The Parliamentary Centre is a Canadian not-for-profit, non-partisan organization that supports parliaments around the world. Our assessment, strategic planning and training programs, combined with research products and networking channels, help legislatures measure their performance, build capacity, tackle key issues and promote mutual learning.

In short - we help legislatures better serve their people.

About the Project

From March 2009 – November 2010, the Centre implemented the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Program in Pakistan (PPPSP) with support from the Global Peace and Security Fund of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) of Canada. PPPSP was implemented in cooperation with the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency (PILDAT).

The project focused on strengthening the role played by parliamentary committees and political party caucuses in the national budget making process.

Accomplishments

- Close to 200 Members of Parliament received pre-budget briefings;
- Members of the National Assembly and the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab were able to present recommendations with regards to the relevant budgets to the federal and provincial governments;
- The National Assembly’s Finance Committee held its first pre-budget consultation, soliciting views from CSOs and academic institutions on February 18, 2010, crediting the Parliamentary Centre and PILDAT for facilitating this consultation;
- Media, civil society organizations and businesses were briefed on ways to influence the budget process.

On February 18, 2010 the Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue of the National Assembly of Pakistan held a pre-budget consultation for the first time in its history.
Testimonials

Opening the first pre-budget consultation by the National Assembly’s Finance Committee, Mrs. Fauzia Wahab, Chairman of the Committee, said that the Federal Cabinet's decision to present Budget proposals to Parliamentary Committees by May 2010 to allow in-depth budget review and input by Parliamentary Committees was a triumph of efforts of all Parliamentarians over the years to reform the Parliamentary Budget Process.