

BALUCHISTAN RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME

HELPING THE POOR, SERVING THE PROVINCE:  
HIGHLIGHTS OF BRSP'S APPROACH & ACHIEVEMENTS



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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to thank the Board of Directors and management of BRSP for guiding and facilitating this report. Those who shared their time and insight with the authors included: members of the Board Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Mr. Anwar Kasi and Mr. Mehfooz Ali Khan; Mr. Nadir Gul, Chief Executive Officer; senior managers Dr. Shah Nawaz Khan, Mr. Muhammad Siraj-ul-Huq Ghouri and Mr. Naimutallah Jan; and Mr. Akmal Jamali, Mr. Majid and Haji Adeel Shahzad.

The authors are also grateful to several individuals from outside BRSP who gave their valuable time and shared their experiences of working with BRSP. These included: Mr. Saboor Kakar, Secretary Environment, Government of

Balochistan; Mr. Faizullah, Project Director, Balochistan Madaris Reforms Project; Dr. Ata ur Rehman; and Mr. Zaheer Khan of Sidat Hyder Morshed Associates.

The authors also benefitted from in-depth discussion with villagers, both women and men, from the Quetta, Pishin and Killa Abdullah Districts.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Ibrahim Alvi, who was the focal person for this study, and Mr. Muhammad Adil, both of whom work in BRSP's Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Section. They coordinated the flow of information from BRSP to the authors and contributed analysis and insight.

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AKRSP	Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
ALP	Accelerated Learning Pathways
BACE	Balochistan Advisory Council for Education
BCDP	Balochistan Community Development Programme
BRACE	Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment
BRSP	Balochistan Rural Support Programme
CIF	Community Investment Fund
CO	Community Organization
CPI	Community Physical Infrastructure
ERP	Enterprise Resource Planning
EU	European Union
GER	Gross Enrolment Ratio
GFFO	German Federal Foreign Office
GIR	Gross Intake Ratio
LSO	Local Support Organization
MIP	Micro Investment Plan
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
NEMIS-AEPAM	National Education Management Information System, Academy of Educational Planning and Management
PAFEM	Providing Access to Formal Education for Madaris
PATRIP	Pakistan Afghanistan Tajikistan Regional Integration Programme (Foundation)
PITE	Provincial Institute for Teacher Education
PKR	Pakistani Rupees
PPAF	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
PSC	Poverty Score Card
RSP	Rural Support Programme
VO	Village Organization
YEP	Youth Empowerment Project

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Introduction to BRSP

### Origins and Affiliations

The Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) is the largest non-profit organization in the province. It has provided development and humanitarian assistance to rural people since it was established in 1991. It is the inheritor of two powerful and inter-linked histories, one originating with nineteenth-century German cooperatives for small farmers and the other with the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) of Pakistan. The German connection was established through Pak-German cooperation, starting in 1983. It led to BRSP in its present shape, an autonomous support mechanism like the other RSPs that works closely with the government (which is represented in the governance structure) but are independent of the government. The Government of Balochistan has provided an endowment fund of PKR 500 million to help BRSP expand and sustain its operations.

### Working with Government and Communities

The RSPs follow a common conceptual package of organizing the poor and building their skills and capital. Like other RSPs, BRSP also has its own programmatic package. This includes two kinds of interventions, those that are implemented directly by BRSP, and goods and services obtained through linkages with government and other service providers. Ensuring service delivery and linkages with the public sector is the responsibility of the government. BRSP's job is to mobilize the poor and help them to identify and implement the programmatic package, to organize the poor for planning, implementing and monitoring their own development agenda. This is something which government departments and elected institutions cannot do.

BRSP follows a three-tier approach for mobilizing rural people. The primary tier consists of Community Organizations (COs), which are self-help groups of 15-25 members each covering a small settlement or sub-village (called killi). Then there is the Village Organization (VO), a federation of COs intended for planning and coordination at the village level. The third tier is at the union council level and called the Local Support Organization (LSO).<sup>1</sup> With this approach, BRSP pursues its wide-ranging commitment to Balochistan and the mission to "harness the potential of the rural poor to help themselves, assume control of local development and improve their standard of living".

### Programme Area

BRSP has a presence in two-thirds (422) of the 634 union councils and 27 of the 32 districts of Balochistan. The province remains largely underdeveloped, lagging far

behind other provinces in economic growth but leading in the incidence of poverty. Balochistan also lags behind the country as a whole in terms of all indicators of social development. Large gender and urban-rural disparities are observed in the province.

### Governance and Management

BRSP is governed by a General Body of 26 eminent individuals and a 15-member Board of Directors. The management, based in Quetta, is led by the Chief Executive Officer. BRSP emphasizes the development of its human resources and a culture of learning. Its operations are conducted in compliance with the law of the land and accountability to national institutions. It is one of the few non-profits in the country with operational policies and procedures integrated completely through electronic Enterprise Resource Planning. BRSP's systems, performance and experience have earned it credibility within the communities it serves and a solid reputation among diverse stakeholders, including the government and the donor community.

## Poverty Reduction through Social Mobilization

### Concepts and Measures of Poverty

Official estimates of the incidence of poverty are based on the Cost of Basic Needs approach, which takes into account household spending on food as well as non-food expenditures that are necessary for households. In addition to the monetary poverty line, there is also an official Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). The MPI focuses on deprivation in three dimensions, health, education and standard of living. It is used for public policy decisions and resource allocation at the national, provincial and district levels. It is not a project-level indicator and not relevant for BRSP, which focuses on household incomes and assets.

### Identifying Poor Households and Their Profile

As poverty exists at the household level, BRSP identifies poor rural households through a census in the target area. This is based on the Poverty Score Card (PSC), which is used by the government as well as donors and other RSPs.<sup>2</sup> Using the PSC for identifying the poor, and social mobilization for organizing them, BRSP initiated three main poverty reduction programmes during 2013-2018, covering approximately 331,000 rural households in 255 union councils (40 percent of the total in Balochistan) of 7 districts. Overall, 61 percent of the 321,000 surveyed households were found to be poor, including 19 percent who were ultra (or extremely) poor and 42 percent who were vulnerable poor or transitory poor. The PSC survey

<sup>1</sup> The union council is the lowest level of civil administration in Pakistan.

<sup>2</sup> The PSC uses 13 low-cost indicators to estimate the likelihood that a household lies below a given poverty line. It ranks each household on a scale of 0 to 100. Those in the PSC 0-23 range are considered poor and include the ultra poor (PSC 0-11), the vulnerable poor (PSC 12-18) and the transitory poor (PSC 19-23).

also provided information and insight into the characteristics of poor households, including their assets and access to services, which is important for matching interventions to their circumstances.

### Interventions for Poverty Reduction – A Flexible and Tried and Tested Package

BRSP emphasizes five types of poverty-reduction interventions, all of which require household and community participation. These are community organization, saving at the community level, interest-free loans and grants to individuals for acquiring productive assets, and training to manage these assets and improve income-generating skills.<sup>3</sup> Interest-free loans are important because microfinance is not available to the poor (PSC 0-23 category). Grants are made available because some of the poorest (for example, in the PSC 0-11 category) are unable to repay loans.

The effectiveness of these interventions in reducing the income poverty of rural households has been tested and established for more than 10 years in various parts of the Pakistan. These interventions are also supported by the federal government as well as all four provincial governments and donors. Highly-regarded researchers have conducted field experiments in diverse countries and concluded that these interventions resulted in lasting progress for the very poor.

### Empowering the Poor for What They Can Do

BRSP works with households and communities on the basis of terms of partnership agreed between the parties. Planning is undertaken through three dialogues, each of which corresponds to one of the first three stages of a project cycle (identification, preparation and appraisal). Before work can start, the community has to get organized, identify an honest and competent leader, accept the discipline of saving to generate their own capital, and identify each and every household's potential to improve their individual livelihood in consultation with BRSP and each other.

BRSP then works with the CO to prepare a Micro Investment Plan (MIP) for each of the CO members. Social mobilizers inform CO members about the interest-free loan, grant and training that is available. CO members discuss their investment possibilities, keeping in view the resources they have and the constraints they face, identify the human and material resources needed to initiate the income generating activity they would like to pursue, estimate the income expected from this activity, and arrive at a realistic course of action for each CO member.

### How the Poor Respond

In one programme implemented in four union councils of Zhob, Pishin and Killa Abdullah Districts, BRSP extended assistance to 560 individuals (67 percent of them women) from poor households (PSC category 0-18). All of them acquired assets and started enterprises for income

generation with grants of up to PKR 50,000 each. A large majority of them (72 percent) opted to buy livestock, while an equal proportion (14 percent each) purchased agricultural equipment and set up small enterprises. The choices made by these poor and largely illiterate villagers show that:

- Among the 405 who opted for livestock, 88 percent purchased sheep, 44 got goats, two decided on cows and one went for poultry. Villagers opted for the kind of livestock for which they had the aptitude and could provide support in their environment, with their resources.
- Of the 80 villagers who opted for agricultural equipment, 64 percent purchased diesel engines for pumping up water and 36 percent went for spray machines used for spraying fruit trees for protection from insects and diseases.
- The choices made by the 75 villagers who decided to set up small enterprises spanned 22 types of businesses, each one of them suited to the household's skills and opportunities.

The villagers decided what suited them, based on their own knowledge and consultation with others in the community. The choices the poor made cannot be replicated by any bureaucratic, political or research process. BRSP provided guidance and technical and financial assistance; it did not interfere with the decision making.

### How the Poor Benefit

There is consistent evidence from studies commissioned by BRSP and others that large proportions of poor beneficiaries have moved up in terms of their PSC scores. In other words, they are not as poor as before – and large numbers are no longer poor – after benefitting from the programme. This is not a surprising finding in view of the cross-country studies mentioned above. The signs of change are also evident in what poor households say about their lives and village leaders confirm in different ways. Much more could be done – and has to be done – and BRSP is ready to play its part.

## Building Community Infrastructure

### Infrastructure Deficit and Disasters in Balochistan

More than those in the urban parts of the province and rural Pakistan as a whole, people in rural Balochistan are deprived of basic facilities in every sector associated with development. The province has also experienced natural disasters over several years that have heaped misery upon deprivation. These events caused immense damage to infrastructure and other productive assets and tested the resilience of the people as well as the capacity of the state and civil society.

### BRSP's Wide-ranging Response

To a greater or lesser extent, depending on the resources

<sup>3</sup> Other interventions are added where resources are available.

available, BRSP has responded to each of the challenges mentioned above through its Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) programme. It works with communities on local infrastructure priorities that they identify, and helps them complete projects that they themselves can implement and maintain. The approach does not involve contractors and the work is done by community members with the financial and technical assistance of BRSP. Operation and maintenance is the responsibility of community members. The benefits are lasting and broad based. It is a tested model.

Over the years, BRSP has provided financial and technical assistance for more than 28,000 community-identified, community-managed CPI schemes. These include 10,150 one-room shelters and more than 14,750 latrines constructed in the rehabilitation phase after the floods in 2012. This, together with large scale emergency relief operations, was part of BRSP's response to various natural disasters. The remaining approximately 3,000 CPI schemes span a wide range of interventions for addressing community-specific needs.

Approximately 80 percent of the schemes focused on water for drinking or irrigation purposes (divided almost equally between irrigation-related and drinking water schemes). Depending on the situation prevailing in the village, BRSP helped install hand pumps or water supply systems with storage and pipelines, and supported various interventions for increasing irrigation water supply and using water efficiently. These included karez improvement, efficient irrigation systems, soil conservation through land levelling and reclamation, water conservation through mini dams, and the use of solar and wind energy for irrigation water. BRSP also provided water and sanitation facilities in schools and carried out repairs in government basic health units and district headquarters.

The CPI programme has engaged approximately 3,200 community organizations so far and benefitted an estimated 1.5 million villagers across the province. The cost of the schemes was PKR 2,779 million, to which the communities contributed PKR 354 million (11 percent of the total capital cost). In addition, the communities have taken on the substantial burden of looking after the operation and maintenance of their projects. This contribution is not generally taken into account when estimating the community contribution to local infrastructure. A comprehensive study has estimated that the community's share could reach 50 percent of the total capital and operation and maintenance cost over the life of such projects.

#### **Diverse and Significant Benefits**

The most comprehensive study of the benefits of CPI projects covered 180 diverse schemes completed in seven

districts. Its findings are consistent with similar studies in Balochistan and other parts of the country. Surveyed beneficiaries reported: a high level of satisfaction with the schemes; positive impact on the health of women and men and the education of girls and boys; increase in women's leisure time due to the reduced time required in fetching water and the increase in household incomes; and large increases in rural incomes and greater availability of food from irrigation and land and water conservation projects.

For people outside a village, CPI projects are not eye-catching and they seldom attract the attention of decision makers or the mass media. For those in a village, however, each of them is an answer to a prayer, as the deprived gain access to the necessities of life, including water, food and relief from back-breaking chores, which matter most in their circumstances. Step by step, they go on to make the most of it: they develop land, produce more, improve their health, increase their income and send more of their children to school. As a community, they can take pride in their achievement and reinforce the hope they need to survive in a harsh environment.

## **Mainstreaming Madaris**

### **Deeni Madaris in Perspective**

As in the rest of the country, many parents confronting lack of access to mainstream public and private schools look to deeni madaris (religious schools) for their children's education. BRSP estimates that 320,000 children are enrolled in 4,000 registered madaris across the province. A recent in-depth study of madaris by the Royal Danish Defence College concluded that "besides the anticipated general devotion to religion, households' economic concerns appeared to be a main motivation for Pakistani parents in sending their children to madressahs instead of public schools". It views madaris viewed as "local recognition of a failed public school system".

### **Engaging Religious Leaders and the Government**

Working with ulama and the government has been central to BRSP's approach. Ulama have moral authority in society by virtue of their religious position and help generate ownership for change among deeni madaris and communities. The government deals with a wide range of matters that are essential for regulating and mainstreaming madressah education. With the benefit of hindsight, it can be said that BRSP's approach has been consistent with the kind of enlightened thinking towards madressah reform that many experts have advocated after a great deal of research and comparative analysis across countries. Essentially, BRSP, with its limited mandate and resources, is mediating state-madressah engagement in a context where this has not been effective in recent history.

### **Strategy for Mainstreaming Madaris**

Two projects provided the foundations for mainstreaming madaris during 2013-2018. The first one was called Youth Empowerment through Bridging the Gap between Traditional and Formal Education Systems and Imparting Livelihood Skills in Balochistan, shortened to Youth Empowerment Project (YEP), and the second one Providing Access to Formal Education for Madaris (PAFEM). Taken together, these two projects lead to a strategy, a theory of change, which BRSP and its partners among government departments, religious scholars and school administrators have found to be feasible and promising.

