

Annual Report

2013



Aurat Foundation

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Aurat Foundation

Report: Annual Report 2013
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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

Introduction

Before looking into what Aurat Foundation has accomplished between July 2012 – June 2013, it is important to look at the geopolitical and security landscape in which it has worked. Unfortunately, Pakistan has not seen a lull in terms of terrorist threats, with disturbing targeted attacks on ethnic and religious minorities. Karachi and parts of Balochistan in particular have continuously seen insecurity and targeted killings. The targeted persecution of the Hazara community is particularly concerning and has shaken the already fragile security situation of the country.

From a governance point of view, with the passage of the 18th amendment and the suspension of the women's ministry at the national level, Aurat Foundation has closely monitored any hiccups with regard to women's issues. An active stance on pro-women legislation, policy reform and advocacy for such laws and their awareness are the bedrock of the organisation's work. The Punjab assembly has shown exceptional foresight and commitment with the passage of eight pro-women pieces of legislation. Aurat Foundation has persisted for the effective lobbying and technical support provided in the passage of these bills.

This annual report has been met with great accomplishments for Aurat Foundation in the form of the introduction of two new programmes, with wide and effective outreach. The first is the AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme. It is DIFD funded and designed to strengthen civil society. Its purpose is also to develop a stable, tolerant and more democratic Pakistan. It works with four local consortium partners of which Aurat Foundation is one. It has an outreach across 45 districts in the KP and Punjab provinces. The main three areas of work include an increase and improvement in women's political participation, community cohesion through peaceful dispute resolution and greater citizen engagement. The impact and overreach are already visible in this short time.

The second is Waseela-e-Taleem, under the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). DIFD and the World Bank fund this programme. The objective is to provide additional cash incentives to BISP recipients to ensure that their children are enrolled and attend primary schools. It is aimed at the most marginalised women in targeted districts. The eventual plan is to make it a national programme in the foreseeable future. Pilot districts where the scheme has been tested has shown very promising results.

The continuance support and guidance of our Executive Director, Nigar Ahmad is what helps Aurat Foundation strive towards its core goals of emancipation for women and for a peaceful and more democratic Pakistan. Without Nigar's support and the persistent hard work of the whole Aurat Foundation team, our accomplishments would not be so prominent.

Naeem Ahmed Mirza
Chief Operating Officer

Aurat Foundation
August 2013, Islamabad

Board of Governors 2012-2013

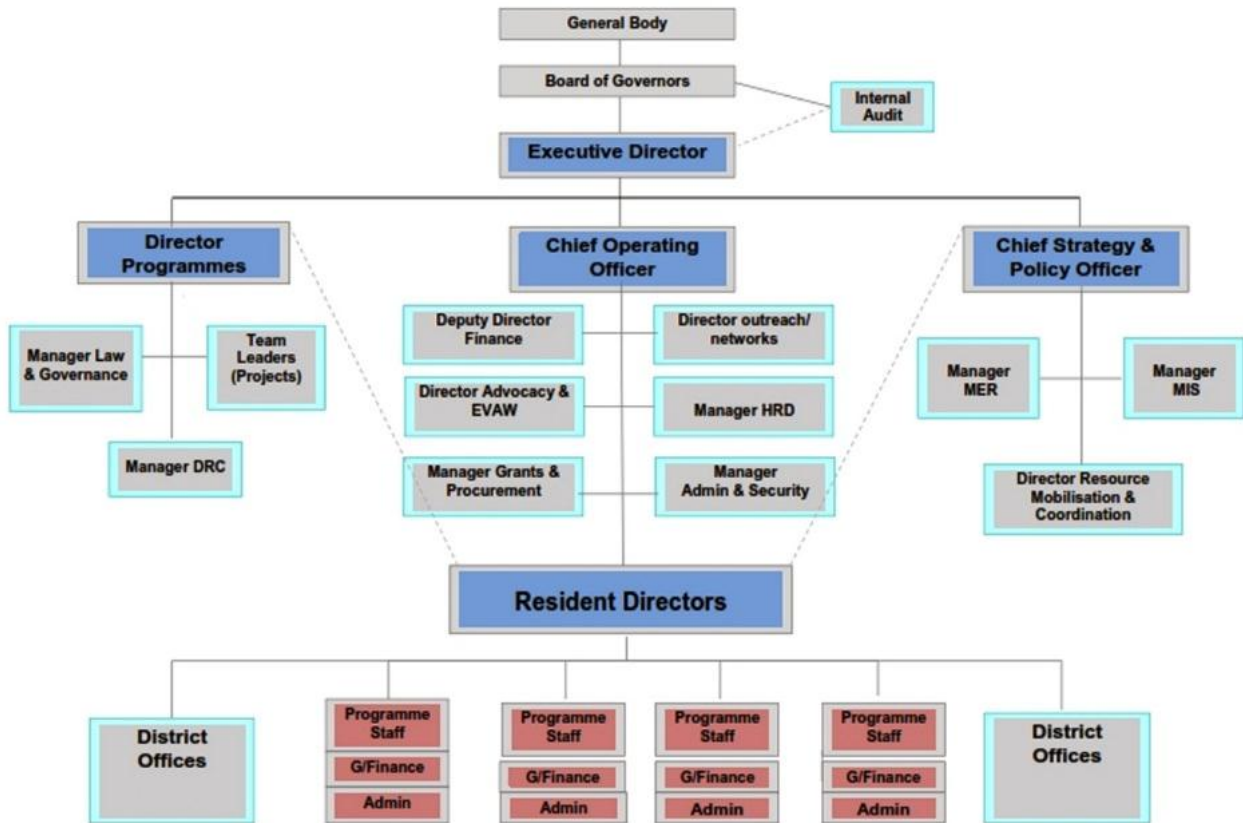
<p>Dr. Masuma Hasan <i>President</i></p> <p>Development Practitioner; former Cabinet Secretary & Ambassador; Researcher</p>		<p>Nigar Ahmad <i>Member/Executive Director</i></p> <p>Economist; Human Rights Activist; Development Practitioner</p>	
<p>Mohammad Tahseen <i>Treasurer</i></p> <p>Executive Director,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

Executive Council of Aurat Foundation

Name	Function	Gender	Affiliation
Nigar Ahmad	Executive Director	Female	27 years
Naeem Ahmed Mirza	Chief Operating Officer	Male	16 years
M. Younas Khalid	Chief Strategy & Policy Officer	Male	18 years
Nasreen Zehra	Resident Director, Lahore	Female	17 years
Shabina Ayaz	Resident Director, Peshawar	Female	17 years
Haroon Dawood	Resident Director, Quetta	Male	16 years
Mahnaz Rahman	Resident Director, Karachi	Female	9 years

Organogram

Institutional Structure Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation



Audit Report



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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 2013 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 2013 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.

Date: 09 June 2014

Lahore

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

Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2013

	Note	2013 Rupees	2012 Rupees	Note	2013 Rupees	2012 Rupees
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES						
<u>Accumulated fund</u>						
General fund		3,449,802	(9,844,318)	10	37,621,610	44,250,818
Endowment fund		1,035,924	1,035,924	11	4,983,552	4,173,926
Donated funds-restricted	6	55,557,952	573,866		42,605,162	48,424,744
Capital grants-restricted		38,409,046	44,285,140			
		98,452,724	36,050,612			
<u>Current liabilities</u>						
Trade and other payables	7	42,073,534	31,744,334	12	24,363,829	11,760,976
Short term loan	8	1,337,700	4,387,700	13	74,894,967	11,996,926
		43,411,234	36,132,034		99,258,796	23,757,902
Contingencies and commitments	9					
		141,863,958	72,182,646		141,863,958	72,182,646

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

Amrta K.A.

Nigar Ahmad

Lahore

Executive Director

Director

Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation
Income and Expenditure Account

For the year ended 30 June 2013

	Note	Aurat		Consolidated	
		Foundation	Projects	2013	2012
		Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
Income					
Grants-restricted		-	350,059,231	350,059,231	233,516,323
Donations		3,317,626	-	3,317,626	1,322,075
Other income	14	2,473,106	-	2,473,106	2,886,552
Management fees	15	2,984,268	-	2,984,268	-
Amortization of capital grants		-	10,123,981	10,123,981	11,173,533
		8,775,000	360,183,212	368,958,212	248,898,483
Expenditure					
Salaries, wages and other benefits		69,075	169,656,466	169,725,541	126,549,562
Meetings, seminars, workshops and advertisement expenses		219,983	110,238,072	110,458,055	58,665,766
Professional fee		1,865	6,695,221	6,697,086	5,222,554
Office rent		-	18,425,467	18,425,467	12,940,150
Printing, publication, stationery and supplies		4,919	9,817,327	9,822,246	10,187,019
Communication and mailing expenses		27,773	3,748,674	3,776,447	2,796,139
Vehicle running, repair and maintenance expenses		2,287	4,670,049	4,672,336	3,748,163
Electricity, water and gas expenses		-	1,891,395	1,891,395	2,004,931
Travel and transport charges		-	5,865,929	5,865,929	4,727,090
Audit fee		-	450,000	450,000	400,000
Audit fee related to projects		-	1,504,692	1,504,692	2,361,704
Repair and maintenance expenses		3,565	5,933,307	5,936,872	1,457,806
Depreciation	10	141,355	8,683,607	8,824,962	9,303,280
Amortization	11	-	1,440,374	1,440,374	2,058,280
Relief activities		-	-	-	393,189
Management fees		-	2,984,268	2,984,268	-
Newspapers and periodicals		-	233,172	233,172	226,818
Security charges		-	4,088,275	4,088,275	2,158,591
Bank charges		17,614	209,559	227,173	171,771
Insurance expenses		-	3,647,358	3,647,358	2,439,567
		488,436	360,183,212	360,671,648	247,812,380
Net surplus		8,286,564	-	8,286,564	1,086,103

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

Asstt. Secy

Lahore

Nigar Ahmad
 Executive Director

Dr. Zahid Muhammad
 Director

List of Operational Projects (July 2012–June 2013)

<i>Projects</i>	<i>Funding agency</i>
1 AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme (managed by Development Alternative Inc. [DAI])	Department for International Aid (DFID)
2 Gender Equity Programme (GEP)	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
3 Local Action to Combat Gender Injustices (LACGI) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Kirkens Nødhjelp (Norwegian Church Aid)
4 Social Mobilization National Cash Transfer Programme Waseela-e-Taleem (WeT)	DFID
5 Gender-Based Violence Advocacy and Capacity Building Programme	Trócaire
6 Raising Her Voice (RHV) project	Oxfam-GB
7 Restoration of Women's Livelihood Project	Interchurch Organization for Development (ICCO) Cooperation
8 Women Car-Van Leaders Project	ICCO
9 Women Learning Partnership	Women Learning Partnership
10 Women Peace Programme	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

Chapter One

Law and Policy Reform

1. Law and Policy Reform

The political context of the country has not change significantly after the general elections of 2013 from a security point of view. However, as opposed to the previous predominantly liberal government of PPP, the majority of seats were won by centre of the right PML-N in the centre as well as in Punjab. In the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) emerged as the single largest party and it formed the government in coalition with right-wing Jamaat-e-Islamai and other small parties. The PTI also emerged as the third largest party at the national level and second largest party in Punjab. In Balochistan, the moderate National Party and Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party have formed a coalition government with PML-N. The PPP in Punjab and ANP in KP suffered major electoral setbacks. MQM retained its stronghold in Karachi. Another thought-provoking feature of the general election was the election of 21 women on general seats as opposed to 27 in the previous elections in 2008. The allocation of just two federal ministries to women and none in KP indicates an ever shrinking space for women and women's rights agendas in national and provincial spheres. In addition, women were actually restrained from casting votes in various locations in KP and Balochistan.

Publically too, women and children faced miseries due to terrorism and religious and ethnic extremism. Thousands of innocent people, including women and children lost their lives to suicide bombings, terrorist attacks and target killings.

It was observed that religious extremists made it a point to attack prominent newly-elected independent political candidates and elected leaders. For example, the murder of 12 innocent students from the Women University, Balochistan and constant attacks on female polio vaccinators in KP; the space for working and school-going women is shrinking to the point where they are afraid to leave their homes.

Legislation during the current government's first year in office requires re-evaluation. Quality, effectiveness and long-term impact must be examined, especially in women-specific laws. Drafting legislation requires an understanding of the criminal justice system, working of the police and medico-legal systems and lawyers, judges and jails, and how they deal with women. Women legislation should have clear emphasis on legislative quality and extensive research, debate and consultation.

1.1 Launching NGO Alternative Report on CEDAW

On 13 December 2012, AF organised the launching ceremony of the NGO Alternative Report on CEDAW in Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad. The shadow report is a comprehensive commentary on the Fourth Periodic Report of the Government, identifying gaps and presenting an objective analysis of the situation of women in Pakistan. AF initiated (compiling and drafting) the report but the process was inclusive of all civil society organisations.

Ms. Lena Lindberg, Country Director, UNWomen, Pakistan was the Guest of Honour. Ms Anis Haroon, Member, Board of Governors, AF presided over the ceremony. Ms Maliha Zia and Ms Riffat Butt, authors of the report presented main findings of the report. Ms Tahira Abdullah, one of the contributors to the report, was the Guest Speaker.



Mr. Naeem Mirza, gave a brief history of the process of producing the report. He said that the report highlights the major impediments to gender equality.

Ms. Tahira Abdullah stated that she presented 38 action recommendations for the implementation of CEDAW, which, 16 years after Pakistan became a State Party to CEDAW, are now long overdue.

Mr. Naeem Mirza and Ms. Taharia Abdullah were critical of the government’s lack of inclusion of civil society organisations, particularly those organisations working on women’s rights issues, when preparing the CEDAW report for the UN. It was said this showed a lack of political will and commitment.

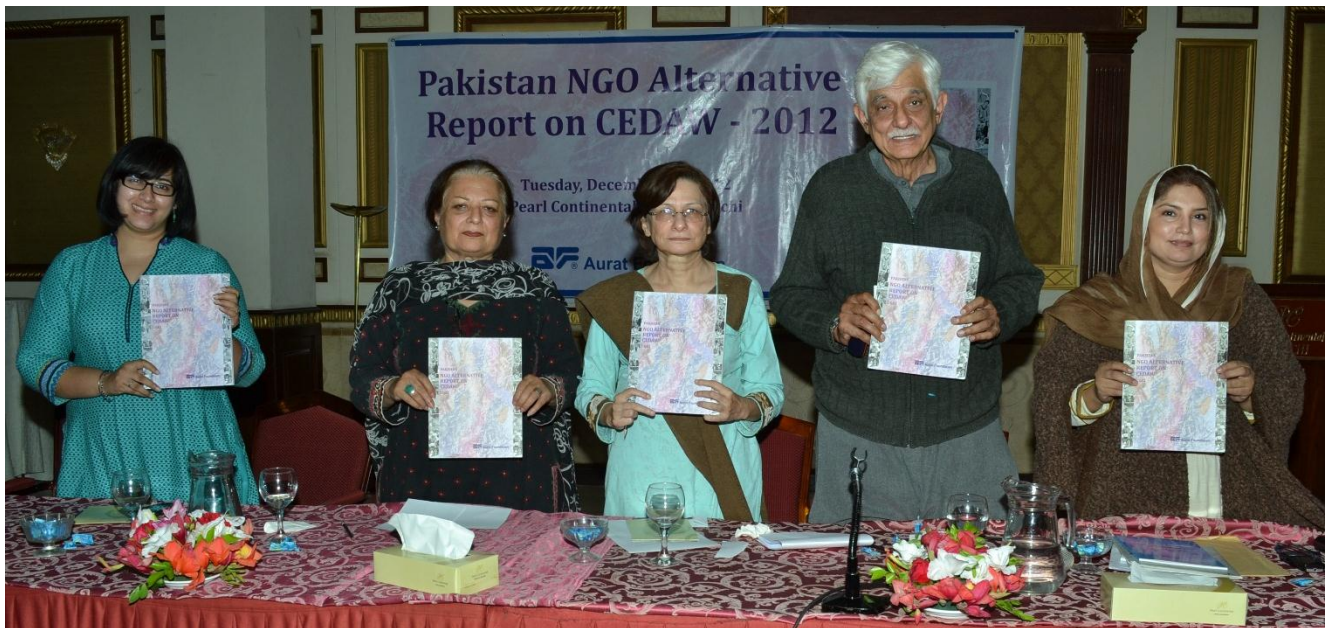
Ms. Riffat Butt and Ms. Maliha Zia, both spoke at the event. Ms. Maliha Zia highlighted that though there were a significant number of pro-women laws passed from the year 2009 to 2012, there has been a reluctance to pass laws that may affect the traditional set up of the family or community, such as domestic violence, social protection and child rights.

The report was also formally launched in Karachi on 18th December, in Quetta on 19th December and in Lahore on 20th December.

1.2 Consultative Meetings on Pakistan CEDAW Follow-Up Process

Aurat Foundation conducted consultative meetings in Islamabad, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar and Karachi. In all, 151 participants (105 women and 46 men) including women parliamentarians, lawyers, academics, CSO representatives, media





persons and political activists attended the meetings (Table 1).

Table 1: CEDAW consultative meetings

Date (2013)	City	Women	Men	Total
June 7	Peshawar	16	14	30
June 8	Quetta	15	13	28
June 11	Islamabad	20	4	24
June 11	Karachi	16	5	21
June 14	Lahore	40	10	50

Meeting objectives included:

- Providing an update as to how the State Party Review was conducted
- Providing an update on NGO participation in the session
- Sharing the concluding observations of the CEDAW Committee
- Analyzing and strategizing on how CEDAW is relevant in the national perspective and how CSOs and human rights activists can lobby for its effective implementation
- Brainstorming and developing an action plan

The following recommendations were made:

- Create a mechanism to improve inter-provincial coordination
- Repeal discriminatory laws
- Establish provincial commissions on the status of women
- Implement capacity building measures for network partners on CEDAW
- Provide women parliamentarians trainings on CEDAW, especially for new selections on reserved seats

- Translate the CEDAW Convention and concluding observations into Urdu and disseminating them widely
- Incorporate the definition of discrimination in the Constitution
- Follow up on the last government's policies and lobby with the present government on issues hindering the implementation of CEDAW
- Ensure CSO participation in consultation meetings with the government during the preparation of the state report
- Women should be eligible for *all* seats, not just reserved seats
- Sensitize the media to the CEDAW Convention and the issues highlighted in the concluding observations
- Monitor the implementation of laws, policies and programmes. Ensure compliance with CEDAW principles
- Form an action committee for the follow-up process
- Create a support mechanism for divorced women
- Develop a regular reporting line for the next shadow report
- Extend policies and legislation to all provinces
- Create a uniform policy for the implementation of CEDAW
- Appoint more women judges to improve access to justice
- Generate a resource pool of NGO's working on thematic areas of CEDAW
- Organize women legislators into a body such as the Women's Parliamentarian Caucus
- Lobby for the rule of business and a clear implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan for newly-approved women-related laws

1.3 National Women's Assembly

On 13 December, 2012, at Islamabad Hotel, Aurat Foundation in collaboration with Insan Foundation Trust, organized a National Women's Assembly, which included different panel discussions.

