

Planning and  
Development

unicef  
for every child

# WASH CLIMATE NEXUS

## WASHNet – A Provincial WASH Coordination Platform

### Message from the Chief of International Development Section, P&DD

*Water, sanitation and hygiene are essential to the health, dignity and development of the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Sustainable progress requires not only infrastructure, but also strong policies, effective institutions, coordinated planning and evidence-based decisions.*

*The International Development Section (IDS), plays an important role in guiding development priorities and strengthening coordination. In this context, WASHNet provides a platform for government, development partners, academia and other stakeholders to work together towards a common WASH agenda.*

*Strengthening policies, improving monitoring and accountability, and ensuring effective resource allocation will be critical to achieving sustainable WASH outcomes. With continued collaboration and institutional ownership, KP can make meaningful progress towards universal access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene and the achievement of SDG 6.*



**Mr. Akhtar Rehman**

Chief of International Development  
Section, Planning and Development  
Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



WASHNet is a formal, inclusive, and government-Led coordination forum for the WASH Sector in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It has been established to bring together government departments, development partners, and other stakeholders under a single collaborative platform. WASHNet is hosted by the Planning and Development Department and supported by UNICEF. WASHNet aims to address the fragmentation in the sector by improving the sector coordination, transparency, and collective decision-making

### CORE OBJECTIVES

#### Establish

Establish a one-stop  
coordination platform for all  
WASH stakeholders in KP



#### Strengthen

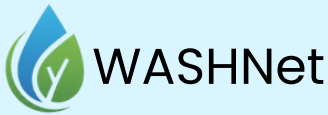
Strengthen alignment with  
provincial development  
priorities and SDG 6



#### Promote

Collaboration, learning,  
evidence-based planning  
and resource allocation





Planning and  
Development



## WASHNet Supports a New Parliamentary Platform for WASH in KP

In a landmark development for the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly has formally notified the Parliamentary Caucus on WASH, establishing the first parliamentary caucus in Pakistan and the 7<sup>th</sup> globally specifically dedicated to WASH.



### Parliamentary Leadership for a Water-Secure Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

#### 16 Inaugural Members

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mr. Abdul Kabir Khan        | Chairperson      |
| 2. Mr. Fazl e Shakoor Khan     | Member           |
| 2. Mr. Khalid Khan             | Member           |
| 4. Mr. Jalal Khan              | Member           |
| 5. Mr. Arbab Muhammad Waseem   | Member           |
| 6. Mr. Gul Ibrahim             | Member           |
| 7. Mr. Sher Ali Afridi         | Member           |
| 8. Mr. Sharafat Ali            | Member           |
| 9. Mr. Ikram Ullah             | Member           |
| 10. Mr. Shah Abu Turab Khan    | Member           |
| 11. Mr. Sajjad Ullah Khan      | Member           |
| 12. Ms. Asima Alam             | Member           |
| 13. Ms. Shazia Tehmas          | Member           |
| 14. Ms. Afshan Hussain         | Member           |
| 15. Ms. Farah Khan             | Member           |
| 16. Syed Wiqar Shah, Secretary | Member/Secretary |

*"The measure of leadership is not the promises we make, but the lives we improve"*



#### FIRST MEETING OF THE CAUCUS



The first committee meeting of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly WASH Caucus was held at the KP Assembly, chaired by Mr. Kabir Khan, MPA and Chairman WASH Caucus. The meeting was attended by Speaker KP Assembly Babar Saleem Swati, Chief Whip and MPA Akbar Ayub Khan, Members of the Provincial Assembly, UNICEF, the Planning & Development Department, government institutions, development partners and other stakeholders.

#### What Comes Next

The WASH Caucus will provide a dedicated platform for parliamentary oversight, policy dialogue and legislative action on water, sanitation and hygiene in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It will bring

WASH priorities and public concerns into the parliamentary agenda while strengthening coordination between legislators, government institutions and public.



##### POLICY & LEGISLATION

Review existing WASH policies and laws, identify gaps, and propose improvements where needed.

##### PUBLIC NEEDS

Bring WASH-related challenges faced by communities into parliamentary discussion and action.

