AIMING
CHANGE FOR
TOMORROW

Act Profile 2024

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1 ORGANIZATIONAL DETAILS

Official Name of Organization	Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT)
Type of Organization	Not for Profit NGO
Law/Regulation under which ACT is registered with Government of Pakistan	Societies Registration Act 1860, Registration no. RS/ICT/741.
Date of Registration	March, 2012
Postal Address	Plot No. 238, Street No. 06, Sector I-9/2, Islamabad
Website	https://act-international.org
Current Geographical Coverage	Pakistan, AJ&K and Gilgit Baltistan Head Office in Islamabad; 03 Regional Offices in KP, Sindh and AJ&K; 18 District Offices across above mentioned Geographical Areas
Lead Contact Details	
Name	Mr. Mubashir Banoori
Title/Position	Chief Executive Officer
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Landline Phone Number(s)	+92-51-8312826, +92-51-8312843
E-mail Address	mubashir@act-international.org

2 INTRODUCTION

Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT) primarily empowers down trodden communities of proactive citizens engaged in self-development with the support of and working together with, government institutions and the rest of civil society. Established in March 2012, ACT is an ends-oriented, information-intensive and knowledge-based organization that strives to make consistent efforts to create a new relationship between the citizen (esp. children, youth, women) and the state, based on shared rights and responsibilities. Social protection, women empowerment, youth engagement and advocacy at policy and implementation levels has been its core programme agenda. The vision of ACT is 'a tomorrow where everyone has opportunities to prosper'.

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. 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

ACT perceives social mobilization and capacity building as a strategy as well as an objective to create, develop and preserve social capital in Pakistan. ACT has created a critical mass of social capital in its partner districts of all four provinces, AJ&K and Gilgit Baltistan (GB). With the help of indigenously designed models (e.g. localized version of SASA), social impact networks and public-private partnerships, ACT creates an enabling environment for citizen engagement and mobilization at the grass roots level. A large number of community led engagement forums including volunteer groups, local community networks, village and neighborhood based citizen (esp. female youth) groups, as well as civil society organizations including local press clubs and bar associations have been formed and capacitated. Local and provincial government state functionaries have also been taken on board and provided with necessary technical and institutional support to embrace community based interventions in the districts. As such, a momentum has been created at the local level where both the citizens, civil society and state can work in absolute harmony to address governance and local development issues collectively. This relationship needs continuous support and technical assistance for its continuity and ability to deliver on the SDGs performance milestones promised by the State of Pakistan to international community and partners.

Since inception, ACT has demonstrated the capability to partner with multiple donors, local NGOs and governments, 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:

From the time of its inception, ACT has developed credible and professional partnerships with consortium of multiple donors, local not for profit NGOs and for profit development firms (Figure-1 below depicts our partnership portfolio).

Research, innovation, outreach, communication, advocacy, response time, and flexibility imbedded in the ACT's community empowerment models as well as in its program implementation strategies provide a key advantageous position to it in comparison to other comparable organizations. ACT always strives for achieving higher social impact of any program it undertakes. ACT's internal qualitative & quantitative research, empirical analysis, internal program review and evaluation processes are extensively focused towards generating evidence based knowledge products to enhance the impact, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the programs and interventions. Also, the existing program components and human resources of ACT are time tested (regular performance appraisals), highly specialized and catered to the promotion of quality services under any implementation environment. This implies that ACT does not require undergoing major structural transformations in its composition, strategies, human resources, or program components rather it can effectively realign itself with any new development intervention within its key service areas and across all type of target areas.

3 Geographical Coverage

ACT has a nationwide working experience in Punjab, KP, Sindh, Baluchistan, AJK and newly merged Ex-FATA districts in KP (total 32 districts direct implementation experience). Since inception, ACT has implemented various development interventions on different social thematic areas across these areas. ACT with head office in Islamabad has two regional offices (in KP, AJK) and with 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, district as well as local governments at tehsil/taluka and union council). This coordination approach grants supply side sustainability and ownership to all the program activities and objectives of ACT.

4 GOVERNING & MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

ACT was established in 2012 as a national, not for profit, non-governmental organization registered under Societies' Registration Act 1860 (Please refer to Annex-A for Registration certificate. ACT is governed by a 25-member General Body which annually reviews the performance of the ACT, elects the members of the Board of Directors (BoD) and approves the annual program reports and the accounts of the ACT besides appointing the auditors.

ACT has an 8-member independent BoD for oversight, control and policy approval with a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at the execution level. The BoD is elected after every two years. In discharging its duties and stewardship responsibility, the BoD set Vision and Mission of the organization. The BoD decides all the functional policies of the ACT and approves policies, annual audit reports and strategic plan of action. Annual plans and goals are reviewed and approved annually by the Board which also monitors, on regular basis, the success of management in implementing the approved strategies and plans. ACT takes pride in possessing widely credible and renowned human resources including eminent professionals and leaders in socioeconomic development. The list of board members along with their designation in the board are attached as Annex-B

The key cardinal principles governing the whole operations of the organization is to utilize the funds for the vision, mission and objective of ACT. Following are some principles governing ACT:

- ensure that the resources are utilized through a consultative and transparent process, involving the Members;
- provide assistance and support including financial, institutional, advisory and training to persons, government, local government, CSOs, associations, individuals, community groups, NGO's or those who are eligible for such assistance in accordance with the eligibility criteria established in this regard by the ACT;
- treat the income/monies of the organization as a sacred trust and recognize that it is the prime responsibility of the organization to administer and manage resources with due diligence, and transparent fiduciary responsibility, in accordance with the purpose for which the organization has been established.

