

# OUTREACH

THE RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES' SOCIAL MOBILISATION NEWSLETTER

# #23

October - December 2014



## PAKISTAN DOMESTIC BIOGAS PROGRAMME LEAVING THOUSANDS OF SUCCESS STORIES BEHIND IN CENTRAL PUNJAB

The Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) with the financial support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) completed a 6 years Pakistan Domestic Biogas Programme (PDBP) in 12 districts of central Punjab on December 31, 2014. Since its inception in 2009, PDBP has supported the private sector Biogas Construction Companies (BCCs) to install 5,360 biogas plants. Apart from meeting domestic cooking needs, biogas plants also generate bio-slurry as valuable by-product. PDBP also installed commercial biogas plants for using biogas to run tube wells as well as electricity generators.

A formal Closing Ceremony of PDBP was held on December 29, 2014 at Marriott Hotel, Islamabad. Delegates from Government, NGOs, Media, Academia and other organisations involved in biogas sector participated in the ceremony. The guest of honour H.E Frans Van Rijn (Deputy Ambassador of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands) shared his remarks and appreciated RSPN for implementing PDBP so successfully. He admired PDBP team for their utmost efforts in achieving the programme goals.

While presenting the achievements of the PDBP, Mr. Rana Amir Shafiq (Area Manager PDBP) said that apart from construction of the biogas plant for domestic use, PDBP also successfully tested medium to large sized biogas plants (that is, 50m<sup>3</sup> & 100m<sup>3</sup> plants), that produces sufficient gas to run up to 12 kilo-watts of electricity through generators. PDBP has created clean jobs and protected the ecological assets of the local rural economies. The programme has built the technical and managerial capacity of local masons, who have been trained to build biogas digester and formed 28 BCCs, these companies provide quality construction and after sales services. BCCs are highly experienced, motivated and committed to serve the rural population with the same enthusiasm with what they had been doing during the 6-years project duration. Thus the purpose of the programme of sustaining a market oriented, self-sustaining and commercially viable biogas has been served.



H.E Frans Van Rijn (Deputy Ambassador EKN)

Mr. Fawad Khan, Senior Research Associate of ISET, presented finding of an independent study conducted on biogas plants. According to this study, a biogas plant, on average, can save Rs. 5,068 per month for the household. This includes savings on fuel wood, chemical fertiliser, increased agriculture income and saving on health costs. It reduces women drudgery and contributes to climate change impacts through the production and use of clean energy. PDBP is an excellent example of sustainable production and consumption of energy for rural households.

Talking at the closing ceremony, Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay (Acting CEO/COO RSPN) said that PDBP was successful to break the negative perception about biogas as a failed technology in Pakistan. Now there is a greater demand for biogas plants and there is a greater capacity available to tap the huge potential in the energy sector. However, there is need for a national policy to bring the technology to the doorsteps of the farmers. He also thanked the participants and especially thanked EKN for their cooperation and generous support to RSPN and to PDBP.



Fawad Khan  
Senior Research Associate, ISET



Amir Shafiq Rana  
Area Manager PDBP

## HIGHLIGHTS

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### RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES NETWORK'S 6TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS



December 2014 - The Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) in partnership with the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) held its 6th National Convention of Local Support Organisations (LSOs) on December 04, 2014, at a local hotel in Islamabad. The annual event highlighted the power of participatory development and offered an opportunity to share and learn from the collective experience of the community organisations.

The convention was attended by over 500 participants representing over 150 LSOs from across Pakistan. The chief guest of the event was Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Member, Planning Commission of Pakistan. Other participants included representatives from federal and provincial governments, international donors, NGOs and other civil society organisations.

This year the convention focused on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the work that LSOs from across the country had carried out to improve them. LSOs shared their exceptional work in improving basic needs such as education, health (especially maternal and child health), poverty alleviation, the environment and women's empowerment.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN, appreciated all the LSOs representatives for their tremendous community development work. While quoting his mentor Mr. Akhtar Hameed Khan, he said that progress in this country will not come from above. It will be the masses below who will contribute and lead the country to success. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan told the LSO representatives that they are creating their own islands of hope, self-help and positively contributing to improve quality of life, and that such examples would lead to multiplication in other rural Union Councils across the country. First set of these islands was created by the people themselves with the support of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme in Gilgit, Baltistan and Chitral. Now the same approach has been taken to over more than 100,000 villages in India and Pakistan.

## OVERVIEW

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# 354,270

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

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# 5,894,320

ORGANISED HOUSEHOLDS

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# 6,091,292

COMMUNITY ORGANISATION MEMBERS

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# 1,088

LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

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# 120

DISTRICTS + FATA/FRS WITH RSPs PRESENCE

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# 3,617

RURAL UNION COUNCILS WITH RSPs PRESENCE

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# MAP & DATA

## The Outreach of the Rural Support Programmes Across Pakistan

- AKRSP Aga Khan Rural Support Programme - 1982
- SRSP Sarhad Rural Support Programme - 1989
- NRSPP National Rural Support Programme - 1992
- IRM Institute of Rural Management - 1993
- GBTI Ghazi Barotha Taraqiati Idara - 1995
- TRDP Thardeep Rural Development Programme - 1997
- PRSP Punjab Rural Support Programme - 1998
- BRSP Balochistan Rural Support Programme - 2001
- SGA Sindh Graduates Association - 2002
- SRSO Sindh Rural Support Organization - 2003
- FIDA Foundation for Integrated Development Action - 2004
- AJKRSP Azad Jammu & Kashmir Rural Support Programme - 2007



RSPs ARE PRESENT IN 115 OUT OF 131 DISTRICTS, AND 5 OUT OF 13 FATA/FRs



## Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, Cumulative Progress as of September 2014

