

Indus Forever is a quarterly newsletter of WWF – Pakistan's Karachi office which covers interventions implemented under different projects which include Marine Programme, Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation in Coastal Areas of Pakistan (CCAP), Sindh Programme and others. It aims to keep stakeholders, other concerned organizations, individuals and students updated about the activities, progress and future endeavors under these projects.



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Spotlight:

Successful completion of first phase of Indus for All Programme

The end of 2012 saw the end of the Indus for All Programme's first phase. The year was important in developing the community based organizations capacity to take forward the Indus Ecoregion work past 2012. Therefore, a lot of emphasis was given on training and mentoring the communities and forming Area Coordination Committees (ACC), registered bodies that form a federation of all the CBOs at the sites. The formation of the ACC's was certainly a milestone.

Another milestone was the completion of the 7,500 hectares of mangrove plantations at Keti Bunder. It was made possible by the active participation of the creek communities who have now realized the importance of maintaining healthy and diverse mangrove cover for their livelihoods and even survival, in the case of sea storms and cyclones. In the year 2012, Rhizophora mangroves started seeding again in District Thatta. Previously, the seeds would have to be imported from Balochistan and Karachi, resulting in high planting costs and potentially transfer of disease. Now there are good stands of Rhizophora established at Keti Bunder, allowing for natural regeneration.

The Programme also conducted ecological and socio-economic baselines in four additional priority sites i.e. Manchar Lake, Nara Canal and Wetland Complex, Khari Chann estuary and Khebrani Forest. This will assist in calling up the Indus Ecoregion initiatives in these new sites and moving towards the 50 year vision of Ecoregion conservation at 14 priority sites. As well as establishing baselines the Programme also undertook ecological monitoring and a sensitivity survey of the four existing sites. This has allowed the team to assess how the ecology of the sites has changed

over the last five years and how perceptions have been influenced by the extensive outreach activities. Sighting of once very rare species such as Hog deer and Smooth coated otter has increased and so has the awareness about conserving them. Focusing on women the Programme made significant progress in 2012 towards linking natural resource management to improved livelihoods. One example of this was the successful reintroduction of indigo plantations on marginal lands in Shaheed Benazirabad district. Now this cottage industry is providing the natural dye to the 'ajrak' factories around Sindh. This in turn has increased a demand for natural dye products which the women working out of our vocational centres are providing. Supported by tailor made trainings and market linkages the income from sale of local handicrafts supplements many households. Many of these initiatives are run solely by women run community based organizations set up by the Programme.

The Programme also took the opportunity to rehabilitate some of the livelihoods lost in the 2011 rains, especially in and around Chotiari Reservoir. This included the Chotiari Conservation and Information Center which, along with the Keenjhar Conservation and Information Centers are important aspects of continuing the Ecoregion work at these priority sites.

Finally, the Programme has developed a number of high quality publications that will be the legacy of the first phase. One example of this is the coffee table book titled 'Natural Wonders of Pakistan' that was jointly developed with Pakistan Wetlands Programme. Other awareness material such as the documentary has been well received by all stakeholders and tells the story of Indus for All Programme. These along with the active and vibrant community based organizations are the stalwart of the first phase and will bide the Indus Ecoregion Programme into the next phase of its journey.

Highlights

Endangered Arabian Sea humpback whale spotted

A humpback whale was spotted near Jiwani between Gunz and Pishukan area in Pakistani waters on 2 October 2012. The whale was spotted by officials of Balochistan Fisheries Department (BFD) during their routine patrol for monitoring illegal trawling activities in local waters. The information was soon conveyed to World Wide Fund for Nature – Pakistan (WWF - Pakistan) according to which the whale was alone and was approximately 50m away from BFD boat. It surfaced twice very briefly for breathing and then went for a long dive after showing its tail fluke. WWF - Pakistan shared this news with media houses which was highlighted in various newspapers.

Two Days Conference on Climate Change Adaptation held



Participants at Savar Conference, Bangladesh

In alignment with 2015 goal of regional transboundary cooperation, the Building Capacity of Climate Change Adaptation in Coastal Areas of Pakistan (CCAP) project of WWF - Pakistan conducted two days regional conference from 16-17 October 2012 in Savar, Bangladesh. The event reunited the project associates from Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and the UK.

