

# PAKISTAN



## ACCA in PAKISTAN :

### PROJECT CITIES (total 4)

- Rawalpindi
- Karachi
- OPP replication in 4 towns
- Floods in Sindh and Punjab

### SMALL PROJECTS

Small projects approved : 10  
In number of cities : 1  
Total budget approved : \$20,000

### BIG PROJECTS

Big projects approved : 1  
In number of cities : 1  
Total budget approved : \$40,000

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Disaster-rehabilitation project in Sindh and Punjab provinces (\$25,000 approved) and 2 housing and land markets research projects in Lahore and Karachi (\$31,000 approved).

### SAVINGS (only the ACCA cities)

No savings groups yet in Pakistan  
No CDFs set up yet

### IMPLEMENTING GROUPS

The ACCA project in Rawalpindi is being implemented by the Akhtar Hameed Khan Memorial Trust (AHKMT); the project in Karachi by the Orangi Pilot Project Research and Training Institute (OPP-RTI) and the Technical Training Research Center (TTRC); the floods project by OPP-RTI in collaboration with 22 local partner organizations; the research projects by Rabia Ezdi and Arif Hasan.



ACCA is also supporting several research projects in Pakistan which look at land management systems in urban and rural areas, real-estate markets in Karachi and the effect of urbanization on poor communities in the periphery of cities.

## The country which is using ACCA a little differently, but to bring about the same ends :

In Pakistan, 40% of the national budget goes into servicing its \$97 billion debt, 40% goes to the military and 15% is used to run the government, leaving scarcely 5% of the budget for the whole country's physical and social development! It's no surprise that in a country where the government's contribution to development is almost invisible, self reliance is the default setting for the country's urban poor, who do everything themselves : land acquisition, town planning, housing, infrastructure, schools and clinics. The work of groups like the Karachi-based Orangi Pilot Project (OPP) and its many spin-offs have helped poor communities in cities across the country to systematize this self sufficiency to the point where it has become almost national policy. Several of these groups are using the ACCA Program in unusual ways, to support the processes which nurture and assist these self-reliant and self-financed community development initiatives.

ACCA is supporting the modest organizational costs of OPP partner organizations in six cities (under three projects), to replicate the OPP's "component-sharing" model in those cities, in which poor communities design, build and pay for their own low-cost sewers and toilets in their lanes, the partner organization provides technical and organizing assistance (including mapping the settlements, planning their infrastructure and designing low-cost houses) and the government provides the trunk sewers to drain the lane sewers. In these projects, the ACCA support in Pakistan is turned inside-out, to some extent: instead of funding the physical improvements, ACCA is giving extremely modest support to the technical support organizations and the people finance and construct the physical improvements themselves. But the end result is the same: improved infrastructure and housing for thousands of urban poor families.

The OPP's Research and Training Institute (OPP-RTI) has a new program, which is also getting support from ACCA, in the traditional "goth" settlements on the outskirts of Karachi. The pressures of development and global capital are putting these old settlements under threat of eviction, so the ACCA project is helping OPP-RTI to map these settlements, research the land ownership, set up savings groups, develop their infrastructure, improve their houses and advocate for secure tenure. These vulnerable settlements are in a stronger position than the government now, because the government has no information about these settlements, but the OPP-RTI does! Plans are now on to propose ACCA big project funds to provide housing loans for the first 100 houses in four groups.

## "ONE ROOM WITH A ROOF"

### OPP-RTI's housing project has helped provide basic shelter to 4,000 flood-affected families

The catastrophic 2010 floods along the Indus River killed 1,700 people and drove 20 million already poor rural villagers into deeper poverty, when the floods destroyed their houses, washed away their crops and cattle and submerged large swaths of the country for months. After the initial relief phase, the focus of the OPP-RTI's ACCA-support project has been to help families coming back to their ruined villages from the relief camps (most of whom are still living in donated tents on the rubble of their former houses) to build at least a one-room house with a proper roof over it, so they can have a sturdy place to live as they begin the long and arduous task of rebuilding their devastated villages.

Most families can build the walls themselves, using mud or bricks salvaged from their ruined houses and simple mud mortar. But the roofs are a little more difficult without materials. So the OPP-RTI decided to use the funds (which are channeled through 22 local partner organizations) to provide kits of materials to help families to cover these rooms with roofs. In Sindh and Punjab provinces, which are hot, arid places, standard tin-sheet roofs can turn a house into a furnace. So in the flood-hit areas, the OPP is instead helping families to put up the kind of flat roofs people in the area have built for centuries, which are strong, well-insulated, easy to repair and can be built with cheap, locally available materials.

In this layered roofing system, the exposed top is plastered with 3 inches of mud mixed with rice husk (for insulation and cooling), over a double layer of polythene sheeting, which rests on a single layer of "pattal" reeds, which lay across bamboo poles, which in turn rest on two or three steel girders which span the room below. The bamboo poles, steel girders, plastic sheets and bundles of "pattal" reeds can be delivered in a truck to each family, as a ready-made kit of parts, and all they have to do is assemble it on top of their four walls, and then plaster the top with mud. The whole thing can be finished in a day. The materials to cover a 4.5m x 4.5m room with this roof cost just 14,000 Rupees (US\$ 165).

The OPP partner groups have already helped 4,000 families in different areas to build these roofs (with partial support from ACCA), and the group has plans to expand the "one-room-with-a-roof" project to 7,000 more families. The program also has also supported the distribution of medicines and the repairing of 500 damaged hand-pumps.

