



## The power of organised efforts!

Kakrand village is a small village of Union Council Ghirano of District Sujawal. The village consists of 282 households with a total population of over 1600. With its close proximity to the Arabian Sea, Kakrand is prone to floods and cyclones, besides heavy rains. The village was not linked to the main road, which always hindered safe evacuation during floods.



Considering its vulnerabilities, the villages was selected for community level disaster risk management interventions under USAID/OFDA funded Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Tahafuz Project. RSPN and the team of National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) introduced the villages to the project and importance of fostering community level institution for disaster management during project introductory session. The villagers were being told that they could withstand disasters and reduce losses only if they work as an organised community. The community endorsed the idea and a Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC) was formed with a focus on disaster preparedness and mitigation.

*Construction work on link road to Kakrand village is underway.*

VDMC members underwent CBDRM training. They learned skills to develop Disaster Risk Management Plan (DRMP) for their village. Community members, who had been suffering losses due to lack of evacuation route during disasters, placed the need of a road on top priority while preparing DRMP. They held a VDMC meeting with an agenda to approach the local administration and elected representative for provision of a link road. Thus, they agreed upon building pressure on the powers that be and succeeded to get an approval of their demand.

The local administration and District Chairman Ghulam Qadir Palejo supported the construction of 14 kilometres long link road connecting Kakrand village with the Coastal Highway. This was made possible only through effective advocacy and linkage with the local administration.

“It was Tahafuz project team that mobilised us to foster our village level disaster management committee and raise voice for our long pending concerns,” says a VDMC member with delight.

