

British High Commissioner visits flood relief camp in Nowshera

World news story

Days after the UK announced an additional £15 million to help affected communities, British High Commissioner Christian Turner visited flood hit villages in Nowshera on Saturday where a UK charity Islamic Relief is providing lifesaving aid to those affected.



This money will be spent for urgent life-saving support and go towards water and sanitation, shelter and home repairs, and primary healthcare, especially for women and girls.

Accompanied by Islamic Relief Worldwide's CEO Waseem Ahmad and Islamic Relief Pakistan's Country Director Asif Sherazi, the High Commissioner witnessed first-hand the devastating impact of the climate catastrophe. Expressing solidarity with the people at the camp, the British High Commissioner reaffirmed the UK's commitment to Pakistan and observed the challenges faced by the community along with efforts to support those affected.

Islamic Relief is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) that launched the Pakistan Floods Appeal to collect funds for relief efforts; the UK government has announced it will match pound for pound the first £5 million of public donations, as part of the total £15 million pledge.

The High Commissioner also visited village Kakol Abad and met with affected communities. He expressed his sorrow at the losses incurred during the flooding and assured them of UK's continued support

British High Commissioner Christian Turner said:

The people I have met today are strong and will rebuild. But they need urgent support with water, sanitation and shelter. The UK is helping provide that. The standard you walk past is the standard you accept.

Islamic Relief Country Director Asif Sherazi said:

The situation is worsening with every passing day and in terms of damages, it is surpassing the floods of 2010. We are on ground since 3rd August meeting the needs of the affected across the country with shelters, clean drinking water, cash grants, food and hygiene items. Till now we have reached 30,000 people with lifesaving aid that will be doubled in the next week.

The aim is to support half a million under our emergency response. Since the needs are huge and dire, we really appreciate the UK's increased support for the humanitarian response and the DEC appeal, and we urge the UK government and other countries for increased funding for the recovery phase too.

Notes to Editors:

1. According to Pakistan's National Disaster Management Agency, the flooding has damaged 950,000 houses and destroyed 287,000, with 500,000 people now living in relief camps. The disaster has also destroyed 3,000km of roads and damaged 7,566 schools. In total 745 health centres have been damaged or destroyed.
2. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), over 800,000 livestock have been lost.
3. The UK pledged over £55 million to partner with Pakistan to fight climate change, manage water more sustainably and unlock climate investment in November 2021 during the COP26 Conference in Glasgow.
4. The announcement of £15 million in humanitarian funding will go to the relief efforts in the areas worst-hit by the flooding. £5 million of the total £15 million amount will go to the DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal.
5. UK government match funding will double British public's own donations to the DEC appeal up to £5 million and will ensure that DEC member charities working on the ground can reach even more people in need. Donations can be made at [Disasters Emergency Committee website](#)
6. When large-scale disasters hit countries without the capacity to respond, the DEC brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently. The 10 DEC members responding so far to the flooding in Pakistan are: Action Against Hunger, Age International, British Red Cross, CAFOD, CARE International UK, Concern Worldwide UK, International Rescue Committee UK, Islamic Relief, Save the Children UK and Tearfund.

More information

For updates on the British High Commission, please follow our social media channels:

Contact
British High Commission
Islamabad
tel. 0300 500 5306

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