



**SPEAK**

**Annual Report**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Jan till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

SPEAK Trust was set up on **06, February 2018**, registered under **Trust Act, 1882** as a Non-Profit Organization. SPEAK is a Youth led & development focused organization promoting Gender Equality, Human Rights & HIV/AIDS Prevention and Response. SPEAK is pursuing its humanitarian vision and friendly Pakistan indiscriminative of sex, disease, cast, creed, ethnicity, nationality or any other form of discrimination. We believe in collaboration among various actors (Government departments, INGOs, CSOs/CBOs) could make accomplishment easier & sustainable.

## **PROJECT**

### **INTEGRATED SERVICES OF SAFE MIGRATION, HIV PREVENTION AND CARE FOR MIGRANT WORKERS AND FAMILIES”**

This project is funded by foreign donor, CARAM Asia. CARAM Asia is a regional network of 42 members in 18 countries spanning across Asia and the Middle East. CARAM Asia is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. CARAM Asia have been working for the promotion and protection of migrants’ labour and health rights with focus on HIV and AIDS issues since its establishment in 1997.

The project has been approved for 03 years and 05 months (Oct 2018 to Feb 2022). The project will strategically improve 04 areas of intervention;

1. Provide free of cost counselling and referral to government’s HIV and AIDS services for HIV positive labour migrants of Pakistan
2. Improve Hospitals’ service delivery by training doctors and other hospital staff.
3. Share data and learning with relevant ministries to address HIV & AIDS epidemic from Pakistan
4. Provide training and material to private recruiters to aware potential migrants on risk of HIV& AIDS.

## Activities, Brief Description & Outcomes

**Activity: 1** Awareness Raising for Prevention of new infections - Pre-departure Orientation Sessions with potential migrants on HIV awareness and prevention.

**Brief Description:** 03 Pre-departure awareness sessions on prevention of HIV/AIDS were held for potential migrants. 39 male emigrants participated in the orientation sessions, who had applied for jobs in UAE, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and etc. Potential Migrants are identified through private recruiters and government departments i.e. Protectorate of Emigrants. Sessions were interactive and participants are encouraged to participate through asking questions. At the end of session, all participants were provided with brochures on HIV prevention among migrants for further sharing with peers. Originally we had planned 12 sessions, however, considering COVID 19 SoPs, we modified this activity and spent rest of the resources on Activity # 2. For reference, please see the revised annual plan submitted with the 6<sup>th</sup> months' report of SPEAK Trust, dated 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

**Outcome:** Sensitization of 39 potential migrants and families will decrease their likelihood of HIV infection and related deportation.

**Activity: 2** Awareness raising through social, main stream media & IEC Material.

**Brief Description:** 60,000 brochures in Urdu language were printed in the first Quarter of Year 2020. Due to COVID-19 crisis, international flight operations slowed down, we have postponed its distribution. However we distributed around 10,000 brochures to our CSO Coalition Partners to distribute and aware masses. Social Media content was developed on migrants' health rights and their increasing vulnerabilities due to COVID-19 crisis. The content was promoted overseas and in Pakistan reaching around 02 million of emigrants. Social Media content developer was hired and campaign was designed. Labor migrants and PLHIV living in far-flung areas of Pakistan, were reached.

**Activity:3** Meetings with Ministry of Overseas Employment and Human Resource Development, Federal Investigation agency (FIA), Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), Health Ministry, National AIDS Control Program (NACP), UNAIDS & other stakeholders to include migrant workers' HIV related needs and streamline deportation process after HIV positive status in the new policy for migrants.

**Brief Description:** 03 meetings with officials from National AIDS Control Program (NACP), Provincial AIDS Control Programmes (PACP), Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Immigration Wing, and Overseas Pakistanis Foundation have been conducted. Official from Federal

Investigation Agency instructed his team to examine data on HIV related deportation. Overseas Pakistanis Foundation agreed to place Brochures and other IEC material at their Offices and Airport Desks. We have also shared recommendations with Ministry of Overseas Employment and Human Resource Development and Health Ministry. ILO also agreed to integrate our IEC material in their REFRAME programme. Furthermore, they also ensured their support for joint advocacy.

**Outcome:** Inclusion of migrants' HIV related needs into new policy for emigrants will reduce migrants' vulnerabilities towards HIV and provide them with better services in the long run.

**Activity: 4** Meetings with Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment (BO & OE), Protectorate of Emigrants office to review and amend content of pre-departure orientation sessions for HIV positive emigrants.

**Brief Description:** 04 meetings were conducted with Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment and Protectorate of Emigrants. SPEAK provided comprehensive sample material and stressed on the need and importance of adapting Comprehensive HIV Briefing Content for potential migrants. SPEAK also emphasized on the need to adapt this comprehensive HIV content at all protectorate of emigrants in local languages as well. Director General approved our request and circulated the letter along with Brochure to all 07 Protectorate of emigrants offices at provincial level for adaptation in pre-departure briefings.

