2nd Proceedings of the
National Convention of
Federations of Community Organisations

11th - 12th December 2009
Marriott Hotel Islamabad
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The Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) is a platform for ten Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) of Pakistan. It undertakes policy advocacy, strategic guidance, capacity building and sharing of best practices between the RSPs and other stakeholders. RSPN was registered in 2000 under Pakistan's Companies Ordinance (1984) as a non-profit company.

RSPN's role in promoting pro-poor development via the core RSP approach of social mobilisation, is widely recognised by the Government, donors, the private sector, NGOs and other partners. RSPN is the largest non-government, rural development network in Pakistan, with the RSPs being present in 10 of the country's 126 districts and two FATA agencies. The RSPs have an outreach extending to 2.5 million rural households of Pakistan. RSPN is provided core support from the Department for International Development (DFID) of the Government of the United Kingdom.
Following on from the success of the 1st National Convention of Federations of Community Organisations, which was held in December of 2008, the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) convened the 2nd National Convention of Federations of Community Organisations on the 11th and 12th of December 2009. The purpose of such an event was to continue to learn from the experiences of grassroots organisations such as Community Organisations (COs) which operate at the neighbourhood level and are made up of members from the households in that area; Village Development Organisations (VDOs) which are representative bodies of COs operating at the village level; and their federations, Local Support Organisations (LSOs) which represent all the COs and VDOs in a Union Council. This Convention aimed to consolidate and learn from their experiences in various areas of development, namely in terms of security, the environment, gender equality, supporting the poorest, resource mobilisation and developing partnerships and linkages with various organisations. Furthermore it had the following objectives:

- To impart awareness of the three-tiered approach to the stakeholders,
- To provide a platform to the local organisations for learning through sharing of experiences,
- Share the potential of the three tiered approach as an augmentation with other implementing agencies,
- Highlight the lessons learnt,
- Formulate a strategy for the future

The Convention was attended by the Federal Minister for Information Mr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Kaira, Federal Secretaries, representatives of various local and international NGOs, community members and the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs), along with other stakeholders.

The opening session of the Convention was presided over by Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi, Secretary Establishment Federal Government of Pakistan. The session started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. This was followed by a welcome address by Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN.
Welcome Address by Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan opened the Convention's proceedings by explaining why there was a need for the RSPs in Pakistan, when there were already various government ministries, divisions and departments which were providing services such as agriculture, livestock, irrigation, forestry, education, etc. He said that there was a need for the RSPs because of the basic assumption that there is tremendous potential in people, be they men or women, rich or poor. The RSPs, through the process of Social Mobilisation can tap into this potential in order to harness it and enable the people to use it for their own development. Mr. Khan said that this was done through the RSPs helping communities to organise themselves into their own organisations; namely into COs, VDOs and LSOs and to have them work on issues which were closest to their hearts. This planning comes in the form of Micro Investment Plans (MIPs) which the member-communities develop with the help of the RSPs. It is then from the MIPs that development activities are carried out; these can either be done with the assistance of the RSPs, local government or other development organisations.

Mr. Khan said that to-date, the ten RSPs which make up RSPN, had a presence in 103 out of the 125 districts of Pakistan. They had mobilised a total of 2.7 million households comprising of 158,027 COs. These households had mobilised nearly two billion rupees of savings, accessed over 46 billion rupees of credit, constructed and maintained nearly 70,000 infrastructure projects, trained over 1.1 million villagers in different disciplines and provided health insurance to over 1.7 million clients, in addition to many other activities.

He ended by saying that the experience of the RSPs show that these institutions of the people were greatly helping in reducing poverty and in our recent troubled times, were also helping in maintaining and promoting security, peace and harmony in different parts of the country. He said that it was for this purpose that different LSOs had been invited to the Convention, from different parts of Pakistan, in order to share the strength and achievements of peoples' institutions.

Following the welcome speech of Chairman RSPN, a documentary about the achievements of LSO Danyore which is based in Gilgit, was screened. The documentary was commissioned by RSPN which substantiated the fact that there was an immense potential in the community which only required to be channelled in an organised manner.

After the screening of the documentary, the next session started with presentations from various LSOs.
LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation, Kohat

Mr. Isar Ali, Chairman of LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation from Kohat highlighted in a detailed presentation, the role played by them in the maintenance of peace and security in their area in the backdrop of the current extremism and insurgency in the area.

Under the umbrella organisation, 81% of the households had been organised to become members of LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation. These households together formed 79 Community Organisations (COs); 35 of which were Women’s Organisations (WOs). The following are the key measures which they had introduced to restore peace in the area:

- Taking into consideration the unstable security situation in their area, Peace Committees had been formed at the village level, having equitable representation from both men and women. These peace committees are registered with local police stations. The police have encouraged the development and involvement of peace committees as they compliment the efforts of the police in maintaining peace in the area. In addition to this, the peace committees were not working in isolation but were integrated with committees working at higher levels i.e. at the district level.
- Rescue and Vigilance Committees (or Chagha party in Pashto) had been formed at the local level, comprising of retired soldiers who work in close coordination with local police. These committees hold regular monthly meetings in which local elders and government representatives discuss current issues and plan for the future.

Furthermore, he highlighted the following achievements regarding the facilitation of IDPs:

- Facilitated the population from neighbouring union councils, which had been displaced due to flash floods in August 2008. The LSO provided these families with food and shelter.
- A mass exodus was witnessed as a result of ongoing operations against insurgents. The LSO managed the influx of IDPs through proper planning. As a first step, all the IDPs were registered and provided with food and shelter using resources which had been internally generated by the LSO. Later these IDPs were registered with concerned agencies in collaboration with the local Social Welfare department. In order to ameliorate the pain of IDPs, the LSO managed to open a ration depot at the union council level. This was only made possible after negotiating with the local administration.
- The LSO also helped IDPs in accessing basic facilities which was made possible because of the linkages which had been established by it with NGOs such as United Nations High Commissioner for
Refugees (UNHCR), International Red Cross (IRC), The World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Al-Shifa Trust and many others.

He explained that the agility with which they had responded to various crises was inculcated by their association with the RSPs, spanning many years especially with the Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP) and the training and exposure visits they had received from various institutions.

**LSO Chinari, Muzaffarabad**

Ms. Yasmin Bibi, Vice President LSO Chinari from Muzaffarabad shared about how their LSO had played its role in poverty targeting, amongst other achievements.

Her confidence and expression spoke volumes about the levels of empowerment which women had attained by being members of an organised community. LSO Chinari comprises of 160 COs and has membership from 73% of the total households in Union Council Chinari. Ms. Yasmin said that initially women were reluctant to join COs but when the LSO assumed the responsibility of mobilising the local community, household coverage increased threefold from 828 to 2,372.

The following are some of the key achievements of LSO Chinari:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Donor Agency</th>
<th>Number of Projects</th>
<th>Cost in millions (PKR)</th>
<th>Type of Schemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Oxfam (NOVIB)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>13.99</td>
<td>Link Roads, Water Supply, NRM, EDP Grant, Training, Wnterization Material, Cash for Work, CPls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ADMI-FAO</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16.97</td>
<td>Phyllox Distribution and Training, Seed Distribution, CPls, Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NRSP-Najia Qadam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>Wheel Chairs Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Diakonie Katakupanhilfe</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.22</td>
<td>Disaster Training, CPls, Tool Kit Provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Johander International</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>First Aid Posts, Model Houses, Crush Machine Provision, Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ICRG</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>27.50</td>
<td>Water Supply Schemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Handicap International</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>Medical Camps and Medicine Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>DDF</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Animal Shelters Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Red Crescent</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Health &amp; Hygiene Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>Books &amp; Note Copers Distribution, Tent Erection, Bath Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>FAO-CIDA</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>Fish Farms, Orchards, Water Tents, Seed Distribution, Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>WWOP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>Training Water Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>AJKODP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>Water Supply Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>AJKSP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>Sprayer Machine Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>USAID-RISE</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>SMC Training, SMC Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>ERRA-DRU</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>Link Roads, Water Channels, Pool Track, Honey Bee Colony, Trainings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For LSO Chinari’s Presentation, please see pg 37*
LSO Chinari has proved through their various and wide-ranging linkages, that a grassroots organisation such as an LSO has the capability and drive to contact various organisations and to become a partner in development activities. Specifically, LSOs can be trusted to be effective implementing organisations for development initiatives, due to their transparent organisational structure and the fact that their members consist of those households which are the actual recipients of such activities. Ms. Yasmin shared that till now her LSO had successfully implemented 674 schemes with a cumulative investment of over Rs. 133 Million.

Another groundbreaking activity that the LSO played a role in was the administration of the Poverty Scorecard (PSC) survey. PSC is an easy-to-use survey instrument that objectively estimates the poverty status of 100% households in each village of a Union Council to plan and implement poverty alleviation measures that suit the specific needs of each household. The LSO ensured the accuracy of the survey data by having it verified by its communities. Ms. Yasmeen said that because the LSO was located in the area and that its members were locals, they were in the best position to conduct the PSC activity. With the information from the survey, LSO Chinari now knows the poverty-level of each and every household in the Union Council. With it the LSO has been able to divert its funds and activities for the poorest of households.

She concluded her presentation by sharing the future plan of her organisation, which essentially focused on how to address the prevailing problems faced by the local communities.

**LSO Ailumpur, Multan**

LSO Ailumpur from Multan, represents more than 14 villages and 148 COs. Out of the 148 COs, 54 are WCOs. It covers 90% of the 3,957 households residing in Union Council Ailumpur. Mr. Muhammad Ashraf, Chairman LSO presented on how their organisation had generated internal resources and established linkages with government departments and political representatives to successfully resolve some of their development issues. Using the LSO platform, they went to see the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani in the form of a delegation, at his office in Islamabad, as their Union Council falls in his constituency. Though Mr. Gilani had been
contesting and winning elections from their constituency for a long time, but because of the absence of a platform like an LSO, they had never been able to identify and present their common development issues to him. As a result of the meeting, the following projects were approved:

- Location of a police station was moved in order for a girls primary school to be opened in the building. Ironically, the police station was the main cause of several social evils in the area.
- A degree college had been approved which would be built on the site of a redundant government building; a site which previously was trying to be snatched by some influential people in the area.
- A cadet college had been approved and initial planning on this project was underway.
- 14 franchised utility stores had been approved for 14 villages in Ailumpur Union Council which would facilitate accessing cheap yet quality supplies of grocery items for the rural people.
- A 500,000 cash grant was obtained for the treatment of an LSO member’s son who travelled to India for his successful treatment; something which was not available in Pakistan.

Furthermore, a delegation from LSO Ailumpur accomplished the following with the support of a local Member of the Provincial Assembly elected from their area:

- Presence of teachers was ensured in local schools with the support of the Executive District Officer Education
- A linkage with the Livestock department had been established. Through the linkage, 400 women LSO members had availed training, which had contributed to their economic uplift.
- Facilitated the issuance of 500 Computerised National Identity Cards (CNICs) by coordinating with NADRA’s mobile teams. A majority of the beneficiaries were women and the poorest members.
- 10 people received training from Bahu-ud-Din Zakrai University, Multan in the field of Livestock Management
- Facilitated poor farmers in selling their wheat by providing them with bardana (jute bag), which is mandatory for availing government prices.

**LSO Sorhan, Tharparkar**

Mr. Sikandar-e-Azam, President LSO Sorhan, District Tharparkar told the participants about how they had mobilised resources using their LSO as a platform. LSO Sorhan comprises of 75% of the households, from 38 villages. Their member households are organised into 349 COs of which 104 are WCOs and 34 are mix COs. Using the LSO platform, they had made remarkable progress in a very short span of time. Birth and death registration records had been updated in 25 villages. Six health awareness seminars had been conducted. They had also facilitated the FSC survey in the Union Council. Moreover a significant amount of funds had been mobilised through effective linkages with the public sector. Some of their key achievements are as follows:

- A high school had been established with a cost of Rs. 6.5 million from the District Government
- Community Halls had been constructed with a funding of Rs. 1.2 million
- A dug-well had been constructed costing Rs. 140,000 with the help of the Taluka Government

*For LSO Sorhan’s Presentation, please see pg 40*
• Construction of a culvert costing Rs. 250,000 with the help of the Taluka Government
• Sewing machines had been provided to destitute women through the UC Nazim
• Rs. 1.2 million had been approved from the MNA fund for two girls primary schools
• 70 very poor households had been registered for support from the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) with the help of their MNA and MPA
• 80 destitute households had been facilitated in getting support from the Zakat fund
• 1,200 poor people had been facilitated in the issuance of CNICs in 20 villages of the Union Council.

The LSO had also facilitated community members in seeking support from the Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP). The following is a list of some of the key interventions which have been supported by TRDP:

• The LSO has disbursed soft loans of Rs. 700,000 to 50 households using a revolving fund from TRDP
• The LSO has facilitated 130 households in availing loans worth Rs. 500,000 from TRDP’s micro credit window
• 15 wells have been installed in 15 villages with a cost of Rs. 1.5 million
• 30 hand-pumps have been installed in a very poor neighbourhood

Furthermore, Mr. Sikandar said that RSPN had provided their LSO with Rs. 1 million for the initiation of their Community Investment Fund (CIF). Out of the CIF, soft loans have been disbursed to 132 poor female entrepreneurs.

**LSO Changos, Karak**

The role of the LSO in keeping peace and harmony in the neighbourhood was highlighted in the presentation given by Mr. Farrakh Dil Khatak from LSO Changos, Karak. LSO Changos represents 2,500 households in Union Council Latambar in the form of more than 100 COs (half of which are WCOs). While elaborating upon the role that their LSO had played in maintaining the rule of law, Mr. Farrakh Dil thanked SRSP, which had showed them the right path which eventually led them to the formation of their LSO. Since Latambar is the adjoining Union Council to District Bannu and as a result of the deteriorating law and order situation in Bannu, kidappings for ransom have dramatically increased in Latambar. In order to control this perilous situation, the LSO convened a meeting in which it was decided to form a vigilance committee at the local level.

*For LSO Changos’ Presentation, please see pg 42*
A comprehensive security plan was chalked out in mutual consultation of members of the LSO. The whole Union Council was divided into 23 sectors and two commanders per sector were selected with consensus. The members of the vigilance committee have been issued identity cards as well. The LSO’s vigilance committee however is not competing with the police; rather it is supplementing the efforts of the local police by sharing their responsibilities of maintaining law and order in the area. The security plan has resulted in the re-establishment of peace and tranquillity in the area.

The table below presents an interesting comparison which was made by Mr. Farrakh Dil, depicting the before and after scenario of the LSO. The analysis below shows that LSOs are not only engaged in tangible activities but that they have started to analytically review their situation as well:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before formation of LSO</th>
<th>After formation of LSO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Others used to organise us</td>
<td>We organise ourselves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others motivated us to save</td>
<td>We motivate others to save</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others used to build our capacity</td>
<td>We impart training to others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External organisations used to look up to the local CSOs</td>
<td>We link local organisations with external organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local people tend to avoid making donations</td>
<td>Now they happily make donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities were planned by external organisations</td>
<td>LSO makes arrangements for them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There was a lack of trust between external organisations and locals</td>
<td>Now the deficit has been significantly reduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Community Organisations were dormant</td>
<td>Now dormant organisations have been transformed into active organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects were monitored by external organisations</td>
<td>Now the LSC itself does the monitoring of projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not prepare project proposals</td>
<td>Now we facilitate others in the preparation of proposals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External actors used to resolve conflict</td>
<td>We resolve conflicts within ourselves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No mechanism for collecting socio economic information</td>
<td>LSO has collected all the information regarding various indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There was no network of local community organisations</td>
<td>Network is present, and this has significantly increased their bargaining power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudimentary form of financial systems without any internal control mechanism</td>
<td>Financial system in place and accounts are audited every year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We were not IT literate</td>
<td>Now we communicate through email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions owned by the people were non-existent</td>
<td>LSO has brought unity in the society and ‘institutions of the people, for the people’ have been established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very few female organisations</td>
<td>Now 50% of the member organisations are female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LSO Pakistan Hoslamand Khawateen Network, Haripur

Pakistan Hoslamand Khawateen Network (PHKN), District Haripur is the first ever women’s LSO, as claimed by Ms. Irum Fatimah, President of the LSO. PHKN consists of 54 women’s COs, covering 1,714 households, out of a total of 2,170 households. She said that one strategic objective of the LSO was sustainability of its operation. She proudly said that the LSO had generated an amount of over Rs. 4 million in the form of its funds by providing consultancy services to other organisations, marketing facilitation, village banking services, amongst other things, as mentioned below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of LSO Fund</th>
<th>Amount Generated (Pak Rupees)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Fee</td>
<td>105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Savings</td>
<td>830,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy</td>
<td>244,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Services</td>
<td>302,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Facilitation and product sales</td>
<td>417,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Investment Fund</td>
<td>46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Bank</td>
<td>276,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total LSO Funds</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,222,095</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

She further shared details of other projects which had been obtained by the LSO from various sources. PHKN had mobilised more than Rs. 8 million from government and more than Rs. 19 million from donors. Details regarding this can be seen in the tables mentioned below:

*For LSO PHKN’s Presentation, please see pg 43*
### Resource Mobilisation from Government Departments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funding</th>
<th>Cost of Project (Pak Rupees)</th>
<th>Beneficiary Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aik Hunar Aik Nagar</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Department</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tehsil Municipal Administration</td>
<td>970,000</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Government</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
<td>873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model Farm Services Centre</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,720,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,893</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Resource Mobilisation from Donor Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funding</th>
<th>Cost of Project (Pak Rupees)</th>
<th>Beneficiary Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>7,400,000</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC (FSSP and LP)</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>2,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Aid</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia Foundation</td>
<td>750,000</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPAF/SRSP</td>
<td>2,900,000</td>
<td>1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,050,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,910</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ms. Fatimah said that when she looks back at the amount of funds which have been generated by the LSO (more than Rs. 32 million) and all the schemes and projects which have been implemented, then not only does her confidence in the LSO increase but also of the members on the collective strength which is present within the organisation itself. “Had we not been organised, we could not have made it this far”, she said.

