

Ghiras

Issue 29

Periodic Magazine by Qatar Charity
Dhu al-Hijja 1444 AH – June 2023

**Qatar Charity mourns
its former chairperson**

**Yousuf Al Kuwari,
Qatar CSR Personality
of the year**

**Global food crisis
increases malnutrition**

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Dignity for All

Qatar Charity is a leading international non-governmental organization working in the field of humanitarian aid and development since 1992; and was established in compliance with the laws regulating the non-profit sector in the State of Qatar.

Ghiras
Periodic Magazine by Qatar Charity
Issue No. 29
Dhu al-Hijja 1444 AH - June 2023

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As promised, you have the new issue of the ‘Ghiras’ magazine in your hand. It has brought many topics that promote a culture of humanitarian workers and open up new horizons of knowledge for them on the one hand, and shed light on Qatar Charity’s efforts and local and international contributions in the development and voluntary fields, and on its humanitarian interventions in response to crises and disasters across the world on the other hand.

This issue has a special feature on the global food crisis and its connection to catastrophic levels of malnutrition. It includes interview with the representative of the World Food Programme to the GCC countries. It also has an investigative report on a training program aimed at preparing youth leaders in humanitarian and development respects, which came within the framework of a partnership between the Ministry of Sports and Youth and Qatar Charity.

Besides, the issue has pieces on Qatar Charity’s latest humanitarian campaigns and interventions for those affected by the crisis in Sudan and the floods in Somalia. In the issue, there are several other pieces such as an article, a book review, and a success story.

The magazine is overwhelmed with happiness as Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity, is honored as Qatar CSR Personality of the Year by Qatar University in recognition of his significant efforts and great contribution to developing and promoting charity work within and outside the State of Qatar, especially after he assumed the responsibility for the executive management of Qatar Charity 11 years ago. His tenure has contributed to the further development of Qatar Charity’s quantitative and qualitative performance, and to the achievements it has accomplished at the local and international levels.

With this issue, the magazine has released 30 issues (29 issues in addition to an experimental issue). This makes us feel proud of the feat and motivates us to further develop the magazine in terms of content, layout, and design to facilitate its access to those interested, researchers, and those working in the humanitarian, developmental, community, and voluntary fields by all available means. We welcome any feedback from readers and followers that can contribute to achieving this goal.

Happy Reading!

Ghiras



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Global Food Crisis of Unprecedented Proportions

In recent years, the entire world has been facing major challenges related to food security. The COVID19- pandemic, the climate crisis, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, and conflicts, especially the Russia -Ukraine conflict, have combined to create a global food crisis of unprecedented proportions. As a result, millions of people are suffering from hunger and malnutrition.

As malnutrition is a very serious problem that poses to humanity, this issue of 'Ghiras' has brought a special feature on the global food crisis, its factors, and impacts, in addition to a report on Qatar Charity's efforts in this regard.

The special feature also includes an interview with Mr. Mageed Yahia, the World Food Programme's Representative to the GCC region. In the interview, he shed light on the food crisis and the challenges it poses, especially to the Middle East and North Africa.





Global Food Crisis: Catastrophic Levels of Malnutrition

The unprecedented humanitarian repercussions of the global food crisis have resulted in catastrophic levels of acute malnutrition in children, especially among those belonging to poor communities, around the world.

The malnutrition crisis has been exacerbated by several factors, most notably high rates of poverty, food insecurity, lack of primary health care

programs for both mothers and infants, lack of safe drinking water, and inadequate sanitation systems, in addition to wars and conflicts. Global warming is expected to reduce food production by 5.5 % by 2050.

“People living in poor communities often lack access to nutritious food and live in unsafe environments with contaminated water, poor sanitation, and

inadequate access to health services and education — all of which contribute to hunger and malnutrition,” according to the ‘Action Against Hunger’ website.

In many communities living in poverty, children under the age of five are especially prone to hunger and its deadly effects. Women are disproportionately affected by hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition. Recent data revealed that 150 million more women than men suffered from hunger in 2021. Refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) are also more likely to face food insecurity and illness, including malnutrition.

Dangerous Curve

The food crisis, which followed the drought in

the countries of the Horn of Africa, has been a dangerous curve in the lives of those communities that rely on rainwater as an important element of life, with five poor rainy seasons leading to the death of millions of livestock and the destruction of crops.

According to the United Nations, 22 million people are at risk of hunger in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia and one person dies every 36 seconds in these countries, while 18.6 million people are experiencing severe food insecurity in the Sahel.

In Somalia, the number of young children facing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) has risen to over half a million - a level higher than a 2011 famine in which tens of thousands of children died, according to U.N agencies.

According to UNICEF, more than 513,000 children under the age of five are expected to suffer from SAM, meaning they are many times more likely to die from diseases like measles, malaria and cholera which are spreading in the country.

UN agencies have warned that 48 million people in West and Central Africa will face severe food insecurity between June-August 2023, the highest level in a decade. They indicated that the projected food shortages mean some 16.5 million children under the age of five are set to face acute malnutrition this year.

“Ethiopia is one of the worst-affected countries in the world witnessing a sharp increase in malnutrition cases as a result of drought and multiple emergencies. Across the four drought-impacted regions, an estimated 600,000 children will require treatment for severe acute malnutrition,” says UNICEF.

Yemen is facing a real catastrophe in terms of food security, with almost half of its population suffering from hunger. As a result, high malnutrition rates among children under the age of five and pregnant and breastfeeding women are compounded due to food shortages, substandard performance of health, water and sanitation systems, and the spread of disease.

In Yemen, 2.2 million children are suffering from acute malnutrition, including over 540,000 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition - a life-threatening condition if not treated urgently, UNICEF said in a report published in March 2023.

Unremitting efforts by Qatar Charity to curb malnutrition

Qatar Charity (QC) contributes to the UN efforts to eradicate the growing malnutrition in all its forms, which poses a serious threat to human life, especially to the life of the poor, women, and children, who are the most affected ones.

In line with the strategies of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the needs of countries, Qatar Charity, as part of its 2021 - 2025 strategy, is implementing an initiative to treat malnutrition in 10 targeted African countries, including Somalia, Senegal, Mali, Ghana, Tanzania, and Kenya, in addition to Yemen and Bangladesh. Qatar Charity has previously intervened in this field in Somalia.

Qatar Charity aims to contribute to reducing mortality and disability rates among children under the age of five resulting from acute and chronic malnutrition, improving the health and nutritional status of mothers, pregnant women, and breastfeeding mothers, and reducing various levels of malnutrition and the rates of stunting and wasting in children under the age of five.

Somalia

In Somalia, persistent drought alongside conflict and rising food prices has led to food insecurity and displacement, causing severe malnutrition in children. Burhakaba, a town located in the Bay region of Somalia, is one of the areas with the highest rate of malnutrition in children.

Qatar Charity, in cooperation with UNICEF, launched a project to curb malnutrition in children under the age of five. The medical team examined the children with various kinds of malnutrition. Some 1,377 children from villages and remote areas benefited from the project.

The project, which was implemented at the Burhakaba Health Center during the period from October 24, 2022 to January 8, 2023, provided food supplements and some necessary vitamins for malnourished patients, in addition to providing health services.

It is worth mentioning that the center provides treatment for those with endemic diseases and offers urgent services to patients in case of crises and maternal and childhood emergencies, in addition to providing supplements and vitamins.

Success Story

The project contributed to saving the life of many malnourished children, who are now healthy.

A child Adam, who was not older than 59 months, suffered from severe dehydration and acute malnutrition along with complications with which he was unable to breathe properly.

His mother Fatima says, «My son was in good health for the last two weeks, after which he had a severe cough that caused the complete loss of his appetite and he began to suffer from fainting and shortness of breath, in addition to high fever, which continued with him for several days. After he was examined medically, it turned out that he was suffering from many complications resulting from malnutrition, including acute anemia. The tests showed that the level of hemoglobin in the blood was only 5. After intensive care, Adam's condition improved, and today he is happy with his mother and siblings.

Qatar Charity's sustainable projects enhance food security

As Qatar Charity (QC) believes in the need to enhance food security in countries suffering from disasters and crises, it has worked to support farmers, promote qualitative agricultural projects and livestock breeding programs, distribute food packages to internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and the poor who struggle to meet their essential needs. It also has expanded its partnerships with UN organizations to address food shortage crises.

Qatar Charity implemented more than 3,000 food security projects in the period between January 2021 and October 2022, benefiting nearly 80,000 people in more than 20 countries around the world. The number of its economic empowerment projects reached about 6,000, with 46,000 beneficiaries globally.

Qualitative Project for Syrian IDPs

Qatar Charity implements the "Support Wheat Value Chain in North West Syria" project to contribute to meeting wheat needs of people. The project, which is the first of its kind in northern Syria, extends comprehensive support, from providing agricultural inputs to offering bread to the local community.

The first strategic objective of this project, which is being implemented for the fourth year, is to support life-saving activities in northern Syria by providing cooked meals through mobile kitchens, meeting the food needs of vulnerable families, and distributing bread free of charge to families living in camps or poor neighborhoods and areas. Qatar Charity serves 30,000 families daily, benefiting 150,000 individuals.

This project also supports farmers, livestock breeders, and food industry professionals, helping them to recover their productive assets and supporting them with income-generating activities. Wheat and vegetable value chain projects are supported by supporting farmers with agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides) and irrigation and harvesting tools cost to increase production. Livestock breeders are supported by giving fodder to their livestock.

What was achieved?

During its three phases, from the beginning of 2019 until the beginning of 2022, the project has made several achievements in the countryside of Aleppo in northern Syria. The achievements include supporting the cultivation of three stations for wheat seeds multiplication, in cooperation with the General Organization for Seed Multiplication,

the rehabilitation of three wheat silo facilities, containing 36 storage cells with a capacity of up to 1,000 tons per cell in Marea, Sharran, and Al-Rai, and the installation of two mills with a production capacity of 50 tons of flour per day in Marea and Al-Rai.

Some 1,004 farmers were also supported to produce 4,000 tons of pure wheat seeds, and to purchase 6,549 tons of wheat from the farmers, in addition to distributing 7,280,000 bundles of bread to the people in northern Syria, opening a bread production line with a capacity of 5,000 loaves per hour in Al-Rai, and rehabilitating another bread production line in Marea.

Improving living Conditions of Rural Households in Somalia

In Somalia, Qatar Charity continues to implement a project to improve the living conditions of rural families (the second edition) in the regions of Galguduud and Bay, aiming to alleviate the suffering of those affected by humanitarian disasters. The project is expected to benefit 6,000 people.

