



Group Development Pakistan

Annual Report

July 2019-June 2020



Acronyms

ABA	American Bar Association
AC	Amplify Change
ASF	Acid Survivors Foundation
BHC	British High Commission
CRC	Convention on the Rights of Child
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Group Development Pakistan
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JJC	Juvenile Justice Committee
JJSA	Juvenile Justice Systems Act
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LEAs	Law Enforcement Agencies
MoHR	Ministry of Human Rights
MoL&J	Ministry of Law and Justice
PRCPP	Promoting Child Rights and Participation in Pakistan
ROLI	Rule of Law Initiative
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SoPs	Standard Operating Procedures
VAC	Violence Against Children
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

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1 Executive Summary

The year 2019-2020 has been marked by the COVID-19 pandemic which has disturbed all of us. In fact, the virus has disproportionately impacted elderly and other vulnerable people and has exacerbated socio-economic challenges. Women and children have been particularly affected by the pandemic; many of them have faced increased abuse and exploitation with little or no access to support services: this is what the secretary-general to the United Nations called the “shadow pandemic”. To address this unexpected situation, Group Development Pakistan (GDP) had to be adaptable, responsive, and creative. During this reported period, the organization has been able to sensitize, mobilize and capacitate 9,710 beneficiaries (3057 girls, 3558 boys, 1839 women, 1066 men, and 190 non-binary adults) from target areas and key stakeholders including the police, the judiciary, the legal fraternity, the prosecutors, and teachers to prevent and respond to GBV, VAC and the virus spread. GDP has helped respond to the COVID-19 emergency by supporting 4,949 beneficiaries (1,150 girls, 677 boys, 1,776 women, 980 men and, 366 non-binary) - especially children at risk- so that they would be able to better protect themselves, their loved ones, and their peers.

4 pilot Child Courts have been operationalized and since December 2017, thanks to which 1,475 children (193 girls and 1,282 boys) have accessed child-sensitive justice services. Around 330 actors of justice (56 women and 274 men) have been trained on child rights, child protection and child justice and have demonstrated improved capacity to address cases involving children in conflict or in contact with the law. Judicial academies, the Supreme Court of Pakistan, High Courts, as well as the Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan, the Federal Ministry of Law and Justice, the Federal Ministry of Human Rights, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Social Welfare Department, the KP Child Protection and Welfare Commission, and the Punjab Child Protection and Welfare Bureau (CPWB) have been precious allies to achieve those results. Beneficiaries and justice actors explained that children are now increasingly treated in alignment with international child safeguarding standards. Child victims and their guardians are now heard in those pilot child courts; the justice actors now focus on avoiding secondary victimization of the child, and keeping children away from detention as much as possible and ensuring that the best interest of the child prevails.

Lastly, it has been a pleasure to share the child participatory process for child justice initiated in Pakistan with other countries. The momentum that child governance and child protection has reached in Pakistan so far is unprecedented and has contributed to shaping the global response to the Covid-19 child crisis. GDP is confident that the child and youth-led transformative process that has been initiated this year will gear even more positive outcomes.

We thank you all for your trust and support and commit to do more, better, for and with our children. Stay safe, stay with us!

Ms. Valerie Khan

Executive Director

2 GDP Profile

GDP is a Pakistani civil society organization registered under the Society's Act of 1860 in 2012. GDP believes in a democratic and humanistic society in which the most important stakeholders – children – are acknowledged, respected, and protected from violence and discrimination. GDP follows a holistic, child-focused, and human rights-based approach. GDP envisages to make Pakistan a country where each child is free from violence and discrimination and fully avails and exercises his/her fundamental rights to a life of dignity, safety and self-fulfillment in line with the Constitution of Pakistan and principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