VDO Walana, Chakwal

Mr. Ghulam Ali from Village Development Organisation Walana, Chakwal said that they had been working on the principle of participatory development for the last 15 years. He claimed that Walana had become a model village in the area, which they owed to the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP). He said that NRSP had shown them the path to development. He said that they had fulfilled all of the identified developmental needs and that now they had to start thinking about what to do next. The list of the achievements of the VDO was quite long, but their presentation was focused on their efforts in improving the future generation i.e. child focused activities which were aimed at making children to grow up as responsible citizens. Details of the activities are given below:

- Establishment of Community school
- Ensuring that 100% children of school-going age are in school.
- Provision of books, stationary, and uniforms to children who cannot afford them
- Provision of missing facilities in schools
- Organised extracurricular activities in schools
- Provided scholarships to poor students to continue their education beyond school level
- Operating an advance computer centre; established with the support of the Government of Japan
- Birth registration record updated so that future planning can be made possible
- Provision of health services to children such as de-worming, eyesight testing and provision of spectacles to the needy children and regular health checkups
- Health walks to raise awareness regarding children’s health related issues
- Medical Camps
- Preventive measure for Malaria through cleanliness drive and sprays

Mr. Ali finished his presentation with the firm belief that “if we invest in children, then there is no doubt that our future will be very bright”.

\(^{7}\text{For VDO Walana’s Presentation, please see pg 65}\)
Union Council based Poverty Reduction Programme

The next presentation was given by Dr. Sono Khangharani, CEO Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO)’. He briefed the participants of the Convention on how the Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme (UCBPRP) was being implemented successfully.

UCBPRP is a landmark indigenous initiative being funded by the Government of Sindh and being implemented by SRSO, for the reduction of poverty by harnessing the potential of the people.

SRSO initiated UCBPRP in February 2009 with the financial support of the Government of Sindh. UCBPRP, with a total financial outlay of Rs. 3.4 billion, is to be implemented in two districts of upper Sindh in a period of 30 months. The most unique feature of this programme is that it is the first ever women’s-only poverty reduction programme of this magnitude.

“Mr. Shoab Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN always propagates this notion that if the menace of poverty is to be bridled then support of the government is very important”, shared Dr. Khangharani. He further expressed that this notion had been reaffirmed through UCBPRP, as in a very short span of time, a mammoth target had been achieved. This was made possible with the financial support and political will of the Government of Sindh, to improve the living standards of the masses. In addition to this, because of social mobilisation, it succeeded in organising, capacitating and motivating the local community for self-help initiatives at such a large scale in a short time.

Dr. Khangharani proudly shared the astounding progress made in a small period of nearly nine months. Key accomplishments of UCBPRP are as below:

- Poverty assessment of 257,988 households had been completed
- More than 40% of the households had been organised into 5,734 COs and 1,950 Village Organisations (VOs)
- 84 out of 87 Union Councils had been covered in terms of social mobilisation
- 396 Community Physical Infrastructure projects had been implemented which has also provided employment to individuals from the poorest of households
- 141 low-cost housing units were under construction with a cost as low as Rs. 60,000 per unit

Research is currently underway to further reduce the per unit cost

*For Presentation on UCBPRP, please see pg 46
Address of the Chief Guest

Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi, Federal Secretary Establishment and the Chief Guest for the opening session congratulated the members of the community organisations and its federations, as well as the organisers on carrying out such a noble cause. He acknowledged that they were really contributing towards the nation building process. He also said that the Government’s role in providing basic services to the masses could not be denied; however there was a strong need for support to improve the service delivery. Mr. Qureshi said that this missing support could be provided through grassroots institutions such as those present at the Convention. He also said that the present Government was fully aware of issues such as spiralling inflation and the surging prevalence of poverty; various steps had been taken to provide relief to the public through people-friendly policies. The Secretary Establishment said that in order to reduce these effects on the public, the Government had brought about basic changes in their social safety net programmes in order to have a greater impact on those who were actually poor. Highlighting the efforts, he mentioned that the identification of poor households was an important step in this regard. He said that all efforts were being made to find out the needs of the poorest so that a targeted strategy could be made. Mr. Qureshi said that the Poverty Scorecard was an effective tool to use in the identification process and that DISP has adopted this approach as well. He said that the Government was well aware of the efforts being made by the various RSPs towards making this process a success.

Mr. Qureshi said that the magnitude of the RSPs’ achievements was really remarkable, as they were supplementing the development efforts of the Government. He said that the initiative of forming LSOs was really helpful for the Government as they could serve an informed citizenry. He gave high praise to the LSOs regarding their progress which had been made in a very short span of time.

Mr. Qureshi shared that the Government had always supported the RSPs, as could be seen in the cases of the National Rural Support Programme, the Punjab Rural Support Programme, the Sindh Rural Support Programme, the Sindh Rural Support Organisation, and the Ghazi Barotha Taraquiati Idara where endowment funds had been provided by the Government. Recognising the importance of social mobilisation, the Government has earmarked a huge amount for the extension of social mobilisation in 19 districts and an additional Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme had been approved by the President. He further said that the Government aspires to improve the living standards of the public by engaging grassroots organisations in the process. Examples of projects which use social mobilisation are the Barani Area Development Project, the Prime Minister's Livestock Initiative and the Crop Maximization project.
The Chief Guest also said that it was a pleasant surprise for him to hear from the LSOs about all their achievements; the depth and breadth of their experiences demonstrate the fact that LSOs have all the potential of becoming partners in the development process. Furthermore, he said that the active role of women in the LSOs’ management reveals that our women were not less than anyone but that rather they could outshine men, if appropriate opportunities and support was provided to them.

The Chief Guest concluded his address by saying that “if LSOs work honestly and with full dedication, our society can be transformed into a developed society”.

Address of Ms. Shandana Khan, Chief Executive Officer RSPN

Ms. Shandana Khan, CEO RSPN, shared the evolution of the idea of LSOs. She said that about three years back, Chairman RSPN shared a vision of handing over some of the operations of the RSPs to the communities (with the help and support of the RSPs) so that they would be able to do it more efficiently and in a much more cost-effective manner. The concept of LSO was idealised as the institutional model for this transformation. Ms. Khan said that in order to observe the functionality of this idea, they visited the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) in Andhra Pradesh, India and were pleasantly surprised at their progress. She said that the community there had brought about a significant change in their lives by working for themselves through their own institutions. She said that after that visit, a change came in the implementation paradigm of RSPs’ social mobilisation, with the LSO model being mainstreamed into their major programmes.

Ms. Khan commented that three years ago when the idea of LSOs was being tested on a pilot basis, no one could have imagined that it could and would evolve to the stage where they were not only presenting but were providing analytical insight into their operations into a very professional manner.

CEO RSPN said that if people were provided sufficient opportunities, they have all the potential to exploit opportunities. She said that now the LSOs were working even beyond the usual mandate of the RSPs, such as their role in maintaining peace and harmony and developing linkages with political representatives. She expressed that in the future, they expect guidance from LSOs about the role of the RSPs and on what kind of support would be required of them.

Talking about the importance of Government support, she said that without support from the concerned departments of the Government, the operations of the RSPs could not be scaled up and that their benefits would only be limited to a few selected areas of the country.
She thanked all the dignitaries, members of LSOs and the donors, especially the Department for International Development (DFID) on making the event a success.

**LSO Network Chitral**

Presentations from the LSOs continued with LSO Network Chitral talking of the initiatives of its LSOs regarding peace. Mr. Ahmed Saeed started by saying that it was because of social mobilisation and their households being organised, that there was relative peace in Chitral, as compared to an area such as Swat. He however went on to say that Chitral was not lacking in challenges regarding security. These were challenges such as:

- Its geographical vulnerability, i.e. there are several passes that connect Chitral to the lower part of Pakistan which are completely unguarded.
- Religious and ethnic diversities
- Dependency on war-hit areas for access to other parts of the country
- Lack of proper security arrangements

Mr. Saeed then went into the structure of the LSO Network which consists of 12 LSOs and membership from a total of 1,390 village-based organisations, i.e:

- 656 VO's
- 590 WOs
- 144 Civil society organisations

So far, this LSO Network is covering 17 out of a total of 24 union councils.

Some of the initiatives that the LSO Network had been undertaking were firstly to mobilise households into the form of LSOs. Through mobilising these households, the LSOs were able to sensitize them about peace. In addition to this, the LSO Network also contacted different religious leaders to carry out dialogues with them about promoting and educating people about how Islam is a religion of peace. The LSO Network also contacted the local media to carry out programmes to promote peace in the area. Another important initiative that the LSO Network carried out was to contact and educate the communities living along the border areas to be aware of intruders/strangers crossing over.

**LSO Kot Maina, Malakand**

The next LSO to present was LSO Kot Maina which demonstrated that LSOs have the capacity to face various kinds of situations and in cases of emergencies, they have demonstrated a capability to manage it in a very
professional and organised way"). LSO Kot Maina in District Malakand which consists of 1,300 member households organised in 57 COs, has set an example by managing the massive influx of IDPs as a result of the drive against terrorists. Mr. Fayyaz Gul, Chairman of LSO Kot Maina said that immediately after the Pakistani Army’s Swat Operation, the LSO made a resolution to facilitate the IDPs in every way possible. The following steps were taken:

- 1,000 IDPs were provided free of cost ration for seven days in the camp established for them, with a total cost of Rs. 40,000 which was collected from members and local philanthropists.
- A health camp was organised for them, in collaboration with the District Health department and the DCO. As a result, 2,500 people were provided free medical treatment while Rs. 300,000 worth of medicines was also provided in those camps.
- 970 IDP families were facilitated in getting their ration cards
- Rs. 400,000 was raised through a fund-raising campaign in the adjoining Union Councils, to provide food for the IDPs from Swat
- Provided mother & child health care to 16 families
- Provided financial support to 21 IDP families with support from NRSP and RSPN

The LSO has also taken effective steps through which they have been able to retain peace and harmony in the area. Mr. Fayyaz concluded the presentation with a vote of thanks to NRSP and furthermore maintained that all their achievements were due to NRSP which has guided them at every step. He said that now they were capable of not only sustaining their livelihoods but also by the grace of God Almighty, they have attained the capability of supporting others in their times of need.

LSO, Thal Rural Development Programme, Bhakkar

It has been observed that LSOs can play a critical role in the identification of the most deserving beneficiaries. An experience in this regard was shared by Mr. Muhammad Iqbal, President of LSO Thal Rural Development Programme, District Bhakkar. LSO Thal Rural Development Programme consists of 3,500 member households and has a coverage of 91% households in the UC. These member households are organised into a...
total of 259 COs, 140 of which are WCOs. He elaborated that they had utilised poverty scorecards for the identification and classification of poor families and their level of poverty. At present they were fully aware of the different levels of poverty of the households in their Union Council. This serves as a planning tool for future activities as it is a reference point upon which they can form their strategy regarding poverty reduction interventions. With the use of the poverty scorecards, the LSO was able to provide various services for people in different poverty-bands. An example of this specialised service is the fact that the LSO provided soft-loans only to the extremely poor and chronically poor.

Mr. Iqbal appreciated the relentless efforts of NRSP in promoting their grassroots institutions. He concluded his presentation with a vote of thanks to RSPN, which has helped them in realising their hidden potential.

**VDO Ather, Jehlum**

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Khan, President of VDO Ather from District Jehlum, shared that if proper guidance was provided then a lot could be achieved on a self help basis. Mr. Ishaq Khan said that their VDO had implemented many projects, amounting to a cumulative worth of more than Rs. 45 million. He said that the VDO has had a long list of achievements which have been made possible through internally generated resources, such as:

- Providing micro-loans by internally lending community savings
- Providing a widow with a house from internally generated funds
- Providing destitute and very poor households with a living allowance on a regularly basis through internally generated funds
- Free of cost boarding facilities to people who cannot afford to rent a house
- Provision of essential wedding package to very poor girls with an average cost of Rs. 5,000
- Initiation of a communal tent service through which its services are provided to the community. In cases of weddings and celebrations, a nominal fee is charged while there is no fee in cases of funerals
- Establishment of an emergency fund for facilitating the community to meet unforeseen emergency expenditures
- Helped in constructing latrines for very poor households with a total cost of Rs. 200,000
- Constructed a solid-waste management garbage dumping centre
- Running and management of two institutions where children are provided formal as well as religious education
- Establishment of a basic library for which plans are underway for its expansion
- Construction of a boundary wall around the village pond to prevent young children from drowning

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*For LSO Thal Rural Development Programme’s Presentation, please see pg 52
For VDO Ather’s Presentation, please see pg 57*
Mr. Ishaq Khan said that although all of this had been carried out through self-help initiatives, it would not have been possible without being organised. He acknowledged and appreciated the support and continuous guidance which had been provided by NRSP over the years.

Discussion and Question Answer Session

The participants were invited to clarify points and raise queries from the presenting LSOs. Mentioned below are some of the questions and their answers:

Q. Mr. Irfan from LSO Bir, Haripur commended VDO Ather for all their initiatives which they were carrying out as a village-based organisation; however he wanted to know what the sources of income were of the VDO for carrying out all their activities?

Mr. Ishaq from VDO Ather said that one of the ways of generating funds was through membership fees. He said that each CO contributes Rs. 20 to the VDO each month. The second method was through the service charge of using their water-meter. In addition to this, he said that there were several members who worked abroad or outside of their union council but they were still contributing to the VDO each month.

Mr. Ahsun Khan, CEO GBTI congratulated the LSOs and VDO that presented. He shared a low-cost idea that some of the VDOs in his area had carried out. They had installed street lights in the village which had resulted in an increase in security in those villages.

Q. An LSO member from Nowshera asked LSO Network Chitral whether they had held elections in their respective organisations?

The member from LSO Network Chitral said that there were annual elections in all the LSOs, however because the LSO Network had recently been formed, it had only had its first election.

Q. A staff member from GBTI asked the representative of LSO Thal, Bhakkar about how they had managed to organise the women into COs?

The representative said that because his area was a very backward area, it had been very hard to organise women. He said that in the beginning women were not even ready to form COs. Therefore first of all his LSO used activists, women who were respected in the community, to make their own women's CO. He said that
they then educated the other communities and villages, about the first women's CO and the benefits that they were obtaining from being mobilised. He said that first he mobilised all the women in his village and then went to other villages. However it was by obtaining more Community Resource Persons (CRPs) that the increase in mobilising women took place.

LSO Ayun Valleys Development Programme, Chitral
The next session started with a presentation from LSO Ayun Valleys Development Programme, Chitral. Chitral consists of a heterogeneous population as it is inhabited by various ethnic groups such as Khow, Kalash, Bashgali and Gujar. Along with other achievements, some serious efforts have been carried out by the LSO to bring minority groups into mainstream development activities and to create a harmonious society.

Kalash is a non-muslim minority with a unique culture which is famous in the world. Kalash are the major stakeholders in the LSO jurisdiction. They are relatively poorer due mainly to their exclusion from mainstream political, social and development activities. As a result of poverty, a large number of Kalash men have migrated to cities and a sizeable number of their people converted to other faiths that posed the threat of extinction of this unique community. In the Kalash community, women play a key role in economic activities but they lack the necessary skills in management and marketing of their products. Therefore they remain underdeveloped. LSO Ayun Valleys Development Programme has resolved to take serious action to mainstream the Kalash community to:

- Reduce extreme poverty amongst Kalash people
- Promote inter-religion harmony
- Preserve the unique Kalash culture
- Mainstream Kalash, especially their women in development

LSO Shakardara 1, Kohat
Mr. Haji Gul from LSO Shakardara 1, Kohat presented his experience regarding the LSO's role in Village Banking. The LSO comprises of 52 COs. He shared that from the platform of the LSO, they have carried out a number of notable projects.
For example, because of their unity across the Union Council (in the form of the LSO), it has contributed towards the maintenance of peace and harmony in an otherwise volatile region. In addition to this, through their microfinance operations, 943 loans worth Rs. 9.8 million have been disbursed with an overall recovery rate of 100%; which in itself is a challenge in this era of economic inactivity.

**LSO Karimabad Area Development Organisation, Chitral**

LSO Karimabad Area Development Organisation’s (KADO), District Chitral representative, Mr. Israr, shared the LSO’s experience of how they managed to utilise their Community Investment Fund (CIF) and what innovation they had brought about while managing it. Mr. Israr shared that KADO was a network of 81 women’s organisations and 80 VOs. Together they represent more than 95% of the households of the area. He proudly shared the details of how they had managed their CIF.

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<tr>
<th>Enterprise Financing</th>
<th>Bridge Financing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baidar Finance - a working capital for start-ups and existing businesses</td>
<td>Sahulat Finance - For the temporary or emergency financial needs (for consumption or purchase assets)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Finance - start up finance for entrepreneurs interested in honey bee</td>
<td>Safar Finance - For the travel expenses of the seasonal labors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunar Finance - Skilled artisans &amp; Crafts men/women to purchase tools</td>
<td>Umeed Finance - For education and health related expenses</td>
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He said that KADO’s CIF had been established with a total fund of Rs. 1.5 million; 33% of this has been contributed by KADO itself while the remaining 67% had been provided by RSPN. The purpose of the fund is to provide financial support to the poorest families to enhance their income and assets and to smooth their consumption and expenditures on easier and flexible terms and conditions. In one year (Oct 08 to Oct 09), a total of Rs. 3,584,600 had been provided in the form of loans to 208 borrowers; more than 25% of these loans have been provided to the poorest. Thus far Rs. 562,169 had been earned off the revolving of the CIF with a recovery rate of 100%. Mr. Israr said that two broad categories of products are offered to the members: Enterprise Financing and Bridge Financing of which the details are provided.

Mr. Israr concluded his presentation by saying that KADO wishes to improve the sphere and outreach of its...
lending operations. Despite their constraints of limited financial and institutional capacity and legal barriers, they are hopeful that they would find ways and resources to expand their operations.

LSO Mirani, Turbat

LSO Mirani, Turbat comprises of 53 COs and represents 80% of households in the Union Council. The LSO representative shared that the Poverty Scorecard exercise had been implemented in their Union Council in order to effectively identify and target the poorest of households. He also said that because of the formation of the LSO, the number of COs rose from 9 to 53. In addition to this, 250 loans worth over Rs. 3.5 million had been extended to the members of the LSO.

