

# ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

## 2016 - 2017



**Towards just, Democratic, Inclusive,  
Peaceful, Climate Resilient and Sustainable  
Development**

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## Acronyms

AJK	Azad Jammu and Kashmir
CBDRM	Community Based Disaster Risk Management
CMA	Cumulative Marketing Association
CRP	
CSO	Community Based Organization
DDMU	District Disaster Management Units
DFID	Department for International Development
DKH	
DMC	Directorate of Malaria Control
DRP	
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
ERT	
EWSs	Early Warning Systems
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
GDR	
KPK	Khyber Pakhunkhwa
MRV	
NESR	
PDMA	Provincial Disaster Management Authority
PMT	
PSC	Public Service Commission
SBDRM	
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedure
TBA	
UC	Union Council
VAW	Violence Against Women
VDMC	Village Disaster Management Committee
VTC	
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

## Foreword

I am pleased to share with you all the annual progress report of Sungi for the year 2016-17. During this 3-year period Sungi was able to implement its programs in the most deserving areas and build partnerships with vulnerable communities.

In 2016-17, Sungi's major work has been the consolidation of its AAWAZ project which is being implemented in 6 districts of KPK and Punjab. Through this project Sungi reached out to 600 villages. The project started in 2012; therefore year 2016 was important in terms of witnessing the results of the work done by Sungi. Emerging leadership among women, community-led initiatives to reduce VAW, conflict pre-emption through Early Warning Systems (EWSs) and increased responsiveness of government departments were the highlights of the results during this year.

During 2016, Sungi took its partnership with the government to the next level and took an initiative of capacitating disaster management authorities in collaboration with Concern Worldwide. Through this project Sungi capacitated 6 District Disaster Management Units (DDMUs) and 1 Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in KPK so that they can effectively plan, implement, monitoring and coordinate the humanitarian actions in their respective jurisdictions. Another dimension of Sungi's partnership with the government was National Socio-Economic Registry Update survey, which was initiated in collaboration with the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP). Sungi was allotted 4 districts to implement this project to provide BISP the information required to target their livelihood support initiatives.

Alongside its development projects, Sungi also responded to multiple disasters – October 2015 earthquake in KPK and monsoon floods in south Punjab. These initiatives included the construction of disaster resilient shelters for the earthquake affected communities and provision of WASH facilities to the flood hit areas.

Gender Empowerment and Institutional Development Project was a unique intervention by Sungi in 3 districts of KPK. The project proved instrumental in terms of generating awareness among the communities, especially youth regarding Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), early marriages, life skills and HIV Aids. Project also took on board the parents and the government departments, including police while increasing capacities to deal with above mentioned issues.

In the end, I would like to especially thank the Board of Governors and funding partners of Sungi without whom it would not have been possible to successfully go through 2016 - 17. I sincerely hope to receive similar support in future so that Sungi can continue its work in the directions that are aligned with its core objectives. Last but not least, I would like to appreciate the work done by Sungi's team which showed the zeal and commitment of staff towards the organization reaching ever high milestones of quality and excellence.

**Malik Shahbaz Ahmed**  
Executive Director

## Sungi's Outreach

	Physical Presence <sup>1</sup>	Presence through community partners <sup>2</sup>	Presence through networks <sup>3</sup>
<b>Azad Jammu Kashmir</b>	Muzaffarabad	Hattian Bala, Haveli, Neelam, Rawlakot	Bagh, Kotli
<b>Khyber Pukhtoonkhwa</b>	Abbottabad, Haripur, Mansehra, Battagram, Swabi, Upper Dir, Charsadda, Kohistan	Peshawar, Swat, Mardan, D.I. Khan, Karak	Shangla, Chitral, Peshawar, Karak, D.I. Khan
<b>Punjab</b>	Attock, Faisalabad	Rajanpur, Muzaffargarh, D.G. Khan, Jhang, Bahawalpur, Kharian, Gujrat, Mandi Bahauddin	Lahore, Multan, Kharian, Gujrat, Mandi Bahauddin
<b>Balochistan</b>		Jaffarabad, Naseerabad	Quetta
<b>Sindh</b>			Tharparkar, Badin, Karachi, Sakkhar
<b>Gilgit Baltistan</b>	Gilgit		
<b>FATA</b>	Mohmand Agency	Bajur Agency	Tank

