

# Report of Participatory Situation Analysis Of District Swabi

June 2005



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**List of Abbreviation**

CBO	Community Based Organizations
CCB	Citizen Community Board
CHIP	Civil Society Human and Institutional Development Programme
DHQ	District Head Quarter Hospital
HID	Human and Institutional Development Programme
NGO	Non Government Organization
NWFP	North West Frontier Province of Pakistan
PSA	Participatory Situation Analysis
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SNPO	Swiss NGO Programme Office

## 1. Introduction

Civil Society Human and Institutional Development Programme (CHIP) undertook a Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA) exercise on irreversible blindness in District Swabi to identify and assess potential for future interventions related to blind care. The complete PSA process was carried out during the two weeks time period in June, 2005.

### 1.1 Terms of Reference of the Study

The following terms of reference were agreed by the team for the PSA exercise:

- Identify and assess nature and scale of blindness and visual impairment including its major causes;
- Major problems faced by people suffering from irreversible blindness and visual impairment;
- Identify and assess quality and outreach of present services on blind care;
- Identify and assess potential for future interventions related to blind care.

### 1.2 Introduction to CHIP

CHIP was established in 1993 as a Swiss NGO Programme Office (SNPO) by Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC). It has undergone a carefully planned transition from a SDC programme to National Organization. Today CHIP is an independent, not-for-profit; value led national support organization registered under Section 42 of the Company's Ordinance 1984, in Pakistan. CHIP's scope of work places the emphasis on Human and Institutional Development (HID). Through its proven HID approach, CHIP improves and strengthens Civil Society Organizations at human, organizational and institutional levels to achieve programme efficiency and effectiveness. Its working experience with NGOs/CBOs has been through out Pakistan.

CHIP, as a support organization practices a programme-based approach. It has been learnt from the experience that the assistance on the face value of the project proposal has lead many support organizations to a common error that is one sided focus on project objectives. It means that not enough attention is given to the operational context and field situation. The risk of project results not being achieved is high. Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA) is conducted before planning any development intervention in a specified geographical area. It provides a description and information of a specific situation. CHIP generally conducts it so that activities can be focused and change can be measured by comparison at some future time.

### 1.3 Research Methodology

Research methodology was designed in a way so that participation of local NGO, CBO, People with blindness and visual impairment and their families can be ensured. The community activist were made part of the PSA team in order to ensure context specific approach to PSA. The following activities have been carried out to gather data, analyze it, validate it and prepare the final report:

#### 1.3.1 Knowing and Preparing

Knowing and preparing part includes collection of all available secondary data on the socio economic profile, any other research report on blind care, any other organization working on blind care etc. The review of secondary information and initial organisational profile provided basis for designing the interactive exercise at the community level. This part also included development of questionnaires and selection of appropriate research methods according to the context of the area. The three teams were selected, one for Tehsil Lahor, one for Tehsil Swabi and one for Gadoon Amazia based on its community orientation, technical knowledge on eye care and rehabilitation of disabled people. Three gender based teams (see Annex 1 for list) were formed so that representative information can be collected from men, women and children. The team later imparted training on participatory research methods and field questionnaire to the community activists and local NGO who were made part of the team.

### 1.3.2 Participatory Field Exercises

The participatory field exercises were conducted in 49 villages at multiple levels which include:

- House hold visits
- Physical examination of selected women, children and men
- Meeting with Community Based Organization
- Meeting with Pakistan Blind Association and DHQ hospital

### 1.3.3 Data Entry

The following tools were used for this purpose:

- Collating, sorting and consolidating quantitative information, using statistical techniques, analyzing similarities, differences, constraints, etc.
- Review of narrative data
- Enumeration of final analysis

### 1.3.4 Finalization of report

Final report was prepared

## **2. Introduction to Swabi Area**

Swabi is one of the Districts of North West Frontier Province of Pakistan. The District is divided into two Tehsils with headquarter at Swabi, 40 union councils and 200 villages. The total area of Swabi is 1,543 square kilometres, out of which 78 percent is hilly and 21 percent is plain land. This district borders Haripur, Mardan, Buner and Mansehra cities, making it easily accessible. The district has extreme of climates. The summer season is extremely hot. A steep rise of temperature is observed from May to June. Even July, August and September record quite high temperature. Rapid fall of temperature is recorded from October onwards the coldest month January. Majority of the population is Muslim which is 99.6 percent. The next higher percentage is of Ahmadis with 0.3 percent followed by Christians 0.1 percent. The culture of Swabi is highly segregated for male and female. Pardah (veil) is observed strictly by females for mobility outside the home. Consequently females's involvement in economic activities is limited only to 0.7 percent females population. Swabi is considered a low developed area. The social sectors are in very poor state. The main livelihood depends on agriculture and livestock. A small proportion of population is engaged in business and jobs in industrial sector and or public sector organisations.

## **3. Population**

Swabi has a population of around 1.2 million out of which 82 percent is rural and 18 percent is urban.<sup>1</sup>The disabled persons constitute 3.6 percent of the total population. Among them 49 percent are females and 51 percent are males. The disability in Swabi is classified as blind, deaf, mute, crippled, insane, mentally retarded multiple disability. The estimated population of 50 target villages is 20, 000. People with blindness and visual impairment particularly females and children are the most disadvantaged groups in these villages. These people are dependent on their family members for their looking after and rehabilitation.

Each selected village has a Community Based Organisation (CBO). At present these CBOs have limited technical expertise and financial resources, however they are implementing village based small development and or welfare oriented initiatives. However none of these initiatives are for people with blindness or visual impairment. Five CBOs have one office bearer each who suffer from blindness and or other type of disability.

## **4. Major Findings of the PSA**

The findings of PSA exercise highlights that the rehabilitation is a goal orientated and time bounded process aimed at enabling people with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, intellectual, psychiatric and social functional levels, thus providing them with tools to change their lives towards a higher level of independence. People with visual impairment and blindness have the same

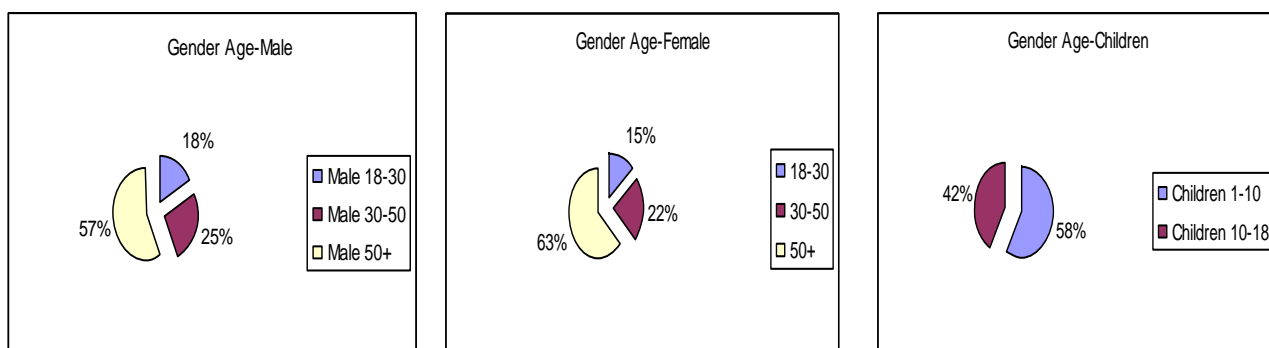
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<sup>1</sup> Page 29, District Census Report of Swabi April 1998

rights to independence as any other normal citizen. The PSA findings reflects that due to the discrimination between the weak and the strong these people are often left, without them getting what actually is their right. They should be respected and taken care of so they can nurture back but when they are abandoned by the callous and disrespectful people of their own communities they are the ones who are drowning in the great ocean of troubles. They need help but they don't get it. The findings elaborated below analyses that we can help those who have lost their eyesight forever.

