



Newsletter

July - September 2023

Inside, read about

- The National Prayer Movement across Pakistan
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*Encourage, Equip,
and Empower
Partnerships for
Holistic
Transformation in
Pakistan*

Prayer Mobilization



Prayer mobilization is gaining momentum across the country. Regional prayer working groups are leading more than 500 intercessory groups at the local level and making deliberate efforts for the multiplication of the entire prayer movement. During the current quarter, prayer consultations have been held in Peshawar, Risalpur, Nowshera, and Abbottabad, with representation from Parachinar, Bannu, D.I. Khan, Bhakkar, Kohat, Mardan, and other parts of KPK province. As a result, intercessory groups have been formed and strengthened in the said regions. The vision has been transformed into a shared vision as the regional working groups of the said areas took on the responsibility of developing small intercessory groups at the district and local levels by engaging youth and the local ministries of their respective regions.



PRAY FOR

- The economic stability of the country.
- Protection and security for the local churches.
- The leadership of our country to take positive steps for peace and prosperity.
- The Pakistani Church and its leadership to be prayerfully engaged in the prosperity of the country.

Pre-Consultation, Leading, and Transforming Together (II)

To build national consensus and a collective narrative, PPI organized a pre-consultation prior to its International Gathering scheduled in October 2023. Pre-consultation was held in Islamabad as a national leadership gathering to create a shared understanding of the opportunities and problems facing the Pakistani Church. We agree that it is time to take stock of what has been accomplished thus far and consider how to advance our shared goals and initiatives.



Pakistan Emerging Leaders Network

The SALT - (Social Awareness and Leadership Training) and Pakistan Partnership Initiative, in collaboration with the Christian Students' Movement (CSM), organized a meeting of the Pakistan Emerging Leaders' Network at the Circle Club in Faisalabad. The event was attended by students representing various universities as well as officials and officers from different departments. The attendees expressed their appreciation for the dedicated efforts of PPI, SALT, and CSM.



Study on Christian Women in Leadership in Pakistan

Understanding and recognizing that the Pakistani Church lacks documentation on the state of Christian women and their role as leaders in their place of ministry. Each of us has a gift and calling, and utilizing those for the betterment of others is

called leadership. PPI, under its project Transforming Church Capacities, is carrying out a study on the topic, which is being led by PCDP, a local partner in Pakistan. The process has been initiated, and we hope to come up with a document by the end of the first quarter of the coming year.

Discipleship Training in Hyderabad

The PEP team conducted the two batches of discipleship training in Hyderabad. The training was attended by 56 participants, a youth group from the nearby churches. Through this training, young boys and girls acquired knowledge of Jesus' discipleship values and a deeper understanding of God's word. The training enabled them to experience worship, encouragement, and service as core values and build biblical relationships with others. Since this is what the church is meant to do and why it exists, The phase emphasized encouraging young leaders by highlighting the value of discipleship. To enlighten young people about the characteristics of mature discipleship and how to become one.



Stewardship of Resources

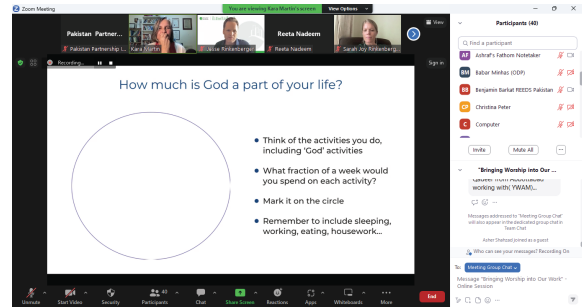
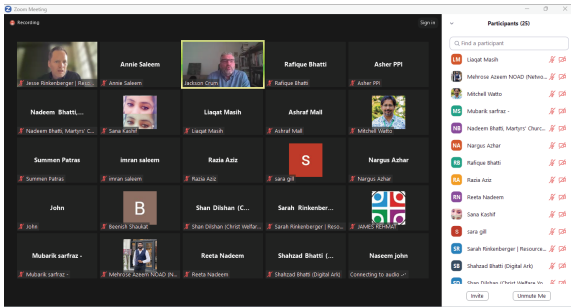
The Hyderabad Diocese, in partnership with the Pakistan Partnership Initiative (PPI), organized a one-day seminar on "Stewardship of Resources," which was well facilitated by Professor Emmanuel from Graduates Christian Fellowship Karachi. The youth, clergy, and laymen from different diocesan parishes of the Hyderabad region attended the seminar, and they appreciated the Diocese and PPI for joining hands to further develop the church and community leadership under the ongoing Leadership Development Project.



