

Annual Report 2014-2015

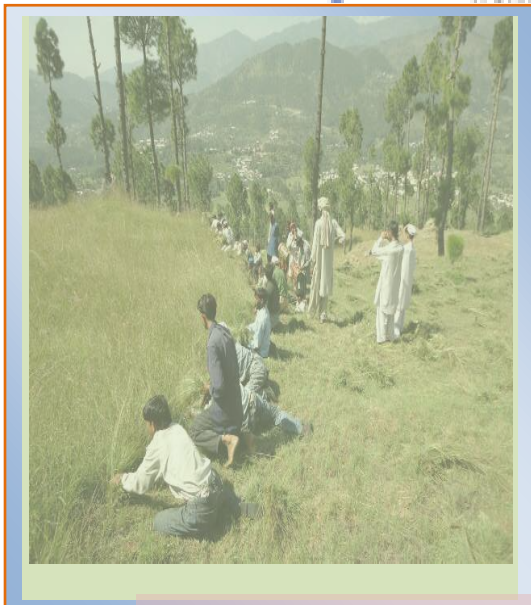


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List of Abbreviations

BoD	<i>Board of Directors</i>
CACEP	<i>Canadian Association for Children Education Program</i>
CRS	<i>Catholic Relief Service</i>
CHF	<i>Canadian Hunger Foundation</i>
CIDA	<i>Canadian International Development Agency</i>
CBNRM	<i>Community Based Natural Resource Management</i>
CEO	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>
DMC	<i>Disaster Management Committee</i>
DDMU	<i>District Disaster Management Unit</i>
GLA's	<i>Government Line Agencies</i>
KW	<i>Kilo Watt</i>
MHPP	<i>Micro Hydel Power Project</i>

1. Executive Summary

Despite many difficulties in the backdrop of complicated security concerns in Pakistan, shifting of donors priorities to flood and terrorism affected areas in Punjab, Sindh and Southern KPK Districts, Haashar Association remained committed to the task of serving the humanity through its programs and objectives within its geographically preferred areas in Northern Pakistan, especially Hazara region of KPK Province. Haashar Association remained active with the financial and technical support of KPK Government in District Battagram and Abbottabad in implementing a project on Micro Hydrel Power generation. This project provided opportunity to enter in two new Districts, Abbottabad and Battagram through a unique and innovative approach of community based Micro Hydrel Power projects.

MHPP is financed by KPK Government and so far Haashar Association has achieved the target of 1.5 megawatt out of 4.2 megawatts in District Battagram and 300 KW out of targeted 1280 KW in District Abbottabad.

In education sector, Haashar Association partnered with a Canadian based NGO, CACEP (Canadian Association for Children Education in Pakistan) to support the education of orphan and ultra poor children through implementation

of a long term Pakistan Education Support Program (PESP). The program is innovative as it addresses the orphan and disaster hit children through financial support of their school fee and other expenses. This program is being implemented with the support of activists and volunteers in District Abbottabad and Mardan of KPK with intended expansion to other areas.

As part of contributing environmental concerns, Haashar played its role being part of Pakistan National Committee of IUCN. Haashar participated in the regional conservation forum of IUCN held in Bangkok and meetings of the IUCN held in Pakistan. Haashar strongly supports IUCN's agenda of conservation and is firmly committed achieve Sustainable development Goals.

2. Message from Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

It gives us immense satisfaction that Haashar Association is playing its due role despite very difficult time in view of terrorism and the war against terrorism. Haashar has been enjoying confidence of the people of Hazara and KPK since long and now with its interventions in two new Districts (Abbottabad and Battagram) for overcoming the energy crises through providing



Hydel energy is a welcoming sign. This has further strengthened the bond between Haashar Association, the Government of Pakistan and the communities at large. The people residing high hill areas of Abbottabad and Battagram are happy to have their houses, streets and schools lightened through the most cheap energy source...the hydel energy.

