

Media Update

2 February 2018

UNIDO

Press Release

GCIP Global Commendation Award won by Pakistani Innovator at GCIP Global Week, USA

A team of Pakistani innovators, led by Mr Nabeel Siddiqui from ModulusTech, won “Special Commendation Award” under UNIDO-GCIP Global Awards 2017 in Los Angeles, USA. ModulusTech has developed affordable, flat-pack housing for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) that can be assembled by three people in three hours with a unit cost of only \$3,000. This alternative shelter that includes plumbing and electricity produces five times less greenhouse gas emissions than concrete buildings while improving their living conditions, and thus has the potential to address climate migration issues. This year, three teams – namely Modulus Tech, Biotech and Aerosync from the fourth cycle of GCIP Pakistan’s Call for Awards 2017– participated in this event. In 2015 and 2016, innovators of GCIP Pakistan won such Awards as well, demonstrating the high innovation and entrepreneurship potential in the country.

Clean technology innovators and entrepreneurs from Pakistan, Turkey, Morocco, Thailand, South Africa, and India were honored at the 2018 GCIP Global Week and Cleantech Open Global Forum this week in Los Angeles, USA. The Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) award winners joined top entrepreneurs from around the world to celebrate the progress,



achievements and successes of clean technology innovation in addressing global environmental and sustainability challenges.

GCIP is a joint initiative of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and is conducted in partnership with the Cleantech Open (CTO), a Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator programme. Each startup involved receives training, mentoring, and promotion, and is put in contact with potential investors, customers and partners throughout the programme. Each national GCIP receives \$1M to \$2M in funding from the GEF, which is matched by \$2M to \$6M+ in co-financing (including in-kind) from in-country public and private-sector partners.

“Today, GCIP is the cornerstone of GEF support for small and medium enterprises. Innovation is critical to solving today’s global environmental threats. And, recognizing the central role of the private sector, we hope to do even more in the future. We need scalable, innovative ideas that embrace the opportunity that new technologies provide us with,” said Naoko Ishii, GEF CEO and Chairperson, in a video address to the GCIP Global Week and Cleantech Open Global Forum participants.

Addressing the Forum on behalf of UNIDO, Director General, LI Yong, thanked the entrepreneurs and innovators “for the transformative impact that your innovations are having, and for their contribution to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals relating to clean energy and to green industry, innovation and infrastructure.”

UNDP



Press Release

The People's Republic of China and UNDP Pakistan sign US\$4 million agreement to support crisis-affected areas of FATA and Balochistan

Islamabad, 02 February 2018 — In a unique example of south-south collaboration, the People's Republic of China and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pakistan have signed a US\$4 million agreement to provide assistance over four months in areas of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Balochistan that have been affected by natural and human-made crises.

The “China South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund for the Recovery Project in FATA and Balochistan” will help 8,100 families returning to the areas affected by insecurity in FATA to rebuild their lives. In Balochistan, about 19,000 school children will benefit as schools that were damaged in the 2010–2011 floods are refurbished.

H.E Yao Jing, Ambassador of China to Pakistan said, “the successful launching of this project renews our commitment to deliver strong support to the people of Pakistan. In future, China will continue to increase the Grant Assistance to Pakistan, enriching the categories and sectors, expanding the input into areas with pressing demands including FATA and Balochistan.”

Muhammad Aslam Chaudhry, Joint Secretary, Economic Affairs Division, said, “we are thankful to the Government of China for this initiative to provide immediate response to meet the needs of communities in FATA and Balochistan. This project would support the people in restoration of livelihoods and help to rebuild their lives.”

Ignacio Artaza, UNDP Pakistan Country Director, said, “FATA and Balochistan are amongst the country’s least developed regions and, in recent years, have been severely affected by disasters. This support from China will help temporarily displaced families get back on their feet as they return home after years of uncertainty, and help ensure that schools in Balochistan meet the necessary conditions to keep young students in school.”

The recovery project is supported by the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) of the People's Republic of China and implemented by UNDP. The project aims to provide immediate response to meet the needs of the affected individual and communities through the distribution of essential supplies for the restoration of livelihoods.

This initiative builds on UNDP’s ongoing support for early recovery and rehabilitation of affected populations in Pakistan and will provide 56,700 people (8,100 families) in Kurram, South Waziristan, North Waziristan, Khyber and Orakzai Agencies with construction kits to rebuild their homes, as well as essential household items.

In Balochistan’s Naseerabad, Jafferabad and Sohbatpur districts, which were the worst affected by the 2010–2011 floods, 375 schools will receive new furniture and education kits.

The project will be implemented in partnership with government stakeholders including the Disaster Management Authority, FATA Secretariat and Temporarily Displaced People Secretariat in FATA, and in Balochistan the Departments of Education and Planning and Development.

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