ANNUAL REPORT
2024



FARMERS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Empowering the Communities...

2024 ANNUAL REPORT - A publication by FDO
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CERTIFICATION FDO is certified by SECP under section 42 of companies' Act 2017 (Formerly Companies ordinance 1984).

The figures presented in this annual report come from our 2024 FDO database.
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Cover picture: Vehari, Pakistan. Community Women Lead Farmer working in her farms under She Feeds the World Project.

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A Message from BOD & Management

Farmers Development Organization (FDO) has proudly completed 25 years of dedicated service, a significant milestone reflecting its unwavering commitment to community development. As FDO looks ahead, it envisions transitioning from addressing immediate humanitarian needs to fostering sustainable and community-driven development. Over the past 25 years, FDO has remained steadfast in its mission, guided by resilience, humility, and ambition. Efficiency, accountability, and the thoughtful use of entrusted resources have been at the core of its operations. By prioritizing meaningful action and maintaining a culture of discretion, FDO has ensured transformative and lasting impacts for the communities it serves.As we reflect on our journey, it is clear that our collective efforts in governance, social and economic development, agriculture, nutrition, disaster risk reduction, education, healthcare, WASH, and natural resource conservation have brought meaningful change to countless lives.We find ourselves at a critical juncture in the history of development work, where global challenges such as climate change, economic instability, and social inequality demand innovative and collaborative solutions. In this rapidly changing landscape, the relevance of our work has never been more evident. It is a reminder of the responsibility we bear to not only adapt to these changes but also to lead with vision and commitment.At FDO, we place a strong emphasis on governance as the foundation for sustainable development. Through capacity-building initiatives, advocacy, and community engagement, we empower individuals and institutions to embrace transparency, accountability, and participatory decision-making. We believe that fostering a culture of good governance catalyzes social and economic growth, creating a ripple effect that uplifts entire communities.In agriculture and nutrition, our efforts focus on equipping farmers with innovative techniques, ensuring access to high-quality seeds, and disseminating knowledge about sustainable farming and balanced nutrition. These initiatives have improved food security, reduced poverty, and driven economic growth in rural areas. Our WASH programs have enhanced access to safe drinking water, hygiene education, and sanitation infrastructure, ensuring healthier and more resilient communities.Our commitment to disaster risk reduction (DRR) is unwavering in the face of increasing climate vulnerabilities. We work tirelessly to build resilient communities by implementing early warning systems, educating at-risk populations, and developing robust emergency response plans. Through these efforts, we aim to not only mitigate disaster impacts but also empower communities to rebuild stronger and more sustainably.The cornerstone of our success lies in our partnerships, collaborations with governments, private sector actors, and like-minded organizations amplify the reach and effectiveness of our interventions. Together, we pool expertise, resources, and innovative approaches to achieve greater and more sustainable outcomes.As we step into the future, our vision remains steadfast: to create a world where communities thrive, governments serve with integrity, agriculture flourishes, and resilience becomes a way of life. The challenges ahead are complex, but with your continued trust and support, we are confident in our ability to overcome them.I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our donors, stakeholders, partners, and dedicated team members who have been the backbone of our success. Your unwavering belief in our mission inspires us to strive for excellence and push boundaries in our pursuit of a better tomorrow.Together, let us continue to lead with courage, innovate with purpose, and work tirelessly to create lasting change. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.

With deep appreciation,



FDO's Board of Directors



Khuwaja Tahir Abbas
Director



Hayat Ullah Khan Niazi
Director



Kaneez Zahra
Chairperson



Malik Riaz Ahmed Aasi
Director



Iffat Tahira
Director



Majid A. Sattar
Director

Management General Body



Arooma Gul
General Body Member



Asif Naveed Ranjha
General Body Member



Rashid Minhas
General Body Member

Senior Management Committee



Ghulam Mustafa
Chief Executive Officer



Asif Shehzad
Managing Director



Nasir Mehmood
Head of Company Secretary & Head of Finance



Muhammad Waqas
Head of Islamic Microfinance



Mohammad Iqbal
Manager Finance

About FDO

Who We are

Vision

"A prosperous, socially justice, democratic and resilient society in Pakistan"

Mission

Our mission is, "Empowering the communities through promoting and rewarding the excellence within themselves."

Strategic Objectives

FDO focuses on the following strategic objectives for the strategy period (2024-2028) and all strategic priorities and actions are identified by keeping these objectives in view;

1. Build resilience to climate change and disasters by promoting climate-smart practices in agriculture, education, health and integrating community-based disaster risk reduction plans, and capacities
2. Empower communities especially women to achieve sustainable livelihoods through diversified income-generating opportunities, access to markets, value chain development, and micro-enterprise support.
3. Enhance community well-being by improving access to quality education, healthcare, WASH, and nutrition, especially for women, children, and other marginalized groups, while promoting healthy lifestyles and disease prevention.
4. Strengthen democratic governance and community participation by fostering community-led decision-making, building the capacity of local leaders, and promoting transparency and accountability in local governance structures.
5. Strengthen FDO's organizational capacity and sustainability by diversifying funding sources, investing in staff development, and enhancing monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure effective program implementation and impact.

Our Values

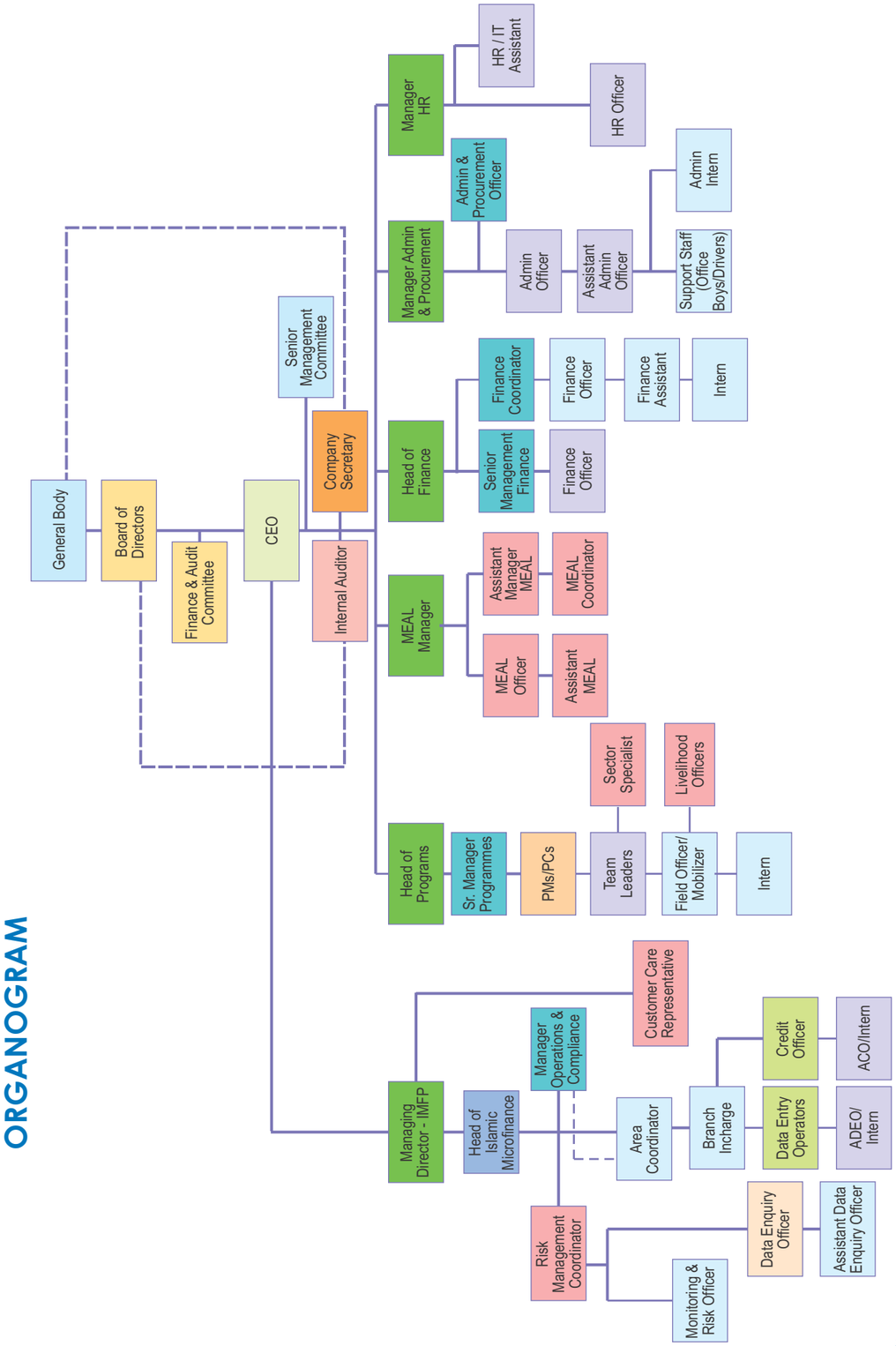
Transparency, accountability, equity, Integrity, consistency, and participation.

Our People

Their unwavering commitment to excellence, teamwork, and innovation fuels our success and strengthens our collective spirit. We take immense pride in our staff, recognizing that they are the foundation upon which our organization thrives, and we are grateful for their continued dedication

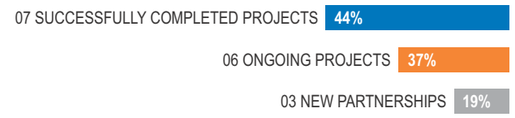
How do We Work

ORGANOGRAM

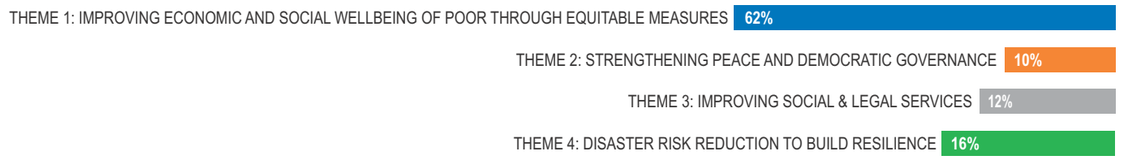


Our Reach & Scale in 2024

PROJECT REPARTITION



BREAKDOWN BY THEMATIC AREA



Where We are Serving...

