

ISSUE-02



SUCCESS

SUCCESS

Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support Programme
(SUCCESS is funded by the European Union)

April – September 2016 | Bi-Annual Newsletter



COVER STORY

COUNTING THE
UNCOUNTED

In this Issue

COVER STORY

Counting the Uncounted

PAGE 2

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

National Convention of LSOs 2016

Sindh Chief Minister's statement about SUCCESS Programme

RSPs' Annual Strategy Retreat 2016

Programme Updates - Poverty Scorecard and Mobilisation

Programme Introduction Meeting in Sujawal

Exposure visit to Swat

Programme launch ceremony in Sehwan

Georges Dehoux's visit of Jacobabad and Shikarpur

PAGE - 3-8

Training Updates

Community's Voices

PAGE - 9-10

Project Management & Text:

Noor Muhammad

Communications Officer, SUCCESS

Reviewed By:

Fazal Ali Saadi

Programme Manager, SUCCESS

Design & Publication:

Dot Advertising



SUCCESS is funded by European Union

SUCCESS Partners



PUBLICATION BY SUCCESS TEAM

What ails the education system in Pakistan, and how can it be fixed

Pakistan is among the less literate nations of the world, ranking at 144, but also in the South Asian region. With national literacy rate of 58% and 7.8 expected years of schooling, Pakistan is behind Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Performance of education sector has been encumbered by various factors, some of which have been highlighted in a Policy Brief recently developed by Dr. Abdul Rehman Cheema, Team Leader SUCCESS-RSPN.

Under SUCCESS Programme, the policy brief is based on the research involving poverty scorecard survey, key informant interviews and focus group discussions conducted in Union Council Dad Khan Jarwar and Union Council Masoo Bozdar of the Tando Allah Yar District in the Sindh province.

The policy brief identifies poor educational governance, as reflected in the absence of competent teachers and closed (nonfunctional) schools, and retrogressive socio-cultural norms as the major impediments for educational backwardness in the province.

The policy brief recommends that the governance of schools can be improved by hiring meritorious teachers, and ensuring active involvement of relevant community members in the school management committees. Mere provision of technological tools will not be enough to ensure better governance.

Development and execution of behavioral change communication interventions are urgently needed to challenge retrogressive socio-cultural norms, the brief suggests. In addition, such behavioral change can be materialised by meaningful engagement with religious and community leaders, as well as dedicated teachers. The policy brief can be accessed at: <http://success.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Policy-Brief.pdf>

SUCCESS RESEARCH TEAM PUBLISHES BLOG IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

SUCCESS Programme aims to build regional partnerships for sharing knowledge and best practices for poverty alleviation. Under research component, Team Leader Research SUCCESS, Dr Abdul Rehman Cheema and Research Associate SUCCESS, Mr. Muhammad Ali, authored a blog on South-South learning for Global Policy Journal, based at Durham University, United Kingdom. The article drew upon Muhammad Ali's visit to Nepal in Asia Pacific Youth Forum 2016 arranged by the ICIMOD.

Link <http://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/blog/20/10/2016/south-south-learning>

READ ONLINE:

Handing Over The Stick, by Filza Nasir

(Documentation and Reporting Officer), <http://success.org.pk/index.php/blog/handing-over-the-stick/>

Fighting Poverty Should Not Have To Be A Race Against Pakistan, by Noor Pamiri, <http://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2016/10/pakistan-and-india-war-against-poverty/>

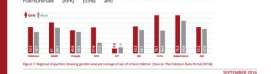


Policy Brief

Is it mere lack of resources that holds Pakistan back from achieving education for all? Evidence from the grassroots

Contextually, availability of education infrastructure such as classrooms, teachers, books, and electricity has been limited for poor educational districts. However, limited resources are not the only reason for holding Pakistan back from achieving its Sustainable Development Goal. Based on primary evidence from the grassroots communities belonging to the province of Sindh, this brief calls for policy adjustment to improve educational governance and support for equal behavioral change strategies to ensure girls attend their children, particularly girls, to schools.

Key findings: Poor educational governance and socio-cultural norms are mainly responsible for holding Pakistan back from achieving its educational targets.



COVER STORY

COUNTING THE UNCOUNTED



MARVI AHMED

It was a hot, dusty day in Larkana as our car traversed through the fields, river banks lined with wild foxtail grass dancing in the dry air, the pale white providing a sense of relief from the blinding green of rice paddies for miles on end.

