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LSO INITIATIVES

A PUBLICATION ON THE WORK OF
LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS FROM
THE SUCCESS PROGRAMME AREAS IN SINDH



September 2021



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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 mobilise rural communities 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.

LSOs?



Acronyms

BCF	Bridge Consultant Foundation
BHU	Basic Health Unit
BISP	Benazir Income Support Programme
CAT	Community Awareness Toolkit
CBK	Community Book Keeper
CDD	Community Driven Development
CHS	Community Health Solutions
CI	Community Institutions
CIF	Community Investment Fund
CLEW	Community Livestock Extension Worker
CMO	Chief Monitoring Officer
CMST	Community Management Skills Training
CO	Community Organisation
CNIC	Computerised National Identity Card
CPI	Community Physical Infrastructure
CRP	Community Resource Person
DHO	District Health Office
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFS	Farmers Field School
GFATM	Global Fund Against TB, AIDS and Malaria
GoS	Government of Sindh
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGG	Income Generating Grant
IRC	Indus Resource Centre
JDC	Joint Development Committee
LG & RD	Local Government and Rural Development
LHV	Lady Health Visitor
LMST	Leadership and Management Skills Training
LSO	Local Support Organisation
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MIP	Micro Investment Plan
MNA	Member National Assembly
MPA	Member Provincial Assembly
NCHD	National Commission for Human Development
NCOC	National Command and Operation Centre
NRSP	National Rural Support Programme
PCR Test	Polymerase Chain Reaction Test
PINS	Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh
PPHI	People's Primary Healthcare Initiative
PSC	Poverty Score Card
RCC	Reinforced Cement Concrete
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
RDF	Research & Development Foundation
RSP	Rural Support Programme
RSPN	Rural Support Programmes Network
SAFWCO	Sindh Agriculture Forestry Workers & Coordinating Organisation
SEF	Sindh Education Foundation
SIAPEP	Sindh Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project
SMC	School Management Committee
SMT	Social Mobilisation Team
SRSO	Sindh Rural Support Organisation
SUCCESS	Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support
TB	Tuberculosis
TEO	Tehsil Education Officer
ToP	Terms of Partnership
TRDP	Thardeep Rural Development Programme
TTQ	Trace, Test and Quarantine
TVST	Technical and Vocational Skills Training
UC	Union Council
UCDP	Union Council Development Plan
VDP	Village Development Plan
VO	Village Organisation
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WISE	Water, Immunisation, Sanitation and Education



Preface

RSPN has been documenting and publishing the innovative activities of LSOs under the title of "LSO Initiatives" since 2012 in the form of a leaflet. The purpose of the LSO Initiatives is to document the development activities undertaken by the LSOs on their own initiative. These initiatives are either financed by community contribution or funded by government departments, NGOs and private sector. The soft copies of the LSO Initiatives are uploaded at SUCCESS and RSPN websites. RSPN has also been compiling the LSO Initiatives in the form of a book and publishes this book to make the Initiatives resource material for RSP field staff, other development practitioners and LSO leaders. This is the fifth edition in this series. This booklet edition is a compilation of LSO Initiatives continuing from Issue No. 63 to 78. Each issue covers one LSO Initiatives. In this edition, 16 LSO Initiatives are included from the Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme implemented in 8 districts of Sindh with the financial support of the European Union (EU). All these LSOs are women lead, and these LSO Initiatives were developed during 2020-2021.

These 16 LSOs had carried out 181 development activities in 54 different types. The table below presents the summary of these activities.

Analysis of 54 types of development initiatives undertaken by 16 LSOs

S. No	Activities	No of LSOs undertaken the activity	%age of LSOs undertaken the activity	Activity as %age of total 54 activities
1	CNIC preparation and B-Form	15	94%	28%
2	Awareness raising and test on COVID-19	13	81%	24%
3	Enrolment of children in school	12	75%	22%
4	Tree plantation	12	75%	22%
5	Support to poorest members in registration with EHSAAS	11	69%	20%
6	Installation of hand pumps for safe drinking water	7	44%	13%
7	Provision of masks, sanitisers and soaps to poor members	7	44%	13%
8	Reopened closed schools	7	44%	13%
9	Vaccination of animals from Livestock Department	7	44%	13%
10	Support government in routine immunisation	6	38%	11%
11	Birth registration	5	31%	9%
12	Solid waste management & sanitation system in villages	4	25%	7%
13	Nikah Nama registration	4	25%	7%
14	Opening of VO bank accounts	4	25%	7%
15	Provision of ration to COVID affected families	4	25%	7%
16	Established kitchen gardens	3	19%	6%
17	Facilitated government in COVID-19 vaccination	3	19%	6%
18	Organised free medical camp with Health Department	3	19%	6%
19	Sewing machines to needy women from UC Chairman	3	19%	6%
20	Solar panels to poorest members from UC Chairman	3	19%	6%
21	Supported government to control spread of HIV	3	19%	6%
22	Supported to government in diagnosing TB patients	3	19%	6%
23	Posting of teachers in government schools	3	19%	6%
24	Provided financial support to fire affected families	2	13%	4%
25	Provided seed and fertilizer to poorest members	2	13%	4%
26	Repaired and maintenance of schools	2	13%	4%
27	Stopped child marriage	2	13%	4%
28	Supported government in Hepatitis Test and vaccination	2	13%	4%
29	Supported in construction of latrines	2	13%	4%
30	Supported in nutrition of malnourished children	2	13%	4%

S. No	Activities	No of LSOs undertaken the activity	%age of LSOs undertaken the activity	Activity as %age of total 54 activities
31	Supported poor families in establishing small businesses	2	13%	4%
32	Appointment of school teacher	1	6%	2%
33	Arranged Free Health Mobile Service from government	1	6%	2%
34	Awareness raising on malaria	1	6%	2%
35	Celebration of International Days	1	6%	2%
36	Construction of fish ponds	1	6%	2%
37	Construction of RCC Drainage system with government funds	1	6%	2%
38	Educated small farmers in farming	1	6%	2%
39	Education scholarship to students	1	6%	2%
40	Established Moringa nursery	1	6%	2%
41	Established TVT centre	1	6%	2%
42	Helped flood affected families	1	6%	2%
43	Organised blood collection camp for thalasemia patients	1	6%	2%
44	Provided books to students from SMC	1	6%	2%
45	Provided mosquito nets	1	6%	2%
46	Provided missing facilities in school	1	6%	2%
47	Provision of dowry to a poor member from DC	1	6%	2%
48	Provision of <i>Zakat</i> to eligible members	1	6%	2%
49	Regularised electricity connection	1	6%	2%
50	Reopening of non-functional BHU	1	6%	2%
51	Stopped honour killing	1	6%	2%
52	Supported in safe delivery of pregnant women	1	6%	2%
53	Support to poorest members from savings	1	6%	2%
54	Training in poultry management for men	1	6%	2%
54	Total	181		
	Average activities carried out by LSOs	11		

According to the above given table, the 16 LSOs have carried out 181 development activities with an average of 11 activities per LSO. The ratio of these activities carried out by individual LSOs has been given in the **%age of LSOs undertaken the activity** column and the ratio of the particular activity as percentage of total 54 activities has been calculated in **Activity as %age of total 54 activities** column. According to this analysis, preparation of CNIC topped the list, followed by Awareness Raising and Test on COVID-19, Enrollment of Children in School, Tree Plantation and Support to Poorest Members in Registration with EHSAAS Cash Grant Programme.

A healthy trend is that the LSOs have developed linkages with several governments, line departments, UC government and district administration and have accessed their services and resources for implementation of their development activities. In addition, they have also accessed services and supplies from NGOs working in their areas. They had also contacted their MNA and MPA and UC Chairman to use their political clout to influence government line departments to serve them. These trends indicate that the women leaders of LSOs are gradually acquiring experience, maturity and self-confidence.

The names of the Government Departments the LSOs linked up for accessing their services and supplies as well as complementing and supplementing their own development activities have been listed down in the table below:

Name of Government Agency

1. Education Department
2. Health Department
3. UC Government



4. National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA)
5. Forest Department
6. Livestock Department
7. Agriculture Department
8. Deputy Commissioner
9. Assistant Commissioner
10. Member National Assembly
11. Member Provincial Assembly
12. Zakat Foundation
13. Ehsaas Cash Grant Programme
14. Sindh Education Foundation
15. Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Prpductivity Enhancement Project
16. National Food Security and Research

Below are the names of NGOs and Private Sector Organisations the LSOs engaged with for developing productive linkages:

NGOs

1. Community Health Solution
2. Global Fund Against TB, AIDS and Malaria
3. Jafaria Disaster Cell
4. Bridge Consultant Foundation
5. SAFWCO
6. Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project
7. Server 4 Sale
8. FAO
9. Research and Development Fund (RDF)
10. Sindh Community Foundation

Private Sector Organisations

1. NRSP Micro Finance Bank

It is hoped that the RSP field staff, M&E professionals and other development practitioners will find the LSO Initiatives compiled in this book as useful resource materials for improving their practical understanding about the functions of the LSOs.












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Rural Support Programmes Network

September, 2021

LSO Dad Jarwar

District  Tando Allahyar	Union Council  Dad Jarwar	Date of Formation  July 25 2017	Total Households in Union Council  4,357	Organised Households  1,595	Coverage  37%
Number of Community Organisations (COs)  77 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  7 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members  31 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members  15 (all women)	Total Savings of member COs by October 31, 2020  Rs 95,900	

(LSO Profile as of October 31, 2020)

LSO Dad Jarwar from District Tando Allahyar was formed on 25th July 2017 by 1,595 member households organised into 77 COs and 7 VOs. The women leaders of LSO Dad Jarwar are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, holding the service providers accountable, and taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Response to COVID-19

The women Community Resource Persons (CRPs) are providing awareness to LSO members about the pandemic and educating them about safeguarding and preventive measures during the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions in the COs. Following the guidelines of the Government of Sindh, the CRPs ensure a six feet distance among the participants during the CO meetings. After delivering the scheduled CAT sessions, the CRPs educate the participants about preventive measures against the spread of COVID-19, which include: a) wash hands frequently with soap, b) avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth without first washing hands, c) follow cough/sneeze hygiene practices, d) stay home, e) maintain physical distancing (avoid large gatherings and keep a distance of at least 6 feet



Awareness session on COVID-19 during CO Meeting

when in the company of others), and f) wear a face mask if sick with cold/flu-like symptoms or when outside the home in an area with others. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic till-date, 14 CRPs of the LSO have conducted 309 sessions in all 77 COs. Apart from this, the women LSO leaders, in collaboration with member VOs and COs made announcements from local mosques to propagate awareness about the pandemic in all four revenue villages of the UC. The COVID-19 awareness continues in the union council through the network of CO/VO/LSO and CRPs.

During the lockdown period imposed by the Government to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the LSO leaders provided

in-kind support i.e. essential food items, soaps, etc. to 120 poorest households with the support of the UC chairman. The District Government notified the UC level Food Distribution Committee in which Ms Lachhmi, the President of LSO Dad Jarwar was nominated as a member. Some seven women members of the LSO stitched face masks at their homes and distributed 220 masks among the poor families. The LSO has also distributed 156 face masks, 120 hand gloves, and 379 soaps among the community members with the support of other donors.

The women LSO leaders managed to register 1,051 poor families under the Federal Government's EHSAAS Emergency Cash Programme. Out of them, 470 families have received PKR 12,000 each from the Programme. Thus, the LSO leaders' support for these vulnerable families was instrumental in getting PKR 5.64 million from government sources.

Provision of Safe Drinking Water

Clean water is an essential commodity for drinking and washing bodies and utensils. Polluted water causes serious diseases both in human beings and domestic animals. The women leaders of LSO Dad Jarwar realised this fact and took self-initiatives to identify the quality of 51 communal water sources through the CRPs. With the technical and financial support of NRSP's core funded "Water, Immunisation, Sanitation and Education" (WISE) programme, the water samples were tested from the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR). According to the test results, 32 water sources were found safe for human consumption while 19 water sources were found unfit for human consumption. The LSO leaders marked both safe and unsafe water sources with green and red colours and told the relevant people to abstain from using unsafe water sources for drinking and cooking purposes. However, they can use these water sources for the washing of clothes and carpets, etc. The CRPs, hired and trained under EU funded SUCCESS Programme, conducted awareness sessions on using safe drinking water in the CO meetings. Moreover, the LSO



Water Source labelled Green (safe source) after testing

leaders approached external agencies to install hand pumps in the areas where the community water sources were found unfit for drinking and cooking. The LSO leaders installed 30 hand pumps with the financial support of the Local Government and 160 hand pumps with the financial support of the Akhuwat Foundation in UC Dad Jarwar. As a result of these efforts, 1,529 families are now accessing safe drinking water in the UC.

Support to the Government Health Department in Immunisation of Children and Pregnant Women

The women LSO leaders actively supported the Government Health Department in the effective launch of routine immunisation campaigns at the UC level through the CRPs. The CRPs and VO leaders helped the vaccinators, LHWs, and Polio teams in immunisation. They also convinced those families who were resisting to allow the vaccines to be given to their children. They also informed government teams about the children missed in the campaigns, so that they could overcome the gap during their follow up visits. Due to the coordinated efforts of the LSO and Health Department, the vaccination campaigns achieved maximum results at the UC level. Since June 2019, the LSO leaders are also working with the NRSP core-funded WISE programme. The WISE programme is integrated with SUCCESS CAT sessions. Through these integrated efforts, CRPs are delivering sessions on routine immunisation to create awareness of the routine immunisation in the community. As the result of LSO efforts through CRPs sessions and support of the Government Health Department, 86.64% of children age 0-11 months completed the vaccine till PENTAVALENT III, while 88.56% of children age 12-23 months completed the Measles II vaccination. Apart from this, 70.97% of women aged between 15-49 years completed the TT-II vaccine.



LSO leaders cooperating Govt. Health Department in Immunisation

Provision of Sanitation Facilities

Sanitation and solid waste management are the most ignored chapters of the poor rural communities of Pakistan, especially in Sindh. There are many socioeconomic, political, and policy-level issues behind this ignorance and untold story. The dumps of animal wastage, firewood, dung, crop residues, and open defecation in the village are telling the worst story of sanitation issues and practices of the rural communities in terms of environmental protection and sustainability.



Community Based Mud Made Kachra Kundhi for Solid Waste Management at HH Level

The people in villages are adopting the traditional methods for sanitation and solid waste management in rural areas because there is no proper sanitation and solid waste disposed/ management mechanism at a household or village level. Mostly, villages are found with heaps of animal dung and other waste. People use to throw the waste of their homes in front of their own houses without sorting it, which slowly converted into heaps and when the winds blow the same waste spreads in the village which has the hazardous impacts on the lives of the village people. Open defecation in villages is also a cause of serious health issues for the villagers.



Rural Women are engaged in Sanitation

These sanitation issues have also been faced by the rural poor communities of the LSO Dad Jarwar, district Tando Allahyar, before they were organised. After the implementation of the European Union funded Sindh Union Council & Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme, the community organisations were formed, and further, these community organisations formed Village organisation and Local Support Organisations. The women of the Dad Jarwar Local Support Organisation started to conduct regular meetings and discussed the issues of the union council and solutions of those problems. The LSO, with Support of NRSP core-funded Water Immunisation, Sanitation and Education (WISE) programme, trained the CRPs on above-mentioned indicators and further CRPs also raised the awareness on these important indicators through CAT/WISE sessions focussed on sanitation. The women are, sensitised, mobilised, and motivated through these sessions and in results they started to work on a self-help basis to cope up the problems of sanitation with their efforts under CAT/WISE interventions. The president of Local Support Organisation of UC Dad Jarwar Ms Lachhmi narrated her view and said that “despite waiting for the big thing and miracles, we have to do the little things which are in our hands and by doing this we can solve many issues on our own and we are doing the same”. The LSO with support of NRSP-WISE and SUCCESS programme conducted sanitation campaign in 49 villages/settlements. As a result of the campaigns, 15 villages are now clean and the process of village cleaning is going on. To put in place a proper solid waste mechanism in the UC, the community constructed mud-made dustbins at household level which they called “Kachra Kundhi” in the local language on the self-help basis. So far, 106 Kachra Kundhi's are constructed in the UC. In addition to that, 15 Plastic dustbins/drums are also installed at the prominent sites identified by the LSO in the UC under the WISE project. The organised rural women also involved themselves in latrine construction to mitigate the issue of open defecation and constructed 668 different low-cost latrines on a self-help basis.



Community constructed latrine on self-help basis

Enhance Education Activities

LSO Dad Jarwar is also working on the education sector with the support of Government education department and NRSP under the WISE programme. The LSO identified 2,489 out of school children in the age of 04-12 years through the household survey of treatment area under the WISE programme. After identification of these out of school children, the CRPs conducted a series of sessions on the importance of education in the CO meetings. The LSO also conducted an enrolment campaign at UC level to increase the awareness and interest of the community members in the education of their children, especially girls. The LSO organised two Activists Workshop focussed on education in which children also participated in quiz and speech competitions with the technical and financial support of NRSP. As of the reporting period, a total of 588 out of school children were enrolled in different government schools and Madrasas of Union Council. With the efforts of the LSO leaders, one closed Government School has also been re-opened in village Ismail Mehrani. The school was closed because of the lack of a teacher. On the advice of the LSO leaders, the VO leaders conducted a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner of district Tando Allahyar and submitted an application for the provision of teacher and thus a teacher was appointed in the school. Currently, 35 students are studying in this school.



Community Leaders conducting meeting with Deputy Commissioner for providing the teacher in the school

LSO initiatives on CIVIC Rights and Family Planning

LSO Dad Jarwar is also working on the awareness of Civic rights and family planning under the NRSP funded WISE programme. The CRPs hired under the EU funded SUCCESS programme deliver awareness sessions on these topics during their monthly CAT sessions with COs. These sessions are creating awareness of the importance of civic rights and family planning. In the result of Civic rights sessions, people of the union councils are motivated and formed 293 CNICs, 14 B-forms, 16 Birth Certificates, 29 Nikah Nama and 7 death certificates in the union council on self-help basis. The Women of the UC are also motivated and 60 women adopted family planning and methods for birth spacing.

Screening of Community Members for Identification of Tuberculosis Patients

To identify the cases of Tuberculosis (TB), the LSO through the network of NRSP conducted screening of the community individuals at the household level. This screening facility is facilitated by a CHS funded project Zindagi Naimat Hey implemented by NRSP. A total of 1,667 individuals were screened in the UC by the CRPs, out of these, 165 individuals were found with TB symptoms and were provided tokens for the treatment and referred to CHS TB centre for free treatment.



CRP distributing Voucher to Identified TB patients

Vaccination of Domestic Livestock from Government Livestock Department

Livestock plays a key role in the rural economy. The people of UC Dad Jarwar keep buffaloes, cows, goats and sheep to get milk and meat for their domestic consumption as well as for selling the extra milk and animals in the market. Domestic animals also provide green fertiliser for their farm fields. However, communicable viral diseases were common which effected the milk production and weight of their animals. When the Community Livestock Extension Worker (CLEW) was trained under the EU Funded PINS programme from Government Livestock Department, the LSO leaders came into close contact with the Livestock Department staff and learnt about the services and supplies they can provide to interested communities. So the LSO put up applications to the Livestock Department for vaccinating their animals. The Livestock Department sent their staff to the villages and the concerned VO activists cooperated with them in terms of announcing the vaccination date and time in advance and ensuring that all animals in the village have received vaccines. So far, the Government Livestock Department vaccinated 5,306 animals, including 1,830 buffaloes, 528 cows, 2,418 goats, and 530 sheep in the union council. It is hoped that regular vaccination will make the domestic

animals safe from the communicable viral diseases in future resulting in considerable saving of economic losses for the LSO members.



Livestock Vaccination by Govt. Livestock Department

Plantation of Trees

Realising the strategic importance of trees as family assets, providing shade in hot weather, providing fodder for domestic animals and cleaning the air etc., the LSO leaders decided to join hands with the GoS in their tree plantation campaign. The LSO leaders recognised that they learnt about afforestation during the CAT sessions provided by the CRPs. On the instruction of the LSO leaders, the Village



Tree Plantation by the LSO membes

Organisation (VO) leaders raised awareness among their member COs about the benefits and importance of tree plantation and created effective demand for planting materials. They submitted the demands for tree saplings to the LSO leaders. The LSO leaders then approached the Forest Department for provision of rooted trees for onward distribution among CO members through VOs. The LSO leaders on the self-help basis and with the support of NRSP ENRM sector, bought 1,000 saplings at subsidised rates from the Forest Department and Agriculture Entrepreneur at VO level sold 300 Moringa samplings on subsidised rates to the CO members. The LSO leaders purchased 200 trees also on self-help basis and distributed them amongst the CO members through the relevant VOs. Thus 1,500 trees have been planted in different villages of the UC. The tree plantation process is continued and LSO is raising awareness for tree plantation through their CRPs and the LSO members are committed to planting more trees in future.

Provision of Tents and Mosquito Nets to Monsoon Rain Flood Affected Families












During the heavy monsoon rains in August 2020, some parts of Tando Allahyar, especially tehsil Chamber, were affected by rainwater. Some villages of UC Dad Jarwar were also severely affected during these rains. After the rain, these villages were flooded and went underwater. The LSO leaders immediately contacted the NRSP staff for the support of the affected families. NRSP provided 50 tents and 50 mosquito nets to the poor rural affected communities from its core funding.



Tent Distribution by LSO President in flood affected families



LSO Masoo Bozdar

District  Tando Allahyar	Union Council  Masoo Bozdar	Date of Formation  July 26 2017	Total Households in Union Council  2,954	Organised Households  1,050	Coverage  36%
Number of Community Organisations (COs)  48 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  5 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members  26 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members  12 (all women)	Total Savings of member COs by November 30, 2020  Rs 73,500	

(LSO Profile as of November 30, 2020)

LSO Masoo Bozdar from District Tando Allahyar was formed on 26th July 2017 by 1,050 member households organised into 48 COs and 5 VOs. The women leaders of LSO Masoo Bozdar are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, holding the service providers accountable, and taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic was confirmed to have reached Pakistan on 26 February 2020, when two cases were recorded. By 17 June, each district in Pakistan had recorded at least one confirmed case of COVID-19. Both the Federal and Provincial Governments launched campaigns to combat the pandemic. The organised communities in the forms of COs, VOs, and LSOs under the EU-funded SUCCESS Programme also initiated self-help initiatives to address the issue at the local level. Later on, they coordinated with the Government and helped the authorities in their fight against the pandemic. Below are the activities of the organised communities in this regard:

- ◆ The women Community Resource Persons (CRPs) are providing awareness to LSO members about the



A CRP delivering awareness session on COVID-19 in a CO meeting

pandemic and educating them about safeguarding and preventive measures during the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions in the CO meetings. Following the guidelines of the Government of Sindh, the CRPs ensure keeping a six feet distance among the participants during the CO meetings. After delivering the scheduled CAT sessions, the CRPs educate the participants about preventive measures against the spread of COVID-19,

which include hand wash frequently with soap, avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth without first washing hands, stay home, avoid large gatherings, and keep a distance of at least 6 feet when in the company of others, and wear a face mask if sick with cold/ flu-like symptoms or when outside the home in an area with others. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic to date, 10 CRPs of the LSO have conducted 124 sessions in all 48 COs. To further proliferate the information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic among the communities, the women LSO leaders, in collaboration with VO and CO leaders are making announcements from local mosques in all villages. The COVID-19 awareness continues in the union council through the network of CO/VO/LSO and CRPs.

