

Pakistan Water Operators Partnership (P-WOPs)

NEWSLETTER

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Partners

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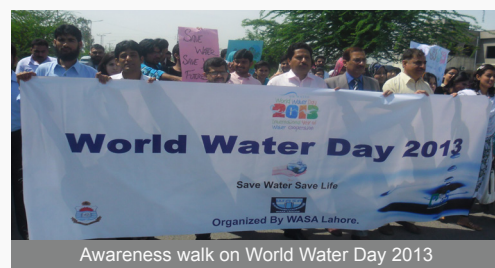
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P-WOPs Celebrated World Water Day 2013

Pakistan Water Operators Partnership (P-WOPs) celebrated the World Water Day on March 22, 2013 in collaboration with Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Lahore and University of the Punjab. Eminent water and sanitation experts from the WASA, the Urban Unit, NGOs, educationists and students from Punjab University attended the session. Mr. M. Abdullah, Managing Director WASA emphasized that water is a blessing and its unnecessary use should be avoided. He appreciated the cooperation and keen interest of P-WOPs and University of the Punjab in organizing the event. Dr. Zakaria Zakir, Head of Institute of Social & Cultural Studies apprehended that by 2025 Pakistan will be among water scarce countries. He said that the World Water Day had given us the opportunity to reach out to the youth, NGOs and other key actors of the sector. Mr. Fida Hussain, National Coordinator P-WOPs highlighted the global water challenges with special focus on Pakistani water utilities' issues. While introducing the P-WOPs, he stressed the need of collective efforts to address the water sector issues. He invited all the stakeholders to come forward and celebrate 2013 as the "Year of Water Cooperation".



Speakers and Participants during World Water Day 2013



Awareness walk on World Water Day 2013

Sub-Committee Finalized the P-WOPs Legal Framework



Legal expert of USPMU presenting the draft MOA&AOA before the Sub-Committee

P-WOPs organized the meeting of the Sub-Committee (constituted by P-WOPs Steering Committee on Feb 7, 2013) to finalize its Legal Framework. The meeting was held on March 16, 2013 in the office of the Urban Unit in Lahore. The purpose of the meeting was to finalize the draft Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association (MOA&AOA) of the P-WOPs. The legal expert of the Urban Unit presented the draft MOA&AOA before the committee.

Sub-Committee Members

Mr. Shahid Sohail, DG, CDA — Convener
Dr. Nasir Javed, CEO, the Urban Unit
Mr. Ayoob Shaikh, PD, KWSB
Mr. Imran H. Durrani, Dir, WASA Quetta
Mr. Muhammad Abdullah, MD, WASA, Lahore

Key Discussion Points

- i) The Urban Unit will modify the draft MOA&AOA of P-WOPs in the light of modifications proposed by the Committee members.
- ii) The modified Draft for printing will be shared with the Sub-Committee members and the members will send back to the secretariat within three (03) days, after its review w.r.t. syntax error(s).

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P-WOPs & WASA-R Participated in GWOPAs' 5th SC meeting in Paris



Participants of GWOPA 5th Steering Committee Meeting held in Paris

Global Water Operators' Partnership Alliance (GWOPA), one of key P-WOPs partners, organized its 5th SC meeting on Feb 28- Mar 1, 2013 in Paris. The two days event gathered different WOPs across the globe to share their key activities and work on achieving MDGs on water & sanitation. From

Pakistan, the P-WOPs and Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Rawalpindi participated in the meeting. During the meeting, the GWOPA shared its progress of 2012 and presented its strategy for the next five year to get feedback from the participants. In addition, the regional member WOPs of Africa, Arab Countries, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Pacific, Southeast Europe, Asia and Pakistan presented their activities in 2012 and the planning for 2013. P-WOPs got a slot of presentation to introduce it with the WOPs across the world and the development partners, NGOs, CSOs etc. During the presentation, the performance benchmarking exercise of P-WOPs was appreciated by the forum. P-WOPs also managed a side meeting with the representative of Turkish Water Institute (TWI) to explore a training/twinning opportunity for Pakistani utilities with Turkish counterparts.



Reps of P-WOPs, WASA-R & GWOPA holding a side meeting with TWI reps

Key highlights of P-WOPs' Presentation

- P-WOPs should be included as a regular member of GWOPA so that P-WOPs could have opportunity to represent its member utilities.
- The SC was requested to provide training quota for P-WOPs member utilities in GWOPA's learning programs.
- GWOPA to continue its support to P-WOPs for 2014, the response was positive (provisionally) but without commitment.

WASA Gujranwala Hosted P-WOPs 1st Annual Review Meeting

P-WOPs organized the first annual review meeting of its Steering Committee (SC), in collaboration with WASA Gujranwala, on Feb 7, 2013 in Gujranwala. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Shahid Sohail, the Convener, P-WOPs SC and was attended by the members from all the large urban water & sanitation utilities of Pakistan. The main purpose of the meeting was to review the overall progress and to discuss and approve the MOA&AOA of P-WOPs. At the outset, the Managing Director, WASA Gujranwala welcomed all the participants and gave a short presentation on certain initiatives



P-WOPs SC members discussing the meeting agenda

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for performance and revenue improvement, wastewater disposal stations and cost saving. The Committee was briefed about the implementation of the decisions of previous SC meeting, status of online benchmarking data entry by the member utilities and the overall progress of the P-WOPs in the light of work plan. Regarding data entry, the Committee decided that all utilities would ensure the data entry of 4th quarter of 2012 by the end of Feb 2013.



