



**FOCUS PROVIDES
FLOOD RELIEF IN
CHITRAL P.2**



**2,200 CHITRAL
HOUSEHOLDS GET
ELECTRICITY P.4**



**AK SCHOOL: 50
YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE P.5**



**BACIP SHORTLISTED
FOR ETHICAL
AWARD P.6**

AKDN

AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Autumn Newsletter: ***Pakistan edition***



Shahi Hamam attracts tourists from around the globe

5 August 2015: The former prime minister of Kyrgyzstan Mr. Djoomart Otorbaev along with the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) diplomatic representative in Kyrgyzstan, Mr. Shamsh Kassim Lakha, visited Shahi Hamam in the Walled city of Lahore. The visitors were taken to the Delhi Gate, Shahi Hammam, Gali Surjan Singh and Wazir Khan Mosque. Later they met with Mr. Kamran Lashari, Director General Walled City of Lahore (WCLA). The guests were shown the monuments and were briefed about the Aga Khan Trust for Culture's (AKTC) work on these monuments. The guests appreciated the overall efforts of Aga Khan Cultural Service, Pakistan (AKCSP) and Walled City of Lahore Authority (WCLA) especially the conservation of the Shahi

Hamam project, Wazir Khan Mosque monument and for attracting tourists to the Walled City of Lahore by rehabilitating heritage assets and improving services.

On 3 September 2015, The Deputy Head of Mission, Swiss Embassy along with his wife paid a visit to Shahi Hamam as well. The guests appreciated conservation of the Shahi Hamam project, Wazir Khan Mosque monument and rehabilitation activities carried out in the Delhi Gate Bazaar.

In collaboration with WCLA, Government of Punjab, and generous grant support from the Royal Norwegian Embassy (RNE), AKTC carried out the conservation of the Mughal period bathhouse between 2013-2015. AKTC has been working with the Government of Punjab and WCLA since July 2007 on the rehabilitation of the Walled City of Lahore. The Hamam is now open to the public as a museum under WCLA's responsibility.



Guests visiting Wazir Khan Mosque



The restored north west corner

FOCUS provides flood relief to Chitral



FOCUS volunteers arriving with aid for communities stuck in flood affected valleys in Chitral with no road access

July 2015: Chitral, the largest district of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa was affected by a series of natural disasters. Within 20 days more than 100 flash floods, debris flows and GLOF affected more than 100 villages killing 32 people, damaging 80% of the infrastructure, internally displacing more than 10,000 people and stranded a further 300,000 people. Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS) Pakistan predicted the situation well in time and early warnings were already given to vulnerable communities through announcements and community education. Early warnings

made communities alert and a large number of human lives were saved. FOCUS trained Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) provided the first response and help to affected communities. The Emergency Operations Centre operated day and night to closely look after the situation.



“On 27 July 2015, I heard someone shouting: ‘floods, floods, run away, run away, run-away!’ It was the voice of a CERT volunteer who shouted for few minutes to make people run. I left my cow grazing and rushed home to take my kids. Luckily my kids went before me to a place which FOCUS volunteers had identified as a safe place in emergencies. Floods swept most of the houses in our area. We thanked Allah as timely evacuation made every villager safe and there was no loss to a single life in our village.” - Shahnaz Bibi, Brep village

As per the updates from EOC Chitral, managed by FOCUS and other AKDN agencies, over 1,000 affected households have been helped with food, and non-food relief across the Chitral district. The 50 tons of food and non-food items were initially transported through 46 AKDN helicopter sorties. In addition to this over 24 tons of food and non-food items were transported from Gilgit to Chitral to meet the need of over 260 households impacted by disasters. FOCUS took the lead in close coordination with the National Disaster Management Authority and other AKDN agencies and provided support to the affectees with basic needs. FOCUS’s Disaster Assessment Teams were deployed to compile information on damages and sufferings in Chitral so that with a proper criteria and transparency, further relief items can be provided. FOCUS Pakistan together with agencies of Aga Khan Development Network continued their relief operations for 25 days in Chitral.