- ◆ With the support of the UC chairman, the LSO leaders provided essential food items to the 200 poorest households.
- ◆ The women members of LSO stitched 51 face masks and distributed them in poor households. The LSO also distributed 90 face masks, 90 hand gloves, and 249 soaps with the support of external donors.
- ◆ The women LSO leaders managed to register 445 poor families under the Federal Government's EHSAA Emergency Cash Programme. Out of them, 215 families have received PKR 12,000 each from the Programme. Thus the poorest families received PKR 2.58 million from government sources.

Provision of Clean Drinking Water

Disease-causing germs and chemicals can find their way into water supplies. The water which people drink and use for other purposes must be clean and safe. Therefore, testing the sources of drinking water and informing the community members about clean and polluted water sources significantly improve their health status.



A source of safe drinking water coloured in green



A source of polluted water coloured in red

The LSO Masoo Bozdar did not know about the safety of the drinking water sources in their villages. The NRSP core-funded Water, Immunization, Sanitation, and Education (WISE) programme educated the LSO leaders about this important issue, and offered them to launch a collaborative programme on WISE. With the technical support of NRSP, the LSO leaders identified 38 communal water sources through their CRPs. After identification of these communal water sources, the LSO leaders tested these water sources from PCRWR and found that 28 water sources are clean while 10 are polluted and unfit for human consumption. The LSO painted the safe sources of water with green and unsafe ones with red colours. The CRPs conducted continuous sessions on the importance of using safe drinking water and avoiding using water from polluted sources. As a result of these awareness sessions, the effective demand for safe drinking water rose very high in the LSO members and they approached external sources for installation of hand pumps in areas where the water sources were clean. As a result of these efforts, the LSO leaders were able to install 30 hand pumps with the financial support of the Local Government and 160 hand pumps with the financial support of Khidmat-e-Khalq and Junaid Jamshed Charity in UC Masoo Bozdar. As a result of the efforts of the women LSO leaders, 1,446 households are now accessing safe drinking water across the union council.

Support to the Government Health Department in Immunisation Activities

The women LSO leaders actively supported the Government Health Department in the effective launch of routine immunisation campaigns at the UC level. On the advice of the LSO leaders, the CRPs and VO leaders helped the vaccinators, LHWs, and Polio teams in the immunisation programmes. They also convinced those families who were resisting vaccination of their children due to illogical myths and suspicion. They also identified the children missed in the vaccination campaigns and provided their list to the concerned Health Department staff, and they vaccinated them during their follow up visits.

Since June 2019, the LSO is also working with the NRSP core-funded WISE programme. The WISE programme has been integrated with the SUCCESS programme's CAT sessions, and the CRPs are delivering sessions to create





Vaccination of children by Govt. Health Department

awareness about the benefits of immunisation in the community. As a result of these LSO efforts, 84% of children aged 0-11 months completed the vaccine till PENTAVALENT III, while 76% of children aged 12-23 months completed the Measles II vaccination. Apart from this, 50% of pregnant women aged between 15-49 years completed the TT-II vaccine across the UC.



Vaccination of women by Govt. Health Department

Improving Sanitation Status of the UC

Sanitation and solid waste management is an ignored chapter of the poor rural communities of Pakistan, especially in Sindh. The people in villages are adopting the traditional methods for sanitation and solid waste management in rural areas because there is no proper sanitation and solid waste disposed/management mechanism exists at the household or village level. Mostly, villages are found with heaps of animal dung and other waste. People throw the waste of their homes in front of their own houses without sorting it, which

slowly get converted into heaps. When the wind blows, the same waste spreads in the village which has hazardous impacts on the lives of the villagers. Open defecation in villages is another serious issue for the villagers. Research suggests that diarrhoea and other problems associated with ingesting and exposure to human waste affect children under the age of 5 years the most since they are very susceptible to diseases.



A woman preparing a mud dustbin

Before they were organised, the community members of LSO Masoo Bozdar were facing similar problems. After organising in COs, VO, and LSO under the EU-funded SUCCESS Programme, they discussed their common issues and prioritised them under their development plans. The sanitation issue was raised as one of the priority issues and they decided to resolve them. The LSO leaders, in collaboration with NRSP's core-funded Water, Immunisation, Sanitation, and Education (WISE) programme trained the CRPs on conducting awareness sessions on sanitation. The



Village cleaning campaign in progress in a UC village



A low-cost latrine constructed by a community member



Enrollment Campaign by LSO leaders

CRPs raised the awareness of communities on the importance and benefits of adopting proper sanitation practices through CAT sessions during the CO meetings and motivated them to take action on a self-help basis. The LSO with support of the WISE programme, conducted village cleaning campaigns in 27 villages. As a result of the campaigns, 11 villages have now become clean. The village cleaning process will continue till all villages are cleaned. To place a proper solid waste mechanism in the UC, the LSO members constructed mud-made dustbins at the household level on a self-help basis which they call “Kachra Kundhi” in the local language. So far, a total of 76 dustbins have been constructed in the UC. In addition to that, 15 plastic dustbins have also been installed at the prominent sites in the UC identified by the LSO leaders with the financial support of the WISE project. The organised rural women also involved themselves in latrine construction to mitigate the issue of open defecation. On their motivation, 342 poor families who defecated openly, constructed low-cost latrines on a self-help basis. The sanitation activity is still going on, and the LSO leaders are trying to clean all villages and settlements in the UC and transforming them into open defecation free areas as soon as possible.

LSO Education Initiatives

Many school-aged girls and boys are out of school in the UC. Some of the main reasons for out-of-school children included poverty, access issues, illiterate parents, poor quality of education, and teachers' attitudes. The women leaders of LSO Masoo Bozdar are therefore working to improve school enrolment and resolve other education-related issues in their UC. With the support of the Government Education Department and NRSP funded WISE project, the LSO identified 2,303 out of school children aged between 04-12 years through a household survey of the treatment area of the UC. (The UC is one of the research UCs under the SUCCESS

Programme, and half of the UC has been earmarked as treatment and the other half as controlled areas.) After identification of these out of school children, the CRPs conducted a series of sessions on the importance of education in the CO meetings. The LSO leaders also conducted an enrolment campaign at the UC level for increasing the enrolment of out of school children in schools. Till November 2020, a total of 449 out of school children were enrolled in different government schools and Madrasas of the Union Council. The enrollment campaign is still on, and the LSO leaders are doing their best to enrol all out of school girls and boys in schools.

LSO initiatives on Improving Civil Registration

Pakistan ranks amongst the countries with the lowest levels of birth registration. So is the case in UC Masoo Bozdar. Similarly, registration of marriages and deaths are also very rare in the UC. Moreover, many rural women and men do not have CNICs and have not renewed their expired CNICs. Therefore, the leaders of LSO Masoo Bozdar decided to improve civil registration in their UC. On the instruction of the LSO leaders, the CRPs deliver awareness sessions on the importance of civil registration in CO meetings. As a result of these sessions, the people of the UC have started civil registration. So far, they have prepared CNICs of 65 women and men, 15 birth certificates, 10 marriage certificates, and 15 death certificates in the union council on a self-help basis.

Test to Identify Tuberculosis (TB) Cases

Pakistan, with an estimated 510,000 new TB cases emerging each year and approximately 15,000 drug-resistant TB cases every year, is ranked fifth among the high-burden countries worldwide. Therefore, to identify the TB cases, the LSO leaders conducted screening of the community individuals at



the household level. This screening activity was facilitated by Community Health Solution (CHS) funded project Zindagi Naimat Hey, implemented by NRSP. A total of 1,100 individuals were screened in the UC by the CRPs, out of these, 93 individuals were found with TB symptoms. These patients with symptoms were provided tokens for treatment and referred to the CHS TB Centre for free treatment.



TB screening in progress

Vaccination of Livestock in Collaboration with Govt. Livestock Department

Livestock plays a significant role in the economy of the UC people because they produce meat, milk, manure, and hides for them. Hence they are important productive assets. However, due to widespread communicable diseases, the production of livestock has suffered heavily, and sometimes the animals die, causing huge losses to the poor families. When a Community Livestock Extension Worker (CLEW) was trained under the EU-Funded PINS ER3 Programme, he created awareness among the LSO leaders about the vaccination of animals. Motivated by his ideas, the LSO leaders approached the Government Livestock Department and requested for vaccination of their animals. On the advice of the LSO leaders, the concerned VO leaders provided needful support to the Livestock Department staff, and they started vaccination of their animals. So far, they have vaccinated 1,175 animals, including 621 buffalos and cows and 554 goats and sheep. It is expected that the vaccination will prove instrumental in controlling the communicable viral diseases in animals and consequently will save the economic losses of the beneficiary families.



Vaccination of livestock by Govt. Livestock Department











Tree Plantation

Sensitised by the CAT session on the benefits of tree plantation, the LSO leaders decided to plant trees at a large scale throughout their UC. On the instruction of the LSO leaders, the Village Organisation (VO) leaders raised awareness among their member COs about the benefits and importance of tree plantation and created effective demand for planting materials, and submitted the demands for tree saplings to the LSO leaders. The LSO leaders then approached the Government Forest Department for the provision of rooted trees for onward distribution among CO members through VOs. The LSO leaders bought 1,000 saplings at subsidised rates from the Forest Department and distributed them among CO members who planted them in their courtyards and other free spaces near their houses. The Agriculture Entrepreneurs trained and supported by the EU-funded PINS ER3 Programme sold 250 Moringa tree saplings on subsidised rates and the LSO purchased 100 trees on a self-help basis and distributed them amongst the CO members. Thus, a total of 1,350 trees have been planted in the UC. The process continues and the LSO and VO leaders are planning to plant more trees in the future.



Pictures of a Moringa nursery and a tree planted by a CO member in her courtyard



LSO Shahanshah, Jamshoro

District  Jamshoro	Union Council  Jaffarabad	Date of Formation  20 2018	Total Households in Union Council  1,471	Organised Households  1,328
Coverage  90%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  74 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  10 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members  26 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members  15 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 December 2020)

LSO Shahanshah, from District Jamshoro was formed in January 2018 by 1,328 member households organised into 74 COs and 10 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Shahanshah are planning and implementing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Campaign for Enrolment of Children in Schools

Enrollment of Out of School Girls and Boys in Government Schools		Children Enrolled in Schools by LSO Leaders	
No of Out of School Children			
Girls	 325	165	51%
Boys	 250	110	44%
Total	575	275	48%

In the union council of Jaffarabad, 73% of school-going age children including 81% girls and 73% boys are out of school (SUCCESS PSC Survey 2016). Among many supply side and demand side issues, lack of awareness among parents about the importance of education is one of the reasons for such huge number of out of school children. The women Community Resource Persons (CRPs) under the EU funded SUCCESS programme have conducted awareness raising sessions with women community leaders and members on the strategic and practical importance of education. As a result of these sessions, the LSO leaders decided to transform this mass awareness into action. The women LSO leaders then motivated all VO leaders to lead enrolment campaigns for admission of girls and boys into schools. The women VO leaders first identified the number of out of school children and found that a total of 575 children (345 girls and 230 boys), were not going to school in union council Jaffarabad. They then started doing house to house visits in their respective villages to motivate and guide the parents for enrollment of their children in school. Simultaneously, they held meetings with the head teachers of the schools and sought their support for maximum enrolment of students. Because of these efforts, 275 children (165 girls and 110 boys) were enrolled in the local government schools during the last two years. The remaining 300 boys and girls are still out of school. The LSO leaders are committed that they will ensure 100% enrolment of school age girls and boys in schools by the next academic session.

Activities to Enhance the Status of Education

During the enrolment campaign, the LSO leaders learned that three government schools were closed in villages Ramzan Panhyar, Koor Miyani and Sher Muhammad Khoso due to unavailability of teachers. Moreover, they realised that due to lack of a middle school for girls in their UC, the girls drop out of school. Some of the girls were going to the neighboring UC Bhan Saeedabad for getting education, while a majority of the girls had to discontinue their education after primary level.

On 10th of November 2019, the members of LSO Executive Committee invited the Assistant Commissioner (AC) Sehwan Mr. Noor Ahmed Khahro and Union Council Chairman Mr. Ghulam Qadir Bhalai in their monthly meeting. The LSO leaders briefed them about the problems they faced regarding education, especially female education, clean drinking water and health facilities and other development needs in their UC. As part of their Union Council Development Plan, the LSO members submitted an application to the AC Sehwan for establishing a girls' middle school in UC Jaffarabad. The AC promised to raise their problem with the Education Department to allocate funds for construction of a girls' middle school in the UC.



LSO leaders meeting with UC Chairman

The LSO leaders also explained the issue of unavailability of teachers in three schools and submitted an application to appoint teachers in those schools. On the advice of the AC, the Tehsil Education Officer (TEO) appointed teachers in two government schools located in villages Ramzan Panhyar and Koor Miyani. These two schools are now functional and both girl and boy students have resumed their education.

The government school in village Haji Khan Bozdar has no boundary wall. Due to lack of the boundary wall, the girl and boy students feel themselves unsafe in the school. Moreover, the playground around the school building could not be maintained properly, therefore, the students cannot play in it. The LSO leaders explained the issue with the AC and the UC Chairman and asked them to arrange funds for construction of the boundary wall. The AC and the UC Chairman promised to provide the needful help in this regard.

The women LSO leaders feel so proud for being able to invite the AC and UC Chairman in their monthly meeting. Though most of their development issues were not resolved through this meeting, but they feel satisfied that at least first time in the history of their UC, both the AC and UC Chairman accepted their invitation and came to meet them at their LSO office, listened to them and promised to provide whatever help they can to resolve the development issues raised by them. They rightly think that this was a new window of opportunities that they have opened for themselves with the help of their LSO forum.



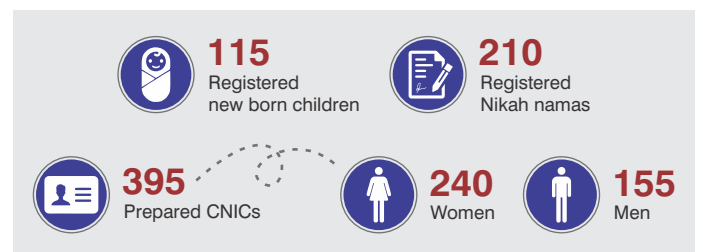
The Govt. Primary School without a boundary wall

Support to Malnourished Children

Identified and treated **7** malnourished children

After getting sensitised about the importance of nutrition during the awareness-raising session on nutrition under the EU funded Programme for Improved Nutrition (PINS) programme, the LSO leaders conducted a survey in the union council to identify the number of malnourished children. Seven children were identified who were suffering from malnourishment and in critical condition. The LSO leaders shared the data of these children with the nutrition experts, who checked them properly and provided them with required food and food supplements. The LSO leaders are taking these children to Bhan Saeedabad and Sehwan Hospital for regular check-up on monthly basis. As a result of the treatment and proper care, the health status of these children is improving steadily.

Support to Members for Civic Registration



There was no tradition of birth registration among the common people in UC Jaffarabad. If the birth registration is not done on time, people face immense difficulties at the time of admission of children in school and later on getting National Identity Card.

In Pakistan, all adult citizens are required to hold a valid Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) upon reaching the age of 18. It serves as an identification document to authenticate an individual's identity as the citizen of Pakistan. A valid CNIC is required to get financial support from BISP, Zakat and Baitulmal departments, receive medical facilities from Government and private health institutions, buy a bus or railway ticket for travel, buy a SIM card for the mobile phone, caste vote during elections and open bank accounts. However, a large number of adult women and men of UC Jaffarabad had never made their CNICs. Moreover, a significant number of women and men had not renewed their expired CNICs. Therefore, they were deprived of many important services and supplies from Government and other agencies.

The Muslim Family Law Ordinance, under Section 5, requires mandatory registration of all marriages performed under Muslim Law. For the purposes of registration, every Union Council appoints a Nikah Registrar in its area and that Nikah Registrar is issued a license by the Union Council. The Nikah-nama describes the rights and obligations agreed upon by both parties (the bride and the groom) which confirms the consent of both the husband and the wife. If the Nikah is not registered, then both partners have to face legal and social problems in settling sustenance, divorce and inheritance cases. But very few families used to register Nikah-nama.

The awareness sessions delivered by the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) on the need and importance of basic registrations was instrumental in inspiring the LSO leaders for launching campaigns on birth and nikah registration and having valid CNICs. So far, they have been successful in registering 115 new born children and obtaining birth certificates, preparing 395 CNICs including 240 women and 155 men and registering 210 Nikah namas.

Activities to Improve Health Status of the UC Residents

400 souls including
160 women and **240** men
vaccinated against **Hepatitis B**

UC Jaffarabad is located in a remote corner of district Jamshoro. Therefore, the medical institutions and staff of both the Government and private sectors are out of reach of a large number of the poor families of the UC. The drinking

water sources are mostly polluted across the UC, so diarrhoea and skin diseases are common among both children and adults. Therefore, the LSO leaders informed the members of their VO's to go and get medical checkup and medicines from the two medical camps organised in the neighboring UC Bubak.

Hepatitis B is spreading fast among the UC people due to using polluted water for drinking and dish washing. The good news is that the hepatitis B vaccine gives more than 90% protection to people who get the vaccine. However, the community members were not aware about Hepatitis B vaccination. The LSO leaders took efforts and conducted meetings with community elders and convinced them for vaccination. They also approached the District Health Officer (DHO) and requested him to organise a medical camp at village Nangar Khan Brohi. The DHO agreed with the LSO leaders and sent a vaccination team to the village. The LSO organised the medical camp and informed the community people about the date and venue of the medical camp in advance. Over 400 people including 160 women and 240 men were vaccinated against Hepatitis B. The LSO leaders are planning to organise more medical camps to vaccinate maximum population of their UC.

Efforts to Combat COVID-19

When COVID-19 pandemic hit the country, the LSO leaders initiated self-help initiatives to address the issues faced by their community at local level. Later on, they coordinated with the Government and helped the authorities in their fight against the pandemic. Below are the activities of the LSO Shanshah in this regard:

97 families were provided
ration bags from **local Sardar**

- During the lockdown period, the poorest families who were dependent on daily wage income faced a food crisis, as their income sources were closed and the prices of food items had gone very high. The LSO leaders decided to help such families. They went to meet a local Sardar/land lord, briefed him about the plight of the poorest families and requested him for help. The Sardar provided them ration bags to such families. The Sardar asked the LSO leaders not mention his name and never take pictures of the beneficiaries, because he wanted to avoid worldly reputation. The ration bags had 20kg wheat, 5kg rice, 2kg edible oil, 2kg sugar, garam masala packets and 4 body soaps. The LSO leaders, with the support of VO leaders, identified deserving families and distributed food items among 97 families in villages Nangar Khan Brohi, Koor Miyani, Ramzan Panhyar, Sobho Khan Lund, Haji Khan Bozdar, Arbi Daro. Shaikh, Bangal Khan Bozdar, Bahadur Khan Chandio and Sher Muhammad Khoso.

More than **500** poor families received funds from **EHSAAS Cash Grant**

- When the Federal Govt. announced EHSAAS Cash Grant Programme, the LSO leaders realised that a large number of eligible families would not be able to register themselves online. They, therefore, held meetings with their VO leaders and motivated them to help the poor families get themselves registered with EHSAAS Cash Grant on time using mobile messages. As a result of their timely effort, more than 500 families received PKR12,000 per family from the Govt.

250 families were provided ration bags from **Government**

- As part of the agreement signed between RSPN/RSPs and NCOC to take collaborative efforts to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, TRDP signed an MoU with the district Government Sehwan to support in COVID-19 efforts by involving the LSOs. LSO Shahanshah also took part in this initiative. On the request of the Local Government Authorities, the LSO nominated the LSO President and Community Book Keeper (CBK) to become member of the Local Committee for identification of eligible members to receive ration bags and other support from the Government. The two LSO members validated the list of beneficiaries prepared by the Government Authorities and took out the non-eligible families from the list and included the missing eligible members in it. The CBK accompanied distribution of the ration bags in three villages to ensure that the ration bags are distributed among the listed families. The Government Authorities distributed in the remaining villages. A total of 250 poor families received ration bags from the Government.
- TRDP decided to provide Income Generation Grants (IGGs) to the poorest families on an emergency basis from the EU funded SUCCESS programme, so that they



The poorest members of the LSO receiving their IGG cheques from TRDP

start small scale income generating activities. The LSO leaders helped the member COs and VOs to process the identification, documentation and distribution of IGGs on a fast track.

Plantation of Trees

A total of **2,200** trees planted by the **LSO members** in their **UC**









The people of UC Shahanshah had never realised that how important roles trees play in their lives, like reducing the heat during summer by providing shade, improving the air quality by producing oxygen and inhaling carbon di oxide gas, producing fodder for their domestic animals and fruits to improve their nutrition. After attending the CAT awareness sessions under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, they learned about the benefits of trees. Therefore, they decided to plant trees in their UC area. They purchased rooted plants from government and private nurseries and distributed them among their members who planted them in their courtyards and other free spaces. They also advised their members to uproot the unwanted tree saplings grown in their farm fields and re-plant them in free spaces in their courtyards and other nearby places.

They also received 800 Moringa tree saplings from the EU funded ER 3 programme and distributed among the poorest members. Moringa tree has several nutritious benefits. Its leaves have 7 times more vitamin C than oranges and 15 times more potassium than bananas. It also has calcium, protein, iron, and amino acids, which help human body heal and build muscle. It is also packed with antioxidants, substances that can protect cells from damage and may boost people's immune system. Thus, the Moringa trees will improve the nutrition status of the family members after they are grown up and the family members eat its leaves. So the LSO and VO leaders were succeeded in planting a total of 2,200 trees in their UC.



