



Society for the Protection of the Right of the Child

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## 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



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2013

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SPARC is an independent NGO with special consultative status with the  
Economic & Social Council of the United Nations & UNDPI & is a  
partner of DCI, Child Workers in Asia, Global March, AntiSlavery &  
IBFAN.



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## About Us

SPARC was founded in December 1992 as an independent non-governmental organization with an aim to promote and protect child rights. SPARC has been working on issues related to child rights while using the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC) as yardstick. Child rights, juvenile justice, child labor and violence against children are its key thematic areas with a special focus on the particular needs and issues affecting the Girl Child, such as early/forced marriage, harmful traditions, access to education, discrimination, etc. Over the years, SPARC has strengthened its outreach programme and have established and built capacities of child rights defenders as Child Rights Committees.

SPARC has been instrumental in introducing the concept of child rights and in raising issues that were previously not part of the national debate. While realizing the importance of maintaining its independence, SPARC has found it useful to engage the government to convince it to keep commitments and bring about legislative changes where necessary.

SPARC works on the national level and is a member of prominent regional networks including Forum Asia, South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) and Defence for Children International. SPARC has consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) 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 Programme (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 donors. During the year 2012, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Kindernothilfe, American Solidarity Center, Plan Pakistan Actionaid (through European Commission), Australian High Commission and Plan Pakistan supported SPARC's Child Rights Program whereas Good Neighbors International joined its donor base.

## Donors



Royal Norwegian Embassy



**act:onaid**



**Australian Government**  
**AusAID**



 **Good Neighbors**  
International

## 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

## Vision

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

SPARC's work is guided by the international human rights principles and standards which are integrated at policy and program level. The main guiding documents include the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) and relevant ILO Conventions.

## Highlights

During 2012, SPARC advocated for the promotion and protection of the rights of children through its Child Rights Program with the financial assistance of the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Kindernothilfe, Trocaire, American Solidarity Center, Plan Pakistan, Action Aid, Save the Children Alliance and the Australian High Commission. The main components of the program are: Child Rights, Juvenile Justice, Child Labor, Violence against Children and Civil Society Strengthening.

## Child Rights

Advocacy is at the core of our efforts as we aim to strengthen the current child rights legislation in Pakistan by lobbying with lawmakers at the federal and provincial levels. This program also seeks to reform ineffective and outdated child protection policies or legislation whilst simultaneously ensuring that the existing legislation and policies are effectively implemented and enforced.

## Universal Periodic Review

Pakistan Universal Periodic Review Stakeholder Report was submitted to the OHCHR (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) in April 2012. This submission was prepared by a coalition of 108 national and international child rights organizations working in Pakistan under the banner of the Child Rights Movement (CRM) of which SPARC is an active member. A draft report was prepared by the CRM Pakistan and shared with CRM provincial chapters in Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and civil society organizations in Sindh, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir. Additionally, three consultations were organized with 33 children from Islamabad, Vehari (rural Punjab) and Thatta (poorest part of the coastal areas of Sindh province). Government's compliance with the UNCRC and related ILO Conventions was monitored and reported for further review.

On October 30, 2012, Pakistan's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) was held at the Human Rights Council in Geneva. SPARC arranged live screenings of the UPR session in its regional offices in Quetta and Hyderabad. Moreover, SPARC representatives were invited as guest speakers in screenings arranged by other NGOs in Lahore and Karachi.

## Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict

SPARC advocated for the ratification of the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC) by engaging representatives from the media and civil society; the issue was also taken up in national forums like the Child Rights Movement (CRM) and Ministry of Human Rights. It expressed concern on recruitment of child suicide bombers, both male and female, lack of preventive measures and rehabilitation of children affected by armed conflict.

## Child Participation

·During the year, the membership of the Child Rights Clubs increased to 2,500 students in 45 schools across Pakistan. The CR Clubs aim to inculcate civic values, volunteerism and basic understanding of rights among children. The clubs carried out a range of activities during the year such as the 'Go Green' and 'Right to Free Education' campaigns. Furthermore, role playing activities



and debates were conducted on International Day of Families, World Day against Child Labor, Independence Day, International Literacy Day, Universal Children's Day, International Day of Disabled Persons and Human Rights Day. Young members also wrote articles and opinion pieces for 'Expression'- a bi-annual magazine published exclusively for children.

## Laws and Legislation

- ▲ Federal legislation saw some progress in 2012 through the passage of the “Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2012” for the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). The Act aims to ensure the provision of free education to children aged between 5-16 years, in schools established by the federal and local governments in ICT.
- ▲ In 2012, Balochistan remained the only province where no child rights legislation was either drafted or passed throughout the year. SPARC's draft of the Balochistan “Child Protection and Welfare Bill” which was shared with the provincial government was lying with the Services and General Administrative Department in 2012.
- ▲ SPARC voiced its concerns on the legal lacunae in the Punjab Destitute and Neglected Children (Amendment) Act 2007. The Act's current implementation is limited to the districts where the Child Protection Bureau has set up units, which include a meager seven out of 36 districts of Punjab. Another major loophole in the Act was identified in its Section 4(1) which contradicts the age defined in section 3(e) of the Law. Section 3(e) defines a child as a person below the age of 18, however according to section 4(1) protection proceedings may only be initiated for a child who has not attained the age of 15 years. Moreover, no concrete rules have been notified under the PDNCA nor any minimum care standards implemented in child protection institutions.