The purpose of the event was to transfer knowledge, develop networks, and identify best practices in light of climate change concerns, including water and food security. The event focused on increasing the overall adaptive capacity of coastal communities in the Indian Ocean basin. The meeting was attended by Dr. Ejaz Ahmed, Deputy Director General WWF - Pakistan; Mr. Rab Nawaz, Regional Director WWF - Pakistan; Mr. Ali Dehlavi, Manager CCAP; Ms. Nadia Bajwa, Research Officer CCAP; Mr. Nasir Ali Panhwar, Joint Secretary Friends of Indus Forum; Mr. Rizwan-ul-Haque, Manager M&E Lead Pakistan; Mr. Naseer Memon, CEO Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO) and a number of well-known experts from India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and UK.

Marine Gala held

The Event of Marine Gala was organized by Agha's Sports Fishing on 14 October 2012 at Savor Restaurant, Gizri Creek, DHA, Karachi. The main objective of the event was to increase the understanding of marine environment, promote conservation of marine resources and to create awareness about diversity of marine life found along Pakistan coast, through demonstrations and interactive games. Around 2,800 visitors attended the event. Ms. Anoushey, a well-known host from the electronic media participated in the event and also became a member of the Pakistan Whale and Dolphin Society. In addition, Mr. Moin Khan, former captain of the Pakistan Cricket Team was the chief guest for the event who also visited the WWF - Pakistan's stall and awarded prizes to participants who caught the largest fish in the day, which was a 9.5 kg queen fish.



Visitors in Marine Gala held in Karachi

Juvenile Marsh Crocodile rescued

The early Friday morning, on 7 December 2012, the activists of Makhi Development Organization (MDO) found a juvenile crocodile stranded in agriculture fields surrounding Makhi Forest in Sanghar district. They saw that dogs were barking at the crocodile. The animal was soon caught by the activists who then informed WWF - Pakistan office at Chotiari Wetlands Complex. Hearing about this, the WWF - Pakistan team soon reached the spot and took the animal into its custody. The representatives of WWF - Pakistan inspected the animal and found no injury. The animal was in a healthy condition. WWF - Pakistan team along with MDO members released it in protected crocodile habitat near Ghulam Hussain Legari village, Sanghar.



Juvenile Marsh Crocodile being released

Dolphin sighting recorded



A Dolphin in the coastal areas of Balochistan

Marine Programme team consisting Mr. Moazzam Khan, Marine consultant WWF - Pakistan and Mr. Muhammad Shoaib Kiani, Cetacean scientist recently surveyed the Balochistan coast from Jiwani to Gwadar

between 13th to 16 December 2012. The team captured most amazing sightings of dolphins recorded ever along the Pakistan coast in offshore waters near Gwadar. A huge pod (about 3000-5000 animals) of spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*) was observed spanning over an area of approximately 3 square km. The dolphins appeared very healthy, agile and playful. They were performing all sorts of acrobatics including breaches, half breaches, head and tail slaps and spins. Another major highlight of this field trip was rescue of an entangled juvenile humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) that was trapped in a fisher's net on 11 December 2012 near Gunz area of the Balochistan coast. Help received from Balochistan Fisheries Department (BFD) for arrangement of survey logistics including survey boat was highly acknowledged.

WWF - Pakistan and ICIMOD organized workshop on REDD

WWF - Pakistan in collaboration with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)



Participants at REDD Workshop

conducted a "REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) plus Sensitization and Consultative Workshop" on 13th December 2012 at a local hotel in Karachi. The event was attended by the experts from the forest department, the provincial agriculture department, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission and representatives of local NGOs. The speakers stressed on creating awareness among the communities. They emphasized that lack of fresh water; camel grazing and sea intrusion were major causes of the deforestation in coastal areas of Sindh. They suggested that the involvement of local communities in existing policies could make a difference.

Falcons released at Hab



Falcon is being released by officials

WWF - Pakistan's representatives along with Sindh Wildlife Department, Balochistan Wildlife Department, International Falcons Foundation and FIA team released thirty six falcons in Hub area. There were two species of falcon i.e Peregrine and Saker. These

falcons were seized by the Pakistan Customs Intelligence. The falcons are said to be worth millions of rupees in the international market. These falcons were taken into custody by Intelligence along Jiwani coast in Balochistan. They said that smugglers were trying to export falcons through sea and as they moved in, smugglers managed to escape in a boat.

