

Rebuilding lives and Livelihood after Kashmir Earthquake October 2005

The Role of Kashmir Development Foundation

KDF Report - October 2005-December 2009



The president of AJK presenting award in recognition of KDF services after the Kashmir Earthquake 2005

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Kashmir Development Foundation – Reg. No. 058485 a company set up under section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 and registered with Security and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP)

Introduction

Kashmir Development Foundation (KDF) is one of the indigenous Kashmiri development organisation working for community development and empowering the voice of the underrepresented people and communities.

Kashmir Development Foundation has been incorporated in 2006 as a company set up under section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 and registered with Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, Reg. # 0058485

Brief History

Kashmir Development Foundation started its journey as a volunteer effort to help internally displaced people along the Line of Control (LOC) in Azad Jammu Kashmir in 1999 in the aftermath of Kargil conflict. To continue this humanitarian aid and voluntary action on sustainable basis a small group of committed volunteers believing in social justice, participatory governance and integrating equality and human rights for just peace and sustainable development founded KDF in 2000 and started its operation from Bhimber, AJK with free ambulance service, and small scale livelihood and community development projects. These charitable projects at various levels are underway in AJK despite capacity issues and increasing demand with the generous support of local and Kashmiri diaspora community.

Following the earthquake on 8th October 2005 in AJK, in the initial phase of emergency disaster relief KDF was one of the leading local NGOs delivering humanitarian aid in AJK. As an indigenous Kashmiri NGO we were able to mobilize our teams one day after the disaster, we used our knowledge of the area and the community based organizations network that had been set up through previous interventions, to help meet the needs of those affected by the earthquake.

KDF provided coordination and support to a range of national and international emergency relief aid workers and organisations to help in providing emergency shelter to the survivors by providing tents, Tarpal's and plastic sheets. We distributed 4836 tents, 2900 Tarpals and 4400 plastic sheets for emergency shelter in Muzaffarabad, Neelum, Bagh and Poonch districts of AJK with the help of Kashmir Charitable Trust (KCT), UK, Kashmir Youth Project (KYP), Rochdale, U.K and generous donations from number of individuals and groups.

Since then KDF has grown considerably. A diverse group of volunteers from AJK, Pakistan, and other parts of the world has joined KDF who recognised the need for a foundation to provide support and funding to the community development projects in AJK, Gilgit Baltistan and within Kashmiri Diaspora in Pakistan, UK, EU and elsewhere. KDF is now also registered in England and Wales with Charity Commission, Charity No.1143891 and Company Limited by Guarantee No. 05664890.

Vision - Our vision is an open, peaceful and prosperous society

Mission - Kashmir Development Foundation exists to empower the Voice of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and Kashmiri Diaspora in Pakistan, UK, Europe and elsewhere by working with the people to prevent or relieve poverty and inequality; supporting community development initiatives and partnerships to improve peoples' quality of life and wellbeing; and delivering training, engagement, research and enterprise solutions for all sectors.

Kashmir Development Foundation Response after the 2005 Earthquake

An earthquake of magnitude 7.6 on Richter scale struck Jammu Kashmir, Pakistan and adjoining countries on Saturday 8th October 2005 at 8:50 a.m. (PST). The epicenter of the quake was at 34° 29' 35" N, 73° 37' 44" E, about 19 km (11.8) miles northeast of the Azad Jammu Kashmir capital, Muzaffarabad. This earthquake was the strongest in the history of the country and has caused widespread devastation. Although the tremor was felt as far as Kabul and Delhi, the main areas affected have been Jammu Kashmir and Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province.

Some 3.3 million people have been affected by the quake, which has claimed more than 87,000 lives in Kashmir and Pakistan. Entire villages in Azad Jammu Kashmir have been wiped out. The five districts of Azad Jammu Kashmir Bagh, Poonch (Rawalakot), Sudhanuti, Neelum and Muzaffarabad have been badly affected, as has the capital city of Muzaffarabad, the disaster left million homeless or without adequate shelter and food.

In AJK, total 7000 Sq. Km area, 1.8 million people and 977 villages were badly affected, 3,29,579 houses were damaged, 46,528 people died and 33489 were injured. This resulted in a serious loss of life and livelihood.

