

Pakistan Wetlands Programme's Inception Workshop 2006



The Pakistan Wetlands Programme (PWP) held a day long inception workshop on December, 9th 2006 at the Marriott Hotel, Islamabad. The inception workshop was intended to achieve certain significant objectives that would serve as catalyst for accomplishing the Programme's commitment. Moreover, the workshop served as a forum for introducing the Programme team to its stakeholders and partner organisations and to strengthen ownership and commitment to the Programme in addition to creating awareness on the wise-use of wetlands resources in the country.



The inaugural and technical sessions of the workshop were consciously amalgamated with several other activities to inculcate the concept of wetlands conservation and their wise-use. The technical sessions were interlaced with a traditional dance from the community representatives of the Hirrak Foundation from Kot Adu to evoke the spiritual and cultural outlook on this mega event.

The Federal Minister marked the occasion by inaugurating:

The Launch of the Crane Poster, named the Cranes of Pakistan, depicting the illustrations of cranes in Pakistan. The poster will later be made accessible for general the public, educational and research institutions for use;

The Launch of The Pakistan Wetlands Network, a computer-based web portal. This network will allow the users to share useful information on wetlands and seek support for scientific and research based queries from across the globe. Organisations and individuals that are generally interested or involved in wetland conservation in Pakistan can make use of this interactive venture as a useful communication tool;

The Launch of The Programme's Brochure, embellished with a common wetlands pheasant on a lotus leaf, was also instigated by the Federal Minister. The brochure is intended to serve as a preliminary source of information on wetlands for the general public.

The Pakistan Wetlands Programme involved schools from the twin cities to compete in developing 3-D model on wetlands. This innovative approach to create awareness was part of the Programme's awareness raising and school outreach initiative. It was apparent from the overwhelming response received from the participating students that the Programme had managed to sensitise these junior ambassadors to care for and conserve these precious ecosystems (ecologically important constituent) of our environment.



Honorable
Federal Minister for Environment
Makhdoom Syed Faisal Salleh Hayat



Federal Secretary for Environment
Mr. Sharif Ahmad



Additional Secretary for Environment
Mr. Sami ul Haq



Inspector General Forest, MOE
Bashir Ahmad Wani, Ph.D



Assistant Resident Representative UNDP
Mr. Arif Alauddin



National Programme Manager/CTA, PWP
Richard Garstang



Pakistan Wetlands Programme's Inception Workshop December 6th-9th 2006

The *Pakistan Wetlands Programme*, a progressive initiative of the *Federal Ministry of Environment* that is being implemented by *WWF Pakistan*. The Programme is generously funded by a consortium of national and international donors including the *Global Environment Facility*, *United Nations Development Programme*, *Royal Netherlands Embassy*, *WWF International* and the *Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund*.

The Programme is now adequately staffed and has acquired most of the essential technical equipment, skills and services necessary for its implementation. A *Programme Management Unit* has been established in Islamabad and a *Technical Resource and Equipment Centre* has been set up in Lahore.

As a substantial period of time has elapsed since the Programme was first designed and approved, the *Programme Management Unit* held the Programme's Inception Workshop from December, 6th-9th 2006 at the Marriott Hotel, Islamabad.

members in contributing to the Programme's objectives;

- Establish and adapt the required procedures for oversight and for effecting such changes to Programme activities, outputs and outcomes as may be required in terms of the approved overall objective.



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The expected outputs of the workshop were to:

- Rebuild commitment and regain momentum with Programme implementation;
- Introduce the Programme Team, Steering Committee and Programme Management Committee to Programme Partners;
- Ensure that the Programme Implementation Team and other stakeholders have a clear understanding of what the Programme seeks to achieve and the roles of the team



Highlights of the workshop:

The Federal Minister of Environment Makhdoom Syed Faisal Saleh Hayat formally launched The *Ministry of Environment's Pakistan Wetlands Programme*.