The performance of the organization is highly effective due to the streamlined hierarchical structure and consensus and participatory decision making processes. Organizational structure and leadership style of ACT is quite suitable and have proven its worth by successfully implementing different projects worth over 805 million PKR in the past eight years. ACT's operational manuals & policies contain detailed Terms of Reference (ToRs) of each department and key positions. Proper segregation of duties has been made and responsibilities have been pin pointed and a rigorous performance evaluation system is in place for all the departments and designations. ACT has the following management departments to implement various long and short term programmes:

4.1 FINANCE, ACCOUNTS AND GRANTS MANAGEMENT UNIT:

The finance & grant management unit is based at the head-office in Islamabad and supported by all regional offices, under the Manager Finance. The ACT has maintained a reliable information for its donor's and partners both at national and international level. The organization is practicing the international accounting standard for its internal and external reporting. A comprehensive customized, modified financial information system (FIS) has been in place from the inception of the organization. All the operational polices "Financial, Procurement administrative" has been aligned with the FIS. ACT is following the IASB/GAAP for its internal and external financial reporting. The key processes for transparency of accounts are given below;

A comprehensive customized, modified financial information system (FIS) is in place, and all the standard internal control are monitored, verified and approved through an 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. All the financial transactions are recorded in the financial software with different level of delegations. The comprehensive software module is in practice of the organization. All the FIS users have roles and responsibilities allocated with respect to monitoring and tracking, budgeting, controlling through software. Other modules of the software include Human Capital Management and asset management, inventory management and procurement processes as part of the software.

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 integrated software module which generates project wise, activity wise, employee wise, location wise, chart of accounts wise, vendor wise etc. for HR, finance, procurement and admin departments.

The organization has hired the audit firm as per statuary 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. After culmination of the audit, the auditor shares the draft report to the BOD for review. After the critical review of audit and recommendations by General Body the audit report gets approved and accelerates the action plan of the management after the involvement of the Audit and Finance committee. The Audit and Finance Committee had been constituted by BoD members which reviews the financial reports and accounts on a quarterly basis, the audit committee consists of three members of the BoD.

The organization has managed different grants of major organizations like DFID, UNICEF, USAID, EAD/World Bank, UNDP, Aurat Foundation/BISP. The organization also adheres the policies of the respective grant organizations. On the completion of the grant, audits have been carried out by renowned third party audit firms. For reference, different audit reports are available upon such request.

4.2 Program Development and Implementation Unit:

The program development team at ACT head office work for thematic interventions in the designated program areas through solicited and un-solicited calls for proposals submission. The manager program development leads the team on the specific need of the donor in each Expression of Interest (EOI) and Request for Proposal (RFP) and generates capability statements for the go/no go decision making of CEO. The program implementation team at ACT head office ensure that program activities are properly designed, effectively implemented and tracked on ground according to established work plan for each program. The program management team is led by a capable manager programs and coordinates with regional program managers on regular basis for timely reporting and implementation status of activities.

4.3 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Unit:

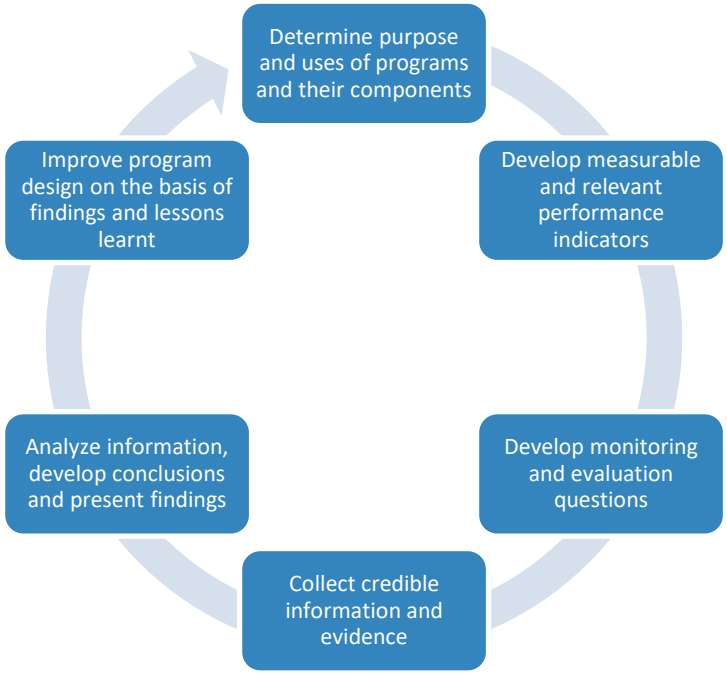
In any organization, MEL functions are key processes which ensure the effective program performance as well as making timely adjustments in program execution strategies as required. In the case of ACT, its model and components constitute an integrated system which generates vast amounts of continuous data being received through many sources. ACT's MEL system is a vital organizational tool that collects, analyzes and translates data into meaningful information that is utilized in monitoring and evaluation as well as providing leaning inputs for policy formulation and future program redesigning. The system fulfills its task of ensuring that all components, partners and related activities of the ACT are operating at an effective and efficient level that ensures the desired quality of impacts and outputs. The MEL Coordinator develops MEL plan of each program for monthly and quarterly MEL activities to ensure program compliance with the technical requirements of the internal quality assurance benchmarks, grant obligations and donor standards.

For the purposes of efficient data management for intuitive reporting and meaningful analysis, an all-inclusive management information system (MIS)/Data Centre has been developed on the following guiding principles:

- Evidence-based analysis is used to raise issues and develop conclusions
- Flexible approach to implementation of MEL program (both internal and third party)
- Keeping abreast with technological advancements to keep innovating in processes and systems for improved productivity
- Inclusion – holistic and participatory approach is used to monitor program activities

MIS has been designed to comprehensively address the information and reporting needs of ACT functional teams in order to fulfill the purposes of information management and cataloguing, progress tracking and performance evaluation of ACT's operations. Since ACT is a learning organization and new programs/components are added regularly, there is a continuous process of change in its operating methodologies. As a result, data collection and reporting requirements may change from time to time to enhance

their usability and meaningfulness. Therefore, new reports are being designed, developed and integrated into the system regularly. In order to incorporate the continuous changes, the system has been designed to incorporate modifications, improvements and enhancements as needed. This MIS information is used to generate different kinds of reports which include from very basic reports such as lists of beneficiaries to impact assessment of various program activities such as the effect of training programs on the outputs. Under these guiding principles and technological tools, a distinct strategy is developed for each project at the stage of program design using the following MEL cycle:



As shown in the above diagram, MEL unit maintains a system of continuous yet objective information flows through which evidence based conclusions are used for informed decision making to bring about improvements in existing as well as future programs.

