

FARMING INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

2025–26

Growing Food, Skills and Self-Reliance in Rural Pakistan

REPORTING PERIOD
2025–26

PROGRAMME AREAS
Districts Vehari and Chakwal, Punjab, Pakistan

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2025–26

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Acronyms and abbreviations

BARI Barani Agricultural Research Institute, Chakwal · **BISP** Benazir Income Support Programme · **CHS** Core Humanitarian Standard · **CNIC** Computerised National Identity Card · **CRM** Complaint Response Mechanism · **FFS** Farmer Field School · **FIDA** Farming Integrated Development Association · **NADRA** National Database and Registration Authority · **PA** Penny Appeal · **SDG** Sustainable Development Goal · **UAF** University of Agriculture, Faisalabad · **WASH** Water, Sanitation and Hygiene · **WOS** Women Open School · **ZFA** Zakat Foundation of America

FOREWORD

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

From relief to resilience: a year of dignified and accountable service

I am pleased to present the Annual Progress Report of the Farming Integrated Development Association (FIDA) for the period 2025–26. During this period FIDA completed three projects in Districts Vehari and Chakwal, reaching more than 4,300 people through interventions in food security, sustainable agriculture, livelihoods, market access, health and social protection.

True to our origins in the Farmer Field School movement, the centrepiece of the year was our **flagship farming programme in District Chakwal**, delivered through FIDA's **Women Open School (WOS)** model. One hundred women established kitchen gardens growing up to 28 vegetable varieties, fifty women learned to turn the district's peanut harvest into branded products, and one hundred farmers were trained in mushroom cultivation, with average knowledge scores rising from 18% to 81%. Alongside this, our work in Vehari protected the most vulnerable households through food assistance, productive assets, health care and social protection.

Our work was guided by a firm commitment to the dignity, privacy and agency of the people we serve. Community-based targeting, a verified household database and transparent complaint response mechanisms enabled timely, fair and accountable delivery. These systems were recognised by federal and provincial representatives, who entrusted an additional 200 food packs to FIDA for distribution. Where approved budgets fell short of field realities, FIDA contributed more than PKR 1.1 million from its own resources to ensure that no household received a reduced or substandard package.

The year also generated important lessons. Farming models must be matched to the prevailing livelihood context, and productive assets deliver the greatest returns when combined with skills development and market linkages. These lessons now inform our programme strategy for 2026–27, including the replication of the Chakwal model across South Punjab.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to **Zakat Foundation of America** and **Penny Appeal** for their partnership and trust, and to the Social Welfare Department of the Government of Punjab, local government representatives, research institutions and community volunteers for their collaboration. Above all, I acknowledge the women, men and families of Vehari and Chakwal, whose determination and resilience lie at the heart of this report.

Muhammad Iqbal
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Farming Integrated Development Association (FIDA)

ABOUT FIDA

Rooted in farmer field schools, serving rural Pakistan for two decades

The Farming Integrated Development Association (FIDA) is a not-for-profit company registered under Section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017 with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan. Founded in 2006 in District Vehari, South Punjab, by men and women Farmer Field School practitioners who emerged from the FAO/PARC National IPM Programme, FIDA has grown into a community-anchored development organisation working across Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Sindh.

FIDA combines participatory, discovery-based learning through Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and Women Open Schools (WOS) with direct support to the most vulnerable households, delivered in line with international humanitarian standards and with respect for local culture.

OUR VISION

A thriving, self-reliant society where farmers, women and youth have the skills, knowledge and resources for sustainable livelihoods, food security and climate resilience.

OUR MISSION

To pave the way for a brighter and more resilient future for communities across Pakistan.

OUR FIVE THEMATIC AREAS

01 Livelihood Sustainability
Productive assets, skills and enterprises for lasting household income.

02 Nutritional Assurance
Kitchen gardens, dietary diversity and food assistance.

03 Climate Resilience
Climate-smart, water-wise and organic farming practices.

04 Market Empowerment
Value addition, branding and links to buyers and markets.

05 WASH
Safe water, sanitation and hygiene for healthier communities.

FIDA'S CUMULATIVE FOOTPRINT SINCE 2006

786,303
beneficiaries reached

30
donor-funded projects implemented

25,080
Farmer Field School graduates from 1,002 schools

12,700
Women Open School graduates from 507 schools

Source: FIDA Organisational Profile 2026–27.

