



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Project Progress Report

Street Theater On Civic and Voter Education



Ref.: UNDP/CON/14/045

[Street Theatre to Spread Voter Awareness and Participation in Electoral Processes]

Table of Content

<u>Content</u>	<u>Page #</u>
1- Acronyms	3
2- About CHANAN	4
3- About Project	4
4- Executive Summary of the Project	5
5- Achievements in numbers and %	6-11
6- Theater Conduction Methodology	12
7- Audience Comments	13-14
8- Case studies/Success stories	15
9- Project SWOT Analysis	16-17
10-Challenges	18
11-Suggestions	18
12-Annexure	19
12.1Press coverage	19-20
12.2Pictorial View	21
13-Vote of Thanks	22

1- Acronyms:

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|-----------|--|
| 1- CHANAN | Community Healthy Advocacy Network At Nation |
| 2- UNDP | United Nations Development Program |
| 3- ECP | Election Commission of Pakistan |
| 4- LG | Local Government |
| 5- KPK | Khyber Pakhtunkhwa |
| 6- UNV's | United Nations Volunteers |
| 7- NADRA | National Database Registration Authority |
| 8- CNIC | computerized National Identity Card |
| 9- SPO | Strengthening Participatory Organization |
| 10- CSO | Civil Society Organization |
| 11-SWOT | Strength Weakness Opportunities Threats |
| 12-MPK | Mir Pur Khas |
| 13-B-Form | Birth registration form |
| 14-UC | Union Council |
| 15-MNA | Member of National Assembly |
| 16-MPA | Member of Provincial Assembly |

2- About CHANAN:

Community Healthy Advocacy Network At Nation CHANAN is a youth based registered organization under the society registration act 1860. CHANAN aims to highlight the human right Issues of youth and women. As this profile group of society found to be neglected and disregarded of their contributions and strengths. There is lack of involvement of youth and women in decision / policy making as well as lack of education / awareness regarding health, social and legal and Human right issues, while discriminatory laws and social customs against women hinders them to enhance their self growth and enjoy equal status in the society.

3- About Project:

The Electoral Cycle Support to the Election Commission of Pakistan (2012 - 2017) is a project mandated to strengthen the Election Commission of Pakistan by increasing its capacity to deliver its Strategic Plan, strengthen electoral laws and procedures and improve the engagement of citizens, particularly women and youth in electoral processes.

The Project has moved from Phase 1 (pre-elections and elections) to Phase 2 (post-elections) in the electoral cycle where the focus in Phase 2 includes strengthening the internal governance, operational performance and capacity of the ECP, advocating for electoral reforms, providing support for local government, cantonment and bye elections and civic and voter education.

As part of its overall civic and voter education campaign for the upcoming local government (LG) elections, the Project is looking to hire an organization to conduct street theatre activities in select districts across Punjab and Sindh.

Purpose

The street theater performances will be conducted in districts with lower than average voter turnout in the 2013 General Elections. The performances are meant to increase voter awareness of and participation in electoral processes and in particular, to encourage people to turn out to vote in the upcoming local government elections

Target Audience:

The target audience for these performances includes voters were the following groups:

- Women
- Male and female youth voters (those between the ages of 18–24 years)
- People with disabilities
- Religious and ethnic minorities

4- Project Summary:

It was decided that CHANAN will have to implement project on civic and voter education and awareness in 32 districts of 4 provinces i.e. Punjab, Sindh, KPK and Baluchistan. However later it was requested by UNDP to perform this project in the Provinces of Punjab and Sindh. Therefore it was mutually decided that 507 street theater events will be conducted in 20 districts of both the provinces.

To achieve the set target, 10 district of Punjab and 8 districts of Sindh will be selected. For this it was also mutually agreed that CHANAN will conduct 282 street theaters in Punjab and 225 street theater events in province Sindh.

District Gujrat, Bahawalpur and Khairpur were added at later stage of the program where UN Volunteers are engaged in civic and voter education program.

A theater group also performed some theater events with NADRA campaign on importance of having CNIC in Hyderabad and Tando Muhammad Khan, districts of Sindh in coordination with SPO, one of the UNDP's partner organization.

To achieve the set target CHANAN have to conduct at least 507 street theater events to reach at least 25,350 direct audience. So CHANAN engaged 4 teams in Sindh and 5 teams in Punjab. The actual plan was to conduct 282 theater events in province Punjab, and 225 theater events in province Sindh. CHANAN conducted 282 theater events and reached 19,251 direct audience including 2,248 youth female, 9,157 youth male, 1,871 female and 5,975 male in 11 districts of Province Punjab. CHANAN conducted 236 theater events to reached 23,571 direct audience including 2,618 youth female, 12,633 youth male, 1,784 female and 6,536 male in 9 districts of Province Sindh. Altogether 42,822 audiences were educated on the set objectives.

Female youth participation was 11% while 51% male youth participated in street theater events. 9% female over 30 year and 29% male over 30 year participated directly in street theater events. Overall 62% youth (both male and female 18-30) participated in theater events. While 38% was the general audience over 30 year both male and female.

Street theater events were conducted at different spots of Tahsils/UC's including Chowks, Hujras, Markets, Seminars, Churches, women centers, Community Halls, Community center points, railway stations, bus stops, lori ada, canal, police chowkies, colleges, schools, academies, parks, beauty polar animal markets, bazaar, NADRA Camps, streets, chowks, villages etc. The target audience for the street theater was General Public both male and female, Youth, students, marginalize peoples, minority and ethnic groups, disadvantages groups etc.

