



**ROSHAN
DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION**

Annual Report 2025–2026

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Executive Director

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Message from the Chairperson

The year 2025–2026 marked a significant milestone in the evolution of Roshan Development Foundation (RDF). As a young and emerging organization, RDF remained steadfast in its commitment to strengthening institutional foundations while responding to some of the most pressing social, humanitarian, and development challenges confronting communities across Pakistan.

Guided by our vision of fostering peaceful, inclusive, and resilient communities, we worked alongside youth, women, religious minorities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and other marginalized populations to promote sustainable, community-driven solutions. Our work was grounded in the principles of human dignity, social inclusion, climate resilience, participation, and empowerment, ensuring that the voices and needs of vulnerable communities remained at the center of our interventions.

During the reporting period, RDF made important strides in strengthening its governance structures, enhancing organizational capacity, and establishing a clear strategic direction for future growth. At the same time, we successfully implemented a range of initiatives that reflected our commitment to addressing both immediate humanitarian needs and long-term development priorities. From supporting flood-affected communities and raising awareness about climate resilience to empowering young people through entrepreneurship and innovation, facilitating peacebuilding initiatives, and amplifying the voices of displaced minority women, our efforts were designed to promote sustainable and inclusive development.

The achievements highlighted in this report are a testament to the dedication, commitment, and collective efforts of our Board of Directors, staff members, volunteers, community representatives, and development partners. Their unwavering support enabled RDF to take meaningful steps toward realizing its mission and establishing itself as a credible and responsive development organization. As we reflect on the progress made during the past year, we are encouraged by the resilience of the communities we serve and inspired by the opportunities that lie ahead. While significant challenges remain, we firmly believe that collaborative action, innovation, and community engagement can create pathways toward lasting social change.

Looking forward, RDF remains committed to expanding its reach, strengthening strategic partnerships, and deepening its impact across Pakistan. We will continue to invest in initiatives that promote peace, social cohesion, climate resilience, economic empowerment, and human security, ensuring that no individual or community is left behind.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend my sincere gratitude to all our supporters, partners, volunteers, and community members who have contributed to our journey. Together, we are building stronger foundations for a more peaceful, inclusive, and resilient future.

Dr. Saira Farooqi
Chairperson
Roshan Development Foundation (RDF)

Organizational Development and Governance

A significant achievement during the reporting period was the strengthening of RDF's institutional governance framework. The first meeting of the Board of Directors was successfully convened on August 31st 2024, at the RDF office. This meeting marked the formal beginning of the organization's governance journey and provided a platform for defining strategic priorities, strengthening accountability mechanisms, and establishing a shared vision for the future.



During the meeting, the Board formalized key leadership positions and reviewed the legal and operational requirements necessary for ensuring compliance and organizational effectiveness. Discussions focused on developing a roadmap for institutional growth, including organizational systems, staffing structures, financial accountability mechanisms, and partnership development strategies. The Board emphasized the importance of transparency, community engagement, and sustainable growth as guiding principles for RDF's future work.



The meeting concluded with a collective commitment to strengthening institutional systems and positioning RDF as a credible and effective development actor capable of responding to the needs of vulnerable communities while contributing to broader peace and development objectives.

Climate Action and Humanitarian Response

Pakistan continues to face severe impacts of climate change despite contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions. Increasingly frequent floods, droughts, extreme weather events, glacier melt, environmental degradation, and water scarcity are placing millions of people at risk while undermining livelihoods and human security.



Recognizing the urgency of these challenges, RDF has integrated climate awareness, resilience building, and disaster response into its programming. During September 2025, severe flooding affected several communities, creating immediate humanitarian needs and further exposing the vulnerability of already marginalized populations.

In response, RDF undertook relief efforts aimed at supporting affected families while simultaneously raising awareness about climate change and disaster preparedness. The organization will be engaging communities in discussions on climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience-building measures, emphasizing the importance of preparedness and local action in reducing future risks.



Beyond immediate relief efforts, RDF will continue to promote awareness among youth, women, minorities, and marginalized communities regarding national and international climate policies and their implications. Particular attention would be given to helping communities understand the relationship between climate change, environmental degradation, public health, agriculture, migration, and socio-economic stability.

These interventions will reinforce RDF's belief that humanitarian response and climate resilience must go hand in hand, enabling communities not only to recover from disasters but also to prepare for future challenges.

Empowering Youth through Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Young people represent one of Pakistan's greatest assets, yet they continue to face significant challenges related to employment, economic opportunities, and skills development. RDF recognizes that empowering youth with entrepreneurial knowledge and innovative thinking is essential for promoting economic resilience and sustainable development.



With this objective in mind, RDF organized a training session titled “Youth Preparedness: Entrepreneurship and Innovation” on December 30th 2025 in Lahore. The event brought together students from various universities who were eager to explore opportunities for personal and professional growth through entrepreneurship.

The session was led by Dr. Saira Farooqi, Chairperson of RDF, who shared insights on the evolving socio-economic landscape and the growing importance of innovation and entrepreneurship in addressing contemporary challenges. Participants were encouraged to think creatively, identify opportunities within their communities, and develop solutions capable of generating both social and economic impact.

