

## NEW HOPE RISING IN SUIGALI

Since the floods hit her village last year, Yasmin, like hundreds of other affected women, has been struggling without access to clean drinking water. She is 33, a literate woman and a mother of three daughters and four sons. Her husband Muhammad Aziz is a farmer by profession. Even though Yasmin herself practices embroidery and stitching for earning money for her family, she has not been able to do in the aftermath of the floods. She has now been unable to help support seven children because she has been bringing water household. Yasmin is also worried about the health of her family as the water they take is not clean and can cause outbreaks of disease.



*Yasmin (Sitting Right) sitting in her house, surrounded by her children*

"I am carrying water on my head", says Yasmin, "But with new hope arriving, I am sure these difficult days will pass, and I and my family will be able to live normal life again Insha'Allah."

The new hope Yasmin is referring to is the new drinking water supply scheme that is being built in her 50 household village of Suigali Baringal by the APF-RSPN project, which is restoring flood affected micro-infrastructure in Swat. When Yasmin's community was fighting for its survival, SRSP came to their help and organized their community. The community formed their Community Organisation (CO) in the name of *Islahi Tanzeem Suigali*, Baringal. The community agreed to the terms and conditions of the APF funded RSPN micro infrastructure project, which was being implemented by SRSP in their village.

**"WITH NEW HOPE ARRIVING, I AM SURE THESE DIFFICULT DAYS WILL PASS, AND I AND MY FAMILY WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE NORMAL LIFE AGAIN INSHA'ALLAH."**

The drinking water supply scheme is now nearing completion, with APF covering 80 percent of the total cost of Rs. 361,000 while the remaining 20 percent cost being assumed by the community. The clean drinking water scheme is expected to minimize diseases and will enhance the productive activities of the community women. "Women, like Yasmin, will concentrate on their children and their earning activities, and the girls will feel more protected and spend more time on their education," says an SRSO organizer working with the community. Yasmin nods her head in agreement and elaborates "With the arriving of clean drinking water, I will get some spare time in which I will raise my income and will spend on my children's education."