

SPARC Annual Report

2013



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2014

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Vision

A world in which children are valued and empowered and their rights promoted and protected.

Mission

To promote and protect the rights of children and to empower through advocacy supported by research, awareness-raising, service delivery, and human and institutional development.



Board of Directors

Ms Humera Malik (Chairperson)	Ms Salma Majeed Jafar
Ms Maryam Bibi	Mr Anees Jillani
Mr Qazi Azmat Isa	Ms Narjis Zaidi
Dr Attiya Inayatullah	Mr Gul Muhammad Mastoi
Mr Rashid Ibrahim	Ms Zarina Jillani (Secretary)



Acronyms

BHU	Basic Health Units
CDL	Child Domestic Labor
CNIC	Computerized National Identity Cards
CRC	Child Rights Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization
ERP	Early Recovery Project
JJSO	Juvenile Justice System Ordinance 2000
SPARC	Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child
UTP	Under Trial Prisoners



Message from the Chairperson

The year 2013 will be marked as a progressive year in the history of SPARC whereby the organization began to expand its activities to include major service delivery initiatives while remaining faithful to its core principle of promoting and protecting the rights of children in Pakistan. During the year, SPARC entered into project partnerships with new donors including Terres Des Homes, US Embassy INL Program, Department of Foreign Trade and Development- Canada and Department of International Development- UK, allowing it to initiate dynamic projects benefitting diverse groups of vulnerable children throughout Pakistan.



SPARC's efforts to bring about comprehensive and sustainable changes in the lives of children faced immense difficulties because of entrenched and structural discrimination against children in the cultural and economic milieu of Pakistan. Throughout the year, children had to contend with a lack of educational opportunities exacerbated by a dilapidated educational infrastructure; poor state of health compounded by a resurgence of polio and measles viruses; institutionalized violence without proper recourse to justice and rehabilitation; exploitative employment in hazardous occupations and a dearth of progress in approving and instituting an effective legal and administrative structure to provide relief against child rights violations at all levels.

The promotion and protection of the rights of children can only be ensured through concerted actions initiated and sustained collaboratively by the government and civil society. In an overall environment of apathy against children's rights, SPARC adopted multi-pronged strategies encompassing elements of research and awareness, advocacy, community mobilization and service delivery to bring about holistic and long term positive changes in the lives of children throughout the country.

In the context of overarching structural discrimination and institutionalized apathy against children in Pakistan, SPARC's efforts provide a guiding light to larger stakeholders like the government to bring about required reforms to protect and promote the rights of children in the country. The year 2013 was marked by a peaceful transition of power to a democratically elected government. It is hoped that as people's representatives, the members of the parliament will play an active role in fulfilling Pakistan's national and international commitments towards its children.

This report provides an annual overview of SPARC's interventions and expenditures thereby upholding the organization's core values of transparency and accountability.

I am thankful to the support of SPARC's partners including Kindernothilfe, American Solidarity Center and Actionaid and would like to welcome new ones including Terres Des Homes, US Embassy INL Program, Department of Foreign Trade and Development - Canada, Good Neighbors International and Department of International Development- UK for their continued support and commitment to the children of Pakistan.

Humera Malik
Chairperson



Message from the Executive Director

I take this opportunity to share SPARC's Annual Report 2013. The report provides an overview of SPARC's activities during the year along with summary financial reports related to organizational expenditure.

The year 2013 was important for SPARC whereby the organization expanded its activities and formed partnerships with four new donors including; Terres Des Homes, US Embassy INL Program, Department of Foreign Trade and Development - Canada, Good Neighbors International and Department of International Development- UK.



Over the year SPARC successfully carried out activities under the Child Rights Program. The organization continued to address issues related to Child Rights, Juvenile Justice, Child Labor, Violence against Children and Civil Society Strengthening. These major thematic areas have formed the backbone of SPARC's research, advocacy and service delivery initiatives over the years.

SPARC's annual publication, 'The State of Pakistan's Children' continued to remain the key source of information on issues affecting children in Pakistan. The report provides important information and updates to policy makers, government functionaries, members of the civil society, and the general public on the state of child rights and child protection in the country. During 2013, SPARC conducted an external review of the report to assess its relevance, effectiveness, sustainability and impact as a source of information in a dynamic policy, legislative and administrative environment of the country. Furthermore, SPARC also conducted a study on the "Children of Minorities in Pakistan" which includes interviews of minority leaders and officials from relevant government departments to shed light on the genesis and persistence of the structural discrimination which children of minority communities in Pakistan face on a regular basis.

On the legislative and policy side, a review of existing child rights laws was conducted by SPARC and important government and civil society stakeholders were engaged through a seminar on child rights in the post 18th Amendment scenario. In addition, SPARC made contributions in sections focusing on children for NDMA's Social Protection Policy.

A national achievement during the year was the enactment of Sindh Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2013 and the promulgation of Balochistan Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Ordinance 2013. It is worth mentioning that SPARC has prepared and shared the drafts of these important bills with relevant governmental authorities. Both bills are progressive pieces of legislation which will provide a legislative foundation to children's fundamental right to education under Article 25-A of the Constitution.

During the year members of 43 Child Rights Clubs were given orientation sessions, trainings and lectures related to various children's rights issues in Pakistan which led to numerous initiatives undertaken by them.



SPARC also supported its Child Rights Committees to carry out a number of activities centered at child rights promotion and protection. Additionally, SPARC Drop in Centers (DICs) for street children in four cities (Rawalpindi, Multan, Hyderabad, and Peshawar) continued to provide non- formal education, skills, health and hygiene lessons and a daily meal to street children and child laborers. The DICs also helped to reunite runaway or lost children with their families. Furthermore, a DIC for children of liberated peasants was made functional in Kotri, Jamshoro Sindh.

