



## 20 Years of Service

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Because a  
Better World  
is Possible.

2010 Annual Report



## A Message from our leaders



Dear Friends,

In 2010, Relief International helped rebuild lives and renew hope and for hundreds of thousands of conflict-affected people around the globe. We were among the first agencies to respond to two of the most challenging natural disasters in our world's history: the devastating January 12 earthquake in Haiti and last summer's severe flooding in Pakistan. Your generosity in response to these disasters was inspiring. Through this support, our teams helped lay the groundwork for long-term recovery in both countries and we continue to help shattered communities rebuild.

June 20, 2010 marked Relief International's 20th Anniversary. We can all be proud of what we have achieved as an organization and as a family of concerned individuals. We congratulate our family of friends, supporters and staff for the incredible achievements over the past two decades. This support and dedication has enabled our team to provide relief and development assistance to millions of individuals in more than 50 countries.

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Reflecting on our history and on our work through our work over this past year, much of our programming is focused on investing in women. We see investing in women as one of the smartest ways to fight poverty and improve the advancement of communities in developing countries. In this year's Annual Report, we invite you to learn how Relief International's programming is helping women overcome the odds and achieve their extraordinary potential to lead.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we look forward to serving humanity in the years ahead with the same passion and commitment to transformative action that has defined us for the past twenty years.

Farshad Rastegar, PhD  
*President & CEO*

Simon Goodall  
*Chair of the Board of Directors*





## Our Mission

Relief International is a humanitarian non-profit agency that provides emergency relief, rehabilitation, development assistance, and program services to vulnerable communities worldwide. Relief International is solely dedicated to reducing human suffering and is non-political and non-sectarian in its mission. Relief International's mission is to:

- *Serve* the needs of the most vulnerable and reduce human suffering globally without discrimination.
- *Empower* communities through capacity building and economic development.
- *Protect* lives from physical injury or death and/or psychological trauma.

## Our Approach

- *Bridge* emergency relief and development through appropriate, innovative, community based and sustainable approaches.
- *Promote* economic self reliance, peaceful coexistence by maximizing job creation, use of local human and natural resources, and enhancing civic responsibility and action.
- *Partner* with beneficiaries and donors alike to uphold the highest professional norms in serving those in need with dignity and respect.





Every day, we invest in **women** so they can **change the world.**



## Why Women?

We view investing in women as one of the smartest ways to fight poverty. When we invest in women, they dramatically improve the lives of their families and the health of their communities. In this year's Annual Report, we invite you to learn how Relief International's global programming is helping women in developing countries overcome the odds and achieve their extraordinary potential to lead.





## Improving the Health of Women and Girls in Haiti



On January 12, 2010, the country of Haiti was rocked by an earthquake that left an estimated 230,000 dead and more than one million homeless. Since January 15, Relief International has been providing medical treatment, preventative care, family health education and reproductive health care in Port-au-Prince and rural Haiti.

Relief International operates five mobile clinics and two fixed clinics, treating 2,500 patients per week. Within these clinics, there is an emphasis on providing reproductive health care to women in an effort to reduce maternal mortality resulting from pregnancy and delivery complications. Relief International brought on leading Haitian doctors and nurses, including female reproductive health physicians, to help avoid these preventable deaths and delivery complications.

Relief International is also establishing a Women's Center in the town of Croix des Bouquets to provide protection and empowerment programs for earthquake-affected women and girls. This Center, which opens in 2011, will provide a safe and accessible place for women and girls to receive relief supplies, disease prevention education, assistance for victims of gender-based violence, leadership training, income-generating activities, and assistance in building local management capacity to operate the center.



“In Haiti, we have about 72 percent of women with no medical, no pre-natal care and delivering at home.”

– Dr. Adeline Saint-Preux,  
*RI Reproductive Health Physician*



## Boosting Local Economies in Lebanon



Relief International is committed to reducing poverty and improving livelihoods in Lebanon’s most challenging areas by empowering communities to create and sustain local economic development initiatives. Relief International’s three-year “Baladiyat” program – which translates to mean “municipalities” -- provides entrepreneurs, with a particular focus on women, access to finance through small grants and microfinance loans to launch and grow small businesses and local economic development projects. The program simultaneously develops leadership skills and offers business skills and technical assistance training to encourage local economic growth.

By the end of 2010, the program had created 21 public-private partnerships and created 155 jobs throughout the country.



