

Issue: 248



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



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 Khokhar



Activities implemented through the EU funded SUCCESS Programme



LSO managing CIF Amount of PKR **46,096,000** Initial sub-grant as CIF



Community Investment Fund (CIF) amount of PKR **11,533,000** disbursed to **241** households



Income Generating Grant (IGG) amount of PKR **2,370,000** benefited **158** households



Micro Health Insurance (MHI) provided benefitting **460** people/population covered



Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) benefited 15 male and 79 female beneficiaries



Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills (ALNS) educating 66 female beneficiaries through

04 learning Centres

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI):

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07 schemes (06 schemes completed and 1 is ongoing)

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

- 1. Conducted **2,802 awareness sessions** educating **70,050 individuals** on _education, health, family planning, basic rights, covid-19, hygiene and sanitation
- 2. Planted 958 trees in different villages of the UC
- 3. Enrolled 1,432 children (1,002 boys and 429 girls) in school
- 4. Facilitated the vaccination of 1,751 individuals against COVID-19
- 5. Registered **1,532 CNICs, 1,746 B-forms, 1,801 Nikkah Namas,** and **1,600 death** certificates in the Union Council
- 6. Vaccinated 1,243 animals with the help of Livestock Department
- 7. Treated **1,652 patients** for free through a medical health camp with the help of Government Health Department

Women leaders of the **LSO Khokhar** 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.

Awareness Raising to Combat COVID-19

With the outbreak of pandemic COVID-19, and nationwide imposed lockdown to restrict the fast spread of the coronavirus, people in the rural areas started being terrified since they had no access to proper information about the disease, its symptoms, and precautionary measures. False myths and gossips about the virus were further distressing the rural communities. Intending to bring the people out of stress, leaders of the Local Support Organisation (LSO) Khokhar reached out to a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) Health and Nutrition Development Society (HANDS) and requested their help. HANDS in response facilitated them well by conducting awareness sessions in the community regarding COVID-19 and distributing soaps, facemasks and sanitisers to member of the community. The efforts made by the LSO leaders helped the community in combating with the coronavirus largely.