More than 550 children in SPARC's DICs were provided needs based support. Moreover, 100 sewing machines were distributed among children who underwent sewing and stitching skills at the DICs. Additionally, televisions were installed in DICs in Rawalpindi, Hyderabad and Peshawar. SPARC also conducted a needs assessment for schools where DIC children getting non-formal education were mainstreamed. After the assessment, selected schools from the district were provided with basic items like furniture to facilitate a better learning environment for the children.

Throughout the year, SPARC continued to provide legal aid to incarcerated children and underage offenders who were in contact or conflict with the law. A total of 312 juvenile prisoners, imprisoned in different prisons of the country were provided legal aid. SPARC continued its efforts to strengthen the Juvenile Justice System by facilitating the setting up of institutions to facilitate children coming in contact or conflict with the law which led to the establishment of Child Rights Desks (CRDs) in 22 districts of Sindh. The divisional DIGs further instructed the staff posted at the CRDs to deal with children according to JJSO 2000.

In 2013, SPARC became a member of a committee formed for framing the rules under Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Borstal Institutes Act. In May 2013, SPARC was made a member of a committee (set up by the Additional Chief Secretary FATA) formed for overseeing implementation of the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance (JJSO) 2013 in FATA. As a result of effective advocacy with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa governor's secretariat, FATA Child Protection Unit and FATA Law and Order Department, two notifications were issued by the FATA secretariat for establishing separate juvenile cells and for ensuring separate trials of juveniles in FATA. Similarly, in light of SPARC's contributions in the realm of juvenile justice, a SPARC representative was appointed as a non-official visitor for Central Jail Peshawar under the orders of the Chief Justice of the Peshawar High Court.

SPARC has developed strong linkages with various juvenile justice stakeholders including the Home Department, Probation Department, Police Department and Police Academies, Judiciary and Judicial Academies, and the Reclamation and probation department. These stakeholders are also included in SPARC's regular training sessions. SPARC conducted training programs for more than 800 stakeholders associated with the criminal justice system across Pakistan. As a result of SPARC's effective lobbying, a session on human and child rights was incorporated in the regular training syllabus for Police officials in Sindh. Moreover, the Sindh High Court has issued directions to all session judges to constitute Panels of Lawyers under the JJSO 2000 in all districts of Sindh.



In 2013, SPARC monitored various cases of abuse and violence against Child Domestic Workers (CDWs). SPARC wrote letters to Chief Ministers, Governors, Chief Justice High Court, Human Rights and Vigilance Cell, Chief Justice of Pakistan and Human Rights Cell of Supreme Court together with Provincial Labor Departments, requesting them to take action in individual cases of violence against child domestic workers.

In 2013, several meetings were held with labor departments at all provincial head quarters as part of advocacy for legal reforms and expansion of existing laws to cover Child Domestic Labor (CDL) in the list of prohibited occupations for children. SPARC also called for increasing the minimum age of employment for children (from 14 to 16 years) in order to secure their fundamental right to free and compulsory education in line with Article 25-A of the Constitution.

Over the year, SPARC held meetings with the stakeholders including representatives from the Labor Department, ILO, civil society organizations and INGOs for the ratification of ILO Convention 189 (Domestic Workers Convention). In addition, SPARC held trainings on 'Child Labor Monitoring and Reporting' for Labor Inspectors/Workers Federation and CSOs in all four provinces.

During the year, the training manuals of Provincial Institutes of Teachers Education in Sindh and Balochistan were updated and three new chapters on classroom management, alternatives to corporal punishment and positive disciplining were added to them. These manuals will be used for future trainings of teachers in the provinces. Additionally, provincial workshops were also held in Peshawar, Karachi, Lahore and Quetta to orient the Provincial Education Departments on establishing Complaint Mechanisms to address corporal punishment. The model of complaint mechanism developed by SPARC has already been adopted by the Education Department in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

SPARC's efforts to strengthen its Training Center included developing of training packages/modules related to child rights. Furthermore, during the year, SPARC continued with the capacity building of its employees who were sent on various trainings for their professional development.

In the end, I would like to thank SPARC's staff and donors for their commitment to the children of Pakistan.

Zarina Jillani
Executive Director



Introduction

SPARC is registered as a society since December 1992 as an independent-non-governmental organization with the aim of promoting, protecting and developing child rights.

It is SPARC's belief that child rights are human rights. This means that child rights envisages a broad range of rights issues, which amongst others in the context of Pakistan, include child labor, juvenile justice, violence against children, education and health.

SPARC's work is guided by the international human rights principles and standards which are integrated at policy and program level, including the UNCRC and the relevant ILO Conventions.

SPARC works at the national level, with offices in several major cities, and is a member of prominent regional networks including Forum Asia, South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children, International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), ASPBAE, and Defense for Children International. On a global level, it has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN Department of Public Information (DPI). In 2003, SPARC received the United Nations Recognition Award in recognition of its work in highlighting the plight of children and promoting the rights of children in Pakistan. In 2006, SPARC received USAID certification under the USAID Institutional Management Certification Program (IMCP).

Over the years, SPARC has been able to increase its activities and expand its outreach at the national level with the support of a number of CRCs in all the four provinces.

