



EUROPEAN UNION



Field Visit Report District Khuzdar, Balochistan



Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme

EU-funded Programme (BRDCEP) implemented in collaboration with the Local Government and Rural Development Department, Government of Balochistan

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS FOR THE BRACE's GRANT COMPONENT



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Knowing BRACE Programme

Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme is supported by the European Union (EU) and implemented in close collaboration with the Local Government and Rural Development (LG&RD) Department of the Government of Balochistan (GoB). The Grant component of this five year (2017-2022) Programme is implemented by Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) and Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) in nine districts of Balochistan, namely Jhal Magsi, Kech, Khuzdar, Killa Abdullah, Loralai, Pishin, Duki, Washuk and Zhob. The Programme is technically supported by Human Dynamics (HD), an Austrian company that will support GoB in fostering an enabling environment for strengthening the capacities of local authorities to manage and involve communities in the statutory local public sector planning, financing and implementation processes.

The overall objective of BRACE Programme is to support the Government of Balochistan in reducing the negative impact of economic deprivation, poverty and social inequality, environmental degradation and climate change, and to turn this into opportunities to build and empower resilient communities participating actively in identifying and implementing socio-economic development activities on a sustainable basis in partnership with local authorities. Under the BRACE Programme, 1.9 million Pakistani citizens of 300,000 poor rural households in 249 union councils (UCs) will be mobilised and organised into a network of people's own institutions i.e. 19,129 Community Organisations; 3,103 Village Organisations; 249 Local Support Organisations (LSOs) and 31 LSO Networks at tehsil level and nine LSO Networks at district level. Once organised, the communities will have greater access to local authorities and line departments as a collective unit, giving them a stronger voice, to have their demands heard. The Community Institutions will then prepare their own development plans in consultation with local authorities and these communities will be made financially viable through provision of community investment fund to 23,550 poor households to start/boost up their businesses for income generation. Approximately 14,000 community members, especially women, will be provided technical and vocational education training and literacy and numeracy skills to increase economic opportunities and employability. The communities will be facilitated to build and manage 363 community level physical infrastructure schemes and more than 10,000 poorest member households will be provided with income generating grants and micro health insurance to safeguard them against health and economic shocks.

By the end of the Programme, it is expected that at least 25% of the poor household will see an improvement in their incomes; at least 40% of the households will graduate from the lowest to upper poverty score card band levels; at least 50% of the households of the targeted areas will report improved access to basic social services and at least 50% of members of community institutions and beneficiaries of socio-economic interventions are women. Moreover, by 2018 a policy framework for community-led development will be developed and adapted by GoB and public finance management reform process will be initiated in the province.

Role of RSPN in BRACE Programme

The specific objective of the RSPN BRACE component is to strengthen the technical and institutional capacities of BRSP and NRSP and provide support and evidence to the programme TA in order to effectively support the GoB in its objective of improving public service delivery. To attain this objective, RSPN is responsible to provide regular support to programme implementing partners for ensuring coherence in programme approaches and

uniformity in programme implementation and standardisation in monitoring, evaluation and reporting. RSPN will assist BRSP and NRSP in operationalization of the monitoring and evaluation framework and ensure regular reporting on common Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) through a joint integrated MIS/GIS system. RSPN will develop and implement a web-based real time reporting Management Information Systems (MIS) Dashboard and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping to track KPIs in addition to publication of an annual common KPI report. Also, RSPN will conduct research under BRACE to generate evidence for policy recommendations to support the Local Development Policy Framework for Balochistan. RSPN will also develop and implement a communication and visibility plan for BRSP and NRSP components for the programme. moreover, RSPN will support Programme RSPs in developing and implementation of the strategies and capacity building activities to contribute in reduction of gender inequalities.

About district Khuzdar

Khuzdar district is located in the center of Balochistan province. Total geographical area of the district is 31,100 Square kilometers. It is bordered with district Kalat, districts Jhal Magsi, districts Kharan, Washuk, Awaran (Balochistan), Larkana and Nausharo Firoz (Sindh). It has been notified as a district on March 01, 1974. The district has been divided into 5 Tehsils and 34 Union Councils. Major ethnic groups in the district are Brahvi, Sindhi, Baloch and Pashtun. Total population of district Khuzdar is 802,207 (Census PBS, 2017) as compared to 417,466 in 1998; 52.51% is male population and 47.49% is female population in 2017. Male-female sex ratio is 110.59 and population growth rate is 3.49% per year. Urban population of the district is 277,136 (34.55%) and rural population is 525,071 (65.45%). District household size is 6.66, urban household size is 7.09 and rural household size is 6.46. Khuzdar is eighth poorest district among eight BRDCE programme districts in multidimensional poverty (MP) index ranking (28th in Balochistan province), MPI is based on 15 indicators of PSLM survey on education, health and standard of living (Planning Commission, UNDP and OPHI, 2016). According to PPAF and SDPI (2016) Khuzdar is ranked fifth poorest district in BRACE Programme area, based on 27 indicators of PSLM survey pertaining to education, health, living conditions, and assets ownership.



