 than between 1900-1850.
- The past five years have been the hottest on record since 1850
- The recent rate of sea level rise has nearly tripled compared with 1971-1901
- Human influence is «very likely» (90%) the main driver of the global retreat of glaciers since the 1990s and the decrease in Arctic sea-ice
- It is «virtually certain» that hot extremes including heatwaves have become more frequent and more intense since the 1950s, while cold events have become less frequent and less severe

From the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Climate disasters displaces record numbers of people

Since the dawn of time, people flee their homes because of the scarcity of resources or conflict over scarce resources. The movement of people from one place to another is generally considered to be part of human history. What is new, however, is the possibility of massive displacements as a result of many factors such as desertification, droughts, floods, hurricanes, and large-scale resource depletion.

Highest Level on Record

"Intense storms and flooding triggered three times more displacements than violent conflicts did last year, as the number of people internally displaced worldwide hit the highest level on record," according to The Guardian.

Conflicts, natural disasters and climate change in 2020 led to an increase in displacements. Conflict and disasters triggered 40.5 million new internal displacements across 149 countries and territories in 2020, according to a report published by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC).

Storms, floods, wildfires and droughts caused 30 million displacements last year, the IDMC report

Extreme weather is growing unnaturally strong as people burn fossil fuels and warp the climate. It is projected to drive more and more people from their homes through sudden shocks like floods and storms, as well as slower-burning crises like crop failures and drought.

Extreme Weather

More than 80 % of the people forced from their homes in 2020 were in Asia and Africa. In Asia. most of the people forced to flee did so because of extreme weather. In countries like China, India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, the Philippines and Indonesia — where hundreds of millions of people live on

low-lying coastlines and deltas — a combination of population growth and urbanization has left more people exposed to floods that have grown stronger as sea levels have risen.

Homeless

The most severe cyclone to hit India in two decades made landfall on Monday, forcing authorities to evacuate 200,000 people in the state of Gujarat. But while early warning systems can save lives by pulling people out of harm's way, many of the displaced do not have a home to come back to.

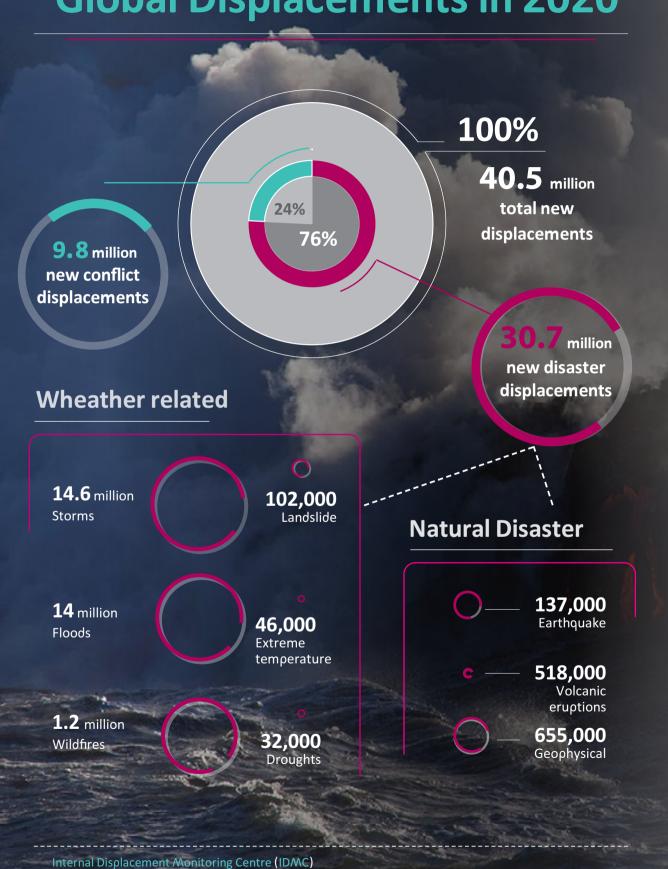
When Cyclone Amphan struck Bangladesh last year it forced 2.5 million people to flee and destroyed 55,500 homes, according to the report, suggesting that 10 % of the people displaced were left homeless.

In Africa, some conflicts were coupled with unusually long and heavy rainy seasons that brought floods and crop losses to countries already affected by violence.

Heavy rains forced people already displaced once to flee again in countries like Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and Niger, according to the report. Such environmental disasters triggered 4.3 million displacements in sub-Saharan Africa in 2020. At least half of them were still displaced by the end of the year.

Climate Migrantion Researchers say the links between climate and migration are poorly understood and sometimes overstated. A meta-analysis published in March by the University of Potsdam's Center for **Economic Policy Analysis found that** disasters that unfold over a long time like heatwaves and drought are more likely to increase migration than disasters that hit suddenly like floods and hurricanes. Climate migration researchers have called for governments to cut their greenhouse gas emissions swiftly, adapt to the changing climate and continue to support displaced communities once the immediate danger has passed

Global Displacements in 2020





Climate change, the biggest challenge to humanity

Abdelaziz Khatir Jadeed

Our climate is changing and there is scientific, social and political recognition that climate change is caused by increased emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG). The energy and transportation sectors are among the main contributors to carbon emissions, in addition to the increased industrialization and population growth. The levels of emissions are expected to rise rapidly unless serious actions are taken to reduce the excessive use of carbon-based fuels.

Despite the growing global awareness of the connection between greenhouse gases and climate change, the impact remains uncertain, and our predictive ability about greenhouse gas-based climate change is relatively weak, but the risks are becoming more apparent, and potentially catastrophic.

Dire Consequences

Although we do not know how much change will result from current levels of greenhouse gas emissions, we know that the effects of current levels will have dire consequences. The greenhouse gases that we send into the atmosphere will contribute to

climate change. Today, we should make choices that will not only affect our lives, but also the lives of our children and grandchildren.

In this way, climate change may be the greatest challenge we collectively face, and even with our limited knowledge, we feel that there is a growing sense of urgency for action. We must find ways to change our current dependence on fossil fuels, and deal with the essential threat that is a future cure will be more dangerous every day in case of inaction.

Climate Variability

Fortunately, research indicates that if the world acts now, it would be possible to keep global temperature rise in the twenty-first century within a threshold of 2 °C above pre-industrial levels (1850-1900). The achievement of this goal requires great leadership and unparalleled global cooperation. If we fail to meet the challenge, our generation will create an unsustainable environmental debt, which will be inherited by future generations who may not be able to repay it.

There are already signs of increased climate

variability, leading to an increase in the frequency and severity of droughts, floods and storms around the world.

It is a disturbing fact that the one billion poorest people produce less than 10 % of greenhouse gases, yet are likely to suffer the worst and most immediate consequences of climate disasters, caused by reduced access to water and rising sea levels.

However, there is a gleam of hope that comes with this grey viewpoint that scientific, political and social awareness is growing that climate change is a man-made problem that demands a collective global solution, while the Kyoto agreement failed to achieve common acceptance. Bigger corporate organizations began to realize that changes must happen. There is also a realization that the most economically active consumers may respond to more environmentally friendly products, services and lifestyles.

Biofuels

The latest renewable energy response was rapid investment in biofuels. In the United States and the European Union, governments have introduced policies to raise biofuel requirements by up to 30 % in transportation fuels by 2030.

The transportation sector is a major consumer of fossil fuels, and currently accounts for 20 % of global carbon dioxide emissions.

However, analysis has shown that corn-based biofuels can produce more carbon than burning

oil-based fuels, due to production costs. At the same time, more efficient sources of ethanol, like those found in sugarcane from countries like Brazil, are ignored. Sugarcane is seven times more efficient than corn in the production of ethanol.

Carbon Markets

To complement carbon-neutral fuel sources, there is also an ongoing policy debate to introduce legislation that will limit and eventually reduce carbon emissions. Carbon restrictions will be placed either through the strategies of «reducing carbon trading» or through a carbon tax, paid by polluters.

There is also an inherent problem that any changes away from carbon-based fossil fuels will, in the short term, lead to a significant increase in the cost of energy required to develop new energy systems and storage, deployment and use means.

All of this points to the need for great leadership and advocacy for positive greenhouse gas initiatives if want to find a collective solution to the threat of climate change. It is clear that there is an urgent need for the advanced industrial countries of the world to invest profoundly and swiftly to search for new solutions to this problem and also to share solutions instead of taking the current path of investing in local solutions that may not solve a global challenge.

90% of the world's refugees originate from extremely climate vulnerable countries



Humanitarians should be working in closer collaboration than ever with partners, and forming new partnerships.

Climate change is considered to be one of the greatest threats to humanity. It is has become the defining issue of our time and an alarming concern to the world. Scientists and specialist say that preventing environmental damage and avoiding the damage that can be caused by climate change requires a redoubled global effort and a large-scale awareness campaign.

The Special Advisor on Climate Action to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Mr. Andrew Harper says, in an interview with Qatar Charity's 'Ghiras' magazine, "The triple tragedies of conflict, climate change and displacement cut across and are interconnected with humanitarian action, human rights, development and climate change actors. Without addressing these tragedies together, and bringing together all those working across different sectors, severe conflict and climate impacts will continue to impact displacement and the human security of populations." He also highlighted the efforts of the international organization to ward off these risks and what should be done to reduce the effects of climate change. Below is the complete interview with Mr. Andrew Harper.

The climate emergency is threat multiplier for conflict and other drivers of conflict and vulnerability.

When did the attention towards climate change and displacement begin?

UNHCR has been dealing with displacement in the context of climate change for many years. In 2009, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres predicted that climate change will become the biggest driver of population displacements, both inside and across national borders, within the not too distant future. For decades, people have been fleeing their homes when they find themselves at the intersection of an increasingly hostile climate, environmental degradation and conflict.

Overall, one particularly influential moment, which drew global attention to the issue of climate change

and displacement, was the the First Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued in 1990. It, noted that the greatest single impact of climate change might be on human migration and displacement. In 2007, the findings of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report provided further indications that climate change will raise the risk of humanitarian emergencies, largely as a result of the increasing intensity of natural hazards under a changing climate.

How climate change is multiplying risks for displacement?

The climate emergency is threat multiplier for conflict and other drivers of conflict and vulnerability. It will increasingly impact displacement in the foreseeable future. Already, some 90 % of the world's refugees originate from countries which are extremely climate vulnerable. Climate change and environmental challenges are triggering major shifts in human and ecological systems, as it has an impact on human security as a result of food insecurity, scarcity of water, physical and livelihood security, which can trigger displacement.

We can see these dynamics looking back at the famines and conflicts in Ethiopia and Sudan. It is also important to recognize how the adverse effects of climate change contributed to the conditions that led to conflict and violence in north Africa, Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. As the impacts of climate change become more severe and interact with other mega-trends such as increased competition over scarce land, threats to livelihoods, food insecurity and access to water, populations will be made more vulnerable. In contexts with fragile institutions and governance, there will be fewer preparedness efforts and less support to populations to build resilience to cope with climate shocks.

Not only do these intersecting trends increase the risk of displacement, but they also threaten the viability of durable solutions for displaced populations by rendering areas of return and of local integration too dangerous or unsafe to live, too fragile to support large populations, or simply inhospitable.

What are the most significant UNHCR efforts in this regard?

First and foremost, UNHCR is a protection agency that has one of the largest field presences of any UN agency. With 90 % of our staff in field locations, we

are witnessing the first-hand consequences of the combined climate and conflict emergencies on the ground. This puts us in a unique position to bear witness to the changing character of displacement, and the increasingly vulnerable position of those who have been displaced, as well as to those communities who are generously hosting them. In camps and settlements across the world, displaced people are facing mounting environmental and climate-related risks and challenges. Where access to water was previously possible by using shallow wells, this is no-longer an option in many locations. Where refugees could previously find firewood from the surrounding forests, after years of protracted displacement there is not enough to sustain the energy needs to the population.

Protecting the natural environment protects the people who live there. A priority for UNHCR is to preserve and rehabilitate the natural environment, and mitigate environmental degradation in areas where refugees live, and in the surrounding host communities. We are doing this by ramping up our environmental programmes to restore the environments, as well as advocate for the inclusion of renewable energy wherever possible.

For example, Kutupalong camp in the Cox's Bazar district of Bangladesh saw the arrival of more than 700,000 Rohingya refugees fleeing violence in Myanmar. When the refugees arrived, the only source of cooking fuel was the nearby forests, and in a short time the area was cut down. UNHCR provided Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG), as an alternative fuel source, which meant refugees didn't have to cut down the trees. This, in parallel with reforestation efforts, contributes to disaster risk reduction through the stabilization of soil, thereby reducing the risk of landslides. By providing clean alternative energy and reforesting the land, the whole community is more resilient to natural hazards and extreme weather. In line with the objective of the Global Compact to ease pressure on host communities, the initiative was scaled up in 2019 to include vulnerable local families.

LPG's benefits go beyond easing pressure on forests. It has an impact on food habits and nutrition due to ease of cooking and reduces pollution in the kitchen. Having LPG at home means women and girls need not travel long distances to collect firewood, thus reducing the risk of sexual and

In camps and settlements across the world, displaced people are facing mounting environmental and climate-related risks and challenges

gender-based violence. And children, who used to spend hours collecting firewood, now have more time for classes.