## Early Recovery

The Early Recovery Project marked SPARC's shift from relief to recovery in the flood affected areas of Nowshera and Charsadda in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It covered a range of initiatives including renovation/reconstruction of schools, setting up of Basic Health Units (BHUs), supporting needy students, reaching out to poor families, and teachers training on class room management and teaching methodologies. The beneficiaries were selected through a baseline survey based upon a random selection of 20 villages from the aforementioned districts (10 villages were selected from each district).

- ▲ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Elementary and Secondary Education Department whereby 30 schools were renovated/ reconstructed in Nowshera and Charsadda. These included schools from four Union Councils in Charsadda and six in Nowshera.
- ▲ Another MoU for the renovation/reconstruction of ten BHUs was signed with the Peoples Primary Healthcare Initiative (PPHI). During the writing of this report, renovation work on BHUs was underway in four Union Councils of Nowshera and six Union Councils of Charsadda. A total of seven medical camps were erected in both Nowshera and Charsadda where 1,277 locals were provided with free medicines and medical checkups.
- ▲ A total of 42 teachers (Male-22, Females-20) from 30 target schools were trained on child friendly classroom management. It was encouraging to find that teachers incorporated this learning in classroom decoration as well as improved teaching techniques. In addition, 28 Parents Teachers Councils were trained on their roles and responsibilities towards schools.
- ▲ Community sensitization was a key component for project's sustainability and diverse tools as awareness walks, theater performance, radio messages and school enrolment campaign.

- Under the project, poor families were given economic opportunities in the aftermath of the devastation wrought by the floods. In this regard, tuck shops were set up, sewing machines were handed over and cattle rearing activities were facilitated to stabilize the income of poor and needy households affected by the floods. So far, 30 families have been facilitated in four UCs of Charsadda (covering 13 villages) and six UCs of Nowshera (covering 11 villages). Furthermore, 2000 school bags, text books and stationery were provided to children to facilitate them in going back to schools.

## Reconstruction and Reopening of GGPS Jalo

The floods completely destroyed Government Girls Primary School- GGPS Jalo, Charsadda. This left more than 90 students to continue their studies in an overcrowded boys' school. The district education department handed over the damaged school to SPARC whereby it was reconstructed and reopened on December 19 in the presence of officials from the education department. More than 250 community members (males, females) and over 150 school children attended the ceremony.



A theater performance on the importance of education was also conducted and school bags were distributed among the female students who were shifted from GPS Jalo to GGPS Jalo.

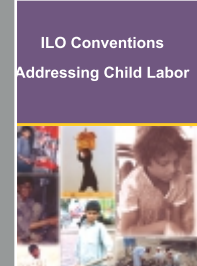
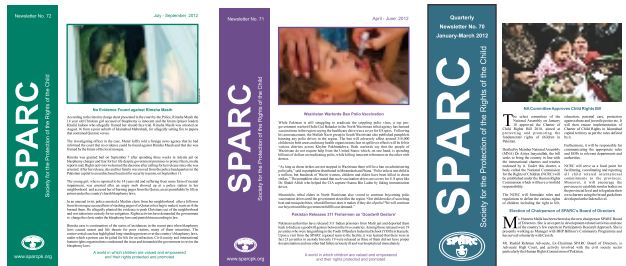
## Awareness-Raising

Awareness-raising is a key component in all of SPARC's interventions. The organization raises awareness about various child rights issues through regular publications, consultations/meetings, media briefings and a number of other activities. Through these mediums, SPARC aims to pressurize various stakeholders and mobilize support for advocacy campaigns on children's rights.

## The State of Pakistan's Children

SPARC's flagship report 'The State of Pakistan's Children 2011' was printed in English and Urdu and launched in Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta. The report has been published for the past sixteen years and encompasses all the major sectors that are relevant to child rights including; education, health, child labor, violence against children and juvenile justice. The report highlighted the debilitating state of child rights in the country during 2011 with recommendations for the government to take appropriate measures to address the issues faced by children.



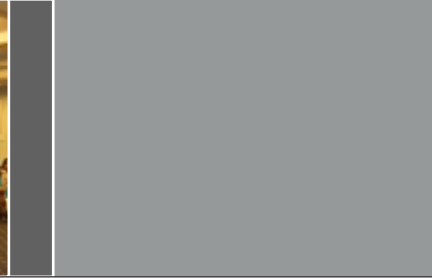


## Newsletters, Magazines and Brochures

- ✦ Newsletters in English, Urdu and Sindhi were printed and disseminated among 2,800 readers.
- ✦ SPARC's child rights magazine “Discourse” was re-launched in Urdu in 2012. This made the publication more accessible to a wider readership and helped in raising awareness on child rights issues at the grass roots level.
- ✦ In 2012, SPARC's Research and Communication Unit (RCU) produced brochures to raise awareness on; Girl Child Education in Pakistan (Urdu), Optional Protocols, Street Children, ILO Conventions, Child Labor, Corporal Punishment, Child Rights Clubs, Volunteerism and Child Rights Laws in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Punjab.
- ✦ Trainings of teachers and Parent-Teacher Councils were held in Nowshera and Charsadda. IEC material was disseminated among communities and schools which included posters/brochures on PTC roles and responsibilities and flyers on the importance of female education. Radio messages in Pushto were aired with a specific focus on the education of girls.

