



KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ACHIVEMENTS

- Based on formal request from Irrigation Department, the draft team expert was mobilized in May 2026 and reviewed previous draft Law/Bill submitted on 27 Feb 2026.
- HAI Program Phase-I Design Report prepared by the Consultants and approved by PSC-SWAT.
- French Firm M/s. GINGER-SOFRECO selected through procurement process if not performed as per assigned job. In accordance with mutual understanding and consent of PSC and World Bank, the consultancy contract has been closed
- A total of 74 watercourse designs of three pilot FOs Minors have been completed and finalized.
- Significant ground work on smart subsidy has been completed for promoting water thrifty and high value crops (oil seeds, pulses, dates, fruits, and vegetables)
- ADU hired a Team of Consultants for project management and design, construction supervision of project works.
- Cash compensation subsidy of PKR 7.165 billion has been transferred to 214,487 small wheat farmers (12.5 to 25 acres) @ 5000 per acre under Phase-I & II through BISP.
- The proposal for Farmers survey and conducting the study to assess the impact of the FERC cash subsidy program has been prepared and sent to World Bank for NOL.
- PCMU arranged various local trainings for officials of project partners including Irrigation Department, SIDA, Agriculture Department, ADU and P&D Department and PCMU in different institutions including WC-MUET, Sindh Agriculture University, NED, PIM etc. Around 300 officials of the project partner participated in the training events.



Coordinated and participated in follow-up SWAT MTR meeting of World Bank Team with PIUs held at PCMU, Karachi on 20/5/2026. Mr. Francois TTL-SWAT participated personally, the remaining Bank team members participated online. Both PDs SWAT participated accompanied with their project team.

The Directorate of Sindh Water Sector and Barrages Improvement (PCMU-SSU) conducted interviews for various positions under the Shared Services Unit (SSU), 4RF/RRU, and Sindh R&R Unit during May 2026.

Prepared list of actions as per decisions of the meetings of PSC-SWAT and WB Portfolio Review of SWAT actions and shared with PDs SWAT through a letter for submission of updated status

Based on formal request from the Irrigation Department, the drafting team expert was mobilized in May 2026 and reviewed the previous draft Law/Bill submitted on 27 Feb. in accordance with guidelines/directions of Secretary, Irrigation Department. Consequently, the revised/modified draft Law/Bill, finalized by tem and was shared with Irrigation Department on 25 May, 2026 for further necessary action at departmental level.



Soil salinity management interventions are being implemented across pilot areas covering 450 acres in three FOs, with preparatory work underway for scaling up to 1,550 acres in 12 additional FOs, alongside ongoing salinity mapping in nine districts. ESHS trainings, GRM orientation, and safeguard measures have been conducted, while salinity maps for three districts have been completed to support evidence-based planning and sustainable land reclamation by June 2026



A joint World Bank implementation support field visit to Sukkur and Guddu Barrages was conducted on 21-22 May 2026 to review ongoing civil works, environmental and social safeguards, and resettlement implementation, along with discussions on compliance and key implementation challenges under the Sindh Barrages Improvement Project (SBIP). The PCMU team comprised Mr. Shafique Rehman, Resettlement Specialist, and Mr. Mashood Sadique, Assistant Director of Engineering, who actively participated in the field inspections, progress review meetings, and consultations with the project stakeholders

Agriculture Information & Technology component demonstrated strong progress through completion of Kharif 2025 ground truthing across 21 districts, initiation of AI-based soil diagnostics in 9 districts, advancement of rehabilitation cost estimates, signing of an agreement with USPCAS-W MUET for integrated waterlogging and salinity interventions, and commencement of field surveys and consultations for the Agriculture Market Information System (AMIS) across 27 Agriculture Market Committees in Sindh.

As per directives of Chairman P&D Board, PCMU arranged Project Management Professionals (PMP) training Program for government officials held in the months of February-March 2026. Certificate distribution ceremony held in April.

The proposal for Farmer's survey and conducting study to assess the impact of the FERC cash subsidy program has been prepared and sent to World Bank for NOL.

