

Leadership for Environment and Development

# LEAD Network Newsletter

Issue 4 | July 2017

## Inside this Issue

- Foreword (02)
- Local Actions for Global Impacts (03)
- Transgressive Learning for Social and Environmental Justice (04)
- New Generation of Leaders for Environmental Stewardship (04)
- National Training Session (05)
- Experience Capitalization (05)
- Entrepreneurship Clinic (06)
- Recognition for Accomplishment (07)
- Community Leadership for Water Governance on Benefit Sharing in the Indus Basin (08)
- XVI World Water Congress, Cancun (08)
- Adaptive Leadership (09)
- Empowerment of Women Elected to Local Bodies (10)
- Fish Farmers as Leaders for Hilsa Conservation (11)
- LEAD-Fellows: Establishment of National Climate Fund for Malawi (11)
- An honor for our Fellow from LEAD-Francophone Africa (12)
- Friends of LEAD Network (13)
- Newsletter Guidelines (13)

## 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 2200 Fellows, it is committed to make a difference in the lives of people with focus on sustainable development.

## THEMATIC AREAS

1. Adaptation and Mitigation
2. Leadership and Capacity Building
3. Private Sector Engagement
4. LEAD Fellows' from Across the World
5. Friends of LEAD

Global Presence



## 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 Programs 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 keeping in view the guidelines provided on Page 13.

For inquiries, please write to "Azhar Qureshi" <aqureshi@lead.org.pk>

## Foreword

Over the span of time, publication of LEAD Network Newsletter has evolved as one of the brand products of MCA member programs and LEAD Fellows Network under the Mutual Collaborative Agreement (MCA). The very efforts in addition to hold regular TELECOM meetings of the members have greatly helped revive the ultimate spirit of LEAD Network it was created for some two and a half decades ago. This initiative amongst others have started to play the role of a bridge connecting member programs as well as impactful body of our fellows from almost all continents across the globe. It has gradually led bring them together to know more about each other widening the horizon to forge partnerships amidst of the ongoing transition from sustainable development to regenerative development approach. It is heartening to know that our members, fellows and faculty are making the impactful difference in almost all corners of the world whether it is the domain of renewable energy, water management, food security, conservation of our forests or environmental stewardship as a whole. The difference being made by our fellows at local levels through their national programs have tremendous ramifications creating positive impacts in view of the global sustainable development agenda which is currently being translated into climate compatible development leveling the ground for circular economy by ensuring responsible production and consumption patterns at all levels.

The regular publication of this Newsletter coupled with ongoing efforts of LEAD MCA Member Programs to reconnect and rejuvenate our Fellows through various other channels of communication such as social media, conference participation and collaborative ventures is expected to bring us closer together. To materialize this approach, some of the member programs have already taken some initiatives to create lasting impacts at global level by actively engaging their fellows in their ongoing as well as future plans of actions. These efforts may be further strengthened through the efficient use of cutting-edge technologies supported by Internet of Things (IOTs). They have also to play a great deal for strengthening knowledge economy through knowledge management where growth is dependent on the quantity, quality, and accessibility of the information available rather than the means of production.

## CHINA

### Local Actions for Global Impacts

LEAD-China and many of its Fellows are making the strides to reduce use of fossil fuels in their energy systems through promotion of renewable energy sources. These efforts have started to contribute enormously in the ongoing global approaches for promotion of climate compatible development. The energy system of renewable sources supplemented by fossil fuels as a minor has been recognized as a fundamental solution to climate change, because consumption of the latter makes for 75% of the global GHG emission (IPCCAR5 WG3). To mitigate climate change, China targets to increase non-fossil fuel in its energy mix to 15% by 2020 and to 20% by 2030. Obviously, a bigger ambition is needed to ensure the achievement of 2-degree or 1.5-degree global target. This bigger ambition is well fulfilled in a Sci-Tech Park of 3.3 square kilometers in Langfang of China's Hebei province, where renewable has reached 55.6% of the local energy consumption. A smart micro-grid, Pan Energy Net (PEN) is the enabler of such fulfillment through an ICT-based distributed clean energy system, integrating energy production, supply, storage and load balance amongst users as well as with producers. Energy supplies includes power, heating, cooling and steam.

