

5. MAJOR COMPLETED AND ONGOING PROJECTS

To date, GRACE has implemented and sustained more than 50 small and medium sized projects in health, education, environment, agriculture and culture :

- GRACE established and provides basic primary education for all children including girls and children with disabilities at GRACE Public School Skardu. More than 7000 children graduated from GRACE supported schools since 2007.
- Currently GRACE is the only organisation introducing inclusive education in the region through GRACE Public Schools ensuring access and a friendly environment to 350 children (70% girls, 14% children with disabilities).
- GRACE is providing English language courses to adolescents from disadvantaged families in Skardu, Gilgit and Khaplu districts of G-B since 2010. So far 205 male and female (14-18 years old) adolescents completed the 2-years English language course in two batches.
- GRACE completed several safe drinking and irrigation water channel projects during the last five years.
- GRACE is running youth skill enhancement and youth exchange programs through partnerships with supporting organizations and networks.
- GRACE played a vital role in humanitarian assistance activities during Pakistan flooding 2010-11.
- GRACE successfully introduced a sustainable community-based climate change adaptation project funded by ONE-UN Joint Program on Environment during 2010-13 and got recognition from the donor.
- GRACE successfully completed a pilot project to introduce inclusive education and conducted a sampling baseline survey in 53 rural villages and 80 public and private primary schools to assess the needs and issues related to inclusive education in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Currently GRACE is focusing three major programs:

1. The English Access Microscholarship Program for adolescents from economically disadvantaged families in Gilgit, Skardu and Khaplu districts of Gilgit-Baltistan; and
2. Ensuring access plus quality primary education for all children including girls and children with disabilities in public and private primary schools in the rural villages in Gilgit-Baltistan and Charsadda KPK;
3. Providing clean drinking water and sanitation facilities in poor and disadvantaged rural villages in Skardu & Khaplu Gilgit-Baltistan.

6. PROJECT PARTNERS

- Local project communities
- GRACE members and volunteers,
- Australian High Commission Direct Aid Program Islamabad
- U.S Embassy Islamabad (For English Access Program)
- Embassy of Japan in Pakistan
- One UN JPE/Climate Change Division Islamabad
- The Brookings Institution – Center for Universal Education (Assisted GRACE founder Khadim Hussain to study how to foster inclusive education and pilot a post study project)
- JIPPO (NPO) Japan

7. TAKE ACTION / DONATE!

Support A Project

GRACE believes in change that is visible, replicable and sustainable. We assure you of a high level of transparency in the use of your financial support and accountability for our performance and quality.

Currently we are seeking funding for projects ensuring access plus quality for all children in public and private primary schools in rural villages of Gilgit-Baltistan Pakistan. We will provide you with the full project document after receiving your expression of interest. Please contact us for more information. Thank you!

Donate Online:

GRACE relies on the generosity of individuals and donors to help our educational and sustainable community development programs especially to ensure access plus quality primary education for all children. If you want DONATE for this cause, please make your wishes known when you want donate online: <http://www.grace.org.pk/donate.php> GRACE confirms all donations in the form of an official receipt.

Be A GRACE Volunteer :

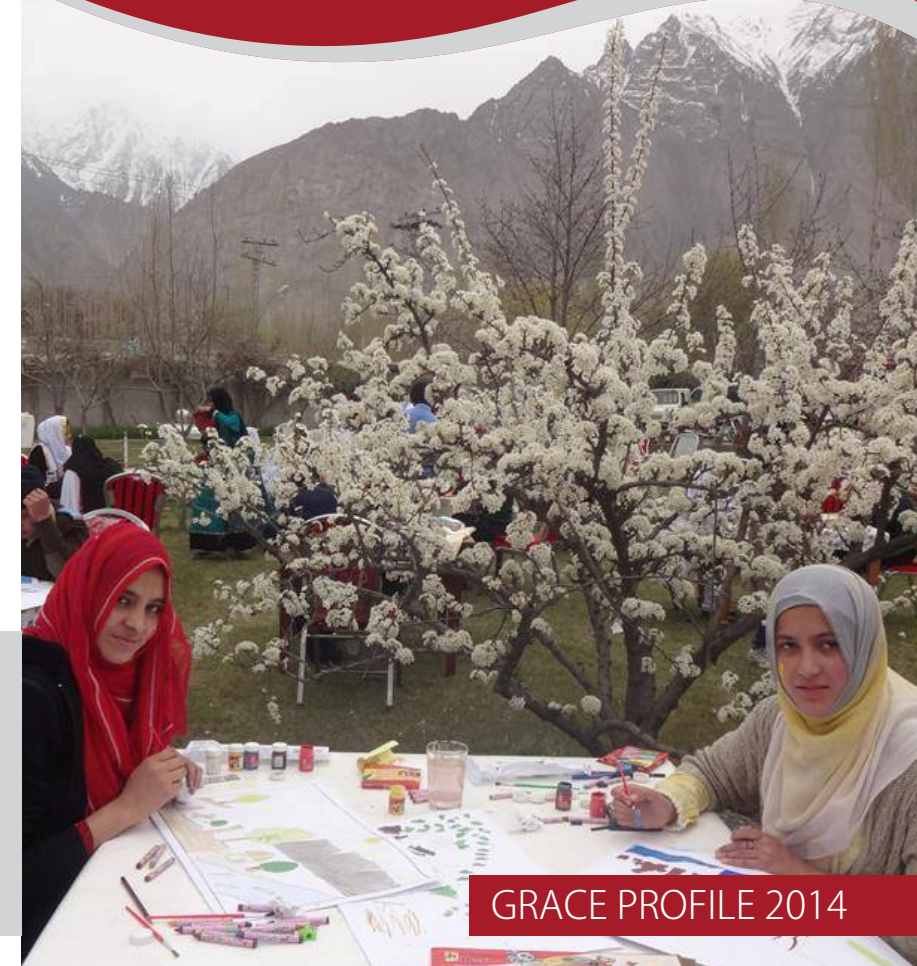
You can also become a GRACE Volunteer! please write us via our website contact form http://grace.org.pk/take_volunteer.php we will be in touch with you shortly!

