

Child-focused District SDGs Achievement Plan

District Muzaffarabad - AJ&K

Fostering the localization process of the
SDGs in Pakistan to the district level.



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List of acronyms

ADP	Annual Development Programme
CDWP	Central Development Working Party
CRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
DDC	District Development Committee
ECNEC	Executive Committee of National Economic Council
HCPL	Himat Consulting Private Limited
IR	Inception Report
KEF	Kashmir Education Foundation
KIIR	Kashmir Institute of International Relations
LG&RD	Local Government and Rural Development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MER	Monitoring, Evaluation and Research
MICs	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
MoPD&SI	Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives
NACP	National Aids Control Program
P&D	Planning and Development
PBS	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
AKDWP	AJ&K Development Working Party
PDWP	Provincial Development Working Party
PSLM	Pakistan Social and Living Measurement Survey
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

Introduction

Pakistan became one of the first countries in the world to endorse the global development agenda through a parliamentary Resolution in February, 2016. Since 2016, Pakistan has been contributing efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and targets for people, peace, and prosperity¹. Given the wide scope of SDGs, UNICEF partnered with the Government of Pakistan at the federal level to strengthen the monitoring, evaluation and research (MER) capacity to further improve the progress and ensure data availability for decision making regarding SDGs. UNICEF is providing technical support to Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives (MoPD&SI) in the development of child focused district SDGs achievement plans. These plans will foster the localization process of the SDGs in Pakistan to district level, which is the true spirit of SDGs. The plans will also align the existing national and respective provincial policies with the selected districts' SDGs achievement plan.

In order to localize SDGs at the district level in Pakistan, SDGs section MoPD&SI and UNICEF aim to develop three model child focused district development plans to cover all or most of the child related indicators of SDGs. In this regard, three pilot districts were selected, as recommended by the ministry i.e. Muzaffarabad in AJ&K, Skardu in Gilgit-Baltistan and Islamabad Capital Territory.

Based on the consultations with key District Stakeholders and using the results of latest MICS and other national survey results, the districts profile of Muzaffarabad was developed to set baseline for SDGs related target especially focusing on the child related indicators. District thematic working group has been established for localization of SDGs in AJ&K. The district level departments, which have been engaged to develop child focused SDGs achievement plans include Food Department, Environmental Protection Agency, LG&RDD, Police, Health, Education, Social Welfare and Women Development Department, Agriculture and Livestock department, State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), Media, Press Information Department and concerned Deputy Commissioner. Besides, CSOs have also been consulted.

Geographically and economically Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJ&K) has significant importance in development of Pakistan. The region of AJ&K is blessed with natural supporting factors of ecosystem, rivers, mountains and forests. Since the beginning of SDGs, AJ&K state government has adopted an approach to mainstream development projects aligned with targets and goals of global development agenda. AJ&K 12th five-year plan is explicitly focused on SDGs. This shows commitment of AJ&K government and planning & development department is leading from the front with support of MoPD&SI.

Scope and Key Objectives

The development of child-focused SDGs achievement plans at district level is critical to the achievement of the child-focused SDGs. The purpose of this assignment is to localize the SDGs at district level and to develop an action plan to improve the existing monitoring and data systems for the effective and efficient reporting on key SDGs indicators related to children.

The key objectives of this assignment are:

- To engage district relevant department / stakeholders and focal persons to sensitize, analyze and develop plans for achievement of child related SDGs indicators.
- To develop child focused District SDGs achievement plan to set targets for children specific SDGs

¹ United Nations. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Retrieved from <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