In terms of disaster-relief, during the flash floods which took place in 2007, the LSO actively participated in the relief and resettlement of affected households. One of the notable tasks which was achieved by the LSO itself, was the restoration of electricity in the affected areas. The LSO had also carried out several other activities related to trainings, linkages, advocacy, etc. The following is a brief synopsis of their achievements:

- Poverty scorecard implementation in 100% of the households in Union Council
- Establishment of a computer centre
- Establishment of a language centre
- Establishment of a Utility store in the Union Council
- Facilitated 150 households in getting support from BISP

LSO Mirani’s presentation concluded with a resolve to increase the percentage of members in the LSO to 100% and to work for the betterment of the area by improving its social indicators.

Discussion and Question Answer Session

The first day ended with a question and answer session in which the participants asked the presenting LSOs about their various initiatives:

Q. A representative from LSO PRADO asked LSO Shakardara about their security parties regarding how they operate in the Union Council?

The presenter from LSO Shakardara said that the security parties are made up of retired army soldiers who...
work on a volunteer basis. He said that when there is an alert, the security party is able to organise themselves effectively and efficiently.

Q. A participant asked LSO Mirani about how they had managed to mobilise more women rather than men in a province like Balochistan?

The representative from LSO Mirani said that the LSO activists first mobilised the women in their own families and acquaintances. It was only after their COs were formed and functional, that they saw other women willing to form their own COs.

Q. A participant from Pishin, Balochistan asked the presenting LSOs about why they were providing benefits which were of a materialistic nature. He said that shouldn't the LSOs be providing non-materialistic things such as awareness-raising and policy advocacy, etc.

The presenter from Chitral said that the LSO carried out those activities which its members wanted; be it material or non-material. In addition to this, he said that providing material benefits to its members was also an important part of development, if not the most important.

Day Two

The second day of the Convention started off with the participants being shown a video of Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN's speech at the UN General Assembly in which he talked about the unique method of social mobilisation and its widespread benefits throughout the world.

Following on from the video, a session which included presentations and discussions took place.

Initial Findings on RSPN's LSO Review Study

Getting results validated from external evaluators brings an important perspective on how outsiders see work which is being carried out; thus ensuring transparency in operations. In order to learn from their findings regarding areas of improvement, a study has been commissioned by RSPN in which Dr. Shaheen Rafi Khan (Sustainable Development Policy Institute) and Dr. Shahrukh Rafi Khan (Mt Holyoke College) have been asked to evaluate the work being done by LSOs across Pakistan. Dr. Shaheen Rafi Khan shared their preliminary

*For complete text of the speech, please see pg 39
*For Dr. Shaheen Rafi Khan's Presentation, please see pg 73
findings from the study in which he described some of the success stories of the LSOs. At the same time, Dr. Khan also highlighted areas where improvement could be brought about in the concept of LSOs in order to ensure their increased productivity in the development of their communities.

He shared that various dimensions had been included and studied in the study, such as:

- Social mobilisation
- Linkages
- Leadership and activism
- LSO procedures and systems
- Participatory development activities and projects undertaken
- Social empowerment and cultural change

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<tr>
<th>Areas Shown Progress</th>
<th>Areas Where Further Work is Required</th>
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<tr>
<td>Projects innovativeness</td>
<td>Governance ambivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process change underway</td>
<td>Gender imbalance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viable exit strategy</td>
<td>Financially not sustainable yet</td>
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Dr. Khan commented on LSO PHKN, Haripur and said:

- “Women now enjoy equal status with men mutually reinforcing rather than confrontational relationship
- Represents a cohesive force which transcends ethnic and personal differences
- More generally, women’s empowerment has led to sustainable outcomes”.

In the next part of the session he highlighted how LSOs are successfully managing to change oppressive cultural and social practices and in that context he cited a case of LSO Nabipur, Khanewal. During the course of the presentation he cited two other cases:

- LSO Bir Haripur’s, success in limiting expenses on weddings, funerals and other village functions by mobilising communities to reach a common agreement.
- Secondly the role of LSOs which have successfully helped in the maintenance of peace and security in Karak, Kohat and Chitrál (cases are presented in the report)

Towards the end of his presentation, Dr. Khan presented a list of his preliminary observations/issues which required to be managed in order to improve the functionality of the LSO as a sustainable institution.

Climate Change and Poverty

Mr. Ashiq Ahmed Khan, a renowned environmentalist, shared the effects of climate change on the environment. He shared the fact that climate change was something which was mentioned in a very small way but that nowadays it was being felt by people across the globe. He said this could be seen by the fact that the number of natural disasters such as tsunamis, hurricanes and cyclones had increased in addition to sea
levels increasing which could threaten some countries. His special focus was on how it was affecting the livelihoods in the region. The presentation was highly informative and was able to stir up the interest of participants while at the same time informing them about their possible role in saving the planet from global warming and other allied issues.

LSO Pine Rural Area Development Organisation, Abbottabbad

The next session started with a presentation from LSO Pine Rural Area Development Organisation (PRADO) which is an LSO based in Union Council Ghari Phulgara, Abbottabbad. LSO PRADO is made up of a total of 83 member organisations; 44 of which are men's COs and 27 are women's COs. These COs are federated in the form of 12 VDOs. The Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Saima Gul started off by saying that her LSO had collaborated with 21 organisations which were working in her UC. LSO PRADO had developed linkages with organisations such as:

- Sarhad Rural Support Programme for activities such as hand pumps, paving of roads and streets and micro-credit.
- Barani Area Development Programme for activities such as installing tube-wells, skills development training and provision of livestock, i.e. goats.
- NADRA for provision of CNICs for their members
- Rahnuma for provision of micro-credit
- Sungi for activities such as water supply schemes, irrigation schemes and paving of streets

She also said that the LSO had taken steps to improve itself. These were steps such as increasing the number of women in the LSO’s General and Executive Bodies; in order for them to be a part of the decision-making of the LSO. In addition to this, the LSO found that there were more men’s COs, therefore the LSO made a concerted effort to increase the membership of women by increasing the number of women’s COs. CRPs played a very important role in this as it was because of female CRPs, that the number of women’s COs increased.

LSO Network, Ghizer

The next presentation was from LSON Ghizer which is a nascent entity comprising of 8 LSOs, with a total representation from 257 VOs/WOs. It is the first LSO Network of its kind in Pakistan. Mr. Bulbul Jan, Chairman LSON Ghizer explained the objectives of forming the LSON as well as briefing the Convention participants about its progress. The LSON was formed with the following objectives:
• Act as a catalyst to maintain and promote peace in the District
• Advocate for mainstreaming participatory development approaches in public policy, planning and processes
• Lobby with the District and Provincial government agencies to create a permanent and dedicated support system for LSOs (creation of civil society development fund, linkages and partnership for resource mobilisation)
• Work with the local government and local administration in order to provide policy, legal and legislative protection for the local resources against increasing external intrusions
• Promote joint public-community-NGOs' adaptation and development of strategies to address issues of food insecurity, climate change, disaster risks, peace and social harmony
• Develop a replicable model for other districts

In a very short period LSON Ghizer has made significant progress; such as conducting two workshops for needs-identification, organising a regional level convention at the Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral level, developing and submitting proposals to RSPN and the Government's Planning & Development Department. Based on the initial needs-assessments and dialogues with communities, the LSON has come up with a number of challenges for which they are developing a strategy. The list of challenges is given below:

• Poverty
• Unemployment
• Financial Sustainability of the LSON
• Sustainable utilisation of collective savings accumulated by member VO's/WOs
• Lack of productive and market-oriented Human Resource
• Technical and professional capacity of LSON

What should also be noted is that the LSON has not confined its planning to just solving current issues but a strategic plan has also been developed. The strategic plan entails the latent capacities which are present in the communities. The following is the LSON's future plan as presented by Mr. Bulbul Jan:

• Maintain and promote peace and harmony in the District through dialogue with all stakeholders in civil society, politicians, religious figures, government and non-government bodies and dignitaries
• Sensitise LSOs and V/WOs about the concept and functions of the LSON and to form new LSOs covering the remaining Union Councils and the population
- Formulate policies to better utilise savings (CIF, Micro Grants, investments, etc)
- Organise dialogues and meetings with government officials, elected representatives, NGOs and the private sector for Public Private Partnerships
- Formulate policies for sustainable natural resource management
- Research, document and disseminate best practices of member LSOs and V/WOs by providing internships for young professionals
- Organise development forums on various themes (peace and harmony, Public-private-community partnerships, gender, education, health) involving government, elected representatives, the private sector, civil society stakeholders and youth.
- Develop and submit proposals to public sector agencies to create competitive-performance based funds

LSO Gindhar, Mustang

Ms. Abida, Chairperson of LSO Gindhar, District Mustang introduced herself and said that she belonged to an area where women were living in a challenging environment. She said that for women in Mustang, even coming out of their homes was difficult; let alone being able to be involved in COs. However, she proudly stated that they had gone against the odds and formed an all women's LSO. Ms. Abida said that their presence at the Convention was proof of this fact that women have the potential to face any kind of challenge; provided they have the will to change their circumstances and are given sincere support. Ms. Abida went on to provide details of LSO Gindhar which comprises of 109 women members from 38 COs. Various initiatives have been undertaken under the umbrella of the LSO, such as:

- Under the project "Asset creation", 240 women have been provided with goats and their eligibility criteria is determined by Poverty Score Card to ensure merit and transparency
- Various initiatives for Mother Child Health care have been taken e.g. health awareness, and vaccination
- Conducted seminars for awareness raising about TB. 8 TB patients have been treated under the DOTs programme
- 50 very poor households have been provided Mosquito nets for Malaria Control
- Cleanliness drives are conducted at regular intervals
- Arranged a walk for Polio awareness and its eradication
- Operating a library and museum

*For LSO Gindhar's Presentation, please see pg 92*
LSO Gindhar’s Chairperson shared that even though there were huge challenges facing them, this did not discourage them at all. She said that the support which had been provided by the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) served as an encouraging partner and a driving force. The LSO has decided to change its society and would do so by the grace of Allah.

LSO Daghnī, Baltistan

Mr. Ali Khan from LSO Daghnī, Baltistan was the next to present. LSO Daghnī consists of 48 VOs, 25 of which are WOs. He thanked RSPN, and especially Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan because according to him, all of their successes were attributable to the RSPs and the philosophies propagated by them. He said that now they were at a level where they could intervene and influence policy change. In his presentation, he shared several instances of where their LSO had facilitated their members in accessing various services. The following is a brief account of their achievements:

- Earlier funds received under food support were not distributed to the most deserving of households due to improper identification. The LSO managed to initiate a process of verifying the list of eligible households, in consultation with the local administration of the Zakat department. As a result of this, the list was revised and nearly 20% of households which were not initially accommodated were added in the revised list. Similarly around 20% of undeserving households were taken out from the list.

- The Government used to acquire the land of local inhabitants at a very low rate; of Rs. 80,000 per kanal in comparison to the market rate of Rs. 500,000. The LSO managed to increase the compensation price of land by more than double i.e. to Rs. 165,000 per kanal. This was possible due to the fact that the LSO pursued its case with the revenue department and other concerned government bodies in a professional manner and also effectively used its collective voice for lobbying their cause at various levels.

- According to Mr. Ali Khan, the continuous support and guidance provided by the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) has enabled them not only to solve certain issues but it has also built their confidence to the level where they can address collective problems and bring a positive change at policy level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Nos.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Link Road</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Supply</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Tanks</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponds</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat Farm</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tent Service</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowers Farm (Kanals)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry Farm</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bee Farming</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Centre</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foot Paths</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foot Bridge</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic Cultivation on (Kanals)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LSO Rahara, Rawalakot

According to Mr. Ali Khan, the continuous support and guidance provided by the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) has enabled them not only to solve certain issues but it has also built their confidence to the level where they can address
collective problems and bring a positive change at policy level. Mr. Illyas Khan from LSO Rahara, Rawalakot gave a detailed presentation about the different projects being implemented by their LSO, the details of which are given below:

Another notable project undertaken by their LSO was their efforts of bringing back the disabled into mainstream development. The LSO had taken several steps in this regard, such as health cards being issued to them, in collaboration with District health officials. By possessing the health card, the individual is provided with much-needed preferential treatment. Mr. Illyas Khan shared that they were also planning to form a network of the LSOs present in District Rawalakot.

Discussion and Question Answer Session

The participants were invited to clarify points and raise queries from the presenting LSOs. Mentioned below are some of the questions and their answers:

Q. Regarding LSO Rahara, the hospitals have been made by government; what is the LSO’s role in managing the hospital?

Mr. Illyas Khan from LSO Rahara responded that the hospital is managed by its management and the LSO’s role is to create a sense of ownership so that its sustainability can be ensured.

Q. Mr. Ishaq from jhelum asked the Chairperson of LSO Gindhar as to why their LSO was a female exclusive organisation?

Sharing the cultural practices of Balochistan, she said that it was very difficult for females to mix with male counterparts due to observance of Pardah, hence forming a female only LSO was the only choice while staying within cultural practices.

Q. A participant asked LSO Gindhar about the source of funding of their projects and about the sustainability of interventions?

Ms. Abida said that they were meeting the cost of services from internally generated funds, and in the case of schools, their members have provided spaces within their homes. In addition to this, some technical
support is being provided by various NGOs.

Q. An LSO representative from Jhelum shared that they were finding it hard to mobilise females to join COs and wanted to find out how LSOs had managed to mobilise the female community in a challenging environment?

Ms. Abida from LSO Gindhar said that by the involvement of female members they had succeeded in persuading and mobilising more women to join the organisation. Therefore, the best way of mobilising women was to have them approach by already existing women members in the LSO.

Session on “What LSOs want RSPs to do? Participants' discussion with panel consisting of RSPs' CEOs and senior management”

The purpose of the session was to allow LSO leaders coming from across the country to raise some of their practical as well as strategic concerns with the top management of RSPs. The panel included the following individuals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Name of RSP</th>
<th>Name of RSP Representative</th>
<th>Designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AKRSP</td>
<td>Muzaffar Uddin</td>
<td>RPM Gilgit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AJKRSP</td>
<td>Attique-ur-Rehman</td>
<td>CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BRSP</td>
<td>Nadir Gul Barech</td>
<td>CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>GBTI</td>
<td>Tasawwur Rashid</td>
<td>Senior Programme Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>NRSP</td>
<td>Agha Ali Javad</td>
<td>GM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>SRSP</td>
<td>Ghulam Rasool Samejo</td>
<td>Project Leader UCBPRP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>SRSP</td>
<td>Masood-ul-Mulk</td>
<td>CEO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The session started with a participant, Mr. Badam Gul asking about the possibility of extending RSPs' operation to the tribal areas and agencies.

Mr. Masood ul Mulk, CEO SRSP responded that about two years back, the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) Secretariat had requested SRSP to extend its operation in tribal areas. As a result, SRSP started operations on a limited scale in Kurram Agency and Frontier Region (FR) Peshawar. However, from this month, increased funding will be available for interventions in other areas.

Another participant pointed out that micro-credit loans of Rs. 10,000 were not a sufficient amount for starting any business or creating any significant impact.

Mr. Masood ul Mulk commented that he would review this issue in consultation with the microfinance section and appropriate action would be taken in this regard, to ensure that appropriate support was being provided to the communities.
Regarding the expansion of the LSO movement, Mr. Israr from LSO KADO queried about the time in which the programme might be extended to the entire country.

Responding to the query, Dr. Ghulam Rasool, Project Leader UCBPRP SRSO said that due to resource constraints, the extension is limited and that scaling up the operation could only be possible with the support of the Government. He quoted the example of UCBPRP where an entire district has been intervened within a period of nine months.

Adding to this, Agha Javad, General Manager NRSP said that LSO is a community driven initiative and current LSOs had not been formed purely by the RSPs. Rather these institutions had been initiated by the community itself. He said that it was expected that the current number of LSOs would play a key role in scaling up the process across the country.

Talking about the complexities of micro-health insurance claim processes, Mr. Ghulam Ali from District Chakwal suggested that this process be simplified.

Agha Javad informed the participants that this had already been taken up with the relevant insurance company which would result in the process being simplified considerably.

While talking about the registration of LSOs, Mr. Piyaro Shivani from District Tharparkar shared that there were many LSOs which were waiting for their registration; but due to complex procedures, they were having difficulties in getting registered.

Agha Javad suggested that any form of registration may be adopted and that it was up to the convenience of the LSO about which form of registration it chose.

Another participant from District Chakwal said that more forums should be convened where experiences could be shared and where opportunities for networking could be found.

Mr. Muzaffar Uddin, Regional Programme Manager Gilgit, AKRSP suggested that this purpose could be
achieved through developing a web portal where LSOs could upload their information regularly. He said that this approach had already been adopted by the LSOs from the Gilgit-Baltistan region.

In the context of forming LSOs, a participant from Balochistan said that keeping in view the geographical context of Balochistan, it had become impractical to form one LSO in one Union Council. He suggested whether forming more than one LSO in a Union Council may be considered.

Agha Javad said that there was no bar on forming more than one LSO within a Union Council.

Responding to a query raised by a participant from Chitral, about the role of LSOs in developing an environmental-conservation strategy, Ms. Shandana Khan said that RSPN had plans to intervene in this sector and that the LSO could take a lead role in this regard.

Mr. Israr from Chitral asked the panel about how they foresee the role of LSOs in the future and whether there was any political role for the LSO in the future; once these institutions were more mature.

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan responded that it is people who form the basic foundation of the socio-economic structure of society and that if people did not comprehend the power of the masses, then the possibilities of alleviating poverty were remote. The future lies in the LSOs/grassroots institutions and that all future interventions should and would be implemented through these grassroots interventions. Narrating the cases of Andhra Pradesh, he shared that in 1995, 100,000 households were organised with 20 LSOs being formed. Out of those 100,000 households, 5,000 women volunteered to extend the programme to every nook and corner of the State. After 12 years, there are now currently 1,100 LSOs while the number of organised households has risen to 10,000,000. He reiterated that no one could achieve this kind of progress except for institutions of the people, i.e. LSOs. He asserted that it was about time that grassroots organisations should understand and realise their potential because they were capable of achieving a lot. Mr. Khan said that they had performed over and above his expectations. Furthermore, he said that all the RSPs including RSPN were there to provide them support but that eventually these grassroots institutions should aim at achieving sustainability.
Closing Session

The closing session was honoured by Mr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Kaira, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting as the Chief Guest. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN welcomed the Chief Guest and briefly explained the purpose of LSOs and the marvellous achievements they had presented during the Convention. LSOs Chinari, PHKN, Ittefaq Welfare Organisation and Gindhar made their brief presentations to the Chief Guest. Finally the Chief Guest addressed the Convention.

