



Workshop with Elected Local Government Representatives on Local Councils Association of the Punjab (LCAP)

PC Lahore - July 20, 2017



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Acronyms:

BOG:	Board of Governors
GIZ:	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
SDC:	Swiss Agency for Development and cooperation
LoGo:	Local Governance Programme
SCD:	State-Citizens Dialogue
PIC:	Punjab Information Commission
LCAP:	Local Councils Association of the Punjab
LCA's	Local Councils Associations
LGA:	Local Government Association
CEDAW:	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
GOP:	Government of Punjab
NGO:	Non-Government Organizations
USAID:	United State Agency for International Development
UNDP:	United Nations Development Program
CIDA:	Canadian International Development Agency
DSP:	Devolution Support Project
DTCE:	Devolution Trust for Community Empowerment
CESSD:	Communication for Effective Social Service Delivery
CLGF:	Commonwealth Local Government Forum
IUTC:	International Urban Development Center
PLGA:	Punjab Local Government Authority
ADLG:	Association for Development of Local Governance

Background and Rational:

The history of Local Governments is very interesting in Pakistan. After independence in 1947, the first formal system of Local Governments was introduced in 1958 with the “Basic Democracy” by the then Marshal Law government which was abolished by the new democratic government by saying that government shall introduce new system but the then government failed to do so. The second system of Local Governments was introduced in 1979 with the name “Local Government Ordinance 1979” and remained intact for several years. The third system was introduced in 2001 with the name “Local Government Ordinance 2001” which was quite empowered the Local Government representatives as compared to previous systems. The system was remained unharmed for decay almost. In 2013, all four provinces, Islamabad Capital City and cantonment areas introduced different systems of Local Governments for the areas which are working well till date. There always been required several initiatives to support the newly elected representatives and officials to perform better, essentially after elections.

The Local Government elections were held in 2015 where many development partners started to support Local Governments in different areas so that Local Governments could function effectively and to provide effective social services to their constituencies. One among the development partners is GIZ (German International Cooperation). GIZ started a project with the name “Support to Local Governance (LoGo)” for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab to support Local Governments in three thematic areas; 1) Strengthening Local Governance, 2) Revenue Generation and 3) State-Citizen Dialogue.

Under the result area 3, along with other focused areas, giz is also supporting the Local Councils Associations in both provinces to develop their institutional capacity and to achieve their objectives. The Local Government elections were held in 2015 in Punjab and it was mandatory for Local Councils Association of the Punjab (LCAP) to introduce itself to the newly elected local representatives to be part of board of governors and various committees of the Association.

Executive Summary:

On July 20, 2017 under thematic result area “State-Citizen Dialogue” of the LoGo project, a workshop was held in Lahore where a large no of District Chairman, Chairpersons, Mayors and their Deputies participated. Prominent among participants were Minister for Local Governments along with Secretary and Additional Secretary Local Governments (see enclosed list of participants).

The head of LoGo project gave snapshots of the projected and how it was contributing for good local governance. He had also given details to strengthen the Association of Local Councils and highly hoped for active participation in the mobilization and restructuring processes of the Association. The Executive Director of the Association had briefed the participants on LCAP and highlighted the processes of restricting. Introductory material was also distributed among the participants for further in depth knowledge. The Secretary for Local Governments highlighted the importance of Local Governments and areas where more legislation was required. He said that Local Government department would fully support the process of restructuring of Association. The Minister for Local Governments showed his support not only to Local Governments but for Association and asked the participants to take part active in the mobilization and restructuring process of the Association.

Objectives of the Workshop:

The core objective of the workshop was to orient the newly elected local government representatives on Local Councils Association of the Punjab, LCA's objectives, past performance, services to local council's members, structure & challenges and to get their support regarding formation and restructuring of its various working committees in forthcoming LCA elections. The other important objective was to take into confidence the high level Local Government officials about the role of LCAP.

Proceedings of the Workshop:

The workshop was held on July 20, 2017 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore where 21-District Chairmen, Chairpersons, Mayors, Minister for Local Governments (Mr. Mansha Ullah Butt), Secretary Local Government Mr. Aslam Kambo, Special Secretary Local Government Mr. Rashid Khan, 04-LCAP representatives, Head of Support to Local Governance (LoGo) Programme Mr. Christian Kapfensteiner, Senior Advisor Mr. Gouhar Ayyub, Deputy team Leader Citizen-State Dialogue Area Mr. Atif Mohammad, Advisor Local Governance Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua, LCA Advisor Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad and many other key personnel participated in the workshop.

