



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Project Report

Street Theater

On Civic and Voter Education



Ref.: ITB/UNDP/ECP/2013/005 [Street Theatre to Spread Voter Awareness and Participation in Electoral Processes]

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1- 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.

Vision

A Society where Women's and Youth Rights are respected and Recognized

Mission

The mission of CHANAN is to improve the status of youth and women and to enable them to equally and actively participate in planning, management, decision / policy making and execution of their plans without any biases of gender, religion, age, status, language and class.

2- About Project:

The Electoral Cycle Support to the Election Commission of Pakistan (2012 - 2014) 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.

Purpose

The street theatre 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

3- Project Summary:

CHANAN implemented the said project on civic and voter education and awareness in **32** districts of Pakistan 8 district from each province excluding Gilgit Baltistan. CHANAN engaged with its different theater groups working in close relations with CHANAN in all over Pakistan. CHANAN conducted around **927** street theater covering the **103532** direct audience including **39703** males, **17573** females and **46256** youth.

Youth Participation in street theater activities were **44.68%** while **16.97%** Female and **38.35%** male attended the events on civic and voter education.

CHANAN engaged **18** theater teams in all over Pakistan including **6** team in Province Punjab, **4** teams in KPK, **5** teams in Sindh and **3** teams in Baluchistan.

The project implemented in all Tehsils of **32** districts covering the direct audience for the civic and voter education & awareness. The theater performed on different spots of Tehsils including Chowks, Hujras, Markets, Seminars, Churches, Out of Mosques, Community Halls, Community center points, railway stations, bus stops, lori ada, drugs rehabilitation centers, police station, animal markets (Mowashi Mandi) canal, bridge etc. The target audience for the street theater was General Public both male and female, Youth, minority groups, ethnic groups, disadvantages groups etc.