<sup>1</sup> Where Sungi currently has its offices

<sup>2</sup> Where Sungi had implemented projects in the past and has community partners

<sup>3</sup> Where Sungi is present through its advocacy networks (national, regional)

## Key achievements of 2016

- **675** Community Based Organizations strengthened and capacitated at village and UC levels with a total membership of **18500** men, **17000** women.
- **4300** women facilitated in political participation.
- **332** conflicts and disputes pre-empted in **6** districts benefiting over **25000** individuals.
- **276** public demands facilitated and met while benefiting over **138000** individuals.
- **3500** people trained on non-violent communication.
- **882** peace events attended by **14377** community members from various religions, sects and faiths.
- **60** women focused resource/Aagahi Centers supported at UC level benefiting a total of **102356** women.
- **60** Early Warning Systems (EWSs) for conflicts prevention established at village level.
- **6** EWSs for conflicts prevention established at district level.
- **50,000** youth, parents and teachers on prevention and spread of HIV/AIDS.
- Increased life skills of **10,000** youth and **5,000** parents and teachers.
- Increased the knowledge of **50,000** youth and **10,000** parents, teachers on SRH rights for youth.
- **6** district disaster management authorities capacitated in emergency response, monitoring, coordination and need assessments.
- **1** provincial disaster management authority capacitated in emergency response, monitoring, coordination and need assessments.
- **1** alliance formed at district level for promotion of good governance.
- **350** water supply schemes installed benefiting **50000** people.
- **300** sanitation schemes constructed benefiting **2500** people.
- **200** earthquake resistant shelters constructed benefiting **1500** people.
- **662** loans provided to women for agriculture, enterprise development and livestock rearing in **3** districts.

# Governance, Democracy & Rights Program



## Governance, Democracy & Rights Program

As a leading rights-based development organization, Sungi has been working in the field of Governance, Democracy and Rights since 1989, initially under the Civic Rights Program (CRP), which was transformed into Good Governance and Democratization Program. As a result of organizational changes brought in Sungi after the strategic planning for 2015-2020, the program was again customized according to the needs and feedback of stakeholders as Governance, Democracy & Rights. Sungi's struggle is well known in promoting and protecting human rights, working for good governance, peace and tolerance, and free and fair elections in the country.

### Program Objectives:

- a) To improve access to fundamental rights of marginalized communities, particularly women and minorities
- b) To promote democratic values and practices
- c) To enhance the responsiveness of policymakers so that improved and pro-poor policies, institutions and systems are in place.

### Mobilizing Communities

Social mobilization has been a hallmark of Sungi programming over the years. Through different strategies, Sungi mobilizes communities to bring them on one platform to advocate, lobby and demand their basic constitutional rights. Inclusion is a major focus and Sungi methodologies and GDR Program



### *Knowledge is power*

*Sungi conducted sessions with us on violence against women and girls. We were unaware of the protection for women and girls on early marriages and domestic violence. I had witnessed so many early child marriages before but never took action against any due to lack of information. Since I am equipped with the relevant information now, I managed to stop an early marriage of my niece which was planned by the family elders. I believe knowledge and information is key to influence such decisions against women. (Swabi Khas, Oct 2016)*

under its AAWAZ<sup>4</sup> project has been engaging with 22,577 men, women and transgenders to mobilize them around three key outputs of AAWAZ. In addition, AAWAZ capacitated cadres of various

<sup>4</sup> AAWAZ is a 6-year voice and accountability project funded by DFID. Sungi is implementing the project in Abbottabad, Mansehra, Haripur, Swabi, Upper Dir and Attock districts.

community groups, including 2440 change makers, 1176 peace connectors, 1309 youth leaders and 4088 women leaders through its on-going social mobilization initiatives.

### **Promoting women's political participation**

Under AAWAZ project, Sungi formed 6 women assemblies, one each in the 6 working districts. Women assemblies are comprised of 182 women and 18 men. Women assemblies are oriented on parliamentary proceedings, budget tracking, VAW, and pro-women legislation, non-violence and peace building initiatives. The members are enabled to become effective role-models in leadership positions. In order to strengthen women leadership through regional alliance, a National Convention of Women Community Leaders and a pre SAARC conference were held in September and December in 2016. Moreover, exposure visits for 15-20 community leaders were organized in November 2016.



