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The views expressed in this report are those of the speakers and do not necessarily reflect the views of RSPN, or the donors and partners who have supported the Retreat.
Rural Support Programmes’ Annual Retreat
November 20 - 23 2009
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### Appendix I

Text of speech by Chairman, Rural Support Programmes Network, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan at United Nations General Assembly

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Preface

The Rural Support Programmes Network is a Network of ten Rural Support Programmes working in 103 Districts of Pakistan. RSPN encourages and facilitates new ideas, in congruence with the core values and programmes of its member RSPs. The Network also generates dialogue amongst them, so as to develop programmes that guide rural development in general and social mobilization in particular.

The RSPs derive their strengths from the core vision and values that originates with AKRSP in 1982, and their flexibility from their willingness and ability to adopt new ideas and methods. Since RSPs operate in complex social environment, observation, innovation and adaptation are vitally important. The RSPN Annual Retreat is important forum through which to encourage dialogue and mutual learning, and to build consensus within the RSPs on both long-term and emerging development challenges.

A key feature of the Retreat is the representation from community members who share their achievements and perspectives. To cite some examples: this year, Local Support Organization representatives from Gilgit-Baltistan spoke on the use of the innovative e-mandi that ensures fair price for farmers, and LSO members from AJK, Gilgit-Baltistan and Abbottabad spoke about the value and the outcomes of the gender training session they had attended. In Districts Chitral and Ghizer, the LSOs have formed District-level LSO Networks. Some of the LSOs in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral are engaging government other civil society and community members in Democracy and Development Dialogues. These are focused on maintaining social harmony, addressing development issues and influencing public policy through a democratic process.

Linkages and partnerships are also critically important to the RSPs’ work. Governments, donors and UN agencies find it beneficial to partners with the RSPs because of their outreach, their localized expertise and their demonstrated success. This year’s Retreat included presentation on the DFID-funded solid waste management project in Sargodha, the UNICEF-funded Mother and Child Health initiative and a health-focused Micro-Insurance plan that mitigates the shocks of illness and disability for some 1.2 million community organization members. A partnership with UNHCR and the WFP made it possible for SRSP and NRSP to respond to the humanitarian IDP crisis in the NWFP. A documentary on women IDPs made by KZR complemented the presentation, RSPN facilitated the filming crew of KZR to identify and record women specific stories from the refugee camps.

The Retreat is also an opportunity to take stock of progress and trends. The most significant trend in 2008-09 was the increase in the number of women CO, VO and LSO members. Similarly the use of the Poverty Scorecard to identify the poorest household for inclusion in the Union Council Poverty Reduction Plan has been piloted and proven to meet the objectives. The Government at Provincial and Federal Levels have extended full support to RSPs in scaling up the experience across the country.

We hope this Report will inform and inspire our members and partners and that it will contribute to effective planning for 2010 and beyond.

Shandana Khan
Chief Executive Officer
December 09, 2009
PART I

Background & Introduction

The Rural Support Programmes Network is a network of ten Rural Support Programmes working across Pakistan. Beginning with the establishment of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) in 1982, the movement has expanded to all regions of the country. The RSP movement now encompasses over 2.5 million socially mobilised households. A key feature of the expansion has been the replication of AKRSP, often with core funds provided by Federal and Provincial Governments. The most recent addition to the network is the Azad Jammu & Kashmir Rural Support Programme (AJKRSP), established with the support of the Government of AJK.

The RSPs’ expertise lies in organising communities through its core programme of social mobilisation. This results in a unique kind of partnership between the people living and working in rural areas, local administrative and government Departments and non-governmental organisations. The role of the RSPs is to organise communities, and to foster local institutions based on their social, physical and natural capital.

Social Mobilisation springs from the grassroots. Local communities are first organised as Community Organisations, then, as they grow and mature, develop into representative Village Organisations and later federate into Local Support Organisations. In some Districts the next stage has begun, with District wide LSO Networks. These stages are facilitated, guided and supported by the RSP. When people form their own local institutions, they can raise awareness about rights, and marshal human, organisational and financial resources, including access to public funds and services. The RSPS thus provide people with a unique opportunity to enter the mainstream of national development.

Introduction

In contemporary development practice, there are no development blueprints, and even if they exist they have little practical value. Only those organisations that encourage innovation in their working ethos; and which revise and develop policies to inform strategic directions in response to changing social, cultural, and environmental factors are able to mature and keep pace with development needs.

The RSP movement started twenty-seven years ago in 1982 in village Sherqilla, District Gilgit. The original objective was to organise communities into Village Organisations. When the programme was replicated across Pakistan, demographic and other conditions required that smaller organisations be formed so as to reach the largest number of the poor and marginalised people: those are known as Community Organisations (COs) and Village Organisations (VOs). In many Districts the Community and Village Organisations have now evolved into Local Support Organisations (LSOs). Over 200 of these flourish across Pakistan and many more will be formed in the near future. The
LSOs emerged when the Village Organisations required a common platform to voice their needs and issues at the local administrative and government levels. The journey does not end here; in Districts Chitral and Gilgit the LSOs are now federating into Local Support Organisation Networks.

The movement that began in a remote and marginalised location of what is now Gilgit-Baltistan has now grown into one of the most successful development models in South Asia. The reliance on social mobilisation sets the RSPs apart from other not-for-profit organisations of the Region. Across the world, the model championed by the Rural Support Programmes is now acknowledged and respected for the vision and flexibility it has maintained in meeting the goals of poverty alleviation and rural development.

‘Social mobilisation is the primary means by which a community’s capacity for collective action is harnessed and strengthened—creating the basis for sustainable welfare impacts as well as broader social and political empowerment’ (World Bank, 2007, p 129).

The success of RSP model is based on effective social mobilisation that has resulted in the organisation of local resources and collective action of the poor. The social mobilisation has evolved through the development practice of the RSPs in the various regions of the country; the vision and the core values are central to the RSPs’ approaches.

Social mobilisation as practiced by the RSP involves three tiers of local mobilisation of the social, and resources in a given populace;

**Community Organisation (CO)** – is the smallest mobilized unit in the programme area. In a given community, for the launch of programmes by RSPs, mobilisation of community as CO is of pivotal importance and is a prerequisite in a heterogeneous population settlement; the CO was included in the RSPs approach in the early 1990s when National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) started its operations in Punjab, Sindh and NWFP.

**Village Organisation (VO)** – is a representative of a given village, comprising more than a single community. For VO to be functional the homogeneity of people lives is the base. When AKRSP started its operations, social mobilisation was enabled with the formation of the VO. VO is the linchpin holding various communities together on a single platform.

**Local Support Organisation (LSO)** – is the third and the apex of community mobilisation. In most cases the VOs mature into the LSO, however, this transformation is not determined by the maturity of a VO.

The most important factor that make these community-led grassroots organisational structures work is the Activist; a person from a given community, or village who carries the beacon of hope for his/her people.

**Strategic Direction and Planning**

The RSPN Annual Retreat of the member Rural Support Programmes was organised by the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) in Bhurban from November 20th – 23rd, 2009. This year the Annual Retreat focused on experience sharing through interactive presentations for developing future strategic and programme directions for the RSPs. This Report highlights the discussions and decisions taken during these sessions.

The Retreat schedule is attached as Appendix-II and the list of participants is attached as Appendix-III.
The main objectives of the 2009 Annual RSP Retreat were to:

a. Understand the ever changing social, development and security context of the country
b. Learn from development practices of the member Rural Support Programmes
c. Interact with and learn about the achievements of LSOs and provide them with an opportunity to showcase their endeavours
d. Explore and discover the recent additions of development tools (Community Investment Fund, Union Council Plan, Community Resource Persons, Micro Health Insurance) in family of social mobilisation
e. Generate debate, deliberate and be motivated on above-mentioned issues to renew the spirit and
f. relive the Rural Support Programmes experience

Part-II of the Report presents a summary of the sessions and Part-III is a collection of all the presentations delivered by the member RSPs, LSOs and other stakeholders.

Part-II Summary of sessions

This section gives the summary of the presentations, comments, questions and feedback by and from the participants of the Annual Retreat 2009.

**Day 1 – November 21**

The CEO of RSPN, Ms. Shandana Khan, opened the Retreat by welcoming the member RSPs. She noted that last year Ms. Farzana Raja, Chairperson BISP and MNA (PPP) participated in and assured the government’s support in carrying out the Poverty Score Card exercise in the country: the government has now requested the RSPs to roll-out the PSC exercise across Pakistan. A very important addition in the RSPs’ work is the Union Council Plan, which was being planned last year; now the Sindh Rural Support Organisation has started work on the UC Plan in Districts Kashmore and Shikarpur with the support of the Sindh Government. The inclusion of women in the LSOs is an important area of the RSPs’ work; all the RSPs will have to work and design plans to encourage women’s participation in the local area’s development.

Setting the scene for the discussions during the day, the Annual Retreat was declared open. The summary of discussions and presentations during the Annual Retreat follows:

**Rural Support Programmes Outreach,**
**Muhammad Saleem Baluch, Programme Officer, Monitoring, Evaluation and Research, RSPN**

Since 1982 the RSPs have grown substantially and now represent the largest social movement in the country. A highlight of this presentation was the increase in women’s participation in the Community Organisations; over the years this has gradually increased and the gap between men’s and women’s participation has been reduced. The RSP-wise women’s participation at the grassroots level is highest at Ghazi Brotha Taraqqiati Idara at 46 percent; followed by Thardeep Rural Development Programme at 41 percent; the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme 37 percent and National Rural Support Programme and the Sarhad Rural Support Programme both at 30 percent. The average percentage of women participation in the community organisation amongst the RSPs is 34 percent.

LSO formation has shown a rapid increase since the introduction of the concept of federating COs and VOs into a cohesive representative unit. NRSP has formed 146 LSOs, AKRSP 34, TRDP 10, SRSP 7, BRSP 3, and the PRSP 2.

Commenting on the presentation concern-
ing growth and trends, the RSPN Chairman Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said it is important to understand why we need to know where and how the RSPs reach the poor. We have to understand the objectives, the primary one being social mobilisation; and it is not served unless and until households are willing to be mobilised. The second objective is to alleviate poverty, which requires an understanding of how you reach out to the poor. After getting these households mobilised the RSPs need to segregate this information so as to identify the poor. The Poverty Score Card has been crucial in this endeavour. The Chairman urged RSPN to arrange detailed data profiles and records to enable an effective conclusion so as to inform policies and strategies.

Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Plan: the SRSO Experience. Ghulam Rasool SRSO

Speaking before the presentation made by Mr. Ghulam Rasool the RSPN CEO Ms. Shandana Khan said that Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Plan was shared with the Government of Pakistan following the completion of the report of the ‘Special Committee on Poverty Reduction, Social Protection and Women’s Empowerment’, which was set up by the Planning Commission of Pakistan’s Task Force on Social Sectors. The Special Committee was chaired by Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan. The President of Pakistan approved the Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Plan in 35 Districts. The Government of Sindh was the first to partner with the RSPs to undertake the UC Plan. The most significant feature of the UC Plan implemented by SRSO is that it is ‘women specific and centric’, characteristics that make it unique. Soon this plan will be implemented by the SRSP. It may not be possible for SRSP to ensure that the UC Plan in NWFP is exclusively focussed women; however, the lessons learnt from the SRSO experience can be replicated by other member RSPs.

The Chairman of RSPN reiterated that to design programmes for the lowest poverty bands ‘different interventions for different bands must be initiated and developed’. The UC Poverty Reduction Plan provides a unique opportunity to access the poorest and to alleviate their poverty.

The first phase of the UC Based Plan will be implemented in all of the Union Councils in Kashmore (37 UCs) and Shikarpur (50 UCs) Districts, Sindh. The first activity was Poverty Score Card survey, according to which percentage of each poverty band was generated. The poverty bands for each District are presented in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Type (Rural/Urban)</th>
<th>Score Range (0-11)</th>
<th>Score Range (12-18)</th>
<th>Score Range (19-23)</th>
<th>Score Range (24-100)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shikarpur (50 UCS)</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,083</td>
<td>20,513</td>
<td>24,275</td>
<td>79,310</td>
<td>134,181</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kandhkot (37 UCs)</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,137</td>
<td>18,808</td>
<td>23,523</td>
<td>74,339</td>
<td>123,807</td>
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<td>6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Mr. Ghulam Rasool reported that the Board of the Sindh Rural Support Organisation has commissioned the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) to conduct a ‘process review’. In the first phase of the review SDPI’s team of 36 people have verified the SRSO findings for the number of people in each ‘poverty band’. Commenting on the process review Shoaib Sultan Khan said that according to his understanding of the UC Based Poverty Reduction Plan it was essential that the effect of this intervention be reviewed by an outside agency; the role of this outside agency was not to micro-manage or evaluate, but to review the entire process and the SRSO Board Members agreed to the suggestion put forth by me. He said that at first the Board might have thought that the SDPI was a ‘spying agency’ of the Chairman, however, now they themselves realise that this process review will provide them the hindsight for future interventions and scaling up. The Chairman hoped that when the Sarhad Rural Support Programme starts the UC Based Poverty Reduction Plan it will facilitate the similar exercise of ‘process review’.

After the presentation a question was asked about the productive and efficient use of the Income Generation Grant and the Community Investment Fund and ‘how its effective use was ensured’ Mr. Ghulam Rasool responded by saying that this is ensured from the outset, as the Poverty Score Card identifies ‘poverty bands’, thus paving the way for identifying and reaching the poorest. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said that community mobilisation is the essential beginning; giving the example of his recent visit to the project sites in Sindh, he noted that in one location, there were eleven women in the poverty band of 0-9, technically making all of them potential recipients of the Income Generation Grant (IGG). However, only one woman was given the IGG. When asked why all 11 did not receive the IGG, the women replied that the IGG is a grant which is not to be returned whereas Community Investment Fund is a loan which is to be returned. And, to make effective use of the grant and the loan, we applied our own criteria, thus giving the IGG only to that woman who was the most needy and has the fewest earning options. He added that we have to trust the communities, and maintained that if it had been up to SRSO all eleven women would have been given IGG, however, when the women were made partners, they devised their own knowledge of the situation and made the most effective plan for the use of the monetary resource. Hence, loan from the CIF was given to those women who have skills and resources to best use of financial injection and have the ability to return the amount lent; whereas, grant from IGG was given to that woman who had less skills and could default on the loan, had it been allocated from CIF.

**Issues in women’s participation in LSOs.**

**Virginia Khan, Manager Gender & Development, RSPN**

The session included four presentations by LSO representatives who discussed their LSOs’ experiences of ensuring women’s participation, issues relating to women and the strategies they had devised to resolve those issues. Each LSO representative made a short presentation on the performance of his/her LSO on ensuring women’s participation.

**LSO Dhanwan, Kotli, Azad Jammu & Kashmir: Mr. Muhammad Siddique, President of LSO Dhanwan**

“The National Rural Support Programme had mobilised our community in 1997 and the establishment of the Local Support Organisation was completed in 2008. Following a ‘Gender Awareness Training’ in March 2009 we realised that women from our area do not fully participate in the development planning of the community. This happens because of gender discrimination and the
lack of educational institutions. To respond to such inequalities we arranged gender awareness sessions in our community, and provided skills training to the local women. Another important step that the LSO undertook was replacing male office bearers with women, so as to encourage women to visit the LSO office. The performance of the LSO increased substantially with the participation of women Community Resource Persons (CRPs).”

Our LSO arranged dialogues and interactive sessions with the local religious and political leaders so as to neutralise their influence and engage them in development initiatives in the community. These sessions were supported by the skills development trainings in which a group of 200 women were given lessons on sewing dresses. A sewing centre was established with financial support from NRSP. The LSO also arranged for blood donors to be mobilised during times of need, as many women require a transfusion during labour and surgery, and often the blood group is not available. Having a registered pool of donors addresses this need. The LSO Dhanwan has also arranged for an ambulance to meet women’s medical needs.”

LSO Pine Rural Area Development Organisation, District Abbottabad: Ms Saima Gul, Vice President.

Ms Saima informed participants that the community was mobilised and organised by the Sarhad Rural Support Programme in 1997. “When the idea of forming an LSO was suggested to us in 2007, we wanted to form an LSO to present the community issues at the UC level. Following a ‘Gender Awareness Training’ in March 2009 we realised that women from our area did not participate in development planning, so we made efforts to mainstream women. We also realised that not all women in the community had a Computerised National Identity Card, which is necessary for many aspects of development. Our LSO facilitated these women to receive a CNIC, to give them ‘presence’ in the community.”

“Since the LSO was formed the local government seeks its support and facilitation in undertaking joint development programmes. An additional advantage of the LSO is the presence of its members who are at Union Council Office. The LSO has accessed public funds from the Pakistan Bait ul Maal and has constructed latrines in the Girls’ Middle School. We also requested the Local Administration to upgrade the school to a High School. We have developed linkages with several public offices, including the National Agricultural Research Council which provide high-yield seeds for local farmers.


“Our LSO is named after local resident Mr. Mirza Ali Muhammad, who was a great proponent of women’s education. He was the father of six daughters and he made sure they were all educated. He did this despite opposition from other villagers. The village’s first school for girls was started in his house.

