



# INSIGHTS

## KILLA ABDULLAH - CHAMAN



**Stories by:**

Muhammad Idrees Khan, Young Development Professional, BRACE, RSPN

**Contributors:**

Allah Dad, District Programme Officer, BRACE, BRSP

Abdul Hakeem, Senior Social Organiser, BRACE, BRSP

**Acknowledgment:**

Akbar Khan Achakzai, Manager-HID, BRSP

Haseena Ibrahim, Capacity Building Officer-HID, BRSP

**Content Managed and Edited by:**

Sanobar Shaikh, Documentation & Reporting Officer, BRACE, RSPN

**Reviewed by:**

Sajjad Hussain Changezi, Programme Manager, BRACE, RSPN

**Designing and Printing:**

Abdul Qadir, Masha ALLAH Printers, Islamabad.

All pictures used in this publication are the property of BRACE and its partners.

© 2023 Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN). All Rights Reserved. Licensed to the European Union under conditions.



EUROPEAN UNION

"This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union."

**More information about European Union is available on:**

Web: [eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan\\_en](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan_en)

Facebook: European Union in Pakistan

Twitter: EUPakistan

# INSIGHTS

KILLA ABDULLAH - CHAMAN





## THE INSIGHTS FROM THE BRACE PROGRAMME

Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme completes its five years in 2022. The Programme is currently in its No-Cost Extension (NCE) phase. In the inception phase, the Rural Support Programmes Network, (RSPN), the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), and the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) conducted a widespread Poverty Scorecard (PSC) census which helped with the identification of the potential beneficiaries according to their poverty status. This European Union-funded Programme is the largest community empowerment programme in Balochistan and it covers 240 rural union councils in ten districts: namely Chaman, Duki, Jhal Magsi, Kech, Killa Abdullah, Khuzdar, Loralai, Pishin, Washuq, and Zhob. This document focuses on districts Killa Abdullah and Chaman and presents stories and profiles from the community leaders and field teams from these districts.

The journey through these five years is documented in the form of stories from the field after multiple activities. These human-interest stories have been titled “The Insights of BRACE” which reflects the efforts taken by the community members and the implementing teams in helping each other tumbling their household-level issues and taking a step toward reducing the poverty in each district under the BRACE Programme.

RSPN's BRACE documentation team worked with the respective RSP teams to reach out to the beneficiaries and obtain a story of the transformations the BRACE Programme has facilitated. This series does not only focus on the financial empowerment of the community members but also reflects on the legal and economic empowerment in the target districts of the programme.

# Preface

With its vast geography, Balochistan has abundant mineral and energy resources, untapped human potential, and offers opportunities to change the existing situation. However, Balochistan's population suffers disproportionately compared to the rest of the country. This is due to the inequitable distribution of resources, political instability, weak public policies, poor governance, displacements due to security issues, and a burdening influx of refugees.

The Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme, funded by the European Union (EU), is a strategic development initiative to alleviate rural poverty by building on community mobilisation and citizen empowerment. Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) provide social, technical, and financial assistance to improve and expand income sources for targeted community households.

In collaboration with the BRSP, the beneficiaries interviewed under the BRACE programme in districts Killah Abdullah and Chaman provided insight into how the idea of community-driven development is realised and how it has benefited the people in these both districts.

The focus of BRACE is to enable poor rural men and women to reduce poverty at the household level through social organisations. This starts at a small level, organising Community Organisations (COs) among neighbouring households, and at the larger village level bringing them together into Village Organisations (VOs) to deal with village problems. VOs eventually gained enough momentum to establish Local Support Organisations (LSOs) at the Union Council level, some of which became a member of the Joint District Development

Committee (JDDC) at the Tehsil and District levels in which there is the participation of the line departments and the district authorities which directly bring to the attention of local governments and negotiate with them. The insights of the BRACE programme bring a series of stories of the beneficiaries as well as the implementation team with a focus on the challenges they face during the execution of the BRACE Programme.

# KILLA ABDULLAH (2017-22)



**48,795**

Number of Households with PSC survey completed



**29,651**

No. of Households Organised



**2,579**

No. of community members trained in CMST



**992**

Women (57%)



**2,943**

No. of COs formed



**1,378**

No. of Female COs (160%)



**277**

Number of Community members trained in LMST



**79**

Women (34%)



**509**

No. of VOs formed



**206**

No. of Female VOs (154%)



**104**

Number of community members trained as Community Resource Persons (CRPs)



**18**

Women (100%)



**19**

No. of LSOs formed







**1,442**

Number of HHs Benefiting from Completed CPIs



**6,464**

Individual Beneficiaries of Completed CPIs



**28.42 million (PKR)**

Total amount of sub-grants for CPI with VOs



**19**

Number of LSOs managing CIF



**426**

Number of HH benefiting from CIF



**59**

Number of community members Trained in TVET



**38 million (PKR)**

Total amount of CIF with LSOs



**8.6 million (PKR)**

Total amount of CIF disbursed to poor households by VOs/LSOs (0-23)