Overall we aim to better protect and empower those displaced in the face of climate change and have developed a UNHCR Strategic Framework on Climate Action to guide our efforts and support access to protection for people displaced in the context of climate change and disasters.

How does UN organizations cooperate with humanitarian organizations in this regard, especially in the MENA region?

One example of cooperation in the MENA region is when UNHCR partnered with the Government of Germany through the KfW Development Bank to establish the largest solar plant ever built in a refugee camp, to provide clean and much needed energy to 80,000 Syrian refugees living in Jordan's Za'atari camp. The plant increases the availability of electricity to between 12 and 14 hours per day, compared with six to eight hours previously. The additional power enables residents to preserve food, carry out chores more effectively and helps children study in the evenings. Annual carbon dioxide emissions from the camp have been reduced by 13,000 metric tons per year, equivalent to 30,000 barrels of oil. The plant also delivers annual savings of around US\$5.5 million, which are reinvested in humanitarian projects across Jordan. Furthermore, construction of the solar plant provided employment for local Jordanian workers as well as 75 Syrian refugees. With the plant connected to the Jordanian power grid, any unused electricity is fed back to the network to support the energy needs of the host community.

UNHCR also works to protect and respond in the context of extreme weather and disasters. In the

Humanitarian organizations, which are historically responsive, need to better integrate the current knowledge and the science in order to anticipate future risks and prepare for future challenges.

summer of 2020, approximately 300,000 people in Yemen lost their homes, crops, livestock and personal belongings due to torrential rains and severe flash floods. Amongst the newly displaced are people who were previously forced to flee their homes due to the conflict. UNHCR provided emergency shelter support and core relief items such as blankets and mattresses to thousands of people, as well as counselling support to those struggling to cope with the loss of their homes and loved ones. Together with partners, UNHCR engaged the displaced communities to raise awareness of COVID-19 protection and prevention measures while dealing with these exceptionally challenging circumstances.

What should humanitarian organizations do to contribute in this issue?

Humanitarian organizations, which are historically responsive, need to better integrate the current knowledge and the science in order to anticipate future risks and prepare for future challenges. While the challenges we face are some of the most daunting, we have never had so much science by which to understand them, or as many tools with which to create solutions.

Humanitarians also should be working in closer collaboration than ever with partners, and forming new partnerships. The triple tragedies of conflict, climate change and displacement cut across and are interconnected with humanitarian action, human rights, development and climate change actors. Without addressing these tragedies together, and bringing together all those working across different

sectors, severe conflict and climate impacts will continue to impact displacement and the human security of populations.

Lastly, all humanitarians should be looking to reduce the environmental impact of their offices and operations. We all have a role to play in reducing emissions and waste, and humanitarians are no exception, we all need to urgently go green.

Qatar Charity is international humanitarian organization based in the Middle East, the region, which is going through climate challenges and environmental threats. In your opinion, how Qatar Charity can play a greater role in preventing climate-related displacement?

The intersection of conflict, climate change and environmental risk can destroy livelihoods, drive more displacement, widen inequality, and undermine the sustainable development of countries as it affects achievement of 10 out of 16 of the SDGs. In the MENA region, Yemeni and Syrian refugees are the most affected forcibly displaced populations, particularly those residing in Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

With the scope and scale of protracted displacement in the region, partnerships and a 'whole of society' multi-stakeholder approach continue to be a critical pillar of UNHCR's national and regional interventions. Partnerships with the private sector, civil society, academia, cultural and faith-based actors are expanding, and will be increasingly important in order to meet future challenges and co-create solutions.

A multi stakeholder approach enables regional partners and experts to engage early on in the policy thinking and design of displacement responses, thus ensuring localized knowledge informs international responses. In this context, Qatar Charity, as a strategic partner to UNHCR, can share its expertise from being on the forefront of global responses to emergencies and on the foreground of development solutions, on finding innovative solutions enabling vulnerable communities affected by climate change to become more resilient and ultimately thrive and prosper.

The climate change crisis dominated this year's celebration of World Humanitarian Day, due to its great impact on the global health, social, humanitarian and economic aspects.

The World Humanitarian Day 2021 was marked under the theme #TheHumanRace - a global challenge for climate action in solidarity with the people who need it most.

"The climate emergency is wreaking havoc across the world at a scale that people on the front lines and in the humanitarian community cannot manage," says the United Nations. "Time is already running out for the world's most vulnerable people—those who have contributed least to the global climate emergency yet are hit the hardest—and

millions of others that are already losing their homes, their livelihoods, and their lives," adds the United Nations.

"With most climate campaigns focused on slowing climate change and securing the planet's future, World Humanitarian Day 2021, highlights the immediate consequences of the climate emergency for the world's most vulnerable people and ensures that their voices are heard, and their needs top the agenda at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in November," notes UN.

Human Race

Reflecting the theme '#TheHumanRace' launched by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other humanitarian partners, Qatar Charity invited its staff to join #theHumanRace by running, riding, swimming, walking or doing any sport activity of their choice for a cumulative 100 minutes.

Qatar Charity also launched an intensive social media campaign, publishing public awareness material on climate change and its effects.

Climate & Crises

Besides, Qatar Charity participated in a symposium entitled 'Media and Forced Migration: Challenges of Forgotten Humanitarian Crises' which was organized by the Al Jazeera Public Liberties & Human Rights Centre. Mr. Mohammed Ali Al-Ghamdi, CEO's

Assistant for the Governance Sector at Qatar Charity, participated in the symposium.

The symposium discussed the challenges of humanitarian crises caused by conflicts, natural disasters, environmental and climate change, and extreme poverty. It also deliberated the prolonged crisis of the victims of forced migration, the complexities of reaching quick and lasting solutions that save them from overcrowded camps, insecurity, epidemic control, and the weak fight against killer diseases in light of the lack of access to health care centers, or their high cost.



Given the grave climate and environmental situation, especially faced by the vulnerable, Qatar Charity has been attaching significant attention and giving priority to contribute to preserving the environment and mitigate the effects of climate change on people and the planet. Qatar Charity's attention towards environmental protection comes as part of its strategic plan for climate action, which is line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), more specifically, SDG 13.

This attention of Qatar Charity towards the climate action and environmental protection is evident through the projects it implements to reduce environmental risks, the technical instruments it uses to provide clean energy, which comes from renewable, zero-emission sources that do not pollute the atmosphere when used, and awareness-raising efforts it makes to educate people on the importance of saving the environment.

This report sheds light on Qatar Charity's efforts in the field of climate action and environmental protection in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Palestine, and Northern Syria.

Pakistan

Qatar Charity initiated solar water pumps in 2018. Since then to date, Qatar Charity has installed 170 solar water sources in Punjab, Baluchistan and Sindh whereas 173 solar water pumps are in process. Using solar energy, Qatar Charity has brought innovation to its water projects to improve accessibility, and focused on the most water-stressed areas to provide adequate water in easy and effortless manners.

Qatar Charity has signed a 21 -month Program Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with UNICEF in April 2021 to contribute to the environmental protection, under the umbrella of 'Clean and Green Pakistan' a flagship five-year campaign of the Government of Pakistan, which focuses on five behaviors including washing hands with soap, access and use of toilets, safe drinking water, solid waste management and tree plantation.

In 2020, Qatar Charity planted hundreds of fruit trees in Punjab, in collaboration with district government departments, in addition to planting evergreen trees in many educational institutions and other premises, under the 'Clean & Green Pakistan' campaign.

In partnership with UNICEF, Qatar Charity constructed toilets and sanitation systems in the Bihari colony of Tehsil Shorkot-district Jhang, Punjab. More than 48 % population of this village was practicing open defecation which was the major cause of communicable diseases. After Qatar Charity's interventions to improve the situation of hygiene and sanitation, the village attained the status and certification of "Open Defecation Free village" from the Government of Pakistan in 2019.

Qatar Charity also raised awareness about plantation, clean and green environment, sanitation and safe drinking water through its social mobilization program, utilizing community sessions and media.

Bangladesh

Considering the possible effects of climate change and to protect and preserve the environment, Qatar Charity has launched a solar-powered deep tube well project in the coastal districts of Bangladesh. In 2019, a solar-powered deep tube well was installed for the first time in the Dakop Sub-district of Khulna district. 150 solar-powered projects have so far been implemented, benefiting 2,10,000 residents. Besides,

many other projects are being implemented.

Mr. Mohammad Montu, Chief Executive Officer of the Government of Dakop sub-district of Khulna noted that the effort of Qatar Charity in the field of climate action is commendable, as it uses solar energy to run water and sanitation projects that reportedly reduce the impact of climate change.

Mr. Nazma Sarowar, a vice chairman of Kochua sub-district of Bagerhat District, said Qatar Charity is providing safe drinking water in this area through a solar-driven system, indicating that this praiseworthy step will contribute to protecting the environment from the possible effects of climate change.

The water is saline in the coastal districts of Bangladesh where unsafe water from ordinary tube wells causes serious health risks. To address the problem, Qatar Charity continues its effort to provide safe water for the people in coastal districts through the `Water and Sanitation program. In the last five years, Qatar Charity has installed more than 500,15 deep tube wells in coastal districts that ensured safe drinking water for the hundreds of thousands of struggling communities of the Bay of Bengal.

Palestine

Qatar Charity's office in Palestine spares no effort in improving the standard of living by implementing developmental projects, especially in the field of environment and alternative energy.

During the last five years, Qatar Charity provided dozens of schools and hospitals with solar energy, especially in the Gaza Strip where more than 20 schools of the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) benefited from the project, in addition to benefiting to the El Wafa Hospital and the Indonesian Hospital in the northern Gaza Strip.

Engineer Ismail Kurdiya from the Ministry of Education in the Gaza Strip indicated that the availability of energy in schools contributed to the better academic performance of students, especially secondary school students.

In addition, Qatar Charity has used alternative energy in operating agricultural wells that were disrupted for a long time due to no sufficient electricity production in Gaza, which contributed to

the decline in agricultural production, especially in border and marginalized areas.

Dr. Nabil Abu Shamala, former director-general of policies and Planning at the Ministry of Agriculture, said that the solar energy projects funded by Qatar Charity contributed to alleviating the suffering of farmers and reduced the cost of their access to water, in light of the ongoing electricity crisis in the Gaza Strip and water scarcity.

Northern Syria

Qatar Charity takes into account environmental indicators in designing its projects implemented in various sectors in northern Syria, aiming to save people and the planet from the consequences of climate change. It develops plans to implement environmentally friendly and sustainable projects to ensure their long-term operation and usage.

Qatar Charity, through its 'livestock value chain support' project, ensured generating biogas from dung to use it in cooking, and the treated manure residues as a natural fertilizer.

Qatar Charity has also installed solar panels to produce clean alternative energy for water pumps to irrigate crops, aiming to support vegetable farmers through its 'vegetable value chain support' project.

Qatar Charity installed solar panels to provide a drinking water pumping plant in Ma'ara with clean

Qatar Charity has built a drinking water pumping station and equipped it with refineries in the Faylun village located south of Idlib, in addition to installing solar panels to provide electricity to the station. In the same village suffering from sewage leakage, Qatar Charity extended the main sewer line to end the suffering of people, taking into consideration the future expansion of the area and environmental protection.

Qatar Charity takes into account international environmental standards while establishing camps to ensure cleanliness and a healthy environment by providing drainage and water networks, and establishing a system to ensure the optimal disposal of garbage, avoid environmental consequences, and prevent the spread of diseases.

Qatar Charity works on destroying livestock vaccine packages used in vaccination campaigns, training livestock breeders to destroy these packages because they harm the environment and the population, in addition to optimally destroying pesticide containers in line with international standards.



The warmest year

According to NASA and Copernicus Climate Change Service, 2020 is jointly the warmest year on record together with 2016. The year 2020 saw a large number of fires, floods and hurricanes around the globe, due to the dramatic changes in climate. While greenhouse gas emissions have decreased slightly in 2020 due to travel and economic restrictions caused by the COVID- 19 pandemic, overall levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere are likely to rise compared to 2019. Climate change is also exacerbating challenges from food insecurity to refugee crises and conflict, especially in the developing world.

"Climate change, an increasingly potent driver of migration, could force 216 million people across six world regions to move within their countries by 2050," finds the World Bank's updated Groundswell report released in September this year.

What is the Paris Agreement?

Climate change is a global emergency that goes beyond national borders. It is an issue that requires international cooperation and coordinated solutions at all levels.

To tackle climate change and its negative impacts, world leaders at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris reached a breakthrough on 12 December 2015: the historic Paris Agreement.

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at COP 21 and entered into force on 4 November 2016.

Goal

Its goal is to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to preindustrial levels.

To achieve this long-term temperature goal, countries aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible to achieve a climate neutral world by mid-century.

Common Cause

The Paris Agreement is a landmark in the multilateral climate change process because, for the

first time, a binding agreement brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects.

The implementation of the Paris Agreement requires economic and social transformation, based on the best available science. The Paris Agreement works on a 5 - year cycle of increasingly ambitious climate action carried out by countries.

The Agreement includes commitments from all countries to reduce their emissions and work together to adapt to the impacts of climate change, and calls on countries to strengthen their commitments over time.