SPARC strives to create awareness about child rights and advocate for their promotion and protection. Keeping in mind the huge number of children in Pakistan, and the world over, it is of the opinion that Governments are in the best position to improve the lot of children and it sees its role more as an advocate of children rather than delivering services on its own. However, over a period of time, it has also been delivering services in the shape of helping children coming into conflict with law, including those in prison; providing child-friendly spaces to children affected by disasters and street children; and improving the state of schools in disaster hit areas.

SPARC has been working with most of the major donors working in Pakistan, including:

- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Kindernothilfe
- American Solidarity Center
- Trocaire
- German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ)
- Plan Pakistan
- Save the Children
- AusAID
- Terre des homes (TDH)
- Fur die Freiheit (FNF)
- Royal Norwegian Embassy
- Actionaid
- DFATD (Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development) Carada
- US Embassy
- DFID
- Good Neighbors International

Advocacy & Awareness Raising

SPARC spreads awareness about child rights through its many publications, consultations, meetings with various stakeholders and campaigns. It also continuously strives to involve media, both print and electronic, in this endeavor.

Publications

Publications play an important role in raising awareness. In this regard, SPARC has been taking out a number of publications, including newsletters, brochures, magazines, and reports for the past two decades. Many of these publications, particularly the newsletters and the magazines are distributed throughout the country and internationally to parliamentarians, policy-makers, child and human rights defenders, national and international NGOs, academia and well-wishers.

Newsletters

SPARC continued publishing and distributing its quarterly newsletters in English (2,000), Urdu (2,000) and Sindhi (1,000). Four issues were taken out during the year.

Magazine 'Discourse'

The publication of this bi-annual magazine was discontinued in 2008. It was, however, started again in 2012 and during the year, two issues were published and distributed with 500 copies each.

Research Study: Children of Minorities

SPARC conducted a research study on the “Children of Minorities in Pakistan”. The study provides an overview of the discrimination that minority children have to face and gives recommendations on improving their status in the country.

This research was published in 2013 (200 copies) and also uploaded on the website.

Newsletter No. 74 January - March 2013



Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child



South raises Education of Children Compromise

South Asia has long been a region where the right to education is not fully guaranteed. The right to education is a fundamental human right, and it is essential for the development of a country. The right to education is a fundamental human right, and it is essential for the development of a country. The right to education is a fundamental human right, and it is essential for the development of a country.

Malik Yasmeen is the Youngest Member for Pakistan's PTA in History

Malik Yasmeen, a young woman, has been elected as the youngest member of the Pakistan Teachers' Association (PTA) in history. She is the youngest member of the PTA in history. She is the youngest member of the PTA in history. She is the youngest member of the PTA in history.

www.sparc.org

Newsletter No. 75 April - June 2013



Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child



10 children, female teacher hurt after

As many as 10 children along with their female teacher were injured, and eight children killed during a school bus accident in the district of Faisalabad. The accident occurred on the road between the district of Faisalabad and the district of Rawalpindi. The accident occurred on the road between the district of Faisalabad and the district of Rawalpindi.

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www.sparc.org

Newsletter No. 76 July - September 2013



Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child



One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world

When a child has a teacher, a book and a pen, the world is theirs. When a child has a teacher, a book and a pen, the world is theirs. When a child has a teacher, a book and a pen, the world is theirs. When a child has a teacher, a book and a pen, the world is theirs.

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Newsletter No. 77 October - December 2013



Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child



Remembering Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela, a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader, and philanthropist, passed away on December 5, 2013. He was a leader in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. He was a leader in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

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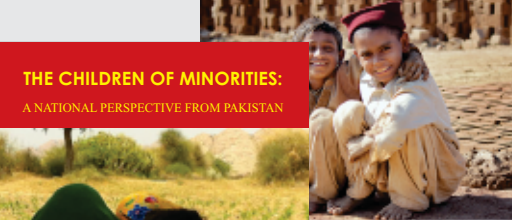
www.sparc.org

Biannual | Issue No. 4 | December 2013


Discourse



THE CHILDREN OF MINORITIES: A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE FROM PAKISTAN



It is an unfulfilled and unprotected promise



Rajal National Embassy

The State of Pakistan's Children

This publication is being published since 1997 and tracks the development in child rights via statistical data and changes in governmental policies across Pakistan. The report also presents recommendations to the Federal and Provincial Governments which, if adopted, can uplift the state of child rights.

The report was produced in English (2000 copies) and Urdu (1000 copies) and launched in Islamabad (May 28), Peshawar (June 24), Quetta (June 25), Karachi (June 27) and Lahore (June 27). It focused on issues ranging from the rise of Polio and Measles across the country to the state of child laborers and cases of violence against children.

The State of Pakistan's Children report, supported by Kindernothilfe remains a key source of information on child rights in Pakistan. During the year, an external review was undertaken to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact of the report. The evaluation report gave a number of recommendations for further improving it.

Brochures

Over the years, SPARC has published a number of brochures including:

Child Rights

- ▲ On Track to Pakistan's Ratification of the International Criminal Court Statute
- ▲ Optional Protocols to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ▲ The Millennium Development Goals

Child Participation

- ▲ Volunteerism
- ▲ Child Rights Clubs

Juvenile Justice

- ▲ The Juvenile Justice System Ordinance 2000 (Urdu, English)
- ▲ Probation: Detention as a Last Resort



Child and Bonded Labor

- ▲ Bonded Labor: Free to Starve (Urdu, English)
- ▲ Minimum Age Convention C-138
- ▲ Child Labor: Conspiracy of Silence

Violence against Children

- ▲ Street Children of Pakistan (English, Urdu)
- ▲ Harmful Traditional Practices
- ▲ Child Sexual Abuse
- ▲ The Curse of Harmful Traditional Practices
- ▲ Parental Care Leads to a Better Future (Urdu)
- ▲ Child Marriage
- ▲ Child Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery

Following brochures were produced during 2013:

- Child Right Laws in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (10000)
- Child Right Laws in Sindh (10000)
- Child Right Laws in Punjab (10000)
- Child Marriages (20,000)
- Street Children (Urdu, 10,000)
- Education (Taleem Jo Pyar Se De Jae (Urdu)
- Harmful Traditional Practices (Urdu: 15000) (English 10,000) (Sindhi 10,000)
- ILO Conventions Addressing Child Labor (12000)
- Child Trafficking and Abduction (12000)
- Brochures on Harmful Traditional Practices (English and Sindhi, 10,000 copies each, Urdu: 15,000)



Website

SPARC's website (www.sparcpk.org) was re-designed and continued to be regularly updated with emerging child rights issues nationally and internationally, along with regular twitter and Facebook updates.





Children's Participation

SPARC lays emphasis on a child's right to participation and provides them a chance to voice their rights through the platform of Child Rights Clubs.

In order to promote children's right to participation, 43 Child Rights Clubs were established in schools across Islamabad, Karachi, Quetta, Lahore, Mardan and Peshawar. Five trainings on empowerment of CRs Clubs to perform effectively were held for 145 office bearers and focal persons in Islamabad (April 18), Quetta (June 27), Peshawar (September 19) and Karachi (August 29). The trainings were conducted using 'Agents of Change' Training Module designed specifically to cater to students enrolled in these clubs.



These trainings helped the children to actively participate in competitions and various campaigns:

- ▲ A number of activities were initiated by child clubs including radio programs on child rights, book banks, and seminars.
- ▲ Some clubs held open forum dialogues with various representatives from civil society and media.
- ▲ The Global Campaign for Education (GCE) week was organized at national level and a signature banner campaign was carried out by 9,400 students from 35 schools. They put forward their demand “Every child needs a teacher”.
- ▲ Children from ASAS High School and Khaldunia High School, Islamabad gathered at Margalla Hills at Trail-3 and attended a briefing by the Deputy Director of Environment. They also planted 100 Kachnar and Amaltaas tree saplings provided by the Capital Development Authority.
- ▲ Members of the CRs Clubs Islamabad in collaboration with WWF and Adventure Foundation Pakistan visited to Museum of Natural History along with a weekend Nature Study Camp at Trail-5 in the Margalla Hills

SPARC provided the Federal Directorate of Education Islamabad the financial support to print 500 booklets for the Science–Math Olympiad 2013. The booklets highlight the significance of abstract thinking and logic of scientific methods whereas 18,000 school children in 350 schools participated in the Olympiad.



Expression

July to December 2013 | Edition 10th



Children's Magazine 'Expression'

Two issues of Child Rights Clubs bi-annual magazine – Expression (7000 copies) were printed and disseminated. The magazine highlights activism by CRs Clubs with contributions from children in the form of articles and poems.

Infrastructural Support to Deserving Schools

SPARC also carried out a need assessment in schools where the Child Rights Clubs were functional. Need based infrastructural support was provided to 32 schools, including eight in Islamabad and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa each, six in Karachi and Lahore, and four in Quetta.

The materials provided included gas heaters, electric water coolers, science laboratory equipments, and sports items, library books, ceiling fans, white boards, energy saver bulbs, dustbins, tables, soft board, computers and book shelves. Braille books and uniforms were provided for visually impaired children in Quetta.

National Consultation on Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children

SPARC was a member of South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) and organized a children's consultation on the issue of corporal punishment and harmful traditional practices in Islamabad on September 19.

Around 50 children from all provinces including Azad Jammu and Kashmir and SPARC's CRs Clubs participated in the event where they discussed the menace of corporal punishment and harmful traditional practices, including child marriage. The outcome and recommendations from this Consultation were forwarded to the SAIEVAC Secretariat in Bhutan for the purpose of advocacy.



EDUCATION

Early Recovery: Improving School Enrolment & Retention Rate in Two Flood Affected Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

SPARC, in collaboration with Kindernothilfe, successfully completed its Early Recovery Project in flood affected districts of Nowshera and Charsadda of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The project started from October 2011 and continued till July 15, 2013. In this respect, on July 6, an event was organized in Peshawar to apprise all concerned about the outcome of the project. The Senior Provincial Minister, Mr Sirajul Haq, was the chief guest. The event included the presentation of a short documentary on the purpose of the project as well.

Under the project, SPARC completed renovation work in 42 schools of the two districts which was monitored both by the Provincial Education Department and Provincial Disaster and Management Authority (PDMA). In an effort to make schools more child friendly, sporting equipment and playground infrastructure was provided to school authorities; 50 teachers were provided training on child friendly classrooms and 319 students in Nowshera and 444 students in Charsadda were provided financial support to help them get enrolled in schools.

Support for income generation was provided to 110 families; 23 families received sewing machines while cheques worth Rs. 6,000 were distributed for purchase of stitching material; seven families received Rs. 10,000 for running tuck shops and a further 80 families received Rs. 15, 000 for purchase of livestock.

Ten Basic Health Unites were renovated in both districts which included white wash, washroom repair, fixing wiring and plantation within the BHUs.

Through 13 medical camps, women and children were provided free medical checkups and given medicines.





Global Campaign for Education

From April 21 to 27, SPARC undertook a Global Campaign for Education, with the cooperation of the CRCs, for awareness raising. Press conferences, demonstrations, display of banners and consultations, were undertaken to create awareness about the importance of education and the role it can play in reducing poverty.





