



Establishment Division

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



NEWSLETTER

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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”

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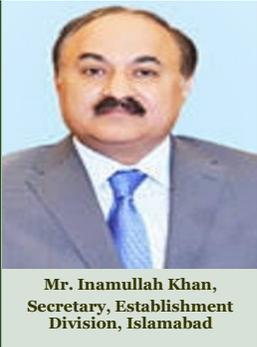
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Mr. Inamullah Khan,
Secretary, Establishment
Division, Islamabad



View of the Main Building of NCRD



Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan,
Director General, NCRD

Director General NCRD Attends 38th Technical Committee Meeting of CIRDAP at Lao PDR

Thirty-eighth (38th) Technical Committee (TC) Meeting of Centre of Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), of which Pakistan is a member, was held at Lao PDR during October 3rd-5th, 2023. Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, Director General, NCRD, attended the Session as official representative of the Government of Pakistan. The meeting was attended by 40 delegates, including 14 CIRDAP mem-

ber countries. The technical committee noted the report of the Director General with some observations from the member countries and the status of the implementation of the TC-37 meeting. The Secretariat provided the Rural Development Report (RDR) 2023 progress to the Committee. The Technical Committee discussed and endorsed the outcome of the 1st CIRDAP -BARD Flagship Training Programme on Regional Integrated Rural Development,

Rural Development Day: “Let’s End Hunger by Making Food Affordable for All.” They also endorsed the venue of the following Technical Committee Meeting (TC-39) in Malaysia in 2024.

On the 3rd of October, CIRDAP and The Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry organized a welcome dinner along with the Aziz-ul-Huq Rural Develop-



Participants of the 38th Technical Committee Meeting of CIRDAP

ber countries. A representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Office, Lao PDR; the IRD expert of CIRDAP; the representatives of national and international observers, and CIRDAP experts also attended the meeting. The TC member of Lao PDR, Mr. Anosack Phengthimavong, Deputy Director General of the Department of Rural Development, chaired the meeting.

The meeting started with an address by DG of CIRDAP, Dr. Cherdasak Virapat, who warmly welcomed the guests, participants & other dignitaries. Thereaf-

ter, the technical committee noted the report of the Director General with some observations from the member countries and the status of the implementation of the TC-37 meeting. The Secretariat provided the Rural Development Report (RDR) 2023 progress to the Committee. The Technical Committee discussed and endorsed the outcome of the 1st CIRDAP -BARD Flagship Training Programme on Regional Integrated Rural Development,

ment Model Ceremony at the Grand Ballroom of the Grand Luang Prabang Hotel, Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. CIRDAP honored seven recipients representing individual persons and organizations with the award, those who worked tirelessly to improve the life standards of the marginalized rural people. It is an honor that Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP), Pakistan was also one of the award recipients.

A Study Tour at the Living Land Farm (a Community Enterprise) in Luang Prabang town, Lao PDR, was also organized on 5th October 2023.

5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRAINING INSTITUTES (LGTIs)

PLGA Lalamusa and GIZ facilitated a two-day exchange session of Local Government Training Institutes (LGTIs) for networking and linkages on 25-26th September, 2023. Four exchange sessions were previously conducted in Peshawar, Lalamusa, Karachi and Muzaffarabad respectively. The 5th National Conference of LGTIs was held at Quetta, Balochistan. Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, Director General NCRD, and Ms. Maira Razzaq, Assistant Director NCRD, participated in the subject conference. The networking session was also attended by participants from Punjab Local Govt. Academy Lalamusa, Sindh Civil Services & Local Government Academy Tandojam, Local Governance School, Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, Kashmir Institute of Management Muzaffarabad and Local Govt. & Rural Development Department Gilgit Baltistan.

The conference showcased the dedication and collaborative efforts of LGTIs across the country,

operating in a decentralized manner, to enhance capacity development in the field of local governance. The critical aspects of local governance, including the development of a five-year strategy for the LGTIs Network, the digital transformation of local governments, and strategies to improve

DG NCRD, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, agreed to the proposition. This was further endorsed by Ms. Sanam Irshad, Technical Advisor PLG-GIZ. Furthermore, the Local Government Training Institute (LGTI) Secretariat will undergo registration as a Civil Society body at a subsequent stage.



Group Photo of the Participants of 5th Local Government Training Institutes (LGTIs) Conference

municipal service delivery at the grassroots level were discussed. It was unanimously agreed among all LGTIs that a Local Government Secretariat will be established at a center place i.e. Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD), Islamabad.

the local governance initiatives and to promote effective knowledge exchange among local government institutions.

In the end, it was further resolved that the forthcoming 6th National Conference of LGTIs is scheduled to take place in Gilgit Baltistan.

