

# Annual Report

## 2011-2012



**Aurat Foundation**



# **Annual Report**

## **2011-2012**



**Aurat Foundation**

**Report:** Annual Report 2011-2012

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**Layout and design:** Shahzad Ashraf

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## **List of Acronyms and Abbreviations**

AF	Aurat Foundation
AHAN	Adolescent Health Awareness Network
APP	Associated Press of Pakistan
CAC	Citizen's Action Committee
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DFG	District Focal Group
DLG	Drama Listening Gathering
EVAW/G	Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls alliance
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GEP	Gender Equity Program
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IHI	Insani Haqooq Ittehad
JAC	Joint Action Committee
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LACGI	Local Action to Combat Gender Injustices
LWG	Legislative Watch Group
LWP-WE	Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MNA	Member National Assembly
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWD	Ministry of Women's Development
MPA	Member Provincial Assembly
NADRA	National Database and Regulatory Authority
NCSW	National Commission on the Status of Women
PDM-VAW	Policy and Data Monitor on Violence Against Women
PML-F	Pakistan Muslim League-Functional

PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PML-Q	Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid
PPP	Pakistan People's Party
PPPP	Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians
RHV	Raise Her Voice
SAAG	Sustainable Agriculture Action Group
SAP-PK	South Asia Partnership-Pakistan
SC	Supreme Court
SPME	Strategic Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation
SPO	Strengthening Participatory Organisation
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
VAW-WG	Violence Against Women Watch Group
WAF	Women's Action Forum

**Message from**  
**Dr. Masuma Hasan**  
**President, Board of Governors**



It is with great pride that I look at the journey of Aurat Foundation through its Annual Report for 2011-2012. The contents of the report, with details of Aurat Foundation's multifarious activities, truly justify its status as the leading women's empowerment organisation in Pakistan.

During the year under review, Aurat Foundation continued to work with zeal and prudence in various programmes and projects in spite of the risky security conditions in the country. One of its principal activities has always been advocacy for affirmative action on policy reforms and laws for the protection of women. Its efforts met with success and many pro-women laws were passed in 2011-2012. Believing in interaction at all levels, we organized consultative meetings both to lobby for the laws and to raise awareness of their importance after they had been enacted.

Aurat Foundation's capacity building programmes and workshops have been truly impressive and, as the report shows, its outreach in distant areas of the country to both women and men in the field is of particular significance as is its networking with the youth, universities, and professional organisations and groups.

The campaigns and events organized by Aurat Foundation ranged across many issues affecting the lives and rights of the women of our country, including domestic violence, honour killings, women's property rights, family laws, sexual harassment and other crimes and laws related to anti-women practices. There is increasing awareness that women need to be associated also with peace building and negotiations for peace in zones of conflict.

Our activists organized and participated in rallies on public issues such as peace and security, human rights, democracy, governance and discrimination against minorities. In all these activities, we have collaborated with other rights organisations in the field. We have supported CSOs and gender entities under the ongoing Gender Equity Programme.

Aurat Foundation is conscious of the impact on governance brought about by the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the 1973 Constitution and, as the report shows, it is a measure of its resilience that it has quickly adjusted and made operational changes.

A most significant event was the South Asian Consultative Workshop that was hosted in May 2012 on ‘Mainstreaming Rights of Widows and Single Women in Public Policy’. Thus we kept our pledge to the South Asian Network for Widows’ Empowerment in Development (SANWED), of which we have been partners since 2005. This event added a new regional dimension to our work.

I would like to congratulate the entire Aurat Foundation team for its dedication, commitment and creativity and wish it continued success.



## **Introduction**

While reflecting upon Aurat Foundation's struggle for socio-political and economic change for women's empowerment during January 2011 and June 2012, it would be prudent to refer to the overall security situation of the country under which human rights activists have been working. Although the security situation improved slightly in the latter half of the year, it remained precarious in several respects in many parts of the country. Violence increased in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and FATA region. The heat of sectarian violence enveloped the larger areas of Balochistan and Northern areas. Karachi witnessed incidents of worst target killings. Terrorism and sectarian violence claimed lives of several people including some renowned figures in politics and civil society as well as in the field of education, sports and media.

At the governance level, there was a silver lining. 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment created space for provincial autonomy, but at the same time, it initiated debate among different sections of society as regards post-amendment implications on women's rights issues with the Ministry of Women's Development being wrapped up. Despite the deteriorating situation of peace and security and direct threats posed by extremists, AF staff kept their morale high and did not let the activities lose its momentum. They responded to each situation with dedication and courage.

AF actively continued its advocacy and lobbying efforts for pro-women policy and legislation. It remained in the forefront of collective civil society efforts whether these were for women's empowerment or for peace and democracy. AF worked with the like-minded civil society networks across the country and actively took up the issue of discrimination and violence against religious minorities; and strongly condemned the murders of Governor Punjab Salman Taseer and federal minister for religious minorities, Shahbaz Bhatti. AF continued to discuss and highlight issues of violence against women, discriminatory legislation, growing menace of terrorism, religious extremism, Supreme Court's verdict in Mukhtaran Mai's case, 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment and its implications regarding devolution of the Ministry of Women's Development (MoWD).

AF also made important strides at the organisational level during 2011. AF expanded its national outreach and its potential for adaptability, particularly its strength in raising and mobilizing human resources, was increased and improved. AF developed, revised and improved the following policies and documents for steering the institution in expanding and consolidating its operations:

- Internal Audit Manual
- Financial and Accounts Manual
- Solicitation Manual
- Procurement Manual
- Grants Management Manual

- IT Manual
- Administrative Manual
- Report Writing and Presentation Skills
- Branding and Marking Guidelines in Urdu

The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) section was further strengthened during the year. AF installed and set up a state-of-the-art data centre that supports M&E systems and functions in the organisation. The data centre is a first of its kind among national NGOs and is in line with AF's current thrust of implementing institutional reforms for more effective, transparent, and efficient programme implementation. AF also benefitted from M&E training during the year on social research methods. The AF website provides valuable information and knowledge on current issues of human/women's rights. AF provided regular socio-political and economic updates on issues concerning women through its regular and specific publications as listed in the report.

All this would have not been possible without constant supervision of Executive Director Nigar Ahmad, guidance and assistance by the Board of Governors and dedication of AF staff. We will continue this journey with the same zeal.

**Naeem Ahmed Mirza**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Aurat Foundation**  
August 2012, Islamabad

## Aurat Foundation's Vision Statement

### **Strengthening 'Social Capital' for an Enlightened, Democratic and Civilised Society**

**By Nigar Ahmad**

Pakistan's human development indicators show a scale of deprivation that cannot provide the foundation for an enlightened, democratic and civilised society in the future. About a third of the population is currently living below the poverty line and cannot meet its minimum food requirements. More than half the population is illiterate and has limited access to safe water, sanitation and health services which leading to the death of large numbers of women and children.



It is also increasingly evident that women and girls in poor households bear a disproportionately high share of the burden of poverty, compared to the men of their households, due primarily to the social constrictions and the physical restrictions on their mobility. As a result of this discriminatory handicap, a significant majority of Pakistani women have negligible participation in decision-making processes in all spheres of life, from family to state.

However, there appears now to be a consensus among the '*Development Set*' that '**a lack of transparency and accountability in governance**' is actually the major obstacle in addressing this concern of economic growth. Hence most multi-lateral and bilateral aid agencies insist today that 'good governance' and the 'devolution of power' to local authorities be the preconditions to aid packages for poverty reduction in Pakistan.

But we believe that the capacity of the poor to improve their conditions of living in Pakistan is linked, like elsewhere in the world, to the highly inequitable system of ownership and distribution of resources in the country, propped up by anti-democratic political institutions, non-accountable governance and unequal gender relations. Without an accompanying comprehensive package strengthening the participation of citizens' organisations in local level governance, there will be no pressure on local government institutions to be responsible or be accountable to citizens' groups.

These preconditions clearly imply certain rearrangements for the ruling elites to concede some rights to the citizens, to share some powers with lower tiers of governance. Regimes in countries like ours

understand exactly what this implies and how to deal with such ‘threats’ to their unbridled governance by the donors. This concentration of the economic power base also comes directly in conflict with any sharing of political power, especially with those at the local level of governance. That is why as soon as they come to power, the civilian governments have usually so readily dispensed with the ‘local competitors in their backyards’ by dissolving the local governments.

1. In the absence of any pressure by peoples’ movement, or from political opposition to redistribute resources, it is difficult to see how to move forward on the path towards participatory democracy, social justice and substantive gender equality.

### **A Paradigm Shift to Strengthen Social Capital**

AF believes that there is a possibility to break this impasse by involving activist citizens’ organisations and social and cultural networks within a framework that enables them to act as pressure groups in the struggle to demand social justice, political representation, and accountability in governance.

Development history of many modern economies has shown that a set of interactive elements, accelerating development processes, and recognised, with hindsight, as having played a vital role in the growth of the modern nation state. This was the ‘glue’ that in the transitional process in many modernising economies, brought together some very disparate groups rising above their existing tribal, clan and caste identities, to form inclusive organisations and networks, with ultimately a collective vision, shared values, and common goals. This ‘art of association’ or coming together of diverse social and cultural networks for common goals, earlier associated largely with traditional, community-focused societies, is the essence of ‘**social capital**’, increasingly recognised in recent development literature as essential even to the functioning of modern economies and vital to the development of democratic institutions.

This term is used increasingly in current development literature to **indicate the non-economic and non-quantifiable factors that magnify the development impact of the measurable factors**, because of their immense potential to be mobilised across large sections of society, unite these disparate social classes on common interests and collective issues, and rally them for exerting political pressure on the ruling elites to seriously address people’s demands. The catalyst to kick off the process that facilitates their outreach to the communities and makes them effective pressure groups, could be an enabling environment of a closely contested General Elections, with a set of clearly articulated demands for people’s greater share in power and resources for assertion of cultural identity.

Our experience of almost two decades with citizens' groups across the country shows that in recent years citizens' organisations and networks in Pakistan have also been reaching out above existing tribal, clan or ethnic identities, and building 'bonds of trust and mutual concern' with other diverse groups and social networks that are more relevant to their current stage of development so as to work together for collective goals that address the needs of the larger society and benefit even those outside these 'mutual circles of trust'. It is when young men from Sindh are willing to sit with Punjabis and urdu-speaking '*Mohajirs*' to have a political dialogue that the ruling elites get worried. It is when '*Pathans*' join other cultural groups to laugh at themselves, that the 'bonds of trust and mutual concern' become stronger!

Therefore, what is required is a paradigm shift to strengthen 'social capital' in Pakistan, along with our efforts to plug in physical capital, finance capital and human capital. At this stage of our development institutions, most of the activists groups and organisations in Pakistan are in the process of evolving a common vision and discovering shared values with other groups or networks across their traditional clan or culture or social divides. It is imperative that at this critical juncture they are facilitated to acquire the appropriate political knowledge and relevant experience to channel their aspirations and energies into a concrete and constructive direction that does not let them dissipate their struggle or abuse the trust of their networks.

And so, we have come around to the conclusion that the active role of capable and effective civil society organisations and networks must be brought centre stage in popular struggles, to act as pressure groups to promote and enforce justice. We must provide them the enabling institutional framework to facilitate their interaction with other like-minded groups, assist them to evolve a common worldview within a culturally diverse perspective, and a strategy to mobilise joint action primarily for the rights of the people of this country to a life with self-respect and dignity.

It is when these citizens networks articulate the collective interests of the citizens for social justice, for more responsive public representation and transparent and accountable public authority; it is when they demand gender-responsive policies and programmes and gender-sensitive legislation; it is when they demonstrate how to protect ordinary citizens by balancing the power of the state with organised and well-directed public pressure; it is when politically conscious citizens struggle for their rights to assert their cultural identities and to redefine their political space to enforce their inclusion in political processes, that the ruling elites would finally begin to read the writing on the wall and concede a check on their unbridled control over resources and power in 'enlightened self-interest'!



## Board of Governors 2011-2012

<p><b>Dr. Masuma Hasan</b> <i>President</i></p> <p>Development Practitioner; former Cabinet Secretary &amp; Ambassador; Researcher</p>		<p><b>Nigar Ahmad</b> <i>Member/Executive Director</i></p> <p>Economist; Human Rights Activist; Development Practitioner</p>	
<p><b>Mohammad Tahseen</b> <i>Treasurer</i></p> <p>Executive Director, South Asia Partnership Pakistan; Development Expert; Human Rights Activist</p>		<p><b>Arif Hasan</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Architect &amp; Planner; Social Researcher and Writer; Development Practitioner</p>	
<p><b>Shoaib Sultan Khan</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Chairperson, Rural Support Programmes Network, Pakistan; Development Practitioner</p>		<p><b>Tasneem Siddiqui</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Chairman Saiban; former Director, Katchi Abadis, KDA; Development Practitioner</p>	
<p><b>Anis Haroon</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women; Women's Rights Activist</p>		<p><b>Samina Rahman</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Educationist; Women's Rights Activist</p>	
<p><b>Anjum Riyazul Haque</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Development Professional, former UNESCO head in Pakistan</p>			

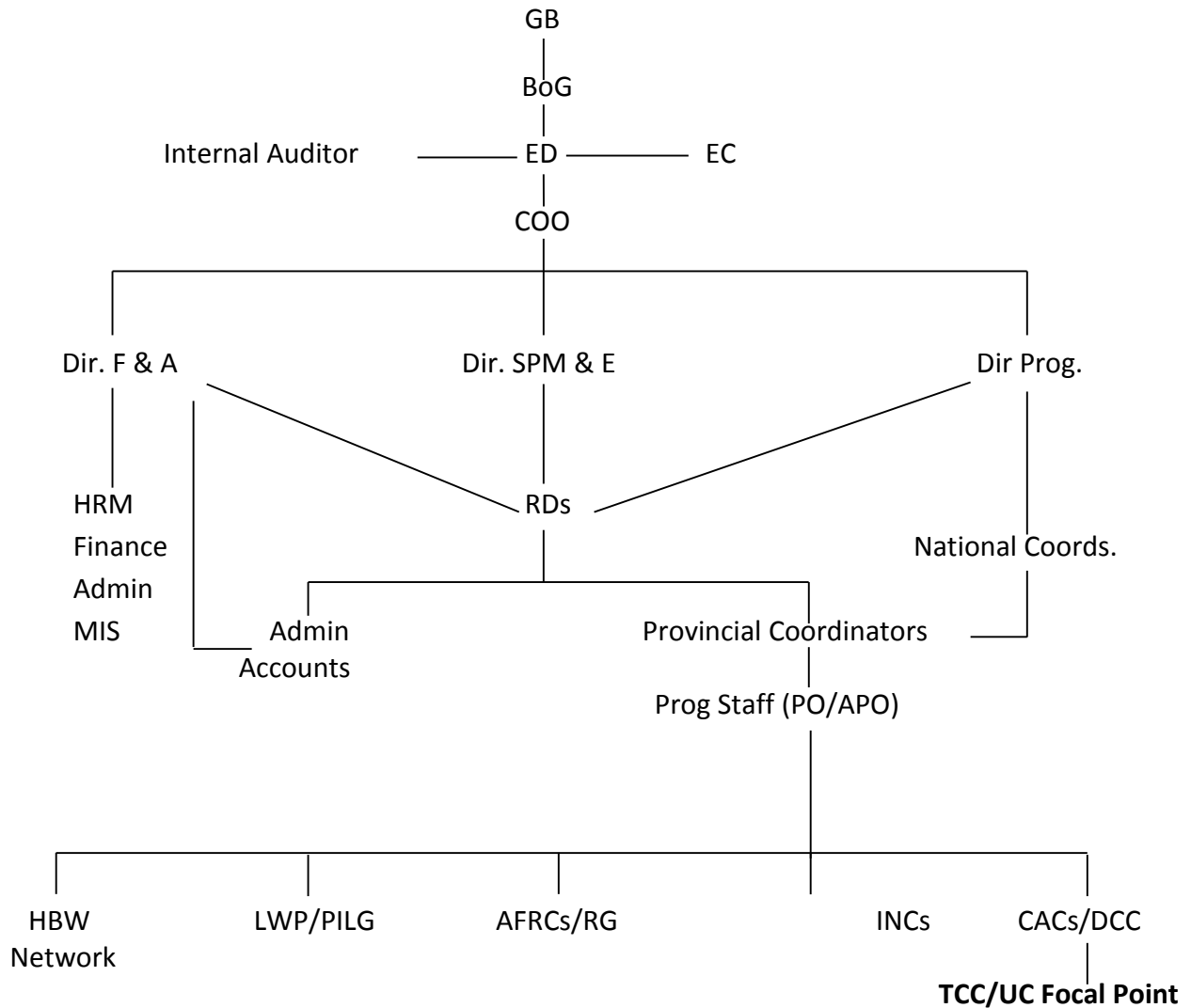
### Executive Council of Aurat Foundation

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Nigar Ahmad	Executive Director	Female	26 years
Naeem Ahmed Mirza	Chief Operating Officer	Male	15 years
M. Younas Khalid	Director SPME/Finance	Male	17 years
Nasreen Zehra	Resident Director, Lahore	Female	16 years
Shabina Ayaz	Resident Director, Peshawar	Female	16 years
Haroon Dawood	Resident Director, Quetta	Male	15 years
Mahnaz Rahman	Resident Director, Karachi	Female	8 years
Umme Laila Azhar	National Coordinator	Female	9 years
Khalid Pervaiz	Director HR & Administration	Male	4 years



# Organogram

## Institutional Structure Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation



### List of Abbreviations

<b>AFRCs:</b>	<b>Aurat Foundation Resource Center</b>	<b>HRM:</b>	<b>Human Resource Management</b>
<b>BoG:</b>	<b>Board of Governors</b>	<b>INCs:</b>	<b>Information Network Centers</b>
<b>CACs:</b>	<b>Citizen Action Committees</b>	<b>LWG:</b>	<b>Legislative Watch Group</b>
<b>COO:</b>	<b>Chief Operating Officer</b>	<b>MIS:</b>	<b>Management Information System</b>
<b>DIR:</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>PILG:</b>	<b>Public Interest Litigation Group</b>
<b>EC:</b>	<b>Executive Council</b>	<b>RG:</b>	<b>Resource Group</b>
<b>F &amp; A:</b>	<b>Finance and Administration</b>	<b>SPM&amp;E:</b>	<b>Strategic Planning, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>
<b>GB:</b>	<b>General Body</b>	<b>TCC:</b>	<b>Tehsil / Town Coordination Committees</b>
<b>HBW:</b>	<b>Home Based Workers</b>	<b>UC:</b>	<b>Union Council</b>



# Audit Report



KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co.  
Chartered Accountants  
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Lahore Pakistan

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## Auditors' Report to the Board of Governors

We have audited the annexed balance sheet of the **Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation ("the Foundation")** as at 30 June 2012 and the related income and expenditure account, cash flow statement and statement of changes in accumulated funds together with the notes forming part thereof (here – in after referred to as "the financial statements") for the year then ended.

It is the responsibility of the Foundation's management to establish and maintain a system of internal control, and prepare and present the financial statements in conformity with the approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion the financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position of the Foundation as at 30 June 2012 and of its net surplus, its cash flows and statement of changes in accumulated funds for the year then ended in accordance with the approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan.

Lahore

Date: 06 October 2013

KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
(Kamran Iqbal Yousafi)

KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co., a Partnership firm registered in Pakistan and a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity.

## Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2012

	2012	2011		2012	2011
	Rupees	Rupees	Note	Rupees	Rupees
<b>FUNDS AND LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>Accumulated fund</b>					
General fund	(9,844,318)	(10,930,421)		44,250,818	18,284,369
Endowment fund	1,035,924	685,924		4,173,926	5,731,461
Donated funds-restricted	573,866	26,573,857	6	48,424,744	24,015,830
Capital grants-restricted	44,285,140	19,172,663			
	36,050,612	35,502,023			
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Trade and other payables	31,624,334	25,556,046	7	11,640,976	4,611,475
Short term loan	4,387,700	8,427,700	8	11,996,926	40,858,464
	36,012,034	33,983,746		23,637,902	45,469,939
<b>Contingencies and commitments</b>					
			9		
	<u>72,062,646</u>	<u>69,485,769</u>		<u>72,062,646</u>	<u>69,485,769</u>

### ASSETS

<b>Non-current assets</b>					
Property and equipment			10	11,640,976	4,611,475
Intangible assets			11	11,996,926	40,858,464
				23,637,902	45,469,939
<b>Current assets</b>					
Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables			12		
Cash and bank balances			13		
				<u>72,062,646</u>	<u>69,485,769</u>

The annexed notes 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Lahore

Director

*Nigar Ahmad*  
Executive Director

*Shamim*  
Director

Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation  
Income and Expenditure Account  
For the year ended 30 June 2012

Note	Aurat		Consolidated	
	Foundation Rupees	Projects Rupees	2012 Rupees	2011 Rupees
<b>INCOME</b>				
Grants-restricted	14	-	269,802,333	189,623,503
Less:				
Property and equipment purchased transferred to deferred income / capital grants		-	(36,286,010)	(15,516,900)
		-	(36,286,010)	(15,516,900)
		-	233,516,323	174,106,603
Donations		1,322,075	-	12,773,028
Other income	15	2,886,552	-	329,874
Amortization of capital grants		11,173,533	-	1,523,727
		15,382,160	233,516,323	248,898,483
				188,733,232
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Salaries, wages and other benefits		453,897	126,095,665	72,671,904
Meetings, seminars, workshops and advertisement expenses		516,604	58,149,162	42,459,328
Professional fee		15,958	5,206,596	36,187,584
Office rent		991,838	11,948,312	8,726,188
Printing, publication, stationery and supplies		10,354	10,176,665	9,961,867
Communication and mailing expenses		38,021	2,758,118	1,554,316
Vehicle running, repair and maintenance expenses		56,085	3,692,078	971,504
Electricity, water and gas expenses		234,612	1,770,319	2,246,700
Travel and transport charges		2,723	4,724,367	1,366,332
Audit fee		400,000	-	355,000
Audit fee related to projects		-	2,361,704	100,000
Repair and maintenance expenses		104,670	1,353,136	809,832
Depreciation	10	9,303,280	-	2,103,659
Amortization	11	2,058,280	-	-
Relief activities		33,189	360,000	1,230,028
Newspapers and periodicals		2,323	224,495	297,296
Security charges		-	2,158,591	967,189
Bank charges		74,223	97,548	170,474
Insurance expenses		-	2,439,567	67,513
		14,296,057	233,516,323	182,246,714
<b>Net surplus</b>		1,086,103	-	6,486,518
			1,086,103	

The annexed notes 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

KPHUfy

Lahore

*Nigar Ahmad*  
Executive Director

*Shamshad*  
Director

**Table 1: List of major operational projects in 2011-2012**

	<i>Projects</i>	<i>Funding Agency</i>
1	Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment (LWP-WE)	RNE
2	Policy and Data Monitoring - Violence Against Women (PDM - VAW)	Trócaire
3	Raising Her Voice (RHV)	OXFAM-GB
4	Engendering Peace and Security	UN Women
5	Gender Equity Program (GEP)	USAID-Pakistan
6	Local Action to Combat Gender Injustices (LACGI) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Kirkens Nødhjelp (NCA- Pakistan)
7	Enhancing the protection of vulnerable boys and girls from the consequences of flood and conflict in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	UNICEF
8	Partnership with Women's Learning Partnership	WLP



**Law and  
Policy Reform**

Passage of the 'Prevention of ... Practices  
(Criminal Law Amendment) Bill, 2011' and Way Forward







## **1. Law and Policy Reform**

Legislative Watch Programme for Women’s Empowerment (LWP-WE) and Policy and Data Monitoring on Violence against Women (PDM-VAW) are AF’s national advocacy and research projects working at the macro decision-making level. Despite several external hurdles, AF remained focussed on the designed and planned objectives of the programmes i.e. the gender-mainstreaming of laws, policies, and plans, democratic governance, and checking violence against women.

18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment enacted in 2010 was the focus of the debate in 2011 as it created huge spaces for provincial autonomy and law-making for women. At the same time it also initiated debate among different women’s rights groups about the vacuum created by the disbandment of federal women’s development ministry and the fate of women’s crisis centres. 2011 brought landmark achievements for women with the enactment of some crucial laws, for example ‘Prevention of Anti-Women Practices, Bill 2011, Acid Control and Acid Crimes Prevention Bill, 2011, which were passed on 12 December, 2011. Another pro-women legislation 'The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2011', to provide legal and financial assistance to the women languishing in jails was passed on 13 December, 2011 by amending "Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996. Enactment of these laws unanimously by the Parliament indicates a positive change in the mindset of public representatives. The deadlock on the enactment of over-due legislation on domestic violence remained despite demands by civil society organisations and efforts by the NCSW and some committed women parliamentarians.

### **1.1 LWP-WE: One-day seminars on specific WR/HR issues in ten locations**



**Islamabad:** LWP-WE organised a seminar titled “18th Amendment: Opportunities and Challenges for Provinces and Women” on June 17, 2011 at the Islamabad Hotel. The objective was to discuss various aspects of the 18th Amendment with CSO members and the media. About 100 participants including 60 women attended the event. The event was presided over by Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW). The main speakers were:

- Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW)
- Mr. Jami Chandio, Executive Director, Centre for Peace and Civil Society;
- Ms. Rehana Hashmi, Executive Director Sisters Trust and Consultant with UN Women;
- Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF.

**Islamabad:** A seminar titled “The Passage of the ‘Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill, 2011” was held on November 17, 2011 at the Best Western Hotel and around 41 women and 30 men participated. Dr. Donya Aziz, the prime mover of the Bill was the chief guest and Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson, NCSW presided over the event.



The panel of speakers included:

- Senator Nilofar Bakhtiar
- Ms. Tahira Abdullah
- Ms. Samar Minallah
- Ms. Rehana Hashmi
- Mr. Naeem Mirza

**Lahore:** A seminar titled “Celebrating 100 years of International Women’s Day” was held on March 8, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Hotel. More than 90 participants including 42 women attended. Panelists included:

- Ms. Samina Rehman, women’s rights activist
- Ms. Mehnaz Rafi, women’s rights activist
- Dr. Zamurd Yasmeen, MPA, PML-N
- Dr. Asma Mamdoot, MPA
- Ms. Amna Ulfat, MPA
- Mr. Salman Abid, Regional Head, Strengthening Participatory Organisation (SPO)
- Ms. Nigar Ahmad, Executive Director, AF

**Lahore:** A seminar titled “Gender-Based Legislation and Issues of Implementation” was held at the Hospitality Inn Hotel on December 29, 2011. 95 participants including 60 women and 16 provincial women MPAs attended. Ms. Yasmeen Rehman (MNA) was the chief guest. Speakers included:

- Azam Nazir Tarar, advocate
- Muhammad Ayub Qureshi, DIG, Police, Punjab
- Muhammad Yousaf Deputy Director, Human Rights and Minorities Affairs
- Husain Naqi, National Coordinator, HRCP
- Dr. Khola Iram, Principle Advisor, GIZ

**Karachi:** The LWP-WE organised a seminar titled “Women Empowerment through Equal Access to Education, Training, Science, and Technology” on March 14, 2011 at the Sindh Assembly building. A celebration of 100 years of International Women’s Day and AF’s Silver Jubilee Year were also major themes. Around 80 people including 40 women attended the seminar. Panelists included:



- Mr. Nisar A. Khuhro, Speaker, Sindh Assembly
- Ms. Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly
- Ms. Tauqeer Fatima Bhutto, Minister for Women Development
- Ms. Nargis N. D. Khan, Minister for Social Welfare



- Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson, NCSW
- Ms. Simi Kamal, CoP, GEP
- Ms. Mahnaz Rahman, Resident Director, AF-Karachi

**Karachi:** A seminar titled “Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011” was held on December 23, 2011 at the Marriot Hotel. 50 participants including 29 women attended. The guest speakers were: Ms. Nilofar Farrukh, Women’s Action Forum (WAF), Mr. Haq Nawaz Talpur, advocate/human rights activist, Ms. Nusrat Sehar Abbasi, MPA, Ms. Zareen Majid, MPA/Chief Minister’s advisor on Media, Ms. Sharmela Farooqi, MPA/Advisor to Chief Minister.

**Peshawar:** LWP-WE organised a seminar on the 18th Amendment and the provincial budget of KPK on June 30, 2011 at the Pearl Continental Hotel. Around 69 people including 27 women attended. Ms. Sitara Ayaz, Minister for Social Welfare and Women Development was the chief guest. The resource person, Dr. Syed Waqar Hussain shed light on the 18th Amendment and KPK’s provincial budget 2011–12.

**Newshehra:** A seminar titled “Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011” was held on December 30, 2011 at Usmania Restaurant. Around 60 participants including 25 women attended. The main speakers were:

- Mr. Wajid Ali Shah, General Secretary, PPPP district wing
- Ms. Nigar Rauf, former district councillor and president PPPP district women wing
- Ms. Shakila Khan, AF

**Quetta:** LWP organised a seminar titled “Domestic Violence Bill” on June 14, 2011 at the Balochistan Boy Scout Association. Around 66 participants including 28 women participated. Resource persons included: Advocate Habib Tahir; Mr. Rahat Malik; Advocate Syed Nazeer Agha; Ms. Saima Javed, AF. Speakers said civil society should put collective pressure on provincial governments to approve the Domestic Violence Bill as it was now a provincial subject.

**Quetta:** A seminar titled “Repeal of Discriminatory Laws against Women with a Focus on the Hudood Ordinance” was held on June 20, 2011 at the Balochistan Boy Scout Association. Around 62 participants including 22 women participated.

## **1.2 18th Constitutional Amendment and the MoWD**

Another situation that presented a challenge to AF and other civil society organisations (CSOs) was the passage of the 18th Amendment. It meant that all policies and legislation regarding women became the domain of provinces. The level of sensitivity towards women-related issues including gender-based violence (GBV) and the capacity of service delivery organisation achieved at the federal level, has no equal at the provincial level, especially provinces affected by terrorist activities. Matters related to women, children, and the poor and marginalised sections of society

who are subjected to various forms of violence (killing in the name of honour, suicides, target killings, acid throwing, stove burning, incest, suicidal attacks on religious places and public institutions) will have to bear the direct impact of this change.

The devolution or shift of powers towards the provinces was a long-standing demand of civil society, but has left it with many open questions. The AF welcomed the decision but demanded that a unified body deal with women-related issues at the federal level.

