

Media Update

27 September 2016

UNESCO

Media Advisory

2016 Global Education Monitoring Report Launch

UNESCO Pakistan is planning to launch the forthcoming 2016 Global Education Monitoring Report (GEMR) on September 28, 2016 featuring leading voices and distinguished experts from government, international organizations, civil society and academia. The Global Education Monitoring Report, formerly known as the Education for All Global Monitoring Report (GMR), is an editorially independent, authoritative, and evidence-based annual report by UNESCO. Its core mandate is to monitor progress towards the education targets in the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework.

Who: UNESCO and UNICEF

What: National Launch of GEM Report 2016

When: Wednesday, 28 September 2016, 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Where: Shamadan Hall II & III, Serena Hotel, Islamabad

PROGRAM AGENDA

Proceedings	Time
Registration of guests	02:00 – 02:30 pm
Recitation from the Holy Quran	02:30 – 02:35 pm
Welcome Address by Ms. Angela Kearney, UNICEF Representative to Pakistan	02:35 – 02:45 pm
Presentation on the 2016 GEM Report - Key findings by Ms. Vibeke Jensen, UNESCO Representative to Pakistan	02:45 – 03:15 pm
Key Note Address by Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman, Minister of State for Federal Education and Professional Training	03:15 – 03:30 pm
Panel Discussion by Experts on GEMR Thematic content followed by Q & A	03:30 – 04:45 pm
Speech by Mr. Syed Abu Ahmed Akif, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change	04:45 – 04:55 pm
Concluding Remarks: Partnership and collaboration across sector to achieve	04:55 – 05:05 pm



SDGs by Ms. Lola Castro, WFP Representative to Pakistan

Tea and Refreshments

05:15 – 05:45 pm

R.S.V.P.

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UN-Habitat

Press Release

Sindh Water & Sanitation Service Providers Gather in Peshawar to Build Capacity & Improve Service Delivery

New assessment revealed major areas of improvement in water and sanitation service provision in Sindh, discussed by urban service providers

Peshawar, 21 - 23 September, 2016: A new capacity assessment revealed major areas that need improvement in urban water and sanitation service delivery in Sindh, following the increase in demand for municipal services as identified in the Willingness to Pay (WTP) Survey conducted by UN-Habitat earlier this year. In order for the Government of Sindh to harness demand for water and sanitation services, building the capacity of Sindh urban service providers is a key element, therefore UN-Habitat arranged an exposure visit



to Water and Sanitation Services, Peshawar (WSSP), which has effectively improved service delivery through initiation of proper mechanisms and social mobilization.

Conducted by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SPDI) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) with funding from USAID through United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the capacity assessment exercise was discussed at an exposure visit in Peshawar last week. The visit is a part of multiple projects that seek to mobilize communities to improve Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services in Sindh. It is a collaborative effort between UN-Habitat, UNICEF, North Sindh Urban Services Corporation Limited (NSUSC), Sukkur, the Municipal Services Delivery Program (MSDP), Government of Sindh, Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA), Hyderabad, Water and Sanitation Services Peshawar (WSSP), and USAID.

The capacity assessment identified that service providers in Sindh are facing challenges regarding timely collection of solid waste management, recovery of unpaid bills, maintenance of fixed assets or inventory register, and also need to build capacity to centrally control the supporting departments. The workshop contained technical sessions on addressing the challenges and included visits to operational sites which revealed state of the art methods adopted by WSSP and positive social mobilization for better and improved services to meet the increased demand. The exercise aimed to support the Government of Sindh in taking necessary steps to ensure effective running of MSDP, WASA Hyderabad, and NSUSC and devising necessary actions to improve services in Sindh by learning from Peshawar's urban service providers.

According to the press statement by Khan Zeb Khan, Chief Executive Officer – Water and Sanitation Services, Peshawar, “Successful municipal service delivery is a challenge for local government institutions. In many parts of the country, existing facilities for water supply, solid waste management, and sanitation are ineffective and require immediate corrective measures. WSSP is continuously improving its services and through this workshop, we aim to facilitate learning of other urban service providers and extend our support to UN-Habitat, UNICEF, and USAID to improve municipal service delivery in Sindh.”

He further added, “Equipped with the necessary knowledge and expertise, Pakistan will be a step closer to eradicating the concerns of the masses by setting up an effective and modern WASH services structure.”

