

Water, Energy and Food Security, key for achieving SDGs in Dryland Regions



Rawalpindi 23-25 November 2016: A three-day International Conference “Asia Pacific Policy Dialogue on Water, Energy and Food Security for Poverty Alleviation in Dryland Regions” was jointly organized by UNESCO and Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR). The conference was held at a time when the United Nations together with its partners is promoting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Conference was constituted to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into national development plans and proposed policy guidelines and strategies for effective use of resources to ensure water, energy and food security.

The conference was attended by key policy makers, scientists, academicians and relevant experts including officials of the Government of Pakistan, representatives of UNESCO, ECO Science Foundation, Embassy of Japan and High Commissioner of Malaysia to Pakistan.

Mr. Sheikh Aftab Ahmad, Federal Minister for Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session while Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reform attended the second day of the conference. Mr. Rajab Ali Khan Baloch, Parliamentary Secretary National Food Security and Resources was the Chief Guest at the concluding session of the conference.

At the concluding session of the conference, 26 recommendations for the seven key areas were presented to the participants and it was agreed that these recommendations will be further shared with all countries in the Asia and the Pacific region to raise awareness and share findings and foster concerted and collaborative partnership among drylands of the region and beyond.