“No one in the region was providing this service for the community before. People trust me and call me an eye doctor. This has allowed me to realize my dream; I feel responsible for building that future now and have plenty of work,”

– Paulette,  
RI Baladiyat Grant Recipient

After Paulette graduated with optician credentials, members from her home village of Beyt Mellat urged her to return to the rural region which lacked any optometry services. Despite being trained in eyeglass manufacturing, Paulette did not have the funds to purchase the appropriate equipment to start her own shop.

Paulette received a \$5,000 grant through RI’s “Baladiyat” program which enabled her to open an optometry business in her hometown. She now provides community vision care and glasses manufactured on site, saving both time and money. Paulette expects her profit to reach at least \$700 per month, which she plans to invest back into the business. With time, Paulette hopes to open another shop in a nearby village to expand much-needed services.



## Educating Future Leaders in Afghanistan & Pakistan



In addition to rehabilitation of school infrastructure, Relief International is helping combat high illiteracy rates and the absence of libraries in many schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. By providing schools and communities with new books, Relief International provides a vital community resource that broadens students' access to knowledge and augments educational opportunities for individuals and the community as a whole. The libraries project aims to break the cycle of poverty by bringing education and literacy to those who need it most.

The program also makes an important contribution to bridging the gender gaps in literacy and access to education by providing girls with access to books in areas where they may not have access to schools.

Through 2010, Relief International has created 650 school libraries in Afghanistan and Pakistan.



“Education not only opens the doors for a brighter future in underserved communities, it also fights poverty at its source.”

– Sara Abbasi,  
RI Board Member



## Treating Malnourished Mothers and Children in Somalia



Since 1991, widespread violence, poverty, droughts and floods have generated a complex emergency in Somalia – more than 500,000 refugees fled the country and more than 1.3 million are internally displaced. The combined effects of conflict, poor rainfall, floods, inflation, displacement and disease outbreaks have severely exacerbated food insecurity and resulted in a significant increase in acute malnutrition rates – 16 percent of all children under five are acutely malnourished.

In response, Relief International is treating 20,500 malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers through community nutrition outreach programs in Somalia's north-central district of Mudug. Working within established health facilities and therapeutic feeding centers, Relief International is training local nutritionists and health staff on the treatment of acute malnutrition and is providing severely malnourished citizens with the food rations, growth monitoring, and nutrition education that is necessary to their recovery. These services are particularly important for expectant mothers and children.

In addition to therapeutic feeding treatment and education, Relief International has launched an in-depth study in partnership with the United Nations World Food Programme to compare food supplements and identify the most effective product to be used in a target feeding program in the region.







## Empowering Women in Darfur



In Darfur, women and girls are central to community life. They perform 90% of the farming in a region where agriculture is a key source of both food and income. Women and girls ensure household welfare by traveling long distances daily to retrieve water and wood, and they are the primary caregivers for children and elders.

In spite of their enormous contributions, women and girls in Darfur are often the first to suffer. Women are not represented at the professional level or in policy making. When family incomes suffer, boys stay in school while young girls stay home to earn money by washing clothes or selling charcoal. Even when civil conflict sees increases in rape or violence against females, the women and girls of Darfur still make the daily treks for water and wood at the risk of their own safety. In order to ensure women's safety, increase overall health and generate income, RI has delivered fuel efficient stoves to 250,000 individuals.

Started in 2004, RI's three Women's Centers respond to the needs of women suffering the effects of 20+ years of war. The Centers serve as safe spaces for mentoring between local women and girls; help regain missed basic education; teach entrepreneurship skills; provide access to microcredit loans; offer training to become professionals in agriculture and livestock health; and support victims of violence.

Through 2010, RI's Women Centers in Darfur have reached 10,141 women and girls.



**"For me, right now I am able to, for the first time, have the courage to talk to the community if I have to meet with them. It is very amazing to do this."**

**– Fatima,**  
*RI's Agricultural Extensionists Training  
Program Participant*

**Fatima was one of 75 women to participate in RI's Agricultural Extensionists training program, which engages female family farmers to learn professional teaching skills, new farming techniques to improve crop yield and nutrition, and ways to withstand regional challenges such as drought. Fatima and the other women went on to become leaders in their community, seen as essential, for quite often the first time.**



## Combating Human Trafficking in Bangladesh



Each year, between 700,000 to four million women and children are trafficked around the world for purposes of forced prostitution, labor and other forms of exploitation. Bangladesh is one of the largest source and transit countries for trafficking. In response to this widespread exploitation, Relief International (RI) is working in the Jamalpur district of Bangladesh – one of the poorest regions in the country – to reduce vulnerability to human trafficking, with a special emphasis on women and children.