World Fisheries Day observed

WWF - Pakistan under its Building Capacity on Climate Change



Participants at World Fisheries Day, held in Thatta Coastal Areas

Adaptation in of Pakistan (CCAP) project observed World Fisheries Day on 21 November 2012 in Baghan Town, Keti Bunder, Thatta. The event was attended by more than 100 community members. On this occasion, a renowned writer Dr. Ali Murtaza Dharejo, Mr. Tahir Abbasi, Site Coordinator CCAP; Mr. Siddique Roonjho, Mr. Abdul Ghani, Mr. Abdullah Rano and others shared their views and experiences regarding the day. Speakers highlighted the significance of the day and discussed the issues confronting fisheries in Pakistan. They gave local, regional and global perspective on fisheries and suggested systematic strategy to conserve the unique fish species which are disappearing due to multiple threats. The event was well attended by government officials, NGO representatives, media persons, community members and students.

Highlights

EKN External Monitor Mission to Indus for All Programme

Mr. Wim Giesen, External Monitor from Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands visited Pakistan to undertake the monitoring mission to Indus for All



Mr. Wim Giesen in field with local women

Programme. He visited the four priority sites of the Programme i.e. Keenjhar Lake, Keti Bunder, Pai Forest and Chotiari Wetlands Complex. He held meetings with government officials, NGOs and CBOs representatives and community members to discuss the programme interventions and impacts. At the end, he held de-briefing meeting with WWF - Pakistan's Senior Management and Mr. Jan Willem Cools, First Secretary Environment and Water, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands at Wetlands Centre Hawksbay, Karachi. He remarked that Indus for All Programme has been highly successful and has delivered well in terms of contribution to sustainable livelihood and the environment’.

Community WES Infrastructure Initiatives

WWF - Pakistan under its Water and Environmental Sanitation (WES) project has provided a number of water and sanitation facilities in two less-privileged villages of Sandspit and Hawksbay beach, Karachi. These facilities



Improvement of Water Distribution and Sewerage System initiatives

include community managed water distribution system, decentralized ecological sewerage system, 3R (refuse & reduce, reuse and recycle) approach oriented waste management system, cost efficient latrines with safe disposal of excreta; and 2 public toilets at tourism potential spots. The project has also facilitated two schools with the provision of improved WES facilities. The objective of the initiative is to organize and develop healthy indigenous coastal communities for sustainable management of coastal resources.

Establishment of Water Class-rooms and Water Wise Clubs



Water Class Room established in School

For inculcating positive behavior among the youngsters and promoting water education in schools, the Water and Environmental Sanitation project has established

Water Classrooms (WC) in two coastal community schools. The concept of WCs is supported by display of 3D working models along with information, education and communication material which presents best practices on conservation, filtration, ecological cycle and efficient use of water. The project has organized students on the platform of Water Wise Clubs and facilitated these clubs with the establishment of WCs for promotion of hygiene culture and conservation of water resources.



WWF – Pakistan distributed ‘Conservation Awards’

WWF – Pakistan organized Conservation Awards Ceremony on



Award winners with WWF - Pakistan officials

10 Jan 2013 in Karachi. It aimed at creating awareness about environmental issues. During the ceremony, the Syed Asad Ali Conservation Award (SAAC), the Living Planet Award and Women in Nature Conservation Award were distributed.

The awards were presented to Mr. Abdul Ghani (late), Mr. Muhammad Yousaf, Mr. Syed Baqel Shah, Bibi Sanaz, Hajira Bibi, Bibi Miraj, Ms. Hameeda Keerio Nazeeran Bibi, Dr. Amtul Jamil Sami, Nature Conservation Committee and Sonmiani Development Organization. Certificates of appreciation were presented to Mr. Jawad Owias Khan, Collector Customs (Exports) and Dr. Amna Naeem, Assistant Collector of Customs (Exports) of Pakistan Customs. Ms. Humaira Ayesha, Coordinator Small Grant Programme WWF - P said that the persons nominated have done remarkable work for conservation. Other speakers including Mr. Mushtaq Ali Memon, Secretary Sindh Wildlife department; Mr. Khalid Mahmood, the President; Mr. Ali Hassan Habib, Director General, Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Director and Mr. Rab Nawaz, Director Sindh of WWF - Pakistan addressed the event.

