

AN INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS

FY2021-22



BALUCHISTAN BUDGET

OMAR ASGHAR KHAN FOUNDATION

This document has been produced under the project, Fempower-Pakistan: Feminist Leadership for Accountability & Political Rights. The review of international conventions, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by Shirkat Gah-Women's Resource Centre helped shape the framework for analysing the province's budget with a gender lens. The Foundation would like to acknowledge Shirkat Gah's input. It would also like to thank Global Affairs Canada for its financial assistance that made this publication possible. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Omar Asghar Khan Foundation.



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Acronyms

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
FY	Financial Year
GBV	Gender Based Violence
PSDP	Public Sector Development Programme
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
WDD	Women Development Department



Rs.584.08 billion is Balochistan's total budget for FY2021-22. It is about 25 per cent more than the preceding year's Rs.465.5 billion. Of the total outlay, Rs.237.2 billion is allocated for development. Rs.346.9 billion, or about 60% of the budget will fund current expenditures.

Omar Asghar Khan Foundation's analysis of Balochistan's budget FY2021-22 focuses on both the development and current budgets. The development budget, the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP), indicates the direction of government policy priorities. The current side of the budget includes allocations for salary and non-salary recurrent costs. Connected, the two budget components provide a more complete picture of investments in sectors like education, health, etc. For example, development funds for education will include resources for constructing schools and the current side will make provisions for teachers' salaries.

Drawing on Shirkat Gah's assessment of international obligations made under CEDAW and the SDGs, the Foundation has applied a gender lens to its analysis of Balochistan's Budget FY2021-22. It has assessed the implications of budget allocations of different groups of citizens and recommended ways to make public finance decisions that promote gender equality and women's empowerment.



An examination of sectoral funds grouped under different categories shows that the Social Sector is allocated the largest share, i.e., 32%, of Balochistan's total outlay of Rs.584.08 billion. Under the Social Sector, funds for Education, Health, Population Welfare, Women Development, Social Welfare, etc., are categorized. The total budget for it is Rs.185.48 billion. Of this, Rs.61.23 billion is in the PSDP and Rs.124.25 billion is for current expenditure. Within the Social Sector, Education has the highest total allocation of Rs.108.80 billion. This is followed by Rs.34.89 for Health.

Sex-disaggregated budget data is recommended to help assess spending that promotes gender equality and women's development.

	PSDP	Current	Total	% Total Budget
Social Sector	61.23	124.25	185.48	32
Administration	13.95	149.69	163.64	28
Economy	93.91	58.62	152.53	26
Infrastructure	68.13	14.30	82.43	14
	Rs. Billion			



To strengthen machineries for advancement of women, Rs.932.62 million is allocated for the Women Development Department. This is 0.16% of the total provincial budget.

Rs.620.07 million, or about 66% of funds allocated for WDD, is part of the PSDP. This includes Rs.120 million provided for the ongoing scheme of establishing Working Women Hostels in division headquarters. Another Rs.120 million is allocated for a new scheme to set up Women Empowerment Centers in 11 Balochistan districts. Rs.40 million is provided for a Women Empowerment Centre, Women Academy & Women Digital Library in Quetta. Also new, is Rs.24 million allocated for establishing day care centers in girls degree colleges in Quetta, Turbat, Sibi, Loralai, Mastung, Zhob and Pishin. Funds to support operationalizing Balochistan's Commission on the Status of Women are not clearly apparent.

Funds for WDD include Rs.50 million in the PSDP for Women Centers, Shelter Homes and Helpline. These facilities will support the implementation of Balochistan's Domestic Violence Act 2014. Also needed are the following measures:

- Passage of subsidiary legislation
- Setting up of Tehsil Committees
- Publicizing the law
- Providing staff & equipment in shelters

The Balochistan Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Work Place Act was passed in 2016 and an Ombudsperson appointed in 2019. Rs.40 million is allocated for constructing a building for the Ombudsperson's office. Rs.50 million is provided for current expenses. Further steps needed are:

- Amend law to expand application to patients, students, etc.
- Draft & notify rules
- Ensure Anti-Harassment Committees are in place as per the law