We were on our way to a settlement, identified through an extensive monitoring exercise for the on-going Poverty Scorecard (PSC) survey for the SUCCESS programme. While referred to as a survey, it is more of a census, where the implementing partner RSPs have promised carpet coverage of all rural households in a given district. That means, each enumerator goes house to house, knocking on their doors to learn just a little more about their lives. The PSC forms the entire basis for the programme and on what all the activities will be based on for the next five years. The importance of reiterating this here is the need to stress that indeed, every household will be surveyed. It is only fair.

Now that the PSC survey is nearing completion, the Union Council's marked as completed require post-verification. Pertinent questions to ask at this point include: have the numbers that we have estimated from the data available at hand been accurate? Does it match ground reality? Have we, for any reason, left any household uncovered?

As the PSC survey is being carried out through android technology coupled with GPS tracking of each household, it is fairly simple to map the surveyed households with their GPS coordinates on Google Earth. By doing so, one can get a bird's eye view of the settlements, their coverage, and identify gaps where they exist. By carrying out this exercise, a couple of uncovered settlements were identified. Upon further investigation, some were ruled out as being covered in another Union Council, and others as urban settlements where the survey was not to take place.

After this narrowing down process, we were set on our way to the settlements about which doubts remained, equipped with our maps in hand. Upon arriving, the village notables gathered to greet us and inquire why we are here and where we are from.

We duly informed them of the organisation we are affiliated with, why we are gathering information and inquire whether our team of enumerators came here to survey them. After satisfying their suspicions, they answered our questions and said no team had visited. We cross verified the information with their CNICs, and the field teams noted the location of the settlement to follow up on and survey.

The settlement was small, roughly 20 households, and tucked away in a nook amidst the vast fields surrounding them. Looking slightly beyond the horizon, we spotted another small cluster of houses; cross checked with our maps and decided to pay a visit. The roads (or lack thereof) were rough, bumpy and narrow with hardly any place to walk let alone a car slugging its way through. With pushes and shoves we made it as close as we could and decided to walk over instead. The topography was varied; green wild fields, white with large salt patches and barren dusty bush land, all encompassed in one frame.

One could not help but think: I could barely even get here, there seem to be no facilities for miles on end, and yet some choose to call it home. We almost felt like we'd stumbled upon a group of forgotten people and failed to recall for a moment that we were development professionals just doing our jobs and not full time investigators out of some movie. What was more alarming was that these people may not have been forgotten at all, as they all had valid government issued identification. How else could politicians get them to vote? When it comes to gaining power, once a year or once every five years, they will come find you. They will make sure that they pile you into buses, slug through to your locality and take you to vote. But once that's over, so are you. You go back to being as good as forgotten, and the ones voted for owe nothing to their constituents.

They were counted, but only to the extent of their usefulness to those doing the 'counting'. Instances like these help you detach yourself for a moment from the technicalities of your work and help you realise that what you do must be different from what's been done. We were counting them too, but the point this time is to really make it count, for them.

For at the end of the day, it's all about them. We're just the number crunchers.

Marvi is the Monitoring & Evaluation Officer for the SUCCESS Programme, RSPN.

LSO CONVENTION

FOR EFFECTIVE RESULTS, LOCALS MUST HAVE A SAY IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS



Provincial Minister for Planning and Development, Mir Hazar Khan Bajarani sharing the stage with other dignitaries during the LSO Convention held in Karachi

KARACHI, August 25: Inclusion of rural communities' aspirations in decisions related to their own areas is pivotal for sustainable development in the city, observed Sindh Minister for Planning and Development Mir Hazar Khan Bajarani, on Tuesday.

He was presiding over the National Convention of Local Support Organisations (LSOs) organised by the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and European Union.

Other prominent development policy makers and practitioners who attended the convention stressed on fostering people's organisations and strengthening them to complement government's political and administrative pillars.

The speakers were unanimous in observing that national and provincial level local development policies and

budgets should be made effective enough to reduce the rate of poverty in Sindh.

Bjarani said rural communities' commitment to their villages and towns is very strong, and if made a part of the decision making process, they could deliver miraculous results.

He appreciated efforts of European Union and Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in poverty reduction and transformation of lives of rural communities, especially women.