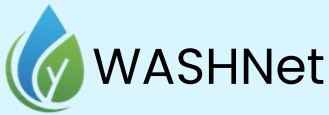
##### PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT

Review the quality and implementation of WASH services and highlight issues requiring government attention.

##### STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

Strengthen collaboration between the Assembly, government departments, development partners and other stakeholders.





Planning and  
Development

unicef  
for every child

## KOICA in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: Building a Sustainable Water Future for Havelian



**A major KOICA-supported investment is helping Havelian move towards a safer, more reliable and sustainable water supply**

Havelian is facing growing pressure on its water resources. With the town's population expected to increase from around **47,000** to **74,000** over the next 20 years, its existing groundwater-based supply system is increasingly unable to meet demand. To

help address this challenge, the **Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)** is providing substantial technical and financial assistance for the Gravity Flow Water Supply Scheme in Havelian, being implemented in partnership with the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The project represents an important example of international development cooperation supporting long-term WASH infrastructure in KP.

### Water Treatment

KOICA is supporting the establishment of a 10,800 m<sup>3</sup>/day water treatment plant, along with storage facilities and associated works.

### Infrastructure

KOICA is supporting the construction of access roads, pedestrian pathways and other infrastructure required for the scheme.

### Capacity Building

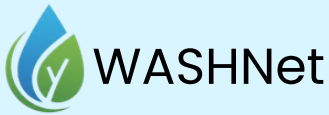
The partnership also includes capacity building for PHED staff, helping strengthen the skills needed to manage and sustain the system.



@washnetkp



[www.washnet.pndkp.gov.pk](http://www.washnet.pndkp.gov.pk)



Planning and  
Development

unicef  
for every child

## Improving Nutrition Outcomes and Strengthening WASH and Health Services for Venerable Communities through IGNIT3



Good nutrition depends on more than access to food. Safe water, sanitation, hygiene and quality healthcare services play a vital role in preventing disease and improving nutrition outcomes, particularly for women, adolescent girls and children.

Through the Increase Gains in Nutrition by Integration, Education, Evaluation and Empowerment (**IGNIT3**) project, funded by Global Affairs Canada, **WaterAid Pakistan** is bringing WASH, health and nutrition interventions together to strengthen local systems and improve services for vulnerable communities in Swabi.

### PROMOTING FIVE KEY HYGIENE BEHAVIOURS

WaterAid is developing a gender-inclusive and nutrition-integrated hygiene behaviour change package focused on five key behaviours: hand hygiene, food hygiene, household water treatment and safe storage, safe disposal of human excreta, and waste management.



HAND  
HYGIENE



FOOD  
HYGIENE



SAFE  
HOUSEHOLD  
WATER



SAFE DISPOSAL  
OF HUMAN  
EXCRETA



WASTE  
MANAGEMENT

### CAPACITY & TRAINING METRICS

WaterAid is also training 430 health professionals and community health workers on integrated hygiene behaviour change, 120 healthcare staff on infection prevention and control, and 70 healthcare professionals on the WASH Facility Improvement Tool, commonly known as WASH FIT in SWABI



Integrated Hygiene  
Behaviour Change

430

Target Audience: Health professionals  
& community health workers



Infection Prevention  
& Control (IPC)

120

Target Audience:  
Healthcare staff



WASH-FIT  
Implementation

70

Target Audience:  
Healthcare professionals



Total Trained  
Personnel

620

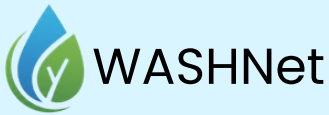
Target Audience:  
Health system workforce



Hygiene behaviour change campaigns and advocacy events are also taking place at district and provincial levels. These activities are bringing together communities, government representatives, health professionals and other stakeholders to strengthen attention and action around the WASH and nutrition nexus.

Through IGNIT3, WaterAid Pakistan is strengthening healthcare systems, promoting healthier behaviours and supporting safer, more inclusive services for women, children and marginalised communities.