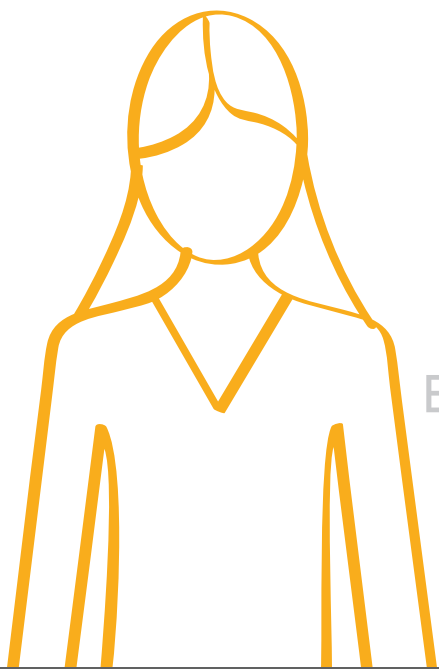
Support is needed to operationalize notified GBV courts. Measures to protect witnesses & victims are also required. For example, allow remote applications for protection, restraining orders; enable electronic submission of statements/other evidence; protect witnesses & survivors through screens & separate waiting rooms, and, digitalise case management systems. Remote access can keep courts running in emergencies.

Rs.500 million is allocated as the Balochistan Women Economic Empowerment Fund.

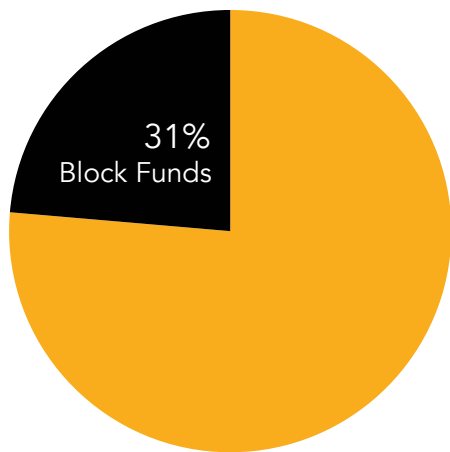
Women's Economic Empowerment

The allocation of Rs.16 million for women business incubation centers in Pasni and Rs.30.57 million for centers in Quetta, Khuzdar, Kharan, Loralai and Gwadar will support women's economic empowerment.

Reforms are needed to address discrimination in labor markets, enforce minimum wages & maximum work hours and regulate workplace health & safety standards.



ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY
EQUALITY
EDUCATION GENDER
FAIRNESS

