



Media Update

3 February 2015

WFP

MEDIA ADVISORY

In order to recognize Germany's contribution towards WFP relief operation for the displaced population of KP and FATA, a donation handing over ceremony is being organized at WFP Country Office Islamabad, on 5 February 2015. You are cordially invited to attend and cover the event.

Programme:

What: Donation Handing Over Ceremony

When: Thursday 5 February 2015

Time: 1400 hours

Where: WFP Country Office, Plot No.1, Diplomatic Enclave, G-5, Islamabad

Participants: German Ambassador, WFP Country Director, Minister for National Food Security & Research

How to participate:

To facilitate your access to the venue kindly send us your name and CNIC number max by 10:00 am, on 5 February 2015 to Amjad Jamal, Communications Officer, WFP Pakistan, via e-mail at amjad.jamal@wfp.org, or call [0300 8500989](tel:03008500989).





FAO

PRESS RELEASE

FAO advocates for the Right fertilizer at the Right rate at the Right time in the Right place (“4Rs”)

Islamabad, 3 February 2015: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in partnership with the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, the Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC) and the U.S. Department for Agriculture (USDA) convened a one-day symposium on the Public-Private Partnership to Manage Soil Fertility in Pakistan. The objective of the symposium was to highlight the significance of balanced fertilization and to create awareness among fertilizer industry, farmers, academia and agriculture extension workers on the importance of balanced fertilization in food security and sustainable agriculture.

The symposium brought together approximately 45 participants from the Agricultural Services Departments of Fertilizer Industry, Punjab and Sindh Government Agriculture Extension Departments, Research and Agricultural Information Departments, Farmers Associates, International Potash Institute- Switzerland, Academia, Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and FAO to share experiences, case studies, initiatives and ideas on the public-private partnership to manage soil fertility.

The Chief Guest on the occasion H.E. Mr. Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan, Minister for National Food Security and Research said that “the excessive use of fertilizers have created unfavorable balance of nutrients including nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium in the soils. This imbalance in the nutrients has emerged as a major contributor in the decline and degradation of crop production and soil fertility in the country”.

Talking on the occasion, FAO Representative to Pakistan Mr. Patrick T. Evans shared that “FAO is working on a baseline atlas of current soil fertility practices, disaggregated by farm size and cropping systems in Pakistan. The atlas will help to understand required soil fertility management changes for sustainable intensification. Consequently, appropriate balanced inputs and “4Rs” - Right fertilizer at the Right rate at the Right time in the Right place, would be promoted in partnership with





the private sector, including national fertilizer companies, wholesalers/retailers and farmer associations”.

A significant yield gap exists between potential and the actual yields in Pakistan. This presents an opportunity for increased production to ensure food security in the country. The symposium will contribute to find out ways for improving and managing soil fertility by involving farmers for better nutrient management while intensifying agricultural production.

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