The convention provided organised communities a forum for strategic coordination, sharing experiences, networking, and showcasing new initiatives by the LSOs; achievements of LSOs in their respective areas were also discussed.

RSPN Chairman, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, in his welcome address said RSP's main approach was social mobilisation

of the poor in order to get them directly involved in decisions which affect their lives and prospects.

“Since poverty exists at the household level, to reduce poverty it is imperative that each household is reached. The current political pillar (from National Assembly to Union Council) and administrative pillar (from President to the Patwari) cannot reach each poor household. To make this possible, the poor households have first to be organised into their own institutions, forming a social pillar. The RSPs are fostering this social pillar by organising the households into their own institutions through a tested approach to social mobilisation”.

Once this social pillar is formed the political and administrative pillars can easily reach to the poor households through the social pillar comprising of the poor.”

They should work with administrative and political institutes for rural poverty and other development issues to be properly addressed, Khan added.

Economic Affairs Division (EAD) Deputy Secretary Ms. Kalsoom Hai said organised communities should work with government and politicians to bring their real development potential to light. She appreciated the work done by the organised communities with the support of RSPs.

Punjab Additional Chief Secretary, Mr. Shumail Ahmad Khawaja while addressing the convention informed the

audience that the Punjab government was seriously considering launching the first phase of the poverty reduction programme through social mobilisation in selected districts. He also desired for similar LSO convention to be organised in Lahore in the near future. Earlier, RSPN Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Khaleel Tetlay, shed light on approach and work of the RSPs and how they were enabling and nurturing the environment of the rural poor.

He informed the convention that RSPN through its member RSPs had so far fostered 6.6 million rural households into 386,000 community organisations, while over 1,200 local support organisations have become a part of the sustainable development process.

EU Pakistan’s Rural Development and Economic Cooperation head Dr Amaury Hoste said poverty was a crucial issue in Pakistan that needs to be resolved at the earliest.

He said the EU had observed results proven by RSPs’ approach on poverty reduction and sustainable rural development. Dr. Hoste further stressed on organised communities interaction and dialogue with policy makers to speed up the development process.

Around 260 participants, federal and provincial government officials, representatives of EU, donor organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), senior officials of RSPs, and representatives of LSOs participated in the convention.

SUCCESS PROGRAMME TO HELP REDUCE POVERTY IN 216 UNION COUNCILS OF SINDH: CM MURAD ALI SHAH

KARACHI, September 7: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that development of major cities and proper planned socio-economic uplift of secondary cities would make difference, otherwise filling the gaps would turn to be cosmetic arrangement.

The chief minister said that Rs 45 billion have been allocated for the development of Karachi. For the current financial year, his government has given a Rs10 billion package to complete 19 important different schemes of roads, bridges, underpasses and others.

This he said while addressing the participants of 105th National Management Course at New Secretariat on Tuesday. The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Siddique Memon, Additional Chief Secretary (Dev) Mohammad Wasee, Additional IG Karachi Mushtaq Maher, Principal Secretary to CM Naveed Kamran Baloch and others.

Syed Murad Ali Shah went on saying that the Sindh Union Council & Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme aims at reducing poverty in 216 deprived union councils by empowering women and communities with the help of Rural Support

Programmes Network (RSPN) in eight districts, namely Tando Mohammad Khan, Sujawal, Matiari, Jamshoro, Tando Allahyar, Dadu, Kambar-Shahdadkot and Larkana.

He said that the project cost is 70 million Euros for a period of five years. There is 62 million Euro grant by EU where as 8 million Euro contribution has been provided by RSPNs and its partners. The project would mobilise 770,000 rural households through community organisations. The project would also build the capacity of 36,270 local staff and community representatives. It would increase 30 percent average income of poor household.

He said that the World Bank assisted Rs 4117.9 billion nutrition support programme (NSP) has been launched in nine districts, Kamber, Larkana, Kashmore, Jacobabad, Tharparkar, Umerkot, Badin, Sanghar and Tando Mohammad Khan. Under USAID a \$ 20 million Maternal & Child Nutrition Stunting Reduction Programme has been launched in Ghotki, Khairpur and Naushehroferoze. 60 million Euros ‘Improved Nutrition in Sindh’ has been started in Sujawal, TM Khan, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Dadu, Larkana, Kamber-Shahdadkot and Jamshoro.