The project seeks to improve nutritional status, address malnutrition, and protect rural communities' sources of livelihoods by providing agricultural equipment and seeds, building their farming skills, and training farmers on best agricultural practices.

Under this project, agricultural equipment (seeds, fertilizers, and manual tillage tools) is distributed to 1,000 farming families in these regions, according to the standards of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Somalia, as well as 150 local farmers are trained to build their craft capacity concerning primitive agriculture and production development mechanisms.

The project, in its first edition, which was implemented during the period from 2019 to February 2020, benefited 1,350 rural families in the city of Baidoa, Bay Region, the South West State of Somalia.

The project provided aid consisting of agricultural equipment to 1,350 professional rural farming families to secure harvest in the rainy season, in addition to providing agricultural seeds and training 120 beneficiary farmers on best agricultural practices to develop their agricultural capacities.

The assistance also included unconditional cash transfers to the targeted people for a period of three months to enable them to get nutrients and improve their living conditions during the harvest season.



Mr. Mageed Yahia, the World Food Programme's Representative to the GCC region:

The world is facing a food crisis of unprecedented proportions

Conducted by Mohammad Ataur Rab

Mr. Mageed Yahia, the World Food Programme's Representative to the GCC region, emphasized that the world is facing a food crisis of unprecedented proportions, the largest in modern history, and the number of acutely hungry people continues to increase, with 828 million people going to bed hungry every night.

He noted that the goal of a world with zero hunger and ending food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030 have now become more elusive than ever. He warned that millions are at risk of worsening hunger unless



The number of acutely hungry people continues to increase



action is taken now to respond together and at scale to the drivers of this crisis: conflict, climate shocks, and the threat of global recession.

In an exclusive interview with the 'Ghiras' magazine, he praised the role of the State of Qatar in addressing this crisis and said, "It had a significant impact on our

humanitarian operations, contributing to saving millions of lives."

He also touched on the root causes that aggravated the crisis facing the MENA region and any solutions to curb the growing hunger in the region? Below is the interview.

Can you give us an overview of the global hunger crisis. Where do we stand today?

The world is facing a food crisis of unprecedented proportions, the largest in modern history. Up to 828 million people go to bed hungry every night, and nearly 43.3 million people across 51 countries are at serious risk of famine.

Millions are at risk of worsening hunger unless action is taken now to respond together and at scale to the drivers of this crisis: conflict, climate shocks, and the threat of global recession. The interplay of these drivers is making life harder each day for the world's most vulnerable and reversing recent development gains.

WFP's response focuses on three things: emergency food and cash assistance and nutrition support to prevent millions from dying of hunger, supporting national social protection systems, and strengthening food systems.

However, WFP is facing a triple challenge – the number of acutely hungry people continues to increase, while funding for humanitarian operations isn't keeping pace and the cost of delivering food assistance remains at an unprecedented high. Simply put: needs may soon outstrip WFP's ability to respond, knowing that for many of the most vulnerable, the food assistance provided by WFP is their only means of meeting their basic needs.

Why does it seem like this is a continuous cycle and the crisis is not getting any better?

Although enough food is produced to feed everyone on this planet, the goal of a world with zero hunger, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and specifically in Sustainable Development Goal 2, remains hugely challenging due to a toxic cocktail of disasters and structural poverty, inequality, and conflict.

In fact, 60 percent of the world's hungry people live in zones affected by conflict, which is the main driver in 8 out of 10 of the worst hunger crises – as in the case of Yemen, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Syria.

In addition, the climate crisis is one of the leading causes of the unprecedented rise in global hunger.

Climate shocks and stresses kill crops and livestock, degrade soils, deplete fisheries, damage infrastructure and agricultural assets and cut out transport links to markets. This reduces food supplies, causing prices to rise and endangering livelihoods.

What are the MENA region's challenges and are there any solutions to curb the growing hunger in the region?

The toxic combination of conflict, economic downturn, protracted crises, a global pandemic and most recently the war in Ukraine, has left millions of people in the MENA region particularly vulnerable to any shock that has a direct impact on food prices or availability.

Out of the 19 countries considered a "hotspot for hunger", three are in the region: Yemen, Lebanon, and Syria. More than half of the population in Yemen, Syria, and Lebanon are food insecure – a level of need that requires food assistance.

Food prices have increased in the region beyond the reach of the most vulnerable with the number of food insecure people across the MENA region increasing by 20 percent over the past three years – reaching more than 41 million people compared to 2019.

Many countries in the region are facing double and even triple-digit food price inflation compared to the pre-covid period and exacerbated by the war in Ukraine. This includes Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Türkiye, and Iran.

As national food production is disproportionate to domestic needs, heavy reliance on imports has exposed the region to fluctuations in global food prices, as well as to supply chain disruptions caused most recently by the covid-19 pandemic and natural disasters.

WFP is employing comprehensive and integrated approaches that address the root causes of the problem. In 2023, WFP is targeting more than 38 million people across the MENA with food and nutrition assistance as well as other interventions to increase the resilience of the most vulnerable in the face of regional and global shocks including the climate crisis.

Food production in the MENA region is curtailed by

Qatari support contributed to saving millions of lives

both conflict and a deepening climate crisis.

WFP direct food assistance has offset further deterioration in food security among the most vulnerable, especially in Syria, Yemen, and Lebanon.

WFP is working on boosting regional countries' adaptive capacity to deal with climate change by implementing climate-risk management solutions across 10 countries in the region, benefiting more than one million people. This includes investments in sustainable agriculture, water management, and renewable energy.

WFP is working with governments to build stronger and more inclusive social safety nets, implementing school feeding projects, and building the skills of youth and small-holder farmers to offset the worst effects of conflict, economic downturn, and climate crisis.

What about a Qatar's contributions to WFP? Can you tell us a bit more about where and how they've supported?

Qatar is a longstanding partner of the World Food Programme and made a sizeable contribution of USD 90 million to WFP operations in Yemen

late 2021. This contribution supported in 2022 the delivery of food assistance to 8.9 million vulnerable people, the provision of malnutrition treatment and prevention to 0.5m children and pregnant and lactating women, in addition to the support provided to the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service. It had a significant impact on our humanitarian operations in the country, contributing to saving millions of lives.

In 2022, a timely and generous contribution of USD 10 million, was received from the Qatar Fund for Development to support WFP's Immediate Response Account. This flexible funding is vital as it allows a 100% voluntary funded organization like WFP to respond quickly and effectively to humanitarian emergencies, as soon as they occur, to get lifesaving help where it is needed most. This kind of support is invaluable.

WFP has been also receiving an annual contribution of dates from the Ministry of Municipality, represented by the Department of Agricultural Affairs in Qatar, as part of their commitment to contribute to the international efforts to provide food aid to countries in crises and those most in need of food security. This year, we've received 120 tons of dates to the People's Republic of Bangladesh. These nutritious snacks will be distributed to 65,000 school children in Cox's Bazar, providing them with the essential vitamins and minerals they need to stay healthy and learn better.

WFP is working closely with the Government of Qatar and Qatar Fund for Development to continue expanding the partnership in 2023 and beyond.

An initiative that treats congenital heart defects

Congenital heart defects, which affect children in poor countries more than others, are a major health problem affecting the lives of children and their families. It is the second leading cause of death in children under the age of five and requires expensive treatment by highly skilled medical teams.

Qatar Charity, within the framework of its 2021-2025 strategy, launched an initiative to provide essential treatment for children born with congenital heart defects in several countries. The initiative came as part of Qatar Charity's efforts to contribute to alleviating the great suffering of the children due to the heart defects and their complications.

Qatar Charity, therefore, held medical camps, starting with Bangladesh then Mali. In the current year, it will continue to organize the medical camps in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Pakistan, and Somalia.

Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, nearly 25 out of every 1,000 children born in the capital, Dhaka, suffer from heart defects. Eighty per cent of these children belonging to families live below the poverty line. Hospitals also lack highly skilled surgeons to perform pediatric surgeries.

In view of this, Qatar Charity adopted a comprehensive program, which includes 15 projects to treat heart defects in children to save their lives and safeguard them from complications in the future. The program began by holding a camp to treat more than 30 children from poor families living in remote areas. Then, through another camp, nearly 100 children most in need were treated, especially in light of the difficult living conditions.

The medical team of this medical camp included an expert in pediatric cardiology and consultant in interventional catheter procedures from the University of Texas, USA, in addition to other specialists from Jordan and Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Qatar. The medical team, through this camp, contributed to training the local staff.

Mali

Qatar Charity continues to implement the initiative to treat congenital heart defects in Mali, where surgeries are performed on pediatric cases. Nearly 21 surgeries have been performed so far.

Ghana

In Ghana, Qatar Charity will implement a program in August to repair cardiac defects in children through cardiac catheterization, which will be the first of its kind there.

Within the framework of the program, the hospital, at which the operations will be performed, will be rehabilitated and provided with the necessary medical equipments and devices. Besides, the local medical team will be rehabilitated to assist the external team in conducting operations so that the local team can be able to conduct such operations in the future.



Qatar Charity mourns its former chairperson Sheikh Abdullah Al-Dabbagh

Qatar Charity (QC) mourned its former chairperson Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Abdullah Al-Dabbagh, who, after a long battle with illness, passed away in May 2023 at the age of 75 years after years of giving and serving those in need.

Qatar Charity extends condolences to his family, loved ones, and all those working in the charitable and voluntary fields in Qatar, the region, and the world, praying to Almighty Allah to bestow His abundant mercy on him, accept his effort, and raise his status in Paradise.

Huge Loss

Commenting on this great loss, the Chairperson of Qatar Charity, HE Sheikh Hamad bin Nasser bin Jassim Al Thani, said, «The name of Qatar Charity was associated with the name of the late Sheikh Abdullah



Al-Dabbagh, as one of its co-founders, who along with his fellow co-founders –after Almighty Allah– was credited with laying its first building blocks and its foundation pillars. He also assumed the executive responsibility at Qatar Charity for more than a decade and worked diligently to expand its activities across the world, devoting all his time to serving the poor and needy."

Al Thani added that the demise of Sheikh Al-Dabbagh is a huge loss for charitable and voluntary work in the country and the region, because he was one of the founding icons who left an inspiring legacy for all humanitarian workers. He emphasized that Qatar Charity will continue its journey of giving with vigor and determination and will remain faithful to his efforts and follow his good example, as well as it will remain keen to continue developing its performance for continuing charity work and for greater impact by its projects for the benefit of the needy and poor communities.

