

RESETTLEMENT AND REPATRIATION IN AFGHANISTAN

Categories: Education Assistance/Emergency Support/Community Development/Community Building

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Community Building

Past Success Provides Future Optimism

Over the past year, JEN has seen a lot of success in Afghanistan that they wish to see again in the upcoming year. Such successes include the construction of school infrastructures and the establishment of WASH programs. Through proper communication with government representatives along with school and community leaders, JEN has managed to implement their programs for the benefit of the local communities.

The construction itself was made possible due to the achievement of the JEN-Afghanistan team which comprised of members from the Engineering Unit, HE team, AIMO, Administration and finance unit, and JEN's headquarter in Tokyo. Perhaps the success from the past year will be stepping stones for future projects.

Education Assistance

The Importance of Girls' Education

Education is the fundamental key to open up opportunities for the future generation. However, cultural barriers in Afghanistan prevent girls from achieving the same educational status as boys, thus resulting in an unequal gender gap. The education of girls is especially important, for it may lead to a decrease in infant mortality rates, maternal mortality rates, and child marriage, and can also alter the socioeconomic growth for females.

JEN seeks to help transform the education assistance for girls in Afghanistan by constructing and rehabilitating schools in the region, as well as by providing incentives for the learn in. This goal has been implemented through the construction of surrounding walls to provide privacy for the students. JEN is currently in the midst of additional construction projects in an effort to build five more schools in the Surkh-e Parsa and Sheikh Ali districts, including three girls' schools.



<u>Above</u>: Girls learning the proper way to wash their hands at Hazrat Zainab Lolanj Girls High School in Surkhe Parsa

In addition to the construction of schools, JEN also provides education on proper hygiene. JEN's program is catered to both boys and girls in order to fully provide a long-term solution to many health problems to a wide range of students.

Furthermore, JEN also emphasizes training for teachers, particularly due to the lack of females in the profession.

Emergency Support

A Timely Response from JEN in Badakhshan

On May 3, Badakhshan province in northeastern Afghanistan was struck by a series



COUNTRY: AFGHANISTAN

of floods and landslides following heavy rainfall. This ultimately resulted in a significant loss of life, with a death toll of 675 people. The Argo district was most severely hurt, losing the lives of 503 people. The consequent events following the disaster thus called for a wide range of relief efforts that JEN played an important role in.

In response to the disaster, JEN quickly dispatched a field team to assess the needs of the Argo community with a primary focus on the distribution of necessary goods for the benefit of the people. Following an intensive assessment, the team created a list of necessities that the community urgently required which included: hygiene kits, feeders, powder milk, hand soap, and Jerry cans.

By May 14, the process of distribution had been conducted.

JEN is currently in the process of their second assessment in hopes to provide further relief for the people in the northeastern region of Afghanistan.



Above: JEN field staff busy distributing goods in Argo

Community Development

Afghanistan's Historical Election

For the first time in decades, Afghanistan held its first democratic election. In a time of internal instability, questions as to whether or not democracy could be achieved have been widely held. 7 million people, or 60% of the total population have taken part in the historical election thus far, including JEN staff members who have maintained that it is their moral duty to vote despite a myriad of security concerns. The Afghan people have been voting to elect a new leader who can address the needs of the people, who can be their voice, and who can potentially bring about peace and stability.

However with no clear majority in the first round of elections, the second round of voting is to take place in the latter weeks of June.



The 7 EN's of JEN

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