

Combating Child Labour in Pakistan



Millions of children in Pakistan never see the inside of a classroom and never learn to read or write. They have to work long hours every day with little food and rest. They get very low wages and are trapped in a condition of extreme poverty. Diya and ANCE want to help a few of these children with this project. Our help is just a drop in the sea. We can only help some 100 kids a year. But we also hope to generate attention to the situation so that maybe others also will find it in their heart to contribute with their help.

Executive summary

The goal of this project is to combat child labour in Lahore in Pakistan. Diya and Association of Network for Community Empowerment (ANCE) will provide basic primary education for 100 children each year and give them a scholarship to compensate for their families loss of income. It is a 'human rights based project' committed to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). ANCE will be in charge of executing the project in Pakistan. They will provide educational services, technical training, health services, recreational activities, awareness raising services and scholarships for the children. Diya will be in charge of funding, international support, awareness raising in Norway and cultural cooperation.

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Purpose:

The main goal is to combat child labor in Pakistan that deprives the children of their future. It is not a bad thing in itself that a child is working and learns to contribute to his/her family and community. However if the children are deprived of basic education and/ or suffer physically or psychologically from the work they are doing, then that is what we seek to combat.

Objective of Project

- To provide education to the working children who have no access to the schools due to poverty and working conditions and hours.
- To provide integrated rehabilitation and prevention services (including pre-vocational training, non formal education and health counselling) to the children.
- To remove children from hazardous tasks and contact with hazardous substances in Spare parts. auto mobile and Auto repair workshop environment and to prevent children from entering hazardous occupation or worst forms of child labour.
- To create awareness within the families and the community of the abuses and inadequate of the Ustad –Shagird system, of the development needs of children and the value of education, and to mobilize action to address the issue at workshop and community levels as well as at the enforcement and policy level.
- To enable children in developing their professional skills and capabilities.
- To undertake review and planning exercise to identify strategies plans for future.

Education

The 1990 *World Conference on Education for All*, held in Jomtien (Thailand) declared that *education is the single most vital element in combating poverty, empowering women and safeguarding children from exploitative and hazardous labour*. At the Millennium summit in September 2000 more than 150 state leaders made ‘*education for all*’ one of the primary goals for humanity.

In Pakistan only 50 per cent of eligible children are in primary school and half of those who enrol soon drop out. In addition many are enrolled, but never actually attend school. Three out of every five children aged 10-19 years never see the inside of a classroom.¹

Brief description of the area and the situation

Baghbanpura is located in the southern part of the Lahore city. This area is famous for its historical value and famous historical cities. From the Mughal Era most of the population of the area was engaged in steel industry and today the area of Baghbanpura is also famous for cottage industry and steel ruling mills and furnaces. Because the area is located on famous G. T.Road the area is highly populated. It is a residential area for poor people.

The area has many steel ruling mills, glass factories, furnaces and manufacture units and spare parts manufacturing units where almost more than 5 000 children of age group of 8 to 14 years work from morning till night. These mills employ children for certain activities in very dangerous working conditions for long working hours and low wages. The children work in front of furnaces from 8: 00 A.M to 8:00 P:M for Rs.100 per day with out any rest. These children are deprived of basics like education, health and recreation. Due to poverty it is now

¹ See the UNDP development report 2003 and/or UNICEF statistics at:
http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/pakistan_statistics.html

considered that every family member should contribute in family income to meet the needs of daily life. Child get Rs15 per hour and adult get Rs 25for working in glass factories.

ANCE will provide education and recreational service to these working children. The important aspect and component of the project is that these children will receive scholarship of amount for getting education. As these children are the earning members of their family they need to be provided scholarship to avoid financial problems for their family.

Target group

The target group will be 100 children whom are involved in the worst forms of child labour in steel ruling mills, furnaces and manufacture units. These will be in between 10-14 ages. ANCE will enrol working girls also, who are involve in homes as a servants or working girl child.

