



Alternative Perspectives: Policy Dialogue

“Old Issues, New Attentions- Health and Education as Youth Matters in Pakistan”

International Youth Day 2011

AGEHI Resource Center SACHET Pakistan

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as Youth Matters in Pakistan”**

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Disclaimer:

The views expressed in the report are of presenters/participants and may not necessarily reflect the policy/practices of SACHET Pakistan, BAAP or the British Council, Pakistan.

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The intellectual support offered by all the distinguished panelists and energy created by the enthusiastic participants need a very special acknowledgment. Last but not least the facilitation and endorsements offered by the BoD SACHET including its senior most management needs very special thanks.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFC	Adolescent Friendly Centers	LHW	Lady Health Workers
AGEHI	Advocates of Gender, Education and Health Information	LSBE	Life Skills Based Education
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
PoA	Program of Action	MiRAS	Mobilization of Resources and Sustainability
ARH	Adolescent Reproductive Health	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
ASRH	Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health	NGO	Non Governmental Organization
BBAP	British Alumni Association of Pakistan	PACIG	Poverty Alleviation cum Income Generation
BCC	Behavior Change Communication	PSU	Program Support Unit
BHU	Basic Health Unit	RAH	Responsible Action for Health
BoD	Board of Directors	RHC	Rural Health Centre
CBO	Community Based Organization	RHIA	Reproductive Health Initiatives for Adolescent
CDA	Capital Development Authority	SCDP	SACHET Community Development Programs
IEC	Information, Education and Communication	SRH	Sexual & Reproductive Health
CHC	Community Health Centre	STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
CHE	Community Health Educators	ToT	Training of Trainers
CSO	Civil Society Organization	UC	Union Council
DoSTI-YAN	Dare to Sensitize, Train & Inform - Youth Advocacy Network	FGD	Focal Group Discussions
DPO	District Project Office	GBV	Gender Based Violence
EC	European Commission		
EDO	Executive District Officer		

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The Context

Youth constitutes 65% of the population of Pakistan. In last couple of decades the youth has been on forefront of socio-political and economic movements all over the globe. Pakistan's social and cultural landscapes are not much different. Young people are exploring their ways into political, economical and development campaigns and movements that covers all areas of life. It is the time when students are preferring educational institutions more than the playgrounds where they are groomed and trained in these institutes as entrepreneurs, social and political activists/leaders, artists, poets and writers to bring a positive change in the country. They are aware of their rights and want to enhance this awareness. They (especially urbanized and university youth) express their urge to be mainstreamed in different forms and through different media including new media in particular the face book.

Pakistani youth irrespective of the socio-economic divides is faced with loads of issues which are still considered or perceived as taboos or too sensitive to be articulated. Working on such issues in Pakistan is indeed an overwhelming task. Evidence suggests that young people are becoming vulnerable to many risks (known and unknown both). The CSOs/ NGOs are playing their part at least to some extent and keep on highlighting these issues thus enabling the youth to take control of themselves and contribute progressively toward their country's development. But being heavily dependent of aid and external funding and a very little support from the government the programming doesn't grow from one or two projects, in any thematic area, or a technical assistance to the one who are working on the ground. Similarly policy makers and the concerned authorities rarely get or create a chance to come in contact with the problems at grass root level and harsh realities our youth is facing every day. As a result, the policies that are public are either half baked or are incapable of meeting the desired objectives.

AGEHI Resource center has taken Alternative Perspectives initiative as a passion with a hope to receive intellectual and moral support of development practitioners on one platform and to extend their recommendations to the ones who matter. As a resource center, AGEHI, and as youth focused and friendly organization, SACHET Pakistan, we strongly believe and try to adopt most appropriate tool of communication which are culturally accepted and socially encouraged. Under this approach AGEHI has conducted many policy dialogues related to pressing social and gender issues of Pakistan and have communicated its findings to the policy makers and humanitarian partners. We strongly hope that this approach will encourage the advocates, communities, practitioners, professionals and other duty bearers and stakeholders to identify, understand and demystify their issues.



Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen

Founder AGEHI (advocates of gender, education & health information) Resource Center,
SACHET Pakistan
12th August 2011, Islamabad

THE POLICY DIALOGUE

Part 1

Proceedings

Inauguration Session

The event formally started with the recitation of Holy Quran and a brief welcome note by Brig. (R) Sajawal Khan Malik SI (M) (Chief Executive Director SACHET Pakistan). He thanked honorable guests to be a part of the event. Following warm welcome by Mr. Sajawal, Mr. Amin (General Manager SACHET Pakistan) gave a brief presentation on what SACHET stands for and what thematic areas it is working in to highlight the vision

Welcome Note:

Your Excellency **Mr. Rabbi Royan** (Country Representative UNFPA)
Respected **Dr. Ghulam Asghar Abbasi** (PSO to Deputy Chair, Chief HEALTH,
National Project Director Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan)
Distinguished panelists, youth representatives, ladies and gentlemen

On behalf of SACHET- Pakistan I welcome you all to International Youth Day 2011. We are greatly honored by your presence and I am sure together we can adopt a progressive approach to voice youth issues and to suggest realistic policy changes for a better future of our generations to come.

I again extend our special heartfelt welcome to Mr. Rabbi Royan, Country Representative UNFPA, Dr. Ghulam Asghar Abbasi and distinguished panelists for sparing their valuable time for the event.

By

Brig. (R) Sajawal Khan Malik SI (M)
Chief Executive Director SACHET Pakistan

and mission of the organization, the areas of its interests and its achievements. The salient features of his presentation are summarized as follows:

SACHET- Pakistan (Society for the Advancement of Community, Health, Education and Training) is an indigenous organization that came into being in 1999 to serve the underprivileged masses of rural Pakistan with a mission of “promoting human development of the underprivileged in gender perspectives”. It's a non-profitable; charitable, voluntary cum development organization which has spread its outreach to far flung areas of rural Punjab. It has established four comprehensive primary health clinics which are functioning under SACHET Community Development Program (SCDP) at Pinyali, Ghagri, Banigala in Islamabad district and Pather Garh in district Attock. These clinics provide primary health care facilities to the disadvantaged people in the vicinity and ample opportunities for the young adolescents to equip themselves with Information Technology (IT) as well as artistic skills; sewing, painting, crafts work etc that can help them stand on their own feet.



From Left to right: Mr. Mehran Sheikh, Brig. (R) Sajawal Khan Malik, Mr. Rabbi Royan, Dr. Ghulam Asghar, Mr. Muhammad Faheem, Prof. Dr. Riffat Haque

SACHET is working on following thematic areas:

- Health
- Education
- Training

The sole purpose of establishing the organization is to contribute to the social

development of the communities through strategic interventions, people's self reliance through capacity building, raising awareness on sensitive issues through advocacy. The intended beneficiaries for most of the interventions are as follows:

- Children, Adolescents and Youth
- Victims and survivors of disaster/ violence
- Women and girls, men and boys of marginalized communities
- Disaster-hit, underserved & underprivileged communities of rural Pakistan
- Community elders, local government administrators, teachers, imams etc.

Achievements and Best Practices:

- SCDP (Sachet Community Development Program)
- Youth Friendly Centers- YFC
- Adolescent Friendly Centers - AFC
- Women Friendly Spaces - WFS
- DoSTI- YAN (Dare to sensitize Train and Inform-Youth Advocacy Network)
- FADAN (Fight Against Dowry Advocacy Network)

Vision:

"SACHET strives, in partnership with communities, public and civil society organizations, to develop a society based on three core values of sustainable human development i.e. self esteem, freedom of choice and tolerance; a society where all have equal access to opportunities and justice irrespective of gender, color, creed, race and status."

Mission:

"Promoting human development of the underprivileged in gender perspectives"

Thematic areas:

- Health
- Education
- Trainings
- Disaster Relief
- Gender Equity/Violence Against Women (VAW)
- Poverty Alleviation cum Income Generation Program (PACIG)

Projects undertaken:

SACHET- Pakistan has worked with multifarious partners and on diverse thematic areas during the last decade or so. The major projects undertaken by SACHET addressed the critical but forgotten needs of the target communities. The diversity of the activities undertaken by the organization range from developing training manuals, advocacy campaigns, arranging workshops and seminars to strategically planned projects which were carried out in different underserved communities. Total number of beneficiaries, from rural communities, who have benefited, directly or indirectly, from health, education, training; VAW and PACIG programs, are approximately, 500,000 (52% men/boys, 48% women/girls).