Organizational Capacity Development

Bringing Worship into Our Work

PPI, in collaboration with Resource Global, conducted two online sessions titled BRINGING WORSHIP INTO OUR WORK, facilitated by Kara Martin. The next sessions; LEADING WITH INFLUENCE IN THE WORKPLACE, facilitated by Pastor Jackson Crum. Both seminars attracted about 80 people from various walks of life. PPI is organizing a series of learning sessions intended to encourage Christian professionals in whatever sector they are engaged with to play constructive roles based on Christian teachings and promote the message of Christ's love in society.



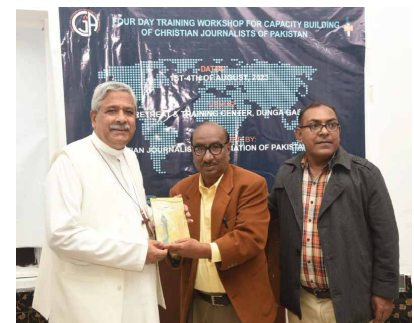
Fundamentals of Community

In cooperation with PPI's lead partner SRD, a three-day workshop on the Fundamentals of Community mobilization was held in Quetta, Balochistan, with the newly formed Community Awakening Through Churches (CATCH) consortium. The training engaged 25 personnel from five local Christian faith-based organizations. The training's main goal was to educate and empower participants to mobilize the Church and its resources to serve and serve communities by implementing Biblical principles of putting the Church as integral to development work.

Capacitating Christian Journalists on the Use of Digital Media and Environmentally Effective Journalism

In collaboration with the Diocese of Peshawar and the Christian Journalists' Association of Pakistan, PPI organized a four-day training on Capacitating Christian journalists on the use of digital media and environmentally effective journalism.

A total of 30 local Christian journalists and social media activists attended the training. The workshop aimed at addressing the pressing need for environmental journalism in Pakistan, particularly in the context of the challenges posed by climate change. Christian journalists were aware and equipped to play a significant role in society by raising awareness about environmental issues and advocating for sustainable practices. Furthermore, the workshop aimed to address the lack of awareness and reporting on environmental crimes affecting marginalized communities living near hazardous industries.



“Sustainable Development Goals through the Perspective of the Holy Bible and Christian Faith”

Pakistan Partnership Initiative (PPI) and the Ecumenical Commission for Human Development (ECHD) collaborated to organize a three-day training in Lahore. The training's goal was to educate 30 young people from all walks of life on the fact that we are stewards of God's creation and that we must protect His creation. The training emphasized the commitment of the global community to achieving a more sustainable, just, and affluent world. Topics were designed to give people and organizations the information and abilities they need to embrace the SDGs and work together to create a brighter future that leaves no one behind. It was emphasized that the Bible, Christian faith, and theological reflection can be of help when working with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It depends on the perspective we opt to apply. Biblical texts offer several possible perspectives. A session on "Climate Action" was delivered to encourage Christian youth to become advocates for sustainable practices in their communities. Biblical teachings were discussed on stewardship and responsibility for the environment and linking environmental conservation with specific SDGs and their targets. By covering the SDGs on peace and equality, facilitators spoke about the significance of peace and reducing inequities to make the world a better place to live.



Financial Management

Pakistan Partnership Initiative (PPI) and REEDS Pakistan jointly organized a three-day Financial Management training for the Punjab-based partners. A total of 22 financial and non-financial persons from 16 partner organizations working in six districts (Lahore, Faisalabad, Khanewal, Lodhran, Multan, and Rahim Yar Khan) attended the training. The objective of this training was to empower both finance and non-finance personnel with the knowledge and skills necessary to make sound financial decisions, support the organization's financial goals, and contribute to its overall success. It aimed to bridge the gap between financial experts and other departments, fostering a more financially insightful and collaborative workforce.