4.4 Procurement Unit:

During the last eight years, the organization has processed and procured different items/ services with a worth of approx. PKR 80 million. The organization has a well-defined procurement policy and manual. The organization has strong consideration related to the value of money and adherence of policies oversight my SMT and BOD as per their given authorization. The organization has established a standardized procedure to undergo the procurement process. For selection of vendor ACT has well defined SOPs which clearly indicate the vendor selection and procurement process according to the global ethical checks. According to the SOPs the organization will establish a Procurement Committee with clear roles and responsibility for each vendor selection. The committee will evaluate the vendor's technical and financial capacity through a defined parameter. Any vendor contracts made by or made for ACT need to comply with the Standing Orders, donor requirements (if they exist) and relevant laws or legal requirements supersede any donor and ACT requirements. A competitive tender presents a formal written offer or bid to carry out work or to supply goods for a pre-stated price. There are strict conditions that apply to competitive tenders A quotation is a formal statement of the estimated cost of goods or services.

4.5 Human Resource Management and Admin Unit:

The organization has a robust systems of HR management and recruitment and has recruited qualified and professional staff in multiple disciplines. This unit operates through a computer based HRIS system customized to the organization's requirements. The HRIS system includes data for all employees of the organization, such as personal information, employee contract details, current job and previous employment details, leave history, education and training and TNA information. A performance management system, including performance appraisals, has been developed. This unit has also developed an organization-wide training needs analysis (TNA) for continuous HR development.

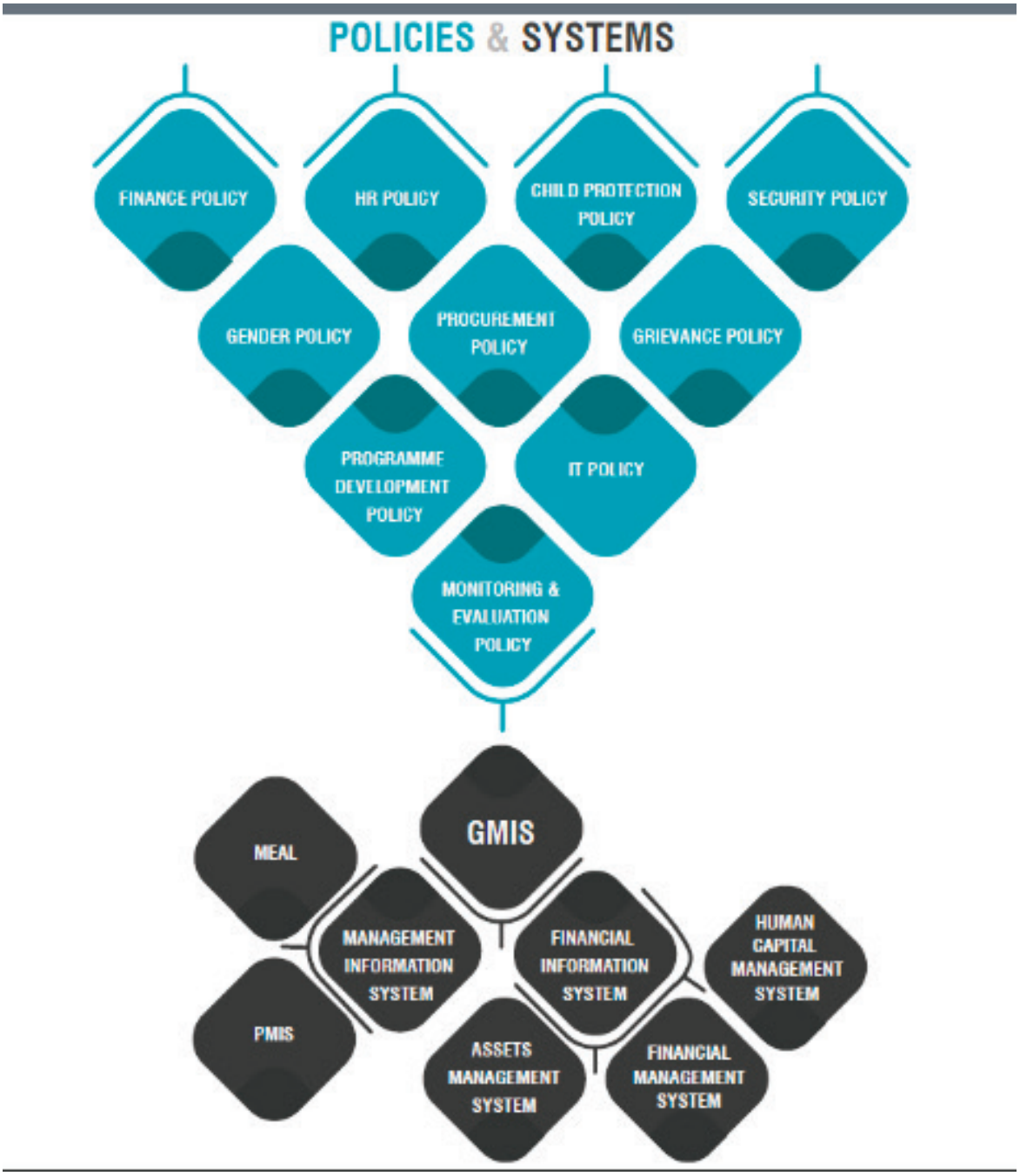
As of now, ACT has managed more than 1000 employees including the categories of senior management, management, mid management, professional, mid-career professionals and field based workers, etc. with the segregation of 40% male and 60% female in the program outreach. Gender discrimination and sexual harassment at work place policy is an integral part of ACT's HR policy. The HR management system of ACT is tested and verified by PCP (PCP certification is attached as Annex-C for ready reference).

4.6 Internal Audit Unit:

This unit has an important role in ACT and is an independent unit reporting to the executive management only. The Internal audit unit reports directly to the CEO. The unit keeps an eye on performance evaluation and financial controls of the organization through sample audit on a regular basis and completes an internal annual audit once in a year.