If you have any questions, please contact us via grace@grace.org.pk

Contact Address:

GRACE Association Pakistan Registered Office - 27-E, 3rd Floor,
Office # 5, Ali Plaza, Fazal-e-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel/Fax: +92-51-2829970, Mob: +92-346-5016822
Email: grace@grace.org.pk | Website: www.grace.org.pk

An Innovative Journey towards Sustainable Community Development



1. ABOUT GRACE

Since its inception the Grassroots Association for Community Empowerment (GRACE) has served disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalized communities in the least developed rural villages in Gilgit-Baltistan,. The conceptual designs and the implementation framework of GRACE programs and projects follow a set of strategic interventions including education and awareness, human and institutional development (HID), equitable community development, participatory planning and implementation, gender and diversity empowerment and local resource mobilization. GRACE has two core values: social justice and equity (rights, vulnerability, and access) and democracy (participation, transparency, accountability, rules and regulations). Its programs are run through the strategic principles of social mobilization, volunteerism, advocacy, human rights, partnership building and networking.

All endeavors are steered to achieve the following objectives:

- Promote quality of primary education, early childhood care and development and inclusive education including girls and children with disabilities;
- Strengthen human and institutional development through awareness raising, capacity building training, partnerships building and networking;
- Enhance access of poor and disadvantage communities to safe drinking water and sanitation, irrigation water, English language programs, youth skills enhancement initiatives and livelihood opportunities;
- Introduce sustainable models of community based climate change mitigation and adaptation project in rural villages;
- Support people affected by disasters and conflict situations through rescue, relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction initiatives.



Vision:

GRACE's efforts contribute to a world that recognizes, respects, and values the socioeconomic, political, legal and environmental aspirations of marginalized and vulnerable communities, particularly women and children, to promote a sustainable, equitable, prosperous and peaceful society.

Mission:

GRACE endeavors to empower and improve the lives of marginalized and vulnerable people by implementing sustainable social welfare programs; combining best practices in advocacy, partnership building, social mobilization, and volunteerism following a set of strategic interventions in equitable community development, inclusive education, gender empowerment and diversity, participatory planning, and local resource mobilization.

2. GRACE HISTORY

GRACE evolved from a grassroots' campaign for girl education in a very poor village in the extreme north of Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan in 1992. The influential villagers considered educating a girl is a sin and resisted the campaign. The campaigners persisted in their mission towards education for all conducting awareness-raising sessions for the communities, involved villagers in the campaign unconsciously. For years the villagers resisted the campaign but with the time began understanding its merits and embracing it. Since the initial campaign, we constructed a girl's school, mother and child healthcare center, irrigation channel and drinking water supply schemes. These small but participatory development projects gained popularity in the region and a number of communities started requesting to replicate these successful projects in their villages. But the community-based organization was unable to address socio-economic issues identified by poor rural communities in the least developed parts of Pakistan. Therefore Khadim Hussain the pioneering founder of the 1992's campaign organized like-minded community development volunteers and formed GRACE Association Pakistan and registered as a non-government, non-profit organization (NPO) under section 42 of the Companies' Ordinance 1984 at Islamabad, Pakistan in 2007.

3. GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

GRACE Association is governed by a Board of Directors - a dedicated team whose task is to set and achieve the Association's goals. The registered office of GRACE is in Islamabad, with program/project offices in Skardu, Khaplu and Gilgit districts in G-B and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK). The Association's day-to-day operations are managed by a small program team.

4. WHERE GRACE WORK?

GRACE originated from a rural village in Gilgit-Baltistan (G-B) in the extreme north of Pakistan. G-B is considered the least developed region in Pakistan, where the per capita income is only US\$350 compared to the national per capita income of US\$1046. Likewise, the literacy rate in G-B is 38% while other provinces 56%. These reflect that the region receives minimal to no basic service provision due to its marginalized, conflicted political status and wars between India and Pakistan resulting in multiple vulnerable populations. Some valleys, particularly Baltistan region is inaccessible, and women's living conditions are very poor. People with disabilities are among the poorest of the poor and live in the most vulnerable conditions. The quality of education in both public and private primary schools in rural areas is critically very poor.