Ms. Shehreen Bibi said that the community was organised by NRSP and the LSO was formed in year 2008. Community members attended skill-development training programmes and sessions on women’s rights, the latter arranged by the Aurat Foundation and NRSP. The training made people realise that women’s participation is imperative to the development of the area.

The LSO helped local young men to get acquire skills from the Technical and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA) in electrical mechanics and plumbing. They were given training for three continuous months, and received a stipend of Rs. 3,000
Each graduate was given Rs. 5,000 to start up a business. The LSO also ensured that 245 women get monthly funds from the Pakistan Bait ul Maal, and another 242 receive monthly support from the Benazir Income Support Programme. In response to a question on how the LSO was able to get the Girls’ Primary School promoted to a High School, she said “the LSO advocated to the Executive District Office, Education and passed a resolution at the level of LSO, requesting government to take immediate action’; this advocacy paved the way for community to voice its needs across the local administration.

Hyderabad Local Support Organisation, Hunza, Gilgit Baltistan.
Ms. Shahida Jalal, Vice Chairperson.

This LSO was mobilised by the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme and this enabled its members to mature to the level of an LSO, a step that required the equal participation of women in the area’s development.

Ms Shahida said that their village has been declared Open Defecation Free and has an ODF certificate from UNICEF. With the help of an Italian donor agency the LSO was able to get funding for construction of a community-based High School. With the support of AKRSP Telenor Pakistan provided LSO members with a unique product called e-mandi (electronic market). This cell-phone service is available to all the LSO members and the community members of Village Hyderabad. It informs the local producers of the prices of vegetables sold in the metropolises. This ensures that sellers pay the rightful price to the local producers.

Explaining the mechanism of e-mandi Mr. Azizul-lah Baig from AKRSP said that this product is being launched with 25 LSOs in Gilgit-Baltistan. It ensures that local producers are not cheated by the sellers coming from larger cities, and that each producer is paid the rightful price for vegetables and fruits, and that the farmers get a better return on investments. Telenor Pakistan pays the salary of the people who collect the prices post them on the central board at every recipient LSO office.

On the conclusion of presentations by the LSOs the floor was opened for discussion. The questions included how funds are generated and utilised by the LSOs. The LSO representatives said that most of them have started to utilise the Community Investment Fund and to charge a fee ranging from 3-5%. The Community Investment Fund is allocated to women only.

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan lauded all the presenters, noting that the RSPs’ niche is social mobilisation and which enables the development model to work effectively. The belief that the RSP model fosters is the belief in people’s potential, and to unleash this potential people are to be organised, as things makes many other things possible. He noted the example of the LSO members’ ability to access and utilise government funds for their areas’ development.

The Chairman reiterated the point that the Community Investment Fund and Income Generation Grant is for women only. He also appreciated the difference that the Gender Awareness Training has made on the working of these LSOs. The Chairman also urged all the development practitioners from the RSPs to foster Community Resource Persons if the model is to be scaled up, adding ‘Creating this framework of grassroots organisations and people’s organisations, you have seen how the other [line] departments are coming in [to build partnerships]. One submission and appeal is that give up this mental block, if you are not going to choose and foster from [them] CRPs you will not be able to scale it up’.

Gender and Development: Issues and Update.

The latest figures on the number of women staff working in each RSP were presented, from the level of Board, Senior Management, and Middle Management and to the Other Professionals. Commenting on the data, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said that we have to revisit the figures for each level of Management of the RSPs.

CEO Ms. Shandana Khan, sharing her insights on gender planning, said that from the experience of RSPN ‘we have noticed that government programmes have serious issues regarding women’s involvement and most of them are gender blind’. She gave the example of the Crop Maximisation Project. She asked Ms. Salma Khalid, Programme Officer, Gender and Development NRSP, to share
her insights on the Gender Training conducted in UC Qamar Mashani, Teshil Isa Khel, District Mianwali. Ms. Salma said that the Gender Awareness programmes included the Gender Awareness Training for the Senior Management of the NRSP. In District Sukkur, NRSP had conducted a Planning Session with rural women: this was organised by the Sindh Rural Support Organisation. The experience was informative, since at the end of the planning session ‘we were able to generate gender indicators from the perspective of rural women’.

The gender-specific plans and commitments made by each CEO in 2008 were then shared. Mr. Ghulam Rasool noted shared that SRSO had conducted an Anti-Sexual Harassment Workshop for the staff. For the ongoing UC Based Poverty Reduction Plan, SRSO had initially considered having three female Social Organisers; however, due to culture sensitivity of Districts Kambhkot and Shikarpur, the team includes one male and two female Social Organisers, since this ensures that the teams are able to move around safely.

Mr. Aga Ali Javad (General Manager NRSP) then discussed NRSP’s efforts to include Gender Focal Persons at every regional hub. He said that there is serious commitment and resolve on the inclusion of women in the mainstream planning, adding that over the years women’s participation has increased to 60% over the previous dismal figures.

CEO SRSP, Masood ul Mulk, acknowledged that ensuring women’s participation in mainstream planning sometime is a sensitive issue; he noted that recently a woman worker from SRSP was murdered and in these scenarios the organisation has to tread carefully. “However our commitment to ensuring women’s participation in the programmes of the SRSP is very clear”.

CEO BRSP Dr. Nadir Gul Baroch referred to the previous Retreat, noting that BRSP now has female staff in every programme section, including a female manager looking after the water programmes. He explained that it is difficult for women workers to move freely in the remote areas of Baluchistan and to counter this ‘BRSP has started Health and Enterprise programmes, giving speedy access to the women staff in the remote areas’.

CEO AKRSP Izhar Ali Hunzai said that ‘AKRSP was the first RSP to have a Gender Policy and is the first organisation to have Gender Audit.’ Chief Operating Officer PRSP, Abid Saeed, said that PRSP ensures that gender is included in all the development initiatives undertaken; the Gender Group recently revised the Gender Strategy. He also noted that PRSP arranges open dialogues with women staff members and encourages them to share problems and issues.

CEO GBTI Ahsun Khan said that his organisation has the largest women’s participation and ‘we are committed to involving women fully in the mainstream development of our area’.

Chairperson of the SRSP BoD, Mrs. Munawar Khan said that ‘it is imperative that women be involved in the mainstream development programmes, and more importantly that the RSPs develop innovative programmes and activities for ensuring women’s participation. We have to think beyond livestock and poultry’ she urged.

At conclusion of the session Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said that is it important to ascertain the attitude of male professionals to their female counterparts. Also, women staff should be encouraged to share their experiences and issues faced in the working environment; even the attitude of drivers towards female staff should be evaluated. He gave the example that once he had asked the female staff to share the issues they face in the working environment and ‘things they shared were an eye opener’. He urged all the CEOs to hold dialogues with women staff members on issues related to working environment.

**Role of the Sarhad Rural Support Programme in the Responding to the plight of IDPs of NWFP: CEO SRSP, Masood ul Mulk.**

Describing how SRSP, which is not a humanitarian organisation, got involved in providing relief to IDPs from District Swat in ten Districts of NWFP, the CEO noted that when the crisis began the SRSP Management decided to take part in this mammoth ‘tidal wave of work’. ‘SRSP became part of the UN Clusters, formed to coordinate relief activities for the IDPs’. SRSP provided services to the IDPs by partnering with the UNHCR (UN High Commission for Refugees).
SRSP provided Food Items and Non-Food Items to the IDPs in the eight (8) IDP camps established in District Mardan and Swabi and outside the camps in other ten (10) districts of the NWFP, including District Swabi and Mardan. SRSP assisted 367,234 IDP families and 2,591,338 individuals. All of these figures are available online and can be verified and tracked online for authenticity and reliability. SRSP is now recognised by the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (UNOCHA) as the leading National NGO on the IDPs Crisis. UNHCR has requested SRSP to continue the partnership. In conclusion the CEO thanked the Chairman, RSPN, the CEO RSPN the staff of SRSP in undertaking the programmes and work for providing relief to tens of thousands of IDPs.


Ms. Shaikh explained that the National Plan of Action for Women is essentially a Plan for national governments to include issues directly pertaining to women in mainstream development. Pakistan’s NPA was formulated in 1998, following the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. The NPA it is to be revised this year; Shirkat Gah will present the draft to the Ministry of Women’s Development in February 2010 and plans to launch it on International Women’s Day March 8th 2010.

Shirkat Gah has arranged meetings and dialogues with stakeholders in the Civil Society, such as NGOs, educational institutes and the private sector. There are twelve areas of concern in the NPA: Poverty, the Economy, Environment, Armed Conflict, Power and Decision Making, Violence against Women, the Girl Child, Institutional Mechanisms, Media, Education, Health and Human Rights. Shirkat Gah is proposing that some critical issues, such as Climate Change, Poverty and Economy be interlinked. Ms. Shandana Khan asked for the ‘zero-draft’ to be shared with the RSPs so that the document is shared with the ‘RSPs Gender Resource Group to include the micro level issues related to women from Pakistan’.

Saaf Suthra Marri Project (Solid Waste Management Initiative) District Sargodha: Regional General Manager, Faisalabad Region, Mr. Nake Alam Hyder, PRSP

This project was designed with the participation of 23 Community Organisations in Village Marri and implemented with the financial resources made available by RSPN to the tune of Rs. 1,200,000. PRSP and the Marri Village provided support in kind. Mr. Nake Alam Hyder explained that the project implementation was divided into seven steps: Step 1: Social Mobilization with Target Population, Step 2: Infrastructure Development at Composting Site, Step 3: Pre Collection Activities, Step 4: Provision of Sanitary Services in the assigned communities, Step 5: Sorting of Solid Waste, Step 6: Composting of Organic Waste and Step 7: Marketing of Inorganic Products & Organic Compost.

These activities were designed to achieve effective outputs from the project interventions. A General Body and Project Implementation Committee were formed from within the representative twenty-three Community Organisations; the community made available an open site for dumping organic waste for composting; all organic waste is processed through “wind-row” technology and then converted into compost, and requires eight weeks to be converted into usable compost; which is packaged in 3 Kg plastic packs.

The Solid Waste Management Initiative has mobilised 938 households and shops and involves some 10,000 individuals; the community is taking part enthusiastically in the initiative and more importantly the local religious leaders at mosques have also been requested to give messages on cleanliness and hygiene in sermons and request people to take part in the initiative.

Commenting on the presentation the Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan appreciated the efforts of the Punjab Rural Support Programme, and asked PRSP to calculate its total costs inclusive of financial, material and human resource costs. He said ‘I am a proponent of this and excited about this initiative. Our villages have so much dirt and filth, and if we come up with a cost-effective plan then this can be marketed; people are willing to pay. This is an exciting initiative.’
Documentary on GBTI: A Case of Resettlement through Social Mobilisation

CEO GBTI Ahsun Khan began the presentation with a review of the history of GBTI as a member RSP. He was initially involved in GBTI when the local residents were afraid that their lands would be appropriated by WAPDA to construct the Hydro-power Project at Ghazi (District Haripur) which diverted water from the river Indus. The residents campaigned against the construction, which they feared would be modelled on the Tarbela and Mangla Dams. ‘Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan came on to the scene and ensured support to the people of Ghazi’. As a result people were organised to be members of GBTI, in order to voice their needs and problems to the authorities in WAPDA and other Government agencies.

Mr. Ahsun Khan explained that the model of GBTI, ‘presents a unique model of a support organisation. By way of the RSPs’ practice of social mobilisation and participatory development, it facilitated intermediation between WAPDA and other government agencies and the project-affected populations in the resolution of complex land acquisitions and resettlement issues, the incorporation of safeguard measures, the redressing of grievances and integrated social economic development of the project affected population’. Slowly this organisation has grown into a member RSP and is willing to share its experiences with the people of Gilgit-Baltistan where the Hydropower Project at Diamer-Bhasha on the River Indus is to be implemented. The film titled Power to the People was then screened.

Day 2 – November 22

Video Documentary: Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan’s Speech at the United Nations General Assembly, May 2009

The session started with the video presentation of the speech made by Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan at the United Nations General Assembly in May 2009. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said that the invitation for speaking at the UN was possible only because people believed in the social mobilisation process, and that ‘this is reconfirmation that our work and approach is been recognised world over, and this can reduce the poverty’.

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said ‘This film that you going to watch. It is about one of the UN’s Commissions; UN Commission for Sustainable Development. This Commission looks at the worldwide programmes and see which programmes have reduced poverty and scaled it up. This was at the 17th Annual Session, and participants included the UN Secretary General, some Head of States, all Heads of UN Agencies, and representatives from other International organisations, e.g. this time they had called President IUCN [as well]. They had invited me, and I was the only non-government person, and had asked me to give speech on sustainable development’. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan’s speech is presented in Appendix I.

Presentation & Discussion on UNICEF Mother and Child Health Initiative

This presentation was made by Specialist Social Sector, Ms. Tanya Khan, Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN). The presentation related to one of the programmes on Mother and Child Health based on the RSPN partnership with UNICEF to develop a community based model for introducing integrated health interventions in remote rural communities.

The programme covers a total of twelve (12) districts of Pakistan and involves coordination and facilitation by the five (5) RSPs Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Graduate Association (SGA), and Punjab Rural Support Programme (PRSP). The programme is based on the principles of social mobilisation and involves community participation at the maximum, for instance she said ‘we have been able to reach out to the poor by identifying and involving the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) from the targeted communities. The process of identifying Community Resource Persons (CRPs) in all the twelve (12) districts of Sindh and Punjab was made an integral part of programmes planning; on identifying and engaging CRPs Ms. Tanya said ‘The criteria for identifying CRP was developed by the RSPs that a) she/he should be local, b) committed to cause. And more importantly to under-
She also stated that the programme is enabling partnerships with other agencies as well, for Adult Education; RSPN has asked National Commission on Human Development (NCHD) to take up Adult Education at the Union Council level.

Concluding the presentation, a short documentary on the work of the ongoing activities on the RSPN/UNICEF Partnership on Mother and Child Initiative was shown; the documentary highlighted the work of CRPs and also included interviews of Executive District Officer, Health from respective districts.

Commenting on the presentation, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan lauded the efforts of the Specialist Social Sector and appreciated her team's effort in engaging the local population through the inclusion of Community Resource Persons (CRPs) in the service delivery. Mr Shoaib Sultan Khan said 'I would like to commend the power of CRPs, if you identify the right CRPs then look at their work. Tremendous work', he also asked the Social Sector Team to get this video documentary translated in English.

Mrs. Munawar Khan, Chairperson SRSP, also appreciated the programme’s achievements, and enquired about the scaling up of this programme in NWFP and Baluchistan. To which Ms. Tanya Khan responded by saying that not all the Government Departments are aware of the RSPs and they were hesitant in undertaking the programme. She also mentioned that a lot of hard work was put in to engage Executive District Officer, Health in the various programme districts. Whereas at the Provincial level, Dr. Nadir Gul (BRSP) has conducted meetings with Provincial Government and the UNICEF, however, this process is taking sometime.

Mr. Nazar Memon, Member of RSPN Board, congratulated the Social Sector Team on the brilliant performance at the field level and also commented that meeting with Health Department at the Federal Level can be arranged to get them on board and to scale this initiative in other parts of the country.
Presentation & Discussion: AJK Local Support Organisation, Chenari

This presentation was made by Ms. Yasmeen Bibi from Local Support Organisation (LSO), Chinari, Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The communities and villages represented by the LSO are 159 Community Organisations (COs) and 14 Village Organisations (VOs), respectively. There are 1,777 men and 1,423 women organized amongst these Community and Village Organisations. The communities and villages were mobilized and organized by the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP); and NRSP has supported the representative COs and VOs to federate into the LSO in May, 2007. Later, in February, 2008 the LSO was registered with the Joint Stock Companies and Firms, Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Ms. Yasmeen Bibi explained that with the formation of LSO the locals have realised the importance of being organised, value of their institutions and agency ‘When people have their own institutions, people can undertake cost-effective development work.’ She said that the biggest change in her area is the realisation on how to get access to public funds and undertake project implementation, however to make them sustainable is of pivotal importance. Hence, for this reason it is essential that ‘ownership’ to the programmes and projects is ensured from the very beginning.

MS. YASMEEN BIBI FROM LSO CHENARI TALKS ABOUT BUILDING LINKAGES WITH OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

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<td>Non-poor</td>
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of planning, and with the formation of LSO this realisation has come to the people of the region, ‘For instance, if water supply scheme is damaged, people thought that this is the project of LGRD, ICRC, NRSP; and with the formation of LSO the realisation has come to the people of my areas that it is our responsibility to ensure that these projects and schemes remain sustainable since these are our schemes’.

She briefed participants on the level of activities undertaken by the LSO since its formations; the LSO has arranged, facilitated and channelled Rs. 185 million for the development of the area. These development projects included all the development programmes initiated by the non-government organisations and government departments following the deadly Kashmir earthquake of 2005. Ms. Yasmeen Bibi also informed participants that LSO has conducted poverty ranking of their area in year 2008 and subsequently in 2009, as well. This comparison showed that the poorer households had been able to improve their poverty status.

In the follow up questions regarding the LSOs’ sustainability predominated: participants were interested to know how LSO would be sustaining its operations in wake of financial withdrawal from NRSP. Ms. Yasmeen Bibi acknowledged that funding resources are limited; however, with perseverance and strong resolve for the development of our area ‘we can overcome the shortcoming’. She informed participants that with the financial resources provided by the NRSP the LSO had built a vocational training centres that is providing a steady income to meet the expenses of the LSO: the combined savings of the COs and VOs are Rs. 4 million.

