



# NEWSLETTER

01 Edition

19th July 2026



## BRIDGE Inaugural Meeting Day 1:

BRIDGE project kick-off meeting took place in UET Lahore from 5th-6th January 2026 Punjab Minister for Higher Education, Rana Sikander Hayat, distributed souvenirs among teams from UET Lahore, LCWU, NED UET, BUIITEMS, PAF-IASST, KIU, DCU Ireland, PEC and HBL at the Inauguration Ceremony of EU funded, €800,000. Vice Chancellor UET Lahore, Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS, Chairman PEC, Pro-Vice Chancellor UET Lahore along with other senior academics graced the inaugural.

## BRIDGE Inaugural Meeting Day 2:

Day 2 of BRIDGE kick-off meeting was held at UET Lahore on 6th January 2026. Detailed discussions on work package execution, presentations by consortium partners and timelines took place. Vice Chancellor UET Lahore, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, expressed his appreciation and shed light that this project will be crucial in improving graduate employability and gender parity.



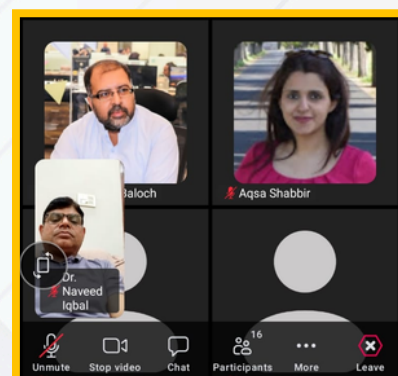
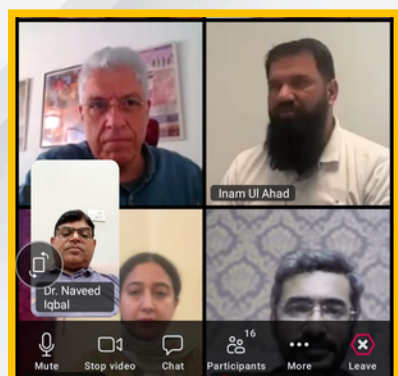
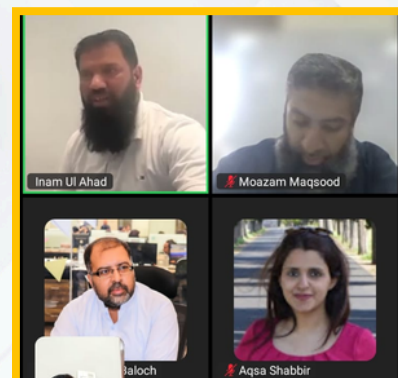
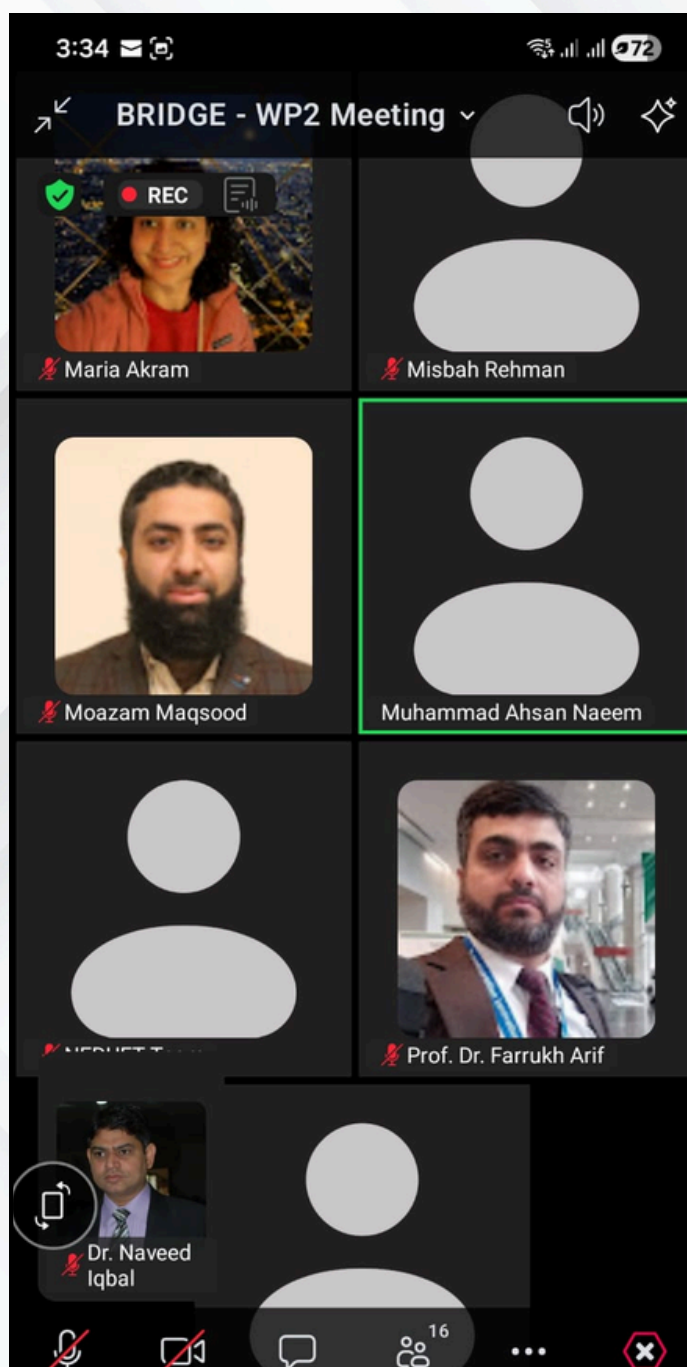
## Meeting of the BRIDGE Team, LCWU.





