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<sup>18</sup> Insignificant efforts have been made so far regarding women's rights and gender mainstreaming in the province. In the context of the FSP, there is a lack of female social organisers. Even in some areas where the Department of Forests, Wildlife and Fisheries (DFFW) had acquired the services of female social organisers or female forestry extensionists, these members rarely visited remote mountainous villages.

<sup>19</sup> There are also some district-level non-governmental organisations (NGOs) (e.g. Hujrah in Swat district and Haasshar in Mansehra district) working for capacity building and community organisation regarding natural resource management in the upland areas of the NWFP with the support of international donor agencies.

<sup>20</sup> On 24 August 2002, General Musharraf issued the Legal Framework Order, announcing general elections to be held in October 2002. Various constitutional provisions were amended through this ordinance.

<sup>21</sup> This confirms Steimann's hypothesis (2004) that community-based organisations are gradually replacing the practical use of *jirga*.

<sup>22</sup> Similarly *Tablighees* (preachers) go from home to home, knock on doors and invite people to listen to them. They use both punishment and reward techniques, including the fear of hell and punishment after death and the incentives of going to heaven and reaping otherworldly rewards. They motivate people to join them in their task of inviting other people to obey God by doing good deeds and avoiding bad deeds. Their approach is mainly religious and does not cover overall societal development. The *Pirs* (spiritual leaders) belong to the sufi school of thought in Islam and address the spiritual problems of the people. Their followers include mainly poor, illiterate and orthodox people. These followers obey the orders of the *Pirs* in order to please them.

<sup>23</sup> Despite the facts that the religious groups have deep roots in the socio-cultural setting of the rural NWFP and that the then provincial government was also composed of an alliance of various religious parties and groups, there was not much deliberation regarding the involvement of such groups in institutional reform processes.

<sup>24</sup> According to the devolution plan, the local governments have modest influence on forestry-related activities.