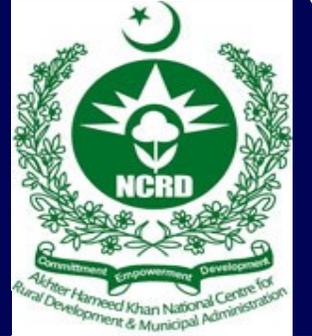




GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
ESTABLISHMENT DIVISION  
AKHTAR HAMEED KHAN NATIONAL CENTRE FOR RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT (AHKNCRD)  
ISLAMABAD



# NEWSLETTER

Vol: VIII Issue: I Jan-Mar 2025

## VISION

“Socio-economic empowerment of rural and the under-privileged communities for sustainable development”

## MISSION

“Knowledge-based capacity building of the Public & development sectors engaged in rural development”



Mr. Inamullah Khan,  
Secretary, Establishment  
Division, Islamabad



View of the Main Building of NCRD



Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan,  
Director General,  
NCRD, Islamabad

## AHKNCRD-AARDO Collaborative International Training Programme on “Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation” 09-16 February, 2025



Coordinator to the PM (centre), Director General NCRD (to her right) and Director (Trg.) NCRD (to her left)

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Climate change has become the new normal, with its effects being felt across the globe in the form of rising temperatures, extreme weather events, shifting rainfall patterns, and rising sea levels. These changes are contributing to an increase in the frequency and severity of disasters such as floods, droughts, storms, and wildfires. The impacts are particularly pronounced in African and Asian countries, where vulnerable populations face significant threats to their livelihoods, food security, and infrastructure. Mitigation efforts, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and adaptation strategies, such as building resilient communities and infrastructure, are crucial in managing these challenges and minimizing the long-term effects of climate change on both ecosystems and human populations. In the light of the importance of the subject

matter, Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD) in collaboration with African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) organized an international training workshop title “Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation” during 09-16 February, 2025. The workshop was inaugurated by Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Coordinator to the Prime Minister, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Islamabad on February 10, 2025.

H.E. Lieutenant General Peter Mbogo Njiru, High Commissioner of Kenya; H.E. Dr. Maen KHREASAT, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Pakistan; H.E. Dr. Zuhair Zaid, Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Pakistan; and H.E. Dr. Ramez Alraee,

Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic in Pakistan joined the inaugural session. The ceremony was also graced by the presence of eminent dignitaries including Air Commodore (Retd.) Tanveer Paracha, Executive Director, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM); Mr. Waseem Ahmed, Manager (Training), NIDM; Ms. Sana Noor, Deputy Project Coordinator, NIDM; Dr. Zafar Qadir, Former Director General NCRD and Former Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA); Dr. Shaabbir Hussain Former Programme Officer, Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Irfan Khan, Former Dean, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI).

**AARDO'S REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA AT NCRD**

African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) has six Regional Offices at Egypt (for North-eastern Africa); Ghana (for West-ern Africa); Zambia (for Southern Africa); Korea (for Far East); Jordan (for the Middle East); and Pakistan (for South & Central Asia).

The Sixth Regional Office for South & Central Asia was established in January, 2013, and is housed at NCRD, Islamabad.

**AHKNCRD-AARDO Collaborative International Training Programme on "Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation"**



Grp. Photo of Hon'ble Chief Guest, DG NCRD, Members of Diplomatic Core, Dignitaries, NCRD Officers & Delegates

Twenty-five (25) international participants from 13 AARDO member countries, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Gambia, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Namibia, Oman, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Syria and Zambia, attended this training programme.

The main objectives of the workshop were to strengthen participants' understanding of the interlinkages between climate change and the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters. It aimed to equip them with practical tools and strategies essential for effective disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. Moreover, the workshop fostered an environment of shared learning, encouraging participants to exchange knowledge and best practices for integrating climate adaptation measures into disaster risk reduction (DRR) planning and policy frameworks.

In his welcome address, Director General NCRD, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, expressed great honor at the opening of the AHKNCRD-CIDRAP Collaborative International Training Programme on "Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation." He welcomed the delegates from AARDO member countries, delegates of the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries and commended the efforts of AARDO officials, especially Dr. Manoj Nardeosingh, Secretary General AARDO, for organizing the event in Pakistan. He also thanked Ms. Romina for joining the inaugural session.