**National Working Group meeting:** AF arranged a working group meeting on 13 April 2011 at Crown Plaza Hotel Islamabad to initiate widespread and inclusive discussion on the implications of the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment and the situation of Ministry of Women’s Development (MoWD) after devolution. In particular, the focus of this consultation was to discuss the implications and repercussions of disbanding a national focal point that addresses women’s interests; organisations represented were Aurat Foundation, Shirkat Gah, Simorgh, Sungi, Rozan, SACH, SPO, ASR, Christian Study Centre, Sister’s Trust, PODA and WORD. Panelists comprised Nighat Saeed (ASR), Neelam Hussain (Simorgh) Fauzia Viqar (Shirkat Gah), Maria Rashid (Rozan), Samina Khan (Sungi) and Naeem Mirza (Aurat Foundation). All the organisations involved had very clear positions on provincial autonomy while some had taken the position that the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment should be seen as a process and not an end and that areas still included in the Federal List of Subjects need to be further limited in the future. There was complete consensus that all projects, programmes, training, employment and special facilities and initiatives, health care, education, training and research, and support to women’s organisations must be devolved to the Provinces. The provinces must also be given all decision making and implementation responsibility within the parameters of national uniformity, universal norms and an adherence to national and international policies, agreements, conventions and commitments. The participants, however, expressed concern over the institutional gaps being left behind at the federal level to address core and overarching issues for example reporting on CEDAW and federal level law-making on women’s rights issues.



### **1.3 Critique of gender-based legislation and implementation**

AF under its LWP-WE project AF carried out national and provincial initiatives to discuss specific and current issues. These were:

#### **1.3.1 National consultation on issues of WR/HR development**



**Islamabad:** A one-day national consultation titled “Provincial Legislative Issues/Developments after the 18th Amendment” was held on November 26, 2011 at the Islamabad Hotel. Around 60 women and 30 men attended the event. The guest speakers were:

- Ms. Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Provincial Assembly, Sindh
- Dr. Ruqiya Hashmi, Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination, Balochistan
- Ms. Ghazala Gola, Minister for Women’s Development, Balochistan
- Ms. Heer Soho, MPA, MQM, Sindh
- Ms. Nusrat Saher Abbasi, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League-Functional (PML-F), Sindh
- Ms. Humaira Alwani, MPA, Pakistan People’s Party Parliamentarians (PPPP), Sindh
- Ms. Shameela Aslam, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Punjab
- Ms. Faiza Malik, MPA, PPPP, Punjab
- Ms. Amna Butter, MPA, PPPP
- Ms. Deeba Mirza, MPA, PML-N, Punjab
- Ms. Shazia Tehmas, MPA, PPPP, KPK
- Ms. Nargis Samin, MPA, Pakistan People’s Party-Sherpao (PPP-Sherpao), KPK



- Ms. Noor-us-Sehar, PPPP, KPK

Women legislators addressed a press conference to demand a ten percent mandatory quota on general seats. They read a declaration at the press conference that was agreed upon after a debate. CSO members, human rights and women's rights activists, and media persons were also engaged in the debate.

### 1.3.2 Provincial consultations on issues of WR/HR development

One-day provincial consultations were held in Peshawar, Karachi, Quetta, and Lahore.

**Quetta:** LWP-WE (AF) organised a consultation titled "The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011 and the Way Forward" on November 23, 2011, at Usmania Hotel, Quetta. A total of 45 participants attended, including 15 women and two women parliamentarians. The main speakers were:



▪ Justice  
(R)

Kailashnath Kohli, member NCSW

- Ms. Rukhsana Ahmed Ali, member NCSW
- Mr. Haroon Dawood, AF
- Mr. Amir Ali, AF
- Ms. Husn Bano, Advisor to the Chief Minister, Government of Balochistan
- Ms. Zarina Zehri, Advisor to the Chief Minister, Government of Balochistan

Participants were briefed on the salient features of the Bill.

**Peshawar:** A provincial consultation titled “Strengthening Women’s Representation in the Legislative Process” was held on 29 January, 2011 at the Pearl Continental Hotel, Peshawar. Sixty participants including 28 women were present. The guest speakers were:

- Yasmin Jasim, MPA;
- Musarat Shafi, MPA;
- Shazia Tehmas, MPA;
- Naeema Kishawar, former MPA.

They emphasised that political parties should allocate a mandatory ten percent quota for women on general seats as women MPAs and MNAs played an outstanding and proactive role in women legislative business.

**Karachi:** LWP-WE, Karachi conducted a consultation titled “Women and Issues of Food Security and Livelihood” at the Marriott Hotel, Karachi on August 14, 2011. Mr. Qaisar Bengali was the guest speaker at the event. A total of 42 participants attended (22 women). Speakers briefed the



participants about emerging issues of food security and its implications for future generations. They emphasised that women are the most marginalised section of society and therefore suffer the worst impacts of food insecurity.

**Lahore:** A provincial consultation titled “Women and Issues of Food Security in Pakistan” was organised on November 18, 2011, at the Sunfort Hotel, Lahore. Approximately 80 participants including, 45 women and five women legislators of Punjab Assembly, attended. The main speakers were:



- Dr. Qais Aslam, economist
- Mr. Sohaib Marghoob, political analyst
- Dr. Muhammad Aslam, Agriculture Department, Government of Punjab

#### **1.4 Local Action to Combat Gender Injustices (LACGI) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

A key objective of the Local Action to Combat Gender Injustices (LACGI) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was to engage with parliamentarians and members of the KPK provincial assembly. This resulted in debate on improving legislation and executing mechanisms regarding women's consent in marriage, inheritance rights, and associated GBV in Parliament and the provincial assemblies. The LACGI project has been a unique intervention experience providing a chance to address issues that are usually neglected. The compiling and repackaging of advocacy material in easily understood language and its dissemination among all quarters of society has increased awareness and knowledge of women's basic rights, especially the right to inheritance and forced marriage. Increased male engagement in project activities was a positive sign which helped stretch the advocacy and lobbying wavelength to the highest echelons of power, hence producing excellent results in the form of pro-women laws. The direct involvement of community men and women as trainers, monitors, and facilitators empowered them, enhancing their ownership with the project. This has paved the way for the community-led sustainability. The second phase of the project created a stimulus for communities to pledge an end to gender-based injustices. Moreover, the implementation has helped ascertain the correlation between the right of inheritance and forced marriage.



**Two major activities took place under this project as following:**

**1.4.1 National consultation (Islamabad):** The consultation was held at the Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad on December 28, 2011. The main theme of the consultation ‘Gender-based Legislation & Issues of Implementation’ was divided into three sessions, namely the legal perspective, the context of implementers, and civil society’s role. The Parliament had recently approved the private members bill “The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011 to declare certain norms and practices crimes against women. The national consultation was a way forward to assess existing gender-based laws, their loopholes, issues of implementation, and possibilities for improvement. The consultation was attended by leading lawyers, retired members of the judiciary, senior police officials, media personnel, and noted development practitioners.

Justice (Retd.) Shaiq Usmani, addressing the meeting, said having pro-women laws does not necessarily remove women’s miseries. He said implementation of the law in letter and spirit and change in mindsets is required. He said the provision of “grave and sudden provocation” in the *Qisas* and *Diyat* laws was excluded, but judges of the superior courts adjudge cases keeping it in mind. Such a phenomenon does not exist in Islam as it never urges seclusion. He spoke of the *nikah* form saying the *talaq-e-tafweez* is crossed by terming it un-Islamic. He said “if a person can delegate the right to divorce to someone else then why not to his spouse.” He concluded that community men and women must be encouraged to register their *nikah namas* in their respective union councils to redress their deprivation of fundamental rights.







Ms. Masihuddin, a High Court Lawyer and member of the faculty at the Federal Judicial Academy, interpreted the recently approved pro-women laws and explained the terms used. She said four of five new clauses had fixed *Badal-e-Sulah*, *Wanni*, and *Swara* as non-cognisable crimes and that this had moved the option of pre-emption by the police. Explaining section 310-A of The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011, Ms. Masihuddin said the ascertainment of the accused becomes a little complex as the law uses the term “whoever gives a woman in marriage as *Badal-e-Sulah*, *Wanni*, or *Swara*.” She noted that it should be amended to “whoever gives or takes.” Explaining section 498-A of the Pakistan Penal



Code (depriving women of the right to inheritance), she said women are often disinherited by emotional blackmail – the one million rupee fine can be easily paid when property is worth several millions. She argued that the law must provide a means to instantly handover possession to women.

Saqib Ullah Chamkani, member, KPK Provincial Assembly and Standing Committee on Law Reforms and Control on Subordinate Legislation, said initiating issues-specific legislation (especially by the private members) is an uphill task but easy to amend once complete. However, political/vested interests, hard-line religious elements, male legislators do impede pro-women legislation.

Qazi Jameel ur Rehman, Deputy Inspector General, Police, said the insufficient capacity of the police hindered the resolution of women's issues and said attitudes needed to be altered at the community and institutional level. He recommended better maintenance of crimes-against-women statistics and regular trainings for all police cadres in information technology, gender-based concepts, and the handling violence-against-women cases. Helena Saeed, Deputy Inspector General, Police, said the police needed an enabling environment and must not be misused by influential elements. Sultan Azam Taimuri, Assistant Inspector General Police, said numerous factors impede transparent investigations, but that a solid relationship between communities and the police would help reduce women's suffering in society and in police stations. Valerie Khan, Chief Executive, Acid Survivor Foundation said even parliamentarians deliberately leave gaps in proposed legislation which can later have negative impacts on the weaker segments of society.

Nilofer Bakhtiar, candidly admitted that declaring decayed practices as non-cognisable offences was a setback for the women's movement and occurred due to the apathy of parliamentarians. She recommended the following steps:

- An exclusive session for FATA, PATA, and Gilgit-Baltistan should be held regarding pro-women legislation;
- Amendments should be brought forward in the form of a comprehensive document;
- Comprehensive sessions on *Qisas* and *Diyat*, *Qanoon-e-Shahadat*, and the Hudood Laws must be held for mass awareness and support;
- The Council of Islamic Ideology must be called upon for support and review of existing law;
- Intensive advocacy campaigns must be carried out to bring women's issues to the forefront;
- Women's rights activists and societies must stand united and involve the public to put pressure on the state;
- Bar councils, press clubs, provincial and caucuses should be approached and lobbied to resolve the issues of pro-women legislation;
- Public prosecutors should be made aware of, and sensitised to women's issues;
- The government should form the "Implementation Commission" with full authority.

In the 3rd session on civil society's role, Ms. Valarie Khan said that around two hundred cases of acid throwing are reported in Pakistan each year. Ms. Samar Minalah during her presentation showed some video clips from her documentaries where women were telling their stories of how they were given away in *swara*, *vani* and *sung chati*. The sessions were moderated by Mr. Younas Khalid, Director, SPME and Finance, AF, Mr. Mohsin Kyani, Advocate High Court, and Prof. Farkhanda Aurangzeb, Director General, Ministry of Human Rights.



### **1.5 Meeting of women legislators' caucus of KPK**

Women parliamentarians' role in women-friendly legislation is extremely essential. The last seven years saw seven women-related bills receiving the status of 'act.' The meeting's objective was to solicit suggestions from women in the Provincial Assembly for the speedy implementation of laws that guarantee justice and service to women.

Ms. Saadia Mumtaz, a lawyer and development practitioner, engaged with women legislators of the KPK Provincial Assembly and representatives from CSOs, the media, and lawyers, to provide a complete understanding of the recently approved "Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011" and discuss potential means for its implementation in letter and spirit.

Women legislators were urged to convince their male counterparts to play a role in the speedy implementation of women-focused laws.



## **1.6 Consultation on 'Honour Killing' and compliance of law**

Aurat Foundation's Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment launched a pilot study on 'Honour Killings in Pakistan and Compliance of Law, authored by Ms. Maliha Zia Lari, on December 30, 2011, in Quetta. Mr. Haroon Dawood, Resident Director (AF) shared the findings of the study with participants. He also shared the high number of current incidents of 'honour' killings in Balochistan and said that it is more than double in year 2011 compared to last year's statistics. Speaking on legal aspects of the study, Advocate Muhammad Umar Mandokhel said that as the Criminal Law Act 2004 did not have strict punishment for culprits, so there was no check on honour crimes. Although there are some lacunas in the law, yet it is a welcome development which would surely result in ending such crimes against women. Dr. Shama Ishaq, former minister in Balochistan, said that during her stay in the assembly, she always tried to raise the women issues at the floor of the House. She said that she and other women members once submitted a resolution on 'honour' killings in Balochistan Assembly, but, it was lost or misplaced by the secretariat staff, she added. Her male parliamentarians forced her not to bring resolution on 'honour' crimes but she did bring it again with the support of other members and it was adopted in year 2004. The event was coordinated by Mr. Amir Ali, Regional Coordinator, Legislative Watch Programme, Aurat Foundation, Quetta.



**1.6.1** Aurat Foundation’s Legislative Watch Programme for Women’s Empowerment (LWP-WE) organized a one day working group meeting on domestic violence and ‘honour’ crimes, on March 20, 2012, at Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad. The meeting was aimed at initiating discussion among legal experts and practicing lawyers on reforming legislations on domestic violence and ‘honour’ crimes. Ms. Maliha Zia Lari, a practicing lawyer and legal consultant on women’s legal rights and international instruments, gave a detailed presentation on Law on ‘Honour’ Crimes, which covered a critical analysis of current law on honour crimes and its gaps and findings of the recent study on honour killings, conducted by Aurat Foundation. She also shared with the participants the Criminal Law Amendment Draft on ‘Honour’ Crimes, prepared by Aurat Foundation. Ms. Riffat Butt, Legal Advisor, National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) gave a detailed presentation on domestic violence law and required amendments. Ms. Mumtaz Mughal and Ms. Saima Munir, from Aurat Foundation, shared developments on the proposed legislation on domestic violence in the provincial assemblies of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhaw. Ms. Maliha Zia Lari briefed participants with developments on the domestic violence law in the Sindh Assembly. Ms. Nayyar Shabana, National Coordinator, Aurat Foundation, coordinated the meeting.



**1.6.2** Aurat Foundation's Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment (LWP-WE), Karachi, organized a meeting with legal experts and practicing lawyers on 19 April, 2012 at its office, to discuss legislations on domestic violence and 'Honour' crimes. Advocate Ms. Maliha Zia, legal consultant on women's legal rights and international instruments, gave a detailed brief on 'Honour' crimes' law, which covered critical analysis of the law and its gaps. She also shared the findings of her recent research study on 'Honour' killings, published by Aurat Foundation. She further shared the Criminal Law Amendment Draft on 'Honour' Crimes, prepared by Aurat Foundation. The legal expert studied the draft section by section and gave their recommendations. The meeting was also attended by former Law Minister and Senator, Senior Advocate Iqbal Haider, Justice (R) Shaiq Usmani, Justice (R) Majida Rizvi, Advocate Haq Nawaz Talpu and Ms. Mahnaz Rahman, Resident Director, Aurat Foundation Karachi Office. Advocate. Rubina Brohi coordinated the meeting.





## **1.7 SANWED South Asian Consultative Workshop on ‘Mainstreaming Rights of Widows and Single Women in Public Policy’**



Aurat Foundation in collaboration with South Asian Network for Widows’ Empowerment in Development (SANWED) organized a two-day consultative workshop on “Issues and challenges faced by widows and single women across South Asia” on May 23 & 24, 2012. The event was held at Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad.

Objectives of the workshop were: i) to mainstream rights of widows and single women in public policy and focus on issues, rights and challenges faced by them across South Asia; ii) to create synergies and linkages at local, regional and international levels for mainstreaming rights of widows and single women in public policy and institutional frameworks; iii) to discuss the role and responsiveness of UN Women and Commission on the Status of Women; iv) to discuss the roles and responsibilities of Civil Society Organisations (CSO), Government agencies and UN agencies in mainstreaming widows’ issues; v) to discuss the role of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in the implementation of Article 32 of the Colombo Declaration and further endorsement of the Widows Charter; vi) incorporating widows’ issues into the major human rights instruments like the BPFA, UNSCRs 1325/1820, and CEDAW where widows issues have not been highlighted and; vii) to discuss the way forward in terms of legal registration of SANWED as a South Asian Network.



SANWED core committee members from South Asian countries including representatives from Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan and the UK participated in the two-day conference. The Goodwill Ambassador for Women's Empowerment for Pakistan as well and Her Excellency Cecilie Landsverk, Ambassador of Norway to Pakistan, and former Chairperson for National Commission on the Status of Women, Pakistan, Ms. Anis Haroon along with the Chairperson for the Benazir Income Support Programme and Member of National Assembly Farzana Raja also participated in the conference. The first day was chaired by Ms. Hina Jilani, Director AGHS & former Special Representative of United Nations Secretary General for Human Rights Defenders, whereas the second day was chaired by Dr. Masuma Hasan, President Board of Governors, Aurat Foundation and former Cabinet Secretary, Pakistan.

The workshop continued for two days in Islamabad, Pakistan where international delegates as well as participants from Pakistan made presentations on issues faced by widows specifically in the context of their country. Participants discussed priority issues affecting widows in the region, formal registration steps to be taken for SANWED as a SAARC regional body and SANWED charter. In the end, the Islamabad declaration was finalized and adopted on 'Mainstreaming Rights of Widows and Single Women in Public Policy.'

Dr. Masuma Hasan, President Board of Governors, Aurat Foundation, and Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer Aurat Foundation welcomed the representatives from South Asia in a traditional way by gifting them with friendship bands designed. Ms. Nayyar Shabana, National



Coordinator, Legislative Watch Programme, Aurat Foundation, gave a brief introduction of SANWED and Ms. Maliha Zia moderated the session.



Dr. Masuma Hasan, President Board of Governors, Aurat Foundation, and former Cabinet Secretary, Pakistan, in her introductory remarks expressed her gratitude to all the guests for making it to the consultative workshop. While giving a background of SANWED's work, Dr. Hasan admired the leadership of Ms. Lily Thapa and the change she brought about in the lives of widows in Nepal. She also praised the commitments and dynamism of Barrister Margaret Owen International Focal Person for SANWED, for making the organisation a strong

voice for widows internationally. She said that widows exist in all part of the world and are marginalized and discriminated, deprived of their human rights and rights to inheritance, excluded from the mainstream and forced to live in situation of dependence in this patriarchal society. She pointed out that some post-widowhood rituals are horrendous and must be terminated. She said that widows face discrimination even though they very often are the sole providers of breadwinners and other basic needs of their families in difficult and challenging times. "We all know that we live in turbulent times, we live in societies inflicted by violence and by conflict, we live in an era of regional conflicts and wars, we are confronted with natural calamities, and all these upheavals have added into the number of widows who are marginalized and excluded," said Dr. Masuma Hasan.



Ms. Margaret Owen, Director Widows for Peace through Democracy, UK and International Focal Person for SANWED emphasized the importance of collecting data on widows across the world. She said the lack of data on widows and their situation has greatly hindered their development and has prevented effective social interventions specifically targeting widows. Ms. Owen gave the example of Ms. Lily Thapa and her organisation Women for Human Rights (WHR). She said that they have collected data on widows in Nepal and made significant progress in the struggle for the rights of widows in Nepal. "Widows need their

own organisation so that they can be heard as a strong voice of important women, and not to be seen simply as the recipients of welfare or poor, vulnerable and needy", she said. Ms. Owen also

debunked the myth that widows are predominantly elderly women. “Another big obstacle in ensuring that the issues of widows are addressed by the governments, United Nations agencies and international organisations is the misperception that widows are predominantly elderly women who are carefully looked after by their close family members. There are in fact many young women who are widows and still many widowed mothers with young children”, she stated.



Ms. Lily Thapa, Founder WHR and General Secretary SANWED, Nepal gave an introduction of SANWED and briefed participants about the background, vision, objectives and achievements to date. She also gave an overview of widows' issues from Nepalese perspective and talked about the way widows are considered a sign of bad luck in Nepal. In Nepal, she said, such women are not allowed to participate in social activities or attend any auspicious events. “In Nepal, we still have the early marriage system which makes women

completely dependent over male members of the family. In Nepal, over sixty-seven percent women get married before the age of twenty. There are no laws in Nepal that protect the fundamental rights of women or prevent the discriminatory practices and policies against widows,” she said. Ms. Thapa said that in Nepal, most of widows are not aware of their rights. Most of the Hindu widows in Nepal are not allowed to wear the colour they want and eat the food they like. She said that Nepalese chapter of SANWED believes in breaking the barriers which lead to organizing the consultation in Pakistan. “Widows play a vital role in developing the economy and betterment of the whole nation. We have a lot of examples where widows in Nepal have played a significant role in peace building and development. Widows have proved to be notable change agents in Nepal”, she said.



Each panel member and representative from the South Asian countries gave a brief talk on the situation of widows and single women in their country primarily focusing on the issues, rights and challenges. Dr. Mohini Giri, Chairperson of Guild for Service, India, provided her input on the Indian perspective. She termed the implementation of law pertaining to women in general and widows in particular as the biggest challenge faced by the Indian government. She offered many constructive recommendations, most important of which was the need to develop mechanisms for widows to access government programmes. She emphasized the need to change

the beliefs, attitudes and perceptions of religious leaders so that widows are not discriminated against or treated as victims. She shared that in India, remarriage of widows is unacceptable and almost impossible. “The trend requires a drastic change in the mindset of people both men and women,” she said.



Ms. Ferdous Ara Begum, Gender Issues Specialist, former member of UN CEDAW Committee, Bangladesh highlighted the plight of widows in Bangladesh and brought to attention various challenges related to widows in her country. Firstly, she said, there was very little budget allocation for widow’s agenda. “Secondly, there is lack of sufficient information or data available on widows which further complicates the situation and it becomes extremely difficult to design effective programmes targeting widows

needs and issues. Pointing out another important challenge, she said that national NGOs are not willing or able to take the widows’ issues or agenda to CEDAW. She endorsed the point that widows should not be seen as victims and their voices should be heard.



Ms. Semin Qasmi, Programme Coordinator HAWA Programme, Care International, Afghanistan gave an overview of Afghanistan and various issues which widows face in her country. She highlighted the plight of single women in Afghanistan and the way they are denied the right to live alone or independently. Qasmi felt very strongly about looking into the rights and challenges being faced by widows and single women. She stressed governments to recognize single women and widows and put in place appropriate laws and policies to protect

them. She regretted that widowed women are considered a victim in South Asian societies and stressed the need to first change mindsets for any improvement in the situation of widow and single women in this region.

Ms. Shanthi Anusha Sachithanandam, Chief Executive Officer, Viluthu, Centre for Human Resource Development, Sri Lanka started off by giving a recount of how she had been discovered by Margaret Owen to work for the cause of Tamil widows in Sri Lanka. She explained that Tamil





widows had been invisible for so long primarily because of the rebels present in the north and east of the country. “All civil society organisations wanting to work in the north and east of Sri Lanka need to get authorization from the Ministry of Defence. No project can be implemented without prior approval from the Sri Lankan Government. As a result, very little has been done for the empowerment of women and widows in Sri Lanka,” she pointed out.



Ms. Nighat Said Khan, Executive Director, ASR Institute of Women Studies, Pakistan, gave presentation on the Pakistani perspective. She highlighted the need to distinguish between various types of single women in society. She spoke about widows with children, widows without children, divorced women with children, divorce women without children, women who are unmarried, abandoned women, women with no blood connections. She said there are different hierarchies present even among the different categories of single women, with widows heading the hierarchy. Ms. Khan gave an interesting insight into the

different issues that she believed must be kept in mind while discussing widows. She agreed with Ms. Owen that widows are not a homogenous group.



Mr. Sagheer Bokhari, Senior Programmes Coordinator, UN Women Pakistan assured participants of the complete support of UN Women and Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). He emphasized the need to place issues of widows in the parallel events of CSW. He felt that through networking and collaborative efforts, UN Women could do a lot for the cause of widows.



Her Excellency Cecilie Landsverk, Ambassador of Norway to Pakistan, expressed her gratitude to Aurat Foundation for inviting her to such a critical and landmark conference. She said that widowhood is not such a big issue in Northern Europe as there is no stigma attached to the status of widowhood as it is practiced in South Asian countries. Ms. Cecilie Landsverk cited several issues which need to be resolved in order to improve the plight of widows. She felt that the key to address the

issues related to widowhood in South Asian countries is to achieve acceptance of women living alone in the society. “Women who live alone should be respected and not be a target for harassment,” she said. Furthermore, she pointed out the need to economically empower widows who live alone and support themselves and their families. She felt that overall empowerment of women through education would also serve the cause of widows.



Ms. Anis Haroon, former Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), Pakistan stressed for urgent need to bring together South Asian states at the negotiating table for peace building. She said that situation of widows and single women in Pakistan require great attention especially divorced women as they are the most stigmatized in the society. She questioned the notion of women’s identity defined and associated with family. Ms. Haroon also

discussed the concept of philanthropy in relation to widows in the country and the way it can be used as an avenue for improving their lives.



Syeda Fiza Batool Gillani, Goodwill Ambassador for Women Empowerment in Pakistan reiterated that issues related to widows are culturally, legally and socially ignored in Pakistan. She emphasized the need to provide an enabling environment for widows through frequent policy interventions. Ms. Gillani also advocated the rights of divorced women in the country and the kind of attention and assistance they need. She talked about how the media and



civil society have ignored widows and single women. She said that public policy is a very important subject and should be captured by the media and civil society. Ms. Gillani termed the workshop a praiseworthy initiative by SANWED and said that it had provided a good platform to highlight issues and concerns of widows. She endorsed Anis Haroon's comments that it was not just about widows or single women, but also about divorced women. Ms. Gillani said that issues and challenges faced by widows had been ignored for far too long and it was high time that something was done to address their needs and rights.

Ms. Hina Jilani, Director AGHS & former Special Representative of United Nations Secretary General for Human Rights Defenders, Pakistan expressed solidarity with all the South Asian representatives. She appreciated that regional countries have transcended borders to create strong South Asian Networks and urged for continuation of this solidarity and response to the demands of the civil society as challenges faced by women are largely similar at the regional level. She thanked SANWED and AF



for raising the issue of widows and thanked all the speakers while also endorsing Mohini Giri's call for peace among regional countries. She said that the issues faced by women in the South Asian countries as well as around the world are all very similar which link them together across the globe. "Women rights movement is indeed vigorous in South Asia. Women are building networks across South Asia. Wherever human rights are being violated, all women should unite and stand up for their rights."





During Session Two on the 1st day, Dr. Mohini Giri started the session by singing a line of Hindi /Urdu love song: *Phool lakhon bars nahien rehtey / Aa mohabat key geet ga lien ham* (Spring and flowers won't last for years / come let us sing songs of love). Ms. Tahira Abdullah, in her introductory remarks pointed towards discriminatory social attitudes towards widows on auspicious and happy occasions. She said that widows are considered vulnerable citizens and they are mostly recipients of charity/zakat (a charity given to the poor at the end of fasting in the Islamic month of Ramazan). If widows put *mehndi/hina* on their hands on any marriage ceremony, people consider it inauspicious for the bride. She hoped that such issues of behavioral discrimination and social exclusion would be addressed during the consultation.

For country presentations on situation of widows and single women, Afghanistan's presentation was given by Ms. Semin Qasim. Ms. Ferdous Ara Begum gave the country presentation for Bangladesh. Dr. Deepali Bhanot gave the country presentation for India. Ms. Lily Thapa gave the country presentation for Nepal. Shanti Anusha Sachithanandam gave the country presentation for Sri Lanka. Justice (R) Nasira Javed Iqbal, Member Technical Advisory Committee, Pakistan Law & Justice Commission gave the country presentation for Pakistan.



Ms. Neelam Hussain, Executive Coordinator Simorgh, Pakistan gave an overview of issues faced by single women. She called for creating a direct link with single women and patriarchy. She said the society had made this a norm and everywhere around the world an individual was generally linked to the father's name. People do not ask about the mother. She stated that women generally tend to feel secure and safe only after getting married. And post-marriage, a wife is only secure if she is able to produce children. Very often the case is that if she has sons she is preferred to a woman who has daughters. This shows the direct connection between masculinity and the control of women's sexuality.

On Day Two, the third session started off with a recap of the previous day's events by Maria



Rashid – discussions that revolved around living in a patriarchal society and how society views it and the issue of women living alone. Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen started her address by stating that although gender discourse had been gaining popularity, it was crucial to also consider class dimensions. She brought up the troubling matter of how to precisely define a 'single woman.' She said that she had spent some time trying to translate the term into various



regional Pakistani languages but failed to come up with any suitable alternative.

The concluding session was moderated by Ms. Simi Kamal, Chief of Party, Gender Equity Program of Aurat Foundation. She spoke about the situation in Pakistan and highlighted the importance of change in the language of patriarchy. She said the establishment of SANWED was a great achievement and termed it a brilliant initiative. Ms. Firdous Ara Begum talked about the future plans of SANWED and highlighted the need to have reliable data on economic and social position of widows. “Even though widows are seen as agents of change and it is recognized that they go through a lot of hardship to raise their children, their effort is going unnoticed. Nothing much can be done for them unless we have reliable data about widows and single women in the region.”



Ms. Tahira Abdullah read the Islamabad Declaration. Participants discussed it and gave their feedback. Ms. Margaret Owen and Ms. Lily Thapa agreed that it needed certain modifications and should be summarized. In principle, however, all the delegates expressed consensus that the issues highlighted in the declaration were of equal significance and that the declaration was a good starting point in the effort of continuing fruitful relationship with the other SANWED countries.

After some amendment the declaration was approved:

## **Islamabad Declaration on the Needs, Roles and Rights of Widows**

**We, the members of South Asian Network for Widows' Empowerment and Development (SANWED)** from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, with Widows for Peace through Democracy (International Focal organisation for SANWED), agree to adopt the following declaration during the SANWED's South Asian Consultative Workshop on "Mainstreaming Rights of Widows and Single Women in Public Policy", held in Islamabad, Pakistan on 23-24 May 2012, in collaboration with Aurat Foundation, Pakistan.

