

SPRING PLANTATION DRIVE

REPORT - 2024















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BACKGROUND

Global warming poses a significant threat to Earth in the 21st century, with detrimental effects on health and the potential to trigger natural disasters such as floods, famines, droughts, and cyclones. Pakistan is among the top ten most affected countries by global warming, facing wide-ranging impacts. The Global Climate Risk Index reported that Pakistan has lost 0.53% of its GDP, with economic losses totaling US\$ 3792.52 million. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), a topographically diverse province of Pakistan, is located in the northwest region of the country. The northern region experiences extremely cold and snowy winters, with heavy rainfall and pleasant summers, while the southern parts of KP experience milder winters, moderate rainfall, and hotter summers.

Tree planting is a critical strategy to combat climate change and mitigate the effects of extreme weather events. Plants play a crucial role in safeguarding against hydro-meteorological phenomena by aiding in percolation, runoff, and sediment control. Forests, trees, and vegetation help protect land from erosion, mudflows, and mitigate the harmful effects of landslides, floods, and droughts. Trees and forests provide a range of benefits to communities, including economic advantages and protection from disasters. They also play a crucial role in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and globally in mitigating climate change through carbon sequestration.

The Implementation Support Unit of the Directorate of Elementary and Secondary Education Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (ISU-DoE&SE) regularly organizes the Spring Tree Plantation Drive in government schools with the technical and financial assistance of UNICEF. The Spring Tree Plantation Drive 2024 was celebrated in all 36 districts of KP, where a total of 4.2 million saplings were planted in 10,028 school premises and allocated district administration government sites. This initiative saw the active participation of 2.7 million students, including 1.2 million girls, 35,884 teachers, 88,759 Parent-Teacher Council members (PTC) and community members, 1,643 scouts, and 987 girls guide volunteers.



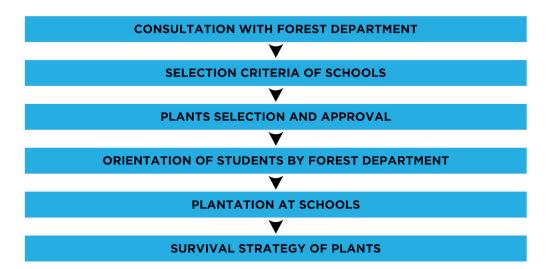
OBJECTIVES OF SPRING TREE PLANTATION DRIVE

The Spring Tree Plantation Drive 2024 was conducted in government schools and allocated government sites across all 36 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with the following objectives:

- To raise awareness among students about the importance and necessity of tree planting for environmental conservation.
- To familiarize students with tree planting practices and activities.
- To educate students about the vital role of trees in maintaining a sustainable environment.
- To teach students how plants help mitigate the adverse effects of soil erosion and flash floods in vulnerable areas.
- To support the Government of Pakistan in fulfilling its obligations under relevant international conventions and treaties related to environmental conservation.

METHODOLOGY

The initiative aims to enhance climate change adaptation practices among school children through plantation drives, resulting in the protection of schools from floods, erosion, and landslides. To achieve the objectives set for the Spring Tree Plantation Drive 2024, ISU-DoE&SE developed the following methodology for the activity:





CONSULTATION WITH FOREST DEPARTMENT

Officials of the ISU-DoE&SE held a meeting with the Chief Conservator of the Forest Department to discuss the provision of tree plants for the Spring Tree Plantation Drive 2024. Following this meeting, the District Focal Persons (DFP) and District Coordinators of ISU-DoE&SE conducted meetings with District Forest Officers (DFO) to devise a joint strategy for providing plants and conducting orientation sessions for school children in each district.





SELECTION CRITERIA OF SCHOOLS

In consultation with the Forest Department, the District Coordinators and DFPs identified potential schools based on the following criteria:

- The site fulfills the purpose of the intervention.
- Accessibility to the areas.
- Availability of space for planting trees.

PLANTS SELECTION AND APPROVAL

Based on the geology of the earth, soil quality, moisture levels, sunlight exposure, and location, the DFPs (Male/Female), District Coordinators, and a team of DFOs collaborated to select and approve plants. They visited schools to select sites within the school premises and at allocated spaces of District Administration government sites. Feasible plants were provided to the selected schools.

