



Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Right to Information Act 2013 and Role of Civil Society

Workshop Report

March 2014



**Social
Accountability
Network
Pakistan**

**Capacity Development of
Social Accountability Network (SAN) Pakistan
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
|-------|--|
| CESSD | Citizen Engagement for Social Service Delivery |
| CIDA | Canadian International Development Agency |
| CSOs | Civil Society Organization |
| FOI | Freedom of Information |
| FOIO | Freedom of Information Ordinance |
| KP | Khyber Pakhtunkhwa |
| MDGs | Millennium Development Goals |
| NGOs | Non-Governmental Organizations |
| PCMC | Primary Care Management Committee |
| PTCs | Parent Teacher Committees |
| PTI | Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf |
| RTI | Right to Information |
| SANP | Social Accountability Network Pakistan |
| SSCs | Social Service Committees |
| WUCs | Water User Committees |

1. INTRODUCTION

Citizen Engagement for Social Service Delivery (CESSD) is a project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Australian Agency for International Development, operating in 11 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), the project is a multi-sectoral capacity building initiative working at the community, district and provincial levels to improve the supply of, and access to, the social services of education, health care and water supply. All these sectors are critical to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Over the years, CESSD has built the capacity of government-mandated Social Service Committees (SSCs) that have, in turn, achieved significant success in promoting improved quality and access to services. Specifically, CESSD has worked closely with Parent Teacher Committees (PTCs), Primary Care Management Committees (PCMCs) and Water User Committees (WUCs) to support and oversee the management of primary schools, basic health units, and water supply schemes. In doing so, the Project has deepened citizen engagement in both decision-making and social service delivery, and enhanced the participation of women within each CESSD supported sector. In addition, the project has worked with district and provincial government officials to support policy reforms in all three CESSD sectors. It has also built government capacity to deliver gender responsive and accountable social services. Gender equality was systematically addressed and mainstreamed in all project interventions, and social accountability mechanisms were introduced in all three sectors.¹

The right to information is a key underpinning for work in democratic governance and is vital for promoting 'open governance' and the accountability of public decision makers as well as for strengthening transparency, participation and the rule of law. The right to information is not only fundamental for an open and democratic society but is a key weapon in the fight against poverty and in accelerating human development. An estimated, over 100 countries around the globe currently have comprehensive laws to facilitate access to state records and many more are in the process of enacting such legislation. This illustrates the growing recognition on the part of governments of the importance of access to information for enhancing democratic engagement, building confidence in government institutions and strengthening their credibility and effectiveness. However, in many States, including

¹ Retrieved from <http://www.cessd.pk/index.php/about-us/introduction> on March 23, 2014

democracies, people are routinely denied access to official information - information that should be in the public domain.

The government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has recently enacted the Right to Information Act 2013 in the province. There is a need to create awareness of the stakeholders on this landmark provincial legislation, and bridge the gap using appropriate interventions. Citizen Engagement for Social Service Delivery (CESSD) envisions developing the capacity of its implementing partners, for that purpose CESSD planned to conduct a two-day workshop for the members of its partner Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Social Accountability Network (SAN) Pakistan and other stakeholders to strengthen its support to promoting and protecting the right to information in the province.

The workshop was held on March 5-6, 2014 at Shelton Guest House University Town Peshawar. Multiple resource material was developed for the guidance of the members of SANP. The workshop was designed and conducted by CESSD Governance section. The workshop was opened by Gulbaz Ali Khan, Senior Manager-Governance & Capacity Development, CESSD. He provided all out intellectual support to the consultant on the related issues during the proceedings of the workshop. Jean Frederic Beauchesne, Project Field Manager CESSD attended the programme as a guest and exchanged views with the participants. He highlighted the working of CESSD for strengthening transparency, accountability, participation and the rule of law in the governance of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. List of participants is attached as Annex-1. The workshop agenda is attached as Annex-2.

2. OBJECTIVES

The workshop had the following principal objectives:

1. To describe the purpose and concept of FOI and RTI
2. To explain the Legislative Framework of RTI in Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
3. To list salient features of KP RTI Act 2013
4. To explain the role of media in promoting and protecting right to information
5. To reflect upon global perspective of RTI acts and how CSOs around the globe have played their due role in implementation
6. To develop action plan how SAN-P members can effectively create awareness and advocate for

the right to know and application of RTI Act 2013.

3. METHODOLOGY

Methodology of experiential learning was adopted for delivery of workshop sessions. Participants were provided with opportunity to raise and discuss relevant issues for understanding and effective utilization. Consultant emphasized highly participatory and interactive discussion. Session plans were developed around experience sharing and related examples and case studies. Opportunity of group assignments was provided to the participants that linked interactive discussion. Learning was made effective through experience sharing, audio-visual presentations, local examples, case studies and discussion sessions. Resource person focused on his role as a facilitator ensuring that participants are given more opportunity to discuss and practice the taught contents. Workshop was highly participatory in nature, giving scope and opportunity for every member to share his/her ideas and experiences. Members of SAN Pakistan with diverse backgrounds frankly shared their knowledge and field based experiences.

4. PROCEEDINGS

4.1 DAY-I

Workshop was formally started with recitation from the Holy Qur'an by one of the participants. It was followed by introduction of the participants. Participants' expectations from the workshop were noted down. Programme agenda workshop design was shared with the participants. Ground rules for the workshop proceedings were set up. Gulbaz Ali Khan, Governance



specialist CESSD presented background of the workshop and welcomed participants on behalf of CESSD Project Field Manager Jean Frederic Beauchesne, who later attended the workshop for some time and

exchanged views with the participants in an informal manner. The introductory session was followed by formal sessions as per agenda. The legal aspect of the RTI related legislation was the focus of discussion in day one.

Reflection on the proceedings of Day-I was conducted at the end of the day. The learning from the day was thoroughly reviewed some suggestions were put forward to make the second and last day more productive and meaningful. Participants were served with refreshments and food during and at the end of the workshop sessions. A brief description about different topics that came under discussion during proceedings of Day-I are given as follows:

4.1.1 Setting the context for Freedom of Information and Right to Information

The focus of discussion in this session was on conceptual clarity on the freedom of information and right to information. The session objective was to enhance participants' knowledge of information and the role it can play in their life. It also aimed at increasing their understanding on the right to information. Some of the highlighted points came under discussion included:

- i. The right to information, defined as the right to access information held by public authorities, is widely recognized as a fundamental human right. It derives from the right of freedom of expression to "seek and receive information," and is recognized worldwide as a human right.
- ii. Under this right, any person may make a request to a public body; the body is legally required to respond and provide the information, unless there is a legally compelling reason to refuse the request.
- iii. It is also a foundational building block for democracy and participation, as well as a key tool for holding government to account and rooting out corruption. It is recognized in international law, as well as the laws and constitutions of more than ninety countries world-wide.
- iv. Currently, nearly 90 countries around the world have adopted a national law or regulation that sets out specific rights and duties for facilitating access to information.

4.1.2 Key Concepts and Principles of Freedom of Information

Objective of this session was to increase participants understanding of the basic concepts and principles of freedom of information. A number of concepts were discussed and understood during the

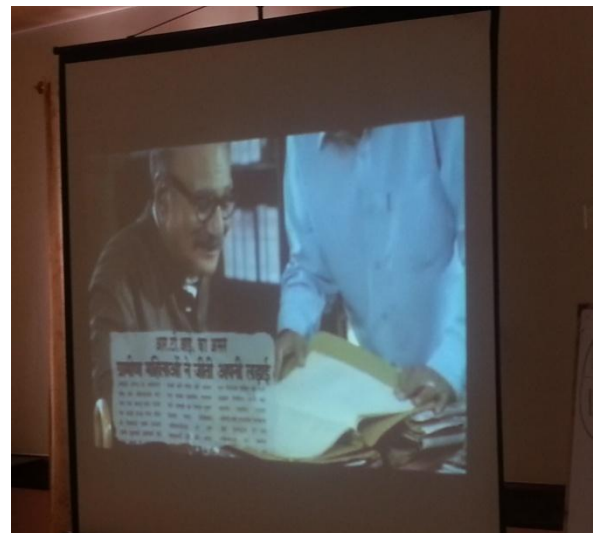
session. The session highlighted that during the process of formulating laws on freedom of information, some basic principles including the following have emerged in the global perspective:

- a. Freedom of information legislation should be guided by the principle of maximum disclosure
- b. Public bodies should be under an obligation to publish key information
- c. Public bodies must actively promote open government
- d. Exceptions should be clearly and narrowly drawn
- e. Requests for information should be processed rapidly and fairly and an independent review of any refusals should be available
- f. Individuals should not be deterred from making requests for information by excessive costs
- g. Meetings of public bodies should be open to the public
- h. Laws which are inconsistent with the principle of maximum disclosure should be amended or repealed
- i. Individuals who release information on wrongdoing – whistleblowers – must be protected.

