



Associate Parliamentary Limb Loss Group

for the Promotion of the Prevention of Limb Loss and of the Provision of Prosthetic, Orthotic, Wheelchair/Special Seating, Medical and other vital Rehabilitation Services to persons of all ages suffering Limb Loss and associated Complex Physical Disabilities in the United Kingdom and Internationally

ANDREW MORTON PRAISES THE WORK OF RESPONSE INTERNATIONAL IN PAKISTAN



Andrew Morton Chairman of Response International 'RI'

says: *"For the last eighteen years RI has worked tirelessly among communities, who through no fault of their own, find themselves in the midst of a former battle zone strewn with unexploded ordnance and*

landmines. Our mission is to educate the men and women but especially the children in these often remote and poverty- stricken towns and villages about these deadly and often hidden dangers.

We also teach locals how to help themselves, training them in emergency first aid and life support. Day in and day out, our work saves lives and limbs, enabling those caught up in the chaos of war to maintain their communities and care for local people, especially innocent children."



RI, a founder Associate Member of the Associate Parliamentary Limb Loss Group, has been active in Pakistan since 2003, initially in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas 'FATA' with a three year Landmine Action/ Victim Assistance project.

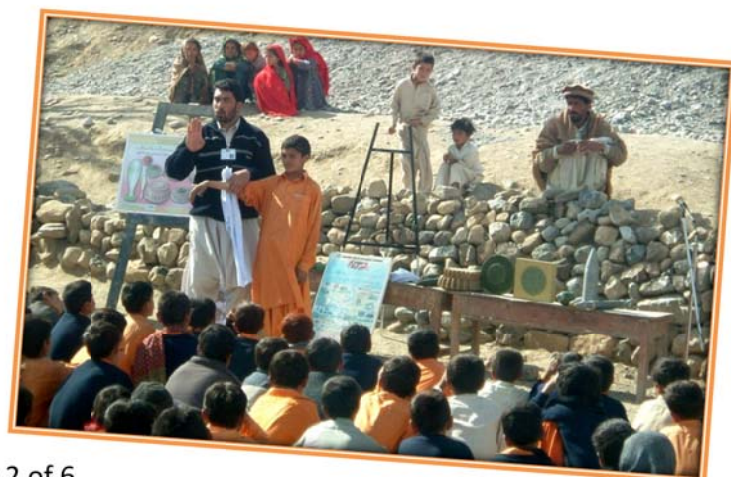


In 2005 RI assessed the impact of landmines in Azad Jamma and Kashmir 'AJK', along the contested border with India. RI obtained support from the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office 'FCO' for a 2 year multi-sector mine action project; initiated in December 2005, for the Poonch district of AJK. RI then undertook further assessments in districts Kotli and Bhimber of AJK, which

resulted in a second Mine Action and conflict resolution project; again funded by the FCO. Hence RI was already a veteran of 3 Landmine Action projects in the most problematic areas of Pakistan by the time of the dramatic displacement of population from the Swat Valley.

Pakistan is in the midst of major internal displacements of people due to both conflict and the impact of the 2010 floods. In Swat over 2 million people had been registered as IDPs, living within 22 camps and host communities. Whilst the Government plans to clear landmines from the fought over area, IDP families have move back to their homes prematurely, enduring a serious risk to life and limb.

RI launched an emergency Mine Risk Education project to raise awareness



among IDPs and avoid traumatic injuries. MRE was conducted in all the major IDP camps spread over several districts of the North West Frontier Province 'NWFP' and in communities hosting IDPs. Road shows/stalls were arranged at the entry points on major roads, to provide maximum coverage to the returning IDPs. MRE and first aid messages were disseminated using the local FM channels, and printed leaflets and brochures were distributed amongst the IDP populations. As IDPs return to their home districts RI teams followed them and continued to give them security support.



In summary, with a mix of male and female staff to ensure maximum outreach, and supporting local communities and government health staff, RI:

- ✓ Provides mine awareness and risk avoidance education for the IDP population;
- ✓ Performs a victim's survey to identify existing Explosive Remnants of War victims;
- ✓ Builds local capacity to provide on-going Mine Action services;
- ✓ Raises awareness and influence local and national policy with respect to landmines/Unexploded ordnance and related issues.
- ✓ Liaises with the Military/ Frontier Corp for identification and disposal of any landmines or unexploded ordnance and rescue services.



RI's unique knowledge of victims and of disabled people is shared with UN and the Government of Pakistan. This all helps:

- ✓ Mobilise IDP populations both inside and outside camps
- ✓ Reduce casualties caused by landmines/UXO, and build safe behaviour through mine risk education [MRE] services at camps, schools, religious places, public places [in host communities], and demonstrations and road shows at entry points.
- ✓ Identify victims through household surveys
- ✓ Government responsiveness to the needs of the local population including disabled people.
- ✓ Build capacities of health workers and local communities in effective management of trauma victims.
- ✓ Mitigate the environmental effects;
- ✓ Secure a safe future for children, men and women.



MEDICAL & TECHNICAL ADVISORS GROUP 'MTAG'

Composed of volunteer members on an expenses only basis, RI's MTAG group of experts lends authority and expertise in its chosen sectors of health, rehabilitation, human rights and landmine action. Members are typically of Professorial, Consultant or Senior Registrar status. They support specific projects and provide: assessment, project design, monitoring and mentoring visits, and end-of-project evaluation reports.



RI is endowed with some of the UK's leading experts in medical trauma care; senior members are Colonel Jim Ryan and Colonel Jane Davis, both attached to the UK's Medical Corp/Territorial Reserve.

OUTREACH AND FUND-RAISING



Philip Garvin, Chief Executive Officer said: ***“RI increases the self-reliance and independence to formerly dependent disabled individuals; the rehabilitation and re-enablement of those disabled people helps to free up the productive energies of communities impoverished and brutalised by war.”***

However, securing adequate funding for the rehabilitation element of any post conflict action inevitably has a lower profile than the initial disaster, and remains harder to identify and obtain. Nevertheless there is no shortage of work for RI in the future.



NEW PROJECTS AND FUNDING



Three UN contracts, with additional support from UK Trusts, are addressing the humanitarian needs of the Pakistan Flood disaster:

- ✓ Muzaffragard - Punjab duration 4 months
- ✓ Dera Ghazi Khan - Punjab duration 6 months
- ✓ Thatta - Sind duration 6 months

Similar contracts for adjacent affected areas are being considered for funding by the UN and the United States Department of State. In the same vein as RI's Emergency Landmine Action work in the Swat Valley funded by the United States Department of State; we have before the same donor a project for the adjacent area of FATA 'Federally Administered Tribal Agencies'. Total duration is conceived of as three years with a first year budget of **US\$1 million**.

Additionally, three new major projects for Pakistan are under consideration by international donors.

VOLUNTEERS

The Charity is greatly indebted to the many volunteers give up their time to help. Their commitment and support significantly enhances the outreach and the achievements of the Charity and enables overheads to be kept to a minimum.



For further information visit

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or contact

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visiting the [Associate Parliamentary Limb Loss Group Website](http://www.apllg.eu) at

www.apllg.eu or via email: feedback@apllg.eu

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