ORIENTATION OF STUDENTS BY FOREST DEPARTMENT

As per the joint strategy, the District Forest Office organized orientation sessions for students on effective plantation practices. These sessions included practical demonstrations on lay out and pit formation, as well as discussions on the social, economic, and Islamic aspects of plantation.

PLANTATION AT SCHOOLS

With the help of the provided saplings through the forest department, the plantation took place at multiple schools across various districts involving the participation of Officials from ISU-DoE&SE, Forest Department, District Education Offices, school children, teachers, PTC members and the community. Many of the events saw children presenting skits to emphasize the importance of trees for our climate.

































SURVIVAL STRATEGY OF PLANTS

Students in the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth class, along with their respective teachers, are responsible for caring for the plants throughout the year. They will pass on the plants to the following classes once the current classes have been promoted.

RESULTS

The breakdown for the results achieved during the Spring Tree Plantation Drive 2024 is given below:

	District	Total Schools where Activity Carried Out	Total PTC & Community Members Participated	Total Teachers Involved	Total Students Involved	Total Saplings Planted
S. No						
1	Abbottabad	475	3121	2279	99750	158534
2	Bajaur	185	1322	740	37360	96361
3	Bannu	231	1412	693	39041	86456
4	Battagram	189	1239	567	56828	90188
5	Buner	247	1334	763	40654	157647
6	Charsadda	328	1757	926	93290	145654
7	Chitral Upper	259	1413	789	42543	88946
8	DI Khan	314	1589	876	90651	172387
9	Dir Lower	346	1619	882	92751	127671
10	Dir Upper	317	1590	881	89345	149287
11	Hangu	228	1389	731	39029	86576
12	Haripur	421	2841	2121	96465	138649
13	Karak	376	1827	910	96157	187380
14	Khyber	165	1235	678	76126	123282
15	Kohat	485	3276	2314	99791	167216
16	Kohistan Lower	101	917	511	34119	45618
17	Kohistan Upper	132	811	487	39176	98129
18	Kolai Palas	193	1221	537	37110	98719
19	Kurram	421	2981	1932	91175	148291
20	Lakki Marwat	232	1578	701	76761	93761
21	Lower Chitral	211	1176	629	54584	89052
22	Malakand	363	1764	852	95751	156803
23	Mardan	419	2987	1956	91267	148910
24	Mohmand	169	1231	686	61716	95421
25	North Waziristan	325	1541	809	91984	125167
26	Nowshera	409	2756	1902	90310	147217
27	Orakzai	163	1226	715	78718	94594
28	Peshawar	361	1780	819	95901	125810
29	Swabi	581	31878	2581	99876	159874
30	Tank	116	918	502	67107	81385
31	Torghar	171	1217	654	67397	66128
32	Swat	383	1802	876	99056	153910
33	Mansehra	300	1641	871	99676	153380
34	South Waziristan Upper	143	895	541	79837	58259
35	South Waziristan Lower	115	710	514	98681	74872
36	Shangla	154	765	619	76571	89181
Total		10028	88759	35844	2716554	4280715



4 MILLION SAPLINGS PLANTED



35,884 TEACHERS ENGAGED



2.7 MILLION STUDENTS ENGAGED



88,759 PTC MEMBERS INVOLVED



10,028 SCHOOLS INVOLVED



2,630 SCOUTS AND GIRLS GUIDE PARTICIPATED

PLANTATION MEGA EVENT - 2024

The Plantation Mega Event 2024 was jointly organized with the Forest Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Pakistan Forest Institute (PFI) Peshawar. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, Radoslaw Rzehak (Chief Field Officer of UNICEF Peshawar). Distinguished guests in attendance included Dr. Christine Wanjala (Education Manager of UNICEF Peshawar), Syed Fawad Ali Shah (Education Specialist of UNICEF Peshawar), Deputy Director (P&D) and Assistant Director (DDU) of Elementary & Secondary Education Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Syeda Umm-e-Laila Jaffry, (Director Programs of ISU-DoE&SE), Mr. Fazal Elahi (Conservator of the Forest Department – KP) and Mr. Kifayat Ullah Baloch (Additional Director General of PFI Peshawar). The event also saw participation from faculty members and students from the University of Peshawar, University of Agriculture, and adjacent colleges, as well as school teachers, school children, and PTC members.















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