



One person with a belief is equal to a force of ninety-nine with only interests.
John Stuart Mill

Making the Difference

Issue No. 17
August 2004

<http://www.lead.org.pk>

Contents:

[LEAD India & LEAD Pakistan meet in Bhopal](#)

[Environmental Impact Assessment \(EIA\) Center - Sarhad EPA takes a LEAD](#)

[Global war against plastic bags](#)

[Event Calendar \(August-September\)](#)

[LEAD Fellows Lifetime Sustainable Development Ambassadors](#)

[Imperial College and LEAD have launched a Distance Learning MSc in Sustainable Development](#)

Editorial Team

[Sadaf Akram](#)
[Program Assistant](#)
[LEAD Pakistan](#)

Investing in Tomorrow's Leaders

LEAD India & LEAD Pakistan meet in Bhopal
August 6-8, 2004

LEAD India and LEAD Pakistan are currently in a 3-day stakeholder dialogue on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Bhopal which started from 6 August 2004. This meeting will contribute towards greater understanding, cooperation, peace and development in the region.

The dialogue will help to connect multi-sectoral professionals and opinion-shapers from both countries. The unique LEAD methodology of creating a collegial environment will play an important role for discussing complex issues by bringing multiple perspectives from different disciplines and cultures. This first event will be continued and sustained by broadening the scope of interactions through similar dialogues on other issues such as poverty, corporate governance and environmental management. This will be the beginning of a collaborative partnership between the LEADers of tomorrow in India and Pakistan which builds on synergies, common principles and shared values while respecting differences. LEAD will connect appropriate professionals working on sustainable development in the two countries. More such connections will be needed to tackle poverty and under development in the region.

A follow-up meeting of a similar nature is planned for Lahore in 2005.

Pakistan has 198 native and introduced freshwater fish species. Fish species diversity is highest in the Indus river plains and adjacent hill ranges (Kirthar Range), and in the Himalayan foothills in Hazara, Malakand, Swat and Peshawar.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Center -Peshawar
Sarhad EPA takes a LEAD

LEAD Pakistan believes that partnerships between government, international agencies, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders is a critical component of sustainable development strategy. One of the most important steps government can take to nurture partnerships is to create a stable environment for the stakeholders to operate, make commitments and plan for the future. The Sarhad EPA has followed the same approach for the establishment of an EIA center in Peshawar. This EIA center is an outcome of collaboration between Pakistan Academy for Rural Development (PARAD), Peshawar and EPA. LEAD Pakistan was consulted to train master trainers for EIA center who will further build the capacity of people from government, NGOs, academia, media etc. In collaboration with EPA, LEAD Pakistan has conducted four modules of training of trainers in EIA concepts and skills.



The EIA center based in PARAD will serve as an information cell on various environmental issues said Mr Liaqat Ali Khan, Deputy Director-Sarhad EPA while addressing the participants at the inauguration of the EIA center. Mr Shoukat Zaman Babar, Director- Sarhad EPA appreciated the efforts of LEAD Pakistan for training of the master trainers for EIA center.

Mr Mohammad Nafees, one of the master trainers of EIA center said that after attending LEAD training we feel confident about module development and implementation of a training program

The participants also gave very valuable suggestions regarding institutional framework and sustainability of the center.



Global War Against Plastic Bags

Shoppers around the world use tens of billions of plastic bags every year. Environmentalists say normal plastic bags can take up to 1,000 years to disintegrate, although industrial groups argue that the bags make up only a small percentage of global litter.

But environmentalists say the growing problem posed by plastic bag pollution can no longer be ignored. We've had plastic bags since the 1960s and initially they seemed like a great idea due to their lightweight and low energy needed to make them ignored.

According to the recent survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, plastic bags have become the principal means of bringing home groceries and other shopping items. The use of traditional means such as cloth bags and paper bags has dropped dramatically. In response to survey, 75% respondents said that they use "plastic bag" 6% use "paper bag" 17% use cloth bag" while 2% use basket for bringing home groceries.