BRSP has been working in district Khuzdar since 2007. Under BRACE, around 72,180 rural households in Khuzdar district will be mobilised and capacitated through three-tiered federated community organisations. Community members in the 39 rural union councils of the entire district Khuzdar, particularly women and marginalized, will be capacitated and assisted so that they can mobilise and form active operational and mature organisations, from COs to VO, then LSOs and LSOs' networks.

Visit to District Khuzdar

On July 18, 2018, after covering a distance of more than 300 Kilometer from Quetta, the Programme Manager for the RSPN component of BRACE Programme, reached BRSP district office Khuzdar in the afternoon. The purpose of the visit was to meet with

members of the Community Institutions (CIs) and learn from the processes they adopt and linkages they have developed and interventions they undertake for development of their communities.

This visit has also provided us an opportunity to meet with beneficiaries of Community Physical Infrastructures and livelihood enhancement activities which helped BRACE team members understand the role and work of BRSP in the district. A briefing meeting with district was held in which BRSP district team was

introduced. The introduction was followed by a detailed presentation by Mr. Bilal Gichki, BRSP District Programme BRACE for Khuzdar. The presentation covered basic information about the district; including information about the health, education, income sources of

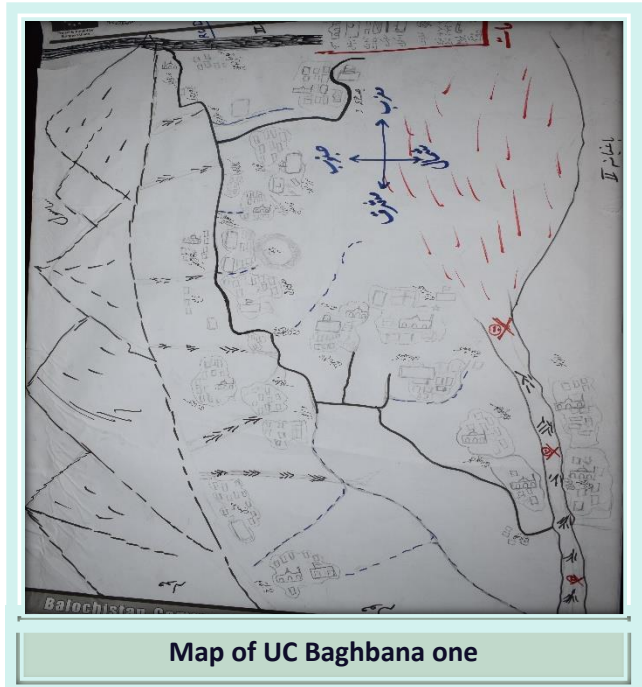
the inhabitants of the district. It also covered details about the various completed and ongoing projects being implemented by BRSP in district Khuzdar. The members of the meeting were informed that the district team has close coordination with Local Government and Rural Development Department (LGRDD) at district level. LGRDD office at district level comprise of Director Level Government and District Officers. Moreover, a major section of the presentation was about the Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme. Despite challenges and delays in the beginning, BRACE activities has geared up in district Khuzdar. Key performance indicators for year one of Programme for district Khuzdar are in above table. At the end of the presentation question and answer session was held. The Programme Manager BRACE RSPN component then gave a detailed presentation on the intervention logic of the Programme and discussed how district level activities contribute to attaining the specific objectives of the Programme. At the end of the meeting field visit plan was finalised with district staff.