Founding Stage

Sheikh Al-Dabbagh was considered one of the pioneers of charitable and humanitarian work in Qatar and the Arab world, one of Qatar Charity's prominent co-founders who left a clear impact on its long career, and former Chair-

person of its Board of Directors. He contributed to the founding assembly of the «Qatar Committee for Orphan Sponsor Project» in 1992, which was later renamed Qatar Charity. This committee was chaired by Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Jassim bin Ali Al Thani.

Sheikh Al-Dabbagh was a member of the boards of directors of Qatar Charity more than once in the nineties of the last century, its chairperson from 1999 to 2001, and its general manager.

Humanitarian Interventions

During his tenure, Qatar Charity expanded its humanitarian activity by establishing its field offices in several countries and providing relief aid to those affected by disasters and crises in many countries, including Pakistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Palestine, Sudan, and the Horn of Africa. Sheikh al-Dabbagh was keen to head the relief delegations of Qatar Charity, provide urgent relief aid to the displaced and refugees, and console the injured in the fields of humanitarian work.

Qatar Charity also witnessed, during his tenure, the beginning of its presence in international forums, and its membership in UN organizations, including Consultative Status granted by ECOSOC in 1997.

Honor

In recognition of Sheikh al-Dabbagh's great role in its journey of benevolence and giving in particular, and his humanitarian efforts in general, Qatar Charity in 2013, honored him along with its several co-founders, former members of its boards of directors, and general assemblies. The special honoring ceremony took place under the patronage of its chairperson, HE Sheikh Hamad bin Nasser bin Jassim Al Thani. The honor came in appreciation of their efforts to serve humanitarian work and develop the performance of Qatar Charity's programs and projects.

Speaking at the ceremony at that time on behalf of the honorees, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Dabbagh, commended the humanitarian workers who are essential to this charitable establishment, as well as its management and all its employees. He considered that every worker of Qatar Charity is an ambassador for this edifice at home and abroad, appealing to everyone to master the work.



Qatar University (QU) has named Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity (QC), as Qatar CSR Personality of the Year, in recognition of his significant efforts and great contribution to developing and promoting charity work within and outside the State of Qatar. This was announced at the Qatar CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Summit 2023, which was held at Qatar University on May 16.

At the Qatar CSR Summit 2023, he was honored by HE Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser Al Misnad, Minister of Social Development and Family, in the presence of Mr. Hassan Al-Derham, President of Qatar University, and Dr. Saif Al-Hajari, President of the Qatar CSR National Program.



Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed al-Kuwari has nearly 25 years of experience in charity and community work and has been CEO of Qatar Charity since 2011.

Qatar Charity attaches significant attention to the various segments of Qatari society by launching many initiatives, programs, and activities to contribute to achieving cultural, social, economic, health, and environmental development, in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030. For example, 'Alaqraboon', which is the first of its kind in the State of Qatar, is the most distinguished initiative to deliver aid through its app within the country. Besides, Qatar Charity launched Ezdehar, an incubator for initiatives and volunteering, aiming to sponsor voluntary initiatives and events, provide advice on volunteering, promote the culture of volunteering in the community, and channel the energies of youth towards charity and community work. It has greatly contributed to supporting the development process in the State of Qatar.

In recognition of its multiple and prolonged achievements, Qatar Charity has won many international, regional, Arab, and local awards in the humanitarian, developmental, voluntary, and social responsibility fields.

Al Kuwari Speech at Honoring Ceremony

I extend my sincere thanks to Qatar University for this valuable honor, which reflects the tireless work that Qatar Charity has done over the years. This award reinforces our continued commitment to serving the community and supports our journey to achieve humanitarian and social goals within and outside our beloved Qatar.

I feel happy and proud, not only for being chosen as CSR personality of the year, but also for the fact that I live in a country that believes in the importance of social responsibility and gives it special attention befitting the high level of awareness of the wise and visionary leadership, which has long realized that social responsibility is one of the most important pillars of sustainable development set forth in the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Likewise, I can not do other than to mention the great role played by the Qatar CSR National Program over the years in encouraging organizations to apply social responsibility in their operations and activities, which was reflected in improving their image and reputation, enhancing their competitiveness, and increasing customer loyalty.

Yousuf Al Kuwari, Qatar CSR Personality of the Year

About Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed Al Kuwari and his social responsibility efforts

Below is Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed al-Kuwari's profile prepared by Qatar University (QU), in addition to his humanitarian and development efforts and his contribution to enhancing the quantitative and qualitative performance of Qatar Charity, which accomplished tremendous feats under his executive management.

Qatar University named Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity, as Qatar CSR Personality of the Year, in recognition of his significant efforts and great contribution to developing and promoting charity work within and outside the State of Qatar, and for his profound belief that sustainable development cannot be achieved without social responsibility, charity work, and cooperation among all members of society.

Qatar Charity, under his executive management, witnessed further development in its quantitative and qualitative performance, and made significant achievements as an international non-governmental organization working in the humanitarian and development field, in accordance with the laws regulating the non-profit sector in the State of Qatar.

Qatar Charity works within the State of Qatar, and in more than 70 countries outside the country. It has 33 field offices around the world, and is considered one of the first organizations in the humanitarian response, extending support, and providing assistance in case of natural disasters and crises.

Over more than three decades, Qatar Charity has implemented numerous qualitative development projects in its main areas of work, namely education, health, nutrition, shelter and social housing, water and sanitation, economic empowerment, food security, peace, and social harmony.

In the past five years, 40 million people benefited from Qatar Charity's services provided globally. In the field of social care, more than 200,000 persons, including orphans and other vulnerable people, are currently sponsored by Qatar Charity under its 'Rofaqa' initiative.

Qatar Charity is a reliable partner of UN agencies and international humanitarian organizations, and has signed more than 100 agreements with them. It has remarkably implemented many projects funded by these UN agencies, donors, and organizations, especially in recent years.

Qatar Charity applies the highest international standards in the field of humanitarian work, and relies on a set of international policies and mechanisms that govern work in the humanitarian work sector. It is the first charitable organization in the world to use the Connected Risk platform, which is specialized in the field of risk management and compliance. It is also the first organization in the Middle East to establish an e-link for managing information and international databases, which is known as 'World Check'. This aims to reduce risks, verify partners, and achieve the highest standards of transparency and accountability, which has fostered its leadership at the international level.



Fazat Shabab Ladaam, an important addition to Qatar's humanitarian work

'Fazat Shabab Ladaam' is a training program aimed at preparing youth leaders in humanitarian and development respects, which came within the framework of a partnership between the Ministry of Sports and Youth and Qatar Charity. The program is an important addition to humanitarian work for several reasons:

- It focuses on preparing (20 male and female) youth leaders in humanitarian and development respects in a country known for extending a helping hand to disaster-hit regions and poor communities around the world.
- It ensures that all the participants are acquainted with the foundations and standards of humanitarian and development work locally and

internationally by experienced experts from Qatar Charity through integrated training.

- The participants are practically acquainted with the experiences related to the management of humanitarian work by organizing a trip to a country, where they learn about Qatar Charity's projects and their positive impacts on the lives of beneficiaries.
- The participants are motivated by selecting the best projects presented by them, according to specific evaluation criteria.

The following investigative report of 'Ghiras' sheds light on the idea of the program and its importance to the State of Qatar and the volunteers, as well as on its impact and prospects.



Maha Al Romaihi,

Director of the Planning, Quality, and Innovation Department at the Ministry of Sports and Youth:

Qatar Charity plays a major role in preparing and developing the program

Maha Al Romaihi, Director of the Planning, Quality, and Innovation Department at the Ministry of Sports and Youth, gave an overview of the first edition of the program and the cooperation with Qatar Charity in its implementation and development as follows:

How did the idea of the program emerge, and how was the partnership with Qatar Charity reflected in its development?

The idea of the program emerged from the vision and the strategic plans of the Ministry of Sports and Youth, the foremost of which is empowering youth and developing their capabilities to enable them to be leaders in various fields and at various levels.

It also came in response to international directives in the field of youth work, such as the United Nations Youth Strategy, which identified five priority areas, including Youth, Peace, and Resilience Building by seeking to support youth as agents of peace, security and humanitarian action, and in line with Security Council Resolution 2250 on youth, peace, and security, which recognizes the important role that youth can play in coping with the effects of political and armed conflicts around the world and mitigating their impact on those affected.

To achieve this, the Ministry, in partnership with Qatar Charity, launched a program to prepare youth leadership in humanitarian and development respects, which is named 'Faazt Shabab Ladaam'. The program aimed to train 20 young men and women who were selected according to objective criteria related to planning, implementing, and managing humanitarian projects, and knowledge

of international laws and principles governing humanitarian work within a framework that combines theoretical knowledge and applied skills. It was completed with a field visit to humanitarian sites in the Republic of Kosovo.

Qatar Charity has played a major role in developing the program by defining high-level training content integrated theoretically and practically, selecting good trainers, and supervising the preparation of projects, in addition to organizing the field trip in a better manner.

What is the importance of the program at the level of Qatar, and its importance to Qatari youth?

At the level of Qatar, the program affirms the role of the country as an active partner in the international community to promote and achieve the goals related to humanitarian and development work to alleviate human suffering and meet the requirements of thousands of needy people around the world. The program also emphasizes Qatar's keenness to ensure that humanitarian work takes place within a systematic and studied framework and that it is undertaken by those who have the knowledge and skills necessary to do this work.

At the level of Qatari youth, such programs contribute to empowering them, activating their role in society, and developing their sense of patriotism, society, and humanity. It also contributes to enhancing their leadership skills, in addition to making them proud of their Arab and Islamic values that call for helping the needy and acquainting them

with the reality of humanitarian and development work in the world.

Could you please tell us about the prospects of the program?

After the completion of the first edition, we were keen to prepare a comprehensive report that includes all aspects related to the program in terms of the criteria for selecting participants, theoretical and practical training content, program outputs, organizational aspects, and trainers' evaluation.

We concluded with specific recommendations and proposals to ensure the development of the program in its future version and improve its outputs. During the coming period, we will also work to follow up on the implementation of humanitarian projects prepared by the youth, in cooperation with Qatar Charity.

Eng. Jamal Gassim, Program Training Coordinator:

The training has a clear impact on participants' skills



Regarding the training package of the program, both theoretical and practical, and its impact on those enrolled in the program, Eng. Jamal Gassim, the coordinator of the training supervised by Qatar Charity, tells us the following:

What is the impact of the theoretical and practical training received by the participants on their rehabilitation in the humanitarian field?

