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Unimaginable Hardship: Incredible Work

FRDP NEWS BULLETIN JAN-MARCH 2023

As you read through the pages of this publication, you will be reminded of the incredible work done by the FRDP team and volunteers in the face of unimaginable hardship. You will be inspired by courage and commitment to the people of Sindh and reminded of the importance of coming together to support those in need.

FRDP hopes that this newsletter will serve as a tribute to our partners, stakeholders, and communities' incredible work, and inspire others to join in our mission of making the world a better place.



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Unimaginable Hardship: Incredible Work

Globally everyone is facing a multi-faceted crisis, due to climate change, rapid urbanization, uncertain market trends, and poor public services being among the most pressing issues of today's era. Recently prior to Turkey & Syria earthquakes, the country was able to raise some funds for the development of flood 2022 affected populations but the approaches adopted and services extended were of poor control and undermines the trust in government, and erodes the ability of communities to address the issues they were fighting with.

The last three quarters have been particularly challenging for the people in these areas, who have had to endure several devastating natural disasters, including floods, extreme weather conditions, and crises of essential food items. The heavy flood of 2022 was one of the worst natural disasters to hit the region in recent times, leaving many families homeless and without basic necessities like shelter, food, and water. The subsequent coldest winter of the decade, coupled with diarrhea, malaria, and cough outbreaks, only added to the difficulties faced by the affected population. The limited availability of essential supplies and the reduction in wage-earning opportunities further compounded the problem, leading to a serious threat to food security for almost half of the population.

Amidst this crisis, the FRDP team and volunteers remained steadfast in their commitment to serving the affected population. They worked tirelessly at the grassroots level, identifying the needs of the people and mobilizing resources to reach them with multiple services. From securing drinking water and food for the people living below the poverty line, ensuring rations, nonfood items, and dignity kits, and extending support to orphans to continue their quality education and provision of productive assets to youth, equipping them with self-employment skills remained some of the areas of contribution. FRDP so far was able to serve some 2.34 million population across four provinces of Pakistan, through a network of well-trained and systemized 5651 Village Development Committees. The Village Volunteers and youth from academia helped FRDP to reach the unreachable.

The FRDP team and volunteers were there for the people when they needed them the most. Despite the challenges faced by the FRDP team and volunteers,

never lost hope or wavered in their commitment to the people. All together remained dedicated to the mission of providing humanitarian assistance to those in need, even when the situation seemed dire. The unwavering spirit and resilience in the face of adversity are a testament to the power of human compassion and the potential for positive change in the world.

For the quarter to come, given the serious threat to food security for almost half of the population, the FRDP team is prioritizing providing food and other necessary supplies to the affected population. Management jointly with community organizations is exploring innovative ways to increase food production, reduce waste, and ensure that food is accessible and affordable equitably to those who need it the most. FRDP is planning to adopt both deepening as well expansion strategies, outreach is to be increased to reach out to as many people as possible, especially those who are living below the poverty line and have been severely affected by the recent natural disasters. The FRDP team also will continue deepening its services by working on building resilience among the affected population by providing low-cost shelters, working on WASH, education, training, and other resources that can help them better recover from current and cope with future natural disasters and crises.

The FRDP team is also identifying partners whose expertise and resources may be leveraged to support the development of rural masses and slums of the metropolitan cities of Sindh. As always FRDP is prioritizing working closely with local and



international organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure efficiency and accountability. Teams are well equipped to work with local communities adopting the latest technologies and trusting local wisdom to develop sustainable solutions that are appropriate and will help them become more self-sufficient and less dependent on external aid.



FRDP Flood 2022 - Humanitarian Response Beneficiaries (as of March 31 - 2023)



Food Security and Livelihood (587,175)

Benefiting Families (Hha)	Men	Women	Children
67,638	176,376	367,016	143,685



Shelter / Non Food Items (175,192)

Benefiting Families (Hha)	Men	Women	Children
26,344	62,206	72,444	44,482



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (416,961)

Benefiting Families (Hha)	Men	Women	Children
67,351	154,472	184,708	155,881



Health & Nutrition (86,571)

Benefiting Families (Hha)	Men	Women	Children
12,023	26,842	36,323	23,406



Education (223)

Benefiting Families (Hha)	Children
140	223

Total	Benefiting Families (Hha)	Men	Women	Children
1,245,141	190,688	377,654	566,837	321,434



Paradigm Shift: a journey for new heights

In 2023, there was a lot of energy and enthusiasm in the atmosphere as various teams worked tirelessly to help those who had been left unaided. Management made re-organizing and strategizing daily procedures a priority, and during this time, some of the most experienced colleagues of the sector joined the core team at FRDP. This blending of experience paved the way for innovation and adaptability. Multiple brainstorming sessions were held to review current priorities and plan the way forward. Operational methodologies were aligned accordingly, and strategic operational focus, planning, and structure were required for smoother execution.

