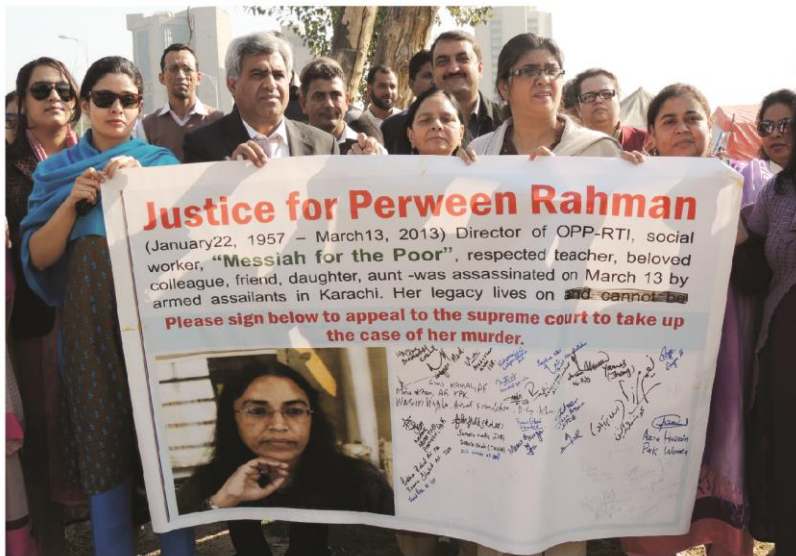


# ANNUAL REPORT 2014



AURAT FOUNDATION

# **Annual Report**

## **2014**



**Aurat Foundation**

**Report:** Annual Report 2014  
**Compiled and edited by:** Ali Shahrukh Pracha  
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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAC	AAWAZ <i>Agahi</i> (awareness) Centre
AAF	Aurat Action Forum
ADF	AWAZ District Forum
AF	Aurat Foundation
AGHS	Asma, Gulrukh, Hina and Shahla (law firm)
AJK	Azad Jammu and Kashmir
ANF	AAWAZ National Forum
ANP	Awami National Party
AOM	Area Opening Meeting
AOR	Agreement Officer Representative
ASF	Acid Survivors' Foundation
ATF	AAWAZ <i>Tehsil</i> Forum
AUF	AAWAZ Union council Forum
AVF	AAWAZ Village Forum
BBC	BISP Beneficiary Committee
BISP	Benazir Income Support Programme
BTCC	BISP <i>Tehsil</i> Coordination Committee
BUCC	Beneficiary Union Council Committee
CAC	Citizen Action Committee
CAO	Civic Advocacy Organization
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CLAAS	Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement
CNIC	Computerized National Identity Card
CRM	Child Rights Movement
CSC	Civil Society Coalition
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DAI	Development Alternatives Incorporated
DV	Domestic Violence
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
GBV	Gender-Based Violence



GCI	Gender Concerns International
GEP	Gender Equity Program
HRCP	Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IFT	Insan Foundation Trust
IHI	Insani Huqooq Ittehad
IRC	Interactive Resource Centre
KAP	Knowledge, Attitude and Practice
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LG	Local Government
LISTEN	Leverage in Social Transformation of Elected Nominees
LRC	Labour Resource Centre
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MSI	Management Systems International
NADRA	National Database and Registration Authority
NAF	National Advisory Forum
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PCSW	Provincial Commission on the Status of Women
PFC	Provincial Finance Commission
PGC	Pakistan Gender Coalition
PM	Prime Minister
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPAF	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
PPP	Pakistan People's Party
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf
PTV	Pakistan Television
RHV	Raising Her Voice
SDPI	Sustainable Development Policy Institute
SJA	Sindh Judicial Academy
SM	Social Mobilization
SMC	School Management Committee

SO	Social Organizer
SPO	Strengthening Participatory Organisation
SSO	Senior Social Organizer
SWWDD	Social Welfare and Women Development Department
TAF	The Asia Foundation
ToT	Training-of-Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAW	Violence Against Women
WDD	Women Development Department
WGW	Working Group for Women
WLG	Women leader Group
WLP	Women's Learning Partnership



## Introduction

It is not possible to start a message as the chief operating officer of a human rights organisation that works for a better, more emancipated country, for present and future generations, without taking into context the depth and breadth of the battles being fought within our borders. Apart from the gruesome war against extremism, it is the fight against polio that has gripped this country. In October 2014, Pakistan reached an alarming 200 recorded cases of polio. And so while the world braces itself against the new phenomena of Ebola, Pakistan faces a known, easily preventable epidemic, which has already affected hundreds of our children. AF finds alarming that amongst this chaos is the tumultuous number of brutal killings of polio workers, almost always female.

Another sad and shocking news for all civil society organisations was the assassination of our friend and development sector colleague, the well-known activist Perween Rehman. Her death adds to the alarming number of violent and fatal attacks on women in prominent places.

Amongst these worrying realities and the political turmoil in major cities, with protest demonstrations often affecting our physical presence in the Islamabad office, in particular, and what seems as a recurrent cycle of violence affecting all parts of the country, AF has strived forward with that one goal always in the forefront. That is to make more concerted and consistent efforts for a peaceful and just country for all, in which women have a space and choice in all aspects of their lives, both public and private.

In working to achieve this goal, mainstreaming women in governance at all levels, as both decision makers and voters, are one of the main pillars of AF. This review year has seen great efforts by AF with regard to awareness around exercising the female right to vote. Institutionally and individual projects have focused on this aspect extensively. LISTEN and AAWAZ have shown particular emphasis through different capacity building trainings to ensure a maximum number of women are made aware of the importance of their vote. In several districts, the actual requirements, such as the attainment of the national ID card and how to cast a vote, have also been explained through various trainings and awareness sessions.

Another achievement was the establishment of AAWAZ resource and awareness centres known as *Agahi* centres in each union council of KP and Punjab, where the AAWAZ programme operates. The centres are run by women, with IEC material on various topics from broader women's rights information to more practical information such as voter registration forms, amongst other things.

Outside of AF, an important development has been the establishment of the Pakistan Civil Society Forum. This has been set up as an umbrella body to protect local civil society organisations and to discuss ways for effective engagement at all levels of government, state and other institutions and civil society organisations for strengthening a representative democracy, amongst other concerns.




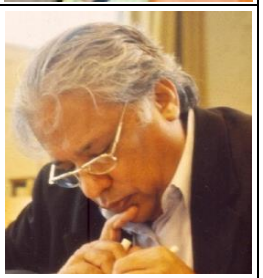

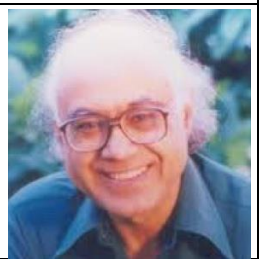



The AF team has worked hard to ensure this review year has been a success and their work has had a positive impact in people's lives. As always, AF is indebted to the Board of Governors and Executive Director, Nigar Ahmad for providing timely advice on every issue, which in

turn has allowed us to have an effective and permanent imprint in our volatile and often unpredictable society.

**Naeem Ahmed Mirza**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Aurat Foundation**  
August 2014, Islamabad

## Board of Governors 2013-2014

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

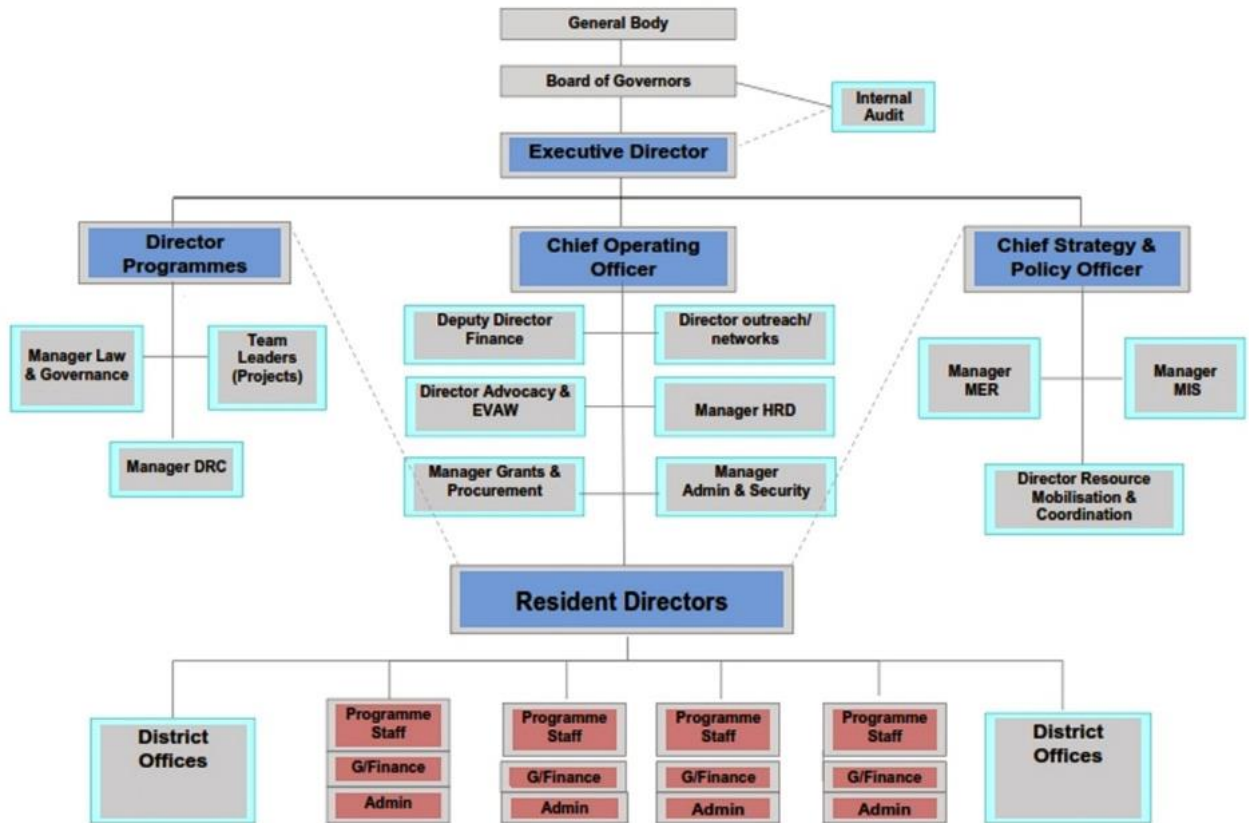
## Executive Council of Aurat Foundation

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<b>Nigar Ahmad</b>	Executive Director	Female	28 years
<b>Naeem Ahmed Mirza</b>	Chief Operating Officer	Male	17 years
<b>M. Younas Khalid</b>	Chief Strategy & Policy Officer	Male	19 years
<b>Nasreen Zehra</b>	Resident Director, Lahore	Female	18 years
<b>Shabina Ayaz</b>	Resident Director, Peshawar	Female	18 years
<b>Haroon Dawood</b>	Resident Director, Quetta	Male	17 years
<b>Mahnaz Rahman</b>	Resident Director, Karachi	Female	10 years

# Organogram

## Institutional Structure

### Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation







# Audit Report



**KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co.**  
Chartered Accountants  
2nd Floor,  
Servis House  
2-Main Gulberg Jail Road,  
Lahore Pakistan

Telephone + 92 (42) 3579 0901-6  
Fax + 92 (42) 3579 0907  
Internet www.kpmg.com.pk

## 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 2014 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 2014 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: 16 December 2014

Lahore

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

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

# Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation

## Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2014

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	Note	2014 Rupees	2013 Rupees	ASSETS	Note	2014 Rupees	2013 Rupees
<u>Accumulated fund</u>				<u>Non-current assets</u>			
General fund		31,914,154	3,449,802	Property and equipment	10	41,164,730	37,621,610
Endowment fund		1,035,924	1,035,924	Intangibles	11	3,646,496	4,983,552
Donated funds-restricted	6	1,966,761	55,557,952			44,811,226	42,605,162
Capital grants-restricted		40,393,519	38,409,046				
		75,310,358	98,452,724				
<u>Current liabilities</u>				<u>Current assets</u>			
Trade and other payables	7	44,648,326	42,073,534	Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables	12	27,675,733	24,363,829
Short term loan	8	500,000	1,337,700	Bank balances	13	47,971,725	74,894,967
		45,148,326	43,411,234			75,647,458	99,258,796
Contingencies and commitments	9						
		<u>120,458,684</u>	<u>141,863,958</u>			<u>120,458,684</u>	<u>141,863,958</u>

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

*Wahab*

Lahore

*Nigam Ahmad*  
Executive Director

*Shaukat*  
Director

## Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation

### Income and Expenditure Account

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	Note	Aurat	Projects	Consolidated	
		Foundation		2014	2013
		Rupees	Rupees	Rupees	Rupees
<b><u>Income</u></b>					
Grants-restricted		-	621,745,375	621,745,375	350,059,231
Donations		2,643,407	-	2,643,407	3,317,626
Other income	14	33,892,848	-	33,892,848	2,473,106
Management fees	15	3,925,417	-	3,925,417	2,984,268
Amortization of capital grants		-	9,461,007	9,461,007	10,123,981
		40,461,672	631,206,382	671,668,054	368,958,212
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>					
Salaries, wages and other benefits		1,395,550	248,574,019	249,969,569	169,725,541
Meetings, seminars, workshops and advertisement expenses		8,523,520	242,668,582	251,192,102	110,458,055
Professional fee		180,000	19,283,129	19,463,129	6,697,086
Office rent		511,667	24,709,657	25,221,324	18,425,467
Printing, publication, stationery and supplies		82,652	18,544,042	18,626,694	9,822,246
Communication and mailing expenses		57,055	6,867,385	6,924,440	3,776,447
Vehicle running, repair and maintenance expenses		23,812	19,809,291	19,833,103	4,672,336
Electricity, water and gas expenses		-	3,553,775	3,553,775	1,891,395
Travel and transport charges		278,253	12,089,341	12,367,594	5,865,929
Audit fee		-	600,000	600,000	450,000
Audit fee related to projects		-	1,919,407	1,919,407	1,504,692
Repair and maintenance expenses		11,076	8,232,722	8,243,798	5,936,872
Depreciation	10	170,586	7,770,334	7,940,920	8,824,962
Amortization	11	-	1,690,673	1,690,673	1,440,374
Relief activities		430,000	-	430,000	-
Management fees		-	3,925,417	3,925,417	2,984,268
Newspapers and periodicals		-	340,382	340,382	233,172
Security charges		-	6,181,599	6,181,599	4,088,275
Bank charges		221,105	178,332	399,437	227,173
Insurance expenses		112,044	4,268,295	4,380,339	3,647,358
		11,997,320	631,206,382	643,203,702	360,671,648
<b>Net surplus</b>		<b>28,464,352</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,464,352</b>	<b>8,286,564</b>

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

*WOMEN*

Lahore

*Nigar Ahmad*  
Executive Director

*Shamaila*  
Director



**List of Operational Projects (July 2013–June 2014)**

	<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	Restoration of Women’s Livelihood Project	Interchurch Organization for Development (ICCO) Cooperation
7	Women Learning Partnership	Women Learning Partnership
8	Leverage in Social Transformation of Elected Nominees (LISTEN)	Oxfam GB & Aus Aid



## **Chapter One**

# **Law and Policy Reform**



## 1. Law and Policy Reform

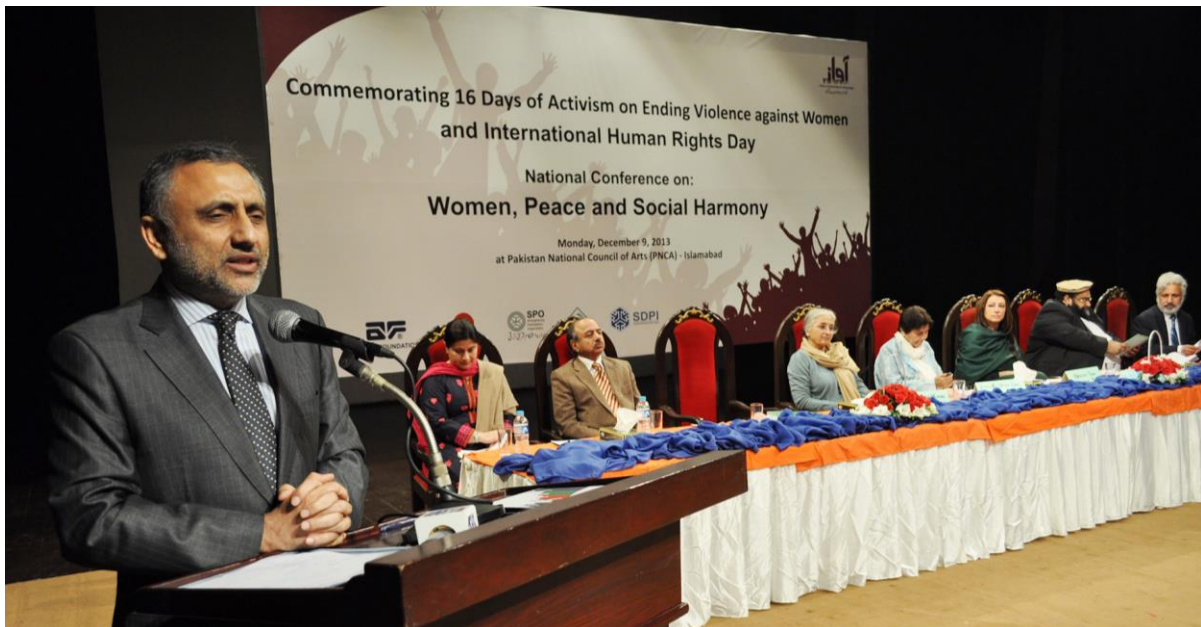
Due to the devolution of the provinces through the 18<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendment, the government was required to hold local government (LG) elections after the general elections. The rationale is that devolved authorities serve local populations more effectively and efficiently than centralized authorities; localized financial and administrative authority translates into improved service delivery at the local level and within the local context.