In his welcome address, Director General NCRD, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, expressed great honor at the opening of the International Training Programme on "Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation." He

welcomed the delegates from AARDO member countries, delegates of the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries and commended the efforts of AARDO officials, especially Dr. Manoj Nardeosingh, Secretary General AARDO, for organizing the event in Pakistan. He also thanked Ms. Romina for joining the inaugural session.

During her address, Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, thanked the delegates for joining the training programme and emphasized the importance of regional collaboration in addressing the dual challenges of disaster management and climate change adaptation. She reiterated importance of supporting member countries through knowledge sharing, capacity building, and fostering innovative solutions to promote sustainable development. Furthermore, she commended the efforts of NCRD and AARDO for their contribution for the cause of rural development and poverty alleviation in Pakistan and other AARDO member countries through collaboration with AARDO.

The training programme was designed in such a way that the worthy participants could have theoretical perspective of Disaster management and Climate Change Adaptation as well as have exposure of few on-ground management facilities and systems in Pakistan.

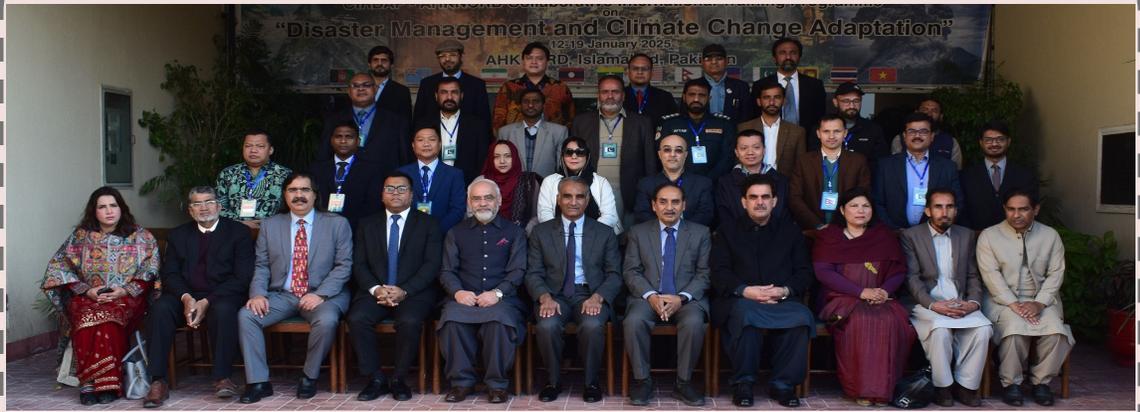
As part of the training workshop, participants were taken on field visits to key institutions engaged in disaster management, climate resilience, and sustainable agriculture. The visits included the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) office in Islamabad, National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) of NDMA, Barani Agriculture Research Institute (BARI), Soil Water Conservation Research Institute

(SAWCRI), Centre of Excellence for Olive Research & Training (CEFORT), Dharabi Dam, Forest Department of Punjab, and Pakistan Meteorological Department.

The classroom sessions of the training course were thoughtfully designed to provide both foundational knowledge and practical insights into climate change adaptation and disaster management. The program began with an interactive ice-breaking and introductory session by Mr. Mubashir Zaman Khan, setting a collaborative tone. Dr. Muhammad Irfan Khan delivered a conceptual session on Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation, followed by a discussion on Disaster Risk Reduction through mitigation and adaptation strategies. Mr. Aftab Alam Khan presented an engaging session on Climate Change and Disaster Risks in Asia and Africa, while another session highlighted global frameworks through International Negotiations on Climate Change and Disaster Management. Mr. Raheel Nazir and Ms. Rida Raheel conducted a dynamic session on building Community Resilience, and Mr. Muhammad Noman Ur Rashid enriched the learning with his presentation on Nature-based Solutions for disaster and climate resilience.

During the concluding ceremony, participants lauded the training programme for its rich content, expert sessions, and interactive learning environment. They appreciated NCRD's efforts in organizing a meaningful and timely initiative. Director General, NCRD, encouraged the participants to apply their learning in their respective fields and become ambassadors of peace, resilience, and sustainable development.