4.7 Policies and Systems:

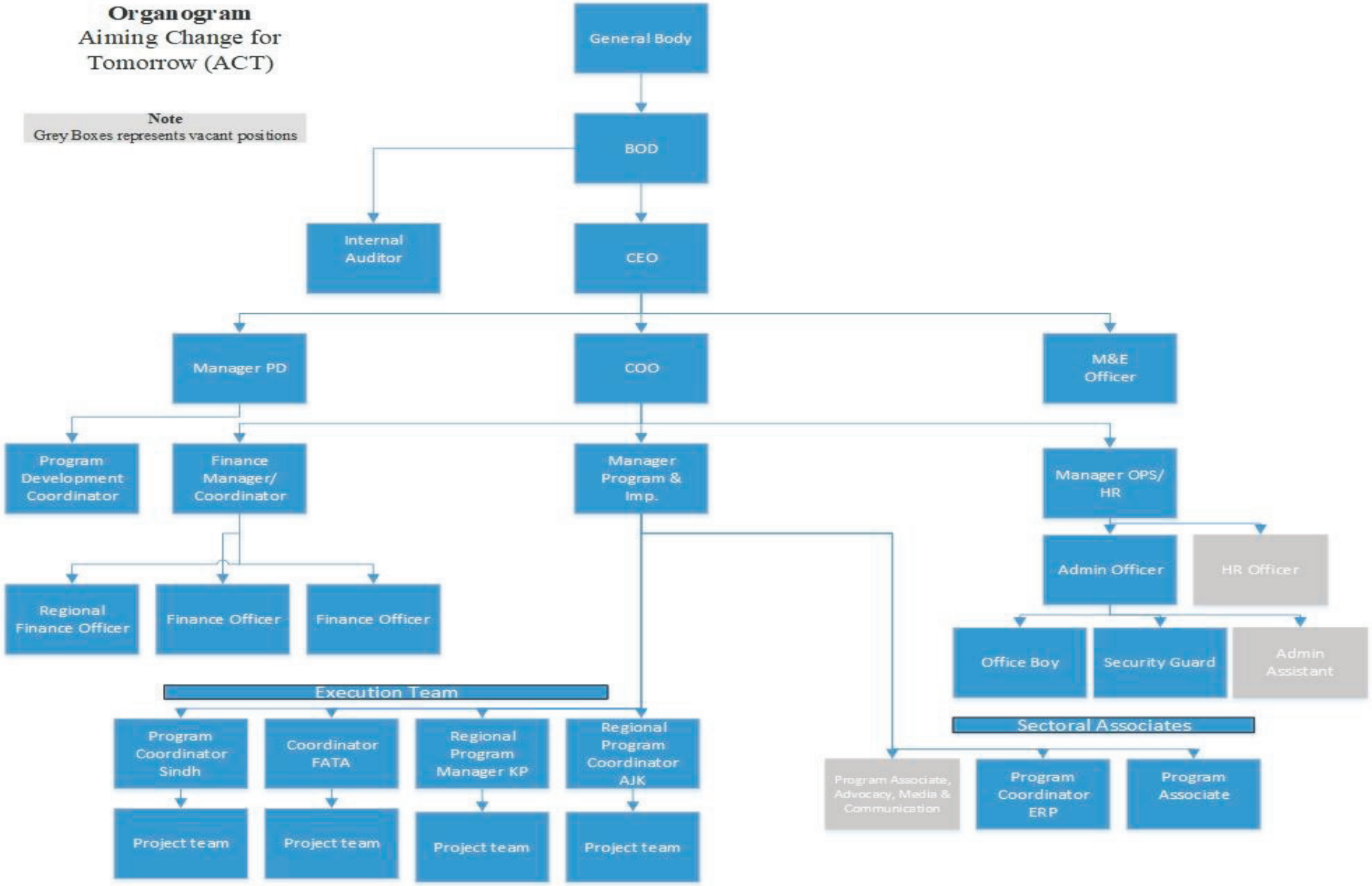
Some major policies and systems in place at ACT are presented in the self-explaining titled figure.



A detailed organogram of the organization is presented below on the next page:

Organogram
Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT)

Note
Grey Boxes represents vacant positions



5 KEY TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, CAPACITY AND BENEFICIARY OUTREACH

Following are the major technical expertise of ACT gained through practitioner led HR models and strengthened over the past eight years:

ACT has been able to positively impact and transform the lives of 3 million women, men and youth through evidence-based programme interventions across 23 districts of the country. ACT practices an integrated approach that promotes gender equality across all programs with a special focus on active women participation. Following are the numbers of its beneficiary outreach:

6 Lending a Helping Hand in Development

Major achievements in broad thematic approaches and areas are as follows:

6.1 Social Mobilization as the Main Program Approach

Social Mobilization is the core working approach of ACT with a goal of development through capacity building and local institutional strengthening. This approach is followed in all of ACT's projects and programmes to ensure the inclusiveness and ownership of the activities by the local communities. The social mobilization approach is led and owned by the community and it also builds capacity of the communities to manage the development process by blending the rights based programming in the context of community, particularly ultra-poor and bottom of the pyramid. The approach aims to achieve an all-round development so that an enabling environment is created to secure the rights of community, particularly women & children and sustainable development for communities. It is based on the conviction that the communities with improved socio- economic standing are more sensitized and empowered to protect the rights of all segments of society, particularly children, so that they can grow and develop in highly conducive environment.