It is known that theoretical and practical training leads to improved performance and reduces expected errors to a minimum. We have noticed a significant improvement in the level of performance and the quality of proposals.

There was a clear impact on how the proposals are formulated, and a clear interest in the sources of information contained in five development and

humanitarian proposals that were submitted. The training had a clear impact on enhancing the skills of those enrolled in the program.

What is the role of Qatar Charity in implementing the projects of the winning teams?

Qatar Charity plays a leading role in the implementation of such projects, as this role is considered one of the original roles of organizations working in the humanitarian and development fields, namely improving the competence and abilities of young people, and acquainting them with the fields of humanitarian and development work.

The training included five areas, namely health, education, food empowerment, water and sanitation, and social welfare.



Why do charity organizations choose humanitarian ambassadors?

Humanitarian ambassadors or goodwill ambassadors are a title given to famous and influential figures in the fields of science, literature, arts, sports, and media, as well as to social media influencers and others, chosen by charity organizations to represent them and garner support for humanitarian causes.

The 'Ambassadors to Humanity' are committed to contributing to alleviating human suffering and channeling the efforts of society towards humanitarian work, disseminating the goals of the organizations, highlighting their vision through special activities that support humanitarian work, and participating in events to serve humanitarian causes.

Celebrities play an important role in spreading a culture of charitable work and raising awareness about humanitarian causes and challenges such as poverty, ignorance, disease, and unemployment facing communities. They also promote relief and development projects financially and morally.

The title of a humanitarian ambassador or goodwill ambassador is a great privilege for a celebrity, and a literary honor for a personality. The title does not give the right to diplomatic or political representation, but rather places the personality in a prestigious position as a recognition of his/ her importance and popular and public influence within and outside the local and regional context.

Humanitarian Ambassadors of Qatar Charity

Qatar Charity (QC) has awarded many well-known and influential public figures the title of 'Ambassador to Humanity' to raise awareness and garner support, through them, for humanitarian causes at the local, regional, and international levels.

Among the personalities chosen by Qatar Charity as humanitarian ambassadors during this year and previous years are the following:



Frédéric Oumar Kanouté

Frédéric Oumar Kanouté, a former player of the Mali national team, the Beijing Guoan Football Club, and the Sevilla Football Club, joined Qatar Charity as global goodwill ambassador of Qatar Charity in 2013. He contributed to supporting many humanitarian activities and actions. He represented Qatar Charity in its humanitarian campaigns, and participated in the charity match in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to support the orphan care initiative 'Rofaqa'.



HE Sheikh Saud bin Abdul Rahman Al Thani

He has an eminent presence at the sports, media, and voluntary levels. He was chosen as an ambassador for Qatar Charity in 2013 to represent it in its campaigns and humanitarian projects. His first humanitarian mission was to support the 'Global Polio Eradication Initiative' in Pakistan.



Mohammed Saadoun Al-Kuwari

Mohammed Saadoun Al-Kuwari, the beIN Sports commentator and one of the most prominent media figures in Qatar, was chosen as a humanitarian ambassador of Qatar Charity in 2013. He represented Qatar Charity in projects, programs, and activities in the fields of education, health, childhood, women, water, poverty alleviation, culture, and relief.



Sheikh Fahd Salem Al-Kandari

Sheikh Al-Kandari is considered one of the great reciters of the Noble Qur'an in Kuwait and other GCC countries. He focuses on Qur'anic projects and Islamic programs.



Mutaz Barshim

The Qatari Champion Mutaz Barshim was named as a humanitarian ambassador of Qatar Charity. This aims to support Qatar Charity's efforts to spread awareness about humanitarian causes in the community, and garner support for its charitable projects and initiatives implemented within Qatar and globally.

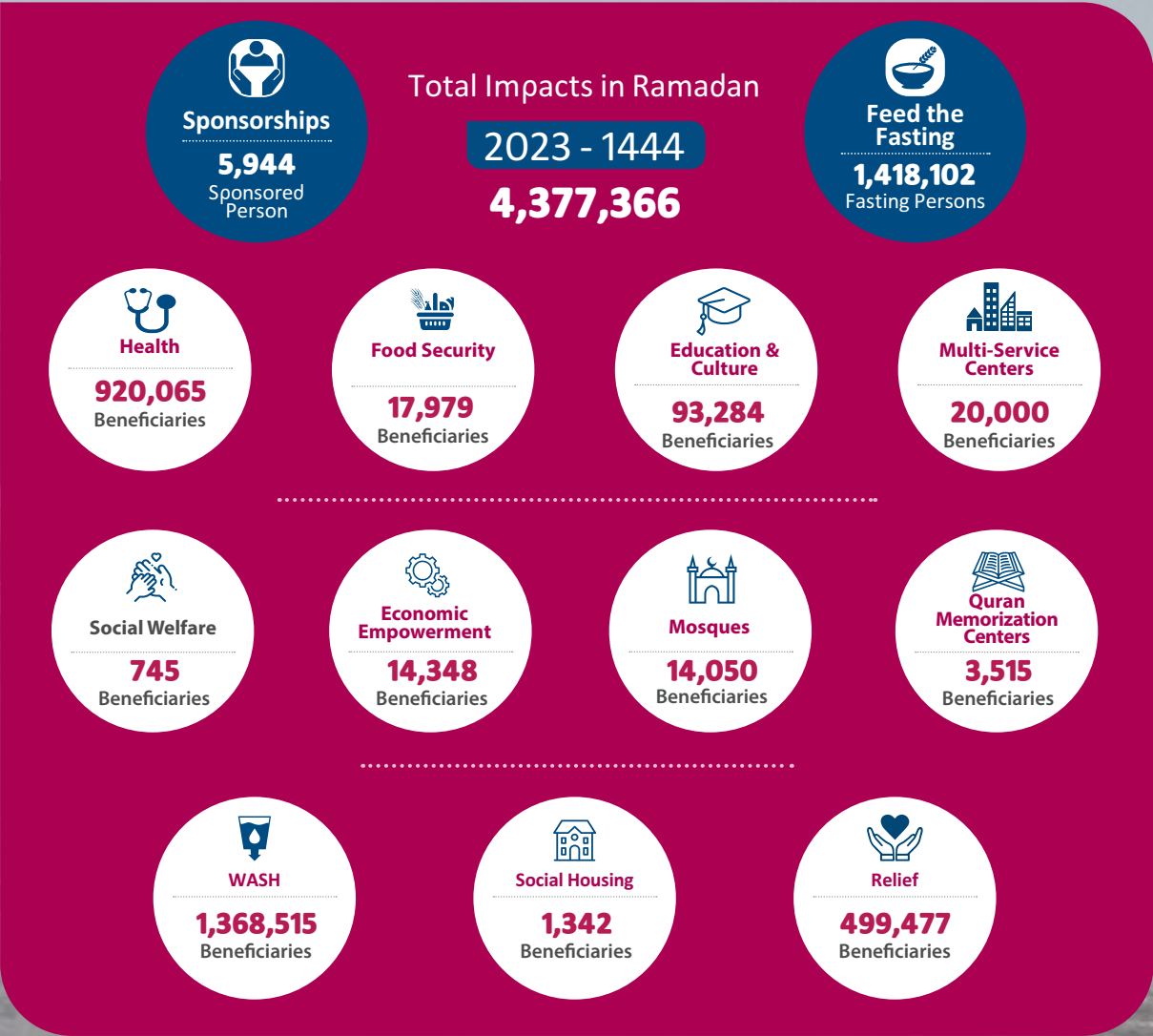


4.4 million

Beneficiaries of Ramadan Campaign

The total number of those, who benefited from Qatar Charity's 'Ramadan: Leave Your Mark' campaign, reached 4,363,210. The 'Feed the Fasting' project was implemented in 41 countries, including Qatar, by distributing food packages and ready-to-eat meals. The project benefited 1,249,003 people. As part of the Ramadan drive, 5,944 persons were sponsored. Besides, the campaign left a mark at the level

of development projects. Qatar Charity has expressed its thanks to the honorable donors who have contributed to alleviating the suffering of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, the poor, and the needy, by meeting their needs for food, safe housing, and supporting health, education, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects.



Qatar Charity participates in Humanitarian Alliance for Sudan

Qatar Charity (QC) participated in the international forum organized by the 'Humanitarian Alliance for Sudan' group on 'Dimensions of the Humanitarian Situation in Sudan'. This came under the initiative of many humanitarian workers, as they are interested in serving and helping the Sudanese people in these exceptional circumstances.

The coalition, organized by the Global Humanitarian Forum, aims to bring together all those who wish to make contributions in any form of logistical and material support, expertise, and guidance, and to be a focus for launching humanitarian action that supports the Sudanese people and urges all parties to support them in their plight.

Forum Topics

Representatives of several international, regional, and local organizations spoke at the International Forum, discussing the humanitarian crisis in Sudan in light of the ongoing fighting, the challenges and difficulties facing the humanitarian workers in delivering aid to the affected, and the need for safe passages for the delivery of aid.

Mohamed Al Ghamdi, CEO's Assistant for the Governance Sector at Qatar Charity, underlined the

importance of urgent solutions to the humanitarian challenges facing the delivery of aid, indicating that the security situation poses a serious threat to the humanitarian workers of international, regional, and local organizations. He also noted the ability of the organizations to provide aid in light of these conditions, and that the suspension of money transfers through banks greatly affects the delivery of aid to the affected.

He pointed to the role that the United Nations should play in stopping the ongoing conflict and finding a truce so that humanitarian organizations can deliver aid and find solutions to the problems of receiving refugees in neighboring countries, noting the need to prepare a roadmap and future action plans for humanitarian organizations to work in Sudan.

Dr. Abdelgader Galal, an emergency relief expert at Qatar Charity, delivered a presentation on the role of society and the national organization in Sudan and that of the Sudanese Diaspora in dealing with the repercussions of the humanitarian crisis in Sudan.



Qatar Charity provides aid to conflict-affected people in Sudan

Qatar Charity (QC), as part of its humanitarian duty towards the people in Sudan, launched an appeal to support them in this time of adversity. It continues to deliver relief aid to the affected and provide them with food, shelter, and treatment.