Address of the Chief Guest

The closing session of the Convention started with an address from the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Kaira who thanked the management of the Convention for inviting him on such an important occasion. He said that opportunities like these served as a source of learning for him and that this learning and the aspirations of the communities can then be integrated in planning and policy making. While appreciating Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, he was of the view that all the activities undertaken by him were proof of his unrelenting efforts, zeal and dedication. The work of AKRSP has left far reaching results on the lives of the people living in the Gilgit-Baltistan region. According to him, AKRSP had single handedly achieved much more in comparison to all the machinery of the Government combined; despite having all possible resources available at their disposal.

Achieving anything without community participation is next to impossible, stressed the Minister while acknowledging the supremacy of collective wisdom over individual knowledge. Communities were the best judges of their situation as they belong to their area and are familiar with local problems. He said that policies which are made without consulting the communities sometimes work but often fail to create the desired impact. He said that he was a strong supporter of community participation and it is his belief that “without community participation, even the brightest idea fails to deliver the desired results and that the frailest of proposals can be a big hit with community support and participation”.

The Minister said that Pakistan was trapped in a vicious circle of poverty; the main reason for this being the inability to mobilise and harness the true potential of communities, inability for real assets to be exploited, focusing on security rather than on the welfare of people. He said that all these factors had resulted in a state of affairs which portray a very grim picture of Pakistan’s social indicators.
Mr. Kaira said that there was a need where priorities should be set through a consultative process. He said that the RSPs could play a very important role in all this process, especially in social mobilisation and thus in organising communities. Mr. Kaira shared that he was a strong advocate of the RSPs and that he would further promote them by pleading their case in the corridors of power.

The Minister shared that the Government believed in reducing the pain and agony of poor communities. He said that the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) was an effort to provide relief to the poor through selective subsidy. He said that the RSPs could play an important role in the process of identification and selection of deserving members of communities. He thanked the participants again and assured his full support in propagating the RSPs’ philosophy with the Government.

The Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting was then asked to distribute shields to the LSOs that had presented during the two-day Convention. Amongst them, three LSOs had earlier on been chosen by the participants as being the three best LSOs of the Convention. The three chosen LSOs were:

1. **First Position**: LSO Gindhar, Mustang presented with a shield and a prize of Rs. 500,000
2. **Joint Second Position**: LSOs Sorhan, Tharparkar and Kot Maina, Malakand presented with shields and Rs. 250,000 each
Closing Remarks by Chairman RSPN

The closing remarks were given by Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan in which he reiterated that LSOs and other forms of community organisations must realise their latent potential. He said that all the accolades he receives are due to the hard work, commitment and unrelenting efforts of the communities. He addressed the representatives and said that “you people are like the sun and you shine yourselves and provide light to others as well, for them to shine”.

He concluded by sharing his vision for the future and said that the day was not very far when LSOs would be working all over Pakistan in every Union Council.

In the end Mr. Mohammad Ali Azizi, Specialist Social Mobilisation RSPN thanked all the participants, management and the organisers for making the event a successful learning experience for all.
Annexure

LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation, Kohat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation</th>
<th>Union Council Sherkot, District Kohat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Formation</td>
<td>1st April 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Households (HHs)</td>
<td>1,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Organised HHs</td>
<td>1,275 (81% Coverage)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Development Organisations</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Organisations Male: 44</td>
<td>Female: 35, Total: 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSC Fund</td>
<td>Rs. 2,665,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Body Members Male: 15</td>
<td>Female: 15, Total: 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Body Members Male: 6</td>
<td>Female: 3, Total: 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LSO and Peace Initiatives
- Due to deteriorating security situation in the area, it was decided to form zonal union council and village level peace committees.
- These committees consisted of both men and women.
- A 50 member committee was formed at the LSO level which has representation from all the VDOs; 10 members each.
- Every peace committee is registered with the local police station and linked with district-level peace committees.
- To combat security issues, rescue teams were formed. These teams consist of retired army personnel who all work on a volunteer basis and alongside the local police. In case of any events of terrorism, these rescue teams reach the location and immediately start helping.
- Rescue teams meet monthly in which local SHQ and Government officials also participate. In these meetings, decisions are taken according to the current situation.

LSO’s role in rehabilitation of IDPs:
- The LSO’s GB and EB convened an emergency meeting. The LSO assigned the responsibility of collecting food rations from local communities to distribute amongst the IDPs, to their VDOs.
- VDOs compiled lists of empty households, hujras, schools and mosques so that the IDPs had immediate shelter. All IDPs were provided accommodation in these locations.
- The LSOs used their linkages with well-off households in the area to collect donations and provided the IDPs with free food and other basic necessities for three days.
- The LSO worked with the Social Welfare department to register and issue ration cards for the IDPs.
- The LSO mobilised the IDPs to create their own forum; the united IDPs of Grakzai Forum.

LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation’s Activities
- Through Social Mobilisation, LSO Ittefaq Welfare Organisation, has worked on education, health and developed linkages with local government, political figures and NGOs.
- However today’s presentation will focus on Disaster Management and peace initiatives.
- SRSP started forming COs in the area and now provides technical and financial support to the LSO.

Destruction due to Flood in Sherkot, Alizai
- Due to heavy rainfall on the 3rd and 4th of August 2008, flash floods took place in the middle of the night. LSO provided support to affected of the flood.
- IDPs issue: While the LSO was working for the food-affected households, the Pakistan Army started its operation against terrorists in the surrounding areas. As a result, thousands of people from Grakzai and Kurram agencies migrated to Alizai, Asarzai and Sherkot areas.
- Women, children, the elderly and the disabled were amongst those people who had to leave everything behind.
- The total number of IDPs came to 2,070.

LSO’s role in rehabilitation of IDPs:
- Because of this forum, the IDPs were able to gain media coverage which led to a meeting with Governor NWFP.
- Affected IDP children were temporarily admitted into local schools. For this the LSO contacted the Chairman Kohat Board and other concerned officials of the Education Dept.
- The LSO moved the Ration Centre from Kohat city to UC Sherkot because it was more convenient for the IDPs.
- LSO formed linkages and obtained support from the following organisations:
  1. UNHCR
  2. World Food Programme
  3. IRC
  4. UNICEF
  5. Dept of Health
  6. AI-Shifa Trust
  7. Family Planning
  8. PPHI
Suicide Car-bomb in Katcha-Pakka

- On 16th September 2008, at 10am a car-bomb exploded near the Ration Centre in Katcha-Pakka. 50 people were killed and over 100 were injured.

Role of LSO in helping those affected:
1. LSO Rescue team reached the site immediately
2. They rushed the dead bodies and those injured to the hospital
3. Arranged ambulances to take the dead to their homes
4. Registered the dead and those injured at the local Police Station
5. Obtained 40 bags of blood for those injured

6. Arranged for the MPA to visit the site and convinced him to announce Rs. 300,000 compensation for those who lost their lives and Rs. 100,000 for those injured.
7. Peace rally was organised in which people from different backgrounds participated.
8. Filled out BISP forms for the families of 50 martyred and 100 injured individuals.
9. Held series of meetings with Govt to reopen the Kohat-Hungu Road.
LSO Chinari, Muzzaffarabad

Local Support Organisation Chinari
- Date of formation: 31st May 2007
- Area: UC Chinari, Tehsil and District Upper Hattan, AJK
- Total HHs in UC: 4,377
- Organised HHs: 3,200
- Coverage: 73%
- Member COs: Village Organisations – 14:160

Increased CO formation through Self-Help
Problem:
- NRSP started relief work in our area after the 2005 Earthquake and CO formation started in 2006. But the pace of CO formation was slow and resulted in the poorest households being excluded.
Strategy:
- People decided to carry out CO formation by themselves
- Practical Steps:
  - LSO office-bearers began efforts for mobilising people in their own areas
  - They made people aware of the benefits of being organised and tried to solve their problems
  - In addition to this, Community Resource Persons (CRPs) were used

LSO Structure
- Executive Committee
- General Body

Social Mobilisation situation before LSO
- Total members HHs: 828 (19%)

- CO formation with LSO -
  - Total members: 2,372 (54%)

- Current situation -
  - Total members: 3,200 (73%)

LSO Chinari’s Self-Help Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Beneficiary HHs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Organised HHs</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poverty Scorecard</td>
<td>4397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Formation of 114 COs</td>
<td>2,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Formation of 6 VDCOs</td>
<td>1,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening of LSO Office</td>
<td>4367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Building of 8 Pavements</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening of Computer Centre</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establishment of Tuition Centre</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Bathrooms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Price distribution of books, copies and sweaters in Schools</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Beneficiary HHs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uniform provision to disabled children</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation for construction of house</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training (CMST)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning of 7 springs</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Projects Implemented – Through linkages with Government Line Departments

Planning 2009-2013

- Drought: Provide GIP grants, soft-loans and provision poultry packages
- Very Poor: Provision of loans for small businesses, livestock training, skills development
- Education: Provide awareness regarding education, re-activate SMCs in all schools, meet with govt and non-govt organisations to rebuild earthquake-affected schools, LSO will upgrade its own computer centre
- Health: LSO will improve already existing Mother & Child Centre, arrange free health camps, establishment of more first-aid centres
- Livestock: Improve breeds of livestock by training people in order for them to work in the entire UC
- Agriculture and Irrigation: Meet with as many organisations to increase number of water channels, to train people on better techniques of agriculture
- Forests: To prevent illegal logging by coordinating with Forestry committee
- Credit: soft loans to be provided for small businesses and skills development for income-generating activities
- Linkage Development: Contact different organisations to carry out development in the UC, and coordination with communities to solve problems at the UC
- CO formation: To maintain the level of social mobilisation, to ensure regular meetings of VOs and to carry out social mobilisation in neighboring UCs
LSO Ailumpur, Multan

Local Support Organisation
Ailumpur, Multan

- Total villages – 14
- Total HHs – 3,957
- Organised HHs – 3,652
- Total VDOs – 7
- Total COs – 148 (Men’s 94, Women’s 54)
- Coverage – 92%
- LSO Funds – Rs. 2,400,000

- Our LSO works with PRSP which first stared forming COs in our area and now supports the LSO as well.

4. 14 Utility Stores were announced, to be opened in 14 different villages.
5. A member of the LSO was granted Rs. 300,000 for the medical treatment of his son in India.

LSO Achievements

- Our LSO falls in PM Syed Yousuf Ali Gilani’s constituency. Members of the LSO met him at FM House and obtained approval for the following projects:

1. Shifted a Police Station and used the building to open a Girl’s Middle school. The PC-1 for this has been approved.
2. Construction of a Degree College was announced. The location for this college will be on the grounds of a vacated rest house between villages Alpa and Hamidpur Markha (which was in the process of being illegally possessed).
3. Opening of a Cadet College was announced, to be constructed on government land (on 240 kanals) adjacent to village Alpa. The survey for this has been conducted.

Members of LSO met the MPA of PP-200, Malik Ahmed Hussain and obtained the approval of the following:

- Removed false cases against poor people
- Met with EDO Multan to ensure the maximum attendance of Government teachers
- 400 women were trained through the Livestock Dept.
- Invited the mobile team of NADRA to the villages in the UC to make CNICs for 500 members
- Provided 10 members with one month’s course in livestock from Behawadin Zaqia University, Multan
- Poor members were provided with jute bags from the Director of Food so that they could sell their wheat at a good rate.
LSO Sorhan, Tharparkar

Sorhan Local Support Organisation, UC Bhukuo, Tharparkar Sindh
Resource Mobilisation for Development

LSO Profile
- Name: Sorhan Local Support Organisation, UC Bhukuo
- Date of Formation: 20th September 2008
- Total Villages: 38
- Total HHs: 4,039
- Organised HHs: 2,967
- GB Members: 56 (Male 27, Female 29)
- EB Members: 15 (Male 8, Female 7)
- 2 members were nominated from each CO for VDO membership

- TRDP works in our area. They first supported us to form COs and now they support the LSO for its development.
- Since formation, the LSO helped to form COs, provided training, assisted poor households and developed linkages with external organisations to obtain resources.
- Due to limited time, this presentation will focus on resource mobilisation.

Human Resource Development: Performance of Active Members
Through CRPs:
- 40 COs were formed
- 10 committees were formed for the preservation of trees and wildlife
- Death and birth registers were placed in 25 villages
- Data of 36 villages was collected
- Health seminars were held in 6 villages
- Work for MCH Project was carried out
- Conducting of the PSC survey in the entire UC

Internal Resource Mobilisation
- CO savings are being used for internal-lending purposes
- Total savings: Rs. 6,526,237
- Cash in Bank: Rs. 1,350,256
- Cash in Hand: Rs. 900,170
- Internal lending: Rs. 4,275,811
- To protect the villages’ foliage to reduce consumption of natural resources
- To remove negative and unnecessary traditions in order to prevent unnecessary expenditure

- Took initiatives to promote a drugs-free environment to avoid wastage of financial resources and health
- To ensure regular CO meetings and savings in order to increase local resources
Resource Mobilisation from Support of the Local Government

- With support from the local government, the LSO built a High School in Bhukuo village costing Rs. 6.5 million.
- With the support of Tauka Council, a well was dug costing Rs. 3.14 million.
- Developed linkages with the UC Nazim as a result, 2 women received sewing machines costing Rs. 12,000.
- LSO obtained 2 hand-pumps from the UC Nazim costing Rs. 36,000.
- LSO obtained approval of a project to build 4 community halls from the Tauka Nazim costing Rs. 1.2 million.
- With support of the Tauka Nazim, the LSO built a bridge costing Rs. 25,000.

Resource Mobilisation with the support of other Govt Organisations

- LSO held meetings with District Coordination Officer.
- LSO obtained approval for 2 girls primary schools from the MNA, costing Rs. 1.1 million.
- With support from the MNA and MPA, LSO registered 70 households for BISP.
- LSO provided support to 80 households from the Zakat Fund.
- LSO with the support of NADRA made CNICs for 1,210 members from 20 villages.

Resource Mobilisation with the Support of TRDP

- LSO obtained soft-loans from TRDP and disbursed them to 50 households amounting to Rs. 0.7 million.
- LSO took credit-loan from TRDP and provided to 130 households amounting to Rs. 0.5 million.
- LSO obtained 15 wells for 15 villages from TRDP, at a total cost of Rs. 1.5 million.
- Through linkages, LSO obtained the MCH project from TRDP.
- LSO obtained 30 hand-pumps for 30 villages.

Resource Mobilisation with the Support of RSPN

- RSPN provided a fund of Rs. 1,000,000 to LSO.
- This fund has been utilised as CIF with which the LSO has provided soft-loans to 132 households.
- These loans have been provided to only the poorest of women and have been recovered on time.
LSO Changoos, Karak

Local Support Organisation
Changoos, UC Latambar, District Karak

- Date of Formation: 10th February 2004
- Total HHs: 3,000
- Organised HHs: 2,600 (86%)
- Village Development Organisations: 10
- Community Organisations: Men’s 52, Women’s 50 - Total 102
- LSO Fund: Rs. 2.095 million

- We are grateful to SRSP for teaching us the importance of mobilising ourselves in order to carry out our development. Now SRSP is also supporting the LSO for our further development.
- Changoos LSO has carried out self-help initiatives and developed linkages with government and non-government organisations which have resulted in several schemes, projects, trainings and development of the community.
- However due to limited time, this presentation will focus on security issues and peace initiatives.

LSO’s Role for Promoting Peace

- Latambar borders with Bannu. In 2008 when the security situation worsened, cases of kidnappings increased leading to a deterioration in security. To combat these problems, Chagha parties were formed.
- Lists of households under each of Latambar’s 23 mosques were made. 2 commanders were chosen from each area.
- Areas were divided, with a schedule developed for the 45 commanders.
- Identity cards were made for those volunteers in order for the local police to identify them.
- Check-posts were set up at all entry and exit points of Latambar.
- The local Police performs duty on the main roads while the Chagha party carries out neighbourhood patrols within the residential areas.
- In one instance, a village was attacked by terrorists. However because of the Chagha party, the attack was thwarted and one terrorist was killed.

Impact of Local Support Organisation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before LSO</th>
<th>After LSO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Others would form our COs</td>
<td>We form our COs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other organisations would advise us about savings</td>
<td>We advise our COs to save</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other organisations would train us</td>
<td>We train people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External organisations would have to search for local organisations</td>
<td>We help link external organisations with local ones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local people would not give donations</td>
<td>Local people generously provide donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External organisations would arrange their own activities</td>
<td>LSO arranges activities for other organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External organisations would have no trust on local people</td>
<td>External organisations now trust locals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- There would be no concept of written agreements with organisations
- All activities have written agreements
- COs would not be involved in UC-level activities
- Through the LSO, COs now are involved in UC-level activities
- COs were dormant and their records were incomplete
- LSO reactivated COs and improved their records
- Monitoring would be carried out by external organisations
- LSO carries out monitoring of its COs
- COs were not able to develop project proposals
- The LSO is now able to develop project proposals
- Others would arbitrate our conflicts
- LSO now arbitrates conflicts
- Locals did not have data relating to their UC
- LSO has collected all data relating to the UC
- There was no network of CCOs in the UC
- The LSO has become a network of 302 CCOs in the UC
- There was no concept of internal lending
- There is internal lending

There was no financial audit
- Regular financial audits take place

There was no website or e-mail
- www.csol.org
- Frakhtil_hhatlak@yahoo.com

There were only a few WCOs
- Now 80% of CCOs are women’s

There were no relations with local government and local political figures
- There are relations and linkages with local government and local political figures

The people did not have their own organisations
- The LSO united people at the UC level and now they have their own organisations
LSO PHKN, Haripur

Pakistani Hoslamand Khawateen Network (PHKN)

Introduction
- District: Haripur
- UC: Pind Heshim Khan
- Total HHS: 2,170
- Total Population: 16,150
- Start of Social Mobilization by GRSP: July 1997
- Member CEOs: Female 54, Male 63
- VOs: 8
- Total Organized HHS: 1,714
- GB Members: 106
- EB Members: 11
- Paid Staff: 13
- Registration: Cooperatives Society Act 1925, Registration No. 270
- Available resources: Human Resource, agriculture, livestock, forests, home enterprises
- Facilities available: Schools, 90% of areas have electricity, 50% of areas have link roads, telephone and post office

LSO’s Present Resources
- Membership fee: Rs. 105,000
- Total Savings: Rs. 830,600
- Consultancies: Rs. 244,852
- Rental Services: Rs. 302,000
- Marketing Facilitation Products Cell: Rs. 417,643
- Endowment Fund: Rs. 2,000,000
- Community Investment Fund: Rs. 46,000
- Village Bank: Rs. 276,000

Resources Obtained from Government (2007-2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Detail</th>
<th>Estimated Amount (Rs)</th>
<th>Beneficiary HHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AOA, Ministry of Industry</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Forestry Dept</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>TNA (RWSSP)</td>
<td>973,000</td>
<td>856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Local Gov</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
<td>873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Model Farms Services Centre</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,720,000</td>
<td>2,883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Resources Obtained from Donors (2007-2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Detail</th>
<th>Estimated Amount (Rs)</th>
<th>Beneficiary HHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>7,400,000</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>IC (FFSP + LP)</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>2,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Action Aid</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Asia Foundation</td>
<td>750,000</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>PPAF through SRSP</td>
<td>2,900,000</td>
<td>1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Others (Khyber Bank ADBP)</td>
<td>1,550,000</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>19,050,000</td>
<td>7,610</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change/Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Poverty Status</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>Present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rich</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Well-Off</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Change - 30%
Future Planning

- Establishment of Community Training Resource Centre
- Marketing of local products on regular basis
- Establishment of Display Centre
- Increase CIF Fund
VDO Walana, Chakwal

Walana Development Organisation
- Name of Village: Walana
- Distance from City: 42Km
- Population: 3215
- Total HHs: 375
- Agricultural HHs: 290
- Handicraft HHs: 85

Date of Formation: 1993 with support from NRSP
Problems faced during CO formation:
1. Limited time
2. Lack of trust on organisations
3. Lack of unity
4. Opposition by Village elders
5. Problems in saving
6. Difficulty in working together
7. Lack of trust on each other

Structure of VDO

Children’s Education and Health Initiatives
- Our organisation works day and night for child welfare because children are our future.
- Specifically we work on children’s education and health.
- A special children’s forum has been created in VDO Walana.

