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# Hindu Marriage Bill: Law That Will Save Lives

Six months ago, Easar Das' wife tragically suffered a miscarriage. Immediate medical attention was able to save her life...

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# NEWSLETTER

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WORLD service ASIA peace  
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dignity

Woman attending Conference on Hindu Marriage Bill  
Islamabad, Pakistan  
Photographed by Khalid Rasheed, January, 2016

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## Dear Readers,

Greetings from Community World Service Asia, and welcome to our first issue of 2016!

The year has been off to a busy and exciting start, and we're delighted to share our news with you. Our cover story relates to an extremely proud achievement: the passage of the Hindu Marriage Bill in Sindh. As an organization, we have been working together with rights activists and politicians around the country for the realization of the equal rights of Pakistan's minority Hindu community. The lack of legal recognition for their marriages has been a constant challenge, and one which has long been a priority for the community itself. At long last, our efforts have led to real legislative change, which is the first step towards the equal protection of the rights of Hindu men and women. Our very own journalist, activist and colleague, Asif Akeel, shares the impact that this legislation will have on the lives of Hindu citizens on page 03.

As always, our talented and tireless Quality and Accountability team have been working to improve the quality of humanitarian response. As Nepal continues to recover from the devastating earthquake which took place almost a year ago, we have been able to support

# Star of the Quarter



The star of the quarter is **Sahar Zafar**, with many thanks for her energy, creativity, talent and hard work. Congratulations, Sahar!

the organizations on the ground by equipping them to apply international standards to their response. Our expert in-house trainer, Mr. Rizwan Iqbal, managed to spare some time from his busy schedule to give us his unique insight on page 05.

On page 08, you'll be introduced to the talented design students and rural artisans who are collaborating to develop an exciting range of handicrafts products, in support of the economic empowerment of rural women. Our Trending section features stories and updates from our work with refugees, rural gender activists, teachers and partner civil society organizations, and our Trivia section is sure to get you thinking.

We welcome you to share your comments, suggestions or stories with us for future issues.

Thank you for reading!

# Editorial Team



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# Hindu Marriage Bill: Law That Will Save Lives

By Asif Akeel

Six months ago, Easar Das' wife tragically suffered a miscarriage. Immediate medical attention was able to save her life. Twenty-year-old Easar is a resident of Mandhal village, in the Umerkot district of interior Sindh. He and his wife got married when he was sixteen years old, and his wife was just twelve. Early marriage is a very common practice in Hindu communities due to a variety of social and economic factors. A primary driving force behind the marriage of children is the risk of abduction and forcible conversion of young girls. "Most of our people are illiterate, and mostly we didn't know that child marriage causes so many health challenges for young mothers," says Easar, who works as a laborer in the fields. "At least for our children we will not indulge in child marriage."

Niabat Bai, who lives in the same village, explains that the Sindh Marriage Act 2016 will help their community. Section 4(1)(a) of the Marriage Act specifies that both parties to marriage must be "eighteen years of age or above". Niabat's sixteen-year-old daughter, Devia Bai, is a student in class 8 at Umerkot Government Girls' High School. Devia was engaged to her relative at a very young age. "I would have given Devia in marriage by now, but after realizing the complications arising from early child marriage, Devia will only tie the knot after reaching eighteen," says Niabat. Community World Service Asia has been working in Umerkot to raise awareness and understanding of gender-related issues in the area. Devia will now be able to complete her education, rather than being forced to drop out in order to get married.

Unlike the Muslim majority and Christian minority communities in Pakistan, the Hindu community has no personal laws that govern their marriage, divorce, inheritance, maintenance, adoption or other family issues. The first efforts to provide a legal mechanism for registration of Hindu marriages were made in 1976, but these efforts were always stalled for one reason or another.

The National Conference on the Hindu Marriage Bill, organized by Community World Service Asia in January 2016, provided an impetus that resulted in several successes in this regard. The Sindh Hindu Marriage Act 2016 was passed on February 15, which provides a mechanism for the registration of marriage, although the law does not provide for matters of divorce, inheritance or other issues.

Kawita Bai is suffering because of absence of any law related to divorce. She travels about 150 kilometers from Umerkot to reach the Sindh High Court in Hyderabad on a regular basis. A year and a half ago, she was accused by her ex-husband of marrying another man without first legally acquiring a divorce from him. Twenty-year-old Kawita's husband, Bhimrao Mall, also travels with her to each hearing, and the couple doesn't know when the end to their plight will be as the court hearings are going on without any progress.