OUR SIGNATURE MODEL

Women Open School (WOS)

The Women Open School adapts the Farmer Field School approach for rural women. Small groups of women meet regularly on their own homestead plots to observe, experiment and decide together, learning at a pace and in a setting that respects household responsibilities and cultural norms. To date, **507 Women Open Schools have produced 12,700 graduates**.

WOS is FIDA's entry point for reaching rural women: it builds household nutrition, income from farming and food processing, climate-smart practice and, above all, women's confidence and voice in their communities.

REPORTING PERIOD 2025–26

The year at a glance

A year anchored in farming: a flagship agriculture and food processing programme in Chakwal, complemented by relief and livelihood support for the most vulnerable households in Vehari, delivered on time and within budget.

4,300+
people reached directly and through their households

834
households and individuals directly supported

3
projects completed with two international partners

100
kitchen gardens growing up to 28 vegetable varieties

250
women and men trained in gardening, food processing and mushroom farming

+63 pts
average knowledge gain (18% to 81%)

50
women food processors producing 6 value-added products

146
households given productive assets

261
families (1,482 people) received Ramadan food packs

49
persons with disabilities and elderly patients given mobility aids or eye surgery

PKR 1.1m+
contributed by FIDA from its own resources

Women Open Schools at the heart

Kitchen gardens established by Women Open School graduates saved households PKR 15,000–25,000 a month on vegetables, and women learned to process and brand their own harvests.

Trusted by government

Federal and provincial representatives entrusted 200 additional food packs to FIDA after observing its distribution standards.

Note on figures: 834 = 350 direct beneficiaries (Chakwal) + 223 (Feed Our World) + 261 families (Ramadan). 4,300+ = 350 direct and at least 700 indirect beneficiaries (Chakwal) + 223 direct and approximately 1,577 indirect (Feed Our World) + 1,482 individuals (Ramadan); a conservative total that excludes the 200 government-entrusted packs.

OUR PORTFOLIO IN 2025–26

Three projects, one integrated approach

Our flagship farming programme in Chakwal led the year. Two projects in Vehari complemented it, moving the most vulnerable households from immediate relief towards self-reliance.

01

Feb 2025 – Jan 2026 · 12 months

FLAGSHIP FARMING PROGRAMME

Empowering Rural Women through Skill Development in Non-Traditional High-Value Crop Cultivation and Food Processing

Kitchen gardening through Women Open Schools, food processing and enterprise incubation, mushroom farming, agricultural tools, a vegetable nursery enterprise and market linkages.

NUTRITION LIVELIHOOD MARKET CLIMATE

PARTNER
Zakat Foundation of America

LOCATION
District Chakwal, Punjab

REACH
350 direct · 700–1,000 indirect

02

Sep – Dec 2025 · 14 weeks

Feed Our World: Zakat Support Programme

An integrated package of productive assets, mobility aids, eye surgery, shelter, widow and orphan sponsorship and orphan girls' marriage support for the most vulnerable households.

LIVELIHOOD SOCIAL PROTECTION NUTRITION MARKET

PARTNER
Penny Appeal (UK / Pakistan)

LOCATION
District Vehari, Punjab

REACH
223 direct · ~1,577 indirect

03

Feb – Mar 2026 · 25 days

Empowering Vulnerable Households through Dignified Ramadan Food Support in District Vehari – 2026

Eleven-item food packs for widow-headed, women-headed and chronically-ill-affected households, using token-based, gender-sensitive and doorstep distribution.

NUTRITION SOCIAL PROTECTION

PARTNER
Zakat Foundation of America

LOCATION
Tehsil Vehari, District Vehari

REACH
261 families · 1,482 people

WHERE WE WORKED

District Vehari, South Punjab. FIDA's home district and one of Pakistan's most economically vulnerable, with over 30% of the population below the poverty line. Work covered Tehsil Vehari, Tibbi Jhabail, Machiwal, the 557–563/E.B. villages, Pakhi More and Mumtazabad.

District Chakwal, Pothohar region. A rain-fed, remittance-dependent district where eight villages took part in FIDA's women's skills programme, supported by experts from BARI Chakwal and the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad.



FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME · DISTRICT CHAKWAL · FEB 2025 – JAN 2026

Farming for food and income

Empowering Rural Women through Skill Development in Non-Traditional High-Value Crop Cultivation and Food Processing

Back to our roots: farming as a pathway out of poverty

FIDA was born in the Farmer Field School movement, and this programme carried that heritage to the rain-fed Pothohar plateau. Over twelve months and with a budget of PKR 9,734,500, FIDA worked in eight villages of District Chakwal to turn homesteads into productive kitchen gardens, local harvests into marketable products and farmers into entrepreneurs.

Goal: to empower rural communities by promoting sustainable agriculture, enhancing food security and improving livelihoods through capacity building, market integration and climate-resilient practices.

Three strategic objectives

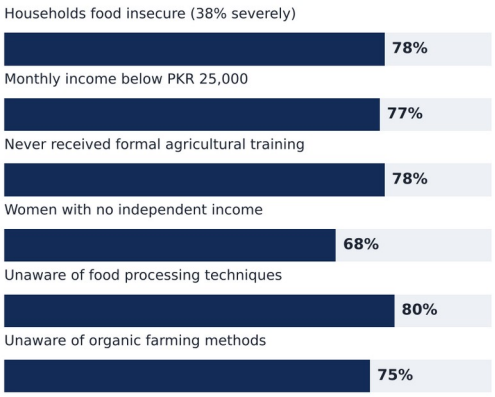
1. Enhance food security and household nutrition through sustainable agricultural practices

2. Empower rural communities through capacity building and income diversification

3. Strengthen market linkages and ensure long-term sustainability

THE STARTING POINT: BASELINE SURVEY

100 randomly selected households in 8 villages, at project inception



Source: FIDA baseline survey, District Chakwal, 2025. Only 22% of households ate vegetables daily.

350
direct beneficiaries; 700–1,000 family members

150
women trained in farming and food processing

100
male farmers trained in mushroom cultivation

8
villages of District Chakwal

96%
budget utilisation

Cover of this section: Women Open School members carry out agro-ecosystem observation and plant measurement in a Chakwal village.

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME · DISTRICT CHAKWAL

From homestead to enterprise: what the programme delivered

The Women Open School approach

FIDA's Women Open School adapts the Farmer Field School method for women: small groups learn by observing, experimenting and deciding together on their own plots, season by season. WOS was the engine of the programme: food processing, tool kits and the nursery enterprise all built on the skills, confidence and group cohesion women developed in their schools. Two cohorts of 50 women followed a 25-session curriculum from March to December 2025, covering:

- Introduction to kitchen gardening and vegetable ecosystem analysis
- Seed starting, propagation and growing vegetables and herbs
- Organic gardening, bio-pesticides and natural pest control
- Container, vertical and tower gardening
- Harvesting, storage and preservation
- Climate-smart farming practices

Adaptive management in action

- Food processing timed to the **peanut harvest**, Chakwal's main crop, turning training into enterprise incubation
- Garden plots scaled from 5 Marla up to **1 Kanal** for commercial viability
- Sowing delayed during extreme heat to prevent seedling loss
- Mushroom farming redirected to **100 male farmers** by joint FIDA–ZFA decision (30 January 2026)

OUTPUT	TARGET	ACHIEVED
Women trained in kitchen gardening (WOS)	100	100
Kitchen gardens established	100	100
Vegetable varieties cultivated	14	**28**
Specialty crops introduced	–	Quinoa, chia
Kitchen Gardening Record Books	–	100
Women trained in food processing	50	50
Value-added products taught	5	**6**
Processing equipment sets	50	50
Branded packaging items	10,000	10,000
Farmers trained in mushroom farming	100	100
Mushroom material sets	100	100
Agricultural tool kits	100	100
Vegetable nursery enterprise	–	**1 (added)**
Show and Tell market event	1	Deferred

OBJECTIVE	STATUS
1. Food security and nutrition	**Substantially achieved**: gardens, diversity and savings
2. Capacity and income diversification	**Fully achieved**: 250 trained, +63 point knowledge gain
3. Market linkages and sustainability	**Partially achieved**: branding, digital and buyer talks



Women trainees with their value-added products at the close of the food processing course.



