



Preamble:

As we start this new year, we are excited to share our first newsletter of 2024 with you. We began the year with joy, celebrating our Annual Day 2023 and bonding on a fun trip to Thandiani. It was a time for us to relax, reflect, and strengthen our connections within the ECI community.

In the first three months of 2024, we completed some important projects and started new ones. We are committed to using technology to improve our work and making sure our teams have the skills they need to succeed. Our focus on innovation led us to explore new ideas and ways to use technology to improve our services. We also held many training sessions to help our team members grow and adapt to changes.

We have been busy with productive meetings, working together to create new opportunities for success. Each interaction reminds us of the importance of teamwork and collaboration in achieving our goals. Let's continue to work together with unity, innovation, and resilience. Together, we can achieve great things and make a positive impact in our communities.

We want to thank each of you for your hard work and dedication. Here's to a quarter filled with promise, progress, and endless possibilities.

PROJECTS IN FOCUS: Innovation at the Forefront!!

Enterprise Development Training for skilled and small Business owner youth:

ECI has conducted 2 separate trainings for FDO on value chain and linkages building with more than 40 participants. These 3 days trainings have equipped trainees with the techniques in these domains.



Agribusiness Management and Marketing Training for 300 Agri -Workers:

In order to enhance the skills of individuals engaged in agribusiness, encompassing farmers, agricultural laborers, and home-based workers, ECI delivered its expertise in Sujawal, Thatta, Kharan, Musakhel, Naushki and Zhob. A total of 300 participants received training aimed at elucidating the core principles of agribusiness

and business management. They acquired knowledge in agribusiness marketing, innovation, value addition, and gained an understanding of the importance of agribusiness marketing and its vital connections.

Capacity Enhancement of Factory Workers on Financial Health:

BSR (Business and Social Responsibility), an organization that collaborates with a global network of leading companies dedicated to creating a balanced and sustainable world, has partnered with ECI in Pakistan for the Rise Digital project. Together, these two organizations are teaming up to work with textile factories across Pakistan to ensure that factory workers, especially women, have a better understanding of their financial decisions.

During the first quarter of 2024, BSR-ECI conducted three sessions on different modules with managers at Nishat Chunian Lahore, followed by three refresher sessions with the same audience. Additionally, two more factories , M.G Apparel in Multan and Interloop in Faisalabad were brought on board, and the project expanded to include two factories in Karachi with ECI taking the lead role.



Capacity Building of Health Care providers on Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) Services:

Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) effectively reduces neonatal mortality and severe morbidity, particularly from infection, in preterm and low birth weight babies. Nutrition International collaborated with ECI to enhance the capacity of healthcare providers in KMC across KP. Following the orientation of trainers, the existing curriculum underwent revision. Subsequently, meetings were held with the Technical Working Group and the Provincial Government Health Department to facilitate mobilization efforts. Eight Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions were then conducted in Hazara, South, Central, and North regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), training a total of 224 participants on crucial KMC topics including benefits, positioning techniques, vital signs monitoring, infection prevention, and caregiver counseling.



Training on inclusive Education for fresh Teachers:

Community World Services Asia (CWSA) hired services of ECI to conduct training sessions for school teachers in Umerkot to address marginalization and social exclusion, and uphold the fundamental rights of religious minorities. The assignment involved three main activities. The first activity was concluded last year where ten training sessions were conducted for approximately 250 previously trained school teachers. In First quarter of 2024, training was provided to 220 teachers from newly selected schools to combat untouchability practices. The third activity entailed training ten representatives from School Management Committees on untouchability practices and minority rights and will be undertaken.



Tech-based Project Management for Senior & Middle Level Managers:

FDO engaged ECI to deliver Tech-Based Project Management training for senior and middle-level managers. ECI formulated the training curriculum, which was subsequently approved. The training sessions were successfully conducted in Multan, accommodating 26 staff members (19 males and 7 females) from various management levels within FDO. These participants, representing departments such as project implementation, finance, administration, and M&E, witnessed achievements such as effective pilot implementation, high participant satisfaction, and uniform training delivery across all organizational levels. The closing ceremony, graced by Mian Hameed Ullah, a representative from FDO's partner organization Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH), provided an avenue for feedback sharing and certificate distribution among the attendees.



Diagnostic Study of 11 Clusters and Training on Enterprise Development Skills of 500 MSME's:

KPEC and ECI collaborated on developing 11 business clusters in Peshawar and Khyber districts to foster growth, particularly in sales and exports. ECI managed the project cycle, beginning with an extensive diagnostic study and concluding with impact assessment. The diagnostic study

identified 28 clusters, with 11 chosen based on growth potential. Subsequently, 11 cluster-specific enterprise development curriculums were crafted, and 30 Master Trainers underwent training. Additionally, 500 staff from selected clusters, spanning various industries such as Clearing and Forwarding, Boutique and Embellishment, Gemstones, Honey, Furniture, Marble, ICT, Carpet, Silk, and Automobiles, received training. ECI conducted a post assessment of 455 businesses and an evident change was observed. A closing ceremony, held at Serena Peshawar, brought together government officials, private sector representatives, and business association members, with stalls showcasing all 11 clusters.