During the year July 2023-June 2024, Farmers Development Organization's community outreach expanded to 11 districts to serve the communities:

FDO Districts of Work

1. Bahawalpur
2. DG Khan
3. Jhang
4. Khanewal
5. Lodhran
6. Multan
7. Muzaffargarh
8. Okara
9. Pakpattan
10. Sahiwal
11. Vehari

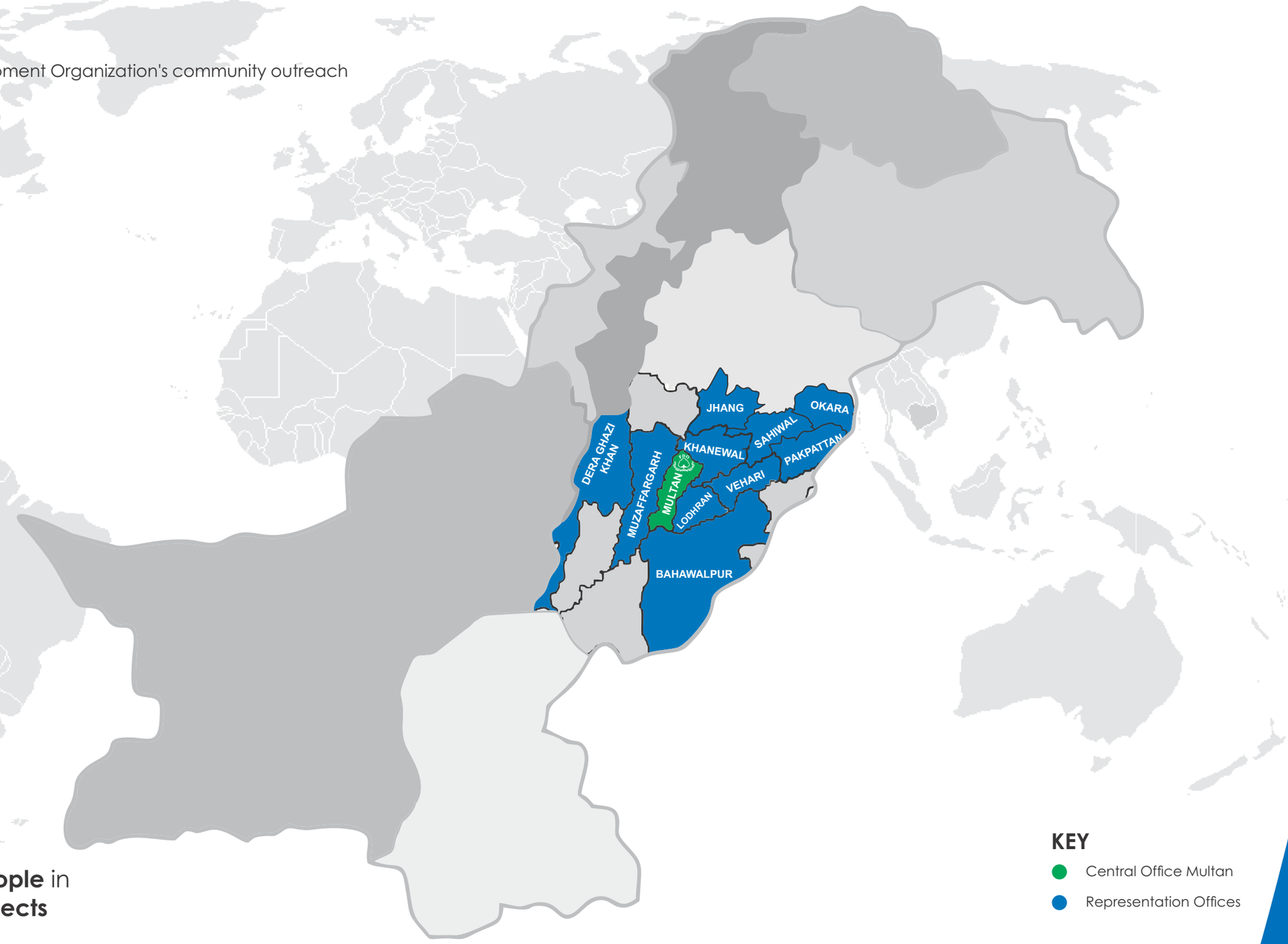
South and Central Punjab

2250978 PEOPLE RECEIVED FDO'S ASSISTANCE IN 2024

NO OF PROJECTS: 13

NO OF STAFF: 118

- **Central Office Multan**
- **REPRESENTATION OFFICE:**
  Bast Malook, Bahawalpur, DG Khan, Deepalpur, Jhang, Muzaffargarh, Okara, Pakpattan, Vehari,

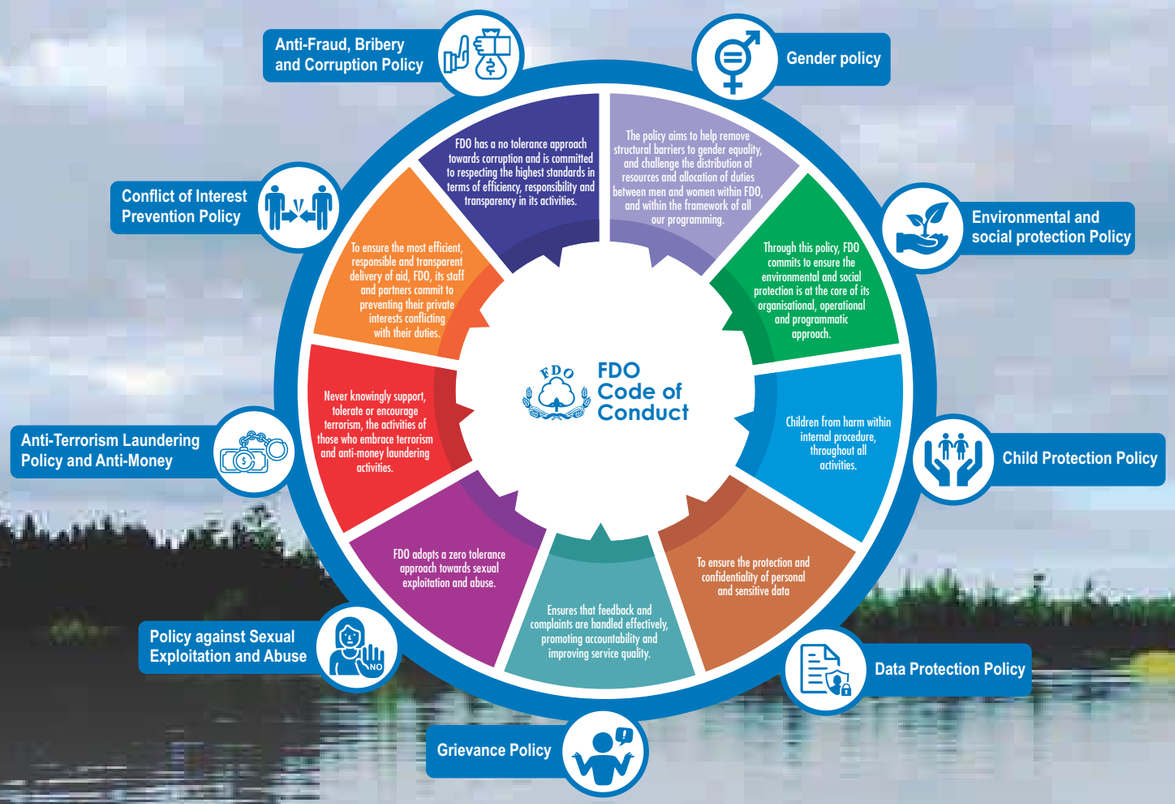


In 2024, FDO supported **2.25 million people** in **11 districts** of south punjab With **13 projects** and **Rs. 417m** budget

Figures are from 2024. Map not to scale; this map is meant for overview purposes only and is not an accurate geographical representation. This product has been created with the highest degree of accuracy possible.

Code of Conduct & Policies

We need to think local and act global to achieve greater three Horizon impact.



Accountability & Transparency

In 2024, FDO continued its commitment to transparency and accountability through robust internal control and feedback mechanisms, with a focus on operational efficiency, agility and accountability.

FOCUS ON FDO's accountability includes a confidential and secure feedback complaints and response mechanism (FCRM). The FCRM encourages the participation of the communities we serve, and enables our project teams to use community feedback to improve our programming.

Total 19
FEEDBACK & COMPLAINTS RECEIVED IN 2024

WHAT?

63% : **REQUESTS RECEIVED FOR FDO ASSISTANCE**

11% : **FEEDBACK ON FDO ACTIVITIES**

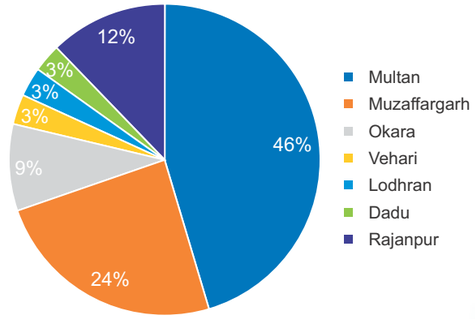
26% : **SENSITIVE COMPLAINTS**

WHO?