The Agreement provides a pathway for developed nations to assist developing nations in their climate mitigation and adaptation efforts while creating a framework for the transparent monitoring and reporting of countries' climate goals. The Paris Agreement provides a durable framework guiding the global effort for decades to come.

^{*} With minor changes from the UN and UN Climate Change websites



Climate Change has become a major concern of decision-makers throughout the world. The development made in decades and infrastructures established with heavy budgets are destroyed within no time and we can do nothing except looking helplessly. The calamities caused by climate change have taken a toll of thousands of lives in different parts of the globe. The World has seen on one side tsunamis, and floods and droughts on the other side. Climate change is directly linked with the destruction of the environment. Unfortunately, every corner of the world is facing environmental challenges from the Americas to Australia, from Mongolia to Madagascar, from North to South and from East to West. Even the most developed and civilized countries are not completely successful in educating their public about the safety of the environment.

Mountains are losing the trees. Seas and rivers are filled with solid waste and plastic. Weather conditions are worsening and temperatures are increasing. Carbon emissions and Global warming are the major threats to life on the earth and to what mankind has achieved so far.

Major Flood

Pakistan is among the first 10 countries that are most affected by environmental challenges and

resultantly destruction of climate change. Pakistan has seen major floods in the last two decades that ravaged the vast lands from Gilgit Baltistan in the north to Sindh in the south. The level of water in the Arabian Sea near Karachi has been reported rising for the last few years posing a threat to this biggest city and other coastal areas.

Pakistan was severely affected by massive flooding in 2010 when the heaviest rains in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab were recorded. Reliable reports prepared by the authorities and independent organizations estimated the number of individuals affected was more than the combined total of individuals affected by the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2005 Kashmir earthquake and the 2010 Haiti earthquake. Glaciermelting, monsoon rains, deforestation in a watershed, and siltation are among the principal divers of riverine floods.

Variations in Monsoon Rainfalls

Extreme variations in monsoon rainfalls have hit Pakistan with droughts as well. Some areas of the country remain dry throughout the year because monsoon days have shrunk there. That is why drought is a frequent phenomenon in Pakistan. The worst drought in the history of the country was between 1998 to 2002. Balochistan and Sindh provinces are mostly affected. According to a report issued by the Economic Survey of Pakistan, drought is one of the factors responsible for

poor growth performance. Balochistan, especially the western and central parts of the province remain in the grip of drought almost all year round.

Save Trees

Pakistan has set up a full-fledged ministry of Climate Change with a federal minister and special assistant to address the problem. Moreover, all the provinces have their ministries and environmental protection agencies to keep an eye and maintain check and balance on the threats and shortcomings. A central Environment Protection Agency (EPA) looks after the matters on a policy level. All law enforcement agencies are present to implement the directives of these EPAs in the industrial sector. Forest departments are working on both federal and provincial levels to save the trees from the timber mafia.

They are supposed to do this duty more effectively in the hilly areas where trees are the first line of safety from floods and land sliding. The trees are important at coastal lines as well to keep the water in the sea, saving the land from cutting. The government claims to have planted billions of trees across Pakistan, especially in KPK province where the project of a billion-tree tsunami was initiated. The government of Pakistan has launched the Clean and Green Pakistan initiative to control environmental hazards. But certainly, no government alone can

cope with the mighty challenges. Public awareness and support are a must in that direction.

Pakistan is trying its best and it is encouraging that the world and UNO are also supporting the efforts made so far. This year International Day of Environment 5 June was mainly celebrated in Pakistan.

Taking Care of Surroundings

We already know that plastic is damaging our environment. Therefore, we should not wait for the government to impose a ban on it. We can control the use ourselves without any fear of legal action but with the sense that it is important for our lives and for our generations to come. The planet is not the responsibility of the government or departments. The country is just like our home. We keep our homes clean and beautiful. We can contribute a lot by just doing a little extra. We can look around our home and start taking care of the surroundings around our home. The streets, the common places, parks, schools, etc can be the second for our attention after our home. Environment affects our lives. If we take care of it, our lives will become more pleasant and healthier. Further, we can be safe from climate change as well.

Poverty-pandemic stricken slumdwellers portray Bangladesh's vulnerability to climate change



Md Owasim Uddin Bhuyan - Bangladesh

Displaced Abdul Awal, 47 of Kurigram district is now leading a miserable life with his family at Korail slum in Dhaka City.

Once a maize and groundnut cultivator in Charland of Jamuna River in the Northern district, Awal has been forced to move with wife and two children to Dhaka for works to escape poverty. His last resorts which were some pieces of arable land and homestead were engulfed by the river erosions.

"We are poor people of the northern district because we don't have enough money to fully eat twice daily," said Awal, who is a porter in the city's Karwan Bazar area engaged in loading and unloading vegetables from transports.

"It has been very hard for me to feed four mouths every day with a barely income of BDT 200 (USD 2.4) as works in lockdown situation became less" he said, adding that his wife with minors stays at the slum, and occasionally works as domestic help to nearby residences.

Severe Hardship

Awal informed that livelihood in the char-lands of home district was very hard as people there could never be able to eat rice three time a day. Most of the char people survive on one-meal consisting rice and groundnut paste mixed with chili and salt, he said.

"Severe hardship to survive in the char amid erosions has mainly pushed me to move to Dhaka city," said Awal.

Sakina Begum, 35 - year-old domestic worker, is bearing burden of a four-member family amid acute crisis of job and income in Dhaka City. She lost jobs due to lockdown imposed to restrict spread of coronavirus. Since March 2020, the pandemic began affecting incomes of Sakina and her husband, a daylabourer who lives in a Kamrangir Char slum under Dhaka South City Corporation.

Sakina, along with her husband and two children has taken shelter in the makeshift slum for more than two years. The family actually came from Rangpur district as their homestead was eroded by flow of The Teesta, a transboundary river.

Her husband can hardly manage jobs. But he offers himself as day-labourer for on-spot hiring every day. His income gets uncertain because of ongoing COVID- 19 pandemic.

In a single room of 5X7 feet area, Sakina's family spent over two years without having minimum basic standard of lives. The family does not have access to safe food, sanitation, pure drinking water, health and education for children in the slum.

Recently, Sakina's family has fallen in debt as she took a loan of Tk 30,000 (USD 350) from a moneylender to pay house rent and buy foods amid lockdown.

Internal Displacement

Internal displacement is occurring in Bangladesh due to natural calamities, salinity intrusion river, river erosions, poverty and scarcity of incomes. Poverty stricken and vulnerable people continue to move towards urban slums from the countryside, the experts said.



Currently, more than 3.5 million poor people are living in about 3,000 slums or shanties at different areas in Dhaka city, according to the Alor Pothe Nobojatray (APON) Foundation, a non-government organization that works with slum peoples in Bangladesh.

APON Executive Director Mohammad Aftabuzzaman said that poverty and natural calamities especially river erosions were forcing the people to migrate internally and live in the slums. They were mostly coming from the disaster-prone districts of Bangladesh.

Sharing his recent experience, he said that slum dwellers have been facing acute hardship in getting sufficient foods to survive as their traditional incomes were affected by the COVID- 19 pandemic.

As a developing and densely populated country in South Asia, Bangladesh with 163 million population has been fighting to reduce poverty.

In Bangladesh, the population living below the national poverty line dropped to 20.5 % in 2019 from 24.3 % in 2016, according to Asian Development Bank (ADB) data.

Vulnerable Countries

In Bangladesh, the proportion of the employed population below 1.90\$ purchasing power parity a day is 5.6 % in 2019, the ADB data show.

Bangladesh is widely considered as one of the most vulnerable countries to global climate change due to its unique geographical features as the country is highly prone to natural hazards, mainly cyclones and floods, and hundreds of thousands of people are displaced each year by the disasters they cause.

Every year, sudden (tropical cyclones, flooding, storm surges, landslides, water logging and slow onset natural hazards (drought, sea level rise, salinity, riverbank erosion) lead to forced displacement of various types across Bangladesh, according to the WARBE Development Foundation.

WARBE Development Foundation's chairman Syed

Saiful Haque said that Bangladesh government has acknowledged that by 2050, one in every 7 people in Bangladesh will be displaced by climate change (Displacement Solution). The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC, 2016) estimates that more than 4.7 million people were displaced due to disasters in Bangladesh between 2008 and 2014.

A RMMRU-SCMR study estimates that from 2011 to 2050, as many as 16 to 26 million people would move out from their places of origin in Bangladesh due to a number of climatic hazards.

According to same report by Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), around 9.6 million people in the country will migrate due to climatic factors between 2011 and 2050, excluding temporary and seasonal migrations

Ways to Overcome

As Bangladesh is a poor country with huge population so steps should be taken to turn its population as human resources. Overseas employment of skilled workers can be a strategy to eradicate poverty.

To mitigate vulnerability of climate change impact, adaptation programmes should be taken for coastal and river-bank people.

Development and income generating activities should be decentralized to discourage people's move to cities. Massive preparedness and awareness are necessary to deal the issues of internal displacement.

Comprehensive database of the floating people including slum dwellers should be prepared to bring them under social safety nets.

The domestic workers should be brought under any insurance coverage as social protection mechanism.

International organizations should come up with projects to groom young slumdwellers as skilled workers to get rid of debt cycle and poverty.



COVAX, a worldwide initiative to ensure global equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines

At an early stage during the coronavirus pandemic, it quickly became apparent that to end this global crisis, the world does not t just need COVID-19 vaccines, it also needs to ensure that everyone in the world has access to them.

Although the development of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines is a huge step forward in the global effort to end the pandemic, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), which is a unique interagency forum for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving the key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners, estimates that there could be as many as 167 million people at risk of exclusion from COVID-19 vaccination, while noting that these numbers are highly variable and

subject to unexpected shocks due to new conflicts or natural disasters. Created by the UN General Assembly in 1991, the IASC is the highest-level humanitarian coordination forum of the UN system.

This triggered global leaders to call for a solution that would accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as diagnostics and treatments, and guarantee rapid, fair and equitable access to them for people in all countries.

Best Hope

Today, the world has that solution – COVAX initiative, which has the world's largest and most diverse portfolio of COVID-19 vaccines, and as such

represents the world's best hope of bringing the acute phase of this pandemic to a swift end.

The initial aim is to have 2 billion doses available by the end of 2021 – half of which will go to lower-income countries – which should be enough to protect high-risk and vulnerable people, including frontline health and social care workers, across the world.

Established in mid- 2020, COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access, abbreviated as COVAX, is a worldwide initiative co-led by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and the World Health Organization (WHO) alongside key delivery partner UNICEF. It aims to accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world.

COVAX brings together governments, global health organisations, manufacturers, scientists, private sector, civil society and philanthropy, with the aim of providing innovative and equitable access to COVID-19 diagnostics, treatments and vaccines.

It is the truly global solution to this pandemic because it is the effort to ensure that people in all corners of the world will get access to COVID- 19 vaccines once they are available, regardless of their wealth.

Why We Need Covax

COVAX is necessary because without it there is a very real risk that the majority of people in the world will go unprotected against SARS-CoV- 2, and this would allow the virus and its impact to continue unabated. COVAX has been created to maximise our chances of successfully developing COVID-19 vaccines and manufacture them in the quantities needed to end this crisis.

Covax Facility

Gavi has created the COVAX Facility through which self-financing economies and funded economies can participate. The principal role of the COVAX Facility is to maximise the chances of people in participating countries getting access to COVID-19 vaccines as quickly, fairly and safely as possible.

The COVAX Humanitarian Buffer

The COVAX Humanitarian Buffer is a mechanism established within the COVAX Facility to act as a measure of 'last resort' to ensure access to COVID-19 vaccines for high-risk and vulnerable populations

in humanitarian settings. Populations of concern in humanitarian settings may include refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, internally displaced persons, minorities, populations in conflict settings or those affected by humanitarian emergencies, and vulnerable migrants irrespective of their legal status. Both COVAX participants and humanitarian agencies can apply for Humanitarian Buffer doses.

Co-created with humanitarian agencies, the Humanitarian Buffer has a global scope.

On 22 March 2021, the Gavi Board approved reserving 5% of Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) funding for doses to be deployed via the COVAX Buffer.

The Humanitarian Buffer will be particularly relevant in instances of state failure and conflict, and in covering people in areas controlled by non-state groups that are inaccessible to governments.

As most children who have not received any routine vaccines are concentrated in fragile and conflict-affected settings, Humanitarian Buffer dose requests will provide further insight into overlooked, high-risk populations who likely do not receive routine vaccines.

As the world moves towards the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic response, equitable access to vaccines and treatments will be vital to saving the lives of the most vulnerable people. Including all individuals, regardless of legal status, in national allocation plans is critical, particularly in settings characterized by conflict and natural disasters. Leaving these people behind would undermine humanitarian principles and compromise efforts to end the pandemic.

Ultimately, although it is designed to solve a complex problem, the ultimate aim of the COVAX Humanitarian Buffer is very simple To leave no one behind.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance



Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic across the world, Qatar Charity (QC) has been making its utmost efforts to contributing to combating it by delivering preventive and protective gear and items to the vulnerable, especially the internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees, worldwide, and raising awareness to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

As the covid- 19 vaccines have been made, and people across the world are getting vaccinated, Qatar Charity is recently attaching significant attention to contribute to providing vaccines to the vulnerable, the displaced and refugees, who have fled the conflict in their homeland and restored to other countries or other areas of their countries to save their lives.

