

No. GEB/STU-EVE/2019/11



Generating Global
Environmental Benefits - GEB

EIMS: ADDRESSING KEY ISSUES & WAY FORWARD FOR PAKISTAN

April 18th, 2019
Lahore

REPORT OF A 'LECTURE'
ORGANIZED BY GENERATING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEB)
IN COLLABORATION WITH FORESTRY DEPARTMENT, LAHORE

*GEB - A joint initiative of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
& Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC)*





Table of Content

Executive Summary.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Welcome Remarks by Mr. Lutfullah Khalid APO, GEB, UNDP.....	2
Opening Remarks by Dr. Saleem Janjua, NPC, GEB, UNDP.....	2
Remarks by Mr. Faisal Haroon, Conservator, D & WP.....	2
Remarks by Mr. Rana Naeem, Programme Officer, UNDP.....	2
Lecture by Mr. Saleem Ullah, Environment Expert.....	3
Interactive Session.....	4
Souvenir Distribution.....	5
Press Release.....	6
Gallery.....	11

Executive Summary

Generating Global Environmental Benefits (GEB) project aims to remove the barriers to environmental information management and mainstream global environment concerns into economic decision-making. As per the AWP-2019, a lecture was organized by PMU, GEB project with the title of *“Environmental Information & Management: Addressing key Issues & Way Forward for Pakistan”* on March 18, 2019, at GIS Training Hall, Office of the Conservator of Forest, Forest Colony, Lahore. The objective of the lecture was to educate stakeholders/selected representatives regarding the integration of environment and development and thus enhance their commitment and capacity for the role of public and private sector in ensuring environmental sustainability’.

The objective of the GEB project are two-fold in its focus; one related to environmental information and the other is to employ this information for improved decision-making. Moreover, the said project has three inter-related outcomes: Regular availability of consistent and reliable environmental data; a coordinated and robust environmental information management system; and enhanced commitment and capacity for sustainable development planning and legislation.

The purpose of this lecture was to explain the importance of environmental information and management, discuss barriers in its development and find innovative solutions to the environmental problems. The lecture was conducted by a subject expert in an interactive manner. It was agreed among the participants that arranging lectures such as this one are important to increase environmental understanding of the concerned stakeholders/participants as they have a vital role to play in raising environmental awareness as well as formulate public views and perceptions on development projects. Participants of the subject lecture appreciated the activity and efforts of GEB team and wished that such activities may continue in future through different forums so that they are capacitated with the right information on the environment.

Introduction

Generating Global Environmental Benefits (GEB) is a project being implemented by the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) that aims to remove barriers to environmental information management and mainstreams global environment concerns into the economic decision-making in Pakistan. The objective of the GEB project is two-fold in its focus; one related to environmental information and the other to employ this information for improved decision-making. Moreover, the said project has three inter-related outcomes: regular availability of consistent and reliable environmental data; a coordinated and robust environmental information management system; and enhanced commitment and capacity for sustainable development planning and legislation.

Welcome Remarks by Mr. Lutfullah Khalid, APO, GEB, UNDP

Mr. Lutfullah Khalid, Assistant Project Officer (APO) of GEB project formally began the lecture by introducing the GEB Project to the participants. After the orientation, he requested Mr. Hafiz Rizwan for the recitation of the Holy Quran along with the translation. After the recitation of the Holy Quran, he requested Dr Saleem Janjua, National Project Coordinator of GEB project for the welcome address and more detailed orientation to the GEB Project.

Opening Remarks by Dr. Saleem Janjua, National Project Coordinator, UNDP

Dr Saleem Janjua welcomed all participants to the lecture and heartily thanked all especially Mr. Faisal Haroon ‘Conservator of Forests’, Development & Working Plan Circle, Lahore for facilitating with the venue and all the arrangements. He formally started to explain the purpose of this lecture by briefing the importance of environmental information and management. He said that environmental data and information is being produced from different departments but the main issue is that the information is patchy and scattered. This makes it hard for the policy makers to make decisions. He stated that GEB is the “cross-cutting” project and it work for the improvement of the environment under three dimensions namely Land degradation, Biodiversity and Climate change. GEB project intends to establish collaborations with all stakeholders and relevant departments, so that they may contribute to ensure environmental sustainability of Pakistan.

