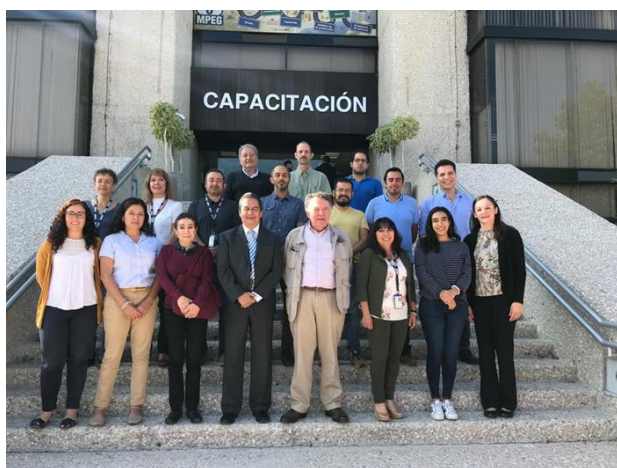




Inspiring leadership for sustainable world

MTD Making the Difference | Issue 12 | January 2020

## LEAD NETWORK NEWSLETTER



A joint newsletter by LEAD Member Programmes (Anglophone West Africa, Francophone Africa, India, Mexico, Pakistan and Southern & Eastern Africa) partners in the Mutual Collaborative Agreement (MCA) for enhanced visibility of LEAD Network.

## Inside this Issue

Foreword	1
A journey towards new dimensions of development	2
LEAD Afrique Francophone	3
LEAD Mexico	4
LEAD Pakistan	9
Fellows' updates from across the world	11
Friends of LEAD Network	19

## Foreword

The world is in transition where infrastructure based physical presence of institutions or human resource networks are being gradually replaced by digitally led virtual institutions and networks reducing a major proportion of the operational cost. It also greatly contributes in reducing the ecological footprint making our work patterns compatible to the climate resilient development approaches. Under this paradigm, physical presence of professional teams is managed time and again amongst the members and partners either on rotational basis or at a one-time mutually selected facility only when it is needed. All of this is happening due to the changing work patterns in the 21<sup>st</sup> century led by the influx of sophisticated technologies in almost all sectors of development. With a splendid history of more than 25 years, LEAD Fellows Network is not an exception. Over the span of time, LEAD Fellows have acquired much capability to stay connected and work online both on individual basis as well as collectively taking into account their interests and domains specially related to environment and sustainable development. Therefore, physical presence of institutions or networks are no longer essentially required by the professionals to make the impacts that can also be created through their organized virtual connectivity. In most of the countries, LEAD Fellows have been able to demonstrate this capability on scale.

There are many proposals from our Fellows from LEAD Programmes in Brazil, Mexico, India, Southern & Eastern Africa, Francophone Africa, Russia, China and Pakistan to prepare some mechanisms where we could create an environment to collaborate for different initiatives aimed at addressing the ongoing global challenges to humanity. It may also lead to develop interest based projects, theme based exchange visits, inter-cohort meetings, extending fellows based local hospitality, etc. To materialize these ideas, we may also think about resource mobilization or establishing the Global Fellows Fund. In this context, some of the Fellows are already engaged to work out the modalities. It's the right time that we should come forward with more workable ideas by writing and sharing some notes or articles through the next issues of this newsletter as one of the good communication channels and our main knowledge product amongst the Fellows as well as member programs.

Azhar Qureshi  
LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-5  
Member, Islamabad LEAD-Club

## ABOUT LEAD NETWORK

LEAD Network is the most dynamic, perhaps the largest multi-sectoral network of professionals from across the globe representing diverse backgrounds such as academia, media, industry, civil society, community, government, etc. who have a shared vision about the future. With more than 2500 Fellows, it is committed to make a difference in the lives of people with focus on sustainable development.

## THEMATIC AREAS

Adaptation and Mitigation  
Leadership and Capacity Building  
Partnerships  
Private Sector Engagement  
LEAD Fellows' Online Interviews & Updates  
Friends of LEAD Network



## MCA MEMBERS

LEAD-Anglophone West Africa  
LEAD-Francophone Africa  
LEAD-India  
LEAD-Mexico  
LEAD-Pakistan  
LEAD-Southern and Eastern Africa

## NON-MCA MEMBERS

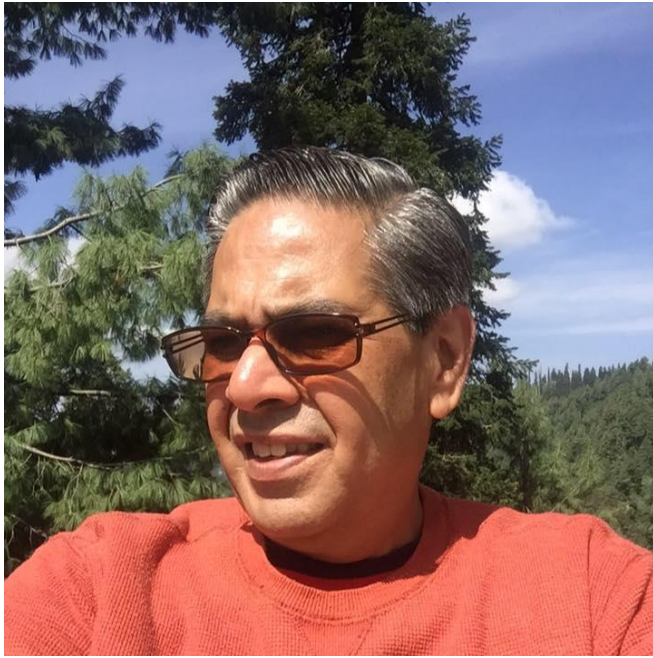
LEAD-China  
LEAD-Indonesia  
LEAD-Japan

