











What are LSOs?

LSOs or Local Support Organisations are central to the 'Social Mobilisation' approach of the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs). In a bid to reduce poverty and empower marginalised people (especially women), the RSPs under SUCCESS, mobilise rural women into a three-tiered structure, which consists of Community Organisations (COs) - neighbourhood level community groups, Village Organisations (VOs) - village level federations of COs, and LSOs - union council level federations of VOs. LSOs are able to carry out community-led development at a much greater level due to the advantage they gain from numbers. As the tertiary tier, LSOs are also uniquely able to develop linkages with government and non-government organisations, donor agencies and the private sector.

LSO Initiatives

LSO Roshni Sarri, Jamshoro

<p>District</p>  <p>Jamshoro</p>	<p>Union Council</p>  <p>Sarri</p>	<p>Date of Formation</p>  <p>2017</p>	<p>Total Households in Union Council</p>  <p>1,771</p>	<p>Organised Households</p>  <p>1,465</p>	<p>Coverage</p>  <p>83%</p>
	<p>Number of Community Organisations (COs)</p>  <p>90 (all women's)</p>	<p>Number of Village Organisations (VOs)</p>  <p>13 (all women's)</p>	<p>Number of General Body Members</p>  <p>26 (all women)</p>	<p>Number of Executive Committee Members</p>  <p>15 (all women)</p>	

(LSO Profile as of September 2018)

LSO Roshni Sarri, from District Jamshoro was formed in November 2017 by 1,771 member households organised in 90 COs and 13 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Roshni are planning and executing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with Government agencies. EU funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women now are gaining awareness about their rights and making the service providers accountable and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Active Participation in "Green Sindh" Campaign

The Government of Sindh has launched the "Green Sindh" campaign, under which 2 billion trees will be planted in the province. Green Sindh is a joint initiative by the Sindh Government, civil society and private sector. On the request of the provincial government, LSO Roshni Sarri actively participated in the campaign. The LSO organised an awareness raising rally in March 2018 in which people from all walks of life participated. The rally



Members of LSO Roshni Sarri planting trees on the eve of Green Sindh campaign

participants held posters with messages on the importance of tree plantation. Speakers addressed the rally and briefed the people about the strategic importance of planting trees. They said that trees contribute to their environment by providing oxygen, improving air quality, climate improvement, conserving water, preserving soil, and supporting wildlife. On the request of the LSO leaders, the Government Forest Department provided 1,000 rooted tree



saplings on a subsidised rate. The LSO leaders collected the saplings from forest nurseries situated at the District Headquarter in a private vehicle. They then distributed them among its VOs, VOs distributed among COs and the COs gave the saplings to member households so that they could plant them at safer places and take proper care of them.

Vaccination of Livestock by Government Livestock Department

The topography of LSO Roshni Sarri is like mountain desert. Livestock is the major source of income and domestic asset of the families here. Due to continuous drought over the last several years, both the quantity and quality of fodder has seriously deteriorated in the natural pastures. Therefore, livestock diseases increased in the area, brining heavy losses to the poor farmers. Before getting organised into community institutions under the EU supported SUCCESS programme, they did not have any information about the facilities available with the Government Livestock Department. Therefore, they had never approached the department for support. However, under the awareness raising sessions by the SUCCESS staff and Community Resource Persons (CRPs), they learnt about the department for the first time. The LSO, therefore, wrote a resolution in one of its meetings and submitted it to the Livestock Department to guide them on how to protect their animals from epidemic diseases. The Livestock Department advised them to vaccinate their animals and offered their services and supplies free of cost. On the advice of the Livestock Department, the LSO leaders divided their Union Council in several clusters, fixed dates for vaccination for each cluster and informed farmers to bring their animals to a central place in their villages, so that the Livestock Officers could vaccinate animals in each location. The Livestock Officers visited the clusters and successfully vaccinated all animals. Despite the further worsening drought conditions in the area, their animals do not get sick now.

Improve Education

UC Sarri is situated in a far flung region in the province. Therefore, very few senior government officers from Education, Health and other departments visit their area to monitor government schools and health centres. As a result, the quality of education in government schools is unsatisfactory. During the awareness raising sessions conducted by the CRPs and SUCCESS staff, the LSO leaders learnt the strategic importance of the School Management Committees (SMCs) in improving the quality of education. They learnt that most of the SMCs were not functioning adequately, and they do not use the SMC funds properly on the repair and maintenance of the schools. The LSO leaders, therefore, decided to improve the functions of the SMCs and ensure proper utilisation of SMC funds. The LSO leaders sensitised CO and VO leaders on the issue and they held meetings with the SMCs of 19 schools situated

in their respective villages. The CO/VO leaders targeted non-functional schools and asked them to utilise the SMC funds to arrange missing facilities they identified in the schools. Realising that they are under watch by the community leaders, the attitude of the SMC members has now drastically changed. So far, the SMCs have bought furniture in four schools. The LSO leaders hope that gradually other SMCs will follow their example, otherwise, they will raise the issue with the Government Education Department.

In addition to that, the LSO leaders realised that a number of families were not sending their children to schools. They launched enrolment campaigns in 13 villages and motivated the parents of out of school children to send them to schools. A total of 419 children including 251 girls and 168 boys have enrolled in schools due to their efforts. Their ultimate goal is to enrol 100 percent children into schools.

Celebration of International Day of Rural Women

Rural women make significant contributions to agricultural production, food security and nutrition, land and natural resource management, and building climate resilience. The International Day of Rural Women is celebrated on 15 October every year. The day aimed to help nations worldwide recognise the crucial role that women and girls play in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall wellbeing. On the suggestion of SUCCESS staff, the LSO organised a rally on 16 October 2018 to celebrate the International Day of Rural Women for the first time in their UC. A large number of women and children along with SUCCESS field staff participated in the rally. The Social Organiser of SUCCESS programme appreciated the dedication and enthusiasm of rural women leaders and briefed them about the importance of celebrating such events to bring about solidarity, confidence and self-empowerment in women.



Members of LSO Roshni Sarri celebrating International Day of Rural Women



"This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union"

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 Designed & Printed by: Masha ALLAH Printers, Islamabad

THE LSO INITIATIVES SERIES IS BY THE RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES NETWORK



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