Identified

28

Business Clusters



Shortlisted

11

Business Clusters



Trained

500

Individuals



Post Assessment of

455

Businesses

Employable Digital Skills Training for 1000 youth Across KP:

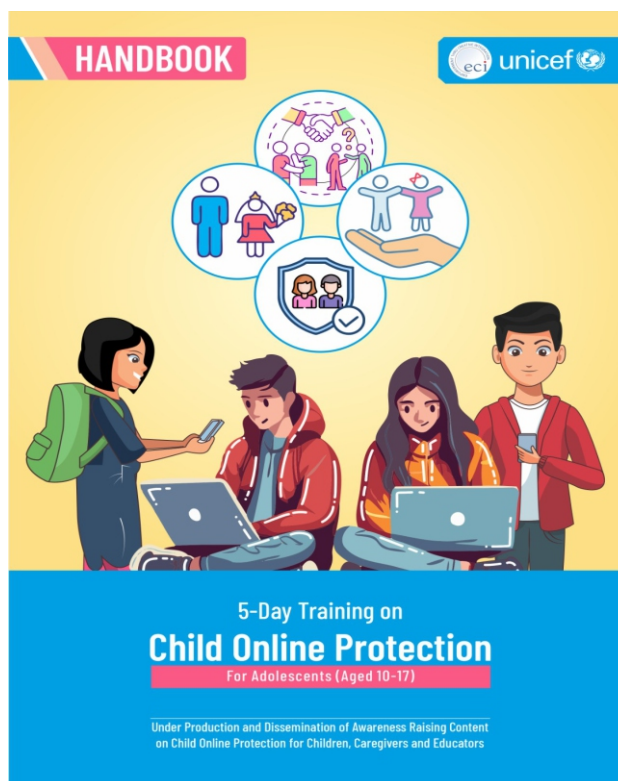
Under KPITB's initiative "KP Youth Employment Program (KPYEP)", ECI worked to empower 1,000 youth in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (all divisions of KPK) across four employable digital skills: web development, graphic design, animation, and digital marketing. It involved extensive collaboration with industry experts to develop a tailored curriculum, an implementation strategy encompassing market research, training methodologies, M&E plans, and outreach events.



Awareness sessions and social media campaigns were conducted to engage and encourage youth to register for training. For this purpose, public sector universities were identified to host the programs, and trainees were selected based on criteria established by KPITB. A team of 11 experienced trainers was developed through multiple selection rounds, and the in-person training sessions spanning over 15 days were completed in 4 cycles. Further, mentorship sessions were also provided to the youth trained to guide them in their career paths, with three mentoring sessions conducted for each skill. A post-training database was also maintained to track the employability of program participants, contributing to the overall success of the KPYEP.

Production and Dissemination of Awareness Raising Content on Child Online Protection for Children, Caregivers and Educators:

The joint effort between UNICEF's Child Protection Section and ECI signifies a determined endeavor to tackle pressing child protection issues amidst the modern digital environment. Over the course of a year, this initiative adopts a methodical and synchronized approach to develop and distribute tailored content for children, caregivers, and educators. Targeting adolescents aged 10 to 17, the primary aim is to create two comprehensive training packages advocating for safe and responsible internet usage. This undertaking involves meticulous piloting and testing of training materials through a cascading method, engaging 15 participants in specific locations such as Islamabad, Peshawar, and Khanewal. Upon successful piloting, the initiative advances to selecting and training 15 proficient trainers, who undergo comprehensive training centrally conducted in Islamabad. Subsequently, these trainers impart their expertise to groups of 20-25 facilitators across various locations, ensuring widespread geographical coverage and consistency in training delivery. The cascading



approach continues as trainers transition into facilitator roles to reach a total of 210 facilitators across provinces and territories. ECI assumes a crucial role in training UNICEF partners and providing monitoring and coaching assistance. Having submitted the inception and desk review report, ECI is presently focused on developing handbooks.

Trainings on Digital Skills and Establishing Job linkages for the Youth of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa:

UNDP has launched a comprehensive initiative under the Sustainable Development Programme (SDP) to provide digital skills training and hired the services of ECI. The project will primarily focus on districts like Nowshera, Charsadda, Tank, D.I. Khan, Khyber, South Waziristan, North Waziristan, and Peshawar. The project will mainly operate in Peshawar and D.I. Khan, with additional training sessions arranged in other designated districts, excluding Khyber, North, and South Waziristan, chosen based on accessibility. A total of 2300 young individuals from these districts will receive training in digital skills, aiming to boost their employability. Moreover, 350 selected participants will have the opportunity for on-the-job training or internships to further enhance their practical skills. The project includes various activities such as an opening ceremony, 54 mobilization sessions, short and long courses, internships, a boot camp, and a job fair, culminating in a closing ceremony.



Consultancy for Digitization of material for workshop:

The Growth for Rural Advancement and Sustainable Progress (GRASP) project, funded by the European Union (EU), aims to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable economic growth in rural Pakistan, specifically targeting selected districts in Balochistan and Sindh. The International Trade Centre (ITC) and its partners are providing technical assistance in horticulture, livestock, and dairy sectors to enhance the commercial viability of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and establish a conducive policy regime. The services of ECI have been hired for digitization of workshop project, focusing on capacity building in agribusiness management and marketing. The responsibilities of ECI include participating in a workshop mapping session, designing sessions, developing video scripts, crafting discussion questions, and preparing knowledge checks. These activities contribute to the creation of workshop materials, including digital presentations, videos, participant workbooks, and trainer guides.

Capacity Building Sessions:

Empowering the Team for Success!!



Session on Business Development and Communication



Session on Leadership impact



Session on Time and Team Management

Business Meetings:

Collaborative Endeavors Towards Progress!!



Meeting with Country Representative of FAO



Meeting with Inspire Pakistan



Meeting with Action Against Hunger



Meeting with Relief International



Meeting with Goal Organization



Meeting with TVETA Punjab

Annual Day Celebrations:

Commemorating Achievements and Camaraderie!!!



Recreational Trip to Thandiani:

Bonding Amidst Nature's Serenity!!



ECI's KASB Drive for Ramadan:

Fostering Generosity and Community Spirit!!