Indicator Descriptions	Year 1 Targets	Year 1 Achievements
No. of COs formed	1049	632
No. of Male COs		430
No. of Female COs		202
COs membership	No targets	9530
Men CO members	Up to 50%	6596
Women CO members	At least 50%	2934
No. of VOs formed	182	120
VOs membership	No targets	1013
Men VO members	No targets	733
Women VO members	No targets	280
No. of LSOs formed	4	0
Number of LSO-Networks formed at district level	0	0
No. of VOs registered/notified by the local registration awarding/notification authority		108
No. of LSOs registered/notified by the local registration awarding/competent authority		11
Number of community members (men and women) trained in CMST	2098	0
Number of community members (men and women) trained in LMST	364	0

Field visit to Communities

The BRACE RSPN representative along with the BRSP team including Mr. Bilal Gichki, District Programme Coordinator, Nisar Zehri, field engineer and Samina Mengal, District Livelihood Officer visited Union Council Baghbana one to have an interaction with communities and members of the community institutions on 19th July. Team members reached village Hassanzai where LSO Rahber Office is situated. Rahber is a mixed LSO and is a federation of 18 villages (15 MVOs and 03 WVOs) organizations and was established on 17th March, 2016. It has 70 General Body members and 11 executive Body members. The LSO also has sub-committees; including peace committee, health committee and education committee.

The chairman and other members of the LSO warmly welcomed the visiting team members. After a round of introduction, the chairman of the LSO gave a detailed presentation about the composition, profile and activities of the LSO. The LSO comprises of 22 villages and 08 Mouzas. The total population in the UC is 11,336 and has 2021 total number of voters. The disintegrated



Indicator	Population			Households is PSC Categories					
	Male	Female	Total	0-11	12-18	19-23	24-34	35-50	51-100
Total numbers	3,840	3,556	7,396	207	326	238	491	144	14
Total % in UC	52	48	100	15	23	17	35	10	1

data informs that there are 2,607 men, 2,340 women and 3,174 children. Brahvi is the main language spoken in the UC. Agriculture is the primary source of income for the majority of the HHs followed by livestock and daily wage earners. There are six boys primary school, three girl's primary schools and one boys middle school in the UC. There is no middle school for girls. Keeping in the view the large geographical area, there is dearth of education facilities in the UC. One of the most important issues identified by the community was the high



number of people with special needs, total number of people with special needs were 350. There is only one Basic health unit in the UC. Poverty status of UC Baghbana one is shown in above table;

The chairman informed that they have undertaken the several self-help initiatives from the platform of LSO; a few of which are as follows:

- Verification of Poverty Score Card of in the UC;
- Supported health department in polio campaigns
- Supported community members in attaining their National Identity Cards, marriage certificates, birth certificates for their children
- Supported community in school enrolment, tree plantation and vaccination
- Developed strong linkages with local authorities, government departments and private entities and organisations including, District Chairman, Members National Assembly (MNA), Members Provincial Assembly (MPA) and Government Departments. Strong working relationship with stakeholders has contributed in improved public service delivery.



Regarding their future plans, the chairman shared that has planned to support;

- Poorest of the poor in bringing about positive changes in their lives
- Campaigns in school for enrolment and health and hygiene
- Poor women for vocational trainings
- Ensure that every individual in the UC has ID card, birth certificate for every child and marriage certificate for every married couple
- Development of skills for unemployed so that they able to earn livelihood with respect
- Improve public services by building strong linkages with local authorities and non-governmental organizations
- Development of Livestock and agriculture in UC

After the meeting, office of the LSO was visited. The LSO office was well equipped with the furniture and other office material provided by BRSP under BRACE Programme.

Visit of the water supply Scheme

The team then visited a water supply scheme constructed under European funded Balochistan Community Development Programme (BCDP). The scheme is situated in village Khandozai, Union Council Baghbana one. Total number of beneficiaries from the scheme are 346. The beneficiaries of the scheme informed that after the construction of water supply scheme in the village, now every household has clean water in their houses which decreased the diseases among children. Total cost for the scheme was Pak rupees 679,390 in 212,310 were contributed by the community.



Visit to Rind Village Organisation (VO)

The team then met with VO Rind members. The VO is man only VO and has been established on August 30, 2016. The VO is a federation four COs. The VO is registered with Social Welfare Department, Government of Balochistan has a functional bank account. The team was warmly welcomed by the members of the VO on the arrival. After the round of introduction, a detailed presentation was exhibited by the chairman of the VO to showcase the VO profile and achievements. It was shared that the total households in the village are 73; out of which 66 HHs are organized. Total population of the village is 309, out which 73 are man, 81 are women, 71 boys and 84 are girls. Majority of the people are associated with agriculture. There dearth of public services in the village. Poverty score status shows that out of 73 households, 7 HHs fall under 0-11, 31 HHs fall under 12-18; 26 HHs are in 19-23 whereas 09 HHs lie between 24-100. The VO self-help activities included, support of community member in making their national ID cards and birth certificates, children school enrollment campaign in village, supported the health department in polio and vaccination campaigns, repair of school building and roads in the

