

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT BRIEF



Consultations with communities are crucial to ensure that women protection mechanisms are accessible.

Decentralization, Human Rights and Local Governance

The Decentralization, Human Rights and Local Governance (DHL) project of UNDP Pakistan aims at embodying the 'Leave No One Behind' principle and addressing the development issues faced by the most vulnerable and marginalized communities of Pakistan. To achieve this ambitious objective, UNDP Pakistan's DHL project provides conceptual, infrastructural, technical, as well as capacity development support to national and sub-national governments, statutory bodies, civil society and to communities. As part of its community-based initiatives, DHL partners with the local governments throughout the country, strengthening their capacity and outreach to vulnerable populations – and reinforcing the state-society link, a crucial element in the context of decentralization. The project works on three different but inter-related components, building bridges between them to ensure the highest and longest-term impact: Human Rights, Social Inclusion and Community Stabilization.

QUICK FACTS

Duration: 2013–2023

Government partners: Federal Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Inter-provincial Coordination, Inter-provincial Coordination Departments, Local Government Departments, Law Departments, Social Welfare, Women Development and Human Rights Departments. Ministry of Health, Health Departments

Current Funding partners: Government of Germany, Government of Japan, UNDP, UNPRPD.

Location: Islamabad and all four Provinces

Annual budget (2021): \$ 1,953,685

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Key achievements

- Supported the institutionalization of gender-justice mechanisms in Balochistan through strengthening awareness and capacities of provincial social welfare, women development, and social protection stakeholders for impactful, targeted assistance to vulnerable women.
- Supported the Ministry of Human Rights in the development of a National Action Plan on Business & Human Rights in 2021. This was followed by an initiative on Business and Human Rights in 2022, allowing for international best practices to be tailored to local/provincial contexts through extensive stakeholder dialogue
- DHL is also leading the inter-agency Human Rights Task Force (HRTF) and the Informal Human Rights Working Group, coordination mechanisms aimed at improving synergies on human rights, both within the UN system and with international partners working on human rights in the country.
- Supported continuing development/ technical assistance programme for improving access to mental health services and skills training in Quetta, including Afghan Refugee Hosting Communities in Balochistan and KP, encompassing support to provincial Women Development, Local Government and Social Welfare Departments.
- Expanded the community stabilization and people-centered security programme to Quetta, where young men and women were provided meaningful livelihood opportunities through psycho-social support, awareness raising, teacher training along with livelihood skills training.