



PCRWR NEWS

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RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Water, Land and Ecosystems

IWMI International Water Management Institute



Pakistan Water Week 2021

International Conference
Exhibition

Water Boards Games

Poster Competition

Awareness Campaign

Debate Competition

Essaycon



Pakistan Water Week 2021

PCRWR and International Water Management Institute (IWMI) organized Pakistan Water Week 2021 on December 6-9, 2021 in collaboration with other partners with a theme “Needs for sustainable water management in a climate crisis for Indus Basin”. The main objective of this event was to address the issues related to water, awareness raising about the issue among the masses and transfer of knowledge from experts to the stakeholders. A series of events were organized to achieve the intended objectives.

International Conference - An International Conference was held in Islamabad on December 6-7, 2021. The conference was inaugurated by the Honorable President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi. Speaking at the conference, the President said that Pakistan's increasing vulnerability to climate change required urgent action on the management of water resources and for an improved system of water conservation at national and local levels. He stressed simultaneous steps to address the issues of water management such as; water pricing strategies, developing climate resilience, wastewater recycling and efficient irrigation approaches.



Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Senator Shibli Faraz said that water conservation and groundwater depletion were issues of major concern for the government. Managing the vast resources of Himalayan glaciers and the country's fourth-largest aquifer was a big challenge to restore the ecosystem for the benefit of people.

Dr. Mark Smith, Director General IWMI, highlighted that globally, water security is under pressure like never before. He said that Pakistan and the Indus Basin faced these challenges, but with even greater intensity. He remarked that this conference should be the start of a transformational journey for water management in Pakistan – to safeguard the poor and marginalized communities and all the people of Pakistan.



Dr. Mark Smith, DG IWMI delivering his remarks

The inaugural session was led by a Plenary Session in which Dr. Jaffery Shaw, Australian High Commissioner, Ms. Annabel Gerry, Development Director FCDO, Ms. Julie Koenen, Mission Director USAID, Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi, Director for Central and West Asia ADB, Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman, PCRWR, and Ms. Florence Rolle, FAO representative in Pakistan briefly highlighted

the issues related to water specifically in relation to climate change impacts.

After the plenary session, three parallel sessions were held on three different thematic areas. Under each thematic area, several sessions were held in which panelists shared their experience and way forward to address the relevant theme.

The closing session (on December 07, 2021) was co-chaired by Malik Amin Aslam, Special Advisor to Prime Minister of Pakistan on Climate change and Syed Fakhur Imam, Federal Minister for Food Security and Research Division. Malik Amin Aslam congratulated the organizers for successful event and also thanked the international participants for participation in this conference.



Mr. Malik Amin Aslam Khan, SA to Prime Minister on Climate Change delivering his remarks



Pictorial glimpse of the speakers expressing their views at PWW 2021

National Events - A number of events were organized as part of Pakistan Water Week 2021, on December 8-9, 2021 at PCRWR Headquarters, Islamabad. These events consisted of debates, essay competition, water games for children, poster competitions among college and university students along with exhibition on water related technologies by different universities, industries and NGO's. These two days were

dedicated to the youth of the country to showcase their abilities and understanding related to water. At the end, a closing ceremony was held on 9th December at PCRWR Headquarters, Islamabad and certificate were distributed to all the participants. The winners of the competitions were awarded with cash prizes. Some glimpses of the events are as given below;