It was a remarkable experience for all the participants to engage with fellow local government officials, aiming to shape the future of local governance in Pakistan. A focal person from each institute was selected to further contribute to the network's mission of enhancing local governance, fostering collaboration, and driving positive change. This would further enhance networking with fellow members and stakeholders to strengthen

World Wide Fund (WWF) Delegation Visits NCRD

On August 23, 2023, the World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature, Pakistan team, led by Mr. Taseer Ali Mirza, Manager Environment Education Programme, visited Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre of Rural Development (AHKNCRD) to have a meeting with Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, Director General NCRD. Training team, lead by Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi, Director (Training), was also present in the meeting. The WWF Pakistan team dis-

cussed avenues for collaboration with the Director General and the training team of AHKNCRD. The meeting unfolded with a shared commitment to collaborative initiatives, focusing on co-creating training modules related to environmental education and sustainability. The exchange of training facilitators, AHKNCRD's offer as a venue partner for WWF Pakistan's events, showcasing WWF publications in AHKNCRD's library, and joint efforts in Margalla Hills National Park activ-

ities were also explored. This meeting marks the beginning of a promising partnership, aligning the goals of both organizations towards a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future. The collaborative efforts between AHKNCRD and WWF Pakistan stand as a beacon of promise, poised to make a significant impact on environmental education and conservation of natural heritage for generations to come.



DG NCRD along with Manager (EMP), WWF Pakistan, Director (Trg.) & Other Officers of NCRD

PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK

- Participants of the training programs at NCRD appreciate use of technological tools for conducting training programs on modern lines at the Centre.
- NCRD has significantly increased its outreach to government departments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and general public for dissemination of relevant information and advertisement of training programs being conducted at the Centre.
- NCRD has been conducting training programs on various topics related to Rural Development, that cater to current issues, needs and national focus.

Training Course on Project Proposal Writing, 17-21 Jul, 2023

Effective project proposal writing is a cornerstone of successful project implementation. It serves as a roadmap, articulating the project's goals, methodology, and expected outcomes. A well-crafted proposal not only attracts funding but also demonstrates a clear understanding of project objectives and the strategies to achieve them. In essence, mastering the skill of project proposal writing is integral to turning ideas into impactful, actionable projects.

Keeping in view of the importance of effective proposal writing, NCRD organized a five days' training course on "Project Proposal Writing" under coordination of Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Jamil, Research Officer (RO-II) from July 17-21, 2023. The intent of the course was to acquaint the participants with concept and practice of project proposal writing; to familiarize them with various tools and techniques re-

quired for project proposal writing; and to provide a forum for sharing of experiences on problems involved in project proposal writing. A total of 100 participants from all over the country partici-

Chaudhary, Development Professional and Dr. Usman Mustafa, ME&IE Consultant, National Programme for Improvement of Water Courses, Federal Water Management Cell, Ministry of Food Security & Research. The course comprised of intellectual and participatory sessions based on delivery of technical sessions coupled with participatory discussions. Various themes and subjects pertaining to Project Proposal Writing for Development Projects were covered.

Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi, Director (Training) was pleased on the successful completion of the training course on Project Proposal Writing. He congratulated the participants on their dedication and hard work. He then mentioned that NCRD makes efforts in crafting such programs to equip participants with essential skills such as effective proposal writing.



Director (Trg.), NCRD, Course Coordinator, Participants & other NCRD Officers

Training Workshop on Human Rights: Challenges & Solutions, 17-21, 2023

AHKNCRD organized a 5 days' training course on "Human Rights: Challenges and Solution" under the coordination of Ms. Kiran Butt (Sr. Librarian) from 17 - 21 July, 2023.

It was a comprehensive program that focused on addressing the pressing human rights related issues facing our world today. The workshop aimed to achieve several key objectives. Firstly, it sought to provide a foundational understanding of basic human rights. Additionally, the participants engaged in discussions highlighting the significance of human rights and explored potential pathways to ensure their protection. The workshop also served as a platform for individuals to share their diverse experiences and perspectives related to human rights in the context of Pakistan. A total of 37 participants from across the

country participated in the workshop. Ten eminent resource persons were extended invitations to conduct the ses-

work; Ms. Shabana Nawaz, Social Welfare Wing, Ministry of Human Rights; Mr. Ali Imran, Advocate, World Leadership Alliance/ Club de Madrid and Barrister Safi Ullah Ghauri, Managing Partner Esquare Legal.

Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi, Director (Trg.) NCRD, expressed gratitude for the successful completion of the training workshop addressing challenges and solutions in the realm of human rights. During the concluding ceremony, he mentioned that the respect for human rights is the foundation of a just and compassionate society. He then underscored NCRD's unwavering dedication in designing programs that equip participants with essential skills to navigate the complexities of human rights challenges, policies, and practices.



