



AWAZ-E-NISWAN

Annual Report 2022- 2023

Contents

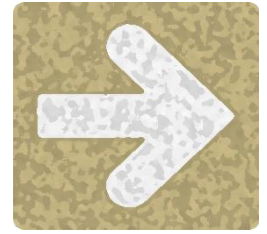


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Organization at Glance



Awaz-e-Niswan (AAN)

Awaz-e-Niswan is a membership-based network of women voters (aged 18 years and above) across the country. It is not affiliated to any political party or organization and aims to represent the concerns of women voters in Pakistan irrespective of their political, social or geographic locations. Awaz-e-Niswan (AAN), was established in 2016 as a pilot project. It was incorporated as a non-profit in November 2017 with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan under the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017).

Goal

Increased political commitment towards the needs and concerns of women voters in Pakistan with gender responsive political processes.

Objectives

1. To increase the visibility and influence of women voters and their issues amongst duty bearers including elected representatives through the formation of a vibrant national network of women voters
2. To draw attention and resources to priority areas of concern of female voters and engage with elected representatives and government functionaries to address these issues.

Awaz-e-Niswan Charter

Women citizens of Pakistan, ages 18 years and above, who understand and accept the AAN Charter, can become members of the national network. Groups of members living in geographical proximity will be encouraged to form local chapters to address local issues.

All individuals who wish to become members of Awaz-e-Niswan are required to read and accept the following principles that form the core of the Charter of Awaz-e-Niswan.

Principles

1. Women are full-fledged citizens of Pakistan able to exercise all their Constitutional rights.
2. Women have the right to political, economic and social participation and advancement.
3. Women have a right to live a life free of violence.
4. Women have the right to participate at all levels of decision-making, whether in their homes, their communities, at the workplace or in politics.
5. Women have a right to be engaged in political processes without fear of violence.

Key Activities of the Year



Social Accountability Training

Awaz-e-Niswan organized a three-day training on Social Accountability in Islamabad from December 25th to 27th, 2022. Young women from AAN chapters based in Karachi, Hunza, Peshawar, and Chakwal participated enthusiastically in the event. Ms. Rashida Dohad from the Omar Asghar Khan Foundation served as the Lead Facilitator. The objective of the training was to help participants understand the concept of social accountability, utilize tools to analyze the delivery of public services, and develop plans to advocate for citizen-responsive services. The training covered the following topics:

1. The concepts of politics, democracy, and power.
2. The concept of Social Accountability.
3. Informing participants about a well-tested approach that establishes new channels of citizen engagement in governance, going beyond electoral participation.
4. Political education and mobilization sessions for community women, aimed at developing groups of community women leaders.



Young members from AAN Chapters in Karachi, Hunza, Peshawar, Faisalabad, Okara, Chakwal, and Nankana participated with enthusiasm. They expressed their appreciation for the content

delivered during the three-day training and commended the efforts made by the AAN team. This training will be replicated in their respective districts in the future.



AAN Learning Workshop

Awaz e Niswan, held a two-day Learning Workshop in Islamabad for the local resource persons of women voters' networks from 25 districts. Ms. Kausar S. Khan facilitated the two-day learning workshop, which aimed to achieve the following objectives:

1. Share field experience to inform program approach for improved actions and outcomes.
2. Discuss opportunities and approaches for the active engagement of young women as constituents, in the electoral process and beyond.
3. Share experiences and perspectives on the role of diverse stakeholders in empowering women to exercise their voice and agency in the public and political sphere.

During the two-day workshop, project team members came together to reflect on the project's successes, challenges, and lessons learned (WVN focused). The workshop provided an opportunity to assess the project's outcomes, identify areas for improvement, and capture knowledge and best practices that can be applied to future projects. During the workshop, team members discussed what worked well during the project, what didn't work as planned, and why. They also identified any barriers or challenges that were encountered and how they were addressed. The workshop included various activities/sessions, such as group discussions, brainstorming, and reflection exercises. It was ensured that all team members had the opportunity to participate and share their perspectives.



The learning workshop approach was based on Paulo Freire's theory of education, which required the learners to reflect and analyze their empirical realities/activities and then identify possible actions. The workshop was divided into different segments and sessions, each focusing on various learning aspects. The sessions were activity-based, where participants were split into multiple groups to work on different tasks.



The two-day workshop provided an excellent platform for participants to share their experiences, learn from each other, and gain new skills and knowledge. Through various sessions, participants learned about stakeholder analysis, SWOT analysis, and empowerment. They also discussed and identified key challenges in their respective areas and developed strategies to address them. The participants gained a better understanding of the importance of building partnerships and networks with different stakeholders, including marginalized communities, to achieve their goals.

