

# Women Access to Justice, Multan, Vehari and Kasur

## A. Objective

To improve access of women to justice and sensitize government officials of their obligation to protect and promote women's rights, and to promote rule of law in the society in order to counter ideological and theological practices.

## B. Scope of Services

Project activities are an amalgamation of KAP techniques model (**Knowledge, Attitude and Practice**). For improving **knowledge**, a set of awareness-raising activities have been planned on various formal and informal justice providing systems and women legal rights. For **attitudinal change**, mobilization and advocacy have been planned. For **practice**, provision of free legal aid, advice and referral services are targeted.

The awareness raising and advocacy activities consist of union council meetings with communities, information dissemination meetings with women councillors, public dialogue forums with formal and informal justice providers, press campaign on legal information through Urdu press, and publications to disseminate required information to stakeholders.

Capacity building activities consist of gender sensitization training with the students of police training institute, probation/parole officers, court officials, police and key local government officials to improve understanding of the officials on human rights, particularly women rights.

Service provision activities consist of Project Support Committee, Alliance for Women Rights, District Support Center, Mobile Legal Team by holding Open Courts, visits to district jail, and Legal Information Centre at the court premises to provide legal support/referral services. Documentation of key results and Bench Mark Report on legal needs of community women and status of violence on women.

The Project will be managed through CCHD Lahore Head Office which shall act as management, coordinating and monitoring unit of the project.

Project Support Committee (PSC) comprises the District Ombudsperson, representative of Social Welfare and Women Development Department, police, parliamentarians, local government representatives, members of Bar Association, members of Musalihat Anjuman (marriage/family reconciliation committees working at UC level, usually to settle family disputes). The PSC will work at two levels: 1) provide advisory support to the district project team including AWR and Mobile Legal Team; and 2) provide support to the AWR members and Mobile Legal Team in providing justice to marginalised women. The committee will meet quarterly. Organisation of their meetings will be the responsibility of the Lahore Office staff.

District level project activities will be carried out through District Support Centre (DSC). The DSC will comprise a lawyers and one project officer. 2 more lawyers will be recruited on part time basis as Mobile Legal Team members. Lawyers shall have a minimum of 3-5 year working experience, legal information centre in-charge shall have legal educational background and project officer shall have 3-5 year experience of working in the development sector. The DSC team will provide free-of-cost legal advice to women at four levels;

- ◆ through their office space where marginalized women will visit to attain legal advice and referral;
- ◆ by holding Open Courts in union councils;
- ◆ by visiting district jail with the AWR members;
- ◆ by providing legal and other referral information through the information dissemination centre.

The district project team will also mobilise and organise Alliance for Women Rights and conduct their regular meetings, besides all other activities in the district.

Members for Alliance for Women Rights (AWR) will be identified from the district pool of experts, activists, and notables. These members will consist of NGOs/CBOs, lawyers, women councillors and media personnel. Every effort will be made to ensure representation of women and minority groups in these alliances. A one-time training programme will be conducted to improve their skills on advocacy and understanding on women issues. The alliance will work in close collaboration with members of Musalihat Anjuman, the Public Safety Commission, District Ombudsperson and other actors involved in the provision of justice through identifying and reporting of incidences of women rights violation to the relevant authority. They will act as both support and monitoring mechanism to ensure provision of timely justice in an effective manner. They will meet monthly to discuss past experiences and future strategies.