The event provided women from various backgrounds including from CSOs, activists, parliamentarians, students and academia. Eminent human and women rights activist Ms Tahira Abdullah chaired the



first panel on ‘Situation and impact of conflict on women’. Speakers representing five provinces of Pakistan and AJK, highlighted the important role of women to help combat extremism. Ms Abdullah concluded the session by demanding a reduction of military expenditure and an increase in developmental sectors.

Ms Anis Haroon chaired the second panel called the ‘Role of State and Democratic Institutions in Prevention of Conflict’. Representatives from National Assembly and provincial assemblies spoke at the occasion including Ms Ghazala Gola, Minister for Women’s Development, Government of Balochistan, Ms Ms Shagufta Sadiq, MNA MQM, Sindh, Ms Naseem Nasir Khawaja MPA PML-N, Ms Shirin Fatima, MNA, PPP, Gilgit Baltistan, and senator Ms Syriya Amir-ud-Din, PPP. Ms Anis Haroon, concluded by saying that all political parties must work together to help the fight extremism. She also demanded the enhancement of reserved seats for women from 17% to 33% in all legislatures.

Ms Kishwar Sultana, Executive Director, Insan Foundation, coordinated the question-answer session. Ms Arifa Mazhar of Aurat Foundation, read the declaration of the women assembly, which was collectively approved by all the participants.

1.4 FGDs on Policy Reform Issues

A series of focus-group discussions (FGDs) were held with political parties, civil society activists, lawyers and media personnel to discuss policy reform issues, under AF’s Policy and Data Monitoring – Violence against Women programme.

Karachi	Peshawar	Islamabad
The Domestic Violence (DV) Bill (December 7, 2012)	Practice of <i>ghag</i> (February 14, 2013)	Women’s right to vote (November 28, 2012)
	Women’s voting rights (May 6, 2013)	Issues women face during elections (January 8, 2013)

1.4.1 Islamabad FGD on women’s right to vote (November 28, 2012)

This FGD was attended by 11 participants (10 women and 1 man) who included members of political party women’s wings (PML-N, PML-N Likeminded, PTI), local and international non-government organization (NGO) representatives, Ministry of Finance representatives and lawyers. Participants said that a lack of political will and awareness meant that laws in international commitments for women rights to vote (e.g. the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) were not implemented. FGD outcomes are summarized below:

- The FGD received newspaper coverage.
- The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) requested AF to provide suggestions on how to improve the electoral process and mobilize women.
- The ECPs ran advertisements on national television highlighting the importance of women’s votes.
- The ECPs incorporated AF’s suggestion that elections with less than ten percent of women voters will be considered null and void.

- Democracy Reporting International (DRI) contacted AF after the FGD to be an independent monitoring organization.
- DRI trained all AF regional staff on independent election monitoring.
- Gender Concern International signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with AF to hold independent election monitoring.

Islamabad FGD on issues women face during elections (November 28, 2012)

Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Chairperson, National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights, met with AF on January 8, 2013 and the discussion highlighted the problems and concerns faced by women during elections. The session was attended by Dr. Attiya Inayatullah, Zille Huma (PPP), Ms. Jamila Gillani (Awami National Party), Ms. Kashmala Tariq, the Secretary, Human Rights, the Director General, Human Rights and other government officials and media personnel (12 women and 18 men). AF team members, Ms. Rabeea Hadi and Ms. Farkhanda Aurangzeb were later appointed on the standing committee as NGO representative observers.

Karachi FGD on DV (December 7, 2012)

This FGD was held during the “16 Days of Activism” focusing on domestic violence. 23 participants attended the event (15 women and 8 men; 16 civil society organization (CSO) representatives, 2 media representatives and 1 government official). AF team member, Ms. Maliha Zia spoke at the meeting saying that the only way to control domestic violence was to create a law against it. AF team member, Ms. Saima Haroon, talked about gender stereotyping, the causes of DV and the impacts of a parallel judicial system in the country. A major outcome was the group’s commitment to support AF and lobby for the bill in their respective departments. In addition, the Home Department informed AF on March 1, 2013 that the Chief Minister had consented to introducing the bill in the next session.

When Ms. Zia reviewed the draft and observed major flaws, AF arranged further meetings to have the flaws rectified. AF was recognized for the successful passage of the bill.

Peshawar FGD on ghag (February 14, 2013)

AF’s Peshawar office held an FGD aimed at increasing awareness about the practice of *ghag* in KP. 12 participants attended the event (7 women and 5 men) from the violence against women (VAW) Watch Group, Peshawar, PCSW, WAF, other CSOs and the media. Ms. Shagufta Naveed, Legal Drafter, Law Department, KP served as the resource person.

Peshawar FGD on women’s voting rights (May 6, 2013)

AF’s Peshawar office held an FGD on women’s voting rights. It was conducted in light of an agreement that all mainstream political parties would bar women from voting, given the “present situation.” 12 participants attended the event (7 women and 5 men).

1.5 Celebrating the Passage of Pro-Women Legislation, Lahore

AF organized a well-attended meeting on January 3, 2013 to discuss the passage of eight pieces of pro-women legislation by the Punjab Assembly. Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Provincial Programme Manager, AAWAZ, AF led the delegation. Speakers included:

- Mr. Irfan Mufti, Deputy Director, South Asia Partnership-Pakistan (SAP-PK)



- Mr. Salman Abid, Regional Director, SPO
- Ms. Naureen Tawakal, Shirkat Gah
- Ms. Ume Laila Azhar, Executive Director, HNP
- Mr. Peter Jacob, Executive Director, NCJP
- Ms. Bushra Khaliq, Executive Director, WISE
- Ms. Ghulam Fatima, Executive Director, BLLF
- Mr. Nadeem Fazil, Executive Director, WAR
- Advocate Hina Hafeez



Participants said that Punjab Assembly had taken an historic step for pro-women legislation and appreciated the efforts of Begum Zakia Shahnawaz, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Punjab and efforts by the Women Development Department for the implementation of the Women Empowerment Package, 2012. Mr. Rana Mashhood, Deputy Speaker, Punjab Assembly highlighted the vital role NGOs played in providing valuable services for the guidance and welfare of society.

The bills passed (December 2012) were:

- The Punjab Protection against the Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment Bill) 2012
- The Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2012 (Urban)
- The Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2012 (Rural)
- Legal Protection to Gender Mainstream Committees Bill, 2012
- Women University Multan (Amendment) Bill, 2012
- Government College Women University Faisalabad Bill, 2012

- Government College Women University Sialkot Bill, 2012
- Government College Women University Bahawalpur Bill, 2012

NGOs also submitted the following proposals to the Government of Punjab for urgent consideration:

- Legislation against DV
- The establishment of a provincial commission on the status of women
- The nomination of an ombudsperson
- Legislation for home-based and domestic workers
- A women's protection policy
- The establishment of a commission for the rights of minorities
- Legislation against early child marriages

1.6 National consultation on political party manifestos on women's empowerment



AF and the Parliamentarians Commission for Human Rights (PCHR) organized a national consultation on January 30, 2013 inviting stakeholders to discuss its booklet, "Suggestions on Women's Empowerment for Election Manifestos of Political Parties" authored by Ms. Naheed Aziz and Ms. Tahira Abdullah. The event was chaired by Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Chairperson, National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights and coordinated by Chaudhry Shafique. Speakers agreed that encouraging women's active political participation and ending sectarian and ethnic violence would be impossible without increasing rural female literacy rates. Participants included:

- Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bezenjo (National Party)
- Dr. Ishaque Baloch
- Ms. Anisa Zeb Tahirkheli (Qaumi Watan Party [QWP])
- Ms. Farah Aqil Shah (ANP)
- Khushbakht Shujaat (MQM)
- Ms. Nuzhat Sadiq (PML-N)
- Fauzia Naz (PML-Q)
- Ms. Surraya Amiruddin (PPP)

- Mr. Anwar Somro (Sindh, Awami Tehreek)
- Mr. Anwar Baig (PML-N)

The outcome of this meeting was that major political parties have released portions of their manifestos for public review.

PML-N: The PML-N announced the salient features of its manifesto in a press conference on March 8, 2013 in Lahore. Major features included:

- The creation of the Hazara, South Punjab and Bahawalpur provinces.
- An employment programme to generate three million new jobs.
- Raising the minimum wage gradually to PKR 15,000.
- An income support programme for needy families with a special focus on widows, orphans and young girls.
- A Vision 2025 national education plan (including a budget increase and computer laboratories).
- Greater autonomy to the HEC and the promotion of vocational and technical education.
- A national insurance card scheme for the treatment of children up to 12 years of age, senior citizens up to 65 years of age and low-income families.
- Preference to women teachers in primary education.
- Legislation on VAW.
- Expanded microcredit for female borrowers.
- Increased development funds for minorities.
- A revision of police laws.
- Voting rights for overseas Pakistanis.

PPP: The PPP unveiled its manifesto on March 14, 2013. Features included:

- The facilitation of small business houses to help generate employment
- The eradication of polio by 2018
- The formation of special family health centres for children and mothers
- The mainstreaming of minorities, youth and deserving people

PTI: The PTI announced an environmental policy and a manifesto for differently-abled persons on February 26, 2013 and March 18, 2013, respectively.

Ms. Naheed Aziz: Ms. Aziz talked about the rationale for mainstreaming girls' and women's concerns in election manifestos and the need to increase budgets for women-focused initiatives, especially for health and education. She specified indicators demonstrating a party's commitment to democratic development, particularly from the gender perspective.



Ms. Tahira Abdullah: Ms. Abdullah called for an end to paternalistic benevolence, patriarchal, feudal- and religio-political structures impeding women’s empowerment, particularly political participation. She emphasized the need for a fresh census, saying the census should not be termed *mardum-shumari*, but *insaan-shumaari* or *fard-shumaari*, as the census counts both women and men.

Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo (National Party): Mr. Bizenjo said none of the political parties had used the word “secularism” in their manifestos. He explained that translating the word into Urdu as *la-deeniat* was inaccurate as this referred to atheism, whereas secularism actually refers to the separation of state and religion.

Dr. Ishaque Baloch (National Party): Dr. Baloch said his party and leaders believed in women’s active political participation and that the National Party had incorporated all of AF’s suggestions into its manifesto.

Ms. Anisa Zeb Tahirkheli (QWP): Ms. Tahirkheli said that her party believed in enhancing women’s participation in politics and governance. She added that QWP supported the ten percent women voters’ participation suggestion to the ECP.

Ms. Malaika Raza (PTI): Ms. Raza said her party had ensured at least 20% participation of women at all party levels and that women were very active in shaping PTI’s manifesto and policies.

Senator Farah Aqil (ANP): Ms. Aqil said her party believed in bringing more women into the party and parliament. She was of the view that various important issues of state could not be resolved unless extremism and violence were addressed.

Ms. Khushbakht Shujaat (MQM): Ms. Shujaat emphasized the need for secular education to change mindsets on women’s issues.

Senator Nuzhat Sadiq (PML-N): Ms. Sadiq said there was an urgent need to collect comprehensive data on women’s health, education and employment. She said her party would seriously consider AF’s suggestions to improve the situation of home-based women workers.

Ms. Fauzia Naz (PML-Q): Ms. Naz said her party was completely committed to women’s causes and would work to incorporate AF’s suggestions in its manifesto.

Senator Suriya Amiruddin (PPP): Ms. Amiruddin said the PPP would continue the struggle to bring forward policies and legislation on women’s rights. She said the PPP would ensure women in Balochistan are registered with NADRA under their own names if and when the party came to power. She was of the opinion that political parties should give more tickets to women on general seats and that parties should fund women’s election campaigns.

Shaikh Mansoor (PPP): Mr. Masoor said that political parties needed to help ensure the protection of health workers doing polio vaccination drives in KP.

Mr. Mir Khursheed Jamal Deeni (BNP): Mr. Deeni said violence and terrorism had drastically affected women's rights in Balochistan and that the situation was far worse in the province than elsewhere.

Agha Hassan (BNP): Mr. Hassan raised the issue of missing persons, saying this phenomenon greatly affected Balochistan.

Mr. Anwar Soomro (Awami Tahrik): Mr. Soomro said his party had been the first one to establish a political party for Sindhi women, called Sindhianni Tahreek. He was of the opinion that women should receive a 50% quota on reserved seats.

Senator Enwar Baig (PML-N): Mr. Baig emphasized the need for political parties and governments to collectively increase education and health budgets, especially for women.

Mr. Riaz Fatyana (Standing Committee on Human Rights): Mr. Fatyana said there is a need to change the common mindset of feeling shame in bringing women into politics. He also recommended that at least one-fourth of all the parties' office bearers should be women.

- **Comparative Analysis of Party Manifestos**

AF developed a comparative analysis chart to illustrate what extent political parties were willing to introduce women-friendly policies in their manifestos. This was shared with the media prior to the elections (Table 2).

Table 2: Comparative analysis of manifestos on women’s participation and inclusion

	<i>Women’s economic empowerment</i>	<i>Women’s political participation</i>	<i>Gender equality/equity</i>	<i>Passing of particular laws</i>	<i>International instruments on women’s rights</i>	<i>Education for girls/women</i>	<i>Healthcare for women</i>	<i>RHR</i>	<i>Police protection</i>	<i>GBV/VAW</i>
ANP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
AWP	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓
JUI			✓							
MQM	✓	✓		✓		✓				✓
PML-F	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PML-N	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓
PML-Q	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
PPPP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
PTI	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		

ANP = Awami National Party, AWP = Awami Workers Party, JUI = Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam, MQM = Muttahida Qaumi Movement, PML-F = Pakistan Muslim League (Functional), PML-N = Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz), PML-Q = Pakistan Muslim League (Quaid), PPPP = Pakistan People’s Party Parliamentarians, PTI = Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

1.6.1 Individual meetings prior to national consultation

A series of individual meetings were held prior to the national consultation (Table 3).

Table 3: Individual meetings prior to national consultation on women’s empowerment in party manifestos

Location	Date	Participants	Party affiliation
Karachi	Dec 24, 2012	Dr. Qader Magsi	Sindh Taraqi Pasand Party
	Dec 24, 2012	Mr. Ayaz Latif Palijo	Awami Tehreek Party
	Dec 31, 2012	Dr. Farooq Sattar, Mr. Kanwar Khalid Younus, Mr. Sardar Ahmed	MQM
	Jan 2, 2013	Ms. Mehtab Akber Rashidi, Mr. Imtiaz Shaikh, Other members	PML-F
	Jan 9, 2013	Mr. Ghanwa Bhutto	PPP (Shaheed Bhutto)
Lahore	Jan 15, 2013	Mr. Mubeen Qazi	MQM
	Jan 12, 2013	Mr. S. M. Zafar	PML-Q
	Jan 12, 2013	Mr. Jahangir Badar	PPP
	Jan 9, 2013	Ms. Mehnaz Rafi, Ms. Shamsa Ali	PTI
Peshawar	Jan 17, 2013	Mr. Bashir Matta	ANP
	Jan 15, 2013	Mr. Sikander Sheherpao	QWP
Islamabad	Jan 28, 2013	Mr. Mushahid Hussain	PML-Q
	Jan 3, 2013	Ms. Fauzia Habib	PPP

1.7 Sessions on pro-women laws

The Interactive Resource Centre (IRC), a sub-grantee under AF’s GEP project organized three sessions titled “Introduction to Five Pro-Women Laws” in Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), in February 2013. These were attended by sub-grantees who had been awarded media grants under GEP. The laws discussed were:

- The Domestic Violence Act, 2012
- The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011
- The Acid Control and Acid Crimes Prevention Act, 2010
- The Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010
- The Criminal Law Act (on Sexual Harassment), 2009
- The Protection of Women (Criminal Laws Amendment) Act, 2006
- The Criminal Law Act (on Honour Crimes), 2004

The objective of the sessions was to explain these laws and highlight some of their legal loopholes. The legal terminology of these laws was explained in simple terms to ensure accuracy when they were shared with common people via public service messages (PSMs).

Ms. Syeda Viqar-un-Nisa Hashmi, who broke each law down into specifics, detailing the nature of the crimes under discussion and their associated penalties, led the session. She further explained important provisions in each and aggrieved parties' immediate steps following the commission of the crime.

The session also allowed sub-grantees and AF staff a chance to discuss deadlines and approvals for advocacy messages and the branding and marking of material.

1.8 Conference to Promote International Standards in Election Observation

On 4 April 2013, Democracy Reporting International (DRI), along with national and international organisations, including AF, held a one day event titled "Conference on Election Observation to Promote International Standards in Election Observation". It was held at the Marriot Hotel, Islamabad.

The conference was held in collaboration with AF, Free and Fair Elections Network (FAFEN), the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) and the Special Talent Exchange Programme (STEP). International organisations that were represented included the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and various citizen observation groups from Asia, the Middle East and Southern Africa.

It was decided that organisations that would observe the general elections would do so according to the methodology recognized and defined in the Declaration of Global Principles for Non-Partisan Election Observation and Monitoring by Citizen Organizations.



Speakers included:

- Mr. Khawar Mumtaz, Chairperson, National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW)
- Mr. Vladimir Pran, DRI
- Mr. Hussain Naqi, National Coordinator, HRCP
- Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF

- Ms. Hannah Roberts, Deputy Chief Observer, European Union Observation Mission
- Ms. Abia Akram, Director Programme, STEP
- Mr. Sarwar Bari, FAFEN
- Mr. Telibert Laoc, NDI
- Mr. Zurab Tchiaberashvili, former Chairman of the Georgian Elections Commission

“ Non-partisan election observation and monitoring by citizens organizations has emerged as one of the most tangible and significant dimensions of democratic development around the globe...Non-partisan election observation and monitoring by citizens organizations is part of participating in public affairs, which ‘relates to legislative, executive and administrative powers’ and ‘covers all aspects of public administration and formulation of implementation of policy...Non-partisan election observers and monitors can be considered as specialized human rights defenders focused on civil and political rights, which are central to achieving genuine elections. Genuine elections require respect for the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including association, peaceful assembly, expression, media freedom, movement, security of person, equal protection of the law prospective voters and those seeking to be elected...” (The Declaration of Global Principles for Non-Partisan Election Observation and Monitoring by Citizen Organizations)



1.9 Study Launch: Women’s Participation in the Elections, 2013

“The ECP employs 2,288 people, of which just 21 are women. No women participate at the decision-making level.”

This statistic and others were shared on March 8, 2013 by AF representative, Farkhanda Aurangzeb at a press conference organised to launch a paper titled “Women’s Participation in the Upcoming 2013

Elections: Pakistan’s International Law Commitments under CEDAW” jointly produced by AF and DRI.

Both groups called for different branches of the state to provide gender-disaggregated data, to meaningfully consult with women’s groups and implement additional special measures to promote women’s political participation in Pakistan. They also identified areas where Pakistan was not compliant with the requirements for women’s political participation.



Other noteworthy statistics presented included:

- Only 20% of the members of the National Assembly and 18% of the provincial assemblies are women
- Just 3% percent of directly-elected seats are held by women in the national and the provincial assemblies
- There are reportedly 11 million fewer women registered as voters than men in the electoral rolls

AF and DRI recommended that the ECP and NADRA provide publicly accessible gender-disaggregated data broken down by their administrative unit and that political parties be required to publicly provide regular and standardized information about the number and proportion of women in their executive and leadership positions.

