

## Small Adaptive Farming and Biodiversity Network (SAFBIN)

### Research Trials of IFS Models

Caritas Pakistan under SAFBIN program developed IFS models on the basis of findings from household survey; consultations with SHFCs (Smallholder farmer collectives) and other stakeholders at district level. Integrated Farming System Approach is a viable approach to solve many problems coming on the way of livelihood of small and marginal landholders in Sargodha and Khushab districts. The research trials have been carried out in both irrigated and rainfed areas. The approach encourages sustainable agriculture, organic farming, resource conservation, integration of various components, beekeeping, improving soil health, and utilizing the by-products of one component of the farming system as an input in other. On farm trials in Pakistan focus on improving soil health, testing varieties in rain fed conditions, and reducing dependency of farmers on external inputs. In Sargodha district a total of 210 research trials of rice, maize and sunflower were laid out. Whereas in district Khushab 270 trials of millet, moong and peanut were laid out at farmer's field. Randomized Complete Block Design was adopted for laying out trials. Trial farmers were provided with training inputs like seed and fertilizer.

### Data Collection of research trials

The VRPs were provided with data collection kits, which consist of measuring tape, a scissor, magnifying lens and color pencils. Data collection formats have also been provided to the field staff. The trials farmers together with VRPs have started doing AESA (Agro Ecosystem Analysis). In AESA they observe general conditions of trial plot, make notes and collect insects and gather live specimen. They will further collect yield and yield component data like plant population, number of tillers, panicle length, plant height, No. of cobs per plant (maize), head size (Sunflower) and No. of pods per plant (peanut). The trial farmers also remove weeds manually from plots. The VRPs and trials farmers have also started recording agronomic data on various aspects of the trials like source of irrigation, sowing of nursery/sowing time, sowing method, transplanting of nursery, land preparation, name of variety, application of fertilizer during and after sowing (FYM, compost, DAP/SOP/Urea), application of weedicide/pesticide, date wise irrigations, insect attack, and disease attack etc.



### OFAR Training for SAFBIN staff and Trial Farmers

Adaptive research also known as on farm research is conducted to validate, modify or calibrate a new technology on specific soil, climate, and social economic or environmental characteristics of a given area. In this type of research farmers play a key role in the research process. In order to enhance capacity of staff, Caritas Pakistan organized OFAR Training for SAFBIN staff and trial farmers. The training at national level for SAFBIN staff was held from August 22-24, 2019; while training for trial farmers at district level was conducted from 29-31 August in Sargodha and 1-3 September in Khushab. The national level training with SAFBIN staff facilitated by Mr. Amir Irfan and Dr. Shaheen Iqbal focused on definition of adaptive research; OFAR for food and nutritional security in the context of climate change; basic principles of OFAR; stages of OFAR; types of research trials; research objectives; sample selection; sampling methods; research designs; data collection and stakeholders of on farm trials. The facilitator also divided the participants into two groups for each group to come up with a RCBD design; calculate size of a plot and No. of plants in a plot; and suggest parameters for data collection. The training with the trial farmers facilitated by Dr. Shaheen Iqbal consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. 30 trial farmers from each district were selected for this training. The trial farmers were briefed about importance of OFAR; research objectives; on farm research trials; RCBD design and data collection. The trial farmers visited some nearest villages where Research Officer explained and demonstrated some points practically.



### Government resources mobilized by SAFBIN Team

1. The VRPs (Village Resource Persons) facilitated the local farmers to get registered with Agriculture department. All those registered farmers from Sargodha and Khushab districts that sent their subsidy codes on 8070 were considered eligible for subsidy on fertilizer.
2. The livestock department provided free livestock medicine to 160 farmers of Sargodha (village 109/SB, 40/SB) and Khushab districts (36/DB, 37/DB, 38/DB) Moreover 2739 small and large ruminants were also vaccinated by the livestock department in both districts
3. CABI Central & West Asia Pakistan in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Extension and Plant Protection organized plant health clinic in district Khushab. The local SAFBIN team publicized this plant health clinic, a week before. This helped farmers to bring their plants and problems to this clinic and gained advice from the experts.
4. The Laboratory Incharge from livestock department, Dr. Muhammad Fakhar-ud-Din collected 40 blood samples of small and large ruminants from SAFBIN villages in district Khushab dated 17 September 2019. The purpose is to screen reasons of vulnerability of livestock to different diseases & to monitor the effects of treatments and medications.

