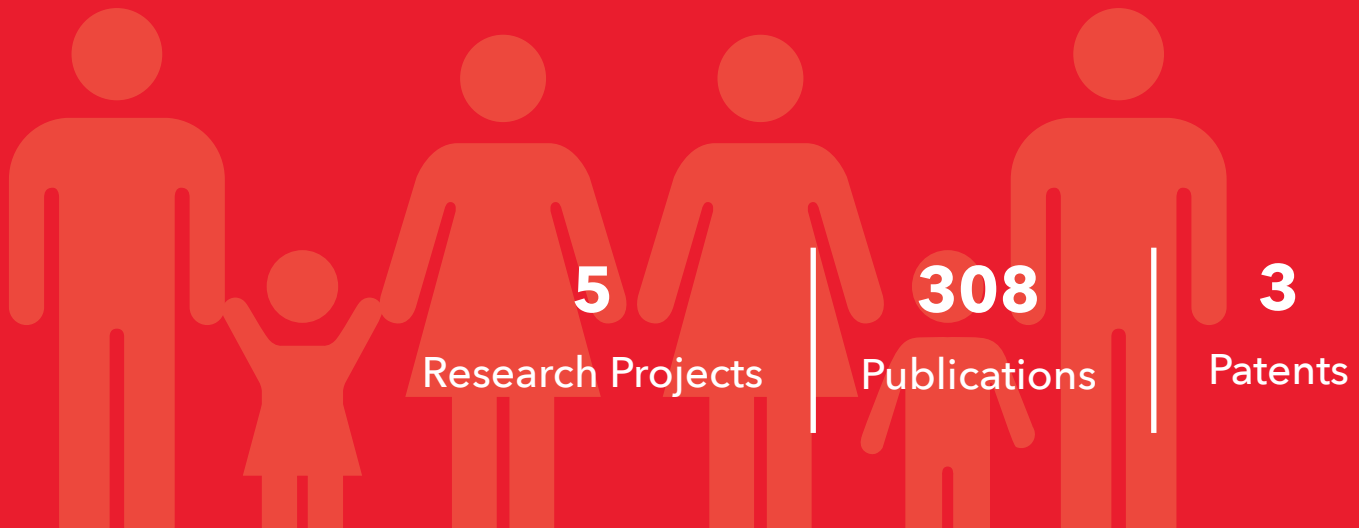




GOAL 1

# No Poverty



# NUST outreach to Balochistan and FATA

**PKR 50 million** allocated to Balochistan Campus under NEED initiative for Students Scholarships

NUST has been extensively working to expand its academic services to under-developed and under-represented tribal regions of Pakistan for the capacity building of the youth of these areas at par with international standards. Therefore, by investing in such capital intensive outreach Programmes, NUST has proven its commitment to the reduction of economic disparities across all regions of Pakistan through quality education.

NUST has started academic classes in Undergraduate Programme in NUST Quetta Campus, where more than 150 students are currently enrolled in UG engineering programme.

## First-Generation Students

NUST has around 35% of first generation students, i.e. Whose parents were never enrolled for higher education. Such a large proportion of students at the campus speaks of our contribution towards bringing out an increasing number of families from poverty.

## NEED Initiative

**1800+** Students Studying on NEED based scholarships, 127 Free Seats

NUST aims to be a need-blind university, affording education to all those who make it to the university on merit. In this respect, NUST looks after the financial needs of the students from underprivileged and underrepresented groups from all across the country, through partnerships with NUST alumni, private donors, and government agencies for funding. More than 1800 students are studying on need-based scholarships in NUST



Food items, books and Sewing Machines distribution at Edhi Homes

since 2015, and 127 of the targeted 400 seats have been made free for scholars through a permanent endowment.

## EHSAAS Scholarships

EHSAAS is a project funding under Government of Pakistan's 'EHSAAS social safety Programme which aims to provide 50,000 undergraduate scholarships with an average budget of PKR 6.0 BN annually. Over a period of next four to five years, these scholarships will be increased to around 200,000.

Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) is implementing EHSAAS programme in 118 national participating universities. NUST has been actively engaged in the programme with HEC and has been offered 816 scholarship slots in 2019-20 full-year. The scholarship covers university tuition fee and stipend throughout four-five years of degree duration. This is an exceptional example of cross-sectoral collaboration to alleviate poverty at a national scale.



Helped a deserving person through purchase of Rickshaw to support his family at Nowshera



Provision of Lab Facilities at Govt School Rahim Yar Khan



# Community Service for poverty reduction

College of Aeronautical Engineering (CAE), a constituent college of NUST in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province (KPK), holds various community service activities which include several initiatives aiming to provide basic facilities in the community and reduction of poverty. Such initiatives include:

- Financially supporting families through fund raised by students and faculty
- Up-gradation of facilities in schools in remote areas of KPK province
- Blood donation camps
- Provision of food and books at Edhi homes, an international acknowledged organization supporting orphans and widows, and SOS Village KPK
- Free career counseling lectures
- Provision of free drinking water at remote areas.



Food items and books distribution at SOS Village, Peshawar



Installation of water filter at Govt Primary School, Risalpur

# The Impact of Microfinance on Poverty Alleviation and Women's Empowerment in Rahim Yar Khan

There has been global attention on the poor and life-threatening extreme poverty. A number of international development organizations have put poverty alleviation to the forefront of their core policies. Microfinance (MF) has played a pivotal role in poverty eradication and women empowerment. Existing studies on the impact of MF on women empowerment have focused on specific microfinance institutes, villages, countries or regions, with mixed findings. This research by leading women researchers at NUST aims to examine the impact of MF on alleviating poverty and empowering women in Rahim Yar Khan, a city in Punjab Province of Pakistan. Sample data will be collected from 4 MF institutions across Rahim Yar Khan from 2500 participants over a sample period of 2018-2019. This study will utilize panel regressions, and test for fixed and random effects to determine if MF alleviates poverty by increasing the level of household income and improving the education, health and living standards. The study also intends to examine how MF can empower women by increasing their access to finance and improving their decision making power.

## Poverty mapping using satellite imagery and spatial data

Poverty is an economic and social problem in the developing world, with around 10% of global population living below the poverty line of \$1.9 a day.

The suggested project uses satellite imagery to estimate the poverty struck areas in Pakistan and proposes to employ the machine learning and computer vision techniques to develop a cost effective and a scalable system that can map impoverished and developed areas in Pakistan.

Such estimation is effective in filling out existing data gaps on poverty and enable policy-makers to devise policies in accord with the evidence or pieces of evidence .