25 thousand+
Children
Outreached

358 MILLION Rupees
Overall Project Portfolio

41+
Child Rights, Gender &
Development Specialists

3 Offices
1 in ICT, 1 in KP, and 1 in Punjab

Thematic Areas

1. Child Protection
 - i. Countering Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)
 - ii. Countering Child Marriage
 - iii. Countering worst forms of Child Labor with focus on Child Domestic Labor (CDL)
 - iv. Child Trafficking
 - v. Safe Learning
2. Justice with Children
3. Child Participation

Our Core Values



Best interest of the child



Dignity of the child



No discrimination



Right to be heard

Memberships



Girls Not Brides



EVAWG Alliance



**Child Rights Coalition Asia
(CRC Asia)**
(board member of CRC Asia)

Our Partners



Ministry of Law and Justice



Ministry of Human Rights



The European Union



**Australian High Commission
Islamabad**

Australian High Commission



**British
High Commission
Islamabad**

**British High Commission
BHC**



**American Bar
Association**

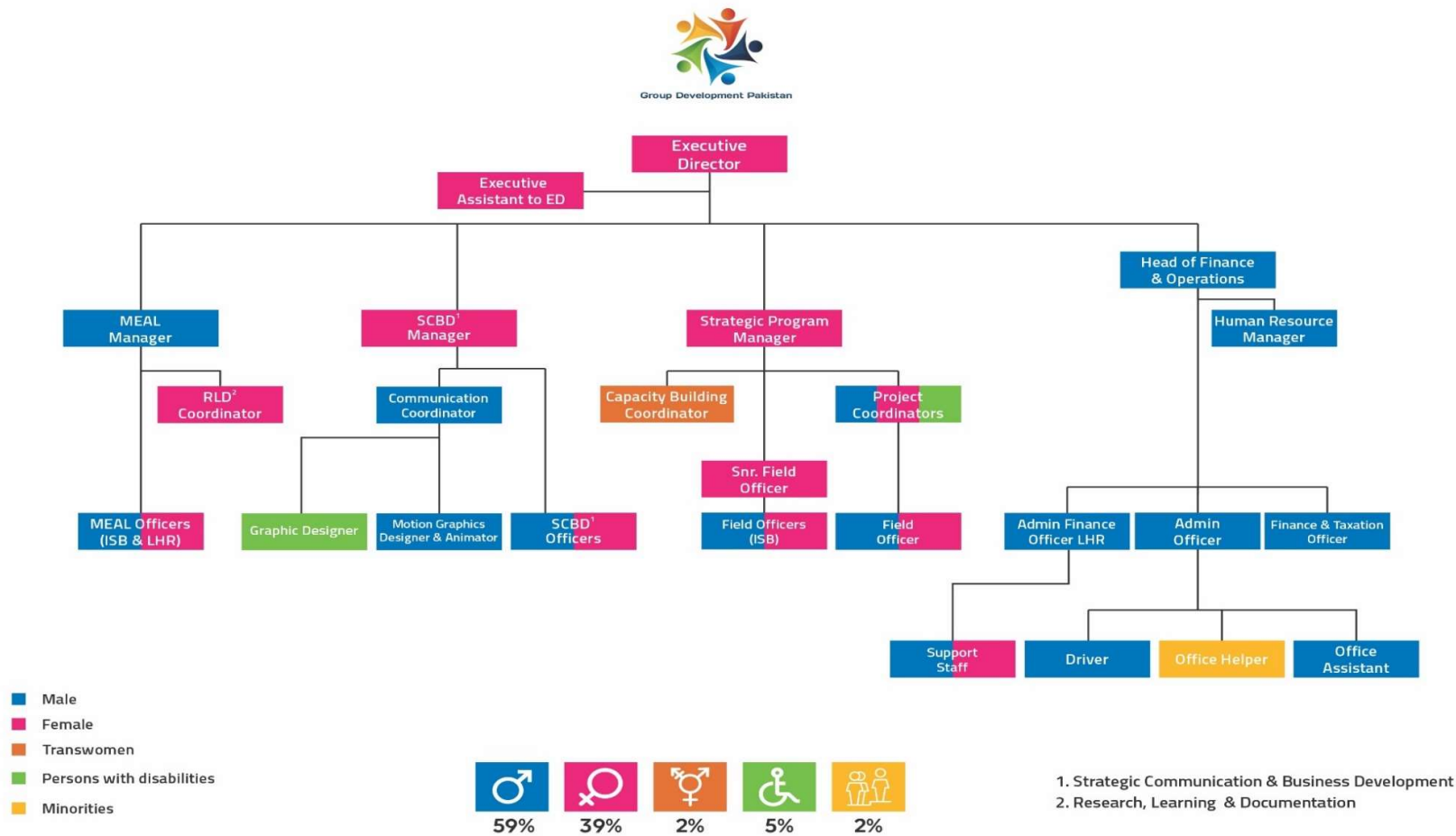


Solidar Switzerland



Acid Survivors Foundation

