"APOCALYPTIC": ONE-THIRD OF PAKISTAN UNDERWATER

Heavy monsoon rains starting in June resulted in the worst flooding Pakistan has experienced in more than a decade, leaving one-third of the country underwater. The waters damaged upwards of 1.3 million homes, injured at least 12,900 people and claimed the lives of more than 1,700 people. Experts estimate it will take months for the waters to recede. Meanwhile, 6.4 million people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

"It's a bit apocalyptic," says Caroline Duconseille, Humanity & Inclusion's country manager for Pakistan. "You see houses that have completely collapsed from the passage of water. Bridges are destroyed. On the side of the roads, people have built temporary shelters and are sleeping in tents—without anything left but the clothes on their backs. Not to mention the trauma that this represents for these people."

Working in Pakistan since the early 1980s and with experience responding to the 2010 floods there, Humanity & Inclusion launched an immediate emergency response. In the initial phase of intervention, more than 2,000 individuals were assessed in an effort to prioritize people with the greatest needs.

With donor support, Humanity & Inclusion's response is ongoing and long-term. Even before the floods, the population was facing increased food insecurity. The climate disaster has only exacerbated the crisis. According to the UN, approximately 73% of affected households have insufficient access to food, more than 2 million acres of agricultural land were damaged and more than 1.2 million livestock were lost.

Teams began by distributing food, cookware, blankets, soap and emergency supplies to 1,500 families in the affected regions of Nowshera and Charsadda.

Psychological experts are working with people displaced from their homes to assess mental health needs. Parveen, whose family received a kit of non-food items, says that the Humanity & Inclusion team came to their house, "consoled us and asked about our immediate needs. Our bicycle business is also destroyed completely. The flood in my village completely destroyed our way of life. It took away everything from my house. Our bicycle business is also destroyed completely."

The Humanity & Inclusion team came to our house, consuled us and asked about our immediate needs. This kit will help us in resettling and restarting life.

— Parveen
Nowshera, Pakistan

Unrelenting reality of war in Ukraine

Ukraine continues to face the unrelenting reality of war with a devastatingly cold winter approaching. Millions of people are displaced, fleeing violence inside the country or taking refuge in neighboring countries. People with disabilities and aging individuals face more challenges in escaping the attacks than others.

Nadezhda, 66, was diagnosed with diabetes 22 years ago. She has survived two strokes, two heart attacks and cervical cancer—and uses a cane to get around. She lost her husband and son to cancer.

"The shelling and stress from the war has further deteriorated my condition," explains Nadezhda. "I tried to tough it out—at my age, I just want to be home—but the constant explosions forced me to leave."

She was referred to a center for displaced people, where she first met Humanity & Inclusion’s rehabilitation team. "Before I met Humanity & Inclusion, I only wanted to walk again," Nadezhda adds. "Now, I believe that I can even run! I have had wonderful progress."

Humanity & Inclusion offers an array of rehabilitation services in Ukraine, for those with pre-existing conditions or ones that resulted from bombing. Gaëlle Smith, an emergency rehabilitation specialist, supports local hospitals treating blast-injured, poly-trauma patients during the early stages of their recovery. Rehabilitation from day one is vital but is dependent on readily available resources.

"The weapons being used do not discriminate and are far more advanced, mutilating and destructive than anything I’ve ever witnessed," Smith explains. "Ukrainian medical professionals are doing an incredible job, but the heart-breaking reality is that civilians need more care than they can provide. More people will continue to be injured daily, not only until the war ends, but until each item of explosive ordnance has been safely disposed of."

IMPACT
Responding to food insecurity in Ukraine and the Horn of Africa

IN FOCUS
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Q&A: Confronting global food insecurity

Humanity & Inclusion’s prosthetic technicians repair artificial limbs when users need them. It depends on the context, but households are forced to resort to coping mechanisms. It can be a matter of survival. People go through desperate measures to feed their families. For example, to have food on the table, people sell their tools and other work equipment, negatively impacting their livelihood and ultimately, their access to food. Some households reduce the amount of food they consume to one meal a day, which directly impacts their nutritional and caloric needs. Some households are forced to have everyone in the family work, including children—so they can’t go to school and their risk of exploitation is increased.