Following the earthquake on 8th October 2005, KDF was able to mobilize its teams one day after the disaster and was one of the lead agencies in AJK in the initial phase. As an indigenous Kashmiri NGO, we use our knowledge of the area and the community based organizations network that had been set up through previous interventions, to help meet the needs of those affected by the earthquake.

In order to report back to our donors and volunteer supporters we have a complete record of all project activities.

We believe in complete transparency and accountability in our operations. Our records are open for public and authorities for inspection.

A brief description of KDF activities in Azad Jammu Kashmir since 10 October 2005 in Earthquake affected areas of Districts Muzaffarabad, Neelum, Bagh, Poonch and Sudhanuti are as under.

Main Projects

Since its foundation KDF has worked in following areas;

- Rehabilitation of the internally displaced people and victims of conflict along the Line of Control (LOC) – (2000-2005)
- Women skill development through vocational training, a sewing training centre was established in 2001 for the widows and orphans in Bhimber. (2003 - On- going)
- Free ambulance service and medical help for poor and needy. (2000- On-going)
- Water and sanitation project at Pindi Chunja, District Bhimber. (2003-2004)
- From 12 October 2005 to 15 December 2006 Relief coordination and distribution centres were established at Upper Chaatar, Muzaffarabad and field distribution centres at Makhiyala, Dhirkot, District Bagh, Khaigala, Rawalakot, District Poonch and Pallandri, District Sudhanuti.
- Provided temporary shelter for 73 schools with the help of **Kashmir Charitable Trust (KCT)**, UK and **Kashmir Youth Project (KYP)**, Rochdale, UK and helped them with books, school uniforms and teaching aid material to restart classes in destroyed schools. (2005-2007)
- Help and assistance in conducting study reports on the causes of the failure of building structures during earthquake (2005-2007) in coordination with **Healing Hands (North)** and the department of Structural Engineering, **University of Teeside**, United Kingdom.
- Project delivery and implementation partnership - **Healing Hands (North)** in architectural and structural design for earthquake resistant Houses of type H6-H8 houses with the help of the Teeside University at village Sehunta, Tehsil Rawalakot, District Poonch. (June 2007 – October 2014). Further construction and establishment of a Rural Development Resource Centre in on-going.

- Also worked in partnership with **Wales Health Society** and a number of Individual donors for reconstruction of schools in Muzaffarabad, 7 community schools have been reconstructed under KDF assistance for Rebuilding Schools project. (2006-2008)

Partners

- Trust for Voluntary Organizations (TVO), Pakistan
- Women Welfare Organization, Poonch (WWOP), AJK
- Dhanak Rural Development Organization (DRDO), Rawalakot, AJK
- Scio Economic Uplift Organization, Bhimber, AJK
- Kashmir Youth Project (KYP), Rochdale, UK
- Kashmir Charitable Trust (KCT), Huddersfield, UK
- British Kashmiri Forum, Manchester, UK
- Bilal Mosque, Rochdale, UK
- Healing Hands (North), Middlesborough, UK
- Wales Health Society , UK
- Kashmir Aid Committee, Walsall, UK,
- Kasguma Educational & welfare Trust, Oldham, UK
- High Wycombe Jamia Masjid, High Wycombe, UK
- Ghosia Muslim Society, Oslo, Norway,

Relief Distribution

Kashmir Development Foundation has mobilized its staff and volunteers with emergency food supplies, tents, blankets, cloths and medical aid materials on 9th October 2005. Three teams from Bhimber, Mirpur and dadyal with trucks loads of relief goods were sent to participate in rescue and relief operation in Mazaffarabad , Poonch and Bagh.

The main relief coordination centre was established at Upper Chattar Muzaffarabad on 10 October 2005.





