

**ROLE OF AGA KHAN RURAL SUPPORT  
PROGRAM IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN  
TEHSIL ALIABAD, DISTRICT HUNZA, GILGIT-  
BALTISTAN.**



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## **Abstract**

*The study examined the role of Aga Khan rural support program in women empowerment in Tehsil Aliabad in Hunza district. The research study explored the significant role of training programs given by AKRSP in enhancing the financial wellbeing of women. It showed that ultimate results of training programs by AKRSP in economic as well as social wellbeing. To evaluate the effectiveness of the training program the researcher surveyed 100 female respondents from different villages of Aliabad Tehsil who participated in different training program provided by AKRSP under the project of Enhancing employability and leadership in youth (EELY). The researcher used structured closed ended questionnaire for collecting data and analyzed the data using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The findings in the research show that AKRSP through trainings programs increased female income that ultimately leads them to spend an independent life. The Responses of the respondents in the research showed that AKRSP enhanced gender equality that provided them opportunity for the married uneducated women to earn through small businesses and through other technical skills that make them able to participate in decision making processes of their families.*

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**Chapter No 1**  
**INTRODUCTION**

The study is about the role of Aga Khan rural support program in women empowerment in tehsil Aliabad district Hunza Gilgit-Baltistan. Hunza district is one of districts in Gilgit-Baltistan. Gilgit-Baltistan is a mountainous region situated in the North of Pakistan. This study explains the positive role Aga Khan rural support program in empowering women in tehsil Aliabad in Hunza district. Women are considering as the most vulnerable segment in human societies. Aga Khan rural support program is an nonprofit organization came into its existence in 1982 that worked in order to improve the quality of life of people of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral beside this empowering women is also its fore most objective for the achievement of this objective AKRSP established and organized various projects in order to train women in different skill development trainings. AKRSP established women organizations to implement projects collectively and also individually. In the past few years AKRSP made significant changing in its structure functioning for the sustainable development its established local support organizations(LSOs) that are working as an umbrella organizations for women and village organizations that collaborate with other donor organizations to provide trainings to develop their skills in knitting cutting, poultry, Handicrafts, and Horticulture. Through these trainings women of this region able to generate income and take part in the earning process of their families.

Women because of their multiple responsibilities play a significant role in the development of a family as well as for their societies. Women have a significant contribution in the development of economy. However, several societies treat women as inferior creatures these inequalities lead to the need of women empowerment. According to the definition of Bayeh (2016)

“women empowerment is process of making women able to make their choices of their own life. It includes such actions that improve and enhance the women status these actions are giving them education, imparting trainings, and by giving awareness about their rights. It is such process that assists women on individual level as well as community level”. Several nongovernmental organizations are working in Pakistan to empower women as far as Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral is concerned Aga Khan rural support program play important role to empower women.

### **1.1 Aga Khan Rural Support Program**

The Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP) a nonprofit organization came into its existence in December 1982. This organization is established by the Aga Khan Foundation to assist and develop a better life standard of the people of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. The establishment of this organization is based on the belief that that the local communities of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral have capacities to develop their society if they are given a necessary approach to enhance their skills. Several efforts have been made by AKRSP in the past to achieve success in economic and social grounds. AKRSP commenced its work by organizing and bringing together the local group of people and worked with them to find out the opportunities to resolve the problems that come across their way of development. (AKRSP)

### **1.2 Objectives of Aga Khan Rural support program**

The main objective of AKRSP is to support local organizations of people to take part in the process of sustainable development and to maximize the

opportunities of employment for local people specially the poor and vulnerable segment of the society including women.

AKRSP made several achievements in social and economic grounds these achievements include multiplying employment opportunities, construction of above 4000 small infrastructure projects like bridge, roads hydropower units and so on. Infrastructure development is the key concern of AKRSP in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral to help the organizational capabilities of the people and to enhance income generational opportunities. Other than infrastructure various projects of AKRSP worked based on the objective to empower women in economic and social grounds by giving trainings to them to use the available resources. (AKRSP)

### **1.3 Principle of AKRSP for development**

Aga Khan rural support program enhanced the available capacities and resources of the communities to maintain a sustainable development and wellbeing of rural societies. Zain (2015) holds the argument in his research that AKRSP has enhanced the variety of sustainable and unbiased development in the financial grounds through the available financial resources and opportunities it serve as a changing agent for the development of rural areas and the wellbeing of the villagers.

AKRSP worked for the development based on three main principles that include the supportive institutional management, production of resources through the idea of saving, and development of skills. Based on these principles of AKRSP two models for sustainable development has emerged named institutional model that includes the establishment of the village based institutions to make communities stronger, and the other one is production model which revolves around the development and enhancement of technical skills. Under the institutional model the stress is upon the organization of local communities of the rural area in a village-based organization (VOs) and women organizations (WOs) to make sure the equal involvement of the community in the

development processes. Khan (2015) States that the World Bank stressed that there was raising understanding of the value of village organizations and village organization is the basic unit of the development model of Aga Khan rural support program. Rahman (2007) explains in his research that the village organizations are a large union of the people of the village that work in partnership with the other agencies for self-sustaining development. Under its institutional development model AKRSP succeeded to establish 4000 village and women organizations throughout Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. These village organizations worked as a combined action and played the leadership role to obtain appropriate services and assistance of various aid providing mechanisms. under the production model of AKRSP the village organizations (VOs) and women organizations (WOs) have become essential spot for development by increasing social resource and by building skills of local people, empower and make people able in order to take responsibilities for their own progress and success. At the initial stage these women and village organizations were self-directed source of invention and worked in several fields with complete independence in development process after that AKRSP gave constructive assistance to these organizations by collaborating and linking with other agencies of Aga Khan Development network, and other foreign organizations, and many other local government institutions that give services. According to Khan (2015) various features are same among the village organizations in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral, firstly there is complete choice of membership for all households with the practice of one male representing each household, secondly these organizations work on the democratic principles where equal contribution of every member is necessary in decision making processes of village organizations, thirdly meetings were held weekly basis for resolution of problems and for future planning. This approach of AKRSP gives platform to increase economic opportunities and increase quality of life of people. Settle (2015) States that Aga Khan rural support program established village and intra-

village Organizations the main idea behind the establishing these organizations is to maintain sustainable development organizations at the village level that can work in partnership for development with governmental and other nongovernmental organizations. These village organizations aided the projects regarding infrastructure, sanitation, health, and other micro-insurance and skill development trainings and so on. The village organizations work to generate capital through small entrepreneur, technical and skill development trainings and so on. This strategy of AKRSP totally based on developing self-sustainable grassroots organizations. AKRSP has now changed its policy from vast rural development to the individual projects specifically in the ground of small business development. According to Rahman (2007) AKRSP established 1397 women organizations is the great achievement in this way more than 47000 women take part in these organizations with more than saving of 110 (World Bank 2002) these organizations started working by the economic and technical assistance of AKRSP.

#### **1.4 AKRSP woman in development program (WID)**

Women play vital role in the development of the society. AKRSP helped women to take part in financial and development process by giving platform to them. Khan (2015) holds the argument that during early 1970s women in development (WID) emerged as the most successful approach for women development internationally however by the late 1970s few development practitioners started to criticize this approach to target the women in isolation, however this approach is continuously used worldwide as an effective approach for women development during 1970s and 1980s. Yet Aga Khan rural support program took on this approach in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral for women development in 1980s. The first annual report of AKRSP states that Ones AKRSP had succeed to create village organizations (VOs) which were for men women in the village requested to create women organizations (WOs) which remained more successful than village organizations in their initial years. The first annual report recognized the women organizations as central point for the



combined development activities including skill development, agricultural support, and a powerful force towards common projects.

According to Uddin and Begum (2014) AKRSP started women in development program to deal with the demands of women. AKRSPs (WID) plan started in 1982 in order to address the problems of women the main reason behind the formation of such programs is to fulfill the women demands by establishing separate women organizations for women in this way they got a platform to easily share their difficulties and problems freely and openly the basic aim behind initiating the separate women in development program is to make a technical skilled leadership and generate money and funds through the idea of saving. These organizations trained women how to save the money to take control of problems and challenges they face and as well as the future challenges. These savings usually used for the educational purpose of their children and for health purpose. AKRSP initiated women organizations (WOs) for the communities in the villages as well as to enhance the better lifestyle of women of the rural areas it thus worked as a vehicle for women to make their economic position better through these social organizations. These grass root organizations empowered the illiterate women. These approaches provide chance to illiterate women to enhance their efficiency and minimize their burden of work of the job that they are performing traditionally. Women organizations also established bonds with other sectors like education, health etc. these organizations give space for women to take part in other economic activities as they were only limited to the domestic chores. Uddin and begum, (2014) explain that there was no any spot for women to come together and have contact with others. These women organizations collectively gave trainings to the members of the women organizations to produce income using their own skills, abilities, capacities, and from the resources available to them. Members of the women organizations were given trainings in various fields like poultry they were trained to make home-based poultry and enhance profit by selling the

eggs and meat and deposit that money to their weekly savings. Members of (WOs) were also trained in the horticulture a successful project for women organizations was of collective orchard under this project women were trained in the processes of cultivation, they cultivate different vegetables collectively, sell them and distribute the profit equally among the members. Other than these women were also trained in other skills like knitting and cutting, sewing and other. Different vocational centers were in collaboration with other agencies like KADO and other governmental organization to give trainings in handicrafts preparation.

Establishment of separate organizations for women named women organizations (WOs) by is the major step taken by Aga Khan rural support program in order to accomplish its objective to empower women this initiative provide women members of women organizations a collective platform to vanish the poverty tackle their everyday lives obstacles and bring sustainable development. Membership in these organizations helped them to take part in the development processes offered by other organizations. The idea of saving helped the women to take the lives of their children and their other family members to better position in a way that they spend their savings for educational purpose of their children and other family needs. These organizations also helped women to socially connect themselves with other members in the society.

### **1.5 Development of LSOs**

According to Beg and Lapov (2018) the concept of local support organizations was given by Aga Khan rural support program in Pakistan and is recognized as an umbrella organization under which village organizations and women organizations fall. According to the definition of AKRSP village and women organizations are vulnerary organizations which are created by households in the village. Different donor and development organizations like AKRSP itself and other organizations work in collaboration with these organizations to strengthen the society through sustainable development.

Local support organization is a newly emerged phenomenon that works to help village and women organizations to find out the problem and necessary opportunities that can be helpful for the sustainable development. These LSOs helped the local people to use their skills in different area. These organizations worked as a medium between donor organizations and the women and village organizations. Focusing on the helpless segment this creates association with the organizations that give financial assistance. Under the supervision of Aga Khan rural support program total 77 LSOs throughout Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral are functional of which the number of LSOs in Gilgit are 37 21 in Baltistan, there are 10 LSOs working in the District of Hunza 1 in shinaki ( lower Hunza) , 5 in the central Hunza and 4 LSOs are working in Gojal (Upper Hunza).

Given below is one of the main projects that Aga Khan rural support program implemented to empower the women of the remote areas of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral.

### **1.6 Enhancing employability and leadership for Youth**

Enhancing Employability and leadership for youth (EELY) is a six-year program of Aga Khan rural support program (AKRSP) and Aga Khan Foundation financed by the Government of Canada, Global Affaires Canada (Formerly DFATD) and the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) Canada. This program worked on the objective involve youth of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral in productive skill development trainings. Its youth employment mechanism worked to enhance the professional skills. The Enhancing Employability and leadership for Youth (EELY) worked on the objective to maximize the facilities and opportunities for youth in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral region. It connected Youth especially women to the opportunities of employment through skill development trainings, entrepreneur skills, Businesses and so on. Aga Khan rural support program under the project of (EELY) set several programs to make young women ready for various income generational activities that include carpentry, providing loans, stitching skills, and various technical skills. Under

the project of enhancing employability and leadership in youth 62% women initiated their own business after receiving trainings from the project. Among them mostly women were in tailoring, carpet weaving and handicrafts, while 33% started to run ECD centers. Out of the total 3,361 youth 1,177 young women were given technical skill trainings such as plumbing, carpentry auto mechanic, electric, beauty, cooking tailoring embroidery, handicrafts and fruit and vegetable processing. (AKRSP)

### **1.7 Statement of the problem**

Nongovernmental organizations are playing their role to empower women in Pakistan. The aim of the study is to provide the answer to research question: How Aga Khan Rural support program empowered women in Tehsil Aliabad Hunza District?

