Disaster Resilience Initiative in Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA)-DRIFT

Funded by: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Implemented by: CARE International in Pakistan (CIP)

ABOUT CARE:

CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere) is one of the world’s largest international, non-governmental and non-profit organisations founded in 1945. In 2018, CARE’s humanitarian and development programme benefitted 56 million people in 95 countries.

In Pakistan, CARE started its operations in 2005 and is currently registered with the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and Economic Affairs Division (EAD) via an MoU valid up to 2020. Since its establishment, CARE has supported the Government of Pakistan’s efforts to reduce poverty and suffering of the people affected by disasters. CARE’s programs focus on helping Pakistan achieve its Sustainable Development Goals especially in the areas of Health, Education, Women’s Economic Empowerment and Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR).

CARE seeks to address the underlying causes of poverty and recognizes that families that suffer from poverty need to be empowered and equipped with the proper resources. CARE’s approach is based on respecting dignity and leveraging the talents of communities for self-reliance rather than making them dependent on aid. Its programs are based on the humanitarian principles of neutrality and impartiality.

VISION

We seek a Pakistan of hope, tolerance & social justice, where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity and security.

CARE will be a force and partner of choice in a movement dedicated to end poverty. We will be known for our unshakable commitment to the dignity of people of Pakistan.

Poverty Has Many Faces

Pakistan is a middle-income country with significant potential and will be among the six fastest growing economies of the world by 2030. As in other middle-income countries, here too, poverty and inequalities persist despite fast overall economic growth. According to a 2016 UNDP Pakistan report, nearly 39 percent of Pakistanis live in multidimensional poverty, with the highest rates of poverty in Baluchistan and what was previously known as the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA, now incorporated as the tribal areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province). The underlying causes of poverty are inextricably linked with power imbalances resulting in limited mobility, restricted access to basic services and insufficient livelihood opportunities. CARE works with communities, government authorities and private sector to reduce the effects of poverty.
CARE International in Pakistan and Emergency Response:

Since starting operations in Pakistan, CARE has responded with life-saving support to a series of large-scale disasters. Through emergency programs CARE In Pakistan (CIP) has provided relief, recovery and rehabilitation support to millions of Pakistanis affected by disastrous floods, earthquakes and displacement. Recognizing the long-term need for support of full recovery and its important link to poverty, CIP focuses on implementing developmental projects linked to emergency response. CIP has worked in all provinces of the country including the most rural and remote areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Emergency</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Earthquake in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</td>
<td>Distributed non-food items (NFIs), provided health services, sanitation, rehabilitated/reconstructed public infrastructure i.e. schools, water supply schemes (drinking and agriculture), access roads/footpaths, distributed crop seeds, capacity-building of teachers, etc.</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Floods in Sindh and Baluchistan</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Earthquake in Ziarat, Baluchistan</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Floods in Sindh and KP</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>Floods in KP and Sindh</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>IDPs KP, Foods</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-18</td>
<td>FATA emergency response on going</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Flood in Rajanpur, Punjab</td>
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Introduction to North Waziristan

FATA remains one of the most underdeveloped regions of Pakistan with over two-thirds of people in FATA (73%) people living below the poverty line.¹

Despite all challenges, people from FATA have shown great resilience in surviving and overcoming the various hurdles they have had to face. They are well known for their strong tribal bonds and very rich ethnic diversity and cultural heritage.

The area is rich in minerals and natural resources.

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¹ 2016 Government of Pakistan and United Nations Development Programme “Multidimensional Poverty in Pakistan” report

FATA and Resilience

FATA is prone to natural as well as human induced disasters, such as flash floods, landslides, earthquakes and conflicts. Government of Pakistan (GOP) has embarked upon establishing appropriate policy, legal and institutional arrangements, and implementing strategies and programs to minimize risks and vulnerabilities. In this regard, National Disaster Management Ordinance 2006 was passed, the implementation of which is ensured by the National Disaster Management Commission. Disaster Management Authorities were formed at all level including National, Provincial and district levels including establishment of FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA). FDMA was declared as the focal body for dealing with Disaster management issues including DRR governance, relief, recovery and rehabilitation. After establishment of FDMA, the focus remained on recovery and relief of Temporary Displaced People (TDP’s). Institutional capacity building on DRR governance was identified by FDMA as a critical area of development.