**475**

No. of beneficiaries received assistive devices



**136**

Male



**339**

Women



# CHAMAN (2017-22)



**40,438**

Number of Households with PSC survey completed



**28,696**

No. of Households Organised



**3205**

No. of community members trained in CMST



**973**

Women (57%)



**2714**

No. of COs formed



**950**

No. of Female COs (160%)



**471**

Number of Community members trained in LMST



**81**

Women (34%)



**507**

No. of VOs formed



**152**

No. of Female VOs (152%)



**40**

Number of community members trained as Community Resource Persons (CRPs)



**8**

Women (100%)



**16**

No. of LSOs formed





**1,461**

Number of HHs Benefiting from Completed CPIs



**12,096**

Individual Beneficiaries of Completed CPIs



**24.02 million (PKR)**

Total amount of sub-grants for CPI with VOs



**13**

Number of LSOs managing CIF



**662**

Number of HH benefiting from CIF



**62**

Number of community members Trained in TVET



**26 million (PKR)**

Total amount of CIF with LSOs



**14.14 million (PKR)**

Total amount of CIF disbursed to poor households by VOs/LSOs (0-23)



**497**

No. of beneficiaries received assistive devices



**143**

Male



**354**

Women

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## 01

---

### SOCIAL MOBILISATION

#### 02

Community Organisation (CO)

#### 07

Village Organisation (VO)

#### 10

Local Support Organisation (LSO)

## 02

---

### LEADERSHIP

#### 17

Community Resource Person (CRP)

# 03

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**22**

Income Generating Grant (IGG)

**27**

Community investment Fund (CIF)

**30**

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

**35**

Technical and Vocational Education  
and Training (TVET)

**38**

Persons With Disabilities (PWDs)

# 04

## PEOPLE BEHIND BRACE

**44**

District Programme Manager (DPM)

**49**

Unit Incharge (UI)





# SOCIAL MOBILISATION

# COMMUNITY ORGANISATION (CO)

ABDUL GHAFOOR

VILLAGE KILLI KHUDAI RAHIM

Chaman has recently gained the status of a district and is one of the most backward districts of Balochistan. It was part of Killa Abdullah until the recent past and the literacy rate of Killa Abdullah is just under 40% with just 12% as a female literacy rate.

Against all odds, Abdul Ghafoor is working hard to improve the living conditions in his village Killi Khudai Rahim, in the Daman Malezai area of Chaman. He is also president of his Community Organisation (CO) named after his village Killi Khudai Rahim.

“Like the rest of the districts, my village also lacks basic facilities like health, education, infrastructure, and other necessities. One of the reasons for its backwardness is that it is the last Pakistani village along the Pak-Afghan border, merely three to four hundred meters away from the Durand Line. The uncertainty across the border for ages has always affected our village,” Ghafoor shared.

“A friend of mine who is also a schoolteacher came to me and told me about an organisation called Refugee-Affected Host Areas (RAHA) and suggested forming a CO which will then work for the betterment of the area. I also admitted that forming the CO was not that easy and simple. Education is the main issue in the area and lack of education means unawareness which means zero progress.”

Discussing the situations both here and across the border, he stated “You never know what is going to happen next. People are always scared here when things across the border are not very stable. A week earlier a rocket just hit the neighbouring village which





worried the people about the future of this place,” Ghafoor continued.

I am the only teacher at my school with forty-five students,” He quoted. “How would one expect this village to make progress without or with very limited access to education?”

After several meetings with his community members Ghafoor somehow managed to form his CO but the difficulties persisted. His CO built a water supply scheme with the financial support of RAHA back in 2013 which is still functional, and the residents are making full use of it. After RAHA, the scheme had some technical issues and stopped working. According to Ghafoor, he and the residents went to the influential personalities of their area and asked for their support, but all went in vain.

“We the residents then collected donations worth one lac Pakistani Rupees and repaired the scheme on our own,” he claimed.

After the introduction of the European Union (EU) funded BRACE programme in the district, Ghafoor and his community members with their collective efforts helped the concerned authorities form the Local Support Organisation (LSO) called Daman Malezai.

Abdul believes that the BRACE programme has empowered the community in a much better way. The training provided to them was so impactful.

