

SHELTER-REPORT

March 2023

The quake of the century - We help those affected
Terrible alternatives for families
in Afghanistan: Starving or freezing?
Floods in Pakistan - Flood victim aid
And Kurdistan?

Our work continues!



SHELTER

Shelter Now — *Rebuilding Lives and Restoring Hope*
40 Years of Humanitarian Work in the Near and Middle East www.shelter.de

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What moves us !

Emergency relief in the earthquake zone - What are we doing?

The pictures from the earthquake areas and the reports we hear and read in the media shock us all. But what can we do to alleviate at least some of the suffering?

For myself, the first images immediately reminded me of an earthquake of similar magnitude in Pakistan, which I myself witnessed in 2005: completely destroyed towns and villages, people so much in shock that they could not say a word, suffering and death everywhere, cruel human fates. When I had to report to my country director on the phone that evening after everything I had experienced on the first day at the epicenter, I couldn't get a single word out.

In the first days after the quake, there were telephone calls with people affected in Syria and our

employees. When asked what they needed most urgently now, they were unable to answer. The shock had completely blocked them.

A few days later, two of our employees were in Syria for a week visiting people affected there. This is what they report:

"Many people are completely shocked and do not know where to go. They don't have the courage to go into the houses for fear that they could still collapse. Others have lost their families, children their parents, parents their children."

A concerned woman says, "During the war, we knew where to hide: in the corners of buildings - but now there is no place to hide."





Another affected person: "A lot has been destroyed in ten years of war. Now ten times as much has been destroyed in a few minutes."

It is particularly difficult to bring relief supplies to those affected in Syria - due to the political situation and the ongoing civil war. But we are trying anyway, precisely because the people there receive so little support.

Tents, blankets, drinking water, baby food, hygiene articles are especially needed. Other things, too, of course. Our employees are currently figuring that out.

We thank you in advance for all your generous support that we have received so far. We will use it for the most necessary relief supplies.

Of course, long-term help is also needed.

In the earthquake area of Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, we are currently helping to rebuild earthquake-damaged houses in the provinces of Khost and Paktika, where there was an earthquake last summer, about which we reported. Only a short time later, we supported those affected with first aid deliveries. Many houses were destroyed in the earthquake, and reconstruction is just beginning. In January, temperatures in the earthquake zone dropped to minus 23 degrees Celsius. What that feels like - without a roof over your head - is hard to imagine in our countries. Even our aid deliveries there had to be interrupted because of the cold. In the meantime, however, things are continuing there.

Our Projects continue

In these weeks I am asked again and again how things are going for our people in Afghanistan.

The most important and general answer first: Most of the projects are still running - good news. However, many things have become difficult under the current conditions.



Aleppo - destroyed houses and homeless people; emergency shelters

Starving or freezing?

Last winter we were able to provide food for over 12,000 people, and this was very important because probably the biggest problem in the country at the moment is hunger. Many people have become unemployed, food prices are skyrocketing. Many families faced the dilemma this winter: heat today or eat? Put the other way around: freeze or starve?

New wells

We have not yet been able to revive some projects due to a lack of staff, for example the well project. But that is expected to be restarted starting this spring.

The primary school

continues to work in principle. In the winter months, however, there are always vacations, corresponding to our summer vacations - because of the cold... In the second half of March, it should start again.

The flood disaster in Pakistan

flooded a third of the country last summer. A relief organization with which we had already cooperated well in the past is massively involved in helping those affected by the flooding. Various organizations have supported us financially. Together with other private donations, we provided about 171,000 euros for relief supplies. This was used to procure tents, mattresses, blankets, food, hygiene kits, water filters, water coolers and water tanks and distribute them to the poorest flood victims.

And Kurdistan?

Here, too, we distributed aid during the winter: in particular food, heaters and kerosene to fled Yazidis.

As you read this newsletter, a small team from Shelter Now Germany has just returned from a project trip.

We will report about this in the next Shelter Report.

So things are continuing. We would like to thank all of you who support us.

Your Udo Stolte

with the Shelter Team.

Your donation moves us

Support one of our projects

1 000 €

Food for one family and shelter until the repair of their house AND its financing.

How much money?
Project

Project no.
Whom do I help?

What do I donate for:

75 €
earthquake relief
9002
one family

Food and blankets

36 €
earthquake relief
9002

Five blankets

150 €
earthquake relief
9002
one family

a tent, blankets, food, hygiene-set

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Spendenkonto Schweiz

Shelter Now Germany e.V. · Postfinance Bank · Kto. 60-798660-9
BIC (SWIFT): POFICHBEXXX · IBAN: CH61 0900 0000 6079 8660 9

European account details

Shelter Now Germany e.V. · NORD · LB Hannover · Kto. 2523058
SWIFT: NOLADE2H · IBAN: DE65 2505 0000 0002 5230 58



Deutsches
Zentralinstitut
für soziale
Fragen (DZI)
**Zeichen für
Vertrauen**

Shelter Now Germany e.V. phone: 0531/88 53 957
Waisenhausdamm 4 mail: info@shelter.de
38100 Braunschweig web: www.shelter.de