



**PROJECT PROGRESS SUMMARY**

(Status from the start of the project until June 15, 2009)

**A. General Information**

<b>1. Name of the organisation:</b>	World Population Foundation
<b>1a. Acronym:</b>	WPF
<b>1b. Website (if applicable):</b>	<a href="http://www.wfpak.org">www.wfpak.org</a>

<b>2. Title of the project:</b>	Rights-driven Institutionalization of Sexual and Reproductive Health in Pakistan
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<b>3. Reference number of the project:</b>	DCI-NSAPVD/2008/171-425
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<b>4. Duration of the project (in month):</b>	48 Months
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<b>5. Target beneficiaries &amp;/or target groups (if different) (including numbers of men, women and children):</b> <sup>1</sup> The final beneficiaries of the project will be the young people of Pakistan (About 94.8 Million / 60 % of the country's total population)
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More specifically the 4 year project will reach up to 1, 53,000 young people, particularly girls (direct beneficiaries), 1,200 Teachers; 150 Health Professionals; 100 CSOs; 50 Media Representatives; 150 Elected Representatives / Policy Makers; 50 Religious Leaders, 150,000 Parents (direct beneficiaries) and 1,000,000 Young People (indirect beneficiaries).

**B. Budget**

<b>6. Total Project Cost (in €):</b>	EURO: 815603
<b>7. Total EU Contribution (in €):</b>	EURO: 611703

**D. Executive Summary:**

The project formally started from January 1, 2009. To implement the project effectively, staff was engaged and the purchase of equipments and supplies were carried out. The research for assessing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) status of young people has been launched. To appropriately assess rights, their thorough definition, translation and contextualization was the foremost requirement. For this purpose, two consultations and about 20 meetings were held with individuals / organizations having focus on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), which resulted in the formation of two national and one international Expert Group. International Panel also includes experts from Muslim countries. WPF engaged an International (Dutch) Consultant who worked closely with Expert Groups and WPF team and facilitated the process of development of SeHRAF Toolkit. During the reporting period, literature review was completed, which was the first part of the research. The consultant worked closely with the project team and developed the research framework. Two consultative forums were held where input from experts was attained on the research process. As a follow up of these forums, the research framework was revised and SRH Rights definitions were contextualized in the national context successfully. Moreover, the research indicators and tool was finalized for pre-testing. In consultation with SRH- focused organizations, a list of about 1,000 knowledge bearers was developed and is now being scrutinized for conducting the pilot test. WPF has successfully signed MoUs with the two partners for implementing institutionalization phase of the project while search for a new partner(s) has been initiated. MoUs have also been signed with the district government in all the target areas to smoothly carry out project initiatives there. Moreover, the process of developing SRHR oriented Life Skills Based Education (LSBE) curriculum has been initiated. WPF has ensured project visibility on its portal and website, developed Project IEC and regular quarterly E Newsletter

<sup>1</sup> The target groups are the people who will ultimately benefit from the project activities. The beneficiaries are the people who will participate directly in the project. Many times these will be the same people, but not always. For example, in a programme to raise the awareness of judges and politicians about the rights of indigenous peoples, the beneficiaries of the activities will be the judges and politicians, but the target groups will be the indigenous peoples about whose rights the beneficiaries are being made more aware.

and ensured regular press coverage. National Project Steering Committee which is aimed at ensuring effective implementation of the project has been formed.

### C. Compliance with the Grant Agreement

**8.** Has the project been carried out as foreseen in the terms of reference of the agreement so far?

Yes. WPF works through Result Based Management (RBM) system that also incorporates Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) [http://wpfpak.org/pdfs/WPF\\_WBS\\_2009-2011.pdf](http://wpfpak.org/pdfs/WPF_WBS_2009-2011.pdf). Accordingly while finalizing WPF, Pakistan's WBS 2009; the targets of this project were incorporated in the revised WBS 2009-2011 for regular review and compliance.

**9.** Has the budget of the project been respected so far?

All expenses in 2009 for this project were in line with approved budget. WPF received 60 percent of its first year's instalment in advance from EU and all expenditure has been carried out within the budget lines.

### D. Objectives and expected results of the project (boxes can be extended)

#### 10. Objectives:

The overall objective of the action is to improve Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights status in Pakistan. The specific objectives of the project are as follows:

- To create an enabling environment for the incorporation of SRH Rights in health and education services;
- Integration of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in education services in Pakistan;
- Integration of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in health services in Pakistan.