1.10 Gender Election Monitoring Mission in Pakistan

1.10.1 Islamabad, May 9, 2013

Gender Concerns International (GCI) and AF launched the Gender Election Monitoring (GEM) Mission in Pakistan. A “Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable on Inclusive Democracy and Gender Concerns during the Election, 2013” was organized at the Serena Hotel, Islamabad.

The GEM Mission announced it would be monitoring the General Election, 2013 with reference to women’s participation in the election. An MoU was signed between both organizations on March 1, 2013 under which 10 international and 50 national observers would be assigned to monitor the elections from a gender angle.

On 11 May, 2013, a team of female gender experts were deployed as international observers (IOs) to specific observation stations to observe the electoral process from a gender perspective. The IOs joined 50 female observers from Pakistan.

The GEM Mission's international observer team included Ms. Sabra Bano, Head of Mission, GEM Mission and Ms. Magda De Meyer, Deputy Head of Mission, GEM Mission. The latter had observed elections in Libya (2012), Morocco (2011), Tunisia (2011) and Pakistan (2008).

Ms. Farkhanda Aurangzeb, Chief Coordinator, GEM Domestic Observers, AF coordinated the 50 domestic observers from Sindh, Punjab, KP and Islamabad.

The press conference was chaired by Ms. Bano and moderated by Ms. Aurangzeb. Ms. De Meyer and Ms. Lucyna De Graaf joined them. The team shared their objectives, monitoring strategies and findings of the multi-stakeholder roundtable with the media and other stakeholders.

Prior to the press conference, a training session for GEM domestic observers was held by expert international trainers on how to observe the general elections through a gender lens. The trainers discussed a comprehensive observation methodology developed through GCI's experience in election observation and promotion of gender inclusive governance throughout the Middle East, the North African Region and parts of Asia.

1.10.2 Islamabad, May 13, 2013

On May 11, 2013, the GEM observation mission from GCI and AF sent out 110 observers to monitor election activities from a gender perspective throughout the day at 555 women polling stations all over Pakistan. Election monitoring was undertaken in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, Swabi, Kohat, Swat, Abbottabad, Mardan, Lower Dir, Hyderabad, Thatta, Sargodha, Bhakkar, Vehari and Gujranwala. The Mission managed to reach many far-flung areas due to AF's grassroots presence.

1.11 Session for Recently-Elected Women Members of the Punjab Assembly, Lahore

AF and the Women Development Department, Government of Punjab, organized a reception and orientation session for recently elected women members of the Punjab Assembly on June 1, 2013 at the Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore.

Ms. Nasreen Zehra, Resident Director, AF welcomed participants and Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Provincial Manager, AAWAZ Programme, AF moderated the event. Special invitees included:

- Begum Zakia Shah Nawaz, MPA and former Advisor to the Chief Minister of Punjab
- Ms. Saleema Hashmi, Caretaker Minister for Women Development
- Dr. Mira Phailbus, Ombudswoman, Punjab
- Ms. Irum Bukhari, Secretary, Women Development, Punjab
- Mr. Moeen Akhtar, Director, Women Development, Punjab

Ms. Bukhari outlined the legal steps taken for the protection of women and the Women Empowerment Package, 2012. Ms. Mughal highlighted various women's issues, including eliminating discriminatory laws against women, DV and political empowerment. She noted that the budgets for education and health for women were insufficient and needed to be increased.



1.12 Roundtable Discussion on Evidence in Rape Cases

A roundtable meeting was held on June 7, 2013 at the Arts Council, Karachi. The aim was to discuss the statement issued by the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) on May 29, 2013 declaring DNA tests inadmissible as primary evidence in rape cases.

Participants felt that the low conviction rate for rape cases and the issuance of such statements could only serve to send negative messages and adversely impact society.

A doctor from the Jinnah Hospital, Karachi briefed the participants about the biological composition of DNA and said that timely detection of DNA in such cases was very important.

Many participants were of the opinion that the CII be dissolved, as its primary function in the past has been to impede pro-women legislation.



**Capacity-Building and
Consultative Processes**

2. Capacity Building and Consultative Processes

Aurat Foundation has always believed in strong and relevant community capacity building trainings and programmes to enhance understandings and concepts; to better aid progress towards a particular goal. Hence, this report, as previous reports shows, the extensive capacity building and consultative trainings and workshops across various topics related to women's rights and empowerment. AF members have facilitated various trainings across a wide spectrum of society including to individuals, various organisations, political parties, elected members of parliament and government officials.

2.1 Policy Advocacy and Capacity Building Project

The purpose of the Policy Advocacy and Capacity Building project is to address the issues of gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against women (VAW) by raising their importance and priority in the agendas of major political parties and decision-making bodies. Furthermore, it is to ensure that they are recognized as important issues requiring extensive legislation. The project aims to bring about its proposed changes in Islamabad and the provinces of Sindh and KP.

Core works included evidence-based research and GBV statistics compilation, policy advocacy on GBV and capacity building of Trócaire partners, and involved working with target groups and beneficiaries at the macro-, intermediary- and grassroots-levels. Target groups comprised representatives from the federal and provincial governments, concerned ministries and departments, law-enforcement personnel, legal and media personnel, CSO members and citizens (including women).

Project goals included:

- Increasing knowledge of, and reduce tolerance for GBV amongst citizens and stakeholders (ultimate goal)
- Increasing citizens' knowledge and understanding on the prevalence of GBV in Pakistan, particularly trends and prevention methods
- Steering duty bearers and policymakers towards implementing GBV laws and policies
- Enhancing the capacity of Trócaire partners and CSO staff for advocacy and lobbying on GBV issues and international instruments

2.1.1 National AF planning and review meeting

A one-day planning and review meeting was held in Islamabad on July 2, 2012 at AF. Those in attendance included all AF and project staff, including resident directors from the Karachi and Peshawar offices. Participants drafted an annual work plan and reviewed the new three-year project document on GBV, discussing implementation mechanisms in detail. The meeting also devised strategies in accordance with new situations in Sindh and KP. The intermediate result of this activity was the increased knowledge and understanding of citizens on the prevalence of GBV in Pakistan, particularly trends and prevention methods.

2.1.2 National consultations

The upcoming elections and the unclear position of the DV bill meant that meetings with federal government officials, political parties, civil society and the media needed to be rescheduled.

A meeting to clarify stances on the bill and reforms to suggest was held on September 27, 2012 with Rozan and other CSO representatives. A DV kit was developed and shared with selected CSO members. The intermediate result was increasing the inclination of duty bearers and policymakers towards implementing laws and policies on GBV. The immediate result was an increased number of GBV-related questions/resolutions in the national and provincial assemblies.

2.1.3 Information dissemination and lobbying meetings

A series of information dissemination and lobbying meetings (IDLMs) were held with politicians, legislators and members of women’s wings in Karachi, Peshawar and Islamabad.

Karachi	Peshawar	Islamabad
Early child marriages (July 10, 2012)	Murder of human rights defenders (July 9, 2012)	VAW (June 29, 2012)
DV bill (August 30, 2012)	VAW statistics and the DV Bill (August 31, 2012)	Limited budgetary allocation for the Ministry of Human Rights and NCSW (July 9, 2012)
DV bill (October 9, 2012)	GBV and its consequences (October 25, 2012) (Two meetings)	GBV and its issues and consequences (October 23, 2012)
GBV and its issues and consequences (with university students) (October 16, 2012)	DV Bill (January 2, 2013)	Sensitization to VAW issues (November 15, 2012) (December 18, 2012)
DV bill (December 13, 2012)	Party manifestos (January 15, 2013) (Two meetings)	Party manifestos (January 2013) (Ten meetings)
Early child marriages and their impact on girls (January 31, 2013)		

Karachi IDLM on early child marriages (July 10, 2012)

Almost 70 politicians, legislators, women’s wing members and CSO representatives attended the IDLM organized at Ms. Shahla Raza’s (Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly) Sindh Office. Participants were briefed about required amendments in the existing “Child Restraint Marriage Act, 1929.” It should be noted that the Sindh government had drafted the bill after consulting with stakeholders, including CSO members. It would be tabled in the Sindh Assembly after being vetted by the law department. Nargis N. D. Khan, Deputy Speaker and Sindh Social Welfare Minister committed to pushing the amendment.

Karachi IDLM on the DV Bill (August 30, 2012)

The second IDLM was with parliamentarians and officials of the Women Development Department (WDD) for joint efforts to table the DV Bill in the Sindh Assembly. Parliamentarians, legal experts, CSO representatives and government officials from the home, law, WDD and social welfare departments attended.

Four bills on DV were discussed. These were submitted separately to the Provincial Assembly before the 18th Amendment by women parliamentarians, Ms. Farheen Mughal, Ms. Shama Mithani, Ms. Humaira Alwani (all from PPP), Ms. Heer Soho, Ms. Bilquis Mukhtar (from MQM) and others. Participants were informed that AF advocate Ms. Maliha Zia, a gender and legal consultant had prepared a draft document comparing the bills. The consensus was that it was important to combine the four bills into one.

Karachi IDLM on the DV Bill (October 9, 2012)

The third IDLM was held at the Sindh Assembly Building. A major outcome was that ministers and legislators agreed to pass the bill in the assembly. Participants included:

- Ms. Touqir Fatima Bhutto, Minister, Women's Development (chief guest)
- Ms. Syeda Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly (guest of honour)
- Ms. Farheen Mughal
- Ms. Shama Mithani
- Ms. Humaira Alwani
- Ms. Kulsoom Chandio
- Ms. Rashida Panwher (PPP)
- Ms. Zareen Majeed
- Ms. Shahnaz Saifuddin
- Ms. Naheed Begum
- Ms. Sabra Sultana
- Ms. Husna Aftab (MQM)
- Ms. Nusrat Sehar Abbasi (PML-F)
- Ms. Mehnaz Rahman, Resident Director, AF-Karachi
- Ms. Shireen Aijaz, Regional Coordinator, AF
- Ms. Fareeda Tahir, Programme Officer

Karachi IDLM on GBV and its issues and its consequences (October 16, 2012)

A meeting was held in the arts auditorium, University of Karachi with 29 participants (14 women and 15 men). It was headed by Ms. Nasreen Aslam Shah, Chairperson, Women's Studies Department and conducted by Ms. Shireen Aijaz, Regional Coordinator, AF and Ms. Fareeda Tahir, Programme Officer, AF. Students discussed gender-related issues that they had faced firsthand.

Karachi IDLM on the DV Bill (December 13, 2012)

AF and Ms. Shahla Raza, Deputy Speaker of the Sindh Assembly, arranged a meeting with the Secretary and Additional Secretary, Law and convinced them to include the punishment component in the law. The two secretaries committed to do so.

Karachi IDLM on early child marriages and their impact on girls (January 31, 2013)

A provincial consultation was conducted at the Mehran Hotel, Karachi on early child marriages and their impact on girls. It was attended by 59 participants (42 women and 17 men), which included government officials, lawyers and members of the media. The aim of the meeting was to negotiate the standardized age of girls in the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (from 14-year old girls/16-year old boys to 16-year old girls/18-year old boys).

It was agreed that a separate draft bill for Sindh would be prepared. AF agreed to take the lead in forming a committee for a policy draft for Sindh.

Peshawar IDLM on the murder of human rights defenders (July 9, 2012)

The first IDLM was held at the Provincial Assembly with legislators to discuss the murder of human rights defenders Ms. Farida Afridi and Ms. Zartif Khan Afridi, and threats to other such persons. Ten female and male parliamentarians attended.

Parliamentarians expressed their solidarity, publically condemned the murders and promised to raise the issue with in their respective parties.

Peshawar IDLM on VAW statistics and the DV Bill (August 31, 2012)

The second IDLM was held at the Provincial Assembly with 12 female and male parliamentarians. AF staff briefed them on the evidence-based data collected and shared VAW statistics. Participants were reminded of their previous commitments to table the DV bill in the province.

The major outcome of this meeting was that Ms. Noor Sehar (PPP-KPK) submitted the bill to the Provincial Assembly, which was tabled on August 31, 2012. It was opposed by Mr. Sabir Shah (PML-N) and Mr. Ikram Durrani and Mr. Mufti Kifayat of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI). Mian Iftikhar Hussain, Information Minister and Mr. Bashir Bilour, Minister, Local Bodies intervened, suggesting the bill be sent to a select committee for further deliberations. The bill was eventually referred to the select committee.

Peshawar IDLM with political party workers on GBV and its consequences (October 25, 2012)

The third IDLM was attended by 15 political party members. GBV and its consequences and gender and gender roles were discussed in detail. Suggestions from the meeting included:

- Recognizing the importance of children, irrespective of sex
- Educating girls
- Arranging awareness sessions for women and men to educate them on basic rights

Peshawar IDLM on GBV and its issues and consequences (October 25, 2012)

Forty-nine students (15 women and 34 men) attended the meeting. They were also given an overview of VAW data and discussion took place around gender roles and their significance in society.

Peshawar IDLM on DV Bill (January 2, 2013)

AF's Peshawar office carried out a provincial consultation at the Pearl Continental Hotel. It was attended by 33 participants (15 women and 18 men) from civil society, the media, lawyers and provincial

assembly members. Ms. Riffat Butt, a legal expert identified policy gaps in the DV bill tabled in the KP Assembly by MPA Noor Seher (PPP).



Peshawar IDLMs on party manifestos (January 15, 2013)

AF project staff and Ms. Shabina Ayaz, Resident Director, KP visited the co-chairperson of the QWP, Mr. Sikanadar Hayat Khan Sherpao to obtain information about members drafting party manifestos and invited him to join a national consultation in Islamabad. They also presented a brief on manifesto suggestions on women empowerment. A meeting was also arranged at the Bacha Khan Centre with Mr. Bashir Matta, a member of the ANP's manifesto draft committee.

Islamabad IDLM on VAW (June 29 2012)

The first meeting was held prior to a women parliamentary group trip to Dhaka to attend the South Asia Women Parliamentarians Conference. The VAW report disseminated at the meeting was quoted in Dhaka. Senators said the information would help level the ground for approval of the DV bill when it comes up again in the Senate.

Islamabad IDLM on limited budgetary allocation for the Ministry of Human Rights and NCSW (July 9 2012)

This meeting was held at the request of Senator Rubina Khalid. Participants were briefed on issues regarding budgetary allocations for the NCSW and the Ministry of Human Rights. A major outcome was that women senators discussed statistics on budgetary allocations in the Senate budget session. They raised relevant questions about budget allocations and demanded the allocation of separate funds for an autonomous NCSW.

Islamabad IDLM on GBV and its issues and its consequences (October 23, 2012)

An open introductory session was held at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST). The basic concepts of gender and GBV and the role youth can play in preventing the latter were discussed. Twenty-seven students participated (15 women and 12 men).

IDLM to sensitize students to VAW issues (November 15, 2012)

This IDLM occurred at Muhammad Ali Jinnah University (MAJU). Thirty-five students registered for the session. Another meeting was held on December 18, 2013. Students were told about the basic concept of gender and the different categories of GBV.



Islamabad IDLMs on party manifestos (January, 2013)

Individual and collective meetings with political parties and their manifesto committees were planned so as to coincide with politicians' attendance of the closing session of Senate. AF staff also met with Ms. Fouzia Habib on January 3, 2013 and with the PCHR headed by Mr. Riaz Fatyana on January 27, 2013. Mr. Fatyana was asked to collaborate in lobbying for the manifesto suggestions with parliamentarians.

Ten meetings were held with members of the PPP, PML-Q, PML-N, ANP, MQM, Balochistan National Party (BNP)-Mengal, BNP-Awami, Baloch NP, PML-Q Likeminded and PTI.

2.1.4 Training needs assessment (TNA) for Trócaire partners

A training needs assessment (TNA) was conducted for Trócaire partners and CSO staff to enhance their capacity for advocacy and lobbying on GBV issues and international instruments.

TNA forms were filled out in Islamabad by all partners and returned to AF. These forms asked questions about respondents' education, job profiles, responsibilities, awareness levels on gender, areas of training they felt they required to meet operational goals, etc. AF staff then carried out a thorough review and analysis of the forms and developed a TNA report. The exercise was designed to provide insights into respondents' existing levels of knowledge and skill. It also helped identify knowledge and skill gaps. The final report's detailed analysis concluded that three areas requiring further training were advocacy, international instruments and pro-women legislation. It was decided that AF would use existing internal advocacy and lobbying manuals for this purpose. AF decided that other relevant topics such as the history of the women's movement in Pakistan and CEDAW report mechanisms would also be covered.

2.1.5 Trainings on advocacy and lobbying skills (international treaties)

Islamabad: National training-of-trainers

AF organized a national training-of-trainers (ToT) in partnership with Women's Learning Partnership (WLP) from July 25–28, 2012. WLP has conducted several similar trainings in many countries around the world. Twenty-five community leaders, political activists, educationists and CSO representatives participated (23 women and 2 men).

The training was based on WLP manuals, which included Urdu translations of "Leading to Choices" and "Leading to Action". Sessions included:

- Ice-breaking exercises
- An explanation of training objectives
- Tools to ensure women's participation at various decision making levels
- Participatory leadership
- Facilitation skills (knowledge, communication skills, management skills and commitment)
- Interacting with the media
- Effective communication and advocacy campaigns
- Developing plans of action
- Politics and power
- Citizens' rights

Participants were also briefed on the use of the SMART tool to help achieve goals. Each letter stands for something specific, i.e. S – specific (content), M – measurable (observable behaviour), A – appropriate (achievable), R – realistic (relevant), T – time bound.

Evaluation forms were handed out at the conclusion of the training. Participants filled them in, giving details of their six-month advocacy plans.

Karachi: Provincial TOT training on leadership and women's political participation

A ToT session was conducted from October 23–24, 2012 and was attended by 16 participants (15 women and 1 man). The concepts of leadership and advocacy were explored in detail.



Peshawar: Provincial training of Trócaire partners on leadership and advocacy

A training session was conducted from October 16–17, 2012 and was attended by ten participants (8 women and 2 men). The concepts of leadership and advocacy were explored in detail.

Peshawar: Training of PVDP staff on GBV

A training session on GBV was conducted at the request of the Pakistan Village Development Programme (PVDP) on October 23–24, 2012 and was attended by ten participants (4 women and 6 men). The training methodology used a participatory discussion and experiential training approach, which involved group work, practical exercises and discussions. Examples and case studies were presented in a local context.

Participants had initially displayed an extremely basic level of knowledge. However, discussing personal experiences enriched the exercise.



2.1.5 Seminars on critical gender issues

Session on Swara

This session was organized on January 3, 2013 and focused on the practice and prevalence of *Swara* in Pakistan. Ms. Samar Minallah led the discussion and shared clips from her very powerful documentary, “*Swara - The Human Shield*,” which focuses on compensation marriages - a culturally sanctioned form of VAW in Pakistan.

Ms. Minallah explained the plight of women and children who are compensated to settle scores. The documentary also focused on those men that are often helpless under such situations and suffer from sheer frustration and grief but are unable to raise their voice against this form of violence.

Ms. Farkhunda Auragzeb, Manager, AF Legislative Watch Programme, led an interactive session after the documentary, speaking on the seven pro-women laws.

Session on psychosocial rehabilitation of acid attack survivors

Dr. Khadija Tahir conducted a session titled “The Story of Psychosocial Rehabilitation” on February 14, 2013. She described the work she has done with acid attack survivors and explained what psychosocial counselling was and who needed it.