Director (Trg.) NCRD, NCRD Officers & Training Participants

sions. The resource persons included Dr. Umme Laila, Associate Professor, NUST; Mr. Suleman Shah, Director Programme, NCSE, Ministry of Human Rights; Ms. Rizwana Siddique, Director, Bureau of Statistics; Prof. Dr. Sajid Khakwani, Associate Professor, IMCB; Ms. Maira Razaq, Assistant Director, NCRD; Ms. Mumtaz Begum, Director Programs, Aurat Foundation; Brig (R), Fiaz Hussain Shah, CEO, Integrated Resilience Net-

PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK

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- NCRD has significantly increased its outreach to government departments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and general public for dissemination of relevant information and advertisement of training programs being conducted at the Centre.
- NCRD has been conducting training programs on various topics related to Rural Development, that cater to current issues, needs and national focus.

Training Course on Public Health-Issues & Options, 31 Jul-4 Aug, 2023

Public health is paramount for the overall well-being of communities, focusing on preventing diseases, promoting healthy lifestyles, and ensuring equitable access to healthcare. By addressing health at a population level, it not only enhances individual quality of life but also contributes to the resilience and prosperity of societies. Considering the vital importance of addressing public health

issues and exploring viable options, NCRD conducted a three-day training course dedicated to enhancing participants' understanding and skills in this critical domain, under coordination of Mr. Bilal Raza, Assistant Director NCRD from August 2-4, 2023. A total of 57 participants from all over the country participated in the training course. A total of six resource persons were invited to deliver the sessions

including Dr. Iram Yasir, Associate Professor, Al-Nafees Medical College & Hospital; Prof Dr. Ejaz Ahmad Khan, Health Services Academy; Dr. Nasser Mohiuddin, Former Director General,

participatory sessions based on the following topics: Public Health Infrastructure & Policies in Pakistan; Public Health Issues and Options – An Overview; Advancing Healthy People: Learning & Practice; Access to Health Services: Multiple Perspectives; Maternity Care: Best Practices in Maternal, Infant and Child Health; Social Determinants of Health and E-Health Services: Prospects in Pakistan.



Director (Trg.) NCRD, Deputy Director (Trg.) Course Coordinator, and Training Participants

Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination; Dr. Atiya Abro, Deputy Director (Institution), M/o National Health Services Regulations and Coordination; Dr. Umme Hani, Public Health Specialist, Health Services Academy and Dr. Abdul Momin, Assistant Professor, National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS).

Participants lauded the program for its effectiveness in providing comprehensive insights and valuable skills. The initiative was widely recognized for empowering individuals to make meaningful contributions to the improvement of public health outcomes, showcasing NCRD's dedication to fostering a healthier society.

The course comprised of intellectual and

Training Course on Environmental Concerns: Policies & Practices, 7-11 Aug, 2023

With the rising global temperatures, increasing pollution levels, and the depletion of natural resources, the need for effective policies and practices to combat these challenges has become more crucial than ever.

Keeping in view the importance of the subject, AHKNCRD organized a 5-day training course on

national levels and to educate about the best practices and practical strategies for implementing effective environmental policies and practices.

pal Scientific Officer, National Agricultural Research Centre and Dr. Samia Qadeer, Assistant), Professor, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU). Furthermore, Ms. Maira Razzaq, the course coordinator, also delivered a lecture on Key Environmental Concerns. The course also included a field exposure visit to Central Laboratory for Environmental



"Environmental Concerns – Policies & Practices" on 07-11 August, 2023 attended by 102 participants. It was a comprehensive program that focused on addressing the pressing environmental issues facing our world today. The main objectives of the program were to acquaint the participants with a comprehensive understanding of environmental concerns; to familiarize them with key environmental policies and regulations at national and inter-

DG NCRD, Director (Trg.), Coordinator, NCRD Officers & Training Participants

Seven distinguished speakers were extended invitations to conduct the sessions. The resource persons included Dr. Muhammad Irfan Khan, Dean International Islamic University (IIUI); Mr. Amir Abbas, Deputy Director (Legal/Enforcement), Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (PEPA); Dr. Zia ul Islam, Former Director Pak EPA; Dr. Hamid Iqbal, Sr. Manager (Operations), Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC); Dr. Rizwan Ahmad, Princi-

Analysis & Networking (CLEAN), Pak EPA, Islamabad.

Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, Director General NCRD, extended his appreciation for the successful culmination of the training course on Environmental Concerns: Policies & Practices. Emphasizing NCRD's steadfast commitment to curating programs that endow participants with crucial skills in navigating environmental challenges, policies, and practices.

