

25 YEARS OF TRANSFORMATION: HRDN'S ALL MEMBERS' MEETING REPORT



INTRODUCTION

The 25th Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) marks a pivotal milestone in the history of the Human Resource Development Network (HRDN), celebrating not just the accomplishments of the past year but also recognizing the significant achievements of the past 25 years. HRDN's evolution from its inception in 1999 to a dynamic and influential network has been driven by its members' unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable development, strengthening institutional capacities, and promoting social progress. As a testament to this legacy, the AMM provides a unique opportunity to reflect on the transformative journey and share key insights on how HRDN continues to play a vital role in addressing global and local challenges.

This year's AMM serves as an important platform for engaging with HRDN's core stakeholders—its members—ensuring transparency in governance while reinforcing the network's vision for the future. It is here that the secretariat shares the progress of the past year, and seeks valuable feedback, insights, and guidance for the continued growth and innovation of HRDN.






A QUARTER-CENTURY OF TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT

THRDN's journey from a modest coalition in 1999 to a flourishing network of development professionals, trainers, policymakers, and academics speaks volumes about the collective strength of its membership. Over the past 25 years, HRDN has played a pivotal role in fostering partnerships, facilitating knowledge exchange, and implementing transformative initiatives that have impacted multiple sectors. Its ability to drive meaningful change has been a key factor in its sustained success and growth.

The 25th AMM marks a celebration of HRDN's ongoing impact while offering a forward-looking perspective for future collaboration. The event is an opportunity to recognize and honor the contributions of HRDN's diverse membership, providing a foundation for further strategic planning. It celebrates the dedication of individuals and organizations who have collectively shaped HRDN's legacy, and sets the stage for continued impact in the years ahead.

The proceedings of this year's event showcase the significant milestones, heartfelt testimonials, and collective achievements that continue to position HRDN as a transformative force in the development sector.



PROCEEDINGS

The 25th Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) commenced with a warm welcome from the Master of Ceremony, Ms. Maryam Khan, who extended her heartfelt greetings to the distinguished guests. The proceedings began with a soulful recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the powerful rendition of the national anthem, setting a dignified and inspiring tone for this milestone occasion.



HRDN: 25 YEARS OF IMPACT – A JOURNEY CAPTURED IN 25 MINUTES"

As the anthem concluded, a captivating video was presented, taking attendees through the remarkable 25-year journey of HRDN. This 25-minute video, which encapsulated key milestones and transformative moments over the years, was highly appreciated by the audience for its engaging storytelling, effectively translating the essence of HRDN's journey into a concise and memorable presentation.



WELCOME ADDRESS

DR. ROOMI S. HAYAT, CHAIRPERSON - HRDN

Dr. Roomi S. Hayat, Chairperson of HRDN, delivered a stirring welcome address that resonated deeply with all in attendance. His words elegantly encapsulated HRDN's extraordinary journey, celebrating the unwavering spirit and dedication that have been at the core of its 25-year legacy. Reflecting on the collective efforts of the founding members, the vibrant community of supporters, and the broader network, he emphasized that it is this united commitment that has driven HRDN to its current stature.



In his address, Dr. Roomi underscored the vital importance of collaboration, innovation, and resilience in achieving HRDN's success. He painted a compelling vision for the future, one built on shared purpose and unity, encouraging members to continue striving together to reach even greater heights. His address instilled a sense of pride and inspiration, leaving the audience both reflective of the past and energized to work toward a more impactful and sustainable future.

A TALE OF TRANSFORMATION

MS. ROBEELA BANGASH, CEO-HRDN

Ms. Robeela Bangash, CEO of HRDN, captivated the audience with a compelling account of HRDN's remarkable journey. With passion and precision, she traced the organization's evolution from its humble beginnings to its current standing as a prominent network for human and institutional development. Ms. Bangash highlighted the key milestones along the way, recognizing the collective efforts of HRDN's members, partners, and stakeholders who have played an essential role in the network's ongoing success.

Her address culminated in a bold and visionary outlook for the future, emphasizing innovation, collaboration, and inclusivity as the guiding principles for HRDN's continued growth. Ms. Bangash's words resonated deeply with the audience, expressing sincere gratitude to all involved in making HRDN the impactful network it is today.



VOICES OF RESILIENCE: HRDN'S 25-YEAR JOURNEY OF ADVOCACY AND IMPACT

Following Ms. Bangash's address, the video titled "Voices of Resilience: HRDN's 25-Year Journey of Advocacy and Impact" was displayed. The video featured heartfelt testimonials from members across the globe, sharing their experiences of HRDN's transformative role in advocacy, knowledge sharing, and capacity building, even amidst challenges such as shrinking spaces, funding constraints, and evolving policies.

