Women Development Schemes in Federal and Provincial Budgets
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<td>NCSW</td>
<td>National Commission on Status of Women</td>
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<td>PCSW</td>
<td>Punjab Commission on Status of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCSW</td>
<td>Balochistan Commission on Status of Women</td>
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<td>SCSW</td>
<td>Sindh Commission on Status of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPCSW</td>
<td>KPK Commission on Status of Women</td>
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<td>PIDE</td>
<td>Pakistan Institute for Development of Economics</td>
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<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>SDPI</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Policy Institute</td>
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<td>CPDI</td>
<td>Center for Policy Development Initiatives</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization</td>
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<td>UDHR</td>
<td>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</td>
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<td>UNCRC</td>
<td>United Nation Commission on the Rights of Child</td>
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<tr>
<td>WDD</td>
<td>Women Development Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICPPED</td>
<td>International convention for the protection of persons from Enforced Disappearance</td>
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Chapter -1

Introduction

CPDI has always scrutinized budget documents from different angles and released number of research reports which are directly related to the solution of public problems. Purpose of these reports is to inform the public as to what percentage of the amount of their tax money is used to fulfill their basic needs and how much importance is given to their basic issues during federal and provincial budgeting. The current initiative will gather empirical evidence of women specific budgetary allocation made by federal and provincial governments for the year 2021-22.

The global landscape of women’s empowerment

Gender equality is a basic human right, and it is also fundamental to having a peaceful, prosperous world. But girls and women continue to face significant challenges all around the world. Women are typically underrepresented in power and decision-making roles. They receive unequal pay for equal work, and they often face legal and other barriers that affect their opportunities at work.

In the developing world, girls and women are often seen as less valuable than boys. Instead of being sent to school, they are often made to do domestic work at home or are married off for a dowry before they are adults. As many as 12 million underage girls are married every year. While some progress is being made in various parts of the world, there is still a great deal left to be done to right the problems of gender inequality.

Pakistan’s population comprises nearly 50% of women. Access to and control over resources, eligibility for rights, and power-sharing equation remain unequally distributed between men and women in Pakistani society, and still, women are discriminated against to a great extent, in all sectors of life, whether public, private or in a community environment; furthermore, men have greater authority and a higher quality of life than women. While according to the Global Gender Gap Index, Pakistan was the world’s second most unequal country in terms of gender equality. Currently, Pakistan is ranked fourth-worst in the world in terms of gender parity, trailing only Iraq, Yemen, and Afghanistan. Pakistan is rated 153rd out of 156 nations on the gender parity index, according to the World Economic Forum’s “Global Gender Gap Report 2021.” Pakistan’s parliament currently has only 21 per cent female members.
If sixty reserved seats are not taken into account, female representation in the National Assembly of Pakistan is only around three per cent of the total. A key part of this empowerment is through education. Girls who are educated can pursue meaningful work and contribute to their country’s economy later in life. They are also four times less likely to get married young when they have eight years of education, meaning that they and their families are healthier. However, on the larger question of allocating enough resources to significantly reduce the gender gap, much remains to be done. The social sector, where gender disaggregation does not pose significant problems of unallocables, is largely the domain of the provinces. The donors, however, are now more interested in something different.

The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics has published a Compendium on Gender Statistics of Pakistan 2014. It has a good coverage of indicators, but there is no information on resources allocated to what it understates to be the female population. At the federal level, efforts are being made to improve the situation of women life. Surprisingly efforts are at priority agenda of government but budget allocation is extremely as compare to last year’s budgeting.

**Achieving Gender Equality Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-5)**

Achieving full gender equality, one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) could take 300 years if the current rate of progress continues, according to a published report by UN Women and UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).


According to a Achieving gender equality and realizing women and girls’ empowerment and rights are critical elements of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SDG 5 is central to our work, and gender also features strongly as a theme cutting across all other SDGs. Our work is strongly inspired by and seeks to contribute to the *Leaving No One Behind* agenda. This agenda calls for deeper understanding and more efforts to contribute to meaningful change for groups that are currently invisible or excluded. This requires an intentional focus on women and girls, and on the marginalized and excluded groups among them. To this end, a range of services to support organizations in making sense of gender across programs, projects and institutionally. Key to our approach is to think and act together with you to create a space that stimulates critical reflection and applied learning.
Progress on SDGs Targets