The assistance, which was provided by Qatar Charity so far, includes the following:

- 28 tons of food aid were provided for patients, emergency teams, and medical staff of hospitals in the capital, Khartoum, which was one of the most affected sectors.
- 50 tons of relief aid were airlifted, in coordination with the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), and distributed to those affected in Port Sudan.
- 50 tons of food aid were distributed, in coordination with QFFD, to those affected by the fighting in Sudan and families hosting the IDPs in Port Sudan, in addition to providing the necessary foodstuffs to the affected members of the Yemeni community who are waiting for their evacuation to their country.
- Through the mobile clinic, medical services and medicines were provided free of charge to stranded and displaced patients in Port Sudan, where several trained medical personnel were provided to run the clinic. Nearly 50 patients visit the mobile clinic daily. It will continue to provide health care to the displaced and the standard for a month, moving between various camps.
- 6,000 meals, 1,000 meals per day, were distributed to those affected by the fighting and those stranded in the Argeen crossing on the Sudanese-Egyptian border.

In a blink of an eye, Aid worker Ahmed loses family members

Time: The night of February 6, 2023

Incident: A terrifying thing brought fear and panic into the hearts of many people, especially in southern Türkiye and northern Syria. They were awakened from their slumber by a violent and powerful 7.8-magnitude earthquake that left more than 100,000 dead, hundreds of thousands injured, and hundreds of thousands of demolished homes.

In northern Syria, the pain was more severe, and the effects were much deeper. The remaining houses, which survived the conflict, were destroyed, and the area of tents and camps expanded. The earthquake gave new sorrow to the already suffering internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Northern Syria, where they have been going through the prolonged displacement.

Among these painful stories is the story of engineer Ahmed Jassim, an aid worker working as a supervisor of Qatar Charity's shelter projects in northern Syria. He suddenly became an earthquake victim, losing many family members in a blink of an eye.

Engineer Ahmed narrates his sorrowful story to 'Ghiras' as follows:

"At 4:20 am exactly on February 6, 2023, a violent earthquake struck my city, Salqin. While I was sleeping with my family, my wife woke me up and told me, 'It seems to be an earthquake, and take the children outside.' While I was running, I saw my helpless mother who asked me what was going on. I told her in a hurry that it was an earthquake. At this moment, I began to hear buildings crumbling, and dust rising all around me. I run with my children outside until I reached the street.

After the earthquake calmed down, and the dust began to clear, I turned behind and found that my house had collapsed. I shouted the name of my mother, my wife, and my daughter, but there was no answer. I kept screaming



until five o'clock in the morning to realize that they were still under the rubble.

When I recalled what happened, I was sure that if my wife had not woken me up, and if I had not quickly left the house, I would not have been able to survive, because it all happened in just 10 seconds.

Then, in the bitter cold and rain, my first concern became to find safe shelter for my children, who had survived, so I hurried to a relative's house in the neighboring village.

On the way, I saw that most of the houses had completely been destroyed, and there was not a single intact building in Salqin and even in the village I went to. I realized that my wife, mother, and daughter had died, and I had lost them forever.

After I left my children with my relatives, I returned home to search for their bodies in the rubble. After a lot of effort and with the help of the Civil Defense, I was able to pull the bodies of my mother and my

daughter from the debris.

At ten o'clock in the morning, some workers from Qatar Charity's office located in Idlib came to make sure if I am good. They found that I and three of my children had come out safely. and I lost my wife, my mother, my daughter, my house, and everything in it. I left the house in my pajamas only, without a phone or personal belongings.

After four days and due to a continuous effort by the Civil Defense, I was able to reach the body of my wife, after the rubble of the building was almost removed.

Because my mission is humanitarian in the first place and it requires me to contribute to the relief of the affected and their families, I had to quickly heal my wounds and overcome my personal injury to move again to work in the field, extend a helping hand to the earthquake victims, and to be part of Qatar Charity's relief teams, as a role model for others, to carry out the humanitarian response duty."

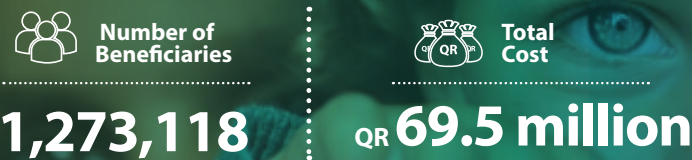
Qatar Charity's Humanitarian Interventions for Türkiye -Syria Earthquake Victims

Since the early hours of the earthquake that hit Türkiye and northern Syria in February, Qatar Charity's field teams rushed to distribute urgent relief aid to the earthquake victims, in conjunction with the launch of an urgent relief campaign titled 'Save Earthquake Victims in Türkiye and Syria'.

Qatar Charity (QC) works in Turkey and northern Syria, through its teams, in partnership with humanitarian and governmental organizations, and in coordination with Qatar Fund for Development

(QFFD), in line with the efforts of the State of Qatar for the benefit of the earthquake victims.

The number of beneficiaries of the interventions, which were carried out by Qatar Charity for the benefit of Türkiye -Syria earthquake victims, reached nearly 1,273,118. The total cost of the aid provided in the fields of food, shelter, social protection, sanitation, water, and others until April 5, 2023, amounted to nearly QR 69.5 million.



Food Supply



Health



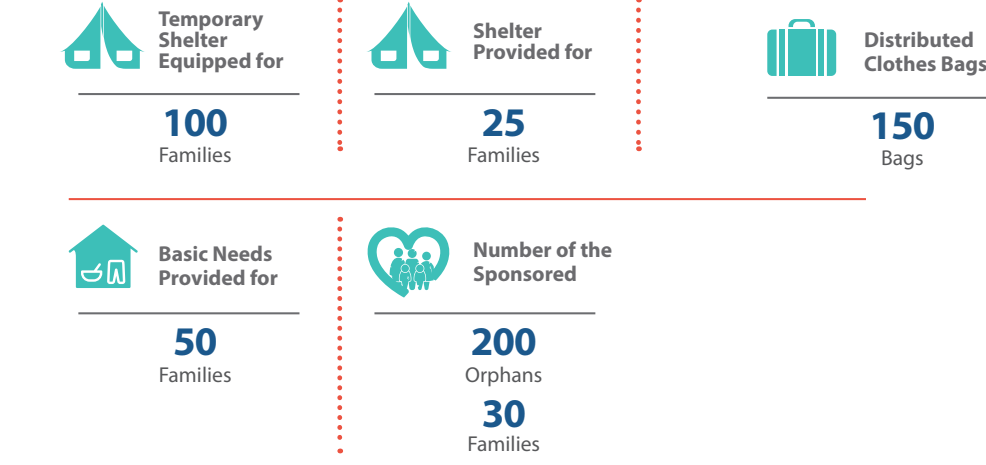
Shelter



Psycho-Social Support



Orphan Aid



WASH



'Alaqraboon', the most distinctive platform to provide social assistance locally

The total assistance for humanitarian cases amounted to nearly 310 million Qatari riyals, which were provided by Qatar Charity (QC) within the State of Qatar through its electronic platform 'Alaqraboon' during the period from the beginning of 2022 until mid-April of 2023. This social assistance benefited approximately 7,500 persons, including those in debt, divorced women, widows, the sick, the infirm, the elderly, people with disabilities, low-income families, students, families of prisoners and others. Qatari citizens benefited from this assistance by 75 % to 82%, with those in debt receiving its largest volume, which amounted to more than 165.6 million Qatari riyals for the benefit of 531 cases during the same period. This is followed by assistance allocated for low-income families, students, the sick, and divorced women, respectively. As of April 2021, local aid requests are processed through the 'Alaqraboon' app, which was launched to serve as a link between the various

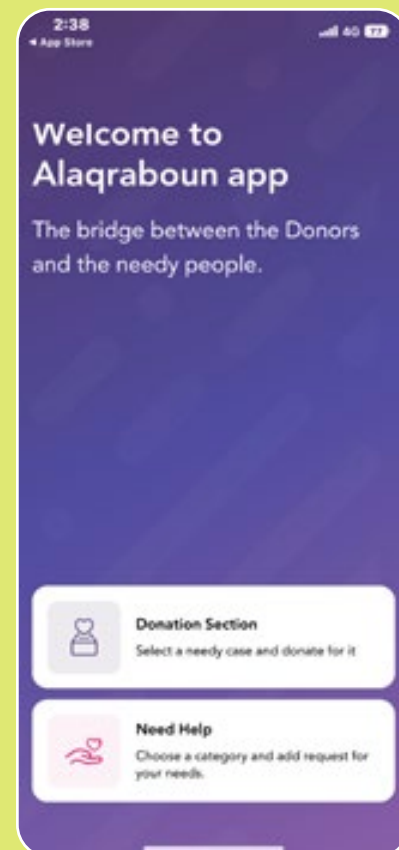
Features of Alaqraboon's Upgraded Version

- Easy to register and data safety
- Simple procedures
- Documents are uploaded once
- Many aids and services
- Enable beneficiaries to easily receive aid from grocery stores, pharmacies, and others through direct communication
- Sends notifications, updates, and inquiries to aid seekers
- Provide quick access to basic food supplies (milk, bread, yogurt) weekly

The Most Important Aid Through App

- Food supplies (food packages, meat, chicken, and ready-to-eat meals)
- Electrical appliances and home furniture
- House repair or completion
- Educational expenses (school and university fees, bus fees, and school bags and uniforms, etc.)
- Health expenses (health cards renewal, medical examination, medicines, wheelchairs, medical devices, and dialysis sessions, etc.)
- Government fee arrears (family residence, birth certificates, and driving license renewal, etc.)
- Subsistence services (monthly or lump sum financial assistance, housing rent, and water and electricity bills, etc.).
- Sponsorship (orphans, low-income families, students, and people with disabilities)
- Assistance for those in debt

needy people and Qatar Charity to provide them with assistance as soon as possible. 'Alaqraboon' is the most distinguished app to deliver aid within Qatar. It has contributed to a significant increase in the number of applications submitted to the aid committees. Some 901 applications were submitted in 2020 (before the launch of the application). The number of the applications submitted in 2021 increased to 2,146. In 2022, nearly 4,639 applications were received. However, the first quarter of 2023 saw the submission of 7,060 applications.



How does 'Amal' challenge her disability?

Although Amal Al-Samawi, a Yemeni girl, has hearing and speech impairment since her childhood, and lives in a poor family that barely gets necessary sustenance, she did not surrender to her harsh health and living conditions.

Rather, she decided to challenge the disability educationally and professionally. So, she continued her studies until she obtained a university degree in a scientific discipline. She also learned two occupations. She works as a volunteer.

Although her life is full of struggles, she still aspires to accomplish more achievements and improve her situation despite the challenges surrounding her.