Kawita's first husband sent her back to her parents in Umerkot only few months after the marriage. Being very poor and fearful of abduction of their daughter, her parents decided to give her again in marriage. The final decision was made by a panchayat (local village council) that Kawita could get married as she had been abandoned by her husband for more than two years. After she got married with Bhimrao Mall, however, her ex-husband filed a civil suit that she was not legally divorced; hence, her new marriage was illegal. The absence of a law which governs divorce for the Hindu community has

## Announcements



### Upcoming Trainings

Event	Dates	Location
Content Development Workshop	May 7-8, 2016	O'Springs Murree
Module III: Research and Report Writing Skills training	May 14-15, 2016	University of the Punjab
Project Design (Advanced)	May 17-19, 2016	Lahore
Organizational Development	May 17-20, 2016	O'Spring
Module IV: Moral and Ethical Responsibilities for NGOs	May 21-22, 2016	University of the Punjab
Action Research Course Part 1	May 30 - June 3, 2016	O'Spring
Joint Networking Event	June 23, 2016	Sialkot (TBC)
Action Research Course Part 2	July 18-22, 2016	TBD
Social Mobilization	July 19-22, 2016	O'Spring

### Donation of Medical Equipment

Community World Service Asia has donated medical equipment to King Abdullah Teaching Hospital in Mansehra to meet the priority health needs of the refugee and host communities. The following items have been donated to support the provision of health services:

- **Two ultrasound machines**
- **Two baby warmers**
- **Two ENT diagnostic sets**
- **Five adult weighing machines**
- **Five baby weighing machines**
- **Two ECG machines**

We hope that this equipment will contribute to the service of the community and its health needs.

### Watch this Space

Community World Service Asia is currently developing some exciting new videos highlighting our work in different areas! We are looking forward to sharing these with you over the next quarter. We'll be showing you how we're working with rural artisans in Thatta to empower them to fight poverty, how we're partnering with young people to promote peace and diversity, and how we're strengthening humanitarian interventions through quality and accountability. Watch this space!

# Features



Former Information Minister Qamar u Zaman Kaira addressing to National Conference on Hindu Marriage Bill.

left her without any option.

During the National Conference on Hindu Marriage Bill, the chairman of the federal Standing Committee on Law, Justice and Human Rights, Chaudhry Bashir Mahmood Virk, assured the audience that he would pass the bill within days even if there was any resistance. He fulfilled his promise! The standing committee passed the bill on 8th February, and now it will be presented before the National Assembly for further debate. The federal law on the Hindu marriage covers issues like divorce, and it will be able to serve women like Kawita.

Another problem that Hindu women face is forcible abduction, conversion and then marriage. Most of the Hindu population lives in Sindh, but a sizable number also live in other provinces. Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab have given their powers to the federal government to enact a law in this regard. As long as it is not enacted, Hindu women are not safe from abduction, and the married women have no way to prove their previous marriage.

Bhado Mai, a mother of four children was abducted, converted and forcibly given in marriage. She was resident of

Rahim Yar Khan and came to Bahawalpur after her marriage in 2005. In 2015, after having a baby, she went to see her parents, where she was abducted by local influential people. "Bhado Mai was nursing her two-month old daughter when she was forcibly converted," said advocate Lazar Allah Rakha. "Bhado Mai's husband went to the police station to register a complaint of his wife's abduction. Instead, he was told that Mai had converted to Islam and thereby her marriage was automatically dissolved," Rakha says.

Ajmal said that he somehow met with Bhado Mai who told him that she had been badly stuck and that she wanted to flee her captivation. "Bhado Mai should have been presented before a court to ascertain if she had willfully changed her religion. Also, even changing of religion cannot absolve an individual of his or her responsibilities towards children, and so was Bhado Mai," Rakha says.

Once the Hindu Marriage Bill is passed from the federal government, it will extend to the entire country. It will not only serve for the registration of marriage, but it will serve to preserve sanctity of marriage, maintenance for children and legal means of divorce. Today thousands of women like Kawita Bai and Bhado Mai are suffering because of lack of the legal framework for registration of Hindu marriage. The government needs to fulfill its responsibility by enacting this law and then making it fully functional by adopting procedures, rules and regulations for its effective implementation.



Community members attending National Conference on Hindu Marriage Bill, held Islamabad on January 27 - 28, 2016

# Enhancing Humanitarian Response: Training of Trainers on Sphere Minimum Standards in Nepal

By Alison Sneddon



The impact humanitarian work has on communities depends greatly upon the quality of services and accountability of actions in both emergency and non-emergency situations. Community World Service Asia works to enhance the quality and accountability (Q&A) of humanitarian interventions across Asia by building the knowledge and skills of our colleagues in the sector on international Q&A standards, and their practical application.