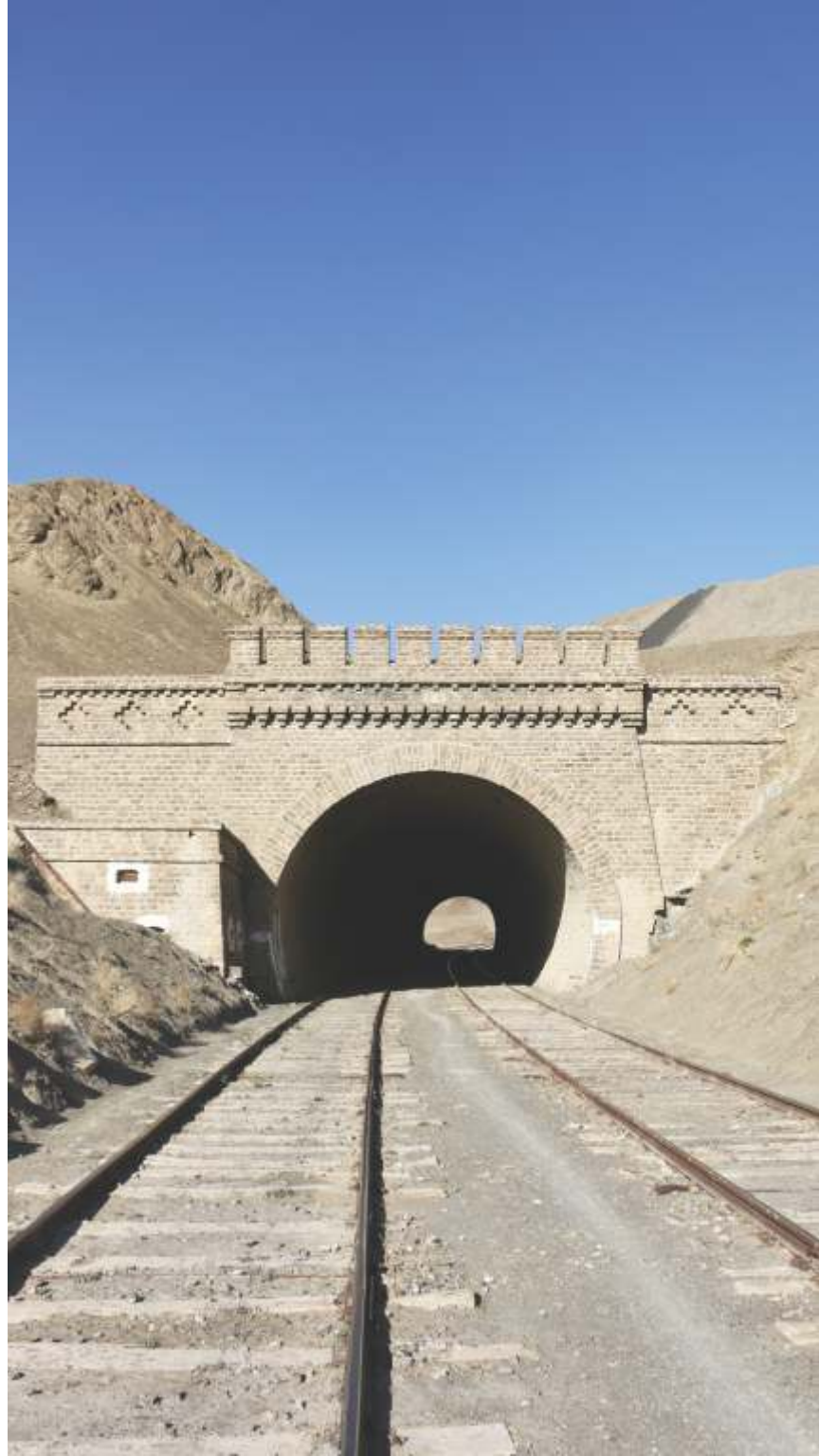
“*The Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions have spread awareness about many important issues that we, the community members didn't know earlier.*”

After the formation of the CO, Ghafoor and his team are assisting the residents whenever they are in need. He is always at the front be it the CNICs application procedure or assisting someone in the local certificate or birth certificate application process. The best thing about him is that he is a primary school teacher who has allowed girls to come to his school and he's teaching them in the same boy's school voluntarily.

Due to drought, the water level underground went very low, and the residents were once again forced to travel miles to fetch water. The residents requested Abdul and his community members to repair the water supply scheme.

“After prioritising our needs, we received twelve solar plates for the water supply scheme under the Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) component and made it functional once again,” Ghafoor shared delightfully.

Abdul believes that he and his CO have built active linkages with other private and public sector organisations in the area, and they plan to use them for education at the top of their priority list, especially girls' education.





## VILLAGE ORGANISATION (VO)

### SHAH JAHAN VILLAGE GARANG-KAREZ

Shah Jahan, 37, is a gentleman from the village Garang-Karez district Chaman. After completing his college degree in 2007, he had to look after his family which led him to quit his studies and started looking for work.

He used to do border trade for living until he became the leader of his Village Organisation (VO). "The border from here is at some distance and I have the responsibility on my shoulders of taking care of the organisation so it is a bit difficult to give time to both at the same time," Jahan replied when asked about the reason why is he not working at the moment.

He shared "A team from the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) came, surveyed the basic missing facilities, and asked us to form a VO for the betterment of the village". Due to unawareness, lack of education, and unity, the people were not ready to trust the process which crippled the VO formation

process. They pessimistically believed that the formation of this VO is not going to change their fate".

*“It took us a long time to form the VO. We had meetings with the elders of the families, separate meetings with the community members, and with the influential personalities in the area.”*

The villagers finally decided to form the VO and the members were selected through mutual understanding. Based on the name of the village, the VO was named as Garang-Karez.