INDICATORS		AJKRSP	AKRSP	BRSP	GBTI	NRSP	PRSP	SGA	SRSO	SRSP	TRDP	Total
# of RSP working districts/areas**		8	7	14	3	56	21	1	9	25	4	120
# of rural union councils with RSP presence*		136	118	204	22	2,038	714	13	339	585	113	3,617
# of organised households		102,320	110,695	202,295	35,236	2,505,870	1,267,536	16,500	593,234	790,275	270,359	5,894,320
# of Local Support Organisations (LSOs)		-	59	48	8	627	48	1	128	117	52	1,088
# of Community Organisations (COs) formed	Women COs	1,577	2,171	3,664	1,747	77,650	31,984	410	32,953	10,619	8,642	171,417
	Men COs	2,138	2,893	8,439	1,420	76,230	44,524	450	4,159	22,067	5,833	168,153
	Mix COs	1,035	-	-	-	11,645	-	-	40	-	1,984	14,704
	Total	4,750	5,064	12,103	3,167	165,525	76,508	860	37,152	32,686	16,459	354,274
# of CO members	Women	44,063	84,455	60,820	29,032	1,374,427	531,097	10,845	554,572	241,848	178,638	3,109,797
	Men	58,257	121,509	137,607	26,262	1,131,443	766,162	11,348	38,662	548,427	141,818	2,981,495
	Total	102,320	205,964	198,427	55,294	2,505,870	1,297,259	22,193	593,234	790,275	320,456	6,091,292
Amount of savings of COs (Rs. Million)	Women	24	129	5	4	231	82	-	110	40	83	709
	Men	12	371	9	5	1,242	81	1	7	104	121	1,953
	Total	36	501	14	9	1,473	163	1	117	143.87	203.55	2,661
# of community members trained	Women	10,954	58,754	51,036	12,724	1,417,420	148,234	4,830	233,086	76,160	103,801	2,116,999
	Men	6,385	27,804	117,747	4,641	1,171,410	333,411	4,825	13,632	101,815	96,328	1,877,998
	Total	17,339	86,558	168,783	17,365	2,588,830	481,645	9,655	246,718	177,975	200,129	3,994,997
Community Investment Fund (CIF)	# of LSOs Managing CIF	6	12	2	1	246	2	-	40	-	8	317
	# of VOs Managing CIF	-	-	-	10	74	33	-	3,715	326	1,307	5,465
	# of CIF Borrowers	1,094	2,055	20	42	41,719	3,254	-	101,383	36,982	17,239	203,788
	Total amount of CIF disbursed (Rs. million)	16	16	1	1	582	41	-	1,059	402	230	2,347.6
Amount of micro-credit disbursement (Rs. Million)	Women	79	195	9	470	40,411	5,156	-	5,193	385	3,777	55,675
	Men	59	833	16	92	47,466	6,806	-	730	282	3,924	60,209
	Total	138	1,028	25	562	87,877	11,962	-	5,923	667	7,701	115,884
# of loans	Women	4,764	74,813	1,156	30,049	2,475,470	349,928	-	47,321	33,268	277,128	3,293,897
	Men	3,217	546,311	1,600	6,301	2,686,415	462,617	-	310,184	25,641	223,975	4,266,261
	Total	7,981	621,124	2,756	36,350	5,161,885	812,545	-	357,505	58,909	501,103	7,560,158
# of health micro insurance schemes	Women	-	74,813	-	26,813	925,823	-	-	280,136	5,834	86,533	1,399,952
	Men	-	546,311	-	7,553	2,083,148	-	-	40,601	21,566	72,815	2,771,994
	Total	-	621,124	-	34,366	3,008,971	-	-	320,737	27,400	159,348	4,171,946
# of PPI/CPI schemes completed		1,637	3,576	1,281	636	29,512	6,433	16	39,741	8,470	60,250	151,552
# of beneficiary households of completed CPIs		100,347	284,440	87,587	22,732	1,254,951	674,798	-	231,315	1,678,054	394,603	4,728,827
Total cost of completed CPIs (Rs. Million)		636	1,825	665	246	6,831	1,675	20	2,619	5,001	972	20,491
# of community schools established		355	867	141	3	545	186	25	3	89	113	2,327
# of students enrolled	Girls	11,370	2,900	4,453	780	9,852	5,891	3,526	288	2,182	1,947	43,189
	Boys	9,922	7,375	5,543	608	10,537	4,700	5,110	605	3,046	707	48,153
	Total	21,292	10,275	9,996	1,388	20,389	10,591	8,636	893	5,228	2,654	91,342
# of adults literated or graduated	Women	-	-	-	-	22,888	-	-	-	3,989	-	26,877
	Men	-	-	-	-	2,494	-	-	-	722	-	3,216
	Total	-	-	-	-	25,382	-	-	-	4,711	-	30,093
# of traditional birth attendants / health workers trained	Women	31	1,243	1,688	95	3,153	8,442	410	4,777	1,066	867	21,772
	Men	-	-	-	-	-	1,770	-	-	467	675	2,912
	Total	31	1,243	1,688	95	3,153	10,212	410	4,777	1,533	1,542	24,684

Note: \*\* The 120 include 115 districts and 5 Federally Administered Tribal Areas. Punjab RSP after restructuring in mid 2011, closed its operation in four districts, Chiniot, Nankana Sahib, DG Khan and Rajanpur.

\* The total figure for districts/areas and union councils excludes 27 overlapping districts (presence of multiple RSP) and 663 overlapping union councils

+ Data pertaining to AJKRSP updated as at March 2013.

## Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, Cumulative Progress as of September 2014

S. No.	Name of District	Total rural and Peri-Urban UCs in the District	Union Councils Having RSPs Presence				Total rural HHs in the District (1998 Census)	Households Organised				Community Organisations Formed			RSP
			# as of June 2014	# as of Sep 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014		# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014	# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	
<b>ISLAMABAD</b>															
1	ICT	12	12	12	-	100.0	43,884	26,391	26,391	-	60.1	1,605	1,605	-	NRSP
1	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>43,884</b>	<b>26,391</b>	<b>26,391</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>BALUCHISTAN</b>															
1	Awaran	8	8	8	-	100.0	22,144	9,890	9,890	-	44.7	598	598	-	NRSP
2	Barkhan	8	-	-	-	-	13,787	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Bolan	27	1	1	-	3.7	35,003	2,434	2,434	-	7.0	109	109	-	BRSP
4	Chaqhi	10	-	-	-	-	13,570	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Dera Bugti	12	-	-	-	-	27,337	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Gawadar	13	13	13	-	100.0	16,691	36,326	36,326	-	217.6	1,909	1,909	-	NRSP
7	Harnai	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Jhal Magsi	9	9	9	-	100.0	16,184	13,190	14,114	7.0	87.2	756	760	0.5	BRSP
9	Jaffarabad	46	29	29	-	63.0	52,664	8,739	8,739	-	16.6	163	163	-	BRSP
10	Kallat	18	15	15	-	83.3	31,396	28,829	28,829	-	91.8	1,870	1,870	-	BRSP
11	Kech / Turbat	38	38	38	-	100.0	70,164	48,595	48,595	-	69.3	2,246	2,246	-	NRSP
12	Kharan	7	7	7	-	100.0	14,328	15,739	15,739	-	109.8	942	942	-	BRSP
13	Khuzdar	35	28	28	-	80.0	60,032	37,069	37,522	1.2	62.5	2,169	2,178	0.4	BRSP
14	Killa Abdullah	25	-	-	-	-	44,863	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Killa Saifullah	15	13	13	-	86.7	28,796	19,117	19,117	-	66.4	1,220	1,220	-	BRSP
16	Kohlu	8	-	-	-	-	15,156	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Lasbella	22	5	5	-	22.7	34,637	8,731	8,731	-	25.2	516	682	32.2	NRSP
18	Loralai	20	20	20	-	100.0	39,770	4,657	5,150	10.6	12.9	232	278	19.8	BRSP
19	Mastung	13	13	13	-	100.0	18,831	18,831	18,831	-	100.0	1,389	1,389	-	BRSP
20	Musa Khel	10	-	-	-	-	19,126	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Naseerabad	24	-	-	-	-	34,981	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Noshki	10	1	1	-	10.0	13,570	60	60	-	-	4	4	-	BRSP
23	Panjoor	16	16	16	-	100.0	35,703	15,886	16,949	6.7	47.5	979	1,042	6.4	NRSP
24	Pishin	38	35	35	-	92.1	55,654	23,705	23,705	-	42.6	1,550	1,550	-	BRSP
25	Quetta	47	5	5	-	10.6	25,232	939	939	-	3.7	88	88	-	BRSP
26	Sherani	7	7	7	-	100.0	10,608	2,520	2,520	-	23.8	118	118	-	BRSP
27	Sibi	11	-	-	-	-	19,815	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Washuk	9	-	-	-	-	18,422	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Zhob	21	21	21	-	100.0	21,118	24,416	24,596	0.7	116.5	1,390	1,430	2.9	BRSP
30	Ziarat	10	-	-	-	-	4,609	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>814,191</b>	<b>319,673</b>	<b>322,786</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>18,248</b>	<b>18,576</b>	<b>1.8</b>	
<b>KHYBER PUKHTUNKHWA (KPK)</b>															
1	Abbottabad	54	54	54	-	100.0	115,585	57,606	57,606	-	49.8	2,017	2,017	-	SRSP
2	Bannu	49	-	-	-	-	65,010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Battagram	20	18	18	-	90.0	46,053	36,501	36,501	-	79.3	1,502	1,502	-	SRSP
4	Buner	27	5	5	-	18.5	56,591	269	269	-	0.5	19	19	-	NRSP
4	Buner (overlapping)	27	21	21	-	77.8	56,591	16,126	17,262	7.0	30.5	691	749	8.4	SRSP
5	Charsadda	49	28	28	-	57.1	102,361	12,926	12,926	-	12.6	736	736	-	NRSP
5	Charsadda (overlapping)	49	37	37	-	75.5	102,361	37,963	37,963	-	37.1	1,652	1,652	-	SRSP
6	Chitral	24	24	24	-	100.0	36,879	34,914	34,914	-	94.7	1,680	1,680	-	AKRSP
6	Chitral (overlapping)	24	24	24	-	100.0	36,879	38,987	40,397	3.6	109.5	1,310	1,382	5.5	SRSP
7	Dir Upper	28	25	25	-	89.3	70,230	61,090	63,166	3.4	89.9	1,964	2,070	5.4	SRSP

## Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, District-wise RSPs Coverage/Outreach as of September 2014