4.1.3 Legislative Framework of RTI in Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

The focus of this session was to make participants understand the legal framework of freedom of information and right to information in Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Different initiatives were thoroughly discussed which marked the history of FOI in Pakistan. The key points came under discussion included:

- i. The first step towards introducing the Freedom of Information legislation in Pakistan was taken in 1997, when a FOI Ordinance was introduced.
- ii. A similar Ordinance was circulated in 2000, but failed to become law.
- iii. The President of Pakistan promulgated an ordinance called, “Freedom of Information Ordinance 2002” on October 27, 2002.



- iv. This was a major step in acknowledging the people’s right to access information.
- v. In follow up to this legislation, provincial governments have to develop laws, rules and regulations for its effective implementation for easy access to public information.
- vi. The progress till date has shown that the KP government enacted RTI law through an ordinance and consultations for Punjab law is going on despite promises made by the then provincial government for its early enactment through assembly.
- vii. Discussions on Sindh and Baluchistan laws are premature and inconclusive.

The legislative framework of RTI in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province also came under detail discussion. Participants were shared with relevant information in this regard. The key points discussed included:

- i. The Govt of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa enacted RTI law on August 13, 2013.
- ii. The coalition in the province initiated steps in promoting transparency and accountability.
- iii. On August 15, 2013, PTI Chairman formally launched the law in the provincial capital.

4.1.4 Comparison of KP RTI Act 2013 With FOI Ordinance 2002

In this session participants compared strengths and shortcomings of Freedom of Information Ordinance 2002 and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Right to Information Act 2013. The major points of comparison of the two documents included the following:

| KP RTI Act 2013 | FOI Ordinance 2002 |
|---|--|
| Right to Information Act 2013 promulgated at the provincial level | Freedom of Information Ordinance 2002 operational at the federal level and its replicas operational in Sindh and Balochistan in the shape of Sindh Freedom of Information Act 2006 and Balochistan Freedom of Information Act 2005 |
| Wide scope | limited scope |
| No charges for requested information | charges Rs50 for each FOI request |
| requires no reason for wanting information | requires a reason for wanting information |
| No affidavit is required | a signed affidavit that it will not be used for any other purpose |
| Allows 10 days to respond to information requests | Allows 21 days to respond to FOI requests |

| | |
|---|---|
| Has provision for urgent requests | has no provision for urgent requests |
| It has clear and limited exemptions | It has vague, open and extensive exemptions |
| Strong protection for whistleblowers | No protection for whistleblowers |
| Designates a powerful information commission to hear and redress complaints within 60 days. | Designates the Ombudsman - with only recommendatory powers - to hear complaints |
| Strong sanctions for wrongdoers | weaker sanctions for wrongdoers |

4.1.5 Salient Features of KP Right to Information Law

Salient features of KP RTI Act 2013 were discussed in detail in this session. Different aspects of the newly launched RTI Act 2013 including its possible implications, the strengths and shortcomings, the process of seeking and providing information, exemptions, procedure of appeals, penalties by Information Commission and the role of Information Commission were came under detail discussion. Some of the highlighted points were as follows:

- a. Kind of available information
- b. Process of disposal of information request
- c. Information that citizens cannot access
- d. In case of denial of some information
- e. Role of Information Commission
- f. Strengthening of Information Commission
- g. Protection for whistleblowers

4.2 DAY-II

Second and last day was started with recitation and review of the previous day's proceedings. Civil society role with respect to RTI related issues were thoroughly discussed in day two as per the scheduled agenda. Developing an Action Plan was the most important session at the end of the day after the formal sessions. Review was conducted at the end of the workshop to assess the overall learning and feedback from the participants. Participants were served with refreshments and food during and at the end of the sessions. Participants discussed a number of topics during the day two proceedings. A brief summary is given as under:

4.2.1 Global Perspective of RTI Laws

A global and regional view on RTI issues and trends were focused in this session. Key points came under discussion during the session included the following:

a. RTI in the south Asian regional context

- Four countries have right to information laws within the South Asian region.
- A very powerful grass-roots narrative around the right to information as a tool for combating corruption, for extracting accountability and for ensuring the delivery of entitlements and services.
- The Indian experience represents huge potential for other regional counterparts in a number of ways.

b. RTI international trend

- The first RTI law was enacted by Sweden in 1766.
- The Swedish example was later followed by the US in 1966 and then by Norway in 1970.
- The US, passed a strong FOI law in 1976, followed by several western democracies enacting their own laws.
- By 1990, the number of countries with FOI laws climbed to 13. A big step forward was the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights in 2000.
- By 2010, more than 85 countries have national-level RTI laws or regulations in force
- Mexico has taken the lead with one of the best examples of a well-functioning FOIA in the world in 2002
- In Asia so far almost 20 nations have adopted FOI laws.
- In Africa, the progress on the enactment of RTI laws has been more modest.

4.2.2 What CSOs can Learn from Global Experiences on RTI

Participants reviewed RTI related success stories and lessons learning for civil society organizations in the global context. They worked out a number of initiatives in light of international experiences that can be implemented in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.



The global examples and lessons learnt illustrate how the RTI can make a real difference in the lives of common people. However, while the lesson is simple, the process of making a RTI a reality is painstaking and requires significant cultural and mindset change. The law is necessary but not sufficient condition for the effective use of information. It is important to support both the supply and the demand side of RTI, i.e. bureaucratic cultures of sharing information and the CSO watch-dog role. It is not enough to rely on what governments want to give; institutional conditioning is also significant in this regard.

4.2.3 Role of Media in Promoting and Protecting the Right to Information

The role of media in promoting and protecting the right to information was focused in this session. Key points that came under discussion included the following:

- Mass media is the most important vehicle for information, knowledge and communication in a democratic polity:
 - a) They are pervasive and play a significant role in shaping societies; they provide the public sphere of information and debate that enables social and cultural discourse, participation and accountability.
 - b) They are the most accessible, cost-effective and widespread source of information and platform for expression.
- Media can play a crucial role in building an inclusive Information Society based on knowledge power and its distribution.

Under the RTI Act, the journalists and reporters, like citizens, can:

- i. Demand from the Government information pertaining to any of its departments

- ii. Demand photocopies of Government contracts, payment, estimates, measurements of engineering works etc.
- iii. Demand from the Government certified samples of material used in the construction of roads, drains, buildings etc.
- iv. Demand to inspect any public development work that may be still under construction or completed
- v. Demand to inspect Government documents - construction drawings, records books, registers, quality control reports etc.
- vi. Demand status of requests or complaints, details of time delays, action taken on Information Commission's decisions etc.

The media can play a constructive role in the governance process by:

- a. Catalyzing Effective Implementation of the Act:
- b. Providing Information to the Citizens and Building Awareness on the Act:
- c. Giving Voice to the Citizens:
- d. Acting as a Watchdog on behalf of the Citizens:
- e. Suggested Areas for Action by the Media

4.2.4 Empowerment Through Investigative Journalism

Media is critically important to give effect to RTI laws. In places, where access to the Internet is limited, the media is main source of information for many people. The obvious conclusion is to ensure that there are procedures and mechanisms to provide us with the reliable information we need, whatever form they take.