It was considered important, in the beginning, to facilitate children from madaris and formal schools, which are essentially two different worlds, to interact with each other in a somewhat informal setting. That was followed by interventions that provided a wide range of goods and services to both madaris and formal schools. The outputs produced by the programme were aimed at improving the learning environment for madressah and formal school students, the living environment for madressah students and teachers, the quality of education, access to education (particularly for out of school children), and marketable skills for madressah graduates.

These outputs are expected to generate certain outcomes (changes in awareness, access and skills): narrowing the perception gap between students of madaris and formal educational institutions; increasing access to formal education by madaris and out of school children; and improving marketable skills among youth. The outcomes are expected to lead to long-term impacts, including: increased tolerance and acceptance of formal education; increased enrolment and enhanced quality of education; increased government policy support for mainstreaming

madaris, and government investment in replication of model; and, increased opportunities for gainful employment.

#### **Things That Matter: What the Programme Delivered**

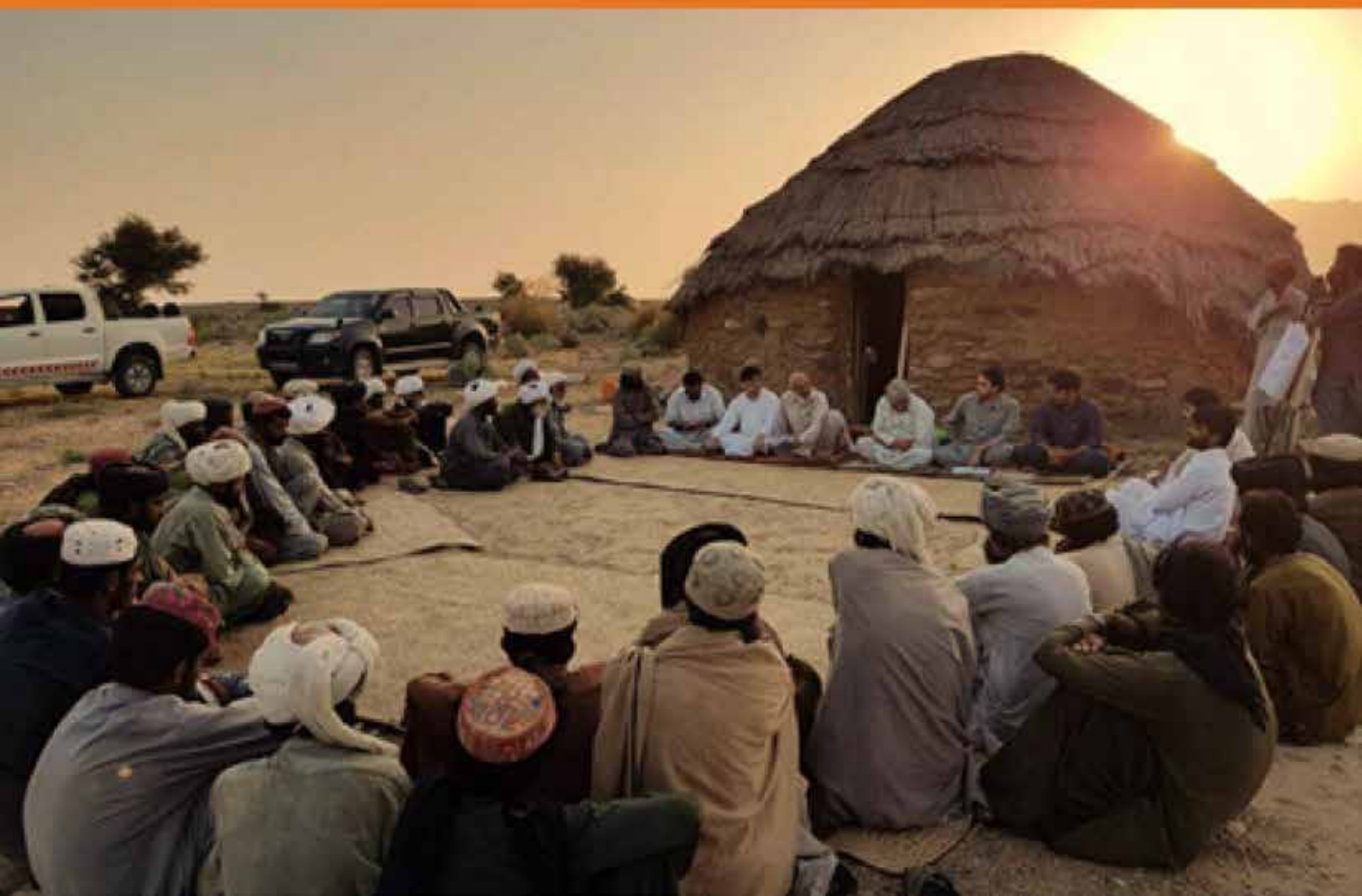
YEP reached 55,111 students (12,074 girls and 43,037 boys) and 314 teachers (28 females and 286 male). The corresponding figures for PAFEM are 5,000 students (675 girls and 4,325 boys) and 147 teachers (34 females and 113 male). What the programme delivered over five years includes outputs that only the people affected by neglect and lack of resources could have pointed out. Imagine: students sitting on the floor in structures that are classrooms only in name; lacking basics such as chairs, tables, stationery, wash rooms and drinking water, not to mention computers and labs; spending day after day in these conditions learning little that would lead to jobs and acceptance in the society from which they have been frozen out; and teachers sharing this environment, yet doing the best they can with little hope for change. BRSP and its partners delivered what mattered to these students and teachers.

#### **The Big Picture: Reaching Out of School Children throughout the Province**

The madaris mainstreaming programme has led to transformational innovations in the education sector. The YEP and PAFEM education models were the first of their kind in Pakistan, and their potential for replication and sustainability has garnered serious interest and appreciation among policy makers, communities, students, teachers, government departments, ulama and civil society.

## CHAPTER-1

# Introduction to BRSP



## Origins and Affiliations

Thousands of non-profit organizations exist around the world, aiming to help people in need. Some provide humanitarian assistance in times of natural disaster, war and famine, or where neglect creates a crisis (e.g., for refugees and the homeless). Others are involved in development activities, in which the state is generally the leading actor but gaps remain in services reaching the marginalized groups in society (e.g., women and girls, the poor, unemployed youth and people with disabilities). A few of the non-profits pursue various rights and causes through advocacy, engaging both rights holders and the duty bearers who are expected to deliver human rights and development services.

The Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) has been involved in development work, focusing on the rural areas of the province, since it was established in 1991. It has also stepped forward, when needed, to lead humanitarian activities. It is the largest non-profit in the province and one of the largest in the country. It is the offshoot of two powerful and inter-linked histories, one originating in Germany in the mid-nineteenth century and the other in South Asia a century later.

The German tradition of organizing small farmers to avoid exploitation has its roots in German cooperatives, particularly those associated with the ideas of Friedrich Wilhelm Raiffeisen (1818-1888). German development assistance to Pakistan promoted cooperative self-help projects in the Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Provinces from the early-1970s onward. In 1983, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation, GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH),<sup>4</sup> started the Pak-German Self-Help Project in collaboration with the Local Government and Rural Development Department of the Government of Balochistan. The project was transformed into a programme called BRSP at the end of the project duration.

With that, BRSP became the third member of the family of Rural Support Programmes (RSPs), the first one being the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP), which has been working in the Gilgit Baltistan region since 1982 (refer to Text Box 1).<sup>5</sup> The RSPs emphasize the approach to cooperation that is associated with the German pioneer Raiffeisen: they follow a common conceptual package of

### Text Box 1: Rural Support Programmes (Year Established)

- AKRSP: Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (1982)
- SRSP: Sarhad Rural Support Programme (1989)
- BRSP: Balochistan Rural Support Programme (1991)
- NRSP: National Rural Support Programme (1992)
- GBTI: Ghazi Barotha Taraqiat Idara (1995)
- TRDP: Thardeep Rural Development Programme (1997)
- PRSP: Punjab Rural Support Programme (1998)
- SRSO: Sindh Rural Support Organization (2003)

<sup>4</sup>This is now called the German Agency for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH), or GIZ.

<sup>5</sup>Similar rural support organizations exist in India and Tajikistan.

<sup>6</sup>The other exception is the Thardeep Rural Development Programme in Sindh.

<sup>7</sup>Meeting The Challenge; Kathmandu: Report of the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation, Secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, 1992. The commission consisted of highly-regarded South Asian intellectuals, policy managers and practitioners concerned with poverty issues.

organizing the poor and building their skills and capital. Each RSP also has its own programmatic package. This includes two kinds of interventions, those that are implemented directly by the RSPs, and goods and services obtained through linkages with government and other service providers.

The RSPs are autonomous support mechanisms that work closely with the government but are independent of the government. In their structure and approach, the RSPs are not non-governmental or civil society organizations, in the sense these terms are commonly understood. With two exceptions (including AKRSP<sup>6</sup>), they were established by the government. Their unique feature, however, is that key government officials are part of the governance structure but the government does not control the organization.

## Working with Communities

Ensuring service delivery and linkages for pro-poor service delivery through the public sector is the responsibility of the government. Mobilizing the poor around the conceptual package, and capacitating them to identify and implement the programmatic package, is the job of independent non-governmental support mechanisms such as the RSPs. It is well established that this function cannot be performed by the administrative or elected pillars of the state: government departments and elected institutions do not have the capacity to engage all or an overwhelming majority of people, especially the poor and vulnerable, in planning, implementing and monitoring their own development agenda. What is needed for these purposes is the socio-economic pillar, that is, grass roots organisations of the poor and support mechanisms such as the RSPs.

This and other important lessons for poverty reduction (refer to Text Box 2) were first set forth in Meeting The Challenge (1992), the report of the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation.<sup>7</sup> This report



**Text Box 2: Recommendations of Meeting The Challenge**

- P. 94: The centrepiece of the strategy and the policy framework would have to be the mobilization of the poor themselves through their own organisations.
- p. 139: Each Government should:
  - Support, financially and administratively, the establishment of independent non-governmental ... support mechanisms to catalyse the formation of organizations of the poor ... building on the success cases on the ground [including AKRSP].
  - Commit adequate financial resources on a long-term basis to these support mechanisms to enable them to provide the required services to the organizations of the poor.
  - Other organisations of the State system and the banking system should be reoriented, inter alia, by devolving appropriate powers and responsibilities ... with the aim of providing the necessary support.

Source: Meeting The Challenge

emphasized that social mobilization should be the centrepiece of the strategy and policy framework for reducing poverty. The report was adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation at their 1993 summit in Dhaka as part of what is known as the Dhaka Declaration.

The RSPs today follow a three-tier approach to social mobilization. The primary tier consists of Community Organizations (COs), which are self-help groups of 15-25 members each covering a small settlement or sub-village (called killi in Balochistan). The CO focuses on poverty reduction interventions for individual households as well as small community-level schemes at the hamlet level. BRSP's approach to poverty reduction is elaborated in Chapter 2.

Then there is the Village Organization (VO), a federation of COs intended for planning and coordination at the village level. The VO membership (general body) consists of two members (preferably the president or manager or at least one of them) from each CO. A VO is expected to include the representatives of three-to-six COs, on average, but not less than two COs. Geographical proximity and access between different sub-villages (killis) is taken into account for the formation of a VO. The key function of the VO is to ensure mobilization of the maximum number of households into COs, supportive supervision of COs and implementation of village level activities, including Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI). BRSP's experience with CPI is described in Chapter 3.

The third tier is at the union council level and called the Local Support Organization (LSO).<sup>8</sup> It is a federation of all the VOs formed by men and women in the union council. The key function of the LSO is coordination and implementation of development activities at the union council level, establishing linkages with government, donors and other development organizations, and providing guidance and support to VOs and COs. The LSO is also responsible for managing a grant, which it receives

I have known BRSP since I started my service. We always hear about it during our postings and tours. It has massive outreach. Whereas other NGOs come and go, BRSP is deeply rooted in our communities. BRSP has reached out to the remotest and most backward districts. BRSP follows a community-driven approach, with cost-sharing in CPIs. It is remarkable that it has established itself in places where local systems and customs are rigid and the people uneducated. BRSP staff have organized poor women and men in such a difficult situation. They sit with the people and discuss their rights and responsibilities. This is the way.

– Saboor Kakar, Secretary Environment, Government of Balochistan

from BRSP to provide and recover interest-free loans to the poor. The membership (general body) of the VO is expected to include at least two members from each VO or at least one member from each CO.

BRSP's commitment to Balochistan is wide-ranging. It envisions a "prosperous Balochistan where people, especially the poor and women, are provided with equal livelihood opportunities and are not socially and economically excluded". In pursuit of this vision, BRSP's mission is to "harness the potential of the rural poor to help themselves, assume control of local development and improve their standard of living".

Twenty seven years after its establishment, BRSP is recognized as the premier institution for poverty reduction in Balochistan, having expanded the scale and scope of rural development across 422 union councils in 27 districts through robust community mobilization and capacity building efforts that have elevated the socio-economic status of the most marginalized communities. During this period, BRSP has undergone a multi-level evolutionary process – through structured operational systems, strengthened human resources, diversified partnerships and cutting-edge approaches to development – that has transformed the organization into a progressive and sustainable organization, well on its way to realizing its vision.



<sup>8</sup>The union council is the lowest level of civil administration in Pakistan.

## Programme Area

Balochistan is Pakistan's largest province in terms of area, representing more than 40 percent of the country's total land area. However, it is also the least populated, with a population of 12.3 million (5.8 percent of Pakistan's according to the 2017 census) dispersed across the province, predominantly (72 percent) in rural areas. Administratively, the province is divided into six civil divisions and 32 districts (refer to Annex 1 for administrative units and population data). In 27 districts, more than two-thirds of the population lives in rural areas.

The Baloch and the Pashtuns are the two main ethnic groups, while the Brahui, Hazaras, Sindhis, Punjabis, Uzbeks and Afghans have smaller representation in the population. Although rich in natural resources, Balochistan remains largely underdeveloped, lagging far behind other provinces in economic growth but leading in the incidence of poverty. While the incidence of poverty using the new official poverty line has not been estimated at the provincial level,<sup>9</sup> it is generally acknowledged that Balochistan has the highest incidence of poverty among the four provinces.