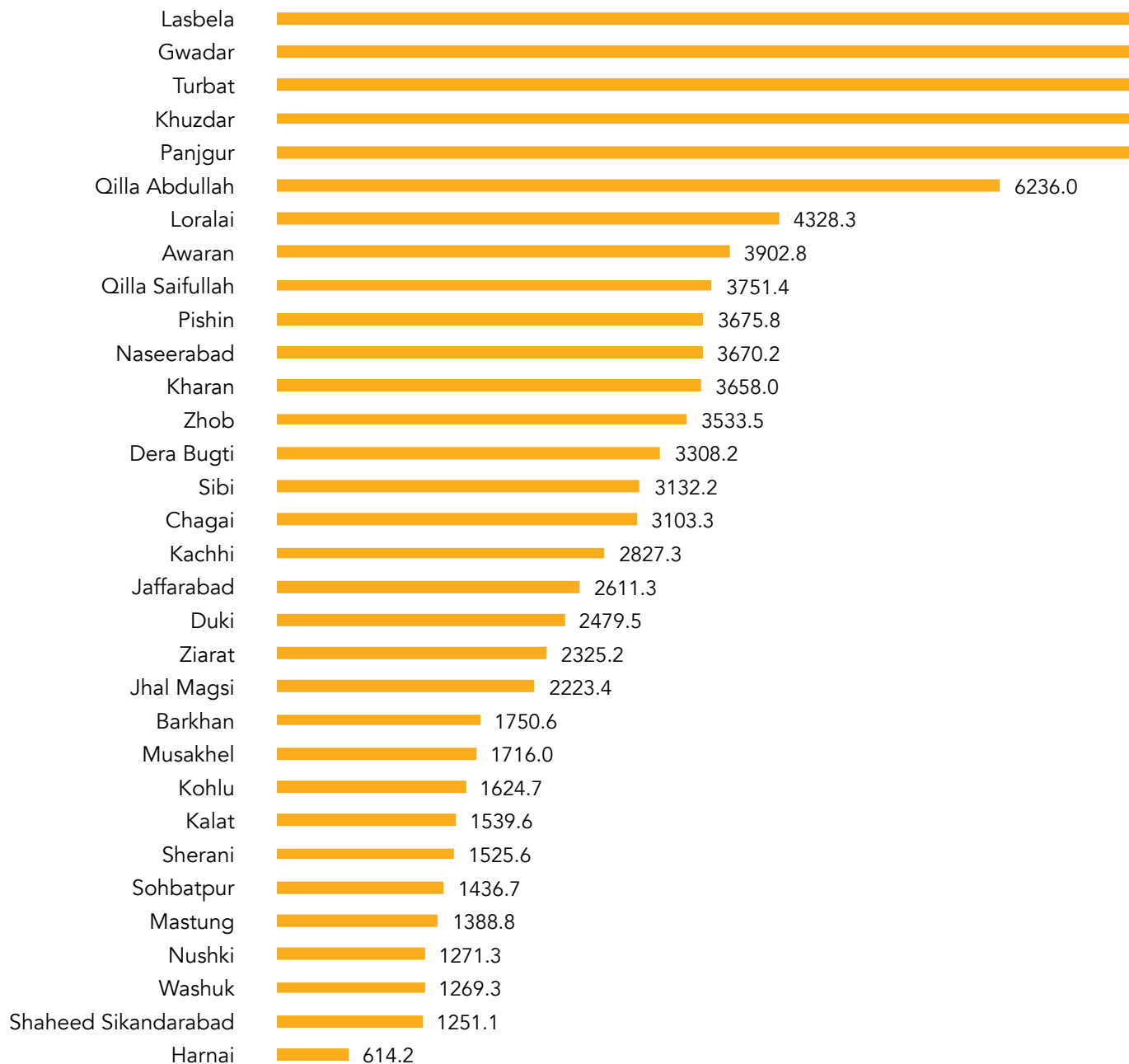


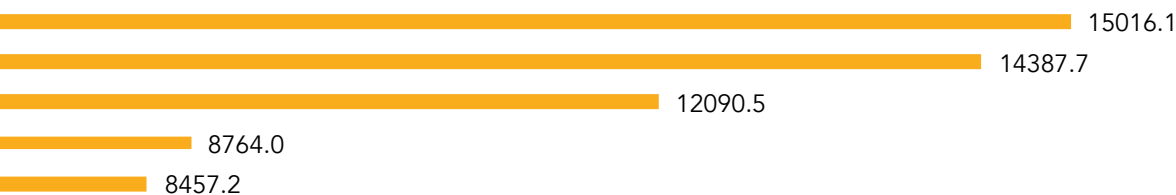
Of the total development outlay of Rs.237.22 billion, Rs.73.43 billion or almost 31% is maintained as block allocations. Reduced block allocations and greater granularity of information on priorities and spending will enhance transparency, promote accountability and enable citizen engagement in public finances.

Block Funds

Block or umbrella funds are allocations made to sectors like education, health, etc., without specifying their intended location, giving politicians and bureaucrats tremendous discretion to move funds around within the purpose stated for the block.



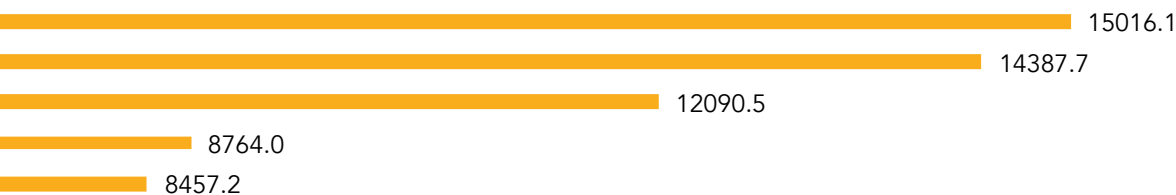




DISTRICT-WISE DEVELOPMENT allocations in Pak Rs. Millions Balochistan Budget FY2021-22

*This mapping is only based on allocable funds as
locations of block allocations are not known.
It includes all districts except metropolitan Quetta.*

It is recommended that creative criteria are used for fair, gender-responsive & transparent distribution of development funds to districts. Credible and effective mechanisms are also needed to capture a range of public perspectives on public finance priorities. These must take into account the voices and interests of women and other vulnerable groups.

