**Curriculum Vitae**

# Zahid Ali

# House 330, Street 16, G-10/2, Islamabad, Pakistan

# Mob 00923324482888

# Email: zahidrana12@gmail.com

**Career Summary**

Zahid Ali is a governance specialist with an M.Phil. in state and politics. During his professional career in development sector, he has been engaged in advocacy and research, programme management, and monitoring and evaluation of the various programmes focusing strengthening of parliamentary governance, strengthening of provincial and federal legislatures, police services and education sector. He has managed/overseen/monitored and evaluated projects/programmes aiming to improve and strengthen the capacities of governance structures and reforms including the various sectors and institutions like democracy, parliament, local government and education, by engaging and mobilizing citizens, supporting them to articulate their voices for better governance and advocating with the policy and decision makers especially parliamentarians and bureaucracy to take appropriate steps to fulfill these demands.

He has worked on projects like Alif Ailaan by DFID, Citizens Voice Project (CVP) by USAID and Strengthening of Federal and Provincial Legislatures, Access to Justice (AJP) by Asian Development Bank and GoP engaging citizens for the articulation of their demands and galvanizing parliamentarians to cater for those demands. These programmes have generated actionable evidence, partnered with media and associated institutions to mobilize parliamentarians to improve the performance of provincial and federal legislatures through provision of support, research and resources to better perform their functions like legislation, parliamentary oversight and representation of citizens’ demands and needs.

His recent engagement with the strategic communication campaign Alif Ailaan, engaging parents and politicians to bring education to the center and front of political discourse of Pakistan, and Effective Education Budgeting Initiative (EEBI) campaigning an active engagement of parliamentarians and citizens for the optimal allocation and utilization of public finance for education sector in Pakistan, afforded him invaluable opportunities of advocacy with the parliamentarians at federal, provincial and district levels.

He has designed, managed and executed projects, grants disbursements, pre and post award assessments and evaluations and due diligence of grantees and ensured their contractual compliance. He has obtained experience of working with DFID and other international donors like USAID, managing and disbursing grants to more than 80 grantees.

He is quite well versed with management and evaluation of projects using various types of databases like MS excel, Ms Access and SPSS etc. He has worked with ActionAid, Asian Development Bank, British Council, DFID, European Commission, Swiss Development Corporation (SDC), The Asia Foundation, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), USAID, Ministry of Justice, Law and Human Rights, Government of Pakistan.

**Educational Qualifications**

* **M.Phil.in Pakistan Studies with State and Politics as majors** from National Institute of Pakistan Studies (NIPS), Quaid-I-Azam University, 1996.
* **M.Sc., Pakistan Studies with State & Politics as majors**, from NIPS, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, 1994.

**October 2014 to July 2015**

Working as Project Manager on UNESCO funded project aiming to enhance human security and peace through cultural and heritage conservation and projection by engaging communities, education, culture and archaeology departments. The project involves research, management, documentation, promotion and projection of culture and heritage in Dera Ismail Khan to enhance human security and peace. It focuses on local communities, media, teachers and students to achieve its objectives.

Duties include:

* Design and execution of research, media engagement, overseeing the documentation methods and means;
* Manage a team of 10 to 12 researchers, media people and archeologists for the successful execution of the assignment;
* Monitoring and evaluation of project activities, data management and ensure appropriate reporting to the relevant quarters;
* Coordination with UNESCO, district and provincial governments to secure appropriate documentation and cooperation;
* Traveling and field visits to oversee and capture the progress of the project activities for timely execution of the project;
* Structured and finalized the reporting and monitoring formats for the field teams and donors;
* Risk assessment and security focal person for the project and organization, as I have received security and risk assessment training from International Resource Group.