The Sci-Tech Park has 18 types of energy users. Beyond R&D and manufacturing companies, the park also includes residential, office, school, hospital, shopping mall and entertaining center. Electric charging stations are installed to serve the electric vehicles running in and outside the Park.

Energy is produced primarily from local renewable sources, wind, solar, biogas from municipal wastes and geothermal, supplemented by natural gas. Renewables make for 55.6%. This integrated energy production system generates power, heat, cooling and steam (half of energy consumption in the world is for heating or cooling). There are two lithium power storage facilities, which are sufficient for the Park. The technology shortcomings of lithium battery are remedied here by the small scale facility. PEN's micro-grid is connected to the state grid for backup purpose, which however has been rarely used due to PEN's self-sufficiency.

Energy consumption takes place across diversified users and in different time periods, causing "peaks" and "valleys" of load. PEN balances the loads amongst users through an information-based energy management system (center) that operates in the whole micro-grid. The system provides real-time redirection of supply from those "ready to drop to valley" to those in high needs "up to peak". Needs of school and office buildings during the day, for example, are replaced by that of residential compounds in the evening and at night; PEN follows the need changes to adjust supplies. The load balancing capacity and management allow the park to drastically save the generation capacity which would be required by 3 times to serve its mixture of loads. This capacity reduction from 30 MW to 10 MW alone results in five million RMB (\$700,000) in savings per year.

Higher efficiency is also achieved through an energy trading system within the Sci-Tech Park. Energy producers and users

auction the surplus at hourly prices in a local day-ahead market. Price of power from solar, for example, is lower during the mid-day when sunlight is strong than that from the natural gas at the same time. The information from the trading process sends signals to the PEN energy management center, helping balance the load next day. This "peak-valley leveling" function contributes further to the efficiency of PEN. In addition, PEN can detect and then recycle the energy which could be otherwise wasted, e.g. surplus heat or steam, to reuse them. In other words, balance is not made solely across energy consumers but also with the energy producers.

As a micro grid PEN is connected to multiple sources of energy producers, a good example of modern energy system, where renewable is primary player with fossil fuels as supplementary minor. PEN is designed to make use of the renewable resources endowed locally, with recycling and reusing functions. It is small and flexible. When building PEN, most of existing equipment got reused instead of being replaced by new ones. Therefore, investment was smaller i.e about 20 million RMB. When 5 million is saved from the saved capacity every year, the investment is recovered in 3-4 years.

Story of PEN is a testimony to the distributed integrated clean energy system and cascade use of multi-sources of clean energy. The success of the Langfang science Park demonstrates a viable commercial solution to energy efficiency and higher renewable in the energy mix using distributed rather than centralized technologies. PEN has planned to expand its scale of economic functions, building five development zones in Langfang with diversified users. It has been successfully operating outside Hebei in China. In addition, the models of distributed clean energy system are also applied in agriculture or livestock, which not only improve the energy access in the remotest off-grid areas but also contribute to poverty reduction and ecological restoration. The models have proved quite effective in practice.

With the power and policy reforms undergoing in China in favor of distributed clean energy systems, the micro grid modeled by PEN will play a key role in enhancing the renewables in the energy mix, giving a confidence to realization of the global target of "1.5 degree."

## SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AFRICA

### Transgressive Learning for Social and Environmental Justice

#### Background

This is a three-year (2016-2018) research project funded by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and coordinated by Rhodes University, Rhodes through the Environmental Learning Research Centre. Under this project, research has been done in countries namely Colombia, Ethiopia, India, Malawi, South Africa, Sweden, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. Each country has different case study sites and for Malawi, it is Lake Chilwa Basin.

#### Research Questions for the Malawi case study

1. What are the past and current social barriers to adaptation learning processes for maize production under stressors of drought and dry spells?
2. What past and current informal learning processes have been catalysed by drought and dry spells associated with maize production?
3. What are likely future scenarios relevant to informal learning processes considering the current adaptation drivers and pressures in maize production under extremes of dry spells?
4. How could expensive learning processes in informal learning settings potentially help rural women maize farmers move from incremental to transformational adaptation practices?