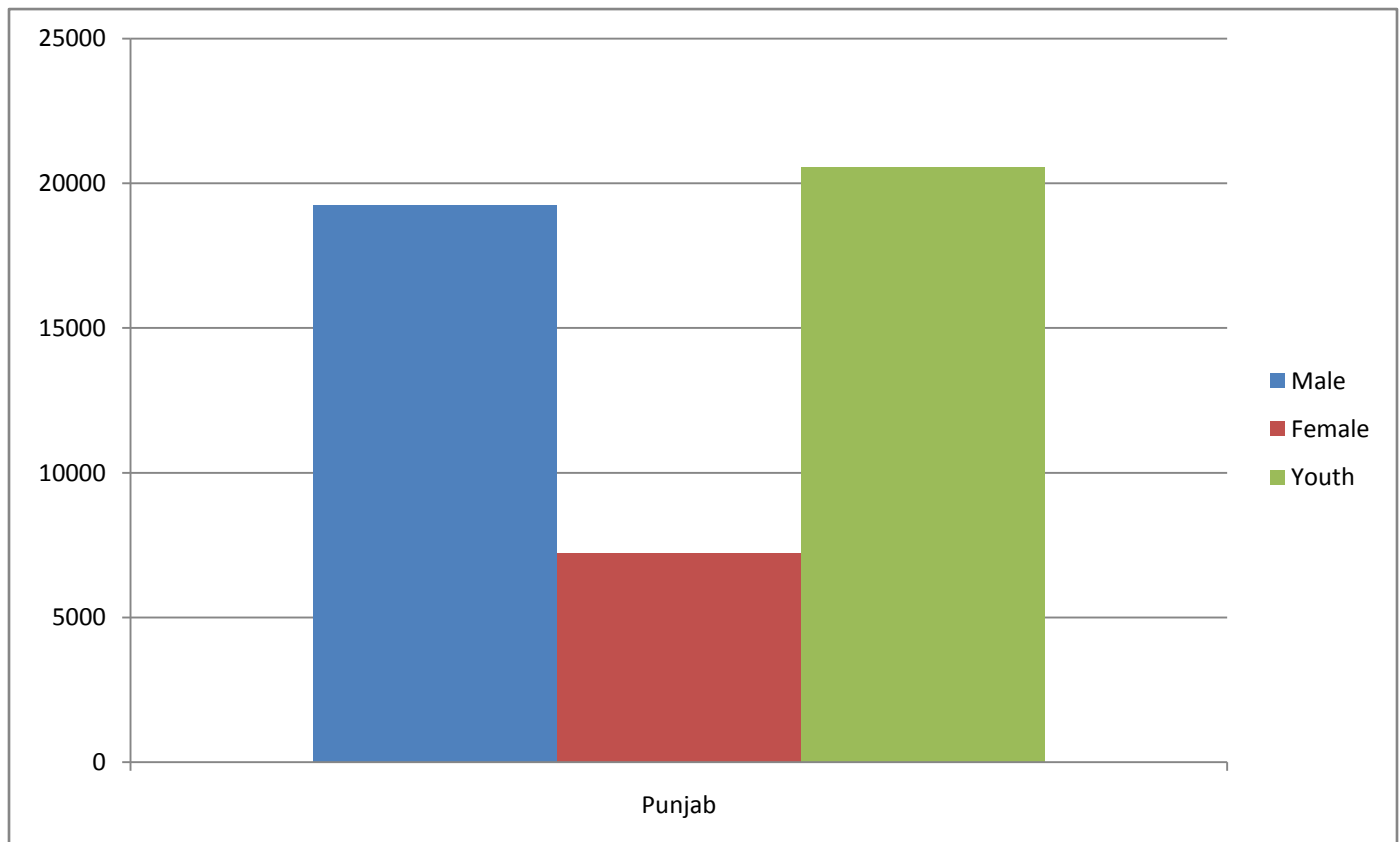


4- Achievements

Below are some important