Dr. Tahir shared survivors’ personal stories, explaining their rehabilitation struggles. She spoke of the importance of the social, psychological and economic reintegration of these individuals in society and how building daily routines was of paramount importance as it helps prevent depression.

2.2 Women Car-Van Leaders Project



Funded by ICCO, the Women Car-Van Leaders project aimed to challenge stereotypes in the conventional labour market and bring women into the mix as professional drivers. The project was initiated by AF-Peshawar and implemented in Islamabad by AF-Islamabad.

The programme selected ten domestic workers from remote villages after surveys of about 200 domestic servants; these were illiterate women who lacked self-esteem and motivation and were unaware of their rights.

Major project components were:

- Functional literacy: basic Urdu, Mathematics, Science and English and personal hygiene
- Self-defence: basic mix of martial arts
- Driving: theory classes (vehicle maintenance and mechanical work), driving lessons (Islamabad Traffic Police and driving schools) and road rules

2.3 Restoration of Women’s Livelihood Project

The Restoration of Women’s Livelihood project aims to help flood-affected women in four UCs (Teerat, Fatehpur, Madyan and Behran) of district Swat establish entrepreneurs, develop their business skills and strengthen the role of women in communities to minimize VAW. It focuses on disadvantaged women (disabled women = 2%, widows/women heading households = 50%, poor women = 48%).

Major objectives include:

- A baseline survey
- Helping 140 women establish businesses
- Conduct skills development trainings
- Conduct disaster risk reduction (DRR) training for 180 participants
- Establishment four women entrepreneur committees (WEC)

The 15-month project commenced in August 2012 and is expected to be completed by October 2013.

2.4 LACGI Initiatives

The Local Action to Combat Gender Injustices (LACGI) project has provided community groups a chance to explain the overall principals and specific provisions of the Anti-Women Practices Act (AWPA), 2011. The increasing knowledge about the law’s existence and the legal obligation of local authorities helped them intervene and protect victims of GBV.

2.4.1 Legal literacy curriculum (LLC) workshops

Two three-day legal literacy workshops were conducted in July and August, 2012. The objective of these workshops was to illustrate the structure and functioning of the legal system with reference to women’s rights. The overall training design was guided by the need to optimize learning and make it usable rather than a simple clarification of legal concepts.

The session utilized a participatory approach with learning tools such as role playing, card sorting and group work presentations and discussions. The major themes addressed were:

- Human and women’s rights.
- Human rights concepts.
- Discrimination against women.
- GBV and VAW.
- The prevailing situation after the 18th Constitutional Amendment.
- Forced marriages.
- Women’s right to inheritance.
- Harmful customary practices and traditions.
- Recent women-related laws.
- GBV-related judgments of the superior courts.
- First information reports (FIRs).

2.4.2 Behaviour change workshop

Behaviour change communication (BCC) is a process of any intervention with individuals, communities and/or societies to develop communication strategies to promote positive behaviours appropriate to their settings. This in turn provides a supportive environment, which enables people to initiate and sustain positive and desirable behaviour outcomes.

To this end, AF organized a one-day training workshop at the City Centre Hotel, Abbottabad to equip a group of community focal persons with the skills required to communicate messages effectively. 12 women and 12 men participated in the workshop. The major themes addressed were:

- The difference between gender and sex.
- Gender roles.
- Equality and equity.
- Means and sources of communication.
- The importance of communication.
- Effective communication.
- What is BCC?
- What is change?
- Why is change important?
- What is perception?
- Factors that change perceptions.
- The ladder or behaviour change understanding.

2.4.3 LACGI biannual focal persons meeting

Two meetings (October 9 and November 8, 2012) were convened with LACGI focal persons. In the first meeting, participants shared experiences and problems faced during implementation (e.g. power supply failures and frequent visits from NCA).

The second meeting was organized by AF's Peshawar and Haripur teams to discuss the details of exposure visits for experience sharing and plans of action for the "16 Days of Activism" campaign.

2.4.4 Review and planning workshop

A two-day review and planning workshop was conducted from August 5-6, 2012 at the Elites Hotel, Nathia Gali. 33 people attended the session (13 women and 20 men). Ms. Shabana Arif from Rozan, Islamabad, conducted the first day. The first session was on gender and gender-based issues in society. Participants shared their views and knowledge on VAW and illegal practices such as *swara* and *vani*.

The second day was reserved for project review and planning. The central idea was to assess in detail the achievements and shortcomings of the LACGI project. Participants were also shown how a log frame analyses are conducted.

2.4.5 Discussion sessions

AF conducted 80 discussion sessions, in which 841 women and 864 men participated, to promote the ideas of women's rights to inheritance and consent to marriage. These sessions were particularly successful as numerous women in difficult circumstances were able to secure their constitutional rights.

2.4.6 Religious clergy sessions

AF recognizes the importance of the clergy in transforming society and social justice and therefore conducted 20 religious clergy sessions at the UC level for both men and women. The primary objective was to help reduce the frequency of forced marriages, child marriages, GBV and issues of disinheritance. 415 people attended the session (21 women and 394 men).

Mr. Arshad Qayum, a professor at Hazara University conducted the second session. He emphasized the need to spread the message of women's inheritance right and forced marriages from an Islamic perspective, saying that such messages should be a regular part of Friday sermons.

The Anti-Women Practice Act, 2011 was discussed in detail. Participants were explained the importance of the message and encouraged to spread it in their communities. The mechanisms of disseminating information about the Act using religious platforms and gatherings were also discussed.

2.4.7 Community group meetings

AF organized 80 community group meetings in district Haripur that were attended by 1,650 people (720 women and 930 men). The purpose was to strengthen advocacy and communication strategies that empower communities with comprehensive knowledge and the skills and motivation to increase awareness of inheritance rights and consensual marriages.

The meetings were seen as a chance to enhance the interaction of groups with their respective communities within the context of VAW. The main objective was to explain their role in VAW monitoring, project implementation support, project message dissemination and implementation monitoring of the recently approved Anti-Women Practices Act, 2011.

2.4.8 Corner meetings

AF organized 50 corner meetings that were attended by 584 people (302 women and 282 men). The purpose was to provide communities with expert knowledge on women's rights issues (women's right to inheritance and consensual marriages) and explain how people can increase awareness about such issues. These meetings were conducted in public community spaces such as shops, schools *hujras*, *baithaks* and *mohallahs*.

2.4.9 Youth seminars

AF organized a series of youth seminars that were attended by 328 young people (214 girls and 114 boys). The rationale behind working with youth is to empower young people in their everyday lives. Youth advocacy attempts to provide support to young people in areas that affect them, such as education, housing, (un)employment, health, social security, recreation and relationships.

The practices of *vani*, *swara*, child marriages, *sar paisa* and marriage to the Quran were explained. Participants were told that Islam gives everyone the right to consensual marriage and that forced marriages were against Islamic principles.

The seminar proceeded with information on types of violence, the protection of women's rights and mechanisms to end violence.

2.4.10 Capacity building workshops

Two two-day capacity building workshops were conducted for civil society, police and lawyer at the Elites Hotel, Nathia Gali between September 18-19 and September 20-21, 2012. They aimed to strengthen existing efforts for the protection of women's rights (rights to inheritance and consensual marriage). 26 people attended the workshop (9 women and 17 men).

2.4.11 Sessions for *patwaris* and local revenue officers

AF organized two one-day sessions for *patwaris* and revenue officers on gender sensitization. The sessions were attended by 31 men.

Patwaris are key figures in communities as they process property and inheritance claims. Participants were introduced to the recently passed Anti-Women Practices Act, 2011 and explained how it supports women's claims to inheritance.

Ms. Shabana Arif, a gender expert from Rozan was hired to conduct the sessions. She spoke of the concept of gender, discussed various options for improving the revenue systems and mechanisms by which women could file their property claims. The Islamic perspective was also discussed.

An excellent suggestion that emerged from the proceedings was to recruit women in the Revenue Department for fairer judgements and clear documentation.

2.4.12 Advocacy meetings

Twelve advocacy meetings were arranged at the Haripur Press Club to address the issue of women's right to inheritance and consensual marriage. Participants included media groups, district coordination officers (DCOs), assistant coordination officers (ACOs), community development officers and others. In all, 43 people participated (10 women and 33 men).

The main purpose of these meetings was to investigate the reasons for the lack of GBV reporting and to seek support for smooth project implementation.

2.4.13 Exposure visits to Gender Justice Project areas

AF organized four exposure visits to Gender Justice Project areas:

- Haripur to Multan, November 12, 2012.
- Multan to Layyah, November 13, 2012.
- Multan to Bahawalpur, November 14, 2012.
- Multan to Haripur, November 15, 2012.

The main purpose was to share experiences of good practices with communities with other project workers. There were 24 participants (12 women and 12 men).

2.4.14 Consultation with policymakers on AWP, 2011

Two consultations were arranged with policymakers at the Pearl Continental Hotel, Peshawar. Participants included 12 women and 13 men and were ministers from the Provincial Assemblies. Policymakers were given a presentation on the LACGI project in District Haripur.

The purpose of the consultations was to give policymakers an overview of the project and illustrate its scope, i.e. it is not just limited to the community and intermediary level, but extended to the policy level, as well. A secondary purpose was to create better linkages with policymakers to help ensure smooth project implementation.

2.5 RHV Initiatives

2.5.1 Knowledge sharing and skill development forums

Two knowledge sharing and skills development forums (KSSDFs) were completed in November, 2012. Participants were made aware of the 18th Constitutional Amendment and provincial autonomy. The session in Naseerabad was held on November 15, 2012 and was attended by 28 people (26 women and 2 men). The session in Sibi was held on 17 November, 2012 and was attended by 28 people (25 women and 3 men).

Another four such forums were conducted in March 2013 (Table 4).

Table 1: KSSDFs in Sindh, 2013 (RHV project)

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mar 6	Jacobabad: International Women day	37	3	40
Mar 7	Shaheed Benazirabad: International Women day	35	0	35
Mar 8	Sukkur: International Women day	39	02	41
Mar 9	Jafferabad: 18th Amendment and International Women day	27	02	29

2.5.2 National planning and review meeting

AF organized a national planning and review meeting under the RHV programme in Lahore on December 1–2, 2012. It was attended by 40 people (30 women and 10 men) including women leaders and CAC coordinators from all 30 project districts.

The objectives were twofold:

- To review the RHV programme at the national and district levels and identify gaps and causes
- Discuss a strategic action plan for the future

Participants were divided into groups to review the RHV programme. Thorough discussion yielded the following points:

- Infrastructure - There was no office building or other logistic arrangements.
- Limited budget.
- Limited mobility expenses for WLG members.

- The loss of the local government system, which had previously been an excellent supporter of participatory community development.
- A lack of coordination between WLGs and CACs.
- Unequal donor funding.

2.5.3 Capacity building workshops

Three capacity building workshops (technical) were completed conducted in November 2012 (Table 5).

Table 2: RHV capacity building workshops

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nov 18–19, 2012	Ghotki	34	5	39
Nov 20–21, 2012	Jacobabad	35	4	39
Nov 23–24, 2012	Sukkur	31	11	42

Topics covered included:

- The concept behind women leadership enhancement in decision making
- Developing the self for leadership
- Shared leadership “towards community of mutual reciprocity”
- Capacity assessment and change processes in voluntary organizations
- Gender audit “an instrument for organizational change”
- Gender and development
- DV bill, Punjab
- The myths and facts about sexual harassment: The taxonomy of sexual harassers

2.5.4 Networking meetings

Thirty networking meetings were conducted in project districts in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan and KP in November and December 2012. In all, 1,146 people participated (889 women leaders and 257 men) (Table 6).

Participants briefly described the microcredit procedures and how women could benefit from such facilities to empower themselves, economically. Women leaders’ strongly demanded the approval of the DV bill by the provincial assemblies of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan and KP, saying it was the State’s responsibility to provide security to citizens, especially the marginalized and oppressed.

Table 3: RHV networking meetings in Sindh, 2012

<i>Date (2012)</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Loaning institutions</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nov 12	Dadu	MB, TRDP and CSOs	38	5	43

Nov 19	Dera Ghazi Khan	CSOs, FWB, TB, KF and NRSP	34	5	39
Nov 20	Rawalpindi	CSOs, FWB, TB, KF and NRSP	27	9	36
	Haripur	CSOs, KF, SWD and PRSP	29	16	45
Nov 21	Gujrat	CSOs, FWB, KF and KB	28	7	35
Nov 22	Hyderabad	FWB, MFB, SCOW and CSOs	29	8	37
	Ghotki	SRSO, MB, CSOs	26	13	39
	Sukkur	MB, SRSO, CSOs	31	12	43
Nov 24	Mianwali	CSOs, FWB, KF and KB	25	7	32
Nov 26	Jhelum	CSOs, FWB, KB and NRSP	36	10	46
Nov 27	Naseerabad	TB, CSOs	24	8	32
	Sibi	KB, CSOs	27	9	36
Nov 29	Tando Allahyar	TB, CSOs	29	11	40
Nov 30	Thatta	TB, Aasha Bank and CSOs	27	7	34
	Shaheed Benazirabad	TB, CSOs	31	9	40
Dec 4	Multan	CSOs, FWB, TB, KF and NRSP	34	8	42
Dec 6	Shikarpur	NB, Sindh Bank, SRSO and CSOs	24	15	39
Dec 13	Jafferabad	BB, Khushhali Bank and CSOs	36	7	43
Dec 15	Jacobabad	BB, CSOs	25	8	33
Dec 18	Bahawalpur	CSOs, FWB, KF and KB	33	6	39
	Layyah	CSOs, FWB, KB and NRSP	24	13	37
Dec 19	Sialkot	CSOs, FWB, BF and KB	25	10	35
Dec 20	Attock	CSOs, NRSP, KF and KB	28	4	32
	Chakwal	CSOs, FWB, KF and KB	31	2	33
	Gujranwala	CSOs, FWB, KF, NRSP and BF	30	6	36

Dec 21	Nowshera	CSOs, KF, SWD and PRSP	31	11	42
Dec 22	Bhakkar	CSOs, SWD, KF and NRSP	29	4	33
	Rahim Yar Khan	CSOs, FWB, TB, KF and NRSP	37	14	51
Dec 23	Hafizabad	CSOs, FWB, KF and KB	29	3	32
Dec 29	Abbottabad	CSOs, KF, SWD and PRSP	32	10	42

CSO = civil society organization, NRSO = National Rural Support Programme, KF = Kashf Foundation, KB = Khushhali Bank, FWB = First Women Bank, SWD = Social Welfare Department, TB = Tameer Bank, BF = Bedari Foundation, PRSP = Punjab Rural Support Programme, AB = Aisha Bank, MB = Microfinance Bank, TRDP = Thar Rural Development Programme, NB = National Bank, BB = Brack Bank

Another set of networking meetings occurred in Sindh in 2013 (Table 7).

Table 4: RHV networking meetings in Sindh, 2013

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Seminar/demo</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Feb 13	Thatta	Importance of women's vote	22	0	22
Mar 5	Shaheed Benazirabad	Women's political participation in the upcoming election, 2013	34	3	37
Mar 5	Shikarpur	Importance of women's vote	30	8	38
Mar 5	Jafferabad	Role of women in elections: voter registration	30	20	50
Mar 10	Naseerabad		40	30	70
Mar 12	Tando Allahyar		25	35	60
Mar 12	Jacobabad	Women's political participation in the upcoming election, 2013	145	5	150
Mar 14	Sibi				
Mar 18	Sukkur		23	2	25
Mar 22	Ghotki	Role of women in elections: voter registration	30	5	35
Mar 26	Hyderabad	Importance of women's vote	29	0	29
Sep 23	Dadu	Women's political participation in the upcoming election, 2013	28	2	30

2.5.5 Mobilisation and networking meeting

Eight mobilisation and networking meetings were conducted in districts Naseerabad, Sibi, Dera Ghazi Khan, Layyah, Mianwali, Rahim Yar Khan, Bhakkar and Bahawalpur in November 2012 (Table 8). The primary focus of the meetings was the DV bill, which was already tabled in the Punjab and Sindh provincial assemblies. There was also a session on the 18th Constitutional Amendment.

Table 5: Mobilisation and networking meetings (RHV project)

<i>Date (2012)</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nov 15	Naseerabad	29	2	31
Nov 16	Sibi	28	5	33
Nov 22	Bhakkar	24	4	28
Nov 23	Layyah	28	3	31
Nov 24	Mianwali	30	2	32
Nov 25	Dera Ghazi Khan	30	2	32
Nov 26	Rahim Yar Khan	33	1	34
Nov 27	Bahawalpur	27	3	30

2.5.6 District-level accountability forums

Fifteen accountability forums were organized with seminars themed as “Women’s Access to Basic Health Facilities” in November and December 2012 (Table 9). Women participants demanded that district administrations provide basic health facilities to women and girls. They also stressed the need for women doctors at basic health units (BHUs).

In all, 647 people (551 women and 96 men) participated in these meetings. Representatives of political parties at the local level, government officials and CSO representatives were also present.

Table 6: District-level accountability forums in Sindh, 2012 (RHV project)

<i>Date (2012)</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nov 17	Sibi	31	4	35
Nov 21	Hyderabad	24	12	36
Nov 23	Attock	38	4	42
Nov 25	Abbotabad	45	3	48
Nov 26	Jhelum	46	5	51
Nov 27	Chakwal	41	6	47
Nov 28	Rawalpindi	42	6	48
Nov 28	Dadu	43	3	46
Dec 19	Naseerabad	25	15	40
Dec 24	Haripur	46	2	48

Dec 27	Gujrat	39	3	42
Dec 28	Nowshera	33	6	39
Dec 29	Hafizabad	32	7	39
Dec 30	Tando Allahyar	35	5	40

Another set of accountability forums took place in various districts in Sindh on March 8, 2013 (International Women's Day) (Table 10).

Table 7: District-level accountability forums in Sindh, March 8, 2013 (RHV project)

<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Dadu	115	85	200
Hyderabad	50	20	70
Tando Allahyar	30	5	35
Sukkur	25	5	30
Sibi	35	10	45
Naseerabad	25	15	40

2.5.7 RHV project achievements

Table 11 shows the number of loans taken by women, organized by district.

Table 8: Loans taken by women (RHV project)

<i>District</i>	<i>No. of women</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>No. of women</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>No. of women</i>
Gujranwala	30	Layyah	36	Shaheed Benazirabad	29
Sialkot	35	Mianwali	34	Tando Allahyar	21
Gujrat	22	Bhakkar	20	Ghotki	23
Hafizabad	26	Multan	40	Sukkur	17
Jhelum	27	Dera Ghazi Khan	31	Shikarpur	39
Chakwal	30	Bahawalpur	20	Jacobabad	27
Rawalpindi	25	Rahim Yar Khan	38	Jafferabad	18
Attock	31	Thatta	20	Naseerabad	26
Abbotabad	28	Dadu	28	Sibi	34
Nowshera	22	Hyderabad	27	Total	831
Haripur	27				

Figure 1: shows how women used their loans.

