



AIMING
CHANGE FOR
TOMORROW



PROFILE

www.act.org.pk

(ACT) International Empower communities to progress and be diversely resilient through promotion of peoples' engagement, capacity building and partnership focusing on children, youth and women.

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Aiming Change for
Tomorrow (ACT) International

The operational strategy of ACT has been based on the following core values such that ultimately positive change is brought in the society.

- Rights based Approach
- Empowerment
- Non discrimination
- Transparency
- Collaboration & Partnerships
- Innovations
- Gender sensitivity

Learn more about Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT) International
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Torrential monsoon rains have triggered the most severe flooding in Pakistan's recent history, washing away villages and leaving more than 33 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and at increased risk of waterborne diseases, drowning and malnutrition.

ACT International with its partner KARE KHER relief team is currently on the ground to help people and support the most vulnerable and at-risk communities.

VISION

“A tomorrow where everyone has opportunities to prosper”

MISSION

“Empower communities to progress and be diversely resilient through promotion of peoples’ engagement, capacity building and partnership focusing on children, youth and women”

INTRODUCTION

Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT) is a national NGO established on 8th March 2012 and registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. ACT is registered with Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Under Section 2(36) of income tax ordinance 2001 and holds valid MoU with Economic Affairs Division (EAD) Government of Pakistan. ACT is also certified by Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP).

ACT is working on diverse thematic areas including; Social Protection, Youth Development with a special focus on Education, Health and Nutrition, and Disaster Preparedness, Response & Recovery (DPRR). ACT has an organizational culture that strongly believes in the importance of keeping abreast of new developments, keeping channels of communication open, keeping information systems fluid, and managing knowledge in such a way that change can be easily incorporated into structure and processes as and when it

becomes necessary. It employs participatory action research methodologies to support a permanent learning process. The methodologies employed are consultative, participatory, and treat on-going social and managerial processes as learning experiences.

Special thanks to all members who contributed data and ongoing advice during this project. Thanks also to all data providers particularly for the ongoing support of the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics and the Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives. Further information on data providers can be seen at Section 11 of the report.

The findings, interpretations and conclusions presented in this document may include views or recommendations from third parties, which do not necessarily reflect the views of the individual consultants.

CORE AREAS OF WORK (THEMATIC AREAS)



INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY & PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Over the last ten years, ACT has built its institutional capacities to flourish in changing and challenging environments, such as robust governance & leadership, strategic and programmatic planning & implementation, staff's capacity building, financial management, effective communication, and more.

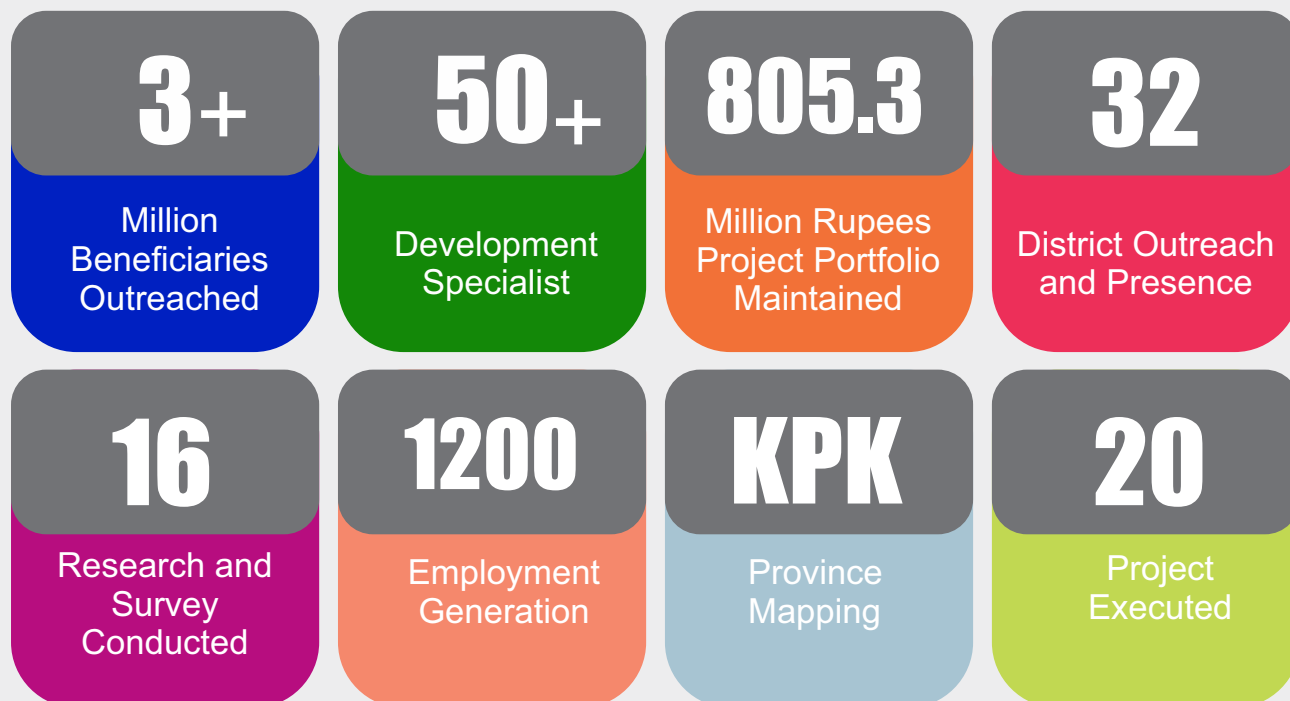
ACT has a team of skilled professionals and well established systems for program development and implementation, financial management & accountability, monitoring & evaluation, donors & stakeholders' management, public relations, assets management and knowledge management. ACT is one of the leading national non-governmental organizations that have demonstrated excellent capacities in developing and effectively managing

