



PASTIC

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THREE-DAYS TRAINING WORKSHOP ON “AI & DATA SCIENCES - (ADVANCING RESEARCH ACROSS ALL SCIENCES)” HELD AT PASTIC

Pakistan Scientific and Technological Information Centre (PASTIC) successfully conducted a 3-days training workshop on “AI & Data Sciences – (Advancing Research across All Sciences)” on April 15–17, 2025 at PASTIC National Centre, QAU Campus, Islamabad.

This initiative is part of PASTIC's mission to bridge the gap between cutting-edge AI technologies and researchers across all domains, empowering them to leverage AI and data science in their scientific work. Thirty nine (39) participants from prestigious institutions such as Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), International Islamic University (IIU), Health Services Academy (HSA), FAST-NUCES, Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) and many others enthusiastically participated, showcasing their commitment to innovation and interdisciplinary learning.

The workshop was thoughtfully designed to be both accessible and impactful, ensuring that participants could confidently apply Artificial Intelligence within their respective fields. Through a blend of live demonstrations, interactive sessions, and real-world case studies, attendees were guided step by step, making complex AI concepts more intuitive and practical. The approach fostered an engaging learning environment, allowing even those with no prior programming experience to grasp the essentials, experiment with AI tools, and develop a foundational understanding that could be directly implemented in their work.

The workshop concluded with a feedback session and the distribution of certificates of participation. Mr. Rana Zia Javid Joyia, Chief Librarian, QAU, Islamabad was invited as chief guest of the closing ceremony. He commended PASTIC's unwavering dedication to fostering the skill development of young research students, recognizing its vital role in shaping future innovators and scholars.



A participant receiving certificate from Saifullah Azim, Principal System Analyst, PASTIC



Group photo of the participants of training workshop with DG, PASTIC, Prof. Dr. M. Akram Shaikh

TWO-DAYS TRAINING WORKSHOP ON “EVALUATION OF NATIONAL POVERTY GRADUATION PROGRAM (NPGP)–TIME ALLOCATION ANALYSIS”

The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), in collaboration with PASTIC Sub Centre Karachi, organized a two-days training workshop titled “Evaluation of National Poverty Graduation Program (NPGP) – Time Allocation Analysis” on April 12-13, 2025 at PASTIC Sub Centre Karachi.



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The training aimed to build capacity in evaluating the effectiveness of the National Poverty Graduation Program (NPGP), which is designed to assist the ultra-poor and very poor in sustainably graduating out of poverty, while also improving food security, nutritional status, and resilience to climate change. A total of 16 participants from various districts of Sindh and Balochistan attended the program, ensuring diverse regional representation.

Ms. Afsheen Tariq, Assistant Director of PASTIC Sub Centre, Karachi, commenced the session by introducing PASTIC's services and emphasizing the organization's vital contribution to research and development throughout Pakistan.

Dr. Shujaat Farooq, Chief of Research / Director (Research) at PIDE, and Ms. Nabila Kanwal served as the resource persons for the workshop.



Resource person, Dr. Shujaat Farooq conducting the training session

Dr. Farooq delivered a comprehensive presentation and conducted hands-on training sessions, focusing on time allocation analysis as a key methodological tool or evaluating the impact and effectiveness of the graduation program.

“SCIENTISTS CONVENTION” ON THE THEME ‘SCIENCE FOR Socio-Economic Development’

The Scientists Convention was successfully held with joint collaboration of Punjab University Institute of Botany, Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Pakistan Science Foundation and PASTIC on April 23-24 & 30, 2025 at Al Raazi Hall, Lahore.

The event was attended by Former Federal Minister for Food Security and President Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Dr. Kausar Abdullah Malik; Director Research PSF, Dr. Mirza Habib Ali; Professor Emeritus GCU Lahore, Dr. Ikram-ul-Haq; PU Dean Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Prof Dr. Saleem Haider; Additional Director PASTIC, Mr. Ali Raza Khan; scientists; researchers; faculty members and students. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali, Vice Chancellor, Punjab University highlighted the challenges emerging from rural-to-urban migration in Pakistan, emphasizing the consequent decline in agricultural land during his speech. He pointed out that a significant portion of food is wasted daily and warned that Lahore's declining water levels are heightening the risk of drought. He urged the government to leverage scientists from PSF and PAS in developing a comprehensive strategy to address water, food security, agriculture, and climate change.

