



# APYouthNet Talk Show Summary #36



Humaira Bachal  
Founder of Dream Foundation Trust, Pakistan  
(October 2014, Bangkok)

Guests: **Ms Humaira Bachal**, Founder of Dream Foundation Trust

Host: **Mr Matthieu Cognac**, ILO Youth Employment Specialist

Camera, sound, editing: **Mr Julian Hadden**

Available at: <http://apyouthnet.ilo.org/podcast/>



## The Dream Foundation Trust

Humaira Bachal, Founder & Managing Trustee of the Trust shared her motive for setting up the organization. When she was young, she had to battle resistance within her family, particularly her father who had strong traditional Pakistani values, to attain education for her sister and herself. Humaira then overcame resistance from her father and brothers at home, as well as the conservative attitudes and reluctance of community members. Later, she learned the importance of education became advocates for education for women in Pakistan by establishing the Dream Foundation Trust.

## Empowering Women in Pakistan

Apart from education, Humaira has also expanded the Trust to provide community and youth development, which includes skills training, savings, youth support and advocacy of women rights, as well as social welfare, such as small business funding and enterprise/skills development trainings. The Trust also trains and works with Pakistan youths to enable them to re-contribute back to the local community.

## Youth's participation to promote girls' education

Humaira asserted that more and more young generation are interested in participating in social changes in Pakistan. She said that young people really want to do something to the country. They are more educated and empowered than older generation and dedicated to improve people's lives in their own communities.

## Winning the Women Impact Award

Modest and humble, she wished that her father was present at the award presentation ceremony; so that he can see her achievement in women rights advocacy, and promoting social change. She is also surprised with the Pakistani media which only caught wind of her work after her recognition by Women in the World Foundation, which was also featured in The Economist's Intelligent Life Magazine.

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