

Annual Progress Report 2016-17

Empowering the Powerless

2016-17



SAP-Pakistan is the only South Asian NGO working in Pakistan. As member of South Asian civil society movement, is striving to empower marginalized sections of society and working to influence policies in favor of people. SAP-PK is one of the leading national organizations playing vital role in promoting participation, collective actions, and right based activism in Pakistan for the last 30 years.

South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK)

www.sappk.org

[https://facebook.com/SouthAsiaPartnership
Pakistan](https://facebook.com/SouthAsiaPartnershipPakistan)

© South Asia Partnership - Pakistan (SAP-PK)

Any part of this report can be quoted, reproduced and/or copied in soft or print form with due acknowledgement.

Title: Progress Review 2016-17

Report by: Khurram Azam

Edited by: Mohammad Zubair

Title & Layout Design by: Mahboob Ali

Computer work by: Tabassum Shahzad Khan

Copy to be requested from: South Asia partnership - Pakistan (SAP-PK)

Haseeb Memorial Trust Building, Nasirabad,
2KM, Raiwind Road, P.O Thokar Niaz Baig,
Lahore - Pakistan

Acronyms

BHU	Basic Health Units
CA	Constituent Assembly
CAT	Committee against Torture
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Discrimination against Women
CIGs	Formation of Common Interest Groups
CNIC	Computerised National Identity Card
CO	Community Organisation
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CS	Civil Society
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
D.I. Khan	Dera Ismail Khan
DFID	Department for International Development
DAI	Development Alternatives Incorporated
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EDT	Enterprise Development Training
FIM	Forum for Democratic Global Governance
FM	Frequency Modulation
GLAs	Government Line Agencies
HRWG	Human Rights Working Group
INGOs	International Non-government Organisations
IPHRC	Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LG	local Government
LGs	Local Governments
LOGIN	Local Governance Initiative and Network
MCOs	Men's Community Organisations
NADRA	National Data Registration Authority
NGOs	Non-government Organisations
NRM	Natural Resource Management
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Cooperation
OXFAM	Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
PLRP	Peace and Livelihood for Rural Poor
PPAF	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
QPSW	Quaker Peace and Social Witness
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAP	South Asia Partnership
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
UCs	Union Councils
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
VAW	Violence Against Women

Table of Contents

Message from Executive Director	4
Executive Summary:.....	5
About SAP-Pakistan.....	7
SAP-PK Programmes	7
AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme	7
Case Studies:	9
Peace and Livelihood for Rural Poor Program (PLRP).....	10
Citizens' Actions for Peace and Development (CAPD).....	11
Innovative Model for Strengthening Community based Measures.....	12
SAP-PK in Leadership Role:	13
Pakistan Civil Society Forum	13
The Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN)	13
Asia Democracy Research Network (ADRN)	14
National Humanitarian Network (NHN):.....	14
Annual Audit Report	15
Conclusion.....	16

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am happy to present the 2016 – 2017 Annual Report, reporting on projects and activities that will have an impact well into the future. Year 2016 brings mixed feelings as we enter 2017. It is a feeling of both happiness and sadness. It has been a happy year we, as organization, delivered what we committed in terms of our humble plans and continued to grow programmatically. SAP-PK is working with a resolve and commitment to bring about a positive change in the society through creation of equal opportunities for utilization of full human potential. The organization believes in participatory development that caters to the needs of all segments of the society, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable like the rural poor, women, minorities and children.

SAP-PK's approach towards its mission statement "struggle to Empower People" has undergone enormous shift over the years. It is fortunate that the organization has not been static, and adapting itself to emerging needs and realities. This approach has throughout served as a statement expressing its relevance to existing situation, and has helped measure its successes and failures. We need to realize that extremism, gender discrimination and denial to human dignity with regard to life and livelihood is continuing. We have governance incapability coupled with weak policies and power crazy social values. One may question whether we are safe or not from foreign invasion, but there is hardly any disagreement over that we as a nation are unhappier. Religious minorities, women and children are insecure. We believe that to have a positive development index, we need to change the narrative at the societal, policy and the governance level.