Balochistan also lags behind the country as a whole in terms of all indicators of social development (as illustrated in Annex 2). Large gender and urban-rural disparities are observed in the province. For example:<sup>10</sup>

- The adult literacy rate in the population that is 15 years and older is 56 percent among men and only 18 percent among women. In the population that is 10 years and older, 59 percent of urban residents and 38 percent of rural residents ever attended school.
- Doctors, nurses, midwives or lady health visitors assisted 58 percent of the delivery cases in urban areas and only 30 percent in rural areas.
- Tap water, hand pumps and motor pumps were the sources of drinking water for 83 percent of the urban residents and 49 percent of the rural residents.
- 18 percent of the rural households had no toilets, whereas the percentage was zero in urban areas.

## Overview of Achievements

BRSP has successfully completed projects for poverty reduction and several other thematic areas and sectors, including health, education, water, sanitation, emergency response, community physical infrastructure, livelihoods, natural resource management, governance and human resource development. BRSP's philosophy of self-help as the route to community empowerment and poverty reduction is at the heart of all its programming. Participation of women is central to this belief and mainstreamed into all programmes. Special efforts are made to reach out to the marginalized and the vulnerable,



including the poorest of rural households, persons with disability, out-of-school children and pregnant mothers. Developing the capacity of rural people, service providers and local elected representatives is an important pillar of BRSP's pursuit of sustainable development in all sectors.

Achievements over the years are presented in numbers for various sectors and thematic areas in Annex 3; the highlights include:

- BRSP has a presence in two-thirds (422) of the 634 union councils and 27 of the 32 districts of Balochistan. This presence is manifest in 20,735 broad-based grass roots community institutions. These include 17,672 COs with a membership of 275,720 households (represented by 187,825 men and 87,895 women). It also includes 2,978 VO and 85 LSOs.
- In addition to the community institutions, BRSP has organized 883 sector-specific committees, including parents' education committees, farmers' associations, village health committees, village specialist committees, and water, sanitation and hygiene committees.
- As part of developing their capacity, 495,040 members of community institutions have been trained in leadership and management skills. In addition, 83,200 villagers have been trained in agricultural and livestock development. For strengthening service delivery in health, BRSP has taken steps to enhance the capacity of 5,091 healthcare providers, traditional birth attendants, community health educators, community-based health workers, lady health workers and health care providers trained on malaria treatment, diagnosis and emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC).
- Working closely with the Government of Balochistan, BRSP took special steps to train 7,878 elected representatives of local bodies in participatory development and village development planning.
- BRSP has provided financial and technical assistance for 28,470 community-identified, community-managed

<sup>9</sup>The new official poverty line, introduced in 2015-16, is based on the Cost of Basic Needs approach, which takes into account both food and non-food expenditures (on clothing, shelter and education) that are necessary for households. Refer to Annexure III of Pakistan Economic Survey 2015-16.

<sup>10</sup>These data are taken from the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey (PSLM) conducted by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan ([http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/pslm/publications/PSLM\\_2014-15\\_National-Provincial-District\\_report.pdf](http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/pslm/publications/PSLM_2014-15_National-Provincial-District_report.pdf)).

physical infrastructure schemes for purposes such as water conservation and management, irrigation water storage, water channels, drinking water, soil and land conservation, rural link roads and culverts, post-flood one-room shelters and renewable energy. The cost of these schemes was PKR 2,779 million, to which the communities contributed PKR 354 million. This work is described in the chapter on community infrastructure.

- In the area of water, sanitation and hygiene, 1,123 drinking water supply schemes were rehabilitated/constructed that benefitted more than one million individuals; 22,749 low-cost latrines were constructed for 138,159 poor households in 234 villages, and 156 villages declared as open-defecation free by the Government of Balochistan. Focusing on schools, BRSP projects benefitted 171,605 individuals of 561 schools and madaris through water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives
- A large-scale initiative in the health sector strengthened 717 health facilities, provided medicines to 1,157 health facilities and facilitated one million people through mobile health units. Another initiative improved infrastructure and provided medicine and equipment in 114 health facilities and facilitated 650,000 individuals at the targeted health facilities. Through behaviour change communication (BCC), the programme sensitized 735,000 people on malaria, human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) hepatitis and nutrition. It supported malaria eradication through the distribution of 1.19 million long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs: mosquito nets impregnated with insecticide) in 10 districts.
- For poverty reduction, BRSP worked through COs to identify the poorest and helped establish village-level micro businesses for 7,350 beneficiaries (4,296 men and 3,054 women) by providing assets for various trades (livestock and poultry development, agricultural inputs and other businesses) identified by the beneficiaries. These and related initiatives are described in the chapter on poverty reduction.
- In a pioneering initiative in the Quetta and Pishin Districts during 2013-2018, BRSP worked closely with ulama (religious leaders) and relevant government departments to mainstream deeni madaris (religious schools). This entailed infrastructure improvement, approval and introduction of government-approved curriculum, provision of teacher training, books and computers in support, promotion of extracurricular activities, and technical and vocational skills for madressah students. The interventions reached more than 50,000 madressah students and more than 460 teachers in 52 madaris and 38 formal schools. This initiative is described in the chapter on the mainstreaming of madaris.

## Governance and Management

BRSP is governed by a General Body of 26 eminent individuals and a 15-member Board of Directors that oversee BRSP's annual performance, programmatic and operational compliance, and provide strategic direction to the BRSP management. The management, based in Quetta, is led by the Chief Executive Officer, who is responsible for the day to day operations, strategic planning, partnership management, business development and representation.

At the organizational level, BRSP invests in strengthening internal capacities, which means building a strong human capital and institutionalizing systems, policies and controls for greater transparency and efficiency. BRSP develops the technical capacities and skills of its staff, and promotes an internal learning culture by creating opportunities for cross-fertilization of knowledge, training seminars, workshops, and exposure visits. Capacity building is not limited to BRSP, but is recognized as an integral, cross-cutting theme across all BRSP programmes. To this end, BRSP has established an in-house unit actively engaged in providing assistance to a broad set of stakeholders including individuals, communities, local bodies and public and private sector organizations in capacity building.

Based on international best practices for internal operations, BRSP has in place appropriate policies and procedures, and an integrated technological solution known as Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) for programme delivery and other business support functions. Essentially, the ERP is used to provide a real-time view of data from the field, improve financial compliance, and streamline BRSP's other core business functions, such as procurement and payments.

BRSP is one of the few organizations in the non-profit sector that have implemented the complete, integrated ERP system to manage all their operational needs. In return, BRSP has realized tremendous benefits – from financial accuracy and faster decision making capability to improvement in employee performance, and efficiency in procurement processes. The ERP system facilitates the storage of the company's personal data and allows for faster and more effective control of changes that may occur within the company as a result of the economy or regulatory issues.

## Partnerships

BRSP's strong leadership, long-standing experience and satisfactory performance has earned credibility within the communities it serves, and a solid reputation among diverse stakeholders, including the provincial government, civil society, academia, and national and international donors. BRSP's most trusted partnerships are with provincial government departments and international

funding agencies. These include:

- Directorate of Malaria Control, Government of Balochistan
- European Union
- German Agency for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH)
- German Federal Foreign Office
- International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre
- KFW Development Bank, Federal Republic of Germany
- Pakistan Afghanistan Tajikistan Regional Integration Programme Foundation
- Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
- Rural Support Programmes Network
- The Indus Hospital
- UN Women
- United Nations Children’s Fund
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- World Food Programme

Building on these strategic relationships, BRSP has leveraged financial commitments by means of a PKR 500 million endowment fund from the Government of Balochistan to help BRSP expand and sustain its operations. BRSP also enjoys considerable influence within the government departments, which have led to policy reforms, as well as financial commitments in provincial budgets. With support from the European Union, BRSP has involved local government elected representatives and officials through large-scale training and engaged local government and other departments in bottom-up planning in cooperation with community institutions.

### Achievements Highlighted in Report

This report focuses on BRSP’s achievements in three specific areas, namely, poverty reduction, community infrastructure and madaris mainstreaming. The chapter on poverty reduction describes BRSP’s approach for targeting poor households and the three main poverty reduction programmes that BRSP initiated during 2013-2018, covering 331,480 rural households in 255 union councils of seven districts. The chapter on community infrastructure describes the approach for identifying local infrastructure needs and responding with technical and financial assistance to enable communities to implement and manage infrastructure. Both chapters provide evidence on



the impact of BRSP interventions on the lives of rural people.

The chapter on mainstreaming madaris illustrates innovation in addressing the kind of challenges the entire country is facing. Specifically, many parents confronting lack of access to mainstream public and private schools look to deeni madaris for their children’s education. Madaris focus solely on religious education, with few aspirations and marketable skills for the graduates beyond serving as religious clerics. They lack formal recognition by government education departments and remain deprived of the benefits of mainstream education, including basic amenities, physical infrastructure and contemporary teaching. As indicated above, BRSP worked on multiple fronts to start mainstreaming madaris located in the Quetta and Pishin Districts, and this experience is described in the report with references to the historical and context of madaris.



## CHAPTER-2

# Poverty Reduction Through Social Mobilization



## Concepts and Measures of Poverty

The role of social mobilization in poverty reduction needs an understanding of concepts of poverty and how economic growth, government programmes and social mobilization relate to them. While poverty reduction is a national goal, it is interpreted in different ways for different purposes. Official estimates of the incidence of poverty are based on the Cost of Basic Needs approach. This approach focuses on the consumption patterns of households and estimates the amount of money needed to meet basic household needs. It takes into account household spending on food as well as non-food expenditures (on things like clothing, shelter and education) that are necessary for households.<sup>11</sup>

Poverty reduction in relation to the official poverty line depends largely on pro-poor economic growth. Thus, government planners favour labour-intensive growth for employment generation.<sup>12</sup> The problem is that economic growth in Pakistan has been slow for several years; moreover, growth has not translated strongly into job creation. To reduce unemployment and poverty that is not addressed through growth, the government puts in place a variety of programmes, including public works and credit-based employment, supported by an employment policy and vocational training. In addition, social protection programmes aim to help those who are destitute or unable to benefit from economic growth or special job-creation initiatives.

In addition to the monetary poverty line, there is also an official Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). This is a non-income based index of deprivation that complements consumption-based poverty estimates. The MPI focuses on deprivation in three dimensions, health, education and standard of living, each of them with an equal weight.



These dimensions are assessed through a total of 15 indicators (refer to Annex 4). The MPI is expected to provide a basis for public policy and resource allocation at the national, provincial and district levels.<sup>13</sup> The official position is that:

While national poverty line and headcount continue to be estimated using outcome based consumption data, the MPI will be used as a deprivation index up to district level. This will be used for designing development policy interventions [and] tracking SDGs' objective of inclusive growth.<sup>14</sup>

At the household level, the government uses the Poverty Score Card (PSC) for identifying poor households. This is a tested and cost-effective tool developed by the World Bank. It is used by the Benazir Income Support Programme (the Federal Government's social protection programme), the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Programme (the apex entity for supporting poverty alleviation), the International

Table 1: Poverty status of households in 7 districts covered by the BRACE programme, 2018

District	PSC Coverage		PSC Category (Percent of Households)			
	Union Councils	Rural Households	PSC-11 (Ultra Poor)	PSC 12-18 (Vulnerable Poor)	PSC 19-23 (Transitory Poor)	PSC 24-100 (Non Poor)
<b>Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme</b>						
Zhob	24	22,161	14	24	18	44
Jhal Magsi	10	17,300	15	26	17	42
Khuzdar	40	73,402	18	24	19	39
Loralai	36	37,418	18	23	17	42
Killa Abdullah	36	52,402	27	23	17	33
Pishin	53	65,129	15	21	16	49
Washuk	12	13,868	21	29	18	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>281,680</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>41</b>
		<b>Households &gt;</b>	<b>52,271</b>	<b>65,354</b>	<b>49,006</b>	<b>115,049</b>

Source: BRSP Poverty Score Card Census 2017-18 for BRACE.

<sup>11</sup>Pakistan Economic Survey 2015-16, p. 283.

<sup>12</sup>Although other sectors may be added from time to time, planners tend to give priority to agriculture, small and medium enterprises, housing and construction for pro-poor growth. They also recognize that in Pakistan, for several years, the absorptive capacity of the formal sector has been low, and a large majority of the employed workforce has been engaged in informal sector activities dominated by low productivity and marginalized jobs.

<sup>13</sup>Foreword to the Multidimensional Poverty report by the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform.

<sup>14</sup>Pakistan Economic Survey 2015-16, p. 284.

Fund for Agricultural Development (which focuses on reducing rural poverty) and the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs), including BRSP. Nine of the 12 indicators in the PSC revolve around household ownership of assets.<sup>15</sup>

As BRSP aims to increase the incomes and assets of the rural poor, its impact can be measured through changes in household incomes and assets. BRSP's approach for generating these impacts is described below.

## Identifying Poor Households and Their Profile

Using the PSC for identifying the poor, and social mobilization for organizing them, BRSP initiated three main poverty reduction programmes during 2013-2018, covering 331,480 rural households in 255 union councils of seven districts:<sup>16</sup>

- the Balochistan Community Development Programme (BCDP), financed by the European Union in 40 union councils of four districts (Zhob, Loralai, Khuzdar and Jhal Magsi), 2013-2017;
- the Programme for Poverty Reduction, financed by the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) in four union councils of three districts (Killa Abdullah, Pishin and Zhob), 2015-2018; and,
- the Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme, financed by the European Union in 211 union councils of seven districts (Zhob, Loralai,<sup>17</sup> Khuzdar, Jhal Magsi, Killa Abdullah, Pishin and Washuk), 2017-2022. BRACE is intended to scale up BCDP to all 211 (100 percent) union councils of the four BCDP districts and add 101 union councils in another three districts.

Findings from the Poverty Score Card census of all rural households in the union councils included in BRACE are summarized in Table 1. Overall, 61 percent of the households were found to be poor in 2017-18, including 19 percent who were ultra (or extremely) poor and 40 percent in the two other categories of poverty (refer to table).

Experience shows that it is important to understand the characteristics of poor households in order to match interventions to their circumstances. This obvious-sounding point is being emphasized because all too often the solutions identified for increasing the incomes of the poor do not match their circumstances. For example, some recommend training in technical and vocational skills that are not consistent with the low educational levels of the vast majority of the poor. Others may recommend the kind of enterprise promotion that does not have a nearby market, which matters to

households (particularly women) with limited mobility. Sometimes, value chain development is recommended, without considering the meagre land and livestock ownership of the poor and the very small amounts of marketable surpluses they can provide at the right time to attract major buyers.

Asset ownership is one of the most important considerations in matching interventions with the circumstances of the poor. The BRACE PSC survey found that 93 percent of the poor (PSC 0-23) households were landless; 24 percent owned livestock, including an average of 0.2 heads of cattle and 2 sheep and goats per household. Literacy and education levels are also important: among adults, 89 percent of the women and 84 percent of the total had never attended school. Only 5 percent had completed 5 years of schooling. With reference to sources of income, 36 percent of those working outside the house were earning from agricultural labour, whereas 44 percent were earning from off-farm labour that pays daily wages in cash or kind; only 20 percent were engaged in other employment areas such as regular jobs and businesses. BRSP's approach for engaging this target group in poverty reduction is explained below.