#### 4.1 Nature and Scale of Blindness

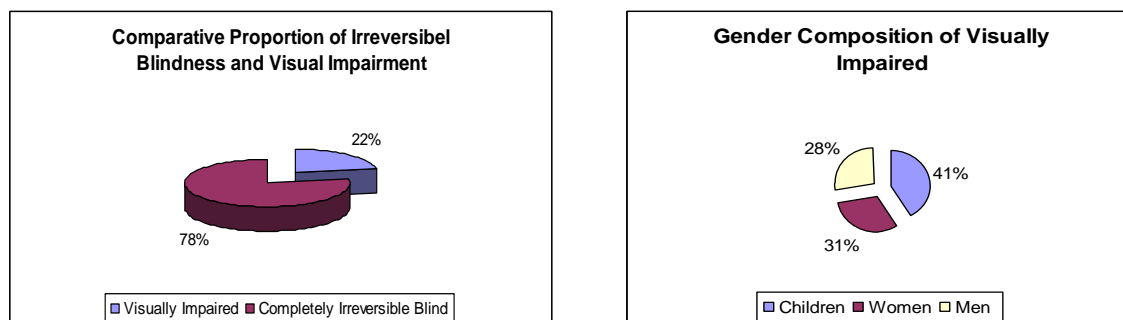
The PSA in Swabi was conducted in 49 villages and a total of 221 people were identified as completely irreversible blind and visually impaired. There, they were interviewed thoroughly and their statements about their life were recorded. The team came across 54 women, 91 men and 76 children in Swabi. The age wise analysis found that 57 percent of the blind men were 50 years plus in comparison to the 63 percent women of 50 plus years. The 58 percent children were between 0-10 years of age.



Area wise scale of blindness found that Gadoon Amazai is the most affected area. Gadoon is an hilly area where household setting is scattered. There is no roads therefore the PSA team had to walk at least for two hours to reach to the place. Given the geographical isolation of the area, Gadoon Amazai can be considered as the most backward in terms of availability of basic services, literacy level and basic health situation. The health hygiene is very poor owing to the absence of proper sanitation and water. The second highest percentage of blindness and visual impairment is found in Tehsil Swabi followed by Tehsil Lahor shown in the pie chart. The lowest figure in Tehsil Lahore can be linked with the presence of a free eye hospital by Lackson Tobacco Company. The hospital is fully equipped and is providing a very good eye quality services.

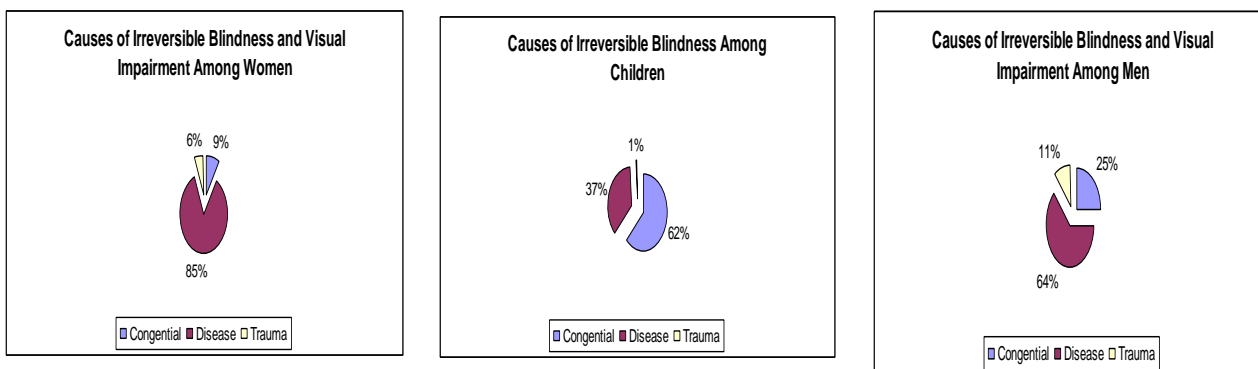
#### 4.2 Visually Impaired or Low Vision

Out of 221 people, 49 were identified as visually impaired. The composition of visually impaired is given in the pie chart. The pie chart shows the majority of the visually impaired are children. The major implications on children were drop out from the school either by parents or teachers refuses to teach them, one of the female child said in her interview – 'I left the school two years back when I was in class 8th because my teachers didn't allow me to come to school and now I am at home this is all because of my eyes'



### 4.3 Major Causes of Blindness

While the causes of blindness and visual impairment are quite many in district Swabi, the major ones are malnutrition, lack of environmental hygiene, complications associated with prenatal, during natal and postnatal period, natural and man-made calamities, alcohol and drug addiction, accidents that occur at home or at work place, communicable diseases, harmful traditional practices and the like. Some of the major causes of irreversible blindness and visual impairment in Swabi can be categorized in three main areas i.e. disease, congenital and trauma. The majority of men and women are suffering from irreversible blindness due to different types of diseases. The percentage of prevalence of diseases among women is higher than the men. Majority of the children are visually impaired and blind due to congenital reasons. Trauma is highest among men (11 percent) followed by women (6 percent)



There are two major types of diseases i.e. congenital and developmental. The detail of both the types of diseases is elaborated below:

#### 4.3.1 Glaucoma

Out of 221 people glaucoma accounted for 61, the number of male patients were more than females i.e. male 35-females 21 where as in children it 5 out of 61. Bilateral glaucoma is the most common cause of blindness. Most of the people are poor and illiterate and have less access to information regarding health and hygiene. Secondly they come to doctor when the disease is at its most acute stage and when it has caused total loss of vision.

#### 4.3.2 Congenital Glaucoma

In children the main cause of glaucoma is primary congenital glaucoma or glaucoma associated with other ocular developmental abnormalities. In Gadoon area the major cause of glaucoma is age related where as in Swabi and Lahore the main cause of glaucoma is intermarriages. The ratio of young people who are victim of congenital glaucoma is high in Gadoon.

#### 4.3.3 Corneal Opacity

Out of 221 people 53 were suffering from corneal opacity, main causes of corneal opacity are trauma, infection and no treatment in the initial stages of the disease. The number of male suffering from corneal opacity is 30 and the number of females is 12 and in children it is 11.