To support the humanitarian efforts of agencies responding to the earthquake in Nepal, Community World Service Asia and Lutheran World Relief (LWR) jointly organized a free of cost, five-day Training of Trainers (ToT) on Sphere Minimum Standards in Kathmandu, Nepal from March 14-18, 2016. The training was attended by thirteen participants from six humanitarian organizations: CARITAS, COPPADES, HelpAge, LWR, NEPAN, and Save the Children.

The training was facilitated by two expert trainers, Mr. Rizwan Iqbal and Mr. Subhashis Roy from Community World Service Asia and LWR respectively. It focused on the Sphere Minimum Standards relating to four primary sectors: WASH, food security, shelter and health action. Emphasis was also placed on the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS), which has replaced the core standards chapter of the Sphere handbook.

The training entailed a variety of learning methodologies to cater for different learning styles, including interactive discussions, paired learning, group work, case studies, audio/visual aids, and lectures. The first three days were focused on teaching core skills, while the last two days focused on application of concepts via participant-led sessions based on local context.

This initiative was highly appreciated by participants as they felt that it had enhanced their knowledge and enabled them to conduct orientations on Sphere and Q&A for their colleagues and partners. Subsequently, the trainees from HelpAge Nepal and their Country Director, Mr. Khemra, have decided hold a training session for their staff and partners within the next quarter. Participants from NEPAN organization will initiate efforts towards translating the training materials into the Nepali language to maximize outreach. The participants have also created a social networking group titled "Sphere Practitioners in Nepal" on Facebook that will allow them to share knowledge and updates on Sphere promotion.

At the closure of the event, Ms. Bronwyn Russel, Humanitarian Affairs Officer from UN, was invited as the chief guest to distribute certificates among the Sphere graduates and formally close the event. She stressed the importance of standards like the Sphere Standards and Core Humanitarian Standards in ensuring the delivery of quality services by humanitarian agencies. The application of these standards should not be restricted to emergency response and should focus on reconstruction efforts as well.

**After the training, we were able to speak with Community World Service Asia's expert in-house trainer, Mr. Rizwan Iqbal, to share his insight and experience of developing Q&A throughout the region.**

**How long have you been a Q&A trainer, and why did you want to work as one?**

After the earthquake 2005 in Pakistan, I started my career in the field of emergency response and continued under

the portfolio of Disaster Risk Reduction in a national level organization, Sungi Development Foundation. During the early stages of my career, I got the chance to attend one of the Training of Trainers on Sphere Minimum Standards organized by Community World Service Asia. Later, in 2008, I received training on HAP [Humanitarian Accountability Partnership] Standard. My organization was quite committed to promoting and practicing the standards, so when I started implementing them I found them very interesting. The principles and standards were helpful to me during the emergency response to IDPs [Internally Displaced Persons] crisis, floods and earthquake rehabilitation programs. Later, in 2010, when Community World Service Asia announced the position of Q&A Trainer, my knowledge and practical experience on Q&A implementation made me qualify for it. Now, it has been close to six years that I'm conducting the trainings in the Asia-Pacific region. I shouldn't say that I aimed to have my career as a Q&A trainer, but when I started with practicing and delivering the trainings, I enjoyed it because it considers people's dignity, rights and during the humanitarian work.

### **What is it about Q&A that you think is so important in the current humanitarian and development context?**

A people-centred approach is the key which is still missing in the humanitarian and development context. Whether we see the post-Rwanda evaluation report almost near to two decades back, or the recent State of Humanitarian Response, there are still gaps where affected populations are unable to receive well-coordinated assistance. We already have set of principles and good practices in the form of standards, but at implementation level, still there is huge gap. So we shall use these tools in the form of standards and principles into our work.

### **What about the importance of Q&A specifically to the response in Nepal?**

The nature of humanitarian crisis is very complex in Nepal after the earthquake 2015. In this situation, there are clear gaps in the humanitarian assistance framework concerning the capacities and skills of national and local agencies. Organizations have expanded their work and a lot of new hiring of staff and volunteers took place. The major challenge is still around their capacity to effectively develop and deliver quality programming with coordinated, consistent and integrated accountability systems along with the international standards.

### **What is the value of the Training of Trainers approach?**

The TOT approach is used to promote and strengthen the local capacity of Q&A trainers in Nepal. Furthermore, it creates a pool of practitioners with knowledge and facilitation skills in delivering the training on Sphere Minimum Standards.

