

Fourth Eco-Build Workshop at Mohak Sharif, Tando Allahyar

The Fourth Eco-Build Workshop was conducted by Heritage Foundation's Ar. Yasmeen Lari, CEO, assisted by Naheem Shah, HA Coordinator, on 11th and 12th October 2012, at the Karavan Eco Village, Mohak Sharif, Tando Allahyar. Originally a 6-day workshop had been planned to provide training to the team from Bangladesh. Since the Bangladesh team was unable to come due to delay in the visa process, it was decided to hold a 2-day workshop for interested organizations in Pakistan.

There was a good mix of participants, consisting of engineers from Aga Khan Planning and Building Services, Architects from Khairpur Heritage Centre, and masons nominated by MQM.

The participants were taken around the village to apprise them regarding sustainable building techniques devised by Heritage Foundation based on the use of adobe/mud, lime and bamboo, under the programme *Build Back Safer with Vernacular Methodologies*. It was clear that the methodology was successful as witnessed by 200 households living under KaravanRoofs in Mohak Sharif during the heavy downpour in September 2012, which had otherwise rendered thousands of families displaced once again.

Ar. Yasmeen Lari explained the need for sustainable construction in view of the increasing carbon footprint and global warming due to unsustainable building construction practices. Various segments of the program particularly the need for methods of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk mitigation (DRM) were explained. The need for communities to become strong and resilient in order to withstand the next floods by building KaravanRoofs and improved mud walls etc., along with construction of platforms for storage and safety of life, safety of food and water and livestock were emphasized.

On the second day, the participants enthusiastically participated in finding the best way to make a layout, making mud/adobe bricks, mud-lime plaster and bamboo fabrication.

There was a general consensus that there was a need to widely promote sustainable methods of construction incorporating DRR elements to make communities strong and resilient so that they are better able to take care of themselves.



Ar. Yasmeen Lari leading the 4th Eco-Build workshop in HF's Training Centre built with bamboo joists, mud and lime.



The participants marking a layout for a room. Mr. Naheem Shah and Engr. Shahjahan Khuwaja providing directions.



Ar. Phulpoto and Ar. Domki making mud/adobe bricks.



Mud-lime mix for plaster being prepared.



Demonstration of application of mud-lime plaster.



Engr. Zaheer Karim using his skill at drilling into bamboo.