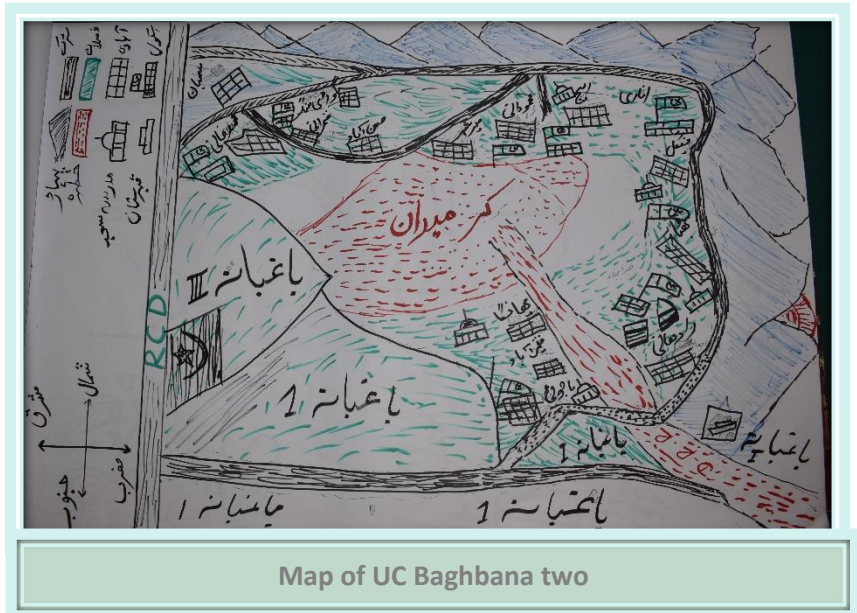
village, regular coordination with local councilors and local authorities for development activities planning, implementation and monitoring.

The VO future plans of VO include organisation of the unorganized households in the villages, identify opportunities for unemployed youth of the village, work for the social welfare of poorest of the poor and widows, ensuring 100% enrollment of the children in school, ensuring that no child is without polio drop and vaccination.

Visit to Union Council Baghbana two

The team then moved to Union Council Baghbana two. Going through the semi-mountainous routes the team reached village Kandozai where LSO Baghbana meeting was in progress in Government Boys High School Kandozai. Since the route to the village where LSO office is situated was blocked due to heavy rains, the meeting was held in the school.

LSO Baghnaba is a mixed LSO and is a federation of 24 man village organizations and 05 women village organisations. The LSO was established on 8th June, 2013 and is registered with Social Welfare Department, Government of Balochistan. It has 81 General Body members and 11 executive Body members. The LSO also has various sub-committees; including health committee and education committee.



Map of UC Baghbana two

Wali Mohammad, Finance Secretary of the LSO and other members of warmly welcomed the visiting team members. After a round of introduction, the finance secretary gave a

detailed presentation about the composition, profile and activities of the LSO. The LSO comprises of 26 villages and 42 settlements. The UC Baghbana has 11 representatives (9 man and 2 women councilors). The geographical area of the Union Council is 374 square kilometers with a total population of the Union Council is 13,699 and has 2194 registered voters. The disintegrated data informs that there are 3,013 men, 3,561 women, 3,776 girls and 3,349 boys. It was shared that the total households in the UC are



2,537; out of which 1,380 HHs are organized. Brahvi is the main language spoken in the UC. Agriculture is the primary source of income for the majority of the households followed by livestock and daily wage earners. There are seven boys and four girl's primary schools; one Boys and two girls middle schools and one girls and two boy's high schools in the UC. There is no middle school for girls. Keeping in the view the large geographical area, there is dearth of education facilities in the UC. One of the most important issues identified by the community was the high number of people with special needs, total number of people with special needs were 331. There is two Basic health unit in the UC. Poverty status of UC Baghbana two is given below;

Indicator	Population			Households is PSC Categories					
	Male	Female	Total	0-11	12-18	19-23	24-34	35-50	51-100
Total numbers	6,300	6,002	12,302	360	516	415	750	234	46
Total % in UC	51	49	100	16	22	18	32	10	2

The member informed that there were various challenges before undertaking the social mobilisation process in the UC, including;

- Unorganized communities
- Lack of awareness regarding prevailing social issues
- Efficient utilization of available resources
- Lack of communication among people and with the local authorities

He said that social mobilisation helped them to address most of these issue and there is still a long way ahead.