#### 4.3.4 Retinal Diseases

The identified types of retinal diseases includes retinitis Pigmentosa, retinal degenerations, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, retinal detachment etc. Out of 221, 32 people were identified as irreversible blinds because of retinal diseases; the number of males were 15, females 8 and in children it is 9.

#### 4.3.5 Others

Certain ocular causes lies in people i.e. Cortical blindness Nystigamys optic atropy, Nophthalmus, ptosis, cataract etc. Out of 221, 26 were suffering from these above mentioned causes of blindness; male 12, females 4 and children 10.

## **5. Social Problems Encountered by Blinds and Visually Impaired**

The blind informants are relatively poor functioning, the respondent experienced problems in coping with their environment as well as people around, most of people experiencing negative attitude of society for their mobility, they are also experiencing poor communication with others .On the question who looks after you in your home the answer pointed to the mother and in case of old person grand daughters.

### **Can she ever go to School?**

The old man was previously looked after by the elder sister of this 10 year old grand daughter. When she grew old the younger one was assigned the task of helping her grand father as guide cum attendant. She is a full time guide/Attendant.

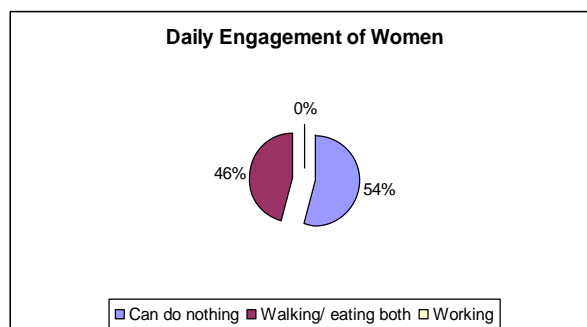




### 5.1 Social Problems Encountered by Women

#### Reduced Mobility:

On the visit to Swabi the team came across 54 women out of which 54 percent of the women were in an extremely critical condition. They were unable to move even with guidance. When these women were asked about why they were unable to do so they replied that they believe that they will fall or hit something, though 46 percent of the women say that they often hit something but they do not let those hindrances prevent them from working. A very few number of women who were basically old said that they were dependant on others for their work. None of the women is engaged in any economic activity.



#### Physical Disability:

Many women complained that they had grown so weak due to the disease that they couldn't even get out of their bed or get up from a chair; they have to be propped up by somebody. They even complained that they had problems in offering prayers and going to the washroom. In one case a woman described her problem as, '...my heart beat becomes faster and it denotes a kind of stress which leaves me disabled'. Another one said that this disease had made me so weak that I can't even bend and pick up the things I drop! One woman was even affected mentally due to the disease.

#### Examples of Encouragement:

There was a certain group of women found who said that they experience no such problem due to blindness. If taken as percentage ratio these women make up about 46 percent of the blind women population in Swabi.

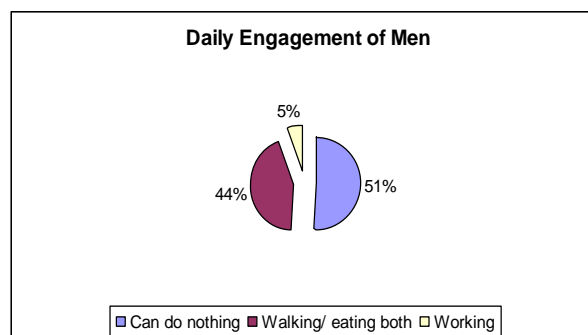
#### Marital Status:

Out of the 52 women questioned (2 either did not answer or were not available) only 33 turned out to be married the rest 19 were unmarried.

### 5.2 Social Problems Encountered by Men

#### Reduced Mobility:

The number of blind men discovered was ninety-one (91) out of which 51 percent were completely dependant on their relatives as they were too weak to move around and do their work buy themselves. The 44 percent were able to manage their lives better than the women. 5 percent of the men population is working whilst none of the women are working.



#### Physical Disability:

Problems with men were lesser compared to that of the others (women and children) but there were a fair number of blind men who weren't able to do anything without the support or guidance of somebody. Some were dependant on their wives for daily work. But some had had mobility orientation training so it wasn't much of a hassle for them.

#### Examples of Encouragement:

Some Percentage of men said that they believed that they had no problems at all due to blindness. The percentage ratio is higher than that of women. Some of the blind men had jobs and had a good source of income.

#### Marital Status:

Out of the 80 men questioned (11 were not able to answer or were unavailable) only 28 were married the rest 52 men were unmarried.

### 5.3 Social Problems Encountered by Children

#### Reduced Mobility

Many of the blind children were experiencing mobility problems. In fact, the number of children encountering these problems was greater compared to that of adults! Out of seventy-six (76) children thirty (30) were unable to do anything, which makes the percentage ratio as high as 39.5 percent! Nearly eighteen (18) of them were dependant on their parents, siblings, walking sticks or spectacles! The team even met those people who were not completely blind but suffered from night blindness that is they were unable to see in the dark. There were about five of such cases.

#### Physical Disability:

Children did not have a lot of problems as they were completely dependant on their parents. Their parents were the ones to face all their troubles. Many weak children weren't able to get out of bed or some had such low vision that weren't able to study. Many of the blinds were teased by their friends. Some, although their eyesight was better, but even then they were send to madarassas instead of proper schools. Girls were to sit at home and do domestic work as they were not allowed to go outside.

#### Examples of Encouragement:

About 9.2 percent of the blind children population said that they did not encounter too many problems in mobility. This was because some were not fully blind instead had very low visions.

## 6. Educational Problems Encountered by Blinds and Visually Impaired

Responding the question about education and work both the blinds and visually impaired have less or no education. Visually impaired children had some education but they are forced by parents to drop school or teachers refused to teach them. Once, a teacher schooling pre-classes even refused to admit student with low vision. On the question of education almost every low vision child had dream of education. Some of the blind children left school because of either teachers or peers attitude.

### 6.1 Educational Problems Encountered by Men

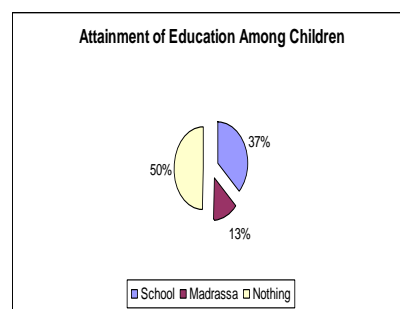
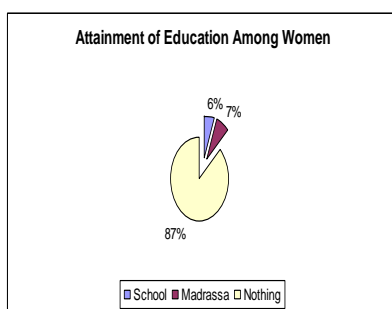
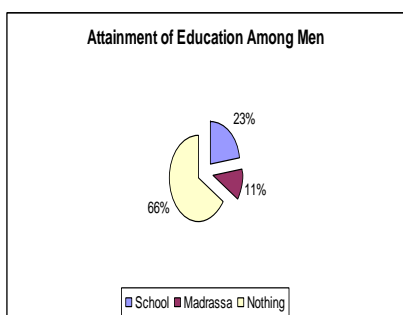
As the team asked more questions about the blinds life they got to know that many men were uneducated. Only 23 percent of the men were literate, 11 percent had attended madarassas and 66 percent was uneducated.