32% : Women

WHERE?

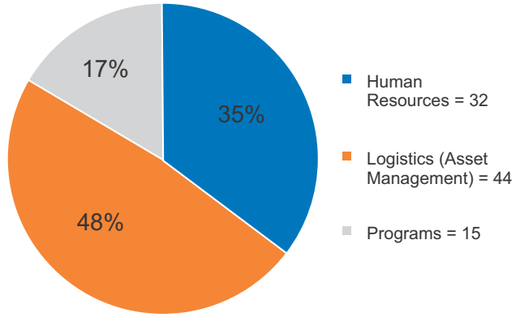
% : District Wise



FDO has a no tolerance approach towards corruption and is committed to respecting the highest standards in terms of efficiency, responsibility and transparency in its activities. A dedicated transparency mechanism has been set up to receive alerts on corruption and is managed confidentially by the FDO audit Unit.

Total 91
ALERTS REPORTED IN 2024

% of Alerts by Category





3IRP APPROACH
INCLUSIVE RESILIENCE
PROSPERITY



2024 Key Achievements

2.25 M people received FDO support in 2024 With activities ranging from emergency and Recovery support, to resilience and development.

SDG 1 NO POVERTY

405000 Improved the economic and social well-being of poor communities by implementing equitable measures to reduce poverty and support sustainable growth.

SDG 2 ZERO HUNGER

125000 Supported communities in building resilience through food and nutrition security initiatives and disaster risk reduction measures.

SDG 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

250000 Promoted good health and well-being by improving handwashing behaviors and providing health-related support to schools and communities.

SDG 5 GENDER EQUALITY

155000 Empowered communities by advancing women's leadership, rights, and active participation in decision-making processes.

SDG 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

120000 Enabled communities to adopt clean energy solutions, reducing energy poverty and promoting environmental sustainability.

SDG 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

70000 Reduced inequality by fostering inclusive participation in democratic processes and supporting electoral inclusiveness in communities.

SDG 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

550000 Protected lives and livelihoods in communities by supporting anticipatory climate actions and sustainable development practices.

SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

430000 Enhanced climate resilience in communities by integrating sustainable food security measures and disaster risk reduction initiatives.

SDG 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

85000 Strengthened justice systems and democratic governance in communities by promoting peacebuilding and institutional support.

SDG 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

60978 Strengthened the capacity of community-based organizations (CSOs) and built partnerships to support sustainable development goals.

Next 5 Years Programmatic Strategy 2024-2028

Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment

The Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment program aims to address poverty and uplift the socioeconomic well-being of marginalized communities in South and Central Punjab. Building upon FDO's successful track record in livelihood interventions, this program will provide comprehensive support to individuals and households, enabling them to achieve self-reliance and financial stability through a combination of skills development, asset provision, and market linkages.

Advancing Education and Skills Development

The Advancing Education and Skills Development program aims to address Pakistan's literacy challenges and equip youth with essential skills for the future. Recognizing the urgency of improving literacy rates and reducing the number of out-of-school children, FDO will collaborate with government departments, educational institutions, and communities to create a more accessible and equitable education system.

Climate Change Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

The Climate Change Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) program is a vital response to the escalating climate crisis and its devastating impact on communities. FDO recognizes the urgent need to enhance climate resilience and mitigate disaster risks, particularly in vulnerable regions. This program will focus on raising awareness, promoting climate-smart practices, and strengthening community capacity to adapt to and recover from climate-related shocks and disasters.



Health and Nutrition

FDO is working in health and nutrition sector in bits and pieces in different areas and communities of Punjab. Since last few years, FDO is focusing on PLWs and children health and nutrition. During our work, FDO remained focused on nutrition sensitive approaches.

Strengthening Democratic Governance and Civic Engagement

The Strengthening Democratic Governance and Civic Engagement program aims to enhance the quality of governance at local and provincial levels by fostering collaboration between government officials, elected representatives, and civil society organizations (CSOs). This program builds upon FDO's extensive experience in governance projects and addresses the challenges posed by the absence of a functioning local government system in Punjab.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) for a Healthier Future

The WASH for a Healthier Future program aims to tackle the dire state of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in South Punjab. Recognizing the severe health consequences of inadequate WASH facilities, especially on children, FDO will work to transform hygiene practices, improve access to clean water and sanitation, and strengthen local governance systems for sustainable WASH solutions.

OUR PROGRAMMES

THEME 1
Improving Economic and Social Wellbeing of Poor through Equitable Measures

Islamic Micro Finance Programme (IMFP)

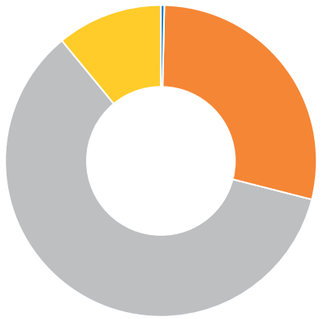
Inclusive Economic Opportunities



Islamic microfinance is a more ethical practice than the traditional motives of profit maximization, and it encourages extending the time of repayment if the debtors are in hardship. In some case, it suggests to give charity if the creditor has capability. Islamic microfinance is provided with a view to fulfill two tools simultaneously, i.e., social and financial inclusion. In this case, credits and Zakah can be given to the extreme poor people for satisfying basic needs. In terms of social responsibility, Islam encourages the people to be soft in case of collecting the lending money.

The Farmers Development Organization (FDO) is driving societal prosperity by offering Islamic Microfinance loans focusing the islamic Shariah-compliant product of "Interest Feree Loan" and "MURABAHA" tailored to empower communities and uplift livelihoods. Through these Shariah-compliant financial solutions, FDO supports the agriculture sector, micro-enterprises, and livestock businesses, ensuring sustainable growth and economic stability. By enabling farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs to access capital without compromising their religious principles, FDO fosters self-reliance and encourages the growth of local economies. This initiative not only boosts productivity but also enhances the financial inclusion of marginalized groups, leading to broader economic prosperity.





INTEREST FREE LOANS

Sector Wise Disbursement of Interest Free Loan Program:

Agriculture	0%
Green Energy	11%
Micro-Enterprise	60%
Livestock	29%

PKR **266 Million** disbursed to 5,696 Households through Islamic Micro Finance Program in 5 Districts of Punjab including Multan, Lodhran, Pakpattan, Okara and Jhang Eradicate extreme poverty and ensure economic growth.

The loan disbursement process included a comprehensive verification procedure.

Upon completion of this verification and the filling of Pro notes/security documents as collateral, the loans were officially issued to the beneficiaries.

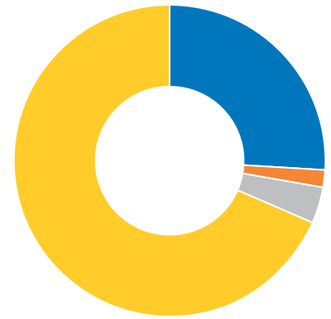
In addition to its economic contributions, FDO is creating a positive environmental impact by promoting clean and green energy solutions. By extending Islamic loans specifically for renewable energy projects, the organization is enabling communities to adopt sustainable energy sources such as solar panels etc. These eco-friendly initiatives not only reduce the reliance on non-renewable resources but also contribute to a healthier and greener environment. Through this dual approach of economic empowerment and environmental sustainability, FDO is playing a pivotal role in fostering a more resilient and prosperous society.

Rukhsana Shahbaz:



"Weaving Resilience into Success"

In Chah Tahliwala, Okara, Rukhsana Shahbaz's life turned upside down when her father passed away, leaving her family in financial despair. Abandoning her college education, she started tailoring at home to support her six siblings, ensuring their education continued despite immense hardships.Her fortunes changed with a Rs. 40,000 interest-free loan from FDO-PPAF. She purchased sewing machines, expanded her business, and employed local women. With rising demand, she secured another loan of Rs. 60,000, starting a ready-to-wear clothing line that gained widespread popularity.Now earning over Rs. 40,000 monthly, Rukhsana has trained 20 women, seven of whom now run their own businesses. Her youngest siblings excel in education, and her family thrives due to her unwavering determination. Rukhsana's journey showcases the strength and potential of empowered women in transforming lives.Rukhsana's story is a testament to the resilience and strength of Pakistani women.



ISLAMIC MICROFINANCE PROGRAMME

Sector Wise Disbursement under "MURABAHA" (Islamic Microfinance Program):

Agriculture	26%
Green Energy	68%
Micro-Enterprise	4%
Livestock	2%

Maryam Rafique:



Meet Maryam Rafique, a courageous woman from Pak Pattan district who's making a difference in her family's life!

Despite facing numerous challenges like poverty, lack of resources, and being uneducated, Maryam decided to take charge and support her family. With no example of a woman running a business in her family, she broke the mold and established a home-based grocery shop with the help of an Interest-Free Loan from our Pak Pattan branch.

Today, Maryam proudly contributes 20-25% of her household expenses and is grateful to FDO and PPAF for their financial assistance. Her story is a testament to the power of courage, hard work, and strong willpower.

Through her unwavering resolve and continuous hard work, she has demonstrated that women are equally capable of contributing to their families' financial well-being. She is grateful to the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund and the Farmer Development Organization for providing opportunities that have significantly improved her family's financial situation. She believes that such programs are essential in empowering women to support their families effectively.

Building Resilience through Improved Food and Nutrition Security



The Food and Nutrition Security Project is a crucial initiative being implemented in 68 villages of two union councils in Rangpur, District Muzaffargarh, Pakistan, with financial support from Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH). The project, launched in September 2023 and planned to run until February 2026, addresses critical food and nutrition security issues in the region. This project operates in a challenging socio-economic and environmental context, targeting vulnerable communities affected by food insecurity, malnutrition, and limited access to clean water, sanitation, and irrigation. Given the project's significant scale and objectives, it is currently ongoing, with substantial progress made in various thematic areas. The project's budget for the period July 2023 to June 2024 has been fully allocated, and expenditures are being closely monitored for efficient implementation.