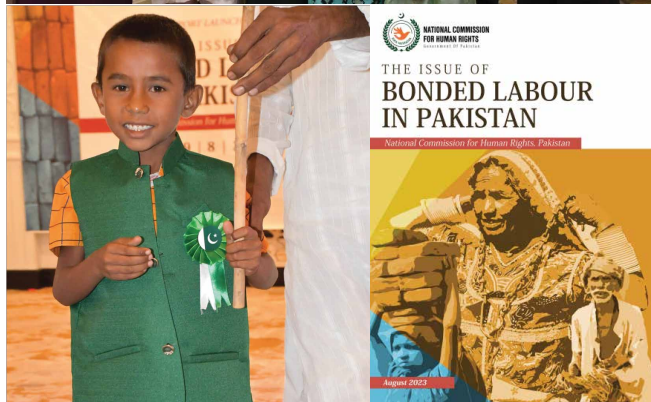
The training components were important for financial management organizations and churches as good financial management building blocks.



Partnerships, Collaborations, and Commitments

Launch: Bonded Labor Study

On August 9, 2023, a study conducted by NCHR was launched at the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad. The study was conducted mostly targeting the brick kiln industry, where over a million Christians work as slaves. During the launch event, over 100 guests attended, including a brick-kiln family along with an 8-year-old Ahsen. Families Set Free and PPI collaborated to conduct the study on bonded labor. NCHR chairperson Rabiya Javeri Agha bestowed young Ahsan with a green coat and Pakistani flag, a symbol of hope for the future. FSF partners in Pakistan have freed more than 500 brick-kiln workers and envision freeing all of them.



PPI Board and AGM

On 30th of June 2023, the PPI Board met in the morning, which was followed by the Annual General Meeting. Important strategic matters were discussed, decisions were taken, and overall progress was also reviewed. These meetings were postponed twice due to the prevailing law and order situation in the country.

Office Relocation

As of July 2023, PPI has moved its Islamabad office to a new location in the same sector. We are thankful to the Lord for providing us with this opportunity to move into a nicer place. The team has settled in well at the new location.

Our Friends at PPI's Office in Pakistan

Mr. Michel Brickly and Mr. Morris John visited Pakistan in August from 6–10 to visit the “Families Set Free” project. They visited some freed families from the brick kilns and families that still needed to be rescued in the Faisalabad region. They also had meetings with Mr. Shoaib Suddle, “One Man Commission,” and NCHR chairperson Rabiya Javeri Agha and discussed the situation of people working in the brick kilns and how to improve their situation.

Susan Ryan and Stepheni Moore visited the PPI team and partners on 28th of August and had a great time. They were really blessed to hear about all the progress that is being made at different levels. In the evening, a networking dinner was arranged. John Douglas and colleagues also joined and had a great time interacting with the PPI team and partners.

Karin Primuth and Kevin Mason visited the PPI team and partners on September 10–15. During their visit, they also helped facilitate the pre-consultation for the October “Transforming and Leading Together” event. They really enjoyed the visit, learned a lot, and were really amazed at the togetherness and openness of the group of people who gathered for the pre-consultation.

ISO 9001:2015 Certification process

As part of the process to achieve ISO 9001:2015 certification, a one-day training on “Internal Audit ISO 9001:2015” was conducted for the PPI team on August 21 2023 at the TILTI office in Islamabad. The primary purpose is to conduct internal audit training, which includes planning, reporting, and follow-up on the quality management system (QMS) of the PPI. All participants received a certificate and training manual from the United Registrar of Systems (URS). We anticipate that by November 2023, PPI will acquire ISO 9001:2015 certification.



In partnership with its local partners from across Pakistan, PPI has been engaging grass-root communities for their self-development and increased resilience. Our three key projects have around 20 local organizations and more than 100 local churches on board with the objective to ensure collective growth within around 15,000 community members through various initiatives. These projects/interventions include:

Transforming Church Capacities - TCC

TCC is an initiative with 13 local partners from Sindh and Pujab focusing on leadership with carefully identified components - Women, Youth, and Church Leadership for development. In the reporting quarter, our partners have initiated a study on Christian women in Pakistan, and a policy document for small business development has been worked on. One of our partners, Life for Guardians, works with existing and emerging women leaders by sharing their experiences through TV interview programs with the larger Urdu-speaking audience. The purpose is to inspire and encourage young Christian women to pursue leadership roles and understand their place in serving their communities, families, and churches. A media fellowship and training program is in the process of recruiting around 25 Pakistani women as peace advocates. With youth, our partners have advertised a youth challenge which will provide an opportunity to 12,500 young people from across Pakistan to lead/engage in small community development initiatives with the due involvement of 500 local churches. Provincial/regional chapters of youth networks are being established - Lahore, Peshawar and Hazara chapters in the current quarter have been created. Various leadership workshops, sessions and seminars have been carried out by partner seminaries and churches on leadership development focusing on the attribute of stewardship and discipleship.