Our Team



Our Reach and Scale

Outreached 9,710

Beneficiaries (direct)
68% children
32% adults including
2% non-binary



Capacitated 330 justice actors

160 Judges
64 Police
83 Lawyers
23 Prosecutors

150.9 Million PKR Budget

during the reporting period



4,949 beneficiaries

trained on COVID-19
Preventive measures
44% adults
49% children
7% non-binary

690 hygiene kits/food packs

Distributed



4 Child Courts

Improved/Established
6 more to go
886 children (320 girls &
566 boys) accessed by June 2020.

898 users visited

Victim Support Services
Directory
On the first month
26.8% women
73.2% men



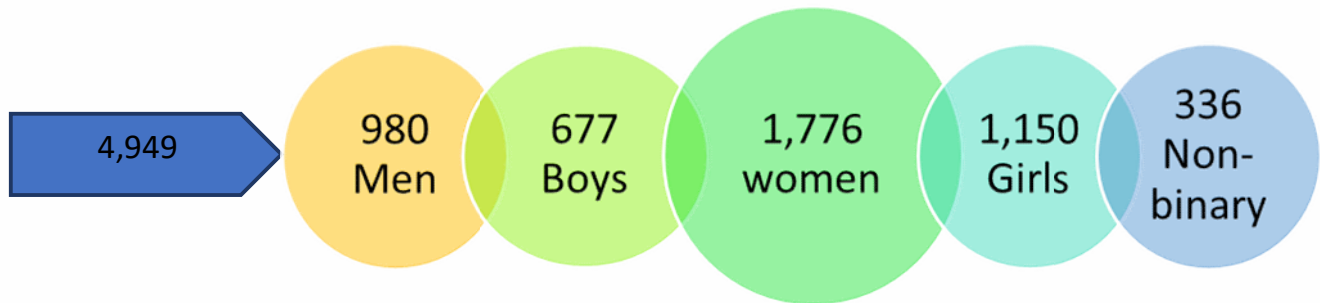


Received 224 calls

via referral mechanism
amidst COVID-19
(79% women & 21% men)
65% demanding food
9% psychological support

COVID-19 Response

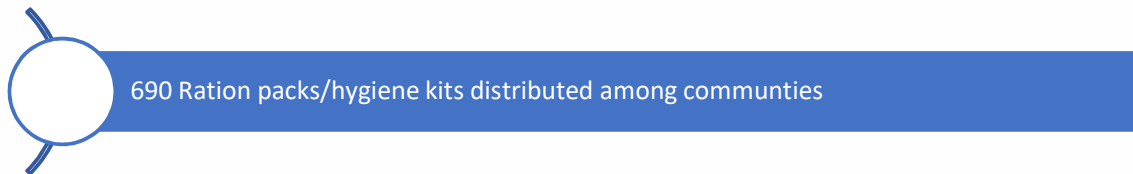
Data of beneficiaries facilitated to respond to the COVID-19 crisis in Bari Imam and E-11; male, female, non-binary adults and children (boys & girls).



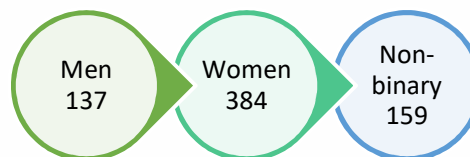
COVID-19 prevention IEC materials distributed and displayed.