CERTs busy restoring link roads in Chitral

The agencies of Aga Khan Development Network are helping the local communities in rehabilitation of irrigation channels, micro hydel stations, bridges and roads. In addition to help the stranded population, Aga Khan Rural Support Programme also installed three chair lifts to help transportation in the stranded villages. The Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan mobilized over 19 mobile teams to different parts of Chitral and have provided help to over 5,000 patients. Similarly, Aga Khan Planning and Building Service, Pakistan is working on restoration of over 100 clean drinking water systems in different villages.

2,200 Chitral households to benefit from electricity



The Swiss Ambassador along with District Nazim starting the micro-hydel

29 September 2015: The Ambassador of Switzerland to Pakistan, His Excellency Mr. Marc P. George inaugurated the Microhydel in Laspur Valley Chitral. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony the Ambassador said: “The project will increase economic activities, create new jobs, improve social services and make education and health services more reliable in the area. It will reduce deforestation and degradation of the natural resources as well as the use of diesel generators, which will lessen the carbon emissions into the environment.”

Through the rural electrification programme supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), two hydropower-based micro-hydel power stations, 800 kWh in Yarkhun and 500 kWh in Laspur valleys of Chitral, have been built with a budget of PKR 160 million. The power stations will deliver much needed energy to more than 2,200 households and counter deforestation by reducing the usage of wood.

The project has been implemented by the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) in collaboration with Acumen Fund, Community Development Carbon Fund and Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund. The micro-hydel power stations will be managed and maintained by the communities themselves through the mechanism of a power utility company. In 2004, AKRSP was recognised for its pioneering efforts in implementing micro-hydel power stations winning the prestigious Ashden Awards also known as the ‘green oscars’. Mr. Akhtar Iqbal, CEO, AKF, Pakistan, while acknowledging SDC’s long-term support in the mountainous and underdeveloped region of Pakistan, said that: “The building of micro-hydel power stations will not only lead to an improvement in the quality of life of the local population by making them economically more stable, but it will also help the environment and alleviate the workload of women as they will no longer have to travel outside the villages to search for firewood.” District Nazim, Mr. Maghfirat Shah said, “AKDN’s role has been instrumental in engaging Local Support Organisations and Village Organisations in the development of the region. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation has played a key role through various programmes and has

been a long term partner in the development of the District.” GM, AKRSP, Mr. Malik noted that: “This project highlights the strength of community led development that AKRSP has been fostering in the region. It will be managed professionally as a community utility and will serve as model for similar initiatives in the region.”

The ceremony was attended by District Nazim, Mr. Maghfirat Shah, Mr. Akhtar Iqbal, Chief Executive Officer, AKF, Pakistan, Mr. Abdul Malik, the General Manager, AKRSP, Mr. Irshad Khan Abbasi, Director Rural Development, AKF, Pakistan.

Sultan Mohamed Shah, Aga Khan School Karachi celebrates 50 years of excellence



SMS School picture taken in 1968



SMS School picture taken in 2015

2015 marks the 50th year of Sultan Mohamed Shah Aga Khan School, Karachi, one of the most well-known schools under the Aga Khan Education Service, Pakistan (AKES,P) umbrella. Established in 1965, the school now popularly known as SMS bears the name of Sir Sultan Mohamed Shah Aga Khan III who established over 200 schools, the first of which were in Zanzibar in 1905. Since its inception, SMS Aga Khan School has gone through many transformations. Initially established as a community-based school called His Royal Highness Aga Khan Third Foundation School, it later came under the Aga Khan Central Education Board and during the 1970s was nationalised along with many other educational institutions in the country. Eventually, however, the school was returned to AKES,P and was renamed SMS Aga Khan School.

In 1985, an extension to the original campus was built and inaugurated by His Highness the Aga Khan IV. Today, SMS Aga Khan School has a strength of 3,050, with classes ranging from early childhood development (ECD) to the secondary level. With vast grounds and fields, SMS Aga Khan School has a strong tradition of excelling in sports and co-curricular activities. Today, thousands of individuals worldwide proudly call themselves alumni of one of Karachi's landmark schools. Many of them are leaders in their chosen fields. Together, we wish SMS Aga Khan School another 50 years of excellence and success. And then 50 more!

