

OUR TRACK RECORD

TAWANMANDI

COUNTRY: Afghanistan
CLIENTS: Multiple donors
VALUE: £14.7 million
LIFECYCLE: 2011–13

Through the Tawanmandi programme our project team has worked to give civil society organisations in Afghanistan greater capacity to influence the government in being more accountable and responsive to the needs of Afghan citizens. Through the provision of capacity development opportunities and project funding, we have helped to strengthen the operational and advocacy capabilities of civil society organisations, with a particular focus on the areas of human rights, access to justice, peace-building, conflict resolution, anti-corruption and the media.



Delivering impact

In the first year of the programme, over 50 project grants were awarded. Funded projects directly benefited almost 40,000 Afghan citizens, 47 per cent of whom were women, in 18 provinces and 80 districts across the country.

Preventing conflict

Shuras for peace have been established at a local level in nine provinces to address and resolve local conflicts relating to land, irrigation, inheritance and family-based issues. Conflict prevention and resolution training and tools have been delivered to communities, leading to some village councils being able to end or prevent local conflict.

‘Tawanmandi shows enormous promise as a vehicle to support civil society capacity and partnerships.’

UK Parliament, International Development Committee Report, *Afghanistan: Development progress and prospects after 2014*

Ensuring access to justice

Shuras for justice have been established in seven provinces, legal aid centres have been established in six provinces and 15 mobile legal clinics have been set up to deliver services in remote areas. In the programme’s first year, over 120 cases were addressed through grantees.

Supporting women

Psycho-social support services have been developed for women, and two advocacy networks for women have been established in Badakhshan. Working with local councils, organisations have challenged traditional practices that have historically disadvantaged women and have helped individuals take legal action to secure their rights.

GLOBAL

Through the British Council’s **Active Citizens** programme we connect organisations and people around the world who want to make a difference to their communities. The programme has reached around 80,000 individuals across 30 countries through a blend of workshops, exchanges and international study visits. Key themes include citizenship education, rights and equality, conflict resolution and climate change. (2009–14)

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

The **Young Arab Analysts Network International** enabled us to develop a network of young policy analysts throughout the Middle East and North Africa that addressed major national and regional issues. Policy briefs developed by the network included key themes such as governance and regionalisation, sustainable development, the media and women’s rights. (2011–14)

NIGERIA

Our study ***Gender in Nigeria Report 2012: Improving the lives of girls and women in Nigeria*** presented an evidence base on the status of women and adolescent girls. It was developed to influence decision makers and policy makers in the federal and state governments and National Assembly, as well as religious leaders, the banking sector, the private sector and civil society. (DFID)

The British Council creates opportunities for people worldwide by helping societies achieve change in education, skills, the public sector, civil society and justice. Working closely with governments, donors and businesses, we deliver value for money solutions that are both effective and sustainable.

Find out more:

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Photography

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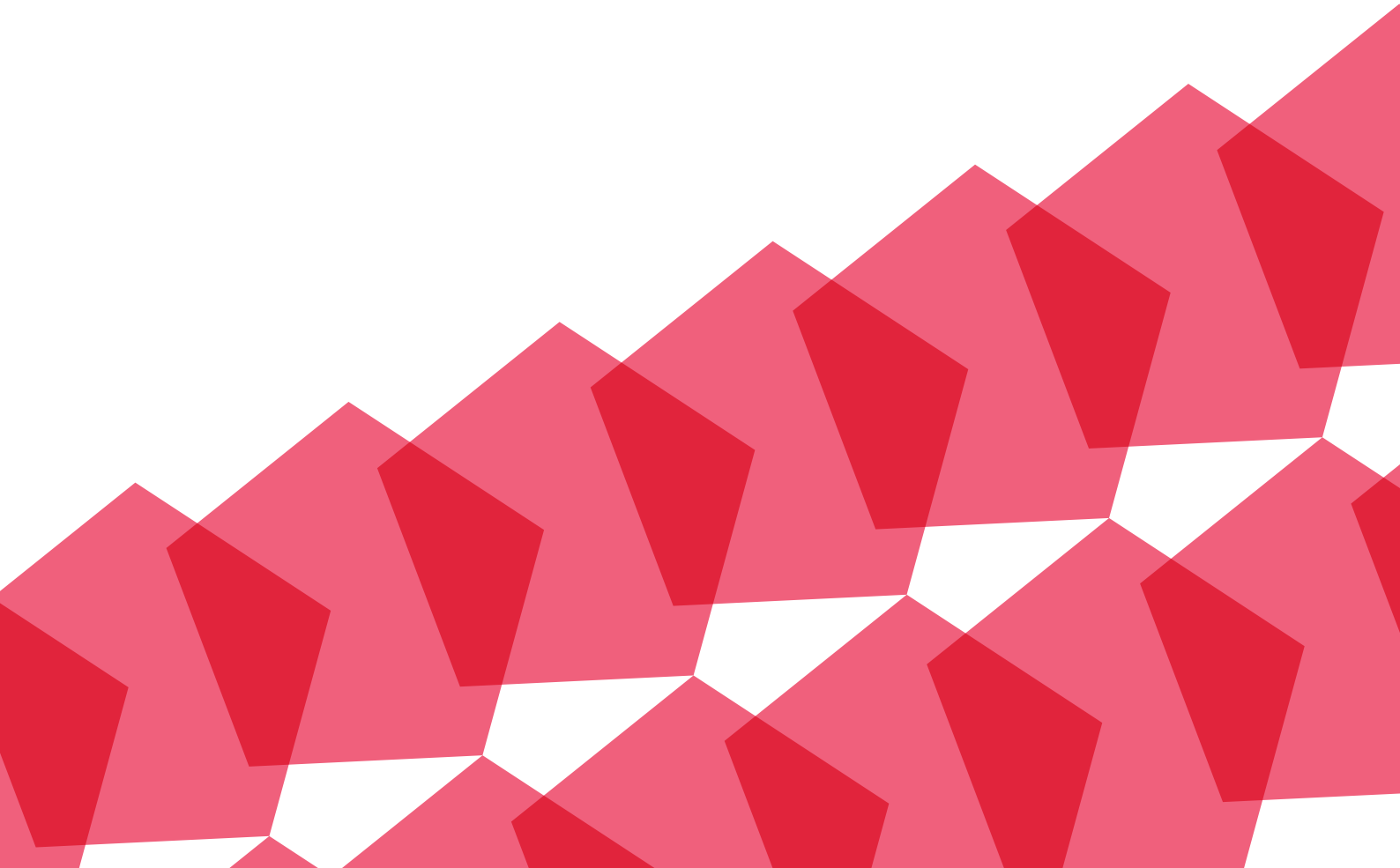