S. No.	Name of District	Total rural and Peri-Urban UCs in the District	Union Councils Having RSPs Presence				Total rural HHs in the District (1998 Census)	Households Organised				Community Organisations Formed			RSP
			# as of June 2014	# as of Sep 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014		# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014	# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	
8	Dir Lower	37	28	28	-	75.7	73,626	26,544	26,701	-	-	1,124	1,133	0.8	SRSP
9	D.I.Khan	47	-	-	-	-	99,528	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
10	Hangu	19	17	17	-	89.5	24,536	14,204	14,204	-	57.9	505	505	-	SRSP
11	Haripur	45	4	4	-	8.9	94,383	7,220	7,370	2.1	7.8	748	761	1.7	GBTI
11	Haripur (overlapping)	45	45	45	-	100.0	94,383	44,474	44,474	-	47.1	1,475	1,475	-	SRSP
11	Haripur (overlapping)	45	2	2	-	4.4	94,383	4,341	4,794	10.4	5.1	280	324	15.7	NRSP
12	Karak	21	21	21	-	100.0	40,734	49,483	49,483	-	121.5	1,997	1,997	-	SRSP
13	Kohat	32	32	32	-	100.0	55,911	69,685	69,685	-	124.6	3,129	3,129	-	SRSP
14	Kohistan	38	38	38	-	100.0	74,041	36,549	36,549	-	49.4	2,372	2,372	-	SRSP
15	Lakki Marwat	33	-	-	-	-	48,700	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Malakand P.A	28	25	25	-	89.3	45,731	29,040	29,406	1.3	64.3	1,848	1,858	0.5	NRSP
16	Malakand P.A (overlapping)	28	13	13	-	46.4	45,731	12,614	13,417	6.4	29.3	423	464	9.7	SRSP
17	Mansehra	59	55	55	-	93.2	167,833	110,566	110,566	-	65.9	3,865	3,865	-	SRSP
18	Mardan	75	63	63	-	84.0	141,386	53,799	53,799	-	38.1	3,781	3,781	-	NRSP
18	Mardan (overlapping)	75	20	20	-	26.7	141,386	42,732	42,732	-	30.2	1,838	1,838	-	SRSP
19	Nowshera	48	10	10	-	20.8	84,851	19,490	19,570	0.4	23.1	842	846	0.5	SRSP
19	Nowshera (overlapping)	48	13	13	-	27.1	84,851	4,059	4,059	-	4.8	204	204	-	NRSP
20	Peshawar	67	17	17	-	25.4	132,070	17,418	17,418	-	13.2	852	852	-	SRSP
21	Shangla	28	28	28	-	100.0	53,994	37,867	38,708	2.2	71.7	2,116	2,159	2.0	SRSP
22	Swabi	55	6	6	-	10.9	112,083	8,632	8,792	1.9	7.8	762	774	1.6	GBTI
22	Swabi (overlapping)	55	38	38	-	69.1	112,083	28,215	28,215	-	25.2	1,788	1,788	-	NRSP
23	Swat	65	19	19	-	29.2	125,377	7,507	7,507	-	6.0	356	356	-	NRSP
23	Swat (overlapping)	65	67	67	-	103.1	125,377	32,237	34,880	8.2	27.8	1,772	1,966	10.9	SRSP
24	Tank	16	-	-	-	-	22,411	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>21</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>1,889,904</b>	<b>953,058</b>	<b>963,333</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>43,648</b>	<b>44,254</b>	<b>1.4</b>	
<b>SINDH</b>															
1	Badin	46	46	46	-	100.0	185,266	113,738	114,155	0.4	61.6	6,374	6,404	0.5	NRSP
2	Dadu	52	30	30	-	57.7	164,849	37,961	38,041	0.2	23.1	1,606	1,608	0.1	TRDP
3	Ghotki	46	37	37	-	80.4	158,489	120,767	120,767	-	76.2	6,961	6,961	-	SRSO
4	Hyderabad	37	20	20	-	54.1	128,856	11,979	11,979	-	9.3	725	725	-	NRSP
5	Jacobabad	40	29	29	-	72.5	90,682	84,893	84,893	-	93.6	5,074	5,074	-	SRSO
6	Jamshoro	28	12	12	-	42.9	88,816	27,290	27,525	0.9	31.0	595	598	0.5	TRDP
7	Karachi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Kashmore	37	37	37	-	100.0	110,969	80,345	80,345	-	72.4	4,710	4,710	-	SRSO
9	Khairpur	76	49	49	-	64.5	208,270	70,400	70,400	-	33.8	4,078	4,110	0.8	SRSO
10	Larkana	44	38	38	-	86.4	121,639	37,589	37,589	-	30.9	3,605	3,605	-	SRSO
11	Matiali	19	15	15	-	78.9	47,026	23,129	23,129	-	49.2	1,770	1,770	-	NRSP
12	Mirpur Khas	41	41	41	-	100.0	111,973	77,240	77,240	-	69.0	4,684	4,684	-	NRSP
13	Naushero Feroz	51	39	39	-	76.5	164,715	24,710	29,945	21.2	18.2	1,729	1,729	-	SRSO
14	Nawabshah	51	27	27	-	52.9	141,671	3,092	3,092	-	2.2	564	564	-	NRSP
15	Shahdad Kot	40	34	34	-	85.0	128,408	29,475	29,475	-	23.0	2,221	2,221	-	SRSO
16	Sanghar	55	13	13	-	23.6	209,191	16,500	16,500	-	7.9	860	860	-	SGA
17	Shikarpur	51	50	50	-	98.0	122,340	102,306	102,306	-	83.6	5,997	5,997	-	SRSO
18	Sukkur	46	26	26	-	56.5	78,458	36,598	37,514	2.5	47.8	2,629	2,745	4.4	SRSO
19	Tando Allahyar	19	12	12	-	63.2	47,082	21,838	21,838	-	46.4	1,673	1,673	-	NRSP
20	Tando Muhammad Khan	16	13	13	-	81.3	39,648	17,576	19,042	8.3	48.0	1,067	1,156	8.3	NRSP
21	Tharparkar	44	44	44	-	100.0	159,486	159,665	159,665	-	100.1	11,477	11,485	0.1	TRDP

## Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, Cumulative Progress as of September 2014