### **Linkages development between citizens and state**

*Since our engagement with Sungi, we feel empowered to make government departments accountable for the facilities and infrastructure they provide us. However, Strong linkages with line departments are enabling us to improve pathways, water supply schemes, electric polls and up-gradation and rehabilitation of schools. (Abbottabad, 18 November 2016)*

### **Dar-ul-Aman in District Haripur**

*One of the core outputs of AAWAZ project is to enhance linkages of communities with the government departments to improve the feedback between both and enhance responsiveness. When the district forum of Haripur was developing its annual advocacy plan, one of the key issues highlighted was the closure of Dar-ul-Aman due to unavailability of funds. Dar-ul-Aman was a support for homeless women and children. After the local government elections in KPK in 2015, the District Government established a Social Welfare Community Development and Special Education Committee on 28 January 2016. In coordination with the district government, AAWAZ District Forum on 11 February 2016 contacted the Chairperson of the Committee in the District Assembly to take steps for reactivating Dar-ul-Aman. After a number of meetings with the relevant government officials, 7 million rupees were allocated for land purchase and construction. Land has been purchased and the construction of Dar-ul-Aman will start soon.*

During 2016-17, Sungi through its AAWAZ project facilitated 5485 women to obtain CNICs to not only access social services but also become politically active as a voter or a candidate. AAWAZ trained 4082 women across 6 districts who are classified as women leaders. These women are office bearers of community forums, resource persons, members of women assembly and changemakers. Under AAWAZ, Sungi established 60 Aagahi Centers for women in 60 Union Councils of the 6 districts in KPK and Punjab. Aagahi Centers serve as resource centres for women where they come for information, sessions, and meetings. They are facilitated by a woman

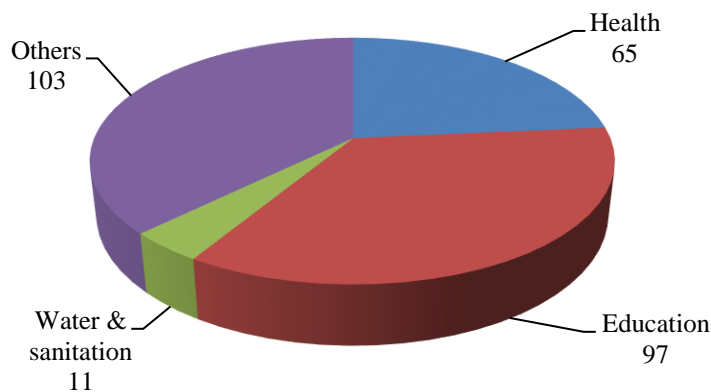
resource person who is capacitated to provide support to women at local level. During the reporting period, a total of 102,356 women visited 60 Aagahi Centers to attend meetings, obtain information on public services, take part in various sessions or to share their problems with the forum members or the resource persons.

**Promoting transparency and accountability in public services and enhancing responsiveness of Government departments**

One of the AAWAZ objectives is to improve the delivery of social services, especially in health and education. Sungi facilitated various forums and activities to bridge the gap between citizens and government departments – 187 Khuli Kachehris, women assemblies, and advocacy plans in 600 villages. On the basis of identified needs through these interventions, Sungi facilitated 276 community demands, which were approved and met. Through the approved demands, a total of 138,000 individuals benefited directly.

The Deepening Democracy and Election Support in Pakistan was a nine-month project aimed

**Demands Met in 2016**



at contributing towards more inclusive, transparent and responsive democratic institutions and processes in Pakistan. The project’s outcomes were to build greater levels of engagement between the Government and citizens, including women and socially marginalized groups, focusing on continued oversight of electoral and parliamentary processes and evidence-based

advocacy for improved enforcement of existing statutes as well as legal and policy reforms through proactive engagement with political parties, parliamentarians, Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), civil society and media. In addition, investments were made in public debate, dialogue and discourse to strengthen a pro-democracy narrative in district Battagram.

Through this project overall 3133 men, women, boys, girls and other marginalized individuals benefited directly and an estimated 0.5 million benefited indirectly from the project’s extensive social mobilization, IEC material distribution and messages through district CSO Alliance. This includes 3300 women who were facilitated in acquiring CNICs through the provision of MRVs.



