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REPORT OF SPRING TREE PLANTATION DRIVE-2023



Implementation Support Unit (ISU)
Directorate of Elementary & Secondary Education
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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1. Message by Director Programs

Climate change and Global warming are the realities of this century. The pollution level in Pakistan has touched an all-time high. All these factors take a toll on public health and give rise to various diseases. A simple solution to combat this problem is planting trees. Trees are the lifeline of our planet. Trees produce oxygen which helps purify the air. Trees also provide cool shade from the harsh sun rays. Trees also produce flowers and fruits. We should encourage people to plant more trees and nurture them. If all of us take a pledge to plant a tree on our birthday then soon we would have a good forest cover. Schools should provide incentives to students who take part in tree plantation drives. The government should also demarcate areas for planting trees and provide adequate security measures to safeguard them.



Syeda Um e Laila Jaffry
Director Programs
Implementation Support Unit-ISU
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2. Executive Summary

Pakistan, a country increasingly exposed to disasters, is trying to cope with the impacts of climate change and extreme weather, but has a long way to go due to its low technical and financial capacity.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), a topographically diverse province of Pakistan, is situated in the northwest region of the country. The land of KP is an abode to Hindukush, Himalayan, and Karakoram mountain ranges predominantly in the Northern, North West, and Eastern parts of the province. In contrast, southern parts of KP are dominated by central valley plains comprising agricultural land and rangelands. Extreme climate conditions range throughout the province. The northern region of KP experience extremely cold and snowy winters, with heavy rainfall and pleasant summers, whereas the southern parts of KP experience fairly less severe winters, moderate rainfall, and hotter summers. Chitral, the highest district of KP experiences the lowest temperatures in winter; hence many glaciers are found in this district. D.I Khan, the southernmost district of KP, experiences milder winters and therefore is dominated by agricultural and rangelands due to optimum climate conditions for agriculture¹.

To overcome the exposure and vulnerability ISU-DoE&SE Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with Technical and Financial Support from UNICEF conducted a “Spring tree plantation drive” in 05 districts of the province i.e. Peshawar, Kohat, Lower Dir, Manshera and Haripur, to inaugurate the campaign two mega events were organized one at Peshawar while the 2nd one at Manshera, These events Were graced by the honorable Mr. Motasim Billah Shah Secretary E&SE-KP, Syed Fawad Ali Shah Education Specialist-UNICEF, Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim Director E&SE-KP, Ms. Um e Laila Jaffry Director Program ISU-DoE& SE KP, Ms. Momina Ahmad Education Officer UNICEF, Special Advisor to Prime Minster Mr. Shahjahan Yousaf along with other political figures also participated in this event.

An average of 25-30 plants have been planted in each school while a community tree plantation drive was also arranged at District Manshera. The objective of this spring tree plantation drive is to support and increase Pakistan’s forest cover. This campaign not only contributes to the national forest policy as well as the international Sustainable Development Goals- SDG. Approximately 15,000 saplings were planted by approximately 23,000 (Boys14,530 and 8,470 Girls) Students across 05 Districts, 375 (187 Male and 188 Female) Teachers, and 245 (320 Male and 225 Female) community members participated and planted trees in this campaign with close coordination of provincial and District Forest, Education, and Civil defense departments. The national and regional print and electronic media also provided comprehensive coverage of the campaign and spread the message of the importance of tree plantation throughout the country.

3. Objectives of the Spring Tree Plantation Drive

The main objectives of the spring tree plantation drive were as follows:

1. To promote environmental awareness and conservation among students and the community.
2. To encourage students to take an active part in planting trees and taking care of them.
3. To improve the ecological balance and mitigate the effects of deforestation.
4. To encourage schools and communities to adopt eco-friendly practices and take steps towards sustainable development.
5. To Create Sensitization among students about the importance of tree plantation.
6. To introduce biophysical measures to minimize flash floods and soil erosion in schools.
7. To Assist the Government of Pakistan in meeting the obligations of relevant international treaties and conventions, such as the Convention on Biodiversity, the Climate Change Convention, the Desertification Convention, and Agenda 21, etc.
8. To guide the students technically on tree plantation.
9. To aware the school children about the role of trees in a friendly environment.



