

Ghiras

Issue 31

Periodic Magazine by Qatar Charity
December 2024

Crisis Zones:

Famine Claims What
Conflict Leaves Behind

'How Long'

A Winter Campaign
for the Vulnerable's Warmth

Comprehensive Digital Transformation:

An Interview with CEO

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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.

This issue of the 'Ghiras' magazine is released amid the ongoing impact of numerous crises sparked by conflicts and wars, with humanitarian suffering escalating for those affected. This reality is especially evident in Gaza, where the conflict has entered its second year, and Palestine in general, as well as Sudan and Lebanon, which has recently been drawn into the conflict. Meanwhile, the impact of long-standing crises persists in Syria, Yemen, and other countries.

Undoubtedly, this situation has catastrophic effects on crisis-affected regions and their populations, beginning with the absence or severe shortage of basic life necessities and essential services.

It extends to other grave consequences, such as food insecurity, famine, malnutrition, wasting, and the spread of infectious diseases, particularly among children, pregnant women, and nursing mothers. Diseases related to poor sanitation, such as cholera, are also on the rise, as highlighted by UN organizations.

These conditions are becoming even more dire with the onset of winter, as colder temperatures increase and adequate shelter, heating, sufficient food, health facilities, and medicines remain scarce.

These developments necessitate a stronger response from humanitarian organizations to save millions of lives and address their urgent needs for food, shelter, non-food items, water, sanitation, and healthcare. Additionally, it is crucial to mobilize the necessary support to reach as many beneficiaries as possible and ensure the availability of requirements for relief efforts at every stage of the response.

In response to these humanitarian crises, Ghiras has dedicated the special feature of this 31st issue to international warnings about famine in Gaza and Sudan, along with a symposium on "Recovery and Reconstruction Efforts in Gaza After the War." This is part of a forward-looking approach that focuses on planning, strategy development, monitoring challenges, and showcasing supportive initiatives. We have hosted several experts, specialists, and officials from international humanitarian organizations in the symposium. Additionally, we have highlighted, through reports and statistics, Qatar Charity's humanitarian interventions in these regions.

We hope that the special feature and the symposium, along with the other sections of this issue, including articles, success stories, and book reviews, will provide a valuable and enriching contribution to the cognitive aspects of humanitarian and development work for our readers and those interested in these fields.

Enjoy the read!

Ghiras

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This strategy is the first of its kind for Qatar's charitable sector, encompassing both developmental and humanitarian aspects. Its completion took two years, involving close collaboration with relevant entities from the charitable, governmental, and private sectors, as well as academic and research institutions.

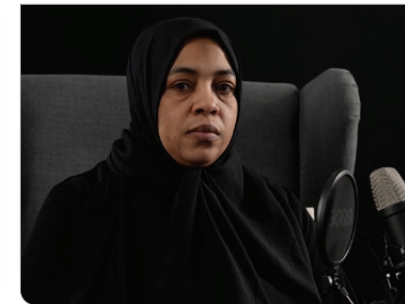
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Post-War Recovery and Reconstruction Efforts in Gaza (Symposium)

As a vision for the future, 'Ghiras' organized a symposium titled "Post-War Recovery and Reconstruction Efforts in Gaza: A Forward-Looking Vision". The symposium aimed to discuss the significance of proactive planning for reconstruction, developing strategies, and addressing the main challenges in this regard.

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Inaugurating Significant Development Projects in Kyrgyzstan

Qatar Charity (QC) inaugurated several significant development projects in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, which included the Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Abdullah Al Thani Mosque, the Ahl Qatar Project (a multi-service complex), and the Al Rayyan Charity Center (a multi-service complex).

War-Torn Regions Struggling Between Famine and Malnutrition

Crises and wars have a profound impact on increasing famine rates in various parts of the world. These conflicts disrupt economic and agricultural systems, resulting in food shortages and higher prices. Consequently, this scarcity leads to food insecurity, where individuals struggle to obtain sufficient food to meet their daily needs.

According to United Nations reports, armed conflicts and economic crises are major factors contributing to the increase in hunger rates worldwide. For instance, in 2023, approximately 733 million people suffered from hunger, which means one in every 11 people globally experienced this issue.

Amid the ongoing and multiple crises in the region, including the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Gaza and the continuing Ukrainian crisis, conflict has erupted in Sudan. This turmoil occurs in the absence of the necessary conditions for a robust response, forcing families to flee repeatedly and pushing millions into the grip of hunger.

UN agencies warned that dangerous levels of acute hunger affected a staggering 281.6 million people last year—the fifth year in a row that food insecurity has worsened—heightening growing fears of famine and "widespread death" from Gaza to Sudan and beyond.

In Sudan, 4.9 million children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women are acutely malnourished. Nearly 3.5 million children are at serious risk of diarrheal diseases and cholera, which has already resulted in numerous fatalities in recent months.

In Gaza, malnutrition, wasting, and infectious diseases are rapidly spreading among children, reaching devastating and unprecedented levels due to hunger. Around 90% of children aged 6 to 23 months, along with pregnant and breastfeeding women, are facing severe food poverty.





High Risks of Famine Across Gaza

Between northern and southern Gaza, bleak and dark scenes unfold, revealing the fate of hundreds of thousands at risk of famine, gripped by hunger and a severe shortage of food supplies in the region, which has been ravaged by war since October 7.

An international report warned of the continued high risk of Famine across the whole Gaza Strip as long as conflict continues, and humanitarian access is restricted. The report said that about 96 percent of the population in the Gaza Strip (2.15M people) face high levels of acute food insecurity.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report has classified the entire Gaza Strip as being in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), which precedes famine (IPC Phase 5).

The report added that over 495,000 people (22 percent of the population) are still facing catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 5). In this phase, households experience an extreme lack of food, starvation, and exhaustion of coping capacities.

The report indicated that humanitarian access to the two million people in the southern

governorates has notably reduced with the closure of the Rafah border crossing and disruptions to the Karm Abu Salem crossing. The report emphasizes that further concentration of displaced populations in areas lacking adequate water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), healthcare, and other essential infrastructure increases the risk of disease outbreaks, which would have catastrophic effects on the nutritional and health status of large segments of the population.

According to the international report, more than half of households have resorted to exchanging their clothing for money to buy food, while a third of families are collecting and selling waste. Additionally, over half of the households often find themselves without food, and more than 20% of families are going days and nights without eating.



**Amidst Ongoing
Humanitarian Crisis,**

18 Million People in Sudan Face Acute Hunger

The humanitarian situation in Sudan has turned the country into one of the largest cases of displacement and food insecurity, alongside a severe crisis affecting children. Sudan is facing a devastating famine unprecedented since the Darfur crisis in the early 2000s. This alarming warning comes from the heads of three United Nations agencies.

A press release on the UNICEF website states, "The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the UN World Food Programme (WFP) have been warning of rapid deterioration in conditions for the people of Sudan, particularly children, as food security is torn apart by the war that has ravaged the country for more than a year."

Conflict, insecurity, displacement, and economic shocks are among the main causes of food insecurity. The spread of conflict and insecurity has led to the emergence of a complex food crisis that continues to affect the lives of millions of people due to restrictions imposed on movements, the disruption of markets and basic services, the obstruction of agricultural production and livelihoods, and reduced access to humanitarian aid.

Catastrophic Conditions

The report further says, "The rapid deterioration in food security in Sudan has left 755,000 people in catastrophic conditions (IPC Phase 5) with a risk of famine in 14 areas, according to the latest Snapshot data released by the Integrated Phase Classification. The worst conditions are in the areas hardest hit by fighting and where people displaced by the conflict have gathered. A total of 25.6 million people are in the high levels of acute hunger (IPC Phase 3+). This means that for half of Sudan's war-battered population, every single day is a struggle to feed themselves and their families."

Unlike the Darfur crisis twenty years ago, the current crisis engulfs the entire country, with catastrophic levels of hunger reaching even the capital Khartoum and Gezira state.

The report adds, "This new data also shows a stark deterioration for Sudan's population from the last projection, released in December 2023, which showed 17.7 million people facing acute hunger (IPC Phase 3+). This included nearly 5 million people in emergency levels of hunger (IPC Phase 4)."

Children in Danger

"Sudan is now grappling with the biggest child displacement crisis in the world, with an estimated 5 million children forced from their homes," says an article published in September 2024 on the UNICEF website. UNICEF has raised alarms about the precarious future of over 24 million Sudanese children due to the ongoing humanitarian disaster in the country. It has also warned that the humanitarian crisis is particularly dire, with about 14 million children in urgent need of life-saving assistance in areas such as health, nutrition, education, and protection.

In Sudan, 4.9 million children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women are acutely malnourished. Of this, 750,000 children are suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Around 7.4 million children lack safe drinking water. Nearly half of those are under the age of five and at serious risk of diarrheal diseases and cholera, which has already resulted in numerous fatalities in recent months.

Stephen Anderson, WFP Representative to the GCC to Ghiras:

WFP has implemented several innovative strategies to ensure food aid reaches those in need

Conducted by: **Mohammad Ataur Rab**

Continuous wars in conflict zones like Gaza and Sudan, are pushing more people into poverty and making them heavily reliant on humanitarian aid, including food. As a result, Sudan is now the world's largest hunger crisis.

How does the World Food Programme (WFP) assess these risks? How does it work to overcome the challenges hindering the delivery of critical aid, and how is it developing innovative strategies to tackle the situation? What is its vision for the possibility of providing sustainable solutions to food risks in conflict zones? Ghiras posed these questions, among others, to Stephen Anderson, WFP Representative to the GCC, sparking a rich conversation that offers valuable insights for those engaged in humanitarian work.

Catastrophic Effects

1. Can you update us on the current situation in Gaza and Sudan?

The humanitarian crises in both Gaza and Sudan



remain extremely distressing, with the ongoing conflicts taking a heavy toll on millions of lives. In Gaza, the widespread destruction of infrastructure, coupled with continuing violence, has left many families in dire need of basic necessities like food, clean water, and healthcare. The persistent access restrictions and hostilities have crippled livelihoods, pushing more people into poverty and making them heavily reliant on humanitarian aid. The situation is especially dire for vulnerable groups such as women, children, and the elderly, who are disproportionately affected.