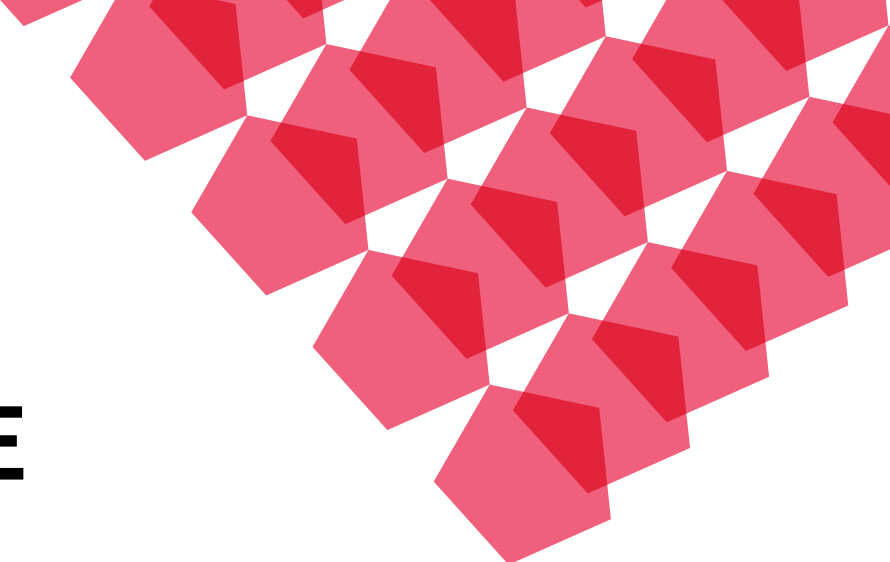


PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

CIVIL SOCIETY

www.britishcouncil.org/international-development





PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

The British Council helps societies achieve change through solutions that are both effective and sustainable. Working directly with civil society, we enable people to come together to contribute to positive change based on shared values and interests. We support non-governmental organisations, networks of organisations and community leaders to collaborate locally and internationally and contribute to the development of more inclusive, open and stable societies.

OUR WORK

STRENGTHENING VOICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We support all citizens to participate in and influence decisions and policies that affect their lives. We help build the capacity of civil society organisations to monitor and promote improved public services.

INFLUENCING POLICY AND SOCIAL CHANGE

We support non-governmental organisations, social movements and citizens to work together in partnerships and coalitions with government and the private sector to make a strong and valuable contribution to the development of society.

PROMOTING EMPOWERMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EQUALITY

We work with partners from civil society and government to empower disadvantaged groups, support equal access to services and encourage inclusivity and equality in policy development.

OUR APPROACH

WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

We can only embed change by working with networks and partners on the ground. We support non-governmental organisations at national and local levels, community and faith leaders and youth to initiate change that is locally owned and sustainable.

COMBINING LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND GLOBAL EXPERTISE

We have a strong record of designing and implementing governance and civil society programmes worldwide. We build lasting solutions by listening to our partners and approaching issues from both local and international perspectives.

