

LSO Initiatives

LSO Khosh Hal

Enrolment Campaign

Low enrolment was a problem in union council Sarawan, where many children stayed out of school due to socio-cultural restrictions. In order to address this issue, the LSO formed a five member committee which decided to arrange awareness campaigns. The committee held a series of meetings with the District Education Officer and the Deputy Commissioner to seek their support, after which awareness raising events were arranged at four high schools in the union council. Student debate competitions on the topic of education were held at these events, which were attended by parents, teachers and government officials. As result of these campaigns 682 children, most of whom are girls, have been enrolled in government schools over the last year.



Date of Formation:
18 June, 2010

District:
Kharan

Union Council:
Sarawan

Total Households in
Union Council:

1,704

Organised
Households:

1,366

Coverage:

80%

No of Community
Organisations (COs):

118

31 women's

No of Village
Organisations (VOs):

22

6 women's

No of General
Body Members:

33

12 women's

No of Executive
Committee Members:

11

0 women's

What are LSOs?

LSOs or Local Support Organisations are central to the 'Social Mobilisation' approach of the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs). In a bid to reduce poverty and empower marginalised people (especially women), the RSPs mobilise rural communities into a three-tiered structure, which consists of Community Organisations (COs)-neighbourhood level community groups, Village Organisations (VOs) - village level federations of COs, and LSOs - union council level federations of VOs. LSOs are able to carry out community-led development at a much greater level due to the advantage they gain from numbers. As the tertiary tier, LSOs are also uniquely able to develop linkages with government and non-government organisations, donors agencies and the private sector.

Health Campaigns against Malaria

Brain malaria becomes an epidemic in union council Sarawan during the months of April-May and August-September each year. This disease causes a person to fall unconscious for 24 hours to one week, and can be fatal if timely treatment is not received. Unfortunately, a shortage of medicine in the local government hospitals prevented many people from getting treatment in time.

The LSO coordinated with the District Health Officer, Frontier Corps and the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) and arranged medical camps, in

which 417 people were examined and treated. The LSO also distributed mosquito nets provided by BRSP, through their member COs and VO. In addition, the LSO created awareness among people about the importance of using the mosquito nets and keeping the village environment clean to prevent the spread of mosquitos. Due to these integrated efforts, the incidence of brain malaria has drastically reduced in the area.



Adult Literacy for Women

An overwhelming majority of the adult women in Sarawan are illiterate. The LSO approached the District General Manager of The National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) and established 30 literacy centers across the union council. So far, 750 adult women have completed adult literacy courses from these centers and have become able to read and write simple sentences.

Arrangement of Electricity

Most far off villages of union council Sarawan have no electricity. The LSO met with Senator Sanullah Baluch to seek his help in getting these villages electrified. The Senator arranged government funds for wires, poles and transformers for five villages in the union council, and the work is now in its final stages of completion.

Registration of Women and Men in Voter Lists

A significant number of women and men have never registered themselves on the voters list, largely because they had expired CNICs, or no CNIC at all. The LSO created awareness among people about the importance of casting votes, and arranged a NADRA mobile van to prepare CNICs of 536 women and men. Resultantly, 789 women and men registered themselves on the voters list.