Later, when the BRACE programme funded by the European Union (EU) was introduced by the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) in district Chaman, Shah Jahan, and his fellow members presented

the VO to be included and this is how they became part of the BRACE programme in 2018.

Shah Jahan ranks the BRACE programme amongst the programmes with high impact and ranks the Community Management Skills Training (CMST) very helpful as it enables the members of community institutions to handle and overcome challenges through collective savings, supporting each other, and working for their own betterment.

So far, Jahan has assisted the residents in the CNIC application process, registering people for the Ehsas Cash Grant Programme by the Government of Pakistan (GoP) and the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP).

Recently I along with my team raised funds to support a dialysis patient to travel to Karachi for treatment and we are taking care of her weekly dialysis here in Chaman too,” shared Shah.

“

*Volunteerism has been my passion for a very long time now and I will keep serving my community in the best possible way I could.*

”

Jahan and his team have developed effective linkages with different local organisations in Chaman and they are open to organisations that could be of any assistance.

“Using our linkages, we not only worked in our own village but also in the nearby areas. During the 2022 floods, we voluntarily worked and provided ration packages to two hundred needy and affected families in our neighbouring villages in collaboration with Helvetta”.

Not only this, but they have also assisted a hundred and eighty flood-affected residents with food items through the World Health Organisation (WHO) which is also working in the district.

“

*I want such projects to focus on education and health as rural Balochistan lacks these basic life necessities.*

”

Shah Jahan has four kids and all of them are going to a government school in Chaman. He wants them to study and serve the community.

We wish him all the good lucks!



# LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATION (LSO)

## DR RAFIULLAH UNION COUNCIL TEKADAR

Dr Rafiullah belongs to the village called Tekadar Mohammad Hassan in the Chaman district of Balochistan.

As the title reflects, he is a doctor by profession, but passion sees to boundaries! It is his love for humanity which makes him work for his people and he takes more pride in identifying himself as a community worker than a government employee in the medical sector.

Despite facing serious challenges such as the tribal patriarchal system, coping with its serious effects, and dealing with the different mindsets of the people, he never thought to back off.

The village Tehkadar Muhammad Hassan is a bit far from the main city centre and therefore the residents find it difficult to access the grocery stores, schools, health facilities, etc. Patients do not get to the

hospitals on time, and this becomes the reason for many miserable events.

Dr Rafiullah chose this profession to best serve the community and has been doing this job for many years now. He got a platform in the form of the Local Support Organisation (LSO) in 2020 when the European Union (EU) funded BRACE programme was introduced by the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP).

“2020 was the year when LSO Tehkadar Muhammad Hassan was formed, and I was elected as its president. Ever since then, I find myself in a much better position to serve my people.”

Though the LSO is formed and is working in the union council but due to tribalism and



17  
کتابخانه  
شماره کتاب: 101122842

ردیف	تاریخ	شرح
1	13/10/1398	...
2	14/10/1398	...
3	15/10/1398	...
4	16/10/1398	...
5	17/10/1398	...
6	18/10/1398	...
7	19/10/1398	...
8	20/10/1398	...
9	21/10/1398	...
10	22/10/1398	...



traditional norms, women's participation is still almost zero. Being a well-educated person, Dr Rafiullah, understands the importance of women's role in any organisation so, he has taken the start-up by making his wife a member of the Community Organisation (CO), and now she is giving her best in performing her household duties and conveying the awareness messages to other women of her area.

There are many other issues apart from women's participation, such as health and education. "People are unaware of the process and required documents for CNICs and without it, they cannot travel freely, they cannot vote, cannot get benefitted from Government schemes and their kids cannot get admission in schools," Rafiullah stated.

Since the formation of the LSO, Dr Rafiullah, and his team has been working hard to get people and their children registered for the CNICs and birth certificates.

He further added that in collaboration with Helvetas, they had provided two hundred and fifty poor and needy families with winterisation kits. His LSO members helped the vaccination teams during the vaccination campaigns and visited the refusing families

*“We, after the formation of our LSO, have made good relations with the government line departments and while using our linkages, we recently re-opened a government school that was closed for some eight years due to a lack of interest and concentration from the concerned department.”*

to convince them and let them know the importance of vaccination.

Furthermore, on access to clean drinking water, Dr Rafiullah shared that "We have met the elected representatives a few times and we have been granted twelve tube wells so far out of which eight are successfully completed."

"One water supply Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) scheme was approved under the EU-funded BRACE programme and is now being used by some sixty-five households of the village called Takai," added Rafiullah.

Recently free medical camps were organised by LSO Tekadar Muhammad

Hassan, which facilitated the villagers not only with free check-ups but also with free medicines.

“As I have mentioned earlier that there are very few residents with access to educational institutes in our union council, we met our elected representative and shared the situation regarding education and asked for financial support so we can build a school that would be easily accessible to the residents,” Dr Rafiullah explained. “The approval was granted earlier, and funds were released for the school, which is under construction”.

With these amazing efforts by Dr Rafiullah and his team, we hope that this school will be an asset to the youth, and they will be able to discover their hidden qualities through this institute in near future. We prospect that the good work being done by them will continue with the same passion and enthusiasm in the future as well.





