



War Against Rape (WAR) Annual Report

(Consolidated Report 2017-20)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

S. No	Title	Page Number
1	Acknowledgment Introduction of WAR Strategic Objectives	2-3
2	Organizational Information Working Committee/Professional Staff	04
3	Projects & Activities (Major Components, Results & Impact) Meetings with Women Development Departments (WDD), Govt. of Sindh	5-8
	Participation in NGOs, Govt. Departments etc. Events/Activities	09
14	WAR in Media MOU with LAFVRS WAR Finances & Registration & Certification	9-10

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

War Against Rape (WAR) thanks its dedicated professional team for their un-tiring efforts to make 2017-2020 successful and productive years despite funding challenges faced during 2019-20. Despite several obstacles and challenges to improve the legislative and health-based reforms for effectively responding to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); the team played a crucial role and showed immense courage and spirit, dedication, enthusiasm and passion to reach WAR where it is today.

WAR would also like to thank its Working Committee, which has always been a source of great strength, support and guidance. Since, over three decades, their visionary and productive inputs and approach have emerged WAR as one of the leading voices against SGBV in Pakistan, particularly rape, incest and other forms of sexual violence.

WAR salute, applause and extends its gratitude to its survivors of SGBV, women and children for their amazing spirit and courage it served during aforementioned period and over the years.

We would also like to thank government departments that worked with us during 2017-20, shared their experiences and contributed recommendations i.e. Women Development Department (WDD), Sindh Commission on the Status of Women (SCSW), Sindh Human Rights Commission (SHRC), Social Welfare Department (SWD), Health Department, Medico-legal Personnel, Home Department, Police and Prosecution as well as other relevant stakeholders, lawyers, media, human rights organizations, CBOs/CSOs and community etc. These strategic alliances will help WAR to tailor its work according to needs of our community.

WAR also acknowledges and thanks its donors, GIZ – CIS II, HRCP/Equal Rights Trust (ERT), UNDP – GEF SGP and individual supporters for their generous support to conduct its activities during the aforementioned period.

INTRODUCTION OF WAR

War Against Rape (WAR)¹ is registered since 1989 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. WAR is also certified by The i-Care Foundation. WAR has assisted in the successful prosecution of crimes of sexual violence and provided assistance to survivors of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) and their families. WAR has also advocated for the rights of survivors (women and minors), fair and impartial trials, access to health-care services (including reproductive health rights), and trauma counseling. WAR is also now focused on working towards preventing harassment.

Over the past 30 years, it has emerged as one of the leading voices against SGBV, particularly sexual violence in Pakistan, with a view to providing comprehensive services and advocate rights-base services for survivors.

WAR has robust advocacy, capacity-building and awareness-raising component through which it reaches out to communities across Karachi for dialogue to improve local responses to prevent sexual violence including harassment. WAR also conducts technical and sensitization trainings for police officials, medico-legal staff, judiciary, relevant government departments' staff, NGOs/CBOs, media, secondary care-givers, and works towards legal and procedural reforms in the relevant sectors.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1) Increase general awareness and understanding on the issue of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV);
- 2) Strengthen the capacity of stakeholders in responding to the issue of SGBV, such as but not limited to communities, police (including women police), judiciary, medico-legal personnel, civil society organizations, media, educationists, and different state departments;
- 3) Advocate for efficient and dignified State services for SGBV survivors (including police and medico-legal support) in Pakistan;
- 4) Research on national laws to determine their impact and policy/procedural problems affecting women and children survivors of rape in Pakistan;
- 5) Lobby for change in discriminatory policies/working procedures and laws relating to sexual violence in Pakistan;
- 6) Network with other NGOs, government departments and agencies that have objectives similar to WAR;
- 7) Develop and continually improve an integrated legal support system that provides legal services that are responsive to the needs to rape survivors, free of cost;
- 8) Liaise with media (print and electronic) for the purpose of case-related problems and for offering legal and GBV rights educations to the general public.