Technical Session

After Mr. Amin presentation the floor was handed over to Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen (CO-founder and founding Executive Director SACHET Pakistan) to start off the technical session. She started the session with an ice breaking exercise of introductions. This was followed by the formal introduction to the session itself.



Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen presenting AGEHI's Souvenir to Mr. Rabbi Royan

Introduction to the session

“Each year, International Youth Day (IYD) is assigned a theme; a conceptual slogan that communicates the scope, direction, and objectives of the year’s youth initiatives and also provides a unifying banner from under which individuals can draw the inspiration to take action.

This year’s International Youth Day represented the culmination of the International Year of Youth (IYY) - designated by the United Nations to comprise the 12 month period between IYD 2010 and IYD 2011 - and the 25th Anniversary of the first International Year of Youth.

As such, **“Change Our World”** was chosen as the theme for IYD 2011 as it not only expresses the level of impact that young people strive to achieve, but also reflects the notion of a global community that is a core principle of the United Nations.

It should be stressed that *“Change Our World”* is a call for continual, long lasting progress in areas of societal development that concern youth. Therefore, while the support of the private sector, governments, and civil society organizations is important, what’s most necessary is that young people (girls and boys) be actively involved and that they claim ownership of this positive effort.

The participants from across different sectors have been invited and the representation of the youth participants is ensured so that they can show their ownership and can get their concerns across. The event as you can see is being attended by all the participants who are invited and they will take active participation in the event by pointing out their concerns, recommending solutions and by highlighting the areas we need to improve on.

The objective of the activity was to converge diverse voices and perspectives at one forum with the hope that the privileged data and information gained would be mainstreamed in media and consumed by the policy makers in public, private and voluntary sectors of Pakistan-the sixth most populous country with the largest cohort of youth population in the history of the world.

Representing a number of national and international organizations, participants came from diverse walks of life; such as planning commission of Pakistan, UNFPA Pakistan, National institute of health, Population council, Allama Iqbal Open University, care international, civil society organizations, media and youth representative from local community. She shared a brief history of “Alternative perspectives” which SACHET introduced to humanitarian partners in 2007 to organize such events and develop consensus on complex issues and try to find a solution to the prevailing social issues in our society for recommendation purposes to the policy makers.

Presentations

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|--|
| 1. | Mr. Rabbi Royan | (Country representative UNFPA Pakistan) |
| 2. | Dr.Ghulam Asghar Abbasi | (PSO to Deputy Chair, Chief HEALTH, National Project Director Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan) |
| 3. | Mr.Qamar Siddiqui | (Health advisor, National institute of health) |
| 4. | Ms.Hadya Nusrat | (Gender Advisor Care International, University Teacher) |
| 5. | Prof.Dr.Riffat Haque | (Educationist, Head of the dept. Women studies, AIU) |
| 6. | Mr. Minhaj ul Haque | (Senior Program Manager, A Researcher, youth specialist at Population council) |
| 7. | Ms. Saba Shaheen | (Girls Youth Representative) |
| 8. | Mr. Mehran Sheikh | (Boys Youth Representative) |

* **Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen** moderated the technical session. Mr.Usman Qureshi (AGEHI) was the MCA.

1. **Ms. Saba Saheen** (youth Representative)

While expressing her view Ms. Saba Saheen was quite hopeful for women's and girls' future in Pakistan but she seemed concerned about the lack of guidance and limited opportunities for them in the society. She stated that the need is to extend education and health facilities to them in the farthest corners of the country where women/girls are considered servants and subordinates. She believed that Pakistani women and girls have the talent and they can deliver for the country.

2. **Mr. Qamar Siddiqui** (Health advisor, National institute of health)

Mr. Qamar Siddiqui was of the view that most important prevailing youth issues are the access to education and key information. He felt that the youth is still to be educated on many of the issues; one of them is HIV & AIDs.