Remarks by Mr. Faisal Haroon, Conservator, D & WP

Mr. Faisal Haroon, Conservator of Forest Development and Working Plan (D&WP) expressed gratitude to be part of this valuable workshop. He said that the Forest Department is in the final stages of the establishment of Geographic Information System (GIS) Lab. He thanked Dr Saleem Janjua, NPC GEB project for organizing this workshop in Forest Colony D&WP Circle office.



Remarks by Mr. Rana Naeem, Programme Officer, UNDP

Mr. Rana Naeem, Programme Officer from UNDP also thanked all the participants and Dr Saleem Janjua for this event organized under Generating Global Environmental Benefit (GEB) Project. He said that the purpose of this lecture is to provide a platform to all relevant stakeholders to share their knowledge on the subject topic. GEB project intends to ensure the reliability of the data; but without active

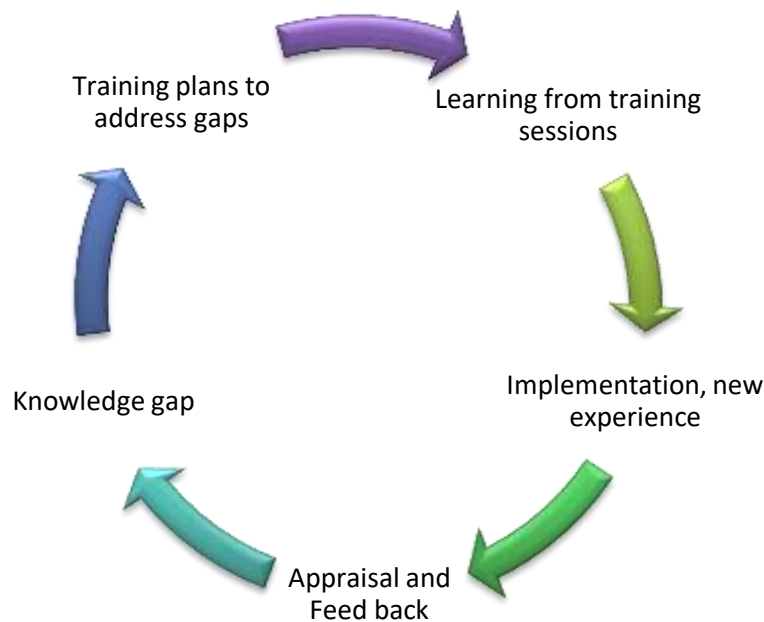


participation, the objective cannot be achieved. In the end, he thanked the stakeholders and encouraged them for their enthusiastic participation in the workshop.

Lecture by Mr. Saleem Ullah, Environment Expert

Mr. Saleem Ullah delivered a detailed presentation on the environment in the context of the project and highlighted the following:

First of all, he shared his methodology with the participants by saying that we all learn from each other and especially from experts such as you. We will follow the model of continuous learning in the project, based on the following figure:



He continued his lecture by stating that “In recent years, Pakistan has experienced terrorism based on extreme incidents, nevertheless we believe that the real and present danger to the Country’s existence is not terrorism, given its mutually reinforcing fabric, but is the environmental issues in general”. Anatol Lieven in his book titled “Pakistan: a hard country”, published in 2011, has very thoroughly analyzed this factor. In fact, this process is the product of three interconnected degradation processes: Land degradation, Biodiversity degradation, and Climate change. The issue of wastes and chemicals (toxic) has further exacerbated the overall decay. Together, these are endangering not the lives and livelihoods of the people of this country but also threatening the statehood of the country. In order to create a pragmatic focus of the environment in the context of the GEB project, the lecture comprised of two sessions. Following approach has been adopted for this lecture:

- a. The audience of the lecture has been chosen from the line departments of the provincial government that contribute to the restoration of the environment in the province.
- b. The lecture highlighted that the change is realized through efforts of individuals who understand the purpose and are committed. The participants were referred as 'Change Agents'.
- c. The Environment and associated issues were presented in the context of the United Nations (UN) GEB project will mainly focus on information management and ensuring environmental sustainability.
- d. Besides the environmental focus of the lecture, the data collection, information and knowledge management was also discussed.

