



Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support Programme SUCCESS is funded by the European Union



Issue: 218

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 Umeed



## Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR **5,943,000** Initial sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of PKR **25,774,000** disbursed to **432** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of PKR **3,315,000** benefited **164** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided benefitting **387** people/population covered



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited  $10\,\text{male}$  and  $41\,\text{female}$  beneficiaries



Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI): **09** schemes

(All schemes completed)

Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills (ALNS) educating **13** female beneficiaries through

01 learning Centres

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

- 1. Conducted 85 sessions educating 8,000 individuals on various health and educational topics
- 2. Planted 1,990 trees in different villages of the UC
- 3. Enrolled 3,376 children (1,486 boys and 1,890 girls) in school
- 4. Facilitated the vaccination of 1,900 individuals against COVID-19
- 5. Registered **8,780 CNICs, 1,095 B-forms, 930 Nikkah Namas, 370 death certificates** and **13,280 electoral votes** in the Union Council
- 6. Vaccinated **3,565 animals** with the help of Livestock Department
- 7. Treated 3,075 patients for free through a medical health camp with the help of Government Health Department
- 8. Facilitated 5,500 women with at hospital delivery
- 9. Distributed ration bags to 60 households in the UC, during COVID-19 pandemic
- 10. Reopened 1 formerly closed school in the UC
- 11. Prevented 145 girls from early marriage cases
- 12. Facilitated 25 widow women in receiving PKR 5,000 from Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal
- 13. Constructed 3 water tanks and installed 60 water hand pumps by the help of HANDS NGO.
- 14. Constructed **1 hospital** in the UC.
- 15. Constructed a 2km concrete cemented road in the UC

Women leaders of the **LSO Umeed** 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.

#### **Re-establishing a Formerly Closed School**

The government primary school in Village Pir Arthro Nawab of the Union Council (UC) Muradabad Channa had remained non-functional for two years due to the unavailability of teachers. This prohibited the children from getting a formal education, who had remained out of school during this period. After the formation of the Local Support Organisation (LSO) Umeed the LSO leaders being well aware of this concern, decided to work on appointing teachers and reopening the school. To make matters official the LSO leaders went to the DC office, explained the issue, gave an application and invited the DC to visit the school. After visiting and realising the significance of the issue, the request for school reopening was approved. Within two weeks, the teachers were appointed and the school became functional. As a result, all the children of the village enrolled back in the school, continued their education and aspire to advance their years of schooling.



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