Provincial governments are obliged to hold LG elections to complete the election process and devolve authority and resources to local representatives. Previous administrations have been unable to establish LGs due to the inherent insecurity of their discretionary powers and access to resources.

The Supreme Court directed all four provinces to conduct LG elections by the end of September and ordered legislation in this regard to be completed by August 15, 2014. However, the issue of lack of trust in institutions and public representatives, and increased intolerance and violence have contributed to the lack of LG elections being conducted.

AF's protests and lobbying efforts to ensure women-inclusive local elections proved fruitful when the Peshawar High Court took *suo moto* notice of the issue and ordered the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to hold fresh elections in areas like Upper Dir, ensuring women's participation as voters. The court also asked the government to table a bill in Parliament to prevent similar incidents in the future and make necessary amendments to the People's Representation Act, 1976.

### 1.1. AAWAZ National Conference on 'Women, Peace and Social Harmony' demands gender reforms



The 'Women, peace and Social Harmony' was held in Islamabad, during the 16 days of activism by AAWAZ.

The National conference was chaired by Ms Khawar Mumtaz, Chairperson, NCSW. Other

speakers included Barrister Zafar Ullah Khan, Federal Secretary, Law Justice and Human Rights, Justice (R) Nasira Javed Iqbal, Allama Tahir Ashrafi, Chairperson, Pakistan Ulema Council, Ms Neelam Toru, Chairperson, Provincial Commission on the Status of Women, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Naeem Mirza, AF and Sajid Mansoor Qaisrani, Sungi Development Foundation.

The speakers at the conference demanded gender reforms, implementation of pro-women laws and enactment of legislation on domestic violence. The conference started with a welcome note by Mr Sajid Mansoor Qaisrani. Ms Anbreen Ajaib gave a brief history of 16 days of activism campaign and its relevance in Pakistan.



Ms Khawar Mumtaz said that inspite of present difficulties especially from terrorism the struggle for women's rights will continue. Laws were important but awareness at the local and national levels was also necessary. She commended the AAWAZ consortium for raising awareness on these issues in 7000 villages and urban settlements.

Mr Naeem Mirza addressed the audience by saying that NCSW should be represented in the cabinet, especially after the devolution of the women's ministry. He regretted that the ministry of human rights had been downgraded to a wing in the ministry of Law and Justice. He further talked about the worrisome trend of reduced seats for women in parliament and demanded that all discriminatory legislation against women and religious minorities be repealed.

Barrister Zafar Ullah expressed the view that on many levels things had improved, though acknowledged that a lot was needed. His went on further to say that his ministry was working to push forward the minority bills. He also expressed his keenness that the domestic violence bill should be adopted by the parliament as soon as possible.



Allama Tahir Ashrafi said that peace and social harmony is not possible in a country where religion becomes a tool to achieve personal and political gains.

Justice Nasira extensively talked of the history of Qisas and Diyat laws in Pakistan and the complete failure of these laws to protect the victim or the victim's family. She said that the world over, punishment is the authority of the state but in case of Pakistan the law has been distorted and the authority is given to individuals. She emphasized that review and repeal of these laws.

In the end, the Interactive Resource Centre also presented a stage play on Pakistan's political history.

## **1.2 Post Election Multi- Stakeholder Consultation: monitoring women's participation in elections as voters and leaders**



Gender Concerns International, in partnership with Aurat Foundation, conducted the General Election Monitoring Mission (GEM), where 120 women election monitors were sent out to observe 555 polling stations throughout the country on Election Day, on 11 May, 2013.

On October 3, 2013, both organisations launched a report of its findings during a multi-stakeholders dialogue. The issues discussed revolved around the current scenario of women as voters and as leaders.

The speakers included Ms. Khawar Mumtaz, Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), Mr. Raja Iftikhar, ADG (PR), Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), Mr Ijaz ul Haq (PML-J), Ms Taqdees Gilani, Chairperson Kashmir Cultural Academy AJK, and Prof Farkhanda Aurangzaib, AF.

Ms Nyghat Siddique, Head of Gender Concerns Operations in Pakistan, welcomed the participants and the speakers. Ms Sabra Bano, Head of GEM Pakistan Mission 2013, gave a detailed presentation on the election monitoring and its process. In her concluding remarks, she highlighted the need for reserved seats for women of Kashmir”.

Ms Khawar Mumtaz appreciated the recommendations by the mission and shared the work of NCSW during the elections. While appreciating the work done by the ECP, she highlighted the need for gender disaggregated data for each constituency, from the ECP, including data on rejected votes. She further demanded that the ECP declare an election result null and void where women's voters' turnout was less than 10%.



Prof. Farkhanda Aurangzeb, Director Gender and Resource Mobilization, AF, in her remarks said that AF always emphasized the empowerment women to participate as voters and as well as political participants. She shared AF's recommendation to political parties to allot women at least 15% party tickets for general election, apart from reserved seats.

Raja Iftikhar speaking on behalf of the ECP ensured the participants of ECP's commitment to the cause of Inclusive Electoral Processes. He mentioned that ECP has ensured women polling staff for women polling stations.

Local implementing partners also shared impressions, views and thoughts about women's participation in the elections. The session was followed by stakeholder's consultation including parliamentarians, senators, media representative and officials from ECP to seek their views with reference to inclusive governance and women's leadership in future electoral process in the country.

### **1.3 Provincial conference on good governance through local government**



On 6 August, 2013 AAWAZ, Aurat Foundation organized a provincial conference on the role of local government in ensuring good governance. The conference was held in Hospitality Inn, Lahore. The conference highlighted the demands of civil society for democratic good governance through local government in Punjab. Punjab Assembly members elected on minorities and women seats including Ms Faiza Malik were present. A large number of local and AAWAZ district level activists participated in the conference with placards with demands and slogans for local government. Participants criticized the reduction of women, minorities, peasants and workers seats and repeated their demands for 33 percent of women seats at all level of local government. Speakers demanded

administrative, financial and political power to local government according to the constitutional of Article 140-A. Mohammad Tahseen from SAP-PK, Salman Abid from SPO and Mumtaz Mughal from AF discussed the Local Government Act in detail.

### **1.4 Consultation on 'modalities of women's reserved seats'**

On 22 January, 2014 AF Quetta office, in collaboration with International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) organized a consultation to share the proposed modalities of women's reserved seats.

The consultation was chaired by Mr Jan Muhammad Jamali, Speaker Provincial Assembly Balochistan. Dr Kahoor Khan Baloch, Director General, Social Welfare, Ms Sadia Mumtaz and Mr Qazi Saleem Akhtar from IFES, and Mr. Haroon Dawood, Resident Director, AF, Quetta, were the resource persons. Dr Ishaq Baloch, Central Information Secretary, National

Party, and Executive Officer of Chief Minister Government of Balochistan, gave the concluding remarks. The participants included women parliamentarians, members of women wings of different political parties, NGOs' representatives, lawyers, political and social activists and media.

The speakers spoke at length on the historical perspective and modalities of women's reserved seats in legislative assemblies and the local government system. Women parliamentarians shared their experiences and problems about their selection on reserved seats. Most of them said that political parties do not encourage women to contest elections on general seats. The participants also demanded fifty percent women's representation at all tiers of government.



### **1.5 Provincial consultation on the 'State Report for Beijing +20'**

On 18 February 2014, AF, Quetta office, in collaboration with Rozan and National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), organized a provincial consultation on the 'State Report for Beijing+20', at Serena Hotel, Quetta. All relevant government agencies, parliamentarians, NGOs and other stakeholders were invited to share their experiences in order to document this information for the state report on the 12 thematic areas as outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action.

Participants of the consultation included government officials, women of different political parties, INGO/NGO representatives, lawyers, political and social activists, academia, labour unions, women's chamber of commerce, AF's district partners and media personal.

Mir Izhar Khan Khosa, Minister for Women's Development and Food, Government of Balochistan, chaired the session. He expressed his commitment to doing everything possible to advance the cause of women in Balochistan. Ms. Salma Qureshi, Additional Secretary, Women's Development Department, Balochistan, was also present in the event.

Ms Saliha Ramay (Rozan) and Ms Farkhanda Aurangzeb (AF) spoke at length on objectives of the consultation and also presented the overview of the Beijing conference and progress after that.



The participants were divided into 12 groups to discuss progress and achievements along with outlining setbacks and challenges for Beijing platform for action. The group works were assisted by Mr Allauddin Khilji, Mr Ishfaq Mengal, Mr Amir Ali, Mr Lal Muhammad and Ms Fatima Tahir. Mr Haroon Dawood, Resident Director (AF - Quetta) and Ms Saima Javed (AF - Quetta) moderated various sessions of the consultation.

### 1.6 Workshop on understanding gender concepts and legislative issues



A two-day workshop on ‘understanding gender concepts and legislative issues’ was organized by AAWAZ, between April 29-30, 2014, at a local hotel in Bhurban, Murree. Deputy Speaker National Assembly Mr. Murtaza Javed Abbasi was the chief guest. It was attended by representatives from all political parties. These included Senator Ms Farah Aqil Shah, ANP, Senator Mr Amar Jeet Malhotra, ANP, Ms Asia Naz Tanoli, MNA, PML-N, Ms Farhana Qamar, MNA, PML-N, Mr Rashid Mehmood Khan, MNA, PML-N, Mr Abdul Rehman Kanju, MNA, PML-N, Dr Mahreen Bhuttu, MNA, PPPP, Mr Shaukat Basra, MNA PPPP Punjab, Mr Amir Fida Paracha, Incharge Central Secretariat, PPPP, Islamabad, Mr Muhamad Ali Rashid, MNA, MQM, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif, former federal minister, MQM, Ms



Kishwar Zahra, MNA, MQM, Mr Ateeq Rehman, office bearer MQM, Mr Shehryar Afridi, MNA, PTI, Ms Munaza Hassan, MNA, PTI, Ms Nafeesa Inayatullah Khattak, MNA, PTI, Ms Sajida Zulfiqar Khan, MNA, PTI, Mr Farid Ahmed Piracha, JI, Dr Rukhsana Jabeen, Secretary Women Wing JI, Naeema Kishwar, MNA, JUI, Ms Shahida Akhtar Ali, MNA, JUI, Mr Meraj Humayun Khan, MPA, QWP, Mr Tariq Ahmed Khan, Information Secretary, QWP, Mr Sultan Muhammad Khan, MPA, QWP, Mr Asad Afridi Advocate, office bearer QWP FATA, Ms Jameela Gilani, former MNA, ANP, Syed Jaffar Shah, officer bearer, ANP, Ms Maham Ali, General Secretary Central Women Wing, PML-Q, Ms Fauzia Naz, Secretary General Women Wing PML-Q, and Syed Faqir Hussain Bukhari, office bearer PML-Q.

Mr Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer, AF, updated the participants about the history of women's reserved seats in Pakistan, and various models adopted by various countries. He invited the participants to discuss and give suggestion on which model of reserved seats for women be adopted in Pakistan.

Ms Khiswar Sultana, Gender Specialist, took a session on 'Understanding Basic Gender Concepts', which discussed the difference between gender and sex and gender division of labour.

The second session, titled 'Legislative Dynamics: Rule of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly' was delivered by Mr Muhammad Mushtaq, Joint Secretary, Legislation, National Assembly.



Ms Sadia Mumtaz, Gender/ Legal Expert delivered third session on 'Women Legislative Quotas – Models and Constraints'. She gave the history of reserved seats in the parliamentary since 1956 Constitution to 1973 Constitution and then the allocation of 17% quota for women in parliament in 2002. While talking about proposals for electoral quotas, she discussed the recommendations of the Commission on Inquiry 1997.

Third session was titled 'An Overview of Pro-Women Legislative Initiatives (First Parliamentary Year of 14th National Assembly)' was contributed by representatives of political parties. One representative from each party was asked to share the commitments of their party towards and their role so far in pro-women policy making and legislation.

## **1.7 Women journalists demand 33% seats at decision-making level in journalist unions**

Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) and Aurat Foundation (AF) jointly organized an All-Pakistan Women Journalists Convention (APWJC) in Lahore on May 2, 2014.

Around 150 women journalists from all parts of the country took part in the convention and



unanimously passed the Lahore Declaration which was presented at the concluding session.

Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage, Senator Pervaiz Rasheed was the Chief Guest at the concluding session. President PFUJ Mr Afzal Butt, senior lawyer and former Chairperson Supreme Court Bar Association Ms Asma Jahangir, Ms Zakia Shahnawaz, Minister for Population Welfare, Punjab, senior journalist Ms Moneezah Hashmi, politician and activist Ms Bushra Aitazaz, senior journalist and activist Ms Jugnu Muhsin and AF's Director Advocacy Rabeea Hadi spoke on the occasion.

The declaration demands that all female journalists be given press club membership and seats in club elections; allocation of 33 per cent seats for women journalists in PFUJ and other decision-making bodies as well as Pakistan Press Council; provision of basic facilities in media houses (including day-care centers, separate washrooms and rest rooms); establishment of sexual harassment complaint committees in every media house, union offices and press clubs under the Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace 2010 Act.

## **1.8 Women-friendly legislation after devolution**

Trócaire and AF's regional staff and head office have made considerable efforts to lobby for the passage of women-friendly legislation. As a result of dedicated efforts by AF in collaboration with other like-minded organisations and women parliamentarians a resolution on the commemoration of International Women's Day was moved by MNA Anusha Rahman on 7 March, 2014, at the federal level.

In Balochistan, the Domestic Violence (DV) Prevention and Protection Bill, 2014 was passed in the Assembly.

In Sindh, the Assembly unanimously passed the Child Marriages Restraint Bill on 28 April, 2014, which had been pending approval since 20 October 20, 2013. The Sindh Assembly is the only provincial assembly to have passed this bill. Three standing committee meetings were held on 13 December, 2013, 22 December, 2013 and 10 January, 2014. AF also held several advocacy and lobbying meetings with various parties and women legislators. Various



legislators applauded AF's efforts in helping to pass the bill in the Sindh Assembly. Minister Rubina Qaim Khani stated that a district-level campaign would be launched to raise awareness about the bill in rural Sindh.

