**PAKISTAN’S NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2015 ON YOUTH**

**DRT-F FUNDING**

**First Programme Report, I Semester 2015**

UNDP initiated the process for preparation of National Human Development Report on youth. The report will focus on youth issues and opportunities related to education, employment and engagement in civic activities. The report aims to provide top notch analysis and policy recommendations to address some of the root causes hampering the effective participation of youth in national discourse.

The report is guided by a high level Advisory Committee, chaired by Minister, Planning Development and Reforms and has representation of policy makers, civil society, academicians and leading experts. Led by Lead Authors Dr Adil Najam and Dr Faisal Bari, UNDP has undertaken an intensely participatory process with respect to the report’s formulation, spanning focus groups, large scale events, and one one-on-one interviews. This has encompassed a national survey on youth perceptions, a series of specialist background papers from leading Pakistani academics and practitioners, and developing a Youth Development Index.

The process has been accompanied by a series of advocacy and outreach activities, including consultations with key stakeholders drawn from across civil society, the government, and the private sector. To this end, UNDP has developed and employed a series of effective communications tools to engage Pakistan’s youth through the NHDR website, social media, television and radio. Throughout, our aim has been to foster a nationwide conversation between youth, policymakers, and key stakeholders, with a view to bringing pressing youth issues to the fore.

The NHDR 2015 process will not only identify relevant, evidence-informed policy interventions to improve the lives and opportunities for Pakistan’s youth, by expansion of policy dialogue that has generated a sustainable conversation between policy-makers and young people in Pakistan. Knowledge produced in the course of the NHDR process i.e. the think pieces have been presented to diversified stakeholders including the policy makers to inform on key policy initiative including youth policy formulation and its implementation.

The initiative contributes to outcome 2.1 of the Strategic Priority Area 2 of OPII. Through the DRT-F joint intervention, UNDP, UNFPA and ILO have been working in close collaboration to provide upstream evidence-based support by undertaking the policy dialogues to seek inputs from diversified stakeholders on youth issues. This includes, in particular, Consultation with youth peer groups / youth based organizations / youth parliamentarians in partnership with UNFPA and consultation with employers, employees and the concerned labor departments to understand the issues and constraints related to youth employment organized in partnership with ILO.

NHDR’s findings and recommendations, devised through a combination of expertise, experience, participation, and thoroughness, produces a country-owned report which ultimately translates into increased investment in programmes targeting youth in Pakistan. So too is it our goal to evoke better designed, evidence-based policies for youth, as well as enhanced sustainable dialogue between the country’s policymakers and its young people, and hence to improved development outcomes for the youth of Pakistan, and OPII Output 2.1 presented in the Annex to this document.

Summaries corresponding to the activities outlined by the log frame are presented below, as submitted to UNDP and the DRT-F on the 30th of December, 2014 and included in the Annex to this report.

1. **Progress towards Output 1. National Human Development Report 2015 on Youth**

**Activities**

**1.1 National Youth Survey**

A National Youth Perception Survey of approximately 7,000 young persons between the ages of 15 and 29 has been conducted to ascertain the fears and aspirations, of youth surrounding the three principle themes of the NHDR 2015 – education, employment, and engagement. The survey conferred with equal numbers of men and women, and was representative at the regional level. Specifically, districts were clustered into regions, and regions were established using a number of criteria which varied across provinces, depending on the availability of information. These included agro-climate, geographic, and economic criteria. The following table summarizes the number of youth surveyed, disaggregated by sex and location.

**Table 1. Number of youth surveyed (by province and disaggregated by sex)**

| Province or Region | Male | Female | Total |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Punjab | 1389 | 1372 | 2761 |
| Sind | 672 | 674 | 1346 |
| KP | 455 | 456 | 911 |
| Balochistan | 418 | 423 | 841 |
| Islamabad | 137 | 143 | 280 |
| Gilgit-Baltistan | 136 | 146 | 282 |
| Fata | 139 | 141 | 280 |
| Azad Jammu & Kashmir | 146 | 140 | 286 |
| Total | 3492 | 3495 | 6987 |

This primary piece of research is will be analysed and will be instrumental in informing the finding and recommendations of the report.

