



Norwegian University of Life Sciences
Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Noragric

2015

ISSN 2464-1472

Report nr. 1

Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Pakistan

**Workshop/seminar: 'Gender, Human Security and
Development in Post-Conflict Swat, NWFP, Pakistan', 2011.**

Prepared by: Helena Svele, Ingrid Nyborg and Ingvild Jacobsen



The Department of International Environment and Development Studies is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU). The Department's activities include research, education and assignments.

This report is part of a report series titled 'Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Pakistan'. The report series includes reports from workshops and seminars that have taken place during the 4-year research project *Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Pakistan: Policy Implications for Local, Gendered Perceptions of Security and Development*.

The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the author and cannot be attributed directly to the Department of International Environment and Development Studies or the Norwegian University of Life Sciences.



**The Research Council
of Norway**

Helena Svele, Ingrid Nyborg and Ingvild Jacobsen.

Report from workshop/seminar 'Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Swat, NWFP, Pakistan', 2011.

Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Noragric
Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)

P.O. Box 5003

N-1432 Aas Norway

<http://www.nmbu.no/en/about-nmbu/faculties/samvit/departments/noragric>

ISSN 2464-1472

Photo (cover): Ingvild Jacobsen. Malam Jabba Ski Resort destroyed by militants in 2009 during the conflict in Swat, Pakistan, 2011.

Cover design: Berit Hopland/NMBU, Linn Jäckle/NMBU

Workshop/Seminar

‘Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Swat, NWFP, Pakistan’

Thursday, July 21st 2011

**Venue: COMSATS Institute for Information Technology (CIIT), Abbottabad,
Pakistan**

August 2015

Report nr. 1 in the report series: Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Pakistan

Prepared by:

Helena Svele, Ingrid Nyborg and Ingvild Jacobsen

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Workshop on ‘Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict, Swat’	1
Workshop Summary	1
Introduction of COMSATS, COMSATS/UMB collaboration, COMSATS role in the project	1
Introduction to UMB and detailed introduction to the project.....	2
Current progress of the project	4
Description of research work by PhD student Kashif Khan at Noragric, UMB: “Development Discourses, Security and Livelihood Realities in the Swat Valley”	5
Description of research work by PhD student Ingvild Jacobsen, Noragric, UMB: “Whose Security and What Form of Security? A Qualitative Study of Women’s Experiences of Everyday Life in Swat”	5
Presentation by invited organizations	6
Discussing Session	9

Introduction

Workshop on ‘Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict, Swat’.

A workshop was held on 21st July 2011 at COMSATS Institute for Information Technology (CIIT), Abbottabad, in collaboration with the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB). The purpose of the workshop was to give an introduction to the joint research project on “Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Swat”. The objective of the workshop was to spread information about the project among the participants, a mix of development organizations and academia, share a common understanding on the topic of research, and find synergies between the different actors involved.

Workshop Summary

The workshop opened with an introduction by Adeel Malik, followed by a recitation from the Quran by Muhammed Rafaqat. The welcome note was given by the director of CIIT Abbottabad, Khan Gul Jadoon, followed by a self-introduction by all the participants.

Introduction of COMSATS, COMSATS/UMB collaboration, COMSATS role in the project

Dr. Bahadar Nawab starts his session with an introduction to COMSATS, stating the mission and vision of the university. He demonstrates how the enrolment of students has increased since its inception, hosting more than 5000 students at present. CIIT Abbottabad has scored well on many rankings nationally. The university is involved in social services; among these are emergency and relief activities, as well as fundraising after the earthquake in 2005 and flood in 2010. Furthermore, the IDP’s in Swat have been given support. Recently, a home for orphans was established – “Pakistan Sweet Home”. Employees and students are also contributing on monthly basis to the “Taleem Fund”.

The institutional collaboration with UMB started in 2006, involving students and staff exchange. A Master Programme on Sustainable Water, Sanitation, Health and Development was initiated in 2007 with the support from UMB. Through funds by NORAD, a project on “Food & Livelihood Security in Post-Conflict Swat” was implemented from 2009-2010. This project has been followed up by the project on “Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Swat”. At the end of the session, Dr. Bahadar Nawab states the vision for 2020, as well as the challenges and opportunities for CIIT.