### Border Plantation

Different local fruit, fodder and shade trees were planted in SAFBIN target villages to provide food, protection, and home for many birds and mammals. These plants will also act as wind breakers and add to farm components and connections. Another purpose of this border plantation is to reduce the amount of storm water runoff, which reduces soil erosion and pollution in waterways and may reduce the effects of flooding and climate change. VRPs and DPOs together with SHFC members and other farmers of 20 villages planted 4600 plants of jaman, guava, neem, moringa, jantar, conocarpus, mulberry, bair, and lple lple etc. on the boundaries of farmer fields.



### Implementation of Rabbit Farming Project

Caritas Pakistan implemented Rabbit farming in the five villages of three districts falling under diocesan units of Lahore, Karachi and Faisalabad. The activities were implemented in good coordination with local parishes. A total of 2275 beneficiaries benefitted from the project activities. The major activities implemented included baseline assessment; analysis of existing farming systems; awareness raising sessions on nutritious food; training of trainers; survey for procurement of rabbits and distribution of rabbits etc. After proper survey and selection of beneficiaries, 180 families were provided with rabbit units (04 females and one male per unit) during May to September 2019.



The rabbits were distributed to the families with different intervals keeping in view the weather conditions and availability of rabbits. Some families made mud houses for them; few put them in cages and some families allowed rabbits to live naturally by tunneling into the ground. A MoU was also been signed with the beneficiaries. According to MoU, each family will return back three rabbit babies (one month old) to village committee, which will be further revolved among new beneficiaries.

## CARITAS INITIATIVE FOR EDUCATION PROMOTION (CIEP)

### First batch of graduates from Caritas Community Schools

Sixty-seven children passed out from Caritas Community Schools at kot Nawabdin and Habib colony in Sheikhupura district on September 2. Mr. Amjad Gulzar (Executive Director & Chief Guest) handed over the result cards and gifts to the promoted students. The colorful ceremony included performances and speeches by students of first batch in schools managed by Caritas Pakistan Lahore. The female teachers also presented the report of community schools. According to Mr. Amjad, the project is a great source of awareness in target communities. "Education without training is incomplete. Our graduates can easily compete with students from other schools," he said while appreciating the parents, teachers and other community members for their support. "The gifts may be small but have a great importance. Caritas will introduce projects, but you share bigger responsibility. Join us in war against illiteracy.



"Caritas Pakistan is running 25 multi-grade schools for dropouts in four dioceses of Hyderabad, Faisalabad, Karachi and Lahore. These centers offer education till grade five in less than three years. "Caritas Initiative for Education Promotion" (CIEP) project was launched this February. Mr. Naeem Naz (Diocesan Program Coordinator) also thanked the visiting team from National Secretariat and congratulated passing out students. "Only those target areas were selected where children faced difficulties in attending far flung schools," he said. Sakina, a brick maker, thanked Caritas team for the education facility in her village. "My daughter was in grade four when the nearby school closed. She used to pick vegetables and also help the family in making more than a thousand bricks every day. Now she helps in educating my six children," she said.

### Provision of IT Equipment for Schools by CPM

Caritas Pakistan Multan (CPM) organized inception and orientation workshop on usage of IT equipment in Church run school. CPM is focusing on six Catholic High Schools to uplift them by provision of IT equipment's (MP 67/19 Pakistan). School Principals, Head Teachers, Focal Teachers were invited for August 24 workshop at Boland Hall, Bishops House. There were 18 participants from six schools and four non-formal education centers. Mr. Samuel Clement (Executive Secretary CPM) warmly welcomed the honorable guests and shared about the project objectives. While sharing the details Mr. Samuel told that Caritas will be providing desktop computers and printers to these six schools. Sharing his keynote address His Excellency Bishop Benny thanked all the participants and also the Caritas Pakistan Multan for implementing the project. "During my recent meeting with Pope Francis, I shared that our first priority is to educate and we need an attractive investment. Caritas has taken a great step forward upgrading our schools," he said.





