

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



**GENDER EQUALITY & MAINSTREAMING
IS THE AGENDA OF ENTIRE GoP, IT IS
NOT RESTRICTED TO MoWD'S DOMAIN**

**Ministry of Women Development
Pakistan Development Forum 2005**

CURRENT SITUATION

- * **68% rural women most vulnerable, poor and voiceless – lack assets, access to services, options and economic opportunities.**
- * **Of 32% urban women, majority live in slums or katchi abadis or just above poverty line – lack basic needs and economic options.**
- * **Both r+u women suffer socio-cultural gender biases, inequalities, injustice.**
 - **PRSP focus is on poor + vulnerable; asset creation; human capital;**
 - **MDGs1-2,4-7 are integrally linked to #3: gender equality+women's empowerment.**

COMMITMENT

- **Political**: GoP leadership fully committed to women's empowerment and equality;
- **Constitutional**: 1973 Constitution provides legal basis - enshrines women's right to equality & justice;
- **International**: GoP is bound to implement CEDAW, CRC, ILO100 and other Conventions and is doing so;
- **Policy**: NPDEW (2002) & PRSP (2003) – GoP's stated intent is being operationalized;



Some of the MANY Challenges

- Need to target poor/rural women's access to social & economic resources;
- Need for ownership of “gender” by GoP, replacing “women only” perception;
- Need for gender budgeting, policy and programming in vital areas, e.g. Law, Agriculture, Industries, Production;etc.
- Need for social protection, social safety nets and mechanisms to address increasing feminization of poverty;
- Need for adequate enabling legislative framework;
- Need to address increasing incidents of violence against women and inadequate law enforcement.

Medium-Term Objectives

- **Greater participation of women in all fora: political, economic, legislative - decision-making and policy planning;**
- **State-owned lands distribution – joint m/f ownership and registration;**
- **Wider & easier availability for women: micro-credit, small-to-medium loans, technical vocational skills, and entrepreneurship options.**
- **Accurate gender + r/u-disaggregated database for planning & programming: census enumeration, b/d registration, ag. census and labour force surveys.**



Longer-Term Objectives

- **Achievement of MDGs goals #1-8;**
- **Achievement of PRSP goals – engendered to promote women’s equality and empowerment, e.g. land-ownership; women in remunerated employment; household food security; rural water and sanitation...**
- **Achievement of Constitutional guarantees of women’s equality through affirmative action; proactive legislation; access to justice and governance; political participation.**

Current GoP Initiatives

- **MoFin: increasingly engendering PRSP and related initiatives;**
- **MoP&D: increasingly engendering MTDF and planning process: PC-1;**
- **MoE: increasing girls enrolment, retention and attainment rates;**
- **MoH & MoPW: decreasing IMR & MMR by increasing girls' & women's access to primary health care and RH;**
- **MoLGRD: increasing women's participation in LG & rural development; and project ref. alternative dispute resolution.**



MoWD's Current Initiatives

- 1. Protection and Rehabilitation Services (10 Crisis Centres)**
- 2. Training/Skill Development**
- 3. Drinking Water Supply**
- 4. Mobility Support Services**
- 5. Strengthening/Capacity Development**
- 6. Research on Women's Issues/Needs**
- 7. Awareness Raising**
- 8. National Fund for Advancement of Rural Women**
- 9. Gender Reform Action Plan (GRAP)**

MoWD's Significant Interventions

- **Jafakash Aurat - National Fund for Advancement of Rural Women (Rs. 110 million)**

Three model projects of micro finance initiative launched adding value in production chain by capacity building and vocational training. Partnership with FWBL, Khushhali Bank and AKRSP. Estimated job creation: 23,000 for women.

- **GRAP - Gender Reform Action Program(Rs. 620 million)**

It is all about engendering the governance structures at Federal, Provincial and District levels.

Key Reforms Proposed Under GRAP are:

Reforms to improve women's political participation, Institutional Reforms. Women's Employment in Public Sector, Policy and Budgetary Reforms, Capacity Development Interventions and Supporting Reforms

New Initiatives

- **MoFin:** and MoWD are to work with sectoral line Ministries to introduce pilot gender budgeting – in concept and practice;
- **MoP&D:** MoWD will support P&D in its work with sectoral line Ministries to promote (a) concept of “gender mainstreaming” and ownership of PRSP, MDGs and MTDF; (b) implementation, monitoring and evaluation of likely gender impact through PC-1 to 5 documentation process.

MoWD's Planned Initiatives

<u>Initiatives</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
	<u>Rs. In millions</u>
• Engendering Governance Structures (GRAP)	620
• Political and Legal Empowerment (Laws, Awareness, Advocacy, Publicity)	350
• Economic Empowerment (Technical Skills & Micro-Finance)	600
• Social Empowerment (Research on critical areas of NPA, Family protection & Rehabilitation)	600
• Others (Database MIS, Mobility support)	275
	Total <u>2445</u>
GOP	Rs. 1245 (51%)
Donors	Rs. 1200 (49%)

Requirements & Expectations From PDF

- **Human Resource Requirements:** MoWD needs capacity-building – and more importantly, image-building...
- **Technical Assistance Needs:** MoWD needs technical human power to carry out multi-sectoral interaction, advocacy and catalytic role;
- **NGO & Private Sector Partnership:** financial resources to replicate best practices and successes;
- **Donor Harmonization:** to avoid overlap or duplication.



Final Thought

**IF WE DO NOT ENGENDER THE
DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, WE
ARE ENDANGERING IT.**

**IT IS NOT AN IMPOSSIBLE
DREAM - TOGETHER, WE ALL
CAN ACHIEVE THIS...**