## AHKNCRD-CIRDAP Collaborative International Training Programme on “Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation”



Grp. Photo of DG NCRD, Members of Diplomatic Core, Dignitaries, NCRD Officers & Delegates

Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) is an Intergovernmental organization established in 1979

CIRDAP works to promote **integrated rural development** and sustainable livelihoods in Asia-Pacific countries

Pakistan is a member of CIRDAP and joined it in 1982

Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) is an autonomous organization; mandated for promoting & strengthening integrated rural development systems for 15 Asia-Pacific countries. Its headquarter is based at Dhaka, Bangladesh. In Pakistan, NCRD is the link institution to work with CIRDAP. NCRD has been conducting collaborative training programmes with CIRDAP at NCRD, Islamabad. Once again, this year, NCRD conducted an International Training Programme on “Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation” in collaboration with CIRDAP at NCRD during February 12-19, 2025.

International participants from 10 CIRDAP member countries, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Fiji, Myanmar, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nepal and Iran, are attending this training programme. The training programme was inaugurated on January 13, 2025. The inaugural ceremony was chaired by Director General NCRD, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan and was also joined by Mr. Zakirul Haq, Director CIRDAP. The ceremony was also graced by the presence of eminent dignitaries including Dr. Zafar Qadir, Former Director General NCRD and Former Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA); Dr. Muhammad Israr, Secretary Livestock Fisheries & Cooperative and Integrated Rural Development (IRD) Expert at CIRDAP; Dr. Muhammad Azeem Khan, Former Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) and Former Member, Food Security & Climate Change, Planning Commission of Pakistan; Mr. Aftab Ur Rehman Rana, Managing Director Pakistan Tourism Development Cor-

poration (PTDC); and Mr. Raheel Nazir, CEO Rah-e-Nau Constellations. In addition, Ms. Rita Dhital, Ambassador to the Embassy of Nepal, also joined the inaugural session.

In his welcome address, Director General NCRD, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, expressed great honor at the opening of the AHKNCRD-CIRDAP Collaborative International Training Programme on “Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation.” He welcomed the delegates from CIRDAP member countries, delegates of the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries and commended the efforts of CIRDAP officials, especially Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, DG CIRDAP, for organizing the event in Pakistan. He also thanked Mr. Zakirul Haq for joining the participants for the inaugural session. DG NCRD highlighted how CIRDAP member countries, including Pakistan, are increasingly vulnerable to climate change impacts, underscoring the urgent need for robust disaster management strategies and collaborative adaptation measures to build resilience.

During his address, Mr. Zakirul Haq, Director CIRDAP, thanked the delegates for joining the training programme and emphasized the importance of regional collaboration in addressing the dual challenges of disaster management and climate change adaptation. He reiterated CIRDAP’s commitment to supporting member countries through knowledge sharing, capacity building, and fostering innovative solutions to promote sustainable development.

The training programme featured a range of enriching classroom sessions, beginning with an introduction to the salient features of Pakistan’s society,

culture, and geography. Key technical sessions followed, including an overview of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and its links with Climate Change Adaptation, delivered by Brig (R) Fiaz Hussain Shah. Experts like Mr. Muhammad Israr Khan and Mr. Arif Goheer expanded on regional disaster risks and international negotiations on climate change and DRR. Brig (R) Sajid Naeem provided a detailed session on climate change mitigation strategies, while Mr. Raheel Nazir conducted a session on community resilience strategies for climate adaptation and disaster preparedness. Mr. Ather Hameed, Chairman Federal Flood Commission of Pakistan, gave insights on water monitoring networks and early warning systems, along with country paper presentations that fostered knowledge exchange among participants.

Field visits during the training included the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab, Watersheds of Forest Department Murree, and Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), Islamabad.

The workshop concluded with a call to action, encouraging all participants to commit to ongoing collaboration and the implementation of innovative solutions to combat climate change. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Israr, underscored the importance of multidisciplinary efforts and the active involvement of various stakeholders in driving sustainable practices. The Participants were urged to utilize the insights gained during the workshop to address the urgent challenges posed by climate change.

Please visit us on [www.ncrd.gov.pk](http://www.ncrd.gov.pk)

You can apply online to participate in any of the programs.

## Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Delegation visits NCRD, 27 Feb, 2025

On February 27, 2025, the National Centre for Rural Development (NCRD) had the honor of hosting a delegation from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The delegation comprised Dr. Zaffar Mehmood, Food Safety Specialist, and Mr. Junaid Hafeez, Partnership Support Officer. The visit aimed to explore avenues for collaboration in areas of mutual interest, particularly in food safety, rural development, and capacity-building initiatives. Meaningful discussions were held to strengthen institutional linkages and contribute towards sustainable development goals through joint efforts.

