

HIGHLIGHTS Of The Quarter

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Training Events under the PPAF LEAD Project

Training on Community Livelihood Fund

IRM, in collaboration with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF), conducted 13 training events on "Training on Community Livelihood Fund". The training events were specially designed for the members of rural communities who are involved in the financial and record keeping matters of the Community Funds. The training aimed at enhancing the skills of the participants for efficient and transparent management of the Community Livelihood Funds and also enabling them to become better trainers. During the quarter, a total of 320 participants were trained in these training events.

Training of Community Facilitators



IRM, in collaboration with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF), conducted a series of training events titled "Training of Community Facilitators (TOCF)", specially designed for the community activists of

"Institutions of the People". These seven days training events were aimed at enhancing the skills of the participants and providing guidance to help them in becoming expert trainers and community facilitators and play a significant role in participatory development and sustainable livelihoods programmes.

During the quarter, 17 training events were conducted in Islamabad, Bahawalpur and Karachi and a total of 400 participants from Punjab, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were trained.



Updates from the Vocational Training Programme

Vocational Training Programme (VTP) of IRM aims at imparting vocational and technical skills to the underprivileged rural communities, specifically youth, for empowering them economically. The main objective of the VTP is imparting skills to the rural communities and enabling them to generate self-employment opportunities.

During the last quarter, IRM's Vocational, Technical and Educational Center (VTEC) in Rawalpindi imparted skills training for participants identified by various organizations. Some of the major activities of the VTEC Rawalpindi include the following:

Sungi Development Foundation

As part of the Livelihood Enhancement and Protection (LEP) project, IRM, in collaboration with the Sungi Development Foundation, imparted technical training in four different trades including Shovel Operator, Excavator Operator, Building Electrician and RAC. To provide hands-on experience to the trainees, the training was based on a combination of theory and practical work. A total of 89 participants from Tehsil Balakot in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) attended these one month training courses.



International Relief & Development (IRD)

KP and FATA are two of the most underdeveloped areas of Pakistan with most of the population living in the rural areas. This region has been affected the most by the on-going wave of terrorism in the country putting the peoples' livelihoods at high risk. Realizing this, IRD initiated a Conflict Victim's Support Programme (CVSP) for helping and supporting the population of the area.

Under the CVSP, IRM in collaboration with IRD, provided skills training to a total of 114 trainees in six different trades namely Building Electrician, Mobile Phone Repairing, Computer Software, Plumbing and Pipe Fitting, Tailoring and Dress Designing and Car Driving.



Motorcycle Mechanic Training for the Youth of Chaghai

IRM VTEC Rawalpindi, in collaboration with Islamic Relief, trained 25 participants from Chaghai in the trade of Motorcycle Mechanic for building their capacity and improving their livelihoods. In addition to the technical training, the trainees were also provided with Business Management Skill Training and Life Skills Training. The objectives of these sessions were to orient the participants on efficient business management for enabling them to engage in entrepreneurship and also provide them with an understanding about different life skills and the importance of adopting these skills in daily life.



Kareena-e-Hunar Mandi (The Beauty of Skills)

Mr. Khawaja Tariq, Principal VTEC Rawalpindi, has authored a book titled "Kareena-e-Hunar Mandi". The book talks about various aspects of life which are essential to lead a productive and successful life. The book is based on Mr. Tariq's 13 years of experience of working with the youth of Pakistan and focuses on the importance of skills development. Significant importance has been given to the three training stages: Pre-Training, During Training and Post-Training and



proposes recommendations and suggestions to tackle the growing rate of unemployment in the country. The book has received high levels of appreciation and the International Labor Organization (ILO) has agreed to sponsor the publishing of the book. The first edition of the book will be published by the end of December, followed by the second edition in 2014.

ITC – ILO Collaboration Updates



IRM has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Training Center of the ILO (ITC – ILO). Over the years, IRM has been working in close partnership with the ITC – ILO for providing training related services to develop human resources and institutional capabilities. Faculty Exchange Programme is one of the most prominent features of the MoU and each year, young staff members from IRM are attached with the ITC – ILO, Turin where they get an excellent opportunity to work with top-notch professionals from all over the world.

In addition, Ms. Mehreen and Mr. Israr were also attached as seconded experts with the Gender and Skills Academies, ITC – ILO's most awaited training events of the year, where more than 100 experts representing public and private bodies participate from all around the world and share best practices and way forward for sustainable development. As part of the attachment, Ms. Mehreen and Mr. Israr were involved in designing and delivering one complete elective course, coordinating tracks for 5 elective courses and sharing the common examples and best practices from Pakistan.

This exercise helped them in networking with various international organizations and people from different backgrounds. It also enabled them in exploring new interventions and practices for implementing at the IRM.

This was a great learning opportunity not only for the young professionals but also for IRM for enhancing the efficiency of its Human Resources.



This year, Ms. Mehreen Raza, Mr. Israr Hussain and Mr. Anees Ali were nominated for the Exchange Programme. This was an exciting experience for the young staff members as they worked closely with professionals from different cultures and were involved in various activities such as facilitating the ITC – ILO team with pre-training arrangements, post-training evaluations and reporting of ITC – ILO's renowned Gender and Skill Academies.



Updates from Chakwal – Youth Economic Empowerment Project

IRM, in collaboration with Plan International, is implementing a "Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE)" project in district Chakwal for enhancing technical capacity of existing TVETs and poor youth of 3 Tehsils; Chakwal, Kalar Kahar and Choa Saidan Shah. As part of the project, youth is being provided access to friendly micro-finance schemes, quality and market driven vocational and technical training, life skills and enterprise development training for enabling them to secure decent employment (self & paid). YEE project also aims at increasing the youths' levels of economic work in traditional and non-traditional occupations, while encouraging parents and local community members to become socially and economically active members of the society. This quarter has been a busy one for the IRM team. Following activities were conducted during the quarter:



Trainings

- Two months Vocational Training of 90 participants (55 Female and 35 Male) in different trades (Adda Wok, Embroidery, Clinical Assistant, Office Attendant, Decoration Piece Making, Excavator Operator, Driving, RAC, AutoCad, Civil Surveyor, Quantity Surveyor and Mobile Repairing).

- Life Skills Training and Business Management Skills Training of 90 participants conducted at LFC Hotel and PC Hotel Chakwal.



- TOT of 23 Government officials from different Vocational Training Institutes (TEVTA, Sanat Zar and VTI (PVTC).

Signing of MOUs

- MOU signed between Employers and TEVTAs to establish close coordination and linkages between TVETs and Employers.

Strengthening of Vocational Training Institutes (VTIs)

- Strengthening of a Vocational Training Institute (PVTC) in Balkasar in terms of labs renovation, equipment, curriculum and branding in order to provide quality training to the youth.

Others

- Awareness raising of YEPP and Vocational Training through FM-88 and local cable network.
- Meetings with local CBOs regarding YEPP awareness and formation of youth forums.

Tech Talk

Freeloader Portable Solar Charger

Freeloader Portable Solar Charger is an advanced portable charging system that can power any hand held device anywhere, anytime.

The Freeloader gets power from its solar panels or via a supplied



charging cable that plugs into your computers USB port. Once charged, the internal Li-Ion battery can power an iPod for 18 hours, a mobile phone for 44 hours, PSP for 2.5 hours a PDA for 22 hours and much more.

Thanks to its tough and stylish aluminum body, Freeloader can take the knocks of everyday life.



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