

Pakistan Water Operators Partnership (P-WOPs)

NEWSLETTER

Vol:1 Issue: 2

December 2012

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GWOPA
The Urban Unit, Punjab

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2-Days International Workshop



Participants and speakers of the workshop from WSP- Bangladesh & GWOPA- Kenya, the Urban Unit and P-WOPS

Water and Sanitation Program organized an international workshop "Serving the Un-served Urban Poor - Potential Role of Innovations and Platforms in Urban Water & Sanitation Services" under P-WOPS banner on 20-21 June 2012. The workshop was organized in collaboration with UU, HUD&PHED and UN-Habitat. The workshop gathered all the stakeholders around the country, the representatives of similar utility networks from Kenya, Bangladesh, India including Global Water Operator Partnership Alliance (GWOPA) to foster collective sharing & learning. The objectives of the workshop were:

- To highlight the role of P-WOPS and learn from best practices of other networks,
- To emphasize on the approaches to "reaching to the unreached" and target urban poor,
- To sensitize the urban managers on the use of mobile applications as tools for "professional communication" and to get a list of demands for potential applications.



Water & Sanitation Specialist WSP-SA conducting the group discussion on Pakistan Sanitation Hackathon 2012

The workshop had an elaborative agenda, with interactive presentations, technical sessions and consultative group discussions from both national and international speakers that gave a great exposure to the best practices taking place around the globe. During the two days session, the participants shared their experiences & best practices with each other and seized this opportunity to learn and exchange both knowledge and information from the international community, specifically targeting the urban poor.

In technical sessions, the representatives of GWOPA from Kenya highlighted its prospective role in formation and future linkage with P-WOPS in the form of advocacy through GWOPA site & other GWOPA's activities. Mr. Christopher Juan Costain shared with the audience of workshop the "Global Water Hackathon 2011" experience, organized in Bangalore, India and in ten other cities and how WSP supported the whole exercise.



WSP Leader South Asia sharing his experience on "Global Water Hackathon"

Launch of P-WOPS Website

P-WOPS Performance Benchmarking (PBM) website was formally launched by the Chairman during the workshop. He apprised the forum about the concept and purpose of establishing P-WOPS platform. While giving a presentation on "Introduction of P-WOPS" he expressed gratitude to WSP-SA and the Urban Unit Punjab for their support and technical guidance. He also appreciated GWOPA and UN-HABITAT Pakistan for their extended support to P-WOPS Secretariat. He then formally launched the P-WOPS PBM website www.pwops.org.pk which has been developed with the support of Urban Unit, Punjab. While highlighting the salient features, he said that the website was a very interactive tool not only to share data but also to facilitate members to upload raw data under the "Performance Benchmarking Initiative". This is used to draw performance picture of the utilities, trends and progress against the various indicators and their analysis. He appreciated the extensive work done by the Urban Unit team lead for the establishment of a distinctive website.



P-WOPS Chairman launching PBM Website

P-WOPS 1st Quarterly Review Meeting



P-WOPS Steering Committee meeting

The first quarterly review meeting was held on 20th June 2012 in Lahore. The meeting was chaired by the Chairman P-WOPS and attended by the Steering Committee (SC) members. The purpose of the meeting was to review the progress of P-WOPS achieved in accordance with its approved work plan and chalk out the future strategy to meet the targeted activities. The National Coordinator presented the overall progress updates and presented the agenda for discussion in the session. All participants took active part in the discussion and gave their valuable feedback lead to the decision.

Urban Utilities Directory 2012

P-WOPS has developed a directory of its members that mainly covers the information pertaining to operator's profile, its location, type or operational areas, technical and financial data and set of dash-board indicators relating to service, water supply and sewerage coverage, efficiency etc. The main purpose is to get a consolidated picture of urban utilities of Pakistan which will provide an easy access to urban water & sanitation utilities' database. This directory is expected to form a ready reference for exchange of key information among P-WOPS members and help the regional and global associations in match-making and linkages with national and international utilities. Once the utilities' profile will be available on partner's website through a link, it will serve as a comprehensive resource guide for the international organizations looking for the partner utilities from Pakistan for twinning and collaboration. It has published by WSP and is available on P-WOPS website.