In Sudan, the conflict has displaced vast numbers of people, particularly in areas like Darfur and Khartoum. Sudan is now the world's largest hunger crisis and famine has been confirmed in parts of North Darfur. Health services have been significantly impaired, with facilities either damaged or facing critical shortages of essential medicines and supplies. WFP is saving thousands of lives every single day in Sudan, overcoming challenges to deliver vital food

As a valuable partner to WFP, Qatar Charity has shown its unwavering commitment to bettering the lives of vulnerable communities.

and nutrition assistance in one of the most dangerous warzones in the world. WFP has assisted around 5.4 million people this year, but significantly more assistance is needed to halt famine and to prevent it from spreading.

2. What are the impacts of these ongoing wars on food security, health conditions, and the living standards of the population?

The conflicts in Gaza and Sudan have caused profound and lasting impacts on food security, healthcare, and overall living conditions. In both regions, infrastructure destruction, mass displacement, and the collapse of local economies have made it increasingly difficult for families to access food. As a result, many are facing food shortages, skyrocketing prices, and diminishing incomes. Additionally, healthcare systems are under severe strain, with medical facilities damaged and resources stretched thin, leading to a steep decline in public health. All of this has contributed to a dramatic drop in the quality of life for those affected, driving many deeper into poverty and vulnerability.

Leveraging Technology

3. What are the most significant challenges that humanitarian organizations, including the World Food Programme, face in delivering food assistance in Gaza and Sudan?

Humanitarian organizations like WFP encounter a range of challenges when delivering food assistance in conflict zones such as Gaza and Sudan. One of the primary issues is the security risk, with active hostilities and violence putting aid workers and the people we serve in constant danger.

Additionally, access to affected populations is often obstructed by access restrictions, checkpoints, and bureaucratic red tape, making it incredibly difficult to deliver food and other essential supplies on time. WFP is working tirelessly to deliver vital assistance in an extremely restrictive operational environment.

We have to pass through flooded and muddy roads during the ongoing rainy season (especially in Sudan), which in some cases is causing us to take 10 times longer to deliver assistance. We need to ensure the safe delivery of aid amid threats against aid workers and transporters, and find alternative ways to get assistance into active conflict areas where it's not safe for aid trucks to pass because of airstrikes and bombing.

4. What can UN organizations, including the World Food Programme, and international organizations do to overcome the challenges associated with aid delivery?

To address these challenges, UN organizations and international bodies need to take a multifaceted approach tailored to the specific context prevailing in each country. This would involve negotiating safe humanitarian corridors with conflicting parties and working closely with local authorities to secure unhindered access. Diplomatic efforts, including with key member states, should be ramped up to help ease and lift bureaucratic obstacles. Leveraging technology could also help, with innovations such as remote monitoring systems and digital cash transfers and registrations, simplifying logistics and improving the efficiency of aid distribution.

5. In the face of challenging conditions, have you adopted any innovative strategies or solutions to ensure that food aid effectively reaches those in need?

Yes, despite the difficult conditions, WFP has implemented several innovative strategies to ensure food aid reaches those in need, which are tailored and adapted to the specific context in which WFP is operating. For instance, we use digital cash transfers, which empower beneficiaries to buy food from local markets, offering them greater dignity and flexibility in their choices. WFP is also using advanced logistics technologies, such as blockchain and biometric systems, to improve transparency and efficiency in distributing aid. Another such example, WFP's food voucher program in the West Bank has expanded six-fold and we are reaching as of September nearly 215,000 affected Palestinians with cash-based transfers - providing cash top-ups in support of the national social safety net systems and one-off cash for forced displaced civilian population in collaboration

Due to the ongoing wars, Sudan is now the world's largest hunger crisis

with the Ministry of Social Development and UNRWA.

A new round of multi-purpose cash assistance began in Gaza, benefiting 1,400 families. Each family received 1,000 ILS (around \$266) through e-wallets and cash distribution. As of 16 September, almost 80 percent of families project have redeemed their entitlements through five vendors in central Gaza, using both e-wallets and cash.

WFP also operates a self-registration link to improve data collection, beneficiary management, and feedback mechanisms. The link has facilitated 1.2 million registrations, including 24,966 between 8 and 14 September. Only 30 percent of those who registered received food assistance, highlighting the ongoing challenges WFP continues to face in delivering aid to those in need.

In some cases, alternative supply routes and emergency airlifts are employed to reach remote or hard-to-access areas.

And in Sudan, we are forging unique partnerships, for example supporting neighborhood-based community kitchens to get hot meals into the hands of 175,000 people on a daily basis.

6. How do you collaborate with humanitarian organizations and local authorities to effectively distribute aid in these regions?

The World Food Programme works closely with a network of humanitarian partners, local authorities, and community leaders to ensure that aid is distributed effectively. This cooperation includes joint needs assessments and sharing resources, which help avoid duplication of efforts.

By partnering with local NGOs and other entities who have a deeper understanding of the communities, WFP can deliver aid in a more targeted and culturally sensitive way. Local authorities also play a critical role in facilitating access to conflict zones, ensuring that food aid reaches the most vulnerable populations.

Restoring Food Security

7. What is your vision for the future regarding food security and humanitarian conditions in Gaza and Sudan? Do you believe that sustainable solutions are attainable in these regions?

WFP's vision for the future of Gaza and Sudan involves restoring food security through sustainable, long-term solutions that extend beyond emergency aid. While immediate relief is essential, there is also a focus on building resilience and promoting self-reliance among the affected populations. This includes initiatives aimed at boosting local agriculture, creating income-generating opportunities, and strengthening supply chains.

Achieving sustainable solutions in conflict zones is undeniably difficult, but WFP remains hopeful that with persistent international support, peacebuilding efforts, and comprehensive development strategies, these regions can move toward more stable and secure futures.

8. Is there collaboration between the World Food Programme and Qatar Charity?

The World Food Programme commends the meaningful contributions that Qatar Charity has made in tackling global humanitarian challenges. As a valuable partner to WFP, Qatar Charity has shown its unwavering commitment to bettering the lives of vulnerable communities. Together, we've made a real impact reaching some of the most vulnerable communities and today, we're looking for even more opportunities to deepen this partnership in regions where our goals and missions align. By joining forces, we can deliver even more effective and lasting solutions for the people we serve.





Qatar Charity's Efforts to Combat Food Insecurity in Gaza and Sudan

Food is one of the key areas that Qatar Charity focuses on as part of its urgent humanitarian response efforts to aid families affected by disasters and wars. Recognizing the importance of addressing food shortages and enhancing food security, Qatar Charity has provided food assistance in Gaza and Sudan to alleviate the suffering of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and those affected by conflicts and wars in these regions.



Gaza

Since the onset of the crisis in Gaza, Qatar Charity has swiftly provided urgent humanitarian assistance, including food, medicine, and shelter, to the populations suffering from severe levels of famine categorized as 'catastrophic', according to a report by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification from United Nations agencies.

Since food security is a pressing concern in Gaza, Qatar Charity has implemented emergency relief projects in the food sector. These efforts included the distribution of food packages, ready-made meals, and other essential food items to ensure that families receive adequate nutrition. As of September 1, more than 1.6 million people had benefited from these initiatives, with an estimated cost of around QR 43 million. Additionally, 636,000 people benefited from food aid airlifted to Arish, with an estimated cost of nearly QR 29 million.

Qatar Charity is keen to deliver its aid to the people of Gaza through various means, including the airlift and the Rafah crossing as well as via Jordan. Since October 2023, Qatar Charity's office in Jordan has delivered nearly 40,000 food packages to those in need through UNRWA.



The partnership agreement signed in August with UNRWA in Jordan marks an important step in delivering immediate relief and essential aid to those in need. This agreement underscores Qatar Charity's unwavering commitment to alleviating the suffering of vulnerable populations and providing life-saving assistance for people in Gaza. Under this agreement, Qatar Charity will provide support in key areas, including food, emergency shelter, and healthcare services. Specifically, it will donate a total of 6,500 food parcels to families in Gaza.

Sudan

Amid the escalating humanitarian crisis in Sudan, Qatar Charity is playing a crucial role in delivering urgent assistance to those affected by the war. As a leading organization in the humanitarian sector, Qatar Charity has proactively initiated the implementation of a range of relief projects aimed at alleviating the suffering of those impacted by the conflict.

In the area of food security, Qatar Charity, with the support of the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), has distributed 50,000 food packages to families affected by the conflict in various states across Sudan. These packages contain essential food items sufficient to meet a family's needs for an entire month. This initiative helps alleviate the suffering of IDPs and those impacted by the war by contributing to addressing the food shortages caused by the war.

A complete air shipment loaded with food supplies has also been sent. Additionally, over 30,000 food baskets and 50,000 hot meals have also been distributed to affected families in several states, including Red Sea State, Al Jazirah State, Northern State, and White Nile State.

Qatar Charity continues its humanitarian assistance amidst the ongoing crises in Gaza and Sudan. In the coming period, it will provide additional support in the area of food security.



The CEO of Qatar Charity,
Yousuf bin Ahmed AlKuwari:

Qatar Charity Window for Comprehensive Digital Transformation Aligns with Qatar's Strategy and Global Trends

Conducted by: **Ali AL-RASHID**

Translated by: **Hayfa Hamed**

Qatar Charity has launched the comprehensive digital transformation project, "Qatar Charity Window," establishing itself as a pioneer among international humanitarian and development organizations in this domain. This initiative represents a significant advancement in its technological investment, transitioning from traditional systems to cutting-edge solutions provided by integrated global platforms, particularly Microsoft Dynamics 365 ERP, with all its technical capabilities. Furthermore, the adoption of Dataverse technology empowers non-technical users to independently enhance and streamline their operations.

This initiative is part of Qatar Charity's continuous efforts to invest in technology, automate its systems, and integrate artificial intelligence to improve its charitable work, governance, humanitarian interventions, and development projects. It also aligns with the State of Qatar's national vision and ongoing efforts in this field.

An interview with Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity, underscores the anticipated profound impact of this project on Qatar Charity's performance across its headquarters, global field offices, and its relationships with our partners, while ensuring alignment with global advancements in this sector.

Motives and Expected Outcomes

Qatar Charity's investment in technology and digital transformation began more than 10 years ago and continues to evolve. What are the key reasons behind the recent launch of the Qatar Charity Digital Window?

The most important of these reasons is the transition from traditional systems to global, integrated standard systems

such as Microsoft ERP (Microsoft Dynamics 365), to leverage the latest technologies and the numerous benefits they offer. These include:

- The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into various operational processes
- Advanced data dashboards and reporting tools
- Enhanced data accuracy, consistency, and integration within a unified system
- Seamless data modifications and updates
- Robust information security and privacy features
- A digital infrastructure designed to support future scalability and development
- Microsoft is a global leader in integrated management systems. There is a growing trend among both local and international organizations including UN agencies and humanitarian organizations to shift from traditional systems to Microsoft's advanced solutions, owing to the comprehensive advantages they provide.