An LSO member watering her newly planted tree

LSO Umeed, Jamshoro

District  Jamshoro	Union Council  Allah Bacho Shoro	Date of Formation  Jan 25 2017	Total Households in Union Council  5,953	Organised Households  2,633
Coverage  44%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  146 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  15 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  27 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  15 <small>(all women)</small>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 March 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



PKR 69,90,000
LSO managing CIF Amount



Disbursed
359
CIF loans worth of PKR 9,669,000
to **244** poor households
out of 1,219 total eligible



65
poorest households out of
65 eligible HHs (100%) benefited
from income generating grants
worth of PKR 1,374,000



397
Poorest households and
2,779 number of people have
micro health insurance coverage



62 women and
01 man
received technical vocational
skills training



8
community physical
infrastructures implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **8 different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)** schemes in the Union council Allah Bacho Shoro, under SUCCESS programme. Total worth of these schemes is **Rs: 3,373,838** and total **904 households** are benefited from these schemes. Total **2,771 (1,345 females and 1,426 male)** population is benefited from these

schemes. The schemes include CC Pavement, Drainage, Brick Pavement of streets, Hand Pumps, Latrine, Extension of Water Supply Line and Lining of Water Course. The schemes have improved the access to mobility, hygiene, sanitation and provision of drinkable water to the beneficiary rural population.

Activities carried out through self-help and in collaboration with Government and donor agencies:

1. Prepared **2,200 CNICs**, mainly for women members of its UC and registered them in the voter lists
2. Reopened **2** closed **Government Schools** with the help of Assistant Commissioner
3. Made **2 Government Schools** fully functional by filling the vacant posts of teachers
4. Carried out repair and maintenance of **3 Government School buildings** through their SMCs
5. Enrolled **2,422** out of school **children** in schools
6. Motivated **1,095 pregnant women** to adopt safe delivery
7. Provided **medical checkup** and free medicines to around **2,000** men and women by organising **3** medical camps in the UC
8. **Vaccinated domestic animals** in three villages in collaboration with Government Livestock Department
9. **660** couples registered their marriages with NADRA and **400** newborn children received their birth certificates from NADRA
10. Planted **1,000 trees** in collaboration with Forest Department
11. Opened bank accounts of **15 member** VOs

LSO Umeed, from District Jamshoro was formed in January 2017 by 2,633 member households organised into 146 COs and 15 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Umeed are planning and implementing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Campaign for Voter Registration of Women

Voting is a very important part of any democracy. Local Bodies elections in particular have the power to impact everyday life, such as healthcare, education, communication, public safety, dispute resolution, peace and harmony and environment.

Prepared 2,200 CNICs, mainly for women members of its UC and registered them in the voter lists



LSO leaders discussing Voter Registration matter with TRDP staff

In Pakistan today, women comprise less than half of the country's registered voters, owing to the challenges they face obtaining ID cards, the distance to polling stations, and cultural norms that restrict women to the home. The voter registration ratio of women from rural areas of Sindh is very low. According to reports, only around 40% of eligible women are registered in the voter list with the Election Commission. To increase the female voter ratio, the District Election Commissioner Jamshoroo met with TRDP District Manager at her office in Jamshoroo in the month of March 2017. He

asked for support of TRDP in terms of engaging the organised communities in their voter registration drive. TRDP Social Mobilisation Team facilitated the Election Commission staff in conducting awareness raising sessions in the meetings of COs and VOs organised under the EU funded SUCCESS programme.



LSO leaders receiving training on voter registration from Mr. Naveed, District Election Commissioner

Later on, the Election Commission of Pakistan took another initiative to enhance the turnout of women voters in the general elections of 2028 by introducing District Voters Education Committees in those districts where the women's voter registration ratio was low. The committee comprises of different stakeholders of the district who are working as a volunteer to educate the citizens about the voter registration process and the importance of vote. Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP) signed a three year long MoU with the District Election Commissions Jamshoroo and Dadu starting from March 2018 to increase the number of registered voters, especially the women voters using the organised communities as conduits. The leaders of LSO Umeed played their part effectively in this campaign and conducted the following activities:

1. Received training on awareness raising about voting and preparation of CNIC to become eligible for casting their vote.
2. Conducted 10 awareness sessions in communities about the importance and benefits of casting votes in the elections of National and Provincial Assemblies and Local Government (district, taluka and union council bodies).
3. Encouraged and supported women and men in preparation of their CNICs, which is the basic document to get oneself registered with the Election Commission as a voter.
4. Identified community members, especially women, who needed CNICs and prepared their list at village level.
5. Organised campaigns to prepare CNICs at village level in collaboration with NADRA and District Election Commission Jamshoroo in 10 villages of their UC.

NADRA sent its Mobile Van to these villages and prepared CNICs of eligible people, especially women.

6. A large number of community members also prepared their CNICs on their own. As a result of these joint efforts, the LSO was able to prepare 2,200 CNICs, mainly for women members of its UC.
7. The turnover of the voters, especially the women voters in the 2018 General Election was significantly high in the UC compared to previous elections.
8. The LSO leaders are planning to cast maximum votes in the coming elections and using their vote power strategically to access services and supplies from the Political and Administrative pillars of Government.



A poster used in the awareness sessions on voter registration

Re-opening of Closed Government Schools

Under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, the active women members are selected as Community Resource Persons (CRPS), and are trained to deliver awareness raising sessions in the monthly meetings of COs using the Community Awareness Toolkits (CATs). CATs cover 12 cross cutting development themes, including education, health, human rights and environment. The awareness session on the importance of education and the role of the organised community members in this regard significantly improved the sense of responsibility in them. Therefore, the women leaders of LSO Umeed resolved to first identify their collective development challenges and then try to resolve them on self-help basis or in collaboration with Government Authorities.

Reopened 2 closed Government Schools with the help of AC

A burning issue in the field of education was the fact that 2 Government Primary Schools who provide education to both girls and boys were closed while 2 other schools were not functioning well as only few students were attending them.

The main reason was lack of teachers. When the LSO leaders received a chance to meet the Assistant Commissioner (AC) in the Joint Development Committee (JDC) meeting, they raised the issue with him and asked for his direct support to resolve the issue. The AC very kindly wrote an official letter to the Education Department for posting teachers to these schools. As a result of that, the Education Department immediately filled in the vacant posts of teachers in all 4 schools.

Made 2 Government Schools fully functional by filling the vacant posts of teachers

The LSO leaders then motivated the parents of the students to send their girls and boys to these schools. Now majority of school aged girls and boys are enrolled in these schools. The teachers of these schools punctually attend their schools because they have realised the advocacy power of the LSO leaders with the AC.

Repair and Renovation of Government School Buildings

The LSO leaders noticed that the buildings of Government Schools in villages Chodary Karam Deen, Muhammad Malavo and Kazim Shoro require repair and renovation. In one school, the roof of the classrooms was damaged and rain water was dripping in the classrooms. Therefore, the school used to get closed during rainy seasons. In another school, the main gate was damaged and required immediate replacement. There was no drinking water facility in one school, and a hand pump was required for that purpose. The building of one school needed white wash, because no white wash has been done for years.

Carried out repair and maintenance of 3 Government School buildings through their SMCs

The women LSO leaders organised meetings with the School Management Committees (SMCs) of these schools and asked them to do the required repair and renovation works using the SMC funds available with them. The SMC members said that if they use SMC funds, the Government Audit teams unnecessarily harass them. The LSO leaders advised them to keep proper record of the expenditures and show to the Audit and Monitoring teams on their visit. Citing their own example, the LSO leaders said that they implement donor funded projects worth millions of rupees, but keep proper records, therefore, all donors are happy with them. They said that If the SMCs follow them and maintain proper records of all expenditures, nobody from the Government Departments will be able to harass them.

Convinced by the strong logic in the argumentations of the women LSO leaders, the SMCs of these Government Schools carried out the repair and renovation works of their schools using the SMC funds lying idly in their bank accounts. As a result of these activities, the learning environment of these Government Schools has improved considerably, and, therefore, the number of students were also increased in them significantly.

School Enrollment Campaigns

Enrolled 2,422 out of school children in schools

A large number of school aged girls and boys were out of school in UC Allah Bacho Shoro. The main reason was lack of proper awareness in their parents about the importance of the education of their children. They wrongly thought that education is only to get a job in a Government or non-government organisation. During the CATs awareness sessions delivered by the CRPs, they learnt that basic education is the right of every girl and boy. Therefore, the LSO leaders launched enrollment campaigns at the time of the new school year and motivated parents of the children to admit them in the nearest Government Schools. As a combined result of the women LSO leaders in promotion of education in their UC, a total of 2,422 children, including 1,400 girls and 1,022 boys have so far been enrolled in Government Schools in UC Allah Bacho Shoro.

Educate Members about Safe-pregnancy and Childbirth

Safe pregnancy and childbirth is an important health consideration. Pregnancy complications, such as premature birth, poor growth and some conditions suffered by mothers, are associated with infant and child mortality as well as problems with brain development. Unfortunately, the majority of pregnant women in UC Allah Bacho Shoro were not



A CRP delivering a CATs session in a CO meeting

Motivated 1,095 pregnant women to adopt safe delivery

registered with a proper health centre. Therefore, child mortality and poor health of their mothers was a common issue across the UC.

Educated by the CATs session in their CO meetings on the importance of safe-pregnancy and childbirth, the LSO leaders started a campaign for safe delivery of children in their UC, in collaboration of their member VOs and COs. As a result of that, the registration ratio of the pregnant women with the local BHU has significantly increased. As per the LSO records, around 1,095 pregnant women had practiced safe delivery so far. This not only has reduced the ratio of child mortality but has also saved the pregnant women from delivery related complications.

Organisation of Medical Camps in the UC

Provided medical checkup and free medicines to around 2,000 men and women by organising 3 medical camps in the UC

The Government Health facilities in UC Allah Bacho Shoro is not properly equipped with proper staff, laboratory and medicines. Therefore, people with complicated and chronic diseases need to be taken to Hyderabad or Karachi for treatment. But poor families do not afford to bear the high cost of medical treatment, therefore, they cannot treat such patients and they die or become persons with disabilities. Therefore, the LSO leaders decided to organise Medical Camps at their UC level, in collaboration with District Health Department and other philanthropies. The LSO has so far organised 3 Medical Camps at three villages of their UC. In these Medical Camps, over 2,000 women and men patients were checked up by qualified and experienced Medical Officers. Apart from giving free medicines to the patients, the Medical Officers advised to take the chronic patients for proper treatment in the Government Hospitals located at cities. In this way, the LSO leaders provided both health and economic relief to a large population of their members.

Organisation of Vaccination Campaigns for Livestock with the Help of Government Livestock Department

Livestock plays a key role in the livelihood of the people of the UC. The local people rear cows, buffaloes and goats. Their family members consume milk and milk byproducts produced by these animals, and sell the extra milk in the local market. They also sell the offspring of their cows, buffaloes and goats and earn a significant cash income on annual

Vaccinated domestic animals in three villages in collaboration with Government Livestock Department

basis. However, viral diseases are common, and these diseases reduce their milk product and make the animals extremely weak. The poor families have to pay a huge price for treatment of their animals by private livestock technicians. In short, viral diseases put a heavy economic burden on these poor families.

Before getting organised into COs, VOs and LSO under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, the community had never thought that they can protect their animals from these viral diseases simply by vaccinating them with the help of the Government Livestock Department. Once they learnt about this, the women leaders of LSO Umeed approached the Government Livestock Department and asked for their support. Soon, they facilitated the Livestock Department staff in vaccination of cows, buffaloes and goats in three villages of Choudary Karamdeen, Kazim Shoro and Karokohli. Around 200 cows, 150 buffaloes and 120 goats were vaccinated in these villages.

Support to Members in Civil Registration

Civil registration generates documentation that supports an individual's right to recognition as a person before the law and acknowledges their formal relationship with the state. Individuals are able to have their existence, identity, and vital events legally recognised and obtain proof of legal and civil status through valid certificates. The absence of civil registration has been described as a 'scandal of invisibility'. Therefore, a session on Civil Registration is part of the Community Awareness Toolkits (CATs) under the EU funded SUCCESS programme. In this session, the CO members are sensitized about the importance of having a valid ID card, birth certificates of their new born children and marriage certificates of the married couples.

In collaboration with Bhan Bale, a local NGO, the LSO leaders launched a campaign for preparation of ID cards for the eligible women and men so that they can also become eligible to cast their votes in the elections. They identified eligible women and men lacking a CNIC and prepared village wise list in collaboration with its member VOs. They then submitted the lists with NADRA and requested to send NADRA Mobile Van to these villages and prepare CNICs at village level. Around 200 CNICs, mainly of women members were prepared during these campaigns. In addition, on the motivation of the LSO leaders, people themselves went to the NADRA office to prepare their CNICs. Earlier, preparation of CNICs of women was considered by their men as a useless effort, therefore a large majority of women of the UC had no ID cards. However, under the influence of the awareness raising sessions, they took their women to NADRA office and prepared their ID cards.

Arranged NADRA Mobile Van for preparation of 200 CNICs of poor people at their doorsteps



A main issue for preparation of ID cards of young people was lack of registration of marriages of their parents. So the LSO leaders motivated such couples to register their marriages with NADRA office and then register their children in their B-Form. After completion of these procedures, the young girls and boys who had attained the age of 18 years also prepared their ID cards from NADRA office. So far, 660 couples have registered their marriages with NADRA.

660 couples registered their marriages with NADRA and 400 newborn children received their birth certificates from NADRA

On the advice of the LSO leaders, the registered married couples started registering their children in their B-Forms and obtaining birth certificates. Birth registration and certificate is required for the admission of these children in schools. A total of 400 children have received their Birth Certificates after being registered with NADRA.

Plantation of Forest Trees in Collaboration with Government Forest Department

Planted 1,000 trees in collaboration with Forest Department

As part of their plantation campaign, the Government Forest Department distributes planting material among interested organisations and individuals in winters on subsidized rates. The LSO leaders approach the Forest Department and obtain as many plants as they can, and distribute them among CO members via their VO leaders. So far, the LSO has planted over 1,000 plants across their UC. The interested members have planted these trees in their courtyards or any other free space near their house, so that they can take care them properly. The plantation drive is improving the environmental status of the local settlements. Moreover, after growing up in size, the forest trees will provide fodder to their animals and fire wood for the family members.

Opening of Bank Accounts for Member VOs

Opened bank accounts of 15 member VOs

The State Bank of Pakistan has made its regulatory procedures of bank accounts for NGOs and civil society organisations extremely difficult these days. So opening of organisational bank accounts for the LSO itself and its member VOs was a big challenge for the LSO leaders. However, the LSO leaders didn't give up and finally managed to open institutional bank accounts for the LSO as well its 15 member VOs.



LSO leaders seeking advice from TRDP staff on opening of bank accounts

LSO Koshish

District  Kamber Shahdadkot	Union Council  Thouf Chousol	Date of Formation  Sep 27 2017	Total Households in Union Council  1,745	Organised Households  1,396
Coverage  80%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  64 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  10 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  20 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  6 <small>(all women)</small>


(LSO Profiles up to 31 March 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme

 **PKR 6,272,747**
LSO managing CIF Amount




Disbursed CIF loans worth of PKR **11,527,120** to **690** poor households out of total eligible HHs of **915 (74%)**

 **113**
poorest households, out of **174** total eligible HHs (65%) benefited from Income-Generating Grants worth of **1,489,900**



446
poorest households and **3,530** number of people have Micro Health Insurance coverage

 **58**
women received Technical-Vocational Skills Training (TVST)



7
community physical infrastructures implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **7 different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)** schemes in the union council **Thouf Chousol**, under the SUCCESS programme. The total worth of these schemes is **PKR 4,811,228** and a total of **640 households** have benefited from these schemes. There are **3,897** beneficiaries of these schemes which include **2,728 women** and **1,169 men**. The schemes include Brick Pavement of the streets and RCC Culverts. The schemes have improved the basic infrastructures and productive assets used by, and services delivered to, the targeted communities. The improved community infrastructure has been beneficial for the community members to meet their basic needs and gain better access to public services.



A street pavement scheme under construction under SUCCESS funds

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Stopped **Child Marriages** across the UC
2. Distributed **Food Packages** among **70 Indigent Members** with the Help of Jafiria Disaster Cell (JDC) Welfare Organisation
3. Screened **70 suspicious people** and identified 4 HIV positive cases with the Help of Bridge Consultant Foundation and linked them with the relevant Govt. department
4. Provided **Awareness Sessions and Tests during Covid-19 Outbreak** to local people and a total of **250 men and women** have been facilitated in conducting Anti-Bodies test and **50 men and women** in conducting PCR test
5. Registered around **1,500 people under the EHSAAS Programme**, out of which a total of **1,200 people** received **PKR 12,000** Cash grant of **PKR 14.4 million**
6. Provided **Zakat** to **20 eligible members**
7. Provided **dowry to 3 brides** of poorest families from the Deputy Commissioner
8. Re-opened **3 closed schools** and renovated one school building with the help of the local Assistant Commissioner
9. Supported **20 members to construct a fish pond** to provide fish meat to the villagers at a cheaper price
10. Vaccinated **1,500 domestic animals** and provided **4 goats and 1 cow to 34 poorest families** and vegetable seeds to establish kitchen gardens with the Help of SAFWCO
11. Arranged NADRA Mobile Van for preparation of **400 CNICs of poor people** at their doorsteps
12. Planted **1,000 forest trees** and **400 fruit trees** across the UC
13. Supported **10 member VOs** in opening of their **bank accounts**

The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through the realization of the power gained from collective action. Women leaders of LSO Koshish are planning and implementing development activities, both, on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

LSO Koshish, from District Kamber Shahdaktot, was formed in September 2017 by 1,396 member households organized into 64 COs and 10 VOs.



LSO leaders holding their monthly meeting

Stopped Child Marriages across the UC

Child marriage is banned in Pakistan, because it denies girls their right to make decisions about their sexual health and well-being, forces them out of education and into a life with an increased risk of violence and abuse. According to the law, if a person performs, conducts, directs or abets any child marriage, he/she shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment and fine. Despite that, child marriages still happen in remote villages of rural Sindh. The main reason is that nobody takes notice of child marriages in rural areas, therefore, the culprits easily escape legal punishment.

When the women of UC Thouf Chousol were organised into COs, VOs and LSO under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) provided them awareness about child marriage abuse and the role of the community leaders to stop it. During a monthly meeting of LSO Koshish, the women community leaders came to know about the marriage of two young girls in their UC. They decided to take actions to stop these marriages by all means. Therefore, they approached the guardians of the girls and explained to them that those marriages were illegal and they should refrain from organising them until their daughters reach the age of 18, which is required for a legal marriage. However, the elder family members of the girls did not like their interference and expressed their displeasure. However, the women LSO leaders did not give up and clearly told them that they would never allow any child marriage to take place in their UC any more. In case of any negligence from the guardians of the girls, the case was said to be reported to the law enforcement agencies.

Looking at the firm stance taken by the women leaders, the family elders of the two girls stopped the marriage ceremonies. The message quickly spread all over the place and as result of that, people do not dare to conduct child marriages in the UC area.

Distributed Food Packages among Indigent Members with the Help of Jafiria Disaster Cell (JDC) Welfare Organisation

During the Government's imposed lockdown period to stop the outbreak of Covid-19, the poor families, especially the daily wagers faced financial and nutrition crises due to loss of their daily income all of a sudden and therefore, were unable to seek any alternative source of income. Realising their worries, the leaders of LSO Koshish decided to come forward and support such families. They first identified these families across their UC with the help of their VO leaders, and then contacted Jafaria Disaster Management Cell (JDC), a charitable and nonprofit organisation, and briefed them about the economic issues of the vulnerable families. JDC agreed to provide ration bags to needy households which were distributed to 70 families identified by LSO through the facilitation of LSO leaders. This timely support saved these families from falling into nutrition related crises.



Distribution of rations among poor families during COVID-19 lockdown period

Medical Camp with the Help of Bridge Consultant Foundation

2019 Sindh HIV outbreak refers to a Grade II Emergency as declared by the World Health Organisation in the Ratodero area of Larkana District, Sindh, Pakistan. It was the first of many outbreaks of HIV in Pakistan in which the majority of those infected were children. The causes of the outbreak were identified by health officials as "unhygienic practices" including re-use without sterilization of medical syringes and needles in doctors' clinics and blood banks, barbers' razors and dental instruments. The LSO leaders received awareness sessions on HIV from SUCCESS staff. The LSO leaders approached the Bridge Consultant Foundation (BCF) and submitted the request for arranging a medical



camp in their UC for screening people in HIV. The BCF, with the help of the LSO leaders arranged a camp at UC Thouf Chousol. A total of 70 individuals were screened and tested for HIV, out of which 4 people from the same family (father, mother and two children) were tested positive. BCF helped the family members get registered with the relevant Government Health Department where ERV medicines are provided to the effected family members free of cost. Fortunately, the father of the family has recovered from HIV.

Conducted Awareness Sessions and TTQ to Control Covid-19 Outbreak

When the COVID-19 pandemic spread fast and wide in Pakistan during the first quarter of 2020, the women LSO leaders of Koshish realised that due to limited access to the electronic, print and social media, majority of the men and women of their UC have neither any proper understanding about the real danger of the novel disease nor they had any idea about taking preventive measures. On the other hand, a number of rumors proposing that it was not a disease but a conspiracy against the Muslims in general and Pakistani Muslims in particular added on to their confusions. Therefore, the threat of the pandemic was not considered seriously by the community members. So, the women leaders of LSO Koshish decided to spread awareness among the community members about the pandemic which was already knocking at their doors and educate them to take preventive measures to protect themselves, their relatives and neighbours from infecting by the deadly virus. A 4-member committee was formed on COVID-19. The committee members received training on awareness raising and Trace, Test and Quarantine (TTQ) procedures from Government Health and SRSO staff and then delivered awareness sessions on the pandemic across the UC using the platforms of their member COs and VOs. They briefed the community members on the common signs and symptoms of the corona disease and taking precautionary measures like avoiding crowded places, keeping social distances, washing hands with soap and quarantining the suspected persons at home.

They also guided and facilitated the suspected corona patients in conducting Anti-Bodies and PCR Test from Civil Hospital Larkana. So far, a total of 250 men and women have been facilitated in conducting Anti-Bodies test and 50 men and women in conducting PCR test. In this way, the LSO leaders made their effective efforts in helping the Government control the spread of the fatal disease.

Registration of Eligible Families under EHSAA Emergency Cash Grant Programme

The EHSAA Emergency Cash Grant Programme was launched by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on April 1, 2020, in the context of the economic hardship being experienced by the vulnerable families due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis.

The Leaders of LSO Koshish decided to facilitate their members in registering themselves with EHSAA Programme in coordination with the Community Bookkeeper and other literate members of their VOs and COs. They registered around 1,500 people under the EHSAA Programme through SMS service, out of which a total of 1,200 people received PKR 12,000 cash grant. Thus, they were able to provide a sizeable amount of PKR 14.4 million to their poor members from the Federal Government. During the cash distribution events among their members, the LSO Leaders helped the Government Authorities in organising the events by fully observing the COVID-19 related SOPs announced by the Government.

