
Social Action Bureau for Assistance in Welfare and Organizational Networking (SABAWON)

Programme Coordination Office
230, Street 4, Sector H-I, Phase-II, Hayatabad
Peshawar – Pakistan.
Phone: ++92 91 810424/815793
Facsimile: ++92 91 824804
E-mail: sabawon1@psh.paknet.com.pk; sabawon2002@yahoo.com



Ref No. _____

Date: October 25, 2003

Tauqur Ahmed
Project Director
National Programme Support Office
Decentralization Support Programme
Islamabad.

**SUBJECT: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE
DECENTRALISATION SUPPORT PROGRAMME**

Dear Tauqur Sahib,

I am writing to you with reference to your call for the expression of interest for the implementation of Annual Work Plan (2003-04) of the ADB assisted Decentralization Support Programme to be executed through Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan. Kindly recall your advertisement given in daily The News International October 19, 2003.

Let me first introduce the organization, I am associated with, to you. SABAWON stands for Social Action Bureau for Assistance in Welfare and Organisational Networking. It is a civil society organization created in September 1994, and is registered with the Government of Pakistan under the Societies Act of 1860. It is currently involved in the implementation of 9 projects covering 17 districts of NWFP and 2 districts of Punjab with the financial assistance of Government of Pakistan, Unicef, National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), Save the Children (UK) and Aga Khan University, Karachi. The organization has a Coordination Office based in Peshawar with a network of 9 Regional Offices spread over NWFP and Punjab. For the expansion of its work in NWFP and Punjab, SABAWON has institutional arrangements with two other major organizations i.e. Water and Environmental Sanitation Network (WES Net) and Integrated Regional Support Programme (IRSP). Staff strength of the organization is 182, of which 50% are women. Last annual budget of the organization was over Rs 12 million covering the period July 2002-June 2003. Total worth of the organization's capital assets, which include vehicles, computers, furniture and other assets is estimated to be more than Rs 4 million.

SABAWON works on development aspects as health, education, trainings, water, sanitation, enterprise development and possess rich experience and valuable knowledge in the field of social development, decentralized governance, capacity development and poverty alleviation. Core values of SABAWON, which are reflected in its institutional work, include building long-term partnerships with the community, finding solutions collectively, bringing real change at the grassroots and making sustained impacts in the field.

Various projects implemented by SABAWON are based on the principle of community participation and activities largely revolve around sensitizing communities and spreading awareness on health and hygiene, social mobilization for ensuring 100% enrolment and retention control at primary schools, training of school teachers in child-to-child approach, formation of parent-teacher associations, installation of hand-pumps, construction of latrines and facilitation of community linkages with the government development departments and non-governmental initiatives. Community participation is ensured through effective involvement of the local bodies structures which exist at the District, Tehsil and the Union Council levels.

SABAWON's expression of interest to participate in the strengthening and institutionalization of Devolution Plan in Pakistan is based on its past strengths, its niche within Pakistan's socio-economic development and emerging needs from the community for decentralized governance and public sector reforms. SABAWON offers its technical expertise and services to the Decentralization Support Programme through the National Programme Support Office, Islamabad in the following four areas:

- . Studies (6 months each study for 5 studies)
- . Seminars on Local Government (12 months)
- . Communication of Decentralization Support Programme (12 months)
- . Policy Dialogue Strategy (12 months)

SABAWON is a strong supporter of the Devolution Plan fostered by the Government of Pakistan and, under various project umbrellas, it has been working for the strengthening and institutionalization of the local bodies system at three tiers i.e. Union Council, Tehsil and the District level. And this is the generic coordination, which all projects of SABAWON attempt to seek with the district governments while functioning in the field. More specifically, with the financial support of Unicef, SABAWON has developed Water and Sanitation Information System for the five Tehsil Municipal Administrations (TMAs) of Hangu, Kohat, Peshawar, Haripur and Abbottabad. This information system is helping TMAs in the planning and monitoring of the water and sanitation related infrastructure, which under the Devolution Plan is the responsibility of the Tehsil Municipal Administrations. Similarly in Hangu and Peshawar districts, SABAWON has been actively engaged with the Union Council Nazims for their capacity development in strategic planning for the water and sanitation sectors. Within Peshawar city, SABAWON is working on two urban sanitation projects being executed in Town I and IV under separate MoUs with the concerned TMAs. SABAWON has facilitated formation of 11 Community Citizen Boards (CCBs), as envisaged under the LGO 2001, in Town I and IV of District Peshawar for the implementation of 5 water and sanitation related projects funded by Unicef. For the implementation of these projects 18 Village Councils were also formed in form of lane committees, water and sanitation committees, neighborhood councils and parent-teacher associations.

Considering our strong network in the communities and experience of working with the newly devolved structures, it is hoped that SABAWON would be provided an opportunity to work for the strengthening of local bodies system in Pakistan. We expect that our partnership would provide a learning ground to both the organizations to enrich each other's knowledge and experience, in addition to contributing for the sustainable development of Pakistan.

In case you need any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to hearing positive from you soon.

With kind regards,

Muhammad Tariq
Chief Executive

Copies to:

1. Sadaqat Shah Roghani, Chairperson Board of Directors SABAWON
2. Mohammad Farooq, Programme Manager SABAWON