## Poverty Alleviation & Sustainable Livelihoods Program

Sungi is committed to achieving sustainable livelihoods of the marginalized, particularly women and minorities, through sustainable use of human and natural assets and safeguarding environment. This is being done through community-based natural resource management, promotion of alternate livelihood sources and micro financing. The purpose is to help the communities, appreciate the local natural resources and obtain additional produce and benefits through biological and other environment friendly use, without jeopardizing the local ecology and depleting the natural resource base.

### Program Objectives:

- a) To sustainably improve the economic status of the marginalized entrepreneurs, especially women, differently-abled and ultra-poor.
- b) To provide poor women and men with better access to financial resources to enhance their household income.

### Providing support to farmers

Committing itself to reducing vulnerabilities of partner communities, Sungi's Building Communities Resilience through Integrated (Livelihood, WASH and DRR) CBDRM Approach project focused on strengthening the DRR capacity of disaster affected communities. Initiated in 2014, the project concluded in the second quarter of 2016. Keeping in mind the perspectives of the most vulnerable groups, the project was drawn upon the unique indigenous capacities of the communities.

The project helped farmers in setting up 8 seed banks at village level to have access to quality (non-hybrid) seed around the year. In addition, the farmers were provided trainings on crop intensification, crop rotation, mulching, livestock management and kitchen gardening. These initiatives benefited more than 100 farmers and their families in 8 villages of Hattian Bala.

### Promoting women's enterprises at local level

In district Hattian Bala, 60 women of two previously established VTCs were given opportunity for further enhancing skills on product refinement and improvement. Additionally, a series of marketing activities like exhibition, market linkages development, and exposure to markets were provided. The project empowered women through enterprise development. Women were not only able to learn skills, access locally established VTCs but also developed linkages with the market through local CMAs and started securing orders. The VTCs served as women friendly spaces where entrepreneurs and trainees gathered to discuss and meet on various issues and also socialize with each other.

### *For a brighter future*

*With four children, including two daughters, and an injured husband unable to work, Jameela<sup>1</sup> saw a bleak future. “Those were tough days after my husband was badly injured in the 2005 earthquake,” recalls Jameela, who lives in village Dhani Bakalan of UC Hattian Bala in AJK. “When the sole breadwinner is unable to work, you ask what the future holds for the family?” However, when she joined Sungi’s village committee as member, things started to change. “I took part in skill development trainings at vocational training center established by Sungi.” She went through the intensive one-month training on embroidery and stitching. After receiving raw material from Sungi, she started her own enterprise. She was linked with buyers at local and national level through exhibitions. “Today I am earning enough from my home-based work to support my family,” says Jameela. She is now regularly participating in exhibitions in Muzaffarabad and takes her products to buyers she is linked with.*

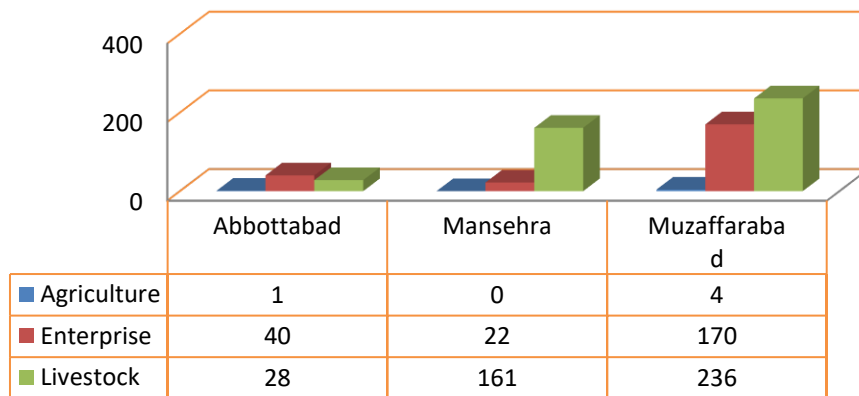
### **Providing micro credit to women for poverty alleviation**

Lack of financial assets is one of the main causes of poverty among the marginalized groups. Women have no or very limited access to financial and other livelihoods assets. Access and control over financial resources is key element of women empowerment. Sungi has significantly contributed in this regard by developing skills and knowledge of women and providing financial resources. Sungi under its Micro Finance Program provides financial assistance to poor women to establish their micro-entrepreneur to enhance their income.