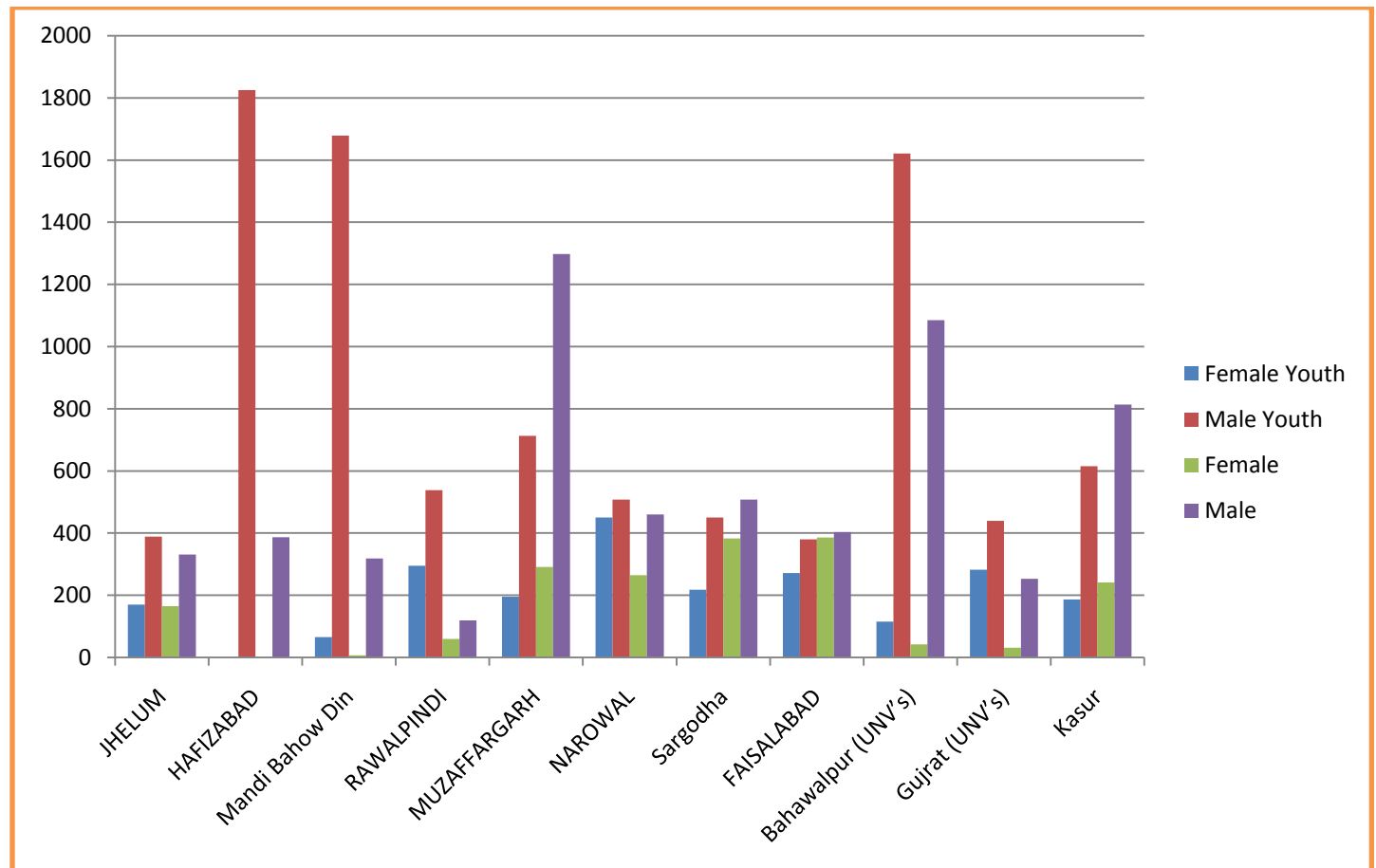


5- Achievements

Below are some important achievements Milestone through table:

