

Highlights of the Quarter

Apr – Jun 2025

SYSTEM STRENGTHENING INITIATIVES

TWO-DAYS CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ON WASH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING FOR DISTRICT, PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL WASH ACTORS



The Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC), in collaboration with AGAHE and Welthungerhilfe (WHH), organized a two-day Capacity Building Workshop in Lahore on WASH System Strengthening for key stakeholders. The workshop aimed to enhance the technical skills and understanding of 40 government and non-government officials on core WASH system building blocks, including institutional coordination, climate-resilient planning, and inclusive monitoring. This initiative supports SDG 6 by promoting equitable and sustainable WASH services across Pakistan and fostering stronger institutional coordination and informed decision-making at all levels.

RESTORING SOCIAL SERVICES & CLIMATE RESILIENCE

IMPROVING HEALTH: FREE MEDICAL CAMP IN VILLAGE BHIKI WIND



AGAHE, with the financial support of PPAF and in collaboration with Transparent Hands, organized a free medical camp in Village Biki Wind, UC Sehja, Kasur, on May 22, 2025. The camp provided essential healthcare services to over 251 patients, including women, children, and men. The initiative bridged gaps in healthcare access by offering free consultations, medications, and medical tests for Hepatitis B and C, blood pressure, blood sugar, uric acid, and cholesterol. It strengthened community health outreach, laying the foundation for ongoing support and better healthcare accessibility.

SCALING-UP OF BIOFORTIFIED ZINC WHEAT

EMPOWERING CBOs THROUGH TECHNICAL AND EQUIPMENT SUPPORT



With the financial support of GAIN, AGAHE extended technical assistance to a community-based organization (CBO) aimed at supporting local farmers in preserving the quality of biofortified zinc wheat (BZW) seeds. This included the provision of essential agricultural tools such as seed graders, moisture meters, and protective storage kits, enabling farmers to sort, clean, and store BZW seeds in a safe, dry, and contamination-free environment.

This intervention has resulted in a significant improvement in the overall quality and viability of stored seeds, which directly impacts the health and yield of the future crop. Farmers are now better equipped to plant high-quality BZW seeds in the upcoming season, leading to the potential for improved nutritional outcomes and increased resilience against food insecurity within their communities.

System Strengthening Initiative



Provincial Consultation Workshop on Gap Analysis of WASH-related Policies and Promote Inclusive WASH Planning in Punjab

The Punjab Sasf Pani Authority, in collaboration with AGAHE and WHH, organized a Provincial Consultation Workshop to present and validate findings of a gap analysis of WASH-related policies and promote inclusive WASH planning in Punjab. The workshop brought together key stakeholders from government departments, civil society, and development partners to identify legislative and policy gaps, refine recommendations, and strengthen climate-resilient WASH governance.



Stakeholders



Achievement



Beneficiaries

60



Training Workshop on Operation, Maintenance & Monitoring of WASH infrastructure with PRMSC Officials



PRMSC, in collaboration with AGAHE and Welthungerhilfe (WHH), successfully organized a one-day training session on on operation, maintenance, and monitoring of WASH Infrastructure. The purpose of the training was to build the capacity of PRMSC officials on key aspects of improving WASH service delivery. Sector experts delivered detailed presentations on the operation and maintenance of Water Filtration Plants and Sewage Treatment Units.



Training on Asset Management Systems – District Government Officials

AGAHE and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) have capacitated government departments on Asset Management Systems, aiming to improve the management of assets—particularly within water and sanitation service delivery models. This initiative not only enabled departments to better track and manage their assets but also introduced them to digital tools for monitoring operational efficiency. Such training sessions significantly contribute to enhancing institutional capacity and improving the effectiveness and sustainability of public service delivery.



2 Day Technical Workshop on Promoting WASH System Thinking



District WASH Coordination Committee meeting was held under Ms. Anam Hafeez's chairpersonship (Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance & Planning) to discuss Muzaffargarh's WASH situation.

AGAHE and Welthungerhilfe presented a 10-year District WASH Plan, aiming to improve WASH systems and services. The initiative aligns with SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation for All, and positions Muzaffargarh as a potential WASH model district. The event featured a panel discussion with senior officials from various departments and civil society organizations, who shared valuable insights and strategies to strengthen the protection of women's rights and promote gender equality.