Educational Activities
- Birth registration
- An ECCB centre has been created for 2-3 yrs of children
- Drawing 100% enrolment of children in schools
- Awareness raising of parents
- Carried out walls regarding awareness about education
- Establishment of community school in village
- Provision of free books and copies to poor students
- Provision of uniforms to school and provide support in other educational activities
- Provision of clean drinking water and toilets in school
- Built boundary wall, provided electric fans, sports equipment, water cooler and lab equipment
- Provided books for school library and teaching kits
- Organised extra-curriculum activities for students such as debates, parent-teacher meetings, sports events, quiz shows, poster and drawing competitions
- Established computer centre in the school
- Arranged educational field visits for children
- Arrangement of scholarships for poor deserving students
- Monthly meeting with teachers
- Obtained support from Japanese Government for an IT-related project
- Organised English language, computer and handicrafts courses

Health Activities
- First-Aid course
- Wheelchairs and CP chairs for disabled children
- Obtained disable certificates from DHQ Hospital Chakwal
- Arranged eye-tests and provided free spectacles for children
- Arranged for annual de-worming medicine for children
- Arranged health camps and vaccination camps
- Raised awareness regarding health through wall-chalking
- Weekly cleaning-drives of the village
- Informed community members about benefits of mosquito and fly-repelling sprays
- Ensured the provision of clean drinking water in the village
- Organised monthly sessions on importance of nutrition
- Arranged hepatitis camps
- Informed communities about diseases such as malaria
Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme

Presentation on
Government of Sindh’s
Union Council-based
Poverty Reduction Programme
implemented by
Sindh Rural Support Organisation

About UCBPRP

- Union Council-based Poverty Reduction Programme is a pioneering initiative of the Government of Sindh (GGS) for reducing poverty by tapping into the potential of the people.
- UCBPRP being implemented by the Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) was initiated in February 2009 in two districts of upper Sindh.
- Total outlay of Rs 3.4 billion for a period of 30 months
- UCBPRP is Pakistan’s first ever mega women-only poverty reduction programme

Main Highlights of UCBPRP

- **Poverty Scorecard:**
  - Completed 100% of 257,988 households of the two Districts in one month
- **Social Mobilisation:**
  - Organised 102,568 households into 5,734 Community Organisations and 1,950 Village Organisations. This is the fastest mobilisation of communities in Pakistan and is the foundation of the UCBPRP
  - Union Councils coverage 84% - 73 UCs out of 87

- **Community Physical Infrastructure:**
  - 396 CPIs initiated creating 3,537 skilled and 8980 unskilled labour man days, respectively
- **Low-cost Housing :**
  - 141 are under construction (at Rs, 60,000 each) by people themselves with technical help from SRSO. SRSO is doing further research to lower cost and improve quality.
- **Education Component:**
  - This has been approved only in October 2009 for making 150 schools functional in 37 UCs

Community Meetings
• **Vocational Training:**
  - 4,795 men and women trained, of which
    - 64% are extremely poor and
    - 36% chronically poor.
  - 47% of men trainees have found employment.
  - Efforts are afoot to link women with market-based opportunities.
  - Training organized by NRSP’s Institute of Rural Management (N-IRM)
  - In record time training facilities were set up at Sukkuk and mobile training units in rural areas of the two districts.
  - Over 1,795 persons were trained in Islamabad

• **Community Investment Fund:**
  - Rs. 144 million disbursed to Community Organisations, who in turn disbursed to small CIF loans 13,365 households
  - All CIF beneficiaries from the poorest target groups (poverty scorecard < 18)

• **Income Generating Grants:**
  - Rs. 14.75 million disbursed to Community Organisations, who in turn provided small IG grants to 1,638 households (poverty scorecard < 9)

• **Social Protection:**
  - Health micro insurance for all 0-18 poverty scorecard households to 35,000 households effective December 1, 2009.
  - In Shikarpur, a state of the art hospital has been set up and cash cards were given to insured villagers to make use of the facilities of the hospital to be directly reimbursed by the insurance company with little hassle to the patients

• **Third-party Process Monitoring:**
  - Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) undertook third-party process monitoring and the report was most encouraging

• **IGG Beneficiaries**

• All these achievements in less than nine months are due to social capital that SRSO has build and to the full support of the Provincial Government and the District Coordination Officers and the Departments.

• As Mr. Shoab Sultan Khan always tell us: it is only by working with the Government that poverty can be reduced across the country

    Thank you!
LSO Network Chitral

Local Support Network Chitral
- Network of 12 registered Local Support Organizations
- Membership of 1390 village based institutions
  - 656 village organizations
  - 590 women organizations
  - 144 civil society organizations
  - 42491 membership (24997 male and 17494 female)
- 17 out of 24 Union Councils covered
- 54 (37 male & 17 female) trained staff working with 12 LSOs
- More than 2000 local level activists/volunteers working with LSOs

Objective of LSN
- Provide advisory/technical support to the local support organizations and facilitate information dissemination and linkage development with the partners/NGOs/Donors.
- Help the communities in developing local support organizations in uncovered union councils.
- Facilitate effective implementation of development interventions through creating a conducive environment by promoting peace and harmony among different stakeholders in the district.
- Act as voice of the community and play role of advocacy through identifying issues, gathering facts and figures and communicating the relevant concerns to decision making agencies.
- Submit funding proposals to the development/donor agencies on behalf of LSOs and channelize resources to respective LSOs.

Strategy to promote/maintain peace
- Sensitization & mobilization of community
- Promotion of Peace in perspective of Islam through religious leaders
- Inculcation of youth
- Effective utilization of media
- Advocacy with LG
- Engaging community in development

Main interventions
- Sensitized/mobilized Ulamas to communicate message of peace and social harmony in Islam to masses especially during Jumma prayers.
- Conducted series of dialogues on Islam and Peace through Ulamas
- Village level awareness raising through activists and VWOs forum
- Sensitization of communities living along border regarding monitoring of intruders/outsiders
- Workshop on women rights and peace development involving religious leaders
- Conducted three cross border dialogues with abductors to release Greek hostage
- Running project on peace through involving youth and media
Key Results

- Strengthened district peace committee
- Dissemination of peace information by the religious leaders
- Organized regular special prayers for maintenance of peace
- Arrested many suspicious people by the communities in the along Shish/Sawat border
- Abductors of Greek volunteer have withdrawn from the ransom money
- Maintained durable peace

Recommendations for peace building in Chitral

- Reduction of poverty
- Scale up development interventions to engage people
- Inclusion of youth in peace and development
- Promotion of religion and cultural values
- Inclusion of women in peace building interventions

Future Plans

- Registration of LSON
- Development of rule of business
- Promotion of Peace Building
- Inclusion of youth in development
- Conduct District roundtable of all the key stakeholder for policy advocacy
- Promotion of women rights
LSO Kot Maina, Malakand

2nd National Convention of LSOs (RSPN)
LSO Kot Maina (Malakand)
Presented by: President LSO Kot Maina

LSO Efforts in supporting IDPs

Overview of LSO Kot Maina:
1. Introduction
2. LSO Profile
3. Activities carried out for IDPs
4. Activities carried out for peace and security
5. Role of LSO Kot Maina in forming other LSOs in Tehsil

Introduction

Union Council: Kot Maina
Tehsil and District: Bakhel (Malakand Agency)
Total villages: 2
Total population: 10,920
Total HHs: 1,300
Topography: Mountainous
Source of income: Agriculture, labour, business
- The UC is located 20km west of Dargai. Bajaur Agency lies to its north-west while in the south-east, lies Tehsil Bakhel. District Charsadda lies to the south.

Introduction to LSO

- Date of Formation: 13th April 2007
- Registration No: 2884
- Date of Registration: 23rd April 2008
- Total COs: 57
- Total VDOs: 2

LSO Profile

- There is only one tribe in UC Kot Maina, Utman-Khel
- 30% of people work in the agricultural sector, 25% in labour, 35% in wage-employment, 10% in business
- The UC is spread over 12,000 acres in which 6,000 is mountainous, 2,000 acres is populated and 4,000 acres is agricultural land (2,500 acres have self developed irrigation systems and 150 acre is rain-fed)
Total COs before LSO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men's</th>
<th>Women's</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COs</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total COs after LSO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men's</th>
<th>Women's</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COs</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Role of the LSO in forming the Tehsil level LSO Network

The LSO E8 members have been providing their services in setting up the LSO Network. Uptil now, 4 new LSOs have been formed in 4 of Daag’s UCs while in other UCs, LSOs are in the process of being formed.

LSO’s E8 members are regularly in contact with NRSP staff and participate in introductory dialogues in other areas as well as in LSO and VDO meetings. They are sharing their experiences with them and motivating people to form their LSOs. It is hoped that in 3 months, these LSOs will form one Tehsil level LSO Network under which there will be a total of 12 LSOs from different UCs.

Activities carried out for IDPs

When the operation started in Swat and Malakand, people started migrating through Kot Mala to other areas. LSO Kot Mala conducted a meeting and took decisions which were discussed with RGM Morad, NRSP and RP LSO.

The following steps were taken:
1. LSO organized a 7-day food camp in which 1,000 IDPs from Bajaur were provided with food. The camp amounted to Rs. 40,000 which came from donations from local philanthropists in the community.
2. Organized a medical camp with approval and support from the EDC. 7,000 IDPs were provided with free medical health services. The Health Dept provided medicines worth Rs. 50,000.
3. Supported in registering and issuance of ration cards for 670 IDPs. It cost the LSO Rs. 10,000 which the LSO bears.
4. LSO collected Rs. 300,000 worth of donations from various UCs and provided 2000 packages to 300 IDPs.
5. Through the Health Dept, LSO helped 16 pregnant women in their safe deliveries.
6. Held meetings with PSSP to provide Rs. 15,000 to 21 families (Rs. 5,000 for feeding and food while the rest was cash).

Activities carried out for Peace and Security

1. When the Army operation started in Swat and Malakand, LSO Kot Mala formed a Lashkar after holding meetings with the DCC. They cooperated with local Police and started regular patrols. 10 people were deployed at 10km intervals who patrolled with Police.
2. People arriving from other areas would be searched.
3. LSO formed a Peace committee (Jirgah) which solves issues and conflicts within the UC. The Jirgah has decided that people who do not accept the decisions of the Jirgah will be exiled from the UC.
4. During the operation, the LSO’s Peace Committee verified the identities of all the ‘armaans’ of the UC’s mosques.

Results

Because of these activities:
- No terrorist has been able to enter the UC since the operation started.
- During the Swat and Malakand operations and up to now, no army or search operations have been carried out in the UC, i.e. there has been peace.
- The LSO has remained active and has carried out its duties as per normal despite the environment.
- Even recovery of the LSO’s CIF (which is based on the Islamic model of Akhuwat) has been 100%
LSO, Thal Rural Development Programme, Bhakkar

POVERTY REDUCTION

BASIC INFORMATION
UC LITTEN
- No. of Revenue Villages: 84
- Total Population: 24,582
- Total Household: 3,841
- Organized Household: 3,500
- Total CO’s: 259
- No. of CO’s (Female): 140
- No. of CO’s (Male): 119
- Total VO’s: 15
- Female VO’s: 83
- Total Area: 111,887
- Tehsil: Mankera
- District: Bhakkar

STRUCTURE OF LSO
- Executive body: 09
- Male: 06
- Female: 03
- General Body: 36
- Male: 24
- Female: 12

Established LSO Model

UMBRELLA INSTITUTIONS Littlen

POVERTY SCORE CARD
POVERTY RANKING
- Extremely Poor: 507
- Chronically Poor: 1,070
- Transitory Poor: 1,707
- Transitory Vulnerable: 439
- Transitory No Poor: 109
- Non Poor: 09

Problems Faced in Identification through PSC
- Classification of Poverty
- Disability
- Nature of Disability
- Literacy Rate
- Business Plan
- Unemployment
- Female Contribution
- Non Cultivated Area (Little)

PROJECT ON ADULT LITERACY & LIFE SKILLS (PALLS)
- Establishment of Literacy Centers: 09
- Selection of Coordinators: 09
- Selection of Teachers: 30
- Adult Students: 1609
- Illiterate People: 10800
- Awareness workshops: 25
- Volleyball Tournament, Cleanliness, NAAT, Cooking Competitions

BUSINESS PLAN
- Mini Karyana Shops: 43
- Motor Pumps: 65
- Poultry Units: 18
- Goat and Sheep: 30
- Vegetable Shops: 15
- Others: 146
- Total Business Plans: 387
- Total Amount: Rs. 2,400,000

UNEMPLOYMENT

COMMUNITY TRAININGS (NRSP IRM ISB)
- Tailoring: 08
- Live Stock: 19
- TBA: 04
- Basic Computer: 03
- Mobile Repairing: 01
- Motor Cycle/Radio/Auto Mechanic: 08

COMMUNITY TRAININGS (LITTEN)
- Basic Tailoring: 15
- Surf Making: 40
- Tye and Dye: 05
- Farmers' Days: 75
- Livestock Days: 150
- Peter Engine Machine (pax): 26
- Vegetable Production (pax): 16
- Vegetable Training: 150
- Poultry (pax): 50
- Livestock First Aid Training: 30
WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION

- Formation of women’s COs
- Formation of women’s VO’s
- Participation in GB and EB of LSO
- Micro Credit for women
- Training and Workshops
- Poultry Units
- Vegetable plots
- Business plan
- Awareness workshops

NON-CULTIVATED AREAS

- Vegetable Plots: 68
- Plantation: 43875
- Agriculture Machinery: 04
- Agriculture Scheme: 35
- Improved Seeds: 5000 kg
- Vegetable Seeds: 594 pkts
- Soil Test: 04
- Forestry Workshops: 25

Hearing Aides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women and baby girls treated</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men and boys treated</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women provided with the Hearing aides</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male provided with the Hearing aides</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total patients checked</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons given Hearing aids</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total beneficiaries</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New beneficiaries</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Micro Credit From NRSP

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disbursement Amount</td>
<td>Rs. 66,899,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Rs. 66,899,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Rs. 8,891,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount</td>
<td>Rs. 73,790,717</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>5,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery Rate</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Micro Credit From Other Banks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZTELE</td>
<td>Rs. 4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khushhalibank</td>
<td>Rs. 2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Punjab</td>
<td>Rs. 1,500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount: Rs. 7,500,000
Recovery Rate: 95%

Internal Credit (CIF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disbursement Amount</td>
<td>Rs. 90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Rs. 90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Rs. 2,710,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIF or Internal Credit</td>
<td>Rs. 2,800,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Beneficiaries</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery Rate</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Micro Insurance**

- Total Insured Household: 1,947
- Claim Forwarded: 45
- Claim Approved: 16
- Amount Reimbursed: Rs. 138,387

**Strategies/Steps Undertaken by LSO**

- CNIC formation - NADRA Mobile service were engaged in forming new ID Cards
- Birth Registration - Birth Registration workshops and seminars are conducted while LSO member were given the task to assure BR and VO EB will follow up, Chairman will verify it.

**Registration as Voter**
- CO president and manager are responsible for registration of its members in the voter list and EB will assist them, Chairman will verify.
- Human Rights Awareness Raising campaigns - Meetings, workshops regarding HR for men and women.
- Health and hygiene improvement - Health workshops, seminars in women's COs, Schools.
- Increase in enrolment and Reduction of Drop outs - School Councils formation and Monthly Meeting with EDO, DEOs, AEOs, Parents & Teachers.