¹ www.war.org.pk

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

WORKING COMMITTEE

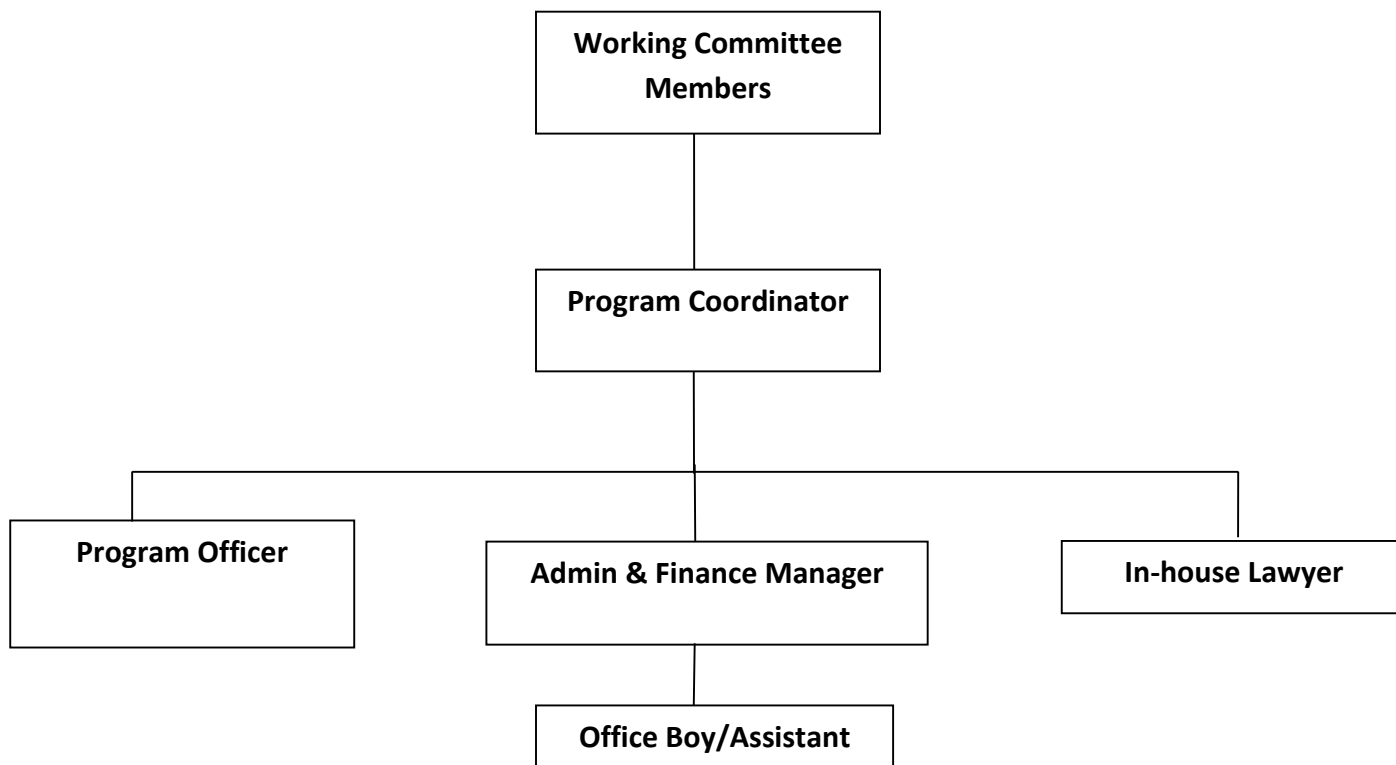
WAR's Working Committee (WWC) comprises of volunteers who work sans monetary compensation. WAR's Coordinator is also a non-voting member of the WWC. The Committee is responsible for taking policies-and governance-related decisions while the coordinator and the team implement projects in accordance with these policies.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1- Ms. Nasreen Gohar (Chairperson) | 6- Dr. Abdul Bari Awan (Member) |
| 2- Ms. Rafia Khawaja (Treasurer) | 7- Ayaz Hashmbhoy (Member) |
| 3- Dr. Lubna Bokhari (Member) | 8- Barrister Adnan Awan (Member) |
| 4- Sharmeen Usmany (Member) | 9- Ms. Beena Hasan (Coordinator/Non-voting Member) |
| 5- Ms. Shahla Khan (Member) | |

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

- 1- Beena Hasan (Coordinator)
- 2- Sheraz Ahmed (Program Officer)
- 3- Asia Munir (Trial Lawyer, Advocate Hight Court)

ORGANISATION CHART/STRUCTURE



Projects & Activities (2017-20)

1) UNDP – GEF SGP (Dec 2017 to Nov 2018): \$30000

Project Title: Establishing Renewable Energy Relief Station and Combating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV).



Awareness & Distribution of Solar Lantern in Chashma Goth, District Malir, Karachi, Sindh.



Awareness & Distribution of Portable Metallic Stoves in Chashma Goth, District Malir, Karachi, Sindh



Awareness & Distribution of Solar Fan Kits



Advocacy & Consultation meeting with Honorable Nuzhat Shirin, Chairperson SCSW Govt. of Sindh.



