

Community Participation for School Improvement in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province

Through Humqadam-School Construction and Rehabilitation Programme (SCRP), UK aid and Australian Government is encouraging communities to earnestly take up ownership in school improvement efforts.

In rural District Charsadda, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, where the girls' primary enrolment rate stands at just 29%, access to education for girls is a challenge. Government Girls Primary School (GGPS) Sargand Killi was in a state of utter disrepair and during the monsoon the grounds often flooded, resulting in a high rate of absenteeism when it rains.



GGPS Sargand Killi before and after Humqadam interventions
Photo: Humqadam

Humqadam-SCRP constructed two additional classrooms and rehabilitated four existing toilets, bringing a much needed reprieve to 103 students. In a bid to encourage a sustainable and inclusive education environment, Humqadam engaged the local community through a participatory approach, and facilitated the formation of a Community Committee for School Infrastructure (CCSI).

“Humqadam’s intervention has not only helped us to transform our school, but also involved the community to underscore the importance of girls’ education” said the Principal, Ms. Shazia.

The CCSI promptly took note of the absenteeism during flooding, and addressed the issue. The community reused the bricks dismantled from roof treatment during rehabilitation work to create a paved pathway from the school gate to the building. This simple, yet effective solution eased the problem of absenteeism and the school has gained 50 new admissions.



Pathway constructed from repurposed roofing bricks

Humqadam-SCRP is largest the UK Aid infrastructure programme in the world, with significant contribution by the Australian Government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. As of June 2017 Humqadam has constructed **1,151** new classrooms and rehabilitated **881** classrooms in **392** schools. This programme is a part of the **£420** million [Punjab Education Support Programme \(PESP\) II](#) and the **£283** million [Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Education Sector Programme \(KESP\)](#), large and ambitious programmes which represent a collaborative effort between DFID, Australian Government (contribution in KP province only), and the provincial governments to result in more children in school and better learning outcomes.