For the past few years, an important aspect of SAP-PK's planning has been its pronounced presence in rural communities across Pakistan. SAP-PK's presence in rural areas and its eventual working with rural communities is based on its belief that poverty is related to livelihood and poor governance and both of these elements are rooted more firmly in rural areas. Now logically, the fight against poverty, and hence for social justice, tolerance and democracy, can only be won in rural areas where farmers' community - which is almost 68% of Pakistan's population, - cannot be ignored. Moreover, poverty, governance, political participation, human rights and peace and cooperation should situate with rural folk, especially women and religious minorities, should the broader human development objectives, be effectively pursued in Pakistan as well as South Asia. This report illustrates our work for the citizens of Pakistan regardless of any distinction for any particular segment.

This brief report of 2016-17 presents before you a snapshot of what we did as an organization and as a member of national and international civil society. A lot has been contributed. Still a lot more has to be done. There might be some mistakes but there were many -achievements too. We would greatly appreciate if you could find time to finger through this report and advise us how to siphon out the best. Your feedback is extremely valuable and cordially welcome.

Mohammad Tahseen
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The South Asia Partnership Pakistan during the year continued with development interventions in different areas of the country. It stick to its vision to create an engendered, critical society in South Asia based on the universal principles of human dignity, justice, democracy and peaceful coexistence. It also struggled to create enabling environment for participatory governance and sustainable collective action for peace, human security and regional cooperation.

It put coordinated efforts to bring change in the lives of the people, particularly the most marginalized groups which have remained on margins and virtually cut from mainstream economic and political affairs. This marginality based on gender, ethnicity, religion and ethnicity becomes even worse in developing countries like Pakistan. Therefore, focused interventions were designed during the year to make community based structures inclusive, and representative. SAP-PK continued to provide leadership to national and international civil society forums and networks. Some of them are **Pakistan Civil Society Forum (PCSF)**, a representative platform of rights-based organization working on national and international priorities, particularly on issues of human rights, governance, policy advocacy, gender equality and poverty alleviation all across the country. PCSF is a joint platform of more than 50 leading national level organizations. **Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN)** is a South and East Asia centric multi-stakeholder network aiding reform agendas in favour of greater decentralization and the strengthened role of local governments. **National Humanitarian Network (NHN)** a network of civil society organizations working on disaster relief, preparedness and lobbying for humanitarian issues. Another achievement during the year was formation of **South Asian Women Alliance (SAWA)** with its secretariat in SAP-PK. SAWA aims to gather the women leader at grassroots level from south Asian countries on a common platform to learn exchange and replicate the successful models.

SAP-Pakistan's thematic focus remained on: respect of the rights of the people without distinction of, cast, creed, race and religion, strengthening of civil society partnerships, democratic governance, equal participation, and advocacy for poverty alleviation, livelihood rights, interfaith harmony and peace, and de-radicalization of youth with geographical focus on rural and urban areas of Pakistan.

The outgoing year proved challenging on multiple fronts: economic crises, extremism, terrorism, weak State policies, controversial legislation, lack of commitment towards international obligations and weak implementation mechanisms of existing laws.

To put it first is the enormous deprivation among peasants, women's participation in political processes and religious minorities. The enormity of their deprivation, added with illiteracy and discrimination against women, stands slap in the process of their education and mobilization. The service delivery departments and elected representatives too pose a hurdle when they behave differently from their job description. The ages-old practices of non-participation, non-transparency and unaccountability now bear deep impressions and cannot be removed so easily unless people themselves decide to act. To make people realize of their strengths, infuse them with the spirit to be proactive and to capacitate them for improving social, political and economic construction of their communities, requires both dedication and professional expertise.

Most importantly the hostile environment of government and its institutions against NGOs reduced significantly a working space with this sector. The SAP-PK and different other organizations working with it have to file petitions in the Lahore High Court against the orders of government departments to seal their offices. There is an undeclared policy of this Government to stop NGOs working in Pakistan. The government required all NGOs to seek permission from the DCO/Home Department before undertaking any activity of any kind. This restriction is not only for one district or one province but it is for all the country. In KPK, NGOs are required to get permission not only from the concerned DCOs but also from the military intelligence agencies. Needless to say that obtaining NoC is just next to impossible. It adversely impacted SAP-PK and development sector as a whole.

This policy also resulted in creating frustration amongst the funders who are finding it difficult to work in Pakistan for political uncertainty and confused policies for NGOs. Also delays in implementation of funded projects due to lengthy and complicated NoC and registration process caused problems for the INGOs.