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Virtual Meeting of the Executive Committee of the BRIDGE Project





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## BRIDGE Project Bootcamp on Extended Reality (XR) & Haptics Successfully Concludes at NED UET Karachi

During the BRIDGE Project 1st Bootcamp on Extended Reality (XR) and Haptics, held at NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi, from 13–16 July 2026, faculty members and participants from the partner universities had the honour of meeting Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tufail, Vice Chancellor, NED University of Engineering & Technology.

The Vice Chancellor warmly welcomed the participants and appreciated the collaborative efforts of the BRIDGE consortium in promoting innovation, digital transformation, and capacity building through emerging technologies. He emphasized the importance of strengthening academic partnerships and advancing technology-driven education to achieve the objectives of the EU-funded BRIDGE (Building Resources for Innovation, Digital Growth and Empowerment) Project.

The four-day bootcamp brought together faculty members and participants from BRIDGE consortium partners, including NED UET Karachi, UET Lahore, Lahore College for Women University (LCWU), BUITEMS Quetta, Karakoram International University Gilgit, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule: Institute of Applied Sciences & Technology (Haripur), the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC), along with faculty members from NED UET.





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## BRIDGE Project Bootcamp on Extended Reality (XR) & Haptics Successfully Concludes at NED UET Karachi

The training featured expert-led sessions by Prof. Dr. Farrukh Arif, Director of the AR & VR Center, who delivered lectures on the design and development of AR/VR storyboards. Dr. Waleed Ahmed Khan Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering conducted intensive hands-on training on Unity 3D, enabling participants to develop immersive Extended Reality (XR) applications and models.

Prof. Dr. Riaz Uddin, Director of the ORIC, PI of Haptics, Human- Robotics & ConditionMonitoringLab,NCRA, introduced participants to the science and applications of haptics. He shared his extensive experience in developing innovative haptic models and demonstrated ongoing research and technological advancements being carried out at the Haptics Laboratory.

As part of the bootcamp, participants also visited various national centers and state-of-the-art research laboratories at NED UET, gaining first-hand exposure to advanced technologies and research facilities. The bootcamp provided an excellent platform for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and capacity building, supporting the BRIDGE Project's mission to strengthen digital innovation and immersive technology education in Pakistan.





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## Master Bootcamp on Design Thinking for Smart Product Ideation and Prototyping Held at PAF-IASST

Under the BRIDGE Erasmus+ 2025 CBHE Project, co-funded by the European Union, a three-day Master Bootcamp on “Design Thinking for Smart Product Ideation and Prototyping” was held at PAF-IASST from 29–31 July 2026.

The bootcamp was led by Master Trainer Dr. Moazam Maqsood, with Muhammad Younas Khan serving as Support Trainer. The Chief Organizer was Dr. Zahid Ullah, Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, PAF-IASST.

Prof. Dr. Arshad Hussain, Dean, Faculty of Engineering Sciences and Technology (FEST), PAF-IASST, addressed the inaugural ceremony and appreciated the initiative. At the closing ceremony, he distributed certificates among the participating faculty members.

Participants from BRIDGE partner institutions, including UET Lahore, NED Karachi, Lahore College for Women University (LCWU), Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC), BUITEMS, and Karakoram International University (KIU), Gilgit, attended the training.

The bootcamp emphasized the importance of involving end users in product development and using Design Thinking for detailed problem analysis before proposing solutions. It also highlighted product development as an iterative process, where each iteration progressively addresses a specific part of the identified problem, strengthening participants’ capacity in smart product ideation, user-centered innovation, and prototyping.



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## BRIDGE Master Bootcamp Participants Visit Research Labs at PAF-IAS

Under the BRIDGE Erasmus+ 2025 CBHE Project, co-funded by the European Union, a three-day Master Bootcamp on “Design Thinking for Smart Product Ideation and Prototyping” was held at PAF-IAS from 29–31 July 2026.

As part of the bootcamp, participants visited different research laboratories and facilities at PAF-IAS, gaining firsthand exposure to advanced technologies, research activities, and innovation facilities. The visit provided participants with an opportunity to explore the practical application of emerging technologies and understand how research and innovation environments can support smart product ideation, prototyping, and user-centered design.

The lab visits complemented the Design Thinking sessions by connecting theoretical concepts with practical research and technological applications.





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## Certificates Awarded to Participants of BRIDGE Master Bootcamp at PAF-IAST

Upon successful completion of the three-day Master Bootcamp on “Design Thinking for Smart Product Ideation and Prototyping,” held at PAF-IAST from 29–31 July 2026, participants were awarded certificates in recognition of their active participation and successful completion of the training programme.

Prof. Dr. Arshad Hussain, Dean, Faculty of Engineering Sciences and Technology (FEST), PAF-IAST, distributed the certificates among the participants at the closing ceremony.

The bootcamp was organized under the BRIDGE Erasmus+ 2025 CBHE Project, co-funded by the European Union, and brought together participants from partner institutions to strengthen their skills in Design Thinking, smart product ideation, user-centered innovation, and prototyping.

