

Report

On

Khanewal AWP Launch Meeting



Khanewal – Pakistan

15 May 2015

Global Water Partnership (GWP)

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) was created in 1996 in response to the Rio Earth Summit. It supports countries in the sustainable management of their water resources through its unique network of locally driven and staffed Regional and Country Water Partnerships. Following the 2002 resolution at World Summit on Sustainable Development, GWP has worked with numerous governments worldwide to develop Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans.

GWP is an intergovernmental organization of 13 Regional Water Partnerships, over 80 Country Water Partnerships and more than 2,500 Partner Organizations in 161 countries. Its vision is a water secure world. GWP's mission is to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels through Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). IWRM is a process that promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize economic and social welfare in an equitable manner, without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems and the environment.

A water secure world harnesses the productive power of water and minimizes its destructive force. It is a world where every person has enough safe, affordable, clean water to lead a healthy and productive life. It is a world where communities are protected from floods, droughts, landslides, erosion, and water-borne diseases. Water security promotes environmental protection as well as social justice, and addresses the impacts of poor water management. All of these will become even greater challenges as climate variability increases.

Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP)

PWP is a think tank created to promote the concepts of Integrated Water Resources Management in Pakistan through advocacy, capacity building, providing a neutral platform to review and discuss water issue of the country and help the government in better water management under the threats of climate change and droughts/floods at all levels.

Area Water Partnerships (AWPs)

Area Water Partnership (AWP) is a network of local departments, institutions, organizations and stakeholders. AWP should strive to involve and engage all relevant stakeholders (departments, institutions, organizations, farmer organizations, famers, etc.) in all activities of the AWP to achieve their ownership of this network.

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1. BACKGROUND

Khanewal city is situated in the center of the country at an almost equal distance from Karachi and Peshawar and on the main routes of the railway and grand trunk road. The district is bounded on the north by district Jhang and district Toba Tek Singh; on the south by Vehari district; on the east by district Sahiwal and on the west by Multan district.

Geographically, district Khanewal lies in the upper Indus planes and its physical features are mainly the result of river action. The district is irrigated by a network of canals from various sources on the Ravi and Chenab rivers. Climate temperature ranges between 21°C and 5°C in January, and 42°C and 29°C in June respectively. A railway line connects Khanewal with Faisalabad and Multan. Khanewal district is basically an agricultural area with no significant industry and most of the people earn their living through agriculture.

The total area of the district is 4,349 square kilometers, whereas total population is 2,376,485 as of 2010 estimates with a mix of 17.42% as urban and 82.58% as rural population.

About 63% of the district population speaks Punjabi language. Saraiki is the second most widely spoken language by 26 % of the population. Other languages spoken are Urdu and Pushto. The district is home to a variety of clans.

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Fig. 1: Map of Khanewal District

Underground water resources are generally adequate throughout the district except some pockets where water is either brackish or highly saline. The subsoil water is suitable for industrial purposes but not fit for drinking purposes without treatment. 70.2% population uses ground water through electric or hand pumps whereas 19.8% population is dependent on canal water for drinking water. Sanitation facilities are available to only 30% of the total population in rural areas. Only 1.1% has access to clean drinking water.

2. INTRODUCTION OF THE CONCEPT OF AWP

The residents of Khanewal are facing immense difficulties due to poor water supply, sanitation and hygiene issues. More than 54% population does not have access to proper sewerage facilities and uses open drains. Contaminated water supply for drinking and household uses is causing water borne diseases including diarrhea, hepatitis A & C, typhoid fever, cholera, viral gastroenteritis, etc. in Khanewal District.

From overall available water for drinking and personal hygiene, 61% population is deprived of its quality required for human health in Khanewal.

The Khanewal is rich in existence of all sorts of line agencies, departments and institutions required to work for human health in the area but problems are increasing with time. The Welfare Agency for Socio-Economic Betterment (WASEB); a social welfare organization with the mission "to struggle for sustainable development by empowering vulnerable and neglected community through participatory development approach" contacted the Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP) to join hands for betterment of the area through local grassroots level struggle.

