










What are LSOs?

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

LSO Initiatives

LSO Initiative Shah Kapoor

<p>District Sujawal</p> <p>Tehsil: Jati</p>	<p>Union Council Shah Kapoor</p> 	<p>Date of Formation</p> <p>Feb 27 2017</p> 	<p>Total Households in Union Council</p> <p>3,432</p> 	<p>Organised Households</p> <p>2,891</p> 
<p>Coverage</p> <p>84%</p> 	<p>Number of Community Organisations (COs)</p> <p>145 (all women's)</p> 	<p>Number of Village Organisations (VOs)</p> <p>14 (all women's)</p> 	<p>Number of General Body Members</p> <p>30 (all women)</p> 	<p>Number of Executive Committee Members</p> <p>10 (all women)</p> 

(LSO Profiles up to 31 July 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of
PKR 4,000,000 Initial sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of
PKR 13,311,000 disbursed to
(790 Loans) **399** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of
PKR 6,604,000 benefited **508** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to
1,215 households benefitting **9,482** people/
population covered



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST)
benefited **48 male** and **104 female**
beneficiaries



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):
07 schemes



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

1. Planted **500 trees** in the Union Council and promoted kitchen gardening as well
2. Conducted **250 sessions** educating 18 members/households on the necessary precautions to be taken against the COVID-19
3. Stitched and distributed **200 face masks** through **15 sewing machines** received through the support of Kachhi Community organisation
4. Distributed **200 blankets, 450 ration bags, 1,050 soaps** with the help of Kachhi Community organisation
5. Registered **85 women CNICs** with NADRA
6. Obtained **10 mosques, 04 madrassas and 32 toilets** from various philanthropist organisations

LSO Shah Kapoor, from District Sujawal was formed on 27th February 2017 by 2,891 member households organised into 145 COs and 14 VO. Women leaders of LSO Shah Kapoor are planning and implementing development activities both on self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies and different welfare organisation to work better for their members. The EU-funded SUCCESS programme is empowering rural women in Sindh through realising the power they gain from collective action. The organised women now are gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Plantation and Kitchen Gardening

Recognising the importance of tree plantation, LSO leaders took the initiative of tree plantation in the Union Council with the help of the District Forest Officer. LSO members purchased 500 trees from their own savings and planted them in their houses. Some members had also planted some fruit trees with the aim to improve the household nutrition. Furthermore, kitchen gardening is also promoted by the LSO leaders. Previously, community members used to purchase expensive vegetables from the market. With the kitchen gardening initiative introduced by the LSO, members have now grown their own mini kitchen gardens. The vegetables are sought from their own gardens which has reduced the overall food expense and have eased the lives of community members.

Support during COVID-19 Pandemic

Due to illiteracy and lack of access to the updated information, the outbreak of COVID-19 was not taken seriously, and people underestimated the threats posed by the deadly virus. LSO leaders stepped up to raise awareness among the community members and directed the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) to



A community member receiving vaccination against COVID-19

deliver the sessions during the CO meetings. These sessions were made an important part of the Community Awareness Toolkits (CATs) sessions delivered by CRPs under the SUCCESS Programme. 250 sessions educated 18 members/households on the necessary precautions to be taken against the COVID-19. SOPs were strictly followed during these sessions and social distance of 6 feet was maintained. Furthermore, the LSO distributed 200 blankets, 450 ration bags, 1050 soaps with the help of an organisation, Kachhi Community. The LSO members who were trained in tailoring under the Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) funded by the EU supported SUCCESS Programme, received 15 sewing machines from the Kachhi Community and stitched 200 face masks which were distributed among poor community members. The LSO leaders have also been working to encourage community members to receive vaccination against the COVID-19 to protect themselves and their families.

Civic Registration

Every individual in Pakistan must be registered with the state and must obtain a Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) from NADRA. CNIC is an individual's identity as well as a pre-requisite for exercising the right to vote in the country. However, since NADRA offices are located in

urban towns, the CNIC registration remained out of reach of many community members in the UC, especially females. Other cultural restrictions and lack of awareness aggravated the situation resulting in lower CNIC registrations of female community members. Therefore, LSO leaders decided to take the women to the NADRA offices by themselves to ensure the civic registration in the community. This resulted in CNIC registration of 85 women.

Support from Non-Governmental Organisations

SAFCO and Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal are nongovernmental organisations working for welfare and development works in unprivileged areas. One of the LSO leaders learnt that these organisations are working nearby in the district but have not considered providing support to the UC Shah Kapoor area yet. The LSO leaders approached the social mobilisers working there in a village and had a meeting alongside some influential people of the area to present the issues and needs of LSO such as unavailability of mosques, religious learning institutes, and toilet facilities. After considering the issues, Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal decided to provide 10 mosques, 04 madrassas whereas SAFCO foundation provided 32 toilets to the LSO Shah Kapoor.



Women community members waiting outside NADRA office for CNIC registration



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Reported by: Sanam Altaf, MER Officer, SUCCESS, NRSP
Edited by: Huma Irfan, Knowledge Management Officer, SUCCESS, RSPN
Designed by: Masha ALLAH Printers, Islamabad

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