# Caritas calling

Together We Proceed...

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### Dear Friends, Partner, Staff and Volunteer

I am happy to present you the newsletter of third quarter of 2019. We take this opportunity to congratulate newly ordained as Bishop of Faisalabad- Bishop Joseph Indrias Rehmat. With his backgrounds as the Dean of the National Catholic Institute of Theology, we are confident that he will further support the community with quality education. This newsletter includes updates and highlights of our work across the country. Caritas workers are at the forefront helping emergency relief efforts in Pakistan where monsoon flooding has caused 221 deaths. Relief aid package were especially distributed for comforting storm affected families at the feast of Eid-ul-Adha. Our condolences to families affected by Mirpur Earthquake which caused severe damage to 135 houses and partially damaged 319 houses. CP Emergency Response team visited the families and provide them counseling for the livelihood restoration of the affected families.

Meanwhile the One Million Tree Plantation Campaign continues countrywide as there is great need to plant as many trees as possible to combat climate change and about 950,000 trees were planted at different locations starting from 2016 until now. Caritas Pakistan (CP) is strongly committed towards completion of million plantation campaigns in the year 2019 that aids in making "Green Pakistan".

SAFBIN program continued with the addressing of issues of climate change and food security aimed to "end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture". Caritas actively participated in climate strikes to demand action be taken to address climate justice, which took place from 20-27 September across the Globe. Caritas Pakistan team is putting its all efforts and energy to mobilize as much resource as possible. I believe our efforts will bear fruit and will be able to implement new ideas and useful projects for the development of our communities. God bless Pakistan!

## EA 21/ 2019 CARITAS PAKISTAN FLOOD RESPONSE



Heavy rainfall affected north-eastern Pakistan this July triggering floods, landslides and mud-flows. The death toll from monsoon rainfall and widespread flooding continues to rise, with the latest report of National Disaster Management Authority Pakistan confirming 225 fatalities, 166 injured, as well as 670 houses and 18 bridges damaged between 1 July - 23 August.

Caritas Pakistan Multan distributed relief aid among flood affected families on September 1 in Tehsil (sub district) Muzaffargarh and Jatoi of District Muzaffargarh. Food Package and tents were distributed among 98 beneficiaries of village Hajiwala, UC Shehr Sultan, Tehsil Jatoi and District Muzaffargarh. 88 beneficiaries (male female) received food package while 10 male beneficiaries got Tent, Mosquito Net, Plastic Sheets and food packages.

The distribution was held after the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa issued flood alerts following release of water into River Sutlej and Alchi dam from neighboring country. Caritas Pakistan started distributions with its own funds and support from philanthropists and organizations working on the ground.

Caritas Pakistan Multan on hearing about this gruesome incident, immediately called an emergency meeting. "After facing heavy flooding, these communities were in great difficulty regarding their livelihood. Especially women have to carry children through waist deep water," said Mr. Samuel Clement Executive Secretary CPM.

Caritas Pakistan Karachi distributed plastic sheets to affected households on July 29 as they were spending nights in the open sky and also distributed cooked food to 500 flood affected households with the help of local foundations and philanthropists in different rain affected areas i.e. holy Mary Goth, Sujani town, Lyari Sector, Younas Goth and others. Caritas Pakistan Faisalabad organized distribution in flood affected areas; Food packages were distributed to 40 deserving flood affected households in district Jhang. The distribution was carried out in Government Primary School, which remain safe in floods. Mr. Aneel Mushtaq (Diocesan Executive) participated in distribution and said that Caritas Pakistan is always there to support the people in need. District Jhang is one of the flood prone areas between two Rivers Jhelum and Chanab. Caritas team organized relief distributions in flood affected areas of Faisalabad Diocese.



