

BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

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CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DAYS



Peace Walk on International Peace Day

The Civil Society Support Program (CSSP), in collaboration with the Hyderabad Citizen Forum (HCF), organized a Peace Walk on International Peace Day in Hyderabad, Sindh on September 21st, 2024. The walk was attended by people from diverse backgrounds, including women, children, media personnel, faith leaders, students, members of civil society organizations, and performing artists. Together, they sent a powerful message advocating for non-violence and a peaceful society.



International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) was commemorated through an activism walk and seminar on December 14, 2023. The event saw participation from over 115 individuals, including Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), representatives from civil society organizations, government stakeholders, Local Body Representatives, youth, and media personnel. Mr. Sabir Hussain Mahar from the District Administration discussed recent developments in Sanghar, highlighting a new 5% job quota for PWDs and emphasizing the importance of providing equal opportunities for PWDs across all levels. Sajida Shah from Safe House Sanghar informed attendees about the services available for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) at Safe House Sanghar, extending support to PWDs facing psychological or social challenges. The event included an awareness walk aimed at promoting inclusivity, accessibility, and equal opportunities for individuals with disabilities, honoring the contributions of PWDs to society.



International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief



The International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief was organized on September 20, 2023, in Mirpurkhas. The event witnessed diverse participation from various religious communities, faith leaders, and representatives of government departments, including the Social Welfare Department, Women Development Department, Safe House staff, District Administration, Police Department, Health Department, Local Government, representatives of Civil Society Organizations, community leaders, media personnel, and youth groups. During the event, a theater

performance was presented by the CSSP youth group focusing on issues of forced religious conversions and how youth can contribute to peace-building efforts. The performances also highlighted the concerning issues of early child marriage and forced conversions, depicting the struggles and consequences faced by youth, particularly girls, in society. The event provided space for organizations and individuals to engage in interfaith and intercultural dialogues, to respect and protect the right to freedom of religion or belief, and to condemn any form of violence, and discrimination.

Celebrating the spirit of Christmas



CSSP celebrated Christmas in Hyderabad and Kunri, Umerkot, on December 28, 2023. The joint religious celebration brought together a diverse community of faith leaders, civil society members, and community participants in a joyous and inclusive event. Faith leaders representing Christian, Hindu, and Muslim communities shared messages of peace, goodwill, and solidarity, emphasizing the universal values of love and compassion. The event was marked by cultural performances, music, and festive decorations that reflected the vibrant diversity within the community. During the celebration, faith leaders and community

members cut the Christmas cake, and Christmas gifts were distributed among the children. Key speeches on interfaith harmony and equal rights for marginalized communities were delivered by faith leaders at the Christmas celebration in Kunri, Umerkot. The event was attended by representatives from different religious communities, including the Deputy Superintendent of Police Kunri, Chairman of the Town Committee Kunri, Government officials, and over 250 male and female participants. The celebration showcased the spirit of unity and harmony among the participants.



CSSP Global Entrepreneurship Week 2023

CSSP celebrated Global Entrepreneurship Week by organizing a weeklong series of diverse events aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, encouraging new startups, inspiring our business base, and supporting the sustainability and innovation of CSSP's SMEs. The week included highlighting CSSP's supported youth startups, arranging exposure for CSSP's youth group members to the Center for Entrepreneurial Development at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA CED), as well as a training program on green entrepreneurial skills.



Training on Green Entrepreneurship

CSSP, in collaboration with the Institute of Business Administration Mirpurkhas Campus and NCA Pakistan, organized a transformative 3-day "Green Entrepreneurship" training for the youth of Mirpurkhas. 30 youth were trained with the skills for starting eco-friendly business ventures. The three-day training focused on environmental awareness and essential skills for socially responsible and environmentally sustainable business ventures.

AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGNS



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

16 Days of Activism Against
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
Investing in the Prevention of Violence Against
Women & Girls

25 Nov 10 Dec 2024

Training for Shelter Home Service Providers



During the 16 Days of Activism, CSSP organized a training session for shelter home service providers in Mirpurkhas. The session covered topics such as Legal Frameworks, Support Services, and Trauma-Informed Care, aiming to equip participants with essential knowledge for effectively addressing and responding to gender-based violence (GBV) cases. Representatives from various entities including the Social Welfare Department, Safe Houses, Women Development Department, and NGOs working to prevent GBV were trained, showcasing a unified commitment to addressing this prevailing issue in the region.



Breaking Stereotypes & Creating Safe Spaces

The Girls' Sports Gala organized by the CSSP in Mirpurkhas on December 9, 2023, under the 16 Days of Activism Campaign against Gender-Based Violence, had a significant impact on promoting gender equality and empowering young girls through sports. The event featured a diverse range of activities including badminton, cricket, and a Women on Wheels bike rally, providing opportunities for over 300 girls from schools and communities to participate and showcase their talents. Sana Kapri, a young girl from Jhudo who represented Special Olympics Pakistan at the 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, inaugurated the sports Gala.

Key highlights of the gala included a rap performance by Urooj Kapri and Muhammad Kapri from Panhji Gang, using music to raise awareness against gender-based violence and child marriage. Mr. Noor Muhammad Bajeer, CEO of CSSP, emphasized the importance of women's empowerment in sports and CSSP's commitment to fostering positive change and creating a more equitable society where girls can thrive and reach their full potential. The event's impact extended beyond the day itself, sparking conversations and initiatives towards promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities for girls in sports and beyond.



Women Mach Kacheri (*Sormyan San Sham*)

The Women's Mach Kacheri, organized by CSSP in Mirpurkhas, was a vibrant and inclusive event that brought together a diverse range of participants. Held on December 7, 2023, at Aman Cultural Hall, Mirpurkhas. The Mach Kacheri was attended by the Assistant Commissioner of Mirpurkhas, Women from different communities, members of the Women Leadership Forum (WLF), Mirpurkhas Citizen Forum (MCF), faith

actors, community activists, representatives from civil society organizations (CSOs), media personnel, and other stakeholders. Women's Mach Kacheri (*Sormyan San Sham*) provided a platform for dialogue and celebration. The event aimed to highlight the significant role of women in various aspects of society, providing a safe and inclusive space for women, and create awareness about women's rights and challenges.



Training on Positive Masculinities



CSSP conducted training sessions on positive masculinities for students at Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam. CSSP also signed an MoU with the university to offer students training opportunities centered around positive masculinity, fostering a gender-inclusive learning environment, and addressing gender-based violence (GBV). Additionally, under the MoU, students will have opportunities to collaborate on research projects focusing on GBV-related issues. This initiative aims to empower university students and promote their active involvement in preventing gender-based violence in society. These initiatives were undertaken as part of CSSP's 16-day activism campaign against GBV, aiming to drive lasting societal change through increased awareness, education, and proactive engagement of youth.

Policy Dialogue with Duty Bearers and Right Holders



CSSP organized one-day roundtable policy dialogue organized on November 28, 2023 under its Women Economic Program, brought together duty bearers and right holders to collaborate on empowering women and addressing gender-based violence (GBV) in district Mirpurkhas. The dialogue provided a platform for direct engagement between district-level networks, including the Mirpurkhas Citizen Forum (MCF) and the Women Leadership Forum (WLF), facilitated by CSSP. Participants from various sectors, such as government officials, religious leaders, civil society organizations, and media personnel, discussed pressing issues like GBV, education, health, and social concerns affecting women in the district. Chairperson of the Sindh Commission on the Status of Women, the Commissioner of Mirpurkhas Division, directors of educational and health institutions, the Mayor of Mirpurkhas, and representatives from community groups and the Chamber of Commerce also participated in the dialogue. Participants emphasized the importance of displaying GBV-related laws at offices, addressing economic factors exacerbating violence, and promoting collaborative efforts across government departments. During the roundtable policy dialogue crucial demands were put forth to the Women's Development