Validation Workshop on Climate Risk Assessment

AGAHE and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) successfully conducted a workshop on Climate Risk Assessment in District Muzaffargarh. The primary objective of the workshop was to validate the data collected on climate-related risks in the district. Representatives from key departments—including Health, Education, DDMA, Social Welfare, and the District Administration—actively participated in the session and shared their valuable insights to strengthen the assessment process. The collaborative engagement reflected a strong commitment from all stakeholders towards climate resilience and sustainable development planning.



Scaling Up of Biofortified Zinc Wheat

Sessions on BZW Awareness and Demand Creation with Health Department (LHWs and SH&NS) and Other Stakeholders for Sustainability

With support from GAIN, AGAHE organized workshops in Multan and Bahawalpur for Lady Health Workers (LHWs) and School Health & Nutrition Supervisors (SH&NS) to promote the health benefits of Biofortified Zinc Wheat (BZW). These sessions enhanced their knowledge and capacity to educate communities on the importance of zinc-enriched flour in daily diets. As trusted community figures, these frontline workers are now serving as nutrition ambassadors, actively promoting healthier dietary habits across their areas.



Farmers Field Day organized in Khanewal and Bahawalpur



Farmers Field Day organized in Khanewal, and Bahawalpur

AGAHE organized Farmer Field Days in Multan, Khanewal, and Bahawalpur to guide farmers on proper harvesting and segregation practices. Farmers were also given useful recommendations on how to store biofortified zinc wheat (BZW) safely to maintain its quality. During the sessions, give farmers clear steps for better harvesting, segregation, and storage to protect their crop's nutritional value.

Key Achievements

- Farmer field days helped farmers learn the right ways to harvest and separate biofortified zinc wheat (BZW) safely to keep its quality.
- Raised awareness about zinc's health benefits, especially for growth, immunity, and overall well-being.
- Farmers showed interest in using practices and shared positive feedback.



Impact of this activity on community

The farmer field days had a strong impact by helping farmers improve how they handle their zinc wheat after harvesting. With better knowledge of separation and storage, farmers can now keep their crops safer and more nutritious.

Numbers of beneficiaries

	Multan Field Day	Khanewal Field Day	Bahawalpur Field Day
Total Participants	90	82	03
Male Participants	82	98	0
Female Participants	03	0	0
AGAHE Staff	05	03	3



Thematic Area *health & Nutrition

Food Security

Technical Training and Support to Women Entrepreneur

AGAHE, in collaboration with GAIN, empowered 09 women entrepreneurs across Multan, Khanewal, and Bahawalpur by providing comprehensive training, hands-on support, and essential equipment to strengthen their home based businesses. The capacity-building sessions covered key entrepreneurial concepts, including the 4Ps of marketing, risk and supply chain management, market linkages, digital marketing, social media promotion, product innovation, and basic record-keeping.



As a result of this intervention, each participant developed a practical business plan and received equipment packages, including vermicelli-making machines, baking ovens, and supplementary materials. The impact was immediate trained women began receiving orders from the local market, successfully selling their innovative products and contributing to household income, thereby promoting economic resilience and women's empowerment at the grassroots level.



Training, Support and Linkage Building 45 flour processors

in Multan, Bahawalpur & Khanewal!

The focus was on Proper grinding & segregation of Biofortified Zinc Wheat (BZW) to ensure high-quality, nutrition-packed flour for healthier communities. After that successfully bridged the gap between flour processors and retailers/mart owners to introduce biofortified zinc wheat (BZW) flour in the market.



Leaving No One Behind: Moving Towards Immunizing Every Child



Inception Workshop on CSOs Support in Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI)

Under the leadership of EPI Punjab, AGAHE with the financial support of GAVI, MannionDaniels and technical support of Oxford Policy Management (OPM) along with a partnership with REEDS organized a one day inception workshop to strengthen the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI).

By promoting community engagement and aligning CSO efforts with national immunization goals, the workshop contributed to improving vaccine outreach and addressing barriers to immunization in underserved areas.