There were comprehensive briefing on LoGo Programme and support to Local Councils Association of the Punjab (LCAP). District Chairmen gave their high remarks for past performance of LCAP and showed their full support in future. Mr. Shahid, Special Secretary to Local Government also emphasized on consolidated and united voices to debate on common issues of Local Governments. Two separate group works were organized to debate on current challenges to Local Governments and what members expect from LCAP in future to address these challenges. Mr. Christian gave his concluding remarks with the announcement that nine divisional level orientation workshops involving more stakeholders shall be held in coming days.

Snapshots of guest speeches:

The Facilitator Mr. Salman Abid invited President LCAP **Mr. Syed Muhammad Asghar Shah Gillani** for recitation the Holy Quran. Mr. Gillani showed his warm feelings to the participants and welcomed them in the first chat on LCA. Mr. Abid shared possible objectives of the workshop to orient the participants about the role of LCAP, to seek massive support of government officials, to take insights of the participants to frame its future strategic plan and to get input and advice for upcoming divisional level events for larger stakeholder's orientation on LCAP. After formal introduction of the participants, Mr. Christian was given invitation for welcome remarks and briefing.

Mr. Christian Kapfensteiner warmly welcomed the participants to the workshop and hoped for their in-depth suggestions, remarks, and advice for future LCA. While talking on GIZ, he said that GIZ working around 130 countries since many decades in partnership with various government and non-government organizations to uplift the life of the common citizens. He told to the participants that GIZ was operating on behalf of the Federal



Republic of Germany, and this is not a non-governmental organization but a government body.

He proudly said that GIZ is in operation since 50-years in Pakistan making efforts along with key champions to make a positive change in the life of the people. He said that Pakistan is a beautiful country with beautiful people he ever seen. He said that GIZ is working in the governance sector for several years and this is the first time that the organization supports the Local Councils Association in Punjab. He informed that Kasur has been selected as a pilot district for the programme activities where they are getting overwhelmed response which indicated the positive intentions of the local representatives to contribute meaningfully to their constituencies.

He said that LoGo programme was launched in December 2016 which would continue its interventions over the next 3- years supporting to Local Governance, Right to Information initiatives, Revenue generation and Local Councils Association to reform and enhance the governance patterns for effective and efficient basic services delivery at the local level.

He informed that there were around 56000 elected councilors in Punjab with a variety of opinions and issues and the question was how to report these to the upper level. He said only the LCA can play a vital role to carry forward the united voices if it was well placed and recognized. He further emphasized on the importance of a unified platform of the Local Government representatives by mentioning the old man story “united we stand and divided we fall”. He said that he had strong belief if the ideas and issues are forwarded after consolidation these were must heard at all level. He showed his entire support to make a well-working and responsive forum of Local Governments in future in Punjab.

Since Kasur is the pilot district for the LoGo programme, the Chairman of the district was given the opportunity to talk about his experience about working with GIZ and importance of LCA.

Mr. Rana Sikandar Hayat, Chairman District Council Kasur took the floor and said that he was very lucky that his district was chosen by GIZ to contribute and support to our on-going efforts in the district, and to share new innovations and ideas which we could include in our annual planning.

He said that LoGo programme is very comprehensive having all key features that we need to respond at the local level. He emphasized that we need to generate our own local revenues strategically by not putting financial burden on poor communities. In this ways, our local governments would less financially dependent on provincial and national governments. He said that there are several unavoidable issues faced by their communities and his council is making every effort to find out the best solutions. He said that solid waste management is



one of the key issues. The councilors need proper trainings on the identification of citizens' priorities to be included in the annual development plans which is one of their basic responsibilities as per the LGA-2013. He hoped that GIZ through its on-going programme will support his district to address the issues and he was of the opinion that it was equally important to orient and aware the households how to manage solid waste at house level, and how to produce less amount of garbage. He appreciated the training initiatives of the councilors and citizens' engagement in development planning and hoped that this would be expanded in entire district for greater effect and strategic contribution from councilors during council sessions. He spoke high in favor of LCA and appreciated its past performance to restore the local democracy. He congratulated and thanked members of the current Executive Committee for their time they invested in keeping LCA live during the suspension of Local Governments. He said that there are number of issues faced by the local councils and we see that only LCA can take up these issues with our backing to the table of key decision makers of the Local Governments. He further said that LCA must continue its working with international forums of Local Governments and their Associations to share and learn experiences and best practices. He reiterated that LCA is a unique platform for State-Citizen dialogue to overcome on local issues. He said success stories can be managed in form of books to share with member Local governments to provide them a chance to replicate. He showed his full support for restructuring of LCA in coming days and undertook that we would strengthen LCA to represent us at all levels to safeguard our interests.

