



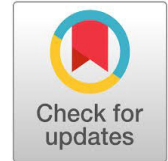
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Gender Equitable Community Development through Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) in District Dir Upper, Pakistan



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ABSTRACT

In this study, the researcher evaluated the role of the Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) in the context of social inclusion, gender-equitable community development by utilization of Mixed Methods Research (MMR) strategy from BB's perspective in the area. Wherein, three hundred eighty-four (384) out of the total of 72869 populations was taken as a sample size for the quantitative portion and Thirty (30) interviewees were selected on the basis purpose sampling for the qualitative portion of the study. Besides that, three focused group discussions were conducted under the concurrent explorative design to validate the results. Wherein, findings of the study reflected that BBCs positively contributed towards the social inclusion of women in terms of their social safety net, social empowerment and gender-equitable community development. Moreover, a significant relationship ($R = .000$) was noted between the dependent variables (GBCD) and the independent variables (BBCs), with an R-squared value of .000. Similarly, the results revealed a meaningful correlation ($R = .000$) between BBCs as the independent variable and the social inclusion of women (SIW) as the dependent variable, with an R-value of .000. The study suggests the expansion of BBCs to strengthen all the Social Safety Net Initiatives that will perform an effective role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Moreover, this study will be helpful for the researchers and policy-makers of social safety nets in the context of social inclusion of women and gender-equitable community development.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In today's interconnected world often likened to a global village (McLuhan, 1960). Wherein, disparities in living conditions are starkly evident that thrive in prosperity and stability ones and endure the others in dire circumstances. The households led by women, which frequently find themselves grappling with multiple crises

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and interpersonal symptoms of risks. The reality is that despite women constituting more than a half of the global population, pervasive gender inequalities infiltrate every aspect of life, amplifying disparities across both urban and rural communities. In Pakistan, a significant proportion of women remain socio-economically reliant on men, contending with entrenched gender discrimination that perpetuates their social marginalization. These women confront with limited access to education, unemployment, poor health, and restricted livelihood opportunities with social justice within their communities. Such systemic injustices contribute to their social exclusion, perpetuating the same vicious cycles from generation to generation and hindering progress towards gender-equitable community development. Furthermore, the majority of women encounter challenges related to social exclusion, cultural stigmas, and entrenched stereotypes in many parts of the world, particularly in the northern rural areas of Pakistan.

These factors contribute to their economic deprivation, feelings of inferiority, dependency, and subordination (Bhasin, 1991). In contemporary global society, numerous women face significant challenges, such as social exclusion, extreme poverty and social vulnerability within their communities. These obstacles and challenges often include encountering the glass ceiling and lacking the advanced technical skills required for roles in socio-economic and political fields. These exclusionary practices and institutional structures sustain gender discrimination and exacerbate the marginalization of women, affecting not only regions like South Asia and Pakistan but also communities worldwide. For instance, in the United States, women typically earn about three-quarters of what men do, while in South Korea, they earn about half. However, initiatives like the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995 and the Global Goals for 2030 are working towards gender-equitable development and addressing gender inequality worldwide (Woolcocker, 1998). Gender-equitable development aims to improve the living conditions of all individuals, regardless of gender, across nations. It involves integrating marginalized groups into society and promoting positive attitudes globally (Lewis, 2003). This development should embrace gender-balanced practices that enhance social stability and economic prosperity in both rural and urban areas (Halfpenny, 2015). It represents progress from the social exclusion of ultra-poor women to their inclusion in social structures by promoting the culture of Sustainable Social Safety Nets (SSNs) in the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030 by all member nations across the globe (Fluerbaey, 2018).

As a signatory to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, Pakistan has pledged its commitment to eliminating poverty and advancing gender equality. The nation acknowledges that empowering women is crucial for achieving balanced community development and fostering global peace, progress and development. Pakistan seeks to improve the living conditions of all individuals, regardless of gender, across nations. It entails integrating marginalized groups into society and fostering positive attitudes globally (Lewis, 2003). Development encompasses gender-balanced practices that enhance social stability and economic prosperity in both rural and urban areas (Halfpenny, 2015). It signifies progress from the exclusion of ultra-poor women to their inclusion, promoting a culture of sustainable development aligned with Social Safety Nets (SSNs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030.