### 6.2 Educational Problems Encountered by Women

At village level women are not allowed to go outside to study it is very rare that a women has studied till high school. The PSA found out that the 87 percent of the women had no education while only 6 percent had got some education and 7 percent had attended madarassas. The gender comparison shows that the deprivation of education (school and Madarassa) among women is higher than the men.

### 6.3 Educational Problems Encountered by Children

Majority of the children are deprived from attaining education because of their disability. The number of children who have had some education was better in terms of mobility and psychological problems. About 37 percent have had some education in schools. Generally low vision children are forced to drop out from schools due to attitude of teacher and or parents. A small proportion mostly boy child are admitted in Madarassas therefore they get some opportunity to go out and have some socialization.



## **7. Economic Problems Encountered by Blinds and Visually Impaired**

This PSA process also focused on working life and their inclusion in any of the house activities or in socializing. The responses were quite amazing; majority of the respondents remained at home while few of them said they try to do some work in side the house or out side for supporting their family.

### **7.1 Economic Problems Encountered by Men**

5 percent men had their own jobs or business's and one was even the president of Pakistan's Blind Association. Majority of men were forced to sit at home jobless due to high rate of illiteracy and lack of technical training. As a consequence they were forced to beg to support their families after blindness.

### **7.2 Economic Problems Encountered by Women**

In villages as it has been told before that girls are not allowed to go outside houses they are to sit at home and do domestic work. They are not allowed to have jobs and men families think that it is a disgrace for women to work, especially the ones who are blind. Therefore the women suffering from blindness becomes completely dependant on their families hence seen as a burden by the family and community.

### **7.3 Economic Problems Encountered by Children**

The children between the ages 0-10 were too small to work but the ones who were above 10 and lower than 18 could've worked but they did not due weak access to attend school and learn any skill.

## **8. Current Services Status in Swabi**

The analysis of present services for blinds and eye care found the following four services in the area:

- Blind School Set Up Under The Social Welfare Department
- Pakistan Blind Associations
- District Head Quarter Hospital In Swabi
- Lackson Tobacco's Company's Free Eye Hospital In Tehsil Lahor Of Swabi District

### **8.1 Assessment Of Present Services Offered By Blind School**

Swabi a District with 200 villages located in the radius of 1543 square kilometer has only one school for blind people. The assessment of blind school found that although brail education is offered to blinds and low vision people however the school does not have proper equipment and educational aids to cater the available number of blinds in the project area. At present only 7 students are being enrolled for education in the school. The location and distance of different villages to and from the school requires a proper transportation system. The weak public transport system from different villages to the school, poor economic conditions of the people to have own transport make it more difficult for the people with blindness and visual impairment to avail the facility. Apart from this females due to mobility restrictions have double discrimination for accessing these types of facilities.

### **8.2 Assessment Of Present Services Offered By Pakistan Blind A ssociations**

An office of Pakistan blinds association is operating in District Swabi. The main function performed by them is to refer students to blind school. The management and resources of Swabi office requires immense improvement for proper functioning and catering the needs and demands of people with blindness and visual impairment.

### **8.3 Assessment of Present Services Offered By District Head Quarter Hospital in Swabi**

District Head Quarter Hospital in Swabi is providing eye care services to the patients. One ophthalmologist and medical doctor is available to cater the patients. However knowing the present intensity of eye care issues, it has limited technical staff, improper facilities such as equipment for eye care and surgery.

### **8.4 Assessment of Present Services Offered by Lackson Tobacco's Company's Free Eye Hospital**

Free Eye Care Hospital of Lackson Tobacco Company is providing good quality services for eye care. It provides free eye surgery and treatment. It has once arranged trainings for people with blindness.

However it is located in Tehsil Lahor which is far away from Tehsil Swabi and Gadoon areas, the proposed making it inaccessible for a large number of people with blindness and visual impairment

## **9. An Overview of Community Based Organizations of District Swabi**

An overview of only those CBOs was recorded who were operating in the villages where people with blindness and visual impairment were identified and interviewed. The PSA identified 32 Community Based Organizations in 49 villages. The brief profile of these organizations found that all CBOs are registered in one of the acts of government of Pakistan. Majority have established primary, secondary schools and vocational centers in their villages. They have shown willingness to include blind in their activities. Some CBOs have either blind or disable person working as one of the office bearer. None of them have worked exclusively for the rehabilitation of blind or visually impaired. Majority of the villages covered in PSA have Citizen Community Boards. A brief profile of 32 CBOs is elaborated below:

### **9.1 *Al-Khair Welfare Association:***

This organization is located in village Maneri Bala, Tehsil and District Swabi. Its registration number is DSW 2453 and it works for Maneri village. None of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO believe that blinds in the association produce a good impression on the organization. The number of CCB's in this group are four. There is only one vocational centre (females) formed by this organization. This organization has created a total of eight schools; seven primary schools and one middle school.

### **9.2 *Community Development Organization***

This organization is located in village Shagai Maneri Bala, Tehsil, Swabi District. It's registered under the name Social welfare Act, 1961 and it works for the Swabi district. One of the members, Mr. Shamraiz, is blind. The members of this CBO believe that the inclusion of blinds is very necessary as these special people get encouragement and they are also a part of this society. The number of CCB's in this group have is three. There is only one vocational centre formed by this organization. This organization has created a total of 12 schools; eleven primary schools and one middle school.

### **9.3 *Bakhtiyar Muhammad/ Uqaab CCB***

This organization is located in village Adina, Tehsil, Swabi District. Its registration number is No.10 and it works for Adina village. Some of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO believe that blinds should be included in CBO activities and the purpose of creating this organization is to enable blinds to become one of the perfect people in our society. The number of CCB's in this group have is nine. There is only one vocational centre formed by this organization. This organization has created a total of 10 schools; nine primary schools and 1 middle school.

### **9.4 *Youth Welfare Society, Sheikh Janna***

This organization is located in village Kara Khel, Sheikh Jana, Tehsil and Swabi district. Its registration number is NWF 544 and it works for Sheikh Jana. None of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO believe that blinds should not be included as they cannot work. The number of CCB's in this group have is two. There is only one vocational centre formed by this organization. This organization has created a total of fifteen schools; 9 primary schools and 6 middle schools.

### **9.5 *Tehreek Nuwjawan, Kalabat***

This organization is located in village Kalabat, Tehsil and District Swabi. Its registration number is NWFP 340 and it works for the Union Council Kalabat. None of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blind people in their association. These people want to solve the blinds problems in their daily life. The number of CCB's in this group are three. There is only one vocational centre and one handicrafts center by this organization. This organization has created a total of six schools; three primary schools and three middle schools.