Department. These demands included strengthening Women Safe Houses with proper Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), adequate funding, and staffing to effectively support survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). Additionally, there was a call for the provision of psychiatric and medical legal facilities within Safe Houses to offer comprehensive support to GBV victims. Another important demand was the establishment of women's and girls' hostels at the taluka level in Mirpurkhas District to provide safe accommodation. Furthermore, the need for fully equipped safe places at the union council level to protect women, elders, children, and persons with disabilities during emergencies was emphasized. The Chairperson of the Sindh Commission on the Status of Women (SCSW) and the Commissioner of Mirpurkhas committed to advocating for these demands through official correspondence with relevant authorities, aiming to improve services and support for women, especially survivors of GBV, in the district. Ms. Anne, Country Director of NCA Pakistan, praised the event as a model for addressing women's issues comprehensively, urging stakeholders to replicate this collaborative approach in their respective regions.

PINK WEEK 2023

CSSP turned pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

October marked Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and CSSP celebrated with Pink Week, a series of both virtual and in-person events. Pink Week served as a week-long campaign by the CSSP aimed at raising awareness of breast cancer in Pakistan. From engaging sessions in communities across Sanghar, Mirpurkhas, and Umerkot to our expert-led interactive webinar, and mass awareness through social media, the campaign made a significant impact.



CSSP Rozgar Center Mirpurkhas



CSSP Rozgar Center Sanghar



CSSP Rozgar Center Sanghar



Hyderabad



Umerkot

Menstrual Health and Hygiene Session at CSSP Rozgar Center

Menstrual Health and Hygiene Sessions were organized for young girls at Rozgar Center Jhol in July 2023. The aim was to educate and empower girls on menstrual health and hygiene practices in a supportive and informative environment. The sessions focused on Understanding Menstruation, Dispelling myths and misconceptions surrounding menstruation, and Menstrual Hygiene Practices. Additionally, information on local resources for accessing menstrual hygiene products was provided. The session also included a discussion on creating a supportive environment within the community for menstruating individuals and encouraged girls to share their knowledge with family and friends. By providing education and support in rural communities, CSSP strives to promote positive attitudes towards menstruation and ensure the well-being of all menstruating individuals.



Our Inclusive Umerkot: Photo and Video Competition



CSSP organized an online competition aimed at showcasing collaboration, celebrating diversity, local folk wisdom, and Umerkot's unique heritage. Embracing the theme of "Our Inclusive Umerkot," participants were invited to submit short videos and photos highlighting Interfaith Harmony and Social Cohesion in Umerkot, while also showcasing the region's cultural diversity and distinctive heritage. The call for submissions opened on December 8th, 2023, with entries judged by an expert panel based on creativity, relevance to the theme, and social media impact. Cash prizes of 20,000, 15,000, and

10,000 were awarded for videos, and 8,000, 5,000, and 3,000 for photos. This competition was part of CSSP's month-long online campaign on interfaith harmony and raising awareness about the rights of marginalized communities in Pakistan. The campaign aimed to cultivate a community that embraces diversity, advocates for religious harmony, and safeguards the rights of marginalized groups in Umerkot. Interactive and educational activities were employed across various social media platforms, including Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

TV Talk Show

CSSP organized a series of TV Talk shows on Hindu Marriage Act and the need for its awareness and implementation. These talk shows discussed the significance, benefits, and implementation challenges of the Hindu Marriage Act. CSSP has been advocating and engaging local governments for the proper registration of Hindu marriages, ensuring their legal recognition and support. The programs also highlighted the CSSP Joint Social Action project implemented in Umerkot, Sindh.