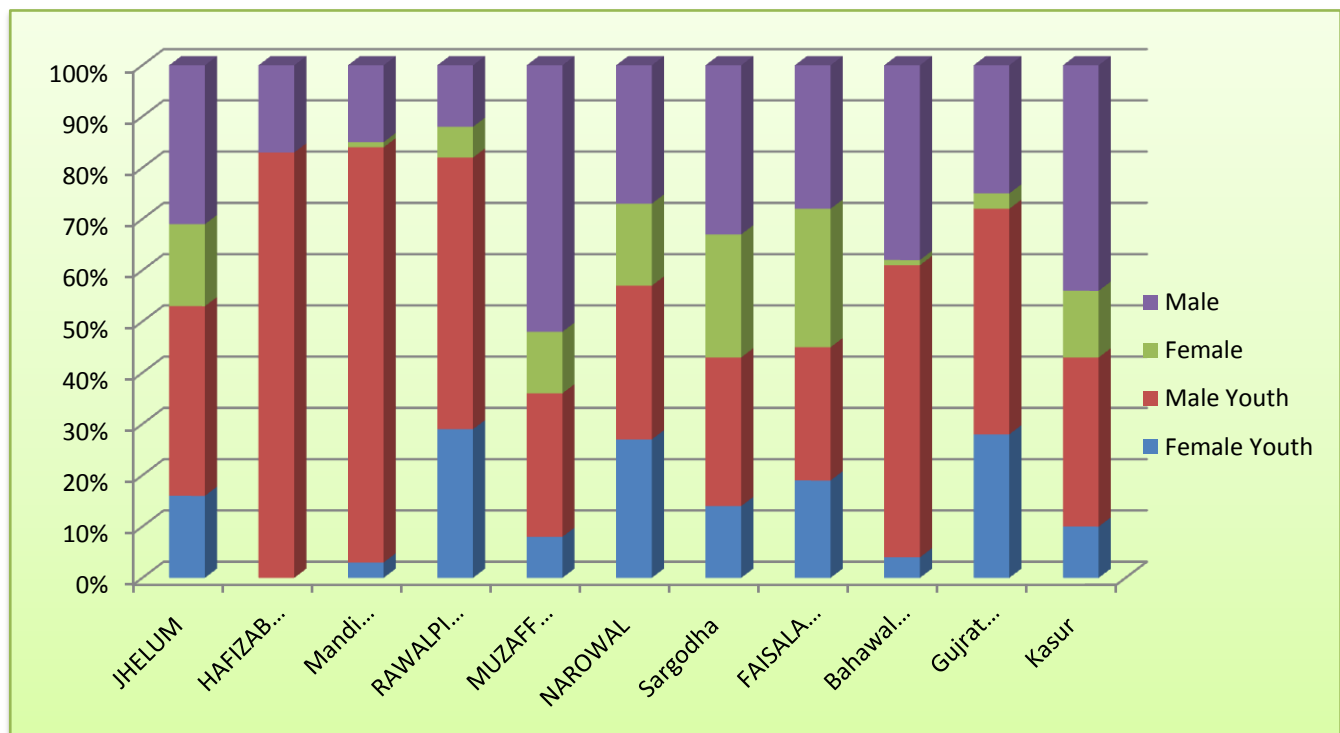
Punjab:

District	No. of Skits	No. of Female Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Male Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Female Over 30 Years	No. of Male Over 30 Years	Total No. of Audience
JHELUM	20	170	389	165	331	1055
HAFIZABAD	28	0	1825	0	387	2212
Mandi Bahow Din	28	65	1679	7	318	2069
RAWALPINDI	18	295	538	60	119	1012
MUZAFFARGARH	28	195	713	291	1298	2497
NAROWAL	30	450	508	265	460	1683
Sargodha	28	218	450	383	508	1559
FAISALABAD	28	271	380	386	403	1440
Bahawalpur (UNV's)	28	115	1621	42	1085	2863
Gujrat (UNV's)	18	282	439	31	253	1005
Kasur	28	187	615	241	813	1856
Total of Punjab	282	2248	9157	1871	5975	19251