The progress on SDG 5: Gender Equality covers the increase in political participation i.e., the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and provincial parliaments were increased. Females as managers have increased but still it’s a long way to achieve parity among males. Labor force participation of females is increasing but quite low, hence the average wage compared to males. Thus, there is a significant development going on as far as gender empowerment and equality is concerned, albeit the gender gap is large that needs to be reduced significantly. Several legislative measures are taken, given below:

- Legislative measures: Some of the recent legislative measures to promote gender equality are listed below:
  - The Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment) Act, 2022
  - Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Act, 2021
  - The National Commission on the Rights of Child (Amendment) Bill, 2021
  - The Islamabad Capital Territory Child Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2021
  - The definition of rape under section 375 has also been expanded and gang rape penalized.
  - ICT Rights of Persons with Disability Act, 2020
  - Legal Aid and Justice Authority Act, 2020
  - The Zainab Alert, Response and Recovery Act, 2020

Besides, the Ministry of Human Rights has drafted a Model Policy on violence against women to address all forms of violence which women faces during their daily life along with an implementation strategy for legislations and policy already enacted to safeguards rights of women.

Women situation in calamities and pandemic

- Women are being hit hard by the fallout of the pandemic. Because they typically earn less, have fewer savings and hold less secure jobs to begin with, women are particularly susceptible to economic shocks in general. The pandemic has devastated feminized sectors like hospitality, tourism and retail, depriving many women of their livelihoods. Across all regions, women have been more likely to drop out of the labor force during the pandemic. The majority of employed women work in the informal sector, with few to no worker protections like paid sick leave and unemployment. For women in frontline jobs, such as healthcare providers and domestic workers, the pandemic has forced them to choose between economic security and their health.

During natural disasters, women are more vulnerable to violence especially domestic violence assault and trafficking.
**Need for Citizen’s budget**

At the time of processing Annual Budget of a government the state projects its own perception and allocates funds sometimes evidence based and mainly its own priorities with zero involvement of citizens especially the poor and marginalized segments of society. Thus the process becomes extremely complicated, technical and esoteric nature and documents do not allow citizens to participate. Majority of developed countries has realized the importance of responsive citizen’s budget.

**Brief snapshot of provincial allocation of budget:**

- The Punjab government will spend 900 million rupees for gender empowerment as compare to 500 Million to last fiscal year
- Realizing the compelling need The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has allocated rupees 3.5 billion 2.62 percent of the total budget to women’s economic empowerment programs in the fiscal budget 2022-23.
- According to the DAWN News Sindh government has allocated Rs500m for the economic empowerment of women in the Public Sector Development Program for the current financial year, which will do wonders for the uplift of women in the province.
- Rs500 million have been allocated for the economic empowerment of women in the 2021-22 budget of Balochistan.

**Methodology:**

To gather evidence base results the following methodology for this report analysis:

- A detailed desk review
- Meeting with high level government official at federal and provincial level
- Relevant development experts
Chapter -2

Women Development Department (National and Provincial)

There is a dedicated Women Development Department (WDD) at federal and provincial level to improve situation of women life that are almost half population of the country. Women Development Department is the department of strategies, administration, schemes and formation of laws related to women, it is the responsibility of department to cover all the needful grounds regarding women without the discrimination of class, creed, religion, economic position. In Sindh women is the most effected commodity due to which women is suffering in all fields. Women development department is working on the empowerment of women by providing them social, economic and legal assistance in all fields by running different projects and implementing pro women laws and providing awareness to develop self-esteem and confidence.

In nutshell the Women Development Department (WDD) is the Government machinery which cater the needs of women and streamlines the Women Development Programs with the rosy but heavy mission of the rapid development in empowerment of women without any discrimination, to create women friendly atmosphere in Sindh where they are treated equally.

Conventions advocating for women's empowerment and protection

All the conventions advocating women right and protection against all forms of discrimination were ratified by Pakistan but proper implementation of the international convention are still debatable. The first was its adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Article 2 of the Declaration emphasizes that the rights and freedoms stated are equally applicable to men and women. Key ratification for the advancement of women's rights was that of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1996. Under CEDAW, Pakistan must pursue all appropriate means to address discrimination against women in all spheres, especially political participation, education, employment and household. With the CEDAW committee's recognition of violence against women as a form of discrimination, Pakistan is particularly required to provide immediate access to justice to the victims of violence. The international conventions that Pakistan has ratified (with the exception of ICCPD).