## Interventions for Poverty Reduction – A Flexible and Tried and Tested Package

As poverty exists at the household level, BRSP identifies poor rural households (in the range of PSC 0-23 or PSC 0-18, depending on project objectives and resources) through a census in the target area, as illustrated above. It then organizes men and women from these households into self-help groups of 15-25 members each, called Community Organizations (COs), each of which covers a small sub-village or settlement (called killi in Balochistan). At least 50 percent of the households in a community (and all the poor in PSC category 0-23) are organized into COs. As



<sup>15</sup>These assets are: number of rooms in the house, flush toilet, refrigerator, freezer, washing machine, air conditioner, air cooler, geyser, heater, cooking stove, cooking range, microwave oven, car, tractor, motorcycle, scooter, television, cow, buffalo, goat, sheep and agricultural land.

<sup>16</sup>There are 634 rural union councils in the province, so these poverty reduction programmes have been undertaken in 40 percent of them. The approach described here for identifying and helping the poor was also implemented during 2012-2014 in Pishin and Kharan Districts with PPAF support. Findings from this programme are included below in the discussion of impact.

<sup>17</sup>District Loralai was split into two districts, Loralai and Duki, in 2017. For the time being, it is being treated as a single district in the BRACE Programme until the government establishes a regular district structure in Duki.

mentioned in Chapter 1, the social mobilization approach includes two more tiers above the CO level, the VO and the LSO, which promote collective action for various purposes. This three-tier institutional model is common to all RSPs.

The programmatic interventions for reducing household poverty may differ from one programme to another. BRSP generally emphasizes five types of interventions for households, all of which require household and community participation. These are community organization, saving at the community level, interest-free loans and grants to individuals for acquiring productive assets, and training to manage these assets.<sup>18</sup> Interest-free loans are important because microfinance is not available to the poor (PSC 0-23 category) in the country and also because people in most districts of Balochistan are averse to the idea of interest on religious grounds. Grants are made available because some of the poorest (for example, in the PSC 0-11 category) do not have the capacity to repay loans.<sup>19</sup>

The size of loans and grants is subject to a maximum amount, depending on the resources available in a project. The actual amount varies from one individual to another, depending on the opportunity for investment they identify. The opportunity could entail investment in a land or livestock asset or any kind of enterprise. The choice is made by each individual in consultation with the community and BRSP through the process of a Micro Investment Plan, which is described below.

The effectiveness of these types of interventions in reducing the income poverty of rural households has been tested and established through the RSPs' pilot initiatives and large-scale programmes for more than 10 years in various parts of the Pakistan. These initiatives are currently supported by the federal government as well as all four provincial governments and donors such as the Asian Development Bank, European Union and International Fund for Agricultural Development. High-level elected and administrative officials throughout the country have found these initiatives relevant to the challenge of addressing rural poverty, with impact on poor rural people's wellbeing and empowerment. Highly-regarded researchers have conducted field experiments (called randomized control trials) in diverse countries and concluded that the interventions included in this approach resulted in lasting progress for the very poor.<sup>20</sup> Some international organizations refer to a combination of these types of interventions as the poverty graduation model (refer to Text Box 3).<sup>21</sup>

#### Text Box 3: Poverty Graduation Model

- Productive asset transfer: a one-time transfer of a productive asset
- Consumption support: a regular transfer of food or cash for a few months to about a year
- Technical skills training on managing the particular productive assets
- High-frequency home visits
- Savings: access to a savings account and in some instances a deposit collection service and/ or mandatory savings
- Some health education, basic health services, and/or life-skills training

### Empowering the Poor for What They Can Do

A set of interventions planned and implemented by BRSP and a community through agreed terms of partnership may be viewed as a community project for poverty reduction. Planning is undertaken through three dialogues between BRSP and the community, where each dialogue corresponds to one of the first three stages of a project cycle, namely, identification, preparation and appraisal, after which implementation can start and monitoring and evaluation undertaken.<sup>22</sup> Each dialogue may require multiple meetings between BRSP and a community.

The first step is called the First Dialogue. In terms of the project cycle, the First Dialogue is about project identification,<sup>23</sup> not through research or desk work but through a dialogue between two parties that have to agree to the basic terms of partnership. BRSP informs the community that it has to fulfil its obligations of getting organized, identifying an honest and competent leader, accepting the discipline of saving to generate their own capital and identifying each and every household's potential to improve their individual livelihood in consultation with BRSP and each other.

In response, community members have to individually endorse the suggestion (based on experience) that each one of them has the potential to improve their current livelihood status with BRSP assistance. The acceptance of this condition translates into their willingness to get organized. They also have to affirm their acceptance of all elements of the terms of partnership by a show of hands. Agreement on the terms of partnership signifies that a CO will be formed to undertake poverty reduction, with each CO member willing to improve their individual livelihood.

This leads to the Second Dialogue, in which BRSP works with the CO to prepare a Micro Investment Plan (MIP) for each of the CO members. First, BRSP social mobilizers inform CO members about the interest-free loan, grant and training that is available (as illustrated above). Then

<sup>18</sup>Where resources are available, technical and vocational training and micro health insurance are added to these interventions.

<sup>19</sup>The RSPs first tested the provision of interest-free loans and income-generating grants in various parts of Pakistan during 2007-2008. These interventions were designed to overcome the limitations of microfinance, after realizing that microfinance service providers were unwilling to lend to the poor (PSC 0-23) and other instruments were needed to help this large group of neglected poor throughout the country. A pilot initiative was assessed by an external team (Salim Jivani and Jamil Ahmad, "Community Investment Fund - Assessment of the Pilot Programme," Islamabad: ShoreBank International, June 2009; prepared for the Rural Support Programmes Network).

<sup>20</sup>Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Nathanael Goldberg, Dean Karlan, Robert Osei, William Parienté, Jeremy Shapiro, Bram Thuysbaert and Christopher Udry, "A multifaceted programme causes lasting progress for the very poor: Evidence from six countries," Science, May 2015 (<https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1262131>).

<sup>21</sup>Syed M. Hashemi and Aude de Montesquiou, "Reaching the Poorest: Lessons from the Graduation Model," CGAP Focus Note No. 69, March 2011 (<http://www.cgap.org/publications/reaching-poorest-lessons-graduation-model>).

<sup>22</sup>The process mentioned here reflects the five main steps of the project cycle – identification, preparation, appraisal, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

<sup>23</sup>In relation to the project cycle, identification is followed by project preparation and appraisal. As in other RSPs, these steps, too, are conducted through dialogues with the community.

CO members discuss their investment possibilities, keeping in view the resources they have and the constraints they face, identify the human and material resources needed to initiate the income generating activity they would like to pursue, estimate the income expected from this activity, and arrive at a realistic course of action for each CO member. The social mobilizers help them document their household MIPs.

Household MIPs are consolidated at the CO level and then at the VO and LSO levels to start the appraisal process (Third Dialogue) in view of resource availability and implementation requirements. These requirements, including loan and grant disbursement, procurement of assets and training, are discussed with CO members. The role of BRSP, community institutions and CO members is clarified in the process. The LSO plays a key role in disbursing grants and loans, and recovering loans in order to revolve the CIF amount, which it receives as a grant from BRSP.

## How the Poor Respond

In one programme implemented in four union councils of Zhob, Pishin and Killa Abdullah Districts, BRSP extended assistance to 560 individuals (67 percent of them women) from poor households (PSC category 0-18). All of them acquired assets and started enterprises for income generation with grants of up to PKR 50,000 each. A large majority of them (72 percent) opted to buy livestock, while an equal proportion (14 percent each) purchased agricultural equipment and set up small enterprises. The choices made by these poor and largely illiterate villagers show that:

- Among the 405 who opted for livestock, 358 (88 percent) purchased sheep, 44 got goats, two decided on cows and one went for poultry. Villagers opted for the kind of livestock for which they had the aptitude and could provide support in their environment, with their resources. In all four union councils, they felt comfortable with sheep-rearing, which reflects the ease with which sheep can be brought up in this environment. In one union council, 44 of the 111 households also opted for goats. Cows and poultry, evidently, were not consistent with the circumstances of most households, but some found them attractive.
- Of the 80 villagers who opted for agricultural equipment, 64 percent purchased diesel engines for pumping up water and 36 percent went for spray machines used for spraying fruit trees for protection from insects and diseases.
- The choices made by the 75 villagers who decided to set up small enterprises spanned 22 types of businesses, including: stitching clothes, printing designs and selling cloth, stitching supplies, shoes, stationery and jewellery;



providing services as electrician and welder and for photocopying, fixing tyre punctures and grinding wheat into flour; selling meat and sun-dried fruit and vegetables through shops and fruit vending carts; selling mobile phone accessories and motor cycle spare parts; and auto rickshaws for transport and carriage.

It is hard to imagine any market research, survey or district or union council profile that could have informed each of the hundreds of households in their diverse settings how to improve their economic prospects with a small amount of money. The villagers decided what suited them, based on their own knowledge and consultation with others in the community and with BRSP. The poor were empowered to take decisions and implement them with BRSP support. The benefits they produced as a result of their initiative are discussed below.

## How the Poor Benefit

As described above, BRSP uses the PSC for identifying and targeting the poor. At the same time, it is acknowledged that changes in the PSC score reflect changes in the indicators included in the PSC rather than changes in income. Estimating changes in household income and attributing them to project interventions requires costly and specialized impact assessments for which programmes such as BRSP seldom have the technical and financial resources.

However, BRSP as well as other RSPs have commissioned studies over the years to estimate changes in PSC scores among the poor households that have participated in poverty reduction programmes. There is consistent and robust evidence from these studies that large proportions of poor beneficiaries have moved up in terms of their PSC scores. In other words, they are not as poor as before – and large numbers are no longer poor – after benefitting from the programme. This is not a surprising finding in view of the cross-country studies and the poverty

graduation model summarized above.

Consider a poverty reduction programme implemented by BRSP during 2011-2014 in Pishin District. A study found that 291 (92 percent) of the 316 sampled beneficiaries who were previously in the PSC 0-18 categories (ultra poor and vulnerable poor) had moved to higher (including non-poor) categories.<sup>24</sup> Field work undertaken by the authors of this report helps understand the extent of change and how this kind of change took place as a result of poor people's initiatives. The field work included a discussion with the LSO established in 2015 in the Khushab Union Council of Pishin District. This union council has a population of approximately 13,000 (1,338 households).

All the households, except those who live outside the area, are members of the 96 COs organized in the union council. Thirty-five of the COs are women's COs and 10 are a mix of men and women. The 35 COs are federated into 7 VOs, from which 14 representatives (two office bearers each) constitute the general body of the LSO. From the 1,338 member households, 700 (or 52 percent) received poverty reduction interventions: 260 in the PSC 0-18 category received income-generating grants of PKR 50,000 each; 40 in the PSC 0-11 category received interest-free loans from the CIF mechanism;<sup>25</sup> and 400 in the PSC 0-30 category received interest-free loans from the Prime Minister's Interest-free Loan Programme (channelled through BRSP).

The LSO members say that everyone who received assistance has benefitted from it. They say they know this because they meet everyone in the mosques located in their communities and talk to the beneficiaries. They have observed that poor people can now afford to take sick people for treatment outside the village, even to Quetta, the provincial capital. Triangulating in his own way, the LSO leader says that shopkeepers have also noticed the change: poor households are now buying soaps, toothpaste and even a shampoo occasionally. Among the beneficiaries who met the authors:

- One man was unemployed when he was offered a grant

of PKR 50,000 through BRSP. He decided to buy an auto rickshaw and obtained an additional PKR 20,000 loan from somewhere to pay its full price of PKR 70,000. He has a regular income now, carrying passengers and goods. He says his PSC score was 13 and it is much higher now.

- Another man was working on daily wages, earning PKR 200-300 per day when work was available. He received a grant of PKR 50,000 and bought a spray machine with it. He now has a regular income from the work he does on farms in and near his village.
- A third beneficiary purchased four young female sheep and now has six sheep, after selling one. His family uses the milk, butter and cheese at home and also sells these products, as well as wool, in the market.
- A female beneficiary started drying fruit and vegetables after receiving financial assistance and training from BRSP. She dries tomatoes in summer and sells them in winter, when prices are higher. She uses the increased income to send her children to school and provide better food to the family. She has also purchased a sewing machine from the profits for mending clothes at home, thereby reducing expenses.
- Another woman received training and assistance for food processing and learned to make and sell tomato ketchup. She has used the savings for treating children's health problems and setting up a general store.
- Another one pooled her interest-free loan with her husband's loan and started a business selling gas stoves. Her income now is sufficient for repaying the loan and meeting household expenses.

The signs of change are evident in what poor households say about their lives and village leaders confirm in different ways. They are also evident in BRSP surveys, other programmes in the country and international evidence. Much more could be done – and has to be done – and BRSP is ready to play its part.

<sup>24</sup>Report on Graduation Survey of PPAF Funded Livelihood Enhancement and Protection Project (LEP), District Pishin of Balochistan," Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Research Section, BRSP, n. d.  
<sup>25</sup>The LSO received PKR 800,000 in 2018 for its CIF and gave PKR 20,000 each to 40 households in the poorest category. Some repay at the rate of PKR 2,000 per month, others in one go after six month. The LSO charges 10 percent on the loan for meeting the costs of a book-keeper and stationery.

## CHAPTER-3

# Building Community Infrastructure



## Infrastructure Deficit and Disasters in Balochistan

More than those in the urban parts of the province and rural Pakistan as a whole, people in rural Balochistan are deprived of basic facilities in every sector associated with development. For example, PSLM 2014-15 data reported in Annex 2 suggest that the majority of rural households depended on unimproved sources of water, such as dug wells and other means.<sup>26</sup> In rural Pakistan as a whole, only 14 percent of the households depended on unimproved sources, and in the urban areas of Balochistan the proportion was 18 percent. An authoritative study points out that “The operation and maintenance costs of public-sector water schemes are high and can be unaffordable for communities”.<sup>27</sup> With reference to sanitation, only 14 percent of Balochistan’s rural households had a flush toilet (compared with 78 percent in urban areas and 60 percent in rural Pakistan as a whole) and 18 percent had no toilet. There is also a paucity of water and sanitation in schools.