What is expected impact of the digital window on the development of Qatar Charity's operations, humanitarian and development efforts, beneficiaries, and stakeholder relations?

The anticipated impacts of implementing the digital window project include:

- **Increased Speed and Integration:** Accelerated and seamless integration of Qatar Charity's operations, connecting donors to beneficiaries, while streamlining

Launching a strategic plan for digital transformation through 2026, in collaboration with Microsoft, leveraging Dataverse and ERP systems.

technical and financial processes such as project approvals, humanitarian interventions, funding, implementation, monitoring, and sustainability.

- **Enhanced Operational and Financial Control:** Strengthened technical and financial oversight, ensuring better governance of all operational and financial procedures across Qatar Charity's relief programs, development projects, social services, humanitarian assistance, seasonal initiatives, and fundraising activities.
- **Unified View of Operations:** A centralized platform offering an easily accessible, comprehensive view of all operational processes, from start to finish (from donor to beneficiary), ensuring transparency and efficiency in workflow management.
- **Artificial Intelligence Integration:** The application of AI technologies to automate routine tasks, streamline processes, and replace manual interventions with automated systems, optimizing overall efficiency.
- **Precise and Actionable Reporting:** The provision of accurate, real-time reports and dashboards to support decision-making, reinforcing Qatar Charity's commitment to transparency while advancing its humanitarian and developmental objectives.
- **Enhanced Monitoring and Governance:** Simplified processes for monitoring, evaluation, and governance, along with access to detailed reports to ensure proper oversight of all activities.
- **Improved Coordination and Collaboration:** Strengthened integration between Qatar Charity's headquarters, field offices, local and international partners, donors, and regulatory bodies, promoting effective collaboration and alignment across all stakeholders.

Success Story

How does Microsoft approach this project, and how does it view its uniqueness, significance, and scale?

Microsoft is deeply committed to this project, recognizing it as a potential success story for nonprofit organizations. The scale of Qatar Charity's operations, the diversity and scope of its humanitarian, development, and relief efforts, and its global reach—both within Qatar and internationally—make this project particularly significant. Additionally, the size of the workforce involved further amplifies its importance.

Microsoft ensures ongoing support and regular follow-ups to guarantee the project's success and the realization of its intended goals.

How does this project align with Qatar's efforts in digital transformation and achieving its national vision in this area?

Recently, Qatar has made significant investments in establishing cloud service centers in collaboration with

Microsoft and Google, recognizing the importance of providing these technologies locally to support various sectors and foster the growth of the digital economy. The Qatar Charity Window project is fully aligned with this strategic direction. Qatar Charity is one of the first organizations to transition its digital services to the local cloud in Qatar, reinforcing the country's commitment to advancing its digital infrastructure.

Leadership and Excellence

Qatar Charity's early investment in digitizing and updating its internal systems has earned it widespread recognition from international organizations and specialized entities. What are the key accolades and certifications it has received in this area?

A few months ago, Qatar Charity received several ISO certifications in the field of information security (ISO 27001/2022), making it one of the first organizations in the Arab world to achieve this certification.

In addition, it earned multiple ISO certifications in administrative systems across five key areas—quality, risk management, compliance, customer service call centers, and governance—based on international standards and specifications from Bureau Veritas.

These achievements reflect Qatar Charity's commitment to implementing an integrated management system by adopting globally recognized standards issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and other international frameworks.

These efforts contribute to enhancing the organization's quality, improving performance, meeting its objectives, and staying aligned with global advancements.

Moreover, Qatar Charity was awarded the Good Governance Award for Excellence in the Social Sector and Humanitarian Work for 2024 by the Global Governance Institute (3G) at its ninth annual conference held this year in Manila, Philippines.

Qatar Charity was selected for this prestigious award from over 2,000 nominated organizations worldwide, recognizing its steadfast commitment to addressing pressing social issues. This accolade underscores Qatar Charity's continuous efforts in promoting sustainable development, enhancing social welfare, and improving the lives of individuals globally.

A Final Word:

The launch of the comprehensive digital transformation plan, spanning two years, aligns with the Board's direction to continue investing in the development of digital and technological services at Qatar Charity and to use the latest tools in this field. This will ensure the organization's continued leadership and excellence in humanitarian and development work.



Painting a Brighter Future: Adna's Artistic Triumph Over Orphanhood and Adversity

This is an inspiring tale of overcoming adversity and transforming pain into triumph through the power of creative painting that makes the branches of hope unfurl and the blossoms of determination flourish.

We tell the story of Adna, a Bosnian orphan who has faced harsh realities since the day she was born. From difficult living conditions to financial struggles and psychological pressures, Adna and her mother braved it all. When she was just two years old, her parents separated, and her father remarried. Later, Adna's pain deepened as she became an orphan following her father's death."

Adna's mother refused to succumb to her harsh reality. Instead, she faced it with unwavering determination. She remembered that before her marriage, she was talented in painting, and won numerous school and government art competitions. As her daughter grew older, she discovered that Adna shared the same artistic passion. Five years ago, she decided to follow this path once more, turning it into a lifeline for both.

Training Courses

She began developing her own skills and those of her daughter. Then, she learned about an experienced artist in her city (Visoko) who offers training courses. Determined to learn the fundamentals of drawing in a professional and academic manner, she decided to join his classes to refine her talents and those of her daughter.

Although financial constraints delayed their plans for a while, they were determined to enroll in the course to master oil painting on canvas. They soon started creating paintings that were quickly bought by relatives and friends. Within a year, this enabled them to purchase professional painting equipment and cover the costs of paints and canvases.

Artistic Journey

In a pivotal moment of their artistic journey, the mother and daughter showcased their paintings at a local government art exhibition. Their dream was further realized when they opened their own studio. They achieved another milestone when they exhibited their work at a major exhibition in a prestigious art venue in Sarajevo, the Capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, where their paintings were met with enthusiastic acclaim from both the public and the event organizers.



Adna, now 15 years old, has experienced a positive transformation in her life, thanks to the support she received from Qatar. This includes monthly financial aid and assistance to help meet her educational and living needs.

Currently a tenth-grade student, Adna continues to practice her art, which she markets online and through friends. She hopes to participate and win in school competitions and aspires to specialize in painting at a fine arts college in the future.

Volunteering

Adna advises orphans who face similar challenges to trust in themselves and not succumb to difficult circumstances. She emphasizes the importance of strong determination to achieve dreams and encourages them to take advantage of the support available to them, whether from family, the

community, or charitable organizations.

At the end of our conversation with her, Adna told us about her love for volunteering. She mentioned her participation in this through a Bosnian heritage association. She expressed her and her mother's readiness to offer painting courses for orphans and children, aiming to nurture their talents and instill a sense of hope and optimism in their lives.



Dr. Jemilah Mahmood: A Pioneer in Global Humanitarian Leadership

Motivated by a noble sense of compassion for the victims of wars and crises, Dr. Jemilah Mahmood made the transformative decision to devote herself entirely to humanitarian work, leaving her highly successful career as an obstetrician and gynecologist. This took place in 1999 when she withdrew all her savings, amounting to 10,000 Malaysian Ringgit, to help the victims of Kosovo, and established the Malaysian Medical Relief Society better known today as MERCY Malaysia, a humanitarian organization. This marked the first milestone in her remarkable

journey, which has been filled with achievements, and continues to this day.

Professionalism

Dr. Jemilah Mahmood has led numerous relief and development projects and activities worldwide. She has taken on many roles and responsibilities within international humanitarian and UN organizations and has actively participated in related conferences and events.

Dr. Jemilah is perhaps the only Muslim woman

who has accepted the challenge and overcome all obstacles to dedicate herself to this impactful work. She has excelled with professionalism in every role she has held, combining field and administrative presence and competence in leadership and supervision. With her unwavering courage, boundless generosity, and profound selflessness, she has emerged as one of the most influential global figures in the realms of volunteerism and charity. Her life story serves as a powerful source of inspiration for others.

MERCY Malaysia

After providing aid to those affected by the Kosovo crisis through MERCY Malaysia, which she founded and led for several years, Jemilah Mahmood also participated in numerous relief missions, particularly in the medical field, including in Iraq in 2003.

In 2004, Jemilah Mahmood a maternity and health center for women in Darfur, Sudan. Following the devastating disaster in December 2004 and the destructive earthquake that ensued in March 2005, she helped the people of Banda Aceh, one of Indonesia's poorest communities. She drew up a plan to provide the necessary healthcare, helped rebuild two health centers, and renovated the island's Gunung Sitoli Hospital. Under her leadership, MERCY Malaysia also rebuilt 13 health centers in cooperation with the Health Ministry in Myanmar, after Cyclone Nargis in 2008.

In 2008, she was one of the 16 members appointed by Ban Ki-moon, the former Secretary-General of the United Nations to Advisory Group of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

From 2009 to 2011, Dr Jemilah was in charge of the humanitarian branch of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), where she directed her efforts toward reproductive health and emergency population data.

In May 2014, Jemilah was appointed to head the World Humanitarian Summit Secretariat at the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) headquarters in New York. "I am extremely grateful and honored to be appointed to lead the charge in such an important

initiative, and that a Malaysian has been selected for the role," said Dr. Jemilah in a statement. She served as Under-Secretary General for Partnerships in the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) from January 2016 to 2020.

Awards

In 2013, Dr Jemilah Mahmood received Bahrain's prestigious Isa Award for Service to Humanity. This award is granted biennially to individuals and organizations that make a transformative impact on the world in various fields, including humanitarian relief, education, and human tolerance. She was awarded the ASEAN Prize in 2019 for her commendable contribution to community-building efforts in the region. She is the first Malaysian to receive the award.

Dr. Jemilah Mahmood's extensive experience reflects a profound understanding of the philosophy behind humanitarian work and her continued efforts to achieve meaningful impact. "We need new ways to achieve our goals. We must listen to people affected by crises, build trust, acknowledge their concerns and aspirations, understand their strategies, facilitate their efforts, establish genuine humanitarian partnerships, and find shared solutions. We want to empower younger generations, build leaderships, and that everyone has a role to play."

Dr. Jemilah Mahmood highlights the importance of her years of work with UN and international organizations. She explains that her motivation was to influence various actors to play greater roles in providing humanitarian assistance by focusing on reducing the fear associated with crises, whether conflicts or natural disasters.