Mr. Muhammad Atif, Deputy team Leader of the result area SCD of the LoGo programme informed participants that GIZ in consultation with LCAP has devised a comprehensive plan for further mobilization at divisional level where all key stakeholders would be invited for LCA orientation. He said that after the orientation process, councilors would be able enough to actively take part in the election process of LCA, and timely pay the membership fees to LCA. By giving his insights on importance of LCA, he said that where there were Local Governments there were Local Government Associations around the globe which were playing key role in representing their member Local Governments at all level.



Additional Secretary Local Governments Mr. Rashid Khan said that Local Governments worked as spokespersons between citizens and upper governments as they were closest elected representatives to common people. He said that empowered Local Governments are in favor of citizens as the developed world already has gone through such experience thus there is no need to re-invent the wheel just give them full autonomy to function.



He had his opinion that LCA is important to convey the consolidated messages of their members to the provincial and national governments and to speak and contribute on policies, take initiatives in favor of their member councils and hold dialogue with key decision makers for empowered Local Governments. It could be a strong forum to play an effective role to carry forward unfinished agenda of the Local Democracy.

Executive Director LCAP Mr. Anwar Hussain said that LCAP was formed by the then elected representatives in 2006 to resolve common issues of Local Governments by adopting unified approach and to establish empowered self-governing local democracy. He said that LCAP struggled a lot to restore local democracy and for this purpose several steps were taken including dialogue, district and provincial seminars, lobbying, advocacy, negotiations and writ petitions in High and Supreme Court seeking orders for provincial governments to hold Local Government elections according to Article 140-A of the constitution.



He said that it was very hard time of LCAP when its members were working under high pressure and receiving continuous life threats but they did not leave the cause of local democracy and finally their dreams were fulfilled when elections were held in 2015. He said that LCAP is well connected with other sub-regional and international Local Government Associations (LGAs) and their networks where they learn and share their experiences. He informed that LCAP is in collaboration with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF). He added that LCAP enjoyed the presidency of UCLG APAC from 2013-14 where Mr. Gillani (president of the LCAP) got the opportunity to represent Pakistan at several global high level events.

He said that LCAP was not satisfied with the current policies and laws of Local Governments as these did not give powers to elected representatives. He said that our struggle will continue unless Local Governments are established according to Article 140-A.

He said that currently LCAP needs to be restructured where various committees would be established and we need a full back up support of the councilors. He said that LCAP has developed some software for union councils to adopt and gather true statistics of the areas for realistic future planning. By concluding his remarks, he thanked GIZ who was supporting the LCAP cause and contributing in mobilization of councilors to take part in LCAP district elections.

Minister for Local Governments Mr. Mansha Ullah Butt said that provincial government will increase the functions and responsibilities of the Chairmen and Mayors to respond effectively to solid waste and cleanliness issues particularly in urban areas. He added that provincial government is committed to release timely funds and powers to elected local representatives so that they can play their role more enthusiastically in the prosperity of their councils. He further said that we will have to make collective efforts for local development and to solve local problems.



He appreciated the vital role of LCA in raising the united voices of Local Governments. He said that LCA is a unique forum and its restructuring must be done without any delay. He offered his generous support to LCA and asked it could be good platform to inform us timely what Local Governments wanted and what issues they were facing. He pushed the participants to take part actively in the LCA structuring process and its election. He applauded GIZ for supporting the LCA in Punjab.

By giving **concluding remarks Mr. Christian** said that LCA can play a key role in supporting local councils and councilors to perform their duties well. He appreciated the time spent by the participants and their active involvement. He ensured the participants that we will continue supporting the Local Governments and LCA in Punjab.

The facilitator took the floor, thanked the participants and closed the workshop.

Findings of Group Work 1:

The group one was asked to respond the question, “what are current issues & challenges while practicing Punjab Local Government Act 2013?”