In addition to Bangladesh, other countries, including Ireland and Taiwan, have slapped bans or taxes on bags. Dozens of other countries from China, which is fighting vast quantities of "white pollution," to Finland, France and Britain are making efforts to cut the number of bags used and find practical and cheap alternatives. Pakistan should also participate in these efforts by taking some measures to minimize use of plastic bags.

Event Calendar (August- September)

No	Trainings	Venue
1.	Implementation of ISO 14001/EMS and its importance under WTO scenario (24 August 2004)	Karachi
2.	National Highway rehabilitation project (EMP) (6-7 September 2004)	Karachi
3.	National Highway rehabilitation project (Social aspects) 8-10 September 2004	Karachi

Imperial College and LEAD have launched a Distance Learning MSc in Sustainable Development

Imperial College Distance Learning Program (based at the Wye Campus in Kent) is now offering an MSc in Sustainable Development by distance learning, developed in partnership with LEAD International. This program is now accepting applications and classes will start in early 2005.

For more information on this program, see Imperial College Distance Learning Program website:

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/distancelearning/course/ds/sd.htm>

LEAD Fellows- Lifetime Sustainable Development Ambassadors



For this issue, we approached Ms Arjumand Nizamai (LEAD Fellow, Cohort 4) who works for Swiss Development Cooperation as National Program Officer NRM to share her views regarding LEAD training.

Ms Nizami says "As a professional I learnt a lot from the LEAD training. Her core learning is that issues which look pretty simple on surface may be more complex and multi-faceted if one analyses them in a right context".

In response to our question about role of LEAD training in her personal growth she said; "I do not speak of big words like sustainable development, biodiversity, etc. as academic learning comes from elsewhere and from work places where one deals such issues on daily basis. The real thing at LEAD was a tremendous mix of people from several backgrounds. Sometimes I felt that an issue or a subject on our table with 13 Fellows around was handled like a poor chicken, which is left with doctors, engineers, environmentalists, hair dressers, animal scientist or even a consumer for analyses. You can imagine what would happen to chicken! How sophisticated and complicated it would feel like. But at the end of the day you feel quite well off in your skills to see things from different perspective, even if they are shocking at times. Professionally, today my network is larger than any other colleague in my organization. I always have somebody to count on if I need some expertise in my work, either related to my organization which gives me salary or for partners who trust that I will link them to the required network or individual. That makes me feel good".

In response to another question about the change she made in her surroundings as a LEAD Fellow she said, "I do not know..... I have to ask myself whether LEAD has a special category of "making a difference" than what we do in our daily professional lives. I could bring a difference perhaps due to many strengths that LEAD could inculcate into my personality! I came from a rather isolated environment of Balochistan. With LEAD I could enhance my linkages, I knew more people so I could rely on more strengths. This certainly had an influence in my surroundings. I do not claim to hold big lead events all by myself or club etc. Individually, I did my bit at the BoG level which one can regard as "LEAD specific" task; I hope that contributed into a larger contribution made by the BoG. Voluntarily, I am quite happy to provide personal assistance to a small NGO in Malakand Agency which is working on child education / combating child labor. The NGO has a pronounced component on environmental education which is my contribution as a Fellow. However, I am really sure that "making a difference" depends very much on "personal commitment". Being LEAD Fellow is not a pre-qualification for commitment towards change process. There have to be means to motivate less committed members, for this could be due to their personal situation or their position in their respective organizations.

"The mangrove forests of Pakistan are the sixth largest forests in the world. It is dominated by single specie called *Avecinnea marina*, which forms 99.9% of the total crop."

Fellows and Associates can send us details of their achievements, job alterations, or any other news they wish to share with the LEAD Family. All contributions will be an asset to the bulletin. Write to us at: ldp@lead.org.pk