Q: What is the importance of an inclusivity lens when confronting global food crises?

A: Evidence shows that people with disabilities and the elderly often lack access to sufficient and quality food for growth and development, and are at risk of undernutrition or malnutrition.

Disabilities can pose limitations in accessing food: mobility limitations, cognitive limitations, work limitations. 36% of households that are food insecure include at least one person with a disability.

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Sreyka was walking home from school in May 2019 when she was hit by a speeding driver. Seriously injured, she was rushed to a nearby hospital and then to the nearest hospital, which lacked the equipment needed to treat her. Sreyka was taken to a pediatric hospital in Cambodia’s capital city, where doctors saved her life by amputating her left leg.

Seven months after the accident, Sreyka visited Humanity & Inclusion’s rehabilitation center in Kampong Cham, an hour from her village. Our team of experts immediately took good care of her, providing her with a custom-fit artificial leg and teaching her how to walk with it. She also participated in physical therapy and mental health counseling sessions, boosting her confidence for her return to community.

Having outgrown her first artificial leg, Sreyka recently returned to the center to be measured and fitted for a new one. With help from donors like you, Humanity & Inclusion’s prosthetic technicians repair and replace artificial limbs when users need them.
Hope Services is Silicon Valley’s leading provider of services to people with developmental disabilities and mental health needs. The non-profit serves approximately 3,500 people and their families in six California counties, providing a wide spectrum of programs ranging from community enrichment to individual interventions, from babies to aging adults. The organization also operates three HopeTHRIFT secondhand stores. Sales of clothing and household goods help raise funds and provide employment for people with developmental disabilities.

To expand their philanthropy, the Hope Services community came together to stand in solidarity with civilians afflicted by the war in Ukraine. From April 13 to July 1, HopeTHRIFT pledged 25 percent of all Wednesday and Thursday sales to support relief efforts in Ukraine. In the three months, the stores welcomed more than 600 new customers and the result of their charitable shopping campaign was an astonishing $56,000.

To maximize their already incredible impact, Hope Services chose to channel these funds into international humanitarian organizations that deliver direct and essential aid in Ukraine. They graciously selected two recipients: Save the Children and Humanity & Inclusion. Cathy Bouchard, Hope Services’ Specialty Director, first looked to Charity Navigator to research and assess potential organizations. Finding that Humanity & Inclusion ranks in the top nine organizations doing work in the medical service field; has a comprehensive network of specialists that work directly on-site; is a leader in inclusive policy that other humanitarian organizations look to; and that 86 percent of monetary assets go directly to comprehensive programs and services—Bouchard made a “prudent” decision. These factors were in addition to the vital and clear intersection between Hope Services’ and Humanity & Inclusion’s missions: providing support to people with disabilities.

Hope Services’ generous donation of $28,205 will do just that. Donor support allows Humanity & Inclusion to continue delivering specialized rehabilitation services, psychosocial support, mobility devices, cash and other emergency relief to those with the greatest needs in Ukraine.

Afghan children conquer war wounds

More than a year after U.S. troops withdrew from Afghanistan and the Taliban seized control, Humanity & Inclusion’s teams continue to work with civilians injured in conflict. These photos from Herat show three children who are thriving with rehabilitation care and psychosocial support—thanks to generous donors like you!

After being struck by a bullet, Sosan lost the use of one of her legs. She’s received a walker and participates in physical therapy and counseling sessions. If she doesn’t become an English teacher, Sosan sees herself as a professional artist.

Asef lost his right leg in a landmine explosion. With his artificial limb, he walks to the mosque each day for religious classes with other boys in his neighborhood. He dreams of becoming a doctor.

Yasamin was injured by shelling as her family attempted to flee their village. Strengthening her muscles with physical therapy and using a leg brace, she’s able to walk again and has returned to school.

Are you or someone you know 70.5 or older? You might be eligible to dedicate a portion of your IRA to make a difference with Humanity & Inclusion. IRA gifts make an immediate impact in the communities we serve. And, they often come with tax benefits—including helping you meet a Required Minimum Distribution for 2022. Consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution today!