### **9.6 *Thand Koi Welfare Society***

This organization is located in the Main bazaar, Thand Koi. Its registration number is DSW-NWFP 951. It works for District Swabi. One of the members, Mr. Shafi Ullah in this association is blind and one is physically handicapped, Mr. Waked Khan. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention and

care. The number of CCB's in this group are 10. There are no vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of nine schools; six primary schools and one middle school and 2 high schools.

#### **9.7 Uthman Welfare Society**

This organization is located in village Kotha, Tehsil and Swabi district. Its registration number is DSW-NWFP/ 287 and it works for District Swabi. None of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO allege that they are willing to include blinds in their association. The number of CCB's this group has is six. This organization has created a total of fifteen schools; 8 primary schools and 7 middle schools.

#### **9.8 Indus Dolphin Mankai**

This organization is located in village Mankai, Lahor and Swabi district. Its registration number is DSW/NWFP/2419 and it works for Swabi District. None of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO say that they appreciate the inclusion of blinds in our CBO. The number of CCB's this group have is eight. This organization has created a total of nine schools; four primary schools and five middle schools.

#### **9.9 Hamza Dher Welfare Society**

This organization is located in village Hamza Dera, Tehsil, Swabi District. It works for Jankuda village. None of the members in this association are blind. The members of this CBO want to help all the blind specially those who are widows/widowers. This organization has created a total of five schools; five primary schools.

#### **9.10 Friends Welfare Society**

This organization is located in village Speen Kani, Tehsil, district Swabi. Its registration number is 817 and it works for Speen Kani, Submerge area. One of the members Mr. Mukhtiar Ali is physically handicapped. The members of this CBO believe that there should be mobility trainings and blind CBOs in the areas we are working on. The number of CCB's this group have is four. This organization has created a total of four schools; three primary schools and one middle school.

#### **9.11 Tanzeem-e-Naujawan Topi**

This organization is located in village Ismail Khan, Topi. Its registration number is DSW/594 and it works for Topi. The members of this CBO say that blinds require our help and it is our duty to help them. The number of CCB's in this group have is sixteen. This organization has created a total of fourteen schools; ten primary schools two middle schools and two high schools.

#### **9.12 Paghham Society**

This organization is located in Chota Lahor, Tawhskhaan, and Tehsil, district Swabi. It works for Tehsil, Lahor. The members of this CBO say that every disabled person should be included in the CBO, blind or any other. The number of CCB's in this group are 14. There is one vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of fifty-five schools; 53 primary schools and 1 middle school.

#### **9.13 Awamee Social Society**

This organization is located in Sheikh Dheri, Tehsil, Lahor, District Swabi. It works for Sheikh Dheri village. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention of the society. The number of CCB's in this group is 1. This organization has created a total of six schools; four primary schools and two middle schools.

#### **9.14 Kalam**

This organization is located in the Kalu Khan, Tehsil, District Swabi. It works for Kalu Khan Village. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention and care. The number of CCB's in this group are 10. There are no vocational centers formed by this group. This group only comprises of one female members and the rest are males. This organization has created a total of nine schools; six primary schools and one middle school and 2 high schools.

#### **9.15 Alfalah**

This organization is located in the Main bazaar, Thand Koi. Its registration number is DSW-NWFP 951. It works for District Swabi. One of the members, Mr. Shafi Ullah in this association is blind and one is physically handicapped, Mr. Waked Khan. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention and care because they can't do anything. The number of CCB's in this group are 4. This organization has created a total of 9 schools; 7 primary schools and 2 middle schools.

#### **9.16 Anjuman Samajee Behbood Chota Yar Hussain**

This organization is located in Chota Yar Hussain, Tehsil, District Swabi. Its registration number is DSW-NWFP 629. It works for District Swabi. One of the members is physically handicapped, Mr. Ejaz Ali. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds and are concerned about the services delivered to them and that blinds face a lot of hurdles so helping them is our sole duty. The number of CCB's in this group are 7. There is one vocational center formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 14 schools; 10 primary, 1 middle school and 3 high schools.

#### **9.17 Falahe Tanzeem Bedar Zalmay**

This organization is located in Beka, Tehsil, Lahore, District Swabi. Its registration number is DSW-1319. It works for the Beka Village. The members of this CBO believe that blinds should be included in CBOs blinds and they need proper attention and care. The number of CCB's in this group are 2. This organization has created a total of 10 schools; 4 primary schools and 2 middle school and 4 high schools.

#### **9.18 Tanzeem Huququl EBAD**

This organization is located in Bada, Kabgani, Tehsil, District Swabi. Its registration number is 1994/5/2175. It works for the Bada Village. The members of this CBOs say that, no, blinds should not participate they need help not us. The number of CCB's in this group are 1. This organization has created a total of 3 schools; 2 primary schools and 1 middle school.

#### **9.19 Social Welfare Society DOBIAN**

This organization is located Dobian, Tehsil, Lahor, District Swabi. Its registration number is DSW/892. It works for Dobian Area. The members of this CBO say that they believe that blinds need proper attention and care and they unable to participate in CBOs. The number of CCB's in this group are 4. There is vocational center formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 21 schools; 20 primary schools 1 high school.

#### **9.20 Deyar Khan Education Foundation**

This organization is located in Village Yaqoobi, Tehsil, Chota Lahor, District Swabi. It works for the Yaqoobi Village. The members of this CBO believe that blinds cannot do anything. The number of CCB's in this group are 3. This organization has created a total of six schools; 4 primary schools and 2 middle schools.

#### **9.21 Alfalah**

This organization is located in village Thanu, Tehsil, Swabi. It works for Thanu Village. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention and care. The number of CCB's in this group is 1. This organization has created a total of 3 schools; 2 primary schools and 1 high school.

#### **9.22 Ittifaq Welfare Society (IWS), Swabi**

This organization is located in Village Shalkay Banda (Swabi) Tehsil, district Swabi. It works for Shalkay Banda. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention and care. The number of CCB's in this group are 1. This organization has created a total of 2 schools; 2 primary schools.

#### **9.23 WARD, Permuli**

This organization is located in Saray Tachail Zalay, Swabi. It works for Permuli. About 10% of the members in this association are blind. The number of CCB's in this group are 6. There are 2 vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 11 schools; 6 primary schools and 2 middle school and 3 high schools.

#### **9.24 Human Rights Preservation Organization**

This organization is located in Ganduff Bala, Tehsil, District Swabi. Its registration number is 3000. It works for Ganduff Bala and its Suburbs. The number of CCB's in this group are 10. This organization has created a total of 2 schools; 1 primary school and 1 middle school.

#### **9.25 Anjum Tahafuz Huquq Insaniat**

This organization is located in Ganduff, Tehsil, District Swabi. It works for the Ganduff Villages. The number of CCB's in this group are 3. This organization has created a total of 15 schools; 12 primary schools, 2 middle schools and 1 high school.

#### **9.26 Mashal Pajman**

This organization is located in Panjuman, district Swabi. It works for Panjuman. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society and they believe that blinds need proper attention and care. There is one disabled person in this group, Mr. Manzar Mohammad. The number of CCB's in this group in 1. There is 1 vocational center formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 3 schools; 2 primary schools and one middle school.