Statement of the Problem:

Pakistan finds itself near the bottom of the rankings for gender equality, holding the 149th position out of 189 countries based on indicators of sustainable development goals. Additionally, statistics from the National Socio-Economic Registry of Pakistan reveal that 39% of the total population lives below the poverty line. Similarly, one million populations being 70289 families headed by women were short of basic needs and fundamental rights in District Upper Dir situated in the Northern Area of Pakistan. Wherein, the ultra-poor women are facing the issue of social inclusion that impedes in the way of gender-equitable community development (GECD) in the region. In addition,

these women have no right to association of women's welfare organizations in general while participations in political decision making process were required to be redressed in particular. That's why the researcher selected the area concerned to assess the role of BBCs in gender-equitable community development from the perspective of BBs under the umbrella of social safety nets in the context of the Beijing Declaration 1995 and GGs-2030.

Significance of the Study:

In this study, the researcher delved into the various factors contributing to the socio-economic deprivation of women and examined gender discrimination within associations and organizations, which led to multifaceted crises and social exclusion of them. The aim was to understand that how BBCs contributed to the socio-economic empowerment and social inclusions of women and how BBCs being a women committees and associations contributed to community development in the area. In addition, this study aims to provide valuable insights for researchers and policymakers involved in social safety nets, enabling them to understand the impact and make informed decisions regarding gender-equitable community development within the context of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 in the region.

The objective of the Study:

- To assess the role of BBCs in gender-equitable community development in the sample area.
- To seek the perception of beneficiaries towards BBCs in terms of women empowerment through social inclusion of ultra-poor women.
- To identify the obstacles affecting the function of BBCs under the umbrella of BISP impaling gender-equitable community development in the area.

Research Question:

How did Benazir Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) strive to create a more gender equitable and inclusive community environment in the sampled area?

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

Society undergoes in continuous progression and evolution with transitioning from simplicity to complexity, homogeneity to heterogeneity, and mechanical solidarity to organic solidarity. This progression has resulted in structured group production and distribution driven by market exchange across the world community at large (Silver, H 2007). However, despite these shifts, women still encounter disparities in participation across institutions, leading to gender inequality and social discrimination and their marginalization. To combat this issue of gender inequality and their marginalization need to bolster women's socio-economic empowerment and promote their involvement in decision-making processes (Fukuyana, 2001). Grassroots women's organizations play a pivotal role in bridging these disparities by fostering social connections and communication avenues, thereby empowering women

to collectively address their needs and advocate for their rights. Addressing challenges such as negative perceptions, cultural prejudices, and systemic barriers like workplace bias and sexual harassment is essential to ensure women's active engagement in community development across the nations (Matson, 2005). Community development is a global strategy aimed at improving people's well-being and fostering the progress of communities, spanning across both developed and underdeveloped nations (Allen & Thomas, 2000). A developed community embodies principles of socio-economic justice, ensuring that all members, especially ultra-poor women and children, benefit from its advancements (Carley & Spapens, 2017). In such communities, individuals enjoy the liberty to participate in diverse associations and organizations, which empower them to pursue their needs and advocate for their rights autonomously (Sanford, 2017). These platforms represent safe spaces where the socio-economic security of marginalized groups is protected, devoid of any ethnic, gender, or political biases or discrimination across the nations. Therefore, in 2008, the Government of Pakistan embraced the Social Safety Nets approach by inaugurating the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in collaboration with the World Bank (WB) and the Department for International Development (DFID). This initiative was designed to furnish socio-economic assistance and enhance the empowerment of women across urban and rural regions nationwide. However, the historical track record of developmental projects reveals that numerous endeavors have failed to consistently yield the expected outcomes in terms of policy effectiveness and sustainable results. One of the primary reasons cited is the lack of gender-equitable and inclusive participation throughout the nation (Alam, 2008).

