

HIGHLIGHTS

September 2011

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



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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



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

Foreword

With this issue ready to be shared with our avid readers, I feel a sense of accomplishment by bringing forth to you updates on our three projects headed towards their goals with full throttle. During July and August 2011, our horizons broadened as one of our INSPYRE students secured employment in an international company and two participated in a national conference namely the esteemed Young Leaders Conference (YLC). Apart from this, we celebrated International Youth Day

in which we engaged over 200 Pakistani youth. Having expressed this joy, we realize that the sky is the limit and we look ahead to completing multiple laps of success.

Hearing from our readers is always pleasing. Share your ideas opinions and thoughts at yasmeenbano@huf.org.pk. We hope you will enjoy reading this bimonthly issue of HIGHLIGHTS.

Yasmeen Bano
Head, Projects

Facts and Figures

YES

- 217 youth participate in celebrating International Youth Day 2011
- 112 youth attend 3 sessions of YES Career Seminar Series
- Partnership with School of Leadership established

INSPYRE

- 2 iACT students participate in Youth Leadership Conference
- 10 graduates of the "Street Youth Program" receive certificates
- 59 students attend an entrepreneurship workshop at iACT
- INSPYRE students present 6 Social Action Projects to the jury for National SAP Award 2010-11

iLEAD

- Partnership invitations sent to interested schools and colleges
- 3 sports and training professionals join iLEAD team

YES Highlights

International Youth Day: Acknowledging the Potential of Youth



In the spirit of acknowledging the potential of youth, International Youth Day 2011 was celebrated collaboratively by Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh and Habib University Foundation. Over 200 young people participated in the interactive youth summit, where the theme of International Youth Day 2011 was "Change Your World".

Mr. Jam Madad Ali Khan, Minister for Youth Affairs, Government of Sindh was the chief guest of the event. He expressed strong convictions about the power of youth to steer society in a progressive direction and help Pakistan overcome its current crisis. Mr. Khurshid Ali Sheikh, Director, Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh was also present at the summit.

In line with the theme of the day, the theme of the summit was "Community Service -

First Step to Change the World". The participants were engaged in a discussion to share their ideas about changing the world. Later on, young people engaged in community service shared their inspiring stories of serving their communities and making a difference. Additionally, organizations that present possibilities and avenues for undertaking community service made presentations. Humaira Bachal of Dream Foundation, Humanyun Ansari and Komal Ali of i*EARN and Maria Hussain of Edvolution were the youth speakers. Besides these speakers and their organizations, Visionary Foundation also shared their work. The day-long session filled the hearts of young people with hope and enthusiasm to bring a positive change in their lives and contribute towards making the world a better place to live.

YES Highlights

Let's Change the World: Aspirations of Pakistani Youth



Youth participants engage in a group discussion during an activity in International Youth Day summit

At the International Youth Day summit, the audience was asked to share their aspirations for changing the world. They were asked to state what they would like to change in the world and why. The audience got the chance to work in groups, where they brainstormed to come up with one group aspiration. The aspirations shared by youth reflect their desire for a peaceful and just world.

We aspire to bring peace in the world by eradicating racism and discrimination, and promoting cross-cultural understanding

We aspire to bring sustainable environment change by promoting health and hygiene

We aspire to bring equal opportunities to all by eliminating nepotism and corruption

We aspire to bring youth activism by educating people morally, intellectually and spiritually

We aspire to bring a positive behavioral change by reshaping thoughts

We aspire to bring justice by promoting rule of law

We aspire to bring prosperity in our lives through quality education

We aspire to bring acceptability for all cultures by embracing diversity

Creating YES Web of Partners: Exploring and Building Partnerships

One of the key features of YES is its collaborative spirit to work with other youth organizations and proactive young individuals aspiring to bring a positive change in their societies. YES is actively meeting with people and organizations to shape its partnerships, for which the following meetings took place in July and August 2011:

Meeting with Civil Society Support Program (CSSP)

YES team visited Civil Society Support Program (CSSP) in July 2011 to explore partnership possibilities with the organization for program implementation in Jamshoro and Matiari. Both organizations shared their work and expertise with each other and identified areas where collaborative work can be done.

Meetings with SPO and SHEDS

Meetings were also held with the members of Sindh Health and Education Development Society (SHEDS) and Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO) in August 2011 at their respective offices in Hyderabad. Partnership possibilities for implementing YES activities in Jamshoro and Matiari were explored. Both the organizations shared their expertise and expectations with one another.

Formalizing Partnership with School of Leadership

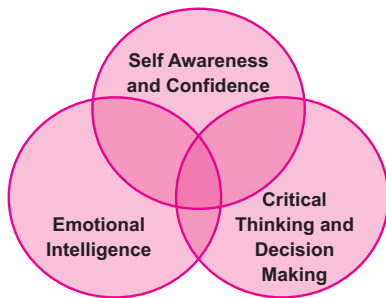
To implement EYES, YES is forming a group of youth facilitators who will design and conduct youth learning sessions. In order to build the requisite skills of youth facilitators, YES is launching a training session under the title of 'Facilitating Young Facilitators (FYF)' in collaboration with School of Leadership (SoL). The partnership for this program was formalized with SoL in August 2011. Details of this program are provided overleaf.

YES Highlights

EYES: An Innovative Program for Youth to Understand and Acquire Empowerment

EYES - Engaging Youth for Empowerment and Success - is an innovative program being designed by the YES team. This program will engage youth in a 40-hour course of learning to help them explore and understand the notion of empowerment and how to acquire it.

EYES will focus on three building blocks of empowerment as highlighted below:



Through a variety of reflective and interactive activities, EYES will facilitate youth to deepen their understanding about self, raise self esteem, start thinking positively, learn to effectively handle their emotions, broaden their thoughts and improve their decision making power. YES believes that these are critical elements for becoming empowered to lead a healthy and productive life.

YES team is developing program manuals and will launch the program in September 2011. In order to benefit a large number of young people through EYES, YES is forming a group of Youth Facilitators. These youth facilitators will organize Youth Learning Sessions at various places including Jamshoro and Matiari.

"After the session, I have started thinking positively about my career."
Ehtisham Raza

"From this session, I realized the importance of having a focus to achieve set targets."
Shameer Mirza

YES Career Seminar Series: Sowing the Seeds for Proactive Career Planning and Thinking



Dr. Hanif Mohammed discusses career-related concerns of students

Facilitating youth to acquire relevant career information is one of the core aspirations of YES. In collaboration with Dr. Hanif Mohammed and Ms. Maria Safder, YES has planned a series of six seminars for youth who have just started thinking about their careers.

The seminars aim at facilitating youth to understand the basic steps of career planning, help them to explore their own self and pursue a variety of career options available in light of their own strengths. Participants are also provided an opportunity to have one to one discussion with the career facilitators. To

date, three seminars have been held:

- The first seminar of the series was organized at the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents for 30 young males and females.
- The second seminar was held at SoS School for 42 students of Grade X of which 50% were females.
- The third seminar engaged 40 students of Grade X from Qamar-e-Bani Hashim School, Malir.

The students appreciated the information and guidance they received.



Dr. Hanif Mohammed talks to the students at SoS village about their career options

INSPYRE Highlights

INSPYRE Learning and Teaching

Graphic Designing Students Exhibit their Work



Mr. Danish Siddiqui, Graphic Designing teacher discusses techniques employed by students in designing their posters

The students of Graphic Designing organized an e-poster exhibition revolving around the theme of global warming. Not only did they display their work, two students also gave a presentation on the theme and highlighted mankind's remedial role in global warming.

Their work also showed the mode of their research in the form of mind-maps, mood boards and sketches. 80 students and faculty members attended the presentation and exhibition.

Around Town for Digital Photography

As a part of iACT's Digital Media component, students of Digital Photography Fundamentals were engaged in a group learning activity where they visited two locations in Karachi to conduct photo shoots. Students learned important aspects of

outdoor photography. The selected locations of Frere Hall and Bagh-e-Ibn-Qasim provided the landscape for the demonstration of relevant skills. Specific techniques for daylight and sunset shoots and managing shades and hues were highlighted during the visits.

iACT Library: A Hub of Resources

In July 2011, a series of activities were conducted with the intention of motivating students to refer to various learning material available at iACT's library. These activities included:

- **Book Review:** Writing samples and outlines were shared with the students, upon the basis of which students submitted and presented their reviews enthusiastically.
- **Reference Citing:** Students learned techniques of bibliographical citation in a focused session. This session highlighted to students the importance of referencing as a means of establishing credibility of their own work.
- **Featured Movie - Gridiron Dang:** Based on the story of a struggling juvenile in prison, the movie was picked for students for its theme of achieving success through



Students listen intently while the teacher shares review writing techniques

- showing strength of character.
- **Quiz:** In an attempt to widen the general knowledge base iACT students were engaged in a quiz activity at the library. The quiz was designed using iACT's resource material.

Grooming Effective Leaders: INSPYRE Students Participate in Young Leaders Conference



Zohaib receives memento for participating in the Conference

iACT continuously strives to provide opportunities for growth and learning to its students. As such, two students were nominated to attend the prestigious six-day "Young Leaders Conference" in July 2011. Organized by the School of Leadership (SoL) every year, the conference provides opportunities of self-development to youth from across the country. The House of Habib (HoH), patrons of Habib University Foundation (H.U.F.) sponsored the students.

Zohaib Ahmed and Anum Zia were thrilled to get the chance to attend the conference given the scope of learning it possessed. The conference equipped them with an array of skills empowering them to become tomorrow's leaders. The event also gave them the opportunity to socialize with participants from diverse backgrounds. It instilled in them motivation, energy, and positivity to take charge and instigate needed change.

"I am still shocked at how one's life patterns and beliefs can change over a matter of a few sittings. YLC has really given me a sense of direction."

Anum Zia

"YLC was fully energized with positivity. I will take great pleasure in sharing what I learned here with my colleagues at iACT."

Zohaib Ahmed

INSPYRE Highlights

Conclusion of Personal and Career Development Module for Cohort V

As the students of Textile Designing, Digital Photography Fundamentals and Fashion Designing I and II completed their tenure at iACT in August 2011, their personal and career development sessions also concluded. These mandatory sessions are held as part of the iACT Learning Model and emancipate the thinking processes of students, empowering them to steer their careers in the right direction and make informed decision about their careers.

"Through these sessions, I recognized what potentials and qualities I have and I wish to utilize them for the betterment of my community."

Saniya Naz – INSPYRE student

"These sessions have boosted my confidence. I also appreciate the chance to learn other skills such as CV development and interview skills."

Nida Khan – INSPYRE student



INSPYRE students attend counseling session

59 INSPYRE students were engaged in 13 such sessions over a period of four months. Participation in the reflective group activities helped students gain an insight in their personal, professional and social lives. A majority of students agreed that these sessions were a unique learning experience

where they learned the importance of time management, self control, hard work, dedication and setting goals. The module made students realize the importance of their contribution to their families, environment, community, and country.

Providing Opportunities for Growth: Entrepreneurship Workshop Held



Students listen intently during the session

The multi-pronged learning framework of Institute of Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT) provides a unique opportunity to its students to garner entrepreneurial traits such that they are self-driven and motivated to start their own business. As such, a workshop was organized in July 2011 for 59 Textile Designing students. Brainstorming, start up ideas and guidance on factors to keep in mind for a successful venture formed the agenda of the workshop.

iACT - Touching Lives, Preparing Professionals



Ibad Khan, Web Designing Cohort III

It was not long after Ibad Sami Khan had stepped out in the job market that he found a life changing opportunity. After completing the six-month Web Designing course from the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT) in Cohort III, Ibad submitted his well-written CV to Design Links, an advertising and marketing company in Dubai, UAE. Shortly thereafter, the firm called Ibad, engaging him in a telephonic interview. Ibad knew what he was in for: he was appearing for a job interview which would take him to a city filled with opportunities for personal development and growth.

Today, Ibad is gainfully employed as a graphic and web designer at Design Links. Here, his job responsibilities entail designing material such as web pages, presentation templates, brochures, newsletters, flyers, stationery, etc. He is earning AED 3,000 and the company is providing him with accommodation. Two months into the job, Ibad recalls the instrumental role his learning experience at iACT has to play in undertaking his job responsibilities.

He credits his self-confidence and strong communication and organizational skills to the personal development sessions he participated in at iACT. During Ibad's stint at iACT, he also undertook a month long internship at Habib University Foundation (H.U.F.), where he designed the layout for a project website. His exposure at H.U.F. also aided him in learning more about the office environment.

Ibad is thoroughly satisfied with his job, and finds his future promising. He is immensely pleased to be a part of a prestigious Dubai-based company.

INSPYRE Highlights

Young Learners Graduate: Ceremony Held for Street Youth Development Program



A group shot of graduates of "Street Youth Development Program"

A large number of Pakistani youth are deprived of a sound education and are unable to develop skills for career building. To engage with this valuable but neglected resource, the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT) collaborated with the Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh and Initiator Human Development Foundation

and offered a six-month skill development program for street youth. During the program, youth received training in basic cutting and stitching and hand embroidery. This program came to a successful close in July 2011, upon which a graduation ceremony was held for them.