Ms. Simi Kamal inaugurates the Water Exhibition



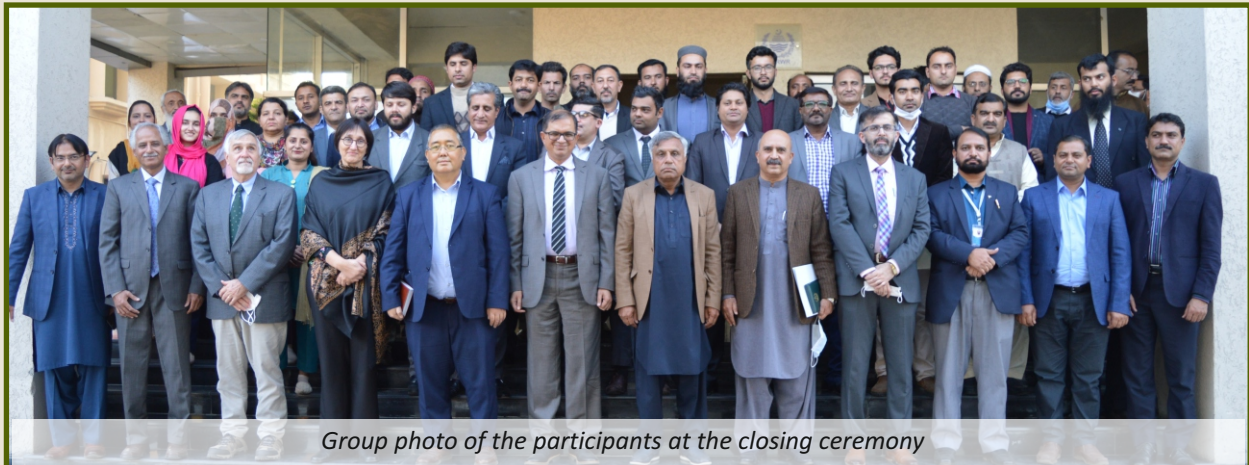
Dr. Claudia Ringler Expressing about PWW 2021



Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman (Additional Secretary MoST) giving his views about PWW 2021



Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Addressing in the Closing Ceremony



Group photo of the participants at the closing ceremony



*1st prize winner in poster competition
Ms. Zoha Iqbal, CUI Wah*



*1st prize winner in water board games
Ms. Hajra Malik, NAVTTC*



*1st prize winner in EssayCon Ms. Rumaisa Batool,
Usman Institute of Technology, Karachi*



*1st prize winner in debate competition Hafiz
Muhammad Ibrahim, Siddique Public School, Rawalpindi*

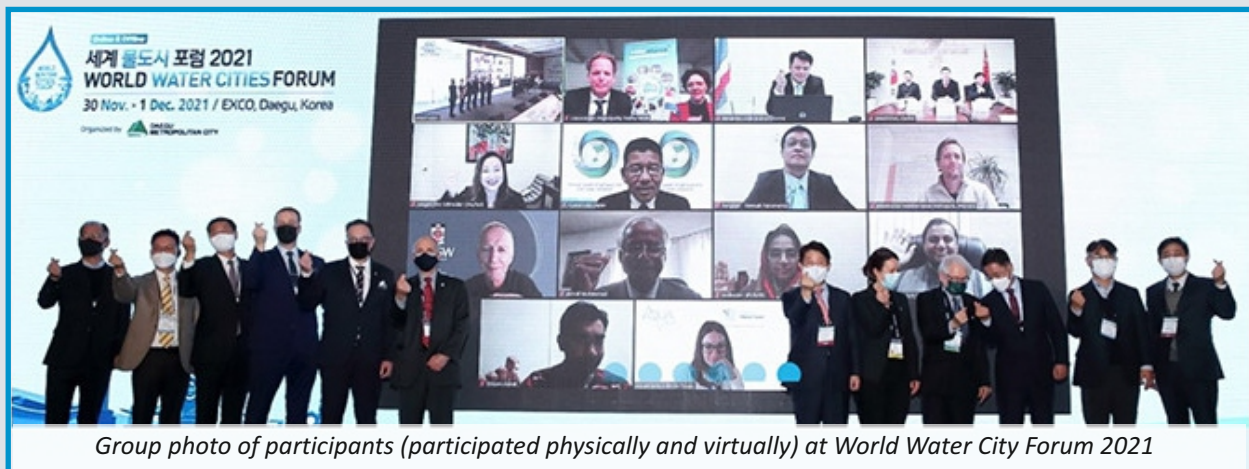


Group photo of students participated in different competitions

PCRWR bestowed with “Best Water Solution Award” in World Water City Forum 2021 at Daegu-Korea