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SOCIAL COHESION

Establishing Peace Committee, Fact Finding Committee & Minorities Facilitation Desk



The Peace Committee, Fact-Finding Committee, and Minority District Facilitation Desks have been established across 9 districts of Sindh, including Hyderabad, Tando Allahyar, Tando Mohammad Khan, Badin, Matiari, Sajawal, Thatta, Jamshoro, and Dadu, through an intervention by the CSSP in collaboration with various line agencies and departments. This establishment was a result of a Roundtable meeting on Social Cohesion organized by CSSP on April 13, 2023. During this meeting, crucial decisions and recommendations were made for the protection of minorities in district Hyderabad, Sindh. These decisions included the establishment of peace committees and fact-finding committees, organizing open forums and katcheries, implementing safety measures for places of worship, addressing issues related to forced conversion, and appointing focal persons from minority communities.

Following the establishment of these committees, CSSP partnered with the DIGP Office on June 7, 2023, to organize an orientation seminar on the established committees, facilitation desk, and minority protection mechanisms. Additionally, CSSP conducted a two-day training session in collaboration with the Hyderabad Range Police on the role and functions of the Minority Facilitation Desk, benefiting 64 police officers from the 9 districts of Sindh. Officers from districts including Hyderabad, Tando Allahyar, Tando Mohammad Khan, Badin, Matiari, Sajawal, Thatta, Jamshoro, and Dadu were trained to effectively address and resolve issues concerning minority rights.

On September 28, 2023, CSSP organized the inaugural meeting of the Range-level Peace Committee at the Police Facilitation Center (PFC) in collaboration with DIGP Range Hyderabad, Sindh. These committees are now functioning in all nine districts.



Exposure Visit of the Umerkot Citizen's Forum

CSSP organized an exposure visit for the Umerkot Citizen Forum, which included an Interfaith Diversity tour hosted by Bargad in Lahore. During this visit, UCF members visited various cultural and religious sites to learn more about diverse beliefs and practices in Pakistan. The primary aim was to develop a collective approach and networks for peace-building and interfaith harmony in the country. Additionally, they engaged with communities at Batapur and Shanti churches to understand their efforts in promoting social cohesion and interfaith harmony in Lahore. UCF members also shared their strategies in activism implemented in Umerkot and exchanged best practices during the visit.



Seminar on the Significance of Research Work on Interfaith Socio-Economic Cooperation

CSSP organized a seminar on the Significance of Research Work on Interfaith Socio-Economic Cooperation for Peace, which took place at the University of Sufism and Modern Sciences in Bhit Shah on October 12, 2023. The seminar focused on how

collaboration among people from different faiths can contribute to societal unity and long-lasting peace. Furthermore, Scholars and researchers were recognized for their potential to enhance interfaith relations and promote harmony within society.



Coordination Meeting for Peace and Justice in Hyderabad, Sindh

In a collaborative effort of the CSSP with the Sindh Human Rights Commission, CSSP hosted a Coordination Meeting of Stakeholders on Peace and Justice on November 10, 2023. The meeting was driven by the overarching goal of addressing critical issues concerning peace, justice, basic rights violations, and the safeguarding of marginalized

communities in the Hyderabad region. Distinguished guests from various line departments, including Sindh Human Rights Commission, Commissioner Hyderabad, DIGP Hyderabad Range, DC Hyderabad, DC Tando Muhammad Khan, Women Development Department and civil society actively participated in the meeting.



Umerkot Cultural Festival



CSSP organized the Umerkot Cultural Festival on December 31st, 2023. The event witnessed the participation of women, academia, litterateurs, youth, and faith leaders. During this event, a book titled "*Naik Dithasoon Nare Main*" was launched by the Civil Society Support Program. This book, published by CSSP, highlights esteemed personalities of the region who have significantly contributed to enriching the social and cultural landscape of Umerkot. Additionally, a panel discussion on the role of social media in promoting social cohesion was held during the festival. The panelists included social activist Israr Hussain Tunio, TV host and anchor Kashif Siddiqui, journalist Faheem Babar, youth representative Karishma Nenwani, and community leader Ester Shakeel. The festival culminated with the showcasing of the winning video documentaries and picture entries from the "Our Inclusive Umerkot" competition, which aimed to highlight interfaith harmony and social cohesion in the region. Cash prizes were distributed to the winners to recognize their contributions and efforts towards promoting these important values within Umerkot.