After a long discussion and debate they come up with the following current issues and challenges;

- Capacity of elected LG representatives is poor and needs to be enhanced
- Lack of financial and human resources is creating obstacles to perform well
- Provision of safe drinking water is one of the big challenges
- Weak and inefficient sewerage system, rural areas need more attention
- Rural and urban Solid Waste Management is challenge at the stage
- Health & Education supervision is out of the control of Local Governments
- Bureaucracy creates hurdles at local level
- Inappropriate assets & division of resources
- Weak local revenue collection system, LGs are not able to generate own revenue
- Lack of coordination between Local Councils and Provincial Government
- Weak legal dispensation i.e. PLGA, 2013
- Imbalance between functions of LG representatives and resources
- Vote of no confidence period should be at least 2 years
- Maximum powers should be given to Local Governments
- Local Councils functions are overlapping and have multiple jurisdictions
- Vibrant and representative forum of Local Governments needed
- Local Governments should be according to Article 140-A of the constitution
- District bureaucracy should be under the Head of District Council
- Involvement of MPAs and MNAs in Local Government affairs creates hurdles
- Weak provincial finance commission structure
- Local Government Commission composition should be balanced

Group Participants:

Sr. #	Name	Designation
01	Mr. Rana Sikandar Hayat	Chairman District Council Kasur
02	Ms. Fouzia Khalid Wariach	Chairperson District Council T.T Singh
03	Mr. Ahmad Iqbal	Chairman District Council Narowal
04	Mr. Malik Aslam Naveed	Mayor Municipal Corporation Sargodha
05	Mr. Sardar Asim Maken	Chairman District Council Sargodha
06	Mr. Peerzada Rajan Sultan	Chairman District Council Lodhran
07	Mr. Imran Ali Khan Malik	Convener, Local Councils Association of Punjab

Findings of Group Work 2:

The Group two was asked the question to respond “what are your expectation from Local Councils Association of the Punjab?”

Following were the responses;

- LCA should work to ensure implementation of 140-A where political, administrative and financial powers and authority must be given to elected representatives
- LCA must develop the capacity of elected representatives of Local Governments so that they could carry out their functions, roles and responsibilities properly
- LCA must restructure itself immediately to be a representative forum and enhance its institutional capacity to be a strong forum
- LCA should have its strong strategic plan according to the needs of member Local Councils and act very strategically
- LCA must have bodies at district level and should have legal protection in Punjab Local Government Act 2013
- LCA should take up the agenda for bringing reforms in local government laws and policies
- LCA should develop mechanisms to share knowledge and best practices, and for this purpose international linkages should be developed
- There should be a mechanism (digital) where members could chat with each other
- LCA should support to introduce, develop software and use new technologies for resolve common service delivery issues
- Exchange visits among local councils and provinces need be organized to learn from each other experiences

Sr. #	Name	Designation
01	Mr. Rana Atiq Anwar	Chairman District Council Sheikhpura
02	Mr. Asad Ali Khan Baloch	Mayor Municipal Corporation Sahiwal
03	Mr. Muhammad Tariq Awan	Chairman District Council Chakwal
04	Mr. Gulam Hussain Bosal	Chairman District Council Mandi Bahaudin
05	Mr. Mazzar Qayyum Nahra	Chairman District Council Gujranwala
06	Mr. Syed Aziz Khan	Chairman District Council Rajanpur
07	Mr. Muhammad Raza Sargana	Chairman District Councils, Khanewal
08	Mr. Syed Asghar Shah Gillani	President, Local Councils Association of Punjab
09	Mr. Malik Jameel Ahmad Kals	Vice President, Local Councils Association Punjab

Way forward for LCAP:

On the basis of group responses, following is the way forward to meet the expectations of the local elected representatives;

- Mobilization of the elected members on LCA needs to be done at the lower tiers
- The restructuring of LCA should be completed immediately so that newly elected local councils should be part of it, moreover district level committees of LCA should also be introduced
- LCA should take measures to introduce reforms to its constitution and management functions to be a strong forum
- Measures should be taken to share knowledge and best practices to address local council service delivery issues
- LCA should take initiatives to develop local leadership particularly women and marginalized groups for their better performance in the councils
- LCA should support member Local Governments to respond and implement new agenda 2030 (Sustainable Development Goals)
- Present capacity of elected Local Government representatives is weak which needs to be built in more effective way on urgent basis
- The challenge of scarcity of finances, human resources need to be addressed through lobbying, advocacy and negotiation with key decision makers of the Local Governments
- LCA should also focus of rigorous advocacy and lobbying campaign to improve and refine the weak dispensation of PLGA 2013, particularly of functional overlapping & multiplicity of jurisdictions (local and provincial) and promote strong liaison and coordination between Provincial & Local Governments.
- Linkages should be developed with Local Government networks of the developed world so that LCA members could learn and implement best practices