PCRWR participated in World Water City Forum (WWCF-2021) and represented Jhelum City, Pakistan from November 30, 2021 to December 01, 2021 at Daegu, Korea. The event was held in hybrid mode where a large number of water professionals and practitioners participated both physically as well as online. During this event, the solution for two cities (Mikeli-Finland, Shaoxing-China) were announced from the member cities related to water challenges. PCRWR team under the leadership of Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman suggested solution for Shaoxing city, China on the topic, “Seeking comprehensive and innovative strategies for the management and restoration of plain

river ecology”. For Shaoxing, there were four solutions presented by relevant professionals of four countries including Pakistan. In this challenge, Dr. Naveed Iqbal, Director (Hydrology), PCRWR proposed technological sound and practical viable nature-based solutions for sustainable water resources management. The team of four judges consisting of renowned water experts declared PCRWR team winner and awarded “Best Water Solution Award”. Being chair of the session, Mr. Known Young-Jin, Mayor of Daegu, Korea extended appreciation letter to PCRWR professionals and showed keen interest for future collaborative initiatives.



Group photo of participants (participated physically and virtually) at World Water City Forum 2021

Meeting of Pakistan National Committee on Intergovernmental Hydrological Program

PCRWR in partnership with UNESCO organized the Intergovernmental Hydrological Program (IHP) meeting at PCRWR, Islamabad on 6th October 2021. In this regard, representatives from Provincial Irrigation Departments, Centre of Excellence of Water Resources Engineering, WAPDA, PMD and FFC attended the meeting. All of these organizations presented their progress during eighth phase as member of IHP committee.



Meeting of the Pakistan IHP committee

Launch of IWRM Implementation Guidelines for Pakistan and UN World Water Development Report 2021

Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) in partnership with UNESCO Islamabad launched two reports; (i) IWRM Implementation Guidelines for Pakistan and (ii) UN World Water Development Report 2021. PCRWR developed an IWRM implementation guideline for Pakistan which will be a guiding document for all stakeholders working at federal and provincial levels. The World Water Development Report 2021 is focused on the theme of “Valuing Water”.

Ms. Patricia Mc'Phillips, UNESCO Country Director, stated that the rising population, and increasing impact of climate change had put Pakistan under immense stress. In this context, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) was an effective approach to manage water resources with science and policy.

Dr. Mohsin Hafeez, Country Representative IWMI, Mr. Ahmad Kamal, Chairman, Federal Flood Commission and

Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman (PCRWR) were the key note speakers at the event.



Launching of National Water Quality Monitoring Programme Report (2020-21)

PCRWR leads a National Water Quality Monitoring Program (NWQMP) to assess the status of water quality in Pakistan. National Water Quality Monitoring Program Report (2020-21) was launched by PCRWR on October 20, 2021.

Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman PCRWR, gave an overview of Pakistan's water challenges and required measures. He highlighted the issues related to water supply, management, governance and emphasized to address these through policy measures, capacity enhancement and by introducing the

concept of service delivery in water sector.

The Chief Guest, Federal Secretary Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr Akhtar Nazir in his opening remarks mentioned that Ministry of Science and Technology through PCRWR was committed to provide technical assistance to the nation regarding status of safe drinking water in the country.

Dr. Hifza Rasheed, DG Water Quality PCRWR presented the findings of the report on the current status of the drinking water quality in 29 cities, causes of slow paced improvement and the way forward.

Another launching ceremony of the Report was held at PCRWR Regional Office Lahore on December 24, 2021. The report

was launched by Dr. Shakeel Khan, Chairman, Aab-e-Pak Authority.