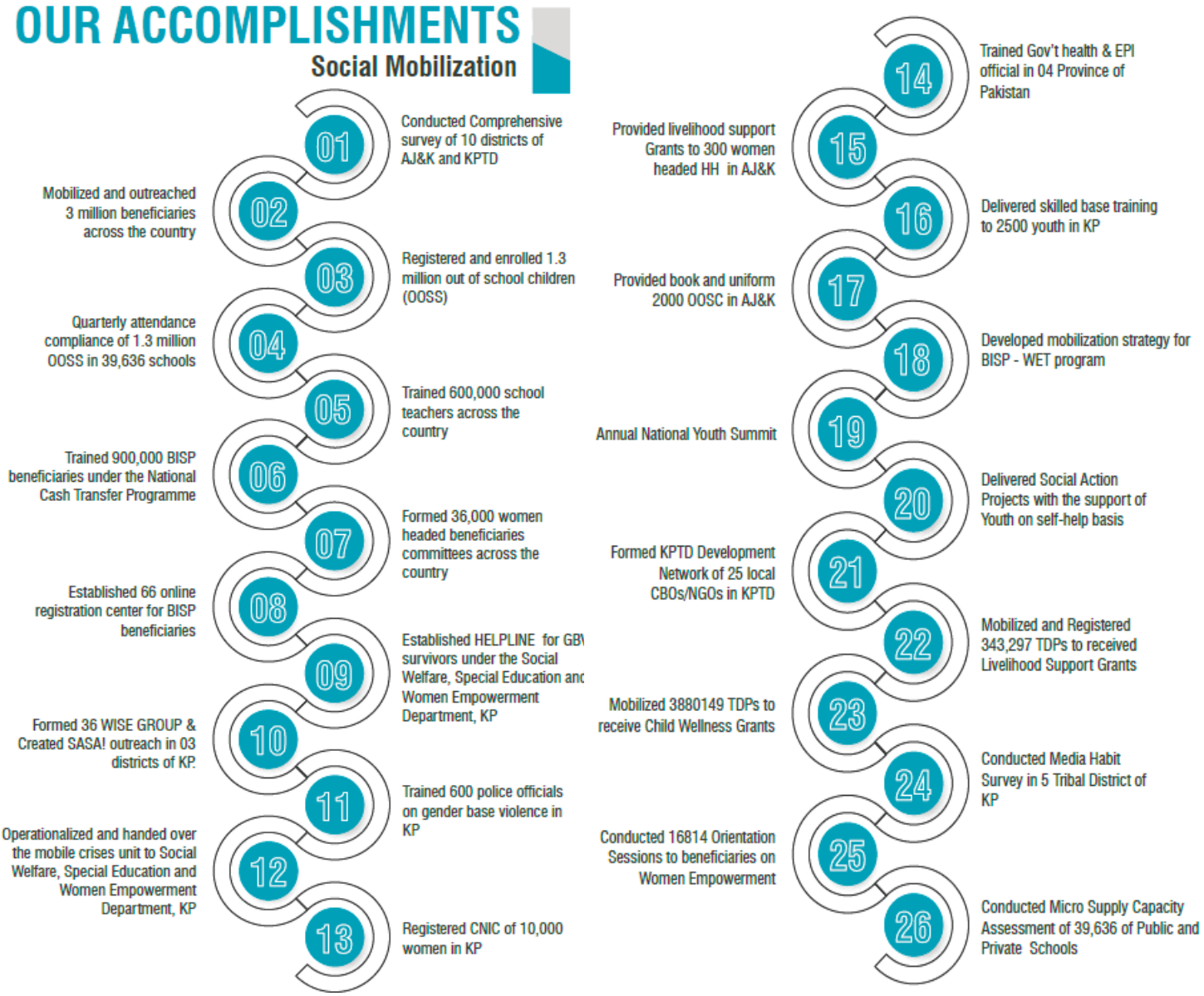
The core of any programme is mostly operative in the selected Union Councils (mostly rural and peri-urban areas). It is here that the area development approach is best suited and employed with excellent result expectations. Apex organizations are also formed at union council/village cluster level and community organizations at hamlet level as well as Village Development Organizations at village level, represented by all segments of communities and particularly marginalized and most vulnerable. These forums are important to stakeholders in design and development of sustainable community uplift programmes at community, village and union council/village cluster levels. Vertically, it addresses the rights of society particularly community at large in terms of survival, growth and development. However, horizontally it encompasses the areas of protection, social safety net, services, voices of marginalized groups specially women, children and young people. These plans cover a wide range of extended services offered principally through education, health, livelihood, policy advocacy, child protection and disaster preparedness components.

ACT also denotes consistent priority to innovate its social mobilization approach in highly fluid social behavior dynamics across Pakistan through its internal learnings as well as utilization (after thorough modification and redesigning to suite local context and settings) of successful international social mobilization theories and practical models. One such example is SASA approach which gave sustainable positive results in Africa and was adopted by ACT in its multiyear GBV prevention programme in parallel with its own approach. ACT is currently in the process of analyzing the results of both the approaches through comparative meta-analysis to gather evidence for refining its social mobilization approach. Detailed information on SASA approach/model can be found at http://raisingvoices.org/sasa/.

The key expertise gained by ACT through rolling out social mobilization approaches in its various programmes over the past eight years 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 programme beyond project life cycle
- Individual and institutional capacity building and training programmes 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 programme 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, assimilation and synthetization using mixed methods research techniques throughout programme lifecycle and beyond. ACT stresses on the importance of research and analysis for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of its programme activities as well as to draw learnings for the course correction of existing programmes and redesign of future programme 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 programmes, M&E policies and processes, among others.

It is this inclusive social mobilization approach and ACT's passion to continuously innovate the modeling behind such approaches for its programmes that It has been able to accomplish following results above and beyond the design phase expected results of its programmes:



The section below describes the ACT's project portfolio which utilized the above mentioned technical approaches and expertise:

7 PROJECTS PORTFOLIO

PROJECT TITLE	Benazir Nashonuma Programme, Punjab
SECTOR	Nutrition
PROJECT DURATION	April 2024 - June 2024
DONOR	WFP
BUDGET	94,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	330,986
LOCATION	13 districts of Punjab
DESCRIPTION	This project targets nutrition improvement through outreach to beneficiaries in Punjab, providing documentation, utilizing mobile facilities, and enhancing beneficiary engagement with health services.
KEY OUTPUTS	-Reached out to 156,226 beneficiaries in 13 districts for nutritional support. -Assisted 37% of beneficiaries lacking essential civic documents. -Implemented 9 mobile facilitation centers (FCs) and collaborated with Clinic-on-Wheels in Lahore, Faisalabad, and Gujranwala. -Enhanced follow-up communications via SMS, phone calls, and direct outreach.
KEY RESULTS	-Improved access to nutritional programs and civic documentation for many individuals. -Enhanced effectiveness of service delivery through mobile units and integrated urban initiatives. -Increased repeat visits to facilitation centers, indicating higher engagement and impact on the target population.