The project has made notable achievements and strides toward ensuring sustainable food and nutrition security for the target communities. A significant milestone is the establishment of 200 diversified food gardens, aimed at improving dietary intake through the promotion of nutrient-rich foods like pumpkin, soybean, peas, spinach, and fenugreek leaves. These gardens have been planned to operate across two cropping seasons annually—summer and winter—supported by technical assistance in integrated pest management, composting, and land preparation. Seeds, fertilizers, and tools have been distributed to participating households following validation processes. The gardens are expected to have a transformative impact on household nutrition by enhancing the availability of essential nutrients such as protein, vitamin A, and iron.

The project has also demonstrated bio-fortified staple crop production on 200 plots of 1 acre each. Progressive farmers, identified through a rigorous selection process, are cultivating high-yield wheat varieties fortified with critical nutrients. Fertilizers have been procured, and seed reservations are complete to ensure timely planting. These demonstration plots aim to boost food security and agricultural productivity, particularly in the arid zones. Furthermore, a roundtable dialogue on bio-fortified staple crop production was held on July 30, 2024, engaging diverse stakeholders, including agriculture departments, researchers, media, and private agribusinesses. The dialogue successfully raised awareness about bio-fortified seed development and the need for investment in its research, creating a pathway for commercialization and sustainability.

A proactive decision to provide





200 grain storage bins and tarpaulin sheets was made to address the urgent issue of post-harvest losses caused by inadequate storage facilities. These storage solutions, distributed after comprehensive field consultations, protect wheat grains from environmental risks like rain and pests. This intervention has significantly reduced food losses, directly contributing to improved food security and household resilience in lean seasons.

In response to the pressing need for irrigation system rehabilitation, the project has gone beyond its initial target of rehabilitating three irrigation channels and has expanded efforts to include six channels in collaboration with the On-Farm Water Management (OFWM) department. This adjustment was made to address extensive damage and ensure the smooth flow of irrigation water critical for agricultural productivity. Additionally, efforts to introduce Responsive Drip Irrigation (RDI) systems are underway, with consultations being held with national agricultural research institutions to identify feasible and innovative irrigation technologies for arid regions.

The project has also placed significant emphasis on addressing malnutrition. Awareness sessions on the critical 1,000-day window of opportunity were conducted, targeting 153 community groups, including men and women, to reduce malnutrition among children under five. Furthermore, a cascade model of peer-to-peer nutrition education has been implemented. A Training of Trainers (ToT) program was delivered to 20 master trainers from decentralized health authorities, equipping them with the skills to train field staff and community volunteers. As a result, 136 peer-to-peer nutrition education sessions have been conducted, promoting behavioral change in dietary practices at the household level, particularly among pregnant and lactating women and caregivers.

Another major achievement is the formation of six school nutrition clubs in collaboration with the education department. These clubs aim to empower schoolchildren with knowledge about nutrition, enabling them to serve as ambassadors of change within their families and communities. Activities like awareness speeches, competitions, and school gardening are planned to foster engagement and long-term impact.

Addressing the critical issue of safe drinking water, the project is facilitating the installation of RO plants in the target areas, where water sources are brackish and unfit for human consumption. This intervention is expected to improve public health and ensure access to clean water for drinking and cooking, significantly reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases. Additionally, 125 low-cost, gender- and environment-friendly latrines are being constructed in the first phase, with plans to complete 75 more in the second phase. These sanitation facilities serve as model households, inspiring neighboring families to replicate similar improvements.

To combat severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the region, 3,000 households were screened, and 54 malnourished children were referred to Basic Health Units (BHUs) and supported with financial assistance worth PKR 35,000 per case. The project also facilitated the training of BHU staff and community mobilizers on malnutrition screening and counseling. Toolkits were provided to BHUs to ensure continuity in malnutrition screening and treatment.

In its disaster resilience component, the project organized a workshop on capacity building for early warning agencies in collaboration with District Disaster Management Authorities and other stakeholders. This initiative focused on enhancing the existing early warning systems and conducting mock drills to improve disaster preparedness in the target areas.



Improved Resilience through Food and Nutrition(IRFN)



The project aims to improve the nutrition status of 2,000 households in the union councils of Chak Farazi and Aziza Abad, District Muzaffargarh, Punjab and its duration was December 1, 2020 – April 30, 2024 (41 months). It focuses on enhancing the production and consumption of nutritious food, protecting natural resources and indigenous plant species, increasing household incomes, and improving knowledge of nutrition through best environmental and hygiene practices. The initiative also promotes climate-friendly, resource-efficient, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture to support the production and processing of nutrient-rich food.

Through various interventions, the project contributes to increased household incomes, enabling access to nutritious food in markets alongside nutrition and hygiene awareness campaigns. By addressing malnutrition comprehensively, it engages government, civil society, and community organizations to ensure sustainable solutions for food security. Leveraging previous learnings and the LANN+ approach, it fosters multi-sectoral collaboration to address the root causes of malnutrition.

Two pre-interface meetings with the Livestock and Agriculture departments identified service delivery gaps and resulted in action plans. A committee formed during these meetings engaged 56 stakeholders (14 women and 32 men, including farmers, officials, and CBO members). Behavior change communication strategies were implemented through TV and radio programs, covering maternal and child nutrition, while 40 events engaged 435 participants (365 women, 70 men) to develop community food production plans.

Nutritional pre-assessments of 393 children identified 44 severe acute malnutrition (SAM), 82 moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), and 267 healthy cases. SAM cases were referred to basic health units for therapeutic care, while MAM cases received dietary guidance. Role-play sessions reached 801 participants (504 women, 297 men) to promote healthy practices.

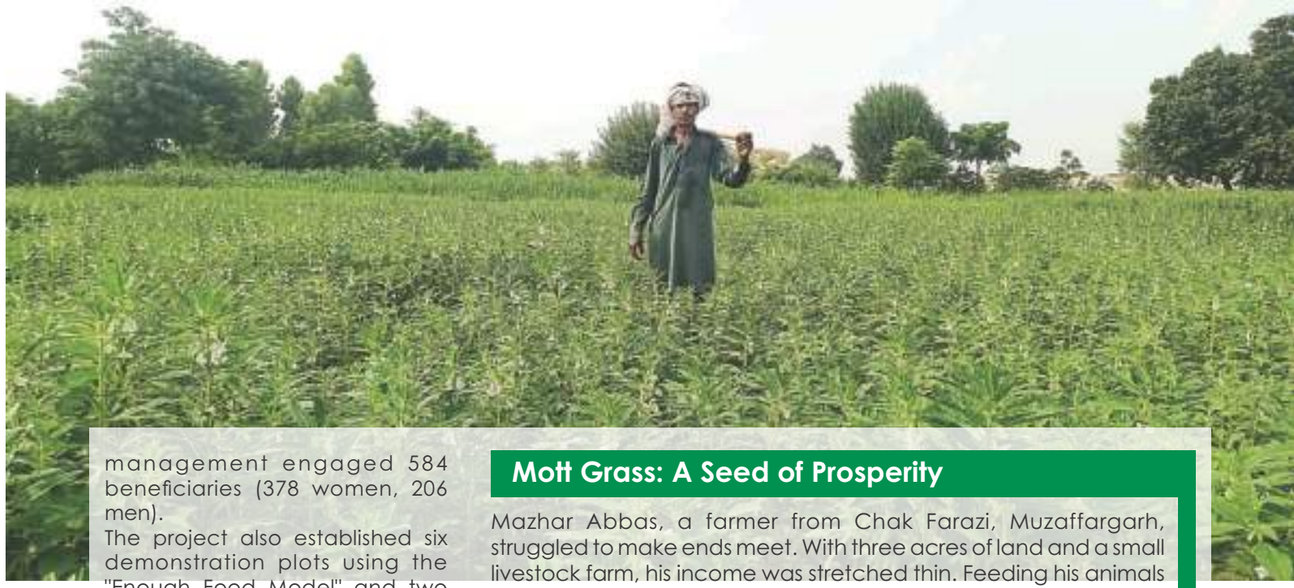
In the WASH component, 80 latrines were constructed, and seven WASH events involved children's clubs through activities like role plays and competitions, engaging 383 participants (195 women, 188 men, and one person with a disability). For agricultural support, 100 progressive farmers from 20 villages established summer vegetable gardens. Hybrid seeds were distributed, with 60 best gardens awarded prizes. Sessions on vegetable garden management engaged 584 beneficiaries (378 women, 206 men).



The project also established six demonstration plots using the "Enough Food Model" and two farmer field schools for 50 farmers (3 women, 47 men). Ten sessions on water, fertilizer, and weed management were conducted. For wheat production, 20 beneficiaries (17 men, 3 women) received certified seeds, and hermetic storage materials were distributed to improve seed storage. Additionally, 40 storage bins were provided, and 10 training sessions on post-harvest management reached 359 community members (170 men, 189 women).

To enhance livestock practices, 269 animals underwent artificial insemination, and 521 animals (253 cows, 127 goats, 141 sheep) received vaccinations. Fodder demonstration plots benefited 194 farmers (136 men, 58 women), and exposure visits introduced improved forage varieties. Seasonal indigenous foods were mapped and revitalized through cooking sessions with 259 participants (21 men, 238 women). Tree plantation campaigns distributed 4,150 plants, including block plantations of lemon and orange trees. Land rehabilitation activities leveled 109 acres for 98 beneficiaries, and zero-tillage awareness sessions engaged 310 farmers. Vocational training empowered 40 individuals (20 men, 20 women) in skills like stitching, beautician work, motorcycle mechanics, and solar installation.