Launching ceremony of NWQMP Report 2020-21 at Islamabad



Launching ceremony of NWQMP Report 2020-21 at Lahore

5th Meeting of Steering Committee on Nomination of Karez Cultural Landscape of Balochistan in the World Heritage List

The 5th meeting of steering committee on nomination of Karez System Cultural Landscape of Balochistan in the World Heritage list was held at PCRWR, Headquarters, Islamabad on 1st December, 2021. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman, PCRWR welcomed the guests and briefed about the agenda of the meeting and the importance of the Karez System for the Balochistan.

Members of the steering committee expressed their views about the available policy instruments and their implementation process. UNESCO representative also briefed the participants about the process of nomination of Karez cultural landscape of Balochistan in World Heritage list and timeline of the process.

Ms. Patricia Mc Phillips, Country Director, UNESCO appreciated the work of PCRWR and emphasized the importance of rehabilitation of Karez System for the sustainable agriculture and water resources for Balochistan. She briefed the participants about the salient features of the ongoing projects of UNESCO in Balochistan.

At the end, the chair thanked the participants and all participants appreciated PCRWR's work related to water and agreed to share the data related to karez as soon as possible.

Mr. Muhammad Asgher Arifal, Secretary Culture and Tourism Balochistan, on behalf of Additional Chief Secretary Balochistan chaired the meeting and discussed about the cultural and potential tourism sites in the Balochistan.



Meeting of the steering committee

Consultative meeting on “Demonstration of Nature Based Solution for Improving the Resilience of Groundwater Aquifers in Islamabad Capital Territory”

Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) in partnership with IWMI, and WaterAid, organized a consultative meetings on “Demonstration of Nature-based solution for Improving the Resilience of Groundwater Aquifers in Islamabad” at PCRWR, Islamabad on 14th October 2021. The consultative meeting was focused to discuss nature-based solutions to increase resilience of groundwater aquifer of Islamabad.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman, PCRWR said that population increase had widened the demand and supply gap and put groundwater aquifer in Islamabad under immense stress. Moreover, the urbanization has further aggravated the situation by increasing runoff which was causing flooding at the downstream areas of Rawalpindi. He informed that PCRWR had signed an MoU with Capital Development Authority (CDA) for the implementation of various initiatives including the development of 100 rainwater harvesting sites to increase groundwater recharge in this context.

Dr. Mohsin Hafeez, Country Representative IWMI stressed that evidence-based research and nature-based solutions were critically important to solve the prevailing water challenges.

Syed Munawar Shah, Member Engineering CDA, conveyed that CDA had taken various initiatives related to efficient water resource management and drinking water supply challenges.

The chief guest, Mr. Ali Nawaz Awan, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CDA affairs highlighted the initiative of the government to manage water supply and shared progress on additional surface water supply of 100 MGD to Islamabad from Ghazi Barotha. Moreover, he emphasized the need to have a better water resource planning by setting medium and long-term goals. Furthermore, he stressed the need to harvest the maximum potential of available rainwater by developing 400-500 recharging sites in the next two years to increase aquifer resilience and manage water scarcity challenges.



Group photo of meeting participants

Meeting with World Bank Representatives

Ms. Lucy Lytton, Senior Water Resources Management Specialist, and Mr. Francois Onimus, Senior Water Resources Specialist visited PCRWR, Islamabad on 16th December 2021. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman, PCRWR, briefly presented the different activities which were being carried out by the PCRWR. The World Bank representatives appreciated efforts of PCRWR and emphasized the need for future collaborations in the water sector.



Meeting with FAO Representatives

A meeting with FAO representatives Ms. Emelda Berejena (GCF project Manager), Mr. Jiro Ariyama (International Water Resource Expert) and Dr. Rubina Wahaj, FAO Pakistan was held at PCRWR Headquarters, Islamabad on 29th November, 2021. The meeting was intended to discuss the project entitled “Transforming the Indus Basin with Climate Resilient Agriculture and Water management”. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman PCRWR briefly described PCRWR work on water management and ongoing projects. FAO representatives appreciated PCRWR initiatives and efforts to address water challenges and

their solutions for the sustainability of the water. The FAO team offered to work together in the future to combat the impacts of climate change in the water sector.



