

# CRISIS PREVENTION AND INCLUSION

United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT BRIEF



## Balochistan SDGs (BSDG) Accelerated Delivery Project

Balochistan, the largest province of Pakistan, covers an area of 347,190 square kilometres and accounts for 44 percent of Pakistan's territory. But it is also the least populated province of Pakistan with a total population of 12.34 million, representing only 5 percent of the national population<sup>1</sup>.

In addition to weak institutions, weak governance, and poor law enforcement, Balochistan is also marred by an unsettled security situation, difficult terrain and access, an uncertain water supply, and limited livelihood opportunities. Balochistan has the second highest headcount for multi-dimensional poverty out of all the provinces; at 71.2 percent. These development challenges need to be addressed so that the province can reap benefits from the emerging development opportunities. Implemented by UNDP and the Planning & Development Department of the Government of

<sup>1</sup> Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, National Census, 2017

### QUICK FACTS

**Duration:** 2017 – 2024

**Implementing partner(s):** University of Balochistan, Gwadar Institute of Technology, Hashoo Foundation, National Logistics Cell, Institute of Business Administration-Karachi, Empowerment through Creative Integration (ECI), and Youth Organization of Balochistan

**Funding Partner(s):** Government of Balochistan (GoB), China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), UNDP

**Locations:** Gwadar, Khuzdar, Quetta, Kila Saifullah, Kila Abdullah, Nushki, and Zhob; Balochistan

**Budget: Total: \$ 2,088,188**

\$ 687,242 (GoB)

\$ 1,400,946 (UNDP (CIF+TRAC))

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Balochistan, this project seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Enhanced capacities of local governments to effectively plan and deliver services to achieve the SDGs.
2. Accelerating the delivery of SDGs by investing in basic services to address immediate and urgent needs
3. Developing alternate livelihoods and stimulating the local economy through skills training, business development and trade.

### Project Activities to Date

#### Enhanced capacities of the local governments to effectively plan and deliver services to achieve the SDGs

- A Government Innovation Lab (GIL) was set up at the University of Balochistan for introducing innovation and technology solutions to address development challenges. The lab has so far engaged 21 fellows in completing 6 prototypes (dashboards) for government departments. Apart from these, a water quality testing kit has been designed and tested by GIL, providing real-time Android based data about the functionality and water quality of filtration plants. Now, GIL has become a self-sustaining department within the university, and it receives grants from the Government and Balochistan and other entities.
- 3 surveys related to the assessment of bottlenecks and gap analysis in basic services delivery mechanism and policy recommendations for implementation were completed with the support of GIL.
- SDGs Localization plan for two districts - Nushki and Qilla Abdullah prepared.
- The project conducted a market assessment of the current trends of the skill sets required by the emerging market triggered by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) initiative.
- Launch of an Innovation Challenge Cup for the Implementation of 3 technology-led innovation projects to provide public service solutions to government departments.
- Launch of the Balochistan youth innovation challenge which provided grants to 27 participants for solving development challenges in Balochistan.
- Provided support to Metropolitan Corporation Quetta under the challenge cup for the sustainable

low-cost waste management of the GOR area of Quetta.

#### Developing alternate livelihoods and stimulating the local economy through skills training, business development and trade.

- Vocational training for 6 months to 355 young adults from Gwadar (260 men and 95 women).
- 355 trainees from GIT were provided relevant tool kits (including 95 laptops for women)
- Entrepreneurship training for 200 young adults (100 men and 100 women) were provided by the Institute of Business Administration (IBA).
- 110 faculty members from different academic institutions in Balochistan were trained by IBA to run such training independently.
- 6 months of training provided on hospitality management for 100 young adults from Balochistan, conducted at PC Hotel Karachi.
- 120 young adults trained for two months in the operation of heavy machinery including dozers, graders, excavators, etc.



Figure 1: ECI Training on SSS

- 532 unemployed young adults were trained in entrepreneurship and how to access financial support from banks under the Government of Pakistan's *Kamyab Jawan* Program (165 men and 367 women).
- Training of 107 young adults (62 men and 45 women) on E-Commerce.
- 100 youth (78 men and 22 women) of Balochistan were trained in Small Scale and Medium Scale

Enterprises for Improved Competitiveness and Partnerships

### Planned GoB Funded Activities for the year 2023

#### Developing alternate livelihoods (for both men and women).

- The budget for the project (GoB share) has been fully exhausted. Now detailed evaluation of the project is in progress and the report will be finalized before June 2023
- Planning to collaborate with the Planning and Development Department of GoB on creating a new PC1 for further scaling up of BSDGs intervention.