During this time, management realized the need for two distinct approaches to create momentum for charity and development projects. The realignment efforts led to FRDP rebranding with a new logo and branding guidelines developed and implemented. This paradigm shift was a step towards a journey to new heights, where FRDP aimed to continue serving millions while remaining efficient and effective in their endeavors. FRDP also shifted its head office to new complex and established district offices of Khairpur and Shaheed Benazirabad, which were fully equipped with the latest technological solutions. Additionally, FRDP began to explore new and longer term

partnerships and collaborations to expand its reach and impact. This also helped FRDP to expand into new geographical locations, and networking with other NGOs, government agencies, and private-sector organizations was improved to achieve shared goals.

As the paradigm shift continued, FRDP began to implement new strategies and ideas to achieve its goals. The organization focused on utilizing technology to streamline processes, improve communication, and increase transparency and accountability. FRDP also invested in the development of its human capital, providing training and support to staff and volunteers to enhance their skills and knowledge. This helped to ensure that FRDP was equipped with the right talent to achieve its objectives. During the reporting period, the management focused on Complaint Resolution Mechanism, for the purpose of maintaining regular communication with communities and bridging any gaps in communication that may have existed. To achieve this goal, a Community Response Mechanism (CRM) was implemented. The CRM provided community members with a convenient and easy-to-use method of communication, as well as the option to communicate in their preferred language. As a result of the timely and effective support provided through the CRM, the organization, FRDP, was able to build trust with the community. This was a wonderful experience for both the organization and the community. By establishing a strong connection with the community and addressing their needs in a timely and effective manner, FRDP was able to strengthen its relationships and enhance its impact on the community.

The paradigm shift was not without its challenges, but FRDP remained committed to its mission and continued to adapt and innovate in the face of adversity. The organization's dedication to serving

those in need remained unwavering, and its efforts began to bear fruit as it achieved new heights of success and impact. FRDP is committed to embracing change, innovating, and evolving to serve those in need. The paradigm shift that FRDP underwent was not just about rebranding or changing its organizational structure. A fundamental shift in mindset and approach allowed the organization to adapt to a changing world and better serve its beneficiaries. The paradigm shift that FRDP underwent was a transformative journey that allowed the organization to adapt to a changing world and better serve its beneficiaries. The organization's commitment to innovation, adaptability, and collaboration has enabled it to achieve new heights of success and impact, while also providing it with a strong foundation for continued growth and development.

Joint Venture: Addressing Urban Food Insecurity and Climate Change

Pakistan is a country facing various challenges such as persistent poverty, food insecurity, and climate change consequences. The country has a Human Development Index rank of 161 out of 189 countries, indicating low human development. Approximately 25% of the population lives below the poverty line, while 40% suffer from multidimensional poverty. Malnutrition rates are high, and urban areas have less access to diverse food, leading to higher malnutrition rates.

Urban food insecurity is affecting a significant proportion of the population, with 15.9% moderately or severely affected, and 2.4% severely affected.

Additionally, only 40% of the urban population has access to safe drinking water. The situation is further compounded by the fact that Pakistan ranks 8th in the Global Climate Risk Index, indicating that the country is highly susceptible to heatwaves, droughts, and floods. With a population growth rate of 2.7% and increasing urbanization, it is expected that more than 50% of the population will live in urban areas by 2030. Sindh has the second-highest urbanization rate, with over 52% of the population living in urban areas. This trend presents a significant challenge in terms of providing adequate access to resources such as food, water, and shelter.

To address the challenges, FRDP has initiated a joint venture funded by WHH in 20 marginalized urban and peri-urban slum settlements of Hyderabad. The project aims to strengthen the social and economic resilience of the population living in semi-urban and urban slum settlements in the Hyderabad district. It also seeks to empower residents of the targeted communities with the necessary skills and infrastructure to improve their food security and increase their incomes. Thirdly, it also promotes the adoption of innovative and climate-resilient production, earning, and business methods in the food sector among marginalized households in the targeted urban communities. The joint venture sensitizes relevant decision-makers and actors at the district and provincial levels to the importance of urban food systems. It is expected that such approaches are increasingly be taken into account in development plans and food security strategies, leading to lasting improvements in the lives of the residents of Hyderabad's urban slums.

The project team has made significant progress since its inception. After being hired, the team underwent a comprehensive orientation process, where they were informed about the project methodologies and outcomes. The team, in collaboration with the Partnering Institution and Civil Society Organizations, organized community gatherings in targeted areas to identify potential locations for the project intervention. A continuous community education and awareness campaign on food, nutrition, and WASH is currently ongoing, aimed at educating communities about the challenges, solutions, and their role as citizens. The project also involves district line departments where stakeholders are approached, oriented, and their input is incorporated into the project interventions. With the involvement of district line departments and other stakeholders, the project's success is expected to have a lasting impact on the lives of residents of Hyderabad's urban slums. By promoting innovative and climate-resilient production and business methods in the food sector, the project will increase incomes and improve food security for marginalized households in the targeted urban communities.