ان چھ مہینوں میں میں نے بہت کچھ سیکھا جیسے کہ ٹیلرنگ، فیشن ڈیزائننگ اور بات کرنے اور اٹھنے بیٹھنے کا طریقہ۔ میں بہت خوش ہوں کہ مجھے اتنا شاندار موقع ملا۔

قاسم

گریمجویٹ - اسٹریٹ یوتھ ڈیولپمنٹ پروگرام

10 youth received certificates from Mr. Jam Madad Ali Khan, Minister for Youth Affairs at the ceremony. The Minister lauded the efforts of Habib University Foundation and iACT in executing this joint initiative. Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs, Mr. Saleem Ahmad Siddiqui, Deputy Secretary Youth Affairs Department and Mr. Rana Asif, President, Initiator Human Development Foundation were also present at the event.

The youngsters appreciated their time spent at iACT, Apart from these skills, they also got a chance to participate in sports activities. Several graduates have already secured employment, and are supplementing their household income.

Youth in Action: Social Action Projects (SAPs)

SAPs provide an opportunity to youth to work in teams on real community issues. iACT graduates and students initiated and presented their projects:

iACT Students Enter their SAPs for Nomination in "Active Citizens-National SAP Awards 2010-2011"

In August 2011, an event was organized by Volunteer Services Organization (VSO) and the British Council to judge the Social Action Projects (SAPs) of participants in the Active Citizens Program. The event aimed to evaluate SAPs based on their impact on community development, multiplier effects and sustainability. The best projects will receive acknowledgement at "Active Citizens – National SAP Award 2010-11", a ceremony to be held in Islamabad later on this year in November 2011. The students of Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT) presented their projects to the jury as well. The results will be communicated to the participants closer to the National Award Ceremony.



Students present their Social Action Projects



Students receive certificates of appreciation

iLEAD Highlights

Meetings Held with Partner Colleges for Future iLEAD Programmatic Interventions

The iLEAD project has succeeded in earning an extension for the year 2011-12. As part of program implementation of iLEAD during 2009-2011, partnerships were extended to four public colleges. To continue the former partnerships, meetings were held with colleges in Karachi and Hyderabad namely Government Degree Girls College Green Belt, City Government College Karachi, Government Shah Latif Girls College, Hyderabad and Government College Hyderabad, Phuleli.

During the meetings, the colleges were briefed about the program implementation strategies for 2011-12, with the prime focus staying on the implementation of the curriculum "Nurturing Healthy Minds and Bodies". iLEAD team shared the anticipated benefits of the program. Colleges were



iLEAD team orients school head on future plans

also briefed about the terms and conditions for the partnerships in 2011-12. The colleges appreciated the extension and assured the team they would consider continuing their partnerships with iLEAD.

Visiting Partner Schools: Piloting the Curriculum in Schools

iLEAD Curriculum on Nurturing Healthy Minds and Bodies focuses on grades IX to XII. In order to get an experience of curriculum implementation at these grade levels, iLEAD is aspiring to include a few new schools in its curriculum implementation sites. iLEAD team visited potential partner schools and colleges including Rukaiya Hajjani High School, Dehli Private College, Government Children

Education Center and New Generation's School for the iLEAD project 2011-2012.

Schools demonstrated a high level of enthusiasm to pilot the curriculum with their students. They also requested iLEAD team to make presentations to their staff members so that they could have a better understanding of the curriculum and its outcomes.



iLEAD team meets with potential partner schools



Future partners explore possibilities of partnerships

Induction and Orientation of the iLEAD Team

iLEAD welcomed its new team of three energetic personnel on board this year. The team includes Ms. Aisha Jalil, Project Manager and Mr. Muhammad Amir and Mr. Uzair Fazle-e-Umer, Academic and Sports Coordinators. The team brings with them a diverse experience of sports management, sports coaching and youth training.

To familiarize the team with the overall project, they were engaged in a comprehensive orientation session. The orientation session facilitated the iLEAD team to develop an understanding of the project and future plans.

The session included the following activities:

- A detailed presentation was shared with them about iLEAD, its achievements and future plans.
- The team was engaged in studying the curriculum on 'Nurturing Healthy Minds and Bodies' developed by iLEAD. Team members analyzed the curriculum in detail, discussing it with one another to understand its concepts. They then prepared a presentation on it to acquire clarity on its various aspects.
- The team held meetings with iLEAD partner colleges in order to develop relationships with them for future communication and coordination.

Upcoming Events & Activities

- Formalizing partnerships between iLEAD and partner schools and colleges
- Conducting iLEAD curriculum training sessions for teachers of partner schools
- Graduation ceremony of INSPYRE Cohort IV and V
- Initiating the Personal and Career Development sessions for Digital Media courses
- Formalizing partnership with Strengthening Participatory Organization, Hyderabad for implementation of YES activities in Jamshoro and Matiari
- Conducting training for FYF – Facilitate the Young Facilitator
- Planning for workshop implementation of EYES – Engaging Youth for Empowerment and Success

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