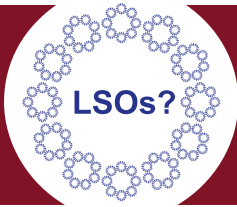




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AN UPDATE ON THE WORK OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS













LSOs or Local Support Organisations are central to the 'Social Mobilisation' approach of the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs). In a bid to reduce poverty and empower marginalised people (especially women), the RSPs under BRACE, mobilise rural women and men into a three-tiered structure, which consists of Community Organisations (COs) - neighbourhood level community groups, Village Organisations (VOs) - village level federations of COs, and LSOs - union council level federations of VOs. LSOs are able to carry out community-led development at a much greater level due to the advantage they gain from numbers. As the tertiary tier, LSOs are also uniquely able to develop linkages with government and non-government organisations, donor agencies and the private sector.

LSO Initiatives



Local Support Organisation Gicheen

District:  Kech	Union Council:  Shahrak	Date of Formation:  11 2018	Total Households in Union Council:  1,009	Organised Households:  904
Coverage:  90%	Number of Community Organisations (COs):  60 <small>(50 women's COs)</small>	Number of Village Organisations (VOs):  12 <small>(05 Women, 07 Mix's VOs)</small>	Number of General Body Members:  48 <small>(32 women)</small>	Number of Executive Committee Members:  07 <small>(04 women)</small>

The leaders of **LSO Gicheen** are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis, as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-Funded BRACE Programme is empowering rural communities in Balochistan by realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women and men are now gaining awareness about their rights and making the service providers accountable and taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Government Girls Primary School Dan-e-Sar Boundary Wall Constructed

Government Girls Primary School Dan-e-Sar had no boundary wall and washrooms. Students and teachers were worried while attending the school without washrooms and boundary walls. Many students left school due to this reason. LSO Gicheen Executive body members met their MPA and talked about Government Girls Primary School Dan-e-Sar. They also addressed that many students are leaving schools just because of the absence of the boundary wall and washrooms.



After that meeting, MPA released funds for the school's boundary wall and washrooms. The boundary wall and two washrooms were constructed by the released fund. Now the number of students is 85 learning many of them are those who had once left the school for not having these facilities.

Link Road Constructed

In UC Shahark mostly Village link roads are ruptured and the link road which connects the union council to the city highway was in its worse condition. People were facing difficulties in traveling to other Villages and the city. The link road used to be the main cause of accidents, LSO Members met the MPA, and talked to him about the link road, after that MPA approved funds and later the link road was constructed.



Constructed New School Sari Gowaniki

Due to unavailability of schools in the Village Sari Gowaniki, that's why many of the children are out of schools. Limited number of children are enrolled in schools located in nearby villages. As the schools are distanced from their village, they also face difficulties. LSO Gicheen Leaders had arranged a meeting with their sitting minister and brought these issues in his notice. The minister approved their proposal of building



new school for their village and in the next budget he approved the new school. Now the Village Sari Gowaniki has its own school and people of the union council are enrolling their children in the same school.

Rehabilitation of Karez

Union Council Shahrak is known for its agricultural area. People of the UC mostly use agriculture as their major source of income. People of the union council harvest vegetables, dates, mango, lemons and masan, etc. People used to use Karez system for irrigation but as the drought has affected the whole Balochistan and Karez system has almost vanished in Balochistan. Union council Shahrak had one Karez which was for used irrigation purposes but due to the damage to Karez farmers were worried about their crops. LSO Gicheen got the project from USAID after several meetings. They received funds for cleaning Karez and cleaning up the Karez.



Two flood Protection Band

Many houses were built in the red zone of the flood. As the rainfall had caused damage to these houses before and to prevent these damages, people of the LSO asked their leaders to do something for building a protection Dam. Everyone was concerned about the safety of their village. The LSO leaders decided to meet



their MPA and highlight this issue. They had meetings with their MPA and irrigation department where they requested protection dams. Later, their proposal was approved, and concern departments constructed two dams for their village around 772 households are now safe from the flood water.

Construction of Dam

Kech district is one of the hottest districts in Balochistan and moving towards a water crisis. Shortage of water has affected the whole district and affected the agriculture field. People of the area are concerned about their agriculture as it's the major source of income. LSO called a meeting of Executive body members to discuss this issue. They decided to meet their MPA and address the issue of water. They had highlighted the issue in the meeting and the minister approved the dam for their union council. Soon the dam was constructed and around 497 households benefited from the constructed dam.



Construction of Public Library in UC Sharak

Education is the basic right of every citizen, but people of the union council are deprived of this right. To get better education most people send their children to Quetta city, but this opportunity isn't affordable for everyone due to poverty. The concept of the library is rarely existing among the people of rural areas. People of the LSO had no space to prepare for competitive exams. The absence of a library was felt by the youth, and they discussed this issue with their LSO leaders. After consultation of all members, they reached to conclusion and decided to build a library in their own union council. The aim of building the library in their UC was to facilitate their students who were preparing for exams.

They had arranged to build the library, but books weren't available. LSO leaders had meetings with local philanthropists and MPA to request books. Finally, they successfully opened the library and now 482 students are having membership in the library.



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