(Originally Published in [Business Recorder](#))

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

RSPs ANNUAL STRATEGY RETREAT 2016

Bhurban: RSPN organised a two-day RSPs Annual Strategy Retreat 2016, on 24th and 25th May in Bhurban, to provide a platform for RSPs to share their experiences and learning. The retreat was attended by the RSPN Board Members, Chief Executive Officers and senior management of RSPs, government representatives, donor representatives, members of Local Support Organisations (LSOs), academics and RSPN staff. At this event the SUCCESS Programme implementing RSPs, other RSPs, and LSOs shared their experiences in programme implementation that provided strategic guidance to all RSPs for replication of common approach and standardisation in programme implementation. The retreat also served the purpose of highlighting the valuable investment that EU is making through RSPN and RSPs in KPK, Sindh and Balochistan for rural development. It provided opportunities to other donors to learn about the RSPs social mobilisation approach, develop their interest to support this approach, and build synergies between EU supported programmes for RSPs and their own on-going programmes.



Amaury Hoste, Head of Rural Development and Economic Growth, European Union



Marc-Andre Franche, Country Director, UNDP Pakistan



Participants of the RSPs Annual Strategy Retreat 2016

POVERTY SCORECARD SURVEY

Teams from all three RSPs are busy reaching each household to conduct the poverty scorecard survey. The data is being used to rank the households in terms of poverty level. The poor households, with PSC scores 0-23, will be focused for implementation of household-level projects under the SUCCESS Programme.

The graph below shows the progress made in the PSC survey as of 30th September:



MOBILISING AND ORGANISING RURAL WOMEN

Social mobilisation is the cornerstone of the rural development model developed by the RSPs over a period of three decades. Social mobilisation puts the communities at the center of the rural development, promising sustainable growth driven by the communities' own innate capacity and willingness to strive for overcoming poverty and disempowerment.

The social mobilisation process is simple, with far reaching impact, as tested in almost all parts of Pakistan by the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs). The idea is to build on the communities' willingness to change their situation, and motivate, facilitate, them in forming Community Organisations of 20-25 households. The Community Organisations then gradually federate into Village Organisations, which join hands to form Local Support Organisations at the Union Council level,

creating a three-tiered structure of grassroots peoples' own organisations. These grassroots peoples' own organisations, thus, become the drivers of change.

Energetic teams of social mobilisers are busy in reaching door to door across the eight SUCCESS Programme districts in Sindh, informing and motivating the household members to form community and village organisations.

Dialogue sessions are being held with the communities to inform them about the importance and effectiveness of social organisation, and its impact on their lives, and the overall social development. The women, and men, in the villages are eagerly forming Community Organisations and getting ready for an exciting future.

Overall, during the last six months the SUCCESS partner RSPs have mobilised 147,366 households, forming 8,056 Community Organisations (COs) and 319 Village Organisations. The social mobilisation is progressing as planned. The details are presented in the following table:

District Wise Progress for First Year (Feb 2016-Jan 2017)
(As of 10/27/2016)

RSP	District	Local Support Organisations			Village Organisations			Community Organisations			Organised Households			
		Target (First Year)	Achieved (#)	(%)	Target (First Year)	Achieved (#)	(%)	Target (First Year)	Achieved (#)	(%)	Target (First Year)	Achieved (#)	(%)	
NRSP	Matiari	10			80	39	48.75	900	605	67.22	19,800	11,155	56.34	
	Sujawal	12			132	73	55.3	1,260	917	72.78	27,720	18,795	67.8	
	Tando Allahyar	9			81	43	53.09	1,050	631	60.1	23,100	12,483	54.04	
	Tando Muhammad Khan	10			80	66	82.5	1,100	788	71.64	24,200	15,725	64.98	
Sub total		41			293	221	75.43	4,310	2,941	68.24	94,820	58,158	61.34	
SRSO	Kamber Shahdadkot	5			113	15	13.27		2,256	1,311	58.11	45,114	24,474	54.25
	Larkana	6			109	25	22.94	2,177	1,333	61.23	43,521	23,121	53.13	
Sub total		11			222	40	18.02	4,433	2,644	59.64	88,635	47,595	53.7	
TRDP	Dadu	24			250	40	16	3,030	1,696	55.97	60,582	28,431	46.93	
	Jamshoro	11			113	18	15.93	1,360	775	56.99	27,218	13,182	48.43	
Sub total		35			363	58	15.98	4,390	2,471	56.29	87,800	41,613	47.4	
Total		87			765	319	41.7	13,133	8,056	61.34	271,255	147,366	54.33	