The joint venture represents a promising initiative that addresses critical challenges facing Pakistan and can contribute to lasting improvements in the lives of marginalized urban communities in Hyderabad.

Sanjhar Mallah Village: a settlement of sorrows

Sanjhar Mallah Village is a large slum of Hyderabad, where around 8,400 people reside. The slum even being on the outskirts of a second major city of Sindh, it lacks basic necessities like drinking water, electricity, and toilets. The residents of the slum face many challenges in their daily lives due to the lack of access to these essential services.

One of the significant problems faced by slum dwellers is poor sanitation. The hygienic conditions in the slum are deplorable, and there are no drains or if there are any, they remain clogged. As a result, the slum-dwellers are vulnerable to diseases like malaria and jaundice due to unhygienic conditions. The lack of access to clean water exacerbates the situation, making it challenging for the residents to maintain proper hygiene and sanitation.

The slum-dwellers also face difficulty during different weather conditions. The houses in the slum are poorly and unplanned constructed, and during the rains, mostly are washed away, leaving the residents homeless. Additionally, the roofs fall apart during blowing heat storms in July-August, putting the residents at risk of injury or death. These issues are further compounded by the fact that many residents live below the poverty line, and children are forced to work at a young age to meet their family's needs.

The situation in Sanjhar Mallah Village is a clear example of how poverty and poor sanitation can lead to marginalization. The residents of the slum lack access to basic services like water, electricity, and toilets, which are essential for maintaining a healthy and dignified life. The poor living conditions in the slum have also contributed to the spread of diseases, making it challenging for the residents to lead healthy and productive lives. The lack of access to education and employment opportunities has also made it challenging for the residents to break out of the cycle of poverty, further marginalizing them.

Efforts are being made to improve the situation in Sanjhar Mallah Village. FRDP, jointly with partner institutions, Local CSOs, and government agencies has launched a project to provide access to basic services like water, electricity, and toilets. The construction of new or repairing the old outdated sewerage systems, and educating communities about designing houses using resilient materials have also been initiated

to address the issue washed away during the rains.

It is worth mentioning that, more needs to be done to address the root causes of poverty. All stakeholders need to adopt a comprehensive approach that addresses the social, economic, and political factors that contribute to poverty and marginalization. The government and civil society must work together to provide access to education and employment opportunities, improve healthcare services, and promote community empowerment. Only through such efforts can the residents of Sanjhar Mallah Village and other slums like it have the opportunity to lead healthy and productive lives, free from marginalization and poverty.





affected by the monsoon and floods and demonstrated the success of the partnership between FRDP and RCDS. The senior team of FRDP attended a five-day training workshop on Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) programming held in Islamabad. The primary aim of this workshop was to equip the participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to develop sustainable FNS programs, particularly in the context of humanitarian response and aid. FRDP team also participated in a refresher training program on Digital Solutions, conducted at Abbottabad. The training program aimed to enhance the participant's skills and knowledge of digital platforms such as WebMO and NextCloud. FRDP has expanded its reach and impact by engaging in meetings with key networks and alliances such as NHN, CHS, and NEAR. FRDP has been a driving force in the development of the Global Advocacy Strategy, taking the lead in drafting the zero draft of the writeup. Our contributions to the global work plan have been invaluable, with a particular focus on networking at both national and global levels. As a result of our participation in the Global Advocacy Strategy, we have been able to contribute to the development of a more coordinated and effective approach to advocacy and humanitarian work. The provision of food packs and cash assistance helped to meet the basic needs of the families during difficult times. The project's support helped alleviate the suffering of the affected families and improve their overall well-being. These initiatives also helped to strengthen the relationship between the communities and FRDP. The transparent and accountable

Together, the Power of Localization

FRDP successfully implemented the WHH-funded project "ToGETHER Response in Semi-Urban and Rural Areas of District Jamshoro". Under the project in 6 villages of Taluka Manjhand of District Jamshoro, FRDP provided food packs to some 130 flood-affected families. The project positively impacted the lives of the flood-affected families and helped strengthen the relationship between the communities and FRDP. The project also provided an opportunity for FRDP to engage with the communities and understand their needs and priorities. Overall, the project was a success and demonstrated the effectiveness of partnerships in addressing the needs of vulnerable communities.