The training created an interactive learning environment where participants exchanged ideas, reflected on emerging opportunities, and engaged directly with the facilitator through discussions and question-and-answer sessions. The enthusiasm and active participation demonstrated the strong interest among young people in acquiring practical knowledge that could help them navigate future challenges and contribute positively to society.



By the conclusion of the session, participants reported increased confidence and a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship as a pathway toward self-reliance, leadership, and innovation. The training reinforced RDF's commitment to supporting youth as agents of positive change and sustainable development.

Understanding the Realities of Minority Women IDPs

One of RDF's most significant engagements during the reporting period focused on understanding the experiences and challenges faced by internally displaced women from religious minority communities. On February 13th 2026, RDF facilitated a Focus Group Discussion in Nankana Sahib with eleven women from Sikh, Christian, and Hindu communities who had migrated from areas including Kashmore, Bajaur, Bara, Tirah, and former FATA.



Executive director Ms. Saima Jasam of RDF led the FDG. The discussion provided valuable insights into the complex realities of displacement experienced by minority women and their families. Participants shared stories of insecurity, threats from militant and extremist groups, fear of forced conversions, social exclusion, and limited livelihood opportunities that had compelled them to leave their homes and seek safety elsewhere.

Although Nankana Sahib was widely regarded by participants as a safer environment for minority communities, displacement had come at a significant social and economic cost. Many families had lost agricultural land, livestock, businesses, and other sources of income. As a result, they were forced to rely on irregular and low-paying forms of work, including daily wage labor, waste collection, small-scale vending, and voluntary services.

Women described carrying a particularly heavy burden as they navigated the challenges of displacement while caring for children, elderly family members, persons with disabilities, and relatives suffering from chronic illnesses. Many also spoke about the emotional and psychological toll associated with displacement, uncertainty, and economic hardship.



The discussion further revealed significant barriers to accessing social protection programmes. Documentation challenges and administrative obstacles had prevented many families from benefiting from government support mechanisms, thereby increasing their vulnerability.

The findings highlighted the need for integrated interventions that address both immediate humanitarian needs and long-term socio-economic resilience. Participants emphasized the importance of livelihood support, vocational training, access to social protection, healthcare services, psychosocial support, and educational opportunities for their children.

The consultation generated valuable evidence that will guide RDF's future advocacy and programming efforts aimed at promoting the protection, inclusion, and economic empowerment of displaced minority communities.

Promoting Peacebuilding and Countering Violent Extremism

The promotion of peace, social cohesion, and resilience against violent extremism remained a central component of RDF's work during the year. Against a backdrop of increasing polarization, social tensions, and evolving security challenges, RDF organized a comprehensive two-day training on Peacebuilding and Countering Violent Extremism (CVE).



The training brought together participants from diverse educational, professional, and community backgrounds, creating a platform for dialogue, critical reflection, and collaborative learning. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Saira Farooqi, Chairperson of RDF, while the technical sessions were facilitated by Ms. Saima Jasam, Executive Director of Roshan Development Foundation an experienced practitioner in peacebuilding and Human Rights.

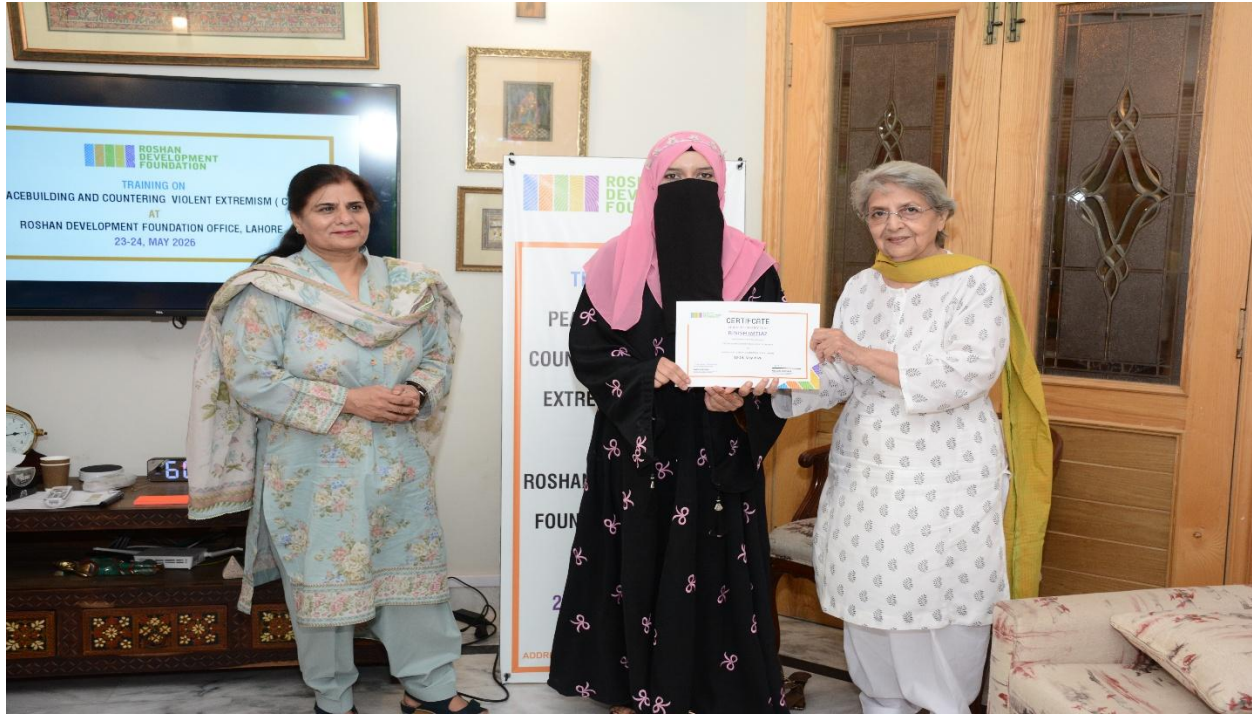
Throughout the training, participants explored the concepts of peace, conflict, violence, radicalization, extremism, and terrorism. Discussions emphasized that sustainable peace requires more than the absence of violence; it requires justice, inclusion, democratic participation, respect for diversity, and constructive mechanisms for addressing grievances.