JUVENILE JUSTICE

SPARC is a pioneering organization in the field of helping the children who come into conflict with law. During 2013, SPARC continued to work in this area.

Trainings

During the year, over 25 trainings were conducted by SPARC for over 800 stakeholders of the criminal justice system all across the country.

This included capacity building of 175 Additional Sessions Judges, Magistrates and Judicial Officers from Sindh and Balochistan. The trainings covered topics on human rights, child rights, criminal justice system, and child protection.

Around 415 police and prison officials were trained on human rights and child rights at National Academy for Prison Administration Lahore, Police Training Colleges in Quetta, Hangu and Shahdampur, Police Lines Faisalabad, Bahawalpur and Sialkot, Prison Academy Hyderabad, and at Abbottabad and Peshawar.

SPARC also conducted trainings for the staff of Probation and Parole Departments in Lahore and Abbottabad.

Four trainings were conducted in Khairpur, Larkana, Sukkur and Karachi for the strengthening of Child Rights Desks at the Police Stations in the Sindh Province. Around 25 participants attended each of the trainings.

Inclusion of Child Rights Course in Police Training Colleges in Sindh

Due to SPARC's continuing efforts, the Office of the Sindh Deputy Inspector General of Police confirmed the inclusion of child rights course in the syllabus of the regular police at Police Training College in Saeedabad, Karachi; Police Training College Shahdampur; Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Elite Police Training College in Razzakabad, Karachi; Special Commandoes Training College in Sakrand; Police Training School in Larkana; Recruit Training Center Jam Nawaz Ali, Khairpur and Badin.

Legal Aid

During the year, SPARC provided legal aid to 312 juvenile prisoners in different jails of the country. Out of these, 144 were in the Punjab; 100 were in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; 49 in Sindh and 19 in Balochistan.





Facilities in Jails

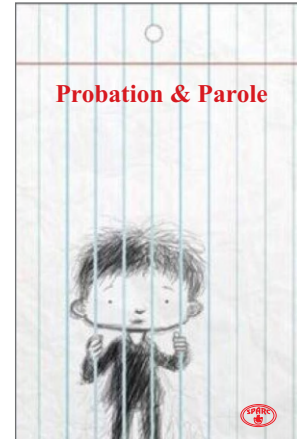
SPARC staff and members of the Child Rights Committees conducted regular visits to jails throughout the country. Based on the observations made during these visits, SPARC provided infrastructural support and essential need-based items for the betterment of children in seven jails across Punjab, six jails in Sindh, 11 jails in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and one jail in Balochistan. As a result, approximately, 1,450 children benefitted from these facilities.

Basic office facilities were provided to the Probation and Reclamation Departments in all provinces to improve their functionality.

Child Rights Desks in Sukkur and Larkana were provided computers, TVs and printers. SPARC also provided a teacher at Bahawalpur Borstal Institute and a computer instructor at Haripur Jail.

IEC Material

- ▲ SPARC introduced and printed 1000 books on child related laws at Police Training College in Hangu.
- ▲ A poster on Probation in Urdu (2000 copies)
- ▲ A poster on JJSO in Urdu (2000 copies)
- ▲ A booklet on Probation and Parole in English (1000 copies)
- ▲ Child Trafficking and Abduction brochure (12000)



Countering Violence in the Prisons of Punjab

In Pakistan, under trial prisoners (UTPs) including juveniles languish for years in detention while waiting for the completion of their trials and have been kept in jail longer than the maximum penalty associated with their crime. Overcrowding in prisons leads to many UTPs coming into contact with dangerous criminals and extremists who manipulate and radicalize them thereby transforming them into hardened criminals rather than rehabilitated and refined individuals.

To tackle this ever growing problem in prisons, SPARC entered into project agreement with US Embassy in Islamabad. Legal aid and vocational trainings will be provided to under trial prisoners in prisons across districts Faisalabad, Lahore, Sahiwal and Multan. The program will cover nine prisons in districts Multan, Muzaffargarh, Khanewal, Lodhran, Sahiwal, Okara, Pakpattan, Faisalabad, and Nankana Sahib of the Punjab province. Through this project, we aim to ensure that these individuals are reintegrated back into society as reformed citizens with alternative livelihood opportunities.



CHILD LABOR

Poverty is on the rise in Pakistan and resultantly it is one of the few countries in the world where the rate of child labor is rampant. There are no major interventions relating to this important issue and several child domestic laborers were allegedly killed by their employers during the year.

Accordingly, a major focus of SPARC's child labor program was to address the issue of child domestic labor across Pakistan. Letters were written to different government officials and policy-makers such as Chief Ministers, (CDL) Governors, Chief Justices, Human Rights and Vigilance Cells, Chief Justice of Pakistan and Human Rights Cell of Supreme Court together with Labor Departments, requesting them to take action in individual cases of violence and demanding prohibition of CDL.

Ratification of ILO Domestic Workers Convention (No 189)

SPARC held meetings with the relevant stakeholders, including officials in the Provincial Labor Departments, members of the International Labor Organization and various civil society activists in all provinces to lobby for the ratification of the Domestic Workers Convention. A concept note on this Convention was developed and shared with relevant stakeholders for advocacy purposes.

A national consultation was organized by SPARC in Islamabad to develop a consensus on the Domestic Workers Convention. It was demanded that the government should conduct a comprehensive survey on child labor which could help eliminate child exploitation at all levels. It was also recommended that child domestic labor should be included in the list of banned occupations provided under the Employment of Children Act 1991 with immediate effect.

