





Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme



Socio-economic Baseline Narrative Household Case Study of Darangi

May 2017

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1. ABOUT THE SUCCESS PROGRAMME

The Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme is based on the social mobilisation approach to Community Driven Development (CDD) developed by the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan. RSPs believe that each poor household has the potential to improve its condition, however the household faces constraints that do not allow it to realise the potential. The potential can be harnessed if the poor households are mobilised to foster their own network of organisations at muhalla (Community Organisations – COs), village (Village Organisations – VOs) and union council levels (Local Support Organisations – LSOs). Once the women from poor households are organised, they prepare Micro Investment Plans (MIPs) wherein they highlight the potential income generating activities that they can undertake on their own, the constraints they face and how these constraints can be removed. RSPs provide Community Investment Fund (CIF) to these organisations so that they can provide small loans to CO members for the implementation of MIPs for income generation. While COs focus on income generating activities, VOs focus more on broader issues that affect the whole village, e.g. education, health, infrastructure, etc. The focus of LSOs is to support and guide the COs/VOs, and to foster linkages with government line departments.

Apart from guiding, supporting social mobilisation and provision of CIF, RSPs also support other interventions under the SUCCESS Programme: income generating grants (IGG) to the poorest households identified through the poverty scorecard (PSC) census exercise, micro health insurance (MHI), community physical infrastructure (CPI), technical and vocational skills training (TVST), training of CO/VO/LSO leaders and Community Resource Persons (CRPs), and awareness raising sessions at community level. RSPs also facilitate linkages with government line departments and other programmes/projects.

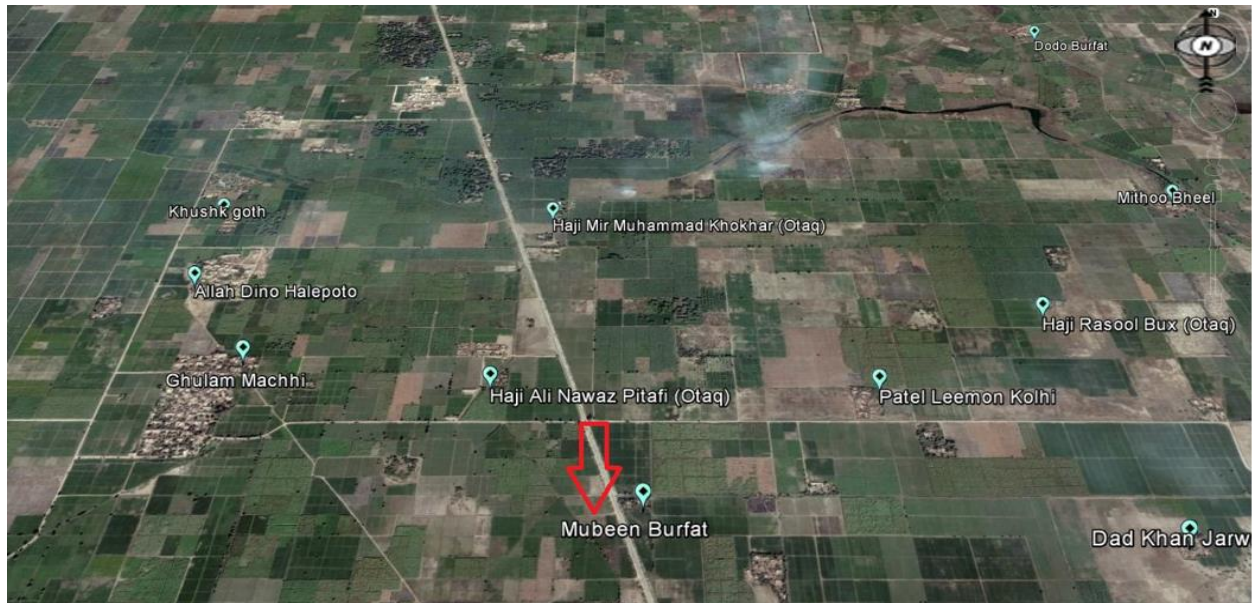
The SUCCESS Programme is being implemented in eight districts of Sindh¹, with the objective to mobilise 770,000 women from all rural areas of the respective districts into 32,000 COs, 3,400 VOs, and 307 LSOs. The National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Support Programme (TRDP) and the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) are the implementing partners for the SUCCESS Programme. The Programme is supported by the European Union Delegation to Pakistan. Further information about the SUCCESS Programme is available at: www.success.org.pk