Registered Eligible Members under Zakat Fund

Before getting organised into COs, VOs and LSO under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme, the people of UC Thouf Chousol had never heard about Government Zakat Fund. However, it was only after getting organised into community institutions and interacting with the SUCCESS staff that they learnt about the Zakat programme. Therefore, the LSO leaders decided to register their eligible members under the Zakat system and prepared a list of 20 destitute members with the consultation of VO members. Then, the Head of District Zakat and Ushr Department was briefed about their community institutions and was handed over the list of 20 members to be included in the Zakat beneficiaries list. These efforts were appreciated by the Head of Zakat and Ushr Department and the beneficiary list by LSO was promised to be considered for the Zakat Fund. Upon the arrangement of Zakat funds for those 20 members, the women leaders took the members to the office of Zakat and Ushr Department, where they were paid PKR 3,000 per family. In this way, the LSO leaders accessed PKR 60,000 from Government funds for their poor members. Now that these women have been registered with Zakat and Ushr Department, they will be receiving funds in future as well, till they are graduated out of poverty as per the assessment of the Zakat Department.

Provided Dowry to Brides from District Government

Dowry is a term used for the things which are necessary for a girl who is going to be married and are given by parents to their daughter. The dowry system is a great evil. Dowry related violence and abuse, bride burning and wife murder, constitute some of the detrimental ills perpetrated against women. Therefore, even the poorest families need to provide a decent dowry to their girls.

Some poor families in the LSO area had fixed the date of marriage of their daughters but were unable to provide dowry for them. Therefore, they were under tremendous social and economic pressure and had requested the LSO leaders for support. The LSO leaders investigated their cases through

their own sources and found their requests to be genuine, therefore, they decided to support them. A committee was formed comprising of Executive Committee members of the LSO which visited the office of Mr. Javed Jagirani, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Kambar Shahdadt and submitted an application with the request of dowry for the poorest families. The DC arranged dowry for 3 girls and Mr. Jibran Kaleem, the representative of the DC office distributed the dowry items amongst the parents of these girls in the presence of the LSO office bearers.

Re-opening of Three Closed Schools and Renovation of one School Building

The leaders of the member VOs of LSO Koshish brought into the notice of the LSO leaders that three Government Schools are nonfunctional in UC Thouf Chousol. The women leaders of LSO Koshish formed a committee including the President, Manager, Treasurer, and two General Body members in consultation with the members of the relevant Village Organisations. This Committee went to the Assistant Commissioner (AC) Sujawal's office and briefed him regarding the issue and requested for the re-opening of the closed schools and to carry out the required renovation of the school buildings. The AC appreciated the efforts of the LSO leaders in raising the issue and assured them that the issue will be resolved as early as possible. With the directions of the AC, the schools were reopened and one school was renovated as per need. So far, approximately 500 Students have been enrolled in these schools.

Construction of Fish Pond as a Collective Enterprise

Fish plays an important role in fighting hunger and malnutrition. Fish is not only a source of proteins and healthy fats, but also a unique source of essential nutrients, including long-chain omega-3 fatty acids, iodine, vitamin D, and calcium.

Fish is a common diet across the UC. However, the people had to go to Mero Khan market located at a distance of 10 km to get the fish. Moreover, the price of fish was expensive and



The village fish pond

could not be afforded by many people. Therefore, 20 members of organised women in Village Organisation Paniya, decided to establish a fish pond and raise fish in it to provide food for their families. . Additionally, they could provide fish to their neighbours on relatively fairer prices. So, the 20 women pooled resources for the construction of the fish pond and for buying fish saplings. The men from these 20 families knew how to prepare and manage fish ponds, therefore, they constructed the fish pond, filled it with groundwater, purchased fish seeds and put them in the pond. They also arranged and provided them with feed. The LSO leaders hope that the initiative will promote nutrition and will reduce the stunting and malnutrition among children in their village.

Vaccination of Livestock and Provision of Livestock to Poor Families with the Help of SAFWCO

A large number of the people of UC Thouf Chousol rear a mix stock of domestic animals, including cows, buffaloes, and goats. They not only consume their milk at household level, but also sell the extra production of milk in market. The offspring of their cows, buffaloes, and goats are also a tangible source of income for them. They sell their extra animals and earn a significant cash income on annual basis. However, viral diseases are common in the area, which reduce the milk production of effected animals, reduce their body weight and even kill the weaker animals. Therefore, viral diseases have caused huge economic loss to the poor families.

Sindh Agricultural Forestry Workers & Coordinating Organisation (SAFWCO) envisions sustainable communities achieving equitable economic, social, political, and cultural development through grassroots development institutions. The Office bearers of the LSO Koshish attended a seminar organised by SAFWCO at Taluka Sijawal and learnt about their activities. The women leaders of LSO Koshish introduced their community institutions and the development work they are doing under SUCCESS Programme and also briefed them about the socio-economic needs of the people of their area. The LSO leaders offered SAFWCO their voluntary services and support to implement their activities in their UC area. The focal person from SAFWCO admired their development work and promised to collaborate with them in future. SAFWCO also needed such support, therefore, they approached the women LSO leaders and started their activities in the UC. They first surveyed the villages and identified the common type of viral diseases in domestic animals. Then, the trained staff was sent with the medicines who vaccinated domestic animals across the UC. So far, SAFWCO has vaccinated a total of 1,500 existing livestock in collaboration with the LSO and VO leaders. They have also provided 34 members with a set of livestock, including 4 goats and 1 cow per beneficiary family. These are the extremely poor households who have pregnant or lactating

women and children below the age of five years. In addition to that, SAFWCO provided vegetable seeds to 8 members for kitchen gardening. The main purpose of these support is to improve the nutrition of the mothers and children of these families. SAFWCO's field team surveyed other eligible members in the UC, in consultation with LSO and VO leaders for provision of set of livestock and vegetable seeds in future.

Arranged NADRA Mobile Van for preparation of CNICs

In collaboration with NADRA, the LSO leaders launched a campaign for the preparation of ID cards for eligible women and men. The poorest members of the LSO Koshish were not able to register and prepare the CNIC Cards for the eligible women and men members. Therefore, the LSO leaders identified poor eligible women and men lacking a CNIC and prepared a village wise list in collaboration with its member VOs. The list was submitted to NADRA and was requested to send NADRA Mobile Van to these villages for preparation of CNICs at the village level. The NADRA Van visited 7 VOs and around 400 CNICs, mainly of women members, were prepared during this activity.

Plantation of Fruit and Forest Trees

During the lockdown period to control spread of Corona disease, the rural people experienced shortage of food items, both for people and domestic animals. This made them realise their vulnerability against such shocks in future. As part of countering strategy, the LSO leaders of Koshish decided to plant fruit and forest trees across their UC, so that fruits can provide food items to the people and forest plants can provide fodder for their animals.











So far, the LSO members have planted over 1,000 forest plants across their UC. The interested members have planted these trees in their courtyards and other free spaces near their houses so that they can take care of them properly. They have also planted around 400 fruit trees of different species, including mango and berry. On the other hand, the plantation drive is improving the environmental status of the local settlements as well.

Opening of Bank Accounts for 10 Member VOs

Due to the strict regulatory procedures for opening of organisational bank accounts for NGOs and civil society organisations, the member VOs of the LSO were facing difficulties in opening their bank accounts. Therefore, the LSO leaders supported the VOs and managed to open institutional bank accounts for their 10 member VOs.



LSO Sindhu, Dadu

District  Dadu	Union Council  Mangwani	Date of Formation  30 2017	Total Households in Union Council  2,659	Organised Households  2,248
Coverage  85%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  130 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  13 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  41 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  6 <small>(all women)</small>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 March 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



PKR 6,500,000
LSO managing CIF Amount



Disbursed
653

CIF loans worth of PKR 15,431,000

to **379** (30%) poor households

out of **1,273** total eligible poor households



133

poorest households out of 165 eligible HHs (81%) benefited from income generating grants worth of PKR 2,448,000



2,514

people from **449** poorest households have Micro Health Insurance coverage



57 women and
8 man

received technical vocational skills training



8

community physical infrastructures implemented across the UC

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

LSO has implemented **8 different Community Physical Infrastructure** schemes in the Union Council Mangwani of Taluka Mehar, district Dadu. Total worth of these schemes is PKR **4,668,945**. A total of **5,528** people (**2,681** women and **2,847** men) from **1,070** households have benefited from these

schemes. The schemes include Rehabilitation of Bridge, Water Supply through Solar Energy, Protection Wall, and Brick Pavement of streets. The schemes have improved mobility, health and hygiene and access to portable water for the rural population.

Activities carried out through self-help and in collaboration with Government and donor agencies:

1. Enrolled **1060** children including **615** girls and **445** boys in schools
2. Vaccinated around **945 animal**, mostly cows in collaboration with **Government Livestock Department**
3. Supported **186 people** including **109** women and **77** men in getting their **CNICs** and registering in the voter list with Election Commission of Pakistan
4. Organised **Free Medical Camp** and screened **350** suspected people for Hepatitis B and C. Helped treatment of **100 people** diagnosed Hepatitis B and C positive
5. Planted **250 forest trees** across the UC
6. Conducted awareness sessions to community members on **COVID-19** and stitched and distributed **250 face masks** in community members free of cost
7. Provided **financial support** from collective savings to those members who fall into **PSC band of above 24**

LSO Sindhu, from District Dadu was formed in January 2017 by 2,248 member households organised into 130 COs and 13 VO's. Women leaders of LSO Sindhu are planning and implementing development activities, both, on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through the realisation of the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and are also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Campaign for Enrolment of Children in Schools

Similar to other rural areas of Pakistan, a large number of school aged girls and boys in the UC do not go to schools. According to the base line survey of the UC under SUCCESS Programme, out of a total of 6,682 school aged children (3,197 girls and 3,485 boys) only 1,470 children (22%) including 512 girls (16%) and 941 boys (27%) were enrolled in schools. There are different reasons for the low school enrolment, including lack of proper facilities and poor learning environment in the Government schools, long distances from home to schools and poor awareness of parents about the importance of basic education of their children. During the awareness sessions on cross cutting

socio-economic development themes conducted by Community Resource Persons (CRPs) under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme, the women leaders of LSO and its' member VO's learnt about the critical importance of basic education of their children in terms of confidence building, learning new skills, accessing information from social media and supporting their own children in their education when they become mothers and fathers in future. Therefore, a large number of parents have sent their children to schools. However, the LSO leaders found that a number of parents are still hesitant to send their children to schools. Therefore, they have decided to run village wise enrollment campaigns at the time of every new academic session. Through the campaign, the children out of the schools are identified and their parents are motivated to enroll them in nearby schools. In this way, 1060 children (615 girls and 445 boys) have been successfully enrolled in schools.

Livestock vaccination in collaboration with Government Livestock Department

Rearing buffaloes, cows and goats is one of the major livelihood of the people of UC Mangwani. The milk and its by-products yoghurt, butter and sore milk play an important role in fulfilling the nutritional needs of the poor families. However, due to various viral diseases, the people suffer heavy losses every year in terms of animal mortality, reduction in milk production and loss of animal weight. After getting organised under the LSO, the LSO leaders learnt about the free of cost

services that can be provided by the Government Livestock department. Therefore, they visited the Livestock Department officials, briefed them about their issues and requested for their technical and material support to prevent spread of viral diseases in their UC. As a result, the Livestock department has started their visits to UC villages. They vaccinate the animals against common viral diseases, give free treatment to the sick animals and educate the livestock owner families about the health and hygiene practices which should be followed to safeguard their animals from diseases. According to the LSO records, a total of 8 villages have been visited by the Livestock department and vaccinated and treated over 945 animals, mostly cows. The community members rightly expect that these visits would minimize their losses and increase their income in the livestock sector.

Civic Registration

The registration of all female and adults above the age of 18 years is mandatory in Pakistan. NADRA is a National institute that issues the Identity cards to eligible citizens. However, the poor people of rural Pakistan have little idea about the importance of having a Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC). In addition, NADRA has its offices only in the urban areas therefore, travelling to city and town centers for registering themselves with NADRA is costly for those living in far flung and remote villages. Consequently, a large number of people, especially women and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) do not prepare their CNICs. The people living in rural areas have not given this enough importance and have ignored to get registered with NADRA. The LSO leaders realized the importance of CNIC when they started the socio-economic development work through their community institutions, because all the inputs of the SUCCESS programme were linked with the CNIC. Moreover, opening of bank account also requires CNIC of the account holders. Having that experience, the LSO started to conduct meeting with NADRA office and asked them to send their mobile van team for registration of the eligible people in their own villages. Through the NADRA's mobile van service to the villages of UC Mangwani, CNICs of 186 people, including 109 women and 77 men have been prepared. Another important benefit of this activity is the fact that according to the new electoral law, those who possess a valid CNIC automatically become eligible for casting votes in Local Body, Provincial and National Assembly General elections.

Organised Medical Camp in Remote Villages

Availability of portable water is a huge issue in most of the villages of UC Mangwani. Therefore, along with other water-borne diseases, Hepatitis B and C are spreading fast in those villages. These diseases can prove fatal if not diagnosed on time for proper treatment. Moreover, unless the Hepatitis patients are diagnosed, other family members do not avoid from having close contacts and sharing bath towels and

shaving kits with them. Therefore, other family members also remain at the risk of getting infected quickly.

When the issue was brought in the notice of the LSO leaders by the VO leaders, they decided to request the relevant Government Health Department to organise medical camps in those villages for the screening of the suspected men and women for Hepatitis B and C. The LSO leaders held meetings with the Health Department officials, explained them about the situation and told them that the poor people cannot afford the travel cost to go to city and town centers to get themselves tested, therefore, the Health Department should organise medical camps in the suspected villages. The Health Department agreed with them and organised two medical camps in villages Bhaly ji Miyani and Mangwani. 350 suspected people were screened, including 200 women and 150 men, out of which 100 people were found to be Hepatitis positive. The Health department staff advised these people to perform their Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test to detect the presence of the virus precisely and visit the free Government Hospitals where they would receive treatment free of cost. In addition to that, the Health staff checked up sick people and provided free medicines to them.



Medical Camp to screen suspected people for Hepatitis B and C

Tree Plantation

The organised members of LSO Sindhu learnt about the benefits of tree plantation in terms of providing shade, reducing heat in the summer and improving the quality of air during the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions on



Community member are planting and watering newly planted trees in their courtyards



environment. Therefore, a general awareness was there in the community for tree plantation. The community members asked the LSO Leaders to arrange planting material from nurseries. The LSO leaders collected the demand for planting material from CO members via their VO leaders and purchased 250 forest tree saplings in bulk from private nurseries located at Mehar town. The material was provided to interested members on cost. These members have planted them in their courtyards as well as other free spaces near their house.

Efforts to Combat COVID-19

Right from the early days of COVID-19 pandemic, the LSO leaders started self-help initiatives to address the issue at local level. In the initial days, the main issue was lack of proper awareness about the potential threat of the pandemic and the precautionary measures to be taken by the people to prevent fast spread of the disease. In a close collaboration with TRDP Field Unit Mehar, the LSO leaders and the CRPs, disseminated awareness among their members about the threats of this novel Corona disease to their health and wealth, and educated them about the importance of following the Government SOPs. The CRPs are still conducting awareness sessions in the COs at the time of their monthly CATs sessions. The LSO leaders received pamphlets in Sindhi language containing messages about taking precautionary measures to avoid getting infected by the deadly virus and distributed them among the community members.

During the early days of the pandemic, face masks were not available in the market. On the advice of the LSO leaders, the community members trained in stitching of clothes under TVST component of SUCCESS programme stitched 250 face masks at their own and distributed them among those members who needed to go out to perform their official duties or for daily labour. Mainly due to these efforts, the infection ratio of corona virus remained at minimal across their UC.












A community member stitching face masks for free distribution

Provision of Financial Support to a Poor Member from Saving

According to the eligibility criteria set up for receiving CIF, only those members who fall under PSC bands of 0 to 23 can take advantage of the funds. The financial needs of the members over and above these bands are met by the LSO from the collective savings of their COs. For example, Khairan Bibi, member of CO Chandm VO Urooj, used to make ropes from dry date leaves. She used to buy the material from shopkeepers on credit and sell the ropes to the same shopkeeper, who used to exploit her both at the buying and selling points. As a result, she used to get only a fraction of her hard work. She requested her CO to lend her PKR 1,200 so that she can buy the raw material from market by paying cash and sell her ropes in the market at a competitive price. The CO, in consultation of the concerned VO provided her an interest free loan of PKR 1,200. She made a net profit of PKR 800 by selling the first lot of newly made ropes. She bought a goat kid from her profit who is now grown up and is giving birth to her own kids. She has repaid her loan in two monthly installments of PKR 600. She is grateful to her fellow member women for supporting her and acknowledges that she would never have received such a support if the women were not organised in CO, VO and LSO.

LSO Sartyoon Sang

District  Larkana	Union Council  Waris Dino Machi	Date of Formation  01 2018	Total Households in Union Council  1,911	Organised Households  1,524
Coverage  80%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  73 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  13 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  26 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  5 <small>(all women)</small>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



PKR 4,694,393
LSO managing CIF Amount



Disbursed CIF loans worth of PKR **10,604,900** to **621** poor households out of total eligible HHs of **1135 (55%)**



144 poorest households, out of **170** total eligible HHs (65%) benefited from Income-Generating Grants worth of **1,818,500**



399 poorest households and **2,398** number of people have Micro Health Insurance coverage



54 women received Technical-Vocational Skills Training (TVST)



6 community physical infrastructures implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **6 different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)** schemes in the Union Council **Waris Dino Machi**, under the SUCCESS Programme. The total worth of these schemes is **PKR 3,793,209** and a total of **353 households** have benefited from these schemes. There are **2,572** beneficiaries of these schemes which include **1,282 women** and **1,190 men**. The schemes include Brick

Pavement of the streets, Tuff Paver, Lift Irrigation and RCC Culverts. The schemes have improved the basic infrastructures and productive assets used by, and services delivered to, the targeted communities. The improved community infrastructure has been beneficial for the community members to meet their basic needs and gain better access to public services.

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Screened **67 suspicious people** and identified **15 HIV positive** cases with the Help of Bridge Consultant Foundation and linked them with the relevant Govt. department
2. Provided **Awareness Sessions and Tests during Covid-19 Outbreak** to local people and facilitated a total of **25 men and women** in conducting Anti-Bodies test and **42 men and women** in conducting PCR test
3. Provided **Drip Irrigation** and **Kitchen Garden Kits** to **42 potential households**
4. Coordinated with health department for Free **Health Mobile Service** which benefitted **100 CI member HHs**
5. Arranged **NADRA Mobile Van** for preparation of **408 CNICs** of poor people at their doorsteps
6. Planted **300 forest trees** and **200 fruit trees** across the UC
7. Supported **11 member VOs** in opening of their **bank accounts**
8. Registered around **1,100 people** under the **EHSAAS Programme**, out of which a total of **900 people** received **PKR 12,000** cash grant of **PKR 10.8 million**

LSO Sartiyoan Sang, from District Larkana, was formed on 25th January 2018, by 1524 member households organised into 73 COs and 13 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Sartiyoan Sang are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS Programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. Organized women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and also taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Response to COVID-19

While the Government was focusing its efforts on slowing the spread of the new coronavirus and caring for patients during the first quarter of 2020, myths, rumors and misinformation began to spread fast and wide about the disease. Social media and other digital platforms helped spread these myths extremely quickly and made them appear correct. Therefore, nobody took coronavirus threat seriously in the rural communities. However, it was only when people became unemployed in cities due to the Government imposed lockdown, the rural people, for the first time, realized the extent of the threat knocking at their own doors.

The women leaders of LSO Sartiyoan Sang decided to cooperate with SRSO and Government Health Department to educate their members about the disease. The LSO formed a

4-member committee to streamline the task. The committee members received training on awareness raising and Trace, Test and Quarantine (TTQ) procedures from Government Health staff and then delivered awareness sessions on the pandemic across the UC using the platforms of their member COs and VOs. They briefed the community members on the common signs and symptoms of the corona disease and taking precautionary measures like avoiding crowded places, keeping social distance, washing hands with soap and quarantining the suspected persons at home. They also guided and facilitated the suspected corona patients in conducting Anti-Bodies and PCR Test from Civil Hospital Larkana. So far, a total of 42 men and women have been facilitated in conducting Anti-Bodies test and 25 men and women in conducting PCR test. In this way, the LSO leaders made their effective efforts in helping the Government control the spread of the fatal disease.



A suspected patient is giving her COVID-19 test

Provision of Ration to HIV Affected Families

A serious outbreak of HIV disease was happened at the Ratodero area of Larkana District in the year 2019. In this outbreak, a large number of children under 12-year age were tested positive. The causes of the outbreak were identified by health officials as "unhygienic practices" including re-use without sterilization of medical syringes and needles in doctors' clinics and blood banks, barbers' razors, tattoo needles, nose-and ear-piercing tools, circumcision blades, and dental instruments. Transmission from mother to child was also cited as a possible cause.

The Government Health Department screened all suspected people in the affected areas and provided them health facilities. The Government also planned to distribute ration bags among the poorest families suffered from HIV disease. On the request of the Local Government Authorities, the LSO nominated the LSO Chairperson and Community Book Keeper (CBK) to become member of the Local Committee for identification of eligible members of HIV affected family members to receive ration bags and other support from the Government. The two LSO members prepared the list of HIV affected family members with the help of VO leaders and submitted to the Government. The LSO Chairperson accompanied the distribution of the ration bags in the villages of UC Waris Dino Machi to ensure that they are distributed among the listed families. The Government Authorities distributed in the remaining villages. A total of 100 HIV affected families received ration bags from the Government.



A poor women receiving her ration bag

Provision of Kitchen Gardening to Poor Members

Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP) is a World Bank funded Project. The development objective of the project is to improve irrigation water management at tertiary and field levels in Sindh. The project's components include drip irrigation system, kitchen gardening kit, water courses lining and laser land leveling. The kitchen garden component is meant to meet nutritional requirements of the family as per their choice.

SIAPEP requested for SRSO support in identification of interested households to grow kitchen gardens. SRSO staff briefed the LSO leaders about the terms and conditions of interested poor families to grow kitchen gardens and asked them to identify such families. The LSO identified 42 families with the help of the VO leaders and submitted the list to SIAPEP office. SIAPEP provided drip irrigation system and a kit for growing kitchen gardens to these families. They also guided the family members how to use and take proper care of the drip irrigation system as well as how to grow a well-managed kitchen garden. The project proved quite productive as it provides fresh vegetables for consumption of the family members. They can also sell extra produce to their neighbours on reasonable prices. Thus the kitchen garden project has not only improved the nutrition status of the family members but also became a source of cash income for the beneficiary households. Since the project is owned and managed by women members of the beneficiary households, it has improved their socio-economic empowerment.