Plants are being planted by girls of GGPS Babuzai' at Peshawar During spring tree plantation

4. Methodology adopted for Plantation Drive:

The following methodology was adopted for the spring tree plantation Drive:

Coordination Meeting: A coordination meeting was held with the forest department at the provincial level for the provision of plants while at the district level meetings were conducted District forest offices as well as concerned Deputy Commissioners.

Identification of Schools: The project team identified 500 schools (including ECW Targeted Schools) in 05 districts for the plantation drive. These schools were selected based on their location and accessibility and availability of space for tree plantation.

Plantation Mega Events: two inauguration ceremonies of Spring Tree Plantation were organized: the first spring tree plantation ceremony was organized in the Regional Professional Development Center and the 2nd was held at Government Higher Secondary School No.1 Peshawar City to mark the completion of the plantation drive. The ceremony was attended by the District Administration, students, teachers, parents, and other members of the community.

Plantation Drive: The project team organized a plantation drive in each of the schools. Saplings of various species were distributed to the students, who then planted them on the school premises and outside of the schools.

Community Plantation: To involve the Community in the tree plantation campaign a community plantation drive was organized at District Manshera. Mechanism adapted for Plantation Drive.



A student is planting a tree with the help of a community volunteer at District Manshera

4.1 Coordination Meeting with the forest department

To involve all the stakeholders and to take benefits from the expertise, a meeting was conducted with the Forest department, Ijaz Qadir Chief Conservator Officer (Provincial Forest Department) in the presence of Ms. Um e Laila, Director Programs, Peer Fahad Ali Shah (Program Manager) and Ms. Sana Project Coordinator SU DoE & SE-KP, in which detail discussion was made regarding the spring plantation drive-2023. The aforementioned departments took responsibility for the provision required saplings to the ISU-DoE & SE-KP. In this regard, a formal letter was issued to all the respective Districts forest Officers for the provision of the plants.

4.2 Identification of Schools:

The project team identified 500 schools in 05 districts (including ECW Targeted Schools) for the spring plantation drive. These schools were selected based on the following criteria

- School fulfills the purpose of intervention and has space for tree plantation
- Accessible schools



Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim (Director Education E&SE-KP) is addressing the audience at the **inauguration** Ceremony of the tree plantation drive.

4.3 Plantation Drive:

The project team planted trees in every identified school under the plantation drive, beside this Saplings of various species were distributed among the students for plantation in their respective schools.

4.3 Community Tree Plantation:

A community plantation event was organized at District Mansehra in which more than 85 community members, teachers, students, youth, **officials from the Police department**, **Civil** defense, ISU Staff, and other departments of the district Mansehra participated and planted More than 1200 plants at Nisar Bagh.

5. Inauguration Ceremony:

The first inauguration Ceremony of “Spring Tree Plantation Drive-2023” was held at Government Higher Secondary School No.1 Peshawar City. The event was graced by the honorable Mr. Motasim Billah Shah Secretary E&SE-KP, Syed Fawad Ali Shah Education Specialist-UNICEF, Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim Director E&SE-KP, Ms. Um e Laila Jaffry Director Program ISU- DoE& SE KP, Ms. Momina Ahmad Education Officer UNICEF. At the end of the ceremony, different **saplings were planted to inaugurate the** Spring Tree Plantation Drive- 2023 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The honorable Secretary Education emphasized the need to plant more and more trees in educational institutes, Trees can serve as a green shelter during extreme climate conditions thus making the earth cooler for animal and human life

Mr. Fawad All Shah said as we all know that the whole world is facing the problem of global warming and to recover from such problems, planting trees has become one of the few important options, Trees can serve as a green shelter during extreme climate conditions thus making earth cooler for animal and human life

Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim said there are approximately 36,000 male and female schools in the province and a vast area of land occupied by the education department. So, it is our Prime responsibility to grow more and more plants where land is available within the premises of schools.

Ms. Laila Jaffry while speaking with the media, “Trees make the environment beautiful and pleasing. Trees are a valuable asset because they provide us oxygen.” She urged people to actively participate in the plantation drive and make the environment good. She also thanked all the distinguished guests including officials of the E&SE Department, UNICEF, Media, other stakeholders, and project staff for their participation and make the event successful.