Relief Camps	Muzaffarabad a)Uper Chaatar b)Sawn Gucha c)Gujar Bandi d)Patheka	Neelum	Bagh 1- Makhiala,Dhirkot	Poonch 1- Khaigala 2- Abbaspur	Sudhanuti 1- Palandri
Tent Village	a)Sawn Gucha b)Gujar Bandi				

Total Number of villages in five districts in where relief distributed is as under

Muzaffarabad	Neelum(Authmuqam)	Bagh	Poonch	Sudhanuti
89	52	13	11	1

Total numbers of different items provided for relief are:

S.No	Description	Quantity
1	Tents	4836
2	Food supplies total number of Families	10340
3	Ladies Shawls	1000
4	Jackets	7200
5	Mattress to disabled patients	300
6	Blankets	6512
7	Quilts	4860
8	Lantern	400
9	Candles	11520 Pkt
10	Heating Gas cylinders	500
11	Mineral water	6065 Cartons
12	Biscuits	2400 Cartons
13	Sleeping Mates	2800
14	Cooking Sets	1000
15	Oil Stove	500
16	Sleeping suits	2500

17	Ladies, Gents and children Garments suits	4000
18	Sweaters	500
19	Kufan for dead bodies	50
20	Torch light	16415
21	Shoes	300 pairs
22	Dry Cells	30 Cartons

Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

Kashmir Development Foundation (KDF), Shelter and Housing Reconstruction Project had two phases:

1- Emergency shelter

After the deadly earthquake on 8th October, KDF's first priority was to provide emergency shelter to the survivors and we immediately started our 1st phase by providing tents, Tarpal's and plastic sheets with the help of Kashmir Charitable Trust (KCT), UK, Kashmir Youth Project (KYP), Rochdale, U.K and generous donations from number of individuals and groups. We have distributed 4836 tents, 2900 Tarpals and 4400 plastic sheets for emergency shelter in Muzaffarabad, Neelum, Bagh and Poonch districts of AJK.



KDF also supported people with 8-10 CGI sheets per household for construction of shelters/homes in Muzaffarabad, Neelum and Bagh Districts. A complete list of all the beneficiary families with their village, ward, Union Council has been maintained in our record.

S.No	Union Council	District	No of Beneficiary Families
01	Muzaffarabad City	Muzaffarabad	744
02	Langarpura	Muzaffarabad	106
03	Malsi Bala	Muzaffarabad	28
04	Kohala	Muzaffarabad	16
05	Danna	Muzaffarabad	12
06	Gari Dupata	Muzaffarabad	45
07	Hattian Bala	Muzaffarabad	47
08	Saran	Muzaffarabad	64
09	Lippa	Muzaffarabad	08
10	Chakar	Muzaffarabad	32
11	Gujjar Bandi	Muzaffarabad	294
12	Chinari	Muzaffarabad	184
13	Chakothi	Muzaffarabad	18
14	Patheka	Muzaffarabad	96
15	Chalyana	Neelum	40

16	Kail	Neelum	8
17	Rajpiyan	Neelum	27
18	Attmuqam	Neelum	21
19	Rangla	Bagh	20
20	Bagh	Bagh	43

Note: The details of each village with names and complete address can be obtained on request.

2- Permanent Shelter/Homes

Kashmir Development Foundation (KDF) has been a leading voice in spearheading a campaign to obtain knowledge, training and expertise in building Earthquake Resistant Houses. We established relationships with world's leading experts in the field of Earthquake Resistance building design and construction. Our approaches has been based on getting knowledge and technology and then train local artisans and engineers to design and construct houses with locally available materials and according to the needs and cultural requirements of families.

Two model houses have been constructed in partnership with Healing Hands (North), U.K under direct supervision of the experts from The University of Teesside, U.K at Village Sehunta, Tehsil Rawalakot District Poonch. A team of local builders and joiners has completed on job training and replicated the model and techniques in their building work across the region.

The house was designed by world leading experts in the field of Earthquake Resistant Buildings at University of Teesside, UK with extensive local field visits and study. Each house has been constructed with the possibility to carry out research and extension, and will pilot adaptations of cost effective and acceptable seismic sensitive designs and construction.

Education

Education is the key to success and plays fundamental role in the development of one's life and livelihood. It has been estimated that 7,669 schools were affected, ranging from primary schools to institutions of higher education and including both government owned and privately/community owned schools.

In AJK 1852 primary, 498 Middle, 298 higher secondary schools, 20 inter colleges, 12 degree colleges, 6 post graduate colleges and one university were damaged.

Kashmir Development Foundation took the challenge of restarting classes in damaged and destroyed schools initiative very seriously and on 20 October 2005 we helped Shabaz Model School, Mohajar Colony, Upper Chattar, Muzaffarabad to restart its classes in temporary shelters.