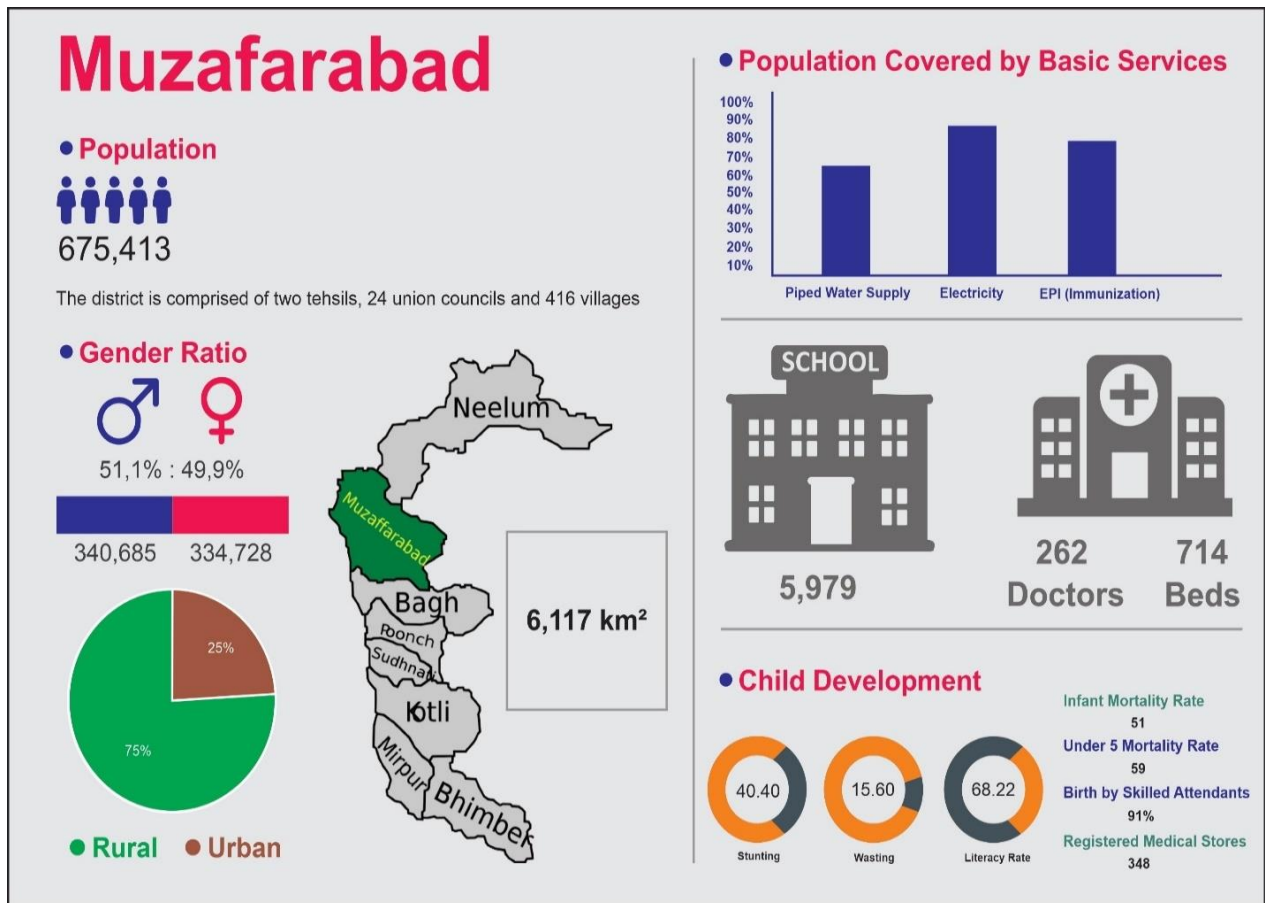
indicators

- Improve the situation related to children via implementation and monitoring of the child focused District SDGs achievement plan

Based on the district plan, a district level coordination and monitoring mechanism is recommended to monitor and facilitate the formulation and implementation of the plan in order to achieve SDGs by 2030.

An overview of Muzaffarabad

The total population of the district Muzaffarabad in 2019 was 0.675 million, which made the district as the second largest populated district of the State of AJ&K. Administratively, the district is comprised of two tehsils, 24 union councils and 416 villages (287 in Muzaffarabad and 129 villages in Naseerabad)². The total population of the district is 0.675 million, which accounts for about 15 percent of the population of the State³. The population density of the district is 421 persons per square kilometer. Politically, the district has been divided into six constituencies of the Legislative Assembly (LA) of the State.



Source: Developed by the Consultant, data obtained from Statistical Year Book 2021 and MICS 2021

² AJK Statistical Yearbook 2020

³ <https://pwajk.gok.pk/overview/>

Development Process of the Child-focused District SDGs Achievement plan

The stepwise methodology/process adopted to develop the child-focused district SDGs achievement plans for Muzaffarabad is explained as below:

Step 1. Inception and first consultative meeting with key stakeholders

The purpose of the inception and first consultative meetings with district officials was trifold:

- 1) to explain the purpose of the assignment and to seek their inputs on the methodology and plan of the assignment presented in the draft of the inception report primarily on the template of the SDGs achievement plan;
- 2) to map /identify available data related to the child-focused SDGs;
- 3) to get one focal person notified for the assignment in each district.

A thorough orientation was given to the district government officials and other key stakeholders in the conference room of the P&D Department of Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Muzaffarabad. The orientation covered the following areas:

- Background: Introduction to SDGs, child-focused SDGs, the role of districts in achieving the SDGs and reporting
- Template of the child-focused district SDGs achievement plan
- Discussing and finalizing methodology
- Expectations from the district governments including nominations of focal persons

Step 2. Similar to the inception meetings with districts stakeholders, inception meeting and first consultative session was held with the academicians of University of AJ&K in Muzaffarabad.

Step 3. The inception report was shared with the SDGs units/sections of AJ&K P&DDs, district administrations, academia, and other relevant stakeholders in advance for their review and comments.

Step 4. The profile of the district was developed based on the desk review, and the data collected through the consultative discussion held with stakeholders of district Muzaffarabad and academia.

Step 5. Second consultative meetings with district government officials, academia and other relevant stakeholders were held to set targets for 2030 and develop an implementation plan. In the second consultative session, the consultants briefly presented the baselines of child-focused SDGs indicators. Group discussions for setting targets followed the presentation. The participants also identified ongoing and planned projects and proposed interventions to achieve the targets.

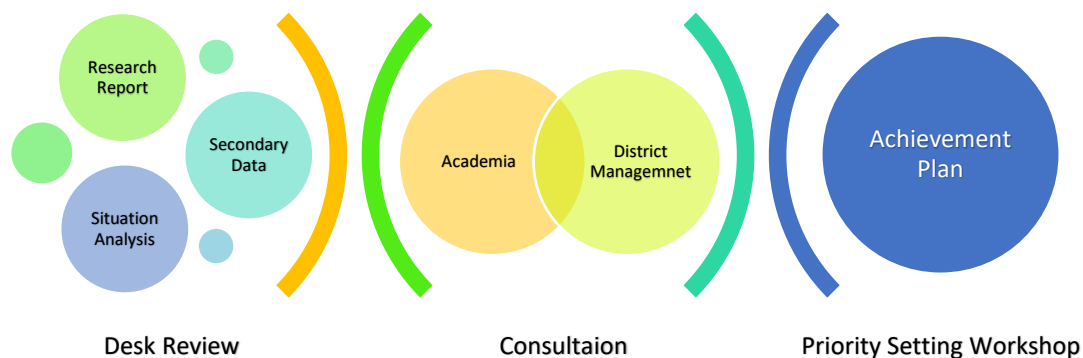
During the second consultative session, a district level coordination and monitoring mechanism was also developed through consultation with the relevant departments at the district level.

Step 7. An initial draft of child-focused district SDGs achievement plan was developed for District Muzaffarabad and shared with stakeholders for review.

Step 8. The district stakeholders provided comprehensive feedback on the plan especially on the targets, priorities and resources needed for the implementation of the district child-focused SDGs Achievement Plan.