The self-help activities that the LSO has undertaken include:

- Repair of three school buildings
- Repair of the basic health unit
- Repair of 12 kilometer road to main road
- Construction/repair of flood protection walls
- Verification of Poverty Score Card of in the UC;
- Supported health department in polio campaigns
- Supported community members in attaining their National Identity Cards, marriage certificates, birth certificates for their children
- Supported community in school enrolment, tree plantation and vaccination
- Developed strong linkages with local authorities, government departments and private entities and organisations including, District Chairman, Members National Assembly (MNA), Members Provincial Assembly (MPA) and Government Departments. Strong working relationship with stakeholders has contributed in improved public service delivery.

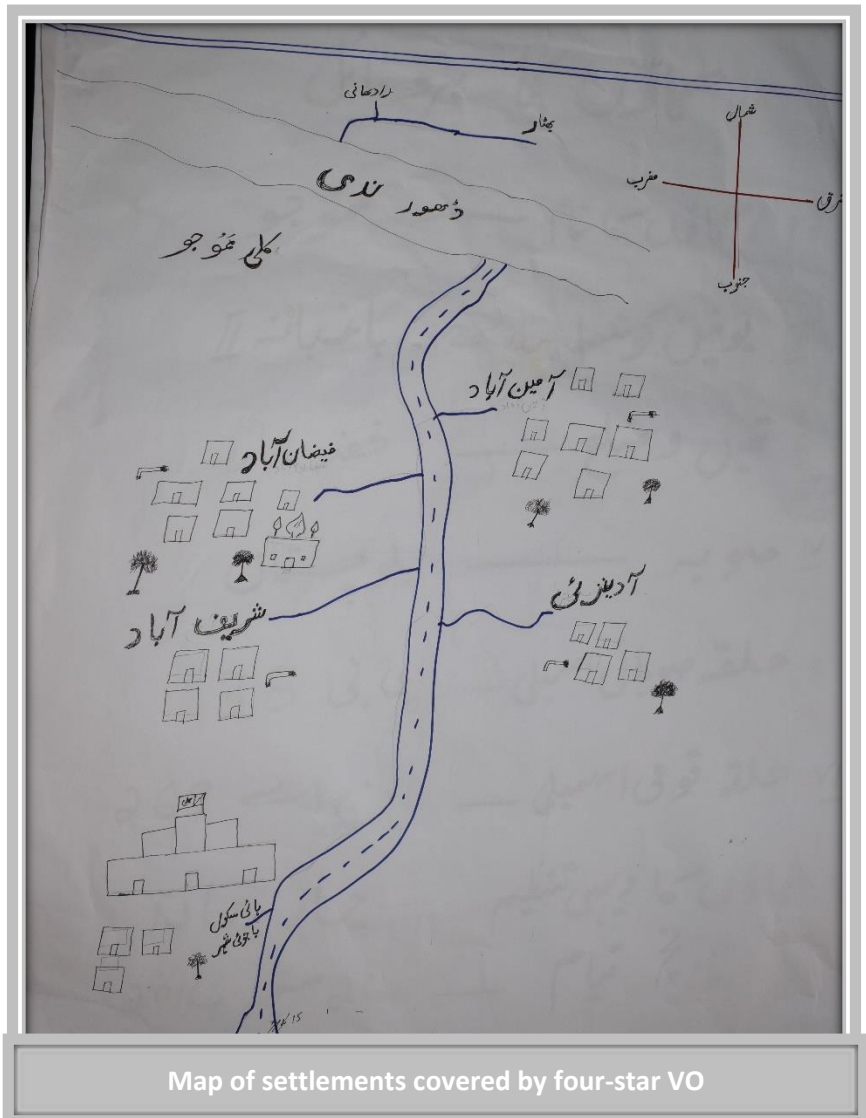
Regarding their future plans, the secretary shared that they have planned to support;

- Poorest of the poor in bringing about positive changes in their lives
- Campaigns in school for enrolment and health and hygiene
- Poor women for vocational trainings