achievements Milestone through table:

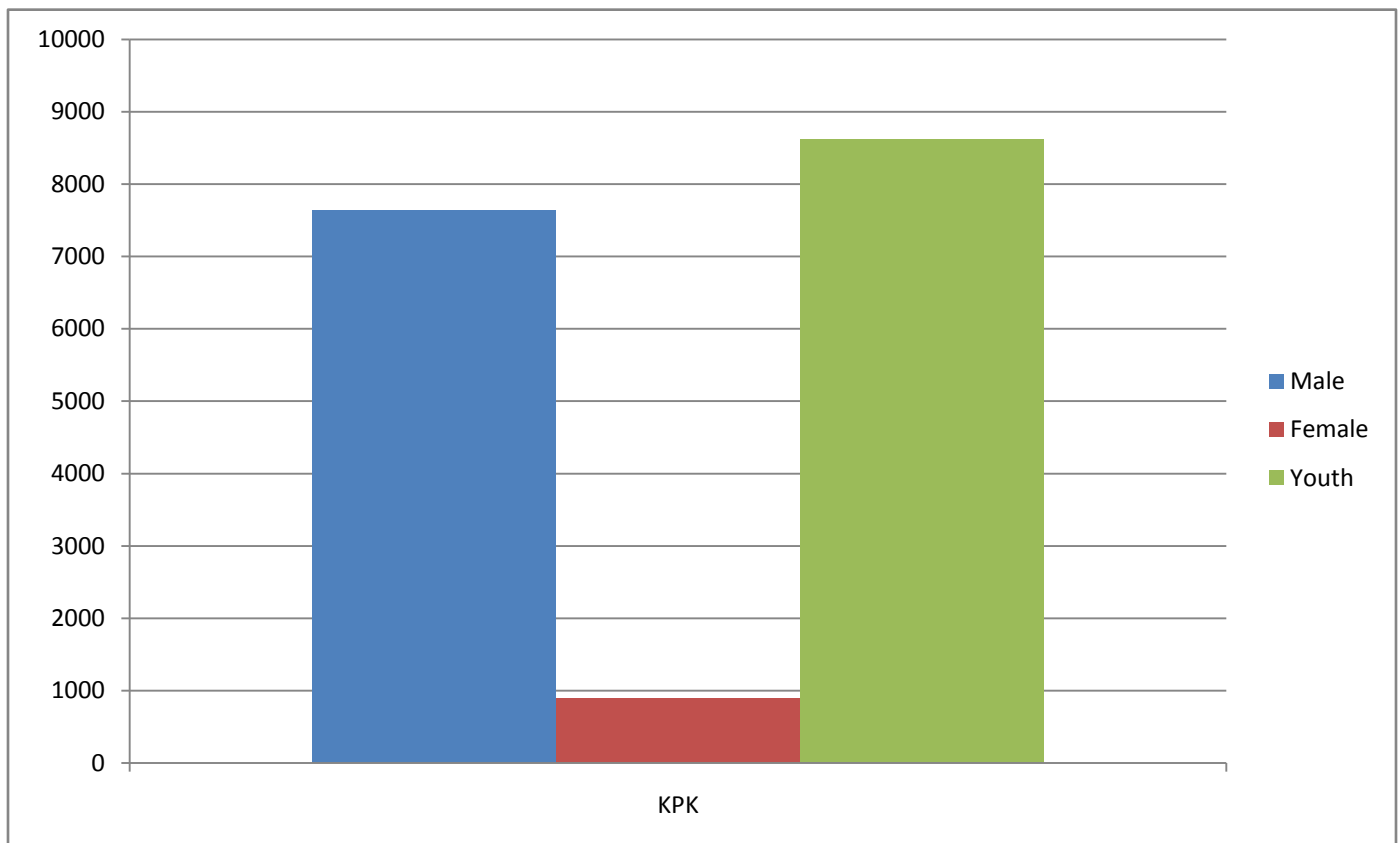
4.1 Punjab:

Province	District	No. of Skits	Male Participation	Female Participation	Youth Participation	Total Participation
Punjab	DGK	51	5005	144	1648	6797
	Gujranwala	50	2130	1163	3588	6881
	Lahore	59	1462	2118	2136	5716
	Multan	50	2880	426	2631	5937
	Sialkot	62	211	1905	3687	5803
	Shaikhupura	54	2306	847	1699	4852
	Gujrat	50	2161	490	2745	5396
	Attock	50	3097	100	2434	5631
Total Punjab		426	19252	7193	20568	47013



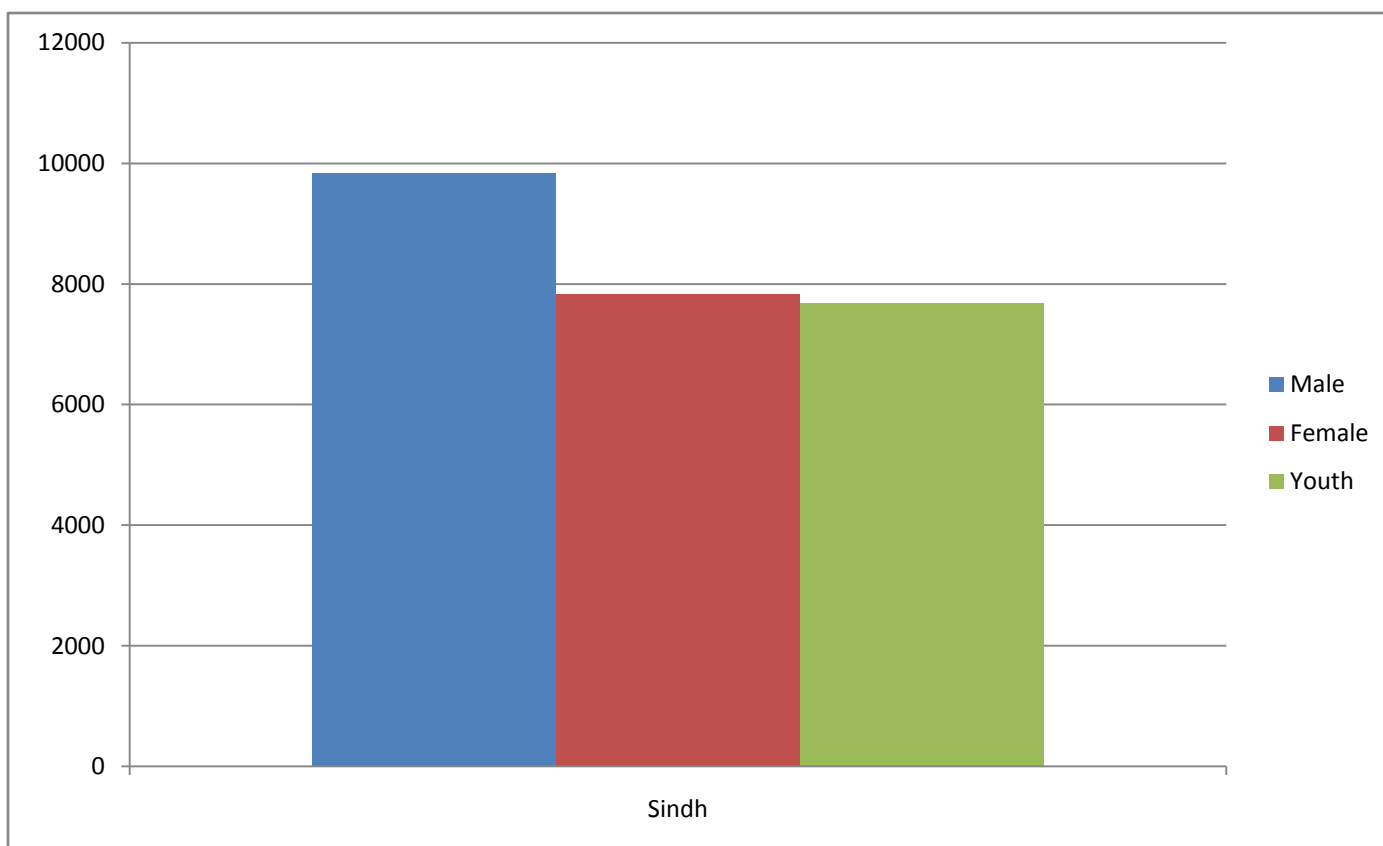
4.2 KPK

Province	District	No. of Skits	Male Participation	Female Participation	Youth Participation	Total Participation
Total Punjab		426	19252	7193	20568	47013
KPK	Batgram	20	1746	53	785	2584
	Charsada	21	390	0	1191	1581
	Mansehra	35	2057	638	1295	3990
	Noshera	20	585	60	978	1623
	Mardan	20	1010	20	949	1979
	Bunir	20	1160	30	1202	2392
	Sawat	20	30	41	1407	1478
	Sawabi	20	661	53	807	1521
Total KPK		176	7639	895	8614	17148