After reviewing thoroughly the existing water issues and willingness of WASEB to help the area population for their betterment, PWP evaluated establishment of an area water partnership to network all existing agencies, departments, grassroots organization and stakeholders for concrete actions on ground with community participation.

Khanewal Area Water Partnership was perceived and discussed in two comprehensive meeting held in PWP Office, Islamabad during January and March 2015 attended by the office bearers of PWP and WASEB.

PWP provided documentation on the requirements and follow up actions to establish an area water partnership. As a result of long discussions, Khanewal AWP was finally matured for launch on 15th May 2015.

Dr. Pervaiz Amir, Director, PWP lead a delegation comprising Mr. Karamat Ali, Company Secretary PWP; Mr. Muhammad Awais, Finance Officer PWP and Mr. Zakir Ullah Baig, Project Intern PWP, which traveled to Khanewal by train on 14th May 2015.

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Night stay was arranged in the City Gate Hotel, Khanewal for the four members of delegation for the night of 14th May 2015.

3. PROCEEDINGS

The Khanewal AWP Launch meeting commenced at 1000 hours as per schedule. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Pervaiz Amir, Director PWP. Dr. Riaz Ahmad, Director Food Science and Technology Department, Bahauddin Zikria University, Multan was the chief guest of the ceremony. Mr. Nadeem Najid, a local poet of Khanewal, performed as stage secretary. Program of the meeting is placed at Annex-I whereas the attendance of the participants is at Annex-II.

3.1 Recitation and Introduction of Participants

The launch ceremony started with recitation from the Holy Quran by Qari Abdul Qayum of WASEB. Before welcome address, the participants introduced themselves.

3.2 Welcome by WASEB Chair

Mr. Irfan ul Haq Shah, Chairman, WASEB welcomed the participants especially those who came from other areas like Multan and Kabirwala. He also thanked the PWP delegation who realized water issues of Khanewal and traveled to help out the people of the area in managing their water problems. He also gave a brief introduction of the Welfare Agency for Socio-Economic Betterment (WASEB).

He informed that WASEB was registered under Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies Ordinance 1961 and the thematic areas of its operation included water and sanitation hygiene (WASH), training and institutional development, natural resources management, community mobilization, education, value chain, advocacy and networking, research and development with focus on empowerment of youth and women. He emphasized the need of close coordination by all stakeholders to minimize the problems of the area especially related to water and health.



Pic. 1: Mr. Irfan ul Haq Shah, Chairman, WASEB welcoming the participants.

3.3 Water Issues of Khanewal Area and Potentials

Mr. Asif Shahzad, FDO, Khanewal presented an overview of water issues of Khanewal district and potentials available to build on.



Pic. 2: Mr. Asif Shahzad, FDO, Khanewal presenting water issues and Potentials of Khanewal.

He mentioned that due to non-existence of covered sewerage system and drainage facilities in the district, water-borne diseases are spreading uncontrollably. People, especially poor segment of the community, suffer a lot from water borne diseases. Since major water source for drinking is extraction of groundwater, and there is no check on drilling of tubewells and hand pumps, groundwater table is depleting very fast with the result of mixing of sweet water with saline aquifer. This is also impacting on land fertility. Despite spreading water borne diseases, there is no trend of water testing before commissioning of tubewells or using water of the wells. There is dire need to impart awareness on judicious use and conservation of water. So far the water table is not very deep and there is great potential of controlled extraction of groundwater for drinking purposes. The general masses should be educated on the preventive measures to save the precious groundwater resource of the Khanewal district. Water purification through indigenous as well as modern methods need to be promoted and imparted to general public of the area. Drilling of new tubewells should be allowed in areas nearing irrigation canal only.

3.4 **Objectives of an AWP and Steps involved in formation**

Mr. Karamat Ali, Company Secretary PWP made a presentation highlighting objectives of an area water partnership (AWP) and gave a detail of steps involved in formation of a new AWP.