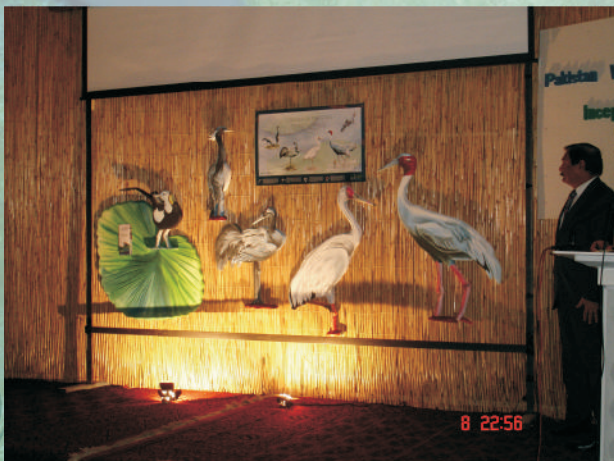
The inaugural and technical sessions of the workshop were consciously amalgamated with several other activities to inculcate the concept of wetlands conservation and their wise-use. The technical sessions were interlaced with a traditional dance from the community representatives of the Hirrak Foundation from Kot Adu from Central Indus Wetlands Complex to evoke the spiritual and cultural outlook on this mega event by giving live performance on the awareness of Blind Indus Dolphin.



(for exciting pictures visit www.pakistanwetlands.org)

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as a preliminary source of information on wetlands for the general public.

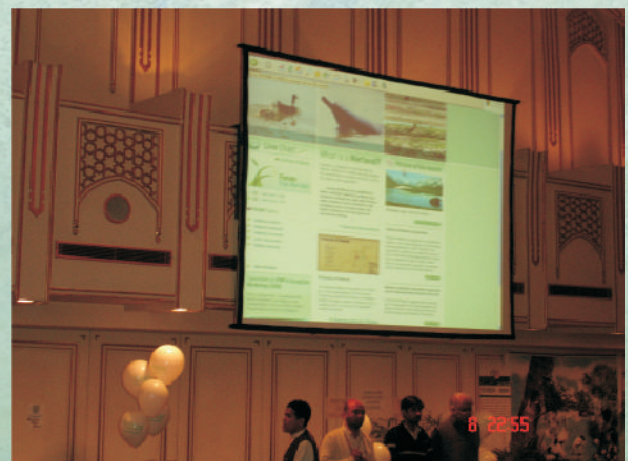
The launch of the crane poster, named the *Cranes of Pakistan*, depicting the illustrations of cranes in Pakistan. The poster will later be made accessible for the public, educational and research institutions for use;

Launch of the 'Pakistan Wetlands Network' a computer-based network portal, with the



objective of facilitating knowledge exchanges, experience sharing and learning among conservation planners, researchers, policy makers, practitioners, communicators and general public about wetlands conservation in general and Pakistan wetlands Programme in specific.

This network will allow the users to share useful information on wetlands and seek



support for scientific and research based queries from across the globe.

Organisations and individuals that are generally interested or involved in wetland

conservation in Pakistan can make use of this interactive venture as a useful communication tool.

The Pakistan Wetlands Programme involved schools from the twin cities to compete in developing 3-D model on wetlands. The participating schools were instructed to develop models on six themes focusing different perspectives on wetlands. The themes were:

#	Wetlands Themes	Class Level
1	Flora and Fauna of Wetlands	Montessori Level
2	Types of Wetlands	
3	Wetlands of Pakistan	Primary Level
4	Future of Pakistan's Wetlands	
5	Wetlands and People	Secondary Level
6	Wise Use of Wetlands: People and Wetlands	

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response received from the participating students that the Programme had managed to sensitise these junior ambassadors to care for and conserve these precious ecosystems (ecologically important constituent) of our environment. The



winners of the model display were awarded with shield and certificates.

For more pictures visit: www.pakistanwetlands.org

The inception workshop served as a robust means to launch some vital components of the Programme. It is hoped that through this platform the Pakistan Wetlands Programme will look forward to developing sound synergies between the people and wetlands and accordingly give way to similar ventures for strengthening sustainable development.

For more details and pictures Contact:

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