



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

Oderolal Station Local Support Organisation

District Matiari Tehsil: Matiari	Union Council Oderolal Station	Date of Formation Jan 27 2017	Total Households in Union Council 3,159	Organised Households 2,242
Coverage 71%	Number of Community Organisations (COs) 116 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 09 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members 32 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members 15 (all women)

(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 8,363,000** disbursed to **298** households as of October 2021



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of **PKR 1,020,000** benefited **68** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to **261** households benefitting **2,092** people



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited **61 male** and **43 female** beneficiaries



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI): **09 schemes** (6 schemes completed and 3 are ongoing)



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

1. Conducted **255 awareness** raising sessions during the COVID-19 pandemic
2. **856 Soaps** distributed in the UC with support of NRSP
3. Distributed ration bags to **150 families** during COVID-19 Pandemic in the UC with the support of local government and philanthropists
4. Facilitated the grant of PKR **9.36** million to **780** families through the support of Federal Governments EHSAAAS Emergency Cash Programme
5. Distributed **250 masks** among the community members
6. Facilitated the vaccination of **1,470 individuals** against COVID-19
7. Provided Immunisation to **1,230** (0 to 23 Months) children of the union council with the support of government health department.
8. Enrolled **214 children** in the schools of Union Council.
9. Registered **650 CNICs, 451 B-forms, 193 Nikkah Namas,** and **45 death** certificates in the Union Council
10. Vaccinated **652 animals** with the help of Livestock Department
11. Planted **750 trees** different villages of the UC
12. With the support of UC chairman, provided **90 Sewing machines** and **43 handpumps** to poor community members

The Local Support Organisation Oderolal Station came into existence on the date January 27, 2017, in Union Council Oderolal Station, tehsil Matiari, district Matiari, under the European Union funded SUCCESS programme. Since the formation of LSO Oderolal 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 now are gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and also taking self-initiatives to improve their lives.

Response to COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the LSO leaders decided to aware their communities through CRPs sessions on COVID-19 and directed to the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) to deliver the awareness session after their routine Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions in the CO meetings. These awareness

raising sessions educated the community members about the pandemic and safeguarding and preventive measures to be taken for their protection against the deadly virus. Following the guidelines of Government of Sindh, a distance of six feet among the participants was maintained during the sessions. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, 09 CRPs and other community leaders have conducted 255 such sessions in its affiliated COs.



In order to proliferate the information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic among the communities, the women LSO leaders made announcements in villages through mobile speaker. This activity was conducted in all 4 revenue villages of the UC. Furthermore, during the shortage of masks in the market, the organised community leaders of the LSOs arranged 250 handmade and surgical masks and distributed them in the market. The rural communities were neither aware not capable to purchase the masks.

The support of UC Chairman and other local philanthropists was also sought during the COVID-19 pandemic situation. With the help of UC Chairman and Shifa foundation in collaboration with NRSP, essential food items were provided to 150 households and 856 soaps were distributed in the UC to the poorest community members. Furthermore, the women LSO leaders along with CRPs managed to register 780 poor families under the Federal Governments EHSAAS Emergency Cash Programme. 786 families have received PKR 12,000 each from the Programme. Thus, the LSO leaders' support to these vulnerable families was instrumental in getting PKR 9.36 million from government sources.

The LSO is also supporting the Government Health department in the COVID-19 vaccination. Through its COs and VO, the LSO is mobilising the community members to get vaccinated through LSO organised vaccination camps. Through these efforts, 1470 individuals have been vaccinated against COVID-19 and the vaccination process is on-going.



Immunisation Campaigns

The women LSO leaders have 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 the immunisation and also convinced those families which were hesitant for vaccination dose 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. Awareness sessions were also delivered by CRPs on routine immunisation to highlight the significance of routine immunisation in the community. As a result, 1230 (0-23 months) children have been receiving the routine immunisation vaccine.

Enrolment in Schools

LSO Oderolal Station is also working on the education sector with support of Government Education department. The LSO is mobilising the community through its affiliated COs, VO, and CRPs for the promotion of education. The CAT sessions highlight the importance of education and stress upon the enrolment of children in schools. Through the efforts of these sessions and community mobilisation, LSO Oderolal Station has managed to enrol 214 children in the schools of Union Council.



Civic Rights: CNIC Registration

LSO Oderolal Station is working on the awareness of civic rights. The community leaders have been working in close coordination for the registration of people through documentation. As a result of the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions under the SUCCESS programme,



the individuals are motivated to register with NADRA. Since it is a difficult, time taking and an expensive activity to register for computerised identity cards, the LSO leaders requested NADRA for the provision of Mobile Registration Van to facilitate the registration of all community members especially elderly and persons with disabilities. Through this, 660 new CNICs, 451 B-forms, 193 Nikah Nama and 45 death certificates have been registered in the union council on self-help basis. This has only been accomplished due to the leadership of community leaders and their coordination with related line departments.

Livestock Vaccination

Livestock is one of the basic sources of income for poor rural communities. The poor households mainly utilise the financial support received from the SUCCESS Programme in livestock rearing. Therefore, healthy livestock enhances the income of the poor households which contributes towards reduction in poverty. With the help of Government Livestock department, the LSO Oderolal Station arranged livestock vaccination camps which facilitated the vaccination of 652 animals in the Union Council. The Community Institutions at ground level supported the livestock department teams in the livestock vaccination. The vaccination teams from livestock department visited different villages of the Union Council and vaccinated all types of the animals at the community doorstep.



Livestock Vaccination at a member household

Tree Plantation

The LSO leaders have joined hands with the Government of Sindh for the tree plantation campaign. After learning about afforestation during the CAT sessions, the LSO leaders instructed the VOs to raise awareness about the benefits and the importance of tree plantation among the community members. Resultantly, this created effective demand for planting materials and the demands were forwarded to the LSO leaders. The LSO leaders then approached the Government Forest Department for provision of rooted trees for onward distribution among CO members through VOs. The LSO leaders mobilised the community and community institutions on the self-help basis and planted 750 trees in the different villages of the Union council. The process is still ongoing and LSO members are committed to plant more trees in future.



LSO Leaders planting trees in the UC

Support from Local Government

The LSO with the support of local government department has distributed 90 sewing machines and 45 safe drinking water handpumps in the poor rural community. These interventions will contribute in improving the livelihood of the poor rural households.



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