It is pertinent to say that the previous year was the most difficult year in the SAPPK's history owing to numerous obstacles. Specifically speaking some of them were;

- State-run-agencies restricted SAP-PK's staff mobility in the four provinces of Pakistan.
- Non-cooperation of government in NoC related matters and demand for NoCs despite registration
- Security threats to staff
- Two projects for Fata had to suspend after getting singed the projects for not having NoCs with SAP-PK

ABOUT SAP-PAKISTAN

As member of South Asian civil society movement, South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK) is striving to empower marginalized sections of society and working to influence policies in favor of people. The organization derives its name from a regional network, i.e., South Asia Partnership. This is a volunteer network of participatory development-support organizations operating under the same name and for the same purposes in Canada and four South Asian countries, i.e., Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It has some presence in India as well, through a collective form of three different organizations. All these organizations and Sri Lanka Center for Development Facilitation collectively form South Asia Partnership-International (SAP-International).

Vision

South Asia Partnership-Pakistan's vision is to create an engendered, critical society in South Asia based on the universal principles of human dignity, justice, democracy and peaceful coexistence.

Mission

The mission of South Asia Partnership - Pakistan is to create enabling environment for participatory governance and sustainable collective action for peace, human security and regional cooperation at South Asian level, through organization of the marginalized sections of society and development of their capacities.

Major interventions of SAP-Pakistan this year include efforts for strengthening the democratic processes by making them more inclusive and accountable. According to SAP-Pakistan's last five-year strategic planning exercise in 2016, SAP-PK followed the following programmatic thrusts:

1. Democratic Governance
2. Poverty and Sustainable Livelihood
3. Gender Justice
4. Human Security and Safe Environment
5. Partnerships Regional and National

In line with the stated thrusts, SAP-Pakistan is running different programs and projects, with farmers, peasants, elected-representatives, especially women and religious minorities, civil society organizations and networks. Most notable of the organization's programs are as under:

SAP-PK PROGRAMMES

AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme

SAP-Pakistan is implementing AAWAZ Voice and Accountability Programme in 13 districts of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, as consortium partner, strives to make significant contribution by pushing for inclusive democracy, stronger accountability and issue based political processes. Women participation in political and public sphere, peaceful dispute resolution and social cohesion and raising demand for

better social services are the objectives of the program. AAWAZ Programme in brief - envisions stable, tolerant, inclusive, prosperous and democratic Pakistan. The programme strives to strengthen the fragile democratic processes, by making them more inclusive, accountable and thus stable. It is built on the premise that people, particularly women and members of excluded groups, can safely and more effectively make their voices heard to government and they are better able to work together across gender, ethnic, and class divides to impact lasting change. This manifestation contributes to more open and inclusive democratic process in Pakistan and thus improves government's accountability before its citizens.

AAWAZ is DFID-funded, five-year programme, being implemented through four leading Pakistani NGOs including SAP-Pakistan. AAWAZ Consortium is working in 45 districts of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where incidences of women's political participation, peace and social cohesion, and access to public services are on the lower side. Women, excluded groups, religious and sectarian minorities, politicians and activists, civil society institutions, political parties, government departments and academic institutions are the beneficiaries of the programme. SAP Pakistan is implementing it in 13 districts (130 UCs and 1,300 villages/urban settlements) of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces. The structures we formed, under this initiative, facilitate citizens and communities to organise at the village, union council (UC), tehsil and district level, and thus nurture democratic values in the country. There are 1500 Village/Settlement Forums, 130 UC Forums and 13 District Forums, each village has representation of 40 members on an average; 20 male and 20 female. - The major achievements realized under the program were as under;

- i. Legislation to curb hate speech in Punjab
- ii. Drafting of bills and legislation over forced conversion and early child marriages and family laws for Hindus and other areas such as sexual harassment at workplace and right to inheritance for women and etc.
- iii. Improvement in the implementation of laws to curb hate speech through engaging with legislature, political parties, government and civil society organizations
- iv. Ensured participation of more than 50 women in Local government Elections
- v. Pre-empted 1146 dispute cases in all AAWAZ districts
- vi. Reached out to more than 500,000 people including more than 50 percent women by launching anti-hate speech campaign and disseminating messages through media
- vii. Contributed for peaceful observance of *Moharram* in sensitive districts through promoting interfaith harmony
- viii. Establishment of early warning systems at villages and district levels to pre-empt conflicts
- ix. Constant engagement with Punjab Minority Advisory Council for proposing legislation over religious minorities' issues
- x. Established Village, Tehsil and District Forums have representation of community members, minorities, women and members of provincial and national assemblies.
- xi. Provision of CNICs to almost 80% women in AAWAZ focused areas and almost 3000 women are in leadership role.