### **What do you find is the biggest challenge when training people on Q&A?**

Q&A is related to changing the mind-set of the people, which

takes time, continuous commitment from the organization and allocation of resources for it. The aforementioned are among the key challenges. Secondly, people like to see the tangible changes quickly, which isn't possible in this case.

There are many international Q&A standards – why has Sphere been selected?

Sphere is good entry point for humanitarian workers to understand the rights-based approach, and it also focuses on the immediate, life-saving needs of the people, which are applicable to all crisis and emergency situations.

### **What is your favourite aspect of being a trainer?**

I enjoy conducting the trainings as it gives me a way to share my knowledge, experience and learning based on Q&A Standards from different contexts to the participants, as well as learning from their experiences.

### **Why do you think that these trainings are effective in promoting the integration of Q&A standards?**

These trainings are an important way to build local capacity and trainers in Nepal. They are equipped with knowledge and tools to apply Minimum Standards in humanitarian response by including them in their policies, proposals, checklists and other materials. Furthermore, they are able to replicate the trainings for other colleagues and staff.

### **How successful do you think the training in Nepal was?**

Through the TOT in Nepal, thirteen Sphere graduates are produced. They have already initiated in-house orientations. HelpAge International Nepal, along with its local partner NEPAN, is producing training material in the local language and will conduct training sessions at district level.

The contacts of TOT graduates are shared with DP Net, the Sphere Country Focal Point, to add them into their database and utilize the services of trained people wherever needed for briefings and sessions.

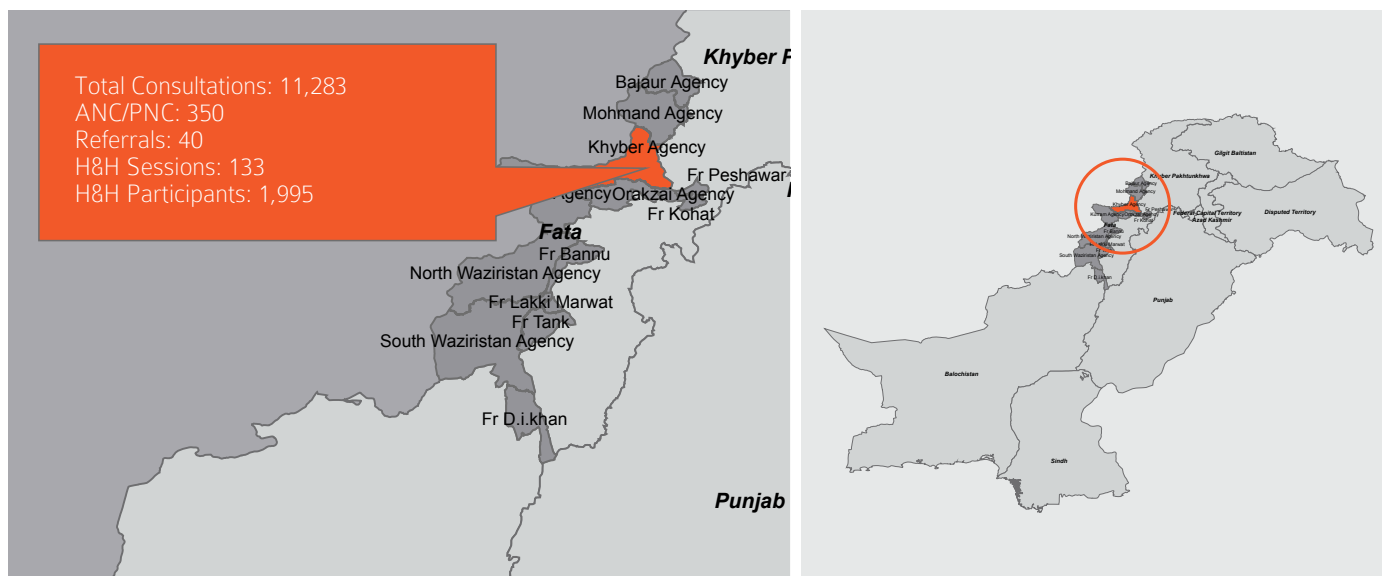
The TOT graduates are also being referred to organizations who are interested to conduct trainings for their staff. For example, a colleague from Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada has recently attended our regional training in Bangkok and is interested to do one training in Nepal for their staff. To provide a local trainer, the graduate from Nepal TOT is suggested for collaboration.