Figure 1: Women's loan uses (RHV project)

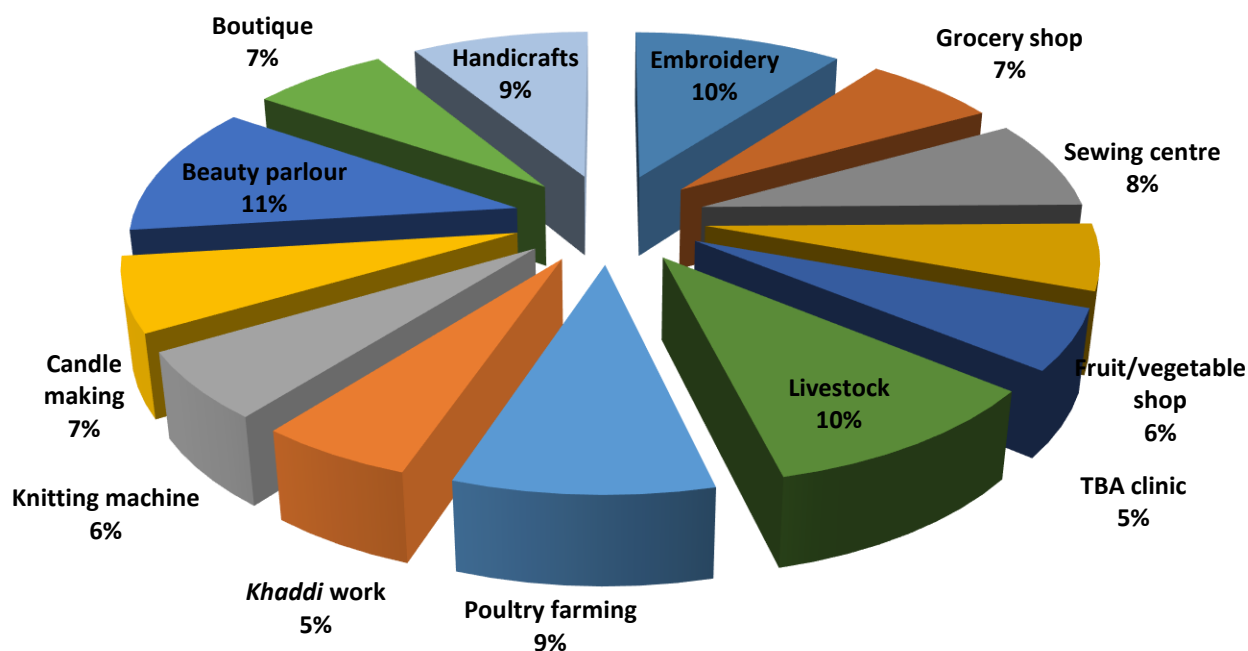


Table 12 shows district-wise details of civil registration campaigns during October–December 2012.

Table 9: Civil registration campaign, October–December 2012 (RHV project)

<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sialkot	225	10	235
Gujranwala	180	31	211
Gujrat	220	16	236
Hafizabad	202	28	230
Attock	210	30	240
Rawalpindi	213	30	243
Jhelum	225	08	233
Chakwal	218	17	235
Multan	210	32	242
Layyah	215	13	228
Bhakkar	224	10	234
Mianwali	234	04	238
Dera Ghazi Khan	212	12	224
Rahim Yar Khan	203	18	221

Bahawalpur	211	29	240
Nowshera	222	08	230
Abbotabad	180	30	210
Haripur	207	18	225
Thatta	213	24	237
Dadu	165	20	185
Hyderabad	224	33	257
Shaheed Benazirabad	260	02	262
Tando Allahyar	165	20	185
Ghotki	188	22	210
Sukkur	199	27	226
Shikarpur	177	33	210
Jacobabad	212	30	242
Jaffarabad	195	10	205
Naseerabad	187	17	204
Sibi	235	45	280

Table 13 shows district-wise details of another civil registration campaign during January–March 2013.

Table 10: Civil registration campaign, January–March 2013 (RHV project)

<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Thatta	100	50	150
Dadu	75	10	85
Hyderabad	200	100	300
Shaheed Benazirabad	150	75	225
Tando Allahyar	165	50	215
Ghotki	95	35	130
Sukkur	350	100	450
Shikarpur	100	45	145
Jacobabad	150	80	230
Jafferabad	80	40	120
Naseerabad	200	15	215
Sibi	135	100	235

Table 14 shows CWS at the grassroots level.

Table 11: CWS at the grassroots level (RHV project)

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mar 1–2	Dadu	32	1	33
Mar 3–4	Tando Allahyar	29	1	30
Mar 12–13	Sibi	37	2	39
Mar 14–15	Naseerabad	29	0	29
Mar 16–17	Jafferabad	38	2	40
Mar 18–19	Shikarpur	38	1	39

2.6 Women Economic Leadership Initiative

This project supported 30 women leaders to enhance their capabilities through interpersonal trainings and income generating activities for one year. This initiative empowered them both socially and economically. Specifically,

- 30 women had leaders built their capacities in leadership, gender and entrepreneurship techniques to manage small initiatives in Rawalpindi by the end of June 2013
- 15 women leaders had enhanced their expertise in MS Office, task management and computers to recognise their productive roles at the personal and social levels by the end of June 2013.

2.6.1 Baseline study

Oxfam engaged a well-reputed firm to assess the current situation and training needs of selected women leaders. The baseline study assessed the current condition and position of women leaders at the personal, social and political levels.

2.6.2 Computer laboratory

A consultant firm in Islamabad/Rawalpindi established a computer lab for women. The business aim was to establish a model learning centre for women where they could gain computer, information technology (IT) and entrepreneurship skills.

AF provided technical assistance and support through its own IT department and helped set up networking systems and provided software.

2.6.3 Capacity building programme

The consulting firm developed a capacity building programme for two women leader groups:

- Fifteen experienced women leaders, CSO representatives, activists, councillors and home-based workers required specific training on entrepreneurship, communication, lobbying and leadership in terms of women’s rights in decision making processes
- Fifteen new women leaders - young graduates in need of communication skills, computer skills, interpersonal skills, career development and leadership in term of women’s rights and roles in decision making processes

2.7 Women’s Learning Partnership Training Initiative

2.7.1 Leadership training, Chitral

Ms. Rabeea Hadi, from AF conducted leadership trainings for young women leaders in Chitral and its adjoining areas at the request of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP)-Chitral. The three-day workshop titled, “Let’s Command our Thoughts and Conquer Fear”, took place from September 8–11, 2012 and was organized by AKRSP-Chitral’s Regional Women Empowerment Project. Around 20 women from different parts of Chitral and its adjoining areas participated. The majority of them were involved in advocacy and vocational training activities.

The training was designed to teach women leaders at the grassroots level about leadership and advocacy tools. Ms. Hadi and Ms. Myra Imran (a trainer from the National Training-of-Trainers) held a session on the story of Orgaya Bhajni from the leadership manual and briefed participants on how to utilize the power of the media to convey effective messages.

2.7.2 Training on child-friendly teaching methodologies and women’s political leadership and empowerment, Quetta

This two-day training took place in Quetta from July 14–15, 2012. A total of 50 people, including social activists, political leaders and parents, participated. Facilitated by educationist Ms. Parveen Kausar, the training aimed to build participants’ capacity in teaching methodologies and political leadership and empowerment.

2.7.3 Leadership training for girl guides, Quetta

This training took place at the Government Girls Collage, Quetta on September 22, 2012 where WLP training manuals were introduced to girl guides. WLP trainer, Ms. Samina Saeed and the executive member of the Girl Guides Association, Quetta, conducted the first session.

2.8 National Voter’s Day

On the occasion of National Voter’s Day (NVD), on October 17, 2012 a focus group discussion was organised by AF in their Lahore and Peshawar offices with thirty other human rights organisations was organised by AF in the Lahore and Peshawar offices. The objective of the day and the events held was to raise awareness on the importance of exercising one’s right to vote. It was highlighted in both sessions the importance of voting as it signifies a woman’s involvement in the political process.

Lahore:

Thirty other human rights organisations were present for the discussion. Participants included women’s rights activists and youth groups. Political parties and representatives of PPPP, PML-N, PTI, PML-Q, All Pakistan Muslim League were also present. Parliamentarians present on the day included Sajjida Mir, MPA (PPPP), Nighat Nasir, MPA (PML-N).

Peshawar:

Ms Saima Munir, the resource person for the session, explained that casting vote was not just the right of a woman but allows a women a part in a political process and she assumes the role of a decision maker when she casts a vote. The participants included Ms Shabina Ayaz, Resident Director, AF, KP office, Ms Rabeea Hadi (AF), Ms Sadia (Radio Diva), Ms Roohi Khan(NET), Mr Ali Akbar (NET), Ms Nosheen Khalid (PVDP), Mr Zahid Iqbal (Advocate), Mr Jalal –ud-din (Advocate), Ms Tahira (Chand Welfare), Ms Sunmbal Wazir (Blue Veins). Speakers highlighted the importance of voters' education for continuity of democracy and stability of democratic institutions in the country.



Chapter Three

Social Mobilisation and Citizens Engagement

3. Social Mobilization and Citizens Engagement

True and sustainable empowerment of women and marginalised segments in society is only possible in a stable, citizen aware and citizen led Pakistan. Aurat foundation therefore recognises that for any programme or project to be a successful one, it is necessary that the process include mass social mobilization and meaningful political participation of citizens. Engagement with all segments of society and mobilisation of people at the national and district level is the cornerstone for achieving community development. Aurat Foundation is proud to introduce two new projects that cast a wide net in order to incorporate civil society participation through awareness campaigns and thorough citizen dialogue and engagement.

3.1 Community Actions through AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme

The AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme is a five-year programme designed to strengthen civil society and develop a stable, tolerant, prosperous and democratic Pakistan that meets the basic needs of its people and achieves the millennium development goals (MDGs). Funded by UK Aid through DFID, the Programme aims to achieve open, inclusive and accountable democratic processes. AAWAZ is managed by Development Alternative Inc. (DAI) and is being implemented through six leading CSOs and a university divided into Consortium A, which comprises Aurat Foundation, Strengthening Participatory Organization [SPO], SAP-PK and the Sungi Development Foundation and; Consortium B comprises SDPI, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and Bradford University. The programme's four major objectives are:

- Increase women's ability to participate safely in politics and in public spaces at the federal, provincial and local levels
- Increase citizens' and communities' ability to resolve disputes peacefully and work together for common solutions
- Increase women's and other excluded groups' ability to demand improved service delivery
- Improve the evidence generated, synthesised and communicated to political and local leaders

3.1.1 Consortium A responsibilities

Consortium A will implement interventions in over 5,000 locations in 45 districts across Punjab and KP by working with civil society and governments at the local, provincial and national levels to increase



public and social accountability, eventually leading to governance reforms. There are three distinct components:

- Improving women’s political participation (decision making, political voice, priority articulation).
- Community cohesion and tolerance through peaceful dispute resolution.
- Citizen engagement for improved service delivery.

3.1.2 Consortium B responsibilities

Consortium B’s responsibilities fall under the ambit of policy, advocacy, research and results (PARR). These are key tools to improving social accountability mechanisms and have been designed to increase pressure on decision makers to accelerate change and reform. PARR’s information gathering and findings will help build a robust evidence base around community voice and empowerment with a view to initiating government reform.

3.1.3 Deliverables accomplished (May 2012–February 2013)

Established management structures and systems

This was essentially an administrative and planning exercise. Office space was procured, consortium partners were scrutinized and staff was hired. Work plans and budgets were then finalized and the technical administrative management information system (TAMIS) was established.

Finalised management and implementation strategies

An AAWAZ steering committee and AAWAZ Advisory Council were established to guide and oversee the project’s progress. The AAWAZ Advisory Council met on November 12, 2012 in Islamabad. Members included:

- Mr. I. A. Rehman, Director, HRCP, Lahore
- Mr. Arif Hassan, Urban Resource Centre, Karachi
- Dr. Khalid Masood, Judge, FSC, Islamabad
- Ms. Romana Bashir, Director, Christian Study Centre, Rawalpindi
- Dr. Muhammad Nizamudin, VC, University of Gujrat
- Dr. Parveen Shah, VC, Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai University, Khairpur
- Justice (r) Mehta Kailash Nath Kohli



In addition, various pieces of documentation were produced, including an output manual, partnership strategy, risk assessment methodology and risk register, PARR strategy and the PARR Response Fund Strategy and grants manual.

Inception meetings were held in Lahore and Islamabad with representation from civil society, the media and government departments. The Peshawar meeting did not occur due to security concerns. The

purpose of these meetings was to explain AAWAZ to relevant government authorities, public representatives and key civil society actors to help develop a clear conceptual framework for AAWAZ.

In October 2012, the DAI team held its first quarterly review and planning meeting in Murree to assess progress and key challenges. Participants comprised both provincial and district teams working at the field level from both consortia.

Refined monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework and reporting system

A comprehensive M&E system was created which involved the development of the AAWAZ Logframe to monitor key performance indicators and TAMIS. Impact evaluations and progress reports document performance.

Established the PARR facility

The PARR structure and methodology was finalised and has conducted two studies. This includes the AAWAZ baseline study (conducted between September and November 2012) and a political economy analysis (PEA) which was conducted by SDPI between July and September 2012.

The aim of the baseline study was to establish a solid evidence base to enable the formulation of interventions for more inclusive and equitable governance systems in Pakistan by building the capacity of women, minorities, youth and moderate societal elements traditionally excluded from effective participation in the democratic process.

The PEA reviewed the state of governance and economy from both a macro- and micro-level perspective to establish a realistic assessment of the current situation in Pakistan.

The results of both were published in the AAWAZ Inception Report in January 2013.

Response fund

The “Response Fund Strategy and Concept” was developed with input from an independent consultant. It highlighted the key objectives, rationale and scope of the fund, emphasizing flexibility, innovative and inclusiveness.

In November 2012, SDPI initiated the first request for proposals (RFP) for in-depth scoping studies in subject areas that could complement the baseline results. SDPI’s Grants Unit received 82 applications of which 17 were shortlisted and reviewed. Eight grants were awarded.

Baseline study

The baseline survey was planned and conducted between September and November 2012. It included the collection of quantitative data using a household survey and qualitative data using FGDs key informant interviews (KIIs). The sample selection was as follows:

- Six districts was selected through random sampling (Sialkot, Lodhran, Pakpattan and Jhang from Punjab and Dera Ismail Khan and Dir from KP)
- Ten union councils (UCs) were selected from each district, five rural and five urban
- Five wards were selected from each urban UC. Female responses were collected from 16 randomly selected households in each ward. A male community representative was also interviewed in each ward

- Five villages were selected from each rural UC. Female responses were solicited from 14 randomly selected households. A male community representative was also interviewed in each village

Baseline results were published in the Inception Report in January 2013. Recommendations included:

- The establishment of a community radio system broadcasting citizens' rights and raising awareness on key service delivery issues
- The creation of "citizen juries" whereby selected community members make recommendations/action proposals to decision makers (including local officials) and hold public hearings
- The participation of citizen juries and selected CSOs in budget allocation and budget monitoring processes at the local government level (district, *tehsil*, UC)
- The regular interaction of citizen juries with "district development committees" and local politicians (e.g. MPAs) on access to health, education and water and sanitation
- The capacity building of local officials/politicians on innovative ways to improve service delivery
- The installation of "rights boards" at each government service delivery facility (e.g. basic health units, schools)
- The formulation of citizen report cards (CRCs) that provide user feedback on the performance of public services, that can be submitted to local politicians/governments
- The formulation of "community scorecards" linking service providers to the community



Launched pilot projects in seven districts

The pilot project was launched in July 2012 and completed by August 2012. Consortium A organizations (Table 1) tested proposed implementation strategies in their respective districts, conforming, as far as possible, to a set list of targets and activities. Pilot activities included **institutional development** (committee creation and support, inter-committee networks and relationships), **capacity development** (trainings on finance, budgeting, freedom of information, gender issues), **community engagement** (events to help committees establish relationships within communities), and **advocacy** (engaging with the media to promote AAWAZ events).

Two major events took place during this time; all partners in Consortium A held joint provincial AAWAZ launches in Lahore and Peshawar in November and December 2012, respectively. Over 1,000 people from KP and Punjab participated.

Table 12: Districts targeted during AAWAZ's pilot project

<i>AF</i>	<i>SAP-PK</i>	<i>SPO</i>	<i>Sungi</i>
Sargodha	Charsadda	Dera Ismail Khan	Abbottabad
Mardan	Bahawalpur	Muzaffargarh	

The initial focus has been to give shape to the institutional structure of the programme through the creation and capacity development of various district, UC and village-level committees, *tanzeems* and groups. Grassroots social mobilisation and community organisation activities were carried out in 10 UCs and 700 villages/settlements.

Subsequently, specific working committees were formed under each village/UC committee to perform three functions to achieve specific results under three programme outputs. Highlights included:

- Separate events at the district level to launch seven AAWAZ district groups (ADGs) and accelerate social mobilisation efforts. Around 880 people participated in these events. Key stakeholders expressed keen interest and cooperation.
- After the finalisation of UCs for the AAWAZ programme, introductory meetings were held at the UC level to orient communities to AAWAZ's vision, mission and objectives. The UCs were paired keeping their geographical location in mind. They were apprised of the institutional structures of AAWAZ in order to maximise vertical outreach. 3,515 people participated in these meetings. As a result, 41 AAWAZ *Taraqiyati Tanzeem* (ATTs) were formed at the UC level consisting of 395 women and 497 men. Twenty-one ATTs were formed in KP and another 20 in Punjab. Around 70 ATTs were established by February 2013.
- An initial needs assessment for the establishment of AAWAZ *Aagahi* centres (AACs) (awareness centres) was carried out in coordination with all ATTs. These AACs served as a hub for information collection and dissemination. Additionally, they house meetings conducted by ATTs, AAWAZ Women Resource Groups (AWRGs) and other committees formed under the programme. Around 70 centres were established by February 2013.
- A total of 546 village committees were formed including 6,268 women and 7,435 men to have meaningful representation and engage grassroots community members (KP = 317 committees; Punjab = 229 committees). In total, 700 village committees were formed at the end of inception phase.

Pilot project assessment

Two independent assessments of the pilot activities were undertaken in December 2012. These allowed the AAWAZ team to adjust its approach and scale up activities to 45 districts in KP and Punjab, covering a minimum of 5,000 villages/settlements. Over all, the assessments found that the partner organizations worked with dedication and effectiveness. However, it was noted that language was a common problem as project materials and sessions used Urdu rather than local dialects. The use of colloquial language,

specific to the area, was recommended. Another issue was that of actual female participation even though representation was generally around 50%.

AAWAZ staff orientation, monitoring and planning workshop

Four workshops were conducted to develop a uniform understanding of programme goals, outputs, outcomes, impacts, timelines, management structures and financial management with reference to the current political and social scenario, while linking them with programme activities and structures. Participants included national, regional and district staff and district partners' representatives and



technical leads. In total, 162 staff members benefitted from these workshops; they were apprised of the AAWAZ log frame, theory of change, the institutional structure, M&E, partnership and possible synergies and linkages, financial management, participatory rapid appraisal (PRA) tools and stakeholder analysis.

The AAWAZ programme was formally launched in all relevant districts over Punjab and KP.

