



NEWSLETTER

Oct - Dec 2023

"Encourage, Equip, and Empower Partnerships for Holistic Transformation in Pakistan"

Inside, read about

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- » Christmas festivities across the country
- » Climate Peace Project

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Transforming Local Capacities

CATCH Consortium Monthly Prayer Fellowship

Within the framework of the CATCH-V Project Consortium, teams consistently organized Monthly Prayer Fellowship Meetings, uniting 40 partner churches for prayer, fasting, and meaningful fellowship. The objective of these gatherings is to strengthen the national prayer movement and establish meaningful connection with God and fellow believers. Furthermore, the monthly prayer meetings are specifically devoted to seeking the Lord's guidance for clarity in visions and the transformation of communities.

Mustard Seed Prayer Movement Pakistan

To strengthen the nationalized prayer movement; a joint initiative with the title of "Mustard Seed Prayer Movement Pakistan" has been launched by Pakistan Partnership Initiative (PPI) and Cornerstone Community Development (CCD) in Pakistan. The initiative intends to facilitate the Pakistani Church in becoming a praying church. Both parties have signed a strategic MOU for this collaborative partnership.

Transforming Church Capacities

Our TTC Programme is working with three-pronged approach in strengthening Church. Youth, Women and Theological leadership.

DEVELOPING YOUNG PEOPLE AS EFFECTIVE LEADERS

Observation to Analysis - In our Youth Development Consortium, our partner SALT organized three (03) skill-based workshops centered around the topic, "Observation to Analysis". Youth from various churches in the twin cities took part in the training. The workshop, led by Mr. Rahul Joshua, was attended by a total of 81 participants, comprising 34 males and 37 females, who joined in three separate batches. The atmosphere was filled with vibrant and determined learning spirit throughout the day.



Pakistan Emerging Leaders Network - Our partner SALT has taken lead in leadership development with the focus being on young Christians. Under this Programme, they initiated a series of regional chapters titled Pakistan Emerging Leaders Network. Currently, there are seven chapters operating across the country to holistically develop the Christian youth in Pakistan. It is, at large, emphasizing the development of five foundational pillars to empower and strategic sensitization towards education, socio and spiritual development, economic wellbeing, and political inclusion and awareness. Thus, informing and strengthening youth to take initiatives that can allow them to become a part of the policy making forums and institutions. In forming these regional networks, the active involvement of the local churches, local partners and youth groups hold immense importance in developing a strategic roadmap. Hence, these regional consultations are being considered a success and a milestone.

Let us Think National - A campaign - A Day-long conference aimed at providing an opportunity for the Christian youth to interact with

leaders and field specialists from all over Pakistan. Most importantly, they are learning and aligning themselves with the national narrative and current affairs. This conference also allowed the young people and dialogue about the present and future of the Christians of Pakistan and Pakistan in general. SALT has taken lead in organizing it in Hyderabad while being in collaboration with PPI, LAMP Pakistan, and the PEP-Diocese of Hyderabad.



STRENGTHENING EXISTING LEADERSHIP - THEOLOGICAL SECTOR

Leadership Development Workshop - The PEP-DoH in collaboration with the TILTI organized a 3-day Leadership Development workshop in Hyderabad. The workshop catered 45 participants representing churches, institution, and NGOs who had successfully completed the "I Choose, I Lead" mastermind leadership course and curriculum developed by John Maxwell. A certified member of the John Maxwell team facilitated and this discussion-based group workshop.



WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Study on Christian Women in Pakistan - Under our community outreach program, "Transforming Church Capacities", we have adopted a three-pronged approach targeting some key neglected but fully potential segments of our community.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Christian women being marginalized, is one of these. Parkari Community Development Program as one of our local local partners had taken lead in carrying out a national study. The task is underway and helping us learn some deeply rooted but invisible challenges of our women. At the same time, real inspiring learnings are coming to the surface which we believe can help us later to further build on while strategizing ways of Christian women empowerment and growth.



Developing Self-Reliance among Women - In collaboration with PPI under the Transforming Church Capacities (TCC) project, PCDP has successfully established 10 empowering **Women Self-Help Groups** in the rural landscapes of Mirpurkhas district. Witnessing the remarkable steps taken by these rural women towards self-resilience through their dedicated efforts in savings and small business ventures has been truly inspiring.



Media to Campaign the Courage - PPI's initiative "Sanjha Pakistan," in collaboration with LFG, is actively engaged in portraying the strengths of Christian women in various sectors. It has reached its second season with fervent and relentless efforts to share the insights of society's strongest pillar, "women.". The show host, Mehnaz Javed, shares the key highlights and success stories of women leaders through the platform of Sanjha Pakistan's episodes, which are aired on King Television.

