



Report

Inaugural Session of Canal Modernization Trainings

Sindh Water & Agriculture Transformation Project (SWAT)



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Report on the Inaugural Ceremony of Canal Modernization

1- Introduction:

The overarching theme of SWAT project is the *water and agricultural nexus*. The project will help boost Sindh's rural economy and address water-related environmental degradation. Hence, Sindh can get much more value from its agricultural sector while using less water. The SWAT project is designed to start the transformation process that, including: (i) creating an institutional framework for IWRM; (ii) modifying a century-old system of rigid irrigation practices through a modernization process centered on flexibly meeting the water needs of farmers; (iii) moving away from a system of perverse agricultural subsidies to smart subsidies that encourage high-value, water-thrifty crops; (iv) increasing investments in agricultural technology and promoting value chain development that boost agricultural productivity from the supply and demand sides, respectively; and (v) synchronizing agricultural and irrigation investments through a community driven development process at the FO level that will help ensure on-the-ground results that directly benefit farmers.



2- Canal Modernization Component

The overall objective of this component to improve the delivery of canal water services to enhance agricultural water productivity and to improve overall water resources management. In this component it was proposed that selected channels will be taken up for modernization. Initial 3 channels one from each AWB is selected.

3- Proceedings:

The inaugural ceremony for series of trainings on Canal Modernization under SWAT was held on 26/09/2023 at SIDA Secretariat & H&R Lab Hyderabad. The ceremony was chaired by Managing Director (SIDA). The participants from FAO (UN) Delegation, SIDA Officials, including PD (SWAT), Civil Society, NGOs and Area Water Boards representatives. List of participants given in the end. The primary focus of the meeting was to introduce the canal modernization



project and gather insights and guidance/views from the participants.

4- Key Points Discussed:

a- Managing Director's Opening Remarks:

- The Managing Director began by discussing the SWAT project, emphasizing the importance of watercourses, water distribution, and the need for measuring water channels.
- Mentioned a sample model developed in the hydrology lab, the collaborative effort of Mr. Habib Ursani, Mr Sajjad Soomro, and others.
- Emphasized the importance of the meeting to seek input and guidance from the participants regarding the project's changes and its potential benefits.



b- Presentation by Dr. Ansari (MUET):

- Dr. Ansari introduced the concept, highlighting that this process was being introduced for the first time in Pakistan.
- Stressed the potential benefits and provided insights into how the process has worked in California.
- Mentioned the need for proper training in Pakistan and improving the understanding of modern techniques.
- He was concerned as this was happening for the first time in Pakistan.



c- Discussion on Project Implementation:

- Participants raised concerns about the disparity between Pakistan and California, specifically in terms of water costs and the need for revised water rates.
- The importance of technical terms' adaptation in the local context was discussed.



- Mentioned the need for improving rules, regulations, and laws related to water distribution.

d- Sajjad's Experience:

- Sajjad shared insights from his experience, highlighting factors such as water cost, equilibrium, and revised water rates.
- Managing Director redirected the discussion towards policy and the necessary changes.

e- FAO's Involvement:

- FAO expressed their commitment to working with SIDA, emphasizing the necessity of water for every country.
- Mentioned concerns related to climate change and the social aspects of water management.



f- Chairman's Closing Remarks:

- The Chairman thanked all the participants and discussed the challenges faced in the project.
- Mentioned the increased water supply to farmers in Kotri barrage and income improvement.
- Highlighted issues in the drainage system in District Badin and the need for training farmers to increase production.
- Emphasized the importance of utilizing water properly.
- Discussed the increase in rice production and better rice rates.
- Mentioned upcoming projects, such as the Nara canal, and the support of the World Bank.



5- Second Session:

- Engineers discussed the difficulties they were facing, including LBD issues, water scarcity due to early and late khareef, and the need for improved water distribution.



- Administrative weaknesses and issues with the Crop pattern were raised.
- The lack of timely warnings before rain or floods was a concern.
- The importance of administrative reform was discussed.

6- Sajjad Soomro's Presentation:

- Questions were raised about the water distribution process, and the comparison with California was made.
- Control in upstream and downstream was discussed, and challenges related to cross regulators were highlighted.



