

Project Success Story

'Tahafuz' is a Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) project that aims to build capacities of local communities in order to enable them to resist hazards, bounce back after disasters and acclimatize themselves as per circumstantial needs to ensure effective recovery. Funded by the United States Agency for International

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| Location | |
| District: | Thatta |
| Union Council: | Ghulam Muhammad baran |
| Revenue Village: | Makhiyaro |
| Settlement: | Sawanjat |
| Beneficiary | |
| Name: | Bhago |
| Age: | 43 |
| Marital status: | Married |
| Children: | 04 Sons 06 Daughters |

Development (USAID), this project benefits an estimated 110,879 households in four disaster high risk districts of Sindh, namely Badin, Thatta, Umarkot and Tharparker.

Ms. Bhago is a president of Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC) that is named Makhiyaro was formulated under the Tahafuz project. The VDMC comprises of total 22 members among which 11 are men and similarly 11 female. These members are the representatives of various settlements from the Makhiyaro Revenue Village. In connection with capacity building objective of the project the formulated VDMCs are given training on participatory disaster risk assessment and disaster risk management and planning. These sessions are designed to build capacities on how to develop village profile, problem tree, seasonal calendar, Venn diagram, semi structured interviews, focus group discussion, transect walk, DRM plans in addition with first aid, search and rescue operations.



Ms. Bhago with the 11 years old Jannat who was rescued

Bhago, the president of VDMC was selected to receive these trainings after the mutual consensus of the VDMC members. In the beginning she had faced a lot of resistance from her family who were much

reluctant in granting her permission as the trainings were not held locally. The training center, which was located in Baranabad was selected on the basis of providing equal convenience to all the participant members who also had to travel far away from their homes to attend trainings. In order to reach the center, Bhago was supposed to travel an hour long distance from her vicinity, which posed a great challenge to her. Additionally, for her to convince her family was also challenging as her family considered such trainings to be of no use and a mere wastage of time. Nevertheless, with the persistence and motivation she finally managed to get her family agreed and eventually she took part in trainings thereafter.

On 16th January 2013, she was busy in her household chores when she suddenly heard disturbing noises from her neighborhood. She instantly ran towards her neighbors to learn about the incident. She realized that her relative's daughter, Jannat, aged 7 was in cataleptic condition. Given the scarce availability of resources and medical support locally it was not possible to provide her professional assistance, thus Ms. Bhago who recently learnt first aid skills requested her parents for allowing her to give CPR to that child. Resulting from Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) which she performed for couple of times the girl was resuscitated. Soon after the successful recovery of girl everybody including Ms. Bhago's family who opposed the idea of getting training were down with penitent but now they were feeling proud of her.