Finally, Dr. Jemilah Mahmood credits her family for her achievements and successes in the humanitarian field. Expressing her gratitude, she remarked: "I would be remiss if I did not thank my husband and family. Without their support, love, and encouragement, it would have been impossible for me to embark on this journey. But I am sure they will continue to support and inspire me to make even greater efforts in the future."



'Peace to Lebanon' delivers urgent relief aid

Heart-wrenching scenes and stories of suffering and displacement unfolded with the onset of the steadily worsening crisis in Lebanon, where the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has reached hundreds of thousands, according to UN reports.

Amid this critical situation and driven by its humanitarian and moral duty toward Lebanon's people, Qatar Charity (QC) was one of the first Arab and international humanitarian organizations to act on the ground. Acting swiftly in response to the crisis, Qatar Charity began delivering aid to the IDPs, standing by them in these dire circumstances.

As part of its relief campaign 'Peace to Lebanon', Qatar Charity has delivered critical and urgent aid, including food, water, and shelter, to the affected and displaced living in temporary shelters in schools or with host families in the affected areas of southern Lebanon (Sidon, Beirut, and surrounding suburbs). Additionally, Qatar Charity has deployed mobile clinics, benefiting 111,515 people as of October.

Qatar Charity, through the 'Peace to Lebanon' campaign, aims to continue delivering urgent relief aid to those affected by the worsening crisis. This assistance will focus on providing food packages with essential supplies that will enable the affected families to meet their daily needs and ensure food security during their difficult times.

Qatar Charity also plans to provide shelter materials, such as secure and quick-to-assemble tents, to house families displaced by the crisis, offering them protection and comfort. Additionally, it seeks to provide comprehensive health kits, including hygiene and personal care items, to prevent diseases and safeguard family health in the camps.



Qatar Charity's Innovative Housing Project Transforms Lives in Bangladesh's Flood-Prone Datiapara Village

Sunamganj, a northeastern district of Bangladesh, is no stranger to the destructive forces of nature, particularly the floods that devastate communities and leave families homeless and destitute. For years, families struggled with the recurring cycle of displacement, losing their homes and livelihoods every monsoon season.

Beacon of Hope

Amid the challenges posed by the natural and climatic conditions in Sunamganj, a beacon of hope has emerged for the homeless and landless residents of the Datiapara village through a remarkable social housing project implemented by Qatar Charity. This initiative aims to make a significant difference in the lives of many villagers displaced by floods.

The project not only offers safe shelter but also restores dignity and stability through its thoughtful design. Key features include quality construction, reliable infrastructure, a well-chosen location, and opportunities for income generation, all aimed at empowering residents.

The housing project, implemented by Qatar Charity in collaboration with local authorities and community leaders, was meticulously designed to meet the specific needs of the beneficiaries. Constructed on elevated land, the two six-story buildings feature robust infrastructure and flood-resistant materials designed to withstand the region's harsh climatic conditions.

According to the design, each floor of the two buildings contains four units of 660 square feet. Each unit consists of two bedrooms, a living and dining room, two toilets, a kitchen, and a balcony. Each floor accommodates four families, ensuring efficient use of space while preserving a sense of community among residents.

Securing Sustainable Livelihoods

Beyond shelter, the project recognized the importance of securing sustainable livelihoods for the beneficiaries. In a

thoughtful initiative, each family was allocated farmland adjacent to their new homes. This allocation provided them with a source of income and food security and empowered them to rebuild their lives with dignity and self-sufficiency.

Profound Impact

The impact of the housing project has been profound. Families like that of Dolena Khatun, who had endured multiple displacements due to floods, now have a home and a piece of land to cultivate crops.

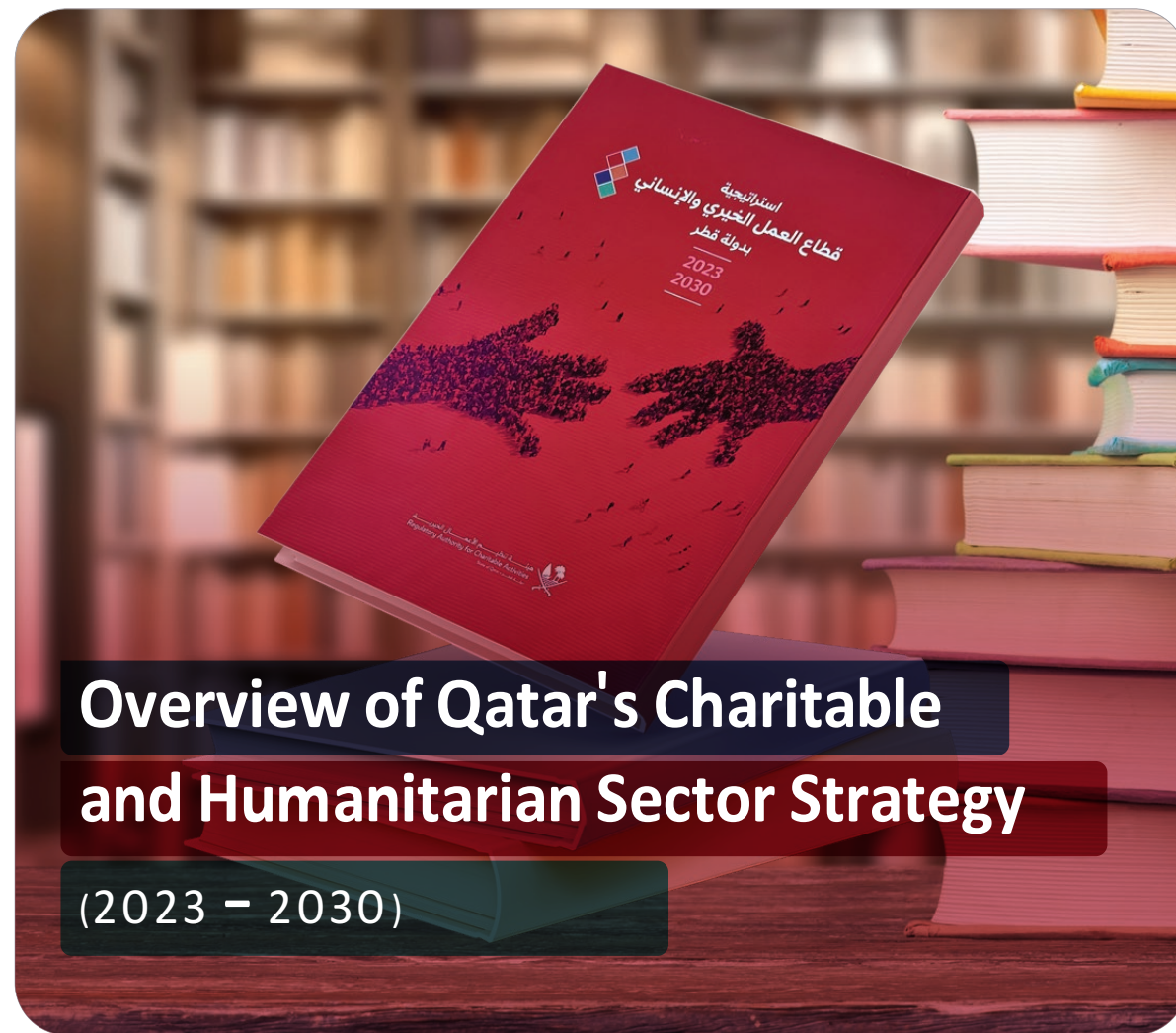
In her words, this project has brought a change in their lives. Dolen Khatun said, "During the 2022 flood, I stayed in the shelter with my son and daughter for about a month. We had to live a miserable life in the shelter. As many families went to the shelter together, there was no adequate living environment or access to food. The toilets were uncomfortable to use, and my children fell ill due to the dirty conditions."

She added, "Qatar Charity has changed their lives. We used to live in small huts and now in tall buildings. We never imagined living in such a neat and beautiful building."

Akhter Hossain said, "We lost our homes and crops during the floods. It was a devastating experience, but with the support of Qatar Charity, we have rebuilt our lives and now enjoy a safer and more resilient home. We no longer fear the floods."

Empowering the Community

The success of the project serves as a model for sustainable development initiatives in disaster-prone areas. It demonstrates how proactive measures, along with community engagement and strategic partnerships, can effectively mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and break the cycle of poverty. The families affected by the floods in the Datiapara village have not only found homes but also hope for a brighter future built on a solid foundation.



Overview of Qatar's Charitable and Humanitarian Sector Strategy

(2023 – 2030)

The Regulatory Authority for Charitable Activities (RACA), in coordination with relevant authorities, has prepared Qatar's Charitable and Humanitarian Work Strategy (2023-2030) and has begun working on its implementation. This is based on its role outlined in the first paragraph of Article No. (5) of the Emiri Resolution No. (10) of 2020, which is to develop, support, encourage, supervise, and control charitable and humanitarian action within the framework of

the general policy of the State of Qatar, and for this purpose, it shall have the right to exercise all necessary powers, in particular the preparation of the strategy.

This strategy is the first of its kind for Qatar's charitable sector, encompassing both developmental and humanitarian aspects. Its completion took two years, involving close collaboration with relevant entities from the charitable, governmental, and

private sectors, as well as academic and research institutions.

The strategy has been formulated to align with Qatar National Vision 2030 and integrate with other sectoral strategies. The RACA adopted a participatory approach ensuring the involvement of stakeholders, particularly the organizations within the sector itself, through their intensive engagement in the preparation of the strategy.

The Authority also sought the assistance of national experts in preparing the plan, especially from the Center for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies (CHS), for this purpose. This strategy represents all charitable organizations in the State of Qatar, both humanitarian and developmental, in their various organizational forms.

The Charitable Sector Strategy of Qatar is based on two main types of determinants: national and international. It particularly aligns with the international community's efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

Based on national standards, and in coordination with the Development Planning and Statistics Authority, a result-based planning methodology was adopted in preparing the Charitable Sector Strategy of Qatar. This strategy is considered an independent sectoral strategy that synergizes and integrates with other national strategies to achieve comprehensive national development. An in-depth diagnosis of the sector was conducted, covering its internal and external environments to identify its strengths and opportunities for improvement.

In light of this, a vision for the sector was formulated, stating that it is:

A professional and independent charitable sector that serves as an important pillar of national development and a solid foundation supporting the international standing of Qatar.

Based on this, the strategic mission and guiding values were defined as follows:

Mission:

"A charitable sector dedicated to civic engagement and embodying the values of social solidarity towards those in need, both within and outside Qatar."

