



**Chronicle of Exploration
GBRSP Board of Directors' Visit
January 22-25, 2024**



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GBRSP Board of Directors'
Visit Report**

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1. Background

The immersive four-day learning experience, titled "Chronicle of Exploration: GBRSP Board of Director's Visit," aimed to enrich participants with institutional insights and organizational knowledge. The primary objective was to enhance the capacity of Board Members by exposing them to best practices. Conducted predominantly at the HRDN Secretariat- IRM Complex, Islamabad, the activities unfolded from the 22nd to the 25th of January, 2024. A total of 13 participants from GBRSP actively engaged in this enlightening experience.

The learning visit encompassed a diverse range of topics, including the Microfinance & Enterprise Development Programme, The Agri Value Chain Co-operative Model, the organizational journey of excellence, and an Orientation Training Workshop on SECP Rules & Regulations to fortify organizational compliance and governance. Employing an interactive methodology, the sessions aimed not only to disseminate knowledge but to ensure its accurate perception and understanding. Trainers facilitated discussions, encouraging participant feedback, queries, and suggestions. These interactive sessions were complemented by supporting materials such as PowerPoint presentations, handouts, and relevant videos.

2. Training Objectives:

The four-day learning exposure set out to achieve several key objectives:

- Allow participants to engage with seasoned professionals/top management from various organizations, including NRSP, IRM, HRDN, and NCRD and SECP gaining insights into their best practices and organizational working models.
- Enhance participants' understanding through interactive sessions and discussions covering Microfinance & Enterprise Development Programme, the Agri Value Chain Co-operative Model.
- The organizational journey towards sustainability.
- The role of the Board of Directors, and an in-depth understanding of compliance mechanisms for good governance.

3. Participants' Profile:

The esteemed participants included key members of the GBRSP Board of Directors, including the Chairman, CEO, and General Manager, totaling 13 individuals (11 males and 2 females). All participants hailed from the Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme. For a detailed list of participants, please refer to Annex I.

4. Resource Persons

The sessions were conducted by a distinguished team of experts, including Dr. Rashid Bajwa, Dr. Roomi S. Hayat, Mr. Ibrar Anjum, Mr. Umar Idrees, Mr. Israr Mohammad, Mr. Faisal Lateef Khawaja, and Ms. Robeela Bangash. Annex III provides a detailed agenda, outlining the sessions conducted by each resource person along with brief profiles:

Sr.No.	Name	Designation	Session Title
1	Dr. Rashid Bajwa	CEO, NRSP	Engaging Perspectives: A Conversation with CEO-NRSP
2	Dr. Roomi S. Hayat	CEO, IRM	Discovering Excellence with CEO IRM
3	Ms. Robeela Bangash	CEO, HRDN	Strategic Insight: A Briefing on HRDN
4	Mr. Israr Mohammad	DG AHK-NCRD	Unveiling Excellence: Learning Session on AHK-NCRD's Best Practices
5	Mr. Ibrar Anjum	Company Secretary (NRSP)	Exploring the Best Practices -NRSP Rice Component
6	Mr. Umar Idrees	SPO-MEDP	Unleash Wisdom: The Deep Dive into NRSP's Success Saga - Microfinance
7	Mr. Faisal Lateef Khawaja	Joint Registrar SECP	Orientation Training workshop on SECH Rules regulations

5. Venue and Date:

The Learning Sessions and training workshop was organized at HRDN Secretariat IRM Complex, Islamabad from 22th – 25th Jan, 2024 and one day at NCRD Premises.



The proceedings began with the recitation of the Quran and a warm welcome from Ms. Robeela Bangash, CEO of HRDN.

After introducing the participants formally, the session unfolded with a captivating conversation featuring Dr. Rashid Bajwa, the CEO of the National Rural Support Programme.

Dr. Rashid Bajwa shared insightful details about NRSP's journey as an organization, highlighting the crucial role of NRSP's social enterprise in ensuring financial stability. The discussion touched upon significant projects like the Solar Tube well Project, the Construction of 4 Lakh Houses for flood-affected individuals, and the development of innovative software such as the KisanKat Application. This session provided a snapshot of NRSP's organizational path and its ongoing impactful initiatives.