Salient features include the following:

- No persons under the age of 18 can be married without their own consent.
- Violators will be fined a minimum of PKR 45,000 and sentenced to 2–3 years in prison.

Two other important resolutions were passed in Sindh for the formation of the Women Caucus, moved by MPA Irum Khalid, Pakistan People's Party and the Provincial Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), moved by MPA Khairunisa Mughal. AF-Karachi held meetings with Deputy Speaker, Shehla Raza to discuss the cross-party alliance of female MPAs for which AF drafted and shared copies of the two resolutions. Both resolutions were moved on 25 February, 2014.

### **1.9 Consultation on 'The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013' & Presentation of shields to women police officers in Sindh**



The Gender Based Violence (GBV) - Advocacy & Capacity Development Project of AF, with the support of Women Learning Partnership (WLP), organized a consultation on 'Implementation of The Sindh Child Marriages Restraint Act, 2013' and to present shields to women police officers, on July 3, 2014, at Hotel Mehran, Karachi.

The child marriage act and its various implementation initiations were discussed. After the consultation, President of the AF Board of Governors, Dr. Masuma Hasan, awarded shields to

women police officers for their hard work and contribution in bringing women in the mainstream.

The guests included Syeda Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly, Ms. Mahtab Akber Rashidi, MPA- PML-F, Ms. Sorath Theabo, MPA- PML-N, Ms. Saima Shah Asim, MPA-MQM, Ms. Nasimunisa, MPA-MQM, Ms. Masuma Hasan President Board of Governors, Ms. Simi Kamal, Chief of Party, Gender Equity Programme (GEP), Mr. Abdul



Khaliq Shaikh, DIG Police, South, Ms. Naseem Ara Panhwar, First Women DPO in Pakistan, Ms. Ghazala Siddiqui, First SHO in Sindh, Ms. Shahla Quershi, First ASP in Sindh, Ms. Masuma Chanazi, SSP Traffic, Ms. Azra Memon, ADIG Traffic, Ms. Shugufta Majeed, SI Women Police Station, Ms. Hajra Usman, S.H.O Women South, Ms. Zaibunisa, S.H.O Bahadarabad, Mr. Aijaz Ahmed Mahesar, Additional Secretary Planning & Development, Ms. Musarat Jabeen, Deputy Secretary Women Development Department. Participants also included government officials, lawyers, media persons and NGO representatives.

Syeda Shahla Raza, Ms. Mahtab Akber Rashidi, Mr. Abdul Khaliq Shaikh, Ms. Masuma Hasan, and Ms. Simi Kamal spoken on the issue. All women police members shared their experiences. Ms. Mahnaz Rahman, Resident Director, Aurat Foundation, outlined their struggle for passage of women and girls' specific legislation.

### **Quetta: Provincial Consultation on 'The Child Marriage Prohibition Bill, 2014'**



On 3 June, 2014 Aurat Foundation Quetta office organized a provincial consultation on 'The Child Marriage Prohibition Bill, 2014' at Serena Hotel, Quetta, under the Listen project. Members of Balochistan provincial assembly (both men and women members), Secretary Women's Development, social and political activists, senior lawyers and other relevant stakeholders attended the consultation. The objective of the workshop was to share the first

draft of the bill for further comments and recommendations.

A working group, comprised members of provincial assembly, Secretary Women's Development, representative from law department and religious scholars.



# **Capacity Building and Consultative Processes**



## **2. Capacity Building and Consultative Processes**

Continuous and effective capacity building and consultative processes are considered an essential part of our working, to which we owe a lot our success. AF takes pride in itself on its meaningful and up to date institutional and individual capacity building exercises, at all levels and on varied topics. In this review year, capacity building has taken the form of workshops, trainings, dissemination on relevant material such as gender based violence and the importance of women's active political participation as voters.

To sustain a working mechanism for effective private and public engagement on any issue, it is important that the consultative processes be systemic and continuous. AF has held several independent and collaborative consultative forums to take into account the views across the spectrum of stakeholders involved. Topics have ranged from the introduction of necessary laws and action plans to protect women, both at federal and provincial levels, to post-devolution challenges.

### **2.1 Two days capacity building workshop with office bearers of political parties on of gender discrimination**



Aurat Foundation, in collaboration with AAWAZ Consortium partners (SAP-PK, SPO, Sungi) organized a 2-days capacity building workshop on 'Gender Sensitization', between 18-19 May, 2014, at Avari Hotel, Lahore. The consultation sessions were held to raise awareness within political parties on women's rights, by bringing into the forefront women's political engagement at the decision making level.

Sixty two political party office bearers including two MPAs from mainstream political parties attended the workshop. The participants were invited from twenty (20) districts of Punjab, namely Sargodha, Jhang, Okara, Rawalpindi, Mandi Bahauddin, R.Y. Khan, Rajanpur, D.G.Khan, Attock, Khushab, Faisalabad, T.T.Singh, Nankana, Bahawalpur, Bhawalnagar, Mianwali, Pakpattan, Gujranwala, Khanewal, Bhakkar and Lahore.

During the two days, Ms Mumtaz Mughal, Provincial Manager, AAWAZ Programme, conducted a session on 'Gender Disparities in Political Participation and Pro Women

Legislation in Pakistan’ with special focus on Punjab. Mr Salman Abid conducted a session on ‘Unpacking Women Political Participation and Democracy’. Mr Ali Imran, West Minister Foundation for Democracy, conducted a



session on ‘18<sup>th</sup> Amendment and Right to Information Law in Punjab’, while Mr Samson Salamat, Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights Education, conducted a session on ‘ Understanding Social Exclusion and Rights of Minorities’. Ms Fouzia Vaqar Chairperson, Provincial Commission on the Status of Women, Punjab, Chief Guest of the event, spoke about the importance of women’s political participation and gender sensitization within political parties.

## **2.2 AAWAZ capacity building measures**

### **Mobile video training**

The Interactive Resource Centre (IRC) organized three mobile camera training workshops with community members in collaboration with AF. The central idea was to train community activists in documenting social issues using mobile video technology. Some 72 participants from Punjab and KP participated. Two trainings took place between 16 June and 23 June, 2013. A third one was held between 18 June and 25 June, 2013 in Lahore.

The trainings covered human rights awareness, camera tools and operations, media ethics, field work, post-production work and process documentaries.

Participants developed 67 mobile videos, highlighting education, health, crime, damaged roads, sewage problems, the unavailability of water and the lack of middle and high schools for girls.

### **Audio-video training**

AF’s communication staff conducted a two-day training on audio/video operations and fact-finding techniques and their ethics. Participants were taught how to use digital cameras, including mobile phone cameras, and how to build awareness to address problems identified at the village, UC and district level. The training took place on 7–8 October, 2013 at the Ramada Hotel in Islamabad. It was attended by people from 13 districts of KP and Punjab.

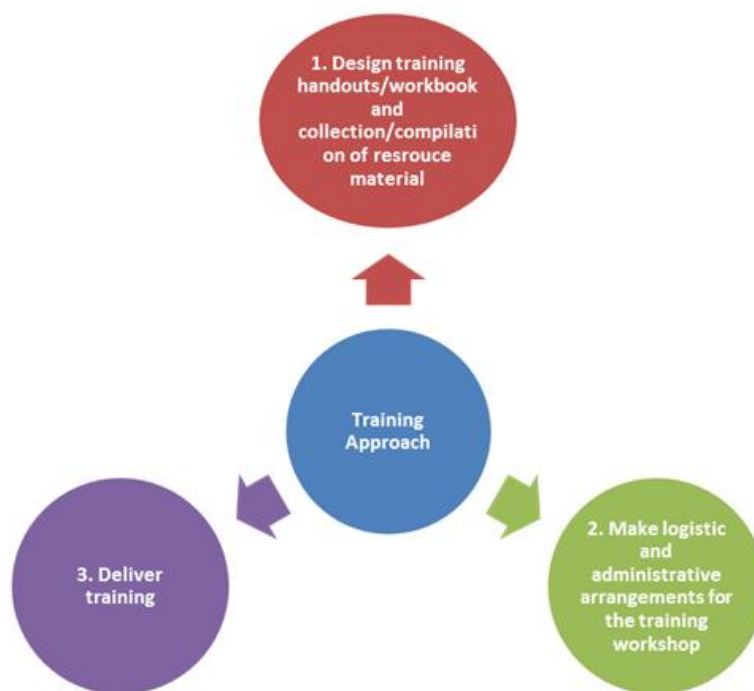
Topics included camera controls, image/video/audio file formats, evidence filming, fact finding (identifying issues), collecting evidence, lighting and framing, interview techniques and story board writing.

## Addressing problems at the village, UC and district level

A capacity building ToT session was conducted on 3–17 June, 2013 in Lahore to address problem areas identified at the village, UC and district level for consortium partners. The training was replicated by AF staff during the period 13–21 July, 2013. The goal was to train a cadre of trainers who could replicate the training at the local level.

A ToT was held on 2–4 September, 2013 in Islamabad to develop capacities and awareness to address problem areas identified at the village, UC and district level. The training was replicated by AF on 5–6 October, 2013 for KP Staff at the Ramada Hotel, Islamabad, and again on 11–12 October, 2013 at the Sunfort Hotel, Lahore. The goal was to train a cadre of trainers to further replicate the training at the local level. Figure 1 shows the training approach.

Figure 1: AAWAZ ToT training approach



### 2.2.1 Capacity building in dispute resolution

AF organized meetings with village forum representatives to address local disputes and conflicts. AVF members were trained in assessing, identifying and addressing local-level disputes. The main objective was to understand the nature of village-level disputes that affect women, children and vulnerable communities. Major issues highlighted were:

- *Watta satta*;
- Proposals and engagements;
- Feudalism;
- *Wara bandi* or agriculture water sharing;
- Religious conflicts;
- Animal grazing;
- Games in playgrounds and streets;

- Children's disputes;
- Shia-Sunni conflicts;
- Garbage disposal in residential areas;
- Sanitation disputes;
- Water supply disputes;
- Property issues;
- Divorce cases;
- Afghani settlements.

Sessions on sensitizing UC forums to local disputes and conflict were also held. The AAWAZ team also stressed the need to review traditional methods of conflict resolution in order to avoid anti-women decisions. In addition, sessions on conflict mapping and conflict prioritization were held to promote peace building and conflict prevention.

The second reporting period saw the completion of 110 sessions in KP (1,634 women, 1,639 men) and another 410 in Punjab (3,966 women, 4,475 men).



Follow up activities were also conducted where focal persons regularly oversaw, assisted and observed the role of committees in conflict identification, and recorded case studies.

About 176 such follow ups were conducted in KP (1,200 women, 1,217 men) and another 516 in Punjab (3,834 women, 4,317 men).

District-wise training sessions were arranged during the second reporting period to teach AAWAZ union council forum (AUF) members about conflict mapping, prioritizing conflicts and disputes, peace building, conflict prevention, non-violent communication and negotiation skills. Ten such activities took place in KP (59 women, 67 men) and another 14 took place in Punjab (213 women, 259 men).

Similar sessions were held at the *tehsil* level in Punjab. Nine activities took place for 149 women and 186 men. The process also consolidated data on conflict so that various types of disputes could be prioritized in future. Some 80 persons were trained in data collection techniques.

In the same vein, *tehsil* forums in Punjab met with representatives from various government departments (planning, revenue, irrigation, livestock, health, etc.) to promote the idea of people-centred planning to avoid disputes that can turn into larger conflicts. This exercise involved 8 meetings that were attended by 199 women and 149 men. Participants became more



aware of GBV issues at the *tehsil* level and strengthened their linkages with district and *tehsil* bar associations.

### 2.3 The Leverage in Social Transformation of Elected Nominees (LISTEN) Project

#### *Training of trainers*

A comprehensive training-of-trainers (ToT) course was designed and launched The Leverage in Social Transformation of Elected Nominees (LISTEN) project. The process commenced with a knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) study in the first quarter to gauge knowledge of civil and political rights and their role in ensuring social accountability and performance appraisal of elected officials. This study helped understand target learning needs. It also identified two women from each district for the ToT course.



Two workshops were organized for five days in two phases, in both Lahore and Karachi. The Lahore training took place between 17–21 February, 2014 and was attended by 36 women leaders from Punjab and KP. The Karachi training was conducted between 10–14 March, 2014 and was attended by 24 women leaders from Sindh and Balochistan. Major training areas included:

- Effective ToT;
- Human rights;
- Community governance;
- Social accountability;
- Gender justice;
- Community action research and knowledge management;
- An increased understanding of civil and political rights, good governance, accountability and advocacy.

Conducted in Urdu, the training programme was designed to build capacities and equip participants with training materials to pass on to the grassroots level. Some 1,200 participants were trained using an effective mix of lectures, plenary discussions, group work, role playing, documentaries, video clips and case studies. Certificates were distributed at the end.

## Study circles

Study circles were conducted in 16 districts for some 980 women through the LISTEN project throughout the review year. These were forums for the discussion of social, political and economic issues in the home and at the community and society level. Women leaders held press conferences and demonstrations in their districts and condemned the brutal honour killing of Farzana Batool. They demanded amendments to the honour killing law. The issues and solutions discussed in these forums are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1: Issues and recommendations discussed in study circles**

Issues	Recommendations
<b>Home</b>	
<b>Boys given preference for education</b>	Gender-sensitive syllabus and community awareness of importance of girls' education
<b>Women have limited participation in domestic-level decision making processes</b>	Increase men's awareness on women's ability to handle economic matters with limited resources, and thus their right to be involved in all decision making
<b>Lack of family support to work outside the home</b>	Increase families' awareness about women's rights to work outside the home and provide support and protection
<b>Women are economically dependent on men</b>	Women are entitled to education and have every right to work outside the home
<b>Unequal inheritance rights</b>	Governments must ensure comprehensive legislation and implementation processes
<b>Women are not allowed to marry on their own terms</b>	Families must trust their women and ask about their personal choices and thoughts
<b>Society</b>	
<b>Custom often prohibits women from participating in public gatherings</b>	Awareness sessions in communities to discourage such customs
<b>Women faced harassment in the workplace</b>	Increase women's awareness of the Protection Against Harassment in the Workplace Act, 2010
<b>VAW</b>	Increase societal awareness should be aware about the laws which are safeguarding the rights of women
<b>Women do not have access to basic health and education facilities due to medical systems and far-flung schools</b>	Advocacy with line departments for better health and educational facilities
<b>People are unaware of their rights and various laws and policies</b>	Awareness raising sessions on rights, laws and policies
<b>State</b>	
<b>Absence of LG systems/ LG elections not held</b>	Pressurize government to hold LG elections in provinces
<b>VAW is the most powerful mechanism used by male family members (physical/psychological abuse)</b>	DV bill must be passed and coupled with effective implementation mechanisms
<b>Women have limited representation in decision making positions</b>	Inform the public about the 'The Punjab Fair Representation of Women Act, 2014' that ensures 33% women's representation in decision making positions
<b>Lack of technical schools</b>	The government should establish technical schools and colleges at the district level

<b>Lack of youth representation in political parties</b>	Mandatory youth representation in decision making positions
<b>Limited information on the Prime Minister's (PMs) Youth Programme</b>	A help desk for the PM's Youth Programme to provide free information
<b>Missing facilities in government hospitals, especially in gynaecological wards</b>	Advocacy with elected representatives and district administration to focus on poor conditions of gynaecological wards in government hospitals
<b>Insufficient numbers of girls' schools in rural areas</b>	Advocacy with the government to girls' establish schools
<b>Women face male-dominating behaviour on visits to UC offices</b>	The appointment of women as UC Secretaries in each UC office
<b>Honour killings</b>	Amendments to the honour killing bill

### ***Three-day training on gender budget tracking and performance***

Two provincial-level training workshops on gender budget tracking and performance were held. These were held towards the end of May 2014 in Lahore and Karachi. Some 60 women leaders from 30 project districts were trained. Topics included the following:

- What budgets are and the types of budgets;
- The relationship between budgets and policy;
- Government—federal, provincial and district—budgets and the differences between them;
- Development and non-development budgets/current budgets;
- The NFC and PFC awards;



- District government revenue sources;
- District budgets and citizens' participation opportunities.