Additionally, they identified the need to improve their communication, presentation, and documentation skills, and also to invest in their personal and professional development. Overall, the workshop was a great success, and the participants left with renewed energy and commitment to making a positive change in their communities.

Radio Programs

A radio series consisting of 30 episodes was planned with the purpose of enhancing the participation of women and marginalized communities in politics as informed voters, engaged citizens, and potential candidates for public representation. These programs aimed to change existing gender norms and stereotypes concerning women's roles in the public and political spheres. The 30-program series was broadcasted from all networks of FM 101 Pakistan from November 2022 to February 2023 on a bi-weekly basis.

The programs were developed around two themes: 1) Political education for women voters, and 2) Women's representation in politics. However, in an attempt to make the series more informed and relevant, programs were also recorded to discuss in detail the catastrophic floods that occurred in the Southern part of the country and the upheaval they caused in the lives of many, particularly women.



The radio programs highlighted existing gender gaps in electoral and political representation, as well as the exclusion of marginalized groups. They featured the impact of political inequalities on these groups, the wider community, and governance processes. The programs also highlighted remedies to bridge gaps in electoral and political participation, such as how to ensure women's participation as informed voters, engaged constituents/citizens, and motivated election candidates. Moreover, the programs particularly focused on educating young women from different backgrounds on the electoral process, constitutional rights, and the value of being informed and engaged voters. The barriers to political and civic participation were discussed, as well as the influence of various factors and stakeholders at different levels and their underlying

causes. The programs emphasized women voters' systematic engagement with elected representatives and duty-bearers by sharing approaches and good practices of citizen-state engagement and its benefits.



Furthermore, the programs highlighted the need for political representation of women, the multiple institutional/structural barriers faced by candidates and elected representatives, the significance of gender-responsive initiatives to encourage increased representation, and the role of political parties, household/decision makers, community influencers, and others in promoting political representation of women and other marginalized groups.

Journalist Awards

Awaz-e-Niswan, under the Project Jamhooriat aur Ba-Ikhtiar Aurat (JAZBA) trained over fifty journalists from all over Pakistan in the year 2021-2022. The main purpose of the training was to sensitize the media on gender issues, and ethics and guide them through these journalistic ethical and sensitivity checklists on how to report on women voters in Pakistan. Furthermore, the training also delved into gender biases and prejudices. Furthermore, in order to keep them engaged with the JAZBA and to polish and utilize their newly learned reporting skills, AAN gave them an



opportunity to showcase their talent by participating in a Reporting Contest. The contest was named “Azaadi-e-Awaz Awards”. The theme of the contest was women’s Civic and Political Participation, and women’s issues. Moreover, we encouraged journalists to send video reports of the events they have covered in their districts in the recent past.

In this regard, we received several entries from trained journalists across the country. In the first round, a few entries were rejected on technical grounds. The entries that made their way to round two were shared with reviewing committee which consisted of the following members;

- Ms. Risham Adnan (SAP-PK)
- Ms. Shumaila Tanvir (AF)
- Ms. Aliya Sethi (AAN)

Entries shared with reviewing committee were marked on the basis of written material, Ethics, and Sensitivity, Gender Sensitization etc. Certificates and cash awards were given under the categories of written articles and video documentaries.



ToT on Political Mobilization of Young Women Leaders

Awaz e Niswan (AAN) organized two three-day Training of Trainers on 26th-28th December 2022 and 6th-8th February 2023 in Karachi and Islamabad respectively. The Three-day training focused on Political Education and Mobilization of Young Women Leaders. The trainings were well attended by Young members of the WVN from Sargodha, Faisalabad, Ghotki, Sibbi, Turbat, Gwadar, Haripur, Thatta, Okara, Nankana Sahab, Peshawar, Nowshera, and Nawabshah.

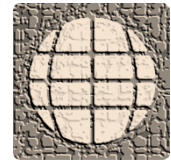


The objective of the three-day training was to familiarize young women members of women voter networks with the AAN TOT module for young women leaders. The training covered:

- i. The concepts of politics, democracy, and political education
- ii. The significance of women's sustained political participation in electoral and governance processes
- iii. Political education and mobilization sessions for community women and developing groups of community women leaders
- iv. Awaz-e-Niswan network, facilitating members and formation of local chapters and the functions of chapters



Partnerships and collaborations



AAN has partnered with South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK) and Aurat Foundation to execute “Jamhooriyat aur Baikhtaiar Aurat” (JAZBA) project.

AAN has also collaborated with Women’s Voice and Leadership-Pakistan (WVL-Pakistan) project, during 2019 which is part of Women’s Voice and Leadership (WVL) Programme, a global initiative funded by Global Affairs Canada.