Mr. Agha Ali Javad, General Manager of NRSP, said that this LSO has done remarkable work in its area, and their performance reflects their work on the ground. NRSP provided them the enabling environment and then local people from the LSO proved that they can do development of their respective areas with utmost responsibility and perseverance.

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan commended the work of LSO Chinari and said that ‘the success of the RSP programmes lies in the honesty of those people who want to take advantage of the programmes and for their area, and the key thing is to trust the people.’ Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan urged all member RSPs to trust and believe in people, since this social mobilisation is ‘our niche, this sets us apart from others; I congratulate all the team members that they have done wonderful and successful work.’

Chief Operating Officer RSPN Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay asked Mr. Atique ur Rehman, CEO of the newly formed Azad Jammu & Kashmir Rural Support Programme (AJKRSP) to share his views on the formation of networks of LSOs in the entire AJK. Mr. Atique responded that under the overall guidance of Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, AJKRSP will work with the Government of AJK and NRSP to increase the coverage of LSOs and then to explore opportunities for further supporting the District level LSO Networks.

Presentation & Discussion: Local Support Organisation Network Ghizer, Gilgit-Baltistan. Mr. Bulbul Jan

Before making the presentation, he apprised participants that ‘there was a time when the Northern Areas led in the country in the field of village level and Union Council level social mobilization when the people set up Village/Women’s Organisations and Local Support Organisations. Today our people are again at the forefront of social mobilization. Now I will introduce you all to the concept of the Local Support Organisation Network, which is a District level network of LSOs.

Following the AKRSP LSO Convention in Gilgit in 2008, it was realized that most of the LSOs are able to voice the needs of their respective areas only at the Union Council level, and are unable to influence the policies being developed at the district level Delineating on the causes of developing a network, Mr. Bulbul Jan explained ‘LSO reach is to UC, however policies are made at the districts level; LSOs are unable to influence policies at that level [district] therefore, it was realized that we make a LSO network, with an objective to influence the district level policies’. Of the sixteen Union Councils in District Ghizer eight have an active presence of LSOs formed earlier with the support of Aga Khan Rural Support Programme. LSOs
will be fostered in the remaining Union Councils.

There are eight LSO members in the Network, representing 119 Village Organisations and 138 Women’s Organisations making the total number of organisations to 257, and serving 9,248 organised households. The combined savings of the LSO amount to Rs. 29 million which shall be utilised on the development work. He also informed that at the present LSN has partnered with Aga Khan Rural Support Programme, RSPN, InWent Germany and the Rupani Foundation; the LSON has also shared a development proposal with the Public Works Department but has not yet received a response.

Similar to the previous presentation the question and answer session was dominated by questions on the sustainability of the LSON. However, it was unanimously appreciated that with the formation of the LSON a new idea is now generated; Ms. Shandana Khan appreciated the efforts of the LSN and commended the foresight of LSO members. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan urged the members of LSN to start making use of their savings, and said to Mr. Bulbul Jan ‘take my message to LSN to extend the network of LSOs in the other eight Union Councils of the District, and those sitting on Rs. 29 million should not be talking of funds constraints.’

Participants were curious to understand how the LSN is arranging intra-faith dialogues in the communities and engages public representatives with the general public. In response, Mr. Bulbul Jan explained that the process is very tough and demanding, however in our limited capacity we develop consensus in the communities driven by the goodwill created by the AKRSP in the region. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan at this moment asked all participants to understand that for development ‘three types of structures are needed: a) Administrative Structure (bureaucracy), b) Political Structure (Union Councils, District Administrations and Political Representatives), and c) Socio-Economic Structure (grassroots level – organised communities). The role of RSPs is at the Socio-Economic Structure and this should not be mixed with the Political Structure.’

The presentation by Mr. Bulbul Jan was followed by the Community Media initiative presented by AKRSP’s Mr. Azizullah Baig, Manager Policy and Advocacy. He noted that AKRSP has initiated this special activity with RSPN support to support the work of the LSOs. This activity entails making video documentaries on local issues, conducting dialogues with public representatives, making commitments, and then showing the video documentaries to the public representatives to take up actions, as well as on the local cable networks. He said that a recent documentary on water issues was shown to the Chief Secretary, Gilgit-Baltistan, who took immediate action to resolve the issue. Following this brief introduction on the initiative a video documentary on Middle and High Education was shown.

Ms. Sameena speaks on women participation in the LSO from Union Council Litten
hammad Iqbal, President Thall Rural Development Programme (Local Support Organisation from Union Council Litten, District Bhakkar), and Ms. Sameena, Social Organiser, Thall Rural Development Programme, made a detailed presentation on the achievements made by the LSO. The communities in Union Council Litten were mobilised by NRSP with some support from RSPN.

Delineating the achievements made by the LSO, the President Mr. Muhammad Iqbal said ‘the social mobilisation in the UC Litten has been growing at a positive rate, the number of households in UC are 3,841 and organised households are 3,500; showing 91% coverage.’ Likewise, Ms. Sameena speaking on women’s participation in LSO said ‘women are now involved in running the affairs of LSO, and there are 140 women organisations represented by the LSO, whilst there is 33 percent participation of women in 15 of the Village Organisations.’ She also shared with participants how women have been taking advantage of the Community Investment Fund: a total of Rs. 2.8 million was disbursed amongst the poorest households identified after conducting the Poverty Score Card in the area; 291 women and 4 men are benefiting from CIF. The recovery rate of CIF has been 100 percent.

Speaking on the other activities undertaken by the LSO the President Mr. Muhammad Iqbal said that special attention is being paid to providing education to adults of the area; women’s education had been the lowest in the region prior to the formation of LSO, ‘women’s literacy was recorded at 10 percent before, and with the support of NRSP the LSO started an adult education drive in the area, thus increasing women’s literacy to 22.5 percent.’ Sharing future plans of the LSO, Mr. Muhammad Iqbal said that efforts will be made to get women of the area get their National Identity Cards, since not having an NIC ‘excludes women from the political structure and the subsequent development planning’. He also noted that the LSO is undertaking education and skill development activities with NRSP to provide people with the opportunity to plan for their betterment. He added that NRSP has undertaken special initiatives to provide facilities and education to special people in the area commonly known as the ‘handicapped’ population.

Carrying forward the presentation made by LSO Thall Rural Development Programme, Ms. Shirley, In-charge, Programme on Adult Literacy and Life Skills (PALLS) briefed participants on how the literacy level of women was increased from 10 to 22.5 percent. She explained that following Poverty Score Card exercise in the village, two issues were found to be ‘alarming and distressing’; they were the abundance of special persons (most of whom are mute) and low levels of literacy amongst women. To counter these issues a comprehensive three 3-year programme on Adult Education was designed for Union Council Litten. Importantly, the time when this programme was initiated the LSO Thall Rural Development Programme had already started its operations in the area, hence enabling the programme to reach out to the maximum population. Family Literacy Centres were formed and local groups of teachers were provided training on adult education methods; now there are 810 adult women and 799 men
students enrolled in the three different education bands/competency levels of these students. She noted that ‘it requires approximately Rs. 500 – 800 to provide education to each adult’.

Mr. Faisal, Social Organiser, Programme on Adult Literacy and Life Skills (PALLS) informed participants that this programme is being implemented in four villages of the Union Council; where the selection of teachers for the programmes was comparatively tedious, as 50 teachers were selected from the region and 30 were shortlisted for a 14-day strenuous training on Adult Education Techniques. He said that the objective of this programme was to make the entire village the class room and ‘we have been able to achieve our targets; on December 8 our first batch will be graduating, and I am happy to tell you all that our students are now ready to take up the challenge’.

Mr. Ghulam Rasool, Regional Programme Officer, Mianwali Region NRSP, said that when NRSP had conducted the Poverty Score Card, it was found that most of the population was falling into the category of 0-9 and further that some 158 people from the villages were special or handicapped, and the literacy level was the lowest. To help these people NRSP took special initiatives. When it was enquired that how did PSC help NRSP to identify special persons in a given area, Mr. Ghulam Rasool replied ‘we wanted to see causes of deprivation in the villages, and for this we developed another framework to identify special people in the given population after Poverty Score Card survey was conducted’.

Micro Health Insurance: Experience of NRSP

This presentation was made by Dr. Rashid Bajwa, Chief Executive Officer NRSP, who discussed the importance of using insurance as a tool to address the varied health issues of the rural population. Supporting his arguments with the latest studies on the population explosion in Pakistan and the alarming rate of Infant and Maternal Mortality, compared to other countries of South Asia, he suggested that insurance can be used as an effective tool to pay for health expenses. He said ‘Pakistan spends 0.5 percent of its Gross Domestic Product on health, whilst India spends 0.7, Bangladesh 0.8, and Malaysia 1.8; the Infant Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Rate in Pakistan is recorded as 70 and 99, respectively, one of the highest in comparison to these countries; even Bangladesh has low levels of Infant and Maternal Mortality.’

Comparing the public and private expenditure on health he explained that ‘Pakistan spends 80% of its meagre health budget on tertiary care services, utilized by only 15%’ whilst expenses paid to get medical advice and treatment includes ‘cost of medicines, doctor’s fees and hospitalisation’. Engaging LSO members in the conversation Dr. Rashid Bajwa asked them about the nature of their expenses in case if they fall ill; and how they pay for these expenses? In response all of them said that expenses are most of times out of pocket, and sometime money is generated by selling an asset.

Dr. Rashid Bajwa said that ‘micro health insurance is a tool that reduces the burden of medical expenses to the poor; it is about providing an option and empowering the poor to procure quality hospital care.’

Giving example from the NRSP experience he said that the process was initiated in year 2005 on the suggestion of Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan. Initially NRSP charged an annual premium of Rs. 250 per person to pay for hospitalisation, medical fees and cost of medicines, and now it has been reduced to Rs. 100 per person. For the entire family the amount is Rs. 500 per family per annum. For ensuring the outreach of this micro-health insurance programme NRSP deducts the amount upfront from the clients of NRSP Micro
Credit Enterprise Development Programme. The Micro-Health Insurance programme is being run in partnership with the Adamjee Insurance. According to the terms of partnership Adamjee Insurance does 'claims reimbursement' and the NRSP does 'product design and marketing, claims processing, and product refining' for members of Community Organisations. NRSP is the intermediary and the partner in the process, it gives people from the rural areas an ability to access the best health facilities in their respective areas, whilst also to the Insurance company the outreach that they strive for.

He noted that Micro-Health Insurance products developed by the NRSP pay for Rs. 15,000 for each insured person inclusive of hospitalisation, life and disability. He also said that efforts are underway to get this Micro-Health Insurance included in the ongoing Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Plan. He said that in November 2009 the Government of Sindh shall be signing the first public level financing for MHI in two districts of Kashmor-Kandhkot and Shikarpur, and later to be extended in four additional districts of Jacobabad, Badin, Thatta, Tharparker. NRSP is working with UNFPA on a new micro health insurance initiative: ‘Women of Child-bearing Age and Newborns’ (CBANs) in two Tehsils of Chakwal; even the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) is contemplating including micro health insurance as a product for the beneficiaries.

In an interactive session all member RSPs were excited to know more details on the initiative and the total costs on extending and integrating such a plan in their respective work areas. The CEO RSPN, Ms. Shandana Khan asked about the human resource costs and its implication for the programme, to which Dr. Bajwa replied ‘there are 1.2 million MIH Clients and to look after the issues we have one person at the head office, and to verify the cases we have doctors; all the costs are borne by the Insurance Company; we do not incur any costs on collection, since it gets deducted upfront’. Responding to a question on ‘transport and mobility costs’ by Chief Executive Officer, Balochistan Rural Support Programme, Dr. Nadir Gul, Dr. Bajwa suggested that in a case such as Bolchistan the annual insurance premium can be increased from Rs. 100 per person; this rate can later be adjusted depending on the outreach and clients’ interest.

On the same subject, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said that this programme was designed as a result of discussion with the Insurance Company in 1999-2000. At the time the Insurance Company was interested to tap the outreach potential of the RSPs, and said that if we give them a million clients then a programme can be launched; however in the beginning there ‘250,000 clients and the annual premium was Rs. 250 per person which has now been reduced to Rs. 100 per person; this is an achievement by NRSP’. He appreciated that now the other RSPs such as GBTI, SRSO and TRDP will also be undertaking this programme, with the Government of Sindh already on board to pay for the insurance premium under the Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Plan.

Evaluation of CIF Pilot (Recommendations), Shore Bank International

This presentation was made by Mr. Salim Jiwani of ShoreBank International on the evaluation of Community Investment Fund management and disbursements in Districts Layyah, Multan and Khanewal. Before this presentation Ms. Shandana Khan briefed participants about the need for this evaluation, ‘when the first cycle of CIF disbursements was completed the RSPN requested ShoreBank International to review the programme in District Layyah’.

Mr. Salim Jiwani said ‘two approaches have been identified in the ensuing review of the programme a) CIF pilot in Layyah District in the new PRSP-fostered women’s only Community Organisations.
and Village Organisations and b) PRSP fostered LSOs in Multan and Khanewal. Mr. Jiwani highlighted the strengths of the CIF model and said that the initiative ensures women's participation in mainstream development, and encourages women to take up income generation initiatives based on their skills base. The identification process of the prospective clients through Poverty Score Card is an effective step. The involvement of Community Organisations and the Village Organisations in CIF gives this initiative a competitive edge.

Speaking on the weaknesses of the implementation of this initiative, Mr. Salim Jiwani said that there is a need to further improve record keeping, make the process quality orientated, and to improve capacity building measures. Regular monitoring is essential. The initiative should not be treated as micro finance; rather it is a community finance initiative, whereby all decision making is with the community. The RSPs’ role is to support and facilitate simple systems and procedures as part of community capacity building.

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan also emphasized the importance of capacity building of Community Organisations, saying that ‘micro investment plan is of paramount importance, the LSOs cannot make micro investment plans; MIPs are to made by the COs’. He then gave an example from his last visit to Sindh where women had themselves decided to disburse CIF to eleven of the poorest families in the lowest poverty band, and Income Generation Grant to one of these poorest families, realising that CIF is a revolving fund and should keep revolving for the maximum benefit of the communities. He also underlined the importance of adequate training on book keeping for the people, saying ‘There is a principle that those who handle cash, should not be allowed to do book keeping.’ He reiterated to member RSPs that they must trust the poor: ‘You have to trust the people and the importance of following a process approach and give money to the CO. If you want CIF to succeed … there is no blueprint for CIF, it is also based on a process approach.’

Concluding the discussion Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan said ‘modesty apart, this was something that was initiated by me. In fact the Vice President of the World Bank stayed for 5 days in the village, and later approved a project worth $ 120 million which included CIF for all Self-Help Groups in Andhra Pradesh. He concluded his comments by clarifying that ‘CIF is only for women and should never to be given to men’.
Presentation & Discussion: Child Rights, Thardeep Rural Development Programme: Ms. Bhagwani, Manager, Child Rights Operations

Ms. Bhagwani said ‘In 1998-99 TRDP conducted a research study on child labour and worked on the issue through a DFID-funded pilot project in 1999-2001. On the basis of these experiences, in 2003 TRDP launched the Protection of Rights of the Working Children in the Carpet Industry in Thar Desert (Child Rights Protection) Project. This endeavour received financial and technical assistance from Comic Relief and Save the Children UK.

To optimise implementation TRDP differentiated Child Labour from Hazardous Child Labour (which includes the carpet industry), defining Hazardous Child labour as ‘any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child’s education, or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical and emotional development’. Ms Bhagwani said that due to poverty children are forced to labour in hazardous workplaces thus hindering their mental and physical growth. For the effective launch of the programme TRDP identified 125,820 working children (50% girls) from 1,719 villages. Programme activities led to 11,885 children (50% girls) leaving Hazardous Labour.

TRDP advocates Child Rights Issues in urban and rural areas to Government Departments. And the ‘Child Rights Protection Policy’ is the government’s own policy to protect the rights of children. Since the RSPs’ outreach is to the remote areas, TRDP can facilitate government in planning and implementation. She noted that TRDP has given substantial feedback and has also led the campaign from Sindh Province on the Child Rights Protection Bill to be passed by Parliament this year. TRDP also arranged consultations and gave feedback on the National Plan of Action on Children.

Participants then asked questions regarding the withdrawal of children from hazardous labour; to which Ms. Bhagwani responded: ‘we realise that complete withdrawal is difficult, strenuous and extensive process, specially for destitute families [for which TRDP has the Poverty Score Card data], therefore, in most cases we have been successful in reducing working hours from eight to four hours daily.’ Under the programme, TRDP has given interest free loans.