Training Workshop on Ecotourism for Sustainable Development, 15-17 Aug, 2023

Ecotourism plays a pivotal role in fostering sustainable development by harmonizing environmental conservation with economic prosperity and community well-being. This responsible form of tourism not only preserves natural habitats and biodiversity but also generates revenue

that can be reinvested in local conservation efforts. By promoting environmental awareness and ethical travel practices, ecotourism contributes to the preservation of fragile ecosystems and indigenous cultures. Furthermore, it creates opportunities for local communities to actively engage in and benefit from the tourism industry, ensuring that the economic gains are shared equitably.

Embracing ecotourism principles is integral to building a sustainable future where the beauty of nature is both preserved and leveraged for the betterment of communities and the planet.

Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD) organized a 3-day training workshop on "Eco-Tourism for Sustainable

Development." The course was coordinated by Mr. Bilal Raza, Assistant Director, from August 15-17, 2023. 37 participants became a part of the workshop. The training aimed at providing insights into various aspects of ecotourism by five

Development. The program also highlighted the Promotion of Entrepreneurship & Local Employment through Eco-Tourism, led by Syed Mahmood Nasir, IG (Rtd), Forest, Ministry of Climate Change. Further discussions included the



Director (Trg.) NCRD, Course Coordinator & Training Participants

and Conservation of Natural Resources in Pakistan. This diverse range of sessions aimed to foster a comprehensive understanding of ecotourism and its role in sustainable development. In the context of ecotourism, the training course served as a forum for professionals to engage, gain insights, and embrace innovative approaches that are shaping the future of sustainable tourism practices.

potential and opportunities of Agri-ecotourism in Pakistan. The agenda extended to Community-Based Ecotourism, featuring Mr. Zafar Siddiqui, Joint Secretary (Rtd), and a case study from Pakistan. The workshop concluded with Mr. Ashiq Khan, Scientific Representative of EV-K2-CNR, Peshawar, sharing insights on Sustainable Ecotourism

and Conservation of Natural Resources in Pakistan. This diverse range of sessions aimed to foster a comprehensive understanding of ecotourism and its role in sustainable development. In the context of ecotourism, the training course served as a forum for professionals to engage, gain insights, and embrace innovative approaches that are shaping the future of sustainable tourism practices.

Training Course on Innovation in Library Management, 21-25 Aug, 2023

Innovation in library management is crucial as it ensures libraries to stay dynamic and relevant in the digital age. Embracing new technologies and modern techniques enhances efficiency, facilitates seamless access to information, and keeps libraries at the forefront of information dissemination. By incorporating innovations such as automation systems, open journal platforms, and QR technology, libraries can adapt to evolving user needs and provide an enriched experience for patrons. Ultimately, innovation in library management is integral to maintaining the vitality of these institutions in an ever-changing information landscape.

Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHKNCRD) organized a 5-day training course on "Innovation in Library Management." The course was coordinated by Ms. Kiran Butt, Senior Librarian, from August 21 to 25, 2023, with a primary focus on equipping participants

with contemporary techniques in library management.

The training aimed at providing insights into various aspects of library operations, including

enhancing their skills and staying abreast of developments in library sciences. The comprehensive course covered significant topics, including Koha Modules, Library Publishing using OJS, Application of QR technology and Website development using Google.

To ensure a robust and enriching learning experience, five distinguished Resource Persons were invited to deliver sessions covering essential dimensions of the course. The esteemed speakers included Dr. Munazza Jabeen, Assistant Professor, Allama Iqbal Open University; Dr. M. Sajid Mirza, Principal Librarian, International Islamic University; Mr. Sahir Afzal, President KOHA; Mr. Zeeshan



Director (Trg.) NCRD, Course Coordinator, Participants & other NCRD Officers

Ullah Khattak, Librarian, Islamia College and Mr. Asif, Librarian, Nishtar Medical University. Overall, the training course provided a platform for professionals to connect, learn, and adapt to the innovative approaches shaping the future of library sciences.

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NCRD-AARDO Collaborative One-Day National Seminar on Nation Building & Social Harmony, 17 Aug, 2023

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 Western 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.
- Director General NCRD is the ex-officio Regional Representative of AARDO for South & Central Asia.



Director General (NCRD) along with Seminar Panelists during the Seminar Proceedings

NCRD organized a one-day seminar on "Nation Building & Social Harmony" in collaboration with African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) on August 17, 2023. The seminar was attended by 93 participants from various regions of the country.

The technical sessions covered the following topics: Nation Building: Concepts and Challenges; Social Harmony – Local and Global Connections; Responsible Citizenship for Nation Building & Social Harmony and Allama Muhammad Iqbal's Vision and Message.

The resource persons invited to deliver the sessions included: Ms. Farzana Yaqoob, Former State Minister for Social Welfare & Women Development, Government of AJ&K, Muzaffarabad; Dr. Asmat Ullah Khan, CEO, Peace and Development Foundation, Islamabad; Dr. Shahzad Iqbal Sham, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad; and Mr. Abid Iqbal, Founder, School of

Iqbaliat.