**Self Help Initiatives**

- Plantation through SLBAF: Rs. 2,000,000
- Water Course: Rs. 4,200,000
- Dispensary through CCB: Rs. 900,000
- Room Built for Dispensary by LSO: 2
- Helped the poorest to get the BISP: 35
- Helped the poorest to get the Chief Minister's FSP: 47
- Helped the poorest of get ZAKAT Fund: 53
- TB Patients Registered for treatment with TB Association: 37

**Self Help Initiatives**

- Land Reserved for Graveyard: 63
- School Established (Functional): 91
- Electricity Schemes Completed: 95
- Slicing of Roads: 4,000 ft
- Health Camps: 2
- Eye Operations: 15
- Roads Cleaning: 4 rd
- Teachers for Girls School: 02
- Cleaning of Water Channels: 05
- School Up gradation: 0

**Future Planning**

- 100% inclusion of women in CO’s
- 100% school enrolment
- 100% registration of CNIC
- 100% registration of Birth and Death
- Increase adult literacy rate up to 70 %
- 100% awareness about Human Rights
- Introduction of local handicraft at national level
- Formation of Women’s VO
- 100% Plantation for Green U/C (Litten)
- Leadership skill from grassroots level
- Better thinking about progress
- Establishment of Model School for Modern Education and Skill
- Arrangement for vocational training and skill
- Develop linkages (NGOs, Local Government agencies and other Government and Non Government departments.)
VDO Ather, Jhelum

### VDO Ather

Union Council Ahmedabad, District Jhelum

### Introduction

- Village: Ather
- Union Council: Ahmedabad
- Tehsil: Pind Dadan Khan
- District: Jhelum
- Total Population: 5,000
- Total HHs: 750

### Poverty Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Destitute</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Well-off</th>
<th>Rich</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before CO Formation</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After CO Formation</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Social Mobilisation

- Total COs: 18
  - Men’s COs: 10
  - Women’s COs: 8
- Membership: 450
  - Men: 258
  - Women: 192
- Total Savings: Rs. 486,000

### VDO Formation

- Name of VDO: Ather
- Date of Formation: 2007
- President: Hajji Nisar Khan
- Manager: Mohammad Ishaq Khan
- Total member COs: 18
- Membership in VDO: 36
  - Men: 20
  - Women: 16
- Funds: Rs. 69,800

### Activities Carried out by VDO

#### Water Supply Scheme

- Total Cost: Rs. 12,461,000
- ADB’s share: Rs. 8,736,700
- Govt of Punjab’s share: Rs. 2,933,035
- VDO’s share: Rs. 811,265
- Beneficiary HHs: All HHs in village
- Funds for maintenance: Rs. 340,000
- Material stored worth: Rs. 50,000
**Linkages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation Dept</td>
<td>- Weirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Revenue Dept</td>
<td>- Paving of streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry Dept</td>
<td>- Demonstration plot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Dept</td>
<td>- Vegetable seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Agricultural training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAPDA</td>
<td>- Improving breed quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Snake buffaloes and goats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Poultry units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fortification blocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Reduction Fund</td>
<td>- Provision of electricity to new settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Lift irrigation scheme, disposal tank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Provision of Loans and Training**

**NRSP**
- Loan from CO savings
- Formation of Village Bank

**Training**
- Agricultural training
- Candle-making training
- Livestock training
- Training on how to properly store crops
- Soap and surf-making training

---

**VDO’s Self-Help Initiatives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Free home for a widow</td>
<td>Rs. 150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>Monthly income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Financial support for women</td>
<td>Rs. 10,000 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Free shelter for poor HHs</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dowry for poor and orphan girls</td>
<td>Rs. 5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Arrangement of tents and carpets</td>
<td>Rs. 150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Emergency funds for poor</td>
<td>Rs. 10,000 per person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Health**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mid-wifery training</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Construction of toilets in HHs</td>
<td>13 HHs</td>
<td>Rs. 250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction of garbage collection pit</td>
<td>80 HHs</td>
<td>Rs. 12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Arrangement of weekly cleaning of village</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 4,000 per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Religious education</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 1,000 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Establishment of library</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction of cemented cricket pitch</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 12,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Other Development Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Construction of sewerage system near mosque</td>
<td>30 HHs</td>
<td>Rs. 80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Construction of street and drain</td>
<td>60 HHs</td>
<td>Rs. 105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction of boundary wall</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Construction of 8 tanks for harvesting rain-water</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Construction of wall around village for security</td>
<td>All HHs in village</td>
<td>Rs. 100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Future Plan

1. To upgrade boys and girls’ schools
2. Provide furniture for boys and girls’ elementary schools
3. Construction of link road
4. Establishment of dispensary
5. Provide ambulance services
6. Arrange lady doctor in the village
7. Establishment of technical vocational centre
8. Construction of boundary wall around sports ground
9. Construction of bus stops
LSO Ayun Valleys Development Programme, Chitral

**LSO AND INCLUSION OF MINORITIES**

*By*

Ayun Valleys Development Programme

---

**Union Council Ayun**

- Population: 26,000
- Sub villages: 63
- Minority Population: 4,106
- Total Households: 2,877
- No of Minority HHs: 490
- Organized HHs: 1,825
- Four Ethnic groups: Khow, Kalasha Bashgali and Gujur
- 2 Boys High Schools
- 1 Girls Middle School
- 1 RHC, 1 BHU, 2 Dispensaries
- Hundred Go.Km of forests
- Rich historical culture of Rumboor, Bumburate and Birr valleys

---

**Ayun Valley Development Program (AVDP)**

- Formed in 2007 under the companies act 1964
- No of Village Organizations (VOs): 71
- No of Registered VOs with LSO: 48
- No of minority VOs: 40
- No of registered Minority VOs with LSO: 29
- No of Women Organizations (WOs): 30
- No of registered WOs with the LSO: 29
- No of minority WOs: 13
- No of registered minority WOs with the LSO: 10
- No of CCBS: 03
- No of minority CCBS registered with the LSO: 1
- No of CSOs: 02

---

**Why minorities are included:**

- Kalash are the major stakeholders in the AVDP jurisdiction
- Reduce the extreme poverty amongst Kalasha people
- To create Inter religion harmony
- Preservation of unique Kalash culture
- Mainstream Kalash especially women in development

---

**How minorities are included:**

- Organization of Kalash Community:
  - Special attention was given to Kalash community through formation of VWOs in uncovered Kalash valleys
- Mobilization/Activation of VWOs:
  - Existing Kalash VWOs were registered with AVDP
- Inclusion in BOC:
  - Four out of the eleven BOCs are from the Kalash community
- Inclusion in AVDP Management:
  - The Management of AVDP is run by a Kalash Male
- Kalash focused interventions:
  - Implemented focused projects on livelihoods improvement of Kalash people

---

**Key interventions focusing minorities**

- Livelihoods Improvement:
  - In collaboration with SCDC-ID launched five years Livelihood Programme (LP) in Birr valley focusing on education, health, NRM and infrastructure development.
  - In partnership with CIAPD initiated infrastructure development projects in Bomburate and Rumboor Valley
- Education:
  - Establishment of a computer centre at Bomburate and Rumboor
  - Establishment of a Community Based School at Rumboor
  - Establishment of five informal schools and two adult literacy centres at Birr valley
  - Awareness Raising Program regarding Health Education & Environmental issues for VWOs
- Gender/Women Rights:
  - Gender Sensitization trainings
  - Human Rights Workshop for VOs and WOs
  - Awareness workshop for women
Key interventions focusing on Minorities

- Cultural Preservation/Promotion:
  - Culture mapping carried out in the three Kaish Valleys
  - Preservation of culture heritage (awareness programmes, documentaries, indigenous games etc)
  - Facilitation during festivals
- Peace & Social Harmony:
  - Formation of a committee for maintaining inter-religion peace and harmony
  - Inter-religion dialogues to maintain peace
  - Sensitization of communities living on borders

Challenges for minorities

- Poverty
- Decline in tourism due to geopolitical situation in region
- Lack of access and control over resources
- Limited development interventions
- Culture erosion
- Poor access to health and education

Future plans

- Culture preservation
- Promotion of tourism
- Infrastructure development
- Facilitation in the provision of quality health and education services
- Awareness on political empowerment
- Poverty reduction through creating livelihood opportunities and skill development

THANK YOU
LSO Shakardar, Rural - 1 Kohat

**Local Support Organisation**
Shakardara Rural - 1

- Tehsil and District: Lachi, Kohat
- Location: 70km south of District centre
- Total Population: 12,500
- Total Households: 1,800
- Revenue villages: 8
- Land: 18,806 kanals rain-fed, 29,641 kanals arid
- Salt mines: 5
- Oil and gas wells: 3

**LSO Profile**

- **Name:** Rural Development Organisation Shakardara
- **Date of Formation:** 7th October 2007
- **Registration No.:** 1354 under Act 1961
- **Union Council:** Shakardara Rural
- **Total COs:** 52 (43 male, 9 female)
- **VDO:** 1 male, 1 female, 1 mix
- **General Body members:** 43 men, 9 women
- **Executive Body members:** 7 men, 2 women

Our LSO was formed with the help of SRSP which is still supporting us. Through self-help and with govt and non-govt organisations, several activities have taken place regarding development of the community. However this presentation will focus on peace and security and on credit.

**Establishment of Chaga Party**

1. Shakardara is spread over 3 UCs. Taking the present situation in mind, the elders of the area held a meeting to stop the security situation from escalating in which the LSO played a vital role.
2. A Chairman was elected and 40 men were selected from each UC to form the Chaga party.
3. Telephones are used for communicating amongst the members of the Chaga party. In addition to this, announcements are also made through a loud-speaker.
4. The Chaga party has the full support of the community.

**Credit Details**

### Details of credit from 2003 – 2009 through the VDOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detail of credit</th>
<th>3 VDOs</th>
<th>Rs. 564,3702</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Rs. 7,675,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary members</td>
<td>616 men, 327 women</td>
<td>943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery rate</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from service charges</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Rs. 420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal lending from service charges</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Rs. 190,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Success stories of Credit**

- Ajab Khan of Weobor-saghri, received Rs. 10,000 in 1995 - was able to purchase 3 goats, return his loan. He is now the owner of 45 goats and 2 cows.
- Abdullah, a disabled person of Weobor-saghri received a loan of Rs. 5,000 in 1998 – opened a food stall in front of a girls high school. In addition to returning his loan, he is earning Rs. 400/day.
- Sara and Najma from female VDO Spogmay took a Rs. 10,000 loan in the year 2000. After undertaking tailoring training, they are now earning Rs. 250/day.
LSO KADO, Chitral

Presentation on Community Investment Fund (CIF)

PRESENTED BY
ISRAR

Introduction of KADO
- Established 1997 as a society
- 2005 incorporated as public limited company
- 81 WOs and 80 VOIs registered
- Coverage – 2.5 UC, More than 95% HH
- 40% of BoD members are women
- An established office with 5 competent staff
- A strong network of volunteers & local activists

Mission/Goals
• To evolve into a local agency, facilitating socio-economic development of the local communities through service delivery, resource development, linkages and partnership
• Maintain an efficient and cost effective value chain for the delivery of products and services within the area in a sustainable manner
• Facilitate growth & reduce poverty
• Gender balance & youth leadership

Poverty Reduction Strategies
• Poverty survey & assessment – poverty score card
• Sector development (women shops, honey bee, agriculture, handicrafts, dry fruit etc.)
• Linkages and partnership to connect the small holders with the larger value chain operators
• Community Investment Fund (CIF)
• Promotion of entrepreneurship culture among youth and women

Community Investment Fund (CIF)
• Priorities – Poverty targeting & Sustainability
• Total funds injected – Rs.1.5 million (1 million from RSPN & 0.5 million from KADO endowment fund)
• For the period Oct (08 – Oct 09):
  – Total circulation: Rs. 3,584,600
  – Total number of beneficiaries: 208
  – Poor targeted: 83
  – Total earned income (including processing fee): Rs. 562,469

CRF – A product portfolio
• Enterprise Financing:
  – Baider Finance – a working capital for start-ups and existing businesses
  – Queen Finance – start up finance for entrepreneurs interested in honey bee farming
  – Hunar Finance – Skilled artisans & Crafts men/women to purchase tools & equipments
• Bridge Financing:
  – Sahulat Finance - For the temporary or emergency financial needs (for consumption or purchase assets)
  – Saffar Finance - For the travel expenses of the seasonal labourers
  – Unneed Finance - For education and health related expenses
Performance for the period
(Oct 08 – Oct 09)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Min. Loan (Rs)</th>
<th>Max. Loan (Rs)</th>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Charge Pattern</th>
<th>Trial Balance (Rs)</th>
<th>Recovery Status (Rs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Badar Finance</td>
<td>EF</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>15% per month</td>
<td>quarterly</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1,944,800</td>
<td>2,047,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afzal Hotel</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>10% per month</td>
<td>2% monthly</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>3,775,400</td>
<td>6,545,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umeed Finance</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>50% per month</td>
<td>5% months</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>84,000</td>
<td>51,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safari Finance</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>10% per month</td>
<td>5% months</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>63,000</td>
<td>21,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Finance</td>
<td>EF</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>10% per month</td>
<td>6% monthly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>81,000</td>
<td>18,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunar Finance</td>
<td>EF</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>15% per month</td>
<td>6% Quarterly</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Challenges & Opportunities

- Challenges:
  - Lack of Capital
  - Lack of system capacity (Information processing & Management)
  - Legal issues

- Opportunities:
  - Agency role for new products (micro insurance, micro saving etc.)
  - Improved value chains and increased opportunities for small scale enterprises
  - Telenor e-market and easy paisa
LSO Mirani, Turbat

Mirani Local Support Organisation

- Name: Mirani Local Support Organisation
- Date of Formation: 31-01-2007
- Union Council: Nodiz
- District: Kech
- Province: Balochistan

Profile

- Villages: 10
- VDOs: 7
- Total HHs: 901
- Organised HHs: 718
- Total Population: 8,656
- Total COs: 53 (21 male, 26 female, 6 mix)

LSO Structure

General Body Structure:
- Total: 21 (Male 13, Female 8)

Executive Body Structure:
- Total: 12 (Male 8, Female 4)

Community Resource Persons
- Total: 4 (Male 1, Female 3)

Poverty Status of HHs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Total HH</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Organised HH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Well-off</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rich</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Very Rich</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>901</td>
<td></td>
<td>718</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Social Mobilisation

- COs: 53
- Organised HHs: 116 (115, 105)
**Micro-credit**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of very poor</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan amount</td>
<td>775,000</td>
<td>585,000</td>
<td>1,360,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of poor</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan amount</td>
<td>697,500</td>
<td>335,000</td>
<td>1,032,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of well-off</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan amount</td>
<td>670,000</td>
<td>480,000</td>
<td>1,150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total No. of loans</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total loan amount</td>
<td>2,142,500</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
<td>2,142,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Internal Lending**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CO</th>
<th>Credit Amount</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Profit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gudi Male</td>
<td>179,860</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>163,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nudi Male</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>27,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghai Male</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>20,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharana Male</td>
<td>210,000</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23,457</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grants to Destitute**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Monthly income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Provided farthest</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>General store</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>Treatment of eye &amp; purchase of the X-Ray machine</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Provided money for medical needs</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>General store, food, kitchen gardening</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mean and Psychically disabled</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>General store</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Holistic drug add</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>Food supplies</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Destitute</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>Bought car</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Income and Expenditure**

- Total income: Rs. 355,766
- Credit: Rs. 106,020
- Other sources (rent, croycery, bank interest): Rs. 481,807
- Total: Rs. 481,807

- Total Expenditure (31-01-07 to 30-11-09):
  - Purchase of assets: Rs. 111,902
  - Interest: Rs. 70,500
  - Stationary: Rs. 63,746
  - Wage: Rs. 246,100

**Women’s Representation and Activities carried out**

- Women’s COs. 25 (55%)
- No. of women in VDOs: 52
- No. of women in LSO GB: 8
- No. of women in LSO EB: 4

**Education**

- No. of primary-pass women in VDO Sheken: 30
- Middle and secondary: Class 7 - 8
- Enrolment in school: Boys Middle School Secondary
- Faculty: LSO has appointed 3 girls as teachers

**Women’s Representation and activities carried out**

- No. of primary pass women in VDO Nodiz
- No. of students: 104
- Middle and Secondary: Class 8 - 10
- Enrolment in School: Boys High School Nodiz
- Faculty: LSO has appointed 5 boys as teachers
- Mani-pass: 109
- FA-pass: 28
- SA-pass: 8

**Health**

- The LSO President is a dispenser by profession. He provides free of cost health services to the community.
- Though the LSO’s efforts, a CRP has been given free training to become a mid-wife and has provided her with employment as well.
Trainings

- CMST: 38
- Livestock: 25
- Disaster training: 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMST</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Workshop</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Training</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Training</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Self-Help Activities

Performance of LSO and YDC during 2007 Flood:
- Rescuing people from flood areas and transporting them to safe locations
- Relief teams were formed
- Affected were provided with food supplies and drinking water
- An immediate survey was carried out
- Registration of affected

Recovery of Electricity Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YDC Name</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Expenses (Rs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seth</td>
<td>Old electrical poles were removed and shifted to new points</td>
<td>21,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabharwal</td>
<td>Old electrical poles were removed and shifted to new points</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baligar</td>
<td>Old electrical poles were removed and shifted to new points</td>
<td>76,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Linkages with Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of CO</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheikh Khan</td>
<td>Minister of Education</td>
<td>Approval of girls primary school building and upgrading of boys primary school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSO and Agriculture committee</td>
<td>MNA, MPA, DDCC, Kohi</td>
<td>Discussion regarding affectees of Dam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VDO</td>
<td>Local Govt</td>
<td>Establishment of Computer centre through CCB, CCB share: Rs. 12,000, Local Govt share: Rs. 48,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSO</td>
<td>Senator</td>
<td>Obtained 180 BISP cards for the poorest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Linkages with NGOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>Achievements/Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provided food to affectees</td>
<td>PDA</td>
<td>892 households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of Toilet Facilities</td>
<td>CWS/HPO</td>
<td>Rs. 50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter Education workshop</td>
<td>Election Commissioner/SAP</td>
<td>Awareness regarding importance of voting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of hand pumps for affectees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievements of LSO

- Identification of the poorest through Poverty Scorecard and their inclusion into CCs
- Organised households from 14% to 80%
- Provision of grants to destitute
- Linkages with Govt departments
- Establishment of LSO office
- Establishment of Computer Centre
- Setting up of middle and high level classes for girls in the evening
- Establishment of language centre
- Arranged for tent and crockery services according to requirements of the community
- Establishment of Utility store in the UC
- Identification of pregnant women and children below 5 years old
- With the support of NRSP, distributed 1,129 mosquito nets for the prevention of malaria
- Recovery of electricity services in 4 villages
- Collected BISP forms for 158 poorest households
Cont...

