



Field Visit Report  
District Killa Abdullah, Balochistan



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

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IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS FOR THE BRACE's GRANT COMPONENT



PROGRAMME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNER



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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 Department (LGRDD) of the Government of Balochistan (GoB). The Grant component of this five year (2017-2022) Programme is implemented by Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) and Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) 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 will be women.

## 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 the programmes implementing partners for ensuring coherence in programme approaches and uniformity in programme implementation as well as 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

### RSPN Expected Results under BRACE Programme

1. The quality and effectiveness of programme implementation by BRSP & NRSP is improved through ensuring uniform programme implementation approaches and harmonised monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanisms developed for BRSP and NRSP;
2. Gender inequalities reduced through ensuring implementation of the recommendations from the gender mainstreaming strategy to be developed by the Programme TA with support from RSPN;
3. Evidence based policy recommendations generated and disseminated to support the Local Development Policy Framework for Balochistan;
4. Technical and institutional capacity of BRSP & NRSP enhanced in mainstreaming, addressing and reporting on cross-cutting themes envisaged in the BRACE Programme and 5) Achievements, lessons and successful development approaches drawn from the BRACE widely disseminated through developing and implementing harmonised Communication and Visibility Plans.
5. Achievements, lessons and successful development approaches drawn from the BRDCEP widely disseminated through developing and implementing harmonised Communication and Visibility Plans.

integrated MIS/GIS system. RSPN will develop and implement a web-based real time reporting Management Information Systems (MIS) dashboard to track KPIs in addition to publication of an annual common KPI report. RSPN will also conduct research under the BRACE programme 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. Moreover, RSPN will support Programme RSPs in developing and implementation of the strategies and capacity building activities to contribute to reduction in gender inequalities.

## Purpose of the visit

The purpose of the visit was to review BRACE District team progress, see if the implementation of the Programme is in accordance with Programme implementation guidelines and provide support to BRACE BRSP team in standardisation and uniformity of the Programme implementation.

## Activities undertaken during the visit

### September 27, 2018:

We started to travel from Quetta to Killa Abdullah district after attending a meeting with SDGs cell of Balochistan and reached Chaman (district headquarters of Killa Abudullah) after approximately three-hour drive. A brief meeting was held at BRSP office in Chaman with the BRSP district team. During the meeting, a comprehensive district presentation was presented by the Districts Programme Coordinator Mr. Zahoor Ahmed. The presentation covered demographics, current and previous work of the development sector and the targets, progress and achievements of the BRACE programme in the district. The presentation also highlighted the close coordination of the district team with the Local Government and Rural Development Department (LGRDD) at district level. LGRDD office at district level comprise of Director Local Government and District Officers. Moreover, a major section of the presentation was about the Balochistan Rural

Indicator Descriptions	Year 1 Targets	Year 1 Achievements
No. of COs formed	905	141
No. of Male COs	543	111
No. of Female COs	362	30
COs membership	13575	2216
Men CO members	8145	1767
Women CO members	5430	449
No. of VOs formed	152	11
VOs membership	912	63
Men VO members	106	9
Women VO members	46	2
No. of LSOs formed	7	0
Number of LSO-Networks formed at district level	0	0
No. of VOs registered/notified by the local registration awarding/notification authority	152	0
No. of LSOs registered/notified by the local registration awarding/competent authority	5	0
Number of community members (men and women) trained in CMST	905	141

Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme. Despite challenges and delays in the beginning, BRACE activities have started gearing up in the district. District level Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of the BRACE programme are shown in the table above with its targets and achievements for year one. At the end of the presentation, a Q&A session was held to answer the questions of the attendees of the meeting. Lastly, the Programme Manager of BRACE (RSPN component) discussed the intervention logic of the BRACE Programme and explained how district level activities contribute to attaining specific objectives of the Programme. At the end of the meeting, a field visit plan was finalised with district staff.

## Field visit to communities

### September 28, 2018:

The Programme Manager BRACE RSPN component, along with the BRSP team including DPC Zahoor Ahmed, District Engineer Bayazeed Roshan and other team members visited two union councils in tehsil Chaman, Daman Meralzai and Purana Chaman. The first visit was made to the Union Council Daman Meralzai where a Drinking Water Supply Scheme was visited. This water supply scheme was constructed by BRSP with the financial support of UNICEF in Killi Kalla Khan. It was established in September



*Drinking Water Supply Scheme by BRSP in Killi Kalla Khan, Chaman*

2016, since then it caters to the drinking water needs of 350 households. Mechanism for operation and maintenance of the scheme existed and beneficiaries of the water supply schemes were satisfied with the management committee of the schemes and said the operationalisation of the schemes is a result of organisation of the community by BRSP and the combined efforts by the community members.

## Participation in monthly meeting of the Village Organisation Saif Umer

The next destination was Killi Nazim Abdul Malik where monthly meeting of the Village Organisation (VO), Saif Umer was in progress.