This Newsletter is a joint publication of LEAD Programmes working under Mutual Collaborative Agreement (MCA) and is intended to reflect views of the LEAD Stakeholders such as regional and country programs, LEAD Fellows and Friends of LEAD.

Please send your contributions based on the thematic areas as shared above.

For inquiries, please write to "Azhar Qureshi"  
<azhar.eci@gmail.com>

## A JOURNEY TOWARDS NEW DIMENSIONS OF DEVELOPMENT



The Founding Director LEAD Pakistan, Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh left the organization for his new engagements in the development sector during the second half of 2019 after serving the LEAD Network for more than 20 years. LEAD Fellows Network takes this opportunity to pay him rich tributes for his inspiring leadership role and establishing such a dynamic network of professionals and change makers who are well connected, determined and continuing to serve the cause of environment and sustainable development both at national and global level. We wish to seek Mr. Ali

Sheikh's further guidance and support in his capacity for the long-term sustainability of LEAD Network.



## LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### Enda LEAD Afrique Francophone

#### Learning – Action Workshop on Sustainable Development Indicators

##### Darou khoudoss, THIES



Enda Lead Afrique Francophone organized a Learning-action workshop on relevant indicators of sustainable development on December 6 and 7, 2019 at the Darou Khoudoss community city hall. Participants reflected on the theme of “Contributing to local sustainable development through strengthening the promotion of environmental education in schools”.

The overall objective of the workshop was to promote dialogue and information-sharing between local actors in education and training and their networks, as well as territorial actors and associations or organizations for the preservation of the environment. It allows discussions and dialogue on the best way to implement the 2030 Agenda, and more specifically SDGs 4,11,12 and 13 in order to identify the most relevant and necessary adapted indicators to support sustainable transformations for the educational offer and build bridges with community resilience by 2030.

The participants shared the opportunity to:

- Reflect on the strengthening of the educational offer with regard to its contribution to the reinforcement of behaviors and practices sensitive to eco-citizen values towards pupils and learners, to the improvement of their living environment in school environment and among communities facing environmental degradation
- Contribute to the development of indicators by local actors in relation to their reality on the ground and the inherent problems.
- Reflect on the local strategies to be implemented to reach the target SDGs.



- Establish a group of local actors for the development and monitoring of future local pacts as well as the implementation of SDGs 4, 11, 12 and 13

The choice of the city of Darou Khoudoss is justified by its location in the department of Tivaouane characterized by the richness of its subsoil with a degraded environment. Its four municipalities are mined with zircon at Diogo (Darou Khoudoss) and phosphate at Taïba Ndiaye, Meouane resources exploited by companies under national law, Grande Côte Operations (GCO), and Industries Chimiques du Sénégal (ICS). This workshop, organized with the financial support of the European Union, is part of the project “Strengthening the role and place of civil societies in the south in the implementation of a transformative 2030 agenda”.

## LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### LEAD Mexico

In 2019, LEAD Mexico had a very busy schedule with its curricular and non-curricular activities.

Curricular activities: The following activities are related to five weekly sessions for 23<sup>rd</sup> LEAD-Mexico Program cohort during 2019 culminating in the graduation of associates, and now cohort 23 Fellows. As always, this group was balanced gender, geographically, and professionally balanced:

Associates had the opportunity to discuss conventional, environmental, economic and social topics and rising complex contemporary issues. To induce and guide the debates LEAD Mexico invited recognized experts (including many of their fellows). Sessions took place in several locations in different regions and cities where some distinguished LEAD Fellows play academic, social and political institutional roles.

Week 1, *Review of Basic Paradigms* took place in El Colegio de México (Mexico City), during May 27-31. We would like to recognize Carlos Echarri’s participation, a El Colegio’s prominent demographer and colleague recently named National Population Council, who regrettably and unfortunately passed away





This week has been most important as associates are exposed to environmental, ecological social, economic and scientific paradigms having a chance to become aware of multiple and complex interrelations among disciplines.

Week 2, *Development Actors* was organized in Xalapa, Veracruz and Cuetzalan, Puebla during August 5 to 9. Cohort 2 Fellow Hipólito Rodríguez head of Xalapa's, the state of Veracruz capital, fully supported our visit and organized sessions with state and local state holders, providing all the facilities to achieve our objectives. We moved to Cuetzalan, Puebla where the group was hosted in an Ecological Reserve, managed by Luis Enrique Fernández, Lead cohort 5, within a Nahual indigenous population involved in a coffee producing region.