P-WOPs SC members visiting Wastewater Disposal Station in Gujranwala

Steering Committee Approved "P-WOPs' MOA&AOA"

The MOA&AOA of P-WOPs drafted by the Urban Unit was discussed in detail and finally the Committee approved it. However, keeping in view its legal aspects, the Committee unanimously agreed and constituted a five members' Sub-Committee to further review and finalize the document before registration with the Securities Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP). The Committee also acknowledged and appreciated Urban Unit technical input for drafting the document.



P-WOPs Publishes its Urban Gazettes

As a first step towards research activities, P-WOPs in collaboration with the Urban Unit has completed and issued two technical publications.

- Existing Situation of Sewerage in Lahore City and its Impacts on River Ravi
- Rainwater Harvesting Potential—A Contribution to Sustainable Water Management Strategy



The publications are based on the unprecedented efforts to collect and evaluate the technical data on the annual rainfall intensity in major cities of Pakistan, catchment area, water, wastewater, groundwater, and drainage system of Lahore city. The said development will provide worthy baseline for further research activities from the P-WOPs platform making it possible to evaluate the data presented by the urban water & sanitation utilities.



News from WASA Rawalpindi

Dengue Awareness Campaign of WASA, Rawalpindi



Walk on Dengue awareness campaign

WASA Rawalpindi organized one day dengue eradication and awareness campaign for coming season on Feb 24, 2013. The DG, Rawalpindi Development Authority, Ch. Naseer and MD WASA, Mr. Raja Shaukat Mehmood monitored different cleanliness activities in WASA buildings, district offices and public places located in different parts of the city and issued necessary instructions to the concerned staff.

WASA Rawalpindi Celebrates World Water Day 2013

WASA-R celebrated World Water Day on Mar 22, 2013 to highlight the importance of clean drinking water. The DG, Rawalpindi Development Authority, Naseer Ahmed said "It is the need of the hour to augment new water sources to overcome the upcoming shortage of water in Pakistan". He stressed that the



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construction of Chirah and Daducha Dams in the Potohar region should be initiated immediately. On the occasion MD, WASA-R, Raja Shaukat Mahmood said that WASA-R is striving hard to provide clean drinking water to the citizens and all possible efforts are being made in this regard.

Sanitation Hackathon Pakistan 2012



P-WOPs participated in Pakistan Sanitation Hackathon 2012 organized by the Water & Sanitation Program-South Asia (WSP-SA) in collaboration with the Urban Unit and Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) in Lahore from Nov 30, to Dec 2, 2012. The Hackathon was organized as the follow-up of recommendations of an International Workshop organized by WSP under the umbrella of P-WOPs, held on June 2012 in Lahore. Various issues of daily operational activities (followed by their concept notes) were highlighted by the water & sanitation utilities' managers during the workshop and sought out-of-the-box solutions of the sector issues through mobile/web applications. The idea of Hackathon 2012 was to team up the expert programmers, software engineers and data specialists for mashing up data, building open source technology platforms and developing applications that the sanitation sector can put to use practically in the communities. The event of Sanitation Hackathon 2012 was formally launched on Nov 29, 2012 in an opening ceremony wherein the representatives of World Bank, Utilities, Housing, Urban Development

and Public Health Engineering Department (HUD&PHED), the Urban Unit, PITB, P-WOPs, the sector experts, students and ICT solution providers from various institutions participated. The former federal Minister, Professor Dr Ata ur Rahman in his opening remarks appreciated the concept of the event and the use of ICT in the water and sanitation sector. The senior water & sanitation specialist, WSP (Mr. Masroor Ahmed) shared with the participants the next two days proceeding on the event. Dr Umar Saif, Chairman PITB announced incubation of 2 projects under PITB's Plan 9 incubation program. About 30 teams of 150 participants around the country worked on 13 problem statements for finding out their solutions through mobile and web based applications. A team of 5 students from FAST University won the top prize for developing software to tackle the problem of tanker drivers overcharging for the delivery of water to Hayatabad residents in Peshawar. The COMSATS University, Lahore team achieved the second slot. The successful teams of Hackathon will be provided additional support to refine and prepare their application and will get contracts with the World Bank to develop their ideas further.



Group photo of participants of Sanitation Hackathon 2012



Distribution of Certificates among participants

Sanitation Hackathon was the first ever global gathering of sanitation experts and technologists for an intensive weekend dedicated to creating ICT solutions to sanitation challenges. In addition to Lahore, Sanitation Hackathon simultaneously took place in Jakarta, Pune, Dhaka, Dar-es-Salaam, Helsinki, San Francisco, New York, London, Lima, and Cape Town.

Upcoming Activities

- Urban Utilities Directory 2013
- P-WOPs SC Meeting
- P-WOPs Registration

P-WOPs Secretariat

(The Urban Unit)

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