### **What are your hopes for the future of Q&A in Nepal and in Asia?**

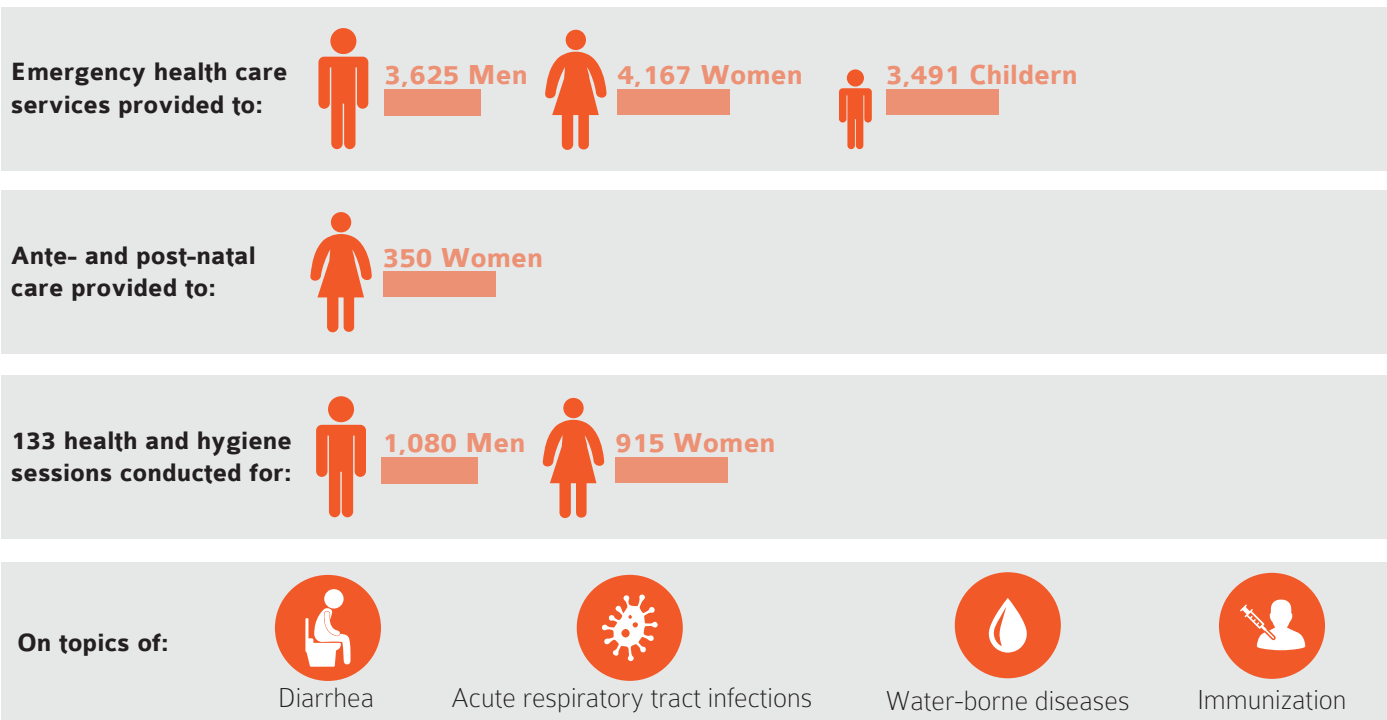
I'm very much positive about the future of Q&A in Nepal and in Asia. Organizations and donors are feeling the need of it, now it's the matter of allocating the resources and joining hands together.

# Vital Health Services for Families Affected by Conflict

Community World Service Asia has been providing humanitarian health assistance to conflict-affected communities in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan. Military operations in the area have led to huge levels of displacement and the destruction of community infrastructure, including housing, schools and health facilities, as well as livelihoods. Families who had been unable to leave, and those who returned home after government clearance in December 2014, faced serious health issues and were without the support they needed to return to their lives. With support from UNOCHA, and in partnership with Rural Empowerment and Institutional Development (REPID), Community World Service Asia initiated health assistance in September 2015.



Location: Qambar Khel area of Bara Tehsil in Khyber Agency FATA, Pakistan



Referral services provided for 40 critical cases requiring further treatment at district health facilities.