World Immunization Week 2025

World Immunization Week 2025, held from April 24th to 30th, was a resounding success, with impactful activities engaging stakeholders at both district and provincial levels. The GAVI-funded project, "Leaving No One Behind: Moving Towards Immunizing Every Child," played a central role in raising public awareness, promoting vaccine acceptance, and addressing immunization gaps. In close collaboration with District Health Authorities, REEDS project teams, and other local partners, AGAHE focused on reaching zero-dose and under-immunized children in underserved communities, significantly increasing vaccine coverage.



1 day Orientation Session for Staff on Vaccine Hesitancy & Barriers

A one-day orientation session on Vaccine Hesitancy and Barriers was conducted under the leadership of EPI Punjab, with financial support from GAVI and MannionDaniels, technical support from Oxford Policy Management (OPM), and in collaboration with AGAHE and REEDS.

The training emphasized practical communication strategies, community engagement approaches, and the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in supporting the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI).



World Environment Day 2025



The World Environment Day 2025 celebration in Lahore, organized by AGAHE in partnership with PPAF and supported by the Punjab Environmental Protection & Climate Change Department, had a significant impact on the community. The event was held under the theme: “Mobilizing Communities, Women, and Youth for a Plastic-Free Future (Ending Plastic Pollution)”, focusing on raising awareness about the harmful effects of plastic pollution and the need to transition towards a more sustainable and climate-resilient future.



Express Forum_Lahore

The event successfully raised public awareness about the importance of reducing plastic use and adopting environmentally sustainable practices. It brought together policymakers, experts, and local communities to promote collective climate action and responsible consumption. With the participation of key provincial leaders and specialists, the event inspired dialogue around climate resilience and emphasized the role of community-driven solutions in protecting the environment.



“Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world”

Success Stories

Empowering Rural Women through Community Participation

Farzana Kosar, a resident of Village Sehjra and active member of the Sehjra Welfare Society formed under AGAHE's Restoring Social Services & Climate Resilience Project with PPAF's support, works alongside her husband as a farmer while remaining deeply engaged in community initiatives. In 2024, when the local girls' school faced severe electricity shortages, the Village Organization prioritized a solar energy solution. With PPAF's funding and AGAHE's support, an 8kW solar system was installed. Farzana played a key role on the procurement committee, helping ensure transparency and effective implementation. Her leadership highlights how women in rural communities can drive meaningful change and improve services for future generations.



From Struggle to Strength: A Farmer's Contribution to Village Development

Muhammad Hanif, a daily-wage agricultural laborer from the flood-affected village of Dhoop Sari in UC Sehjra, supports his family of four children despite facing financial hardships. In 2023, severe flooding destroyed the main road connecting the village to nearby areas, cutting off access to farms, schools, markets, and medical services. As a member of the VO Suraj Welfare Committee, Hanif actively supported a brick soling road reconstruction proposal submitted to AGAHE and PPAF. Once approved, he contributed physical labor as part of the community's 10% share and encouraged others to participate.



For Hanif, the rebuilt road is more than just connectivity—it's a lifeline to work, education, and essential services. His efforts show how even those with limited means can drive meaningful, community-led change.



Safe Storage, Healthy Harvest: Parveen Bibi's Journey to Food Security with Biofortified Zinc Wheat

Parveen Bibi, a smallholder farmer from Bahawalpur, lived in a single-room house. Storing wheat in ordinary bags led to pest infestations, moisture loss, and space constraints, forcing her family to purchase additional wheat despite their limited income. To protect the stored wheat from pests, she used aluminum phosphide tablets; however, the gases released by these tablets and the treated wheat posed serious health risks to her and her family.

Parveen received a hermetic drum and training from AGAHE, with support from GAIN, to safely store biofortified zinc wheat (BZW) and maintain its quality. The airtight drum eliminated the need for aluminum phosphide tablets, as it protected the wheat from pests and damage naturally. Parveen's safe storage of 4.5 mounds of BZW in a hermetic drum ensures year-round access to safe, nutritious food and promotes responsible consumption by reducing post-harvest losses and minimizing food waste.



Association for Gender Awareness & Human Empowerment (AGAHE)

House No. 3, Block A, Judicial Colony, Phase II, Raiwind Road, Lahore.

info@agahe.org.pk +92-42-35957916, +92-42-35291211

For Suggestions & Complaints

✉ Email: complaints@agahe.org.pk 📞 WhatsApp: +92-332-3030022