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Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI), like many other organizations, faced unprecedented challenges during the year 2019-20. These challenges involved more stringent government regulations including additional registration requirements and restrictions on field activities. Access to international funding too was a challenge due to a more competitive environment in the face of shrinking inflows. However, the most prominent of all challenges was the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in shutdown of offices, restrictions on the movement of staff and uncertainty across sectors. Overall economic conditions of the country also contributed to anxieties among the staff and stakeholders.

CPDI, however, was able to continue its work towards the established goals within its priority program areas. It streamlined its procedures and adopted innovative ways for enhanced outreach and policy impact. During the outbreak of COVID-19, it developed and implemented health safety SOPs not only for its staff but also for all downstream activities. While the field activities were halted, as per government orders, CPDI adjusted its approach and started using online platforms for generating public debate, informing policy discourse and engaging stakeholders. A large number of webinars were conducted on diverse topics and streamed through various social media platforms that have a significant following across Pakistan. The activities covered a vast range of topics including the COVID-19 pandemic, women leadership, inefficiencies in public service delivery, right to information, budget transparency, police reforms, electoral reforms and empowerment of socially excluded groups.

CPDI incorporated the public service messages regarding the COVID-19 pandemic in all its on-going projects, especially about preventative measures. It also highlighted the good performance of government officers, especially female leaders, in creating awareness or treating COVID-19 patients. During the year, CPDI established the Budget Study Centre, in order to consolidate its initiatives for more effective budget literacy and advocacy campaigns with the primary aim of making budgets more transparent, accessible and inclusive.

The contributions of CPDI across sectors, especially in terms of policy advocacy and policy impact, are widely acknowledged. It is all due to the commitment and hard work of CPDI team, which delivered quality work against the ongoing projects as well as through voluntary initiatives, despite various challenges. They have my profound appreciation.
About CPDI

CPDI is a leading civil society organisation in Pakistan, which is committed to promoting right to information, transparency, peace, democratic values, rule of law and accountable governance in the country and around the world. Its work has significantly been focused on the right to information and, in this regard, it has played a leading role in the enactment of progressive right to information laws in Pakistan, especially in the provinces of Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. Over the last 15 years, it has implemented a large number of projects and campaigns that involved research, comparative analysis of laws, drafting of bills, review and analysis of official drafts, stakeholder consultations, sensitization workshops for government officers and legislators, capacity building of journalists on RTI and investigative reporting, media campaigns to highlight the importance of RTI and training of government officers.

CPDI staff members have served on or assisted numerous committees of the Government or legislatures that were established to review, draft or improve right to information related proposals. Over the last seven years, CPDI has also been closely working with Information Commissions to provide technical support, assist them in training of public information officers and arranging forums where information commissioners could interact with each other or with other stakeholders for experience sharing or to receive feedback about their work. In recognition of its contributions, two of the staff members of CPDI were appointed as Information Commissioners, one at the Federal level and the other in the province of Punjab.

CPDI has rich experience in analysing government policies including legislative proposals, budget documents and government performance in terms of reactive or proactive disclosure of information. It has also been analyzing the performance of Information Commissions and public bodies in implementing the right to information laws. In particular, it has tested and been using the methodology that GIZ has developed (in consultation with RTI experts), especially in the provinces of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. CPDI has also been implementing several youth empowerment programmes, including annual youth internships and summer schools on RTI and budget transparency.