As Amal is a person with a disability, she has been sponsored under Qatar Charity's 'Rofaqa' initiative since 2016. Thanks to the support of her sponsor, Amal was able to complete her secondary education with high grades. As she had an ambition to be a programmer, she studied at the university and received a bachelor's degree in information technology, scoring a very good GPA.

Amal also learned sewing and wool and cotton spinning. She is currently working as an unpaid



volunteer at a school for the deaf and dumb.

Amal expresses her thanks and gratitude to her sponsor and Qatar Charity for their efforts in sponsoring and taking care of her. However, she still faces many challenges. She is unable to pay the full tuition fees to receive her graduation certificate from the university and purchase a sewing machine and wool spinning tools.

She looks forward, with the support of benefactors, to being able to continue her studies to earn a master's degree, buy a sewing machine, and open a center for spinning wool and making cotton clothes, which will help her, and her family improve their living conditions.



Through microcredit, Dr. Muhammad Yunus creates a legacy of social change

Nobel Laureate Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus has changed life of millions of the poor, especially women, for the better within Bangladesh and across the globe with his micro-lending and social business concepts via his Bangladesh-based Grameen Bank.

Dr. Muhammad Yunus is considered as the father of microcredit (tiny loans to help poor people start their own businesses) in its current practical incarnation. He is considered as the 9th most admired personality globally, according to the world economic forum's survey.

Banker to the poor

Considered as a banker to the poorest of the poor, he is a Bangladeshi social entrepreneur,

banker, economist and civil society leader, and the founder of Grameen Bank, and dozens of other companies in Bangladesh.

Nobel Prize

In 2006, Dr. Muhammad Yunus and his brainchild the Grameen Bank were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in peace, «for their efforts to create economic and social development from below» recognizing the important link between poverty and peace.

Early Life

Dr. Muhammad Yunus was born on June 28, 1940, in a village of Chittagong, East Bengal, which is now Bangladesh. He spent his early childhood years in the village. In 1944, his family

moved to the city of Chittagong.

Education & Career

As he has always been a meritorious student, he passed the matriculation examination from Chittagong Collegiate School ranking 16th of 39,000 students in East Pakistan. He was an active Boy Scout during his school years.

"Professor Yunus studied at Dhaka University in Bangladesh, then received a Fulbright scholarship to study economics at Vanderbilt University. He received his Ph.D. in economics from Vanderbilt in 1969 and the following year became an assistant professor of economics at Middle Tennessee State University. Returning to Bangladesh, Yunus headed the economics department at Chittagong University," according to the Noble Prize website.

Fighting Poverty

The sorrows of the poorer society he had witnessed during the 1974 famine inspired him to work on reducing poverty and unemployment. In 1976, when Yunus visited very poor households in the village of Jobra near Chittagong University,

he discovered that very small loans could make an enormous difference in a poor person's life. He found Jobra women who made bamboo furniture had to take out loans at usurious rates. Shocked by this reality, he gave \$27 dollars to 42 women, so that they can have their own business and set themselves free from the loan shark.

Grameen Bank

In 1983, Muhammad Yunus founded Grameen Bank (the Bank of Village) in famine-stricken and newly born Bangladesh, fueled by the belief that credit is a fundamental human right, and in an effort to realize his vision of self-support for the very poorest people by means of loans on easy terms.

As a microfinance organization and community development bank making small loans to the impoverished without requiring collateral, the Grameen Bank works on the assumption that even the poorest of the poor can manage their own financial affairs. It provides small long-term loans on easy terms, so almost anyone can get bank credit. As of early 2017, the bank had

nine million borrowers, 97% of them women. It has become a source of inspiration for similar microcredit institutions in over one hundred countries.

Social business

According to Centre Yunus's website, "A Social business as defined by Prof. Yunus is an innovative approach to tackle the big social and environmental challenges of our times. It is a powerful tool to create a world of three zeros: zero poverty, zero unemployment and zero net carbon emissions. Social business is a sustainable business whose purpose is to serve a societal cause."

"There are two kinds of businesses in the world. One is a business which makes money, and the other solves the problems of the world," said the Nobel Laureate in a report published in March

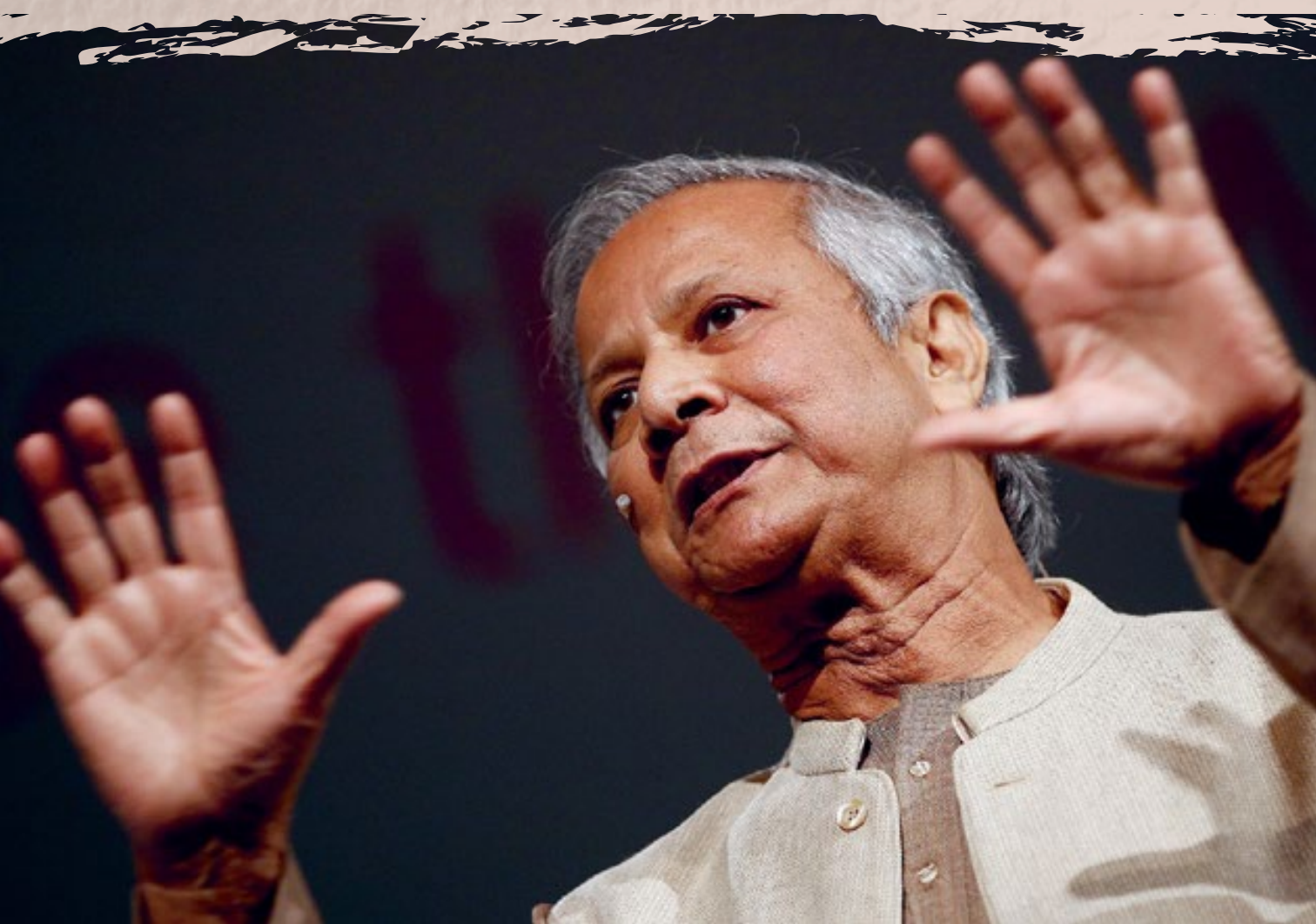
2017 on The Guardian's website.

Awards and achievements

Professor Muhammad Yunus is the recipient of 61 honorary degrees from universities across 24 countries. He has received 136 awards from 33 countries including state honors from 10 countries. He is one of seven individuals to have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

Books of Dr. Yunus

Dr. Yunus has written numerous books, including 'Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle Against World Poverty', 'A World of Three Zeros', 'Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism', and 'Building Social Business: The New Kind of Capitalism That Serves Humanity's Most Pressing'.



Future's Writers, a continuous journey towards creative writing

The 'Future's Writers' program of Qatar Charity (QC) continues its journey to contribute to discovering and nurturing students' talents to enrich the Qatari cultural arena with writers. This is how Qatar Charity seeks to contribute to achieving the Qatar National Vision 2030 and opening new horizons to allow the program to see further development and expansion.

The program aimed at developing creative writing skills in school and university students has witnessed continuous progress. The program's sixth edition, which concluded in May, 2023 and was sponsored by Dukhan Bank, was participated by 228 boys and girls schools, Qatar University, University of Doha for Science and Technology, Community

College, and Al Noor Institute, and the Audio Education Complex.

Participation in the 'Future's Writers' program represented the beginning of unleashing students' talents. The winners, whose stories were launched in the sixth edition, showed a desire to develop their skills and continue their journey of creativity in the world of writing.

The aspiring writers considered their participation a crowning achievement of their efforts and a turning point in their lives. They expressed their gratitude to Qatar Charity and the supporters of this program for their continuous efforts and unwavering commitment to nurturing and refining their talents, enabling them to become writers.

Achievements by Future's Writers over 6 Years

- The program has discovered and nurtured short story-writing talents in 120 students.
- A total of 92 stories were printed during the five seasons and some of them were translated into the Russian language.
- Some 137 female students from 32 schools participated in the first edition of the program.
- The second season witnessed the participation of 375 male and female students from 55 schools.
- The third season of the program saw the participation of 1,697 male and female students from 259 schools.
- The fourth season recorded the participation of 2,355 male and female students from 287 schools, in addition to the students at Qatar University, and the students with special needs from the Audio Education Complex.
- Some 106 participants from various schools took part in the fifth edition of the program.
- The program's sixth edition was participated by students from 228 boys and girls' schools and universities.
- The third edition of the program won the award for the best national initiative in Qatar as part of the Social Responsibility Awards of Dar Al Sharq.



Memorable Spectacles of Somalia's Beledweyne Floods

By Abdi dahir Mohamed Osman

My participation in Qatar Charity's team to assess the humanitarian situation in Beledweyne, a city in central Somalia, which was submerged by the flood water in May, 2023, left a great effect on me.

