In fragile and remote environments, progress is sustainable only if communities are ready to respond when disasters strike.

With nine development agencies working in concert, the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) uses a multifaceted approach to improve the quality of life for the most marginalised communities in selected regions of the world, including South and Central Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. It implements sustainable, long-term programmes to address the many factors contributing to poverty.

In partnership with governments, businesses and civil society organisations, the Network embeds physical and social infrastructure, health and education services, business and finance facilities, habitat and environmental planning, and cultural preservation and revitalisation within the communities it serves. Over time, people develop their own resources and capacities and, ultimately, self-reliance, notably through the creation of a vibrant and competent civil society – the cornerstone of any healthy and prosperous nation.

Pluralism – the embrace of difference – is central to AKDN’s work. Guided by the belief that in an ever-shrinking, ever more diverse world, a genuine sense of pluralism is the indispensable foundation for human peace and progress, the Network aims to improve living conditions and opportunities for people regardless of their faith, race, ethnicity, or gender.

Improving the quality of life

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His Highness the Aga Khan, the Founder and Chairman of AKDN, is the 49th hereditary Imam (spiritual leader) of the Shia Ismaili Muslims. Since 1957, as part of his mandate to guide the Ismaili community, he has been deeply engaged in issues relating to the quality of life and well-being of Ismailis and the countries and regions in which they reside.
What we do:
• health care
• early childhood development
• primary, secondary & tertiary education
• habitat, architecture & planning
• disaster preparedness & response
• environment & climate change
• agriculture & food security
• cultural restoration & musical heritage
• SME development
• financial services & insurance
• industry & infrastructure
• tourism
• media

Annual highlights:
• Deliver 8 million outpatient visits through more than 700 health facilities
• Provide early childhood development to over 2.3 million preschool children
• Teach nearly 1 million students through 200 schools and 2 universities
• Provide safe water to over 770,000 people
• Generate 1.8 billion kWh of clean electricity
• Provide financial services to over 50 million people
• Train 40,000 community volunteers in disaster management & response
• Plant over 3.2 million trees

AKDN’s annual expenditures for its non-profit development activities is approximately $1 billion. Its economic development arm, the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development (AKFED), generates annual revenues of $4 billion. Surpluses generated by AKFED companies are reinvested in AKDN development activities.

For more information, visit https://the.akdn
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