#### **9.27 Sultan Hussain Tanzeem Nujawani, Khaigra**

This organization is located in Pabeeni, Tehsil, District Swabi. Its registration number is 180. It works for Pabeeni. One of the members, Mr. Zahid Mohammad is disabled. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in CBOs. The number of CCB's in this group are 3. This organization has created a total of nine schools; 7 primary schools and 2 middle schools.

#### **9.28 Anjuman Khidmat Khalq, Dagai**

This organization is located in Dagai, Tehsil, District Swabi. It works for Dagai. The members of this CBO say that they want to keep blinds as helpers in their community. The number of CCB's in this group are 5. There are 2 vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 18 schools; 6 primary schools, 1 middle school, 8 high schools and 3 private school.

#### **9.29 Rashakai Social Welfare Organization, Swabi**

This organization is located in Rashakai, Tehsil, District Swabi. Its registration number is 912. It works for Rashakai. The members say that blinds need help desperately especially in villages. The number of CCB's in this group is 1. This organization has created a total of 6 schools; 6 primary schools.

#### **9.30 Noor Welfare Women Association**

This organization is located in Khadari, Pinjpir, Tehsil, Swabi District. It works for Pinjpir. The number of CCB's in this group are 9. There is 1 vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 11 schools; 8 primary schools and 1 middle school and 2 high schools.

#### **9.31 Sabawoon Charbagh**

This organization is located in Sabawoon Charbagh, Tehsil, Swabi District. It works for Charbagh and its hamlets. The members of this CBO say that they would appreciate the inclusion of blinds in this society because they are special people. The number of CCB's in this group are 2. There are 2 vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 3 schools; 3 primary schools.

#### **9.32 Ulasi Khaigra Muzafat Saleem Khan**

This organization is located in Muzafat Saleem Khan, Tehsil, District Swabi. Its registration number is DSW-NWFP 951. It works for Muzafat Saleem Khan. The number of CCB's in this group are 10. There are 20 vocational centers formed by this group. This organization has created a total of 12 schools; 9 primary schools, 1 middle school and 2 high schools.

#### **9.33 Islahi Committee Besak**

This organization is located in Gadoon area, Tehsil and District Swabi. It works for BESAK village. The only one CCB in village BESAK.

### **10. Potential For Future Interventions Related To Blind Care**

CHIP as an organization strongly believes to develop a local people with a sense of responsibility to work for its own people. The analysis of presence of Community Based Organizations is very

encouraging for designing Community Based Rehabilitation Model for People with blindness and visual impairment. Capability of CBOs for providing community based rehabilitation services can be enhanced. Master Trainers can be trained in each CBO. These Master trainers can be imparted task of providing trainings on 'Orientation and Mobility' and 'Activities of Daily Life' for the blinds of their villages in their local context. This will help in observance to the local norms and culture by the local trainers. An option can also be explored to develop female trainers so that female suffering from blindness and visual impairment can be trained separately according to the local culture. This will also help in reducing the costs of the project. The following interventions can be designed in close collaboration with CBOs and local NGOs of Swabi for social inclusion of people suffering from irreversible blindness and visual impairment.

### **10.1 Educational Rehabilitation**

Education and qualification for career and meaning full working life is very necessary. There should be proper school for both blinds and visually impaired people, Educational rehabilitation is to enable people suffering from blindness or low vision to become self reliant using the knowledge they acquire by education. Special education services are undergoing in Swabi. This service can be considered as educational rehabilitation. Activities can be initiated to improve the quality and outreach of present services for people with blindness and visual impairment. The literate blinds can be facilitated to access the available services at blind school and or mainstream school to increase their educational level. Some of rehabilitation workers of CBOs and school teachers can also be trained in brail or education of low vision people, there are people in local communities of Swabi, with sight or blinds and low vision who can be used as an effective resource for running special education schools. If people with disabilities are provided with the appropriate educational, medical, vocational training and appropriate prosthetic-orthopedic services, it is believed, that they become, productive citizens there by supporting themselves and their country as well! It is very much true and possible that these people can be the best service providers and the involvement of blinds in schools can ensure their inclusion in society. In this way resources can be combined and blinds people's needs would be met in the most appropriate way.

### **10.3 Vocational Rehabilitation**

A rehabilitation process that encompasses vocational-guidance, vocational training and appropriate placement can enable people with visual disability to engage themselves in a practical career that sustains them. This process includes follow up and evaluation procedures which are undertaken after placement. Therefore, unless the ongoing rehabilitation services are strengthened, efforts can be exerted to place the disabled section of society in sustainable and useful employment.

### **10.4 Awareness Raising**

An awareness raising campaign can be initiated through CBOs for changing the attitudes of people towards blind people and visual impairment. Community based awareness can include designing of indigenous methodologies for targeting various types, gender and age groups.

### **10.5 Attitudinal Change**

The most difficult barriers faced by most of disable people is the negative attitude of the society. The negative attitude of the society towards persons with disabilities along with backward and' harmful traditional practices aggravates the problem highly. When rehabilitation services are provided in local communities it is possible to chip away these attitudes and stereotypes and in case of young ones the risk of development of these attitudes will be very low. Thus, every endeavor should be made to enable people with disabilities to become full participants and equal beneficiaries in the socioeconomic and political life of the society by changing the negative attitude of community towards disables and by bringing behavioral changes.

In order to solve the problem timely, it is essential to launch various measures geared towards preventing the causes of blindness. There is a need of awareness raising programs in term of health hygiene in local communities; this process should also focus on the concept of visiting doctors at an early stage of any health related issue. Since some cases of blindness occurred due to ignorance, harmful and backward traditional practices, it is possible to prevent them by raising the awareness level in the community.

Since disability is considered to be caused not by natural and man made calamities but either by God's indignation or as a 'result of evil faith for the majority of the society, it imposes heavy effect on



the lives of the victim's of the problem in general and on women with disabilities in particular. This wrong view and attitude is the initiative of the community to prevent visual disability and to undertake the necessary rehabilitation action up on incidence of disability very low.

In order to, improve and eventually eliminate this situation wide and continuous education about causes of disabilities, prevention of disabilities, capacity and interests of persons with disabilities, type of support and care provided particularly for women with disabilities must be given for those engaged in health, education, social, vocational training and employment sectors, for legislative bodies, plan designers and communities as a whole. Indeed the community is expected to fully participate and contribute its due support for achievement of intended outcome in the attempt of awareness raising by examining its out look, towards people with visual disabilities the extent to which its negative attitude affected felling of persons with disabilities and realize the consequence in the situation where people with disabilities are isolated from existing in socio-economic and political activities.

A process for improving the networking and synergies can be increased among CBOs, health department and other service providers in respect of providing community based rehabilitation of people with blindness and visual impairment. This will help in increasing the synergies and accessing support of local health department, available services and elected representatives for running community based rehabilitation services for people with blindness and visual impairment.