Pic. 3: Mr. Karamat Ali, Company Secretary PWP presenting objectives of an area water partnership (AWP).

He informed the audience that the Global Water Partnership (GWP), which is based in Stockholm, Sweden and is an intergovernmental network open to all organizations involved in water resources management and its mission is to support countries in the sustainable management of their water resources, was established in 1996 by the United Nations when it felt that there should be an exclusive institution to handle water related development and management at global level. Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP) was established in February 1999 as the country chapter of the Global Water Partnership (GWP). PWP has a large number of key stakeholders as its members/partners from Government organizations, public and private sector, NGOs, women and youth groups, and civil society having impact on water or being impacted by water and its uses in the country. PWP provides neutral platform to discuss and resolve water related national and regional issues.

He explained that an Area Water Partnership (AWP) is a network of local departments, institutions, organizations and stakeholders. The AWP should strive to involve and engage all relevant stakeholders (departments, institutions, organizations, farmer organizations, famers, etc.) in all activities of the AWP to achieve their ownership of this network. He also listed out the following follow up steps to be taken by a newly established AWP:

- Form an interim Steering Committee to look after all affairs of AWP till formal registration and election of Steering Committee.
- Identification and listing of interested relevant representatives of stakeholders to become members of the AWP.
- Convening a meeting of all representatives of stakeholders and election of a Steering Committee to replace the interim Steering Committee.
- Election of a Chairman of the AWP by the Steering Committee.
- Appointment of a Coordinator/Secretary of the AWP (if deemed necessary).
- Lodging registration application at appropriate forum with the list of interested stakeholders' representatives, members of the Steering Committee and the Chairman of AWP.
- While the application is in process, the AWP may take a stock of background information of the area of action and identification of water related issues of the area.
- With the involvement of the stakeholders, action areas to be prioritized.
- Once the background, water issues and priority order of issues have been documented, appropriate authorities or responsible institutions may be brought on board for looking into solutions to the issues.

- AWP will work as a bridge between the communities and the line agencies and departments/ institutions responsible for physical activities/ implementation.
- PWP will provide initial financial support to be utilized for registration and holding of preliminary meeting in the area.
- AWP will have to identify and arrange additional funding through partners and stakeholders for planned activities under the supervision of the Steering Committee.
- AWP will help monitor the implementation and evaluation of the activities/programs in its area of work.
- AWPs will submit regular reports on their achievements and funding provided by PWP.

Before concluding his presentation, he also mentioned the successful AWPs working in Pakistan as under:

- Nara Canal AWP, Sanghar
- Potohar AWP, Islamabad/Rawalpindi
- Indus Delta AWP, Thatta
- Sarawan AWP, Mastung
- Loralai AWP, Loralai
- Southern Districts AWP, DIKhan
- Gomal-Damaan AWP, DIKhan
- Neelum-Jhelum AWP, Muzaffarabad
- Bolan AWP, Quetta
- Bahawalpur AWP, Bahawalpur
- Tharparkar AWP, Mithi



Fig. 2: Location Map of Area Water Partnerships in Pakistan

His complete presentation is placed at Annex-III.

3.5 **Opportunities and Ideas for Developing an Action Plan**

Dr. Pervaiz Amir, Director, PWP started his speech with paying thanks to the audience came to attend the launch meeting of Khanewal AWP. He explained that an area water partnership is for a total solution to the water system and not for a small or single purpose like water purification units installation. AWP is a platform to share ideas of common development objectives of the area. He elaborated that Pakistan Water Partnership (PWP) provides opportunities to AWPs for accessing the highest political leadership including Ministers and Prime Minister of Pakistan for appraising water issues. The AWP representatives can avail such facility to highlight their water issues. He further said that PWP provides opportunities to their representatives to attend international and regional water events at global levels for their capacity building as well as highlighting local water issues at these forums. It also provide chances to learn what is happening in water fields at world level.



Pic. 4: Dr. Pervaiz Amir, Director, PWP delivering his speech.