The project holistically addresses malnutrition while promoting sustainable agricultural practices and community resilience.

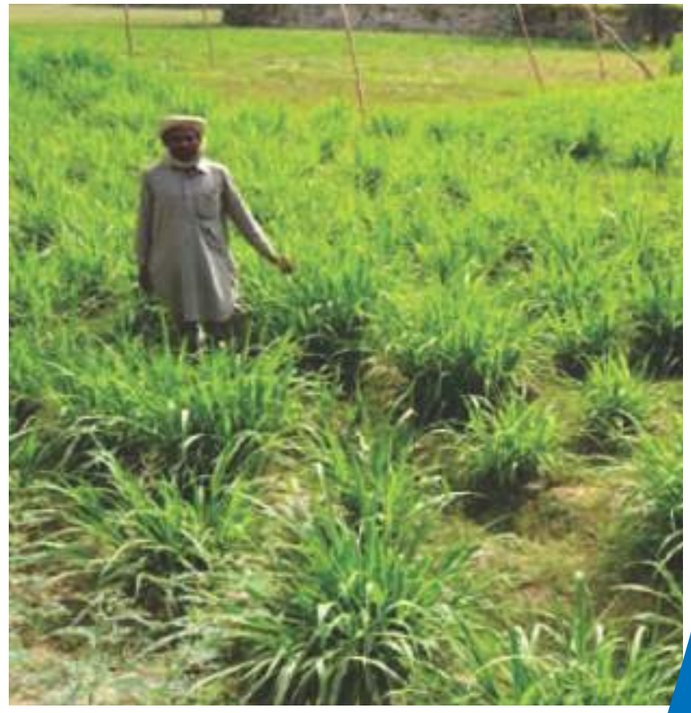


Mott Grass: A Seed of Prosperity

Mazhar Abbas, a farmer from Chak Farazi, Muzaffargarh, struggled to make ends meet. With three acres of land and a small livestock farm, his income was stretched thin. Feeding his animals was expensive, forcing him to spend beyond his means. His monthly milk income of Rs. 24,000 couldn't cover his household expenses of Rs. 28,000, leaving him in constant financial distress.

In March 2021, the Farmers Development Organization (FDO), supported by Welthungerhilfe (WHH), introduced Mott grass to local farmers under the IRFNS LANN+ project. Mazhar cultivated Mott grass on his land, replacing costly market fodder. The impact was remarkable—milk production rose from 8 kg to 12 kg per day, increasing his income to Rs. 36,000 per month.

Now, Mazhar saves on household expenses, has begun his daughters' schooling, and even shares Mott grass seeds with 20 other farmers, spreading its benefits across his community. Mott grass didn't just improve his farm; it transformed his family's future, turning financial hardship into lasting prosperity



She Feeds the World (SFtW)



The Farmers Development Organization (FDO), through its She Feeds the World (SFtW)" project, has made significant strides in enhancing the capacities and livelihoods of smallholder farmers in the 180 villages of districts Vehari and Okara, Punjab. This initiative prioritizes empowering women farmers, promoting climate-smart agriculture, improving nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices, and building community resilience. By adopting innovative approaches like Farmer Field and Business Schools (FFBS), Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), and kitchen gardening, the project is making sustainable agricultural practices more accessible to marginalized communities. The interventions are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring inclusive growth, gender equality, and improved quality of life for vulnerable groups.

The SFtW project has achieved remarkable results during its implementation. Detailed village profiling was conducted for 190 villages, with 55 completed in the current reporting period. This profiling allowed the project team to understand community needs, resources, and dynamics comprehensively, ensuring that project activities are tailored to specific local contexts. These efforts have maximized the impact of interventions and strengthened community mobilization.

To enhance farmers' skills and capacities, 180 FFBS groups were formed in Vehari and Okara, engaging 5,409 farmers, including 2,629 women. These farmers were trained on eight modules focusing on sustainable farming practices and were supported with agricultural inputs for demonstration plots. A total of 198 Community Resource Persons (CRPs) were trained to deliver FFBS modules and facilitate ongoing capacity building within their communities. Additionally, 95 extension workers and 73 government officials were trained on climate-smart agriculture, food security, and nutrition, ensuring institutional support for the project's goals.

The project placed a strong emphasis on women's empowerment, training 180 role model men who established men action groups in their communities to advocate for gender equality and women's rights. These efforts were complemented by events such as the International Women's Day celebrations, which brought together 382 participants from diverse backgrounds to recognize the contributions of women and promote their economic empowerment.

Economic resilience was further strengthened through the formation of 180 VSLAs with 3,892 members, including 1,942 women. These groups collectively saved over 1.5 million PKR, fostering financial security and enabling members to invest in agricultural and livelihood activities. A Farmers' Mela was organized in District Vehari, with 800 participants, providing a platform for awareness-building, knowledge-sharing, and networking among farmers, local stakeholders, and value chain actors.





Through kitchen gardening initiatives, the project trained 1,800 women to establish kitchen gardens on small plots of land. This activity not only enhanced food security by providing chemical-free vegetables but also reduced household expenses on kitchen supplies. Furthermore, the project improved community health and well-being by installing three water filtration plants benefiting over 4,200 people and conducting mobile health camps that reached 800 individuals in District Vehari.

In promoting sustainable agricultural practices, the project organized cross-learning visits to research institutes in Sahiwal, benefiting 104 participants. These visits facilitated knowledge exchange, improved access to quality seeds, and fostered linkages between farmers and research institutions. Additionally, Earth Day celebrations in Vehari engaged 332 participants to raise awareness of climate change and pollution.

The SFtW project has significantly enhanced the resilience of smallholder farmers, particularly women, by equipping them with the skills, resources, and support needed to adopt sustainable practices. Women's empowerment has been at the forefront of the project, with women gaining greater control over productive resources and contributing to household food security through kitchen gardening. The establishment of VSLAs has fostered economic stability, while FFBS and climate-smart agricultural practices have improved productivity and reduced environmental impact.



Story of Women Empowerment



Nageena Ameen, a resident of WB-95, comes from a family of five siblings, faced tough times because of money problems. Her mother passed away, but her father, who was a small farmer, made sure all his kids went to school. This was the start of Nageena's journey to become stronger.

Nageena loved learning and writing, even though people in her village thought certain jobs were only for men, Nageena didn't care. She worked hard on the farm and even learned to ride motorcycles.

Things changed when a group called the FDO team came to Nageena's village. They made a group where Nageena could join a special project called She Feeds the World. This project taught her a lot and made her feel more confident by meeting different kinds of people in Vehari community

Now, Nageena helps her village and five others as a Community Resource Person. She's good at riding motorcycles, so she can easily go to different places to help. Her story shows that if you keep trying and work hard, you can achieve your dreams, no matter how tough things get. She makes proud for her family.

Improving Handwashing Behaviors in 200 Govt Schools of District Lodhran and Kasur



The WASH in Schools Project which duration was **01-07-2023 to 31-03-2024 in Lodhran & Kasur District** improved hygiene practices in 200 schools across Lodhran and Kasur districts, benefiting 40,000 children. The project focused on implementing sustainable WASH models, improving infrastructure, and promoting handwashing behavior.In the initial phase, 30 schools were selected for the installation of handwashing stations and the rehabilitation of WASH facilities. These improvements were celebrated with handover ceremonies, and School Management Committees were trained on maintenance to ensure long-term functionality.A comprehensive behavior change communication (BCC) program engaged school authorities, teachers, and students. Trained teachers led School WASH Clubs, conducted peer education, and organized activities like quizzes and role plays. Educational wall paintings and the distribution of IEC/BCC materials made hygiene education fun and memorable.

The project's impact was amplified through a mass media campaign, reaching over 1 million children via platforms like Facebook, YouTube, and local TV.To ensure sustainability, WASH facility audits were conducted, and key findings were shared with stakeholders. Exposure visits for government officials showcased the project's success, encouraging future investments in WASH.

This project demonstrated a replicable model for improving handwashing behaviors, with the potential to create lasting impact in other districts.

Transforming Hygiene Practices

In the heart of Lodhran, Government Girls Elementary School 100 M faced persistent challenges in maintaining hygiene. Substandard wash facilities and a lack of health hygiene kits contributed to frequent illnesses and high absenteeism among students.

To tackle these pressing issues, the Farmers Development Organization (FDO) launched the *Improving Hand Washing Behaviors in 200 Schools* project in 2023. The initiative focused on enhancing handwashing practices and improving hygiene standards across schools in Lodhran and Qasoor.

Key actions included:

- Renovating wash facilities to provide clean water and functional sanitation.
- Establishing a Children's Club, empowering students as ambassadors for hygiene.
- Conducting regular health and hygiene training sessions for students and teachers, emphasizing handwashing techniques and sanitation practices.

The transformation was remarkable. With functional washrooms and access to clean water, the risk of waterborne diseases reduced significantly. Students, trained through the Children's Club and hygiene sessions, became advocates of better health practices, spreading awareness within their school and community.

Absenteeism rates dropped as students embraced a healthier environment, enabling regular attendance and active learning. This intervention not only improved hygiene practices but also fostered a sense of pride and ownership among the students.

FDO's initiative proved that small yet strategic actions could bring about lasting change. Today, Government Girls Elementary School 100 M Lodhran stands as a model of improved hygiene and health, inspiring other institutions to prioritize student well-being and create a conducive learning environment.





THEME 2
Strengthening Peace and Democratic Governance

CSO BRIDGE Programme

From January 2020 to June 2024, the EU-funded project revitalized **20** Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across 10 Union Councils in Multan, focusing on inclusivity **11531** direct beneficiaries with **70% youth** representation from diverse backgrounds, including women, PWDs, transgender individuals, and minorities. Through strengthened partnerships with government agencies, private sector entities, and networks like TAGs and DCSN, the project enhanced collaboration and resource sharing.