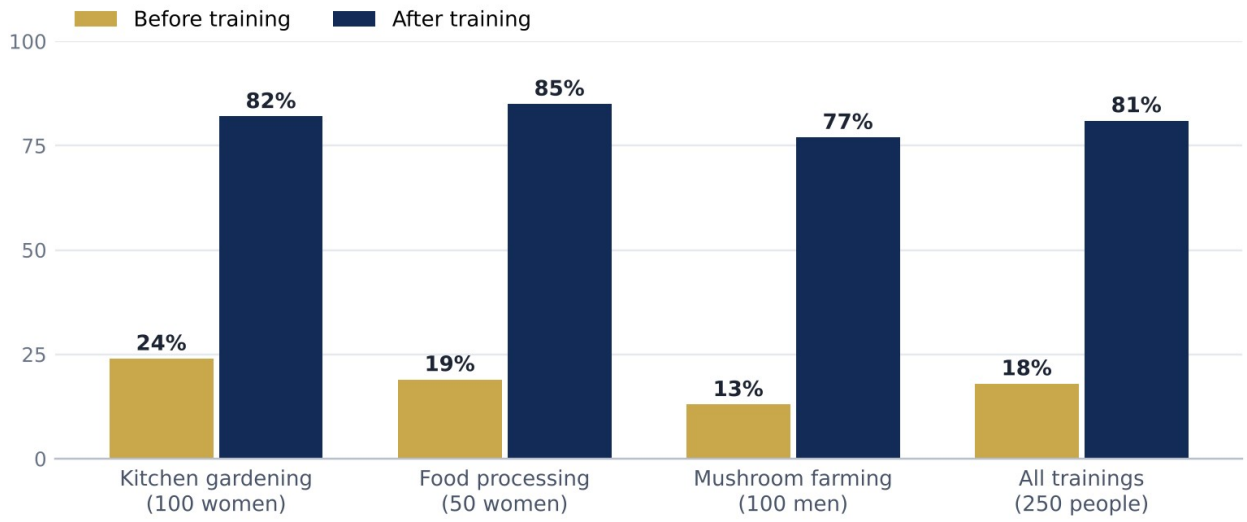
High-level donor engagement: on 14 November 2025, Mr Mark Ward of Zakat Foundation of America and Country Director Mr Fazalur Rahman reviewed the women's products and purchased their peanut butter.

MEASURING CHANGE

Learning that lasts

Every major training was assessed before and after, with a 30-day follow-up to confirm retention. Across 250 participants, average knowledge rose from 18% to 81%.

Average knowledge score before and after training (%)



Source: FIDA Project Completion Report, District Chakwal (February 2026), pre- and post-training evaluations.

TRAINING	PARTICIPANTS	BEFORE	AFTER	GAIN
Kitchen gardening (WOS)	100 women	24%	82%	+58 pts
Food processing	50 women	19%	85%	+66 pts
Mushroom farming	100 male farmers	13%	77%	+64 pts
All trainings	**250**	**18%**	**81%**	**+63 pts**

Largest single gain
Correct knowledge of mushroom substrate preparation rose from 3% to 97%.

Food safety
Knowledge of food hygiene rules reached 92% among food processing trainees.

Record keeping
100 Kitchen Gardening Record Books now track production and savings in each household.



THEMATIC AREA 02

Nutritional Assurance

Fresh food from the family's own garden, and a dignified table in the holiest month.

Kitchen gardens through Women Open Schools

In Chakwal, 100 women selected for food insecurity and lack of household income completed the Women Open School curriculum. Each woman established a kitchen garden and kept a Kitchen Gardening Record Book of production, consumption, gifts to neighbours and sales.

- **100 kitchen gardens** established (100% of target)
- **28 vegetable varieties** grown against a plan of 14, including quinoa and chia
- **PKR 15,000–25,000** monthly savings on vegetables per household
- Year-round access to fresh, pesticide-free vegetables for 700–1,000 family members

Dignified Ramadan food support

During Ramadan 1447 AH, FIDA delivered food packs to 261 highly vulnerable families in Tehsil Vehari (104.4% of the 250-family target), reaching 1,482 people including 1,135 children. Each pack held eleven quality items, sufficient for more than a month.