- xii. Provided support mechanism to 100 transgender in Lahore through helpline. It includes health services, abuses and police torture etc.

Case Studies:

Case Study of Anila Ijaz, UC Khansar district Bhakkar

Ms. Anila Ijaz, 22 year old student of FA, is the resident of UC Khansar, district Bhakkar. She is a member of AAWAZ Forum and actively participates in AAWAZ program activities.

In a briefing meeting conducted by SAP-PK, she came to know regarding opportunity of Child Literacy Centres (Taleem Sab Kay Liye) by District Literacy Officer (Mr. Inam-ul-Haq). After that she started to think about the Centre in her village where all the innocent children of her community (Dera Rang Shah) were unaware of the basic education because they had no facility in the village provided by government. Primary School was located 10 km away from her village. She took courageous step and with help of her mother she visited SAP-PK office. She submitted an application for the formation of Centre.

SAP-PK's Program Officer visited the office along with Ms. Anila and her mother. Both father and mother were striving for the education of their two daughters and two sons. - After the concerted efforts of Ms. Anila with the support of her mother, a Literacy Center was established as per the direction of District Literacy Officer (DLO). Through this literacy Centre Ms. Anila is taking Rs. 5000 salary per month as honorarium. Some forty students (29 girls/11 boys) are studying in nursery, grade-I and grade-II.

"A Study of Violence against Women/ Conflict Pre-emption"

Mrs. Zafar Ahmed is a house wife and belongs to AAWAZ focused village Darkhanandeh Union Council Ayun, district Chitral She has five children (three girls and two boys). Her husband is a business man Zafar Ahmad recently got elected as General Councilor in the local body elections held in May, 2015, a conflict arise between husband and wife on their children. Husband took a scary step and sends his wife to her mother's home and was strongly committed to divorce his wife. Situation became extremely tense between two families and violent messages have been exchanged between the families. The mother away from home and her children were bound to pass through mental torture. She has no choice except to commit suicide.

This situation came in the knowledge of AAWAZ village forum Darkhanandeh. Keeping in view the sensitivity and significance of situation village forum immediately called emergency meeting which chaired by forum president Nasim Akhtar. Forum adopted a strategy and decided to meet both husband and wife families to reduce the tension. The Forum President met with both the families and thoroughly explained women rights and negative impact of broken family on their children and families. As a result of serious and timely efforts of AAWAZ Forums the problem resolved peacefully.

Establishing Hospital (UC 246) Faisalabad

Union Council (UC) 246 (Barkatpura) is a UC of about 40,000 population. Here even not a single government- run dispensary exists that could cater the medical needs of the people of the area. Here the people have been constantly demanding for a dispensary for their convenience in terms to have

medical treatment. Owing to the absence of any such facility, the people had to visit the District Head Quarter Hospital (DHQ) even for minor health problems such as fever; flue, coughing etc. They were dejected for despite their repeated demands for this facility but their voice was not heard even by their elected representatives.

Finally the people of this area approached AUCF UC 246 and requested for the solution of their long standing issue. At this request UC Forum engaged the district government especially District Health Department to have this demand met. The UC Forum organized an open court where District Health Officer was invited to listen to the problems of the people and take necessary action.

In this open court, the representative of the Health Department listened to the complaints of the public and promised for the dispensary. Afterwards, having a ray of hope, the AUCF engaged ADF believing that lobbying through ADF at district level can help them have this problem resolved. Finally at the intervention of ADF, the things started to get changed for the better

The ADF president and its members had a number of meetings with District Coordination Officer., As result of these meetings; the DCO assured to help in this regard but asked the ADF members to locate some site for a medical dispensary. In the meantime, the ADF president and members also had a meeting with Member of National Assembly, Mian Abdul Manan, and requested him to help in this regard. The MNA - promised that he would intensify his efforts in this regard. He assured that this hospital would be established at such a place where visiting it could be feasible for the people of UC 246 and other adjoining localities. Afterwards, the ADF members had a number of follow up meetings with the MNA and the government officials As result of these efforts now the government had started to establish a fifty bed hospital v near to UC Barkatpura. The construction work on this hospital is under process and is likely to be completed very soon.