Roundtable Dialogue in Hyderabad to Promote Social Cohesion



CSSP organized a roundtable dialogue in Hyderabad to promote social cohesion, collaborating with the Divisional Commissioner and Deputy Inspector General of Police, Hyderabad, Sindh. The dialogue involved representatives from various government departments, minority facilitation desks, youth, community leaders, and faith leaders. It provided an opportunity for

community representatives to engage in one-on-one discussions with government representatives, aiming to address challenges related to social cohesion and interfaith harmony in the region. The focus was on prioritizing these concerns and seeking evidence-based solutions.

Public Forums



CSSP organized two significant public forums in Hyderabad, Sindh. The first forum was held on October 13, 2023, at Union Council 16, followed by the second forum on October 16 at Union Council Mori, Hyderabad. These forums attracted a diverse audience, including youth, community leaders, and local government representatives such as UC chairpersons, vice chairpersons, counselors, HMC members, and TMC members. During these forums, community representatives raised important issues with the attending local government representatives. In response, the representatives expressed their

commitment to addressing the raised concerns by the community members and assured the prompt resolution of immediate problems. Young entrepreneurs shared their startup stories, all supported by CSSP, and they emphasized that more complex issues would be addressed through appropriate channels. These public forums have proven to be effective platforms for communities to directly engage with local governments to address issues. CSSP has organized four public forums to date, and many community issues pertaining to local governance have been successfully resolved through these engagements.

INITIATING SMALL BUSINESS FOR BIG DREAMS

CSSP Empowers 90 Young Entrepreneurs



90 ambitious young entrepreneurs received seed capital from CSSP, enabling them to launch diverse ventures, including beauty salons, tailoring services, barbershops, graphic design, electrical services, and culinary ventures. The seed capital was distributed following a thorough evaluation to support these business initiatives. The 150 youth were identified from diverse backgrounds, including marginalized communities. Youth core groups were established at the union council level in 6 Union Councils (UCs) of District Hyderabad. These individuals underwent a 3-day training focused on personal development, leadership, activism, and entrepreneurship. After the initial training phase, a selection process identified 90 individuals out of the 150 for further skill development training. These selected participants were provided with the opportunity to undergo Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in various vocational fields, including beautician training, dressmaking, barbering, general electrician work, graphic designing, and cooking. With their newfound skills, the selected participants were guided through drafting viable business plans. Under the supervision of a Business Development Officer (BDO), each youth developed their business plans. Subsequently, the BDO prepared feasibility reports for each business idea, offering recommendations to enhance viability. These plans were rigorously scrutinized by a Business Plan Assessment Committee, ensuring not only the feasibility of the proposed ventures but also the dedication of the youth toward their entrepreneurial journey. To gain a deeper understanding of the proposed businesses, the committee conducted thorough visits to the intended business locations, assessing the local market dynamics and potential challenges.

Upon receiving the committee's recommendations, the business plans were presented to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for final approval. A total of 90 deserving young entrepreneurs were provided seed capital to start their business startups. The selected youth received ongoing support from the BDO in procuring essential resources and setting up their businesses. Record books were provided to ensure thorough financial management and accountability. Moreover, recognizing the importance of sustained guidance, the BDO conducted regular follow-up visits, providing invaluable mentorship and facilitating continued development and growth.



Sharing Stories that Change Lives



Shagaraf and Roshni Abro, both youth group members of CSSP from Hyderabad, come from humble backgrounds. Driven by their passion for fashion, they pursued a dressmaking course under CSSP's skill development training. With CSSP's support, they received a seed grant to launch their brand, Sandhu's Collection. Currently pursuing master's degrees in fashion designing, their dream of opening their own fashion brand is becoming a reality. They received two months of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in dressmaking and designing, which laid the foundation for their entrepreneurial journey. Shagaraf's father helped them link their business to the local

market, and they now frequently receive orders from various local markets and sell their collections as well. Now, Shagaraf and Roshni are not only earning well but also supporting their families. Their aim is to expand their business by promoting it through social media advertising, participating in local exhibitions, and launching new collections. Through these strategies, they are determined to grow their business and become successful entrepreneurs.