Week 3, *Information for environmental policy decision making* (in collaboration with INEGI), in Aguascalientes, Ags., from 23 to 27 September. The group spent a whole week in sessions that are delivered as workshops organized by the experts and technicians working in this National Institute for Geography and Statistics. A tour is also organized this year which allows the group to follow the city's hydrological system. It is worth mentioning that today a dozen Lead Fellows work at INEGI in technical and administrative tasks. Francisco Javier Jiménez Nava, Cohort 13 Fellow, was our main contact for the session.

Week 4, *Social Development and cross cutting issues* (in the metropolitan area of Guadalajara) from October 21 to the 25<sup>th</sup>. Sergio Graf, Lead Fellow Cohort 5, Secretary of the Environment and Territorial Development of the State of Jalisco was our co-host and co-organizer for this weekly session with the support of the University of Guadalajara. Again, as we did for other weeks, we took advantage of the very numerous, prominent and outstanding fellows inserted in local and regional society there. Our sessions were held at the University's vice-chancellery meeting room and at the State Public Library which offered their magnificent sites and location. Complex issues were discussed *in situ* as we visited one of the two water treatment plants for the city, Chapala Lake, and El Salto, a heavily polluted water course. A very unique event thanks to our Lead fellows: Arturo Argueta (C-2) National Undersecretary of Environment; Salvador Peniche (C-10), Carla Aceves (C-18), Marco Berger (C-17), Ana Luz Quintanilla (C-9) University of Guadalajara lecturers and researchers; Héctor Castañón (C-10), Rafael González Franco (C-4) Fabiola Neri (C-14), and Paola Bauche (C-16) civil society activists; Sergio Sánchez (C-4), Santiago Machado (C-19), and last but not least Gerardo Gonzalez (C-6) who was our local coordinator.

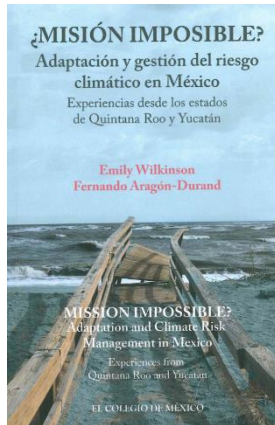


Week 5, *City Challenges for Sustainability* (Mexico City) from November 25 to 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Marina Robles, Environment Secretary of the Government of Mexico City and LEAD cohort 5 Fellow, we

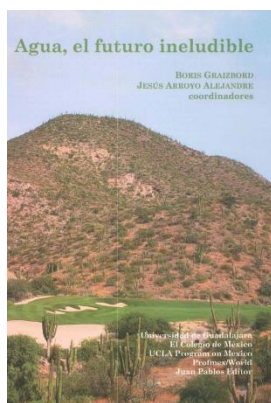
were able to get full support from the Head of Mexico City Government, Claudia Sheinbaum (cohort 5). The support of international funding organizations (the German Agency GIZ, the Latin American Fund CAF, the French Embassy, and the InterAmerican Development Bank IADB) as well as national and local institutions (National Anthropology and History Institute, the Mexico City's School of Public Administration) and not least the inclusion of many prominent Lead fellows as coordinators and panelists made possible an amazing Lead and public event. International, National, Regional and Metropolitan environmental policies were reviewed and discussed: New York Community parks by Bill LoSasso; Paris Metro expansion by Jean Francois Stroll (Societe du Gran Paris); Green cities by Antoni Farrero, Barcelona's Metropolitan Management Office; Urban transition to sustainability by Jing Hu, Shanghai's Low Carbon Economy Research Center. Other highlights included a panel to compare states and city environmental policies in which our fellows as state and city directors participated: secretaries of the Environment of Quintana Roo, Alfredo Arellano (C-8), Jalisco, Sergio Graf (C-5), Baja California, José Carmelo Zavala (C-3) and the Mayor of Xalapa, Hipólito Rodríguez (C-3) being coordinated by Cuauhtemoc Leon (C-2). A debate on green economy was performed by Enrique Provencio (C-1), Head of Ceiba NGO and Eduardo Vega (C-6), Head of the Department of Economics at the National University. In addition to this, Pedro Alvarez Icaza (C-2) consultant and Ileana Villalobos (C-7) the City Secretary of Housing and Urban Development discussed other policy issues. Finally, Mario Duarte (C-19), International Affairs coordinator at the Mexico City's Secretary of Environment with Amira Solano (C-8) our Lead Mexico Program Academic Coordinator had in their shoulders the full organization (academic and logistical) of this complicated Lead Cohort 23 Graduation Session.