We also feel proud that Haashar and its volunteers have rendered extra ordinary services in providing education to most vulnerable children who find it hard due to financial constraints.

Haashar Association is atypical example of an independent NGO, owned by a dedicated Board of Directors. We believe that such grass root professional

institutions are ray of hope for the nation and should be supported to deliver in the best interest of mankind. The leadership and management of *Haashar* are praiseworthy due to their commitment and consistency.

Haashar Association is a learning organization, it believes in not only improving its programs building on its strengths, but also sharing its experiences to others. Haashar has a proven track record of inducing a positive change in the lives of those who face challenges every morning. Such people and such societies deserve our continued commitment so we are there and we will remain there, God willing (insha'Allah)

In local Hindko dialect, *Haashar means* “*working together without monetary gains*”. It is a typical Hindko word used classically at the time of grass cutting or any other voluntary collective work in villages Hazara region of KPK Province.

Haashar Association was founded by a group of like-minded young development professionals in year 2000, who were trained by GTZ funded Siran Forest Development Project (SFDP) in District Mansehra and afterwards spread its operation in District Shangla, District Battagram and District Abbottabad. Haashar has a clear vision and program to ensure that the socioeconomic change results in just, fair and equal distribution of benefits to all segment of society.

3. What We Did:

3.1. Renewable Energy in KP Province:

Pakistan is one unfortunate country in the world where despite the enormous potential of energy resources, electricity load shedding is increasing day by day. Thousands of villages are still waiting for electricity. Pakistan has wide spectrum of high potential renewable energy sources, conventional as well non-conventional, which have not been adequately explored, exploited and developed. Thus, the primary energy supplies today are not enough to meet even the present demand. So, Pakistan is facing a serious challenge of energy deficit. The development of the renewable energy sources can play an important role in meeting this challenge. Achieving solutions to environmental problems that we face today requires long-term actions for sustainable development. In this regard, renewable energy resources appear to be one of the most efficient and effective solutions. That is why there is an intimate connection between renewable energy and sustainable development. In rural areas Small hydro plants may be connected to conventional electrical distribution networks as a source of low-cost renewable energy. Since small hydro projects usually have minimal reservoirs and civil construction work, they are seen as having a relatively low environmental impacts compared to large hydro.

In order to overcome the energy crises, The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa through Energy & Power Department planned Mini/Micro Hydrel Power generation projects for such areas which are deprived of electricity. Energy& Power Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa hired services of NGOs/firms to carry out feasibility study, detail design construction and sustainable operation of Mini & Micro Hydrel stations across the project area.

Districts Abbottabad and Battagram are awarded to Haashar lead consortium which included Hydro link, Zomo Ashro and Green Alternatives, the consortium partners with Haashar.



The project activities started in both the districts and almost all the feasibilities in both districts were completed by May 2015 and many were approved.

During the year 2015 construction work on 13 projects (09 in District Battagram and 04 in District Abbottabad) and 10 Feasibility and Designs (06 in District Battagram and 04 in District Abbottabad) were undertaken.



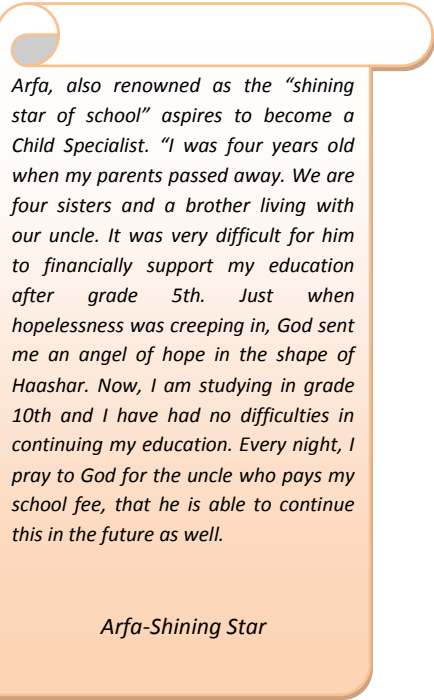
3.2. Promoting Quality Education:

Since the year 2010 in collaboration with registered charity, Canadian Association

for Children Education in Pakistan (CACEP), **Haashar Association** has launched a program titled Pakistan Education Support Program (PESP). Through CACEP, this program is being financed by the Pakistani diasporas in Canada and other countries.