Mr. Ibrar Anjum -Company Secretary of NRSP, provided a comprehensive overview of the Agri Value Chain Co-operative Model, specifically highlighting the NRSP APC Hafizabad Rice processing model. He emphasized the model's vision and mission, aiming to create an ecosystem that enhances productivity, reduces losses, and addresses market imperfections. The presentation introduced the concept of a double bottom line, where the mission is driven by a commitment to a cause while maintaining financial sustainability.

Mr. Ibrar Anjum shed light on the NRSP perspective, emphasizing the need for implementing this model. Additionally, he discussed NRSP's efforts to reach small farmers through innovative finance in Pakistan, exemplified by the JDW and NRSP joint Sugar Cane Productivity Enhancement Project (SPEP). This initiative was presented as a strategic move to contribute positively to the agricultural landscape and uplift small-scale farmers.





DAY 02

23

JANUARY, 2024

The day commenced with welcoming remarks and a feedback session facilitated by Ms. Robeela Bangash. Participants expressed their appreciation for the insightful interaction with the CEO of NRSP and the session led by the Company Secretary of NRSP. They also commended the overall arrangements and organization of the event.

Dr. Roomi Saeed Hayat, CEO of IRM an esteemed expert, initiated the session by drawing inspiration from the emergence of Oxford University, establishing an engaging storytelling atmosphere for exploring Discovering Excellence at IRM. Stressing the importance of fostering harmonious relationships between CEOs and Board of Directors (BOD) members for organizational success, Dr. Roomi provided a comprehensive overview of IRM's different departments, enhancing participants' understanding of the institute's structure.



Opting for a narrative approach rather than a traditional presentation, Mr. Roomi Hayat facilitated an immersive discussion. This distinctive method created a dynamic environment, seamlessly transitioning into a lively Question and Answer session, fostering a collaborative atmosphere of learning. The dialogue, centered around Dr. Roomi's experiences and the historical context of Oxford University, not only deepened participants' understanding of achieving excellence but also prompted a constructive exchange of ideas. Participants actively contributed to the conversation, extracting practical insights for organizational success and sustainability. This interactive storytelling session, enriched with anecdotes and shared experiences, emerged as a valuable source of inspiration and knowledge for all participants.



Mr. Umar Idrees representing MEDP Section National Rural Support Programme oriented the participants about the NRSP-Microfinance and Enterprise Development Programme (Session II). Participants received a concise introduction to NRSP, gaining insights into various programs such as the Micro Equity (Karo Bari Sarmaya) Programme, Kamyab Pakistan Programme (KPP), PMYB&ALS (Prime Minister's Youth Business and Agriculture Loan Scheme), and Tajarat (Murabaha-based loans).



Mr. Umar Idrees also shed light on the Project Renewable Energy Solution for Agriculture and Enterprises, a pilot initiative spanning 12 Districts of Sindh and 8 Districts of Punjab, designed to provide interest-free loans to farmers. This dedicated session added a practical dimension to the discussions, offering participants tangible insights into the Microfinance and Enterprise Development landscape.





Day 3 commenced with a visit to the Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHK-NCRD).

Mr. Israr Mohammad, the Director General of AHK-NCRD, extended a warm welcome to the participants. and provided a brief introduction about the institute and its operations. Following the welcome session, the participants were immersed in a detailed presentation by NCRD Representative, covering the history and introduction of NCRD, its Vision and Mission, and a brief overview of Dr. Akhtar Hameed Khan, after whom the organization is named. The presentation included an organogram, emphasizing key themes of capacity building such as Rural Development, Poverty Alleviation, Project Management, Women Empowerment, and Disaster Risk Management.