Peace and Livelihood for Rural Poor Program (PLRP)

Peace and Livelihood for Rural Poor Program (PLRP) of SAP-PK that strives for greater citizens' voices and actions through promoting cultural and political sensitive dispute resolution and citizen-state engagement in promoting peace and democratic governance in Pakistan. South Asia Partnership Pakistan strives to address problems of poverty, socio-economic insecurity and extremism and their impact on marginalized sections especially women and religious minorities. Since there is very poor record of the state institutions working directly with the people to address their developmental needs, there is distrust among people towards these institutions. SAP-PK not only works with people to empower them to take up their issues but also links them with service providers so that government becomes accountable and responsive.

The basic premise of the project "Peace and Livelihood for Rural Poor (PLRP)" is that greater citizens' voices and actions through promoting cultural and political sensitive dispute resolutions and citizen-state engagement are essential in promoting peace and democratic governance.

PLRP is a three year project. Through this, we are present in 42 villages of eight union councils (UCs) of Rajanpur, Ghotki, Dera Ismail Khan and Gawadar districts with the support of "Bread for the World". -. The project focuses these results:

- Improved food security and gender-sensitive livelihood of 2,500 families
- Conflict resolution and peace committees actively engage communities in negotiating their Peace and livelihood issues with Govt.

SAP-PK adopted three strategies under the project. These are organizing ultra-poor and vulnerable; promoting alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and provision of asset building and alternative livelihood options. Major interventions of the project were:

1. Identification of livelihood security and economic development needs
2. Development of capacities of selected groups of men and women
3. Financial and technical assistance for application of the livelihood security
4. Involvement of communities in peace related activities
5. Collective negotiation for livelihood rights
6. Creating sustainable models of livelihood
7. Assisting communities in identifying, demanding and monitoring public utilities/services
8. Demonstrate models of alternative dispute resolution

The programme was is making headways in mobilizing women, non-Muslims especially poorest of the poor. By strengthening the existing and creating new and innovative local structures for joint planning, dispute resolution and livelihood support, PLRP is creating a new equation. The focus is to set up and strengthen institutions for the poor. Peace Committees and Village Organizations are raising voice to educate and negotiate rights; they are being approached by villagers to resolve conflicts, from domestic violence to land related disputes.

Building on indigenous traditions and technology for sustainable resource mobilization, the programme has developed a new learning model. Men are participating in village *chopals* (public space of interaction) in Gawadar and Rajanpur districts, whereas in D.I.Khan separate (gender-segregated) *chopals* are generating positive results.

Citizens' Actions for Peace and Development (CAPD)

Citizens' Actions for Peace and Development (CAPD) program aim to promote a peaceful and stable environment. It also focused improving living conditions for the people in FATA, especially women, youth and religious minorities, through conflict resolution and responsive services. The impact statement of this program is to promote a peaceful and stable environment and, improving living conditions for the people in Fata, especially women, youth and religious minorities, through improved conflict resolution processes and responsive services. It was started in November, 2015. Some basic work undertaken during the reported period include: Selection of implementing partners, selection of villages with the consultation of agency administration and FATA Secretariat, approval of YPO by the Program Steering Committee (PMC) and signing of contracts with implementing partners (IPs) from April 2016 to October, 2016. SAP-PK improved coordination with FATA Secretariat with keeping it in loop on all the activities implemented at regional level. SAP-Pakistan advertised expression of interest (EOI) on SAP-PK's website www.sappk.org and social media inviting implementing partners for implementing project activities in target areas.

As result of this exercise, our regional office received numerous profiles of implementing partners. The selection committee shortlisted the potential organizations against the criteria and planned visits with aim to conduct due diligence exercise on those organizations. The due diligence template was finalized after exhaustive discussion among SAP-PK's senior management. Our team used uniform standard procedures for marking, checked the record on spot and met with senior management of respective organizations. Conscious efforts were made to select the implementing partners on merit basis. A joint selection committee comprising representation of FATA Secretariat, SDC liaison officer, CAPD coordinators and regional manager has selected the eight implementing partners.

Each implementing partner in each agency is tasked to implement program activities in ten villages. Similarly, 20 villages were selected, 15 new and 5 old, from each agency and got approved by agency administration. The implementing partners completed the selection of project villages during the reporting period. Total 80 project villages were finalized by the local partners and approved from concerned agency administration. In this way 20 project villages were finalized in each agency. Its results will start proving to be the surface after its implementation starts this year.

