


Capacity Enhancement of the Women Parliamentary Caucus of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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Signing of the agreement ©SDC

The Caucus

With the 18th Constitutional Amendment, the provincial governments are now directly responsible for making policies and laws for women's empowerment. In order to effectively deliver on their enhanced mandate, provincial governments need to be further capacitated. The Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has 124 members, out of which 99 were elected on general seats (all of who are men), 22 on reserved seats for women and three on reserved seats for religious minority groups. The female members, irrespective of their political affiliation, have formed a Women Parliamentary Caucus for promoting women's rights through provincial legislation, monitoring the implementation of pro-women legislation and coordination with relevant stakeholders.

For mainstreaming gender into provincial legislative processes, the Women Parliamentary Caucus needs to be strengthened and empowered. The SDC has launched a one year project together with the UN Women Pakistan to address the capacity building needs of women's caucus of KP.

The Objective

The overall objective of the project is to mainstream the concerns of women and marginalized groups in the legislative processes of the KP Provincial Assembly. This project will enhance the capacity of the Women Parliamentary Caucus, its members, members of the Standing Committee on Women Development, and the Provincial Assembly Secretariat to bring the provincial laws and policies into line with Pakistan's national and international commitments related to women. Men parliamentarians and members of civil society organisations will be part of the awareness raising

sessions and events conducted under this project. The main focus of the project will be institutional strengthening, provision of technical advisory services and capacity enhancement of the stakeholders. These instruments will facilitate gender mainstreaming in provincial legislation and support the implementation of such laws.

Gender equality and women's empowerment approaches are at the centre of all development and humanitarian programmes of Switzerland. Empowering women parliamentarians at the helm of legislative affairs will lead to better and effective representation of women's rights in provincial and eventually national legislation. This will raise awareness on issues related to gender disparity, and contribute in the prevention of human rights violation against women and girls.

Total Budget:	USD 150,000
Time Frame:	12 months
Dates:	Jan – Dec 2017

The project is expected to bring a positive change in the lives of the women, girls and other vulnerable segments of society, including transgenders, by involving all the relevant stakeholders. It will directly strengthen the women parliamentarian wing of the KP Provincial Assembly, which will represent women of the region, and highlight their rights and issues in an effective manner on all the relevant forums.

Project Partners:

- UN Women
- Women Parliamentary Caucus of KP

Further information

Embassy of Switzerland
Swiss Cooperation Office in Pakistan
House 3, Street 3, F 6/3, Islamabad
Phone: +92 51 2077 900
Fax: +92 51 2824 872
E-mail: islamabad@eda.admin.ch
Web info: <https://www.fdfa.admin.ch/pakistan>
<https://www.facebook.com/SwitzerlandinPakistan/>