4.2.5 How CSOs can build Effective Partnership with Media for RTI Implementation

It was found after thorough discussion that the role of the media varies from country to country, but it makes sense to get the media on board because they often have institutional backing, and getting the media to use the RTI law is also an important way to activate it. One of the big problems is the low level of awareness among the public at large about the laws, and the media has an important role in dissemination and awareness raising. The media need to recognize that RTI will not necessarily help the daily journalist, but will help longer term investigative journalism.

There are examples of good collaboration between media and civil society the world over. In many cases, the big media tycoons may be the only ones who can afford to move government on RTI

issues. In this respect, it is also important to involve media owners on RTI and not just journalists. In many countries of the world there are several initiatives between CSOs and media to monitor government bodies. Such initiatives need to be replicated.

5. FEEDBACK

5.1 Participants' Feedback

Table 5.1: Participants' Feedback

| S | | Strongly Agreed | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagreed |
|----|---|-----------------|-------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 1 | The workshop met my expectations | 8 | 10 | | | |
| 2 | I will be able to apply the knowledge and skills learnt from the workshop | 8 | 9 | 1 | | |
| 3 | The workshop objectives were identified and followed. | 8 | 10 | | | |
| 4 | The content was organized and easy to follow | 6 | 10 | 2 | | |
| 5 | Conceptually I am much clear on the RTI related issues after attending the workshop | 11 | 5 | 3 | | |
| 6 | The quality of presentations was good | 10 | 8 | 1 | | |
| 7 | The distributed material is relevant and useful | 9 | 6 | 2 | | |
| 8 | The quality of instruction was good | 8 | 8 | 1 | | |
| 9 | Participation and interactive discussion were encouraged | 12 | 6 | | | |
| 10 | Adequate time was provided for questions and discussion | 8 | 10 | | | |
| 11 | The training enabled me to understand the KP-RTI Act 2013 | 6 | 12 | | | |
| 12 | Now I comprehend various aspects of RTI | 4 | 13 | 1 | | |
| 13 | I recommend holding of refresher trainings on RTI | 10 | 7 | 1 | | |
| 14 | Further trainings on the RTI related issues may be organized for the capacity development of CSOs | 12 | 6 | | | |
| 15 | Quality food and refreshments were provided to the participants | 4 | 8 | 3 | 3 | |
| 16 | I am satisfied with the logistical arrangements and management of the workshop | 7 | 8 | 2 | | |

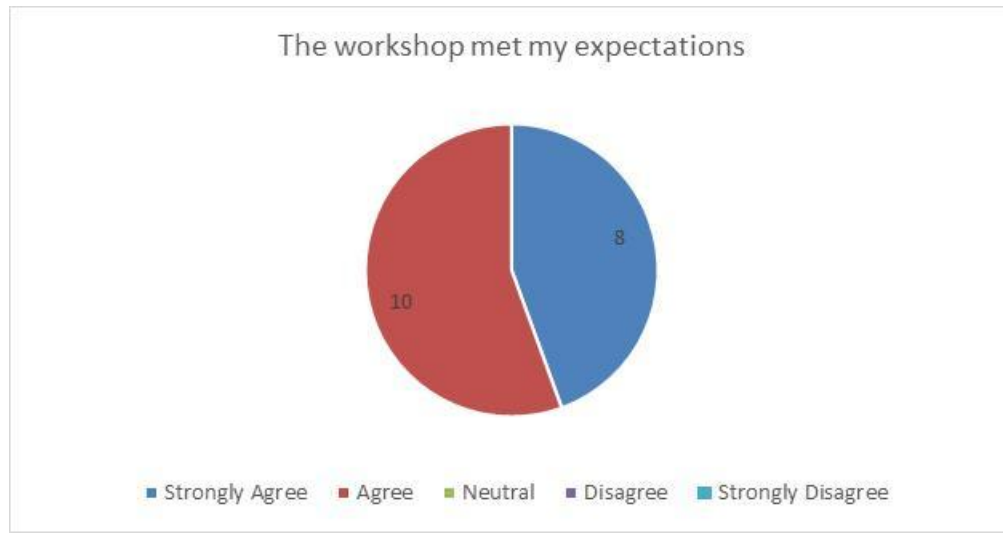


Figure 5.1 Meeting Expectations

Majority of the participants rated that the workshop met their expectations.



Figure 5.2 Be able to Apply Knowledge & Skills

Majority of the participants rated that they will be able to apply the knowledge and skills learnt from the workshop.

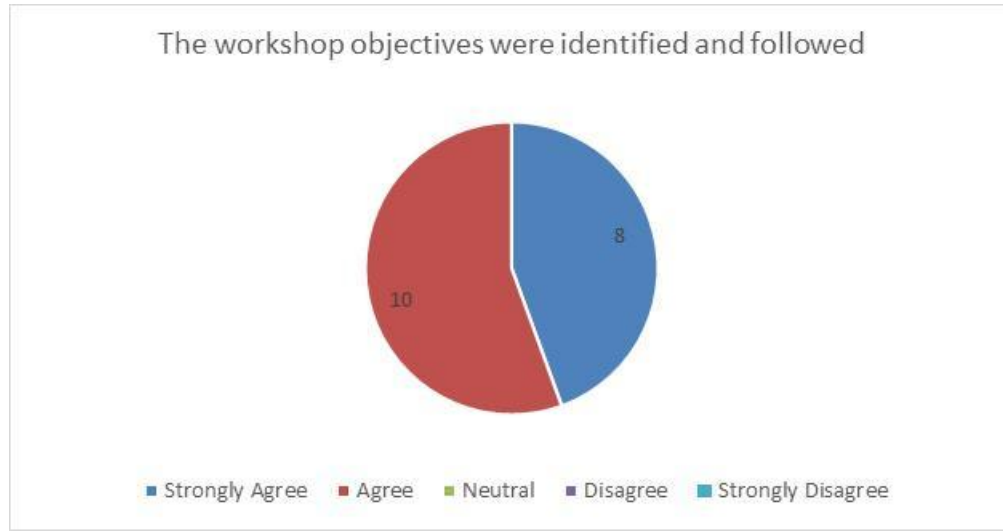


Figure 5.3 Objectives were Identified & Followed

Majority of the participants rated that the workshop objectives were identified and followed.

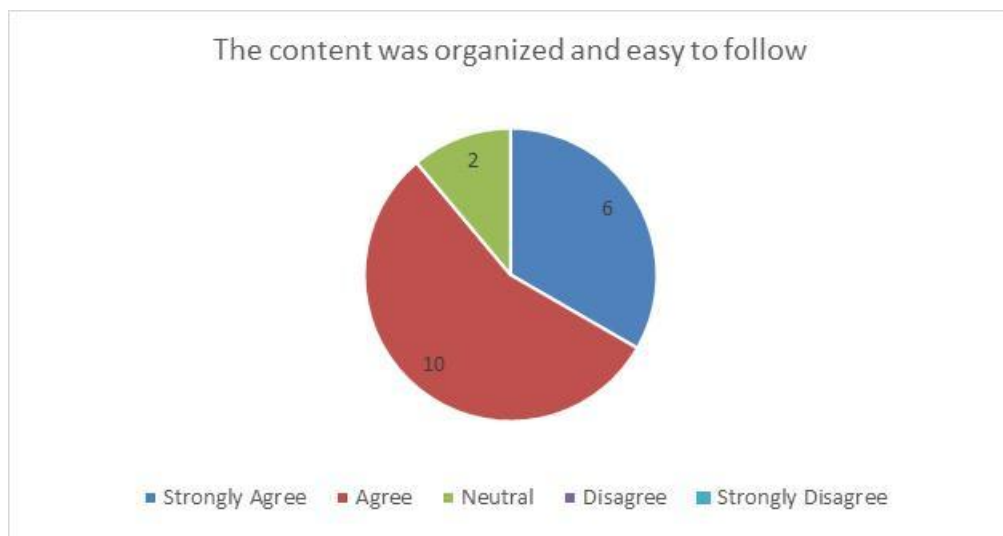


Figure 5.4 Organised & Easiness to Follow Contents

Majority of the participants rated that the content was organized and easy to follow.