Scarcity of water is a distinct and highly problematic feature of Balochistan, where the vast territory includes 18 segmented river basins.<sup>28</sup> “Groundwater constitutes around 4 percent of total water available, but is an over-utilized and depleting resource.” People have to rely on non-perennial and some perennial sources of water. “Rural livelihoods are dependent on precipitation ... Crops can fail after a seasonal drought, whereas livestock and orchards are vulnerable to persistent drought. Flood water accounts for almost two-thirds of total available water, but hardly 40 percent is utilized. Excess water during wet years can be stored ... [for reliable] sailaba (flood water irrigated) farming.” There is also potential for improving the efficiency of using water and energy.

Balochistan has also experienced natural disasters over several years that have heaped misery upon deprivation. Major natural disasters have included severe drought (1998-2005 and 2018-2019), Cyclone Yemyin (2007), heavy floods (2010 and 2012) and earthquakes (2008 and 2011). These events caused immense damage to infrastructure and other productive assets and tested the resilience of the people as well as the capacity of the state and civil society.

## BRSP’s Wide-ranging Response

To a greater or lesser extent, depending on the resources available, BRSP has responded to each of the challenges described above through its Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) programme. It has been working with communities on local infrastructure priorities that they identify, and helping them complete projects that they themselves can implement and maintain. The approach does not involve contractors and the work is done by



community members with the financial and technical assistance of BRSP. There are no disputes that disrupt work because BRSP will support a project only if everyone in the community agrees on it. Decision-making is transparent to the beneficiaries, who contribute with their knowledge and resources and own the project. Operation and maintenance is the responsibility of community members. The benefits are lasting and broad based. It is a tested model, with origins in the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme, starting in 1982. In Balochistan, it is reflected in partnerships between BRSP and the communities that extend to all sectors and 80 percent of the districts of the province.

Over the years, BRSP has provided financial and technical assistance for more than 28,000 community-identified, community-managed CPI schemes. These include 10,150 one-room shelters and more than 14,750 latrines constructed in the rehabilitation phase after the floods in 2012. This, together with large scale emergency relief operations, was part of BRSP’s response to various natural disasters. In the process, BRSP was empowered and supported by several national and international organizations, including the government, United Nations, donors and international non-governmental organizations, to alleviate the suffering of the affected population by providing them food, services in health, education, water, sanitation and shelter, counselling and other non-food items and support.

I have visited all the districts of Balochistan, and I know all the national and international non-governmental organizations working in the province. Only the RSPs ensure the sustainability of CPIs by making it the community’s responsibility. BRSP also promotes women’s empowerment. It has the biggest coverage in the province. People talk about it. There is no corruption, no question of patronage in its work. It works in both Baloch and Pashtun areas. Its mobilizers are from local communities and properly trained. They build relationships with political leaders and civil society to support BRSP’s work.  
– Mehfooz Ali Khan, Member of the BRSP Board of Directors, former Secretary Finance, Government of Balochistan

<sup>26</sup>Improved sources of water are taps, hand pumps and motor pumps.

<sup>27</sup>World Bank, Balochistan Development Issues and Prospects; Islamabad: Multi Donor Trust Fund, World Bank, Pakistan, 2013, p. 8 (<https://www.pakistanmtdf.org/images/stories/project-documents/BalochistanDevIssuesandProspects.pdf>).

<sup>28</sup>Information included in this paragraph is taken from World Bank, op. cit., pp. 7-9. This document also notes that Pakistan’s water economy is highly integrated due to the Indus Basin Irrigation System, whereas Balochistan’s water economy is highly segmented.

The remaining approximately 3,000 CPI schemes span a wide range of interventions for addressing community-specific needs. Not surprisingly, approximately 80 percent of the schemes focused on water for drinking or irrigation purposes (divided almost equally between irrigation-related and drinking water schemes). Depending on the situation prevailing in the village, BRSP helped install hand pumps or water supply systems with storage and pipelines for drinking water in 1,123 locations. Through another 1,193 schemes BRSP supported various interventions for increasing irrigation water supply and using water efficiently. These included karez improvement,<sup>29</sup> efficient irrigation systems, soil conservation through land levelling and reclamation, water conservation through mini dams, and the use of solar and wind energy for irrigation water.

In addition, BRSP provided water and sanitation facilities in 561 schools. On a smaller scale, it carried out repairs in 44 government basic health units and 4 district headquarters. In some cases (57 projects), BRSP assisted communities with other aspects of village development. These included small roads and culverts, community centres and 4 model villages.

The CPI programme has engaged approximately 3,200 community organizations so far and benefitted an estimated 1.5 million villagers across the province. The cost of the schemes was PKR 2,779 million, to which the communities contributed PKR 354 million (11 percent of the total capital cost). In addition, the communities have taken on the substantial burden of looking after the operation and maintenance of their projects. This contribution is not generally taken into account when estimating the community contribution to local infrastructure. A comprehensive study estimated that the community's share could reach 50 percent of the total capital and operation and maintenance cost over the life of such projects.<sup>30</sup>

## Community Institutions and Community Infrastructure: A Symbiotic Relationship

The achievements described above are due to the partnership between BRSP and the communities, and the way BRSP empowers and communicates with the communities. The principles are the same as those described in the chapter on poverty reduction, and the process is also one of dialogue. In the first dialogue, which focuses on project identification, BRSP explains the terms of partnership, including the community's responsibility for identifying a project that would benefit everyone or almost everyone, resolving any dispute that might arise, helping BRSP's engineers with the survey based on their local knowledge, working on the project and managing the implementation, reporting receipts and expenditures to



the community organization, and taking responsibility for operation and maintenance.

The community's agreement to accept the terms of partnership leads to the second dialogue (project preparation), which focuses on the technical and social feasibility of the priority project. BRSP engineers and social mobilizers are responsible for working with the communities, first, on a pre-feasibility to assess costs and benefits, technical feasibility and the capacity and willingness of the community institution to implement the project according to the terms of partnership. This is followed by a full feasibility, during which BRSP prepares a detailed design in consultation with knowledgeable villagers nominated by the community and estimates the project cost (supported by a bill of quantities).

The third dialogue is for project appraisal through a participatory process. BRSP explains the implementation requirements, financing and cost-sharing to the community in a meeting of all members of the community organization. This information is discussed in detail, after which, subject to the agreement of all concerned, a project

<sup>29</sup>A karez system consists of a series of wells and linking underground channels that uses gravity to bring ground water to the surface. The source of water is often at a long distance from the karez. The system is a public good managed through traditional arrangements, which may differ from one region to another.

<sup>30</sup>Maliha Hussein, Hussain Wali Khan, Zahur Alam and Tariq Husain, "An evaluation of irrigation projects undertaken by the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme in the Gilgit District of Northern Pakistan," in *Public Intervention in Farmer-Managed Irrigation Systems*; Kathmandu, International Water Management Institute and the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Nepal, 1987.

document is signed by BRSP and the community organization. The community will set up committees for implementation, audit, procurement and operation and maintenance, all of which are accountable to the community organization as a whole. BRSP will release payment in instalments through banking channels after verifying the work done and expenditure incurred and receiving a resolution from the community organization requesting the instalment.

As would be evident, the process of discussion among community members and with BRSP has both technical and social dimensions, which contribute to institution building as well a project that is well conceived and implemented and maintained as planned. Project design, implementation and operation and maintenance benefit from in-depth community engagement in all aspects of infrastructure development. In the process, community organization is strengthened in terms of its managerial and technical capacity and collective decision making. Thus, community infrastructure and community institutions are symbiotically linked to each other in a way that each is able to strengthen and benefit from the other.

### Diverse and Significant Benefits

The most comprehensive study of the benefits of BRSP-funded community infrastructure projects covered 180 diverse schemes completed in seven districts.<sup>31</sup> It is based on a survey that included interviews with 590 beneficiary households. The survey findings report the perceptions of community members:

- 90 percent of the beneficiary households were satisfied with the way the scheme was implemented.
- 94 percent reported that the schemes had a positive impact on women's health 84 percent made this observation regarding men's health.
- 59 percent felt that there had been a positive impact on girls' education and 71 percent said the same about boys' education.
- 87 percent of the women respondents reported an increase in women's leisure time due to the reduced time required in fetching water and the increase in household incomes.
- Irrigation and land and water conservation projects contributed to large increases in rural incomes and 36 percent of the households reported greater availability of food for their consumption.



While the magnitude of benefits varies by location, these findings are broadly consistent with those reported in an evaluation of a project implemented by the United Nations Development Programme in Balochistan with the same approach as BRSP's.<sup>32</sup> The evaluation found that:

- Drinking water supply schemes, as in other deprived villages of the country, substantially reduced the daily burden of women and children who normally bring water from long distances. Some of them had to spend up to 2-3 hours a day bringing water on hand driven trolleys and donkeys.
- The irrigation schemes led to reduction of losses (due to reservoirs, pipes and lining) and increases in irrigated area. The increases in income and food security expected as a result of additional irrigation water were remarkable.
- Water harvesting helped achieve quantum increases in household food and fodder availability.

For people outside a village, CPI projects are not eye-catching and they seldom attract the attention of decision makers or the mass media. For those in a village, however, each of them is an answer to a prayer, as the deprived gain access to the necessities of life, including water, food and relief from back-breaking chores, which matter most in their circumstances. Step by step, they go on to make the most of it: they develop land, produce more, improve their health, increase their income and send more of their children to school. As a community, they can take pride in their achievement and reinforce the hope they need to survive in a harsh environment.

<sup>31</sup>Rahatullah Baig, Perception of Communities about the Functionality and Impact of PPAF-funded Community Physical Infrastructure Projects Implemented by BRSP; Quetta: BRSP, n.d.  
<sup>32</sup>Tariq Husain and Muhammad Afzal Qaisrani, "Evaluation of the Area Development Programme Balochistan (ADPB-II)"; Islamabad: UNDP, May 2010.

## CHAPTER-4

# Mainstreaming Madaris



## Access to Education in Balochistan

Children's education is an emotional issue, one that lies at the core of individual and household values and well-being. It is also a matter of human rights, national interest and the vision for peace, development and social justice. All these aspects of education are felt particularly acutely when the situation is as dismal as it is in Balochistan. The province lags behind the other provinces of Pakistan, which lags behind comparator countries in terms of its achievements in education.

The official estimates for 2016-17 are that 70 percent of the children in Balochistan who were in the age group that should be in primary or secondary school (classes 1 to 12) were out of school;<sup>33</sup> 78 percent of the girls and 64 percent of the boys were in this category.<sup>34</sup> The estimated enrolment in these classes was 0.84 million and the number of out of school children in the corresponding age group was 1.91 million.<sup>35</sup> In other words, for every enrolled child, there were 2.3 children out of school. There were 1.1 out of school children for every child enrolled at the primary level, and 3.7 out of school for every child enrolled at the middle and high school levels. More detailed data are given in Annex 5.

The adult literacy rate in Balochistan (for the population that is 15 years and older) is 38 percent (18 percent for women and 56 percent for men).<sup>36</sup> Access to education is a much bigger problem in Balochistan than it is in the rest of the country (refer to table): only 64 percent of the primary school-entrance age population (and 43 percent of the girls) enters the first grade; the gross enrolment rate at the primary level is 58 percent; and at the middle and secondary levels it is only 18 percent. The gaps between the province and the rest of the country are large.



## Deeni Madaris in Perspective

As in the rest of the country, many parents confronting lack of access to mainstream public and private schools look to deeni madaris for their children's education.<sup>37</sup> BRSP estimates that 320,000 children are enrolled in 4,000 registered madaris across the province.<sup>38</sup> A recent in-depth study of madaris concluded that "besides the anticipated general devotion to religion, households' economic concerns appeared to be a main motivation for Pakistani parents in sending their children to madrasahs instead of public schools".<sup>39</sup> This conclusion is consistent with BRSP's experience. The study observed:

The majority of the parents send their children to madrasah because they can't afford to educate them in the mainstream schools. The madaris provide free education and free food, clothes and accommodation. For some parents there is also a religious motivation, but there is no resistance to general education and training in skills.  
– Anwar Kasi, Member of the BRSP Board of Directors

Table 2: Indicators of access to education, Balochistan and Pakistan, 2016-17

Indicators of Access to Education	Balochistan			Pakistan		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
GIR in Primary Education (%)	82	43	64	104	92	98
GER (%) in:						
□ Primary Education	70	43	58	104	90	97
□ Middle to Secondary Education	22	13	18	47	38	43

Notes:

<sup>33</sup>The Gross Intake Ratio (GIR) is defined as the total number of new entrants in the first grade of primary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population at the official primary school-entrance age. A high GIR indicates, in general, a high degree of access to primary education. As this calculation includes all new entrants to the first grade, including over-aged and under-aged children entering primary school for the first time, the GIR can be more than 100 percent.

<sup>34</sup>The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is the most commonly used indicator to measure coverage. It shows the overall coverage of an education system in relation to the population eligible for participation in the enrolment in schools.

Source: NEMIS-AEPAM, Pakistan Education Statistics, 2016-17, pp. 20-21.

<sup>35</sup>The corresponding percentage for Pakistan as a whole was 44 percent (22.84 million children).

<sup>36</sup>Unless otherwise stated, data reported in this and the next paragraph are taken from NEMIS-AEPAM (National Education Management Information System, Academy of Educational Planning and Management), Pakistan Education Statistics, 2016-17; Islamabad: Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Government of Pakistan, March 2018 (<http://library.aepam.edu.pk/Books/Pakistan%20Education%20Statistics%202016-17.pdf>).

<sup>37</sup>This estimated enrolment is for public schools and other public and private sector schools, including deeni madaris in the public and private sectors. "Other public" means public institutions run by organizations other than the provincial education department (e.g., cantonment boards and provincial education foundations).

<sup>38</sup>Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2014-15 (Key indicators: literacy); Islamabad: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan ([http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/pslm/publications/PSLM\\_2014-15\\_National-Provincial-District\\_report.pdf](http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/pslm/publications/PSLM_2014-15_National-Provincial-District_report.pdf)).

<sup>39</sup>"Madaris" is the plural of "madrasah" and "deeni" means religious. Deeni madaris are defined as educational institutions in which formal religious education is provided (NEMIS-AEPAM, Pakistan Education Statistics, 2016-17, p. 183). This report (p. 12) estimates that there are 32,272 deeni madaris in Pakistan, out of which 3 percent are in the public sector and 97 percent in the private sector. Madaris enrolment was an estimated 2.26 million, 97 percent of it in the private sector.

<sup>40</sup>This is the official count of registered madaris. It is estimated that more than 2,000 unregistered madaris are also functioning in the province.

