



PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

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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 and of pregnant and lactating women in Sindh through institutional strengthening and building capacity of the Government of Sindh, by providing support to multi-sectoral nutrition policy, strategies and governance frameworks, for effective implementation of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions.

PINS collaborates with the Climate Change Department for integrating nutrition

In line with PINS' mandate to support cross-cutting themes, in addition to the core nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive sectors, PINS has held its first set of deliberations with the Environment, Climate Change & Coastal Development Department, on 21 September 2020, this was preceded by substantial work with the Women Development Department on Gender.

After a first meeting of Chief Advisor/Team Leader (EU-PINS1) with the Secretary of Climate Change, the PINS team reviewed the draft Climate Change Policy of the Government of Sindh (GoS) and provided detailed inputs and comments. These included additions with respect to Nutrition and impact of Climate Change on the food sectors. A training is also planned to sensitize the officials of the department in October, on the significance of nutrition, the impact of climate change on food sectors and the availability of nutritious food for the community.

Disaster Risk Reduction Mainstreaming Helped Community Fishponds Thrive in Flooding

Rural areas of Sindh suffer a fair number of floods that damage pond infrastructure almost each year, including in PINS districts. Considering the situation, PINS enhanced the construction design of the fishponds to safeguard against disasters (disaster risk reduction). Under PINS construction, the dikes (barriers to keep water & fish inside pond) have been raised to 5 feet from the traditional 1.5-2.5 feet, smaller dikes had caused the fish escape during the flooding. Additionally, a controlled in-let and out-let system has been installed to limit the flow of contaminated water into the fishponds, that can affect a pond's ecosystem and increase fish mortality. The sites are also selected with careful deliberation by the community and the field engineering team.

These measures are expected to improve the fish production for October, and the fish will then be sold at below market price to the community. The PINS team had discussed the prices with the community members. In addition, PINS has developed a brief proposal, which was presented to the Secretary of Irrigation department by the Chief Advisor/Team Leader (EU-PINS1), for collaboration and forming a working group with relevant stakeholders and the departments of Irrigation and of Fisheries to find alternative water bodies (canals, ponds, lakes and alike) in the province for fish production. This measure was identified by the Provincial Steering Committee for Nutrition in Sindh in August 2019.



PINS Implementation Updates, September 2020



8054 Admissions at Outpatient Therapeutic (OTP) sites



13,852 Community awareness sessions conducted



444 Children under 5 suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition treated at Nutrition Stabilization sites, **5,553** cured.



454 Farmer Field Schools (FFS) Engaged in the production and promotion of moringa



15,983 Livestock treated/drenched/vaccinated by Community Livestock Extension Workers; **192** Women purchased goats with EU-PINS grant.



6,269 Latrines constructed by community; **130** Village Organisations declared open defecation free

Cooking demonstration for the community

Orienting the communities on the importance of a balanced, hygienic and nutritious diet not only helps prevention malnutrition but also decreases the risk of food poisoning and foodborne illness. PINS conducts cooking demonstrations in communities and through these community members learn to cook healthy and hygienic meals.

Gulbano Bibi, is a member of the mother-to-mother support group at village *Haji Khaskheli*, who was concerned about her 3.5 years old baby girl's health, she learned cooking nutritious meals and maintaining hygiene for her child. She and other members of the community are now aware that nutritious food can be prepared with ordinary ingredients that are readily available and her baby is now faring better.



PINS Collaborates with SIAPEP to Introduce Drip Irrigation in Farmer Field Schools



PINS is collaborating with the Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP), which is working towards efficient management of scarce water resources and improved irrigation agronomy. One of their initiatives is the promotion of *drip irrigation*, which is also introduced at the Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in collaboration with PINS (Sindh Rural Support Organization-SRSO, a sub-implementing partner).

Drip irrigation is an efficient way to manage water is expected to increase the yield as some farmers struggle with water resources. To date, 790 kits of drip irrigation have been provided by SIAPEP in the districts of *Larkana, Qambar Shahdadkot and Shikarpur*; 460 have already been installed.



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