- Ensure that every individual in the UC has ID card, birth certificate for every child and marriage certificate for every married couple
- Development of skills for unemployed so that they able to earn livelihood with respect
- Improve public services by building strong linkages with local authorities and non-governmental organizations
- Development of Livestock and agriculture in UC

Visit to Char Chand Village Organisation (VO)

Four starts village organisation is a man only VO and has been established on September 26, 2014. The VO is a federation four COs. The VO is registered with Social Welfare Department, Government of Balochistan has a functional bank account in Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited (ZTBL). The team was warmly welcomed by the members of the VO on the arrival. After the round of introduction, a detailed presentation was exhibited by the manager of the VO to showcase the VO profile and achievements. It was shared that the total households in the village are 121; out of which 101 HHs are organized. Total population of the village is 1,388, out which 421 are man, 440 are women, 263 boys and 264 are girls. Majority of the people are associated with agriculture. There are 216 people unemployed in the village. literacy rate in the village is 20% and 05% for man and women respectively. Main objectives of the VO are to organise communities so that they are able to collectively identify their issues and solve with self-help and with the support from governmental and non-governmental organisations through developing effective and efficient linkages development. The VO has current saving of Rs. 4,532. The VO self-help activities included, support of community member in making their national ID cards and birth certificates, children school enrollment campaign in village, supported the health department in polio and vaccination campaigns, repair of school building and



Map of settlements covered by four-star VO

The VO has current saving of Rs. 4,532. The VO self-help activities included, support of community member in making their national ID cards and birth certificates, children school enrollment campaign in village, supported the health department in polio and vaccination campaigns, repair of school building and

roads in the village, regular coordination with local councilors and local authorities for development activities planning, implementation and monitoring.

Major issues in the village are; a) lack of education facilities as there only one Madrasa and there is not school in the village. girls and boys travel for two kilometers to reach their school; b) lack of health facilities as there is not BHU, RHC or even a dispensary; c) there is no playground for youth of the village as well; d) the second major mean of livelihood is livestock, but there no health facilities for livestock. The VO future plans of VO include activities to help them establish schools, health facilities and water supply schemes in the villages. The soft component of their plan include awareness about use of latrines, ensuring 100% enrollment of the children in school, ensuring that no child is without polio drop and vaccination and support community members in getting ID card and birth registration certificates.

Visit of the Flood Protection Wall constructed under EU funded BCDP Programme

The team then visited a flood protection wall constructed under European funded Balochistan Community Development Programme (BCDP). The protection wall is situated in village Sabzal Khanzai, Union Council Baghbana two. Developed under the Village Development Plan (VDP) of VO give start, total cost of the scheme was Pak rupees 798,888 in 159,778 were contributed by the community. Total number of beneficiaries from the scheme are 565. The scheme was constructed between September and November 2016. The beneficiaries of the scheme informed that before the construction of the flood protection wall, houses, drinking water sources, agriculture land, livestock and other assets of approximately 100 households were at risk of destruction due regular flashflood during monsoon season.

Conclusion, Observations and Recommendations

The visit was a great opportunity to interact with communities and BRSP district staff and learn from them. It has been observed that the beneficiaries of the Programme were appreciative of the financial support from the European Union and were also thankful to BRSP and management of their CIs. The help the team members further strengthened their belief that an effective social mobilization employing participatory approach contributes to a large extent in bringing about positive changes in the lives of the people. It has been observed that Programme activities in district Khuzdar geared up. Though some of the district level targets set for year one have not been achieved due to the fact that preparatory and general activities took more than expected time, the district staff are well planned to achieved the target in upcoming quarters.

Some observations and recommendations to further these efforts;

- District team should develop, regularly update and track district Programme plans, especially KPIs plan. regular tracking of the plan will help them achieve the target effectively and efficiently. District level target for all KPIs should be set so that staff clear what they are going to achieve
- Through district staff has coordination with relevant government departments at district level, the coordination can further be improved. Officials from relevant government department can be invited to community events so that their interaction with communities is further improved and support from relevant government departments is enhanced
- Rollout training; including PIM, CAT, CMST, LMST etc. should be expedited

- There should be regular sessions with BRACE district level staff (especially manager and officer level) on the overall, specific objectives of the BRACE Programme and how these objectives are envisaged to be achieved. The staff should also clearly understand the intervention logic of the Program. This will help them understand the real purpose of what they do and how they contribute in attaining Programme objectives. This will also help them understand the concept behind their work and will not improve their performance but also communicate the Programme with beneficiaries and other stakeholders properly.