

AFTER THE FLOODS SWAT APPEAL 2010

APPEAL

A fervent appeal is being made for help. Initially clothes and goods packages are being collected. Any gift, however small, will make a difference to the destitute who have faced the havoc caused by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa floods!

INTRODUCTION

Heritage Foundation(HF) is a civil society, not-for-profit social and cultural entrepreneur organization, established in 1980 as a trust for research, documentation and safeguarding of cultural heritage of Pakistan. It is now incorporated under Section 42 of Companies Ordinance, 1984 and all contributions are tax exempted.

Since Earthquake 2005, in partnership with Nokia and Nokia Siemens Network through its Heritage for Rehabilitation and Development programme in District Mansehra, Hazara, HF has successfully carried out relief work, guided self help emergency housing, and rehabilitation works to achieve community development and women's empowerment. In 2009 it provided humanitarian assistance to women and children living in IDP camps under extremely trying circumstances.

Since February 2010 HF, in partnership with UNESCO, undertook DFID funded project *Revival of Livelihood through Traditional Crafts in Post-Disaster Areas* in 6 union councils of Swat. As a result of the project 500 women were provided training, enabling them to become earning members of their families. The Livelihood Project itself was concluded at the end of June 2010, however, as part of HF's long term strategy for Swat, a Women's Centre in Islampur has been planned to provide adult literacy, children's non-formal activities, computer literacy, primary health advice, skill training etc. In addition HF has also developed a building programme for low cost construction based on the use of local materials.

PRESENT TRAGEDY

The communities in Swat that had undergone enormous hardship and excessive casualties during the period of strife are once again facing disaster and calamity wrought by the recent floods. The families that HF had nurtured through exceptionally trying circumstances, providing them with skills to stand on their own feet, are once again destitute. In addition to the 500 families that we are committed to, there are thousands of other families that have been affected. According to the estimate of the National Disaster Management Authority, the human toll and displacement is far higher than the tragic Earthquake of October 2005.

HERITAGE FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

Heritage Foundation, in consultation with its partners, has devised a programme to provide initial assistance to 500 families who were part of the Livelihood Project in Swat. The programme will be expanded later to provide assistance to other destitute families. The following are the components of the programme:

- Emergency Relief
- Emergency Housing
- Rehabilitation

EMERGENCY RELIEF

Heritage Foundation has completed its planning for the emergency relief phase. Lists of beneficiaries are being finalized in order of priority. Our partner organizations/friends are being requested to provide the following:

- a. Garments, particularly for women and children. These may consist of new or old clothes, but must be suitable for summer wear and be clean, each jora packed in plastic bags for ease of distribution. Collection of garments is being extended to schools in Karachi from next week.
- b. Packages consisting of rations and necessities. Each package will cost approximately Rs. 3,100 and will contain sugar 5 kg, rice 10 kg, daal 5 kg, salt 2 packs, dried milk 1 kg, oil 2.5 litres, green tea 250 gr., spices 250 gr., Surf or similar 500 gr., matches 10 boxes, candles 1 dozen, bucket, lota, 10 litre water can, large saucepan, spoons.

HF has set up an office in Peshawar where goods will be received from other cities. Now that the flood water is receding, a distribution centre in Mingora, Swat is being established (Monday 9th August) where the packages will be transported. Through HF contacts (telephone numbers etc.) the beneficiaries will be informed according to the order of priority to collect their package. Suitable documentation and receipt system has been put in place.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

Emergency shelter (KaravanGhar) has been designed consisting of a 15'x10' room, a 10' wide veranda and a kitchen, with separate WC and bath unit. A team of volunteer architectural and engineering students will be organized to guide the process (as was done by HF during the emergency phase of Earthquake 2005). This methodology is expected to provide a semi-permanent shelter in less than a week at a cost of Rs. 18,000 including a smokeless stove. The structure will be built with local materials on the same lines as the structures built by HF in 2009 in Sheikh Shahzad Camp in Mardan in 2009.

REHABILITATION PROCESS

The rehabilitation process envisages long term development with emphasis on livelihood for women. The focus will be on traditional crafts as well as agro-based products, e.g. organic farming, rain water harvesting, fish farms, mushroom growing etc. The general methodology will be similar to the strategy that has been adopted for community development in HF's programme area in the Siran Valley, Hazara.

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