## Website

SPARC's website is regularly updated with emerging issues, important national and international news and so on. Its popularity can be gauged from the total number of website hits; 2, 54,310 internet users visited the website in 2012.



## Conferences

Provincial conferences on 'Child Rights in Post 18th Amendment: Challenges for Provincial Legislation' were held in Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta. The conferences aimed to understand and generate debate on the 18th Constitutional Amendment and the challenges for provincial child rights legislation. Furthermore, recommendations were proposed for the implementation of child rights in accordance with Pakistan's national and international obligations. The recommendations included legislation in congruence with Article 25-A, allocation of funds for free legal aid under the JJSO 2000 and the need to establish exclusive juvenile courts.

## Campaigns

Country wide campaigns on Child Labor Free Week, Alternatives to Corporal Punishment, World Day against Child Abuse and Universal Children's Day were organized to highlight the need for enacting and implementing child rights legislation. In addition, a nationwide campaign was carried out by various Child Rights Committees (CRCs) on the ratification of the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.



## JUVENILE JUSTICE

SPARC is working to create awareness about the plight and needs of children in conflict with the law in Pakistan, inadequacies in the country's juvenile justice system and international guidelines and agreements concerning juvenile justice. This is done through trainings on Juvenile Justice System Ordinance (JJSO 2000), improving living conditions in the juvenile sections of jails/borstal institutes and by providing legal aid to juvenile offenders.

As a result of SPARC's continuous efforts and lobbying, the KP Provincial Assembly on September 10 passed the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Borstal Institutions Act 2012. Under the Act, the government intends to establish borstals in Bannu and Haripur: SPARC has also urged the government to build a Borstal Institute in Peshawar.

## Child Rights Desks

As a result of SPARC's persistent lobbying, on May 8, 2012, the Home Department of Sindh issued a notification for establishing child rights desks in all the districts of Sindh. So far, 13 CRDs have been notified and efforts will be made to strengthen them through trainings and technical support. In addition to the already existing CRDs in East Karachi, West Karachi, South Karachi and Hyderabad, new CRDs were established in Mirpurkhas, Badin, Mithi, Dadu, Khairpur, Sukkur, Umerkot, Larkana and Sanghar.



## Police Trainings

Police officials in all the provinces were given training on dealing with children in conflict with the law. Trainings were conducted at Police institutes in Karachi, Hangu, Sialkot and Bahawalpur.

- ▲ In Sindh, Police Master Trainers of the Saeedabad Police Academy were trained on child rights. These master trainers will go on to train other police officials in the academy.
- ▲ In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, training of Police master trainers was conducted in Hangu. One of the encouraging outcomes of the session was the incorporation of child rights related laws in the academic syllabus of police officials. The content has been translated in Urdu and around 1000 copies will be printed for distribution among trainees and officials in the year 2013.
- ▲ In Punjab, master trainers were trained in Bahawalpur and Sialkot. Moreover, a child rights desk was also set up in Sialkot.

### **Police Training and Capacity Building for Democracy and Human Rights Project (PTCB)**

SPARC and Plan Pakistan initiated a 'Police Training and Capacity Building for Democracy and Human Rights Project' (PTCBP) in 2010. The overall objective of this three year (2010- 2013) project is to train the Islamabad police force in various aspects of child protection and ensure that the basic rights of citizens are upheld. The activities conducted under the project include;

**Sensitization Sessions:** During the year, around 3,450 members of the security division of ICT Police, 750 trainees of Police Training School, 413 officials of traffic division and 217 community members and police officers attended sensitization sessions on child rights. The total number of trainees in 2012 surpassed 4,500.

**National Conference:** In September, a national level conference on 'Policing for Child and Human Rights' was held in Islamabad. An estimated 200 police officials serving in Police academies as well as field and training units were invited for the Conference which called for the institutionalization of JJSO and incorporation of child related laws in the training syllabus and operational practices at the police station level. Community members, children and NGOs also attended the conference.

**Exposure Visit:** An exposure visit to Karachi was arranged for a group of 18 master trainers (police officials of various ranks from DSPs to constables) representing the ICT police and traffic division from July 16-18. The group visited the Saeedabad Police Academy, child rights desk, Remand Home and Citizen-Police Liaison Committee Headquarter in Karachi. The exposure visit allowed group members to share their experiences on community policing and child protection during investigation.

**Awareness raising campaign:** The campaign involved display of banners and posters, airing of radio messages, celebrity testimonials and short stories on issues related to child rights and child protection. IEC material was disseminated among the participants of sensitization sessions and training modules were sent to various stakeholders.

### **Legal Aid and Improvement of Prison Conditions**

- ▲ As a result of SPARC's advocacy with the Chief Justice of Sindh High Court regarding Indian juvenile prisoners, the Government of Pakistan released 311 Indian prisoners and sent them back to India on June 27. The prisoners included 19 juvenile inmates who were languishing in the Youthful Offenders Industrial School (YOIS) in Karachi.
- ▲ Legal aid was provided to 274 juvenile inmates from all the provinces. These included 112 inmates from Punjab, 88 from Sindh, 64 from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 10 from Balochistan.
- ▲ Items of everyday use including warm clothing, health and hygiene material as well as recreational material were provided in the borstal institutes and juvenile wards of the country. In addition, a basketball court was set up in the YOIS in Karachi, recreational material was given to inmates of the YOIS Hyderabad and hygiene kits were distributed in the YOISs in Sukkur and Larkana.