Furthermore, the session highlighted NCRD's significant accomplishments, showcasing the number of capacity-building programs conducted between 1983 and 2023. It also shed light on the international collaborations of the organization, including partnerships with entities such as the African Asian Rural Development Organisation (AARDO), Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), and the Network of Local Government Training and Research Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (LOGOTRI). This insightful session provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of NCRD's rich history, global collaborations, and its commitment to various facets of capacity building. After the enlightening presentation, participants were offered an engaging tour of the NCRD building and its various departments. The tour encompassed training halls, an auditorium, a library, a training hostel, a cafeteria, organic gardens, and kitchen gardens, providing participants with a firsthand view of the institute's diverse facilities and resources. This immersive experience allowed participants to witness the practical aspects of NCRD's infrastructure and further enriched their understanding of the organization's capabilities in rural development and capacity building. At the conclusion of the visit, a group photograph captured the memorable moments of the day. Additionally, as a token of appreciation and remembrance, a shield was presented to Chairman GBRSP. This symbolic gesture served to commemorate the visit and express gratitude for the valuable insights gained at the Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHK-NCRD).





Day 4 began with a warm welcome and feedback session by Miss Robeela Bangash, followed by a presentation on the Human Resource Development Network (HRDN).

Ms. Robeela Bangash CEO-HRDN gave a comprehensive presentation familiarizing participant with the historical journey and evolution of this collective platform, serving as a think tank for Human Resource Development in Pakistan. The formation of HRDN was rooted in the need for evidence-based policy advocacy to ensure sustainable development.



The extensive presence of HRD Network, through its organizational and professional members, positions it as a distinctive network in the not-for-profit sector of Pakistan. It actively facilitates, contributes to, and implements innovative and challenging models of development while ensuring knowledge sharing in collaboration with its members nationwide. The Network serves as a pivotal link between the public sector and civil society. The noteworthy initiatives including International Exposure for its members through Annual Trainers Retreats (ATR) held in various countries, International Congresses and Conferences, Capacity building & training Initiatives, Summer Internship Programs, and awareness campaigns are integral components of HRDN's multifaceted approach to sustainable development.



Training Workshop on SECP Rules & Regulations

Mr. Faisal Lateef Khawaja, a seasoned professional, a qualified Lead Auditor, represents SECP in multiple ministries gave comprehensive overview of the Rules and Regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP).

The discussion explored the organization's vision and mission, shedding light on the role and functions of the Corporate Registry Department (CRD). The presentation further highlighted the significant presence of the Corporate Excellence and Philanthropy Promotion (CEPP) in Pakistan, providing insights into the Non-Profit Organization (NPO) Legal Structure. The session covered an introduction to the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) as the apex regulator, outlining the responsibilities of the Company Registration Division (CRD) in supervising and regulating the corporate sector. Participants gained insights into the Non-Profit Organization (NPO) sector, including an overview and the regulatory mandate of SECP for NPOs. The discussion also touched upon the rules of the Public Sector Companies (PSC) and the implementation of the Statement of Ethics Act, emphasizing the ongoing digitalization efforts aligned with the current mandate and the Vision 2030.

Certificate Distribution and Closing

The closing ceremony of the training, led by Ms. Robeela Bangash (CEO, HRDN) and accompanied by Mr. Mir Afzal Khan (Chairman GBRSP), commenced with heartfelt gratitude. Ms. Robeela expressed appreciation by presenting an HRDN Shield and a framed group photograph to Mr. Mir Afzal Khan. Subsequently, training certificates were distributed to all participants. Mr. Faisal Lateef Khawaja (Joint Registrar, SECP) received shields from both HRDN and GBRSP. In a cultural exchange, Mr. Mir Afzal Khan and Ms. Marina Begum gifted Ms. Robeela Bangash a traditional Gilgit cap, known as "Khoi." Closing the event, Ms. Robeela congratulated the participants on successfully completing the training course, expressing hope that the acquired knowledge would enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing partner activities.