The meeting with the FAO delegation was chaired by Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi, Director (Training), NCRD. The session was attended by key officers of NCRD, including Mr. Mubashir Zaman, Deputy Director; Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Jamil, Research Officer; Mr. Hanifullah, Research Officer; and Ms. Maira Razzaq, Assistant Director.

During the meeting, Director (Training) Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi apprised the FAO repre-

sentatives of the vision and mission of NCRD, emphasizing its role in strengthening human resource capacities for sustainable rural develop-

ment. During the discussion, possible areas of collaboration between NCRD and FAO were explored. Dr. Zaffar Mehmood shared insights into the ongoing work of FAO across Pakistan, highlighting key initiatives under the Country Programming Framework (CPF). He elaborated on FAO's operational presence in the country and its focus on food security, sustainable agriculture, and rural development. The exchange opened avenues for potential joint efforts in training, research, and capacity-building aligned with shared development goals.



Discussion ongoing during the Meeting

ment. He shared details about the wide range of training and capacity-building programmes conducted by NCRD, both at national and international levels. He highlighted that participants from across Pakistan regularly attend national programmes, while international workshops are joined by delegates from African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) and Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) member countries.

The meeting also included discussions on the potential exchange of technical experts, with the possibility of FAO specialists serving as resource persons for NCRD's training programmes. Both sides expressed interest in leveraging each other's expertise to strengthen outreach and impact in rural development.

At the end of the meeting, the delegation was given a tour of the NCRD premises, showcasing its training facilities and ongoing initiatives.

## Trg. Course on "Alternate Energy Resources– Potential & Prospects," 30 Dec, 24-03 Jan, 25

NCRD organized a five days' training workshop on "Alternate Energy Resources-Potential & Prospects" from December 30, 2024 to January 03, 2025. The major objectives of the course were to familiarize participants with the various types of alternative energy resources available in Pakistan, discuss their potential and prospects in addressing the country's growing energy needs, and equip participants with the skills necessary for the assessment, development, and effective utilization of these resources.

The course covered a wide range of topics aimed at building a comprehensive understanding of alternative energy in the Pakistani context. Key areas included an overview of the potential of alternate energy resources in Pakistan, national policies and plans for promoting renewable energy, and an analysis of the country's energy crisis along with possible solutions. Participants also explored the role of alternate energy in rural development, multi-sectoral energy efficiency initiatives, and various aspects of solar energy including its potential, applications, and system

design for domestic use. Additional sessions focused on emerging concepts in solar energy, wind energy potential and applications, solar-PV products, and biogas as a viable alternative energy source.

A total of nine (09) resource persons were invited to deliver sessions covering the essential aspects



A glimpse from one of the training sessions in progress

of alternate energy resources in Pakistan. These distinguished experts included including Mr. Aftab Awan, Chief (Energy) at the Planning Commission of Pakistan, Dr. Shabbir Hussain, CEO of ORECON Consulting and former Chief of Party USAID, Engr. Asad Mahmood, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE) Expert, Dr. Baqer

Raza, Former Director General of the Pakistan Council of Renewable Energy Technologies (PCRET), and Mubashir Zaman Khan, Deputy Director (Training) at NCRD. Additional experts included Engr. Hamza Khan from Eagle Power Solution Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Salman Nazir, Head of Operations & Business Development at Renewable Resources Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Nisar A. Latif, CEO of Solar Sigma Ltd., and Dr. Malik Badshah, Associate Professor at Quaid-e-Azam University. These professionals shared their expertise in renewable energy technologies, policies, and practices, providing valuable insights throughout the course.

In conclusion, the five-day training course provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of alternative energy resources in Pakistan. It focused on the potential, applications, and development of renewable energy solutions, equipping participants with essential skills for sustainable energy practices. The course also fostered valuable insights into the role of alternative energy in addressing Pakistan's energy crisis and promoting rural development.

## Training Course on “Livestock Management & Dairy Farming,” 30 Dec, 24-03 Jan, 25

NCRD successfully organized a five-day training course on "Livestock Management & Dairy Farming for Poverty Alleviation" from December 30, 2024 to January 03, 2025. The course was designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to understand the linkage between livestock management and poverty alleviation. It aimed to familiarize participants with government policies and initiatives for promoting the livestock sector in Pakistan, discuss various issues and solutions related to livestock management, and encourage the sharing of relevant experiences in the field.