Irfan S. Alrai, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Specialist – UNICEF, "UNICEF is in the process of increasing its efforts to address urban WASH issues, taking into account the needs of urban service providers as well as their comparative advantages to tackle specific urban WASH challenges. UNICEF with the support of UN-Habitat and other partners is supporting the community mobilization component of the MSDP. Building the capacity of local authorities and service providers, with the objective of making them perform better, both with the aim to improve services for the urban dwellers in the City of Jacobabad and also at the scale of the city to improve overall sustainability and reliability is an important objective of the program. The national exposure visit to WSSP is an important cross-learning event which will generate knowledge and evidence on pro poor service delivery approaches being implemented by WSSP and will help Sindh based service providers like NSUSC, MSDP and WASA Hyderabad to learn from good practices and replicate them in their respective jurisdictions"

Syed Mohsin Nazar, Director Finance WASA Hyderabad, “This type of exposure visit will be helpful for all water utilities to exchange and learn more for preparing sustainable policies for future.”

Mian Muhammad Junaid, Basic Services Manager - UN-Habitat, "Successful public service delivery systems require sustainable and efficient management of WASH services, along with responsible social mobilization and behavioral change communication with the public. We hope that this capacity building exercise will help the urban service providers of Sindh improve service delivery and harness demand for water and sanitation services. UN-Habitat is thankful to WSSP for their continued support for the betterment of WASH services in Pakistan.”

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About UN Habitat:

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. It is the focal point for all urbanization and human settlement matters within the UN system. UN-Habitat renewed its presence in Pakistan in late 2005 following the devastating earthquake in the north of the country and has since then been supporting the Government at all levels through its humanitarian and development work. At present, UN-Habitat is Chair of the WASH Working Group of Strategic Priority Area on **Vulnerable and marginalized populations have equitable access and use of quality services under the One UN Programme 2013-2017** and is actively represented in the Shelter, WASH and Community Restoration clusters in KP & FATA.

About WSSP:

The Water and Sanitation Services Peshawar (WSSP) is a newly established urban utility in Peshawar as a public limited company, registered with the securities and exchange commission of Pakistan, (SECP), fully owned by government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, under the companies Ordinance, 1984. It has become the first water and sanitation company in Pakistan to have urban water and sanitation services delivered by ring fenced; fully autonomous, professionally managed and corporate governed utility. The geographical area of WSSP comprises of 45 urban and 22 semi-urban union councils.

WFP

Press Release

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN AND WFP LAUNCH FIFTH EDITION OF PAKISTAN EDUCATION ATLAS

ISLAMABAD, 27 September – The Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) have launched the fifth edition of the Pakistan Education Atlas.

“The updated, credible and detailed information [in the Atlas] can assist the Government and development actors operating in the education sector of Pakistan in making informed policy and programme decisions,” said Haseeb Athar, Secretary for Federal Education and Professional Training, speaking at the launch of the report last Tuesday.

The Atlas is the only national publication providing education indicators by geographic location down to the *tehsil* level, enabling stakeholders to easily identify priority areas for interventions and resource allocation.



“Education and food security go hand in hand,” said Lola Castro, WFP’s Country Director. “An educated family is more likely to have the means to buy food, and to make smart choices about which foods to eat. WFP, with its broad experience of school meals programmes, is one hundred percent behind the Government of Pakistan’s plans to bring improvement in education sector, and this Atlas is a tangible sign of the deep partnerships that are needed so children can achieve their potential” she said.

In addition to its value as a planning tool, the data from the Atlas also serves as a baseline for measuring progress towards the fourth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), which aims to ‘ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all’. WFP is committed to supporting the Government of Pakistan to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

The report finds that school enrolment is still an area of concern in Pakistan, with just over half of school-aged children (50.8%) registered, representing only a marginal increase from 50.1% in 2010. Enrolment is higher for primary education, with a net enrolment rate of 72%. This means that 6.08 million children (28% of the total) aged 5-9 years are currently out of school, down from 6.16 million in 2013/14. Of the 6.08 million, 2.55 million are boys and 3.53 million are girls. Just below half of them (44%) live in Punjab, the most populous province.

The report also reveals that only 69% of students who start Grade 1 stay on to Grade 5. Contributing to this is the fact that 67% of government schools have drinking water, while 69% are with toilets for student, 57% have electricity and 71% have boundary walls. The availability of these facilities has a direct impact on the retention of students.

The Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and WFP have worked together on the Pakistan Education Atlas since 2010. Under the one UN Joint Programme of Work, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and other partners were also involved in technical review sessions and promotion of the report.

The report may be downloaded from:

http://vam.wfp.org.pk/Publication/Pakistan_Education_Atlas_2016.pdf

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in 80 countries.

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UN Women

Press Release

Claiming Our Spaces: Enhancing Women and Girls' Safety and Mobility in Public Spaces

27 September 2016 - Lahore, Pakistan: In designing and planning safe cities and safe public spaces to enhance women and girls' safety and mobility in public spaces, the Government of Punjab's Chief Minister's Special Monitoring Unit (Law and Order Wing), the Punjab Commission on the Status of Women and Punjab's Women Development Department in collaboration with UN Women (the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women) brought together a number of national and international experts who have designed and implemented "Safe City and



Safe Public Spaces Programmes” in similar socio, economic and cultural contexts.

The event held on Tuesday 27 September 2016 in a local hotel in Lahore, addressed issues, challenges and responses to prevent and respond to sexual violence against women in public spaces as part of UN Women’s Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global Flagship Initiative.

Bushra Aman (Secretary, Punjab’s Women Development Department) welcomed guests to the first joint dialogue on peaceful cohabitation and non-discrimination of women and looked forward to a deepened understanding of how the use of and access to public spaces relates to and enhances women’s rights, equality and participation.

Jamshed Kazi (Country Representative, UN Women Pakistan) in his opening remarks highlighted emerging key promises of UN Women’s global safe city programme initiated five years ago as: the inclusion of a rights based approach of safe cities and urbanization; the inclusion of women and girls in the research and planning process; and to ensure diverse programming to make sure no-one is left behind.

Khawar Mumtaz (former Chairperson, National Commission on the Status of Women) in highlighting challenges in urbanization taking place in Pakistan at a fast pace, said: “In search of better opportunities a pattern occurs where men move first with women following later. With population pressure increases in urban areas, the ground realities are that cities are faced with congestion, not enough space, health issues, informal settlements, increase in poverty, water and sanitation crises and we find there is not enough food or security.”

A panel discussion on urban and social development as part of a comprehensive approach to reduce violence against women and girls in major cities, focused on issues, policies, and efforts undertaken to deal with problems, and opportunities, arising from the acceleration of urbanization and security of public spaces for both women and men. The discussions further strengthened commitments from a gender perspective as part of a comprehensive approach to reduce violence against women and girls. Panelists included Akbar Nasir Khan (Chief Operating Officer, Lahore’s Safe City Project), Fauzia Viqar (Chairperson, Punjab Commission on the Status of Women), Rida Shahzad (Chief Minister’s Special Monitoring Unit) and Amara Athar (Superintendent Police Investigation, Lahore).

In effectively adapting and piloting UN Women's global Safe City model in Pakistan, presentations and tools were shared by international experts: "Global Perspective and Best Practices On Safe Cities/Safe Urban Spaces Initiatives" by Laura Capobianco (Policy Specialist, Safe Public Spaces, UN Women HQ); "Policy Legislation and Legal Work" by Cherine Aly (Project Associate, Ending Violence Against Women, UN Women Egypt); "Safety Audit: Scoping Study and Saftipin - Lessons Learnt from India & Asia-Pacific" by Kalpana Viswanath (Co-founder and Director, Saftipin, India); and "Essential Services Package of Modules" by Caroline Ann Meenagh (Policy Specialist (Multi-Sectoral Services for Ending Violence Against Women), UN Women HQ).

The event concluded with designing and endorsing a step-by-step approach on key areas (policy, advocacy and behavioral change) to 'facilitate' women and girls to exercise their rights: to move around freely; to use and access public spaces and services; to make choices about their place of residence, work, or leisure; and more broadly, to make the best of the opportunities a city has to offer.

Participants included representatives from government departments, civil society, academia and research institutions, judiciary, security sector, human rights activists, UN agencies and media partners.

The consultation was carried out under UN Women in Pakistan's 'Ending Violence Against Women and Girls' programme, with support from the Government of Australia to increase participation of women in society as leaders and change makers based upon: (i) access to safe public spaces; (ii) successful remedies against violence against women; and (iii) awareness about rights and services to promote empowerment of women.

END

For more information contact:

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