The international conventions that Pakistan has ratified (with the exception of ICCPD) are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention/Treaty</th>
<th>Year of signing/Ratification</th>
<th>Ratification Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN convention on the rights of persons with disability (CRPD)</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention/Treaty</td>
<td>Year of signing/Ratification</td>
<td>Ratification Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>International convention for the protection of persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED)</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Not Ratified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention against Torcher and other racial inhuman degrading Treatment of Punishment (UNCAT)</td>
<td>2008 2010</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination and against women (CEDAW)</td>
<td>1979 1996</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)</td>
<td>1966 1966</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)</td>
<td>2004 2008</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Convention on the Rights of Child (UNCRC)</td>
<td>1990 1990</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)</td>
<td>2008 2010</td>
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**Projects**

Detail of a few meaningful projects under ADP Schemes included in the financial year 2021 – 2022 and the detail is as follow:

**Construction of Women Development Office Complex Lahore**

Project is included in the ADP of Women Development Department of FY 2021-22 and reflected at GS No. 2482 with allocation of Rs.575 million. Moreover, an amount of Rs.128.969 million has been allocated for 2021-2022 the construction of Women Development Complex at Sabzazar Colony, Lahore and gestation period of the scheme is 3 years i.e. 2021-22 and 2022-23. The main objective of this scheme is to construction for the establishment of Women Development Offices Complex in Lahore and lays the foundation of state of the art building to accommodate offices of Women Development Department, Directorate of Women Development, PCSW, PDCF Society, and PWWEF Society.

**Construction of Multi-Purpose Complex Lahore**

Project is included in the ADP of Women Development Department of FY 2020-21 and reflected at GS. No. 2483 with allocation of approximately Rs.362 million. The main objective of this scheme is to construction for the establishment of Women Development Complex in Lahore. It is also envisaged that the Complex shall house a model Day Care Centre (DCC) and skills training center and multipurpose hall for seminars.

**Gender Mainstreaming Program**

The project aims at integrating a gender equality perspective at all stages and levels of policies, programs and projects. The department WDD wants to have a holistic view in policy making by inclusion of persons from all public sector organizations.

There shall be a series of training workshops / seminars / panel discussions to highlight different aspects of gender mainstreaming. The professionals particularly from public / government sector shall be made part of this advocacy campaign for bringing about change
in the present and upcoming policy frameworks. The clan of officers shall change agents and would also be the advocates for dissemination of cause to other relevant stakeholders.

Capacity building of the government officers and parliamentarians to use gender mainstreaming while designing, implementing and evaluating policies, programs and projects, so that they benefit may be extended to all without any discrimination.

**Other ADP Schemes included in the financial year 2021 - 2022:**

- Awareness Campaign Regarding Initiatives on Women Empowerment Package Phase -III
- Initiatives of Women Development Department
- Establishment of Women Development Centers
- Provision of Fund for Punjab Day Care Fund (PDCF) Society
- KARACHI, Jun 15 (APP): Sindh government has earmarked Rs.571.975m for the women Development Department for the next financial year 2021-22.
- The allocation for has been increased from Rs.348.581 million to Rs.571.975 million. Whereas, Rs.320 million have been earmarked under Provincial ADP 2021-22, out of which Rs.296 million are for ongoing and Rs.24 million are for new schemes.
- Some of the important schemes are Establishment of Women Development Complex, Sales & Display Centres Working Women Hostel Karachi and Women Complaint Cells across Sindh.

**KP govt to spend Rs. 1 billion on welfare, empowerment of women in fiscal year**

- The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would spend more than Rs. one billion for welfare and empowerment of women during 2021-2022.
- During budget speech, Provincial Finance Minister, Taimur Salim Jhagra informed the House that Rs. 100 million would be spend for empowerment of women and to further increase output of women commission.
- He said that 20 percent of micro-finance loan in Bank of Khyber would be allocated for women and 25 percent quota in one billion fund of Akuwat program of Small Industrial Development Bank would be given to women.
- The Minister said that that allocated fund of one billion rupees would also be utilized to establish girls Cadet College at Mardan, provide easy loan of women associated with small business and empowerment of women in merged areas.
- Jhagra said that Rs. 450 million were allocated to bring minorities in national mainstream, Rs. 30 million allocated for imparting professional education to minority community members.
- He said that religious places of minorities would be revamped and land would be furnished for graveyards and Shamshan Ghats.

A separate ministry of women development is functioning at federal level and all the provinces have women development departments and the detail of the function is give below:
Women development department Balochistan

- To work for social, cultural, economic and legal empowerment of women.
- To work as a catalyst, lobbyist and influencer.
- To implement National/International policies/commitments.
- To deliver services.