Relief International provides a wide range of community-based activities that raise awareness of human rights and communicate the risks and warning signs of exploitation. Through youth camps, journalism workshops and radio shows, community members not only are offered protection services – they are taught the alternatives that exist for employment in order to keep them from falling victim to human trafficking in the first place.

“We aim to teach students about effective reporting procedures on social issues so that they can use wall magazines, newsletters and various community service projects to generate widespread awareness about human rights and prevention of trafficking,” said Nazrul Islam, Country Director of Relief International in Bangladesh.

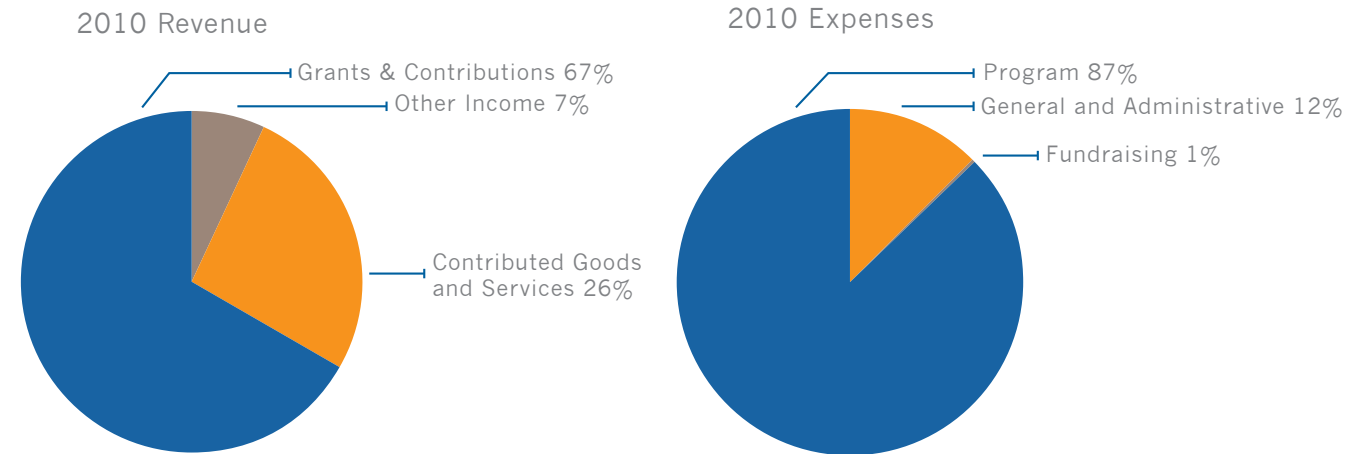


“This camp has an extremely useful source of information for us. We can now work as youth journalists and protest against trafficking and other violations of human rights.”

– RI Youth Journalism Camp Participant

## Financial Statements

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2009	2010 TOTAL	2009 TOTAL
<b>CURRENT YEAR OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES</b>		
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Grants and contributions	25,878,853	25,257,170
Contributed goods and services	10,235,181	1,377,077
Other Income	2,597,756	1,788,297
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>38,711,790</b>	<b>28,422,544</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program	26,620,029	26,265,286
Fundraising	98,999	11,925
General and administrative	3,765,763	4,016,952
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>30,484,791</b>	<b>30,294,163</b>
Increase (Decrease) in net assets	8,230,257	(1,404,245)
Net assets beginning of the year	31,321,194	32,725,439
Net assets end of the year	39,551,451	31,321,194



**87 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR CONTRIBUTED DIRECTLY HELPS THOSE IN NEED**



Afghanistan



Azerbaijan



Bangladesh



Ghana



Guinea



Haiti



Indonesia



Iran



Iraq



Jordan



Lebanon



Myanmar



Nepal



Niger



Nigeria



Pakistan



Palestine



Philippines



Senegal



Somalia



Sri Lanka



Sudan



Uganda



Yemen

Our Global Impact  
**RELIEF**  
INTERNATIONAL