Qatar Charity, as part of its global efforts to prevent the coronavirus, has recently coordinated with relevant bodies to provide vaccines to Syrian IDPs, and signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with a Jordanian ministry to support Jordon's vaccination efforts Syrian refugees and its citizens.

Northern Syria

Qatar Charity coordinated with the Syria Vaccine Team to provide the Covid- 19 vaccine to the IDPs in northern Syria through two primary healthcare centers operated by Qatar Charity.

The two centers, first located in Al-Rai, a small town in northern Aleppo Governorate, another situated in the Idlib countryside, provide more than 625 doses of vaccine monthly to IDPs in northern Syria.

This comes to better protect the IDPs community from the covid- 19 pandemic, as they lack the most basic health services generally.

The covid- 19 vaccination process is considered to be the fruitful co-operation between the Syria Vaccine Team and non-governmental organizations, including Qatar Charity, operating in northern Syria, where the Covid- 19 Vaccines Global Access (Covax) provides vaccines through UNICEF while the World Health Organization (WHO) extends material and technical support.

The Syria Vaccine Team plans, implements and technically supervises the activities, while humanitarian organizations extend support and

assistance to hospitals and health centers to facilitate communication between the vaccination team and beneficiaries.

Since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, Qatar Charity has implemented several projects in northern Syria to mitigate its impact on Syrian refugees. It has distributed personal protective equipment and items, including masks, sanitizers, gloves, and protective clothing, to medical personnel.

It also established 14 community-based isolation units in northern Syria to benefit 3,000 people living in camps at a total cost of US1.6\$ million, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Jordan

Qatar Charity (QC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Jordanian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in Amman, the capital of Jordan, to support the Jordanian government's COVID- 19 vaccination efforts for Syrian refugees and Jordanian citizens, with a value of 10 million Qatari riyals.

Jordanian Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Nasser Shraideh, and CEO of Qatar Charity, Yousef Ahmed Al Kuwari, signed the MoU, in the presence of Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Jordan H E Sheikh Saud bin Nasser Al Thani. On the sidelines of the signing of the agreement, the CEO of Qatar Charity Yousef Ahmed Al Kuwari expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the Jordanian government's efforts to facilitate humanitarian missions and projects implemented by Qatar Charity in Jordan. He also voiced his pride in partnership with the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation, the Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development and the King Hussein Cancer Foundation, which is considered to be one of the most significant beneficiaries of Qatar Charity's projects and services.

Al-Kuwari said that Qatar Charity was one of the leading organizations making efforts in mitigating the effects of the pandemic on humanity through its offices in more than 30 countries around the world. He added that it contributed to supporting the efforts of those countries, and extending support to those affected by the pandemic as a humanitarian duty that Qatar Charity is keen to carry out, in line with the humanitarian role of the State of Qatar.

It is worth noting that the total cost of projects implemented by Qatar Charity during the past year in Jordan amounted to more than 60 million Qatari riyals. These projects were implemented to benefit Syrian refugees, both residing in and outside camps, as well as to support needy Jordanian families.

The displaced, refugees need support for harsh winter

As winter is just around the corner, with temperatures dropping gradually, especially in countries suffering from crises, this brings back into our minds the 2018-winter tragedy of the Syrian refugees, who died in the snow on the Lebanese border where six members of a family froze to death. Besides, another 16 displaced Syrians froze to death in the same year while trying to enter Lebanon.

This painful memory automatically leads to the importance of early reminders of meeting the basic needs of the displaced and refugees globally, who have to face extremely cold months in winter, due to temperatures dropping below zero, as well as storms and heavy rains that engulf their tents and damage their modest homes and camps.

The winter needs of the refugees, who often flee home with just the clothes they wear, include adequate shelters, tents, warm clothes, blankets, fuel, food, medicines, and medical supplies.

As the predictions of international organizations indicate that the 2021-2022 winter season will be difficult for the displaced and refugees, especially due to the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, support from donors, companies, and philanthropists is more urgently needed to meet the winter needs of the vulnerable. The early support will contribute to avoiding many risks facing them, especially in times of severe cold, heavy rains and snowfall, which are expected within the next three

3.3 million people are in need of critical assistance to help them prepare for and cope during the forthcoming winter," according to UNHCR Regional Winterization Assistance Plan 2021-2022: Syria and Iraq Situations. "This will be the 11th consecutive winter in displacement for some, and many continue to face increased hardships due to the economic situation and the COVID-19 pandemic."

"UNHCR requires USD 193.4 million to provide life-saving winterization assistance for people in need before the onset of the harsh and challenging winter season. As of August 2021, and thanks to timely and generous contributions from donors, these requirements are 56 per cent funded, leaving a gap of USD 84.2 million," says the report.

The displaced and refugees live in substandard accommodations and are unable to afford the additional costs of fuel and warm clothes, and they, therefore, have to make very challenging decisions like cutting back on spending on basic necessities like food and medicines.

The worsening situation of the displaced and refugees requires everyone to support them by delivering quick aid to them and meeting their basic needs through winter campaigns like Qatrar Charity's "Warmth & Peace" drive, which are launched by humanitarian organizations to protect these people from any imminent dangers. prevention is worth a pound of cure'.





'Warmth and Peace' The 2022-2021 Winter Drive

The 'Warmth and Peace' campaign, which was recently launched by Qatar Charity (QC) under the slogan 'Share the Warmth' for the 2022-2021 winter season, aims to deliver aid, to more than 1.4 million people to bring a safer and warmer winter to them.

Campaign's Beneficiaries

The campaign focuses on the displaced, refugees, and the affected in countries suffering from prolonged crises and facing exceptional circumstances. The Syrian displaced persons and refugees, Rohingyas, and the underprivileged of the countries with harsh cold will receive special attention and significant concentration.

Campaign's Areas

Education

Health



Shelter



Winter Supplies



Food



Campaign's Products

The winter campaign's products include food packages, warm clothes, blankets, heaters, heating fuel, tents, house rent and maintenance, and personal hygiene kits. Among the campaign's products are also necessary medicines and medical supplies to protect the underprivileged, the displaced, refugees, and those with chronic diseases. Under the campaign, support is expected to be extended to children and youth education in the areas of asylum and displacement to contribute to ensuring a bright future for them.











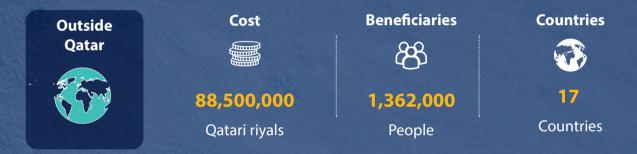


Report









Target countries:

Palestine, Pakistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, Bangladesh, Syria, Kyrgyzstan, Somalia, Morocco, Afghanistan, India, Yemen, and Turkey

In Qatar	Cost	Beneficiaries
		88
	More than a million	4,000
	Qatari riyals	Workers

Aid to be delivered: winter supplies, food packages, medical checkups, and awarenessraising lectures

Events: Awareness-raising activities, sports events, and interactive competitions **Beneficiaries of the events:** Tens of thousands of people in Qatar



Press Conference

The winter campaign 'Warmth and Peace'

was launched in a press conference attended by many Qatar Charity's officials, including Mr. Ahmad Yousef Fakhroo, CEO's assistant for the Resources Development and Media sector, Mr. Nawaf Abdullah Al Hammadi, CEO>s Assistant for International Operations and Programs, and Mr. Abdulaziz Jassim Hejji, director of the Marketing and Digital Growth and Customer Service departments.

Speaking at the conference, Qatar Charity's officials focused on the following;



Ahmad Fakhroo:

We urge benefactors to support the campaign to benefit as many people as possible globally.



Nawaf Al Hammadi:

The campaign focuses on the displaced and refugees



Abdulaziz Jassim Hejji:

Many ways to easily donate in support of the campaign

Qatar Charity's Winterization Aid Convoys

The first batch of Qatar Charity's (QC) aid convoys has departed from Turkey's Gaziantep on Friday, as part of its 2021-2022 winter drive 'Warmth and Peace', heading to Syria and the Elbeyli camp on the Turkish-Syrian border.

Some 30,000 internally displaced Syrians and Syrian

refugees are expected to benefit from the aid of 30

Dozens of aid convoys are expected to be sent during the next period to deliver food, shelter, and winterization aid and personal hygiene kits, in addition to 517 residential caravans. Some 350,000 refugees in Turkey and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northern Syria are expected to benefit from the total assistance of this winter campaign.



Book Review

Disaster Public Health and Older People

Authors: Emily Ying Yang Chan

Number of Pages: 256
Publisher: Routledge
First Edition: 2020

Language: English

Disaster Public Health and Older People introduces professionals, students and fieldworkers to the science and art of promoting health and well-being among older people in the context of humanitarian emergencies, with a particular focus on low- and middle-income country settings.

Older people face specific vulnerabilities in physical, mental and social well-being during disasters. They are likely to experience socio-economic marginalisation, isolation, inaccessible information and a lack of relevant post-emergency support services. Meanwhile, although older people can also significantly contribute to disaster preparedness, response and recovery, their capacities are often under-utilised.

Drawing on a range of global case studies, this book provides readers with a theoretical underpinning, while suggesting actions at the individual,

community and national levels to reduce the health risks to older people posed by the increasing frequency and intensity of disaster, in particular those resulting from natural hazards.

This book draws on lessons learnt from previous disasters and targets students and professionals



working in disaster medicine, disaster public health, humanitarian studies, gerontology and geriatrics.

Topics

Topics covered range from the health impact of disasters on older people and response to their post-disaster health needs, to disaster preparedness, disease prevention, healthy ageing, global policy developments and the contributions of older people in disaster contexts.

The book is composed of three parts. Part I include four chapters that describe the common principle and theories related to the theme of this book. Chapter 1 provides an overview of the book's extraction and discussion. Chapter 2 highlights key principles in public health that are relevant to the understanding of how health risk and wellbeing of a population might be conceptualized. Chapter 3 reviews the current status, well-being and common health problems of older people in the twenty-first centuries. Chapter 4 describes theories and concepts of disaster that may be useful for practitioners in health and related disciplines in examining, analyzing and describing the challenges and problems faced by older people in emergency contexts.

Part II of the book includes four chapters that examine issues among disaster, public health and older people. Chapter 5 begins with exploring older people's contribution before, during and after emergencies and crises, which are often forgotten and under-utilized. Chapter 6 delineates the specific health impact on older people of various common disasters categories. Chapter 7 and 8 discuss key health, medical needs and specific response concerns that may be help maximize survival and well-being of older people in crisis.

Part III consists of three chapters and discusses

global policy and program development regarding how older people might be supported in emergencies and crises. Chapter 9 examines how "healthy aging", "disaster mitigation" and "disaster risk reduction" initiatives might be developed at individual community and policy level. Chapter 10 offers a discussion of the challenges, as well as opportunities, in addressing needs and gaps for older people in times of crisis. Chapter 11 concludes the main theme of this book.

Author

Emily Ying Yang Chan serves as Professor and Head of the Division of Global Health and Humanitarian Medicine, Professor (by Courtesy) of the Accident and Emergency Unit, and Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). She also serves as Director of the Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and **CUHK for Medical and Humanitarian Response** (CCOUC). She concurrently holds academic appointments as Visiting Professor (Public Health Medicine) of Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford and Fellow of FXB Center, Harvard University, and is Co-Chair of WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network. She is author/ editor of numerous book titles and articles, including Public Health Humanitarian Responses to Natural Disasters (Routledge, 2017), Building Bottom-up Health and Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (2018) and Climate Change and Urban Health (Routledge, 2019).

For the limited view of the book





Qatar Charity releases books for children and adults

Qatar Charity (QC) has released two books, aiming to inculcate the values of humanitarian action and promote the culture of volunteering in society.

Authored by Mr. Ali al-Rachied, both books 'Pioneer Feminist Experiences in the Humanitarian and Volunteer Work' and 'The Incredible Journey' were translated from Arabic into English. The former book is for adults, while the latter book is for children.

The book "Pioneer Feminist Experiences in the Humanitarian and Volunteer Work", which is for the adults, highlights the distinctive role women in the humanitarian sector.

This book combines both literary biography and feature stories to highlight memories, emotions, and sentiments while providing information and facts. Through this book, Qatar Charity aspires to bridge the gap in humanitarian literary documentation and contribute to the humanitarian literary landscape in the Arab world.

The book comes with the aim of documenting the humanitarian and charitable experiences of three Qatari women: Sheikha Rasid Al-Muftah, Badriya Muhammad al-Yakout, and Istiqlal Ahmed Al-Baker, and shed light on the active and influential role of women in the various voluntary and humanitarian fields inside and outside the country.

These women, as volunteers, gave their time, made efforts, and utilized their expertise to serve their Qatari community and contributed to drawing a smile on the face of orphans, the displaced, refugees, and the needy worldwide. Due to their aim of contributing to providing a dignified life to poor families, social and charitable work became the most important part of their lives.

Besides, the second book of the 'Read... Learn...Help' series was released under the title 'The Incredible Journey'. The book, which is for children, came to inculcate the values of humanitarian action in children. It begins with a fictional story followed by awareness materials and interactive activities.