WDD Punjab functions, under the Punjab Government Rules of Business, 2011 are as following:

- Legislation, policy formulation and sectoral planning for women development
- Transformation of the government into an organization that actively practices and promotes gender equality and women empowerment
- Implementation of administrative and institutional reforms and departmental restructuring for promoting gender equality
- Mainstreaming gender equality perspective across public policies, laws, programs, and projects by departments and agencies of the government with a focus on women empowerment
- Promotion, coordination and monitoring of execution of national and provincial policies and commitments on gender reforms and women development
- Provision of technical support and expertise for gender mainstreaming in all departments of the government and its agencies
- Expansion of investment in women’s socio-political and economic development to achieve the goal of gender equity
- Collection of quantitative and qualitative data and conducting of research on the status of women in the Punjab to highlight issues at appropriate forum
- Building of partnership with line departments, non-governmental and civil society organizations to deliver on the rights and entitlement of women
- Pursuance of means and measures to increase participation of women in political process and encouragement of effective representation of women in political and administrative spheres
- Collaboration with legal, judicial, law enforcement and other relevant governmental and non-governmental agencies to facilitate women’s access to formal legal and justice system

Women Development Department Sindh

- The Women Development Department (WDD) is the Government machinery at provincial level which cater the needs of women and streamlines the Women Development Projects, Programs, Activities, Policies, Bills, Laws and Acts with a crosscutting theme with all Line Departments, NGOS and Institutions.
- WDD Sindh plays the vital role as catalyst, lobbyist and influencer curbing extensive discrimination against women by providing a platform in order to resolve women issues in a pragmatic manner.

Women Development Department has 9 ongoing schemes throughout the Sindh for fiscal year of 2021-2022
1. Establishment of Women Development Complex at Sukkur
2. Establishment of Women Development Complex at Shaheed Benazirabad
3. Establishment of Women Development Complex at Karachi
4. Establishment of Day Care Centre at Karachi, Sukkur and Jamshoro
6. Repair and Maintenance of Existing Building of Women Training Institute at Shaheed Benazirabad
7. Project for Improvement of Livelihood and Well-being of Female Home Based Workers (FHBWs) in the Informal Economic Sector in Sindh Province (Assisted by JICA)
8. Renovation of existing building of Women Development Complex at Sanghar
10. Repair & Renovation and Improvement of Services of Dar-ul-Aman Sukkur
Chapter -3

National Commission on Status of Women (NCSW)

NCSW’s vision is to seek a democratic, just, peaceful and a tolerant society where all citizens are equal irrespective of sex, race, religious beliefs, geography and ethnicity, where diversity is accepted and celebrated. The main aim is to promote gender equality and women empowerment and protect rights; monitor legal, social and economic rights of women.

Mandated Functions and Powers of the National Commission on Status of Women

1. Examining policies, programs and other measures taken by the Federal Government for gender equality, women’s empowerment and assess implementation.
2. Review all Federal laws, rules and regulations affecting the status and rights of women and suggest repeal, amendment or new legislation essential to eliminate discrimination.
3. Sponsoring, steering and encouraging research to generate information, maintaining a database for national policy and strategic Action for women empowerment.
4. Developing and maintaining interaction and dialogue with non-governmental organizations, experts and individuals.
5. Maintain active association with similar Commissions and institutions in other countries for collaboration and action to achieve gender equality at the national, regional and international level.
6. Mobilize grants from domestic and international, including multi and bilateral agencies for meeting any of its obligations or performing its functions.
7. Facilitate and monitor implementation of international instruments and obligations affecting women, girls, and advice the Federal Government before accession to any such proposed international instruments, protocol or treaty.
8. Provide recommendations to the Federal Government the signing or ratifying of international instruments affecting rights of women and girls.
9. Seek and receive information, data and documents from any federal source or entity in the course of performance of its functions.
10. Inspect any jail, sub-jail or other places of custody with prior permission of the provincial government.
11. Exercise Powers of Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (Act V of 1908) while inquiring into complaints of violations of women rights.
12. Advocate, lobby, build coalitions, network and catalyze for promoting women’s cause on the basis of evidence.
13. Liaise with Provincial Commissions and concerned provincial organizations.
NCSW Budget (in Million)

![NCSW Budget Graph]