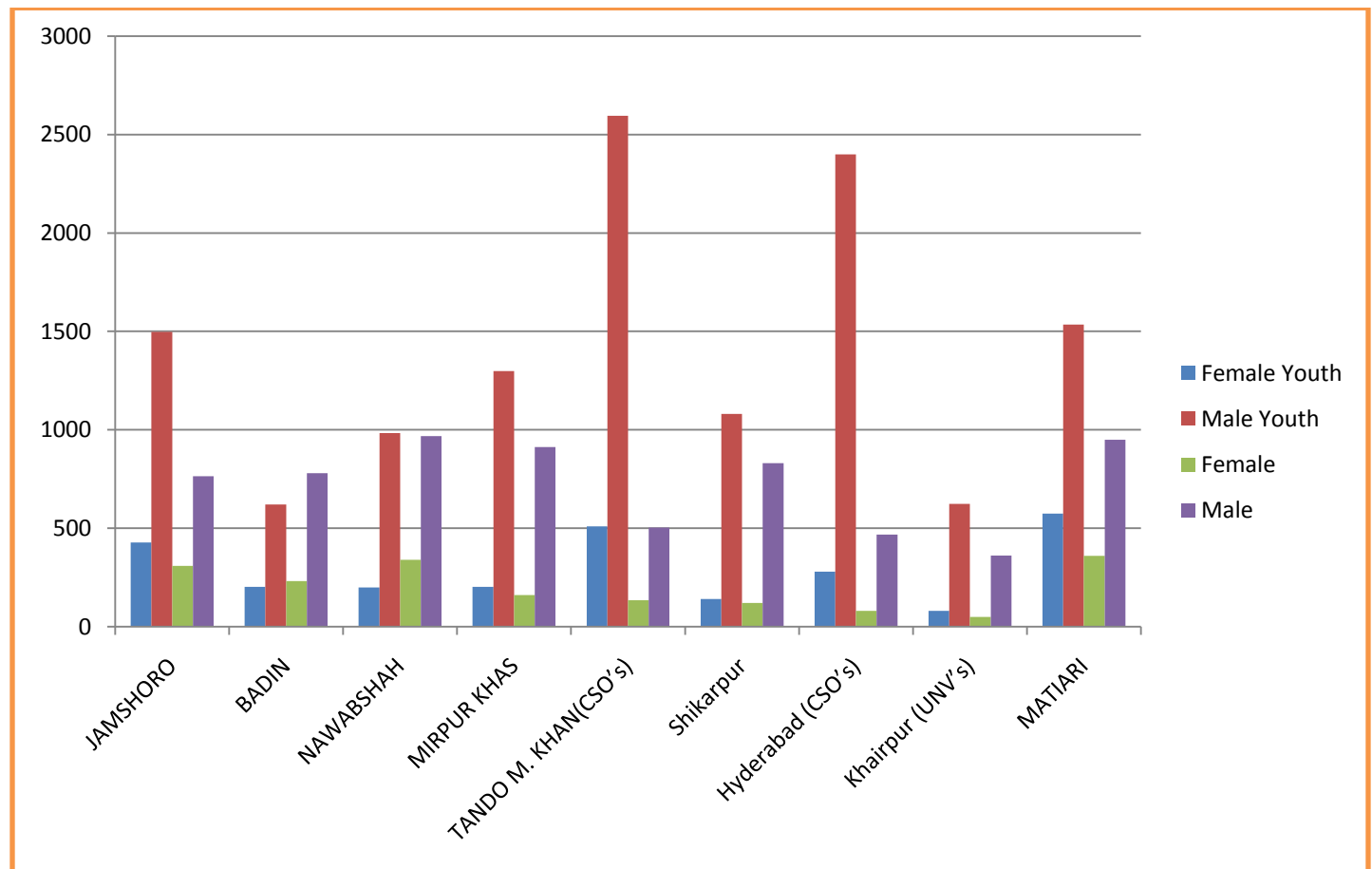
Punjab Participation in %

District	No. of Skits	No. of Female Youth between 18-29 Years In %	No. of Male Youth between 18-29 Years In %	No. of Female Over 30 Years In %	No. of Male Over 30 Years In %	Total No. of Audience In %
JHELUM	20	16%	37%	16%	31%	100%
HAFIZABAD	28	0%	83%	0%	17%	100%
Mandi Bahow Din	28	3%	81%	1%	15%	100%
RAWALPINDI	18	29%	53%	6%	12%	100%
MUZAFFARGARH	28	8%	28%	12%	52%	100%
NAROWAL	30	27%	30%	16%	27%	100%
Sargodha	28	14%	29%	24%	33%	100%
FAISALABAD	28	19%	26%	27%	28%	100%
Bahawalpur (UNV's)	28	4%	57%	1%	38%	100%
Gujrat (UNV's)	18	28%	44%	3%	25%	100%
Kasur	28	10%	33%	13%	44%	100%
Total of Punjab	282	12%	47%	10%	31%	100%



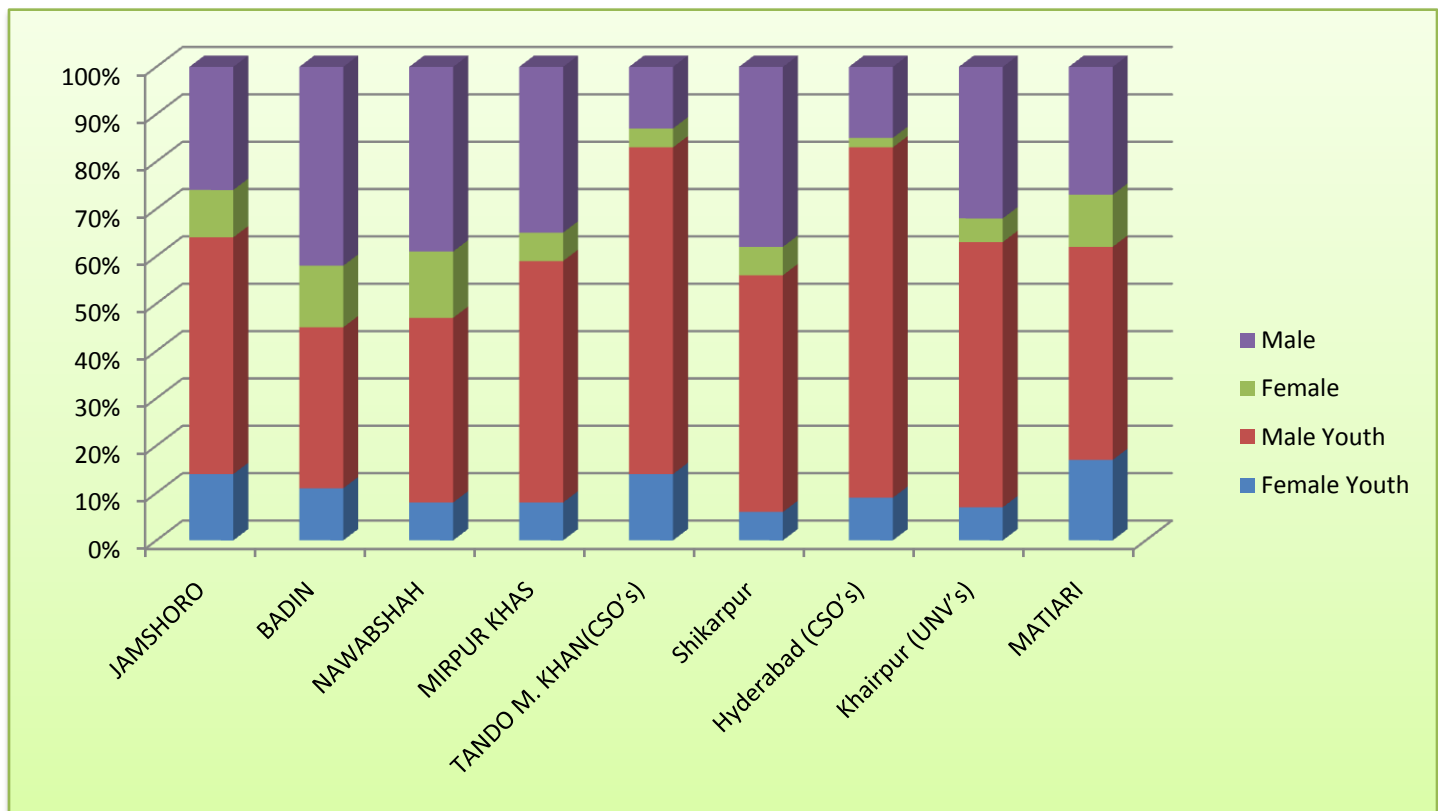
Sindh:

District	No. of Skits	No. of Female Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Male Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Female Over 30 Years	No. of Male Over 30 Years	Total No. of Audience
JAMSHORO	28	428	1497	309	764	2998
BADIN	20	203	620	231	779	1833
NAWABSHAH	28	199	983	340	968	2490
MIRPUR KHAS	28	203	1298	160	913	2574
TANDO M. KHAN(CSO's)	33	510	2596	134	504	3744
Shikarpur	28	141	1081	121	830	2173
Hyderabad (CSO's)	31	280	2399	80	468	3227
Khairpur (UNV's)	12	80	624	50	361	1115
MATIARI	28	574	1535	359	949	3417
Total of Sindh	236	2618	12633	1784	6536	23571



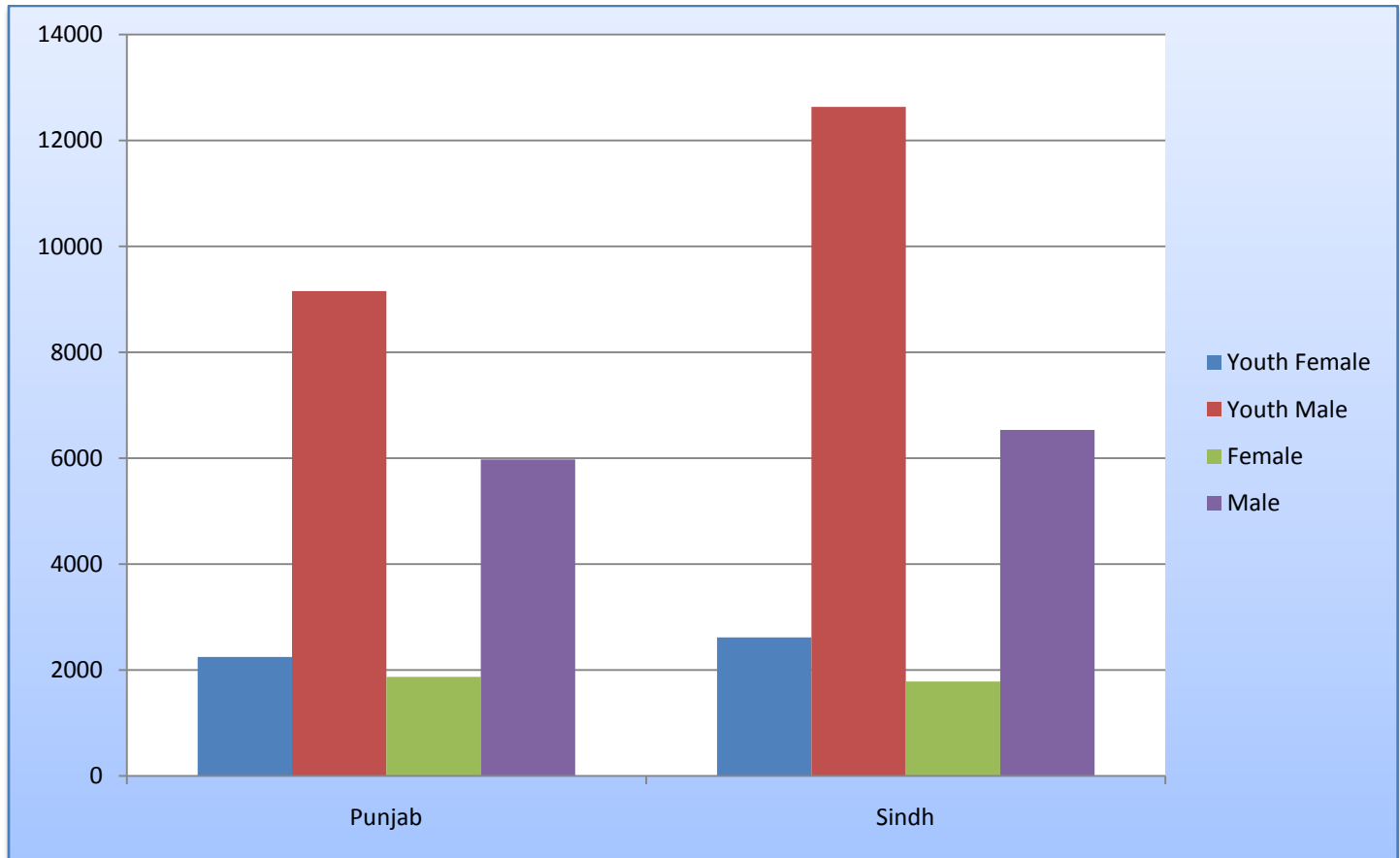
Sindh Participation in %

District	No. of Skits	No. of Female Youth between 18-29 Years In %	No. of Male Youth between 18-29 Years In %	No. of Female Over 30 Years In %	No. of Male Over 30 Years In %	Total No. of Audience In %
JAMSHORO	20	14%	50%	10%	26%	100%
BADIN	28	11%	34%	13%	42%	100%
NAWABSHAH	28	8%	39%	14%	39%	100%
MIRPUR KHAS	18	8%	51%	6%	35%	100%
TANDO M. KHAN(CSO's)	28	14%	69%	4%	13%	100%
Shikarpur	30	6%	50%	6%	38%	100%
