

Advancing localisation and c4c agenda through partner-led approach in Pakistan

**Decolonizing humanitarian action through
Partner-Led response – Practice Sharing
Session**



**Change – decolonized humanitarian
partnerships philosophy**

Motivation to decolonize humanitarian partnerships

- **Commitment to value impact and sustainability at all levels by working towards redundancy (Self-preservation of organisations (finances, roles etc.?)**
 - **Shift from timebound “Transactional partnerships” to “Strategic Partnerships”**
 - **Sustainability and Cost-Effectiveness:** Strengthened institutions are better equipped to continue their work even after external support diminishes, leading to long-term impact and self-reliance.
 - **Impact Amplification:** Strengthening local institutions often has a multiplier effect. Local organizations can catalyze change across sectors and communities.

Motivation (c0ntd.)

- Lessons learnt from previous emergency responses (e.g. Floods 2010)
- Act in Solidarity - Scaling the capacities of implementing partners and Women Rights Organisations (WROs) in the impacted areas.
- Shifting mindset of everyone towards Collaborative Feminist Partnerships
- Pakistan ranked as fifth most vulnerable due to climate change according to Climate Risk Index

understanding power imbalances while decolonizing decision-making



Envisioned Evolution of the PARTNERSHIP Landscape



EQUITABLE AND COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- **Decolonial Humanitarian Response** is an ongoing journey, and leadership commitment to learning and adapting our approaches to ensure a more **equitable and effective humanitarian aid** is important.
- Shifting mindset of partners and other stakeholders towards **Collaborative Feminist Partnerships**
- **CHANGE (Climate and Humanitarian Action Network for Growth and Engagement)**
 - Chair and Co-Chair
 - Members
 - Membership Strategy and Process



Climate and Humanitarian Action Network for Growth and Engagement (CHANGE)

- Initiated by Oxfam Partners for influencing, institutional strengthening, and resource mobilization initiatives.
- Developed 2030 plan to build a common understanding around natural hazards, disaster risks and develop strategies for effective DRR and humanitarian real time response in Pakistan through local national organizations.
- GOAL 1 - Institutionalize culture of collaborative learning and action for enhanced surge capacity/ preparedness of the platform.
- GOAL 2 - Deliver innovative, integrated climate resilience, preparedness and humanitarian programming to transform lives of women, youth and children.
- GOAL 3 - Incorporate voices and knowledge of people at risk within policy and practice at all levels.
- Attract funding from Oxfam and other donors through the submission of joint proposal.

Network GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Bi-monthly meeting
strategic level decisions

Steering committee

(Primary - ED/ CEO,
Secondary – HOP/ Program Manager)



monthly meeting
implementation/ quality
assurance

Program Management Unit (PMU)

(HOP/ Program Manager, lead manager,
Project/ Regional Manager)



Bi-weekly
meeting
challenges

Thematic
Working
Group

Advocacy/
Comms

MEAL

Operations

Institutional
Strengthening &
Partner Led

TRANSFORMATION AND Evolution



Resource disparity and cultural sensitivities

- Advocate for mindful and committed transformation towards Bottom-up process in partnership models
- Expanding role and inclusion of partners in shaping humanitarian needs assessment and response plans
- Investments in local leadership - recruit and train local humanitarian staff capacities
- Ensuring equitable distribution of resources – 70: 30 principle of financial allocation
- Promoting equitable and integrated responses through Community Empowerment and Mutually Accountable Partnerships.

From Capacity building to Institutional strengthening

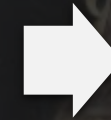
Self-assessment
forms for
Collaborative
Learning



Collaborative
Review by
Partners



Development of
institutional
strengthening
plans



regular review
through technical
working group
meetings

Change in SYSTEM not faces – smaller version of west?

- Risk averse/ sensitive/ focused systems
- Continuous and deepened understanding of the risk management can only be achieved by building/ promoting transparent and trusting relationships with local organisations and communities
- Capacities (policies, practices, organizational structure) required to manage and support Partner-led Responses differ significantly from the traditional top-down approaches we have used in the past.