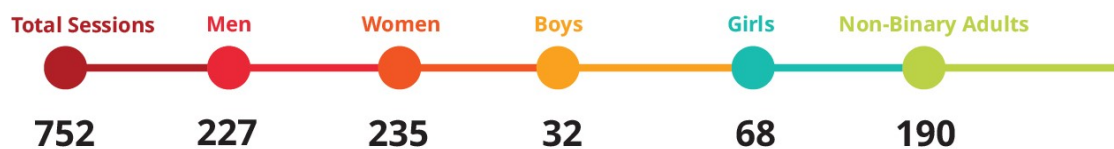
COVID-19 prevention announcements



680 Awareness messages disseminated among communities via SMS to:



Awareness sessions with communities in Bari Imam and E-11.



3 Projects



Title: Foster child welfare framework at federal level in Islamabad Capital Territories through improved child protection, health and education for vulnerable boys and girls.

Donor: SOLIDAR SWISS

Location: Islamabad

Timeline: Jan 2019 to Dec 2021



Title: Protecting and Promoting Children's Rights in Pakistan

Donor: American Bar Association

Location: Lahore, Islamabad, Peshawar

Timeline: Feb 2019 to March 2021



Title: Increasing Women's Representation in Law

Donor: Australian High Commission

Location: Nation wide

Timeline: April 2020 to April 2021



Title: Promoting Child Rights and Participation in Pakistan for child justice reform

Donor : British High Commission

Location: Islamabad, Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta, Karachi, Mardan, Peshawar & Abbottabad

Timeline: Dec 2018 to March 2021



Title: Tawuun (Synergies)

Donor: European Union

Lead partner: Acid Survivors Foundation

Location: Islamabad, Punjab, KP, and Sindh

Timeline: Nov 2017 to Nov 2020

Project 1

Foster Child Welfare Framework at Federal Level in Islamabad Capital Territory through Improved Child Protection, Health and Education for Marginalized Boys and Girls (4163)

GDP continues to work for child welfare, protection laws & mechanisms. The project has been built upon lessons learned from previous interventions co-funded by Swiss Solidarity in Pakistan to counter child labor and promote children's rights. A momentum has been created to design model interventions relating to child welfare that have been customized and replicated later in other provinces.

We have been facilitating the development/improvement of policies, systems, and procedures aligned with international child safeguarding standards and our constitutional framework. The project fosters child welfare in slum areas of Islamabad through improved child protection, health, sanitation, and education for targeted vulnerable boys and girls. GDP has been engaged with decision makers and intends to capitalize upon the political and institutional momentum to mobilize the federal capital to help local authorities enforce child welfare and protection laws, develop policies, and child protection mechanisms aligned with international standards and finally improve capacities of duty bearers and right holders to promote child welfare in Islamabad. The project beneficiaries such as vulnerable community members – especially parents and children - in the targeted slums and selected six educational institutes, are sensitized and organized to prevent and respond to Violence Against Children (VAC), improve the health and hygiene and environmental situation and the children's access to quality education.

Amid the COVID-19 crisis, the vulnerability of children has been exacerbated: it is the “shadow pandemic”. The project realigned its strategy to contextualize it with prevailing challenges for ensuring the safety and protection of children. A robust social mobilization and awareness campaign has been underway to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus19 by distributing hygiene kits/food-packs, establishing handwashing points, and by sensitizing the targeted community members and public at large on COVID-19 preventive measures as per WHO guidelines.

Key Achievements



JICA¹ curriculum adopted by 3 Madrassas and 2 Schools and 1 NFE Center in Islamabad



Installation of 2 hand pumps at central points of E-11 slum and Bari Imam, Islamabad



Organized four community events to celebrate improved water and garbage management and International Day of the Child.

¹Japan International Cooperation Agency



Distributed 690 hygiene kits/food packs to vulnerable.