Annex I: Case Studies

**Destined Fate**



***Anfata And Rukhsana, Sisters Suffering From Low Vision And Irreversible Blindness***

*Anfata and Rukhsana are two sisters whose ages are 18 and 15 years. When Anfata was 3 years of age she realized that she was unable to see certain things. But her parents paid no attention to her. One day her grandmother told her to put the thread through the needle; she was unable to do so. Her family then found out that Anfata really was telling the truth about her eyesight. Her parents took her to the village hospital but it was too late, the doctor told them that Anfata was a patient of Amblyopia and would be completely blind in a matter-of-time.*

*Anfata is now spending her life at home. She wants to go out like all others and meet her relatives but she can't because she has no idea now how to socialize. House work is very important to her and she wishes to see how well she washes the dishes!*

*In the same house lived Rukhsana who is Anfata's younger sister. She was facing the same problem of irreversible blindness but her state was different. Before she became a low vision she used to attend school. But as it got difficult to go to school without somebody's guidance she compromised with life and remained at home with her sister Anfata.*

*Rukhsana still wants to go to school and play with her friends but both fate and destiny have left her stranded in life!*

### **Irreversible Neglect**



#### **Three Siblings Blind By Birth As A Result Of Inter-Cousin Marriages For Generations**

*Jawed Khan, who is an inhabitant of Swabi Khas, got married fifteen years ago with a girl belonging to his family. Jawed was blessed by God with three children, Reshma, Uwais, and Aamir but Jawed Khan was not as happy as he should have been because all the children had Congenital Glaucoma and were irreversibly blind. For sixteen years their parents took the children to hospitals for their treatment but all their efforts were in vain. Clarifying the situation Jawed Khan decided to marry again this time from somebody outside his family. He was blessed with another child, a girl who had normal vision. Because of this, Jawed's youngest child was the certain of attention for the family.*

*Jawed's three other children were now facing a strange situation; they felt neglected by their own relatives! They heard people saying that, "These children are blind and still they want to go to school and have some kind of mobility training?" Though Aamir the youngest son from the first wife attends a blind school but still due to lack of discipline and proper education in the school he wants to discontinue this activity.*

### **'Looked Down Upon...'**



#### **Two Sisters Suffering From Irreversible Blindness As A Result Of Retinopathy**

*Bakht Paree (Patient of Retinal Abnormality) and Nighat (Patient of Retinopathy) are irreversibly blind. Other than the two sisters even their two brothers are irreversibly blind. Bakht Paree and Nighat's family is cut off from the rest of the world due to the fact that having four blinds in the family creates a lot of social problems. Bakht Paree does not reply to any question, if she's in mood then sometimes she talks to her mother and believes that only her mother loves her and nobody else. Nighat on the other hand has some social with people and does most of her work herself.*

*During the interview when Nighat was asked about her marital status she laughed out loud and said who would want to marry blinds like us? And that her only support in life is her mother. After this she expressed her anger on those who looked down upon blinds. She said that her brother used to teach in a school but after he got blind he was thrown out of school and was now jobless. Even now he's mostly not at home and when he comes home is very dejected.*

*Bakht Paree and Nighat's mother is very concerned about her girls and is often worried that after her death who would look after them? She wants to see her girls at a stable position so that they never have to beg in front of anybody.*

### **Undignified Admonition**



***This Girl Went Fanatic When Her Engagement Broke As She Was A Visually Impaired. She Is 22 Years Of Age But Looks Older***

*Sa'adat Ullah's daughter Rubina, at the present moment is in a terrible state. She is 22 years old and is suffering from Retinitis Pigmentosa which has made her life very problematical. Rubina was engaged at the age of 15 but due to low vision the engagement was broken. This affected her mental health and her parents thinking that she was going fanatical took her to the psychologist instead of an ophthalmologist. When Rubina's sister was questioned she alleged that Rubina was now absorbed in housework and nothing else and even if you call her she does not reply back.*

*Rubina's this condition was mainly because of her family's general attitude towards her. Her aunt would admonish her and tell her off. Although today Rubina is only 22 year's of age her situation does not prove it. She looks much older. And even though she manages to do all her work herself but still her family members consider her a burden.*

### **An Example of Bliss**



#### **An Example, For All Blinds Of Encouragement And Prosperity**

*Fazal Kareem Falah is an inhabitant of Swabi. He is 42 years old. Fazal Kareem is such a willful person that his life is an example of encouragement for the other blinds who have given up in life. Fazal Kareem was a patient of Nystagmus since birth. But this disease was never a hindrance to him in any score of life. He passed his metric exam with the help of Audio Aids. After this he went to certain Blind Institutes from where he took different trainings. Today he is a teacher in a Blind's School. Fazal Kareem never let this disability become an obstacle between him and his destiny. This is the reason why today he is leading a prosperous and blissful life.*

*Fazal Kareem, when relating his life history said that the most important thing in his life is that after coming back from his job at school he goes for chair weaving which increases his income and in this way he also is not a burden to anybody. The thing that Fazal Kareem emphasized the most on was that every blind has to take mobility trainings so that they are not considered a burden in the society.*

### **The Passionate Idealist**



***Rumeesa, a four year old irreversibly blind with dreams to achieve something in life***

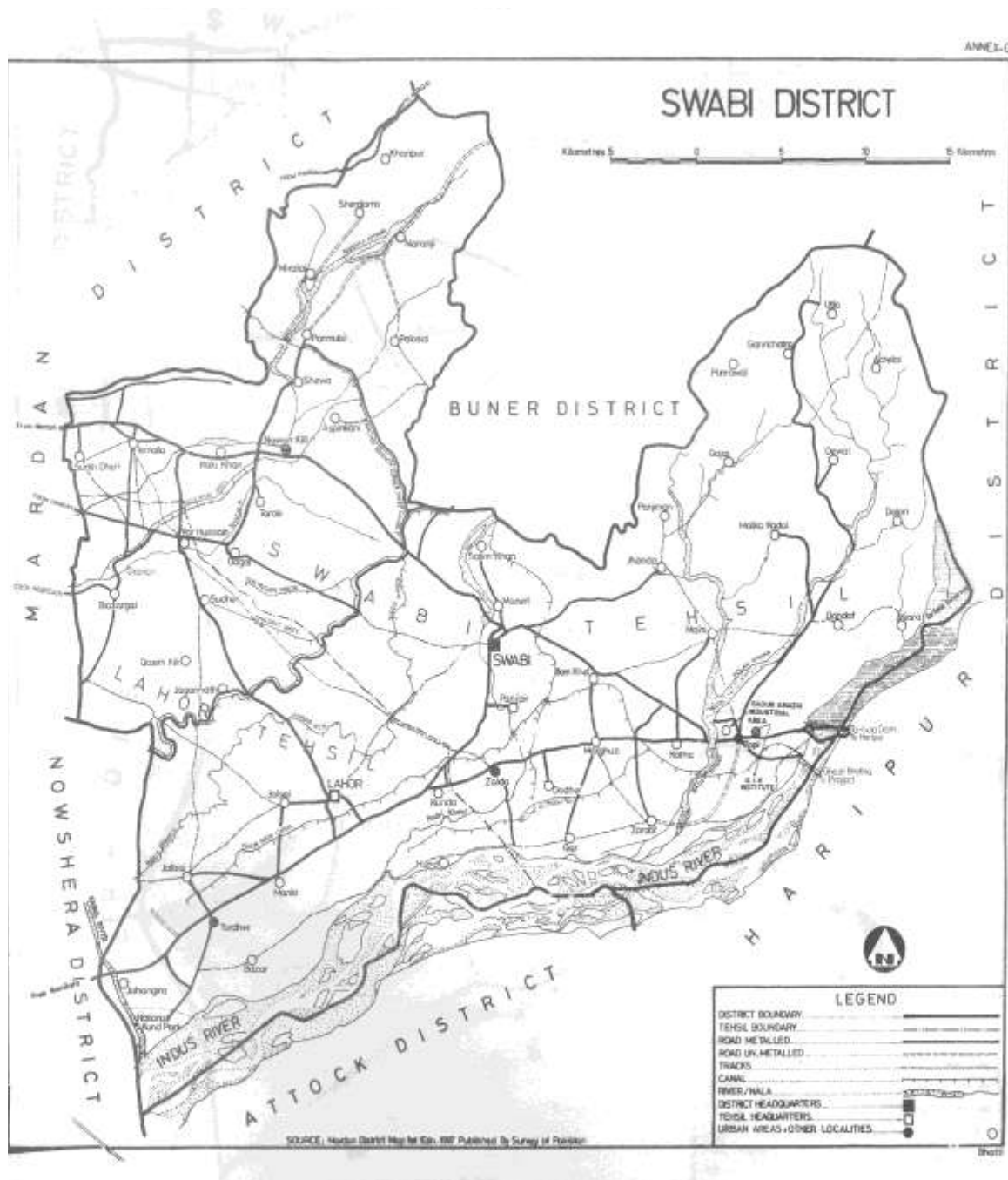
*Rumeesa is four years old. Her father's name is Shahid Hussain. She was born as a patient of corneal opacity. She inherited this disease from her father who is also a patient of corneal opacity. Rumeesa does not attend school but when she's asked about her studies she always replies that she's in grade one. This shows her interest in education.*