PROJECT TITLE	Designing a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Framework for School Councils in Pakistan
SECTOR	Education
PROJECT DURATION	November 2023 - May 2025
DONOR	British Council
BUDGET	38,509,300
BENEFICIARIES	135,596
LOCATION	Punjab and KPK
DESCRIPTION	This project aims to enhance the skills and leadership capacities of over 1,500 school council members across Punjab, KPK, and Federal areas through a tailored CPD framework. It focuses on improving governance, management, and community engagement within schools.
KEY OUTPUTS	-Enhanced leadership capacity and skills of school council members through training programs. -Developed a deeper understanding of governance and policy among council members. -Fostered stronger school-community engagement. -Supported child-centric school environment initiatives. -Established standards and benchmarks for continuous improvement in school councils. -Provided a sustainable model for school leadership development to government partners.
KEY RESULTS	-Improved school governance and management capabilities -Enhanced student advocacy and support through empowered school councils. -Strengthened community relations and inclusion in school development. -Laid foundations for ongoing professional development and leadership in education.

PROJECT TITLE	Cash Assistance for Nutrition for Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women and Children Below 5 Among Most Vulnerable Flood-Affected Population
SECTOR	Health & Nutrition, Social Safeguarding
PROJECT DURATION	September 2023 - January 2024
DONOR	WFP
BUDGET	51,092,500
BENEFICIARIES	179,903
LOCATION	District Naseerabad (Balochistan)
DESCRIPTION	This project aims to address nutrition in vulnerable populations, particularly pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under 5, in flood-affected areas through cash assistance and educational programs.
KEY OUTPUTS	-Screened over 100,000 families for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). -Provided cash assistance of 12,000 PKR across three cycles to 12,604 eligible households. -Established Mother Support Groups and Informal Men's Groups to promote health-seeking behaviors. -Implemented financial literacy sessions and nutrition education activities.
KEY RESULTS	-Improved nutritional status and health literacy among targeted vulnerable populations. -Enhanced community awareness on early childhood nutrition and health-seeking behaviors through fairs and social media campaigns. -Fostered community engagement and empowerment in managing nutrition and health education.

PROJECT TITLE	Climate Change Resilience Building in Jaffarabad (Phase 3)
SECTOR	Disaster Management, Climate Change
PROJECT DURATION	June 2023 - December 2023
DONOR	WFP
BUDGET	45,737,000
BENEFICIARIES	161,046
LOCATION	District Jaffarabad (Balochistan)
DESCRIPTION	This project focuses on building climate resilience through enhanced disaster management, sustainable agriculture, and environmental conservation in Jaffarabad. It includes infrastructure development,
	training in climate-smart agriculture, and community-led disaster preparedness.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Strengthened emergency preparedness and response systems for 10,000 people. - Built disaster mitigation infrastructure like protection walls, water ponds, and safe places. - Delivered training to 2,000 households in climate-smart agriculture and income-generating activities. - Planted 10,000 trees and established 20 nurseries. - Implemented comprehensive waste management and water conservation measures. - Formed and trained 20 Village Disaster Management Committees and volunteer groups.

KEY RESULTS	- Enhanced community resilience to disasters and climate impacts. - Improved sustainable livelihoods through agricultural training. - Boosted environmental protection efforts with significant afforestation and conservation practices. - Increased community involvement and ownership in local disaster management and environmental conservation projects.

PROJECT TITLE	**Climate Change Resilience Building in Rajanpur (Phase 3)**
SECTOR	Disaster Management, Climate Change
PROJECT DURATION	June 2023 - December 2023
DONOR	WFP
BUDGET	40,724,000
BENEFICIARIES	143,394
LOCATION	Rajanpur (Punjab)
DESCRIPTION	This project aims to enhance climate resilience in Rajanpur by strengthening community emergency preparedness, developing sustainable agricultural practices, and implementing climate adaptation measures.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Established 25 Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMCs). - Conducted various training sessions for VDMC members and local farmers on emergency preparedness and climate-smart agriculture. - Built 1 km protection bund and established 6 water ponds and 3 safe places. - Distributed essential agricultural supplies and toolkits. - Implemented climate change adaptation strategies including policy dialogues and awareness campaigns.
KEY RESULTS	- Enhanced community preparedness for disaster management. - Improved sustainable agricultural practices among local farmers. - Fostered environmental protection through the installation of waste management systems and the establishment of nurseries. - Developed a community-based approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

PROJECT TITLE	**WGFS Sindh**
SECTOR	Protection
PROJECT DURATION	May 2023 - December 2023
DONOR	UNFPA
BUDGET	35,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	123,239
LOCATION	Umerkot, Badin (Sindh)
DESCRIPTION	The project focuses on enhancing the protection and support for women and girls in Sindh by establishing friendly spaces and providing a range of services aimed at addressing gender-based violence and promoting health.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Established 6 women and girls' friendly spaces. - Provided psychosocial support and GBV case management. - Delivered health services via telemedicine. - Deployed community mobilizers to enhance awareness and engagement. - Coordinated specialized medical camps and community sessions. - Conducted training and regular GBV coordination meetings.

	- Updated safety audits and capacity assessments. - Designed and distributed IEC materials on GBV mitigation.
KEY RESULTS	- Directly supported 13,000 women and girls with essential services. - Improved community response to gender-based violence through comprehensive training and resource availability. - Enhanced community health and safety through strategic interventions and materials dissemination.

PROJECT TITLE	**Schools Connect Program**
SECTOR	Education
PROJECT DURATION	March 2023 - February 2024
DONOR	British Council
BUDGET	23,800,000
BENEFICIARIES	83,803
LOCATION	8 districts of South Punjab
DESCRIPTION	The program focuses on enhancing the educational framework in South Punjab through leadership training for teachers and school managers, improving school environments, and fostering a network of empowered educators.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Trained 600 teachers and school managers in leadership skills. - Enhanced educational leadership and management capabilities. - Developed a supportive and enriching learning environment for students.
KEY RESULTS	- Improved the quality of education by equipping teachers with necessary leadership skills. - Increased student enrollment and retention. - Empowered educators to take proactive roles in school management and student advocacy. - Fostered a strong network of committed educators aimed at raising educational standards.