EXPOSURE VISIT TO EU FUNDED PEACE PROGRAMME IN KP

SWAT, July 18: An exposure and learning visit was organised for the district authorities from Sindh and staff members of the SUCCESS partner Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) to see the community development work of SRSP under the EU funded Programme for Economic Advancement and Community Empowerment (PEACE) programme in Malakand Region. The visit team included staff members from the SUCCESS Programme partners: National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Support Programme (TRDP), and RSPN, representatives of District Administration Sujawal, Larkana and one local community representative from district Dadu.

This exposure visit allowed the participants to directly observe the work and learn from the experiences of SRSP in social mobilisation, and learn from active leaders of community institutions. The visiting government officials and staff members of RSPs and RSPN were able to understand the benefits of community driven development and sustained government support to social mobilisation. The participants, especially those from the Government of Sindh were extremely impressed by the RSP approach and the work and efforts RSPs are undertaking for the economic and social empowerment of the poor.

POLICY DIALOGUE ON RURAL-URBAN LINKAGES

ISLAMABAD, September 8: Rural Support Programmes Network, in collaboration with the Akhtar Hameed Khan Resource Center (AHKRC) organised the first seminar on Rural – Urban Linkages and Dialogue Series in Islamabad.

The theme of the first dialogue was ‘Livelihood and Skills Development’. The dialogue on Livelihood and Skills Development focused on how urban management and planning can be channeled to meet the need of specialised economies in cities, the transition of migrants into cities, and; skill development based on their pre-existing human capital (education, other skills), social networks (that help find jobs and provide social safety nets), available savings, and the employment markets (formal/ informal, diversity of employers, level of specialisation, volumes, cost advantages to producers and consumer) they land into.



Participants of seminar on rural-urban linkages held in Islamabad

Experts and practitioners from various organisations attended the dialogue.

TRDP PROGRAMME LAUNCH CEREMONY IN SEHWAN

SEHWAN, July 29: Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP) conducted Launching Ceremony of SUCCESS Programme in Sehwan. The launching ceremony was attended by local female community members, Commissioner Larkana, Chairman RSPN and other district government authorities and representatives of civil society organisation.

Nusrat Ali Abro, Chairperson of LSO Anmol UC Dasti district Shikarpur, Mir Zaadi President of LSO Bukhari UC Rasool Bux Chachar District Kashmore, Nasreen Khoso, President LSO Awaz UC Mungwani District Shirkarpur, Hassina Junejo from District Tharparkar, vice chairperson of LSO Sujag and Ms. Fatima Vice Chairperson of LSO Sangiira, District Tharparkar shared their insights and experiences gained during Government of Sindh funded UCBPRP implemented in Sindh. The community leaders highlighted their achievements and also underlined the importance of women empowerment for social change. They said that by organising at the local level, the rural communities can play an important role in their own development. They also discussed the challenges they faced as grassroots change agents.

Speaking at the occasion, RSPN Chairman Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said that the Sindh government under



the leadership of Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah is committed to successful implementation of the programme. He thanked the European Union for the financial and technical assistance provided for improving the life standards of the rural communities, especially the women who continue to suffer myriad problems.

Mr. Qazi Shahid Parvez, Commissioner Hyderabad who was also the chief guest of the launch ceremony, said that he has been inspired by the speeches and confidence of the women. "The credit for empowering these women goes to the Rural Support Programmes. I am confident that the women of Jamshoro will also play an active role in transforming the society", he said.

Concluding the ceremony, CEO TRDP Dr. Khadim Lakhir thanked all the guests for making the launch successful.

MR. GEORGES DEHOUX'S VISIT TO JACOBABAD AND SHIKARPUR

Jacobabad/Shikarpur, 26-28th May: The First Secretary, Development Advisor for Rural Development and Nutrition, EU Delegation to Pakistan, Mr. Georges Dehoux, visited Jacobabad and Shikarpur districts to observe the progress being made and interact with the communities.