<sup>41</sup>David Vestenskov (ed.), The Role of Madrasahs: Assessing Parental Choice, Financial Pipelines and Recent Developments in Religious Education in Pakistan & Afghanistan; Copenhagen: Royal Danish Defence College, 2018 (p. 11) ([https://pure.fak.dk/ws/files/7378697/The\\_Role\\_of\\_Madrasahs.pdf](https://pure.fak.dk/ws/files/7378697/The_Role_of_Madrasahs.pdf)). These findings are based on a survey of 558 families in 14 cities across Pakistan to identify their motivations for sending their children to madrasahs instead of public schools.

... an almost remarkable equality in choice among a majority of the parents interviewed regarding the preferences for public school or madressahs. [F]amilies with two children or more often have children in both types of school. Madressahs in Pakistan – contrary to popular belief – are not heavily funded from abroad but mainly funded by donations from local communities.<sup>40</sup> The latter can ... be viewed as local recognition of a failed public school system in parallel with a continuously self-sustaining religious educational sphere that increases in strength due to the perception (recognition) of a failed public school system. [M]adnessahs ... cannot be viewed merely as hotbeds for terrorism but also as an alternative (or rather the only option) for securing education for children in many areas.<sup>41</sup>

The madressah system has been present in South Asia since the twelfth century. One expert has explained how it worked and then changed with the arrival of the British:

The madressahs were largely informal in their method of teaching, with the curriculum being rather flexible in a combination of rationalist (such as mathematics and logic) and religious subjects. The establishment of British colonial rule in India dramatically changed the role of madressah education in South Asia, making it irrelevant to the state and economy by introducing Western institutions and English as the official language. This led to a major shift in the curriculum in madressahs toward a strict focus on religious aspects.<sup>42</sup>

Continuing with this legacy, today's madaris focus solely on religious education, with few aspirations and marketable skills for the graduates beyond serving as religious clerics. The supply of these graduates far exceeds the demand, rendering them largely unemployable. This pushes them further into economic marginalization and exposes them to indoctrination from extremist outfits. At the same time, the madaris lack formal recognition by government education departments and remain deprived of the benefits of mainstream education, including basic amenities, physical infrastructure and contemporary teaching<sup>43</sup>.

## Engaging Religious Leaders and the Government

BRSP and a group of ulama (religious leaders) engaged each other in 2013 to discuss how to work together on the problems of the madaris. BRSP explained its approach and offered to work in an inclusive manner with all religious

Hundreds of thousands of madressah graduates are unemployed. BRSP would like to see that every child leaving a madressah has the skills to fit into society. The idea came from religious leaders.  
– Anwar Kasi, Member of the BRSP Board of Directors

### Text Box 4: Madressah Reform Recommendations of a 2018 Royal Danish Defence College Research Study

- Prioritize investment in public education (the public education system needs a significant overhaul).
- Build trust with madressahs through financial and technical support (it is vital that the government espouse accommodative policies towards madressahs).
- Ensure madressah registration.
- Encourage and facilitate transparency and accountability in madressah financing.
- Initiate teaching as well as curriculum reform (all madressah curricula should be government approved and must include scientific subjects).
- Ensure effective communication with madressahs (a single body should be nominated to deal with madressahs).
- Streamline donation flows to madressahs.
- Provide security to madressahs.

parties and sects. One group of ulama decided to work with BRSP, while another one did not. BRSP arranged a consultation with ulama, educationists and heads of madaris and mainstream schools that led to a governance and consultation committee, which was officially recognized and notified by the Government of Balochistan, Education Department, in July 2015, and then re-notified in March 2018 as the Balochistan Madrassa Education Council. The council is chaired by the provincial Minister of Education and includes representatives of all relevant government organizations, BRSP and deeni madaris.

Working with ulama and the government has been central to BRSP's approach to mainstreaming madaris. Ulama have moral authority in society by virtue of their religious position and help generate ownership for change among deeni madaris and the communities they serve. Government organizations deal with a wide range of matters that are essential for regulating and mainstreaming madressah education. These include policy reform, madressah registration, curriculum development, textbook publication and teacher training. With the benefit of hindsight, it can be said that BRSP's consultative and inclusive approach has been consistent with the kind of enlightened thinking towards madressah reform that many experts have signalled or advocated after a great deal of research and comparative analysis across countries.

Essentially, BRSP, with its limited mandate and resources, is mediating state-madressah engagement in a context where this has not been effective in recent history. For example, its approach, evidently, is a sub-set of a comprehensive set of recommendations for reform put forward in a 2018 report of the Royal Danish Defence College (Text Box 4).<sup>44</sup> BRSP cannot take the place of the government, which alone has the authority to consider such recommendations, but it is contributing by building

<sup>40</sup>This is consistent with the finding of NEMIS-AEPAM, Pakistan Education Statistics, 2016-17.

<sup>41</sup>Vestenskov, op. cit., pp. 11-12. The findings regarding funding sources are based on interviews with administrative staff at 77 madaris, madressah board officials, donors and relevant government departments.

<sup>42</sup>Masooda Bano, "Engaging madrasas to meet the EFA targets: Evidence from South Asia," 8th International Conference on Islamic Economics and Finance, Doha, Qatar, 19-21 December, 2011 (<http://www.iiefpedia.com/english/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Masooda-Bano.pdf>).

<sup>43</sup>BRSP, "Youth Empowerment Through Bridging the Gap Between the Traditional and Formal Education Systems and Imparting Livelihood Skills in Balochistan," Final Project Report, July 2013 to July 2014 ("YEP Final Report," for short).

<sup>44</sup>Vestenskov, op. cit., pp. 12-13.

trust, providing technical and financial support, encouraging madressah registration (BRSP does not work with unregistered madaris), and facilitating effective communication.

At another level, the introduction of an abbreviated and accelerated primary-level mainstream curriculum for madaris, described below, is an example consistent with the aliya (reformed) madaris of Bangladesh.<sup>45</sup> The combination of religious and secular subjects in the aliya madaris has been described thus by a specialist on madressah reform: “Aliya madressahs are ones that have registered to receive state support, in return for covering the same secular subjects as taught in secular primary, secondary, and post-secondary schools. They differ from secular schools by accommodating Islamic subjects, and so allocate less time for the teaching of secular subjects.”<sup>46</sup> Innovations such as these make mainstreaming more likely.

### Strategy for Mainstreaming Madaris

Two projects – and a considerable amount of sensitivity, consultation, collaboration and hard work – have provided the foundations for mainstreaming madaris during 2013-2018. The first project (2013-2016) was funded by the Pakistan Afghanistan Tajikistan Regional Integration Programme (PATRIP) Foundation of Germany.<sup>47</sup> It was called Youth Empowerment through Bridging the Gap between Traditional and Formal Education Systems and Imparting Livelihood Skills in Balochistan, shortened to Youth Empowerment Project (YEP). The second project (2017-2018) was funded by the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) through the German Embassy and called Providing Access to Formal Education for Madaris (PAFEM).

YEP set the stage for PAFEM. It started in Quetta District and expanded to Pishin Districts in its third year. It covered 52 madaris (34 in Quetta and 18 in Pishin) and 38 formal schools (24 in Quetta and 14 in Pishin), a total of 90 institutions. It focused, first, on the more acceptable activities and building trust and multi-stakeholder committees in both districts and at the provincial level. PAFEM worked in Quetta and Pishin to build on YEP, expand the scope of change and enhance government ownership. It focused on 34 madaris and 24 schools in Quetta and 18 madaris and 14 schools in Pishin, a total of 90. It formalized high-level participation from Government of Balochistan institutions in support of madressah reform and bringing government-approved formal curriculum, endorsed by religious scholars, into deeni madaris for the first time.

Taken together, these two projects lead to a strategy, a theory of change, which BRSP and its partners among government departments, religious scholars and school

administrators have found to be feasible and promising. This is illustrated in the theory of change diagram below and summarised here. Additional information on the interventions, and the pathways to change they have created, is provided below. The expected long-term results of this strategy – the facilitated process of change – are understood in terms of reduced poverty and enhanced peace and stability. It is understood that these impacts will take a long time to materialize. The thinking and actions leading to the expected impacts set the directions of change, and change can be assessed over time through a chain of results.

The results chain starts with BRSP’s human resources, operational systems, inclusive and participatory approach, and financing and implementing partnerships, which provided the foundations on which the madressah mainstreaming initiative has been constructed. Working through multi-stakeholder governance and management committees has been the key, and something that is central to the ethos of BRSP. It has also helped greatly that BRSP is an independent, non-partisan organization that is seen to be devoted to serving the province and accountable to the laws of the land. Contributions such as these are described as inputs in Figure 1.

Inputs are converted through project activities into outputs, which are also included in Figure 1, with additional information given below. In this connection, extensive and time-consuming consultation with stakeholders has been essential in working out what to do in order to help the madaris in a way that they considered useful and acceptable. This led to a long period of confidence-building discussion and action in the initial stages, and was also the modus operandi subsequently. It was considered important, in the beginning, to facilitate children from madaris and formal schools, which are essentially two different worlds, to interact with each other in a somewhat informal setting.

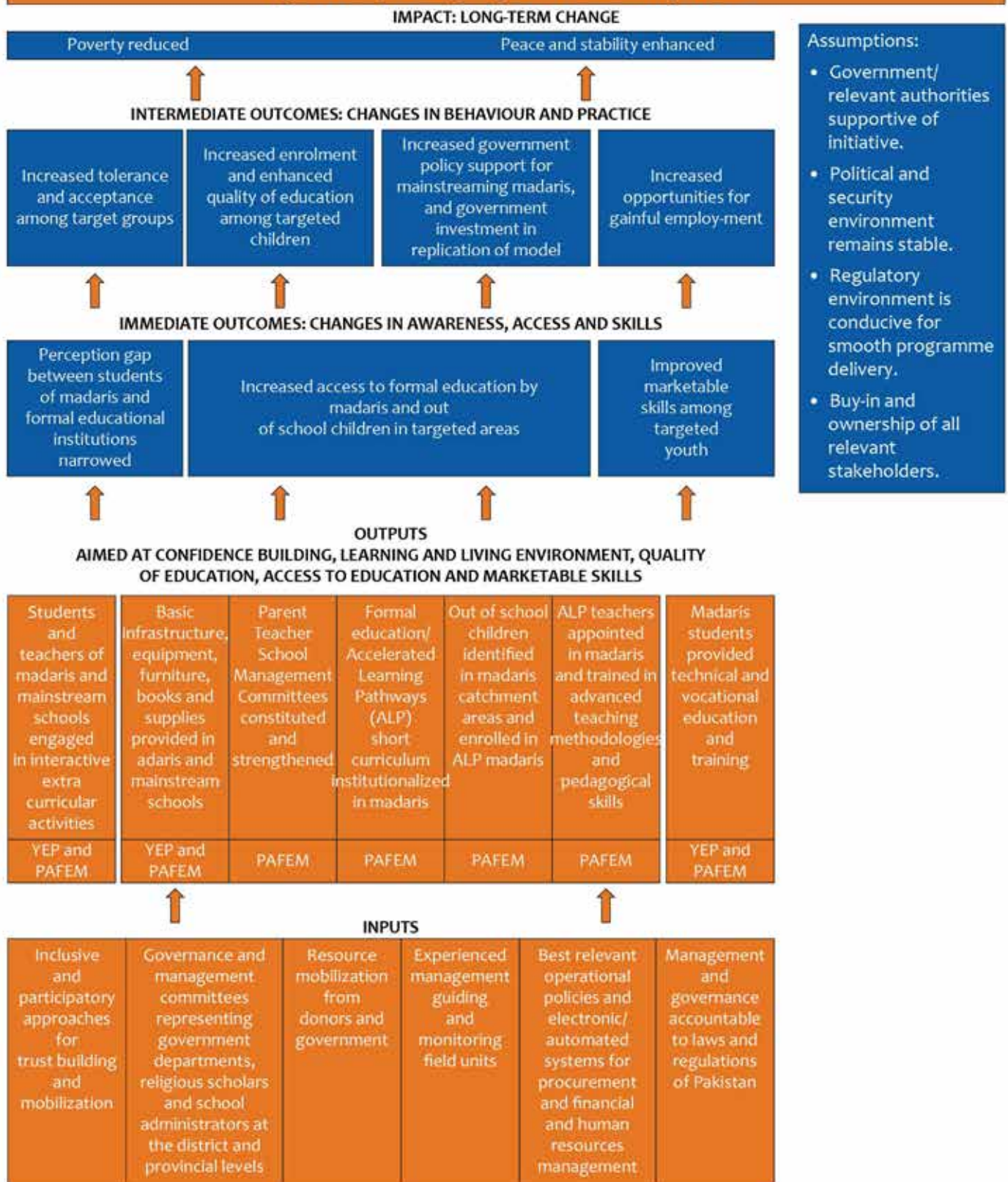


<sup>45</sup>The other type of madaris in Bangladesh are called quomi (unreformed).

<sup>46</sup>Bano, op. cit.

<sup>47</sup>The PATRIP Foundation is an independent institution that pools resources for Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Pakistan to promote integration and enhance cross-border cooperation and exchange between the three countries. The Foundation was set up in November 2011 by the German state-owned KfW Development Bank on behalf of the German Federal Foreign Office.

Figure 1: Theory of change diagram for mainstreaming madaris



- Assumptions:**
- Government/ relevant authorities supportive of initiative.
  - Political and security environment remains stable.
  - Regulatory environment is conducive for smooth programme delivery.
  - Buy-in and ownership of all relevant stakeholders.

The added value of this project is its ability to take every stakeholder on board. It was a difficult project and there were many deadlocks, but the participatory approach of the project steered through the hurdles and took everybody on board. Formation of [governance and management committees] and inclusion of every stakeholder from identification towards implementation guaranteed the consensus based environment  
– YEP Evaluation

Thus, the programme sponsored several extra-curricular activities for both groups of students, with the aim of narrowing the gap in perceptions between them.

That was followed by interventions that provided a wide range of goods and services to both madaris and formal schools in YEP, and to madaris exclusively in PAFEM. The multi-stakeholder governance and management committees played a key role in identifying the madaris and schools where assistance was provided, subject to certain selection criteria,<sup>48</sup> and in steering implementation. In the process, BRSP's social mobilization teams engaged political, religious and community leaders, government officials, and madressah and school management to explain the programme's motives and anticipated outcomes, and confirm their endorsement and ownership.

The outputs produced by the programme were aimed at improving the learning environment for madressah and formal school students, the living environment for madressah students and teachers, the quality of education, access to education (particularly for out of school children), and marketable skills for madressah graduates. These outputs are expected to generate certain changes in awareness, access and skills, which are called immediate outcomes in the theory of change diagram:

- Perception gap between students of madaris and formal educational institutions narrowed.
- Increased access to formal education by madaris and out of school children in targeted areas.
- Improved marketable skills among targeted youth.