During 2016, Sungi was consolidating its Micro Finance Program so the loan disbursement only continued during the first quarter where a total of 662 loans were provided to women for agriculture, enterprise development and livestock rearing in district Abbottabad, Mansehra and Haripur. Total amount disbursed to 662 women was 12,065,000 PKR.

Sungi at present is re-designing the program and intends to launch it with new dynamics during the latter half of 2017.

### **Loans disbursed to women during 2016**



# Humanitarian Response and Climate Change Adaptation Program



## Humanitarian Response and Climate Change Adaptation Program

Pakistan, along with some other developing countries, has been ranked as one of the most at-risk because of its vulnerability to climate change and lack of resources to respond. In developing countries, such as Pakistan, climate change poses a serious challenge to social, environmental and economic development, and lead to migration within and across national borders of Pakistan. The effects of global climate change in Pakistan are already evident in the form of growing frequency of droughts and flooding, increasingly erratic weather behavior, changes in agricultural patterns, reduction in freshwater supply and the loss of biodiversity.

### Program Objectives

- a) To promote sustainable and environment friendly use of natural/environmental resources
- b) To enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities, particularly women, local government and community based organizations to disaster risks
- c) To influence pro-people policy making on Dams, Forests, water and climate change

### Provision of disaster resilient solutions to the vulnerable communities

After the earthquake on 26 October 2015 in Malakand division, Sungi conducted need assessments and mobilized funds for the affected communities. Supported by RAPID fund of Concern Worldwide, 200 disaster resilient shelter were constructed in the first quarter of 2016.

Floods caused by the monsoon rains in 2015 hit some parts of Rajanpur, causing widespread damages. Sungi helped community partners with a WASH project, which was completed in the first quarter of 2016. The project was supported by RAPID fund of Concern Worldwide. Under the project, 300 raised<sup>5</sup> hand pumps were installed along with the construction of 300 household latrines. Operation and Maintenance Committees in the project area were provided toolkits to ensure sustainability. The project benefitted 4000 families in 8 villages of the 2 most hit UCs.

During its on-going DRR project in district Hattian Bala, AJK, Sungi found out that 12 water supply schemes in 8 target villages were badly damaged due to landslides and floods. This was causing the communities, especially women, to fetch water from far flung areas which is even harder in mountainous terrains. With funds from AusAid, Sungi installed/rehabilitated all 12 damaged water supply schemes. This project benefitted around 2500 households. By the end of the project women were spending 80% less time on water collection<sup>6</sup>.

### Partnership with the Government

Disaster management authorities of Pakistan came into being after the 2005 earthquake. Being relatively new to the humanitarian architecture of Pakistan, these authorities still need a lot of

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<sup>5</sup> Raised from ground to a level where flood water cannot drown it in future.

<sup>6</sup> According to the evaluation study of the project.

support to become more efficient. With financial support of RAPID fund Concern Worldwide, Sungi implemented a project during the last quarter of 2016 where partnership was developed with 6 DDMUs of KPK and PDMA – KPK. Major highlights of the project included arranging regular meetings of all humanitarian actors, facilitating DDMUs through adequate staffing, capacity building in monitoring, data collection, DMIS operationalization, and dissemination of data/reports among all stakeholders. The project was mandated to further enhance capacity of DDMUs in maintaining, updating and evaluating 4W Matrix in close coordination with other humanitarian actors and OCHA representatives. Under this project, Sungi also facilitated printing and publishing of already developed SOPs for M&E and Disaster Response Plan (DRP) for PDMA and DDMUs.



Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) was launched by the Government of Pakistan in 2008 as a social safety net program to cushion the negative effects of food and fuel crisis and inflation on the poor. For a social safety net program like BISP, effective targeting is crucial for ensuring objectivity in identifying beneficiaries and transparency of interventions. In order to select beneficiaries, BISP developed a Proxy Means Test (PMT) based Poverty Scorecard (PSC) and conducted a national PSC survey between 2010-11 through which complete information on the socio-economic and welfare status of almost 27 million households was collected across the country. As a result of this massive survey, a National Socio-Economic Registry (NSER) was established containing basic information on household size, composition, education, employment, disability, assets, etc. The information was used to decide the eligibility of households and identifying female ‘recipients’ of cash benefits through BISP.