FRDP jointly with Rural Community Development Society (RCDS), completed the HOIFA project, "Humanitarian Assistance to the Heavy Monsoon Rainfall and Flood Affected Households in the UCs of District Dadu, Sindh and District Rajanpur, Punjab, Pakistan." The project was aimed at providing multi purpose cash assistance to 2,171 flood-affected households in both provinces. FRDP in Sindh was able to identify and provide cash assistance to 1,313 households, each receiving PKR 25,000. The project was effective in delivering humanitarian assistance to those

support distribution helped build trust and confidence among the beneficiaries. The project also provided an opportunity for FRDP to engage with the communities and understand their needs and priorities. Both of the projects contributed to a significant impact on the lives of the flood affected families. The opportunities that this partnership can bring for the FRDP and partners will help in the localization movement and development of CSOs, and the organization is also committed to contributing to the CHS Alliance's as well as National Humanitarian Network efforts.



Resilient & Hopeful

Hamid's story is a testament to the resilience and determination of a young child facing adversity. At just 7 years old, Hamid is the sole breadwinner for his family, consisting of his disabled mother and four siblings. They live in Murad Ali Chandio, a village in Union Council Fatehpur, Dadu, which was severely impacted by the recent floods. In fact, 75% of households in the village were completely damaged.

In response to the floods, FRDP implemented a project to support affected families. Hamid and his family were among the beneficiaries of a multipurpose cash grant of Rs. 25,000, which they used to purchase food and medicine for their family, as well as raw materials for handicrafts to enhance their income.

Through a validation process, FRDP ensured that the grant was used effectively, which provided a lifeline for Hamid's family during a difficult time. Mrs. Rukhsana, Hamid's mother, expressed her gratitude for the support they received and shared her hope that more NGOs and INGOs could support them in rebuilding their home, which was completely destroyed in the floods.

Despite facing tremendous challenges, Hamid and his family remain resilient and hopeful for a



to us all and a reminder of the importance of providing support and resources to those in need.

From Neglect to Notice, Orphan Sponsorship Program

The situation in Sindh has been exacerbated by the floods that hit the province in 2022, leaving thousands of people vulnerable to poverty and its consequences. Therefore, the need for orphan support becomes even more critical. The FRDP and its partners have realized the need for orphan support and have stepped in to provide these children with access to basic needs such as education, health, and support systems that allow them to break the cycle of being neglected.

The situation for orphans in Pakistan is dire, with an estimated 4.6 million at risk of living in poverty, facing challenges accessing basic rights such as health and education, and struggling to meet their daily needs. FRDP and its partner Paani have identified a critical need to support orphans in Pakistan, particularly in the flood-affected areas of Sindh, where poverty levels are higher than the national average.



The FRDP Orphan Sponsorship Program aims to support 500 orphan children in primary education from flood-affected areas of Sindh. The program's goal is to provide holistic support in three areas: education, healthcare, and nutrition, to help these children break the cycle of poverty and achieve better outcomes in their lives.

The program's key components include providing financial support for basic needs such as food, clothing, and education, focusing on education by providing tuition fees, school supplies, and transportation costs, providing access to healthcare services, including regular medical check-ups, vaccinations, and treatment, and recognizing the emotional and psychological needs of the orphans by providing counseling services.

So far FRDP's orphan sponsorship program was able to reach some 112 children in the slums of Hyderabad, these children are further enrolled in some private and semi private 16 educational institutions. FRDP has deployed an offline Android application to collect data from the field. Trained staff is visiting potential beneficiaries in the target districts to collect data using the app. The data includes basic information about the child, their family, and their living conditions. The app is designed to ensure accurate and efficient data collection. All data collected through the app is automatically uploaded to the software.

After the data collection phase, the project team screened the data of over 184 children and selected some 112 eligible children based on need and vulnerability. Selected children are notified of their selection through their relevant schools and concerned field staff. The selected children were escorted to uniform and stationery stores for measurement of school dresses and purchasing of shoes and school syllabus.

The next activity after the selection is a basic health check for each sponsored orphan to establish a baseline of their existing health situation. The second health check will take place in mid of an academic session to understand the impact on their health over the past year. The health assessments will help to identify any health concerns and ensure timely intervention and treatment. During the reporting period program partnered and sign MoUs with educational institutions for payment of the school fees for one quarter in advance directly to the school. Reached out to LHV program getting their support in initial identification of orphans, strengthening coordination with National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) for getting these child birth certificates, and helping their mothers in availing death certificates.



In the next phase, the program is planning to distribute quarterly food packs to each sponsored orphan. The food packs will contain essential food items and specific items for orphans like dry milk and energy biscuits. This will ensure that the children have access to adequate nutrition and support their overall health and well-being.

Orphan Support Program, a glimmer of light

Faizan, Gulnaz, and Ahad Ali were just like any other children, carefree and happy, enjoying the love and warmth of their parents. But fate had something else in store for them. One dreadful day in October 2022, their lives turned upside down. A tragic road accident took away their parents, leaving them alone in this world. The loss was too much to bear, and the pain too much to endure.