Dr. Kausar Abdullah Malik underscored the importance of prioritizing inclusive policies, sustainable practices, and collaborative initiatives as we work toward achieving the SDGs by 2030. He stressed the need for the federal government to strengthen PSF by ensuring adequate financial support and effective leadership. Additionally, he commended PSF's contributions to socioeconomic development through its sponsorship of scientific research under the Pakistan Science Foundation. Dr. Mirza Habib Ali, while shedding detailed light on the Pakistan Science Foundation, said that the PSF is an apex institution for the promotion of basic research on scientific issues related to the socio-economic development of the country.



Group photo of the organizers with VC Punjab University, Dr. Muhammad Ali on “Scientists Convention”.



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Mr. Ali Raza Khan, Additional Director (STI), highlighted that the Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), established in 1973, was founded with the vision of advancing scientific knowledge and supporting research initiatives. He emphasized PSF's leading role in promoting science education and research, acknowledging that a strong scientific foundation is crucial for socio-economic development. According to recent reports, PSF has approved various research projects under its Competitive Research Program (CRP), spanning diverse areas of applied research, including the development of prototypes such as indigenous ventilator machines and diagnostic catheters.

EVENT/ WEBINAR /MEETING ATTENDED

a) Ms. Afsheen Tariq, Assistant Director (STI) at PASTIC Sub Centre Karachi, attended the “WIPO Inventor Assistance Program (IAP) – Inventor-Volunteer Networking & Promotional Event” held on April 9, 2025 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi. The event was jointly organized by the Intellectual Property Organization (IPO) Pakistan and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). During the event, Ms. Afsheen Tariq engaged with ORIC heads from various universities and local patent attorneys to explore opportunities for future collaboration in the field of intellectual property and innovation support.

b) Mr. Syed Shabib Zaidi, Science Assistant at PASTIC Sub Centre Karachi (PSCK), visited the 29th Textile Asia Exhibition organized by Ecommerce Gateway Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd, Karachi on April 14, 2025 at the Expo Centre Karachi. He explored opportunities for knowledge exchange, assessed technological innovations relevant to the textile and allied sectors, and identified potential avenues for future collaboration, aligning with PASTIC's mission to advance scientific and industrial development in Pakistan.

c) Mr. Syed Shabib Zaidi, Science Assistant at PASTIC Sub Centre Karachi (PSCK), visited the International Garments Textile Machinery and Accessories Exhibition (IGATEX) Pakistan organized by FAKT Exhibitions (Pvt.) Ltd., Karachi on April 25, 2025 at the Expo Centre, Karachi.

d) PASTIC Sub Center, Faisalabad and NTU Library, celebrated World Book and Copyright Day on April 23, 2025, with an Awareness Walk and speeches highlighting the importance of books in the digital age. Prof. Dr. Zafar Javed, Dean of the School of Arts & Design and Mr. Muhammad Hasnain Additional Director, PASTIC Sub Center Faisalabad emphasized the importance of reading, highlighting its transformative impact and timeless joy, especially in today's digital age.



Group photo of the school children along with Muhammad Hasnain Additional Director, PASTIC Sub Center Faisalabad.

e) Mr. Abdul Khaliq Sial, Assistant Director STI, PSC QTA held a meeting with Mr. Abdul Salam Kakar, Director, Seena Institute of Medical Sciences Quetta, and briefed in detail about PASTIC/PMNH Services and Promotion of Science by PSF Science Caravan at (Urban & Rural areas of Balochistan) on April 28, 2025.

f) PASTIC Sub Centre Quetta organized PASTIC Awareness Seminar at Seena Institute of Medical Sciences Quetta.

g) Mr. Saifullah Azim, Principal System Analyst, attended a specialized training program on “Project



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Monitoring & Evaluation” from April 9-11, 2025, at PPMI Islamabad.



Group photo of the participants, on “Project Monitoring & Evaluation” with Director General PPMI

The training aimed to enhance participants' understanding of effective project assessment methodologies, ensuring improved monitoring and evaluation processes in professional settings.

h) Dr. Muhammad Usman, DBA, PASTIC, has successfully completed the training on "Manual for Development Projects" organized at PPMI, Islamabad, from April 21 to 25, 2025. The program provided comprehensive insights into the entire project lifecycle, from initial identification to final evaluation, with detailed guidance on preparing PC-I to PC-V forms.



Group photo of the participants of “Manual for Development Projects” with Director General PPMI



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