## CIDCA Funded Component: Promoting the COVID-19 Response and Public Services Capacity in Balochistan

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has increased health risks to people across the world and has also led to adverse socio-economic impacts, including a lack of meaningful civic engagement and unemployment. COVID-19 has brought substantial challenges to the realization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In Pakistan, this situation is further exacerbated when it comes to vulnerable communities like Displaced People and people with disabilities, particularly women, who remain more vulnerable to the consequences posed by the pandemic. Focused and persistent efforts are needed, therefore, to overcome setbacks and achieve the SDGs with the aim of Leaving No One Behind.

Building on the existing BSDGs Accelerated Delivery Project, the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) is funding several initiatives through Global Development Fund to help find sustainable solutions to the development challenges in Balochistan. This involves analyzing the progress of SDG achievements in Pakistan, addressing local infrastructure and livelihood needs, improving local resilience to the COVID-19 outbreak, and ensuring stable social development to promote the attainment of SDGs.

Specific outcomes of the project include:

- Strengthened local capacity to respond to COVID-19, enhanced public services and accelerate the achievement of sustainable development goals by

developing public service solutions and providing related equipment and facilities for health and education departments.

- Enhanced capacity to respond to COVID-19 and the quality of public services in Balochistan by providing training to local government officials.

At the same time, the project is attempting to foster partnerships across a range of critical sectors, which collectively have a greater development impact and speed up achievements toward SDGs.

### 9 Funded Ongoing Activities for the year 2023:

#### QUICK FACTS

**Duration:** 2021-2023

**Donor:** China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA)

**Partner Agencies:** Planning and Development (P&D) Department, Government of Balochistan (GoB), The Institute for Sustainable Development Goals of Tsinghua University (TUSDGs), Chinese National Academy of Governance (CNAG)

**Budget:** \$2 million

**Geographic focus:** 4 districts in Balochistan: Gwadar, Kila Abdullah, Quetta, and Nushki.

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### Accelerating the delivery of SDGs by investment in basic services to address immediate and urgent needs with a special focus on women and vulnerable groups.

- Assessment Report prepared around the Development of customized public service strategies with the Institute for Sustainable Development Goals of Tsinghua University (TUSDG) and local governmental institutions for 2 selected districts: Gwadar and Quetta for effective planning, resources allocation, project execution



and public services equipment and facilities improvement.

- Procurement and distribution process for the provision of essential equipment for 18 schools and 8 hospitals partially completed for two districts: Killa Abdullah and Nushki.
- Renovation and repair work for 11 schools and 4 hospitals is ongoing in district Killa Abdullah and 4 hospitals and 8 schools in district Nushki.



Figure 2: UNDP visit to schools and hospitals of District Nushki

- For the prevention and control of COVID-19, centralized oxygen plants are being installed in 4 district headquarters hospitals for local public service institutions and communities.
- Public awareness sessions for the prevention and control of COVID-19 have been delivered in 60 schools in 4 districts up till now.

#### Planned CSSCAF Funded Activities for the year 2023:

- Provision of public service capacity-building training for at least 50 government-related department personnel to enhance the level of local government public services and provide effective basic public services.



Figure 3: Doctor in a hospital of District Killa Abdullah

- Completion of ongoing Repair and Renovation Activities in schools and hospitals of district Nushki and Killa Abdullah.
- Preparation of detailed BOQs for the Repair and Renovation Activities in schools and hospitals of districts Gwadar and Quetta.
- Preparation of ITB/RFQ for the supply of equipment to schools and hospitals of districts Gawadar and Quetta.
- Organizing project hand-over ceremonies in each respective district.
- Continuation of awareness sessions for the prevention and control of COVID-19 in schools

#### Expected Results:

The project will focus on providing public services in health and education to meet the most urgent and immediate needs, including:

- The provision of public services equipment and facilities to accelerate the delivery of the SDGs, strengthen the capacity of COVID-19 response and further address immediate and urgent needs with an emphasis on women and vulnerable groups.
- Enhancement of the capacity of local governments to effectively deliver public services to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.