Theoretical Framework of the Study:

In this study, the idea of gender complementarities was taken as a grounded theory to assess the role of BBCs in the context social protection of ultra-poor women in shape of Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees BBCs as a (Waseela-e-Anjumani- Sharakati-Nisswa) being a social inclusion and women empowerment approach aimed ensure gender-equitable community development (GECD) being SDGs-2030 in general while Global Goal No. 5th in particular.

Conceptual Framework:

Independent Variable	Dependent Variable
Major independent variable: BBCs as a Waseela-e-Anjuman-Nisswa (WAN) in (BISP-SSNs).	Major Dependent Variable: Gender Equitable Community Development
Waseela-e-Anjuman-Nisswaisa gender-equitable social inclusion initiative of BISP.	Social Inclusion of Ultra-Poor Women. Socio-economic Empowerment of Women. Capacity Building to Enhance the Level of Gender Equitable Community Development.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Research methodology includes the methods, tools, and techniques employed by a researcher based on the study's

nature (Kothari, 2003). This study utilized a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods within a concurrent research design, aligning with a mixed methods research approach (Creswell, 2014).

Sampling:

Sampling method is essential to conveniently access the respondents (Emily & Clark, 2003). In this study, the researcher derived the appropriate sample size of 384 out of total population of 70289 based on Krejcie and Morgan; 1970. The researcher further selected the respondent from the total sample size based on stratified random sampling (Alam, 2006). Similarly, the researcher selected thirty interviewees on the basis of purposive sampling among the Women Leaders of Cluster Coordination Committees (WLCCCs) being respondents for qualitative data in the sampled area. In addition, all the Three Mother Leaders of each stratum was taken for focused group discussion to validate and strengthen the finding and results of the study.

Tools of Data Collection, Analyses and Results:

The data collection is the most important step of any research phenomenon under consideration for an investigation (Yin, 2009). The researcher in the current study employed both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. Quantitative data were gathered through the use of structured questionnaires, while qualitative data were obtained through In-depth Interviews (IDIs) and Focused Group Discussions (F.G.D), adhering to a mixed-method research approach with a concurrent research design (Moser & Kalton, 1971). The quantitative data were then organized into systematic tables and analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software, with the chi-square test utilized to explore the relationship between dependent and independent variables. On the other hand, qualitative data were interpreted thematically, and findings were derived based on the identified themes.

Table 1.

Do you believe that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) significantly contributed towards GCPR in your community?

Statement (s)	Response (s)	Frequency (f)	Percent (%)	Statistic (s)	
				P	χ^2
Role and Contribution of BBC in GCPR at community levels	Agree	346	90.1	17.657a	.001
	Disagree	29	7.6		
	Undecided	9	2.3		
	Total	384	100		
Awareness about BBC	Agree	381	99.2	1.512a	.825
	Disagree	1	0.3		
	Undecided	2	0.5		
	Total	384	100		
Membership in BBC at community	Agree	237	61.7	50.191a	.000
	Disagree	10	2.6		
	Undecided	137	35.7		
	Total	384	100		
Social inclusion through BBC	Agree	336	87.5	24.510a	.000
	Disagree	10	2.6		
	Undecided	38	9.9		
	Total	384	100		
Hierarchical order in BBC	Agree	262	68.2	7.882a	.096
	Disagree	48	12.5		
	Undecided	74	19.3		
	Total	384	100		
Social empowerment of women in community	Agree	89	23.2	4.900a	.298
	Disagree	147	38.3		
	Undecided	148	38.5		
	Total	384	100		

Source: Field Data: 2021

Description and Major Findings of Quantitative Data Section:

The above Table:1 pertinent to the perceptions of the respondents in terms of role and contributions of Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) in the contexts of social inclusion, gender class poverty reduction (GCPR) and gender-balanced community development in the area concerned. Which showed that majority (90.1 %) of the respondents agreed that BBCs had positively contributed towards Gender Class Poverty Reduction (GCPR) in their respective communities. Wherein, (7.6 %) of them disagreed with the given statement. While (2.3 %) of the respondents were uncertain and opted for undecided in that regard.