**Punjab Commission on Status of Women (PCSW)**

- Examine policies, programs and other measures taken by the Government to materialize gender equality;
- Review the Punjab laws, rules and regulations affecting the status and rights of women;
- Sponsor, steer and encourage research to generate information, analysis and studies and maintain a database relating to women and gender issues;
- Develop and maintain interaction and dialogue with NGOs, experts and individuals in society at the national, regional and international level;
- Facilitate and monitor implementation of instruments and obligations affecting women and girls to which Pakistan is a signatory and;
- Monitor mechanisms and institutional procedures for redress of violations of women’s rights and individual grievances. This includes inspecting jails, sub-jails, Darul Aman’s and Women’s Centres or other places of custody, where women and girls are kept.

**Sindh Commission on Status of Women (SCSW)**

The main objectives of SCSW are:

- To Examine policies, programs and other measures taken by the Government for Women’s development and gender equality;
- Review laws, rules and regulations affecting the status of women; Monitor Mechanism and institutional procedures for redress of violation of women’s rights and individual grievances;
- Encourage and sponsor research to generate information, analysis and studies relating to women and gender issues;
• Develop and maintain interaction and dialogue with NGOs experts and individual in society at the national, regional and international level; any other function assigned to it by the provincial Government.

**KP Commission on Status of Women (KPSCW)**

• Examine the policy, programs, projects and other measures taken by Government, for women development and gender equality, to assess implementation and make suitable recommendations to the concerned authorities, where considered necessary for effective impact;
• Review all provincial laws, rules and regulations affecting the status and rights of women and suggest repeal, amendments or new legislations essential to eliminate discrimination, safeguard and promote the interests of women and achieve gender equality in accordance with the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and obligations under International Covenants and commitments;
• Monitor the mechanism and institutional procedures for redress of violation of women’s rights, individual grievances and facilities for social care, and undertake initiative for better management and efficient provision of justice and social services through the concerned forums and authorities;
• Examine and review policies/programs and plans of each department to ensure that they address gender concerns adequately;
• Establish and constitute in consultation with the Government, District Committees, consisting of such number of members with female majority and to be headed by a female Chairperson on such terms and conditions and for such a period as may be prescribed through regulations to examine and review policies/programs and plans for each office in the district and to ensure that they address gender concerns adequately; provided that two female members of district council shall be added to the District Committee and meetings and quorum of the District Committee shall be such as prescribed by regulations;
• Provide guidelines to a District Committee for implementation and receive periodic reports on the implementation status to the Commission;

**Balochistan Commission on Status of Women (BCSW)**

BCSW is a newly created body of just three months old. A chairperson has been appointed just two weeks ago and recruitment of staff is underway. BCSW will perform the following functions:

• Shall examine the policy, programs and other measures taken by the Government for gender equality, women’s empowerment, political participation representation, assess implementation and make suitable recommendations to the concerned authorities;
• Shall review all Balochistan laws, rules and regulations affecting the status and rights of women and suggest repeal amendment or new legislation essential to eliminate discrimination, safeguard and promote the interest of women and achieve gender
equality before law in accordance with the Constitution and obligations under international covenants and commitments;

- Shall sponsor, steer, encourage research to generate information, analysis and studies and maintain a database relating to women and gender issues to provide knowledge and awareness for national policy and strategic action for women empowerment;
- Shall develop and maintain interaction and dialogue with nongovernmental organizations, experts and individuals in society and an active association with similar commissions and institutions in other provinces and countries for collaboration and action to achieve gender equality at national, regional and international level;
- Shall mobilize grants from domestic and international, including multi and bilateral agencies approved by the Government, for meeting any of its obligations or performing its functions;
- Shall facilitate and monitor implementing of international instruments and obligation affecting women and girls to which Pakistan is a signatory, and advise the Government before accession to any such proposed international instruments and obligations affecting women and girls to which Pakistan is a signatory, and advise the Government before accession to any such proposed international instrument, protocol or treaty;
- Shall recommend to the Provincial Government the signing ratifying of international instruments (conventions, treaties and covenants) affecting rights of women and girls;
- May seek and receive information, data and documents from any Federal and Provincial source or entity in the course of performance of its functions;
- While inquiring into complaints of violations of women’s rights may call for information or report from the Federal Government, Provincial Government, Civil Society organization and autonomous or concerned bodies and in this regard the Commission shall have the powers vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, (Act V of 1908), for enforcing the attendance of any person and compelling the production of documents;
- May in accordance with relevant laws and rules and prior permission of the Government inspect any jail, sub-jail or other places of custody where women and girls are detained and to make appropriate recommendations to the authorities concerned;
- May act for advocacy, lobbying, coalition building, networking and as a catalyst for promotion of cause of women to facilitate their participation in all spheres of life including legal, economic, social and political empowerment;
- Liaise with the Federal and Provincial Commissions set up under their provincial laws and other concerned provincial organizations;
- Shall monitor the mechanism and institutional procedure for redressal of violation of women’s rights; and
- May perform any other functions which may be assigned to it by the Government.
Overall budgetary allocation of Commission on Status of women is mentioned below:
Chapter -4