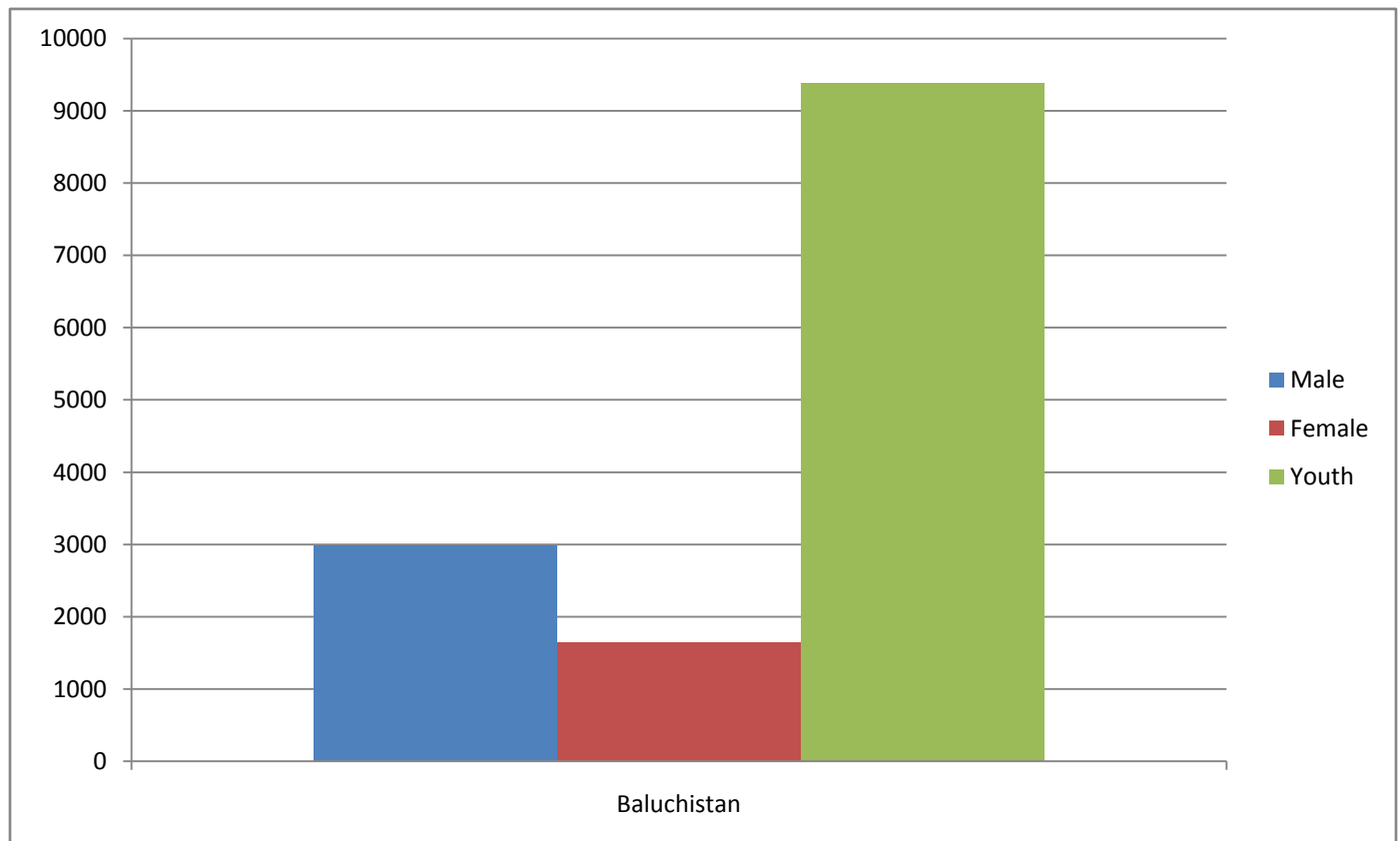
4.3 Sindh

Province	District	No. of Skits	Male Participation	Female Participation	Youth Participation	Total Participation
Sindh	Dadu	20	802	1319	495	2616
	Hyderabad	20	270	979	1157	2406
	Jacobabd	20	1004	489	523	2016
	Karachi	35	1356	3366	1723	6445
	Larkana	20	1007	1146	540	2693
	Shikar pur	20	1718	80	1448	3246
	Shahdad Kot	20	1727	30	1289	3046
	Kashmor	20	1952	430	518	2900
Total Sindh		175	9836	7839	7693	25368



4.4 Baluchistan

