

# Islamic Help PROJECT REPORT 2023

EMPOWERING PEOPLE IN NEED



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**Islamic Help**

# Preface

## Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu

We pray this finds you in good health and firm imaan.

In 2023, we were blessed and privileged to serve humanity on your behalf. You gave us your amanah (trust) to deliver to the most deserving across the world, to empower communities and improve the quality of life for the poor and vulnerable.

Alhamdulillah, your donations and support allowed us to provide aid and assistance to the equivalent of more than 4.1 million people in some of the world’s poorest regions.

That work included critical emergency aid for the besieged and beleaguered people of Gaza, and communities devastated by earthquakes in Turkey, Syria and Morocco.

We continued to tackle food poverty through our seasonal food programmes; improve access to clean and safe water sources for more than one million beneficiaries; support orphans, and provide livelihoods so families could be self-sufficient and live in dignity and respect.

None of that was possible without your support and the hard work and dedication of our staff, volunteers and supporters.

To all of you, we extend our humble thanks. May the Almighty bless and reward your efforts and sacrifices towards helping the Ummah. Ameen.

## Islamic Help

This annual report covers the calendar year for 2023. It is part of our feedback process to show how your generous donations were used. To reduce paper and increase care for the environment, we have printed a limited number of copies of this publication. The print version is available on request. It can also be viewed and downloaded, along with our other publications, at [www.islamichelp.org.uk](http://www.islamichelp.org.uk)



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**Do good as Allah has  
done good to you.**

QUR’AN 28:77





# Palestine






163,693 Beneficiaries 

With the support of our donors, we have been working in Palestine since 2008, providing communities with aid for their immediate and longer-term needs.

October 2023 marked the start of the latest bombardment of Gaza, triggering a major new humanitarian crisis in the Occupied Territories. Most of the Gaza Strip was reduced to rubble, the death toll rose to over 40,000 and the majority of the 2 million population was displaced.

Working with government-backed partners in Egypt and other humanitarian organisations, our team launched an emergency response programme that benefited more than 160,000 individuals in the beleaguered population.

As well as emergency aid, we launched a deployment programme for UK surgeons to work in Gaza's hospitals, with these medical professionals voluntarily and selflessly risking their own lives to help the injured and vulnerable.

-  Medical aid and supplies incl. ventilators and hospital beds | 39,081 Beneficiaries
-  Fuel for 3 hospitals
-  Hygiene kits | 1,900 Beneficiaries
-  Mattresses & blankets | 480 Beneficiaries
-  Mother & baby kits | 200 Beneficiaries





## Surgeons for Gaza

Working with the charity IDEALS, we were able to organise the first of our deployments of UK surgeons to Gaza. After eight weeks of intense negotiations to secure the necessary approvals from the Israeli, Egyptian and UN authorities, the medical team flew to Cairo in December and joined a convoy to Gaza.



The UK quartet included: Mr Basil Budair and Mr Graeme Groom, Consultant Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeons; Dr Ahmed Kafafy, Consultant Anaesthetist and Pain Management Specialist; Dr Andrew Ferguson, Family Doctor & Public Health Specialist.



Based at the European Gaza Hospital in Khan Younis, the medics worked in collaboration with the local surgical team to carry out ward rounds and consultations, manage acute cases and perform operations.

Their work in the first few weeks included:




- 56 surgeries
- 126 consultations
- 5 Nerve block

This was the first in a series of medical deployments, funded by our donors, which continued throughout 2024 as part of our ongoing commitment to help the people of Gaza.





The latest crisis presented new obstacles, with borders closed and constant aerial bombardments leaving a wake of destruction and chaos. Working with partners and the permission of the Egyptian government, we were able to continue delivering humanitarian aid as part of emergency convoys allowed through the Rafah crossing. Our work included emergency food provisions, water, medical aid and the reconstruction of WASH facilities.