Hyderabad (CSO's)	28	9%	74%	2%	15%	100%
Khairpur (UNV's)	28	7%	56%	5%	32%	100%
MATIARI	28	17%	45%	11%	27%	100%
Total of Sindh	236	11%	54%	7%	28%	100%



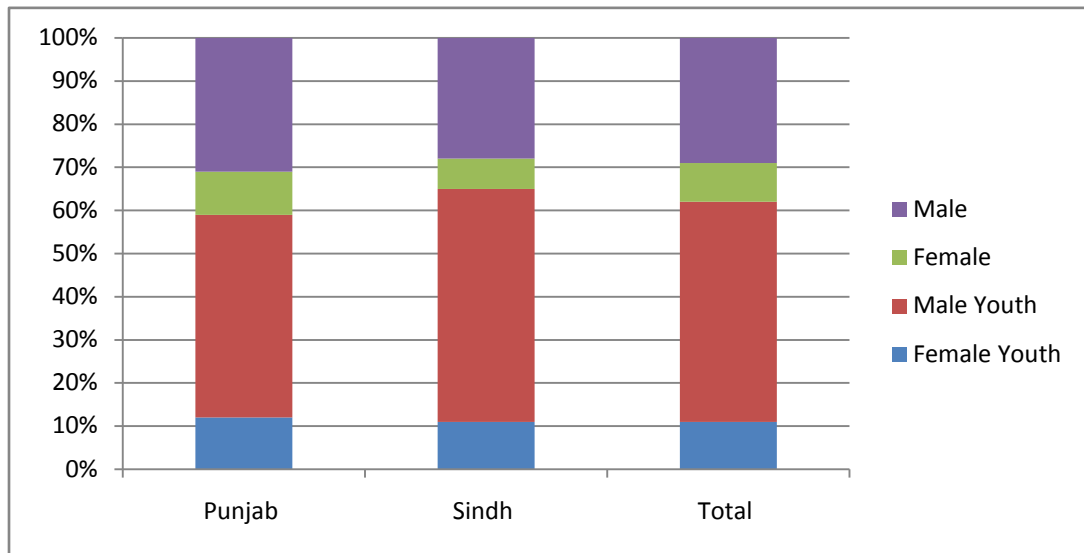
Total Audience Direct Participation:

District	No. of Skits	No. of Female Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Male Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Female Over 30 Years	No. of Male Over 30 Years	Total No. of Audience
Audience Direct Participation in Punjab	282	2248	9157	1871	5975	19251
Audience Direct Participation in Sindh	236	2618	12633	1784	6536	23571
Total Punjab and Sindh	518	4866	21790	3655	12511	42822

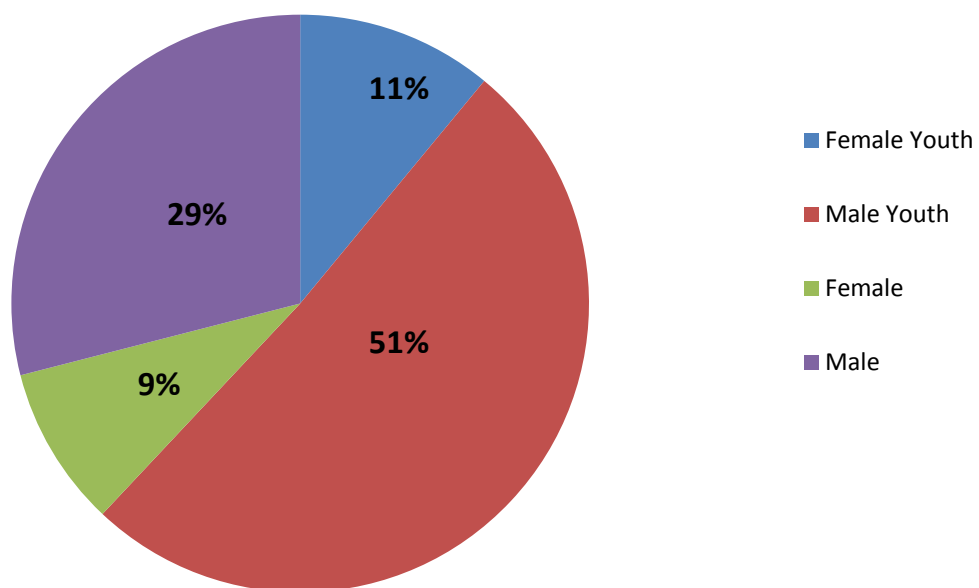


Total participation in %

District	No. of Skits	No. of Female Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Male Youth between 18-29 Years	No. of Female Over 30 Years	No. of Male Over 30 Years	Total No. of Audience
Audience Direct Participation in Punjab	282	12%	47%	10%	31%	100%
Audience Direct Participation in Sindh	236	11%	54%	7%	28%	100%
Total Punjab and Sindh	518	11%	51%	9%	29%	100%