Women’s Empowerment Principles

Women’s empowerment has always remained a contested issue in the complex socio-demographic and cultural milieu of Pakistani society. Women are ranked lower than men on all vital human development indicators. Therefore, studying various determinants of women’s empowerment is urgently needed in the Pakistani context.

These seven principles have been crafted in a collaboration between the UN Global Compact and UN Women, the Women’s Empowerment Principles are used to empower women in the marketplace, workplace and community. These principles are:

- Create high-level corporate leadership for gender equality
- Treat all people fairly at work, respecting and supporting non-discrimination and human rights Ensure the health, wellbeing and safety of all workers, whether male or female
- Promote education, training and professional development for women
- Implement supply chain, marketing practices and enterprise development that empower women
- Champion equality through community initiatives and advocacy
- Measure and report publicly on progress to create gender equality

Recommendations

A concrete and holistic approach is direly needed to improve gender equality with focused women empowerment plans. Some of proposed action could be:

- Financing for gender equality
- Fair allocation of budget for women development realizing half of the country population
- Resource allocation is first step for women empowerment. The data of various ministries and departments both at federal and provincial shows the instead to increasing annual budget for women targeted plans and schemes is shrinking as compare to previous years.
- Target support to feminized sectors and occupations such as hospitality, tourism and retail.
- Cover micro- and small businesses in government bailouts, where women entrepreneurs tend to be overrepresented.
- Provide cash transfers to women. Target individuals rather than households to diminish women’s economic dependence on men.

Empowering girls is the key to economic growth, political stability and social transformation.
• Support girls’ education. Develop accessible tools for distance learning, including the use of national television, and ensure girls return to school as they reopen.
• Promote women’s access to male-dominated industries. Provide training opportunities for women, design and implement policies to make workplaces more women-friendly, and make fiscal support for male-dominated industries conditional on women’s representation.
• Production, analysis and use of gender statistics and sex disaggregated data
• Providing resources to help women build economic independence, including:
  o Supporting economic empowerment projects and Expanding women’s employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the health, hygiene and sanitation sectors
  o Offering training in professional and vocational skills Funding and administering the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Program.
List of Literature Review

- Pakistan Voluntary National Report (VNR) Federal SDGs Support Unit, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms
- National Communication Strategy Federal SDGs Support Unit, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms
- Development of an SDG7 Road Map for Pakistan SDPI May 2022
- PIDE Sludge Audit Volume-1
- Annual report of National Commission on Status of Women
- Annual report of Punjab Commission on Status of Women
- Annual report of Sindh Commission on Status of Women
- Annual report of KPK Commission on Status of Women
- Annual report of Baluchistan Commission on Status of Women
- Annual Report of Ministry of women development
- Annual Budget Report of Women Development Department Balochistan
- Annual Report of Women Development Department 2020-21 Punjab
- Annual Report of Women Development Department 2020-21 Sindh
- SDGs report on Natural Resources Management – AJK by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pakistan
- SDGs report on Natural Resources Management – Balochistan by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pakistan
- SDGs report on Natural Resources Management – Punjab by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pakistan
- SDGs report on Natural Resources Management – Gilgit Baltistan by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pakistan
- SDGs report on Natural Resources Management – Sindh by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Pakistan
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights Report
- https://sdpi.org/development-of-an-sdg7-road-map-for-pakistan/event_detail

List of Key Informant Interviews

- Dr. Muhammad Suleman Shah, Director National Commission on Status of Women (NCSW)
- Ms. Fauzia Shaheen, Chairperson Baluchistan Commission on Status of Women (BCSW)
- Ms. Rukhsana Jabeen, Director Baluchistan Commission on Status of Women (BCSW)
- Dr. Shafqat Munir, Research Fellow, Sustainability and Resilience Programme. SDPI
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