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SINDH AGRICULTURE RECOVERY PROJECT

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO. 391-A-00-11-01213-00

MONTHLY PROGRESS UPDATE – May



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Introduction

After the July-August 2010 floods in Pakistan, the people of America through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) began providing massive support to meet the emergency and early recovery needs of the flood victims. One significant project being funded and supported by USAID is the Sindh Agriculture Recovery Project (SARP), which was launched in 7 districts of Sindh from December 2010 in partnership with the Rural Support Programs Network (RSPN), Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) and Sindh Abadgar Board (SAB). The total value of this USAID SARP project is \$ 15 million. The launching ceremony was held in Jacobabad on December 13th, 2010 which was attended by representatives from the Sindh Government, USAID, RSPN, SRSO, SAB, and other stakeholders. Similar but smaller launching ceremonies were held in January 2011 in all 7 SARP districts. With USAID support, SARP is providing agricultural inputs to flood affected small farmers to grow sunflowers. Under SARP, the target beneficiaries are 50,575 small farmers (owners, tenants, and share croppers) and 101,150 acres, i.e. 2 acres per beneficiary. The package of support to the small farmers includes: certified sunflower seeds, fertilizers (DAP and Urea), trainings on sunflowers cultivation and cash packages for land preparation, cash for on-farm (water courses repair) and for threshers and harvesting.

Project Extension

The project has met with some delays due to slow verification and cleaning of beneficiary data. This in turn has delayed distribution of cheques. Coupled with the fact that harvesting and threshing is not expected to be complete by end June, and this is data the project wants to capture, it was proposed that a no cost extension be given to the project for 1 month. This extension has been approved and the implementation phase has been pushed back to June 30th, while the project completion date is now July 31st.

First Check Distribution

The data was finally cleaned out and approved by both the HO and the districts. However, the distribution of cheques still continues for the first round in 2 districts, Thatta and Dadu. Other districts are almost complete with the distribution of their cheques. Thatta and Dadu are both managing the process of cheques printing and distribution independently of SRSO (since both regions are being handled by partners NRSP and TRDP respectively). The central team at the HO has given an approved list to both these districts which they are using to generate cheques for distribution. The latest data check distribution is show below:

District	Initial Target	Valid Beneficiaries	Chqs issued to Districts	Chqs dist to beneficiaries	Remaining	% Complete
Shahdadt	8,053	7,390	7,390	7,100	290	96%
Larkana	2,795	2,776	2,776	2,756	20	99%
Jacobabad	9,757	9,211	9,211	9,211	0	100%
Shikarpur	7,128	6,699	6,699	6,563	136	98%
Dadu	9,215	8,713	NA	5,927	2,786	68%
Thatta	8,079	7,668	NA	3,976	3,692	52%
Kashmore	5,549	5,265	5,265	5,262	3	100%
Total	50,576	47,722	31,341	40,795	6,927	85%

The teams in Thatta and Dadu are both targeting to complete the distribution for the first round by June 4th. SARP central management is considering taking over the cheque printing process for the last round from these 2 districts to expedite the final distribution.

2nd and 3rd Cheques

The 2nd and 3rd cheques have now been combined into a single grant which will then be the last round of distribution for this project. In order to expedite the process, SARP will issue a bank authorization token to the beneficiary and to the bank. The token will be taken to the bank which will match it against the duplicate token it has received from the SARP HO team and will issue cash against it. This will remove the need for generating and signing cheques which ensuring that only those tokens are cashed that have duplicates present at the bank.

Training

The second and third training were combined due to the fact that harvesting was starting in several districts. The third training was basic where farmers were told how their output would be gauged by the buyers i.e. price will be affected by amount of dirt, moisture and oil content in the seeds. They were also given handouts with an extensive list of brokers and solvent plants in the area which are willing to buy the output. The brokers were individually called to ensure their willingness to buy before their names were added to the list.