Feedback from Participants – The Way Forward

In this session all participants were asked to share their views and opinions on the RSPs’ Strategy Retreat 2009. All agreed that such events help all the member RSPs to interact, share their development initiatives and learn from each other’s experiences, to generate better programming and planning. The Retreat strongly motivates the social mobilisation activities established by the RSP movement across the country and is a model for the entire developing world. The salient points of the feedback are given below:

- The lowest unit of social mobilisation is the Community Organisation (COs) which must not be ignored. This is the voice of the people and the organising unit at the grassroots level
- Graduation-level of Community Organisations, with incorporation of the Local Support Organisation in the social mobilisation hierarchy all the units of social mobilisation must be guided to follow a graduation path
- Because of the RSPs outreach in the country, the movements has a competitive edge on other NGOs in partnering with Government on Food Security, Livelihood Programmes, Energy Crisis and Climate Change
- To facilitate the Local Support Organisations the RSPN is requested to arrange a national level Donor Conference, where all the LSOs
can share their development plans and access funds from international, and national donors

- Such meetings rejuvenate the faith in the power of social mobilisation. As the RSPs diversify their work, the main thrust, the main rationale, the main niche should not be forgotten; that the RSPs are about social mobilisation. One possible vision is to foster a nationwide network of networks with its head office in Islamabad. All CO, VOs, LSOs and Networks have to be transparent, accountable and self-directed. With respect to sustainability, Andhra Pradesh has shown that with scale comes sustainability

- To address the issue of donor dependency scaling up the products such as Community Investment Fund and Local Support Organisations in the communities, thereby encouraging local asset creation to ensure self-reliance.

- Along with the donor conference an Annual Activist Convention must also be arranged. This would encourage and facilitate local Cos, VOs and LSOs to spread the message and the importance of social mobilisation.

- The inclusion of new products such as Micro Health Insurance was an eye-opener: this should be publicised and encouraged to be incorporated in all the mainstream development programmes undertaken by the RSPs.

- Tapping into the social capital in the country to nurture the spirit of self-help is an important factor in the social mobilisation practices. The example from the recent IDP crisis speaks for itself, as the State was unable to give them protection. And their social capital enabled the people’s spirit to survive and to have hope for a better future.

Sharing their views, several RSPN Board members appreciated the efforts of all the RSPs in giving detailed presentations on their work, and updates on the latest products and interventions. The 2009 Annual Retreat would not have been so colourful or insightful if the LSO representatives and members had not participated.

**Mr. Khalid Mohtadullah**, said ‘I feel that our messages are very simple; however, if they are not implemented meticulously you cannot take advantage of them’. He urged the member RSPs to trust people, ‘we should have faith in the people, what they suggest for their development should be implemented.’

Speaking on the resource constraints Mr. Mohtadullah said that RSPs should develop new programmes and products, ‘funding constraints is the most immediate issue. I tell you that of all the financing on development, 90 percent is government funding and 10 percent is the non-government. Essentially money is national funding. As Bajwa Sahib said this morning, if you get any innovative ideas the government will support you and you will get funding’. He concluded by saying: ‘this is the time of partnerships, you have to forge partnerships, and you have to create synergies.’

**Mr. Nazar Memon** said he was overwhelmed with the information shared in two days. Presentations by the LSOs have stolen the show; they were wonderful and highlighted clearly what is possible once people have their own institutions. He suggested that the RSPs must develop ‘gender specific budgets to see their outcomes’, noting that in 2007 he had been asked by the United Nations Development Fund to apprise them on budgets for women but found the result to be disappointing.

**Concluding Session**

Concluding the session, Ms. Shandana Khan applauded the efforts and participation of all the member RSPs in making the Strategy Retreat 2009 possible and successful. She repeated that this Retreat was not RSPN’s show; it was the participation of RSPs and LSOs that makes these Retreats a platform for sharing views and experiences. She said ‘I agree with Mr. Nazar Memon that the star performer has been the LSOs’. She also asked all member RSPs to revisit their roles from being ‘active to supportive’, and concluded by saying ‘We are moving ahead in a mobilised manner. We have to show that this is not random; that there is a strategy in thought; and that we can reach to our goal.’
Concluding Remarks

Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan concluded the Strategy Retreat 2009 and congratulated all the participants on putting on an excellent presentations of their work in the field, and lauded their commitment to social mobilisation.

Looking back from where the RSP movement started he said 'I have spoken too much and people must be fed up. You have not left anything for me. I have been reflecting on where we started and where we have reached. On December 7th 1982 I reached Battagram at 11 pm, and spent the coldest night of my life in a Rest House. Today my heart is filled with great warmth'.

Delineating on the strategy of the Rural Support Programmes he said that 'these Programmes have three elements and without them you cannot move ahead:

1. The biggest is the people’s share, their encouragement, their belief, and their potential. And, on that potential we have made this building. Social capital, leadership, LSOs; now everyone should have no doubt in their minds that people are not willing to make a difference in their lives.

2. As far as I am concerned, I wanted to unite those people who had the belief in the thought, and when you are willing to listen to what people say, you require committed and dedicated people. And, I am lucky that I found those people. Now I see that these organisations have also expanded. Whatever has happened in the last 27 years would not have been possible without you, without the support of committed and dedicated people.

3. I always say (maybe I have a one track mind) that I think that your success is that you have engaged those people from the communities those who have forwarded this approach; if a CO is translated in physical term then it is the foundation of a building, the walls are the VOs and your roof is the LSO. And our friends from LSO should always remember the foundation of their being.

4. As Khalid said that the largest donor is the Government. And the Government has money: how does money come to it? This is our money; taxpayers’ money. Please do not run after donors, you have excelled and you have reached stage where donors are not the life-line.

5. This workshop has been the best workshop that RSPN has organised. In this workshop, the experience sharing was optimal. We don’t have to keep things in ‘boxes’, this was a learning workshop. This has been tremendous learning experience. Solid Waste Management, Mother & Childcare Initiative, Health Micro Insurance, Child Labour, all these things show that RSPs can do a great deal of good with organised communities.

6. From the core of my heart, I want to appreciate you all. For it was your work that led the UN to invite me to speak at the General Assembly in May 2009.
PART III

Presentations by Member RSPs and Representative of Local Support Organisations (LSO)
Presentations on Day 1
Rural Support Programmes' Annual Retreat
November 20 - 23, 2009

RSPs' Outreach in Pakistan

Presented by
Muhammad Saleem Baloch
Programme Officer MER
Rural Support Programmes Network
Rural Support Programmes' Annual Retreat - November 20-23 2009

Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme (UCBPRP)

Progress Update & Highlights
October 2009
Sunday, January 10, 2010

Project Area

District Maps

Presentation comprises:

- Programme Steps
  - PSC (Poverty score card)
  - Social Mobilization
  - Grants for 0-11 PSC Result
  - CPI for 0-25
  - CPN (Community physical infrastructure)
  - DMS
  - Village Model Low cost Housing Schemes
  - Low Cost Housing Schemes
  - Education Component
  - Training
    - CI Capacity building
    - V-V Capacity building
    - Vocational skills
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

New add ups according to Revised PC-1

- Low cost housing schemes 5,000 Houses each of Rs 60,000/
- Education component
  - 300 non functional schools to be functionalized
  - 200 Schools to be started 2nd shift for girls
  - 2 UC for school feeding programme
- Micro Health insurance 56,000 Hfs (0-18)
- TBA training 4,200 TBAs one from each VO
- CO Capacity building 36,000 pax

Differences b/w Regular programme & UCPRP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Programme</th>
<th>UCPRP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>No any targeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Household</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willingness</td>
<td>Inclusion of Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For all men &amp; Women</td>
<td>Only for Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No any products</td>
<td>Specific products for each band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Loan</td>
<td>CIF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No any book keeper</td>
<td>Book keeper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SM by RSPs</td>
<td>SM by Community/CIP/Activists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different Owners</td>
<td>Funded by Govt of land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different programme in bits and pieces</td>
<td>Holistic programme cover each component</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Objective

1. Over all Objective
   - To improve the quality of life of communities living in rural areas that lack basic facilities by involving the Rural Support Programmes.

3. Specific Objective
   - To build up the capacity of population living below the poverty line through social mobilisation in the rural areas to empower the local communities both socially and economically so that they move up the ladder of poverty and are able to improve their livelihoods and increase their incomes.

Project details

- **Project Name**: Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme Through RSPs
- **Location**: All Union Councils (87) of Districts Kashmore-Kandhkot and Shikarpur
- **Sponsoring agency**: Planning & Development Department, Govt. of Sindh
- **Execution**: Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO)

Poverty Scorecard

“Reaching the poor”

UC Based Rural Poverty Reduction Project
Shikarpur & Gandhkot Districts
Sindh Province – February 2009
About Area

- District: Shikarpur and Kandhikot
- Taluks/ Tehsils: 7
  - 4 Taluks in Shikarpur namely Garhi Yasin, Khangar, Shikarpur and Lakh
  - 3 Taluks in Kandhikot namely Kashmore, Kandhikot & Tangwani
- Union Councils: 87
  - 30 Union Councils in District Shikarpur; and
  - 37 Union Councils in District Kandhikot
- Households: 238,104
  - As per Population Census of 1998

Using the Poverty Scorecard for targeting as proposed by The World Bank

- Following cut-offs are being used for targeting the poor
  - Score range 0 – 11 (Extremely poor)
  - Score range 12 – 18 (Chronically Poor)
  - Score range 19 – 23 (Transitory Poor)
  - Score range 24 – 100 (Non-Poor)

PSC Results – District wise Total HHs with Score Ranges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Type (Rural/Urban)</th>
<th>No. of UCM</th>
<th>Score Range 0-11</th>
<th>Score Range 12-23</th>
<th>Score Range 24-98</th>
<th>Score Range 99-100</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shikarpur</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>13,083</td>
<td>10,551</td>
<td>24,271</td>
<td>79,310</td>
<td>134,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kandhikot</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>7,137</td>
<td>18,504</td>
<td>23,523</td>
<td>74,309</td>
<td>123,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PSC Results – District wise HHs with Score Ranges (Rural/Urban)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Rural/Urban</th>
<th>No. of UCM</th>
<th>Score Range 0-11</th>
<th>Score Range 12-23</th>
<th>Score Range 24-98</th>
<th>Score Range 99-100</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shikarpur</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8,700</td>
<td>7,200</td>
<td>19,200</td>
<td>60,800</td>
<td>127,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>9,300</td>
<td>20,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kandhikot</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>14,100</td>
<td>23,500</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>9,300</td>
<td>15,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>87</td>
<td>17,200</td>
<td>19,500</td>
<td>47,700</td>
<td>133,400</td>
<td>277,100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Role of CO Vs VO

- **COs**
  - Needs assessment at household level and planning (micro investment plans)
  - Savings mobilisation
  - OUS/USG identification and appraisal
  - Ensuring utilisation of OUS/USG
  - Inducting of non-members into the 
    OUS/USG especially the poorest and
    vulnerable
  - Identification of members for 
    trainings and its utilisation
  - Reporting to VO or activities

- **VOs**
  - Monitoring/supervising COs and their results; attendance and savings
  - Verifying the results of the farming season of the household in the village
  - Identification of activities at village level with COs
  - Develop a village development plan
  - Provide assistance to COs in implementation of development activities like OUS/USG
  - Mobilize local resources and ensure their fair distribution amongst COs

Progress Update

“Targets as of October 31, 2009 and achievements”
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

### Interventions at CO and VO Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities with CO</th>
<th>Activities with VO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGIS</td>
<td>CIF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowcost housing</td>
<td>CPI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTP</td>
<td>VSP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>TBA / CEW / CAIW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASIF</td>
<td>BNGL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIF need identification</td>
<td>CIF appraisal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Productivity enhancement</td>
<td>Book keeping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activists workshop</td>
<td>Exposure visits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Social Mobilization
- Organised 100% of the bottom three PSC bands
- And organised 70% of the overall households in each settlement/village

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Target as of Oct 31, 2008</th>
<th>Target as of Oct 31, 2009</th>
<th>% Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>UC covered</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>VO formed</td>
<td>4,200</td>
<td>2,667</td>
<td>1,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CO formation</td>
<td>12,039</td>
<td>7,251</td>
<td>5,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>HH Organized</td>
<td>180,551</td>
<td>104,576</td>
<td>90,133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Union Council Coverage
- Targets as of Oct 31, 2008: 70
- Achievement as of Oct 31, 2009: 75

### VO Formation
- Targets as of Oct 31, 2008: 2,647
- Achievement as of Oct 31, 2009: 1,704

### CO Formation
- Targets as of Oct 31, 2008: 5,000
- Achievement as of Oct 31, 2009: 5,000

### Household Organized
- Targets as of Oct 31, 2008: 104,874
- Achievement as of Oct 31, 2009: 94,004
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

**CIF/IGG Procedure**

1. Visit & collect data
2. Identify & select beneficiaries
3. Disburse income generating grant
4. Follow up

**Income Generating Grant (IGG)**

- Income generating grants:
  - Only for women from extremely poor households (0-11)
  - So far 13.54 Million Amount has been disbursed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>PC1 Targets</th>
<th>Achievement Oct, 2009</th>
<th>% Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No. of HH to be given</td>
<td>4,305</td>
<td>3,320</td>
<td>1,119</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Income Generation Grant (IGG)**

- Targets vs. Achievement of Oct, 2009

**Month wise IGG**

- Graph showing IGG over months

**Use Of IGG**

- Livestock rearing
- Livestock fattening

**Community Investment Fund (CIF)**

- CIF provided with revolving fund managed and run by women exclusively
- Small flexible loans to women only; for extremely & chronically poor households (0-18)
- So far 10.78 Million Amount has been disbursed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Project Targets</th>
<th>Achievement Oct, 2009</th>
<th>% Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No. of HH to be given</td>
<td>4,212</td>
<td>10,985</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Use of CIF

- Agriculture
- Donkey cart

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Drinking Water Supply &amp; Sanitation (DWSS)</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Village Improvement Scheme</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- CC Blocks of Village
- Open and Closed Drains (RCC PIers)
- Brick pavement along with RCC for sides protection
- Latrines
- Hand Pumps including with water Tank
- Rehabilitation of Government Non Functional Projects

Employment Creation through CPIs

- Skilled labour
  - 3,322 man-days
  - Rs. 1,328,800 earning

- Unskilled labour
  - 8,771 man-days
  - Rs. 1,754,200 earning

Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

Village Improvement Schemes

DWSS

41
Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

Water pipe line Lead HP  Sanitation

Hand Pump  Hand pump with Latrin

CC Block  Bricks pavement

Houses

Houses
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Training

Capacity Building
Out sourced to NRSP - IRM

Training Component - UCBPRP

- Vocational and Technical Training
- VO Capacity Building

The Vocational training component of this project would provide 25% of the households that are identified as being under the poverty line (poverty rank 6 - 10) with Vocational Training that leads to either self or external employment of both men & women. Vocational training is offered at various locations that includes:

- IRMS Vocational, Technical & Educational Center,
  - VTEC Rawalpindi,
  - VTSC Sialkot,
  - Vocational Centers established in two districts: Mianwali and Khanewal to provide training at the doorsteps of rural poor women.

Vocational Training approach

- The methodology consists of a set of procedures for systematically identifying employment and income generating opportunities at the local/community level, the major characteristics of the approach are given as under:
  - Pre-training: Training needs identification, TIM, screening process, designing of the training, technical assessment, social assessment (village assembly).
  - Training delivery:
    - Quality training material
    - Equipped Institutions/Centers
    - Trainers
  - Post-training:
    - Business Development Officers/need for placement
    - Linkages with NADRA
    - Local market employment opportunities
**Placement of VTP Graduates**

- Five Business Development Officers recruited.
- Tracer study (US$20,000):
  - Sample size: 500 participants
  - 47% participants are employed (Men 65%, women 5%)
  - 98% have positive behavioral change
  - Income increased up to 300%
- Linked 200 women participants with GCB/IFG / Income Generating Grant.
- A Meni Shop was approved for women participants of VTP in Shukurpur, inaugurated by DDO.
- Negotiated with:
  - Presidents of markets/business association in Kandhiost and Shukurpur
  - Negotiation with DOOG oil wells
VO Capacity Building Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Training</th>
<th>Total Targets</th>
<th>Total Achievements</th>
<th>% Local Achievement VO Targets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VO Management, Planning</td>
<td>6753</td>
<td>4041</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VO Book Keeping</td>
<td>6753</td>
<td>1836</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VO go</td>
<td>6763</td>
<td>2334</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Project Objectives**

- In the light of results from educational situation analysis, a special initiative has been taken by the UC Based Poverty Reduction Programme with following objectives:
  1. Improving Primary School System for increasing enrollment by making 300 non-functional schools functional
  2. Establishing 100 second shift primary schools for girl child primary/middle education and 100 early childhood centers
  3. School feeding programme in two Union Councils

---

**Summary of Project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>“Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme through UCPS in District Kashmore-Kandhkot and Shikarpur”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sector</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Duration</td>
<td>October, 2009 - June, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Districts</td>
<td>Kashmore-Kandhkot and Shikarpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsoring Agency</td>
<td>Planning and Development Department, Government of Sindh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Execution Agency</td>
<td>Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) with the support of National Rural Support Programme (NRSP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation and Maintenance</td>
<td>Organized Community/Executing Agency/Line Departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Districts</td>
<td>Total UCs are 50, Project will be implemented in 250 schools of selected UCs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shikarpur</td>
<td>Total UCs are 37, Project will be implemented in 125 schools of selected UCs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kashmore-Kandhkot</td>
<td>Total UCs are 37, Project will be implemented in 125 schools of selected UCs</td>
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</table>
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Project Progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator Description</th>
<th>Total Project Targets</th>
<th>Progress as of October 09</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools Identification, Selection and Baseline Survey</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identification &amp; Selection of Project Schools (Non-Functional)</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Primary School</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Primary School</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Situation Analysis Completed</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of School Profiles collected</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Information Collected</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of H/H Survey Data (V1 &amp; V2)</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Mobilization</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SMC Organization</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMC Notified by the Edu. Dep.</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Process Review by SDPI