Developed 2 booklets on COVID-19 and self-protection.



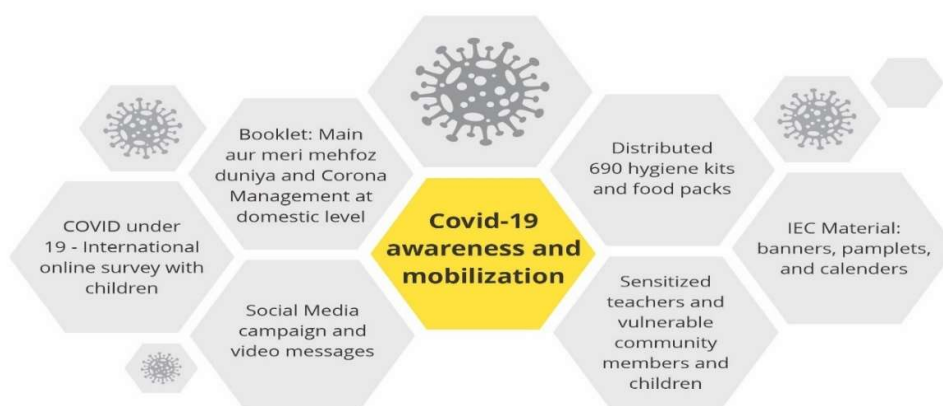
Trained and mobilized 6,295 vulnerable children (3132 girls and 3163 boys).

GDP sensitized 1,700 parents, teachers and community members

- Child Welfare,
- Importance of education for all,
- Child friendly teaching methodologies and CSAE
- Personal, domestic, and environmental hygiene.

Trained and mentored 6,295 vulnerable boys & girls

- Child Rights,
- Self-protection from CSAE,
- WASH,
- Burn prevention and first aid response,
- Life skills based education (LSBE).



Project 2

Promoting Child Rights and Participation in Pakistan (PCRPP) for Juvenile Justice Reform

Promoting Child Rights and Participation in Pakistan (PCRPP) aims to increase public trust in the state institutions that contribute to preventing and responding to Violence Against Children (VAC) through improved rule of law. The project is focusing on improving justice with children in Islamabad, Lahore, Peshawar, Abbottabad, Mardan, Quetta, and Karachi in line with the international child safeguarding standards, in a holistic, participatory and gender/culture-sensitive manner.

The project builds upon GDP's recently pre-tested programmatic intervention to improve justice with children in Pakistan, by piloting a child-centered, gender-sensitive and participatory transformative process that will reconcile the general public with the institutions mandated to protect child rights and ensure justice with children in the country. Amid the COVID-19 crisis, the project realigned its strategy to contextualize it with prevailing challenges for ensuring the safety and protection of children in contact and conflict with the law by establishing virtual courts and equipping the courts with state-of-the-art technology.

Key Achievements



Improved/Established 4 Child Courts and 6 more to go around the country.



886 children (320 girls & 566 boys) are accessing child sensitive services



Trained and capacitated 330 (56 women & 274 men) Actors of justice - judges, prosecutors, lawyers and police.



9710 community members (Women 1839, men 1066, Non-binary adults 190, girls 3057 & 3558 boys) have been sensitized on child rights, child justice and COVID-19 Advisory.



2 children (1 girl & 1 boy) & 2 chaperones (1 female & 1 male) from GDP took part in the Asian Children Summit in November 2019, in Bangkok.



55 media personal (8 women and 47 men) have been trained on child sensitive reporting mechanisms.