Meeting on Water Issues of Islamabad

The Federal Minister, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Mr. Asad Umar, chaired a meeting on water issues of Islamabad. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman-PCRWR and Member, CDA briefed the chair that the groundwater recharge through rainwater harvesting on 25 sites had been started whereas, 50 site would be developed by December, 2021. Mr. Asad Umar appreciated the technical support of PCRWR and directed CDA to speed up the work as well as ensure

completion of 100 sites by June, 2022.



WASH Awareness Sessions Organized in Government Schools and Universities

PCRWR Regional Offices organized various awareness sessions on WASH in different parts of the country. Under these activities, WASH Committees were constituted at schools to maintain WASH and its related activities in their respective

institutes. Total 25 such sessions were held during the quarter in which one session was held in Muzaffarabad, one in Gilgit and 23 sessions were held in different Union Councils of Karachi.



WASH Awareness Session in Govt. School in Muzaffarabad



Group photo of students of KIU, Gilgit participated in WASH Awareness Session



Photo of the students and participant marching an awareness walk on WASH in Karachi



Photo of the students and participants at Asif Abad Karachi



Students participating in WASH activities at Pak colony, Kemari Karachi



Students participating in debate competition regarding WASH

PCRWR Regional Office Karachi Organized Global Hand Washing Day

PCRWR Regional Office Karachi organized Global Hand Washing Day at Pak Colony, district Kemari, under WaterAid project on 21st October 2021. The Global Hand Washing Day 2021 was celebrated with the theme “Our Future is at Hand-Let's Move Forward”. Mr. Asif Khan, Special Assistant to Chief Minister Sindh graced the occasion as chief guest. More than 110 participants including males, females, and children attended the event.



Mr. Asif Khan, Special Assistant to Chief Minister Sindh speaking on the occasion

Two Days Training Workshop for Water Operators

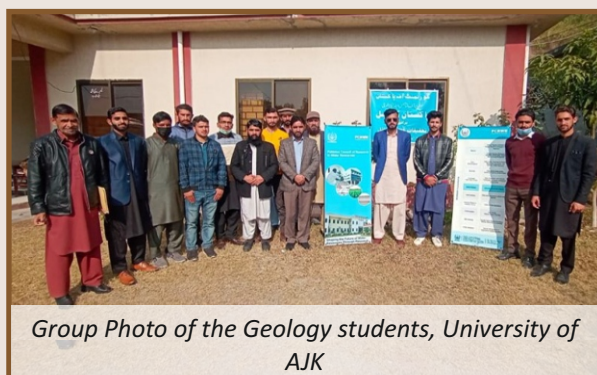
PCRWR Regional Office Karachi organized a two-days training workshop on 24th November 2021, for water operators and care takers for operation and maintenance required for clean drinking water facilities and follow ups related to water quality. Trainees were from District Municipal Committee, Local Government, and Community Water User Committees at Pak Colony DMC Site, Kemari Karachi. Training was arranged under WaterAid project.



Group photo of training participants

Training on Water Quality Monitoring

A two week training workshop was organized by the PCRWR Regional Office Muzaffarabad for the Geology Students of the University of AJK from November 10-25, 2021. The training was intended to transfer knowledge to students and enhance their skills on water quality monitoring, regional water management practices and clean green environment program.



Group Photo of the Geology students, University of AJK

Retirements

Mr. Muhammad Asghar, SRO, Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Sarwar, Superintendent and Ms. Meena Asghar, Assistant were honorably retired from PCRWR on 28th November 2021, 6th October 2021 and 31st December 2021, respectively on completion of their services.

Sad Demise

Mr. Muhammad Bachan Mirrani, Director (Rtd.) PCRWR has passed away on 28th December 2021. May Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and give courage to the family to bear the great loss.