**Recognizing** the critical importance of issues pertaining to women who are single, divorced, never married, abandoned, or are spouses of missing/enforced disappeared persons, we are, nevertheless, focusing on the needs and rights of widows in this Declaration;

**Reaffirming** our commitment to our goal for a world in which all widows irrespective of age, ethnicity, religion, class or political allegiance, enjoy their full human rights, live with dignity without any form of discrimination;

Reaffirming our strong commitment, solidarity and integrity to fearlessly express and preserve our unity in pursuance of our common goals for the empowerment of widows;

**Asserting** that widows across the region must not be seen exclusively as poor, elderly, vulnerable and needy but as key players with important roles in social and economic development building and should be recognized as effective agents of change;

**Noting** also that widows have unique roles as peace builders and peace makers, through their ability to link hands with widows across ethnic, religious, political and national divides: all of them sharing common experiences of discrimination and abuse, and united in their hopes for peace, justice, and good governance;

Recognizing that widowhood, as a consequence of armed conflict, insurrection, enforced disappearances, and natural disasters, is one of the root causes of poverty to be addressed through implementation of the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) ;

**Recognizing** that human rights of widows, their equality and access to justice are core components of democracy, socio-economic development and peace in the region;

**Noting** that there is no special reference to discrimination and abuse of widows in the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, Beijing Platform for Action and Convention of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

**Endorsing** the recommendations and demands of the Charter for the Rights of Widows (2005), the ICW Johannesburg Resolution (2009), the Kathmandu Widows' Declaration (2011), and the Delhi Recommendations (2011);

**We commit** to work together to eliminate all forms of discrimination, abuse and violence facing widows and wives of missing persons to protect and uphold their human rights; reduce their poverty and accord them due recognition and support them in their pivotal roles in families, communities and societies.

**We commit** to take forward our efforts for widows' empowerment from the SANWED platform as a registered regional network with the Secretariat in Kathmandu, Nepal, and with Widows for Peace through Democracy (WPD), United Kingdom as its international focal point.

**We call upon** SAARC to effectively implement Article 32 of the Colombo Declaration, recognize and endorse the global Charter for the Rights of Widows, formulate a Regional Policy on Widowhood, to be adapted as a National Policy by each Member State; and to recognize and accord official consultative status to SANWED.

**We call upon** SAARC and our respective Governments to ensure that rights of widows are mainstreamed in regional and national policies and programmes through consultation with SANWED and national associations/federations of widows in each member country within the national and global frameworks of gender equality, development and peace such as CEDAW, Vienna Declaration on Human Rights, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Copenhagen Declaration of the World Summit on Social Development, UNSCRs 1325 & 1820, the MDGs for 2015 and the National Action Plans.

**We call upon** SAARC, our respective Governments and UN to take urgent steps towards the eradication of absolute poverty and promote regional demilitarization, peace-making and peace-building, both intra- and inter-country, with the active and effective participation of widows in all decision-making fora and processes.

We call upon our respective Governments to compile, maintain and regularly update databases on widows and their dependents, for the purpose of registration of widows for national identity cards, passports, licenses, social security, pension, compensation, health and education benefits, workers' benefits, employment and training opportunities.

**We call upon** our respective Governments to ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and to incorporate the situation of widows in their regular reports to the UN/CSW on CEDAW implementation; and to the UN/HRC/UPR, as per CEDAW Articles 2 and 16. We also call for progress reports on the situation of widows at each successive SAARC Summit as per Article 32 on widows of SAARC/Colombo



Declaration.

**We demand** of our respective Governments to enact laws to provide and protect widows' right to inherit and exercise control over their husbands' property, land and assets, irrespective of customary traditions and unjustly sanctified injunctions seeking to minimize or limit widows' share in inheritance.

**We demand** of our respective Governments to provide widows, particularly in conflict-areas, access to justice through repeal of discriminatory laws; through the criminalization and prosecution of war crimes and other atrocities.

**We demand** of our respective Governments to enact legislation to criminalize forced marriages of widows either within or outside their marital families, trafficking, forced prostitution and sex slavery; and to recognize and protect widows' right to choose to marry or not.

**We demand** of our respective Governments to provide special support to the widows in the case of infection with HIV/AIDS to allow them to fulfil this role fully.

**We call upon** SAARC and our respective Governments to facilitate, promote and provide support for the setting up of widows' associations and networks at all national, state/provincial and local levels, with linkages to the regional SANWED network.

**We call upon the United Nations, International and Bilateral Organisations to:**

- **Recognize** widows as a Special Category in the Cross-Cutting Issues and Thematic Groups for integration and mainstreaming of concerns;
- **Appoint** a Special Rapporteur on widowhood;
- **Commission** a Special Report on the situation of widows in conflict and post-conflict situations;
- **Formulate** a General Recommendation on widowhood for States Parties by CSW/CEDAW Committee to identify and address the situation of widows;
- **Initiate** and respond to SANWED reports requesting for enquiry process by CSW/CEDAW Committee on widowhood under Article 8 of Optional Protocol;
- **Establish** a special unit focusing on widows' issues at the UN Women level for coordination and advocacy and; to extend support with adequate financial and technical resources to SANWED and its national chapters;
- **Ensure** that the issues of widowhood are incorporated and integrated into their policy-making, planning, programming, and funding exercises, at all tiers of the UN system.

Ms. Farzana Raja, Chairperson of Benazir Income Support Programme thanked Aurat Foundation and the delegates for inviting her to this very special and important conference. She was of the



view that SANWED was an excellent initiative and it would be an honour to have a SANWED Chapter in Pakistan. She was delighted that organisations such as Aurat Foundation were keen to work for the rights of widows and single women. “Benazir Income Support Programme welcome such initiatives and would be openly and readily willing and able to provide all the support needed to establish SANWED in Pakistan,” she said.

Ms. Raja spoke about the hardship and issues which women in general and more particularly widows face in Pakistan and other South Asian countries. She agreed that there was a lack of discourse in the society and at the government level. “She was adamant that women from the

grassroots level needed the extra attention and assurances from the government, civil society, NGOS and other institutes. She felt that by providing these women with this financial support would be a step in the right direction and would most definitely make a difference in the society.

Dr. Masuma Hasan thanked the participants and termed it an honor for Aurat Foundation to represent SANWED Chapter in Pakistan. She highlighted the importance of working on genuine issues and said that Aurat Foundation would be initially responsible for setting up SANWED Chapter in Pakistan and work with friends in Pakistan and other NGOs. Dr. Hasan spoke about raising widow’s voices high and loud so that they are not denied their rights. She also elaborated upon the Action Plan and UN Resolution 1325 and 1820 and mentioned that most countries have not signed these conventions which deal with crucial issues of protection of women in conflict situation. She stressed the need to organize women so that they can become agents of change and said that availability of reliable data can help to draft concrete policies and legislation.

## **1.8 The Mukhtaran Mai case**

The Supreme Court’s (SC) judgment against Mukhtaran Mai was indeed a setback to the women’s rights movement in Pakistan as the case was taken as a test case for advocates of women’s rights; they knew the decision would have a long-lasting impact on women’s access to justice. The Aurat Foundation (AF) disseminated the gender analysis of the decision widely and kept lobbying for the filing of a review petition of the decision. AF’s next challenge is to lobby for the full bench to hear the case.

Chapter Two

**Capacity-Building  
and Consultative  
Processes**







## 2. Capacity-Building and Consultative Processes

### 2.1 Capacity-Building of elected representatives on gender equality

Consultations organised by LWP-WE were held at district level. A host of well-known speakers participated and all meetings were well-attended.

#### 2.1.1 District consultation meetings on issues concerning WR/HR development

One-day district consultations were held in 16 locations on issues concerning WR/HR/development (Table 2).

**Table 2: District consultations on WR/HR/development (LWP-WE)**

<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>No. of participants</i>
Jun 4	Shaheed Benazirabad (Nawabshah)	Women and issues of food security and livelihood	69
Jun 10	Chakwal	18th amendment and devolution of the MoWD	33
Jun 10	Larkana	Women and issues of food security and livelihood	46
Jun 11	Jhelum	18th amendment and devolution of the MoWD	40
Jun 14	Noshki	Women and issues of food security and livelihood	47
Jun 15	Naseerabad		43
Jun 26	Haripur	Women and food security	32
Jun 29	Nowshera		33
Jul 28	Pishin	18th amendment and devolution of the MoWD	40
Aug 12	Mansehra		48
Aug 15	Gujrat	Women and issues of food security and livelihood	40
Sep 28	Rawalpindi		38
Sep 28	Abbottabad	18th amendment and devolution of the MoWD	42
Oct 18	Sukkur	Issues of food security in the wake of floods and rain in Sindh (2011)	52

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Oct 18	Sibi	18th amendment and devolution of the MoWD	39
Nov 4	Hyderabad	Women and issues of food security and livelihood	35

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## **2.2 PDM-VAW: Watch Group meetings - Domestic Violence Bill**

Three VAW watch group meetings (Islamabad, Sindh, KPK) were held to mobilise and engage political parties representatives and place the Domestic Violence Bill at their respective provincial tables. It was decided that AF would collaborate with the NCSW as the need to develop a common understanding between the provinces and the centre about the laws and policies to strengthen the rights of women, was essential. The Commission and AF sought to strengthen ties and build alliances with provincial women legislators and women development departments as key stakeholders. The joint collaboration in organising consultation meetings and dialogues with all provincial women legislators would be funded by AF and by NCSW.

Two one-day provincial consultations were held (Karachi, Peshawar) in collaboration with the NCSW. Debates were initiated with key provincial government representatives for the pending legislations related to women's issues after the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment with a special focus on the Domestic Violence Bill. A provincial dialogue on Domestic Violence Bill was arranged by Aurat Foundation, in collaboration with National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), on 21st September, 2011, at PC Hotel, Peshawar. Mr. Karamatullah Chagarmatti,





Speaker, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, presided the meeting and Ms. Sitara Ayaz, Provincial Minister for Social Welfare and Women development was the Chief Guest. Ms. Shabina Ayaz, Resident Director Aurat Foundation's Peshawar office briefed the guests about Aurat Foundations work and experiences of collecting data on violence against women during the last three years. She also shared with the participants the objective of the dialogue on

domestic violence bill. Ms. Maliha Zia and Ms. Riffat Butt gave detailed presentations on the domestic violence bill (DVB).

**Karachi:** The Policy and Data Monitoring Program on Violence Against Women (PDM-VAW) programme of Aurat Foundation Karachi office held a provincial consultation to discuss the future modalities of the domestic violence bill after the introduction of the 18th Amendment. The consultation was held on 13th October, 2011, at Hotel Marriott.





The consultation was chaired by the Speaker of Sindh Assembly Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuhro. Other prominent legislators included Ms. Tauqeer Fatima Bhutto, provincial Minister for Women Development, and Ms. Sharmeela Farooqi, Advisor to Chief Minister, Sindh. Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) was also present. The consultation was organized in collaboration with National Commission on Status of Women. Ms. Shireen Aijaz, Regional Coordinator PDM- VAW, moderated the dialogue.

### **2.3 LACGI: Capacity-building of rights-holders/duty-bearers**

Rights holders and duty bearers were targeted for this capacity building exercise under the LACGI project. The purpose was to strengthen participants to take action against incidents of forced marriage, women being deprived of their inheritance rights, and associated GBV (Table 3).



**Table 3: Capacity building measures for Rights-holders/Duty bearers to take action against GBV (LACGI)**

<i>Meeting type/ timeframe</i>		<i>Participants</i>			<i>Activities</i>
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	
Two-day orientation/ planning workshop	AF staff, community activists	23	9	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review of last year's implementation</li> <li>▪ Project planning/understanding</li> <li>▪ Report writing</li> <li>▪ Talk on The Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010</li> </ul>
Five one-day training sessions	Community facilitators	158	79	79	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training on how to conduct discussion sessions</li> <li>▪ Presentation skills</li> </ul>
One two-day training	Community monitors	24	11	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training: monitoring skills</li> <li>▪ Monitoring violence against women cases communities, in media and other areas as well along side maintaining a proper follow-up mechanism</li> <li>▪ Report writing and documentation</li> </ul>
One three-day capacity enhancement training	Community trainers	24	11	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information regarding training pros/cons</li> <li>▪ How to conduct training</li> </ul>
Four district-level meetings (district level with CAC/DFG*)	Community trainers/ monitors	95	33	62	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review project implementation</li> <li>▪ Evaluate focal persons' performance</li> <li>▪ Plan DLGs*</li> </ul>
Eight sessions on women's forced marriage/right to inheritance	<i>Ulema, khateeb, nikah khwans</i>	116	0	116	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To gain support of <i>ulema, khateeb, nikah khwans</i> in countering gender-based injustices against women</li> </ul>
Two one-day information/ awareness raising workshops	<i>Patwaris, local revenue officers</i>	51	0	51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Providing insights on gender and development, discrimination against women (women's right to inherit/free will in marriage)</li> <li>▪ Understanding gender mainstreaming (equal participation in development and growth) citing Islamic references</li> <li>▪ Session on The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011</li> </ul>
Two two-day capacity building workshops	Media, lawyers, civil society, police	46	5	41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Briefing on gender and violence against women, facts and figures indicating increase in violence cases against women owing to manipulation of laws</li> </ul>

					and non-cooperation of law enforcement
One two-day stakeholders' analysis workshop	Focal persons, lawyers, patwaris, media, community trainers	30	10	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identifying key actors to assess knowledge, interests, positions, alliances, importance related to project</li> <li>▪ Session on The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011</li> </ul>

CAC = citizen's action committee; DFG = district focal group; DLG = drama listening gathering

## 2.4 UN Women: engendering peace and security

Seven two-day capacity building workshops were held for women organisations and leaders under this project (Table 4):

**Table 4: Capacity building workshops under the Engendering Peace and Security project**

<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of participants</i>		
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
May 21–22	Khyber Agency	25	6	19
July 25–26	Swat	22	7	15
Oct 27–28	Skardu	25	20	5
July 27–28	Attock	25	19	6
Sep 16–17	Mirpur	27	11	16
Oct 27–28	Sibi	29	25	4
Oct 29–30	Jacobabad	33	30	3

The objectives of these workshops were threefold:

- To initiate discussion on women's role in peacemaking in the perspective of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325;
- To build the capacity of women organisations and women leaders on the concept of peace building, gender, and UNSCR 1325, 1820, 1888, and 1889;
- To enhance the capacity of women organisations and women leaders so that they can play an effective role in promoting peace in communities.

The contents of the workshop included an overview of peace, an understanding of the concept of gender and its connection with peace, gender roles and peace building, UNSCR 1325, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and community mobilisation.

## 2.5 Capacity strengthening workshops for formal and informal duty-bearers

Two-day capacity strengthening workshops for formal and informal duty-bearers. One meeting was held in Swat October 30–31 October, 2011. A total of 25 formal and informal duty bearers (13 women, 12 men) participated. These included lawyers, policemen, media personnel. Another meeting was held in Khyber Agency on the same dates. A total of 25 people (11 women, 14 men) participated.

## 2.6 WEPLDP (Raising Her Voice) - civil registration campaign

The Women Effective Participation and Leadership in Decision-Making Processes (WEPLDP) project under Oxfam-GB's global Raising Her Voice (RHV) undertook several activities to enhance civil registration of women. The campaign allowed 7,088 people (6,667 women and 421 men) in 15 districts of Punjab and three districts of KPK to acquire CNICs, birth registration certificates, and domicile certificates. The role of women leader groups (WLGs) was significant in all 18 districts and they helped the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) hold camps in the areas where many women did not possess CNICs (Table 5).

**Table 5: District-wise details of civil registration campaign**

<i>District</i>	<i>CNIC</i>		<i>Birth registration</i>		<i>Domicile</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	
Sialkot	280	20	35	0	15	0	350
Gujranwala	270	100	40	0	40	0	450
Gujrat	200	19	58	0	50	0	327
Hafizabad	340	20	190	0	20	0	570
Attock	105	0	215	0	20	0	340
Rawalpindi	480	10	84	0	8	0	582
Jhelum	245	15	40	0	30	0	330
Chakwal	214	16	85	0	24	0	339
Multan	275	25	30	0	4	0	334
Layyah	350	0	78	0	22	0	450
Bhakkar	290	20	78	0	12	0	400
Mianwali	245	100	33	0	17	0	395
Dera Ghazi Khan	80	8	175	0	95	0	358
Rahim Yar Khan	323	19	128	0	32	0	502
Bahawalpur	214	15	72	0	44	0	345
Nowshera	282	21	39	0	13	0	355
Abbotabad	290	5	17	0	12	0	324



<b>2.7</b>	Hariipur	292	8	24	0	13	0	337
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,775</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>1,421</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,088</b>

**WEPLDP (Raising Her Voice) networking meetings**

**2.7.1 Gender Reform Action Plan, March 16, 2011**

A networking meeting was held with the provincial officials of the Gender Reform Action Plan (GRAP) and the Department of Women Development at GRAP's office. Participants also included various CSO members, MNAs, politicians, advocates, ex-MPAs, and VAW watch group members. Key discussion points included the following:

- There is no referral system for violence victims at the provincial level. Such a system needs to be put in place;
- Government and civil society networking is required for the effective functioning of crisis centres;
- Service availability is more important than quality;
- Economic burdens should be divided among collaborating organisations;
- Local initiatives and regional task forces should be promoted;
- Mindsets on violence against women must be changed;
- Women issues are not a priority for the government. Therefore, funding is scarce;
- All stakeholders should be involved in taking women's issues forward;
- Basic education and financial support are required to make women's position stronger;
- The Gender Crime Cell should be owned by the government and gender crime statistics should be provided to help reduce crimes;
- Gender-segregated data is not entered at police stations;
- The government research wing's research methodology should be reviewed;
- Support should be provided to AF's VAW Group, keeping in view its potential to advocate women's issues.

The following conclusions were drawn:

- Women's issues are neither owned by politicians and members of Parliament nor supported. The political leadership must be made aware of women's issues to highlight and prioritise the specific needs of women;
- Crisis centres require support and ownership from politicians;
- Gender sensitisation and awareness trainings are required for the Police Department's support staff;

- Discriminatory behaviour against women in the courts needs to be addressed;
- Male MPAs should be included in the VAW Watch Group;
- Male involvement is recommended in VAW awareness sessions;
- The female labour force should be officially part of the total labour force;
- Economic violence should be included in the VAW Group agenda;
- VAW membership should be extended to police representatives;
- Existing services related to combating violence against women should be strengthened. This requires a situation analysis of existing services.

### **2.7.2 Gender Reform Action Plan, March 18, 2011**

A networking meeting was held with the provincial officials of GRAP and the Department of Women Development at the AF-Lahore office. Participants included citizen's action committee (CAC) coordinators and women leaders from project districts in Punjab. The objective of the meeting was to introduce GRAP initiatives and strengthen a women-friendly mechanism in project districts.

GRAP staff talked about the role and responsibilities of GRAP. This was followed by a presentation by AF-Lahore on the Raising her Voice (RHV) project. The following recommendations were made:

- At the district level, a mechanism needs to be developed to help women benefit from available schemes for the economic strengthening of poor and vulnerable women;
- Co-ordination between government institutions, CSOs, and the media should be strengthened and increased;
- Although elections were not held under the local government system (which is a source of local women leadership), women who have gained skills during last the two tenures should play the role of watchdog for the availability of services to the public, including women;
- The formation of local-level networks is essential to raise voices against violence against women and putting pressure on the federal and provincial governments to hold local government elections;
- At the local level, a joint advocacy campaign by CSOs should be launched to push the provincial and federal governments to give priority to women's issues;



- Civil society networks should hold meetings with MNAs and MPAs at the district level to mobilise them into utilising available funds to resolve women's issues.

### 2.7.3 Provincial networking meetings

Networking meetings were held in all 30 project districts. Participants included women leaders and representatives from NRSP, Kashf Foundation, Khushali Bank, First Women Bank, the Social Welfare Department (SWD), Tameer Bank, Bedari Foundation, PRSP, Aisha Bank, the Thar Rural Development Programme (TRDP), National Bank, and Brack Bank. Microcredit procedures and how women could benefit from them were outlined.

**Table 6: Provincial networking meetings**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Attock	Nov 20	21	5	26
Bahawalpur	Nov 18	31	4	35
Bhakkar	Nov 22	28	4	32
Chakwal	Nov 20	22	4	26
D.G. Khan	Nov 19	20	5	25
Gujranwala	Nov 20	28	5	33
Gujrat	Nov 21	23	3	26
Hafizabad	Nov 23	30	4	34
Mianwali	Nov 24	25	3	28
Multan	Dec 4	38	4	42

Jhelum	Nov 26	28	4	32
Layyah	Nov 18	18	3	21
Rahim Yar Khan	Nov 22	27	2	29
Rawalpindi	Nov 20	19	1	20
Sialkot	Nov 19	18	4	22
Haripur	Nov 20	16	6	22
Nowshera	Nov 21	22	3	25
Abbotabad	Nov 29	27	2	29
Thatta	Dec 25	27	2	29
Dadu	Nov 28	25	4	29
Hyderabad	Dec 4	35	1	36
Shaheed Benazirabad	Nov 20	38	2	40
Tando Allahyar	Dec 15	38	2	40
Ghotki	Nov 28	45	5	50
Sukkur	Nov 30	24	2	26
Shikarpur	Nov 6	35	10	45
Jacobabad	Nov 22	28	4	32
Jafferabad	Dec 10	26	2	28
Naseerabad	Dec 27	30	3	33
Sibi	Nov 25	27	1	28

## 2.8 WEPLDP (Raising Her Voice) Capacity Building Workshops

**July–September, 2011:** Fourteen two-day capacity building workshops were held in project districts. A total of 655 people (622 women, 33 men) participated which included women leaders, ex-councillors, lawyers, journalists, teachers, and village health workers (Table 7). The concept was to train women leaders on how to cope with public institutions and decision-making forums, including traditional structures. The training manual, “Our Future Step,” designed by AF, was used. Topics covered included:

- Gender and development;
- Women movements in Pakistan;





- The role of women leaders in political and economic development;
- The concept of enhancing women leadership skills in the process of decision making;
- Shared leadership;
- Developing a clear vision;
- Advocacy, lobbying, and networking;
- Sexual harassment in the workplace.

**Table 7: WEPLDP capacity building workshops (July-September 2011)**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Haripur	Sep 12–13	25	2	27
Nowshera	Sep 21–22	31	1	32
Attock	Sep 8–9	30	1	31
Rawalpindi	Sep 22–23	32	1	33
Gujranwala	July 4–5	44	6	50
Hafizabad	July 6–7	47	3	50
Sialkot	Sep 13–14	49	3	52
Rahim Yar Khan	Sep 29–30	51	4	55
Sukkur	Sep 15–16	43	-	43
Jacobabad	Sep 20–21	43	3	46
Jafferabad	Sep 28–29	48	3	51
Thatta	Sep 28–29	53	2	55
Shaheed Benazirabad	July 23–24	64	3	67
Shikarpur	Sep 17–18	62	1	63
<b>Total</b>		<b>622</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>655</b>

**October–December, 2011:** Eight, two-day capacity building workshops were held in districts Abbotabad, Chakwal, Gujrat Bhakkar, Ghotki, Naseerabad, Hyderabad, and Dadu. In these workshops 228 people (212 women, 16 men) participated including ex-councillors, lawyers, journalists, teachers, village health workers, home-based workers, and students (Table 8).

The topics covered in these workshops were the same as those conducted during the July–September session.

**Table 8: WEPLDP capacity building workshops (October - December 2011)**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abbotabad	Oct 25-26	33	2	35
Chakwal	Oct 29-30	22	2	24
Gujrat	Dec 12-13	39	3	42
Bhakkar	Dec 17-18	41	3	44
Ghotki	Dec 22-23	32	2	34
Naseerabad	Dec 24-25	31	3	34
Hyderabad	Dec 30-31	35	3	38
Dadu	Dec 28-29	34	2	36
<b>Total</b>		<b>267</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>287</b>

## 2.9 Mobilisation and networking meetings

A total of 25 mobilisation and networking meetings (MNMs) were conducted between July and September, 2011. Five meetings in Thatta, Tando Allahyar, Shaheed Benazirabad, and Dadu were not conducted due to flooding.

A total of 1,027 (941 women, 86 men) participated. Each MNM was divided into four sessions. In the first session, participants were made aware of the step taken by the United Nations to resolve

the issues of women (Beijing +5). During the second session, the participants were divided into small groups to identify the issues faced by women at the district level. Women leaders made a series of recommendations that could help eradicate such issues. In the third session, women leaders prepared a joint action plan.



## **2.10 Aman Ittehad Provincial Convention**

On March 23, 2011, CAC coordinators and WLG representatives from the project districts of Punjab attended a provincial seminar organised by the Aman Ittehad at Ali Institute, Lahore. Participants were from different districts of Punjab. Participants called for the constitution of a new social contract between the people of Pakistan and the State on the grounds that the country needs to transform from a security state to a welfare state that ensures speedy and cheap justice and guarantees the protection of basic human rights.

Kidnappings, target killings, and kill-and-dump practices have become the order of the day and are weakening the very foundation of the Federation. Unfortunately, little has been done by the State to stop such practices.

## **2.11 Hamara Agla Qadam training manual**

The *Hamara Agla Qadam* training manual was developed for a two-day training workshop of community-based women leaders. It was designed to be a guiding document outlining the needs of trainers and women leaders for effective capacity building and knowledge enhancement. The purpose was to improve decision-making and motivation skills. Training methods included brainstorming, group work, discussions, question-and-answer sessions, role playing, case studies, and presentations.





## **2.12 Training of Trainers on leadership skills**

Aurat Foundation organized a National Training of Trainers, in partnership with Women’s Learning Partnership (WLP), June 25-28, 2012, at Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad. The training was in connection with the series of trainings held under WLP in different countries. The training was benefited by 27 women leaders, political activists, educationists and civil society representatives from all parts of the country where they discussed ways to challenge traditional practice of leadership that exist in our society. The training was highly participatory, with some sessions conducted by the participants themselves in order to promote a sense of leadership and allow the participants to practice their communication and leadership skills. The participants expressed disappointment over the stereotypical and authoritative ways of leadership that had taken root in Pakistani politics where the dominating norms are against the leadership spirit that connects and communicates to the masses. The participants were of the opinion that in order to play their role properly, women everywhere must become actively involved in the affairs of their respective societies.







Chapter Three

Advocacy,  
Awareness-raising  
& Lobbying





### 3. Advocacy, Awareness-raising and Lobbying

AF has been engaged in concentrated advocacy on key issues of women's concerns for the past 27 years through alliance-building and networking with other CSOs. AF makes efforts to push the concerned authorities to integrate a gender perspective at all levels; advocacy and lobbying on women's rights issues has been the organisation's ultimate niche.

#### 3.1 Campaigns for Public Awareness on Priority Issues

##### 3.1.1 LWP-WE: focus-group discussions

Thirty-two focus-group discussions (FGDs) with grassroots stakeholders were held in selected districts in four provinces (Table 9).

**Table 9: Focus-group discussions with grassroots stakeholders (LWP-WE)**

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>No. of participants</i>
Rawalpindi	Jun 28	National Policy on Home-based Workers	36
	11 Aug	Domestic Violence Bill	40
Gujrat	Jun 30	National Policy on Home-based Workers	23
	Oct 15	Domestic Violence Bill	31
Chakwal	Jun 11	National Policy on Home-based Workers	25
	Sep 4	Domestic Violence Bill	34
Jhelum	Jun 7	National Policy on Home-based Workers	30
	Sep 2	Domestic Violence Bill	32
Sukhur	Jun 20	The Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010	29
	Dec 28	Health, shelter, and protection of flood-affected women	24
Larkana	May 25	Current status of law on honor killings	20
	Aug 25	Women's property rights	18
Hyderabad	Jun 13	The Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010	56
	Sep 4	Issues of home-based workers and existing law	35
	May 28	Current status of law on honor killings	33

Shaheed Benazirabad (Nawabshah)	Nov 16	Women-related laws and their implementation	30
Sibi	Jun 17	National Policy on Home-based Workers	29
	Sep 7	Domestic Violence Bill	30
Naseerabad	Jun 18	Recommendations on policy update of women home-based workers	31
	Oct 3	Domestic Violence Bill	31
Pishin	Jun 11	Recommendations on policy update of women home-based workers	36
	Sep 10	Domestic Violence Bill	29
Noshki	Jun 19	Current status of law on honor killings	39
	Aug 28	Domestic Violence Bill	34
Mansehra	Jun 24	Current status of law on honor killings	13
	Aug 29	Domestic Violence Bill	34
Abbottabad	Jun 29	Current status of law on honor killings	20
	Aug 21	Domestic Violence Bill	40
Haripur	Jun 25	Current status of law on honor killings	19
	Nov 27	Women food and security issues	20
Nowshera	Jun 25	Issues of home-based workers and existing law	17
	Dec 8	Women and food security issues	32

### **3.1.2 PDM-VAW: focus-group discussions**

Ten one-day FGDs were held with key representatives of the federal and provincial governments, legislators, legal experts, and CSOs (Table 10).

**Table 10: PDM-VAW focus-group discussions**

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Participants</i>		
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
Islamabad	16 June	23	12	11
Lahore	16 March	33	20	13
Karachi	13 June	23	11	12



Peshawar	29 June	23	11	12
Quetta	27 March	20	8	12

The FGDS were organised to discuss the current and emerging issues of the reporting period. The activity was conducted in all regions and focused on women issues, the issue of women shelters being disowned by the government of Punjab after the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, problems emerging after devolution, the IDP situation, the inherent gender bias in the judiciary, the country's faulty criminalisation system, and the impact of increasing violence on VAW advocacy.

### 3.1.3 LWP-WE: Legal literacy meetings in selected districts

Thirty-two legal literacy meetings (LLMs) were conducted with law/university students, young female lawyers, CSO activists, and media personnel in selected districts from four provinces (Table 11).