## LEAD Mexico Fellows Cohort-23, 2019

	<b>CASTANEDA CASTILLO Jessica</b> Iniciativa Privada Directora General, BIOSEA, S. A. de C. V. <a href="mailto:jcastaneda@residuosmex.com">jcastaneda@residuosmex.com</a>
	<b>CRUZ HENANDEZ Sergio</b> Academia Director, Facultad de Ciencias Administrativas y Sociales (FCAS), Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC) Campus Ensenada <a href="mailto:checocho@uabc.edu.mx">checocho@uabc.edu.mx</a>
	<b>ESPANA PETATAN Cesar Ulises Horacio</b> Iniciativa Privada Consultor de Proyecto, Asesoría Integral en Salud y Seguridad en el Trabajo, S. A. de C. V. (ASISST) <a href="mailto:ulises_espaa@hotmail.com">ulises_espaa@hotmail.com</a>
	<b>GOMEZ LOZANO Carmen</b> Gobierno Directora de Corredores Biológicos y Cuencas, Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Territorial, Gobierno del Estado de Jalisco <a href="mailto:carmen.gomez@jalisco.gob.mx">carmen.gomez@jalisco.gob.mx</a>
	<b>HERNANDEZ MORALES Marco Elind</b> Gobierno Subdirector de Gestión Energética, Gobierno del H. Ayuntamiento de Xalapa, Veracruz <a href="mailto:marcohernandez04@gmail.com">marcohernandez04@gmail.com</a>
	<b>MENCHACA MENCHACA Raúl</b> Iniciativa Privada Director, STC Panamericana, S. C. <a href="mailto:svc.rum@infinitummail.com">svc.rum@infinitummail.com</a>
	<b>MENDOZA CORREA María Guadalupe</b> Gobierno Jefa del Departamento de Regionalización Continental, Subdirección de Regionalización, Dirección General de Geografía y Medio Ambiente, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) <a href="mailto:maria.correa@inegi.org.mx">maria.correa@inegi.org.mx</a>
	<b>NAJERA Felipe</b> Gobierno Asesor en Comunicación, Gobierno de la Ciudad de México <a href="mailto:felnajera@gmail.com">felnajera@gmail.com</a>
	<b>SEINGIER Georges</b> Academia Profesor-Investigador, Facultad de Ciencias Marinas, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC) <a href="mailto:georges@uabc.edu.mx">georges@uabc.edu.mx</a>



Non Curricular activities: Mexico is vulnerable to an array of extreme natural events that will be amplified by climate change. The social, economic and environmental impact of heavy rainfalls, floods, droughts and rising sea levels are already being felt consistently across the country, in addition to hazards presented by geophysical phenomena such as the recent earthquakes that caused such severe damage and losses. The authors of this book highlight the importance of disaster risk management for Mexico, positing that decentralisation is key to improved response at the local level. Case studies from the Yucatan peninsula illustrate the development of this proposal. In these pages, readers will find a timely contribution to our understanding of the socio-political dimensions of disaster risk management and the potential for adaptation to climate change through local governance.



People without water and sanitation, an increase in irrigation land and new challenges as aquifers overexploited urbanization trends and polluted surface water sources are pressing many world regions today. The text proposes that water problems are to be summarized in provision of drinkable water and sanitation systems; care of water sources as a natural resource; responses to risk of contamination caused by hydro-meteorological extreme events such as flooding and droughts. Approaching these issues should not be postponed and seem to be inescapable. The book takes the reader to a tour along water subjects deeply and rigorously in an attempt to face the challenge Mexico (and other latitudes) confronts in alleviating, restoring, and keeping what we think is the heritage and legacy of Nature's hydric resources. It is structured in three general themes: water futures; water management and governance; normative

and technical proposals and solutions.

## PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

### LEAD Mexico

As exhibited by the photographic evidence, LEAD Mexico executed a consulting job during the last three months of 2019 in the State of Zacatecas for the Secretary of Urban Development, Housing and Land Use Planning. The team visited several municipalities during a few site visits carrying out local workshops in which local authorities, civil society organizations and the public in general participated and provided their understanding of local problems.





Workshop focusing in preparing Risk management guidelines for the Fresnillo Municipality. November, 2019



Workshop directed to update Jiménez del Teul town's development plan. November, 2019



Workshop implemented to design the Partial Plan for Chalchihuites historic district. November, 2019

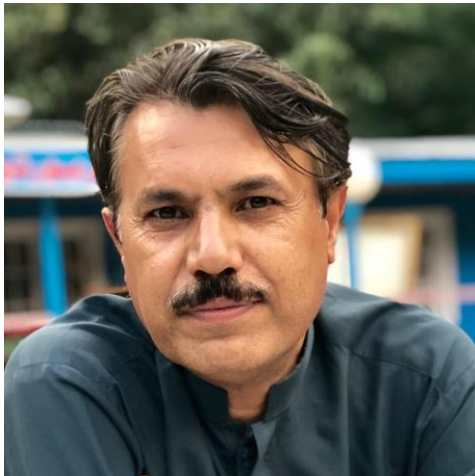
Collecting information on land use at the Chalchihuites historic district. November, 2019



Workshop directed to update Cañitas de Felipe Pescador town's development plan. November, 2019

## LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### LEAD-Pakistan



Zubair Torwali, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-13

#### The bane of development

In our collective and individual mindset, there still exists a colonial legacy that manifests itself well in various situations – from a classroom in school to a tour along the peripheries. Scholars term it as a colonial mentality, by which they mean “an internalized attitude of ethnic or cultural inferiority felt by people who are colonized”. It is multilayered going from top to bottom. In essence, the colonial mentality is a vertical thinking attitude that measures things in a hierarchical order. If inferiority exists in our mind, a feeling of superiority must also exist. The ones at the top automatically think low of

those below the ‘vertical’ line this mindset draws.