Advocacy & Consultation meeting with Honorable Justice (Rtd.) Majida Rizvi – SHRC Govt. of Sindh



Installed Solar Panel Street Lights to prevent harassment, kidnapping & other incidents

Major Components, Impact & Results:

- Increased community awareness, agency and knowledge on gender-based violence (GBV), sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and pro-women and children laws.
- Mobilized community and changes patriarchal mindset of the community.
- Created **change agents** including youth, men and women in the community to further spread awareness to dispel myths and misconceptions around sexual violence, SRHR, and to prevent GBV.
- Conducted several advocacy and consultation meetings with relevant stakeholders including Sindh Commission on the Status of Women (SCSW), Sindh Human Rights Commission (SHRC), Korangi Fisheries Harbour Authority, Ibrahim Hydri Police Station and community including focal group etc.
- Established a Renewable Energy Relief Station (RERS) for promotion of solar products etc. and to give a platform for community women and girls where they independently discussed their issues and provided legal aid and psycho-social counseling service in 4 referred SGBV cases.
- Installed **09** Solar Panel Street Lights in dark area of Chashma Goth due to unavailability of light to prevent or reduce the high risk of kidnapping, harassment, sexual assault, dog biting etc incidents, particularly against vulnerable groups.
- Empowered women and girls in different ways to help them and their families to escape from poverty through distribution of **300** Solar Lanterns and **50** Energy efficient Portable Metallic Stoves in Chashma Goth area due to unavailability of light and Sui Gas in their Homes/Paras.
- Distributed **09** Solar Panel Fan Kits to survivors of sexual violence and elderly people.
- Daily Kerosene Oil cost of Rs. 80-100 of per family reduced.
- **Beneficiaries 5150** (including men, women, elderly people, adolescents & young boys and girls).

2) HRCP – ERT (Sep 2017 to Aug 2018): € 20,000

Project Title: ‘Survivors Support for Accessing to Justice’



WAR advocate during legal counseling session & signing of Vakalatnama



Psycho-social counseling session to empower survivor

Major Components, Impact & Results:

- Provided free legal aid and psycho-social counseling services to empower 35 survivors of SGBV including their families.
- Spread awareness amongst survivors and their families about their rights in the justice system and SRHR.
- Psycho-social counseling services also extended to around 150 family members of victims/survivors to empower them during rehabilitation and reintegration process.

- Helped victims/survivors with registration of their cases with police, active liaison with the public prosecutors, taking survivors for medico-legal examinations and building pressure for arrest of the accused.
- Published and disseminated SGBV factsheets and provide recommendations to improve state response to GBV in Sindh.
- Engaged media and offered rights education; published press releases to improve the service provision on SGBV.
- Won 5 SGBV cases during the project; it was a great achievement.

3) GIZ – CIS II (Sep 2017 to March 2018): PKR 2,400,000/-

Project Title: Capacity Building of Sindh Police on Juvenile and Women Laws



A Group photo ToTs held in Sukkur, Sindh



Group Activity on Child Marriages



Awareness-raising workshops on 'Laws Protecting Women, Juveniles & Behavior Change' in Karachi & Hyderabad, Sindh

Major Components, Impact & Results:

- Developed training modules in Urdu and English on 'Laws Protecting Juveniles, Women and Behavior Change' – dealing with women and juveniles. On basis of these modules, conducted 6 Training of Trainers (ToTs) of police officers covering from all 29 districts of Sindh including Public Prosecutors.
- 4 Awareness Workshops were held, 01 each in Hyderabad, Sukkur, Larkana and Karachi on 'Laws Protecting Juveniles, Women and Behavior Change'.
- 2 flyers in Urdu & Sindhi on 'Laws Protecting Juveniles, Women and Behavior Change' including contact information of WAR for free rights-based services were published and widely disseminated to spread awareness.
- Participants awareness, knowledge and agency increased; sense of empathy emerged to help and support survivors of SGBV.
- ToTs had great impact; Sexual Violence (SV) cases are not compoundable offences, however, in 04 SV cases, survivor's family and accused were compromising (settling their matters outside court privately), police timely intervene and stopped out-of-court-settlements'.

- Networking strengthened; police and prosecution referred 12 SGBV cases to WAR for free rights-based holistic services.

Awareness-raising Sessions on GBV & COVID-19 Emergency



In 2020, WAR and Hands team conducted 12 awareness-raising sessions on ‘GBV & COVID-19 Emergency’ for young inmates in Karachi juvenile and women prisoners under HANDS to prevent GBV and shadow pandemic.



WAR team under Rozan’s PFD Sindh Chapter conducted a session and spread awareness amongst adolescents, young people, women and men on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), and to Prevent GBV including early and forced marriages. The session was conducted in Chashma Goth, District Malir, Karachi, Sindh.

