



**Rights-Driven Institutionalization of Sexual and Reproductive Health in Pakistan
(2009 -2012) – Hamara Kal
Project Review Meeting with EU Delegation – Update 2009 to June 2010
July 14, 2010 at WPF,P – Minutes**

Background

Upon a request from the EU Delegation, a Project Progress Review meeting for the EU-WPF co-financed “Rights Driven Institutionalization of SRHR in Pakistan” – Hamara Kal project was on 14th July 2010 from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m. at the WPF-Pakistan office.

The EU team comprised of:

Mr. Arshad Rashid, Acting Head of Operations/Development Adviser,
Mr. Kaisar Koukolus, Contracts Officer,
Mr. Nayyar Riaz, Finance Officer, and Audit Task Manager
Mr. Adil Sohail, Accountant.

WPF was represented by the Country Representative for Pakistan, Institutional Strengthening (IS) team, Programme Managers We Act, SRHR Education, and Manager Monitoring & Evaluation, and Finance officer.

Objectives of the meeting:

- To review technical and financial implementation progress of the project during 2009/10 and to share the 2010 work plan.
- To share NPSC’s recommendations for addressing some of the project challenges and to seek EU’s input on how to address them in compliance with the contractual procedures/guidelines.

Proceedings/ Discussions

After a round of introductions and welcome by the Country Representative, Manager IS Programme, Ms Kanwal Qayyum, presented an overview of the project objectives and the implementation strategies adopted so far. She also presented an overview of the up-to-date progress vis-a-vis project targets outlined in the project LFA (presentation attached) and the challenges faced during implementation along with recommendations of National Project Steering Committee.

To give an overview of the project, WPF’s Knowledge Management Section presented a comprehensive presentation including pictures, press clippings and media footages related to project launch in three districts, National and International experts consultation meetings for development of SeHRAF research, launching of SeHRAF in three districts and at National level, meetings of DPSCs, PRF & Whole of schools activities and IEC material developed for awareness & visibility of the project. The presentation was appreciated by the participants.



The following is a summary of discussion on the key issues discussed:

Engaging Parents:

Issue: Engage parents into SRHR Education once in project life in each targeted school (LFA 3.1.10): 153,000 parents will be approached through this activity. Parents of those students, studying SRHR Curriculum, will know about the importance of SRHR education on one of the contents of the curriculum. The WPF and Partners have discussed this in detail and realised that engaging parents through traditional methods will not achieve the desired outcome and there is a need to adopt innovative approaches for productive engagement of parents.

Recommendation: In order to address this issue, WPF proposed the strategy of 'Reverse Education' for parents. This approach will involve developing specific IEC material in consultation with partners, teachers and schools for involving students in communication with parents on relevant SRH Issues. SRHR IEC material will be developed on story cards and student will tell their parents this story and will provide feedback to the teachers/schools.

Decisions: NPSC recommended trying different means/approaches for engaging parents. Mr. Rashid supported NPSC instance and emphasised the need for adapting a combinational multi- pronged and situational approach for an effective outcome, which may vary district by district.

Number of Schools – 153,000 students Targets

Issues: Implement SRHR Curriculum into school by trained teachers / SRHR Educators. Target schools 450 for implementation of SRHR curriculum (3.1.9).

Recommendation: Ms. Qayyum highlighted that whole of school approach is being used for SRHR Curriculum implementation So far more than 31,000 students have received SRHR education through this approach. Through this approach the planned target of 153,000 students can be achieved in 270-300 schools. WPF had consultations with the partners on revision of targets particularly with regard to the number of schools to be covered by the project. The partners ensured that 153,000 students target can be achieved through approaching about 270-300 schools during the life of the project. It was recommended that the primary objective should be reaching the 153,000 students instead of 450 schools.

Decision: NPSC members agreed to the recommendation that the primary target for this activity shall be the number of students rather than the number of schools. The EU team, in principle, agreed with the recommendation of the NPSC and added that the number of beneficiaries should be the prime target. They advised WPF to submit a formal letter in this regard to seek the EU's approval for revising project targets related to number of Schools.

Frequency of PDF and PRF

Issues: Organisation of Monthly Professional Development Forums (PDFs) and Quarterly Performance Review Forums (PRFs)(LFA 3.1.12 and 3.1.14). In the original project concept, it is foreseen to organise PDFs on a monthly basis (i.e. a total of 210 PDFs



during the entire project duration) and PRFs on a monthly basis (i.e. 56 PRFs during the entire project duration). However, experience and feedback from school administration and teachers indicates that it is rather too frequent to organise these events on monthly and quarterly basis and does not have any added value. In addition, it is to be noted that Master Trainers and teachers provide services on voluntary basis and organisation of these events at the given frequency is an undue burden on the school administration, teachers and students.

