



PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

In support of the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh



EUROPEAN UNION

THE PINS PULSE

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The European Union-funded Programme for Improved Nutrition (PINS) aims to sustainably improve the nutritional status of children under five (U5) and of Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) in Sindh through nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions while capacitating the Government of Sindh so that it may efficiently implement its multi-sectoral nutrition policy.



Advocacy Seminar on Multi-sectoral District Coordination Mechanism for Nutrition

PINS 1 hosted an advocacy seminar for Deputy Commissioners and Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs of districts across Sindh on 6th December, 2018). The purpose was to appraise them of their roles and responsibilities in the District Coordination Committees. All three PINS components made presentations about coordination arrangements, nutrition-specific requirements, and dietary diversity in the 10 PINS-supported districts of Sindh. An overview of the District Coordination mechanism was also provided. To date, ADCs were not held accountable for coordination of nutrition interventions, similarly Districts/talukas were not given adequate targets and goals for monitoring indicators. The ADC from Matiari advocated for developing an unbiased mechanism for monitoring. The Nutrition Coordinator and Adviser to the Chief Minister of Sindh, Mr Sohail Shah added that monitoring and resulting reporting lines between District and Province need to be further developed.

Incorporating Multi-nutrient Blocks Into AAP's Goat Distribution Component

An agreement, in principle, was made with the Coordinators for the Accelerated Action Plan (AAP) on to work towards supplementing the diet of livestock. Supportive evidence was drawn from the site of a 2016 project in Mirpurkhas, where supplements were provided at homestead level, and distributed to livestock farmers in the vicinity. An assessment of this initiative's sustainability and trainings will also be given.

A workshop was also held on the compatibility of technology in rural areas, and its institutionalization is under discussion. This also includes a conversation on changes at policy-level needed to support agro-industry initiatives in the field.

Nutrition Working Group Meetings

PINS 2 participated in the Nutrition Working Group meetings hosted by the Nutrition Support Programme aimed at bringing together partners like UNICEF, WHO, MNCH, and HANDS who are working on delivering services related to nutrition across Sindh. So far, two meetings have been conducted on Dec 11th and Dec 24th, respectively, where PINS 2 has presented the Programme and shared updates on project activities.

Roundtable Conference on 'Review of Nutrition Interventions and their Outcomes in Sindh'

PINS participated in the round table conference led by the Provincial Task Force Secretariat for Nutrition, PDD, Government of Sindh on the Review of Nutrition Interventions and their Outcomes in Sindh. This explored the current issue of stunting and its impact in Sindh, including on-going interventions to tackle it. The PINS team presented the Programme's key features and salient updates. It also participated in the thematic group work to promote inter-sectoral coordination and aspects of intervention implementation.. This also served as a great opportunity to explore best practices and the scope for scale-up and sustainability. Government officials, representatives of INGOs, NGOs and researchers all participated.



Performance Review and M&E Framework & Impact Evaluation Design Workshop



The PINS 3 team conducted their quarterly Progress Review Meeting on 7th December, 2018 where partner RSPs (National Rural Support Programme, Sindh Rural Support Organisation and Thardeep Rural Development Programme) made a presentation on their quarterly performance and resolved any barriers to implementation in the last quarter of the first year of implementation. A training workshop on the M&E framework and impact evaluation design was also held to train participants on the PINS' M&E framework and socio-economic baseline survey approaches and methodologies. More than twenty staff members including the DPOs, M&E assistants, PMs, M&E focal persons from RSPs and M&E staff from RSPN participated in the two day training workshop. At the end, a meeting was also held to discuss synergies between the EU-funded Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) aiming to improve field level coordination, to enhance the effectiveness of the EU-supported Programmes.

Signing of Partnership Agreements with PINS Partners

Action Against Hunger signed the bilateral partnership agreements with Rural Support Program Network (RSPN), Peoples Primary Health Initiative (PPHI), and Concern Worldwide in December, 2018. These are important milestones for PINS 2 as it moves towards the final step of implementation.



Two Months Training Programme for Community Livestock Extension Workers (CLEWs)

PINS 3, have developed and conducted a training programme for selected Community Livestock Extension Workers (CLEWs, in consultation with the Livestock Department, Government of Sindh and the Research and Training Institute (RTI), Tando Muhammed Khan). The aim is to enhance their conceptual understanding and practical skills for livestock management, nutrition and breeding entailing artificial insemination. At present, 97 CLEWs are being trained and will be certified by the beginning of February which will be followed by another batch. The participants, on completion, will be provided with kits on artificial insemination to start extension services in their community. They will also disseminate information by conducting fortnightly sessions at farmer field schools.

Implementation Updates

	1198 Women trained as community poultry entrepreneurs		206 Beneficiaries from poorest HH given grants to purchase goats
	509 Farmer field schools established at Village Organization level		8 Local Support Organizations oriented on Water Quality Management
	212 WASH entrepreneurs trained to develop and manage supply chains		26 Low-cost disaster resilient demonstration latrines constructed



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