CPDI is a member of or affiliated with many national and international associations including Freedom of Information Advocates Network, South Asian Alliance for Budget Accountability (SAABA), Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS), Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA), VSO International, Citizens Network for Budget Accountability (CNBA), Insaf Network Pakistan, Pakistan Coalition for Education (PCE), Pakistan Alliance for Inclusive Elections (PAIE), Coalition for Right to Information (CRTI) and Coalition for Elections and Democracy.
Board of Directors

M. Rashid Mafzool Zaka
Chairman

Waqas Ahmad Khan
Member

Muhammad Ayaz Asif
Member

Dr. Sarfraz Hussain Ansari
Member
Programme Areas

- Transparency and Right to Information
- Media Watch
- Rule of Law and Local Governments
- Elections and Democratic Development
- Budget Watch
- Peace and Tolerance
Right to Information is one of the core program areas of CPDI. Since its establishment, CPDI has been consistently engaged in research, advocacy and capacity building work for the promotion and institutionalization of right to information. During the year 2019-2020, our work focused on promoting more efficient and effective implementation of right to information laws at the Federal and provincial levels. CPDI also engaged civil society and government institutions in dialogues for the need for a more progressive right to information legislation in Balochistan.

One of the highlights of the year 2019-2020 is the establishment of the National Forum of Information Commissioners (NFIC). This forum of information Commissioners is the first-ever forum established for the mutual learning and experience sharing among Information Commissioners in Pakistan. The forum, NFIC, consists of all in-service information commissioners from the Commissions at the Federal level and KP, Punjab and Sindh provinces. To date, CPDI has facilitated two meetings of the NFIC. At the platform of NFIC, Information Commissions share their progress and initiatives regarding the implementation of RTI laws. Issues like non-allocation of funds, delay in appointment of information commissioners, lack of administrative support from the government, delays in the finalization of rules, shortage of staff, and resistance on the part of public bodies in disclosing information are discussed at length. Keeping in view the nature of issues, commissioners also carry out strategic planning for improving their performance and addressing the challenges. The meetings of NFIC were widely covered by print media.

In addition to a large number of public awareness activities, CPDI arranged a press conference about the need of further strengthening the right to information laws at the National Press Club, which was addressed by the Commissioners of Pakistan Commission on Access to Information. It
also provides the Commissioners an opportunity to highlight the challenges that they face including, for example, the shortage of staff and funds.

CPDI observed the 17th international Right to Know Day 2019 by organizing a public event in Islamabad. The event also involved a session on the Annual RTI Champions Award 2019, which CPDI has instituted to promote the use of the right to information laws for greater transparency in governance. In 2019-20, an investigative journalist and common citizen won the RTI awards for their best use of the Right to Information Laws. Similar events have been held in the past with the support of multiple donors including the German Development Agency (GIZ), National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Open Society Foundation (OSF) and European Union (EU). As for policy research, the CPDI team conducted a research study on the status of RTI in Pakistan. The study covered two main aspects of the implementation of RTI laws i.e. reactive disclosure and proactive disclosure of information. The report was launched during the event held to celebrate the 17th International Right to Know Day on the 28th of September 2019.

Other initiatives included social media campaigns, webinars, submission and follow up on information requests, engagement with media, capacity building of CSOs, advocacy for new RTI law in Balochistan, and advisory support to journalists for their information requests and investigative reports.
Media Watch

CPDI has been closely working with journalists and media organizations, especially to solicit their support for right to information and to promote independent and responsible media. It has facilitated journalists in submitting hundreds of information requests under the right to information laws in order to help them in their investigative reporting on critical issues of public service delivery. In numerous cases, their RTI based investigative reports have unearthed serious inadequacies and inefficiencies in public sector organizations, which resulted in policy or administrative actions to improve service delivery. Under its Media Watch Programme, CPDI has implemented numerous projects such as the EU funded Civil Society for Independent Media and Expression (CIME), which it is currently implemented.

CPDI, as the leading member of the consortium, started implementation of CIME in January 2020, along with other members including Media Matters for Democracy (MMfD) and Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF). The project aims to protect and promote freedom of expression and thought both offline and online, and facilitate citizens’ access to information, particularly by fostering normative policy frameworks for media and internet regulation & protection of journalists and enhancing the capacity of media and civil society to access public information. The project is divided into four tracks for implementation including Research, Advocacy, Capacity Building, and Legal Action. The project activities are geared towards increasing knowledge about policy trends, challenges, opportunities related to exercise of FoE & RTI in Pakistan, enabling more effective civil society responses to policy challenges by creating research and advocacy tools, legal support and ensuring vigorous advocacy responses by engaging with national and international human rights instruments.