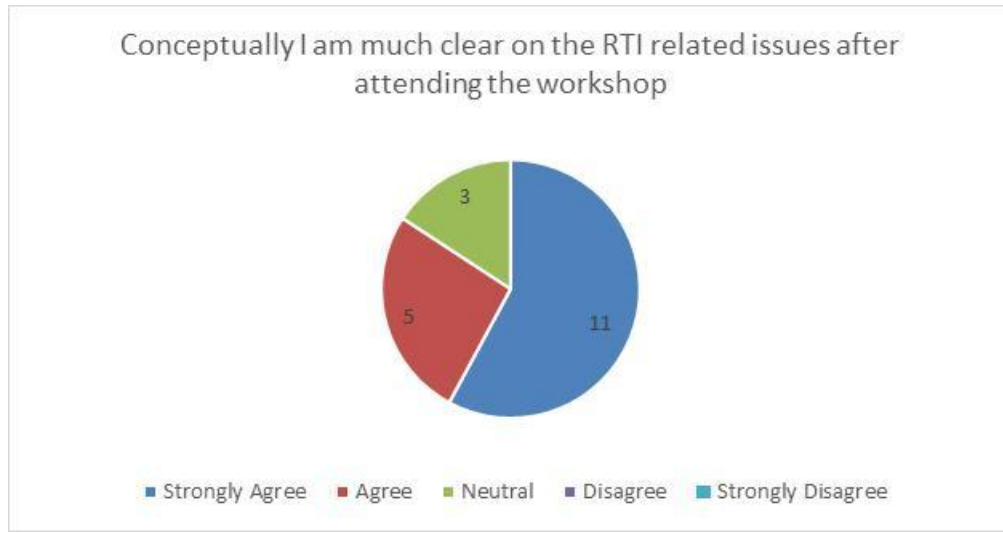


Figure 5.5 Conceptual Clarity

Majority of the participants rated that conceptually they are much clear on the RTI related issues after attending the workshop.

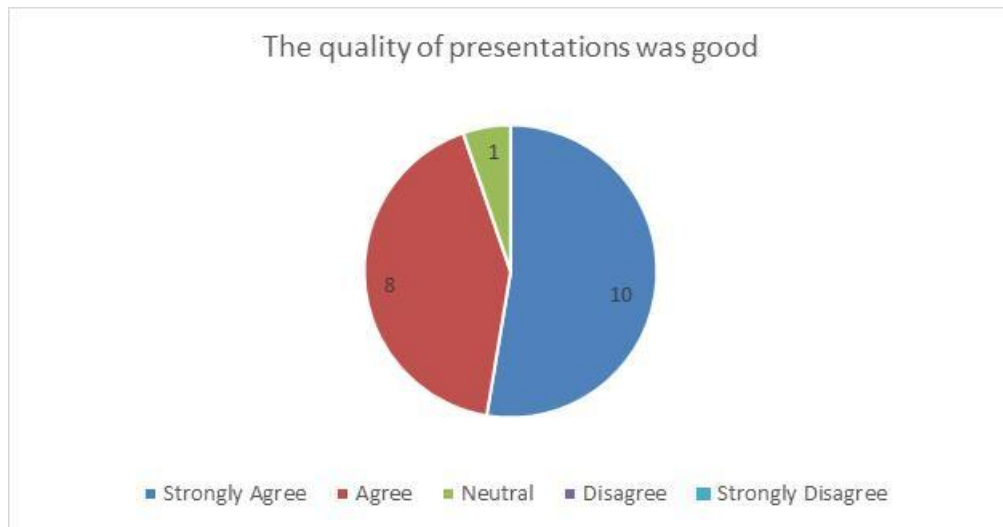


Figure 5.6 Good Quality Presentations

Majority of the participants rated that the quality of presentations was good.

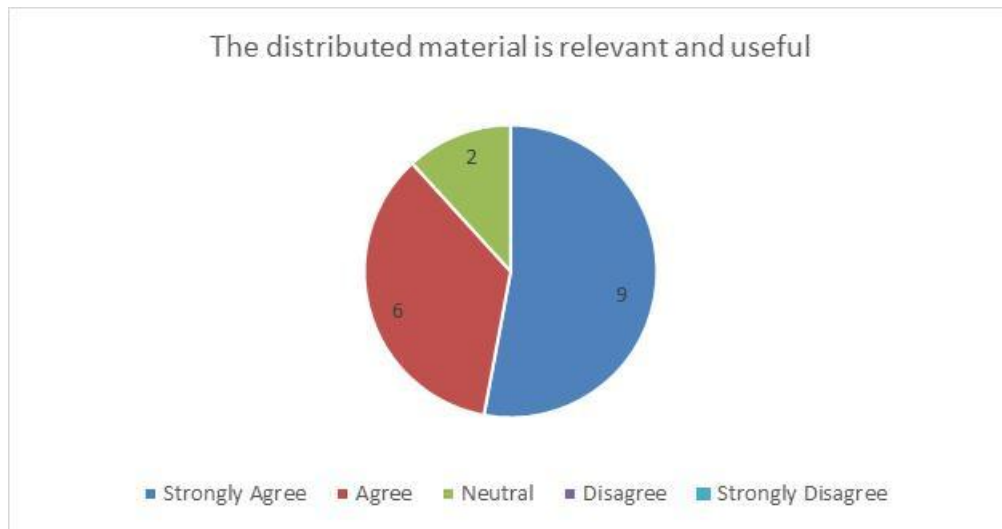


Figure 5.7 Relevancy & Usefulness of Distributed Material

Majority of the participants rated that the distributed material is relevant and useful.

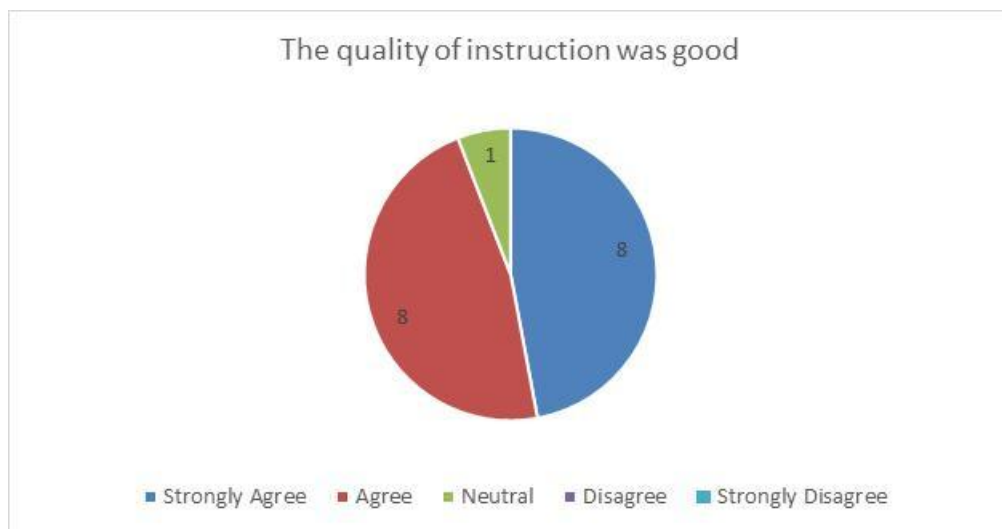


Figure 5.8 Good Quality Instruction

Majority of the participants rated that the quality of instruction was good.