The lessons learned and best practices from all parts of the country were shared by the resource person. He in particular mentioned about the interrelationship of the management of biodiversity and its impact on climate change adaptation and land degradation neutrality. With this, he ended the lecture session and thanked all the participants for attending this important topic with concentration and great interest.

Interactive Session

Dr. Saleem Janjua and Mr. Saleem Ullah Khan started the interactive session. Dr Saleem Janjua said that this is the opportunity to discuss gaps, bottle-necks and identify solutions with the help of relevant departments, organizations, and academia. The need of the hour is that every department plays its role for data generation, collection, and analysis and a mechanism for evidence based reliable data is developed.

One of the participants from the group, Dr. Nusrat Naz Director from EPA/EPD said that the online centralized data is not available to address the environmental monitoring. To address such issues, we have to divide it into three stages. The 1st is data generation, the 2nd is data sharing, and the 3rd is data utilization. The first stage will be to develop SOP's for these 3 steps, sharing availability and its limitations within different departments. Every department is bound to play a prime role in data generation the SOP's about data generation, and what level of data is sharing with the concerned department and how central data system will form. She also mentioned that utilization level will also be different for other departments so that we should have policy level decision capability. The need is to develop a mechanism that coordinates all departments for data collection, generation and analysis. She further added that MoCC being a federal entity should take a leading role and develop such SOPs for all departments in which we have national-level data in a central depository.

give a chance to our brilliant mind to achieve success. A participant named Mr. Hassan Ilyas from Urban Unit further gave suggestions with Eng. Asifa that the data sets are available online regarding Personal Search Syndication (PSS) and anyone can access from there. Mr. Zafar Ali, Director from Bureau of Statistics, Punjab, also added his comment that BSP is open for everyone and data sets are

available online. For data collection gaps, if all of the concerned departments shared the collected data then BPS can help to analyze the data. Mr. Khawar Ata, Research Economist' from Punjab Economic Research Institute (PERI) also gave his suggestion that local research universities are not on policy-oriented research track. Departments works in isolation and do not share data that has been collected. Competent Authorities do not approve data sharing request and users also are not well aware where the data can be achieved. The policymakers should be linked with the practitioner and researchers. In a nutshell, all the stakeholders agreed in the formation of a centralized Data hub. Another participant, Mr. Shahid Imran 'GIS Expert' from Forest department further added that if data is purchased by one department, it should be shared with all departments. Another participant, Mr. Adil Iqbal Khan, Director, from Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) said that PITB has to move towards open web and open data source.

At the end of the session, Dr Saleem Janjua appreciated the feedback of all stakeholders and said that it is necessary to establish such a system that includes all the aspects of reliable data. Moreover, it is important to capacitate the relevant stakeholders. He further said that GEB project is at its initial phase and will coordinate with all the stakeholders to develop EIMS.

Souvenir Distribution

Dr Saleem Janjua, National Project Coordinator, GEB Project distributed souvenirs among the esteemed guests included Mr. Faisal Haroon, Conservator of Forest D&WP, Mr. Saleem Ullah Khan, Resource Person, Mr. Rana Naeem, Programme Officer from UNDP, Syed Ejaz Hussain Sherazi, Chief Conservator of Forest Punjab. The activity was followed by a group photo and the tea break.