-  **Food packs | 6,850 Beneficiaries**
-  **Hot meals | 15,000 Beneficiaries**
-  **Water tankers | 100,000 Beneficiaries**





# Türkiye






143,330 Beneficiaries 

In February 2023, Türkiye was struck by two massive earthquake which also affected Syria and other neighbouring countries. More than 50,000 lives were lost in Türkiye in the quakes – the worst in 20 years - and the devastation affected more than 15 million people.



Our team in Türkiye – including Mission Possible volunteers on deployment - carried out emergency aid operations benefiting more than 140,000 displaced people in some of the worst-affected regions in the country and in Syria.





Aid in Kahramanmaraş and Gaziantep, Türkiye

-  **General Emergency Relief | 55,352 Beneficiaries**
-  **Food & Hot Meals | 43,400 Beneficiaries**
-  **Hygiene kits | 11,050 Beneficiaries**
-  **Container Shower | 450 Beneficiaries**
-  **Container Toilet | 150 Beneficiaries**









The support provided by our IH Türkiye team and Mission Possible volunteers ranged from food and hygiene kits to tents (including masjid tents), showers and toilets, toys for children and seasonal Ramadan and Qurbani food distributions.

-  **Medical | 7,399 Beneficiaries**
-  **Family & Masjid Tents | 6,773 Beneficiaries**
-  **Toys & Gifts | 2,048 Beneficiaries**
-  **Container Houses | 365 Beneficiaries**
-  **Zakat | 126 Beneficiaries**



Aid in Azaz, Syria

-  **Food Parcels | 9,250**
-  **Hygiene Kits | 2,500**
-  **Family & Masjid Tents | 4,225**
-  **Emergency Relief | 242**







# Morocco

19,955 Beneficiaries 

In September 2023, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Morocco, in the High Atlas mountains near Marrakesh. Three thousand people were killed, nearly 6,000 were injured and 60,000 houses were destroyed or damaged, leaving countless residents displaced and sheltering in the streets.

Our emergency relief efforts were concentrated on helping the displaced in the worst-affected areas, particularly those near the epicentre in Al Haouz province, through the provision of essential items such as food, blankets, and hygiene equipment to meet their immediate needs.

As part of a recovery phase which concentrated on medium term solutions, our teams and partners provided 30 displaced families with tents, furniture and NFI (non-food items) as part of efforts to help them rebuild their lives.

-  Food Packs | 12,260 Beneficiaries
-  Mattresses | 1,700 Beneficiaries
-  Blankets | 4,090 Beneficiaries
-  Hygiene Packs | 1,255 Beneficiaries
-  Pillows | 500 Beneficiaries





# Pakistan

157,518 Beneficiaries



Our oldest established office outside the UK, IH Pakistan serves the needs of vulnerable and deserving communities across the country. From KPK province to Punjab and Sindh, its work ranged from food security and WASH to community infrastructure and continued support for flood-affected families.