- Meeting with PIU staff and random selection from 14 UUs of Ghul Yeemen Taluka
- 33% UUs randomly selected
- Selection and training of the field researchers,
- Four teams of 7 members (1 enumerator plus one supervisor) one for each
- Verification of source card in all UUs in the selected UUs by filing new PVC
- VD formation, process monitoring
- CDD formation, DDCS completed, the randomly selected UUs
- Beneficiaries of NREGA through check list and FGD (FGD covered all the intervention), FGD held in each selected UUs to collect detailed information
- CF and YFP
- Data entry: there was no major difference in PVC (Old and New)

Monitoring by PIU

- Three tiers monitoring
  - Weekly review meeting (at all unit and PIU)
  - Monthly review at unit level (PIU team)
  - Monthly review at PIU level (All teams)

- Reporting
  - Monthly Progress Report to GoS, RSPs, D&Ms, All RSPs & DOs
  - Daily Progress Report to CEO RSP & CEO NISP
  - Daily Progress Report from SMLU to M&L
  - Monthly Progress Report from SMLU to management
  - Weekly Report from DPMs to Team Leader
  - Weekly Report from all Professionals to TL
Monitoring by Government

- Sindh Government
  - Project Coordinator UCBPRP & PMU SGRP at D&D Department GoSindh
  - Director SGRP
  - Assistant Director SGRP
  - Monthly progress report

- District Government Shikarpur & Kashmore
  - Monthly meeting or 8th of every month at Tandikot
  - Monthly meeting on 20th of every month at Shikarpur
  - Monthly progress report to DCO
  - Monthly Progress report by DDC to GoSindh
  - EDO revenue as focal person for the project
  - DCO formed sub-committees for monitoring at Tehsil & UC Level

Monitoring by BoD

- Formed BoD Sub committee specially for UCBPRP
- Review the progress on Quarterly basis
- Regularly visit of SSK and Other BoD members
- Daily reporting to Sub committee Chairman

Visit of Shaharyar Mahar MPA

Office visit

VETEC Chak visit

Planning

- Monthly Planning against targets of activities to SMUs
- Monthly Plan sharing with GoS & DCOs
- Monthly Work Plans by Professionals, DPAIs and Unit In charge
- Weekly Work Plans by Professionals, DPAIs and Unit In charge
- Weekly Matrix of Activities of Professionals and SMU staff
- Daily Base plan updating at FIU and SMUs

Advocacy & Publicity

- 26 Vehicles painted by approved sticker
- Comprehensive documentary made by Professional team on the different interventions of the UCBPRP
- Special page on the occasion of 14th August 2009 published in JIlay with News Paper.
- Different documentaries on different themes were also aired on DANN NEWS channel
- UCBPRP highlighted on the web page of SSGP and as well as SGRP
  - Meeting and Information sharing with various stakeholders of concerned districts.
  - Meeting with Aurum fund team
  - Meeting with MICO Dro Pvt Ltd
  - Meeting with Pakistan Dairy Development Company
  - Meeting with local MMA & MLA (Nahar and Durani family)
  - Meeting with Minister of Livestock (Mr. Ali Ahsan & D. Ibrahim Jatoi)
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Women Participation In LSOs
Presented by
Muhammad Siddique
President
LSO Dhanwan, Kotli

DFID
RSPs Annual Strategy Retreat
November 20 - 23, 2009

نظام تخصيص النساء في لجان البلدية
قد يكون اتفاقًامعاً لتجديد اجتماعات النساء

Reviewed by
Muhammad Siddique
President
LSO Dhanwan, Kotli

پریوی سی. آر. بی. کی کانکرکی

تین مرد سی. آر. بی. نے یہ فیض که گریان کو منظم کیا
جس میں 12 خواتین کی تنظیمات بنائی
چھ ہی خواتین سی. آر. بی. نے 73 کیمبر کہرائ گریان کو منظم کیا
جس میں 25 خواتین تنظیمات بنائی
پراموسات کاروں بذریعہ خواتین سے ارزیابی

سوشل ویکارا اڑیہ کی نسیہ کی کمی کمی انسپکشن جات پر کام کی گئی۔

جن میں نشاندہی سی ہی لکڑی کا تکمیل نک رابطہ خریداری سازگاری

ویہ اہل نما میں مکا م خواتین سے خود کیا گیا۔

حسن میں واقع سیالیان ، سکول کی عمارت مستغالی سکول پر چتے
کلیں اور صحت کا سنتر۔

احیا کالون کے ساتھ ورکشاپ کا انعقاد

ACTIVITIES

AFTER THE GENDER & DEVELOPMENT TRAINING HELD ON 11-12 MARCH 2009

تربیت کالون کے ساتھ ورکشاپ کا انعقاد
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</table>
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

RSPs Annual Strategy Retreat
November 20 - 23, 2009

Gender Issues in LSOs
Presented by
Shehreen Bibi
Community Resource Person
Mirza Ali Muhammad Organisation

CIF

خواتین کی بہتری کی لیے کی گئی اقدامات

میں سے قرضہ جات کی فراصم کی سلسلہ میں خواتین کو فواعت دی چاردہ میں تعلق وظائف کی بھی فواعت دی چار ہی۔

کو چھو میں بھی۔

تماہیں یہ خواتین کی یکتا کا انعقاد ہے۔ اپنی بھی فواعت دی چار ہی۔

6% خواتین کی شمولیت ووکی۔

لوالی کورنمنٹ سمیں روابط

CIF کے زمرے میں فنڈ شروع

ایل. ایس. اویس. این ڈی آئی کاونسل اور وارنگز تریلینس کونسل اور روابط شامل میں

شامل میں

نظام اور نامی نظام ترتیب کی ممبر میں

262 نادار خواتین کو تیار کیا اور ہمے انسٹیٹسیشن پروگرام

سی مالی امدادی گی

خواتین کو بھی مالی سی مالی امداد

5 بھی خواتین کو زکوائے فنڈ سیرمیال امداد

مستقبل کی منصوبہ سازی

تریبین سیئر کا قیام

زموہ میں سترکا قیام

امبولاپن کا انعقاد
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs
Objective of the LSO

- To develop grass root level Village Organizations (VOs) and Women Organizations (WOs) through technical and management support to reduce poverty from the rural areas
- To build capacities of rural people especially women and poor people by instilling in them the require skills to generate income for their families.
- To creat a heathy and enabling environment for the social and economic upliftment of the area on sustainable bases with the cooperation of the local government and NGOs such as AKRSP, RSPN.

Women’s Participation and LSO

Vice –Chairperson of the LSO is Women with four other active BoD members.

- A Women LSO BOD member is also Union Councilor and have contributed Rs. 35,000 in Community Revolving Fund (CRF) Fund.

Women Participation and LSO

- Several Gender Sensitization and women political participation workshops have been organized in LSO:
  - As a result:
    - One women LSO activist has announced to open contest the upcoming district council election.
    - LSO has organized consultative meetings with many stakeholders (political, religious and social leaders) to sensitize the role of women in political process.

Women and Rural Finance

- In LSO Hyderabat Women Organizations are actively savings and until now Rs1,944,072.
- All of the WOs are engaged in internal lending in areas:
  - Green Houses
  - Poultry Development
  - Education
  - Small business
  - Agriculture inputs
  - House repair
  - Health
Poverty Targeting Project

• The Poverty Targeting project is run by Women Organizations (WOs) Rs. 285,000
• Total House hold in LSO: 448
• Ultra poor HH identified: 122
• Initially targeted for:
  
  Total 28
  Men 12
  Women 16

Capacity Building Programmes for Women

• Fruit Processing Training for 60 women
• 35 farmers trained in Apple Tree Biological Protection and management
• 8 master trainers trained in community health mobilization by First Micro Insurance
• 32 members trained in Community Led Total Sanitation and regarding health and hygiene
• Gender Analysis – Training was imparted to three female members of the LSO board
• Two women are trained in selling and service provision of BACIP products

LSO initiated Linkages with Private and Public Sectors

• Dialogue with Italian donor, resulting in construction of Community Based High School.
• Sewerage line with Agha Khan Cultural Services Programme
• Drinking Water with WASIP
• E-mandi with Telenor (agri produce prices)
• Seed Bank with AKRSP and Agriculture Department

Future Plans

• Increase the Women BOD members at least 50%
• Programme for women owned business and enterprises.
• More gender sensitization workshops and seminars
• Literacy is around 90% in the LSO area therefore, IT based programme will be developed to add skill and create employment e.g. e-mandi.
• Programme and incentives for young educated women to participate in WO and LSO affairs.
• Value added agriculture activities, like green houses, fruit drying tunnels, seed banks, e-mandi ect.
RSPNs Annual Strategy Retreat  
November 20 - 23, 2009  

Gender and Development:  
Update and Issues

---

### Male: Female Staff Ratios 2008-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Board of Directors</th>
<th>Senior Management</th>
<th>Management</th>
<th>Other professionals</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women (%)</td>
<td>Total (%)</td>
<td>Women (%)</td>
<td>Total (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AKRS P</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>URSP</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<table>
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<td></td>
<td>Women (%)</td>
<td>Total (%)</td>
<td>Women (%)</td>
<td>Total (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRS O</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRS P</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSP N</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**RSPN**

Gender Resource Group members will be invited to attend RSPN BiD meetings and discuss “gender agenda” quarterly.

Status: RSPN invited GFG members in 2 BiD meetings to present their new initiatives, experience of G&D workshops with LSCs and the Gender Analysis of the UC plan.

RSPN will create a gender policy.

Status: Now due in Q1 2010

Gender performance indicators will be added in all staff contracts and ToRs.

Status: To be done

Gender audit or gender assessment of 2-3 Government funded RSPN projects.

Status: Gender analysis of three projects completed, UC Plan, PM, Livestock and CRP-II

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**CEOs’ Gender Commitments**

Update November 2009
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

SRSO

Gender policy implementation with involvement of BOD.

Status: Gender Sector has decided to adopt the Code of Conduct of the Alliance Against Sexual Harassment to raise awareness on the issue and provide protection to women in the workplace and ensure a safe and healthy working environment. GSO support to include agenda of BOD and approved from Board.

Strengthening of Gender Unit with policy guidelines.

Status: Approved Gender work plan, Gender Budget, Formation of Gender Resource Committee at Head Office, Finalized local persons at Hub and field level, Finalized 1st Gender Annual Report.

Gender sensitization for all staff.

Status: Sector has conducted sensitization workshops at all levels. Decided on 90% formation of Women COOs and takes significant steps to achieve targets and deliver programme benefits to women.

SRSP (1 of 2)

Gender policy will be reviewed with involvement of BoD and a strategy will be developed to implement Gender policy.

Status: SRS has been in place and is in the process of fine-tuning its systems and making adjustments. In the coming year, SRSP will be able to review its gender policy with the involvement of the BoD.

As per its gender policy each unit of SRSP has guiding principles in planning, designing, implementation and monitoring processes. Catering to the needs of women to ensure social safety nets and implementing its strategy for social security will be given due importance.

GBTI

Gender mainstreaming agenda would be taken to the BoD.

Status: To be done

BOD members would be sensitized on gender issues.

Status: To be done

Other initiatives:

Pilot 48% of GBTI CCOs are women. Above 60% income generating and skill enhancement programmes are being delivered to the women such as vocational training and micro credit.

SRSP (2 of 2)

An operationalisation plan will be developed with measurable indicators.

Status: Programme and project reviews have been conducted from a gender perspective. Gender reviews of and case studies on PMS, project and support programmes (CFP), microfinance-village banks and women community organizations were conducted. The programme approach has been revised in response to the feedback from PMS.

Under the Sasia Khan Poverty Alleviation Programme (BK-PAP), approaches such as CFP to maximize benefits to women have been considered and reviewed by the Board.

Progress will be reviewed after every six months and the Action Plan revised. The presence of a women’s Gender Social Mobilizer at the Head Office ensures that the representation of women in the organization’s activities is maximized.

SRSP has involved the Gender Mainstreaming Coordinators in training its staff and LSO and Village Bank members on gender.

NRSP

Gender sensitive planning and designing of projects will be done.

Status: All project proposals currently under process have a strong gender focus. In most cases this is catered for as in the SM project.

Gender Unit will be strengthened.

Status: All programs assisted GAD NRSP; however head hunting for a committed male staff member is being done, (experience of 2 years in field and in research and training)

Gender Committees will be activated and reported in PPMs.

Status: Gender Committee Minutes to be sent regularly. Gender Committees were revived in 2011 but regular reporting was delayed. Gender Action Plans were formalized for each region and compliance was ensured. Results extremely positive as shared in the recent Gender Mainstreaming Workshop for NRSP Managers in South.

The progress of these commitments will be reflected in Annual Report.

Status: All (being written) reflects progress. Gender is included in all PPMs and field visits of CEO and GM.

BRSP

Gender policy will be reviewed.

Status: Review completed. Draft ready to be shared with RSP.

Mechanism for implementation of gender policy will be developed.

Status: Once the policy is finalized it will be presented to BoD for approval and then according to the policy a formal mechanism will be put in place.

In each sector one position will be ensured for women staff.

Status: Completed. More than one position is held by female staff.

Each section has a women’s Programme Associate position.

Women specific projects will be introduced.

Status: Women specific project are being undertaken.

Women specific activities will be developed to ensure women participation in SM process.

SSF is striving to identify women specific activities in SM process. However, there are challenges in fully involving women in every activity due to the stringent religious atmosphere.
AKRSP

Gender strategy will be updated.

Gender Audit will be done and findings fed into regular planning.
New programmes will be designed to address women’s strategic needs.

Status: GAD Manager position is vacant. A consultant has been hired who is preparing a report on AKRSP programmes and activities. Then an Action Plan will be developed to meet gender commitments.

PRSP

The revised gender policy will be approved by BoD.

Status: Gender policy has been reviewed and draft is ready to present to the BoD.

Staff gender ratio to be balanced at Head office level.

Gender review would be done for projects.
Transit Facilitation Centers Established

Locations:
1. Shago Naka, Shergarh, Mardan
2. Ghundai, Khatang, Mardan
3. Chergah, Rustam, Mardan
4. Sakeem Khan, Swabi
5. Gango Dheraay, Swabi

Services Delivered:
1. Information Provision regarding
   a) Registration points
   b) Distribution Points
   c) Health Facilities
   d) Camps Locations
2. Free Transport to Camps
3. Rest Areas separate for men & Women

Total families facilitated 14,714

Role of SRSP in Humanitarian Crisis of NWFP

Current Official Statistics of IDPs

Transport facility for relocation of IDPs from Camps

Locations:
1. Sheikh Shahzad Camp, Mardan
2. Sheikh Yuseen Camp, Mardan
3. Jalalai Camp, Mardan

Total families facilitated 6,789
Non-Food Items distribution to IDPs outside Cams in 10 Districts (UNHCR)

Locations/Districts:
1. Maran
2. Peshawar
3. Charsadda
4. Swabi
5. Kohat
6. Nowshera
7. Swat
8. Buner
9. Upper Dir
10. Lower Dir

Total families facilitated: 275,456

Non-Food Items distribution to IDPs inside 8 Camps (UNHCR)

Locations:
1. Shah Mansoor
2. Yar Hussain
3. Jalala
4. Larama
5. Shugar Mill
6. Sheikh Shenzad
7. Sheikh Yaseen
8. Jalozai

Total families facilitated: 24,156

Aftaar (food) Package distribution to IDPs inside 3 Camps (UNHCR)

Locations:
1. Jalala
2. Kacha Gari
3. Jalozai

Total families facilitated: 8,544

Individual Kitchens Constructed for IDPs in 2 Camps (UNHCR)

Locations:
1. Yar Hussain
2. Jalozai

Total families facilitated: 8,369

Summerization of tents (shading) for IDPs in Jalozai Camp (UNHCR)

Total families facilitated: 1,510

Construction of Parda - Wall for IDPs in Jalozai Camp around 150 blocks (UNHCR)

Total families facilitated: 3,800
47 waiting sheds constructed at 18 distribution hubs in 4 districts (15 for women) (UNHCR)

3 skills training centers and 2 temporary schools sheds constructed in Sheikh Yaseen Camp Mardan

IDPs provided with food items, non food items free medical camps and psychosocial activities to supplement the food & non food packages in 146 remote villages/schools

Laundry washings pads for women to wash their clothes in Sheikh Shehzad Camp constructed & IDP families provided pedestal fans & Sewing machines provided to Charsadda Sugar Mills Camp for establishment of women skill centre (individual Donations)

IDPs provided with food items, non food items free medical camps and psychosocial activities to supplement the food & non food packages in 146 remote villages/schools

Private donations, IDRF, ICCO, AUSAID, DFID, RTI, City Bank, Abbott Limited & Abraaj Capital

Total families facilitated 9,750

Total families facilitated 1,020

Total families facilitated 20,024

Total families facilitated 600

Overall coverage of SRSP Programmes for IDPs

Total IDP families assisted by SRSP 367,234

Total no. of IDPs assisted by SRSP 2,591,338

Revival of Girls Education in the Conflict Areas of Swat (SRSP/Donations)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>UC Name</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GGPS Chasirai</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGPS Dippalai</td>
<td>Matta</td>
<td>155</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGPS Srinia Ghipa</td>
<td>Durashkela</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>GGPS Allahabad</td>
<td>Charbagh</td>
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<td>GGPS Jahan Abad</td>
<td>Tallgram</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGPS Toothkai</td>
<td>Mangalwar</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Plan of Action for Women – The Revision Process, Progress and Areas of Intervention

Shirikat Gah – A brief Introduction
- Women’s Resource Centre – offices in Karachi & Lahore
- Involved in research, advocacy, publications, field work and policy making
- Participated in the Beijing Process that addresses key areas of concern related to women around the world
- Drafting of National Report in 1995
- Drafting National Plan of Action in 1998
- Participates actively in all international forums to discuss women issues in developing countries

Background to the NPA
- 1975 – International Women’s Year declared by the UN
- Same year, First World Congress on Women in Mexico focusing on
  - Equality
  - Development
  - Peace
- 2nd in 1980 Denmark, 3rd in 1985 Kenya
- 4th in 1995 Beijing - Platform for Action: consensus building on achieving above with focus on implementation and governments of all of Asia Pacific committed to make NPAs for women
NPA to give affect to the Beijing Platform for Action

Platform for Action
- 12 Areas of Concern
  A. Poverty
  B. Economy
  C. Environment
  D. Armed Conflict
  E. Power and Decision Making
  F. Violence against Women
  G. Girl Child
  H. Institutional Mechanisms
  I. Media
  J. Education
  K. Health
  L. Human Rights

NPA as a Domestic Document
- 1998 NPA – Domestic Document for Implementing the Platform for Action with a 20 year perspective
- Joint effort Government, Civil Society, Organizations and Experts
- Pakistan added a 13th Area for its National Report to Beijing – Women with Disabilities
- Progress on implementation as part of the 5 and 10 year Beijing platform review process
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

What does the NPA Contain

- For each of the 12 Areas of Concern in the Platform, the NPA spells out for each chapter
  1. A **Chapter Introduction**
  2. **Implementation Matrix**
     - Strategic Objectives in line with the PFA
     - Specific actions to be taken
     - Key institutions to be involved
     - Target dates.