Direct Audience Participation



6- Theater Conduction Methodology:

Theater performance were conducted in different spots of tahsils/UC's including Chowks, Hujras, Markets, Seminars, churches, community halls, community center points, railway stations, bus stops, lari ada, canal, police chowkies, colleges, schools, academies, parks, animal markets, bazaar, NADRA camps, streets, chowks, villages etc. The target audience for the street theater was General Public both male and female, Youth, students, marginalize peoples, minority and ethnic groups, disadvantages groups etc.

Team mobilized audience via playing different cultural beats (dholk), songs, displaying banners and inviting audience to see theater. For performance teams selected some place for stage and welcome the audience on behalf of CHANAN and UNDP.

Group coordinator / District Coordinator introduced play, its concept and its importance to the audience, then he/she inviting the team to perform. Theater group makes the play lively with respect of its local cultural and norms, which audience likes very much.

After theater performance the group/district coordinator asked the following question to the audience.

- How was play?
- What was the major learning's for you in the play?
- How important the civic education for a good citizen and a successful country?
- Will we cast our vote for the better democratic government in future?
- Will you inform others about importance of your vote and civic education and encourage them?

At the end of the play whole team formally thanked to the audience.



7- Audience Comments / Learning:

- ✚ Mrs. Rasheedan said, *"I have watched this theater play for the first time in my life. Theater group described the information for general public in an excellent way. She said that CNIC is necessary for the both male and female"*.
- ✚ A participant said, *"The democracy we are currently practicing in our country is not a democracy, it should be for the betterment of public rather than for the politicians"*.
- ✚ Mr. Lakhmir said, *"the corruption has destroyed our country and there will be no change for conducting of voting process in the country. He said that we are aware about the vote, but you have shared the very good information with us on the transparent voting and birth certificates"*.
- ✚ Mr. Azizullah said, *"Government must start the awareness campaign on the importance of vote and CNICs. He said that our MPAs and MNAs are only collecting votes from us and then they are not solving the basic problems of the people"*.
- ✚ Mr. Yasir Ali said, *"this theater group is doing good job based on realities. He said that we are still not well aware about the definition of democracy, so elected government should present a good role of democracy in Pakistan"*.
- ✚ A participant said, *"CNIC is very important for every citizen of Pakistan, it provides us guarantee as a citizen of this country, so we have to make correct use of it, casting vote for the better democracy should be our responsibility"*.
- ✚ We must educate our children boys and girls for their best future and to increase literacy rate of our country.
- ✚ In some areas selection of candidates is on the basis of relations and nepotism this is main disruption in the way of our nation' development.
- ✚ We should register the names of our children by ourselves to the UC office; we should not hand over documents to the caretaker, watchman or guard etc.
- ✚ Theater group is doing very good and praiseworthy job it must continue in future and around all over country.



- ✚ All participants were very glad after watching the program they appreciated this performance and answered the questions, they learn a lot regarding CNIC, democracy, B-Form, as well as the rights and responsibilities of a good citizen.
- ✚ Mr. Sabir Khan said, *"that we are thankful to CHANAN & UNDP for their good messages through theater performance on civic and voter education"*.
- ✚ Mrs. Rehmat Khatoon said, *"we are totally unaware about the keeping record of birth certificates of new born babies. She said that we be a female should get education and full fill our responsibilities to prove that we are also a good citizen"*.
- ✚ We should give importance to females and minority's vote and must give them all their rights.
- ✚ It is necessary to establish complaint centers in every village where the community can complaint about their problems and corruption of any institute.
- ✚ Implementation of democracy is main goal of our electoral process, and we shall carry on our best efforts to make democracy better and better.



8- Case Studies/Success Stories

Motivation:

Dad Mohammad belongs to village Amanullah khan khosa district shekarpur, professionally he is owner of tea stall. He participated in several awareness activities conducted by different organization. When he participate in street theater event on civic and voter education, he really inspire and learn a lot through this program such as importance of CNICs, birth registration form and voter education. He was able to to know the process of registration of CNICs, voter registration etc. According to him, "in my village there is lot of community members who does not have their CNIC and don't know about the importance of CNICs, voter registration and birth registration of their Childs, and they are also don't know about the process of registration before organizing such awareness activities, so these kind of activities should be in his village".

Campaigner for a Cause:

In one theater story presenting in District Badin, Mr. Suhbat Khan showed too much interest in watching theater, and at the end of the theater story, he stood up, appreciated the theater story very much and said that I found your story very important. He said that you have performed your duty by coming to our doorstep and delivering the messages which are very vital for our lives and future of our present and coming generation. He said that he has remained supporter of democracy but majority of people from the area has been disenchanted about democracy due to mis-governance of some government functionaries. He said the people hate democracy due to some bad apples who indulge in corrupt practice including favoritism. He said that this theater has given him rational and important logical points and he will utilize these in his future discussions in defending the democracy and this theater will help him as reference and I would spread the messages to others.