1,430 hand pumps | 9,150 Beneficiaries



11 wells | 5,491 Beneficiaries



2 water filtration plants | 750 Beneficiaries



Hygiene promotion | 885 Beneficiaries



Dastarkhawan project  
(cooked meals) | 105,000 Beneficiaries



Ramadan food packs | 3,565 Beneficiaries



Qurbani meat | 21,000 Beneficiaries



Emergency  
hot meals & water | 508 Beneficiaries






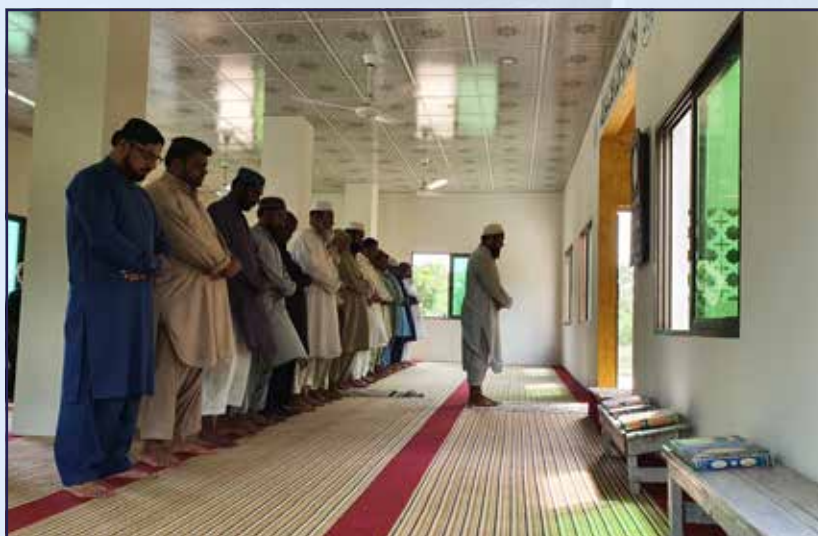
Winter kits | 1,881 Beneficiaries









Longer-term support for those affected by the devastating floods of the previous year continued in the form of new housing for 200 families in Sindh whose properties had been destroyed. The long term was also the focus of a vocational training centre for women in Karachi and a series of livelihood projects, all designed to give beneficiaries the opportunities to become self-sufficient.

-  **12 new mosques | 6,472 Beneficiaries**
-  **Houses for flood-affected families | 2,103 Beneficiaries**
-  **Orphans | 350 Beneficiaries**



-  **Women's vocational training centre | 180 Beneficiaries**
-  **Fruit and vegetable carts for 10 families | 67 Beneficiaries**
-  **Sewing machines for 10 households | 67 Beneficiaries**
-  **Rickshaws for 7 households | 49 Beneficiaries**





# Jordan

35,531 Beneficiaries



As the hub of our operations in the Middle East, our Jordan office serves the needs of not only poor and vulnerable Jordanians but also Syrian and Palestinian refugees in the country and Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



Orphans | 342 Beneficiaries



Orphans (Zakat House, Kuwait) | 150 Beneficiaries



Disabled Children | 92 Beneficiaries



Umrah for Orphans | 339 Beneficiaries



Cash and general help for families | 1,050 Beneficiaries

The team's work included essential aid provisions, orphan support, Umrah for Orphans and our Birth Clinic which supports pregnant Syrian refugees in giving birth safely. Additionally, projects were carried out with the support of the Royal Court and other government bodies.



Ramadan & Eid | 16,470 Beneficiaries



Winter & other aid | 11,300 Beneficiaries



Birth Clinic & medical | 4,547 Beneficiaries incl. 864 births



Education | 1,212 Beneficiaries



Other medical | 29 Beneficiaries





# Yemen

1.4 million Beneficiaries 

Although the decade-long civil war in Yemen started to subside, the devastating effects of the conflict continued to impact its struggling population. Our country office remained committed to delivering its humanitarian objectives through the provision of food security and clean water supplies to ravaged communities.

The bulk of the work centred on food security. Two bakeries – one in Taiz and the other in San'a – provided freshly-baked bread daily to 300 families in each area, while the distribution of Ramadan food and Qurbani meat parcels ensured more than 30,000 people had nourishing meals at these special times of year.

-  Bakery in Taiz (7 months) | 477,300 Beneficiaries
-  Bakery in San'a | 810,300 Beneficiaries
-  Qurbani | 22,459 Beneficiaries
-  Ramadan food packs | 8,170 Beneficiaries
-  Iftar for leprosy patients | 100 Beneficiaries





As with food security, a priority for our Yemen team was serving families in the Aden region whose homes had been damaged or destroyed, leaving them without any access to clean water sources. This was achieved through water trucks delivering water for 75 families on a daily basis, so they had clean water for drinking and domestic use.