- Trained one CRP as mid-wife
- Helped obtain employment in NRSP of 3 CO members

Future Plan

- Organise 183 households at CO level
- Establishment of handicraft training centre for women
- Training centre for women
- Linkages with various NGOs and Govt departments
- Take steps for improvement of economic status of community members
- Vocational training, provision of credit, technical support
- To arrange different training for women such as livestock, poultry and saving training
- Arrange training for small businesses

Education
- Promote education, especially to ensure enrolment of girls at secondary level
- Arrange for workshops regarding education

Health
- Workshop for health and sanitation and importance of clean drinking water
- Awareness regarding infectious diseases, such as TB, malaria, Hepatitis, etc
- Disaster-relief training
Chairman RSPN’s Speech at the UN General Assembly

Social Mobilisation: A Key to Sustainable Development
South Asia Experience

By: Shoaib Sultan Khan
May 2009

Madam Chair!
Excellencies!

I am most grateful to the Minister Verburg for inviting me to speak at 17th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

When I look back on over 56 years of my working life in Government, United Nations, Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and Rural Support Programmes (RSPs), my greatest successes and satisfaction were when I succeeded in forging genuine and meaningful partnerships with communities. Over fifty years ago my mentor Akhter Hameed Khan about whom Nobel laureate Prof. Yunus wrote:

“It is not enough to say that he was a great man. He was one of the great human beings of the past century. He was so much ahead of everybody else that he was seen more as a “misfit” than appreciated for his greatness … We have a lot to discover and a whole lot to learn from him”,

Akhter Hameed Khan gave me my first lessons in forging partnerships with communities. But it is only during the last 30 years that I got the opportunity, thanks initially to UNCRD (United Nations Centre for Regional Development) and then to UNICEF and later to UNDP but mainly due to His Highness the Aga Khan to fully and exclusively devote myself interacting with the communities in Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Over this period I have personally held dialogues with over 5,000 communities and this morning I intend to share this experience with you.

I still vividly remember the bitterly cold December in 1982 when I drove 600 kilometers from Islamabad to Gilgit on a borrowed jeep. This was the beginning of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) and forging of partnerships over the next twelve years with a million people in one of the most inhospitable and harshest terrain anywhere in the world. I brought them a simple message but time tested from the days of Raifessen in Germany and Nineteenth Century Europe followed by Japan, Taiwan, Comilla (Bangladesh) and South Korea’s Samul Undong. This was a message of partnership in Development. AKRSP was not there to listen to their demands, needs and problems and offer solutions. AKRSP offered them only a methodology; an approach and social guidance to overcome their handicaps themselves. The villagers used to look at me with disbelief. A programme bearing the name of one of the richest person in the world not willing to solve their problems and asking them to do things first. I explained this is a partnership which entails obligations on both sides and unless the community was prepared to fulfil its obligations how can the partnership be formed? Many were impatient and would pester me to tell them what was the limit to which the Programme would
help them if they accepted the terms of partnership and my simple response used to be your limit is our limit. Whatever the community can do or was willing to do was the programme limit.

I was very happy when the approach was reinforced by the first World Bank Assessment of AKRSP in 1987 saying that the first four years of AKRSP are the missed four years of most rural development projects in the world where blueprint took precedence over a process approach. AKRSP did not go to the communities with a pre-conceived package and left it to each community to identify their potential not only as community but also at household level.

I have seen people coming out of poverty with my own eyes and smiles on their faces instead of abstruse statistics.

The one million people I worked with for 12 years in Northern Areas of Pakistan through the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme reinforced my conviction of the tremendous potential and willingness in people to do many things themselves to come out of poverty. All that they needed was a support organisation to help them unleash their potential. Once organised the men and women took their destiny in their own hands. They knew what would bring them out of poverty.

They planted 50 million trees on land brought under irrigation range, generated about six megawatts of electricity through village built and managed mini-hydel projects anywhere in the world.

In agriculture, horticulture and livestock, the organized communities made quantum jumps in introducing and later marketing apple varieties from California and cherries from France. Their apricot is picked up by a London buyer from the farm gate at Gilgit.

Their initiative in protecting wildlife in collaboration with IUCN (I am glad DG IUCN is here) and WWF has given rich dividends sharing 75% of the proceeds of trophy hunting with the Government Wildlife Department. The tourists can now watch ibex, markhor and sometimes even the snow leopard from the roadside.

Last time on my visit to Northern Areas I went to a village Ahmedabad where 22 years ago I had gone sitting in a basket pulled across the river as there was no bridge on the river. The village with 110 households was totally isolated although the Karakorum Highway passed by it. The village had no access, no road, no school, no health facility, no potable drinking water and no electricity. Today it has everything. These people would never have been touched by any growth strategy or macro planning. They needed a development strategy which involved each and every household in the development process. Unfortunately this is what our macro planners fail to comprehend. When I asked them what was the secret of their success, their spontaneous
response was “we got organised”. The village roads were marked with dust bins and environment was litter free.

According to second World Bank evaluation of AKRSP, in ten years the income of the people of Northern Areas had in real terms more than doubled.

In 1994, when UNDP asked me to take lessons learnt in Northern Areas of Pakistan to South Asia, India being the largest country in the region it was the greatest challenge to South Asia Poverty Alleviation Programme (SAPAP) and to me personally as a Pakistani to make a difference to the lives of women and their households there. My apprehensions were baseless. The people of Andhra Pradesh and the State Government welcomed me with open arms and treated me with unforgettable kindness, hospitality and affection and continues to do so.

In Andhra Pradesh, I was told that after 7 years almost 75% of the organised households had risen above the subsistence level. When I doubted this statement, the women insisted on taking me to their homes. I visited a number of houses which I had visited on my first visit in 1995 which had barely any amenities of life available. I was wonderstruck to find modern amenities like TV, telephone, toilets etc., in the houses. In one house, I did not see TV and I asked the lady if she had been left behind others. She asked me to visit her backyard where more than 35 goats were standing. She explained her children are young and unlike other children, do not insist on going to neighbours to see the TV. Hence she made her choice of preferring goats to TV. This reminded me of Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen’s book “Development As Freedom.”

One of the important outcomes of mobilised communities in Andhra has been the adoption of Community Managed Sustainable Agriculture (CMSA) to date adopted by over 300,000 farmers. It has enabled the poor to break out of the exploitative relations with the money lenders, fertilizer and pesticides traders. In next 5 years, Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) of Andhra Pradesh plans to take it to 10-12 million acres covering 50 to 60% of the cultivable area of the State. The environmental benefits of CMSA are enormous. It will convert the State into a “green State” with impact on climate change and global warming. However, the main motivation for the poor for adopting these practices is the quantum jump in their net incomes. The lesson is that however good the technology may be, without peoples involvement through their strong grassroots institutions, it will remain in the laboratories and universities. We need a people centred solution to food security and climate change.

The Andhra Government keeps on inviting me despite phasing out of UNDP SAPAP in 2003.

In July 2008, I was again invited to Andhra which had by now organized over 10 million rural women households comprising 45 million people and helped them rise above the level of subsistence by accessing in 2007-08 over US$ one billion from commercial banks for agricultural and other activities. Since 2001, the
cumulative credit accessed by the organized groups reached over 4 billions of dollars.

Andhra has been able to demonstrate an approach of poverty reduction encompassing over 10 million rural poor families comprising, nearly 45 million people which has no parallel anywhere in South Asia. Andhra has found the solution to rural poverty.

Today the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) in Pakistan extends to 93 out of 125 districts of Pakistan making a difference to the livelihood of nearly 13-15 million people. Pakistan is probably the only country in South Asia where successive governments have provided resources since 1992 for fostering independent and autonomous support organizations as envisaged by 1991 Poverty Commission set up by SAARC Heads of State commending Social Mobilisation to be the centerpiece for all poverty reduction strategies of South Asian governments.

A new chapter of development seems to be opening up to take the lessons learnt in Northern Areas and Chitral by AKRSP over two decades to scale. The Federal Government is very keen to mainstream social mobilization. The President of Pakistan gave his approval to the approach for countrywide replication in next 3-5 years in December 2008. At the recent Friends of Pakistan Donor meeting hosted by Japan, 3 billion dollars were pledged exclusively for poverty reduction in the next two years. If sustainable development leading to elimination of poverty has to be ushered in, governments of the third world will have to take a lead role in fostering a framework of grassroots institutions of the people through social mobilisation.
Scaling up Grassroots Development

Why LSOs?
- LSOs provide an exit strategy for the RSP
  - Reduced donor funding
  - Allow RSPs to replicate development activities in other districts
- Key difference: LSOs are of the people while RSPs are for the people
  - As such, not merely a substitute for the RSPs – they also represent a process of social deepening
  - Social capital: locally owned, self reliant and capable of formulating context-specific development programs.

Rationale for review: Objective
- To assess LSO effectiveness/success
  - Social mobilization
  - Linkages
  - Leadership and activism
  - Procedures and systems
  - Participatory development activities and projects underway
  - Social empowerment and positive cultural change achieved

Scaling up Grassroots Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RSPs</th>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Name of LSO</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASBI</td>
<td>ASBI</td>
<td>ASBI</td>
<td>ASBI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCCI</td>
<td>PCCI</td>
<td>PCCI</td>
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<td>LSO</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPC</td>
<td>KPC</td>
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<td>KPC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scaling up Grassroots Development
Scaling up Grassroots Development

LSO achievements

- Projects/activities
  - Innovation, outreach and linkages
- Processes: two aspects
  - Ensure project sustainability
  - Social empowerment and cultural change

Khaplu LSO, Ghanche – Irrigation scheme

Goth Mehrab LSO, Bahawalpur – Turbine

Litten LSO, Bhakkar – Tree plantation

Sangam LSO, Gakuch – Plantation, mining spring water

Sangam LSO, Gakuch – household enterprises
Scaling up Grassroots Development

Processes

Scaling up Grassroots Development
Pind Hashim Khan Network (PHKN), Haripur

- Process change is represented by women’s empowerment
  - Women now enjoy equal status with men
  - Mutually reinforcing rather than confrontational relationship
  - Represents cohesive force which transcends ethnic and personal differences

More generally, women’s empowerment has led to sustainable outcomes

Scaling up Grassroots Development
Nabipur LSO, Khanewal

Context
- Signs of the reawakening influence are evident: high unemployment, homelessness, forced labor, especially of young girls, in feudal households, the frequent use of police and local thugs to quell resistance at any

Agenda for change
- The LSO has framed an agenda which, although ostensibly developmental, indirectly aims to counter wadera excesses. The planned initiatives are:
  - The establishment of a girls’ college
  - The conversion of an abandoned government building into a school
  - Maternal and birth centers
  - Technical training and vocational centers to prepare unemployed youth for the job market
  - The most ambitious initiative is to provide low-cost housing for homeless tenants
Scaling up Grassroots Development

Bir LSO, Haripur
- Elimination of oppressive cultural traditions. By common agreement the community agreed to limit expenses on weddings, funerals and other village functions.
- Chitral, Karak, Kohat
  - Peace and security

Scaling up Grassroots Development

LSO governance
- Two governance modes appear to have evolved
  - In Gilgit-Baltistan-Chitral, the LSO has divided its responsibilities.
  - In the other provinces and AJK, policy, planning and management responsibilities are combined in the LSO Executive Body.
- Strengths:
  - The LSO leadership is strong, effective and community oriented.
- Weaknesses:
  - Tendency towards centralized decision-making resulting in communication failure.
  - Absence of a board.
  - Women under-represented in the board of directors and executive body.

Issues

Gender balance and participation
- Need
  - Women exhibit a strong need for the organizational and financial support extended by the RSPs and the LSOs.
  - WSOs need to be more active.
  - More adaptable to a changing external environment.
  - Process rather than funding oriented.
- Function of cognitive perceptions
- Opportunity
  - The organizational complex of the LSOs does not reflect their needs.
  - Gender representation in the constituted bodies (executive committee, general body) still has a distinctly male slant.
  - Similar imbalance in the male-female GO and VO-WO ratios.

Scaling up Grassroots Development

Are the LSOs a viable exit strategy for the RSPs?
- Will to change
  - Institutional resistance
  - Substitute versus complementary.
- Reducing donor funding
- RSPs incapable of sustaining support
- Do communities need LSOs? Need vs motivation debate
- An established need forms a good foundation on which to build an LSO. In assessing the need we came up with ambivalent results.
- The motivation (as opposed to the need) for establishing an LSO has a structural basis (credit)

Scaling up Grassroots Development

Financial sustainability
- GIF, RSP salary and infrastructure support
- Necessity of management
- The LSOs have devised various innovative ways to generate additional resources.
- Potential funding
  - Transfer RSP credit operations. Minimize duplication in general.
  - Regional solutions.
- Microcredit
  - Loan diversity - commercial and welfare consideration.
  - Loan terms and loan amounts vary - higher interest dividend
Scaling up Grassroots Development

Conclusion

- Projects innovative
- Process change underway
- Viable exit strategy

- Governance ambivalent
- Gender imbalance
- Financially not sustainable yet
Presentation on Climate Change

WELCOME TO THE PRESENTATION

Climate Change

- Is this an actual and dangerous reality?
- Who are the affectees? Rich? Poor? Or both?
- If the poor are those affected, then why should they focus on this issue instead of on their basic problems, e.g. the cost of flour, sugar, grains, etc.
  Or...

What are the Facts?

- This is an established fact that a change is taking place in the atmosphere and most of the negative changes have come about in the last 50 years.
- Now these changes are visible and people have started to be affected by them.
- This climate change has been felt mostly in mountainous areas.
- The affectees of climate change are mostly those whose needs have been ignored in the past due to various reasons and who have not been informed about this danger.

Are we the only ones affected?

- No! Several other people and places are facing this problem

- 10-40% increase in droughts can raise the temperature by 3-4 degrees.
- People living in the coastal areas of the world are increasingly in danger due to hurricanes and floods.
- Assets worth $1 trillion are present at a minimum of one metre above sea-level. Many of the large coastal cities of the world are in the sphere of extreme hurricane-prone areas. These are cities such as Tokyo, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Calcutta, Buenos Aires, New York and London, etc.
If sea-levels were to rise by just 1 metre?

- ¼ of Bangladesh would be drowned in water and if climate change continues at the same pace, this disaster may come at the end of this century.
- By an increase of 1 metre in sea-levels, 20 million residents of Europe’s coastal areas can be affected. This will result in a loss of $300 billion worth of income sources.
- By the end of this century, Thailand, Indonesia, and Vietnam will lose almost 8.7% of their national income.

The biggest tragedies of this century will be hunger and drought. The main reason is climate change. Due to this climate change, there will be a prominent decrease in crop productivity.

- The other reasons of this tragedy will be destruction of agricultural land due to drought and tornadoses.
- Because of climate change and drought, the affectedes will abandon traditional crops. Due to this, social conflicts will arise such as migration and fighting over water sources.

Factors Contributing to Climate Change

**Greenhouse Gases:**

By definition these gases are those that absorb solar radiation which includes carbon dioxide, ozone, nitrous oxide, etc.

**Ever increasing global warming:**

This is the activity that unnecessarily increases the gases that causes solar heat to remain trapped in the atmosphere and which results in an increase in the temperature of the Earth.

When global warming causes continuous up and downs in the temperature, and rain water is not absorbed in the soil, then dangerous, fast winds blow during unsuitable timings. This entire process is called climate change.

**Sources of Greenhouse Gases**

- Use of fossil fuels which produce carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide gases.
- Cutting of forests and other natural vegetation due to which carbon dioxide gases are produced.
- (Since the year 1800, the level of carbon dioxide gases has already been increased significantly).
**Forests and Climatic Change**

- Each tree is almost 50% carbon; therefore natural forests store a significant amount of carbon dioxide in themselves.
- The forests of Congo and the Amazon are the world’s largest depositories of precious carbon.
- Due to the cutting and burning of trees, significant amounts of carbon dioxide and other dangerous gases are raised into the atmosphere, which then causes climate change.
- Compared to human consumption of fossil fuels, cutting of forests raises much more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere (around 1.6 trillion tons).
- This is 5 times more than the emission of pollution by the entire transportation systems of the world.

**WHY CUT, IF IT IS HARMFUL?**

**CLEANING UP FOREST FOR AGRICULTURE AND OTHER LAND-USES THROUGH FIRE AND LOGGING IS A MAJOR OF URBAN CHANGES IN THE AMAZON AND INDONESIA**

**Issues created due to Deforestation**

...some estimates

During the next 24 hours, due to logging, there will be as much carbon dioxide produced as is produced by the air transportation of 6 million people from London to New York.

(Daniel Howard’s article published in ‘The Independent’ on Monday 14 May, 2007)

**Repeated results of Climate Changes**

- Late arrival of Fall
- Short Winter
- Early arrival of Spring
- Longer Summers
Impacts on Rural Economy

1. The productivity level of soil is estimated by the small and large organisms that live in it.
2. These insects help in providing fertilizer and pollination, like bees in California.
3. The survival of underground insects depend upon predictable climatic conditions.
4. In case of extreme climatic changes, these organisms either migrate or die.
5. As a result of this, the productivity of soil either deteriorates or faces the danger of permanently losing its productivity.

Climate Change and Poverty

1. The 3 billion poorest people of the world who depend on natural resources for their survival due to their poverty will be affected the most.
2. The poorest segment of global society will face serious problems due to disease and the ever-decreasing productivity of crops.
3. Climate change will cause significant reduction in income sources and productivity of destitute people who are already facing hunger and poverty.
4. Chances of epidemics like Malaria become high which mostly hit the underdeveloped countries’ people who are already facing several other problems. Moreover, they do not have access to timely and proper treatment and medical facilities.
5. Due to low or unimply rains, the rain-fed crops of the underdeveloped countries are badly damaged which are their sole source of survival.
6. Africa is the worst example of this type of impact where irrigated land is only 4 to 6 percent of total cultivated area.
7. The victims of these adverse conditions will be mainly women who use their energy to work in the fields to raise crops, collect fuelwood and fetch rapidly diminishing water.

Pakistan

Climate Change, its causes and controlling mechanisms

Part One

Deforestation of Forests and the Reasons behind it

Where can we see these adverse effects?

- Though enough information is not available in this respect, however some examples can guide us:
  1. Over the last 30 years, Thar desert has been transformed into a desert twice as quickly.
  2. Almost half of the Salt Range which is significantly important with reference to underground water reserves, has converted into desert.
  3. The Sulaiman Range, Mountain, situated in the Khasabata and Hindu Kush Mountain Range, and other mountainous areas have lost their productive capacity by 60% since 1970.
  4. Over the last 50 years, the springs of the hills of Sibi, Quetta and Machhara National Park have either completely dried or are flowing at their lowest levels.

