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## RDMC Commits to Jobs, Education, and Healthcare for Balochistan Communities

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On July 15, 2025, the Reko Diq Mining Company (RDMC) reaffirmed its dedication to uplifting Balochistan's communities through job creation, education, and healthcare initiatives. During a visit to Humai village near the Reko Diq project, CEO Mark Bristow outlined RDMC's efforts to empower locals in Pakistan's resource-rich but underdeveloped province, emphasizing sustainable development and local employment.

Bristow highlighted RDMC's focus on economic empowerment, noting that 75% of its workforce hails from Balochistan, with most from Chagai district, where the Reko Diq copper-gold project is located. "We're creating opportunities not just through RDMC but via a network of partner companies supporting this landmark development," he told Dawn during the visit. The project, one of the world's largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits, aims to drive socio-economic transformation. RDMC's commitment includes hiring locally, with 77% of permanent employees from Balochistan as of March 2025, and over 14% women, fostering inclusivity.

Education is a cornerstone of RDMC's strategy. The company has launched skills training and educational programs to build local capacity. In Humai, RDMC supported school renovations, with community leader Hazoor Bakhsh stating, "Education is the only way to light the path out of darkness." These efforts aim to address Balochistan's low literacy rates, offering hope to communities long neglected by centralized governance.

Healthcare initiatives are equally robust. RDMC established a health clinic and a Mother & Child Health Centre in Humai, the first such facilities in the region, providing primary and maternal care, including pre- and postnatal services. These address critical needs in Chagai, where waterborne diseases and inadequate healthcare have long plagued residents.

RDMC's work counters Balochistan's challenges—poverty, weak infrastructure, and unrest—through tangible investments. By prioritizing local empowerment, the company sets a model for responsible development, offering a path to prosperity in a region yearning for progress.