Step 9. Based on the comprehensive feedback from Muzaffarabad, the plan was finalized and shared with Chief SDGs MoPD&SI and Planning Development Department GoAJ&K.

Figure 1: Consultation Process in the development of the Child-focused District SDG Achievement Plan



Child Specific SDGs

The universal declaration of human rights (UDHR) recognizes the rights of all human beings, adults and children. However, incidents of exploitation of children through means such as unlawful employment, injustices like violence and limited life opportunities led to the realization that the physiological and psychological needs of children differ from those of adults and circumstances arise when there is a conflict of interest between adults and children. Hence in 1989, world leaders ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The UNCRC is a universally agreeable set of non-negotiable standards and obligations. These basic standards set minimum entitlements and freedoms that should be respected by governments and individuals alike and places an obligation on all, to not infringe on the rights of others⁴. Pakistan ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1990. Since then, Pakistan submits its reports to the United Nation Commission on Rights of the Child (UNCRC) committee. However, the performance of Pakistan for child development has not been impressive. Pakistan is having a large number of children (22.6 million) out of school⁵. The UNCRC is based upon four main principles:

- ❖ Non-Discrimination
- ❖ Best interest of the Child
- ❖ Survival and Development

⁴ <http://www.unicef.org/crc/>

⁵ <https://www.unicef.org/pakistan/media/596/file/Situation%20Analysis%20of%20Children%20in%20Pakistan.pdf>

❖ Children's Participation

Child focused SDGs are essential part of the global 2030 agenda. The child focused SDGs cover almost all aspects of child well-being from birth registration to better health, longer stay in education, and access to quality services. More precisely, all of these aspects fall in five domains⁶, given below and a glimpse of child focused SDGs targets (25 targets in 17 goals) with description is given in the Annexure 1 & 2. Out of total 247 indicators of SDGs, 44 are specifically for children:

- Survive + thrive
- Learning
- Protection
- Environment
- Fair chance

A child born in 2015 would turn into 15 years by 2030, these children would be the main beneficiaries of the efforts to achieve the global agenda. For the reason, most of the governments around the world have prioritized the child focused SDGs indicators to eradicate poverty, to provide necessary nutrients, good health, accessible quality education, child rights and networking for bright future of the planet.

Government Initiative and Resource Allocation for SDGs

The P&D Department has taken an initiative to link ADP projects with SDGs. The current ADP (i.e. for the year 2022-23) has been formulated in line with the overall National Strategy aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to achieve the goals and objectives set forth at National and International level. In the mapping of ADP with the allocated budget, it is analyzed that transport & communication sector is the major recipient of allocation during 2022-23 for up-gradation and modernization of communication infrastructure for better regional connectivity. The second priority has been assigned to PP&H followed by LG&RD, Energy & Water Resources, Education, Health and Industries & Minerals sectors respectively. The macro sector allocations constitute 69% for infrastructure, 19 % for Social Sectors and 12 % for productive sectors to provide improved service delivery in all sectors of economy. Currently five projects are included in the portfolio of Elementary & Secondary Education. In total PKR 10.864 million will be spent on these projects. This includes PKR 8.,747 million foreign aid.

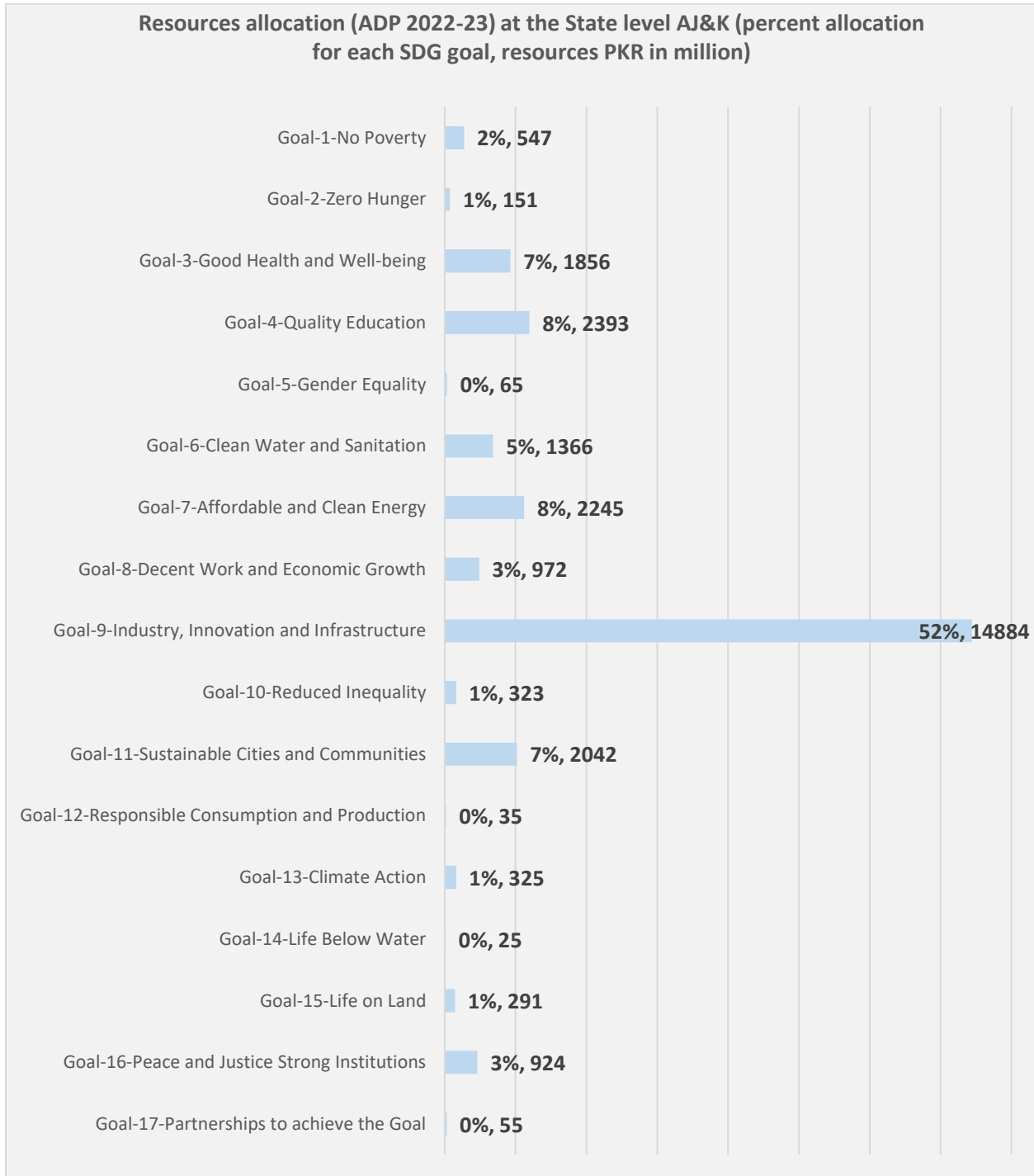
Another initiative which has been taken is the inclusion of sector-specific vision and mission statements. For example, the Elementary & Secondary Education aims *"to provide Quality Education at Elementary and Secondary level and striving to produce educationally developed, morally sound, spiritually enlightened, politically united, socially elevated and economically knowledge based well advanced AJ&K"*.