The following are the links of the various National newspapers both Urdu and English:

<https://www.akhbarekhyber.com/epaper/edition/2214/akhbar-e-khyber-peshawar/page/3>

بقیہ نمبر 20 تبادلہ خیال
 تفصیل سے تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا سٹیک ہولڈرز اور مختلف
 حکومتوں کے شرکاء نے پاکستان کیلئے منظم ماحولیاتی
 معلومات کے انتظام کے نظام کو مربوط کرنے پر اتفاق کیا
 اور اس بات پر زور دیا کہ تمام محکمے، سٹیک ہولڈرز، میڈیا
 اور عوام کو پاکستان کے ماحولیاتی نظام کے تحفظ اور انتظام
 کیلئے اپنی تمام تر صلاحیتیں بروئے کار لائیں۔

منسٹری آف کلائمٹ چینج کے زیر اہتمام مشاورتی تقریب
شرکاء نے ملک میں ماحولیاتی معلومات کے انتظام کے نظام کی اہمیت کو اجاگر کیا
 پشاور (خبر نیوز) منسٹری آف کلائمٹ چینج اور یو این پاکستان کے منصوبہ جی ای بی پر روشنی ڈالی اور ملک میں
 ڈی بی کے پراجیکٹ جی ای بی کے اشتراک سے ماحولیاتی معلومات کے انتظام کے نظام کی اہمیت
 ”ماحولیاتی انفارمیشن مینجمنٹ سسٹم“ پاکستان کے اہم کو اجاگر کیا اور اس سلسلے میں یو این ڈی بی کی کوششوں
 مسائل اور مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل کے عنوان سے ایک کورسراہا۔ چیف ناظم جنگلات فیصل ہارون اور یو این
 روزہ مشاورتی تقریب کا انعقاد کیا گیا تقریب میں ڈی بی کے رانا نعیم نے بھی خطاب کیا تقریب کو ایک
 ڈاکٹر سلیم جنجوعہ، کنٹری کوارڈی نیٹر جی ای بی منسٹری انٹریکٹو طریقے سے ترتیب دیا گیا جس میں ماحولیاتی
 آف کلائمٹ اور یو این ڈی بی اس موقع پر مہمان معلومات اور انتظام، اہم مسائل اور پاکستان کے
 خصوصی تھے انہوں نے اپنے خطاب میں حکومت مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل (باقی صفحہ نمبر 5 پیج نمبر 20)



منسٹری آف کلائمٹ چینج کے زیر اہتمام مشاورتی تقریب

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پشاور (نیوز رپورٹر) منسٹری آف کلائمٹ چینج اور یو این ڈی بی کے پراجیکٹ جی ای بی کے اشتراک سے ”ماحولیاتی انفارمیشن مینجمنٹ سسٹم“ پاکستان کے اہم مسائل اور مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل کے عنوان سے ایک روزہ مشاورتی تقریب کا انعقاد کیا گیا تقریب میں ڈاکٹر سلیم جنجوعہ،
 کنٹری کوارڈی نیٹر جی ای بی منسٹری آف کلائمٹ اور یو این ڈی بی اس موقع پر مہمان خصوصی تھے انہوں نے اپنے خطاب میں حکومت
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 سے ترتیب دیا گیا جس میں ماحولیاتی معلومات اور انتظام، اہم مسائل اور پاکستان کے مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل پر تفصیل سے تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا
 سٹیک ہولڈرز اور مختلف حکومتوں کے شرکاء نے پاکستان کیلئے منظم ماحولیاتی معلومات کے نظام کو مربوط کرنے پر اتفاق کیا اور اس
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 بروئے کار لائیں۔

Daily Aeen

TRUTH MATTERS

Statesman

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Sunday April 21, 2019

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پشاور: مشرقی آف کلائمٹ چینج کے زیر اہتمام مشاورتی تقریب کے شرکاء نے ملک میں ماحولیاتی معلومات کے انتظام کے نظام کی اہمیت کو اجاگر کیا