* 1. **Direct Youth Consultations**

32 target groups of youth were carefully identified (aged 15 to 29), ranging from minorities to marginalized communities, with whom to hold focus group discussions on the three “E’s” of the report: education, employment, and engagement. A total of 72 consultations were successfully carried out throughout Pakistan with the collaboration of civil society, UN Agencies, and the private sector, covering Balochistan, Punjab, Sindh, Gilgit-Baltistan, FATA, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Over 2,000 young persons were directly consulted. The main objective of the consultations’ was to support the National Youth Survey, which was being carried out simultaneously, and to help form the narrative of the report by bringing in the voices of the youth. The discussions were highly interactive conducted through personalized sessions. Crucially, they turned out to be quite an insightful experience in understanding the perspectives of youth on the issues they face in Pakistan.

A pilot volunteer project was run from April to May, in partnership with United Nations Volunteer (UNV), to bring on board volunteers from rural and semi-urban areas of the country, with an objective to ensure inclusivity in the process and help connect to rural and semi-urban youth, whose voices often go unheard. 24 UNVs from five different districts representing all four provinces were involved in the pilot project. Building on this experience, and appreciating the enormous potential this strategy stands to bring to identifying youth issues through peer groups, UNDP launched Jawan Pakistan’s *Razakar* Programme. Therein, 76 volunteers from 31 districts will speak to young persons about the issues most important to them, write essays on six topics of special interest to the researchers, and provide additional input for the JAWAN Pakistan platform. Specific guidelines have been developed to achieve these ends.

To obtain direct feedback from youth for the report, UNDP has also undertaken efforts to partner with youth-led organisations and civil society members who work with youth. We have informally partnered with six civil society entities – namely the British Council, Bargad, Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA), the College of Youth Activism and Development (CYAAD), the Women’s Empowerment Group, and the Institute of Peace. These entities will extend UNDP’s invitation to youth peer groups and organisations, both to conduct conversations with young persons, similar to those we have proposed that our 76 volunteers conduct, as well as to write essays on critical youth issues.

* 1. **National Experts Consultation**

The National Experts Consultation event, held in December 2014, was attended by some 40 leading education, employment, and engagement experts, alongside demographers and statisticians. The purpose of the event was to present and discuss the various think pieces formulated by the NHDR’s nine Contributing Authors on key topics of the report. The gathering further fleshed out and deepened understanding of the issues to be covered within the report’s three pillars: education, employment and engagement. The Table below notes the names and profiles of the think piece authors, as well as the topics of their think pieces, as discussed during the Consultation.

**Table 2. NHDR 2015 Think Piece authors and topics**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Contributing Author*** | ***Author Profile*** | ***Topic*** |
| **Education** | | |
| Dr Baela Jamil | Director of Programmes at Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA) | Public-private partnerships and reform of low-cost private schools |
| Dr Mohammad Nizamuddin | Vice Chancellor of Gujrat University | Higher education |
| Mr Irfan Muzzafar | Education and Social Research Collective, Pakistan | Curricula with a focus on science and maths education |
| Dr Faisal Bari | Associate Professor, LUMS , Pakistan | Quality levels in secondary schools |
| **Employment** | | |
| Dr Ali Cheema | Associate Professor, LUMS; Director, Center for Economic Research in Pakistan | Skills for youth in lower income communities |
| Mr Nabeel Qadeer | Programme Manager, Plan9, Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) | Entrepreneurship |
| **Engagement** | | |
| Dr Moeed Yusuf | Director of South Asia Programmes, United States Institute of Peace | Radicalisation |
| Dr Taimur Rahman | Associate Professor, LUMS | The role of the internet |
| Ms Niloufer Siddiqui | Yale University | Political parties and political engagement |

* 1. **Review of secondary data and reports available on youth issues**

A thorough review of all recent reports and data available on youth issues in Pakistan has been conducted to provide accurate, credible, and comprehensive background data on the state of youth in Pakistan, covering issues related to demographics, education, employment, health, marriage, early parenthood, and several other pertinent topics. The data will be used l in developing the indices such as the Human Development Index, Youth Development Index and Multidimensional Poverty Index for the report.

In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with the British Council to share the data obtained on youth affairs in Pakistan through the research undertaken for the latter’s Next Generation Survey Reports 2009 and 2012/2013. This seminal font of knowledge will enrich the NHDR by complementing and enhancing the primary information gathered via the NHDR Youth Perception Survey.