developmental as well as humanitarian programs and emergency relief operations.

During the last 10 years the organization has developed the capacity to operationalize and manage number of huge projects with the support of the National and International donor agencies including; USAID, UNDP, EAD/ World Bank, Nutrition International, Aurat Foundation/ DFID/ BISP, IRC, MIDAS/ UNICEF, TDEA-FAFEN/ UNDP etc. ACT follows the IASB/GAAP for its internal and external financial reporting.

Over a period of 10 years, the organization has managed to attain a financial portfolio PKR 840 Million with the outreached of 3 Million direct beneficiaries with the segregation of Households 302,000 men 510,000, female, 690,000, youth 102,840 and children 580,000.

OVERVIEW OF ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

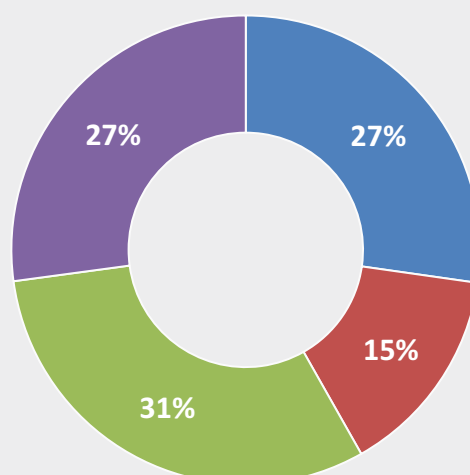


ACT has implemented projects in 32 districts (of four Provinces, AJK & GB region) along with five Agencies of Newly Merge Districts (NMD's). The organization has rolled out projects by establishing and operationalizing the District, Tehsil offices with all operational,

logistic and program implementation support. These structures/district offices were operationalized through a composite logistic, technical, financial and human resource support through three Provincial offices oversight by head office.

THEMATIC AREA WISE PORTFOLIO

- Democratic Governance & Empowerment (236 million)
- Health & Nutrition (126 million)
- DRR & ERP (269 million)
- Education (235 million)



The organization has hired the audit firm as per statutory law & procedures. ACT has consistently led the external audit on yearly basis, the independent auditor has conducted the external audit exercise as per given ICAP as well as IFRS framework.

A comprehensive customized, modified financial information system (FIS) is in place, and all the standard internal control are monitored, verified and approved through integrated financial software Sidat Hyder Murshad Associate (SHAMA) along with qualified professionals. All the operational (Financial, Procurement administrative) polices are aligned with the FIS. The top management, BOD's and connected finance & procurement committees properly review the FIS on quarterly basis.

Under the HCM software based on the 50 users with different roles and responsibilities, all the induction process, employees reporting, project reporting as well as project wise payroll, HR software is generated and due to the integration of the whole system, the pay roll and other reports will be automatically generated after the verification has been posted to the financial software. The whole package of the software module including HR, finance, procurement and admin reports will be generated project wise, activity wise, employee wise, location wise, chart of accounts wise, vendor wise etc.



