PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH (PINS)

In support of the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

Celebration of World Toilet Day

19th & 20th November 2018 | District Tando Allah Yar & Matiari

Technical Assistance Partner

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Introduction:

National Rural Support Program-NRSP with support of EU-RSPN under “Nutrition Sensitive Component of programme for improved nutrition in Sindh PIN-ER-3” project celebrated World Toilet Day (WTD) on 19th November 2018 at Murtaza Dadahi Hall, Tando Allah yar in collaboration with Government line departments, COs, VOs & LSOs. The event was also celebrated on 20th November 2018 at village Miranpur, UC Bhanoth, taluka Halla in District Matiari. The theme of this year for the WTD was “When Nature Calls”. The Purpose for celebrating the event was to signify the importance of toilet and its use in the community because no invention has saved more lives than a toilet and it is well said by the experts that “toilets bring dignity, privacy, safety and health”. The participants from community based Institutions (LSOs, VOs, COs,), Government Officials, from different line departments (Revenue, Agriculture Extension, Local Government & Elected representatives), media persons, community notables, NRSP professionals and other civil society members participated in this knowledge sharing and learning based activity. Thus total 8 LSOs and 105 participants from District Matiari and 7 LSOs and 107 participants from District Tando Allah yar participated in the celebration of the World Toilet Day.

Background:

World Toilet Organization (WTO) was founded on 19 November 2001. To commemorate its founding day, the organization declared 19 November as World Toilet Day. On the day, WTO held the inaugural World Toilet Summit in Singapore. At that time, the “toilet” was considered a taboo and the sanitation crisis was largely ignored by the media. In the humanitarian sector, the subject of water and sanitation was bundled into one agenda called WatSan. This resulted in sanitation being overshadowed by the more prominent agenda of water, hence sanitation remained neglected while the area of water (which is equally important) was considered to be deserving of more attention and action.

The campaign was initiated to reduce mortality rates especially of children under 5 years related to diarrhoea diseases by introducing simple behavioural changes, such as proper use of toilet and handwashing with soap, which according to research can reduce the rate by almost 50 per cent.

Importance of the movement:

Sanitation is a basic human right. Yet around the world one child in every three doesn’t have good enough sanitation to stop debilitating, and often fatal, diarrhoea. Use of toilet and handwashing with soap are the most effective and inexpensive ways to prevent malnutrition, diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections (ARI), as automatic behaviour performed in homes, schools, and communities worldwide. Pneumonia, a major ARI, is the number one cause of mortality among children under five years old, taking the life of an estimated 1.8 million children per year. Diarrhoea and pneumonia together account for almost 3.5 million children’s deaths annually. According to the official site, turning handwashing with soap before eating and after using the toilet into an ingrained habit was projected to save more lives than any single vaccine or medical intervention, cutting deaths from diarrhoea by almost half and deaths from acute respiratory infections by one-quarter.
Pakistan’s Approach:

The government of Pakistan is pushing to bridge the gap. The national, as well as the provincial sanitation policies envision the creation of an open defecation free environment with safe disposal of liquid and solid waste and the promotion of health and hygiene practices in the country. Further to this policy, a holistic vision of sanitation has been developed through an integrated total sanitation model resulting in the formulation of a Pakistan Approach to Total Sanitation (PATS) as a comprehensive strategy for promoting improved sanitation and hygiene outcomes in informal and rural areas that focuses on social change. Since 2010, UNICEF and the government of Pakistan with its implementing partners Plan International and Water Aid as well as several local NGOs initiated a rural sanitation programme reaching out to more than 7.4 million people.

Purpose of Celebration:

The purpose of World Toilet Day celebration was promoting the concept of sanitation and engaging the community based institutions for prioritizing Hygiene and Sanitation on their agenda following the PATS/CLTS approach to create hygienic sanitation environment in their communities and make them habitual of use of toilet with proper sanitation.

Objective of Celebration:

- Improving the sanitation system of the community and change their behavior level for adopting the best sanitation practices through the construction and use of toilet.
- To highlight the relationship between nutrition & sanitation, underlining significance of toilets and its usage which supports adequate nutrition & better health of the community.

To enhance and accelerate the role of the stakeholders for achieving the desired goal of sanitation in project areas.

Programme Proceedings:

Tando Allahyar:

Programme activities and proceedings were started with the registration and attendance of participants. Mr. Sukhio Abro, CNO was anchor of the programme and he announced the program proceedings. The programme was formally initiated with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by a volunteer from the community. Ms. Fozia Khaskheli, DPO-NRSP addressed welcome note to all the participants at the event.

Mr. Nazar Joyo Project Manager PINS ER – 03, nutrition sensitive component discussed that PINS-3 will focus on the following:

- Improve community-level access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation
• Capacitate communities to practice for climate resilient small-scale kitchen gardening, integrated community farming through training, provision of inputs and technical oversight
• Enable communities for food diversification through livestock, poultry and fisheries focused interventions
• Improve crop production through introduction of climate-smart crop production technologies, training and provision of inputs
• Empower community institutions to develop and implement disaster risk reduction plans and reduce the impacts of floods and drought at local level

Then Dr. Muhammad Saleem Memon, Child Specialist and Focal Person of Nutrition in Government Health Department, District Tando Allahyar came forward and discussed health issues due to open defecation. He highlighted the importance of Toilets in all villages, Bastis etc. He said that hygiene is as important as clean drinking water for preventing diarrheal diseases.

