





Issue: 112

An update on the work of Local Support Organisations



What are LSO?

LSOs or Local Support Organisations are a Union Council level federation of Community Institutions. In a bid to reduce poverty at the household level and empower marginalised people (esp. women), they carry out community-led development and develop linkages with government and non-government organisations.

LSO Initiatives

Local Support Organisation Shahpur Rizvi













2016



Total Households in Union Council



2,913

Number of General Body Members



15 (all women) Organised Households



2,099





27 (all women)

(LSO Profiles up to 31 July 2021)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR **4,812,000**Initial sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of PKR 19,063,021 disbursed to

455 households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of PKR 1,460,000 benefited 108 households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided to **343** households benefitting

2.918 people/population covered



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited 26 male and 76 female beneficiaries



Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills (ALNS) educating 101 female beneficiaries through

4 learning Centres



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):

7 schemes (All schemes completed)

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

- 1. Conducted **6,120 awareness** sessions educating **1,800 individuals** on various topics including poverty, health and education
- 2. Planted 1,011 trees in different villages of the UC
- 3. Enrolled 1,865 children (1,000 boys and 865 girls) in school
- 4. Facilitated the vaccination of **6,066 individuals** against COVID-19
- 5. Registered 4,500 CNICs, 577 B-forms, and 400 Nikkah Namas in the Union Council
- 6. Vaccinated **5,000 animals** with the help of the Livestock Department
- 7. Treated **12,000 patients** for free through a medical health camp with the help of the Government Health Department

Women leaders of **LSO Shahpur Rizvi** 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 gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable and are also taking self-initiative to improve their lives.

Promoting Maternal and Child Health

Due to unavailability of a gynaecologist in the community, women in Union Council Shahpur Rizvi relied on the community midwife for childbirth. Deliveries through unskilled birth attendants resulted in compromise on child and woman's health due to untreated pregnancy complications. Moreover, there were no family planning and antenatal care services, such as ultrasound testing, in these villages and the women could not afford to travel to city in order to avail them. Taking this issue into consideration the Local Support Organisation (LSO) Shahpur Rizvi members invited the District Health Officer

(DHO) to their LSO meeting to find a practical solution. As a result, the DHO connected the LSO leaders to the staff of Civil Hospital, Hyderabad. They now offer free of cost testing and treatment services like ultrasound and caesarean-sections. In addition, they also get a travel allowance worth PKR 600-700. Rani, the general secretary of LSO, facilitates women from her district and others with this opportunity and accompanies them to the hospital. This initiative has helped women in stopping multiple pregnancies, follow birth spacing, complete their antennal care visits, and deliver safely at the hospital.





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