Planning and  
Development

unicef  
for every child

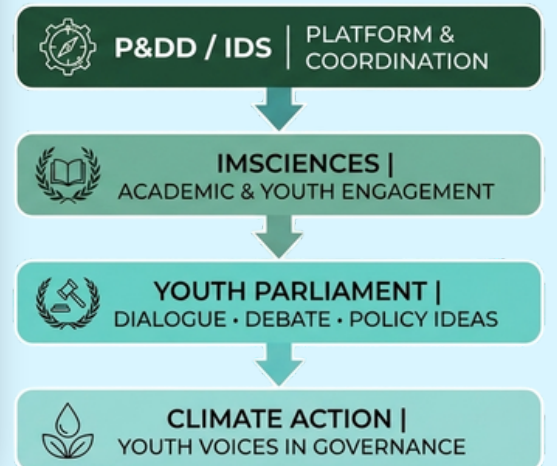
## P&DD's International Development Section brings young people to the KP Assembly through a Youth Parliament on Climate Justice

The Planning & Development Department (P&DD), Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, through its International Development Section (IDS), organized a Youth Parliament on Climate Justice at the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly, with the support of Institute of Management Sciences (IMSciences), Peshawar, under the theme **"Raising Youth Voices for a Sustainable Future."** The initiative was supported by UNICEF.

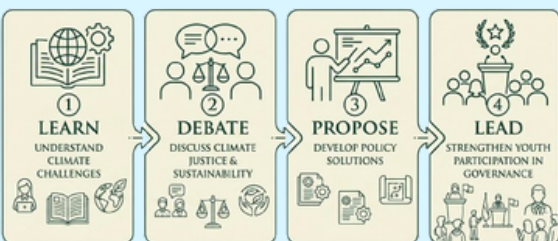


The Speaker of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly, Mr. Babar Saleem Swati, attended the event as Chief Guest and appreciated the efforts of P&DD, its International Development Section, UNICEF and IMSciences in promoting meaningful youth engagement in climate governance. The event was also attended by MPA Ms. Ashbar Jan Jadoon, Mr. Radoslaw Rzehak of UNICEF, Ms. Akasha Kiran of P&DD, and senior officials from the Provincial Assembly.

The event concluded with a shared commitment to strengthening youth participation in climate governance and creating opportunities for young people to contribute to a more sustainable future for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



### From Students to Young Policymakers



Bringing together students from universities across KP, the initiative recreated a parliamentary setting where young participants debated climate justice, environmental sustainability and youth participation in policymaking. Through the simulated parliamentary session, participants were encouraged to move beyond discussion and develop innovative policy solutions for a more sustainable future.



Planning and  
Development

unicef  
for every child

## WaterAid Strengthens WASH-FIT Capacity in Swabi



The sessions covered the WASH-FIT improvement cycle, with participants gaining practical knowledge in WASH standards in healthcare facilities, WASH-FIT indicators and scoring, Facility assessment techniques, Risk identification and gap analysis, Monitoring and progress tracking, Facility-level action planning



### Participants

The training brought together representatives from Basic Health Units (BHUs), Rural Health Centres (RHCs), Civil Dispensaries, MCH Centres, district-level health offices, and project teams, supporting multidisciplinary ownership of WASH-FIT implementation across Swabi. The training focused on strengthening WASH practices related to:

- Patient Safety
- Infection Prevention & Control
- Healthcare Waste Management
- Environmental Cleaning
- Facility Governance

**WaterAid Pakistan**, in collaboration with the District Health Office Swabi, conducted a series of trainings for health facility in-charges on WASH-FIT. The training aimed to strengthen the capacity of healthcare staff to assess WASH conditions, identify risks, prioritize improvements, and develop practical action plans for their facilities.

### WHAT IS WASH-FIT?

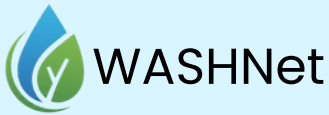
WASH-FIT, jointly developed by UNICEF and WHO, is a risk-based management tool for health care facilities, covering key aspects of WASH services: water; sanitation; hand hygiene; environmental cleaning; health care waste management; and selected aspects of energy, building and facility management.



### Learning Through Practice

The training followed a competency-based and highly participatory approach. Participants applied WASH-FIT tools to real healthcare facility challenges through practical exercises, case studies, facility assessments, group work, and action planning.

