

Stichting Diwa

Policy Plan **updated version february 2014**

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1. Introduction of Diwa

Diwa is a Non Profit Organization initiated in 2009 in Netherlands by people with Dutch and Pakistani Christian backgrounds.

Diwa is a Punjabi word and means little lamp. In old days a Diwa was used to make a light in the house. The philosophy behind Diwa as a name of the organisation is to spread light by providing education in the lives of the deprived part of the Pakistani society and give them a brighter future perspective.

DIWA also wants to contribute in a better understanding of the diverse and rich culture of the Punjab. Diwa wants to inspire people, not only inside, but also outside Pakistan.

Diwa wants to improve the livelihoods for the vulnerable people in the Punjab Province in Pakistan in connection with the Millennium Development Goals 1, 2 and 3*. The focus will be on the field of education, health and hygiene education and women empowerment. This will be done in cooperation with local organisations in Pakistan.

DIWA's support is based on need, not on identity. DIWA makes no distinction based on race, religion, gender or political orientation.

*UN adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000 for global poverty reduction by 2015.

The Millennium Goals 1, 2 and 3 are:

- 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education
- 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

2 Vision and Mission

Vision of Diwa

A society where everybody is literate, having equal opportunities for employment, living in harmony and peace.

A better understanding of the diversity of cultures and traditions of Punjab, within and outside the borders of Pakistan.

Mission of Diwa

Diwa supports vulnerable people in Pakistan in improving their livelihood, as a sign of Christian compassion and justice. This is done by involving people and partners in Pakistan and the Netherlands.

3 Core Targets

- Support access to primary and health education for both male and female
- Support in skills trainings for both men and women to have access to better job
- To raise awareness among the target group on health and hygiene issues and the value of education.
- To raise awareness and understanding of the cultural diversity of the Punjab in the Netherlands.

4 Organisation

The board team consists a chairman, treasurer, secretary and board members.

Supporters and donors will be an asset for Diwa. Diwa will be open for everyone who is interested in the goals of Diwa.

Diwa is a transparent organisation. That's why donors will be informed by newsletters, the website and an annual report, consisting a financial report of Diwa and a narrative report on the progress of the projects.

5 Team

Diwa has a board consisting of five persons having diverse education and experience:

1. Karin Kreijkjes

Karin has worked for some time as programme coordinator with a development organisation. She has travelled to many countries both as development worker and as travel guide. Currently she teaches economics.

2. Jan Dirk Schouten

Jan Dirk is architect in daily life. Several times he has been to Pakistan and got the opportunity to meet local people and to experience their daily life.

3. Jaco Groenewoud

Jaco works as a policy officer at the Ministry of Finance. Besides as a self-employed consultant he advises boards of pension funds.

4. Shahlla Gill

Shahlla comes from Pakistan and studied environmental management in Rotterdam and Wageningen. She worked on planning and implementation of different development projects in Pakistan addressing improvement of livelihood and gender issues.

5. Jos Smeets

Jos is the creator and administrator of the website of Diwa. Jos worked at Elsevier Science, and is now a web designer and developer / owner of a music site with an overview of ancient and contemporary composers, www.classical-composers.org. He has travelled extensively to countries such as Pakistan, Nepal and India, and also visited various development projects there.

6. Arno Louws

Arno has studied business administration. He worked in the field of development cooperation in different countries in Africa for almost ten years .

6 Partnerships

Diwa will work in cooperation with local partner organisations in Pakistan (Punjab). Partner organisations will be selected based on their track record, proven commitment to supporting vulnerable people in Pakistan, and match with the mission and objectives of Diwa.

7 Funding

The income and expenditures of Diwa will consist of the funds and subsidies raised and generated by the contribution of donors.

Diwa wants to raise interest, by informing individuals and organisations and by organizing events

8 Set up of projects

Every new project should fit in the goals of Diwa.

A checklist will be developed for assessment of projects.

If a project is fitting in the goals and means of Diwa, the board team will decide about the project.

9 Monitoring

There will be regular monitoring of the activities by the local partner organisations. The partner organisations will furnish Diwa every half year with a progress and financial report. Funds will be released based on progress of the project.

Furthermore, if necessary evaluation visits will also be made by Diwa board members to ensure the progress effectively.

Every year there will be a yearly report with an overview of the projects and finances.

There will be annual external audits of Diwa accounts.

10 Future Plan

After completion of the setup of the organization, Diwa would like to develop a website to share information on broader range.