As per social inclusion and awareness about social inclusion and development through BBCs was concerned. Majority (99.2 %) agreed that they were aware about the role of BBCs and its significance in terms of the social inclusion of poor women in their respective communities. Wherein, (0.5 %) of the respondents disagreed with the statement. While (0.3 %) of them were uncertain in this regard.

Likewise, it was shown that (61.7 %) of them were members of BBCs in their respective communities. Wherein, (2.6 %) disagreed and (35.6 %) were uncertain in this regard. Similarly, the data sets showed that (87.5 %) of the respondents agreed that BBC positively attributed in terms of their social inclusion in the context of all social spheres of life in their respective communities. Wherein, (2.6 %) of the respondents disagreed with the statement. While (9.9 %) of them were uncertain in this regard. Moreover, the study revealed that a significant majority (86.2%) acknowledged the existence of a hierarchical structure within Benazir Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) in their respective communities. Wherein, (12.5 %) of the respondents disagreed while (19.3 %) of them were uncertain in this regard. Moreover, (23.2 %) agreed that BBCs positively contributed to women's empowerment in their respective communities. Wherein, (38.3 %) disagreed with the statement. While (38.5 %) of them were uncertain in this regard.

Themes-Oriented Discussions with Major Findings and Results of Qualitative Data Sets:

It was deduced from both the qualitative data sets based on IDIs and FGDs that most of the participants and interviewees were of the view and perception that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) significantly attributed towards gender class poverty reduction (GCPR) in promoted gender-equitable community development in their respective communities. Wherein, one of the interviewees was of the view that "She was assisted through BBC during her child operation three years back. Wherein, they generated funds every month in her vicinity for mutual assistance to share and care for each other during any untoward situation. She further elaborated that the life of her child was protected through the financial assistance of BBC". Similarly, it was deduced that a majority of the interviewees were of the view that

the BBC had positively contributed to the social inclusion of ultra-poor women through participation in BBCs that enhanced their level of accessibility to basic human rights under the umbrella of SSN in their respective communities. However, some of them were found unaware of BBCs and their significance in terms of social inclusion of poor women as well.

Likewise, most of the interviewees were of the view that they were well aware and actual members of their respective committees constituted by the Sarhad rural support programme a partner implementation firm of the national rural support network hired by BISP-SSNs performed its task of BBCs. Wherein, one of them was of the view that "Her children were financially assisted through the help of BBC as she was not aware of the side initiative been launched by the government for promotion of education". Similarly, the obtained data sets based on FGDs and IDIs reflected that most of them were well aware of BBCs and their role in terms of social inclusion of the poor of the poorest class person and families through institutionalization. They were further of the opinion that BBCs had significantly contributed to their social empowerment through the permeation of social organizations of women in the shape of BBCs in their respective communities at the local level.

Wherein, one of the participants thought "She was assisted by another member in cash withdrawal and access to a nutrition programme launched by the government through the help of a world food programme in a local hospital. She further elaborated that the same member of BBC had guided her to visit a local hospital to avail medical care services with food items for her young baby under the social safety net imitative of the government as well". They were further of the opinions that BBC positively attributed in terms of their social inclusions and political participation in the decision-making process in the last general election as they were once deprived of the side right in the past decade across their communities. Whereas, one of the participants was of the view that "Individually, each of us cannot grow to positively change our life without changing the cultural patterns of our communities by together to get rid of poverty. We will grow together if worked together for the welfare of each other in their areas". Wherein, some of the participants thought that such services were not availed by them through BBC. Furthermore, most of the participant thought that there was no such hierarchal order in terms of classification, permeation and participation in BBCs working for the welfare of women in their respective communities. Wherein, most of them were of the opinion that proper order was taken during the permeation of BBCs. Wherein, most of the participants were women leaders in their respective committees as well. Moreover, the obtained qualitative data sets further reflected that BBCs positively attributed in terms of women empowerment through their social networking across their communities in the context of availing social safety net opportunities in the region.