Days  
Training

Communi  
Tr  
Communi

Under Balochistan Rural Development

Organized by Balochistan Support Prog

Community Management Skills  
Training (CMST) and  
Community Awareness Tools (CAT)

BRACE Programme is funded by European Union

# LEADERSHIP





## COMMUNITY RESOURCE PERSON (CRP)

SAMI ULLAH  
VILLAGE KILLI MALAK

Sami Ullah Khan hails from a small village called Killi Malak Asmatullah in the Majak union council of Killa Abdullah district. A district in the north of Balochistan and is known for its importance due to its proximity to the Chaman border crossing.

Sami Ullah is an active individual with excellent communication skills. He is also a Polio worker, an activist and leads from the front whenever the community needs him. He is serving the Majak Rural Development Society as a Community Resource Person (CRP).

“It is never easy to work in such organisations in this part of Balochistan especially if you are working for polio eradication because people do not consider it a good thing”, stated Sami Ullah.

Sami Ullah started his journey with the BRACE programme funded by the European Union, as a CRP and did his job with positive intent and dedication. Ever since then, he is contributing his part in the development of his community by conducting awareness sessions on health, hygiene education, cleanliness, etc., and organising campaigns on awareness such as Polio and COVID-19.

“*My most significant contribution to the community has been my mobilisation efforts for the formation of Women Community Institutions and formation of twelve women community organisations in the union council Majak.*”

Sami Ullah has developed good linkages not only with the Community Institutions (CIs) but also with other private and public organisations working in the town like Education, Health, and Social Welfare departments.

Furthermore, he also ran a school enrolment campaign with the support of his Local Support Organisation (LSO) members, motivating parents to enrol their girls in school which resulted in the enrolment of twenty-five girls in different schools in the area. He always mobilises his fellows to organise or take part in such campaigns.

Sami Ullah's efforts have had a positive impact on the community as the Community Organisations (COs) and LSO are always persuading people to understand the motive of the European Union-funded BRACE programme.

*“ My future plan is to give women dignity and value by organising an institution where they can take an active role in decision-making. This institution will also help widows and orphan girls lead independent lives, find jobs without fear or hesitation, and support their children and parents. ”*







ECONOMIC  
EMPOWERMENT



## INCOME GENERATING GRANTS (IGG)

GUL MUHAMMAD

VILLAGE NEW KILLI SHAMSHOZAI

Gul Muhammad is a resident of New Killi Shamshozai of the Union Council Gulistan 2 in the Killa Abdullah district of Balochistan. Gul Muhammad is a sixty-years old disabled man and a father of eight children. Despite being physically disabled today, he strives to play a part in the family's earnings. His two sons sell fruits on a cart in Quetta city and earn a minimal amount for their family.

Muhammad had a car accident eighteen years ago after which his legs had to be amputated.

“It was a hard time for me and my family and depending upon others is never easy” Muhammad shared with pain.

Soon after the introduction of the EU-funded BRACE programme in district Killa Abdullah, with the Poverty Scorecard (PSC) survey, Gul Muhammad was declared eligible for the

“After that accident, I became paralysed, and later the doctors had to cut my leg apart. Though it was replaced with an artificial leg I cannot be the same old Gul Muhammad with it.”

Income Generating Grant (IGG). He then received a couple of goats as per his demand.

“I was so excited when I received the goats as I always wanted to have my own herd which I could use as a source of income.”

“I decided to do business with this livestock by selling and buying comparatively cheap



ones and I came across a very fine deal one day,” Muhammad said. “I bought a cow in exchange for these goats and a little amount was given to the cow owner as cows are comparatively more expensive than goats.”

“It was a good deal, as the cow was expecting the delivery and gave birth to a calf,” Gul disclosed. Apparently, he doubled his business as he has a cow and a newly born calf instead of just two goats in a very short period.

Muhammad plans to sell the dairy products of the cow to make more money. At the moment he is distributing the additional milk he gets from the cow free of cost among the villagers who are unable to buy milk for the infants.

It has enabled them to live with integrity rather than depending on others. People like Gul would never prefer to compromise over integrity by being dependent upon others for a lifetime. All they need is an opportunity and a financial push to kick-start their journey on their own. Such people are really an asset to society and can change the fate of society in no time if supported with proper opportunities.









# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND (CIF)

## ABDUL HADI VILLAGE SEGI, UC ABDUL REHMANZAI

Killa Abdullah, district of Balochistan is the poorest among all its districts. The major two sources of income for the residents are agriculture and livestock. Not everyone is resourceful in these sectors since it needs a considerable amount of capital in hand to manage a herd or a garden full of fruits. Others opt for daily wage earnings or choose to migrate to developed cities in search of better opportunities.

Abdul Hadi, 30, is one of those residents who fight poverty through small grocery shops to earn bread for their families. He is a resident of the village Segi, Union Council Abdul

“

*This shop is all that I have. Being the eldest among five siblings, I am responsible for my family's better tomorrow.*

”

Rehmanzai, district Killa Abdullah. Being the elder son and sole earner in his family, he strives hard to meet their basic needs.