Image of Directory

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P-WOPs Celebrates World Habitat Day 2012

The P-WOPs celebrated the World Habitat Day on 1st October 2012 in Islamabad in collaboration with the UN-Habitat, Pakistan. The P-WOPs availed this opportunity for publicity by establishing a stall to display its publication material including W&S Utilities Directory 2012, Newsletter and Urban Utilities Performance Indicators Guide etc.



Chairman's message on World Habitat Day 2012



The Chairman P-WOPs, Mr. Shahid Sohail while introducing P-WOPs highlighted the importance of Rain Water Harvesting in Pakistan on World Habitat Day. He emphasized the need for water conservation through rainwater harvesting and urged to conserve rainwater in urban areas as part of Sustainable Water Strategy for Pakistan.

Information Sharing Initiative of P-WOPs

P-WOPs is prioritizing the information sharing amongst its water & sanitation utilities. As an initiative, P-WOPs with the support of the Urban Unit Punjab has shared hard copies of its informative printed material with the staff of its member utilities (BPS-17 & above) through postal communication.

Information Sharing Items:

- ★ P-WOPs & Urban Unit Newsletters
- ★ PBM Indicators Guide
- ★ Utilities Directory 2012
- ★ P-WOPs Business Plan/Work Plan
- ★ P-WOPs Flyer
- ★ Pakistan Journal of Urban Affairs



Introducing P-WOPs in JICA's Seminar

Japan International Cooperation (JICA) in collaboration with WASA Lahore organized one day seminar on "Implementation on Business Plan & Institutional Reforms" on 23rd October, 2012 wherein the representatives of JICA, Punjab WASAs, HUD&PHED Punjab, Urban Unit and P-WOPs participated in the session. Mr. Fida Hussain, National Coordinator P-WOPs gave an introductory presentation on the organization's objectives, its vision & mission, work plan and data development through its PBM website. P-WOPs reinforced its knowledge practice during the event by disseminating its printed material with the participants. Japanese delegation and the other participants appreciated the initiatives and efforts of P-WOPs.



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P-WOPs Steering Committee Meeting

P-WOPs SC meeting was held in WASA Office, Faisalabad, on 17th November, 2012. The meeting was hosted by Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Faisalabad. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Shahid Sohail, Chairman P-WOPs and was attended by the SC members. The purpose of the meeting was to review the quarterly progress to discuss and finalize the P-WOPs' Legal Framework, select the slogan for P-WOPs and chalk out a strategy to make the forum more active. Mr. Syed Zahid Aziz, Managing Director, WASA Faisalabad welcomed all the participants who had come across the country. The Chair thanked the WASA Faisalabad for hosting the meeting. He also appreciated the interest of the participants who took the time out from their varied engagements to attend the SC meeting. All the participants remained dynamic in the discussion and gave their worthy input which led to the important decisions.



National Coordinator P-WOPs is briefing the Steering Committee about the progress

P-WOPs Slogan

About 48 slogans were proposed and forwarded by the different employees of the utilities/members for competition. The same were put forward to SC during its meeting on 17th November 2012 for discussion, selection and approval. Out of five (5) shortlisted slogans, the slogan jointly proposed by Mr. Fida Hussain, National Coordinator (P-WOPs) and Mr. Atta-ur-Rehman, Research Associate, the Urban Unit Punjab was selected and approved with certain modifications by the SC members. The slogan of P-WOPs is **"Linking Water Operators for Excellence"**.

Steering Committee Approves "P-WOPs Legal Framework"

During its meeting held on 17th November 2012, the SC approved the Legal Framework of P-WOPs that had been drafted by the Urban Unit. After the detailed and thorough discussions and clarification on each and every mode and the pros and cons of each mode; the Committee unanimously agreed upon and decided to register the P-WOPs as a not-for-profit organization under section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984.



Media Coverage of P-WOPs Steering Committee Meeting

P-WOPs appreciate the media representatives for their presence and effective coverage of the SC meeting. This is the positive role of the media to establish direct contact of the general public and officials of the concerned agencies for updates on water and sanitation projects and developments in Pakistan initiated by the P-WOPs.