The CIME team of CPDI organized the inception meeting of all the three partners on January 8-10, 2020 in Islamabad. Concerned project personnel from each partner organization participated in the meeting. Presentations on project design, implementation strategy, activities and reporting guidelines were delivered, which were followed by discussion among participants to further clarify relevant questions.

In June-July 2020, CPDI organized online consultative sessions with stakeholders in Balochistan to identify the challenges in the enactment of strong RTI law in Balochistan, and to discuss the way forward for designing advocacy strategy for the introduction of more robust and citizens’ friendly RTI law in the province. The sessions were widely viewed and appreciated online, besides being covered print and electronic media.

Following the notification of Citizens’ Protection Rules 2020, under Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA), 2016 which were considered harmful for free speech, the CIME partners mobilized civil society efforts to question the legality and usefulness of the rules. The advocacy campaign
persuaded the government to form a consultative committee for discussing the proposed rules with stakeholders. CIME has also completed a pilot assessment of the FoE framework and a white paper on the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016, which has been a subject of significant civil society concerns in view of numerous provisions that restrict freedom of speech.

The project also held consultations on the need for journalists’ safety legislation, and engaged policymakers at the Federal and provincial levels for enactment. Moreover, the project established a database of incidents involving threats to or attacks on journalists, which could be used to inform the research and advocacy initiatives under the project.

In general, CPDI has been raising voice for independent, free and responsible media through its social media platforms, publications and formal or informal interactions with policymakers and media organizations. Besides media freedom, CPDI emphasizes the need for more responsible media reporting and, in this regard, tries to inform people of their rights, including about complaint forums that they could approach to seek redress in relation to their complaints.
Rule of Law and Local Governments

CPDI continues to advocate for rule of law, which is one of its core program areas. The work involves policy research, public awareness campaigns, training of civil society leaders and government officers, and engagement with policy makers for appropriate laws and policies. Relevant projects under this program area included the EU funded “Democratic Local Governance for Development in Pakistan (DLG Pakistan), which aims at improving the quality of life of the citizens in 15 districts of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh Provinces by strengthening democratic local governance.

CPDI is implementing the four-year DLG Pakistan project since January 2017. The project aims to build the capacity of civil society organizations for more effective articulation of their demand for more efficient, transparent, inclusive and accountable local governance systems. During 2019-20, the project made substantial progress in terms of organizing local community groups, identifying and prioritizing local development needs for sharing with government institutions, conducting interface meetings, tracking development projects, and raising voice for more effective local government system, which could respond to citizens’ demand for efficient service delivery. The project implementation strategy involved multiple interventions including:

- Development of citizens’ budgets;
- Research on budget including allocations and release of funds;
- Participatory tracking of development schemes;
- Engagement with print and electronic media to highlight community needs and challenges in service delivery;
- Promotion of right to information to access official documents and information;
- Stakeholder consultations;
- Development and dissemination of Citizens’ Report Cards (CRC);
- Facilitation of citizens through Budget Tracking App; and
- Policy advocacy for more appropriate legal and policy framework.

Under the DLG Project, CPDI has successfully pioneered physical audits of development projects in 15 districts across three provinces in Pakistan. The concept of physical audit revolves around monitoring infrastructural development projects by the community and civil society. Information about approved development projects is extracted from the official budget documents and is shared with local communities, who are then facilitated to carry out physical audits to assess progress and provide their feedback to the relevant public bodies. During the reporting period, around 105 developmental schemes relating to health, education and water supply were physically audited.

To promote a culture of budget transparency and accountability, a mobile application named DLG Budget Tracker has been developed. It was released on 30 June 2020 through a webinar. DLG Budget tracker is a money tracking APP that contains the budget allocation on development schemes related to Health, Education and Water and Sanitation in 15 project districts. This application enables citizens to monitor the expenditure of district budgets and hold concerned authorities to account. The DLG Budget Tracker is available on Google Play Store.