The contents of the training course covered a broad range of topics aimed at enhancing participants' knowledge and skills in livestock management. Key areas included the role of the livestock sector in poverty alleviation, an introduction to livestock management in Pakistan, and government policies and initiatives for livestock and dairy development. The course

also covered breeding and farm management, animal feeding and nutrition, fodder preservation, and feedlot fattening at the household level. Participants learned about common animal health prob-

Pakistan Agriculture Research Council, Islamabad; Dr. Faisal Ashfaq, Principal Scientific Officer at the National Agriculture Research Centre, Islamabad;

Dr. Namra Sabeen, Assistant Director (Technical) at the Directorate of Livestock Rawalpindi Division, Rawalpindi; Dr. Muneeb Hussein, Principal Scientific Officer at the Animal Sciences Institute, NARC, Islamabad; Dr. Naveed Ahmad Niazi, former Director General of the Livestock Department, Punjab; and Dr. Syed Murtaza H. Andrabi, Director/Principal Scientific Officer at the Animal



Director General NCRD, Director (Trg.) NCRD with NCRD Officers during inaugural ceremony

lems and their management, as well as challenges and opportunities in sheep and goat farming. The course also addressed avenues for meat export, issues in livestock reproduction, and modern reproductive techniques for improving productivity.

A total of six resource persons were invited to deliver sessions, covering the essential aspects of the course. The distinguished speakers included Dr. M. Iqbal Anjum, Principal Scientific Officer at the

Sciences Institute, NARC, Islamabad. These experts shared their knowledge and practical insights on various aspects of livestock management, contributing to a valuable learning experience for the participants.

The program was concluded with the hope that the training course had successfully contributed to the participants' understanding of livestock management for poverty alleviation.

## Training Course on “Artificial Intelligence in Libraries,” 06-10 January, 2025

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing library services by enhancing information retrieval, automating cataloging, and personalizing user experiences. AI-powered chatbots assist users 24/7, while machine learning improves search accuracy and recommendations. It streamlines library management and helps in data-driven decision-making. By adopting AI, libraries stay relevant, efficient, and user-centered in the digital age. Keeping in view the importance of subject matter, NCRD organized a training course on Artificial intelligence in Library Management from 06 to 10 January, 2025. The training was joined by 94 participants from across the country. The participants were mostly related to the field of library.

The eminent resource persons included Dr. Midrar-Ullah from Agha Khan University Karachi, Dr. M. Safdar from LUMS Lahore, Mr. Habib Akhtar Jafri from Pastic Islamabad, Mr.

Zeeshan-Ullah-Khattak representing Islamia College Peshawar, Raja Ghulam Mustafa and Dr. Asif Naveed both from University of Sargodha,

Dr. Zaheer Khan from University of Lahore, Dr.

driven decision-making.

During the concluding ceremony, participants appreciated the comprehensive and insightful sessions, expressing that the training significantly enhanced their understanding of Artificial Intelligence applications in modern library systems. They acknowledged the relevance of the content to current trends and praised the practical examples shared throughout the course. Participants also commended NCRD for its continued efforts in organizing capacity-building programs that address emerging technolo-



Group Photo of Participants with Director (Trg.), NCRD

Amjid Khan representing Allama Iqbal Open University, Dr. M. Ramzan from Riphah University, and Dr. Shahid Soroya from Pakistan Institute of Education. Their expertise enriched the course content and provided valuable insights into the application of Artificial Intelligence in libraries, highlighting its role in enhancing user services, automating operations, and supporting data-

gies. In his concluding remarks, the Director Training, NCRD, emphasized the importance of embracing technological advancements like Artificial Intelligence to keep library services relevant and efficient. He encouraged participants to apply the knowledge gained in their respective institutions and continue learning in this evolving digital era. He also reaffirmed NCRD's commitment to supporting innovative and future-focused capacity-building initiatives.

## Training Workshop on “Managing Stress at Workplace,” 20-22 Jan, 2025

In today's fast-paced professional environment, managing stress at the workplace has become more important than ever. High stress levels can affect employee health, reduce efficiency, and lead to burnout. Recognizing and addressing workplace stress is crucial for creating a healthy, productive, and supportive work culture. It not only enhances individual performance but also contributes to overall organizational success.