The members of VOs welcomed the delegation. The VO was formed in August 2018 under the BRACE Programme. There are 65 households in the village of which 59 are members of the VO. The total population of the village is 455 (146 men, 140 women and 91 children). The VO is federation of three Community Organisations. The Women



*VO Saif Umer is photographed during its meeting*

village organisation is currently in the planning process. The VO is newly formed and has not gone through any trainings. According to BRSP staff, the plan for training the office bearers developed and trainings will

commence from next quarter. Community members show great interest in the Social Mobilisation process, are willing to take initiatives for their development. The VO has been maintaining records which include a village profile, proceeding records, membership list, TOP and meeting records. However, they still require constant support to continue making these records.

### Participation in monthly meeting of the Village Organisation Rahim Kahol

The next destination of the visit was Kelli Raheem Kohol (Union Council Purana Chaman) where members of the visiting team participated in monthly meeting of the Village Organisation Rahim Kahol. The Men only VO was established in May 2018 under BRACE Programme. The total population of the village is 427 (120 men, 153 women and 160 children) and it consists of 61 households, out of which 34 households have been organised. General Body members of the VO stated that they are in the process of organising the remaining households. The newly formed VO has two Community Organisations (COs): CO Bismillah and CO Zinda Karez. As the VO and COs are newly formed, their training is yet to be done. There is no female VO in the UC so far, but BRSP team in the district is in process of forming a women VOs in the UCs. The VO has started maintaining record and it was noticed that VO need regular support for some time to ensure record keeping. The community was enthusiastic and grateful of the EU and BRSP for their efforts in their village.



*Village Organisation Rahim Kahol is photographed during its meeting*

### Visit of the water channel in Daman Miralzai

A water channel in Union Council Daman Miralzai was visited by the team. The team was informed that this water channel was constructed long ago by BRSP for irrigation purposes under the Programme for Poverty Eradication. However, since there was a lack of sources for drinking water in the area, some of the area residents were also using the water channel for drinking purpose. According to BRSP staff, the channel is directly benefiting 360 households.



*Irrigation channel constructed by BRSP in UC Daman Miralzai Chaman*



### Visit of the Basic Health Unit in Kelli Gulan Kohol, Murda Karez

At the end of the day, a Basic Health Unit (BHU) in Kelli Gulan Kohol, Murda Karez, Union Council Purana Chaman was visited.

This was a government health facility which was renovated and a labour room was added by the BRSP on the demand of the community. The facility has basic and emergency treatment facilities and is well equipped. Currently, the BHU has one doctor, one community health workers and three



*A photograph from the visit to Basic Health Uni in Kelli Gulan Kohol*

support staff with a labour room, medical store, and Operation Theater room. This is the only facility in the area from where people get basic health care facilities.

### Debriefing meeting with BRACE District Team Killa Abdullah

At the end of the field visit, a debriefing meeting was held with the BRACE team at BRSP Office district Killa Abdullah, in which observations and key findings of the visit were shared. The meeting highlighted areas of improvement as well as clarification about the BRACE programme.

### Key findings and recommendations of the visit

- Overall, the BRACE Programme interventions observed/monitored in the district during the visit, are being implemented in accordance with guideline given in BRACE “Programme Implementation Manual” (PIM). The beneficiaries of the Programme were appreciative of the Programme and were thankful to BRSP and BRACE district team. However, following recommendation should be considered by the district team for further improvement in the implementation of the Programme;
- Although the district staff has coordination with relevant government departments at district level, the coordination can further be improved. Officials from relevant government departments can be invited to community events so that their interaction with communities is further improved and support from relevant government departments is further enhanced
- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) achievements against targets for year one was very low. The district team moved forward the unachieved targets to year two. To achieve combined targets of year one and two, the district team and BRSP head office need to regularly track the achievement and address issues as soon as possible so that targets are achieved by the end of year two. Moreover, district team

should regularly review the progress against key performance indicators and make decisions accordingly. This will help them achieve the targets effectively and efficiently.

- Keeping in view the context of the district, women engagement will remain challenging. District team should give more focus on addressing this challenge. RSPN will support BRSP in developing context based women participation strategy for Killa Abdullah during the process of Gender Mainstreaming Strategy development
  - Since most of the Community Institutions (CIs) are newly formed, CIs member will develop capacity by maintaining accurate records. Hence, Social Mobiliser should provide further support to CIs in maintaining their record.
  - Though available, there is a need for further improvement in documenting and presenting PSC data, socioeconomic status and other information of the village by VOs
  - Selection of CRPs in the district is challenging due to non-availability of criteria based candidates for CRPs, especially women CRPs, in some of the areas of the district and due to the fact that permission is not given by family members to girls and women to become CRPs. The district team should develop alternative strategy to address this issue.
  - Training of those district staff who have not participated in PIM, M&E framework, Quality Assurance tools and plans should be ensured.
-