

HIGHLIGHTS

July 2011

A Bimonthly Newsletter for collaborative projects of Youth Affairs Department Government of Sindh and Habib University Foundation



Youth Empowering Spaces

- YES facilitates Pakistani youth to aspire for a healthy and productive life
- YES will be implemented in Karachi, Matiari and Jamshoro in its pilot phase
- YES will support youth to enhance their awareness about their own environment, grow personally, connect with each other for learning and development and use technology as an empowering tool



Inspiring Pakistani Youth to Reach Excellence

- INSPYRE aims at providing youth with a platform for their personal growth, career enhancement and social development
- INSPYRE provides free of cost career education to youth for their career building in Information Technology, Retail Management, Digital Media, Call Center Industry, Fashion and Textile Designing
- Internships are an essential component of the INSPYRE learning experience

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Inspiring Leadership, Empowerment and Development in Youth

- iLEAD focuses on promoting a healthy lifestyle, leadership and personal development in youth through sports education and community service
- iLEAD has established partnerships with 5 colleges and 25 schools in Karachi and Hyderabad
- iLEAD has developed a curriculum titled "Nurturing Healthy Minds and Bodies" and has organized sports weeks, summer camps, sports festivals, coaching camps etc. for youth



Youth Affairs Department
Government of Sindh



Habib University Foundation

Technical Partner



Foreword

The months of May and June 2011 were quite important in the lives of INSPYRE, iLEAD and YES. Under INSPYRE, we successfully launched our fifth Cohort, while various summer camps were facilitated by our iLEAD team members. YES has made considerable headway since its launching: the project successfully hosted its first Talent Nurturing Camp in Malir. Additionally, we are in the process of forming partnerships with local institutions in Jamshoro and Matiari and are visiting

these areas to assess youth needs and aspirations as well as seeking partners.

Your opinions and suggestions are important to us. Tell us what you think at yasmeenbano@huf.org.pk. Hope you will enjoy reading this bimonthly issue of HIGHLIGHTS!

Yasmeen Bano
Head, Projects

Facts and Figures

YES

- Focus Group Discussions held with 6 local NGOs and institutions in Jamshoro and Matiari to explore partnerships
- 30 youth from Jamshoro and Matiari participate in Focus Group Discussions
- 31 boys and girls participate in YES Talent Nurturing Camp

INSPYRE

- 140 students enroll in 9 courses of Cohort V starting in May 2011
- 2,000 interested youth visit the iACT stall at an Education Expo
- 3 INSPYRE students participate in a Provincial Youth Exchange Program organized by the British Council and VSO

iLEAD

- 45 students participate in a 6-day sports coaching camp held at Government College, Hyderabad
- 24 students of iACT participate in Qamar-e-Bani Hashim summer sports camp, coming first in the cricketing event

YES Highlights

YES Talent Nurturing Camp



YES Talent Nurturing Camp participants practice dribbling the ball

One of the themes under the YES program is Personal Development and Empowerment that aims at encouraging youth to explore and understand themselves, enhance their skills and develop action plans for self-growth. The Sports Talent Nurturing Camp, held in May-June 2011, was the first in the series of activities to help the youth to learn more about their passions and interests by providing them an opportunity to interact with experts.

Lasting over a period of two weeks, the camp registered 31 males and females from various schools and colleges. The camp was divided into two activities: basketball and badminton. The former was held for males and the latter for females. Mr. Jawed Iqbal and Mr. Khan Jawed coached the students.

Female participants were accompanied by their parents who had come to encourage and cheer their children on. All participants were taught the techniques of both games, and were given time to practice under

supervision. This was followed by matches between participants. At the end of the session, a closing ceremony was held in which participants were awarded with certificates for their dedication and skills learnt.

"Although I am not a student of iACT, I registered myself in this camp. I am very glad that I participated, as I have improved my game. I will continue to practice and share what I have learnt here with others."

Bilal Ali Khan, Student

"We are really happy that something like this was arranged for the girls for the first time. Sports are important as young children learn so many skills from them."

Mrs. Saeed, A Mother

YES Highlights

Visits to Jamshoro and Matiari: Exploring Partnerships and Meeting with Youth



YES team interacts with SHEDS, a local NGO in Hyderabad

In June 2011, the YES team visited Jamshoro and Hala city to understand the youth and youth development activities besides exploring possibilities of partnerships with the NGOs and institutes present there. The team interacted with relevant individuals from six organizations and explained the program to them.