On the first day of his visit, Georges interacted with the women members of LSO Shaheen in Jacobabad District and VO Bajjlo in Shikarpur district. The members of the Community Institutions gave detailed presentations describing the initiatives undertaken, and the progress and achievements made so far by these community

institutions on self-help basis and under the UCBPRP programme of the Government of Sindh. The members also shared details about their current activities and the linkages that they have developed with the Govt of Sindh's Departments and other organisations.

On second day of the visit, Mr. Georges visited village Umeed Ali Junejo in District Kamber-Shahdadkot and village Zakrio Mahessar in District Larkana. He also observed the poverty scorecard survey in District Larkana. CEO SRSO, Team Leader-SUCCESS, and the District Managers of SUCCESS Programme were also present during the visits.

On the last day of his visit, he participated in the Programme Introduction meeting held in Imam Bux Mallah village in UC Mohenjo-Daro of District Larkana.

Mr. Georges Dehoux also attended an introductory meeting with SUCCESS PIU staff at SRSO head office, Sukkur. Nutrition and WASH components were also discussed in detail during the meeting.

PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN NRSP MR. SHOAB SULTAN KHAN IN SUJJAWAL DISTRICT

Sujawal: Under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme, NRSP organised first dialogue at Union Council Murad Pur followed by Village organisation (VO) meeting at U/C Keenjhar. The First Dialogue was conducted by the Chairman NRSP, Mr. Shoab Sultan Khan, and attended by EU representatives, district officials and community leaders. While addressing the audience, Mr. Khan said that NRSP believes in the great potential of the communities and support them to recognise their potential and willing to be self-dependent for the development of their communities. Since poverty is at household level therefore, SUCCESS programme is designed to reduce poverty at the household level based on their micro investment plans. He further added





that the communities need to follow three principles to be able to organise effectively; creating local institutions, saving money, and identifying their leaders from within the community.

TRAINING SESSIONS

Community Management Skill Training (CMST) in Dadu and Jamshoro

TRDP provided Community Management Skills Training (CMST) to around 1,900 newly chosen women leaders of Community Organisations (COs). Two members from each CO – President and General Secretary – participated in the two-day long training sessions. The training sessions will help support the community leader to effectively mobilise the rural women into community institutions and improve their skills in managing their own institutions.

TRDP Trains 21 Staff Members in Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT)

TRDP arranged a training on the Community Awareness Toolkit for its staff members from Dadu and Jamshoro District. CAT is a document developed specifically for the SUCCESS Programme to help train the community leaders on issues like Health (Family Planning, Nutrition, EPI, and HIV&AIDS), Education, WASH, DRR, Environment and civic act.

The training was facilitated by the RSPN Social Sector team led by Mr. Bashir Aunjm. The participants of this training will, in turn, train the community organisations in the future.

Govt Participation: Deputy Director Social Welfare Department attends CMST

Qamber, August 12: Mr. Nisar Ahmed Solangi, Deputy

Dr. Amaury Hoste, Head of Rural Development and Economic Cooperation – EU Delegation to Pakistan, in his speech said that the European Union (EU) is committed to empowering the rural communities, and it is only possible if the communities are organised. We are confident that the five years SUCCESS Programme will empower the rural communities both socially and economically.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Sujawal, Mr. Syed Attaullah Shah not only participated in the event but highly appreciated the work, NRSP is doing in District Sujawal with the financial support of European Union. He also acknowledged the efforts of EU and assured to extend his full support to the programme at all levels.

EU Delegation to Pakistan, officials of RSPN, several other representatives of the district administration and a large number of women from the local communities participated in the event.

Director Social Welfare Department of District Qamber-Shahdadkot, attended the concluding session of Community Management Skill Training in Jingah village of UC Lashari Chandio, Taluka Qamber on 12th August 2016 organised by SRSO team.

Based on positive feedback received from trainees about training delivery and arrangements Mr. Solangi appreciated the trainer and showed great satisfaction over the community based training session in the rural areas.

He admired the EU funded SUCCESS Programme being implemented for poverty reduction and assured his consistent support in future.

Certificates of participation were awarded to trained members of community organisations after completion of 3 days CMST.

Mr. Asad Ali Jatoti, District Manager Qamber-Shahdadkot thanked the guest and the community members for attending the session and making it successful.