**Outcome:** After adaptation of comprehensive orientation content, 0.5 million migrants and their families on average will benefit annually. More comprehensive orientation content will increase awareness among migrants and reduce the likelihood of HIV infection and related deportation.

**Activity: 5** Programme Quality, Staff Training and Supervision by SMT & board

**Brief Description:** Senior Management (SMT) actively participated in all meetings. They have thoroughly reviewed the preparation prior to the meetings. On-job staff training on project management, project thematic areas, MEL, field mobilization, research and advocacy was also ensured. Along with Project Manager and Staff, SMT thoroughly reviewed the work plan and altered the activities that are impossible or difficult to implement due to COVID-19 Crisis. SMT also participated in content development and designing the overall social media campaign.

**Outcome:** SMT involvement helped in leading activities translates into desired results of the project. Quality social media campaign will provide better awareness to migrants on HIV, COVID-19 and other infections.

**Activity: 6 providing IEC material to Hospital administration and staff for ethical treatment of PLHIV to eradicate stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV/AIDS.**

**Brief Description:** 10,000 Brochures and 123 posters were printed. Around 7000 brochures and 80 posters were distributed to 09 hospitals located in Federal Territory and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Brochure and poster included information on:

- 1) What is HIV/AIDS?
- 2) How HIV spreads and how it does not?
- 3) Precautions to avoid getting infected.
- 4) Why HIV is stigmatized?
- 5) What are the effects of stigma on PLHIV?
- 6) Ethical and positive treatment with PLHIV.
- 7) Special Instruction for medical staff.

**Outcome:** Sensitization of health care staff on how to deal with HIV Positive migrants without any discrimination will lead to better health services for PLHIV and migrants.

**Activity: 7 Annual Financial Audit:** Audit done and annexed

**Activity: 8 Data Management:** Documentation of activities has been done on regular basis.

**Activity: 9 Developing Advocacy Plan on HIV Financing with Coalition Members for Allocation of Budget on HIV and SRHR of Migrants in Sending and Receiving Countries.**

**Brief Description:** Training Workshop was conducted on 10th November 2020.

Representatives of 07 CSOs working on HIV, migrants' rights and Key HIV population have participated in the training. Furthermore, Senior Government Officials from Integrated HIV, Hepatitis & Thalassemia Control Program K-P also participated. Training workshop commenced with recap of previous workshop followed by project overview and objectives of the workshop.

To enhance participants understanding on current policies and funding landscape of HIV and SRHR services for migrants, findings from the Regional Research on 'budget allocation for HIV and SRHR of migrants' were also shared. All Participants ensured their cooperation and participation in future advocacy efforts. Training concluded with a group work in which participants developed Action Plans on:

- Integrating migrant workers into their existing projects; and
- Advocacy for sustainable HIV funding for migrants.

**Outcomes:** Participants were provided with 10,000 brochures for potential migrants on HIV awareness. Coalition members have actively put forward the agenda of migrants' health at UN and government's meetings.

**Activity 10:** Regional Research to Review Governments 'budget allocation for HIV and SRHR of migrants (including MSM migrants) interventions, policies and outcomes.

**Brief Description:** Research is conducted in the 2nd half of year 2020. Major findings are as follows: Despite being identified as a vulnerable population in the National Strategic Plan, no specific intervention has been found in place for migrants. There is currently no specific identification, tracking and referral mechanism in place for HIV positive migrants. It is pertinent to mention here that Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MoPHRD) currently does not have a HIV policy in place for emigrants. Most of the interviewees expressed that even though they receive free ART therapy and SRHR products like condoms from local HIV/AIDS control programs, they still have to bear the burden of huge travel fares as treatment centers are generally situated at urban centers.

**Activity 11:** Addressing Migrants worker's vulnerabilities during COVID-19 Pandemic

**Brief Description:**

- 1) **08** posts were published and promoted on Facebook and YouTube reaching around 1.1 million people.
- 2) **02** Radio shows were also aired live on FM 101 (top most heard in Pakistan with largest coverage).
  - 1st show was based on issues faced by labor migrants due to COVID-19. The show reached out to labor class and poor people living in far-flung areas.
  - 2nd radio show was based on information of HIV/AIDS and the precautions that PLHIV should keep in mind.
- 3) **02** TV shows were broadcasted live on Pakistan Television (2nd most viewed channel in Pakistan in 2020).
  - In the first show, labor migrants were provided with information regarding safe return while taking precautions against COVID-19 during their return.
  - 2nd show shed light on information related to precautionary measures against COVID-19 and why are they important for People Living with HIV (PLHIV).