Introduction to UMB and detailed introduction to the project

Dr. Ingrid Nyborg starts the next session with a brief presentation of UMB and Noragric, explaining the interdisciplinary character of the department. Moreover, she presents the study programmes at Noragric, as well as its institutional cooperation with universities worldwide. Next point in the session is a basic explanation of the joint research project on “Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Swat”, informing about the scope of it as well as presenting the researchers attached to the project. She then announces the main objective of the project, as follows:

To explore, using the concept of human security, how women and men's local experiences and understandings of insecurity, vulnerability and development relate to security and development discourses, policies and programs in post-conflict situations.

Following up on this, she describes the characteristics of post-conflict contexts, with transitions from militaristic to civilian security, and from humanitarian to developmental assistance. These transitions are difficult, and are dominated by military security discourses, as well as short-term humanitarian interventions. The problem is that there are several limitations with these discourses, because they give a simplified view of security not recognizing the various forms of insecurities faced by local men and women. Neither do they understand how gender plays a role in security. Seeing development as merely

service delivery also lead to several problems. The importance of local competency is often ignored, and the root causes of poverty and inequality are not being properly addressed. Alternative analyses of security and development have the potential of changing discourses and influence policies on national and international level.

Policy makers and researchers frequently use concepts such as security, human security, conflict, development and gender, but the meanings of these concepts are contested. For instance, security could stand for security of the state, as well as security of the individual. When we talk about human security we refer to the UN term combining ‘freedom from want’ and ‘freedom from fear’, but this is something that is also very much based on the context.

After going through the relevant concepts, Dr. Ingrid Nyborg presents the four sub-objectives of our research project:

1. To explore how women, men and communities cope with different kinds of insecurity (i.e. food, environmental, political, and personal) as they pursue their livelihoods in post-conflict contexts.
2. To explore how women and men perceive the role of state (government officials, local police, military) and non-state institutions (village leadership, religious leaders, civil society groups, local and international NGOs) in contributing to, preventing or mitigating different types of conflicts i.e. political, access to natural resources, inheritance, divorce, denial of rights etc.
3. To explore how state and non-state institutions perceive their roles and responsibilities in securing women and men in local communities, including accountability issues.
4. What implications does a local understanding of human security have for integrating gender into security and development discourses, programs and policies?

Following the proclamation of the sub-objectives, the chosen research methodology is presented. While some secondary data will be gathered, the primary data will be of major importance. The primary data will be collected through fieldwork in six villages in Swat, implementing a qualitative research strategy. This strategy will include qualitative question guides with the use of semi-structured questions in both key informant/individual interviews and focus group interviews. Other methods that will be used are life histories, participant observation and some other tools, such as wealth ranking, participatory mapping and observation.

Furthermore, she makes clear the process and analysis of the project. This includes fieldwork with the local partner, Hujra, and cooperation with the national organization, Rozan. Participatory analysis workshops are to be organized on a regularly basis. The plan is also to make use of a database sorting qualitative data. Another aim of the project is capacity building and strengthening of institutions.

She also underlines that we are facing challenges due to the changing security situation, but hopefully we will sort this out with the help from our local partners.

In the end of the session, she explains what the results of the research would comprise. The plan includes writing of scientific articles, constant sharing of results with interested stakeholders through workshops, summaries and web sites, policy advising, competence building, as well as strengthening of development studies at both UMB and CIIT. After the session, the participants are free to ask questions and contribute with comments.

Current progress of the project

Dr. Bahadar Nawab starts the new session referring to the Norad frame agreement on livelihood, security and development in post-conflict Swat. He explains the objectives of the project, including an understanding of the background of the conflict, an understanding of the current situation, and identification of the gaps. Next, he presents the selection of villages, in which Koza Bandai, Nengolai, Islampur and Madyan are the chosen villages for fieldwork so far. He further mentions the thematic areas already explored, being the background of the conflict, livelihood, security, development and the

linkages and interaction of the thematic areas. In the end, he explains the major findings and conclusions so far.

