

## Komak Project - Success Story – Jamshoro Health Care and Hygiene – the story of Raheema

Village Jan Mohammad Veso comprised of 175 households and is located near a riverine area in District Jamshoro. Raheema, a 35 year old resident of Jan Mohammad Veso, was a widow and mother of three children. The family's only source of income was the two acres of land that she inherited from her father in law after the death of her Husband.

Raheema said that, "Village Jan Mohammad Veso had suffered immense damage during the flood. The water intensity was so high that I did not have any time to take my belongings and ration stock as well." She was compelled along with her relatives and children aged 13, 11 and 9, to move to the Government school camp in Manjhand where all flood victims were residing. When they returned to their village after two months her two bedroom house had been completely destroyed and all her assets were buried and useless. She described the situation as, "I thought it was another test but when I saw that all my daughters dowry had been swept away I could not retain my senses and felt absolutely hopeless." Amidst all these issues her family was facing adverse health issues and she did not have enough money to pay for their medication.



Figure 1: Raheema and her demolished house in Jan Mohammad Veso



Figure 2: Raheema's demolished house

When TRDP intervened in the village, the community had already been linked to other projects, such as clean drinking water. Raheema managed to reconstruct her house with the help of the tarpaulin sheet to cover one side. She was also selected to receive the hygiene kit, hygiene session and pit latrine under DIFID-RSPN funded Komak Project. She claimed that her sensitization on health and hygiene lead her to understand the importance of cleanliness and reduced her

medical expenses. She was one of the first beneficiaries to get a latrine constructed with a flush system. She said, "It was a small step but caused many in my village to follow the same course. Especially those who were involved in open defecation." She was very appreciative to have received these items.

When asked what she would do if she ever came across a similar situation, she said that, "If I can rebuild my kacha house then I can build a pit latrine as well. It not only guarantees my family's health but also gives us a sense of security. Especially for my daughter who is grown up and I don't want her to go out too often."