#### Fodder for drought affected farmers

A distribution of livestock feed and fodder was held on 18 July 2019 at Chak 17 ML Mariakhel. 60 small farmers received feed and fodder (Green fodder and Vanda) for livestock under EA28 - Drought Response. Fr. Rizwan Anthony joined Kamran Sattar (Executive Secretary CPIR) in distributing the material among the beneficiaries.



#### Flood Response continues in Karachi

Relief items were distributed among 108 most vulnerable Urban Flood Affectees families of District Malir (Holy Mary Goth and Shahbaz Goth) and District Central (Sadiq Nagar and KusarNaziai Colony) Karachi on 13-14, September. Rev. Fr. Simon Delema thanked Caritas Karachi for providing food packages and Misquote Nets to parishioners.



#### Real Time reflection on flood response

The real time reflection RTR of two recent emergencies in Pakistan was organized at Caritas Pakistan National Secretariat from Aug 5 – 7. Almost 20 members including executive secretaries and emergency response team (ERT) joined meeting on Emergency Response to discuss challenges and achievements of EA12/2019 Pakistan Flood Response and EA28/2018 Pakistan drought response. They also shared their involvement in different sectors, methodology/approach, relief packages and volunteers involvement. DevCon – An Association for Rural Development, suggested several options, including value chain, from similar emergencies. "Animals are the main livelihood in drought hit areas. Including such strategies in future directions can help in long term impact and mitigate droughts and floods in agriculture," said Mr. Junaid Shah (Program Coordinator MNE DevCon). According to Mr. Nadeem Yousaf (National humanitarian coordinator), discussions on the challenges and issues of recent emergencies was crucial part of this lesson learned workshop. "Now it depends on diocesan units how they sensitize stakeholders including government, local authorities and partners. It is equally important to ensure accountability and incorporate new strategies as per our capacities," he said. Mr. Amjad Gulzar (Executive Director) appreciated the external facilitators. "Adapting new initiatives can certainly result in drought resilient areas. Despite financial challenges, we tried our best to achieve what was planned in recent emergencies," he said.



### Disaster Risk Reduction

#### Caritas Karachi prepares volunteers amid monsoon

Caritas Pakistan Karachi staff held the preparedness session titled "preparedness mitigates disaster" with almost 20 volunteers and members of Disaster management committees (DMCs) on August 9. The action plans were discussed ahead of heavy rains forecasted in several areas of Karachi from August 9-12. The volunteers and DMCs were asked to remain streamlined and update other community members about the early warning systems including announcements via electronic media (TV and Radio news, mobile messages) and door to door awareness through calls and whistles. "Volunteers are vital for Caritas but their service becomes crucial when the disaster prone areas are on high alert. They update the community and prepare them for any situation amid the monsoon," said Mr. Sarfraz Anwar (Diocesan program officer CBDRM). He also suggested several tips to save important documents, dry food items and valuable items from damage. "Caritas Pakistan always stands with the people in hour of need and we are always available for any assistance in time of emergencies". The Volunteers and DMCs were also asked to be in contact with the government officials, union councils and other supporting organizations.



#### Disaster Management Sessions for rain affected villagers

Two sessions on Disaster Management and Early Warning were conducted on July 22 in target villages of District Nowshera in collaboration with Rescue 1122 under CBDRM Program.



The sessions were attended by 5 DMC members of 4 villages including Deri Khel and Kas Koroon. Caritas Pakistan Islamabad-Rawalpindi organized the sessions in wake of upcoming monsoon and heavy predictions of floods.

### Climate Change Desk

#### Launching of Caritas Eco Green Clubs (CEGC)

His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop Benny Travas Chairman Caritas Pakistan inaugurated the "Caritas Eco Green Club" (CEGC) campaign on August 24, at Boland Hall, Bishop House. Mr. Samuel Clement (Executive Secretary CPM) shared about the initiative to launch 20 Caritas Eco Green Clubs in Multan Diocese. School principals, head teachers, teachers and CPM staff participated in this event.



