MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

October 2013

IDENTIFICATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Project</th>
<th>Tahafuz: “Building Resilience through Community Based Disaster Risk Management in the Sindh Province of Pakistan”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of the Organization</td>
<td>Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Start Date</td>
<td>28-09-2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Completion Date</td>
<td>28-12-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting Period</td>
<td>01-10-2013 to 30-10-2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Prepared by</td>
<td>Rural Support Programmes Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date Submitted</td>
<td>November 15, 2013</td>
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</tbody>
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CURRENT MONTH PROGRESS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Current Month</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Meetings of VDMCs &amp; UDMCs at UC Level</td>
<td>No. of Meetings</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Mitigation &amp; Management of CCIs</td>
<td></td>
<td>30*</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Identification</td>
<td>No. of Schemes identified</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Completed</td>
<td>No. of Schemes Completed</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* The partners had identified the schemes targeted for this month in advance during previous month and only 3 were remaining.

List of all the completed activities:
1. District Project Launching Workshops (1/district) & Report
2. Preparation of CBDRM Manual
3. CBDRM Training of Trainers (ToT)& Report
4. Advocacy & Networking Workshop & Report (Round -1 April, 2013)
6. Provincial and National workshop & Reports
7. Recruitment & Placement of Staff i.e. RSPN & partner RSPs (NRSP & TRDP)
8. Identification of 232 Vulnerable Villages
9. Formation of 232 Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMCs)
10. Training of 1160 VDMCs’ members on Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) & Disaster Risk Management & Planning (DRMP)
11. Development of 232 Disaster Risk Management Plans (DRMPs)
12. Formation of 20 Union Disaster Management Committees (UDMCs)
13. Training of 200 UDMCs’ members on Organizational Management & Development and 100 members on Advocacy & Networking
14. Identification and initiation of work on 296 Community Critical Infrastructures schemes
15. Procurement and distribution of 20 Emergency Tool kits
16. Provincial and National level Experience Sharing Workshops

**Results Achieved**

**As a result of No Cost Extension for three months. 64 CCIs are added to initially plan 232 CCIs, making a total of 296 schemes.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Achievements (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Result 1: Local Community Institutions formed and mechanisms developed</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>No. of VDMCs/UDMCs formed</td>
<td>VDMCs NA 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UDMCs NA 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>a) No. of Male/Female representation in VDMCs</td>
<td>Men NA 1,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Women NA 1,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b) No. of Male/Female representation in UDMCs</td>
<td>Men NA 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Women NA 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result 2: Capacity of local community developed to formulate hazard</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>No. of men and women trained in disaster</td>
<td>Men NA 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>reduction plans, policies or curriculum</td>
<td>Women NA 570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No. of Disaster Risk Management Plans (DRMPs) developed</td>
<td>NA 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result 3: Small scale preparedness and mitigation measures undertaken</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>No. of CCIs identified</td>
<td>NA 296**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>No. of CCIs completed</td>
<td>NA 242</td>
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Narration

CCI Schemes:
In the last month, identification of 61 new CCIs had been completed which could not be mentioned in the progress of September because it was done after the MPR had been shared. Now three more CCIs have been identified in the month of October, completing the set target of 64 new CCIs. If we look at the completion of CCIs, work has been completed on 15 newly awarded schemes. Work on remaining 49 CCIs is expected to be completed by end of November.

Meetings held between VDMCs/UDMCs at Union Council Level:
On the whole, twenty meetings were done by UDMCs and VDMCs, in which different aspects of DRR and disaster preparedness were sheared with the members. Linking UDMCs with LSOs, and then ultimately with various government and non-governmental bodies was also discussed.
An important aspect of the meetings was the timely identification, monitoring completion of additional CCI schemes. Moreover, sustainability of UDMCs and VDMCs, proper use of emergency kits and role of emergency response teams were other highlights of the meetings. As UN declared 13th October as International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, so in the meetings conducted with U/VDMCs, members shared their views how to celebrate this day so as to aware them about the disasters and how community can avert any such situation by adopting adequate DRR measures.

V/UDMCs celebrating international Disaster Risk Reduction Day:
The interesting aspect of the activities carried out during the reporting month was the community’s initiative regarding celebrations of the International DRR day. U/VDMCs planned different awareness raising activities related to this year’s theme i.e. ‘Living with Disability and Disasters ‘in all the four project districts. For celebrating DRR day all UDMCs arranged meetings and walks along with banners and broachers in their relevant areas to spread knowledge about the importance of disaster risk reduction and creating awareness in communities for reducing risks as they learnt from different project interventions. Representatives of different U/VDMCs emphasized that proper planning, coping mechanisms and building linkages with DDMAs are the key to combat natural disasters in future.
U/VDMC members also opined that it’s not only specific to a chosen few representatives, but the entire community should be prepared for any unforeseen disaster with special focus on children, women, elders and people with disabilities.