In recognition of the importance of managing stress at the workplace, NCRD organized a dedicated workshop aimed at raising awareness and equipping participants with practical tools to cope with professional pressures.

The major objectives of the programme were to enhance participants' understanding of workplace stress, including its signs, symptoms, and associated challenges. It aimed to facilitate discussion on various types of stress and effective coping techniques relevant to professional settings. Additionally, the workshop encouraged the sharing of personal experiences among participants

to promote peer learning and practical insights into stress management.

The course comprised of intellectual and participatory sessions based on delivery of technical sessions coupled with participatory discussions. Different themes and subjects pertaining to Stress

Management; Work-Life Balance; Role of Leadership in Stress Prevention; Stress Prevention Techniques, Policies & Resources; Promoting a Positive Work Environment, and Building Resilience against Stress. The sessions were delivered by eminent resource persons including Dr. Syeda Zahra Gilani, Clinical Psychologist, Islamabad; Ms. Erum Rizvi, Director of Communications, Adroit Consultancy, Dubai; Mr. Muhammad Abdul Basir, Former Additional Auditor General, AGPR, Islamabad; Dr. Ejaz Ahmad Khan, Professor, Health Services Academy, Islamabad; and Mr. Aftab Alam Khan, CEO, Resilient Future, Islamabad.

In conclusion, the training program successfully equipped participants with valuable insights and strategies essential for managing stress at workplace. Through interactive discussions and practical exercises, attendees gained a deeper understanding of the underlying causes of workplace stress and how to mitigate its effects. The workshop learnings would help them in their own professional lives.



A glimpse from one of the training sessions in progress

Management at Workplace were covered during the programme. They included: Introduction to Stress Management at Workplace; Common Workplace Stress Triggers and Their Identification; Role of Organizational Factors in Inducing Stress and Their Impact; Understanding the Stress Response; Individual-level and Organiza-

tional-level Strategies & Tools for Stress Management; Work-Life Balance; Role of Leadership in Stress Prevention; Stress Prevention Techniques, Policies & Resources; Promoting a Positive Work Environment, and Building Resilience against Stress. The sessions were delivered by eminent resource persons including Dr. Syeda Zahra Gilani, Clinical Psychologist, Islamabad; Ms. Erum Rizvi, Director of Communications, Adroit Consultancy, Dubai; Mr. Muhammad Abdul Basir, Former Additional Auditor General, AGPR, Islamabad; Dr. Ejaz Ahmad Khan, Professor, Health Services Academy, Islamabad; and Mr. Aftab Alam Khan, CEO, Resilient Future, Islamabad.

## Trg. Workshop on “Report Writing Skills for Development Projects,” 20-22 Jan, 2025

NCRD organized a three-day training workshop on “Report Writing Skills for Development Projects” from 20 to 22nd January, 2025.

The course consisted of both intellectual and participatory sessions, combining technical presentations with engaging discussions. It covered a wide range of topics related to Report Writing Skills in Development Projects, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of the subject. Key themes included an introduction to report writing, the significance of writing reports in development projects, and common challenges faced during the writing process along with solutions. The program also addressed specialized areas such as proposal writing, professional report writing at different stages of a project cycle (e.g., quarterly and annual reports), M&E report writing, and preparing financial and budget reports. This blend of theoretical knowledge and practical application aimed to enhance participants' skills in crafting clear, effective, and professional reports.

A total of four esteemed Resource Persons were invited to deliver the sessions, each bringing

valuable expertise from diverse backgrounds. Mr. Aftab Alam Khan, CEO of Resilient Future International Pvt. Ltd., Islamabad, shared insights on sustainable development practices. Mr. Raheel Nazir Chaudhary, CEO and Founding Patron of

their unique perspectives, ensuring a well-rounded learning experience for the participants.