**1.5 Preparation of the National Human Development Report**

At present, a team of research analysts is diligently working with the Lead Authors to draft the report. Together, we are steadily moving towards the data analysis stage, in which all further consultations to be held by partners, as outlined in section 1.2, will bolster and supplement the process of analysis. It is anticipated that a draft will be shared with key stakeholders by the end of July with the launch planned for November 2015.

As part of our structured conversations with policymakers and other stakeholders, two major consultations have been organized. These form an integral part of a series of consultations designed to create a sense of ownership of the report, and to obtain feedback by sharing the NHDR’s initial findings. A national government consultation was held in April 2015 in close coordination with UNFPA and ILO, involving discussions with 25 inter-ministerial policymakers from across Pakistan. The participants belonged to several youth-related ministries (including education, labour, and sports, etc.) and government departments, and represented all four provinces (Punjab, Sindh, KPK, and Balochistan) and three regions (FATA, GB, and AJK) of Pakistan. In June 2015, a consultation on “Youth Employment” was organised in partnership with the ILO. The gathering brought together over 50 high-level representatives from labour departments, employees’ federations (labour unions), and employers’ bodies (the private sector and chambers of commerce). These consultations have proved successful in maintaining productive relationships with highly relevant stakeholders. Not only have these events provided a forum through which to keep key-players up-to-date on NHDR process and activities, informing them of pivotal developments in the report’s compilation, so too have they provided a platform through which stakeholders can voice their opinions and offer constructive input for the report’s formulation. This two-way interaction has enabled dialogue that will be of immense significance to the efficacy of the report in communicating its key findings, outlining avenues for change, and evoking positive action.

## NHDR activities in relation to the Advocacy and Outreach Campaign

**2.1 Developing innovative and engaging communications tools to convey NHDR messages on youth to policymakers**

The NHDR process has maintained a constant flow of information and engagement opportunities on both its social media platforms and its website, so as to involve youth while highlighting key insights from on-going projects. Among the myriad online platforms being used for outreach are the NHDR website, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, Vimeo, and Daily Motion. Currently, we have 13,071 followers on Facebook and 2,492 on Twitter. According to the sites’ analytics, 45.9% of fans are males between the ages of 18 and 24, and 18.4% are females of the same age group.  Moreover, an E-Newsletter was launched in February. Published every two months, this further highlights the progress, activities, and events pertaining to the NHDR.

An introductory video on the NHDR 2015 has also been created, and was launched for the general public via a media briefing event. This video has been aired on 8 television channels, specifically 4 Urdu-language channels, as well as a Pashto channel, a Sindhi channel, a Punjabi channel, and a Baloch channel. Moreover, the media briefing received coverage from 18 television channels and 4 radio channels, alongside extensive coverage in print media, including 6 English dailies, 8 Urdu dailies, and 4 regional dailies.

A number of creative outreach activities were designed and undertaken to reach out to young persons throughout Pakistan, ranging from an art competition, to radio call-in shows, and voice box activities.

1. An art competition entitled “Paint the Canvas of Youth: Youth Hopes and Fears” was held from November to December, 2014. A total of 63 participants took part in the competition from across the country. The main objective of the competition was to engage Pakistani youth, between the ages of 15 and 29, in the NHDR process by enabling them to express their hopes and fears via their canvases.
2. Radio call-in shows constituted another creative outreach activity, corresponding to carefully designed themes linked with the 3 E’s of the report. The objective of this activity was not only to generate conversation amongst youth, but also to reach out to youth populations in rural areas so as to invite a wide range of young people to join the NHDR conversation. A total of 42 shows on 7 different channels were carried out during the months of February and March. Coverage encompassed key cities and their surrounding areas, including Islamabad, Peshawar, Lahore, Karachi, Sialkot, Faisalabad, Swabi, Gujranwala, and FATA.
3. Voice box was an activity initiated to reach out to youth from across Pakistan by giving them the opportunity to voice their concerns and highlight pertinent issues. For this purpose, the NHDR team placed voice boxes facilities in 5 cities, covering 22 locations. Thereby, we were able to reach out to more than 2,000 people in malls, colleges, universities, parks, and other public places. A total of 350 young persons willingly recorded “selfie” messages.

As a next stage of the communications process, it is foreseen that talk shows will be organized to disseminate NHDR messages, while engaging policymakers in the discussions on youth and the issues they face. Infographics based on the report’s key-messages will also be designed and disseminated, supporting youth engagement, education, and employment. The principle objective of these further outreach activities is to disseminate the findings of the report among all relevant key-stakeholders, with a view to promoting discussion and encouraging beneficial action for Pakistan’s youth.