There is a big challenge of prioritizing the SDG targets while initiating any development project in ADP. It is a weakness that projects are usually identified first and later on mapped with SDG framework on need basis. Ideally, the process of project identification and planning should be guided by priorities set by AJ&K state to achieve global agenda.

Some NGOs are also working in the district and implementing social development initiatives. Kashmir Education Foundation (KEF) is executing a number of educations related initiatives. Similarly, READ

⁶ <https://data.unicef.org/sdgs/country/pak/>

Foundation is running a large network of schools in AJ&K, which include 72 primary schools, 172 middle schools, 99 high schools and 45 colleges, totally 390 educational institutes⁷.



Source: Allocations of ADPs for SDGs (Rs. Million) SDG Unit, P&D Department AJ&K

⁷ <https://www.readfoundation.org/news/ajk-president-about-read-foundation/>

Child Focused District SDGs Achievement Plan, District Muzaffarabad

The following achievement plan is output of second consultative workshop in which a road map to achieve the goals and role and responsibility have been discussed in detail with relevant stakeholders. The participants also identified ongoing and planned projects and proposed interventions to achieve the targets.

Below are the sector-wise child focused district SDGs indicators targets and recommendations for achieving the SDGs 2030 agenda in Muzaffarabad, AJ&K. The tables explain the relevant SDGs indicator (Column A), the baseline value and year for the district (Column B), latest value and year for the district (Column C), target for 2030 (Column D), the relevant province / state/ region latest value and year (Column E), the latest value and year for the national level (Column F) and source of information (Column G).

Note: Targets 2030 are missing for some indicators, which are mandatory for this plan, we tried our best but could not get target from the relevant department, therefore we recommend that relevant departments needs to set target and those should be added in this plan at a later stage.

Nutrition and Food Security

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age.	50.3 % (2007 – 08)	30.5% (2021)	25%	24.2% (2021)	37.60% (2018)	MICS, AJ&K (NNS) National (PSLM)
2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type Row 1: wasting and Row 2: overweight	(AJ&K) 17.7% (2013)	5% (2021)	-	4.4% (2021)	7.1 (2018)	MICS, NNS, SDG status Report, PSLM
	-	2 % (2021)	-	2.3 % (2021)	9.5%	MICS 2021 NNS 2018
2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status	-	90,000/ year (2021)	-	120,000/ year	1.2 million / year	Agriculture Department
2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture	-	28,163 hector (2021)	-	194,592 hector (2021)	38 % (2015)	Crop Reporting Services DOA,

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
						SDG Status Report
Situation Analysis	<p>The prevalence of stunting in Muzaffarabad district is as high as 30.5%. There is no reduction in stunting rate (moderate and severe) since 2010, which mean that we will not be able to achieve the target as per 2030 agenda. In recent years the prices of food items have been increased particularly prices of formula nutrition for kids has raised by 20 to 30%. This could be a reason that people purchasing power has been decreasing due to double digit inflation⁸ (13.4 year on year) across Pakistan. Similarly, the average income of small-scale food producers in District Muzaffarabad is 90,000 per year, 120,000 in AJ&K, while same is almost 1.2 million at the national level.</p>					
Recommendations	<p>There is need to assign high priority to achieve child nutritional development as stunting in the district Muzafarabad is alarmingly high.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advocacy seminars for awareness raising. ➤ Supply nutrition supplements to 33 health centers in Muzaffarabad. ➤ Coordinate with World Food Programme for specialize diet supplements ➤ The civil society to launch campaign in schools on growth deficiencies of kids. <p>It is also proposed to conduct impact assessment study of locally available nutrients and resources in Muzaffarabad, AJ&K.</p> <p>Price controlling mechanism in markets, and conditional cash transfer for dietary food supplements would help most vulnerable poor households /families to meet their needs of vegetables, fruits, supplements and multivitamins.</p>					

Social Protection

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	24.9 % (2012 -13, AJ&K)	25.5% (2021)	10 %	17.4 % (2021)	21.9 % (2019)	MICS, SDG Status Report

