

DISASTER ACTION FUND

2024 IMPACT REPORT



Did you know that in the past year it was estimated that there was a total of **399 disasters** related to natural hazards?¹

Many of these did not make it to the media headlines in Australia. But your donation to the Disaster Action Fund helped our local Christian Partners respond urgently and effectively, while continuing to prepare vulnerable communities for future disasters.

What is a disaster? **Disasters** are serious disruptions to the functioning of a community that exceed its' capacity to cope using its' own resources.²

Help In Troubled Times

'Our country has been at war for many years and the economic situation is not good. Our house was not good but at least we had a roof over our head. Now we are living in a tent. We are worried for the coming winter as the climate gets very cold.'
— Akbar

Throughout October last year, a series of earthquakes and aftershocks struck Herat province in western Afghanistan, affecting more than 275,000 people across six districts. More than 10,000 homes were destroyed, 1,482 people died while 2,100 were injured.³ Once the proud caretakers of small flocks of sheep, families faced the daunting challenge of rebuilding their lives and livelihoods. But their most immediate plea was for food and warm shelter during the harsh winter.



Our Christian Partner responded to this need by providing multipurpose cash to 465 families. This enabled the recipients to address their immediate needs whilst bolstering the local economy.

Akbar expressed deep gratitude for the money given to his family of 11. He stated that although they face many hardships 'at least we will not be hungry.' One hundred per cent of these vulnerable households reported that the cash relief provided was appropriate, timely and helpful in assisting them in meeting their basic needs for at least two months. Thank you for being a part of helping Akbar's family!

Baptist World Aid's Partners respond, with your support, to many large and small disasters.

143,927

people directly impacted, and **5,930** indirectly impacted by our disaster management work.

9,309

people exposed to awareness raising activities highlighting environmental issues including climate change.

47,832

people assisted with food and **12,898** people provided with non-food items such as clothes and cooking equipment.

10,191

people provided with temporary access to safe drinking water.

The **3 R's** of Baptist World Aid's

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROCESS



PLEASE PRAY WITH US THAT:

GOD WOULD GIVE OUR CHRISTIAN PARTNERS WISDOM AND ENDURANCE AS THEY WORK IN DIFFICULT PLACES AND DEAL WITH SO MUCH DEVASTATION AND TRAUMA.

RESOURCES AND AID WOULD REACH THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST, PARTICULARLY THOSE MADE MORE VULNERABLE BY THEIR ETHNICITY, GENDER OR RELIGION.

VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES WILL BE ABLE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE AND REDUCE THEIR SUSCEPTIBILITY TO DISASTERS.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

—PSALM 46:1-3



FOR SUPPORTING OUR DISASTER ACTION FUND!

Your donation helped to bring hope and essential assistance to vulnerable communities affected by disaster.

1 The Emergency Events Database, https://files.emdat.be/reports/2023_EMDAT_report.pdf

2 The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, <https://www.ifrc.org/our-work/disasters-climate-and-crises/what-disaster>

3 World Health Organisation 22 Jan 2024 report