Exercising their rights on their own:

Ms Tahmena said that female vote is degraded. While thanking UNDP, for launching good initiative to awakening the voters about the importance of vote she added that I have realized that how vote can be used to bring the betterment in democratic system. She said that in her area the women are ordered by their male to vote for one or other candidates and thus women act on the directions of their male family members. She said that from this day onwards she would meet the women and educate them about importance of their votes and urge them to vote on their own choice rather than stamping on the whims and wills of their male family elders.

Voicing for her Rights:

Ms Ajeeban Said that theater is good and relevant to our lives. She said that mothers of our all problems are lack of awareness about the importance of our votes. She said that with rights also comes responsibilities particularly our civic responsibilities. Pointing out to one of the main problem in her vicinity she said that majority of our male family elders prohibit women from casting their votes saying it will tarnish their family honor. She said that this theater might help in changing the attitudes of the men about the importance of female votes too. She urged all participants particularly males to work for changing the attitudes of the male segment of the population to treat women equally and allow them to cast their votes on their free will. She said that she would work for educating the women during marriages ceremonies and other women gatherings about the importance of their votes and casting their votes with their free will.

9- SWOT Analysis

Strength

- Theater groups reached 42000+ direct audience
- Around 60% direct audience were youth in street theater events
- Enhanced groups capacity regarding theater as well as civic and voter education
- Increased Understanding and importance of CNIC, B-Form, vote along with role and responsibilities of a good citizen
- Linked project activities with other CSO's, UN V's and other line departments
- Linkages development with other likeminded organization, groups, institutions etc.
- Approach educational institutions ie colleges, schools, universities, academies etc.
- Divers audience in both provinces accepted and appreciated the method of awareness
- Sensitization and mobilization increase among marginalized community regarding civic and voter education
- People realized that these kinds of theaters should be continued in future, and these kind of activities should conducted by the political leaders
- Commissioner from MPK were appreciate the theater and the way and invited theater in Press Club and some other organization invited group
- Play theme was itself a strength of the program, and participants like very much
- A good number of female attended theater events, and focus on their role in elections, vote, civic education etc.
- Around 60 youngsters performed as theater performer to implement the program in a successful way
- Community participation enhance towards civic and voter education



Weaknesses

- IEC material should be printed for audience
- District high authorities i.e. DCO, DEC's etc was not properly informed or updated
- There should be some other activities i.e. seminar, session, meetings, etc
- Play should be more entertaining

Opportunities

- # of youth will cast their vote in the next elections
- People will pay proper intention while make their CNIC, B-Form, voter registration and other important documents
- Out reached increased
- Being a female it was a good chance to conduct activities
- New doors open for theater groups in other district
- Local coordination enhanced
- Chance to implement different project in those areas
- Linkage development
- # of people would cast their vote to the right person in future
- # of youth and women would participate in electoral process
- # of audience / participants would process their birth certificate and CNIC to cast their vote in future
- # of people would focus on peaceful rallies, demonstrations, seminars etc.
- # of people would respect women and pay proper intention to their vote and CINC
- # of people would enroll their children in school for education
- Theater groups have an opportunities to perform on civic and voter education by them self or in partnership with different likeminded organization in future
- Theater group can initiate project in their respective districts and areas to use the networking and linkages development

Threats

- Security threats during and after this program
- Theater groups, coordinators and district coordinators could be monitored by the agencies or extremist groups
- Some audience might understand the wrong messages and create hurdles in future

10- Challenges:

- Local authority did not allow to perform due to unavailability of Authority Letter by the district government
- Due to current law and order situation people were not willing to capture their pictures and recordings.
- Difficult to gather audience due to fog.
- Peshawar incident made people more hesitant to gather at one place and even speaks on the current situation.
- In different villages/spots people were not accepting these kind of activities
- Police, law enforcement agencies were very active after Peshawar incident and not allowed theater groups to perform on general spots ie parks, bus stand, lari ada, railway station etc.
- Covering women at general spaces was another challenge for the activities.
- Some local people snatched camera and warn team not take videos and pictures
- Very difficult to find female audience due to cultural limitation
- Political conflict among the villagers caused some disturbance in participation
- People hooting on female theater performer

11- Suggestion by the audience:

- These kinds of activities should be in pleasant weather and secure situation and areas.
- These type of program will continue for public awareness in future.
- These type of projects should be given proper time for planning, execution etc.
- IEC material is best practice for conducting these kind of events.
- Street Theater should be performed only by the male performer.
- Ensure Authority latter by local government to conduct theater performances in district.
- Increase more theater activities.
- These kind of events should be continue in villages for women specially.
- These kind of theater should be also performed in other social issues i.e. gender, education, health and hygiene, peace, harmony etc.

12.1-Press Coverage




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روزانی
حیدرآباد

جمعہ 26 دسمبر 2014 بمطابق 03 ربیع الاول 1436 ھ قیمت 5 روپيا **شمارو 52** جلد 18

12.2-Pictorial View



13- Vote of Thank

CHANAN is pleased for the great initiative on civic and voter education through street theater. On behalf of our management, theater groups, district coordinators we are really thankful to UNDP who provide us this opportunity to implement the service contract on civic and voter education. It was our 3rd phase with UNDP and all teams are happy to play their role for the betterment of democracy and country.

Hope that UNDP will continue these kinds of activities/ project/ services in future.



For Further Contact

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