Hadi visits Quetta, the capital city of the Balochistan province, and purchases the necessary items for his shop at a wholesale rate so he can save some amount. Nonetheless, he struggled to save because he could only afford to purchase limited items due to a lack of capital. It was the major reason his business wasn't growing much. He was earning seven to eight thousand Rupees per month which was insufficient to feed a family of seven. The Community Investment Fund (CIF) was something that could change his fortune.

He further explains, “One day, during the regular Community Organisation (CO) meeting, I stood eligible for the interest-free CIF loan. I was so amused to know about it as I could imagine my business growing.”

In 2021, he was provided PKR 20,000 as a CIF loan, which he had to return in a span of a year. The monthly instalment was set at PKR 1,750.

*“ I invested the amount in my shop and today essential/basic grocery items are available here in this shop. ”*

“People in nearby villages, who had to go to the main Bazar for basic groceries now do their shopping from my store. My business has improved a little since the investment through the CIF. My monthly earnings have also increased, and I earn around ten to eleven thousand a month,” Hadi shared confidently.

Hadi has paid back the CIF load and is now planning to re-apply for it. He wants to extend his business as much as he can.

*“ I want a better life for my siblings and for that I must work hard and make sure they live a much better life than I have lived till now. ”*





# COMMUNITY PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE (CPI)

**GHAFFOR**

**VILLAGE KHUDAI RAHEEM**

Most of the people in Pakistan do not have access to adequate potable water. The Government aims to expand access to clean drinking water and improve sanitation, particularly in rural areas. The Government strategy in the water supply is to improve the performance and operation of local water supply systems by promoting community responsibility for the management and maintenance of systems.

The issue of access to clean drinking water becomes severe in Balochistan. People either travel miles or must fetch water from hundreds of feet-deep wells. The water level across Balochistan is so deep that digging a well even cannot help the residents to fulfil their water needs.

“Because of the scarcity of water, there is no agricultural activity in the area. We had to travel and fetch drinking water from the

neighbouring villages. Only a few villages in the neighborhood have access to clean drinking water,” Ghaffor, a member of the village Organisation (VO) shared.

Keeping in mind the situation regarding water scarcity, the Refugees Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) programme installed a clean drinking water supply scheme in the Khudai Raheem village of Chaman in 2013.

RAHA aims at rehabilitating Afghan Refugees and facilitating the Host Communities. The installed scheme was a great initiative for the residents of village Khudai Raheem but due to lack of maintenance and care, the machinery stopped working which took the village back to its old position where people had to struggle on daily basis to meet their water needs.



“

*We struggled a lot to keep the scheme functional. I along with my family and the villagers went to philanthropists in the area for financial help but to no avail ultimately, we decided to collect donations from the villagers as per their capacity and I still cannot believe we had PKR 100,000 at the end of our donation campaign which we used for the maintenance of the scheme.*

”

After the introduction of the BRACE programme funded by the European Union, the VO members, contacted the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) team to help them repair and reactivate the water supply scheme so people once again can make use of the facility under the Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) component of the BRACE programme.

Later, the VO's priority of the CPI scheme was approved and in October 2022, twelve more solar plates were provided to the VO for the scheme which helped them to resume the water supply scheme.

“The water supply scheme is now functional, and it is benefiting thirty-five households in the village. It all happened through the collective efforts of the villagers and the BRSP team. People are now at ease regarding clean drinking water which once seemed inaccessible,” He expressed ecstatically “

Ghaffor present at the site of the CPI scheme appreciated this effort from the community and thanked them for this precious gift.

“

*Our women and kids now do not have to travel to neighbouring villages to fetch water for domestic use and this has made our lives so much easier.*

”





**Certificate**  
No. 11/2018-19  
Award Date: 11/2018-19  
**Mobile Phone Repairing Training**  
Awarded to: [Name]  
Awarded by: [Name]  
Minister of Information Technology, Government of Punjab

ufone ufone ufone

Model  
Quantity  
Colour  
Brand



# TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING (TVET)

AMIN ULLAH  
VILLAGE MURDA KAREZ

“Due to popular border trade in district Chaman, education and learning skills have never been a priority of the people of that area. Due to uncertain situations across the border, people were forced to focus on skills or a stable job to run their household expenses,” Aminullah shared.

These unstable situations affected Amin Ullah along with many other young residents of Chaman. He could not continue his education beyond eighth grade due to the financial crisis and having only a middle school degree was not enough for him to secure a job.

When the European Union-funded BRACE programme was introduced in Chaman by the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP), Amin Ullah was selected for a training course under the Technical and Vocational Educational and Training (TVET)

component where people are taught different skills for their income generation. This training enables these youngsters to learn technical skills and work independently.

Amin Ullah narrated “I had lost hope, I had no idea where to turn to, as a guy like me with no skills is of no good”.

Later, after choosing to learn mobile repairing, he was sent to Rawalpindi for a three-month training.