Projects

Jamhooriyat aur Baikhtaiar Aurat (JAZBA)

Jamhooriyat aur Baikhtaiar Aurat is a four-year program to enhance political empowerment and enjoyment of rights by women and the marginalized in Pakistan. The program will be implemented by South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK), Aurat Foundation (AF) and Awaz e Niswan (AAN) in twenty-five districts, and aims to indirectly impact an additional ten districts in the four provinces and Gilgit- Baltistan. The program will focus on women and youth (both female and male) as well as vulnerable populations such as minorities and transgender communities, giving voice and visibility to their concerns and needs.

AAN’s learning experience will complement efforts of the project to promote gender-responsive political participation with an enhanced feminist perspective, AAN would be responsible for increased evidence-based advocacy by women, youth and CSOs for advancing the rights of women, marginalized and transgender persons and increased capacity of Awaz e Niswan for inclusive and expanded membership of sustained

Specific activities of the program will include the following.

- Training provided to women and youth for leadership in the community and local government.
- Voter education training organized for women and youth groups and chapters of Awaz e Niswan.
- Young women and men sensitized for addressing Gender-based Violence.
- Support provided to institutionalize evidence generation on the intersection of women’s empowerment with political participation, GBV and responsive governance.
- Support provides for the formation of Awaz e Niswan district chapters for meaning full engagement with duty bearers.
- National, provincial and district secretariats of Awaz e Niswan established and strengthened.

Women's Voice and Leadership-Pakistan (WVL-Pakistan)

The project is part of Global Affairs Canada (GAC)'s Women's Voice and Leadership (WVL) Program, a global initiative to support the capacity and activities of local and regional women's organizations and movements seeking to empower women and girls, advance the protection of women's and girls' rights, and achieve gender equality. The project seeks to increase Pakistani women's and girls' enjoyment of human rights and to advance gender equality in Pakistan by strengthening the individual and collective capacity of women's rights organizations (WROs).

under this project, AAN will work with the country's diverse geographic and demographic groups, that are inclusive of ethnic, religious, and linguistic minority groups, and that possess gender expertise in different thematic areas by using a strategic combination of funding mechanisms and capacity strengthening support, AAN is expected to strengthen and sustain itself, and to deliver programming that better meets the needs of the women they serve. AAN's ability to influence gender-transformative policy will be enhanced. WVL-Pakistan is built on three pillars that correspond to its three intermediate outcomes:

1. Improved management, programming and sustainability of local WROs in Pakistan, particularly those representing vulnerable and marginalized women and girls.
2. Enhanced delivery of campaigns and programming by WROs to advance gender equality in Pakistan.
3. Increased effectiveness of national and sub-national women's rights platforms, networks and alliances to effect gender-sensitive policy change and implementation in Pakistan.

Financial/Audit Report



**AWAZ-E-NISWAN
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2023**



Asad Ijaz & Co.
Chartered Accountants

October 7, 2023

The Board of Directors
Awaz-e-Niswan
Islamabad

Dear Sirs

**AWAZ-E-NISWAN
AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

We enclose the above referred financial statements of Awaz-e-Niswan (the Company) for the year ended June 30, 2023 with our draft audit report thereon initialed by us for identification purposes. We shall be pleased to sign our report in present or amended form after:

- a) Financial statements have been approved by the Board and signed by the Chief Executive Officer and a Director authorized in this behalf.
- b) We have received representation letter on the lines of the enclosed draft, duly signed by the Chief Executive Officer and a Director authorized in this behalf.

We wish to place on record our appreciation of the cooperation and courtesy extended to us by all concerned during the course of the audit.

Yours truly

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF AWAZ-E-NISWAN**

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the annexed financial statements of Awaz-e-Niswan (the Company), which comprise the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2023, the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in fund balance, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and we state that we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of the audit.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the statement of financial position, the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in fund balance and the statement of cash flows together with the notes forming part thereof conform with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan and give the information required by the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017), in the manner so required and respectively give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at June 30, 2023 and of the surplus or deficit, the comprehensive income or loss, the changes in fund balance and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the Code) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Board of Directors for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan and the requirements of Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017) and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Board of directors are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's

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report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board of directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Based on our audit, we further report that in our opinion:

- a) proper books of account have been kept by the Company as required by the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017);
- b) the statement of financial position, the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in fund balance and the statement of cash flows together with the notes thereon have been drawn up in conformity with the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017) and are in agreement with the books of account and returns;

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- c) investments made, expenditure incurred and guarantees extended during the year were for the purpose of the Company's business; and
- d) no Zakat was deductible at source under the Zakat and Ushr Ordinance, 1980 (XVIII of 1980).

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Asad Ijaz.