### ***Women and youth delegates meeting with elected representatives***

Study circle reflections were presented to elected representatives at the district level. Meetings/seminars were organized in 30 districts with participation from 560 women and 217 men. Representatives from the district administration, Social Welfare Department, NADRA, Bait-ul-Mal, Zakat and Ushar Committee and education and health departments participated.

Other participants included:

- Senator Najma Hameed;
- Nisar Ahmad, DC, Haripur;

- Iffat Liaqat, MNA;
- Qurban Ali Khan, MPA-KP;
- Sheikh Salman;
- Various PML-N representatives.

Table 2 summarizes the issues raised during the seminar.

**Table 2: Issues raised during LISTEN seminars**

<b>Demands for improved service delivery</b>	<b>Demands for policy and law</b>
<b>Upgrade girls' primary schools to middle/high schools in village Titral, district Chakwal, Kalabagh City in <i>tehsil</i> Essa Khel and Basti Faqeer Wala in Dera Ghazi Khan</b>	Pass the DV bill
<b>Ensure doctor/medicine availability in government hospitals and dispensaries</b>	Ensure the property rights of <i>katchi abadi</i> residents
<b>Set up a help desk for the PM's Youth Programme in each district</b>	Introduce legislation that ensures women 50% property ownership
<b>Organize separate transportation for women, especially for school/college closing hours</b>	Announce LG elections
<b>Separate spaces for women in courts and police stations</b>	The appointment of one woman as UC secretary in the Attock UC office
<b>Disseminate information regarding on the Pakistan Bait-ul-Maal</b>	Ensure that political parties allot 33% of tickets to women
<b>Provide missing facilities in schools in village Shadi Hattar</b>	Formulate policy for home-based women workers
<b>Increase the number of court judges</b>	
<b>Provide missing facilities in civil hospitals, especially in gynaecological and TB wards</b>	
<b>Government hospital do not usually offer psychiatric/psychological services</b>	
<b>Establish technical colleges in targeted districts</b>	



**Social Mobilisation and  
Citizens Engagement**



### 3.1 Social Mobilization, Conditional Cash Transfer Programme

The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) is a non-conditional cash transfer programme that provides financial assistance to low-income families through cash payments. BISP designed a Waseela-e-Taleem programme based on the concept of co-responsibility where cash is transferred conditionally to underprivileged women-headed households. Beneficiary families are required to ensure children's enrolment to maintain their BISP funds. The programme is funded by UK Aid.

Waseela-e-Taleem was rolled out nationally after testing the social mobilisation (SM) design as a six-month pilot phase in five districts of Pakistan, including Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).



The extended phase commenced on 1 April, 2013 and was extended to include an additional 15 districts. BISP management also asked its SM partners to mobilize 46,220 children (from beneficiary households) to seek school admission and verify school attendance of another 29,389. The implementation plan included:

- Mapping of beneficiaries;
- Area opening meetings (AOMs);
- Capacity building of women leaders, implementation team and other stakeholders;
- Formation of committees at three tiers;
- Follow-up of regular committee meetings;
- Strengthening and reinforcement of activities in the pilot districts;
- Case management;
- M&E.

#### 3.1.1 Beneficiary mapping

Mapping was used to determine how beneficiaries can be grouped while accounting for their mobility, geographical and cultural conditions and ability to develop inter- and intra-communication. Mapping proceeds in three stages, (i) reconciliation of the BISP beneficiary

list from the Head Office with lists from BISP, district or *tehsil* offices; (ii) identification and verification of BISP beneficiaries; and (iii) segmenting beneficiaries into groups/clusters.

### 3.1.2 Area opening meetings and committees

Mobilisation began with AOMs where potential activists, *imams*, potential beneficiaries and local political leaders were contacted. These meetings were conducted at the UC or village level.

BISP beneficiary committees (BBCs) were then formed at the village/hamlet, UC and *tehsil* level. Nearly 16,000 such committees were formed (88% achievement), albeit amidst delays due to the backlog of women leader trainings.

The second committee tier is the beneficiary union council committee (BUCC). These were formed after the requisite number of village communities had been formed. Finally, in the project's extended phase, the BISP *tehsil* coordination committees (BTCCs) were formed.

### 3.1.3 Women leaders' capacity building

The core aim of the SM NCTP was building the capacities of individuals in communities who could directly or indirectly take the lead in initiating and supporting a sustainable learning society. It was decided that the capacities of local institutions would be built and a cadre of master trainers would be developed. Initiatives on this front included:

- Development of awareness session guidebook;
- Development of manual for women leaders training;
- Finalization of IEC material;
- Orientation workshop for project staff;
- Follow-up orientation workshops for the field staff;
- Training of trainers workshop;
- Progress review meeting;
- Stakeholders orientation workshop on SM;
- Women leader trainings.

A summary of trainings is shown in Table 3.

**Table 3: Women leader trainings (BISP)**

District	Women leader training targets	No. of trainings conducted as of 30 March, 2015	No. of women leaders trained
Larkana	100	72	2,160
Benazirabad	147	106	2,650
Sukkur	92	55	1,249
Charsadda	78	18	450
Mansehra	75	38	1,008
Malakand	18	12	350
Kohat	40	47	1,323
Gwadar	12	11	285



<b>Jhal Magci</b>	10	4	80
<b>Loralai</b>	12	24	495
<b>Mirpur</b>	6	5	163
<b>Bagh</b>	10	17	362
<b>Gilgit</b>	8	8	128
<b>Baltistan</b>	9	8	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>10,822</b>

### 3.1.4 Orientation workshops

#### *Orientation workshop for project staff*

A three-day project orientation workshop was held at the Islamabad Hotel on 12–15 June 2013 by SM-NCTP’s project management unit (PMU). SM-NCTP’s Team Leader and PMU team members oriented all project teams about the project and working methodology. Donor representatives also attended.

#### *Orientation workshop for field staff*

The aforementioned workshop was replicated and carried out for field staff, including senior social organizers (SSOs) and social organizers (SOs) in 16 districts. The workshop was completed within two days (in one day in certain far-flung areas) and covered topics such as SM, mapping, field planning, information gathering, identification, verification, clustering, three tiers of mobilisation and the resolution of local conflicts related to BISP and the Waseela-e-Taleem Programme.

### 3.1.5 Training-of-trainers workshop

Four ToT workshops were arranged for 82 participants (85% female SOs). The aim was to make participants more confident and competent trainers and enable them to build capacity within their own communities. Sessions covered BISP and its programmes, human rights, women rights, a sense of co-responsibility, identification and election of women leaders, training exercises, facilitating trainings within communities and refreshers and ice breakers.



### 3.1.6 Stakeholders’ orientation workshop on social mobilisation

An orientation workshop covering the SM project and its ongoing activities was held for stakeholders like NADRA, BISP, the Education Department and LG in December 2013. The purpose was to interact with all relevant stakeholders and developing a sense of co-responsibility. The workshop was completed in districts by March 2014.

### 3.1.7 Women leader trainings

The selection of women leaders was done using predefined election processes *after* SSO and SO trainings were complete. Training sessions taught the women:

- How to engage beneficiaries in dialogue to improve their understanding of SM processes amongst BISP beneficiaries;
- How to manage their groups independently;
- Resolve issues;
- Women's rights and the importance of civic registration.

### 3.2 AAWAZ: programme planning and review meeting

Programme planning and review meetings took place on 13 July and 21–22 July, 2013 in Nathia Gali. AAWAZ district staff from KP and Punjab participated. Major discussion points included activity review, programme progress and challenges faced. In addition, Mr. Jamal, Accounts Manager, covered important topic such as financial reporting requirements and procedure, budget formats, travel approvals, payment requests, travel expense reports, POL consumption reports, petty cash limits, the use of fleet cards, logbook maintenance, goods receiving notes and leave records.



Three programme planning and review meetings were held in:

- Islamabad (national level), 25 September, 2013;
- Peshawar (regional level), 25 October, 2013;
- Lahore (regional level), 26–27 October, 2013.

The agenda of these meetings was to review monthly progress, revisit existing work plans and share achievements and challenges.

### **3.2.1 Training on monitoring and oversight of social service delivery**

#### ***Orientation sessions***

Orientation sessions were held in four districts with 50 village forum representatives at the UC level to train people in citizens' engagement with public sector services. The purpose was to strengthen the role of school councils/parent-teacher associations in monitoring school performance. Participants learnt about community roles in making social services (such as health) accountable. Additional sessions were conducted on how to monitor social service delivery.

The second reporting period saw orientation sessions with 353 AVF representatives. The theme was citizens' engagement with public sector services. The purpose was to make communities aware of the role they could play in strengthening school councils/parent-teachers associations in monitoring school and health committees. About 128 such sessions took place in KP (1,258 women, 1,422 men) and another 353 in Punjab (4,124 women, 4,503 men).

#### ***Data collection***

AVF were also trained in collecting data on missing facilities and the role and responsibilities of parent-teacher associations and health monitoring committees. It was decided that data would be collected in targeted UCs, analysed and then presented to the concerned government departments. Twenty such activities took place in KP (205 women, 240 men) and another 265 in Punjab (2,094 women, 2,040 men).

The process was carried further with meetings with representatives of the police, LG, education, health, etc) departments. Twenty such activities took place in KP (205 women, 240 men) and another 75 in Punjab (749 women, 567 men).

#### ***Training on monitoring and oversight of social services***

Awareness-raising sessions were also held on monitoring social services like education and health. AF staff briefed the AUF saying that UC forums must sensitize communities to the importance of participation in effective accountability of social services through walks, seminars and dissemination materials. Seventeen such activities took place in KP (147 women, 183 men) and another 234 took place in Punjab (2,356 women, 2,735 men).

### **3.2.2 Monitoring activities**

Monitoring visits were carried out to review progress and achievements, monitor ongoing field activities, facilitate district teams in conducting field activities, conduct capacity building sessions for district teams and discuss problems faced. Regional teams conducted several such visits during the second reporting period. The immediate results were:

- The preparation of action plan to complete remaining activities;
- Improved coordination among teams;
- Increased levels of understanding in implementing partnership strategies at the field level;
- Improved record keeping.
- Increased capacity in administration and accounts, policy and procedural compliance.

### 3.2.3 Achieving women’s political participation

UC forum members underwent extensive capacity building exercises to serve as a technical resource pool for the AAWAZ programme on women’s issues and enhancing women’s political participation at the grassroots level. Major themes included:



- Women’s constitutional rights;
- National and international commitments on gender equality;
- Demystifying gender in local contexts;
- The role of women in national development and politics;
- Awareness of VAW, girls and children;
- The importance and benefits of CNICs;
- The need and impact of having women in decision making positions;
- Women in LG and their role as councillors.

### 3.2.4 Staff orientation

A staff orientation meeting took place on 18–19 June, 2013. The purpose was to present a situation analysis of the present socio-political and economic perspective of the AAWAZ Programme and understand its objectives, framework and planned impacts. Other themes included the programme’s value for money, contractual obligations, budgeting and financing and reporting formats.



A two-day programme staff orientation session was arranged and held on 3–4 October, 2013 at the Ramada Hotel, Islamabad. It had been planned for Peshawar but was changed for security reasons. Participants from Swat and Nowshera and new staff attended. Separate sessions were held on 10 October, 2013 at the Sunfort Hotel, Lahore. About 8 district staff members oriented 24 programme staff members during these sessions.

### **3.3 Leverage in Social Transformation of Elected Nominees Project**

The Leverage in Social Transformation of Elected Nominees (LISTEN) project was aimed at capacity building, research and advocacy at the local and decision-making level. There were several core objectives, which included mobilization and capacity building of 1,085 community-based women and youth groups in 30 constituencies, to undertake policy research and budget analyses of relevant provincial departments and to sensitize women voters on their political rights using mass media and universities in 30 districts across the country.

Some of the project's key achievements are outlined below:

- 1. Degree college for women:** WLGs met elected representatives to discuss the construction of a degree college for girls in *tehsil* Kalabagh. Construction has been approved.
- 2. Voter registration drive:** WLGs launched a campaign to register 585 women voters. Women also learnt about the importance of computerized national identity cards (CNICs) and birth and voter registration.
- 3. Press conference and demonstration:** WLGs organized press conferences in district Mianwali and Rahim Yar Khan and a demonstration in district Chakwal against the brutal murder of Farzana Parveen in front of the Lahore High Court by her family for deciding to marry against their wishes. A similar protest was held in Islamabad on 29 May, 2014 and attended by GEP staff.
- 4. Early marriage:** WLGs recognize harmful traditional practices against women as wrong. They intervened in an early marriage case in district Thatta and stopped the marriage.
- 5. LG elections:** A number of women were encouraged to contest elections on general seats. Many submitted nomination papers in Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh.
- 6. Marriage rights:** WLGs learned about the intricacies of *nikah namas* and discussed them with As a result of trainings, their confidence has been increased about their rights with grooms' families.
- 7. School management committees (SMCs):** WLGs encouraged local communities to participate in both girls' and boys' SMCs.
- 8. Politics:** WLGs in Sialkot engaged with political parties and eventually joined the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). WLGs who were already members of political parties made considerable efforts to lobby for the inclusion of important women's issues in party manifestos.
- 9. CNIC drive:** WLGs helped 21,893 women and 5,610 obtain CNICs.



**10. Women’s loans:** WLGs helped 550 poor women obtain loans worth PKR 30,000–50,000 to help them become economically independent.

**Table 4: LISTEN project beneficiaries**

Age (years)	Direct				Indirect			
	Urban		Rural		Urban		Rural	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
<b>Girls</b>	180	1,979	120	1,685	7,718	14,735	5,146	9,823
<b>Boys</b>		692		462	5,148	4,989	3,432	3,326
<b>Women</b>	540	3,298	360	2,198	10,500	22,102	8,796	14,735
<b>Men</b>		1,039		692	7,616	7,483	5,244	4,988
<b>Total</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>7,008</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>5,037</b>	<b>30,982</b>	<b>49,309</b>	<b>22,618</b>	<b>32,872</b>

### 3.3.1 Knowledge building and enabling capacities

#### *Reorganization of women leader groups*

Women leader groups (WLGs) formed in 2010–2013 under the Raising Her Voice (RHV) project were reorganized to involve previous members. New members were also engaged (50% old members/ex-councillors, 25% youth, 15% political party office bearers, 10% CSO and community-based organization [CBO] representatives). Meetings were called by group secretaries in each district to brief members about the project and collect membership information. AF gathered data and compiled member profiles in spreadsheets.

### 3.3.2 Policy research and budget tracking

The programme focused on exploring research knowledge to track funds allocation for women’s development and then use that information to help policy makers and legislators reallocate funds to serve the strategic needs of women and girls.

The policy research and budget tracking study was successfully completed, albeit delayed due to the law and order situation and government departments’ reticence in providing information.

Major findings include the following:

- Policies are typically gender blind. They assume all intended beneficiaries will approach service agencies and be in a position to enjoy benefits.
- Policies consider practical needs, only. They do not address the strategic needs or actions required to help change the position of women.
- Few or no efforts have been made to understand the underlying factors of gender disparity, including in the public sector.
- Funds are being transferred to LGs under Section (120) (f) (5) of the Punjab Local Government Ordinance, 2001 which allows governments to keep provincial finance commission (PFC) awards in force until the announcement of new awards.
- Fund transfers tie 40% of development grants to LG performance, which itself is based on funds utilization. This performance criteria needs to be more diverse and inclusive of women development issues.

- Funds are transferred to districts on the basis of development schemes within the ambit of devolved departments.
- PKR 125 million was released to districts under the award, besides tied grants. Tied grants are vertical transfers against projects initiated by provincial/federal governments.
- It is currently difficult to trace the utilization of district-wise funds specific to women development as these are not listed in district budget books.