3.2 AAWAZ Training and Capacity Building Initiatives

3.2.1 Needs assessment study

A training needs assessment study was conducted between October–November, 2012 to build the capacities of AAWAZ staff. Technical specialists for each output took the lead to conduct this exercise and developed a training needs assessment questionnaire that was circulated to all partners. The final report was shared and reviewed. A detailed and comprehensive AAWAZ training plan was developed on the basis of this study.

3.2.2 AAWAZ training and capacity building sessions

Orientation sessions

Orientation sessions were organized in Abbottabad and Sargodha to mobilize local citizens and journalists for future AAWAZ training courses. Eighty-two people benefitted from these sessions in Abbottabad (47) and Sargodha (35). The list of potential participants was finalized in this event. Similar meetings were arranged in Bahawalpur and Charsadda.

Training sessions

Two training sessions were held in Abbottabad to sensitize media correspondents to AAWAZ's vision, mission and objectives. They were also briefed on gender sensitive reporting mechanisms. Fifty-three people participated. Thirty people benefitted in Bahawalpur and Charsadda, including ten women.

Positive reporting of conflicts and issues: roles and responsibilities of journalists

Three-day trainings were conducted in Abbottabad, Bahawalpur and Charsadda to train local journalists and citizens in improving reporting on social issues, conflict and service delivery for making duty bearers accountable. Participants included media professionals, religious minorities and students.

Peace and non-violent communication

Three-day training workshops were conducted in Charsadda and Bahawalpur in November, 2012. 34 participants attended the two workshops, out of which 14 were women and there were 20 men. These workshops aimed at teaching youth non-violent methods of conflict resolution and promoting peace through art and non-violent communication.

Youth in peace and non-violent communication

A two-day training workshop was conducted from January 16–17, 2013 at the Hotel Park Plaza, Lahore. More than 28 young activists (including 7 women) from ADGs, ATTs, the media, academia and local organizations, participated. Mr. Anjum Rafique, Ms. Arifa Mukhtar and Mr. Mujahid served as resource persons.

Themes addressed included:

- What is peace and non-violent communication?
- Conflict, violence and traditions of non-violence in Pakistan
- Models of conflicts resolution and peace-building (local methods, formal and informal structures to resolve conflicts)
- Non-judgmental model of conflict resolution at the individual level
- Addressing conflict at the group/community and societal level
- The role of governance in addressing/amplifying conflict
- Ways and methods to hold government/state institutions responsible for addressing conflicts
- Communication as a key strategy to address conflict
- Skills required for effective communication

A similar session for youth was organized in Mardan. It was attended by 50 participants who discussed types of conflict, conflict management, conflict resolution and conflict transformation, conflict history in Pakistan, conflict mapping, disputes and peace and non-violent communication.

Video making using mobile phone cameras

A training workshop was conducted on November 11–12, 2012, in Lahore. Field assignments were conducted between 14–16 November, 2012. Around 40 male participants from different UCs of Bahawalpur and Charsadda participated. The objective was to enable participants to use mobile phones as tools for self-empowerment.

Interactive theatre performance training

This seven-day training workshop was conducted between November 8–14, 2012, in Lahore. Ten activists from Bahawalpur participated (3 women and 7 men). The basic objective was to enable community activists to use interactive theatre as a tool to sensitize and mobilize communities and create awareness among them on peace and conflict resolution.

AAWAZ: ADG seminar, Sargodha

A seminar titled “Manifestos of Political Parties for Election 2013” was organized by ADG-Sargodha at the Solo Hotel, Sargodha, on December 29, 2012. More than 152 people participated in the event. The objective was to introduce political party manifestos and increase awareness on the importance of these documents among different segments of society.

AAWAZ women’s assembly, Mardan district



Members of the AAWAZ Women’s Caucus and AF’s district team organized the AAWAZ women’s assembly in Mardan district, KP as an opportunity for rural women and activists to meet with legislators and political party representatives to discuss grassroots issues pertinent to women’s political participation. The theme for such assemblies was “Pakistani Aurtain Kaisa Pakistan Chahti Hain?” [What kind of Pakistan do Pakistani women want?]. 200 participants (107 woman and 93 men) attended the session. Sixteen elected representatives, political party workers, local CSO members and district administration officials also participated. The event allowed rural women to share their issues and problems with government bodies.

AAWAZ: Organizing and conducting training budget cycles

A two-day training workshop on district budget tracking and advocacy was organized for 47 participants (19 women and 28 men). The purpose was to introduce ADGs and citizens to budget cycles and how they can access information for accountability and advocacy purposes. Experts from the education and health departments conducted the sessions, using a comprehensive training manual. Topics covered included:

- The nature and types of budgets
- Policy and planning
- The relationship between budgets and policy
- The difference between federal, provincial and district budgets
- Development and non-development budgets
- Budget cycles and people's participation
- District-level allocations
- The use of expenditures and reporting (back to the government)
- District government income sources
- Budget documents
- Budget processes in district governments
- Responsibilities of district governments
- Irregularities and corruption in budgeting and how to indicate/object
- Internal and external audits
- The role of citizens, civil society, the media and NGOs
- Budget analysis and income/revenue
- Expenditures analysis
- Budget tracking
- Strategies for budget advocacy campaigns

3.3. Social Mobilization National Cash Transfer Programme (BISP)

The Benazir Income Support Programme is designed for conditional cash transfer program, called *Waseela-e-Taleem*, funded by DFID and the World Bank. The objective of this program is to provide conditional cash transfers to BISP recipients to ensure that their children are enrolled and regularly attend primary schools and retain children who are already in school.

Waseela-e-Taleem is planned to be rolled out nationally after testing the social mobilisation design as an initial six-month pilot phase in five districts of Pakistan including AJ&K.



The *Waseela-e-Taleem* Programme has well defined project cycle. One of the key elements of the cycle is social mobilisation. In order to ensure that the social mobilisation undertaken during national rollout is effective and meets the desired objectives, Aurat Foundation (AF) pilot tested in 5 districts, namingly Mirpur, Noshki, Karachi South, Malakand and Skardu. This was a preliminary social mobilisation strategy by using an adoptive research model and on the basis of its findings, AF draft a composite and compatible social mobilisation strategy and develop protocols addressing the issues of regional and geographical diversity, cultural context and practicability in terms of mobility of women at large with perspective of BISP.

The social mobilisation structure under pilot test will service the entire BISP programme and can be drawn upon for any BISP initiative. The pilot phase will test social mobilisation around the graduated BISP programmes and especially focus on *Waseela-e- Taleem* programme. In addition, it will encompass overall perspective of social protection services for BISP beneficiaries at large.



The main deliverables of social mobilization are Mapping, BISP Beneficiaries committees (BBC) formation, Elections of Women Leaders (WL) for each BBC is formed, Trainings of WL for SM *Waseela-e-Taleem* programme and conditional cash transfer to enrolled children and BBC, UCC meetings on monthly/ quarterly basis.

The following table summarizes the accomplishment status of each of the above deliverables for the reporting period (6 August, 2012 to 28 February 2013), as per the implementation plan submitted as part of the inception report:

Summary Progress of key Activities

Key Activities	Target (Nos)	District Wise Achievement					Cumulative Achievement	Variance
		Malakand	Mirpur	Karachi-South	Naushki	Skardu		
Beneficiary Mapping	22446	10496	2044	1709	2961	1958	19168	-3278
Conduct area Opening meetings	76	40	19	03	25	57	220	+144
Formation of BBC's Committees	657	374	100	47	140	91	752	+95
Fortnightly meetings of BBCs conducted	3450	1998	401	81	621	360	3461	+11
Awareness sessions delivered	1314	1122	260	61	413	101	1957	+643
One day Orientation Training of WLs	23	11	3	2	4	4	24	+1
One day Orientation	6	3	1	1	1	1	06	+1

training of UC Councilors								
Formation of UC Committees	20	12	5	5	7	8	37	+17
Formation of Thesil coordination Committees	6	1	1	1	1	2	6	
Dissemination of IEC material (UCs)	49	11	8	10	10	10	49	0

3.3.1 Main Achievements

During the project period from 6th August 2012 to 28th February 2013, the following are the main achievements of the project:

- Pre-roll out activities such as staff recruitment, national staff orientation and a two-day project staff orientation were successfully completed.
- IEC material consisting of 5,000 posters, 3,000 brochures and 15 banners was developed and distributed and disseminated in all UCs.
- Capacity building training modules and an Awareness Sessions Handbook for SO's has been developed and distributed to field teams.
- Six district consultation workshops of stakeholder organized and findings and suggestions are documented in a brief report and incorporated in the final draft of social mobilization strategy.

3.3.2 Immediate Results of Social Mobilization

The responses given by beneficiaries gives us a clear guideline on how the social mobilization initiative contributes in deepening the overall BISP interventions of its all programmes. Furthermore, it highlights the future role of social mobilization in BISP programming with perspective of beneficiary involvement and participation, and utility of BISP committees, empowerment and mobility, effectiveness of case management and adherence of co-responsibility concept. The beneficiaries and women leaders are empowered and more aware of the issues and their solution. This has been reflected as:



Zainab bibi is an elderly lady living in the suburbs of Tehsil Dadyal, Mirpur. She is a BISP beneficiary and has never attended any educational set up and lives in poverty. When the SM -NCTP social organizers approached the village where Zainab bibi lived to form the BISP Beneficiary Committee, panic seemed taken over the faces of the members of the BBC members. The question haunting them was: who would be the record-keeper, who would manage the fortnightly meetings and maintain its

record? A discussion followed, and Zainab Bibi proposed the name of Shazia, a 17-year-old literate girl in the surroundings. She was convinced by Zainab Bibi to become the record-keeper of their BBC. While leading the process, she resolved one of the major obstacles in her BBC in the very beginning of the BBC formation process.

Chapter Four

Advocacy, Awareness-Raising and Lobbying

4. Advocacy, Awareness-Raising and Lobbying

Aurat Foundation has been engaged in advocacy on key issues of women's concern for the past 25 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.

4.1 International Women's Day

International Women's Day has been celebrated worldwide every year on March 8 since 1911, to voice women's concerns and highlight their perspective on social, economic and political issues. Through the years, women have demanded the right to vote, hold public office, work and end discrimination in the workplace.

4.1.1 Rally in Islamabad

The 8 March rally in Islamabad was organized by the IHI Network, the End Violence against Women and Girls (EVAW/G) Alliance, Women's Action Forum (WAF), the Fight against Dowry Advocacy Network (FADAN) and the Youth Advocacy Network (YAN). Participants marched from China Chowk to Parade Chowk, stopping in front of parliament for speeches.



4.1.2 Women’s festival, Shakarparian

A three day women’s festival was organized at Shakarparian by Lok Virsa (National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage), the Parliamentarian Commission for Human Rights and the NGO, LOK Parya. Begum Nusrat Parvez Ashraf inaugurated the festival and stressed the need for women’s access to education. The festival displayed posters designed by female students, showed women artisans at work and hosted stalls for organisations working for women’s empowerment and women entrepreneurs.

The Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) arranged a *muzakira* on the theme of “Pakistani Literature and Women Writers.” Speakers included prominent poetess and scholar, Kishwar Naheed, Dr. Raees Fatima, Ms. Sarwat Mohyuddin, Ms. Kausar Samreen and Ms. Yasmeen Hameed. The Academy also arranged a literary reference in the memory of famous poetess, Shabnam Shakeel. Mr. Iftikhar Arif termed her death a great loss to Urdu literature.

White Ribbon organised the second national conference on “Gender and the Media” in which journalists shared their thoughts on the role of the media for protecting women’s rights. His Excellency, Ole Emil Moesby, Ambassador of Denmark, spoke at the event, stating that gender equity was the core of development in any country. Awards were presented to 27 journalists in various categories.

4.1.3 Empowered Womanhood: National Women-at-Work Festival, Islamabad

The second National Women-at-Work Festival at Fatimah Jinnah Park was organized by the Development Communications Network (DEVCOM-Pakistan) in collaboration with the Pakistan Bait-ul-Maal, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the Islamabad Crescent Lions Club (ICLC), Aiwane-Quaid, the Nazriya Pakistan Council and the Debating and Literary Society of the Quaid-i-Azam University.

Over 50 stalls showcasing women’s work were set up and girls from various educational institutions participated in art, speech and drama competitions. Students also performed plays highlighting the trials and tribulations of women across the country.

4.1.4 Seminar, Fatima Jinnah Women’s University, Islamabad A decade-long journey of VAW

The Fatima Jinnah Women University organized a seminar on the occasion of International Women’s Day, titled ‘a decade long journey of VAW’. Dr. Iftikharun Nisa Hassan, a researcher from the Karakoram International University inaugurated the seminar and spoke of the importance of women being aware of the right and value of education.

4.1.5 Art exhibition, Islamabad

Members of The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Mashal School and various artists gathered at the Nomad Gallery, Islamabad to display art works by both professional painters and children from the Mashal School.

Ms. Rukhe Neelofer Zaidi paints on large canvases with bright colours and straight lines; often women on bright backgrounds. Ms. Anjum Ayub prefers harsh reality with black, white and red, while Ms. Humera’s work is quirky and colourful. Other featured artists included Ms. Nahid Raza, Ms. Hajra Mansoor, Ms. Tabasaum Rizwi, Ms. Shireen Ikram, Ms. Zaira Ahmed Zaka and Ms. Mussarat Naheed Imam.

4.1.6 Art for a cause, Rawalpindi, 8 March 2013



In connection with International Women’s Day, students and senior artists came together to the Rawalpindi Arts Council to display their work. Students from Foundation University displayed their theses titled “Death and Soul.” Senior artists including Ms. Maniza Janbaz, Ms. Aliya Mirza, Ms. Hajra Mansoor, Mr. Raja Changez Sultan, Mr. Nasir Malik, Mr. Raja Najamul Hassan, Mr. Mir Wais, Ms. Zainab Nawaz and Mr. Masoor Rahi also displayed their paintings. The exhibition was inaugurated by her Excellency, Cecilie Landsverk, Ambassador of Norway and Ms. Tahira Abdullah, senior activist. The event was organised by, Corazon, an NGO in Islamabad.

4.1.7 Torch-bearing rally, Islamabad

A torch-bearing march proceeded from China Chowk to D-Chowk outside parliament. Participants issued a statement saying:

“We, as women reiterate our commitment to peace and social justice and demand that those who have committed heinous crimes against citizens must not be allowed impunity. We call upon the nation to pledge on this day to stand up for the peaceful, tolerant and just Pakistan that Mr. Jinnah dreamt of, where all citizens have equal opportunities and live in peace and harmony.”

4.1.8 PPAF honours women’s courage, Islamabad

The Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) conferred the second Amtul Raqeeb Award posthumously on five teachers, a medical technician and a lady health visitor, who were gunned down by assailants near the Swabi Interchange on January 1, 2013.

4.1.9 Film screening, Islamabad

A local CSO screened a film based on the efforts of women who fought for civil rights. The event was organised by the Peace Education and Development (PEAD) Foundation in collaboration with Global Human Rights Defence (GHRD).

4.1.10 Cycling for a cause, Islamabad

The Do Good Mob and Critical Mass organized a bicycle ride down Margalla Road. Women in colourful helmets carrying balloons cycled from Kohsar Market to the Faisal Mosque to celebrate International Women's Day. Mr. Umair Masood organized the event and Ms. Hajra Haq led the group.



4.1.11 Meeting and film showing, Quetta

The Ministry of Women Development (MoWD), UN-Women, AF and other CSOs organized an event to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, 2013 at the Serena Hotel, Quetta. Ms. Surayya Aladin, a renowned women's activist was the chief guest and Mr. Sultan Bayazeed, Provincial Election Commissioner, was the guest of honour. Mr. Ishfaq Mengal, Programme Officer, AF shared his views on ending VAW in Balochistan and students presented a play and poetry recitation. A GEP documentary, "*Main Safar Main Hoon*" [I am on a journey] was shown.



4.1.12 Event at the Shaheed Benazir Bhutto shelter home, Islamabad

The event was held on March 28 instead of March 8 for logistical reasons. It was attended by 50 residents and 20 guests that included lawyers, committee members, NGO management committee members and other stakeholders. Skits and singing performances were enjoyed by all.

4.2 National Women's Day

February 12 is commemorated every year as National Women's Day in Pakistan, a milestone in the women's rights movement that serves to encourage and invigorate their struggle. Women activists organized various events in 2013 to reaffirm their determination to continue the struggle for their rights as equal citizens and for a peaceful, democratic and just society.

4.2.1 Event at Fatima Jinnah Park, Islamabad

WAF, the IHI Network, the ERAW/G Alliance and the Pakistan Reproductive Health Network (PRHN) organized an event on February 12, 2013 to commemorate the women's rights movement in Pakistan and to mark National Women's Day at the Fatima Jinnah Park, Islamabad.

Ms. Nasreen Azhar, a senior WAF member spoke of an afternoon in 1983 when WAF and the Punjab Women Lawyers Association gathered on Mall Road, Lahore to protest peacefully against the Law of Evidence, which sought to reduce women's legal status by proposing that the evidence of two women should equal that of one man. The women were brutally attacked by the police and several were arrested. Other speakers mentioned VAW, acts of terrorism and the effects of conflict on women, children and vulnerable groups.

Other speakers included Mr. Naseer Memon, Professor Farkhanda Aurenngzeb, Ms. Nighat Rizvi and Ms. Sheema Khan.



4.2.2 AAWAZ: A tribute to Pakistan National Woman's Day

This event took place on February 12, 2013 at the Bar Room of the District Court, Sargodha. In all, 208 lawyers participated (35 women and 170 men). AAWAZ reading material was also distributed. Speakers included:

- Mr. Tayyab Sheriazi, President, Bar Association
- Shafqat Awan, General Secretary, Bar Association
- Ms. Hajira Amin, Member, Aman Commission
- Mumtaz Mughal, Provincial Manager, AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme
- Ms. Qasira Ismail, Chairperson, AAWAZ Women's Caucus
- Ms. Nabeela Shaheen, Regional Coordinator, AF
- Mr. Abdul Rehman Sahi, lawyer

4.3 Demonstrations and Rallies

4.3.1 Demonstration to condemn the attack on Malala Yousufzai

Malala Yousufzai is a symbol of courage, innocence, bravery and character. Writing about Taliban atrocities for the BBC under the pseudonym "Gul Makai," she and her schoolmates were viciously attacked on October 9, 2012 by militants in Swat who were against her message of peace and education.

IHI demonstration, Islamabad

Members of the Insani Haqooq Itihad (IHI), a coalition of human rights organizations and other citizens' groups gathered outside the National Press Club, Islamabad on October 10, 2012, to condemn the brutal attack on the young schoolgirl.



Various activists spoke of the attack as an act of violence and terrorism contravening children's right to survival as per the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and as a conspiracy against bringing peace to Swat and the empowerment of women and girls in the area. This was among numerous instances where human and women's rights activists had been threatened and attacked, a prime example being that of women's rights activist, Farida Afridi, who was assassinated in July 2012. Activists prayed for the girls' quick and full recovery and demanded that the government ensure medical treatment.

AF demonstration and candlelight vigil, Lahore

AF's Lahore office and other human rights activists organized a demonstration and a candle light vigil at Charing Cross, Mall Road, Lahore on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 to condemn the attack on Ms. Yousufzai. Participants raised slogans against the attackers and demanded that the government take stern action against them.