In the first session, Ms. Farzana Yaqoob discussed the intricacies of fostering civic engagement, promoting inclusive governance, and overcoming socio-political hurdles to strengthen the foundation of a cohesive and progressive nation. Dr. Dr. Asmat Ullah, in the session on "Social Harmony – Local and Global Connections," delved into the nuanced dynamics of fostering unity at both local and global levels. He explored strategies for building bridges between diverse communities and navigating the interconnected challenges and opportunities that contribute to social harmony on a broader scale.

In the session led by Dr. Shahzad on "Responsible Citizenship for Nation Building & Social Harmony," participants gained insights into the pivotal role of individual responsibility in contributing to both the development of the nation and the cultivation of social harmony. Dr. Shahzad explored the principles and practices that characterize responsible citizenship, emphasizing

their crucial impact on fostering a united and harmonious society. Mr. Abid covered the topic on Allama Iqbal's vision and message. Mr. Abid engaged in a thoughtful exploration of the profound ideas and messages conveyed by the esteemed philosopher-poet. He provided insights into the enduring significance of Allama Iqbal's visionary thoughts, offering a comprehensive understanding of his transformative vision for individuals and society at large.

Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, DG NCRD took the questions from the august audience in the end of the sessions and the resource persons presented their views. He thanked the panelists & the participants for fruitful discussions and making the session a success. In addition to that, he took pride in NCRD's efforts into fostering nation building and social harmony. In his concluding remarks, he highlighted that together, we can forge the path to a united and harmonious future for our nation.



DG NCRD along with Seminar Panelists, Director (Trg.), Other Officers of NCRD & Participants

Ms. Kiran Butt (Sr. Librarian NCRD) Bags 3rd Position in AIOU's Innovative Ideas Competition & Earns Research Publication Grant

Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) conducts Innovative Ideas Competition and provides research publication grants to the students for their research contributions. The initiative is aimed at promoting the research culture encouraging researchers and innovative minds from various backgrounds to undertake research projects.

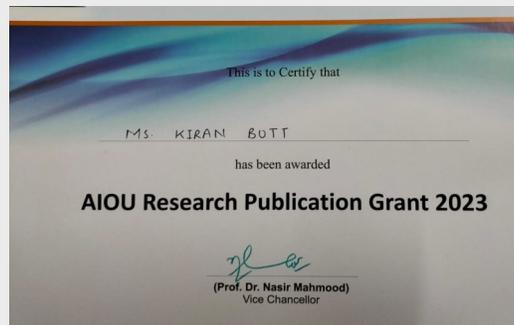
In a recent initiative, AIOU conducted a competition focused on innovative ideas. The contest, structured in three tiers, not only showcased the diversity of creative thinking but also underlined the commitment of AIOU to foster a culture of ingenuity and forward-looking

solutions in the academic community. It drew the participation of more than three hundred (300) individuals initially. Out of those, one hundred and seventy (170) participants were then shortlisted. Among the contestants was Ms. Kiran Butt, Sr. Librarian NCRD and a PhD Scholar in Library & Information Sciences. Her topic for the competition was 'Bibliotherapy Clinic', exploring the transformative power of literature to promote mental and emotional well-being, fostering a deeper understanding of how words can serve as a therapeutic refuge for the human spirit. Her noteworthy contribution not only secured the institution's pride but also earned her a commendable 3rd position in the

competition, accompanied by a prize of Rs. 50,000.

In addition to this, Ms. Kiran also recently received research grant upon the publication of her research articles in renowned international impact factor journals. This grant recognizes her dedication to advancing knowledge in her field and provides a valuable opportunity to contribute to the academic community.

Ms. Kiran's accomplishments in the innovative ideas competition and her noteworthy research publications stand as testament to her dedication, as well as NCRD's unwavering commitment to nurturing creativity and excellence.



Ms. Kiran Butt, Senior Librarian, receiving her Prize money in the Awards Distribution Ceremony

Training Workshop on Management of Safe Drinking Water & Sanitation, 28-30 Aug, 2023

NCRD organized a three days' training workshop on 'Management of Safe Drinking Water & Sanitation' from August 28-30, 2023. A total of 62 participants from all parts of the country attended the workshop.

During the programme, Ms. Rafia Mahmood, Senior Environmental Officer, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Islamabad, shed light on the critical aspects that impact policies, systems, and the effective delivery of services in the realm of water and sanitation. In addition to her comprehensive presentation, a group activity was also organized which engaged the participants in a collaborative exploration of challenges and solutions related to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH).

Ms. Kiran Anwaar, Senior Research Officer at the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), Islamabad, provided valuable insights into the challenges associated with drinking water quality and elucidated the essential parameters, guidelines, and standards that play a pivotal role in ensuring safe and sustainable water resources.