The voices highlighted in the video spoke to HRDN's unique ability to connect diverse stakeholders—ranging from public offices and the private sector to development partners and UN agencies—fostering collaboration on critical issues such as human resource development, women empowerment, and sustainable development. These testimonials reflect not only the resilience of HRDN during difficult times but also the profound impact it has had in bridging gaps and nurturing future leaders.

Following the video, a selection of powerful member testimonials further illustrated HRDN's immense value, showcasing the organization's enduring contribution to individuals and organizations across sectors.

Mr. Muhammad Zubair Qureshi, Lifetime Member:

"I have been associated with HRDN since 1999, and it introduced the world to a new concept of developing human resources. It laid the foundation for many others to follow."

Mr. Fahim Siddique Ex VP UBL- Lifetime Member:

"HRDN evolved from a thought to a vision and eventually became a reality, making a tangible impact on the development sector."

Dr. Noor Fatima Vice President IR Department -IIUI- Board of Directors Member, Lifetime Member:

"Over the past two decades, HRDN has been a source of valuable learning and opportunity, enabling me to grow both professionally and personally."

Ms. Humera Malik, Board of Directors Member, Lifetime Member:

"Even during challenging times, HRDN has managed to sustain its presence and is one of the few networks that have thrived over the years."

Mr. Anwar Saleem Kasi, Board of Directors Member, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN creates a vital platform for professionals to share their experiences and learn from one another, building a rich community of practice."

Mr. Mehmood Akhtar Cheema Country Rep IUCN Pakistan-Founder Member:

"HRDN has provided invaluable exposure to its members, and its relevance has only increased over the years. It continues to be a beacon of growth and development."

Mr. Usman Qazi Expert DRR- Lifetime Member:

"HRDN has become a cornerstone for community development, providing the tools, training, and networks needed to catalyze change on the ground."

Mr. Farhan Mehmood CEO Beyond Paradigm -Lifetime Member:

"Over the 20 years of my membership, HRDN has been an instrumental part of my career development, offering me numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth."

Mr. Sajjad Ismail HANDS Lifetime Member:

"HRDN has consistently provided an excellent platform for professionals to network and collaborate, bringing people together on one forum for mutual learning."

Abid Channa, CEO of Sukaar Foundation, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN offered a solid foundation for trainers, providing a unique platform for sharing knowledge and advancing development practices."

Ms. Samina Ashraf Director UNFPA-Lifetime Member:

"HRDN's Annual Training Retreats (ATRs) have been a source of immense learning for me, and I am thankful for the opportunity to grow through them."

Ms. Javeria, Professional Member:

"HRDN significantly helped me develop my networking skills, expanding my connections with like-minded professionals."

Mr. Anis Danish Operational Head- HANDS Organizational Member:

"HRDN played a pivotal role in the development of organizations, not only enhancing their capabilities but also significantly focusing on human resource growth."

Mr. Amjad Rasheed, CEO of Taraqee Foundation:

"HRDN has been instrumental in developing and enhancing the capacity of individuals within the development sector, contributing to the overall betterment of the community."

Mr. Jeram Das Professor Jamshoro University Lifetime Member:

"HRDN has made a tremendous contribution to the social service sector, driving positive change and fostering greater collaboration."

Mr. Abdur Rab, Lifetime Member:

"Through HRDN, I gained invaluable networking opportunities, training, international exposure, and career prospects that helped shape my career path."

Ms. Samira Qazi, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN is one of the few networks that has successfully sustained its essence and vision over time, making a significant impact on its members and the larger community."

Mr. Mukhtar Javed- Chairperson FAFEN -Professional Member:

"HRDN has successfully brought together the corporate and development sectors, fostering collaboration and driving meaningful change."

Ms. Fauzia Bilquis PM IUCN Pakistan- Lifetime Member:

"Congratulations to HRDN on its 25 years of dedication and success. The network continues to empower individuals and organizations alike."

Mr. Amjad Gulzar-CEO Caritas Pakistan ,Organizational Member:

"HRDN is a valuable network that has had a lasting impact on the development sector in Pakistan, creating meaningful connections and partnerships."

Mr. Dr. Tahir Rasheed- CEO BRSP Organizational Member:

"HRDN has evolved into a hub for learning and development, and its success is a direct result of its hard work and dedication to the cause of human resource development."

Ms. Ishrat Sarfraz, Organizational Member:

"Congratulations to HRDN on reaching its 25th anniversary. It has been a remarkable journey of growth and impact."

Mr. Abdul Shakoor Sial President Learning Zone-Lifetime Member:

"Through HRDN, I have gained lifelong friendships and support, which have been essential in my personal and professional growth."

Ms. Erum Wali Khan, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN's 25-year milestone is a testament to the vision of its founders and the dedication of its members, ensuring its lasting legacy."

Mr. Gulab Rai, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN has played an instrumental role in raising awareness and driving community development, leaving a lasting impact on the ground."

Mr. Muhammad Burhan Raza, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN played a significant role in my personal development, helping me enhance my skills and professional capabilities."