*Although Rumeesa is only four years old but mentality level is just like any normal citizen of that village. She inherited her passion in singing from her father. Her father, Shahid was never dependant on anybody in his family and he used to sing to get money to support his family. She is interested in singing and in having plenty of money so that she can run her own business.*

*She inherited her passion in singing from her father. Her father, Shahid was never dependant on anybody in his family and he used to sing to get money to support his family. The reason for Rumeesa being so confident and intentional is because her family never treated her like a blind. She was given support and dignity as any other child in the family. This is the reason for Rumeesa's determined character.*

*From-all-the above one can determine that Rumeesa has all those abilities in herself that a normal child has.*

Annex II: Map of District Swabi





**Annex III: List of PSA team**

<b>Team #</b>	<b>Name of team members</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Expertise</b>
Team -1 For Tehsil Swabi	Kashif	Male	Ophthalmic Technician
	Liaqat Ali	Male	Orientation and mobility
	Illahia	Female	Community Activist
	Sajida	Male	Community Activist
Team-2 For Tehsil Lahor	Assad	Male	Ophthalmic Technician
	Sadia Malik	Female	Orientation and mobility
	Aqeela Naz /zaheen	Female	Community Activist (SO)
	Yasir Iqbal	Male	Community Activist (SO)
Team-3 For Gadoon Amazai	Ishfaq	Male	Ophthalmic Technician
	Saleem Bahadar	Male	Orientation and mobility
	Bus Bibi	Female	Community Activist
	Salma /Ishrat	Female	Community Activist

**Annex IV: List of Villages Where PSA Exercise Was conducted**

Sr.No.	Village
1	
2	Aena
3	Bada/swabi
4	Beisak/swabi
5	Char Bagh/Sawabi
6	Chotalahore/Lahore
7	Dagae/Sawabi
8	Gadoon/Sawabi
9	Gandaf/Sawabi
10	Gain chatara/swabi
11	Hamza Dera/Sawabi
12	Jalsaye,Sawabi
13	Jangi Dera/Sawabi
14	Kala but
15	Kalla havayi,Sawabi
16	Kalu khan/swabi
17	Kamal Sher Kalay/Sawabi
18	Khurd khoe/Lahore
19	Kootha,Sawabi
20	Kotha/gadoon
21	Lahore/Lahore
22	Maanky,Lahore
23	Maini
24	Manairy balla,Sawabi
25	Manbhatti,Sawabi
26	Mankai
27	Pabeeni Swabi
28	Panj Peer/Sawabi
29	Panjman/Bajore
30	Panjman/Swabi
31	Rashkaee/Sawabi
32	Saleem khan,Sawabi
33	Sawabi khaas,Sawabi
34	Shagai maneri/swabi
35	Shah mansoor/Sawabi
36	Shaikh dheri/Lahore
37	Shaikh jaba/swabi
38	Sheikh jana,Sawabi
39	Shewa/Sawabi
40	Shooh,Sawabi
41	Speenkanni,Sawbi
42	Thaanoo,Sawabi
43	Thand Khoe
44	Thano/Lahore
45	Topi
46	Topi Gharbi
47	Topi shamsa kheil
48	Topi sharqi
49	Yar Hussain/Lahore

**Annex V: List Of Representatives From Swabi Based Organizations Who Provided Local Guidance**

S. No.	Name of the Guides	Name of Organization
1	Sher Nabi	Pakistan Blind Association Swabi Swabi Khass
2	Sher Nabi	Pakistan Blind Association Swabi Swabi Maneri Payan
3	Ghulam Haider	Pakistan Blind Association Swabi Pinj Pir
4	Muhaamad Altaf	Ulas Kheigera Muzafaat Saleem Khan
5	Illahia	Sabawoon Charbagh
6	Abdul Hakim	Youth Welfare Society Shieikh Jana
7	Usman Sher	ASB Yar Hussain
8	Zaidad Khan	CDO Shegai Maneri
9	Mutahir	Kalu Khan
10	Wisal Mohaamad	AWAM Maneri Bala
11	Bakhtiar Nazim	Nazim UC Adina
12	Abdul Latif	Baidar Zalmay Beka
13	Khalid	WAR Shahmansoor
14	Abdul Hakim	Nawan Killi
15	Muthahir Khan	Qalam Kalu Khan
16	Ghulam Haqqani	Rashikai Social Welfare Organization Rashkai
17	Ghulam Haqqani	Tarakai
18	Usman Sher	Aniuman Samajee Behbood Yarhussain
19	Abzer Khan	Pegham Welfare
20	Latif	Baidar Zalmay Beka
21	Prof Munawar	Indus Dolfan Welfare Society
22	Zaheen Khan	Tehreek Nawjawan Kalabutt
25	Adam Khan	Tand Koi Welfare Society
26	Karam Satar	Dyar Khan Development Foundation
27	Ayoobkhan	Anjuman Nawjawan Dobian
28	Haider Zamaz	Utman Welfare Society Khota
29	Gul Taz	Haqooq-ul-Abad Bada
30	Ijaz Ahmad /	Islahi Committee Besak
31	Hussain Khan	Pijman
32	Gul Nisar	Shera Ghund