

**DIRECTORATE OF SINDH WATER SECTOR & BARRAGES IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT COORDINATION & MONITORING UNIT (PCMU)
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2025**



THE DIRECTORATE IS FUNCTIONAL AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF P&D DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF SINDH WITH ROLE/TASKS OF:

- 1. Project Coordination & Monitoring Unit (PCMU)** providing implementation management support to two mega projects: Sindh Water & Agriculture Transformation (SWAT) Project and Sindh Barrages Improvement Project (SBIP).
- 2. Shared Services Unit (SSU)** providing one window quality cross-functional support to conceive and conceptualization of new projects and provide startup support in implementation of new development projects.
- 3. Recovery & Reconstruction Unit (RRU)** for Coordination and implementation facility support to all 2022 Post Flood Projects in Sindh under 4RF (Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Framework).
- 4. Coordination Desk** for follow-up implementation actions of approved Sindh Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy-2023.

PROJECT COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE:

This quarter marks a defining phase in Sindh's water sector reforms from drafting the Province's first Water Law to launching the Hydro-Agro Informatics (HAI) program and progressing on the Sindh Strategic Water Plan.

PCMU remains steadfast in driving cross-sector coordination, institutional learning and evidence-based planning to ensure Sindh water resources are managed sustainably for Generations to come.

MR. NAZEER AHMED



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION:

- PCMU has signed technical assistance and consultancy contract with FAO under the SWAT Project on 28 October 2025 to support planning, implementation, monitoring, and capacity building. The partnership will enhance coordination, technical quality, and evidence-based implementation.
- The World Bank team undertaken Implementation Support Mission on SWAT Project held on 24-26 October 2025 in Hyderabad. The Mission comprises Mr. François Onimus, Mr. Olivier Durrand, and Mr. Zelalam Tesfaye, and accompanied PCMU team led by Mr. Nazir Ahmed Memon, Project Coordinator. The mission reviewed implementation progress and challenges and provided guidance to ensure timely execution and alignment with World Bank requirements.
- The Senate Standing Committee on the SWAT Project convened a meeting on 26 November 2025 at the Parliament House, Islamabad and the meeting was attended by the officials of PCMU.
- The "Pakistan Water Week 2025 - From Scarcity to Sustainability" was held in Islamabad from 2-7 October 2025. The PCMU Project Coordinator attended, participating in discussions on sustainable water management, water-food resilience, and collaborative policy frameworks.
- The National Seminar on Poverty Graduation: Pathways to Sustainable Livelihoods, organized by the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, was held on 27 November 2025 at the Mangala Hotel, Islamabad. The seminar was attended by the Project Coordinator, PCMU officials, and key representatives from federal and provincial government departments, development partners, and civil society organizations.

PROJECT PROGRESS REVIEW:

- A three-day review meeting of the World Bank-supported projects was held from 7-9 October 2025, under the chairmanship of the Honourable Minister for Planning and Development, Government of Sindh and meeting is attended by Mr. Nazeer Ahmed Memon Project Coordinator PCMU and team.
- A meeting chaired by the Chairman, P&D Board reviewed Gantt charts and key performance indicators (EV, SPI, CPI) for all foreign-funded projects, focusing on improved planning, monitoring, and timely reporting and participated by Mr. Nazir Ahmed Memon (PC) and team of PCMU.
- A meeting with Ms. Laila Haroon was held to discuss training opportunities for support staff, focusing on capacity building and skills enhancement. The discussion covered training areas, modalities, and timelines to improve performance, strengthen institutional capacity, and support effective project implementation and service delivery.
- The SWAT Project Annual Planning & Results Framework Workshop, held on 25-26 October, brought together key stakeholders including PCMU, SIDA, ADU, FAO, and the World Bank.
- A review meeting was held at PCMU on 8 Oct 2025 following the Federal RRU visit led by Dr. Awais Siraj, to discuss 4RF Project-wise RBM and SRO-based monitoring.

A high-level World Bank delegation, led by Mr. Michael Haney, visited PCMU, P&D Department on 1 Oct 2025 for an overview of the SWAT and SBIP projects and received by Mr. Nazeer Ahmed Memon with PDs and teams, discussions covered the new water law, HAI Program, SWAT Components 2-4, and the Flood Emergency Recovery Component, concluding with the presentation of traditional Ajrak and souvenirs.



A UNDP-led training on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), supporting the Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives Department Government of Pakistan, was attended by PCMU representatives. The training concluded with closing remarks by the Resettlement Specialist, PCMU, on behalf of the Government of Sindh.



The SWAT Project Annual Planning & Results Framework Workshop, held on 25-26 October 2025, brought together key stakeholders including PCMU, SIDA, ADU, FAO, and the World Bank. The workshop provided a platform to review project progress and assess achievements against agreed targets. Participants engaged in detailed discussions to refine implementation strategies and address emerging challenges. The FY 2025-26 Work Plan was thoroughly reviewed and aligned with project objectives. The workshop concluded with a renewed collective commitment to sustainable water management and agricultural development in Sindh.