There are already some issues and plans we think about to develop through provoking partner organisations in the region of Punjab Pakistan i.e;

- To stimulate education initiatives in poor areas of Pakistan, not only by giving education, but also providing lunches for a better health of the children.

- To enable young poor men and women to contribute in their family income and economic independence through providing technical skills.
- To provide hygiene education and health facilities to prevent infectious diseases.

Appendix 1

Contact

Stichting Diwa

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Board members:

Karin Kreijkes - *chair*

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Appendix 2

History and background

DIWA is a Punjabi word means a little lamp. In old days DIWA was used to make a light in the house. The philosophy behind DIWA as a name of the organisation is to make an endeavour to spread light of education and health in the lives of deprived part of the Pakistani society.

Some years ago with the support of a Dutch student organization, an individual initiative has already been taken to raise a school in order to provide primary education to poor children in Francisabad Gujranwala, Pakistan. The Helping Hands started an education project in 2004 aiming to promote primary education among poor people who did not have access to school.

Francisabad is a low income area of Gujranwala city, having 10,000 to 15,000 inhabitants, majority are Christians. The area had access to primary education since many years ago, but quality education is not ensured in these schools. Poor people do not have access to these schools due to not affordable fee. The approximate average monthly income of the poor people in the area is Rs. 1500-2500 (approximately 25 Euro) per month. Local people including men, women and children are working in brick factories, fields, and small scale factories as a labour. Majority of women are working as maid in the big houses of the town to support their livelihood. Education is not a first priority for them because their basic needs are difficult to fulfil in their income level.

Mostly Christians in Pakistan are a poor and ignored part of the society with lack of access to basic standard education, higher education, and primary health matters. Children have to leave school and start working because of insufficient income of their parents. Those who complete primary school, are unable to bear the college and university expenses. Similarly, people lead unhealthy life due to lack of finances and unawareness as well.

Supporting this group can contribute in improvement of the status of their life that lags behind due to poverty and inadequate income putting them into psychic infirmity.

By establishing DIWA in the Netherlands, it will be possible to increase the network and potential to help poor people in Pakistan.

Appendix 3

Country Profile of Pakistan and the Punjab Province

Area: 803,940 sq km (499,545 sq miles)

Capital City: Islamabad

Population: 164 million

Population below poverty line: 40% (2000 estimate)

Literacy rate: Male: 61.7% / Female: 35.2% / Total: 48.7%

People: Punjabi (66%), Sindhi (13%), Pashtun, (10.9%), Muhajir (7.6%), Balochi (2.5%)

Official languages: English and Urdu

Languages spoken: Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashtun, Urdu, Balochi, English and many other local languages

Religions: Islam (97%), Hinduism, Christianity and others (3%)

Currency: Rupee

Pakistan is situated in southern Asia bordering the Arabian Sea, between India on the east and Iran and Afghanistan on the west and China in the north. The Indus Valley civilization, one of the oldest in the world and dating back at least 5,000 years, spread over much of what is presently Pakistan.

The population is growing at 1.81% annually. 36% of inhabitants are living in urban and 64% are living in rural areas. Pakistan, an impoverished and underdeveloped country, has suffered from decades of internal political disputes, low levels of foreign investment, and declining exports of manufactures. Faced with untenable budgetary deficits, high inflation, and hemorrhaging foreign exchange reserves.

The current GDP growth rate is 5.8% with per capita income \$2600. Pakistan is on number 93 in world comparison with 7.4% unemployment rate. 36% of population is living under poverty line.

Punjab land of 5-rivers, population-wise the largest province of Pakistan. The province is predominantly on level plain. There are, however, some mountainous and hilly areas in the northwest and extreme southwest. There is also a plateau adjacent to the mountains known as the Potohar plateau and a desert belt in the south eastern part known as Cholistan. Its canal-irrigation system established by the British is the largest in the world. Wheat and cotton are the largest crops. Other crops include rice, sugarcane, millet, corn, oilseeds, pulses, vegetables, and fruits. Livestock and poultry production are also important.

Punjab is the most populous province of Pakistan. According to 1998 census, the population of the Province is 7,25,85,000. Nearly 60% of population lived in Punjab.

The population density is 353 persons per square kilometer as compared to the national figure of 164. It contains several major cities of the country: Lahore, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Multan and Gujranwala.

Punjab is contributed the most to the the national economy of Pakistan. Its share of Pakistan's GDP has historically ranged from 51.8% to 54.7%. It is especially dominant in the Service & Agriculture sectors of the Pakistan Economy. With its contribution ranging from 52.1% to 64.5% in the Service Sector and 56.1% to 61.5% in the Agriculture Sector. It is also dominant in the Manufacturing sector, though the dominance is not as huge, with historical contributions raging from a low of 44% to a high of 52.6%. In 2007, Punjab achieved a growth rate of 7.8%.

