

Pakistan Water Operators Partnership

NEWSLETTER

Issue:1 Vol:1

May 2012

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Partners

- UN-Habitat Pakistan
- WSP-SA, World Bank
- GWOPA
- The Urban Unit, Punjab

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Message from the Chairperson at the Newsletter Launch

I am thankful to Almighty Allah, with whose blessing we have completed and are printing the first newsletter of Pakistan Water Operators Partnership. This would not have been possible without the efforts and dedication put in by all the team members. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Steering Committee of P-WOPs for guiding and assisting us in the initial phases of this venture. I am hopeful that they will continue this association in the similar manner in future. I would also like to share my appreciation for WSP-SA, UN-Habitat Pakistan GWOPA and the Urban Unit, Punjab for their technical & financial support in establishing P-WOPs.



Mr. Shahid Sohail
Chairperson P-WOPs

This newsletter aims at opening up the P-WOPs to the public, to allow them to understand the work and current activities of the partnership. P-WOPs is projecting itself as a potential linkage between Pakistan Water & Sanitation (W&S) operators and the corresponding international associations. As such, this newsletter will certainly prove to be a desktop of information sharing at all levels. I anticipate an encouraging feedback on our effort, which will support P-WOPs as an alliance for continued improvement in the water and sanitation sector in Pakistan.

Background

One of the core recommendations of Hashimoto Action Plan (HAP), held in 2006 in Mexico, was to emphasize the partnership between W&S operators for exchanging their experiences and best practices to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In compliance, Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance (GWOPA) was established under the umbrella of UN-Habitat to promote the Water Operators Partnerships (WOPs) at national, regional and global level. Water and Sanitation Program-South Asia (WSP-SA) launched P-WOPs in March 2011 during Pakistan Urban Forum held at Lahore, with the support of UN-Habitat Pakistan, the Urban Unit, Punjab and Karachi Water & Sewerage Board (KW&SB). P-WOPs is a network of Urban W&S Operators of Pakistan. It was founded as a not-for-profit organization, with the aim to provide a platform for exchanging ideas and experiences, collective thinking, conducting collaborative research and actions, promoting the concept of twinning amongst utilities, and coordination with other regional and international networks.

The partnership is a network and an association with the mandate to extend water and sanitation services to urban residents particularly the urban poor in their respective jurisdictions. P-WOPs works independently under the strategic guidance of a Steering Committee.

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1st Meeting of P-WOPs

The first meeting of P-WOPs was organized by WSP-SA on 27th April, 2011 in Lahore with the support of Housing Urban Development and Public Health Engineering Department (HUD&PHED) and the Urban Unit, Punjab. The heads and representatives of all the organizing partners, public W&S operators of the country, and UN-Habitat Pakistan participated in this one day national session. The Session culminated with:

- Formation of the Steering Committee (SC) of P-WOPs,
- Nomination of Convener,
- Offer of financial assistance by UN-Habitat Pakistan & GWOPA,
- It was proposed that P-WOPs "Business Plan" should be developed.



Launch of P-WOPs at Pakistan Urban Forum 2011

The Urban Unit, Punjab volunteered to host the P-WOPs Secretariat for three years. The Secretariat comprises of a National Coordinator, and four part time assistants in four provinces of Pakistan. The human resource is being supported by GWOPA and UN-Habitat Pakistan. Apart from hosting the Urban Unit, Punjab caters the secretariat for its logistic needs and provides IT support. Two Research Associates have also been deputed by the Urban Unit to work with the P-WOPs Secretariat.

P-WOPs Steering Committee

- Capital Development Authority (Chairman/ Member)
- Karachi Water & Sewerage Board (KW&SB, Member)
- Water and Sanitation Agency, Lahore (Member)
- Water and Sanitation Agency, Rawalpindi (Member)
- Water and Sanitation Agency, Faisalabad (Member)
- Water and Sanitation Agency, Gujranwala (Member)
- Water and Sanitation Agency, Multan (Member)
- North Sindh Urban Services Company (Member)
- Water and Sanitation Agency, Quetta (Member)
- Peshawar Development Authority (Member)
- UN-Habitat Pakistan (Advisor)
- WSP-SA, the World Bank (Advisor)
- The Urban Unit, Government of Punjab (Advisor)

1-day Consultative Session on "W&S Operators Forum"

The first consultative session on "W&S Operators forum" was held at Avari Hotel, Lahore on 28th April 2011. During the meeting following decisions were taken;

- The initiative of Performance Benchmarking (PBM) in Punjab was approved to be extended at the national level through P-WOPs PBM website,
- Capital Development Authority (CDA), Islamabad was elected as Chairperson of the Steering Committee for three years,
- The WSP-SA, the Urban Unit and UN-Habitat Pakistan would be the advisors of P-WOPs.