**December 2012 to September2014**

Worked as lead monitoring and evaluation on Transforming Education in Pakistan (Alif Ailaan campaign) funded by DFID. Alif Ailaan campaign is working with parents, parliamentarians and education providers to bring the education to the front of political discourse in Pakistan by partnering with the media and communities across Pakistan. It aims to mobilize parents and communities to demand better access and improved quality of education and galvanize parliamentarians, politicians and policymakers to cater for this demand. Duties as M&E lead include;

* Provide support to the wider TEP team in all matters relating to monitoring and evaluation and to ensure that key information is properly reported to both the client and to HTSPE and its partners**;**
* Structure log frame identifying the relevant indicators to track and monitor progress;
* Working with DFID and appointed independent evaluators to ensure that the programme can be effectively evaluated**;**
* Liaison with the donors, arranged and minuted meetings with the donors and reporting progress on the various heads of the programme;
* Supporting campaign managers in developing monitoring criteria and indicators in relation to key activities within the TEP office and partners;
* Data collection and support to the team in provision of upto date data from partners/media etc for Log frame, media mentions, number of engagements with politicians, and parents/citizens engaged through NCs, Political advocacy strand and partners ;
* Structured and updated the various online data platforms for the prorgramme like SalesForce and NationBuilder;
* Captured key data against each indicator set out in the log frame and shared with the team for Quarterly Progress report and Monthly updates ;
* Conduct M&E visits to the various partners, detailed M&E reports are generated based on the findings of the visits;
* Engaged partners and agencies to measures and evaluate the outreach of the campaign to the target audiences (use of Gallup and other agencies);
* Formal and informal exchanges with the strand managers to discuss progress and M&E reports, set priorities for monitoring and evaluation ;
* Conducted due diligence as pre-award assessments of the various partners of the programme in order to inform decisions about extending grants/awards;
* Also worked as security manager and risk assessment and analyst for the organization through coordination with the other projects of DAI and DFID, putting in place security arrangements for the international, national and regional staff.

**July 2012 to December 2012**

Worked with World Food Programme (WFP) as team lead on assignment aiming to mapping and assessment of disaster mitigation and preparedness at district level in KPK and Punjab. The assessment focused to accomplish the following:

* Mapping and listing of key players engaged in Disaster Risk Reduction Activities at District Level;
* Mapping of the various major hazards and vulnerabilities of Disaster Risk Reduction coverage;
* District level geographical coverage of Disaster Risk Reduction Activities at district level;
* Identification of indicators of disaster hazards and vulnerabilities for the coverage of Disaster Risk Reduction activities and coverage;
* List of DRR priority interventions required to be introduced in next 5 years at district level.

**May 2011 to July 2012**

Working as Consultant for M&E with Grant Thornton-AnjumAsimShahidRehman, Pakistan on Citizens Voice Project by USAID. The project aimed to strengthen citizens’ voice by articulating citizens’ demands, cultivating better understanding, and engagement between citizens and government institutions. The project also envisages strengthening the capacities of the CSOs for undertaking advocacy for improved governance, civic services through greater transparency and accountability of the governance structures in Pakistan. The assignment involves

* Development of templates and indicators to assess the suitability and eligibility of the prospective grantees. The project involves awarding of about 1019 grants throughout Pakistan. The award of grants is followed by financial management and performance monitoring and evaluation of the grantees to ensure compliance with USAID Regulations and contractual obligations by the prime contractor and the grantees;
* Pre-award assessments of the sub grantees and post-award monitoring and evaluation for the achievement of the intended results of the program;
* Developed M&E manual and formats for the conduct of the pre and post award monitoring and evaluation of the grantees;
* Developed monitoring and evaluation indicators for the performance assessment and evaluation of the awardees of the grants;
* Also managed a team of 20 professional to carry out pre and post award monitoring and evaluation of the grantees;
* Also developed training modules for financial management and compliance of the sub grantees with the USAID regulations.

**August 2010 to May 2011**

Worked with Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS) as consultant on project for Effective Education Budgeting Initiative (EEBI), funded by DFID;

Responsibilities included;

* Developing M&E plan for the project;
* Identification of indicators for the Log Frame of the project;
* `Identified and developed education budget tracking indicators;
* `Developed reporting formats and contents for the project team for the monitoring and evaluation purposes;
* Travelled throughout KPK and Punjab to oversee/conduct field monitoring and evaluation of the various activities in the field;
* `Planned, managed, and executed a series of policy dialogues with the public representatives of KPK, Punjab and Federal level for improved and enhanced public finance for quality of education at various levels.