### **1.8 Research Objectives**

- i.** To determine the socio-economic condition of women before and after the intervention of AKRSP.
- ii.** To identify the role of AKRSP in making women self-sufficient and economically independent.
- iii.** To identify the extent to which AKRSP helped women to take part in decision making processes at their homes.

### **1.9 Significance of the Study**

Empowering women is a necessary step to develop society economically as well as socially. This study will be helpful to find the extent of women empowerment in the Tehsil Aliabad and the extent to which Aga Khan Rural support program assist them to achieve the level of empowerment. This study helps to identify the role of AKRSP in uplifting the economy of the women who are the most vulnerable segment of life. It also examines the trainings and projects through which AKRSP achieved its aim to empower women. The study also contains the effectiveness of the program given by AKRSP to women that will be effective and helpful to support other women who want to take part in the small business and other trainings.

**Chapter No 2**

**REVIEW OF THE RELEVANT LITERATURE**

## **2.1 Women Empowerment**

In his research Mandal (2013) states that in majority of societies women are given uneven status in every areas of their lives, thus it is essential to empower women by giving them equal rights to that of men. Empowerment of women is necessary for the development of every society. According to the definition of Bayeh (2016) “women empowerment is process of making women able to make their choices of their own lives. It includes such actions that improve and enhance their status by giving them education, imparting trainings, and by giving awareness about their rights. It is such a process that assists women on individual level as well as community level”. Varghese (2011) States “that empowerment is a process in which women develop ability to and increase self-sufficiency and gain her legal rights and manage resources and become able to take her life decisions independently.” This phenomenon includes upholding the status of women by educating them, increasing their understanding regarding their rights, making them trained related to their protection and so on, it’s all about making women competent enough to improve their talent so that they can make their life decision easily. Thus, the process of empowerment enables women to independently select the activities that are helpful to improve the quality of their lives. History shows that women are disadvantaged group, they are suffered from differences in different grounds, and they have been suffered from abuse, violence, poverty and so on. Mandal (2013) explains in his research that history demonstrates that out of all depressed groups in the world women have suffered the most. Their suffering knew no bounds based on culture, race, region or religion. They have been suffered of abuse, molestation, violence, rape, poverty, malnutrition, ill treatment hence they are suffered from all kind of deprivation. But until recently, scholarly attention was not focused enough on subjects related to empowerment of women.

## **2.2 Role of Nongovernmental Organizations in women empowerment in Developing Countries**

Even though women have important role in the progress and development of a society, developing countries still lower the limits and usually don't value women. Mehra (1997) holds the argument that women in the developed countries achieved better position however their position is still insignificant in the developing world. The cultural values and beliefs in the developing countries have an immense influence upon the empowerment processes. Patriarchy prevails in most of the countries of the developing world that cause and promotes the inequalities and differences between man and women. These differences between men and women can be noted in a way that women are given insufficient facilities in economic, social and as well as educational grounds. Although women have more responsibilities than man but the facilities, they receive are not that much satisfactory for them. There is a huge difference in the salary of the man and a woman in the developing countries the difference of 17percent exists between the wage of male and female, female gets 17percent less than male (UNIFEM, 2009). Having control of men over women is a common practice carried out in the countries of the developing world that include suppressing them in educational grounds and other fields. Differences exist in the field of education is more common in west Africa, south Asia, and middle east where the percentage of female without education is greater than that of male. Several factors like economic and cultural contribute to minimize the women's education in developing countries the economic factor is of foremost importance. Many girls in the developing countries are uneducated because of inability of the capacity of their families to provide them the necessary resources for educational purpose. Zoubi and Rahman (2014) Explained in their research that implementation of initiatives that work to empower women is necessary in order give awareness about their rights and duties in their society. Despite the fact that Islam encourages the same



participation of women as that of men in every field of their lives discriminations in economic, cultural and political field are still exist in the Arab world countries. According to the Arab Human Development report there is low level of community independence and women development exist in Arab Countries. In order to empower women in Arab countries various nongovernmental institutions and associations are working to develop the capacities and abilities of women in economic, and educational grounds. Women are also deprived in economic grounds they are deprived from their rights in their part in the land. In order to remove these inequalities and the differences nongovernmental organizations are working in the developing countries. According to the definition of World Bank NGOs are the “private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services, or undertake community development”. Hashemi, Schuler and Riley (1996) Presented a research that Nongovernmental Organizations play important role to ensure development and give equal human rights to every citizen. Several thousands of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are working in developing countries these NGOs are working as a changing agent to improve the life of people especially women. Many nongovernmental organizations lend a hand to government institutions whenever government needs assistance, these organizations play their role for the communities to fulfill their basic needs for this purpose to achieve nongovernmental organizations perform services in educational, agricultural sectors, awareness of human rights and many others. Many organizations working in India and Bangladesh to make women capable to earn by providing them ways to approach micro finance. Several plans and actions are taken by nongovernmental organizations in order to resolve the women issues and to empower them these organizations work in order to build the necessary capacities to become independent in social and economic grounds, they worked and gave the strategies to include all human regardless of

their gender for the purpose of the development of the society. Nongovernmental organizations with the involvement of a new programs and ideas become an attractive method in developing countries, among such programs microfinance is of great importance that help poor women by providing loans NGOs remain successful in playing their role in order to create association between the issues regarding women and national and international policies an example of which is YWCA working to address the needs and rights of women. Kumar et al. (2013) state that Bangladesh is also included in one of the concentrated countries in the world in which 40 percent of countries population are spending their lives in below poverty level including rural women. Women in Bangladesh like other developing countries also face limited access to the power they are also considered as inferior to men, they have limited number of occupational option and obviously have small number of opportunities in income generational activities. This unkind condition in Bangladesh give rise to the need of women empowerment. Micro credit by giving credit initiative played its important role empowering and to enhance the socio-economic wellbeing of poor women in Bangladesh. This program enabled and empowered women to take decisions regarding their private, family and social lives, by improving their source of income so that they became able to earn and spend money for their own requirements.

### **2.3 Role of Nongovernmental organizations in women empowerment in Pakistan**

As other developing countries Pakistan also consists of a male dominant society where women are suppressed than that of men in every field of their lives. Rehman et al. (2015) explained in their research that the inequalities on the basis of human gender are common in Pakistan man enjoy superior position whereas women are considered as an inferior individual. However, for the development of a country and society the equal participation of both male and female and the fulfillment of women rights are necessary. Majority of Pakistani societies are

male dominant because of this woman in these societies face distinction in their families as well as in their societies also. Women are confined only to the household chores and the responsibilities of taking care of their children that bring out difficulties for them to build and work upon their capacities to improve their financial and societal wellbeing. Pakistan is a country where the need to empower women is necessary, because if we go to the statistics 22.3 percent of people survive under the line of poverty if it is concerned with women 40 percent of women are poor and among them 30 percent are both financially and socially poor According to the United Nations Human Development Report 2011, on the basis of the gender inequality Pakistan is on 115<sup>th</sup> among 187<sup>th</sup> countries (National Report - June 2012, Pakistan). These statistics show the greater need of help of nongovernmental organizations to maintain equality among both genders in every aspect of life. Among several nongovernmental organizations the program of microfinance is one in order to empower women financially and socially. As this initiative is also working in other countries of the developing world that focus on women to provide credit as the women do spend most of their income on their household and on their children. Among these microfinance programs Akhuat is one which is created in 1986 since its establishment it is working to empower women. At present this organization is working on programs like gender equity, waseela-e-Taleem and so on. There are about 153 branches all over the country that provide interest free loans to the women in order to make them able to take part in the process of earning, which can help them to participate in decision making processes in their homes and make them independent economically. Khan et al. (2011) Explained status of women in Pakistani society and the role of nongovernmental organizations in empowering them. According to them many nongovernmental organizations have established credit program in Pakistan the main focus of such organizations was women as they are vulnerable in society because of male dominance this vulnerable segment have proper access to market they lack their

power of making decisions in their families and they have no share in earning, they are treated as inferior and are only limited to the house hold chores they have no excess to employment market. As the false belief about the role and the responsibilities of women exists that only women are responsible for the child care and other family requirements this inequality leads to the severe load upon the health of women and they remain on the secondary position to gain the welfare of the society. According to the FAO findings about 75 percent people in the world are poor and 70 percent of the population consists of women the reason behind the greater population of women is that they are living in the rural areas where they don't have the rural development programs. Over the entire world different organizations have been established to remove poverty, microcredit is included in one of them, this initiative is working by receiving aids from the developed countries in order to take people out of poverty zone. Initiative of microcredit had been started in Pakistan to remove poverty from the grass root level in 2001 as a result of microfinance ordinance 2001. The initiatives of microcredit for women are funded by different government financial institution like Pakistan poverty Alleviation fund, zarai tarqiati bank limited , first women bank give specific interest to the microcredit program for women. This initiative provides interest to build up their own business and financial support to the poors especially women in the society. By providing the women credit this program enhanced their economic wellbeing so that they became able to take part in family earning. Farooq and Waseer (2017) state in their research that Nongovernmental organizations are working on problems concerned with women in Pakistan Shirkat Gah in one of nongovernmental organizations giving its services to women science 1975. This organization is working in order to remove problems regarding women like forced marriages, violence, harassment and so on. It also works to remove the differences they face in everyday lives by their society.

## **2.4 Role of Nongovernmental Organizations in women empowerment in Gilgit-Baltistan**

According to Murtaza (2012) explains the role of education in empowering women. Throughout the county Pakistan and in the Gilgit-Baltistan particularly female are on the secondary stage in every aspect of human life. Usually they spend their lives according to the rules and customs set by their traditional society. Most of the decisions regarding their lives are taken by their father and brothers at early age and the husband and in laws after marriage. To empower women several nongovernmental organizations are working. Aga khan development network is an NGO which consists of a network of various branches serves for the development of societies and communication, through it, through various projects in different ground Aga khan development network has changed the lives of women throughout Gilgit-Baltistan by empowering them in financial grounds. In other sense it changes the traditional way of the men to rule over women and their families by the intervention of several projects. AKDN made women able to rule and enjoy the power over their families by making them able to earn and making them independent of men. However, there are several more problems, women facing in their ways to progress. one of them is lake of education among women in the rural area of Gilgit-Baltistan .Women are still dependent on the man to resume their work because of the lack of education they are unable to perform their official work like operating technology, bank account and so on. At this point women education is necessary, education is considered important in eliminating the problems that come in the way to women. 1998 census tells that the only 37.85 percent education exist in this area. As government organizations were providing the necessary education, however many nongovernment organization like Aga khan education services Pakistan, Marafi foundation and Pakistan education council (PEC), national education foundation (NEF),USWA public school system are included in such (NGOS) have been emerged now that are providing education through the extended network of their various branches in

different village of Gilgit-Baltistan. There are some areas where women education is 100% however there are some other districts like Diamer where there is no any single school for female, where people hold the old customs and norms regarding female education, but as the non-government introduced they thought this network of school make it easier for the local girls to get education in that harsh environment. This step of establishing school in various districts created several options for women to change their position in the society by availing the jobs. By imparting education in the personalities of the women of Gilgit-Baltistan, nongovernmental organizations made women aware about their equal rights as male in society. The Aga khan development network and other nongovernment organizations give scholarship for higher educational expenses, getting the scholarship for higher education provide them more and more opportunities to earning in more advanced fields. Other than educational area Ali et al. (2014) explained that there are many private small business organizations in Gilgit-Baltistan that are working to empower women. According to them there are number of small businesses that are playing their role in boosting the earning, education level, ability of decision making. And they are also source of employment for most women, where women give their services and receive pay for it. Through different activities regarding dress and fruit drying these farms provide opportunities for earning. North Pole Fruit Traders, Mountain Fruit Pvt Ltd, Hunar Gah Danyore Gilgit, Aftab Blanket center , Shining Light Vocational Center ,North Pole fruit Traders are such small business organizations that are serving as a platform where they can enhance their skills in knitting cutting, drying fruits, etc to maximize their employment capacities in their societies.