#### Preliminary findings

1. Preliminary list of contradictions identified: Local communities trust more on their local knowledge systems of determining good and poor rains than the scientific predictions; perceptions that some farming practices such as conservation agriculture and global sasakawa were imposed; modern soil fertility enhancement techniques are more preferred than the local ones.
2. Social barriers mentioned include denial that climate is changing; denial to take risks posed by drought; climate is a result of our sins; end-times notion; belief that some adaptation actions are anti-religion; social capital (bonding) making it difficult to adopt innovations. (The extent to which these social barriers interfere with adaptation actions yet to be assessed)
3. Adaptation enablers also identified and these include social capital, lead farmer approach and extension services in general.
4. Informal knowledge parcels under a drought and dry spells identified: local knowledge systems of determining good and poor rains; soil fertility enhancement techniques; determination of adequate moisture for sowing maize; drought and disaster mitigation measures; prayer and sacrifices during droughts; maize pest and disease control measures (The history of these parcels further need

assessment)

5. Current adaptation practices identified but these are mostly incremental types and include small scale irrigation, conservation agriculture, crop diversification, tree planting
6. Coping strategies identified and these include use of saw dust to replace maize flour during extreme cases.
7. Predominant informal learning pathways are oral transmission and observations. Social networks such as women's groups and radio listening clubs offer a good learning platform.
8. Increased desire by women for more visibility of the informal learning and local knowledge practices through the radio, television, local newspapers and other mass communication mechanisms.

## MEXICO

### New Generation of Leaders for Environmental Stewardship

On the sidelines of XVI World Water Congress held in Cancun, Mexico from May 28 to June 2, 2017, LEAD Mexico held its session successfully in the framework of this Congress. The LEAD Associates, Fellows, staff and faculty actively

participated in the deliberations highlighting water conservation and management approaches in view of the ongoing impacts of climate change.



LEAD Mexico Associates Cohort 21 and 22, Fellow Cohort-6, Staff and Faculty during XVI World Water Congress

## INDIA

### National Training Session

The Cohort-19 of LEAD-India is continuing its learning journey with their second NTS scheduled from June 21 – 30, 2017. The session sub-themed “Leadership for Integrating Sustainability in Rural Sector” is being conducted in Wardha, a small city in the Western Indian state Maharashtra. Wardha is a place of historical significance for India, it being a centre for Mahatma Gandhi’s independence movements for India and also that for internationally renowned Indian activists Baba Amte and Vinoba Bhave. It is also the birthplace and hub for rural development in India.

The 10 days long learning journey will start with a two-day

inner journey module for the five new associates, who will later be joined by their Cohort-mates to start the rural development module.

The Cohort will be taken on an experiential learning journey where they will be given insights on the historic as well as current situation of rural development in India grassroots level, policy, Government schemes and NGO initiatives. Three LEAD India Fellows who work in the development sector in the Maharashtra state are lending support for this NTS in various capacities.

## Experience Capitalization

LEAD-India organized a training workshop on Experience Capitalization in collaboration with the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), a joint international institution of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States and the European Union (EU).

“ 'Experience capitalization' refers to the process by which a specific project or programme (or 'an experience' in general) is described and analyzed, and from which lessons are identified, shared and used to improve development interventions.”

The “Capitalization of Experiences for Greater Impact in Rural Development” project is being implemented in different parts of the world by CTA, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), and with financial support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). It aims to facilitate the adoption of an experience capitalization process in rural development initiatives, where it can help improve the

The actual method of capacity learning processes was not embedded within Maluku Competence. Now after the training, I will introduce it in our organization and project management. The advantages are now clearer because of systematic approach. This knowledge enables me to manage information more effectively. -

*Marco L. van der Vorst  
Grassroot Business Developer  
beachHead Indonesia*

analysis, documentation, sharing, adoption and use of lessons and good practices as an approach for continuous learning, improvement and scaling up.

LEAD India as a consultant, supported in organizing, implementing and facilitating the first training workshop; in assisting all participants in assessing workshop outputs and outcomes; and finalization of the workshop report. This workshop saw participation from 28 trainees from Africa, South Asia and Southeast Asia, involved in various development initiatives across varied themes. Further, LEAD India will provide online support to participants; help in organization and implementation of the second workshop and preparation of the final consultancy report.