Launch of P-WOPs at Pakistan Urban Forum 2011

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2-days Workshop

The WSP-SA organized two days Workshop on management of Urban W&S on 23-25 June, 2011 in Bhurban. In the technical session on P-WOPs, the chairperson elaborated the role of P-WOPs in improving services through lateral learning and enhanced coordination between utilities. The Urban Unit took the lead to help establish the PBM website. It was decided that the said website would have features that help utilities upload the data for PBM. UN-Habitat facilitated a session for finalizing the HR requirements of P-WOPs secretariate and way forward with P-WOPs SC.

The initial discussion on the Business Plan was held and the following were proposed to be included in the plan:

- Capacity building of W&S operators through P-WOPs forum,
- Twinning of utilities at National and Global level,
- Conducting regular meetings,
- Alignment of P-WOPs with UN-Habitat (GWOPA), SAWUN and other international associations,
- Continuity of Performance Benchmarking exercise.



Consultative Workshop at the Urban Unit, Punjab

Consultative Workshop on P-WOPs Website

The Urban Unit organized a consultative workshop on P-WOPs website on 24-25 October, 2011. The objective of the workshop was to present the Demo of P-WOPs website developed by the Urban Unit IT team and to get feedback of the member utilities on W&S performance indicators. The workshop was attended by the representatives of member utilities, the Urban Unit, WSP-SA and the National Coordinator P-WOPs. The Project Director, Urban Unit informed the participants that for many years data pertaining to W&S Operators of Pakistan was being sent to the International Benchmarking Network (IBNET) for W&S utilities. However, after the establishment of P-WOPs PBM website, the reports generated may be forwarded to IBNET.

The workshop concluded with the decision that the Urban Unit team would visit every member utility for feedback and that National Coordinator P-WOPs would lead the visiting team for the finalization of formulae against each PBM indicator.

P-WOPs National Workshop

The WSP-SA organized a "National Workshop of Urban Water and Sanitation Utilities of Pakistan" in partnership with KW&SB held on 19 to 21 December 2011 in Karachi. The workshop was facilitated by the National Coordinator P-WOPs, Mr. Fida Hussain.

The core objectives of the workshop were to:

- Facilitate the process of PBM data uploading by utilities through locally developed interactive website of P-WOPs,
- Develop consensus on the business plan of P-WOPs,
- Provide a platform to utilities to share and learn best practices through various communication tools by interaction.

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The MDs and focal persons of P-WOPs member utilities and the host (KW&SB), development partners (the Urban Unit, WSP-SA, UN-Habitat, JICA) and some selected technical professionals from private sector participated in three days workshop. The draft business plan, utilities directory template, and P-WOPs membership form were presented by the National Coordinator P-WOPs. The participants discussed the shared documents in detail and decided that the Core Committee (CC) of P-WOPs would finalize and approve the business plan and the templates, in the light of comments rendered by the participants during the workshop. The Project Director, Urban Unit, Punjab, briefed the participants about the design & application of P-WOPs website.



WSP - SA & KW&SB welcoming the participants and KW&SB presenting plaque to National Coordinator P-WOPs at National Workshop in Karachi

P-WOPs Logo

P-WOPs selected its logo through a creative competition among members of the Steering Committee. A total of 24 logos were received and after thorough discussion, the CC approved the logo proposed by Mr. Kamran Naeem and Graphic Designer Mr. Azhar Lakhwera from UN-Habitat, Pakistan. The logo represents a green Pakistan with utilities successfully managing drinking and wastewater services to a wide range of users including high rise buildings, urban informal settlements and industries.

P-WOPs Core Committee (CC) Meeting

The Core Committee meeting was held at the P-WOPs Secretariat (The Urban Unit) on January 18, 2012, with the support of WSP-SA, UN-Habitat and the Urban Unit. Mr. Shahid Sohail, the Chairperson of P-WOPs chaired the meeting. The meeting ended with the unanimous approval of;

- The Business Plan of P-WOPs for 2012-14,
- 3-years Budgeted Expenditures of P-WOPs (including work plan),
- P-WOPs Membership Application Form,
- National W&S Operators Directory Template.

Core Committee (CC)

Mr. Shahid Sohail, DG CDA (Chairman/Member)
 Dr. Nasir Javed, Project Director, The Urban Unit, Punjab (Member)
 Mr. Masroor Ahmad, W&S Specialist, WSP-SA (Member)
 Mr. Muhammad Ayoob Sheikh, Project Manager GKWP, KW&SB (Member)
 Mr. Kamran Naeem, Manager Basic Services, UN-Habitat (Member)
 Mr. Fida Hussain, (Secretary)



Consultative Visit to W&S Operators for P-WOPs PBM website

Upcoming Events

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|---|-----------|
| • 1st Quarterly Review Meeting of P-WOPs | May 2012 |
| • Local Training of W&S Operators | May 2012 |
| • Launch Ceremony of P-WOPs Website | June 2012 |
| • Development of National W&S Operators Directory | June 2012 |

P-WOPs Secretariat

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