⁸ https://www.finance.gov.pk/survey/chapter_22/PES07-INFLATION.pdf

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/ systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	9.8 % (2017 -18)	22.8% (2021)	-	25.1 % (2021)		7.8 % (2017 – 18)	MICS, NNS
1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services	Improved water source=65.4% Flush Toilet=92% Electricity 97% (2015)	Improved water source= 83% Sanitation = 82 % Electricity = 97% (2021)	100 %	Improved water source=82% Flush Toilet=82 % Electricity 99% (2021))		Improved water source=94% Flush Toilet=80% Electricity 91%	Policy Brief SDG support Unit, MICS SDG Status Report, PSLM
1.a.1 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of AJ&K spends 35.1% of its funding on essential services such as education, health and social protection (AJ&K Annual Budget Statement 2021 – 2022). 							
Situation Analysis	According to AJ&K statistical yearbook, NSER 2010-11, the vulnerable population in AJ&K was 24.9% in 2012 – 13, while Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2021 of AJ&K (AJ&K MICS 2021) reveals that the percentage of population of Muzaffarabad which is categorized as poor on Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is on slightly higher side i.e. 25.5%. In between these two periods (i.e. 2011 and 2021), there is only one study which can provide an estimate of poverty i.e. PARC (2018) ⁹ , however, it has provided estimate of poverty for Muzaffarabad division – not for the district only. It reports that Muzaffarabad is the most multidimensionally poor division of AJ&K with 36% of the households falling in the poverty zone. Likewise, 22.8% of the district population and 25.1% of AJ&K population is covered by social protection programs.						

⁹ PARC [Pakistan Agricultural Research Council]. (2018). An Analysis of Poverty Prevalence in AJK Using MPI Approach, Ghulam Sadiq Afridi, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council. Retrieved from https://www.sdgpakistan.pk/uploads/pub/Policy_Brief_AJK.pdf.

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
	Access to basic services is on higher side. Percentage of the households who have access to drinking water is 83% in the district, while in AJ&K it is 82%. The findings show that more initiatives are needed to reduce poverty and ensuring that all households have access to basic services including drinking water, handwashing and sanitation facilities.						
Recommendations	<p>P&D Department needs to initiate social protection programs in the district to reduce poverty and minimize the inequalities.</p> <p>The district administration may strategize and enhance the tourism sector, while providing road access, better lodging facilities, initiating skill development programs related to tourism, and maintaining rule of law which will generate employment in the district.</p> <p>The social protection schemes under BISP, Zakat, and Baitul Maal may continue and also explore other social protection initiatives to meet the SDG 2030 agenda related to social protection.</p>						

Maternal and Reproductive Health

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	District Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
2.2.3: Prevalence of anemia in women aged 15 to 49 years, by pregnancy status (percentage)	Non-pregnant= 41.3% Pregnant= 43% (2011, AJ&K)	Not available	-	Overall=55.9% Non-pregnant= 56.4% Pregnant= 34.8% (2018)	Pregnant= 35.5% Non-pregnant= 43% (2018)	NNS, SDG Status Report, Health Department
3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio	201 (2007, AJ&K)	179 (2021)	130	104 (2019)	186 (2019)	SDG Status Report, PDHS, MMS
3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	57%- (2015, AJ&K) 28.1 % (2007-08 Muzaffarabad)	58.7% (2021)	100%	74.4% (2021)	68% (2019)	PDHS, MICS, MMS Health Department

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	District Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations	0.036 (2015)	0.51 (350 Registered HIV positives)- (2021)		Not available	0.12 per 1000 uninfected population	Health Department, SDG status Report, NACP
3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	22.9 (2010, AJ&K)	24.2 (2018)	-	28.5 (2018)	49 (2018)	Population Department, MICS, PDHS, SDG Status Report
3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10—14 years; aged 15—19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group ¹⁰	333 (2010, AJ&K)	36 (2021)	-	29 (2021)	46 (2018)	MICS
Situation Analysis	<p>Only 24.2% of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods. This percentage is lower than the State average and national average. This indicator has slightly improved but only two percent improvement in a decade would not make the target to meet by 2030.</p> <p>The Maternal mortality ratio in Muzaffarabad district is 179, while same is 104 in the state of AJ&K and 186 at national level. The situation related to Maternal mortality is higher as compared to the AJ&K and the growth during the last decade shows that special and focused initiative are required to meet the target of the 2030 SGD agenda. The incidence of new HIV infections is high. It is 0.50 per 1,000 uninfected population in Muzaffarabad district. It is even more severe than tuberculosis.</p>					
Recommendations	<p>The role of LHW needs to be highlighted with new strategy focusing on women health on three areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Iron Deficiency among women and why Iron is important - Use of Multivitamin and Iron supplements - Use of modern methods of family planning <p>A study needs to be conducted in the district to identify reasons of early child marriages and high adolescent birth rate in the district Muzaffarabad and AJ&K. There is also a need of legislation or policy evaluation related to child marriages to identify the reasons and plan for course correction.</p>					

¹⁰ The data is reported against aged 15 – 19 years.

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	District Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
	To reduce the maternal mortality rate, the district health management needs to develop accountable mechanism to stop unlicensed doctors and maternity clinics. The department also needs to ensure availability of skilled personnel at the community level. Similarly, awareness raising and counselling related to HIV in all health centers needs to be institutionalized.					