## Entrepreneurship Clinic

Established in 1936, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) is a unique institution that brings together high quality scholars and practitioners from Social, Economic, Political, Physical, Habitat, Engineering, Health, and Environmental Sciences to create interdisciplinary teaching and research programs combined with field action to address the most critical current and emerging issues of the nation.

The Centre for Social Entrepreneurship (CSE) runs the Social Entrepreneurship program at the School of Management and Labor Studies at TISS. The program propagates the cause and purpose of social entrepreneurship by facilitating outreach program in related areas; raise awareness about the benefits of social entrepreneurship in the public domain and undertake thought leadership initiatives through conferences, awards, whitepapers, case studies etc.

CSE has an incubation centre which is the first of its kind in India in an academic institution, to support social entrepreneurship where the students, immediately after graduation, get guidance, mentoring, physical space and

network for funding and value based collaboration.

LEAD India and CSE TISS have entered a MOU whereby both parties will provide technical and knowledge support to each other. In April, 2017, as part of one of their workshops, the CSE TISS students were supported by LEAD India in developing marketing plans for their individual case presentations. This was done in a daylong 'entrepreneurship clinic' where support was provided on a case-to-case basis.

## MEXICO

### Recognition for Accomplishment

Ms. Gabriela Muñoz delivered an inspiring speech on behalf of LEAD-Mexico, Cohort-21 Associates on their Graduation. The efforts and commitments of LEAD-Mexico to nurture and train the Associates were highly commended that gave them profound sense of learning. To newly graduated Associates, the integral vision of LEAD was initially a great challenge for them. However, it was highlighted in a way that led Associates to go through eye-opening experience building their capacity in decision-making at all levels and to protect the global commons. In addition to this, both the formal and informal networks developed out of the C-21 training activity that could be a great value in knowledge and information sharing benefitting them both at individual and professional levels. At the end, the Associates reiterated their commitment for multidisciplinary and cross-cutting work to promote sustainable development, and work together in making unremitting efforts to ensure broader well-being, equal prosperity and a brighter future for our country.

Jesus Abad Argumedo Espinoza

Mario Miguel Candelario Pérez

Claudia Natalia Cosio Ondiviela

Elizabeth Delgado

Jesarela Lopez Aguilar

Fabiola Ramirez Hernandez

Mariana Rodríguez Aguilera

Javier Warman Diamant

Gabriela Muñoz Melendez



Cohort 21 Associates graduating to LEAD Fellows (from left to right: Jesus Argumedo, Elizabeth Delgado, Mario Candelario and Gabriela Muñoz)

## PAKISTAN

### Community Leadership for Water Governance on Benefit Sharing in the Indus Basin



LEAD Pakistan conducted a National Training Session, under the project “Benefit Sharing in the Indus Basin: Nurturing Community Leadership for Water Governance” from 12-15 June 2017. The aim of the on-going project is to create a better informed constituency of civil society leaders and individuals who are engaged in finding solutions to water issues in a shared river context. The four day long training session was designed to enhance mutual learning, knowledge sharing and research uptake of civil society stakeholders; train stakeholders in order to articulate community demands and effectively participate in the decision making of priority water issues with regards to the Indus Basin; and subsequently facilitate national and regional water policy dialogues. The training session was divided into three main thematic areas, with the first day focusing on Water Governance in the Indus Basin. The second day sessions involved a case study on building disaster resilience in Kashmore, the impacts and severity of Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) in Pakistan, water infrastructure challenges for community development and conflict resolution skills for water disputes.

The training session was divided into three main thematic areas, with the first day focusing on Water Governance in the Indus Basin. The session started with a discussion on the main challenges of water governance and management in Pakistan, including the need to transform theoretical solutions into more practical and implementable measures

in order to improve overall water governance. Various international water scarcity indicators were identified and described during the session as scientific tools to prove Pakistan's status as a water stressed country. Concerns about the over-exploitation of groundwater and lack of policies in place to ensure sustainable extraction were also discussed. Speakers observed that factors such as increasing population, urbanization, extreme weather events and reduced water storage capacity have further exacerbated Pakistan's current predicament. This also includes water quality issues stemming from mismanagement of wastewater and effluents that lead to the pollution of surface water and ground water. This is a cause for concern for lower riparian communities who endure these declining water quantity and quality challenges at a higher intensity. The third day focused on the crux of the project's thematic area – the benefit sharing concept in the Indus Basin.

