

# Girls' education in **KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA**



**2.4**  
MILLION

children in **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)** are out of school<sup>1</sup>.

## in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



MORE THAN  
TWO-THIRDS  
**68%**

of out-of-school children are **GIRLS**<sup>2</sup>.



**02**  
MILLION

children are missing out on middle or secondary education<sup>3</sup>.



**22,179**

primary schools and just **539 higher secondary schools**<sup>4</sup>.

Of all boys and girls aged 5–16 in KP<sup>5</sup>:



**46%**  
BOYS



**36%**  
GIRLS

are able to read a sentence in Urdu or Pashto.



**45%**  
BOYS



**34%**  
GIRLS

are able to read words in English.



**49%**  
BOYS



**37%**  
GIRLS

are able to do subtraction in arithmetic.



## Overview

Since 2008, governments in KP have made efforts to improve school facilities and infrastructure, increase budgets and invest in teachers. During the last five years, KP is the only province that has regularly allocated more than 20% of total budgets to education. In 2011–2012 the total allocation for education stood at Rs. 63.17 billion. This increased to Rs. 123.07 billion in 2016–17. However, substantial challenges remain.

The province continues to struggle to make education more accessible for girls and to ensure students have the opportunity to pursue education beyond the primary level. Budget increase has largely fed into recurrent and salary-related costs rather than towards development and the construction of new schools.

### We are calling on the KP government to:

- Adopt a *funding formula for all government schools* that replaces the existing mechanism of fixed or centralised allocation of non-salary grants.
- Ensure an *even division of recurrent budget between salary and non-salary expenses*, such as the procurement and provision of learning and teaching materials for teachers.
- *Increase investment in teachers' training*, learning and teaching aids.
- Focus on innovative *modern teaching methodologies* to *improve learning outcomes*.
- Introduce a strategy to *upgrade existing primary schools* and/or *construct new middle and high schools* to enable access to education beyond primary level.

### The benefits of educating all girls for 12 years:



SAFER

- Doubling the percentage of students finishing secondary school could cut the risk of conflict in half<sup>6</sup>.
- Girls' education reduces a country's vulnerability to natural disasters and is one of the most cost-effective strategies to tackle climate change<sup>7</sup>.



HEALTHIER

- Just one additional year of education for girls decreases the infant mortality rate by up to 10%<sup>8</sup>.
- If all girls complete their secondary education, child deaths could reduce by 49%<sup>9</sup>.



WEALTHIER

- If every girl around the world received 12 years of free, safe, quality education, lifetime earnings for women could increase by up to \$30 trillion<sup>10</sup>.
- Women with secondary school education earn almost twice as much as those with no education at all<sup>11</sup>.

### References

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