Child Health

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
3.2.1: Under 5 mortality rate	31 (2015 AJ&K) 96 (2007 Muzaffarabad)	66 (2021)	38	59 (2021)	62 (2019)	MICS, SDG Status Report, PSLM
3.2.2: Neonatal mortality rate	19 (2015)	34 (2021)	27	36 (2021)	44 (2019)	MICS, SDG Status Report, PSLM
3.3.2: Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population	461 (2014, AJ&K)	256 (2021)	120	122 (2021)	265 (2019)	Health Department, TB Control Program Report
3.3.3: Malaria incidence per 1,000 population	-	Not available		0.05 (2019)	20 (2018)	Pakistan Malaria Control Program, PSLM
3.3.4: Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population		Not available	-	13.2 (2019)	391 (2019)	Health Department, AJ&K , Pakistan SDGs status report
3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services	-	49.24 % (2020)	65%	49.3 % (2020)	40% (2015)	Health Department, AJ&K, WHO, UHC Monitoring Report
3.b.1: Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national program	-	85% (2021)		91.4% (2021)	65.36% 2018	MICS, PDHS

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
Situation Analysis	<p>In recent five years the mortality rate has risen from 31 to 66 in the Muzaffarabad District. This indicates that the children are not having proper access to life saving services, anyhow during the consultation/ discussion the health department shared that 61% of the population of district Muzaffarabad have access to essential health services. But universal health coverage monitoring report (2020) by Ministry of health is reporting about 49 percent of the population of district muzaffarabad has access to essential health services. That implies that there exists need for taking special initiatives to enhance the coverage to all population. According to ADP-2022-23, population with access to health facilities has increased to 82% by June 2022 and it is expected to rise to 85% by the end of June 2023. No data is available for district regarding indicator, 3.3.3 and 3.3.4, However, it is available for the AJ&K state.</p>					
Recommendations	<p>The future development initiatives will have to target controlling infant and maternal mortality rate, and the incidence of HIV and TB via enhancing the coverage and reaching the far flung areas. There is need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct special studies on malaria, tuberculosis and Hepatitis B among children and their mothers in order to have updated district level data for course correction. - Supply medicines to far off facilities especially in winter season - Provide heating facilities to schools/ madrasas - Neonatal care is only possible with having lifesaving equipment and there is need to enhance number of peads doctors, specialized in neonatal care. - Total available ventilator are only 25 in districts of Muzaffarabad and 90 in whole AJ&K. There is need to double the number of ventilator and baby incubators (Price of one ventilator starts from 2 million PKR and price of incubator starts from 300,000 PKR) 					

Child Learning and Education

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
4.1.1: Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/ 3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	-	Proficiency in numeracy 30 % Proficiency in reading 32.9% (2021)	55 %	Proficiency in numeracy 33.1% Proficiency in reading 34.9% (2021)	Not available	MICS, SDG Status Report
4.1.2: Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education)	-	Primary = 75% Middle = 73% Metric = 56% (2021)	95 %	Primary = 81% Middle = 75% Metric = 55% (2021)	Primary = 67% Middle = 59% Metric = 23%	MICS, PSLM, SDG Status Report
4.2.1: Proportion of children aged 24-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex	-	65 % (2021)	-	60 % (2021)	Not available	MICS
4.2.2: Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex	-	69% (2021)	85%	78% (2021)	19% 2019	MICS, PSLM
4.3.1: Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex	-	Not available	-	58.4 % (2019)	29.48 % (2019)	SDG status Report, LFS,
4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (IT & CS) skills, by type of skill	-	<i>Refer to the row below</i>	-	<i>Refer to the row below</i>	<i>Refer to the row below</i>	PSLM, Education Department

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
<p>Current (year) values: Copy & Paste: 40.84%, Send Email: 21.75%, Using basic arithmetic formulae in a spreadsheet: 12.01%, Connecting and installing new devices: 8.60%, Finding, downloading, installing and configuring software and apps: 9.94%, Electronic Presentation: 6.18%, Transferring files or applications between devices: 13.23%, Programming: 8.64%, Social Media: 35.60%, Entertainment: 58.53%, Connecting and installing new devices: 8.60% (2019)</p> <p>AJ&K Current Year Values: Copy & Paste=40.84% Send Email=21.75% Using basic arithmetic formulae in a spreadsheet=12.01% Connecting and installing new devices=8.60% Finding downloading installing and configuring software and apps=9.94% Electronic Presentation=6.18% Transferring files or applications between devices=13.23% Programming=8.64% Social Media=35.60% Entertainment=58.53% (2019).</p> <p>National (year): Presentation=21% Downloading=33% Entertainment=59% Social Media=45% Email=48% Programming=20% Spreadsheet=27% File Transfer=35% (2019)</p>						
4.5.1: Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples, and conflict-affected, as data becomes available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated	-0.97 (2014 – 15 AJ&K)	0.8 (2021)	-	Primary 1.0 Middle 1.05 Secondary 0.95 (2021)	See below	MICS, SDG Status Report
Gender Parity Index (GPI) in Net Enrolment Rate(NER) at Primary (age 6-10): GPI in Net Enrolment Rate(NER) at Middle Level(age 11-13): Overall=0.90 GPI in Net Enrolment Rate(NER) at Matric Level(age 14-15): Overall=0.90						
4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex	74 % (2015, AJ&K)	87% (2021)	95%	89.5% (2021)	60 % (2020)	MICS, SDG status Report
4.a.1 Proportion of schools offering basic services, by type of service	-	Not available	electricity: 60% Water: 77% Sanitation :60% (2019)	electricity: 15% Water: 26% Sanitation: 36% (2018 Primary Level))	electricity: 61% Water: 68% Sanitation: 74% (2018 Primary Level)	Pakistan Education Statistics, Education Department, SDG Status Report

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
Situation Analysis	<p>Early child development index captures development of children in age 3-4 years, in the domains such as literacy numeracy, physical, social-emotional; and learning. The children of Muzaffarabad district are much better in physical and learning domains and weaker in literacy-numeracy and social-emotional domains.</p> <p>AJ&K MICS 2020-21 shows that primary school completion rate in the district Muzaffarabad is 75%. The completion rate drops to 73% at middle level education and 56% percent in secondary level education. In other words, more or less 25% of the children of district fail to complete even primary education and 44% of the children of the district are unable to complete secondary level education.</p> <p>Private schools are accounting for a bigger share in enrollment. In 2019, as many as 134,248 were enrolled in private educational institutes as compared to just 71,581 students in government educational institutes in Muzaffarabad.</p> <p>Basic facilities are missing in large number of schools. In Muzaffarabad district only 35.8% of schools have electricity, 55.1% have drinking water facilities, which shows that a large proportion of schools lack these basic facilities.</p>					
Recommendations	<p>Provide missing facilities to schools to improve the situation in the government schools. Also the quality of these essential service (water and sanitation) needs to be improved. It is also linked directly with the health indicators. If the children are not having basic necessities their physical and mental growth will affect.</p> <p>There is need to update AJ&K education plan, which will serve as, a priority document for rule of business with specific objectives, and to achieve the SDG Goal 4.</p> <p>Currently only 11% of the development fund is allocated to education (SDG 4). It is recommended to increase the development fund gradually considering the priorities of state in education. Particularly government of the state should invest on providing the facilities of drinking water, better sanitation and electricity in all schools.</p>					