Colonialism was a product of modernity across the world. One of its main objectives was to ‘transform’ the ‘savage’ into the ‘civilized’. Modernity also gave birth to new concepts, apparently out of empathy. One of these concepts is the predominant theory of development. Although this concept has evolved over the years and has been adopted by different international bodies in different ways, the basic essence remains the same.

Development was simply considered to be economic growth at any cost, even at the cost of humanity and damage to the atmosphere around the world. This consequently gave birth to detrimental crises, such as climate change and its impacts on human society. When colonial writers, administrators and researchers visited any area or community in the Subcontinent, they would define people, cultures and

society in their own way by using their own colonial background. They often used unwanted terms for these people and labelled them as savage, exotic, wild, invincible, inhuman and backward. Edward Said refers to the practice of studying the 'other' by relying on one's own cultural background and socialization as 'orientalism'.

With an education system inherited from our British colonial masters, the colonial mentality of inferiority and superiority prevails in Pakistan's governments and society. For instance, communities living in the mountainous fringes are generally thought to be wild and backward. Whenever a person from the centers of civilization (read: cities) visit these scenic regions and their people, the first thought that comes to his/her mind is to 'transform' the people. This is not ill-intended, but based on stereotypes and a glaring lack of understanding. The mountains in the north of Pakistan have all the bounties of natural beauty and resources for us to be proud of. Kumrat Valley, situated in the Upper Dir district in Malakand Division, is one such valleys.

In May 2016, Imran Khan made a surprise tour to Kumrat Valley. Kumrat wasn't as widely known to tourists in Pakistan before the PTI chairperson's visit. Mesmerized by the valley's scenic beauty, Imran Khan announced that a national park would be set up in Kumrat Valley to protect the region. He also invited tourists to visit the valley.

Following Imran Khan's visit, the number of tourists visiting valley increased substantially. Locals built 'tent hotels' in the valley as they didn't want any land-holders to build permanent buildings in the region. That same year, this writer also paid a short visit to the valley and was pleased with the sanctions imposed by locals on the basis of their customary laws. Their reaction is indeed a role model for the people of all those regions with tourist spots that have an abundance of natural resources in the form of lakes, forest, wildlife and biodiversity.

Responding to Imran Khan's announcement to turn Kumrat Valley into a national park for tourists, locals had expressed their resentment. Haji Gul Sher, chairman of the Tahafuz Haqooq-e-Qaum Dir Kohistan (a movement to protect the rights of people in Dir Kohistan) raised questions over how a party leader or government can announce the decision to establish a park without taking owners of the land into confidence. He feared that after the national park was established, locals and their children would have no access to the forests that are situated on their land.

Following that commitment by Imran Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Senior Minister for Tourism Muhammad Atif Khan announced on November 4, 2018 that a national park would be established in Kumrat Valley.

Soon after the announcement, the district administration of Upper Dir approached the people and asked them to remove their 'tent hotels' from Kumrat Valley. The administration didn't issue any documents or notices to the people. Instead, it went to them a number of times and ordered them to demolish their 'hotels'. Locals deemed this harassment and took the matter to court. A jirga of elders from the concerned area visited Peshawar to meet the chief minister and discuss the issue. But the chief minister, according to Haji Gul Sher, is not available to meet them for the next two weeks.

Any 'modern state' is often at odds with the customary laws of its peripheral communities. These are a set of unwritten customs, practices and beliefs agreed upon by the indigenous people. They are accepted as obligatory rules of conduct by indigenous people and local communities, and are precisely



the collective ethos of a community. Customary law can relate to the use of and, access to, natural resources and other community obligations.

In Dir Kohistan, forest and associated land is owned by the various sub-tribes of the dwellers. Forests, pastures and communal land are their main source of livelihood and sustenance. Establishing a national park in these areas will have a grave impact on locals whose very lives depend on forests and their associated produce.

I admit that deforestation is higher in Dir Kohistan and other hilly areas that are prone to harsh winters. Instead of snatching people's land under the pretext of protecting them, the government must provide alternative sources, especially for energy. According to a survey conducted in 2014, the main cause of deforestation (which stands at 83 percent in the region) in Dir Kohistan is the lack of alternative resources in which the main item is fuel wood.

Dir Kohistan is blessed with vast water resources. The government must install small hydroelectric plants to provide free or cheap electricity so that the people can use it to ensure power supply and for cooking purposes.

Establishing national parks or initiating apparent tourist projects in beautiful valleys like Kumrat is usually not meant to serve the welfare of locals. Instead, these measures seek to fulfil the personal whims and ambitions of the powerful bureaucracy and the wealthy cronies to obtain more land in these worldly heavens.