PROJECT TITLE	**Employment Intensive Reconstruction in Flood Affected Districts**
SECTOR	Disaster Management, Climate Change, Social Protection
PROJECT DURATION	March 2023 - August 2023
DONOR	International Labour Organization (ILO)
BUDGET	35,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	123,239
LOCATION	Rajanpur (South Punjab) and Sohbatpur (Balochistan)
DESCRIPTION	The project focuses on rebuilding infrastructure in flood-affected districts through employment-intensive activities. It aims to enhance community resilience against future disasters and improve agricultural income through the construction of climate-resilient housing, irrigation systems, and other critical infrastructure.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Built low-cost, climate-resilient housing and multi-purpose platforms. - Developed irrigation schemes and protection walls/embankments. - Cleared farmlands and roads to restore agricultural productivity. - Engaged 451 unskilled and skilled Cash-for-Work (Cfw) beneficiaries in reconstruction activities. - Provided livelihood trainings to 150 women and specialized roles for 4 women at Women's Community Centers.
KEY RESULTS	- Improved infrastructure and community resilience in two of the most-affected Union Councils. - Enhanced the economic stability of 603 Cfw beneficiaries through timely payments and employment opportunities. - Advanced women's participation in community services and economic recovery efforts.

PROJECT TITLE	WGFS Balochistan
SECTOR	Gender, Disaster Management
PROJECT DURATION	January 2023 - June 2023
DONOR	UNFPA
BUDGET	30,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	105,634
LOCATION	Sibi, Naseerabad (Balochistan)
DESCRIPTION	The project focuses on providing gender-sensitive disaster management through various support mechanisms tailored specifically for women and girls in the flood-affected areas of Balochistan. It involves establishing friendly spaces, deploying health services via telemedicine, and enhancing community engagement and GBV response capabilities.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Established 6 women and girls' friendly spaces in Umerkot and Badin. - Provided health services using EZShifa telemedicine equipment, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health. - Mobilized the community through deployed Community Mobilizers. - Enhanced GBV response through training sessions and regular coordination meetings.
KEY RESULTS	- Directly supported 18,000 women and girls with psychosocial support and health services. - Improved community awareness and response to gender-based violence. - Coordinated medical camps and community sessions to provide specialized services and foster community resilience.

PROJECT TITLE	Integrated Project for Economic Recovery in Flood Emergency - Pakistan
SECTOR	Disaster Management
PROJECT DURATION	November 2022 - February 2023
DONOR	Care for Others
BUDGET	15,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	52,817
LOCATION	Jaffarabad, Usta Muhammad, Sohbatpur, Naseerabad (Balochistan)
DESCRIPTION	The project aims to facilitate economic recovery for communities affected by floods through agricultural support, health services, and infrastructure development.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Provided seed and fertilizers to 120 farmer families for 240 acres. - Distributed winterization kits to 1,228 families. - Offered healthcare and maternal child health (MCH) services. - Granted cash assistance for livelihood restoration to 30 families. - Constructed one-room houses for 22 families. - Installed water filtration plants in flood-affected areas.
KEY RESULTS	- Enhanced agricultural productivity and sustainability for affected farmers. - Improved living conditions through winterization efforts and new housing. - Increased access to clean water and healthcare, significantly improving community health and resilience.

PROJECT TITLE	**Unconditional and Conditional Life Saving Cash Assistance Program for the Flood Affected Communities in Rajanpur (Phase 1 & 2)**
SECTOR	Disaster Management, Social Protection
PROJECT DURATION	November 2022 - May 2023
DONOR	WFP
BUDGET	35,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	123,239
LOCATION	Rajanpur (South Punjab)
DESCRIPTION	This program aims to support flood-affected communities through two phases of cash assistance: unconditional cash transfers and conditional cash-for-work, addressing immediate needs and promoting recovery and self-sufficiency.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Phase I: Unconditional Cash-Based Transfers to 7,000 beneficiaries. - Phase II: Conditional Cash-for-Work for 2,606 households. - Tangible asset creation like water ponds, safe places, water channels, protection bunds. - Non-tangible assets like training sessions for farming, livestock management, and entrepreneurship.
KEY RESULTS	- Provided immediate financial relief and facilitated recovery for over 123,239 people. - Enhanced community infrastructure through the construction of 50 water harvesting ponds, 37 safe places, and multiple other constructions. - Empowered local communities with skills and resources to sustain their livelihoods through extensive training programs.

	- Improved health and well-being of vulnerable groups impacted by the floods.
PROJECT TITLE	**Unconditional Life Saving Cash Assistance Program for the Flood Affected Communities in Sohbatpur (Phase 1 & 2)**
SECTOR	Disaster Management, Social Protection
PROJECT DURATION	November 2022 - May 2023
DONOR	WFP
BUDGET	35,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	123,239
LOCATION	Sohbatpur (Balochistan)
DESCRIPTION	This program is designed to provide immediate financial support to flood-affected communities through two phases. Phase I includes unconditional cash transfers, while Phase II integrates a conditional cash-for-work scheme to promote recovery and resilience.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Phase I: Unconditional Cash-Based Transfers of PKR 12,000 to 9,000 beneficiaries for three separate cycles. - Phase II: Conditional Cash-for-Work to support sustainable recovery and rebuilding efforts.
KEY RESULTS	- Provided critical financial assistance to 9,000 families, enhancing their ability to manage post-disaster challenges. - Supported community recovery and infrastructure rebuilding through the cash-for-work program, benefiting a broad segment of the local population.

PROJECT TITLE	WGFS and Flood Emergency Response
SECTOR	Gender, Disaster Management
PROJECT DURATION	October 2022 - December 2023
DONOR	UNFPA
BUDGET	60,000,000
BENEFICIARIES	211,268
LOCATION	Rajanpur (South Punjab)
DESCRIPTION	The project aimed to provide immediate support to flood-affected populations, particularly focusing on women and girls. Initiatives included establishing Women and Girls Friendly Spaces (WGFS) to help individuals overcome trauma caused by floods, deploying Mobile Health Units (MHU) for healthcare services, distributing dignity kits, and addressing gender-based violence (GBV) through educational programs and training.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Established Women and Girls Friendly Space (WGFS) for trauma support. - Operated Mobile Health Units (MHU) for on-site health care. - Distributed 120 dignity kits to support pregnant, lactating women, and adolescent girls. - Developed a GBV training manual and conducted Training of Trainers (TOT) on GBV prevention.
KEY RESULTS	Supported 4,000 beneficiaries directly through various interventions. - Enhanced the capacity of local communities to manage and mitigate gender-based violence during disasters.