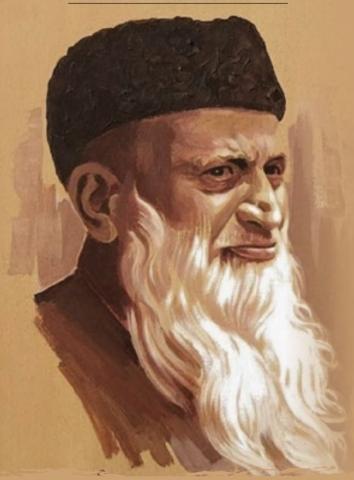
The idea of the 'Read...Learn...Help' series is based on using stories to inculcate the values of humanitarian work and community service in children and engage them in voluntary work to help others.



Scan/click to read
Pioneer Feminist Experiences in the Humanitarian and Volunteer Work.







Abdul Sattar Edhi

A very young child who grown up by taking care of his paralyzed mother with multiple diseases. His mother was giving two coins to that child every day; one to spend on himself and other to give any needy person. The child was latter kow as Mr. Abdul Sattar Edhi, a humanitarian and philanthropist, who etalished the Edhi Foundation, which runs the world's largest volunteer ambulance network, along with various homeless shelters, animal shelters, rehabilitation centres, and orphanages across Pakistan. He donated all his organs so that he can continue his mission of serving humanity even after his death.

Birth

Born in a village called Bantva, which is now in India's Gujarat state, Edhi emigrated to Pakistan soon after India's partition in 1947.

One-Man Ambulance Service

He started welfare services in 1951in Pakistan where established a clinic and a one-man ambulance service in Karachi after the death of his mother, whom he'd cared for during years of illness.

Edhi, the legendary philanthropist and angel of mercy

Inspiration for Humanitarians

Abdul Sattar Edhi is the most famous, noble and hero of the people. He is a role model not only for civil societies but also for humanity. He set examples for humanity through his actions. He slept on concrete floor, adopted orphans, buried and washed burnt dead bodies who were unknown and not claimed by anyone. He also begged for charity on street signals during extreme warm and cold weathers.

Abdul Sattar Edhi was a person who served the human beyond the boundaries and restrictions. He was an inspiration for those who have pain for humanity and wanted to serve the people generously.

Edhi Foundation

In 1974, the Edhi Foundation was established by Abdul Sattar and his wife Bilguis Edhi, a professional nurse and one of the most active philanthropists in Pakistan. This foundation is one of the biggest social welfare organization in Pakistan which have more than 300 branches across the country. This foundation contains baby cradle, women shelters, orphanages, blood banks, graveyard services, missing children services and ambulance services. According to generous book of record, Edhi Foundation Pakistan has the largest ambulance service in world. It has air ambulance service as well. He sposored more than 20,000 children and provided them with higher education, in addition to housig and health facilities.

He spent his whole life in simplicity, long beard, few simple clothes and simple food. Along with four



He spent his whole life in simplicity, long beard, few simple clothes and simple food

children and wife, he spent his whole life in a flat adjacent to the Edhi Foundation.

Richest Poor Man

Abdul Sattar Edhi was known as the richest poor man among civil societies. He is the most respectable and legendary figure in Pakistan. He was parenting the orphans, infants, and new born as his own children and provided safe shelter to women and elders who were homeless or the most vulnerable at their homes. He was supporting and helping everyone without any reward or any greed. Due to this nature of serving humanity, Abdul Sattar Edhi was called as an 'Angel of Mercy'.

Prices & Awards

Abdul Sattar Edhi won the people's heart not only in Pakistan but across world. He was houored with

many awards and souvenirs. He received Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service in 1986, Lenin Peace Award & Peace Prize from the former Soviet Union in 1988, Paul Harris Fellow Award in 1993. Hamdan Award for Volunteers in Humanitarian Medical Services and International Balzan Prize for humanity, Peace and brotherhood Italy in 2000, Peace and Harmony Award in 2001, Peace Award in 2005 & 2004, Gandhi Peace Award in 2007, Seoul Peace Award in 2008, Honorary doctorate from the Institute of Business Administration Karachi in 2006, UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize in 2009, Honorary Doctorate by the University of Bedfordshire in 2010, London Peace Award in 2011.

Government of Pakistan also honored him with may awards, includigNishan-e-Imtiaz which is the most prestigious award of the coutry.

Death

Abdul Sattar Edhi, who dedicated himself for humanity and donated all his organs to alive in others, breathed his last in 2016 at the age of 88 in Karachi.

Role of human-interest stories in drawing attention to humanitarian issues

Although the media plays a key role in reflecting humanitarian issues and people's concerns, it is noticeable that most news reports have no humanistic spirit, and the audience receives them with limited degrees of influence or interaction. Hence this is very important to prepare human interest stories from angles dealing with humanitarian crises in a way closer to the conscience of the audience.

Studies have proven that the closer the news gets to the human being, the greater and more effective impact it has on receivers. Therefore, it is necessary for the media to 'humanize the news', as it has great ability to convey the true picture of events, and to ensure that the voice of the affected is heard.

To discuss this topic, 'Ghiras' organized a symposium entitled "Human-Interest Stories and Their Role in Drawing Attention to Humanitarian Issues".

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutawa, began the symposium by talking about the importance of human-interest stories. "The story is one of the artistic tools used to evoke emotion, communicate an idea, and instill value," said Al-Mutawa.

He explained that perhaps one of the most important reasons for the human being's connection to the story is the innate human nature that prefers imaging, which is rich in grabbing attention, and investigating that ignites curiosity, to just reporting the event as it is, and it learns from the experiences, successes, and failures of others.

Dr. Ashraf Jalal focused on the aspect of suffering, pain and success that human-interest stories reveal. He said that the stories convey the voice of people, enhance self-confidence, improve the chances of success, and promote many positive values.

He added that human-interest stories contribute to finding ways to invest in humanitarian work and writing lessons learned and optimal experiences that can be useful for other individuals in In the symposium, Qatar Charity hosted:

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutawa, Deputy Director-General of Projects at the International Islamic Charitable Organization

Abdelkader Aiad, News anchor, Al Jazeera Media Network

Dr. Ashraf Jalal, Professor of Mass Communication at Qatar University

The participants discussed the importance of human-interest stories, the reasons for their use, the most important components that make these stories impactful, and the technical issues that must be considered when writing a human-interest story. They also deliberated how human-interest stories can contribute to influencing donors, mobilizing resources and promoting campaigns that serve target groups.



Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutawa

humanitarian work in particular and developmental work in general.



Abdelkader Aiad

Mr. Abdelkader Aiad mentioned that the media looks beyond the incident, finds out the reason that led to it, sheds light on it. He said that when the media reports on the displacement of some people as a result of conflicts, droughts or floods, it tells about the number of victims and their living conditions, and then goes beyond the incident. This contributes greatly to giving a clear scene about the incident, and thus the interaction with it begins, as



Dr. Ashraf Jalal

the human dimension is enshrined in the nature of media work.

Reasons for Use

The participants of the symposium drew attention to the importance of using stories in raising community awareness of the importance of humanitarian work. In this regard, Dr. Ashraf Jalal said that human interest stories give momentum to humanitarian work, and a societal framework for how to frame this work through successes stories and very significant social, psychological, behavioral, educational, charitable and religious values. Human interest stories also increase the credibility of humanitarian action and enhance trust in communities and charitable and humanitarian organizations.

Mr. Abdelkader Aiad believes that the media is an influential means and that the use of stories plays a great role in urging people to quickly help the affected and meet their needs, and to put more pressure on culpable and negligent bodies to discharge their duties.

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutawa dealt with the important impacts of the story for a charitable organization, indicating that the story enhances the mental image of the organization, motivates its employees, creates a sense of belonging to it, and documents successful experiences, in addition to helping the organization gain the trust of donors.

Components

Mr. Abdelkader Aiad believes that the most important components of a human-interest story, in general, is truth, and the language, which must be simple and understandable, so that the message reaches the largest number of people, in addition to selecting the most powerful and impactful images and audio excerpts.

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutawa says that the story is based in general on important pillars, including 'embodiment', 'imagination', and 'intensification'. The story brings reality closer to a person who has not seen it. The human interest story, then, is not just fiction, and its primary concern is to convey the humanitarian situation to the distant receiver.

The essential elements of the story include characters, setting, plot, and theme. The wording should be simple, closer to the nature of the receiver, and far away from exaggeration and immersion in the use of artistic images and

rhetorical methods.

Among the elements of the human interest story are those involved in the humanitarian work, and those concerned with it, such as government bodies and organizations, the private sector, civil society. and teacher, **Dr. Ashraf Jalal** adds to the elements of the story mentioned by Al-Mutawa. Jalal also mentioned that the human-interest story should not include difficult and complex words.

Impact

The participants of the symposium agreed unanimously upon that human-interest stories play a significant role in influencing donors and promoting campaigns to benefit the target groups.

Mr. Abdelkader Aiad, believes that among the things that contribute to influencing donors and promoting campaigns is selecting a widespread media platform credible to its audience, then planning a campaign for a certain period of time, during which the news materials vary.

Dr. Ashraf Jalal emphasizes that the human-interest story plays a major role in mobilizing the community effort to collect donations and increases the volume of in-kind and cash donations. Also, the stories of people who were able to achieve success through simple aid, despite their challenging circumstances, draw attention to the importance of donation and its impact on the beneficiaries and make the donor feel happy. Such stories also contribute to setting priorities for donating and spending in the field of charitable work.

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutawa, believes that the human-interest story grabbed the attention of content creators as a tool, not only more influential in raising awareness among receivers than direct speech, but also as a more persuasive and attractive tool for charitable resources.

This made the story a daily means used in human content, which you read daily on the social media accounts of charitable organizations, not only to create strong stories of success and excellence, but also to address reason and emotion, which is positively reflected in the demand for the foundation's activities and contributing to achieving





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CEO of the Qatar Foundation for Social Work:

Qatari social work serves as a model at the international level

Continuous cooperation

between Oatar Foundation

for Social Work and Qatar

Charity is necessary to

achieve common goals

Mr. Ahmed bin Muhammad Al Kuwari, CEO of the Qatar Foundation for Social Work (QFSW) praised the outstanding humanitarian and social role of Qatar Charity, as well as its remarkable role and great contribution to community service and the empowerment of families in Qatar.

Talking to Qatar Charity's 'Ghiras' magazine, he stressed that social work in Qatar has greatly been improved thanks to the efforts made by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, and that it has become model at an international level. The interview with the CEO also included QFSW's efforts in the areas of social welfare and development for the benefit of those it attaches attention to, and

the experience of Qatari charitable originations in community work and other fields. Below is the complete interview.

In your capacity as QFSW's CEO, how doe you assess social work in the State of Qatar and what is the

importance of having governmental initiatives and civil society organizations?

social work in Qatar has greatly been improved thanks to the efforts made by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser for the Qatar Foundation for Social Work and its centers, thus it has become a model at an international level. This was evident in the conferences sponsored by Qatar in the field of social work, the most recent of which is the Doha International Conference on Disability and Development, which was organized by QFSW, and initiatives, whether by the government or by various organizations. They certainly contribute to mobilizing efforts to make social work activity successful, as cooperation between the parties contributes to improving the conditions of the

target groups in a faster and more professional manner.

Can you tell us about QFSW's most important role and efforts in the fields of social welfare and development for the benefit of those it attaches attention to?

QFSW seeks to adopt sustainable development policies that include everyone living on the generous land of Qatar, believing that the human being is the basis of developmental and social work, as every person has the inherent right to a dignified life and proper empowerment. Persons with disabilities have the right to discover their

abilities and overcome their disability to fully integrate into society away from the stares of grief, pain and pity. The child, the woman and the family have the right to live a domestic violence-free life and to enjoy a peaceful Youth have the right to attain

and stable life. Youth have the right to attain self-actualization with guidance and training to enable them to choose their careers and start their own projects that will put their ideas into practice. The elderly have the right to enjoy a healthy social life commensurate with their age, which allows us to benefit from their rich experiences and return the favor to them.

The efforts of the Qatar Foundation for Social Work are known to everyone. We contribute to social and human development and serve the Qatari community through our centers specialized in the areas of family stability support, orphan care, child and women protection, youth empowerment, care and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, and elderly care. The Behavioral Health Support Center



We contribute to the social development and community service through our specialized centers.

has recently joined our service areas.

In your opinion, how can the local community's interest in social work be strengthened within Qatar, its culture promoted, and social volunteers attracted?

Social work and service to others are authentic approaches derived from Islam and the ethics of our Prophet (PBUH), which encourage the strengthening of bonds of affection and cohesion between all members of society. The community's interest in social work can be strengthened by raising awareness about the existence of groups in the community, who suffer from various challenges.

These groups need the community, individuals and institutions to stand with, support, rehabilitate, and integrate them. This will only be achieved through institutional efforts, a clear vision, and voluntary projects that contribute to establishing a better reality and future for all segments of the community.

How do you see the experience of Qatari charitable organizations in the field of community work, and the importance of investing their efforts and networking with them to serve the Qatari community?

