Residents of newly merged districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) (erstwhile FATA) have experienced successive waves of displacement since 2008, due to militancy on either side of the Afghan-Pakistan border. About 5.3 million were displaced, and by April 2016, 4.3 million had returned.\(^1\)

FTRP was initially established on the FATA Sustainable Return and Rehabilitation Strategy (SRRS) by investing in the rehabilitation of basic services and infrastructure, in improving access to quality education and supporting skills development and livelihoods restoration. Now that the merger of erstwhile FATA has been declared, the programme supports the Government’s policies aiming at development and economic growth of the Newly

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**QUICK FACTS**

- **Duration:** 2015–2022
- **Overall Budget:** USD 120 million
- **Implementing partners:** Directorate of Projects, Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, UNICEF, FAO, WFP, SRSP, Hashoo Foundation, Islamic Relief Pakistan, Akhuwat Islamic Microfinance,
- **Funding partners:** Department for International Development, Government of UK (DFID-UK), European Union (EU), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Government of Japan and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- **Location:** Khyber, Kurram, North Waziristan, South Waziristan, Orakzai and TDP hosting areas (Bannu, Tank and Peshawar)
- **Contact:** Tanya Rzehak, Programme Manager, UNDP tanya.rzehak@undp.org
Merged Districts (NMDs) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) through the decade development strategy.

**Programme objectives:**
- Increased community engagement & citizen empowerment
- Improved livelihoods
- Education & peacebuilding
- Access to basic services/infrastructure
- Recovery and reforms governance.

**What we have achieved since inception of the programme?**

1. **Community engagement and social cohesion:**
   - Formed 936 (248 women and 688 men) Community Organizations (COs) comprising of 15,930 members
   - Rehabilitated 562 community physical infrastructure schemes through COs (105 women and 457 by men COs), benefitting 163,998 individuals.
   - Organised 82 social cohesion events (22 by women and 60 by men COs) to promote integration and community engagement.

2. **Improve livelihoods opportunities:**
   - A total of 135,000 working days were created through rehabilitation of community physical infrastructure schemes and cash for work initiatives, providing short term employment opportunities to 3,003 men and women.
   - Livelihood grants provided to 2,241 returnees (1,017 women and 1,224 men to support establishment of small-scale businesses.
   - Business management skill training imparted to 3,500 individuals (1,057 women and 2,443 men) to strengthen their ability to successfully run a business.
   - Technical and vocational skills training imparted to 3,848 individuals (1,520 women and 2,328 men).
   - Livelihoods training imparted to 712 individuals (475 women and 237 men) related to micro-enterprise and skills development.
   - Distributed 1,400 business kits to restore or create new business opportunities.
   - Provided support in establishing two new branches of Akhuwat Islamic Microfinance in Khyber District.
   - Provided enterprise development training and interest-free small loans through Akhuwat Islamic Microfinance to 803 (65 women)
   - Conducted Market Assessment Study to assess the status of markets in Khyber, North Waziristan, Orakzai and Kurram districts.

3. **Access to quality education with improved infrastructure:**
   - Rehabilitated 671 schools, 637 in the return areas of the newly merged districts, 34 schools in KP’s TDPs hosting areas.
   - Govt. Middle School Ahmadzai, Kurram District rehabilitated under UN-CERF project.
   - Provided learning materials and teaching kits to 755 schools.
   - Provided furniture to 346 schools - including 14,186 benches and 14,216 desks for children,
1,113 chairs and 956 tables for teachers and 584 cupboards for schools.

- 113 temporary public primary schools have been revived; 53 through the installation of pre-fabricated structures and 60 through the installation of tents.
- Supported newly merged districts’ Elementary Education Foundation to upgrade 52 primary to middle level girls schools.

Where we work

![Rehabilitated Drinking Water Supply Scheme in Karighar Garhee village, Bara, Khyber District.](image)

- Conducted enrolment drives, which resulted in an increase in enrolment of 19,613 students
- Trained 2,003 teachers on teaching methods, pedagogy, student engagement and psychosocial support.
- Trained 57 Education Department officials in improved teaching and learning, planning, management, monitoring and supervision of schools in the newly merged districts of KP.
- Organized 44 cluster-based school inauguration ceremonies

4. Access to basic social services:

- Constructed/rehabilitated 95 public sector infrastructure schemes,

5. Strengthening state-citizens relationship:

- Organized 45 engagement activities with 6,287 youth to promote social cohesion
- Organized social mobilization training for 450 communities.

What’s next?

Adopting a rights-based approach and specifically focusing on women and youth empowerment, during 2019 and beyond, UNDP will conduct wider consultations for maximizing the impact of economic revitalization activities with all stakeholders

- Strengthening coordination with KP provincial departments after the merger of erstwhile FATA in KP so that the provincial government has more buy-in of the programme.
- Identify potential areas for business infrastructure. Small and medium entrepreneurs will be provided with business management skills training followed by in-kind business development grants.
- Train youth on market-based employment opportunities to equip them with marketable skills.
- Engage the new public and private partners for business innovation in newly merged districts. UNDP will facilitate the establishment and strengthening of new business association.
- Consultations with different stakeholders to utilize the newly secured financial resources from the Government of Japan and the Government of Canada (forthcoming).
UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.