PROJECT TITLE	National Consultation on Alignment of Single National Curriculum with SDG4/2030 Education Agenda of Pakistan
DONOR	UNESCO
GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE	Nationwide, Pakistan
DESCRIPTION	The project facilitated national consultations to align Pakistan's curriculum with SDG4, focusing on inclusive and equitable quality education. The effort aimed to integrate global educational standards into the national curriculum, involving key educational stakeholders to enhance the Ministry of Education's strategic approach.
KEY OUTPUTS	- Engaged 3,873 stakeholders in consultations. Developed refined curriculum frameworks incorporating SDG4. -Enhanced ICT integration in educational strategies.
KEY RESULTS	-Ministry of Education strengthened by alignment with international educational standards. -Broad stakeholder engagement ensured comprehensive input and support for curriculum adjustments. - Developed a roadmap for continuous alignment and evaluation of the curriculum.

8 RESEARCH PORTFOLIO

ACT's research portfolio includes studies that go beyond evaluation of programme activities to illumination of the policy dimensions of governance and development problems. The key research products have been produced by utilizing in house expertise, and outsourcing to qualified research consultants. ACT has also strived to ensure the inclusion of local CSOs and local universities in action research activities through providing them with capacity building and technical assistance to provide the requisite skills and qualifications that enable them to partner with ACT in our field research activities. ACT can mobilize human resources for all kinds of data collection in 32 districts of Pakistan in a very short span of time. Furthermore, ACT has one of the leading research methodologists and econometricians with doctorate degrees on its panel to support all kind of research activities including research design, instrument development, sample design and weighting, data collection, data entry, data analysis and report writing. Following is the list of key research studies conducted:

- Field assessment report of district Haripur for MDG targets report
- Baseline survey to find out key elements of conflict among different set of educational institutions
- Zeran, upper kurram, rapid need assessment report
- Union council gogra, rapid need assessment report
- Union council surbander, gawadar-need assessment report
- Livelihood assessment Union council shohal mazullah, need assessment report
- Gender base violence statistics in Nowshera, Mardan and Swabi, Baseline Assessment report
- Muzaffarabad field assessment report for Gender equity program
- Mechanism for Transparency, Accountability and Anti-corruption, An Overview of Existing Institutions & Practices In Azad State of Jammu & Kashmir
- Rapid Assessment Report, Women's Access to Justice & Women's Human Rights
- Mid-Term review of REAT project -The Asia Foundation
- Baseline survey to find the youth demographics in UC Musazai- D.I. Khan
- Baseline assessment for the identification of most vulnerable women with perspective of economic empowerment in UC Siana Daman, District Hattian Bala AJK
- Impact Assessment of the project MRMV-Oxfam Novib
- Trend analysis of the past 5 years for the Agricultural department of KP
- baseline report for USAID project -UC Siana Daman-District Hattian regarding women economic issues
- baseline report of UNDP project in UC Musazai, district DI Khan regarding youth status

9 PUBLIC INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS:

ACT has extensive experience in designing custom made communication and advocacy campaigns after thorough market and stakeholder/audience research. Some of our key campaigns are discussed below:

Benazir Income Support program (BISP) is an un-conditional cash transfer program (UCT) which provides financial assistance to women in poorest of the poor families through cash payments. The organization has designed social mobilization strategy in pilot phase, which was tested in five districts of 4 provinces and one region (AJ&K), The program was extended for 24 months in 67 tehsils of 16 new districts, resulted in a total of 115 tehsils of 32 districts of the integrated phase to share the overall targets, activities, challenges, case studies and other interrelated activities. For that very reason, organization had devised coherent communication, media and social mobilization strategy for the effective implementation of project activities to achieve desired results. The said documents can be found on this link:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/52b8saoaf2ntsag/AAAWsWfW5Jkytb2nNt_a7cs5a?dl=0

Under FATA Temporarily displaced persons (TDP) – Early Recovery Project (ERP) of EAD/NADRA, the organization has conducted the first ever media habit survey of tribal districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (FATA) to determine the media habits of inhabitants of five agencies of FATA, including Aurkzai, Khyber, Kuram, North Waziristan and South Waziristan. The media habit survey laid the foundation of communication strategy to support and facilitate the effective implementation of the said project. Based on the findings of media habit survey, the modality of public information campaigns includes; radio spots, TV ads, newspaper ads, standees, brochures, leaflets, banners, FAQs etc. Reference material:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/52b8saoaf2ntsag/AAAWsWfW5Jkytb2nNt_a7cs5a?dl=0

The organization has worked with social welfare department (SWD) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to develop and implement public information campaign on grass root level to create awareness amongst community to generate demand to respond Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors and reduced tolerance against GBV in 6 districts of KP. The organization also launched BOLO help line for the relief of marginalized segments of society. For the awareness, prevention and responding against GBV, the organization launched public information campaigns in which banner, posters, billboards, audio and video ads etc. were used. Reference material can be found on this link: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1yqsrfjbo76wk3r/AABFJxQ_i445ip4Ow-vRABNHa?dl=0

UNICEF Birth Registration Project was another project designed and implemented to aware, mobilize and register under 18 children with NADRA for computerized record in Khyber Agency. This initiative is first of its kind for the people of Bara and people have very little information about Birth registration and its importance. The organization was involved in public information campaigning through; print ads in newspapers and magazines; video ads on TV, in cinemas and online; streamers and posters in side malls and stores; audio ads on radio; banners and text ads on the internet; billboards on outdoor sites; branding on mobile outdoor sites. Reference material can be found on the following link: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ukstxaghkxrde9l/AAASPYeZEhWqud2_SG1kM0IDa?dl=0

10 Our Membership and Alliances

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

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