State of Crops

The sunflower crop is now starting to be harvested in all the districts. This process of harvesting and threshing is underway (pictures in appendix) and it is expected that the peak for threshing and sale will be around mid-June. Almost all the crops have gone through the season without incidence of any major disease or pest attacks. Farmers in the northern Sindh area (traditionally non-sunflower regions) have been using rice and wheat threshers modified for speed. Farmers are drying the sunflower heads by laying them flat over a large area and then putting them into the threshers. The threshers then separate the seeds and the output is collected in buckets. The output has some degree of waste matter which is cleaned out by sifting and pouring out the seeds from a height onto sheets, which enable the waste matter to fly away while the seeds fall to the ground.

Marketing

In order to facilitate marketing of the sunflower seed produce, SRSO has met with and collected information on several solvent plants and brokers who are interested in procuring seeds. Flyers with names and contact numbers have been distributed amongst the beneficiaries (list given in the appendix). Based on this a separate marketing plan document was generated which was shared with Sindh Abadgar Board. The feedback from potential buyers has been positive with almost all of them keen to procure the output. Below is the estimated output by region:

District	Verified Acres Planted	Output Est. at 10 maund (tons)	Output Est. at 8 maund (tons)	North/South Breakdown at 10md	North/South Breakdown at 8md
Kashmore	10,686	4,274	3,420	25,216	20,173
Shikarpur	13,530	5,412	4,330		
Jacobabad	18,464	7,386	5,908		
Larkana	5,552	2,221	1,777		
Shahdadkot	14,809	5,924	4,739		
Dadu	17,372	6,949	5,559	13,127	10,502
Thatta	15,446	6,178	4,943		
Total	95,859	38,344	30,675	38,344	30,675

However, this is an estimate based on the acreage sowed and to get realistic numbers for the output SRSO will collect the actual output information for those who have sold their output by the time the last cheque distribution is complete. During the last cheque distribution the following information will be collected for those who have sold their output:

1. Output in Maunds and the total revenue generated
2. Name the type of buyer (Plant or Broker)
3. Irrigation methodology used (Irrigation or ground moisture)

As majority of harvest and sale will be complete close to mid-June it is expected that data for at least 50% of beneficiaries will be collected. In addition to this a sample of about 50 farmers from each district will be approached for confirmation of data and a more detailed interview.

Marking and Branding

Some online coverage this month for the project is as below:

<http://www.pabic.com.pk/USAID-%20Sindh%20Agriculture%20recovery%20Project%20for%20rehabilitating%20of%20flood%20affected%20farmers.html>

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/168814/upcoming-budget-drinking-water-supply-to-be-sindhs-priority/>

Field Visits & Meetings

During May 2011, AOTR visited the project in the districts of Jacobabad, Kashmore, Larkana, Shikarpur and Shadatkot. In these visits she met with farmers, their fields and saw threshing in several locations. She also met with all the district teams in these districts and provided feedback to the team in terms of cheque distribution and data collection for the final stages of the project. Minutes of meeting at the Sukkur office are in the appendix.

Teams from RSPN, including COO Khaleel Tetlay, also visited the project during the month. RSPN monitoring team visited all the operational districts between May 5th and 19th resulting in a detailed field report published separately.

Team from Dawn TV continued the work on their documentary and made follow up visits to farmers in Shikarpur and Kashmore. This was the last visit by Dawn TV, and work on video footage is in its final stages, the video documentary when is ready, will be aired on Dawn TV, with video copies for each SARP partner.

“This report is made possible by the support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the sole responsibility of Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.”