"The campaign is inspired from Pope Francis encyclical on climate change Laudato Si and will contribute in Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as well. ECO clubs in school will empower the students to participate and take up meaningful environmental activities and projects", said Mr. Samuel Clement while explaining background of CEGCs, Implementation Methodology, CEGC Themes and Activities and Formation of CEGC.

Speaking at the occasion Bishop Benny shared that, it is need of the hour that we must care for our common home and being the social arm of the Catholic Church environmental education our actions will contribute in "Clean and Green Pakistan" and in decreasing effects of Climate Change. Bishop Benny and Fr. Yousaf Sohan, Vicar General also joined second plantation drive of 2019 by CPM. School Children and Communities in connection to One Million Tree Plantation Campaign planted 10,000 saplings in 7 schools and 22 target villages. Children and communities were motivated to protect trees.

#### Climate action in Lahore

Caritas Pakistan Lahore and Catholic Women Organization celebrated the day dedicated to Climate Action for Social Harmony in the light of "Laudato Si" at St. Mary High School, Lahore Cantt on September 26, 2019. More than 100 community members gathered to grab the concept of "Climate Action and Social Justice". Shaheen Yousaf (Catholic Women Organization) explained the aims and objectives of the event.



The religious speakers reflected on the causes of "Global warming" and phenomenon to overcome this global issue through our little actions of "Conserving water", "Promoting forestation", "Use of recyclable material" and "Waste management" which is directly contributing in disastrous situations like flood and earthquakes.

Rev. Fr. Eric Nassani (Dur-ul-Naim) expressed his views on Social Harmony and Dialogue in the light of life of St. Francis of Assisi. Rev. Sr. Shakila Bhatti (Principal Don Bosco High School) highlighted the role of women in harmony and climate action. Rev. Fr. Shahzada Khurram shared his views about globalization and ecology. Mr. Naeem Naz expressed his view about Pope Francis Encyclical Laudato Si' and practical steps for caring our common home. Rev. Sr. Mary Nilanthi AC (Principal St. Anthony's High School, Lahore Cantt) appreciated the joint efforts to organize this event and asked all the participants to adopt healthy habits for climate action.

Mr. Amjad Gulzar (Executive Director Caritas Pakistan & Chief Guest) illustrated different interventions of Caritas Pakistan for Climate Action like One Million Tree Plantation Campaign etc. He urged all the participants that everyone has to contribute constructively for saving our mother for future generations. "Start to adapt positive changes that you wished to see in the world and your individual efforts will lead to a big change in saving our mother Earth for future generations," he said. All the participants read the prayer of Laudato Si' at the end of the program. Eco bags of Caritas Pakistan were also distributed among the participants and trees saplings were also planted in the ground of the school.

#### Climate March in Karachi

Climate strikes calls for "climate justice" to be an ethical obligation and not just an environmental issue. Like other countries, Pakistan also contributed in the campaign of "Global week for future" from 20-27th September.

Caritas Pakistan Karachi staff joined "Climate March" along with a group of people including youth, activists, environmentalists and civilians on 20th September and raised their voice through slogans and posters to help stop global warming all across the world. Caritas team highlighted the "Global Catholic Climate Movement" supporting "Social Justice and Care for Creation".



The Pakistanis are of concern; "To make people aware of the threat that the nation is facing of climate change and there is urgent need to take actions as its impact is at highpoint with growing weather concerns including heat waves, flash floods, melting glaciers and droughts. As Pakistan has been listed the 8th most affected country from climate change as per Global climate risk index 2019." The participants desired that the March would jolt those in power to take positive actions in order to combat climate change for protecting the nature for future generations.

#### Cardinal Coutts joins campaign against plastic bags

Caritas Pakistan Karachi in collaboration with "PEACE Enforcers" launched its campaign "Say NO to Plastic Bags" by planting saplings on 14th August, the 72<sup>nd</sup> Pakistan Independence Day, at St. Patrick's Cathedral. His Eminence Cardinal Joseph Coutts (Archbishop of Karachi dioceses) was the Chief Guest of the program. Mr. Anwar Lal Deen (Senator), Rev. Fr. Saleh Diego, (Vicar General), Mr. Mansha Noor (Executive Secretary CPK) other priests, principals from different schools and Caritas staff members unveiled the Caritas' Bags. During the occasion cloth bags and Neem plants were also distributed.