**2.5 Role of Aga Khan Rural Support program in women Empowerment** As far as Gilgit-Baltistan is concerned Aga khan rural support program is playing its vital role in empowering women. Rahman (2007) narrates that during the period of 1980's nongovernmental organizations started to work on

development fields Aga Khan rural support program is one of them. It is a nonprofit company established by Aga Khan foundation in 1982 in Gilgit and then extended to the Chitral that work to make society empowered and improve the quality of life of people of Gilgit-Baltistan. This organization is working on various important areas including construction small infra structure projects (bridge, roads, irrigation, channel hydropower units, planting of trees, income generation, mobilization of various village organizations. Other than these objectives empowering women is also an important objective of Aga Khan rural support program. AKRSP established village organizations (VOs) with greater participation of the members of society and households for the development of society and to address the problems of the village. It is compulsory for every member of VO to pay the fixed amount in order to take share in VOs and collect money in their monthly meetings that is recorded in their individual passbook and then the amount is deposited in the joint bank account. AKRSP established over 2371 VOs with membership of 94000 individuals. along with these projects empowering women by boosting their confidence to use their skills is also the foremost objective of Aga Khan rural support program .In order to accomplish its objective to empower women AKRSP initial initiative was to train women how to save money to tackle future challenges, for this purpose this organization established a network of women organizations in this way AKRSP gave a platform for women to use their skills and provide them right to use the available resources to generate income and resume different kind of businesses and make them independent to use their own income. According to Khan (2018) AKRSP has made a great change in its operations in recent past few years by establishing local institutional setup called local support organizations (LSOs). There are 67 LSOs across Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral This program receives financial support from donors. This nonprofit organization gave women a platform to use their skills and available resources to generate income and make themselves self-sufficient. Under the umbrella of local institutional setups (LSOs) originated by AKRSP various trainings like

training of poultry farming, computer classes, knitting cutting, jems and jewelry cutting and so on took place.

## **2.6 Economic development of women by AKRSP**

In his research Ullah (2014) explains that DFID define economic empowerment as “economic empowerment is a process of that increase the access of people to take control over their financial, property, and other resources (from which one can produce income) development of skills and other market information”. ICRW gives the definition of women economic empowerment as “a women are economically empowered when she has capacity to go forward economically and authority to make decisions regarding their financial affairs”. For the success to achieve in economic grounds women foremost requirement is to access the financial institutions for required resources. And have a control and ability to take control over resources. Skills development planes are such methods help women to take control over their financial affairs these skills provide them open chance to generate income. Minimizing financial reliance is the base for economic empowerment of women, involving themselves in productive approaches and activities are given them ability to become self-sufficient. The greater level of income for female enhances their self-confidence and consequently they can be able to take part in the decision-making processes regarding their own personal affairs and their family affaires as well. Income in their hands maximizes the confidence of women to present her opinion regarding their family decisions. Women are deprived from decision making abilities because they lack necessary skills and education. To make women economically empowered Aga Khan rural support program played its significant role.

AKRSP’s skill development programs offered women necessary skills, opportunities, and awareness programs to engage women in income generating activities in this way they contribute in the earning processes of their families. For the empowerment of women in Gilgit-Baltistan the government of Gilgit-



Baltistan has created Women Development Directorate with the objectives to start projects for the economic development of women. The widespread training programs given by AKRSP by associating with women organizations enhanced their skills in their personal communication and interpersonal communication. Khan (2016) in his research states that Aga Khan rural support program before giving a developmental program to an area creates understanding among the people this responsibility is carried by the field staff of AKRSP. The field staffs make regular visits to the public and arrange meetings through which they communicate the aims and objectives of the programs for this purpose AKRSP established village and women organizations these women institutions have important role in arranging developmental processes they are involved in every step to women empowerment. Several trainings were imparted to women through women organizations. The research shows that large number of women were trained in that kinds of activities that can be hold easily inside their homes. AKRSP gave eight types of training like vocational trainings, dehydration of fruits, marketing of fruits poultry was common. After receiving these trainings these women become able to start running their own businesses.

Aga Khan rural support program established women organizations to empower women by providing them vocational, skill development and other entrepreneur trainings. According to Ullah (2014) to empower women AKRSP established women organizations in 1983. this institutional objective of Aga Khan rural support program is to enhance women social and economic capabilities, enhancing their self confidence that have provided them a collective platform for women throughout the rural areas of in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. Women in this region develop their social capital through Women Organizations (WOs) these organizations give them a platform and collaborate with other women organizations throughout the region of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral and helped them to properly communicate their problem. For giving access to women in social sector health, education, and other family planning Aga Khan rural

support program support women organizations to support and to create association with other institutions that give services in social sector to approach services of other services provider organizations. Women organizations established by AKRSP worked as a medium between the services provider and the women. Women organizations work as an agent by the help of which Aga Khan rural support program became able to implement programs for women and get enrolled in the productive and income generational activities in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. Khan (2015) Holds the argument that a major aim of Aga Khan rural support program was to assist women living in the village in increasing their efficiency and to minimize their workload. women organizations were formed not only in response to taking on the women in development (WID) approach, but its main objective is to involve women in the development process as well. Throughout the country Pakistan and other parts of the world women contributions is of more importance for the financial development of the country. In the case of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral AKRSP has an immense importance in making women economically independent. Bibi and Ali (2014) state in their research that women take a significant part in every aspect of human development however for the economic development of the society women participation is of great importance. For the human resource development, it is necessary to help women in their contribution to economy as in other part of the world. Nongovernmental organizations play their vital role in empowering women in Pakistani society. Aga Khan rural support program in a nongovernmental organization working in the region on Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral for sustainable development. This program uses the local human and natural, resources for its purpose to achieve development by providing them necessary skill enhancement trainings for women the most vulnerable segment of the society. These skill enhancement trainings include the credit saving ideas, social skill, technical skill trainings and so on. Aga Khan rural support program had played its vital role in empowering women economically. Ullah (2014)

writes that economic empowerment is the most important way for women to gain their rights and capabilities it does not benefit only women, but it gives advantage to the development of the whole society. The economic empowerment of women remained among the main objectives of Aga Khan rural support program throughout Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. According to the Labor force participation rate of women is 15.5 percent in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral compared to the 22.2 percent in Pakistan the figure has considerably increased from 13.7 percent in 1999-2000. Various gender differences can be noticed in enrollment in labor activities. This practice is more significant in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral because of the social resistances towards the working of women and the lack of job opportunities for women. Because of the change in the economy of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral from barter system to cash based businesses the contribution of women in the earning process became necessary for their family wellbeing. AKRSP worked to economically empower women by self-employment process however women of these region still face difficulties and challenges about self-employment because to their cultural beliefs and resistances to initiate their own businesses in the market. These barriers suppressed the self-reliance and leadership abilities of women to and forced them to rely on men for their financial affairs. Aga Khan rural support program addressed such issues by presenting the idea of women market to give women room to set their own businesses. AKRSP presented the concept of market for women to establish women entrepreneurship inside the cultural setting of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. However, the businesswomen in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral are less successful in defending their own interest, they didn't even set up their business association to defend their economic rights and forming socially acceptable environment for self-employment. As the environment of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral is heterogeneous regardless of these barriers AKRSP has complete assistance for women to make them economically empower by giving them training like vocational training,

technical trainings, and other sectors like business. AKRSP as an organization took the role of a leader and make other private sector organizations like banks responsive and work together with other organizations for making women economically empowered. Ullah (2014) Despite the fact that women have educational improvement in educational grounds they still face several challenges in their entrepreneurial potential, this is because of the fact that employment in the regions of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral is determined by various cultural and social factors. they all depend upon the social and cultural beliefs practiced in these regions. Aga Khan rural support program paid significant part in women economic empowerment giving them vocational trainings, develop infrastructure for market. This made environment enable for women for self-employment. Aga Khan rural support program works on the objective to assist poor and women by building their confidence to use the available resources and using their skills and abilities. States those local support organizations (LSOs) were newly established as compared to VOs and WOs within the village in order to represent the whole village. According to Ali and Bibi (2014) AKRSP work in order to promote the village organizations and women organizations these organizations work under the umbrella of local support organizations (LSOs) under this umbrella organizations several infrastructure projects agricultural projects and youth development projects for women and other vulnerable segment of the society that leads to increase in income and other infrastructure activities organization worked in order to help the ultra-poor by giving them platform and forcing them to use their skills. To achieve its goal of women empowerment Aga Khan rural support program. These supportive measures are housed within local support organizations (LSOs). From a community-based perspective, the LSO strengthens the participatory model at the grassroots level, while also providing a direct channel for the transfer of the information gathered to the higher-level administrative program leadership. AKRSP changed its policy to focus on the large inter-

village level organizations composed by regional VO members called local support organizations (LSOs). These LSOs established by Aga Khan rural support program contain multi-dimensional agenda in collaboration with the other partner agencies and other governmental agencies. The local support organizations include the representative of AKRSP personnel to communicate the services provider organizations. Various organization has a significant part in distinguish the active role of women in society. Local support Organizations are established by Aga Khan rural support program the basic aim of the establishment of this organization is to assist people and particularly in empowering women to help them with the support of local organizations. These organizations aim to help the women organizations (WOs) and village organizations (VOs) in the social and economic grounds. The basic purpose behind the establishment of these organizations by AKRSP is to minimize poverty by enrolling women in income generational activities by using the available resources AKRSP in the past few years has changed its functioning structure by for the long term sustainable development by creating local institutional mechanism called local support organizations (LSOs). These local organizations work on their objective to collaborate with the donor organizations and the women organizations.

## **Assumptions**

1. For the development of society, it is necessary to empower women, so that they can make their own lives choices and take part in earning processes of their families.
2. Because of the cultural factors women in the developing countries have inferior position. Nongovernmental organizations have significant role in providing awareness about their rights that make them able to take part in decision making process.
3. Microfinance program is a significant initiative in order to empower women in social grounds as well as in financial grounds.
4. Education is regarded as an important factor that vanish the problems which come across the way of women empowerment.
5. Entrepreneur trainings and skill development trainings for women to use the available resources are necessary element in order to empower them economically so that they can contribute in the income of their family that make them able to take part in decision making processes.

**Chapter No 3**

**THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **3.1.1 Feminism**

According to the definition of Hooks (2000) Feminism is a variety of social, political, and economic movements and beliefs whose objectives to build political, economic as well as social equality among male and female in the society. It includes the services that erase gender categorization and as well as creating educational, and professional chances for female equal to those for male. Feminist movements are a set of objectives to provide equal rights to women that include right to vote, right to work and receive equal pay, right in the property, right of education, maternity leaves and so on. Feminism also includes the work of feminists to ensure protection of women and girls from domestic violence, sexual harassment, and rape.

According to Steeves (1987) feminist theories appeared in the early 1974. Feminist theory elaborates feminism in a theoretical ground. The objective of the feminist theory is to comprehend the nature of gender inequalities and the differences. It also observes the social role of male and female. The main objective of the feminist theories is to know the basis and causes of the women degradation on the societies. The feminist theory on the viewpoint of women degradation are divided into four types based on the problems they explained.