Guiding Values of the Strategy:

- Authenticity and Respect
- Transparency and Integrity
- Cooperation and Integration
- Flexibility and Compliance
- Responsibility and Accountability
- Learning and Innovation
- Effectiveness and Efficiency

Key Outcome

The strategy was prepared based on a result-based strategic planning methodology. The key outcome to be achieved is as follows:

"A professional and flexible charitable sector that provides the best services to beneficiaries both within and outside Qatar, in alignment with Qatar National Vision 2030 and the priorities of relevant national strategies", through:

Serving the community in Qatar by preserving its heritage, enhancing its cohesion, and fostering its values of solidarity.

Contributing to the implementation of sustainable development and humanitarian initiatives that reflect the spirit of Qatari community solidarity and enhance the regional and international role of the State of Qatar.

Engaging in efforts to promote peace, harmony, and international solidarity, and supporting and advocating for the causes of the needy around the world.



Mr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Bader,
Deputy Director-General for Corporate
Communication at the Kuwaiti-based
International Islamic Charity Organization



Mr. Ishrat Ullah,
a humanitarian expert



Mr. Rami Adwan,
Senior specialist of Foreign Relations at the
United Nations Relief and Works Agency
(UNRWA)

Post-War Recovery and Reconstruction Efforts in Gaza:

A Forward-Looking Vision

(Planning, Strategies, Challenges, and Supporting Initiatives)

After every war, there is an urgent need for recovery and reconstruction efforts to erase the scars of destruction and restore normalcy to the affected communities. This need becomes even more critical in cases of severe tragedies, such as the war on Gaza, which left behind widespread devastation of infrastructure, homes, and public facilities, in addition to significant human and material losses. This, therefore, makes reconstruction efforts a vital necessity to ensure sustainable living and provide the essentials for a dignified life for populations.

As a vision for the future, 'Ghiras' organized a symposium titled "Post-War Recovery and Reconstruction Efforts in Gaza: A Forward-Looking Vision". The symposium aimed to discuss the significance of proactive planning for reconstruction, developing strategies, and addressing the main challenges in this regard. It also explored the role of UN organizations, Arab, and Islamic institutions in recovery and reconstruction efforts following the war on Gaza.

The symposium featured the following speakers:

- **Mr. Rami Adwan**, Senior specialist of Foreign Relations at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)
- **Mr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Bader**, Deputy Director-General for Corporate Communication at the Kuwaiti-based International Islamic Charity Organization
- **Mr. Ishrat Ullah**, a humanitarian expert

Planning & Strategies

At the start of the symposium, Mr. Ishrat Ullah, a humanitarian expert, discussed the vital importance of planning for reconstruction and recovery efforts in Gaza. He stated that these efforts must be comprehensive and well-coordinated. During the planning phase, the international community, working closely with local authorities, must carry out a thorough assessment of the needs and damages to key infrastructure, including homes, hospitals, schools, and water and electricity networks. He noted that this would help determine the true needs of the affected population, allowing for the prioritization of rebuilding critical facilities such as housing, healthcare centers, schools, and water

supply systems, ensuring that essential services are provided to those in need.

He explained that this process could be carried out in two phases: first, through early recovery interventions, such as providing temporary shelter and building semi-permanent infrastructure for hospitals and schools. He stated that once the security situation stabilizes, the focus would shift from early recovery to full-scale reconstruction. He stressed the importance of prioritizing projects that can help stimulate the local economy, such as rebuilding markets and commercial facilities, which would create new jobs and reduce unemployment rates.

Mr. Ishrat Ullah discussed the key aspects and outlines of the planning strategies for Gaza's reconstruction and revitalization. He emphasized that rebuilding and recovery efforts in the Gaza Strip require comprehensive and integrated approaches, addressing social, economic, and infrastructure dimensions.

He underscored the critical need for coordination between international organizations and donors to set priorities based on on-the-ground needs and secure the required funding for early recovery and reconstruction efforts. He also highlighted the importance of working closely with local authorities and organizations to ensure that projects are implemented effectively and sustainably. He mentioned that sustainability criteria should be considered when selecting reconstruction projects to ensure that the new infrastructure is resilient to future challenges, such as natural disasters or potential conflicts.

This statement echoes the remarks of Mr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Bader, Deputy Director-General for Corporate Communication at the Kuwaiti-based International Islamic Charity Organization (IICO), who stressed the urgent need for a comprehensive and sustainable reconstruction program right after the war. He emphasized that decision-makers and charitable organizations must create a reconstruction strategy for the Gaza Strip that addresses its political, economic, and security challenges. He indicated that the region urgently needs relief efforts, including shelter, medical, and food assistance, to support the two million people living in desperate conditions, facing hunger and cold. He also stated that organizations must implement projects aimed at clearing debris, removing rubble, and opening roads between the northern and southern parts of Gaza to ensure relief trucks can reach all areas.

Al-Bader added that specialized recovery and reconstruction organizations should start by developing an initial plan for Gaza's reconstruction and establishing communication channels with central and local authorities, as well as with local and international charitable organizations and civil society institutions. He also noted that these organizations should also call for an international conference to establish the 'Gaza Reconstruction Fund' and launch a campaign to raise funds for the initiative.

Al-Badr highlighted that reports from specialized UN organizations, combined with the impact of the current devastating war on the region, have led IICO and its partners, who organized the 9th Conference on Effective Partnership for Better Humanitarian Aid, to take concrete steps. These efforts aim to mobilize global humanitarian efforts to play an effective and impactful role in easing the suffering of Gaza's population, which exceeds 2.2 million, the majority of whom are women and children.

Humanitarian Needs

Reconstruction planning and related strategies rely on thorough needs assessments. In this regard, Mr. Rami Adwan, Senior specialist of Foreign Relations at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), described the situation in Gaza following the war that began on October 7, 2023, as catastrophic. He stated that according to UNRWA's assessments, approximately 1.9 million people—90% of the population—have been displaced, many of them multiple times. The humanitarian conditions are dire, with people living in overcrowded UNRWA shelters, destroyed buildings, and makeshift tents.

He noted that the scale of destruction in Gaza is staggering. UN estimates indicate that by May 2024, more than half of the infrastructure in Gaza had been damaged or destroyed. He mentioned that continued fighting and bombardment

have caused even more devastation to critical infrastructure, with over half of UNRWA buildings in Gaza affected, some completely destroyed. Furthermore, more than two-thirds of UNRWA schools, many serving as shelters, have been damaged.

Mr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Bader, Deputy Director-General for Corporate Communication at IICO, emphasized that the needs in Gaza are vast and growing and civilians continue to endure immense suffering, and are unable to rebuild their destroyed homes. The destruction has been indiscriminate, employing a scorched-earth policy and fire belts that have ravaged residential areas and essential infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, power stations, water facilities, sewage networks, as well as mosques and churches.

The cumulative reconstruction needs in Gaza place additional burdens on future rebuilding efforts and require comprehensive solutions and the development of policies and strategies for Gaza's reconstruction and long and short-term development. At the same time, urgent and temporary measures must be implemented to provide residents with shelter, healthcare, and education facilities, as well as power and sewage services.

Key Challenges

Regarding the challenges related to the high costs, international funding, and the time required for reconstruction and recovery efforts, Mr. Ishrat Ullah explained that while the United Nations has estimated Gaza's reconstruction could take 15 years and cost around \$40 billion, it is still too early to determine the exact damage and the cost for early recovery and rebuilding. He noted that the situation continues to evolve due to various challenges, with debris removal being one of the most critical and requiring significant investments from humanitarian organizations. He indicated that early recovery and reconstruction can not be achieved without removing the debris from the sites of destroyed buildings.

He also highlighted the challenges in accurately assessing infrastructure damage and the costs of reconstruction due to ongoing bombardment and attacks. He noted that communication with field teams, stakeholders, and suppliers has been disrupted by the destruction of communication infrastructure. He also stated that ensuring the safety of field teams during the conflict makes it difficult to carry out needs assessments for early recovery and reconstruction.

Mr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Bader, Deputy Director-General for Corporate Communication at IICO, pointed out that humanitarian organizations continue to face significant challenges. He mentioned the physical and administrative restrictions on the movement of humanitarian workers, as well as limitations on projects involving the construction, expansion, or rehabilitation of infrastructure. He indicated that these obstacles have hindered the ability of the

humanitarian organizations to provide aid and protection to Palestinians. He also stated that the continued closure of the Rafah crossing with Egypt, along with the fragmented funding by donor countries, has hindered coordination between various interventions. He stated that reconstruction efforts usually face inconsistent international support, which fluctuates from one phase to another and depends on shifting factors, including changes in donor priorities and funding allocations, especially when other global crises arise.

Mr. Rami Adwan, Senior specialist of Foreign Relations at UNRWA, stated that the ongoing war, continuous bombardment, mass displacement, extensive damage to civilian infrastructure providing essential services, and the lack of safe and unrestricted humanitarian access across Gaza pose significant challenges to humanitarian efforts and recovery and reconstruction initiatives. He emphasized that before rebuilding schools and other vital infrastructure, it is crucial to clear unexploded ordnance and debris. Furthermore, he mentioned that providing shelter for approximately 1.9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) is a priority, indicating that this process is expected to take several years, according to UN projections.

Initiatives

Mr. Ibrahim Khaled Al-Bader, Deputy Director-General for Corporate Communication at IICO, stated that in response to the impact of the devastating war on Gaza, IICO and its partners launched a global humanitarian initiative called 'Sanad' in May to explore the expansion of humanitarian interventions for early recovery in Gaza following the war. The initiative mainly aims to exchange insights and information and prevent waste in humanitarian interventions. By doing so, the initiative seeks to empower the non-profit sector and international humanitarian organizations to mitigate the humanitarian crisis's impact on Gaza and pave the way for early recovery in the region.

Mr. Rami Adwan, stated that restoring access to education for children and youth in Gaza is another top priority for UNRWA. Approximately 70% of UNRWA schools have been damaged or destroyed since the start of the conflict. As a result, around 625,000 children in Gaza have missed an entire academic year, half of whom—roughly 300,000—were attending UNRWA schools.

Working with partners, educational activities will be provided, which will include psychosocial support and basic skills like reading, writing, and math in informal settings, with the goal of returning to formal education in schools.

