CEDAR Fund Afghanistan Warzone Assistance Report

As America and NATO withdrew their forces from Afghanistan, the Taliban seized control of the country. As a result, Afghanistan experienced a deterioration of human rights. In August 2021, the United Nations imposed economic sanctions on the Taliban. Many foreign humanitarian organisations have had difficulty in maintaining the flow of capital. Thus, aid cannot reach the Afghans. CEDAR's local Christian partner in Afghanistan was hugely affected by this situation: 96 employees had been unpaid for months. Last December, CEDAR granted approximately HK\$ 195,331 for our local partner to pay the salary for a month, such that local service could be continued.

Many Afghans have been forcibly displaced to war-free zones, taking shelter in tents along the streets or abandoned houses. People also face severe drought, violence, poverty, and soaring food prices. The World Food Programme estimated that more than 23 million Afghans (55% of the local population) face food insufficiency, and 9 million are on the brink of famine. In addition, the Taliban devalues women so that most women are unemployed. Moreover, the war has increased production costs, causing more than 500,000 people to lose jobs. Last winter, CEDAR allocated approximately HK\$ 714,249 to support our local Christian partner in delivering food, hygiene supplies and blankets to more than 1,125 poor families in total, to help needy families in Afghanistan combat the recent changes and the cold winter. CEDAR would like to express our gratitude for your support for Afghans, CEDAR, and our local partner.

Project Details

Project	Project Content	Project Period	Area/ Organisation	Beneficiaries	Amount (HKD)
1	Salary Support	December 2021	CEDAR's local Christian partner in Afghanistan	96 employees	\$195,331
2	Emergency Relief - Food and Hygiene Supplies	January 2022	Nangarhar Province	500 families	\$468,413
3	Emergency Relief - Blankets	January to March 2022	Laghman Province, Kandahar Province and Nangarhar Province	1,125 families (Including those from project 2)	\$245,836

Project 2,3: Emergency Relief - Food, Hygiene Supplies and Blankets

CEDAR and our local partner delivered food and hygiene supplies for 500 households in Nangarhar Province, enough for a month (Project 2). Each family received:

- Food: 24.5 kg of rice, 50 kg of flour, 7 kg of red beans, 2 kg of salt and 5 litres of oil
- Hygiene supplies: 8 washable masks, 4 pieces of hand soap, 5 pieces of laundry soap, 8 toothbrushes and 2 tubes of toothpaste

In addition, CEDAR and our local partner have also provided blankets to 500 families from Nangarhar Province (the families from project 2), 125 families from Laghman Province and 500 families from Kandahar Province. Each family received 2 blankets.

Our local partner revealed the heart-breaking situation to us. Some indigent and desperate families send their children for labour or sell them away to make ends meet. Some people even commit suicide. However, it is not only the adults who suffer. Children are also traumatised. They are withdrawn from school and are separated from their parents.



Sharing by Beneficiaries

Ms. Noora (pseudonym)

'My husband used to bring food home every evening. My children never slept without a meal. Later, my husband died in the political turmoil. I can bear hunger, but not my children. It was unbearable. I am grateful for the food, hygiene supplies and the blankets.'



Ms. Noora is in a queue for food, hygiene supplies and blankets.

Mr. Ali (pseudonym)

'I was a farmer. I used to work along with my father until the war came. One day we found ourselves in a landmine area. An explosion took away my father's life and my left leg. My hands are no longer nimble.'

'My mother needs medicine. I am the breadwinner. I pack fruits in the market. I earn only AFS 200 (approx. HK\$ 18) daily, which is not enough to support my family. The food, hygiene package and blankets we received will help us survive the winter. May God bless you!'



Mr. Ali walks with a prosthetic leg.

Ms. Z. Bibi (pseudonym)

'I am a widow. I have five daughters and a son. We used to have 15-20 hens and a cow. We sold milk and yoghurt for a living. After we had fled to a safe area, we had to find another source of income. My son is now a hand cart driver and earns AFS 150 a day only (approx. HK\$ 13). How can he support the whole family? My relatives have had a hard time also. Thank you for your timely assistance.'



Ms. Z. Bibi is receiving food, hygiene supplies and blankets.

Mr. Latif (pseudonym)

'My family was forcibly displaced by war. I am the elder son, but I am physically disabled and unable to work. My two sisters are also physically disabled. My father is the only one working for our family. He earns little, and it is not enough for us. Those days were painful and frightening. Fortunately, we received your assistance. My family will pray for you. We are grateful to you all.'



Mr. Latif cannot find a job because of his disability.



Beyond Feeding the Poor

Take Action

Poverty, food supplies, and women's and children's rights in Afghanistan are all intertwined and deteriorating. So, CEDAR also supports our local partner in an education project for ethnic minority children and children with disabilities. Your donation is of paramount importance to Afghan children. Please continue to support our work.

Matthew 25:34-40 reminds us to care for those who suffer: whatever we did for one of the least of our brothers and sisters, we did for the Lord. So please continue to pray for the Afghan people. May the Lord comfort the hungry, thirsty, homeless, naked, wounded, separated and desperate people, and may the ministry of CEDAR and our local partners be successful.

Donation

Online donation	Click <u>here</u> for an online donation			
Cheque	Please make it payable to CEDAR Fund			
Direct Deposit	HSBC: 004-600-385678-001			
	BEA: 015-185-68-00931-7SSA			
	BOC: 012-581-2-020114-7			
	DBS: 016-478-001364162			
Credit card: Visa / Master Card	Online donate here or fill in the donation form			
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Please donate according to the above methods and send the cheque, bank-in slip or screenshot of successful payment along with your name, contact phone number and mailing address to us via mail, email or WhatsApp.

Mailing Address: CEDAR Fund, G.P.O. Box 3212, Hong Kong

WhatsApp (for donation matters only): 5160 7549

Email: sharing@cedarfund.org