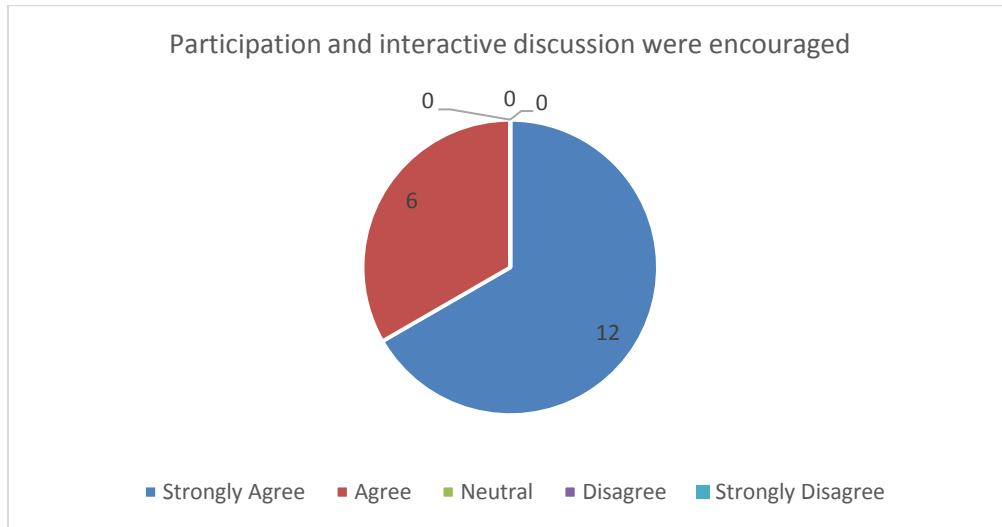


Figure 5.9 Encouragement of Participation & Interactive Discussion

Majority of the participants rated that participation and interactive discussion were encouraged.

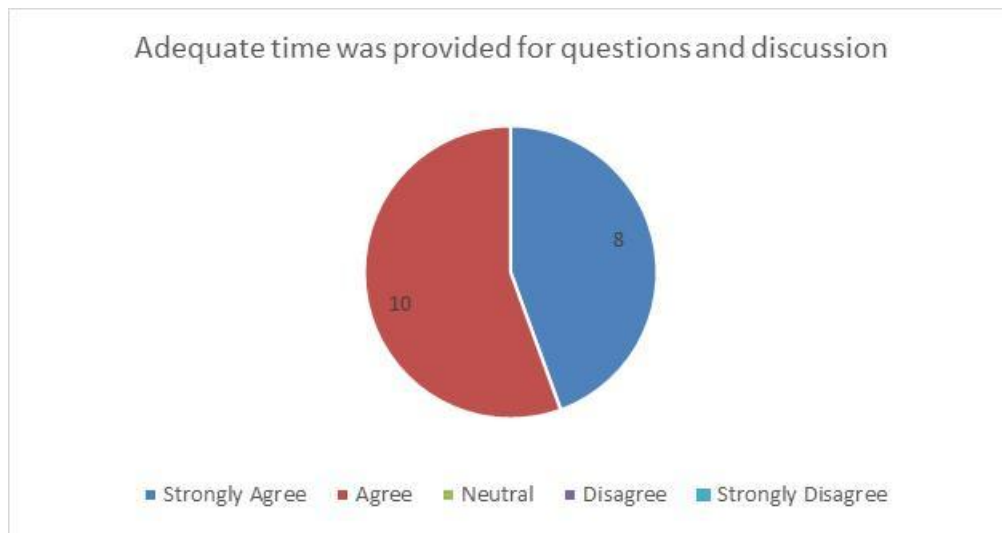


Figure 5.10 Provision of Adequate Time for Questions & Discussion

Majority of the participants rated that adequate time was provided for questions and discussion.

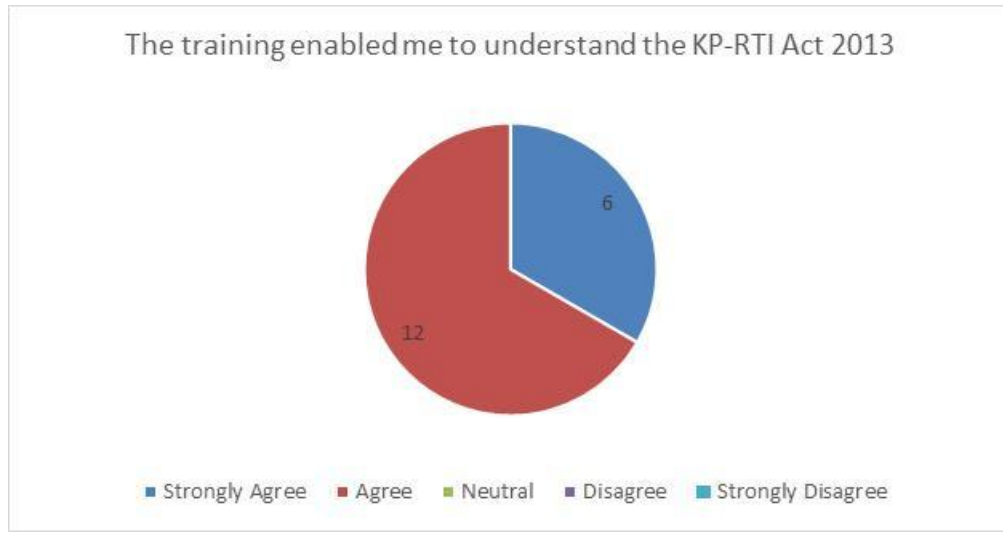


Figure 5.11 Ability to understand the KP RTI Act 2013

Majority of the participants rated that the training enabled them to understand the RTI Act 2013.

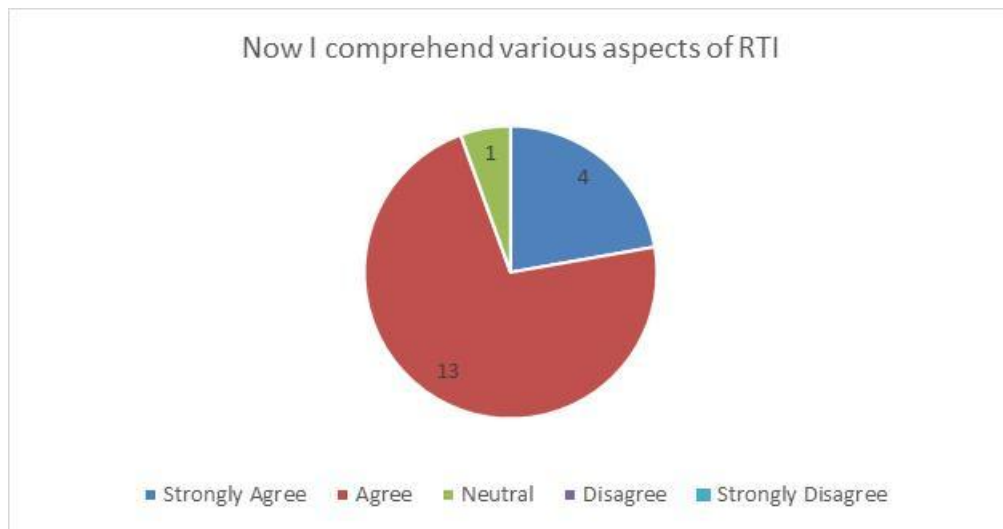


Figure 5.12 Comprehension of various Aspects of RTI

Majority of the participants rated that they are able to comprehend various aspects of RTI.

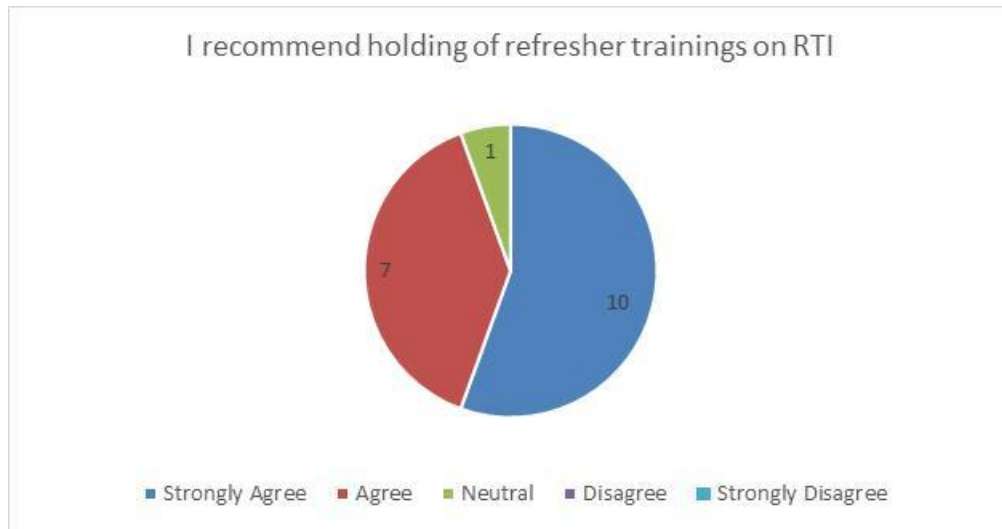


Figure 5.13 Holding of Refresher Trainings on RTI

Majority of the participants recommended that refresher trainings on RTI may be held.