The cohort members from this training session will now undertake Associate Projects to impart their learnings to their own organizations, other organizations working with similar issues and the communities which they represent.

## MEXICO

### XVI World Water Congress, Cancun

In the context of XVI World Water Congress, LEAD-Mexico held a special session in the main program. Mr. Boris Graizbord, National Program Director, LEAD-Mexico along with two invited experts from the University of Guadalajara and the Monterrey Technological Institute debated an issue that to their understanding was not being addressed in depth. In the presence of close to 60 WWC participants and the LEAD Associates, their discussion focused on main issues on the national and regional water agenda: demographic

dynamics and water stress, river basin management and urban demand for water and sanitation. Main points touched in the debate will be further elaborated in the Congress Proceedings that might bring attention needed to consider differences in policy design and intervention criteria. On the other hand, as reported in the local press, the presence of LEAD Associates Cohorts 21 and 22 projected their status as environmental experts.



LEAD Mexico World Water Congress Panel (From left to right): Richard Paisley, Professor UBC and LEAD Canada Fellow C-6; Ricardo Sandoval, Expert Inter-American Development Bank and LEAD Fellow C-8; Juan Carlos Valencia, Executive Director, Water Council-Morelos and LEAD Fellow C-12; and Boris Graizbord, LEAD Mexico National Program Director

## INDIA

### Adaptive Leadership

LEAD-India organized a two-day workshop on “Adaptive Leadership for Complex Change” in collaboration with Adaptive Change Advisors (ACA), UK. Adaptive Leadership is a practical leadership framework that helps individuals and organisations adapt and thrive in challenging environments and make progress on daunting or stuck, complex challenges.

Originally developed by Ronald Heifetz and Marty Linsky from Harvard Kennedy School, the Adaptive Leadership model supports those trying to exercise leadership to diagnose the “political landscape” and the nature of the challenge, and to mitigate predictable responses in tackling complex and uncertain situations.

This was the first time in India that this module was offered as an open-program. The workshop was announced on April 26 and circulated through e-mails and social media for wider outreach. The workshop was held at the India International

Centre and saw participation from diverse sectors such as Government, NGOs, Academia, and Corporate sector, from India and outside. Apart from the 19 participants, five Fellows from the LEAD India network also participated in this workshop. The key trainer was Eric Martin from ACA who was assisted by Trevor Rees from EnSo Impact and Bhawana Luthra from LEAD India





## PAKISTAN

### Empowerment of Women Elected to Local Bodies



LEAD-Pakistan has just started implementation of this project by undertaking inception visits from May - June 2017 with the overall aims to enhance women's political participation in District Chitral, the northern most part of Pakistan bordering Afghanistan.

This project is being supported by USAID-Small Grants and Ambassadors' Fund Program and implemented in partnership with National Rural Support Program (NRSP). The organization seeks to undertake this by building political, legislative and leadership skills of 217 women councilors elected through the 2015 local body elections; and selecting proactive members from amongst them as Cause Champions for promoting gender sensitive development agenda at local level.

To set the wheels of change in motion, LEAD-Pakistan will enable women to effectively function as duly elected representatives. The area for the purpose is selected in view of organization's successful past experience as well as the diverse party dynamics in the region. Within the district, the organization will be focusing on Women Councilors, and attempt through its interventions to ensure that these newly elected representatives would fulfil their duties efficiently.



## INDIA

### Fish Farmers as Leaders for Hilsa Conservation



Aquafind

LEAD India collaborated with the International Water Association (IWA) - led by LEAD India Fellow Ganesh Pangare - for a capacity building program of the fish farmers from the Eastern Indian state, West Bengal and the neighboring country Bangladesh for conservation of the Hilsa fish species in view of its decline and the resulting crisis.