- ▲ SPARC Peshawar started a livelihood training course on general electrical work in Haripur Jail. The training was facilitated by ABACUS Polytechnic College (Registered under NWFP Board of Technical Education and BISE, Abbottabad). A total of 14 juvenile inmates were enrolled in the first batch.

## Probation

- ▲ SPARC has been consistently lobbying for increasing the number of probation officers in Sindh. In this regard, some progress was observed in 2010 when a number of probation officers were selected; however, they were not formally inducted by the provincial government. SPARC continued with its relentless lobbying which resulted in the formal induction of 16 probation and 13 parole officers. The organization arranged a one day orientation session on child rights for the newly appointed officers and provided necessary furniture to make their offices operational.
- ▲ In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the High Court directed all the district and sessions judges of the province to furnish details about juveniles who were sentenced to imprisonment instead of probation. In response to SPARC's letter, the Probation Department directed all the probation/parole officers in the province to raise the issue of juvenile probation in their respective CJCC meetings with the District and Sessions Judges.

## Liaison with Judiciary

SPARC organized a major event for the sensitization of the judiciary on probation laws in collaboration with the Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The participants included 48 judges, lawyers, and officials from relevant departments as well as the Chief Justice of the Peshawar High Court. The participants gave a number of recommendations on the administration of juvenile justice which were an indicator of their increased awareness on child protection issues. Some of the recommendations were:

- ▲ Concerned authorities should determine the age of a juvenile before sending him/her to a judicial lock-up.

- ^ SHO should forward copies of FIRs against children to probation and investigation officers in order to prepare history sheet of the child.
- ^ The government should take immediate measures to establish special juvenile courts.
- ^ There should be a possibility of inclusion of new offences in the schedule of the probation and parole law.
- ^ The government should appoint psychiatrists/ psychologists to review the mental state of juvenile offenders.

The Sindh High Court (through the Registrar) requested the Sindh Judicial Academy and SPARC's Karachi office to impart training on child rights laws to a newly inducted batch of 24 judicial magistrates and civil judges in October 2012.

In Punjab, SPARC conducted an orientation session for 80 prison staff members from all over Pakistan. Request for the session was made by the Director General of the National Academy of Prison Administration (NAPA). A similar orientation session was facilitated in the Hyderabad Police Headquarters in Sindh: participants in the session included prosecutors, police officials and prison staff. Similarly, a follow up session on prison rules and various laws dealing with juveniles in detention was arranged for senior jail staff (Deputy and Assistant Superintendants Jails and Jailers) in Hyderabad in October 2012.



## CHILD LABOR

Child Labor is a provincial subject under the 18th Constitutional Amendment. In this regard, SPARC exhorted the provincial governments to enact comprehensive legislation against child labor which is in-line with Article 25-A (right to free and compulsory education) of the Constitution of Pakistan. Following developments have been made with regards to provincial child labor legislation;

- ✦ Punjab has enacted the Punjab Employment of Children (Amendment) Act 2011. The law is an unchanged appropriation of the federal law at the provincial level and contains the former's shortcomings. In this regard, SPARC has called for a complete ban on child domestic labor by notifying it under the schedule of banned occupations in the Employment of children (Amendment) Act 2011.
- ✦ In 2012, SPARC held a meeting with the Director Labor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa who apprised the team on the status of the child labor law in the province after the 18th Amendment. It was revealed that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Labor Department has drafted the 'Prohibition of Employment of Children Bill' under which the employment of children up to the age of 14 years will be completely prohibited. Moreover, according to the bill, persons between the ages of 14 to 18 years will come under the definition of adolescents.
- ✦ SPARC held a meeting with the Director Industries, Minerals and Technical Education-FATA Secretariat to seek information on the administrative set up for the implementation of ECA in the tribal agencies. The Director showed keen interest in receiving technical support from SPARC in formulating Child Labor Policies for FATA.
- ✦ SPARC extended technical support to the Labor and Manpower Department Balochistan for enacting the 'Balochistan Prohibition of Employment of Children Bill'. Earlier, the bill was

returned un-vetted by the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department due to inconsistencies in the schedule of light and hazardous work with other provisions of the Bill. SPARC also called for replacing the term 'employment of children' with 'child labor'.

## Researches on Child Labor

In 2011, SPARC initiated the 'Developing Linkages with Universities Project' which encourages students to conduct researches on various child rights and child protection issues. The research studies are undertaken as part of the students' dissertation requirement for a Masters degree. In this regard, SPARC facilitated two students from Quaid I Azam University Islamabad, who conducted researches on child bonded labor in the Brick Kilns of Hyderabad Sindh and Coal Mines of Balochistan. Currently, the primary information collected by the interns is being compiled and collated. The Research and Communication Unit of SPARC will be responsible for writing and editing the research studies which will be made available in the third quarter of 2013.