Analyses of Both the Findings of Quantitative and Qualitative Data Sets and Explored the Results:

Protection from social insecurity and risk of blurring

the opportunities of maintaining, institutionalization and empowerment of ultra-poor women through social networking and shape of Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees BBCs as a (Waseela-e-Sharakate-Niswaa) being Social Empowerment and Safety Net (SE&SN) to ensure and yield the objective of gender-equitable and gender balanced community development (GE-GBCD) across urban and rural communities by conceptualization and operationalization of these variables in shape of Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) and opportunities of SE&SN. Wherein, the most vulnerable and downtrodden segment of the population in shape of women has been given the opportunity of association to organizations in the shape of BBCs that provided them with an organizational platform to raise their voices of choices to protect the rights of ultra-poor people and families and ensure CD in their respective communities. BBCs being women welfare committees (WWCs) and women awareness plate forms do play an important role in community integration and the socio-economic development of a nation without gender discrimination (Anne, 2009).

The researcher aimed to investigate the presence of Women's Welfare Committees (WWCs) within the framework of Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) and their role in community development in the study area. Therefore, the researcher sought to evaluate the effectiveness of BBCs concerning the objectives of the current research, particularly in terms of functional outcomes such as poverty reduction and community development in the area. The current research focused on women's participation in WWCs, which are part of BBCs under the Benazir Income Support Programme, aimed at contributing to gender-class poverty reduction and community development. Both quantitative and qualitative data sets indicated that (90.1%) of the respondents perceived that BBCs significantly contributed to gender-class poverty reduction (GCPR) in their respective communities.

The collected dataset also indicated that a significant majority (87.5%) of the respondents agreed and acknowledged that the Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) had made a positive contribution to the social inclusion of ultra-poor women. Their participation in BBCs was perceived to enhance their access to basic human rights under the umbrella of the Social Safety Net (SSN) within their respective communities. However, it was noted that some respondents were unaware of the existence of BBCs and their significance in terms of promoting the social inclusion of poor women. Likewise, the obtained data sets showed that (99.2 %) of the respondents agreed that they were well aware and remained the actual members of their respective committees constituted by the Sarhad rural support programme being a partner implementation firm of the national rural support network hired by BISP. Wherein, one of them was of the view that "Her children were financially assisted through the help of BBC as she was not aware of the side initiative been launched by the government for promotion of education". Similarly, the obtained data sets

based on FGDs and IDIs reflected that (61.7 %) of them were the actual members of BBCs and well versed in its role in terms of social inclusion of poor of the poorest class person and families to be communally empowered through mainstreaming and institutionalization.

Furthermore, the analysis of both datasets revealed that 23.2% of the respondents agreed and believed that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) had played a significant role in their social empowerment. This empowerment was attributed to the establishment of women's social organizations in the form of BBCs within their respective communities at the local level. Wherein, (38.3 %) of them disagreed in this regard. Wherein, one of the participants thought "She was assisted by another member in cash withdrawal and access to a nutrition programme launched by the government through the help of the World Food Programme in a local hospital. She further elaborated that the same member of BBC had guided her to visit a local hospital to avail medical care services with food items for her young baby under the social safety net imitative of the government as well". They were further of the opinions that BBC positively attributed in terms of their social inclusions and political participation and decision-making process in the last general election once been deprived of the side right from last so many decades across their communities. Wherein, some of the participants thought that such services were not availed by them through BBCs in the context of social empowerment of women in their communities.

Table 2.

Do you think that BBCs had positively attributed towards women empowerment and community development in your area?

Statement (s)	Response (s)	Frequency (f)	Percent (%)	Statistic (s)	
				P	χ^2
BBCs Positively attributes towards women empowerment and CD	Agree	307	79.9	7.983a	.092
	Disagree	39	10.2		
	Undecided	38	9.9		
	Total	384	100		
Ensured social inclusion of poor women	Agree	75	19.5	6.164a	.187
	Disagree	88	22.9		
	Undecided	221	57.6		
	Total	384	100		
Created social networking among the poor women	Agree	175	45.6	28.803a	.000
	Disagree	62	16.1		
	Undecided	147	38.3		
	Total	384	100		
Ensured accessibility of women into social safety nets	Agree	117	30.5	32.740a	.000
	Disagree	81	21.1		
	Undecided	186	48.4		
	Total	384	100		
Enhanced socio-political empowerment of poor women	Agree	135	35.1	9.135a	.058
	Disagree	64	16.7		
	Undecided	185	48.2		
	Total	384	100		
Contributed in gender equitable community development	Agree	153	39.8	12.513a	.014
	Disagree	56	14.6		
	Undecided	175	45.6		
	Total	384	100		