As if the loss of their parents was not enough, their close relatives refused to take any responsibility for them. They were left all alone, with no one to turn to. It was their grandmother, who came forward and took them in. But it was not easy for her either. She had to work day and night, cleaning and cooking in nearby houses to earn a meager income to feed and clothe them. The financial burden was overwhelming, but she persevered, determined to fulfill her late daughter's wishes.

Despite the odds, their grandmother managed to educate them for a year, paying for some and refusing others. But it was never enough. She says "I could not afford to enroll them in a private school but I am fulfilling the wish of my deceased daughter". She always hoped for a miracle, a stroke of luck that would change their lives for the better. And her prayers were answered when the FRDP team came with the PAANI-funded project.

The news was like a ray of hope, a glimmer of light in their dark lives. The children were registered and provided with school uniforms and educational kits. Their grandmother feels it is a blessing from Allah. She says "Now I can pursue my dream of finishing the house and providing basic facilities which hopefully will be within my reach now".

For Faizan, Gulnaz, and Ahad Ali, life had given them a second chance. A chance to overcome the tragedy and build a future for themselves. They had lost their parents, but they had found a new family in their grandmother and the FRDP team. And with their support, they were ready to face the challenges ahead, chase their dreams and achieve their goals.

Challenging Environment & Drinking Water Scarcity,

The quality of drinking water sources is declining, forcing people to use whatever water sources are available, even if the quality is poor. Access to water is given priority over quality, leading to an increase in water-borne diseases among people. According to statistics from MICS 2014, the majority of households (90.5%) use an improved source of drinking water, but a significant number (12.8%) still use unimproved water sources. Most people also use inappropriate methods to treat their water.

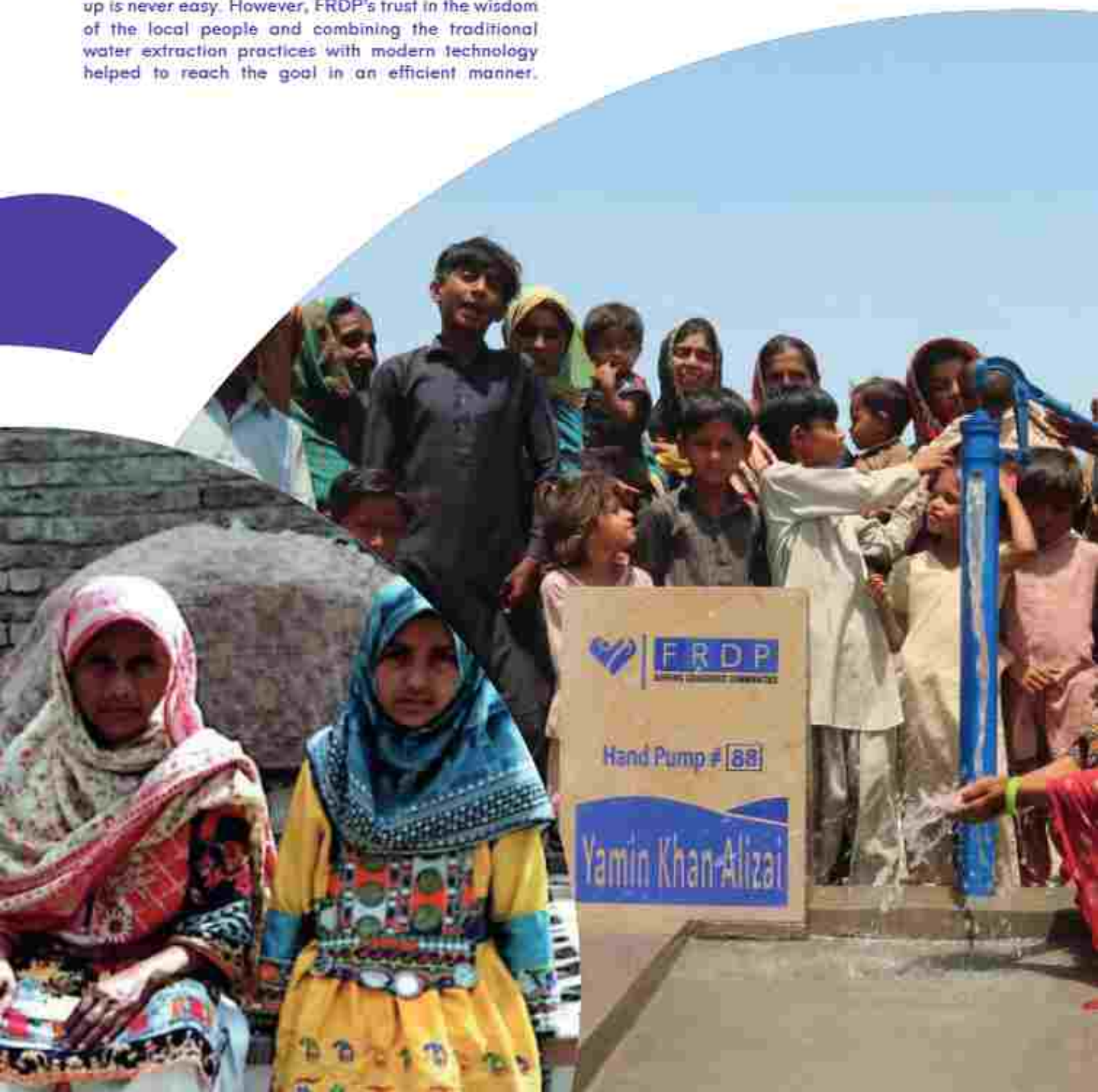
In Sindh, water quality is a serious concern, with a large number of households (38.8%) drinking water contaminated with E.coli and an even larger number (66.0%) drinking water contaminated with coliforms. Moreover, a significant percentage of households drink water contaminated above WHO standards for various pollutants, including arsenic (3.0%), nitrate (5.5%), fluoride (4.5%), iron (2.9%), hard water (8.9%), and TDS (23.6%).