SPARC organized four stakeholders meetings on “The Status of Implementation and Enforcement of ILO Conventions Regarding Child Labor in Pakistan” in Peshawar on September 12, in Lahore on September 24, in Quetta on September 26 and in Karachi on October 31. The audience included representatives from CSOs, labor department, media, academia, parliamentarians, lawyers, ILO, bar councils, university students, political parties, Pakistan Workers Federation, Social Welfare Department, Child Protection and Welfare Bureau.

Trainings of Labor Inspectors

SPARC held trainings on 'Child Labor Monitoring and Reporting' for 102 labor inspectors and officials of Labor Department. Trainings were held in Lahore on July 4 with 25 participants, Karachi on July 23 with 27 participants, Quetta on July 9 with 25 participants and Abbottabad on April 12 with 25 participants.





Collaboration with Civil Society on CDL

- ▲ In connection with the rights violation of a 14-year-old child domestic laborer Shahida, representatives from SPARC and Child Rights Movement Punjab held a meeting with Senior Superintendent Police (Investigations). The SSP was requested to intervene by ordering an investigation through the relevant police station.
- ▲ A 13-year-old CDL Jameel was subjected to severe torture, resulting in his death, in Multan. SPARC Lahore forwarded the case to CRC Multan which found out that the family of the victim belonged to Muzaffargarh. Later CRC Muzaffargarh took up the case and met the victim's family. Based on the fact finding report, SPARC sent a letter to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.
- ▲ Representatives from SPARC Lahore along with CRM Punjab were taken on board by the Social Welfare Department to review the Child Protection Policy.
- ▲ CRM Punjab nominated SPARC to give its technical expertise in reviewing the Child Protection Policy.

Five Drop-in-Centers for Street Children and Child/Bonded Laborers

With the help of Kindernothilfe, SPARC since 2008 has been operating Drop-in-Centers in Peshawar whereas DICs were established in Rawalpindi (2009) and Hyderabad and Multan (2011) covering roughly 5000 children.



Another Drop-in-Center with the help of Good Neighbors International is being run at Sikandarabad Hari Camp in Sindh since January 2013 covering around 120 children of freed bonded laborers.

In addition to providing meals, the children are given non-formal education, skills training and provided with recreational facilities.

In 2013, winter clothing was distributed among 552 children at these centers; 100 sewing machines were distributed among skilled girls to empower them to earn a decent living.

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The children from DIC Rawalpindi participated in a funfair organized by Behbud Association in Islamabad to help sell items made by DIC children. DIC Hyderabad displayed handmade items by children at a stall in Regent Plaza Karachi which received appreciation from a number of people.

Child Labor Free Week

SPARC celebrated Child Labor Free Week in June. During the campaign, it used its regional offices and the CRCs throughout Pakistan which held press conferences and consultations and displayed banners. The themes for these campaigns covered 'Say No to Child Labor in Domestic Work' and putting a ban on CDL by putting it in the list of banned occupations provided under the Employment of Child Act 1991. To highlight the plight of child labor, the students of Government Delhi Boys Secondary School, Karimabad, Karachi arranged a gathering in a community park.

It was also demanded during these campaigns that the minimum age of employment under the Employment of Children Act should be increased from 14 years to 16 years to make it in line with Article 25-A of the Constitution of Pakistan, thereby allowing children to avail their fundamental right to free and compulsory education.

Global Campaign for Education Week

In April, GCE Week Campaign was celebrated in 6 districts of Punjab, 3 districts of Balochistan, 5 districts of KP and 6 districts of Sindh. Activities done under the campaign included dialogues on education system, banner signature campaigns, walks, banner display, press conferences and consultations.

Rapid Assessments on Worst Forms of Child Labor

Child Labor in Coal Mines of Balochistan

This Study on child labor in Balochistan's coal mines was undertaken around coal mines situated in Shahrig to ascertain the prevalence of bonded labor in this industry with a special focus on children. The study highlighted the socio economic conditions of families in the locality while also focusing on the hardships faced by children on a daily basis. The data effectively portrayed the condition of bonded laborers in the area.

Child Labor in Brick Kilns

The study on child labor in brick kilns assessed living conditions of children working at brick kilns in Hyderabad, Sindh. The Study focused on the working environment as well as harmful cultural practices surrounding labor and its impact on children. Findings included detailed accounts of how poor workers are exploited through hefty loans and are forced to pay them off by working with their family as bonded laborers.





In addition, following IEC material was produced:

- ▲ English brochure on ILO Conventions Addressing Child Labor (12,000 copies)
- ▲ English brochure on Child Trafficking and Abduction (12,000 copies)



BONDED LABOR

The brick kiln industry is rampant with cases of bonded labor, especially in the provinces of Punjab and Sindh. The employment of women and children in the making of bricks is rampant.

SPARC has been working with the cooperation of European Union and Action Aid in districts Multan in the Punjab and Hyderabad in Sindh to alleviate the suffering of children at these brick-kilns since March 2011. During the year, under this Project titled 'Support Social Protection and Decent Work of Brick Kiln Workers and Bonded Laborers in Pakistan', it undertook the following activities:



- ▲ Provided 2,580 Computerized National Identity Cards (CNICs) to laborers in 20 brick kilns of Multan and Hyderabad.
- ▲ 40 hand pumps were installed for clean water supply.
- ▲ 120 pit latrines were constructed at these brick kilns.
- ▲ Social Security Cards were provided to 230 brick kiln workers in Multan.
- ▲ Seven brick kiln workers trade unions were registered including four in Hyderabad and three in Multan and efforts were made to activate District Vigilance Committees.
- ▲ Provision of free legal aid where 57 cases of bonded laborers were resolved whereas 16 cases of brick kiln workers (11 in Hyderabad and 5 in Multan) were decided through Police Anti Bonded Labor Cells.
- ▲ A total of 372 children were provided non-formal education in Hyderabad and Multan whereas 200 women workers were given capacity building trainings for income generation.