PACK CONTENTS	QUANTITY
Wheat flour	15 kg
Basmati rice	5 kg
Cooking oil · Sugar	3 L · 3 kg
Daal chana · Daal masoor · Gram flour	2 kg each
Dates	2 kg
Salt · Jam-e-Shireen · Tea	2 pk · 800 ml · 430 g

Poultry (560 hens and 70 roosters) and 60 pregnant goats distributed under Feed Our World further strengthen household access to eggs, milk and protein.



A Women Open School graduate shows her kitchen garden of seasonal greens.



A food pack is handed over at a gender-sensitive distribution point in Tehsil Vehari.

CONTRIBUTES TO

2 ZERO HUNGER | 1 NO POVERTY | 3 GOOD HEALTH | 5 GENDER EQUALITY



THEMATIC AREA 01 · FAMILY POULTRY UNITS WITH PROTECTIVE CAGES, VEHARI

Livelihood Sustainability

Productive assets and practical skills that keep working long after a project closes.

Farm-based enterprises in Chakwal, combined with productive asset transfers chosen by women themselves in Vehari.

100
farmers trained in mushroom farming, with materials

100
tool kits for women gardeners

70
family poultry farms with protective cages

60
pregnant goats for 20 women-headed households

36
sewing machines, plus 10 shops and 10 rickshaws

Farm enterprises in Chakwal

- **100 male farmers** trained in mushroom cultivation, from spawn and substrate to harvest and marketing, and given 100 sets of materials
- **100 tool kits** (hoes, shovels, rakes) given to Women Open School graduates to sustain and expand their gardens
- A **family vegetable nursery enterprise** established with trays, peat moss, quality seed and training for both spouses, with a projected 16,000–20,000 seedlings and about PKR 80,000 income per 40–50-day cycle

Productive assets in Vehari

FIDA chose assets that generate returns with no recurring cost. Goats were screened by a veterinarian before distribution; poultry came with cages after field assessment showed predation risk. Post-distribution monitoring confirmed a **bird survival rate above 95%**.

When goat prices exceeded the budget, FIDA added **PKR 650,000 of its own funds** rather than distribute inferior animals, and a further PKR 150,000 for poultry cages. Grocery stock was delivered to women's homes, in response to community feedback.



Rickshaws ready for handover to households for mobility-based income, District Vehari.



A farmer prepares land for vegetable cultivation.

CONTRIBUTES TO

1 NO POVERTY
8 DECENT WORK
5 GENDER EQUALITY
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

THEMATIC AREA 04

Market Empowerment

Turning local harvests into branded products, and helping women move from subsistence to enterprise.

Food processing: the standout success of the year

Fifty women in Chakwal completed an intensive food processing course led by experts from the Barani Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Chakwal and the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF). FIDA timed the training to the peanut harvest so that women practised with fresh, low-cost local raw materials, turning the activity into an enterprise incubator.

Women learned six value-added products, received processing equipment and raw materials, and were trained in branding, labelling, pricing and packaging.

INDICATOR	TARGET	ACHIEVED
Women trained in food processing	50	50
Products covered	5	6
Equipment and raw-material sets	50	50
Branded packaging items produced	10,000	10,000
Knowledge score (pre → post)	–	19% → 85%

SIX PRODUCTS, ONE LOCAL VALUE CHAIN

Peanut butter
Honey and dates jam
Black plum jam and squash
Cinnamon syrup
Black seed syrup
Peach jam

Building routes to market

- Market assessment of potential buyers
- Facebook and WhatsApp groups for product promotion
- Partnership discussions with PATCO and Punjab Cash and Carry
- Ten women-owned grocery stores and ten rickshaws in Vehari
- Seedling sales linked to the new nursery enterprise



A practical food processing session: women prepare black plum squash and jams under expert guidance.

Candid note

The planned "Show and Tell" buyer event could not be held during the project period; PKR 350,000 remained unspent. It is a priority for the next phase.

CONTRIBUTES TO

8 DECENT WORK
5 GENDER EQUALITY
12 RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION
2 ZERO HUNGER



THEMATIC AREA 03

Climate Resilience

Growing more with less water, and without harmful chemicals.

