
Environment Friendly Excursion

26th November 2011



Group photo of participants at Ghotki Forest

Partners of the Event

- Sind Forest Department
- Pakistan Wetlands Program
- Sind Wildlife Department
- The City School

Participants

More than **50** people had active participation in this event. Those include following:

- Teachers including local women of Sukkur

- Students of The City School
- Local representatives of Ghotki Riverside Community
- Staff of Sind Forest Department

Events of Activity

1.1 Briefing on Concept of Eco-tourism

The participants were briefed on concept of Eco-tourism that included:

- a. Difference between Tourism and Eco-tourism
- b. Definition of Eco-tourism.
- c. Principles of Eco-tourism.
- d. Ethics to follow while the environmental friendly excursion.

1.2 Information Lecture on Trees and Plants

One of the key activities of the event was *PLANTATION* of trees by participants. And DFO-Divisional Forest Officer Sukkur gave brief lecture on plantation and hand out lecture notes on different trees that were to be planted. This was meant to deliver the knowledge and the importance of particular plants.



Information lecture to participants by DFO before plantation

1.3 Plantation

Each participant was provided a wooden board with name of the plant and participant on it. All the participants sorted out their board and read about the plant literature given in print hand out. The pits were for each participant to plant and forest and wildlife staff helped the participants and also made them learn on how to plant. Total numbers of 36 plants were planted that include following:

- ✚ Murraya exotica
- ✚ Delonix rigia
- ✚ Cassia fistula
- ✚ Azyadirachta indica



Participants are lined to plant the plants



Participants planting the trees

1.4 Memoir Shield

The Madam of The City School was given a memoir shield at the plantation event. The shield described the plantation activity in collaboration with Pakistan Wetlands Program and Sind Forest Department.

2.2 Presentation on Forest and Environment

Mr. Javed Mahar (DFO Sukkur) gave detailed presentation that included following components:

- Forest Kinds in world
- Forests of Pakistan
- Global Forest Distribution
- GPS use

2.3 Presentation on Biodiversity

Mr. Umer Waqas briefed the participants on importance of forest habitat for birds and animals. The participants were also biodiversity of Pakistan and different eco-system supporting different species and kinds of habitat.



Presentation to participants in the forest

2.4 Excursion Walk in Forest

The trip participants later walked in the forest and closely watched the different kinds of trees and plants. The group also had opportunity to discuss on different issues of nature and particularly the problems that different species are facing due to habitat loss. The participants were told about the pressure on natural resources and role of mankind to reduce this pressure.



Participants walk in forest

Comments and Feedback from Participants

Participants gave their remarks and described on sheets of what they learnt from the trip. They were also given an exercise to write down of their knowledge on nature and forest at the end of the trip.

TRAINING WORKSHOP

TITLE OF TRAINING: Training on Project Proposal writing

DATE & VENUE: 25-26th November 2011 at Indus Dolphin Centre Sukkur

PARTNERS:

- WWF IRDCP

- Pakistan Wetlands Program
- Sind Wildlife Department

OBJECTIVES:

- Capacity building of community based organizations.
- Training on administration and function of organization.
- Training on project proposal writing and project cycle management.

PARTICIPANTS: There were 25 participants in this training belonging to following institutions:

- Partner CBOs of WWF IRDCP, PWP and WWF Cotton project.
- Fishermen community
- Sind Wildlife Department
- Environmental Protection Agency Sukkur
- Sind Fisheries Department
- Sind Mallah Social Welfare Forum
- SYWO Sind Youth Welfare Organization.

PICTURES OF TRAINING





Field Investigation of Indus Dolphin Mortality

Meetings and Discussions: The issue of mortality of Indus dolphin has come at glance at different forums and some of the key stakeholders have had intensive sessions of series of meetings and discussion. These meetings include following partners:

- Sind Wildlife Department
- Pakistan Wetlands Program.
- Sind Fisheries Department
- Environmental Protection Agency Sukkur.
- Sind Youth Welfare Organization.
- WWF IRDCP
- Sind Forest Department
- Local Media Persons.
- Fish Contractors
- Representatives from Fishermen Communities.

One of such meeting was recently conducted at Indus Dolphin Centre on 23-11-2011 and field visit was planned to investigate and assess the situation particularly on fishing nets stretched inside the river.

Field Visit: The boat trip was organized with support from Pakistan Wetlands Program and Sind Wildlife Department. The team of was consisted of following persons:

- Dr. Fehmida Firdous (Deputy Conservator Sind Wildlife Department)
- Mr. Umer Waqas (Pakistan Wetlands Program)
- Mr. Soomro (Assistant Director Sind Fisheries Department)
- Mr. Imam Bakhsh (Inspector Sind Wildlife Department)
- Mr. Irshad Ali (Game Watcher Sind Wildlife Department)
- Mr. Nazeer Mirani (Game Watcher Sind Wildlife Department)

- Meer Akhtar Hussain Talpur (DWO Sind Wildlife Department)
- Mr. Zameer Mirani (Boat Driver)

Results: The team found people fishing in the mid of the river without any card or fishing license. The team also found temporary camps of fishing groups on islands inside the river and along narrow channels all of them were unable to produce any permit but they claimed to be fishing for their fish contractor who they said has the license.

Actions in Progress: Sind Wildlife Department, Sind Forest Department and Pakistan Wetlands Program are in process series of dialogues with all key fish contractors and influential lords living along the river in Katcha area. The main objective of these dialogues is to convince them to be part of initiatives to stop the Indus dolphin mortality and play their role in protecting the Indus dolphin by using their influence on fishing nets operators and contractors to take all possible measures to save this precious animal.

Way Forward:

Fisheries department need to take strict actions to stop that illegal and offensive mode of fishing that has deteriorated the situation for Indus dolphin. There is an urgent need for patrolling and monitoring to keep check on these fishing nets and practices. There may be a **patrolling task force** including persons from Fisheries department and Sind wildlife with a mandate of taking actions against those fishermen and contractors. There is also need of dialogues with those fish contractors and card holders and strong message may be conveyed to stop the style of fishing that is posing direct threat to Indus dolphin.

NEED BASED TRAINING OF FISHERMEN