As always FRDP During times when flood-affected populations were resettling, mobilized funds to ensure that every household had access to a secure source of drinking water. The team at the front also charted out the water quality in different areas and provided assistance to rural populations for purification, and better use of wastewater, thereby contributing to their food security.

The process of serving communities in the desert, plain lands of barrage area, and hard soil of mountain require multiple skills, endurance, and patience. The soil in places such as Thar and Nara Desert, the straight lands of Mirpurkhas, Badin, Shaheed Benazirabad, and the hilly part of Naushehra Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are difficult to work with, and the process of tearing it up is never easy. However, FRDP's trust in the wisdom of the local people and combining the traditional water extraction practices with modern technology helped to reach the goal in an efficient manner.

FRDP uses high-quality materials to ensure that the equipment installed can bear the pressure of water extraction and withstand harsh weather conditions. Water extraction is carried out through a combination of manual and mechanical excavation methods, depending on the traditional practices that are needed in each specific area. In terms of construction, FRDP follows strict quality and strength guidelines, ensuring that the materials used can withstand pressures of up to 8000 psi/28 days. The submersible pumps used are of French manufacturing, and A+ solar panels are prioritized, with at least 80% output.



A Hope in Despair

The catastrophic floods of 2022 affected the whole nation, leaving behind thousands of deaths, and injuries, and forcing millions of people to leave their houses and rely on the mercy of the UNKNOWN. Sindh was the unfortunate province, that was affected most by these floods.

Along with other issues, drinking water availability remained a problem for everyone. In district Badin, prior to the monsoon, most of the rural population relied on dug wells for drinking water. These dug wells were completely filled with flood water, and they had to lose the only source of drinking water they relied on. During these times, FRDP came up with an emergency-response-based project in which hand pumps were provided in this area, to provide them with safe and clean drinking water.

Ms. Meghi w/o Magho Mal, a resident of Village Magho Kolhi of union council Dadah Tehsil Tando Bago of Badin, shared her story of how difficult it was to access safe drinking water after the floods.

She recounted how the brackish water of the flood was running through the canals, which were used to drain the flood water. "Prior to the floods, these canals were empty due to water shortage, but when filled, they were of no use. Families like mine, who had no communal scheme in our vicinities, had to fetch water from these contaminated canals. However, FRDP's hand pump installation project proved to be a lifesaver for our families and the precious livestock we had".

They no longer had to rely on contaminated water sources and could access safe drinking water from the hand pumps. She says "FRDP came up as a front-line worrying organization, providing multiple emergency response-based services to the people of affected districts of the Sindh province. Some of those services were to provide food, shelter, WASH-based services, etc. Among these services, the installation of Hand-pumps to provide safe drinking water to flood-affected masses proved to be a big helping hand for the masses of Sindh".

The Aisha Academy-Transforming Lives of Afghan Refugee Children

Over the past few quarters, we have faced some incredibly challenging times. Pakistan is currently experiencing a severe economic recession and political instability, which has made it difficult to carry out our work effectively. Additionally, we have seen the unimaginable hardship that Afghan refugees are facing due to the ongoing crisis in their country. However, despite these challenges, we have managed to achieve our desired goals for the reporting quarter. This is due in no small part to the hard work and dedication of our team on the front lines, as well as the trust and consistency showed by the families we serve. Throughout all of this, Aisha Academy has remained the flagship program of FRDP. We are incredibly proud of the work being done there and the positive impact it is having on the lives of Afghan refugees. We remain committed to our mission of providing education and support to those who need it most, even in the face of adversity.

