



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 Mairaj

District Kambar Shahdatkot Tehsil: Sijwal	Union Council Arzi Bhutto	Date of Formation March 31 2018	Total Households in Union Council 2,432	Organised Households 1,970
Coverage 81%	Number of Community Organisations (COs) 90 (all women's)	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) 13 (all women's)	Number of General Body Members 26 (all women)	Number of Executive Committee Members 7 (all women)

Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme

 LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR 7,822,080 Initial sub-grant as CIF	 Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of PKR 19,507,560 disbursed to 1,138 households
 Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of PKR 2,186,700 benefited 163 households	 Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided benefitting 519 people/population covered
 Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited 21 male and 106 female beneficiaries	 Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI): 08 schemes (All schemes completed)
 Enterprise Development Supporting 1 male and 56 female beneficiaries through the formation of 03 Business Development Group (BDGs)	 Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills (ALNS) educating 40 female beneficiaries through 02 learning Centres



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

1. Conducted **4 sessions** educating **100 individuals** on COVID-19
2. Planted **4,500 trees** in different villages of the UC
3. Enrolled **3,500 children (1,500 boys and 200 girls)** in school
4. Facilitated the vaccination of **5,000 individuals** against COVID-19
5. Registered **2,750 CNICs, 2,000 B-forms, 200 Nikkah Namas,** and **50 death certificates** in the Union Council
6. Vaccinated **3,000 animals** with the help of the Livestock Department
7. Treated **500 patients** for free through a medical health camp with the help of the Government Health Department

Women leaders of **LSO Mairaj** are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-funded **SUCCESS** program is empowering rural women in Sindh by realizing the power they gain from collective action. The organized women are gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and are also taking self-initiative to improve their lives.

Upholding Sustainability

The dwellers of the Union Council (UC) Arzi Bhutto were unaware of the importance of greenery. Consequently, they used not to prefer natural vegetation in their UC. It was through the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions that they have realised the significance of trees, and subsequently decided to initiate a tree plantation drive in their UC. For this purpose, they approached the leaders of their Local Support Organisation (LSO) Mairaj, who then united the community members for this initiative. Whereas to fund this activity the LSO leaders decided to collect donations from the community members. With the collective contribution, the LSO leaders and community individuals bought and sowed 4,500 plant seeds in their UC. As of now, these plants have started growing and the community feels overjoyed to contribute to the improvement of their environment, which is expected to bring fruitful results in the future, such as shade and a cool breeze.



LSO Leader with Plants Sowed During LSO Plantation Drive in the UC Arzi Bhutto



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