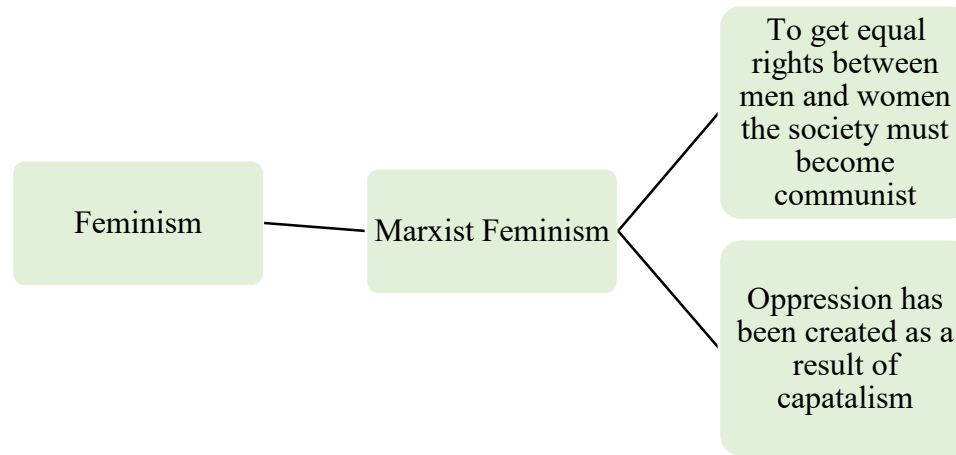
### **3.1.2 Marxist Feminism**

Marxist feminism is an approach that spread in 1970s and 80s in North America and Britain. Marxist feminism started with Karl Marx and his supporter Friedrich Engels. Marxism studies all the types of inequalities and degradation that are caused because of capitalist societies. The basis aim of Marxist feminism framework is to provide freedom to women by changing the conditions of their degradations. Marxist feminism is included in the feminist theory having its theoretical roots from Marxism. According to Stefano (2014) Marxist feminism investigates the means in which women are oppressed through capitalism and individual ownership. It also finds the other matters that are affected by capitalism not only those



which are linked with economic aspect of life. According to the viewpoint of Marxist feminism the women are only achieve freedom and liberty by removing the capitalist system. this approach resists to oppress and degrade women. They explain that equality freedom and empowerment of women is unable to achieve in the framework of capitalism. Marxist feminist theory says that the capitalist mode of production is the root cause of women oppression. This is because of human development of private property and capitalist forms and unfriendly class division between those who own the production resources and worker class. Engels a supporter of Marx has a major work regarding the status of women. Eagle said that male had a dominant position over female in the history. He further argued about the division of class that was among the men and women. According to him men was superior and the owner of the property and productive resources while women were the working class. In this way Eagle argued that freedom of women is not possible. Marxist feminism has an immense focus on the desires and requirements of working class and development of women by providing them equal opportunities and rights, these rights are in the form of by providing them paid employment, giving them paid employment giving them education, Maternity leaves and so on.

Figure 1 feminist theory model



### 3.2.1 Application of Theory

For my research I have chosen feminism theory and Marxist feminism approach. Feminism explains the economic and cultural movements that were started based on the objectives to ensure equal rights and security for women. The theory applies on my research in a way that as it is based on the view that women should be given equal opportunities, as men have in the society. It works to give equal rights and end discriminations for the development and empowerment of women. For the empowerment and development of women it is necessary to provide them access to the resources and opportunities as men have in the society. It ensures equality and discourage discriminations based on gender in the society. Giving awareness regarding their rights to women is an essential component to empower them. Through different movements feminism tried to develop awareness and inequality that women face in the society. Discrimination is also a main obstacle that come in the way of women empowerment. Feminism opposes all sort of discrimination in the workplace and in the homes. The feminist view of equality, reduction of discrimination and provide equal rights to

women gives way to the women empowerment. Empowerment of women cannot possible if societies continue to discriminate women in working places. So, it is necessary to provide women equal opportunities and rights in every aspect of life so that they can earn outside their homes that help them to become economically independent. Also, the elimination of discrimination between male and female brings them to participate in the decision-making processes at their homes. Marxist feminism explains that women are oppressed and given secondary position because society works in a capitalist framework. Empowerment and freedom of women that include freedom to work, freedom to take their own life decision can only be achieved by erasing capitalist system. Earlier women were discriminated in working fields they were not provided opportunities and facilities to work. And though they put equal efforts to the men. Earlier women work equally to that of men in various fields but the wage they receive was lower as compared to the men in this way women remained deprived from their basic rights. The viewpoint of Marxist feminism applies in this in a way that nongovernmental organizations worked for the women empowerment, they ensured the participation of women in working fields. They give their input for empowerment of women by giving them equal wage as men receive and by giving them opportunities to work outside their homes. Outside the capitalist framework they give equal representation to women in every fields.

### **3.3.1 Propositions**

1. Patriarchy is the root cause discrimination that cause inequality, which results to women's secondary position in the society because men possess greater power.
2. Degradation of women in the society is because of the capitalism exists in the society. Development of women is possible only if the capitalist framework is removed.
3. Discrimination in the society resists females to gain equal opportunities in the society. Because of discrimination women are deprived from their rights.
4. Gender are constructed by people in the society not by biology so it can be changed.

**Chapter No 4**

**CONCEPTUALIZATION AND OPERATIONALIZATION**

#### **4.1 Conceptualization**

“Conceptualization is the process of specifying and clarifying the thoughts. In other terms conceptualization is to summarize and make ideas easy to comprehend. In this process we first split our study topic and define them in accordance with the available information about the study topic”

##### **4.1.1 Aga Khan Rural Support Program**

According to Abbott (2013) Aga Khan Rural support program is a nonprofit organization created by Aga Khan Foundation to assist people of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral to develop the better quality of life. Khan (2015) defines that Aga Khan Rural Support program is the earliest nongovernmental organization working on the objective to develop better socio-economic wellbeing of people by developing significant policies that encompass institutional, women development, infrastructure, and economic development of the people of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral. Rahman (2007) The Aga Khan rural support program is a major nongovernmental organization working for the policies for development that guarantee the participation of the people in planning and implementing processes. According to Ali and Bibi (2014) AKRSP is a project of Aga Khan Foundation came into its existence in 1982 as a nonprofit organization working for the rural people in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral develop and construct institutional capability to control their own development. It works for the promotion of communities and the promotion of own institution i.e village and women organizations.

##### **4.1.2 Empowerment**

Empowerment is the process of attaining liberty and authority to do what you want or to oversee. Robert (2018) defines empowerment is the ability of person, group, and communities to be in command of their situation, use power and achieve their own aims and objectives and the process by people can facilitate themselves and others in order to enhance the better quality of lives. According to Rapport (1987) empowerment is observed as mechanism through which

people, union and group of people achieve mastery on their lives. Linda (2000) gives the definition of empowerment as a method of change in authority interactions that is both interlinked. This definition also took empowerment as a means of alteration in authority affairs.

#### **4.1.3 Women Empowerment**

According to Rahman (2013) women empowerment is a process of accepting and allowing women to take part in the decision make process. According to the definition of Bayeh, (2016) women empowerment refers to the capacity of women to make decision about their own life choices. It includes improving women status women's status by educating them and imparting trainings and giving them awareness about their rights. Kumar et al. (2013) define women empowerment as empowerment is process in which women are given autonomy to accomplish their needs and develop their self, and approach to family as well as societal resources and opportunities equally as that of men.

Mehra (1997) defines women empowerment as the enhancement of women's capacities for development of choices and maximizing their ability to implement their own choices. According to the definition of Varghese (2011) women empowerment is a phenomenon in which women become capable to claim their own rights to decide their life goals and manage their resources to remove their own subordination.

#### **4.2 Operationalization**

“Operationalization refers to describe an idea in a way that it makes sense for research. Researcher defines the concept at the best of his knowledge”

##### **4.2.1 Aga Khan Rural Support Program**

In the question 6,9,11,12,13,14,16,23,35,36,and 38 the researcher asked respondents about the nature and type of training program implemented by Aga Khan rural support program in order to develop the necessary skills and capacities in women. The respondents were asked about their agreeance regarding the training programs given by AKRSP to generate income. And also,

the extent of increased income and their satisfaction towards income after their participation in the training programs given by AKRSP.

The participants were also asked whether they participated in the idea of saving given by AKRSP through women organizations. The respondents were also asked about their opinion about how much the training program given by AKRSP remained useful to maintain economic wellbeing in the backward areas. Respondents were asked about the AKRSP's loan providing initiative to settle businesses. AKRSP in collaboration with other organizations implemented different training programs and also provided new technology and trainings to enhance productivity. So, the researcher also asked about the extent of their agreeance on the question.

#### **4.2.2 Women Empowerment**

In the question 25,40,41,42,43, and 44 the researcher asked the respondents regarding the extent to which AKRSP enabled women to take part in the decision-making processes at their homes after participating in the training program. They were asked about the extent to which AKRSP empowered women. The respondents were also asked whether the training programs implemented by AKRSP remained beneficial to empower them economically as well as socially. The researcher also questioned the respondents whether the training remained beneficial for them to avail job in the job market.



**Chapter No 5**  
**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Research Design**

Sociology presents several methods for their research. In this study the researcher used the quantitative approach for the collection and interpretation of data. The researcher followed this quantitative method because of convenient nature of the research method and because of easy approach to universe as the researcher belongs to the universe chosen for research. In this research the researcher explored the role of Aga Khan rural support program to empower women.

### **5.2 Universe of Study**

The research was conducted in Tehsil Aliabad Hunza District, Gilgit-Baltistan. The study area was chosen by the researcher to conduct quantitative research on role of AKRSP in women empowerment in Tehsil Aliabad. The basic reason behind choosing Tehsil Aliabad as the universe of study was that as AKRSP played a significant role here to empower women. As a resident of Tehsil Aliabad, the researcher tried to determine the extent to which AKRSP empowered that's why the researcher chosen Tehsil Aliabad as the universe of study.

### **5.3 Unit of Analysis**

In this research the women who took part in the different trainings implemented by AKRSP under the project of Enhancing Employability and leadership in youth (EELY) are unit of analysis. Those women who participated in the technical skill development, skill development, and business creation trainings. Majority of participants were uneducated however there were some participants who were educated.

### **5.4 Sampling Technique**

In the research Simple Random sampling a type of probability sampling was used. The researcher selected 100 respondents who took part in AKRSP's Enhancing Employability and leadership in youth (EELY) from different villages of Tehsil Aliabad in Hunza district. The researcher sent questionnaire

online to the participants who were educated, and the researcher fill questionnaire through telephonic interviews from those who were illiterate.

#### **5.5 Sample size:**

Researcher collected data from 100 respondents, these 100 respondents were participants of a single project that was implemented by AKRSP from different villages of Aliabad Tehsil. The data was collected through questionnaire.

#### **5.6 Tool for data collection**

The researcher used close ended questionnaire for data collection. The questionnaire was prepared in English language, but the researcher used their local language during telephonic interview. In which respondents were asked about their demographic profile and about trainings and microfinance provided by AKRSP that empowered them.

#### **5.7 Data Analysis**

In the research the researcher used quantitative research method. The researcher made coding of the collected data and analyzed through frequencies and percentages. The researcher used Statistical package for social Sciences (SPSS) as an efficient tool for data analysis.

#### **5.8 Ethical concerns**

The researcher had completed the research in accordance with the ethical concern of the research. The researcher Kept all the collected information confidential during the research.

**Chapter No 6**

**RESULTS**

**Table 6. 1 Marital status of the respondents**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Married	77.0
Unmarried	14.0
Divorced	4.0
Widow	5.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information regarding the marital status of respondents who participated in the trainings provided by Aga Khan Rural support program under (EELY) project. The findings showed that 77.0 percent of respondents were married, 14.0 percent were Unmarried, 4.0 percent were divorced while 5.0 percent respondents were widow. The findings in the table showed that as compared to the other categories the number of married women who participated in the project was greater.

**Table 6. 2 Age categories of respondents**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Below 20	4.0
20-30	18.0
30-40	60.0
Above 40	18.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the age of respondents who took part in the project. 60.0 percent of respondents were between the age category of 30-40 that showed greater number of respondents whose age was between 30-40 participated in the project. 18.0 percent were between 20-30 and above 40. While there were 4.0 percent respondents whose age was below 20.

