

# USAID ENERGY POLICY PROGRAM

## SUCCESS STORY

# OPENING UP OPPORTUNITIES

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## SUCCESS STORY

# Opening up Opportunities



When I first joined, I had many expectations in terms of professional growth and I wasn't disappointed. This internship program is all about learning by doing. You are exposed to professionals working in the field from whom you can learn a lot."  
Sanya Kalhoro

Born in the city of Thatta to a retired schoolteacher, Sanya Kalhoro is the eldest of seven siblings. With her father's meager pension it was difficult to make ends meet and Sanya knew she had to help support her family.

After completing her bachelor's degree in Electronic Engineering from Mehran University of Engineering and Technology (MUET) Jamshoro, in 2012, Sanya starting looking for a job but was not successful.

When she saw the USAID Energy Policy Program's (EPP) Internship advertisement on the MUET website, she applied without giving it a second thought. Sanya felt confident when she sat in the auditorium of MUET for the Internship Aptitude Test. After her successful interview, she was selected to join Lakhra Thermal Power Station. She worked at Lakhra Thermal Power Station for a period of six months learning how to operate different equipment, learning monitoring mechanisms, and actively participating in the training sessions. Sanya also lent a helping hand to her family by providing them a share of her PKR 10,000 stipend, issued to her on a monthly basis.

In October 2012, EPP launched a six-month energy sector internship program to encourage youth involvement in the energy sector, bridge the gap between academia and the energy industry, and give opportunities to women, low-income, and rural district citizens.

A total of 130 graduates, including 26 women, were recruited under the program. Following successful completion of the internship program, these graduates have developed essential skills, experience, and working relationships that will enable them to succeed as they start their professional lives.

"The on the job training provided through the internship has helped me grow in my respective engineering field. The internship has been an excellent preparation for working in professional organizations and has helped me supplement my family income," concluded Sanya.