Meet Mehak Samoon, a determined 18-year-old from Village Mubarak Panhwar, Mirpurkhas, Sindh. As a high school student, Mehak got the opportunity to lead the Girls Youth Group under the CSSP Youth Development Program "Power to the Youth." Mehak initially joined the Youth group and later became the focal person of the Girls Youth Group in Mirpurkhas in 2021. Before this program, girls in her village and nearby areas were not allowed to participate in social activities and pursue higher education. Mehak not only participated actively in the program but also shared her learnings with other girls in her village, inspiring them to join training sessions. Despite initially lacking technical skills, Mehak's life took a positive turn when she enrolled in a 3-month beautician course at CSSP's Rozgar Center (RC). This course not only equipped Mehak with beautician skills but also helped her hone her communication skills. After completing the course Mehak secured a job at a beauty salon, earning 35 to 40 thousand rupees per month. Within six months, she used her savings to open a small salon at her home, successfully managing her business while supporting her family and continuing her studies. She has also employed girls from her village for home services, contributing to local employment opportunities. Today, Mehak holds a respected position in her community, admired for her hard work and determination. She serves as an inspiration to many, demonstrating how skills development and entrepreneurship can uplift individuals and communities out of poverty.



EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Provincial Youth Consultation



CSSP organized a Provincial Youth Consultation under the European Union-funded project, "Power to the Youth," with the support of its lead partner, NCA Pakistan and implementing partner, Rozan and Shirakat on 30 November 2023. The purpose was to discuss achievements and formulate recommendations, focusing on mechanisms to include low-income youth in policy dialogues and action plans at the provincial level.



Distinguished guests including Mr. Iqbal Detho from Sindh Human Rights Commission, Country Director Norwegian Church Aid / Kirkens Nødhjelp (NCA) Ms. Anne Masterson, implementation partners Shirakat and Rozan from Lahore and Islamabad, officials from provincial line departments, social welfare department, women development department, Civil Society, Academicians and youth groups from Sindh and Punjab actively participated in the event.



Mirpurkhas Youth Festival



The Mirpurkhas Youth Festival, organized by CSSP in collaboration with five CSOs: Pakistan Village Development Program (PVDP), ARTS Foundation, Sukaar Welfare Organization, Peace Foundation, and Sindh Community Foundation, took place on December 18, 2023, in Mirpurkhas. This event saw the participation of over a thousand youths, alongside government officials and various stakeholders. During the festival, the youth actively participated in a wide range of activities centered around themes such as Climate Change, GBV (Gender-Based Violence), Governance, Leadership, and Entrepreneurship.

Youth Press Conference



Two youth-led press conferences were organized by the CSSP in collaboration with local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Mirpurkhas and Sanghar districts of Sindh. The aim was to highlight youth initiatives and socio-economic challenges affecting them, and to emphasize their role in policymaking. In Mirpurkhas on December 31st, 2023, Ms. Meehak Samoon, a youth leader, stressed the importance of translating the Government of Sindh's vision and youth development goals into actionable outcomes. She called for active youth participation in policy formulation, particularly emphasizing the implementation of the Sindh Youth Policy 2018. Ms. Leena Khalid from the Participatory Village Development Programme emphasized the necessity of educating youth to secure gainful employment and income opportunities, aligning with the objectives of the Sindh Youth Policy 2018. The conference highlighted challenges such as gender-based discrimination,

climate change, sexual and reproductive health rights, and mental health, advocating for collaborative efforts to address these issues. Additionally, during the press conference in Sanghar on November 22nd, 2023, Youth representatives from various union councils addressed critical community issues, including the lack of safe drinking water, sewerage problems, infrastructure deficiencies, and environmental degradation. Youth leaders also highlighted their initiative to fundraise for a primary school on community-donated land in Union Council Berani. Representatives from key CSOs such as Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF), Sindh Green Foundation (SGF), and Al-Mehran Research and Development Foundation (AMRDF) also endorsed the concerns raised by youth leaders. Audience engagement highlighted local concerns, including destroyed public parks, political and social discrimination affecting development work, and public health issues related to water contamination.