" We need to tell them how dangerous it is for us and we need to find out ways to educate our youth, parents, community; and have to incorporate necessary information in our educational system and learning centers." He applauded SACHET's role in disseminating information to the intended audience. But he emphasized on the importance of educating children, parents and the teachers on the social issues we are facing and way to deal with them. He was of the view that the time has changed drastically and now the parents don't have time to sit with their children and talk to them about their issues to help them deal with tabooed issues such as HIV&AIDS and SRH.

He emphasized on developing most relevant guiding material for the audience. He

emphasized on result oriented research that can help us find solutions to the problems than the problems themselves. While concluding his arguments he laid stress on the following:

- Producing readable material that must carry latest statistics and must address the diversity of issues.
- Share information which isn't easily available.
- Strong cross sectoral communication to address maximum youth matters
- Educational institutions must incorporate necessary information in their syllabus related to above mentioned sensitive issues.

3. **Ms. Hadya Nusrat** (Gender Advisor Care International & University Teacher)

Ms. Hadya Nusrat drew audiences' attention to a paradigm shift in educating our children. She explained her point by giving her own example of being caught in devil and deep blue sea and her inability to spend time with her children. She said that she has spent most of the time, in last ten years, fulfilling professional and academic commitments and therefore ignored the fact that her children are left on the mercy of media and the society to grow up with. Naturally they adopt what they see or what they are told.

She was of the view that parents, especially working class, have to draw some line somewhere so that their children don't get affected and they must get the necessary education and information which help them being responsible citizens of the country.

4. **Mr. Mehran Sheikh** (Youth Representative)

Mr. Mehran Sheikh was one of the youth representatives, from Bari Imam, Islamabad, who expressed his views and concerns related to youth issues explicitly. In his point of view the exaggerated gap between different classes of the societies should be bridged and everybody should be given equal chances of availing the health and education facilities.

5. **Dr. Riffat Haque** (Educationist, Head of the dept. Women studies, AIOU, Islamabad)

Dr. Riffat Haque was of the view that due to globalization youth has been exposed to so many information and prolific opportunities that they can excel in any field they want to. But this can leave them embezzled too if not guided properly. She appreciated SACHET's program focus on three groups of youth in adolescents but simultaneously laid importance on the need of parents, teachers and community's role in youth development program through different means of education, while giving equal importance to the female members of the society.

She said that the curriculum needs to be revised and must upgrade it according to the basic requirements of today's youth which can help them take control of themselves,

which can promote self esteem, patriotism and could remove all the prejudice and biases from their minds and ultimately from society.

6. Mr. Minhaj-ul-haq (Senior Program Manager, A Researcher, youth specialist at Population Council)

Mr. Minhaj-ul-haq contributed to the session in the discussion by saying that the scenario around us is drastically changing but every year the researches tell you the same stories:

He shared three common ideas with the audience to explain his point:

- Adolescents and youth is not a single group
 - They vary vastly in demographics, education, economy and other aspects which is not given importance in researches.
 - We don't like to argue and don't like to verify statistics (Example is Karachi killings). Need to be careful in presenting while conveying messages.
- **Bindas bol** (hard talk) kinds of programs in media are proving to be troublesome for us too as they are not contributing to a healthy education for our children.
- There is hardly any interest in social issues by the concerned authorities.
- What are youth issues we need to be clear? Some are everybody's issue and some are youth specific. e.g.
 - Poverty is everybody's issue.
 - Education is children's right.
 - Need to clarify what actual youth issues we need to work on.
- He emphasized on the fact that we should not translate youth issues to the age when we were young. Time has changed and issues have changed and it needs proper discussion.



Engaged Audience

Some glimpses from the Q & A session

1. Question by Dr. AurangZeib: How to involve policy makers?

Answer:

Mr. Qamar Siddiqui answered the question by saying that they should be invited in such events and the

copy of panelists' recommendations should be handed over to them so that they can benefit from our discussions.

2. Question by Mr. Maroof: These are Good initiatives but should follow Islamic values. How to deal with rigid religious reactions?

Answer:

In response to the question Mr. Abbasi was of the view that it's not easy to raise awareness on RH issues in Pakistan and there have been very less efforts to incorporate health related educational material in the system. Majority of the diseases can be prevented at early stages if information about them is spread properly.

