

Poverty & Social Impact Analysis of Workers Welfare Funds

Government of Pakistan (GoP) is assisting the industrial labours through Workers Welfare Fund (WWF) in Pakistan. WWF is an autonomous body which is administered by Ministry of Human Resource Development. The tripartite partners responsible to run its affairs are government officials, workers and employers. It was launched in 1971 under the Workers Welfare Ordinance. Its main objectives include the promotion of workers' welfare by providing residence, education, health, death grants and marriage grant etc.

Objectives of the Study

The present study aims to review the employment, socioeconomic, and poverty impacts of the WWF and would advise the Government of Pakistan (GOP) the way to improve their effectiveness.

For this purpose, it aims:

1. To analyze intended and unintended consequences of the WWF programme on the welfare and well being of different groups (e.g. gender, location, age) with a special focus on the vulnerable and poor. Well being includes income and non-income dimensions of poverty.
2. To elaborate the employment as well as non employment factors adding to or detracting from the targeted impact of WWF.
3. To recommend new policies and changes to existing policies and approaches to address the needs of poor and very poor households and other excluded groups and scale up the

programme intervention to meet the needs of poor and very poor households throughout the country.

4. To assess the possible impact of man-made and natural disasters on the delivery of the WWF programme.
5. To evaluate if there are any significant differences in scope and effectiveness of the programme in urban and rural context and to suggest reasons for these differences.
6. To put forward concrete recommendations to improve the WWF programme and maximize its impact. It should identify the actions needed to implement these recommendations taking into account socioeconomic, employment and institutional factors. The recommendations, based on the preceding analysis, should also take account of effectiveness in respect of particular target groups (including employees and their families) and employers.
7. To explore the value of PSIA in analyzing policy choices and propose an efficient process for conducting future PSIAs.