The inauguration ceremony of the Hazara region was held at Regional Professional Development Center-RPDC-Female, District Manshera. The ceremony was **g** graced by the honorable Mr. Sardar Shah Jahan Yousaf Special Advisor to Prime Minister, Mr. Junaid Qasim Ex Tehsil Nazim, Syed Fawad Ali Shah Education Specialist-UNICEF, Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim Director E&SE-KP Ms. Um e Laila Jaffry Director Program ISU- DoE& SE KP, Ms. Qurat Ul Ain Assistant Commissioner Manshera, Mr. Sarmad Shah DFO Manshera, DEO Male and female of District Manshera and planted different saplings. The distinguished guests appreciated the efforts of ISU and the support of UNICEF to combat climate change and ensured their all kinds of support for spring tree plantation drive.

6. glimpse of the inauguration ceremony:



Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim (Director Education E&SE-KP) planting a tree at Peshawar



Syed Fawad Ali Shah (Education Specialist UNICEF) planting a tree at Peshawar



Ms. Um-e-Laila (Director Programs ISU) planted a tree at District Peshawar.



Mr. Motasim Billah (Secretary Education Speaking at the inauguration ceremony at Peshwar

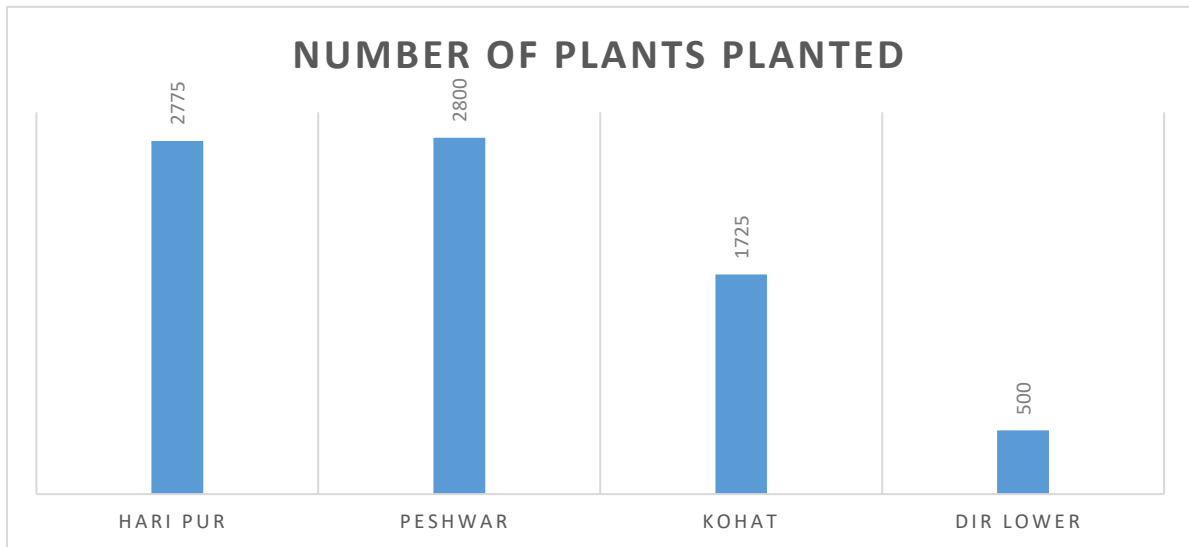


Mr. Sardar Shah Jahan Yousaf Special Advisor to Prime Minister planted a Tree at Manshera