Appendix

Article in Kawish

Article appeared May 19th on the project



Names of Solvents & Brokers

Sr.no.	Name of Solvent plants	Contact numbers
1	Indus Valley Solvent Plant Sukkur	071-5630141; 021-5866757
2	Al Rehman Oil Mills, Office Katti Bazar, Sukkur	071-5614758-9; 071-5628526-7; 0300-9311365
3	Premier Solvent Unit. Industrial area . Kotri	0300-3011799
4	Lal Industries, Rohri	0300-8311187
5	Lucky Solvent Plant. Kotri	0223-870262, 03008370202
6	Marvi Solvent plant Kotri	0300-3994039
7	Al Noor Extraction Plant. site area Hyd.	0223881858. 0300-8372533; 0300-8377785
8	Lal Shahbaz Solvent Plant, Sijawal.	0298-510451.0301-8258707
9	Sharif Solvent Plan Mirpurkhas Road, Kunri	0238-558210.557060. 0300-3302012.
10	M.Ali Solvent Plant Mirpur Khas	0333-2968877
11	OK Solvent Plant Main road Dhabajee.	021-4420222
12	Pak Agro Oil Mill Port Qasim.52-57, Aiwan-e-Tijarat Building,	021-2401995-7, 021-2417966. 0300-8226697
13	OK Oil Mills, Room # 208-209, 2nd Floor, Technocity Plaza,	021-2270723-5, 021-2270726; 0300-8231111
14	Paracha Textile Mills Limited, Karachi	021-2564594, 2562727, 2561101-5.
15	Shujabad Agro Industries (Pvt) Limited 9-KM Yasin Mansion,	021-4531214, 021-4540242, 021-4380389, 0300-8230916
16	Taj Oil Industries (Pvt) Ltd, Akhund-e-Rehman Street, Sharif	021-2413216, 021-2414782, 021-2411487

Sunflower Merchants in Jacobabad District

Sr. no.	Retailer/ Traders	Contact Numbers
1	Vijay Kumar	03337344544
2	Dilip Kumar	03337350723
3	Ahmed Panwhar	03337338361
4	Seth Prem	0722652150
5	Nanik Ram	03337357990
6	Sunil Kumar	0722-650147
7	Suresh Kumar	0722-650450
8	Ghulam Rasool	0302-2984763
9	Dewan Kumar	0306-3135031
10	Koro Mal	0722-710342

Sunflower Merchants in Dadu District

S.No	Name	Contact No:	Area
1	Imam Bux Bhutto	0300-3442571	Sehwan
2	Ornagzeb Detho	0307-3251360	Dadu

3	Ghulam Nabi	0300-3279247	Bhan
4	Bashir Qureshi	03003-272557	Dadu
5	Hakeem Bashir	0300-3045384	Dadu
6	Gulab Khan	0300-3404564	K.N.Shah
7	Liaqat Ali	0300-3250227	Mehar
8	Yaar Mohammad	0300-3273501	Johi
9	Shair Mohammad	0300-3271298	Johi
10	Rasheed Ahmed Dero	0300-2605459	Mehar
11	Gull Hassan Gadehi	0344-3306376	K.N.Shah
12	Zulfiqr Ali	0301-3559525	Johi

Sunflower Merchants in Shikarpur District

Sr.no.	Name	Contact	Location
1	Aftab Ahmed	0300-3125902; 0321-369501	Gala Mandi/ Grain Market
2	Irfan Ali	0344-3864785	Gala Mandi/ Grain Market
3	Imdad Memon	0300-3408761	Gala Mandi/ Grain Market

Sunflower Merchants in Qambar-Shahdadkot district

Sr.no.	Name	Contact	Location
1	Bhagat & Sunil	0333-7503059	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
2	Khuwaja & Brother	0744-210859	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
3	Murli Das	0744-210459	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
4	Khadim Magsi	0333-7531023	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
5	Altaf Hussain	0744-210859	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
6	Mir Hassan	0345-3835708	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant

Sunflower Merchants in Larkana district

Sr. no.	Name	Contact	Location
1	Babal Ali	0744-053152	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
2	Abdul Sami	03003434066	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant

Sunflower Merchants in Kashmore-Kandhkot district

Sr. no.	Name	Contact	Location
1	Mool Chand	0333-7368844	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant
2	Nanik Ram	0333-7300378	Gala Mandi/ Grain Merchant