When we reached the city's airport, which is situated on one of the city's heights, we found the city, which was previously inhabited by people and commercially active, fully paralyzed. You only see the water that flooded the houses and the roads of the city.

On our way to the hotel where we wanted to stay, we saw the humanitarian circumstances in Ceel Jaale, an area which received most of those fled Beledweyne.

One of the painful incidents is what happened to Haj Mohamed Nour, who was one of the wealthy people in Beledweyne. However, due to the flood, he became overnight poor after he lost his house and business. "My life was stable, and I had a big house and a profitable garment business, which

I started after traveling and being away from my country for years," said Haj Mohamed.

"Here in the camp, I feel helpless. It really hurts to see the efforts of many years go to waste in vain," he added.

While returning from the 'Ceel-Jaale' camp, we heard a sound like moaning, and when turned the light of the car towards the source of the sound, we found a woman trying to drown her children in floodwaters. We quickly went down to save the children, and the mother was taken to the hospital by the concerned authorities in the city, and she was given a dose of tranquilizers. All this was done while she was screaming in panic without concentration "Let me kill them so that I will commit suicide after them. We have no life now. We don't

have a house, and we can't sleep in the open air.

I want to send them to their Creator, as he is more merciful to them than this life."

Maryam Asbli, an 18-year-old student, told us sadly, «In the past three months, I have only slept a little, because I was preparing for the high school exam. The moment when the water entered our house was the most difficult one in my life. Unfortunately, I am not able to go to school or attend the exam.»

This flood has more effects than the city's previous floods in terms of damages. It displaced of 90 percent of the city's population - nearly 250,000 families - living in overcrowded camps, and there are still stranded families, who are unable to go out due to the flood water in their homes.



A. Nasser Ibrahim Al-Fakhroo,
General Administrator of Kyrgyzstan Office



Hasan Ali Owda,
Country Director of Ghana Office



Mohamed Ouahi,
Country Director of Türkiye Office

Role of Field Offices in Supporting Qatar Charity’s Global Humanitarian Efforts

Qatar Charity (QC) has field offices in three continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe. It opened its first office in 1994. Now, it has 31 field offices. These offices represent Qatar Charity in the countries. To know their views, we talked to a group of country directors and supervisors of the field offices for the 'Ghiras Symposium' that discusses 'Role of Field Offices in Supporting Qatar Charity's Global Humanitarian Efforts.'

The participants talked about the most important matters and additions that are reflected in the humanitarian and development efforts and achievements made by Qatar Charity through these field offices. They also elaborated on how to develop the offices' activities, using their humanitarian expertise and experiences.

How has the presence of field offices helped Qatar Charity accomplish humanitarian and development achievements?

A. Nasser Ibrahim Al-Fakhroo, General Administrator of Kyrgyzstan Office

- Implementing qualitative projects at the highest international standards that suit the natural conditions of the country.
- Providing quick relief aid according to the need and circumstances. The office is always fully

prepared for any emergency circumstances.

- Building good relations with local and international organizations and cooperating with the government in terms of sharing data and information, providing appropriate conditions for work, and identifying needs.
- Taking advantage of the provided appropriate conditions to implement the plans and ambitions of Qatar Charity's headquarters.

Hasan Ali Owda, Country Director of Ghana Office

searching for and capitalizing on local pooled funding mechanisms.

- Promoting learning opportunities and active presence by taking advantage of specialized clusters.
- Supporting the efforts of local and national authorities to respond to humanitarian crises, and engaging in development initiatives of countries in accordance with approved national plans.
- Enabling young Qataris (employees, volunteers, collaborators, and donors) to pay field visits to learn about the basics and priorities of humanitarian action on the ground.

How to develop and revitalize work in field offices through your experience?

Hasan Ali Owda, Country Director of Ghana Office

This is based on three main points:

- Keeping in touch with the beneficiaries and designing projects that suit their needs and their aspirations.
- Building and developing a distinguished work team that has a deep understanding of the concept of charitable work, and it must be integrated in terms of expertise and specializations.
- Implementing an effective and dynamic project management and communication system that aims to implement projects and programs with the highest quality and the fastest possible time.

A. Nasser Ibrahim Al-Fakhroo, General Administrator of Kyrgyzstan Office

- Building relationships with the concerned authorities to share information and the required need.
- Facilitating the implementation of humanitarian projects and initiatives, training teams to implement projects to the highest specifications, following them up, and communicating with the concerned authorities as soon as possible for assistance.
- Activating the role of marketing and sharing achievements, both at the local and international levels, to open spaces for cooperation with international organizations or gain more donors.

Mohamed Ouahi, Country Director of Türkiye Office

- Enabling the field offices to have the necessary means, mechanisms, and procedures to carry out their work in the best manner.
- Building the capabilities of those working at field offices.
- Supporting the field offices with young personnel with good experience in humanitarian work.
- Creating an active dynamic between the offices in terms of exchanging of expertise and sharing experiences.

- Serving as a link between the headquarters and the generous donors on the one hand, and the recipients of Qatar Charity's aid and the beneficiaries of its projects in the field on the other hand.
- Directly communicating with communities and stakeholders, carrying out the realistic assessment of the various needs in all sectors of charitable work, whether developmental or humanitarian.
- Directly supervising the implementation of projects and programs to ensure the highest level of quality, honesty, transparency, and impartiality.
- Building relations with development and humanitarian partners, including local, international, and UN organizations, and ministries, and government agencies to carry out humanitarian and development work.

Mohamed Ouahi, Country Director of Türkiye Office

- Having a presence within the framework of the humanitarian system for cooperation and coordination.
- Introducing Qatari humanitarian action at the local, regional, and international levels, and improving ways to provide humanitarian support to those affected by humanitarian crises in an effective and timely manner.
- Advocating for humanitarian causes (negotiating access and protection for civilians and aid workers and focusing on adherence to humanitarian principles to ensure that aid reaches those affected),



Mana Mohammed Al-Ansari,
Field Offices Affairs Department Manager
at Qatar Charity, to ‘Ghiras’:

We have 31 offices worldwide and plan to expand our reach

In continuation of the talk about the role of field offices in supporting Qatar Charity’s humanitarian efforts across the world, we met with Mr. Mana Mohammed Al-Ansari, Field Offices Affairs Department Manager at Qatar Charity, to know about the criteria for opening these offices, the expansion plans, and the advantage enjoyed by Qatar Charity due to the presence of these offices.

Why did Qatar Charity consider establishing field offices around the world?

Our actual presence in the countries where we operate is considered important and strategic for us in several respects. It proves to the host government the seriousness of the relationship, and it also enhances the local community’s view of Qatar Charity’s role in advancing development and empowering individuals in all fields. Furthermore, the host governments provide greater facilities to the organizations that have a physical presence, in terms of tax and customs exemptions, and donations of commercial and agricultural lands.

Also, the presence of a field office reduces the administrative burdens related to dealing with partners to implement projects, so Qatar Charity has greater freedom in duration control and

better ease in following up on the implementation of project.

How many offices are there currently? What are the expansion plans? What are the most important criteria for opening new offices?

Qatar Charity has field offices in 31 countries from Senegal in the far west of the African continent to the borders of China in the east of the Asian continent. More than 3 expansion opportunities are currently being studied to be carried out before the end of 2023.

The main criteria that are considered are as follows:

- The need and acceptance of the local community for development ideas. As our goal is 'Dignity for All', so our presence is not limited to distributing in-kind aid, but we always focus on empowering local communities by offering opportunities for vocational training and community education.
- Governmental agreements, as it is difficult for Qatar Charity to work in an environment where the local authorities are closed to their ideas and agendas. We always emphasize to the local authorities that the role of Qatar Charity is to build communities capable of advancing themselves in addition to providing food, medical, and other assistance.

The Humanitarian Exit Dilemma

The Moral Cost of Withdrawing Aid

Book Name: The Humanitarian Exit Dilemma, The Moral Cost of Withdrawing Aid

Author: Chin Ruamps

Edition: First

Year of Publishing: 2023

Publisher: Routledge

Pages: 156

During the last few years, the natural disasters and man-made crises drove humanitarian needs to an unprecedented level, stretching further the capacity of humanitarian organizations, which are facing morally difficult decisions in determining which needs to satisfy and on what grounds.

Since the late 1990s, NGOs have not often been granted sufficient space, due to conflicts, to provide humanitarian assistance. They are repeatedly denied access to affected populations. This made them consider their operations and practices in conflict settings.

This book focuses on a very important aspect of humanitarian ethics and looks beyond the simple utilitarian approach to aid withdrawal, with a concept the author refers to as the 'Humanitarian Exit Dilemma'. It addresses the question of withdrawing or staying when humanitarian organisations are forced to face the Humanitarian Exit Dilemma.

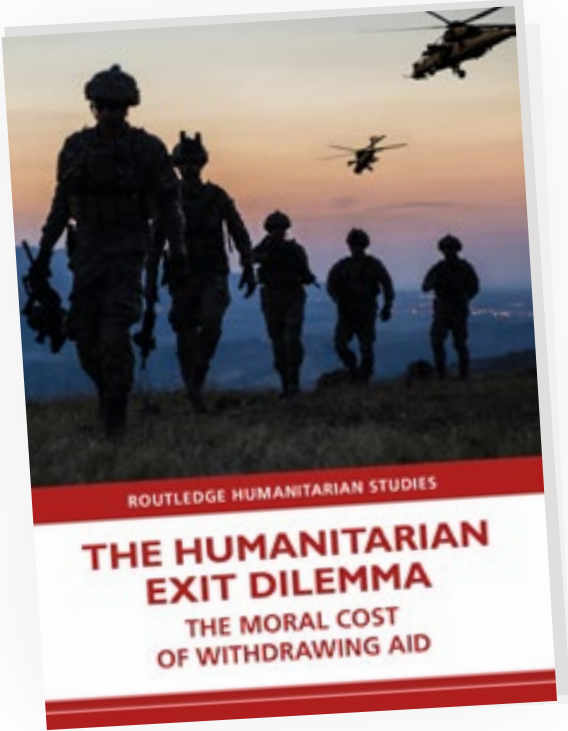
Goals

This book also focuses specifically on humanitarian organizations’ decisions regarding aid allocation (i.e., withdrawing for reallocation purposes) when encountering the Humanitarian Exit Dilemma in disaster, especially in conflicts.

The aim of this book is to provide plausible humanitarian guidelines that humanitarian organizations could reasonably follow when facing the Humanitarian Exit Dilemma. The central aim of this book is to propose morally weighty non-consequentialist reasons for humanitarian organizations to remain engaged and continue their assistance. However, it does acknowledge that consequences can play an important role in determining the rightness of an action.

