**Shelter and livelihoods in rural Pakistan**

Report

from Islamic Relief

Published on 21 Jun 2013

In one of Pakistan’s poorest provinces, more than 2,400 people are to benefit from a scheme to improve livelihoods and provide shelter.

Sindh suffers poor security, acute poverty, and is particularly prone to natural disasters - the area was devastated by floods in 2010 and 2011. Communities struggle as irrigation channels and farming lands remain damaged, wells do not function and even casual labouring work is hard to find. Most families are still without adequate shelter.

For three years, Islamic Relief has been working in the rural Thatta district, providing vital humanitarian assistance and helping to rebuild communities. So far, we have helped half of the area’s population to regain their livelihoods, and provided them with access to clean water.

Our latest project – funded by the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development – is expected to be completed by October and is consulting with community groups to identify the most vulnerable families. More than 1,000 people will benefit as 144 households receive disaster-resistant and environmentally-friendly shelters, as well as and basic services.

In addition, the scheme is working with 200 families, providing comprehensive training to help them maximise their incomes. Around 100 farmers are to receive high-yield rice seeds and fertilisers – as well as training on specialist cropping techniques - to help them to re-establish their livelihoods. Other families will be able to further supplement what they earn by growing vegetables at home with our kitchen-gardening seeds, supported by training and home-visits.

Islamic Relief has been working in Pakistan since 1992, and is currently campaigning for the country to receive immediate debt relief

reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/shelter-and-livelihoods-rural-pakistan