The Aisha Academy is a school located in a refugee camp in the Naushehra District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan. It is operated by the Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP), an organization that aims to provide education to Afghan refugees in the region. The FRDP recognizes education as a powerful tool that can transform the lives of children and their families by giving them the opportunity to build a better future. In order to achieve this goal, the FRDP has constructed a school building within the refugee camp and has hired and trained local teachers. Due to pandemic restrictions, and flood 2022 emergency accelerated courses have been designed to fill the gap in education. The





FRDP has also developed integrated development programs to stabilize the economic and social well-being of refugee families and mobilizes resources to support these efforts.

Exams are an essential part of primary school education. They provide a means of evaluating a student's understanding of the curriculum and identifying areas where additional support may be needed. The primary objective of the exams held in March 2023 at The Aisha Academy was to assess the student's understanding of the curriculum and identify areas where additional support may be needed. The Aisha Academy conducted exams in the month of March 2023. The exams consisted of written tests, oral exams, and practical assessments. Exam papers were prepared by the teachers within the boundaries of the course syllabus.

A total of 90 students were enrolled in The Aisha Academy for the session 2022-2023. Each class consisted of 30 students. Out of all the 90 students, 70% were average, 12% were above average, and 8% were below average. Teachers evaluated students based on their understanding of the curriculum, their ability to apply what they have learned, and their work habits and behaviors. The Aisha Academy uses report cards to communicate the students' grades among the parents. Report cards included comments from teachers on the student's performance and progress, as well as suggestions for areas where additional support may be needed.

A successful annual day was held in The Aisha Academy on 27th March 2023. The chief guest (M.S of Qazi Complex) was invited to appreciate the students and to distribute the medals among the students. Appreciation certificates were also distributed among the teachers for their tireless efforts.

Breaking Barriers: Journey from Refugee Camp to Academy

Shabina and Sana were two young sisters who found themselves in a refugee camp, displaced by the ongoing conflict in their home country of Afghanistan. Despite their young age, they were already facing limited prospects for the future, as they were unable to receive an education due to the instability caused by the Taliban insurgency. But their fortunes changed when the Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP) intervened in the Naushehra district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. They established the Aisha Academy, a school designed specifically for children who have been displaced by conflict. The sisters were overjoyed at the opportunity to finally pursue an education and develop essential skills that could lead to a brighter future.

With the support of their father Ajmal, a hardworking laborer who struggled to make ends meet, Shabina and Sana enrolled in the Aisha Academy. The sisters threw themselves into their studies and made great progress, learning new things every day and embracing the opportunity to pursue their dreams. Their father Ajmal was incredibly grateful to the FRDP and its partners for providing his daughters with the opportunity to attend school. He recognized the impact that the academy had on their lives and expressed his gratitude for paving the way for inspiration to other girls in the vicinity. Shabina and Sana's success at the Aisha Academy

did not go unnoticed. They quickly became role models for other girls in the refugee camp who were also eager to receive an education. They shared their experiences with their peers, encouraging them to enroll in the academy and pursue their dreams. FRDP is planning to construct additional classrooms to accommodate all school-age children and follow the path toward success.



Humanitarian Response: Prioritizing Hygiene

Six months after the catastrophic floods in Sindh, over 6 million people, including children, living in flood affected areas still lack safe drinking water and washing facilities. Families have no alternative but to drink and use potentially disease-ridden dirty flood water. As a result, hygiene and cleanliness are compromised, leading to skin diseases becoming common. Due to limited resources, families prioritize safeguarding their food instead of availing of soaps and detergents. This lack of access to soap and clean water during a flood has resulted in families experiencing a range of hygiene issues.