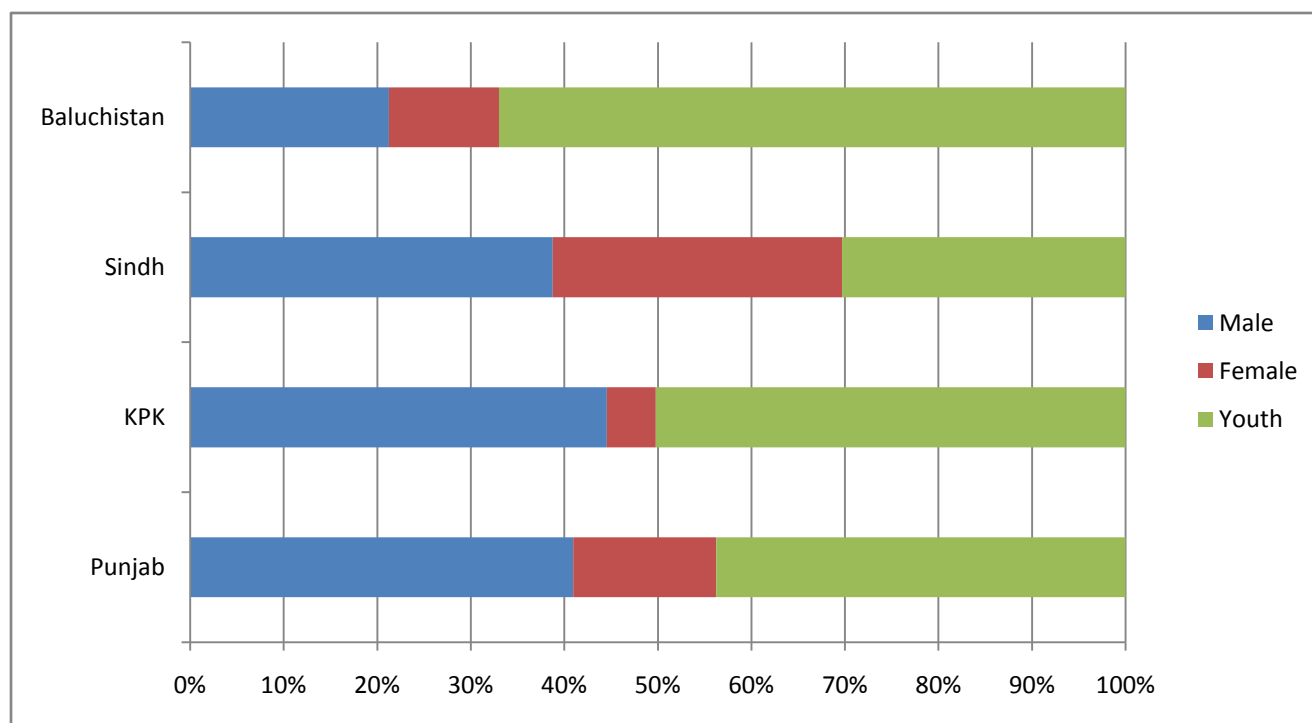
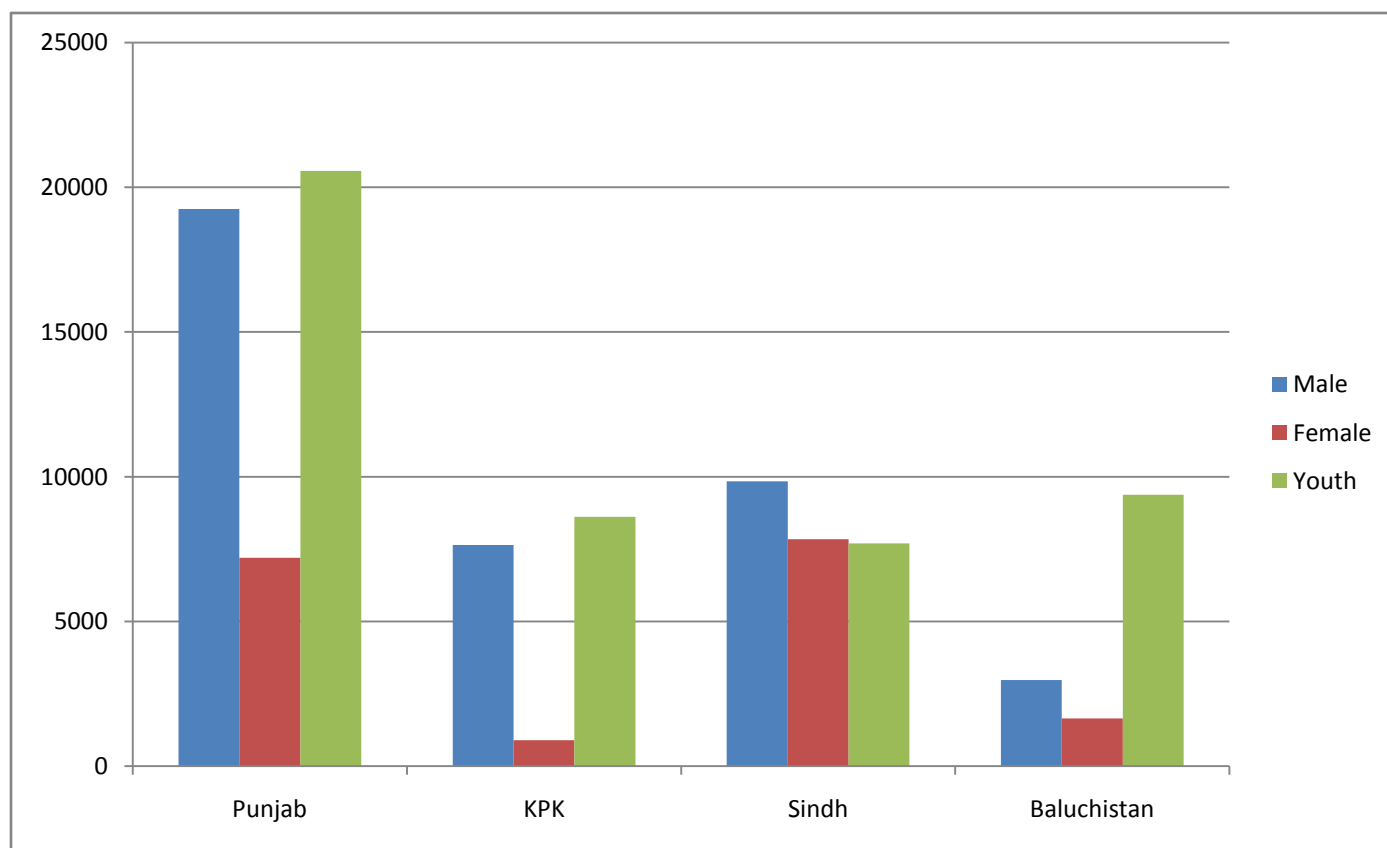
Province	District	No. of Skits	Male Participation	Female Participation	Youth Participation	Total Participation
Baluchistan	Kalat	15	225	185	424	834
	Lasbaila	15	688	30	814	1532
	Queta	30	278	892	1620	2790
	Noshki	30	576	0	870	1446
	Ziarat	15	0	0	0	0
	Pasheen	15	122	290	1645	2057
	Chaghi	15	151	208	548	907
	Lawerallahi	15	301	0	2245	2546
Total Baluchistan		150	2976	1646	9381	14003