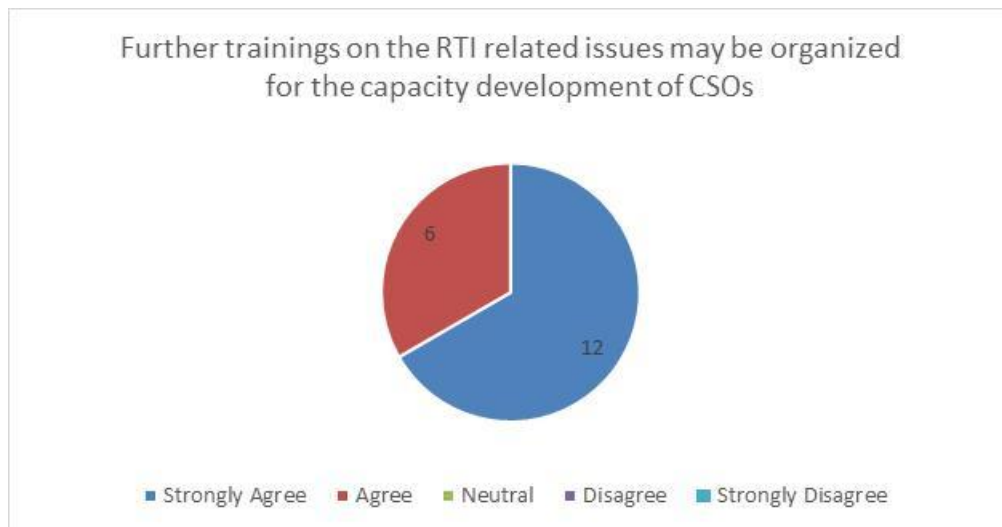


Figure 5.14 Organization of Further Training on RTI

Majority of the participants recommended that further trainings on RTI related issues may be organised for the capacity development of CSOs.

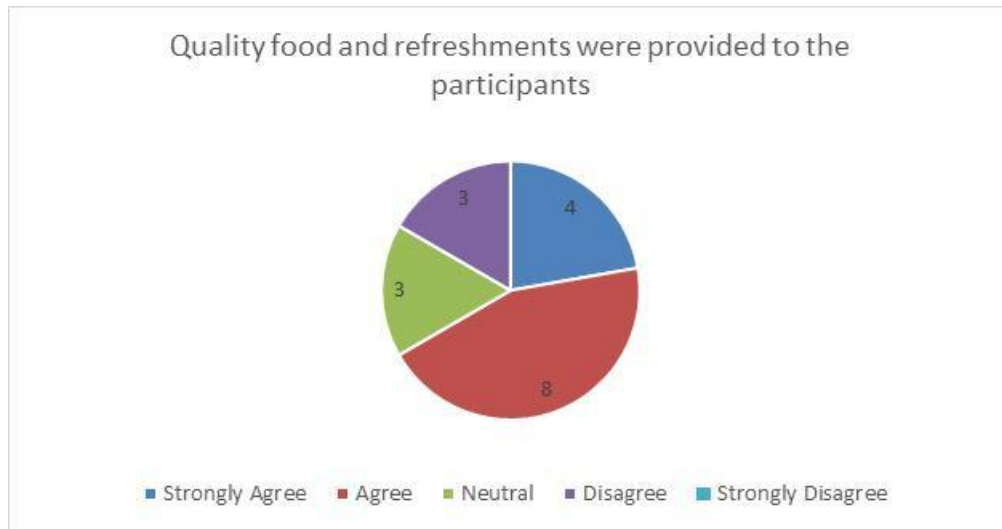


Figure 5.15 Provision of Quality Food & Refreshments

Majority of the participants rated that quality food and refreshments were provided to the participants.

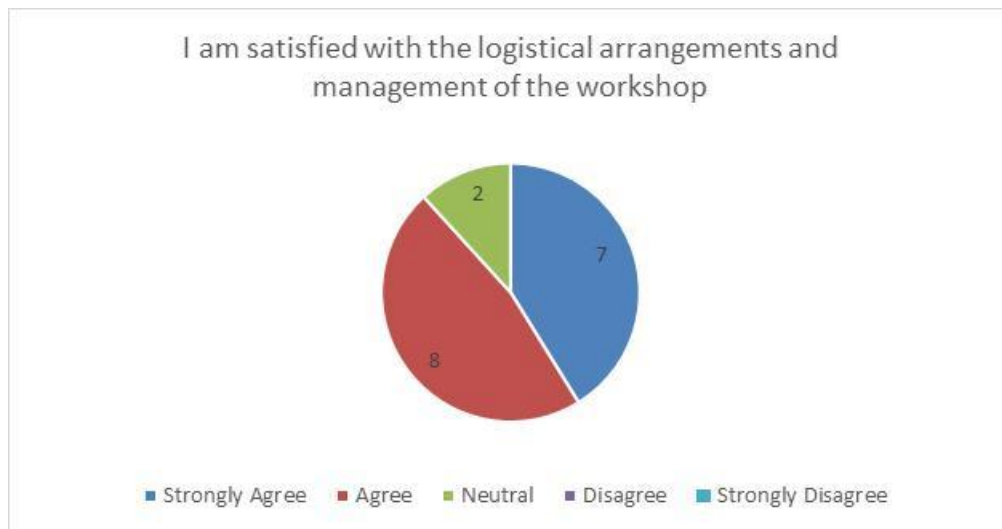


Figure 5.16 Satisfaction over Logistical Arrangements and Management of the Workshop

Majority of the participants rated that they are satisfied with the logistical arrangements and management of the workshop.

5.2 Facilitators' Feedback

The entire workshop was structured around developing capacity of the members of the Social Accountability Network Pakistan towards freedom of information and right to information and enabling them to plan actions for effective implementation. The workshop was enjoyed by everyone as observed during the proceedings and indicated by evaluation and feedback. Participants expressed their satisfaction over the competency of the resource person and organizers. The workshop combined both theory and practice, merging the subject knowledge to self-development, helping them to facilitate change within and in the community.

Majority of the participants found the workshop and the resource material useful and need based. They expressed that they were able to clarify concepts related to freedom of information and right to information. They acknowledged that as a result of this workshop, they would be able to work more effectively with their target communities and advocate for their rights.

Overall, the content, methodology and management of the programme were found to be excellent and useful. While they said that they appreciate all the sessions, they particularly enjoyed the sessions on legislative framework of RTI in Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, salient features KP RTI Act 2013, Global perspective of RTI laws, media role in promoting and protecting the right to information and how civil society can build effective partnership with media in this regard.

The resource person was considered to be well prepared and having command over the subject. The sessions were regarded as well designed and articulated. The opportunity for relevant question-answers, exchanging experiences, discussion on case studies and interaction with other participants was satisfactory. Majority of the participants felt that they had a better understanding of the issues pertaining to the freedom of information and right to information and they are better equip to apply them in the field.

5.3 Key Points

Key points emerged from the workshop included:

1. The right to information is a cross-cutting area that contributes to the overall strengthening of democratic governance, primarily by increasing participation (of different stakeholders including CSOs and media), accountability, transparency, access and distribution of power and delivery of public services.
2. The right to information is of vital importance to the underprivileged segments of society.