Meetings with Women Development Department, Govt. of Sindh



WAR held two meetings with Honorable Ms. Syeda Shahla Raza, Minister of WDD & respected Dr. Alia Shahid - Secretary Women Development Department (WDD), Govt. of Sindh to strengthen our networking and collaboration to combat gender-based violence (GBV) against vulnerable groups, particularly women, children and transgender. WDD requested WAR to be part of its sub-committee on sexual violence response framework which is in under process. WAR has already signed an MOU with WDD on mutual activism to prevent GBV etc.

WAR's Participation in NGOs & Govt. Departments etc. Events/Activities

S.No	Organization	Title of Event	Date/Year
1-	Health Department Govt. of Sindh & WHO	16 Days of Activism 'Say no to Violence Against Women'	Dec 8, 2020
2-	Pathfinder International under UNFPA	GBV helpline SOPs Validation Workshop	Nov 18, 2020
3-	Pathfinder International under UNFPA	Consensus Building Meeting on Responding to gender-based violence (GBV)	Nov 3, 2020
4-	Legal Rights Forum (LRF)	2-days Training Workshop for young Lawyers on Child Rights, Protection and Justice with Children	Oct 19, 2020
5-	Different CSOs	Protest in solidarity to help and support Survivor of Lahore Motorway Gang-rape case	Sep, 2020
6-	Adab Festival	Demystifying Sexual Harassment in the Workplace	Feb 2, 2020
7-	Women Action Forum (WAF)	Rape & Sexual Assault	2020
8-	Rozan	Provincial Seminar on "Living With Dignity "	March 2019
9-	LRF under UN Women	Seminar on 'Rule of Judiciary & Law Enforcement Agencies in Ending Violence Against Women and Girls'	March 14, 2019
10-	LRF	"Dialogue with CSOs on Police Reforms"	Feb 21 st , 2019
11-	GIZ - CIS	"Dialogue on Challenge Women Face in Receiving Appropriate Response in the Criminal Justice System of Pakistan"	Nov 2018
12-	GIZ - CIS	Justice sector reforms and organizational development	Nov 2018
13-	All leading CSOs of Karachi	International Women's Day 2018 and WAR celebration	March 8, 2018
14-	USAID & Aurat Foundation	Celebration of Completion of Gender Equity Program (GEP)	Aug 2017
15-	Karachi University	Job/ Internship Fair and Exhibition	June 2017
16-	USAID/Aurat Foundation	Experience Sharing Workshop	June 2017

WAR in Media

WAR ensures that SGBV related issues get high coverage to draw attention towards the growing severity and gaps in services to improve GBV response services in Sindh. A total of **4.0 million²** people were reach through participation of different leading channels and summation of national print media coverage in different leading newspapers as per the estimated figures. Followings are the links of WAR's participation in different leading media channels and articles etc.

1- <https://m.dw.com/.../pakistani-women-learn.../a-55436219>

2- Pase Parda by Nadia Navi (15 Sep, 2020) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yr_BnF9Tx4

2- DAWN News Channel Program Zara Hat Kay and highlighted the 'Challenges faced by Rape Survivors in the Justice System' and gave recommendations to improve state-sponsored services (Sep 15, 2020):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be>.

² These numbers represents electronic coverage and summation of national print and electronic coverage of WAR's event.

3- WAR team and others participated in a dialogue on Rape - Reactions, Cultural attitudes, Psychological Impact, relevant Laws & Procedures https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=3130815523714361&ref=watch_permalink

4- WAR calls for deciding cases of child sexual abuse within six months https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/712631-war-calls-for-deciding-cases-of-child-sexual-abuse-within-six-months?fbclid=IwAR320BJv_i3iFb4A9Ae8rYxULluZPdfi-1NpjrTKJEwKOh9I08iRzX5Su9I

5- Two finger test continues to traumatise rape survivors <https://images.dawn.com/news/1184919?fbclid=IwAR3iMNotiOZ8B3-vIqLLOGvmEE86XPG5tQDv6bc-NnvfdVliitKPD99rWes>

6- WAR demand action to ensure justice for Kainat <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/350231-war-demands-action-to-ensure-justice-for-kainat>

7-

Memorandum of Understanding Signed with LAFVRSA

WAR is pleased to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Legal Aid Foundation for Victims of Rape & Sexual Assault (LAFVRSA) in order to adopt all of its on-going litigation with respect to its rape and sexual assault cases, and collaborate on further litigation.

WAR's Finances

Every year WAR's accounts are audited by a Chartered Accountant firm. WAR's audited financial reports for the years 2017-20 are available on demand.

Registration & Certification

WAR is a registered and approved charity under the umbrella of I-Care Foundation.



Editor: Sheraz Ahmed



WAR AGAINST RAPE

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