A World Bank-led ISM for the SWAT Project was held on 26 Oct 2025, led by François Onimus, Olivier Durrand, and Zelalam Tesfaye, with Nazir Ahmed Memon (PCMU) and SWAT Team. A high-level meeting with Secretary Agriculture Muhammad Zaman Narejo and PD Dr. Liaquat Bhutto reviewed FERC progress, operational challenges, coordination, and emergency preparedness, providing guidance for timely and effective project execution.

- **PROGRESS REVIEW MEETING:** A three-day review meeting of World Bank-supported projects was held from 7-9 October 2025, under the chairmanship of the Honourable Minister for Planning and Development, Government of Sindh.
- A meeting chaired by the Chairman, P&D Board reviewed Gantt charts and key performance indicators (EV, SPI, CPI) for all foreign-funded projects, focusing on improved planning, monitoring, and timely reporting and participated by Mr. Nazir Ahmed Memon (PC) and team of PCMU.
- A Consultant Selection Committee meeting was held to review and guide the REOI process, leading to the preparation and issuance of the RFP under the Sindh Strategic Water Plan.
- The Implementation Support Mission for the Sindh Barrages Improvement Project was conducted from 8-12 December 2025 at Sukkur, Guddu, and Karachi, including site visits to Sukkur and Guddu barrages and areas of land acquired for TJ spur construction.
- A high-level meeting with ACIAR/CSIIRD at PCMU, attended by the Project Coordinator, focused on collaboration, technical initiatives, capacity building, and research partnerships to support SWAT Project objectives and align with national and international best practices.
- **CAPACITY BUILDING:** A one-day training on GIS and Remote Sensing for M&E was held on 9 Oct 2025, organized by UNDP with support of Ministry of planning development and special initiative, Government of Pakistan. MPD & SI, attended by the GIS Specialist of PCMU.
- A workshop on HAI program was held on 10 December 2025 in Karachi, following the preparation of the Concept Design Framework Report, which was shared with all project partners, attended by the Secretary Irrigation Department, the Project Coordinator PCMU, and the SWAT Project team, along with other key stakeholders





The Government of Sindh is advancing a data-smart future through the HAI Program under the SWAT Project. A policy-level meeting on 14 Oct 2025, chaired by Chairman P&D Board Najam Ahmed Shah and moderated by PC Nazir Ahmed Memon, finalized institutional arrangements for HAI and its sub-centers (HIC and AIC), with the Sindh Irrigation Department hosting the program and support from Agriculture, following the theme “Have Management Based on Information.”

The EPRM of the SWAT Project, conducted by the PCMU E&S Team, was held at SIDA Secretariat on 16–17 Oct 2025. The mission reviewed E&S progress of the Irrigation and ADU components and included a field visit to the RoW of Akram Wah.



The 7th Karachi International Water Conference, organized by Hisaar Foundation, held on 28–29 Oct 2025 at KSBL. Mr Nazir Ahmed Memon Project Coordinator and senior staff of PCMU participated, engaging with policymakers and experts on water governance, climate resilience, and sustainable water management, with insights expected to inform SWAT Project and Sindh water sector initiatives.



The Director of FAO's Land and Water Division, Mr. Lifeng Li, along with senior FAO colleagues, visited PCMU, P&D Department, GoSindh, on 28 Oct 2025. The delegation was warmly hosted by Mr. Nazir Ahmed Memon, Project Coordinator PCMU, and his team. During the meeting, both sides held detailed discussions on FAO's Land and Water portfolio in Sindh, global priorities, emerging trends, and opportunities to strengthen partnerships, enhance technical support, and align resource mobilization efforts for sustainable water and agriculture management. At the conclusion of the visit, the guests were presented with traditional Sindhi Ajrak as a gesture of hospitality.

The 11th Project Committee Meeting of the Sindh Barrages Improvement Project, held on 30 October 2025 under the chairmanship of the Chairman P&D Board, Mr. Najam Ahmed Shah, and facilitated by the Project Coordinator, PCMU. The Committee reviewed overall project progress, implementation challenges, financial and procurement status, and compliance with agreed timelines. Strategic guidance was provided to accelerate implementation, strengthen inter-agency coordination, and ensure alignment with approved work plans and development objectives.



World Bank's meeting on SWAT implementation, led by Mr. Francois Onimus, Mr. Olivier Durrand, Mr. Zelalam along with PCMU and FAO Team visits Kot Ghulam Muhammad Minor of Jamrao Canal. The delegation was hosted by SIDA and ADU Team along with Nara Canal Area Water Board. The Executive Engineer Jamrao Canal brief the mission on drainage network of the area.