SAN Pakistan can work in a number of ways to create awareness and plan for different advocacy initiatives without necessarily having a dedicated right to information programme. The CESSD IPs and other partner organizations can systematically integrate RTI into their programme areas.

3. Responding to right to information challenges concerns both the 'supply' and 'demand' sides of information. Capacity and capabilities are central factors for both. On the supply side, SAN Pakistan can be most directly engaged working upstream. The right to information is a cultural and service delivery issue.

The issue of how to support the right to information in the programme areas of members of SAN Pakistan came under discussion. The main issues and considerations that emerged from the discussions and feedback into included:

4. How to integrate the right to information in programmes

Participants discussed that it was not necessarily a case of integrated programming vs. dedicated programming. Members of SAN Pakistan need to focus on RTI not just in governance programmes but across all activities. It would be useful if CESSD could further support CSOs to develop RTI strategies by providing them with the required tools and technical guidance they need to develop such a strategy.

5. Creating a conducive environment for implementation of Right to Information

As the Right to Information is a new phenomenon, there needs to be more focus on understanding the situation that what room there is for moving in this area. What effects

implementation of RTI exert on the governance patterns? There need to be creation of conducive environment for implementation of Right to Information.

6. Working with Civil Society Organisations

SAN Pakistan needs to work on institutional strengthening and develop partnerships with other CSOs so that effective strategies may be planned to impact on marginalized groups in the society. Working with relevant CSOs is an increasingly important part in this regard.

6. ACTION PLAN

At the end of the formal sessions, participants of the workshop thoroughly discussed and developed an Action Plan. Consensus was developed that through this Action Plan, member organizations of SAN Pakistan may work to promote and protect citizen's right to information, raise awareness and advocate for right to information in the province. The plan is attached as *Annex-3*.

7. PRE AND POST TEST

Pre and post-test were conducted at the start and end of the workshop. The result of both the tests has been indicated below in Table 6.1. The result of the both the tests has also been presented as Figure 6.1.

Table No. 6.1: Pre and Post Test Score of the Workshop Participants

| S | Name | Pre-test Score | Post-test Score |
|----|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Amir Sohail | 7 | 19 |
| 2 | Amjad Ali Shah | 9 | 13 |
| 3 | Asad ikram Qazi | 11 | 18 |
| 4 | Dr Zia ur Rehman Farooqi | 5 | 14 |
| 5 | Fawad | 8 | 17 |
| 6 | Imran Shahid Advocate | 2 | 12 |
| 7 | Ismail Hashmi | 7 | 16 |
| 8 | Mansoor Ahmad | 2 | 18 |
| 9 | Mir Zaman Moomand | 9 | 16 |
| 10 | Mohammad Asim | 12 | 19 |
| 11 | Mutasarrif Khan | 6 | 15 |
| 12 | Saeed ur Rahman | 12 | 16 |
| 13 | Sahib Zada | 10 | 17 |
| 14 | Shagufta | 4 | 12 |
| 15 | Shamsa Noreen | 10 | 17 |
| 16 | Toheed ur Rehman | 5 | 15 |
| 17 | Toseef Izhar | 5 | 14 |
| 18 | Wajid Ali Shah | 7 | 18 |
| 19 | Zil-e-Huma | 15 | 19 |
| 20 | Zubair Anwar | 13 | 19 |

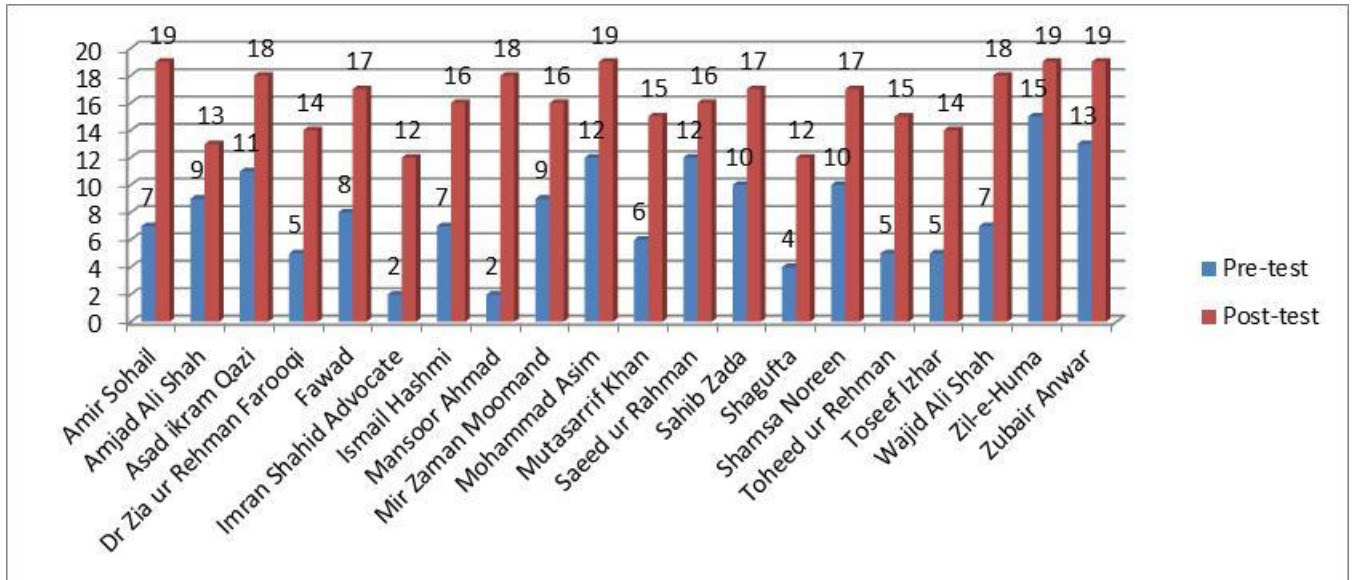


Figure 6.1 Pre-test and Pot-test

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants through verbal and written feedback proposed a number of interventions regarding holding of refresher courses and future activities. They made recommendations to have more refreshers on the topic with longer duration. They also recommended holding of training workshops on a number of topics including the following:

1. Budget Tracking and RTI
2. Citizen Report Card
3. Complaint redress mechanism
4. Creating mass awareness and RTI advocacy
5. Field based implementation process of RTI
6. Global perspective of RTI
7. Impact assessment of RTI implementation
8. In-depth Legal and social aspects of FOI and RTI
9. Information restricted and exceptions made to KP RTI Act
10. Issues arising out of whistleblowing with respect to RTI
11. LGO and Civil Society Role
12. Resource mobilization
13. Resource mobilization and allocation in the context of RTI
14. RTI as tool of social accountability
15. RTI linked to good governance and democracy
16. Social accountability tools
17. Solving conflicts on key issues
18. Use of received information through RTI for policy advocacy

9. ANNEXURES

Annex-1

LIST OF WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

| S | Name | Designation | Department / Organization | District | Contact |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------|--|
| 1 | Aamir Sohail | Senior Social Organizer | CDO Swabi | Swabi | Amir_nawas143@yahoo.com |
| 2 | Amjid Ali | Chairman | OHD | Mardan | Ali.ohd12@gmail.com |
| 3 | Masroor Ahmad | Program Manager | EPS | Swat | Masroor337@gmail.com 03451009944 |
| 4 | Shamsa Noreen | Research Associate | SDF | Islamabad | shamsa@sdf.org.pk 0320-9952474 |
| 5 | Shagufta Khan | Board Member | PDI | Mardan | pdiorg@gmail.com 0346-8069719 |
| 6 | Zubair Anwar | RPM / SRSP | SRSP | Abbottabad | |
| 7 | Ismail Hashmi | Central Coordinator SAN Pakistan | IRSP | Mardan | Ismail@irsp.org.pk |
| 8 | Toheed ur Rehman | Project Coordinator | RDP | Mardan | toheed@rdp.org.pk |
| 9 | Sahib Zada | District Coordinator | URDO | Nowshera | sadapakorg@gmail.com |
| 10 | Wajid Ali Shah | Program Manager | Pak Women | Mardan | Programdirectorpakwomen@gmail.com |
| 11 | Mutasarif Khan | Executive Director | CDO | Swat | Kohiqaaf_maira@yahoo.com 0344-9644297 |
| 12 | Imran Shahzad Advocat | Director | HDI | Nowshera | Imranshahiads4t@gmail.com 0345-5497169 |
| 13 | FAWAD | CDO | SABAWON | | |
| 14 | Dr Zia ur Rehman Farooqi | Director Programmes | NIDA Pakistan | | |
| 15 | Tauseef Izhar | Programme Assistant | PRDS | | |
| 16 | Zil-e-Huma | Project Manager | Centre for Governance & Public Accountability | | |
| 17 | Saeed ur Rahman | M&E Assistant | CYDO | | |
| 18 | Asad Ikram | Chairman | QWO | | |
| 19 | Mohammad Asim | PDO | PEDO | | |
| 20 | Mir Zaman Moomand | | CRDO | | |