Effectiveness of Working in Consortium

A three-day training on "Effectiveness of Working in Consortium" was organized by PPI in collaboration with the Diocese of Hyderabad (DOH) and took place in Mirpurkhas, Sindh, on 10-12 October, 2023. The training aimed to equip participants with knowledge and skills to enhance their effectiveness in consortium-based initiatives, with particular emphasis on the holistic development of communities. Mr. Asher Shahzad, the lead trainer, led the entire training. Mr. Ashraf Mall, CEO, delivered an insightful session on the importance of consortium development, emphasizing the potential benefits of collaborative efforts. 25 participants explored the process of consortium development, including partner selection, agreement drafting, and governance structures. Key topics included roles and responsibilities, decision-making mechanisms, and financial management within consortiums. Practical exercises and group discussions allowed attendees to apply their knowledge to actual scenarios.



Effective Use of Social Media by Civil Society

At the Christian Media Influencer Group workshop that was hosted by Pakistan Partnership Initiative (PPI) and Minorities Watch on October 7, 2023, senior journalists and anchors Umar Cheema, Aizaz Syed, and Sabukh Syed spoke to 15 journalists, students, and members of civil society about misinformation, disinformation, and appropriate and inappropriate use of social media, as well as how to prevent these things from happening. It was further discussed and emphasized that Christian NGOs, churches and civil society should make full and effective use of social media to highlight their role in the development of Pakistan. Speaking to the attendees, Mr. Albert David, a member

of the National Minority Commission, praised the Christian Media Influencer campaign on social media's good uses and referred to it as much-needed, emphasizing the fact that fake news on social media has the greatest impact on us.



Proposal Writing Training

Pakistan Partnership Initiative (PPI), in collaboration with REEDS, hosted a three-day workshop for PPI Partners on "Proposal Writing from November 9th to 11, 2023, in Multan. The workshop was attended by thirty staff members from eighteen partner organizations from four provinces (KP, Punjab, Sindh, & Baluchistan). The workshop was led by Mr. Khalid Saifullah, who has twenty years of expertise in project management, proposal writing, monitoring, and evaluation in the non-profit sector. The main goals were to teach participants about the essential elements of writing proposals, brainstorm to determine their areas of expertise, skills, and unique selling propositions, prioritise thematic areas, locate and map donor organizations, create an action plan to prepare project proposals, and discover how to analyze problems using problem tree templates.



“Inspiring People of All Backgrounds and Religions to Save Our Climate”

The Climatic Peace Project is being organized in Yeman, Egypt, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Pakistan Partnership Initiatives (PPI) has initiated the Pakistan Chapter in collaboration with the Climate Peace Project, which is organizing an event about what different faiths teach about climate action in order to tackle global climate change.

Build Capacity and Enhance Susceptibility to Climate Change

PPI, an organization with a mandate for holistic development, takes climate action as a significant stepping stone towards harmony and growth. Thus, PPI, in collaboration with The Climate Peace Project, initiated the capacity development aspect of SDG 13 by raising awareness in accordance with COP 28. It conducted training for its partner organizations, focusing on the Faith Pavilion, to build capacity and enhance susceptibility to climate change. The Division’s capacity development activities advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SAMOA Pathway, and other internationally agreed development goals, guided by the outcomes of United Nations intergovernmental bodies on the three pillars of sustainable development – social, economic, and environmental.

The Climate Peace Event in Pakistan

A diverse group of individuals came together to discuss climate change and peace. This event was a crucial step in addressing environmental challenges and promoting peace throughout the country. The Climate Peace Project and Pakistan Partnership Initiative collaborated to make this event possible, which featured experts, activists, and policymakers and engaged concerned citizens in a joint effort to address contemporary challenges. The event included informative sessions, discussions, and workshops on sustainable development, renewable energy, conservation, and climate justice. The aim was to foster awareness and promote cooperative efforts towards building a more sustainable and equitable future. This event was part of a global series of events taking place throughout numerous nations. Coordinating allows us to demand immediate climate action and a greater impact. A sustainable future call for compassion and faith.

Stay tuned for more updates on upcoming events and initiatives. Join us on this journey to shape a better future, not just for Pakistan but for the world.