3. Question by Mr. Faheem: If communities are not involved then how it is possible to convince policy makers?

Answer

Dr.Ghulam Asghar Abbasi while answering the question said that you need to promote participatory approach right from the beginning any intervention without involving intended beneficiaries would be more like a school without teachers and children.

Synthesis by Dr. Ghulam Asghar Abbasi

At the end of the interactive session Dr.Ghulam Asghar Abbasi said that the issues can't be concluded in a day or two, years long efforts are required. Today, important issues have been discussed but important thing to notice is why communities are not stepping forward to get their issues highlighted.

During synthesis Dr. Riffat added that the nation has always been passing through critical time. We must meet the basic needs of the communities to build upon social projects. We need to aware community workers especially women. Be proud Pakistanis and it's very important.

In the end Dr. Ghulam Abbasi said that the Status of women is very important. Ms. Saba has raised pretty good point of equal opportunities. It's written in our constitution that everybody should be given equal chances. Let's promise today that together we will change and will contribute maximum to the social and human development of the country.

Closing Remarks by Chief Guest Dr. Rabbi Royan (Country Representative UNFPA Pakistan)

For closing remarks Mr. Rabbi Royan (Country representative UNFPA) was asked to express his views. He started expressing his view by saying that most of us here are not that young but to be able to solve issues of our youth we need to be youthful too, as he considers it a state of mind and this is present in everything we do. All the program that" we design or implement is carried out with a youthful zest so that's how we are involved with youth all the time". He was of the view that demographic dividends haven't perished yet and the Pakistani youth has the time to achieve loads of things, keeping in mind the demographic dividends. They should not let it convert into a demographic disaster.

He strongly believed that the access of information and facilities are everywhere and the sensitive issues are tabooed which people don't like talking about. But mothers are institutions in themselves, if there education and health is taken care of many issues can resolve on their own. Lastly, he emphasized on the importance of developing community network and a vision of a better society that we can achieve but with a collective effort.

Vote of Thanks

For vote of thanks to the participant Mr. Muhammad Faheem (Secretary General SACHET Pakistan) was handed over the floor. In his vote of thanks he extended his sincere gratitude to the participants, panelists and the chief guests for taking time and showing commitment to the development of youth in Pakistan. In the end Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen handed over the souvenirs to the chief guest, chair and panelists as a token of appreciation.

The evening ended with a simple aftaar tea where participants networked and exchange views on overlapping themes in the social development sector of Pakistan.

Vote of Thanks:

- Your Excellency **Mr. Rabbi Royan** (Country Representative UNFPA)
- Respected **Dr. Ghulam Asghar Abbasi** (PSO to Deputy Chair, Chief HEALTH, National Project Director Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan)
- Distinguished panelists, youth representatives, ladies and gentlemen

On behalf of SACHET- Pakistan it's my pleasure to thank all of you for joining us in celebrating International Youth Day 2011. We are greatly honored by your presence here and I am sure all of you must have immensely benefited from the valuable constitution of the participants.

Our special thanks are due to Mr. Rabbi Royan, Country Representative UNFPA, Dr. Ghulam Asghar Abbasi and distinguished panelists for sparing their valuable time and thoughts. We hoped that SACHET- Pakistan will continue to get this patronage in future as well.

By
Mr. Muhammad Fahim. ndc
Secretary General SACHET- Pakistan

Part 2

Policy Recommendations

The policy dialogue resulted in the following Policy Recommendations:

1. Access of information should be made easier for youth; through latest technologies.
2. There should be a reserved time on electronic media for youth program to reach them and train them of sensitive issues.
3. Education system must be linked with marketable skills and the gap between qualification and industry demand should be minimized.
4. Awareness campaigns, on media, should be started related to pressing youth issues.
5. Youth issues are to be discussed on relevant forums in wider perspective as youth is not just one group. They differ by age, gender, cultures, interests and associations.
6. Guidance and proper leadership has to be provided to the youth at every level of their growth.

7. Different youth groups should be informed and trained for community mobilization to empowering other community members and peers.
8. The youth must have access only to right kind of information that can help them achieve emotional and professional stability.
9. Career counseling should be provided at the university level.
10. Education system needs a revision so that it doesn't merely produce degree holders but critical and analytical thinkers as well.
11. The youth must know what their issues are and they must be encouraged to be a part of decision making process.
12. Information dissemination about sensitive issues, such as sexual reproductive health and HIV/AIDS, at school or college level should be encouraged and youth capacity to deal with such issues must be enhanced.
13. We must have tailor-made policies for urban and rural youth to deal with their issues effectively.