**Table 11: Legal literacy meetings with various stakeholders (LWP-WE)**

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>No. of participants</i>
Rawalpindi	Jun 5	The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2010	32
	15 Sep	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011 (Anti women practices bill)	48
Gujrat	Jun 29	The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2010	26
	Aug 4	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	44
Jhelum	Jun 24	The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2010	36
	Oct 6	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	55
Chakwal	Jun 12	The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2010	15
	Aug 29	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	43
Sukkur	Jun 11	18th Amendment of the Constitution of Pakistan	28
	Sep 28	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	20

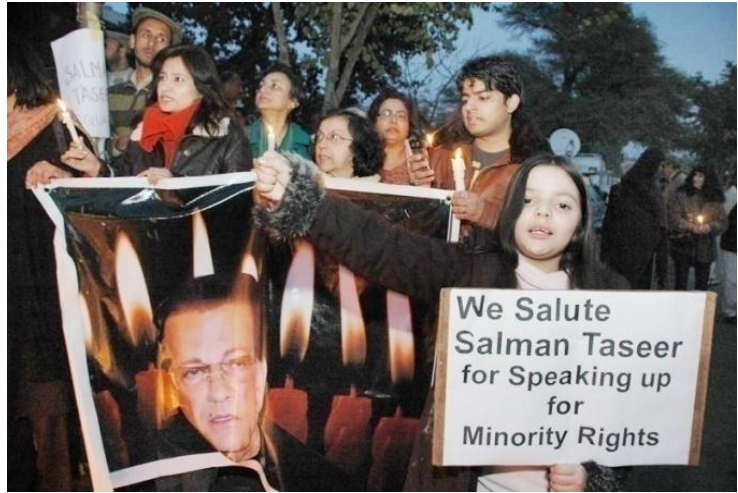
Larkana	May 30	18th Amendment to the constitution of Pakistan	20
	Sep 14	Floods and women's issues	22
Hyderabad	Jun 21	The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2010	26
	Sep 24	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	32
Shaheed Benazirabad (Nawabshah)	May 31	Women's Protection Bill, 2012	37
	Oct 22	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	21
Sibi	Jun 20	Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961	47
	Oct 14	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	44
Naseerabad	Jun 21	Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961	45
	Aug 5	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	33
Pishin	Jun 16	Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961	29
	Oct 2	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	30
Noshki	Jun 22	Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961	37
	Sep 29	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	50
Mansehra	Jun 25	Section 509 of the Pakistan Penal Code	14
	Oct 16	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	41
Abbottabad	Jun 28	Section 509 of the Pakistan Penal Code	20
	Sep 20	The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011	44
Haripur	Jun 28	Section 509 of the Pakistan Penal Code	20
	Dec 4	Sexual Harassment Act 2010	20
Nowshehra	Jun 27	Section 509 of the Pakistan Penal Code	20
	Nov 23	Sexual Harassment Act 2010	20

### 3.2 LWP-WE National advocacy campaigns on WR/HR issues

National advocacy campaigns to mobilise INCs, CACs, and CSOs on WR/HR issues were undertaken regularly during 2011. AF and likeminded civil society networks have persistently responded to emerging issues related to human rights, democracy, governance, and Pakistan's international gender commitments. These networks include the Insani Haqooq Ittehad (IHI), the Sustainable Agriculture Action Group (SAAG), Aman Ittehad, the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW) Alliance, Women's Action Forum (WAF), and various legislative watch groups (LWGs) and violence against women watch groups (VAW-WGs).

#### 3.2.1 Discrimination against minorities

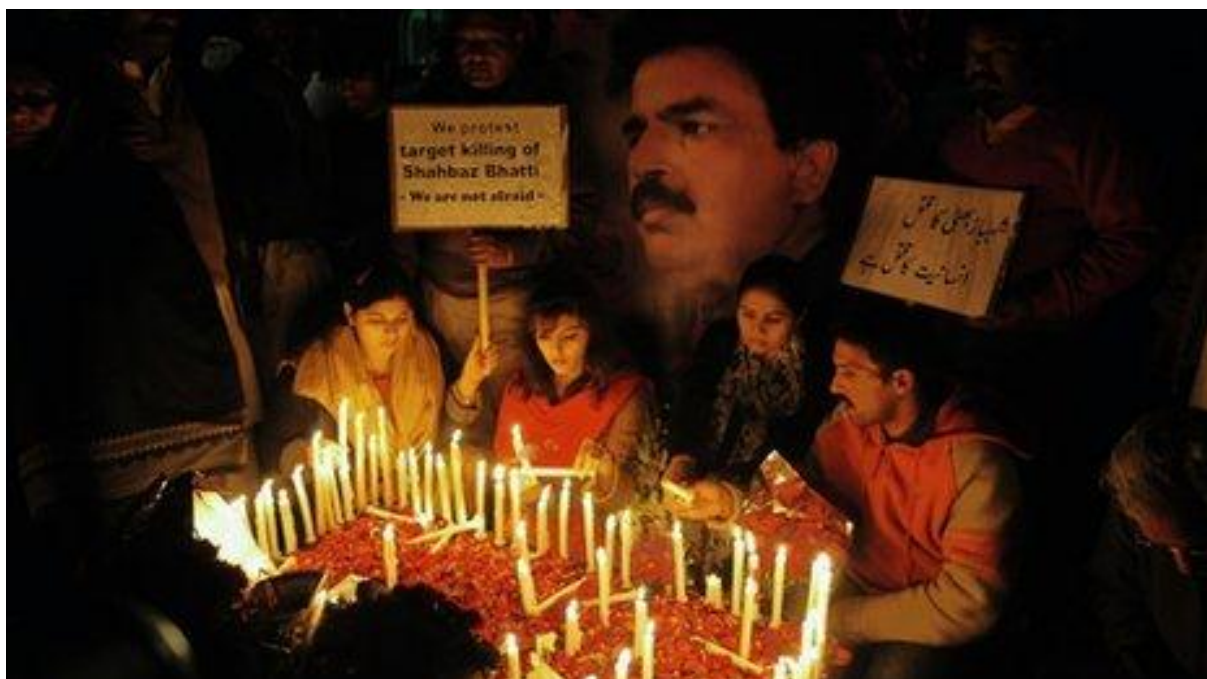
AF arranged several press conferences and meetings under different networks to address issues of minorities' rights, particularly focusing on the Blasphemy Law which carries various discriminatory clauses against minorities. AF-Karachi and WAF held several meetings with Karachi CSOs on the Blasphemy Law. Several informal meetings were also held with legislators, CSOs, and media personnel in collaboration with WAF.



**Other noteworthy activities included:**



- AF's demonstrations against the death sentence awarded to Asia Bibi by the trial courts;
- AF rallies to condemn the cold-blooded murders of Governor Salman Taseer (Punjab) and MNA Shahbaz Bhatti, both of who were victimised for expressing concerns over the discriminatory clauses of the Blasphemy Law and its consequences for minority groups.



### 3.2.2 Peace and security

The LWP team from all five offices facilitated and participated in *aman* rallies organised by the Aman Ittihad, an alliance of organisations and individuals working at the national and provincial level to spread a message of peace across the country. A series of provincial meetings were held from November 28, 2011 onwards to devise a strategy for Solidarity Day, 2012 and discuss ways to ensure effective visibility and voice.







AF supported a candlelight vigil in Islamabad, Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar and Lahore on November 29, 2011 to protest the killings of 26 Pakistani soldiers in an unprovoked attack by NATO forces at a Pakistani check post in Mohmand Agency on November 26, 2011. This was organised under the banner of IHI, a network of human rights organisations and activists, the Joint Action Forum (JAC). Nigar Ahmed, Executive Director, AF, also participated.

Under the IHI platform, CSOs also gathered and protested outside the National Press Club, Islamabad on August 19, 2011 to condemn Karachi's brutal spate of target killings. The protest demonstration was addressed by Simi Kamal, a human rights activist from AF and Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson, NCSW.







The AF-LWP Quetta staff facilitated a seminar organised by the Aman Itihad on the current political and law and order situation in Balochistan.

### 3.2.3 Violence against women and sexual harassment

AF collaborated with civil society networks like IHI in Islamabad and JAC in Lahore and Karachi, the Balochistan Gender Network in Quetta, and Aman

Tahrik (peace movement) in Peshawar to organise several meetings to discuss and highlight the growing incidence of GBV. A strategy meeting was conducted under the aegis of the EVAW Alliance, AF, and other organisations to discuss the Mukhtaran Mai case. LWP-WE's Islamabad team also organised a press conference to record its protest against the apex court's biased decision in the case, demanding the government to bring effective changes in procedural law to ensure fair investigations of violence cases. The LWP team participated in several other events during the reporting period, including the following:





- AF Lahore office organised a demonstration to express its dismay at the SC verdict in the case;
- A press conference titled “Save Women Crisis Centres from Closure” was also organised by Lahore’s LWP staff on June 22, 2011 to raise awareness of the issue;
- AF provided legal assistance to several women victim of violence through all five offices. For example, the Islamabad team provided/arranged legal and social counselling (under the IHI forum) to a 14-year old incest victim from Taxila, a girl sexually abused by her father;
- AF Peshawar held the provincial secretariat of a global campaign, “We Can End VAW”;
- AF staff arranged a seminar titled “Peace, Violence, and Women” the objective of which was to highlight the hurdles women face during conflicts.

### 3.2.4 Legal rights, discriminatory laws, and structures and practices

The AF staff continued to provide legal input to CSOs and other institutions on women’s legal rights at all five AF offices and 16 project districts. AF Quetta and Peshawar maintained contact with parliamentarians and secretaries, demanding a repeal of all discriminatory laws. The campaign was covered by the media and the issue highlighted in interviews on television.

Major LWP events included the following:

- LWP-Islamabad gave a presentation on the Domestic Violence Bill at an event organised by Bedari and Kutch Khas on Feb 12, 2011 at Kuch Khas, Islamabad;

- As a member of the working group committee on the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Bill, 2010, AF-LWP staff and other committee members successfully lobbied Senator Nilofer Bakhtiar, who assured her full support. The bill was passed unanimously by the Upper House on December 12, 2011;
- AF-Islamabad and various CSOs organised a peaceful demonstration on December 12, 2011 in support of the passage of the Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill, 2008 and the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Bill, 2010;
- AF/LWP-Islamabad contributed significantly to the preparation of the draft Criminal Amendment Bill, 2011 on domestic violence;
- Under the alliance of the Mumkin Network, LWP-Lahore arranged a series of provincial consultations with parliamentarians, lawyers, and Punjab Assembly MPAs on the Domestic Violence Bill. A new provincial draft was prepared in light of recommendations proposed by CSOs and legal experts and forwarded to the Law Ministry for further action;
- LWP-Karachi facilitated a dialogue on the Domestic Violence Bill organised by PDM-VAW. Provincial legislators including Mr. Nisar A. Khuhro, Ms. Sharmeela Farooqi, and Ms. Tauqeer Fatima Bhutto participated in the dialogue and assured their support for the passage of the Bill in the Sindh Assembly.

### **3.2.5 55<sup>th</sup> CSW session: international gender commitments and campaigns**

The UN Commission on the Status of Women's (CSW) priority theme in 2011 was "Access and Participation of Women and Girls in Education, Training, Science, and Technology, including the Promotion of Women's Equal Access to Full Employment and Decent Work." The 55<sup>th</sup> CSW session started at UN headquarters in New York on February 22, 2011 and lasted until March 6, 2011. AF staff, CSO representatives, and activists comprised the NGO delegation:

- Ms. Nighat Saeed, Chief, ASR
- Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, AF
- Ms. Nayyar Shabana Kiyani, AF
- Ms. Noreen Tawakal, Shirkatgah
- Ms. Batool Iqbal Qureshi, Secretary, MoWD
- Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson, NCSW
- Ms. Rashida Khan, member, NCSW

### **3.2.6 Celebrations of women's days**

AF facilitated rallies and demonstrations to mark international and national women's days. These included the following:





- AF Islamabad organised a seminar in collaboration with IHI February 12, National Women's Day;
- A NCSW-supported seminar paid tribute to women at the grassroots level on Feb 11, 2011;
- AF Karachi organised an event to mark "16 Days of Activism against GBV" on December 9, 2011;
- AF Lahore organised a candlelight vigil to mark "16 Days of Activism against GBV" with the theme "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World;"

- **Aurat Yakjehti Mela** was organised on November 25, 2011 in connection with the "16 Days of Activism." The event comprised a seminar and displaying of the work done under GEP. Beneficiaries from four provinces presented handicrafts made under home-based economic recovery projects;







A NCSW's seminar in collaboration with Aurat Foundation and other civil society organisations paid tribute to women at the grassroots level on February 11, 2011, to observe the Pakistani Women's Day;







AF Lahore organised an event Commemorating 100 years of International Women's Day with parliamentarians at the Punjab Assembly on March 7, 2011, in Lahore. Below, a view of the function to mark 12 February in Islamabad by AF and Oxfam-GB.







**Islamabad:** In order to celebrate the 100th International Women's Day, members of civil society organisations, NGOs, women's rights activists and people from different walks of life held a rally on 8th March, 2011, under the platform of Insani Haqooq Itihad (IHI), from Kalsoom Plaza to Parade Chowk, in front of Parliament House (the picture above).

**Lahore:** The press conference was organized on the eve of International Women's Day by Aurat Foundation's Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment (LWP-WE) on 7 March, 2012, at Press Club, Lahore. The press conference was addressed by farmer MNA Mehnaz Rafi, Salman Abid, Regional Head SPO, Akbar Dogar, Secretary High Court Bar Association, Hina Hafeez Ullah Ishaq, advocate Lahore High Court, Bushra Khaliq from Wise, Ambreen from Action Aid, Nasreen Zehra, Resident Director Aurat Foundation, Lahore, Mumtaz Mughal, Senior Programme Officer and Shamaila Tanvir, Programme Officer, Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment (LWP-WE).



### **3.2.7 UN Women: Awareness raising meeting on ethnic conflict**

An awareness raising meeting was held in Skardu on October 29, 2011 in which 55 women participated. There were discussions on issues related to ethnic conflict in the areas. It is believed that such activities can help mitigate the situation through the involvement of women in peace initiatives.

### **3.3 LWP-WE joint initiatives with interest groups for support of women's rights**

AF Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, and Quetta strengthened contacts with women/human rights organisations, labour unions, the legal community, judges, women chambers of commerce, student groups, and government authorities.

**Islamabad:** AF engaged young barristers in discussions on core issues of human/women's rights. This group of legal experts has become a strong ally and facilitated AF on several occasions. AF highlighted issues including the SC verdict on the Mukhtaran Mai case, the Blasphemy Law, the devolution of the MoWD under the 18th Amendment, and cases of GBV.

During the campaign for Mukhtaran Mai, AF and the ERAW Alliance prepared an appeal to the Chief Justice for the larger bench of the SC and had it published in national newspapers.

AF made efforts to strengthen its relationship with the media as it [the media] is the fourth pillar of the state and must be sensitised on women issues. LWP worked during the reporting period to build media contacts and engage them in various activities. For example, AF staff gave interviews on different television channels to highlight various issues.

LWP staff also focused on strengthening ties with parliamentarians, particularly women parliamentarians. AF held a national consultation under LWP-WE, mobilising 13 women MPAs from all four provinces to sign a declaration demanding all political parties allocate a ten percent quota for women on general seats. Other advocacy activities included:

- Lobbying along with other CSOs for the passage of the Acid Survivor Bill which became law on December 12, 2011;
- Delivering a series of awareness-raising talks on the Anti-Women Practices Bill and law on honour crimes on FM Sunrise radio (sponsored by Bedari);
- Facilitating the RHV campaign;
- Giving a detailed presentation on the Domestic Violence Bill in a women assembly in Lahore where women leaders working at the district level were informed about the key features of the bill and its current status.

**Lahore:** LWP staff participated in live programmes on SAMAA TV, discussing the SC's decision on Mukhtaran Mai's case, and recorded several programmes on national and local television channels and radio stations on various issues including women's days and during the "16 days of Activism."





As a member of the Mumkin Alliance, LWP staff helped draft a law to bring marriage bureaus into the legal boundary and contributed to the policy of home-based workers. Staff also organised consultations with women parliamentarians, CSO representatives, lawyers, and the Secretary for Women Development at the Directorate of Women Development, Punjab to draft a bill on domestic violence from a provincial perspective. In addition, the LWP team organised and facilitated a women's assembly on October 30, 2011 at the Park Plaza Hotel where women parliamentarians and leaders from 15 districts of Punjab met.



**Karachi:** LWP-Karachi participated in programmes presented by various television channels and radio stations to discuss core issues of women’s concerns. In order to repeal discriminatory laws, AF and other likeminded CSOs arranged several meetings where all organisations pledged to work jointly towards achieving the objective. Several meetings was arranged were also held around Sindh to sensitise people to the Domestic Violence Bill, the Honour Killing Law, and harassment in the workplace. LWP-Karachi held formal and informal meetings with parliamentarians, politicians, and decision-makers during assembly sessions on several occasions to raise issues of women concern and keep the gender-perspective alive. The team also had meetings with women ministers including:

- Ms. Shahla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly
- Ms. Touqir Fatima Bhutto, Minister for Women Development
- Ms. Farheen Mughal, MPA, PPPP
- Ms. Humaira Alvani, MPA, PPPP
- Ms. Rainaz Bozdar, MPA, PPPP
- Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwer, MPA, PPPP

The LWP team facilitated several events organised by HomeNet Pakistan on home-based workers. They also met with legal experts including Justice (R) Shaiq Usmani, Justice (R) Majida Rizv, and Justice (R) Nasir Aslam Zahid and raised issues of women concerns. In addition, team members were invited by various television channels and radio stations including ARY, Sindh, KTN, and Waqt to provide input on various topics regarding women’s issues.

**Peshawar:** The Peshawar office maintained a good relationship with CSOs, CBOs, media personnel, women political wings, lawyers, and academics. AF organised several press conferences, rallies, and demonstrations to highlight different issues of women’s rights. The LWP team participated in different radio programs on the topic of VAW, forced marriages, child marriages, child labour, the Sexual Harassment Act on FM 101, Mashal, Buraq and Dewa.

**Quetta:** AF/LWP staff maintained contact with media persons and gave several interviews to private television channels, including Samaa, Express News, Duniya, and GEO. AF recorded radio programs on the socio-political issues of women on the occasion of International Women’s Day in Urdu, Brahvi, and Pashto. One radio programme on violence



against women was recorded on November 25, 2011 during the “16 days of activism.”

AF/LWP staff maintained close coordination with SEHER, the Adolescent Health Awareness Network (AHAN), BEEDS, Women Shade, South Asia Partnership-Pakistan (SAP-PK), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NCSW, UN Women, and the legal community. Notable participants included:

- Justice (R) Kailashnath Kohli
- Mr. Habib Tahir, Advocate
- Mr. Mir Aurangzeb, Advocate
- Mr. Zafar Bazai, Advocate
- Ms. Tayyba Altaf, Advocate
- Syed Nazeer Agha, Advocate
- Ms. Irum Mehmood, Advocate
- Mr. Qayyum Bedar, Executive Producer, Pakistan Television
- Mr. Shahzada Zulfiqar, Bureau Chief, The Nation
- Mr. Rashid Chohan, Assignment Officer, GEO
- Sheikh Abdul Razzaq, Associated Press of Pakistan (APP)
- Mr. Ayub Tareen, BBC Pushto

Two meetings were held with Ms. Alice H. Shackelford, Country Director, UN Women. AF convened the meeting of the Gender Thematic Working Group under UN Women at its office, providing all logistic support.

### **3.4 National workshop on effective strategies for planning and review**

A two-day meeting was conducted on March 25–26, 2011 at the Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad, to discuss and review the LWP’s work over the last one year (January–December, 2010). This included an assessment of project interventions, success indicators, and future strategy for a way forward to implement project objectives. Twenty-eight AF staff attended the meeting. Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, briefed the meeting on project dynamics, discussing future LWP strategy. He said that the entire LWP team should focus on exploring innovative ways to implement project objectives and engage policymakers, politicians, legislators, and decision makers. Regional coordinators from LWP’s offices in Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, and Peshawar gave presentations on regional project updates from 2010. In addition:

- Mr. Younas Khalid, Director SPME/Finance briefed the meeting on report writing and format, fonts, and content. He spoke of reporting period deadlines (activity, quarterly, biannual, and annual reports);
- Ms. Ibtisam Hassan Qaisarani, Director, Programs spoke on inter- and intra-region coordination between AF staff. Participants were then divided into two groups for an exercise called “innovative ways to engage policymakers, decision makers, and legislators.”





### 3.5 PDM VAW: Watch Group Meetings - Violence Against Women

Fifteen VAW-Watch group meetings were held between 2010 and 2011. The 2011 meetings are shown in Table 12.

**Table 12: PDM VAW-watch group meetings, 2011**

<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Participants</i>		
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
Islamabad	Feb 8	16	14	2
	June 8	9	6	4
Lahore	Jan 18	10	821	820
	July 4	12	6	6
Karachi	March 3	16	13	3
	June 8	16	12	4



Peshawar	April 19	20	9	11
Quetta	June 20	9	5	4
	June 27	8	3	5

PDM staff held VAW watch group meetings to share information on the situation of violence in the country (including the flood and its effects). AF's team raised concerns on the increasing incidents of violence against women in Pakistan, particularly the wave of trafficking and abduction and its impact on women and children. The increase in murder and abduction in Karachi, Peshawar, and parts of Punjab were also discussed. The issue of a lack of political will to minimise VAW cases by the State and even by women parliamentarians, was raised.

### **3.6 Annual Reports - situation of VAW**

Two annual reports (2010 and 2011), five six-monthly reports (one by each office) were prepared and four regional reports were released during 2011 and 2012. PDM-VAW team's at all five AF offices prepared these reports covering the period from July to December, 2010. The second bi-annual report was released in July 2011. The first and second bi-annual reports (July–December 2010) and (July–December 2011) were launched and shared with all relevant actors, including Trocaire, media partners, government bodies, the MoWD, the Gender Crime Cell, the Ministry of Human Rights, public universities, GBV partner organisations and CSOs.





The situation of Violence against Women during the periods July–December, 2010 and July–December, 2011 were presented by PDM-VAW teams in all four regions. It was released to the public through press conferences aimed at sharing VAW statistics and focused on creating awareness mobilising the public to eradicate violence in society. The speakers stressed on changing mindsets and attitudes towards the education, employment, and marriage of women and girls and demanded the government allocate funds to social welfare for the protection of victims. Watch group members, AF personnel, and other NGOs representatives attended the press conferences. Television channels and the national and regional print media covered the activity. PDM-VAW team members were also interviewed.

The second bi-annual VAW country report was compiled and released on August 10, 2011.



**Public seminars:** The PDM-VAW team organised five public seminars in Islamabad and the four provincial capitals to launch the third annual report. The ones in Islamabad, Peshawar, Karachi, and Lahore were held on July 5, 2011, and the one in Quetta was held on July 7. The report received wide media coverage in the print and electronic media in English, Urdu, and local languages. Several international organisations contacted AF with regard to the report findings.





Aurat Foundation's staff and members of VAW Watch groups at functions in Karachi (above) and Islamabad (below) while releasing bi-annual and annual reports of 2010 and 2011 on statistics of violence against women.



### 3.7 LACGI: Community Awareness-raising

The LACGI project produced awareness-raising printed material on women's rights to inheritance, consent in marriage, and gender injustices. Information, education, and communication (IEC) material was developed for wider message dissemination. This included four posters, four pamphlets, and two newsletters. The fourth poster and pamphlet were developed soon after the National Assembly passed the Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill, 2011, which deals directly with women's right to inheritance and forced marriage. Other IEC material included material on how to claim a land inheritance. In addition, an Urdu translation of "Recommendations to Bring Change to the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961" was published. It was ensured that all IEC material was written in layperson's terms.

**Posters:** The developed posters highlighted violence against women, urging society to denounce customary practices like *wanni* and *swara*. One explained the Anti-Women Practices bill, 2011, and another provided guidance to legal property inheritance.

**Newsletter:** The newsletter was read in community groups and followed by a dialogue. It was a useful document as it helped people update their information on women's issues by sharing case study experiences from other communities. It consisted of:

- An editorial;
- A write-up on women-issues;
- Interviews with progressive scholars and human rights activists;
- Community case studies.

#### 3.7.1 Development of a legal literacy curriculum

The legal literacy curriculum was developed as a comprehensive resource to enhance the capacity of women's rights advocates, CSOs, and lawyers. A panel of known lawyers, development practitioners, and women's rights activists including Ms. Maliha Zia Lari, Mr. Naeem Mirza, Ms. Shamim Akhtar, Ms. Uzma Saeed, and Mr. Malik Jarar Hussain helped develop the outline and contents of the curriculum. Ms. Sadia Mumtaz, a practising High Court lawyer and development practitioner, developed the body of the curriculum. Issues and contents covered included:

- An introduction to basic human rights;
- Women's rights in family;
- Women's human rights to an equitable economic development;
- Women's rights to property;
- Women's human rights to freedom from violence;
- Known pro-women judgements of the judiciary.

In the next phase, the curriculum will help train focal persons, lawyers, and media personnel. Material will be aired via radio for mass awareness, as well.



### **3.7.2 Community awareness-raising events**

#### **12 one-hour Radio Legal Service Programmes**

The Radio Legal Service (RLS) programme proved to be an excellent experience for audiences and project implementation. It played a pivotal role in information dissemination and practical measures to common problems faced by women in Pakistan. Twelve programmes were aired on women's right to inheritance, rights of consent in marriage, and other issues of women's fundamental rights.

The first programme provided complete details of the Gender Justice Programme, its implementers, the issues covered, and the target areas of all partners. Interviews with GBV survivors, focal persons, district *khateeb*s, noted religious scholars, and lawyers were also aired for mass awareness. In this regard, the interviews of district the *khateeb*, Haripur and Prof. Arshad Qayum, Hazara University, eloquently explained women's rights issues, especially those on inheritance and forced marriage. Both interpreted religious and legal injunctions regarding the same issues and clearly termed such norms and practices as unlawful and un-Islamic. Personal stories were also aired. For example, a woman who had claimed her rightful inheritance successfully, said she had not fully understood the complicated procedure of law and the courts.

Some of the caller issues dealt with on and off air included the following:

- Many on-air calls related to domestic violence. These callers were advised to speak to close family and/or call AF/crisis centres;
- Other live calls were from women requesting information on the procedure to claim their rights vis-à-vis parents'/husband's property. They were advised to arrange for relevant documents, i.e. computerised national identity cards (CNICs), domicile certificates, birth certificates, registry of property, succession certificates, and death certificates;
- Several callers asked for the essential elements for marriage. They were told: there must be offer and acceptance; there must be free consent of the bride and bridegroom; the dowry must be fixed at the time of *nikah*; there must be two witnesses to the *nikah*; and the *nikah* must be registered;
- Another frequently asked question was what a woman should do if fraudulently deprived of her property. The response was that women deprived of their rightful property through unfair means can file a suit in a civil court under section 42 of the Specific Relief Act for the restoration of her share as a declaratory suit.

#### **DLGs, discussion sessions, linkage-building meetings, and rallies**

The LACGI project successfully implemented several types of meetings and discussion sessions during the reporting period. These are summarised in Table 13, followed by intervention-specific details.

Table 13: LACGI interventions

<i>Event</i>	<i>Targeted at</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
32 two-day DLGs*	Community	800	400	400
80 discussion sessions	Community	1,641	821	820
20 linkage-building meetings	Village groups, <i>patwaris</i> , and the district revenue office	442	214	228
Project district rally		3,224	1,384	1,840

RLS = Radio Legal Service; DLG = drama listening gathering

**32 two-day drama listening gatherings (DLGs):** These DLG workshops were based on an Urdu audio drama, *Hai Kahin Roshni* which comprised six 25-minute episodes covering themes like basic gender, violence-against-women concepts, women's forced marriage, disinheritance, the right to education and entertainment, and free mobility issues. The workshop trained 800 community men and women. 25 participants listened to the episodes, took notes, and then commented on the same issues in their localities.

Thereafter, 200 people were chosen for capacity-enhancement workshops on the basis of their understanding of the issues, responsiveness, and willingness to participate in community-based activities. These workshops helped identify 20 community trainers (ten women, ten men) who conducted two-day DLG workshops in 40 villages in 20 union councils of district Haripur, empowering communities to carry project objectives forward, themselves.

**80 discussion sessions for village groups:** About 160 facilitators (80 women, 80 men) conducted discussions for village groups based on events and issues covered in the LACGI newsletter. Issues discussed included:

- Brothers often neglect to obtain fathers' death certificates to maintain control over the deceased's property;
- Participants said people who commit their daughters and sisters in marriage to the *Quran* just to keep the family's property within the family, must be brought to courts of law;
- Participants, especially women, opined that the inclusion of awareness-raising textbooks in school, college, and university syllabi would promote mutual respect between women and men;
- Women participants said government line agencies must take swift action and measures to develop a strategy that extends help to CSOs in minimising women's suffering and counters the heinous crimes and violations against them.

These meetings were conducted between village groups, community activists, *patwaris*, and the district revenue office. There was one meeting attended by 10 women and 10 men for every two villages per union council. Local *patwaris* participated in every meeting and participants were

explained methods and processes of property transfer and the hurdles and tactics that victimise women. Issues raised and discussed included the following:

- Brothers/husband transfer property to themselves, excluding sisters/wives and may even go as far providing death certificates. It was explained that an application for property distribution/transfer requires basic documents for verification and issuance of a succession certificate. After a month of publishing the details of sharers in a newspaper, the relevant property documents are checked by a *patwarkhana* and the concerned *tehsildar* visits and verifies through local elders;
- A woman not included among sharers can refer her case to the court with an NIC card, property transfer documents if available (if not, courts will order to produce), and claim that property has been distributed without her knowledge;
- A woman can claim her share of property specified in a *nikah* form as dowery by paying a minimum one rupee transfer charge. She must present her NIC card and *nikah* form to a *patwari*. The *patwari* then prepares documents showing the property against her name and sends them to the concerned *tehsildar* for verification, who countersigns them.





## Rally in District Haripur

Public pressure has been very effective in helping amending draconian laws and approving fair laws. AF held a rally on December 10, 2011 to mark World Human Rights Day and to acknowledge the efforts of those ones who drafted and presented the Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill, 2011. Senior officials from AF and Norwegian Church Aid delivered speeches. The rally served as a message to the Senate to approve the bill. It should be noted that the rally required careful planning as this was the first rally ever in the district that included women. Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer and Resident Director, Ms. Shabina Ayaz from Aurat Foundation were among the speakers.



A view of the rally in Haripur





### 3.8 National Advisory Meetings

GEP's specific interventions in the field of gender and its support to government and civil society create powerful linkages which assist all those working for women's empowerment. Members have acknowledged NAF as an important national forum for consultation, brainstorming and engaging the government.

#### 3.8.1 The first NAF meeting

The First National Advisory Meeting was organised by AF on March 26, 2011, in Islamabad to celebrate 100 years of International Women's Day and formally announce the launch of GEP's National Advisory Forum (NAF). The inaugural meeting brought together senior government and non-government representatives active in promoting gender equality on a single national platform. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Anis Haroon, Chairperson, NCSW. Participants pledged their support for USAID's GEP initiative and suggested critical areas for support such as institutional development of provincial Women's Development Ministries, leveraging media to generate societal behavioural change, focusing interventions in police and women's jails, and working closely with labour departments to support working women.