A list of various researches undertaken by students from SPARC's partner universities is given in the table below.

| <b>Developing Linkages with Universities Project</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Quaid e Azam University Islamabad</b>             |   |
| <b>Activity</b>                                      | <b>Topic</b>                                    |
| Research   | Child Labor in Brick Kilns-Hyderabad            |
| Research   | Child Labor In Coal Mines-Balochistan           |
| Research Support                                     | Parent's Perception of Child Rights -Lahore     |
| Research Support                                     | Child Labor among Children in Refugee Camps-Dir |
| Research Support                                     | Child Labor Coal Mines-Balochistan              |

### Developing Linkages with Universities Project

#### Peshawar University

| Activity         | Topic  |
|------------------|--|
| Research Support | Effects of Corporal Punishment on Children's Schooling                       |
| Research Support | Problems Faced by Juvenile Prisoners - A Case Study of Central Jail Peshawar |
| Research Support | Change Attitudes Towards Female Higher Education                             |

#### Peshawar University

| Activity         | Topic   |
|------------------|---|
| Research Support | The Aftermath of Talibanization on Education in District Malakand                   |
| Research Support | Physiological and Emotional Problems of Children in War affected Areas              |
| Research Support | Socio-cultural causes of Child Sexual Abuse and its Impact on a Child's Personality |

In 2012, SPARC's resource centers (in the Islamabad Head Office and the regional offices) remained open for researchers and students who were conducting researches on child rights or child protection. Notices were displayed on the SPARC website and in partner universities to encourage students to visit the resource centers and consult SPARC's database of books, journals and NGO reports on various issues related to children.

Furthermore, SPARC carried out 12 orientation sessions (three each) on child rights and child protection in Quaid I Azam University Islamabad, Malakand University, Peshawar University and Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi. The sessions were attended by more than 400 students and faculty members.

In 2012, SPARC facilitated an intern from the Columbia University New York in completing a report on, 'The Status of the Implementation and Enforcement of ILO Conventions Regarding Child Labor in Pakistan'. Information from the report has been used in the Child Labor chapter for the SOPC 2012.

## Child Labor Free Week

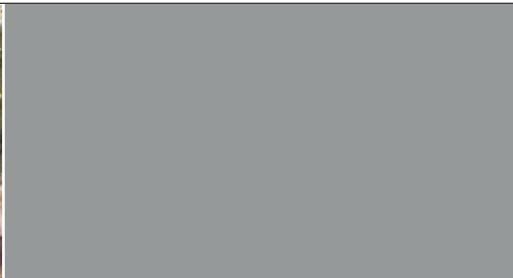
In 2012, SPARC launched a national level Child Labor Free Week (CLFW) Campaign from June 11- 16. On the occasion, Child Rights Committees (CRCs) from Bajaur, Bannu, Haripur and Malakand in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa held media orientations on child labor. In Sindh, CRC Sukkur, Naushero Feroze, Dadu, Kamber, Larkana and Umerkot arranged seminars, walks and rallies to sensitize communities and local authorities on child labor. Similarly, the Coalition against Bonded Labor (CACL) organized press conferences in Rajanpur, Buner, Sukkur and Gilgit Baltistan to raise awareness on underage employment.

During the CLFW campaign, child labor and the actions needed to curb it were highlighted by the national, regional and local media. Media coverage included 38 press releases/articles and five television news items/coverage on the issue of underage employment. In 2012, 65 press releases, articles, editorials, letters, and event coverage on child labor appeared in various newspapers.



## Trainings of Labor Department and Media

Throughout the year, SPARC held a number of meetings with the provincial labor departments to increase the minimum age of employment, in line with the Article 25-A of the Constitution. These meetings were part of SPARC's lobbying for increasing the minimum age of employment in the upcoming provincial laws on child labor after the 18th Amendment. Furthermore, SPARC organized seven training sessions (covering all provinces) to sensitize key officials, including 81 labor inspectors, 107 media personnel and other professionals from the labor department on the worst forms of child labor and the need for the effective implementation of the ECA. SPARC also conducted focus group discussions on the worst forms of child labor in all provinces involving 148 participants.



## Bonded Labor

There is a high prevalence of bonded labor including child bonded labor in the brick kiln industry, especially in the provinces of Punjab and Sindh. In this context, SPARC continued with its efforts to address the plight of bonded laborers in Multan and Hyderabad. The details of SPARC's interventions in this regard are given below;

## Right to Identity, Healthcare and Education

- ▲ Throughout 2012, SPARC facilitated the provision of 1,412 birth registration certificates and 5,716 computerized national identity cards to bonded laborers in Hyderabad and Multan. This ensured the fundamental right of identity for bonded laborers and made them eligible for a number of state benefits.
- ▲ Freed or escaped bonded laborers in Hari Camps are deprived of basic facilities of health, sanitation and education. SPARC organized two medical camps in the Hari Camps of Hyderabad and Badin where 937 women and children received free medical treatment.
- ▲ In 2012, SPARC helped in setting up 20 modern brick kilns (10 in Hyderabad and 10 in Multan). Sanitation facilities were provided to bonded laborers in the model brick kilns with separate pit latrines for males and females.
- ▲ SPARC also helped in enrolling the children of freed bonded laborers in schools. So far, 1,428 children have been enrolled in government schools.

## Registration of brick kilns and trade unions

SPARC's consistent efforts have resulted in the registration of 450 brick kilns with the Sindh Labor Department. As a result of Public Interest Litigation filed by SPARC, 318 brick kilns (out of the 450) were registered directly with the Sindh Employees Social Security Institution (SESSI). SPARC also helped in establishing/reviving trade unions for brick kiln workers. Furthermore, trade union members were trained on planning and organizing their activities. SPARC's success in establishing and organizing trade unions was evident in Tando Haider where more than 2000 laborers have joined the Tando Haider Bhatta Mazdoor Union.