Education is a fundamental right for all children both boys and girls. Yet, as in many other areas of their lives, girls' prospects for education are diminished because of gender discrimination. In country after country, educating girls yields spectacular social benefits for the current generation and those to come. An educated girl tends to marry later and have fewer children. The children she does have will be more likely to survive; they will be better nourished and better educated. ²

Brief Description of the Beneficiaries:

Services	Working boys	Working girls	Total
Educational Services and technical training	50	50	100
Guidelines in profession	175	175	350
Awareness raising to community	1125	1125	2250
Total	1350	1350	2700

*(Details about it is on page No8)

Impact or Results of Project:

100 working children both girls and boys are provided education and technical training. 13 people are provided employment through this project. Complex will provide a plate forum to these working children, which will enhance their intelligence, decision making power and polish their capabilities.

As by living together they will develop friendship and while working in-group condition they will inter exchange their views, and will be able for planning and policy for having a better living conditions. The complex will develop them both psychologically and physically and they will be aware about the child rights and can be approach to higher authorities for having their rights and implementation of child right conventions.

² Education for girls is a primary goal for UNICEF as reflected in this quote from their home page, 8 may 2005: <http://www.unicef.org/girlseducation/index.html>

All these activities will be done with complete community participation, as community members will be there in every step of program. It will enhance the awareness among the community members and child rights. In this way we can combat child labor in a better way

Mobilizing the Pakistani community in Norway

Diya wants to mobilize the Norwegian Pakistani youth and the Asian immigrant community in Norway; artists, students, academics, journalists, kebab-sellers, business-managers and everybody. We want to create a national uprising for education in Pakistan.

Diya will organize concerts and live shows to generate attention to the situation in Pakistan, mobilize support and collect money for the cause. Diya will in cooperation with ANCE make a documentary film about the project to be shown in Norway.

Partners in Norway

Primary partner in Norway is Diya. Additional partners in Norway are UNICEF and Norad.

Partners in Pakistan

Our main partner in Pakistan is *Association of Network for Community Empowerment* (ANCE). In addition we need to establish cooperation with the Department of Education, UNICEF and ILO in Pakistan.

Committees for the implementation of the Children complex:

Executive committee:

The executive committee of ANCE will supervise the activities of children complex and analyze the progress of program or children complex.

Education committee:

ANCE will manage a seven-member education committee comprising of project staff, members of local employers, parents of working children and members of executive committee. The committee will supervise the educational activities of the children complex.

Advisory council

- Diya will have two members
- ANCE will have two members
- UNICEF Norway will have one member
- UNICEF Pakistan will have one member
- ILO Pakistan will have one member
- Local authorities in Pakistan: one member

This BOM will conduct meetings every after 4 months of project duration. Two meetings will be conducted in Pakistan and two in Norway. The main object of these meetings will be to review project activities. Moreover BOM will try to resolve any conflicting issues related to project. A chairman of BOM will be selected from all members with collective decision of all members. In case of any conflicting issue opinion of Chairman will be given significance.

Procedure

ANCE will hold parents meeting employers meeting. And with collaboration ANCE will enrol working girls and boys in an Educational Complex. These working children will get education for two years and additionally technical training in different fields.

After the end of their session they have not only primary education but skill training also. They will be able to work in market on reasonable wages having education and skills.

Establishment of Children Complex/ Salient Features of the Children Complex

It has been observed that working children are not provided care and health services. Neither they are provided health service nor recreational services.

In children Complex they will be provided:

- Educational Services.
- Technical Training.
- Guideline in Profession
- Health Services.
- Recreational Services.
- Awareness Raising Services.
- Scholarship Services

Educational Services

ANCE will provide educational services to the working children. For this purpose there will be trained educational teachers who will teach them. By this project ANCE will establish a Complex for working children for Baghbanpura. Total 100 working children(45 boys 55 girls) will be registered in 1 year. These working children will be provided stationery on concession and there will be concession in fee for highly deserving children.

Out line of Courses of Educational Centre;

Following course will be taught to these children. Non-formal education methodology will be used for this purpose. These courses have been selected to develop an insight about reading and writing mother and international language, understanding child rights and concepts of general knowledge.

	Courses
1	Urdu
2	English
3	Islamiyat
4	General knowledge
5	Basic mathematics
6	CRC, ILO C 182,union formation
7	Safety measure for working

Technical Training

By doing pre-evaluation ANCE feel a thing that the idea of paying scholarship will make children parasite, so if they are provided skills with education they can live a better life. So

for overcoming this peril and making children more educated and professional ANCE want to provide them technical education.

