



EUROPEAN UNION



# PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

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To support the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

# THE PINS PULSE

March 2021

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.

## Training of Trainers Workshop on nutrition for the officials of Livestock Department and Faculty of SIAH

EU-PINS in collaboration with the Livestock Department, Government of Sindh, organized a training of trainers (ToT) workshop on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021, for the officials of the department for the faculty of Animal Health Institute (SIAH), and in continuation of the earlier workshop, in October 2020. In these two workshops, around **70** officials of Livestock Department, benefitted. The Additional Directors and Deputy Directors of the Livestock Department, including from the Directorate of Animal Husbandry, AAP Livestock and faculty of the SIAH, were the main beneficiaries of the second training of trainer's workshop. The purpose of the ToT was to impart an understanding about nutrition, and how this information should be cascaded through the field and outreach services of the department until it reaches community-level.

The ToT was an outcome of deliberation between Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan Tariq, Chief Advisor/Team Leader, EU-PINS1, and Dr. Nazeer Hussain Kalhoro, the Director General of SIAH/ AAP Coordinator for Livestock. Dr. Zahra Ladhani, Senior Adviser co-led the training of trainers' workshop along Mr. John O'Dea (connected via video link). They provided a comprehensive overview about the situation of malnutrition, stunting, statistics on nutrition, as well as Animal Sourced Food (ASF) and its linkage with nutrition. The importance of nutrition education messages was stressed as part of the social and behavioral change communication (SBCC) and also conducted a group work to develop specific messages. Dr. Akhter Ali, Deputy AAP Coordinator for Livestock shared the details on the interventions of AAP, including on the tools & process of data collection and its utility for analysis & decision making, while Mr. Mudassar Ahmed, Director EU-PINS3 discussed in detail the CLEW model working at the district and taluka levels.



The Livestock officials were provided with training manuals, which had been developed by EU-PINS1. Its use for the subsequent training of the field and extension workers was further deliberated.

## Mid-line Survey to be initiated for PINS Nutrition-Sensitive Interventions

PINS worked with University of Mannheim's Centre for Evaluation and Development (C4ED) to revisit the design of the impact evaluation strategy for the midline survey of its nutrition-sensitive interventions. This survey was postponed last year due to the onset of COVID-19. Participating enumerators, supervisors & monitors are being trained in the districts of *Shikarpur, Larkana, Qambar Shahdadkot and Dadu* while those in the remaining districts are still due to be trained. The midline survey is expected to be carried out and completed in May 2021 with its findings published in June 2021.

**PINS showcased various intervention during AAP's Partners Visit to District Shikarpur**

Representatives of the AAP GoS, UNICEF, World Food Programme, and the Sindh Enhance Response for Reduction of Stunting in Sindh (SERRS) Technical Assistance, visited *District Shikarpur* on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2021. The purpose was to discuss the progress and assess their collective impact of both nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions towards reducing stunting in the district under the platform of the AAP. During the two-day visit, a site visit was made to different intervention areas of EU-PINS and a review of the progress was undertaken with the Deputy Commissioner of *Shikarpur*, Mr. Kashif Khurho.



During visit, the group was shown the community-managed fish pond at the village organization *Biejlo* and met with members of Local Support Organization *Khushaal*, including the Agriculture Entrepreneurs and Community Resource Persons.

**Second Round of Fish Ponds Construction**

PINS is working on the construction of the second round of fish ponds and stocking with fish seeds.



Ponds in the *districts of Shikarpur, Jamshoro, Tando Muhammad Khan, and Tando Allahyar* have been completed and stocked with fish seed. For *Thatta, Larkana, Dadu and Sujawal*, the fish ponds are being constructed.

**Refresher Training on CMAM, IYCF & SBCC**

A five-day refresher training was held from 29<sup>th</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 for mid-level officials of PINS and its implementing partners in Hyderabad. The training covered details on Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM), Infant Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, and Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC).



**PINS Implementation Updates, March 2021**



**5,453** children cured, **326** treated at Nutrition Stabilization Centers (NSC) sites



**7,575** Admissions at OTP- Out Patient Therapeutic sites



**14,057** Social Behavior Change Communication sessions conducted



**141** Water sources tested for biological and chemical contaminants



**201** Village Organisations declared open defecation free, **94** Low-cost disaster latrines constructed



**18,539** Households are implementing kitchen gardening using their own seeds



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