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FATA Development Programme

Strengthening capacities of state actors and civil society groups to provide services and engage in constructive mutual dialogue

Context

The Tribal Districts (FATA) along Pakistan’s border to Afghanistan is a region of rich tribal culture and tradition, but also marked by extreme poverty as well as numerous overlapping and often violent conflicts. With a population of five million people, it consists of seven Tribal Districts (previously: Agencies) and six Sub Divisions (previously: Frontier Regions - FRs). Governmental structures at the local level are still to be built and the people use traditional tribal representation and decision-making processes. However, due to its remoteness and lack of local administrative structures, the state has limited access and ability to deliver fundamental social services. The main challenges for the population are marginalization, limited inclusion in planning and decision-making processes as well as inadequate basic services and income-generating opportunities. In addition, over the past 15 years, local conflicts and reiterated military operations have displaced segments of the local population and hampered social infrastructure. At the end of 2015, official statistics revealed that approximately 278,000 displaced families were registered by the authorities.

Significant efforts were made towards the introduction of legal and institutional reforms in the area. Starting in 2010, a Joint Committee on FATA Reforms (FATA Committee) had been developing recommendations to reform FATA and integrate it into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) within a five-year transitional period. In early 2017, the national parliament approved the comprehensive reform to key policy areas (peace and security, matters concerning internally displaced persons, the justice system, the constitutional system, and restructuring of political responsibilities) as drawn up by the reform commission. Until today, the majorities of Temporarily Displaced Persons (TDPs’) areas of return and will be rehabilitated. However, their reintegration requires considerable efforts by the public administration. Furthermore, the main challenge remains the provision of adequate social services, not only in the TDPs areas of return, but all over the Tribal Districts. Eventually, the 31st Amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan was passed by the Parliament of Pakistan and the Khyber

Project name	FATA Development Programme (FDP)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Donor 'Aid to Uprooted People in Pakistan'	European Union (EU)
Partner	Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) Secretariat
Implementing Agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project region	Tribal Districts FATA
Duration	2016 - 2021

Pakhtunkhwa Assembly to merge FATA with the province of KP on 31st May 2018.

Objective

The FATA Development Programme (FDP) assists the Pakistani partner in the challenging task to implement the FATA Reform and improve service provision to the population in the main result areas local governance, sector governance (basic education, health services) as well as constructive dialogue between population and governmental actors. The objective of the programme is to improve performance capacity of government players and civil society groups in the tribal districts with respect to selected services as well as constructive mutual dialogue. The Programme is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and co-financed by the European Union (EU). Since January 2017, FDP is simultaneously implementing the EU Multi-donor Action 'Aid to Uprooted People in Pakistan' (AUP) whose overall objective is to facilitate the reintegration of Tribal Districts TDPs by creating a favorable environment for their return. To achieve this objective, the initiative aims to improve service delivery capacity of the FATA



Left: efficient Management Information Systems (MISs) ensure accountability and evidence-based decision-making in sector planning and development.

Right: community involvement in planning and decision-making is fundamental for sustainable development in the tribal areas.

Secretariat and assists the reform process in the Tribal Districts. The action under the objective will enable the FATA Secretariat to better analyse, prioritize and deliver services needed by local communities in the return areas. It is implemented in the three result areas: core governance functions (1), sector governance / basic education and public health care (2) and constructive dialogue (3). The programme works Tribal Districts-wide, with a special focus on TDPs areas of returns in the Khyber, Orakzai, Kurram, North and South Waziristan Tribal Districts.

Approach

The FATA Development Programme is aligned with the relevant political strategies (FATA Sustainable Development Plans and the Post-crisis Needs Assessment). The programme approach is continuously adapted to changes in the context due the FATA merger in May 2018. The programme supports the FATA Secretariat to build capacities in planning, implementation and monitoring to improve the access and provision of the social services Tribal Districts-wide. A central element of the programme is the involvement of the population in an ongoing constructive dialogue on development issues and change processes. The methodological approach of the EU funded AUP is designed to specifically strengthen the interface between community development initiatives and the FATA Secretariat and to assist the reform process in the Tribal Districts.

The module contributes to the achievement of four Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030: Good health and well-being (SDG 3), Quality education (SDG 4), Gender equality (SDG 5) and Peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16).

Beneficiaries include governmental actors of the FATA Secretariat and its administrative structure on district level as well as representatives of the population in all Tribal Districts (local elders, jirgas and local community groups). Target group of the AUP EU co-financed action are TDPs in the five Tribal Districts (Khyber, Kurram, Orakzai, North and South Waziristan). The programme implements gender-sensitive approaches in all core areas of governance, including sector governance, and constructive dialogue.

Expected Results (2018 – 2021)

The capacities for core governance functions at agency level are improved with respect to the planned FATA Reform: the programme aims to provide sustainable solutions to improve public services in Tribal Districts. For this purpose, the programme assists the Pakistani partner to build capacities in planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of development schemes and activities to improve core governance functions. In addition, the programme advises the partner, including the agency level administration, on the implementation of the planned FATA Reform, roles and mandates of institutions and actors at different levels as well as participatory development planning to align development plans to priorities and needs.

The capacities of state players and civil-society groups for providing services in selected sectors are improved: the programme aims to improve access and quality of social services provided on local level in the Tribal Districts in the areas of basic education and public health services. Capacity Development measures are supported to build the management capacities of sector personnel on all levels to improve planning, resource allocation and management. In addition, the programme supports the development and implementation of sector plans.

The abilities of the state and civil society to engage in constructive dialogue at all levels on issues of development policy are improved: the programme intends to develop forums for effective communication between civil society and government actors to enter a constructive dialogue with each other. The objective of the dialogues is to increase information levels on development issues, priorities, plans, mutual rights and obligations. The programme's activities contribute to the creation of communication products that are intended to inform stakeholders about development issues in the FATA region.

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