## Police Anti Bonded Labor Cells

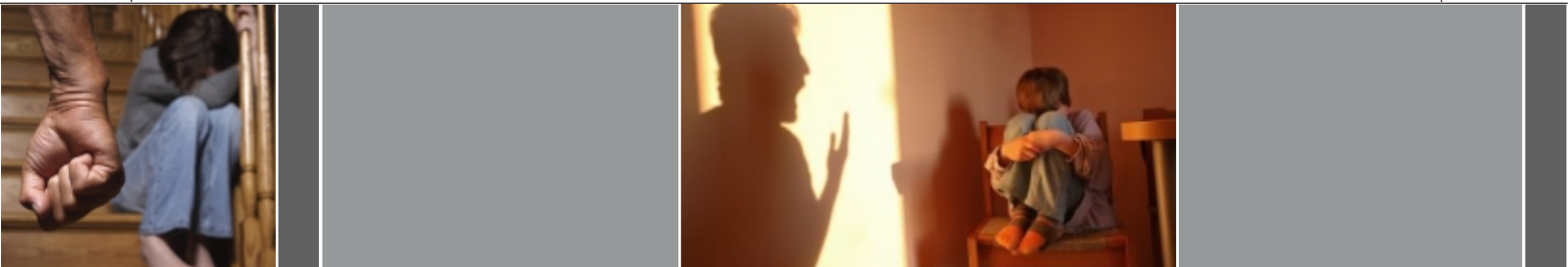
Police Anti Bonded Labor Cells (PABLCs) were set up in Hyderabad, Badin and Mithi to provide a specialized platform for addressing the issues of bonded laborers. SPARC facilitated various PABLCs in resolving 19 cases of economic exploitation of farmers by landlords.

## Advocacy and Awareness Raising Initiatives

- ▲ In 2012, SPARC organized a policy seminar in Lahore on the 'Existing Structures and Status of Public Services to Brick Kiln Workers and Bonded Laborers'. Key stakeholders including MPAs, Labor Department Officials, and representatives from the ILO, HRCP, NLF, PILER, JPC, NCJP and NCABL attended the seminar. On the occasion, Ms. Sajida Meer, Member of the Punjab Provincial Assembly expressed her resolve to forward a bill of motion on the issues faced by brick kiln workers. Some of the issues that the bill will try to address include; non-implementation of the minimum wage policy for brick kiln workers, lack of issuance of social security cards for brick kiln workers, inactive district vigilance committees, and establishment of a provincial commission on brick kiln workers in the province.



- ▲ SPARC Hyderabad organized a mega cultural festival in Mithi-District Tharparkar to raise awareness on the issue of child bonded laborers. A large number of school children took active part in the festival by participating in plays, declamations and singing and dance competitions. Government officials from the Labor and Education departments and local police officials attended the event and delivered speeches on the plight of children in debt bondage.
- ▲ On December 2, 2012, SPARC celebrated the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery by holding a rally in Multan. Thousands of brick kiln workers, trade union activists, civil society members and representatives from the Multan Bar Association participated in the event. The rally participants exhorted the government to strictly enforce the Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act 2012 and to ensure the effective implementation of Employees Social Security Ordinance 1965 to reduce the prevalence of bonded labor in Pakistan.



## Violence Against Children

Throughout the year, SPARC remained actively involved in a number of child protection initiatives to protect children from various forms of violence including; child marriages, infanticide, corporal punishment and traditional harmful practices.

SPARC lobbied for comprehensive child protection policies/legislation at the provincial level and called for effective implementation and enforcement of existing policies and laws.

- ✦ In 2012, the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa extended the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act 2010 to the Provincially Administered Tribal Areas (PATA). After this initiative, violent acts like child sexual abuse, child trafficking, corporal punishment, involvement of children in begging, sale of children's organs and child pornography have been formally criminalized in Swat, Chitral, Buner, Shangla, Malakand, and Upper and Lower Dir districts and other parts of PATA.
- ✦ In Sindh, SPARC prepared a draft bill on the Prohibition of Corporal Punishment in the province. In 2012, the Bill was moved from the Education Department to the Law Department for vetting.
- ✦ SPARC is also lobbying with the provincial government for the notification of an Authority under the Sindh Child Protection Authority Act.

## Initiatives to Address Corporal Punishment

- ▲ In 2012, SPARC carried out extensive trainings to promote positive parenting and discourage corporal punishment in all settings. In this regard, 70 master trainers were trained on positive parenting; 1,183 fathers were sensitized on the issue in ten selected union councils through the formation of fathers clubs; 4,592 children profited directly from the sensitization. Awareness campaigns on the harmful impacts of corporal punishment were conducted through electronic/print media, IEC material, display of banners and constructive dialogue between fathers and children in selected union councils.
- ▲ In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, SPARC undertook a number of initiatives to curb the use of corporal punishment in schools. In this regard, 1,400 teachers were trained on alternatives to corporal punishment in classrooms. Furthermore, SPARC's efforts resulted in the establishment of a functional school based problem solving mechanism in 75 model schools of the province. The Director of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Education Sector Reforms Unit issued a notification under which a Grievance Redress Mechanism for students and parents was set up in the Education Directorate and EDO offices of the province. A major breakthrough in promoting a friendly classroom environment in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was reached when the regional Institute of Teachers Training (RITE) incorporated contents related to classroom management, positive discipline and harmful impacts of corporal punishment in its syllabus.
- ▲ SPARC Training Unit trained a team of 25 master trainers at the Provincial Institute of Teacher Education (PITE) in Nawabshah, Sindh. The administration of PITE Sindh is incorporating the training content in its regular teacher training syllabus.
- ▲ SPARC organized provincial workshops in Peshawar and Quetta to: orient the provincial education departments on the newly established Complaint Mechanism; develop working relations with local departments; and develop liaison with NGOs and teachers associations.