Source: Field Data: 2021

Description and Major Findings of Quantitative Date Section:

The above Table No. 4.2 pertinent to the perception of the respondents in terms of BBCs and its role in context of social inclusion of women and women empowerment. Which shown that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) significantly attributed

towards women empowerment (WE) and promoted gender balanced and equitable community development in the area. Wherein, (79.9 %) of the respondents agreed that BBCs had positively contributed towards community development through women empowerment while (10.2 %) of them disagreed with the given statement and (9.9 %) were uncertain and opted for undecided in that regard. Likewise, (19.5 %) of the respondents agreed that BBCs significantly contributed in terms of social inclusion of poor women in their respective communities. Wherein, (22.9 %) of the respondents disagreed while (57.6 %) of them were uncertain in this regard.

Likewise, (45.6 %) of the respondents agreed that they had created social networking among poor of the poorest women through BBCs. Wherein, (16.1 %) of the respondents disagreed while (38.3 %) of them were uncertain in this regard. Similarly, (30.5 %) of the respondents agreed that BBC enhanced their accessibility to social safety nets (SSNs) in their respective communities. Wherein, (21.1 %) of the respondents disagreed while (48.4 %) of them were uncertain in this regard. Additionally, the dataset indicated that 35.2% of the respondents agreed that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) had empowered ultra-poor women in their respective communities. Wherein, (16.7 %) of the respondents disagreed with the statement. While (48.2 %) of them were uncertain in this regard. Moreover, (39.8 %) of the respondents agreed that BBCs effectively contributed towards gender-class poverty reduction that leads towards gender balanced development in the area. Wherein, (14.6 %) of the respondents disagreed with the statement. While (45.6 %) of them were uncertain in this regard.

Themes-Oriented Discussions with Major Findings and Results of Qualitative Data Sets:

It was deduced from both the qualitative data sets based on IDIs and FGDs that most of the participants and interviewees were of the perception that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) had significantly contributed towards gender class poverty reduction (GCPR) and promoted gender-balanced community development. Likewise, a majority of the interviewees were of the view that the BBC had positively contributed to the social inclusion of ultra-poor women through participation in BBCs that enhanced their level of accessibility and adoptability to basic human rights under the umbrella of SSN in their respective communities. However, some of them were found unaware of its role in terms of social inclusion of poor women as well.

Likewise, the obtained qualitative data set showed that most of the interviewees were of the view that they were well-aware and actual members of their respective committees. Similarly, the obtained data sets based on FGDs and IDIs reflected that most of them were well aware of BBCs and their role in terms of social inclusion of poor of the poorest class person and families through their participation and institutionalization. They were further of the opinion that BBCs had significantly contributed to their social empowerment of women through the permeation

of social organizations of women in the shape of BBCs in their respective communities at the local level. They were further of the opinion that "BBC positively attributed in terms of their social inclusions and political participation in the decision-making process in last general election as they were once deprived of the side right in the past so many decades across generation to generations in their communities". Wherein, some of the participants thought that such services were not availed by them through BBC.

Moreover, analysis of the qualitative data sets revealed that the majority of participants held the belief that there was no hierarchical order regarding classification and participation in Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs). These committees were perceived as working for the welfare and improvement of destitute individuals and families, especially women, within their respective communities. Wherein, most of them were of the view that proper hierarchal order was kept in the permeation of BBCs being a women welfare and awareness committees in their vicinities. Moreover, it was deduced that BBCs positively attributed in terms of women empowerment through their social networking in the context of availing social safety net opportunities across their communities.