He informed the audience that similar AWPs are being established in the entire region by other countries as well. In Pakistan, PWP has established about 15 AWPs so far. Similarly India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka are also establishing many AWPs in their countries. PWP's intention is to establish AWPs in all 146 districts of Pakistan and this challenge is set for next 4-5 years to reach every district in Pakistan through AWP initiative.

He expressed that the macro water problems can never be resolved unless all district level issues are resolved locally with micro level initiatives. At present Pakistan gets 144 MAF surface water annually out of which 90% is used for agriculture, 2% for drinking purposes, 2% for industry and remaining for other uses including environmental needs. Since major use is in agriculture sector, any additional need of water for drinking purposes will come from agriculture only. This will decrease the quantum of water for agriculture and we have to see how the productivity is not affected by it.

He informed them that the water productivity of Pakistani Punjab is very low as compared to the Indian Punjab. There are a lot of things to do for improving water productivity in Pakistani Punjab.

He further said that India has over 750 MAF of surface water per annum out of which it has already stored 287 MAF in dams and barrages whereas Pakistan has been storing only 12 MAF out of total available surface water of 144 MAF. On the other hands India is constructing another 250 dams to capture additional 150 MAF water by event stopping Pakistan's rivers. India is inclined to stop water when it needs to store it and release when flood situation is created propagating against Pakistan in the international media.



Pic. 5: Dr. Pervaiz Amir, Director, PWP – another view of his speech.

He further emphasized that to resolve water issues of Pakistan, macro level planning is extremely necessary. The issues are emerging fast and we need to resort planning swiftly to manage all issues of water sector. Khanewal has very fertile lands for cotton sowing. However, more than 80% pesticides are used for cotton crops which are creating health problems in this area. Diseases like cancer, hepatitis B & C, have been reported in the area very frequent. There is need to reduce use of pesticides retaining productivity at higher level.

He was of the view that Khanewal need to struggle for having water laws to protect their water rights and water uses. AWP can be helpful in taking lead in this area. Whereas AWP can also support in improving water quality in the suburbs. If only 30% improvement is achieved in the water quality, it would be worthwhile for the people of Khanewal area. It would turn this area into paradise.

He concluded his speech with the mention that commercial water giants extract our water free of charge and then sell it back to us at higher rates by filling in bottles. They also export this water earning dollars with our water resources but spending nothing to improve condition of people of this area. AWP will raise voice on such issues and help improve situation in the area.

3.6 High Profile Speech by the Chief Guest

Dr. Riaz Ahmad, Director, Food Science and Technology Department, Bahauddin Zikria University, Multan was the Chief Guest who delivered high profile speech at the end of the ceremony. First of all he thanks the WASEB for inviting him as a Chief Guest on the august ceremony of launch of Khanewal AWP.



Pic. 6: Chief Guest-Dr. Riaz Ahmad, Director, Bahauddin Zikria University, Multan delivering concluding address.

He appreciated the efforts of WASEB in water quality improvement for Khanewal district. He also thanked PWP for the initiative of Khanewal AWP which would be an asset for the area. He expressed that there is no survival possible without water. Two liters of water is required for every human in 24 hours for consumption to stay healthy. He pointed out that in Khanewal water is being polluted by the untreated effluent and this is causing diseases widely in Khanewal. He suggested that to provide clean water, the RO plants are extremely necessary. However, WASEB and its partners are promoting the Bio-Sand Filters which are also helping the communities in getting pure water at household levels. He assured Bahauddin Zikria University's support in all fields of water purification and provision of system in Khanewal district. He mentioned that water laws are there but implementation is missing and all partners need to struggle implementation of water laws in their true spirit.

3.7 Question Answer Session

A short session of Question-Answer was taken after the conclusion of the Chief Guest's speech. Mr. Waseem, Mr. Habibullah, Ms. Farzana and Mr. Khalid raised question about working and ownership of the Khanewal AWP which were suitably replied by Mr. Karamat Ali and Dr. Pervaiz Amir.