Highlights

Regional workshop to conserve marine resources held

WWF – Pakistan under Marine Programme organized a three day regional workshop titled “Regional Perspective for Assuring Sustainable Marine Resources” from 17 to 19 Jan 2013 at a local hotel in Karachi. The event was attended by national and international participants. Speakers proposed a regional alliance and called for sustainable management of depleting marine resources in region.



Mr. Farhad Kaymaram from Iran receiving award from Ms. Menaal Fatima

Mr. Denial Suddaby, Tuna Manager WWF- UK; Mr. Tooraj Valinassab, Sr. Fisheries Researcher from Iran; Mr. Farhad Kaymaram, Biology and Stock Assessment Specialist from Iran; Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Director WWF - Pakistan; Mr. Rab Nawaz, Regional Director Sindh WWF- Pakistan; Mr. Moazzam Khan, Technical Advisor Marine Fisheries WWF – Pakistan; Mr. Shaukat Hussain, Director General Marine Fisheries Department; Mr. Paul Fanning, Chief Technical Advisor, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); Ms. Amna Shahab, Manager Programme Development WWF - Pakistan, Mr. Faisal Iftikhar CEO Fisheries Development Board and Ms. Meher Marker Noshirwani, Technical Advisor, Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources (RCCR) spoke on the occasion.

Media Field Trip to biogas plants



Dr. Ejaz Ahmad briefing the media team

WWF - Pakistan arranged Media Field Trip to Thatta under Early Recovery Project funded by United Nations Development Programme on 30 Dec 2012. It aimed at improv-

ing lives shattered by the floods of 2010, in not only sustainable but also eco-friendly way. The visit created awareness about alternative energy and promotion of bio-gas plants. This cost-efficient technology has affected people in many positive ways. Representatives from Dawn, The News, The Express Tribune, Ham Shehry Magazine, ARY News, Aaj TV, Samma TV and Awaz TV participated. They visited the bio gas plants installed at Ramzan Hajib and Allah Dino Khaskeli villages of district Thatta. Responding to the media persons, villagers shared that they were spending between 5000- 6000 PKR on buying and transporting firewood every month but now they are saving that money. Their crops have also been improved with the use of slurry, a by-product of biogas.

Concluding Ceremony of First Phase of IFAP held



Mr. Rab Nawaz presenting shield to Ms. Shazadi Tunio

A concluding ceremony for the first phase of WWF – Pakistan’s Indus for All Programme was held at a local hotel in Karachi.

Speaking on occasion, Secretary, Forest and Wildlife Department, Mr. Mushtaq Ali Memon, said

that Sindh is facing socio-ecological, and economic problems which need to be addressed. He said that the Programme has played a crucial role in revision of the draft of Sindh Wildlife Act 1972 and Sindh Forest Act 1927. He committed on providing continued support in phase two of the Programme.

While presenting his welcome note, Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Director, WWF - Pakistan, said that the Programme aimed at protecting Indus River which is the main source of water for Sindh. “Conservation process takes a lot of time and commitment”, he observed. Dr. Ahmed appreciated the support extended by the government departments.

Mr. Rab Nawaz, Director Sindh, WWF – Pakistan shared the details of the Programme. He said that Indus Ecoregion supports rich biodiversity and the Programme has successfully addressed the issues of natural resource management, pollution, sea erosion, loss of species, deforestation, hunting of birds and animals, and poverty. He lauded the contribution of community based organizations who worked as active partners. Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Mahar, Director General, Livestock and Fisheries Department, said that the Programme has developed valuable reports and has spread environmental awareness.

Save Paper
SAVE TREES **T**rees are considered as the lungs of earth but they

are chopped down mercilessly all over the world for various reasons. Deforestation is increasing at a rapid pace and many countries are losing their forest cover. One main reasons for deforestation is usage of tree bark in paper manufacturing industry.

To tackle this issue, WWF – Pakistan’s finance department at Karachi office has commenced digitization of data from July 2012. During this period, the department has saved 14,000 papers which used to be photocopied previously.

WWF – Pakistan strongly believes that if digitization is introduced and promoted, then paper printing / photocopy can be reduced and subsequently trees can be saved. This attitude will certainly result in mitigating environmental degradation and increase the forest cover.