The successful launch of Citizen Information Material at the DC Office Multan done and securing small grants for **5** CSOs after targeted capacity-building. The project registered 240 youth through improved local government liaisons and partnered with stakeholders like Health and Education Departments, Multan Waste Management, and TEVTA. It aligned skills development initiatives with existing EU programs, training **360** youth in trades such as web design, digital marketing, tailoring, and mobile repairing, with a focus on gender inclusivity.

Support for youth entrepreneurship, including business development training and access to micro-finance, led to new ventures and job creation. Certified trainees were linked to business services, job placements, and youth schemes, enhancing their employment prospects. The project also equipped **40** youth with modern technologies, boosting productivity and resilience, thus laying a sustainable foundation for ongoing community development in Multan.

During project, a structured assessment was carried out to measure the progress against related CDPs of each CSO and reporting against indicators. The purpose of this assessment is to see the performance of CSOs organizational and programmatic capacities & delivery at the organizational level have improved from scale 1 to 5" and output indicator 1.3, "Number of CSOs from indicator 1.2 have improved technical & programmatic capacity on a scale of 1 to 5 by at least 3 points.

A structured questionnaire was filled out during the assessment as used in the capacity need assessment and all documents were reviewed thoroughly. Overall, the assessment result showed that 3 CSOs are at Scale (2.1-3), 10 CSOs are Scaled up at (3-4.0) while the remaining 7 CSOs has improved their capacity from scale 1 to 5 (4.1-5). Following are the section-wise findings of the structures.





A Journey of Inspiration

Muhammad Irfan, a resident of Union Council Shabab Colony, faced significant challenges due to a physical disability that disrupted his education and limited his personal and professional growth. Determined to achieve self-reliance, Irfan's potential was recognized by a Civil Society Organization (CSO) under the European Union-funded BRIDGE Program. Facilitated by the Farmers Development Organization, the program aimed to empower individuals with disabilities through skill development and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Irfan was enrolled in a six-month training program at The Brilliant Institute, where he gained essential skills aligned with his interests. Upon completion, he received a government-authorized certification and a business starter kit. Armed with these resources, Irfan established a small shop in his locality, which became a source of financial independence and personal pride.

Muhammad Irfan's story highlights the transformative impact of inclusive skill development programs and community support. His journey from dependency to self-sufficiency showcases the resilience of individuals like him and the importance of creating opportunities for marginalized groups to thrive and contribute meaningfully to society.



Electoral Quality and Inclusiveness in Pakistan (EQuIP)



The *Electoral Quality and Inclusiveness in Pakistan (EQuIP)* project, funded by the Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability (TDEA), has been actively implemented from March 2021 and will continue until February 2025. Covering six districts—Sahiwal, Okara, Pakpattan, Khanewal, Multan, and Lodhran. The project aims to enhance the network of the Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN) at the tehsil level in the Multan and Sahiwal regions.

The initiative has successfully expanded the reach and capacity of tehsil-level member organizations, facilitating comprehensive election observation during local bodies and by-elections. Key efforts included boosting voter turnout and increasing the participation of women in the electoral process. The project worked closely with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and NADRA to strategize on enhancing women voter registration. Additionally, capacity-building sessions for political parties and media outlets were conducted to improve understanding and reporting of the electoral process.

From July 2023 to June 2024, the project reached 1,281 direct beneficiaries, including 951 women, 299 men, 30 minority and 1 PWD. During this period, election observation for both General Elections 2024 and various by-elections was conducted. Moreover, four regional network meetings were organized with active participation from 20 tehsil network members, further strengthening the collaborative efforts for a transparent electoral process. With the financial and technical support of TDEA, the Farmers Development Organization has effectively implemented the project, driving substantial progress in promoting electoral inclusiveness and quality across the targeted districts.



Women's Enjoyment of Rights, Empowerment and Leadership (WE'RE Leaders)



The *Women's Enjoyment of Rights, Empowerment, and Leadership (WE'RE Leaders)* project was implemented by the Farmers Development Organization with financial support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and technical assistance from the Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability (TDEA), from February 2020 to December 2023 in Okara. It was an initiative aimed at enhancing political empowerment and advancing the rights of women, particularly young, marginalized, and at-risk groups. The project more focuses on creating gender-responsive and inclusive governance systems, strengthening democratic institutions, and building the capacity of civil society organizations.

Throughout its duration, the project facilitated the registration of 8,210 women for CNICs and voter registration, with an additional 9,000 women listed for the same purpose. These efforts have significantly increased women's participation in the political process. Capacity-building activities included training tehsil partners on "Gender-based Governance Monitoring," equipping local leaders to better address gender disparities. Additionally, a second round of training for district-level journalists focused on "Gender-Sensitive Election Reporting," aiming to improve media coverage of women's issues during elections. Civil society organizations also received training on "Gender-based Initiatives," enhancing their ability to advocate for women's rights and empowerment effectively.

To further raise community awareness, gender-sensitive social action plans were implemented at the field level, addressing critical issues related to gender equality and empowering women to actively participate in local governance. The WE'RE Leaders project has made notable progress in fostering a more inclusive environment where women can enjoy their rights and take on leadership roles in their communities.



Promoting Social Cohesion in Punjab



Over 18 months, the project, implemented in Multan and Bahawalpur, achieved significant milestones in peacebuilding, countering violent extremism (CVE/PCVE), and fostering social cohesion through targeted engagement with diverse community stakeholders, including youth, educational institutions, and government entities.

A two-day capacity-building training equipped **61 Community Stakeholder Group (CSG) members** (31 males, 30 females) from public universities, educational institutes, district peace committees, civil society organizations, media, and minority groups with tools to promote social cohesion and counter extremism. These trained members served as peace advocates in their respective communities, fostering dialogue and collaboration.

CSG members organized **12 monthly meetings**, maintaining consistent engagement among the 60 trained participants to address extremism and social conflict collaboratively. They identified **400 at-risk youth** (200 females, 200 males) across the two districts and completed youth assessments to address their social, economic, and emotional challenges, ensuring targeted interventions. Personalized counseling sessions conducted by trained counselors helped the youth develop resilience and embrace peaceful alternatives to extremism.

The project team formed **two government groups** of 18 members each, comprising representatives from government departments, schoolteachers, and religious madrasa leaders, with 40% female participation. These groups facilitated collaboration among diverse stakeholders to promote peace and social harmony.

In partnership with **four government colleges**, orientation sessions engaged **80 students** (40 females, 40 males) to empower them as change agents in their communities. Celebratory events, including **International Youth Day**, **International Minority Day**, **Pakistan's Independence Day**, and a **Tree Plantation Campaign**, further promoted inclusivity, national pride, and environmental stewardship, fostering community ownership and solidarity.

These efforts have significantly enhanced community resilience, strengthened stakeholder collaboration, and laid a solid foundation for sustainable peacebuilding initiatives in Bahawalpur and Multan.





THEME 3
Improving Social & Legal Services

Social Education Enterprises

Transforming Lives Through Quality Education

In its ongoing commitment to empowering communities, the Farmers Development Organization (FDO), with financial support from the Japan Embassy, took a significant step in Union Council Nawabpur by establishing a community school. This initiative aimed to ensure access to quality education for children from the most marginalized families.

In 2016, FDO enhanced this effort by upgrading the Chenab Community School into a franchise of the Country School System, renaming it "Shahjehan Campus." This transformation introduced contemporary education to 107 community children, many of whom had been deprived of their basic right to education.

The Shahjehan Campus operates with low-cost expenditures and subsidized tuition fees, offering exceptional educational quality. Equipped with modern facilities such as:

- A continuous electricity supply powered by a solar system
- Modern computer labs
- LED displays in junior classrooms
- Safe, clean toilets
- A playground

Over 40% of students currently benefit from tuition fee discounts of up to 60%, ensuring affordability for families in need.

To further expand the reach and quality of education, FDO is actively mobilizing resources to introduce advanced facilities, including:

- Transport services
- Upgrading the school to accommodate classes up to Grade 8
- Establishing a digitized library

This initiative underscores FDO's dedication to bridging educational gaps and empowering the next generation with the tools they need to thrive.



Gender Based Violence



FDO, in collaboration with The Asia Foundation, launched a transformative initiative in July 2023 to address gender-based violence (GBV) across seven districts of Punjab—Multan, Layyah, Bahawalpur, Sahiwal, Pakpattan, Vehari, and Okara. The project aimed to strengthen Pakistan's justice institutions to effectively process GBV cases while prioritizing the needs of survivors. Additionally, it sought to mobilize community networks, enhance public awareness, and foster accountability to reduce the incidence of GBV and mitigate its impact on society and individual victims.

Over the course of nine months, FDO conducted extensive community-level activities in coordination with stakeholders, including government departments, educational institutions, and legal professionals. A significant milestone of this project was raising awareness among women about their **legal rights** and equipping them with the knowledge to seek justice. Many women, who had never before participated in such initiatives due to societal norms and restrictions, enthusiastically engaged in the activities. They expressed profound appreciation for having **female lawyers accessible within their communities**, who not only provided free legal aid but also built strong relationships with community members.

Community meetings, legal aid camps, and awareness sessions conducted in schools and villages brought about a significant change in how GBV survivors viewed their circumstances. Participants, including female students, shared concerns about issues like workplace harassment and cybercrimes. They gained clarity on how to protect themselves and where to seek support, often expressing relief and empowerment. For many, this was their first interaction with a formal support system, including **government institutions such as Dar-ul-Aman, Women Protection Authority, and Sanatzar.**

The project faced challenges in certain conservative areas, where societal norms discouraged women from seeking legal recourse for domestic violence or other issues. However, through persistent community engagement, FDO fostered dialogues that encouraged participation and shifted perceptions. Women began to feel empowered to voice their concerns, and many cases of GBV were successfully addressed through free legal aid provided by lawyers who committed to continuing their support even after the project concluded.