-  **Water | 90,730 Beneficiaries**
-  **Winter Relief | 5,661 Beneficiaries**
-  **Orphans | 224 Beneficiaries**
-  **Disabled Children | 60 Beneficiaries**
-  **Eid gifts | 192 Beneficiaries**





# Tanzania

684,532 Beneficiaries 

The longest established of our offices in Africa and the central hub of our operations on the continent, the workload of our Tanzania team continues to grow annually. In 2023, it delivered programmes and projects on behalf of our community donors and institutional partners to benefit nearly 700,000 beneficiaries.



**Cooked food | 20,202 Beneficiaries**



**Emergency food | 5,028 Beneficiaries**



**Orphans | 270 Beneficiaries**



**Qurbani Meat | 374,346 Beneficiaries**



**Sadaqah Qurbani | 116,250 Beneficiaries**



**Ramadan Food Packs | 54,384 Beneficiaries**





While food security and the provision of clean water sources makes up the bulk of our work in Tanzania, we have also delivered community infrastructure through the construction of dozens of new mosques, livelihoods, educational support and health programmes.

- Mosquito Nets | 10,800 Beneficiaries
- Eid Gifts | 600 Beneficiaries
- Livelihoods | 456 Beneficiaries

- 69 Medium Water wells | 62,000 Beneficiaries
- 6 Water Tower Wells | 14,400 Beneficiaries
- 46 Mosques | 25,796 Beneficiaries





# Cameroon

13,336 Beneficiaries 

The focus of our Cameroon office during the year was the continuing provision of community infrastructure in the form of 30 new mosques and Islamic centres, and community village complexes featuring housing, mosques and educational facilities. This work was allied with delivering core programmes of food provision, medical projects and orphan care.



-  Mosques & Islamic centres | 9,672 Beneficiaries
-  Qurbani | 2,730 Beneficiaries
-  Ramadan | 420 Beneficiaries
-  New housing | 300 Beneficiaries
-  Orphans' villages x 2 (Middle East donors) | 114 Beneficiaries
-  Cataract surgeries | 100 Beneficiaries





# Ramadan & Qurbani

742,677 Beneficiaries 

The busiest times of year for our teams across the world are during the month of Ramadan and at Eid ul Adha, when Qurbani meat parcels are distributed to some of the poorest and most vulnerable in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

As well as ensuring food security at these times of year, our teams also provided communal iftars with hot, cooked meals and Eid gifts for beneficiaries.



	Ramadan (March - April 2023)	Qurbani (June 2023)
Country	No. of beneficiaries	No. of beneficiaries
<b>Bangladesh</b> (incl. Rohingya Refugees)	<b>3,690</b>	<b>1,465</b>
<b>Cameroon</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>2,730</b>
<b>Jordan</b>	<b>16,470</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Lebanon</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>17,150</b>
<b>India</b>	<b>4,020</b>	<b>53,514</b>
<b>Pakistan</b>	<b>3,565</b>	<b>21,000</b>
<b>Palestine (Gaza)</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>480</b>
<b>Somalia</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,525</b>
<b>Syria</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,133</b>
<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>54,384</b>	<b>374,346</b>
<b>Turkey</b>	<b>80,146</b>	<b>2,275</b>
<b>Uganda</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>45,600</b>
<b>Yemen</b>	<b>8,170</b>	<b>22,459</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>174,000</b>	<b>568,677</b>



# WASH

1.4 million Beneficiaries



Goal 6 among the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals is access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene, the most basic human need for health and well-being. The provision of WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) facilities is part of our core commitment to helping improve the quality of life for those struggling to meet this basic need.



## Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

Water tankers delivering clean water to stations at refugee camps in Cox's Bazar; during the year the number of beneficiaries was equivalent to 1.1 million beneficiaries

## Pakistan

1,430 water hand pumps | 9,150 Beneficiaries  
11 wells | 5,491 Beneficiaries  
2 water filtration plants | 750 Beneficiaries  
Hygiene promotions | 885 Beneficiaries

## Tanzania

69 medium water wells | 62,000 Beneficiaries  
6 Water tower wells | 14,400 Beneficiaries

## Gaza

Emergency water provisions | 100,000 Beneficiaries

## Türkiye

2 wells in El Ma'an region of Somalia | 1,300 Beneficiaries

## Yemen

Water trucks supplying 75 families daily | 90,730 Beneficiaries



# Umrah for Orphans

January 2023 marked the eighth year of Umrah for Orphans and the resumption of this pioneering programme, taking Palestinian orphans from Jordan to the Holy Lands in Saudi Arabia, following global lockdowns due to the Covid pandemic.

A total of 339 individuals were involved in the pilgrimage, including orphans (boys and girls), widows and disabled children, all accompanied by our UK and Jordan staff and volunteers.

The convoy of coaches travelled from the Jordanian capital, Amman, to Madinah where the orphans visited Masjid al Nabawi, the mosque of the Prophet (PBUH), before heading to Makkah where they performed the rites of Umrah.

This flagship programme provides psycho-social support to Palestinian orphans who are being cared for as part of our global orphans' sponsorship which meets their material needs of food, water and healthcare.

Since our pilot Umrah for Orphans in 2015, more than 3,000 Palestinian orphans, disabled children and widows have been given the opportunity by our sponsors of performing this blessed pilgrimage. For nearly all of them, it is a once-in-a-lifetime journey that has helped strengthen their faith and connect with the Ummah.





# Orphans

Our orphan sponsorship programme ensures that, through the generous sponsorship of our donors, these most vulnerable of children receive aid and materials to meet their daily essential needs and psycho-social support to assist their psychological and spiritual development.

**The Prophet (PBUH) said, “The best house among the Muslims is the house in which orphans are well-treated. The worst house among the Muslims is the house in which orphans are ill-treated.”**

HADITH BUKHARI

Examples of the numbers of orphans supported through our orphan sponsorship programme include (average per month):

**Cameroon | 114**

**Jordan | 342 & 92 disabled**

**Jordan (Umrah for Orphans) | 339**

**Pakistan | 350**

**Tanzania | 270**

**Yemen | 224 & 60 disabled**





# Education

Education is the key to unlocking life opportunities for children and adults, allowing them to fulfil their potential and establish social and economic stability. It is a universal human right and by giving them the means and support to access education, we allow them to take those critical steps towards a future of security and prosperity.

Examples of our education projects include:

## Orphan Sponsorship

Our global orphan sponsorship programme gives orphans and disabled children access to regular education.

## Cameroon

Educational workshops and classes in mosques, plus new classroom facilities as part of the construction of Islamic centres.

## Jordan

- Back-to-school stationery for 1,024 pupils.
- Additional classroom help for 100 pupils.
- 88 university students helped with fees.

Examples of our education projects include:

## Pakistan

- Vocational Training Centre in Karachi, Sindh, to empower 180 marginalised & vulnerable women
- Continued provision of free higher education at Al-Hira Community College in Mirpur for 300 students.

## Tanzania

- Construction of new classrooms at government schools in Tanga region to benefit 400 pupils
- Formal and regular education for the orphans at our Children's Eco Village and in our orphan sponsorship programme
- Distribution of 1,400 Qurans at mosques and centres to help children and adults with religious and spiritual education.





# Environment

With global warming affecting weather systems, crops, water and other natural resources, the need for and importance of environmental programmes has never been more important.

Our work during the year included:

## Bangladesh

The ongoing nurturing of a tree plantation in Kishorgonj District to raise awareness of environmental issues, address nutritional shortages through the fruits it produces and provide economic opportunities for 450 local families (2,250 people).

## Tanzania

Our Children's Eco Village in Tanzania was built and is run on principles of environmental awareness and practices, maximising the use of natural resources through sustainability and recycling. This showcase project is supplemented by Trees for Change, our long-term environmental strategy which started by planting tens of thousands of trees and saplings, and creating a plant nursery.