Act is committed to upscale the life of marginalized people thru participatory approach.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE & WORK EXPERIENCE

ACT has a nationwide working experience in Punjab, KP, Sindh, Baluchistan, AJK and newly merged districts in KP - Ex-FATA (total 32 districts direct implementation experience). Since inception, ACT has implemented various development interventions on different social thematic areas across these areas. ACT, with its head office in Islamabad, has two regional offices in KP and AJK and hundreds of youth volunteers and social change agents across Pakistan. This reflects a strong capacity to

implement and sustain field work intensive social interventions beyond the project life.

Moreover, ACT maintains an excellent coordination and working relationship with government line departments at all levels (federal, provincial, and district as well as local governments at tehsil/ taluka and union council). This coordination approach ensures sustainability and ownership to all the program activities and objectives of ACT.

MAJOR PARTNERS AND DONORS OF ACT

Since inception, ACT has demonstrated the capability to partner with multiple donors, local NGOs and government. The organization has grown substantially to become Pakistan's prominent organization specializing in empowering communities, capacity development, advocacy, research, knowledge management, and partnerships with state & non state actors to create and advance responsiveness to citizens' demand on the following thematic areas:

ACT also has strong linkages, affiliation and partnership with multiple international organizations such Government of the State of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Ministry of Federal Education, Ministry of Education KPK, CHS Alliance, International Rescue Committee (IRC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), USAID, European Commission, World Food Program, Nutrition International, UNICEF, UNDP, British High Commission and UKAID.





Memberships	Accreditations and compliance approved partners
▪ Global Core Humanitarian Standards Alliance	▪ Pakistan Centre of Philanthropy
▪ Peace and Justice Network of Pakistan	▪ UNFPA
▪ Stunting Taskforce Alliance (World Bank & SUN CSA)	▪ UNDP
▪ Provincial Commission on the Status of Women in KP	▪ UNICEF
▪ Member Men Engage Global Alliance	▪ UNV
▪ Member Child Rights Movement Pakistan	▪ World Food Program

SOCIAL MOBILIZATION AS THE MAIN PROGRAM APPROACH

The key expertise gained by ACT through rolling out social mobilization approaches in its various program over the past one decade are as follows:

- Mobilization of target groups esp. youth and women as social change agents on volunteer basis and sustaining their participation through ownership of the program beyond project life cycle
- Individual and institutional capacity building and training programs with various community members, civil society, government institutions/officials after extensive training needs assessments and area/stakeholder mapping
- Active participation of various supply and demand side stakeholders with in the program activities from inception to execution esp. expertise in introducing sensitive challenges such as sexual and gender based violence to conservative communities and making them community activists for such taboo thematic areas across Pakistan (esp. rural areas)

- Proven ability to consistently generate demand from communities on sensitive public service delivery areas through effective community awareness and advocacy using community workshops, seminars, influential gatherings etc.

- Extensive focus on data collection, integration and synthesis using mixed methods research techniques throughout program lifecycle and beyond ACT stresses on the importance of research and analysis for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of its program activities as well as to draw learning for the course correction of existing programs and redesign of future program strategies esp. for specific areas.

- ACT also has expertise in utilizing the qualitative and quantitative research results to design, implement, and upgrade its communication strategies esp. community workshops, street theatres, print and electronic awareness campaigns esp. local radio programs, M&E policies and processes, among others.

