

14th Nov' 2005

Activity Report for 2003 & 2004

Facing a difficult situation for its future due to the disability of its Founder President, Dr. Nasima Frey-Rahman, her husband Dr. Hans Frey is carrying on her work with the help of our Pakistani friends. To develop a strategy for gradually handing over to local management he approached the Jabir-Bin-Hayyan-Trust, a local NGO which had built a hospital (Abdullah Hospital) at Skardu from the donation of an Arab friend, but couldn't run it fully, to join hands and shift our Rahman Clinic at Skardu into their premises.

An agreement was reached for an initial period till June 2005 and our clinic is now located since July 2003 in the Abdullah Hospital premises, but maintaining its own name and identity. Luckily in the same year we were able for the first time to attract the services of a female full-fledged gynaecologist. Labour-, delivery-rooms and operation theatre were made fully operational and patients admitted for emergency- & gynae-surgery. For other surgery cases qualified surgeons & anaesthetists were hired on case-basis. The no. of patients climbed to an average of 100 out-patients daily, with the no. of indoor-patients still small.

In 2004 a friend from the Marafie Foundation brought medical specialists & surgeons from Lahore for 3 medical field camps to our hospital at Skardu, to treat & carry out surgeries, and a team of visiting medical specialists from England, who performed 27 facial reconstruction surgery on deformed children (split-cleft).

'Brot-fuer-die-Welt' generously provided an additional final grant over Rs.800,000/- in 2003, which covered our running expenditure till Oct'2003, after which expenditure was covered by DBFK's grant over Rs.405,440/- & from advances by Dr. Frey. Audit for 2003 attached & for 2004 presently being carried out. We have requested the German Embassy for a statement regarding the credibility of our statements. We sold the land we had bought from the donation of a friend, Dr. Allawi, for Rs.869,446/-, as we couldn't construct a hospital there (s.previous report), and are investing it in the completion of Abdullah Hospital.

In 2004 began the implementation of a project in collaboration with COMSATS, an international organization of Muslim countries for the promotion of appropriate technology for sustainable development, supported by a grant from Canada's IDRC, for the introduction of internet-services in Baltistan in Oct'2004 and setting up a tele-health center at our Skardu hospital, which began to work in March'2005, providing medical specialist consultation via satellite internet connection incl. video-conferencing, as well as facilitating distance-training with visual contact.

We would like to mention, that we were able to win a grant from the European Commission for a womens' rights project in Baltistan, which was carried out by two local women NGOs from July'2004 – June'2005.