Climate-smart practice was woven through the Women Open School curriculum. Women in rain-fed Chakwal learned techniques that protect both family health and fragile soils.

- **Water-smart techniques:** organic mulching, deep irrigation and tower gardening
- **Natural pest management:** bio-pesticides from neem, garlic and pepper; bio-fertiliser preparation; companion planting
- **Climate-smart farming** modules and participatory field experiments
- **Adaptive scheduling:** sowing delayed during unusually high August–September temperatures, avoiding seedling loss
- **Environmental safeguards:** poultry cages to reduce waste and disease spread; minimal plastic packaging



A low-cost tower garden demonstrated in Women Open School sessions, for families with limited space and water.

18% → 78%

women able to explain at least two water-efficient farming techniques, before and after training

THEMATIC AREA 05

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

None of the three projects reported here was a dedicated WASH project; FIDA's WASH work during the year ran through separate partnerships. Within this portfolio, the main WASH-related outcome is a commitment for future programming.

Integrating WASH into food and livelihood programmes

FIDA has recommended to its partners that future food distributions include brief WASH awareness and nutrition counselling sessions, using the community mobilisation already in place at minimal additional cost.



Household water access remains central to FIDA's WASH agenda.

CONTRIBUTES TO

13 CLIMATE ACTION | 12 RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION | 6 CLEAN WATER



CROSS-CUTTING COMMITMENT

Social Protection and Inclusion

Reaching those most often left behind: widows, orphans, persons with disabilities and the elderly.

15
Eye surgeries
Sight-restoring surgery after screening of 36 people; patients were mostly women aged 55–77 who had never accessed specialist care.

34
Mobility aids
24 wheelchairs and 10 cycle wheelchairs for persons with disabilities, selected with the Social Welfare Department.

5
Shelter rooms
Permanent brick-and-mortar rooms built for widows, to local building standards.

20
Widow and orphan sponsorships
Year-long support for widow-headed households and their orphaned children.

3
Orphan girls' marriages
Marriage support to protect the social dignity and security of orphaned young women.

2,568
Verified households
FIDA's database of women-headed households in Vehari, used to target support quickly and fairly.

Dignity by design

- Tokens linked to CNICs issued in advance: no queues, no duplication
- Distribution points within 1 km, with shaded seating
- Women-only sessions managed by female staff and volunteers
- Doorstep delivery for the most vulnerable, including recently widowed mothers
- Ceremonies that recognised recipients as valued community members

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Leave no one behind

Consistent with the pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, FIDA seeks to reach those furthest behind first, and delivers assistance in ways that protect their dignity, privacy and agency.

CONTRIBUTES TO

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
3 GOOD HEALTH
11 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
1 NO POVERTY

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

Stories of dignity restored



VILLAGE 561/E.B., DISTRICT VEHARI

Shamim Akhtar: "My importance is restored"

Widowed in September 2025, Shamim became the sole guardian of five children, including a nursing infant. With no home, land or savings, she moved in with her brother-in-law's family and took up domestic work. FIDA's team delivered her Ramadan food pack to her doorstep. The pack lasted more than a month and allowed her, for the first time since her loss, to share food with the family that sheltered her.

> "This food pack is not just for my children and me. I can now share with the family I live with. It shows that I can give as well."



VILLAGE 204/E.B., DISTRICT VEHARI

Salma Parveen: "They did not forget us"

For three years Salma has worked as an agricultural labourer while caring for a husband paralysed by stroke and raising four children. Her greatest worry in Ramadan was how her fasting teenage daughters would eat. She collected her pack with a pre-issued token at a shaded point less than a kilometre from home. The savings freed money for her husband's medicine.

> "They do not know my name, but they fed my family. Allah knows their names. I will make dua for them every iftar."



+200

food packs entrusted to FIDA by government

Government endorsement. Attending as chief guests, Syed Sajid Mehdi Saleem Shah, Federal Parliamentary Secretary for the Cabinet Division, and Malik Noshair Khan Anjum Langrial, Chairman of the Punjab Assembly's Standing Committee for Education, were so impressed by the order and dignity of FIDA's distribution that they handed over 200 additional food packs to FIDA for distribution.