## Pakistan

The training of imams on issues like climate change and the importance of environmental awareness and stewardship as part of Islam.

As an accredited observer to the Governing Body of the United Nations Environment Programme, Islamic Help is in the privileged position of having had delegates attend public meetings and sessions of UNEP and its subsidiary bodies, giving us a crucial channel to contribute to the global work being done to combat climate change and protect the environment.











# Livelihoods

A crucial component of humanitarian work is giving beneficiaries the means to establish livelihoods so they can generate incomes for their families and become self-sufficient. It is a means of empowerment that reduces or eliminates their reliance on handouts; allows them to live in dignity and respect, and become valuable contributors to their communities.

## Tanzania (direct & indirect beneficiaries)

-  Small 10 grocery shops to widowed or orphan families | 54 Beneficiaries
-  Sewing machines to 17 vulnerable women households | 102 Beneficiaries
-  Goats for livestock rearing | 300 Beneficiaries

## Pakistan

-  Fruits and vegetables carts for 10 families | 67 Beneficiaries
-  Sewing machines for women, 10 families | 67 Beneficiaries
-  Rickshaw taxis to 7 families | 49 Beneficiaries

## OTHERS

Jordan | Employment of fully qualified medical staff at our Birth Clinic for pregnant Syrian refugees and their new-borns.

WASH & Community Infrastructure | Employment of local labourers and companies for our major WASH and community development constructions.





# Medical

As well as stand-alone projects, the provision of medical aid and services is integrated into our emergency aid programmes. These components came to the fore in the later part of the year when we responded to the humanitarian tragedy in Gaza and the devastating earthquake in Turkey.

## Gaza

- ✚ Medical aid and supplies including ventilators and beds | 39,081 Beneficiaries
- ✚ UK Surgeons work | 56 surgeries, 5 nerve block ops, 126 consultations

## Turkey

- ✚ Medical aid and support | 7,399 Beneficiaries

## Cataract surgeries

- 🕒 Cameroon | 100 Beneficiaries
- 🕒 Syria (Tel Abyad) | 100 Beneficiaries

## Jordan

- 👤 Birth Clinic | Patient consultations | 3,683 Beneficiaries
- 👤 Birth Clinic - births | 864 Beneficiaries
- ✚ General medical help | 29 Beneficiaries

## Tanzania

- 🕒 1,800 mosquito nets | 10,800 Beneficiaries





# Community Development

By providing the displaced with shelters and villages with new infrastructure in the form of mosques and centres, our work fosters community cohesion and empowerment that benefits and improves life for beneficiaries across the world.



Examples of our work and no. of beneficiaries include:

## Cameroon

- Housing | Ali-Al Hilal Almutairy village for 50 families | 300 Beneficiaries
- Mosques | 30 mosques and Islamic centres | 9,672 Beneficiaries
- Sulaiman Ar-ruhaimani Orphans' village (Middle East donors) | 20 Beneficiaries
- Waqf Noun Alkuwaiti Orphans' village (Middle East donors) | 94 Beneficiaries

## Pakistan

- Low cost 200 houses in Sindh for flood-hit families | 2,103
- 12 new mosques | 6,472

## Tanzania

- 46 new mosques | 25,796

## Turkey

- Container houses for displaced families | 365





# UK & Volunteers

In the UK, our staff and volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the year to not only raise funds for humanitarian projects but to help our local community through several initiatives in partnership with the Bahu Trust.

These included a food bank, welfare support surgery, and occupational therapy; street cleaning; community meetings, and working with local police to improve community relations and the quality of life for residents.

Volunteers on Mission Possible, our flagship volunteering programme, were part of a deployment to Turkey in August following the devastating earthquake that struck the country.

They participated in aid distributions, including emergency food parcels and hygiene kits, and preparing and serving hot meals. The work was part of our emergency response to help those affected and displaced in the disaster.







# **Islamic Help**

**EMPOWERING PEOPLE IN NEED**

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