

HRD COMMUNIQUE

newsletter

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Updates from YEEP Chakwal

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.

During the quarter July to September, various activities were conducted. A total of 32 trainees were trained and

attached with different local employers for on-job training. In addition, Decent Work Agenda and Women Friendly Workplace sessions were also conducted with various



employers in the region. During the quarter, IRM team also signed MoUs with a TVET of Sanat Zar and Jameel Garments for improving coordination between them. Moreover, awareness raising of the YEEP on local radio and cable network has been a regular activity during the period.

The YEE Project will be completed in November, 2014. The main activities planned for the last quarter include Women Friendly Workplace sessions with employers and capacity building of selected TVETs.



Diploma in Project Management

IRM's Center for Executive Education (CEE) has launched a 3-months Diploma in Project Management, in collaboration with Abassyn University, Islamabad

The Diploma programme is specially designed for professionals who are working in the fields of project management, project coordination and project designing. To enable managers transform difficult challenges into strategic improvements that lift the performance of their organization, the programme aims at imparting practical skills and management tools

to the participants and boost their confidence and knowledge to perform efficiently and effectively in their jobs.



The Diploma was launched in September, 2014 and a total of 15 participants are enrolled in course.

Participants include professionals from various organizations including Basic, FURD, Social Watch and Welfare Development, and Hayat-e-Nau.



South Punjab Poverty Alleviation Project

IRM, in collaboration with the Government of Punjab, and financial assistance from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has launched a South Punjab Poverty Alleviation Project (SPPAP) in Districts Bahawalnagar, Bahawalpur, Muzaffargarh and Rajanpur. The project is specifically designed to assist the Government to achieve its objectives of economic growth and poverty alleviation. The overall goal of the project is to reduce rural poverty in Southern Punjab. IRM, being the core implementing partner of the Government of Punjab, will implement vocational and enterprise training for poor communities of the four target districts, hence contributing in generation of enhanced employment and self-employment opportunities.

As part of the project, IRM will provide vocational and technical training to over 11,000 men and women, and enterprise training to over 3,000 members of the target communities. 770 participants will also be provided with business incubation support and will be linked to various Micro-Finance Institutions for enabling them to start their own businesses. Moreover, IRM will also offer two year Diploma courses to 56 selected entrepreneur activists.

The project interventions are expected to help the poor rural communities in availing different livelihood opportunities and enable them to increase their income through engaging the community members in

employment, self-employment activities and business establishment.



Vocational Training for Salik Development Foundation

IRM being the main training provider under the Livelihood Enhancement and Protection (LEP) project is providing training on Basic Tailoring to 28 women participants from Salik Development Foundation. As part of the training, IRM established a Field Training Center in District Sawabi in September, 2014 for providing training to identified women participants in the field. The training is

aimed at empowering the local women and improving their livelihood opportunities.



Training Events for JICA

IRM, in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), is conducting Project Management Training for the Sindh Livestock Department on nine different themes. These training events are being conducted under the Project on Sustainable Livestock Development for Rural Sindh. The aim of the Project is to establish a development foundation in the target 5 districts by which small-scale livestock farmers would be assisted for the improvement of their incomes and assets.

One of the main components of the Project is "Capacity Development of the Sindh Livestock Department" and aims at building the capacity of the Department, especially the project counterparts and the other key officers/staff of the Department, on various themes including Project Management, Dissemination of livestock technologies and the basic knowledge and attitude of organizational management. These skills and knowledge will play a key role in project and organizational management for the Department in future. It will also assure the dissemination of technical skills accumulated by the Project to livestock farmers in Sindh province.

Event Name	Course Duration	Date
Training on Social Mobilization	3 Days	22 - 24 October 2014
Training on Strategic Planning of Project	3 Days	27- 29 October 2014
Training on Communication Skills	2 Days	30 - 31 October 2014
Training on Conflict Resolution	1 Day	3 November 2014
Training on Project Monitoring and Evaluation	2 Days	6 - 7 November 2014
Training on Leadership	2 Days	17 - 18 November 2014
Training on Decision Making	1 Day	19 November 2014
Training on Reporting	2 Days	20 - 21 November 2014
Training on Entrepreneurship Development	3 Days	24 - 26 November 2014

IRM Smart Schools



IRM is launching IRM Smart Schools in November, 2014 for providing quality, accessible and affordable primary education for all children living in rural and urban areas of Pakistan. The concept of the Smart Schools is to establish one room schools in the underprivileged and marginalized urban and rural communities in Sindh, Punjab and



Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa. IRM will impart training to teachers for enabling them to run a one room school in their own house. From its Social Initiative Fund, IRM will provide subsidies to the teachers for managing the running expenses of these schools. Moreover, teachers will also be encouraged to charge a minimal tuition fees from the students in order to ensure the sustainability of the school.

This initiative is aimed at contributing towards the MDG 2 i.e. Achieving Universal Primary Education for All. It will also play a crucial role in financially empowering the community school teachers. Initially, IRM will set up Smart Schools in the impoverished of District Jamshoro and later, the schools will be expanded to other regions of Sindh and other provinces.





IRM's ISO 9001:2008 Certification Renewed

After completing two surveillance audits in 2012 and 2013, IRM's ISO 9001:2008 Certification was successfully renewed after a detailed and comprehensive ISO audit in September, 2014. Over the years, IRM has developed highly organized internal controls and systems including financial procedures, staff

service rules, gender policy, and standard operating procedures for administrative processes.

ISO team at IRM has been working diligently and continually to improve the QMS. It is with their efforts that the ISO certification was successfully achieved.



Eid Milan Party

Like every year, this year too, IRM celebrated the festivities of Eid by organizing an Eid Milan Party on 13th October at its new office in Chak Shahzad, Islamabad. An array of development professionals from national and international civil society organizations, academia and people from other walks of life attended the party.

Events like these are a regular feature at IRM and provide an excellent opportunity for professionals to escape their busy work routine and come together to network and share

new ideas and innovative development practices in an informal environment. These events are also an important part of IRM's team building strategy.



For more details about our training programmes, please visit our website www.irm.edu.pk.



Farm # C 7-A, Street # 2, Chak Shahzad Islamabad. Email: info@irm.edu.pk
Phone: +92-51-2616523, 2616524 | Fax: +92-51-2823335
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