Following tables provide a concise list of activities implemented under the DLG project:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Training</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Target Category (i.e. journalists, CSOs or youth etc.)</th>
<th>Audience (i.e. CSOs and DIG Members)</th>
<th>Number of Persons Trained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Training on Good Governance</td>
<td>15 project districts of KP, Sindh and Balochistan</td>
<td>CSOs and DIG Members</td>
<td>372 including 74 Females</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training to Support LAs for Effective and Efficient Public Service</td>
<td>15 project districts of KP, Sindh and Balochistan</td>
<td>Local Authorities</td>
<td>709 participants, including 132 females, out of which 497 were elected and appointed LAs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Workshops for Media on RTI</td>
<td>5 project districts of Balochistan</td>
<td>Local Journalists</td>
<td>114, out of the 92 were media representatives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training of CSOs on Effective Grant Making</td>
<td>15 project districts of KP, Sindh and Balochistan</td>
<td>Partner organizations of 15 project districts</td>
<td>30 including one female</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership and Communication Skills Development of District Citizens</td>
<td>15 project districts of KP, Sindh and Balochistan</td>
<td>Partner organizations of 15 project districts</td>
<td>30 including 2 females</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In addition, a total of 497 stakeholders (members of DIG, CSOs, Media, and LAs) were trained during July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 in the 15 districts of the project.*

**Press Conferences/Media Engagement**

DLG project team had 105 media interaction in the shape of press conferences during the reporting period. These press conferences were mainly on Citizen Budget, Right to Information, Citizen Report Card results, Local Government Elections, Mainstreaming of PWDs, Importance of Parent-Teacher Councils, results of physical audit reports, findings of Pre-Budget Consultations, Water, Sanitation, Health and Education Issues of districts.

**Radio Programs:**

Programs were recorded and aired in project districts on topics related to local governance. During the reporting period, six radio programs were recorded centrally at provincial capitals and then aired for 30 times in all 15 targeted districts.

**Radio Messages**

Radio messages were aired in 15 districts, covering different issues. These messages were produced by the DLG project team.
CPDI in Media

Activities conducted in different districts have gained coverage by both print and electronic media.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Newspapers</th>
<th>Urdu Newspapers</th>
<th>Local Newspapers</th>
<th>TV Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Publications

Under the DLG project, the following publications were developed and disseminated among citizens, media, elected, and appointed local authorities during the reporting period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Total Copies printed and disseminated</th>
<th>Online availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizens’ Budget</td>
<td>15000 (1000 copies for each district)</td>
<td><a href="http://dlgpakistan.org//publications/budgets">http://dlgpakistan.org//publications/budgets</a> social media posts (Facebook and Twitter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen Report Card (3 report cards on health education and water facilities/services in all 15 districts)</td>
<td>45000 (1000 copies for each district)</td>
<td><a href="http://dlg-pakistan.org//publications/reports">http://dlg-pakistan.org//publications/reports</a> social media posts (Facebook and Twitter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress of Developmental Projects Reports (6 reports of each project district are developed)</td>
<td>90000 (1000 copies for each district)</td>
<td><a href="https://dlg-pakistan.org/publications/physical-audit-reports">https://dlg-pakistan.org/publications/physical-audit-reports</a> social media posts (Facebook and Twitter)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other activities being carried out under the project include press conferences, press releases, radio programs, radio messages, and social media awareness campaigns. These activities significantly contributed to building public awareness and influencing policy debates, as it is evident from the feedback that CPDI receives. Media coverage of such activities is summarized as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Newspapers</th>
<th>Urdu Newspapers</th>
<th>Local Newspapers</th>
<th>TV Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1. Ms. Moonus, Project Manager CPDI hold detailed session on Balochistan Freedom of Information Act 2005 in Ziarat.

Figure 2. Jamshed Tariq, Project Coordinator CPDI facilitating the session on leadership and advocacy in Hangu.