* 1. **Delivering a series of advocacy and outreach events, including structured conversations between youth and policymakers**

To facilitate dialogue between youth and policy makers, a consultation on “Youth Employment” was held in June, as outlined in section 1.5. Organised in collaboration with the ILO, participants included 50 high-level stakeholders representing labour departments, employee federations/labour unions) and employers from the private sector and chambers of commerce. The occasion enabled fruitful debate as well as decisive interaction between young persons and those with the power to create and implement the policies which affect Pakistan’s youth.

**2.3. Maintaining strong networks with the government, private sector, donors, civil society, and the media**

Alongside the aforementioned consultations, which have stimulated dialogue and promoted the country-owned nature of the report, numerous other mediums by which to build ownership of the NHDR. These have ranged from formal to informal meetings geared towards developing and maintaining strong networks and collaborative relationships with key stakeholders.

First, with a view to engaging the private sector, civil society, and state institutions, we have conducted three seminars between March and April. These were organized in partnership with Lahore’s Civil Services Academy (the country’s well-respected premier training institution for the pre-service training of civil servants recruited by Federal Public Service Commission), Peshawar’s Institute of Management Sciences (a young, innovative, and enterprising business school, en-route to competing with country’s foremost management schools) and Islamabad’s Sustainable Development Policy Institute (an entity well-known for its outstanding research on policy framework, which provides the global sustainable development community with representation from Pakistan, as well as South Asia as a whole). The central purpose of the seminars was to raise awareness regarding youth issues, and to set the stage for the dissemination of the report’s key findings at a later date by facilitating engagement with key-players in policymaking and advocacy. The first seminar at the Civil Services Academy, Lahore, asked approximately 30 civil servants for their thoughts on youth engagement, education, and employment. The second seminar, held at the Institute of Management Sciences, Peshawar, was attended by 56 students on the topic of “Entrepreneurial career and market trends”. The third seminar, on the topic of “Social inclusion of youth and national development”, was attended by 75 participants belonging to the Youth Association Forum and the media.

Special effort has also been made to arrange meetings with Parliamentary bodies. A meeting was held with the Chairman of Punjab’s Youth Parliamentarian Caucus. A consultation and engagement event with the Punjab Parliament is foreseen for the second semester. We have also endeavoured to develop close relations with the General Secretariat of the Youth Parliamentarian Forum, an organisation comprised of young parliamentarians within the National Parliament.

Connections have also been maintained through a number of key conferences, the most important of which have been:

* A Needs Assessment Conference on Youth Engagement, Skills Development and Employment Facilitation, held in Islamabad on the 13th and 14th of May. This gathering entailed intensive networking with youth groups, civil society, and government representatives. Both the NHDR’s Lead Authors and UNDP’s Country Director, Mr Marc-André Franche spoke at the event, which provided an excellent opportunity to collect significant policy recommendations from participants.
* The Pur Amn Conference, held in Lahore from the 27th to the 29th of May. Arranged by the Bargad Organization for Youth Development, in collaboration with Umeed Jawan and the Government of the Punjab, the event reflected upon the challenges faced by civil society, the media, and communities in light of extremism, as well as strategies for countering extremism and promoting peace. The Conference was attended by youth, parliamentarians, political leaders, government officials, policy makers, civil society organisations, experts, community leaders, and media representatives.

Robust ties have been upheld with fellow UN bodies, particularly through a monthly meeting with UNFPA and ILO wherein the status of the NHDR is reported on, and advice and technical guidance is sought. We have also engaged UN Women, which is preparing a training initiative for our research analysts on gender sensitive research. Furthermore, the NHDR team is in touch with the very highest levels and a presentation with the team is foreseen at the end of the month of July.

Concerted efforts have been made to identify and develop ties with civil society networks. Civil society is considered an especially important stakeholder for the NHDR, given that they are aware of developments in youth affairs at the grassroots level and are directly in touch with Pakistan’s youth on a daily basis. Regular contact with such entities as CYADD, Bargad, the British Council, the WEC, the Institute of Peace, and ITA has been established, and these organisations considered key partners of the NHDR initiative.