14. Interactive Youth forums must take responsibility to discuss youth issues and youth themselves must suggest solutions to their problems.
15. Most pressing issues of the youth such as unemployment and lack of career growth opportunities must be addressed immediately.
16. Besides, academic guidance youth must be provided with professional guidance to groom themselves up and adopt recommended behavior in the society.
17. At all levels of policy making youth must be involved and encouraged to participate.
18. Youth leadership and skill enhancement are a must capacity building of youth to enable them to advocate their own interests.

Part 3

Through the MDG lens

Recommendations compiled and collected by AGEHI –SACHET from Pakistani Youth (2007-2010)

MDG 1: REDUCE POVERTY AND HUNGER

1. Formal, continued and visible coordination among all stakeholders for youth at national level activities.
2. Finalize and implement a strong youth policy for all provinces of Pakistan with cultural sensitivity and gender responsiveness.

MDG 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

1. Sexual and Reproductive Health should be the part of curriculum for young people.
2. Teachers should be sensitized on SRH and gender issues.

MDG 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

1. Organize meeting with religious cum political leaders, religious scholars, community leaders and others about gender equality, masculinities and men's involvement in SRH.
2. Use local media to raise awareness in the communities on the gender equality.
3. include life skill based education in schools that addresses gender equality

4. Set up YFC's for boys and girls in all communities to address gender equality

MDG 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

1. Set up counseling and parenting education for young couples on parenting.
2. Convince young parents for timely immunization of their children.

MDG 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

1. Improve maternal health service also for young women.
2. Discourage and condemn forced and or child marriages.
3. Increase freedom for young people to make inform choices on family planning.
4. Knowledge about sex determination should be widely spread to minimize son preference.

MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS Malaria and other diseases

1. Integrate information HIV & AIDS in education curriculum.
2. To produce an evidence based data and eradicate the bad data on HIV&AIDS.
3. Media should be actively engaged to disseminate Public Health messages on preventable diseases and dispel myths.

MDG 7: ENVIRONMENT

1. There should be a space for young people in each community to address issues that matter to them including environment, poverty and population.
2. Integrate environment, hygiene education and development in curriculum at schools.

MDG 8: GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. All donors, one UN and international NGOs should set up youth advisory councils that actually work and go beyond elitist spaces.
2. Youth led organizations should get more supports from NGOs and government.
3. One UN should set up a joint youth program for youth in Pakistan.



ANNEXURE

Annex I: Panelists Bio Data

- 1. Dr. Rabbi Royan** (Country Representative UNFPA Pakistan)
Mr. Rabbi Royan graduated from the University of Malaya with a Bachelor of Economics degree in 1973. He has worked as Senior Technical Advisor from UNFPA, Asia and the Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand. Currently working as a country representative with UNFPA Pakistan. Prior to joining the UN, he worked at the Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia.
- 2. Dr.Ghulam Asghar Abbasi**-PSO to Deputy Chair, Chief HEALTH, National Project Director, Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan
- 3. Brig. (R) Sajawal Khan Malik SI (M)** (Chief Executive Director SACHET Pakistan)
Brig. (R) Sajawal Khan Malik- SI (M), a civil engineer by profession, with excellent academic and professional experience of over 35 years, a retired officer from Army Core of Engineers. He held various positions during his professional career in armed forces followed by an illustrious career in social sector development work including establishing of hospitals, schools, mosques, Primary Health Care facilities, and bridges and also successfully completed various water, sanitation and irrigation projects all over Pakistan. He has been associated with SACHET Pakistan in different capacities and since July 2009 he was appointed as honorary CED by the President of the Board of Directors, SACHET Pakistan.
- 4. Mr. Muhammad Faheem** (Secretary General SACHET Pakistan)
Mr. Muhammad Faheem is one of the founding members of SACHET-Pakistan. He is also serving the organization as a Secretary general of the society since 1999. He has been a member board of directors as well. Mr. Faheem possesses a postgraduate MBA degree from Rutgers University, USA and second post graduate degree in Strategic studies from Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad. He is alumni of National Defense College having attended the policy course in 1992.
Mr. Muhammad Faheem brings with him vast experience in financial management having served in senior position in finance and economic ministries. He possesses deep personal interest in policy making and implementation of the socio-economic growth at the grass-root and community Level.
- 5. Saba Shaheen (Youth Representative)**
She is a first year student and is one of the brilliant beneficiaries of Reproductive Health Initiative with Adolescents Project that SACHET is carrying out in Bari Imam.