**Table 6. 3 Profession of the respondents**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Agriculture	18.0
Business	4.0
Student	12.0
Housewife	66.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information of the respondents regarding their profession. There were four categories of profession mentioned in the table. Among the given professions 66.0 percent of respondent's profession was Housewife. 18.0 percent respondent's profession was Agriculture. 12.0 percent were students while 4.0 percent were having their business. The result proved that the number of women who were housewife was higher than that of the other profession given by researcher

**Table 6. 4 Monthly income of the respondents**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Less than 5000	82.0
5001-10,000	7.0
10,001-15000	7.0
Above 15000	4.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the responses of the respondents regarding their monthly income. 82.0 percent respondents were having monthly income less than 5000 that showed that the participation of female having monthly income less than 5000 was greater. The number of respondents having monthly income 5001-10,000 and 10,000-15,000 was equal which was 7.0 percent while 4.0 percent participants were have monthly income above 15,000. The results showed that the number of participants having monthly income above 15000 was smaller. And the number of participants having monthly income less than 5000 was greater.



**Table 6. 5 Qualification of the respondents**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
No Education	24.0
Primary	59.0
Secondary	2.0
Graduation	1.0
Masters	14.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the qualification of the women who participated in the trainings program given by AKRSP. Five categories of educational level were given in the table which were No education, primary level, Secondary level, Graduation Masters. Among other categories the respondents with primary level education took part in the training was higher which was 59.0 percent 24.0 percent respondents were with no education. 14.0 percent were with masters level qualification 2.0 percent were with secondary level qualification while 1.0 percent were with graduation level qualification. Number of respondents fall in the graduation level category was lesser than other categories.

**Table 6. 6 Types of program given by AKRSP**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Business creation	15.0
Skill development	37.0
Technical skill training	42.0
Agriculture Training	6.0
Total	100.0

The table explained the types of program offered by AKRSP to women. The categories were Business creation, Skill development, Technical skill development training and agriculture training. The table showed that 42.0 percent of women respondents participated in the technical skill training. That indicated that the number of respondents in the category of technical skill training was greater than other categories. 37.0 percent respondents took skill development training and 15.0 percent respondents took business creation training. Result showed that the number of respondents in business creation was lowest among other two categories.

**Table 6. 7 Enjoyed learning technical/skill development trainings**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	72.0
To some extent	20.0
Not at all	8.0
Total	100.0

The table explained the extent to which women enjoyed learning technical skills. Three scales that were to great extent, to some extent and not at all were used by researcher to find out the extent. Out of 100 respondents 72.0 percent agreed to great extent which indicated that majority of female enjoyed the training provided by AKRSP. 20.0 percent agreed to some extent and 8.0 percent respondents fall in the category of not at all.

**Table 6. 8 Time management for the program**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Daily basis	82.0
Weekly basis	16.0
Monthly basis	2.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the period the participants spared for the project. There were three categories i-e Daily basis, weekly basis, and monthly basis. Among 100 respondents 82.0 percent participants spared time on daily basis that showed that the greater number of participants worked on the project on daily basis. 16.0 percent of respondents spared time on weekly basis and 2.0 percent of respondents worked on monthly basis. That showed majority of respondents spared time on daily basis. And a rear number of respondents spared time for project on monthly basis.

**Table 6. 9 AKRSP's trainings of income generational activities to women**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	80.0
To some extent	15.0
Not at all	5.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information about the extent of belief of women that AKRSP trained them through income generational activities 80.0 percent of female participants believed to great extent. 15.5 percent believed to some extent and 5.0 present respondents disagreed. That proved that the greater number of women agreed that AKRSP trained women through income generational activities.

**Table 6. 10 Source of income before participation in the project**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Agriculture	12.0
Labor	13.0
No source of income	75.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the source of income of respondents before their participation in the project. The categories researcher used were Agriculture, Business, Labor, and No source of income. The table showed that 75.0 percent respondents were with no source of income. The income of 13.0 percent respondents was labor. And the income of 12.0 percent respondents was based on agriculture. The table showed that greater number of respondents were with no source of income before their participation in the project. And the small number of respondent's source of income is agriculture.

**Table 6. 11 Income after participation in the program given by AKRSP**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	85.0
To some extent	10.0
Not at all	5.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the extent of income increased after participation in the program given by AKRSP. The results in the table showed that 85.0 percent respondents agreed to the great extent that their income increased after their participation in the program which was highest percentage. 10.0 percent agreed to the small extent. While 5.0 percent responded not at all.

**Table 6. 12 Satisfaction with income after participation in project**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	70.0
To some extent	25.0
Not at all	5.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information regarding the extent of respondent's satisfaction towards their income after their participation in the project. The information given in the table showed that out of 100 respondents 70.0 percent of the respondents were satisfy with their income to great extent which showed that the greater number of respondents were satisfy with their income after their participation in the program. 25.0 percent respondents were satisfied to some extent, however 5.0 percent were not satisfied.



**Table 6. 13 Female contribution in family income after participation in project**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	68.0
To some extent	24.0
Not at all	8.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the agreeance of respondents regarding female contribution in the income of their families after their participation in the trainings given by AKRSP. Out of 100 respondents 68.0 percent participants agreed to the great extent which was the highest percentage.24.0 percent agreed to some extent 8.0 percent were not agree to the question asked.

**Table 6. 14 Participation in the idea of saving by AKRSP through women organizations.**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	42.0
No	58.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information regarding respondents participated in the saving program given by AKRSP through women organizations or not. The table showed that Out of 100 respondents 58.0 percent participated in the saving facility and 42.0 percent didn't participate in the saving facility. The table showed that the greater number of respondents didn't participate in the saving program.

**Table 6. 15 AKRSP and idea of saving through women Organizations**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	56.0
To some extent	27.0
Not at all	17.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the responses of the question asked from women regarding extent of their to which AKRSP implemented the idea of saving through women organizations. 56.0 percent of respondents agreed to the great extent. 27.0 percent agreed to some extent while the response of 17.0 percent respondents was not at all. The table showed that greater number of respondents agreed that AKRSP implement idea of saving through women organizations.

**Table 6. 16 Entrepreneurship training by AKRSP and financially independence**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	54.0
To some extent	30.0
Not at all	16.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information about the extent of belief of respondent on researcher question i-e AKRSP provided trainings of entrepreneurship to women to become financially independent. The table showed that 54.0 percent respondents agreed to the great extent that AKRSP provided entrepreneurship trainings to women to become financially independent. 30.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent and the response of 16.0 percent respondents was not at all. That showed that AKRSP trained women to become financially independent.

**Table 6. 17 AKRSP's loan providing initiative for women**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	11.0
To some extent	13.0
Not at all	76.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the responses of the respondents regarding the loan providing initiative of AKRSP. The response of 76.0 percent respondents was not at all. While 13.0 percent agreed to some extent and 11.0 percent agreed to greater extent. That proved that majority of respondents disagreed that AKRSP provide loans to women to settle businesses.

**Table 6. 18 Business before AKRSP’s initiative to provide loans**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	13.0
No	87.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information regarding the business settled by women participants before AKRSP’s initiative of providing loans for business. The findings in the table showed that out of 100 respondents 87.0 percent of respondents answered No, which indicated that the number of respondents who didn’t settle their business before was greater. While 13.0 percent respondents were having their own business before AKRSP’s loan providing initiative.

**Table 6. 19 AKRSP's help to start business**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	10.0
To some extent	2.0
Not at all	88.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information regarding the extent of participant's agreeance towards AKRSP's help to start their own business after participating in the project. The results in the table showed that 88.0 percent of the women disagreed that AKRSP help to start their business. That indicated that majority of respondents disagreed that AKRSP provided help to start their own business. 10.0 percent respondents agree to the great extent while there were 1.9 percent respondents whose response was to some extent.

**Table 6. 20 Providing idea to settle small business to other women**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	70.0
No	30.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information regarding the participants response on a question that whether they provided the idea to other women to settle small business after taking part in the AKRSP's initiative. Out of 100 total respondents the response of 70.0 percent respondents was Yes while 30.0 percent answered No. The result proved that greater number of respondents provided idea to settle their own business to other women after participating in the project.



**Table 6. 21 Appreciation for idea of settling businesses by other women**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	10.0
To some extent	2.0
Not at all	88.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the responses of other women towards the idea of participants to settle their own business. The findings demonstrated that out of 100 respondents 88.0 percent said that other women didn't appreciate their idea. 10.0 percent appreciated to great extent. While there were 2.0 percent who appreciate to some extent. So, the result showed that the greater number of women didn't appreciate respondent's idea of settling their business.

**Table 6. 22 Purpose of income used at their homes**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Education of your Children	49.0
Food purpose	25.0
Saving purpose	26.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the purpose of income of respondents used in their homes. The researcher used the categories were education of your children, food purpose, and Saving purpose. According to the findings given in the table out of the 100 total respondents 49.0 percent respondents answered that that they use their income for the education of their children.26.0 percent used for saving purpose rest of 25.0 percent used their income for food purpose. That showed that the number of respondents who used their income for the educational purpose of their children was greater.

**Table 6. 23 Trainings programs by AKRSP and economic wellbeing in backward areas**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	7.0
To some extent	14.0
Not at all	79.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the agreeance of respondents on a question that whether AKRSP’s trainings are useful to maintain economic wellbeing in backward area. The responses in the table showed that 51.5 percent respondents agreed to the great extent. 40.8 percent respondents agreed to some extent while there were 4.9 percent respondents who disagreed to the question. The response of greater number of respondents showed that the trainings given by AKRSP were useful to maintain economic wellbeing in the backward areas.

**Table 6. 24 Contribution in the decision-making processes before participation in AKRSP’s project**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	8.0
To some extent	8.0
Not at all	84.0
Total	100.0

The table explained the findings of the question asked from respondents about their contribution in decision making processes at their homes before their participation in the project. The answer of 84.4 percent respondents was No. 8.0 percent agree to great extent, while there were 8.0 percent respondents who participate in the decision-making processes at their homes to some extent.

**Table 6. 25 Effectiveness of AKRSP’s program to participate in decision making process**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	85.0
To some extent	9.0
Not at all	6.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the effectiveness of the trainings given by AKRSP to take part in the decision-making process in their families. The table showed that a huge number of respondents agreed to great extent with the effectiveness of AKRSP’s program to take part in the decision-making process at their homes. The number of respondents who agreed to greater extent was 85.0 percent which means that greater number of respondents started to take part in the decision-making process at their homes after participating in the AKRSP’s training programs. While 9.0 percent agreed to some extent. While there were also 6.0 percent respondents whose response was not at all.

**Table 6. 26 Participation in the program and problems faced**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Lack of facilities	13.0
Timing managing problems	34.0
Did not face problem	53.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the type of problems which respondents faced while participating in AKRSP's program. The categories used by researcher to find out the responses were lack of facilities, Time managing problem, did not face problem. Out of 100 total respondents the response of most respondents i-e 53.0 percent was did not face problem. 34.0 percent respondents faced time managing problem while 13.0 percent respondents faced the problem of lack of facilities.

**Table 6. 27 AKRSP’s project and challenges for women**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	10.0
To some extent	25.0
Not at all	65.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent to which the program was challenging for them being a woman. The table showed that Out of 100 respondents the response of 65.0 percent respondents was not at all, which showed for majority of respondents participation in the program was not challenging. However, there were 25.0 percent respondents for whom the participation was challenging to some extent. And there were also 10.0 percent respondents for whom the participation was challenging to great extent.

**Table 6. 28 Barriers from family and participation in the project**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	25.0
To some extent	35.0
Not at all	40.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent to which the other people in the surrounding benefited from the respondent's participation in the business of training program by AKRSP. The table showed that 63.0 percent respondents answered that the people of their surrounding benefited to the great extent. 22.0 percent answered that people benefited to some extent while there were 15.0 percent whose answer was not at all. The findings showed that greater number of people benefited from the participation of the respondents in the business and training program given by AKRSP.