Mr. Asim Nazir provided valuable insights

into the intricacies of installing and managing water supply systems. Additionally, he addressed the essential aspects of effective household-level water management, offering practical guidance to optimize water usage at the individual and community levels. Participants benefited from Mr. Nazir's expertise, gaining a deeper under-

standing of the technical aspects and practical considerations in ensuring sustainable water supply and management.



Director General NCRD, Director (Trg.) and Course Coordinator (Assistant Director, NCRD) during the concluding ceremony of the Workshop

standing of the technical aspects and practical considerations in ensuring sustainable water supply and management.

Dr. Kanwar Muhammad Javed Iqbal, Senior Researcher at the National Institute of Maritime Affairs, Islamabad, delivered an informative session on the challenges and strategies associated with maintaining sanitation in both rural and urban settings, providing participants with a holistic understanding of effective sanitation management in diverse communities.

Dr. Tallal bin Aftab, Water, Sanitation, and Health Education Expert, conducted an enlightening session on "Sustainable Community Health & Hygiene: Mechanisms for Delivery & Measurement" and presented insightful case studies on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH). With a focus on sustainable practices,

During the concluding ceremony, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, Director General, NCRD, said that, the Government of Pakistan is working to enhance the management of safe drinking water and sanitation in line with the UN's 6th Sustainable Development Goal. He

vouched for individual efforts to saving clean water emphasizing that each person's conscious actions and responsible water usage are integral to ensuring a sustainable and secure water future for all.

Training Course on Local Governance: A Key to Development, 4-8 Sep, 2023

Local governance serves as a linchpin for development, empowering communities to actively participate in decision-making processes. It fosters a sense of ownership and accountability, ensuring that development initiatives align with the unique needs and aspirations of the local population.

NCRD organized a 5-day training course titled "Local Governance: A Key to Development" under the coordination of Mr. Ahsan Jamil, Research Officer, from 4-8th September, 2023. The training garnered the participation of 40 individuals from all over the country.

The course comprised of intellectual and participatory sessions based on delivery of technical sessions coupled with participatory discussions. Different themes and subjects pertaining to the concept of local governance, various multi-pronged issues and possible solutions were discussed during the training program. These included Introduction and Importance of Local Governance for Development in Pakistan;

Functions and Structure of Local Government System after 18th Constitutional Amendment; Provincial Local Government Acts in Pakistan; Challenges of Urbanization for Local Governance in Metropolitan Areas; Financing and Economic Management in Local Government Systems in Pakistan; Issues of Health Care Management in

ernance; Challenges and Management of Human Capital for Local Good Governance; and Socio-political Bottlenecks in Way of Impactful Local Governance.

By delving into the intricacies of local governance, the course sought to equip the participants with the tools necessary to drive sustainable development at the grassroots level.



Chief Guest, DG NCRD, Director (Trg.), NCRD Officers, Course Coordinator & Participants

Local Government Systems; Education and Literacy for Local Good Governance; Poverty Alleviation through Local Good Governance; Community Participation and Social Activism for Local Good Governance; E-Governance and Social Accountability for Local Good Governance Human Capital: Challenges and Management for Local Good Gov-

to apply the acquired knowledge in their respective capacities. He further underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in fostering positive change at the grassroots level, highlighting the transformative impact that effective local governance can have on communities.

Mr. Najeeb Aslam, Former Director, Pakistan Local Government Academy (PLGA), Lalamusa, joined the concluding ceremony as a Chief Guest. While addressing the participants he emphasized the pivotal role of local governance in shaping sustainable development and encouraged participants

Training Course on Monitoring & Evaluation of Development Projects, 11-15 Sep, 2023

A development project without sound monitoring and evaluation at each stage cannot be expected to achieve maximum targets and objectives. M&E holds immense significance especially because financial closure of projects is both competitive and requires maximum level of adherence and oversight. To help bring policymaking and implementation of development projects on modern lines and to enhance rate of success and output, NCRD organized a five days' training course on "Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Projects" from September 11-15, 2023, which was attended by participants from all parts of the country. The technical sessions were interactive and based

on experience sharing as well as hands-on practice for learning various techniques of monitoring and evaluation at various stages of a development project. During the technical sessions, principles and standards for result-oriented M&E being practiced were discussed at length. Logical framework model as a monitoring tool was also discussed as well as practiced in group exercises for hands-on learning.