7- MD's Closing Remarks:

- The Managing Director discussed the increase in water productivity after the project.
- Emphasized the need for proper water utilization and the importance of farmers' understanding.
- Mentioned the distribution of water according to flow and calculated and measured water supply.



8- Conclusion:

The Inaugural Ceremony of Canal Modernization provided an opportunity for participants to discuss the challenges and opportunities in modernizing canal systems in Pakistan. The importance of proper training, social mobilization, and effective management was highlighted throughout the meeting. The event concluded with optimism about the potential benefits and positive changes the project can bring to the region.



9- Attendance Sheet

S#	Name	Designation	Department
1	Kabool Khatian	Chairman	SIDA
2	Pritam Das	M.D SIDA	SIDA
3	Ali Murad Rajar	Chairman	NCAWB
4	Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur	PD SWAT	SIDA
5	Okath,James	Head Of Province	FAO
6	Ghulam Mustafa Ujjan	General Manager (T)	SIDA
7	Jai Ram Motwani	General Manager (O)	SIDA
8	Naeem A. Memon	General Manager (F)	SIDA
9	Javed Hakeem Memon	General Manager (R&D)	SIDA
10	Farzana Abbasi	Social Dev. Specialist	SIDA
11	Tariq Ahmed Kehar	Director	Hydrology Research
12	Ali Nawaz Channar	Dir – Technical	Agriculture Department
13	Manzoor Ahmed Abbasi	XEN(H/Q)	Public Health Engg:Department
14	Bulram	AXEN	Soil Mechanics and Hydraulics
15	Syed Sikander Shah	Chairman	LBCAWB
16	Khurshed Ahmed Khokhar	Director	GFCAWB
17	Yameen Memon	MD AD	MDC
18	Dr Kamran Ansari	Director	USPCAS-W, MUET
19	Malik fazalddin	Member	LBCAWB
20	Masood Ahmed Seher	Project Director	RBOD
21	Ghulam Mujtaba Dhamrah	Director AWB	LBCAWB
22	Taj Mohammad Dahri	Member	SIDA Board
23	Dr. Mansoor Bughio	Planning & Agriculture Officer	Agriculture Department
24	Tariq Bhatti	Manager CR	LBCAWB
25	Hafiz Abdul Salam	Regional Director	PCRWR
26	M.Farooque	DEP Director	PCRWR
27	Ruqaiya Naz	Manager CED	SRSO
28	Khushboo Samo	District Officer	Mercy corps Pakistan
29	Pushpa Kumari	Member	HRCP
30	Aisha Ali	MEAL Officer	RDF
31	Faisal Baloch	MEAL Co Ordinator	WHH
32	Manzoor Ali	MEAL Officer	CSSP
33	Wakeel Ahmad	Protection Officer	UNHCR
34	Dhanani Neel Amber	HAO	UNOCHA
35	Abdul Waheed	Project Member	ACF
36	Qadir ul Ansari		M.BEN
37	Abdul Razzak	District Coord:	SAFWCO
38	Mir Faheem Talpur	S.B.M Agri.	SAFWCO

S#	Name	Designation	Department
39	Mansoor Umer Khanzada	AEN	SIDA
40	Syed Muhammad Ali Shah	ADE	SIDA
41	Mashooque Ali Memon	ADE	SIDA
42	M.Siddique Memon	Inspector Works	SIDA
43	Amber Sanam Leghari	Assistant Director	SIDA
44	Nazir Ahmed Leghari	Sr.Program Officer	NRSP
45	Nauman Memon	Manager IT	SIDA
46	Parvaiz Banbhan	AMT	SIDA
47	M.Ibrahim	GIS SP	SIDA
48	A.Saleem	Office Manager	SIDA
49	Masroor Ahmed Shahwani	Manager SM&G	SIDA
50	Sajaad Ali	DDE	SIDA
51	Hizbullah Mangrio	A.Manager Communication	SIDA
52	Shahbaz Khan	J.Clerk	SIDA
53	Dr. Syeda Sara	AP(Assitant professor	USPCAS-W, MUET
54	Ghulam Ali Jatoi	Assistant	SIDA
55	Aftab Memon	Manager Revenue	SIDA
56	M. Hussain Khan	Journalist	Daily Dawn
57	Andaleeb Arfeen	Proc.Analyst	SIDA
58	Sadia Yousfani	Asst:Manager HR	SIDA