- **PROJECT PROGRESS MEETING:** A wrap-up meeting of the World Bank team on the SWAT Project was held, led by Mr. François Onimus, Mr. Olivier Durrand, and Mr. Zelalam Tesfaye, and accompanied by PCMU Project Coordinator Mr. Nazir Ahmed Memon. The meeting was chaired by the Chairman, P&D Board, Mr. Najam Ahmed Shah. Participants included representatives from PCMU, the Agriculture and ADU components, as well as SWAT Project Directors. The meeting focused on reviewing implementation progress, key findings, and way forward for the project.
- Mr. François Onimus visited the SWAT Project from 17–19 Dec 2025 to review progress and implementation, meeting the PCMU team and holding detailed discussions with both PIUs (ADU and Irrigation components).
- The Resettlement Specialist of PCMU attended a UNICEF workshop on Data Gap Assistance for MICS 2026–2027, supporting the Bureau of Statistics, P&D Department, GoSindh, focusing on improving data collection, addressing statistical gaps, and enhancing stakeholder capacity for evidence-based planning and monitoring.
- **TRAINING WORKSHOPS:** A training session on Canal Modernization for Nara Canal Area Water Board members was held on 16 Dec 2025 at SIDA Secretariat and Hydrological Lab, Hyderabad, attended by senior PCMU officials, focusing on technical knowledge, operational practices, and management strategies for effective canal and water resource management.
- Attended the capacity-building workshop on “Mainstreaming Climate Actions in Economic and Financial Planning – Sindh”, organized by the Research & Training Wing, P&D Department, GoSindh, on 11 Dec 2025.

The Artelia Workshop under SBIP was held on 11 Dec 2025 in Karachi, attended by Mr Nazir Ahmed Memon (PC) and team of PCMU, technical experts, engineers, and stakeholders. Sessions focused on engineering designs, implementation strategies, site challenges, and quality and safety standards, providing a platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and capacity building to support SBIP objectives. PC Nazir Ahmed Memon (PCMU) visited the Hisaar Panjwani Water Institute, NED University, to explore collaboration, research partnerships, and knowledge sharing in water resource management. Discussions focused on ongoing research, capacity building, and potential PCMU engagement, aiming to strengthen institutional linkages and promote evidence-based, sustainable water management practices.

REVIEW MEETINGS: A Sindh Portfolio Review meeting, chaired by Mr. Najam Ahmed Shah, was held on 11 Dec 2025 at P&D Department, attended by PC Nazir Ahmed Memon and senior officials. The meeting reviewed project progress, addressed implementation challenges, and strengthened coordination for timely execution aligned with provincial development priorities.

A data collection exercise was conducted during Nov-Dec 2025 for the P&D Dashboard, gathering project status, financials, milestones, and KPIs to enable real-time monitoring, evidence-based planning, and improved transparency for foreign-funded projects.

The EPRM of the SWAT Project, conducted by the PCMU E&S Team, was held at SIDA Secretariat on 16-17 Oct 2025. The mission reviewed E&S progress of the Irrigation and ADU components and included a field visit to the RoW of Akram Wah.

The PCMU Resettlement Specialist attended a Policy Dialogue Workshop on Advanced Gender-Responsive Inclusive Climate-Resilient WASH, organized by WaterAid Pakistan on 11 Dec 2025.

A high-level Sindh Portfolio Review meeting was held at the Chief Minister's House to review progress of key development projects across the province. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Minister of Sindh, senior P&D Department officials, PC Nazir Ahmed Memon (PCMU), and other stakeholders. Discussions assessed the status of ongoing projects and identified implementation bottlenecks. Financial and operational performance of projects was also reviewed. Strategic guidance focused on strengthening inter-departmental coordination and ensuring timely execution. The meeting emphasized monitoring, accountability, and effective project management to achieve sustainable development outcomes for Sindh.

The PCMU, USPCAS-W Mehran University Jamshoro, and CEGIS held the Final Design Workshop of the Sindh HAI Program in Karachi, chaired by Secretary Irrigation Zarif Iqbal Khoro and PC Nazir Ahmed Memon, presenting the full HAI design and Phase-II setup, marking a milestone in Sindh's data-driven water and agriculture management.



- PCMU-SWAT signed a two-year (2025-2027) agreement with EY for internal audits of all three SWAT PIUs to strengthen governance, compliance, and internal controls.

A Three-day training on the Geo-Enabling Initiative for Monitoring and Supervision (GEMS) was held from 10-12 November 2025, organized by UNDP. The training, attended by the GIS Specialist of PCMU, covered remote supervision, questionnaire creation, monitoring and evaluation, third-party monitoring, digital data collection, and portfolio mapping. Participants were equipped with practical skills to enhance project monitoring, data-driven decision-making, and effective supervision of ongoing initiatives.

Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Abro, Director M&E, attended a Complete Project Cycle Management training from 10-14 Nov 2025, organized by PPMI, Ministry of Planning Development and special initiative Government of Pakistan, GoP, focusing on skills for project planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation across the full project lifecycle.

A review meeting was held at PCMU on 8 Oct 2025 following the Federal RRU visit led by Dr. Awais Siraj, to discuss 4RF Project-wise RBM and SRO-based monitoring. Chief Economist Aslam Soomro, PCMU PC Nazeer Ahmed Memon, and emergency project representatives participated. It was agreed that all Project Directors will revise and update their RBM framework per the meeting's feedback.