Visit of USAID Representative to U/VDMCs in District Umerkot and Tharparkar:
Mr. Ali Gohar Khan, Project Management Specialist USAID OFDA visited U/VDMCs in Umerkot and Tharparkar districts. He had meetings with partner’s Senior Management, Tahafuz team and community members. During community meetings he asked the members about their experience of the past droughts and other natural disasters. He also took community representatives’ point of view about the strategies and coping mechanism to combat disasters in future. In addition he also asked the members for sharing their other issues and how they manage to handle these.

Villagers told him about how they got practical training and knowledge about preparedness and response in wake of any disaster under Tahafuz project and how they are implying their knowledge in their daily lives.

In addition Mr. Gohar also visited different CCI schemes, monitored the process going on at the site and asked about the utility and efficacy of these CCIs from VDMC members. He lauded project team’s endeavors and appreciated the work done so far. Although he observed that some of the CCIs are not in accordance with the project goals; he advised that while awarding such mitigation schemes the ultimate objective of the project must be considered.

During these visit Project Manager Tahafuz and Project Coordinator also accompanied the representative from USAID OFDA. A detailed NFR on this visit has already been shared with all.

**Project Manager Tahafuz’ meeting with Director Operations PDMA Sindh:**

Senior management of PDMA Sindh including Director General and Director Operations has been changed recently. The newly appointed Director Operations invited the Project Manager for an orientation meeting. A meeting was held on 30 October at PDMA where Project Manager presented a briefing about the objectives and activities of Tahafuz project. Project Manager shared a comprehensive list of all UDMCs and VDMCs’ members along with complete record and details of all CCI schemes. The meeting went very well and Director PDMA expressed his appreciation upon the broad and extensive work of RSPN and Tahafuz project in the most vulnerable and disaster-prone areas of Sindh.

**Monitoring:**

In order to identify possible issues and suggest course corrections during the month PMU based two monitors visited the project target districts under the following agenda points:

1. Assess quality of some of the schemes that have been completed after the project’s Third Party
Evaluation. The monitors also reviewed various documents which included BoQs, proposals, master rolls, pictures of all phases of CCIs construction work and financial records.

2. Assess the process of the identification of newly allocated CCIs for the period of No Cost Extension.
3. Get updates on VDMC/UDMC Data records
4. Develop success stories/Case Studies

A detailed monitoring report has also been prepared, which will be separately shared. Some of the findings of the visit are given below:

1. The schemes that involved rescue places were nicely constructed and maintained especially in district Tharparkar and Umerkot. Other than the exceptions majority of the schemes observed were constructed at convenient locations and out of the range of other local houses; mainly because when fire breaks out it usually engulf houses that are built adjacent to each other.
2. Keeping in view the structural benefits of Landhi schemes; it has been recommended that in future only Landhi structure houses should be promoted.
3. One scheme was constructed at a distance of about 2 to 3 km from local community households. Thus, in order for communities to gain maximum advantage from schemes it has been recommended that schemes like rescue places should only be constructed at locations that are safer and easy to access by majority of the local community.
4. Moreover, in some schemes minor variances in measurements were recorded. For example in one particular case the height of the Chounra’s platform from one side, was not uniform at different places. As per specifications mentioned in the proposal the height over the surface was supposed to be 1ft.
5. Project sign boards were not displayed at most of sites that were visited. The field staff told that payments to VDMCs have already been made for this purpose and the boards will be displayed in near future. Field staff was advised to timely highlight such delays and refer the matter to the concerned person in order to expedite all construction activities.
6. It was noted that some labourers deliberately lie about their wages which they had been receiving during the construction work. This was verified and confirmed when a particular case was compared with the actual records.
7. Both the partners were advised to update VDMC & UDMC data and also maintain its back up.
8. They were also advised to scan the agreement pages of all CCI’s proposal and then generate and maintain its PDF versions for sharing.
9. The pictures of various stages of all CCIs also need to be properly maintained in separate folders for ease of access.
Picture Gallery

Work in progress on CCIs under No Cost Extension

Project Manager Tahafuz, assessing the work in progress of the schemes under No Extension Period
Project Manager Tahafuz accompanying USAID OFDA Project Management Specialist on his visit to district Tharparkar and Umerkot, Oct 2013

Communities conducting Rallies in project districts on the occasion of International DRR day
Water Drainage System developed in VDMC Talo Jam of Union Council Dabhro from district Tharparkar, Oct, 2013
Monitor’s visit to district Tharparkar

A rescue point of type Landhi constructed in VDMC Timi Mitho of Union Council Khejrari from district Umerkot, Oct 2013
Monitor’s visit to district Umerkot
Projection of International DRR day in various local newspapers