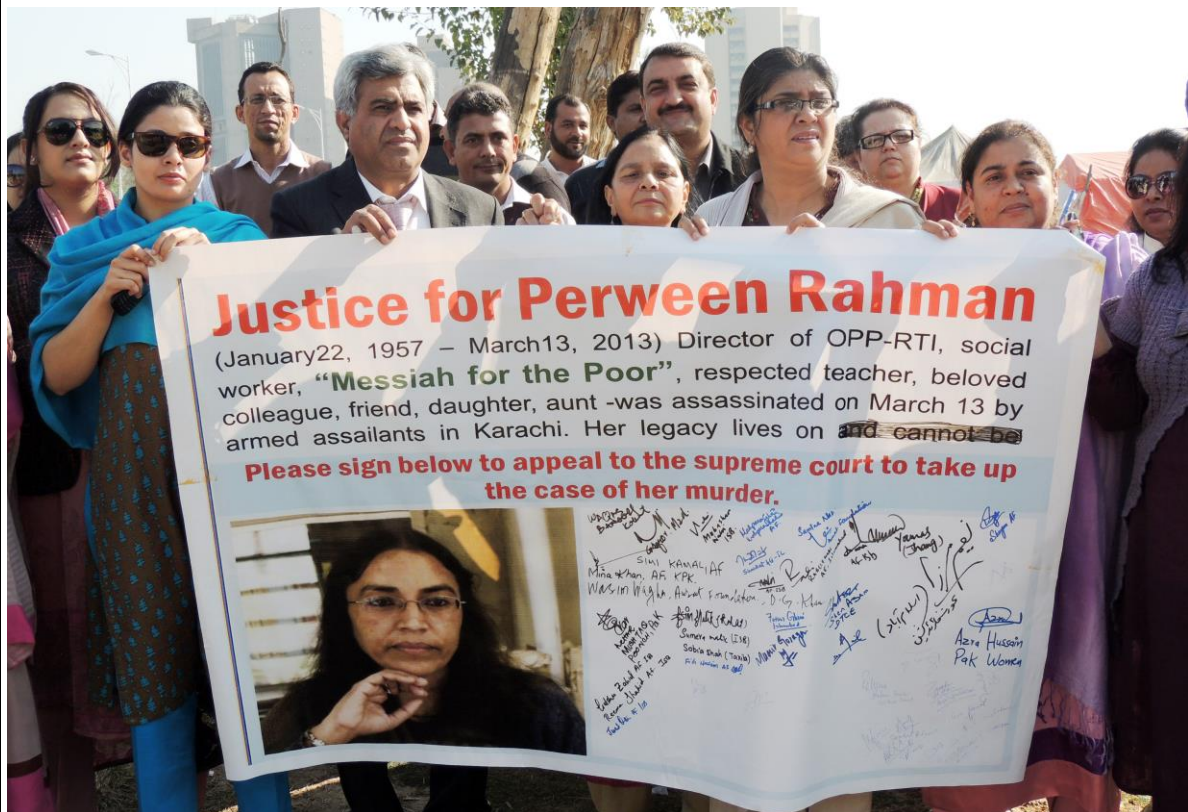
**Advocacy,  
Awareness-Raising and  
Lobbying**



## 4. Advocacy, Awareness-Raising and Lobbying

AF has been engaged in concentrated 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 Aurat Foundation demands 'Justice for Perween Rahman'



A demonstration demanded the Supreme Court of Pakistan provide speedy and just verdict in the case of the prominent human rights activist Perween Rahman, who was assassinated on March 13, 2013, in Karachi. The demonstration, organized by Aurat Foundation on November 25, 2013, in front of National Press Club, Islamabad, was part of a continuing series of actions which civil society has announced to pursue the case in the Supreme Court and get justice for the deceased and her family.

Emphasizing on the importance of public pressure, the civil society organizations agreed to plan a series of peaceful demonstrations to build public pressure as a gesture of support and expedite the proceedings of the case

The Supreme Court of Pakistan has accepted the petition for hearing the Perween Rehman murder case. This was shared by Mr Younas Khalid, Chief Strategy & Policy Officer, Aurat Foundation, and Ms Rehana Hashmi, Executive Director, Sisters Trust. They also shared that 7,800 petitions have been signed by the human rights activists and filed to the Supreme Court;

## 4.2 AF participates at the 58<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women session at the UN



A six-member delegation of Aurat Foundation, participated in the 58th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, held from 10–21 March, 2014. The participants included Mr. Naeem Mirza, Chief Operating Officer (COO), Mr Younas Khalid, Chief Strategy and Policy Officer (CSPO), Ms Simi Kamal, Chief of Party (CoP), Gender Equity Programme (GEP), Ms Rabeea Hadi, Director Advocacy and Ending Violence Against Women & Girls (EVAWG), Ms Maliha Zia, Manager Law and Gender and Ms Feroza Zahra, National Programme Manager AAWAZ Programme.

The theme of the ten-day session was ‘Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for women and girls’. The CSW session allows an opportunity for civil society organisations to take part in mainstream discussions and gives them an opportunity to bring new and emerging ideas to the table.

The AF delegation supported the Pakistan Mission in the official sessions by providing information and inputs from the global women’s caucus. It also participated in two seminars organized by the Pakistan Mission where members of the Punjab government presented the recently introduced women’s package and other steps being taken for the empowerment of women in the province. The AF delegation also worked closely with the Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) in her role within the Pakistan Mission.

At a side event on Human Rights and 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges: organised by Women Learning Partnership (WLP), Asma Khader, Jordanian human rights activist and Naeem Mirza were panellists. At another event, Naeem Mirza and Simi Kamal were featured speakers. An important outcome of this exercise was GEP’s collaboration with Harvard University.



### 4.3 Formation of the Pakistan Civil Society Forum

Senior representatives of over 20 civil society organisations from across Pakistan met in Islamabad on 5 September, 2013 and after day-long deliberations formed Pakistan Civil Society Forum. They decided to establish this forum in order to discuss and find ways for effective engagement with federal and, provincial governments and state institutions, civil society and concerned citizens for strengthening a representative democracy, citizenship, and social and economic justice through coordinated and focused lobbying and actions.

The national consultation, held at the Aurat Foundation's office was convened by South-Asia Partnership- Pakistan and participated by leading civil society organizations, endorsed the following resolution :

- We RECOGNIZE the significance and importance of this assembly in the back drop of present scenario where the country is faced with serious problems of bad governance including terrorism, lawlessness, rising poverty, energy crisis and other economic challenges. We also note with pleasure the smooth transition of power from one elected government to the other. However, we consider it important to stress on the newly elected government to take the democratic traditions forward and address the urgent and important issues of public ensuring people centred governance.
- We BELIEVE that neither the country's development nor its policy making adequately involves public participation. As a result of the top down development, the implementation gaps notwithstanding, issues of ownership, ecology, access to resources stand majorly compromised. We emphasise that planning and development must be a bottom-up approach and the state must make an effort to make people's involvement in their own development and future possible.
- We NOTE with concern a gradual indiscernible reversal of devolution through the Constitutional Reforms (18<sup>th</sup> Amendment) that will deprive the people of Pakistan of a landmark gain through a democratic process. Ambiguities in the responsibilities and authorities of the federal and provincial institutions demand clarity and reconstitution of roles. We believe the constitution and 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment must be considered as guiding principles to determine the role of the federal government and provincial governments. Federal government's obsession with trespassing into provinces' domain will have far reaching ramifications. This approach has intensified a deep rooted distrust among federating units and must be refrained forthwith. There is a need to take devolution process from provinces to district level with substantive institutional reforms and genuine representation of the public.
- We are also TROUBLED with issues of gender discrimination, growing intolerance against non-Muslims and the rising trends of ethnic and sectarian violence all over the country.
- We are HUMBLLED with the contribution and gains of civil society organizations in upholding citizens' rights, relentless struggle for fundamental freedoms, free judiciary and democratic development. This assembly concludes with this resolve to continue its struggle for further deepening democratic processes and traditions through coordinated and focused actions among diverse civil society groups and institutions.
- We RESOLVE forming the **Pakistan Civil Society Forum** as a joint platform of action, coordination and engagement with government, national and international institutions. We believe this platform will be instrumental in promoting joint actions

for citizens' rights and bridge the gap between government and people, advocate issues of fundamental importance to people and reemphasize important issues in the national agenda.

- THE Forum REAFFIRMS its commitment for continuing its struggle for citizens' rights and democratic, human and social development in the country.
- We REASSURE our constituents to become a viable and effective platform for coordination, collective actions, lobbying and engagement with diverse actors including political parties, federal and provincial governments, media, national and international institutions.
- A national level core committee has been formed comprising representatives of all federating units and rights-based organizations. The committee will engage other CSOs, public representatives, state institutions and concerned citizens for further diversifying its support base.

Senior representatives of the following civil society organizations participated in the meeting and endorsed the resolution:

Aurat Foundation, South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK), Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), Strengthening Participatory Organisations (SPO), SUNGI Development Foundation, Sindh Agriculture, Water and Forestry Cooperative (SAWFCO), Institute of Development Practices and Services (IDSP), Seemorgh, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Khwendo Kor, Pakistan Institute for Labour, Education and Research (PILER), Management & Development Centre (MDC), Women Rights Association (WRA), Bargad, Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum (PFF), Interactive Resource Centre (IRC), Rozan, Bedari (Sialkot), Development Action for Mobilization & Emancipation (DAMEN), Awaz CDS, Cholistan Development Council (CDC), Potohar Organization for Development Advocacy (PODA), Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF), Insan Foundation, PAIMAN, Society for Alternative Media and Research (SAMAR), Social Awareness & Development Organization (SADO), Jobs Creating Development Society (JCDS), SEHER, Christian Study Centre (CSC).

#### **4.4 Protest against rape of Lahore girl**

Led by IHI, AF, EVAW, WLP and PGC, some 100 civil society members gathered in F-6 *markaz* in Islamabad on 16 September, 2013 to protest the rape of a five-year old girl in Lahore. Calling for far harsher punishment for rape, the protesters included prominent civil society members such as Mukhtaran Mai, Nafisa Shah, Marvi Sirmed, Tahira Abdullah, Samar Minallah, Farzana Bari, Naeem Mirza, Khawar Mumtaz, Mosarrat Qadeem, Anis Haroon, Uzma Noorani, Tahira Aftab, Shagufta Alizai, Alia Mirza, Waseem Wagha, Nusarat Zehra, Rabeea Hadi, and television artist, Jamal Shah.

Major points of note were:

- The urgent enactment of the Children's Protection laws;
- Life-imprisonment without parole for paedophilia, rape and gang rape.
- The release of missing video clips from Ganga Ram Hospital's security cameras;
- The wilful destruction of evidence, including clothes.









Human Rights activist, Dr. Rakhshanda Parveen said “such cases reflect on the social mindset that largely prevails in our society where honour is for men and women is nothing more than an object”. Rabeea Hadi from AF suggested the filing of public interest litigation against the increasing number of rape cases and the low conviction rate.

#### 4.7 Solidarity with Participants of Long March for Voices of Missing Persons

Aurat Foundation and other Lahore-based Civil Society Organizations welcomed the participants of Long March for Voices of Balochi Missing Persons (VBMP). The march started from Thokar Niaz Baig to Freedom Chowk, The Mall Road Lahore.

A large number of members of civil society, students, youth, and media persons have joined the marchers in solidarity with the missing persons. Mr A R Rehman, HRCF, also participated in and addressed the rally. Aurat





Foundation's resident director Nasreen Zehra, Provincial Manager Mumtaz Mughal, Programme Officers Nabeela Shaheen, Sarah Anum, Anjum Raza, Abid Ali and many friends of Aurat Foundation participated in this rally.

#### **4.8 Theatre performance on early childhood marriages and violence against women**

Aurat Foundation, in collaboration with Gender Studies Department of University of Balochistan (UoB) organized, under its Listen project, a theatre performance on 'Early Child Marriages and Violence against Women', on May 26, 2014, at University of Balochistan, Quetta. Prof. Dr Mehrab Baloch, Vice Chancellor of UoB was the Chief Guest.

Mr Ishfaq Mengal, Senior Programme Officer, Aurat Foundation, expressed his views on early child marriages and also shared facts and figures of violence against women in Balochistan. Students from Gender, Education, Sociology and Mass Communication departments performed the theater on early child marriages and a silent play on VAW.

Speaking at the occasion, Prof. Dr Mehrab Baloch, in his remarks highlighted the importance of education in the society and stressed to focus more and more on girls' education because it will prevent them from all kinds of violence. At the end of the program, Ms Shahida Durrani, Lecturer, Department of Gender Studies, UoB, thanked the Chief Guest, and the participants.

#### **4.9 Protest over honour killing of Farzana Parveen**



AF organized a protest against Farzana Parveen's honour killing outside the Lahore High Court on 27 May 2014. The protest took place in Islamabad on 29 May, 2014 and was organized by CSOs to express their outrage.

#### 4.10 Jordan's human rights activist visits Pakistan

Jordanian human rights activist and Secretary General National Commission, Jordan, Ms. Asma Khader was invited to Pakistan, in September 2013, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Training of Trainers (ToT), organized through Women's Learning Partnership (WLP). Ms. Khader visited Islamabad and Karachi.



##### Karachi

On 12 September, 2013, AF, Karachi facilitated a meeting with Ms. Khader and Ms. Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly, and women parliamentarians including Dr. Seema Zaidi, PTI, Ms. Irum Azeem, MQM and Ms. Ghazala Siyal, PPP. Other renowned personalities included Ms. Anis Haroon and former Caretaker Minister for Women Development Department. The meeting was held at the Committee Room of the Sindh Assembly.



##### Islamabad

In Islamabad, Ms. Khader met with and Ms. Khawar Mumtaz, Chairperson, National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), on September 18, 2013, at the NCSW offices.

Ms Khawar Mumtaz also invited Ms Asma Khader to join the Law Committee meeting which discussed various laws on women's issues in both the countries. The members of Law Committee included Ms. Nasreen Azhar, member Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Justice (r) Majida Rizvi, Justice (r) Mehta Kailash Nath Kohli, member NCSW, Ms. Tanveer Jahan member NCSW, Ms Kishwar Naheed, member NCSW, Ms. Saira Afzal Tarar, member NCSW, Minister of State National Health Services, Ms Uzma Noorani, member NCSW and Ms. Zubeda Khatoon, Chairperson, Provincial Commission on the Status of Women, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

#### **4.11 16 Days of Activism**

Sixteen days of activism is a global campaign which starts on 25 November and ends on 10 December, which is also International Human Rights Day, each year under a theme. This year's was 'From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women!'

##### **Peshawar**

The Peshawar team of AAWAZ organized a provincial conference on 'Women & Peace' on 25 November, 2013 at Pearl Continental Hotel Peshawar. The conference was a collective initiative of AAWAZ consortium. The speakers included Ms Bushra Gohar, Senior Vice President of Awami National Party, Ms Sadia Khan, senior journalist & member Provincial Commission on the Status of Women KP, Dr Anush Khan, gender specialist and Arshad Haroon, SPO.

AF's Peshawar office conducted ten radio programmes on the radio channel, FM 101 on 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. 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.

##### **Lahore**

Aurat Foundation's Lahore office organized a candle light vigil to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. They chanted slogans on equal economic rights, educational rights, reproductive rights and political rights of women and their access to employment. They also demanded an end to violence against women and girls. Participants lifted placards and banners inscribed with different slogans in favour of women.

##### **4.11.1 GEP: 16 Days of Activism**

GEP held an event titled, 'Social media: A new dimension of violence against women' on 10 December, 2013 to mark 16 Days of Activism. The topic was the misuse of social media to harass women in Pakistan. Guests included university students from Islamabad who listened to panellists sharing their thoughts on cybercrime in Pakistan. Gregory Gottlieb, USAID Mission



Director for Pakistan said USAID was proud to sponsor awareness-raising events that could lead to legal and social solutions for such issues.

