

Note for Record

By Shoaib Sultan Khan
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**Subject: Bacha Khan Poverty Alleviation Programme (BKPAP)
 and PPAF Social Mobilization Project (SMP)**

The non availability of flights from Gilgit for two days made me drive from the airport to upper Dir via Mardan on July 7, 2010. At the behest of Chairperson Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP), CEO SRSP had drawn up an extensive programme for me to visit BKPAP in Mardan, BKPAP and SMP in Upper Dir, SMP in Shangala and Kohistan and BKPAP and SMP in Batagram.

BKPAP has been initiated by the Khyber Pukhtunkhwa (KPK) Government as a sequel to Chief Minister Amir Haider Khan Hoti's approval in 2008 of the Social Mobilization strategy presented to him through a presentation by Vijay Kumar of India experience in Andhra Pradesh, inspired by Pakistan and my presentation of Rural Support Programme in Pakistan especially AKRSP. BKPAP was initiated in Mardan, Upper Dir, Batagram and Karak six months ago.

SMP was a result of the joint effort put up in by John Wall of the World Bank and Rural Support Programmes Network for a period of three years. The Prime Minister personally took interest in it and finally got us \$ 75 million approved for Poverty Reduction through Social Mobilization.

There is a whole chapter in my book on the subject under the title A case study of Advocacy with Government. To avoid further delays and red tape on John's suggestion, the funds were routed through Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF). The PPAF decided or were directed by the Bank Headquarters to utilize SM funds to achieve the following:

- Formation of Community Organisations for men & women
- CNIC for all members
- Registration of vote
- Awareness about Rights enshrined in Constitution of Pakistan
- Improvement in School Enrollment

Awareness about right of inheritance etc. for women under Pakistan laws
Mandatory Savings
25% of all COs in one year to initiate internal lending
All COs, VOs, LSOs will develop strategic development plans within one year of formation

In April 2009 PPAF released funds and by June 2010 all the targets laid down by PPAF were achieved in districts of Dir, Shangla, Kohistan and Batagram except there was no data of School enrollment which I asked them to get from the Education Department to see how the enrollment in April 2009 compares with enrollment in April 2010.

The strategic development plan of COs / VOs/ LSOs, have all been prepared and the people are getting frustrated. None of the indicators of SMP laid down by PPAF either directly reduces poverty or gives economic empowerment. The assumption that mandatory savings would lead to internal loaning was unrealistic. In Shangla District with a total mandatory savings of Rs. 1.2 million the share of each member would come to only Rs. 61.58. Unless there are economic programmes increasing the income of the poor house hold there would not be enough savings generated to have a meaningful internal loaning programme. Unfortunately headquarters and PPAF missed the main objective of the Poverty Reduction through Social Mobilization for which funds were mobilized with efforts spanning three years.

In BKPAP the mobilization of communities was initiated by first undertaking Union Council wise poverty score card (PSC) to identify the following categories:

0-11	Extremely poor
12-18	Chronically poor
19-23	Poor
24 and above	Non poor

For example in Batagram in the six union councils 7% are extremely poor, 18% chronically poor, 19% poor and the balance 56% above three bottom categories. Of the mobilized house holds 100% from the bottom three bands were mobilized along with 20% from the category above them.

The organized COs accessed the following programme packages of BKPAP:

Income Generating Grants for	0-11
Community Investment Funds for	0-23
Micro Credit for	24 and above
Skill Development Training for Employment	0-18
Micro Health Insurance as Social Protection	0-18
Community Infrastructure for daily wage labours	10 per union council per year
Community led total sanitation	Rs. 6,000 per latrine for 3 to 4 households 0-18

In addition there is a comprehensive Human Resource Development Programme for Community Management Skills Training, Leadership Management Skills Training, Livestock Extension Worker, Agriculture Extension Worker, Poultry Extension Worker, Natural Resource Management Demonstration Plots on Farmers Fields, Establishment of Orchards, Summer Vegetable Plots, Distribution of seeds and fertilizer Vaccination and Deworming of livestock.

In Mardan I met the members of the VO at village Jungah Union Council, Mian Isa, comprising 318 households of which 218 have got organized in 17 community organization (COs) federated in a VO, since the start of BKPAP in February, 2010. 20 women have availed of CIF, 80 households have been insured under micro health insurance, 8 CLTS latrines for 24 poorest farmers have been constructed besides three CIPs costing Rs. 1.36 million including Rs. 160,300 community contribution. Under Human Resource 30 LMST, 11 CMST, 2 male 4 female persons have been trained and 3 summer vegetable demonstration plots have been laid.

In the 20 BKPAP Union Councils in Mardan district, in less then six months the following has been achieved.

Social Mobilization PSC Surveys	100%
Total households	60329
8% extremely poor 0-11	6069
21% chronically poor	12724
20% poor	11978
51% Non poor	29533
Community Organizations Formed	1048

Male Members	16580
Female Members	6678
CMST	1959
Male	1386
Female	573
LMST	900
Male	632
Female	268
Community Resource Persons	99
Male	62
Female	37
Manager Conferences	39
Male	20
Female	19
Community Physical Infrastructure:	
Surveyed	200
Approved	197 costing Rs. 97.7 m
Initiated	142 costing Rs. 68.96 m including Rs. 13.80 m Community share
Social Protection:	
Micro Health Insurance	7479
Tech. and vocational Trainings for unemployed	1267
Male	696
Female	571
Livelihood Strengthening	
IGG – 528	Rs. 2.6 m
CIF – 845	Rs. 8.4 m
Micro credit - 650	Rs. 9.7 m
CIF Management Training	295 persons
CIF Book Keepers	31 persons
Natural Resource Management:	
Agr. Ext. Workers	300
Livestock Ext. Workers	307
Poultry Ext. Workers	900 female
Demonstration Plots laid	508

Improved seed and fertilizer
Distributed 28300 farmers

The above figures of only one district under BKPAP can give an idea of the capacity built over last 28 years of Rural Support Programmes to implement poverty reduction programmes.

I found similar achievements under BKPAP in districts of Upper Dir and Batagram. The dynamic and efficient way in which SRSP responded under inspirational leadership of Masoodul Mulk CEO SRSP to the challenge of implementing BKPAP, with enormous time constraint has indeed made all RSPs proud and personally for me a great source of satisfaction and happiness. The Chief Minister and Chief Secretary KPK had entrusted the programme to SRSP believing in SRSP. I am most gratified that SRSP has lived up to their expectations.

In Upper Dir, as I found in Gilgit Baltistan and Chitral, the mobilized communities are already giving first priority to peace and security. In Upper Dir they beat off the incursions of militants themselves.