پشاور (سٹاف رپورٹر) مشرقی آف کلائمٹ چینج اور پاکستان کے منصوبہ بی ای ٹی پی آر ڈی کے ذریعہ ملک میں یو این ڈی پی کے پراجیکٹ بی ای ٹی کے شرکاء نے ماحولیاتی معلومات کے انتظام کے نظام کی اہمیت کو اجاگر کیا اور پاکستان کے ماحولیاتی انفارمیشن منیجمنٹ سسٹم پاکستان کے اہم مسائل اور مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل کے کوئی سٹیک ہولڈر مشاورتی تقریب کا افتتاح کیا اور تقریب میں ڈاکٹر سلیم خان جو کٹری کوریڈی ٹری بی ای ٹی مشرقی آف کلائمٹ اور یو این ڈی پی اس موقع پر مہمان خصوصی تھے انہوں نے اپنے خطاب میں حکومت

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https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/Index.aspx?Issue=NP_PEW&Page=Metropolitan_Page009&Date=20190422&PageNo=9

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Stakeholders stress need for a robust environmental information management system

PESHAWAR: Participants of a consultative workshop unanimously stressed the need for a robust environmental information management system in the country for meeting with challenges faced due to impact of climatic changes.

The consultative workshop was jointly organized by Ministry of Climate Change, United Nations

Development Programme under their Global Environment Benefits (GEB) project, says a press release issued here on Saturday.

The consultative event was titled as "Environmental Information Management System: Addressing Key Issues and Way forward for Pakistan", adds the press release.

The participants of the workshop also agreed that

all government departments/stakeholders should play their role in a coordinated manner for addressing key issues and safeguarding environment of the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Saleem Janjua, Country Coordinator (GEB) presented brief overview of the GEB initiative.

He highlighted impor-

ance of environmental information management system in the country and appreciated the efforts of United Nations in this regard.

The event proceeded with an interactive discussion on the subject topic. Environmental information and management, key issues and way forward for Pakistan were discussed in detail. - APP

<https://www.mashriqtv.pk/E-Paper/the-statesman/2019-04-21/page-2>

Stakeholders Stress Need For A Robust Environmental Information Management System In Country

Sumaira FH • 25 days ago • Sat, 20th April 2019 | 03:22 PM



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PESHAWAR, (UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - APP - 20th Apr, 2019) :Participants of a consultative workshop unanimously stressed on need of a robust environmental information management system in the country for meeting with challenges faced due to impact of climatic changes.

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<http://e.naibaat.pk/Pre/peshawar/Page02.aspx>

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Shaukat Ali Hossaini 10, 1440 (April 23, 2017)

Vol. 10, No. 10, Issue 10, Page 111

Need stressed for a robust environmental information management system

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The consultative event was titled as 'Environmental Information Management System: Addressing Key Issues and Way forward for Pakistan', adds the press release.

The participants of the workshop also agreed

that all government departments/stakeholders should play their role in a coordinated manner for addressing key issues and safeguarding environment of the country. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Saleem Janjua, Country Coordinator (GEB) presented brief overview of the GEB initiative.

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/pakobserver.net/need-stressed-for-a-robust-environmental-information-management-system/amp/>

Need for environmental information management system underlined



PESHAWAR: Participants of a consultative workshop unanimously stressed the need for a robust environmental information management system in the country for meeting with challenges faced due to impact of climatic changes.

The consultative workshop was jointly organised by Ministry of Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme under the Global Environment Benefits (GEB) project, said a press release issued here on Saturday.

The workshop "Environmental Information Management System: Addressing Key Issues and Way forward for Pakistan" was addressed by a number of experts.

The participants of the workshop also agreed that all government departments/stakeholders should play their role in a coordinated manner for addressing key issues and safeguarding environment of the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Saleem Janjua, country Coordinator (GEB) presented brief overview of the initiative of the organisation.

He highlighted importance of environmental information management system in the country and appreciated the efforts of the United Nations in this regard.

The event proceeded with an interactive discussion on the subject topic.

Environmental information and management, key issues and way forward for Pakistan were discussed in detail.



GEB MANAGEMENT



Mr. Hassan Nasir Jami
Secretary / National Project Director - GEB

Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC)
Government of Pakistan



Dr. Saleem Janjua
National Project Coordinator - GEB

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) &
Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC)
Government of Pakistan



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