Due Diligence of Partners

Assessment of
partners to assess
operational
capacity

Due diligence for
technical capacity
assessment & risk
assessment

Decision making by
management

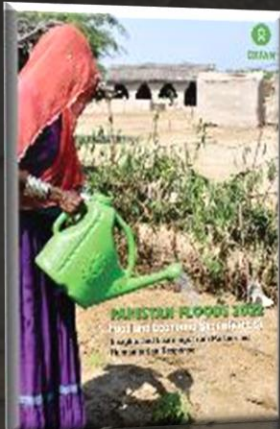
Community feedback Mechanism

Receiving
complaints

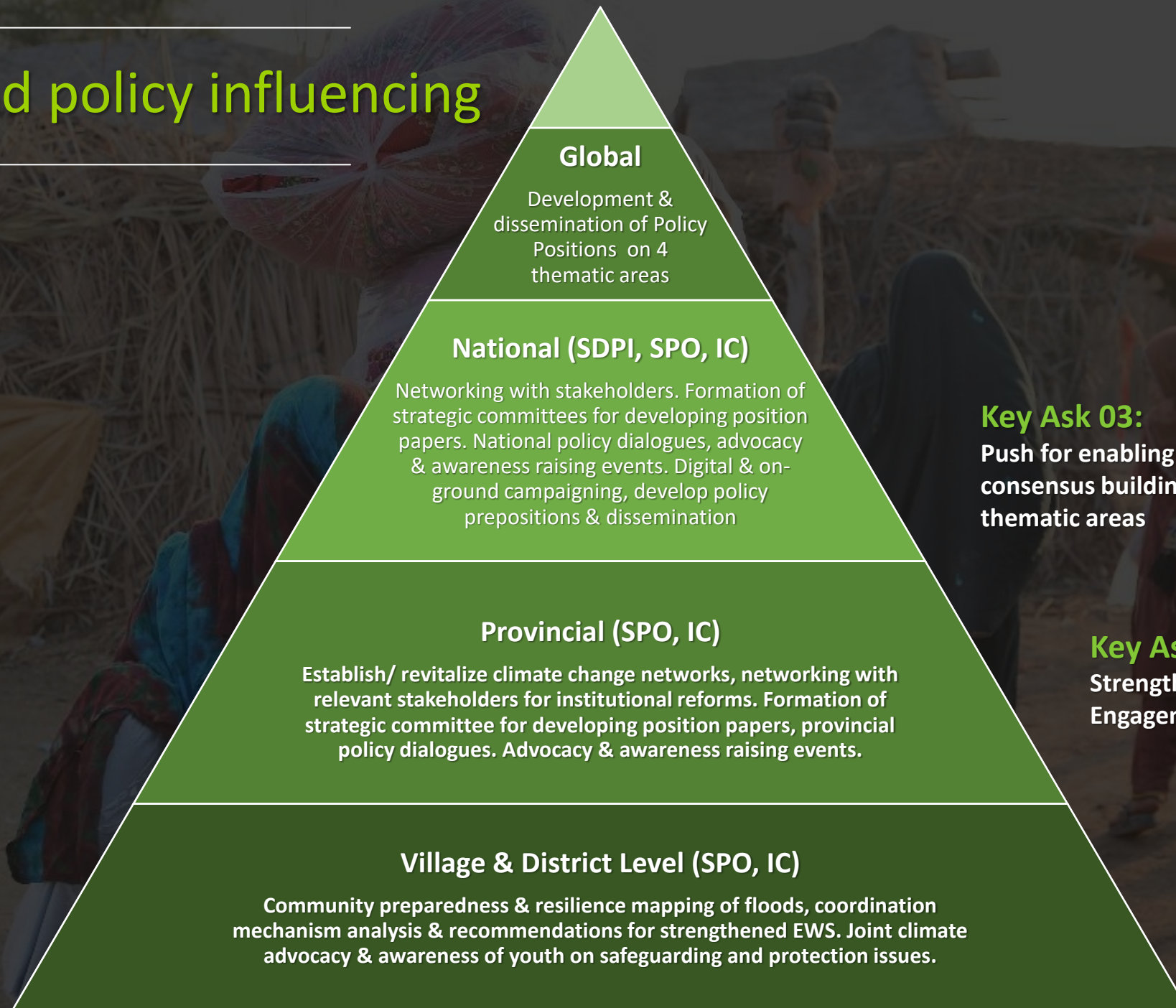
Complaint
Handling

culture of collaborative learning and innovation

- Promote Collaborative Learning & Co-creation throughout the partnership cycle
- Learning from the Past: Documenting and sharing the experiences of decolonial partnerships (through research and experience)
- Leveraging Technology for Anticipatory Action and Disaster Risk Reduction



Advocacy and policy influencing



A photograph of three women in traditional Indian clothing, including colorful saris and headscarves, working together in a large, shallow metal tray. They are focused on a task involving soil or small stones, with their hands visible. In the foreground, two white plastic cups are placed on the tray. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the workspace. The overall scene suggests a communal or educational activity, possibly related to agriculture or craft-making.

Key takeaways and Thoughts for reflection

**“You plant seeds every single day in partnering,
with every thought you think, every word you
speak and every action you take.**

**Learning, reflection, experimenting and taking
risks without strengthening the status-quo in
partnership ecosystem which is evolving at a
very fast pace”**



THANK YOU!