# Traditional Skills, Modern Design: Collaboration for

By Ayesha Akif

As part of an innovative initiative to connect rural artisans with urban design students, Community World Service Asia, with the support of the Danish Center for Culture and Development, conducted collaborative design workshops this quarter. The workshops brought together students from the Textile Institute of Pakistan and the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, and artisans from Thatta and Umerkot districts in interior Sindh to facilitate combined learning for both the students and artisans. In their earlier visits to the rural villages where the artisans live and work, students had worked on sampling and experimenting with different embroidery techniques. Based on their assessment of technique and skill, students developed designs for products to be made which combined traditional techniques with modern styles. During these workshops, students and artisans worked together to begin the process of developing sample products.



Artisans at work during the collaborative design workshop at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture



Embroidery is passed down from one generation to another in the village, with women of all age groups learning the craft



Designs created by students keep the essence of the craft intact whilst giving the products a contemporary and urban look targeted towards buyers in the cities

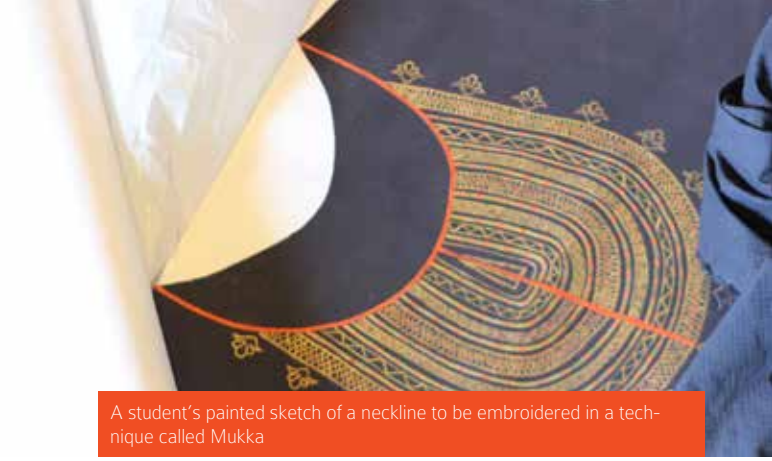


Design students and artisans connect with each other as they work on producing the product samples



A student and an artisan sit together during the workshop





A student's painted sketch of a neckline to be embroidered in a technique called Mukka



An artisan doing Mukka embroidery



As well as embroidered products, jewelry made of beads and thread was also made during the workshop.



Artisans experienced something new as they embroidered on unfamiliar fabrics selected by the students





Despite a language barrier, students and artisans were able to work together efficiently



Students and artisans worked together with ease during the four days of the workshop

# Trending



## Traditional Skills bring New Opportunities for Refugees

By Tassaduq Hussain

Community World Service Asia is working with men and women who are living as refugees in the Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa province of Pakistan to develop a broad variety of vocational skills. Participants receive extensive training, support and raw materials so that they can pursue a sustainable source of income, and meet their needs both in Pakistan and when they return home.

On 3rd March, Community World Service Asia organized an exhibition in collaboration with the US State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, which was held at the renowned Lok Virsa Museum in Islamabad. Lok Virsa displays and explores the diverse cultural heritage of Pakistan, enabling visitors to journey through the history and different regions of the country, illustrating the traditions and ways of life which characterise the many communities of Pakistan.

The exhibition provided an opportunity for the talented artisans to see how their skills can be transformed into a livelihood, to showcase their products and promote traditional Afghan handicrafts, and to earn some valuable income. There were eighteen stalls displaying jewelry, clothes, handbags, mobile phone cases, household items and decorative pieces. Artisans gave live demonstrations of their skills, which were extremely well received by visitors.

Ms. Reena, a handicrafts graduate from Mansehra, participated in the exhibition and displayed her crafts at a stall. "This is my first experience that I am participating in an exhibition at Islamabad level, and I gained much confidence and feel proud," she shares. At the exhibition, she established linkages with other organizations and entrepreneurs, and suggested that duration of the exhibition should be extended and such exhibitions should be held frequently because of the richness of the crafts collection. Reena is a member of the Women's Marketing Committee established by Community World Service Asia, and is playing an active role in connecting female graduates of the livelihoods training program with the market. She also sells her own handicrafts at Mansehra and Abbottabad

markets, and is earning around Rs. 8,000 to 12,000 (approximately US\$76 to 114) each month, enabling her to support her parents, sisters and brothers in their basic needs.

Exhibitions like this are a valuable way to revive the traditional crafts and cultural heritage, and promote artisans and their work. The development of new products and the creation of access to the market play a vital role in providing opportunities to artisans. Through this exhibition, the skilled work of refugees was promoted at the national level.