2. RESEARCH COMPONENT OF THE SUCCESS PROGRAMME

Within the SUCCESS Programme, under the RSPN component, there is a programme of socio-economic research to understand and document the dynamics of poverty at the household level (DOPH). RSPN is collaborating with the University of Mannheim (UM) for conducting DOPH in two union councils of district Tando Allahyar (Dad Khan Jarwar and Masoo Bozdar). After conducting PSC, a socio-economic baseline survey was also conducted in the two union councils. While these two provided important quantitative data about households' demography, expenditure, savings, income sources, assets, access to social services, and poverty status, RSPN and UM agreed that there is a need for qualitative analysis as well so that a more thorough understanding of DOPH can be developed and documented. It was in this context that baseline case study of Ms. Darangi is prepared from village Mubeen Burfat of the union

¹ SUCCESS districts are: Sujawal, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Tando Muhammad Khan, Jamshoro, Dadu, Larkana and Kamber Shahdadkot.

council Dad Khan Jarwar. Further information about the SUCCESS Programme’s research component is available at: <https://success.org.pk/index.php/research-and-advocacy/>



(Source: Google Map)

3. VILLAGE POVERTY PROFILE

Village Mubeen Burfat has 57 households with total population of 324. Table. 1, shows the poverty score category of 57 households in Mubeen Burfat. The table shows that 63% of the Mubeen Burfat households fall into the poor 0-23 category, while 7% are in the extremely poor category. The respective figures for the union council Dad Khan Jarwar are 45.5% and 8.7%, and for the district Tando Allahyar 50.3% and 9.5%. This shows that the proportion of poor households (0-23 PSC category) in village Mubeen Burfat are more than the average of the union council, and also more than the average for the district.

Table 1: PSC category of 57 households of Mubeen Burfat

PSC Category	# Households	% Households
0-11	4	7
12-18	15	26
19-23	17	30
24-34	17	30
35-59	4	7
Total	57	100

(NRSP-PSC Survey 2016)

4. PURPOSE, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY OF THE HOUSEHOLD PROFILE

The purpose of preparing the baseline household profile is to gain an understanding of the current socio-economic status of the household, and then to track the changes taking place within the household as the RSPs interventions are rolled out. To prepare the household profile, information was collected about the household's size, socio-economic conditions and health status. The data was collected through qualitative technique of rapport building, in-depth interviews and participant observation. An in-depth interview was conducted from Ms. Darangi with her oral consent on 3rd May, 2017 at Mubeen Burfat village.

5. MS. DARANGI AND HER HOUSEHOLD'S PLIGHT

Ms. Darangi is 32 years old and her household PSC score is 13. She cannot read and write. Darangi is married to Hero who is 36 years and attended primary school up to 5th class. He is a tenant farmer (Hari) and labourer on daily wages. Darangi is mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters. After giving birth to seven children, she went through sterilisation operation for stopping further births on the advice of Lady Health Worker (LHW). Darangi said, "I feel comfortable now and see benefit of birth control. More children would have added extra burden to our poor situation."

The family remains busy the whole year in working on one-acre land to earn their basic subsistence. Hero said, "We grow onions and also some fodder for our animals. For all our hard work, our share of the crop yields an annual income of between Rs. 15-30,000 (USD 150-300). All this depends on the yield and the market prices. With this cash, which is about Rs. 1,250 (USD 12.4) to Rs. 2,500 (USD 25) per month, we can manage to buy wheat and rice to last the family six to seven months. Therefore, we are forced to work as daily casual labourers. When we do find some work, the wages are minimal, about Rs. 200 (USD 2) per day. This small amount helps, but not a great deal. We are constantly looking for work to meet our survival needs. At times of emergencies, when we are sick, we borrow some money from our landlord who then deducts it at the end of the year from our share of the crop harvest."

Darangi added, "I think the total income from farming and casual labouring comes to about Rs. 6,000 (USD 60) per month, and our monthly expenditure is about Rs. 7,000 (USD 70). The balance is met from borrowing from the landlord." Hero adds, "We don't have a written agreement with the landlord, only verbal one."



Figure 1: Darangi and her household members are sitting together in their one hut

Darangi cooks two times a day; morning and evening. The diet is very simple. Mostly boiled rice and Rotis (flat bread) are eaten with vegetable curry. When vegetables are not available then raw onions and green chilly pickles are eaten with rice and Rotis. In the afternoon, Darangi only prepares tea; sometimes with milk and sometimes with water only. For fuel, Darangi used dung cakes and dried branches.