### *Community led WASH initiatives*

*In a consultation meeting with village committee of Chattian - AJK, existing water supply scheme was prioritized for repairing.*

*Sungi and local community joined hands and repaired the water supply scheme which is benefiting 630 individuals directly and more than 1100 indirect beneficiaries as the water tank is near to road so it is also benefitting shopkeepers, students of 2 Middle schools and a madrassa, client of health care center and surrounding population.*

*While discussing with the local community regarding the impact of this scheme, medical assistant from the local medical clinic informed that they are now receiving at least 50% less cases of people suffering from water borne diseases, typhoid, and hepatitis as people are now using safe drinking water.*

Sungi implemented the NSER project in districts Faisalabad, Charsadda, FATA's Mohmend agency and Gilgit Baltistan. Based on the good progress, BISP also asked Sungi to carry out survey in Bahawalpur and Haripur districts in 2017.

### **Reducing disaster risks through Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)**

CBDRM project with financial support of DKH was implemented in one UC of district Hattian

Bala in AJK. A total of 22 DMCs of men and women were formed at village level and 1 at UC level. DMCs were strengthened through leadership trainings, meetings, dialogues, discussions, re-election and capacity building of office bearers. As ERTs were formed for each of 4 villages in the UC, they were also equipped with relevant toolkit to perform search, rescue and first aid. Capacity building of DMC members through ToTs on DRR and a series of trainings on DRR, first



aid, firefighting and rescue were carried out. Disaster Management Plans were reviewed in all DMCs on quarterly basis and SBDRM plans were developed in 5 schools. Moreover, 8 drinking water supply schemes were rehabilitated to cater for safe drinking water needs of the communities. A total of 60 health and hygiene sessions were conducted with families and students. IEC material was distributed and community interactive theatre was also performed to sensitize the targeted communities on DRR, WASH and livelihoods. A total of over 2000 people directly benefited from the awareness raising activities.

### **Strengthening of early warning systems for disasters**

Sungi's project in Hattian Bala also established community-led EWSs, which were linked upwards from villages to UCs, tehsil and district. This helped in information flow from top to bottom and vice versa. DMCs were provided with all relevant communication equipment to effectively implement EWSs, whereas regular mock drills were effective in terms of further increasing the EWSs efficiency.

# Gender Justice Program



## Gender Justice Program

Gender based violence is most pervasive yet least recognized human rights violation in Pakistan. Reducing /combating GBV is the major area of intervention under this program. Main pathways for reducing GBV are community mobilization, awareness raising, capacity building of stakeholders and addressing practical gender needs promotion of reproductive health rights, family planning, awareness on HIV, TBAs training, and Promoting MNCH through equipment provision are the major strategies under the program.

### **Program Objectives:**

To reduce gender based violence, improve women rights, protection and reproductive health of women, especially in post disaster situations

### **Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights**

In collaboration with Oxfam, Sungi implemented a DANIDA-funded 2-years Gender Empowerment and Institutional Development Project (GEIDP) in Haripur, Mardan and Abbottabad. It was aimed at fostering an enabling environment for effective citizenship and responsive governance where people, especially youth and women, can exercise their sexual and reproductive health rights without any discrimination of gender and sexual identities/orientation in Pakistan. The project adopted the pathways of capacity building and awareness raising of youth, women, teachers, parents, service providers and other stakeholders including media, lawyers, police etc. The project increased the knowledge of 50,000 youth and 10,000 parents and teachers on SRH rights for youth.

### **Enhancing the life skills among women, sexual minorities and stakeholders**

GEIDP also increased life skills of 10,000 youth and 5,000 parents and teachers on SRH issues. Further, the project enhanced skills of 5,000 government officials and parents to prevent incidences of child marriage through enforcing rule of law.

### **Combating HIV/Aids**

GEIDP helped increase awareness of 50,000 youth, parents and teachers on prevention and spread of HIV/AIDS. Moreover, the project also enhanced capacity of 1,000 duty bearers to extend proper psychosocial and physical rehabilitation to HIV/AIDS patients.