4.5 Culminated Achievements

Province	District	No. of Skits	Male Participation	Female Participation	Youth Participation	Total Participation
Punjab	DGK	51	5005	144	1648	6797
	Gujarnawala	50	2130	1163	3588	6881
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Total Baluchistan		150	2976	1646	9381	14003
Grand Total		927	39703	17573	46256	103532

4.6 Culminated Achievements



5- Audience Comments / Learning:

- Youth was energetic to cast their vote in the next election for the better democracy and will bring peace in society, and will spread the message of Civic education to others friend and family members
- People were enjoyed, Youth specially got interest on importance of vote, They learned how they can play their role in democratic process
- Peoples expectations of elected governments to deliver services, maintain law and order, promote economic progress and social stability.
- Akhter, a school teacher welcomed the team and said that your theater has good knowledge; however, our students have little bit knowledge on the voter education. It is good to perform the theater in front of the youths.
- Ms. Naila shared that every citizen has right of vote but unfortunately some females do not process their CNIC. It is better to perform the play at all villages like ours to educate people on the voter education.
- Ajmal, "We have learnt too important things from this theater. Theater is an interesting tool to address any issue. He said that I like the theater and am thankful for coming to our city and informing us on the voter education".
- Saeed Hyder, "we should select an appropriate leader for the nation through voting process, and vote has importance for sustainability of democracy.
- Tania, "Women should register their vote and we should respect women.
- Zikeria, " we should support our democratic system and fulfill our responsibilities as a good citizen and we must support women to take part in electoral process"
- Nusrat Shakeel, "We have come to know about our rights and responsibilities through this program and I will convey this message to friends and colleagues.
- Ayesha Kamal, " These kind of program will make us realize our roles and responsibilities because majority of us are not aware about our rights and responsibilities of a good citizen".
- Muheeb Ullah, "You guys are doing amazing job, this is the need of the time".
- Muhammad Mustfa, "We should respect all minorities and should provide their basic human rights".



- Ghaofor Mashi, "Civic education is very important for each person, we should not damage our assets, it's not in favor of Pakistan, our government have to provide all kind of rights to minorities".
- Suria bibi, "Women should cast their vote in all villages".
- Tasweer Hyder Advocate, "It is good massage for the future of Pakistan, and being a good citizen we must not destroy our Pakistan, We should Stop Electricity thief, because our Country is facing challenges of electricity.
- Jameel, "I can assure you that none of us was aware about article 25-A, so we have to enroll our children in schools for education
- We should use our power of vote effectively, thus we make a good Pakistan
- We learnt about article 25 A and we should know that the minorities have their rights and we all are one nation and we should care them too.
- If we want solution of our problem and change in a country we should vote to right candidate who has the ability to deliver.
- Before election promises of Provincial and National government should be to solve the problem of unemployment, Poverty, electricity and terrorism but the scenario has been changed after election.
- Before watching the theater headman of the village said that people of this village will vote to whom I refer and favor because I know more than these common villagers and these villagers will not go against me and if they do, they will need to leave village and he didn't let team perform theater but after being mobilized and watching the theatre he said that voting is everyone's right and should be used wisely and he also appreciated the theatre group.
- A shopkeeper said that I am 24 years old and I still don't have NIC but now after watching the theater I have realized its significance therefore I try get my NIC as soon as Possible.
- A teacher of school said that this is the best way to bring democracy in the country we should acknowledge people that how to use the power of vote and how to check where they can vote and this theatre contained all necessary information.



- A student said that when, I will vote a person who would be able to solve our problems and I will also tell others that they must should vote rather than sitting in their homes during election because their single vote bring change in the country.
- Before watching the theatre I was totally unaware of the voting procedure but after watching the theatre I knew that how get registered to vote.
- Ms. Shugfta said that vote is necessary for the democracy but in democracy we have not received our rights too.
- Head Master of the school said that I like theater much because your theater contains huge knowledge on the vote and democracy. You described that we should empower the democracy.
- Ali Muhammad said that there is no real democracy in Pakistan. Politicians are play fake game with the nation in the name of vote.
- Muhammad Uris said that voter education is need of time; but we ignore this important theme. We should aware our female on the vote.
- Kazi Aftab Ahmed said that I have seen and participated in many seminars but at first time I have watched the street theater play. He shared that your theater has vast knowledge on the democracy and voter education.
- Principal of the college shared that your theater is very informative. It is the need of time to aware our youths for the politics and on voter education. He added that I welcome to your theater team and your supporters.
- We should encourage people to process their CNIC and register their vote.
- We should respect women and their vote
- This is a good way to spread message and strengthen Pakistan
- We should support Democracy and democratic government
- We should promote peace messages for the peace full Pakistan
- We enjoyed a lot, and we have to process our vote for the better democracy system in Pakistan
- Educated youth is most important for Pakistan Future democracy process



- Voter education for youth is very important
- we should registered our children to our Union Council and get their birth certificate, to avoid difficulties in future
- We should Respect all the religion for the peace full Pakistan
- Government should provide better opportunities to all citizens
- We must cast our vote without any discrimination
- Government should fulfill the needs of Marginalized group, minorities and women of our society
- it is more effective way to convey message to the general Public
- We learnt that we have to caste vote to right person, we should not vote those who are rich, but we have to select the able persons for assembly.
- Youth do not have resources to take part in politics but they can play their role by casting their vote to the right candidate
- These kinds of actions are the need of the time and we everyone should play their role to save this nation
- We should not ignore disable people, minorities and other marginalized people.
- NADRA is not doing it responsibility very well, and general public is disturb
- Now through this play we are sensitized regarding the decision making on vote casting, I am check my status of vote via SMS on 8300, Education is must to bring change in our country