The launch event was attended by 238 guests, including 15 NAF members, seven NAF observers, and 216 representatives from the federal and provincial governments.



**Participants at the first meeting of NAF in Islamabad**

A documentary titled *Main Safar Main Hoon* was also screened which highlighted the achievements and sacrifices of Pakistani women between 1911 and 2011.

### **3.8.2 The second NAF meeting**

The second NAF meeting was held on July 29–30, 2011 with the objective of developing a comprehensive understanding of the GEP program, its scale and areas of activity, and garnering strategic inputs for year two of the program. The meeting provided a timely opportunity to discuss the responsibilities of the provincial governments post-development in light of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment and its impact on gender policies.

Mr. Jami Chandio, Executive Director, Centre for Peace and Civil Society, presented on the implications of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment at the national level. Following his presentation, each of the provincial ministers for Women Development gave their provinces' perspective on gender policy planning. The Chair, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, discussed national priorities on women's development and gender mainstreaming.

The NAF forum also provided an opportunity to discuss GEP's GBV strategy which was presented by Ms. Simi Kamal. Additionally, the meeting included group sessions on GBV and





capacity building and women's empowerment to examine three desk studies commissioned by GEP on these topics.

Other issues discussed included:

- The inclusion of mothers' names on CNICs;
- Tapping students from universities as potential resources;
- Introducing career guidance/counselling programs at the matriculation level;
- Formalizing divorce on the same lines as *nikah*;
- Strengthening crisis shelters and *dar-ul-amans* as an integral part of the rehabilitation of GBV victims.

### **3.8.3 GEP: Pathways of progress for the women of Pakistan**

This event was held to present GEP's achievements between July 2010 and July 2011. Prior to the event, a national review and planning meeting was held with all GEP sub-grantees, providing them a platform to share their experiences. The event was spread over two sessions. In the first session, all GEP sub-grantees were given the opportunity to showcase their GEP-supported projects. Chief guest, Ms. Marylyn Wyatt, wife of Mr. Cameron Munter, Ambassador of the United States to Pakistan, and Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan and Chairperson, NAF visited stalls and interacted with the sub-grantees. The second session consisted of speeches



delivered by NAF members, including the Chairperson, NAF and four provincial ministers for Women Development. Dr. Masuma Hasan, president, Board of Governors, Aurat Foundation presided over the function. The formal activities were followed by a cultural performance by famous *Kathak* dancer, Mr. Adnan Jahangir in celebration of the struggle of women against oppression and subjugation.

### 3.9 GEP advocacy: advocating at the grassroots

GEP launched a community-level integrated advocacy campaign against GBV during Year Two. This campaign gave synchronised positive messages and highlighted the issues and dynamics of GBV on various national and international days of importance falling between November 25, 2011 and March 8, 2012. The campaign resulted in 834 events being conducted across Pakistan down to the district and *tehsil* levels, reaching 93,606 women and men directly.

### 3.10 GEP National Consultation

A national consultation titled “Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Post-Devolution” was held on December 14–15, 2011 in Islamabad. It was attended by stakeholders from the government, civil society, and other national and international agencies and resulted in:

- A forum for sharing and promoting interprovincial dialogue on provincial gender equality frameworks for women’s empowerment;





- Developing consensus amongst key stakeholders for a national framework on gender equality for national and international commitments.

Provincial governments were supported to develop their own frameworks for gender equality and women's empowerment in light of GEP's GBV strategy. A direct outcome was the Sindh Minister for Women Development's announcement that the Government of Sindh would adopt GEP's strategy to combat GBV. The Minister requested GEP support to strengthen the Sindh Women Development Department and a formal memorandum of understanding (MoU) between AF and the Women Development Department, Sindh, which is expected in Year Three.

### **3.11 WEPLDP (Raising Her Voice) Activities**

#### **3.11.1 Orientation and strategic planning meeting**

A two-day project orientation and strategic planning meeting with district partners was held at the Hotel Pak Continental, Islamabad on May 19–20, 2011 under the WEPLDP project. People from all 30 project districts participated and were introduced in the first session.

**Second session:** This was jointly conducted by Mr. Asim Malik (National Co-ordinator) and Mr. Anjum Rafiq (Programme Officer). The topics covered in this session were workshop objectives,

developing a common understanding of the project's objectives, and planned impact and indicators of change.

**Third session:** Facilitated by Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF, the objective was to define the roles and responsibilities of CACs, WLGs, and AF. He suggested possible steps for making Pakistan politically and economically strong:

- The 33% quota of seats for women in politics should be upgraded to 50%;
- CSO should unite to demand the provision of women rights;
- Agriculture reforms should be introduced;
- The wealthy should pay more taxes;
- Local government systems should be restored to strengthen democracy at the grassroots level;
- Both government and non-government institutions should pay more attention to violence against women.

**Fourth session:** Mr. Younas Khalid, RHV Project Advisor, briefly described the revised log frame analysis (LFA) for setting up project indicators. These changes were made in light of recommendations made in the midterm review report and a national stakeholder consultation.

**Fifth session:** Mr. Rizwan Arif, Finance Manager, AF, talked about donors' financial requirements, explaining the Oxfam-GB and AF financial management systems and principles and type of financial reporting required.

On the second day, participants were divided into four groups, region-wise and tasked with developing two-year activities in the light of LFA. The last session was facilitated by Ms. Nigar Ahmad, Executive Director, AF. She briefly described the role of women in leadership and said that Pakistani women are facing problems like lack of access to education, information, and finance due to discriminatory male behaviour. This severely inhibits the ability of women to develop leadership skills and to participate in the policymaking process.

### **3.11.2 RHV's annual work plan development**

Similar to the orientation and strategic planning meeting, group work was conducted to discuss the revised LFA. It was decided that WLGs and CACs will develop an annual work plan for their respective districts in consultation with all 50 women leader groups. The procedure was as follows:

- CAC coordinators and women leaders who participated in the project orientation workshop conducted consultation meetings in their districts and shared the proceedings of the two-day workshop, preparing an annual work plan in the light of the revised LFA for each district;
- Each district sent a quarter work plan (April–June) after finalizing the annual work plan;
- Eight formats were prepared in light of the annual work plan to obtain comprehensive information and data to fulfil LFA requirements.



### **3.11.3 District-level consultations with WLGs**

A consultation process was initiated in all 18 districts (15 in Punjab, three in KPK) with WLG and CACs. The objective was to re-visit 50 WLGs and discuss how to increase membership. The following points were discussed:

- Each woman leader will mobilise one new local woman to join the group;
- Women from WE CAN (an Oxfam-GB project) will be invited to join groups;
- Journalists, teachers, lady health workers (LHWs), professors, college students, home-based workers, poor women, and women from NGOs, CBOs, and CCBs will be invited to join;
- The newly developed lists will be computerised and shared with Oxfam-GB.

### **3.11.4 Gender review of flood response**

Two women leaders from Multan and Sukkur attended Oxfam-GB's Gender Review of Flood Response meeting. The review explored how much Oxfam-GB had embedded a gender lens throughout the project cycle in its flood response. The lessons learned and the good practices identified from this review enabled the design of gender-responsive humanitarian emergency and recovery interventions.

### **3.11.5 Dharti campaign**

Oxfam-GB launched a farmers' charter of demands in connection with the Dharti campaign, urging the government to adopt agricultural reforms to better protect poor and landless farmers in Islamabad, especially women.

Key demands included:

- Reform of existing tenancy acts to allow workers to establish unions, demand fair wages and receive land titles supporting their legal rights to the land;
- Legal mechanisms to adjudicate complaints and resolve conflicts;
- Land reforms ensuring cultivable state-owned land;
- Redistributing land owned by absentee landlords to landless farmers including women, who currently cultivate the land.

Ms. Shahina Ramzan, member, Dharti campaign said rising food prices, land grabs, the exploitation of farmers, a lack of effective land rights policies, and a lack of farming support plans have created a system that will directly affect food security and the ability to earn a livelihood.

### **3.11.6 Information sharing on electoral processes**

An information sharing session was held under WEPLDP. Ms. Malka Khan briefly introduced the WEPLDP project and Mr. Aslam Brohi gave a presentation on electoral process in Pakistan. Participants included:

- AF-Karachi staff
- Representatives from HRCP and NOW Communities
- Mr. Dost Hafeez, Daily Awami Awaz
- Ms. Rafia Hyder, APP

Participants were informed of the legal provisions in the Constitution of Pakistan Article 51 (2), Article 106 (2), Article 219 (a) and the Electoral Rolls Act, 1974. International standards of electoral rolls with regards to practices in Pakistan were also reviewed.

A video on the revamping of electoral processes in Bangladesh was shown.

### **3.11.7 Oxfam-GB report writing training**

Mr. Anjum Rafiq, Regional Co-ordinator, RHV-Punjab and KPK attended a three-day report writing training organised by Oxfam-GB at the Best Western Hotel, Islamabad.

### **3.11.8 Monitoring and evaluation, Punjab**

RHV monitoring visits were undertaken in districts Jhelum, Sialkot, and Hafizabad. The team comprised Ms. Uzma Zareen, Oxfam-GB, Mr. Asim Malik, AF, and Mr. Anjum Rafiq, AF.



Ms. Zareen held a debriefing session and made the following recommendations:

- WLG work has seen more individual action. Group action must be encouraged;
- WLGs should be divided into small groups each addressing one issue;
- WLGs should be made aware of existing labour laws, especially in districts where women or their family members work in factories;



- WLGs in project districts should investigate the conditions of local schools and understand the importance of girls' education;
- WLGs should put pressure on district administrations to seek information regarding the utilisation of the two percent budget allocated to women's development;
- Gender equality should be promoted among NGOs/CBOs of women leaders;
- WLGs should develop good working relationships with legislators;
- WLGs should utilise GRAP structures for the empowerment of poor women at the grassroots level;
- WLGs should be made aware of the importance of civil registration.

### **3.11.9 Monitoring and evaluation, Sindh**

During October, AF's representative and Ms. Feroza Zahra, Programme Officer EVAW, Oxfam-GB, visited WLGs in Thatta and Hyderabad. Ms. Neelum Abbasi, Secretary, WLG-Thatta informed the monitoring team of WLGs' role in advocacy forums in camps. The teams observations are outlined below:

- Government officials attending meetings do not share information on district development funds;
- The district development advisory council has not yet been formed;
- School heads have formed school management committees (SMCs) consisting of close friends;
- Women are reluctant to obtain bank loans as policies are strict and interest rates, high;
- Dengue fever is spreading panic among women leaders and they asked for guidance on this particular fever;
- Divorce and violence issues are increasing in most of the districts of Southern Punjab. Women leaders said the role of the police and courts was not satisfactory;
- Women partners of the "We Can" campaign are not attending WLG meetings;
- Women leaders have done excellent work but cannot document it due to poor report writing skills. Thus, their efforts are not reflected in Oxfam-GB's quarterly reports.

### **3.11.10 The "We Can" campaign**

AF is a partner in Oxfam-GB's "We can end violence against women" campaign and has been involved in mobilisation, information dissemination, awareness raising, capacity building, advocacy, and lobbying.

It was suggested that while revisiting the list of women leaders in project districts, We Can Campaign representatives interested in joining the WLGs should be included. As a result, a total of 25 representatives were included in six districts of Punjab, six districts of Sindh, and two districts of Balochistan.

### **3.11.11 Knowledge Sharing and Skill Development Forums**

**July–Sep, 2011:** A total of 15 Knowledge Sharing and Skill Development Forums (KSSDFs) were held in all 30 project districts. Around 455 people (426 women, 29 men) participated. Each of the 50 WLG members was asked to bring a poor community women leader along to become familiar with the process of identifying the issues faced by women. A session on basic human rights (Constitution of Pakistan, 1973) was conducted. Another session divided the women into small groups to identify issues and training needs. Women leaders prepared the women leaders manifesto during the final session. Yearly district-level work plans were also shared.



Issues were identified at the family, community, and state level. Training needs identified included orientation on various bills and conventions, the role of NGOs, current political issues, and communication skills.

The Manifesto raised issues including women representation in legislative institutions, CNIC registration of women, discriminatory laws, legislative structures, women crisis centres, local government development fund utilisation, pensions for women, vocational training for women, current labour laws, job quotas, girls' education, social security facilities, punishment for honour killings, women related cases in court, women lawyers and judges, and minimum wage rules.

**October–December, 2011:** Seventeen KSSDFs (including two carried forward) were held in districts Attack, Abbotabad, Chakwal, Layyah, Bhakkar, Jhelum, Sialkot, Mianwali, Gujrat, Thatta, Hyderabad, Shaheed Benazirabad, Tando Allahyar, Dadu, Ghotki, and Shikarpur. Around 476 women and 38 men participated. These included teachers, ex-councillors, lawyers, college students, LHWs, doctors, home-based workers, and students from vocational institutes.

### **3.11.12 Provincial and district level advocacy meetings**

Table 14 summarises the provincial and district level advocacy meetings conducted under the WEPLDP project.

**Table 14: WEPLDP provincial- and district-level advocacy meetings, Lahore**

<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>With whom/issue</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
July 18	Provincial administrator, Zakat Ushar	Zakat/Ushar and Bait-ul-Mal should be merged; Reform of Zakat/Ushar budget	11	5	16
Sep 22	NADRA officials	CNIC registration of women in far-flung areas of district Rahimyar Khan	8	4	12
Aug 22	With key stake holders at provincial level	Debriefing session on proposed draft of the Domestic Violence Bill	13	4	17
Aug 25	With key stake holders at provincial level	Follow-up of Aug 22 meeting	8	3	11
<b>Total</b>			<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>56</b>

### 3.11.13 Networking meetings

Sixty networking meetings were held in all 30 project districts in which 2,013 people (1,748 women, 265 men) participated. Represented organisations included the First Women Bank, Khushali Bank, Tameer Bank, the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), the Punjab Rural Support Programme (PRSP), Kashf Foundation, Bedari, Muslim Hands, Al-Baraka Bank, Sorat, and The First Microfinance Bank Ltd. (FMFB). These organisations shared information on the procedure for obtaining loans.

### 3.11.14 Accountability forums

A total of 30 accountability forums (12 in Sindh/Balochistan, 18 in Punjab/KPK) were held during the reporting period. In Punjab/KPK, the focus was on NGOs/CBOs to ensure women representation at senior positions in their organisations. The focus in Sindh was to sensitise flood relief camp management to violence against women issues.

Additional accountability forums were held between October and December, 2011. These acted as roundtable conferences with political parties on their role in ending domestic violence (Table 15).



**Table 15: Accountability forums, October–December, 2011**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>With whom/issue</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
Abbotabad	Nov 25	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	29	27	2
Nowshera	Nov 27	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	20	19	1
Haripur	Nov 28	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	22	18	4
Attock	Nov 26	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	22	16	6
Rawalpindi	Nov 24	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	25	22	3
Chakwal	Nov 23	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	30	28	2
Jhelum	Nov 28	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	32	24	8
Gujrat	Nov 20	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	25	20	5
Hafizabad	Nov 26	Roundtable with political parties to know their role in eliminating domestic violence	27	23	4
Dadu	Nov 28	Seminar “Demanding Provincial Assembly, Sindh to pass the Domestic Violence Bill”	33	29	4
Hyderabad	Nov 27	Seminar “Demanding Provincial Assembly, Sindh to pass the Domestic Violence Bill”	36	35	1
Sukkur	Nov 22	Seminar “Demanding Provincial Assembly, Sindh to pass the Domestic Violence Bill”	27	25	2
Tando Allahyar	Oct 26	Seminar “Demanding Provincial Assembly, Sindh to pass the Domestic Violence Bill”	92	80	12
Shikarpur	Oct 10	Seminar “Demanding Provincial Assembly, Sindh to pass the Domestic Violence Bill”	28	25	3
Sibbi	Nov 17	Seminar “Demanding Provincial Assembly, Sindh to pass the Domestic Violence Bill”	29	28	1

### **3.11.15 Advocacy/media campaign**

**July–September, 2011:** Thirty advocacy meetings (12 in Sindh/Balochistan, 18 in Punjab/KPK) were held in all 30 project districts in which 1,235 people (1,077 women, 158 men) participated. Representatives from First Women Bank, Khushali Bank, Tameer Bank, NRSP, PRSP, Kashf Foundation, Bedari, and Muslim Hands were mobilised to entertain loan applications from

women. In Sindh/Balochistan, the focus remained on flood-related advocacy efforts; women leaders collected information from relief camps and affected areas. In Punjab/KPK, women leaders were tasked with collecting councillor data in their areas regarding willingness to participate in the upcoming local government elections.

**October–December, 2011:** Thirty advocacy/media campaigns were held in which 1,127 people (930 women, 197 men) participated. The focus was on the Domestic Violence Bill. Women leaders also prepared action plans at the district level to eliminate domestic violence in their respective areas.

### **3.11.16 Civil registration campaign**

WLGs and CACs continued this campaign voluntarily. A total of 9,595 people (9,238 women, 357 men) benefitted from the campaign between April and September, 2011 in 18 Punjab/KPK districts and in Hyderabad. In Sindh, WLGs and CACs facilitated affected people in obtaining CNICs (a requirement for *watan* cards).

In addition, AF signed an MoU with NADRA in another project through which the foundation will facilitate unregistered women in the acquisition of CNICs. Under the agreement, AF would help NADRA run public awareness programmes to encourage women to obtain CNICs. AF will provide grants through a competitive process to local NGOs and CBOs who will, in turn, mobilise their own resources to achieve the objective in coordination with NADRA.



### **3.11.17 Women assembly**

The RHV project women assembly was organised in which women leaders from 15 districts of Punjab and three districts of KPK participated. The second women assembly was organised in district Sukkur in which women leaders from six districts of Sindh and three districts of Balochistan participated. Women MPA's were also invited to attend these assemblies. The purpose was to lobby legislators to present the Domestic Violence Bill in the Sindh and Punjab assemblies. AF has already engaged MPAs, the Law Department, and legislative watch groups in both provinces to prepare draft copies of the bill.

### **3.11.18 Review of the 18th Amendment**

An advocacy meeting at AF-Lahore was arranged on March 30, 2011 to discuss new challenges after the 18th Amendment. The speakers at the meeting shared the Bill's salient features and made the following recommendations:

- Provincial autonomy is a good concept, but it benefits Punjab the most, which constitutes over 60% of the population. A new province should be created, but not on the basis of ethnic groups;
- Provincial shares of natural resources should be more equitable;
- All provinces should be given adequate employment quotas in all government services;
- The addition of technocrats in the national and provincial assemblies would enhance political parties' ability to govern;
- There should be provisions in the Constitution that address minorities' under-representation in the Senate;
- Revenue and law and order functions should be taken away from local government systems. The process for the election of *nazims*, *naib nazims*, and reserved seats for district/*tehsil* councils should be simplified;
- Civil service reform is essential to effective and accountable institutions. The National Commission on Government Reforms' recommendations would be a good starting point;
- Women's concerns on labour, security, health, and violence must be examined and policymakers must be made to understand the gender-sensitive nature of all sectors. Policy makers should expedite legislative processes and pass all pending bills, especially the Domestic Violence Bill;
- An integrated policy that links credit, health, life, and asset insurance for women must be introduced by the government;
- A quota for women judges is essential.

### 3.11.19 District-level advocacy meetings



Advocacy and lobbying meetings were held in all 18 districts of Punjab and KPK. Participants included officials from the district social welfare office, the district Bait-ul-Mal office, the labour department, the district officer coordination, the Benazir Crisis Centre, the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), women of different political parties, and NGO/CBO representatives. A total of 351 people (287 women and 64 men) participated. Table 16 summaries the proceedings:

**Table 16: District-level advocacy meetings, Punjab**

Gujranwala, Rawalpindi, Dera Ghazi Khan, and Haripur	Meetings were held with NGOs/CBOs who were given an orientation on the Sexual Harassment Act, 2010. Around 35 NGOs/CBOs committed to notify inquiry committees.
Sialkot, Gujrat, Hafizabad, Mianwali, and Jhelum	Meetings were held with district social welfare officers to notify inquiry committees under the Sexual Harassment Act, 2010.
Attock	Women leaders held an advocacy meeting with the women of political parties to mobilise them to lobbying with their party heads to hold local government elections.
Chakwal	Women leaders held a meeting with the officials of the district <i>bait-ul-mal</i> office and convinced them to induct 20 deserving girls into women training institutes.
Multan	Women leaders held a meeting with the officials of the Labour Department who were mobilised to issue a circular to all factories employing women in district Multan to notify inquiry committees to deal with the issues of sexual harassment in the workplace.
Layyah	Women leaders held a meeting with the district coordination officer to convince him to involve CSOs in the preparation of district flood management plans (DFMP). Thus, four NGOs were invited to do so.
Bhakkar	Women leaders held a meeting with gender specialists, GRAP to notify an inquiry committee under the Sexual Harassment Act, 2010.



Rahim Yar Khan	Women leaders held a meeting with the district coordination officer to raise the issue of justice for a gang rape victim.
Bahawalpur	Women leaders held a follow-up meeting with the officials of the Benazir Crisis Centre.
Nowshera	Women leaders held a meeting with BISP officials to include poor and vulnerable women in the scheme.
Abbottabad	Women leaders held a meeting with the district coordination officer to ensure the release of funds to CCB who are working for the development of women.

### 3.11.20 Grassroots meetings

Grassroots meetings were held in Hyderabad, Dadu, Shaheed Benazirabad, Thatta, and Tando Allahyar on March 23–24, 2011. Twenty-five people (22 women, 3 men) participated.

### 3.11.21 Campaign seminars

**Table 17: WEPLDP campaign seminars, Sindh**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Hyderabad	Feb 14	Seminar	30	12	42
Thatta	Feb 28	Seminar	25	15	40
Dadu	Feb 12	Seminar	23	04	27
Tando Allahyar	Feb 31	Seminar	60	10	70
Shaheed Benazirabad	Feb 12	Seminar	52	4	65
Sukkur	Mar 8	Seminar	200	65	265
Shikarpur	Mar 8	Seminar	35	7	42
Ghotki	Mar 18	CNIC	75	20	95
Jacobabad	Feb 7, Feb 12	CNIC seminar	300 43	0 2	300 45
Jaffarabad	Feb 12	Seminar	15	18	33
Naseerabad	Feb 12	Seminar	32	3	35
Sibbi	Feb 15	<i>Watan card</i>	29	11	38
<b>Total</b>			<b>919</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>1,097</b>

### 3.11.22 WEPLDP (RHV) special activities

**Table 18: WEPLDP special activities, Sindh**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Thatta	Mar 12	Violence against Women (International Women's day)	Seminar	30	34	34
Jacobabad	Mar 8	International Women's day	Seminar	50	10	60
Tando Allahyar	Mar 30	International Women's day	Seminar	35	6	41
Dadu	Mar 12	International Women's day	Seminar	30	5	35
Hyderabad	Mar 22	International Women's day	Seminar	150	45	195
Sukkur	Mar 8	Violence against Women (International Women's day)	Rally	50	15	65
Jaffarabad	Mar 9	NIDRA	Seminar	49	11	60
Naseerabad	Mar 8	International Women's day	Seminar	45	8	53
Sibbi	Mar 7	International Women's day	Mala	500	200	700
<b>Total</b>				<b>939</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>1,243</b>

### 3.11.23 WEPLDP (Raising Her Voice) Advocacy meetings Sindh

**Table 19: WEPLDP advocacy meetings, Sindh**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
	Feb 2	Consultation meeting, LHW problems)	25	6	31
	Feb 30	Implementation Harassment Act	15	26	41
Thatta	Feb 15	DDO revenue	15	25	40
Dadu	Jan 24	EDO CCD	7	9	16
Hyderabad	Feb 22	EDO Education	5	10	15

Tando Allahyar	Feb 25	EDO Education	5	10	15
Shaheed Benazirabad	Dec 21	DCO, EDO Education	10	15	25
Sukkur	Feb 8	Various offices and factories	29	1	30
Ghotki	Mar 22	Implementation Harassment Act	15	10	25
Shikarpur	Mar 2	Other organisations	15	30	45
Jacobabad	Mar 10	Women Centre	6	4	10
Jaffarabad	Mar 31	Follow-up meeting	10	15	25
Naseerabad	Dec 10	EDO, CDD	10	10	20
Sibbi	Dec 15	Local government department	5	10	15

### **3.11.24 Networking meeting – LHW issues**

AF organised a meeting at the AF-Karachi office with the Sindh representatives of the All Pakistan Lady Health Workers Employee Association on February 2, 2011. Thirty-one people participated (25 women, six men). Participants included legislators and NGO representatives including WAF, ECDI, the National Organisation for Working Communities, and the Urban Resource Centre (URC).

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the problems LHWs were experiencing with late salaries and the non-regularisation of their job.

Ms. Farhat Parveen, National Organisation for Working Communities, commended the LHW programme and said LHWs provide essential services. She said the salary issue would be resolved and that AF should be contacted for help with job regularisation.

Ms. Khairunnisa Aihsan, President, Sindh All Pakistan Lady Health Worker Employees Association, said that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto started the LHWs programme in 1994 as she wanted to help women at all levels.

She said LHWs were given too much work and unreasonable deadlines and had now moved away from their basic work, which was helping mothers and children.



Ms. Naseem Munir, Press Secretary, All Pakistan LHW Employees Association, said that LHWs were supposed to be going door-to-door educating people and giving out pamphlets. Instead, they have been administering polio, swine flu, and TB vaccines. She noted that their contracts stipulated that their employment could be terminated at any time without notice.

The participants recommended that the public be made aware of the vital role LHWs play in society. Additionally, the participants felt that LHWs should form a group with various NGOs to spread awareness of the issue and work for LHW rights. They added that this group could give LHWs information about how to work through legal channels, inform them of their rights, teach them to form unions and appeal to international donors.

### **3.11.25 Networking meeting – Protection against Harassment Act, 2011**

AF organised a meeting at the DCO office, Karachi on the implementation of the Protection against Harassment Act, 2011 on February 2, 2011. Forty-one people participated (15 women, 26 men).

Explaining the objective of the meeting, Ms. Malka Khan said the aim of this project was to produce leaders at the district level. She said AF was conducting research on the backwardness of women in terms of economic conditions. Ms. Khan also talked about violence against women cases in Sindh and the importance of identity cards; through this project, 100,000 women had been issued CNICs.



Ms. Mahnaz Rahman, Resident Director, AF talked about the Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010, explaining definitions and terms.

### **3.11.26 Networking meeting – Awareness of Harassment Bill, Shikarpur**

A meeting was organised at the Gymkhana Hall, Shikarpur on March 2, 2011 to discuss the Harassment Bill. Forty-two people participated (15 women, 27 men). The following points were discussed:

- The importance of the Harassment Bill was highlighted;
- How the Bill could help women;
- Women's rights and protection aid.

### **3.11.27 Other meetings and events, Sindh**

**Table 20: Other meetings and events, Sindh**

<i>District</i>	<i>Date (2011)</i>	<i>Event, purpose</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>
Karachi	Mar 2	Social Welfare Dept.	9	5	4
Karachi	Mar 8	International Women's Day	42	35	7
Ghotki	Mar 22	Meeting with EDO, education of MPM on Sexual Harassment Act, 2010			
Sibi	Jan 18	Meeting at Resource Centre, Sibi on Sexual Harassment Act, 2010	23	2	21
	Feb 10	Seminar on violence against women	67	65	2
	Mar 7	Sibi <i>mela</i>			
Shaheed Benazirabad	Jan 1	Aman walk, local press club	82	59	23
	Feb 12	Pakistan Women's Day, CAC office			
	Mar 8	International Women's Day			



### 3.12 Condolence meetings for Begum Nusrat Bhutto

Aurat Foundation organized a condolence reference to pay tribute to Begum Nusrat Bhutto for her struggle for democracy and women's empowerment on 27 October, 2011, in Islamabad. Women's rights activists and politicians including Kishwar Naheed, Tahira Abdullah, Rehana Hashmi, Senator Babar Awan, Zamurrad Khan (Chairperson Bait-ul-Maal), Senator Saeeda Iqbal (PPP), Senator Farhat Abas Syed, Nargis Faiz Malik (MPA Punjab) and President Women Wing of Islamabad District, Nasreen Azhar (member NCSW), Senator Begum Surya Amir-ud-Din, Advocate Shah Khawar (former Deputy Attorney General of Pakistan), Rakhshanda Parveen, Marvi Sarmad and Naeem Mirza spoke on the occasion. Participants suggested that in order to highlight the struggle of Nusrat Bhutto, the government should set up a trust in her name which would also promote women's cause and support women leaders at grassroots level. They expressed that she had been a pride for Pakistani women by representing her country at various international forums. The AF staff from Karachi office travelled to Gari Khuda Bakhsh to offer Fateha for the late Begum Nusrat Bhutto. A candle light vigil also took place in Lahore under the auspices of Aurat Foundation.



### **3.13 Lecture by Arif Hasan on participatory development**

Aurat Foundation organized a lecture by Mr. Arif Hasan on the issue of 'Participatory Development' followed by discussion on July 29, 2011, at a local hotel in Islamabad. The event also launched one of Arif Hasan's publication titled '*Shirakti Taraqi*'. Mr. Arif Hasan, a renowned



writer on issues relating to development in Pakistan, while delivering the lecture, said that his work and writings mostly owe its content from his learning from Akhtar Hameed Khan and his development paradigm and practices which set best example of pro-people and pro-poor development.

### **3.14 Seminars on Research Studies**

Provincial seminars/panel discussions were conducted in Karachi, Quetta, Lahore, and Peshawar to share and discuss the findings of Ms. Maliha Zia Lari's research study, "Honour Killings in Pakistan and Compliance of Law." Ms. Lari is an Advocate of the Sindh High Court and a researcher on human rights and international instruments.

**Lahore:** A seminar was held at the Hospitality Inn Hotel on December 20, 2011 to launch the report. Ms. Lari presented study findings, and Mr. Mohammad Tehseen, Justice (R) Nasira Javaid Iqbal, and Ms. Zakia Shahnawaz, MPA served as guest speakers. Approximately 115 people including 61 women attended. 15 women legislators from the Punjab Assembly were also present.

**Karachi:** LWP-Karachi organised a seminar on December 30, 2011 at the Pearl Continental Hotel. Ms. Lari presented study findings and Mr. Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, DIG, Mr. Anwar Mansoor Khan, former Attorney General, and Ms. Farheen Mughal, MPA, addressed the participants and commented on various aspects of the study. Around 85 participants including 45 women attended.