Over a quarter of a century, social work in Qatar achieved multiple successes and achievements despite the challenges, perhaps the last of which was the coronavirus pandemic. QFSW and its centers have continued to provide services to all without discrimination, as we believe that serving family and community members is the basis of our work as a non-governmental organization supporting the rest of the sectors in the community.

Since the establishment of QFSW in 2013, it has

Qatar Charity has a remarkable role in humanitarian and social work.

managed to accomplish tangible achievements, and it has become an entity that represents Qatar in international forums, advocates for vital social issues and supports the various segments of the community. Through the dynamism in the work of QFSW and its centers, we have obtained long-standing experience for the benefit of the community in Qatar, as QFSW provides services to the community members in accordance with the highest international standards.

How would you describe your relationship with Qatar Charity, and what are coordination and cooperation with it currently, especially it has interests in many categories and segments targeted by QFSW?

QFSW is keen to open horizons of cooperation with local partners, and we are pleased to sign a memorandum of understanding with Qatar Charity, which has a remarkable role in humanitarian and social work and a strong contribution locally. The common goal that unites us is to serve the community and empower individuals and families in Qatar, and we both work to support the less fortunate and extend full support to them.

We are keen to build effective partnerships with the relevant bodies, whether they are from the public sector, the private sector, or national, regional and international NGOs, and to gain more support by communicating with all concerned parties to find common ground and agreed coordination formulas that will accelerate the pace of efforts that brings us closer to achieving our vision.

In your opinion, what are the future prospects for developing the relationship between QFSW and Qatar Charity?

In light of the existence of common goals and target groups between Qatar Charity and QFSW, we believe that continuous cooperation between the two organizations is necessary to achieve those common goals and strategic directions to help others by harnessing all our energies to build a better community and to serve the Qatari community.



Nebras Fund for medical students in Qatar

'Nebras' is a medical fund, launched by Qatar Charity (QC), in cooperation with universities and academic institutions in Qatar, to support medical students in Qatar as the initial phase, and to extend support to health centers and hospitals as the second phase.

This initiative comes given Qatar Charity realizes the importance of strengthening efforts in achieving sustainable development goals and Qatar National Vision 2030 to serve the community in various aspects.

The fund provides financial support to medical students struggling to pay tuition fees and meet other education-related needs, enabling them to continue their studies and achieve their goals.

Goals

The fund aims to support education, contribute to competence development, establish a link between students, alumni and medical institutions to provide employment opportunities in the future, in addition to contributing to the education development and investing in the human mind for the benefit of the community.

Volunteer Opportunities

The fund seeks to provide volunteer opportunities and volunteers to work in the medical field at hospitals when needed, provide human resources, benefit from medical capacities, publish scientific research, and involve supporters as partners in medical research. The fund also seeks to provide educational opportunities like continuing medical education programs, offer medical services to health care institutions through the medical students of Qatar University, and improve the quality of medical services.

Bulbul Timbasco complex brings stability to IDPs

A region, which was an arena of suffering, displacement and death, becoming stable, is not a transient humanitarian event, but an exceptional story written by Qatar's Development Initiative in Darfur in the Bulbul Timbasco area of South Darfur, Sudan, which has turned into safe havens where the internally displaced persons (IDPs) and residents enjoy health, security and education services.

The 'Bulbul Timbasco' Service Complex is a distinguished development model that combines urban development, economic development and human development. The complex has all the necessary educational, health, and security facilities, in addition to housing for service providers. It also has social development centers, and provides youth and women with additional skills in the areas of livelihoods and food security.

Many IDPs have found ways to earn a living and enjoy a dignified life in the Bulbul Timbasco area. Mrs. Huda Ishaq, a returnee from the displacement camps, said that her life has changed greatly due to the services provided by the Bulbul Timbasco complex.

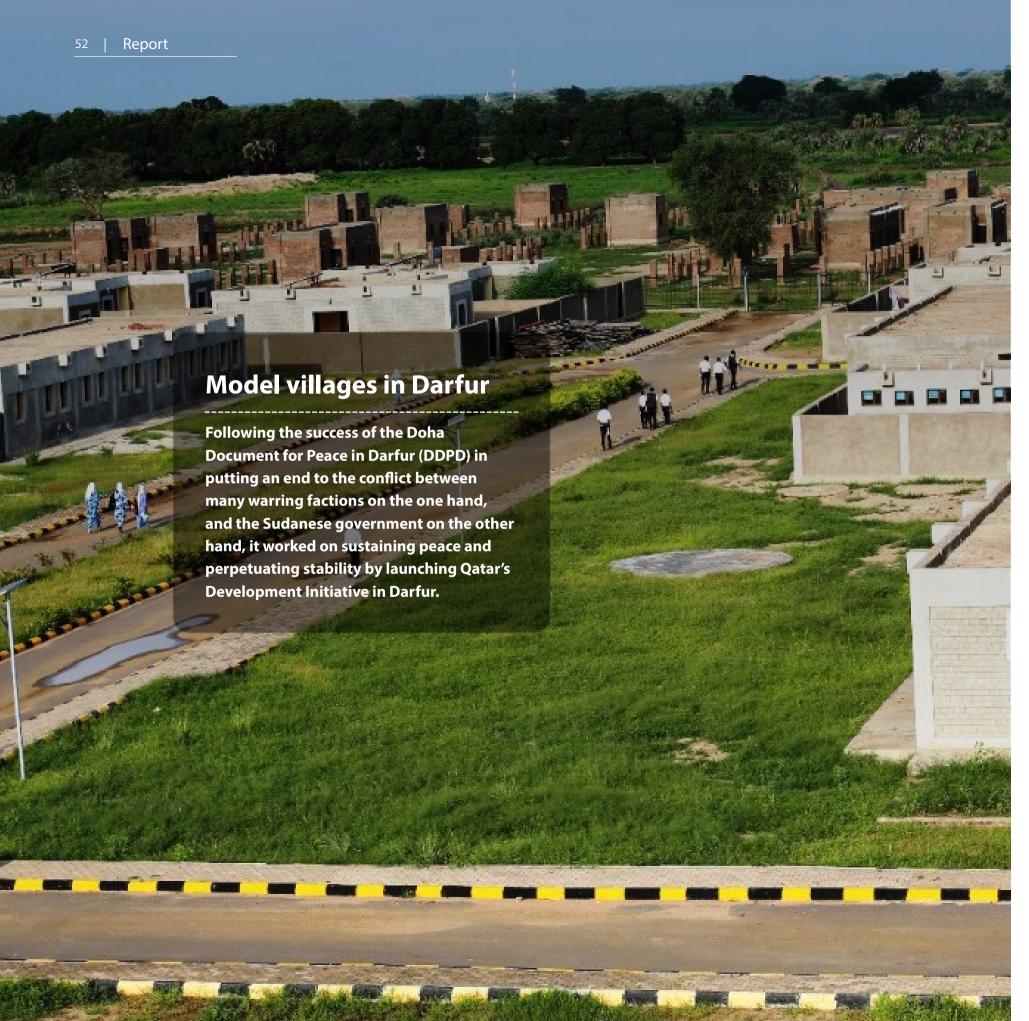
She noted that her presence near the complex made her enjoy security, and that children are studying in the schools of the complex where they are provided with treatment, indicating that she received training in the field of food processing, which lifted her out of poverty and made her a productive person.

Mr. Jamal Adam Muhammad, a beneficiary of economic empowerment projects, explained that in the past he did not have a source of income, and his family faced great difficulty, but after Qatar Charity gave him a goods transport cart (tuk-tuk), his financial condition changed. He added that he is engaged in transporting goods, and transports fodder during the planting seasons. He indicated that due to the income from the tuk-tuk, he managed to furnish his house and purchase three sheep that provide milk for his small family.

Mrs. Husnia Muhammad Harun, a formerly displaced person, said, «Education has importantly been improved, and we became able to receive treatment in Bulbul Timbasco, after we suffered greatly in the past from the decline in health services.»

The project of the complex saw many elements of creativity, with some people acquiring new skills, which enabled them to participate in the implementation of the project.





Significant projects under Qatar's Development Initiative in Darfur

Fathur Rahman - Sudan

Qatar Charity (QC), with the funding from Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), has successfully implemented a series of significant humanitarian projects to benefit the people of Darfur.

With the Bulbul Timbasco complex established by Qatar Charity in South Darfur in the first phase of the initiative, the scope of the projects has expanded to include the four states of Darfur. Each state will have two model villages or two complexes along with all essential facilities in densely populated areas that urgently need necessary services.

Services & Facilities

There are eight villages and service complexes under Qatar's Development Initiative in Darfur, some of which have been completed, while others are nearing completion. This is a qualitative addition to the infrastructure and services in those states, and provides a safe haven for the displaced.

Each village comprises 4 schools, a kindergarten, a health center, a mosque, a police station, housing units, and a source of safe drinking water. Besides, each village has public facilities, and roads.

This means that Qatar Charity, with the strong support from QFFD, has moved beyond the construction phase by establishing these new service facilities for the first time in those remote areas.

The Most Important Projects

Among the most important projects of under the second phase of Qatar's Development Initiative in Darfur are two villages built in North Darfur State for the benefit of 111,605 people, while two villages are underway in South Darfur State for 174,523 expected beneficiaries.

Besides, two villages, which are being built in Central Darfur State, are expected to benefit 13,981 people, while two model villages are being established in the most densely populated areas of East Darfur State to benefit 157,016 people, bringing the total number of beneficiaries of the service complexes to more than 457,000 people.

It is worth mentioning that Qatar Charity's projects in Sudan have been highly appreciated by local community representatives, community leaders and stakeholders in Darfur.

Qualitative Project

55

Qatar's gift for displaced Syrians

Alamal City, a new ray of hope for the displaced

The internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northern Syria went through prolonged suffering, living under tents swept by the heavy rains of winter and scorched by the sweltering heat of summer. This ruined their composure, deprived them of the meaning of life and stability, and pushed them in a state of the constant move. They, however, kept hoping for the stability of their families, who were exhausted by moving constantly.

To realize the wishes of these IDPs, to heal their wounds, and to console them in their problematic circumstances, Qatar Charity, in partnership with the Turkish IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, is

constructing the Alamal City, which is considered to be one of the largest sheltering projects. The city, which is a full-service city located in Suran in the northern countryside of Aleppo, is a gift from the Qatari people to the Syrian brothers, and was designed guided by the 2021 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 11, sustainable cities and communities, which is to «Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable».

Qatar Charity, through this project, aims to alleviate the suffering of the displaced in northern Syria by providing adequate housing for their families living in challenging humanitarian conditions due to the displacement and the lack of the essentials of a safe

Facilities

The \$ 7,500,000 city will have 1400 homes, in addition to the basic educational and service facilities and infrastructure projects, for the benefit of 8,800 people.

The city is also expected to have kindergartens, and primary, preparatory and secondary schools for boys and girls, in addition to a vocational school. The city's service facilities will include a mosque to accommodate more than 600 worshippers, a

primary care health center, and a market with 27 shops, in addition to 23 shops within residential neighborhoods. The market will meet the city's needs of basic materials. Besides, there will be administrative buildings, green spaces, and children's play areas in the city.

The residential city will have an integrated infrastructure to provide the necessary services. A well will be drilled, a tank will be built to provide safe drinking water, a clean water network will be connected to homes, and light poles will be installed, in addition to constructing a good-quality sewage network, and paving roads.



Nazrul Islam from uncertain

Moin Uddin Khan

Nazrul Islam, a meritorious child who was sponsored by Qatar Charity at the age of six, and achieved outstanding academic successes, is now about to make his dream come true. He has started his career as a teacher, but he is inclined to be a professional banker as he completed his graduation in marketing.

The path of success was not easy for Nazrul Islam.

Just after his birth, a newborn baby named 'Nazrul Islam' became an orphan. He was innocent and didn't be acquainted with the happiness and sorrows of a life of a poor family.

Losing her husband at a very early age of marriage, pushed Nazrul Islam's mother Laizu begum, into extreme difficulties, and she began to think how she will nurture the child and how she will manage daily expenses to live.

Nazrul Islam's father, Mohammad Ashek Ali, was a very poor man from a remote village named 'Magura', under the Kishorgonj Upazila of Nilphamari District in northern Bangladesh.

The father was a small vegetable seller. He struggled to feedi his family, who lived from hand to mouth, and he had no deposit money. In 1995, at the age of 40, he had suffered an incurable disease 'cancer', which caused his death.

Extreme Struggle

After the death of Ashek Ali, the life of Laizu Begum went down in an extreme struggle. To grow up the child, she used to work in someone else's home but days were passing without any light and hope.

Laizu begum decided to make the boy an educated man, but she couldn't figure out how to do it. One day, Nazrul's maternal uncle came to her home and



took the little boy Nazrul Islam to the Khubaib Bin Adi Orphanage, which is located in Rangpur, one of the major cities in Bangladesh. Nazrul was then a six-year old child boring in 1995.

life to higher education

Khubaib Bin Adi Orphanage

Khubaib Bin Adi orphanage is operated by Qatar Charity Bangladesh, where an orphan can spend his childhood smoothly in a family-like atmosphere. It provides the most essential requirements of human life such as comfortable shelter, nutritious food, and proper education.

How an orphanage changes the life of an unprivileged child, Khubaib Bin Adi orphanage serves as the best model.