### **Gender Road Map**

In 2017 under AAWAZ, a new initiative aimed at empowering couples to enhance their knowledge and change traditional thinking about gender roles was launched. The initiative's focus was households and community. During Gender Road Map workshops, couples, including members of minorities, discussed gender in the context of livelihood, business and

skills development. The couples prepared their action plans as they shared experiences regarding gender.

### *Giving confidence to raise voices*

*A 13 years old girl from Haripur while attending an awareness session on early marriages shared her story which she never had the courage to share before. She has been chosen by her family to marry a much older man in connection with a VANI agreement between her family and her future husband resulted by a decision of Jirga to settle a murder dispute. She expressed that she is now committed and confident to raise voice and protest against the injustice she is going to face very soon. She plans to first discuss this issue with her parents which she has not done before, after that she will express her unwillingness for the marriage through her elders. Other women and men*



## Peace & Social Harmony Program

Being a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religion country, Pakistan faces all kinds of conflicts, making peace and harmony a top priority for Sungi. For making Pakistani society just and peaceful, there is need for positive transformation of power relations among all stakeholders. The peace and social harmony program enables the communities to pre-empt and reduce local conflicts and promote peace and social harmony through awareness raising, dialogue and policy advocacy.

### Objectives:

To develop a culture of peace, tolerance and interfaith harmony at regional, national and local levels

### Reducing VAW through peace connectors and EWSs

AAWAZ project was instrumental in reducing VAW in Sungi's working districts. Through AAWAZ project, Sungi trained a cadre of 335 peace connectors including 69 women who were mandated with taking appropriate measures to pre-empt and reduce conflicts in 6 working districts of Sungi. Sungi facilitated the preemption of 332 conflicts in the 6 districts. These included preemptions of 132 cases of VAW where necessary steps were taken by the peace connectors to prevent the conflicts that would have directly impacted women through various shapes of violence. The preemption of 132 cases of VAW benefited over 500 households.

#### *Conflict Pre-emption*

*With the support of Sungi we have preempted many conflicts at village level. We have also convinced Imam Masjid to disseminate messages/information regarding women rights in the light of Islam and law specifically inheritance rights during Friday khutba. This awareness will be the key to reduce domestic conflicts from happening in our village.*

*(Mansehra 7 November 2016)*

### Promoting diversity, tolerance through non-violent behavior

A total of 3500 individuals from 6 districts benefited from sessions on non-violent behavior. The purpose of these sessions was to reduce violence triggered through aggressive communication within our society. Sessions provided skills and knowledge to the participants to improve their body language, tone and choice of words while communicating in their daily life to reduce the chances of violence. Under AAWAZ program, Sungi arranged a total of 882 peace events in 6 working districts where a total of 14377 people participated, including 7412 women. Peace events, which enhance diversity and reduce conflicts and hatred between people of different religion, faith and sects, generally included festive celebrations of Holi, Dewali, Christmas, Easter and Eid. Moreover debates, discussions, dialogues, theatre performances and meetings between various groups were conducted to bring the communities closer and promote tolerance.

### ***Community led conflict pre-emption***

*In village Kuthwal of district Abbottabad, during the regular meeting of Union Council forum formed by Sungi, it was highlighted by the forum's peace connectors that Ms. R and her husband Saleem have recently separated due to financial problems. The separation is going to get worse as Mr. Saleem was planning to divorce his wife, this could potentially trigger a serious conflict between the families of husband and wife. An immediate work plan was developed by the peace connectors of the committee and meetings with both families and Ms. R and Saleem were done. As a result, the peace connectors were able to mitigate the situation pre-empting the chances of a further serious conflict. Ms. R and Saleem are now living together with their kids and thankful to the local level dispute pre-emption mechanisms facilitated by Sungi.*

## Board of Governors

Sungi is led by a Board of Governors (BoG) comprised of professionals from different backgrounds and provide overall vision to the organization.

Mr. Khalid Saleem

Ms. Humera Malik

Ms. Samia Raof

Mr. Anees Jillani

Ms. Marriam Bibi

Ms. Jennifer Bennett

Mr. Mujeeb Ahmed

Ms. Khalida Ahmed

Ms. Rakshanda Naz