By the end of the project, the impact was evident. Women who previously feared societal backlash or isolation were now equipped with the tools to challenge violence. **Strong community networks were established**, and survivors began living improved lives after receiving justice and support. While much work remains to further reduce GBV and empower communities, the project demonstrated the transformative potential of mobilizing legal and social resources to address this critical issue.

This initiative not only improved the capacity of justice systems to handle GBV cases but also set a precedent for sustainable community-driven solutions, leaving a lasting legacy in the targeted districts.

Empowering Women through Legal Aid



Dissolution of Marriage: Rehana Mudassar Vs. Mudassar Mazhar

District Multan

Under FDO's *Gender-Based Violence Reduction Project*, a mobile legal aid camp at Chowk Shaheedan provided free legal assistance to GBV survivors. Rehana Mudassar, a middle-class woman, sought help after enduring years of domestic abuse. Expelled from her home and denied financial support, she turned to FDO for legal aid to file for *Khula*.

FDO's resource person, Advocate Arfa Arif, took up her case pro bono. On **November 12, 2023,** a plaint for dissolution of marriage was filed. By **November 27, 2023,** the Family Court decreed in Rehana's favor after her husband admitted he had no objections.

This success empowered Rehana to assert her rights despite societal pressures, inspiring other women in similar situations. The case highlighted FDO's dedication to providing justice for GBV survivors, raising awareness about women's rights, and creating a positive community impact.

Empowering Lives through Dastageer Legal Aid



We are incredibly grateful for the thoughtful and generous individual Ms.Zahra Sajjad Zaidi-Board Member of FDO a distinguished human rights activist and lawyer, who has contributed to Dastageer Justice Forum FDO through her free legal aid services. She has been working with FDO tirelessly to make a meaningful impact on the communities in Multan and Muzaffargarh since 2017.

Over the past year, 28 cases involving property disputes, divorce, child custody, gender-based violence, and other issues were successfully referred for legal support and resolved.

Her enduring legacy continues to empower women, particularly the vulnerable, by raising awareness of their rights and improving their lives since.

A Journey of Justice and Hope:



The Story of Beenish YasminIn the heart of Mailsi, a mother's love and determination led to a monumental victory for her family. Beenish Yasmin, a woman of remarkable resilience, had been living a life filled with hardship and separation from her children. Her husband, working abroad in Saudi Arabia, had been sending money to her father-in-law instead of supporting her directly. Meanwhile, two of her three sons were being raised in her father-in-law's custody against her will. But the pain of this separation was most profoundly felt when her youngest son, who had been diagnosed with cancer, was unable to receive the care he desperately needed. Beenish knew that she was the one who could give him the care and attention he deserved, but the battle to reunite with her children seemed insurmountable.With her emotional and financial struggles, Beenish found herself at a crossroads. The anguish of being unable to care for her ill son, compounded by her husband's neglect in terms of supporting her, led her to seek justice. She wanted her children back, not only for their well-being but also to ensure her son with cancer would be under the care of a mother who could nurture him through his illness.This is where the Farmers Development Organization (FDO) stepped in.FDO's dedicated team, including the compassionate Dastageer, took Beenish's case under their wing. With the help of Mr. Rana Zafar, an advocate in Mailsi, FDO sought to restore the family's unity through the legal system. They understood that justice was not only about legal rights, but about ensuring the dignity and well-being of individuals who often go unheard. With the FDO's unwavering support, Beenish's case was taken to court, and against all odds, a victory was secured.The court ruled in Beenish's favor, and the two sons who had been under the custody of their grandfather were returned to her. In a significant step forward, her husband also agreed to balance his support between his parents and his wife, acknowledging the importance of bearing the educational and living expenses for the children and his wife's health and welfare.This victory was not just a legal triumph; it was a win for family unity, maternal love, and the rights of women. FDO's intervention helped a mother reclaim her role in the lives of her children, and her sick son was finally able to receive the care he needed. The achievement stands as a testament to FDO's commitment to social justice, family empowerment, and the wellbeing of marginalized communities.For Beenish Yasmin, this victory was life-changing. She is now able to care for her children with the dignity they deserve. The financial burden is lifted, and her family is finally reunited. This case serves as an inspiring reminder of the difference an organization like FDO can make in the lives of individuals, and the lasting impact of legal support and community empowerment.The success of Beenish's case is a proud milestone for FDO, illustrating the organization's relentless pursuit of justice and the deep, transformative change it continues to bring to the lives of many like her.In the end, it was not just about a legal victory; it was about restoring a family's hope, and showing that even in the face of adversity, the fight for justice and the love of a mother can overcome all obstacles.

THEME 4
Disaster Risk Reduction to Build Resilience

Supporting Heatwave-affected Communities

In 2024, the vulnerable communities of Rahimyar Khan were faced with a extreme heatwave while FDO and its donor WHH have provided lifesaving support to 242894 persons including male, female, children, transgender and PWDs.



FDO engaged multiple stakeholders, including government departments, community-based organizations, paramedic staff, and youth volunteers, to coordinate a robust response. The establishment of partnerships through **MoUs and ToPs** streamlined collaboration, clearly defining roles and responsibilities. This approach enabled effective resource sharing and enhanced coordination among all parties involved, ensuring timely and efficient response efforts.

To enhance public awareness and preparedness, FDO conducted extensive **awareness campaigns** using billboards, social media, and direct community outreach. Early warning messages were disseminated, reaching a wide audience and providing critical information about heatwave risks and preventive measures. The use of **Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials**, featuring clear and visually engaging content, played a pivotal role in conveying key messages and fostering behavioral changes across the target communities.

FDO established strategically located **cooling stations** in high-traffic areas, providing immediate relief and access to clean drinking water. This intervention proved vital, especially for outdoor laborers, significantly reducing the risk of heatstroke. The positive feedback from beneficiaries highlighted the importance of this life-saving measure. Additionally, the distribution of **heatwave protection kits**, including ORS, water bottles, umbrellas, and hats, empowered individuals to take proactive steps against heat-related illnesses. The high utilization of these kits contributed to a noticeable decrease in heatstroke cases, demonstrating improved community resilience.

The project strengthened the capacity of **Rescue 1122** by equipping them with essential kits and materials tailored for heat-related emergencies. This support enhanced their ability to respond effectively, playing a crucial role in saving lives and minimizing health risks during peak heat periods.

FDO renovated two **heatstroke centers**, improving infrastructure and increasing capacity to treat heat-related cases. The upgraded facilities provided better working conditions for healthcare staff, leading to more efficient patient care. Community feedback indicated high satisfaction with the improved services, reflecting increased trust in the local healthcare system.

Responding to the needs of people affected by the Heatwave

Through these targeted interventions, FDO's project successfully built the resilience of vulnerable communities against heatwaves. By engaging local stakeholders, raising public awareness, and enhancing emergency response mechanisms, the project contributed to safeguarding the health and well-being of thousands of individuals in the region. The comprehensive approach ensured not only immediate relief but also laid the groundwork for long-term preparedness against future heatwave events.



Food Support for Vulnerable Communities



Food Distribution Project, funded by the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) and implemented by the Farmers Development Organization (FDO) which duration was **one month** in **Multan (Union Council Jhakhar Pur and Muzaffarabad)**, aimed to provide essential nutritional support to ultra-poor and vulnerable households in the marginalized communities of Union Councils (UC) Muzaffarabad and UC Jhakhar Pur in District Multan. The project's goal was to alleviate the hardships of the most disadvantaged families by distributing ration bags containing nutritious food items.

In just one month, the project successfully benefited 1,284 individuals from the two Union Councils. By addressing immediate food security needs, the project aligned with PPAF's mission to transform the lives of the poor and contribute to a more equitable and prosperous Pakistan. The distribution of ration bags directly impacted the lives of families, ensuring they had access to essential nourishment during difficult times.

PPAF's trust in FDO as the implementing partner reflects the organization's strong commitment to the mission of poverty alleviation. Over the last two decades, FDO has gained credibility among international donors, demonstrating excellence in transparent fund management. This reputation has positioned FDO as a leader in poverty graduation and financial inclusion, enabling the organization to drive meaningful change at the grassroots level.

The generous support from our donors has been pivotal in enhancing the capabilities of local communities and implementing agents. By empowering these communities, FDO has been able to foster sustainable development, build strong international partnerships, and lead initiatives that bring about lasting social change. Through these efforts, FDO continues to champion the mission of creating a more equitable and prosperous society for all.



Emergency Response in Flood



In the face of unprecedented population displacement due to the August 2023 floods, FDO swiftly mobilized relief efforts to support affected communities in South and Central Punjab. By addressing the urgent needs of vulnerable populations through the distribution of **927 winterized kits** and conducting **40 hygiene education sessions on hygiene practices**, FDO's targeted intervention helped mitigate the health risks posed by the disaster. Special attention was given to marginalized groups, including women-headed households and ethnic minorities, ensuring inclusive and equitable assistance in severely impacted areas.

Positive behavioral changes were observed, especially in waste management and cleanliness around living spaces.

Community Transformation Spotlight

After attending FDO's hygiene sessions, they became aware of the health risks associated with these practices. They took immediate steps to establish designated garbage disposal points and relocated sleeping areas away from the cattle. These changes resulted in a significant reduction in illness among children and the elderly, markedly improving the overall health and well-being of the community.

This success illustrates the immediate and lasting impact of FDO's hygiene education efforts, showcasing how small behavioral changes can lead to substantial improvements in public health, especially in flood-affected and vulnerable areas.