Improved/Established 4 child courts in Lahore, Islamabad, Peshawar, Abbottabad, Mardan, Karachi & Quetta

- Lahore Child Court assessment
- Designing a model child court on the findings
- 9 official notifications of juvenile justice committees
- Drafted SoPs for the child courts
- Physical transformation and equipped the transformed space of the child courts
- Technical preparation of the judicial team

Developed 2 draft bench books and a training manual for judges and a color book

- JJS Act 2018
- Criminal Law Amendment Act 2018

Capacitated 160 judges, 23 prosecutors, 83 lawyers, 55 Media persons, 64 LEAs in ICT, Lahore, Peshawar, Karachi, and Quetta

- JJS Act 2018
- Criminal Law Amendment Act 2017
- ICT Child Protection Act 2018,
- Rape law
- Other relevant laws

Awareness Campaign on Child rights and Juvenile Justice in Pakistan

- Social Media
- Truck Art Campaign
- 12 Sessions in Schools & universities (5 in ICT, 3 PSW, 1 RWP, and 3 in LHR)

Organized 18 community level events

- Interactive 8 theatre shows.
- Puppet shows 2 in Islamabad and 6 in Lahore.
- Two events to celebrate the International Day of the Child with children.

Project 3

Protecting and Promoting Children's Rights in Pakistan

Group Development Pakistan (GDP) in partnership with the American Bar Association, Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI), has been implementing a project from February 2019 with the following goal: to strengthen prevention of and response to child sexual abuse (CSA) in Pakistan. The program has planned to conduct community-level meetings on prevention and response mechanisms to CSA, support public awareness campaigns on child protection, develop a curriculum and subsequent trainings for justice sector actors (including judges, prosecutors, and local police) and legal aid service providers (including lawyers and paralegals) who handle child sexual abuse cases; it has also planned to inform government and civil society stakeholders about Pakistan's international obligations to protect children and increase victim access to service providers.

Key Achievements



36 sensitization meetings with stakeholders on Prevention and Response Child Sexual Abuse.



3 month long Social media and radio public awareness campaigns on child protection.



Developed curriculum for justice sectors actors on SOPs for child abuse cases; international laws; victim-centric investigations.



Trained and capacitated 160 Judges (29 women and 131 men), and 23 prosecutors (3 women and 20 men).



Developed and Disseminated directory of service providers.

Project 4

Tawuun (Synergies)

Group Development Pakistan (GDP) in collaboration with Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) Pakistan has been implementing the project titled 'TAAWUN' (synergies) which is funded by the European Union (EU) under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR). The project aims to contribute to promoting gender equality and enforcing women's rights in Pakistan as per SDG 5 and 16.2, by **a)** contributing to improving legislation to counter Violence against Women and Girls in the country and **b)** contributing to improving the regulatory and policy framework to counter VAWG in Pakistan (via comprehensive legislation, national policies, public-private partnerships, data gathered through outreach, and sharing of researches, awareness-raising campaigns, KAP survey, capacity-building). The overall objective of the project is to support gender equality and contribute to supporting women human rights' defenders in situations where they are most at risk.

The project seeks to highlight the importance of public and private partnerships and synergies in order to realize the overarching goals of gender equality and countering Gender-Based Violence and Violence against Women and Girls in Pakistan.

With the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and government's response to contain the spread of the virus, the implementation partners – with prior approval from EU, re-adjusted the budget and modified the activities in line with COVID-19 guidelines and protocols.

Key Achievements



Child Domestic Labor to be included in the list of hazardous occupations under the Employment of Children Act 1991 in ICT.



Co-organized a concert "Beats of Change" to promote gender equality and women's rights and to commemorate National Women's Day.



9 Female GBV survivors supported and referred to pro-bono services: legal, psycho-social, nursing care and rehabilitation.



Submitted and included Guidelines on GBV and a draft matrix on CSAE in Ministry's National Action Plan on Child Rights.

Project 5 Increasing Women's Representation in Law

This project aims to increase women's representation in the legal profession. To this end, the project will hold a symposium on women's representation in the legal sector, establish a web portal for and on women in law and recognize their achievements which include but are not limited to promoting gender/justice with children. Awards will also highlight and acknowledge the firms, institutions and other counterparts who champion gender equality and diversity within the profession.

Key Achievements



137 nominations have been received for the award from women in law nation-wide.



74 nominations were shortlisted after screening process as per the pre-defined criteria.