



Rural Communities in the Fight Against COVID-19

[May 11, 2020, ICT]:As per the collaboration between the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) with the Federal Ministry of Health, the community mobilisation strategy of the government was started in rural ICT. This is a collaboration between the District Administration of ICT and the NRSP, which operates in five rural union councils of ICT, having built up a strong network of community-based 05 Local Support Organisations (LSOs). NRSP's outreach touches 30,000 people in these Union Councils. There are a total of 59 Village Organisations (VOs) in these 5 LSOs, with a base membership of 4,112 women and 596 men.

Today a training of LSO Charahwas held at NRSP's field office. Officials from the Department of Health ICT facilitated this training by orienting participants in awareness on COVID-19, the identification and contact tracing of suspected cases and method of referral of these cases to Basic Health Units. Today's training included 25 participants, 20 women and 5 men. The LSO members showed a keen interest in the session and agreed to undertake awareness raising, distancing in mosques and tracing of suspected cases, in their communities. These are community activists who have risen to the occasion, to help the ICT Administration in the fight against COVID-19.



Figure 1 Members of LSO Charah during an orientation session on COVID-19



Figure 2 LSO members practicing social distancing during awareness session on COVID-19



Figure 3 Awareness training to combat COVID-19