Through these trainings, WaterAid Pakistan is strengthening the capacity of frontline healthcare teams in Swabi to assess WASH conditions and translate identified gaps into practical facility-level improvement actions.



Planning and  
Development



## Strengthening parliamentary engagement and provincial planning for WASH in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



### Cindy Kushner discusses parliamentary engagement, WASH priorities and stronger institutional coordination in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Ms. Cindy Kushner, Chief of Climate, Environment and WASH, UNICEF Pakistan, led a delegation to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly for a meeting with Secretary KP Assembly, following the signing of the MoU between the KP Assembly and UNICEF. The meeting focused on strengthening collaboration between UNICEF and the KP Assembly and exploring ways to support more effective parliamentary engagement on water, sanitation and hygiene across the province.



### What We Learned

#### Briefing on UNICEF's interventions

The UNICEF delegation briefed the Assembly Secretariat on ongoing WASH programmes across different districts of KP and highlighted efforts to improve access to water, sanitation and hygiene services.



#### Stronger Coordination

Discussions also emphasized the importance of stronger coordination among PHED, Local Government and other relevant institutions, particularly to improve implementation of WASH policies and address challenges in remote and underserved areas.

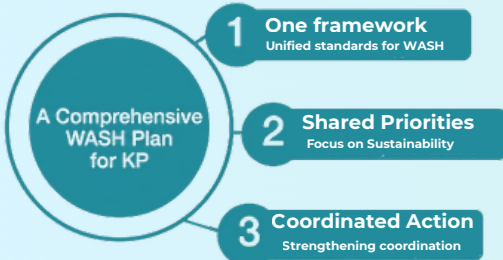


#### Areas of Engagement

The discussion also looked at upcoming areas of parliamentary engagement, including household sanitation and the KP Water Act, providing an opportunity to connect evidence and technical expertise with provincial policy and legislative processes.

As part of her visit to KP, Cindy Kushner also took part in a meeting chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary Planning & Development Department, **Mr. Islam Zaib**, chaired a meeting WASH initiatives and discuss a more coordinated approach to sector planning in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

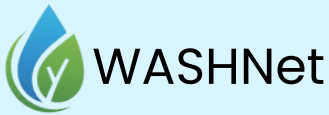
The plan will bring together ongoing WASH activities, priorities and timelines under a single framework, helping strengthen coordination, reduce fragmentation and support more effective planning and implementation across the province.



Emphasizing the need for integrated planning and coordinated implementation, the Additional Chief Secretary directed that a comprehensive provincial WASH Plan be developed.

## Towards a Unified WASH Plan





Planning and  
Development

unicef  
for every child

## Building the Next Generation: PHED Strengthens Technical Capacity of Newly Inducted Sub-Engineers

The Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, conducted a three-day training for newly inducted Sub-Engineers, focusing on the practical knowledge and skills needed to plan, implement and manage WASH infrastructure effectively.

The training provided participants with an overview of PHED policies, rules and project procedures, alongside practical sessions on water supply and sanitation design, project planning, measurement and quantity estimation, and basic water quality.

### From Technical Knowledge to Field Solutions

Rather than focusing only on classroom learning, the training connected technical concepts with real challenges faced during WASH project implementation. Participants worked through practical examples and interactive activities to understand how common field issues can be identified and addressed effectively.

### Learning from Sector Experts

The sessions brought together experienced professionals from UNICEF, academia and PHED, including WASH Specialist Shah Nasir, Dr. Nadeem of CUSIT, Engr. Dr. Musaab Habib Bangash, Deputy Director PHED Labs, retired SDO Hajji Ashiq, and Urban Specialist Mr. Ismail. Their contributions helped connect technical knowledge, field experience and professional practice.



## Key Areas Covered



### WASH Design

Basic principles for planning water supply and sanitation systems.



### Project Planning

Understanding project phases, processes and implementation requirements.



### Technical Documentation

Measurement books, layouts and quantity estimation for WASH works.



### Water Quality

Introduction to key parameters used to assess drinking-water quality.



### Field Problem-Solving

Practical discussion of real implementation challenges and possible solutions.