Moreover, baseline, midline, and end-line evaluations were also comprehensively explored. Following six resource persons were invited to deliver technical sessions during the programme: Mr. Aftab Alam Khan, CEO, Resilient Future International Pvt. Ltd., Islamabad; Mr. Saleem Khattak,

Rural Economy, Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Islamabad; and, Mr. Shahid Minhas, Director, (SDPI), Islamabad. While talking to the participants during the concluding ceremony, Director General, NCRD, Mr. Israr Mohammad Khan, stated that the Government of Pakistan is



Group Photo of Director (Trg.), NCRD Officers, Course Coordinator & Participants

former Chief, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives (PD&SI), Islamabad; Mr. Raheel Nazir Chaudhry, CEO, Rah e Nau Constellation, Islamabad; Dr. Usman Mustafa, ME&IE Consultant, National Programme for Improvement of Water Courses, Federal Water Management Cell, Ministry of Food Security & Research, Islamabad; Dr. Faisal Anwar Malik, Former Head, Centre for

paying special attention on providing technical training via sensitization, awareness and skill enhancement programmes in order to help bring policymaking and implementation of development projects on modern lines. He said that success of

development projects along with payment of dividends to the stakeholders is essential for attracting more investments and creation of opportunities for economic development and progress in the country. While sharing their feedback, the participants stated that exposure to the best practices being adopted in public and non-governmental sectors for M&E of development projects, will prove to be highly beneficial in their respective professional fields.

Please visit us on www.ncrd.gov.pk

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

Training Course on Poverty Alleviation: Challenges & Solutions, 18-22 Sep, 2023

NCRD organized a five days' training course on 'Poverty Alleviation: Challenges and Solutions' from September 18-22, 2023 under the coordination of Mr. Ahsan Jamil, Research Officer, NCRD. A total of 50 participants from all parts of the country attended the training programme. Among the key resource persons who delivered the technical sessions during the programme included: Dr. Ali Kemal, Chief (SDGs)/Project Director, Federal Sustainable Development Goals Section, Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Islamabad; Syed Muhammad Hussain, Director, National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), Islamabad; Mr. Arshad Mehmood, Manager Projects, Akhwat Foundation, Islamabad; Dr. Umer Farooq, Former Member (Social Sciences), Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC), Islamabad; Mr. Khurram Shahzad, Monitoring, Evaluation And Learning (MEAL) Lead, Pakistan

Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF); Mr. Mushahid Hussain, Co-Founder, Centangle Interactive Pvt. Ltd., Islamabad; Mr. Haseeb Kiyani, Senior Consultant, Benazir Income Support Programme, Islamabad; and Mr. Khalid Rahman, Chairman, Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad.

interpretation mechanisms, indexes and scales. Among them, multi-dimensional poverty index was the main deliberation index. During the following sessions, various policies and programmes of the Government were highlighted and their success evaluated under the current circumstances in the country. Moreover, challenges of poverty were also elaborated from many other approaches including gender mainstreaming, skill development, employment generation, SMEs and agriculture. On the final day, the Islamic concept of combating poverty was also elucidated by the resource person. The participants highlighted regional and local issues related to poverty which added to the diverse range of approaches to discuss the issue and steps being taken to address it.



Group Photo of Director (Trg.), Course Coordinator and Participants of the Training Course

The technical sessions commenced with the discussion of the concept of poverty and its multi-pronged existence in socio-economic arena in a society. Also, various globally adopted poverty measurement tools were discussed in order to comprehend different poverty quantification and

poverty was also elucidated by the resource person. The participants highlighted regional and local issues related to poverty which added to the diverse range of approaches to discuss the issue and steps being taken to address it.

Pages for the Planet: Environmental Reads for a Greener Tomorrow

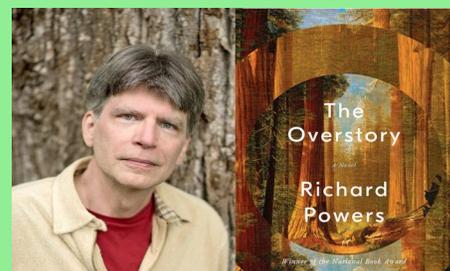
"Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson



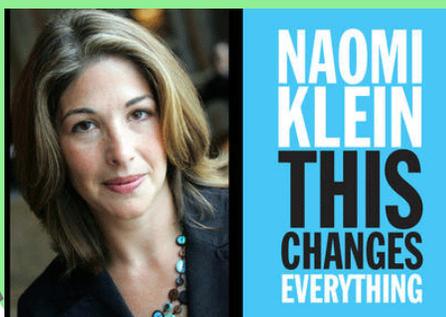
"The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History" by Elizabeth Kolbert