S. No.	Name of District	Total rural and Peri-Urban UCs in the District	Union Councils Having RSPs Presence				Total rural HHs in the District (1998 Census)	Households Organised				Community Organisations Formed			RSP
			# as of June 2014	# as of Sep 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014		# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014	# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	
22	Thattha	55	52	52	-	94.5	202,554	40,929	41,065	0.3	20.3	2,331	2,340	0.4	NRSP
23	Umer Kot (Overlapping)	27	1	1	-	3.7	202,554	683	941	37.8	0.5	60	132	120.0	NRSP
<b>23</b>	<b>Umer Kot</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>106,515</b>	<b>45,128</b>	<b>45,128</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>2,768</b>	<b>2,768</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>TRDP</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>2,816,903</b>	<b>1,183,831</b>	<b>1,192,574</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>73,558</b>	<b>73,919</b>	<b>0.5</b>	
<b>PUNJAB</b>															
1	Attock	65	12	12	-	18.5	164,849	19,074	19,074	-	11.6	1,635	1,635	-	GBTI
1	Attock (overlapping)	65	64	64	-	98.5	164,849	66,651	66,651	-	40.4	4,318	4,318	-	NRSP
2	Bahawalnagar	101	101	101	-	100.0	158,489	225,585	227,972	1.1	143.8	16,095	16,167	0.4	NRSP
3	Bahawalpur	97	97	97	-	100.0	128,856	285,974	285,974	-	221.9	19,009	19,107	0.5	NRSP
4	Bhakkar	42	40	40	-	95.2	90,682	159,387	159,387	-	175.8	10,036	10,036	-	NRSP
5	Chakwal	65	60	60	-	92.3	88,816	70,915	70,915	-	79.8	3,875	3,875	-	NRSP
6	Chiniot*	42	-	-	-	-	81,625	1,069	1,069	-	1.3	60	60	-	PRSP
6	Chiniot (Overlapping)	42	1	1	-	2.4	81,625	605	1,191	96.9	1.5	56	107	91.1	NRSP
7	D G Khan	55	50	50	-	90.9	208,270	146,070	148,580	1.7	71.3	10,459	10,598	1.3	NRSP
7	D G Khan (overlapping)*	55	-	-	-	-	208,270	20,260	20,260	-	9.7	1,302	1,302	-	PRSP
8	Faisalabad	71	71	71	-	100.0	121,639	65,190	65,190	-	53.6	4,249	4,333	2.0	PRSP
9	Gujranwala	97	62	62	-	63.9	47,026	59,349	59,349	-	126.2	3,251	3,314	1.9	PRSP
10	Gujrat	87	35	35	-	40.2	111,973	52,642	52,642	-	47.0	3,295	3,354	1.8	PRSP
11	Hafiz Abad	40	16	16	-	40.0	164,715	31,402	31,402	-	19.1	1,927	1,970	2.2	PRSP
11	Hafiz Abad (overlapping)*	40	48	48	-	120.0	164,715	2,705	2,705	-	1.6	241	241	-	NRSP
12	Jhang	79	21	21	-	26.6	141,671	30,088	30,088	-	21.2	2,056	2,097	2.0	PRSP
13	Jhelum	50	35	35	-	70.0	128,408	42,843	42,843	-	33.4	2,446	2,446	-	NRSP
14	Kasur	89	7	7	-	7.9	122,340	12,134	12,134	-	9.9	936	954	1.9	PRSP
15	Khanewal	98	21	21	-	21.4	122,340	29,998	29,998	-	24.5	1,857	1,903	2.5	PRSP
15	Khanewal (overlapping)	98	70	70	-	71.4	78,458	17,775	17,775	-	22.7	1,662	1,662	-	NRSP
16	Khushab	49	45	45	-	91.8	47,082	148,171	148,171	-	314.7	8,497	8,497	-	NRSP
17	Lahore	30	27	27	-	90.0	39,648	43,777	43,777	-	110.4	2,978	3,032	1.8	PRSP
18	Layyah	44	26	26	-	59.1	159,486	128,239	128,239	-	80.4	8,480	8,560	0.9	PRSP
18	Layyah (Overlapping)	44	-	-	-	-	159,486	4,773	5,651	18.4	3.5	254	338	33.1	NRSP
19	Lodhran	70	70	70	-	100.0	202,554	46,705	46,705	-	23.1	3,886	3,886	-	NRSP
19	Lodhran (overlapping)	70	6	6	-	8.6	202,554	7,638	7,638	-	3.8	509	562	10.4	PRSP
20	Mandi Bahauddin	65	53	53	-	81.5	106,515	38,916	38,916	-	36.5	2,509	2,555	1.8	PRSP
20	Mandi Bahauddin (Overlapping)	65	9	9	-	13.8	106,515	414	414	-	0.4	35	35	-	NRSP
21	Mianwali	53	56	56	-	105.7	120,486	83,506	89,501	7.2	74.3	4,792	5,136	7.2	NRSP
22	Multan	69	22	22	-	31.9	261,678	35,212	35,212	-	13.5	2,382	2,382	-	PRSP
22	Multan (overlapping)	69	58	58	-	84.1	261,678	17,654	17,654	-	6.7	1,958	1,958	-	NRSP
23	Muzaffargarh	93	24	24	-	25.8	317,647	153,890	153,890	-	48.4	9,342	9,410	0.7	PRSP
23	Muzaffargarh (overlapping)	93	24	24	-	25.8	317,647	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NRSP
24	Nanakana Sahib*	65	-	-	-	-	187,137	695	695	-	0.4	45	45	-	PRSP
25	Narowal	74	61	61	-	82.4	150,406	124,666	124,666	-	82.9	5,892	5,995	1.7	PRSP
26	Okara	111	27	27	-	24.3	270,191	38,189	38,189	-	14.1	2,520	2,607	3.5	PRSP
27	Pakpattan	63	20	20	-	31.7	174,888	26,506	26,506	-	15.2	1,720	1,774	3.1	PRSP
27	Pakpattan (overlapping)	63	54	54	-	85.7	174,888	12,295	12,295	-	7.0	1,486	1,486	-	NRSP
28	Rahim Yar Khan	103	103	103	-	100.0	338,677	85,709	88,824	3.6	26.2	7,831	8,108	3.5	NRSP
29	Rajanpur	44	43	43	-	97.7	133,182	102,998	103,403	0.4	77.6	6,841	6,862	0.3	NRSP
29	Rajanpur (overlapping)*	44	-	-	-	-	133,182	18,650	18,650	-	14.0	1,218	1,218	-	PRSP
30	Rawalpindi	58	58	58	-	100.0	256,911	90,730	91,159	0.5	35.5	6,125	6,125	-	NRSP
31	Sahiwal	83	39	39	-	47.0	227,413	49,428	49,428	-	21.7	3,127	3,213	2.8	PRSP
31	Sahiwal (overlapping)	83	52	52	-	62.7	227,413	12,414	12,414	-	5.5	1,201	1,201	-	NRSP



## Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, Cumulative Progress as of September 2014

S. No.	Name of District	Total rural and Peri-Urban UCs in the District	Union Councils Having RSPs Presence				Total rural HHs in the District (1998 Census)	Households Organised				Community Organisations Formed			RSP
			# as of June 2014	# as of Sep 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014		# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	% coverage as of Sep 2014	# as of June 2014	# as of September 2014	% increase during Qtr	
32	Sargodha	132	57	57	-	43.2	303,958	52,173	52,173	-	17.2	3,243	3,307	2.0	PRSP
32	Sargodha (overlapping)	132	116	116	-	87.9	303,958	17,047	18,020	5.7	5.9	1,478	1,566	6.0	NRSP
33	Sheikhpura	91	10	10	-	11.0	207,805	27,577	27,577	-	13.3	1,768	1,810	2.4	PRSP
34	Sialkot	94	87	87	-	92.6	275,204	177,209	177,209	-	64.4	7,773	7,920	1.9	PRSP
35	Toba Tek Singh	79	22	22	-	27.8	187,555	42,639	42,639	-	22.7	2,764	2,831	2.4	PRSP
35	Toba Tek Singh (overlapping)	79	61	61	-	77.2	187,555	13,594	13,594	-	7.2	1,545	1,545	-	NRSP
36	Vehari	87	80	80	-	92.0	257,583	39,089	39,089	-	15.2	3,149	3,149	-	NRSP
<b>36</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>1,782</b>	<b>1,782</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>6,063,823</b>	<b>2,980,219</b>	<b>2,997,497</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>194,113</b>	<b>196,592</b>	<b>1.3</b>	
<b>AZAD JAMMU AND KASHMIR (AJK)</b>															
1	Bagh	19	19	19	-	100.0	46,470	27,520	27,520	-	59.2	1,583	1,633	3.2	NRSP
1	Bagh (overlapping)	19	10	10	-	52.6	46,470	672	672	-	1.4	32	32	-	AJKRSP
2	Hattian	13	5	5	-	38.5	21,296	12,914	12,914	-	60.6	593	608	2.5	NRSP
2	Hattian (overlapping)	13	10	10	-	76.9	21,296	16,770	16,770	-	78.7	827	827	-	AJKRSP
3	Kotli	38	33	33	-	86.8	67,483	42,685	42,685	-	63.3	2,419	2,419	-	NRSP
3	Kotli (overlapping)	38	36	36	-	94.7	67,483	13,807	13,807	-	20.5	566	566	-	AJKRSP
4	Muzaffarabad	32	18	18	-	56.3	60,712	21,451	24,613	14.7	40.5	992	1,096	10.5	NRSP
4	Muzaffarabad (overlapping)	32	26	26	-	81.3	60,712	45,689	45,689	-	75.3	2,192	2,192	-	AJKRSP
5	Neelum	9	9	9	-	100.0	15,649	7,213	11,619	61.1	74.2	331	535	61.6	NRSP
5	Neelum (overlapping)	9	9	9	-	100.0	15,649	6,722	6,722	-	43.0	267	267	-	AJKRSP
6	Poonch (Rawalakot)	25	26	26	-	104.0	47,319	46,403	46,403	-	98.1	2,467	2,467	-	NRSP
6	Poonch (Rawalakot) (overlapping)	25	12	12	-	48.0	47,319	4,523	4,523	-	9.6	260	260	-	AJKRSP
7	Bhimber	18	18	18	-	100.0	54,333	5,541	5,541	-	10.2	227	227	-	AJKRSP
8	Sudhnoti	12	13	13	-	108.3	26,849	15,923	15,923	-	59.3	882	882	-	NRSP
9	Mirpur	22	15	15	-	68.2	40,208	8,596	8,596	-	21.4	379	379	-	AJKRSP
10	Forward Kahuta	8	8	8	-	100.0	18,651	12,968	12,968	-	69.5	841	841	-	NRSP
<b>10</b>	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>398,970</b>	<b>289,397</b>	<b>296,965</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>14,858</b>	<b>15,231</b>	<b>2.5</b>	
<b>GILGIT-BALTISTAN (GB)</b>															
1	Astore	8	8	8	-	100.0	11,000	6,444	6,444	-	58.6	333	333	-	AKRSP
2	Diamir	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Ghanche	14	14	14	-	100.0	18,452	10,401	10,401	-	56.4	469	469	-	AKRSP
4	Ghizer	16	16	16	-	100.0	13,563	12,420	12,420	-	91.6	548	548	-	AKRSP
5	Gilgit	10	10	10	-	100.0	17,721	10,924	10,924	-	61.6	434	434	-	AKRSP
6	Hunza-Nagar	15	15	15	-	100.0	12,779	11,965	11,965	-	93.6	507	507	-	AKRSP
7	Skardu	31	31	31	-	100.0	35,134	23,627	23,627	-	67.2	1,093	1,093	-	AKRSP
<b>6</b>	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91.3</b>	<b>108,650</b>	<b>75,781</b>	<b>75,781</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>3,384</b>	<b>3,384</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>FEDERALLY ADMINISTERED TRIBAL AREA (FATA)/Frontier Regions (FRs)</b>															
1	Bajaur Agency	37	3	3	-	8.1	65,410	2,940	4,335	47.4	-	79	157	98.7	SRSP
2	Khyber Agency	28	-	-	-	-	55,225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Kurram Agency	23	3	3	-	13.0	42,293	4,714	4,714	-	11.1	145	145	-	SRSP
4	Mohmand Agency	21	3	3	-	14.3	37,161	2,514	4,265	69.6	-	65	139	113.8	SRSP
5	North Waziristan Agency	22	-	-	-	-	39,697	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Orakzai Agency	15	-	-	-	-	25,618	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	South Waziristan Agency	29	3	3	-	-	50,570	2,020	3,941	95.1	-	71	156	119.7	SRSP
8	T.A.Adj Lakki Marwat Distt	1	-	-	-	-	932	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	T.A.Adj Bannu Distt	1	-	-	-	-	2,041	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	T.A.Adj D.I.Khan Distt	3	-	-	-	-	5,492	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	T.A.Adj Kohat Distt	5	-	-	-	-	9,511	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	T.A.Adj Peshawar Distt	3	3	3	-	100.0	6,118	1,738	1,738	-	28.4	116	116	-	SRSP
13	T.A.Adj Tank Distt	2	-	-	-	-	3,581	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>5</b>	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>343,650</b>	<b>13,926</b>	<b>18,993</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>49.8</b>	
<b>120</b>	<b>G. Total</b>	<b>5,568</b>	<b>3,617</b>	<b>3,617</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>12,479,975</b>	<b>5,842,276</b>	<b>5,894,320</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>349,890</b>	<b>354,274</b>	<b>1.3</b>	