Mr. Dr. Manzoor Ahmed Awan, Lifetime Member:

"I encourage young professionals to join this credible forum, as HRDN offers an invaluable space for learning and professional development."

Mr. Kaleem Imam, Lifetime Member:

"Well done, HRDN! Keep focusing on your mandate and continue moving forward, making an impact in the development sector."

Mr. Muzaffar Ud Din, Lifetime Member:

"HRDN has a bright future ahead, and I believe it will continue to play a crucial role in shaping the future of the development sector."

Dr. Roomi S. Hayat, Chairperson HRDN, Founder Member:

"HRDN's legacy is well-established, thanks to the collective efforts of its members. I am deeply thankful to everyone who has contributed to the network's success."

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AWARD

HONORING UNWAVERING COMMITMENT

As HRDN marked its 25-year journey of excellence, Board Of Directors and Secretariat proudly recognized and honored the organizations and professionals whose unwavering faith, trust, and dedication had been the lifeblood of this network. With an unshakable belief in HRDN's mission, these exceptional individuals and institutions had selflessly contributed their time, expertise, and volunteer spirit, ensuring that HRDN not only survives but thrives.

To celebrate their invaluable contributions, all participating members were presented with the Acknowledgment Award for Excellence—a symbol of their relentless commitment, enduring partnership, and profound impact on HRDN's legacy. Their steadfast support has been a driving force behind the organization's resilience, fostering a culture of collaboration, empowerment, and sustainable growth.

This moment was more than an award presentation; it was a powerful tribute to the champions of HRDN, a reflection of our shared journey, and a reaffirmation of our collective purpose to shape the future with the same passion and dedication that brought us here.



EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS

A LEGACY IN TRANSITION

As part of HRDN's grand 25th Anniversary Celebration, the event witnessed a remarkable convergence of experience and aspiration, wisdom and ambition. Youth from leading universities, including alumni of HRDN's prestigious Internship Programs, were invited to be part of this milestone occasion—not just as spectators, but as heirs to a powerful legacy.

This initiative was more than just a networking opportunity; it was a transformative exchange, where the torchbearers of today—HRDN's distinguished members, organizations, and professionals—stood as institutions in their own right, ready to impart their hard-earned knowledge, insights, and expertise to the leaders of tomorrow. These interactions were deep, inspiring, and catalytic, fostering an environment where experience met enthusiasm, where the past and present united to shape the future.

A defining highlight of this engagement was the strong presence of women students, reinforcing HRDN's unwavering commitment to women's empowerment and leadership. Their participation signified a bold step toward inclusivity and progress, ensuring that the next generation of professionals—especially young women—are equipped with the wisdom, skills, and vision to lead Pakistan into a brighter future.

This was not just an event—it was a symbolic passing of the baton, a moment where HRDN's 25-year legacy was entrusted to the hands of those who will carry it forward with renewed energy, innovation, and purpose.



CLOSING OF THE EVENT

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The event reached its culmination with powerful and heartfelt remarks from Mr. Mehmood Akbar Cheema, Country Representative of IUCN Pakistan, whose eloquent address encapsulated HRDN's extraordinary 25-year journey. Reflecting on the organization's evolution, from its modest beginnings to its current standing as a pillar of progress, unity, and sustainable impact, Mr. Cheema expressed his deepest gratitude to the dedicated members, teams, and partners who have been instrumental in shaping HRDN's legacy. His words of acknowledgment resonated with all present, underscoring the collective efforts that have propelled HRDN's success.

In addition to celebrating the organization's achievements, Mr. Cheema emphasized the crucial role of HRDN's leadership, extending high gratitude to CEO Ms. Robeela Bangash for her visionary guidance and to the Secretariat team for their unwavering dedication in ensuring the seamless execution of HRDN's mission.

With a forward-looking vision, Mr. Cheema inspired all attendees to remain steadfast in their commitment to HRDN's mission, urging them to face future challenges with resilience, collaboration, and innovation. His closing remarks not only honored the past but also set a compelling direction for the future, highlighting the essential role of strengthening human resources for sustainable development. As the ceremony concluded, there was a palpable sense of renewed purpose and pride, with every individual in the room motivated to carry forward HRDN's legacy, fortified by a commitment to transformative initiatives that will leave an indelible mark on the future.



A FEAST OF CONNECTIONS

CELEBRATING BONDS OVER LUNCH

To conclude the momentous 25th Anniversary Celebration on a high note, guests were welcomed to a delightful networking lunch on the picturesque rooftop garden. With the sun casting a warm glow and a refreshing breeze in the air, the setting was nothing short of perfect. Laughter and conversations filled the space as old friends reunited, new connections blossomed, and professional relationships deepened in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. This final gathering was more than just a meal—it was a celebration of camaraderie, shared experiences, and the ever-growing HRDN family, leaving everyone with cherished memories and strengthened ties.



GALLERY