Highlights

Rediscovery of Olive Ridley Turtle in Pakistan after 7 years



Olive-Ridley Turtle captured and released

It is good news for turtle lovers in Pakistan that WWF - Pakistan has recorded occurrence of a viable population of Olive Ridley turtle in Pakistan after 7 years, in December 2012. Two species of marine turtles i.e. green turtle and Olive Ridley turtle used to abound our side of the Arabian Sea and frequently visited some of the selected sandy beaches along the coast of Pakistan. Marine scientists and the Sindh Wildlife Department had observed sudden decline in the population in early 2000 and since then no Olive Ridley turtle was observed in Pakistan. It was generally accepted that Olive Ridley turtle had become extinct. During one of the cruises, two turtles were observed entangled in gillnet off Sindh coast. One of these was observed to be an Olive Ridley turtle. WWF - Pakistan's staff took the necessary details and successfully released this turtle back into the sea. Rediscovery of Olive Ridley turtle in Pakistani waters is 'a good sign, indicating that marine environment still has adequate potential to support these unique species', observed Mr. Rab Nawaz, Director Sindh WWF - Pakistan.

Fresh Water Pond Constructed in Qadir Bux village

WWF - Pakistan under its CCAP project with financial assistance of Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources (TCCR) has constructed a fresh water pond in Qadir Bux Baloch village situated in Kharo Chan, district Thatta. The pond would provide the safe drinking water to the community people which would be stored in it from Indus River. The village consists of 35 households with population of approximately 250 persons. Community people depend on fishing for livelihood and income.

The community people did not have basic amenity of safe drinking water easily available. They used dirty and brackish water for household and drinking purpose and consequently contracted skin and other diseases. They even used rain water during monsoon season. But, now with construction of the pond, community people can have safe drinking water which can protect them from diseases and cater to their daily needs.



Fresh water pond constructed

CCAP launched the Delta wide Vulnerability Assessment



Participants at CCAP study launch in Karachi

WWF - Pakistan under CCAP project launched study titled: Synthesis Report - A Delta-Wide Vulnerability Assessment." in

Karachi on 29 December 2012 and in Islamabad on 28 February 2013. It provided a summary of results of 11 case studies carried out in past two years (2011-2012). All the impacts of climate change and their manifestations were looked into detail. The report states that Pakistan lies in a geographical region where temperature increase is expected to be higher than the global average, making it a climate sensitive country. One of the key findings of the study consisting hazard map, states that over a period of last 10 years total mangrove cover has been increased by approximately 200 hectares in Keti Bunder and 2000 hectares in Kharo Chan.

Mr. Jawed Ali Khan, Director General Ministry of Climate Change; Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Director WWF - Pakistan, Mr. Rab Nawaz Director Sindh WWF - Pakistan, Ms. Urooj Saeed WWF - Pakistan, a writer Mr. Zulfikar Halepoto, Ms. Meher Marker Nosharwani, Mr. Kashif Salik and others spoke on the occasion. A musical evening was also celebrated with famous singer Mr. Akhtar Chahal Zehri at the end.

Agriculture and Industries increasing pressure on forests

WWF - Pakistan under its CCAP project funded by European Union (EU), celebrated World Forest Day with a four-day tree plantation campaign from 18 to 21 March at Pir Jhaloo village near Keti Bunder town, Thatta. Nearly 100 teachers and students of Mehran University of Engineering and Technology (MUET) and The Citizen Foundation (TCF) School participated.



Mangrove plantation by school children

Speakers said that forests are the lungs of land which produce oxygen and give shelter to the species. Chief Guest, Mr. Muhammad Akeel Sheikh, Forest Officer Thatta, Sindh Forest Department; Mr. Tahir Abbasi, Site Coordinator CCAP project; Mr. Shakeel Memon, President United Community Welfare and Development Organization, Keti Bunder; Mr. Muhammad Shahid Dayo, Senior Project Officer CCAP; Mr. Chetan Kumar, Senior Project Officer CCAP; Mr. Adam Janiario, representative Press Club Gahro; Mr. Asghar Shah and Mr. Sikandar Shah community members of village Pir Jhaloo shared their views.