As by getting technical training working girls and boys can utilize these skills for survival of their family. Especially girls can earn by sitting in their homes by making different goods. It will create an insight about earning. The working children will be given this basic skill training to protect from exploitation of the employees and they learn more skills in a specific period of time.

Guidelines in Profession

Not only registered children but siblings of registered children will also be provided guidelines in choosing profession, which are less hazardous for them. They will be referred for micro credit and other organizations. They will be given an opportunity of debt for small business with the collaboration of different organizations. More over they will be assisted in using these skills for income enhancement purposes. Assistance will be provided to those children also who want to start any work in groups. As they will be motivated for group formation.

There are two types of technical training will be given:

- Skill Training For Working Boys.
- Skill Training For Working Girls.

Skill Training For Working Boys

Working boys will be provided technical training. Following is a table for technical training.

Professions	Working Boys
General electrician	15
General fitter	15
Plumbing (sanitary installation)	15
	45(boys)

Skill Training For Girls

It has been observed that most of the girls work as domestic labour or involve in any other labor activity, so these girls will be provided skills and vocational training may they work while sitting at their homes. They (55 Girls) will be given training in sewing, cutting, embroidery and candle making. Along with these trainings some workshops will be conducted in which they will be given training of Pickle Making, Shampoo, surf, sauces, washing powder making. By having skills of manufactoration of these goods these girls will be able to have a marketing of these goods as they can easily sale these goods in market and can contribute in their family income in a good manner.

Following skills will be provided to working girls

Name of course	Duration of course	No of working girls
Cutting and Sewing	4 months	20
Embroidery	3 months	20
Candle making	2 months	15
		55

Each registered working girl will get all above mentioned skill, as all working girls will get training one after one. As after one year they will be well equipped with income enhancements skills by which they can easily contribute in improving standard of their life and their families by earning.

Health Services

Health is one of the basic need of human especially child health is most important. So ANCE will make arrangements for their medical check ups. As a Doctor will be appointed for this purpose that will check them and prescribe treatment to them. A health file of every child will be maintained that will comprise of health history of every working child.

They (children + Parents) will be provided following services:

- Health education.
- Mother and Child Health Care.
- Preventive medicines.
- Family planning.
- Education about hygienic conditions.

Canteen for Working Children Complex

There will be a canteen and kitchen where children can get food, as there will be a Mid Wife for their assistance. Facility of wash Room will be provided to children. Canteen will not only be valuable for these registered working children, but children working in other workshops and working conditions can also get benefit from these services in their lunch breaks during working hours. As these children can also come in the complex and avail these services. So this complex will not only give benefit to 100 registered children but 500 children from other workshops and working places.

Recreational services for Working Children Complex:

Study Tours

ANCE will arrange routine recreational activities as to encourage positive interaction, arrange for special recreational activities such as outings and picnics for the children, and for special events in collaboration with other organizations.

Indoors Games

For mental health there will be indoor games. As recreational services play a vital role in the normal functioning of a human being. Study tour will be a part of this program. Such as Luddo, Karam Board, table tennis, blocks, etc.

Library for working children of complex and area

There will be library from which children will take books for enhancing their knowledge. The facility of library will not only for the working children but non working children and siblings of working children of area can also get benefit form this library. In this complex all working children's will be registered and they will be issued Identification Card or Membership Card for availing all these services.

Awareness Raising Program

Increased awareness on part of the working children, their families, employers and general public, about hazardous and other problems of children working in the auto repair and auto mobiles workshops, mainly of possible alternatives for these children.

ANCE will arrange for interpersonal communication (person to person) with the target group (children, families, employers/owners). For the fulfilment of this object ANCE will select and moderate topic to highlight their problem based on identification need, the alternative and the role of each group (parent, employers, adult workers, local GOVT, children and others) in removing children from the risk, in rehabilitating them, and in preventing other children from worst forms of child labor. Postures and printed material will be distributed among them about CRC, (child right convention), ILO C # 182 of Worst Forms of Child Labor, Employment Children Act 1995, and we are our responsibilities, and safety measures for working.

Scholarship services

The target group will be given scholarship for his/her education. As she /he will spend all over day in the complex and will not go to their working places (workshop, industries, or factories). As the firsts and foremost cause of child labor is poverty as children forced to work for fulfilling bread and butter of their family.