6. **Mr. Qamar Siddiqui (Health Advisor, National Institute of health)**
Master in Public Health from Tulane University, USA, Master in Sociology from Punjab University. Presently working as Health Education Adviser, National Institute of Health Served as Health Communication Specialist/ Adviser in various preventive Health Programs in the Ministry of Health. Worked with various INGOs and bilateral agencies as Health Communication Specialist and Development Consultant.
7. **Ms.Hadya Nusrat (Gender Advisor Care International, University Teacher)**
She have been attached with the development sector over 18 years, with expertise in children education, maternal and child health, consumers rights, gender, sectoral development of sexual and reproductive rights, education, employment, agriculture, WATSAN and social justice. She is serving as a visiting faculty at several universities. She has also worked with local and international development agencies and freelanced as a journalist and a health instructor.
8. **Mehran Sheikh(Youth Representative)**
He is a first year student and is one of the energetic beneficiaries of Reproductive Health Initiative with Adolescents Project.
9. **Prof.Dr.Riffat Haque (Educationist, Head of the dept. Women studies,AIOU)**
She is a Ph.D in Gender and Women's Studies from The University of New South Wales, Australia, MPhil & MSc in History from Pakistan.

She has twenty years experience in planning and implementing women related educational programs through distant learning system in Pakistan. She has pursued her career with an interest to work for enhancing the status of Pakistani women.

As consultant Asian Development Bank and Ministry of Education, Pakistan, she has developed gender sensitive curriculum for primary level education.

Recently, for UNICEF Pakistan, she has contributed a consultancy report on Mother and Child Health, "Gender constraints experienced by female health care providers: Focusing on Lady Health Visitors in Pakistan". She has written several research papers on women issues in Pakistan such as indigenous feminist perspectives, Conflicts of public and private spheres and Purdah in Pakistan. etc
10. **Minhaj ul Haque (Senior Program Manager, A Researcher, youth specialist at Population council)**
He is a Senior Program Manager, A Researcher and a youth specialist at Population council.

- 11. Dr. Aurung Zeib (Director RHIA)**
Dr Zeib has over 08 years of experience in public health programs. Previously he has been working with Aga Khan University Hospital as Research Medical Officer. Currently he is affiliated with SACHET as the Executive Coordinator for Programs and project director for a Plan-Pakistan supported project in Islamabad (Reproductive Health Initiative for Adolescents).
- 12. Mr. M Amin (General Manager SACHET-Pakistan)**
Mr. Amin Muhammad has a long term affiliation with SACHET and has been serving the organization in different capacities for the last 9 years. He has graduated in visual communications with specialization in journalism and ilm making from Madison college, school of visual communication, Wisconsin USA with an additional certification in global leadership. He has also received international certifications in media management, project and financial management from Germany, Thailand, and India Respectively.

Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen (CO-founder and Founding Executive Director SACHET Pakistan)

Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen is a recognized civic entrepreneur, Public Health & Gender Specialist and a film maker. She has over 19 years of diverse but matching experiences in development sector of Pakistan and south Asia on issues of human development including public health, RH, economy, education, media and gender. She co-founded SACHET Pakistan with Dr. A. Q. Khan in 1997 and started working as its founder Executive Director in 1999 When SACHET got registered. She has served two terms as the elected Executive Vice president in the Board of directors, SACHET Pakistan (1999-2009) besides working as an honorary full time Executive Director.

International Youth Day 12 August 2011



Youth must be empowered to voice and advocate their rights.