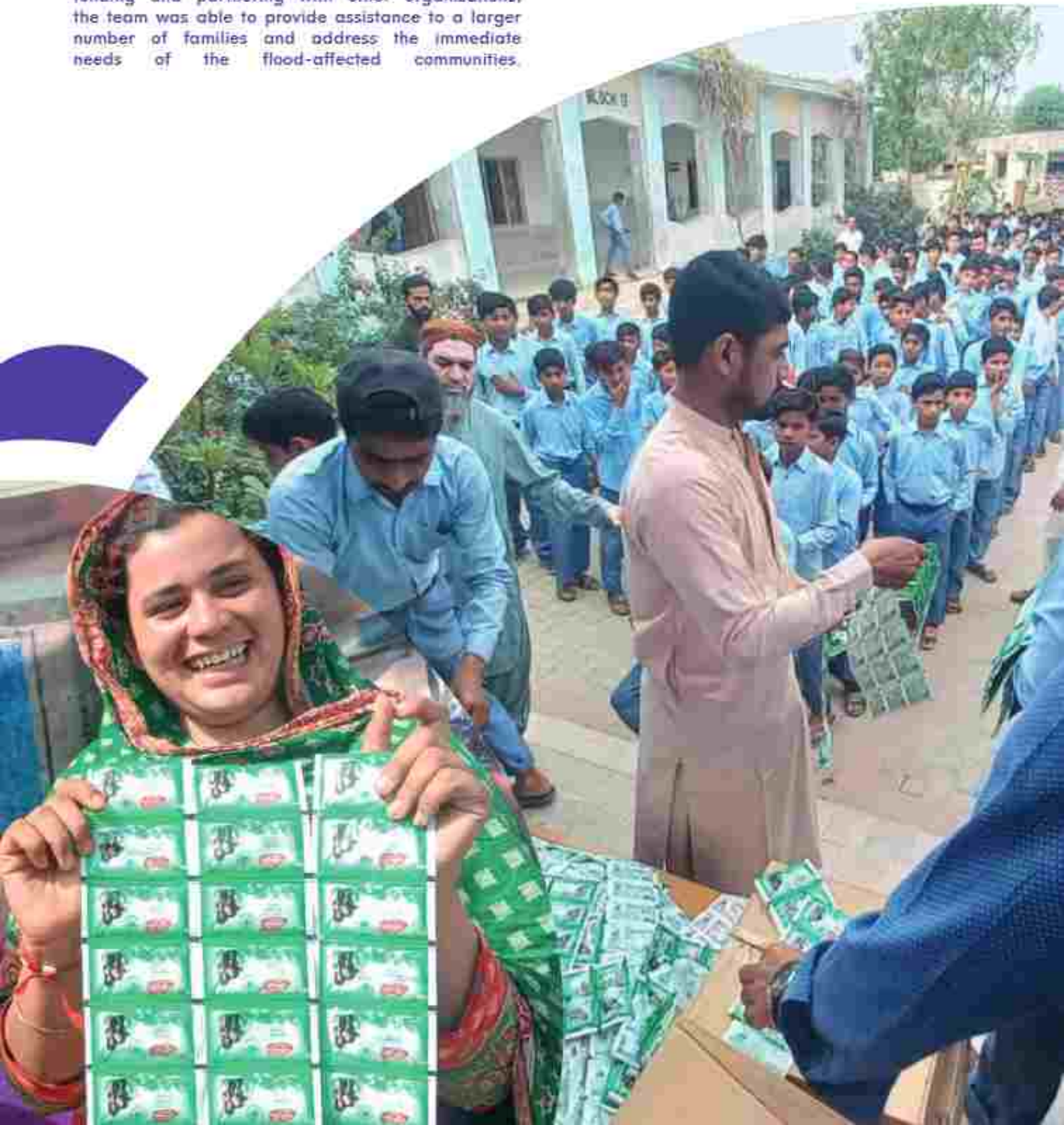
To address this situation, Unilever provided the Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP) with 1,822,584 sachets of shampoo. The FRDP team successfully identified and provided assistance to the families worst affected by the flood of 2022 in Khairpur, Shaheed Benazir Abad, Hyderabad, and District Jamshoro. The team leveraged project funding from CARE International to assess the situation in 14 villages of Union Council Lakha and three villages of Unarpur Union Council in Jamshoro district. In Shaheed Benazirabad, Hyderabad and Khairpur districts, the team identified 22 locations where people were provided with humanitarian assistance and the provision of safe drinking water schemes.

The FRDP team selected and provided assistance to 9947 families in Hyderabad, Khairpur, Jamshoro, and Shaheed Benazirabad districts. In addition to the assistance already provided, the team distributed sachets of shampoo to the identified families. The families were provided with a two-month stock of shampoo, and to date, the team has distributed 297,470 sachets of shampoo to some 63661 direct beneficiaries. These beneficiaries were also oriented on basic and essential health and hygiene practices.

The distribution of shampoo for two months to flood-affected communities has been successful in providing much-needed assistance. The FRDP team's efforts in leveraging project funding and partnering with other organizations have enabled the identification of the worst-affected families and provided them with the necessary assistance. The addition of sachets of shampoo to the assistance provided further supports the identified families and helps them maintain their hygiene efforts and contribute to their recovery from the disaster. The FRDP team's efforts have helped mitigate the hygiene issues faced by flood-affected communities. The provision of shampoo sachets has not only enabled families to maintain their personal hygiene but has also helped prevent the spread of infections and diseases. The team's assessment of the situation in the affected areas has enabled them to identify the families that need assistance the most and provide them with the necessary resources.



The need for the distribution of shampoo sachets has highlighted the importance of prioritizing hygiene in disaster relief efforts. In addition to providing food, water, and shelter, access to hygiene resources such as soap, shampoo, and clean water should also be prioritized. This will help prevent the spread of diseases and infections, especially in situations where access to clean water and sanitation facilities is limited. The FRDP team's efforts have demonstrated the positive impact that partnerships and collaborations can have in disaster relief efforts. By leveraging project funding and partnering with other organizations, the team was able to provide assistance to a larger number of families and address the immediate needs of the flood-affected communities.



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