Cotton and rice are important crops. They are the cash crops that contribute substantially to the national exchequer. Attaining self-sufficiency in agriculture has shifted the focus of the strategies towards small and medium farming, stress on *barani* areas, farms-to-market roads, electrification for tube-wells and control of water logging and salinity.

Punjab has also more than 48 thousand industrial units. The small and cottage industries are in abundance. There are 39,033 small and cottage industrial units. The number of textile units is 11,820. The ginning industries are 6,778. There are 6,355 units for processing of agricultural raw materials including food and feed industries.

Lahore and Gujranwala Divisions have the largest concentration of small light engineering units. The district of Sialkot excels in sports goods, surgical instruments and cutlery goods.

Punjab has been the cradle of civilization since times immemorial. The ruins of Harappa show an advanced urban culture that flourished over 5000 years ago. Taxila, another historic landmark also stands out as a proof of the achievements of the area in learning, arts and crafts in bygone ages.

The folk heritage of the Punjab is the traditional urge of thousands of years of its history. While Urdu is the official language of the Province, there are a number of local dialects through which the people communicate. These include *Punjabi*, *Pothohari*, *Seraiki*, *Jatki* and *Jangli*. The songs, ballads, epics and romances are generally written and sung in these dialects. Classical music forms are an important part of the cultural wealth of the Punjab.

Literacy

The total budget for educational expenditures are 2.6% of total GDP. Overall literacy rate in the country is 49.9%; male 63%; female 36%.(2005 est.). No more than 55.0% of adults are literate.

Gross participation rate (GPR) at primary level is around 89%. At primary level, dropout rate is 50% (44% for males and 56% for females). Student - teacher ratio is around 52:1. Priority issues in elementary education are access, retention, quality/learning achievements, gender issues and geographical disparities and imbalances.

Punjab has a 79% primary education rate, In which 25% are entering to the matriculation. From 25% only 4.12% are going for bachelor degree and 3.84% are doing master studies. Only 1.13% are doing diploma and certificate courses. See the details in table 1.

This is a chart of the education market of Punjab estimated by the government in 1998.

Qualification	Enrolment ratio %
Primary	79.68%
Middle	46.75%
Matriculation	25.07%
Intermediate	9.12%
BA, Bsc ...degrees	4.12%
MA, Msc....degrees	3.84%
Diploma, certificate	1.13%
Other qualification	0,26%

The Government of Pakistan has prioritized higher education with increased accessibility of higher education opportunities, improving the quality of higher education and a shift to Science and Technology. Targets are set for increasing access from 2.6% to 5%, increasing private sector participation from 15% to 40% and expanding the ratio of humanities and sciences from 70:30 to 50:50.

KEY FACTS: (the figures are based on DIFID country plan Pakistan)

- half of the adult population is illiterate
- only 56% of primary school in school
- 4 million young people are entering the labour market each year
- life expectancy is 65 years
- 1 in 10 children die before their 5th birthday
- 2 out of 5 children are malnourished
- 36 million people live below the national poverty line
- 15,000 women die each year due to complications
- 260,000 people develop TB each year

According to DIFID UK, there's still a lot of work to do. Making sure poor people benefit from economic growth and improving access to healthcare and education continue to be big challenges.

To see the details about Christians in Pakistan plz check this website:

<http://pakistanchristianpost.com/ebook/The%20Trial%20of%20Pakistani%20Christian%20Nation.pdf>

References:

www.fco.gov.uk

www.cia.gov

DIFID country plan for Pakistan

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punjab_\(Pakistan\)#Economy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punjab_(Pakistan)#Economy)

Appendix 4

UN Millennium Development Goals 1, 2 and 3

Also look on the website: <http://www.undp.org/>

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1a: Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day

- 1.1 Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day
- 1.2 Poverty gap ratio
- 1.3 Share of poorest quintile in national consumption

Target 1b: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people

- 1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person employed
- 1.5 Employment-to-population ratio
- 1.6 Proportion of employed people living below \$1 (PPP) per day
- 1.7 Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment

Target 1c: Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

- 1.8 Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age
- 1.9 Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

Target 2a: Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling

- 2.1 Net enrolment ratio in primary education
- 2.2 Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary
- 2.3 Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men

Goal3: Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 3a: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015

- 3.1 Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education
- 3.2 Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector
- 3.3 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament