

Flood Based Livelihoods Network Foundation  
In Association with  
Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO), Pakistan

## Awareness Sessions at Educational Institution

**Dates: 21-27 April 2017**

**Sessions held at:**

1. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture Multan 21-April-17
2. Ghazi University Dera Ghazi Khan Punjab 25-Apr-2017
3. Gomel University Dera Ismail Khan KPK 27-Apr-2017

Universities are preparing future experts in the field of Agricultural, Water Management, Engineering and dozens of other areas of knowledge and discipline desired for the advancement of the country. Today students are being transformed into the future experts through learning from the higher education institutions in various parts of the country. Spate irrigation overall is neglected in the mainstream of development and research. It is desired to introduce the students and faculties with new horizon and potentials of agriculture and irrigation particularly the spate irrigation that is practiced through all provinces of Pakistan. Spate irrigation is the second largest source of food production after the Indus based irrigation system in the country.

There is need to include spate irrigation as a subject to supplement the needs of future experts in the field of economic, water managements, engineering that are essential in irrigation sectors. Spate irrigation is unique in term of water management, crops and crops production techniques where water availability to the farmers is unpredictable and hence the crops failure and least harvesting is common phenomena. In the conventional irrigation systems, the water quantity and availability through seasons is always known that makes easy to the planers for crops production, water management, economic returns calculation against the construction cost and other extension services. Therefore, both systems needs to be addressed differently. Currently the main focus of the experts, planners, researchers and donors is diverted on the conventional irrigation system development.

The purpose is to induct more services in the spate irrigation sector in line with the local rules and regulation set by the spate farmers from the centuries. Concentrated research is required through system sphere to enable spate farmers to manage their crops and better returns by investing in irrigation structures, improved drinking ponds, soil and fertility management, introduction of certified new crops, disease control, agro forestry, and livestock.

Spate irrigation is currently practiced in Mianwali, parts of Talagang, Dera Ghazi Khan and Rajanpur districts of Punjab, Tank, Luki Marwat, Kohat and Dera Ismail Khan in KPK, Kirther and Kohistan and

Tharparkar regions in Sindh and almost entire throughout Balochistan with more concentration in Kachi area in Pakistan. 0.7 million ha land is available in Pakistan that can be effectively brought under spate cultivation through better planning and investments.

The awareness session presentation consisted on two parts (i) Presentation with the flood management short videos example from Kachi Balochistan and (ii) Scope and potential of spate irrigation in Pakistan with an effort undertaken by the FBLN in association with SPO (Strengthening Participatory Organizations) National Center Islamabad Pakistan.

### Participation

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture Multan - 41 faculty members and students  
 Ghazi University Dera Ghazi Khan – 100 faculty members and students.  
 Gomel University Agriculture & Soil sciences faculty – 48 faculty members and students