Highlights

Colourful Nature Carnival thronged by thousands of participants



Mr. Sheikh Mohammad Afzal with WWF staff at Nature Carnival 2013

About 20,000 individuals flocked to the Nature Carnival organised by WWF – Pakistan in collaboration with Indus Motor

Company (IMC) Toyota at PAF Museum, Karachi on 3 Feb 2013. Mr. Sheikh Mohammad Afzal, Minister for Environmental and Alternate Energy Department, Government of Sindh was Chief Guest of the event.

The Carnival welcomed large number of visitors including students from 100 schools, 10 colleges and universities, both from the private and public sector, participated in 3D model making competitions on environmental themes like ‘Solid Waste Management: ‘Reduce, Reuse and Recycle,’ ‘Marine Conservation,’ ‘Save Forests...Save Water,’ ‘Converting Waste to Energy,’ ‘Reduce Carbon Footprint,’ ‘Water & Sanitation’ and ‘Green Economy.’ Other activities included games, lucky draws, live music, puppet shows, and various competitions. The Chief Guest presented awards to the winning schools and shields to the sponsor. Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Director, WWF – Pakistan; Mr. Anwar Nasim, Director Corporate Relation, WWF – Pakistan; Mr. Rab Nawaz, Regional Director WWF – Pakistan and Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Senior Manager Corporate Relation, WWF – Pakistan also delivered their messages.

WWF - Pakistan stresses for protection of Whale Sharks



Whale Shark caught by fishermen

Whale shark, the largest living fish, is a permanent resident of Pakistani coastal and offshore waters. Although estimate of the population of this gentle giant is not available but research studies carried out by Mr. Muhammad Moazzam Khan, Technical Advisor of WWF - Pakistan revealed that since 2006, at least 36 whale sharks have been killed in fishing operations.

In a recent incident near Churna Island, Sindh, one female measuring 7.1 m and weighing 2.47 m. tons was accidentally entangled in fish trawl net. Instead of releasing, the fishermen towed the animal to Karachi to have a bonanza by selling the meat and liver. In Pakistan, whale sharks are not protected under any laws. It is given international protection due to its inclusion in Appendix II of the Convention in International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) which bans its trade. Export of its products or any parts are, however, restricted under CITES Agreement to which Pakistan is a signatory. WWF - Pakistan stresses the need for protection of this gentle giant under Wildlife Laws of Government of Sindh and Balochistan.

Climate Change Adaptation Fund established



Officials at the 12th DCC Meeting

Climate change related impacts have placed Thatta district in list of most vulnerable areas of Pakistan, specifically, the coastal talukas such as Keti Bunder, Shah Bunder and Kharo Chan are suffering from these

impacts. District Management of Thatta considers that the climate change induced hazards like cyclones and floods are not only increasing rapidly but their frequency and intensity has increased over last two decades.

WWF - Pakistan under its Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation in Coastal Areas of Pakistan (CCAP) project conducted the 12th meeting of District Coordination and Advisory Committee which was held at DC office, Thatta on 14 December 2012. During the meeting, it was decided that “Climate Change Adaptation Fund” would be established as suggested by WWF - Pakistan. The Fund could be utilized for scaling up of the successful pilot projects of WWF - Pakistan and other civil society organizations. Moreover, this fund could be utilized in rescue and relief work during natural calamities such as floods, cyclones or intense precipitations. This is the first time in the history of Sind that the fund has been allocated for climate change. The initial amount of fund would be Rs.500, 000 and it can further be increased depending upon future needs.

WWF – Pakistan and NED University signs MoU



Dr. Ejaz Ahmad and Prof. Sarosh Hashmat Lodhi at signing ceremony

WWF – Pakistan and NED University of Engineering and Technology signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 7 March 2013. The

purpose was to develop scholarly collaboration and professional support by promoting educational and professional activities between the two institutions. The areas of cooperation would include climate change, alternative energy, water resource management, better environmental practices and capacity building. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Director WWF – Pakistan said that this agreement would explore new scientific ideas to address environmental challenges. Professor Sarosh Hashmat Lodhi, Dean Civil Engineering and Architecture, NED University said that Pakistan is more vulnerable to climate change and environmental degradation.