GEP officials also participated in various talk shows organized during this event. These included:

- FM 93 on 13 November 2013; FM 93 on 3 December 2013;
- FM 100 on 10 December 2013; FM 101 on 10 December 2013.

#### 4.12 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 in 2013 to reaffirm their determination to continue the struggle for their rights as equal citizens and for a peaceful, democratic and just society.

##### Lahore

Women Action Forum (WAF) organized a rally to commemorate the Pakistan's National Women's Day at the Mall Road, Lahore. The day is commemorated each year on 12<sup>th</sup> February to remember the day of 'February 12, 1983', when women activists were batten-charged while protesting against the discriminatory Hudood laws as promulgated by the then military dictator General Zia ul Haq.

Prominent activists of WAF Mehnaz Raffi, Mumtaz Razi, FakhraTahreem, Tanveer Jahan, Gulnar, Nighat Saeed Khan, Neelam Hussain, Shabnam, Humaira, Sabiha Shaheen, along with

Aurat Foundation’s Resident Director Nasreen Zehra, Provincial Manager Mumtaz Mughal, and other program staff including Nabeela Shaheen, Sara Anum, Abid Ali, Adnan Rasheed and AnjumRaza participated in this rally. The rally started from Regal Chowk to High court Chowk on the Mall Road, Lahore.

Participants of rally raised slogans for equal economic, educational, reproductive rights and political rights of women and their access to employment. They also demanded to end violence against women and girls.

### **Islamabad**

GEP held a visual arts exhibition on 12–14 February, 2014 at the Pakistan National Council of Arts to showcase photographs taken by the Acid Survivors’ Foundation (ASF). Under grant cycle 6B, GEP undertook the task of improving the quality of services at government and private shelters. The photos were taken by acid attack survivors who received basic photography skills training in July 2013. Forty photographs were showcased at this exhibition, which also marked National Women’s Day. Catherine Russell, US Ambassador at Large for Global Women’s Issues addressed the audience, lauding the courage of these women who were fighting for their rights.

A second such exhibition took place on 5 May, 2014 at the US Embassy. His Excellency Ambassador Richard G. Olson attended the event.

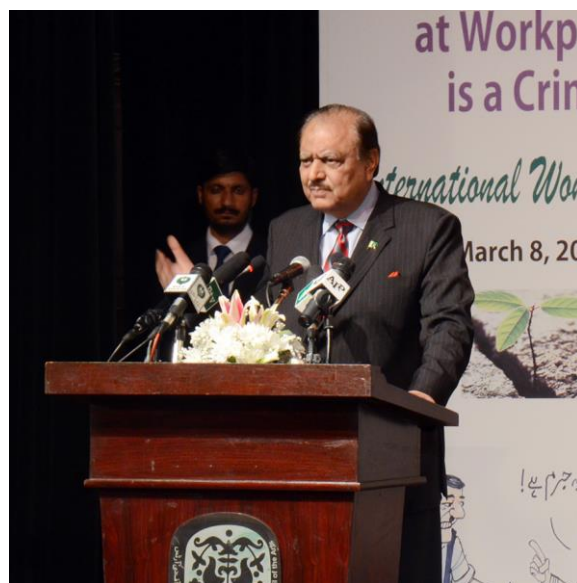
### **4.13 International Women’s Day**

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.

#### **4.13.1 International Women’s Day Celebrated with Call for Women’s Empowerment**

Aurat Foundation, Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights, and UN Women celebrated the 103rd International Women Day (IWD) on 8 March, 2014, at Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA). Civil society activists from all parts of the country and people from all walks of life participated enthusiastically in these activities and expressed their resolve to continue their struggle for equal status of women.

President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain said that the government is of the firm belief that there could be no development without women participation. “We want women to become active part of mainstream economic activities.”



Dr Masuma Hasan, President Board of Governors, Aurat Foundation, demanded of the government not to compromise women on rights during peace talks with Taliban.

Speaking on the occasion, Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Pervaiz Rasheed said the main hurdle in the empowerment of women is the patriarchal structure of the society, which portrays men as rulers. Ms Khawar Mumtaz, Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women

(NCSW) demanded the government to declare Women Home Based Workers as labors. Barrister Zafarullah, Federal Secretary for Ministry of Law and Justice, said that protection of women rights is one of the top priority of the government.



The event ended with a theatre performance by INTERACTIVE Resource Centre (IRC) theatre group.

Another major event was organised in the evening where civil society kept its tradition of organising a rally, which started from China Chowk and ended at Parade Chowk in front of the Parliament House where participants made speeches and presented their Charter of Demands.

#### 4.13.2 Rallying on International Women's Day

The rally was organised by EVAWG alliance in collaboration with IHI, CRM, WAF and FADAN networks. A statement issued at the rally demanding the government to repeal all discriminatory laws, and to ensure the enforcement of existing pro-women laws. The statement urged the government to eliminate unconstitutional, illegal, unjust, traditional "adjudication" councils, called 'jirgas' and 'panchayats' and develop a National Policy and Strategy on Ending Violence against Women and Girls

#### 4.13.3 Theatrical performance by GBV survivors

GEP held a theatrical performance by GBV survivors to mark International Women's Day on 7 March, 2014. The performance told three stories about girls expressing their desires to overcome suffering and start new lives.

### 4.14 AAWAZ advocacy campaigns

#### 4.14.1 Radio campaign

The AAWAZ Programme launched a radio campaign in four districts through local FM channels. They aired messages on women's political participation, receiving feedback from target audiences. Topics included:



- Childhood marriages;
- Non-violent communication;
- The Protection Against Harassment Act, 2012;
- DV.

Similarly in KP and FATA, radio messages aired on FM 101 addressed the issue of women voting and how the ECP should declare results null and void in areas where women were barred from voting. They were aired in Urdu and Pashto.

Four AAWAZ programmes were recorded for FM 92 on topics such as common conflict, ways to combat conflict and promoting peace and harmony. The messages were aired in Rawalpindi, Jhang, Okara and Sargodha. Similar messages were aired in KP and FATA, advocating conflict resolution through the law of land and universal human rights and values.

Four radio shows were aired on FM 92 to discuss topics like common conflict, ways to combat conflict and promote peace and harmony and peace in society. The messages aired in Rawalpindi, Jhang, Okara and Sargodha and emphasized Section 19-A of the Constitution – all citizens have the right to access information on all matters of public importance.

#### **4.14.2 Media talk show**

Media talk shows were held at the University of The Punjab, Lahore on Pakistan Television (PTV) and at Islamia University, Bahawalpur in January 2014. The purpose was to engage students and teach them to challenge patriarchal mindsets and adopt positive approaches towards women's rights.

#### **4.14.3 Community theatre performances**

Interactive theatre performances were held in 30 targeted districts. Some 706 women and 103 men participated, with various topics ranging from the passage of the DV bill, ensuring legislation on women's rights, polygamy and other relevant issues.

#### **4.14.4 Cultural and peace harmony events**

This activity used traditional methods of SM (second reporting period). AF's team in district Mardan organized a district-level event at Mardan town hall. People from almost 50 villages and other stakeholders participated. The event featured role playing, theatre, speeches and handicraft stalls. Amir Latif, Deputy Commissioner, Mardan served as chief guest.

Other speakers included Dr. Ameer Khan, Himayatullah Mayar, Ex MNA, Mr. Javed, Assistant Commissioner, Mardan and Nisar Shamozaï, Education Department.

In all, 260 such events took place and 1,662 women and 2,724 men participated.



#### 4.15 AAWAZ Advocacy Initiatives

Meetings were planned at the national, provincial, district, *tehsil*, UC and village/town level to introduce the AAWAZ Programme to stakeholders.

Major objectives were:

- Providing stakeholders an in-depth understanding of the Programme’s goal and objectives;
- Highlighting and sharing programme outputs;
- Asking stakeholders to commit to actions and support of women’s safe participation in political and public spaces, conflict resolution and citizens’ demands for improved service delivery.

The meetings were well-attended and included CSO representatives, political workers, journalists, minorities and government officials from the education and health sectors. Some 250 people participated in three orientation meetings.



AAWAZ village forums (AVFs) were formed in Mardan and Sargodha and

members were briefed on the programme’s main themes, namely women’s political participation, conflict resolution and capacity building to voice service delivery demands, especially in education and health. Over 11,000 people participated in Punjab while 3,992 participated in KP during the project period 21 June–20 August, 2013. Some 294 AVFs were formed in KP (3,014 women, 3,221 men) in the second reporting period and another 550 in Punjab (2,956 women, 4,040 men).

Another major activity was the formation of AUFs which were designed to establish horizontal and vertical linkages of AVF’s at the UC level. Eleven such forums were formed in Punjab (Figure 14). These exercises could not be duplicated in KP due to the non-issuance of NOCs.

About 34 AUF awareness sessions (534 women, 819 men) were held during the second reporting period to:

- Motivate women to participate in local political activities and community development work;
- Encourage women to run for LG elections on general seats;
- Increased women’s participation in AAWAZ activities;
- Increase women’s and excluded groups’ knowledge of constitutional rights.



AAWAZ *agahi* (awareness) centres (AACs) were established in each UC of the project areas. The centres work as resource, information and referral places for local communities and help disseminate information on the AAWAZ Programme and related issues (Table 5). They

also serve as meeting places for AVFs and AUFs. The following materials are typically available at these centres:

- Registration forms;
- Bait-ul-Maal forms;
- Zakat forms;
- *Istehqaq* forms;
- Change voter address form (ECP);
- Harassment brochures from the Muhtasib Punjab/KP;
- 18th Amendment posters;
- AF publications;
- Voter lists for the general election of 2013;
- AAWAZ magazines;
- Local Government Act, 2013;
- Women-friendly laws.

**Table 5: Participation and activities at AACs (first reporting period)**

District	AACs	No. of visitors	Zakat beneficiaries	Bait-ul-Maal fund beneficiaries	BISP card beneficiaries
Sargodha	10	3,804	71	26	31
Okara	3	1,085	25	8	0
Jhang	3	1,122	40	6	0
Rawalpindi	3	895	32	4	0
Mardan	10				
<b>Total</b>	29	6,906	168	44	31

AF engaged 130 NGOs/CBOs to run these AACs in 13 districts in the second reporting period. The work was all voluntary.

The second reporting period saw the completion of numerous AAC-related activities. Some examples include:

- 66 women received credit to start small businesses;
- 1,370 people learnt about CNICs and birth registration;
- Information on BISP schemes and BISP complaint mechanisms;
- Complaint mechanisms to report non-functional schools and health centres;
- Information on the structure of the LG system;
- Legal aid support for violence cases;
- Counselling services to resolve family disputes;
- Information on how to verifying a vote.



AAWAZ *tehsil* forums (ATFs), institutional structures formed at the *tehsil* level are composed of nominated members from AUFs. AF formed them ensuring at least 50 percent women's membership. These forums act as *tehsil*-level apex structures that work towards AAWAZ's three outputs. Similarly, AF formed AAWAZ district forums (ADFs) as apex bodies at the district level. Their membership was typically ten representatives from ATFs and 10–15 other stakeholders such as lawyers, social activists, human rights campaigners, media persons, elected representatives, local influential persons and CSO representatives.

#### 4.15.1 Awareness-raising initiatives

AF initiated awareness-raising initiatives in local communities through AUFs with a special focus on women's participation in politics. Communities face problems with CNIC and voter registration, and generally lack awareness regarding their participation in electoral processes.



These activities were conducted using a rights-based approach, engaging women, men, youth and excluded groups. A major point raised was that women could not cast votes as many did not possess identification, resulting in low voting turnout. Participants said they would share this information with those who were unaware of their civil right to vote.

People were made aware of the importance of women's political participation. The AAWAZ team distributed survey forms for the collection of missing CNIC cards and made arrangements for CNIC registration through NADRA. AVF members gathered the required information and moved the activity forward. However, the process is an ongoing one. Examples include the following:

- The Sargodha team conducted 11,044 household surveys in 40 villages and found that over 15,000 women and men did not possess CNICs (second reporting period). NADRA committed to send mobile vans to these areas to facilitate CNIC registration.
- A household survey in district Rawalpindi (60 villages) showed that some 2,400 women and 600 men did not possess CNICs.



#### 4.15.2 UC-level awareness raising

UC-level sessions were organized in resource centres where members discussed issues such as women's constitutional rights, anti-women practices, forced marriages, the disadvantages of child marriages, inheritance laws, women issues, VAW, girls and children, gender equality, gender discrimination, the importance of women's political participation and the role of women in decision making.

Awareness raising sessions were held at the UC level in the second reporting period, as well. UC-level forum representatives were invited to hold sessions on local disputes and conflict and discuss how initiatives can be taken to reduce their effects on communities. These sessions provided an opportunity to understand the nature of conflicts and their root causes. Thirteen such sessions were conducted in KP (83 women, 112 men) and another 213 in Punjab (2,513 women, 2,428 men).

### 4.15.3 Facilitation camps

AAWAZ organised seventeen facilitation camps were organized in 17 *tehsils* in 8 districts during the second reporting period. Some 1,600 women and 4,673 men participated. Examples of activities include the following:

- Strengthened linkages between AAWAZ offices and district election commission offices in eight districts;
- Information dissemination on the new LG system;
- More than 200 candidates belonging to minorities provided technical assistance in filling out nomination papers.



### 4.15.4 District-level lobbying

The AAWAZ Programme arranged meetings during the first reporting period with representatives from major political parties to introduce the Programme and its objectives. Politicians were asked to support pending pro-women bills. These included meetings with:

- Sher Bahadar, Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) Vice President, District Mardan;
- Mr. Junaid, MNA and Ms. Nagina, MPA, Malakand.

The objective was to lobby with political parties to promote women in decision making structures within parties and support and create opportunities in electoral processes.

A meeting was held during the second reporting period in district Mardan with the Awami National Party (ANP) Ex-MNA, Himayat Ullah Mayar. AF team briefed on the AAWAZ Programme's structure and functions. Similarly in Nowshera, a meeting was conducted in the Chief Minister's house that was attended by:

- Focal persons;
- The district bar council president;
- A PTI senior president;
- A PTI women's wing district president;
- A PTI district youth president
- Various journalists.

Similar activities were carried out in seven districts. These included meetings with:

- Sheikh Rasheed, Pakistan Awami Muslim League, in district Rawalpindi;
- Ehsan Imran Arain, PPP, in district Rajanpur;
- Nadeem Abbas, MNA-PMLN, in district Okara;



- Jam Amanullah, Vice President, PTI, in district Rahim Yar Khan;
- Mr. Waseem, District President, in district Mandi Bahauddin;
- Khalid Shaheed, Regional President, PML-N, in Dera Ghazi Khan.



#### **4.15.5 District-level advocacy**

District teams conducted meetings, advocacy initiatives and press conference on LG elections in the districts of Sargodha, Rawalpindi and Mardan. The need to devolve power and responsibility for social delivery was discussed. Some 45 people (27 women, 18 men) participated during the period 21 June–20 August, 2013.

#### **4.15.6 Provincial- and national-level advocacy**

A one-day national conference was organized in Islamabad on 1 August, 2013, representing audiences from partner communities from Punjab and KP. Political party representatives and human rights activists presented their views and pointed out weaknesses in draft bills.

Provincial-level conferences on the LG system were held under the *AAWAZ Utha* banner on 5–6 September, 2013. All consortium partners were represented. Some 350 people attended.

Staff from AF-Lahore participated in a provincial conference titled ‘Effective citizen participation in upcoming local government elections’ on November 12, 2013 at the Ambassador Hotel, Lahore. AF mobilized 18 participants from AAWAZ districts (Okara, Mandi Bahauddin, Rawalpindi, Sargodha and Jhang) and over 50 people from Lahore.



A provincial conference was held on 26 November, 2013 at the Pearl Continental Hotel, Peshawar. AF mobilized 40 women and 80 men, and took the lead in organizing the event and overall management and printing. SAP-PK, SPO and Sungi were responsible for inviting resource persons. Jafar Shah, MPA served as chief guest. Other invitees included Mian Iftikhar Hussain, former Minister for Information and Mr. Shamim Shahid.