AF demonstration, Lahore

AF's Lahore office organized a peaceful demonstration to express solidarity with Ms. Yousufzai, the young activist and icon of peace and girls' education. The demonstration was held on October 15, 2012 in front of the Lahore Press Club.



Protest rally, Aman Park, Peshawar

CSO members, students and the electronic and print media gathered on October 11, 2012 to protest against the brutal attack against Ms. Yousufzai and her fellow students. They demanded that the government apprehend the culprits and bring them to justice.

Sit-in, Aman Park, Peshawar

AF and other CSO organized a three-day sit-in in Aman park from October 11–13, 2012. Participants included:

- Mian Iftikhar Hussain, Minister for Information
- Ms. Shagufta Malik, MPA
- Ms. Tabassum Shams, MPA
- Ms. Shazia Aurangzeb, MPA
- NGO members
- University students
- The media



Balochistan Civil Society Forum demonstration, Quetta

The Balochistan Civil Society Forum (BCSF), an alliance of various NGOs and human and women's rights activists in Balochistan organized a meeting, demonstration and press conference on October 15, 2012 in Quetta to condemn the attack on Ms. Malala Yousafzai. Members later gathered in front of the Quetta Press Club for a peaceful demonstration. This was followed by a press conference.



WLG/CAC rally, Rawalpindi

Hundreds of women, men and children marched College Road to the Rawalpindi Press Club on October 13, 2012 under the banner of AF to pray for Malala Yousafzai. The rally was organized by the Women Leaders Group (WLG) and the Citizens Action Committee (CAC) of AF. Mr. Naem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF addressed the rally, describing Ms. Yousafzai as a symbol for girls' education and peace in the country. Other speakers included Ms. Razia Sultana, and Chaudhry Ilyas, CAC coordinator-Rawalpindi.



4.3.2 Protests against the murder of foreign tourists

Demonstrations were held across the country to protest the murder of ten foreign climbers in Gilgit-Baltistan by gunmen dressed as paramilitary Gilgit Scouts. The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility for the attack.

Islamabad: Students, CSO activists and tour operators protested against the attack outside the Islamabad Press Club on June 24, 2013. They demanded that the government bring the culprits to justice and ensure security for tourists. The event was organised by the AMAL Human Development Network, the Pakistan Association of Tour Operators and the Gilgit-Baltistan Volunteers Movement. The event ended with a candlelight vigil.



Lahore: The Motorcyclists Association of Pakistan (MAP) led a protest march from Charing Cross to the Lahore Press Club. Members said the incident brought shame to the country.

Skardu: Hundreds of tour operators rallied for peace and staged a sit-in. Protestors holding placards marched from Hussaini Chowk to the Press Club. Leaders of the Baltistan Association of Adventure Tour Operators addressed the gathering.

4.3.3 Condemnation of the assassination of Farida Afridi, Peshawar

A protest rally was arranged on July 9, 2012 at the Peshawar Press Club to condemn the brutal assassination of Ms. Farida Afridi who worked for Sawaira in Khyber Agency and was shot dead four days earlier in Hayatabad. Aurat Foundation, the Community Appraisal and Motivation Programme (CAMP), the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) and the South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA) organised the event. Mian Iftikhar Hussain, Minister for Information strongly condemned the murder and said anti-Islam elements were smearing both Islam and Pakistan by issuing death decrees against women. He said that an investigation was underway and the culprits would be apprehended.



4.3.4 Condemnation of the assassination of Parveen Rehman, Karachi

IHI, EVAW/G and WAF organized an event to condemn the brutal murder of Ms. Parveen Rehman, Director, Orangi Pilot Project, one of Asia's largest slum projects focusing on low-cost sanitation, housing, health and family planning, education and microfinance. Participants said Ms. Rehman had made enemies during her research on land mafia, who were likely behind the murder. They added that target killings in Karachi were the norm and that the government must take concrete steps to check lawlessness in the city.

4.3.5 Vigil for slain aid and polio workers, Peshawar

Vigil for slain aid workers, Peshawar

Aurat Foundation and the Pakhtunkhwa Civil Society Network (PCSN) arranged a meeting and vigil in Peshawar on January 4, 2013 to pay homage to slain workers aid workers including six women, in Swabi. Participants from AF, Khwendo Kor (KK), SAP-PK, SPO, the Baacha Khan Trust Educational Foundation (BKTEF), Ittehad (a FATA NGO), EVAW/G and Shirkat Gah, attended. The meeting was followed by a demonstration and candlelight vigil outside the Peshawar Press Club.

Speakers such as Ms. Shabina Ayaz, Professor Khadim Hussain, Mr. Aimal Khattak, Mr. Arshad Haroon and Mr. Qamar Naseem said terrorists were targeting CSOs for working for human rights, education and healthcare and that the "culture of silence" over such attacks contributed negatively to counterterrorism efforts. They called for better public awareness and demanded monetary compensation for the families of the slain workers and free education for their children.



Solidarity day for slain aid workers and polio vaccinators, Peshawar

CSO members staged a rally organized by PCSN on January 10, 2013 at Aman Park, Peshawar, to show solidarity with slain aid workers and polio vaccinators. Participants from AF, Shirkat Gah, SPO, Amn Tehreek, Hawa Lur, FATA NGO Consortiums and KK attended. Speakers condemned the act of terrorism and asked the government to compensate the families of the deceased and provide security to the workers.



4.3.6 AF team visit to Josef Colony, Lahore

AF's Lahore office visited the residents of Josef Colony, Lahore on March 12, 2013. They expressed their sympathies and issued a strong statement condemning the attack on the Christian community of the colony on 9 March 2013, when an angry mob looted and torched houses in the area.



4.4 IWCCI Expo, Islamabad: Focusing Women's Economic Empowerment

Aurat Foundation displayed a stall at the Islamabad Expo organized by the Islamabad Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IWCCI) between April 13–14, 2013. AF handed out publications, particularly on women's participation in the general elections of 2013.



4.5 Press Conferences

4.5.1 Condemning threats to Asma Jahangir, Islamabad

CSO representatives and human rights activists organised a press conference at the offices of Rozan on June 11, 2013 to condemn the alleged assassination threats to respected lawyer and human rights activist, Asma Jahangir. They demanded the government set up an impartial judicial commission to investigate

the matter. Organizations represented included the Sungi Development Foundation, Rozan and AF. Ms. Tahira Abdullah and Ms. Kishwar Naheed addressed the press conference.

4.5.2 AF press conference on Tahir-ul Qadri's long march, Karachi

AF organized a press conference on January 15, 2013, at the Karachi Press Club to express civil society's concern over Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's long march. Ms. Anis Haroon, President, WAF said, "We reject Tahir-ul Qadri's demands and all attempts at forming non-elected technocratic civil-military set-ups." The tone of the press conference made it clear that advocating the dismissal of the elected government was an insult to all citizens and their democratic power to



vote. It was stated that Mr. Qadri's group was not a registered political party and therefore could not legitimately challenge provisions that are a result of the democratic process. Other speakers included:

- Ms. Mehnaz Rehman
- Ms. Farida Hannan
- Ms. Attiya Daud
- Mr. Iqbal Butt
- Ms. Malka Khan
- Ms. Farhat Parveen, NOW Communities

4.6 Launch of VAW Report, Islamabad

AF launched its fourth annual publication of VAW statistics titled "The Situation of Violence against Women in Pakistan" on July 16, 2012 at the Islamabad hotel, Islamabad. Women's rights activist, Ms. Nasreen Azhar presented the report's findings. Ms. Anis Haroon, former Chairperson, NCSW said current data showed a rise in cases of violence against women, and that the real figure was likely to be much higher. Other speakers included Ms. Rabeea Hadi, Manager Programmes and Coordination, AF and Mr. Shaigan Shareef Malik, Secretary, Ministry of Human Rights.

4.7 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence is an international campaign that originated from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute coordinated by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, in 1991. Days commemorated include:

- November 25: International Day against Violence Against Women
- November 29: International Women Human Rights Defenders Day

- December 1: World AIDS Day
- December 6: Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre
- December 10: International Human Rights Day

The 16 Days Campaign is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and groups around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of VAW.

4.7.1 Celebrating 16 Days of Activism and Human Rights Day, Quetta

On 10 December, 2012, AF, the Human Rights Department of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other CSOs organized an event at the Serena Hotel, Quetta to observe 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women and International Human Rights Day. Justice Qazi Faiz Essa, Chief Justice, Balochistan High Court was the chief guest.

4.7.2 Events under the LACGI project

AF community groups and focal persons conducted various activities in KP where 1,044 participants of which 421 were women and 623 were men. The activities included:

- Press conference, UC North
- Banners printing, UC Bheer and UC Bhagra
- Leaflet printing, UC Srikot
- Ten live radio programmes, 16 radio messages a day for ten days, UC Dheenda, UC Terbela, UC Pind Hashim Khan and UC Khuliyani Bala
- Rally, UC Khalabat and UC Bandi Sher Khan
- College seminar, UC Ali Khan
- Community seminar, UC Balela
- Painting competition, UC Seria
- Community debates competition, Hattar
- Sticker printing, Jati Pind
- Seminar, Serai Sala and Mankarah
- Street theatre, Darwaish
- Session on inheritance with Chamber of Commerce, UC Rehana



4.8 Advocacy on the Radio

AF's Peshawar office conducted ten radio programmes on the radio channel, FM 101 between December 1–10, 2013. Topic included 16 days of activism, widowhood, women with disabilities, the problems women face accessing justice, child marriages, the role of the PCSW, women's health issues, human rights and women's civil and political rights. The shows also took live calls.

Ms. Myra Imran, a national TOT participant and gender expert reports for Radio Pakistan's programme *Rang-e-Jahan*. She briefed her listeners on the concepts of leadership in two of her programmes.

4.9 OBR Campaign

OBR is a global activist movement to end VAW and girls and was started by Ms. Eve Ensler, a performer for *The Vagina Monologues*.

OBR is the collective voice of one billion people across the world against VAW. According to international statistics, one in three women in the world will be raped or beaten in their lifetimes; this comes to over one billion women.

Approximately 70–90% of Pakistani women are subjected to DV each year. Cases of VAW numbered 8,539 in 2011. Experts believe these figures are not completely accurate as many cases go unregistered.

The campaign received an excellent response from various universities and schools such as QAU, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST), Air University, Arid Agriculture University, COMSATS, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Foundation for Advancement of Science and Technology (FAST), Khaldunia High School and Froebels International School.

Karachi

AF launched the OBR campaign in Karachi on December 2, 2012 at the Arts Council with partner, Trócaire. The event featured a seminar, theatrical performance and concert by Sketch and was attended by CSO and NGO representatives, educationists, government officials and students. Various NGOs also set up stalls to showcase their work.

Well-known personalities delivered talks on various related subjects:

- Ms. Babar Ayaz, journalist: “Extremism and its Impact on Women”
- Justice (Retd.) Majida Rizvi: “The Legal System and VAW”
- Ms. Farhat Parveen, Executive Director, Now Communities: “Economic Aspects of VAW”
- Ms. Tauqeer Fatima Bhutto, Provincial Minister for Women Development: “General Violence”

The campaign was concluded with a second event at the Karachi Arts Council on February 14, 2013. The event featured a seminar and theatrical performance and was attended by more than 1,000 people. The event was followed by a theatre performance based on poetry by Ms. Fahmida Riaz. It was choreographed by Ms. Sheema Kermani and performed by her troupe.

Other speakers included:

- Justice Majida Rizvi (chief guest)
- Ms. Mahnaz Rahman, AF
- Ms. Naghma, student leader
- Ms. Attiya Dawood, writer/poetess
- Ms. Shakeela Asghar, representing labourers
- Ms. Saleha, Hosla
- Dr. Talat Pasha, Connect
- Ms. Noor ul Huda Shah, poetess/writer



Islamabad

AF collaborated with Rozan, WLP, the AMAL Human Development Network, the Women Organisation for Rights and Democracy (WORD), We Can and RSPN to launch the campaign in Islamabad on December 10, 2012, which is also celebrated as International Human Rights Day. The event occurred at the auditorium of the Department of Earth Sciences at Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU). Participants included university students, CSO and NGO representatives and the media.

The campaign's concluding event occurred at Air University, Islamabad on February 14, 2013. The event included a presentation on OBR efforts in Pakistan, a talk on the Sexual Harassment Bill in Pakistan, a motivational speech by Mr. Sarmad Tariq, an issue-based theatre performance, an oath taking ceremony and a candlelight vigil. Mr. Arie Azhar and other emerging music artists performed, as well.

Speakers included:

- Dr. Farzana Bari, Chairperson, Department of Gender Studies, QAU
- Dr. Ambreen Ahmed, Rozan
- Ms. Kishwar Naheed, famous poetress
- Mr. Babar Bashir, Managing Director, Rozan
- Ms. Aqsa Khan, Executive Director, WORD
- Ms. Farkhanda Aurangzeb, Manager, Legislative Watch Programme, AF

4.10 AAWAZ Advocacy Initiatives

4.10.1 Joint national conference: *Hamara Pakistan kaisa ho ga?*



AAWAZ Consortium jointly organized a national conference titled “*Hamara Pakistan kaisa ho ga?*” [What will our Pakistan look like?] at the PNCA, Islamabad on February 11, 2013 - the day before National Women’s Day. The purpose was to review and highlight programme achievements during the inception phase. The issues of focus were:

- Women’s political participation
- Conflict resolution
- Citizens’ participation and services

The conference featured a theatre performance on the significance of National Women’s Day, introduced AAWAZ, highlighting its achievements and three panel discussions addressing the political, social and legal issues Pakistani women face in the current socio-political arena.

Experts shared their views on topics such as the prevailing political and economic situation, police and judicial systems and the social and cultural situation with regards to Pakistani women.

4.10.2 Community-level FGDs in Sargodha and Mardan

A total of 100 FGDs were held in Sargodha and 110 in Mardan. Over 2,000 participants in each district attended; female participation was roughly half. The purpose of these meetings was to further understand the nature of women’s issues and identify problems and challenges at the village level. Discussion centred around:

- The roots of women’s rights violations lie in historically unequal power relations between men and women and the pervasive discrimination against women in both the public and private spheres
- Patriarchal disparities of power
- Discriminatory cultural norms
- Economic inequalities that serve to deny women’s rights and perpetuate violence

4.10.3 AAWAZ interactive theatre performances

Six theatre performances were conducted in AAWAZ target UCs from February 8–11, 2013. Venues included Shahpur Degree College, Bhakkarbar, Chakrala, Sabowal, Chak #135, Sillanwali, Lilliani-33, Lilliani, Chak #11, Mozammabad and Hyderabad town. About 1,236 people (594 women and 642 men) attended. Themes covered methods of conflict resolution and peace building, discouraging DV, encouraging communities to equip themselves with adequate knowledge about the law, the use of proper justice systems, legal action in case of human rights violations, the importance of women’s and ethnic and religious communities’ participation in decision making and the culture of respect, dignity, transparency and accountability.

4.10.4 FM radio campaign on women’s participation and service delivery

FM radio campaigns were launched in Abbottabad, Mardan and Sargodha to raise awareness among citizens about female political participation. This involved panel discussions, question-and-answer sessions and key public service messages in local and national languages.

Programme staff in Abbottabad conducted two main activities in order to facilitate common people to reach the media and raise their concerns and issues around AAWAZ themes. Ten interviews were recorded and broadcast for a one-month period.

4.10.5 FM radio campaign (November 2012–February 2013)

Three major project outputs were addressed during this radio campaign on FM 93, namely women’s safe participation in political and public spheres, peaceful resolution of disputes and working together for common solutions and capacity building of citizens for constructively voicing demands for services and holding government accountable. AF developed key messages in Urdu and Punjabi on the following topics:

- How much will be spent on health?
- How much will be spent on education?
- How many villages will be provided electricity?
- Prices of commodities
- Tax increases
- How many parks will be developed?
- How many police stations will be built?
- Who will run the country and how?
- What policies can be expected to restore peace?
- How will budgets be decided?

FM 93 aired such messages between November 14, 2012 and February 13, 2013 during peak listening hours. According to FM 93’s Sargodha report, the messages covered *tehsil* Sargodha (69%), *tehsil*

Bahlwal (49%), *tehsil* Kot Momin (62%), *tehsil* Shahpur (70%), *tehsil* Shaiwal (67%) and *tehsil* Sillanwali (71%). Total listenership was counted at 944,401 (480,356 women and 464,045 men).

4.10.6 Training on the Freedom of Information law

A two-day training workshop was organized between February 14–15, 2013 at the Sargodha Press Club for ADG members, media representatives and AAWAZ activists. It was attended by 32 people (6 women and 26 men). The purpose of the training was to introduce ADGs and citizens to the concept of freedom of information, a fundamental human right. The training method was participatory, involving group work and demonstrations.

4.10.7 Interface meetings with the media and citizens

Bahawalpur and Charsadda

Meetings were held among media persons and members of the AAWAZ-created ASKC, ASKG and Aman Commission in Bahawalpur and Charsadda. They aimed to engage the media in highlighting health and education issues in the district and maximize the coverage of AAWAZ structures.

Sargodha

ADGs held a dialogue with the media at the Sargodha Press Club on February 12, 2013 on reporting on education and health. Thirty-five journalists of the print and electronic media including six women participated. The objective was for communities to understand the use of the media for accountability purposes, information dissemination and how reporting on social issues can be improved.

4.10.8 Training on the effective reporting of social issues

A training session was conducted for citizens and journalists. Forty-nine people participated. The objective was to increase the capacity of journalists and citizens in reporting social issues, developing critical, analytical and learning approaches, developing an understanding and respect for differences, people's fundamental freedoms and common approaches to issues and increasing the amount of quality coverage reaching local and national audiences; participants were given a detailed briefing of how reporting can be both accurate and balanced.

4.11 GEP Advocacy through the Media

4.11.1 Television

Lal-o-Gauhar

GEP's 15-episode talk show, *Lal-o-Gauhar* was re-aired from September 28, 2012 to January 18, 2013 on the channel, News One. The show's objective was to inform Pakistani women about their rights and the existing laws in place to protect those rights. Per episode viewership stood at 146,988 people. A total of 2.4 million people watched the 15 episodes. Women's viewership (second airing) stood at 103,710.

Mein Aur Mere Dost

Creative Village, a GEP sub-grantee produced Pakistan's first three dimensional (3-D) animated cartoon series on GBV, *Mein Aur Mere Dost* [My Friends and I]. The show was launched in Islamabad on December 3, 2012 in connection with 16 Days of Activism under the Gender Violence Campaign.

US Deputy Chief of Mission, Ambassador Richard Hoagland spoke at the launch, noting that investing in women and girls was an excellent measure to help achieve economic progress, political stability and greater prosperity for both women and men. The launch was attended by over 200 children from various schools, including street children from the Pehli Kiran School System and the Mashal School. CSO and NGO representatives and members of the mainstream print and electronic media also attended.



The seven-episode show was designed to educate children about gender equity and advocate against GBV. It was aired on television channels, *GEO* and *Aag* and viewership increased from one million to 1.47 million in February 2013. The show’s Facebook page received 79,237 hits.