Analyses of Both the Findings of Quantitative and Qualitative Data Sets and Explored the Results:

The current information shows the existence of Women's Welfare Organizations (WWOs) in the shape of BBCs and their role in the field of development in the region. According to Anne, Women Welfare Organizations (WWOs) and Women Welfare Committees (WWCs) significantly contributed toward the welfare of women and women's awareness and gender-integrated socio-economic development of a nation (Anne, 2009). So, it was necessary to know about the existence of women's organizations and their role in community development in the region. Wherein, (90.1 %) of the respondents were of the perception that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) significantly attributed towards gender class poverty reduction (GCPR). Similarly, majority (87.5 %) of the respondents were of the view and agreed that BBC had positively contributed to the social inclusion of ultra-poor women through their participation in BBCs that enhanced their level of access to basic human rights under the umbrella of SSN in their respective communities. However, some of them were found unaware of BBCs and their significance in terms of social inclusion of poor women as well. Likewise, (99.2 %) of them were of view and agreed that they were well aware and actual members of BBCs in their respective committees constituted by BISP. Similarly, the obtained data sets based on FGDs and IDIs reflected that (61.7 %) of them were actual members of BBCs and well versed in terms of its role of social inclusion of poor of the poorest class person and families. Moreover, (23.2 %) of the respondent agreed that BBCs had significantly contributed to their social empowerment through the permeation of social organizations of women in the shape of BBCs.

The concept of women's welfare committees and

women's participation is positively attributed in terms of social inclusion and gender class poverty reduction across the world communities (Sharma, A. 2006). Likewise, the current study found that a majority of respondents believed that Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) had a positive impact on their social inclusion and political participation in the decision-making process during the last general election, especially considering their past decades of deprivation across their communities in the region. They were of the view that "BBCs facilitated them in all social spheres of life particularly in social awareness in terms of health and education under the umbrella of social safety nets in the context of women's participation in women welfare organizations such as BBCs". Wherein, some of the participants thought that such services were not availed by them through BBCs in the context of social empowerment of women in their communities.

4. CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION OF THE STUDY:

In this research paper, the researcher assessed the role of Benazir Income Support Programme Beneficiaries Committees (BBCs) in promoting the social inclusion of ultra-poor women within the overarching framework of the BISP-SSNP in the selected District of Northern area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan. Wherein, 39 % of the population facing multiple issues in shape of availability, accessibility, adoptability and sustainability of their basic needs and fundamental rights in the region that attributed towards the issue of their social exclusion and hampered the process of gender-equitable community development in the region. As BISP as a Social Safety Nets (SSNs) approach focuses on the social inclusion of women through women welfare organizations and social capital permeation in shape of BBCs aimed to ensure gender-equitable community development across urban and rural communities in Pakistan. That's why; in the current study, the researcher evaluated the role of BBCs in the selected area under the umbrella of social safety nets in the context of GGs 2030. Wherein, the researcher utilized the MMR strategy to gain the factual findings and results under intrinsic and extrinsic perspectives based upon the positivistic interpretive paradigm from the respondent's perspective in terms of its objectives.

Wherein, major findings of the study reflected that the social capital and practical networking approach adopted by BISP-SSNP through BBCs yielded the desired results of social inclusion of women and women empowerment and community development in the area. In addition, high level of significance ($P = .000$) was corroborated between Waseela-e-Anjuman-e-Sharakat-Niswaa (BBCs) being independent variable versus women empowerment and gender-equitable development being independent variable of the study in the region.

Suggestions:

This study suggests improvement in the capacity and capability of BBCs as a practical social capital permeation

approach to ensure the social inclusion of ultra-poor women to advance gender-equitable community development in alignment with the principles outlined in the Beijing Declaration of 1995 and the global development goals set for 2030.

The BBCs need to formulate and bring a community driven gender-equitable developmental policies for social inclusion across the urban and rural communities.

BBCs need to effectively contribute towards rectification and validation of Basic Bio-Statistical Information of the Populations (BBSIP) to reduce the error of inclusion and exclusion that inversely affects the functional outcomes of any social safety net systems in general while in the BISP-SSNP in particular.

BISP-SSNP needs to extend and incorporate the role of BBCs in its conditional and unconditional social safety nets (CUCSSNs) initiatives aim to achieve its goals of poverty reduction, women empowerment in the context of SDGs 2030 being a Global Goals.

Conflict interests

The authors has declared that no competing interests exist.

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