

Promoting Mediation and Dialogue in KPK & FATA

Spanned across 27,220 km, Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) have a population of approximately 4 million. With an average household of 9.3 members per family, youth and children comprise the majority of the population. The overall literacy rate is nearly 18%, comprising 28% educated males while only 3% of females are literate. The State has not been able to interact positively and effectively with the inhabitants of the area since the land is a battlefield for nearly a decade-long military operation. Brutal terrorism continuously victimizes the youth in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), killing more than 30,000 people in the province since 2004. This has further disenfranchised an already alienated population, particularly youth who are vulnerable to the violent agenda of the extremists in these areas.

Promoting Peace in KPK and FATA – Connecting Youth and Policymakers through Mediation and Dialogue

Through this Project, SFCG Pakistan, in partnership with a local organization called PAIMAN Alumni Trust, contributed towards the promotion of peace-building and reconciliation in Pakistan by encouraging mediation and constructive dialogue between youth non-state actors (NSA's) and policy makers in the regions of KPK and FATA. Moreover, SFCG promoted participatory and community-based approaches to peace-building in KPK and FATA, using all available mainstream media.

Supported by:

The European Union

Duration:

January 2012 – August 2013

Implementing Partner:

PAIMAN Alumni Trust

Geographical Coverage:

KPK & FATA: Abbotabad, Bannu, Battagram, Buner, Charsadda, Dera Ismail Khan, Hangu, Haripur, Karak, Kohat, Lakki Marwat, Lower Dir, Malakand, Mansehra, Mardan, Nowshera, Peshawar, Swabi, Swat, Tank, Upper Dir, Mohmand Agency, Khyber Agency, FR Peshawar, FR Kohat

Direct Beneficiaries:

301 Youth NSAs from 25 districts of KPK and FATA and 25 policy makers

The project engaged with youth via 12 primary capacity building trainings, 1 advanced training session targeting 27 shortlisted youth, an orientation workshop for 25 KPK and FATA policy makers, and district level community forums promoting mediation and dialogue in otherwise embattled regions. Honoring the impressive 500 community members engaged in our efforts, two 4-day Networking sessions were held in Peshawar and Islamabad respectively to initiate negotiation between 25 policy makers and Youth NSA's, equipping them with the promising "Common Ground Approach" in managing and resolving conflicts and disagreements.

Moreover, during the Small Grants Awards ceremony held in Islamabad on October 30, grants were awarded to 5 winners out of the 12 youth participants in the competitive innovative peace proposals, after being reviewed by a 3-member evaluation team.



The deserving winners from KPK and FATA of the Grant competition with the awarding body: KP Minister for Local Government Inayatullah Khan, Deputy Head of EU Delegation to Pakistan Pierre Mayaudon and SFCG Pakistan Executive Director Ammara Durrani.

Thus, the targeted youth's status was promoted and their skill set was enhanced as non-state actors, equipped to interact with the political and administrative policymakers of KPK and FATA for peace-building and conflict prevention within their communities and districts.