A beneficiary member working in her kitchen garden

Tree Plantation

The people of UC Sartiyoon Sang had never realized that how important roles trees play in their lives, like reducing the heat during summer by providing shade, improving the air quality by producing oxygen and inhaling carbon di oxide gas, producing fodder for their domestic animals and fruits to improve their nutrition. After attending the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) awareness sessions under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, they learned about the benefits of trees. and decided to plant trees in their UC area. They purchased 500 rooted plants including 300 forest and 200 fruit tree saplings from government and private nurseries and distributed them among their members who planted them in their courtyards and other free spaces in their village. Members have been advised to uproot the unwanted tree saplings grown in their farm fields and re-plant them in free spaces in their courtyards and other nearby places. Now tree plantation has become a popular activity among the LSO members and they practice it on their own during the planting season.



A CO member planting a tree

Arrangement of NADRA Mobile Van Service

The law of land in Pakistan requires registration of all male and female adults above the age of 18 years under the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) and get a Computerized National Identity Card (CNIC). However, a large number of people, mostly women have never prepared their CNICs. The reasons are multiple, like lack of awareness about the importance of having a CNIC, cost of and labour of travel to NADRA office which is located in the

town areas and cultural norms regarding mobility of women. When the people of UC Waris Dino Machi got organised into COs, VOs and LSO under the EU funded SUCCESS programme, they received awareness sessions about different cross cutting development themes, including the importance of civil registration through the CAT sessions. The LSO leaders decided to launch a campaign for preparation of CNICs of their members, especially women. They motivated the community members for preparing their CNICs in the CO and VO meetings. As a result of that, people started getting their CNICs. A key issue faced by the poor people living in remote villages was the travelling cost to the town center where the NADRA office was located. To resolve this issue, the LSO leaders prepared list of eligible men and women for CNIC in each village, submitted it to NADRA office and requested them to send their mobile van. So far, CNICs of 408 people, including 283 women and 125 men have been prepared by the mobile van teams in various villages. According to the new electoral law, those who possess a valid CNIC automatically become eligible for casting votes in Local Body, Provincial and National Assembly General Elections. So, having a valid CNIC has not only given the LSO members the citizenship rights of Pakistan but also empowered them in multiple ways, like buying a mobile SIM card on their own name, opening a bank account, opening an EasyPaisa mobile account and receiving various financial and non-financial services from the EU funded SUCCESS Programme.



Arranged Free Mobile Medical Service in Collaboration with the Health Department

UC Waris Dino Machi is located at a large distance from Larkana city where most of the Government and private hospitals provide health services in a proper manner. Therefore, the sick people can hardly get a timely treatment, because taking them to the hospitals in Larkana for medical checkup and treatment costs lot of money which is beyond the financial capacity of the poor families. Second, since people do not know about the real cause of the illness, they normally take it lightly and try to treat the sick people with traditional herbs and paracetamol. As such, the disease becomes chronic and fatal due to lack of timely treatment.

The LSO leaders learnt that the Government Health Department has a Free Mobile Hospital Service to serve people in the far off places. Therefore, they requested the Government Health Department to send their Mobile Hospital van to their UC for proper checkup of sick women and men. The Health Department sent their Mobile Hospital to village Waris Dino Machi. The LSO leaders informed their members about the Mobile Health van well on time. As a result, around 100 people received proper checkup and medicines free of cost. The Medical Officer referred the chronic patients to the city hospitals and advised them to get proper checkup and treatment. The impact of this activity was significant both in terms of health services and economic benefits. Due to lack of portable water, hepatitis and typhoid cases are in a high ratio in the UC. So when the Medical Officer diagnosed the real cause of the illness, the family of the patient took them to Larkana city for proper treatment. This led to the timely treatment of the patients and cure without suffering from other health complications. Therefore, the LSO leaders are planning to call for the Mobile Health Service whenever the UC people face any epidemic in future.

Distribution of Solar Panels Among Poor Families with the Help of the UC Chairman

Like in other rural areas of the country, electricity is a chronic issue in UC Waris Dino Machi. Power load shedding hours are so long and unpredictable that people cannot rely on the Government electricity supply system. As such, people who can afford have installed solar power at their houses. However, the poorest families cannot afford the cost of solar panel and fitting. The LSO leaders learnt that the UC Government has some funds to provide solar panels to the poorest community members. In the past, such Government resources have hardly reached the actual eligible members, because the influential people get hold of such resources. The LSO leaders, therefore, identified 60 poorest families across the UC and submitted the list to the UC Chairman to provide free solar panels. The UC Chairman provided solar panels to 15 families and promised to provide panels to the remaining families when he would receive funds in future. The poor beneficiary families are quite happy because now they have uninterrupted electricity for light at night and to run a fan and charge mobile phones.



The Mobile Health Unit serving people in the UC



An LSO member with her solar panel



Motivated 671 Pregnant Women to Adopt Safe Delivery

Educated by the CATs session in their CO meetings on the importance of safe-pregnancy and childbirth, the LSO leaders started a campaign for safe delivery of children in their UC, in collaboration of their member VOs and COs. As a result of that, the registration ratio of the pregnant women with the local BHU has significantly increased. As per the LSO records, around 671 pregnant women have practiced safe delivery so far. This not only has reduced the ratio of child mortality but has also saved the pregnant women from delivery related complications. In addition to that, 57 women adopted modern techniques of birth spacing.



A CRP delivering CATs session in a CO meeting

Opening of Bank Accounts for Member VOs

Due to the strict regulatory requirements imposed by the State Bank of Pakistan, opening of institutional bank accounts has become almost impossible for the civil society organisation in Pakistan. The VOs, formed under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme require institutional bank accounts to receive the grant money. Therefore, the LSO leaders approached the local bank branches and managed to open bank accounts for their 11 VOs.

Registration of Poor Members with EHSAAAS Cash Grant

The Government launched EHSAAAS Cash Grant programme to provide financial support to poor families who had suffered due to COVID-19. However, due to lack of proper information and skills, a large number of the LSO members could not register themselves under the Programme. The LSO leaders, in collaboration with VO leaders, helped them and registered 1,100 poor women under the Programme. Over 900 women received PKR 10.8 million from the EHSAAAS Programme.

LSO Bhan Saedabad, Jamshoro

District  Jamshoro	Union Council  Shaikh	Date of Formation  19 2018	Total Households in Union Council  3,907	Organised Households  2,710
Coverage  69%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  205 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  21 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  31 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  6 <small>(all women)</small>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



PKR 6,490,000
LSO managing CIF Amount



155 number of poor households have benefited from CIF and LSO managing **243** loans. Total organised households (PSC 0-23) are **1,562** and **10%** of them have received the CIF whereas in terms of loans coverage it is **16%**



Total number of poorest households (PSC 0-9 score) is **145**. **57 (40%)** have been benefited from Income Generating Grants (IGGs) worth of **1,185,000**



333 number of poorest households and **1,865** number of people have Micro Health Insurance (MHI) coverage



111 number of women have received Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST)



8 schemes of Community Physical Infrastructures (CPI) have been implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

LSO has implemented **8 different community infrastructure schemes** in the Union council Shaikh of Taluka Sehwan. Total worth of these schemes is **PKR 5,418,736** and they have benefited a total **512** households. Total **3,486** (**1,715 females** and **1,821**

male) population has benefited from these initiatives. The schemes include CC Pavement, Latrine, Open Drain, and Brick Pavement. They have resulted in improved access to mobility, better hygiene, and sanitation of the rural population.

LSO Bhan Saedabad, from District Jamshoro was formed in May 2018 by 2,710 member households organised into 205 COs and 21 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Bhan Saedabad are planning and implementing development activities, both, on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through the realisation of the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and are also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Campaign for Enrolment of Children in Schools

In the Union Council of Shaikh, a large number of school-going age children including both girls and boys were out of school. The main reason for this was a lack of awareness about the importance of education among the parents. However, as a result of awareness raising sessions carried out by the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) under the EU supported SUCCESS Programme, the community leaders and members understood the strategic importance of education for the bright future of their next generation. The LSO leaders rightly decided to transform this mass awareness into action. Therefore, they motivated all VO leaders to lead enrolment campaigns for admission of girls and boys into schools. They identified the out-of-school children and then visited each house in their respective villages to motivate and guide the parents. Simultaneously, meetings were also held with the Head teachers to seek their support for maximum enrolment of students. Due to these efforts, 300 children, 190 boys and 121 girls were enrolled in the local government schools during the last two years. The LSO leaders are committed that they will ensure 100% enrolment of school age girls and boys in schools by the next academic session.

Appointment of A Honourary School Teacher at Government Primary School

Government Boys and Girls primary school Muhalla Sajjad colony near Bhan town has an enrollment of 300 children. However, there are only four teachers teaching at the school. The ideal student teacher ratio is 15: 1, whereas the ratio in this school remains at 75:1, which is quite high. Therefore, the quality of education in the school has not been up to mark. The head teacher of the school shared the issue with the LSO leaders and declared that no further enrolments can be made in the school as that will further deteriorate the quality of the education. As a temporary fix, the LSO leaders decided to appoint a volunteer teacher in the school and pay the honourarium by collecting donation from LSO members. In the meanwhile, the LSO leaders are looking into other options including approaching the Government Education Department to request increasing the strength of teachers in the school as soon as possible.

Improve Civil Registration in the UC

There was no tradition of birth registration and nikah (marriage) registration among the UC people. If the birth is not registered in time, people face immense difficulties at the time of admission of children in schools and later on, while getting Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC). Similar issue are faced if the nikah is not registered. CNIC which does not only provide a valid identity as a citizen of the country but is also required for utilizing medical facilities, registering herself with EHSAAS Cash Grant, Zakat and Baitul Maal programmes, buying a SIM card for a personal cell phone, and opening a mobile bank account in her/his name. Furthermore, a valid CNIC is required to register the women and men in the voter list which makes them eligible to cast their votes in elections of Local Government, Provincial and National Assembly members. Since a large number of population in the UC, especially women, had not prepared their CNICs, the awareness sessions delivered by the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) hired under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme played a key role in raising the awareness of the LSO members about the strategic importance of these civil registrations. In addition to that, the leaders of the LSO and its member VOs also stressed upon their members to take all possible steps to increase the civil registration numbers. As a result of these coordinated efforts, the LSO leaders have been successful in preparing 800 CNICs, registering 150 newly born children and 175 nikah-namas across the UC.

Arranged a Medical Camp in Remote Villages

Both the Government and private health facilities are located in the town area of UC Shaikh. Therefore, people living in remote villages face serious access issues to these facilities. Due to lack of any regular transport system, people need to hire private transport to take their sick persons to the health facilities, which is beyond the financial capacity of the poor families. Therefore, simple health cases normally grow into chronic cases. Keeping into the need of these people, the LSO leaders organised a one-day free medical camp at village Sabu Shaikh in collaboration with Population Welfare Department. The Medical Officers checked up the sick men and women and provided them free medicines. They also referred the chronic cases to Government Hospitals in the town area. A total of around 100 sick men and women were treated by the medical officers.



Medical Officers checking up patients in the Medical Camp

The Family Planning team provided awareness sessions on family planning and guided them about the different birth spacing methods available with them. They also provided birth spacing supplies to the interested couples. Around 50 women received birth spacing services during the camp.

The trained women under Technical and Vocational Skill Training (TVST) under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme put up stalls and displayed their products of aplic work, baskets, arch work, hand embroidery and children valets etc. at the medical campsite. They were able to earn profits by selling their products to the visitors.



Stall of products prepared by TVST trainees in the Medical Camp site

The demand for the medical camp is high, therefore, the LSO leaders are planning to organise similar events in future as well.

Efforts Made to Control Spread of COVID-19

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit Pakistan during the first quarter of 2020, the main challenge was lack of proper awareness among the general masses about the gravity of the viral disease and the precautionary measures to be taken to protect themselves and their loved ones from the viral infection. Therefore, the LSO leaders instructed the CRPs to disseminate awareness raising messages amongst the members of the Community Organisations (COs) during their routine awareness raising sessions. In addition to that, the LSO also distributed face masks, soap bars and sanitizers among the poorest community members.

When the Federal Government launched the EHSAAS Cash Grant programme to provide financial support to the poorest families adversely effected due to economic shortfall across the country, the LSO leaders received complaints from their members that they were unable to register themselves with the programme due to lack of literacy skills. The LSO leaders, in collaboration of their VO leaders helped in registration of over 1,200 poorest families via the on-line registration process using cell phones. Large number of these families are now receiving cash grant from the Federal Government Programme.

Tree Plantation

The LSO has planted large number of tree sapling in all villages of Union Council. A total 10,750 fruit and forest plants have been distributed among member Village Organisations (VOs). The VO leaders provided these plant saplings to their CO members and they planted these sapling in their courtyards and other available spaces near their houses. They are taking care of these plants in terms of watering them on time and protecting them from animals. Most of the tree saplings were purchased from Government and private nurseries. EU funded PINS ER3 Programme has also provided the plants to the community. The plant types included Cheko, Orange, Neem, Moringa and Guava. Once matured, the fruit trees will contribute towards improving the nutrition status of the beneficiary families. The surplus fruit will be sold into local market which would resultantly improve the financial status of the family.



Women members of LSO Bhan planting trees

Celebrating National and International Events

The LSO leaders have been actively engaged in commemorating various National and International days to raise awareness in communities. The main events, celebrated by the LSO are Cultural Day, International Women's Day, Independence Day, Labour Day, and Tree Plantation Week. These events are celebrated by organising rallies and workshops at villages.



LSO Sheikh Fareed



District


**Tando
Muhammad
Khan**

Union Council


Sheikh Fareed

Date of Formation


2017
Total Households
in Union Council
3,378
Organised
Households
2,401

Coverage


71%
Number of Community
Organisations (COs)
124
(all women's)
Number of Village
Organisations (VOs)
13
(all women's)
Number of General
Body Members
27
(all women)
Number of Executive
Committee Members
15
(all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme


PKR 4 million
LSO managing CIF Amount

 Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of
PKR 6.8 million disbursed to **255** households

 Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of
PKR 1.7 million benefited **118** households

 Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to
481 households benefitting **21,933** people

90
women received Technical-Vocational
Skills Training (TVST)

7
community physical
infrastructures implemented

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Planted **1300 plants** under Prime Minister's Clean Green Pakistan Movement (CGPM)
2. Conducted awareness sessions for community members on COVID-19 and stitched and distributed **150 face masks** in community members free of cost
3. Distributed **80 handwashing soap** bars among poor community members
4. Registered **35 needy families** for Prime Minister's EHSAAAS Cash Programme
5. Supported **264 people** including **179 women** and **85 men** in registering for CNICs and the voter list with Election Commission of Pakistan
6. Delivered awareness sessions on Malaria across the UC benefitting **833 community members**
7. Provided awareness to **441 women** members through **45 sessions** on usage of clean water for drinking purposes
8. Provided awareness sessions to **577 women** on sanitation through **62 sessions**
9. Constructed waste bins at **06 sites across** the UC for proper disposal of solid household waste
10. Cleaned the streets of **12 villages** through village cleaning campaigns and disposed of the waste properly

LSO Sheikh Fareed, from District Tando Muhammad Khan was formed on 25th February 2017 by 2,401 member households organised into 124 COs and 13 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Sheikh Fareed are planning and implementing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through the realisation of the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and are also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Plantation of Forest and Fruit Trees

In line with the Prime Minister's Clean Green Pakistan Movement (CGPM), the Government of Sindh launched Tree Plantation Campaign in Sindh. The Deputy Commissioner (DC) who heads the Joint District Development Committee (JDDC), formed under EU supported SUCCESS Programme, knew the strength of LSOs in terms of their wide outreach and strong networks in the form of member VOs and COs. Therefore, the DC decided to put the LSOs at the front seat of the plantation campaign. The DC inaugurated the plantation campaign in district Tando Muhammad Khan at LSO Sheikh Fareed by planting a tree himself. On his instruction, the Government Forest Department provided



Inauguration of Tree plantation campaign by DC Tando Muhammad Khan

1,300 forest and fruit plants to the LSO. The LSO distributed these plants among its VOs for onward distribution to their COs. The CO members planted these trees at their courtyards, Government schools and health centers. The Forest Department only had the forest plants for distribution, but on the instruction of the DC, they also provided fruit plants to the LSO. It is hoped that the fruit trees will help improve nutrition status of the respective community members when they bear fruits in the near future.

Combating COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19, incited panic in Pakistan, and the Government imposed country wide lockdown to restrict its fast spread. Due to poor communication systems and illiteracy, the rural people did not receive proper messages about the threats and dangers of the disease and on the precautionary measures against it. Moreover, there were widespread rumours about the pandemic and a large number of people believed that it was a conspiracy against the people of Pakistan. Therefore, the LSO leaders decided to include awareness sessions on COVID-19 in the Community Awareness Toolkits (CATs) and trained the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) to deliver the awareness session after their routine CATs sessions in the CO meetings. Moreover, on the instruction of the LSO leaders, the CRPs ensured to maintain social distance and reduced the number of participants to maximum 9 members during the meetings. The LSO members who had obtained tailoring training under Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) component of the SUCCESS Programme, stitched 150 face masks, and distributed among the poor members of the community. The LSO also leaders approached the Chairman Union Council who had received hand washing soaps from the District Council for distribution among people and obtained 80 soap bars which were then, distributed among its poorest members. Furthermore, the LSO leaders identified the community members who were not able to register themselves in the EHSAAS Cash Programme and helped in registration of 35 such families.

In recognition of the LSO leaders' active participation in combating COVID-19, the Government nominated the President, Manager and CRPs of the LSO at the UC level Committee formed to distribute ration and soap bars among poorest families and Trace, Test and Quarantine (TTQ) of suspected members. The LSO leaders and CRPs performed their due roles so efficiently and effectively that the District Health Officer awarded the LSO with a Best Performance Certificate.

Preparation of National Identity Card

The Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) is an important document as it provides a legal citizenship right to its holder and is also required for all kinds of formal transactions in the country. When the LSO was formed in UC Sheikh Fareed under the Water, Immunisation, Sanitation and Education (WISE) Programme, the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) conducted awareness sessions for the member COs on cross cutting development themes including a session on civil registration. These sessions raised the awareness among the people of the area, and resultantly motivated them to prepare CNICs of all eligible men and women. Since the NADRA office is located only at the District Head Quarter, the women, elderly locals, and

Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) faced difficulties in accessing the office. Not only was it time consuming but was also expensive as each person had to travel individually to the urban centre for their CNIC registration. Therefore, LSO leaders requested NADRA to provide a NADRA mobile registration van to ease the registration process for the community members. With the support from NADRA, LSO and VO leaders helped in preparation of total 264 CNICs of 179 women and 85 men.



Water, Immunisation, Sanitation & Education

Based on the good performance of the LSO, NRSP decided to launch its Water, Immunisation, Sanitation and Education (WISE) programme in the UC. The objectives of the programme were to ensure that all households have access to safe drinking water sources, complete immunisation coverage of children and pregnant women, a developed habit of proper disposal of solid waste followed by improved sanitation conditions, and full enrolment of school-aged children. A key feature of the WISE programme is that the LSO takes complete responsibility of sustainable implementation of the activities after completion of the project. The LSO implemented the programme very well and took full responsibility of maintenance of the programme components on a sustainable basis. For example, the LSO provided awareness sessions to 577 women on sanitation through 62 sessions. The LSO, then, cleaned the streets of 12 villages through village cleaning campaigns and disposed of the waste properly. Now, it is ensured that, instead of littering the streets, people dispose of household solid waste into the waste bins constructed by the LSO at 06 sites across the UC. The LSO also ensures cleaning of drainage lines on regular basis. Before the WISE programme, people used to dispose of their household garbage in the streets. The waste material thrown in the streets blocked the sewage lines alongside them and the drainage water used to overflow, causing serious environmental and health hazards for the residents.

Now the streets are clean, the sewage lines are running properly, and the solid waste collected at the waste bins is burnt on regular basis. The LSO also provided awareness to 441 women members through 45 sessions on using clean water for drinking purposes.



Community awareness session on clean drinking water



Waste bin planted by the LSO for proper disposal of household solid waste

community members. Looking at the effectiveness of these sessions, Global Fund staff contacted the LSO leaders and negotiated an MoU for using the services of the CRPs to conduct awareness sessions about Malaria. Global Fund trained four CRPs on sessions delivery and provided them with the awareness raising materials. The LSO organised the awareness sessions across the UC and the CRPs delivered the sessions to 833 community members from as many households. The result was quite encouraging as the average number of people coming for Malaria test to the local health centres increased from 10 to 35 per day. Global Fund paid PKR 65,000 to the LSO for payment of honorarium to the CRPs, and for record keeping, monitoring, and reporting of the awareness sessions. After paying all expenses, the LSO managed to save PKR 9,000 which was deposited into LSO fund.



Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department visited a village of LSO Sheikh Fareed

Partnership with Global Fund for Awareness Raising about Malaria

Malaria is one of the commonest causes of fatal diseases in the area. The Global Fund, which provides support in the response to three diseases of AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, is collaborating with NRSP for prevention and treatment of Malaria in ten districts of Sindh, including Tando Muhammad Khan. Global Fund has established latest facilities for testing and treatment of Malaria patients in the local government hospitals and health Centres. However, due to lack of information and awareness, very few people were taking advantage of these facilities. When the LSO was formed under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme, it hired Community Resource Persons (CRPs) who started delivering sessions on Community Awareness Tools to the



LSO Sultanabad Station

District Tando Allahyar Tehsil Jhando Mari	Union Council Sultanabad Station	Date of Formation Nov 29 2016	Total Households in Union Council 3,430	Organised Households 2,704
Coverage 78.8%	Number of Community Organisations (COs) 121 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 09 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members 27 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members 12 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of
PKR **4 million** initial Sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of
PKR **13,585,000** disbursed to **318** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG)
amount of PKR **1,932,000**
benefited **146** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to
394 households providing coverage to
3,224 individuals



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST)
benefited **31** male and **33** female beneficiaries



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):
08 schemes (**5** schemes completed
and **3** are ongoing)

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Conducted **504 sessions** educating **3,459 individuals** on COVID-19 safety precautionary measures
2. Distributed **5,000 handwashing soaps** in the UC with the support of UC Chairman, NRSP, and other philanthropists
3. Organised **06 camps** through which **2,000 individuals** have been vaccinated against COVID-19

4. **PKR 2.52 million** granted to **210 families** through the support of Federal Governments **EHSAAS** Emergency Cash Programme
5. Provided routine immunisation to children of **age 0-23** and women of ages between **15-49 years**
6. Provided Hepatitis testing facility to **1200 individuals** and provided free of cost complete (course) treatment to **100 individuals**
7. Organised a **blood camp for the thalassemia patients** and collected and donated **35 blood units** to the patients
8. Enrolled **300 children** in the schools of Union Council
9. Registered **2,000 CNICs, 520 B-forms, 80 Nikkah Namas, 400 residential certificates** and **95 death certificates** in the Union Council
10. Vaccinated **1,200 animals** with the help of **Livestock & Fisheries Department**
11. Planted **2,250 trees** different villages of the UC with the help of NRSP and Forest department

LSO Sultanabad Station came into existence on November 29, 2016, in Union Council Sultanabad Station, tehsil Jhando Mari, district Tando Allahyar, under the European Union funded SUCCESS programme. Since the formation of LSO Sultanabad Station its women leaders are planning and implementing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh by realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and are also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Response to COVID-19

The COVID-19 incited panic in Pakistan and the Government imposed country wide lockdown to restrict its fast spread. The rural people did not receive proper messages about the threats and dangers of the disease and on the precautionary measures against it due to poor communication systems and illiteracy. Moreover, there were widespread rumours about the pandemic and a large number of people believed that it was a conspiracy against the people of Pakistan. Therefore, the LSO leaders decided to raise awareness among the communities through awareness sessions on COVID-19. The Community Resource Persons (CRPs) were directed to deliver these sessions after their routine Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions in the CO meetings. The women CRPs provided awareness to CO/VO/LSO members about the pandemic and educated them about safeguarding and preventive measures during the CAT sessions. These preventive measures included: a) frequent handwashing with soap, b) avoid touching eyes,

nose or mouth without washing hands first c) follow cough/sneeze hygiene practices, d) stay at home, e) practice social distancing (avoid large gatherings and keep a distance of at least 6 feet when in the company of others), and f) wear a face mask if sick with cold/ flu-like symptoms or when outside the home in an area with others. Following the guidelines of Government of Sindh, the CRPs ensured the social distancing of six feet among the participants during the CO meetings.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 Pandemic, 13 CRPs and other community leaders of CO/VO/LSO have conducted 504 sessions in all affiliated 116 COs. These sessions have educated 3459 individuals on the above mentioned COVID-19 precautions. Furthermore, in order to proliferate the information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic among the



Hand Washing Practice during COVID-19 sessions



COVID-19 Vaccination Camp

communities, the women LSO leaders along with COs made announcements in villages through mobile speaker. This activity was conducted in all 4 Revenue villages of the Union Council. The awareness on COVID-19 continues to be raised in the Union Council through the network of CO/VO/LSO with the help of CRPs.

During the COVID-19 pandemic situation, LSO with the support of UC Chairman and other philanthropists provided in-kind support in the form of essential food items, soaps, etc. to 300 poorest households. 5000 soaps were also distributed in the UC with the support of UC Chairman, NRSP, and other philanthropists. The women LSO leaders managed to register the needy families under the Federal Government's EHSAAAS Emergency Cash Programme. 210 families have received PKR 12,000 each from the Programme. Therefore, the support of LSO leaders to these vulnerable families was instrumental in getting PKR 2.52 million from Government sources. The LSO is also supporting the Government Health department in the COVID-19 vaccination. The COs and VOs have been mobilising the communities for the COVID-19 vaccination and have also organised 06 camps through which 2000 individuals have been vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccination process is still in progress in the UC.

Immunisation Campaigns

The women LSO leaders actively supported the Government Health Department in the effective launch of routine immunisation campaigns at the UC level through the CRPs. The CRPs and VO leaders helped the vaccinators, Lady Health Workers (LHWs), and Polio teams in the immunisation and convinced those families who were resisting vaccination, to allow the vaccinations to be given to their children. They also informed government teams about the children missed in the past campaigns, so that they could overcome the gap during their follow up visits. Due to the coordinated efforts of the LSO and Health Department, the vaccination campaigns achieved maximum results at the UC level. Under the SUCCESS CAT sessions, CRPs have also been delivering sessions on routine immunisation to raise awareness about the significance of



Routine immunisation campaign: polio drops

routine immunisation in the community. As a result of LSO efforts through CRPs sessions and support of Government Health Department, the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) Department's report for the month June has revealed that 73% children of age 0-11 months have completed their vaccination till PENTAVALENT III, whereas 96% children of age of 12-23 months have completed the Measles II vaccination. Apart from this, 93% women of ages between 15-49 years have completed the TT-II vaccination. This report represents the data from 2 Basic Health Units (BHUs) and 1 dispensary falling in the UC area and vicinity.

Blood Camp for Thalassemia Patients and Hepatitis B&C tests and treatment

The LSO Sultanabad Station also organised a blood camp for the Thalassemia patients and asked the community to participate in the camp. A total of 35 blood units have been collected and donated to the Thalassemia patients. In addition, LSO also organised medical camps on Hepatitis B&C with support of Madrasa Madinat-ul-Uloom. These camps provided Hepatitis testing facility to 1200 individuals and provided free of cost complete (course) treatment to 100 individuals. The Community leaders, CRPs and volunteers played a vital role in organising, facilitating, and managing these camps.

Education Initiatives

LSO Sultanabad Station has also taken educational initiatives with the support of Government's Education Department. The LSO is mobilising the community through the COs, VOs, and CRPs for educating their children. The session on education and enrolment in school is also incorporated in CAT sessions. With the coordinated effort of the Community Institutions, 300 children have been enrolled in the schools of Union Council. Previously, one of the schools had been closed due to unavailability of the teacher. The LSO activists conducted meeting with the DDO Education of district Tando Allahyar and requested him for provision of teacher. A teacher was appointed in the school and the school has now been opened for education.

Civic Rights - CNIC Registration

LSO Sultanabad Station is working on the awareness of civic rights and family planning. Under SUCCESS Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) programme indicators, sessions on importance of civic rights were delivered by the CRPs through CO meetings. As a result of these sessions, population from the Union Council was motivated to complete their registration and documentation. The women community leaders played a crucial role in ensuring the registration of population with NADRA due to their active coordination with the related line departments. The registration for computerised identity cards is a difficult, time taking and an expensive activity. Therefore, the community leaders requested NADRA office to provide a Mobile Registration Van so that all community members including elder, persons with disabilities, and women can easily register for CNICs. This led to the registration of 2000 CNICs, 520 B-forms, 80 Nikkah Namas, 400 residential certificates and 95 death certificates in the Union Council on self-help basis.



Livestock Vaccination

With the support of Government, LSO has facilitated the vaccination of 1200 animals in the Union Council. The Community Institutions at the ground level supported the Livestock Department teams in the livestock vaccination. The vaccination teams visited different villages of the Union Council and vaccinated all types of the animals at the doorstep/villages of the community.

Tree Plantation

Keeping in view the strategic importance of trees as family assets such as providing shade in hot weather, providing













fodder for domestic animals, and cleaning the air etc., the LSO leaders decided to join hands with the Government of Sindh in the plantation campaign. The CAT sessions delivered by CRPs promoted the learning on afforestation. On the instruction of the LSO leaders, the Village Organisation (VO) leaders raised awareness among their member COs about the benefits and importance of tree plantation and created effective demand for planting materials. The demand for tree saplings was submitted to LSO leaders who further approached the Forest Department for provision of rooted trees for onward distribution among CO members through VOs. On the self-help basis and with the support of NRSP ENRM sector, LSO leaders bought 1,000 saplings at subsidised rates from the Forest Department. Furthermore, on self-help basis, LSO also purchased/collected 1250 trees and distributed these amongst the COs & VOs. Therefore, 2250 trees have been planted in the different villages of the UC. The process is continued, and LSO is raising awareness for tree plantation through their CRPs. The LSO members are committed to plant more trees in future.



Other Activities







- With the Support of a Server 4 sale organisation, LSO has supported 150 households for establishment of kitchen gardening and provided them agriculture toolkits and seeds to these 15 households.
- Through the support of United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), LSO has supported 150 households for smart agriculture by providing 2 bags of fertilizer and 1 bag of seed to each household.
- With the support of Research & Development Foundation (RDF), LSO has established three Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) centres on hand embroidery, tailoring and beautician in which 52 individuals have been trained.
- On self-help basis and with the support of a philanthropist, LSO has supported 6 households whose everything was burnt in a fire. A total amount of Rs. 135,000 was collected and distributed to the affected households.

LSO Yaqeen

District  Larkana	Union Council  Wakro	Date of Formation  01 2018	Total Households in Union Council  1,840	Organised Households  924
Coverage  50%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  44 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  5 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  10 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  5 <small>(all women)</small>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme

 PKR 3,537,800 LSO managing CIF Amount	 Disbursed CIF loans worth of PKR 4,437,650 to 262 poor households out of total eligible HHs of 722 (36%)	 26 poorest households, out of 108 total eligible HHs (24%) benefited from Income-Generating Grants worth of 327,100
 155 poorest households and 1,007 number of people have Micro Health Insurance coverage	 42 women received Technical-Vocational Skills Training (TVST)	 4 schemes of Community Physical Infrastructures (CPI) have been implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **4 different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)** schemes in the Union Council **Wakro**, under the SUCCESS Programme. The total worth of these schemes is **PKR 2,884,420** and a total of **755 households** are benefiting from these schemes. There are **5,433** beneficiaries of these schemes which include **2,766** women and **2,667** men. The schemes include Tuff Paver and brick

pavement. The schemes have improved the basic infrastructures and productive assets used by, and services delivered to, the targeted communities. The improved community infrastructure has been beneficial for the community members to meet their basic needs and gain better access to public services.

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Registered around **1,100 people under the EHSAAS Programme**, out of which a total of **700 people** received **PKR 12,000** cash grant of **PKR 8.4 million**
2. Provided **seeds & fertilizers to 150 Small Farmers** with collaboration of Ministry of National Food Security & Research Department
3. Reopened **1 school** at Wakro with the help of the Education Department
4. Arranged NADRA Mobile Van for preparation of **300 CNICs** of poor people at their doorstep
5. Planted **400 forest trees** and **200 fruit trees** across the UC
6. Provided **320 solar panels, fans, 20 sewing machines** and **solar lights** with the support of UC Chairman
7. Installed **300 hand pumps** with the support of different philanthropist
8. Provided Ration to **190 families**
9. **300 children** have been vaccinated against Measles

LSO Yaqeen, from District Larkana, was formed on 20th October 2018, by 924 member households organised into 44 COs and 5 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Yaqeen are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS Programme is empowering rural women in Sindh by realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and are also taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Deserving community members received solar panels, fans and sewing machines from the UC Chairman

"Prior to getting organised in the form of Community Institutions under the EU-funded SUCCESS programme, we had never imagined discussing our development issues directly with the Chairman of the Union Council. Such interactions were considered as the domain of men only. However, now we not only visited the UC Chairman's office but also invited him to our LSO office to discuss and resolve community issues", said Ms Ashraf, President of LSO Yaqeen, UC Wakro. As soon as the LSO leaders learnt that the UC Chairman had received funds for the provision of solar panels, fans and sewing machines to the poor, they offered to help him identify the deserving community members to receive these supplies. As the Chairman was



Distribution of solar panels and sewing machines to community members



Installation of solar lights along the paved roads in villages of UC Wakro

well aware of the LSO's work and its network of VOs and COs, he readily agreed to seek the support of LSO leaders. Through the support of CO and VO leadership, the LSO successfully prepared the list of deserving families. Thus, the UC Chairman provided 320 solar panels and fans, and 20 sewing machines. The LSO leaders also convinced the UC chairman to get solar lights installed along the paved roads in villages of UC Wakro.

Installation of Hand Pumps for Drinking Water

Fetching clean water is a big problem for the women of UC Wakro. Only a few households could afford the cost of drilling and installing hand pumps. Deprived families used to fetch water from these houses, which often caused them



Installation of hand pumps for access to clean drinking water

humiliation. After forming the LSO, Community Institutions identified access to drinking water as a priority need. The LSO leaders conducted a survey to recognise families who were in need of hand pumps and identified 300 such households. LSO leaders approached different philanthropists to receive aid in providing access to clean water to the deprived families. Through the help sought by different philanthropist, 200 hand pumps got installed in UC Wakro. This has led to the improved access to clean water resulting in the health and hygiene of the households. Furthermore, it has also improved the social standing of these women who no longer feel humiliated asking for water from their neighbours.

Plantation in their LSO office and Union Council

As LSO leaders and members learnt about the importance and benefits of trees, they aimed to plant trees in the compounds of their houses and in every open and free space in the village, even in their LSO office. The leaders and members of LSO Yaqeen actively acknowledge the benefits of trees which include provision of forage for domestic animals, shade in summer, timber for local use as well as an income source for the seller. Due to active mobilisation of community members and other villagers, 600 trees have been planted at various settlements across the Union Council.



Tree plantation by community members

CNIC Registration through mobile van service

Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) is a prerequisite for casting votes in National and Provincial Assembly elections. Due to lack of CNIC registration, a large number of men and women could not exercise their right to cast votes at

the time of elections. However, many individuals could not afford to go to the urban towns as the task is time consuming and costly. Therefore, LSO leaders decided to arrange a NADRA Mobile Registration Van service in their Union Council. LSO leaders wrote an application for Mobile Registration Van service and submitted it at the nearest NADRA office. Upon approval of the application, the van service became available in the Union Council which resulted in CNIC registration of over 300 women and men.



NADRA Mobile Registration Van for CNIC registration of community members

Reopening of government school

As school is one of the most significant institutes in any community which plays an important role in shaping an individual's overall life, the leaders of LSO Yaqeen have taken a self-initiative to improve education in UC Wakro. One of the schools in the UC was closed for many years due to a land conflict. Therefore, the LSO leaders decided to



Students receiving education at the reopened school

approach the concerned Government Department and officers. A detailed meeting was conducted with Taluka Education Officer (TEO) and Chief Monitoring Officer (CMO) for reopening of school, so that children can be enrolled and continue their education. Taluka Education Officer Naveed Khokhar and CMO Sorath Abro visited the school for reopening purpose. The school has reopened now and approximately 500 children have been enrolled and are receiving education there.

Response to COVID-19

During the lockdown imposed by the Government to prevent the spread of COVID-19, many people lost their livelihoods and could not provide bread for their family members. In such a situation, the LSO leaders came forward and started supporting its members. The women leaders of the LSO approached the representatives of local government, civil society organisations, and philanthropists to support vulnerable households. LSO Yaqeen distributed ration among 190 needy households with support of community notables and local philanthropists. With the efforts of LSO Leaders, UC Chairman distributed PKR 100,000 among needy members of the LSO. They also supported the provision of precautionary items to people, such as soaps, masks, and sanitisers. The Leaders and Community Resource Persons (CRPs) of LSO Yaqeen received training on awareness raising about precautionary measures against COVID-19 from the Government health staff. They conducted awareness sessions among LSO members and educated them about the severity, symptoms, and preventive measures of COVID-19. They also conducted 240 such sessions in 44 Community Organisations (COs).



Ration distribution to needy households during COVID-19



Support Government Health Department vaccination of Measles

The women LSO leaders actively supported the Government Health Department in the effective measles vaccination at the UC level. The LSO leaders announced the date of the vaccination across the UC well on time and informed each residing family via their network of VOs and COs. On the vaccination day, the CRPs, who work under the LSO, joined the Health Department's vaccination teams to administer vaccination of children. The VO leaders helped convince those families that were resisting vaccination, to allow teams, and get their children vaccinated. They also made a note of the children missed in the campaigns, and informed teams so that they could overcome the gap during their follow up visits. Due to the coordinated efforts of the LSO and Health Department, the vaccination campaigns achieved maximum results at the UC level. So far, 300 children have been vaccinated.



Vaccination team on visit for routine immunization of children











Seed and Fertilizers distribution

The Ministry of National Food Security & Research is mainly responsible for policy formulation, economic coordination, and planning in respect of food grain and agriculture. LSO leaders along with UC Chairman approached National Food Security & Research department to seek support in procurement of agricultural products to support and promote the practice of farming in the UC. With the collaboration of the department, food grains and fertilizers have been distributed among 150 small farmers.



Distribution of seeds and fertilizers among farmers

LSO Shaikh Geo, Dadu

District  Dadu	Union Council  Bhawalpur	Date of Formation  Sep 27 2018	Total Households in Union Council  2,117	Organised Households  1,719
Coverage  81%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  80 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  15 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members  31 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members  5 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR **5,673,000**



183 poor households benefited from CIF and LSO managing **255** loans. Total organized households (0-23) are **1,072** and **17%** of them have received the CIF whereas in terms of loans coverage is **21%**



Total number of poorest households (0-9 score) is **122** of them (**54%**) have benefited from income generating grants worth of **1,452,000**



397 number of poorest households and **2,514** number of people have micro health insurance coverage



09 schemes of Community Physical Infrastructures (CPI) have been implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

LSO has implemented **9 different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)** schemes in the Union Council Bhawalpur of **Tehsil Johi**. Total worth of these schemes is **PKR 4.98 million** and total **577 households** are benefitting from these schemes. There are **3,410 beneficiaries** of these schemes

which include **1731 women** and **1812 men**. The schemes include drainage, latrine construction, CC pavement, and brick pavement. The schemes have improved the access to mobility, hygiene, sanitation, and provision of drinkable water to the rural population.

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Enrolled **110 out-of-school children** in schools, including **70 boys** and **40 girls**
2. Facilitated the vaccination of **2,138 animals** with the support of Livestock Department and EU-funded PINS Programme
3. Registered **70 individuals** including **10 men** and **60 women** with NADRA
4. Planted **160 trees** across the UC on self-help basis and with the support of TRDP, PINS campaign
5. Prepared and distributed **815 masks** in 4 rounds from LSO savings
6. Spent **PKR 3,200** from LSO savings to provide soaps and sanitisers to the poorest community members
7. Supported **13 poor women** in starting small businesses
8. Sought support from Deputy Commissioner in providing **2 RO Plants** for drinking water to **2,251 people** of 2 villages in the UC
9. Ensured safe delivery of **13 most needy pregnant women** from certified maternity hospitals
10. Motivated **6 households** through CRP sessions to construct latrines

LSO Shaikh Geo, from District Dadu, was formed on 27th September 2018 by 1719 member households organised into 80 COs and 15 VO. Women leaders of LSO Shaikh Geo are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS Programme is empowering rural women in Sindh by realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and are also taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Campaign for Enrolment of Children in Schools

Similar to many other rural areas of Sindh, lack of awareness about importance of education among parents had kept a large number of the school age going children out of school. The major reasons that kept the most children out of school included child labour (mostly cattle grazing), long distance between school and villages, a misconception that there is no need to invest on education of girls as they must get married one day and leave the home etc. Realising the importance of education, the governing body of LSO Shaikh Geo conducted the sensitisation sessions and enrolment campaigns in the villages through the Community Resource

Persons (CRPs) to raise awareness among parents. Individual meetings were also held with the parents, local influential persons such as village heads and local players to convince them on the importance of education and to facilitate the enrolment of out of school children in schools. Due to the successful efforts of the LSO leaders, 110 children including 70 boys and 40 girls were enrolled in schools.

Livestock Vaccination

Livestock is the second main source of livelihood for the population in the Union Council. Due to lack of awareness, livestock owners usually treated their animals themselves for minor ailments. In case of serious disease, quack livestock vets were consulted, or medicines/injections were bought from such vets which aggravated the health of animals in the most cases. Therefore, the overall productivity of the livestock assets remained low. Keeping in view the issues concerning the health of livestock in the UC, the LSO office bearers held a meeting with the Livestock Department to initiate a vaccination drive. The request was taken positively by the Livestock Department and a livestock vaccination drive was conducted by the Government department to facilitate the vaccination of animals at focal points administered by the vaccinators. It was ensured that no animal remains unvaccinated in every village and muhalla. A total of 2138 animals were vaccinated through this

vaccination drive. Later on, LSO leaders convinced and linked the livestock owners with Community Livestock Extension Worker (CLEW) appointed under the EU-funded Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS). Due to large and scattered population in the UC, the coordination between LSO, CLEW, PINS field team and community members helped in reaching out to every livestock owner for drenching. The services by CLEW have effectively improved the livestock production in the area.

Facilitation in CNIC Registration

The registration of all adults, having attained an age of 18 years or above, with NADRA is mandatory in Pakistan. However, due to low literacy rate and lack of awareness among rural people, the CNIC registration rate in the UC remained low. This negligence is more common for women by their male family heads. Therefore, due to cultural constraints and outdated customs, a large number of adults (age 18 and above), especially women, were not registered with NADRA. The LSO leaders recognised the problem and started to convince the male family heads to register their family members. Furthermore, LSO requested NADRA for Mobile Registration Van to facilitate the elderly, disabled, women and all those who could not visit the NADRA office due to shortage of money and the long distance between the village and urban town where the office is placed. With the efforts of LSO Shaikh Geo, a total of 70 individuals, including 10 men and 60 women received their Computerised National Identity Cards (CNIC) from NADRA.

Tree Plantation

The LSO encourages tree plantation by organising tree plantation campaigns, purchasing plants from nursery using the LSO savings, and supporting different stakeholders in a similar cause. LSO Shaikh Geo planted trees through its Village Organisations (VOs) using its own resources and with



Tree Plantation Campaign

the support of TRDP, PINS campaign. A session was also arranged on the importance of trees. Through the VOs and COs, the LSO conducted follow-up checks to ensure that the trees are protected from livestock and are watered regularly to ensure their survival. LSO Shaikh Geo has planted 160 trees in different villages of the UC.

Efforts to Combat COVID-19

The lack of awareness breeds ignorance and keep the communities backward. When COVID-19 first appeared on the horizon, majority of the village communities ignored it. The myths and misinformation overwhelmed the medical advice. The common myths circulating in each hearth, hamlet, tea shops and other community gathering places suggested that the virus will die down during the extreme summer season. LSO proactively ran sessions with communities and made efforts to convince them about how deadly the virus is, has caused havoc around the world, and may prove fatal if precautionary measures such as social distancing and handwashing are not adopted. The LSO prepared 815 masks in 4 rounds from their own savings and distributed these among the people. They also distributed the masks during routine meetings. These cloth-made masks could be reused after washing. As LSO office bearers spanned the entire UC for COVID-19 awareness, they urged the male and female community members to act on the SOPs and regularly wash their hands with soap. Some of the poorest families complained that they cannot afford buying soap. To respond to this need, LSO spent PKR 3,200 to distribute soaps and sanitisers among the poorest households. LSO is also urging the communities to get vaccinated.





Distribution of masks, soaps and sanitisers among the community members

Supported women in starting small business

Due to unavailability of capital, many women in the UC could not start their small businesses. In addition, their high Poverty Scorecard (PSC) score rendered them ineligible for CIF and IGG. Therefore, LSO utilised its savings to provide 13 such women with small amount ranging from PKR 5000 – 8000 for activities to initiate their start-ups such as buying livestock, material for rope making etc. An overall improvement in lives and social status of these individuals has been observed after receiving the grant. If LSO had not stepped forward to provide the needed amount, these female community members would have remained deprived to utilise their skills for entrepreneurship purposes.