**Table 6.29 Participation in AKRSP's project and Cultural barriers**

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	21.0
To some extent	45.0
Not at all	34.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the responses of the respondents regarding the cultural barriers they faced while participating in the AKRSP's program. 45.0 percent respondents faced problems to some extent. The response of 34.0 percent was not at all, however there were 21.0 percent respondents who faced cultural barriers to the great extent. The responses in the table showed that majority of respondents faced cultural barriers to some extent.

**Table 6.30 Participation in project and appreciation of family members**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	77.0
No	23.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information about the appreciation by their family members to participate in the project. The results in the table showed that 77.0 percent respondents answered Yes while 23.0 percent respondents answered No. That proved that the family members of majority of respondents appreciated the participation of the respondents in the project by AKRSP.

**Table 6.31 Assistance from other people while participating in the project**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	19.0
To some extent	66.0
Not at all	15.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the extent to which the respondents asked for help from other people while participating in the project. The table showed that 66.0 percent received assistance to some extent. 19.0 percent to great extent, while there were 15.0 percent respondents who didn't seek assistance from other people while participating in the program.

**Table 6.32 Cooperation of other while participating in AKRSP's program**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	1.0
To some extent	38.0
Not at all	61.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent to which people cooperated with the participate while their participation in the project. Out of 100 respondents 61.0 percent said that the people didn't cooperate with them, 38.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent. However, 1.0 percent respondents answered that people cooperate with them to great extent.

**Table 6.33 Benefit from respondent's participation in the project to others**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>percent</b>
To great extent	66.0
To some extent	22.0
Not at all	15.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent to which other people benefited from the respondent's participation in the training program given by AKRSP. 66.0 percent respondents answered that the people of their surrounding benefited to the great extent. 22.0 percent answered that people benefited to some extent, while there were 15.0 percent respondents whose answer was not at all. Which proved that greater number of people benefited from the participation of the respondents in the training program by AKRSP.

**Table 6. 34 New initiative for women based on training of AKRSP**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	16.0
To some extent	29.0
Not at all	55.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information regarding the extent to which the participants tried to initiate new programs for women based on the training given by AKRSP. 55.0% respondents didn't initiate any program, 29.0% answer was to some extent, and the rest of 16.0% answered to great extent. The findings showed that majority of the participants didn't initiate new programs based on training given by AKRSP.

**Table 6. 35 Seminars and workshops by AKRSP for improvement of program**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	72.0
To some extent	21.0
Not at all	7.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent to which AKRSP conducted workshops and seminars for improvement of the program. 72.0 percent out of 100 respondents agreed to the great extent. 21.0 percent agreed to some extent and the response of 7.0 percent was not at all. That proved that AKRSP conducted proper seminars and workshops for the improvement of training programs for women.

**Table 6. 36 Assistance of other organizations to AKRSP for implementation projects**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	70.0
To some extent	26.0
Not at all	4.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information about the extent to which other organizations assisted AKRSP to implement training programs. 70.0 percent respondents agreed to great extent that other organizations helped AKRSP to implement training programs. 26.0 percent agreed to some extent. And 4.0 percent disagreed to the question. That showed the other organizations helped AKRSP to implement different training programs for women.



**Table 6. 37 Participation in the multiple projects of AKRSP**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	64.0
No	36.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the respondents whether they participated in project other than EELY project. 64.0 percent respondents participated in other projects of AKRSP too and 36.0 percent respondents didn't participate in the project. That showed that majority of the respondents participated in the multiple training programs implemented by AKRSP.

**Table 6. 38 AKRSP’s new technology and training program and enhancement of productivity**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	32.0
To some extent	61.0
Not at all	7.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the extent to which respondents agreed to question That AKRSP provided new technology and trainings to enhance productivity. Among 100 respondents 61.0 percent agreed to some extent. 32.0 percent agree to great extent. However, there were 7.0 percent respondents who disagreed that AKRSP provided new technology to enhance productivity. That means that AKRSP provided new technology to some extent.

**Table 6.39 Improvement of technology of AKRSP and enhancement of productivity**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	90.0
No	10.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the opinion of respondents on the question that the researcher asked, i-e should AKRSP improve its technology and training programs to enhance productivity using categories “Yes” and “No” The results in the table showed 90.0 percent respondents answered “Yes” while 10.0 percent answered “No”.

**Table 6. 40 AKRSP's training programs and women empowerment**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	68.0
To some extent	24.0
Not at all	8.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the opinion of the women participants regarding AKRSP's success to play its role in empowering women. 68.0 percent of respondents agreed to great extent that AKRSP succeeded to play its role in empowering women. 24.0 percent agree to some extent and 8.0 percent disagree that AKRSP succeeded to play its role in empowering women. The greater number of respondents agreed to great extent indicated that AKRSP played its role successfully to empower women.

**Table 6. 41 Aspect of women empowerment and AKRSP's training initiatives**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Social aspect	25.5
Financial aspect	66.0
Psychological aspect	9.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information regarding the aspect in which AKRSP empowered women. The categories used by researcher to find the response of the respondents are Social aspect, Financial aspect, and Psychological aspect. 66.0 percent respondents answered that AKRSP empowered them in financial aspect. 25.5 percent answered in social aspect and 9.0 percent respondent's answer was in psychological aspect. That proved that AKRSP empowered women in financial aspect more than social and psychological aspect.

**Table 6. 42 AKRSP’s training program and social wellbeing of women**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	67.0
To some extent	26.0
Not at all	6.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent to which respondents agreed to the question of researcher that is AKRSP helped them in social aspect alone with economic aspect. 67.0 percent agreed to the great extent. 26.0 percent agreed to some extent. While 6.0 percent disagreed to the question. That proved that AKRSP helped women in social aspect other than economic aspect.

**Table 6. 43 AKRSP’s trainings program and social and economic empowerment**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	59.0
To some extent	33.0
Not at all	8.0
Total	100.0

The table showed the information regarding the extent of respondent’s expectations of social and economic empowerment through AKRSP. 59.0 percent participants respond that their expectations met to the great extent, 33.0 percent agreed to some extent. However, there are 8.0 percent respondents whose response was not at all. This means that AKRSP met the respondents expectations of social and economic empowerment to the greater extent.

**Table 6.44 AKRSP's initiative to avail job**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	37.0
To some extent	38.0
Not at all	25.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information regarding the extent to which the trainings remained helpful for participants to avail job in the job market. Among the total number of respondents 38.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent that the training programs remained helpful to avail job in the job market. 37.0 percent respondents agreed to great extent. However, there were 25.0 percent respondents whose response to the question was not at all. That means the program given by AKRSP was helpful to avail job in the job market to some extent.



**Table 6. 45 Participants recommendation for other women to participate in AKRSP’ training programs**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	69.0
No	31.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information regarding the recommendation of the respondents to another female to participate in the project implemented by AKRSP. The researcher used the categories of “Yes “and “No” to find out the answer. Out of 100 total respondents 69.0 percent respondents answer showed that the respondents recommended other women to participate in the project. However, there were 31.0 percent respondent who didn’t recommend to other women. This means that there were greater number of respondents who recommended to participate in the program.

**Table 6. 46 AKRSP's initiative and gender equality**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	71.0
To some extent	17.0
Not at all	12.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information on question that researcher asked about the respondent's view regarding enhancement of gender equality by AKRSP. The table shows that most respondents agree to great extent. The percentage of respondents who agreed to great extent was 71.0 percent. 17.0 percent agreed to some extent, however, there were 12.0 percent respondents whose response was not at all. That proved that AKRSP enhanced gender equality to great extent.

**Table 6. 47 AKRSP's initiative beneficial at community level**

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Percent</b>
To great extent	42.0
To some extent	49.0
Not at all	8.0
Total	100.0

The table showed information about the extent that how much the respondent agreed that the initiative of AKRSP benefited on community level. 49.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent. that the initiative benefited at the community to some extent.42.0 percent respondents answered that the initiative benefited to great extent. While 8.0 percent disagreed to the question that the initiative benefited at community level.

## Hypothesis Test

**Table 6. 48 Cross tabulation**

Monthly family income \* To what an extent your income has increased after your participation in the program given by AKRSP?

Extent of Increased income after participation in the project						
			To great extent	To some extent	Not at all	Total
Monthly income	Below 5000	Count	82	0	0	82
		%within Monthly income	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	5001-10,000	Count	1	6	0	7
		%within monthly income	14.3%	85.7%	0.0%	100.0%
	10,000-15000	Count	0	4	3	7
		%within Monthly income	0.0%	57.1%	42.9%	100.0%
	Above 15000	Count	2	0	2	4
		%within monthly income	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Total	Count		85	10	5	100
		%within monthly income	85.0%	10.0%	5.0%	100.0

The table above showed the cross tabulation between monthly income of respondents and the extent to which their income increased after their participation in the project implemented by AKRSP. The rows contained the monthly income of the respondents. While the columns showed the extent to which income of respondents increased after their participation in the project. 85.0% of the participants agreed to the great extent that their income increased after their participation in the project.

**Table 6. 49 Chi square test**

	Value	Df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	117.815 <sup>a</sup>	6	.000
Likelihood Ratio	82.790	6	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	62.456	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	100		

a. 8 cells (66.7%) have expected count less than 5.

The minimum expected count is .20.

$H_0$ : The trainings implemented by AKRSP for females are not effective to enhance their income.

$H_1$ : The trainings implemented by AKRSP for females are effective to enhance their income

The table mentioned above showed the Pearson Chi-Square was 117.815, df was 6 and the value of Asymptotic Significance was .000 which was less than 0.05 p-value. Therefore, there was relationship between the effectiveness of project by AKRSP in increasing their monthly income. So, the null hypothesis was rejected, and alternate hypothesis was accepted

**Table 6. 50 Cross tabulation**

**Hypothesis Test**

Contribution in decision-making processes at home before participation in training project\*effectiveness of training to participate in decision making

Effectiveness of training program to Participate in decision making						
			To great extent	To some extent	Not at all	Total
contribution in decision making before training	To great extent	Count	5	3	0	8
		%contribution in decision making before training	62.5 %	37.5 %	0.0%	100.0 %
	To some extent	Count	8	0	0	8
		%contribution in decision making before training	100.0 %	0.0%	0.0%	100.0 %
	Not at all	Count	72	6	6	84
		%contribution in decision making before training	85.7 %	7.1%	7.1%	100.0 %
Total	Count	85	9	6	100	
	%Contribution in decision making before training	85.0%	9.0%	6.0%	100.0 %	

The above table showed the cross tabulation between the extent of respondent's participation in the decision-making process before their participation in the training program and after their participation in the program in their homes. The rows contained the extent to which respondents participated in the decision-making process before their participation in the training program given by AKRSP. While the columns showed the effectiveness of program given by AKRSP to women for taking part in the decision-making processes at their homes. 85.0% of the participants agreed to the great extent that their participation in the training program remained effective to take part in the decision-making processes at their homes.



**Table 6. 51 Chi square test**

	Value	Df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	10.098 <sup>a</sup>	4	.039
Likelihood Ratio	8.612	4	.072
Linear-by-Linear Association	.093	1	.760
N of Valid Cases	100		

a. 4 cells (44.4%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .48.

$H_0$ : The programs implemented by AKRSP are not beneficial for women to participate in the decision-making process at their homes.

$H_1$ : The programs implemented by AKRSP are beneficial for women to participate in the decision-making processes at their homes.