Highlights

Earth Hour 2013 observed



Mr. Sheikh Mohammad Afzal with WWF staff during Earth Hour 2013

WWF – Pakistan and Sindh Government jointly celebrated Earth Hour - 2013 on 23 March at Quaid-e-Azam mausoleum by turning off lights of more than 50 landmarks all over country. Pakistan joined more than 160 countries to participate in the World's Largest Volunteer Campaign for the fourth year. It was attended by former Minister Environment Sindh Mr. Sheikh Muhammad Afzal; Mr. Mir Hussain Ali, Secretary Environment and Alternate Energy Department and others. Government of Sindh declared Sindh as Earth Hour Province. Lahore was declared Earth Hour City.

HR News

- Ms. Anna Khan has joined as Front Desk Officer from 24th September 2012
- Mr. Abdul Rahim has joined as Site Coordinator Gwadar from 16th November 2012
- Ms. Saba Ayub has joined as Data Entry Operator from 1st December 2012 under the Marine Programme
- Ms. Zulekha Kanwal, Ms. Musarrat ul Ain, Ms. Aasia Karim, Mr. Muhammad Ali, Mr. Shoaib, Mr. Kashif Ayoub, Mr. Muneer Ahmed and Mr. Rashid Butt have joined from 3rd Dec, 2012 as Field Assistants under the Marine Programme
- Ms. Sumera Kanwal has joined as Community Development Officer under Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation in Coastal Areas of Pakistan from 3rd Dec 2012
- Mr. Ahmar Hassan has joined as Corporate Engagement Executive from 1st Jan 2013.
- Ms. Hijab Tufail has joined as Program Officer Marketing (Green Office) from 17th January 2013
- Ms. Asma Tahir has joined as Senior Manager Corporate Relations Karachi from 1st February 2013
- Mr. Khalid Mahmood has joined as Co-Principal Investigator from 14th March, 2013 under the Marine Programme

Building Capacity on Climate Change Adaptation in Coastal Areas of Pakistan (CCAP) Project Programme Management Unit

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Keenjhar Lake

Keenjhar Conservation & Information Center
P.O - 73120, Village Abdullah Gandro
Taluka & District, Thatta, Sindh.
Tel:+92-298624571

Keti Bunder

Main Road Garho,
Near Uzmair Medical Store
Garho City, District Thatta, Sindh
Tel:+92-298623306, 619366

Chotiari Wetlands Complex

Chotiari Conservation & Information Center,
Village Bakar, District Sanghar, Sindh
Tel:+92-235-483454

Internships

- Ms. Aasia Karim Ph.D Trainee from Karachi University interned from 5th Sept - 20th Oct 12 in our Conservation Function
- Mr. Saif Ullah Adnan from COMSAT Abbotabad interned from 25th Nov - 26th December 2012 in our IT Function
- Ms. Nimrah Zarar from Karachi University interned from 10th Dec 2012 - 19th Jan 2013 under the Marine Programme

Staff Capacity Building

- First Aid Training for Service Staff on 23rd Dec 2012
- Ms. Zainab Salah Uddin - AM HR & Contract Management attended Designing Employee Compensation & Benefit Packages Training from 26-27th Dec 2012
- Mr. Sajjad Hyder, Mr. Ghulam Fareed Shaikh, Mr. Saeed ul Islam, Mr. Naveed Soomro, Mr. Faisal Abbas, Mr. Ghulam Rasool Khatri and Mr. Asif Sandeelo attended effective Communication in the Business World from 28-29th Dec 2012
- Mr. Muhammad Azeem Senior Finance Officer attended Business English Course in January 2013
- Ms. Mehreen Niazi, Secretary to Director attended a diploma in Business Communication from 25 Feb - 28th March 2013
- Ms. Rukhsana Memon, Mr. Vinod Kumar, Mr. Kagia Chettan Kumar and Mr. Mumtaz Rahu attended Training on Report Writing Skills from 4-5th March 2013
- Mr. Sajid Ullah Jan, Manager Operations attended a workshop on Problem Solving and Decision Making from 12-15th March 2013.
- Mr. Umair Shahid, Tuna Fisheries Officer, attended "Inter-coastal Management Training" in Bangkok from 21 Jan – 2 March 2013
- Mr. Rab Nawaz, Regional Director WWF – Pakistan and Mr. Mohammad Moazzam Khan, Consultant (Marine Fisheries) WWF – Pakistan attended 2-day meeting in Muscat, Oman from 18-20 Feb 2013 organized by Indian Ocean Tuna Commission on Allocation Criteria.