

Nominated Charity

Save the Children UK

www.savethechildren.org.uk

60% of Afghan children suffer from malnutrition and one in four dies before the age of five. Every year 85,000 children die from diarrhoea. 70% of education infrastructure is still out of use.

Save the Children UK has been delivering humanitarian assistance to people suffering the effects of conflict and drought in Afghanistan. Its health work has enabled significant numbers of children and their families to gain access to basic medical care and supplies. Save the Children is currently focusing on developing programmes to protect vulnerable children, provide nutrition advice to children and parents and assist with education.

Other relevant organisations

UNHCR United Nations High Commission for Refugees

www.unhcr.ch

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established by the U.N. General Assembly in 1950, one of several attempts by the international community during the 20th century to provide protection and assistance to refugees. The League of Nations, the forerunner of the U.N., had named Norwegian scientist and explorer Fridtjof Nansen to the post of High Commissioner as early as 1921. World War II provided the impetus for several new organizations, the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency, the International Refugee Organization and subsequently UNHCR.

European Council on Refugees and Exiles

www.ecre.org

The European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) is the umbrella organisation for co-operation between European non-governmental organisations concerned with refugees. Currently ECRE has 74 member agencies in 29 countries. Principal activities include: policy development and research, advocacy, legal analysis, information services to members, networking and capacity-building in South-Eastern, Central and Eastern Europe. ECRE's work is coordinated by the Secretariat in London and an office in Brussels.

UNICEF

<http://www.unicef.org.uk>

UNICEF – the United Nations Children's Fund - works with local communities and governments around the world to help every child reach their full potential.

Since September 2001, UNICEF has worked in partnership with the Afghan Transitional Authority, the humanitarian community and the people of Afghanistan to make substantial progress in the rebuilding of the country after decades of war.

UNICEF's priorities in Afghanistan include providing life-saving medicines and warm clothing, supporting the return to school of Afghan children and reducing child malnutrition through supplementary feeding programmes.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

<http://www.msf.org>

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org>

An international humanitarian aid organisation that provides emergency medical assistance to populations in danger in more than 80 countries. In countries where health structures are insufficient or even non-existent, MSF collaborates with authorities such as the Ministry of Health to provide assistance. MSF works in rehabilitation of hospitals and dispensaries, vaccination programmes and water and sanitation projects. MSF also works in remote health care centres, slum areas and provides training of local personnel. All this is done with the objective of rebuilding health structures to acceptable levels.

Human Rights Watch

<http://www.hrw.org>

Human Rights Watch is dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world. We stand with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, to uphold political freedom, to protect people from inhumane conduct in wartime, and to bring offenders to justice. We investigate and expose human rights violations and hold abusers accountable. We challenge governments and those who hold power to end abusive practices and respect international human rights law. We enlist the public and the international community to support the cause of human rights for all. Human Rights Watch is an independent, nongovernmental organization, supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide. It accepts no government funds, directly or indirectly.

Amnesty International

www.amnesty.org.uk

Amnesty International is a worldwide voluntary movement of people who campaign for human rights.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion.

Our vision is of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

British Red Cross

www.redcross.org.uk

The British Red Cross cares for people in crisis in the UK and abroad as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

At home, we provide emergency response and support the emergency services. We also train 100,000 first aiders a year and provide first aid at public events. Short-term support for independent living to vulnerable people is another service - from lending out a wheelchair through to transport from hospital. We also assist refugees and asylum seekers and restore family links with our international tracing and message services. Over 40,000 trained volunteers in the UK provide these services.

We work abroad to assist in the aftermath of natural and manmade disasters such as earthquakes, famine and war. We also improve the ability of local communities to cope with natural disasters, disease and hunger.

In response to current global unrest we are scaling up our emergency response capabilities and launching new emergency response teams.

SPACH – Society for the Preservation Afghan Cultural Heritage

For more information about SPACH, contact UNESCO <http://www.unesco.org/>

Solidarités

www.solidarites.org/ourprog/afgha.htm

SOLIDARITES is a humanitarian organisation which provides aid and assistance to victims of war or armed conflict. For over 20 years the association has concentrated its action on meeting three vital needs - water, food and shelter - by carrying out emergency programmes followed by reconstruction projects.

Whilst fully respecting the assisted populations' customs and culture, SOLIDARITES' programmes are implemented through the joint expertise of around fifty French expatriate volunteers and nearly one thousand local managerial staff and employees.