



EUROPEAN UNION



PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

In support of the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

THE PINS PULSE

August 2019

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.

PINS 1 to provide support to Education Sector

PINS 1 team sat down with Mr. Pervaiz Qazi, Secretary of Education and Literacy Department and Dr. Fauzia, AAP Coordinator for Education to explore possible areas of support to the Education Sector.

Moving forward, PINS 1 will provide specific support by rolling out preparation of master trainers for teacher training, nutrition awareness and improving dietary diversity in mothers of children attending Early Child Hood Education (katchi) classes and provision of iron folic acid supplementation to adolescent girls attending public schools.

PINS 2 Conducts Training on CMAM, IYCF and the SBCC Integrated Package



PINS 2 conducted a training of trainers on community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM), infant and young child feeding (IYCF) and social and behavior change communication (SBCC) integrated packages for partners and government departments. Overall, 33 participants, 25 from partner

organizations and eight from government departments (five from LHWs program and three from department of health) were trained as master trainers over the course of 6 days to strengthen capacity of senior personnel from district health offices, LHW program and PINS 2 partner organizations in order to create a cadre of master trainers. These master trainers will eventually cascade the trainings for OTP staff, and IYCF and SBCC for outreach staff as well as supervise program implementation with other health professionals in their target areas.

PINS 3 hosts session on Drinking Water Quality Solutions and Best Practices for Chemically Contaminated Areas of Sindh

PINS 3 hosted a session on Drinking Water Quality Solutions and Best Practices for Chemically Contaminated Areas of Sindh, led by Mr. Khalid Mohtadullah, Director, RSPN. This session was attended by WASH sector partners including representatives from Public Health Engineering Department, Local Government Department, UNICEF, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), WaterAid, Malteser International and implementing partner rural support programmes.



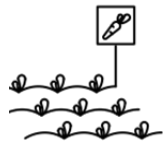
This session was held following the first round of drinking water quality testing for biological and chemical contamination across 30% of the target areas in the ten programme districts. Analysis of the test results revealed that 15% of the water sources tested were found as chemically contaminated which have been marked and painted red to indicate that they are not fit for drinking. Easy adoption and sustainability were focused upon, through strategic community engagement and continued collaboration with and support from the relevant Sindh Government departments.

Implementation Updates – August 2019



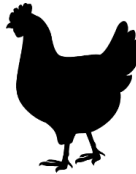
36,611

Demonstrations of kitchen gardening carried out at household level

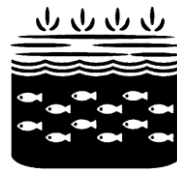


17,647

Households oriented on kitchen gardening



569 Women trained to become community poultry entrepreneurs



19 Sites where paddy fish farming has been initiated



299 VO and LSO level disaster risk reduction plans developed



344 Small farmer provided financial support to purchase

seed and other inputs

PINS 2 Conducts Joint Monitoring Visit to Ensure Seamless Programme Implementation



PINS 2 organized a joint monitoring visit in Matiari at the Bhit Shah OTP Site on August 30, 2019 with members of the AAP Taskforce Secretariat to ensure smooth

implementation of PINS' nutrition-specific component as well as to ensure provision of quality nutrition services to beneficiaries.

The visit also provided exposure to stakeholders/partners on PINS 2's treatment (OTP) interventions at field level, to monitor quality of services at OTP site and provide feedback on areas of improvement, best practices and provide directions on more seamless implementation.

A Widow's Resilience Shows Awami Gothani that Latrines are for Everyone

Shahani, 36, is a widow, who makes ends meet by running a shop in one of the rooms of her tiny home. However, as a Community Resource Person (CRP) overseeing the Village Organisation (VO) Awami Gothani, she has learnt the importance of latrines as a means to reduce illness and malnutrition.

Like many residents of poverty-stricken villages in rural Sindh, the people of Awami Gothani are used to defecating in the open. This situation is much more of a challenge for the women: ***"It is very distressing for us to defecate in the open where men may be present,"*** explains Shahani. ***"To avoid this, women normally go out to the fields before the sun rises or after it is dark. But at those times, we are afraid of being bitten by snakes or poisonous insects."***

Most of the community members do not build latrines, which are traditionally seen as costly and the materials difficult to acquire. However, in just a few months, Awami Gothani has become home to new latrines.

"When I first started advocating for latrines, people did not take me seriously," Shahani said. She herself had not had a latrine, but decided to set an example by building one in her own home. ***"I told them that if I could construct a latrine in my home despite being a poor widow, why could they not do the same? This motivated a lot of people."***

The community now looks up to Shahani, whose relentlessness to build a latrine has become an example for the village. Her campaigning has brought the community together. People have not only built their own latrines but even pooled resources to help poorer households construct to do so.



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