Stories documented with beneficiary consent for partner communications.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2030 AGENDA

Our contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

FIDA's 2025–26 results contribute to eleven of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals, and to Pakistan's national priorities for poverty reduction, food security and women's economic empowerment.

SDG	GOAL	RELEVANT TARGET	FIDA CONTRIBUTION, 2025–26
1	**No Poverty**	1.3 Social protection · 1.4 Access to economic resources	146 households received income-generating assets; 20 widow and orphan sponsorships; 261 families supported in Ramadan
2	**Zero Hunger**	2.1 Access to food · 2.3 Smallholder productivity	100 kitchen gardens with 28 varieties; 1,482 people received food packs; poultry and goats for protein
3	**Good Health and Well-being**	3.8 Universal health coverage	15 eye surgeries and 36 screenings; pesticide-free vegetables; nutrition for fasting girls and nursing mothers
5	**Gender Equality**	5.5 Women's participation · 5.a Economic resources	150 women trained in Chakwal through Women Open Schools and food processing; over 82% of Feed Our World recipients women; women-owned shops
6	**Clean Water and Sanitation**	6.4 Water-use efficiency	Water-efficient gardening (mulching, deep irrigation); WASH awareness to be integrated in future distributions
8	**Decent Work and Economic Growth**	8.3 Micro-enterprise and entrepreneurship	50 women food processors; 10 grocery stores; 10 rickshaws; 36 tailoring units; 1 nursery enterprise
10	**Reduced Inequalities**	10.2 Inclusion of all, irrespective of disability or status	34 mobility aids; eye care for elderly women; targeting of widows and orphans
11	**Sustainable Cities and Communities**	11.1 Adequate, safe housing	5 permanent shelter rooms built for widows
12	**Responsible Consumption and Production**	12.3 Reduce food loss · 12.4 Sound use of chemicals	Processing and preservation of seasonal harvests; organic and bio-pesticide practices
13	**Climate Action**	13.1 Adaptive capacity · 13.3 Awareness	Climate-smart farming modules; adaptive sowing during heat; water-smart technologies
17	**Partnerships for the Goals**	17.17 Public and civil society partnerships	ZFA, Penny Appeal, Social Welfare Department, BARI, UAF, Union Councils and community volunteers

HOW WE WORK

Accountability, standards and safeguarding

FIDA holds itself accountable first to the people it serves, and then to the partners, government institutions and donors who place their trust in it.

Humanitarian standards

Distribution quality and quantities benchmarked against **Sphere** minimum standards; programme practice aligned with the **Core Humanitarian Standard**; credentialed surgeons and ergonomic mobility aids.

Protection and safeguarding

Safeguarding policy communicated to all staff, volunteers and contractors with signed commitments; events held in open public spaces; female staff present at all women's distributions; privacy protected during medical screening.

Transparent, Zakat-compliant targeting

Household vulnerability scoring → Union Council validation → BISP and Bait-ul-Mal cross-checks → public display of lists → CNIC verification → numbered tokens. Every beneficiary is documented with a signature or thumb impression.

Complaint Response Mechanism, Feed Our World

6
complaints and queries received

6
resolved; selection disputes within 48 hours

0
safeguarding, fraud or discrimination complaints

Helplines, complaint boxes, Urdu-language banners, CRM cards and trained community focal persons. Feedback led to clearer goat-delivery notices and phone-based eye-surgery scheduling.

Value for money

Minimum three quotations per item; bid evaluation committees; bulk procurement ahead of seasonal price rises; combined distribution events to reduce logistics costs.

Visibility and partner recognition

Partner-branded packs, banners and record books; press coverage with local journalists; high-level donor field visits by ZFA and Penny Appeal teams.

5 days
from contract signing to launch of Ramadan distribution

100%
of token-holders presented on distribution day

4
government bodies engaged: Social Welfare, Union Councils, NADRA and Livestock

STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

Financial overview and partners

All three projects were completed within their agreed timeframes. Figures are shown in the currency of each agreement.