#### 11. Expected results:

- Mapping and Assessment of SRHR situation in Pakistan as a first country in South Asian region through a newly developed and tested assessment tool - Sexual Health Rights Assessment Framework (SeHRAF) contributing to the existing pool of evidence based knowledge available on SRH Rights issues in Pakistan with specific and particular focus on young people.
- Enabling environment in the society at the levels of policy as well as community for realization, practice and implementation of Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR) through increased awareness among stakeholders from local government officials, media, religious groups, parents, school community, civil society organizations and parliamentarians.
- Radically enhanced capacity of three local NGOs in three districts as effective and enduring partners to implement SRH Rights interventions in education services.
- Enhanced capacity of health management systems contributing to provide SRHR services to young people without discrimination. Additional protocols introduced in the local health management systems to ensure provision of sexual health services to young people.

### E. Project Activities (boxes can be extended)

#### 12. Summary of the project:

The project aims to improve the Sexual and Reproductive Health status of young people in Pakistan by integrating SRHR in educational and health policies and services in the country and thus creating an enabling environment for young people to ensure the exercise of these rights. The project methodology and outputs directly contribute to the implementation and realization of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1, 3 and 6 (reduction of poverty, empowerment of women, and reduction of diseases like STIs and HIV). In summary, the project will help to develop tangible instruments, tools and prototype which will help civil society organizations, government and other stakeholders in adapting these support tools in planning needs-based programmes for the future. The project also focuses on strengthening the existing systems within the CSOs, government and communities for the sustainability of the programme.

**13.** Please list all the activities (with their concrete outputs) undertaken as on the date of this report.

During the reporting period, following activities were successfully carried out:

#### 13.1 Recruitment of Project Staff and purchase of capital items and supplies:

To operationalize the project effectively, new staff was engaged by WPF through a transparent procedure of advertisements in national newspapers, test/interviews and referrals as per WPF's policy. Some of the WPF staff was transferred through internal selection and notification keeping in view their capacity, experience and contribution in the development and conceptualization of the project. The purchase of equipments and supplies including Project vehicle as out lined in the approved budget were completed in line with European Union's and WPF's procurement guidelines. The process for recruitment of staff by/for implementing partners has been initiated through an advertisement in national newspapers on June 7, 2009 with detailed ToRs on WPF and partners' websites. WPF has also initiated the process of purchasing equipment and supplies for the partners to be completed before July 1, 2009.

### **13.2 Orientation of Project Staff and Implementing Partners**

In the first quarter of the project, several meetings were held for the facilitation of the WPF staff members to build a clear understanding of the team on the proposed project. WPF team visited all the partners and three conceptualization meetings were held with CEOs and relevant staff, one with each partner, to orient them on the project and develop a consensus on the approach and financial resources. For the sake of transparency and ownership of the project, hard and soft copies of the project documents were shared with all potential partners. Accordingly, the partners shared their work plans and budgets, which were mutually agreed and finalized.

### **13.3 Designing and implementation of SRH Rights Assessment and Monitoring Framework**

As a first step to assess and monitor Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights situation in Pakistan, WPF initiated the process of drafting Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Assessment Framework (SeHRAF) which will serve as an assessment tool. The major achievements during the first five and half months of the project are as under:

#### **13.3.1 Formation of two national and one International Expert Group**

The national SRHR assessment is a unique and pioneering effort. It required extensive research and consultations with experts from different fields, both from public and private sectors. For this purpose several consultative meetings were held with relevant individuals and organizations having focus on SRH and social research including major NGOs (Aahung, Rozan, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Population Council, Packard Foundation); Government institutions (National Institute of Population Studies, National Trust for Population Welfare (NATPOW), Federal Bureau of Statistics, and Ministries of Population Welfare, Health, Education, Youth and Women Development, National Commission for Status of Women) and UN Agencies. As an outcome of these meetings and through our international linkages, WPF formed National and International panels of experts to advice and contribute to SRHR Research. (List appended as Annexure 1). All these experts principally agreed to contribute and support WPF on voluntary basis on the research.