Particular attention was given to understanding the root causes of violent extremism and the social, economic, political, and psychological factors that can contribute to radicalization. Through practical exercises, group discussions, and case studies, participants examined local conflict dynamics and identified strategies for promoting resilience and social cohesion within their own communities.

The programme also introduced participants to international and national prevention frameworks, including United Nations Security Council Resolution 2178 and Pakistan's National Action Plan. These discussions enabled participants to understand how local peacebuilding initiatives can complement broader policy efforts aimed at preventing violent extremism.

The closing reflection session was facilitated by Ms. Neelam Hussain, Director of Simorgh and Board Member of RDF. Participants expressed appreciation for the participatory nature of the programme and reflected on how the training had enhanced their understanding of conflict transformation, peacebuilding, and prevention approaches.



The training successfully strengthened participants’ analytical skills, increased awareness of prevention frameworks, and encouraged greater engagement in community-led peacebuilding initiatives. Equally important, it fostered new networks and relationships among participants, creating opportunities for future collaboration and collective action.

The success of the training was made possible through the dedication and hard work of the RDF team, particularly Ms. Saima Jasam, Mr. Rana Waleed, and Mr. Mazher Zaheer, whose contributions were instrumental in ensuring the effective implementation of the programme.

Conclusion

The year 2025–2026 marked a significant and productive chapter in the growth and development of Roshan Development Foundation (RDF). While strengthening its institutional and governance foundations, RDF successfully implemented a diverse range of initiatives addressing critical social, humanitarian, environmental, and development challenges across Pakistan.

Through its interventions, the organization provided support to communities affected by climate-related disasters, promoted climate awareness and resilience, empowered young people through entrepreneurship and innovation, amplified the voices and concerns of displaced minority women, and advanced peacebuilding and prevention-oriented approaches to counter violent extremism. These initiatives reflect RDF’s steadfast commitment to fostering inclusion, resilience, social cohesion, and sustainable development.

The achievements documented in this report represent important milestones in advancing RDF’s long-term vision of building peaceful, inclusive, and resilient communities. They also demonstrate the transformative power of community engagement, strategic partnerships, and collective action in creating meaningful and lasting change.

As RDF looks toward the future, it remains committed to expanding its reach and deepening its impact through innovative programming, evidence-based interventions, and collaborative partnerships. With the continued support of donors, development partners, government institutions, civil society organizations, volunteers, and community stakeholders, RDF is well positioned to contribute meaningfully to sustainable development, social justice, human security, and lasting peace in Pakistan.

Together, we can create a future where every individual—regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity, or socio-economic background, has the opportunity to live with dignity, hope, security, and equal access to opportunities for growth and prosperity.

Acknowledgements

Roshan Development Foundation (RDF) extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to all those whose commitment, support, and collaboration contributed to the successful implementation of its initiatives during the reporting period.

We are deeply grateful to our Board of Directors for their strategic guidance, leadership, and unwavering commitment to strengthening the organization's governance and advancing its mission. Their vision and dedication have been instrumental in laying the foundation for RDF's growth and sustainability.

We acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our staff members and volunteers, whose professionalism, hard work, and passion enabled the organization to effectively serve communities and respond to emerging challenges. Their dedication continues to inspire positive change and strengthen the impact of our work.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to , community leaders, educational institutions, civil society organizations, and local stakeholders who collaborated with us in promoting peacebuilding, climate resilience, humanitarian action, youth empowerment, and social inclusion. Their partnership and trust have been essential in achieving our shared objectives.

Most importantly, we thank the communities we serve for their resilience, courage, and active participation. Their experiences, insights, and determination remain at the heart of our work and continue to guide our efforts toward creating sustainable and community-driven solutions.

As RDF continues its journey, we look forward to strengthening existing partnerships and building new alliances that will enable us to expand our impact and contribute to a more peaceful, inclusive, and resilient society.

Together, we are creating pathways for sustainable development, social justice, human dignity, and lasting peace.

Building Peaceful, Inclusive and Resilient Communities