Speak

Speak-your lips are free.
Speak-your tongue is still yours.
This magnificent body
Is still yours.
Speak-your life is still yours.
Look inside the smithy.
Leaping flames, red-hot iron.
Padlocks open wide
Their jaws.
Chains disintegrate.
Speak - there is little time
But little though it is
It is enough.
Time enough
Before the body perishes.
Before the tongue atrophies.
Speak - truth still lives.
Say what you have
To say.

(Faiz Ahmed Faiz)

(Translated into English by - Daud Kamal)

بول ---

بول، کہ لب آزاد ہیں تیرے
بول، زباں اب تک تیری ہے
تیرا ستواں جسم ہے تیرا
بول کہ جاں اب تک تیری ہے
دیکھ کہ آہن گر کی دکان میں
ٹنڈ ہیں شعلے، سرخ ہے آہن
کھلنے لگے قفلوں کے دہانے
پھیلا ہر اک زنجیر کا دامن
بول، یہ تھوڑا وقت بہت ہے
جسم و زباں کی موت سے پہلے
بول، کہ سچ زندہ ہے اب تک
بول، جو کچھ کہنا ہے کہہ لے!

(فیض)

SACHET operates on the deep conviction that is here to give optimism to the marginalized class of the society. Therefore Faiz' this poem serves as an encouragement to the youth
And deprived class of the society. This poem serves as a vision statement
Of the organization since 1999.

Vision Statement of SACHET Pakistan

We Shall live to see

We Shall live to see,

so it is written,

We shall live to see,

The day that's been promised,

The day that's been ordained;

The day when the mountains of oppression

Will blow away like wisps of cotton;

When the earth will dance

Beneath the feet of the once enslaved;

And heavens'll shake with thunder

Over the heads of tyrants;

And the idols in the House of God

Will be thrown out;

We the rejects of the earth,

Will be raised to a place of honour.

All crowns'll be tossed in the air,

All thrones'll be smashed,

And God's word will prevail,

He who is both present and absent

He who's beheld and is the beholder.

And truth shall ring in every ear,

Truth which is you and I.,

We, the people will rule the earth

which means I, which means you.

ہم دیکھیں گے

لازم ہے کہ ہم بھی دیکھیں گے

وہ دن کہ جس کا وعدہ ہے

جو لوحِ ازل میں لکھا ہے

جب ظلم و ستم کے کوہِ گراں

روئی کی طرح اڑ جائیں گے

ہم محکوموں کے پاؤں تلے

جب دھرتی دھڑ دھڑ دھڑ کے گی

اور اہلِ حکم کے سر اُپر

جب بجلی کڑکڑ کرے گی

جب ارضِ خدا کے کعبے سے

سب بُت اٹھوائے جائیں گے

ہم اہلِ صفا، مردودِ حرم

مسندِ پٹھائے جائیں گے

سب تاج اُچھالے جائیں گے

سب تخت گرائے جائیں گے

بس نام رہے گا اللہ کا

جو غائب بھی ہے حاضر بھی

جو منظر بھی ہے ناظر بھی

اور راج کرے گی خلقِ خدا

جو میں بھی ہوں اور تم بھی ہو

(Faiz Ahmed Faiz)

(Translated into English by - Khalid Hassan)

(فیض احمد فیض)



SACHET

**AGEHI Resource Center
Engendering Development**

AGEHI (Advocates of Gender Education & Health Information) itself is an Urdu word bearing meanings like knowledge, awareness, perception and insight. The objective of AGEHI is to advocate for Gender Sensitization, Education and Health promotion by disseminating information. AGEHI supports policy and social communication and advocacy on gender issues through a broad range of activities. AGEHI provides technical assistance to programs of SACHET besides managing SACHET's official website. AGEHI theater group, FADAN (Fight Against Dowry Advocacy Network) and DoSTI Youth Advocacy Network.



SACHET PAKISTAN

Promoting Human Development of the Disadvantaged with Gender Perspectives

SACHET (Society for the Advancement of Community, Health, Education and Training) is a registered civil society organization working since 1999 with a vision of promoting human development of the disadvantaged in gender perspectives. The main thematic areas of interventions are Health care (including sexual and reproductive health care for women, men and for adolescent boys & girls), Education, Training and livelihood opportunities for the disadvantaged communities.

SACHET is among the very few indigenous organizations in Pakistan who initiated advocacy cum service delivery packages to the marginalized communities.

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