Figure 3. Atif Ali Project Coordinator CPDI moderating Training for Local Authorities of Hyderabad in process at Sagar Inn Hotel, Hyderabad.

Figure 4. Assistant Commissioner Hangu, Mr. Umar Owais Kiyani presented certificate of appreciation to an artist of theatre play Mera Haq arranged by YWYBDA.

Figure 5. Mr. Jamshed Tariq Project Coordinator supervising CRC survey in UC Maneri Bala, Swabi

Figure 6. Khalid Hussain, Project Coordinator CPDI visiting a development scheme in Quetta.
Mr. Saeed Rahman, Secretary Local Govt. KP, was briefed about the DLG project during a festival in Buner.

Figure 7. Ruhul Amin, President SBRC, presenting Citizens’ Budget in Swabi.

Figure 8. Ms. Noor Jahan from NDO talking about benefits of Citizens Report Card during a consultative session in Jafarabad.

Figure 9. Mr. Gul Wahid, Liaison Officer RDO, discussed the importance of PTCs in school management in Buner.

Figure 10. District Monitoring Officer Right to Services Ms. Fatima Gul received Citizens’ Budget of Swabi district.

Figure 11. Mr. Amjad Lashari, Liaison Officer of WEB, moderating a pre-budget consultation in Bolan.

Figure 12. Mr. Saeed Rahman, Secretary Local Govt. KP, was briefed about the DLG project during a festival in Buner.

Figure 13. Zaheer Ansari, Liaison Officer SDP, distributing food in Khairpur during COVID-19.

Figure 14. Jhanzeb Jani of YWYBDA distributing sanitizers among traffic police in Hangu during COVID-19.
Elections and Democratic Development

CPDI has been working for electoral reforms and democratic development since its establishment. The work that it has carried out included research on electoral issues, policy advocacy for electoral reforms, voter awareness campaigns and observation of elections. CPDI is currently implementing a number of projects with a focus on promoting women participation in elections and improving the policy environment for free and fair elections. Such projects include the following:

**Women in Elections (WIE)- Online Portal:** During 2019-20, with the support of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) and Global Affairs Canada (GAC), CPDI started a new project titled, “Women in Elections- Online Portal”. Under this project, CPDI has developed a central online portal for women in elections that is interactive and provides a one-stop destination for information that pertains specifically to women’s rights and electoral and political participation.

This online resource (launched in March 2020) aims to help multiple stakeholders ranging from women, researchers, journalists, academia, and politicians to overcome challenges they face when trying to access reliable information about voter rights and elections. The ‘Women in Elections’ website is housed on the PakVoter portal.

**PakVoter Portal:** Developed by CPDI and IFES, PakVoter (launched before 2013 General Elections) is the first online forum to provide impartial information on Pakistan’s elections and is a trusted resource on elections and electoral processes throughout Pakistan. Additionally, PakVoter uses a life-span approach targeting all age groups and segments of the society, as it utilizes an accessible platform that enables people with disabilities to have control over certain website components, such as increasing the text size and changing the background color for easier readability.

“Women in Elections” section on the PakVoter Portal includes statistics on women in elections in Pakistan; information on women’s quotas at all stages of an elected government; messages related to the importance of women’s democratic participation; and women-focused voter information that highlights key information women need in order to register for their national identity card and cast a ballot on Election Day.

**Pakistan Alliance for Inclusive Elections (PAIE):** In 2017, CPDI formed the Pakistan Alliance for Inclusive Elections, which consists of seven civil society organizations. This initiative focuses on promoting the participation of PWDs in the electoral process as voters and candidates. This alliance coordinates civil society efforts to influence policy-making in relation to laws, rules and electoral processes to make them more inclusive. Disabled Persons’ Organizations (DPOs) that are part of PAIE include Special Talent Exchange Program (STEP), Pakistan Youth Federation for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (PYFDH), True Sight organization for the Blind (TSOB), Pakistan Foundation Fighting Blindness (PFFB), Development of Disabled People Organization (DDPO) and Potohar Mental Health Association (PMHA).
Budget Watch

CPDI is one of the first few civil society organizations that initiated research-based advocacy on the budget-making and implementation process in Pakistan. The work is carried out under numerous projects, especially the “Budget Research and Advocacy for Democratic Accountability” project, which is funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). Under this project, CPDI has established the Citizens’ Network for Budget Accountability (CNBA), which consists of 77 members with outreach in 110 districts across Pakistan.