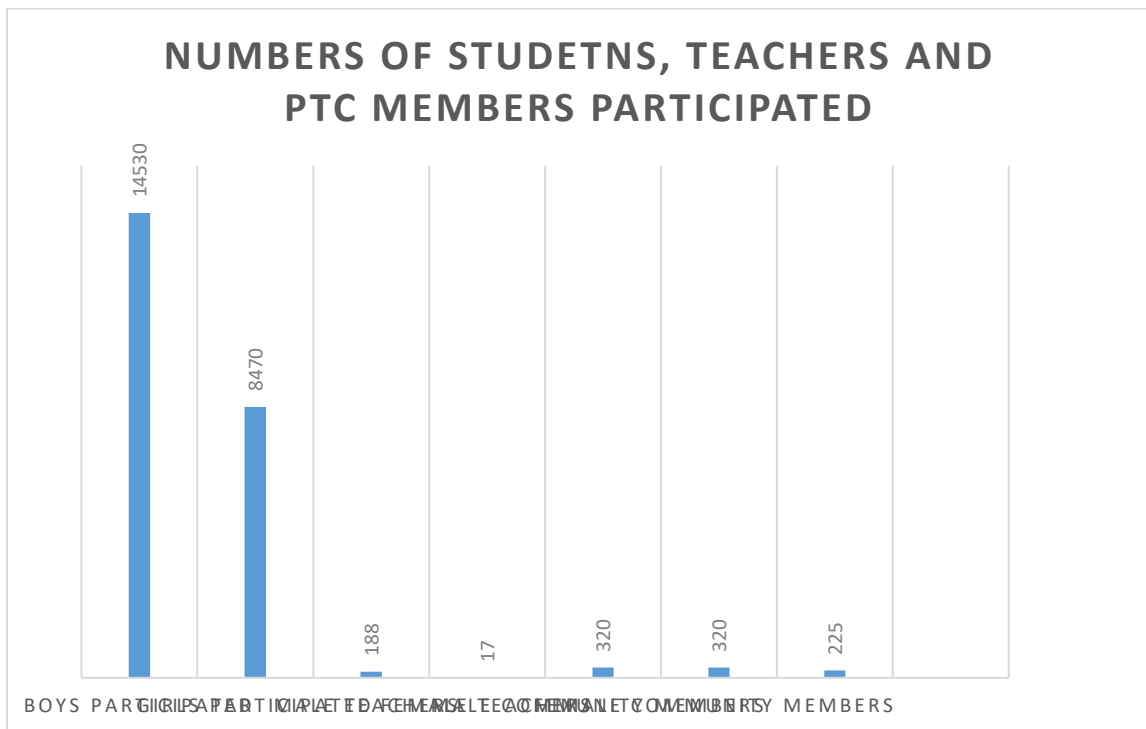


Mr. Motasim Billah Shah Secretary E&SE-KP planted a tree during the inauguration Ceremony

7. Number of plants planted:



8. Number of Students, Teachers, and PTC members Participated:



9. Results Achieved:

The following results were achieved through the plantation drive:

A total 15,000 saplings were planted by 23,000 (Boys 14,530 and 8,470 Girls) Students across 05 Districts, 375 (187 Male and 188 Female) Teachers, and 245 (320 Male and 225 Female) community members.

The students actively participated in the plantation drive and took ownership of the trees planted. The spring plantation ceremony was successful, and it was attended by a large number of students, teachers, PTCs, and other members of the community.

The awareness programs helped in promoting environmental awareness and conservation among the students and community.



Ms. Um-e- Laila Jaffry (Director Programs) addressing the audience at the inauguration ceremony at Peshawar

10. Impact on the Environment and the Community:

The plantation drive had a positive impact on the environment and the community. The following are some of the impacts:

- **Ecological Balance:** The plantation drive helped in improving the ecological balance by increasing the green cover.
- **Mitigating the Effects of Deforestation:** The plantation drive helped in mitigating the effects of deforestation by planting new trees and increasing the tree cover.
- **Community Participation:** The project encouraged community participation in environmental conservation activities and promoted a sense of ownership among the students and community.
- **Sustainable Development:** The project promoted eco-friendly practices and encouraged the community to take steps towards sustainable development.



Students of Class five are planting a Tree at Kohat During Spring tree plantation drive-2023

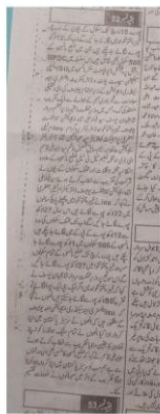
11. Conclusion:

The spring tree plantation drive of the Implementation Support Unit remains successful as achieved its objectives and planted trees in 500 schools across 05 districts of the province and also achieved its goals of promoting environmental awareness and conservation among students and the community. The campaign helped in improving the ecological balance and encouraged community participation in environmental conservation activities. The campaign also promoted eco-friendly practices and encouraged the community to take steps toward sustainable development.



Students are planting trees at GGPS Jallo, Mansehra, During the Spring tree plantation drive-2023

12. Media Coverage



Video coverage (click on link to watch)

https://fb.watch/TALK_oO9o/