While impacts are generated over the long term, outcomes are often observed in the short term and medium term. The immediate outcomes mentioned above are expected in the short term, and they are expected to lead to the following intermediate outcomes in the medium term:

- Increased tolerance and acceptance of formal education among target groups.
- Increased enrolment and enhanced quality of education among targeted children.
- Increased government policy support for mainstreaming madaris, and government investment in replication of model.
- Increased opportunities for gainful employment.

<sup>48</sup>The selection criteria were: registration with a relevant public sector department; willingness of management to participate in the project; limited geographical scope; number of students greater than or equal to 100; and, institutions must be in public buildings. In addition, proposed activities were subject to assessments undertaken by BRSP's social sector specialists and engineers.

## Things That Matter: What the Programme Delivered

What the programme delivered over five years in pursuit of its strategy includes outputs that only the people affected by neglect and lack of resources could have pointed out. Imagine: students sitting on the floor in structures that are classrooms only in name; lacking basics such as chairs, tables, stationery, wash rooms and drinking water, not to mention computers and labs; spending day after day in these conditions learning little that would lead to jobs and acceptance in the society from which they have been frozen out; and teachers sharing this environment, yet doing the best they can with little hope for change. BRSP and its partners delivered what mattered to these students and teachers, as summarized here.



YEP reached 55,111 students (12,074 girls and 43,037 boys) and 314 teachers (28 females and 286 male). The corresponding figures for PAFEM are 5,000 students (675 girls and 4,325 boys) and 147 teachers (34 females and 113 male). The outreach of specific interventions is mentioned below:



- 55,111 students, including 43,037 boys and 12,074 girls engaged in sports events and extra-curricular activities such as speech contest, essay writing, competition and sports events.
- 41,397 beneficiaries of infrastructure/civil works, including construction, repair and renovation of classrooms; sun-shade, stairs and boundary walls; and brick soiling, concrete flooring, white-wash/painting, and gas and electricity fitting.
- 48,545 beneficiaries of water and sanitation facilities, including ablution places, washrooms, washbasin and other amenities.
- Exposure visits for 632 including 318 students, 314 teachers and Balochistan Advisory Council for Education (BACE) members and other key stakeholders of the project.
- 788 including 488 boys and 300 girls' madrassah students trained in technical and vocational skills, with boy trained in UPS making, refrigeration air-conditioner (RAC) repairing, mobile repairing, auto-mechanic and electrician and computer learning, and girls in tailoring, cooking, embroidery, beautician and basic computer course.
- 188 teachers (119 males and 69 females) capacitated on Life Skills Based Education.
- 5,000 students of 8-14 age group (675 girls and 4,325 boys) and 147 teachers (113 males and 34 females) engaged in support of institutionalizing the Accelerated Learning Pathways (ALP) initiative.
- The programme has contributed to bringing out-of-school and madaris children into the formal education system, and preparing them to appear in formal education board examinations and obtain certification endorsed by the education department. Six thousand primary children are expected to graduate and receive certification recognized by the Government of Balochistan. This formal recognition enables students to apply for jobs in the government and private sectors.

The introduction of ALP through PAFEM was one of the most challenging steps for mainstreaming madaris. BRSP engaged extensively with a range of stakeholders in the process, including the provincial Education Department, BACE, the Provincial Institute for Teacher Education (PITE), Balochistan Madrassah Education Council, education experts, community members and religious scholars, to ensure the effective integration of the ALP model in targeted madaris. The ALP curriculum offers English, Urdu and mathematics. The curriculum was subjected to an initial review by the ulama council prior to being approved and published by the Balochistan Textbook Board.

In parallel, BRSP identified ALP teachers and collaborated with PITE for their training on advanced teaching



methodology and pedagogical skills and certification. As a supplement to training, ALP teachers also participated in exposure visits to well-reputed institutes, universities and madaris in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad to develop their knowledge and learning on the practical application of ALP. The project supplied ALP books, stationery and supplies to all the 90 targeted madaris. This innovative fast-paced education model helped 5,000 to 9,000 students, aged between 8-14 years complete their studies within a shorter timeframe, allowing participating students to compete among those from formal educational institutions.

Despite these impressive achievements, however, there has been lack of significant female representation in leadership roles and decision-making forums where women can articulate their specific educational needs and concerns. According to the YEP end of project evaluation report, "gender balance and women's participation in decision-making needs to be given due consideration". In the Balochistan context, where women's representation in all areas of the public sphere is drastically low, their



This project has not just highlighted that there is a need for mainstreaming youth from traditional institutions but also persuaded the religious leaders and other stakeholders that formal education and good learning environment is the fundamental right of every child  
 – YEP Evaluation

inclusion in governance activities, such as participation in meetings or focus group discussions, steering women-led education committees, and making connections with the government at local, district or provincial levels will continue to remain a challenge.

BRSP has provided training in life skills, which has given women confidence by means of enhancing their self-esteem and their communication and decision making skills. It has also provided vocational skills training, enabling women to earn, which contributes to self-reliance. In addition, at the community level, BRSP has applied a gender-responsive approach that prioritizes women's voices and promotes inclusive education, thus leading to increased participation and contribution of women and girls in community-led initiatives and parent-teacher school management committees.

### The Big Picture: Reaching Out of School Children Throughout the Province

BRSP's interventions at the local level, ranging from community awareness and alliance building to strengthening madaris capacities and transitioning mosques into schools has led to an increase in the demand for education within the targeted settlement areas. On the supply side, government ownership of BRSP's initiatives, combined with broad changes in educational policies and investment to expand the mainstream model to other areas of Balochistan means that more out of school students in the province will have access to formal education and higher prospects for gainful employment.

Very few development initiatives combine community-level actions with policy reform ambitions, and the madaris mainstreaming programme is one of them. Its integrated approach to mainstream madaris through institutional strengthening and education policy reforms has led to positive effects for the targeted communities as well as for the education sector as a whole. In collaboration with religious leaders and the Education Department, BRSP has effectively incorporated formal education into traditional institutions, appointed trained teachers and advocated with Government of Balochistan for formal recognition of madaris education.

Recognizing that provision of educational institutions to all areas of Balochistan is unattainable in the short term, BRSP, inspired by the cost-effective, service delivery model, is coordinating with BACE and other government bodies to extend formal education to all 23,000 settlements across Balochistan. In the 13,000 hamlets where primary schools exist, BRSP proposes to integrate



ALP into their curriculum; while in the (10,000-12,000) far-flung areas where no schools are available, BRSP aspires to use local mosques as schools, based on the formal education curriculum, duly recognized by the Government of Balochistan.

Furthermore, BRSP and BACE have successfully led advocacy efforts with the Government of Balochistan to add mainstreaming of madaris in the Balochistan Education Sector Plan (BESP) and allocate funds towards this end. For the first time in its history, PKR 50 million was allocated in the Public Sector Development Programme (2017-18) for the mainstreaming of 100 madaris in Balochistan. Given the positive reception by the Balochistan government, it is anticipated that the Education Department will gradually increase the budget to reach all 4,000 registered madaris across Balochistan. Finally, BRSP effectively advocated for regularizing madaris through proper registration, and having their curriculum formally endorsed by the education department. BRSP envisions registration of all 6,000 madaris across Balochistan through the provincial Education Department in the coming years.



The YEP project was the first of its kind in the province of Balochistan as far as approach and design is concerned. It has achieved significant success in terms of opening the gates of traditional educational institutions to interventions for development work and creating an acceptance of entry into these institutions.  
– YEP Evaluation

These accomplishments at the institutional, community and policy levels have been well documented and lauded, with the Government of Balochistan taking ownership to advance the mainstream model to traditional institutions in other districts in the province, as well as allocating funds in their policy document for replication of this model initially to 100 madaris. The value of ALP as an alternate, flexible area of study for out of school children has gained momentum in Balochistan among other stakeholders.

The madaris mainstreaming programme has led to transformational innovations in the education sector. The YEP and PAFEM education models were the first of their kind in Pakistan, and their potential for replication and sustainability has garnered serious interest and



appreciation among policy makers, communities, students, teachers, government departments, ulama and civil society.

# ANNEXURES

## Annex 1: Balochistan Population Data, 2017

Population of Balochistan, by division and district, 2017									
Province		Division		District	Total Population	No. of Household	Average Household	Percent Rural	
Balochistan	1	Kalat	1	Awaran	121,680	18,094	6.7	72	
			2	Kalat	412,232	55,497	7.4	82	
			3	Kharan	156,152	24,035	6.5	71	
			4	Khuzdar	802,207	120,405	6.7	65	
			5	Lasbela	574,292	93,165	6.2	51	
			6	Mastung	266,461	38,801	6.9	87	
			7	Washuk	176,206	31,540	5.6	88	
			8	Gwadar	263,514	39,922	6.6	39	
			9	Kech	909,116	138,403	6.6	67	
			10	Panjgur	316,385	42,628	7.4	75	
		2	Makran	11	Jaffarabad	513,813	79,273	6.5	69
	12			Jhal Magsi	149,225	25,047	6.0	95	
	13			Kachhi	237,030	30,140	7.9	85	
	14			Nasirabad	490,538	66,681	7.4	80	
	15			Sohbatpur	200,538	30,523	6.6	94	
	16			Chagai	226,008	31,081	7.3	93	
		3	Nasirabad	17	Killa Abdullah	757,578	97,210	7.8	80
	18			Nushki	178,796	22,662	7.9	74	
	19			Pishin	736,481	128,080	5.8	81	
	20			Quetta	2,275,699	276,711	8.2	56	
	21			Dera Bugti	312,603	46,585	6.7	68	
		4	Quetta	22	Harnai	97,017	17,353	5.6	75
	23			Kohlu	214,350	26,827	8.0	92	
	24			Lehri	118,046	18,651	6.3	86	
	25			Sibi	135,572	20,228	6.7	52	
	26			Ziarat	160,422	28,999	5.5	98	
	27			Barkhan	171,556	26,041	6.6	93	
		5	Sibi	28	Killa Saifullah	342,814	53,478	6.4	82
	29			Loralai	397,400	55,876	7.1	84	
	30			Musakhel	167,017	24,826	6.7	92	
	31			Sherani	153,116	21,213	7.2	100	
	32			Zhob	310,544	45,962	6.8	85	
	6	Zhob	27	Barkhan	171,556	26,041	6.6	93	
28			Killa Saifullah	342,814	53,478	6.4	82		
29			Loralai	397,400	55,876	7.1	84		
30			Musakhel	167,017	24,826	6.7	92		
31			Sherani	153,116	21,213	7.2	100		
32			Zhob	310,544	45,962	6.8	85		

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, "Provisional Results of Census, 2017"  
 ([http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/PAKISTAN%20TEH%20WISE%20FOR%20WEB%20CENSUS\\_2017.pdf](http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/PAKISTAN%20TEH%20WISE%20FOR%20WEB%20CENSUS_2017.pdf)).

## Annex 2: Indicators of Health, Education, Drinking Water and Sanitation Services for Balochistan and Pakistan, 2014-15

The following tables are based on the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey (PSLM) conducted by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan ([http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/pslm/publications/PSLM\\_2014-15\\_National-Provincial-District\\_report.pdf](http://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/pslm/publications/PSLM_2014-15_National-Provincial-District_report.pdf)).

### Health Services Indicators

Percentage of children aged 12-23 months that have been fully immunized								
Area	Male		Female		Both		Female/Male	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Pakistan	61	82	60	82	60	82	98%	100%
Balochistan	30	52	25	50	27	51	83%	96%
<b>Urban areas</b>								
□ Pakistan	70	86	69	86	70	86	99%	100%
□ Balochistan	47	67	48	73	48	70	102%	109%
<b>Rural areas</b>								
□ Pakistan	57	81	56	80	56	80	98%	99%
□ Balochistan	23	47	17	42	20	45	74%	89%

Notes:

A: based on record.

B: based on recall and record. According to the PSLM, "Parents often do not have the children's immunization/ health cards with full information on vaccinations received. Immunization rates based only on the information given on immunization cards (record) may therefore underestimate coverage."

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 3.4.

Pre-natal consultations during the last pregnancy as percentage of all currently married women aged 15-49 years who had given birth in the last three years	
Area	Percentage
Pakistan	73
Balochistan	47
<b>Urban areas</b>	
□ Pakistan	86
□ Balochistan	65
<b>Rural areas</b>	
□ Pakistan	67
□ Balochistan	41

Source: PSLM 2014-15, heading 3.5 (Pre- and post-natal care), and Table 3.10.

Pregnant women that have received tetanus toxoid injection	
Area	Percentage
Pakistan	75
Balochistan	34
<b>Urban areas</b>	
□ Pakistan	87
□ Balochistan	55
<b>Rural areas</b>	
□ Pakistan	70
□ Balochistan	26

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 3.11.

**Distribution of facilities where children were delivered (percentage of cases)**

Area	Home	Government facility	Private facility
Pakistan	45	17	38
Balochistan	64	24	12
<b>Urban areas</b>			
□ Pakistan	24	25	51
□ Balochistan	43	42	15
<b>Rural areas</b>			32
□ Pakistan	55	13	
□ Balochistan	71	18	10

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 3.12.

**Distribution of persons assisting with delivery (percentage of cases)**

Area	Doctor	Nurse, midwife or ady health visitor	Other*
Pakistan	47	12	41
Balochistan	23	15	63
<b>Urban areas</b>			
□ Pakistan	68	11	20
□ Balochistan	37	21	42
<b>Rural areas</b>			
□ Pakistan	37	12	52
□ Balochistan	17	13	69

Note:

\*Includes traditional birth attendant, dai, family member, neighbour and friend.

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 3.12.

**Types of health providers consulted (percentage of households needing consultation in past two weeks)**

Area	Private dispensary or hospital	Public dispensary or hospital	Rural health centre or basic health unit	Other*
Pakistan	70	20	3	6
Balochistan	61	28	4	7
<b>Urban areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	76	19	0	4
□ Balochistan	64	32	1	4
<b>Rural areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	66	21	5	7
□ Balochistan	60	27	5	8

Note:

\*Includes hakeem, homeopath, herbalist, chemist, pharmacy, saina/saini and others.

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 3.3.

**Population that has ever attended school, 2014-15 (percentage of population 10 years and older)**

Area	Male	Female	Both	Female/Male
Pakistan	72	51	62	71%
Balochistan	60	25	44	42%
<b>Urban areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	83	71	77	86%
□ Balochistan	74	43	59	58%
<b>Rural areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	66	40	53	61%
□ Balochistan	55	17	38	31%

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 2.1.