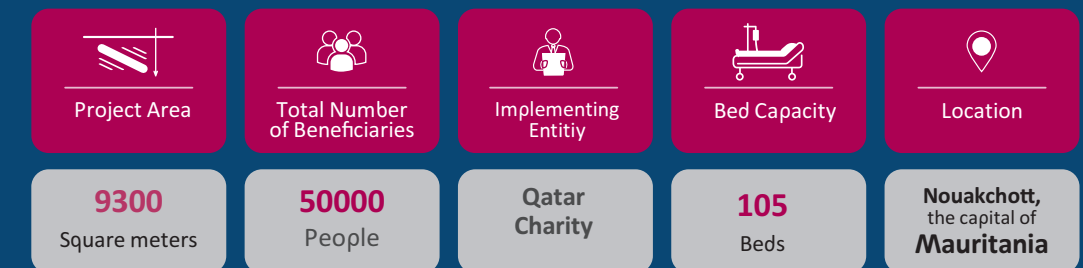
Building and Equipping the 'Ithar' Hospital for Cancer Treatment (Mauritania)

The 'Ithar' Hospital for Cancer Treatment is one of the flagship projects in Mauritania. It is expected to serve as a regional center for cancer treatment, equipped with advanced medical technologies, and will be accessible to all residents of Mauritania.

The hospital will offer essential services such as medical screenings, cancer diagnoses, comprehensive healthcare, vital psychological, and social support, in addition to increasing awareness about cancer and promoting preventive measures.

Hospital Components:

- Outpatient Services: Oncology consultations and radiotherapy consultations
- Laboratory - Comprehensive Diagnostic Unit - Radiotherapy - Chemotherapy - Surgeries - Intensive Care Unit (ICU) - Inpatient Departments - Pharmacy - Central Sterilization Unit - Medical Records





5 Women Turn Dreams into Reality with Craft Center in Somalia

Abdi Dahir Mohamed Osman

In the heart of Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, the 'Kalmiah' Center shines as a beacon of hope for women striving for a dignified livelihood. The story revolves around five determined young women—Hamdi, Fatima, Muna, Sumaya, and Hudan—who refuse to give in to the harsh realities of limited opportunities. United by resilience and ambition, they are turning challenges into achievements.

Training Course

The journey to creating the center began with a training course on entrepreneurship and innovation, organized by Qatar Charity in partnership with UNICEF. This course sparked the enthusiasm of the five young women, leading to a creative idea that promises to change their lives, support their families, serve their community, and shape a brighter future.

The five young women use their skills in handicrafts to make a difference. In July, they decided to establish a training center to teach local women skills such as knitting, embroidery, carpet-making, and beauty services. Their dream became a reality when they named the center 'Kalmiah', which means 'meeting place' in Arabic, creating a space for women to share knowledge and learn from each other.

Determination

Starting the center was challenging for the five young women, as they faced financial difficulties and infrastructure issues. Long working hours took away their rest time, but their determination overcame all obstacles. With funding from Qatar Charity and UNICEF, the center began its work. In a short time, it has trained over 30 women, helping them become financially independent. Each training session brought hope to their families, making the project a deeply impactful humanitarian effort for those in need.

'Kalmiah' is more than just a business; it is a community project and a safe space for women. Here, they support and encourage each other, finding strength in their shared journey. With each piece produced, they take pride in their

hard work and determination.

Products and Exhibitions

The center does more than train and support its trainees. It also sells handmade products made by its founders on its TikTok account and plans to sell products made by the trainees. This helps with marketing and financial sustainability. The center also organizes exhibitions to display their products and share their stories with the world.

Hamdi Mohamed Noor, one of the founders, reflects on the center's journey, saying: "When we started, we never expected such success. We believed in our idea and worked hard to make it happen."

Inspiration and determination are key to the center's success, as Fatima Abdul Rahman explains: "Each piece we create represents perseverance. We aim to inspire women in our community to achieve their dreams."

The 'Kalmiah' Center is a symbol of hope and strength, inspiring other young Somali women to join the journey and create their own success stories.

'Reviving Hope'

campaign sends 40-truck aid convoy to Syria

Qatar Charity (QC) has announced the launch of a humanitarian aid convoy to support the people of Syria, consisting of 40 trucks as the first batch. This effort aims to address their urgent basic needs considering the ongoing crisis they are facing.

The announcement about this aid convoy was made at a press conference held at its starting point on the Syrian-Turkish border, attended by a delegation from Qatar Charity led by Mr. Nawaf Abdullah Al Hammadi, Chief Global Programs Officer at Qatar Charity. The convoy is part of the 'Reviving Hope' campaign launched by Qatar Charity in December 2024 to assist the Syrian people in their current difficult circumstances.

The convoy's aid includes flour, food packages, winter clothing, personal hygiene kits, non-food items, and

medical supplies and consumables, with an estimated cost of approximately QR 4.5 million.

In his speech at the launch of the aid convoy, Mr. Nawaf Al-Hamadi emphasized that the aid is part of the 'Reviving Hope' campaign. He indicated that this initiative coincides with the return of many Syrians, including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), to the hometowns they were forced to leave years ago. He mentioned that the campaign's goal is to help them settle in stable living conditions, support their aspirations for a better future, and provide the necessary resources to rebuild a dignified life after years of hardship.

Al-Hamadi stated that the assistance would continue, reaffirming Qatar Charity's long-standing commitment to providing humanitarian support to the Syrian people, who have been affected by the crisis for over 13 years. He added that the aid will help address the critical shortages in food, medical supplies, personal hygiene items, shelter, and winter clothing, all of which are necessary for surviving the severe winter.



Karam Aly

Director, Turkey Branch

When historians document global humanitarian efforts, they often focus on the last century or the late 19th century, in terms of the emergence of humanitarian organizations that operate across continents and have a wide range of activities and commonly recognized roles for those involved in humanitarian work.

However, a closer look at history shows that humanitarian work dates back even further, though the terminology may have been different. Since the time of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), acts of charity, such as feeding the hungry and providing clothing to the needy, have been well-known. These efforts evolved into what we now recognize as sustainable projects, named waqf (Endowment) in Islamic tradition, or "Trust" in Western countries.

Types of Waqf

It is narrated in a hadith that no companion of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) passed away without leaving a waqf. One well-known example is the "Well of Ruma," which was purchased and endowed by the companion Othman ibn Affan (may Allah be pleased with him) over 1,400 years ago. In his book on waqf, Dr. Yusuf al-Qaradawi listed many types of waqf. History also records unique examples of waqf, such as:

The waqf for stray dogs: this involves gathering them in a safe area where they can eat and drink away from people. This helps prevent harm to humans while also protecting the dogs from being killed, as happens in some countries.

The waqf for elderly animals: this involves gathering aged animals that can no longer be of use and providing them with food until they pass away.

The waqf for comforting the sick: This involves hiring someone to sit with terminally ill patients, telling them stories to make their nights easier. The goal is also to offer hope, boosting their spirits and improving their mental well-being.

The waqf for the "Zubdiya" or "Fakhoura" involves a system where a young servant who accidentally breaks a bowl or dish can take it to the waqf place and exchange it for another, ensuring he is spared punishment from their master or employer.

The waqf for upset wives: In relationships, disagreements

Waqf & Sustainable Projects

between a wife and her husband can sometimes lead the wife to leave for her family's home. However, for women without family support or with families in difficult circumstances, the waqf provides a place to stay for a few days until things settle and they can return home.

Waqf Factory

Additionally, there were major educational waqf projects in many Arab and Islamic countries, such as supporting teacher salaries and covering expenses for schools, hospitals, and charitable organizations.

Similarly, the salaries of mosque imams and staff, along with the costs for cleaning and maintaining mosques, are funded through waqf resources. This ensures that imams and preachers remain independent. To this day, there is a waqf factory in Egypt that produces two outfits annually for each imam.

Due to the importance of waqf, many people continued to make endowments until the early 20th century. They registered waqfs either for public or family benefit. Endowments designated for certain children would revert to public benefit after their death.

Endowed Property

Statistics indicate that one-third of the housing in Algeria was endowed property, and approximately 15% of the agricultural land in Egypt was waqf. Many houses in Turkey were also waqf properties. Additionally, many prestigious Western universities, such as Harvard University, are endowed institutions.

However, there have been challenges in the relationship between waqf and political authority, with one of the main issues being the management and development of waqf assets, as well as finding new ways to maximize their benefits.

I learned about the waqf experience in Indonesia, where over 25% of endowments were lands for graves or mosques. This prompted discussions on how to make better use of these properties, such as creating integrated markets around mosques. These ideas are discussed at annual waqf conferences held in some Islamic and Arab countries.

Overall, the humanitarian work of the Arab and Islamic nations in the past went beyond merely providing food to sustainable efforts funded by the revenue generated from waqf (endowments), rather than the principal waqf itself.

5 Qatar Charity.. Years of Generous Giving 2019 -2024



Total Number of Beneficiaries

From relief, development, and social care projects:

96 million people



Countries of Operation

70 countries



Number of Qatar Charity's Field Offices

More than **33** offices (In Asia, Africa, and Europe)



Total Cost of Relief Projects

QR **2.4 billion**



Total Number of Beneficiaries from Relief Projects

59 million people



Total Cost of Development Projects

QR **2.2 billion**



Total Number of Beneficiaries from Development Projects

29 million people



Number of Those Currently Sponsored by Qatar Charity Through its

'Rofaqa' Initiative: **212,000**, including orphans and other individuals



Total Number of Beneficiaries from Projects for the Sponsored

8 million people



M Jahangir Alam

Global solidarity and proactive intervention can alleviate famine's devastating impact

Climate Change

Climate change is a significant contributor to famine. Rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall, and extreme weather events like droughts and floods have led to widespread agricultural losses. In East Africa, repeated droughts have devastated crops and killed livestock, resulting in severe food shortages. The El Niño phenomenon, which causes unusual warming of the Pacific Ocean, has disrupted food production in Southeast Asia and Latin America. Additionally, economic factors, such as high food prices and inflation, make it increasingly difficult for families to afford food, even when it is available.

Poor governance and corruption can worsen the effects of famine. In countries with weak or unstable governments, food distribution systems often fail, making relief efforts difficult. Since April 2023, Sudan has been embroiled in civil war and is currently facing one of the most severe food crises in the world, with over 10 million people experiencing extreme food insecurity. The UN has warned that Sudan could face a catastrophic hunger crisis if the conflict persists.