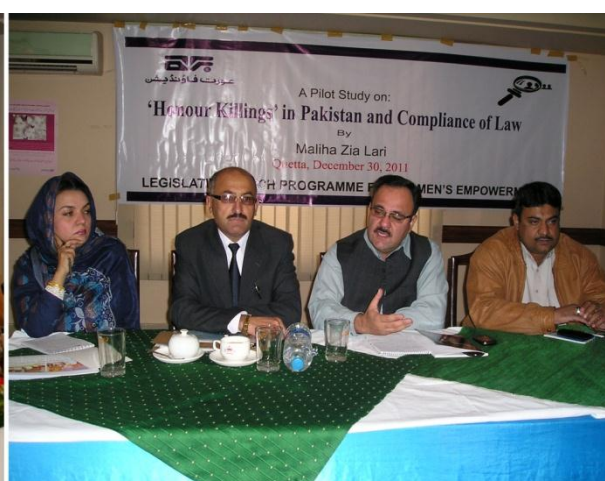
**Quetta:** LWP-Quetta organised a seminar on December 30, 2011 at the Usmania Hotel. Around 65 participants including 26 women attended. Advocate Muhammad Umar Mandokhel, Mr.





Haroon Dawood, AF, and Dr. Shama Ishaq, Ex-MPA were the main speakers. Mr. Haroon Dawood, AF shared the main findings of the study.

**Peshawar:** LWP-WE (AF) organised a launching ceremony of the study on 5 January, 2011 at the Peshawar Press Club. About 160 people including 59 women attended. Barrister Arshad Abdullah, Minister for Law was the chief guest and Mr. Umar Riaz, SSP, Investigation presided over the program. Ms. Lari shared detailed study findings.





### 3.15 GEP scoping studies launched

AF organised an event titled “Mainstreaming Research in Gender Interventions” on June 7, 2011 in Islamabad to launch the completion of four scoping desk studies under the Gender Equity Program (GEP). The event was held with the objective of sharing the key findings, gaps in research, recommendations of the scoping studies with the public, and aligning these findings and recommendations with the objectives of GEP. The importance of conducting investigative and probing research studies was highlighted at the event and upcoming research initiatives under GEP were shared with the participants. Around 178 guests attended the event including Ms. Rakhshinda Parveen, author of the study on GBV, Ms. Catherine Johnson, Senior Director, Democracy and Governance-USAID/Pakistan, Mr. Charles Cutshall, Democracy and Governance Advisor, USAID, Ms. Rehana Hashmi, Sisters Trust Pakistan, Dr. Aliya Khan, member, National Advisory Forum, Quaid-e-Azam University. Representatives from NGOs, CBOs, INGOs, donor agencies, UN agencies, the print and electronic media also attended.



### 3.16. Awards distribution ceremony for ‘Girls Role Models’



**Islamabad:** On 8th March, 2012, Aurat Foundation Islamabad organized an award distribution ceremony at Hotel Holiday Inn, Islamabad. The awards were distributed among girls who are role models for us namely, Ms. Malala Yousafzai (the peace-maker), Ms. Samina Baig (the mountaineer), Ms. Shahroo Malik (the artist), Ms. Marium Hote Malhar (the social worker) and Ms. Sara Nasir (the sports-girl).

Ms. Malala Yousafzai (the peace-maker) in her address said that not only 8th March is women’s day, but each day is a women’s day because of the important role they play in the society. She said that we ought to devote international women’s day to all brave women like Mohtarma Shaheed Benazir Bhutto who devoted their lives for socio-political cause. She said that we, the girls and women, do not demand much





except equality in society. She also said that women do not demand power to undermine men but to be equally treated in society. She said her father had encouraged her a lot, and she in return told him that none can harm him as she would protect him. She said she is happy that with her efforts there is peace in Swat and girls are now on the 'Road to Education' again.

Ms. Shahroo Malik, the artist, in her address said that in the beginning she took fine arts as a hobby but later she realized that fine arts can be one of a major source for awareness and social change. The awards conferred on her have further inspired her to work for women's rights. She won many awards for her excellence in fine arts. In 2005, she won



2nd prize in Japanese Art Competition titled "Remembering peace: 60 years after Nagasaki and Hiroshima". In 2006, she won a competition run by the Japanese Embassy, which allowed her to visit Japan under the South Asian Student Invitation Programme. In 2009, she won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Inter-School Calligraphy competition organized by Islamic Relief Center. She also won 3rd prize in poster making competition entitled "Shattered Kashmir: Paradise on Earth". This painting was then

displayed in an exhibition in Scotland and was much appreciated. She also won 1st position in an Art Competition organized by PNCA.



Ms. Samina Baig, the mountaineer, said that her elder brother helped her a lot in learning how to climb mountains, he took her along on many mountaineering trips. She said that her brother climbed a

mountain 6400 feet high, which was never climbed before, and demanded it to be named 'Equality Mountain' (*Koh-e-Brabari*). She said that, if a girl can climb a mountain she can perform any difficult task.

Ms. Sara Nasir, (Judo Karate Champion) while addressing the gathering said that she was encouraged by her parents to learn Judo. She is the only female *karateka* from Pakistan to have earned a gold medal in karate at a recognized martial arts competition held at the South Asian Games in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in February, 2010. She is a Gold Medalist from NPC 2010, a national champion (thrice), a student of the Shotokan style, having earned her black belt at the age of eight. She became Sports Ambassador Pakistan 2010, obtained Gold Medal in the 53kg kumite and bronze in kata (SAF Games Dhaka 2010). She won the First Benazir Bhutto Sports Women of the Year Award 2011.

Ms. Marium Hote Malhar, the social worker, in her address said that she belongs to Seraiki area where girls have less opportunity in education, at first she was not offered admission in any school in Islamabad because of not speaking English and coming from a poor background. She somehow got admission on her mother's request, and later her teachers said that she had proved her worth. She is a Head Girl Guide and she along with a team of guide girls organized a successful campaign to raise awareness on Dengue Virus. She hoped that the government would make efforts to increase girls' education in Seraiki areas. Tribute was also paid to (late) Arfa Karim, the youngest Microsoft Specialist, by observing one minute silence and giving details of her achievements.







### 8<sup>th</sup> March celebrations

AF participated in a torch march organized by Insani Haqooq Ittehad, a network of civil society organisations and human rights activists on 8 March, 2012, to observe International Women's Day. The event was organized to pay tribute to the girls and women of Pakistan for their ongoing struggle to attain rights, equality and justice (pictures above). AF in collaboration with Islamabad Crescent Lions Club, LOK Parya, Faces Pakistan, Federal Directorate of Education and ACTION

Network organized a march with women and girls to celebrate International Women day, on March 7, 2012, with the theme is 'Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures'. The March was led by prominent women's rights activists Jamil Asgher Bhatti, Nasira Jamil, Khawja Zia, Tahira Abdualh, Sibtain Raza Lodhi and Wasim Wagha.





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Chapter Four

## Legislative Monitoring and Data Collection on Violence against Women



Violence Against Women in Pakistan:  
A qualitative review of statistics 2011



## **4 Legislative monitoring and data collection on violence against women**

### **4.1 LWP-WE: legislative monitoring**

LWP-WE staff from all five offices collected information and material concerning women's rights and issues from newspapers, the National Assembly, provincial assemblies, and the Senate. Copies of important legislation were obtained as well, including "The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2011," "The Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2010," and "The Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011." Other materials collected included:

- Punjab gazettes from the Punjab Assembly and Punjab Election Commission;
- The SC's judgement on Mukhtaran Mai and its critical analysis and articles written by eminent legal experts;
- Federal and provincial budgets;
- Information from UN and other organisations' websites;
- Information on prominent GBV cases;
- Various articles related to women issues.

All offices maintained political diaries based on press clippings and articles published in national and local newspapers on women's legal issues.

### **4.2 Legislative monitoring and supporting elected representatives**

**National Assembly and Senate:** The National Assembly held eight sessions and 107 sittings in 2011. Nine government bills and 27 private members bills (14 of which were introduced by women) were introduced. Twenty-one bills were passed and five ordinances were introduced.

The Senate met 41 times and passed 14 Acts. Eighteen private member bills and five government bills were introduced. AF staff and LWG members were present when the Acid Control and Crime Prevention Bill and The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Bill were moved in the National Assembly and presented in the Senate. The staff provided information and support to women parliamentarians in preparing debates, putting forward questions and resolutions. The LWP-WE team arranged several meetings of CSO activists, women parliamentarians and the mover of the Acid Control and Crime Prevention Bill, and gave recommendations on improving its contents.

**Punjab Provincial Assembly:** The Punjab Assembly held ten sessions and 53 sittings in 2011 (LWP staff attended 18 sittings):

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▪ 13-day session, March 11–31 | ▪ 1-day session, July 22        |
| ▪ 1-day session, April 14     | ▪ 1-day session, August 11      |
| ▪ 1-day session, April 25     | ▪ 6-day session, September 9–16 |



- 1-day session, May 12
- 13-day session, June 10–28
- 1-day session, October 14
- 15-day session, December 12–30

Twenty-two questions were prepared and handed over to women parliamentarians. They were gender-specific and focused on the budget allocation for women schemes, social welfare and women development, higher education and health, local government and community development, and health. Since the Domestic Violence Bill became a provincial subject after the 18th Amendment, Justice (R) Nasira Javed was taken on board to make necessary changes in the draft according to provincial requirements. The amended draft was delivered to the provincial MoWD.

The LWP team developed 22 gender-specific questions and seven resolutions:

- “Separate Transport for Women” was moved by Ms. Samina Khawar Hayat, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) (passed unanimously);
- “Ensuring all Rights of Women and Checks on Rising Incidents of Violence against Women” was moved by Ms. Humaira Awais Shahid, MPA, PML-Q (passed unanimously);
- “Save Women Crisis Centres from Closure” was prepared and handed over to Ms. Shameela Aslam, MPA, PML-N;
- A resolution on the announcement of local government elections was prepared and handed over to Ms. Samia Amjad, MPA;
- A resolution on the demand to establish a separate and independent directorate to protect the rights of children and to provide them social and financial stability as per an international instrument of the United Nations General Assembly, was prepared and handed over to Ms. Nighat Nasir Shiekh, MPA, PML-N;
- A resolution on the registration of marriage bureaus was prepared and handed over to Ms. Deeba Mirza, MPA, PML-N;
- A resolution regarding steps to be taken to clean the water of Lahore was handed over to Ms. Sajida Mir, MPA, PPPP.

**Sindh Provincial Assembly:** The Sindh Assembly held ten sessions and 93 sittings in 2011:

- 18-day session, January 7–24
- 22-day session, 21 February 21–March 14
- 3-day session, March 29–31
- 8-day session, May 9–16
- 7-day session, June 3–9
- 16-day session, June 10–25
- 9-day session, July 13–22
- 4-day session, November 18–21
- 26-day session, December 16–January 10

The LWP-WE team regularly monitored sessions. They held meetings with parliamentarians and briefed them on core women issues that required immediate attention. The team also raised concerns over the growing incidents of GBV. LWP staff also had meetings with the Speaker,

Deputy Speaker and parliamentarians to lobby for the Domestic Violence Bill and the Home-based Workers Policy.

**Balochistan Provincial Assembly:** The four sessions of the fourth parliamentary year of the Balochistan Assembly's proceedings were held in 2011. The last session of the third parliamentary year was also held during the reporting period. The Assembly adopted nine resolutions while ten bills became acts.

The Assembly was severely affected by quorum issues during the last year. However, two resolutions were adopted in spite of incomplete quorums. Ministers appeared uninterested in answering questions and were usually absent from sessions.

Women parliamentarians moved two joint resolutions. The most significant bills were "The Balochistan Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2011" and the upgradation of scale of government teachers. AF/LWP staff attended all sessions and engaged in several informal individual meetings with legislators.

**Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly:** The KPK Provincial Assembly had five sessions and 37 sittings in 2011 due to security concerns:

- 25-day session, April 8–May 2
- 12-day session, June 11–22
- 27-day session, April 8–May 2
- 28-day session, September 9–October 6
- 4-day session, November 21–24
- 17-day session, December 23–January 9

The LWP-Peshawar team remained in close contact with legislators, particularly women legislators, and assisted women legislators in creating a provincial legislative agenda on women's rights and helped them move resolutions in the Assembly.

### **4.3 PDM-VAW: Data Collection on Violence against Women**

PDM-VAW members were actively involved in the process of data collection. The majority of the data collected were basically the reported cases in the newspapers and of physical violence while a small number was received from various institutions, both public and private.

### **4.4 PDM-VAW: need assessment and data collection on VAW**

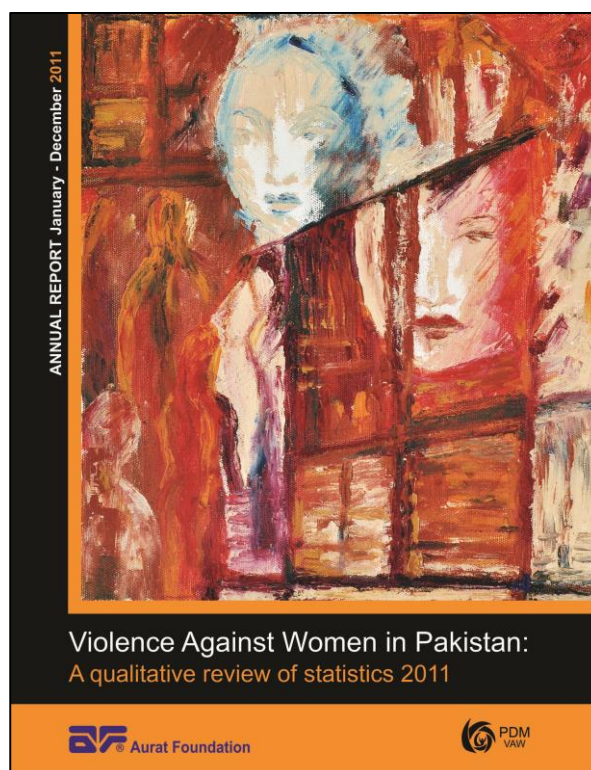
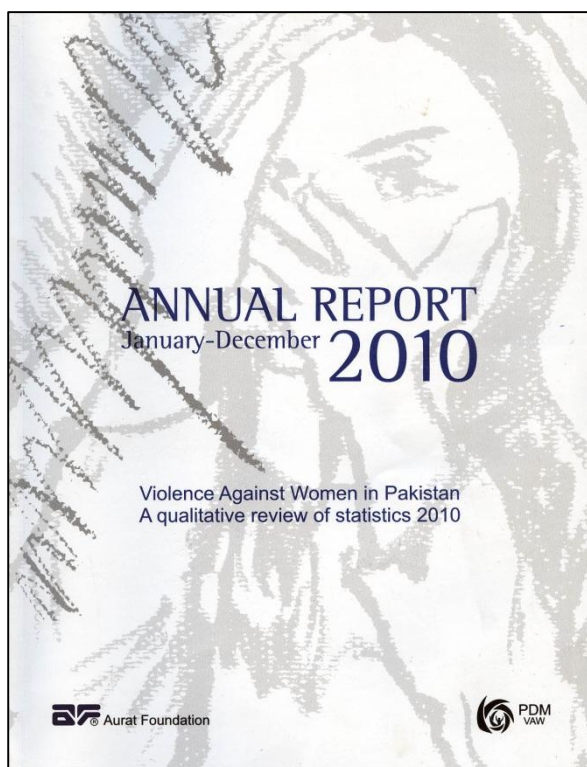
#### **4.4.1 Need assessment planning meetings**

Three one-day planning meetings were held in Islamabad, Sindh, and KP for the need assessment of the Trocaire GBV Programme with AF. Teams were formed for the task work plans were formulated. The KPK need assessment was done on time and the teams were able to visit the field

without difficulty. Data collection was done in Swat, Chitral, Peshawar, Swabi, and Mardan. The process of data collection was delayed in Sindh due to the deteriorating political and security situation. The provincial government announced a curfew in Karachi and Hyderabad after Zulfiqar Mirza's speech. The turmoil was further aggravated by the 2011 floods where Sukkar, Dadu, and Jamshoro were the worst affected and a state of emergency was declared in the region. Thus, teams were unable to reach the selected districts and the assessments were done via telephone and through desk reviews.

#### **4.4.2 Data collection on VAW and publication of annual reports 2010 and 2011**

Aurat Foundation published two annual reports on the situation of violence against women highlighting the major categories of violence against women in 2010 and 2011. These reports are based on the review and analysis of the numerical figures and statistics collected and compiled from different newspapers from six regions of Pakistan regarding violence committed against women and girls during the calendar years 2010 and 2011. A total of 8000 cases were reported in year 2010 and 8539 in year 2011. The major crimes committed against women in 2010 were abduction with 2236 cases, murder 1436 cases, domestic violence 486 cases, rape/gang rape 928 cases and 557 cases of honor killing. While in 2011 the reported cases under these categories were 2089 of abduction/kidnapping, 1575 of murder, 610 of domestic violence, 827 of rape/gang rape, and 705 of honour killing.





Chapter Five

**Supporting CSOs  
and Gender  
Entities**







## **5. Supporting CSOs and Gender Entities**

### **5.1 Grant-making initiatives under GEP**

Aurat Foundation continues to enable critical groups in Pakistani society to influence policy, legislation and programs for greater economic, social and political empowerment for the women of Pakistan. Its Gender Equity Program (GEP) has established itself as an innovative grant making program that furthers AF’s overall goals. GEP is strategically positioned to enhance gender equity in Pakistan, where women are often prevented from, or are unable to, realize their human rights and where they face gender based violence, marginalization and suppression. GEP is being implemented with the assistance of The Asia Foundation (TAF).

### **5.2 Grant Cycles**

GEP plans to deploy approximately 400 sub-grants throughout its five years to government departments and institutions, policy think tanks, academic research and training institutions, professional and business associations, media, civic advocacy organisations (CAOs), civil society coalitions (CSCs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and community-based organisations (CBOs). During Year One (August 2101-September 2011) GEP has planned and set into motion three thematic grant cycles covering 59 sub-grants.

#### ***First Grant Cycle “Rapid Response”***

Responding to the floods of 2010, the first grant cycle was dedicated to the rehabilitation of flood affected women through tier one competitive sub-grants (up to US\$ 25,000 each). In addition there



were non-competitive sub-grants for National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) and Ministry of Women's Development (MoWD), desk studies for each of the four objectives of GEP to inform strategic planning and competitive sub-grants including a national scale baseline on gender awarded to Applied Economic Research Center (AERC) of Karachi University and media campaigns. Only four sub-grants under this grant cycle, with periods of 6 months, have closed out during the year under reporting, while the majority of sub-grants are scheduled to close out in the first quarter of GEP's second year.

### ***Second Grant Cycle "Strengthening Critical Partners"***

With a large set of sub-grants dependent on the findings of the baseline and research initiatives in the pipe-line, it was decided that the second cycle would focus largely on building the capacity of institutions critical to the success of future GEP programming, especially in areas addressing GBV. Its objective is to enable government entities and local organisations to continue their activities in a more sustainable manner, and create linkages with other NGOs and civil society organisations that are working on gender issues both during and beyond the duration of the program.

Aurat Foundation and NADRA signed an MoU on 19 July, 2011, to seek and implement private-public partnership to increase civil registration of women. Tariq Malik, Deputy Chairman, NADRA and Naem Mirza, COO, Aurat Foundation, signing the MoU in this regard.



### ***Third Grant Cycle “Supporting Women to gain Civil Registration”***

GEP’s third grant cycle focuses on increasing women’s access to legal services and the protection of GBV survivors by increasing Computerized National Identity Cards (CNIC) registration, particularly in districts with some of the lowest rates of registration and high incidence of GBV. Access to resources, social services and economic opportunities are all linked directly or indirectly with proof of legal identity. Legal identity is therefore critical for both men and women. However, a large percentage of women in Pakistan do not have CNICs which are issued by National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). This grant cycle concentrates on social Mobilisation by local NGOs and CBOs (GEP grantees) to assist women in 15 districts of Pakistan to obtain these cards. This grant cycle is being implemented with the cooperation of NADRA, which is putting in its own resources for the official work required in the issue of CNIC cards.

#### **Proposals received and awarded**

A total of 530 competitive proposals were received in Year One against three grant cycle requests for proposals. Against these 530 applications a total of 59 sub-grants were awarded in Year One. To provide technical support to the potential grantees, GEP team organized pre-grant orientation sessions at central locations of each province before closing of its grant cycles. Through these workshops participants (potential grantees) are provided useful information on the following:

- Introduction of GEP
- Strategy of GEP
- Recipients of Sub-grants
- Eligibility Criteria
- New Sub-grants information
- Application Process
- Technical & Financial Proposal Development
- USAID/OIG Pakistan Anti-Fraud Guideline

In addition, participants are also given a chance to raise their questions to clarify their understanding and queries about the grant cycle. All these questions are later uploaded on the GEP web page under FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions). The following table provides a detailed breakup of sub-grants awarded during the Year One.



**Table 21: Total number of sub-grants awarded under GEP year one**

.....	Grant Cycle 1	Grant Cycle 2	Grant Cycle 3	Total Achieved	Total Planned
<b>Objective 1</b>	4	6		10	<b>9</b>
<b>Objective 2</b>	13	4		17	<b>15</b>
<b>Objective 3</b>	8	3	15	26	<b>23</b>
<b>Objective 4</b>	1	5		6	<b>12</b>
<b>Total</b>	26	18	15	59	<b>59</b>

During Year One GEP has met its planned target of 59 sub-grants. While sub-grants were distributed fairly evenly between objectives during grant cycle one and two, in grant cycle three, all fifteen sub-grants were planned under objective three. The highest number of sub-grants (26) was awarded during the first grant cycle due to the rapid response nature of the cycle, with many small tier one sub-grants.

### 5.3 Outputs and achievements

#### 5.3.1 First Grant Cycle: Designed Outputs and Achievements

As discussed above the first grant cycle was designed as a “Rapid Response” cycle that was aimed at alleviating some of the effects of devastating floods on women. In addition to the 16 rapid response sub-grants to small organisations across flood affected areas in Pakistan, another 10 sub-grants, both competitive and non-competitive, were awarded in this grant cycle aimed at filling the research gap on sensitive issues related to gender, initiating a media campaign designed to raise awareness, and rehabilitating four Shaheed Benazir Bhutto centers of women. Some of the main outputs of the 16 rapid response sub-grants are as follows:

**Table 22: Outputs under grant cycle one (To be achieved on completion of sub-grants)**

Description of Output	Number
<b>No. of partially/completely damaged wells to be rehabilitated</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>No. of communities where drinking water systems rehabilitated</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>No. of hand pumps rehabilitated</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>No. of community trainings</b>	<b>89</b>
Safe drinking water practices and hygiene	89
<b>No. of direct beneficiaries trained</b>	<b>1840</b>
Home based economic activity/skills trainings	575
Business management/entrepreneurship trainings	575
Sensitization of media on gender issues	690
<b>Raw materials provided to women trained in home based economic recovery</b>	<b>575</b>
No. of sewing machines	50
No. of livestock	100

No. of poultry	300
No. of stitching/embroidery packages	25
Women provided seeds and saplings	100
<b>Women facilitated in getting/recovering land titles</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>No. of women facilitated with NADRA</b>	<b>300</b>

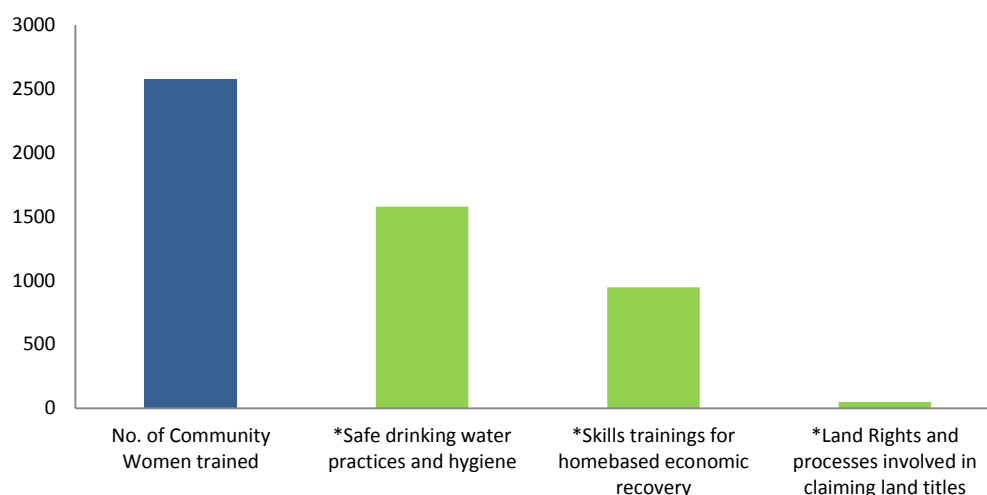
In addition to the outputs listed above. GEP commenced repairs and rehabilitation of 4 Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Centers for Women in Sahiwal, Islamabad, Quetta and Jacobabad. Additionally, four policy level researches were undertaken through NCSW in the areas of gaps in police reporting of gender crimes, gender mainstreaming in country disaster management plans both national and provincial, assessment of provincial Women's Development Departments and identification of gaps in Crisis Centers of Women. A nationally and provincially representative benchmarking study on the status of women covering 11,200 respondents across Pakistan is also being undertaken under first grant cycle. Finally, a media campaign on women's rights, three Gender Based Violence studies on customary practices leading to GBV, sexual harassment and domestic violence have also been initiated under this cycle.

It is important to note that the prevalent tenures of sub-grants under the first grant cycle were 9 months. Therefore, only 4 sub-grants have closed till 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Thus the achievements of the program so far for grant cycle one cover reporting of two quarters of sub-grantees till 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

**Table 23: Achievements under first grant cycle**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>
No. of communities where women friendly safe water supply schemes rehabilitated	14
No. of locations where partially/fully damaged wells rehabilitated	50
No. of women trained on safe drinking practices and hygiene	1578
No. of direct beneficiaries trained	985
Skills trainings for home based economic recovery	945
Land rights and processes involved in claiming land titles	50
No. of women reclaimed titles/provided legal aid	21
No. of women assisted in obtaining WATAN cards	105
No. of women provided raw material (livestock, sewing kits, seeds and saplings etc.)	200

**Figure 1: Number of women trained by type of training**



### 5.3.2 Second Grant Cycle: Designed Outputs

The second grant cycle was titled “*Strengthening Critical Partners*” and aimed at capacity building of critical partners as well as media campaigns aimed at laying the ground of future GBV based interventions. The following table provides a list of outputs designed under second grant cycle.

**Table 24: List of outputs under second grant cycle**

Description	Number
No. of female lawyers provided internship	200
National level forum for female law students	1
No. of advocacy networks for female lawyers	5
No. of networks of female students at university level for enhancing awareness of women’s rights and gender mainstreaming in the youth	10
National level youth leadership forum enhancing awareness of women’s rights and gender mainstreaming in the youth	1
No. of regional forums for women laborers on enhancing awareness of women’s rights and labor laws among women workers	10
National level forum on enhancing awareness of women’s rights and labor laws among women workers	1

No. of workshops/trainings to be conducted	170
Laws related to women	23
Women rights, gender mainstreaming and leadership skills	60
Labor laws	27
Project Cycle Management and Financial Management	60
Gender Sensitization Training Workshops in Centers of Excellence	10
<b>Total Number of Beneficiaries Trained</b>	<b>5840</b>
No. of female law students trained on laws related to women	780
No. of youth trained on women rights, gender mainstreaming and leadership skills	1100
No. of women workers trained on labor laws	1500
No. of potential sub grantees and sub grantees on Project Cycle Management and Financial Management	700
No. of university staff and students trained on Gender Sensitization Training Workshops in Centers of Excellence in 3 public sector universities	480
No. of women trained on Business Management/ Entrepreneurship	1280
No. of women provided credit to start businesses	640

Under the second grant cycle important initiatives have been undertaken by GEP. A key aspect of the second grant cycle has been GEP's decision to leverage the synergies in its various regional sub-grants to create a sustainable synergy through development of networks that would sustain beyond the life of the grant. Under this process, five legal rights sub-grants for internships for female lawyers have been linked through a national forum and integrated curricula development. The national forum is expected to take on the role of providing trainings and support to selected female lawyers allowing them to take on their role of human rights defenders in their respective districts. Similarly, GEP's non-competitive sub-grants to three Centers of Excellence for Gender Studies namely; University of Karachi, Punjab University and University of Balochistan have been linked through a gender studies network with the aim of increasing inter-departmental knowledge sharing. The majorities of second cycle sub-grants are currently in their first quarter and will be reporting on their progress on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2011. Progress on these sub-grants is underway and it is expected that reporting under the first quarterly report of Year Two would include updates on progress against these indicators.

### 5.3.3 Third Grant Cycle: Designed Outputs

The third grant cycle undertaken by GEP was designed in light of discussions with National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). After detailed deliberations with the authority GEP management felt that while considerable funds existed at the authority for financing its registration drive, they were facing innumerable problems in many remote districts of Pakistan when it came to civil registration of Women's. Indeed, some districts reported up to 40% unregistered women. In light of the importance of civil registration, both as a primary citizenship document and accessing legal and support systems for access to justice and shelters for victims of domestic abuse, GEP felt that attempting to fill this gap was essential before implementing its



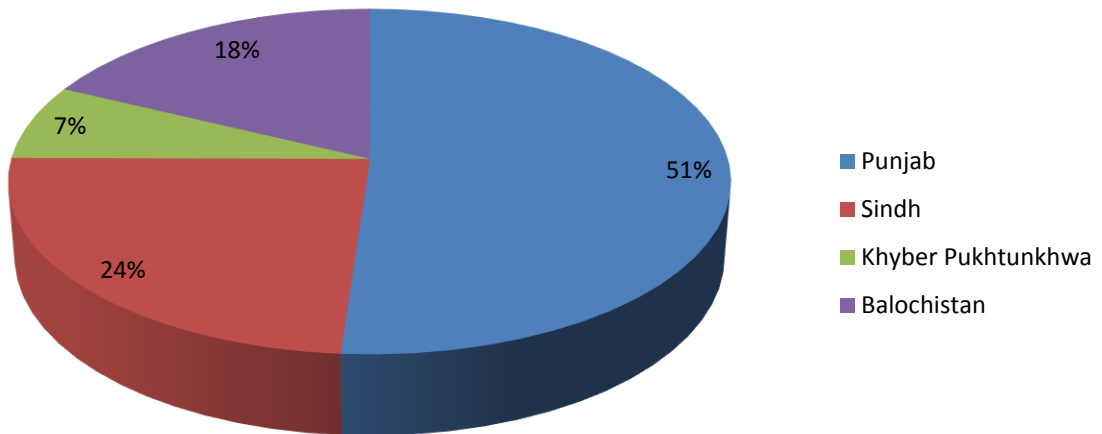
strategically designed Gender Based Violence strategy. In light of these findings GEP implemented the third grant cycle, which is a unique model of private-public partnership aimed at improving service provision to women through leveraging the strengths of civil society and government institutions. Through this cycle GEP is supporting only the social Mobilisation of women for registration while NADRA will bear the costs associated with making the Computerized National Identity Cards (CNIC). Below is a district wise list of women beneficiaries under the third grant cycle.