7. Feed Back of Participants:

Feedback on the visit's design, content and Resource Persons profile and interaction, arrangements and facilitation were overwhelmingly positive. Participants found the visit and training on SECP Rules and Regulations highly helpful, praising the content's clarity and significance. The use of simple terminologies in presentations was appreciated, making the material easily understandable. Time division and coverage of topics were well-received. The majority of participants commended the Resource Persons/trainer's knowledge, presentation style, thorough preparation, and efficient use of training material. They lauded the engaging discussions, encouragement of questions, and the overall positive demeanor, making the learning experience both enjoyable and effective.

8. Reflections



Very informative session and special thanks to Ms. Robeela Bangash for her warm welcome and kind facilitation. Overall, it was an exceptional learning experience. Looking forward to implement our learnings – Miss Fatima Syed.



Very grateful to HRDN for facilitating and hosting this 4 day Learning Experience. This exposure helped us to form networks with esteemed organizations like NRSP, IRM and NRCP. Session with SECP was extraordinary in terms of learning and overall the team is well organized and great – Mr. Abdul Jahan.

9. ANNEXES

ANNEXES II: PARTICIPANT'S LIST

Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Organization	Contact	Email
1	Mir Afzal Khan	Chairman	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
2	Fatima Syed	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
3	Marina Begum	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
4	Adeeb Hussain	Ex. Officio (Member BOI)	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
5	Dr. Hidayat Ali	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
6	Adam Shah	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
7	Abdul Latif	CEO	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
8	Ashfaq Ahmad	GM	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
9	Imtiaz Hussain	Ex. Officio (Member BOI)	P&DDGB		
10	Ghulam Muhammad	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
11	S. Muzaffar Hussain Shah	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		
12	Abdul Jahan	Director	Gilgit Baltistan Rural Support Programme		

PICTURE GALLERY



AGENDA



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Human Resource Development Network Islamabad

Day 1 January 22 nd	Activity	Resource Person
	Institutional Learning and Organizational Insight of NRSP	
10:00-10:30	Welcome and Introductory Session	
10:30-11:30	Unleash Wisdom: The Deep Dive into NRSP's Success Saga - Microfinance	Mr. Tallat Mahmood Programme Manager (NRSP-NRSP)
11:30-12:00	Engaging Perspectives: A Conversation with CEO-NRSP	Dr. Rashid Bajwa C.E.O (NRSP)
12:00-12:30	Tea/Networking	
12:30-14:00	Exploring the Best Practices NRSP Rice Component	Mr. Ibrar Anjum Company Secretary (NRSP)
14:00	Lunch /Networking	

Day 2 January 23 rd	Activity	Resource Person
	Exploring Innovation: A Visit to IRM for Insight and Connection	
10:00-11:00	Discovering Excellence with CEO IRM	Dr. Roomi S. Hayat C.E.O (IRM)
11:00-11:30	Tea/Networking	
11:30-13:00	Exploring Expertise: A Journey through IRM Departments	IRM Representative
13:00-13:30	Strategic Insight: A Briefing on HRDN	Ms. Robeela Bangash C.E.O HRDN
13:30-	Lunch/Networking	

Day 3 January 24 th	Activity	Resource Person
	Journey Into Knowledge: Unlocking the Power of Learning at AHK-NCRD	
10:00-11:30	Unveiling Excellence: Learning Session on AHK-NCRD's Best Practices	Mr. Israr Mohammad DG AHK-NCRD
11:30-12:00	Tea/Networking	
12:00-13:30	Navigating NCRD: A Comprehensive Tour of Departments Q&A-Clearing the Mist	NCRD Representative
13:30-	Lunch/Networking	

Day 4 January 25 th	Activity	Resource Person
	Mastering Compliance: Training Workshop on SECP Rules & Regulations	
10:00-11:00	Orientation on SECP Rules and Regulations	Mr. Faisal Lateef Khawaja Joint Registrar SECP
11:00-11:30	Tea/Networking	
11:30-13:30	Training-continued SECP Rules and Regulations Q&A-Clearing the Mist	
13:00-14:00	Closing Reflections: Feedback Session and Concluding Moments	
14:00-	Lunch/Networking	

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