In addition, four documentaries were aired on local Sindh TV and KTN. Two of these documentaries focused on a 12-year-old girl named Jheeni which motivated the brick kiln owner to write off 800,000 rupees worth of loans to her family. BBC World also focused on this case and highlighted miseries of bonded laborers through a documentary, and SPARC work in this area.

Moot Raises Voice against Bonded Labor

SPARC Hyderabad organized a conference on Anti Slavery Day on December 5 in Multan. Speakers at the conference urged the government to take steps for the strict implementation of the Punjab Bonded Labor System Abolition Act 2012 (BLSAA); for the enforcement of minimum wages law; as well as adopting measures for the eradication of bonded labor in the province. This includes mandatory registration of brick kilns, provision of social security cards to all laborers and extension of labor laws to the agriculture sector.



Drop-in-Center in Sikandarabad Hari Camp, Sindh

With the help of Good Neighbors International, SPARC established a Drop-in-Center in Sikandarabad Hari Camp situated in Jamshoro District in the Sindh Province commencing from January 2013. During the year, SPARC reached out to 119 children residing in the camp with their families and provided them non-formal education and skill training. Furthermore 34 children were enrolled in government run schools who also continued to attend the DIC while many were taught skills such as embroidery, tailoring and making creative art pieces. The children also had informative sessions on the importance of maintaining one's health and hygiene while their families were facilitated in access to healthcare through four free medical camps.



VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

SPARC dealt with 170 cases of child rights violations which included child sexual abuse, murder, corporal punishment, road accident, vani, kidnapping, swara, suicide, early marriages, theft and harassment, custody of minor children, trafficking, and torture in illegal confinement by the police.

During the year, SPARC's representative was elected as Chair for National Action Coordination Group in Pakistan under South Asian Initiative to End Violence Against Children.

Child Friendly Classrooms

SPARC and the Provincial Institute of Teachers Education at Nawabshah in Sindh signed a Memorandum of Understanding for updating the Institute's training manual by including Corporal Punishment and relevant chapters conducting a training of trainers for further replication in other districts. A team of 25 master trainers from 13 districts were trained during 26-28 and similar trainings were replicated in the province by these master trainers.

Three new chapters on classroom management, alternatives for corporal punishment and positive disciplining were added to the Training Manual of PITE for training of the newly recruited teachers.



Campaigns

In November 2013, weeklong campaigns on 'Corporal Punishment' and 'Universal Children's Day on the theme "Stop violence against children"' were organized at district and provincial levels.

The campaigns were marked by press conferences, consultative meetings with CSOs, walks/rallies, advocacy efforts regarding child rights related laws at provincial and federal level through local cable/FM programs, walk chalking and billboards.

Various CRCs highlighted issues such as alternatives to corporal punishment, an improved education system, birth registration, polio vaccination, early marriages and harmful traditional practices. In addition advocacy efforts on laws relating to child rights were undertaken at provincial and federal levels. A post card campaign was carried out in Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 15,000 postcards addressed to the provincial Chief Ministers.



Prevention of Early Marriages in Mithi, Sindh

Girl children of poor rural communities are especially vulnerable to underage marriages. Young brides are exposed to violence including domestic violence, sexual abuse and reproductive health complications associated with early childbearing. The extensive socially accepted practice of early or child marriage is clearly a violation of the rights of the child and a harmful traditional practice.



Sindh is one of the impoverished provinces and research carried out into the issue indicates this is a key factor in the increase in such unlawful unions, with parents often tempted to sell off young girls in exchange for the high price offered by grooms, often many times the age of their 'brides'. Families facing acute economic hardships have stated they have “no choice”

but to sell off girls to older men, while in many cases the deal is made by a single, almost invariably male member of the family, such as the father or grandfather of the girl, without consulting other family members.

Therefore, SPARC, with the support of DFATD, undertook a project in November to tackle the issue of child marriages in District Mithi, Sindh. Through large-scale advocacy with village elders, teachers, nikkah registrars and religious figures, it aimed to bring about a change in harmful traditional practices and the mindset of the local community.

IEC Material

- ▲ Teachers Training Manual (English) - Quetta specific for PITE (200 copies)
- ▲ Brochure on Street Children (Urdu: 10,000 copies)
- ▲ Brochure on Child Sexual Abuse (Urdu and Sindhi: 10,000 copies each)
- ▲ Brochures on Harmful Traditional Practices (English and Sindhi, 10,000 copies each, Urdu: 15,000)
- ▲ A brochure on Alternatives to Corporal Punishment (Urdu: 10,000 copies)
- ▲ A Poster on Education and Alternatives to Corporal Punishment in (Urdu: (2,000 copies)
- ▲ A Poster on Corporal Punishment (Urdu: 2,000 copies)
- ▲ A poster on Child Marriages (Urdu: 2,000 copies)

CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING

Child Rights Committees: Helping Those in Need

In 2013, SPARC continued to support the Child Rights Committees (CRCs) working at the grass root level to advocate for child rights. Their initiatives included meetings with representatives from various government departments, jail authorities and school committees. Some of the Committees also embarked on fact finding missions regarding child rights violations in their respective regions.