Community Awakening Through Churches(CATCH) IV- Balochistan

CATCH programme is one of our impactful initiatives, which we started with a consortium approach with five local Christian organizations and 40 local churches on board in the Rwp/Isb region. This project has been working for youth development, community development, and strengthening local churches to work together with their communities to address their pressing challenges since 2018. Later, after replicating the same model in South Punjab, we expanded it to Quetta, Balochistan, through our partner Society for Relief and Development as the lead with other local Christian organizations actively serving in Quetta. The partners engaged 16 local churches to reach and uplift their respective communities. Following the project's goal of fostering the development of churches and communities by enabling them to tap into their local resources through the Church and Community Mobilization (CCM) approach, 16 CCM structures have been formed. These include consulting youth groups, self-help groups, community development committees, and women's groups. In Rwp/Isb and South Punjab, our partners REEDS, Fellowship of Brethren Churches Pakistan, and Multan Diocese are working with grass-root level communities in the areas of youth, women, and community development. More than 100 churches are engaged in regular prayers for the communities, along with working on community development initiatives through their CCM structures.



Partners' Initiatives

Coming Together in Difficult Times

The Society for Relief and Development, as lead partner CATCH-V, organized a field mission visit to Jaranwala Faisalabad with the implementing partners, including the United Council of Churches, Outreach Assistance to Humanity, and Life Through Sports. The objective of the visit was to extend support to the affected people of Jaranwala and show solidarity in times of need. Furthermore, pastors of 40 Consortium Partner Churches' offered a prayer for the people of Jaranwala and distributed Holy Bibles and 50 ration bags among people.

The consortium team had lunch with the Jaranwala families to share the spirit of love and affection. The team and leaders especially spent some time with the affected families and listened to their problems.

Sports Discipleship Camp

The challenges confronting the younger generation have significantly transformed into an era of rapid change. The pervasive influence of technology and the omnipresence of social media have fundamentally reshaped how young individuals interact with their surroundings. The recognition of the urgent need to rekindle young people's engagement within their community has given birth to the "Sports Discipleship Camp," an innovative program tailored to engage young individuals with little interest in sports and religious activities.

The Fellowship of Brethren of Pakistan Trust (FBCP) orchestrated an inspirational "Tape Ball Tournament" for the youth, held from the 15th to the 17th of September 2023, in partnership with Life Through Sports (LTS). This event brought together nine teams, comprising a total of 72 enthusiastic participants. The primary objective of the camp was to employ sports as a potent instrument for youth involvement, offering a compelling alternative to the allure of social media and aimless street pursuits.

In the annals of tournament history, countless competitions have come and gone, yet none have

*quite matched the uniqueness of this event. This remarkable tournament provided a platform for spirited competition and fostered a deep fellowship among Christian brothers, an experience that left me profoundly moved. My heartfelt gratitude goes to the Brethren Churches for orchestrating this extraordinary tournament. **Kashif Masih***



Project: Strengthening Churches for Outreach (SCO)

A career counseling session was conducted in the Faisalabad region. The pursuit of education is not particularly prevalent, and many families lack formal education. However, they strongly desire to see their children receive a quality education. Unfortunately, they lack proper guidance and are uncertain about their prospects. In response to the pressing need to provide support and direction to students after completing their 10th-grade studies, the Faisalabad Region Partner Churches (FBCP) took the initiative to organize a "**Career Counseling Session**". This session was designed explicitly to align young minds through a myriad of career options.

It's my first time attending such a session, and I feel honored to participate. In this session, I set my goals for what I want to do and how many marks I need. All the teachers taught me very well. I am very thankful to all. This session was beneficial for me.

Muskan Farooq



A Collaborative Endeavor to Encourage, Equip, and Empower Partnerships for Transformation Development in Pakistan.

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**TRANSFORMING
LOCAL CAPACITIES**