The table mentioned above showed that Pearson Chi-Square was 10.098, df was 4 and the value of Asymptotic Significance was .039 which was less than 0.05 p-value. Therefore, there was relationship between the effectiveness of participation of women in the project implemented by AKRSP in contributing in the decision-making processes at their homes. So, the null hypothesis was rejected, and alternate hypothesis was accepted

**Chapter No 7**

**DISCUSSIONS CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

## 7.1 Discussion

The research explored the role of Aga Khan rural support program in women empowerment in Tehsil Aliabad District Hunza. The purpose behind the study was to determine the extent to which the project of Aga Khan rural support program remained effective to enable women to participate in the earning and the decision-making processes of their families. The research was based on the responses of 100 respondents who participated in the training project named Enhancing employability and leadership in youth (EELY). Among 100 respondents the number of married women participants were 77.0 percent, 14.0 percent unmarried female, 4.0 percent divorced, and 5.0 percent were widow. The age categories of respondents used by researcher to conduct the research was below 20, 20-30, 30-40, and above 40. Out of 100 respondents 60.0 percent respondents which was the highest number fall in the age category of 30-40. And 4.0 fall in the category of below 20 which was the lowest number of participants. The researcher used different categories like Agriculture, Business, Student, Housewife, to find the profession of participants who participated in the project, 66.0 percent respondents which was the highest percentage fall in the category of housewife. While the number of respondents who did their business was 4.0 percent which was the lowest number. As far as the monthly income of participants was concerned the researcher used different income categories to determine the economic status of women respondents the categories used were 5000, 5001-10000, 10001-15000, and above 15000. Among other categories the highest value of respondents which was 82.0 percent fall in the category of less than 5000 and the lowest number of respondents was 4.0 percent who fall in the category of above 15000. The educational categories used by researcher were No education, Primary education, Secondary education, Graduation, and masters. 59.0 percent respondents which was the greatest value received their education to the primary level. While 1.0 percent which was the smallest number of respondents

participated in the project holding graduation degree. Under the initiative of Enhancing employability and leadership in youth (EELY) by Aga Khan rural support program several trainings like skill development, technical skill development, and business creation trainings were given to women. The researcher found that among 100 respondents 42.0 percent which was the greater number of participants benefited from technical skill development training, and 6.0 percent benefited from agricultural training. Out of the total 100 respondents 72.0 percent respondents which was greatest number enjoyed learning skills to the great extent, 20.0 percent enjoyed to some extent however there were 8.0% respondents who didn't enjoy learning skill in the skills. Furthermore, the research also based on the belief of women that AKRSP trained them through income generational activities. 80.0 percent which was the greater value of female participants believed to great extent, 15.0 percent believed to some extent. And 5.0 percent which was the smallest number of respondents disagreed that AKRSP trained women through income generational activities. The research also explored the source of income of respondents before their participation in the project. The highest value which was 75.0 percent respondents were with no source of income. The source of income of 13.0 percent respondents was labor and 12.0 percent respondent's income was based on agriculture. After their participation in the project out of 100 respondents 85.0 percent respondents agreed to the great extent that their income increased. While 10.0 percent agreed to some extent and 5.0 percent disagreed. The research proved that greatest number of respondents were satisfied with their income after their participation in the project. The number of respondents who agreed to great extent was 70.0 percent. 25.0 percent were satisfied to some extent 5.0 percent disagreed with the statement. On the question of the researcher regarding their agreeance on female's contribution in the income of their families after their participation in the trainings given by AKRSP. Out of 100 respondents 68.0 percent participants agreed to the great

extent which was the highest percentage 24.0 percent to some extent. While 8.0 percent respondents disagreed with the question. The respondents were asked about their participation in the saving program given by AKRSP through women organizations. 58.0 percent which was the highest number didn't participate in the saving facility and 42.0 percent participated in the saving facility. The findings on the question regarding their agreeance on the idea of saving by AKRSP through women organizations 56.0 percent of respondents agreed to the great extent that AKRSP implemented the idea of saving through women organizations and 27.0 percent agreed to some extent. While the response of 17.0 percent respondents which was the smallest value disagreed. Further the research revealed the extent of belief of respondent on the question that AKRSP gave training of entrepreneurship to women to become financially independent. The findings showed that the greater number i-e 54.0 percent respondents agreed to the great extent, 30.0 percent agreed to some extent whereas 16.0 percent respondents disagreed. The research also revealed the information regarding the loan providing initiative of AKRSP 76.0 percent women which is the highest number disagreed to the question of researcher, 13.0 percent agreed to some extent and 11.0 percent which was the lowest value agreed to greater extent which was the smallest value. The findings in the research showed that on researcher's question regarding the business settled by women participants before AKRSP's initiative of providing loans for business. Out of 100 respondents 87.0 percent of respondents answered "No" and 13.0 percent answered "Yes" which showed that the number of respondents who didn't settle their business before was greater. In addition, the research explored that 70.0 percent women gave idea to other women to settle small business while 30.0 percent answered No. Out of 100 respondents 88.0 percent which was the greater number did not appreciate their idea to some extent. While 10.0 percent appreciated to the greater extent, and 2.0 percent appreciated to some extent. The research explored that where the respondents spend their income

49.0 percent respondents used their income for the education of their children. 25.0 percent used for food purpose and 24.3 percent which was the smallest value use their income for saving purpose. The research revealed the extent to which training remained useful to maintain economic wellbeing. Greater number of respondents which was 79.0 percent disagreed that trainings given by AKRSP remained useful to maintain economic wellbeing in the backward areas. 14.0 percent agreed to some extent. The research further explored the participation of women in decision making process at their homes before their participation in the project. 84.0 percent did not participated in the decision-making process before participation in the project, 8.0 percent agreed to some extent and the same number of respondents agreed to great extent. After their participation in the project 85.0 percent agreed to the great extent that training remained effective for them to participate in the decision-making processes at their homes. However, 9.0 percent agreed to some extent and 6.0 percent disagreed. The results in the research revealed out of 100 respondents 53.0 percent did not face problem. 34.0 percent faced time managing problems while 13.0 percent respondents faced the problem of lack of facilities. Research also explored the extent of barriers faced by respondents form their families 40.0 percent, which is greater value did not faced barriers, 35.0 percent faced problems to some extent 25.0 percent respondents face problems to great extent. In addition, the research showed that greater number of respondent's family members i-e 77.0 percent appreciated their participation in the program while 23.0 percent of family members of respondents did not. The research also showed the extent to which participants seek assistance from other people while participating in the program. The findings showed that 66.0 percent respondents asked for help to some extent, 19.0 percent to great extent while there were 15.0 percent who didn't seek assistance from other people. 61.0 percent said that people didn't cooperate with them, 38.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent 1.0 percent agreed to great extent that show that greater number of people

didn't cooperate with the participants to participate in the program. The findings also showed that the extent to which people in the surrounding benefited from the respondent's participation in the training program by AKRSP. 63.0 percent respondents answered that the people of their surrounding benefited to the great extent. 22.0 percent answered that people benefited to some extent while there were 15.0 percent whose answer was not at all. That showed that greater number of people benefited from respondent's participation in the training program. In addition, the research also investigated the extent to which the participants tried to initiate new programs for women based on initiatives given by AKRSP. The findings showed that 55.0 percent respondents didn't initiate any program, 29.0 percent tried to some extent, and 16.0 percent tried great extent. The findings showed that majority of the participants didn't initiate new programs based on initiatives given by AKRSP for other women. Research explained that extent to which AKRSP conducted workshops and seminars for improvement of the program. The results showed that 72.0 percent agreed to the great extent. 21.0 percent agreed to some extent and the response of 7.0 percent was not at all. That showed that AKRSP conducted proper seminars and workshops for the improvement of training programs for women. The research showed that 70.0 percent respondents agreed to great extent that other organizations assist AKRSP to implement trainings programs. 26.0 percent agreed to some extent, and 4.0 percent disagreed. That showed the other organizations helped AKRSP to great extent to implement different training programs for women. Out of total 100 64.0 percent respondents participated in other projects of AKRSP in addition to (EELY) and 36.0 percent respondents didn't participate in the project. The research also based upon the information about respondent's agreeance to question that AKRSP provided new technology and trainings to enhance productivity. Among 100 respondents 61.0 percent agreed to some extent. 32.0 percent agree to great extent. However, there were 7.0 percent respondents who disagreed that AKRSP provided new

technology to enhance productivity. That showed that AKRSP provided new technology to enhance productivity. It also revealed the respondent's opinion on a question i-e should AKRSP improve its technology to enhance productivity. Majority of respondents i-e 90 percent answered Yes while 10.0 percent answered No. In addition, the research also explained the opinion of the women participants regarding AKRSP's success to play its role in empowering women. The findings showed that 68.0 percent of respondents agree to great extent that AKRSP succeeded to play its role in empowering women. 24.0 percent agreed to some extent and 8.0 percent disagree that AKRSP succeeded to play its role in empowering women. That showed AKRSP played its role successfully to empower women. The research also explained the aspect in which AKRSP empowered women. The findings showed that 66.0 percent respondents answered that AKRSP empowered women in financial aspect. 25.5 percent answered in social aspect and 9.0 percent respondent's answer is in psychological aspect. That mean that AKRSP empowered women in financial aspect more than social and psychological aspect. However, AKRSP helped them in social aspect too, the findings showed that 67.0 percent agree to the great extent. 26.0 percent agreed to some extent that AKRSP helped them in social aspect with economic aspect. While 26.0 percent disagreed to the question. Further the research also based on the information regarding the extent to which the training remained helpful for participants to avail job in the job market. 38.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent that the training program remained helpful to avail job in the job market. 37.0 percent respondents agreed to great extent. However, there were 25.0 percent respondents whose response to the question was not at all. Result showed that the program given by AKRSP remained helpful to avail job in the job market to some extent. In addition to this AKRSP enhanced gender equality. The finding showed that majority of respondents agreed to great extent. The percentage of respondents who agreed to great extent was 71.0 percent. 17.0



percent agreed to some extent, however, there were 12.0 percent respondents whose response was not at all. In addition, the initiative of AKRSP was beneficial at community level the findings showed that 49.0 percent respondents agreed to some extent. The result showed that the initiative benefited the community to some extent. 42.0 percent respondents agreed that the initiative benefited to great extent. While 8.0 percent disagreed with the statement. Lastly the research also explored the recommendation of the respondents to another female to participate in the project implemented by AKRSP. Out of 100 total respondents 69.0 percent respondents recommended other women to participate in the project. However, there were 31.0 percent respondent who didn't recommend to other women. The result showed that there were greater number of respondents who recommend to participate in the program.

## 7.2 Key Findings

1. The highest value of marital status of respondents 77.0 percent was married and the lowest value was 4.0 percent was divorced.
2. The highest value was 60.0 percent was the age group of 30-40 years. And the lowest value was 4.0 percent were the below 20 years.
3. The highest value 66.0 percent were housewife and the lowest value 4.0 percent were having business
4. The highest value was 82.0 percent were having monthly income less than 5000, and the lowest value was 4.0 percent with above 15000.
5. The highest value was 59.0 percent were with primary education, and the lowest value was 1.0 percent were graduates.
6. The highest value was 42.0 percent with participation in technical skill training, and the lowest value was 6.0 percent with Agricultural training.
7. The highest value was 72.0 percent who enjoyed learning skills to great extent, and the lowest value was 8.0 percent who didn't enjoy learning skills.
8. The highest value was 82.0 percent spare time for training on daily basis, and the lowest value was 2.0 percent who spare time on monthly basis.
9. The highest value was 80.0 percent agreed to the great extent that AKRSP trained women income generational activities and the lowest value was 5.0 percent who responded not at all.
10. The highest value was 75.0 having no source of income, and the lowest value was 12.0 having agriculture as source of income.
11. The highest value was 85.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that the income has increased after participation in the project and, the lowest value was 5.0 percent who responded not at all.

12. The highest value 70.0 percent having satisfaction with income after participation to the greater extent. And the lowest value is 5.0 percent with less satisfaction.
13. The highest value 68.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that female contributed in the income of their family after participation in the project. And the lowest value was 8.0 percent not at all.
14. The highest value 58.0 percent who didn't participated in the idea of saving given by AKRSP and the lowest value was 42.0 percent who participated in the idea of saving.
15. The highest value was 56.0 percent with agreeance to the great extent that AKRSP implemented the idea of saving through women organizations. And, the lowest value was 17.0 percent who with response not at all.
16. The highest value was 54.0 percent with agreeance to the great extent that AKRSP assisted women to become financially independent by giving them entrepreneur trainings. And the lowest value was 16.0 percent who don't agree.
17. The highest value was 76.0 percent who disagreed that AKRSP provide loans to women to settle small businesses. And 11.0 percent agreed to great extent.
18. The highest value was 87.0 percent who never done business before AKRSP's loan providing initiative. And the lowest value was 13.0 percent who done business before loan proving initiative of AKRSP.

