

Notes from the field

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO THE NUTRITION-SENSITIVE SIDE OF PINS

Two-Day Workshop on Pilot initiatives and CLEWs Effectiveness Held

PINS ER-3 held a two-day workshop to assess the community-level replication and scale up of the pilots on promoting zinc-fortified wheat, and rice-paddy fish farming. Both pilots have yielded positive results with communities replicating the activities on their own initiative. For the former, it was agreed that all 4 pilot districts will scale-up with emphasis on capacity building, exposure and knowledge-sharing visits and proper identification and selection of farmers and suitable land. For bio-fortified wheat, the scale up will cover all 10 districts with PINS coordinating closely with the Agriculture Extension Department, Harvest Plus, and FAO Pakistan.



The workshop also assessed the progress of the CLEWs and planned the next steps in creating linkages with both private veterinary practitioners and with the District Livestock Departments. Each RSP will conduct a workshop in the upcoming month to pair CLEWs with local veterinarians. Representatives from the Livestock Department will also be present to support the initiative. RSPs will encourage CLEWs to arrange and participate in local vaccination camps, as well as those arranged by the District Authorities.

[Click here to read the full minutes of the proceedings .](#)

The People of PINS

Mominat was excited to take charge as the Community Resource Person when PINS was first introduced to VO Lalloo Khaskheli, Matiari in 2018 and wanted to do her part in tackling the poor state of nutrition in her community where 39% of the households scored in the 0 to 23 range on the Poverty Score Card. She actively led the effort to have her assigned VO certified open defecation free in 2020 and continues to participate in community meetings to understand what else could be done.



Eager to contribute to her community's well-being, Mominat discussed converting around 1.5 acres of land near her house into a fish pond during a meeting with her Community Organisation. Having a fish pond meant easily available fish at a price that would be less than what the market near her village was selling at. After consulting with the field team at Matiari, Mominat started on replicating the fish farming model and put her own savings towards getting the ditch filled and the initial stocking of 500 fish seed consisting of Theri, Gulfahm and Morakhi.

Instead of following the recommended guidelines on fertilizer use and supplementary feed, Mominat chose to collect wasted and leftover food from the community as her primary form of fish feed and used

less cow manure than what was required. Despite all that, Mominat was able to successfully harvest 20 kilogrammes during her first round with the help of some local fishermen. She sold more than half of her harvest to the community while the rest was sold in a market in Saheedabad which is around 5 kilometres away from where she lives. Mominat made PKR 4,500 from this and was elated at the response she got which encourages her to keep at it.

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I am so pleased that people around me are thinking of starting their fish ponds and work towards their own small-scale fish farming ventures inspired by what I am doing!

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She hopes that like her, it is the women who take charge of this, so that they are able to earn an income as a result and invest in making better nutritional choices. 'Many of the homes I sold to include women who are expecting or have recently had a baby. I always make a point to emphasis how necessary their diet is during my community sessions and I am glad that I am doing my part to ensure that.'



PINS ER-3 Carries Out Situation Assessment of Flash Floods in Dadu

In the second week of July, flash floods affected 94 villages in Dadu leaving nearby rice and other crops ruined. Members of the PINS ER-3 team visited 6 Village Organisations to check on the affected communities and carry out a situation assessment.



The team targeted areas that were highly affected, and reached out the members of the community institutions and PINS' programme affiliates (CRPs/AEs) to understand how ongoing interventions in the area were affected. Fields, demo plots and kitchen gardens were mostly submerged resulting in significant crop loss for the communities. In the next season, the flooding is expected to make the land more fertile. The community-owned hand pumps built on raised platforms observing DRR principles, remained functional.

Planning Mode On as PINS ER-3 Enters its No-Cost Extension Period

As PINS enters its no cost extension period, the entire PINS ER-3 team including our partner RSPs got together to comprehensively plan for the period in the light of lessons learned over the last three years of the Programme. The three-day workshop focused on reflecting on our experience, particularly issues that have come up frequently, to determine the improvements that can be made.

We kicked the workshop off by identifying and consolidating the barriers and constraints in the past years of the Programme. On the second, we presented implementation and financial spending plans to the senior management based on the discussion from the previous day. There was also a focused discussion on some of the more significant findings from the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator that could significantly impact the upcoming implementation period.



The last day of the workshop started off with a session on social norms led by Kamran Naeem, WASH Specialist at UNICEF. This was followed by a presentation on highlights from the second internal assessment and a brief address by Jamal Mustafa Qazi, the Programme Manager at the Accelerated Action Plan who highlighted some of the gaps that he hopes we can work together to bridge.

The workshop ended with a review of the workshop to go over the agreed action points and commit to developing detailed implementation and financial spending plans that progress can be tracked against. The PMU also committed to fully supporting our partner RSPs in developing and supporting implementation through regular review meetings and field visits.

[Click here to read the minutes.](#)

What We're Cooking Up Next

- A series of refresher trainings have been planned with programme affiliates across programme districts to reinforce concepts and discuss issues faced previously to ensure a more seamless implementation through the no-cost extension period
- PINS ER-3's Programme Implementation manual is going through a round of revision to incorporate action items to be implemented during the no-cost extension and is expected to be finalized in September
- The PINS ER-3 team will conduct an exposure visit to Umerkot to examine current rainwater harvesting structures and practices, at household and communal levels and observe indigenous practices as the Programme plans to invest in the development and rehabilitation of rainwater harvesting ponds in districts Jamshoro, Dadu and Qambar Shahdadkot

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