



SUCCESS

SINDH UNION COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING SUPPORT PROGRAMME

FEATURE STORY

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GROUPS UPLIFTING WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

In village Chakar Khan, Jamshoro, a group of around 30 women are curating a clothing business of their own, calling it Roshan. Co-led by Razia, President of the Village Organisation, and the business manager Noor Jehan who links the business with customers and shops owners in the city, they are offering applique embroidery, stitching and tailoring services for women and children. The profits will be invested into creating an income stream for poor rural women that they could spend on improving education prospects and health outcomes of their families, as well as sustaining livelihoods.

After 6 months of receiving technical and vocational training arranged by Thardeep Rural Development Programme under EU-funded SUCCESS, these women now receive help from Noor Jehan in purchasing cloth, sourcing clients and having stitched products stocked at various shops.

"Many women even show us designs off the internet and ask us to replicate. As a result of the Technical and Vocational Skills Training, our stitching has

improved and we are now able to cater to increasingly diverse requirements of our clients," says Razia.

One member Tahira, received Community Investment Fund of PKR 25,000 that she spent on buying a sewing machine, fabric, scissors and thread spools. Some of the women who were vocational training beneficiaries now teach the skill to other women in the village.

Women's and children's clothing, bed sets and rillis are some of the products made by Roshan which are displayed at Resham Gali, a busy marketplace in Hyderabad. Moving forward, SUCCESS will mentor these women in increasing market access and demand for their products for sustained business growth.

The SUCCESS Business Development Groups offer a pathway for rural women to gain higher levels of productivity, inclusion in rural economy and a means of earning decent livelihood as laid out in Goal 8 "Decent Work and Economic Growth" of Sustainable Development Goals.



EUROPEAN UNION

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Implementing Partners



Technical Assistance Partner



SUCCESS is supported by the Government of Sindh

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

POLICY

GOVERNMENT OF SINDH APPROVES BUDGET FOR IMPLEMENTATION FOR FIRST-EVER POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY



Sindh Cabinet meeting presided by Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah

The Sindh Cabinet formally approved and adopted the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), which was developed with technical support from the European Union funded SUCCESS programme. The cabinet members, under the leadership of Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah agreed upon a proposed budget of PKR 72.5 billion for

implementation of the strategy over the next five years. The PRS illustrates a three-dimensional approach to reduce poverty at both rural and urban levels. The first step is to continue financial support for People's Poverty Reduction Program and Community Driven Local Development (CDLD) Policy enacted by the government in 2018. The second approach envisages reducing urban poverty by adding urban economic clusters and creating linkages between rural and urban poverty reduction initiatives. The third strategy involves a model of Rural Growth Centers to function as service hubs to provide improved facilities and public services to clusters of geographically connected and demographically viable villages. Four target districts Thatta, Sujawal, Badin and Tharparkar have been selected by the Government for identification and establishment of rural hubs as a potential pilot project with an initial allocation of PKR 500 million.

Five Pillars for implementation of the PRS

Pillar One	Programme Design and Rollout
Pillar Two	Legal and Institutional Framework
Pillar Three	Public Financial Management
Pillar Four	Monitoring and Evaluation
Pillar Five	Capacity Development and Communications.

ADVOCACY

TRAININGS FOR PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

To build the capacity of government departments and improve the understanding of three-tiered social mobilization approach, TRDP brought together government officials, local government representatives and LSO leaders for two trainings on participatory planning and community driven local development approach in Dadu and Hyderabad. The participants were also taken on exposure visits to Matiari and Jamshoro for cross-learning. These trainings were a good opportunity for the LSO leaders to discuss their vision for their villages' development and future goals that government departments could incorporate in district budgeting.

ADVOCACY

SUCCESS AT 11th ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN 2018



Under the EU-funded SUCCESS programme, RSPN partnered with Potohar Organisation for Development Advocacy for the 11th Annual Conference on International Day of Rural Women 2018 by sponsoring two policy dialogues on climate change and economic empowerment.

This annual event is the largest networking opportunity for rural women of Pakistan to interact with policymakers, donors, stakeholders from government, businesses, civil society, media and academia to discuss women's economic, social and civil rights.