#### **13.3.2 Engagement of the Consultant**

To work closely with expert group and to facilitate the process of development of SeHRAF Toolkit, WPF engaged an International (Dutch) Consultant Mr. John de Wit (MSc, PhD), who is currently working with University of New South Wales Australia as Professor and Director of the National Centre of HIV Social Research. Mr. Wit visited Pakistan in May. While in Pakistan, the consultant worked with WPF team in drafting definitions, contextualizing SRH Rights in local context and finalizing research methodology. He also facilitated the meeting of the Expert Panel from Islamabad to elicit their input to the process and preliminary work done. He is giving his input via email and phone and will visit Pakistan again in September 2009 to review initial findings and help draft research report. The CV of the consultant can be viewed at [Consultant engaged](#)

#### **13.3.3 Literature Review**

One of the important parts of the SRHR Research (baseline) was the literature review to learn from other experiences and researches. During the reporting period, the research team scrutinized 21 global, 23 regional and 3 national publications having relevance / evidence of SRH assessment. Besides scrutiny of primary and secondary sources, international organizations working on SRH Rights were contacted through emails to get their facilitation in searching out any relevant work. It is pertinent to mention here that each of the SRH Rights was reviewed, keeping in the view, existing laws and legislation, Government policies, resources / budgetary allocations and practices / services provided by Government and NGOs. The draft of the literature has been shared with the expert group for their feedback and can be accessed at [http://wpfpak.org/html/rdisrhp\\_eu.html](http://wpfpak.org/html/rdisrhp_eu.html).

#### **13.3.4 Development of Research Framework**

WPF in light of input from the consultant and Expert Group developed and finalized the research methodology/framework reflecting on the objectives, methodology, variables, target audience /respondents and contents of SeHRAF.

#### **13.3.5 National Consultative Forums**

As a next step, two consultative forums, one in Islamabad and other in Karachi were held to review the SRH Rights and research framework. The consultant, Mr. John De Witt facilitated the forum held at Islamabad on April 08<sup>th</sup>, 2009 while Country Representative Pakistan for WPF facilitated the forum held at Karachi on May 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. The two rights

frameworks developed by International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) in 1994 and 2008 were debated in detail for contextualization. The experts' panel advised as under:

- The target group of this project are the young people of Pakistan, as such the main focus of the research - baseline should be on 'Situation of SRHR of Young People (10-24 years of age) in Pakistan'.
- The research will focus on identifying prevalent level of SRH Rights' and awareness and experience of young people in Pakistan with the status and relevant inhibitors or enablers.
- WPF should not restrict itself to any one IPPF framework but draft its own framework after reviewing WHO and other works in this area and focus on the rights that are most relevant to the national context.
- All stakeholders including media, religious leaders, teachers, students and parents should be involved in the research phase of the project.
- The sample of 300 knowledge bearers is good enough for the research followed by Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and in-depth interviews. However, during the e-survey, the questionnaire should be sent to about 1,000 respondents to get required response.

The participants appreciated the initiative taken by WPF and European Union and endorsed that since never before had such a study been undertaken in South Asia, its success would thus serve as a global milestone in the field of SRHR.

#### **13.3.6 Development of Research Indicators and Research Tool**

As a follow up to consultative forums, the research framework was revised and SRH Rights definitions were contextualized in the national context. The revised framework was then shared with the experts, who suggested indicators around each SRH Right. To contextualize and devise indicators around such a tabooed and sensitive subject and to deal with diversity of opinion were major challenges in this process. Moreover, lack of appropriate language, vocabulary and expertise on SRHR issues, were also found to be challenges for the project team. However, through a consistent follow up maximum input was gathered from the experts and draft research tool was developed on the basis of indicators approved by the expert panel.

#### **13.3.7 Finalization of knowledge bearers for conducting E Survey**

To develop a list of at least 1,000 Knowledge Bearers of SRHR, who have knowledge about SRH issues and experience of working with young people from across Pakistan, WPF coordinated with NGOs working on Sexual and Reproductive Health issues including Rozan, Heartfile, Population Council, Packard Foundation, Awaz Foundation Pakistan and HANDS. Cleaning and confirmation of about 1,000 Knowledge Bearers is in progress and the final list will be ready within next one week.

#### **13.3.8 Pilot testing and reworking the prototype**

The process of pilot testing of the research tool has been initiated. About 30 knowledge bearers / experts of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights issues have been short listed from the universe. The process of pilot testing and revision of prototype will be completed by the end of June.