**July 2009 to July 2010**

Worked with the UNDP One Unit DRM as a consultant for M&E on Disaster Risk Management Program. The programme involved a series of policy dialogues with the policymakers and parliamentarians to review the disaster risk management regime in Pakistan and compile recommendations to strengthen the disaster risk management;

Responsibilities included:

* Developing Monitoring and Evaluation plan along with monitoring indicators both at process and outcome levels of the project involving policy dialogue and consultations with Parliamentarians on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Pakistan;
* Preparation of benchmarks for tracking of Public Finance for DRM;
* Also identified indicators and expected results and outcomes of an efficient and effective DRM Policy;
* Developing and implementing indicators and inputs for monthly and quarterly progress reports for various teams and implementing partners on the One Unit DRM;
* Also engaged with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) in different provinces and other department and officials involved in DRM for a coordinated and proactive response to disasters in Pakistan.

**December 2008 to May 2009**

Worked with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as consultant on public finance of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and creating monitoring indicators for tracking public finance for DRM in Pakistan.

Duties included among others;

* Part of the team which developed and finalized the National Disaster Management Policy;
* Developed and finalized the TORs of the members of the team;
* Developed reporting formats and templates for the monitoring and successful execution of the whole activity;
* Designed and implemented the reporting formats for the monitoring and evaluation of various project activities and terminating assessment/evaluation of the project.

**January 2007 to December 2008**

Worked with Islamic World Citizens Foundation as project Monitoring and Evaluation Expert on the Project AikHunarAikNagar (AHAN) funded by Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA).

Responsibilities included:

* Designing of Indicators for project monitoring against the performance benchmarks and project outcomes;
* Detailed mapping of the M&E activities and Baseline Databases of the project;
* Management of monthly activities and progress reports;
* Design and implement the field monitoring system for all project deliverables;
* Regular review and monthly approval of the work plans according to the SOP;
* Preparing briefing papers on project progress for SMEDA and government officials;
* Making recommendations and designing the TORs for special assessments/evaluations, as required or requested; managing the implementation of such assessments/evaluations; making recommendations for programmatic decisions based on the assessments/evaluation recommendations;
* Also undertook the final evaluation of the project against the bench marks of the project activities, inputs, indicators, outputs and deliverables and intended results of the project along with the external Evaluators.

**June 2005 to December 2007**

Worked as Monitoring and Evaluation Manager with Consumer Rights Commission of Pakistan on Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded Access to justice Programme (AJP) for implementation of interventions on key legal, judicial and administrative reforms in Pakistan:

Responsibilities included:

* Guide and supervise monitoring and evaluation team in tracking of project activities and performance improvement plan;
* Develop reporting formats for the performance indicators and project performance reports;
* Carryout external monitoring activities, such as establishing a baseline for the project deliverables and creating evidence-based Plans;
* Supervise and carryout trainings of CSOs, CBOs in monitoring and evaluation of legal reforms;
* Guide technical teams in the preparation of quarterly and annual progress reports for their respective components and carry out all necessary reporting to the Donor;
* Liaise with project counterparts and provide guidance to the field teams in implementing result oriented project activities;
* Also undertook the final evaluation of the project against the bench marks of the project activities, inputs, indicators, outputs and deliverables and intended results of the project.

**March 2006 to December 2008**

Worked as Manager Monitoring and Evaluation on the Project Gender-aware Beneficiary Assessment (GABA) of actual and potential beneficiaries of education, health, and population services in Gujarat and Rajanpur Districts. The assessment was designed to enhance local and national understanding and skills to prepare, review and analyze budgets from gender perspective, and to promote policy and resource allocation according to the needs of various gender groups. The Assessment was executed by CRCP as part of UNDP funded Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative (GRBI).