## Inclusion and Equality: Working together for Women's Empowerment

By Ayesha Akif & Alison Sneddon

Community World Service Asia is working to empower women in rural Sindh and promote gender equality through skills training, income generation, and community mobilization. In partnership with Y Care International, and with the support of UK Aid, the project is engaging with men and women in District Umerkot to bridge the gap between men and women, and contribute to the increased wellbeing of the community.

We recognize that in order for the issue of gender equality to be effectively addressed in a context where traditional practices have entrenched inequality into social attitudes and mindsets, it is vital to include men in the conversation. By working cooperatively with men, and enabling them to work in collaboration with women, we give them the opportunity to understand the relevance and value of equality for women in their households and communities.

Ramchand, 42, is engaged in the project as a Community Gender Activist. He attended a training workshop run by Community World Service Asia, in which participants explored the difference between sex and gender, as well as gender issues which affect the community, such as child marriage and a lack of girls' education. Ramchand explains, "Prior to the training, we didn't even know what women are capable of. We used to overwork them; they would also suffer from domestic violence. We wouldn't respect women or send them to school. They wouldn't even get permission to go to the market or the city unaccompanied."

Introducing these community members to the concepts of gender equality and their value in their lives has been effective in transforming attitudes and perceptions regarding gender. "We became aware that men and women are equal and that women can go by themselves to the market. Women can do all those things that men can." Ramchand's daughter-in-law is also engaged in the project as an artisan, and Ramchand has seen the benefits of her work for his family. With her own income, she is able to meet her son's needs, which reduces the pressure on him and his wife to provide for them.

Ramchand, along with his fellow trained Community Gender Activists, is responsible for reaching out to households in the area and introducing them to the concepts of gender equality, highlighting gender issues and encouraging families to take action. "I can say that the community has shown a very positive response," he says. "Initially, when we would go to the five houses allocated to us, or discuss this at other events with the community, it was difficult, but now people have started responding positively. If someone's daughter was not going to school, they are now doing so. Early marriages and domestic violence have also been reduced. Now they listen to us carefully and are also implementing the knowledge they get from us."

The community has now taken action and approached the local government to request a school for girls in the area. "We need a separate school for girls, as there are so many students. We just have three rooms for almost 250 students." The mobilization of the community to pursue educational opportunities for girls is an extremely encouraging development. Ramchand shares other changes that he has observed since the project began. "Previously, nobody even asked the opinion of women. But now, we also ask women regarding marriage matters. Now the women of the house also say that girls should not be married off before 18 years of age. It wasn't like that before but now women also have a say."

The ability to affect change in individuals in this way is central to the achievement of attitudinal change at a broader level. Community World Service Asia looks forward to continuing to work with the men and women of Umerkot to achieve equality and empowerment.



### **Being the Change** By Khuram Shahzad

Community World Service Asia is working to create space for peaceful, respectful and inclusive coexistence. Peace is not merely the absence of violence or war. Peace is a wider concept and process which finds its way amidst confrontations and tensions as well. We recognize the valuable and influential role that teachers have to affect the mindset and worldview of their students, and we are working with teachers to support them in sharing messages of peace and pluralism with their students. Ms. Aisha Soomro is a primary school teacher in Badin, a coastal city in the Sindh province, who participated in a programme organized by Community World Service Asia to support teachers in achieving this goal.

Truly moved by what she learned in the programme about discrimination and conflict, she noticed an upsetting practice among her students when she returned to school. She noticed that the students were keeping their distance from their classmates from different religious backgrounds, and even kept separate drinking water utensils for non-Muslim students. Ms. Soomro decided to lead by example, and through action. She started drinking water from the same vessels reserved for non-Muslims only, spending time with these students and shaking their hands as well as the hands of the Muslim students. After a while, she noticed a change. The distance among students started vanishing, and she felt that a more cordial and inclusive environment was emerging. The students also seemed to be more academically engaged, and the segregated drinking utensils disappeared.

Ms. Soomro's story shows the impact that a simple action can have on an entire class of students, and the importance of showing young people a positive example to follow. By treating each other with kindness, respect and dignity, we can create an environment in which peace can thrive, from the classroom to the community, and beyond.

### **Strengthening Interventions through Friendship: Partnership with the Doaba Foundation**

By Hassan Imtiaz

Community World Service Asia is committed to sharing its experience, expertise and resources with our colleagues in the humanitarian and development sector. We aim empower civil society in

Pakistan and throughout the region by provide training and technical assistance that addresses the varied and specific needs of civil society organizations (CSOs), building their capacity to support the effectiveness of their interventions.