### **13.4 Institutionalization of SRHR**

#### **13.4.1 Signing of MOUs with Implementing Partner NGOs**

As per contract agreement with EU, WPF proposed to implement the project in collaboration with Health and Nutrition Development Society (HANDS) in Mitiari, Awaz Foundation Pakistan; Centre for Development Services in Multan and Pakistan Voluntary Health and Nutrition Association (PAVNHA) in Karachi. The work plans and budgets were mutually agreed with all the partners. The MoUs with the other two implementing partners were signed successfully on June 02, 2009 in the presence of EU Representative. However, after our interaction with PAVHNA during past few months, WPF found some management and organizational issues, on the basis of which, WPF Management Team proposed to disengage partnership with PAVHNA. WPF formally communicated its reservations to PAVHNA and requested any recent evaluation of their work/capacity. WPF and PAVHNA have mutually agreed to disengage partnership. It was also discussed in review meeting with European Commission (EC) representative held at WPF office on June 2. WPF will start process for selection of a partner in Karachi as per EC guidelines.

#### **13.4.2 MOUs Signing with Local Government to Implement Project in Target Districts**

WPF has successfully signed MoU with City District Government Karachi to implement the Life Skills Based Education component of the project. For this purpose, several meetings were held with City District Government officials including, City Naib Nazim, District Coordinating Officer, Executive District Officer Education and Health during second quarter of the year. Moreover, implementing partners in Multan and Mitiari organized seven meetings with the government officials and formalized/signed MoUs with their respective district governments to implement the project. The MoUs can be reviewed at [http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp\\_eu.html](http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp_eu.html)

#### **13.4.3 Development of SRHR Oriented LSBE Curriculum and its Translation**

WPF has initiated the process of developing SRHR based LSBE Curriculum (teacher's manuals and Student's workbooks) in light of experience gained from its previous experience of working on Life Skill Based Education Programme and SRHR issues of adolescents and young people. For this purpose, the team has completed the process of internal review of existing curriculum. Several meetings were held with UNICEF and UNFPA, Ministry of Education,

CSOs and other like-minded organizations to take them onboard for establishing National Curriculum Advisory Committee. The meeting of the committee will be held in early July 2009 as government representatives will be busy in formulating budget etc. until June 30. WPF is planning a workshop with its partner organizations to elicit their input in the next quarter.

### **13.5 Enabling Environment for SRH Rights**

From the beginning of the project, WPF has taken several initiatives to advocate for SRH Rights of young people and creating an enabling policy environment with government, CSOs and media. Cost effective ways have been adopted to share maximum information regarding SRH Rights of young people among stakeholders including media, CSOs and the government through following:

#### **13.5.1 Project's display on WPF portal and Website**

WPF has developed portal and enriched its website by uploading most recent virtual and interactive resources and information regarding Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR) of young people on them. A dedicated project page has been uploaded on the website which acknowledges EC commitment to Pakistan's progress and support to the programme. The page has been linked to EC's website.

#### **13.5.2 Design and Bring Out E-Greeting cards**

WPF developed a poster on Mother's Night 2009 which contained a message, highlighting the issue of teenage marriages resulting in teenage pregnancies and its related affects on health of young girls. It was disseminated to more than 3000 stakeholders to build a voice against the issue. Moreover, similar theme has been developed for the E-Greeting card to be disseminated on Father's Day 2009

#### **13.5.3 Publication and dissemination of IEC Material**

WPF has developed project brochure, project standee and SRH Rights awareness poster for sharing and dissemination among stakeholders. These IEC reflects on the possible outcome and strategies of the project to achieve its goals.

#### **13.5.4 E-Newsletter**

WPF has initiated development and dissemination of quarterly E-Newsletter among stakeholders titled 'Rights in Focus'. The first quarter's E-Newsletter was published on March 31, 2009. It can be viewed at, [http://www.wfpak.org/images/EU\\_1stquarter\\_09.JPG](http://www.wfpak.org/images/EU_1stquarter_09.JPG). Moreover, the E-newsletter for the second quarter is being developed and will be disseminated by end of June.

The EU Visibility guidelines have been followed in this regards.

### **13.6 Human Resource and Organizational Development**

The project team was provided opportunities to attend various internal conceptualization and orientation forums / meetings to get acquaintance with the project and its focus. The training opportunities are being explored by the Human Resource department. However, Project officer Information Technology participated in a workshop on Regional Institute of Sexuality, Society and Culture in India on partial scholarship. This training opportunity will help him to understand the basic concept regarding SRH Rights and how to link it with developing virtual resource development.