Needs for Revision

- Most SAARC countries have updated their NPAs – (Bangladesh, 2009)
- Revisit in light of the developments of the past decade. Key issues identified include Climate Change, Aging Population, IDPs due to Conflict and Natural Disasters and Urban Migration / Development
- Aligned with:
  - International commitments such as CEDAW, ILO, CRC and NGOs
  - National Policy Documents such as MTDF, PRSP, 5 Year Development Plan and political party manifestos
  - 2013 – 15 Year Review of the Beijing Platform for Action
  - CEDAW – 35 Year Review is coming up (key instrument for looking at the Platform)
  - Ten-Year Development Plan (replacing the MTDF) is underway by the Planning Commission

Process of Revision

- Cannot have Multiple Plans of Actions on issues related to women → Leads to lack of ownership → Thus consolidate into one NPA

- Revision process entails
  - Revising the 2002 Policy on Women
  - Revising the NPA on Women
  - Feeding into the 13th 5 Year Development Plan of the Planning Commission
  - MOWD agrees revision to be done through a consultative process

- Gender Reforms Actions Programme (GRAP) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNFEM) have initiated the process on behalf of MOWD
- Fauza Shaheed from UNICEF working as a technical consultant
- Assisted by 2 consultants from GRAP

Timelines

<table>
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<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
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<tr>
<td>Draft Revised Policy on Women</td>
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Consultations to be held at every level involving concerned ministries and departments, key government officials along with members of and experts from the civil society

Progress till Now

- Due to the late hiring of consultants by GRAP, consultations have been delayed
- Civil society consultations have fed into the zero drafts
  - One main consultation
  - 8 Working Group consultations
  - Drafts formulated, shared and feedback received
- Based on this Zero drafts shared with the MOWD
- Now Awaiting Government response/feedback [Institutional Mechanisms and Family law pending]

What is being proposed

- Chapters on Poverty, Economy and Environment merged
- All Chapters to review rights and legal provisions – No separate chapter on Human Rights
- Power and Decision-Making chapter to focus more on sharing power and changing roles in the household (family law related matters)
- All Chapters to review and integrate actions to ensure inclusion and focus on the Girl Child – no separate chapter
Economy, Poverty and Environment

Intricately interlinked and better understood if taken together as one area of concern

- Poverty
  - Food Security (Hidden Hunger, Patenting)
  - Access to Credit (Microfinance & Larger Credit Schemes)
  - Access to Resources and Productive Assets and Natural Resources
  - Social Security

- Economy
  - Unaccounted Labor and Economic Productivity
  - Agricultural Practices and Policies
  - Female Work Force Participation
  - Discrimination at the workplace
  - Appropriate Institutional Mechanism
  - Gender, Constitutional Framework and Labor Legislation
  - Ratifying ILO conventions
  - Right to form associations and collective bargaining

- Environment
  - Access to Water
  - Pollution and Solid Waste Management
  - Disaster Preparadness
  - Energy Efficient Technologies
  - Preserving Natural Resources

Power and Decision Making

- Political participation and representation
- Local government and devolution
- Computerized NICs
- Voter registration
- Role of civil society
- Family Law related matters
- Decision making at the household level

Health

- Population & Provision of Family Planning Services
- Violence against women and impact on health
- Reproductive health
- Facilities for emergency obstetric care limited
- Low contraception usage
- Induced abortions
- Basic Health Units and Rural Health Centers – Infrastructure issues
- Mental Health
- HIV Aids
- Low focus of Burden of Disease
- Gender disaggregated data on diseases
- Legislative ambiguity concerning female age of majority

Education

- Education as a Fundamental Right
- Correcting Gender parity index
- Addressing the Urban Rural Divide
- Access to Education – Security & Infrastructure, Institutional Policies
- Teacher Training
- Gender Disparity at Higher Education
- Revising/Reorienting the curriculum
- Budgetary allocations
- Removal of Gender Stereotypes
- Skills and vocational training
- Lack of gender disaggregated data
**Media**

- Women in the media (recruitment at programming, planning and policy making level)
- Promoting gender equality through the media
- Media used as a means of educating the public on gender issues
- Access new technologies like internet
- Regulation of media

**Institutional Mechanisms**

- Fundamental governance issues
  - basic documentation of population
  - registration of deaths, births, marriages, divorces,
  - issuance of ID cards
  - population data
- Projectization and implementation of policy
- Key policy documents into Urdu
- Evaluating role of NCSW and MOWD

**Armed Conflict/IDPs**

- Legally definitions of inter and intra-state conflicts
- Adoption of international guidelines for regulation of hostilities
- Identifying intra-state conflicts (Waziristan, Fata etc)
- Impact of on-going and post conflict situations (domestic violence, security and mobility)
- IDPs (camps, registration)
- Rehabilitation (transparency and accountability)

**Violence against Women**

- Rising Honor Killings
- Sexual Harassment and Domestic violence bill
- Upurge of religious extremism
- Armed militancy perpetrate gender based violence
- Lack of supporting structures such as an effective judiciary
- Parallel dispute resolution forums (jirgas etc)
- Lack of data collection and monitoring
- Emergency and shelter services
- Women centers and Darul Amanas
- Preventative measures
- Medico-legal services
- Re-integration of women survivors of violence
- Police and women police stations – territorial and operation jurisdiction unclear and underrepresentation and custodial violence

**Possible areas of Intervention**

1. Share zero drafts
   - Give input/recommendations according to areas of interest
   - Hand in responses by writing
2. Suggest names of people for provincial and national level consultations
3. Provide provincial/context based input if possible
Saaf Suthra Marri Project
(Solid Waste Management Initiative)
Sargodha

Presented by
Rake Alam Hyder
Regional General Manager, Taqabdal Region
Punjab Rural Support Programme

RSPs Annual Strategy Retreat
November 20 - 23, 2009

Project Objectives

To test community based approaches for effective management of solid waste in Marri, District Sargodha

Profile of the Project Area

- Name of village: Marri
- Total population: 10,129
- Total houses & shops located: 686
- Majority of the streets brick paved and houses connected to a drainage system through open drains
- Ground water is brackish. About 60% households benefiting from Government water supply
- No formal mechanism of effective disposal of solid waste

PRSP Interventions in Village Marri

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Community Infrastructure Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated Area Upladation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit Disbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of Loans</td>
<td>464</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active Loans</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Persons Trained in TDA, Livestock Management, Sewing &amp; Cutting</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishment of Community School</td>
<td>38 students enrolled</td>
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<tr>
<td>No of COs Formed</td>
<td>23 (15 Male, 8 Female)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No of Member Households</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Glimpses of PRSP Interventions in Marri
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Glimpses of PRSP Interventions in UC Marri

Selection Criteria of Site for Solid Waste Management Project
- High population density
- Intensive coverage of community organizations
- Existence of cadre of honest and competent activists
- Willingness of the community members
- Sanitation related interventions through COs
- Comparatively higher production of solid waste
- Absence of any solid waste management mechanism

Solid Waste Management Approach
- Door to door collection of solid waste from households at the village level
- Shifting of solid waste to a composting site
- Sorting of organic & inorganic materials from solid waste
- Composting of organic waste
- Marketing of inorganic material and processed organic material

Stakeholders Contribution

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<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>- Salaries of Project Staff (Monthly)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRSP share</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>721,000</td>
<td>721,000</td>
<td>- Preparation of Composting Site &amp; Purchase of Equipments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Share</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>590,000</td>
<td>590,000</td>
<td>- Provision of land for composting site, share in salary of project supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>1,320,000</td>
<td>2,520,000</td>
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</table>

Technical Support by RSPN
- Exposure visit of PRSP staff to successful solid waste management initiatives in the country (Waste Buster, Green Gold, Green Earth & Lahore Compost);
- Orientation of PRSP District Team on Solid Waste Management;
- Capacity building of project staff (strategy, plan & implementation);
- Opportunity for cross learning i.e. participation in South Asia Conference on Sanitation, India & other forums;
Project Implementation

Step 1: Social Mobilization with Target Population

- Mahallah level meetings from the forum of COs on project feasibility & gauging willingness;
- Advocacy workshop of Village Marr CCOs;
- Sensitization of community stakeholders: meetings with school teachers, Students, CPS children parents, shopkeepers, religious leaders, BHU staff etc.;
- Promotion through wall chalking and banners;
- Formation of General Body (Representative from each active COs) and Project Management Committee. (5 M + 2 F = 7 members);
- Account Opening of Project Committee. (2 accounts)

Meeting with Women COs Members & Children

Project Initiation Activities with Community Members

Orientation with School Children & Teachers

Meeting with BHU Staff
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Involving Religious Leaders

Project Implementation

Step 2: Infrastructure Development at Composting Site
- Identification of composting site and signing of Terms of Partnership with the community;
- Construction of boundary wall, store room, verandah, toilet and brick paving platform;
- Installation of water pump/motor;

Step 3: Pre Collection Activities
- Division of Marri Village into 4 Blocks (A, B, C, D) and numbering of each of 938 houses;
- Recruitment of sanitary workers (2 waste collectors, 1 sorter, 2 drains and street cleaners);
- Purchase of hand carts, waste collection bins, uniform, wind rows etc;
  (Two collectors have their own donkey carts)
Step 4: Provision of Sanitary Services in the assigned communities

- Door to door collection of solid waste from households (73% households are covered under the initiative);
- Collection of waste from houses done on alternative days by waste collector (2 persons assigned for 2 blocks, approx 450 Hhs);
- Cleaning of streets and open drains twice a month;

Step 5: Sorting of Solid Waste

- Manual sorting of organic & inorganic material
- Major inorganic items- shopping bags, used paper, plastic & glass bottles, rubber shoes etc;
- Major Organic items- vegetable fruit peels, fodder, livestock dung etc;

Step 6: Composting of Organic Waste

- Organic waste is processed through wind-rows technology and converted into compost;
- Compost is prepared in approximately 8 weeks;
- Periodical lab testing of prepared compost to test the quality;
- Improvement in compost quality on expert recommendation;
- Packaging – 3 kg per bag
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Service Fee Collection
- Monthly service fee of Rs. 20 per household for providing sanitary services (Agreed by the General Body)
- Internal Control
  Receipt books + Master Register and Deposit of Collected Service Fee in Bank on Daily Basis

Collection of Rs. 26,880 in the first three months (almost 60% of the households are paying monthly service fee)

Step 7: Marketing of Inorganic Products & Organic Compost
- Organic compost: The prepared compost is packaged & planned to be marketed to local farmers for orchards and nurseries;
- Inorganic: Entrepreneurs are being contacted for regular sale of inorganic material;

Lessons Learnt
- Close supervision required at all stages;
- Involvement of all important stakeholders i.e. shops, schools, BHUs, mosques etc;
- A new, challenging and learning experience for all staff involved in the initiative;
- More feasible for dense populated areas. A new model might be evolved for semi-rural areas;
- Broader social mobilization is needed for success of such initiatives;
- Hiring of committed sanitary staff & their retention;

Challenges
- Sensitization/motivation of us organized households and better off households;
- Service fee collection from 100% households;
- Marketing of compost & inorganic waste at better rates;
- Meeting new demands from the nearby adjacent area/villages;
- Sustainability of the project: Possible solution is improvement in service delivery and collection of fee from 100% households (Break even point to be reached before end of the project i.e. 18 months)
Presentations on Day 2
RSPN – UNICEF Partnership

In 2009, RSPN entered into Partnership with UNICEF to develop a community based model for introducing integrated health interventions in remote rural communities.

Objective of the Project

“To help reduce IMR & MMR in target communities through integrated community based health interventions”

Purpose:
- Develop a community channel for dissemination of messages & supplies
- Educate community on various preventive mother & child health care messages
- Extending the outreach of health department in non served areas (Immunization, TT vaccination & deworming)

Creating Synergies

Fostering partnership between the RSPs & Health Department (National Programme for FP & PHC, EPI & EDO Health) for bridging the gap between the public sector service delivery & rural communities.

Target Districts

- Time Period: April to Dec. 2009
- Target 129 UCs/ 22 Districts of Sindh & Punjab
- Approx 2.5 Million target population to be benefited

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<tr>
<th>SP</th>
<th>District</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Larkana</td>
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<td>Basin</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Nawab Shah</td>
<td>SGA</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Shalikupara</td>
<td>SRSO</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Kasur</td>
<td>PRSP</td>
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</table>
Social Mobilization

- Village Dialogue
- Community Resolution
- Identification of Community Activists (CRPs)
- Orientation of CRPs
- Agreement with CRPs
- Training of CRPs on delivering community health sessions & facilitating service providers

Integrated Community Based Health Interventions
Challenges

- Sensitization/motivation of unorganized households and better off households;
- Service fee collection from 100% households;
- Marketing of compost & inorganic waste at better rates;
- Meeting new demands from the nearby adjacent area/villages;
- Sustainability of the project: Possible solution is improvement in service delivery and collection of fee from 100% households (break even point to be reached before end of the project i.e. 18 months)

Social Mobilization

- Total 8416 CRPs have been identified (4208 women & 4208 men) in 129 UCs of 12 districts;
- Social Mobilization Teams: 27 (27 men & 27 women)... 1 SMT covering average 5 UCs;
  (Average 340 CRPs per SMT)

CRP’s Remuneration

- Mether & Child Week Round 1 (April) Rs. 950
- Mether & Child Week Round 2 (Nov) Rs. 950
- Birth Preparedness, Clean Delivery & New Born Care Rs. 950
- Immunization Round 1 Rs. 950
- Immunization Round 2 Rs. 750
- Family Planning/Birth spacing Rs. 950
- Sanitation (CDF) Rs. 4050

Total Rs. 9950
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

**Increase in CO Coverage**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>RSPs</th>
<th>COs</th>
<th>Health Groups</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>SRIO</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>692</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRDP</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>660</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRSP</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>SGA</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRCP</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>1262</td>
<td>1422</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>1866</td>
<td>2861</td>
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**Community Health Sessions With Women**

- **Sindh**: 191,888
- **Punjab**: 81,714
- **Total**: 273,602

**Community Health Sessions With Men**

- **Sindh**: 193,501
- **Punjab**: 76,847
- **Total**: 270,348

**Immunization of Children**

- **Sindh**: 574,993
- **Punjab**: 116,110
- **Total**: 691,103

**De-worming of Children**

- **Sindh**: 156,911
- **Punjab**: 40,327
- **Total**: 197,238

**TT Vaccination of Pregnant Women**

- **Sindh**: 47,188
- **Punjab**: 11,179
- **Total**: 58,367
Birth Spacing Intervention

- Approx 200,000 married couples (from 129 UCs) of reproductive age to be reached under UNICEF partnership by Dec ‘09;

- Approx. 40,000 couples (from 40 UCs) reached under FALAH project by Dec ’09;

Supplies Support by UNICEF

- Counseling Cards with health messages
- Leaflets for school children
- Leaflets for religious leaders
- Advocacy folders
- Deworming tablets for children 2-5 yrs
- Clean delivery kits for pregnant women

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Quality Assurance Tools

- Ongoing monitoring integrated

- Performance Evaluation by end December (20 Indicators)

Community Dialogue for Identification of Community Resource Person

CRPs being identified by communities through resolutions signed by Community Organizations / Health Groups

Training of Volunteers (CRPs)

CRPs were trained by district health department in various centers

Announcement of M&C Week

Announcement for the involvement of people for mother and child health week in different locations
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Awareness through Banners

Banners were displayed on public and prominent places for involvement of people in Mother and Child Health week.