“*It wasn't easy to stay away from my family for three long months since I was the only one responsible for every family matter, but I knew I had to stay focused for these three months which could potentially change things.*”

Upon successful completion of the three-month technical skills training, Amin Ullah was provided with a complete toolkit. Today, he has a small setup attached to a shop where he repairs mobile phones, and the amount, he gets is divided among him and the shop owner who has provided him with the workspace.

“This TVET training has given me hope and I am looking forward to a far better life ahead,” expressed Amin Ullah.

With this skill, today Amin Ullah is self-sufficient, and he wants to transfer this skill to others too. He has so far trained two of his students who are earning through it now and two more are learning the same.

“He is my younger brother and I take him with me to the shop every day so he can also learn mobile repairing. I don't want him to go through what I have gone through,” Amin Ullah pointed to his younger brother who was laser-focused on repairing a broken mobile phone.

“*I am earning a decent amount every month which is enough for me and my family. Though I still lack some necessary items that are used for mobile repairing, I am eying to have them all in near future.*”

TVET has not only changed the lives of so many people like Amin Ullah but has produced optimism in those who might have wronged themselves in depression.



# PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)

## ALLAH NOOR DISTRICT CHAMAN

According to the World Bank, one billion people, or 15% of the world's population, experience some form of disability. Persons With Disabilities (PWDs), on average are more likely to experience adverse socioeconomic outcomes than persons without disabilities. People with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments which may hinder their effective participation in society. Access to services such as education, health, employment, and social protection as any other citizen is their fundamental right. However, PWDs face numerous barriers for instance protection risks, including a heightened risk of violence, exploitation, abuse, and high levels of stigma. They have difficulties accessing humanitarian assistance, education, livelihoods, health care, and other services. They may be denied certain legal rights and

are often excluded from decision-making processes and leadership opportunities.

Allah Noor from union council Purana Chaman is one such soul who has faced such enormous incidents due to his special ability which broke him from within.

*“I am below the poverty line which further increases the difficulties in my life as a paralysed person. I have always struggled to earn bread for my family.”*

“I would take a huge risk going to the (Darwaza) Chaman border to get myself some amount, all I could earn till the end of the day would be around two to three hundred rupees,” Noor shared his story.





Despite being physically challenged, he is the sole earner of his family. Supporting people with disabilities and providing them with assistive devices is an intervention under the European Union (EU) funded BRACE Programme. The purpose is to provide livelihood support to physically challenged people who are willing to work for themselves and their families, but do not have access to supportive devices or they cannot afford to buy them.

The Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) under the BRACE programme, hosted an event in Killa Abdullah where the PWDs were provided with different assistive devices.

*“ I received the tricycle which I always wanted to purchase. Today I earn around seven-eight hundred rupees on daily basis through this tricycle. ”*

“I thank the BRACE programme for this act of kindness which has enabled me to work on my own and I no longer ask others for help,” Noor cherished the moment.

According to Noor, he is very confident with his disability and no more feels hesitant while finding work for himself. Working and earning for his family has also restored his self-confidence and integrity at home and he is now living a much better and happier life.







# PEOPLE BEHIND BRACE

## DISTRICT PROGRAMME MANAGER (DPM)

### ALLAH DAD DISTRICT CHAMAN

Allah Dad hails from the Zhob district of Balochistan and is currently working as a District Programme Manager (DPM) of the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) in district Chaman. He is a young energetic man with years of experience in the field which is no less than an asset for both the residents and the organisation he is working for.

Allah Dad holds a Master of Arts (MA) degree in International Relations (IR) from the University of Balochistan, Quetta. Before that he used to work as a salesman for a private medicines company for two years.

Allah Dad shared his journey "I have supplied medicines in the Quetta on a bicycle. Later, I joined the BRSP team as a Junior Social Mobiliser (JSO) in district Zhob for its livestock-related project and worked for two years. Foreign-funded projects or Non-

Governmental Organisations are frequently scandalised and disreputed, especially in the Pashtun districts. Those working with such organisations are often discouraged. Yes, people don't seem to be cooperative when they see such projects for the first time."

Allah Dad admitted that difficulties and extreme challenges do exist on the ground while implementing the programme. Our community is still not that ready to accept such changes in its norms.

*“It depends on how you convey your message - communication is the key.”*

Allah Dad has been working with the (BRSP) since 2007 and he believes that the



community's mindset cannot be changed overnight.

Allah Dad has so far worked with different projects in different districts as well as in the head office of the BRSP as Junior Social Organiser, Social Organiser, Camp Coordinator and Manager (CCM), and Senior Programme Manager, before being appointed as the District Programme Manager of district Chaman six months ago.

“Chaman so far has been quite challenging for me. The community is so divided that we had to organise four different distribution ceremonies for the single intervention of Income Generating Grant (IGG) of the same union council instead of gathering them all at one place,” shared Allah Dad. “People here are involved in tribal feuds which restrict their movement and accessibility. They cannot just roam around freely in the area which

makes it difficult for the project implementation partners as well as for the field staff to mobilise, organise or gather them in one place.”