Bangladesh, though not currently facing the threat of famine, remains vulnerable to the broader challenges of food insecurity. In the 2024 Global Hunger Index, Bangladesh ranks 84th out of 127 countries, with a score of 19.4, indicating a moderate level of hunger. While famine is unlikely due to significant agricultural development and food security measures, many people still suffer from hunger and malnutrition. Poverty, inequality, and seasonal food shortages in some areas continue to contribute to food insecurity. Rural communities, in particular, often experience hardships when crops fail or prices rise, affecting

Famine is one of the most serious humanitarian crises, leading to widespread hunger, malnutrition, and death due to extreme food shortages. It occurs when populations can no longer access sufficient nutrition, often due to a combination of factors. The United Nations typically declares a famine in collaboration with governments and other humanitarian agencies. A key tool used to assess food insecurity is the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), which ranks crises on a five-tier scale, with phase five indicating famine.

Human-made and Natural Factors

Famine can arise from both human-made and natural factors, with conflict being one of the primary causes. It disrupts food production, supply chains, and the delivery of humanitarian aid. In Gaza, for instance, the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas has led to a blockade, which severely restricts access to vital resources such as food, fuel, and water. Currently, 91% of Gaza's population—approximately 1.95 million people—faces acute food insecurity. This includes 345,000 individuals experiencing catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5) and 876,000 at emergency levels of hunger (IPC Phase 4). After 12 months of conflict, livelihoods have been devastated, agriculture has collapsed, and both commercial and humanitarian supply lines are heavily constrained. Projections from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) indicate that Gaza could face famine from November 2024 to April 2025 unless the fighting ceases and humanitarian aid increases.

their access to adequate nutrition.

Historically, Bangladesh experienced a devastating famine in 1974, caused by a combination of natural disasters, poor harvests, and political instability. The famine claimed the lives of an estimated one million people and was marked by widespread food scarcity, high mortality rates, and social unrest. Since then, the country has made significant progress in improving food security and agricultural productivity, although challenges remain, particularly in the face of climate change, which threatens the stability of agriculture in flood-prone areas.

Specific Criteria

To formally declare famine, specific criteria must be met, including extreme food shortages, high malnutrition rates, and a significant number of deaths from hunger or related diseases. The IPC defines famine as a situation where 20% of households face extreme food shortages, 30% of children suffer from severe malnutrition, and at least two adults or four children per 10,000 die daily from starvation or disease.

Historically, famine has claimed millions of lives. The Irish Famine (1845-1852), caused by a potato disease, led to around one million deaths. The Ethiopian famine of 1984-1985, driven by drought and civil war, caused approximately 400,000 deaths. More recently, the 2011 famine in Somalia, triggered by drought and exacerbated by conflict, killed more than a quarter of a million people.

Currently, Gaza, Sudan, and Haiti face imminent threats of famine, while Afghanistan, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen continue to struggle with severe food insecurity. In Haiti, gang violence and political instability have collapsed the economy, leaving millions unable to access food. Around 1.4 million people in Haiti are at risk of famine, and many more face lower levels of food insecurity. These situations highlight the urgency of addressing both immediate needs and the underlying causes of hunger.

Famine is preventable, but it requires coordinated global action. Humanitarian aid is essential to save lives in the short term, providing food, medical support, and clean water. Long-term prevention, however, depends on addressing the root causes: conflict, climate change, and economic instability. Sustainable agricultural practices, infrastructure development, and conflict resolution can help build resilience in affected communities. Early warning systems

and preemptive measures, such as food aid and emergency infrastructure support, can prevent the escalation of food crises.

Initiatives aimed at stabilizing economies, promoting peace, and enhancing agricultural productivity can help ensure food security for vulnerable populations. International cooperation is essential in addressing famine. Governments, international organizations, and NGOs must collaborate to provide immediate relief and develop long-term solutions. Initiatives aimed at stabilizing economies, promoting peace, and enhancing agricultural productivity can help ensure food security for vulnerable populations.

Famine is a global challenge that requires a coordinated response. History has shown that the consequences of inaction can be catastrophic. It is not enough to respond only when famine strikes; we must focus on preventing these crises. Through global solidarity and proactive intervention, we can work towards ending the suffering caused by famine and ensuring a future where no one has to face the horrors of hunger.



M Jahangir Alam

Writer-Senior correspondent, News agency UNB (United News Of Bangladesh)



Escaping War:

A Mother's Heartbreaking Journey from Sudan to Safety

By Tamadour ElQadi

With a heavy heart, Faiza Abdullah recounts the harrowing days she endured during the war. A mother of three, Faiza lived on Tuti Island, a small island at the confluence of the Blue and White Nile in the heart of Khartoum, Sudan. During the conflict, her family faced severe hardships, with no access to water or electricity, turning their lives into a constant nightmare. The deafening sound of shelling shook their home, leaving her children gripped by fear, anxiety, and depression, as she sorrowfully shared with us.

After two months of living in constant terror, Faiza realized she could no longer endure the situation. Her children's suffering grew worse each day, and their eyes reflected deep anxiety and fear for the future. After a large shell landed near their home, the only option was to leave.

The way to safety was blocked, but Faiza was determined to

save her children. She looked toward the river and realized it was their only way to escape. With tears streaming down her face and panic in her voice, she said, "Leaving your home and family is incredibly hard." Her words were filled with deep pain as she prepared to face an uncertain journey ahead.

With tears in her eyes, she continued, saying, "We lived through painful moments. My children said their goodbyes to the streets, family, and neighbors, unsure if they would ever see them again. Each step felt heavy with the pain of leaving and the fear of the unknown."

Faiza remembers how she lost many of her family members to hunger and illness, as families struggled with the lack of food, medicine, and safety.

After enduring great hardship, Faiza finally crossed the Sudanese border into Ethiopia, where she faced a harsh reality in the forests of 'Olalla' in Ethiopia, amidst dense jungles and the sound of gunfire.

Despite all the challenges, Faiza decided to take her children on a journey to a new life, hoping to reach a safe land where they could regain their innocence and put an end to their suffering.



To watch the story Click here



Voices of Hope and the Future

An Inspiring Experience for the Youth of 'Rafaqa'

Book Title: **Voices of Hope and Future**
 Authors: **Promising Writers from the 'Rofaqa Initiative'**
 Edition: **First**
 Language: **Arabic and English**
 Year of Publication: **2024**
 Publisher: **Qatar Charity**
 Number of Pages: **52**

This book serves as an inspiring experience for the youth sponsored under the 'Rofaqa' initiative, allowing them to advocate for humanitarian issues, express their opinions, and make their voices heard globally. This book highlights the outcomes of a competition organized by Qatar Charity's 'Rofaqa' initiative. It invited the sponsored university students to write articles that raise awareness about important social issues and related global challenges. This initiative coincided with the World Day of Social Justice, observed annually on February 20.

The book aims to honor the outstanding efforts of participants in the 2023 competition, while also taking readers on a fascinating journey through the ideas of young individuals striving to contribute to building a better future and positively impacting their communities.

Competition

The competition focused on climate change as a significant challenge to achieving social justice, emphasizing that the impacts of climate change are not equal, as it particularly affects marginalized groups. Students sponsored by Qatar Charity in 11 countries submitted 121 articles. From these, 11 exemplary articles, written in Arabic or English, were selected to be published in the book.

Advocacy Efforts

The book opens with a message from Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed Al Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity, who emphasizes that it represents a successful outcome of the 'Rofaqa' initiative. In the preface, Nawaf Abdullah Al Hammadi, Chief Global Programs Officer at Qatar Charity, highlights the book's unique concept, which reflects the initiative's focus on programs for sponsored youth, adding that it serves as an important opportunity to showcase their talents and capabilities. He mentioned that it highlights Qatar

Charity's attention as an international organization towards UN international days and underscores the importance of its involvement in awareness and advocacy efforts.

It is worth noting that 'Rofaqa' is one of Qatar Charity's humanitarian initiatives, dedicated to providing comprehensive care for sponsored individuals, with a focus on issues concerning children and orphans worldwide through effective programs. The initiative strives to be a leader in promoting social solidarity, serving humanity, and achieving sustainable social development. Currently, 'Rofaqa' sponsors 212,000 orphans, students, individuals with special needs, and families in need.



'How Long'

Campaign for the 2024 – 2025 Winter

Targeted Beneficiaries of the Campaign: **2.5 Million** People

Total Cost of Campaign's Aid: **QR 72 Million**

Number of Targeted Countries: **25** Countries (Including Qatar)

Focus Areas

Crisis- and disaster-affected countries, as well as the coldest and most needy regions worldwide.

Targeted Countries

Somalia, Yemen, Afghanistan, Albania, Pakistan, Palestine, Syria, Sudan, Jordan, Bosnia, Somalia, Yemen, Afghanistan, Albania, Pakistan, Bangladesh (Rohingya refugees), Turkey, Niger, Chad, Tunisia, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Benin, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ghana, Kashmir, Mali, and Qatar

Targeted Groups

Internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, orphans, and families in need.

Campaign's Focus Areas and Products

Food: (food packages, bread, and school feeding programs)

Shelter and Non-Food Assistance: (winter clothing, shelter kits, house rents, home renovations, provision and maintenance of caravans, heating equipment, fuel, and winter living essentials)

Health: (primary healthcare services and first aid kits)

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): (water, water tanks, and personal hygiene kits)

Within Qatar

Number of Beneficiaries: **3,500** workers

Types of Assistance: winter kits, food baskets, health awareness, and medical check-ups

Orphans

Number of Beneficiaries: **5,334** orphans sponsored under Qatar Charity's 'Rofaqa' initiative in 16 countries.

Type of Assistance: blankets, mattresses, and winter clothing

To Donate, click on or scan:



How Long

Winter Campaign 2024 – 2025



Cost of Aid

QR **72 Million**



Number of Countries

25



Crisis-Affected and Most Needy Countries



Targeted Groups



Families in Need



Orphans



Refugees



IDPs

Campaign's Focus Areas



Health



Shelter and Non-Food Assistance



WASH



Food



Implementing Vital Health and Education Projects in Yemen

For over nine years, the ongoing conflict in Yemen has led to a severe deterioration of the country's economy, escalating food insecurity, causing recurrent disease outbreaks, and ultimately resulting in the collapse of the healthcare system. According to estimates from the World Health Organization (WHO), 46% of Yemen's healthcare facilities are either partially functional or completely out of service.

The war has caused multiple problems and damages, severely impacting the education sector across Yemen. "More than 2.4 million school-aged Yemeni girls and boys are out of school, and about 8.5 million primary school-aged children need humanitarian assistance," according to a previous report from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Given the ongoing crisis in Yemen, Qatar Charity has implemented significant projects in the fields of health and education, contributing to the improvement of healthcare services and alleviating the suffering of patients. Additionally, Qatar Charity has worked to enhance

educational opportunities, facilitating students' return to school, and providing assistance to both teachers and students.

