AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Pakistan

FACTS AT A GLANCE

AKF ESTABLISHED: 1969

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS: North West Frontier (Chitral) and Gilgit-Baltistan provinces as well as the Baluchistan and Sindh provinces

PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS: Development of rural communities, civil society, the built environment, health, early childhood development and education

STAFF: 283

AN AGENCY OF THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK
THE AGA KHAN FOUNDATION (AKF) in Pakistan collaborates with a number of AKDN agencies to deliver programme activities in civil society, rural development, the built environment, health, early childhood development and education in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral, as well as in Baluchistan and Sindh. The Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP)’s more than 30 years of experience in the region continues to act as a catalyst for increasing economic opportunities, strengthening the natural and built environment, and improving the associational life of communities. AKRSP has established 59 local support organisations; 4,914 village/women’s organisations and thematic interest groups; trained more than 1,300 farmers in seed production and apricot drying; and provided agricultural inputs for 773 low-income households to develop farmland. AKRSP has also supported 3,800 infrastructure projects, including 2,218 irrigation channels and land development projects, 766 link roads and bridges, and other projects related to water supply, energy and social sectors. More than 10 new micro-hydropower projects are planned. AKF provides support to 30 ECD centres in Gilgit-Baltistan, and has recently expanded its reach into Baluchistan and Sindh.

THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (AKDN) in Pakistan is engaged in activities including large-scale rural development; health, education and civil society programmes; microfinance services; major national and international institutions in banking and insurance; the provision of tertiary medical and in-service nursing education at the Aga Khan University in Karachi; services and innovations aimed at improving the built environment, particularly housing design and construction, village planning, natural hazard mitigation, and clean water supply and sanitation; and the restoration of historic forts and landmark buildings in Gilgit-Baltistan.

COVER PHOTO: AKF’s women-only markets in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral provide an important space for women, bring respect to women business owners and help foster a group of women role models in the communities where they operate.