The main focus of program is to provide education opportunities to children from fragile, conflict-affected areas of Pakistan. PESP

provides financial support to vulnerable boys and girls, who are at risk of discontinuing their education due to financial constraints.



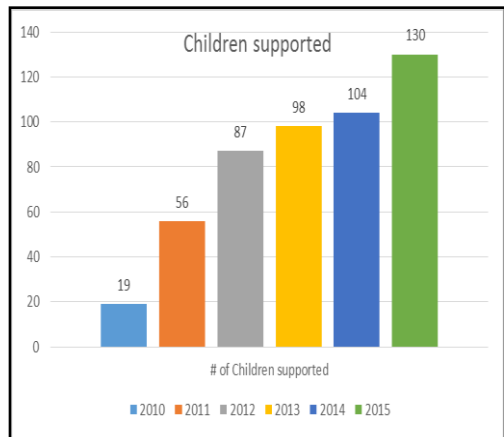
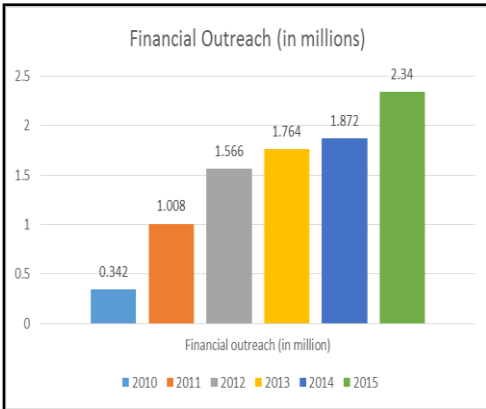
Arfa, also renowned as the “shining star of school” aspires to become a Child Specialist. “I was four years old when my parents passed away. We are four sisters and a brother living with our uncle. It was very difficult for him to financially support my education after grade 5th. Just when hopelessness was creeping in, God sent me an angel of hope in the shape of Haashar. Now, I am studying in grade 10th and I have had no difficulties in continuing my education. Every night, I pray to God for the uncle who pays my school fee, that he is able to continue this in the future as well.

Arfa-Shining Star

Fahad belongs to a low income family but his ambitions remain sky high. His mother worked in the nearby houses to make ends meet and to also support the financial needs of his education. "My son is a glowing ray of light for me and the best gift I want for him is to illuminate his future with high education. My husband is a patient of chronic disease and therefore he is unable to work or earn. I have to support a family of five children and it had become impossible for me to continue to educate my children in good schools. Now, Fahad has access to quality education in one of the best schools of the area through the financial support extended to us by the wonderful people of Haashar. By sharing their dreams and hopes with us, they are illuminating many lives and futures."



Target children (boys and girls) typically deserving students from Zakat eligible families (vulnerable children from economically stressed households such as those households where the primary income generator has expired.



3.3. Hosting International Research Project:

Haashar Association is dedicated to advancing humanitarian and international development knowledge that contributes to the well being of vulnerable communities in Northern Pakistan. From 2014-2015, the organization hosted a multi-stakeholder international research project titled “Precarious Lives, Disrupted Bodies: Examining Social Repair and Disaster in Northern Pakistan” based at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), the International Development Research Center (IDRC), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the University of British Columbia Public Scholars Initiative, the interdisciplinary study extends academic and applied understandings of disaster recovery as informed by the lived experiences of disaster survivors in Siran and Neelum valleys, Northern Pakistan.

