

Pakistan

International Medical Corps has worked in Pakistan since 1985, when we began training young Afghan refugees to return to their home communities inside Afghanistan and provide basic healthcare in places that medical professionals had fled following the 1979 Soviet invasion

In 1999, we extended our training to the Afghan refugee population living in what was then Pakistan's northwest frontier, an area since renamed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. When a massive earthquake struck the region in 2005, claiming more than 70,000 lives, our medical response teams were on the scene, treating survivors within 12 hours.

Before the 2005 earthquake, our Pakistan team focused on two major initiatives: strengthening the national healthcare system, and providing primary and secondary healthcare services to the growing Afghan refugee population in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Immediately following the 2005 quake, we dispatched medical and relief teams to remote, barely accessible locations to provide emergency medical care. We then established basic health units to meet the long-term needs of affected communities.

Our teams have provided water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, nutrition support and mental health services to those displaced by fighting during a 2008–09 refugee crisis, the devastating floods of 2010 and 2011, the earthquake of 2014, COVID-19 pandemic response from 2020–22 and the recordbreaking monsoon floods of 2022.



EVERY DISASTER

International Medical Corps has responded to every major disaster in Pakistan since 2005, including:

- ▶ **2005:** The devastating earthquake in northern Pakistan
- ▶ **2008:** Baluchistan earthquake
- ▶ **2008–14:** Massive civilian displacement due to militant activities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas
- ▶ **2010–2012:** Monsoon floods in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh
- ▶ **2015:** Earthquake in northern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- ▶ **2020–22:** COVID-19 pandemic
- ▶ **2022:** Monsoon floods in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh



2.5 MILLION PEOPLE

have directly benefited from International Medical Corps' programming in Pakistan since 2005.





Today, International Medical Corps works in several districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh provinces, providing the following services for Afghan refugees and vulnerable Pakistanis:

- ▶ primary healthcare and essential medicines, equipment and supplies;
- ▶ mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS);
- ▶ prevention of and response to violence against women and girls (VAWG);
- ▶ community education and awareness-raising about health issues;
- ▶ capacity-strengthening of healthcare providers, including in the World Health Organization's Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP);
- ▶ WASH-related health and hygiene services;
- ▶ skills training for women through the Women's Economic Empowerment initiative;
- ▶ capacity-building training, including basic life support, psychological first aid (PFA), mhGAP, VAWG core concepts, WASH-related sessions, food security and livelihoods;
- ▶ digital literacy and sustainable livelihoods programs to help entrepreneurs manage and grow online businesses;
- ▶ youth empowerment programs, in which participants implement small-scale, community-driven projects;
- ▶ women- and girls-friendly spaces (WGFS) where we provide a safe space for support services, awareness sessions and community engagement; and
- ▶ helplines for survivors of VAWG.





In 2024, our teams in Pakistan provided services to 340,986 people, including:

- ▶ healthcare services integrated with the UNHCR sustainable model for health;
- ▶ MHPSS consultations;
- ▶ VAWG and mental health case management;
- ▶ VAWG prevention and response training;
- ▶ awareness-raising sessions on VAWG, MHPSS, health and hygiene-related topics; and
- ▶ training in WASH-related interventions and in PFA and mental health case management, including mhGAP, and clinical management of rape and intimate partner violence.

From December 2023 to November 2024, we provided essential WASH services to more than 108,000 people. Our team installed 100 weather-resilient hand pumps and rehabilitated 10 reverse osmosis (RO) plants for safe water access. We constructed or rehabilitated more than 2,000 latrines and improved WASH facilities in 30 schools and 10 healthcare centers. Our teams also trained teachers, health workers and community leaders in proper WASH procedures, provided hygiene awareness sessions to several communities and distributed 2,000 menstrual hygiene kits.

In Attock district, we operated two mobile medical units (MMUs) that provided essential health services to both Afghan refugees and host communities. Through our MMUs, we provided more than 8,880 consultations, including maternal health services and malnutrition screenings. Our awareness campaigns reached more than 140,000 people, while ongoing self-help groups and recreational activities continue to support psychosocial well-being. We have strengthened capacity-building efforts by providing training sessions for healthcare staff on emergency response, infection prevention and control, and PFA. We also completed renovation work on four health facilities, ensuring improved service delivery.

International Medical Corps successfully implemented a project to rehabilitate and solarize Expanded Program on Immunizations (EPI) centers in Shaheed Benazir Abad, one of the worst flood-affected districts in Sindh province. We rehabilitated 10 EPI centers, which now provide about 19,300 children per year with uninterrupted immunization services. By solarizing the centers, we have ensured a steady supply of power and mitigated carbon emissions.



www.InternationalMedicalCorps.org

A pre-eminent first responder since 1984, International Medical Corps delivers emergency medical and related services to those affected by conflict, disaster and disease, no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions. We also train people in their communities, providing them with the skills they need to recover, chart their own path to self-reliance and become effective first responders themselves.

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