



January 31, 2014

## **UNESCO, SRSP impart skill to 200 youths under RAHA**

UNESCO with its implementing partner Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP) imparted technical skill to 200 youths from both settled and tribal areas of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa under Refugees Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA). Under the programme, 125 boys were imparted training in mobile repairing, welding, plumbing, computer hardware and electrician, while 75 girls trained in Tailoring, Adda Work and Beautician in Peshawar and neighbouring areas.

In this connection, a certificate distribution ceremony was held here at a hotel with KP Minister for Sports, Tourism and Youth Affairs Mahmood Khan as chief guest. While SRSP CEO Prince Masood-ul-Mulk; Director, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education Dr Gwang-Jo Kim, Director, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education and Country Director/Representative, UNESCO Islamabad, Dr Kozue Kay Nagata also attended the ceremony.

Dr Kim distributed certificates among the group taking part in this programme. He emphasised on the need for Education for All, referring to the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, in 2000, wherein 164 countries committed themselves to the goal of providing quality basic education for all by 2015, with special emphasis on the learning needs of children with disabilities.

He elaborated that situation in respect of children with disabilities was even worst; around 95 percent children with disabilities in developing countries were not attending school. He also appreciated the achievement of young men, women and persons with disabilities, who had actively taken part and had benefited from the training programme. He congratulated the youths for successfully completing the skills training courses, which aimed at helping them to find better livelihood opportunities to support themselves and their families.

Provincial Minister Mahmood Khan extended his gratitude to UNESCO, SRSP and the provincial skill development Council Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa for imparting such useful trainings. As part of extending support towards inclusive and barrier free education, UNESCO is also implementing a programme to provide of barrier-free access to the learners with disabilities in non-formal sector.

Dr Gwang-Jo Kim during his visit also met with the partners and handed over Wheel Chairs, Hearing Aids, etc, among the disable students from Fata. He said UNESCO was working to build inclusive knowledge societies, where persons with disabilities must be included at all levels.

The second event was organised by the Basic Education Community Schools Project (BECS), which is implementing UNESCO project in Fata. Dr Gwang-Jo Kim also visited the Peshawar Museum and was briefed on the historical aspects of the museum. Dr Kim hugely admired the main collection of Peshawar Museum including Gandharan sculptures, coins, manuscripts and copies of the Holy Quran, besides presence of inscriptions, weapons, dresses, jewellery, Kalash effigies, Mughal era and later period paintings, household objects, local and Persian handicrafts. He appreciated the rich Gandhara culture well preserved by Department of Culture, KP.

Source: <http://www.brecorder.com/general-news/172/1148759/>