Annex-2

**Agenda two-day Workshop on
KP Right to Information Act 2013 & Role of Civil Society**

for SAN-Pakistan Members March 5-6, 2014 @ Shelton Guest House Peshawar

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the workshop, members of Social Accountability Network - Pakistan will be able to:

1. Describe the purpose and concept of Freedom of Information and Right to Information
2. Explain the Legislative Framework of RTI in Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
3. List salient features of KP RTI Act 2013 including its possible implications, the strengths & shortcomings, the process of seeking and providing information, exemptions, procedure of appeals and penalties by Information Commission
4. Explain the role of media in promoting & protecting right to information
5. Reflect upon global perspective of RTI acts and how CSOs around the globe have played their due role in implementation
6. Develop action plan how SAN-P members can effectively create awareness and advocate for the right to know and application of RTI Act 2013.

| 9.00 Day one | 9.00 Day two |
|---|---|
| Welcome Note Mr. Jean Frederic Beauchesne, Project Field Manager CESSD (15 min/ 9.00 – 9.15) Introductions (30 min/ 9.15 – 9.45) 1.1 Pre-test (20 min/9.45 – 10.05) 1.2 What is FOI and RTI? (40 min 10.05 – 10.45) | Recap (20 min/9.00 – 9.20) 2.1 Global perspective of RTI acts (60 min/9.20 – 10.20) 2.2 What CSOs can learn from global experiences on RTI (40 min/10.20 – 11.00) |
| Morning tea (15 min 10.45-11.00) | Morning tea (15 min 11.00 – 11.15) |
| 1.3 Key Concepts and Principles of FOI (30 min/11.00 – 11.30) 1.4 Information & Human Rights (30 min/11.30 – 12.00) 1.5 Legislative Framework of RTI in Pakistan & KP (60 min/12.00 – 13.00) | 2.3 Media Role in promoting and protecting the Right to Information/investigative journalism (60 min/11.15 – 12.15) 2.4 How CSOs can built effective partnership with media for implementation of RTI (45 min/12.15 – 13.00) |
| Lunch/prayers (60 min/13.00 – 14.00) | Lunch/prayers (60 min/13.00 – 14.00) |
| 1.6 Comparison of KP RTI Act 2013 with FOIO 2002 (30 min/14.00 – 14.30) 1.7 What kind of information is available? (30 min/14.30 – 15.00) | 2.5 Guest speaker/Open Session Mr. Azmat Hanif Orakzai, Secretary Information Department Government Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (60 min/14.00 – 15.00) |
| Evening tea (15 min/15.00 – 15.15) | Evening tea (15 min/15.00 – 15.15) |
| 1.8 What information cannot be accessed?, role of Information Commission & protection for whistle-blowers (30 min/15.15 – 15.45) 1.9 Process of requesting information (60 min/15.45 – 16.45) Review & day end (15 min/16.45 – 17.00) | 2.6 Action Plan (70 min/15.15 – 16.25) 2.7 Post-test (20 min/16.25 – 16.45) Workshop Evaluation & Wrap up (15 min/16.45 – 17.00) |
| 17.00 End | 17.00 End |

Annex-3

Six Monthly Action Plan for Members of SAN Pakistan

| S. No | Themes | Actions | Area | Timeline | Responsible |
|--------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| 1 | To raise awareness on RTI in all program areas of KPK | 1.1. Sessions on RTI | Mardan, Peshawar, Swat, Swabi, Nowshehra and Chasadda | Till 31 st August 2014 | IRSP, SRSP, PEDO, PRDS, OHD, Pak-Women, CDO, EPS, CDC, SABAWON, HDI, MASHAL and CGPA |
| | | 1.2. Awareness Campaigns on RTI | Swat, Mardan, Peshawar, Nowshehra, Charsadda and Peshawar | Till 31 st May 2014 | EPS, IRSP, OHD, SRSP, URDO, CGPA, PEDO, PRDS and SABAWON |
| | | 1.3. Establishing RTI Facilitation Centers (RTI Ambassadors) | Mardan, Peshawar, Charsadda, Swabi, Nowshehra, Swat, Abbotabad, Haripur | Till 31 st May 2014 | IRSP, SRSP, PEDO, PRDS, OHD, Pak-Women, CDO, EPS, CDC, SABAWON, HDI, MASHAL and CGPA |
| 2 | To Develop and Disseminate Information Education and Communication (IEC) Material in KPK | 2.1. Developing Information Request formats | 05 Regions (Hazara, Mardan, Malakand, D.I Khan and Peshawar) | 01 week till 17 th March, 2014 | CGPA, IRSP & OHD |
| | | 2.2. Radio Messages | KPK | Till 31 st August 2014 | CGPA, IRSP, OHD, Pak-Women, URDO and EPS |
| | | 2.3. Publicizing directives of Information Officers | Peshawar, Mardan, Swabi, Chasadda, Abbotabad, Haripur, Noeshehra and swat | Till 31 st April 2014 | IRSP, CGPA, CDO, SRSP, RDP, EPS, PEDO and PRDS |
| | | 2.4. Social Media & Mobile Messages | Provincial and National level | Start from 20 th Mar, 2014 and On-Going | All Members + SAN Secretariat |
| | | 2.5. Publicizing Filing Process mechanism of Complaints | Mardan, Peshawar, Nowshehra and Abbotabad | Till 15 th April 2014 | Pak-women, URDO, CGPA, SRSP and OHD |
| | | 2.6. Translation of KPK RTI Act 2014 in URDU | National Wide | Till 31 st March 2014 | Israr Ahmad, Gulbaz, Adeel and Ismail |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 3 | To Capacitate Civil Society Practitioners on RTI Act for its implementation | 3.1. Organizational Staff Training on RTI Act | KPK | Till 31 st March 2014 | All Members of SAN Pak |
| | | 3.2. Capacity building events for Media, line departments and CBOs/VOs/CSOs and Networks | Abbotabad, Mardan, Nowshehra, Swabi, Charsadda, HariPur and Peshawar | Till 31 st April 2014 | IRSP, SRSP, URDO, HDI, CDO, PRDS, SABAWON, PEDO, RDP, Pak-women |
| | | 3.3. Capacity Building of Social Services Committees in Education, Water, and Health Sectors | Mardan, Abbotabad, Nowshehra and Peshawar | Till 31 st April 2014 | IRSP, SRSP, SABAWON, HDI and CESSD |
| 4 | To Advocate for improvement in KPK RTI Act 2013 | 4.1. Provincial Level Seminar for Stakeholders | Peshawar | 3 rd Week of April 2014 | IRSP, CDO, URDO, SDF RDP & CRDO |
| | | 4.2. Meetings/ Workshops for SAN Members | Peshawar | Till 31 st March 2014 | IRSP, CDO, URDO, SDF RDP & CRDO |
| | | 4.3. Networking with District Stakeholders | KPK | 1 st May to 31 st August 2014 | All Members of SAN Pak |
| | | 4.4. Signature Campaign | KPK | 1 st April to 31 st August 2014 | All Members of SAN Pak |



Social
Accountability
Network
Pakistan

**Citizen Engagement for Social Service Delivery
(CESSD III)**