Among her children, two boys are admitted in Mubeen Burfat government primary school. Munsikh and Chandar are both students of 5th class. Darangi's children also work with her on the field after school. In the words of Hero, "There is no fee for schooling of our children as they are getting education in government schools free of cost, even, books are given to them free. However, we believe that It will be the violation of tradition to send girls to school as our community does not prefer to send girls to school, that's why we do not send our daughters to schools."

Darangi and Hero got married at an early age. She was only 14 and he was 18 years old. Darangi said, "My parents had 10 children, five boys and five girls. They were labourers and with great difficulty raised and married all the children. Since they were very poor, they arranged their daughters' marriages at an early age in order to lessen their financial burden from their shoulders. My parents are now old but they still work to feed themselves."

Darangi said, "I have one cow and two calves. If I sell them, I can get Rs. 100,000 (USD 1,000). But I am not interested to sell my animals as whole family depends on them for getting milk from which I prepare a tea and also spare for children to drink. We also have three goats on sharing basis. One day these animals will be useful for my children."

Darangi lives in a simple hut without electricity. There are no durable goods in her house; only some cooking utensils. They visit their relatives only in case of marriage or death events. When they go outside village, they use public transport, e.g. rickshaw or bus. Darangi opines, “There is no toilet room in my household, like everyone else here, we too go to the fields in early morning and evening for open defecation. There is no water hand pump in whole village and I go to Dado Mori as there is water hand pump to fetch drinking water. This takes about 40 minutes per trip. Some days I have to make multiple trips. I wash my family’s clothes on the banks of Dado Mori canal.”

One important source of support for Darangi is the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). She said, “My household has been getting payment of Rs. 4500 (USD 45) after every three months from BISP for last three years which means Rs. 1,500 (USD 15) per month. My husband takes my BISP card and withdraws money from a bank at Taluka Chambar. We purchase some food and clothes from BISP payment. In case of health, we go to Dr. Bekharam² for treatment.”

Darangi added, “I can stitch clothes as I learnt this skill from my relatives when I was unmarried but I do not have sewing machine. I also know about Rili (traditional wall/floor covering) making and embroidery. Well, I find it very difficult to do embroidery work or stitching, as I believe, it requires a lot of inputs and money which I cannot afford. Even if I could afford, how will I sell these items? I cannot go to other villages to sell.” She lacks the guidance and planning and believes that she cannot handle it, so, she finds it very difficult work for herself. However, Darangi felt that if she had a sewing machine, then she could sew dresses for fellow women in the village and make some money.

6. DARANGI JOINS SUCCESS PROGRAMME

Social mobilisation process was initiated in settlement Mubeen Burfat, union council Dad Khan Jarwar, district Tando Allahyar by National Rural Support Programmes (NRSP) in February 2017. Sajida Parveen, Social Organizer, visited the village to hold the first dialogue and then to initiate the process of formation of CO. Mubeen Burfat Community Organisation (CO-2) was formed under SUCCESS Programme on February 2, 2017 and 25 women became its members. They also elected Kamla Bai as the president and Maigi as the manager. Both leaders have the trust of all members. At the first meeting of CO, each member saved Rs. 20 (USD 0.2), resulting in a total savings of Rs. 500 (USD 5).

Darangi also participated in CO formation meeting and deposited Rs. 20 as her saving. She had never thought that she would be the part of any community organisation which will provide her an opportunity to strengthen the socio-economic conditions of her household. She was very happy to be the member of this organisation and made up her mind to take part in all the activities of her CO with zeal and zest.

Darangi said, “CO formation was totally a new experience for me as I had never imagined that there will be an organisation, which will be run by us. I liked the gathering of women at one platform where they

²Upon our research it has been confirmed that this gentleman is a quack doctor practicing without an MBBS degree.

discussed the role of CO and benefits of saving. It was so interesting to know that we have power to change our bad situation by ourselves.”

7. LOOKING FORWARD

This study implies that the household condition of Darangi is poor and she is in dire need of support because her family is just hand to mouth. Their living standard shows that they are facing miserable conditions as they are lacking basic amenities of life. Due to meagre resources of earning, her family is coping with challenges of low income which needs to be addressed at this point of time. NRSP’s programme interventions in the village have not yet begun.

In the subsequent follow up visits to meet with Darangi, it will be interesting to note whether she is continuing to attend CO meetings, and saving with CO, and reviewing her MIP to see if actions have been taken for the implementation of her MIP.