Description of research work by PhD student Kashif Khan at Noragric, UMB: “Development Discourses, Security and Livelihood Realities in the Swat Valley”

Next on the program is a presentation of the research project by PhD student Kashif Khan. First, he introduces the background of his research, referring to the present development discourse in Pakistan, “Development, Dialogue and Deterrence”, and explains how the population in the Swat district have been suffering from a war-like situation. The four research objectives are presented as follows:

- To analyze historically the interests of the actors and parties in the current conflict?
- To analyze discourses formulated by actors as part of the North Western Pakistan conflict?
- To analyse the responses to the discourses in terms of human security with reference to livelihoods in the Swat valley?
- To carry out a comparison of the responses in terms of Swat and Peshawar valleys?

Next, he presents the conceptual framework based on discourse analysis, human security approach and livelihoods revival framework. His data collection is to be grounded in fieldwork, using interviews and focus group discussions. He also mentions the specific insecurities faced by the women in Swat.

Description of research work by PhD student Ingvild Jacobsen, Noragric, UMB: “Whose Security and What Form of Security? A Qualitative Study of Women’s Experiences of Everyday Life in Swat”

Ingvild Jacobsen starts the session with an explanation of her PhD project exploring women’s perceptions and experiences of security through a gender perspective. Further,

she presents her research area in Swat, and the fieldwork, relying on focus group discussions, semi-structured interviews, life histories and participant observation.

The research objectives are presented as follows:

- To gain knowledge and understanding of women's experiences and perceptions of the security situation in their everyday lives after the insurgency and military action in Swat.
- Women's experiences and perceptions of security will be studied in relation to health, education, mobility and social support.
- Women's committees, groups, organizations and networks as well as the challenges in this work will be a central issue to study.

She explains that human security, feminist security studies, gender relations, power and empowerment will be the basis for the theoretical and conceptual framework.

Presentation by invited organizations

Hujra

Saleem from Hujra (Holistic Understanding for Justified Research and Action) is giving an introduction to their organization, explaining its character as a non-profit, non-political, non-ethnic, development oriented locally based organization in Swat. Further, he presents its vision and mission, as well as their thematic areas:

- Eradication of poverty
- Gender mainstreaming
- Education
- Health
- Agriculture
- Conservation of natural resources.

Hujra is also supported by several national and international donor organizations.

Rozan

Sayyed continues the session, giving an introduction to Islamabad based organization Rozan, explaining its mission, main strategies and programs. Their main strategies constitutes of training and capacity building, awareness raising, counselling and advocacy. Rozan's programs are presented, as follows:

- *Rabta* – Police Training Program
- *Aangan* – Children's program
- *Youth Help Line* – Youth's Program
- *Zeest* – Women's Program
- *Hamqadam* – Men's Program
- *Munsalik* – Media Program

He further explains the implementation of Attitudinal Change Module (ACM) that is based on a composition of self-awareness, life skills and social awareness.

After the lunch break, other invited participants for the first day of the workshop are asked to introduce themselves and their work.

Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)

SDPI is an independent research organization based in Islamabad, having linkages within Pakistan and South Asia. The organization is concentrated around 8 research areas:

- Environment
- Food Security and Drinking Water
- Energy
- Social Sector Development
- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Economic Development

- Governance
- Peace & Conflict / Human Security

The organization is focusing on policy-outreach through sessions with policy makers and other stakeholders. They are publishing reports, working papers and books, and are providing training and capacity building. In addition, the organisation is working close with the media. The representatives from SDPI share with us a history of research on post-conflict contexts, particularly the situations of vulnerable people. Recently, they have done a study on forestry, deforestation and livelihoods in Swat.

Aware Girls

Aware Girls is a non-profit organisation led by young women striving towards women empowerment, gender equality and peace.

