



MERCY Malaysia reactivates the Afghanistan Relief Fund

Afghanistan has been struck by a powerful earthquake of 6.1 magnitude on 22 June 2022, the deadliest in two decades, adding on to the burden of its people already exhausted by years of drought, famine and war. The Government has called for foreign aid, requesting for the generous support in addressing the critical situation.

The earthquake has so far killed more than 1,000 people and injured over 1,500, mainly children. Most deaths have been in Paktika and Khost provinces. The death toll and number of people injured are likely to increase with people still trapped under rubble and some affected areas remaining inaccessible. Thousands of people have also been left without shelter after the night-time quake, which brought into sharp focus Afghanistan's compounding needs. With subsequent tremors hitting the country, there are growing fears for the health and wellbeing of survivors.

MERCY Malaysia President, YBhg. Dato' Dr. Ahmad Faizal Mohd Perdaus said, "MERCY Malaysia has reactivated the Afghanistan Relief Fund to provide humanitarian assistance to the people in Afghanistan. MERCY Malaysia will be sending its Rapid Assessment and Emergency Medical Response Team on 28 June to provide quick impact intervention and ensure assessment and readiness for the subsequent teams' deployment. The first mission will provide trauma care and essential medical and psychosocial services for disaster-affected and bereaved communities. In addition, MERCY Malaysia will be providing medical supplies to render primary healthcare services."

MERCY Malaysia Response Plan for Afghanistan includes scaling up health support including public health measures to curb disease outbreaks and enhance infection prevention control. Among aid identified for next immediate deployments include:

- Emergency Medical Services, Public Health Services, Medicine and Medical Supplies
- Medical Infrastructure Rehabilitation
- Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS)
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

MERCY Malaysia's Afghanistan operations began in 2001 when the country was in the throes of a war that forced thousands of Afghan civilians to abandon their homes and seek shelter in relief camps. One in three Afghans are facing crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity and more than half of all children under-five face acute malnutrition. Initially delivering primary healthcare, our work expanded to recovery,

rehabilitation and capacity building with programmes addressing health issues, child and adult education as well as vocational training.

The dire need for humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan calls for an immediate response. Lives need to be saved. Your support will help MERCY Malaysia step up our emergency humanitarian relief which will also lead to rehabilitation and sustainable development for the people of Afghanistan.

Support in the form of donations to the MERCY Malaysia Afghanistan Relief Fund can be made through the following channels:

Bank Details:

MERCY Humanitarian Fund
MBB 5621 7950 4126
Swift Code: MBBEMYKL

MERCY Malaysia
CIMB 8000-7929-08
Swift Code: CIBBMYKL

For Islamic Social Financing (ISF) option, bank transfers can be made to:

MERCY Malaysia
Maybank Islamic 5642 5858 7606
Swift Code: MBBEMYKL
Reference Code: ISF – Afghan

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