During the year, SPARC worked with 43 CRCs (Punjab: 15, Sindh: 15, KP: 10 and Balochistan:3) which celebrated the Global Campaign for Education Week, International Literacy Day, International Day for Special Children, Universal Children's Day and Child Labor Free Week. The CRCs organized media briefings, seminars, press conferences, walks and rallies. Other activities included consultation on violence against children and Eid gifts distribution among needy persons as well as incarcerated children.

Best CRCs of the Year

Every year, best performing CRCs are selected from all provinces.

- ▲ In 2013, CRC Faisalabad was declared the best CRC in Punjab as it successfully mobilized its local resources throughout the year.
- ▲ CRC Dadu bagged award for its impressive work in Sindh while CRC Swabi was selected for its work in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- ▲ In Balochistan, CRC Sibi took the lead in pursuing child rights cases and hence won an award.

During the year, the CRC activities included the following:

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

- ▲ Provision of legal aid to 75 juvenile prisoners; the highest number of cases were dealt by CRC Swabi (27) followed by CRC Malakand (24) while CRC Abbottabad handled 51 cases
- ▲ CRC Malakand enrolled 32 children in schools.





- ▲ CRC Swabi facilitated 12 children for birth registration
- ▲ CRC Bannu, Buner, Charsadda, Dera Ismail Khan, Haripur, Mardan and Swabi conducted 49 jail visits to monitor the situation of children under the age of 18 years in jails.

Punjab

- ▲ 66 juvenile prisoners were facilitated through the provision of legal aid. CRC Okara took the lead with 23 cases and CRC Faisalabad dealt with 21 cases followed by other CRCs.
- ▲ CRC Muzaffargah organized a Hepatitis Vaccination Camp in collaboration with the Provincial Health Department and Punjab Social Security Health Management Company Hospital. Vaccination was provided to 195 children and 205 adults. Furthermore, the CRC also helped run vaccination drives in the district by setting-up vaccination camps and also identified vulnerable communities in the area.

Balochistan

- ▲ CRCs in Balochistan provided legal aid to 19 juvenile prisoners and followed up cases of child rights violations.

Sindh

- ▲ CRC Hyderabad provided legal aid to six child victims of violence and CRC Naushero Feroze provided legal aid to two needy children.
- ▲ SPARC also published CRCs Annual Report (200 copies) thus highlighting various initiatives by these volunteer groups.



Networking

SPARC National Manager on Violence Against Children took regular part in meetings organized by SAIEVAC which included:

- ▲ Regional consultation of the National Action Coordination Group in Maldives from April 7-9, 2013.
- ▲ National Action Coordination Group Consultation and the Orientation on Positive Discipline and Legal Reforms in Colombo from December 18-19, 2013.



Resource Center

SPARC continues to be recognized as a major resource center on child rights. During 2013, requests from government ministries, provincial departments and other civil society organizations for technical support and as a research source for students continued unabated.

Training

The Training Unit conducted a training program for more than 130 members of Child Rights Clubs in Islamabad, Peshawar, Quetta, Karachi and Lahore. These trainings aimed to promote right to participation as well as pilot testing the training module “Agents of Change” which was later printed upon positive feedback from the children and concerned staff.



Early Recovery Project

A workshop was conducted to capacitate social mobilizers who conducted trainings of CRCs afterwards. It deliberated on features of effective CRCs, social mobilization and advocacy and indicators of assessment.

Juvenile Justice

Over 800 stakeholders of the criminal justice system in all provinces were oriented on rights towards incarcerated children or those who come in contact with law.



Violence against Children

Teachers were trained on child friendly learning in 13 districts of Sindh. The trained teachers shared good practices and use of innovative teaching techniques in their schools.

Child Labor

Around 102 child labor officers/ inspectors of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa attended trainings on harmful effects of child labor and to strengthen advocacy tools towards addressing child labor issues.

Drop in Centers

Refresher training as well as a comprehensive training was conducted for the Drop-in-Centers' staff in Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Hyderabad, Multan and Kotri.

A comprehensive training module- 'Working with Street Children Effectively' was designed for this purpose. It addresses the roles and responsibilities of DIC staff as well as the various aspects of street children's lives.

List of Manuals Developed by Training Unit during 2013

- ▲ Alternatives to Corporal Punishment (published for PITE Quetta)
- ▲ "Agents of Change- Child Rights Clubs"(printed)

Modules:

- ▲ Working with Street Children Effectively" A module for DIC staff members
- ▲ "Protecting the Rights of Juvenile Prisoners"- A training module for prison staff

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (SPARC)
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013**

RIAZ AHMAD & COMPANY
Chartered Accountants



		2013	2012
	NOTE	RUPEES	RUPEES
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and equipment	3	11,094,582	12,924,837
Investment properties	4	9,450,000	9,450,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		20,544,582	22,374,837
CURRENT ASSETS			
Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables	5	984,831	1,839,237
Short term investments	6	32,371,873	25,964,044
Cash and bank balances	7	56,069,800	64,799,189
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		89,426,504	92,602,470
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	8	(6,670,322)	(4,847,105)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		82,756,182	87,755,365
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Restricted grants	9	(47,090,468)	(54,178,402)
Deferred capital grant	10	(10,560,991)	(12,254,846)
Deferred liability for gratuity	11	(10,264,823)	(11,426,493)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		(67,916,282)	(77,859,741)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
		35,384,482	32,270,461
REPRESENTED BY:			
Fund balance	12	35,384,482	32,270,461
CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS		<hr/>	<hr/>
		-	-
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
		35,384,482	32,270,461

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements

Chairperson - SPARC

Executive Director





Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child

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