## FELLOWS UPDATES FROM ACROSS THE WORLD



### **Carlos Antonio, LEAD Brazil, C-11**

Recently, Carlos is engaged with a digital inclusion and local development project in the poorest areas of the city of Rio de Janeiro. Specifically, he is coordinating the space located in the neighborhood of Madureira. The public is very eclectic where some people are living in the neighborhood, others living in the slums and some on the streets. He is developing basic courses for enabling them to access needed information, develop contents and to explore myriad of opportunities for their livelihoods. Although it's not an easy job but he has improved a lot since when he took up this initiative.



### **Sajjad Ismail, LEAD Pakistan, C-5**

Sajjad has been in the field of education for more than twenty years. During this time, he worked in different capacities ranging from classroom teaching to program planning and management. Post-teaching, he led several programs on access to quality education. He, like all other development education practitioners, always visualized quality education within the framework and definition of the national curriculum in use. Their definition of quality education is as old as the curriculum in his country, probably older than ourselves. Globalization, fast paced technological development, transition from industry-based economy to knowledge economy, all have rendered the traditional curriculum as archaic and irrelevant. Spending efforts, time and money to achieve quality education based on an obsolete curriculum, is it the right thing am I doing? Two years back this question gate-crashed into his project-oriented busy and tired mind.

Education is pivotal to the evolution and development of a society. It is education that sets the direction and pace of social evolution, economic development, and moral refinement. Does this curriculum have the necessary content to create necessary skills in children as are required to survive in the 21st century, as individuals and as a nation? Sajjad himself, being a product of similar curriculum and limited experiences, did not have an answer to “what otherwise is right”. He did not have the comparison what modern societies in the developed world are pursuing in education and what their curricula look like. He strongly felt the need to update my knowledge and skills in education. He joined M.Ed. program at the University of Windsor in Canada last year specializing in curriculum. His program is ongoing. He has an increased interest in Technology in Education as it lies at the foundation of knowledge economy. Information Technology (IT) literacy is considered to be a compulsory part of the modern version of literacy as it is a necessary part of the daily lives, be it making a request to the city government for a service, buying household items, managing bank accounts, or following up of parents on their children’s performance at school. He looks forward to completing his course work by the end of next semester. It is a great experience and a totally different perspective of education. It’s a totally new world of innovation and experimentation in education.



### **Huma Batool, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-13**

Huma has recently presented her research work accomplished at Lanzhou University Gansu, China with the emerging eminent scientists in Pakistan. The key investigation in the present research was on adaptability of cereal crop plants in the scenario of increasing frequency of drought events in 8 districts of Sindh and 18 districts of Balochistan. This led her more focus on adaptation approaches to withstand the climate change impacts on our cropping system.



**Charles Siqueira, LEAD Brazil, C-12**

The Instituto Pólen, in partnership with the English institutions Anglia Ruskin University, Coventry University, Creative Wick and Pace University (New York) is conducting an academic research in Brazil, with the objective of understanding the impact of the Olympic Games on the generation of ecosystems favorable to young entrepreneurship, especially in underserved communities, which will serve as a basis for developing the Youth Social Entrepreneurship (YSE) legacy framework. Looking at the London and Rio experiences can help create ecosystems that are conducive to youth entrepreneurship in outlying areas in upcoming Olympic Games and take a look at our experiences in Brazil and the UK from the young audience (18-35 years)

of peripheral communities that develop or have developed formal or non-formal entrepreneurial activities (service providers, creative careers, social projects, etc.), mapping what was a factual legacy and missed opportunities. The Instituto Cultural Pólen is an NGO based in Rio de Janeiro and coordinated by the LEAD Fellow, Charles Siqueira.



**Tahir Rashid, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-5**

Tahir is a development practitioner with multi-disciplinary educational qualification in the fields of Anthropology, Rural Development and Forestry, 29 years of professional exposure and wide range of experience in the field of water management, conservation, development, teaching, project management and research in Pakistan. He has been fortunate to work in national as well as UN agencies where he remained responsible for programmatic and intellectual leadership, and taking responsibilities for planning and coordination, budgeting, financial management, proper dissemination and outreach of impacts.



**Dr. Rana K. El Akhal from Jordan, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-10**

MEDAL consulting, a consulting firm established by Dr. Rana K. El Akhal, one of our lead fellows of cohort 10, recently is providing professional support to the implementation of the “Rehabilitation & Socioeconomic Inclusion of Refugee and Jordanian Women in Jordan”. The project is funded by Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund and implemented by the Jordan Forum for Business

and Professional Women (JFBPW). What is most interesting about the project is that it addresses





women leading their households both; Syrian refugees and Jordanians in host communities. Two governorates of Jordan were covered in the project with an outreach of around three thousand households in the supply-demand studies, 160 women in the counseling sessions, and 60 for the licensed vocational training.

The project covers two governorates in Jordan and aims at providing counseling support, market –based vocational training and support to women-led startups at the end of the project. The project started by two supply-demand studies; one in each governorate, followed with group and individual counseling sessions and later six certified with a license to work, vocational training courses. Three of the vocational trainings were intentionally selected unconventional for women in Jordan but based on market needs; convention halls photo/video-graphic professionals, marketing and sales professionals, and elderly care professionals. The project will be concluded in Sept 2019 with an allocated budget of 24,000 to support the implementation of generated self-employment projects by trained women. Last March, women benefiting from the project were provided the chance to showcase their learning and share their inspiring life-changing stories especially by Syrian women refugees. To get more information about this project or what our lead fellow is doing through her firm, please visit [www.medalconsulting.com](http://www.medalconsulting.com) and the newly established YouTube channel for Medal Consulting <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA9ek9Jt0C8C86-UHit1-Pw>



**Aneela Bibi, LEAD Pakistan, C-19**

Aneela is currently working for climate finance on provincial level. She is now planning to acquire Ph.D degree from USA to excel in public financial management.