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Safe Environment

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K Latest (year)	National (year)	Source
11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	0.69 deaths (2015, AJ&K)	238 Deceased and 684 injured (2021)	-	Death=0.56 Injured=0.75 Directly affected persons=10.2 (2018)	Deaths=0.06 Injured=0.07 Directly affected persons=5.4 (2018)	SDMA, SDG Status Report, NDMA
1.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)	-	Houses (752 fully and 1540 partially) 203 shops and 79 Cattle heads (2021)	-	Not available	18.1 million USD (2018)	SDMA, Pakistan SDGs Status report
<p>11.b.1 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 <u>AJ&K state government has taken steps to implement ‘State and District Disaster Management Plan’.</u></p> <p>13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies <u>DDMAs already established and started their work(local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy implementation as per Sendai Framework)</u></p> <p>13.1.1: Numbers of Countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies <u>The district has local disaster risk reduction plan in place</u></p>						

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
Situation Analysis	<p>Most of the terrain in Muzaffarabad district is mountainous with the highest peaks exceeding 4500 m above sea level. The topographical pattern and geographical position make Muzaffarabad quite vulnerable to certain hazards (earth quack and floods). The city has bearded the losses of human lives and economy in earth quack of 2005. The incident provided the competent authorities great lessons but the coordination among department is weak. SDMA is a state level body that is working with district team but the current approach is focused on to handle the victims rather than preparedness. According to Action Aid research study, technical unit has not been establishment at DDMA level in the supervision of Deputy Commissioner (DC) to manage the DDMA affairs effectively.</p> <p>Recent/Ongoing Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A capacity building workshop on “early recovery need assessment” was conducted by NDMA. - NDMA hosted 3 days training workshop for the Govt. officers of AJ&K and project staff of Mirpur Women Friendly Health Spaces from 27 to 29 October, 2020. - Disaster management training workshop by Kashmir Institute of International Relations 						
Recommendations	<p>The district management may take actions to stop construction around Neelum and Jhelum River. Already constructed structures around the banks of rivers should be audited against the disaster risk reduction strategy (DDMA Plan). Similarly, schools /madrasas should also be audited against the disaster risk reduction strategy on annual basis.</p> <p>There should be mechanisms in placed to monitor the quality of construction on parameters of DRR.</p> <p>The capacity building programme by the government and civil society are required to sensitize and equipped the people and related departments. And there is need to expand the training programme to the school /madrasa children on how to evacuate buildings in case of earthquake and other natural disaster.</p>						

Child Rights and Safety

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
3.6.1: Death rate due to road traffic injuries	-	3.70 Total Accidents 67: Total Deaths 44 (2021)	-	4.19 (2021)		2.51 per 10,000 (2020)	Muzaffarabad Police. Pakistan SDGs status report

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
16.2.1: Proportion of children 1-14 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month (%)	-	90% (2021)	-	89% (2021)	-	-	SWD, MICS
16.2.3: Proportion of young women aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18 (%)	-	Not available	-	Not available	-	Not available	-
16.9.1: Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority (%)	12.2 % (2007 – 08)	33% (2021)	-	31.8% (2021)	-	42.2% (2018)	SWD, MICS, SDG Status Report
<p>1.1.2: Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions <u>According to MICS AJ&K 2021, in Muzaffarabad district is 25.5 percent as Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty</u></p> <p>17.19.2: Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration</p> <p><u>A population census was conducted in 2017 nationwide including AJ&K.</u></p>							
Situation Analysis	<p>According to statistics of demographic health surveys, nationwide the registration under 5 has increased from 32.9% in 2013 to 42.3% in 2018. It is unfortunate that AJ&K was not included in the sample size. Recently MICS survey was conducted that shows birth registration of under 5 children at 33% in Muzaffarabad that is below national level benchmark. AJ&K formulated a child protection policy in 2010 which resulted to establish child welfare centers across the state but the data about child protection is only available with the administration. But the number reported by MICS on child discipline is alarming “90% of the children of age 1 - 14 years have experienced aggression by the caregiver”. According to MICS survey report, 62 % mothers considers that punishment is essential to raise child growth. Comparatively, most of the men as caregiver think otherwise.</p>						

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
Recommendations	<p>There is need to revisit the child protection policy with relevant department, civil society and academia. The legislation about child rights is not in place to implement the act. There is need to raise awareness among the care givers (parents) on adverse effects of aggression on child growth and development.</p> <p>There is a need to institutionalize the data collection related to child rights and safety in the state with leading role to bureau of statistics. Currently most of the data is collected and gathered on ad-hoc and need basis.</p> <p>Capacity building and sensitization of relevant departments (Police, Child rights Commission, Social Welfare Department ec.) on data collection, data management, analysis and reporting related to child rights and safety is also required.</p>						

WASH – Water and Sanitation Hygiene

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	65.43 (2015)	83 ¹¹ (2021)	88%	82% (2021)		Improved Water= 94%	MICS, Statistical year book
6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) hand-washing facility with soap and water	92% (2014)	a. Improved Sanitation =82.4% (2021)	99%	Improved Sanitation= 82.3% (2021)		Improved Sanitation= 83% (2019)	MICS Statistical year book , Pakistan SDGs status report
	-	b.90.5% (2021)	100%	87.5% (2021)		54% (2020)	MICS , PSLM

¹¹ Using proxy indicator of access to water supply.

SDG Indicator	Baseline (year)	Latest (year)	Target (2030)	AJ&K (year)	Latest	National (year)	Source
Situation Analysis	<p>It is evident from the data that situation of access to water is improving, which was 65% in 2015 and is now 83% (2021). Jawaheed, A et al¹² (2018) found in an empirical research that sufficient social platforms, lack of motivation, self management and awareness are related to safe water utilization. Under SDG Goal 6 (water and sanitation) the ADP 2022 ongoing/planned initiatives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A specific project named as WATSAN has been initiated with cost of 36 million. ❖ Provision of Solid Waste Management & Sanitation Facilities to Urban Areas with cost of 263 million. ❖ Greater Water Supply Scheme Doba Hotrari & Mera Kalan, District Muzaffarabad ❖ Up-gradation of Water Supply Scheme Ghari Dopatta District Muzaffarabad ❖ Purchase of Machinery for Cleaning of Sewerage Lines & Septic Tanks in Muzaffarabad City 						
Recommendations	<p>Educate school students to adopt best practices of washing hands and provide them support as most of the school do not have soaps in school.</p> <p>Needs based assessment of schools regarding wash facilities would help a lot to focus initiatives.</p> <p>Education Department needs to allocate funds for WASH related facilities in schools in the annual budget for schools (School Development Funds). Department also needs to allocate funds for the development of IEC materials and sensitize children on hand washing and hygiene..</p>						

¹² Jawaheed, Arslaan, et al. "Knowledge, attitude and practices of water, sanitation and hygiene of students in Azad Kashmir." *Rawal Med J* 43.3 (2018): 536-9.

Additional recommendations

Below are some additional key recommendations and initiatives, for the administration of district and state, which will also support the child focused district SDGs achievement:

Category	Recommendation
Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Commissioner office may take significant steps to support to develop vision and mission statements for SDGs at the district level. The statements should be simple, brief, attractive and powerful. Then all the relevant line departments should be facilitated to develop such statements for their respective departments in the district. Like for example: a vision for education department may be such as: Quality easy accessible education to all the children of Kashmir. Deputy Commissioner should periodically review the progress of each department and should award certificates of distinctions to the departments which succeed in achieving their targets.
Databases and data portals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&D Department should take an initiative to develop a portal of all databases with all relevant departments. The data must be segregated at the district level.
Policies and strategies	<p>Special policies/strategies which are needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social development policy Projects evaluation policy Child Protection Policy (needs to revisit) Resource mobilization strategy for SDGs
Plans and frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public investment management framework Capacity Building framework for school teachers for DRR. Ensures that all plans, policies, strategies, actions and resource allocations in AJ&K are aligned with SDGs;
Capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of government officers in project planning Training of the relevant officers of the line departments in project appraisal from the lens of SDGs. Training of government officers in project implementation Setting up M&E units at department level Setting up an M&E unit in district level planning department Training of government officers in project implementation Training of school teachers on first Aid and emergency evacuation Training of students on preparedness in case of earth quack
Stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government, CSOs, (I)NGOs, Private sector, Media, Youth, Marginalized groups, Farmers and Academia Workshops, seminars, meetings, awareness material, walks etc.
Support group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&D Department may develop a special group of experts (representing different areas of expertise relevant to SDGs) who should be available to provide support to the district government as and when needed. Applies innovative approaches to accelerate progress on priority SDGs.
Workshops/ seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District level seminars, and conferences in universities and government departments Workshops for government departments

Annexure

Annexure 1: Child Focused SDGs and Priority setting with stakeholders in consultations

Domain	Indicators	Targets	State Priority
Survive + Thrive	2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 (%)	By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.	Medium
	2.2.2a Prevalence of overweight among children under 5 (%)	By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.	Medium
	2.2.2a Prevalence of wasting among children under 5 (%)	By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.	Medium
	3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.	Short
	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.	Short
	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.	Short
	3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population	By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.	Short
	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (index)	Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to	Short

		safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	
	3.b.1 Proportion of surviving infants receiving 3 doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) (%)	Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all.	Short
	3.b.1 Proportion of surviving infants receiving measles-containing-vaccine first-dose (MCV1) (%)	Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all.	Short
Learning	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in mathematics (%)	By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.	Short
	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading (%)	By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.	Short
	4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex (%)	By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.	Short
	4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year	By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood	Short

	before the official primary entry age) (%)	development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.	
	4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to WASH (%)	Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.	Short
Protection	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15-19 years subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner (%)	Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.	Short
	5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15-19 years subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner (%)	Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	Short
	5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 18 (%)	Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.	Short
	5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting (%)	Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.	Short
	8.7.1 Proportion of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour (%)	Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.	Short
	16.2.1 Proportion of children 1-14 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month (%)	End abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.	Short
	16.2.3 Proportion of young men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18 (%)	End abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.	Short
	16.2.3 Proportion of young women aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18 (%)	End abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.	Short
	16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose	By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.	Short

	births have been registered with a civil authority (%)		
Environment	1.4.1.a Proportion of the population using basic drinking water services (%)	By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance	Short
	1.4.1.b Proportion of the population using basic sanitation services (%)		Short
	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	Medium
	6.2.1.a Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	Medium
	6.2.1.b Proportion of population with a basic handwashing facility with soap and water available on premises (%)	By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	Medium
	6.2.1.c Proportion of population practicing open defecation (%)	By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	Medium
	12.8.1/13.3.1. Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.	Long
<i>Fair chance</i>	1.3.1 Proportion of child population covered by social protection floors/systems (%)	Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.	Medium
	1.2.2. Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.	Medium