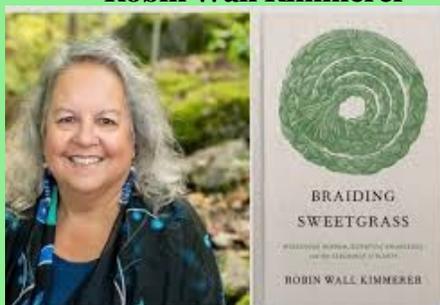
"The Overstory" by Richard Powers



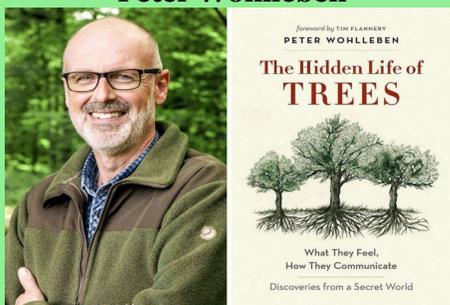
"This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate" by Naomi Klein



"Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants" by Robin Wall Kimmerer



"The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate – Discoveries from a Secret World" by Peter Wohlleben

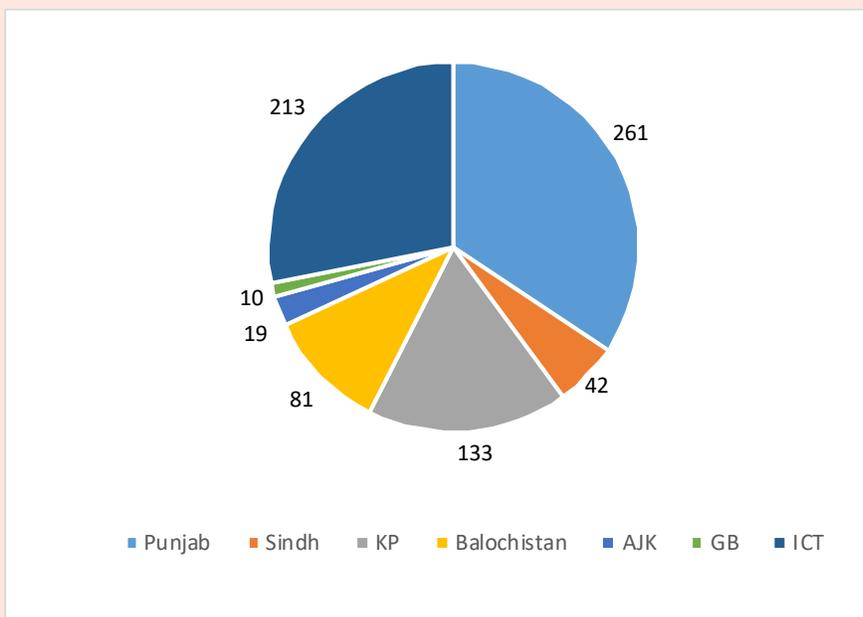


Quarterly Training Report (Jul-Sep, 2023)

During the third quarter of the year 2023, NCRD conducted a total of 12 training programmes which included 7 national training courses, 3 national training workshops, 1 one-day national policy seminar and 1 customized training programme. A total of 759 participants were trained in these programmes. The conduct of all the training programmes during the quarter was in physical mode.

The one-day national seminar was organized in collaboration with an intergovernmental organization African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) of which Pakistan is a member. The title of the program was "Nation Building and Social Harmony."

The number of participants from Punjab were 261 (34%); Islamabad Capital Territory 213 (28%); Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 133 (18%); Sindh 42 (6%); Balochistan 81 (4.52%); Azad Jammu & Kashmir 52 (2.61%); and Gilgit-Baltistan 31 (1.56%). Following is a comprehensive table that shows the data of the participants with respect to provinces, conducted by NCRD during the third quarter of 2023.



Training Programmes at NCRD During October-December, 2023

Sr. No.	Training Program	Dates	Coordinator
1.	AHKNCRD- AARDO Collaborative International Training Program: Disaster Management & Climate Change Adaptation	Oct 04-10, 2023	Mr. Mubasshir Zaman Khan, Deputy Director (Trg.)
2.	Water Resource Management- Issues & Way Forward	Oct16-20, 2023	Mr. Bilal Raza, Assistant Director
3.	Alternate Energy Resources- Potential & Prospects	Oct 23-27, 2023	Ms. Maira Razzaq, Assistant Director
4.	Small & Medium Enterprises for Employment Generation	Oct 30-Nov 03, 2023	Ms. Kiran Butt, Senior Librarian
5.	Human Development for Socio-economic Progress	Nov 06-08, 2023	Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Jamil, Research Officer
6.	Planning & Management of Development Projects	Nov 13-17, 2023	Ms. Maira Razzaq, Assistant Director
7.	Emerging Trends in Smart Agriculture	Nov 20-24, 2023	Mr. Mubasshir Zaman Khan, Deputy Director (Trg.)
8.	Social Safety Nets-New Imperatives	Dec 11-15, 2023	Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Jamil, Research Officer
9.	Food Security-Issues & Mitigation Strategies	Dec 18-22, 2023	Ms. Maira Razzaq, Assistant Director

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