





**Issue: 189** 

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 Awaz**

District **Union Council** Date of Formation Total Households Organised in Union Council Households Dadu Tehsil: Charo 2018 1,782 1,575 Mehar **Number of Community** Number of General Number of Village Number of Executive Coverage Organisations (COs) Organisations (VOs) **Body Members** Committee Members 88% 11 6 all women's) (all women)

### Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR **4,735,000**Initial sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of PKR 5,490,000 disbursed to 214 households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of PKR 5,545,000 benefited 280 households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided benefitting 668 people/population covered



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited  $\bf 06$  male and  $\bf 69$  female beneficiaries



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):

10 schemes
(All schemes completed)

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

- 1. Conducted **52 sessions** educating **3,261 individuals** on various health and education topics
- 2. Planted **385 trees** in different villages of the UC
- 3. Enrolled 350 children (200 boys and 150 girls) in school
- 4. Facilitated the vaccination of **2,412 individuals** against COVID-19
- 5. Registered **1,846 CNICs, 35 B-forms, 15 Nikkah Namas, 80 death certificates** and Registered **2,638 Votes** in the Union Council
- 6. Vaccinated **2,357 animals** with the help of Livestock Department
- 7. Treated **3,251 patients** for free through a medical health camp with the help of Government Health Department
- 8. Facilitated **250 women** at the health centres for safe deliveries

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

#### **Assistance During the COVID-19**

With the outbreak of COVID-19 epidemic, the country went into a complete lockdown situation. Many people lost their jobs, who were working on daily wages. The poorest households were unable to meet the basic needs of their families. However, the leaders of the local Support Organisation (LSO) Awaz held a meeting and decided to help those households from the savings of Village Organisations (VOs). A list of the deserving households across the Union Council (UC) was prepared and the LSO leaders requested the District Commissioner (DC) and UC chairman to help the identified households. With their efforts, along with the savings of the VOs they distributed the amount of PKR 500 and PKR 1000 to each household, which helped them during the economic crisis.



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