



## Helping Flood Affected Children in Rural Sindh (Pakistan)

*An initiative of Qatari Diar (Doha) through UNESCO Islamabad*



**Executed by UNESCO  
Funds of QATARI DIAR  
Distribution arranged by SCF**



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



### Context and Rationale:

Monsoon Floods of 2010 affected more than 7 million people in Sindh province of Pakistan, seriously affecting their sources of livelihood, houses and community infrastructure; including school buildings. Children faced difficulties during the flood emergency as families were displaced from their native villages and they had to stay in camps established at safer places, which were far away from their homes and schools. As flood water inundated homes and schools, the children lost their school books, uniforms, and other aids related to their education. They lived in hard and traumatic conditions in the camps. Displacement, uncomfortable stay in camps, severe weather conditions, and inadequate food supply affected their health conditions and nutrition level. In the post flood scenario, school attendance, especially in the districts of Dadu, Jamshoro and Thatta, was reported low due to worst displacement of masses, with children & women among the most affected.

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Health problems, nutritional deficiencies, and economic losses inflicted upon the families due to floods negatively affected enrolment, attendance and retention of children in the schools.

There was need to resume educational activities in the girls primary schools, more importantly because education indicators among girls and women are very low in rural areas of Sindh. Due to high prevalence of poverty, compounded with the effects of floods, people are still striving hard for their basic needs and their interest and priority to the girls' education has been weakened.

**Qatari Diar (Doha)** Suffering of flood affected people in Pakistan motivated



philanthropists, charity organizations, international agencies, UN, and the individuals to donate and contribute to the rehabilitation of their fellow human beings. The staff of Qatari Diar, a private firm in Doha (Qatar), came forward to help flood affected children in Pakistan. This generous contribution by the staff of Qatari Diar was meant for provision of food items and clothing to the children facing

miseries of floods. Donation from Qatari Diar, amounting to US\$ 31,665 was sent to UNESCO Islamabad via UNESCO Doha office and UNESCO HQs, Paris. UNESCO Islamabad planned to deliver clothing and dry milk powder to poor children in three selected districts of Sindh which were severely affected by the floods.

**Selection of Flood Affected Children:** It was planned to focus on three rural districts of Sindh Province, namely Dadu, Jamshoro, and Thatta, which were severely affected by the 2010 floods. Children enrolled in 30 Schools where UNESCO had earlier extended assistance for restoration of Early Childhood Education Centres or Katchi Classes were identified for this purpose.

**Selection of Implementation Partner:** Through a competitive process for identification of a suitable implementation partner for procurement and distribution of support items to the children, a local NGO named 'Sindh Community Foundation' was selected by UNESCO for field survey, procurement, and distribution of support items.

**Support & Monitoring by UNESCO Islamabad (Pakistan):** In addition to the financial contribution by Qatari Diar, UNESCO Islamabad added its own resources as well. UNESCO Islamabad office extended administrative and technical support for planning, managing, and monitoring the process of distribution, ensuring quality of the support items and their delivery to genuinely deserving children in flood affected villages and schools.

**Sindh Community Foundation:** UNESCO signed a contract with Sindh Community Foundation (SCF), the implementation partner, for the field survey, procurement of support items and their distribution. SCF was able to mobilize community support and liaison with local education authorities for successful and timely distribution of support items. Provincial Education Department and District level education authorities extended full support and cooperation in the process of distribution of support items among children.

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**Survey and Assessment Process:** SCF staff conducted field visits, identified and enlisted deserving girls in each selected school and conducted measurement for their dresses (school uniforms) and shoes. This exercise was completed with the support of district Education Department which deputed Supervisors for facilitation and coordination with teachers and community elders.

**Community Mobilization and Monitoring:** Education Supervisors of the respective areas, School Heads, Teachers, and local community leaders actively participated in the screening and verification of potential recipient children and documentation of distribution process. Sindh Provincial Institute of Teacher Education –PITE (Nawabshah) and their affiliated colleges of teacher training (GCETs) also extended administrative support during the distribution process. Lists of recipient children were verified by School Heads and local officials of the Education Department.

**Support Items distributed:** Sindh Community Foundation, the implementation partner of UNESCO, procured and distributed uniforms and food incentives among 1000 girl students of Katchi Class and Grade I in 30 flood-affected Schools. Each of the 1000 students were provided with two pairs of school uniforms, pair of shoes, socks, one cap and five packets of dry milk powder, with total weight of 2 KGs. All these items were distributed among girl children



only to improve their health and nutritional conditions, and to supplement expenditure on their basic education as there were risks that parents may withdraw their daughters from schools due to economic losses inflicted by the floods. It was noticed that children who received support items were happy and have been reported attending school regularly.

**Distribution Ceremonies:** Distribution ceremonies were arranged in 30 targeted schools of Dadu, Thatta and Jamshoro districts. Provincial Coordinator, UNESCO, Mr. Kazi Ayaz Mahessar, accompanied the SCF team and monitored most of the distribution ceremonies. In addition, UNESCO Country Director to Pakistan, Ms. Kozue Kay Nagata, personally paid visits to watch the process of distribution and motivate



flood affected children to restart their studies and routine life with new zeal and determination. Mr. Arshad Saeed Khan UNESCO, also participated in some of the distribution ceremonies held in Dadu and Thatta districts. Mr. Javed Hussain, Executive Director, Sindh Community Foundation, and ADO Elementary also participated. Ceremonies were also attended by the Education Supervisors, Mr. Punhal Saaryo, Ms. Azra Memon

of Nari Development Organization, Johi, Ms. Sheeren Shah, ADO (E) Thatta and other notables from the community. Print media covered the events of distribution in the local and national newspapers.

# Schools where the support items were distributed

## Dadu

1. GGPS Bhai Khan Lashari
2. GGPS Phulji Station
3. GGPS Qazi Muhammad Arif
4. GGPS Block 1 Johi
5. GGPS Dodo Brahmani
6. GGPS Main K.N Shah
7. GGPS Fareedabad
8. GGPS Taga
9. GGPS Monder
10. GGPS Bughia Muhalla

## Jamshoro

1. GGPS A.B Shoro
2. GGPS Karo Khaho
3. GGPS Bhudhapur
4. GGPS Umaid Ali Birhamani
5. GGPS Amri
6. GGPS Jhangara
7. GGPS Arazi
8. GGPS Bubak
9. GGPS Aamra
10. GGPS Unarpur

## Thatta

1. GGPS Faqeer Jo Goth
2. GGPS PWD Colony Sujawal
3. GGPS Civil Hospital Sujawal
4. GGPS Haji Khan Hathyar
5. GGPS Qadir Dino Shah
6. GGPS Khizerabad
7. GGPS Hassan Ali Laghari
8. GGPS Nawaz Ali Laghari
9. GGPS Churatani
10. GGPS Bello



Following items have been distributed to each girl:

- \* 5 packets of Nido Milk of 400 gm each
- \* 2 pairs of uniforms with patti/strip
- \* 2 pairs of socks
- \* 1 pair of shoes
- \* P Cap with the slogan "Education for All" and "Taaleem Sabhnee Jay Lai" in Sindhi Language

*UNESCO appreciates financial support from staff of QATARI DIAR*

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