6- SWOT Analysis

Strength

- A high number of participants (100,000+) directly reached on civic and voter education which will can be a great strength for the next election and civic actions
- Around 50% youth directly participated in street theater events and accepted their role to empower democracy system and play their role for the sustainable democracy
- A good number of female attended theater events, and focus on their role in elections, vote, civic education etc.
- Around 150 youth got trained as theater performers on civic and voter education, this youth would be engaged with their peers to sensitize them on civic and voter education, which would be bring direct and indirect change
- Peoples understanding the role of ECP, CNIC its process and importance, importance of vote and female participation in electoral process
- Community participation enhance towards civic and voter education
- Linkages development in field for the future interventions regarding these kinds of program
- Partner's and community stake holder's knowledge enhance on democracy and its importance
- Networking increase which will help partners to implement the development initiatives in future
- Theater teams confidence enhance in performing street theater
- Different cultur are accepting theater as Development tool ie KPK, Baluchistan, Sindh etc.
- Working in partnership, decision making power, newly formed theatre groups, confidence building, hardworking team,



Weaknesses

- District high authorities i.e DCO, DEC's etc was not properly informed or updated
- Too Short time to implement these kind of program
- IEC material could be more informative
- There should be some other activities ie seminar, session, meetings, etc

Opportunities

- # 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 caste 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

7- Challenges:

- People are hesitate to gather in a place due to insecure situation
- Tacking picture and video recordings were challenges
- Female Participation in street theater is challenging
- Street theater conduction is difficult in Month of Ramazan
- Audience conceive that the theater group is advocating for ECP, and hesitate to accept the massages
- People wants to change the election system
- Female Audiences is Tough Task for Street Theater
- Audience do not have time in the morning and theater group performed in the late evening
- No of People of KPK are against ECP and they are not admitting the results of general elections
- Some local people snatched camera and intimate team not take videos and pictures
- Local authority not allow to perform due to unavailability of Authority Letter
- large no of community Participation was difficult
- Very Difficult to find Female Audience due to cultural limitation
- Political conflict among the villagers caused some disturbance in participation

8- Suggestion by the audience:

- These kind of activities should be after Ramadan
- There Must be some more performances for male and females after Ramzan
- Such type of events must be kept in bearable weather and must not be in Ramzan
- Different kinds of IEC material should be used in these activities
- Increase no of activities
- Ensure Authority latter by election commission / or government
- 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 ie Gender, Education, Health and hygiene, peace, harmony etc.

9- Annexure:

9.1- Press Coverage



مختلف مقامات پر ووٽ کي طاقت کي آگاهي بارے ڏراے پيش
گوجرانواله (وقائع نگار خصوصی) یو این ڈی پی اور لاهور کی نجی فرم کے زیر اہتمام گوجرانوالہ میں مختلف مقامات پر ووٹ کي طاقت کي آگاهي بارے ڏراے پيش ڪئے گئے۔ دھلے چوک سمیت دیگر مقامات پر پيش ڪئے جانے والے ڏراموں میں فنکاروں نے شہریوں کو ووٽ کي طاقت سے آگاہ ڪيا اور اپنے ڪردار کے ذریعے بتایا کہ ووٽ کا کس انداز سے صحیح استعمال کرنا چاہئے اور ووٽ کے غلط استعمال سے انہیں اور قوم کو کیا نقصانات ہو سکتے ہیں۔ ڏراموں کو دیکھنے کے لئے شہریوں کی بڑی تعداد موجود تھی۔



گوجرانوالہ: یو این ڈی پی اور چائن کے اشتراک سے دھلے چوک میں ڏرامہ پيش ڪيا جا رہا ہے



9.2- Pictorial View



10- Vote of Thank

CHANAN is pleased for the great initiative on civic and voter education through street theater. Board of Directors, Management, Staff, Volunteers, theater groups and Theater Performer are thankful for the partnership with United Nations Development Program UNDP Pakistan to achieve the project goal, that will Pakistan towards the better directions.



For Further Contact

Alyas Rahmat

Managing Director CHANAN

Address: House # E-489, C-Block, Main Nishat Road,
Opposite Rabbani Masjid, Nishat Colony RA Bazar Lahore Cantt

Phone and Fax: +92 423 7164911, 35009409, 03334649748

Web: www.chananpak.org,

Email: chananpk.org@gmail.com