Access to Drinking Water

Underground water in the UC is braking and people have to walk 3 to 4 kilometres to fetch drinking water from the water tank. On average, each household spent PKR 200 on fuel to get drinking water on motorbike. Furthermore, male member

of one of the households had to abandon his daily wage to fetch water for the family. The poor population of two villages installed hand pumps form their donation, however, the water turned to be extremely brackish. The LSO office bearers were informed by TRDP that help can be sought from Government departments for the issues regarding basic needs such a drinking water. In case of no response from the departments, Deputy Commissioner can also be approached with the request to provide basic public amenities. The LSO President, Ms, Zarena, and the LSO Treasurer, Ms. Reshma, then conducted a meeting the Deputy Commissioner district Dadu, Mr. Samiullah Shaikh to discuss the issue of drinking water. The Deputy Commissioner approved two water supply Reverse Osmosis (RO) plants for which the implementation work was halted in between. Upon asking the public health department, LSO office bearers did not receive a satisfying answer. Therefore, LSO President threatened to complain the Deputy Commissioner in case the work is not started again immediately. On the next day, the work was started again and has been completed now. As the RO plants are about to begin, this effort of LSO would benefit 60 households and 451 individuals in the village Saleman Pahore and 700 individuals from the surrounding villages. Other RO plant in Faqir Muhammad Jamali would benefit 259 households and 1800 people. Therefore, the consistent effort by LSO office bearers and regular follow-ups are about to bear fruitful results and solve the decade old problem of drinking water which will provide drinking water to a total of 2251 people in two villages of UC Bhawalpur.



Meeting of LSO office bearers with the Deputy Commissioner

Supporting to poorest pregnant women

Due to poverty, and negligence towards the women, birth deliveries were previously attended by untrained midwives. LSO took the initiative to raise awareness among women about the harmful impacts and associated risks of deliveries conducted by untrained midwives. The sessions were conducted by Community Resource Persons (CRPs).

However, a few poorest families were still unable to afford deliveries at health institutions. Most of villagers from rural areas had no knowledge about the health facilities and were unaware about the route to these places. Therefore, LSO stepped forward to provide support from LSO savings and the LSO President accompanied 13 most needy pregnant women to certified maternity hospitals for their safe deliveries.

Construction of Latrines

As open defecation is common in rural areas, it creates extremely unhygienic conditions and is the host of multiple diseases. LSO started efforts to create consciousness among the families to construct latrines for healthy and disease-free environment. Resultantly, 6 households have constructed latrines from their own resources after CRP and LSO/VO/CO sessions on importance of latrines and harmful impacts of open defecation.

Holding meeting with stakeholders

LSO President held meeting with the public health engineer to discuss the reasons behind halted work on RO plants. After the meeting, the team began its work immediately and finished the project effectively. Meetings were also held with the UC Chairman and a local member of the National Assembly (MNA) to brief them about the work done by the LSO and issues faced by the population of the UC.

Future vision:











LSO president wants to see women of her Union Council self-sufficient, and fully empowered.

For further detail please visit Facebook page of LSO Shaikh Geo

<https://web.facebook.com//soshaiikh.geo>



LSO Manzil

 <p>District Kamber Shahdadkot</p>	 <p>Union Council Lashkari Chandio</p>	 <p>Date of Formation 21 2017</p>	 <p>Total Households in Union Council 2,361</p>	 <p>Organised Households 1,957</p>
 <p>Coverage 83%</p>	 <p>Number of Community Organisations (COs) 95 (all women's)</p>	 <p>Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 14 (all women's)</p>	 <p>Number of General Body Members 28 (all women)</p>	 <p>Number of Executive Committee Members 07 (all women)</p>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount
PKR **6,456,397**



Disbursed CIF loans worth
PKR **15,269,500** to **898** poor
households out of total eligible
HHs of **1,199**



123 poorest households,
out **195** of total eligible HHs benefited
from Income Generating Grants
worth **1,671,300**



436 poorest households
and **3,052** people have
Micro Health Insurance (MHI)
coverage



18
women received Technical and
Vocational Skills Training (TVST)



12
Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)
schemes implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **12 (05 Complete, 07 Ongoing) different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) schemes** in the Union Council Lashkari Chandio, under the EU Funded SUCCESS programme. The total worth of these schemes is **PKR 7,556,201** and a total of **1,010 households** have benefited from these schemes. A total of **7,521 population** is benefitting from these schemes. The

schemes include brick pavement of the streets, boulder wall, retaining walls, tuff pavements, and RCC culverts. The schemes have improved the basic infrastructures and productive assets used by, and services delivered to, the targeted communities. The community members are benefitting from improved community infrastructures to meet their basic needs and gain better access to public services.

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Stepped in and stopped **honour killing**
2. Distributed Solar Plates among the **12 poorest Households** with the help of UC Chairman
3. Distributed **100 Mosquito Nets** and certified the Mosquitos spray across the UC
4. Supported the VOs in the inclusion of **85 unorganised** and refusal households in the community institutes
5. Regularised the connections of the electricity in **3 villages** with the help of UC Nazim
6. **Re-opened** and **renovated a school's building** with the help of the MPA Kamber Shahdadkot
7. Supported the members of **60 poorest household** to construct low-cost **latrines** through a collaboration with Mangi Memorial Trust
8. Construction of **RCC Drainage system** in **1 VO** through the support of Government
9. Arranged NADRA Mobile Van for the CNIC preparation of **350 poor people** at their doorsteps
10. Planted **7,000 forest trees** across the UC
11. Conducted a **Safae Muham** across all Village Organisations (VOs) in the UC
12. Supported **14 member VOs** in the opening of their bank accounts

LSO Manzil, from District Kamber Shahdadkot, was formed in July 2017 by 1957 member households organised into 95 COs and 14 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Manzil are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and are also taking self-initiative to improve their lives.

Putting an end to Honour Killings

"Whosoever saves the life of one, it shall be as if he had saved the life of all mankind". According to Human Rights Watch, almost 1,000 women are murdered in Pakistan in the name of honour each year — killed on the grounds of 'unacceptable' amorous relationships, defiance of physical or cyber-gendered spaces, brazenness in dressing, and language or perceived immorality.

On a regular day during the monthly meeting of LSO Manzil, the women community leaders came to know about a case of an honour killing in the neighbourhood. They decided to take a step on an immediate basis and stop this killing by all means. They approached the husband of the victim and tried

to convince him to not follow this unethical custom, however, initially, he did not pay any attention to them. The LSO Leaders then threatened him and the community that they will call the local police and authorities. Due to the efforts of LSO President, the matter was later resolved with a mutual community decision and the life of the girl was saved.

Distribution of Solar Plates

LSO leaders are working for the betterment of the community by taking steps to fulfil their needs. After observing the lack of facilities in the village of the UC, it was decided during a routine LSO meeting to visit the office of the Union Council Chairman. During the visit to the office of UC Chairman, the



Distribution of solar panels by UC Chairman

LSO leaders introduced themselves and their work in the community. A request was put forward to provide the facility of solar plates to the poorest households. For once, the workers of the UC Chairman showed signs of refusal but the Chairman himself took a step forward and asked the LSO leaders to nominate 12 deserving households. The LSO leaders mutually decided the households to be prioritised and presented the names to the Chairman. After a month, the plates were sourced from the available budget and were distributed amongst the poor households.

Distribution of Mosquito Nets

Deadly pathogens and parasites are transmitted by vectors and the mosquito is considered as the most threatening vector in public health, transmitting these pathogens to humans and animals. The matter of diseases and patients emerging from mosquitoes across the UC was brought forward in the LSO routine meeting. With the mutual decision, the LSO executive body visited UC Chairman Office and submitted the request for the spray in the villages in order to prevent deadly diseases. The UC Chairman appreciated the efforts and admired the level of awareness among the community. He announced to donate 100 mosquito nets, which were later distributed among the poorest households. In addition, LSO leaders also decided to refill the pits of still water. The awareness messages were conveyed through VOs/COs routine meetings and Community Resource Persons (CRP) sessions.

Inclusion of Unorganised Households in Community Institutions

During the formation of the COs/VOs, some households under the PSC were reluctant to be part of Community Institutions. The matter was raised in LSO routine meetings and the VO leaders shed light on the number of unorganised households from their respective villages. It was decided to invite the members of these households to VOs/COs routine meetings to develop interest among them. A total of 85 new households were organised through this effort. These households are now benefitting from the interventions under the SUCCESS Programme.

Restoration of Electricity Connections

Three Villages (Cluster VO) in UC Lashkari Chandio were facing a shortage in the availability of electricity for many years. However, for the past three years, the connections had become damaged and had downed completely. The residents of the villages face difficulties as it slowed down the productive days and hours. The male members of the community tried to approach the Government and local authorities for the solution many times but did not receive a response. As the leaders of LSO Manzil recognised the problem, they mutually decided to meet the UC Nazim of Lashkari Chandio. A formal committee was formed including the LSO office bearers and members of the concerned

villages. The committee visited the office of UC Nazim to introduce themselves and present the challenge faced by the community. The UC Nazim showed great hospitality towards the LSO Members. He appreciated their confidence and efforts, offered his full support, and promised to resolve the issue at the earliest. The professional staff was sent to repair the damaged wires and the electric power supply for the three villages was restored.

Re-opening and Renovation of School Building

The VO members of LSO Lashkari Chandio brought to the notice of LSO leaders that the Government School in VO Mai Makool is non-functional. The women leaders of LSO Manzil formed a committee including the President, Manager, Treasurer, and two General Body members in consultation with the members of the relevant Village Organisations. This committee visited the office of Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) and briefed him regarding the issue. They also requested for the re-opening of the closed school and to carry out the required renovation of the school building. The MPA appreciated the efforts of the LSO leaders in raising the issue and assured them that the issue will be resolved as early as possible. Upon the instructions of the MPA, the school was renovated (separate rooms for boys and girls) as per need and reopened for the public. Approximately 300 students have been enrolled in these schools.



Reopening of previously closed school

Improving sanitation in the Rural Areas

About half of the population in rural and remote areas lack access to latrines which leads to diseases like typhoid & diarrhoea. The members of the Village Organisation Jinjh were living in similar poor hygiene conditions. Upon realising the problem in the community, LSO leaders directed the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) to deliver awareness sessions on hygienic practices. With the help of these Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions, the community members were acquainted to the importance of sanitation. Furthermore, the LSO leaders decided to visit the Office of Mangi Memorial Trust in Ratodero and explained their concern regarding community hygiene and sanitation practices. The village profile and issues were confirmed upon

the village survey by the Mangi Trust. Therefore, 60 latrines were approved for the Village Organisation Jinjh. Under this collaboration, 50 latrines have been constructed whereas 10 are still under construction.



Construction of low-cost latrines for improving sanitation and hygiene in community

Improving Drainage Systems

In a VO of UC Lashkari Chandio, there were no proper drainage lines for the disposal of waste. This issue put the whole community at risk as villagers/households were suffering from physical and psychological damage. As the issue was raised in an LSO meeting, the members of the executive body visited the village themselves and assessed the situation. In the follow-up meeting, the LSO leaders decided to visit the MPA Kamber Shahdadkot's office to seek help and resolve the issue. A formal application was submitted for this matter and was later approved to construct RCC drainage system for the whole village.

CNIC Registration

During the emerging outbreak of the COVID-19 worldwide, the EHSAAAS Emergency Cash Grant Programme was launched by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on April 1, 2020, in the context of the economic hardship being experienced by vulnerable families due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis. The Leaders of LSO Manzil decided to facilitate their members in registering them with the EHSAAAS Programme. However, the members of many poorest households did not have CNIC registration or had expired CNICs. In addition, due to illiteracy, these members were unable to register and prepare the CNICs for the eligible women and men. Therefore, the LSO leaders, in collaboration with its member VOs, prepared a village-wise list of community members eligible for CNICs. The list was submitted to NADRA to request a Mobile Registration Van for these villages and prepare CNICs at the village level. Through this collaboration with NADRA, a campaign was launched for the preparation of CNICs for the eligible women and men. The NADRA van visited 06 VOs and prepared the CNICs of around 350 women members during this activity.

Tree Plantation

The need for plantation has become even greater these days because of the rising pollution in the atmosphere. Tree plantation can be a very fulfilling and fruitful activity. Knowing the harmful effects of emerging air pollution these days, the LSO leaders decided to plant the forest trees across their UC. So far, 7,000 forest plants have been planted across the UC. The interested members have planted these trees in their courtyards and other free spaces near their houses so that the plants can be properly taken care of.

Safae Muham

Union Council Lashkari Chandio is situated near Kamber city and is prone to air pollution as well as the land pollution. By realising the importance of cleanliness, LSO members decided to form a formal committee named Hygiene Committee consisting of two members. The members are required to ensure the practice of cleanliness by dedicating a day in a month for the cleaning of streets in the various VOs. The committee is also responsible to oversee the activity and report to the LSO leaders. This Safae Muham (Cleanliness Campaign) has not only helped in keeping the environment clean but has also kept many diseases at the bay.



Safae Muham (Cleanliness Campaign)

Opening of Bank Accounts for Member VOs

Due to the strict regulatory procedures for the opening of organisational bank accounts for NGOs and civil society organisations, the member VOs of the LSO were facing difficulties in opening their bank accounts. Therefore, the LSO leaders supported the VOs and managed to open institutional bank accounts for their 14 member VOs.

LSO Karam Khan Nizamani

District Matiari Tehsil: Halla	Union Council Karam Khan Nizamani	Date of Formation July 30 2017	Total Households in Union Council 2,425	Organised Households 1,702
Coverage 70.2%	Number of Community Organisations (COs) 74 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 08 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members 28 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members 15 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR **4,000,000** (4 Million) Initial Sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of PKR **6,257,000** disbursed to **223** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of PKR **600,000** benefited **40** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to **164** households benefitting **1409** people/ population covered.



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited **02** male and **28** female beneficiaries



07 Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) schemes implemented (5 schemes completed and 2 are ongoing)

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Conducted **251 sessions** educating **2666 individuals** on COVID-19 safety precautionary measures
2. Distributed **1697 soaps** in the UC with the support of NRSP through different projects
3. Distributed ration bags to **930 families** during COVID-19 Pandemic in the UC with the support of Government and philanthropists
4. Facilitated Health Department's **COVID-19 Vaccination** campaign in different villages of UC through which around **425 individuals** have been vaccinated against COVID-19

5. **PKR 12 million** granted to **1000 families** through the support of Federal Government's EHSAAS Emergency Cash Programme
6. Provided Immunisation to **1080 children** of the Union Council with the support of Government Health Department
7. Provided **80 Sewing machines, 250 Handpumps** and **20 solar panels** in the UC with the support of UC Chairman
8. Organised a blood camp for **Thalassemia patients** and collected and donated **35 blood units** to the patients
9. Enrolled **1180 children** in the schools of Union Council
10. Registered **1370 CNICs, 1350 B-forms, 340 Nikkah Namas,** and **130 death certificates** in the Union Council
11. Vaccinated **1970 animals** with the help of Livestock Department and Trained CLEW under PINS-ER3 programme
12. Planted **5405 trees** in different villages of the UC with the help of NRSP under PINS-ER3 project and ENRM sector
13. Provided support to **12 fire** affected household on the self-help basis and distributed ration (food), clothes and cash grant to these households
14. Trained **25 males** for 2 months on poultry management with the support of Livestock Department

LSO Karam Khan Nizamani came into existence on July 30, 2017, in Union Council Karam Khan Nizamani, tehsil Halla, district Matiari, under the European Union funded SUCCESS programme. Since the formation of LSO Karam Khan Nizamani, its women leaders are planning and implementing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies and other organisations. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh by realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and are also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Response to COVID-19

The leaders of LSO Karam Khan Nizamani have made continuous efforts to raise awareness on COVID-19 among the community members. The Community Resource Persons (CRPs) were directed to incorporate the informative messages in their routine Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions in the CO meetings. The community members were guided about the threats posed by the deadly virus and precautionary measures essential to prevent it. The CRPs ensured the social distancing of six feet among the participants during the CO meetings. The message on preventive measures such as regular handwashing, social



COVID-19 Vaccination

distancing, stay-at-home practice, and wearing a face mask in public were disseminated through various means. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 Pandemic, CRPs and other community leaders of CO/VO/LSO have conducted 251 sessions in all affiliated 74 COs. These sessions have educated 2666 individuals (women CO members) on the above mentioned COVID-19 precautions.

During the COVID-19 pandemic situation, LSO with the support of UC Chairman, philanthropists and on self-help basis provided in-kind support in the form of essential food items, soaps, etc. to 930 poorest households. 1697 soaps were also distributed in the UC with the support of NRSP under PINS-ER3 and Reckitt Benckiser limited Pakistan. The women LSO leaders with the support of CRPs managed to register the needy families under the Federal Government's EHSAS Emergency Cash Programme. 1000 families have received PKR 12,000 each from the Programme. Therefore, the support of LSO leaders and CRPs to these vulnerable families was instrumental in getting PKR 12 million from government sources.

The LSO is also supporting the Government Health department in the COVID-19 vaccination. The COs and VO have been mobilising the communities for the COVID-19 vaccination and have also supported the health department in COVID-19 vaccination camp through which 525 individuals have been vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccination process is still in progress in the UC.

Immunisation Campaigns

The women LSO leaders and Community Resource Persons (CRPs) actively supported the Government Health Department in the effective launch of routine immunisation campaigns at the UC level through the CRPs. The families who were previously resisting to vaccinate their children were convinced to allow the vaccinations to be given to their children. The children who had been missed during the previous vaccination campaigns were also considered to cover their gap during the next vaccination drive organised by the Health Department. Furthermore, with the help of CRPs, sessions were also delivered to raise the awareness about the significance of routine immunisation in the community. Due to the coordinated efforts of the LSO and Health Department, 1080 children aged 0-23 month have been immunised/vaccinated in the Union Council.



Immunisation Campaign for Children

Education Initiatives

LSO Karam Khan Nizamani has also taken educational initiatives with the support of Government Education Department. The LSO leaders are mobilising the community through Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions and the COs, VO meetings to educate their children. The efforts of the Community Institutions have brought fruitful results as 1150 children have been enrolled in the schools of Union Council. The LSO continues to make the efforts to raise education awareness among the community members.

Civic Rights - CNIC Registration

Under the SUCCESS programme, the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions are delivered to raise awareness about the importance of civic rights. However, the CNIC registration with NADRA is a daunting task as it is a time consuming and an expensive activity. The poorest community members lack awareness and money to reach the NADRA office on self help basis. Therefore, the community leaders approached the NADRA office through different sources to provide a Mobile Registration Van so that all community members including elder, persons with disabilities, and women can easily register for their CNICs. As the population had been motivated through the CAT sessions to complete their documentation with NADRA, the activity of Mobile Registration Van led to the registration of 1370 CNICs, 1350 B-forms, 340 Nikkah Namas and 130 death certificates in the Union Council.

Livestock Vaccination

With the support of the Government and trained Community Livestock Extension Worker - CLEW (under EU funded PINS-ER3 project), LSO has facilitated the vaccination of 1970 animals in the Union Council. The Community Institutions at the ground level supported the livestock department teams in the livestock vaccination and organised 2 livestock vaccination camps in the UC. The vaccination teams visited



Livestock Vaccination

different villages of the Union Council and vaccinated all types of the animals at the doorstep/villages of the community.

Tree Plantation

The LSO leaders decided to join hands with the Government of Sindh to promote the tree plantation in the UC. The awareness was raised among the member COs on afforestation to make the community members realise the strategic importance of trees. Furthermore, the LSO leaders approached the Forest Department for provision of rooted trees to be distributed amongst the community members. On the self-help basis and with the support of NRSP ENRM sector, 1000 saplings were purchased at subsidised rates from the Forest Department. LSO also planted 4100 moringa and 305 fruit plants in the COs & VOs under the EU funded PINS-ER3 Project. Therefore, 5405 trees have been planted in the different villages of the UC.



Tree plantation campaign

Collaboration with Sindh Community Foundation

LSO Karam Khan Nizamani is also extending its linkages with other organisations and is supported by a local Non-Profit Organisation named 'Sindh Community Foundation'. The Foundation has provided 10 handpumps to the needy households and have supported 2 widows to start their small businesses (shops) to increase their income levels. It has also registered 32 farmers and have educated them for increasing their income through a trained female community leader. Furthermore, the organisation also aims to support these farmers for any violation of farmer's rights.

Support to the fire affected families

During a fire in village Allah Bux Nizamani of UC Karam Khan Nizamani, 12 families suffered as their entire assets were burnt. The community leaders initiated a fundraiser for these families and collected PKR 10,000. A philanthropist from the vicinity also agreed to provide PKR 10,000 to these needy families. Therefore, a total of PKR 20,000 was raised and given to the affected families as a cash grant. In addition, the LSO members also collected clothes, ration (food) and bedding from the community to support the affected households.



Collection of bedding and household items for the fire affected families

LSO Rahbar

District Larkana Tehsil: Bakrani	Union Council Bux Jatoi	Date of Formation March 22 2018	Total Households in Union Council 1,837	Organised Households 1,232
Coverage 67%	Number of Community Organisations (COs) 54 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 09 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members 18 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members 07 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of
PKR **3,919,386** initial
Sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF)
amount of PKR **5,931,700**
disbursed to **382** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount
of PKR **1,243,200** benefited
107 households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI)
provided to **38** households
providing coverage to **258**
individuals



Technical and Vocational Skills
Training (TVST) benefited
38 male female beneficiaries



04
Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)
schemes implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **4 different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) schemes** in the Union Council Bux Jatoi, under the SUCCESS Programme. The total worth of these schemes is **PKR 938,073** and a total of **163 households** are benefiting from these schemes. There are **1,297 beneficiaries** of these schemes which include 663 women and 634 men. The schemes include **brick**

pavement, tuff paver and retaining wall. The schemes have improved the basic infrastructures and productive assets used by, and services delivered to, the targeted communities. The improved community infrastructure has been beneficial for the community members to meet their basic needs and gain better access to public services.

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Supported **CNIC** registration of **1200 people**, including **500 women** and **700 men**
2. Arranged a medical camp aiding Tuberculosis testing of **200 suspected** men and women
3. Enrolled Over **50 out-of-school children** in Govt. schools, including **30 girls** and **20 boys**
4. Provided schoolbooks **150 students** through **School Management Committees (SMCs)**
5. Planted **300 rooted tree** saplings
6. Established **8 nurseries** across the UC and distributed **9,600 rooted plants of Moringa** among the community members
7. Delivered **400 awareness sessions** on the **COVID-19** and facilitated a total of **29 men** and **women** in conducting Anti-Bodies and PCR tests
8. Distributed **850 masks** and sanitisers among the community members
9. Registered **1,300 member** households under **EHSAAS Emergency Cash Grant Programme**, out of which **1,225** received **PKR 12,000** each
10. With the help of UC Chairman, **distributed 20 solar panels, 10 hand pumps** and **15 sewing machines** among the poorest households

LSO Rahbar, from District Larkana, was formed on 22-March-2018, by 1,232 member households organised into 54 COs and 9 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Rahbar are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS Programme is empowering rural women in Sindh by realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and are also taking initiatives to improve their lives.