#ClimatePeaceEvent #FaithAtCOP28 #FaithClimateAction



Continuing Our Commitment to Community Development in 2024

PPI rolled out its 2024 capacity building grants for community outreach initiatives aligning with its strategic priorities. The Expression of Interest has been released to gather interest and seek potential collaborations for joint community development interventions across Pakistan. The deadline for submission of EOI is January 10th, 2024. Concerned queries would be addressed at partnerships@ppicollaboration.org.

Fruits of CATCH South Punjab

About four years ago, the CATCH project was launched in South Punjab through a collaboration between three partners: REEDS, The Brethren Church, and The Diocese of Multan. A key goal of the project was to envision and mobilise 30 churches for outreach initiatives.

The Brethren Church, one of the collaborating partners, chose to concentrate on leveraging local resources to facilitate higher education for youth. Ten of their churches played a pivotal role in supporting around 40 students in pursuing advanced education. These young individuals come from modest backgrounds, where their parents struggled to afford higher education. In a discussion with Peter, these students are recognised as the future leaders of the church, and their transformation is deemed crucial in reshaping the church.

During a visit to the FBCP office, a mother employed as support staff expressed her joy and gratitude for the support that enabled her daughter to complete higher education. When Ashraf Mall, the CEO of PPI, met these young students on December 13, 2023, he was greatly inspired by the success of the South-Punjab CATCH initiative. He praised the transformation witnessed at various levels and commended FBCP for their efforts and extended blessings for the promising futures of these young leaders and the ongoing success of the CATCH project.



Families Set Free Project

According to a recent study that NHCR conducted in collaboration with PPI, it estimates that there are around one million brick kiln households in Pakistan who are bonded as slaves. Around 1 million of these slaves are Christians working in this industry. So far, during this quarter collectively with several partners/Churches we have been able to rescue 150 families across Pakistan and they have been securely relocated to safe and secure homes. Some of these families have been generational slaves and have been withstanding hardships/exploitation for many years. So far 60 families have been supported with business startup. The remaining 90 families will get their business startups in January 2024. The project strives for holistic transformation of these families, focusing on economic, social, health and spiritual empowerment. Trauma counseling and business training are also part of this project. Once the families are free they are linked to a local Church for the overall wellbeing.



Leading and Transforming Together II

With around 100 national and international friends from across the world; our International Gathering remained a unique platform of connecting Pakistan, building on foundation of trust & collective vision, developing new & strengthening existing partnerships and mobilising, encouraging, equipping & empowering people for collaborative initiatives. The key themes discussed during the event revolved around leadership, media and digital trends, business and community development, women in leadership, church outreach, youth development, education and donor engagement, etc. Working groups were formed, which will further be helpful in continuing with communication and will keep the participants engaged in taking fruitful actions and steps until the next meet up. Transforming and Leading Together is a strategic initiative which builds upon the previous. It is a series to encourage and strengthen collaborations, networking and partnerships for a shared vision that ultimately desires to see the development and prosperity of the Pakistani Land. 2023's fellowship was the time to reflect together as a nation and to explore the potential areas for collaboration. The time were spent in discussing the facts, ground realities and seeking possible solutions; at the same time, it was embedded with the prayer and worship.



Christmas, A reminder of Joy, Peace and Love

A heart-warming Christmas gathering, "Joy, Happiness, & Peace, It's Christmas," was enthusiastically celebrated by the PPI team on the 7th of

December 23' at the Serena Hotel, Islamabad. It was graced by Human Rights Minister Khalil George, Gerwan Peuemote Apostolic from the Embassy of the Holy See, Khalid Naeem from the NCRC, Madam Javeri Agha from the NCHR, and Brother James Liton from TILTI. Bishop Samuel Azariah, the chairman of the Christian Study Center in Rawalpindi, delivered a message of unity, inclusivity, and oneness. Worshipper Jamshed Jerome uplifted the Christmas spirit among the distinguished guests, while PPI initiated the month of love and peace by fostering a wave of togetherness.

Our partners across the country, particularly in Faisalabad, Quetta, Islamabad held Christmas Gatherings to spread the message of harmony and reconciliation.



Sister Zephaniah, Global Teachers Prize Winner

Sister Zephaniah is making a significant contribution by investing in Girl's education through her project in Gujranwala. For many years, she has been offering free education to girls with unprivileged backgrounds. Recently, her services to humanity were recognized and she was awarded the Global Teacher's Award. While acknowledging the support from different groups and individuals, she expressed her gratitude to Mr. Asraf Mall, saying, "His unwavering belief in our shared mission led to substantial financial support for my organisation. His contributions have been instrumental in enabling me to continue my transformative work of providing biblical and formal education to underprivileged communities."

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



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LOCAL CAPACITIES**