#### **4.15.7 Formation of AAWAZ national and provincial women's group on women's political participation**

Two provincial and one national forum were established in the second reporting period. It was decided that AF would take the lead in the national forum, SPO in the KP regional forum and SAP-PK in the Punjab regional/provincial forum.

An inaugural meeting of the AAWAZ National Forum (ANF), a strategic-level think tank, was held on 7 November, 2013 and the following issues were discussed

- The purpose and scope of the ANF;
- The need for ANF to develop linkages with political parties;
- How inter-provincial councils could be effective support for provincial legislation;
- The sustainability of ANF;



- Connecting local communities with their district elected representatives;
- Showing people that AAWAZ is not a foreign agenda;
- Harassment in the workplace, the Section 509 amendment, the acid crime law and anti-women practices;
- CEDAW commitments and conventions related to women;
- Gender budgeting, dispute resolution, religious harmony, demands of public services, especially health and education.

ANF's initiatives were welcomed and endorsed by Farhana Qamar, MNA, Asiya Nasir, MNA, Ch. Shafique, PCHR, Ms. Reema, NADRA, Humaira Masihudin, lawyer, Mohsin Kiyani, Father Asi, Huma Chughtai, Riffat Butt.

## **Chapter Five**

# **Support for Civil Society Organizations**

## 5 Support for Civil Society Organizations

### 5.1 GEP: An Introduction

AF was awarded a grant by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the Gender Equity Program (GEP). This five year program works for gender empowerment and service delivery to GBV survivors in Pakistan. GEP aims to decrease gender gaps by addressing four key areas: (i) access to justice; (ii) empowerment at home and in the workplace and public domain; (iii) combating GBV; and (iv) building institutional capacities in the areas of gender equity and equality and women empowerment. It has enabled AF to now function as a fully-fledged grant-making program.

The process has been far from smooth given that government and non-government organizations (NGOs) suffer from trust deficits and CSOs prefer working within their own limited spheres. However, GEP has been able to demonstrate that organizations can work together when sufficiently motivated and engaged in dialogue.

GEP main objectives are:

- Enhancing gender equity by expanding women’s access to justice and women’s rights;
- Increasing women’s empowerment by expanding knowledge of their rights and opportunities to exercise their rights in the workplace, community and home;
- Combating GBV;
- Strengthening the capacity of Pakistani organizations that advocate gender equity, women’s empowerment and the elimination of GBV.

GEP planned 12 grant cycles over the span of the programme (Table 6). By the end of Year Four, GEP had awarded 152 grants out of which 136 were successfully closed. These sub-grants were awarded to government departments and institutions, policy think tanks, academic research and training institutions, professional and business associations, the media, civic advocacy organizations (CAOs), civil society coalitions (CSCs), non-government organizations (NGOs), and CBOs.

**Table 6: Number of grants awarded by the end of Year Four (October 2013–September 2014)**

Cycle No.	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Total
1	4	13	7	1	25
2	5	3	6	3	17
3	-	-	15	-	15
4	-	-	23	-	23
5	-	-	20	-	20
6A	-	-	41	-	41
6B	-	1	3	7	11
7A	-	25	-	-	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>177</b>

**Table 7: Closeout status of sub-grants as of September 30, 2014**

	<i>Total sub-awards</i>	<i>Sub-awards</i>		
		<i>Closed</i>	<i>Closeout in process</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>1</i>	26	26	-	-
<i>2</i>	16	15	-	<b>1</b>
<i>3</i>	15	14	1	-
<i>4</i>	23	23	-	-
<i>5</i>	20	19	1	-
<i>6A</i>	41	36	5	-
<i>6B</i>	11	3	5	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>

This annual report covers nine months (October 2013–June 2014) of GEP’s Year 4, which itself spans the period October 2013–September 2014. It is noteworthy that grant-making functions were transferred from TAF to AF. The process began in June 2013 and was completed in September 2013. AF now issues grant letters and manages grant finances.

## **5.2 GEP grant cycles**

Grants were distributed as follows: National (31%), Punjab (21%), Sindh (22%), Balochistan (12%) and KP (11%), Gilgit-Baltistan (1%) and AJK (2%).

### ***Grant cycle 2***

Grant Cycle 2 of GEP entitled, “Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building of Critical Partners and Stakeholders, and GBV-Focused Media Campaigns” focused on building the capacity of institutions critical to the success of future GEP programming, especially in areas addressing GBV. The objective was to enable government entities and local organizations to continue their activities in a more sustainable fashion and create linkages with CSOs working on gender issues.

Of the 15 sub-grants awarded under Grant Cycle 2, 14 grants completed their activities and were successfully closed while the grant awarded to Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO) remains functional. This grant was based on task orders to be realized as and when required by GEP. These task orders entailed building the capacities of CSOs on Financial Management, Gender Sensitization, Project Cycle Management and Strategic Planning. GEP continues to provide trainings to its sub-grantees in these areas.

During Year Four, SPO carried out task orders to conduct 10 trainings of 69 organizations through which 139 participants were trained.

### ***Grant cycle 6A***

Grant Cycle 6A entitled, “Combating Gender-Based Violence, help lines and shelters run by civil society and private sector organizations” provided immediate support to women in distress



by recording their complaint, providing psycho-social and legal counselling. The help lines also linked survivors of GBV to the police, shelter homes, hospitals and lawyers for emergency response and protection.

Of the 38 sub-grants under Grant Cycle 6A, 34 were completed and closed. Several of these grantees are receiving repeat grants as part of the seamless service hubs in grant cycle 9A.

GEP piloted a chain of services to better support survivors of GBV via interlinked grants to shelters and help lines. The number of women supported during cycle 6A is shown below:

- 1,298 women supported through shelters;
- 468 children supported through shelters;
- 13,492 women supported through information services;
- 5,072 women supported through psychological, emotional and legal counselling;
- 4,877 women supported through referral services;
- 524 women supported through crisis centres.

### ***Grant cycle 6B***

Grant Cycle 6B entitled, “Strengthening Academic Capacities of Gender Studies Department and Enhancing Research on GBV” awarded 6 sub-grants to universities throughout Pakistan. The university sub-grants were initiated to support gender studies in public universities all over Pakistan. Please see below for the universities supported under GEP:

- Department of Pakistan Studies and Gender Studies, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan;
- Department of Political Science and Program in Gender Studies, The Islamia University, Bahawalpur;
- Department of Economics, University of Sargodha;
- Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan;
- Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur;
- Institute of Women Development Studies, University of Sindh, Jamshoro.

All of these universities completed their deliverables during Year Four and were successfully closed. However, they continue to use GEP-prepared IEC materials in their curriculums.

### ***Grant cycle 7A***

Grant cycle 7A concentrated on promoting informal sectors workers’ livelihoods, awareness-raising and policy advocacy on women’s rights and labour laws for women workers. Twenty-seven grants were awarded under this cycle. In addition to this, GEP awarded a sub-grant to HomeNet-Pakistan and two consultancies to MOGH and APEX.

### ***Grant cycle 7B***

Grant cycle 7B focussed on advocacy campaigns on allocation and rehabilitation of women-friendly spaces, innovative approaches to enhancing women’s empowerment and supporting women graduates’ access to the information technology sector through internship programmes. The pre-award process for sub-grants under cycle 7B was completed in July 2014. Summaries for these grants have been sent to USAID. The grants are for 15 months. There were nine sub-

grants (covering 12 districts) under the first theme, nine (covering nine districts) under the second theme and seven under the third theme. The 18 grants are awaiting USAID approval.

### ***Grant cycle 8***

Grant cycle 8 focuses on enhancing gender equity by expanding women's access to justice and women's rights. PSC deliberations made on 12 August, 2013 recommended that GEP hold a stakeholder and technical experts workshop to better understand cycle themes before finalizing TORs. A second workshop was held on 1 July, 2014 to finalize sub-grant design and further strengthen TORs. Planned interventions included "strengthening district bar associations and setting up facilitation kiosks in courts". All 18 grants will last 15 months and be awarded in Year Five (October 2014–September 2015).

### ***Grant cycle 9A***

Grant Cycle 9A focused on "strengthening seamless service delivery" and was envisaged to consolidate the grants of grant cycle 6A. Grant cycle 9A focused on filling in gaps in the provision of seamless service delivery to GBV survivors that were not part of the piloted scheme under grant cycle 6A. GEP encouraged public-private partnerships by supporting both private and government shelters. Based on the experiences of cycle 6A, GEP developed GBV a seamless service model in six regional hubs during cycle 9A. These hubs included Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad, Balochistan, KP, Southern Punjab and AJK.

#### **5.2.1 Midterm evaluation**

GEP's midterm evaluation at the end of Year Three (October 2012–September 2013) was conducted by Management Systems International (MSI). GEP staff and unit heads arranged meetings and provided documentation. A meeting was held in January 2014 with the Agreement Officer and Agreement Officer Representative (AOR) to discuss modality changes in Grant Cycle 7 sub-grants. This required GEP to renegotiate budgets, timelines and activities with sub-grantees, thereby causing a five-month delay in grant awards under Cycle 7A. Under Grant Cycle 9A, GEP re-engaged with Grant Cycle 6A partners to upscale previous initiatives and strengthen the seamless service delivery model to combat GBV.

#### **5.3 GEP initiatives**

##### ***Seamless service 'hubs'***

Seamless service 'hubs' are groups of services led by a main organization that assemble organizations and services to provide amenities and seamless support to violence survivors. The central idea is that survivors should be able to move between required services in an organized and structured manner. These hubs are in various stages of dialogue and planning and have greatly benefitted from GEP support.

The Lahore hub features three shelters, a helpline, a sub-grant to provide economic rehabilitation and reintegration trainings (for GBV survivors) and a sub-grant for capacity building.

Featured organizations in Lahore include:

**IFT:** As the coordination lead for five partners, IFT builds the capacities of police and medico-legal officers, hub partners and GBV survivors.

**Dastak Charitable Trust:** This organization provides shelter services to GBV survivors, support to Dar-ul-Aman, free legal aid through the law firm, Asma, Gulrukh, Hina and Shahla (AGHS), mediation services, survivor support therapies, free psychosocial support and survivor rehabilitation and resettlement.

**Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS):** CLAAS provides shelter services to GBV survivors from religious minorities and to couples of freewill and/or forced marriages. It also provides free psychosocial support and legal aid, and raises awareness on specific laws such as the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 and those related to minorities.

**Labour Resource Centre (LRC):** LRC operates a helpline established in Grant Cycle 6A. It also runs a walk-in centre for free counselling, mediation and legal support. In addition, it maintains survivor data and conducts community sensitization and advocacy.

**Sudhaar Society:** This organization enhances economic rehabilitation, conducts survivor empowerment trainings and organizes recreational activities for survivors and children in shelters.

The Quetta hub engages directly with the government of Balochistan. It features on Dar-ul-Aman and three crisis centres in three districts, namely Quetta, Khuzdar and Sibi. The Women Development Department (WDD) works with the Social Welfare Department that manages the crisis centres. IFT is tasked with building the capacity of police officers, medico-legal officers, shelter homes and helpline staff. Four complaint centres were established under the Sindh WDD grant.

Another helpline initiative was taken by the Social Welfare and Women Development Department (SWWDD). This organization is GEP's first sub-grant in AJK and focuses on establishing help lines and creating mass awareness in ten districts in AJK. The grant has successfully completed all of its activities and SWWDD continues to receive phone calls from GBV survivors.

Awareness sessions were held in various districts in Sindh in January 2014 to disseminate information on GBV and the services available at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women Centres and Women Complaint Centres. In addition, GEP engaged for a second time with a crisis centre in Jacobabad through the Sindh WDD. This grant allowed the strengthening of the Jacobabad and Benazirabad crisis centres; five women complaint cells were established.

Five awareness sessions (299 participants) took place in Sukkur, Shaheed Benazirabad and Nawabshah in January 2014. The topic was 'Strengthening Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Centres and Women Complaint Centres Projects in Sindh'. In addition, ten legal aid cases were registered for survivors of GBV in Jacobabad and another 26 in Shaheed Benazirabad during the same month.

### ***Enhancing academic research on GBV***

Six university sub-grants were awarded under Grant Cycle 6B. These were Shah Abdul Latif University, University of Sindh, Gomal University, University of Sargodha, Bahauddin Zakariya University and Islamia University. These institutions have completed their work, but continue to use GEP media products, often incorporating them into their curriculums.

### ***PCSW consultative workshop***

The PCSW conducted a consultation workshop titled, 'Consultation on Pending Pro-women Legislation in KP - Update and the Way Forward'. PCSW also took part in several radio programmes on issues, including the 18th Amendment.

### ***IRC initiatives***

The IRC initiated a project under grant cycle 6A to women's participation in activities centred on combating GBV. Twenty theatre performances on GBV were organized across Punjab and attended by over 2,700 people.

The IRC's 'Advocacy and Information Dissemination Campaign in Selected Districts' included IEC materials, FM radio campaigns, a documentary and video testimonies, street theatre, roundtable discussions with key stakeholders and women's political education.

In addition, 12 stakeholder roundtable meetings were organized with educational institutions, and communities and media in Islamabad, Multan and Lahore. The aim was to share the details of seven pro-women laws and strategize on ways to eliminate VAW.

IRC also held 15 meetings with press clubs in Islamabad, Multan and Muzaffargarh. The objective was to strengthen ties with the print and electronic media, sensitize journalists to women's issues and share information on seven pro-women laws. More than 300 journalists participated in these meetings.

Seven GBV survivor video testimonials were also developed. They were produced as part of a documentary on seven pro-women laws.

IRC also launched a public transport campaign in Islamabad. This involved 20 vans carrying pro-women law posters for 45 days. The aim was to raise awareness on seven pro-women laws. The campaign began on 11 September, 2013 and ended on 26 October, 2013.

## **5.3.1 Strategic alliances and networks**

### ***Pakistan Gender Coalition meetings and updates***

The Pakistan Gender Coalition (PGC) is a forum that shares best practices, innovative actions, lessons learnt and challenges and solutions. It serves as a means of sustaining collaborations between NGOs during grant cycle implementation phases. It also strengthens collaborations between academia, media and research.

A national meeting was held on 19 September, 2013 to discuss the possible structure, future survival and sustainability of the PGC. Members discussed volunteerism and how they envisioned continuing their work on women's issues after the closure of GEP sub-grants.

Follow-up consultative meetings were held in November 2013 in Karachi, Peshawar, Lahore, Quetta and Islamabad. Some 100 PGC members attended. The objective was to help members plan activities for 16 Days of Activism to End VAW. The following strategies were discussed:

- Raising public awareness to consider women rights as human rights;
- GBV and VAW issues to be raised at the local, provincial and national levels;
- Strengthening local networks and mechanisms to combat VAW;
- Providing forums for organizations to develop strategies.

Each PGC member organization was sent 100 sets, each of GEP IEC materials. These included a booklet on pro-women laws and leaflets.

### ***First academia network meeting***

The Academic Network encourages the exchange of knowledge and mutual support, using e-portal research, building linkages between GEP-supported universities and public/private shelters and other CSOs. A national-level meeting was held on 16 May, 2014 titled, 'Pakistan Gender Coalition - First Academia Network Meeting'. Partner universities from Grant Cycle 6B included:

- University of Punjab, Lahore;
- University of Balochistan, Quetta;
- University of Karachi, Karachi;
- Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan;
- Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur;
- University of Sargodha, Sargodha;
- Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan;
- Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur;
- University of Sindh, Jamshoro.

Partner universities for Grant Cycles 9B and 12 included:

- University of Peshawar, Peshawar;
- University of Agriculture, Faisalabad;
- The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Muzaffarabad;
- Karakoram International University, Gilgit;
- Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad;
- Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad;
- Sardar Bahadur Khan Women University, Quetta.