AKPBS,P shortlisted for Ethical Corporation Award



Introduction of smoke free stoves

September 2015: Aga Khan Planning and Building Service, Pakistan's (AKPBS,P's) Building and Construction Improvement Programme (BACIP) has been shortlisted for the 2015 Ethical Corporation Responsible Business Awards under the category of Best Social Enterprise! "Being shortlisted for an award that celebrates responsible business excellence demonstrates that not only is AKPBS,P a recognised brand with credibility and trust for conducting uplifting human development interventions - through improving the built environment in one of most challenging regions of the globe - but it is also a compliment to the talented women and men who work with us as well as our partners in development," Nawab Ali Khan, CEO, AKPBS,P said. BACIP was first implemented in the remote Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral (GBC) regions of Northern Pakistan, where homes are cold and smoky in the harsh winters, and also when large amounts of wood are used for heating and cooking. That over use of wood contributes to deforestation and leads to increased environmental damage from land erosion, which causes flooding. AKPBS,P has also replicated BACIP in southern Pakistan. BACIP's main energy efficient products are: an improved fuelwood stove for cooking and room heating with a chimney to remove smoke; water-warming facility that runs from the stove; roof hatch window to cut drafts; and insulation for roofs, floors and walls. In 2011, AKPBS,P won the Ashden award with BACIP.

The Pakistan Engineering Council has adopted the BACIP building guidelines as a best practice.

Educational Development Programme increases student enrolment by 40%

30 June 2015: The five-year Educational Development and Improvement Programme in the Gilgit-Baltistan region has reached its completion. The programme complemented the efforts of the provincial government to enhance access, equity, improve the quality of education and augment its relevance in the region. The programme was implemented by a consortium of seven

partners including AKESP, AKUIED PDCN, AKPBS, FOCUS, NOWPDP, AKU-HDP and AKF CSRC with funding support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia. As a leading agency in the implementation of the programme, the Aga Khan University Institute for Educational Development's Professional Development Centre, North (PDCN), worked with 59 schools, of which the majority were public schools, using a cluster-based whole school improvement model.



Student using ICT services of LRS

The model was based on the features of the Whole School Improvement Programme; a signature school improvement programme of PDCN. This cluster-based model allowed the interaction of schools in a more cohesive way, making for more productive learning environments. "We saw the student enrolment levels rising by 40%, from 7,524 in 2010 to 12,041 in 2014. Additionally, girls' enrolment in the target schools has gone up by 47% as compared to the base year," said Dr. Mola Dad Shafa, Head of PDCN. A major success for the programme was recorded in the Diamer district, which had the lowest levels of literacy with minimal female student enrolments. The immediate outcomes of the programme indicate that the EDIP interventions have significantly improved the overall teaching and learning conditions in the project schools.

Mother Care and Child Survival Project comes to an end reaching 440,000 beneficiaries

21 September 2015: A national dissemination seminar on the Mother Care and Child Survival (MCCS) project was organised to disseminate the end results against project targets, success stories, challenges and sustainability of project interventions. The results, achievements and lessons learnt were shared with the audience through presentations by AKF Pakistan, and other implementing partners; AKHS, P, AKRSP and AKPBS, P. The project



MCCS project trainer showing mothers how to cook food for malnourished children

was implemented in the catchment areas of 37 health facilities (24 Government and 13 AKHSP health facilities) with the aim to improve maternal, newborn and child health in targeted area. The MCCS project reached 439,112 beneficiaries through activities focused on three key outcomes including; improved availability of quality MNCH services, increased use of MNCH services and improved nutrition practices of women and children in Astore, Gilgit, Ghizer, and Hunza-Nagar. Dr. Baseer Khan, Director Health Services, Department of Health and Population Welfare, Government of GB, said that, “such projects play a pivotal role to roll out health programmes of GB, which at this point in time is facing many challenges to roll out health sector strategy.” He continued, “the Department of Health, GB is keen to work with AKDN in near future as their project interventions are aligned with their (DOH) common goals to improve health status of marginalised population.”