Innovative Model for Strengthening Community based Measures

The program is EU and NCA funded for 33 months that commenced from March, 2015 and will end by December, 2017. The overall objective of this action is to contribute to enhanced social and collective action in local communities to detect, prevent and respond to VAWG, specifically domestic violence (DV) and forced marriage.

It will address the violation of women and girls basic human rights i.e. VAWG by focusing on prevention and response through a two-tiered approach:

- I. Survivors of VAWG have enhanced access to justice and safety, through response services, referrals and adherence to applicable laws
- II. Community measures prevent and act against domestic violence and forced marriages, by empowering women through facilitation of inheritance. The NCA and SAP-PK have previous experience with prevention and dissolution (declaring illegal in the first place) of forced marriages and acting against denial of inheritance rights. This initiative will also address the problem of dowry, which is a major factor resulting in domestic violence and denial of inheritance, and contributes to cases of forced marriage. It focuses on awareness raising on prevention of domestic violence, which is a much more accepted social norm that has only recently been criminalized. Through this action women and girls experiencing domestic violence will be provided with psychosocial counseling and legal aid, as well referral to shelters when needed.

At the community level the Action will adopt a cautious approach to prevent any backlash from conservative elements in society who may claim that the co-applicant NGOs are out to destroy the traditional structure of the Pakistani family. This project is being implemented by SAP-PK through district teams along with the support of RDPs in Shaheed Benazirabad and Mirpur Khas districts. In both the districts 100 community groups have been formed in 10 union councils.

SAP-PK IN LEADERSHIP ROLE:

SAP-PK as one of the leading organizations to advance people's agenda of peace-building, social justice, demilitarization and cooperation at South Asian level has programmatic presence in more than 5000 villages and urban settlements of 106 districts of Pakistan including 9 FATA/PATA agencies. SAP-PK has four provincial offices (Punjab, KP, Sindh and Balochistan) and hundreds of strategic partners in numerous districts across the country. These well-established partner organizations and networks are aligned with SAP-PK's development vision and strategic direction, and also extend their full support to operate as support centers for smaller organizations and communities. This approach has enabled SAP-PK to manage extensive networks and communities without incurring high operational and administrative costs. As a result of it, with cost effective approach, SAP-PK contributed for;

1. Promoting **peace, security and tolerance** through joint efforts for tolerance and voice against terrorism; advocating and campaigning to curb violence against women, religious, cultural and ethnic minorities; and supporting internally displaced people and rehabilitation efforts;
2. Strengthening **civic rights and human development** through creating awareness and policy advocacy actions against disparities among regions, communities and classes; and developing alternative models of livelihood and development to curtail abject poverty and socio-economic struggle;
3. **Peoples' participation and democratic governance** through enhancing citizen participation and engagement at all levels of governance; organizing rights-holders and marginalized groups towards achieving fundamental rights and holding duty bearers accountable;
4. **Capacitating civil society in South Asia** through efforts for peace building in the region, and advocating people's agenda at regional forums.

Pakistan Civil Society Forum

The Pakistan Civil Society Forum is an initiative aimed at mobilizing civil society and concerned citizens of Pakistan for strengthening a representative democracy, citizenship, and social and economic justice through coordinated and focused lobbying and actions. This Forum was established through a consultation meeting with leading civil society organizations convened by SAP-PK in Islamabad. It is a joint platform of action, coordination and engagement with government and national and international institutions. PCSF will also promote its charter of demand and will undertake collective actions for its realization.

The Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN)

South Asia Partnership-Pakistan is also part of a network "The Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN)" is a South and East Asia centric multi-stakeholder network aiding reform agendas in favour of greater decentralization and the strengthened role of local governments. Spanning 12 countries, LOGIN's membership includes elected representatives, training institutions, think tanks, government departments, non-governmental organizations and inter-governmental organizations, among others. Working in favour of accountable, transparent and inclusive local governance, LOGIN facilitates knowledge sharing and peer-engagements on key local governance issues amongst its stakeholders. Since its inception in 2013, LOGIN has been connecting and capacitating various actors and change

agents who are driving the reform agendas within their countries and the region. This network is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and coordinated by a Secretariat located in the Embassy of Switzerland in Delhi, India.