**Table 25: Number of GEP beneficiaries in grant cycle three**

<b>District Name</b>	<b>Total Female Population</b>	<b>Female Population NOT Registered</b>	<b>No. of Women to be registered through GEP</b>
Bannu	219,405	67,857	47,500
Upper Dir	166,427	46,248	32,374
Bahawalnagar	708,055	218,288	152,802
Rahim Yar Khan	1,068,219	347,818	243,473
Khanewal	765,020	261,359	182,951
Badin	391,820	122,879	86,015
Dadu	397,760	139,876	97,913
Thatta	395,869	124,942	87,459
Panjgur	66,576	31,763	22,234
Kacchi	89,765	60,127	42,089
JhalMagsi	38,736	26,323	18,426
Nasirabad	94,300	38,546	26,982
Killa Abdullah	136,887	77,482	54,237
Sibi	51,329	21,219	14,853
Loralai	80,208	33,410	23,387
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,670,376</b>	<b>1,618,137</b>	<b>1,132,695</b>

The following graphical representation provides a provincial break-up of women beneficiaries who will be registered with NADRA under GEP's third grant cycle. It is important to note that these 15 districts, along with respective estimates of unregistered women, were provided by NADRA as having some of the lowest rates of civil registration amongst women and estimates of unregistered women.

**Figure 2: GEP women beneficiaries by province under third grant cycle**



Third grant cycle awardees have been approved by USAID during the last month of the reporting year and implementation on these sub-grants will begin during the first quarter of Year Two.



Chapter Six

**Engendering  
Humanitarian  
Assistance**







## 6. Engendering Humanitarian Assistance

### 6.1 Enhancing the protection of vulnerable boys and girls from the consequences of flood and conflict in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa:

The dominance of militants in Swat followed by the decisive military operation in 2009 coupled with devastating floods in 2010, which resulted in internal displacement had pushed the marginalized community in highly vulnerable, hazardous and challenging conditions. Children, women and old age people were most affected by the conflict and later on by floods. They were exposed to separation from families, life threat, kidnapping and abduction, sexual abuse, food insecurity, harsh and cold weather, health and social hazards. Children after floods witnessed terrible acts of violence, experienced fear and insecurity or loss of family and friends and on their return to Swat they faced several challenges i.e. damaged houses and schools buildings, spoil of crops, lost livelihood, limited access to services, reduced opportunities of recreation etc.

Aurat Foundation implemented an important project within the ambit of engendering humanitarian assistance and protection of vulnerable sections of society in 10 union councils of district Swat in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from 1st April 2011 to February 2012. The project was implemented in the following UCs.

S.No	Union Councils
1	Bahrain
2	Madyan
3	Bishigram
4	Tirat
5	Fatehpur
6	Darmai
7	Sakhra
8	Baidara
9	Asharai
10	Durushkhela

Aurat Foundation in collaboration with UNICEF started the project to protect children and women displaced by conflict and devastating flood in Swat. The project was aimed and implemented keeping in view the Millennium Development Goals and National Strategies which intended to eliminate extreme poverty, hunger, accomplish primary education, encourage gender equality and empowerment of women, lessening child mortality & raising maternal health.

Child Protection Centers were established in ten 10 union councils of upper Swat to provide support to children and families following the disaster. The project provided children with a safe, designated area where they could play, socialize, and express themselves under the supervision of caring, trained adults. The Child Protection Centers are designed to help children interact with peers, build self-esteem, and begin the recovery process by working through their emotions and enhancing their resilience. In one year 29434 children (17529 boys and 11905 girls) were registered and linked with the existing services provided in the Child Protection Centers, whereas 1222 children (661 boys and 561 girls) were readmitted into schools, 4050 children (2141 boys and 1909 girls) were facilitated with provision of polio vaccination. 2564 children (1617 boys and 947 girls) participated in Global Hand Washing Day which was celebrated in collaboration with project partners. 30650 community members were sensitized on child protection issues through advocacy and awareness-raising sessions e.g. celebration of Universal Children Day, Human Rights Day and International Women Day etc. Overall 11117 women were facilitated by the services provided by the child protection centers which included referrals, awareness messages etc. The project tried to protect children from harm and provided a sense of normalcy to the community when their lives were disrupted by disasters.

In the disaster situations children and their families cramped in quarters with strangers and lacked learning materials, toys, safe places to play and activities for children. The structured, supervised activities offered in child protection centers provided the comfort to children who are used to daily routines, strengthened children's resilience and helped them begin to process what has happened. The centers also provided a forum for sharing important safety information with children and parents, as well as information about the impact of crisis on children. At the same time, child protection centers enabled parents and communities to reestablish their lives and to act to ensure protection of community children.

AF provided training to the staff members of the centres on provision of care and support to children in disasters, as well as training to stakeholders on referral mechanism and reporting skills on child rights violations to media personnel. These enhanced the capacity of community members to respond to child protection issues. At the same time, child protection centers



enabled parents and communities to ensure protection of community children. For the purpose strong linkages with communities and with other stakeholders was developed to get feedback to improve project implementation and situation of the children in the targeted area.



Aurat Foundation in partnership with UNICEF created opportunities for protecting displaced children from violence, abuse and exploitation. Strategic approach was to focus on preventive, protective rehabilitation and reporting mechanism of child protection related issues. Preventive aspect of the project was to ensure increased awareness, knowledge sharing, and access to information, engaging children in productive activities with an advocacy and strengthening of responsive mechanism. Protective approach aimed to ensure that adequate legislation, social safety network and self-protection steps were taken by all relevant stake holders. Similarly, reporting of child protection issues helped minimizing the occurrence of the cases and developing social pressures in the locality.



### Progress against results

Operational Result	Project Outputs & Sub-Outputs (Products)	Proposed Activities	Achievements
<p><b>Result: 1</b></p> <p>Child welfare and protection systems are built to prevent and address child's social exclusion, abuse, exploitation and other type of violence against girls and boys</p>	<p><b>Output 1</b></p> <p>40 child protection committees established and strengthened.</p>	<p>Community Mobilization to identify Committee Members (15 members in each committee).</p>	<p>FDGs were held with community elders, religious leaders, teachers, and service providers at village and union council level to ensure protection of the children through formation of 40 child protection committees, 20 Men and 20 Women.</p>
		<p>Organizing and conduct training for CPC members (1 training to each CPC).</p>	<p>Capacity building trainings for child protection committees on roles and responsibilities and referral mechanism were held at union council level.300 women and 300 men participated in these trainings.</p>
		<p>Linking CPCs with CPUs and SWD, and other services providers.</p>	<p>20 Child Protection Committees registered with Social Welfare Department, Swat as CCB's. Details are shared with CPU, Swat, for further capacity building and support.</p>
		<p>Identifying, reporting and monitoring of the children rights violations and referring to support services.</p>	<p>5530 Boys and 5048 Girls identified and provided services at 20 Child Protection Centers besides 4165 women.4265 boys 4128 girls and 1580 women were facilitated through referrals.</p>
	<p><b>Output 2</b></p>	<p>Determining vulnerabilities of children in conflict and flood affected Union Councils</p>	<p>Child protection field staffs along with child protection committee members were able to chalk out the vulnerabilities of the children at union council level and provided services.</p>
		<p>Determining criteria to identify location of 20</p>	<p>Meetings were held with community elders, religious leaders, teachers, and service providers</p>



		Child protection Centers on the basis of vulnerability/equity	at village and union council level to setup 20 child protection centers for vulnerable community keeping in view their needs
		Setting up 20 CPCs in facilities provided by communities	AF has established 20 CPCs in 10 targeted UCs of Swat for vulnerable children. 2 in each Union Council:  1. Bahrain (CPC-Bahrain, CPC Satal). 2. Madyan (CPC Madyan, CPC Tangar). 3. Bishigram (CPC Shinkoo, CPC Chail) 4. Baidara (CPC Baidara, CPC Rahimabad Sambat). 5. Durushkhela (CPC Bara Durushkhela, CPC Koza Durushkhela). 6. Asharai (CPC Asharai, CPC Kalakot). 7. Darmai (CPC Jehanabad, CPC Rahatkot). 8. Sakhra (CPC Naowkhara, CPC Sakhra). 9. Fatehpur (CPC Barhampati, CPC Piya). 10. Tirat (CPC Shagai, CPC Tirat).
	20 Child Protection Centers in 40 villages of 10 Union Councils established and benefitting 47,000 children and 10,000 women affected by conflict/flood.	Identifying skilled/experienced CPC personnel	Experience local field staff was hired after conducting tests/interviews.
		Implementing sessions with children on children rights, education, life skills and health/hygiene 6 day in a week program for children at the center through development of objective oriented activities plan	5530 boys and 5048 girls were registered and provided with services within the child protection centers.
		Providing training to staff to standardize care and protection practices within the center	Two trainings were conducted with the field staff on provision of care and support to vulnerable children.40 Facilitators and 20 Monitors participated.
		Involvement of Committee member in project monitor the implementation of project.	Child Protection Committee members were involved in regular project activities and regular meetings were held with them on monthly basis in which progress and challenges were shared with them.
		Providing referral services to children requiring more support.	2119 children (996 boys & 1123 girls) and 1580 were referred to existing services by child protection committees.

		Ensuring children and community participation in CPCs activities	40 Child Protection Committees have been formed. Regular meetings have been conducted with Child Protection Committees on CP issues e.g. Early Child Marriages, Child Labour, Birth Registration etc. Sessions with a specific objective of sensitization of the CPC and community on adopting best practices eg. Importance of Health& Hygiene, Immunization, MRE etc.
		Signing the MoUs with selected communities where CPCs are to be established in which the role of beneficiary community and NGO would be clearly mentioned and defined.	20 MoUs signed with the communities where Child Protection Centers were established clearly defining their roles and responsibilities.
		Linking the child protection centers with village committees/CPUs for ensuring its sustainability	20 child protection committees were duly registered with SWD/CPU.CPU under the child protection bill 2010, will further strengthen the capacity of these committees thus enabling them to work closely with CPU/SWD for protection of children in their target areas.
		Catch up classes for 5000 out of school children	1222 out of school children were facilitated within the child protection centers and readmitted into schools.
		500 children (300 girls & 200 boys) would be given need based vocational skills though recognized vocational institute	Vocational training to adolescent girls was given by trained facilitators/volunteers within the centers. 600 adolescent girls were trained on simple embroidery, cutting & sewing skills.32 boys and 63 girls were referred to private vocational training centers.
	<b>Output 3</b>	Conducting mapping of services and evaluation of resource capacity in the district	AF chalked out services mapping of various service provider organizations and Government line departments at Union Council level in order to make easy access of children to various services. 20 CPC Monitors, 40 Facilitators, 30 Government Officials, 50 Media Personals and 600 community members (activists) were trained on identification, registration, reporting, monitoring and responding to CP issues.
	District-wide Child protection referral/reporting /monitoring mechanisms formed to ensure comprehensive services to	TORs development for the referral system and its signing for members	TORs developed and signed.

	abused, exploited and neglected children in the project areas		
		Addressing the 20,000 children cases through referral system	A strong coordination mechanism has been developed with SWD, Education Department, Health Department, Zakat Department etc. and with organizations like PVDP, KKF, SPADO, Save the Children, Qatar Charity, ACTED, CARVAN, Children First, EPS, Merlin, IDEAS, DUA Foundation, for the provision of services to vulnerable children.
		Develop a referral mechanism to manage CP cases.	Referral Mechanism developed at District, Tehsil and Union Council Level.
	<b>Output 4</b> 50,000 men, women and children, CSOs, Government agencies reached through advocacy and awareness messages on the situation of children affected by conflict and floods	Deliver advocacy and awareness creation messages and its dissemination through regular social mobilization, media and awareness sessions	Polio Campaigns, Global Hand Washing Day, Universal Children Day, Human Rights Day etc. celebrated through which community was sensitized on child protection issues. 30650 community members were sensitized on child protection issues.
		Conducting advocacy meetings with key stakeholders on children rights and protection issues.	Trained staff has conducted advocacy meetings on different child protection issues with stakeholders with active participation of child protection committee members.
		Celebrating of universal children day	Universal Children Day was celebrated in two Tehsils of District Swat-Bahrain and Matta.
		Mobilizing of actors within the project community	As the entire child protection field staff was hired from district swat, it is understood that they will be the actors within the project community who will be working with child protection committees in the area for welfare and protection of children rights.
	<b>Output 5</b> 1 Joint Monitoring team	Developing SOPs for monitoring and reporting mechanisms	SOPs developed with the assistance of UNICEF to provide technical guidance on formation of joint monitoring team

	established and are monitoring and reporting violations of children's rights	Facilitating regular meetings (1 per month) and producing reports, sharing with key stakeholders	Regular monthly coordination meetings at District and Tehsil level were conducted in which project progress was shared among the stakeholders.
		Ensuring the role of Govt particularly SWD in quality assurance of the services render for children	Under the chairmanship of SWD/ CPU regular visits of the project sites were conducted. 20 Child Protection Committees were registered with SWD.CPU will further built capacity of these committees under the child protection bill of 2010.
	<b>Output 6</b> 900 vulnerable adolescents girls and women received life skills basic education and are able to protection themselves from abuse, exploitation and violence	Provide rights awareness ,protection, communication and SAY NO skills to adolescent girls and women	6312 adolescent girls were provided with parental and say no skills with support of Merlin staff and Health Department.
		Organizing sessions on parenting skills for married adolescent girls	Sessions were organized on best practices on parental skills by trained LHV's and LHW's for married adolescent's girls.

Regular meetings of Child Protection Committees were held with a clear objective to orient, train and build capacity of the committees to monitor, respond and advocate for the child protection issues on a proper platform for its redressal.

Mapping of the stakeholders for strengthening of referral mechanism at district and union council level was a key to link the vulnerable children and women to the basic services. Beside bilateral relations with the organizations for building referral mechanism/advocacy and linking children and vulnerable families for assistance, a Child Protection Working Group was also formed at district level under the chairmanship of DO, SWD. This working group had a primary responsibility to monitor and respond to the needs of the children at district level with partner agencies sharing their data, provision of services/ follow up to support the children. provision of social support and for future planning. Child labour data was





shared with relevant organisations for interventions particularly supporting children engaged in labour. Orphan children data was shared with SWD/CPU for social support. CARVAN and ACTED provided food items to vulnerable families in seven union councils on the request of AF through WFP. PVDP took hygiene sessions with children and women of the locality in child protection centers of union council Madyan, Bishigram and Bahrain. With collaboration of MELIN/PVDP Global Hand Washing Day was celebrated throughout target areas. With close coordination with stakeholders AF took part in a comprehensive polio campaigns in its target area.





Despite polio vaccination drives in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa with regular intervals an increase was witnessed in cases of children affected by polio. Majority of the cases was reported from the far-flung mountainous regions of the province including Swat. Polio vaccination campaigns were launched by health department with collaboration of WHO, MERLIN etc. AF having close coordination at district level actively participated in the awareness-raising campaign in its targeted areas. AF field staff along with polio vaccination teams vaccinated children at child protection centres, madrassas, schools, bus stops besides children in far flung mountainous villages in the target areas.

Aurat Foundation also provided fifteen wheelchairs to vulnerable and special children. These disabled children were identified by the child protection committees and were recommended for the provision of the wheelchairs. These were provided to the identified children. Two distribution ceremonies were held in which the parents and community elders along with child protection committee members participated.







## ہمارا مطالبہ: مقامی حکومتوں کی فوری بحالی اور انتخابات







## 7. Research and Publications

### 7.1 LWP-WE Newsletters

LWP-WE published and distributed eight Legislative Watch newsletter issues in 2011. All of them were published in both English and Urdu (Table 26).

Table 26: Legislative watch newsletters, 2011

Issue No.	Months (2011)	Articles
35	January–April	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Issue No. 35</span> <span>January-April 2011</span> </div>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Norwegian women have struggled long and hard for their rights</b>  <b>Women enjoy equal rights in Norway</b>  <b>Mr Akhtar Chaudhry, Deputy Speaker National Parliament of Norway, talks to Legislative Watch</b></p> <p><b>Interview: Akhtar Chaudhry, Deputy Speaker, National Parliament of Norway</b></p> <p><b>NCSW, CSOs protest as Mukhtaran Mai ‘re-victimised’</b></p> <p><b>Women legislators outshine in third Parliamentary Year</b></p> <p><b>Citizens’ Charter for rehabilitation of flood affectees</b></p> <p><b>National Advisory Forum of GEP launched</b></p> <p><b>8000 incidents of violence against women during 2010</b></p> <p><b>Women’s resolve on 12 February and 8 March - we shall win</b></p>		

Issue No.	Months (2011)	Articles
36	May-July	

Issue No. 36

May-July 2011



# LEGISLATIVE WATCH

**AF**  
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 FOUNDATION

Founded by Shahlia Zia

Patron-in-Chief: Nigar Ahmad

## Multiculturalism in Norway needs to be defended

By Naeem Mirza

Serene and peaceful Norway was struck by 'one man's madness' on 22 July in the manner that for a moment it blew off the very reason of human existence. But, in no time the reason resurrected from the debris of death and devastation and prevailed all over Norway in such a grand manner that Norway was standing taller than ever before in the comity of nations and its government and people, somber in sorrow, were holding each other's hands in a rare response of unity against this act of cowardice of a person, who was motivated by an ideology based on hatred, racism and xenophobia, largely inspired by the far right ideologies in some European and Nordic countries.

As violence begets violence, terror breeds more terror and one fundamentalism thrives on the other, the price is enormous and unusually paid by people hardly concerned with the battle of ideologies - in

the name of which all this happens. This anatomy of violence and its correlation with other factors might be true for us in Pakistan, as one incident sparks another making a vicious cycle of incidents one after another; this cyclical violence has developed in our country; and when the other day somebody described my dear country as the 'land of violence', I was speechless. We, Pakistanis, have seen so much violence over so long that we have almost become too cynical and insensitive to it.

But, what happened in Norway on 22 July, 2011 was less discernable, particularly for its nature and scale. The cycle of violence and terror is absent in Norwegian society and psychology. There are political parties and groups in Europe and Scandinavian countries ascribing to far right ideologies which are intolerant and extremist in nature. There had also been some incidents of violence and terrorism in a few countries, on issues related to immigrants. But, no one had exactly foreseen and forewarned the kind

of event which happened on 22 July. That is why, the first reaction of almost everyone after the incident was - 'in Norway' - and the second thought which came gushing in, particularly in the minds of Muslims and Pakistanis was - 'we are doomed' thinking it must have been someone from amongst us.

Since I believe that terrorism has no religion, and no religion sanctions terrorism, it was not heartening to note later that the mass murderer in Norway was from another faith than mine. I discourage the bracketing of any religion with terrorism. But, we also need to discourage and fight naivety. One cannot deny the fact of the emergence of religious extremism, fundamentalism and militant versions of religion across the world. The context of present 'war on terror' in Pakistan and Afghanistan is known to all. But, the bitter reality is that there is no consensus among us in Pakistan on the 'ownership' of this war,

Continued on Page 4

## More democracy is our response to terrorism: Stoltenberg

On Monday, 1st August, Prime Minister of Norway, Jens Stoltenberg, made an address at the Central Jamaat Mosque in Oslo, during the memorial for victims of the tragedy of 22nd July, 2011. Below is the text of his speech.

Dear all of you,

Today the first two victims of the terrorist attacks are being laid to rest.

One of them is 18-year-old Bano Rashid from Nesodden. Her family fled from Iraq in 1996. They found a safe haven in Norway.

Bano did well at school and was planning to study law. She dreamt of a future in Norway's parliament. Her dream was shattered by the gunman on the island of Utøya.

I am full of admiration for her parents, Beyan and Mustafa. This is what Beyan said to the newspaper Aftenposten: "The answer is not hatred, but more love."

Today, her family has said farewell to Bano in a ceremony that was both Norwegian and Kurdish.

The other is 19-year-old Ismail Haji Ahmed from Hamar. Ismail was an irrepensible performer and an enthusi-



Prime Minister of Norway Jens Stoltenberg, his wife Ingrid Schulerud, Princess Martha Louise, Crown Princess Mette-Marit and Crown Prince Haakon of Norway look on as thousands of people gather at a memorial vigil on July 25, 2011 in Oslo, Norway.

astic dance instructor. He inspired a great many people. And brought joy to even more.

I mourn Bano and Ismail.

They have given the new expanded concept of the Norwegian "we" a face. We will be one community. Across religion, ethnicity, gender and rank.

Bano is Norwegian. Ismail is Norwegian. I am Norwegian. We are Norway. And I am proud of this. I am also very proud that the Norwegian people have passed the test.

The very heart of our democracy has been attacked. But this has only strengthened our democracy. Brought us closer together. The immediate shock and devastation brought us together.

Later, we came together in protest. We filled the streets with roses and torches and put a protective arm around democracy.

I am inviting the whole nation to come together as the Norwegian "we". The newspapers today are showing pictures of an imam and a bishop embracing each other. This should be a source of

inspiration. We are all Norway. Our fundamental values are democracy, humanity and openness. With this as a platform, we will respect differences, human dignity and equality. And each other.

And we will face the debates. We will welcome them. Even the difficult ones. We will all expect one another to champion the fundamental values of the Norwegian "we".

This is how we will deepen and develop our response to terrorism and violence. The answer is even more democracy. Even more humanity. But never naivety.

It is up to us to write the next chapters of Norway's history. There will be a Norway before and Norway after 22 July.

We have already staked out the course. Norway will be recognisable. The rest is up to us. Standing here on holy ground, it is important to affirm that we respect one another's beliefs.

Against that backdrop, diversity must be allowed to blossom and to colour the picture of the Norwegian "we". This is how we will honour the memory of Bano, Ismail and the others who died in the attacks on Utøya and Oslo.

- Multiculturalism in Norway needs to be defended
- More democracy is our response to terrorism: Stoltenberg
- Punjab budget: a gender myopic document
- Balochistan budget draws blank for women
- Analysis of provincial budgets from gender perspective
- Acid Control and Crime Prevention Bill passed
- SC questions existence of parallel judicial system
- Swara - a bridge over troubled waters
- AF Silver Jubilee Celebrations
- MoWD devolution supported
- NADRA, AF sign MoU
- Annual report on violence against women launched
- GEP launches scoping studies



Issue No.	Months (2011)	Articles
37	Mid August-November	

Issue No. 37

August-mid November 2011



# LEGISLATIVE WATCH



Founded by Shahla Zia

Patron-in-Chief: Nigar Ahmad

## A critical appreciation of the Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill 2011

Donya Aziz's Private Members Bill receives unanimous support from National Assembly

By Maliha Zia Lari

The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act 2011 was passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan on Tuesday 15th November 2011 after much great effort and lobbying by the women's movement and the movers of the Bill, led by Dr. Donya Aziz (PML-Q).

There has been a continuous struggle by the women's movement for years to bring to the forefront the heinous crimes committed in the name of 'customary practice'. The women's movement celebrates with the members of the PML-Q who introduced the Act into the National Assembly; it commends the government to allow the promulgation and pass an opposition Bill and it acknowledges the members of the National assembly who voted to pass the Bill.

Since the passage of the Bill through the Assembly, there has been much discussion and debate about the pros and cons of the provisions of the Bill and what it has added and what has been missed. It is necessary to have a proper understanding of what the provisions actually entail in order to not just comprehend the law to critique it, but also for the purposes of lobbying with the Senators and other stakeholders, while also staving off opposition to the Bill.

The sections of the 2011 Bill are reproduced in the boxes below, followed by a brief expansion and explanation of the section.

### A BILL

to prohibit certain practices leading to exploitation and discrimination against womenfolk

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for prohibition of certain practices leading to exploitation and discrimination against womenfolk;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to clarify the ambiguities created by misinterpretation of certain legal provisions;

**Explanation:**  
The intention of the legislation is to outlaw practices which are crimes committed in the name of 'customary practice'. These customary practices are used, specifically against women, in order to

exert control over them, discriminate against them, infringe upon their basic rights and to manipulate them. These 'practices' are also constantly accepted not just by the society but have also been known to be condoned by the so-called leaders who claim that such crimes, along with many others are 'customary practices' and should not be criminalised. The law has also constantly been manipulated to overlook these practices as 'crimes' and therefore allowing perpetrators to go free.



MNA Dr Donya Aziz addressing a reception given in her honour by Aurat Foundation in Islamabad.

### The Bill commended as landmark achievement

AF Staff Report

ISLAMABAD: Civil society activists, senior lawyers and women parliamentarians showered praise on Dr. Donya Aziz, Member National Assembly from PML-Q for her initiative in moving and pushing her Private Members Bill to a resounding success in the National Assembly to end customary practices against women in Pakistan. They described the passage of the Bill as a landmark event and an historic achievement in the interest of women.

Aurat Foundation's Legislative Watch Programme for Women's Empowerment organized the reception ceremony to share information and the joy on the 'Passage of the Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill, 2011, and Way Forward' on Thursday, 17 November 2011, at Islamabad.

Dr Donya Aziz, being the prime

mover of the Bill was the Chief Guest and Ms Anis Haroon, Chairperson, National Commission on the Status of Women presided over the function. The panel of speakers included Senator Nilofar Bakhtiar, Ms Tahira Abdullah, Ms Samar Minallah, Ms Rehana Hashmi and Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, Aurat Foundation. All the speakers congratulated Dr Donya Aziz for bringing the bill and getting it passed from the National Assembly.

Dr Donya Aziz, while giving her remarks and responding to various comments and concerns raised by the speakers, said that all supporters of the Bill in the National Assembly and members of the concerned Standing Committee, as well as, her senior colleagues in PML-Q deserved appreciation for this achievement as without their support it would have not been possible.

"We faced a lot of resistance at various stages but we were able to pass the Bill. We are proud of this achievement." **Continued on Page 3**

The biggest success of the passage of this legislation through the National Assembly is that there is an acceptance by the elected representatives and supposed leaders of the country that crimes committed against women under the guise of 'customary practices' are in actuality crimes. This is the first step towards a social prohibition and repulsion of these abhorrent crimes.

What is necessary is for the Senate to also pass the Bill within 90 days of having been passed by the National Assembly. It is only then that this Bill will become the law of the land and the Government and members of the Senate will show their true commitment to the women's cause and towards the elimination of discrimination against women.

2. Substitution of section 310A, Act XLV of 1860. - In the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860), hereinafter referred to as the Code, in Chapter XVI, for section 310A, the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"310-A. Punishment for giving a female in marriage or otherwise in badla-e-sulh, wanni or swara.- Whoever gives a female in marriage or otherwise compels her to enter into marriage, as badal-e-sulh, wanni, or swara or any other custom or practice under any name, in consideration of settling a civil dispute or a criminal liability, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years but shall not be less than three years and shall also be liable to fine of five hundred thousand rupees."

**Continued on next Page**

- A critical appreciation of the Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Bill 2011
- "Prevention of Anti-Women Practices" commended as landmark achievement
- Parliamentarians reach consensus on 10% party tickets
- Incidents of violence against women in Pakistan show sharp increase
- Rural women are backbone of economy
- The life and struggle of Begum Nusrat Bhutto remembered
- DVB draft discussed at provincial consultation meetings
- Fiza Gilani visits AF
- 'Stop killings in Karachi' rally
- Women and food security issues



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38	December	

Issue No. 38

December 2011



# LEGISLATIVE WATCH

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**Parliament sends signals of change in mindset towards women's rights**

## Seven pro-women laws in seven years

Women Parliamentarians demonstrate commitment and ability to serve women

By Naeem Mirza

**August 1999:** It was sheer disappointment and frustration for human rights activists sitting in the visitors' galleries of the Senate of Pakistan to witness the 'killing' of a resolution, moved by some concerned Senators to condemn - just to condemn - the murder of a young woman, Saima Imran, who was killed in the name of 'honour' at her lawyer's chamber in Lahore in April 1999. The chairman Senate did not allow even debate on the resolution and it was quickly disposed of. Though the resolution was originally supported by 25 Senators, only four of them, notably Senator Iqbal Haider, objected to and opposed this 'unconcerned killing' of the resolution.

**December 2011:** The Senate unanimously passes two important bills, Prevention of Anti-Women Practices, 2011, Bill, and Acid Control and Acid Crimes Prevention, 2011, Bill on 12 December 2011, with several law-makers in the august House favouring the bills and even asking for harsher punishments for the offences than prescribed in the bills. This time, human rights activists and women MPs from several political parties sitting in the House and lobbies, as well as those who were present outside the Parliament House and elsewhere and everywhere in Pakistan were happy and jubilant over the success of these bills. There were smiles on their faces and tears in their eyes. On 13 December, 2011, The Senate also passed 'The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2011', another pro-women legislation to provide legal and financial assistance to the women languishing in jails by amending 'Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996.

The legislative history on women's rights issues has all those dark, grey and bright patches. There have been repeated attempts and continued



A view of the Parliament's proceedings.

efforts by women and men parliamentarians for reform of existing laws and new positive legislation for women. The efforts went along determined struggle by women's rights groups and activists for long years against discriminatory laws and customary practices. Though women of Pakistan have reached a milestone on 12-13 December 2011, when three important bills, Prevention of Anti-Women Practices, 2011, Bill, Acid Control and Acid Crimes Prevention, 2011, Bill, and The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2011 were passed by the Senate, there is a long way to go and the major challenge in the future would be to see how women parliamentarians and women's rights movement ensure that women of Pakistan in all professions, groups and classes and in all age-groups, benefit from these laws and the de jure equality for women is transformed into de facto equality. More emphasis now needs to be shifted towards strict enforcement and implementation of these laws.