The event was also attended by Mr. Ehsan Ali, Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Population Welfare, Government of GB, Dr. Bismillah LHW Provincial Coordinator GB, Dr. Ghulam Ali, MNCH Provincial Coordinator GB, Neelam Merchant, PO Health, AKF Canada, Dr. Babar Shaikh, Director Health & BE, AKF (Pak), and Dr. Arslan Mazhar, PO Health AKF, Pakistan.

First Secretary, Canadian High Commission meets EELY beneficiaries

14, 15 & 16th September 2015:

Ms. Leslie Anne Tinney, First Secretary Canadian High Commission, visited Gilgit and Hunza. She was accompanied by Mohammad Mahmud Ali Naqi, Programme Officer, DFATD Canada, Irshad Khan Abbasi, Director RD, AKF (Pak), Mazhar Ali Khan, Programme Officer, RD, AKF (Pak), Amin Beg Manager ID, AKRSP, Sherzad Ali Khan, Manager MER, AKRSP, Jamil Uddin, RPM, Gilgit AKRSP. The



First Secretary with EELY beneficiaries in a women entrepreneur's shop

mission monitored the Enhancing Employability and Leadership for Youth (EELY) project activities, met project team, beneficiaries entrepreneurship trainees, youth entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders (Service Providers/ LSOs/Youth Organisations) and learnt about their experience, the support they received, challenges they faced, the outcomes of project support for them and their families/communities, and future plans. The mission also met different service providers supported by the EELY project including KADO, PDCN, KIU, AKPBS and CIQAM. First Secretary appreciated the project activities and the youth development and entrepreneurship programmes and appreciated the mission as it was important to highlight the concerns of the youth and to showcase the project activities.

TheFirst MicroFinance Bank Ltd Pakistan organises its first Town Hall meeting

FMFB-Pakistan hosted its first Town Hall meeting for employees of the Karachi Region, keeping them up-to-date with the bank's latest initiatives and providing them the opportunity to ask questions and present ideas to the senior management. The event included an interactive networking session and presentation by the CEO, Mr. Amir Masood Khan, highlighting the key achievements in 2014 and the first two quarters of 2015, and the plans ahead. The meeting



CEO FMFB-P during his interactive session with staff

began with a speech by Mr. Khan, expressing his pride in the important work undertaken at FMFB-Pakistan to alleviate poverty and reduce financial exclusion in line with the Bank's vision and mission. He stressed that all employees should align their activities with the Bank's mission and strategic objectives and ensure that the core values of trust, respect, integrity and professionalism are adopted by each employee. The Town Hall meeting is the latest of several FMFB-Pakistan's employee communication and engagement initiatives providing a platform for staff to discuss key issues, engage with management and provide feedback.

Dear Readers,

Thank you for your contributions to the Autumn Volume. The purpose of this newsletter is to let the staff in Pakistan know about the wonderful work AKDN is doing. We would like to thank all the CEOs for their support and especially AKCSP Communication Team, Safina Kousar (AKU-IED), Tania Atzaz (FMFB-P), Aziz Ali Dad (AKRSP), Shaheen Shivji (AKPBS,P), Rubab Karar (AKES,P), Mehar Aftab (Focus Humanitarian Assistance, Pakistan), Nadia Huda (AKHS,P), Dr. Arsalan Mazhar (AKF, Pak), Ammar Malik, AKF (Pak), Christopher Wilton Steer AKF (UK) and the directors of RD, Health and BE and Education at AKF (Pak) for providing the content and photos for this volume.

If you have any articles or ideas to share please contact the editor, Laila Naz Taj in AKF, Islamabad: laila.taj@akdn.org. The next volume will appear in winter 2015.

For more information about our programmes, visit our website: www.akdn.org