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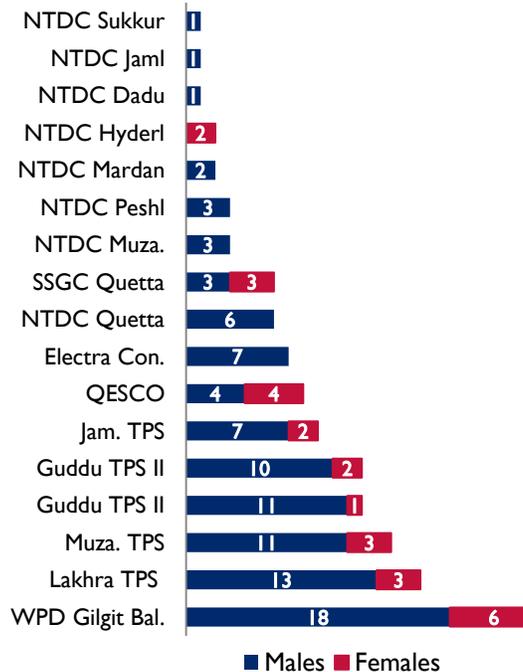
ENERGY POLICY PROGRAM

ENERGY SECTOR INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

In October 2012, the Energy Policy Program (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.

The Program was designed to **match energy sector needs with practical training opportunities**. Seventeen organizations participated including thermal power plants, grid stations, distribution companies, water and power department and consultancy firms.

Within one week of the program launch, 8,000 applications were received from over 200 locations and over 100 educational institutions. After a competitive screening, 316 candidates were interviewed, of which 130 were selected. In November 2013, 127 interns graduated from the program. EPP received strong support from partner universities and energy sector organizations during implementation of the internship program.



After a needs assessment and partner training workshop, the interns were matched with partner organizations depending on their discipline and location. The partner organization recorded daily attendance and monthly progress evaluations while interns provided feedback about their experience. **The interns supported full time staff and tackled projects and tasks unavailable in a traditional academic setting.** EPP provided a monthly stipend to each intern. At the end of the program, the interns sat for an assessment exam to determine the value of their experience.

Of the 127 graduates, **33 have received full time jobs as a result of their on-the-job training**, at the following organizations:

- BHP Billiton
- Karachi Electric Supply Company
- Bestway Cement
- Guddu Thermal Power Station
- Quetta Electric Supply Company
- Fundamental Human Rights and Rural Development Association
- Indus Research and Development Association (IRADA)
- National University of Modern Languages
- Agha Khan Rural Support Program
- Etimad Engineering Limited,
- Sukkur Institute of Construction Management & Technology etc.

EPP regularly contacts the graduates to confirm their employment and education status. EPP continues to receive requests from the energy sector, former interns, and applicants regarding new programs. EPP plans to design a second phase of intensive training for new graduates.

“The Energy Sector Internship Program was a golden opportunity for the fresh graduates to gain professional knowledge. Undoubtedly it was an exceptional & outstanding activity towards the growth of youth.”
– Director Chemical MTPS, Muhammad Ilyas



The Energy Sector Internship Program received a huge response with many of the applicants being young women. Ultimately, 20 women from varying disciplines and income levels were selected. The internship program provided these women with an opportunity to gain on-the-job training in a male dominated profession in Pakistan, and gain access to a network of young graduates in the energy sector.