There gulf between 1999 and 2011 is 12 years long. Something must have happened during these twelve years which led to the Parliament's change of heart towards women's rights issues; and something must have happened even before these 12 years and even so

on prior to that. Things usually get clearer if seen in historical perspective because what happened on 12 December 2011 did not transpire in one day or a single year. There was a build-up of events to this momentous occasion, and it has a history of continuous efforts by women's rights movement and women in political parties for several decades.

Women in political parties and in successive governments always undertook bold initiatives. They faced enormous challenges and tough resistance from various quarters whenever they tried to make some legislative contribution in legislatures. Women's rights activists have been waging a glorious struggle for realization of women's equal status and rights in society since long through agitation on streets, research and advocacy and through extensive lobbying with decision-makers and legislators.

Past seven years (2004-2011) are monumental in the context of legislative upsurge on crucial women's rights issues. This is unprecedented in Pakistan's legislative history that seven progressive and positive laws to cover specific areas of women's lives came in during just seven years.

After a legislative drought for almost 28 years the breakthrough was made

through the enactment of law on 'honour' killings in 2004; in 2006, came the Protection of Women, Act, amending two Hudood Ordinances; in 2009, the DVB was passed by the National Assembly (since it lapsed and could not become law so far, therefore it has not been counted in the tally); in 2010, two laws came in on preventing and criminalizing the offence of sexual harassment of women and; in the present year, 2011, came these three laws - on customary practices, acid attacks and women in distress.

There is no denying the fact that some of these, and may be all of these laws, have shortcomings - some of which are of serious nature - but, these can be and must be removed and reformed in future. Several precedents are available in this regard, e.g. the Section 310A, which was inserted in 2004 in the Criminal Law (Amendment), 2004, has been substantially improved in the Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Act, 2011.

It is necessary to connect the present success with the efforts and successes made in the past for clarity of perspectives and vision. We will focus on recording of major events with brief comments in the next columns, which we believe, had a great impact on bringing about present development.

### MFLO 1961

The first and major progressive legislation on women in Pakistan was the promulgation of Muslim Family Laws Ordinance (MFLO) in 1961. The MFLO was based on the recommendations of the Commission on Marriage and Family Laws, set up in 1955. The recommendations were accepted in a diluted form. The primary aim of MFLO was to discourage polygamy and regulate divorce. The law also ensured the right of inheritance of grand children (the relevant section was struck down by the Federal Shariat Court in a judgment in 2000. The

Continued on next Page

- seven years
- Seven pro-women laws: some concluding observations
- 16 Days of Activism to End Violence against Women observed with rallies, performances and vigils
- The World's Women 2010: Trends and Statistics
- Women MPs demand 10% party tickets on general seats
- Senators asked to pass the Anti-Women Practices Bill
- Men briefed on women's role in peace

# Urdu Newsletters

شماره نمبر: 35

جنوری - اپریل 2011

عورت پیکیٹین  
ایڈٹ انفرمیٹین  
سروس فاؤنڈیشن

## قانون سازی پر نظر

پریستال: ناہار

### ناروے کی عورتوں نے اپنے حقوق کیلئے بڑی کوششیں اور طویل جدوجہد کی

#### ناروے میں عورتوں کو برابر کے حقوق حاصل ہیں

ناروے کی قومی پارلیمنٹ کے اپنی ایکٹیو جاب آفٹری پر بی بی سی کے انٹرویو

ناروے کی عورتوں نے اپنے حقوق کیلئے بڑی کوششیں اور طویل جدوجہد کی۔ یہاں عورتوں کو برابر کے حقوق حاصل ہیں۔

ناروے کی عورتوں نے اپنے حقوق کیلئے بڑی کوششیں اور طویل جدوجہد کی۔ یہاں عورتوں کو برابر کے حقوق حاصل ہیں۔

ناروے کی عورتوں نے اپنے حقوق کیلئے بڑی کوششیں اور طویل جدوجہد کی۔ یہاں عورتوں کو برابر کے حقوق حاصل ہیں۔

### قومی کمیشن اور سول سوسائٹی تنظیموں کا مختار ادارہ کیس میں عدالتی فیصلے پر شدید احتجاج

قومی کمیشن اور سول سوسائٹی تنظیموں کا مختار ادارہ کیس میں عدالتی فیصلے پر شدید احتجاج۔

قومی کمیشن اور سول سوسائٹی تنظیموں کا مختار ادارہ کیس میں عدالتی فیصلے پر شدید احتجاج۔

قومی کمیشن اور سول سوسائٹی تنظیموں کا مختار ادارہ کیس میں عدالتی فیصلے پر شدید احتجاج۔

شماره نمبر: 36

مئی - جولاہی 2011

عورت پیکیٹین  
ایڈٹ انفرمیٹین  
سروس فاؤنڈیشن

## قانون سازی پر نظر

پریستال: ناہار

### ناروے کی کثیر ثقافتیت پر حملے کے محرکات اور نتائج

ناروے کی کثیر ثقافتیت پر حملے کے محرکات اور نتائج۔

ناروے کی کثیر ثقافتیت پر حملے کے محرکات اور نتائج۔

ناروے کی کثیر ثقافتیت پر حملے کے محرکات اور نتائج۔

ناروے کی کثیر ثقافتیت پر حملے کے محرکات اور نتائج۔

### دہشت گردی کی مختلف اقسام ہمارا جواب مزید جمہوریت ہے: سٹالٹیرگ

دہشت گردی کی مختلف اقسام ہمارا جواب مزید جمہوریت ہے: سٹالٹیرگ۔

دہشت گردی کی مختلف اقسام ہمارا جواب مزید جمہوریت ہے: سٹالٹیرگ۔

دہشت گردی کی مختلف اقسام ہمارا جواب مزید جمہوریت ہے: سٹالٹیرگ۔

دہشت گردی کی مختلف اقسام ہمارا جواب مزید جمہوریت ہے: سٹالٹیرگ۔

شماره نمبر: 37

اگست - وسط نومبر 2011

عورت پیکیٹین  
ایڈٹ انفرمیٹین  
سروس فاؤنڈیشن

## قانون سازی پر نظر

پریستال: ناہار

### خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

خواتین دشمن رواجات سے تحفظ (فوجداری قانون ترمیم) بل 2011 کاقتییدی جائزہ۔

شماره نمبر: 38

دسمبر 2011

عورت پیکیٹین  
ایڈٹ انفرمیٹین  
سروس فاؤنڈیشن

## قانون سازی پر نظر

پریستال: ناہار

### پارلیمنٹ میں عورتوں کے حقوق کے حوالہ سے طرز فکر میں تبدیلی کا اشارہ کیا

#### سات برسوں میں عورتوں کے حق میں سات قوانین بنائے گئے

#### خواتین اور ایک پارلیمنٹ میں عورتوں کی ترقی کیلئے گہرے عزم اور اہلیت کا اظہار کیا

پارلیمنٹ میں عورتوں کے حقوق کے حوالہ سے طرز فکر میں تبدیلی کا اشارہ کیا۔

سات برسوں میں عورتوں کے حق میں سات قوانین بنائے گئے۔

خواتین اور ایک پارلیمنٹ میں عورتوں کی ترقی کیلئے گہرے عزم اور اہلیت کا اظہار کیا۔

خواتین اور ایک پارلیمنٹ میں عورتوں کی ترقی کیلئے گہرے عزم اور اہلیت کا اظہار کیا۔



## 7.2 LACGI Quarterly Newsletter

Gender injustices and all forms of violence can be curtailed comprehensively if communities and stakeholders are aware and well-informed. The quarterly newsletter therefore covered subject matter considered helpful for generating mass-level awareness regarding women's fundamental rights. Moreover, it thoroughly discussed women's issues and concerns, religious and legal instructions regarding women rights, and how the Constitution guarantees the provision of fundamental rights to all regardless of religion, sect, ethnicity, sex or origin.

The first two issues provided a concise introduction of the implementing and funding partners of the Gender Justice Program. It discussed fundamental human and women rights in the Constitution and the issues of forced/under-age marriage and the right to inherit property.

## 7.3 Tehreek Newsletter

The October 2010–March 2011 issue of the Tehrik newsletter on women's rights was printed (3000 copies) in Urdu and disseminated to all district partners, local, provincial, and federal government officials, legislators, councillors, decision makers at all levels, CSOs, and international non-government organisations (INGOs).



**اداریہ**

پاکستان میں عورتوں کی ترقی کا سوال ہمیشہ سے اہمیت کا حامل رہا ہے کیونکہ مقامی سطح پر عورتوں سمیت بہت سے طبقات ترقی کے عمل میں پیچھے رہ گئے ہیں۔ عورتوں کی ترقی کے تاثر میں نہایت غور و رجحان میں ان میں شکوتی اداروں کی عدم دلچسپی، وسائل کی غیر منصفانہ تقسیم اور مذہبی تعصبات کا نمایاں ہونا بھی توجہ طلب پہلو ہے۔ ترقی کا عمل اس وقت موثر ہوتا ہے جب سرکاری اور غیر سرکاری ادارے مل کر عورتوں سمیت سب کو مقامی ترقی کے دھارے میں شامل کریں۔

مقامی حکومتوں کے نظام کے تحت بجلی پارک میں عورتوں کی ایک بڑی تعداد کو مقامی سطح پر نمائندگی کا حق ماننا سنجیدہ ہونے والی بہت سی عورتوں نے اپنے کم تجربے، علم اور صلاحیتوں کے باوجود مردوں کے مقابلے میں ہیز کارکردگی دکھائی۔ لیکن بد قسمتی سے اب یہ مقامی ادارے قفل کا شمار ہیں اور موجودہ بہتری کی کوششیں، مقامی حکومتوں کے انتظامیہ کے نام سے گریباں ہیں جس سے جہاں اور بہت سے طبقات ترقی کے عمل میں متاثر ہوئے ہیں عورتیں بھی متاثر ہوئی ہیں۔

اب بھی اگر یہ مقامی حکومتیں موجود ہیں لیکن عورتوں کی ایک بڑی تعداد مقامی سطح پر انتظامی ڈھانچے کی کسی نہ کسی شکل میں حصار میں ہیں اور انفرادی سطحوں پر عورتوں کو مختلف کمیٹیوں میں کام کرنے کا موقع مل رہا ہے۔ ان میں ڈسٹرکٹ ڈیولپمنٹ بورڈ سمیت بہت سے ادارے موجود ہیں۔ عورتوں کی سیاسی عمل میں شمولیت کو تحریک کرنے کے لیے اور ذرائع بھی ہیں جنہیں ہمیں زیادہ موثر انداز میں آگے بڑھانا ہوگا۔ مقامی سطح پر ہونے والی ترقی کے عمل کی موثر نگرانی کرنی ہوگی اور یہ جانتا ہوا کہ ترقی کے عمل میں کیا ہو رہا ہے اور اس میں عورتیں اور بالخصوص کمزور اور محروم عورتیں کہاں ہیں۔ ترقی کے عمل میں جو وسائل خرچ یا تقسیم ہو رہے ہیں وہ کس حد تک شفاف ہیں۔ مقامی سطح پر انگریزی تعلیم میں بنیادی سہولیات کی فراہمی، بنیادی صحت کے مراکز کی نگرانی اور سہولیات کی فراہمی، مہاساتی کمیٹیوں کی کارکردگی، نسلی انصاف اور یوتھ کی سطح پر انتظامی (پیج 3)

**اس شمارہ میں**

- پرائیویٹ کی سرگرمیاں
- مقامی حکومتوں اور عورتوں کی ترقی
- کامیاب پاکستانی عورتیں
- کیس سٹڈی

## 7.4 RHV Materials Produced in 2011

Table 27 shows Raising Her Voice (RHV) materials produced in 2011.

**Table 27: RHV materials produced in 2011**

Date (2011)	Description
Apr–Sep	Newsletter
Jul–Sep	Flyer about RHV (Urdu)
Oct–Dec	Manifesto publication
Oct–Dec	Flyer about women leader demands

## 7.5 Pamphlets

Following pamphlets were issued in 2011:

- An Urdu-language pamphlet titled “Demand declaration” was issued on the 100th International Women’s Day. It specifies demands from CSOs and IHI members to the government of Pakistan and political parties for ending religious extremism and intolerance, setting democratic systems, and promoting gender equality
- “8 March - International Women’s Day: Historical background.”



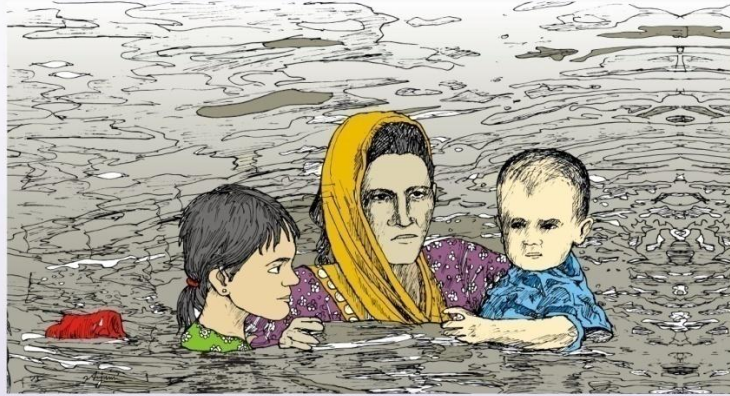


## 7.6 Posters

The following posters were issued in 2011:

- “Natural disasters affect all, but women, children, and senior citizens, the most” outlined important strategies for the rehabilitation of lives affected by natural disasters;

# قدرتی آفات سب کو متاثر کرتی ہیں لیکن عورتوں، بچوں اور بزرگوں کو سب سے زیادہ



## سیلاب سے متاثرہ زندگیوں کی بحالی کے لیے ترجیحات

	گھروں کی مرمت، شناختی اور ڈپن کارڈز کے اجراء، بیج اور قرضہ جات کی سہولتوں میں عورت سربراہ گھرانوں کو امداد فراہم کرنا۔		عورتوں، بچوں اور بزرگوں کو فوری امداد کی فراہمی اور زندگیوں کی بحالی کے مواقع تک رسائی کو یقینی بنانا۔
	قدرتی آفات، بحالی اور تعمیر نو کے فیصلہ ساز اداروں میں عورتوں کی تقرری اور شمولیت کو یقینی بنانا۔		بچوں اور عورتوں کے خلاف تشدد، فروخت اور جنسی جرائم کی روک تھام کیلئے حفاظتی مراکز قائم کرنا۔
	متاثرہ علاقوں میں زرعی زمینوں کی دوبارہ نشاندہی اور حد بندیوں میں عورتوں کا زمین چارج تسلیم کرنا اور انہیں زمین تقسیم کرنا۔		زراعت، غذائی فصلوں کی کاشت اور خوراک کی بحالی میں عورتوں کے کلیدی کردار کو تسلیم کرنا اور مواقع فراہم کرنا۔

## متاثرہ افراد سے عزت و وقار کے ساتھ پیش آئیں

- “We demand immediate restoration and elections of local government” specified demands for the immediate restoration and elections of local governments, deeming them essential for a democratic governance system and women’s political empowerment in Pakistan;

## ہمارا مطالبہ: مقامی حکومتوں کی فوری بحالی اور انتخابات





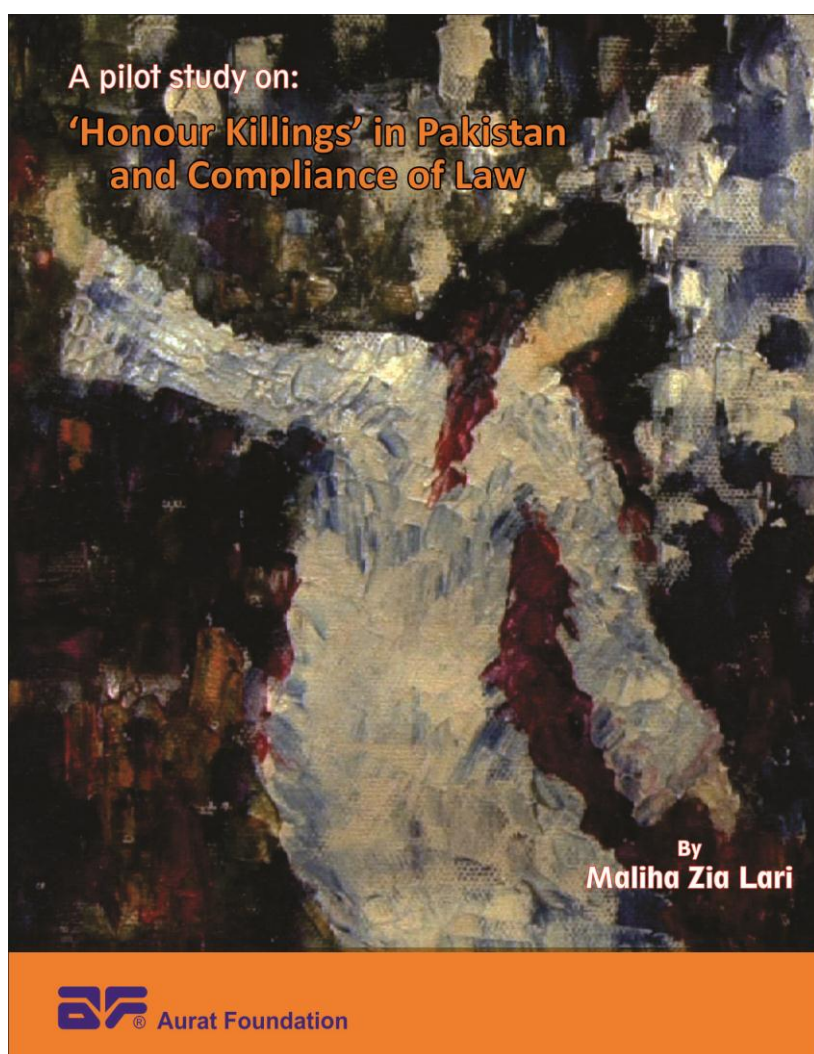


## 7.7 Manuals

Two manuals were developed as a result of activities carried out under the Engendering Peace and Security project (UN Women). One was on peace building and knowledge and was disseminated at ten workshops. The other one was an advocacy manual on policymaking and legislators.

## 7.8 Research in 2011

AF produced several pieces of research during 2011. Topics of research included honour killings, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), the socio-cultural, legal and structural, and economic constraints faced by Pakistani women, and a framework on the rights of internally displaced people.

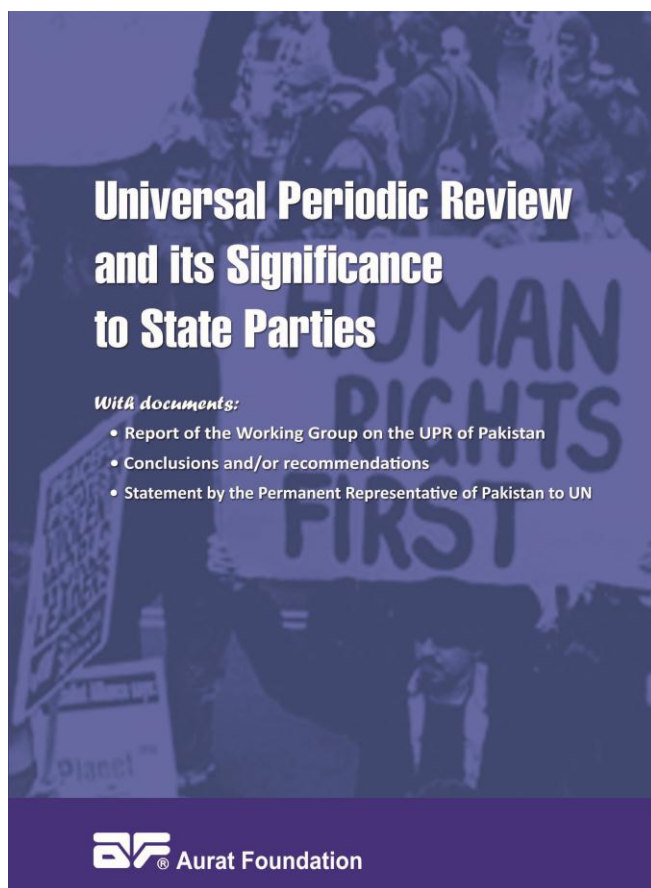


**“A Pilot Study on Honour Killings in Pakistan and Compliance of Law”** was written by Ms. Maliha Zia Lari, an Advocate of the Sindh High Court and expert on women’s legal rights.

Despite the passage of the Honour Killings Act in 2004, the incident of “honour” crimes is still on the rise which shows that the Act falls short of providing actual protection to survivors/victims. This pilot study addresses the need to analyse ground realities to ascertain how stakeholders understand the law and the nature and extent of its compliance. It compares the numbers of honour killings quoted in the media to the actual situation on the ground. It also examines the concept of “honour” and “honour killings”

in order to understand the crime itself and discusses how the law operated before 2004.

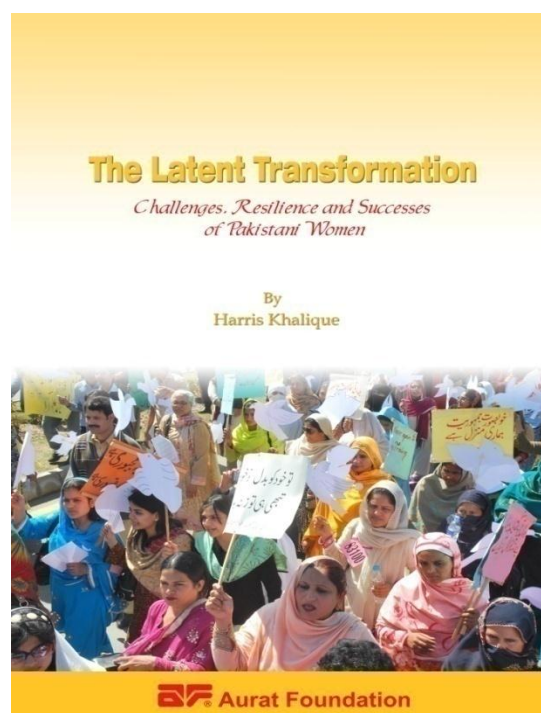


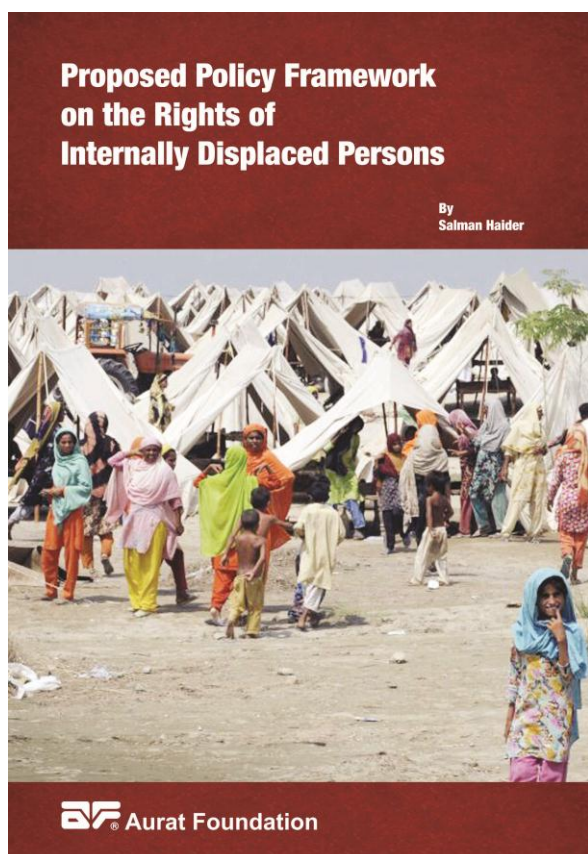


“The Universal Periodic Review and its Significance to State Parties” was written by the Watch Programme for Women’s Empowerment. This booklet, compiled by the AF/LWP-WE is aimed at providing the basic information and facts on the Human Rights Council and UPR process and collecting some of the relevant documentation concerning Pakistan’s previous review held in 2008.

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a relatively new human rights mechanism of the Human Rights Council (HRC) which works closely with the UN Special Procedures established by the former Commission on Human Rights and assumed by the Council. The government of Pakistan appeared before the Working Group of the HRC in 2008 for a review, following which a list of recommendations was passed by the Working Group. These were partially accepted by the government.

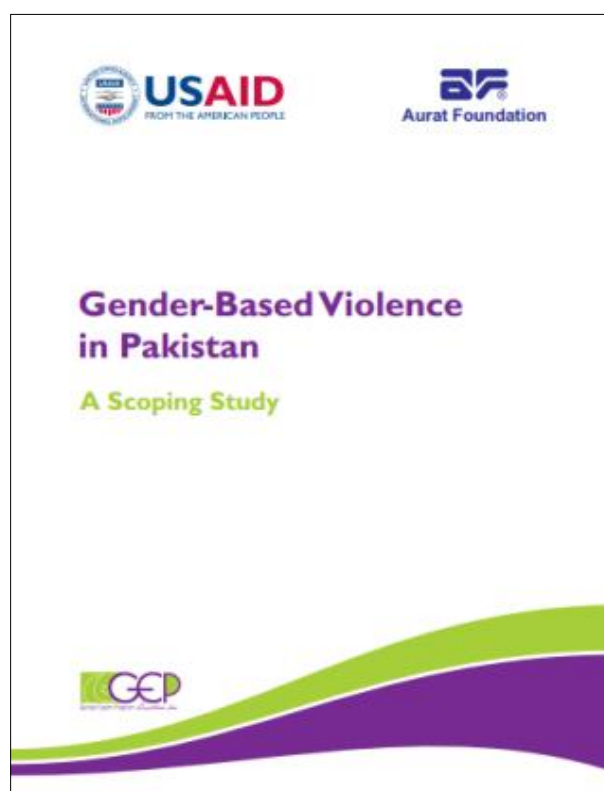
“The Latent Transformation: Challenges, Resilience, and Successes of Pakistani Women” was written by Mr. Harris Khalique, CEO, SPO. This booklet is exploratory in nature, outlines the socio-cultural, legal and structural and economic constraints faced by Pakistani women. It records the resilience and successes achieved by women with examples from the selected domains of educational attainment, limited but mentionable changes in social behaviour of men and communities brought about by their struggle. The booklet also gives some case studies.



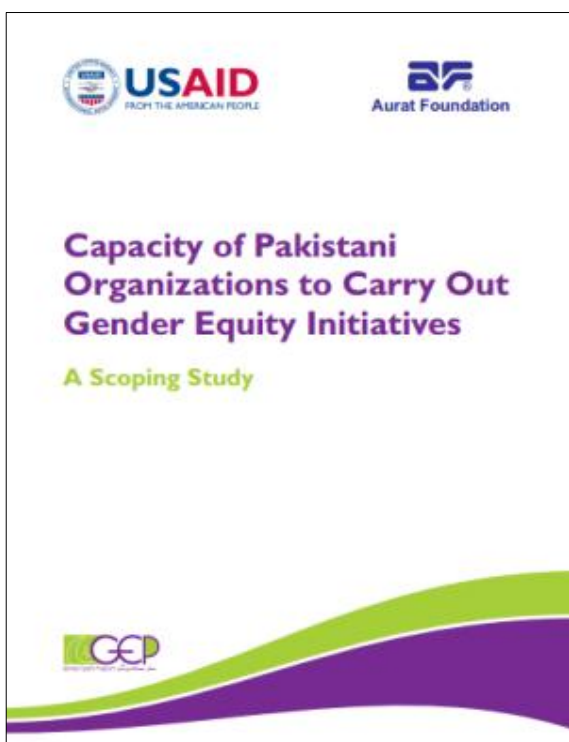
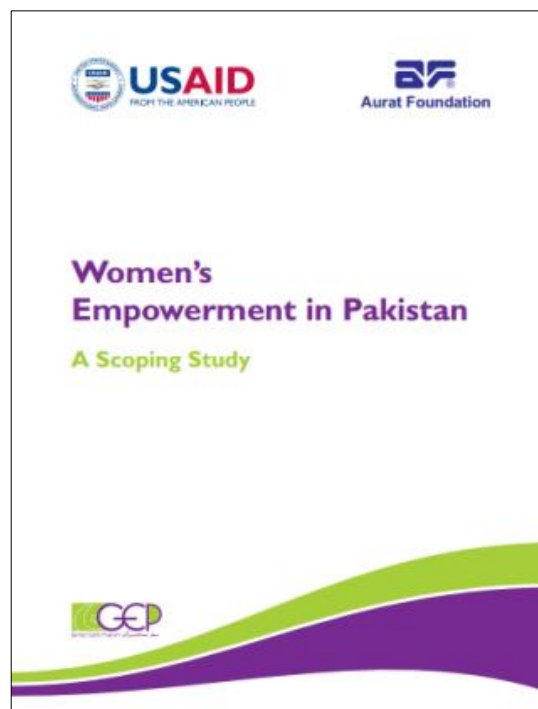


The “**Proposed Policy Framework on the Rights of Internally Displaced Persons**” was written by Mr. Salman Haider, Department of Gender Studies, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi. It provides a policy framework to address the issues faced by internally displaced people (IDPs), which is a result of research processes initiated by AF in 2010.

“**Gender-based Violence (GBV) in Pakistan: A Scoping Study**” was written by Ms. Rakhshinda Parveen. This study aimed to map current and past initiatives and key outcomes on GBV by donors and international NGOs in Pakistan. It identified key gaps in the literature on GBV. These included a near absence of information on NGO projects focused on GBV and of indigenous and new perspectives on violence in development and disaster strategies.



**“Women’s Empowerment in Pakistan: A Scoping Study”** was written by Ms. Rubina Saigol. This study defines “empowerment” and explains how land ownership is directly linked to it. It goes on to explain that empowerment is the road to women’s own equality, rights and fulfilment, while the instrumental view regards women’s empowerment as the means to a better family, economy, society and nation.



**“Capacity of Pakistani Organizations to Carry out Gender Equity Initiatives: A Scoping Study”** was written by Mr. Rafiq Jaffar. The study sought to identify the training and capacity building needs of organisations, identify capacity building programs for gender equity, identify institutions offering capacity building training and orientation, review available manuals, modules, and materials and map capacity building efforts by international organisations and donors.



### 7.9 Documentary ‘Main safar main hoon’

The 30-minutes documentary film recorded the struggle of the women’s rights movement in Pakistan for attaining equal status in society along with incorporating views of successful Pakistani women. The DVD format of the film, titled ‘Main Safar Main Hoon’, was sent to 1000 members of academic institutions and civil society organizations. It was also screened at different GEP-sponsored events, where hundreds of people participated.







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