PROJECT	FUNDING PARTNER	APPROVED BUDGET	STATUS OF FUNDS
Empowering Rural Women through Skill Development (Chakwal)	Zakat Foundation of America	PKR 9,734,500	PKR 9,384,500 spent (96%); PKR 350,000 unspent for the Show and Tell event
Feed Our World: Zakat Support Programme (Vehari)	Penny Appeal UK / Pakistan	GBP 121,803	Fully utilised; overspend in four lines met by FIDA
Dignified Ramadan Food Support (Vehari)	Zakat Foundation of America	[Amount to be confirmed]	Delivered within budget; 104.4% of family target reached

FIDA's own co-contribution

FIDA contributed **more than PKR 1.1 million** of its own resources to the Feed Our World programme so that no beneficiary received a reduced or substandard package.

BUDGET LINE	FIDA CONTRIBUTION
Quality pregnant goats	PKR 650,000
Protective poultry cages	PKR 150,000
Field mobility and distribution events	Balance
Total	**PKR 1,100,000+**

Chakwal budget utilisation by activity (PKR)

ACTIVITY	SPENT
Kitchen gardening	1,585,000
Food processing	1,360,000
Agricultural tools	1,000,000
Mushroom farming	777,500
Market linkages	150,000
Human resources	2,160,000
Travel and logistics	1,500,000
Administration	852,000
Total	**9,384,500**

OUR PARTNERS

With gratitude to the Social Welfare Department (Government of Punjab), Barani Agricultural Research Institute Chakwal, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Livestock and Dairy Development Department, NADRA facilitation centres, Union Council representatives, community focal persons and volunteers.

LEARNING AND ADAPTATION

Lessons learned and the way forward

1. Match the model to the livelihood context

Chakwal's remittance- and service-based economy limited uptake of agricultural interventions. The same model is expected to perform strongly in agriculture-dependent South Punjab.

2. Food processing is the standout: scale it

Women's enthusiasm and skill adoption were exceptional; women's processing cooperatives should anchor the next phase.

3. Seasonal alignment multiplies impact

Timing training to the peanut harvest, and delaying sowing in extreme heat, protected both learning and investment.

4. Scale turns subsistence into enterprise

Moving garden plots from 5 Marla to 1 Kanal showed that commercial-scale units are needed to lift families beyond subsistence.

5. Pair assets with skills and markets

Productive assets are used best when matched with short skills modules, micro-finance links and market facilitation.

6. A verified database is a force multiplier

Continuous community engagement and data upkeep enabled a five-day launch and minimised exclusion errors.

THE WAY FORWARD · 2026–27

From relief to lasting self-reliance

Replicate in South Punjab. Establish new Women Open Schools in Vehari, Muzaffargarh, Multan, Bahawalpur and Khanewal, with participatory targeting of landless and marginal families.

Graduation pathway. Move food and asset recipients into livelihood, skills and safety-net linkages (BISP/NADRA), and support the most capable as community micro-entrepreneurs.

Integrated WASH and nutrition. Add hygiene and nutrition counselling to every distribution and garden programme.

Women's processing cooperatives. Build collective production, branding and buyer links, including the deferred Show and Tell market event.

Year-round support. Scale food support to 500–1,000 households and add quarterly assistance for the most vulnerable widow-headed families.

Stronger evidence. Household baselines, six-month follow-up monitoring and multi-year partnership frameworks.

Women Open Schools: the foundation for scale

The Chakwal experience confirmed that the Women Open School is FIDA's most effective entry point for reaching rural women. WOS groups became the platform for nutrition gains, food processing enterprises and climate-smart practice, and they offer a ready structure for continued peer learning. In 2026–27, FIDA will place WOS at the foundation of its women-focused programming.

> **"The government does not hand over resources to organisations it does not trust. That trust belongs to every donor who made this possible, and to our partners for holding us to the standards that earned it."**
>
> Muhammad Iqbal, Chief Executive Officer, FIDA, at the Ramadan distribution in Vehari, March 2026



Together, we can help every rural family in Pakistan live with dignity, security and hope.

FIDA welcomes partnership with foundations, international NGOs, United Nations agencies, government and the private sector to scale what works.

FARMING INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Section 42 not-for-profit company, SECP Pakistan

House No. 175, Street No. 2, District Vehari, Punjab, Pakistan
Tel: +92 67 3360535 · Cell / WhatsApp: +92 339 3330911
Email: info@fida.org.pk · Web: fida.org.pk
YouTube: @fidapakistan2006

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