The Hilsa fish species is more of a cultural symbol and bond for the local Bengali community of India and Bangladesh. Bangladesh is the leading country in Hilsa production with 65%, while India contributes to 10-15% and Myanmar 8%-10%. However, the Hilsa population is experiencing a sharp decline since the last 30 years which is threatening the livelihoods of Indian and Bangladeshi communities involved directly or indirectly in fisheries. The Governments of both countries are taking measures for Hilsa conservation as well as making efforts to improvise the livelihoods of these communities.

This project of IWA focuses on developing a shared understanding of Hilsa management leading towards strengthening of livelihoods and economic benefits for the Hilsa dependent communities. As a part of this, a capacity building training for these Hilsa farmers from the Sunderbans was organized from June 3-5 in Kolkata, West Bengal.

LEAD India designed and delivered this training based on consultations with the fishermen, concerned Government Department officials and the local community and was supported by one of its Fellows in designing and delivering the training in the regional Bangla language.

## SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AFRICA

### Establishment of National Climate Fund for Malawi

A national stakeholder's workshop on the establishment of a National Climate Fund for Malawi was organized and run from 12th to 15th of June 2017 at Capital hotel in Lilongwe.

A team from the Rwandan Green Climate Fund facilitated this workshop through sharing their experiences.

The workshop was attended by top government officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines; Environmental Affairs Department and other key players in the environmental sector including LEAD.

Also in attendance were LEAD fellows from Malawi and Zimbabwe. National Climate Fund is a tool that supports countries to direct finance toward climate change projects and programs by facilitating the collection, blending, coordination of, and accounting for climate finance.

Countries are in the driving seat as the National Climate Funds are nationally owned and nationally driven.

(From left to right) UNDP Malawi representative Sothini Nyirenda, LEAD SEA Regional Director Prof. S. Chiotha and UNDP Regional Bureau representative from Ethiopia, Daisy Mukarakate from Zimbabwe, both Sothini and Daisy are LEAD Fellows.



(From left to right): Environmental Affairs Director, Tawonga Mbale Luka; LEAD SEA Region Director, Prof. S. Chiotha; UNDP Regional Bureau representative from Ethiopia, Daisy Mukarakate from Zimbabwe and one of the facilitators from Rwanda, Bernardin Uzayisaba.

### An honor for our Fellow from LEAD-Francophone Africa

Ms Josiane Sylvie Mbakop is an active Fellow from LEAD-Francophone Africa (Cameroon), Cohort-12. She has just become a member of the Climate Reality Leadership Corps, after a three day training event (June 27-29, 2017) in Seattle, Washington, where she further gained indepth knowledge about the climate crisis and solutions from the Founder and Chairman, former US Vice President and Nobel Laureate Al Gore, and a diverse set of expert speakers. She built her skills in communication, leadership, and community outreach and also learned new ways to educate others and inspire actions.

The Climate Reality Leadership Corps is all about bringing inspiring people together with the mission to empower them, act on climate change and link passionate individuals who are working to create meaningful change such as business leaders, policy-makers, scientists, community leaders, academicians, and many others who lend their valuable expertise help train new Climate Reality Leaders. She has joined a global community of activists who are committed to fighting the climate crisis and can now fundraise to organize climate reality campaigns.





**Natasha Dokovska** from Republic of Macedonia is a long-time friend and supporter of LEAD-Network. She is an environmental journalist in the NGO, Journalists for Human Rights for more than 25 years. She is part of IFEJ and Greenaccord. Now as human rights activist and journalist, she tries through her ecological stories to bring closer the citizens' to ecology; but from the aspect of human rights. Currently, she carried out a survey in schools of the Republic of Macedonia related to plight of girls and women for their water and sanitation needs especially for those undergoing their menstrual cycles. This survey was also part of her campaign to break the related taboos in society that affect girls and women needs associated with health, hygiene and sanitation.

The survey carried out within the framework of the Score Card for equitable access to water and sanitation in the Republic of Macedonia, in the municipalities of Skopje, Kumanovo and Veles, showed the following devastating data:

- In Macedonia, only 1 private school has conditions / facilities for MHM (soap, toilet paper, water).
- In no other school (except the one in the municipality of Veles) there are no suitable products for MHM.
- In no other school, there are adequate places for removing headaches for MHM

The results of the survey also showed that:

- 90% of students in rural areas in Macedonia are absent 4 to 5 times from the school, in the period when they have menstruation.
- 75% of students in urban areas are absent for 2-3 days during the monthly cycle.
- Over 60% of women and girls in rural and 20% in urban area of Macedonia do not use any commercial menstrual products due to the high cost price ...