Allah Dad rates the BRACE programme higher than other programmes he has implemented in the past. “This is a holistic package that combines social mobilisation with tangible development.”, he adds. Nevertheless, he still believes there was room for improvement, he admits.

Giving a few suggestions, he continued, “The BRACE programme is a great project and we have seen notable results but for such programmes, time should be more than just five years. I believe that maturity comes with time and progress is a time taking process.”

He further explained that such projects in the coming future should have a follow-up mechanism because people will continue working as far as the project works. They won't put in much effort once they know that the project is over. Both we, the implementing partners and the donor should consider it for future projects to make it more effective.

*Political influence has been another challenge here in the district as at times we are asked for favours which make the programme implementation process slower and inefficient.*





## UNIT INCHARGE (UI)

### GHULAM MUHAMMAD GRAN DISTRICT KILLA ABDULLAH

“After completing my Intermediate degree, I wanted to join Pakistan Army but at the same time, I was offered a position at the world bank in 2014. After working with the world bank, I decided to stay in the development sector rather than joining the army because this sector was doing really great work for the community,” Gran started the discussion.

“I voluntarily held the position for a couple of years before joining the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a Youth Leader where I worked as a Team Leader for nine months. Meanwhile, I continued my studies, and my graduation was completed from the University of Balochistan Quetta in 2017”.

Killa Abdullah is a bordering district inhabited by the Pashtuns and with the lowest literacy rate, it becomes very difficult for the development sector to work freely, especially those projects funded by foreign donors.

People have prevalent misconceptions about the NGOs and many create problems for the donors and the locals who work with them.

“*I have been through such difficult times in my early career and things are still uncertain on the ground.*”

He disclosed further, “I was attacked three times during my tenure with the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) back in 2016 but we are yet to discover the nature of the attacks whether these were backed by some tribal influence or were from the religious militant groups according to whom working with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) is prohibited in the religion.”

“That was the time my family asked me to quit this job” Gran stated while sharing how his

family resisted working in the development sector and continuously kept asking him to find another job.

Whereas Gran knew what he was doing. He knew that the work he is doing was challenging but at the same time, it was rewarding.

“*Despite the opposition, I kept going with the flow. The obstacles inflamed when I joined the European Union (EU) funded BRACE programme with the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) because some religious extremists had declared the BRSP anti-Islam and people who have worked, or are working, or will work with it is declared “KAFIR (A disbeliever in Islam)”.*”

“I joined the BRACE programme as a Unit Incharge in district Killa Abdullah and served district Pishin as a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for six months. Right now, I am serving district Killa Abdullah as a Unit In Charge,” Gran shared.

I was welcomed with a death threat by the Taliban when I came back to Killa Abdullah from Pishin. I am aware of the situation of Killa Abdullah - such threats keep coming as long as I am working with the development sector,” Gran reflected on the extortions. “Due to the same issues, in the past, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) stopped working in the district”.

After Gran's appointment in the district, the BRACE programme has improved a lot on the grounds. Gran being the Unit In Charge looks after each and everything of the BRACE programme in the district be it the staff or the interventions, be it the community or problems related to them or meetings with the district administration.

“Using our linkages in the district, we have recently distributed eight-hundred wheat bags in collaboration with Helveta's” he said. “Not only wheat bags but we have also helped two-hundred and twenty-five families with non-food items and hygiene kits for females as well,” added Gran.

Recently Gran and his team in collaboration with an organisation called "Samajj" are



providing cash grants to fifty beneficiaries per union council and now they are working in twenty union councils of the district.

Additionally, they so far have provided cash grants to four-hundred and fifty families in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Gran has been working with the EU-funded programme, BRACE for four years now, and keeping the mindset, needs, cultural and traditional norms he believes that there are things that need to be revisited for future projects in the district like the amount of Community Investment Fund (CIF) should be greater than it is now.

Ghulam Muhammad Gran believes that people will work even harder if rewarded with exposure visits out of the province. Through this, they will visit and explore new places and will learn what and how their counterparts are doing in other parts of the country and what they can learn from them.









EUROPEAN UNION

"This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union."







More information about the European Union is available on:

-  [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan_en)
-  EUinPakistan
-  EUpakistan



**Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme**

IRM Complex, 3rd Floor, Plot# 7, Sunrise Avenue  
(Off Park Road), Near COMSATS University, Islamabad, Pakistan  
Phone: +92-51-8491270-99, Fax: +92-51-8351791

-  [www.rspn.org](http://www.rspn.org) | [www.brace.org.pk](http://www.brace.org.pk)
-  [www.facebook.com/BRACEProgramme](https://www.facebook.com/BRACEProgramme)
-  [www.twitter.com/BRACE\\_BRSP](https://www.twitter.com/BRACE_BRSP)
-  [www.linkedin.com/company/brace-programme](https://www.linkedin.com/company/brace-programme)
-  [www.instagram.com/braceinbalochistan](https://www.instagram.com/braceinbalochistan)
-  BRACE Programme in Balochistan