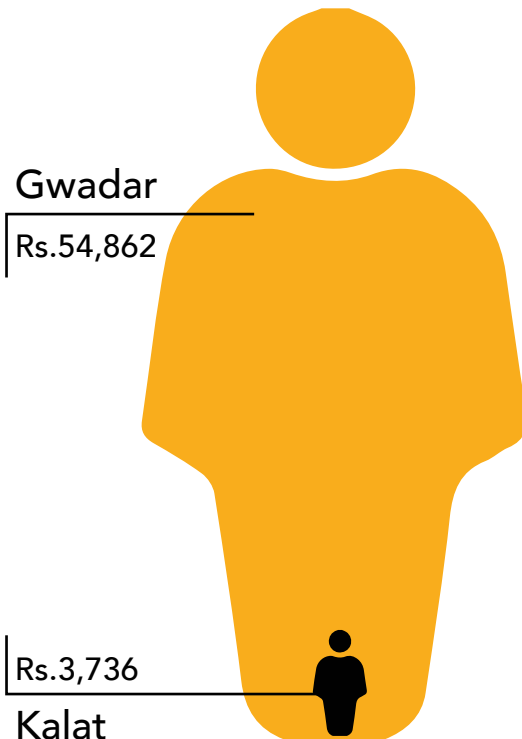


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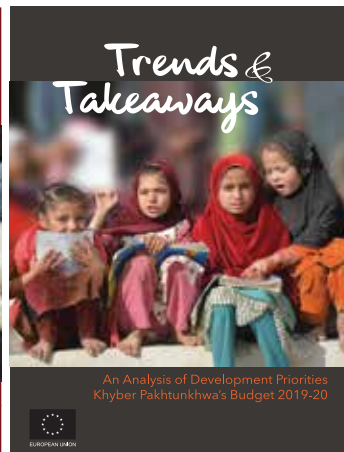
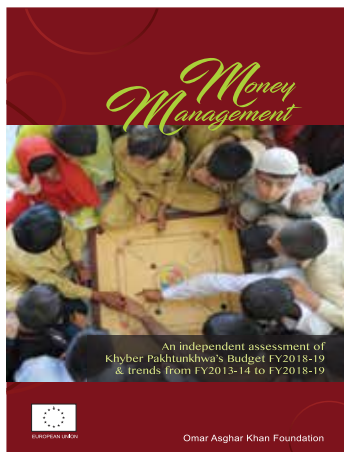
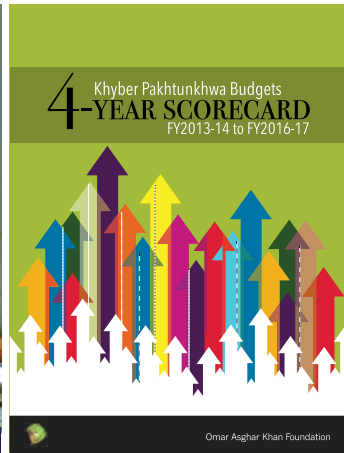
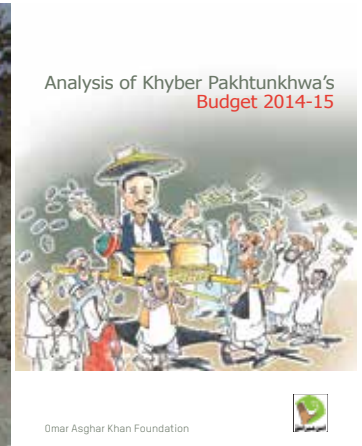
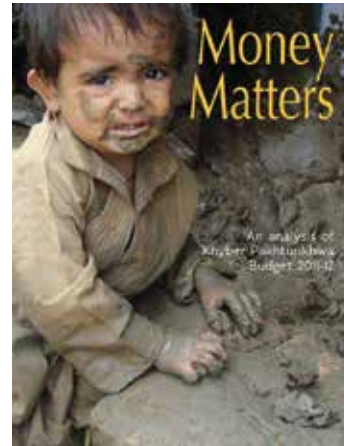
In per capita terms, a comparison of development allocations in FY2021-22 shows that Gwadar has Rs.54,862. Its total allocation is Rs.14387.7 million for a population of 262,253 (121,120 ♀ & 141,116 ♂). Kalat has a per capita share of Rs.3,736. Rs.1539.6 million is its development allocation for a population of 412,058 (200,251 ♀ & 211,086 ♂).



Omar Asghar Khan Foundation has regularly analysed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's budget since 2010. Publications documenting its findings & recommendations are available at

www.oakdf.org.pk

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