Coordination meetings with district administration

Under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, role of the relevant government line departments is crucial to bring sustainable development in the target districts, therefore, joint development committees will be institutionalised at the District and Taluka level. Members of joint development committees will be trained on participatory development planning.

NRSP is actively engaged with the district Government line departments and other relevant stakeholders. During the month of September 2016, NRSP conducted three coordination meetings with the Additional Deputy Commissioner - Tando Mohammad Khan, Chairman District Council - Tando Mohammad Khan and Chairman District Council Tando Allah Yar. During meetings, detailed orientation of the SUCCESS programme was given to the district government authorities. All the district officials assured their full support to implement the SUCCESS Programme at district and field level.

Leadership and Management Skills Training

Larkana: Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) organised a three days Training of Trainers (ToT) on Leadership & Management Skill Training (LMST) from 25-27 August, 2016 in Larkana. LMST entails capacity building of the community leaders in the areas of Leadership, VO/LSO Management, Resource Development, Accounts

Administration and Advocacy.

The LMST was attended by HRD professionals from Larkana and Qamber-Shahdadkot Districts. The trainees will organise similar training sessions in their assigned Union Councils (UCs) for the members of the village organisations.



Certificate distribution after CMST session by TRDP in Dadu

COMMUNITY'S VOICES



My name is **Subhan**. There are twelve children in my family. My sons are married, and they work as daily wagers.

Our family income is very low. We have a buffalo, but it is not enough. My husband used to work in the past. But, after an accident two years ago he cannot work any more. His legs still have the scars left by the accident.

Our village's name is Ashiq Hussain Chandio. It is in Shehdadkot District. There are many problems. The biggest problem is unemployment. I can weave local carpets (Rilly), but they don't fetch a lot of money. We can barely make the ends meet.



I am **Asad Ullah**. The name of my village is Bagan Veesar. Our Union Council is called Lashari, and it is located in Larkana district. There are 21 households in our Goth.

"What are your thoughts about the work the women of your village are doing?"

I am happy that the women are trying to work. I think this will benefit us. But the women in our village are not educated. I don't think anybody can read and write.

"The women will be trained to run the organistaion they form. Will you have any objection if they go for training sessions?"

I think it would be good if the elderly women go to

attend the training sessions. Our young women can't go out. It is our custom.

"What if the training sessions are held near your village?"

Yes, if the training sessions are held in the nearby villages, then we will not have any issues.



My name is **Jhumri**. I live with my family in Ashique Hussain Chandio village, Taluka Shehdadkot, District Qambar-Shehdadkot. These are my grandchildren.

Our problem is that we are poor. We do not have enough to eat well and build a house. This girl in my lap has a disease. It is a skin disease.

My sons work, when they can find. But, usually they are without work. Life is difficult. We want to change it. But nobody is helping us.

A lot of people come to take information, but we do not get any benefits. We hope it is different this time.



My name is **Nazu Mal**. I am a Hindu. I belong to the Odh clan, living in Ashiq Hussain Chandio Village of Union Council Lashari, District Qambar-Shehdadkot.

We have, for a long time, been experts of building mud walls.

Nowadays people build their walls with bricks. Therefore the demand for our skills has been decreasing. It is very difficult to get work regularly now.

SUCCESS Programme is based on the Rural Support Programme's (RSPs) social mobilisation approach to community-driven development (CDD). Social Mobilisation centers around the belief that poor people have an innate potential to help themselves; that they can better manage their limited resources if they organise and are provided technical and financial support. The RSPs under the SUCCESS Programme provide social guidance, technical and financial assistance to the rural poor in Sindh.

SUCCESS is a six-year long (2015-2021) programme funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) and Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP) in eight districts of Sindh, namely: Kambar Shahdadkot, Larkana, Dadu, Jamshoro, Matiari, Sujawal, Tando Allahyar and Tando Muhammad Khan.



EUROPEAN UNION

"This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union."

More information about the European Union is available on:

Web: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/>

Twitter: EUPakistan

Facebook: [European-Union-in-Pakistan/269745043207452](https://www.facebook.com/European-Union-in-Pakistan/269745043207452)



Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support Programme

Office No. G-3, Islamabad Stock Exchange Towers

55-B, Jinnah Avenue, Blue Area, Islamabad

Ph: 92-51-2894060-3 Fax: 92-51-289064

URL: www.success.org.pk

Facebook.com/successprogramme

Twitter @successprog