Sunflower Merchants in Thatta district

Sr. no.	Name	Contact	Location
1	Chattan Mal	0298-510451; 0301-8258707	Gala Mandi / Grain Merchant

Threshing Process



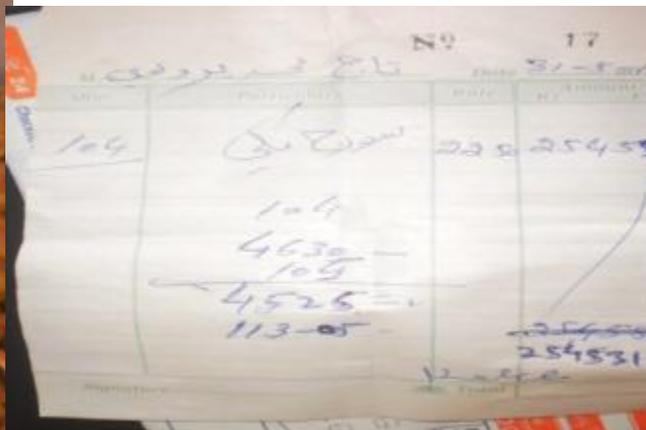
Sale of Sunflower



Banners and signs set up by plants and brokers in Shkarpur



Trucks, storage and receipts for sunflowers



Small broker set ups through various districts



Getting paid



AOTR Visit



Meeting Minutes at Sukkur HO

Subject: Payments made to the beneficiaries under SARP

A meeting on the subject was held in SRSO Head Office, Sukkur, on 21st May 2011, which was attended by the following:

1. Ms. Sarah Parvez, AOTR (USAID);
2. Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay, COO, RSPN, Islamabad;
3. Mr. Muhammad Hashim Leghari, COP (SARP);
4. Mr. Nisar Ahmed Pathan, DCOP (SARP);
5. Mr. Saqib Khan, SMO, SRSO; and
6. Mr. Imdad Channa, Sindh Abadgar Board (SAB).

The matter regarding payment to the beneficiaries was discussed in detail. Ms. Sarah Parvez, AOTR (USAID) was of the opinion that payment should be made after ensuring that the beneficiaries have harvested their crops indicating the yield and the price fetched from sale proceeds of sunflower. Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay, Mr. Muhammad Hashim Leghari and Mr. Nisar Ahmed Pathan proposed that due to shortage of time and completion of project by 2011, it was required to expedite the payments to the beneficiaries. However, it was also proposed that the proforma should be designed by Mr. Saqib Khan, SMO and Nisar Ahmed Pathan, DCOP (SARP) to get information from each beneficiary highlighting the following information in the data: yield from irrigated crop, yield from bosi crop, rate at which commodity was sold, the name of the solvent factory / retailer where the beneficiary sold the sunflower. It was, however, proposed that such data may be obtained from all the beneficiaries by circulation and filling up of proforma through District Managers and Agriculture professionals. From this data, 50 to 60 beneficiaries will be selected on the basis of irrigated or bosi crop for a detail random survey.

It was also proposed by Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay, COO (RSPN), Mr. Muhammad Hashim Leghari, COP (SARP) and Nisar Ahmed Pathan that the project may extend for one month. The AOTR advised Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay to submit a proposal for consideration by USAID.

Decisions

It was decided that the payments will be made to the beneficiaries through bank on the basis of earlier verified list and cheques issued for first installment. It was also decided that the payments will be made through bank whereby a token will be issued in favor of the beneficiaries forwarding one copy to the bank for payment. The payments will be made after verification of the token and original CNIC. No payment will be made to the beneficiaries who have not planted sunflower. Besides, proforma will be circulated among all the beneficiaries for obtaining data. From that, 50 to 60 beneficiaries in each district will be identified for detailed survey on random basis.