



EUROPEAN UNION



# PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

In support of the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

## THE PINS PULSE

December 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 Pilots Rural Growth Centres as part of the GoS' Poverty Reduction Strategy in Sujawal

PINS 1 is supporting the implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy in Chuhar Jamali, of District Sujawal, through nutrition sensitive (sanitation, education, agricultural policies etc) and specific (breast feeding, food fortification etc) interventions. This pilot is led by the Urban Policy and Strategic Planning (UPSP) Directorate of the Planning and Development Board, Government of Sindh.



To support the nutrition-specific tasks, a Nutrition Stabilisation Centre has been recommended along with better nutrition management as part of the planned upgrade of the health facility. A baseline study is also being planned with the Directorate to track progress and measure impact of the new interventions and investments in this pilot area. All was extensively deliberated and agreed upon, in the meeting of the Chief Advisor/Team Leader and Senior Advisors of PINS 1 with the Director General and his team at the UPSP, P&D Board.

### Community Fish Ponds Construction Underway to Improve Fish Production and Consumption

Construction is underway of five community fish ponds, which will improve access to fish for consumption at local level. Local Support Organisations (LSOs) working in the area have been linked up to fish farms as well as Government-established hatcheries for the regular supply of fish seed and fish feed. Staff from the local fisheries department have also lent their support, conducting joint visits with PINS 3.

The ponds are based on a design finalized in conjunction with the Fisheries Department, and RSPs working within PINS will ensure that construction is fully aligned with the approved design. LSOs have also received a grant to be used for land preparation, installation of water supply system for fish pond and purchase of fish seed and feed.

### Furthering Interventions related to WASH

PINS has been active in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) initiatives and is undertaking assessments and work planning for 2020 with representatives from the Local Government Department and Saaf Suthro Sindh. This year will see an emphasis on strengthening the coordination structures between the various coordinating/line departments and PINS' field staff.

As part of the support to the WASH sector, PINS reviewed the PC-1 (project cycle) on Water Supply to District Sujawal developed by the GoS. which will be part of a pilot for the Poverty Reduction Strategy (pillars 2 and 3). PINS prepared a proposal document with recommendations focusing on nutrition.



## Moving Ahead with MSM4N

The two initial phases of the Multisectoral Service Mapping for Nutrition under AAP (MSM4N) mapping exercise are concluded. The succeeding phases will involve capacity building and institutionalization.

The gathered data from various authentic sources will help develop a 'visual map' to identify the gaps, needs and duplication of the services provided by the GoS and implementing partners, and serve to improve the nutritional status of women and children under five. MSM4N will also support the management information and monitoring and evaluation systems thereby supporting critical decision making and accelerating the level of intervention.

### Training of Trainers on Nutrition-Sensitive SBCC Toolkit

PINS 2 conducted a training of trainers on the nutrition-specific social and behaviour communication change toolkit. The toolkit will help stimulate change of knowledge, attitudes, norms, beliefs and behaviors within the communities that PINS works with. The ToT aimed to inculcate a collective understanding and enable master trainers to develop a plan for subsequent trickledown training of community health workers.

## Implementation Updates – December 2019



**14,359**  
Households  
cultivating  
kitchen gardens



**59** Demonstration  
plots for  
progressive  
farmers in flood  
and drought-prone  
areas



**307** Village Action  
Plans Developed



**50** Village  
Organisations  
certified Open  
Defecation Free



**3,036** Small  
farmers given  
financial support  
for agricultural  
inputs



**1,033** Pregnant  
and lactating  
women (in the 0 –  
12 PSC range)  
given grants to  
purchase goats



### Supporting SED in the Implementation of the AAP

PINS 1 has been working on inclusion of nutritional information in the curriculum/textbooks of the Sindh Text Book Board. Recently, chapters containing relevant nutrition content have been developed in line with the decisions and communication with the Chief Advisor, Curriculum of School Education Department (SED). The contributions to textbooks for grade 9 and 10 were recently submitted in English and Urdu.

Similarly, there has been an agreement on the sensitization of District Education Officers regarding WASH and nutrition and strengthening of Provincial Institute of Teachers Education (PITE) involving training of faculty and development of nutrition-related resource material. A framework for supplementing girls with iron and folic acid will also be developed for SED.

Through this, the School Education Department has tangibly started to play its role in implementation of the multi-sectoral AAP in which Education is an important nutrition-sensitive sector.

### Rainwater Harvesting Ponds Completed to Address Drought

PINS 3 is leading construction of rain water harvesting ponds to accumulate rainwater as an alternate and sustainable source of water with less adverse impacts for the surrounding environment. The harvested water can also be used as drinking water, longer-term storage, and for other purposes such as groundwater recharge.

Feasible sites have been found in districts Jamshoro, Dadu and Qambar Shahdadkot, where the first rainwater harvesting pond (out of five to be constructed) has been completed in VO Ghulam Farooq Khokar.



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