**Razina Bilgrami, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-5**

Razina has worked for 20 years with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in strategic leadership roles spearheading sustainable development, providing visioning, analytic thinking, policy direction, portfolio management and partnership development. 14 years with the private sector in the fields of civil engineering and environmental management. Most recent assignments concluded in 2019 were as acting UNDP Resident Representative in Iran and Mongolia. Having recently taken retirement from the UN, now functioning as an international

development consultant since Nov 2019, having founded HorizonConsult, Development Consulting based in Karachi.

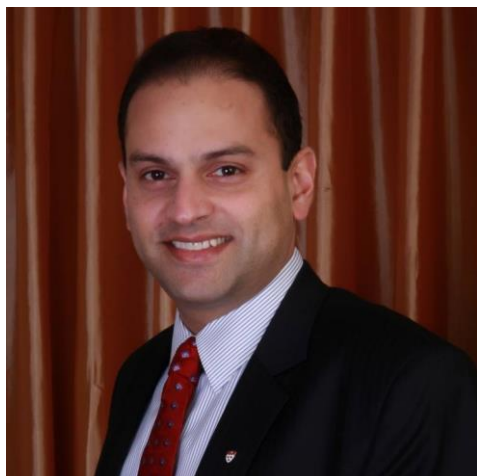
She is passionate in delivering high impact, cost-effective and sustainable results by leveraging partnerships and innovation to address complex development issues. Currently, she is serving as Senior Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator in Iran on Strategy and Coordination.



**Basit Khan, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-5**

Basit has more than 29 years of experience in the Oil & Gas, Conservation and Development sectors dealing with multi-disciplinary issues related to environmental engineering and management, non-technical risks, corporate responsibility, conservation and rural development. He has worked in Asia, Europe and Middle East and has held leadership roles within the Operator HSE teams (e.g. Premier Oil, Shell, KUFPEC and MOL). He has extensive experience as part of the Operator teams on Oil & Gas exploration seismic & drilling, appraisal and production activities. Basit has also lead and managed diverse portfolio of consulting projects related to environmental permitting, large scale baseline studies and

EIAs/ESHIAs, ENVIDs, EMS & Due Diligence audits, Pre-FEED/FEED environmental reviews, BPEOs, investor due diligence and decommissioning planning both in the Onshore and Offshore marine environments. He has a proven track record of permitting & consents, environmental assessments, risk and impact mitigation in the UKCS North Sea, Black Sea and Caspian Sea for Oil & Gas exploration and development projects.



**Khalid Sherdil, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-10**

Khalid is currently serving as Secretary Management & Professional Development Department (MPDD) and holds an Additional Charge of Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Unit, Government of Punjab, Pakistan and Head of Strategic Support Unit (SSU) of Planning & Development Board.



**Saba Sarfraz, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-19**

Saba is Sr. Research Analyst, Environment at The Urban Unit, Urban Sector, Planning & Management Services Unit (Pvt) Ltd. She is Post Graduate in Environmental Management from Technical University of Dresden, Germany



**Munir Ahmed, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-7**

Munir concluded last month the 9th edition of Pakistan Mountain Festival - a two-week long series of events to mark International Mountains Day (Dec 11) with the addition of four new features to the globally recognized advocacy and awareness-raising initiative. The new features are the launch of first batch of 11 Mountain Ambassadors, daylong Conference engaging experts, authorities and youth from different universities, Pakistan Mountains Pride Awards in the name of five living legends (1) Agostino Da Polenza Mountain Conservation Award (2) Shoaib Sultan Khan Mountains Community Development Award (3) Nazir Sabir Mountaineering Award (4) Ashraf Aman Sustainable

Mountain Tourism Award (5) Jan Ali Jan Mountain Music Award. To recognize the services of organizations and individuals working downstream to support mainstreaming of mountains conservation, we launched Friends of Mountains Award and appreciated the consistent services of 20 in 2019. Another 20 will be awarded in 2020.

This year the festival was partially supported by the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF), Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO), WaterAid, COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI), Rawalpindi Women University (RWU), Rawalpindi Arts Council (RAC), Islamabad Wildlife Management Board, and Pakistan Youth Hostels Association (PYHA). Despite their partial support, I personally suffered huge loss. I believe that with the support of the LEADers, this globally recognized 'brand' could be sustainably continued. Do visit the link and spread the work in your sweet words [www.facebook.com/Pakistan.Mountain.Festival](https://www.facebook.com/Pakistan.Mountain.Festival)

Next is the 9th edition of National Women-at-Work Festival scheduling on 6-7-8 March 2020 in Islamabad .....this series of events aimed at recognizing and appreciating the women's work to inspire other women to be part of the economic cycle especially to sensitize men to realize the importance of women's work. I invite you all to be part of the initiative.