CARE, in partnership with FATA Disaster Management Authority (FDMA undertook a project called Disaster Resilience Initiative for FATA (DRIFT) with funding support from Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) to support capacity building efforts of FDMA from June 2017 to Nov 2018. This project commenced as a tripartite commitment between FDMA, SDC and CARE with the signing of a joint MoU on July 2017.

Commemorating International Day for Disaster Reduction in collaboration with FDMA

5 day training of trainers on CBDRM for FATA Secretariat Staff
**DRIFT Goal**

“Ensure FATA communities are resilient to natural and human-induced disasters through institutional strengthening of FATA Government in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and risk informed programming”.

The project placed a strong emphasis on strengthening the role of FDMA and its allied government departments, its institutional capacity and effective functioning in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM). Project activities were designed in close coordination with FDMA staff. Their involvement not only enhanced government ownership but also helped in better contextual understanding and needs for sustainable outcomes.

The project made significant efforts to utilize existing forums such as Disaster Risk Reduction Forum, National Humanitarian Network (NHN) and other civil society networks for a concerted approach to integrate DRR.

**Key Activities:**

- Training, education, and awareness raising on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and DRR of FDMA and relevant line departments
- Gender sensitive and inclusive programming
- Mainstreaming DRR into development

As a result of these activities, project outreach included 694 government officials (449 men and 225 women) in various capacity building sessions including training and master trainer on CBDRM.

**Achievements:**

**Governance**

The following knowledge products were produced in a consultative manner that ensured various stakeholders’ ownership:

- Situational analysis of FATA;
- M&E Framework and output tracker for FDMA
- Advocacy Strategy for FDMA for DRR inclusion
- Strategic Plan for DRR Forum 2019-2022

Additionally, the provincial DRR Forum was also revitalized.

**Capacity Building and Awareness Raising**

- Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Manual developed
- Orientation sessions conducted on DRR for different departments of Government
- Training of trainers on CBDRM and Integration of DRR in to Development Processes

**Gender in Emergencies**

A significant value addition offered by CARE under this project was to build greater understanding regarding gender integration in emergency preparedness and response. This is to ensure that government and the wider humanitarian communities’ DRR investments are inclusive of the specific needs of all members of society including men, women, boys and girls. CARE leveraged its in-house technical expertise to offer customized training to 26 persons representing FATA Secretariat, FDMA, Director of Projects, Social Welfare, Health, Irrigation, Forestry and some representatives.
of civil society. The two-day training led by CARE’s Senior Gender Advisor and supported by the Country Director focused on how to practically mainstream gender in all stages of the humanitarian preparedness to response cycle. The participants particularly appreciated the sessions on Preventing Exploitation and Abuse in emergency response, and employers’ and employees’ roles and responsibilities under the Government of Pakistan’s Protection Against Harassment of Women in the Workplace Act 2010.

One of the staff at FDMA explains, “We learned a lot about gender and emergencies and we tell other people about what we learned. In the office the major impact is that the environment has changed inside the office, now we treat our female colleagues differently. Also in the case of emergencies it is important to have female staff present at the time of the emergency. In FATA there is not enough female staff so we should hire more staff that can be on hand in the case of an emergency.”

In addition to the capacity building training, Shukria Saeed a Gender and Protection Specialist was appointed to FDMA to strengthen the Gender and Child cell and offer technical assistance for better integration and consideration of gender in humanitarian as well as development process. Women she explains are often left behind in emergencies, “Most often early warning systems are male oriented, rescues are giving priority to men over women. In the same way health, food and sanitation facilities are more readily available for men than women. Under this project a lot of trainings were held in Peshawar which made staff familiar with different needs of men, women and their context. Before they did not have much information or understanding”. Under the Project, a three-year framework on gender and child cell was developed followed by formulation of Standard Operating Procedure to implement it.

Noseeka Malik, Project Coordinator for the DRIFT project managed the team based in Peshawar that coordinated with FDMA. She explains how managing the project was a unique capacity building initiative that resulted in the creation of an advocacy strategy, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) forum and a general framework that will help FDMA plan for future disasters. Noseeka explains how coordination worked between CARE and FDMA, “We coordinated with them on a regular basis and involved them in every step so that they were taking initiatives themselves. The support of the FDMA and several other government departments who actively engaged with this project is gratefully acknowledged. Last but not the least, the hard work of the CARE team that delivered this project is highly appreciated.”