Chapters

The book has many chapters. The first chapter 'Introduction' presents and discusses this book's central question: how should humanitarian organizations respond when their aid goes awry? Should they stay and remain engaged with the needy, or should they withdraw and leave?



The second chapter 'The manifestation of Humanitarian Exit Dilemma' considers the specific kinds of ethical predicaments associated with withdrawing aid that arises in humanitarian action.

The third chapter 'Special relationships in conflict' investigates the moral significance of humanitarian aid workers' special relationships with the affected population.

The fourth chapter 'Vulnerability and distinct obligation' discusses and argues that some victims of conflicts are extremely vulnerable and uniquely dependent on humanitarian agencies.

The fifth chapter 'Affected populations' reasonable expectations and promissory obligation' highlights the moral importance of fulfilling affected populations' reasonable expectations.

The sixth chapter 'A normative account to address the Humanitarian Exit Dilemma' provides a complete account of resolving the Humanitarian Exit Dilemma.

Author

Chin Ruamps is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Management, Society and Communication at Copenhagen Business School, Denmark. She is also a member of the Centre for Business and Development Studies.

For limited view:



Children and Orphan Care during Disasters and Crises

Children are the most vulnerable ones in society. Many young people, both male and female, suffer from abuse, violence, and physical and moral assaults. This may be due to special conditions related to the child, such as his nationality, color, shape, race, and religion, or for reasons related to the prevalence of violence among adults in society. Perhaps Wars and natural disasters are the most dangerous environment and the most capable of destroying a child's life and depriving him of enjoying his natural rights and freedoms agreed upon in international charters, treaties, declarations, and covenants.

It is self-evident that disasters and crises affect families and expose them to many pressures and burdens, which may lead some of them to turn into a source of threat to the child, instead of protecting them, to release those pressures. The potential risks of domestic violence are usually the worst in child protection violations. Other practices may include early marriage, child labor, abuse, neglect, and other harmful practices.

In general, it is difficult to identify and know these practices easily, and it is also hard to follow up on and monitor them continuously. However, the basic criterion in such cases is that children should be protected from physical violence and other harmful practices. Therefore, several responses appropriate to the age, gender, and condition must be provided for each child.

Children's experiences, exposure to disasters, and other adverse events can sow the seeds for far-reaching physical, cognitive, and emotional changes that may not fully reveal themselves for decades. On the social front, children fall into several networks of nurturing relationships – within families, peer groups, schools and many other organizations and institutions in their lives – that may mitigate or exacerbate the effects of disasters.

How to Protect Children and Orphans during Disasters and Crises?

- One of the best ways to protect children during emergencies is to build a 'Culture of Risk



By Sabreen AlQaisi

Reduction' before disaster strikes. For example, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica has implemented several programs to educate children in schools about local hazards and ways they can reduce the risks they face. Jamaica is also committed at the national level to integrating children's rights into all disaster response activities and has developed a comprehensive set of guidelines to ensure that children's needs in post-disaster situations are met.

- Prepare families, supervisors, caregivers, and all those working with children and orphans appropriately and through intensive rehabilitation programs.
- Enhance the resilience of children and orphans to survive, adapt and recover from loss and upheaval.
- Provide safe spaces, entertainment programs, support sessions, and psychological relief.

Children Capacity Development for Disaster Management

In the stage of preparedness for disasters and crises, children and their parents must be consulted, and they must be aware of the society's own view and concepts of violence and physical abuse, including domestic violence and corporal punishment as perceived by society.

This is followed by mapping harmful practices that may increase during disaster situations, including developing the mechanisms by which society works customarily in responding to risks.

It is also necessary to rely on specialized cadres to implement legal protection for children in various fields and sectors, and to train teachers, parents, and key members of society, including leaders and experts, to

deal with various cases.

During the response, work must be done on four main points that include continuing to raise awareness and educate about the consequences of ill-treatment, establishing monitoring and reporting systems, supporting the establishment of safe child-friendly spaces, and ensuring the competence of all those working with children and orphans.

First: Disaster Preparedness

Many children and youth at primary and secondary schools around the world benefit from formal and informal curricula that address disaster preparedness and prevention. These lessons are most effective when children and orphans engage in disaster preparedness simulations.

Actions at Disaster Preparedness Phase:

- Disaster Drills
- Risk Mapping
- Evacuation Planning
- Search and Rescue Training
- Risk Communication
- Formal and Informal Risk Education

Second: Disaster Response

Children understand and can respond constructively by effectively communicating about the risks they may face. Talking to children about the disaster and educating them about its types, causes, evacuation methods, and protection strategies help reduce the expected physical risks, in addition to the need to explain the possibility of a family member being injured and the possibility of transferring him to the

hospital to receive assistance. This helps to prepare children emotionally for the possibility of a family member staying away from their surroundings for a certain period and thus avoiding trauma and psychological impact on them.

Action at the Response Phase:

- Warning Others
- Risk Communication
- Translating Disaster Materials
- Evacuation Assistance
- Physical Protection
- Search and Rescue.

Third: Disaster Recovery

In the aftermath of a disaster, children can participate in various initiatives aimed at promoting their own recovery and that of those around them. Some studies have documented several effective coping strategies among child survivors of disaster such as writing and drawing about the incidents, taking pictures, communicating with friends and supportive adults, and creating jokes and games about disasters.

Actions at Recovery Phase:

- Effective Coping Strategies: Writing, Drawing and Taking Pictures
- Peer Counseling
- Collection/Distribution of Aid
- Planning and Reconstruction Efforts
- Care for Other Children
- Help with Household Chores

United Kingdom

Letter of Intent with King’s College London

Qatar Charity (QC) and King’s College London have signed a Letter of Intent to work together to address global challenges, starting with a project to deliver health improvements in Somaliland. Both parties will work together on projects strengthening health systems and improving the quality of healthcare in fragile settings

where populations bear some of the highest rates of disease and mortality. HE the Minister of State and QC , chairman Sheikh Hamad Nasser J al-Thani and King’s College London president and principal Prof Shitij Kapur were the signatories in the presence of Qatar’s ambassador to the UK Fahd bin Mohammed Al-Attiyah



Switzerland

Agreements with UNHCR

Qatar Charity (QC) and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, have signed a Letter of Intent on a philanthropy collaboration and three cooperation agreements to help address the most urgent needs of over 50,000 forcibly displaced families in Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and Yemen. Through this Letter of Intent, Qatar Charity and UNHCR will collaborate on philanthropy. Furthermore, with the new contributions, UNHCR will provide shelter and cooking energy to 162,235 Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar, provide cash assistance and relief items to 116,669 displaced Afghans, and help 22,980 displaced Yemenis through cash assistance.



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum

Qatar Charity (QC) participated in the 3rd Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum (RIHF) organized by the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) in partnership with the United Nations and its humanitarian organizations. The two-day RIHF was attended by humanitarian

leaders, donors, practitioners, researchers, and others from the different countries of the world. The delegation of Qatar Charity was headed by its CEO Yousuf bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari.



Somalia

Aid for Beledweyne flood victims

Qatar Charity (QC) provided urgent relief to the residents of the Beledweyne city, the capital of Hiran region in the Hirshabelle state of Somalia, which was badly affected by a major flood. The

relief aid included safe drinking water daily for 652 displaced families, mobile clinics to provide health services, personal hygiene kits, and building toilets.



Bangladesh

Rebuilding 326 homes for Rohingya refugees

Qatar Charity (QC) has started rebuilding 326 homes for Rohingya refugees in the Balukhali Mega Camp (Camp-11), Ukhiya, and Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, which were completely burnt down due to the fire, which broke out in the refugee camp in March 2023. It has recently inaugurated 4 facilities for orphans in Bangladesh to benefit 800 children.



Pakistan

Healthcare Facility

Qatar Charity (QC) constructed and well-equipped a healthcare facility in the premises of the Rural Health Center (RHC) in the Jhang district of Pakistan's Punjab province, aiming to improve the health services provided to the beneficiaries. The health facility is expected to benefit 200,000 in the targeted rural areas. The healthcare facility includes two doctor rooms, dental clinic, pharmacy, laboratory, labor room, female ward contains three beds, nursing area, emergency area, waiting area, X-Rays room, cafeteria and four shops with a praying area, in addition to a section for mother and child healthcare. The facility was provided with

Ghana

Opening two health centers

Qatar Charity (QC) opened two health centers in Ghana, which include emergencies, medical examination, delivery, and reproductive health, vaccination departments, in addition to pharmacy and laboratories. Qatar Charity also provided treatment to dozens of eye patients and children with cleft lip in Ghana, in conjunction with the launch of its '50,000 Lives' campaign, which aims to provide treatment to 50,000 patients worldwide.



furniture, and essential medical equipment.



Qatar

Arab Orphan Day

Qatar Charity (QC) organized a festive celebration on the occasion of the Arab Orphan Day, at Aspire Zone. The celebration, which included many social, recreational, and sports activities, was participated in by many male and female 'Future's Leaders' sponsored by Qatar Charity, and their families. The event seeks to promote the concept of sponsorship, build orphans' self-confidence, integrate them into the community through such activities, draw the attention of the community members towards the needs of orphans, in addition to encouraging and urging them to sponsor orphans

at home and abroad.



Qatar

'27th Night Challenge' to provide housing for IDPs

On the 27th night of Ramadan, some social media influencers, in cooperation with Qatar Charity, organized '27th Night Challenge', a live fundraising drive on YouTube, to build 10,000 houses for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Yemen and Syria.



Yemen

Two agreements with OCHA to enhance health situation

Qatar Charity (QC) in Yemen signed two partnership agreements with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to implement two projects in the sectors of health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), at a total cost of QAR 5.3 million. The projects are expected to benefit more than 177,000 people.



Jordan

Foundation stone for development projects

A delegation from Qatar Charity, headed by CEO of Qatar Charity Yousuf bin Ahmed Al Kuwari, laid the foundation stone for the reconstruction of the Al-Hamra Health Center in the Mafraq Governorate and the Khalid Ibn Al-Walid Mosque in Karak Governorate, Jordan.



Tunisia

Launching development projects

In Tunisia, Qatar Charity (QC) launched many development projects, handed over 42 social housing units to low-income families in Mahdia to improve their living conditions, and opened an education center for special needs in Kasserine, which is the first of its kind in Thala town and neighbouring cities that need such type of projects.