In order to build close ties with CSOs, Community World Service Asia has joined hand with other organizations to form Long Term Partnership initiatives. These initiatives have to helped increase our project's outreach and facilitate future partnership building with large networks of organizations. One of the key Long Term Partners in this regard is the Doaba Foundation.

Doaba Foundation works to improve the quality of life among disaster-prone communities through optimal utilization of available resources. It seeks to build capacities of communities, focusing on vulnerable groups, for community-centered disaster risk management and sustainable development interventions. The Foundation has been participating in various capacity building trainings conducted by Community World Service Asia since 2005, developing skills and abilities in areas ranging from proposal writing to monitoring and evaluation to advocacy and lobbying.

With their increased skills, knowledge and abilities in all these vital aspects of humanitarian and development interventions, Doaba's trained teams have successfully implemented a variety of projects for communities in Central Punjab. They are also sharing information about our trainings with other organizations, expanding the opportunities for civil society to grow and develop. Community World Service Asia is extremely proud of partnership with organizations like the Doaba Foundation, and of the ways in which we can support our partners to fully realize their potential and serve the communities for whom we all work.

We regularly share opportunities to participate in our high quality trainings through our training calendar, online and in this Newsletter. You can also get in touch with our team at any time to arrange tailor-made trainings for any of your organizations capacity building needs.



### **Better Project Management for Better Projects**

For small NGOs, completing projects within the set timeframe and budget is a huge challenge. Strong project management is vital to the successful implementation of a good quality project, as well as for the future prospects of the organization to obtain funding and continue their service to communities. The time and resources required to undertake specialized project management trainings are usually outside the existing capacities of these organizations. As part of our commitment to supporting the development of civil society in Pakistan and the region, Community World Service Asia therefore tailors trainings to the specific needs of smaller NGOs.

A second training workshop on Project Management was conducted from the 15th to 18th of March in Hyderabad, Pakistan, in order to equip small NGOs with the knowledge, skills and resources to plan, organize, implement and evaluate their projects. The training was attended by 25 participants from nine different organizations based in the Sindh province. These trainings are a vital part of Community World Service Asia's commitment to partnership and the empowerment of local-level organizations to affect positive change in their communities.

# Trivia



1. On the sidelines of World Humanitarian Summit, United Nations has released a report dubbed "One Humanity: Shared Responsibility". What is the venue for World Humanitarian Summit?

- a. Nevsehir
- b. Antalya
- c. Istanbul
- d. Ankara

2. Google has recently announced to make public emergency alerts for floods available in which of the following country?

- a. Africa
- b. India
- c. Bhutan
- d. Nigeria

3. Which organization declared West Africa as Ebola free?

- a. UN
- b. UNESCO
- c. WHO
- d. UNICEF

4. UN has appointed which animated character as its honorary ambassador for climate change?

- a. Donald Duck
- b. Mickey Mouse
- c. Angry bird
- d. Scooby -doo

5. What was the theme of the World Meteorological Day 2016 that was observed across the world on 23 March 2016?

- a. Hotter, Drier, Wetter. Face the Future
- b. Climate Knowledge for Climate Action
- c. Weather and Climate: Engaging Youth
- d. Climate Change: Face the Future

6. According to the UN around 250,000 people have been killed and 13.5 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria. What percentage of Syria's population is currently displaced?

- a. More than 40%
- b. Around 35%
- c. Less than 20%
- d. More than 50%

7. EU has struck a deal on migrant crisis to seek a solution for the problem of refugees with which of these nations?

- a. Syria
- b. Germany
- c. Turkey
- d. Hungary

8. A recent study by the Lancet has revealed that climate change is likely to kill 5,00,000 adults by?

- a. 2030
- b. 2045
- c. 2050
- d. 2025

9. The World Tuberculosis Day was observed on 24 March 2016 with the theme

- a. Unite to End TB
- b. Gear up to End TB
- c. Stop TB in my lifetime
- d. Transforming the fight

10. Which of the following cannot count as aid?

- a. Promotion of museums and libraries
- b. Funding for sports training facilities and venues
- c. Support for concert tours and athletes' travel costs
- d. Funding via the World Bank for road construction in Africa

ANSWERS: 1. (C), 2. (B), 3. (C), 4. (C), 5. (A), 6. (D), 7. (C), 8. (C), 9.(A), 10. (C)



Berta Cáceres (1971-2016)

Just one day shy of her 43rd birthday, environmental activist and indigenous leader of the Lenca people Berta Cáceres was murdered at her home in La Esperanza.

**We have no other spare or replacement planet. We have only this one, and we have to take action.**

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