CNIC Registration through NADRA Mobile Van Service

Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) is an important document in Pakistan. It serves as an identification document to authenticate an individual's identity as the citizen of Pakistan. It is a prerequisite for casting votes in National and Provincial Assembly elections as well as local body's elections. It is also required to register marriage and receive the nikah nama document, obtain birth certificate of new-born children, enrolment in school, and obtaining resources from Government's social security funds like BISP, Zakat and Baitulmal. When the LSO Rahbar was formed in UC Bux Jatoti, the women leaders learnt that a large number of eligible women and men did not have CNICs. Therefore,

they decided to launch a campaign in coordination with VO leaders to prepare CNICs of all illegible women and men in their UC. The LSO leaders raised awareness of the community members on the importance of CNIC through Community Awareness Toolkits (CATs) delivered by the Community Resources Persons (CRPs) in the CO meetings. A village wise list of women and men who were eager to prepare their CNICs or renew their expired CNICs was prepared. The list was submitted to NADRA office with a request for sending their Mobile Van to the village. The LSO leaders met their UC Chairman and asked for his support in getting NADRA Mobile Van on time. This proved very effective as a large number of women and men were able to prepare their CNICs at their doorstep. In the meanwhile, a



Community members preparing their CNICs at a local school through NADRA Mobile Van

significant number of women and men prepared their CNICs on their own as well. As a result of these collective efforts, 1,200 people, including 500 women and 700 men, have prepared their CNICs. As per the new election rules, all CNIC holders automatically become eligible for casting votes. Therefore, the CNIC drive has improved the number of registered voters across the UC in a significant manner. Normally, people have to travel to towns for preparation of CNICs as the NADRA offices are only located in town areas. Therefore, preparation of CNICs at their doorsteps has not only saved the precious time of people but has also resulted in saving the travel cost to town areas.

Arranging Free Health Camp Service in Collaboration with Health Department for Diagnosing Tuberculosis (TB) Disease

Tuberculosis (TB) disease is highly epidemic in Pakistan these days. According to the latest WHO estimations, the incidence of TB is 230 per 100,000, and the prevalence and mortality are 310 per 100,000 and 39 per 100,000 respectively. This indicates 410,000 incident cases of TB and 69,000 TB deaths in Pakistan every year. If diagnosed and treated on time, TB is a curable disease now a-days. Moreover, timely diagnosis and treatment are key elements in controlling the spread of the disease. Therefore, the Government has set up a special unit under the Health Department for this purpose. The TB unit diagnoses TB patients and provides medicines free of cost.

There were a number of TB cases in the LSO area. However, due to lack of awareness about the Govt. facilities, they were facing difficulties in getting medicines on time. Therefore, the LSO leaders decided to contact the Govt. Health Department and sought their guidance to control its fast spread in the UC. The LSO Bookkeeper (CBK) contacted the Health Department and held a meeting with them during which the Health Department offered to launch a Health Camp in a central place of the UC. The LSO leaders facilitated the Government Health department in organising the Health Camp. In this camp, over 200 suspected men and women were tested and 5 of them were found TB positive. These patients are now receiving free medicines from Govt. Health department. The Health Department's team advised the



Health Camp for TB diagnosis and Treatment

family members of these patients on keeping them in isolation and providing them with proper and rich food. A large number of general patients were also checked up by the team and received free medicines.

Enrolment of Children in Schools

The right to education is a fundamental human right. Every individual, irrespective of race, gender, ethnic or social origin, age, or disability, is entitled to free elementary education. However, due to multiple reasons, literacy rate and school enrolment ratio are very low in Pakistan. The situation is worst in rural areas. After getting organised in COs, VOs and LSO under the EU funded SUCCESS Programme, the LSO leaders decided to take actions for improvement of education in their UC. A key activity was to launch school enrolment campaigns to admit as many students in schools as possible. The LSO leaders motivated parents of the out-of-school children for sending them to schools. The LSO leaders also talked to the school Head Teacher and ensured that the children have been properly enrolled in schools. Over 50 children, including 30 girls and 20 boys have been enrolled in Govt. schools in villages Kariyo Shaikh, Bachal Wahan and Bux Jatoi.

On the other hand, the LSO leaders have taken a number of self-initiatives to improve education system in Union Council Bux Jatoi. There are two non-functional schools in the UC. The LSO leaders met with the Chief Monitoring Officer of Education Department, Ms. Sourath Mazhar, and briefed her about it. On her advice, the LSO has submitted a proper application to the Education Department complaining against the two non-functional schools and asking for re-opening them as soon as possible. Furthermore, the LSO leaders met with the School Management Committees (SMCs). In these meetings, the LSO leaders stressed upon ensuring regular attendance of both, teachers, and students, in the Government Schools. Additionally, books were not provided to the students of two schools. On the instruction of the LSO leaders, the SMC provided books to 150 students in these schools.



LSO leaders are processing enrolment of a girl in a Govt. Primary school

Tree Plantation

Trees play an important role in the economic development and conservation of rural areas. Fruit trees provide shade, fruits, and fodder while forest trees provide fodder, firewood, and timber. Trees also increase green zones and significantly improve the aesthetic dimension of the rural lifestyle. The LSO leaders learnt about the multiple benefits of trees during the CATs sessions and therefore, tree plantation was identified as an important self-help development activity. There is a huge potential for plantation of both fruit and forest trees in UC Bux Jatoi. However, supply of planting material remained short in the UC. The LSO leaders planted 300 rooted tree saplings on self-help basis and distributed them amongst their interested members. The members planted these trees in the courtyards of their houses or in a nearby free space. They water the trees and protect them from the domestic animals.

Moringa is known as a superfood tree. Like other superfoods, Moringa tree offers enormous amount of nutrients, vitamins, and minerals required by the human body. Another important benefit of Moringa is that it can be grown in extremely arid regions where rainfall is in limited supply. The leaders and general members of LSO Rahbar received awareness under EU funded PINS ER-3 Programme about plantation of Moringa in their area. With the technical support of PINS ER-3 staff, the LSO established 8 nurseries across their UC and distributed 9,600 rooted plants of Moringa among its member VOs. The VOs distributed them among their CO members, who have planted them in the courtyards of their houses or in a nearby free space.

The LSO leaders are planning to get more planting material from the Government Forestry and Agriculture Departments in the coming plantation season.



CO member looking after her newly planted tree



A Moringa Nursery grown by LSO

Screening Test of COVID -19

The women leaders of LSO Rahbar decided to cooperate with SRSO and Government Health Department for educating their members about the COVID-19 disease. The LSO formed a four-member committee. The committee members received training on awareness raising and Trace, Test and Quarantine (TTQ) procedures from Government Health Department and SRSO staff. The committee members, then, delivered 400 awareness sessions on the pandemic across the UC using the platforms of their member COs and VOs. They briefed the community members on the common signs and symptoms of the Corona disease and precautionary measures such as avoiding crowded places, keeping social distances, washing hands with soap, and quarantining the suspected persons at home. They also guided and facilitated the suspected corona patients in conducting Anti-Bodies and PCR Test from Civil Hospital Larkana. So far, a total of 29 men and women have been facilitated in conducting Anti-Bodies and PCR tests.

The LSO leaders collected 850 masks and sanitisers from the Local Government and distributed them among their members. In addition, 1,300 member households were registered under EHSAAS Emergency Cash Grant Programme, out of which 1,225 received PKR 12,000. In this way, the LSO leaders made their effective efforts in helping the Government control the spread of the fatal disease and providing relief to their member households in this difficult time.



COVID-19 Screening Camp

Provision of Solar Panels, Hand Pumps, and Sewing Machines to Poor Families from UC Chairman

Electricity supply is a chronic issue in UC Bux Jatoi. Power load shedding is so long and unpredictable that people cannot rely on the Government's electricity supply. Solar powered electricity is a reliable source. Therefore, rich people have installed solar panels at their houses in UC Bux Jatoi. However, the poor families cannot afford the initial cost of solar panels and batteries.

Another serious issue is access to portable water. The only source of portable water in UC Bux Jatoi is underground water that requires hand pumps. However, due to lack of resources for installation of hand pump, poor families remain the most affected. There are also a number of women who are trained as tailors but due to lack of money they cannot afford to buy a proper sewing machine.

Keeping in view the aforementioned issues, the Local Government provided funds to supply solar panels, hand pumps, and sewing machines to the most deserving families through the UC Government. The LSO leaders learnt about this and prepared list of the most deserving families to be submitted to the UC Chairman. Generally, the Chairman of the UC distributes these supplies among families of their choice irrespective of their eligibility. However, when the LSO submitted a list of the most deserving families, the UC Chairman compelled to distribute the Government resources among these families. The UC chairman has distributed 20 solar panels, 10 hand pumps and 15 sewing machines among the poorest households.



CO Member with her new sewing machine








Solar panel granted to community members



A hand pump given by the UC Chairman

LSO Anmol Ittehad

District  Kamber Shahdaktot	Union Council  Dhingano Mahesar	Date of Formation  30 2018	Total Households in Union Council  2,396	Organised Households  1,802
Coverage  75%	Number of Community Organisations (COs)  66 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs)  11 <small>(all women's)</small>	Number of General Body Members  22 <small>(all women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members  5 <small>(all women)</small>

(LSO Profiles up to 31 May 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount
PKR 7,937,959



Disbursed CIF loans worth
PKR 16,169,548 to
962 poor households



138 poorest households benefited
 from income-generating grants
 worth **1,940,540**



603 poorest households and
4,221 people have micro
 health insurance coverage



68
 (Female 61, Male 07) received
 technical-vocational skills training



07
 Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)
 schemes implemented

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The LSO has implemented **07 (05 Complete, 02 Ongoing) different Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) schemes** in the Union Council Dhinghano Mehasir, under the EU Funded SUCCESS programme.

The total worth of these schemes is **PKR 4,240,485** and a total of **474 household** have benefited from these schemes. A total of **2,946 population** has

benefited from these schemes. The schemes include **Brick Pavement of the streets and RCC Culverts**. The schemes have improved the basic infrastructures and productive assets used by, and services delivered to, the targeted communities. The community members are benefited from improved community infrastructures to meet their basic needs and gain better access to public services.

Activities implemented through self-help and in collaboration with Government and other development agencies:

1. Reopening of **03 previously closed primary schools** and enrolment of **280 boys and girls** in these schools
2. Convinced the reluctant families to **enrol 70 girls** in school
3. Registered **CNICs of 40 women**
4. Prepared **B-forms of 1200 students** to receive monthly stipend from Government of Sindh
5. Resolved community issues in **CNIC registration with NADRA** Manager Shahdadkot
6. Improved nutrition by **engaging 31 community members in kitchen gardening**
7. Provided ration bags to **15 members** per VO during **COVID-19** with the support of AC Sijawal
8. Distributed **80 ration bags** to the needy families during COVID-19 with the help of local philanthropists
9. Facilitated the vaccination of **1 130 individuals in the UC**
10. Reopened the **BHU** site in the UC for the facilitation of medical services
11. Stopped a **child marriage case of a 14-year-old girl**
12. Trained **4 CRPs** on sessions regarding difference b/w HIV and AIDs through Bridge Consultant Foundation
13. Organised **2 medical camps** for screening of HIV and AIDs, especially for pregnant and lactating women

LSO Anmol Ittihad, from District Kamber Shahdadkot, was formed in May 2018 by 1,802 member households organised into 66 COs and 11 VOs. Women leaders of LSO Anmol Ittihad are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh by realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Reopening of Previously Closed Primary Schools

The government primary schools in villages Muhammad Zaman Brohi and Jangi Khan Sonani were closed for the last three years due to lack availability of teachers. Previously, the community members did not consider any responsibility in making efforts for reopening of closed schools. However, when the women of the UC Dhingano Masher were organised into COs, VOs, and LSO with the technical support of the EU-funded SUCCESS Programme, they received awareness about their roles and responsibilities in education, health, and other civic facilities provided by the

government. Right after the formation of the LSO in May 2018, the matter of closed schools was brought to the notice of the women LSO leaders by the concerned VOs. Upon inquiry with the Education Department, it was found that both schools had teachers, but they were not coming to their schools while still receiving their salaries from the Education Department. The women leaders asked the teachers about their reasons for absence from their schools, but they provided baseless excuses and did not listen to the women



Government officials' visit to closed schools

leaders. A meeting was then called with the notable and influential people of the UC who were briefed about the unprofessional attitude of the teachers. A further meeting was arranged with the Taluka Education Office Sijawal and complaint was filed against the teachers. On the order of the Taluka Education Officer, both teachers returned to their schools immediately.

The return of teachers led to the enrolment of 80 boys and girls to the schools, however, they did not have books to continue their education. Therefore, the LSO leaders invited a local journalist to visit these schools. Upon his visit, the journalist published an article in the local newspapers highlighting the issues of the poor students. This built some pressure on the Educational Department, and they provided course books to the enrolled students.

In Village Khan. M Bozdar, LSO leaders and the Community Resource Person (CRP) participated in the activity of the CIF/IGG appraisal filling. During the VO meeting, they came to know that the village's school has been closed. Upon visiting the building, the leaders found that the building was used as livestock stable. The VO leaders and members shared that a government teacher is assigned to teach the children of the village, but he has been absent for the past few years.

An emergency meeting was called at the LSO office and a formal committee was formed to resolve the issue. The committee visited the teacher's home and discussed the issue that his absence is depriving the students of education. After negotiations, the teacher promised that he will regularly visit the school. Afterwards, the school building was cleaned up to facilitate good educational services for the students. As of now, 200 students are enrolled and getting education in this school.

Enrolment of Girls in Schools

Due to cultural reasons, the men in certain families of the LSO area did not allow their girls to enrol in schools. As a result, all women members of such families remained illiterate. This issue was raised in the LSO meeting and the LSO leaders decided to visit these families to motivate their men for sending their girls to school. Visits were made to such families and men were briefed about the importance of girls' education followed by the multiple problems faced by illiterate women in society. As a result of their efforts, 70 girls have been admitted to schools in villages Telan Jatoi, Jungi Sunani, and Kot Lal Bux Mahesar.

Civic Registration – Preparation of CNICs

The men in village Kot Lal Bux Mahesar were not allowing their women to prepare their CNICs, due to which poor women had restricted access to their civic rights such as getting medical facilities from government hospitals, casting their votes in elections etc. After the formation of the LSO, this

issue was brought to the notice of its leaders. The matter was discussed in the LSO meeting and the Executive body advised the President and the Manager of the concerned VO to conduct door-to-door visits of such families and convince their men to provide full support in CNIC registration. The mission is currently in progress and so far, the LSO has been successful in preparation of CNICs for 40 women.

Civic Registration – B-Form Registration

The Sindh Education Foundation had initiated its Scholarship Program "Sindh School Education Scholarship Program" (SSESP) in 2017 to honour to encourage the talented students of Sindh Province with an objective to link them with quality institutions across Pakistan and to pursue their post-primary education up to higher secondary level.

The students across the UC Dhinghano Mehasir were unable to receive the monthly stipend due to lack of civic registration (B-forms) as per Government of Sindh's Policy. The matter was discussed in LSO Meeting. The LSO President visited the NADRA office to gain the right information about the Government policies and then guided the VO leaders to motivate the community members to register with NADRA. Due to awareness raised during the CO meetings, 1200 students have obtained B-forms from NADRA and are now receiving PKR 800/- stipend per month from the Government of Sindh.

Meeting with NADRA Manager Shahdadkot

05 members of LSO Anmol Etihad were fined by NADRA due to doubling of their names in CNIC registration. Total PKR 5,000/- per head was charged, and due to errors in ID cards, the members were also not able to take benefit from the Community Investment Fund (CIF) by SRSO. The matter was discussed in the LSO routine meeting and the concerned members were also called to attend the LSO meeting. The members said that they cannot afford the huge fine amount. The leaders decided to meet the NADRA officials for a possible way out. On the next day, the LSO President along with the 05 members visited the NADRA office Shahdadkot where she explained the whole matter and requested concession for the poor community members. The Manager appreciated the efforts of LSO leaders and promised his full support. Later on, the fine was reduced to PKR 3,000/- per head and errors in CNIC cards were also rectified.

Improvement in Nutrition by Promoting Kitchen Gardening

Nutrition deficiency is very common in rural Sindh. A main cause of nutrition deficiency is low consumption of quality vegetables due to ever-increasing prices. A kitchen garden is an inexpensive solution for this matter as it provides a regular, and handy supply of fresh vegetables which are essential for a balanced diet. Green vegetables contain



vitamins and minerals which protect people against diseases. Therefore, the SUCCESS staff is promoting kitchen gardening in the programme areas. After the formation of LSO Anmol Ittihad, their leaders were briefed by the SUCCESS field staff on the importance and methods of kitchen gardening. The leaders of VOs Sawera and Kot Lal Bux agreed to pilot kitchen gardening. The field staff provided them with technical support and helped them get quality vegetable seeds and other required inputs. As a result, 31 women LSO members started kitchen gardens in their courtyards, and they are quite happy with the results. Based on these successful pilots, the LSO leaders are planning to expand kitchen gardening in all interested VOs shortly. Ms. Shamshad, the LSO President has started kitchen gardening herself as well. She said that a good number of their LSO members are adapting kitchen gardening now. She cultivates onions, spinach, cabbage, mustard, and ladyfingers in her kitchen garden. Ms. Shamshad wants to expand her kitchen garden area to cultivate more vegetables so that she can fulfil her household's maximum demand of vegetables from her kitchen garden.

Support During COVID-19

When the COVID-19 pandemic spread worldwide, Pakistan went through a complete lockdown period making poorest households unable to earn the bread and butter for their families. During this crisis' situation, LSO leaders and members stepped forward and decided to help the poorest households across the UC. Initially, the savings of COs were utilised to start a fundraising campaign. A list of deserving households across the UC was prepared which were then granted the amount of PKR 1000 and 500.

LSO Leaders and members put in efforts to reach and support every poorest household in the UC during the lockdown period. For this purpose, help was sought from the local philanthropists. Assistant Commissioner Sijwal and other local notables were contacted. With the help of LSO CBK, an authentic list of the poorest households across the UC with family rosters and detailed data was prepared to

extend the support to needy families. The list was submitted at the AC office. Upon submission, AC Sijwal took notice and provided ration bags to 15 members per VO in the presence of the LSO leaders. Furthermore, 80 ration bags were also distributed with the help of the means gathered from local philanthropists. These bags were distributed among 04 VOs. On self-help basis, the LSO leaders also prepared the ration bags from the LSO fund and distributed them among the needy community members. 25 households from village Kot Ghulam Shah struggling to survive hunger during the lockdown received this aid from the LSO.

Community Resource Persons (CRPs) were also asked to deliver the awareness sessions on the prevention of COVID-19 and demonstration of handwashing practice. Therefore, CRPs visited the villages and conducted such sessions at the doorstep of the community households.



Hand washing demonstration by CRP



Meeting with AC Sijwal



Money distribution to needy families during COVID-19



Ration distribution during COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccination

The LSO leaders were contacted by the COVID-19 focal staff at Government's Basic Health Units (BHUs) for the support in flow of vaccination cases. The LSO leaders disseminated the message among the VO leaders and CRPs to mobilise the local community and raise awareness on facilitation of vaccination at BHUs. Initially, the community was confused and showed resistance towards vaccination due to myths regarding side effects of the vaccine. However, with the continuous efforts of VO leaders and CRPs, a total of 1130 individuals have been successfully vaccinated so far. In the village Hayat Gopang, UC Chairman also participated in the vaccination activity. Still, the efforts are continuous, as all community members join hands to make Pakistan Corona-free.

Re-Opening of the BHU Site in the UC

The community members were facing the difficulty of health facilities in their UC as they had to travel far to other UC to seek any medical help. Due to the long distance, the community people faced many losses and incidents, especially in the delivery cases.

The building of BHU, located at Village Kot Ghulam Shah, was non-functional. To facilitate the community members, the LSO President along with the members of different VOs visited the PPHI District office Kamber Shahdadkot and met with the District Manager Mr. Abdul Rahim Junejo. As representatives of the community, they discussed the matter with him and shared the difficulties faced by the local people. Mr. Junejo admired their efforts and level of awareness.

The building was renovated and a doctor along with a Nutrition Assistant was arranged for the BHU. Now, an OTP site is also regulated in the BHU. The community is now at ease as the medical facilities are readily available to them.

Stopping Child Marriages

Early marriages take away a girl's freedom of education and destroy her mentally and physically.

Community Leaders assume their role to reduce such practices that are creating a harmful impact on the community members in any way. During an LSO's routine meeting, the leaders and members came to know about the marriage of a young girl in their UC. After consultation, the meeting reached the consensus to stop the marriage by any means. The LSO leaders approached the bride's family and requested to stop the marriage temporarily until their daughter reaches the appropriate age which is required for marriage. The bride-to-be at her 14 years of age was not aware of the meaning of marriage, and roles and responsibilities that come along. She stated that *"I am not aware of the marriage ceremony, and who the groom is. I am a school-going girl. One day all of a sudden, my mother asked*

me to skip school and stay at home. My mother had only told me that some females will come, and I will have to sit in the room for a few days". Initially, the leaders received a bitter response from the family and were rejected, however, the consistent effort and persuasion formally stopped the event. The LSO leaders have aimed that they would never allow any such act in their area.

HIV Sessions and Medical Camp with the Help of Bridge Consultant Foundation

Pakistan is one of the countries in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region where new HIV infections are increasing at an alarming level since 1987. The current HIV epidemic in Pakistan is defined as a concentrated epidemic. Considering this concern, LSO leaders visited the Bridge Consultant Foundation (BCF). The BCF asked the LSO leaders to nominate 04 CRPs for a one-day training on sessions regarding difference b/w HIV and AIDs, symptoms, testing, and prevention from HIV. The list of CRPs was submitted to the BCF and later, the trained CRPs conducted sessions in the community for 06 months. During these 06 months, 2 medical camps were arranged for pregnant and lactating women and 50 cases were referred to the BCF. Four people were diagnosed as infected (1 male, 3 females including one minor and a mother and daughter duo). The mother and daughter were cured after the treatment whereas the minor girl is still under treatment. The CRPs were rewarded with a stipend by BCF for their tremendous efforts and hard work.



SUCCESS Programme is based on the Rural Support Programmes' (RSPs) social mobilisation approach to Community-Driven Development (CDD). Social Mobilisation centres 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, as well as technical and financial assistance to the rural poor in Sindh.

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SUCCESS

Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support Programme

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