Following the speech by Dr. Muhammad Saleem Memon, Chief Guest Mr. Sona Khan Chandio, Assistant Commissioner Taluka & District Tando Allahyar discussed about the importance of Celebration of World Toilet Day and the situation of District Tando Allahyar with regards to sanitation. He appreciated the efforts of PINS ER 3 NRSP team in District Tando Allahyar. The closing remarks were given by Mr. Nazar Joyo, Project Manager, PINS ER-3.

**Matiari:**

In Matiari the World Toilet Day celebration commenced with recitation of verses from the holy Quran followed by welcome and introductory remarks by Mr. Ali Nawaz Lakho, District Project Officer PINS-ER-3 District Matiari. He highlighted the importance of using toilets and harms of open defecation. He also highlighted the importance of World Toilet Day which is celebrated worldwide to make the environment open defecation free. Moreover, he briefly shared the history of world toilet day celebrations with respect to PATS approach and also highlighted the work and contribution of European Union, RSPN & NRSP under the PINS-ER 3.
Ms. Sabhagi (General Secretary of LSO Bhanoth) represented all LSOs and said that Open Defecation is a gigantic issue of our society which is always ignored due to the behavioral issues. Highlighting the significance of the issue she further added that a long term behavior change campaign is required and community institution COs, VOs, LSOs provide the best platform to run this campaign. Ms. Sabhagi emphasized the issue and requested all the LSOs to work closely with PINS and other stakeholders so that the issue of the open defecation may be resolved. She highlighted the significance of WTD and emphasized the LSOs for endorsing the need, construction and use of toilet at household level. Further she added that LSOs are ready to fully cooperate with NRSP to successfully implement PINS and work in close collaboration with all stakeholders.

The school children of UC Bhanoth presented their speeches on the importance of Handwashing with soap & proper usage of the toilet. The children have also showed their paintings drawn on theme of the day. These activities were focusing on the objectives and importance of the WTD. They ask audiences to circulate the message within their families and communities and compel them to stop practices of open defecation in their villages as it is very harmful for health.

The following guests shared their views in speeches:

- Mr. Asif Ali (Mukhtiarkar Revenue).
- Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Umrani (Deputy Director Agriculture Extension).
- Mr. Muhammad Ismail Wandyar (Member District Council).
- Mr. Abdul Kareem Khokhar.
- Ms. Samina Memon (DCBO NRSP Tando Allahyar & Matiari).
All the guests focused on usage of toilet and its benefits for health and communities in their speeches. They also shared their concern on current situation as 48% children under five are affected from malnutrition in Sindh. They said that the reasons behind this issue are many but many households and people do not have access to proper sanitation, including toilets or latrines, with dramatic consequences on human health, dignity, security, the environment, and social and economic development. The guests said that they are committed to this cause because they believe that healthy sanitation and hygiene is a human right for all people. Water and sanitation is very important for the human life. The guests further said that government is responsible for ensuring the access & availability of water and sanitation. All guests praised and appreciated efforts of women and said that women are the real ambassadors of change in the society and the huge number of women present in the celebration of WTD programme is evidence of their commitment.

Finally, Mr. Ali Nawaz lakho (District Project Officer) presented the votes of thanks. He thanked the guests and audiences for assuring their presence and attendance in the programme.

Annex A: UC Wise Number of Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Name of District</th>
<th>Name of UC</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Shaikh Moosa</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Shah Innayat Rizvi</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Kamaro Sharif</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Rawat Laghari</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Begun Jarwar</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Pak Sanghar</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tando Allahyar</td>
<td>Landi</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Bhanot</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Makhdooman Jo Landiyon</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Fateh Muhammad Shah Ajnani</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Shahmeer Rahu</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Abdul Wahid Burara</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Karam Khan Nizamani</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Ajan Shah</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Matiari</td>
<td>Bale Dino Kaka</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Government of Sindh (GoS) through the Planning and Development Department (PDD) is implementing a six-year multi-sectoral Sindh Accelerated Action Plan for Reduction of Stunting and Malnutrition (AAP), with the objective of reducing stunting rate from the existing 48 percent to 40 percent by 2021.

The European Union (EU), under the EU Commission Action Plan on Nutrition 2014, is supporting GoS in addressing the issue of malnutrition. The EU has approved the Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS) to be implemented in ten districts of Sindh which include Shikarpur, Thatta, Kambar Shahdadkot, Larkana, Dadu, Jamshoro, Matiari, Sajawal, Tando Allahyar and Tando Muhammad Khan.

RSPN is leading the PINS Expected Results (ER) 3 component with four partners: Action Against Hunger, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) and Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP). This component includes nutrition sensitive interventions i.e. Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Agriculture & Food Security (AFS).