During the year, CPDI held training workshops for members of CNBA in Karachi and Quetta, whereas additional online trainings were held for members from Punjab and KP. The trainings focused on the budget-making process, budget analysis, methodology for an open budget survey and advocacy strategies for transparent and inclusive budgeting.

The 35 CNBA member organizations conducted an Open Budget Survey in 48 districts. The survey focused on transparency and inclusion in the budget-making process and implementation of budget timelines at the district level. The CSOs also made use of the relevant right to information laws to acquire information. The information obtained through RTI requests was used by the Budget Study Centre of CPDI to develop reports on budget making and implementation processes.

CNBA partners also held budget consultations across districts to identify challenges and enable civil society to communicate their needs to the relevant authorities. Moreover, the budget analyses reports developed by the Budget Study Centre were launched by CNBA partners to disseminate the findings and generate awareness and debate on common budget related concerns at various levels of government institutions.

Another worth mentioning initiative was the CPDI Budget Tracker Mobile Application, which provides online information about the allocation of the development budget for each district in all the four provinces in Pakistan.

CPDI also launched a Budget Internship Program, which benefited seven fresh graduates of different universities. Additionally, CPDI conducted a large number of webinars and online discussions on budget related issues, which attracted significant participation from all walks of life.
Peace and Tolerance

One of the major program areas that CPDI works on is the promotion of peace and tolerance. However, most of the activities and initiatives in relation to this program area are mainstreamed under other program areas, that seek to achieve inclusive and transparent decision making processes and efficient public service delivery. The approach is based on the understanding that fair elections, independent media, transparency in governance and equitable and transparent budget play a major role in ensuring peace and tolerance among various segments of society in the country.

During the year, CPDI also held discussions on issues related to peace and tolerance and positively contributed to civil society efforts aimed at countering extremism and violent conflicts in the country.
Social Media Presences

The number of social media users is rapidly increasing around the world, including in Pakistan. Most people, particularly youth, find social media convenient for accessing information and sharing their views. Realizing the importance and utility of social media, CPDI has established its presence on social media including Twitter and Facebook in order to share information about its activities and initiatives for policy reforms, and to engage stakeholders in its activities.

The table below provides details of social media accounts and the number of likes and followers on each social media account:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Twitter Account</th>
<th>Facebook Account</th>
<th>Followers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cpdi.pakistan</td>
<td>cpdi_pakistan</td>
<td>cpdi.pakistan</td>
<td>1900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dlg.pakistan</td>
<td>DLG_Pakistan</td>
<td>dlg.pakistan</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PakVoter</td>
<td>PakVoter</td>
<td>PakVoter</td>
<td>7068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRTI.Pak</td>
<td>RTICoalition</td>
<td>CRTI.Pak</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CPDI duly acknowledges the financial support provided by its international partners. Their support and trust help us to work towards our goal for a better society.
Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) is an independent, non-partisan and a not-for-profit civil society organization working on issues of peace and development in Pakistan. It is registered under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (later substituted by the Companies Act 2017). It was established in September 2003 by a group of concerned citizens who realized that there was a need to approach the issue of peace and development in an integrated manner. It seeks to inform and influence public policies and civil society initiatives through research-based advocacy and capacity building in order to promote citizenship, build peace and achieve inclusive and sustainable development. Areas of special sectoral focus include promotion of peace and tolerance, rule of law, transparency and access to information, budget watch, legislative development, and free, independent & responsible media.