For 2018, the conference was based on the theme of 'Making Democracy Real for Rural Women and Girls' and aimed towards shedding light on Pakistan's progress and commitment on SDG 5 for Gender Equality, and 'Planet 50:50 by 2030 - Step It Up for Gender Equality', a UN initiative that asks governments to make national commitments to address the challenges that are holding women and girls back from reaching their full potential.

At one of the sessions on political empowerment of rural women, LSO leader Farhana Shaikh from SUCCESS programme based in Kambar Shahdaktot shared her experience on the community's effort in bringing rural women to the fore front of political participation in rural areas. She also expressed her commitment to increase women's percentage of votes in the next elections.

COMMUNITY

RSPs CALL OUT FOR #BALANCEFORBETTER

International Women’s Day was celebrated with full zeal by RSPs on March 8, 2019 in various locations of Sindh to mark the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women leaders running community institutions. The theme for this year was ‘Balance for Better’ that calls for a balanced inclusion of men and women in rural economic workforce and equal opportunity to be given in areas of education, health, local governance, social and cultural affairs.

MEDICAL CAMPS

Jubilee General Insurance (JGI) Company arranged a week-long free medical camp to conduct screening for Hepatitis B and C, in collaboration with LSOs in SRSO and TRDP programme areas. The incidence of Hepatitis disease is quite high in Sindh but the patients are often identified only after the occurrence of chronic liver disease.

RSPs LESSON LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE SHARING WORKSHOP

To mark the completion of the third year of implementation of SUCCESS programme, RSPN organised a lessons learnt and experience sharing workshop in Hyderabad that was attended by women leaders of community institutions, government officials, journalists, and representatives of Rural Support Programmes (RSPs).

SINDH’S PROVINCIAL MINISTER FOR WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CHAIRS WOMEN ACTIVISTS CONFERENCE

Provincial Minister for Women Development, Shehla Raza participated in a Community Activists conference organised in Tando Allahyar by NRSP. Over 500 women leaders of community institutions and programme beneficiaries of the EU-funded SUCCESS programme attended the conference.

While talking to the participants, the Minister praised the work of the EU-funded Rural Support Programmes in organizing communities. The Minister also talked about initiatives being taken by her ministry to support women against abuse and disenfranchisement and announced establishment of complaint centers. The government will also initiate awareness programmes for

breast cancer screenings, family planning and reproductive health in Sindh. While speaking of her personal struggle against patriarchy in politics, she said “I hope to see local young women and girls from the community organisations assume ministerial roles in the parliament to affect policy making in favor of all oppressed women of Pakistan.”



CULTURE

SUCCESS AT LAHOOTI MELO 2019



SUCCESS programme collaborated with the Lahooti Melo 2019, which took place on the 9th and 10th of February, at Sindh University, Jamshoro. The main theme this year was ‘an ode to a liberated woman’, which follows the momentum gained by the #MeToo movement, aimed against sexual harassment and violence against women.

As a women empowerment programme, SUCCESS partnered with Lahooti Melo to create synergies on related goals. The objective was to create awareness about the lives of rural women in Sindh for stakeholders in government, academia and civil society.

SUCCESS also held a power talk titled “Empowering Rural Women across Sindh” that was given by one of the programme’s beneficiary, Irum Wahid, who is the president of an LSO in Union Council Chuhar Jamali, District Sujawal. She shared her story about fighting the stigma around the role of women in a community to fearlessly demanding development initiatives from government representatives to inspire the youth in the audience.

CULTURE

UNESCO AND CULTURE MISSION DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION VISIT MOHENJO DARO

A delegation from the European Union that included Ms. Vibeke Jensen (Country Director UNESCO) and Ms. Nicole Malpas (First Secretary, Education and Culture, Delegation of European Union to Pakistan) visited the historical archaeological site of Mohenjo Daro and the associated museum in Larkana. Later, the delegation participated in an ‘activists workshop’ that was arranged by SRSO in village Imam Bux Mallah, where the women leaders discussed their progress and achievements, and mentored women to link their activities and products with Sindhi culture to boost income generation. SUCCESS helps women to identify cultural assets