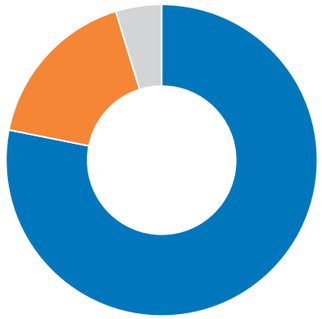
HUMAN & FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Human Resources



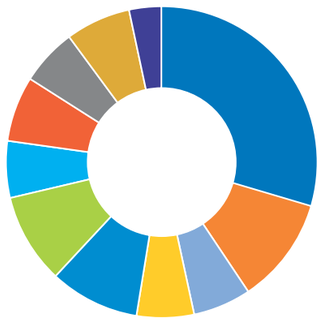
GENDER INCLUSIVE STAFF COMPOSITION

Total Staff	118
Male Staff	92
Females Staff	26



FEMALE REPRESENTATION

Total Staff	118
Over all Female Staff	26
Females in Management	7



TOTAL STAFF IN 2024 PER GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Central Office	35
Vehari Office	11
Okara Office	11
Bahawalpur Office	7
DG Khan Office	7
Muzaffargarh Office	13
Loan Centre Pakpattan	4
Loan Centre Depalpur	8
Loan Centre Jhang	7
Loan Centre Basti Malook	8
Loan Centre Multan	7

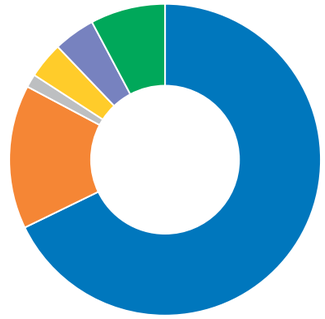
Financial Resources



EXPENDITURE

Programme Expenditure	91%
Administrative and General Expenditure	9%

- REVENUE INCREASE: We received 417 million in support in fiscal year 2024, up from 394 million in fiscal year 2023.
- Total FY24 expenditures: 417 million Our fiscal year ran from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.



REVENUE

Livelihood Enhancement for Disadvantaged	68%
Administrative and General Expenditure	8%
Programme Expenditure	4%
Islamic Microfinance	4%
Disaster/Emergency Response	1%
Improved Governance of Social Services	15%



PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE

What areas of work did this funding support?

Islamic Microfinance	13%
Disaster Emergency Response	11%
Improved Governance of Social Services	40%
Livelihood Enhancement for Disadvantaged	36%

Networking

Our Supporters

Thanks to our stakeholders, including the donors whose contributions have played a vital role in FDO's continued prosperity.

Collaborating with diverse alliances and networks allows us to unite in pursuit of a common goal. The advantages of proactive networking are numerous and crucial for upholding standards and mounting influence to achieve a common cause. We are active members of various alliances and networks on local, national, and international levels to contribute to various developmental initiatives. By actively engaging with different alliances and networks, we can collectively advocate for significant changes in social, political, economic, cultural, health and safety, legal, and other important matters on a broader scale. Following are the major networks we are part of:

- Human Resource & Development Network (HRDN)
- Core Humanitarian Standards Alliance (CHS Alliance)
- Free And Fair Election Network (FAFEN)
- Scaling Up Nutrition-Civil Society Alliance (SUN-CSA)
- National Humanitarian Network (NHN)
- World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA)
- START Network
- UN Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC)
- Punjab Civil Society Network PCSN

Stakeholders & Partnerships

For the past 25 years, FDO has been steadfast in its commitment to collaborative growth, recognizing that an organization cannot flourish in isolation when seeking to make a significant impact. FDO's journey has been marked by the establishment of robust linkages with diverse stakeholders, extensive collaboration with numerous donors and funding agencies, and dedicated contributions to national, international, and sustainable development goals (SDGs). This remarkable achievement is attributable to FDO's strong relationships with donors, civil society organizations, line authorities, firms, institutes, and other stakeholders, ensuring the effective delivery of products and services, streamlined operations, and enhanced value within the community network.

As FDO continues to expand its business horizons, the organization is grateful for the unwavering support of its constantly growing list of stakeholders and partners. Their presence has been instrumental in navigating the evolving landscape of growth, and FDO expresses sincere gratitude for their enduring commitment throughout the remarkable journey of expansion and development.

Our Stakeholders and Partners

Celebration of National & International Days

In 2024, Farmers Development Organization (FDO) organized and celebrated several national and international days across multiple projects and locations to raise awareness, foster community engagement, and promote sustainable development. Below is a consolidated overview of key events

International Women's Day 2024



FDO celebrated International Women's Day under various projects in District Vehari, Okara, and Muzaffargarh. Events were held on March 8 and 9 with themes like *"Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress"* and *"Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality."* Over **500 participants**, including government officials, civil society members, students, and community leaders, participated. These events aimed to recognize women's achievements, advocate for gender equality, and inspire collective action for a more inclusive society.

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence



From November 25 to December 10, FDO marked the 16 Days of Activism campaign through targeted awareness sessions, panel discussions, and interactive role plays. Events engaged over **250 participants**, focusing on addressing gender-based violence and promoting solutions for its elimination. Collaborative sessions with men and women emphasized societal responsibilities and actionable steps for creating a violence-free community.

Earth Day 2024



On April 22, FDO celebrated Earth Day in Vehari under the theme *"Planet vs. Plastics" in which total 332 participants were engaged including 315 female and 17 male*. Activities included awareness sessions, speeches, and art competitions, emphasizing the harmful effects of plastic pollution. A tree plantation drive symbolized community commitment to environmental renewal, and collaborations with local municipal committees highlighted the power of collective action for sustainability.

World Breast Feeding Week 2023



FDO celebrated World Breastfeeding Week in District Multan, Vehari, Okara, Bahawalpur, DG Khan and Muzaffargarh engaging over 603 **individuals** through awareness sessions. The event highlighted the nutritional benefits of breastfeeding for mothers and children, aiming to promote maternal and child health.

World Food Day



World Food Day was celebrated on October 16 across multiple locations, including Vehari, Multan, and Muzaffargarh, under various projects. The events engaged communities in discussions on food security and hunger eradication, with over **150 participants** benefiting from the sessions.

International Youth Day and Minority Day



FDO celebrated International Youth Day and International Minority Day in collaboration with local stakeholders. Youth-focused events promoted rights awareness and policy advocacy, while Minority Day events emphasized inclusion, respect, and equal opportunities for all ethnic and cultural groups.

World Toilet Day 2023



World Toilet Day was celebrated in District Muzaffargarh & Lodhran. The event focused on raising awareness about the global sanitation crisis and the importance of toilets in promoting health and reducing open defecation. Over 435 **participants,** including men, women, and children, engaged in discussions emphasizing the necessity of safely managed sanitation to prevent diarrheal diseases and improve hygiene practices.

World Handwashing Day 2023



FDO celebrated Global Hand-washing & World Hand washing Day in District Lodhran , Kasur and Muzaffargarh. Purpose of these celebrations was to highlight the significance of handwashing with soap and water to prevent diseases. Interactive sessions and demonstrations emphasized key moments for handwashing, such as before eating and after using the restroom. The event engaged 1,208 participants, reinforcing the importance of hygiene for better health outcomes.



On February 10, FDO celebrated World Pulses Day under the IRFNS project to promote the nutritional and environmental benefits of pulses such as chickpeas, dry beans, and lentils. The event in District Muzaffargarh educated **76 participants (33 men and 43 women)** about how pulses can enhance global food security, build soil health, and combat malnutrition. Discussions also encouraged the inclusion of pulses in local diets for improved health and sustainable farming practices.



World Water Day, celebrated on March 22 under the IRFNS project, emphasized the urgent need to address the global water crisis. In UC Chak Farazi, **60 participants (32 men and 28 women)** discussed the importance of water conservation and the Sustainable Development Goal of achieving water and sanitation for all by 2030. Interactive activities promoted practical steps for sustainable water use in households and agriculture.



On March 21, FDO marked International Day of Forests under the IRFNS project in District Muzaffargarh. The event raised awareness about the role of forests in environmental sustainability, poverty eradication, and food security. A total of **49 participants (21 men and 28 women)** joined discussions and tree plantation activities, emphasizing the importance of protecting forest ecosystems for future generations.



World Farmers Day was celebrated on December 12 under the IRFNS and BRIFNS projects in UC Chak Farazi. The event highlighted the importance of the farming profession and the challenges faced by farmers worldwide. Discussions centered on improving farming practices, addressing farmers' issues, and ensuring food security. A total of **42 farmers participated**, sharing their experiences and identifying solutions to enhance agricultural productivity and livelihoods.

List of Abbreviations

FDO	Farmers Development Organization
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
FCRM	Feedback Complaints and Response Mechanism
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
BHU	Basic Health Unit
DDMA	District Disaster Management Authority
OFWM	On-Farm Water Management
NARC	National Agricultural Research Center
RO	Reverse Osmosis
FFBS	Farmer Field Business Schools
VSLAs	Village Savings and Loan Associations
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EU	European Union
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
TAGs	Technical Advisory Groups
DCSN	District Civil Society Networks
DC	District Commissioner
CNIC	Computerized National Identity Card
TDEA	Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
NADRA	National Database and Registration Authority
FAFEN	Free and Fair Election Network
GAC	Global Affairs Canada
WE'RE	Women's Enjoyment of Rights, Empowerment, and Leadership
CVE/PCVE	Countering Violent Extremism/Preventing Counter Violent Extremism
CSG	Community Stakeholder Group
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
WHH	Welthungerhilfe
MoUs	Memoranda of Understanding
ToPs	Terms of Partnership
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
PPAF	Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
UC	Union Council

Our People, Our Priority













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