



# Certificate Course on Safe Use of Public Health Pesticides (SUPHP)



## Introduction:

Every year, there are hundreds of cases of diseases spread by insects, snails, and rodents, which pose a major threat to public health. Vector-borne diseases account for approximately 17% of the global infectious diseases burden, with mosquito-borne diseases leading the chart. Over the past two to three decades, outbreaks of vector-borne diseases have been frequently reported worldwide.

Pakistan is prone to vector-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria, leishmaniasis and CCHF, causing many morbidities and mortalities each year. Vector control is an important component of almost all vector-borne disease control programs, while the use of chemical pesticides is a key arsenal for rapidly reducing disease incidence during outbreaks.

All chemical pesticides are toxic and pose serious hazards to humans, other non-target organisms and the environment if used without proper care and education. According to recent reports, the irrational use of pesticides causes over 300 million morbidities, along with more than 10000 deaths every year. A huge amount of public health pesticides is sprayed in Pakistan every year, but most of the people engaged in pesticide use are not familiar with the safe and judicious use of these toxic chemicals which result in acute and chronic adverse effects on humans and other non-target organisms. Therefore, there is a dire need to educate the people engaged in the pesticide business, application, researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders to save humans and the environment from the hazardous effects of the irrational use of these pesticides.

Keeping in view the public health and environmental importance of the matter, the Institute of Public Health, Lahore is conducting a **5 days** certificate course on “Safe Application and Judicious Use of Public Health Pesticides” on the **6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2023** with an aim of capacity building and development of a technical human resource for proper handling, safe application and judicious use of public health pesticides.

## Aims and Objectives:

- To enhance the knowledge and technical skills regarding pesticide life cycle management.
- To enhance the capacity of the spray applicators for adopting correct spraying techniques for disease vector control.
- Provision of a platform for discussion among experts.
- In the presence of national experts’ identification of the role of various sectors, such as:
  - a. Government officials, planners and decision-makers
  - b. Industry: manufacturers, distributors and retailers
  - c. Users and consumers

- d. Public Health Care workers and agricultural extension officers
- e. General public

We will be joined by a panel of reputed international and national experts who will explore several topics including:

- Pests of public health importance.
- Classification of pesticides and their mode of action.
- Toxicity of pesticides to humans.
- First aid and emergency treatment for pesticide poisoning.
- Proper handling and safe disposal of pesticides.
- Importance of World Health Organization Prequalified Vector Control (PQVC) products.
- Selection of appropriate application equipment and its calibration.
- Prevention and control of different public health pests i.e., mosquitoes, house flies, sandflies, ticks, and others.
- Spraying techniques: Indoor residual spray, Larviciding and Space spray.
- Insecticide-treated bed nets.

### **Basic Qualification:**

- MSc or BS (Hons) Agriculture, Entomology, Zoology, Environmental Sciences, MBBS or DVM.
- Graduation in other subjects with 3–5-year experience in relevant field.

### **Benefits Of the Training:**

- **Credible:** Acquiring scientific information and evidence from vector control experts to improve your knowledge and understanding of vector control and pest management.
- **Practical:** Access actionable principles, methods, and resources to address vector control issues affecting your community.
- **Employment chances:** More chances in securing jobs in disease vector control and urban pest management programs/industry.
- **Professional linkages:** Opportunity to develop linkages with national experts and online support/guidance for solutions to field problems in future.

**Registration fee for participants:** Rs. 5000/person.

- For registration visit: <https://iph.punjab.gov.pk/>

**Date:** 6-10<sup>th</sup> February, 2023