Community Sensitization Sessions by CRPs

CRPs conducted health sessions for awareness on pneumonia and diarrhea and motivated pregnant women for TT vaccination.

Deworming of Children (2-5 years)

Children of 2-5 years registered and de-wormed. Parents sensitized on the importance of de-worming of their children.

Registration of Pregnant Women and 0-2 Years Children


Immunization


Immunization
TT Vaccination

Future Strategy

- Propose expansion to remaining districts & NWFP, Balochistan, AJK, Gilgit/Baltistan;

- Nationwide scale up in collaboration with MoH, MoPW and other stakeholders;

- RSPs to scale up CO coverage;

- Integrate with other interventions i.e. adult literacy, micronutrients supplementation, education interventions etc;
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

LSO Chinari Presentation
### PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

**Table 1**

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رural Support Programmes' Annual Retreat - November 20-23 2009

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<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>کم</th>
<th>میلاد</th>
<th>تعداد</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>کم</td>
<td>میلاد</td>
<td>تعداد</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>کم</th>
<th>میلاد</th>
<th>تعداد</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>کم</td>
<td>میلاد</td>
<td>تعداد</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Doe</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>1234567890</td>
<td><a href="mailto:johndoe@email.com">johndoe@email.com</a></td>
<td>123-456-7890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Smith</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>2345678901</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janesmith@email.com">janesmith@email.com</a></td>
<td>234-567-8901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Johnson</td>
<td>Analyst</td>
<td>3456789012</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peterjohnson@email.com">peterjohnson@email.com</a></td>
<td>345-678-9012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Table 1:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LSO</th>
<th>Number of Projects</th>
<th>Number of Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Table 2:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>01-01-2023</td>
<td>31-01-2023</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td>02-01-2023</td>
<td>30-03-2023</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3</td>
<td>03-01-2023</td>
<td>31-06-2023</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Diagram 1:**

- [Diagram Description]

---

**Diagram 2:**

- [Diagram Description]
Pictures

LSO Projects
Welcome To LSO Network Ghizar

Presented by:
Bubul Jan Member, LSON Ghizar

November, 22, 2009

Area and Population

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Area (sq.km)</td>
<td>11,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Villages</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Household</td>
<td>15,322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>153,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>77,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>75,541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Background

- Follow up the declaration passed in first LSO Convention 2008
- Influence government policies through a united and representative voice.
- Address development challenges above the UC Level
- Ensure future sustainability of LSOs through a cumulative effort
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Objectives of the LSON

• To act as a catalyst to promote peace and pluralistic society in the District.
• Advocating for mainstreaming participatory development approaches in public policy, planning and processes;
• Lobbying with government and other agencies to create a permanent and dedicated support system for LSOs, such as creation of civil society development fund.

Count--------

• 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 and peace and social harmony;
• Demonstrating joint and collaborative actions and setting best practice standards for LSOs, village and women organizations and other civil society organizations in the district.

Member LSOs

1. Shangam Local Support Organization, Puniyal
2. Shandur Local Support Organization, Gupis
3. Gupis Rural Support Programme, Gupis
4. Al Karim Local Support Organization, Yasin
5. Karumber Local Support Organization, Ishkoman
6. Chatorkhed Local Support Organization, Ishkoman
7. Singal Women Local Support Organization, Puniyal
8. Gakhkuch Local Support Organization, Puniyal

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
- VO 119
- WO 138
Total number of household in district Ghizer 15,322
Total number of covered households 9,248
Total V/WOs saving (Rs. Mil) 29.0

Governance Structure of LSON

Partners of LSON

• Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP)
• Rural Support Programme Network (RSPN),
• InWent Germany
• Rupani Foundation
Steps Taken

- Introductory meeting with the representatives of LSOs and formation of Adhoc Board.
- Workshops held in August and October 09 to identify needs, advantages and objectives, challenges and threats for the LSON and define activities of LSON for the year 2009-2010.
- Organized and Hosted LSO Convention at Regional and GBC level.
- Submitted a proposal to RSPN for Funding, which has been approved.
- Proposal submitted to P&DD on Community based Tourism Development in Ghizer.

Opportunities

- Organized Community (V/WOs/ LSOs, activists)
- V/WOs saving (19 million rupees)
- Natural Resources (Vazer, Land, Lakes, Minerals, Wildlife, Trout fish, Glaciers, Tracks, Medicinal Plants)
- Tourism potential
- Potential for Micro-hydel
- Educated youth
- Cross-Boarder Trade (Afghanistan and Central Asia)
- Local Government Development Resource
- Gigit Baltistan package 2009

Challenges

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Financial Sustainability of LSON
- Sustainable utilization of collective saving
- Productive and marketable Human Resource
- Technical and professional capacity of

Way forward

- To promote peace and harmony in the district through dialogue
- Sensitize LSOs and V/WO about the concept and functions of LSON
- Organize dialogues and meetings with Govt. Officials, elected representatives, NGOs and private sector for PPPs.

Cont...........

- Document and disseminate best practices of LSOs and V/WOs through providing internship for young professionals
- Organize development forums on various themes involving government, elected representatives, private sector and civil society stakeholders
- Develop and submit proposals to public sector agencies to benefit vulnerable and

Cont.....

- Organize campaigns and participate in Days / event of local, national and international significance
- Promote inter district learning exchange between District NGO Network Diamer and LSON Ghizer
- Provide monitoring and technical support to LSOs
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

RSPs Annual Strategy Retreat
November 20 - 23, 2009

Presentation
By
LSO Litten
District Bhakkar, Punjab

National Rural Support Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>0-11</th>
<th>12-18</th>
<th>19-23</th>
<th>24-100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,841</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>1,965</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54%</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Note: The data in the table is presented in Pakistani Rupees.
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45%</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>45%</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>450</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CIF</th>
<th>PSC</th>
<th>Skor (24-9)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CF</td>
<td>Mekanik</td>
<td>Keptisi Mebiar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,800,000</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>291</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LSO**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Karyawan Diri Masa</th>
<th>LSO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,930</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,130</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>73%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Small business
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Program on Adult Literacy and Life Skills

UNION COUNCIL LITTEN,
TEHSIL MANKERA, DISTRICT BHAKkar, NJIANWALI
REGION

BACKGROUND
Union Council Litten
• Most impoverished area in the Tehsil
• Excellent social mobilization efforts done by NRSP
• COs/VOs/LSOs formed
• Micro-finance, CPs, and grants were provided
• COs/VOs/LSOs performed exceptionally well
• 90% of the women are illiterate resulting in non-participation in community affairs
• Families who have illiterate members constitute the poorest and destitute in the UC

OBJECTIVES
• Increase the participation of illiterate members of the community, especially women in Community Organizations (COs)
• Increase the participation of women in taking decisions alongside men equally in the household and community level
• Improve the accountability and transparency of COs/VOs/LSOs
• Set up a local, self-managed system of improving the literacy status of local people at the field level
• Increase the participation and contribution of community members as literate persons for the solution of their day to day problems and issues concerning health, hygiene, nutrition, cleanliness and discipline
• Use the Family Literacy Centers as platforms for skills training and continuous self-learning of two literacies

METHODOLOGY
• Action Research Pilot Method
• Extensive involvement of field staff
• Involvement of VO’s and LSO activists as Literacy Teachers and Coordinators
• Involvement of VO’s and LSO’s in community mobilization for literacy
• Adoption of the National Curriculum for Literacy
• Development of Teaching and Learning Materials involved Teachers in the pilot phase
• Detailed activity plans were developed by the team
• Practical trainings are being provided through extracurricular activities organized at community events
• Participatory monitoring and evaluation are regularly conducted
• Data bank is in place and regularly updated

CURRENT STATUS OF PALLS’ LEARNERS IN UC LITTEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency Levels</th>
<th>Number of Women Learners Enrolled</th>
<th>Number of Men Learners Enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>799</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COST IMPLICATIONS

- The total cost per learner ranges between Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 depending on the graduation level.

- Part of this cost can be recovered from the Social Mobilization budget.

BEHAVIOR CHANGE OUTCOMES

- Additional 28 Women CIs formed
- Additional 3 Women VOs formed
- Additional 7 Mixed (Men and Women) CIs formed
- At least 38 Women are ready to participate and lead as Managers
- Observable changes in women’s attitude/behaviour:
  - value time, come to class on time
  - recognize their roles and responsibilities in the community
  - interested in organizing themselves and work collectively
  - regularly attending community meetings
  - value education, send their children to school resulting in an increase in school enrollment
  - participate in community events at village level, e.g. cooking competition
  - value saving
  - able to make decisions over their lives and those of their children
  - prepare nutritious meals for the family, practice hygiene and keep environment clean and safe.
Micro Health Insurance

Experience of NRSP
Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pakistan</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Bangladesh</th>
<th>Malaysia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IMR</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMR</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure/GDP</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health care expenditure

- "Pakistan spends 80% of its meager health budget on tertiary care services, utilized by only 15%..."
  [www.csp.org.pk/JOSP/ARCHIVE/JOSP_2006/Jan06/article17]
- Pakistan: Expenditure on Health per Household
  - Cost of medicines (out of pocket expenditure) 49%
  - Doctor's fee 38%
  - Hospitalization 13%
  - Molla A. 2009 Aga Khan University, Pakistan
**Micro Health Insurance**

- It is not about health care delivery
  - Neither is it about health care...primary, secondary or tertiary
- It is simply a tool that reduces the burden of medical expenses to the poor
- It is about providing an option and empowering the poor to procure quality hospital care
- More than 70% of total healthcare expenditure consists of private expenses
  - Majority of this is out-of-pocket payments. (Zehra M, 2008, `Healthcare in Pakistan`)

**NRSP’s Health Insurance**

- The product was launched in October 2005 in partnership with the Adamjee Insurance Company
- Product designed for the members of the Community Organizations and micro credit clients
- Benefits
  - Health
  - Life
  - Disability
  - Coverage Up to Rs. 15,000- each
  - Premium: CO member and their families are covered with a total premium of Rs 100/- per annum

**The Partnership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insurance Company</th>
<th>NRSP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
<td>Product design &amp; Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Claims processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Product refining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CO/CO Members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Period Wise Insurance cases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>As of Dec 05</th>
<th>As of Dec 07</th>
<th>As of Dec 08</th>
<th>As of Dec 09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>175,201</td>
<td>473,147</td>
<td>962,331</td>
<td>1,244,935</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Period Wise Loss Ratio %**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loss Ratio %</th>
<th>As of Dec 06</th>
<th>As of Dec 07</th>
<th>As of Dec 08</th>
<th>As of Sep 09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Rs. 250 premium
- Rs. 200 premium
- Rs. 100 Member + spouse
- Rs. 100 Member + Family

Rs. 500 per family with enhanced cover of Rs. 25,000 per member per year + cp. costs

**Medical claims**

- Injuries & Illness: 46.2%
- Glasses & Spectacles: 10.5%
- Dental: 9.1%
- Hyderabad: 6.8%
- Influenza, A50: 6.3%
- Respiratory Infections, 1.8%
- Acute Peer Pressure: 1.6%
- Chronic Diseases: 1.0%
- Injuries & Illnesses, 1.0%
- Chronic Illnesses: 1.0%
- Other: 0.8%
Surgical Claims

Policy Advocacy Initiatives

- GoS is signing the first public level financing for MHI on 22nd Nov. 2009 under the Union Council plan implementation in two districts of Kashmor-Kandhkot and Shikarpur.
  - To be extended in four additional districts of Jacobabad, Bacin, Thatta, Tharparker.
- NINSP is working with UNFPA for a Women of child bearing age (CBAs) and Newborns Insurance in two tehsis of Chakwal.
- BISP is contemplating a National Programme.

The bill

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Pop.</td>
<td>150,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop. Below Poverty Line @40%</td>
<td>64,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance cost @ Rs. 100 per capita (all overheads)</td>
<td>6,000,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost in US $ per year</td>
<td>80,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Total GDP (ppp.2006) rates</td>
<td>0.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of total GDP (real 2008)</td>
<td>0.06%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Evaluation of CF Pilot (Recommendations)

A Presentation to:
RSPs 2009 Forum
November 25, 2009
Saiful Javaid

Agenda
- Background
- Strengths
- Implementation
- Record Keeping
- Poverty Score Cards
- Systems and Procedures
- LSO/VOO structures
- Insurance to CIF borrowers
- Savings
- Exit and/or Graduation
- Impact

Background
- RSPN contracted SBI-P to undertake evaluation of the CIF pilots in Layyah and two LSOs in Multan district
- SBI-P team accompanied by RSPN and PRSP staff visited the pilot sites and LSOs in the last week of March 2009
- In early April, SBI-P team presented its findings to the PRSP and RSPN management and then to the BOD of RSPN
- Major Findings and Recommendations follows

Strengths
- Excellent Initiative
- Clear Targeting – Women and Vulnerable Groups
- Poverty Score Card – A valuable tool

Implementation Issues (in Layyah)
- Weak implementation at the field level by not fully applying RSPs Social Mobilization Processes, resulting in:
  - Formation of weak WOs
  - Identification/elimination of male CRPs was not appropriate
  - Benefiting few families, as selection of office bearers in several WOs was subjective
  - Inadequate training was provided to the WO managers
- The pilot project became credit disbursement model instead of beneficiary focused
- Implementation became target oriented rather than quality oriented
Implementation - Recommendations

- All weak WOs should be disbanded and properly reorganized
- CIF pilot should be stopped in all such WOs
- CIF funds should be taken back from all such WOs. Additional instalments should not be given
- New literate and committed office bearers should be identified and adequately trained
- PRSP should directly supervise all WOs created under this intervention until they are mature

Record-Keeping Recommendations

- A VDO accountant should be immediately hired to rectify the records
- After rectification, new balances should be agreed in the WO meeting
- The new balances would then be the basis for recording future transactions
- The services of VDO accountant should be provided to all newly formed WOs until local capacity is built

Record-Keeping Issues

- Extremely poor
- Lots of overwriting in all records
- Savings balances were not reconciled
- Duplicate and missing entries were found in WO and individual records
- Bank balances were not reconciled with bank statements
- Because of high workload, very few WO records were checked by PRSP staff

Poverty Score Cards

- Good initiative to identify the target group
- Some nomenclature issues existed that needed resolution
- A copy of PSC should be available at WO/VDO
- PSC should be regularly updated at least once in a year or after every loan cycle, as feasible
- Adequate training should be provided to those who fill in these cards
- Proper monitoring system should be devised

Systems and Procedures

- Complete and comprehensive systems and procedures including monitoring and reporting standards should be developed
- Separate records including book-keeping should be kept for this interventions from the core program
- Separate staff and resources should be allocated or hired
- Priority should be given to the development of new systems and procedures and these should be incorporated in the plans for

LSO/VDO Structures

- Good initiative
- Presently VDOs are not clear about their role and responsibilities
- The VDO structure should be tried only where mature WOs exist
- The LSO structure should be tried only where mature VDOs exist
- Some emerging gender issues
- The new structures requires direct supervision and guidance from PRSP
**Insurance**

- Presently insurance is not provided to the target group
- This benefit should be provided to the target groups as such benefits are provided other core program loanees
- Premium could be paid from service charges collected by WOs
- If CNIC is an hindrance, RSPs should encourage and help to obtain CNIC

**Savings**

- One of the major objectives of the Pilot was to enhance of savings, but savings mobilizations was not a priority
- Some incentives should be provided to the extremely and chronically poor HHs, to encourage savings, such as:
  - Sharing of service charges
  - Match savings from CIF grant or income
  - Savings should allowed to be withdrawn to purchase income generating assets

**Graduation and or Exit Mechanism**

- Presently no such mechanism exists
- Beneficiaries can graduate to RSP programme benefits by:
  - monitoring of PSC, and
  - achieving certain level of asset accumulation
- CIF fund balances could be used after graduation of beneficiaries:
  - collective enterprise, income generating activities, social interventions and/or
  - transferring remaining balances of the fund to other operational areas/UC

**CIF and Women’s Empowerment:**

- Khaliq Bi, 32 years old
- Extremely poor (PSC 8)
-illiterate
  - 5 children: 2 girls and 3 boys, 5-12 years old
  - Took CIF loan of Rs 10,000 for Qinchi (motorcycle rickshaw)
  - Profit of Rs 2,000/month
  - Paid back loan nearly 2 months before due date
  - As a result of CIF, relations with husband much better...
    - Less fights
    - Spends more time with his children and wife
    - Increased communication as he now shares his problems with his wife

**CIF and Women’s Support Group:**

- Umbara Kaur, 26 years old
- Chronically poor (PSC 24)
- Lives with her mother, brother, 33 and her family
- Borrowed Rs 10,000 to combine with household income in order to buy a buffalo
- Buffalo died a few months ago due to illness
- CIF has decided to charging any service charge payments and is deciding on giving her another loan
- As a result of CIF, she feels more free
  - Although her buffalo died, she feels no pressure from her CO regarding repayment. She does not feel burdened.
  - Can see a way out of this though
  - Finds work within the village
  - Moved to go to other women’s houses in the village regularly

**CIF and Social Capital:**

- Naseem Bi, 30 years old
- Extremely poor (PSC 8)
- 4 children: 2 boys and 2 girls, 4 months to 6 years old
- Took CIF loan of Rs 10,000 to combine with household income to purchase a cow worth Rs 25,000
- Loan repaid by selling 3 of her goats, leaving her with her cow and calf now
- Now has an asset (cow and calf) worth Rs 40,000
- As a result of CIF, she has found the support of women outside her family...
  - Gives and receives support from her fellow members
  - Feels that she has “backup” in case of emergencies
  - Previously a member of a CO in another neighborhood
  - Went onto form a CO in her own neighborhood because of the benefit she felt

113
CIF and Confidence:
“I’m proud of myself”

- Kishwar Bibi, 33 years old
- Chronically poor (PSC 14)
- 5 children: 4 boys and 1 girl, 5-15 years old
- Took loan of Rs. 10,000 to purchase a car
- Has an asset worth Rs. 30,000
- As a result of CIF, she feels like she is contributing to her household:
  - Feels proud that as a woman, she’s able to bring productive assets to her household
- Realises since not differently now
- Realises her potential to think “big” for her family and their development
- Feels confident speaking in meetings, both at home and other meetings.

