

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 province, an area since renamed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. When a massive earthquake struck the region in 2005, claiming more than 70,000 lives, our medical response teams were among the first on the scene, treating survivors within 12 hours. 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, then established basic health units to meet the long-term needs of affected communities.

Our teams provided water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, nutrition support and mental health services for those displaced by fighting during a 2008–09 refugee crisis, and again during the devastating floods of 2010 and 2011.



EVERY DISASTER

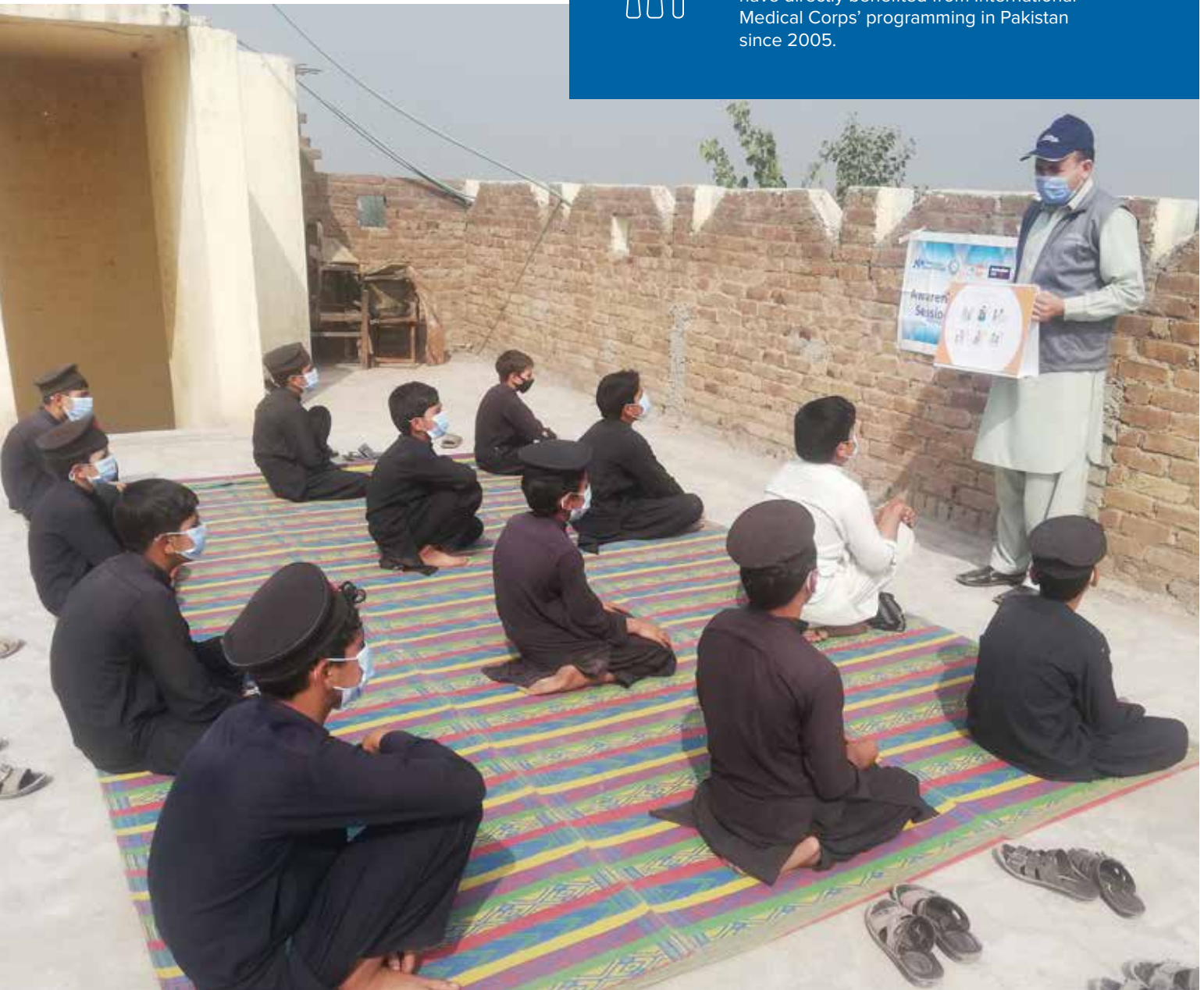
International Medical Corps has responded to every major disaster in Pakistan since 2005, including:

- ▶ **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:** The monsoon floods in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh
- ▶ **2015:** Earthquake in northern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- ▶ **2020–22:** COVID-19 pandemic



1.3 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 province, providing the following services for Afghan refugees and vulnerable Pakistanis:

- ▶ Sexual and reproductive healthcare (SRH)
- ▶ Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)
- ▶ Assistance to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV)
- ▶ Community education and awareness-raising
- ▶ Capacity-strengthening of healthcare providers for COVID-19 response
- ▶ A risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) campaign, initiated with a consortium of partners across 26 districts in all four Pakistani provinces, that includes our already available tele-counseling service “Khayall Helpline” and a panel of psychologists who offer information through radio and TV programs on COVID-related services and counseling



In 2021, our SRH program served more than 325,000 people and our GBV program more than 100,000. Both are integrated with our MHPSS services.

During the same year, our teams helped form 14 male and female community gender-support groups (GSGs) in seven Afghan refugee villages, to inform community residents about how to identify and prevent GBV. We also provide basic counseling and referral services to survivors as part of this initiative.

And in 2021 our teams in Pakistan:

- ▶ reached 244,279 with awareness-raising sessions, including 192,051 with health education messages and 35,092 on COVID-19;
- ▶ provided SRH services to 26,619 women, including antenatal care, prenatal care, deliveries, family planning supplies and the “Couple Years of Protection” (CYP) initiative;
- ▶ conducted in-person and online training sessions for 2,870 public healthcare providers (1,853 male and 1,017 female), other NGO workers and community volunteers on health, communicable disease management and control, first aid and transport, and other issues; and
- ▶ implemented Engaging Men in Accountable Practices (EMAP) interventions in seven Afghan refugee villages, based on an understanding that violence against women and girls is the result of harmful beliefs about gender, and unequal power between women and men.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2021 we supported the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government, working with a partner to provide 247,913 vaccinations and raising awareness among 162,299 people.





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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