During the concluding ceremony of the course, Director (Training), Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi, emphasized the critical importance of develop-



A glimpse from one of the training sessions in progress

Rah e Nau Constellations, Islamabad, provided thought-provoking perspectives on innovative approaches in development. Mr. Shahid Zia Cheema, Joint Secretary at the Planning Commission of Pakistan, Islamabad, offered in-depth knowledge on strategic planning and policy-making. Finally, Chaudhry Sajid Ali, Programme Officer at PPMI, Islamabad, contributed practical expertise in project management and monitoring. Each of these experts enriched the course with

ing strong report writing skills for professionals involved in development projects. He highlighted that effective reporting is not only essential for transparent communication but also plays a key role in monitoring and evaluating project progress. Dr. Niazi encouraged participants to apply the knowledge and techniques gained during the course to improve their reporting practices, ensuring that development projects are executed efficiently and their outcomes are clearly communicated to stakeholders.

The participants expressed their gratitude for the comprehensive and practical approach of the course. They appreciated the clarity and depth of the sessions, which equipped them with essential skills in report writing for development projects. Participants highlighted the interactive discussions as particularly valuable, allowing them to gain insights from both the resource persons and their peers.

## Training Course on “Solid Waste Management: Issues and Options,” 27-31 Jan, 2025

NCRD organized a five-day training course on "Solid Waste Management: Issues and Options" from January 27-31, 2025. The programme was joined by officers from different regions mainly from waste management departments. The main objectives of the training course were to analyze the key challenges and complexities associated with solid waste management in both urban and rural settings. The course aimed to explore a range of innovative technological solutions and improved governance mechanisms to address these challenges effectively. Furthermore, it sought to equip participants with critical thinking skills necessary for evaluating and implementing various waste management options, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to sustainable waste practices in their respective organizations and communities.

The training course covered a wide range of

critical topics designed to build participants' understanding and capacity in solid waste management. Key areas included foundational concepts

hospital waste management, challenges of e-waste, and the comparison between one-dimensional and multi-dimensional management approaches, offering a holistic view of the field.



Director (Admn) NCRD and Course Coordinators during the Inaugural Ceremony

and issues related to creating a clean and green environment, along with the classification and characterization of solid waste. Participants were introduced to effective methods for waste collection, transportation, and transfer. The course also featured case studies on recovery and recycling, and addressed pressing concerns such as hazardous substances, plastic pollution, and the current state of solid waste management in Pakistan. Specialized sessions focused on hazardous and

waste management process, including collection, segregation, transportation, and disposal. They also had the opportunity to interact with field professionals and understand the challenges and strategies employed in managing waste at the city level.

The training concluded with insightful discussions and a renewed commitment to enhancing local governance for sustainable development in Pakistan.

For the sake of field exposure and practical learning, the participants were taken to the Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC), Rawalpindi. The visit provided them with firsthand insight into the operational aspects of municipal solid waste management. During the visit, participants observed various stages of the

## Trg. Workshop on “Communication and Presentation Skills ,” 24-26 Feb, 2025

From February 24-26, 2025, National Center for Rural Development (NCRD) organized a three-day training workshop titled “Communication and Presentation Skills for Professionals.”

A total of 68 participants belonging to different departments and organizations joined the training workshop. The training course on Communication and Presentation Skills featured an impressive lineup of seasoned professionals from diverse fields, delivering interactive and skill-enhancing sessions. Ms. Hina Durrani, Sub-Editor at APPC, Islamabad, introduced the fundamentals of communication and presentation, while Mr. Aftab Alam Khan, CEO of Resilient Future International, covered the use of visual aids and tools to create impactful presentations. Ms. Rida Raheel, Co-founder of Rah-e-Nau Constellation, emphasized crafting compelling presentations and improving vocal delivery. Ms. Samia Rashid, CEO of E-PROHUB, led engaging sessions on mastering body language and interview techniques. Mr. Jamshaid Sultan, Executive Producer at PTV World, focused on communicating for

effective performance. The final day featured Ms. Erum Rizvi, Director of Communications at Adroit, Dubai, who conducted a dynamic session on off-the-cuff speaking. These sessions provided a well-rounded learning experience, blending

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Training Session in progress

theoretical knowledge with practical techniques essential for confident and effective communication.

The training course on Communication and Presentation Skills featured an impressive lineup of seasoned professionals from diverse fields, delivering interactive and skill-enhancing sessions. Ms. Hina Durrani, Sub-Editor at APPC,

well-rounded learning experience, blending theoretical knowledge with practical techniques essential for confident and effective communication.

In the concluding ceremony, Director (Training), NCRD, appreciated the active participation of the trainees and emphasized the importance of continuous skill development in communication for professional growth.



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