that can be developed through innovation and artisanship to produce exclusive ethnic products for local and national markets. The purpose behind promoting cultural elements for business is to bring into use skills for economic development and increase opportunities for more sustainable incomes for rural women artisans.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI)

as of March 2019



849,812

HOUSEHOLDS COVERED BY POVERTY SCORECARD SURVEY



556,356

ORGANISED HOUSEHOLDS



28,518

WOMEN COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS (COs) FORMED



3,327

WOMEN VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS (VOs) FORMED



310

WOMEN LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS (LSOs) FORMED

53,013

WOMEN CO LEADERS WHO RECEIVED COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT SKILLS TRAINING



7,068

WOMEN VO/LSO LEADERS WHO RECEIVED LEADERSHIP MANAGEMENT SKILLS TRAINING



3,232

COMMUNITY RESOURCE PERSONS (CRPs) TRAINED



14,502

HOUSEHOLDS BENEFITING FROM INCOME GENERATING GRANTS (IGGs)



200

MILLION (PKR) AMOUNT OF INCOME GENERATING GRANTS (IGGs) GIVEN TO POOR HOUSEHOLDS



43,461

HOUSEHOLDS BENEFITING FROM COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND (CIF)



653

MILLION (PKR) AMOUNT OF CIF DISBURSED TO POOR HOUSEHOLDS



10,297

COMMUNITY MEMBERS TRAINED IN TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

41

JOINT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES FORMED AT TALUKA AND DISTRICT LEVEL



265

NUMBER OF UNION COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PLANS (UCDPs) DEVELOPED

Project Management & Edit:
Momina Khawar, Communications Officer, SUCCESS, RSPN

Reviewed By:
Fazal Ali Saadi, Programme Manager, SUCCESS, RSPN

Design & Publication:
Dot Advertising

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↑ 146%

Increase in loan disbursement to the poor households under **Community Investment Fund** during the **last six months** as compared to the last 2.5 years owing to ease in opening of bank accounts of Community Institutions.

↑ 115%

More beneficiaries trained in Technical and Vocational Skills in the last six months over progress made in the previous two and a half years.

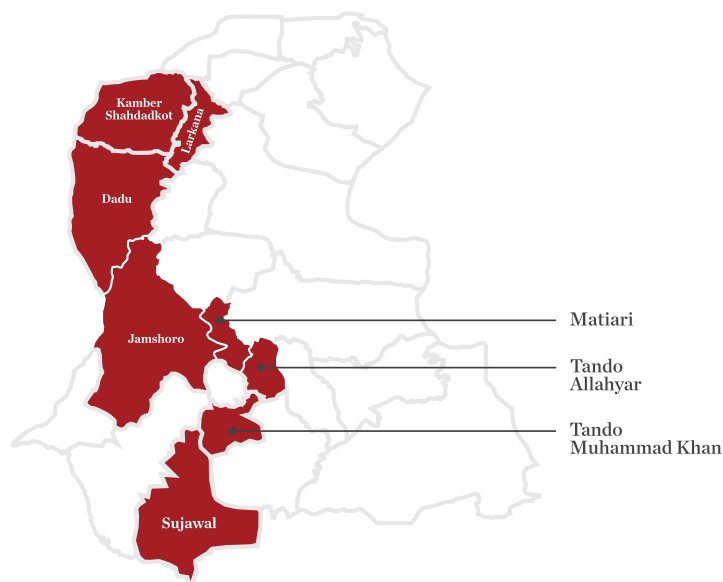
248

Community Physical Infrastructure schemes included small **link roads, street pavements and water supply projects** have been completed, **benefitting 73,886 households** altogether.

6,004

Patients have been treated under Micro Health Insurance scheme with an amount of PKR 90 million so far. Insurance has mostly been used in pregnancy and gynaecology-related cases.

Geographic Coverage of SUCCESS



EUROPEAN UNION

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Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support Programme
Rural Support Programmes Network

3rd Floor, IRM Complex, Plot # 7, Sunrise Avenue (off Park Road)

Near COMSATS University, Islamabad, Pakistan

Phone: +92-51-8491270-99

More information about SUCCESS is available on:

www.success.org.pk

Facebook.com/successprogramme

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