PROJECTS PORTFOLIO

Project Title	Waseela e Taleem (BISP)
Donor/ Partner	DFID and Aurat Foundation as Lead Partner
Geographical Coverage	Bagh, Mirpur, Kotli, Charsada, Bannu, Mansehra, Gawadar, Jhal magsi, Khushab, Sajawal, Thatta, Benazirabad
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8,814 Orientation session with WeT beneficiaries at registration camp Conducted 1,163 one day trainings of women leaders (25 beneficiaries per training trained) Conducted 34,756 orientation sessions with school teachers Conducted 34,808 Beneficiary mobilization meetings. 940,210 BISP beneficiaries mapped-out 701,633 WeT children's of BISP women beneficiaries for admission in public/ private primary schools
Project Title	Birth Registration Initiative (BRI)
Donor/ Partner	UNICEF
Geographical Coverage	Khyber Agency- FATA (Now Khyber District in KP)
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of all potential facilitators for birth Mapping of prevailing Social Norms through FGDs with communities (mothers, fathers, caregivers) Identification and mapping of all vulnerable children (those living in alternative care institutions, street children, from ethnic minorities) Mapping of government schools and children enrolled in those schools. Development and printing of training and IEC material (facilitators guide book, birth registration booklet and posters) on birth registration. Effectively promote the right of the child to a legal identity through engagement with local communities and stakeholders on birth.
Project Title	Youth Advocacy Forums
Donor/ Partner	UNDP
Geographical Coverage	Mirpur, Muzaffarabad, Hattian, Neelum, and Bagh districts in AJ&K Mansehra district in KP province Pakistan
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1500 Volunteers registered 75 Peer Groups formed 244 youth members/leaders trained on Basic Life Skills
Project Title	Strengthening Electoral and Legislative Processes (SELP)
Donor/ Partner	TDEA/USAID
Geographical Coverage	Charsadda in KP province Pakistan
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 Area opening meetings with local community elders (influential, LHWs, educational institutions heads, teachers, women councils etc.) Coordination meetings with relevant stakeholders (NADRA, ECP, political leaders, elected representatives, etc.) on the agenda of promoting voter registration Identification of 50 potential community members/volunteers for grass level mobilization Formation of 25 community mobilization groups of volunteers 5 training sessions to train volunteers on importance of women CNIC registration and voting rights One facilitation desk each was set up at Nadra registration centers for beneficiary guidance 10 Kiosks and public information desks for beneficiary mobilization Development and printing of IEC material (pamphlets, leaflets, brochures, stickers etc. Designing and on-airing public information campaign for CNIC and voter registration (Radio, newspaper and Cable advertisement) Creation of Database/pool of newly registered voters

Project Title	GBV Prevention through Social Mobilization and Advocacy
Donor/ Partner	USAID
Geographical Coverage	Swabi, Noshera, Mardan, Swat, Peshawar and Abbottabad in KP province Pakistan
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 12 Trainings for police officials of 4 days each (310 trainees/25 per training) ▪ 60 engagements of community action groups ▪ 24 community theatres ▪ 9 Public events at village level ▪ 12 community theatres ▪ 36 PowerPoint presentation and discussion with religious and community leaders ▪ 14 Radio Programs ▪ 216 trainings of Community Activists and monthly meetings ▪ Regular celebration of international women day ▪ Printing and dissemination of IEC material ▪ Established 6 kiosk/stalls at public places.
Project Title	Beneficiary Mobilization and Public Information Campaign of FATA (TDP-ERP)
Donor/ Partner	Economic Affairs Division, NADRA, Funded by World Bank
Geographical Coverage	5 Agencies in EX FATA (Now 5 newly merged KP districts)
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mobilization of TDP's through Public Information Campaign of FATA (TDP-ERP). ▪ Development of the Inception report (along with communication guidelines and detailed work plan for Media habits survey, ▪ PIC, Mobilization and project branding; defining various modes ▪ Designed the Public information campaign for TDP's to create the awareness in selected agencies. ▪ Staff capacity building which aims to enhance the capabilities of project staffs in the target communities & create the in depth understanding between TDP, NADRA and local agency staff
Project Title	Empowering Rural Women by Creating Assets through Skills Development
Donor/ Partner	USAID
Geographical Coverage	Hattian Bala District in AJ&K
Key Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of vocational training to 300 women in Kitchen Gardening and Po ▪ Provision of essential tools and equipment to 300 women in the respective ▪ Created opportunities for producing and consuming healthy organic food
Project Title	GBV Prevention through Social Mobilization and Advocacy
Donor/ Partner	
Geographical Coverage	
Key Outputs	



DISASTER/ EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EARLY RECOVERY

ACT has a team of highly experienced professionals who, over the years, have gained excellent expertise in disaster preparedness, response and early recovery. ACT has executed several projects on emergency response and early recovery in collaboration with major organizations & donor agencies.