## HIGHLIGHTS

### PROMOTING CHILD RIGHTS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

## UNICEF-RSPN COMMUNITY DRIVEN SOCIAL PROTECTION INITIATIVES UNDER PROMOTING CHILD RIGHTS IN COTTON FARMING AREAS OF SOUTH PUNJAB

October 2014 – RSPN entered into partnership with UNICEF Pakistan to implement a one year community driven social protection and child rights project in cotton farming areas in the districts of Bahawalpur and Rajanpur, Punjab. The project aims to address the root causes of child labour in 170 cotton-growing villages in the two districts through an integrated community development approach.

The key components of the project include establishment of social funds in 150 villages, provision of Income Generation Grants (IGGs) to 922 poorest households, setting up of 170 Multifunctional Community Centres (MFCCs) including promoting community actionable knowledge on health, education, child rights in close coordination with the District Administration, Social Welfare Department and other stakeholders. As at December 500 poor households were provided with IGGs.

RSPN is implementing the project in partnership with the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP).

 [Maternal and Child Healthcare](#)

### COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT - TAHAFUZ II PROJECT

## USAID-RSPN BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE SINDH PROVINCE OF PAKISTAN

December 2014 - The main objective of this USAID funded project is to build capacity of disaster prone communities and enabling them to bounce back better after any disaster. The project is being implemented in four districts of the Sindh province (Thatta, Badin, Umarmkot and Tharparkar) in partnership with NRSP and TRDP. The main components of the project are community mobilisation, capacity building and mitigation. The mobilisation process has been successfully completed and all planned community based organisations have been formed. These include 228 Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMC) and 20 Union Disaster Management Committees (UDMC).

Under capacity building, a total of 3,300 community members went through training in participatory disaster risk analysis and 583 members in advocacy & networking and organisational development. To create awareness regarding disaster risk management, district teams in coordination with communities arranged Global DRR day for awareness raising. UDMC representatives also undertook experience sharing visits to other project areas and shared their knowledge and experience with local communities.

As disaster mitigation measures, VDMCs have initiated 92 Critical Community Infrastructure (CCIs) schemes of which 23 have been completed. A total of 228 such schemes are planned to be completed by end of project.

A team of senior USAID officials visited project area and had meetings with local communities involved in the Tahafuz project. The visitors were very much impressed by the commitment level of the communities and their willingness to learn more about disaster management.

 [Disaster Management](#)

### COMMUNITIES IN ACTION TO DEMAND HEALTH AND EDUCATION SERVICES

## JSI-RSPN HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING PROJECT

October-December 2014 – RSPN is partnering John Snow Incorporated (JSI) to implement the Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) Component of the the USAID Mother and Child Healthcare Programme (MCH) in Sindh. So far, RSPN/RSPs have set up 1,238 village level accountability forums and 23 union council level accountability forums to tackle issues faced by rural communities in access to healthcare and family planning services. HSS aims to strengthen the health systems of rural areas by building the capacity of these community forums so that they can use the feedback they receive from local communities regarding the availability and quality of healthcare services in their areas and engage with healthcare providers and officials to lobby for the resolution of their problems and for overall improvement in healthcare service delivery. Five District level Health Networks, comprising LSOs and Union Council Health Committees, as well as other NGOs in the area that are working in the health sector, have been established to advocate and lobby with the District Health and Population Management Team to improve healthcare service delivery.

RSPN is also providing support to the Extended Programme for Immunisation (EPI) of the Government of Sindh for routine immunisation in areas that are not covered by Lady Health Workers in 91 union councils of four districts, i.e. Thatta, Tharparkar, Jacobabad and Kashmore. So far a total of 28,244 children and 8413 women have been immunised.

 [Community Health](#)



## HIGHLIGHTS

### GSM-RSPN PROVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES THROUGH SOCIAL MARKETING

October-December 2014 –RSPN continued its partnership with Greenstar Social Marketing, NRSP and PRSP to create demand for reproductive health services and to enable rural communities to advocate for better coordination and accountability for health issues. Focusing on areas not served by the Lady Health Workers and using a community driven approach, the project has formed 300 village health committees in district Jhang, Bahawalpur and Rahim Yar Khan. The VHCs have further federated at the union council and district levels to fill the gap between communities and the public sector regarding reproductive health service providers. So far, over 23,236 women and men have started using reproductive health products. As a result the contraceptive prevalence rate increased by 27 percent over the baseline in the project area and generated a total of 46,052 couple years of protection.