Finally, UNDP is in the process of developing partnerships with notable media houses and organisations, both for the official launch of the report and to facilitate the disseminations of its key findings. Partnerships with both electronic/audio visual media (TV, radio, and cinema) and print media (newspapers and publications) are to be established. This will enable us to increase the reach of the NHDR’s key messages by providing a direct link to a wide segment of the population. Moreover, the possibility of partnerships with theatre companies will also be explored, in order to disseminate the report’s findings through an innovative and thought-provoking medium, following the NHDR’s official launch.

**Annex 1 - LOG FRAME**

**PAKISTAN’S NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2015 ON YOUTH**

**DRT-F FUNDING**

**PROGRAMME LEVEL:**

**OPII Strategic Priority Area 2:** Inclusive economic growth through the development of sustainable livelihoods.

**OPII Outcome 2.1:** Creation of employment opportunities and decent work through industry, construction, services, vocational / skill training, agricultural and cultural development, as well as promoting youth employment and public private partnerships.

**OPII Output 2.1.1:** Policies and programmes to enable inclusive growth and improve livelihood and economic opportunities for the most vulnerable, developed and implemented with a particular focus on agriculture, culture and post crisis recovery.

**PROJECT LEVEL:**

| **Project Outputs** | **Project Activities** | **Inputs** | **Responsibilities** | **Budget Allocation** | **Expenditure to-date** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. National Human Development Report 2015 on Youth | 1.1 National Youth Survey   * Constructing survey instrument * Conducting fieldwork * Cleaning raw data * Developing sub-national Human Development Indices and Youth Development Indices | * Survey firm * NHDR management and writing team * Finances * Technical input from set of statisticians and demographers | UNDP   * Hiring, directing and monitoring survey firm * Analysing data   ILO and UNFPA   * Technical input on questionnaire | $127,370 | $ 32,917.05 |
| * 1. Direct Youth Consultations * Consultation with youth peer groups / youth based organisations / youth parliamentarians * Consultation with employers, employees and the concerned labour departments to understand the issues and constraints related to youth employment | * NHDR management and writing team * Lead Authors * Finances | UNDP   * Planning and delivering focus groups and interviews   ILO and UNFPA   * Technical input * Network support | $80,845 | $ 29,688.59 |
| 1.3 National Experts Consultation   * Commissioning 11 senior ‘contributing authors’ * Delivering a National Experts Consultation to review and refine the think piece papers | * 11 Contributing Authors * Stakeholder support for National Experts Consultation * Finances | UNDP   * Planning and delivering National Experts Consultation (NEC)   ILO and UNFPA   * Technical input * Network support * Attendance at NEC | $52,845 | $ 10,757.15 |
| * 1. A thorough secondary review of all recent, accurate data available on youth issues in Pakistan * Engagement with multiple research partners for relevant datasets and reports | * Senior Researcher * Access to secondary literature on youth * Finances | UNDP   * Commissioning and reviewing background paper on the state of youth   ILO and UNFPA   * Sharing relevant reports | $31,000 | $ 6,062.98 |
| * 1. Preparation and publication of National Human Development Report 2015 * Developing relevant policy implications and outcomes from research activities * Drafting report * Conducting stakeholder consultations on draft of the report | * Lead Authors * NHDR management and writing team * Networks | UNDP   * Drafting report   ILO and UNFPA   * Technical input on drafts of the report | $126,865 | $65,697.20 |
| 1. NHDR Advocacy and Outreach campaign delivered | * 1. Developing a series of innovative and engaging communication tools to convey NHDR messages on youth to a diverse set of policy makers * Building online tools – website & social media * Development of print media * Audio-visual packaging of messages * Development of additional creative media and channels | * NHDR management and writing team * Media firm * Networks * Finances | UNDP   * Designing, developing and deploying all communications tools   ILO and UNFPA   * Technical input * Network support | $158,805 | $ 107,782.56 |
| * 1. Delivering a series of advocacy and outreach events including structured conversations between youth and Pakistani policy-makers * Delivering advocacy and outreach events * Maintaining strong networks with government, private sector, donors, civil society and media | * NHDR management and writing team * Finances * Networks | UNDP   * Planning and delivering advocacy and outreach events   ILO & UNFPA   * Network support * Attendance and participation at advocacy events | $16,270 | $300.65 |
| TOTAL: | | | | $594,000 | $253,106.18 |