It has been observed that more mostly working children increase 13% income of their family. And in case of spending whole day in the complex they will face financial exploitation. They will be provided scholarship from avoiding any type of financial exploitation. Moreover it has been mentioned in Constitution of Pakistan that worst forms is strictly forbidden for children.

Sustainability of the Project:

ANCE believes in sustainable program for community development. But this project will not be fully sustained in 1 year. As it needs more than 3 years to sustain. After 3 years project will become self sustained. As at the end of project a committee will be formed comprising of community members, BOM, and general members from ANCE. Donation and philanthropist will be searched out for sustaining this project. Children who had got technical training will be provided an opportunity to contribute in running this complex.

Follow-up procedures

Committee for sustaining project will keep contact with these children. Children will be provided assistance in getting admission in GOVT School for formal education. Project Coordinator will make visits of these schools for feedback.

Bridging the cultural gap between Norway and Pakistan

Diya and ANCE will establish a Children Club of Norway and Pakistani children and efforts will be made for meetings of these children. As Norwegian children will get opportunity to not only meet them but viewing of their working places, similarly if possible Pakistani children will visit schools of Norway. It is important to understand the role of Diya in this project, and hopefully many future projects. Diya knows the mind of the Norwegian people and the Western world. We also know the mind of the Pakistani people. Diya is committed to build a bridge between these two worlds. We thus need ANCE and all our Pakistani partners to understand the following about the Norwegian culture:

Girls

The single most important issue for the Norwegian government and the Norwegian people is the well being of girls. In Norway gender equality is like a religion. A religion that cannot, under any circumstances, be offended. We have to treat the girls as if they were daughters of Mohammed himself. If we can show that the girls are treated well, with respect, care and honor, than the Norwegian people will become happy. And we will receive more money for new projects. If we offend their religion and show disrespect for the girls, they will become

angry and not give us anymore support. It is important to think beyond this single project and see things in a long term perspective. By focusing our energy on girls we will be able to help more children – both girls and boys.

Human Rights

The second most important issue for the Norwegian people is human rights. Human rights are also like a religion. We thus need to show the outmost respect for human rights and not in any way violate these instruments of International Labor Standard. This also means that support from the UN, and in particular UNICEF and the ILO, is very important.

The following conventions are of outmost importance:

1. Convention on Rights of the Child, 1989
2. ILO Convention No. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, June 1999
3. ILO Recommendations No.190: Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999
4. Convention Against Discrimination in Education, UNESCO 1960
5. Minimum Age Convention, ILO Convention No. 138, 1973

In addition we need to keep in mind the following instruments adopted by the General Assembly:

1. International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
2. International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)
3. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979)
4. Universal Declaration on Human Rights

Human rights instruments need to be used as if it was the “book of God” itself. That means that if there is any disagreement about what to do, we need to first look for guidance in the texts of these human rights instruments. Human Rights are like a “Cogito Ergo Sum” of all human value systems. It is that which is left when all the religions and cultural groups in the UN has clashed together and discussed. It is a minimum standard. When looking beyond the minimum standard we can start to involve our own religions. But first the minimum standards need to be met. The most important principle of human rights is the principle of non-discrimination.

Project framework for one year

	1 st month	2 nd month	3 rd month	4 th month	5 th month	6 th month	7 th month	8 th month	9 th month	10 th month	11 th month	12 th month
Observational Survey	====											
Registration Of Children		====	==== ==									
Appointment Of Staff	==== =											
Purchase of furniture/ building etc	==== =					==== =						
Formation Of CBO	==== =											
Community Meeting		==== =		==== =		==== ==		==== ==		==== =		==== =
Medical Check ups		==== ==		==== =		==== ==		==== ==		==== ==		==== ==
Technical Training		====	==== =	==== =	==== =	==== ====	==== =	==== ==	==== =	==== ==	==== =	==== ==
Study Tours			==== ==			==== ====			==== ==			==== ==
Teachers Training Scholarship		==== ==				==== ==				==== =		
Skill Training To Girls			==== ==	==== =	==== =	==== ==	==== =	==== ==	==== ==	==== =	==== ==	==== =
Examination				==== ==				==== ==				==== ==
Progress Report			==== =			==== =			==== =			==== ==