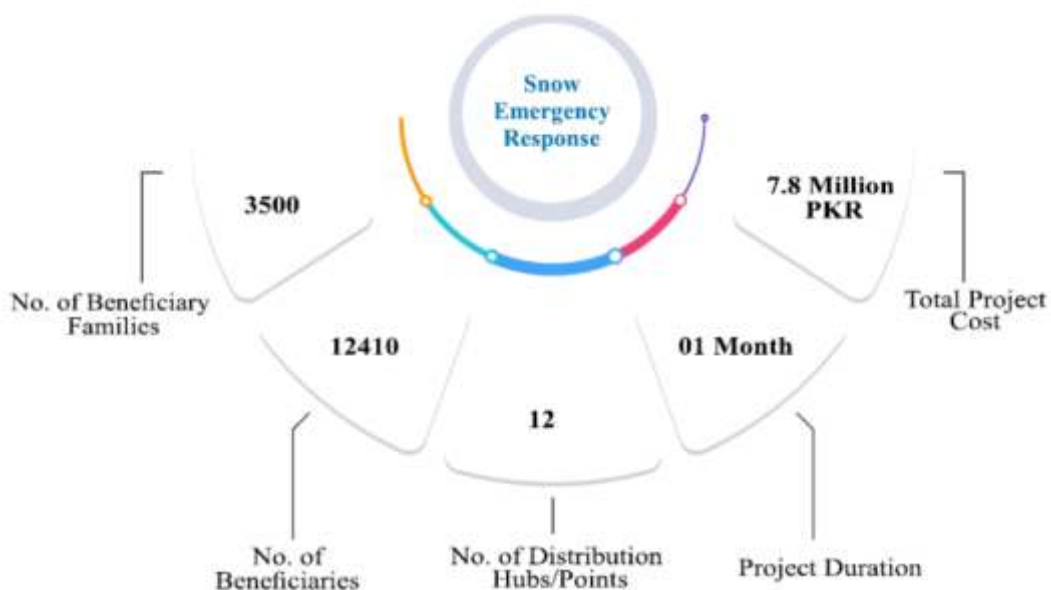
In 2020, ACT in collaboration with the World Food Program, responded to the emergency situation created by heavy snowfall in District Neelum of Azad Jammu & Kashmir. In 2021, when the country was fighting against the COVID-19, ACT successfully executed in collaboration with the UNICEF and Expanded Program on Immunization, Government of Pakistan. At present, ACT has launched flood relief response to provide acute emergency assistance to the flood victim families of severely affected areas in Punjab, Sindh and Baluchistan provinces.

Snow Emergency Response (2020)

In February 2020, heavy snowfall hit various communities in UC Khel, District Neelum,

AJ&K that created an emergency situation for the locals, ACT, while responding the situation, launched the Snow Emergency Response Project to provide emergency assistance to all the families trapped in the snow affected areas. The ACT teams conducted meetings and door to door visits for screening/ registration of families. To substantiate the overall outreach strategy, a joint human resource pool was utilized by involving the LHWs, LHVs, Community Elders (heads, imam masjid, generalist and teachers etc) and field teams of ACT mobilized the beneficiaries and ensured their participation during the project. The strategy enabled the organization to optimize its resources for higher outreach coverage.

A total of 12410 severely affected beneficiaries were targeted during the snow emergency response. Food assistance was provided to the affected beneficiaries in order to avoid food shortage. The emergency response project was completed in a short time of one month.



COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE (2020-21)

In March 2020, when the situation was getting serious due to rapid spreading of the COVID-19 across Pakistan, including Azad Jammu & Kashmir, ACT responded to the emergency situation in order to raise awareness and provide assistance to the most vulnerable groups. At first, ACT launched Comprehensive Emergency & Relief Program (CERP) in collaboration with local & international philanthropists (including Pakistani Diaspora), institutional donors, INGOs, NGOS/CSOs, volunteers and government line departments in March 2020.

The objective of this CERP was to safeguard the lives of most vulnerable groups, such as infants, children, pregnant/ lactating mothers (PLWs), persons with disabilities (PWDs) and the daily wagers who were unable to earn their bread due to lockdowns. CERP also aimed to provide support to front line medical professionals, hospital staff and security officials to ensure their protection as well.

Assistance to Vulnerable Groups

ACT launched a fundraising campaign through social media to raise funds for emergency response through philanthropists and donors. To provide economic security to the daily wagers in the high risk areas, ACT started assessment and registration of beneficiaries for distribution of food packages among the families of daily wagers. In addition, 300 PPEs were donated for the medical staff of the Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH), Rawalpindi.



