Vodafone Foundation

Mobile for Good

At the heart of our Foundation is the belief that mobile communications technologies can address some of the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges and our responsibility is to utilise our innovative mobile technology in mobilising social change and improving people's lives.

Over the last year, more than ever before, we have delivered transformational projects at scale by connecting our charitable giving with our technology, working in partnership with other charities and organisations to increase our impact. Across our network of Foundations these projects are delivering significant public benefit. Total donations for the year were £51.5 million which included £6.4 million towards Vodafone Foundations' operating costs.

Instant Network

When Typhoon Bopha hit the Philippines in December communications infrastructure was destroyed and network coverage was lost. A team of qualified Vodafone volunteers from the Vodafone Foundation, including the project manager and two Vodafone New Zealand employees, deployed Vodafone Instant Network in the Philippines. Working in partnership with Telecoms Sans Frontieres and local operator, Smart, a network was established in the town of Baganga, available to anyone in the vicinity.

Thanks to Vodafone Instant Network, people were able to reconnect with families and friends. Locals were able to receive money to their phones via Smart money, a mobile application similar to M-Pesa. Aid agencies,

including the Philippine Red Cross, were given access to the network to coordinate rescue and relief efforts and to set up free calling services for local people without phones, credit or power.

For the duration of the 17 day deployment Instant Network ran at full capacity with the maximum number of calls and texts being sent over the network at all times. In total 296,926 calls and 578,994 texts were sent over Instant Network, the highest number in any deployment to date. Equipment was removed once the permanent network had been re-established.

JustTextGiving

JustTextGiving by Vodafone in the UK leads the way as the world's first free SMS based charity fundraising platform available to all mobile customers on any UK network. JustTextGiving by Vodafone is revolutionising the way charities and fundraisers collect donations, with donors using a unique code to send donations via text. It is also linked to Gift Aid which means 25% can be added to all donations made by a UK taxpayer. To date, £9.2 million (including gift aid) has been raised using JustTextGiving, 17,719 charities have signed up to use the service and over 72,000 individual fundraisers have registered for unique codes.

TecSOS

The TecSOS handset has been adapted for use by victims of domestic abuse. The handset was initially developed by the Vodafone Spain Foundation in partnership with the Spanish Red Cross and the TecSOS Foundation, and provides a connection to emergency services at the press of a button. TecSOS programmes currently run in five of our markets: Spain, Italy, Portugal, Hungary and the UK. Pilot programmes in Germany, Turkey and Ireland are set to launch shortly. Italy launched a national programme in 2012, Hungary's Minister of Justice made TecSOS part of the Safety for Women programme and one third of the UK police forces have integrated TecSOS since its launch in 2011. In total 28,426 women have used the handset to keep them safe from abusive partners and in Spain there are on average 60 to 70 activations a month. A user in the UK shared their experience with us: "My message to Vodafone is a massive thank you, I hope that you can give TecSOS handsets to more women to help them. Without a doubt my phone saved my life."

For more information about Vodafone Foundation go to vodafonefoundation.org/m4gplayer

