



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

Local Support Organisation (LSO) Khidmat

District Larkana Tehsil: Larkana	Union Council Rasheed Wagan	Date of Formation Jan 17 2019	Total Households in Union Council 2,097	Organised Households 1,582
Coverage 75%	Number of Community Organisations (COs) 79 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 16 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members 32 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members 3 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 July 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing amount of
PKR 5,159,400 (initial sub-grant)



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of
PKR 11,753,500 disbursed to **724** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of
PKR 1,598,000 benefited **129** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to
384 households providing coverage to **04** individuals



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited **2 male** and **45 female** beneficiaries



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):
10 schemes (The total worth of these schemes is
PKR 6,848,631 and **559** households are benefiting from these schemes)



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

1. Facilitated the enrolment of **200 students (120 male, 80 females)** in school
2. Planted **570 trees** in the UC area
3. Registered the **CNICs of 1400 people (800 female, 600 male)** through NADRA Mobile Van service
4. Treated **180 patients** for free through a medical health camp with the help of Government Health Department
5. Facilitated the vaccination of **170 community** members against COVID-19
6. Arranged **40 solar panels, 20 ration bags, 25 sewing machines and 30 hand pumps** for poor community members with the help of UC Chairman

LSO Khidmat, from District Larkana, was formed on 30th November 2018 by 1583 households which are organised into 2,097 COs and 79 VOs. Women leaders of LSO 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 taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Enrolment of Children in School

Education plays a vital role in shaping the values and personality of members of the community. Community development is impossible without a proper education system. For the betterment of rural areas, the leaders of LSO Khidmat have taken a self-initiative through CRP sessions to motivate the parents to enrol their children in school. After conducting various awareness sessions, their efforts gave fruitful results and 200 children in UC Rasheed Wagan were successfully enrolled in school. Out of 200, there are 120 male and 80 female students.



Female Students at a School in UC Rasheed Wagan

Due to LSO's consistent efforts, the education system in the UC is improving and children have developed an enthusiasm for education.

Tree Plantation Campaign

Trees are essential to the existence of mankind and the plantation of trees improves the quality of life. The trees clean the air by absorbing harmful chemicals and provide a healthier environment. Keeping in view the importance of tree plantation, the leaders of LSO Khidmat decided to plant trees in the UC. These trees provide various benefits such as forage for domestic animals, shade in summer, timber for local use and as well as an income source for the seller. So far, the LSO has planted 570 trees in the UC area.



Tree Plantation Campaign

CNIC Registration through NADRA Mobile Van

Identity plays an important role in empowering people. It provides a sense of belonging and provides legal assistance in getting rights and responsibilities fairly and equitably in modern society. The SUCCESS programme

in the UC introduced the community members to the benefits of having a National Identity Card such as eligibility to vote in National and Provincial elections. The community members were motivated by the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) for the registration of CNIC. The leaders of LSO Khidmat decided to take a self-initiative of identity registration of community members with NADRA. They reached out to the nearest NADRA office and described their problem as half of the population in the UC did not have CNICs. Considering the problem, the NADRA officials arrange a mobile van service for the UC. This service helped in the registration of 1400 people, out of which 800 were women and 600 were men. The members are happy to have received their CNICs as they can cast votes now, have access to public services, and can also use their CNICs for their children's enrolment in school. This effort has been recognised as a great step towards development.



Community members posing in front of NADRA Mobile Van service during CNIC Registration campaign

Mobile Health Camp

The healthcare services in the rural areas require drastic improvements. The individuals in rural communities lack access to proper healthcare services. For the villages that have doctors available, the community members cannot afford their treatment due to limited earnings and no money for medicines. The LSO leaders observed the condition of the UC which was worsening day by day and arranged a meeting with the Government Health Department. They proposed the idea to arrange free health mobile camp services in their UC. Upon the approval of their request, the mobile health van was arranged for the UC which cured many poor people for free. It benefited individuals and families who were facing difficulties and were affected with various diseases but were unable to consult a doctor. With a gleam in their eyes, they availed the free check-up service and took guidance on precautionary measures to stop the diseases from spreading. 180 people were diagnosed with different diseases and were provided free of cost medicines by the health department.



A woman getting her check-up done at the medical camp

COVID-19 Vaccination Drive

The community members in UC Rasheed Wagan believed more in rumors about COVID-19 vaccine than the facts. Due to myths, rumours, and misinformation about vaccines, people were afraid to take vaccines. When the LSO Khidmat leaders recognised the issue, they personally visited the community households from door-to-door and raised awareness about the vaccine. Furthermore, they contacted the Government Health department to organise a COVID-19 vaccination camp in their UC. With their motivation and collaboration with health officials, 170 people were vaccinated against the deadly virus by this service.

Distribution of Solar Panels, Ration Bags, Hand Pumps & Sewing Machines Among Poor Households

Helping others comes in all forms and shapes. The small acts of kindness in helping towards people may seem negligible but creates a ripple effect of positivity and support in the community. Leaders of LSO Khidmat a self-initiative and arrange a meeting with the UC Chairman to discuss and resolve several community issues and needs, such as:

- ◆ Most of the houses in UC Rasheed Wagan were facing the chronic issue of electricity disruption. The



duration of load shedding remained unpredictable and could not be relied on. Therefore, the lack of power supply largely affected the efficiency of workforce. In their meeting with the UC Chairman, the LSO leader brought forward the need for solar panels for their area.

- ◆ The community members were suffering from the unavailability of fresh water. For survival, old, young, and children, all had to travel miles just to fetch water from distant areas. Considering this issue, the LSO leaders urged the provision of handpumps for the needy households.
- ◆ Some poor girls of UC Rasheed Wagan were fond of stitching, but they could not afford the high costs of stitching machines. LSO leaders asked UC

Chairman for the sewing machines for the poor girls who wanted to use this skill for income generating activities.

- ◆ COVID-19 has reduced the income and consumed the savings of the community members. LSO leaders mentioned the provision of ration bags to poor families who could not afford the basic necessities anymore.

In the light of the above discussed issues, the UC Chairman facilitated the LSO leaders and provided 40 solar panels, 20 ration bags, 25 sewing machines and 30 hand pumps for the deserving members of the community.



Distribution of Solar Panels, Ration Bags, Hand Pumps & Sewing Machines by UC Chairman



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