Self-Care and Hope through Adolescent-led Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

CSSP facilitated The School of Leadership Foundation (SOLF) in conducting SHAMS (Self-care and Hope through Adolescent-led Mental Health and Psychosocial Support) awareness sessions at 10 Rozgar Centers of CSSP in District Mirpurkhas. The aim of this initiative was to achieve a reduction in mental health stigma and

discrimination, promotion of acceptance of care-seeking among adolescent girls, boys, and their caregivers in District Mirpurkhas. A total of 20 awareness sessions were conducted, reaching 600 adolescents and training 300 caregivers.



Youth Groups Using Theater to Challenge Gender Roles

The CSSP community youth groups are using theater to challenge stereotypes about gender roles. CSSP is training youth to utilize theater performance as a tool to raise awareness on issues facing them, particularly focusing on gender-based violence, early marriages, and gender inequality. Under this training program, youth groups were trained in tackling gender-based violence and gender inequality, using theater to highlight these issues and challenge stereotypical gender norms. These

youth groups then replicated their learning by performing theater in villages using local languages.

This initiative of the CSSP aims to raise awareness about gender equality. Through engaging performances, these young community members are making a significant impact in places where cultural opportunities are limited. Theater is proving to be a vital tool in sparking important conversations and fostering change in these rural communities.





Green Expo in Mirpurkhas

CSSP organized a One-Day Green Expo in Mirpurkhas on the theme of climate change and the future of Mirpurkhas, was a community-driven event. The event addressed the far-reaching impacts of climate change in Mirpurkhas and aimed to mobilize the community towards climate action and protection through the active involvement of faith leaders, CSOs, government officials and various stakeholders. Through engaging panel discussions and collaborative sessions with various stakeholders, the event involved community leaders in reflecting on and leading practical, locally rooted climate action plans in Mirpurkhas.



Community Dialogues on Women in Decision-Making: Their Rights and Responsibilities

CSSP conducted Community Dialogues focused on women's rights, responsibilities, and decision-making participation in District Mirpurkhas and Sanghar in collaboration with Transparency International. The objective of conducting these dialogues was to empower women by educating and raising awareness among rural women about their rights, responsibilities, and their role in decision-making as integral parts of society. This empowerment not only benefits them individually but also leads to more inclusive and equitable decision-making at all levels.



PARTNERSHIPS & ALLIANCES

MoU with Sindh Agriculture University

CSSP and the Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on November 20, 2023, to conduct joint research addressing water scarcity, land, and environment-related issues impacting Tharparkar District. Dr. Fateh Marri, Vice Chancellor of SAU, and Noor Muhammad Bajeer, Chief Executive Officer of CSSP, signed the MoU at the University Senate Hall. The objective of the MoU is to tackle diverse aspects of water, land, and environmental concerns in Tharparkar District. Through this collaboration, experts from both entities will delve into issues linked to water scarcity, land degradation, and climate change. CSSP aims to establish a platform facilitating stakeholders, experts, and community members to exchange knowledge and best practices.



Stakeholder Consultation in Islamabad

CSSP held a stakeholder consultation in Islamabad on December 19, 2023, to gather insights from stakeholders and partners based in Islamabad for its forthcoming four-year strategic plan (2024-2027). The focus was to elicit feedback from the stakeholders on the organization's overarching strategic thematic objectives, ensuring alignment with the dynamic

nuances of society. Different organizations INGOS, NGOs, networks, participated. feedback that CSSP should in the next four years plan should focus on the current thematic areas of work that aligns with the needs of the communities and the international trends in the development sector.



For more information, please contact us
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