## Provision of Services to Street Children

SPARC's Drop in Centers (DICs) in Hyderabad, Rawalpindi, Multan and Peshawar continued with the provision of services to children living and/or working on the streets. The services provided by the DICs include; non-formal education, psycho-social support, livelihood skills training, registration of child laborers, and health and hygiene lessons. Furthermore, the DICs provide a meal to over 4,301 street children every day. In 2012, the DICs helped to reunite more than 331 runaway children with their families. These children were referred to the DICs by various stakeholders including the local police and concerned citizens.

## Legal Aid and Fact Findings

In 2012, SPARC provided legal assistance to 89 child victims of violence. Throughout the year, a total of 277 fact findings were carried out with regards to various cases of violence against children and appropriate actions were taken to address the grievances of the victims. A major case in 2012 involved an 18 year old boy who lost his eyesight after being brutally tortured by the Tando Ghulam Hyder Police in Hyderabad, Sindh. In this regard, SPARC Karachi wrote a letter to the Chief Minister of Sindh to bring the incident to his notice: the CM directed the DIG Hyderabad to take immediate action against the accused police officials.



## Civil Society Strengthening

Throughout the year, SPARC's Child Rights Committees (CRCs) continued to monitor child rights violations at the district level. In this context, CRCs deal with issues pertaining to child abductions, infanticides, early marriages, administering of corporal punishment and re-opening of disaster affected schools, and teacher absenteeism in educational institutions. In 2012, some CRCs undertook major initiatives to identify and address cases of violence against children. For instance, CRC Sialkot made efforts to activate a Child Rights Desk in the district; CRC Bahawalpur launched a birth registration campaign in its area of operations and got more than 200 children registered; and CRC Malakand followed up on the brutal killing of an infant girl and got the accused arrested. Apart from specific cases, all of the CRCs actively participated in a number of awareness campaigns led by SPARC.

In 2012, SPARC's Training Unit strengthened the capacities of 200 CRC members on issues pertaining to child rights and emergency response. Furthermore, CRCs in Mardan, Swabi, Lower Dir, Bajaur and Abbottabad initiated a registration process with the Social Welfare Department; the Swat CRC has already been registered.

In 2012, the annual performance review of CRCs was carried out whereby three best performing CRCs were given awards. In Sindh, CRCs Larkana, Dadu and Naushero Feroze were declared the best CRCs. In Punjab, CRCs PakPattan, Faisalabad and Multan won the prizes while in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, CRCs Malakand, Buner and Swabi were recognized for their annual performance.

## Networking

In 2012, SPARC became a member of Forum Asia, a membership based organization committed to the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development. In May 2012, Mr. Imtiaz Ahmed, a SPARC representative was elected to chair the National Action Coordination Group in Pakistan under the South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC).

## Changes in Management

In 2012 Ms. Humaira Malik was elected as the new Chairperson of SPARC's Board of Directors. Ms. Malik is one of the country's leading experts on the Participatory Research Approach. There was also a change in senior management after Ms. Zarina Jillani (former Manager Research and Communication) was appointed as SPARC's Executive Director.

# Financial Overview 2012

## Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC)

### BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

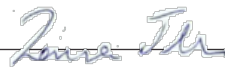
|   | Note | 2012<br>Rupees      | 2011<br>Rupees       |
|---|------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>                             |      |                     |                      |
| Property, plant and equipment                         | 4    | 12,924,837          | 15,866,787           |
| Investment Properties                                 | 5    | <u>9,450,000</u>    | <u>2,387,187</u>     |
|   |      | 22,374,837          | 19,472,505           |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                                 |      |                     |                      |
| Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables | 6    | <u>1,839,237</u>    | 8,485,427            |
| Short term investment                                 | 7    | 25,964,044          | 604,454              |
| Cash and bank balances                                | 8    | <u>64,799,189</u>   | <u>121,000,548</u>   |
|   |      | 92,602,470          | 130,090,429          |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                            |      |                     |                      |
| Trade and other payables                              | 9    | <u>(4,847,105)</u>  | <u>(3,404,253)</u>   |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                             |      | <u>87,755,365</u>   | <u>126,686,176</u>   |
| <b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                        |      |                     |                      |
| Restricted grants                                     | 10   | <u>(54,178,402)</u> | <u>(14,044,919)</u>  |
| Deferred capital grant                                | 11   | <u>(12,254,846)</u> | <u>(7,219,615)</u>   |
| Deferred liability for gratuity                       | 12   | <u>(11,426,493)</u> | <u>(3,422,812)</u>   |
|   |      | <u>(77,859,741)</u> | <u>(122,558,271)</u> |
| <b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>                               |      | <u>32,270,461</u>   | <u>23,600,410</u>    |
| <b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>                                |      |                     |                      |
| Fund balance  | 13   | <u>32,270,461</u>   | <u>23,600,410</u>    |
|   |      | <u>32,270,461</u>   | <u>23,600,410</u>    |

### CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS

The annexed notes 1 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements



Chairman - SPARC



Executive Director

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

|  | Note | 2012<br>Rupees       | 2011<br>Rupees       |
|--|------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                                      |      |                      |                      |
| Restricted grants                                  | 10   | 153,794,320          | 160,679,327          |
| Authorization of deferred capital grant            | 11   | 4,290,875            | 2,209,355            |
| Other operating income                             | 15   | <u>9,871,423</u>     | <u>3,602,475</u>     |
|  |      | 167,956,618          | 166,509,157          |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                                 |      |                      |                      |
| Programme expenses                                 | 16   | <u>(119,671,654)</u> | <u>(134,150,085)</u> |
| Administrative expenses                            | 17   | <u>(35,252,029)</u>  | <u>(26,672,222)</u>  |
| Depreciation on items property plant and equipment |      | <u>(4,362,884)</u>   | <u>(2,282,845)</u>   |
|  |      | <u>(159,286,567)</u> | <u>(163,105,152)</u> |
| <b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>                        |      | <u>8,670,051</u>     | <u>3,404,005</u>     |

The annexed notes 1 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements

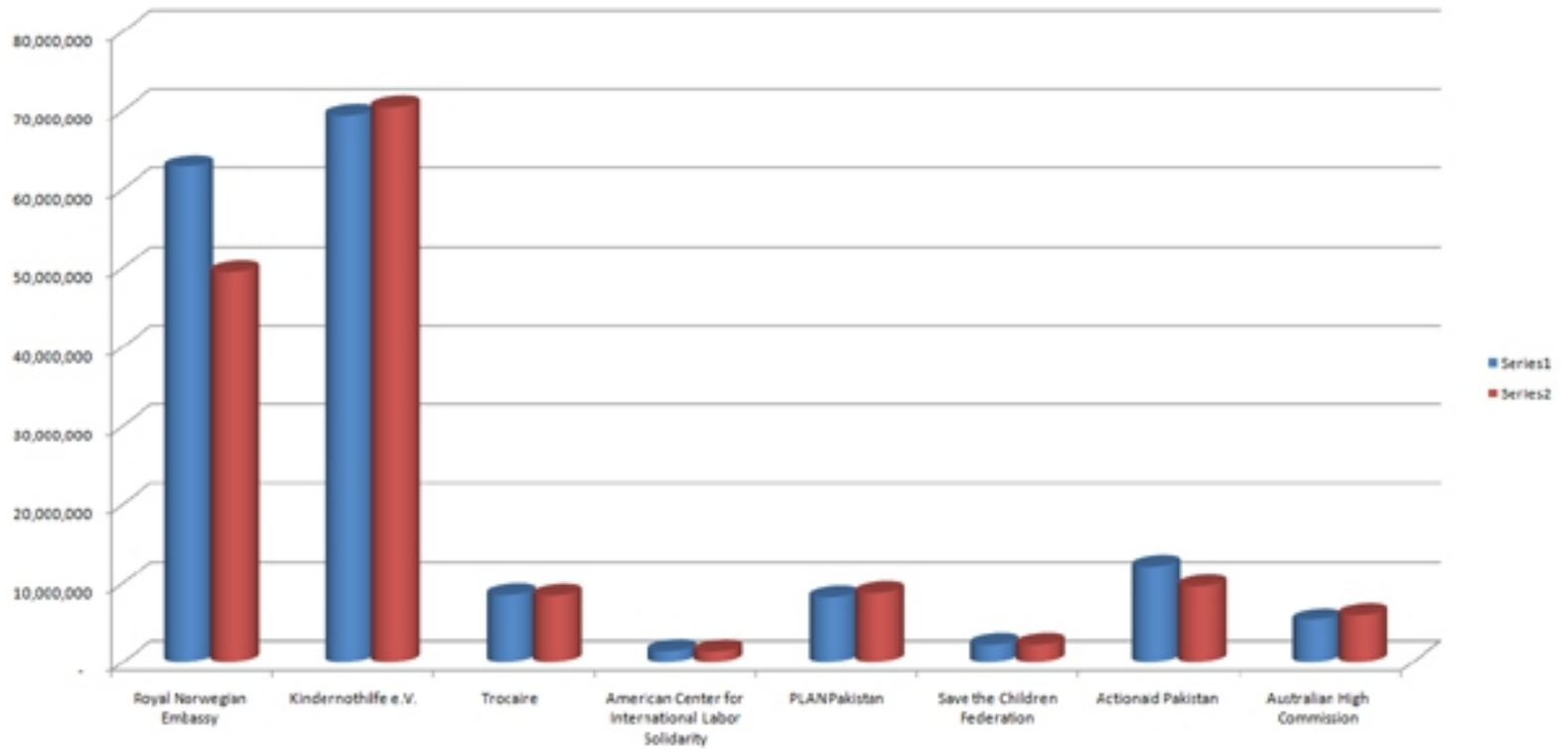


Chairman - SPARC



Executive Director

## Income & Expenditures



Child Rights Programme 2012





**Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child**

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