Core areas of the organisation are:

- Women rights as human rights
- Social, Cultural, and Political Rights of Women
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights of Young Women including HIV/AIDS
- Peace, non-violence, tolerance and Pluralism
- Promotion of Micro entrepreneurship among young women

Their main strategies are organizing women's groups, capacity building, awareness raising, peer education and discussion groups, advocacy, dialogue, networking and partnership building. Saba from Aware Girls informs us that they have also been working with issues related to displacement and has provided relief activities. In terms of advocacy, the organization has pushed towards a Sexual Harassment Bill, which is on its way. Combating extremism is also part of their agenda.

UNDP TAMEER

UNDP Technical Assistance for Management of Earthquake Early Recovery (TAMEER) is working in the earthquake-affected areas of PAK and KPK. The organization was

initiated as a response to the immense devastation in these areas after the earthquake in 2005, and provides technical, physical and intellectual support at federal, provincial and national level. The objectives are:

- To facilitate the government in the timely, equitable and sustained implementation of National Plan of Action for earthquake rehabilitation and reconstruction
- To prepare for future disasters

Dr. Fazaur from UNDP Tameer emphasizes that they are integrating gender into their reconstruction and rehabilitation projects, and are working towards a safe environment for women, for instance through the provision of legal aid for women. Women in female-headed households affected by the earthquake have also been allocated a monthly sum for their livelihoods.

Discussing Session

Following up on the previous sessions, Dr. Ingrid Nyborg opens the floor for discussion, looking for synergies, and asks whether there are special topics of interest that we might implement in our coming workshops. She mentions that we have already started collaboration with Rozan, focusing on the role of the police, both before and after the conflict. Other pilot projects could perhaps be developed, so that we are working towards a more action-oriented research. Follow-up work with SDPI could be done in terms of livelihood issues. She says we also make use of Hujra's competency on livelihoods and resource management. In addition, there are several women organizations that we could link with. Our project website will be useful in terms of sharing ideas and material, and our research will be a place where we could share interests and link them together.

Saleem from Hujra suggests that other possible actors, such as the Department of Development Studies at Swat University and other CBO's working at the village level in Swat could be attached to our project. Ingrid is sharing her experiences from work with

CBO's in Afghanistan, and underlines that we are trying to be ambitious. Part of the project is also the capacity building.

Rozan points out the relevance of their research on men and boys against violence against women in relation to our project.

Saleem highlights the issue of land and entitlement to land on Swat. In this case, gender is important, since women do not have the right to land. There have been several court cases around the issue of land. Further research on land issues is needed, including a comparison before and after conflict.

Dr. Nawab asks whether there have evolved any new tracks after the conflict. Saleem mentions the recognition of NGO's as a positive development. Agencies are working more for the people. People are also learning to rely on their own capability, as they have experienced disasters such as earthquake, floods and conflict. They now know how to cope with the situation if the flood comes again.

Dr. Nawab points out the prevalence of relative peace in Swat. We do not know how long this will remain. Reconciliation is not an easy task. Saleem says that the government are making plans for de-radicalization. However, they should also give some incentives for the affected families of those who have been in custody. Peace is uncertain. We know that upper and lower Dir is now insecure. Sustainability cannot be ensured unless there is stability in the broader area. Ingrid draws attention to the role of the army. What happens when the army leaves? We do not know. Negotiation between the people is a challenge.

Dr. Fazaal points out that Swat was and still is one of the most educated areas in Pakistan. Questions we need to ask are why the militancy spread from here, and how we can differentiate between Taliban and other militants?

Saleem stresses the importance of codes of conduct during fieldwork, and that one should be careful of not harming oneself or others. Dr. Ingrid agrees, specifying that there are

ethical guidelines for sensitive areas. It is crucial to establish mutual trust. Particularly when it comes to personal issues, the researcher needs to be cautious when asking questions. Try not to make the respondent suspicious. She also points out that we are trying to have an open approach, informing the people, police and military about our project. Confidentiality is still needed.

Dr. Nawab is summing up the session, and then passes the word to the director who gives the closing note and vote of thanks for the day.