

## Advocacy case studies

# CHILDREN'S DISASTER RISK REDUCTION EDUCATION IN PAKISTAN

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<b>COUNTRY:</b>	<b>Pakistan</b>
<b>THEMES:</b>	<b>Children and education; disaster management</b>
<b>ADVOCACY APPROACHES:</b>	<b>Demonstrating good practice; educating community members; government officials: educating</b>

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For a number of years, Tearfund partner Pak Mission Society (PMS) has been working in the Palas area of Kohistan district in north-west Pakistan on disaster risk reduction (DRR) for children. Initially, they ran a nine-month programme in ten primary schools across ten communities. The aim was to reduce the impact of disasters on children through child-friendly education, equipping youngsters with vital DRR knowledge. To ensure the programme was effective, PMS provided training on the latest teaching techniques for teachers in these schools.

The project led to the renovation of various school buildings, resulting in a much better learning environment for the children. These successes led to high enrolment rates for the programme, with almost 700 children registering in just the first nine months. An interesting achievement of the project was the strong performance of girls compared with boys in this area.

The success of the project in promoting primary education, particularly for girls, was acknowledged by the district government. They were so impressed by all that PMS had achieved through the programme that they provided 32 new teachers for the local area, trained in these latest child-friendly teaching methods. After an assessment clearly demonstrated the positive impacts of this work, the district education department also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with PMS to continue to work with them on children's wellbeing and education.