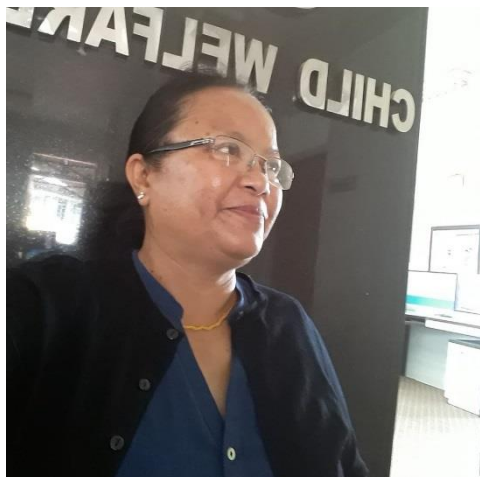
**Syed Mahmood Nasir, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-5**

Nasir has recently retired as an experienced Inspector General of Forests with a demonstrated history of working as a true multi-disciplinarian in forests, biodiversity, climate change, species conservation and international trade, CEO of non-profit companies and as an anthropologist his work with nomadism is remarkable. He has the unique gift of unifying all these diverse fields and yet keep focus on objectives whether working with communities, parliamentarians or scientists. A professional with as diverse education as his job history. A Bachelor in natural sciences and psychology, a Masters in forestry, a PGD in GIS from ITC Enschede Netherlands. And a PhD in anthropology with an interesting dissertation on what makes the forest dwelling nomads settle, a true blend of physical, natural and social sciences.



**Aamer Hayat Bhandara, LEAD Pakistan Fellow, C-17**

Aamer is a farmer by profession. He is learning and searching for the solutions of specific problems for the small farmers and rural communities facing with higher production costs and lower productivity due to rapidly changing climate. He is also advocating for the support of farmers among the nation as their sustainability is the sustainability of humanity. He would also like to narrate the political, social, environmental and climatic scenario in these lines.



**Nima Gurung (Nepal, Gandaki Province, Pokhara), LEAD India Fellow, C-20**

### **Waste management is behavior management**

Sometimes, I feel anxiety for nothing? or obviously there is something I regularly see the scene while walking around the road. People throw the water bottles from the moving buses; male motor bike riders put Gutka (tobacco mix ingredient) in the mouth and through the plastic on roadside. Similarly, mothers feed the junk foods to their children and then through the empty packets on roadside. A lot of efforts have been made throughout the environment sector but the

behavior of people has not changed. Do I have over expectation from the people? I asked myself this question or think am I over sensitive about the balance between environment and human behavior? Whenever I asked the people about segregation of wastes at public, household and office level, some people make joke of it as a fairy tale. In my view, everyone needs to think about the wastes we generate every day and dispose of which can't be used, through the authorized vehicle sent by Metropolitan Environment Department. The rest we can reuse in any form with a range of possible available options.

At community level, we have been raising a lot of awareness through patrolling within community during day and night to sensitize people with the aims of changing their behaviors. Even then, community behavior is the same as it's not possible to run after people all the time to maintain discipline which is not a sustainable approach. Likewise, the concerned authorities also have less concern to improve and protect the environment. To address this challenge, we adopted the recycling approach for the segregated waste as a model of learning by doing for the target community. In this context, we started producing different products by reusing public, household and office wastes. Similarly, some of the bio-wastes were used as compost or bio-fertilizers that is helping maintain plant health and their growth. This approach is helping us change behavior of the community who are following such type of best practices focused on recycling of the reusable wastes.



Waste returns to vegetables as bio-fertilizer



Recycling of office waste

## FRIENDS OF LEAD NETWORK



### Ms. Teresa Gomes

Ms. Teresa Gomes is a longtime friend of LEAD Fellows Network from Brazil. Her school had an educational partnership with the Beaconhouse School, Walton Campus Lahore, Pakistan. During 2019, she along with her team wrote a paper on the lack of water issues in Pakistan.

Initially, her team did not know anything about Pakistan. Therefore, they had to carry out a lot of research work through the internet and reviewing various books to know history, culture and economy amongst others. In her view, it was a very uplifting work as a lot of information had to exchange amongst her team and the Pakistani school in Lahore enabling them to understand the water issues in depth. This led them to prepare some contents and artistic guidelines enabling the school children to understand, raise awareness and address their water issues as integral part of the society.







## WE ARE LISTENING!

We would like this newsletter to be an interactive form of communication and we want to hear any news or ideas that you would like to share. Therefore, if you would like to submit items for the next issue, or if you have any questions, contact Azhar Qureshi, LEAD Fellow C-5, [azhar.eci@gmail.com](mailto:azhar.eci@gmail.com)

## CONNECT WITH US

You can join our Facebook Network by clicking the following link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/fellowsnetwork/>

E: [main@lead.org.pk](mailto:main@lead.org.pk)

W: [www.lead.org.pk](http://www.lead.org.pk)

@leadpakistan