Recommendation: The NPSC agreed that the above mentioned issue is a genuine issue and recommended that PDFs shall rather be organised at the end of the SRHR curriculum completion session in each academic year. This shall suffice to obtain students' feedback on teachers' performance and to learn from teachers' experience and discuss solutions to the challenges. Similarly PRFs should also be conducted once the session and other activities have been completed in one academic year and before the commencement of the next session.

Decision: The EU team, in principle, agreed with the justifications and recommendations by the NPSC and advised WPF to have this change approved by the Commission through exchange of formal letter.

Exposure Visit:

Issues: Exposure Visits (LFA 4.1): The purpose of the exposure visits is to learn from the experience of countries who have been able to achieve good SRHR indicators through timely and effective interventions with young people.

Recommendation: Country Representative, WPF informed that an exposure visit of partners to 'India' is part of 2010 work plan. However due to political divergence between the countries and relevance of the SRHR learning the visit to India is not feasible. As endorsed by the Implementing partners and NPSC, Bangladesh/Indonesia/Iran were proposed for the foreseen exposure visit due to its relevance and technical expertise.

Decision: The EU team in principle agreed and advised WPF to have this change formally approved by the Commission through exchange of letter.

SRHR Education Curriculum:

Programme Manager SRHR Education, informed that WPF's initial strategy was to implement SRHR education in two levels. i.e. Level 1 (LSBE) and Level 2 (SRHR) to create an enabling environment for smooth implementation of such a sensitive but important project. In last project review meeting with project partners and consultation with district government WPF and Aahung worked together to have a standardized SRHR Education curriculum for students and teachers in line with recommendations of 3rd National LSBE Forum 2009. She argued that for behavior change the skills and information needs to be integrated in teaching manuals. CR, Pakistan added that to advocate for realization of Universal SRHR education into Pakistan's education system the NGOs must have a tested uniform curriculum that this project is striving for. It was informed that few sessions i.e. masturbation, wet dreams and menstruation will be



packaged strategically to get stakeholders clearance. It was informed that the NPSC has appreciated the project efforts for developing a standardized curriculum but emphasized that these sessions are placed appropriately in the teachers manuals and students workbooks. The EU team appreciated these efforts and advised WPF to involve all stakeholders to avoid any backlash.

Web Based M & E

Manager, Monitoring and Evaluation, WPF, P gave presentation on project strategy to Institutionalize SRHR in Demand and Supply mechanism and elaborated the interventions for process and progress monitoring of the project. She explained Web based M&E system for project monitoring that is being developed and implemented in phases. The quantitative part has almost been completed through on-line MIS however work on qualitative aspects is in progress for testing by Dec 2010. Mr. Rashid while appreciating the web-based M&E system suggested mechanism for generating and analyzing the qualitative aspect of the project and also generating project summary at any stage.

During the presentation Mr. Rashid advised WPF for regularly updating of RBM to assess the project progress implementation on-line. He further advised review of the project LFA to ensure consistency with the MOVs and the sources for MOVs must be independent/authentic and should not be indirect.

Advocacy Strategy

On advocacy component of the project, Programme Manager, Policy Advocacy briefed the participants on the strategy for creating enabling policy and societal environment for youth's SRH Rights. She informed about the four provincial level consultations meetings for realization of SRHR in education system as the provinces have their own education policies in post 18th amendment scenario. She further informed that the outline of advocacy strategy has been developed and will be completed as per workplan (2nd semester of 2010). Mr. Rashid emphasised the need for an effective and timely SRHR advocacy strategy and suggested to further enhance and expedite WPF advocacy efforts for achieving project outcomes at national and local levels.

Financial Review:

A summary report of financial review 2009, 2010 in terms of Budget Vs expenses was shared by WPF's Finance officer with the EU team. Variance analysis and overall graphical presentation of these statements was presented, which showed 73% of budget was expended in 2009 and up till now 30% budget of the total project budget is consumed. She further added that there is no negative variance in any budget line till now. EU Review team offered their assistance to WPF finance team if required regarding "Financial Reporting" matters.

Meeting concluded on a positive note by Mr. Arshad Rashid. He appreciated the progress of the project and quality of efforts put in by WPF Team and suggested to approach the Commission for any assistance for smooth implementation of the project. He advised WPF to have the



above changes approved by the Commission through formal letter providing adequate justification for the proposed changes.

Conclusion:

Country Representative for Pakistan appreciated the financial and technical support by the European Union for this important project. He specifically acknowledged the technical guidance provided by the EU Task Manager and finance team of EU Delegation in Pakistan.

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