To sustain the services of field level workers (CRPs) beyond project life, RSPN has initiated a pilot (Business in a Box - BiB) with 75 women CRPs in all project districts. BiB (a mobile shop) is a marketing approach adopted by RSPN to ensure the birth spacing services to the communities at their doorsteps and to ensure the financial sustainability of the CRPs. A group of 75 CRPs was trained in social marketing and delivery skills, equipped with contraceptives and other RH commodities were involved in BiB pilot. BiB workers earned Rs. 650 – 700 rupees as profit within a month. Ms. Samina Parveen, one of the BiB workers has earned a profit of Rs. 980 during the first month and is very satisfied with her efforts. RSPN will carry on monitoring this BiB initiative and draw lessons for its sustainability and replication beyond the project life.



### JHU.CCP-RSPN HEALTH COMMUNICATION COMPONENT OF USAID'S MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM

October-December 2014 - RSPN has partnered with John Hopkins University - Center for Communication Programme (JHU.CCP) to implement the Health Communication Component of USAID's Maternal and Child Healthcare Programme (MCH) in Sindh, using its proven model of trained, local community resource persons to generate awareness for family planning and reproductive health and to encourage communities to adopt health seeking behaviour, particularly in the context of maternal and child healthcare. As part of this four years initiative, RSPN is working with three of its partner RSPs; namely National Rural Support Program (NRSP), Thardeep Rural Development Program (TRDP) and Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), initially in five districts of Sindh (Sukkur, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot, Mattiari and Sangarh). total in ten districts.

In these districts, the community resource persons (male and female) will be selected and trained from the target villages to stimulate communities toward healthy practices for women and children. The community resource persons will operate as



village level male/female pairs conducting social mobilization, offering health education and counselling in small groups, and carrying out household visits to married women of reproductive age.

Currently, the field teams are conducting the activity of mapping of the intervention districts of the project. This activity includes the collection of data on LHW covered/uncovered population, Community Midwives (CMWs), Journalists, Religious leaders and Religious institutions.



### UNICEF-RSPN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ON PAKISTAN APPROACH TO TOTAL SANITATION (PATS)

October-December 2014 - "Capacity development on Pakistan Approach to Total Sanitation (PATS)" is a UNICEF funded project aimed at capacity building of the project implementing partners working under Sanitation Programme at Scale in Pakistan (SPSP) – Rural Phase II. RSPN entered into agreement with UNICEF for a period of 9 months starting from April 07, 2014. The project is operating in 15 flood affected districts of Pakistan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan provinces for improved sanitation and environmental sustainability through Open Defecation Free (ODF) villages. Under the project, PATS master trainers have trained 253 (161 men, 92 women) social organizers, 1601 (1,335 men, 266 women) community resource persons and 98 (94 men, 4 women) entrepreneurs in the target districts. A strategy to develop linkages with microfinance institutions have also been developed for sanitation loaning. RSPN in collaboration with WASH sector partners, Climate Change Division and HEC celebrated the Global Hand Washing Day (GHWD) and World Toilet Day (WTD) on October 15 and November 19, 2014, respectively. Essay, photography, poster and poems competitions were also arranged in connection with these days. The students from National University of Science & Technology (NUST) and University of Gujrat displayed the sanitation models on WTD sanitation festival arranged at Lok Virsa, Shakarparian Islamabad.





## ALIF AILAN-RSPN MOBILISING COMMUNITIES TO DEMAND EDUCATION AND LOCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

October-December 2014 - Communities are at the moment involved in the education-related activities in "Mobilising Communities to Demand Education and Local Accountability" project. The project (being funded by Alif Ailaan and being implemented by RSPN along with BRSP, NRSP, SRSP and TRDP) is taking place in 11 districts in all provinces of Pakistan. Initiatives taken by rural communities comprises of collection of data relating to out of school children from over 275,000 households and in-depth mapping of school condition and facilities of over 3,400 Madrassas, private and government schools. As a result of community mobilisation, LSOs and their member VO and COs have so far successfully enrolled 5,791 children into school and are also monitoring their retention on a monthly basis. They have also taken it upon themselves to hold their local stakeholders accountable through multiple means such as sending SMS messages to their local politicians, party workers, and representatives from the Education Department, journalists and other civil society organisations and by meeting School Management Committees. LSOs have also been able to meet these local stakeholders at the district level in order to present the findings of their door-to-door survey and to present a systematic list of demands regarding education in their respective Union Councils. The ultimate aim of communities is to improve both the demand-side of education (through awareness raising sessions for parents and community members; in which over 205,791 men and women have participated) as well as the supply-side through continuous follow-up and advocacy.

 Governance

## INTERNATIONAL RURAL WOMEN DAY CELEBRATED

October 2014 - RSPN in collaboration with Potohar Organization for Development Advocacy (PODA) organised the 7th Annual Conference on International Day of Rural Women on 15-16 October in at Islamabad. The theme of the conference this year was "Rural Women - Democracy, Development and Peace". NRSP, SRSP and SRSO supported fifty rural women activists and artisans from Shikarpur, Larkana, Mianwali, Khairpur, Khushab, Swat, Bunair, Shangla, Rajanpur, and Chitral to participate and display their products in the conference. RSPN also co-hosted a panel discussion in the conference on the theme of "Role of women in peace promotion and decision making process". The panel was chaired by Mr. Saleem Malik (CEO, Bedari), and Senator Ms. Suriya Amir ul Din who gave keynote speech. Ms. Shandana Khan, CEO RSPN, moderated the session. Participants from women only LSOs shared their case studies to create peace at household, village and union council levels. They shared the fact that organized women from LSO resolved cases of harassment, inheritance, family issues and conflicts between tribes efficiently.

 Grassroots Development

### WHO WE ARE

The Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) is the largest development network of Pakistan, with an outreach to over 38 million rural Pakistanis. It consists of 11 member Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) that espouse a common approach to rural development: social mobilisation. Social mobilisation centres around the belief that poor people have an innate potential to help themselves, that they can better manage their limited resources if they organise and are provided technical and financial support.

The RSPs provide social guidance, and technical and financial assistance to the rural poor. RSPN is the strategic platform for the RSPs: it provides capacity building

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