Pic. 7: Ms. Farzana of Bahauddin Zikria University raising a question

3.8 Vote of Thanks

Mr. Ali Aslam Sheikh, Chief Executive Officer of WASEB thanked the participants for sparing their time and attending the launch meeting of Khanewal AWP. He mentioned that Khanewal AWP is an open forum for discussing and identifying water issues of the area for logical resolution. He thanked PWP and partners/ stakeholders for their cooperation and collaboration for this forum of common interest of the area. He assured that the AWP forum will be used productively. He promised that the forum will promote generic methods of water management and purification rather than specific ones. He also invited all the participants to the lunch.



Pic. 8: Mr. Ali Aslam Sheikh, Chief Executive Officer, WASEB presenting vote of thanks.

4. VISIT TO WASEB OFFICE

After successful holding of the launch ceremony of Khanewal AWP, the hosts took PWP delegation to Welfare for Socio-Economic Agency Betterment (WASEB) office which was located in a nearby area where they showed the latest working model the Bio-Sand water filter designed by CAWST. The delegation praised the latest design and requested WASEB to provide them a model for display in PWP office. WASEB CEO promised to provide a model as and when they come to Islamabad next month.



Pic.9: CAWST Bio-Sand Water Filter Model in working.

5. TRADITIONAL TENT-PEGGING COMPETITION

At this eve of AWP Launch in Khanewal, WASEB Chair organized a traditional tentpegging competition in his nearby village. PWP delegation was invited to visit and see the competition and take part in the celebrations. Mr. Irfan ul Haq Shah, Chairman, WASEB also demonstrated his skills of tent-pegging and was appreciated for his outstanding performance. Thereafter PWP delegation left for next destinations.



Pic. 10: Group of players warming up before Tent-Pegging Competition.



Pic. 11: PWP delegation and the WASEB Chair enjoying traditional tent-pegging competition.

6. Photo Gallery



Pic. 12: A view of proceedings



Pic.13: Group photo of the launch meeting of Khanewal AWP



KHANEWAL

AREA WATER PARTNERSHIP

Launching Meeting

May 15, 2015 Venue: Green Canal Hotel, Khanewal.

Pakistan Water Partnership subsidiary of Global Water partnership (South Asia) in collaboration with welfare Agency for Socio-Economic Betterment (WASEB) is developing Area Water partnership in Khanewal. In this regard, WASEB is organizing launching meeting to be held on Saturday May 15, 2015 from 10.00 AM to 12.45 PM at Green Canal Hotel/Restaurant, 50, Block Y, Peoples Colony Khanewal.

The schedule of the meeting will be:

Activity	Presenter	Time	
Recitation from the Holy Quran.	Qari Abdul Qayum	1000-1020	
Welcome by WASEB Chair.	Mr. Irfan ul Hag Shah	1020-1040	
Water Issues of Khanewal Area and Potentials – (by any partner of WASEB)	Mr. Muhammad Mustafa (FDO)	1040-1100	
Objectives of an Area Water Partnership and Steps involved in formation	Mr. Karamat Ali, PWP.	1100-1120	
Opportunities and Ideas for developing an action plan	Dr. Pervaiz Amir, PWP.	1120-1140	
High Profile Speech by the Chief Guest	Dr. Riaz (Food Science and Technology Department) BZU, Multan.	1140-1200	
Vote of Thanks by Chief Executive WASEB	Mr. Ali Aslam Sheikh	1200-1215	
Lunch	1215-1245		

For Contact and Information:

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Annex-II

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What is an AWP?

- Area Water Partnership (AWP) is a network of local departments, institutions, organizations and stakeholders.
- AWP should strive to involve and engage all relevant stakeholders (departments, institutions, organizations, farmer organizations, famers, etc.) in all activities of the AWP to achieve their ownership of this

network.







Training of Farmers

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 Under WACREP, PWP carried out training of farmers in use of modern techniques of rainwater harvesting and innovative irrigation technologies.

 Over 5,000 farmers have been trained in Balochistan, Sindh and KPK Provinces in collaboration with Area Water Partnerships by end of October 2014.

