

CRISIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY

United Nations Development Programme

PROGRAMME BRIEF



Youth Empowerment Programme

Pakistan is one of the youngest countries in the world. According to the Pakistan National Human Development Report, 68% of the population is under the age of 30 and around 27% is between the ages of 15 and 29. This 'youth bulge' provides unique opportunities for the country's social and economic uplift whereby the latent potential of young people can be harnessed by providing openings for growth and personal development. Unfortunately, lack of youth focussed development in Pakistan has made young people vulnerable to violence and conflict, a situation exacerbated by the volatile security situation in the country.

QUICK FACTS

Duration: 2018 - 2022

Implementing partners: ECI, Kashf Foundation, TUSDEC, FIDA, Knowledge Platform, Private Limited, White Rice Communications Private, VIAMO, Abacus Consulting, SMEDA,

Concepts Unlimited, School of Leadership, SPARC, Media Matters for Democracy, PILDAT, Liaison Corporation, KP IT Board, CODE Pakistan, VSO, Insan Foundation Trust, Demo, Hashoo Foundation, Accountability Lab

Location: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan

Funding partners: Royal Norwegian Embassy, UNFPA, CSSF, Australian Government, Jazz, GOS

Annual Total budget 2021: USD\$2,016,576

Focal point: Ms. Laura Sheridan, Programme Manager, Youth Empowerment Programme, CPRU, UNDP Pakistan
Laura.sheridan@undp.org



Norwegian Embassy
Islamabad



Australian Government

For more information: www.pk.undp.org
United Nations Development Programme
4th Floor, Serena Business Complex
Khayaban-e-Suharwardy, G-5/1, Islamabad, Pakistan

Tel: +92 51 835 5600
Fax: +92 51 265 5014

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UNDP Pakistan has responded to these developments by initiating the Youth Empowerment Programme, a multi-pronged strategy that aims at creating a facilitating environment for youth in conflict affected areas of Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan to emerge as agents of positive change and development.

Through the implementation of the programme, UNDP seeks to work with the Government of Pakistan as well as directly with excluded youth and other key stakeholders to ensure that 'equal opportunities exist for all youth to participate in Pakistan's social, political and economic development processes so that all youth feel an empowered part of society with a stage in its future'.

Programme Outputs

- Sustained interaction and collaboration between youth and key policy actors leads to better informed youth who can actively participate in and influence inclusive decision-making
- Youth in public sector, religious education establishments, and juveniles in conflict with the law, acquire the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in an inclusive society through the promotion of peace, diversity and global citizenship
- Youth's potential to contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic growth harnessed and catalysed
- Coordination, crisis management and communication enhanced
- Social stability enhanced through upgraded marketable skills and employment opportunities

Expected Results in 2021

- 5,000 youth engaged in federal and provincial policy planning processes, structures, and activities for positive impact
- 6,000 youth participating in global citizenship, soft skills, critical thinking, counselling, and civic education to promote diversity, tolerance, and peaceful co-existence

- 40 grants provided to youth under the Youth Innovation Challenge to enhance tolerance and social cohesion
- 800 madrassa students provided with livelihood skills and social engagement opportunities
- 7,500 youth provided entrepreneurship education, career counselling, and support services to unleash full economic potential
- 3,750 youth benefitting from jobs and improved livelihood opportunities
- 5,000 young people are engaged and benefitting from green jobs through private sector partnerships
- 4,924 including young men, women and transgender provided with training, entrepreneurship, and job placement support in Sindh

Results Achieved in 2020

- 4,545 young people engaged in policy planning processes, structures, and activities
- 4,566 youth participated in activities related to global citizenship, soft skills, critical thinking, counselling, and civic education to promote diversity, tolerance, and peaceful co-existence
- 18 public and private partnerships developed to benefit youth in terms of economic empowerment
- 20,226 youth provided trainings on entrepreneurship, digital skills, IT skills, and trades specific skills
- 12,053 youth benefited from jobs and improved livelihood opportunities
- 2,399 doctors trained on critical care and tele ICU services for COVID-19 response
- 10 parliamentarians participated in the sessions on policy challenges resulting from the pandemic
- 102 journalists trained on different aspects of COVID response

- 28 youth-led innovative solutions implemented to support COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement
- More than 10,000 rural women reached out for creating awareness related to COVID