After getting admission to the orphanage, Nazrul Islam enjoyed all necessary services. He also got himself involved in all routine activities with other orphaned children.

Commenting on his life in the orphanage, Nazrul Islam says, "I spent my beautiful childhood days in Khubaib. I never felt that I left my family members. There were another 49 orphans, who were my childhood friends and I used to play with them. At the orphanage, I grew up receiving inclusive care and proper guidelines from the orphanage's authorities."

Nazrul Islam had accomplished Secondary School Certificate (SSC) with the highest-grade point, GPA-5, from the Khubaib orphanage in 2010. After passing SSC, he came to `Zubaida Wajir Children's House' which is located in Bhairab Upazila of the Kishoreganj district, and run through the financial aid of Qatar Charity.

Nazrul Islam spent another two years there, achieving the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) with the highest-grade point (GPA-5) from the nearest college named 'Hazi Asmat Ali School & College' in 2012.

Educated Person

Nazrul dreamed of becoming a highly educated person. After passing HSC, he started studying marketing at the `Rangpur Carmichael College'. Qatar Charity always stood with him to realize Nazrul's dream,

With the sponsorship from the Qatar Charity, Nazrul Islam has completed graduation in marketing with excellent marks in 2018. He is now perusing postgraduate studies in marketing.

A school named 'Parker Moor High School' hired Nazrul Islam after the completion of his graduation, given his outstanding academic results.

Nazrul Islam indicated that Qatar Charity's scholarship contributed to realizing his dream.

Qatar Charity's Contribution

"I am a member of a poor family and I lost my father at a very early stage. Without the support of Qatar charity, my studies might have been discontinued while I was in the second or third grade. The position I am in today is only due to the contribution of Qatar Charity", he voiced.

Expressing his determination to be by the side of poor and helpless people, Nazrul Islam said, "I know how difficult it is to grow up without a father. I will work for the welfare of the poor and helpless. I want to be by their side all my life."

Nazrul Islam wants to be a successful banker. "If I could be a successful banker, I can do various social welfare works," he uttered with self-confidence.



Hopeful despite plight:

A glimpse into refugee camps

Asma Al Hammadi, Qatari media figure

I had a clear message, when I decided to get into media, that I would convey the message with credibility, without falsification. This was the goal when I volunteered at Qatar Charity to carry out humanitarian work.

This message that I remained faithful to made me get to know myself from the other side, far from the studio, TV, and camera, as on the ground, there are refugees and those who fled their homes in search of life.

The beginning was from Bangladesh, where the are Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar, houses made of paper, bamboo sticks, muddy paths after rain, and those oppressed by the harshness of life, yet they grin hopefully despite the pain.

The next stop, which I consider a wish that came true by the grace of God, was Turkey's Gaziantep where I visited the Syrian refugees and saw how their life is in the country of asylum away from their homeland.

Ghazal

In Lebanon, we visited makeshift camps after the snowstorm in Arsal where I arrived after a long journey and got off the bus with a strong desire to get to know those who were forced to stay in those camps for years. Their children know their homeland only by name because they were born outside its borders.

Fortunately, the first person I met was a girl named Ghazal, not more than nine years old, but she made me feel that she was in her twenties, with her words and courage. She received us as if she knows us for a long time. Despite the bad situation, she asked us cheerfully how we are, a question we must have asked her.

She volunteered to be our guide in the camp, and she was very happy to do this job for free. While she was helping me to distribute blankets to the refugees, I offered her blankets that will protect her and her family from the cold winter, but she refused to take them, as she has already taken them.

In a beautiful moment, I felt that I was in front of a TV reporter who was reporting the event in details, especially when she hosted me in her humble house, which brings them together as one family around the Sobia, a heater to keep them warmed in the harsh winter.

She was overwhelmed with joy when we visited her small school, which has a few children. However, she finds, at the school, her happiness in singing, feeling homesick, as if she escapes from her reality to her small world shared by children who are in the same situation, perhaps worse.

At the end of our journey, when she said goodbye to me, I realized that when I went to help her, I found it was her who helped me. After this moment, I became surer that the refugees and the displaced have high ambition despite being in plight.

Director-General of Bangladesh NGO Affairs Bureau;

NGOs need to work together to support the vulnerable

By Moin Uddin Khan

Inspired by the sense of humanity, Bangladesh has given shelter to the displaced Rohingya refugees. Responding to the crises, domestic and international non-governmental organizations have been assisting the refugees in various ways from the very beginning. These humanitarian aid activities of foreign organizations are certainly to be commended. However, NGOs need to work together to support these helpless refugees and the vulnerable.

This was expressed by Mr. K. M. Tarigul Islam, Director-General of Bangladesh NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB), in an interview with Qatar Charity's 'Ghiras' magazine.

Help Rohingyas

In the interview, he highlighted the various activities of foreign organizations to help Rohingya refugees. At the same time, he said, Bangladesh has been achieving real success in the fields of agriculture, health, and education, including the eradication of poverty and the improvement of the living standards of the underprivileged in collaboration with international non-governmental organizations working in the country.

In the context of Rohingya refugees, KM Tariqul Islam said, about one million Myanmar nationals displaced by force have taken refuge in Cox's Bazar. The Government of Bangladesh and various local and international organizations, including UNHCR and Qatar Charity are working together to provide

them with essential humanitarian assistance. They are providing food, clothing, shelter, and medical assistance for the refugees. These humanitarian aid activities are certainly to be commended.

He said, nearly 19,000 Rohingyas from Cox's Bazar have already been relocated to Bhasanchar, an island in Noakhali District, Bangladesh, and 80,000 refugees can be transferred to Bhasanchar. Domestic and international organizations can continue to provide humanitarian assistance to them in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar.

Real Success

Tarikul Islam voiced, in collaboration with the government and international non-governmental organizations, Bangladesh has been achieving real success in poverty alleviation, infant mortality prevention, environmental development, women empowerment, the improvement of living standards of underprivileged people, the discouragement of child labor, and the advancement in agriculture, health and education sector.

"Domestic and international NGOs can turn the backward population into skilled manpower through awareness training as well as livelihood and practical training," he mentioned.

Sectors that need attention

Tarikul Islam thinks, NGOs need to focus on building infrastructure, sewerage and waste management, livelihood projects, and large-scale afforestation



activities. He said, International NGOs can work in a coordinated manner by engaging small local NGOs, in cooperation with the NGO Bureau.

Development Partners

Tarikul Islam said NGOs are, in fact, the government's development partners. They continue to play an important role in improving the quality of life of backward people. In Bangladesh, the government is adopting a multi-pronged approach to the UNdeclared Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and NGOs are working to contribute to achieving the SDGs.

Bangladesh NGO Affairs Bureau

The NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) was established in 1990 through an administrative order of the Government. Its prime objective is to provide one-stop service to the NGOs operating with foreign assistance and registered under the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Ordinance, 1978. In addition, it facilitates the activities of the NGOs in the country.

Bureau always coordinates with NGOs, line ministries, different state agencies, and development partners in discharging its duty as the regulatory authority. Here the spirit is to facilitate the NGO activities, not to regulate them only. Director-General represents the bureau in different committees where NGO issues are involved.

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The 2020

Annual report of Qatar Charity

Qatar Charity (QC) continued its efforts during the year 2020 to support development and relief issues in developing countries despite the challenges and threats posed by the coronavirus pandemic, and the discontinuation or the decline of the support by many donors or humanitarian organizations.

Achievements & Challenges

Qatar Charity launched its -2020annual report to mark the most significant feats it achieved, and to review the most pressing challenges it faced during the last year.

The report showed that the total revenue of 2020 exceeded 500\$ million, which mainly came from the Qatari community. The number of donors reached 223,000, and individual donations accounted for 92 percent of the revenue. The total number of beneficiaries of Qatar Charity's projects was 14 million.

The annual report referred to Qatar Charity's new strategy, which focuses on child protection, disaster relief, comprehensive development, and social

harmony.

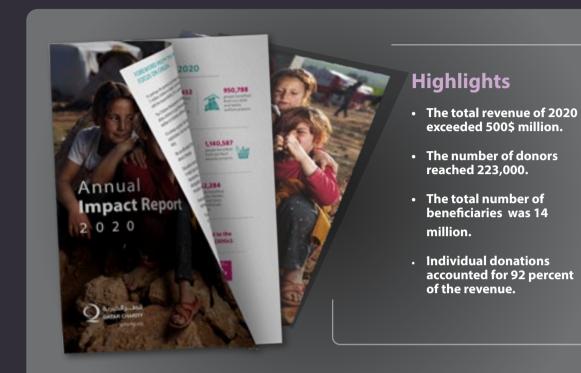
The report emphasized that Qatar Charity intensified its partnerships with various international organizations. It affirmed that it had committed itself to cooperate with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to raise public awareness about the purposes, activities, and issues of the United Nations.

Transparency & Ability

Qatar Charity is considered to be one of the world's most trusted NGOs for individual donors, because it provided them with the highest standards of transparency and the ability to track their donations using the latest technologies.

HE Sheikh Hamad bin Nasser Al Thani, Chairperson of Qatar Charity, underlined the need to join hands and work together. He also expressed his pride in the collaboration and partnership between various international and local partners.

"We feel reassured about our work over the past



year (2020) because we used our resources as effectively as possible, but at the same time, we recognize the magnitude of the difficult challenges that await us in the coming years, as the global economy is under great strain, and aid is expected to decline while humanitarian needs will escalate," said the Chairperson of Qatar Charity.

Rearrange Priorities

2020 was a difficult year for which NGOs were unprepared.

The corona crisis quickly turned from a health crisis into a 'development crisis' in a matter of months, as its effects erased years, if not decades, of progress and development in fragile countries, and poverty, food insecurity, and education rates reached their worst levels in decades in 2020.

The CEO of Qatar Charity, Mr. Yousef bin Ahmed al-Kuwari, said Qatar Charity had to review all its strategic plans in the countries where it operates to keep pace with this decline and rearrange priorities. He also called on governments, donors, and

financial institutions to assume the responsibility to facilitate the process of providing humanitarian and development assistance to achieve the unified goal in 2030.

Joint Action

Commenting on the annual report of Qatar Charity, Mr. Antonio Vitorino, Director General of the International Organization for Migration, thanked Qatar Charity for its generous support to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), noting that (IOM) had received continuous support from Qatar Charity in several countries such as Yemen, Syria, Iraq, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He noted the need for joint action to reach the most affected and vulnerable people to enhance the resilience of fragile communities in the face of potential shocks and to promote social harmony and sustainability in order to ensure a dignified life for all.

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Humanitarian Work Forum 2021 affirms role of partnerships, technology and volunteers

The two-day Humanitarian Work Forum 2021, which was organized by Qatar Charity (QC) in cooperation with Qatar University on August 18 and 19, came in conjunction with World Humanitarian Day 2021. An elite group of local and international humanitarian specialists and experts participated in the forum.

The forum focused on three aspects; partnerships in humanitarian and voluntary work, the role of technology in developing humanitarian work, and recruiting and training humanitarian workers.

Recommendations

With regard to partnerships in humanitarian and volunteer work, the forum recommended the importance of activating initiatives to localize humanitarian work, accelerating the pace of empowering local humanitarian organizations in developing countries, and investing in building capacities and exchanging knowledge by connecting humanitarian organizations in developed countries with their counterparts in developing countries.

The forum also recommended fostering networking among specialists in the fields of humanitarian work, building professional umbrellas to raise the standards of humanitarian work, more investment by UN organizations in strengthening the capacities of local humanitarian organizations, and calling on digital technology companies to contribute to enhancing poor communities' access to humanitarian services.

Technological Solutions

The forum emphasized the role of technology in the development of humanitarian and voluntary work, and the participants aspire that technological innovation, digital media and various social media will play a key role in enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian work. Accordingly, investing in supporting technological solutions in the field of humanitarian work is a key factor for its development.

The recommendations also included utilizing technology to ensure beneficiaries' faster and inclusive access to services, and using Al tools in humanitarian work for monitoring, preparedness and urgent response.

The participants called for utilizing technological solutions to achieve a better response to humanitarian needs that considers environmental sustainability, enhancing the use of social communication technologies to provide psychological support to those affected by crises and disasters, and taking advantage of technological solutions to support the education of children in crises-stricken regions.

Volunteers Recruitment

The forum underlined the need to recruit volunteers and train humanitarian workers, as they are the key actors managing humanitarian aid operations. The participants called for investing in human resources by adopting and developing professional standards for humanitarian workers, and enhancing the ability of humanitarian organizations to recruit volunteers and benefit from their various capacities in the field of specialized volunteering, advocacy, resource mobilization, awareness-raising and dissemination.

They also called for developing mechanisms for the protection, security, and safety of humanitarian workers and volunteers, investing in establishing and developing volunteering platforms, and enhancing the use of volunteer information systems, in addition to developing standards and code of conduct for humanitarian workers and developing a guide for volunteers.



Working Sessions

During the Humanitarian Work Forum 2021, several working sessions were held to discuss the role of partnerships and technology in developing humanitarian work locally and internationally, partnerships in humanitarian work, technology trends and their impact on humanitarian work.