19. The highest value was 88.0 percent who don't agree that AKRSP helped them to start their own business after their participation in the training. And lowest value was 2.0 percent who agreed to some extent.
20. The highest value was 70.0 percent who gave idea to settle businesses to other women. And, the lowest value was 30.0 percent who didn't provide idea.
21. The highest value was 88.0 percent who disagreed that other women appreciated their idea to settle businesses. And the lowest value is 2.0 percent who appreciated to some extent.
22. The highest value was 49.1 percent who use their income for educational purpose of their children. And lowest value was 25.0 percent who used their income for food purpose.
23. The highest value was 51.5 percent who agreed to the great extent that training programs by AKRSP are useful to maintain economic wellbeing in the backward areas. And the lowest value was 4.9 percent who disagreed.
24. The highest value was 84.0 percent who didn't participated in the decision-making process before their participation in the AKRSP's project. And the lowest value was 8.0 percent with their participation in decision making process at their homes.
25. The highest value was 85.0 percent who agreed to the great extent with the effectiveness of the program given by AKRSP to contribute in the decision-making process at their homes. And the lowest value was 6.0 percent who responded not at all.
26. The highest value was 53.0 percent who didn't face any problem while participating in the program. And the lowest value was 13.0 percent with problems of lack of facilities.

27. The highest value was 65.0 percent who don't agree that program given by AKRSP was challenging. And the lowest value was 10.0 percent who faced problems to the great extent.
28. The highest value was 40.0 percent who didn't faced barriers from their family members while participating in the program. And the lowest value was 25.0 percent who faced problems to the great extent.
29. 45.0 percent who faced cultural barriers to some extent while participating in the project. And the lowest value was 21.0 percent who faced cultural barriers to great extent.
30. The highest value was 77.0 percent who received appreciation from their family members to participate in the project. And the lowest value was 23.0 percent who didn't received appreciation from their family members.
31. The highest value was 66.0 percent who seek assistance from other people to some extent to participate in the project. And the lowest value was 15.0 percent who didn't seek assistance.
32. The highest value was 61.0 percent with whom other people didn't cooperate while participating in the project. The lowest value was 1.0 percent with whom people cooperate to the great extent.
33. The highest value was 63.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that people of the surrounding benefited from their participation in the program. The lowest value was 15.0 percent who disagreed.
34. The highest value was 55.0 percent who didn't start new initiative for women based on the trainings given by AKRSP. The lowest value was 16.0 percent who agreed to the great extent.

35. The highest value was 72.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that AKRSP conducted seminars and workshops for improvement of program. The lowest value was 7.0 percent who disagreed.
36. The highest value was 70.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that other organizations assist AKRSP to implement such programs. The lowest value was 4.0 percent who disagreed.
37. The highest value was 64.0 percent who participated more than one project. The lowest value was 36.0 percent who didn't participated in more than one project.
38. The highest value was 61.0 percent who agree to some extent that AKRSP provides new technology to enhance productivity. And the lowest value was 7.0 percent who disagreed.
39. The highest value was 90.0 percent who agree that AKRSP should improve its technology to enhance productivity. The lowest value was 10.0 percent who disagreed.
40. The highest value was 68.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that AKRSP succeeded to play its role to empower women. The lowest value was 8.0 percent who disagreed.
41. The highest value was 66.0 percent who think that AKRSP is good to empower women in financial aspect. The lowest value was 9.0 percent who think AKRSP empower women in psychological aspects.
42. The highest value was 67.0 percent who think that AKRSP's program helped them in social aspect with economic aspect. The lowest value was 6.0 percent who disagree.
43. The highest value was 59.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that their expectations of social and economic have fulfilled through AKRSP's trainings. The lowest value was 8.0 percent who disagreed.

44. The highest value was 38.0 percent for whom the program remained helpful to some extent to avail job in the job market. The lowest value was 25.0 percent who disagreed.
45. The highest value was 67.0 percent who recommend other women to participate in the training programs of AKRSP. The lowest was 31.0 percent who didn't recommend others to participate in the training programs of AKRSP.
46. The highest value was 71.0 percent who agreed to the great extent that AKRSP enhanced gender equality. The lowest value was 12.0 percent who disagreed.
47. 49.0 percent who agree to some extent that AKRSP's initiative is beneficial at community level. The lowest value was 8.0 percent who disagreed.

### **7.3 Conclusion**

Women empowerment is such a process that makes women able to make their own life choices. It means improving and enhancing the status of women by giving them education, imparting trainings and also by giving them awareness regarding their rights. Aga Khan Rural Support program is a private nongovernmental organization established by Aga Khan foundation. This organization is working in the regions of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral to enhance the living standards of the lives of people of these areas. The organization works on the perspective that the people in the region of Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral possess great capabilities if they are provided with a platform to work on their capacities. The objective of AKRSP is to support the local organizations of people to for sustainable development and to enhance the opportunities if employment for people especially for poor including women. Among several other objectives empower the local women by giving them trainings to use the available resources to generate income for themselves. Aga Khan rural support program established village organizations (VOs) and women organizations (WOs) to provide the facility of saving these organizations work under the umbrella of Local support Organizations (LSOs). These local support organizations (LSOs) work as a medium between donor organizations and women organizations (WOs) and village organizations (VOs). Several trainings implemented for women through women organizations. These organizations worked as a medium between donor organizations that give financial assistance and the women Organizations (WOs) and village organizations (VOs). The aim of the study was to explore the role of AKRSP in women empowerment in Tehsil Aliabad, District Hunza. The findings in the research show that AKRSP has played significant role in improving the standard of women and in enhancing their economic status. Further AKRSP empowered women by giving



them trainings of technical skills like handicrafts, sewing beauty parlor etc. business creation, skill development trainings and credit facility. The research elaborates that the women who participated in the initiative of AKRSP agreed that AKRSP provided them a platform where they can polish and develop necessary skills in a way that they become able to participate in the earning process of their families that provided them opportunity to participate in the decision making processes of their families. AKRSP enhanced gender equality in a way that women are participating in the businesses and other activities equal to men. Majority of the targeted population in the research are married women with primary level education, AKRSP provided such women an opportunity to socially interact with others and earn money using skills to generate income that they used for the educational purpose of their children. Participation in earning of their families made that that much self-sufficient that they become able to make decision in their family matters.

#### **7.4 Suggestions**

Women play significant role in the development of society. For the development of society, it is necessary to empower women. Empowerment of women can take place in several forms through education, skill development trainings and also through giving awareness regarding their rights. There are several challenges that women face like lack of facilities, lack of support from the members of society and sometimes the cultural barriers come in the way of the development of women. Women should be encouraged to participate in the development processes like, participation in the training program and should encourage to settle small businesses. This can be done through providing them safe and secure environment. Governmental and nongovernmental organizations should work to provide platform for women where they can polish their skills and abilities and use them to earn and participate in the earning processes of their families. It is also the responsibility of the governmental organizations to provide awareness to the people of the traditional society regarding the rights and the responsibilities of women in the society. Women should provide more excess to microfinance facilities and business market.

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## **ANNEXURE**

## Questionnaire

I Adina Farishta student of MSc Sociology, Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad. I am conducting this research for fulfillment of my degree requirement. The research is based on the role of Aga Khan rural support program in women empowerment in Tehsil Aliabad, District Hunza. I request you to fill this questionnaire, this will help me to accomplish my research. As the purpose of research is totally academic so all the information you provide will remain safe and confidential.

1. Marital Status:

- a) Married    b) Unmarried    c) Divorced    d) Widow

2. Age:

- a) Below 20    b) 20-30    c) 30-40    d) Above 40

3. Profession:

- a) Agriculture    b) Business    c) Student    d) Housewife

4. Monthly family income:

- a) Less than 5000    b) 5001-10,000    c) 10,001-15000  
d) Above 15000

5. Qualification:

- a) No education    b) Primary    c) Secondary    d)  
Graduation    e) Masters

6. What type of program arranged by AKRSP have you participated?

- a) Agricultural    b) Business Training    c) Skill development  
d) Technical skill training

7. Did you enjoy learning technical / skills development trainings?

- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) not at all

8. How much time you spare for the program?

- a) Daily basis    b) Weekly basis    c) Monthly basis



9. To what an extent do you believe that AKRSP trained women through income generational activities?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all
10. What was your source of income before your participation in the project?
  - a) Agriculture
  - b) Business
  - c) Job
  - d) Labor
  - e) No source of income
11. To what an extent your income has increased after your participation in the programs given by AKRSP?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all
12. To what an extent are you satisfied with your income after taking part in project/ business?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all
13. To what an extent do you agree that female give their contribution in income of their families after participating in the programs offered given AKRSP?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all
14. Have you ever participated in the idea of saving given by AKRSP through women organizations?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
15. How much you agree that AKRSP implemented the idea of saving through women organization?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all
16. Do you believe that AKRSP assisted women to become financially independent by giving them trainings of entrepreneurship?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all
17. To what an extent do you agree that AKRSP gave loans to women to settle businesses?
  - a) To great extent
  - b) To some extent
  - c) Not at all

18. Have you ever done business before AKRSP initiative to provide loans for business?
- a) Yes                      b) No
19. To what an extent you agree that AKRSP helped you to start your own business after taking part in the project?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
20. Did you give the idea to settle small business to other women after getting benefit from the initiative of AKRSP?
- a) Yes                      b) No
21. To what an extent did other women appreciate your idea of settling small businesses?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
22. For what purpose your income is used at your home?
- a) Education of your children    b) Food Purpose    c) Saving purpose    d) Business purpose
23. To what an extent do you agree that trainings and other programs given by AKRSP are useful to maintain economic wellbeing in backward areas?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
24. Have you ever contributed in the decision-making processes at your home before participating in the programs offered by AKRSP?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
25. How much do you agree with the effectiveness of the program given by AKRSP to take part in decision making process in their families?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all

26. Being part of program given by AKRSP what type of problems did you faced?
- a) Family conflicts    b) lack of facilities    c) time managing problems    d) don't face any problem
27. Being a woman was it challenging to participate in the program?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
28. Did you face any barrier from your family while participating in the program?
- a) To some extent    b) To great extent    c) Not at all
29. Did you face any cultural barrier in participating in the programs?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
30. Did your family members appreciate your participation in the projects implemented by AKRSP?
- a) Yes                      b) No
31. Did you seek assistance from other people while participating in business plan and other skill development program by AKRSP?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
32. To what extent people cooperate with you to participate in the program?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
33. To what extent people of your surrounding benefit from your businesses or by your participation in the projects?
- a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
34. Have you tried to initiate new programs for women based on the initiatives given by AKRSP?

a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all

35. To what an extent did AKRSP conducted seminars or workshops for the improvement of the program?

a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all

36. To what an extent do other organizations assist AKRSP to implement such programs?

a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all

37. Have you ever participated in the training/project other than this project implemented by AKRSP?

a) Yes                      b) No

38. To what an extent do you agree that AKRSP provides new technology and trainings to enhance productivity?

a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all

39. Should AKRSP improve its technology and training program to enhance productivity?

a) Yes                      b) No

40. In your opinion to what an extent AKRSP has succeeded to play its role in empowering women?

a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all

41. In which aspect do you think the program of AKRSP good to empower women?

a) Social aspect        b) Financial aspect    c) Psychological

aspect

42. To what an extent do you think that the programs implemented by AKRSP helped you in social aspect other than economic aspect of your life?  
a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
43. To what an extant your expectations of economic empowerment have met through AKRSP?  
a) To greater extant    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
44. To what an extent the program helped you to avail job in the job market?  
a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
45. Would you recommend other women to take part in projects implemented by AKRSP?  
a) Yes                      b) No
46. To what an extant you agree that AKRSP has enhanced gender equality?  
a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all
47. To what an extent do you think that the initiative has benefited at community level?  
a) To great extent    b) To some extent    c) Not at all