Health Initiatives

In the healthcare sector, Qatar Charity has performed 141 surgeries to treat congenital heart defects in children through cardiac catheterization and open-heart surgery, as well as kidney transplants for patients in need in Taiz. This initiative was carried out in collaboration with the Humanitarian Development Program and the Cardiovascular Center in Taiz, with the support of a team of volunteer doctors both from within Yemen and abroad.

Qasim Al-Banna, a 62-year-old patient who was the first to undergo a successful surgery as part of this initiative, expressed his deep gratitude and joy at the positive outcome. He extended heartfelt thanks to the benefactors in Qatar and all those who facilitated his surgery, noting that he had suffered for many years from the repercussions of



kidney failure. The high cost of the operation and his limited financial means had long prevented him from accessing the treatment.

Professor Abudar Alganadi, director of the Cardiovascular Center in Taiz, emphasized the significance of this medical initiative for heart and kidney patients, calling it a vital opportunity and a first in the Taiz Governorate. He highlighted its role in saving lives and alleviating suffering, indicating that such initiatives greatly contribute to developing the medical capabilities of the center and enhancing the quality of services provided to patients.

Supporting Education

Qatar Charity implemented an education support project in the Hajjah and Ibb governorates in 2023 and 2024. This initiative involved the rehabilitation of 8 previously non-operational schools in remote villages, creating a more suitable learning environment for students.

The project also provided financial incentives to over 300 teachers, both male and female, for several months, motivating them to deliver better education and improving their living conditions. Additionally, around 4,100 students, both male and female, received school bags containing essential school supplies and stationery. This support aimed to meet students' basic needs and encourage them to continue education.

Qatar Charity's educational support has made a significant impact on the beneficiaries and has been appreciated by local authorities in Yemen. Mr. Fathi Abdu Ali Al-Basir, Head of the Projects and Equipment at the Education Office in the Ibb Governorate, expressed gratitude to Qatar Charity for its support in the education sector. He highlighted that these interventions have improved teacher performance, stabilized the educational process, and brought many students back to school after dropping out due to their families' challenging circumstances.

Qatar Charity's Humanitarian, Development, and Social Care (Sponsorship) Projects in Palestine

2018 – 2023



Projects and Humanitarian Interventions

 **Total Cost of Interventions:**

QR **133,400,000**


 **Total Number of Beneficiaries:**

3,400,000 people


Areas of Intervention

Comprehensive relief, food supply, shelter, education, health, non-food items, water and sanitation, protection


Development Projects

 **Total Cost of Project**


QR **32,000,000**

 **Number of Beneficiaries**

657,667 people


 **Number of Development Projects**

1,742 projects


 **Fields**

Food security, education and culture, economic empowerment, social housing, health, water and sanitation, mosque construction


Sponsorships (Social Care)

 **Total Cost of Sponsorships and Projects for the Sponsored**


QR **285,000,000**

 **Total Number of Beneficiaries (the Sponsored and Their Families):**


496,000 people

 **Total Number of the Sponsored**


21,342 Individuals

 **Total Cost of Sponsorships**


QR **269,000,000**

 **Cost of Projects for the Sponsored**

QR **16,000,000**

 **Number of Beneficiaries from the Projects**

475,000 people

 **Types of Projects for the Sponsored**

Ramadan Iftar meals, Adahi, and school bags and uniforms



Qatar Charity's One-Year Humanitarian Interventions in Gaza

October 7, 2023 – October 7, 2024



QR 114 million

Total value of humanitarian interventions, including both implemented and ongoing efforts



2,700,000
Beneficiaries

from humanitarian interventions



120,000
Food packages

delivered to Gaza



70
tons

of Medicines and medical supplies transported to Gaza



200,000
Individuals benefited

from our assistance through UNRWA



Areas of Intervention:



Comprehensive relief



food supply



shelter and non-food items



health



water and sanitation



education



One Year of Unprecedented Humanitarian Catastrophe in Gaza: Key Statistics

1,900,000 :: people forcibly displaced from their homes

150,000 :: housing units completely destroyed

80,000 :: housing units rendered uninhabitable

20 out of 36 :: hospitals non-operational

900 :: medical personnel killed in one year

541,000 :: children entirely excluded from education

87% :: of schools have been bombed or directly damaged

90% :: of agricultural resources severely damaged

450,000 :: individuals facing catastrophic levels of hunger

50,000 :: children urgently requiring treatment for acute malnutrition

100% :: of Gaza's population now living in poverty

Qatar

Start Network's Training Sessions

Qatar Charity (QC), in partnership with Start Network, a global consortium of nearly 100 humanitarian agencies, hosted an in-person Hub Fellowship Learning Session and Empowered Local Leadership Training, which aims to empower staff from local, national, and international humanitarian organizations known as hubs.

The training session focuses on enhancing the effectiveness of hub secretariats, strengthening the leadership and advocacy capacity of local hub leaders, and fostering peer-to-peer learning among hub teams. with the Indian Pharmacists Association Qatar (IPhAQ), the Qatar Diabetes Association

(QDA), the General Directorate of Traffic, the Indian Doctors Club (IDC)- Qatar, and the United Nurses of India - Qatar (UNIQ).



UK

Cultural Center

The Cultural Center in Sheffield, UK, was inaugurated in September. It serves as a bridge for cultural exchange, fostering harmony among diverse cultures and promoting a culture of peace. It also acts as a knowledge hub, introducing the rich Islamic cultural heritage and offering Arabic language education to non-native speakers.



Somalia

Partnership with WFP

Qatar Charity (QC), in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), is providing monthly food and cash assistance to nearly 5,000 displaced families in Somalia's Galmudug State for a period of eight months. This initiative is part of Qatar Charity's ongoing efforts to alleviate the suffering of those impacted by crises and disasters.

The project, which began in May and will continue until the end of December this year, aims to provide effective support in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in the regions affected by natural disasters and humanitarian crises.



Bangladesh

Appointment of Specialized Teachers in Schools for Orphans

Qatar Charity (QC) has appointed a group of specialized teachers in the orphan schools it supervises in Bangladesh. This is part of Qatar Charity's ongoing efforts to provide high-quality education and comprehensive care for sponsored orphans, empowering them to build a bright future.

The new teaching staff, consisting of 21 teachers, will implement a comprehensive plan designed to meet the diverse needs of sponsored students in the orphan schools of Bangladesh. Their educational approach combines traditional teaching methods with innovative techniques to enhance the learning process.



Pakistan

Residential Village Flood Victims

Qatar Charity (QC) has completed around 40% of a residential village project for those affected by the 2022 flash flood in the Naseerabad district of Pakistan's Balochistan province.

The project is expected to provide safe housing for 125 affected families upon its full completion in March of next year.



Gaza

First winter aid for displaced families in Gaza

Qatar Charity (QC) distributed the first batch of aid to displaced families in the southern Gaza Strip under its 'How Long' winter campaign. The aid included blankets and winter clothing.

The aid was provided to ease the harsh cold and bring warmth to children and displaced families, coinciding with the drop in temperatures and rainfall in Gaza a few days ago. The heavy rains flooded the tents of the displaced, causing significant damage in the central and southern Gaza Strip.

This aid is part of the 'Urgent Aid Distribution for Displaced Families in Gaza' project, in collaboration with the team of MERCY Worldwide, an NGO. The project provides life-saving food and non-food assistance to alleviate the suffering of displaced families during the winter. The aid distributed so far as part of this project includes over 4,600 blankets, 18,000 winter clothing packages, and shoes for both children and adults. Additionally, the project will also distribute 6,000 food packages.



Kyrgyzstan

Inaugurating Significant Development Projects

Qatar Charity (QC) inaugurated several significant development projects in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, which included the Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Abdullah Al Thani Mosque in Kara-Balta, a city in the Chuy Province, the Ahl Qatar Project (a multi-service complex) in the Tong district of the Issyk-Kul Province, and the Al Rayyan Charity Center (a multi-service complex) in the Kochkor district of the Naryn Province.



Sri Lanka

MoU with Ministry of Health

Qatar Charity (QC), through its office in Colombo, Sri Lanka, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Health in July to provide medications for public hospitals. This initiative is expected to benefit approximately 47,000 patients. The agreement aims to support healthcare services and ensure the availability of essential medicines for vulnerable communities across Sri Lanka.



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Graduation Ceremony for Sponsored Students

In July, Qatar Charity's office in Bosnia and Herzegovina organized, for the fifth consecutive year, a graduation ceremony for 25 female students sponsored by Qatar Charity. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Hassan Mohd Al-Naemi, the General Supervisor of Qatar Charity's office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, artist Ghanem Al-Suleiti, and a group of teachers and trainers who provide courses for the students.



Mauritania

Funding Cancer Hospital

Qatar Charity (QC) has signed a cooperation and partnership agreement with Ithar, a Mauritanian charitable organization focusing on cancer patient care and treatment. Under the agreement, Qatar Charity will fund the Al-Amal Hospital for Cancer Treatment. The agreement was signed by Mr. Nawaf AlHammadi, CEO's Assistant for the International Operations sector at Qatar Charity, during his visit to Nouakchott, and Mr. Salam Ould Abdullah, the President of Ithar.

Under an agreement, Qatar Charity has provided substantial support, worth QR 12 million, to the Al-Amal Hospital located in the capital, Nouakchott, as an initial phase. The hospital will have a clinical capacity of 105 beds and is expected to become a regional center for cancer treatment, utilizing advanced medical technologies.



Morocco

Cooperation Agreement with Ministry of Solidarity

Qatar Charity (QC) signed a cooperation and partnership agreement with Morocco's Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration, and Family. This collaboration aims to unite their efforts to efficiently and effectively achieve their shared goals, contributing to comprehensive development efforts.

The agreement reflects the desire of both parties to strengthen cooperation and exchange expertise, fostering a constructive partnership to support family issues, enhance women's capacities, and empower them economically. It also focuses on vulnerable groups, including women, children, and the elderly, while advancing the rights of persons with disabilities.



Chad

Income-Generating Projects

Qatar Charity (QC) has successfully implemented over 1,430 income-generating projects for vulnerable families through its office in Chad's capital, N'Djamena, since its establishment in 2016. These initiatives have directly benefited around 30,000 persons, with a total cost of QR 10 million.

The implemented projects aim to economically empower needy families in Chad, helping them improve their living conditions and achieve sustainable self-reliance in their livelihoods. Additionally, these initiatives contribute to reducing unemployment, supporting the local economy, and enhancing productivity. Beneficiaries of these projects also receive training opportunities to enhance their skills.