In addition to this, the team interacted with youth from these areas by means of several focus group discussions. The youth shared their aspirations, needs and challenges with the team. The discussions revealed that despite a lack of resources and geographical limitations, the youth of Jamshoro and Matiari are as ambitious and hardworking as youth from any other urban area in Pakistan.

Youth identified several challenges they face for which they require support in overcoming. The most critical ones are listed below:

- Unlike Jamshoro, Matiari does not possess institutions of higher education.

Apart from formal education institutes, spaces do not exist which allow youth to interact with each other, learn new skills and diversify their talents. They require assistance for enhancing their confidence, self-awareness, critical thinking, emotional maturity, communication skills and decision-making skills.

As a result, youth are compelled to travel to nearby areas to pursue higher education. Most parents are reluctant to send their daughters a fair distance, depriving females of the opportunity.

- Higher secondary schools and intermediate colleges are scarce in Jamshoro. This negatively impacts female enrollment as most females discontinue their education post matriculation.
- Scarcity of quality education which can help youth to attain competence in English, IT and communication skills. Lack of these skills decrease their market value for acquiring jobs in big cities.
- Lack of diversified job opportunities and technical facilitation for initiating their own business.
- Absence of counseling services for the academic, career and health guidance of youth.



YES team interacts with the principal of City School in Bhit Shah

Youth Aspirations

Jamshoro and Matiari youth aspire to:

- Raise their standard of living through well paid jobs.
- Obtain job security by acquiring government jobs.
- Earn degrees in medicine and engineering and build skills in IT and English Language.

Youth Trends in Media and Technology Usage

- Almost all houses in Jamshoro and Matiari have televisions and access to satellite dish and cable. The most viewed channels are Star Plus, KTN and Mehran TV. Small restaurants ("dhabas") also have cable television running consistently.
- The radio is easily accessible and is popular among youth.
- The mobile phone is very common and around 95% of youth have a mobile phone. Many also have multiple connections.
- Most youth have email accounts and regularly access social networking sites and employment sites.
- Kawish and Ibrat are the most widely read newspapers in the area.

INSPYRE Highlights

iACT Participates in 'Re-engineering Pakistan' – Education Expo



Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari visits the iACT stall

The Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents participated in an educational exhibition titled "Re-engineering Pakistan" in June 2011 at the Expo Center, Karachi. Lasting three days, the exhibition allowed iACT to intensively market themselves and their programs including INSPYRE, iLEAD and YES to interested visitors. The Institute set up a stall at the exhibition where video presentations on the Institute's facilities and programs were screened. Additionally, brochures and handbooks containing course information were distributed.

On the first day of the exhibition, Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari, Ex-Minister for Youth Affairs, Government of Sindh also visited the stall and gave positive feedback. Around 2,000 people visited the stall and 200 people completed feedback forms and submitted their information.

Learning Session held on Effective Google Searching

In today's globalized world, effective use of technology is crucial. To help iACT students become tech-savvy, two learning sessions were organized to teach them effective researching techniques on the Google search engine. Students benefitted from these greatly.

INSPYRE Learning and Teaching

Commencement of Classes for iACT and INSPYRE Cohort V



Cohort V students listen attentively during their orientation

With a new cohort enrolled at iACT, INSPYRE learning activities are currently at a peak. An orientation was organized for INSPYRE and iACT Cohort V students on May 4, 2011. Students were engaged in exciting and stimulating activities. During the session, information vis-à-vis INSPYRE and iACT's vision, rules and regulations were provided. Faculty members were introduced, and iACT's learning mission and programs were

discussed. After the orientation, students were taken on a tour of the Institute.

"The orientation was very exciting. I am sure our overall learning experience here will be superb."

*Zohaib Ahmed,
Digital Photography Fundamentals*



A group of students make a presentation during a class

After the general orientation, course wise orientation sessions were held and classes began on May 9, 2011. 140 students have been enrolled in the following nine courses:

- Fashion Designing Level 1
- Fashion Designing Level 2
- Textile Designing
- Digital Photography Fundamentals
- Digital Media Essentials (Diploma)
- Graphic Designing
- Web Wizard (Diploma)
- Web Designing
- Character Animation Fundamentals (Autodesk MAYA)

INSPYRE Highlights

Foundation Skills for Digital Media Courses: An Innovative Learning Module



Students learn techniques of sketching and illustrating

Generally, the skills which Digital Media courses impart are technical in nature, and are not catered to enhancing students' thinking and creative abilities, which are essential for creating innovative products and ideas. Realizing this critical need, an

innovative learning module of 50 hours titled 'Foundation Skills for Digital Media Courses' was designed for the digital media students at iACT. The module aimed at facilitating students to understand the importance of originality, creativity and rigorous thinking for

مجھے ایسا لگ رہا ہے کہ میری سوچ پر ایک پردہ پڑا
ہوا تھا جو اب آپ کے بیرونی زور اور میری اندرونی
طاقت سے ہٹ رہا ہے۔

احمد بلال - ویب و ڈیزائن کورس

generating innovative designs and products. Students were engaged in various activities to think out of the box. These included brainstorming, mind mapping, mood boards, etc. to deepen and organize their thought processes.

The module also gave students the opportunity to explore the world of colors and illustrations to help them learn how to use these elements effectively in their designs. Understanding human psychology and social context for creating various designs was also an important element. The module was facilitated by Nooruddin Merchant, Research and Planning Associate, Habib University Foundation, Ali Usman, Sindh Education Foundation, Asad Sheikh, Ice Animation and Tahir, a professional artist.

Personal and Career Development Sessions



Students take the MBTI test during a personal and career development session

The Personal and Career Development Module is one of the key components of the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents and the INSPYRE learning framework. In Cohort V, the module was further enhanced by integrating the aspects of personal development module, career development module and Active Citizens training. The integrated module presents cohesive and integrated thoughts and ideas to students. 60% of the module was successfully

"This component is unique and an eye-opener. With each passing day, it's helping me formulate my career path."

Rahema, Textile Designing Student

implemented in May and June 2011 for the students of Fashion and Textile Designing and Digital Photography.

Guest Speaker Sessions

Fashion and Textile Designing Students meet Akbar Rizvi

Mr. Akbar Rizvi, a senior designer at a Deepak Perwani outlet, has vast experience in the field of fashion designing. He was invited to share his insight with the students of textile and fashion designing regarding design and production techniques in this field. Mr. Rizvi also gave valuable career advice to students.

During the session, students were facilitated to understand the fashion industry and current trends of the market. Students were engaged in a Q&A session after his presentation. Upon completing the session, Mr. Rizvi visited the textile and fashion designing workshops and provided feedback on student portfolios.

"Mr. Rizvi's feedback on my portfolio was invaluable. I have incorporated his suggestions."
Sana, Fashion Designing Student

INSPYRE Highlights

Exploring New Horizons: Students Participate in Provincial Youth Exchange Program



Mr. Hasan Rizvi (far left), INSPYRE scholar participates in a Provincial Exchange Program in Hyderabad

As a part of the Active Citizens Program undertaken at iACT, three exemplary students were awarded for their performance when they were selected for a provincial youth exchange program. The five-day exchange program was organized by the British Council and VSO, an independent development organization which involves bringing people

together to share skills, build capacities and change lives for poverty alleviation. Ms. Wahida Ali, Ms. Hina Perveen and Mr. Hasan Rizvi attended workshops and sessions in Muzzafarabad, Azad Kashmir and Hyderabad. The participants visited various NGOs and community service organizations in the area. The program aimed at raising

their community awareness and addressing changes that need to be made within their own communities. Additionally, all participants visited nearby parks to tidy them up.

The program gave an excellent opportunity to youth to make linkages and interact with the youth of other Pakistani provinces.

iACT – Touching Lives, Preparing Professionals

Boasting a holistic model of learning, the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents has churned out wonderful young graduates from its halls. Several have gone on to build a career for themselves at prestigious companies, whilst others have decided to pursue their own businesses. Mr. Dilawar Arshad, Textile Designing graduate of INSPYRE Cohort III, is one such individual to have graduated from iACT.

Dilawar has successfully launched his business on a small scale from home. He is using multiple approaches to market his products. Building contacts and partnerships with local fabric/dress outlets, door to door marketing of the products through a sales

agent and directly selling the products by setting up stalls at markets are a few strategies he is using to advance his business. So far he has received positive feedback from the market as his products are sold quickly and the workmanship reflected in each product is highly appreciated by the buyers. He has started earning a handsome profit from his work. He is planning to hold an exhibition of his work in his community to further advance his business.

Prior to joining iACT, Dilawar had no work experience. Coming from a family of six, he was keen to begin supplementing the family income. Dilawar participated wholeheartedly and enthusiastically in his classes and extracurricular activities. He was successful in designing and implementing a Social Action Project through which he reached out to students of CDGK hostels where he taught them textile designing techniques. This Project earned him a slot at a symposium for youth in Islamabad titled "Youth Action for Global Change".

Dilawar is appreciative of all the support and



Dilawar Arshad explains tie and dye techniques to students of CDGK hostel

opportunities he received at iACT. He values the people he met here, both faculty and fellow students alike, some of which have become lifelong friends. He feels he has grown tremendously at iACT, both as a person and a professional. The institute has instilled in him a fantastic spirit for learning, and he now wants to pursue an extended degree on textile designing.

"iACT allowed me to spread my wings and take flight. I am a changed man now: I have gone from being a self-centered individual to a community conscious member of society."

Dilawar Arshad, Entrepreneur

iLEAD Highlights

Engaging with Youth: Sports Coaching Camp Held in Hyderabad



Students participate in basketball training at the iLEAD Coaching Camp

A six-day badminton and basketball coaching camp was conducted in June 2011 at Government College, Hyderabad for iLEAD's Hyderabad-based partner colleges. 18 females from Government Shah Latif Girls College and 27 males from Government College participated. The team of Government College Hyderabad extended its full support and cooperation to the iLEAD team in

organizing the camp at their sports facilities.

Mr. Javed Iqbal, ex national badminton champion and former National Coach and Mr. Ahmed Nawaz trained the students. Mr. Nawaz has played basketball at the provincial level and has coached teams from Mehran University, Sindh University and the Board of Secondary and Intermediate Education.

Both coaches led fitness trainings, briefed students vis-à-vis game rules and conducted practice matches. The students enjoyed themselves greatly at the camp and stressed the regularity and need for such camps.

"Before iLEAD, we were never had the opportunity to participate in such wonderful sports camps in Hyderabad."

Coaching Camp Participant



Sohail Ahmad, a participant of the camp is awarded a certificate



Group shot of participants



A participant practices techniques learnt on basketball



A participant of the camp is awarded a certificate

"This was a wonderful initiative taken by iLEAD. I was amazed to see the talent exhibited by the youth, especially by the females for badminton. If this talent is nurtured properly for the next 2-3 years, they can become our national talent."
Mr. Javed Iqbal, Badminton Coach

iLEAD Highlights

iACT Students Participate in Sports Summer Camp Organized by Qamar-e-Bani Hashim School

A sports summer camp was organized by Qamar-e-Bani Hashim School, Malir in June 2011. 24 students of iLEAD partner, the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents participated. The students participated in the throwball and cricket events. The females reached the semifinal in throwball and the iACT male cricket team emerged as winners of the competition when they beat the host team in the final.



Triumphant iACT cricket team

iLEAD Facilitates Foundation Public School, Gulshan-e-Iqbal for its Summer Camp

iLEAD sports coach Mr. Adnan Ashraf facilitated Foundation Public School in organizing Kids Athletics trainings and events at their sports summer camp. Mr. Ashraf, sports coach at the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents, shared low cost resources developed for the institute and led the two-day event with the help of a team of volunteers. Students were engaged in several activities to boost their fitness levels.



Students engage in an exercise drill

iLEAD Facilitates SMB Fatima Jinnah Girls School Karachi for Organizing Sports Summer Camp

Through its sports coach, Mr. Ishtiaq Ahmed, iLEAD voluntarily facilitated SMB Fatima Jinnah Girls School, Karachi in designing and organizing a sports summer camp. Mr. Ahmed offered valuable input vis-à-vis identifying sports coaches and volunteers for the camp. Held in June 2011, the camp was a huge success, with over 300 students participating. The camp held learning sessions on a variety of sports and fitness techniques and values. The focused sports included football, hockey, volleyball, basketball, cricket and athletics.

Upcoming Events & Activities

- Completion of Street Youth program under INSPYRE
- Completion of short certificate courses
- Launching of Business Communication Module for digital media students
- Developing iLEAD curriculum training modules
- Conducting personal development planning sessions for youth under YES
- Initiating the planning of International Youth Day 2011

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