**Percentage distribution of population that has completed primary level or higher (percentage of population 10 years and older)**

Area	Male	Female	Both	Female/Male
Pakistan	60	43	52	72%
Balochistan	48	19	35	40%
<b>Urban areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	73	63	68	86%
□ Balochistan	62	33	48	53%
<b>Rural areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	53	31	42	58%
□ Balochistan	43	13	30	30%

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 2.2.

**Net enrolment rate (percentage) at the primary level (age 5-9), excluding katchi class.**

Area	Male	Female	Both	Female/Male
Pakistan	60	53	57	88%
Balochistan	56	35	46	63%
<b>Urban areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	67	66	66	99%
□ Balochistan	66	56	62	85%
<b>Rural areas</b>				
□ Pakistan	57	48	53	84%
□ Balochistan	52	27	40	52%

Note:

The net enrolment rate is the number of children attending primary level (classes 1-5) aged 5-9 years divided by children aged 5-9 years multiplied by 100. Enrolment in katchi is excluded.

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 2.6(b).

**Adult literacy rate (percentage), population 15 years and older**

Area	Male	Female	Both	Female/Male
Pakistan	68	45	57	66.8%
Balochistan	56	18	38	32%

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Key indicators: literacy.

## Sources of Drinking Water

**Main source of drinking water (percentage of households)**

Area	Tap Water	Hand Pump	Motor Pump	Dug Well	Other
Pakistan	27	26	33	3	11
Balochistan	33	7	18	11	30
<b>Urban areas</b>					
□ Pakistan	51	7	27	1	14
□ Balochistan	69	3	11	1	17
<b>Rural areas</b>					
□ Pakistan	13	38	36	5	9
□ Balochistan	20	8	21	15	36

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 4.5. Taps, hand pumps and motor pumps are considered improved sources of water in the PSLM. Dug wells and other sources are unimproved sources.

**Percentage distribution of households by type of toilet**

Area	Flush	Non-flush	No Toilet
Pakistan	73	13	13
Balochistan	31	55	13
<b>Urban areas</b>			
□ Pakistan	97	2	1
□ Balochistan	78	22	0
<b>Rural areas</b>			
□ Pakistan	60	20	21
□ Balochistan	14	68	18

Source: PSLM 2014-15, Table 4.6.

### Annex 3: BRSP Achievements in Numbers

BRSP achievements in main sectors and thematic areas	
Sector/ Thematic Area	Achievements
Social Mobilization	• Presence in 422 union councils of 27 districts
	• 275,720 households organized in 17,672 COs with a membership
	• of 187,825 men and 87,895 women
	• Based on the COs, formed 2,978 VO and 85 union council-level LSOs
	• Formed 883 sector-specific committees, including 159 parents' education committees, 458 farmers' associations, 104 village health committees, 4 liaison committees, 26 village specialist committees and 132 water, sanitation and hygiene committees.
Human Resource Development	• 495,040 members of community institutions (COs, VOs and LSOs) trained
	• 6,668 community members and 233 staff benefitted through 6,921 exposure visits
	• 248 graduates received internship opportunities
	• 7,878 elected representatives of local bodies trained in participatory development and village development planning
Livelihood	• 7,798 individuals trained in enterprise development skills
	• Helped establish village-level micro businesses for 7,350 beneficiaries (4,296 men and 3,054 women) among the poorest by providing assets for various trades (livestock and poultry development, agricultural inputs and other businesses) identified by the beneficiaries
	• 4,532 youth trained in various technical and vocational skills
	• 56,163 individuals trained in livestock management
	• 27,117 farmers trained in agriculture management
	• 37 agricultural extension workers and 452 community livestock extension workers capacitated for further training of 1,246 sector community resource persons
	• Established 33 production centres, 8 Naukri Ya Karobar Centres (for employment and self-employment) and 6 digital hubs
	• Provided microcredit in the amount of PKR 73 million to 3,363 households
	• Disbursed PKR 164 million to 7,640 beneficiaries (4,966 women and 2,674 men) under the Prime Minister's Interest-free Loan Programme in six districts
	• Constructed two all-season markets, the Chaman Trade Centre at the Afghanistan border, and a women's technical training centre for bordering districts
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
• 22,749 low cost latrines constructed for 138,159 poor households in 234 villages; 156 villages declared as open-defecation free by the Government of Balochistan	
• Benefitted 171,605 individuals (1,790 teachers and 169,815 students) of 561 schools and madaris through water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives	
• Constructed 5 menstrual hygiene management washrooms and sensitized 5,000 girls' students on the subject	
• 318,512 community members sensitized through 2,408 health and hygiene sessions	
• 257 school water, sanitation and hygiene clubs and 94 committees formed	
• Provided 24,500 hygiene kits to target schools	
Physical Infrastructure and Technological Development	• A total of 28,470 community-identified, community-managed physical infrastructure schemes constructed
	• 742 water conservation and management schemes, irrigation water storage ponds, water channels, PVC (polyvinyl chloride plastic) pipelines, head wells and aqueducts
	• 162 integrated water resource management schemes, including improvement of karez (indigenous method of irrigation in which groundwater is tapped by a tunnel) for drinking water and irrigation, polytunnels, watershed management and high efficiency irrigation systems
	• 174 soil and land conservation schemes for land reclamation, land levelling and flood protection works
	• 35 rural link roads and culverts
	• 107 village development infrastructure schemes (model villages, community centres and sports ground facilities)
	• 10,150 one-room shelters constructed in rehabilitation phase after floods in 2012
	• 132 renewable energy projects for wind, solar and hydropower energy
	• The total cost of implemented schemes was PKR 2,779 million in which PKR 354 million was contributed by the target communities

Sector/ Thematic Area	Achievements
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation and capacity building of 490 school management committees</li> <li>• 621 government schools and madaris repaired/renovated</li> <li>• Capacity building of 570 teachers</li> <li>• Enrolled 16,032 out-of-school students at schools</li> <li>• Enrolled 8,300 out-of-school children in Accelerated Learning Pathways (short curriculum) schools</li> <li>• 918 students (568 boys and 350 girls) provided with employable skill training</li> <li>• Net student retention rate in primary education maintained at 80 percent</li> <li>• At least 50 percent students of targeted schools are girls</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened 717 health facilities</li> <li>• 1,157 health facilities provided medicines</li> <li>• 1 million people facilitated through mobile health units</li> <li>• Improvement of infrastructure, provision of medicine and equipment in 114 health facilities</li> <li>• 650,000 individuals facilitated at targeted health facilities</li> <li>• Capacity enhancement of 390 healthcare providers, 714 traditional birth attendants, 252 community health educators, 2,100 community based health workers and 320 lady health workers</li> <li>• 1,315 health care providers trained on malaria treatment, diagnosis and emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC)</li> <li>• 735,000 people sensitized through behaviour change communication (BCC) on malaria, human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) hepatitis and nutrition</li> <li>• 15,562 children and pregnant ladies screened for malnutrition and treated</li> <li>• 5,009 children and women immunized</li> <li>• Distributed 1.19 million long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs: mosquito nets impregnated with insecticide) in 10 districts</li> <li>• 20,410 households covered through indoor residual spraying</li> <li>• 618 persons with disability were provided assistive devices</li> <li>• 28,000 individuals provided health and hygiene education</li> </ul>

## Annex 4: Multidimensional Poverty Index and its Indicators and Weights

Pakistan's National MPI – indicators, deprivation cut-offs and weights			
Dimension*	Indicator	Deprivation Cut-off	Weight
Education	Years of Schooling	Deprived if no man AND no woman in the household above 10 years of age has completed 5 years of schooling	1/6 = 16.66%
	Child attendance	Deprived if any school-aged child (ages 6-11) is not attending school Deprived if any child not going to school because of quality issues (not enough teachers, far away, too costly, no male/female, substandard school), or is attending but dissatisfied with service	1/8 = 12.5%
	Educational quality	Deprived if any child not going to school because of quality issues (not enough teachers, far away, too costly, no male/female, substandard school), or is attending but dissatisfied with service	1/24 = 4.17%
Health	Access to clinic/Basic Health Unit	Deprived if not using health facility at all, or only once in a while, because of access constraints (too far, too costly, does not suit, lack of tools / staff, not enough facility)	1/6 = 16.67%
	Immunization	Deprived if any child under 5 is not fully immunized according to vaccinations calendar (households with no children under 5 are considered non-deprived)	1/18 = 5.56%
	Ante-natal care	Deprived if any woman who has given birth in the household in the last 3 years did not receive ante-natal check-up (household with no woman that has given birth is considered non-deprived)	1/18 = 5.56%
	Assisted delivery	Deprived if any woman who has given birth in the household in the last 3 years with untrained personnel (family member, friend, TBA, etc.) or in inappropriate facility (home, other) (household with no woman that has given birth is considered non-deprived)	1/18 = 5.56%
Standard of Living	Water	Deprived if household has no access to improved source of water according to MDGs standards considering distance (less than 30 minutes for return trip): tap water, hand pump, motor pump, protected well, mineral water	1/21 = 4.76%
	Sanitation	Deprived if household has no access to adequate sanitation according to MDGs standards: flush system (sewerage, septic tank, drain), privy seat	1/21 = 4.76%
	Wall	Deprived if household has no unimproved walls (mud, uncooked/mud brick, wood/bamboo, other)	1/42 = 2.38%
	Overcrowding	Deprived if household is overcrowded (4 or more people per room)	1/42 = 2.38%
	Electricity	Deprived if household has no access to electricity	1/21 = 4.76%
	Cooking fuel	Deprived if household uses solid cooking fuels for cooking (wood, dung, cakes, crop residue, coal/charcoal, other)	1/21 = 4.76%
	Assets	A household is categorized as deprived if it doesn't have more than two small assets (radio, TV, iron, fan, sewing machine, VCP, chair, watch, air cooler, bicycle), OR no large asset (refrigerator, air conditioner, tractor, computer, motorcycle), AND has no car	1/21 = 4.76%
	Land and livestock (only for rural areas)	Deprived if household is deprived in land AND deprived in livestock, meaning: a. Deprived in land: household has less than 2.25 acres of non-irrigated land AND less than 1.125 acres of irrigated land b. Deprived in livestock: household has 1 or no cattle, less than 3 sheep/goats, less than 5 chickens AND no animal for transportation [Urban households are assumed to be non-deprived]	1/21 = 4.76%

Note:

\*Each of the three domains has a weight of one-third (33.33 percent) in the MPI.

Source: Pakistan Economic Survey, 2015-16, Annexure III, p. 287 (<http://www.trspunjab.gov.pk/Economic%20Surveys-New/Economic%20Survey%202015-16.pdf>).

## Annex 5: School Enrolment and out of School Children in Balochistan

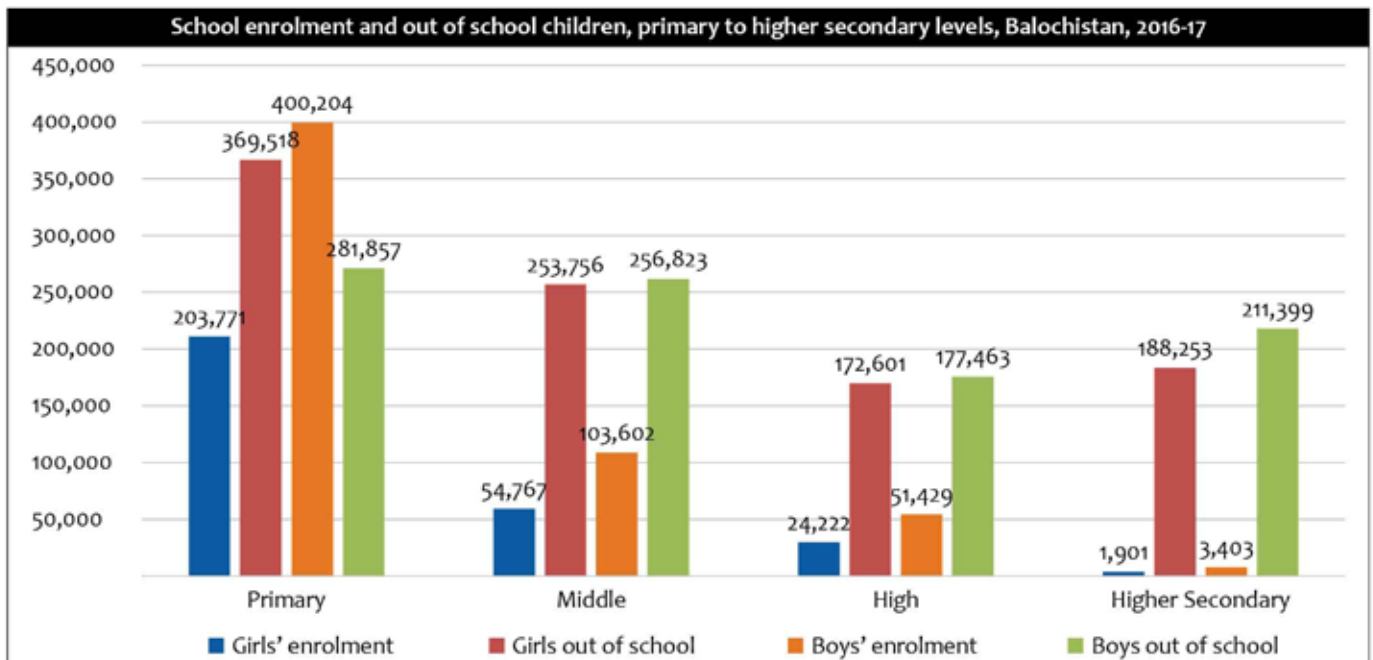
School enrolment and out of school children, primary to higher secondary levels, Balochistan, 2016-17						
Area	Enrolment <sup>a</sup>			Out of School Children <sup>b</sup>		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary	400,204	203,771	603,975	281,857	369,518	651,375
Middle	103,602	54,767	158,369	256,823	253,756	510,579
High	51,429	24,222	75,651	177,463	172,601	350,064
Higher Secondary	3,403	1,901	5,304	211,399	188,253	399,652
<b>Total</b>	<b>558,638</b>	<b>284,661</b>	<b>843,299</b>	<b>927,542</b>	<b>984,128</b>	<b>1,911,670</b>

Notes:

<sup>a</sup>This estimated enrolment is for public, other public and private sector schools, including deeni madaris in the public and private sectors. "Other public" means public institutions run by organizations other than the provincial education department (e.g., cantonment boards and provincial education foundations). Mosque schools are included in primary schools.

<sup>b</sup>This estimate is based on population projections for 2005-2025 by the National Institute of Population Studies, Islamabad.

Source: NEMIS-AEPAM, Pakistan Education Statistics, 2016-17, Table 3.2 (p. 68) for enrolment and Table 1.5 (p. 41) for out of school children.





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