Duties included:

* Design and implement monitoring and evaluation activities for the project improvement and achieving work plan and performance improvement plan objectives;
* Build capacity of the project staff and partner(s) in carrying out monitoring activities during implementation of the project work plan;
* Develop reporting formats for the performance indicators stated in the project work plan;
* Supervise household survey and client survey to evaluate the quality of various government services.
* Train enumerators and field staff on survey protocols and techniques;
* Build capacity of the project staff on implementation of the M&E plan;
* Assist technical teams in the preparation of quarterly and annual progress reports for their respective components and carry out all necessary reporting to the Donor;
* Monitor project performance against the intended deliverables and outcomes of the project according to the original plan of the project;
* Ensure timely and quality implementation of all activities included in the plan of the project;
* Document the methodology and outcomes of the project for subsequent dissemination nation-wide; and
* Guide and coordinate the review of performance indicators as required.

**December 2004-August 2005**

Worked as Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager on the project for engaging parliamentarians, especially, the members of relevant committees of the parliament to ensure the implementation of National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS) supported by GEF/UNDP

The responsibilities included:

* Monitoring of the project activities against the targets set in the Plan and baseline of the Project;
* Interacting with the project team and help them prepare them their reporting formats;
* Help design training materials and awareness campaign on environment for the target audience of the project;
* Monitoring the progress on the project activities vis a vis the project LFA;
* Part of the teams lately responsible for the evaluation of the project on its conclusion.

**July 2004 to September 2006.**

Worked as Manager Monitoring and Evaluation on Strengthening National and Provincial Legislative Governance (SNGPL) project funded by USAID.

Duties included:

* Designed and implemented project M&E plan. This included: developing monthly, quarterly and annual reporting formats;
* conducted trainings for the Project Staff and partners on implementation of the work plan;
* Developed the PMP for the project;
* Ensured that required data are received from Project staff and partners in time as per plan;
* Preparing and distributing written M&E reports as per the SOP;
* Making written recommendations for program changes that might be required given M&E  results;
* Making written recommendations for M&E plan revisions;
* Build capacity of the project staff and partner(s) in carrying out monitoring activities during implementation of the project work plan;
* Develop reporting formats for the performance indicators, inputs and outcomes of the project work plan;
* Build capacity of the project staff on implementation of the M&E plan;
* In conjunction with the Data Analyst, facilitate sample or user surveys aimed at improving project management and implementation;
* Assist technical teams in the preparation of quarterly and the annual progress reports for their respective components and carry out all necessary reporting to the World Vision;
* Monitor project performance against objectives of the Project;
* Schedule various meetings, workshops, and other events, and facilitate such events as required;
* Help staff to design and prepare the training and advocacy material under the project;
* Conducted trainings of CSOs, CBOs, Bar Associations and other project audience using the trainings manuals and other material prepared under the project;
* Also was part of the teams that evaluated the project on its conclusion.
* Document the methodology and outcomes of the project for subsequent dissemination nation-wide; and
* Guide and coordinate the review of performance indicators as required.

**March 1998 to July 2004.**

Worked with Consumer Rights Commission of Pakistan as Project Manager and Researcher;

Duties included;

1. Conceived, planned and executed a series of seminars on Police Reforms in Pakistan under a project funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB);
2. Executed Awareness campaigns on safe drinking water and freedom from sub- standard goods, in Liaison with press, electronic media and other CSOs.
3. Representing and intervening on behalf of Citizens- consumer on different forums and regulatory bodies i.e. National Electric Regulatory Authority, Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, Pakistan Electronic Media regulatory Authority, National Tariff Commission, Pakistan Standard Control Authority, Pakistan National Accreditation Commission.

**May 1994 to 1996**

Worked with Acron News and Analysis Network as Research and Training Fellow. Duties included;

* Providing technical support to the researchers and media persons in the preparation of reports, data collection and report writing, and preparing briefs for the parliamentarians on current national and international issues` related to governance of education sector, social development and political happenings in the country.
* Conducted trainings of media persons, students and trainees from variety of backgrounds on the issues detailed above.