KDF supported rebuilding schools with materials and technical assistance. We have built five schools 1- Shabaz Model School, Mohajar Colony, Upper Chattar 2- Al- Habeeb Model School, Raru, Ambore 3- Fatima Public School, Lower Plate 4- Mohamdia Model Public School, Majhoi 5- Kazmi Public School, Gujar Bandi in Muzaffarabad , AJK and continue to support community schools in rebuilding.

Kashmir Development Foundation also helped five schools in establishment of Science Laboratories and provided 10 computers and 35 scholarships for disabled and orphan children and helped 1203 students with books and study aid materials.



Kashmir Youth Project (KYP), Rochdale, UK Chair, Mike Duffy on a field visit to the schools in 2006.

Furthermore, KDF helped 74 public and community schools to restart their classes in tents. Kashmir youth Project (KYP), UK supported us with tent supplies in this project.



The five community schools built by KDF with the support of Wales Health Society, UK 2007

Livelihood

KDF's approach to development in the livelihood sector is based on the concept of creating effective partnerships by involving communities to provide a better solution for their socio-economic development and regeneration.

In Azad Jammu Kashmir the population ratio between men and women is 51:49 and the literacy rate is nearly 75%. The earthquake-hit areas do not have any industrial infrastructure. Women usually do housework or work on small-scale seasonal agriculture farming and majority of educated women are schoolteachers or in nursing field.

The major share of household income come from men's earning either working within the state or through remittances from abroad.

Following the earthquake on October 08, 2005, the socio-economic conditions within AJK has been changed. The already limited income generation opportunities for the inhabitants of AJK were nearly non-existent and because of the earthquake there was a huge loss of earning hands.



The people of AJK need assistance in rebuilding their life and livelihood with respect and dignity. They are ready to be part of developmental projects as active partners rather than helpless passive recipients of foreign aid.

The need assessment of the area should be done through proper social mapping and real economic data collection. Any micro finance, grant or aid package on projected assumptions would be counterproductive.

All the initiatives in livelihood sector should be in line with local production and regeneration capacity. The use of modern technology with local research and development in village based training cum production centres with marketing backup would significantly contribute towards the growth of local economy.

National and international volunteer hosting in these training cum production centres and farms would help in transfer of knowledge and technology which would help in reducing the brain drain and migration from rural areas to urban areas or out of the state.

KDF has partially supported in the established the Kashmir Vocational Enterprise Centre at Mohajar Colony Muzaffarabad as a part of the Empowering Women Rebuilding Kashmir Project.

This project proposes to assist women in transforming their economic hardships into effective income regeneration and enable them to fully participate in rebuilding of their livelihood and take part in decision making process as an instrument of change in Kashmiri civil society.



چند کشمیری ڈولپمنٹ فاؤنڈیشن کے کوارڈینیٹر چوہدری خالد حسین ڈاکٹر شابد چوہدری افضل عبداللہ یونین کونسل سلمیہ میں یوہو خواتین میں سلائی مشینیں تقسیم کر رہے ہیں

KDF believes that disadvantage women can lead more fulfilling lives if they have better opportunities for economic growth and develop tools for functioning within the broader society.

KDF has donated Sewing Machine for the capacity building of local community of Union Council Bheri and Machiara in partnership with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife AJK in their efforts to conserve the natural resources of Machiara National Park.

Future Proposed Projects

Since 2000, Kashmir Development Foundation has been instrumental in the provision of relief to the internally displaced people along LOC and victims of Kashmir Earthquake 2005 through rehabilitation and reconstruction projects and activities, public policy advocacy and signposting advice and information to local community organizations (CO's) in designing projects in the field of economic regeneration, education, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, safe drinking water, Sanitation, solid waste management, housing, shelter and skill development.

KDF would continue to build its capacity to deliver projects and respond to emergency needs and ready to share expertise, knowledge and resources with other NGOs, Public and private sector institutions in rebuilding lives and livelihoods within Jammu Kashmir.

After fourteen years in existence KDF is currently undertaking review of its strategic priorities and looking forward to establish long term partnership with a wide range of organisations and institutions in the areas of sustainable community development, social justice, and Research and Training to bring much needed peace and development for Kashmiri community living within Jammu Kashmir and abroad.

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