### ***National Advisory Forum meetings***

The National Advisory Forum (NAF) is a GEP advisory body for consultation and brainstorming on strategies for gender equity and equality. It offers broad policy guidelines to GEP and aligns programmes with the government's national and international commitments to gender. NAF held two meetings in Year Four; one every six months. A meeting was held on 9–10 April.



## **Chapter Six**

# **Research and Publications**

### 3. Research and Publications

AF has a strong tradition of research and publication ranging from research on laws, violence against women and our quarterly newsletter, Legislative Watch. Apart from this, various brochures and IEC material is produced, which is widely disseminated informing women of their rights on various subjects. AF research and publications are widely regarded as authority on the subject of women's issues.


#### 6.1 Legislative Watch Newsletters

AF publishes and distributes Legislative Watch newsletters several times a year. The publication is edited by Maliha Zia and Wasim Wagha. It was founded by the late Shahla Zia (1947–2005).

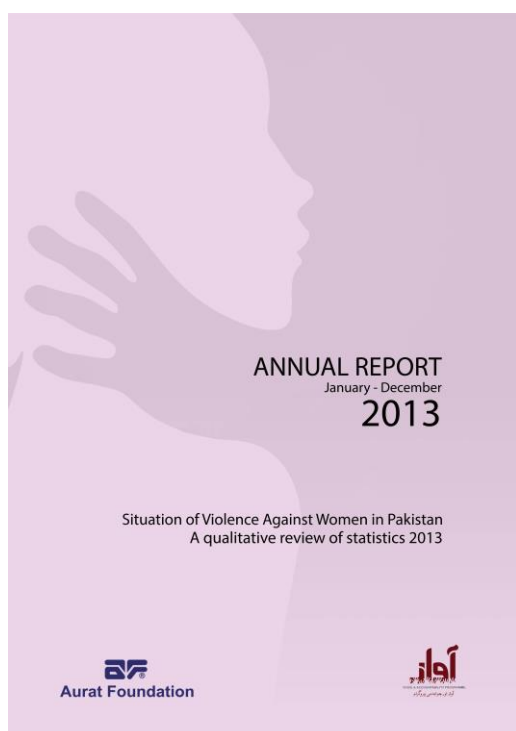
Issue number 41 covered the period March–November 2013 and was published in both English and Urdu. It contained the following articles:

Issue No.	Months (2013-14)	Articles
41-42	March - November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2013 elections: Women's representation in legislatures (Maliha Zia and others)</li> <li>A new generation of women legislators arrives (Wasim Wagha and others)</li> <li>Women's participation as voters in the 2013 elections (staff report)</li> <li>Number of women candidates rises sharply in the 2013 elections (Wasim Wagha and others)</li> <li>Women's political participation: expectations and challenges (Anis Haroon)</li> <li>AAWAZ national conference on women, peace and social harmony calls for gender reforms (staff report)</li> <li>Maximum representation of women and excluded groups in LGs demanded (staff report)</li> <li>Political party manifestos: Commitments to women (collaboration between NOW Communities and AF)</li> <li>Women and voting in KP: History and current status (Wasim Ahmed Shah)</li> </ul>

Issues number 43 covered the period January–May 2014 and was published in both English and Urdu. It contained the following articles:

<p>Issue No.</p> <p>43</p>	<p>Months (2013-14)</p> <p>January - May</p>	<p>Articles</p>
 <p><b>EDITORIAL</b></p> <p>This edition of the Legislative Watch Newsletter takes a critical appraisal of law-making in Pakistan. The success of pro-women legislation during the tenure of the previous Government, the legislation already submitted into the legislative bodies within the first year of this Government and the increasing focus of civil society organizations on legislative drafting, makes it essential to re-evaluate the expected standards of legislation in Pakistan. Questions must be asked regarding the quality, effectiveness and long-term impact of legislation already passed and of that being introduced and drafted in the women specific laws that have been passed over the time span of the last 14 years, a number of loopholes and problems with implementation have been seen, resulting in terms of formal equality and recognition of their rights, but it is yet to be translated into substantive equality.</p> <p>Legislative initiatives must be taken lightly and while the achievements of formal equality may be celebrated, the gaps in the current processes of drafting legislation by parliamentarians, Government Departments and civil society must be filled in order to create real and actual change in the society. Thus, this edition re-visits basic principles of legislation, while also mapping current legislative initiatives with the view to work towards ensuring quality, sustainable and impactful women specific legislation.</p> <p><b>Legislative Initiatives on Women in Pakistan - Need for Self-Critique and Reassessment</b></p> <p>By Maliha Zia</p> <p>Human rights, women's rights, conventions, including Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The Constitution has a chapter on fundamental rights, a number of which are taken from the UDHR. Thus a body of fundamental human rights backed with legal protection are available.</p> <p><b>Affirmative Action</b></p> <p>Important for women, is Article 23 of the equality clause. This allows for affirmative action to be passed without being deemed discriminatory. There are two main scenarios when this should come into play:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) When the existing law does not cover the illegality, discrimination or crime being committed against women or children.</li> <li>(2) When the existing law could cover the illegality, discrimination or crime being committed, but is failing to do so in its application - thereby specific law to address.</li> </ol> <p>Recently, focus has increased on women's particularly violence - a critical situation in that fact by the Pakistan HRC (PHRC). However, there</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative initiatives on women in Pakistan - need for self-critique and reassessment (Maliha Zia)</li> <li>Legislative performance on women's rights issues during the first parliamentary year 2013–2014 (staff report)</li> <li>Bills on raps and sexual violence introduced in legislatures (Maliha Zia)</li> <li>Landmark Punjab law sets 33% quota for women on decision-making positions in public sector bodies civil society lauds passage of Punjab Fair Representation of Women Act, 2014 (Mumtaz Mughal)</li> <li>Mumtaz on DV - A 2014 update (staff report)</li> <li>Women's participation key to national progress: President Mamnoon (staff report)</li> <li>Call for national policy on ending violence against women and girls (staff report)</li> </ul>	

## 6.2 Legislative Monitoring and Data Collection on Violence against Women



The annual report on VAW (2013), the ‘Situation of Violence Against Women in Pakistan’ begins with an historical overview of VAW in Pakistan, going on to present numerical data for the period 2008–2013, showing geographic spread, as well. The report covers Punjab, Sindh, KP, Balochistan, Islamabad (Capital Territory) and FATA.

Examples of important statistics include instances/cases of VAW, including abductions/kidnappings, murders, DV, suicides, honour killings, (gang) rapes, child sexual abuse, acid throwing (Table 9).

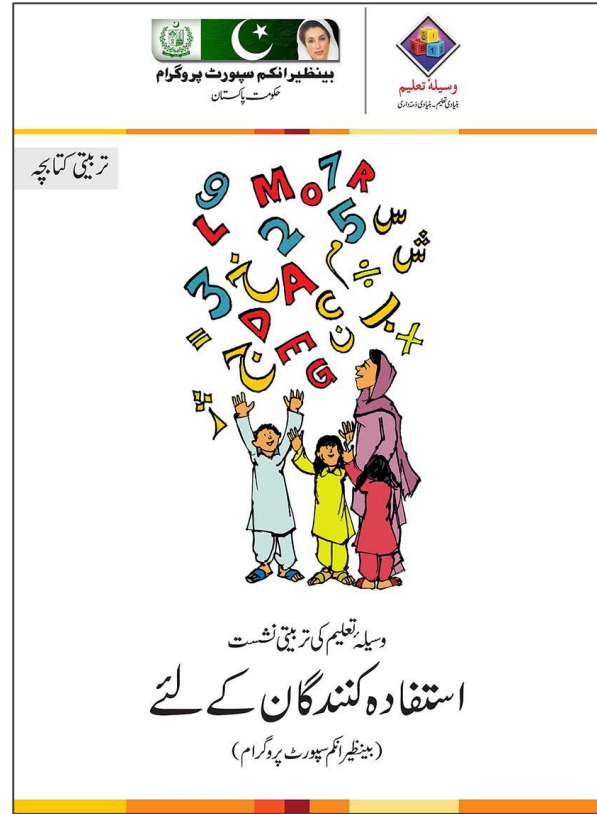
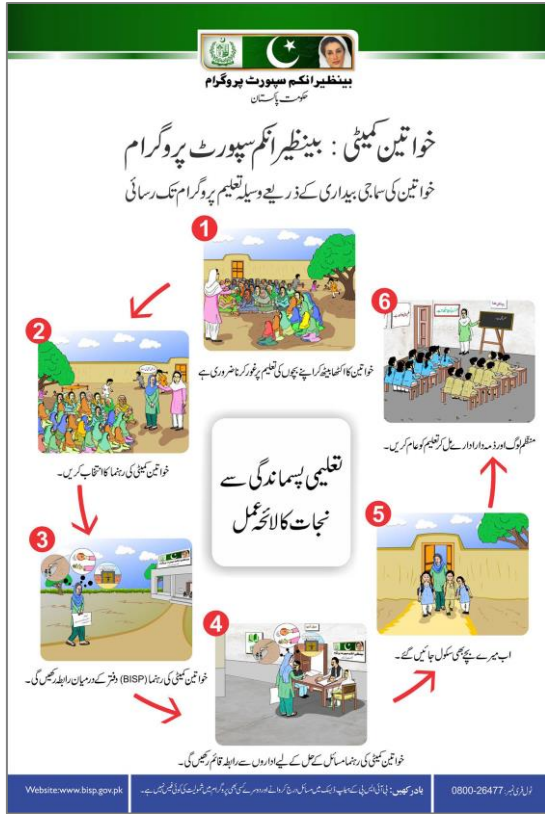
The major question addressed is ‘has VAW increased or decreased during the reporting period?’

In the report’s preface, Naeem Mirza, COO, AF and Rabeea Hadi, Director, Advocacy and EAW, AF cited increasing sectarian and religious violence as concerning forms of VAW in 2013. They spoke of the need to change lobbying strategies as each provincial assembly was now led by a different government. However, they were pleased to note that a considerable number of women contesting the elections on general seats had been aided by AF’s advocacy initiatives.

**Table 8: No. and percentage of major VAW categories, 2013**

Forms of VAW	No. of incidents	% of total
Abductions/kidnappings	2,026	26%
Murders	1,425	18%
DV	498	6%
Suicides	668	9%
Honour killings	487	6%
(Gang) rapes	956	12%
Sexual assault	38	1%
Acid throwing	43	1%
Burning	42	1%
Miscellaneous	1,669	21%
Total	<b>7,852</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 6.3 BISP published materials



#### 6.3.1 Awareness session guidebook

The extended phase of the BISP Conditional Cash Transfer Programme saw the revision of the ‘Awareness Guide Book’ which was initially used during pilot phase learning. This guide book became a hands-on guide for field staff, including district coordinators, SSOs and SOs. It was designed and developed in consultation with BISP’s Capacity Building Unit.

#### 6.3.2 Manual for women leaders training

A training manual and handouts were produced and used for women leader trainings at the field level. The manual was designed specifically to involve participants in the learning process. Topics included BISP and its programmes, human rights and a sense of co-responsibility, identification and election of women leaders, training exercises, facilitating trainings within communities, refreshers and ice breakers.

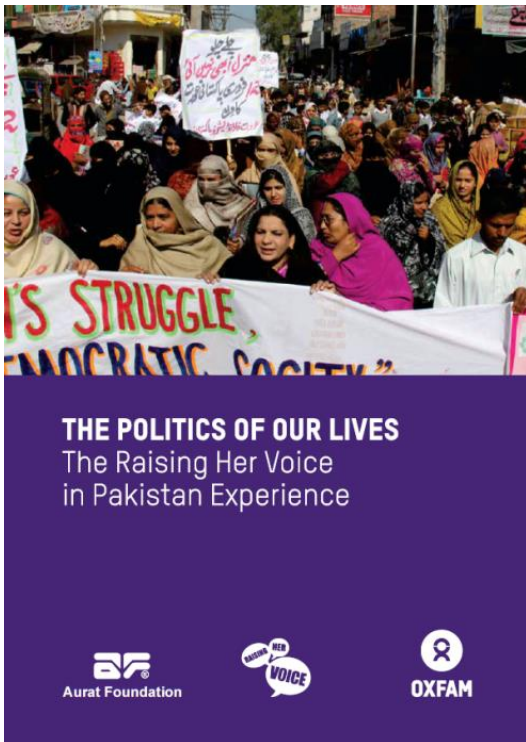
#### 6.3.3 IEC materials

IEC materials—brochures, banners and posters—were developed that covered basic information about BISP and SM. Other materials included information on documentation procedures, e.g. proceeding registers for BBCs, information finalization, education and communication material, etc.



## 6.4 Raising Her Voice Publications materials

### 6.4.1 The politics of our lives: The Raising Her Voice in Pakistan experience



*“Pakistan is a difficult place to be female – I have hope, we have hope, we have to have hope. I am hopeful that the challenges I have faced, that my children will not. I am hopeful that the successes I have achieved will inspire my children. I think they are more confident because of my actions”.* Haseen Mussarat, Raising her Voice (RHV) Women’s Leader, Sindh.

The RHV programme partnered with 17 Oxfam teams, 45 partner organizations and 450 coalition members to research and answer questions such as:

- How can power dynamics excluding women from decision making be altered?
- How can barriers to women’s rights be overcome?

The RHV programme and AF created 50 WLGs in 30 districts across with a total membership of 1,500

women activists. The WLGs promote local community activism to defend women’s individual and collective rights and represent marginalized women at the provincial and national level.

The report summarized the works of the RHV project in Pakistan, giving details of the work done by WLGs across the country. Activities included capacity building and advocacy and media campaigns. Examples of major achievements included:

- Helping nearly 116,000 women obtain CNICs in Sialkot;
- Convincing the local *panchayat* in Attock to ban honour killings.

The complete report is available at [http://www.af.org.pk/pub\\_files/1396364563.pdf](http://www.af.org.pk/pub_files/1396364563.pdf).

## 6.5 LISTEN publications materials

Various information, education and communication (IEC) materials were disseminated. These included (Figure 3):

- A flyer on GBV that was published on the eve of the ‘16 days of activism’ against GBV;
- A printed version of the RHV blog, ‘The Politics of our Lives’;
- Booklets on the UDHR, CEDAW, the Constitution of Pakistan, forms of voter registration and the methods and importance of registering one’s vote;
- A sticker on the importance of voting;
- A file cover with a message on women’s rights.



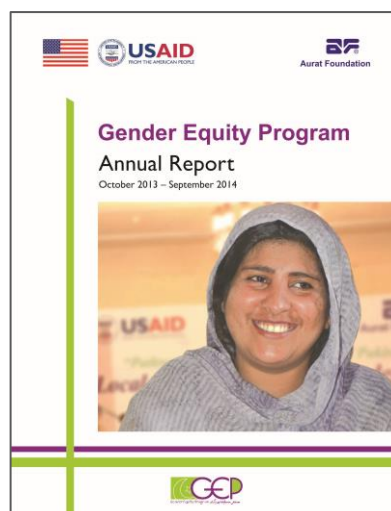
The master trainers were then responsible for conducting downstream training at the district level. AF facilitated the process whereby two-day trainings were held on civil and political rights and the role of women and youth in human rights protection. Some 1,154 women leaders were trained in 30 districts. Training procedures included brainstorming, interactive sessions, group activities, training handouts and PowerPoint presentations.

One major outcome was the establishment of district-wise aurat action forums (AAFs) where 6–7 women (women community leaders, CAC and CSO members, political workers) will develop and execute district-level joint advocacy initiatives.

## 6.6 GEP publications

A part from AF’s Publications, GEP also produces quarterly newsletters and annual report. In addition to this, in this review year two research studies on marriage registration and women in emergencies were completed, the ‘Marriage registration survey’ and the ‘Effects of displacement on women’.

Several other research studies were conducted by various universities as sub-grantees: The research was supervised by faculty members and GEP’s project team. All seven studies were completed within the grant period. GEP approved all IEC materials which are now displayed within the Institute of Education and Research in Gomal University.





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