Assistance	Geographical Area	District/ Location	Number of beneficiaries
Food Packages for Daily Wagers	AJ&K	Rawalakot Muzaffarabad	300 households (1,800 individuals)
	Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)	Sector F-11 Sector G-11	
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Mardan	
Personal Protection Equipment (PPEs)	Punjab	Rawalpindi Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH)	300

FLOOD RELIEF RESPONSE (2022)

In August 2022, the devastating floods caused a major calamity across Pakistan; however, the Punjab, Baluchistan and KP provinces are highly affected. According to NDMA, more than 33 million people affected in 80 districts, 1,200 people died, around 5,000 got injured, 436,000 houses washed away while 736,000 suffered damages, around 800,000 livestock lost.

ACT, in collaboration with Kaar-I-Kher (an informal groups of philanthropists and volunteers), responded immediately to the situation to provide Acute Emergency Assistance to the victims of flood. ACT mobilized its Emergency Response Teams (ERT) in various districts to assess the immediate needs of flood victims. Based on the

findings of and Kaar-I-Kher have been providing the following services at 10 locations in different districts of Punjab, Sindh and Baluchistan.

Services Provided to Flood Affected Families

- Cooked food through community kitchens to over 500 families (3,000 people) two times/ per day
- Monthly food packages (Dry food)
- Clean Drinking Water (mineral water bottles)
- Non-Food Items (Clothes, tarpaulins, shoes, plastic sheets)
- Cash grants
- Installation of handpumps

TARGET AREAS AND BENEFICIARIES

Province	District/ Location	Beneficiaries (men, women & children)	
		Families	Individuals
Baluchistan	Jaffar Abad	100	600
	Naseerabad	100	600
	Jhal Magsi	84	504
Punjab	Taunsa Sharif	62	372
	Dera Ghazi Khan	162	972
	Rajanpur	160	960
Sindh	Hyderabad	100	600
	Tharparkar	160	960
	Mirpur Khas	100	600
	Khairpur	26	156
KPK	Charsadda	100	600
TOTAL	10	1,154	6,924



ACT INTERNATIONAL WITH ITS PARTNER KARE KHER RELIEF TEAM IS CURRENTLY ON THE GROUND TO HELP PEOPLE WITH FOLLOWING:

- COOKED AND DRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION
- CLOTHES FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN
- HAND PUMP INSTALLATION FOR CLEAN DRINKING WATER
- TEMPORARY SHELTERS (MAKE SHIFT ARRANGEMENT FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE)

Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and Generate Demand of COVID-19 Vaccination

In 2021, high prevalence of the COVID-19 active cases reported in Muzaffarabad, Jehlum Valley, Poonch, Mirpur, Kotli and Sudhnoti districts of AJ&K. ACT swiftly responded to the situation and played a key role in awareness raising regarding COVID-19 in the targeted districts. The project aimed on engaging and mobilizing families and homes, people in business centers and social environments, and religious gatherings to adhere to the COVID-19 SOPs and educate them on the

benefits of COVID-19 vaccination in 13 tehsils of 06 districts of AJK.

ACT carried out an extensive awareness campaign by using different public information and communication tools.

- Mic Announcement via Masajid and Mobile Vans
- Banners for Masajid
- Stickers for Business Centers
- Banners for Business Centers
- Meetings with Trade Unions/Market Associations
- Radio Messages

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECTS

S. No.	Activities	Project Target	Target Achieved	Progress Ratio
1	Development and Distribution of IEC Material	1,000	1,046	105%
2	Meetings with Imam Masjid	1,000	1,046	105%
3	IEC Baskets Distributed among Imam Masjid	1,000	1,046	105%
4	Meetings with Trade Unions	50	53	106%
5	Banners Distribution	1,000	1,000	100%
6	Stickers Distribution	2,500	2,500	100%
7	Meeting with Community Elders	50	54	108%
8	Announcements in Masajid	2,000	2,032	102%
9	Announcements on Public Places	300	310	103%
10	Radio Messages	100	100	100%
11	Support to ongoing EPI Vaccination Drive		Done	



NEED ASSESSMENT

Assessment conducted by ACT International and Its Partner Kare Kher in

- Jhal Magsi (Balochistan)
- Jaffrabad (Balochistan)
- Rajanpur (South Punjab)





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