



**Meeting Minutes**  
**RSPN Board's BRACE Oversight Committee**

**14<sup>th</sup> November 2018**  
**Islamabad**



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS FOR THE BRACE's GRANT COMPONENT



PROGRAMME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNER



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Second meeting of the RSPN Board's BRACE Oversight Committee**  
**Islamabad**

The meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at the RSPN Office, IRM complex, Islamabad to discuss following agenda points;

- Share BRACE Programme for year one of the Programme
- Discuss issues, challenges face by BRACE Programme during year one and way forward for addressing these issue
- Share Programme's Financial updates

The meeting participants were as follows:

1. Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman RSPN (Chair)
2. Ms. Shandana Humayun Khan, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) RSPN (Member)
3. Mr. Nadir Gul Barech CEO BRSP (Member)
4. Dr. Rashid Bajwa, CEO NRSP (Member)
5. Mr. Fazalullah Qureshi (Member)
6. Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetaly, Chief Operating Officer (COO) RSPN
7. Mr. Ahmed Ullah, Programme Manager-BRACE RSPN (Member & Secretary)
8. BRACE Programme RSPN component team members

**Proceedings:**

Mr. Ahmed Ullah gave a detailed presentation on overall progress of BRACE for year one (July 2017 to June 2018) of the Programme against the targets. The overall progress shows that RSPN, BRSP and NRSP have completed almost all start up and inception phase activities, including Project Launching Ceremony at Provincial and district levels, PSC survey, assistance to the TA in undertaking gender analysis, MIS development, planning & inception workshop, processes for baseline socio economic survey, standardised programme implementation approaches, including PIM, CAT, training guidelines, M&E framework, quality assurance tools and plans.

However, BRSP and NRSP were behind the targets for year one for some key field level activities that include social mobilisation, CIs registration and notification, CMST trainings, MIP and VDP development. These delays were highlighted by the EU in feedback on first interim reports of RSPs. To address these delays, BRSP has developed delay mitigation plans and submitted to EU while NRSP will develop and share the plan in December.

Committee members showed concerns over slow progress against targets for Poverty Score Card, Social Mobilisation and rollout activities in the field. It was explained to the committee that PSC target was not achieved because the number of households surveyed was less than estimated households in the target districts due to migration and other issues. BRSP and NRSP will cover these households during ongoing Social Mobilisation activities. To attain the targets for Social Mobilisation and other field activities, plans for the year two have been updated to address these delays accordingly.

Dr. Rashid Bajwa asked about the reasons for reporting a very small number of CIs formation in district Kech despite the fact that NRSP has formed CIs across district Kech. Mr. Ahmed Ullah responded that though the communities are organised by NRSP years ago, but due to certain facts and findings on the ground, NRSP had planned to re-organise the existing COs, VOs and LSOs by either organizing new COs or facilitating communities in becoming members of the existing functional COs. Secondly, both BRSP and NRSP have budgeted formation of CIs in BRACE Programme. The Chairman of the Committee asked Specialist Social Mobilisation RSPN to develop the rational for the re-organisation of all the existing COs, VOs and LSOs in Kech. Mr. Nadir Gul Barech said that BRSP has developed a comprehensive remedial action and in the process of implementation for addressing these delays.

### **Challenges and Way Forward**

- CIs registration is still a challenge despite efforts by RSPs management and series of meeting with relevant government department. Consequently, bank account opening of most of the CIs is pending; RSPs will further expedite the process to address these challenges and have/will meet the Secretary Social Welfare Department to devise a mechanism to address this issue;
- Law and order situation in some areas of Balochistan hamper programme activities;
- Delays in implementation in BRSP and NRSP component of the Programme; mitigation strategy and plan need to be effectively and efficiently implemented, monitored and reported to senior management;
- Follow up support by RSPN to BRSP and NRSP in tracking results is required for which RSPN has revised its plan;
- Regular collection, analysis and reporting of quantitative and qualitative data for quality assurance and ensuring that the Programme is on track toward attaining its results needs to be implemented by BRSP and NRSP;
- Coordination and support mechanism among RSPs need to be further strengthened;
- TA component is late which hamper some of the activities by RSPN. TA faces issues in completing its team due to visa issues. RSPN will discuss these delays with the EU. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks from and to the Chair.

### **Key decisions**

- 1) In upcoming RSPN Board's BRACE Oversight Committee meetings, Programme Managers BRACE from BRSP and NRSP should participate to brief the Committee on their respective updates, issues and way forwards; BRACE and SUCCESS Programme Oversight Committees should be jointly held
- 2) Specialist Social Mobilisation RSPN will develop a rational for the re-organisation of all the existing COs, VOs and LSOs in Kech;
- 3) BRSP and NRSP should expedite the process for addressing the delays occurred in year one of the Programme;
- 4) BRACE Programme Dashboards should be regularly updated to track progress and support in decisions.
- 5) Process for CO/VO registration and bank accounts should be expedited so that field activities are not affected. Chairman of the Committee suggested to check if the CIs can be registered with the

Cooperative Societies. Dr. Shahnawaz and his team will check with Cooperative societies for registration.

- 6) There is a need for improved coordination among BRACE partners. Ms. Shandana emphasised further support of RSPN Core team for BRACE Programme
- 7) Quarterly meeting of BRACE RSPs should be ensured to share updates, issues, challenges and devise way forward for addressing these challenges and issues.