Asia Democracy Research Network (ADRN)

SAP-Pakistan has compiled a country report on "Shrinking Spaces for Civic Actions" as part of a pan-Asia Policy Research and Policy outcome project on Civic Spaces in Asia. The report is part of a larger project launched by Asia Democracy Research Network (ADRN) representing 19 Asian partners including universities, academia, and research bodies and leading think tanks. SAP-Pakistan was partnering on the Pakistan part of this report, the report will ultimately become part of the larger Asia report that will be published and launched at Asia level in November 2017. The report diagnosed the problems and issues of civil spaces and suggested policy lessons.

National Humanitarian Network (NHN):

SAP-PK currently elected as provincial chair of NHN, (a network of civil society organizations working on disaster relief, preparedness and lobbying for humanitarian issues). As a provincial chair it is playing an important role in advancing the humanitarian issues at the policy level. It is building capacities of its member organizations. SAP-PK also expanded the membership of NHN in Punjab during the year. SAP-PK will reach out to organizations working on disaster relief and rehabilitation especially in disaster prone areas. The National Humanitarian Network (NHN) is a network of National NGOs (NNGOs) in Pakistan, led by an elected Chair and Central Executive Committee -, with provincial/regional chapters in five provinces and FATA/Azad Jammu Kashmir-) while Gilgit-Baltistan chapter is in the stage of establishment.

Founded in 2010 after interactive dialogue with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to act as an independent and vibrant voice to engage with stakeholders throughout Pakistan for promotion of humanitarian values by influencing policies and building capacities to ensure right based humanitarian response. The network has established provincial chapters and has taken up a formal representational role for the NNGO community in Pakistan -. NHN is representative of -Pakistani Civil Society in Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF), and Accountability Learning Working Group (ALWG) and having significant role in humanitarian architecture in Pakistan. NHN is having its representation in Advisory and Review Boards of Pakistan Emergency Reserve fund. -. NHN is continually improving its capacity to act as an effective institution for raising voice of national civil society in Pakistan.

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

CONCLUSION

The objective of the organization sets ambitious development goals and defines how SAP-Pakistan can best contribute to fighting the injustice of poverty. It focuses on empowering people so that they can participate in the political decisions that affect them and search for new opportunities to rise out of poverty. Such major long-term goals demand a coordinated approach, as set out in the new plan. By working more closely together across the partners, we will ensure that our efforts are aligned to have the maximum impact.

When assessing our results we aim to strike the right balance between measurable goals described in the strategic objectives mentioned in the report and an integrated, holistic view of our performance. It was beginning of the realization of new approaches and practices. As readers have fingered through this report and are now able to measure the extent of our involvement, it will be certainly relevant to put the efforts of our dedicated staff on record of appreciation without whom we would have been simply unable to take on such a huge task.

Lots of success stories and many hiccups ornament the road as we look back at 2016. Counting on our successes first, it is indeed a great pleasure for us that i) we were able to go to hundreds of communities and meet thousands of people who shared their sorrows and pleasures with us, ii) we convinced them and organized them into forums / groups, ii) we shared with them our understanding as to why they are deprived and how they can end the vicious circle of their social, political and economic exploitation, iii) we enabled their groups to positively access their representatives, service-delivery departments and legal systems and demand from them what they were elected, being paid and constituted for, iv) we initiated the process of transformation with the elected representatives and state officials and infused them to an extent with the spirit to act differently from traditional ways, and v) we partnered with hundreds of groups and organizations across Pakistan and the region on models that met practical needs of survival and development.

SAP-PK also works out its way against odds. For instance, SAP-PK is not using a single and simple cut-and-dried method for community mobilization. It is using combination of skills as well as knowledge to mobilize people. It is helping marginalized groups to work on small models for economic, social and political uplift. In some communities, dialogues or theatre shows also serve our purpose. It is therefore a blend of techniques to attract the interest of the communities. Similarly, SAP-PK keeps content and method of delivering information simple and informal to all possible extents. It is approaching different departments with a view to assist them in benefiting people on the one hand and mobilizing communities to positively approach those departments for gaining benefits on the other hand. In the same manner, SAP-PK involves elected representatives showing the collective strength of the people who, as voters, can turn the tables. As far as the inadequacy of the trained social mobilizers and trainers is concerned, SAP-PK is developing its own resource pool of mobilizers and trainers, though the process of slower than expected. But it will take only a short time when thousands of peasants, workers, women and religious communities will be in a position of dictating their terms.