The forum also discussed the use of technology in marketing, mobilizing resources, integrating the private sector into humanitarian organizations, the role of media in recruiting volunteers and humanitarian workers, and opportunities for young people to support humanitarian issues internationally.



Worldwide

Udhiyah project 2021 implemented in 33 countries

Qatar Charity (QC), with the support from the people in Qatar, has successfully implemented the 2021 - Udhiyah drive under the theme 'Delight them with your sacrifice, Let the hope continue', benefiting 936,980 people in 33 countries, including Qatar.

The Udhiyah project, implemented during the Eid Al-Adha, contributed to better meeting the nutritional needs of poor families, internally displaced people (IDPs), refugees, and those affected by the coronavirus pandemic, and sharing the joy of Eid with them. The meats of 49,524 sacrificed sheep and cows, valued at 27.5 million Qatari riyals, were distributed to the beneficiaries.



Qatar

Future's Writers-5 concluded

Qatar Charity concluded the fifth edition of the 'Future's Writers' program, announcing the names of the winners and honoring the program sponsor and partners in a virtual ceremony attended by HE Salah bin Ghanem Al Ali, Minister of Culture and Sports, Mr. Youssef bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity, Dr. Eiman Mustafawi, Qatar University Vice President for Student Affair, and Mr. Talal Ahmed Al-Khaja, Chief Marketing & Communications Officer at Dukhan Bank.

Some 29 male and female winners out of 106 participants from various schools and universities, Al Noor Institute and the Audio Education Complex, were honored during the ceremony, which was attended by the competing students and their families, as well as judges and the patterns of the 'Future's Writers' program.



Pakistan

209 WASH projects implemented

Qatar Charity (QC) implemented 209 water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects in Pakistan's



Sindh province this year (Jan-Jun 2021), benefiting 27,550 people in the province.

The implementation of the WASH projects comes as part of Qatar Charity's continued efforts to contribute to addressing the water problem and providing safe drinking water to the vulnerable in the province.

Qatar Charity has equally installed 140 hand pumps in the province's two districts, which are Tando Muhammad Khan and Badin, to provide 13,500 beneficiaries with safe drinking water. It also constructed 46 sanitation facilities along with an ablution area in both districts where nearly 7,000 individuals benefit from these interventions, in addition to installing 23 solar water pumps for the benefit of 7,150 individuals in these two districts and the Umarkot district.

Palestine

50,000 Palestinian youth trained and hired through Taqat

Qatar Charity (QC) has trained and hired more than 50,000 youths, both male and female, in Palestine through its 'Taqat' initiative. This initiative comes as part of Qatar Charity's continued efforts aimed at



economically and socially empowering youths in Palestine. It aims to provide opportunities for creative Palestinian youths to work remotely for Qatari and international companies.

The 'Taqat' initiative contributes to reducing the unemployment rate, improving the economic situation of Palestinian families and strengthening the role of creative youths. Companies, through this initiative, can hire entire teams to run their businesses with lower costs and higher quality.

The initiative is expected to see the hiring of hundreds of graduates and skilled and talented persons for content-writing, graphic designing, video production, motion graphics, translation and accounting, in addition to other tasks.

Sudan

Over 222 wells drilled in 5 years

Qatar Charity's Sudan office has completed drilling 222 wells in the states of Darfur and Kordofan, as well as in many other Sudanese states, that have been suffering lack of clean water sources. Throughout the past 5 years, Qatar Charity's water projects in Sudan have reached 170,000 beneficiaries. Additionally, 6 new wells were drilled in North Darfur state in the localities of Kutum and Malit in North Darfur state.



Bangladesh

537 gutted homes of Rohingya refugees rebuilt

Qatar Charity (QC), with the support of benefactors in Qatar, has started rebuilding 537 homes for Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, which were completely burnt down due to the fire, which broke out in the refugee camp in March.

The homes are being constructed at the Kutupalong Camp (Camp- 9) of Cox's Bazar in accordance with the design approved by the Commissioner Office for Refugees, Relief, and Repatriation (RRRC) of the Government of Bangladesh. According to the design, each bamboo-made house has two living rooms to accommodate a family of 6 members.



Somalia

Health centers opened



As part of its continued efforts to implement health projects in Somalia, Qatar Charity (QC) opened two health centers in Banadir and Galmudug regions and laid the foundation stone for a health center in Hamar Weyne district of the Somali capital, Mogadishu.

The opening of health centers in Somali states comes in support of the Somali health sector, and in compliance with the agreement signed by Qatar Charity with the Somali Ministry of Health to ensure the effective participation of Qatar Charity in health projects in accordance with the sectoral strategy and the ministry's priorities.

Northern Syria

Women's hospital in Syria's Afrin

Qatar Charity has equipped and operated Al-Mahaba Hospital for Women and Children in the city of Afrin in northern Syria, which provides services to thousands of families in the city and neighbouring areas and villages, with funding from Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD).



The hospital provides integrated medical services for children of all ages, including newborns. The pediatric clinic of the hospital includes 8 incubators for newborns and a 20 - bed ward.

About 5,000 children benefit from the hospital's services per month. The hospital also includes a special section for obstetrics and gynecology, a laboratory and a pharmacy that provides free medicines, in addition to the ambulance services around the clock.

Qatar Charity provided two strategic warehouses for storing and preserving medicines and medical supplies for patients with renal failure, whose services cover 30 health facilities with a monthly supply of medical services, in addition to 47 hospitals that are provided with the necessary medical analgesics, in addition to providing 11 hospitals with dialysis medicines in northern Syria.

Kyrgyzstan

Foundation stone laid for qualitative projects, Qatar Charity honored

Qatar Charity laid the foundation stone for several qualitative projects in Kyrgyzstan, including the new building of the Bishkek City Hospital, and many other health projects.

The foundation stone was also laid for a multiservice center. This came during a visit paid by Qatar Charity's CEO Youssef bin Ahmed al-Kuwari to Bishkek.

Kyrgyzstan awarded Qatar Charity the Medal of Honour and a Certificate of Honour for supporting the people and strengthening development efforts in the country where President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov and the Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan Ulukbek Maripov received the CEO of Qatar Charity Youssef bin Ahmed al-Kuwari during his visit to Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Cultural activities for orphans

Qatar Charity (QC), through its Bosnia and Herzegovina office, organizes cultural and recreational activities for the orphans it sponsors in the country, aiming to develop their capabilities, enhance their self-confidence, and improve their communication skills effectively.

The weekly activities include training sessions, educational and sports events, lectures on Islamic education, history and computer, creative workshops and visits to some of the famous tourist attractions in Sarajevo, Capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Oatar

'I am not just a number' a drive for orphan care



Qatar Charity launched the 'I am not Just a Number" drive to draw attention to orphans and provide a dignified life for them, as part of its orphan care initiative 'Rofaga'.

The campaign aims to remind of the need to take care of, sponsor and support orphans. The campaign seeks to provide sponsorship and inclusive care for the orphan in the educational, health and social areas, in addition to organizing recreational and training programs and activities for them, under the direct supervision of its field offices around the world.

Kenya

Multi-service center



Qatar Charity (QC) has recently opened a multiservice center in a city located in Tana River County, Kenya. More than 7,000 people are expected to benefit from the center.

The center is of great importance due to its strategic location, which was carefully chosen by Qatar Charity. It is situated in a place where there are many neighboring poor villages, which always suffer from devastating floods in the rainy seasons.



Child-friendly spaces for humanitarian crisis-affected children

Abdullah Muslim - Turkey

The continued displacement and moving from a tent to another is the situation experienced by more than two million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northwestern Syria, specifically in Idlib Governorate and the northern countryside of Aleppo. According to the UNICEF's report, nearly 900 children were last year killed in Syria, more than 70 per cent were killed in the northwest. It estimates that 1.2 million children are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance in this region.

With the Syrian crisis entering its eleventh year, an entire generation of Syrian children was born and grew up in light of a deteriorating humanitarian situation and a huge economic deficit experienced by the Syrian families. This problematic situation made them push their children into the labor market to carry out jobs that are not commensurate with their physical abilities.

Child Protection

The United Nations has classified protection services, including child protection, as one of the life-saving services, and required any humanitarian intervention to take into account the principles of protection during the implementation of humanitarian projects in all humanitarian sectors. The most vulnerable displaced children living in camps face many protection risks, from loss of life to displacement in search of safety.

These needs are categorized as essential to keeping children and their caregivers alive. This is the approach initially adopted by humanitarian organizations operating in northern Syria, but the extension and continuation of the disaster, and the dwelling of IDPs in their camps created needs of a different kind.

Many children have been separated from their parents during displacement or have lost one or both parents. After displacement, the children

settled into a new environment, leaving behind their friends and schools. They ended up in tents that do not turn away from them the cold of winter or the heat of summer. All of these events created psychological trauma and negative effects on the mental health of the child, which were adversely affected his social behavior. The child became more aggressive, and the rates of bullying increased among children.

Other psychological phenomena such as extreme fear, introversion, bedwetting and others have spread. It was necessary to have an immediate intervention concerned with the psychological well-being of the child, improve his mental health, and establish a community-based referral system that responds to such cases if they are detected.

Flexible Mechanisms

Based on this, Qatar Charity (QC), in partnership with the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), opened three child-friendly spaces in the areas of Al-Bab, Azaz and Afrin, near the camps for the displaced in northern Syria. The child-friendly centers aim to provide social, recreational and psychological support services to 23,900 affected children, and inculcate noble values in children through flexible mechanisms like teaching through play, encouraging, and instilling self-confidence in children.

Initially, the child-friendly centers were selected based on the safety and security criteria defined by the child protection sub-sector. Qatar Charity ensured easy access for displaced children to the centers by providing transportation for all children, including children with special needs. Later, Qatar Charity renovated and decorated the centers with cheerful drawings and colors. It provided the necessary furniture such as tables, chairs, drawing and writing boards, stationery and others.

Psychosocial Support

"Psychosocial support, or "PSS", refers to the "processes and actions that promote the holistic wellbeing of people in their social world. PSS can also be described as "a process of facilitating resilience within individuals, families and communities". PSS aims to help individuals recover after a crisis has disrupted their lives and to enhance their ability to return to normality after experiencing adverse events," according to the website https://inee.org/.

Qatar Charity provides regular and targeted psychosocial support service to 3,800 children in 16 sessions (each session for 45 minutes). This intervention is based on a specialized 'I deal' curriculum developed by War Child Holland, and was circulated in the Syrian context by the

specialists in charge of the project.

Methodology of Application

The methodology of application is directly based on dialogue with children in small groups about the values that the stimulator aims to convey to the children. The stimulator works to involve all children and take into account their views and discuss them by implementing joint activities and interactive games within a team. By the end of the sessions, the children acquire the required skills and the child becomes less stubborn and aggressive. The activities take into consideration the inclusion of children with special needs in all games and discussion sessions.

Recreational Activities

Through mobile teams visiting the camps, Qatar Charity provides recreational activities for a group of children in the displacement camps to improve their psychological state, create an atmosphere of fun, and teach them purposeful games. Qatar Charity has three mobile teams that visit the camps on a daily basis.

Parenting Skills

There is no doubt that the displacement has created psychological pressure on caregivers, which is limited to securing priorities for living, leading to a decline in their attention to their children. This prompted the holding of parenting skills sessions to provide caregivers with additional skills to deal with their children in the reality of displacement. These sessions were divided into 12 sessions targeting groups of caregivers according to the 'I deal' curriculum, which provides an integrated methodology focused on children and caregivers.

Case Management

Child Protection case management is a process conducted by qualified and trained case workers/ managers dedicated to follow up on child protection issues and respond to the identified risks.

The case management activity targets children who have additional weakness factors different from those of their peers. The children's situation is evaluated, then the service is provided to the child, and the case is followed up with complete confidentiality, and closed.

In this activity, Qatar Charity focused on providing logistical services directly to the child (such as hearing aids, eyeglasses, wheelchairs for children with disabilities, medical shoes, and others). As for services that require longer follow-up and greater specialization, they are referred to specialized organizations, where the case management team updates the map of services provided by all humanitarian organizations on a monthly

basis and receives from and sends cases to these organizations.

Raise Awareness

This activity targets children, including adolescents, by providing an awareness session through a guide specialized in combating sexual harassment and exploitation issues. At first, the ideas are explained in a simple way that the child and adolescent understand, then the available complaints and response mechanisms are discussed. Nearby 800 children and adolescents benefit from this activity. This activity is expected to raise children's awareness of this danger and thus reduce its occurrence.

Community-Based Response

This activity aims to create a community-based response, and to strengthen the community's role in addressing child protection risks, if any. This is done by training humanitarian workers in the field of child protection, as well as by identifying and training people from the same community on minimum

standards for child protection, case management and, urgent cases referral to service providers in the area. These people will gain the necessary experience, and will continue to perform their work even after the end of the project.

Restore a Smile

Qatar Charity seeks to restore a smile to the lips of children affected by the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria by healing the deep psychological rift left by 11 years of conflict that continues. It also strives to develop child protection methods and practices in all its offices around the world, by establishing regulatory policies, defining and updating response methods, and advocating through international forums for the right of children to live in dignity and social well-being with their parents and families. In parallel, Qatar Charity seeks to secure a dignified life for orphaned children by providing monthly sponsorship for more than 200,000 children around the world.