Chartered Accountants
Islamabad
Date: October 7, 2023

UDIN: AR202310301pG79i2v5d

AWAZ-E-NISWAN
(A Company incorporated under section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT JUNE 30, 2023

	Note	2023 Rupees	Restated 2022 Rupees
ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and equipment	4	916,691	905,584
Intangible assets	5	770,000	880,000
Long term deposit		84,000	84,000
		<u>1,770,691</u>	<u>1,869,584</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Other receivables		-	32,000
Advance income tax		2,080,328	767,010
Advances, deposits and prepayments	6	454,500	233,166
Cash and bank balances	7	2,726,724	8,153,280
		5,261,552	9,185,456
		<u>7,032,243</u>	<u>11,055,040</u>
FUND AND LIABILITIES			
FUND BALANCE			
General fund		5,033,971	2,834,555
Restricted donors' fund	8	1,536,696	(285,382)
		<u>6,570,667</u>	<u>2,549,173</u>
Deferred capital grant	9	183,086	239,807
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued and other payables	10	278,490	464,560
Unearned revenue		-	7,801,500
		278,490	8,266,060
		<u>7,032,243</u>	<u>11,055,040</u>
CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS	11	-	-

The annexed notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.


Chief Executive Officer


Director

AWAZ-E-NISWAN
(A Company incorporated under section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Note	2023 Rupees	Restated 2022 Rupees
INCOME			
Revenue		10,546,404	7,939,866
Grant income recognized	8	6,738,906	6,449,430
Amortization of deferred capital grant	9	56,721	77,194
Other income		57,616	15,914
		<u>17,399,647</u>	<u>14,482,404</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Program expenses	12	(15,770,318)	(12,148,255)
Operations support expenses	13	(453,051)	(1,195,505)
Depreciation on grant assets	9	(56,721)	(77,194)
Finance charges		(1,600)	(3,316)
		<u>(16,281,690)</u>	<u>(13,424,270)</u>
SURPLUS BEFORE INCOME TAX		1,117,957	1,058,134
Income tax credit/ (expense)	14	1,081,459	(636,462)
TOTAL SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		<u><u>2,199,416</u></u>	<u><u>421,672</u></u>

AM The annexed notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.



 Chief Executive Officer


 Director

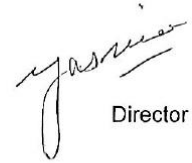
AWAZ-E-NISWAN
(A Company incorporated under section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017)

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	2023 Rupees	Restated 2022 Rupees
Surplus for the year	2,199,416	421,672
Other comprehensive income/ (loss) for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u><u>2,199,416</u></u>	<u><u>421,672</u></u>

 The annexed notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.


Chief Executive Officer


Director

AWAZ-E-NISWAN
(A Company incorporated under section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Rupees
Balance as at July 1, 2021	2,412,883
Total comprehensive income for the year - restated	421,672
Balance as at June 30, 2022 - restated	<u><u>2,834,555</u></u>
Balance as at July 1, 2022 - restated	2,834,555
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,199,416
Balance as at June 30, 2023	<u><u>5,033,971</u></u>

Ⓢ The annexed notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.


Chief Executive Officer


Director

AWAZ-E-NISWAN
(A Company incorporated under section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	2023	Restated
	Rupees	2022
		Rupees
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Surplus before income tax	1,117,957	1,058,134
Adjustment for non cash income and expenses		
Depreciation on property and equipment - note 4	209,690	251,460
Amortization of intangible asset - note 5	110,000	110,000
Finance charges	1,600	3,316
	<u>321,290</u>	<u>364,776</u>
	1,439,247	1,422,910
Changes in working capital		
Receivable from members	32,000	768,000
Advances, deposits and prepayments	(221,334)	124,931
Unearned revenue	(7,801,500)	2,941,134
Accrued and other payables	(186,070)	(211,217)
	<u>(6,737,657)</u>	<u>5,045,758</u>
Cash generated from operations	<u>(6,737,657)</u>	<u>5,045,758</u>
Movement in restricted donor's fund	1,822,078	(2,245,829)
Movement in deferred capital grant	(56,721)	(77,194)
Income tax paid	(231,859)	(997,186)
Finance charges paid	(1,600)	(3,316)
	<u>(5,205,759)</u>	<u>1,722,233</u>
Net cash flow from operating activities	<u>(5,205,759)</u>	<u>1,722,233</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payment for acquisition of property and equipment	(220,797)	-
Net cash flow from investing activities	<u>(220,797)</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Net cash flow from financing activities	-	-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(5,426,556)</u>	<u>1,722,233</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	8,153,280	6,431,047
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year - note 7	<u><u>2,726,724</u></u>	<u><u>8,153,280</u></u>

dx The annexed notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.


Chief Executive Officer


Director