HAI Program Phase-I Design Report prepared by the Consultants and approved by PSC-SWAT. TORs for implementation of Phase-II developed and shared with project partners and World Bank. The procurement process for the technical assistance has also been initiated for award of the Contract in July 2026.

During May 2026, wheat cash subsidy payments of PKR 2.25 billion were disbursed to 33,220 remaining FERC beneficiaries, while beneficiary data verification and submission to Sindh Bank enabled the opening of 17,138 new accounts for upcoming payments of approximately PKR 1.23 billion. Additionally, data collection for 28,544 remaining beneficiaries is ongoing to facilitate further account opening and ensure timely disbursement of FERC subsidy payments. ADU hired Team of Consultants for project management and design, construction supervision of project works.

Coordinated and participated in various meetings held at the P&D Department, wherein the implementation progress of SWAT Project and all other donor-funded projects, was reviewed.

French Firm M/s. GINGER-SOFRECO selected through procurement process did not performed as per assigned job. In accordance with mutual understanding and consent of PSC and World Bank, the consultancy contract has been closed since January, 2026. To fill the gap, the services of various experts have been included in the FAO-UN TA Contract.

A total of 74 watercourse designs of three pilot FOs Minors have been completed and finalized. Baseline watercourse surveys were initiated in four newly identified FOs to guide evidence-based planning. 30 CBFS established across three pilot minors, engaging approximately 750 farmers. Three path correction seminars were conducted. Orientation sessions were also held in four new FOs.

Orientation sessions were conducted for Agriculture Extension field teams in Sukkur and Khairpur to strengthen capacity and clarify implementation modalities, beneficiary selection, and verification processes under the Smart Subsidy and Date Value Chain interventions. Special focus was placed on finalizing beneficiary targets and eligibility criteria for Dhaki Date Palm suckers to ensure transparent, efficient, and equitable distribution supporting improved date productivity and farmer livelihoods.

In the recent joint meeting held on 29th April 2026 under the Chairmanship of Chairman P&D Board participated by Secretary, Food Department, Secretary Agriculture Department and P&D Senior officials and World Bank Team agreed to develop a TORs for deployment of Transaction Advisory and Implementation Support Services for Wheat Procurement Reforms.

Bidding documents for four civil works packages (research buildings, laboratories, and extension offices across Upper and Lower Sindh) were prepared and submitted to the Agriculture Department for review and procurement processing. These interventions aim to strengthen agricultural research and extension infrastructure, enhance institutional capacity, and improve service delivery to farming communities across Sindh.



Project Progress Review:

A series of meetings with project partners reviewed overall implementation progress, procurement status, and planned activities to ensure timely completion of the project by 31 December 2028.



The drafting team will further be mobilized during June 2026 for the preparation of subsidiary legislation/rules and the development of legal commentary, in accordance with the requirements of the Irrigation Department.

Mid-Term Review (MTR) Mission: A series of high-level MTR meetings and events were held from 29–30 April 2026 with the Minister Irrigation, Chairman P&D Board, Secretaries of Irrigation, Agriculture and Food Departments, and project partners. The discussions focused on project progress, wheat procurement reforms, the new water law, Akram Wah and FOs modernization works, and the roadmap for successful implementation of SWAT Project activities.

ADU hired services of IT firm and carried out Third Party Validation (TPV) of the FERC component using interactive voice Response System. The firm submitted report with satisfactory results shared with World Bank and project partners.

PCMU arranged various local trainings for officials of project partners including Irrigation Department, SIDA, Agriculture Department, ADU and P&D Department and PCMU in different institutions including WC-MUET, Sindh Agriculture University, NED, PIM etc. Around 300 officials of the project partner participated in the training events

World Bank Implementation Support Mission: Kick-off meetings led by the World Bank Task Team Leader were held on 22 April 2026 with the Chairman, P&D Board, Secretary Irrigation, and Secretary Agriculture.

Stakeholders' Workshop: A stakeholders' workshop was held in Karachi on 25 April 2026 to share project achievements and planned activities through 31 December 2028. The forum appreciated the project's progress and recommended accelerating key civil works, particularly the modernization of FOs' distributaries and the Akram Wah project, to maximize benefits for farmers.