4.11.2 Radio

In March 2013, Radio Pakistan held an All Pakistan Radio Productions Award Ceremony in Lahore. The purpose was to mobilize youth from universities, degree awarding institutes and colleges offering master’s degrees in mass communication (journalism) in Pakistan, to highlight the GBV issues. Approximately 257 students from 29 universities submitted 71 documentaries for this competition.

GEP took part in six radio shows aired on the participation of women in the election process. The programmes were aired before, during and after the elections, and focused on women’s involvement as voters, contestants and administrators. GEP also produced 150 radio messages.

4.11.3 The print media

GEP published three newspaper advertisements in *Dawn*, *The News* and *The Express Tribune* in May 2013. Two advertisements were also placed in the *Jang* and *Express Urdu*. These advertisements encouraged citizens to vote for parties that had included women’s rights in their manifestos and possessed a record of supporting women’s empowerment initiatives.

4.12 LACGI’s Radio Legal Service Programme (RLS)

AF conducted 12 one-hour radio legal service programmes (RLS) that reached approximately 600,000 people. Topics included inheritance rights and forced marriages and one-hour shows were aired on Smile FM 88.6 on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am. On average, 5–6 online and 10–

12 offline calls were taken during shows. The coverage area ranged from Murree/Nathia Gali to Nowshera/Mardan; an area with a population of 3–4 million.

4.13 RHV Advocacy and Media Campaigns

Fifteen advocacy and media campaigns were organized in November and December 2012. The theme was “Women’s Access to Basic Health Facilities.” In all, 580 people (503 women and 77 men) participated (Table 16).

Table 13: Advocacy and media campaigns: Women’s access to basic health facilities, November–December 2012 (RHV project)

<i>Date (2012)</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Nov 15	Jacobabad	35	6	41
Nov 26	Gujranwala	30	7	37
Nov 28	Rahimyar Khan	22	5	27
Nov 28	Layyah	37	4	41
Nov 28	Ghotki	36	6	42
Nov 29	Dera Ghazi Khan	44	6	50
Nov 29	Mianwali	31	4	35
Dec 20	Sukkur	38	5	43
Dec 23	Multan	35	3	38
Dec 24	Bhakkar	24	7	31
Dec 24	Shaheed Benazirabad	39	3	42
Dec 25	Jafferabad	27	7	34
Dec 26	Bahawalpur	32	4	36
Dec 28	Sialkot	28	6	34
Dec 30	Thatta	45	4	49

Another set of advocacy and media campaigns were held to celebrate International Women’s Day (Table 17).

Table 14: Advocacy and media campaigns (seminars): International Women’s Day, March 2013 (RHV project)

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mar 5	Shikarpur	30	0	30
Mar 8	Thatta	35	10	45
Mar 8	Jacobabad	26	8	34
Mar 8	Jafferabad	20	10	30
Mar 8	Ghotki	34	5	39
Mar 26	Shaheed Benazirabad	75	64	139

Three other advocacy meetings were held in March 2013 (Table 18).

Table 15: Advocacy meetings, March 2013 (RHV project)

<i>Date</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mar 8	International Women's Day	22	6	28
Mar 11	Honour crimes	13	9	22
Mar 18	Women's political participation in the upcoming election, 2013	16	10	26

Chapter Five

Supporting CSOs and Gender Entities

5. Supporting CSOs and Gender Entities

Aurat Foundation's Gender Equity Program (GEP) has managed to have a wide outreach and sustained itself as an innovative grant-making programme. Its objectives include expanding women's access to justice, bringing awareness regarding women's rights, combating gender based violence and aiding the capacity of local organisations that work towards the same and similar objectives. Proactive support of GEP to organisations and individuals has already seen the bridging of the gender gap. The programme commenced on August 18, 2010 and will continue until August 15, 2015.

5.1 GEP Initiatives

5.1.1 Provincial launch of national baseline study

The Gender Equity Programme (GEP) presented a primary data study titled, "Gender Differences: Understanding Perceptions" on June 26, 2013. This baseline study benchmarks existing knowledge, attitudes and practices about women's rights, their empowerment and GBV in Pakistan. The study was conducted by the Applied Economics Research Centre (AERC) and Anjum Asim Shahid Associates (AASA) and launched by GEP's regional team in Lahore.

The study captured the perceptions of women and men on gender, prevailing attitudes of key opinion makers, respondents' knowledge of gender issues and gender-biased practices at the household and community level. It was conducted across the country and included primary surveys of 11,273 women and men and 53 key opinion makers.

Ms. Hasna Cheema, Deputy Programme Manager, GEP gave a comprehensive presentation on study findings. She said it was the first study on gender development at such a large scale and scope. The findings rendered a clear picture of ground realities and perceptions that will help design future GEP grant cycles.



Select findings from the study included:

- Women are not perceived as being born with inalienable rights but are accorded those rights by male relatives
- Women perceive approaching the justice system and police stations as daunting
- The dire need for women-friendly spaces such as separate toilets, waiting rooms, prayer rooms and seating arrangements in courts, police stations and hospitals



5.1.2 Programme audit

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducted a comprehensive and independent audit of GEP's programme and financial objectives in October, 2012. Its findings were shared with the US Congress. The audit questionnaire was wide ranging and covered overall project objectives, the project duration, funding received, expected results, project monitoring and indicators, results measurement and their criteria, project compliance, grant making assessments and award processes, organisational financial audits, reporting mechanisms and fraud reporting.

The OIG also investigated 24 sub-grants and found all of them to be functioning smoothly.

5.2 Experience-sharing workshops

Grant cycle 5

The Devolution Trust for Community Empowerment (DTCE), a GEP sub-grantee, held a two-day experience-sharing workshop for GEP's 18 sub-grantees (grant cycle 5) from May 30–31, 2013. The objective was to summarize grant cycle activities and share experiences and lessons learned. Sub-grantee representatives explained reasons for underachieved results and challenges faced during the implementation process. These included delayed instalment releases, a lack of infrastructure, low staff salaries, difficult terrain, scattered populations and the deteriorating law and order situation in Balochistan.

Presentations and open discussions were conducted to help understand target area ground realities, procedural issues and future courses of action. Other attendees included representatives from GEP, The Asia Foundation (TAF) and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).

The last session focused on budget compliance requirements. Mr. Babar Aziz, Director of Finance, TAF, conducted an interactive session on expenditures incurred on mobile registration vehicles (MRVs). He also provided answers to various queries.

Grant cycle 3

An experience-sharing workshop was organized between June 13–14, 2013 to share experiences, successes and challenges faced during the implementation of grant cycle 3, and to celebrate the programme's overall success. It was organized by DTCE and attended by all 13 sub-grantees, GEP stakeholders and AF, TAF and NADRA staff.



Grant cycle activities were summarized and experiences and lessons, shared. Presentations were made and open discussions were held to understand the context of the programme, the ground realities in different target areas, procedural issues and future courses of action.

During an interactive session, many sub-grantees brought up the issue of the non-availability of MRVs (especially in Balochistan), equipment failure and non-cooperation from NADRA personnel. Mr. Zaheer Ahmed, Deputy Director, Mobile Operations, NADRA responded by citing government organizations' requirement to follow certain rules, regulations, systems and procedures which can cause problems and delays. The issue of MRVs being deployed at the request of various influential politicians was also mentioned.

Mr. Hassan Akbar, former Director, Monitoring, Evaluation and Research (MER), AF revealed an interesting fact; the average per-woman cost incurred by GEP on computerized national identity card (CNIC) registration was about PKR 240 (USD 3). He said it was a testimony to the great value for money delivered by the programme.

Sub-grantee representatives explained reasons for underachieved results and challenges faced during implementation. These included unrealistic targets, social barriers preventing women's mobility, difficult terrain, illiteracy at large, delays in the release of instalments, a lack of infrastructure and low staff salaries. Deteriorating law and order and the limited availability of NADRA MRVs were specific to Balochistan.

5.3.1 Capacity building of public sector universities

GEP linked the non-competitive grants of national universities through the e-portal of the Centre of Excellence for Women's Studies (CEWS) at the University of Karachi. The e-portal is free of cost and acts as a knowledge base, facilitating faculty and scholars; it is not limited to gender-related research and literature.

CEWS organized a one-day training for six public sector universities on June 20, 2013. The universities included:

- Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan
- Bahauddin Zakaria University, Multan

- Islamia University, Bahawalpur
- University of Sargodha, Sargodha
- Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur
- University of Sindh, Jamshoro

5.3 Launch of Pakistan Gender Coalition

The Pakistan Gender Coalition was launched on July 15, 2012 at the Serena Hotel, Islamabad. The Coalition is envisaged as a network of Pakistani CSOs, academic and research institutions and media organizations.

US Ambassador Cameron Munter and his wife, Dr. Marilyn Wyatt, spoke on the occasion. Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF introduced the coalition concept.

Ms. Simi Kamal, Chief of Party, GEP said that the strategy to combat GBV required acceptability in the provinces. She also highlighted GEP's strong relations with the government and support of its recent pro-women legislation.

The event was attended by beneficiaries and representatives from more than 70 CSOs working on gender issues with funding from GEP. Participants included a number of government officials such as Ms. Tauqeer Fatima Bhutto, Minister, Women Development-Sindh, Ms. Ghazala Gola, Minister, Women Development-Balochistan, Ms. Farzana Yaqub, Minister, Women Development-AJK and Ms. Zakia Shahnawaz Khan Niazi, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Punjab.

Chapter Six

Research and Publications

6. Research and Publications

Aurat Foundation has a strong tradition of extensive research and wide dissemination of it through publications, both online and otherwise. AF recognises that in Pakistan the right to and the spreading of information is a necessary form of activism.

6.1 Legislative Watch Newsletters

Aurat Foundation publishes and distributes Legislative Watch newsletters four times a year. The publication is edited by Ms. Maliha Zia and Mr. Wasim Wagha. Issue number 41 was published in English and Urdu on November 30, 2013 and contained the following articles:

- 2013 Elections: Women's Representation in Legislatures (Ms. Maliha Zia and others)
- A New Generation of Women Legislators Arrives (Mr. Wasim Wagha and others)
- Women's Participation as Voters in the 2013 Elections (staff report)
- Number of Women Candidates Rises Sharply in the 2013 elections (Mr. Wasim Wagha and others)
- Women's Political Participation: Expectations and Challenges (Ms. Anis Haroon)
- AAWAZ National Conference on Women, Peace and Social Harmony Calls for Gender Reforms (staff report)
- Maximum Representation of Women and Excluded Groups in Local Governments Demanded (staff report)
- Political Party Manifestos: Commitments Made to Women (collaboration between NOW Communities and AF)
- Women and Voting in KP: History and Current Status (Mr. Wasim Ahmed Shah)

6.2 LACGI Biannual Newsletter

Gender injustices and all forms of violence can be curtailed comprehensively if communities and stakeholders are aware and well-informed. LACGI's newsletter is considered an effective information dissemination tool and covers subject matter considered helpful for generating mass-level awareness regarding women's fundamental rights. It discusses 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.

6.3 LACGI Awareness-Raising Materials

AF developed clear, easily-remembered material with creative messages that were tailored to the beliefs and traditions of local communities and were more likely be heard, understood and applied to daily life. The purpose of this material was to aid the process of learning that empower people to make decisions, modify behaviours and change social conditions. Ignorance of basic rights can lead to exploitation and effective information dissemination can counter this. Materials included booklets on CEDAW and FIRs, file folders and wall calendars.

6.4 Publications

An important GEP publication produced during the reporting period was “Election Monitoring 2013: An Account of AF-GEP Initiatives.” This document detailed GEP’s election-related achievements, including:

- CNIC registration drives
- A comparative analysis of manifestos on women participation and inclusion
- Advertisements in leading newspapers
- GEP articles on election manifestos
- AF’s election observation activities
- Regional reports based on election observations
- Fact-finding missions in Sindh to investigate reports of women being barred from voting
- Interaction with Ms. Veeru Kohlinn, the first Pakistani Hindu women to stand for elections

6.4.1 Newsletters

Four GEP newsletters were published during the reporting period July 2012–June 2013. Regular features include GEP success stories, outreach initiatives, capacity building programmes and events (Table 19).

Table 16: GEP newsletter details

<i>Issue no.</i>	<i>Time period</i>	<i>Selected articles</i>
5	Jul–Sep 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview with Dr. Aliya Hashmi Khan, Member, National Advisory Forum, GEP ▪ Studying a Nepalese model to combat GBV ▪ GEP sub-grant opening meetings
6	Oct–Dec 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview with Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister ▪ GEP inaugurates office in Skardu ▪ Youth dialogue on the rights of women ▪ Punjab University commemorates 16 Days of Activism
7	Jan–Mar 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview with Justice (Retd.) Mehta Kailash Nath Kohli ▪ Pakistan’s first 3-D cartoon animation series, <i>Mein Aur Meray Dost</i> goes on air ▪ Interactive theatre performances highlight harassment in the workplace
8	Apr–Jun 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview with Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF ▪ IRC organizes five theatre performances ▪ GEP’s contribution to AF’s election activities ▪ Comparative analysis of manifestos on women participation and inclusion ▪ Post-election activities

6.4.2 Research studies

GEP conducted and published five research studies in December 2012. They are available in full form at <http://www.af.org.pk/gep/publications.html>.

- Customary Practices Leading to GBV: A Primary Data Research Study
- Domestic Violence: A Primary Data Research Study
- Social and Legal Responses to Rape: A Primary Data Research Study
- Sexual Harassment: A Primary Data Research Study
- Internal Trafficking of Women and Girls in Pakistan: A Research Study

6.4.3 Investigative studies

GEP conducted and published several investigative studies in 2012. They are available in full form at <http://www.af.org.pk/gep/publications.html>.

- Assessment of Disaster Management Institutions (by Mr. Sohail Manzoor)
- Assessment of the Capacities of Women Development Departments
- Crisis Centres and Gender Crime Cell (by Ms. Afiya Zia)
- Police Reporting and Investigation Mechanism (by Mr. Imdad Hussain)

6.5 Other Research

6.5.1 Report: Suggestions on Women’s Empowerment for Election Manifestos of Political Parties

Complete report is available at http://www.af.org.pk/pub_files/1365680811.pdf_ Authored by Ms. Naheed Aziz and Ms. Tahira Abdullah and published on December 31, 2012, this booklet was intended as a guide for women political party workers to encourage women’s active political participation and understand how to make party manifestos more women-friendly. The booklet was introduced at a national consultation on women’s empowerment in party manifestos on January 30, 2013 in Islamabad.

6.5.2 Paper: Women’s Participation in the Upcoming 2013 Elections

AF and DRI published a paper titled “Women’s Participation in the Upcoming 2013 Elections: Pakistan’s International Law Commitments under CEDAW.” It presented recommendations aimed at improving women’s right to participate in political and public life as enshrined under CEDAW.

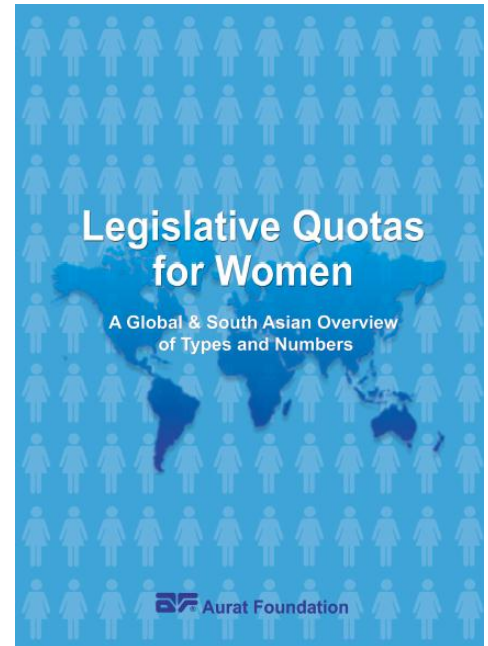
The AF-DRI paper supported additional measures by parties and civil society to safeguard the rights of women voters and candidates and pointed out that greater access to remedy in election disputes could be brought about by broadening the category of those permitted to file election petitions to include voters, CSOs and parties.

6.5.3 Booklet: Legislative Quotas for Women: A Global and South Asian Overview of Types and Numbers

Complete report available at http://www.af.org.pk/pub_files/1358744372.pdf Published on November 21, 2012, this booklet aimed to facilitate the development of a better understanding of the rationale behind affirmative action measures for quotas for women in legislatures and different types of quotas and best practices in various countries, including Pakistan.

Legislative or political quotas are a critical way of removing historical discriminations against women and mainstreaming them into politics. There have been numerous studies conducted in several countries, which indicate that quotas set the numbers and gender balance right in political and legislative institutions.

Some experts on quota systems think that types of quota systems also matter. Quotas *do* have an impact, whether they are voluntary or binding. However, some quota systems are not effective. For some experts, types of electoral systems also matter. There are electoral systems, which are more likely to produce better results. For example, international experiences tell us that “first past the post” electoral systems are less likely to get women elected than proportional systems.



6.5.4 Report: Pakistan NGO Alternative Report on CEDAW, 2012



Complete report available at http://www.af.org.pk/pub_files/1358697993.pdf Authored by Ms. Maliha Zia and Ms. Riffat Butt and published on December 18, 2012, this report (or “Shadow Report”) on CEDAW examines the Government of Pakistan’s response to concerns expressed in the observations of the UN CEDAW Committee on the earlier country report submitted in 2005 and heard by the CEDAW Committee in 2007. The shadow report is primarily a commentary on the Fourth Periodic Report of the Government (2005–2009), identifying gaps and presenting an objective picture and analysis of the situation on women in Pakistan from a women’s rights perspective.

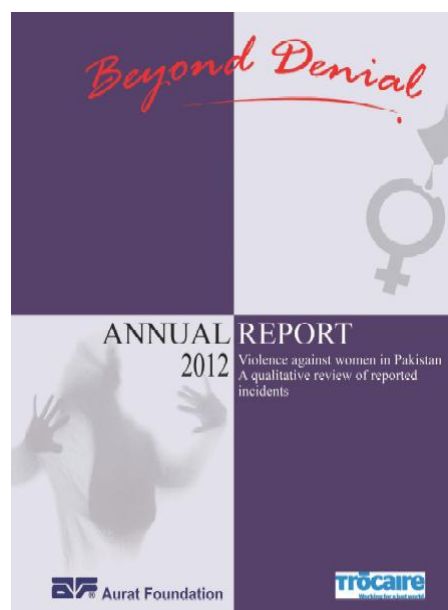
The shadow report also attempts to give the reader a brief overview of the situation of women in Pakistan beyond the reporting time period, to the present day. This overview is

essential in light of several major developments that have taken place after the reporting period. Realising the significance of a few landmark developments related to democracy, governance and the deteriorating situation of minority women, four addendum chapters were included in the report to provide additional information and insights to readers.

6.5.5 Report: Beyond Denial - Violence against Women in Pakistan: A Qualitative Review of Reported Incidents

Authored by Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen and published in May 2013, this report is based on a review and analysis of the numerical figures and tables received from selected newspapers of six regions of Pakistan through the Intermedia to AF, regarding violence committed against women and children during the calendar year, 2012.

The report is principally based on the information retrieved from the sampled newspapers but, for the sake of clarity and advocating the case of VAW in Pakistan, secondary references are also used where judged *de rigueur*. The report also contains glossaries and meanings and interpretations of the essential forms of violence in the legal domain.





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