Annexures

Annex A

Workshop Agenda

Workshop with the Elected Representatives of Local Government
On Local Councils Association of the Punjab
July 20, 2017-PC Hotel, Lahore

Time	Activity	Remarks
09.30 – 10.00	Arrival and registration of participants	GIZ Lahore Office Team
10.00 – 10.05	Recitation from the Holy Quran	Volunteer
10.05 – 10.15	Welcome to participants & Introductory speech	Mr. Christian Kapfensteiner Programme Head LoGo
10.15- 10.30	Participants brief introduction	Moderator
10.30 – 10.35	Objectives of the workshop/ agenda	Moderator
10.35 – 10.50	Importance Local Governments and LCA	Mr. Naeemul Haq from NIM and NRS
10.50 – 11.15	Tea Break	
11.15 – 11.30	LCA structure, role and achievements	Anwar Hussain-Executive Director-LCAP
11.30 – 11.40	Observation/Experience sharing about working with GIZ	Mr. Rana Sikandar District Chairman Kasur
11.40 – 12.00	Formation of groups and orientation on the group work	Moderator
12.00 – 12.40	<u>Group work (Parallel)</u> Group 1; current local governments-practice – challenges and issues Group 2; participant's expectation from LCA	Moderator and His Team
12.40 – 01.00	Presentations from the groups	Participants
01.00 – 01.15	Wrap up and way forward	Moderator
01.15 – 01.30	Remarks by Honorable Minister for Local Government	Muhammad Mansha Ullah Butt
01.30 – 01.45	Closing remarks	Mr. Christian Kapfensteiner
Lunch		

List of Participants

Round-Table of Elected Representatives of Local Governments
on Local Councils Association of the Punjab

Sr. #	Name	Designation
01	Mr. Manshaullah Butt	Minister Local Governments, Punjab
02	Mr. Muhammad Aslam Kambo	Secretary Local Governments, Punjab
03	Mr. Rahsid Khan	Special Secretary, Local Governments, Punjab
04	Mr. Asad Khan Baloach	Mayor-Municipal Corporation, Sahiwal
05	Mr. Muhammad Aslam Naveed	Mayor-Municipal Corporation, Sargodha
06	Mr. Rana Sikandar Hayat	Chairmen District Council Kasur
07	Mr. Ahmad Iqbal	Chairmen District Council Narowal
08	Mr. Peer Ghulam Mohyuddin Chishti	Chairmen District Council Vehari
09	Ms. Fouzia Khalid Wariach	Chairperson District Council Toba Tek Singh
10	Mr. Rana Atiq Anwar	Chairman District Council, Sheikhpura.
11	Mr. Mazzar Qayyum Nahra	Chairman District Council, Gujranwala
12	Mr. Ghulam Hussain	Chairman District Council, Mandi Bahauddin
13	Muhammad Tariq Awan	Chairman District Council, Chakwal
14	Sardar Asim Sher Maken	Chairman District Council, Sargodha
15	Mr. Babar Khan Sial	Chairman District Council, Jhang
16	Ch. Muhammad Saqlain Sajanka	Chairman District Council, Chiniot

17	Mr. Muhammad Raza Sargana	Chairman District Council, Khanewal
18	Mian Rajan Sultan Pirzada	Chairman District Council, Lodhran
19	Mr.Qalandar Hussnain Shah	Chairman District Council, Bahawalnagar
20	Mr. Abdul Aziz Khan Dreshak	Chairman District Council, Rajanpur
21	Mr. Syed Asghar Shah Gillani	President, LCAP
22	Mr. Imran Ali Khan Malik	Convener, LCAP
23	Mr. Malik Jameen Ahmad Kals	Vice President, LCAP
24	Mr. Anwar Hussain	Executive Director, LCAP
25	Mr. Salman Abid	Workshop Facilitator
26	Mr. Ahmad Abbas	Workshop Co-Facilitator
27	Ms. Shazia Akhtar	Workshop Co-Facilitator
28	Mr. Christian Kapfensteiner	Head of LoGo Programme - GIZ
29	Mr. Gouhar Ayyub	Senior Advisor, GIZ
30	Mr. Muhammad Atif	Senior Advisor, GIZ
31	Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua	Advisor GIZ
32	Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad	Advisor GIZ

Press Clipping



Workshop Snaps



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