UNHCR Private Sector Partnerships

Newsletter

September 2013



Highlight: Educate A Child

176,880

children in school in 12 countries

In 2012, UNHCR and the global Educate A Child (EAC) program signed a multi-year donor matching partnership through the Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser of Qatar. The first year focuses on the enrolment of out-of-school children and access to primary education for 177,000 refugee children and youth in 12 priority countries.

2012-2013 marked thereby the construction and renovation of 415 durable classrooms and latrines and the building of an entire school; the provision of 23,699 textbooks and learning materials, and of 60,000 uniforms; the training of 1,427 teachers and school managers. The first year of the program also focused on promoting girls' education, mobilizing communities and offering more children the opportunity to study and play, key component of psychosocial healing for distressed populations.



"I am happy because I get new friends in school. I am studying with a big group of children and I got a new school uniform. I now feel just like the other children." Mayasa, 10, Yemeni girl child with disability

To date, **Stichting af Jochnick Foundation** generously contributed USD 500,000; while **Western Union** and **SAP MENA** contributed USD 50,000 each.

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Syria: the Big Heart Campaign for Refugee Children



Shortly after Her Highness Sheikha Jawaher bint Mohammed Al Qasimi (HH) was designated as UNHCR Eminent Advocate, she was keen on realizing this designation.

On 16 May 2013, HH and her team visited a school enrolling Syrian refugee children in Lebanon and a community center providing services to Syrian refugee women. This visit prompted a generous donation to strengthen access to education for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon.

Upon arrival to the UAE, HH launched on World Refugee Day the nation-wide awareness and fundraising 'Big Heart Campaign for Syrian Refugee Children'. Originally planned for one week, the success of the campaign incited HH to extend the campaign for a whole month. This coincided with the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan, which helped in raising considerable contributions. To date, HH Executive Office (HHEO) continues to promote donations to the campaign.

The campaign was daily publicized in the UAE and regional media, with extensive social media exposure. Twitter attracted some 27,827 followers. UNHCR social media portals continuously featured news and updates. Other UNHCR designated personalities endorsed the campaign such as the Kite Runner author Khaled Hosseini, world-acclaimed soprano Barbara Hendricks, supermodel Alek Wek, and TV star Kat Graham. In Sharjah, the campaign was publically indorsed by Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammad Al Qasimi the Ruler of Sharjah, and HH Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah. The campaign managed to galvanize wide-scale support from the private and public sectors, raising over USD 10 million.

"I learned about UNHCR's work... I felt that these are people whom we can trust to make sure the aid will go to save lives, to where people need it the most." **HH**

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UNHCR expresses gratitude to:

AC Milan, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA), Banco Espirito Santo Angola, Band Aid, Bouamatou Foundation, Care and Aid Foundation, Center for International Migration and Integration, CESVI, Charities Aid Foundation, Citi, Consiglio Italiano per I Rifugiati, Danish Refugee Council, Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, Divac Foundation, Dutch Postcode Lottery, Educate A Child, Fast Retailing Co. Ltd. (UNIQLO), Fuji Optical, Her Highness Sheikha Jawaher bint Mohammed Bin Sultan Al Qassimi, Hewlett-Packard, IKEA Foundation, International Olympic Committee, Intervida, One Billion Strong, Islamic Relief US, Jochnick Foundation, Jolie-Pitt Foundation, Khaled Hosseini Foundation, Microsoft, Morneau Shepell, Norwegian Refugee Council, Novartis Foundation, Pan Omidyar, Prosolidar Foundation, Qatar Charity, Redes Energeticas Nacionals, RedR, Said Foundation, SAP MENA, ShelterBox, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Stichtling Vluchteling, Swedish Postcode Lottery, TOMS Shoes, Turing Foundation, United Nations Foundation, United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, UPS, Western Union, World Assembly of Muslim Youth.

Global partner UNIQLO helps Syrian refugees

Since 2006, giant clothing retail chain UNIQLO (Fast Retailing Group) has been collaborating with UNHCR on large clothing donations within its CSR commitment All Product Recycling Initiative.

In 2011, UNIQLO responded to the Horn of Africa worst drought in 60 years by offering USD 1 million in financial aid through UNHCR, in addition to a USD 1 million donation from FR Group Chairman, President and CEO Tadashi Yanai. The cooperation has since developed into a global partnership, increasingly supportive of UNHCR operations through cash donations, staff deployment, awareness raising and internship programmes for refugees. A total 4+ million pieces of clothing items have reached forcibly displaced people in 22 countries. 2013 marked a further invaluable contribution of USD 1 million to UNHCR's response for Syrian Refugees.

UNHCR is supporting UNIQLO's visibility efforts in Asia and Europe where UNIQLO is opening numerous shops and strategically expanding its recycling projects.

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"I think that UNIQLO can be a good example for many other companies. Somebody has to take a step forward to make a change, we are just like everyone else with dreams. But we just need that opportunity to make them come true." Begum, 26, Rohingya refugee girl from Myanmar benefiting from UNIQLO internship deal with UNHCR

Fuji Optical, visionary partner since 1983

On World Refugee Day, Nansen award winner and CEO of Fuji Optical Co., Ltd. Dr. Akio Kanai pledged USD 1 million over the coming 10 years. UNHCR's longest-serving corporate partner marks thereby its continuous engagement to support forcibly displaced people, and its appreciation of UNHCR work.

As 2013 celebrates the 30th anniversary of this partnership, Fuji Optical is helping to improve UNHCR health and education activities worldwide, building on the company's core expertise and social values. To date, Fuji Optical has donated **over 108,200 pairs of glasses, provided optometry equipment, made cash grants and trained local medical staff** in key areas.

Benefiting from UNHCR global reach and grass root implementation, Fuji Optical has durably transformed the lives of tens of thousands of displaced people living in extremely difficult circumstances around the world.





Azerbaijan, 2011 ©Fuji optical

"We hope that our continued commitment will further improve and deepen our long standing partnership and mutual cooperation in improving the lives of refugees" **Fuji Optical.**

For six decades, UNHCR has helped save lives, restore hope and rebuild futures. As we strive to bring protection and solutions to millions of refugees around the world, some of the world's leading companies are helping us have maximum impact, providing an opportunity for collaborating together on initiatives that serve both their social and business interests. See UNHCR Global Report 2012

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