And the adverse effects are directly affecting those people who are economically poor but have enormous natural resources. These areas are extremely important to the entire nation.
Opinion of local people about their pastures:
(The survey consists of opinions of around 20 people)

Opinion of Herders

1. 63% fully believe in the climate changes occurring over the past 20-22 years
2. 87% of respondents realised the frequently long summers
3. In this area, the year 2009 was the coldest year; that depicts climate change
4. 80% of respondents said that glaciers are melting at great speeds
5. 86% saw nothing becoming extinct; however, 14% of respondents said that there used to be white butterflies in the pastures but over the last 30-40 years, they have completely disappeared.
(The species of butterfly could not be determined)

6. Around 60% of respondents expressed their concerns over their problems caused by climate change
7. To reduce the challenge of climate change, 11% of herders suggested that they should change their current herding timetable while 65% suggested that more trees be planted in the pastures
8. 81% recommended to activate govt and non-govt organisations to oversee the pastures and develop strategies that could combat the adverse climatic change effects. They thought that this was necessary for their livelihood

Some respondents expressed their concerns over extreme weather conditions, lack of availability of fodder for livestock and constant danger of floods

Summary of Findings

1. Glaciers are melting and disappearing
2. Pastures are drying up while non-local plant varieties are increasing, due to which the nutritious value of fodder is decreasing
3. Insects that attack orchards are increasing and with an increase in diseases amongst orchards, due to which both the quality and price of fruits are decreasing
4. Drought and floods are significantly affecting local people compared to previous years and that is increasing their economic problems
5. The schedule of winds are changing and minimum rain-water is absorbing in the soil
   Due to climatic changes, farmers can no longer predict weather conditions and are no more able to determine cultivation timetables.

Observations about Orchards
(The summary findings consist of opinions of around 300 people)
Opinions of respondents from Gilgit-Baltistan
A short study

Gilgit-Baltistan
- Fruit ripen 10-12 days earlier due to which the chances of attacks of different insects have been increased. As a result, fruit quality and quantity have decreased and ultimately there will be less demand from the market. This has been because of climate change.

Balochistan
- The economic life of poor apple-growers are directly under attack because of climate change.
- Due to increase in temperatures and continuous drought, diseases of fruit and number of harmful insects have increased. Weeds have also increased due to which crops can be attacked at anytime.
- Relatively less harmful insects have become extremely dangerous due to their increased numbers. One example is apple-worm mites and Dias Bugs which earlier were not that harmful. However their numbers have now significantly increased compared to the past.

Gilgit-Baltistan
- Local practices are used to combat climate change, i.e., watering orchards at night increases the taste of fruits and controls insect attacks.

Balochistan
- Because of continuous drought and past experiences, farmers are now trying to adopt new techniques, i.e., instead of producing imported plants, local plants that are more water resistant are preferred.
- People are trying to replace apple with almond, apricot, pomegranate and pistachios; which are more water resistant than apples and resistant to insect attacks. They also are not easily affected by climate change as compared to apples.
- Traditional varieties of plants and fruits are less prone to insect attacks.

Research Findings

Yes! Climate change is a reality and irrespective of its causes, farmers are facing economic losses which will increase in the future.

What Strategies should be adopted to check these elements?

1. Protection of forests and the connected bio-diversity must be protected seriously; by those of us who wish to leave a sound and safe future for our nation.

2. In the past, Pakistan lost its valuable natural resources because nobody took it seriously. Development programmes and plans must be rearranged according to new priorities to avoid possible disasters.
One Last Recommendation…

We are already too late and due to that we are facing serious problems. Further delays will be fatal and maybe we will never get a chance to plan and act.
LSO PRADO, Abbottabad

Presentation by LSO Pine Rural Area Development Organisation (PRADO)

UC Ghari Phulgaran
District Abbottabad

Introduction to LSO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pine Rural Area Development Organisation (PRADO - LSO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Formation</td>
<td>10th April 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>SECP 1954 sec 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Member Organisations</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOs</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male COs</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female COs</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Body Members</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Body Members</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank</td>
<td>The Bank of Khyber, Abbottabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account No.</td>
<td>15948-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Support</td>
<td>RPS &amp; SEISP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund</td>
<td>Rs. 2,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Income</td>
<td>Rs. 15,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Profile of Union Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of UC</th>
<th>Ghari Phulgaran</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue Villages</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Households</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>15,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: Government School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>3 Boys, 2 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>2 Boys, 3 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>17 Boys, 12 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private School</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Health Unit (BHU)</td>
<td>1 (Dilka Shahen), 1 (Bajawua)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>1 (Dilka Shahen), 6 (Bajawua)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Facilities</td>
<td>Health, Electricity, Post Office, Mobile Towers, Digital Telephone Exchange, Police Station</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Structure of LSO

LSO Committees

- **Finance Committee**: Tajarat Khan, Gul Nawaz, Tariq Khan, Sedaqat Khan, Nigmat Parveen, Gul Niaz
- **Audit Committee**: Saima Gul, Shakeela Ilyas, Tanvir Gul, Mubarak Khan
- **Communications Committee**: Khan Afsar Abbasi, Saima Gul, Haji Safdar Khan
- **Registration Committee**: Khan Afsar Abbasi, Tajarat Khan, Mushtaq Khan

- **Conflict-Resolution Committee**: Haji Satdar Khan, Mushtaq Khan, Sadaqat Khan
- **Health Committee**: Shagufta Rafiq, Khan Afsar Abbasi, Ghulam Murtaza Khan
- **Education Committee**: Gul Nawaz, Tanvir Gul, Tariq Khan
- **Supervision Committee**: Khan Afsar Abbasi, Saima Gul, Gul Nawaz
Objectives
1. To cover 80% of households
2. To increase women’s social mobilisation and to equal their numbers with men
3. To reactivatle dormant COs
4. To measure poverty levels and to take steps to reduce it
5. To create linkages with other organisations

Linkages with Organisations
1. SRDP
2. BAPD
3. NCHD
4. WM
5. Singh
6. CIP
7. NADRA
8. Soil Conservation
9. Rahnuma
10. RWGSP
11. CEEDD
12. Forest Dept
13. Agriculture Dept
14. Livestock Dept
15. DHQ/BHU
16. Johaan Int
17. Umer Asghar Foundation
18. MEDA
19. Dist. Council
20. Tehsil Council

Performance of LSO

Situation Before Formation of LSO
- Limited participation of women in the process of social mobilisation
- Weak linkages between COs
- Difficulties in communicating with external organisations
- Growing dormancy of COs
- Limited coverage of COs
- Wastage of natural resources
- Limited Resources
- Lack of focus on common problems
Problems

- Limited movement of women
- Restriction on women regarding movement outside of homes
- Religious conflict
- Negative attitude towards NGOs
- Men’s monopoly
- Lack of education and awareness
- Transportation problems
- Political involvement

Solution to Problems

- Increase work on formation of women’s CIs
- Use of female SOs to change negative perceptions
- Awareness of men to include women in process of CO formation
- Due to women being organised, they became more aware due to SRSP and other organisations’ development work
- VOs formation at the village level
- It was felt that a UC-level network was required in order to represent the community’s organisations

Future Plan of LSO

- Community Investment Fund (CIF) Programme
- Initiation of Village Bank
- Village Post
- To make LSO self-sufficient
- To expand vision of LSO to the Tehsil level
- To measure poverty using PSC in the UC

Work-plan of LSO PRADO
(Jan-Dec 2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Donor Goal Organisation</th>
<th>Government Organisation</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accelerated Growth</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Measurement of Impact</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Officer Training</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Work-plan of LSO PRADO
(Jan-Dec 2009)
Welcome To LSO Network Ghizar

Presented by:
Bulbul Jan  Chairman LSON Ghizar
December 12, 2008

Area and Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Area (sq.km)</td>
<td>11,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Villages</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Households</td>
<td>15,322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>153,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>77,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>75,541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Background

- Follow up of the declaration passed in first LSO Convention 2008
- Influence government policies and legislation through a united and representative voice.
- Address development challenges above the UC level
- Ensure future sustainability of LSOs through a cumulative effort

Objectives of the LSON

- To act as a catalyst to maintain and promote peace and pluralistic society in the District
- Advocating for mainstreaming participatory development approaches in public policy, planning and processes
- Lobbying with the district and provincial government agencies to create a permanent and dedicated support system for LSOs (creation of civil society development fund, linkages and partnership for resource mobilization)

Cont...

- Working with the local government and local administration to providing policy, legal and legislative protection to the local resources against increasing external intrusions
- Promoting joint Public-community-NGOs adaptation and developing strategies to address issues of food insecurity, climate change, disaster risks, peace and social harmony
- Develop a replicable model for other districts.
Member LSOs
1. Shangam Local Support Organization, Purnial
2. Shandur Local Support Organization, Gujis
3. Gupis Rural Support Programme, Gupis
4. Al Karim Local Support Organization, Yasin
5. Karumber Local Support Organization, Ishkoman
6. Chatorkhand Local Support Organization, Ishkoman
7. Singal Women Local Support Organization,
8. Punyal Gahkuch Local Support Organization, Purnial

Cumulative Profile of Member LSOs
- No of Member LSOs: 08
- No. of Registered LSOs: 06
- LSO receiving management support from AKRSP: 05
- Registration in process: 02
- Total No. of V/WOs under LSOs: 257
  - VOs: 119
  - WOs: 138
- Total No. of HHs in district Ghizer: 15,322
- Total No. of Covered HHs: 9,248
- Total V/WOs saving (Rs. Ml): 29.0

Governance Structure of LSON
- Chairman
- Vice Chairman & Secretary
- 13 Member (at least 2 members from each LSO)

Partners of LSON
- Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP)
- Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)
- InWent Germany
- Rupani Foundation
- Aga Khan Micro-Health Insurance Agency
- Govt. Health project (TB round - 6)
- Aga Khan Health service

Steps Taken
- Introductory meeting with the representatives of LSOs and formation of ad-hoc Board
- Workshops held in August and October 09 to identify needs, advantages, objectives, challenges and threats for the LSON and define activities of LSON for the year 2009-2010
- Organised and hosted LSO Convention at Regional and Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral level

Cont...
- Submitted a proposal to RSPN for Funding, which has been approved
- Proposal submitted to P&D on Community based Tourism Development in Ghizar
Opportunities

- Peace and harmony
- Supportive political, religious, social and administrative set up
- Organised Community (V/WOs/ LSOs, activists)
- V/WOs saving (Rs. 29 million)
- Natural Resources (Water, Land, Lakes, Minerals, Wildlife, Trout Fish, Glaciers, Tracks, Medicinal Plants)
- Tourism potential

Cont...

- Potential for Micro-hydel
- Educated youth
- Cross-Border Trade (Afghanistan and Central Asia)
- Local Government Development Resource
- Gilgit-Baltistan package 2009

Challenges

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Financial Sustainability of LSON
- Sustainable utilisation of collective saving
- Productive and market-oriented Human Resource
- Technical and professional capacity of LSON

Cont...

- To maintain and promote peace and harmony in the district through dialogue
- Sensitize LSOs and V/WOs about the concept and functions of LSON and form new LSOs covering the remaining UCs and the population
- Formulate policies to better utilize savings (CIF, MGs, investments etc)

Way forward

- Organise dialogues and meetings with Govt. Officials, elected representatives, NGOs and private sector for Public Private Partnerships
- Formulate policies for Sustainable Natural Resource Management
- Research, document and disseminate best practices of LSOs and V/WOs through providing internship for young professionals

Cont...

- Organise development forums on various themes (peace and harmony, Public-private – community partnerships, gender, education, health) involving government, elected representatives, private sector and civil society stakeholders and youth.
- Develop and submit proposals to public sector agencies to create competitive-performance based funds e.g. NASF
Cont.....

- Organise campaigns and participate in Days /
  events of local, national and international
  significance as learning opportunities
- Promote inter-district learning exchange
- Provide monitoring and technical support to
  LSOs for their capacity building
LSO Gindhar, Mustung

Gindhar Local Support Organisation
Union Council Sorghaz, District Mustung, Balochistan

Union Council Profile
- Tehsil and District: Mustung
- Union Council: Sorghaz
- Geographical location: Dusht lies in the East, Sheikh Waisil lies in the West, Quetta lies in the North and Mustung lies in the South
- Tribes: Dehwar, Bangalzai, Lehri, Shawkani
- Languages: Persian, Berahvi
- Sports: Football, cricket

Introduction
- Name of LSO: Gindhar Local Support Organisation
- Total members: 109 (all women)
- Women’s COs total savings: Rs. 87,100
- Date of Formation: 25th April 2008
- Total Women’s COs: 36
- VDOs: 7
- EB Members: 9
- GB Members: 25 (2 from each VDO)

Gindhar LSO
- Project name: Women’s Assets Creation Project
- Duration: 3 years (Sept 2008 – Aug 2011)
- Nature of project: To provide livestock such as goats and sheep to poor women
- Beneficiaries: 240 poor women

Project Procedure
- In this project, a poor woman is provided one goat or sheep. After one year, when a kid is born, it is given back to the LSO and is distributed to another poor woman. A male kid is kept with the community member and sold when it becomes an adult. The amount is then distributed equally amongst the members. An agreement is made between members and the CO, VDO and LSO.

Selection of Poor Women
Before the project, the Poverty Scorecard Survey is used to measure the poverty levels of households. Because of this, destitute, very poor, poor and non-poor are identified. Using this information, the poorest women are selected. This information is also verified by the CO members.
Education

- ROG school established
- Contacted Society Organisation for the establishment of 10 schools in UC Sorglia
- Training related to maternal health was organised in a school in CO Kamai Kalaiz with BRSP support
- Pregnant women were given TT vaccinations and made aware about proper nutrition
- With the support of Global Organisation, 50 mosquito nets were distributed amongst poor women for the prevention of malaria
- A rally was held in the UC to raise awareness about Polio
- To prevent T.B. health education was provided. 20 patients were given check-ups, out of which 9 patients were given treatment with the support of COTS
- Arranged a cleaning campaign, in which all CO members took part
- Provided health education regarding diarrhoea amongst children and on how to make ORS

Future Plan

1. Generate resources, with the help of Govt and other organisations for the development of poor women
2. Develop the local community and to generate resources
3. Raise awareness regarding education in poor community members
4. Provide small loans for women to reduce their poverty
5. To promote livestock in the area
6. Arrange vocational training for women according to their requirements
7. To form COs and VDCs of women
8. To increase savings amongst community members and to reduce dependency on others

Future Plan

1. To obtain a water scheme with the support of the CCB which will benefit 80 households
2. To pave a road from Keraiz Kamai to the main road through government linkages (which has been approved)
3. Talks have been held with LRBT for eye checkups and operations which have been approved in principle
4. To open an English-medium school for which land has already been arranged.
5. To open a computer centre with the support of SPO
LSO Daghnari, Baltistan

Welcome to the Presentation of LSO Daghnari Balghar Gangche, Baltistan

Main Achievements
- Adult Literacy Programme
- NADRA Semi Mobile Unit
- Poverty Alleviation Fund
- Post/Literacy Programme (NCHD)
- Plantation (AKRSP & WWF)
- Seed & Insecticides
- Vocational Training Centre
- Poverty Endowment Fund
- Micro Credit
- Communication
- Skill Development Training Courses
- School Construction Project
- Calendar Meetings
- Conflict Management

LSO Profile
- Union Council: Daghnari Balghar
- District: Gangche, Baltistan
- No. of Households: 985 (census 1990)
- Total Population: 6,112
- Literacy Rate: 29%
- Altitude: 2,400m
- Legal Name of LSO: Daghnari Balghar Local Support Organization
- Date of Formation: September 22, 2006
- Registration: Companies Act 1965
- Number of VO's: 23 (total membership 1,150)
- Number of WOs: 25 (total membership 943)
- Number of GSOs: 1
- No. of Union Councilors: 11 (Male – 8 Female – 3)
- No of District Councilor: 0

LSO and Policy Advocacy

Food Support Programme
Problem:
The govt spends hundreds of thousands of Rupees through Bait-ul-Maal fund, but the funds are not able to reach the deserving

Steps Taken
- Identified the problem and discussed in detail in the LSO Board
- Chairman and Manager LSO met local Assistant Director of Bait-ul-Maal and informed him about the problem
- It was decided that the LSO would verify the lists of the deserving individuals which the Bait-ul-Maal would accept
- Through its members, the LSO visited each house to verify the list of deserving. They found that 20% of individuals were non-deserving.
- Deserving beneficiaries are given Rs. 3,000 grant every six months
Land Compensation

Problem:
The market value of land in the area was Rs. 600,000/kanal while the govt rate was Rs. 80,000/kanal. For this reason, people would not sell their land for development projects leading the govt to forcibly take the land.

Steps taken

- Identified the problem and discussed in detail in the LSO Board and a committee was formed
- The committee collected Rs. 66,000 of donations for expenses
- The LSO met different individuals, such as the Tehsildar to the Chief Secretary Gigit to ask for their cooperation in the matter
- After six months, the LSO succeeded in increasing the compensation amount to Rs. 165,000/kanal, in addition to this, the same amount was applied to the 2 neighbouring UCs
- The committee is still working on this issue and has kept a target of Rs. 500,000 for compensation

Future Plan

- Cable Network
  - Awareness raising
  - Income generation
- Entertainment
- Cultural promotion
- Conservation of agricultural products
- Income generation
- Sustainability of LSO
- Conservation of products
- Focus on quality education
- Linkage development
- Awareness raising
- Induction of educated people in local body (UC, DC)
- Best for LSO
- Transparency
- Well awareness of issues
- Clear vision & mission
RSPs Mission Statement

The RSPs aim to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of the rural poor by harnessing the potential of people to manage their own development, through their own institutions.
RSPN Mission Statement
A prosperous Pakistan where people - especially the poor and women - are provided with equal livelihood opportunities and are not socially and economically excluded.

RSPN
Rural Support Programmes Network
House No. 7, Street 49, F-6/4 Islamabad
Tel: + (92-51) 2822476, 2821736, 2829141
Fax: + (92-51) 2829115
Email: info@rspn.org.pk
Website: www.rspn.org