A five-member family (dominantly with female) with a minimum monthly income of 9000 denars per month (180

US\$) spend between 15-17% of the income for hygiene products for the MHM.

Within the pilot project for equitable access to water, sanitation and hygiene in schools, 500 pupils were targeted in 12 mixed ethnic composition classes. On the question of whether they are talking about the monthly cycle and how to manage it, only 6% of the girls answered positively. Only 1% of the boys responded that they discussed at home, but only those boys who have sisters ...

- Of the 400 surveyed girls aged 12-16, over 80% of them first heard about monthly cycle by an older sister or girlfriend.
- All surveyed students responded that they never talked to teachers about this topic, nor did they have an hour on this subject;

Journalists for Human Rights in their efforts to ensure equitable access to water, sanitation and hygiene, request the state to enable access to accurate and authentic information about menstrual hygiene through education, provide access to privacy facilities, access to water and soap in a place that provides an appropriate level of privacy as well access to waste disposal facilities.

# LEAD Network Newsletter Issue 04 - Guidelines for further improvement

## Foreword

The foreword or editorial will be in line with the ongoing efforts of MCA:

- ↳ to strengthen the LEAD Network by improving internal and external communication,
- ↳ to highlight LEAD's diversity, impact, and relevance in different regions/countries on sustainable development, including SDGs and climate resilient development
- ↳ to enhance visibility of LEAD at global level.

## Thematic Focus

Following will be main thematic areas as they include SDGs and many other environmental agenda but could be changed based on nature of contributions received from the member programs, Local Chapters or Individual Fellows:

- ↳ Cohorts - Leadership and Capacity Building
- ↳ Climate change – Adaptation, Mitigation, Climate Finance, Low Carbon Development
- ↳ Environmental Management – including Biodiversity, Desertification, Forestry
- ↳ SDGs – including Poverty/inclusive or pro-poor development
- ↳ Sustainable Cities
- ↳ News from LEAD Fellows, MPs and staff (including participation/contributions (publications/blogs in regional/international events – including participation/preparations for COP meetings.

## Map of LEAD's Global Presence

- ↳ Instead of static, the next map indicating LEAD's global presence will be interactive whereby website of any MP could be opened by clicking on its name.
- ↳ Instead of a single, it would be a 4-color map; more visible and attractive than before.

## Quality of Contents

- ↳ The Newsletter contents will be more inclusive, focused and reflective of LEAD's vision and mission, following the thematic areas as indicated above
- ↳ Instead of merely a set of activities, the contents will highlight impacts of the interventions supported by relevant visual displays as and where needed.
- ↳ Focusing more on impacts and less on activities and pictures will enhance quality of our contents that would attract the serious readers, intelligentsia and development practitioners.
- ↳ Forthcoming events organized by LEAD member programs or collaborative activities carried out in the context of our main thematic areas will be included.
- ↳ Important development interventions being undertaken outside LEAD Network that have resemblance with our thematic areas could also be included.
- ↳ A photo library link will be created where important pictures with relevance to our thematic areas, shared by LEAD member programs, local chapters, fellows and friends of LEAD could also be displayed.
- ↳ Each picture added with the text will have an appropriate caption
- ↳ A box consisting of various social media weblinks created by different MPs, Local Chapters and Fellows will be added to the left side of the newsletter indicating level of MPs and Fellows' engagement making the efficient use of social media.
- ↳ A section will be allocated for views and comments shared by the LEAD Network members in particular and ordinary readers in general.
- ↳ Verdana 10 or Dax will be used as the main font
- ↳ A new email list of international fellows and facebook group will be added along with Fellows News.



## 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, please contact Azhar Qureshi, LEAD Fellow, Cohort-5, [aqureshi@lead.org.pk](mailto:aqureshi@lead.org.pk)

## CONNECT WITH US

You can join our Facebook Network by clicking the following link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/fellowsnetwork/>