"We have gathered here to understand the importance of trees and to create awareness among the people to plant trees" said Mr. Mansha Noor by introducing the objectives of the program. The pro-environment initiative aimed at promoting Eco-Friendly bags under 3 R's of waste management i.e. Reduce, Recycle and Reuse. Cardinal Coutts joined other guests in planting trees and inaugurated the campaign. "This program is of utmost importance. Our being is connected with trees which are being cut down rapidly. The deforestation is immensely affecting the climate. There is only 5% land occupied by forests which should be at least 25%," he said. He strongly condemned the usage of plastic bags which increase garbage, generates pollution and are also harmful for the marine life. He urged all to stop the use of plastic bags and adopt the habit of using cloth bags.

#### Climate action in the light of Laudato Si

Caritas Pakistan Lahore and Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish organized an awareness program on "Laudato Si" at Parish Hall, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Lahore on September 22, 2019. Around 70 participants belonging to church youth groups, clergy members including catechists, nuns and seminarian attended the event. Mr. Naeem Naz (Diocesan Program Coordinator) expressed his thoughts about His Holiness Pope Francis encyclical "Laudato Si" and elaborated brief contents of the encyclical and application for a common person to save our common home for our future generations. The special prayer of Laudato Si' for saving our mother earth was also offered by all the participants. Thereafter, Eco-friendly bags were presented to the youngsters as a symbol of "Climate Action" to protect the changing environment. Rev. Fr. Mushtaq Piara (Rector – Sacred Heart Cathedral) appreciated the efforts of Caritas Pakistan team and motivated the participants and said "It is important to adopt such habits, which contribute towards saving our mother earth by taking appropriate steps to combat climate change." The day was marked focusing "Climate Action" by planting 15 tree saplings at Sacred Heart Church Compound.



#### Caritas Pakistan Lahore focuses "Climate Action"

Caritas Pakistan Lahore organized an event on Social Harmony at St. Margaret High School, Narowal to commemorate the day on 21st September, 2019 having theme of "Climate Action". More than 200 students, teachers and community members participated in the event. The students presented songs, tableaux and performance to express the need of social harmony and how everybody should play positive role to spread it nationwide. Mr. Rafiq Inayat (Project Officer CPL) shared the history of the day and interventions of Caritas in this regard. Mr. Naeem Naz (Diocesan Program Coordinator) further elaborated the theme of this year "Climate Action" in reference with His Holiness Pope Francis encyclical "Laudato Si". Fr. Afzal Iqbal, Parish Priest, of Narowal Parish focused on working together for the better environment and children should be educated to contribute for the better environment with small actions. "It is a dire need to promote the attitude of love, harmony, acceptance, tolerance and brotherhood for formation of a harmonious society and to adopt healthy habits to care for our surroundings, as a call for Climate Action" said, Mr. Amjad Gulzar (Executive Director).



#### Call for Climate action in Karachi

Caritas Pakistan Karachi held a rally on Social Harmony with the theme Climate action by organizing an event at Don Bosco Hostel, Karachi on 21 September, 2019. Around 145 including children, volunteers and Caritas staff participated in several activities. More than 100 students included both hostel-its and school dropouts of Sadiq Nagar, Karachi. Clergy members and Caritas team lead the walk for social harmony with great enthusiasm in the hostel ground. Different sports activities took place as this could serve young people to build their physical and mental health and also to raise the spirit of team work, so they could be the real ambassadors and messenger of social harmony. Trophies were also distributed among them as a token of appreciation and encouragement. Mr. Mansha Noor (Executive Secretary CPK) while having session on social harmony and highlighted the importance of protecting and promoting the concept of creating harmony throughout the world and said, "The education of harmony is the process of acquiring the values, the knowledge and developing the attitudes, skills, and behaviors of friendliness with others, and with the natural environment".