DRAWING ON UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

Through our diverse areas of work and our presence on the ground in over 110 countries and territories, we have built trust and long-term relationships with civil society leaders, policy makers and professionals worldwide, which we draw upon as we work towards lasting change.





OUR TRACK RECORD

PYOE PIN

COUNTRY: Burma

CLIENTS: DFID, SIDA

VALUE: £6.3 million (phase one),
£12.8 million (phase two)

LIFECYCLE: 2007–11 (phase one),
2011–15 (phase two)

Building on the success of phase one, as part of phase two of the Pyoe Pin programme we support local organisations and individuals in Burma to act co-operatively in addressing the needs and aspirations of the country's people. We bring together stakeholders through issue-based projects aimed at developing more effective services; improving economic opportunities for farmers, businesses and families; ensuring greater community control over natural resources; and strengthening the rule of law.

Wide-reaching impact

In the programme's first phase, 1,017 organisations were directly engaged and 8,813 individuals were involved in project-related capacity building activities.

A total of 185,815 individuals directly benefited from programme activities.

Strengthening organisations

Civil society organisations are showing a progressive sense of shared understanding and engagement in policy decisions and are undertaking collective action to address issues. National organisations are being equipped with the skills and strategies to build capacity for constructive social change. Successful project processes are being disseminated in Burma and integrated into harmonised donor approaches in the country.

HIV/AIDS networks

Seven HIV/AIDS networks working together have been supported in developing their capacity as credible, legitimate and representative bodies, involving over 400 organisations. The networks are now influencing government policy and practice by applying evidence-based research and targeted advocacy.

'For network coalition building, this is the only opportunity for improvements in members' capacity and in taking collective action.'

Social Mobilisation Advisor, UNAIDS

Rice market chain

Support to farmers' coalitions has led to a change in power relations through participatory processes, stronger bonds between community members and fewer conflicts between communities, authorities and private sector services.

Community forestry

Forest User Groups have been established, leading to a shift in decision making power from village tract heads to a more participatory process where decisions are made collectively.

OUR TRACK RECORD

MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY FUND

COUNTRY: Pakistan
CLIENTS: DFID, AUSAID
VALUE: £18.3 million
LIFECYCLE: 2008–14

Through the Maternal and Newborn Health Research and Advocacy Fund we contribute to the improvement of evidence-based decision making in maternal and newborn health in Pakistan, with a particular focus on poor and marginalised groups. Our project team does this through grant-making, capacity support and civil society strengthening activities aimed at maximising the effectiveness, impact and sustainability of research and advocacy implementation activities.

Impacting on policy and practice

A total of 52 maternal and newborn health research and advocacy projects are being funded in 95 districts across Pakistan,

including all ten districts of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, which is having a direct impact on policy and practice across the country.

The development of a body of evidence on Community Midwives

has led to recommendations being taken up by the governments in Punjab, Balochistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, helping to strengthen the Community Midwives programme and increase the number of births attended by skilled birth attendants.

The work of research and advocacy partnerships

has led to the addition of Misoprostol to the Essential Drug List in all provinces of Pakistan, making this life-saving drug available to women after giving birth through the government healthcare system.

Advocacy by Rahnuma – Family Planning Association of Pakistan has led to the inclusion of a Minimum Initial Service Package in the standard operating procedures of the Provincial Disaster Management Authorities of all provinces of Pakistan, ensuring that the sexual and reproductive needs of women are considered in emergency situations.

‘I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the programme in influencing a culture of evidence-based policy and practice change in Pakistan.’

Dr Sahib Jan Badr, Provincial Co-ordinator, Provincial MNCH Programme, Government of Sindh, Pakistan

CIVIL SOCIETY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

COUNTRY: Ethiopia
CLIENTS: Multiple donors
VALUE: €35 million
LIFECYCLE: 2011–16

Through the Civil Society Support Programme our project team works collaboratively with organisations in Ethiopia to strengthen civil society’s contribution to the government’s goal of achieving national development and poverty reduction. The programme prioritises hard-to-reach civil society organisations, marginalised people and under-resourced development challenges.

Capacity development

Over the course of the programme, up to 500 organisations will benefit from capacity development services in technical areas such as policy and issues-

based research, communications and enhancing dialogue with government, and in the strengthening of organisational and management systems.

Grant-making

In the programme’s first year, over €5 million of grants were awarded to nearly 90 civil society organisations across Ethiopia, one third of which directly benefit women and girls. Over the life of the programme, more than ten million Ethiopian people will benefit directly or indirectly.

Supporting coalitions for change

Support is being provided to coalitions of civil society organisations and smaller community-based organisations, helping them to work with local government and other state agencies on collaborative

projects that will improve service delivery and social development outcomes for hard-to-reach sections of Ethiopian society.

‘The way the programme delivers its vision for civil society is seen as something that comes from the heart. This is very inspiring.’

Civil society organisation in Ethiopia