Drawing from its diverse experience in Siran valley and amicable community connections, Haashar Association one of the two local research partners in Pakistan, provided administrative as well as technical guidance to the research team.

The multi-stakeholder research project hosted by Haashar Associations responds to these concerns. Relevant deliverables for the project include a policy report on long-term disaster recovery in Northern Pakistan for United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), a conceptual paper advocating for careful grassroots policy research for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and journal articles for leading international development and humanitarian periodicals.

3.4. Protecting and Promoting Health

As part of an attempt to pre-empt any dengue case in District Mansehra, the District Health Department, under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Mansehra held a series of meetings with public and private sectors to meet the challenges of this epidemic threat during summer 2014. *Haashar Association* also attended two meetings to contribute to the extent of its capacity and capability. A meeting was held in SRSP Mansehra office on 10th April, 2014 chaired by EDO Health Mansehra and assigned tasks to different organizations. Haashar readily consented to contribute in printing of some 15000 Pamphlets to raise awareness on Dengue.



Although *Haashar Association* is not currently operating any health related program in District Mansehra, yet the management decided to contribute in printing of 15000 Pamphlets in collaboration with SRSP and Saibaan. These Pamphlets were handed over to the District Health Officer. Additionally, *Haashar Association* also distributed the same Pamphlets in lower terrains of Konsh and Siran Valleys where it has got firm links with community organization. A total of

300 participants from 15 CBOs and some 800 students were benefited from our awareness program. The purpose of this activity was to raise awareness among community to adopt proper precautionary measures for prevention of dengue.

Haashar Association is also backing up a health unit in Hafizabad Hamlet of Union Council Chela Bagh in Siran valley of District Manshera. More than 10,000 inhabitants of nearby Bandhodar, Mehthal and Chelabagh residents who have little approach to health facilities are enjoying fully present male and female technicians in the community centre. Haashar plans to further strengthen this facility through support of health department and philanthropists.

3.5. Celebration of Independence Day:

14th August has a great significance in the history of Pakistan. To pay tribute to the sacrifices of our leaders and people, and to celebrate the *independence of Pakistan*, 14th August is celebrated every year with great passion. This year Haashar management decided to include the excluded in this event.



Haashar and the Social welfare department Mansehra jointly arranged a function in Jinnah College Mansehra, for disable children. On this occasion the children were overjoyed with pleasure and presented different programs like dramas, speeches, poems and national songs. Govt. representatives and district administration admired the role of Haashar in organizing such a colorful and beautiful event for disable children.



3.6. Responding the Natural Calamities:

Haashar Association has remained active in responding to natural and man-made calamities since its inception. The flood devastation has remained main area of concern in this region where Haashar is working after the earthquake 2005, Haashar responded to such flood damages in District Bagh of Azad Jammu & Kashmir in collaboration with Network for Human and Social development (NHSD). A team of Doctors with medicines was dispatched who installed two day's medical camp and provided necessary aid to hundreds of men women and children.



3.7. Networking and Linkages:

Haashar Association is well connected with the societies' different tiers. It has a wide range of stakeholders from Government, non government sectors. Over the period of 2014-14, Haashar management and staff remained engaged in continuous communication with stakeholders. Being part of Pakistan National committee of the IUCN and member of Global Water Partnership, Haashar regularly attended their programs and meeting.

In view of the partnership with the Government in implementing Micro Hydel Power project, Haashar CEO held meetings with Commissioner Hazara, DCs of Abbottabad and Battagram to apprise them of outcomes of the Project and seek their help in resolving various issues. The management held meetings with other NGOs and institutions like NARC, PPAF, PEDO (Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization), SUNGI Dev. Organization, PRCS, AKRSP and SRSP. In January 2015, Commissioner Hazara and Deputy Commissioner Battagram performed earth breaking ceremony of physical work on 1st Micro Hydel Power Project in Allai, District Battagram.