### **13.7 Monitoring and Evaluation**

#### **13.7.1 Formation of National Project Steering Committee- NPSC**

As outlined in the proposal, WPF has formulized a 'National Project Steering Committee' for progress review, networking and guidance on regular basis. The committee comprises of some experts who actively contributed in the research process, CSOs, INGOs, UN agencies, media, youth networks, relevant Ministries and Implementing partners (list of the members of NPSC is appended as Annexure 2 and can be accessed at [http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp\\_eu.html](http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp_eu.html)) The members of the committee will meet twice a year, during four years period (2009-12) as per following ToRs:

- Periodic review of the project's performance and work plan and advice corrective measures;
- Support project's networking and advocacy efforts for SRHR and Youth friendly related policies; (and)
- Participate in project forums at national level for SRHR institutionalization in ongoing education and health sector initiatives.

The first meeting of the committee is due in the first week of July.

## **F. Impact and Evaluation (boxes can be extended)**

**14. What is your assessment of the results of the project so far? Include observations on the extent to which foreseen goals were met and whether the project has had any unforeseen positive or negative results.**

- During the reporting period, most of the foreseen goals for the first six month have been realized. As the project is at its initial stage, the first quarter went in developing project infrastructure and preparations, whereas, activities of the assessment phase were carried out mostly in the second quarter. The project infrastructure is in place and two

implementing partners are ready to take up institutionalization phase w.e.f July 2009. However, selection of new partner(s) will take a few weeks.

- As it is a pioneering project, the limited body of literature on SRH issues from Rights perspective was another challenge. During the literature review process, it was observed that not much experience and tools are available in Pakistan to assess the Sexual and Reproductive Health status of young people from rights perspective. Despite sensitivity of the issue and lack of language, vocabulary and extensive expertise, WPF has succeeded in drafting indicators, assessment instrument / prototype and protocols with the help of experts. However, timely feedback from experts was another challenge as they all have their own commitments and were engaged voluntarily.
- Due to scarcity of human resource for working on such kind of issues, the identification of the consultant was another challenge for the organization. However, with the help of our headquarter we have succeeded in engaging a Dutch Consultant with us.

#### **15. What has been the impact on both the target group and the target region?**

As the project was at its initial phase of assessment and no intervention was carried out in the field directly with core target group i.e. young people, thus it is too early to respond to this question. However, through several consultations/meetings with youth, media, government ministries (Youth Affairs, Education, Health and Population Welfare), NGOs, implementing partner organizations, experts of SRHR issues, response so far received has been quite encouraging for the WPF team.

#### **16. The success of the project depended on various assumptions (see log frame). Have these influenced the results?**

##### *Peace and security situation*

The peace and security situation of the country was so alarming during the reporting period that WPF had to make extra efforts to sustain the pace of activities. Due to hard work of the project team, no major delay has been experienced so far.

##### *Sensitivity of the issue*

WPF has taken measures to minimize sensitivity of the subject matter and focused on devising culturally-appropriate and contextualized definitions of SRH Rights. Moreover, the language used for research indicators and tools was endorsed by SRHR experts who work in all parts of the country and know how to minimize related risks due to sensitivity of the issue. Moreover, multi-stakeholders have been taken onboard to create an enabling environment.

#### **G. Other**

#### **17- How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured in the project? Please also list any specific activities or actions organised for the EU visibility.**

During the reporting period, WPF has largely focused on the visibility of the project and European Union in line with visibility guidelines. For this purpose, following initiatives were taken.

Project and EU Visibility on WPF's Website [http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp\\_eu.html](http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp_eu.html)

Newsletter for first quarter [http://www.wfpak.org/images/EU\\_1stquarter\\_09.JPG](http://www.wfpak.org/images/EU_1stquarter_09.JPG)

IEC- Project Brochure [http://www.wfpak.org/pdfs/EU\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.wfpak.org/pdfs/EU_brochure.pdf)

News coverage [http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp\\_eu\\_media.html](http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp_eu_media.html)

Picture Gallery [http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp\\_eu\\_gallery.html](http://www.wfpak.org/html/rdisrhp_eu_gallery.html)