CIF and Equality:
“People use me as an example now”

- Hajri Bibi, 40 years old
- Extremely poor (PSC 9)
- 8 children, 6 girls, 4 boys; 4-17 years old
- Works with her family to make beds and ropes with “Dushi”
- Took Rs. 10,000 loan which she used to purchase “Dushi” for Rs. 4,000 cheaper
- As a result of CIF, she now feels equal to others:
  - No longer feels shunned from other community members
  - Has a closer bond with the women in her village
- Realises that because of her hard work, she is no longer pitied by her community

CIF and Independence:
“in meetings, I sit in the front row now”

- Khurshid Bibi, 35 years old
- Chronically poor (PSC 11)
- 4 children, 3 girls, 1 boy, 10-15 years old
- Took loan of Rs. 5,000 to purchase agri inputs
- With her profits, was able to purchase fertilizer and lentil seeds
- As a result of CIF, she feels more independent:
  - Access to resources:
    - Feels no fear of her husband
    - Because of her DDS
    - Her husband is on sending her daughter to middle school in another village
    - Feels she has learnt, i.e. banking

For More Information

[Map showing various locations]
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Presentation Outline

- TRDP’s History – Child Rights
- Situation of the Area SAZ
- Objectives of the Programme
- Major Achievements
- RSPs role in CRP

History

- TRDP started as a drought relief project of SC UK in 1988 in the Tharparkar Desert
- The process of “indigenization” or becoming a local organisation started in 1993
- TRDP was launched in 1995, registered under ‘Societies Act 1860’, with its headquarters in

TRDP History – CHILD RIGHTS PROTECTION

- TRDP conducted a research study on child labour in 1998-1999 and worked on the issue through a DFID-funded pilot project in 1999-2001
- On the basis of these experiences, TRDP launched a project in 2003, entitled “the Protection of Rights of the Working Children in the Carpet Industry in Thar Desert.” Also known as the Child Rights Protection Project (CRPP)

Continue....................

- 2006 independent organizational review that recommended TRDP expand its work on child labour to four districts to free 20,000 children from all major forms of hazardous labour
- Developed TRDP five year strategy that integrates child rights into all organizational objectives and center of its work.
- Strategic transformation to became an organization that, among other profound changes, focuses on children in all its work to
Situation of SAZ Area (TRDP Baseline 2007)

- Poverty: 60% of households in rural areas live under the poverty line
- Child Labour/Bonded Labour: 36% of children in surveyed HH are child labourers
- Lack of Access to Quality Education
- Children who never enrol in school: 42%
- High Dropout rates: Of the 58% who enroll
- Migration
- Few and substandard health facilities in remote areas
- Discrimination (Religion, Caste, Gender)

Hazardous Child Labour

- TRDP defines harmful child work as any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child’s education, or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical and emotional development.

Other issues facing children in Sindh:

- Children living and working in the street
- Child marriage
- Children in prisons
- Violence against children
- Commercial and sexual exploitation of children
- Lack of quality education and health care
- Urban violence
- Lack of recreational facilities, especially for

TRDP Child Rights Programme

- GOAL: To address the root causes of poverty and achieve long-term sustainable poverty alleviation in TRDP’s programme area, through social mobilization by using a rights based approach — focusing on working girls and boys in hazardous labour, women and caste/religious minorities

Step Changes

- TRDP focuses on the child, especially working girls and boys in hazardous labour, in all its work
- TRDP develops a strategy to address hazardous child labour, with a focus on girls, in Sindh arid zones
- Development the experience and expertise to make TRDP a lead specialist in the field of primary and non formal/alternative education for working girls and boys in

Step Changes

- TRDP ensure sustainable livelihoods, especially for families of working children in hazardous labour
- TRDP becomes a key actor in child labor, poverty and education debates, influencing decision making at all levels
- TRDP becomes an umbrella organization supporting a strong network of community organizations who implement the majority of interventions
PART III – Presentations by Member RSPs & Representative of LSOs

Major Achievements

Education
• Identified 125820 working children (50% girls) form 1719 villages using PSC data
• Phased out 11835 children (50% girls) from Hazardous Labour
• 4198 children are enrolled in AECs and 3967 in Govt Schools
• 43 Master Trainer Teacher and 392 Trained Primary Teachers
• 89 NFEs Established
• 153 School buildings constructed
• 108 Nonfunctional schools reopened

Livelihood and Marketing
• 48 Million Micro credit disbursement

Major Achievements

Policies and Strategies
• Child Rights Protection Policy Developed
• TRDP Child Labour Policy Developed
• Child Rights Mainstreaming Strategy Developed
• Education Strategy Developed
• Advocacy Strategy Developed
• TRDP Child Participation Standards Developed

Collation and Networks
• 947 Children Organization & 3 District Children Forums Formed
• Member of PCCWD
• Member of CACL

Major Achievements

Policies and Strategies
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Collation and Networks
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• Member of PCCWD
• Member of CACL

Role of RSPs in Child Rights Protection

• Steering
  ✓ Facilitate Govt in Planning, Implementation, Budgeting, C&I, Tracking and Tracking of children issues

• Coordination
  ✓ Synergize the expertise of different RSPs Networks
  ✓ Avoid Overlapping and improve coverage
  ✓ Ensure Maximum use of resources
  ✓ To bring collective voice to government bodies

• Support Mechanism
  ✓ Filling the gap for fulfilling children rights and pushing government to take action

Role of RSPs in Child Rights Protection

• Watch Dog
  ✓ Non compliance of laws relating to children
  ✓ Lack of political will of implementation
  ✓ Lack of professionalism on part of Government and practitioners
  ✓ Budgets which do not address children’s needs and rights
  ✓ Non proper utilization/unjust distribution of resources aimed at assisting the children
  ✓ Follow up of all activities and commitments

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When I look back on 56 years of my working life in Government, United Nations, the Aga Khan Foundation and the Rural Support Programmes, 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 have had the opportunity, thanks to UNICEF and later to UNDP, but mainly due to His Highness the Aga Khan, to fully and exclusively devote myself to 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 Km from Islamabad to Gilgit in a borrowed jeep. This was the beginning of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
and the 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 nineteenth century Europe followed by Japan, Taiwan, Comilla (Bangladesh) and South Korea. This was a message of partnership in Development. AKRSP was not there to listen to their demands, needs and problems and to 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 persons in the world not willing to solve their problems and asking them to do things first? I explained that 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.

Gradually and incrementally we moved forward. I had already learnt my lesson a few years earlier at Daudzai in Frontier Province of Pakistan when using a blueprint approach a portfolio of projects was prepared without consulting the communities, which later on was found to have nothing in common what the community wanted. The micro-variations at the local level demand consultation and dialogues with each and every community. 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 preconceived package and left it to each community to identify their potential not only as a community but also at the 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 got thousands of villagers trained as service providers in agriculture, horticulture, livestock, forestry etc. and as managers of their organisations, identified constructed and maintained thousands of physical infrastructure works – irrigation channels, link roads, sprinkler irrigation, flood protection works, school buildings etc., increased their productive capacity, planted 50 million trees on land brought under irrigation range, generated about six megawatts of electricity through village built and managed mini-hydels acknowledged as the biggest concentration of community managed micro hydro projects anywhere in the world and accumulated over Rupees four hundred million as their savings resulting in setting up of First Micro Finance Bank.

In agriculture, horticulture and livestock, the organized communities made quantum jump in introducing and later marketing apples 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 and WWF has given rich dividends sharing 75% of the proceeds of trophy hunting with the Wildlife Department. The tourists can now watch ibex, morkhor 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 including two micro hydels supplying electricity 24 hours and savings and credit fund of over millions of rupees. 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 the environment was litter free.

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 continue to do so. The 20 Mandals which SAPAP took as the demonstration area for empowerment of women and poverty reduction have a different story to tell today. On my visits to Andhra Pradesh to SAPAP Mandals, I had never seen such
a tremendous transformation in a short period in the lives of the people especially the women not only in terms of economic empowerment but in every aspect of life. Given the opportunity and support by SAPAP these illiterate rural women demonstrated dynamism, managerial and productive skills and a sense of responsibility and sensitivity to social evils such as bonded and child labour, social discrimination, indifference or excesses of local bureaucracy that one had to see to believe it.

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 a 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, the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) 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 people’s 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’s households 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 billion 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 comprising:

i) a three-tier institutional grassroots framework of Self Help Groups (SHGs), Village Organizations (VOs) and Mahila Mandal Samakhyaas (MMSs);

ii) an independent and autonomous sensitive support organization like Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) for fostering a state-wide 3-tier grassroots institutional framework; an interest-subsidy policy for the poor matched with priority banking by scheduled banks for the poor;

iii) a state-wide housing subsidy for the destitute and shelter-less identified by VOs;

v) full and active support by the State and district administrations under the direction of the Chief Minister and the Minister for Rural Development; and

vi) pro-poor Union Government policies such as the employment guarantee scheme and other pro-poor initiatives.

I also paid a visit to Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Vikas Preyojana in Sultanpur-Amethi and met Mr. Rahul Gandhi in July 2008. I was most impressed by his perception and understanding of the process of social mobilisation harnessing the potential of the people and his empathy and compassion for the poor and the down trodden and how he is determined to reach each and every poor household not only in UP but the whole of India. With such champions of poverty elimination, the goal of a poverty free country is certainly attainable. In the village I visited with Mr. Gandhi, the women described the changes and transformation in their lives similar to Andhra Pradesh.

In 1991, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) had set up an Independent Commission for the Alleviation of Poverty. The Commission made an overarching recommendation which the SAARC Summit in its meeting at Dhaka in 1993 endorsed, namely, that Social Mobilization should be the centrepiece for all poverty reduction strategies of the governments of the region to be achieved by setting up independent and autonomous support organizations to mobilise rural poor men and women.

Dr. Akhter Hameed Khan used to say that in Pakistan, development will not come from the top. It will come from the bottom and it shall happen in pockets – one island formed here and one island there. AKRSP and its replication has shown how true it is. He also used to say that the problem of South Asia is not economic but moral. The organized communities at the grassroots in South Asia have shown there is both honesty and a spirit of selflessness in rural areas of South Asia.

Today the Rural Support Programmes Network in Pakistan extends to 93 out of 127 districts comprising over 100,000 communities with over 2
million households (nearly 13-15 million people) as members. Pakistan is probably the only country in South Asia where the Government has provided resources since 1992 for fostering independent and autonomous support organizations as envisaged by 1991 Poverty Commission set up by SAARC Heads of State.

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 Chief Ministers Punjab, NWFP and Sindh want to make Social Mobilisation the centrepiece of their provincial poverty elimination strategies. The Federal Government is very keen to mainstream social mobilisation in the current Annual and the next Five Year Plan. The Government of Pakistan is seriously considering implementing a Union Council Poverty Reduction Plan with a strong women empowerment component countrywide. 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 third the world will have to take a lead role in fostering a framework of grassroots institutions of the people through social mobilisation.

Thank you!
### Programme for the RSPs’ Annual Retreat, 2009

**November 20-23 2009**  
PC Bhurban, Murree

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday November 20, 2009</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Departure from Islamabad</td>
<td>RSPN Administration</td>
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<td>1200-1400</td>
<td>Arrival at PC Hotel Bhurban, Check in and Lunch</td>
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<td>Afternoon free</td>
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<tr>
<td>1900-2000</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>All Participants</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday November 21, 2009</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>0845</td>
<td>Assemble at Meeting Room</td>
<td>All Participants</td>
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<td>0855</td>
<td>Recitation from the Holy Quran</td>
<td>M. Ali Azizi</td>
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<tr>
<td>0900-0930</td>
<td>Welcome address, Summary presentation from 2008 Annual RSPs Retreat and Objectives for 2009 Retreat</td>
<td>Shandana Khan, CEO RSP Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>0930-1000</td>
<td>Presentation on RSPs’ Outreach in Pakistan</td>
<td>Saleem Baloch, Programme Officer Monitoring, RSPN</td>
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<td>1000-1100</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme in partnership with the Government of Sindh</td>
<td>Ghulam Rasool, Manager UCBPRP, Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1100-1130</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<td>1130-1300</td>
<td>Presentation and Discussion: Gender Issues in the LSOs</td>
<td>Dr. Virginia Khan, Manager Gender, RSPN</td>
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<td>Muhammad Sidiq (LSO Dhawan, Kotli)</td>
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<td>Saima Gul (LSO PRADO)</td>
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<td>Shahrseen Akhtar (CRP Mirza Ali Muhammad Organization)</td>
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<td>Shahida Bibi (LSO Hyderabad Rural Support Organization)</td>
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<td>1300-1430</td>
<td>Lunch and prayer break</td>
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<tr>
<td>1430-1500</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Solid Waste Management in Sargodha</td>
<td>Nake Alam, Regional General Manager, Punjab RSP Faisalabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>1500-1545</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: National Plan of Action for Women</td>
<td>Hina Shaikh Research Ass.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1545-1615</td>
<td>Documentary &quot;A Fractured Silence&quot; on women IDPs</td>
<td>KZR</td>
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<td>1615-1645</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>1645-1715</td>
<td>Presentation and Discussion: Internally Displaced Persons</td>
<td>Masood ul Mulk, CEO SRSP</td>
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<td>1715-1745</td>
<td>Documentary on GBTI: A Case of Resettlement through Social Mobilisation</td>
<td>Ahsun Khan, CEO, GBTI</td>
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**Sunday November 22, 2009**

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<tr>
<td>0900-0945</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion on UNICEF Mother and Child Health Initiative</td>
<td>Tanya Khan, Specialist Social Sectors, RSPN</td>
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<tr>
<td>0945-1015</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: AJK Local Support Organisation, Chenari</td>
<td>Manzoor &amp; Ms. Yasmin LSO Chenari, AJK NRSP</td>
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<td>1015-1045</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Ghizer District Local Support Organisations LSOs on ‘Democracy &amp; Development Dialogue’</td>
<td>Bulbul Jan, Member LSON Ghizer, Gilgit-Baltistan. AKRSP</td>
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<td>1045-1115</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
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<td>1115-1145</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Local Support Organisation, Union Council Litten, District Bhakkar, Punjab</td>
<td>Muhammad Iqbal &amp; Samina Latif, LSO Litten, District Bhakkar/ NRSP</td>
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<td>1145-1215</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Health Micro Insurance</td>
<td>Dr Rashid Bajwa, CEO NRSP</td>
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<td>1215-1300</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Review of RSP Community Investment Fund</td>
<td>Mr Salim Jiwani, ShoreBank International</td>
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<td>1300-1430</td>
<td>Lunch and prayer break</td>
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<tr>
<td>1430-1545</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; Discussion: Child Rights</td>
<td>Ms. Bhagwani, Manager Child Rights Operations</td>
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<td>1545-1615</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>1615-1630</td>
<td>Open discussion: Way Ahead for RSPs</td>
<td>Participants</td>
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<td>1630-1645</td>
<td>Concluding comments</td>
<td>Shandana Khan, CEO RSPN</td>
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<tr>
<td>1645-1700</td>
<td>Concluding remarks</td>
<td>Mr Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman, RSPN</td>
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**Monday November 23, 2009**

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<td>1</td>
<td>Shoaib Sultan Khan</td>
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<td>Mrs. Munawar H. Khan</td>
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<td>Ali Noor Muhammad Rattansey</td>
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<td>Fazalullah Qureshi</td>
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<td>Dr. Rashid Bajwa</td>
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<td>Ms. Salma Khalid</td>
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<td>Ghulam Rasool</td>
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<td>Ms. Zahida</td>
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<td>Atiq Shah</td>
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<td>Manzoor</td>
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<td>Ms. Yasmin</td>
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<td>Samina Latif</td>
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<td>Ms. Naseem Maai</td>
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<td>Ms. Shirley</td>
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References


Shoaib Sultan Khan’s Address to the United Nations, May 2009
Rural Support Programmes (RSPs)
The RSPs aim is 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.

Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) Mission Statement
Harnessing people’s potential by fostering and strengthening participatory, transparent and accountable organisations of the people for poverty alleviation and improvement in their quality of life.

Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)
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