



EUROPEAN UNION



## PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

In support of the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

# THE PINS PULSE

October 2019

The European Union-funded Programme for Improved Nutrition (PINS) aims to sustainably improve the nutritional status of children under five (U5) and of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) in Sindh through nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions while capacitating the Government of Sindh so that it may efficiently implement its multi-sectoral nutrition policy.

### **PINS to Introduce Value-additions to Curriculum on Nutrition With Support to the Department of School Education in Other Related Areas**

PINS 1 is working on identifying areas of cooperation with the Department of School Education and met Ms. Rafia Haleem, Special Secretary and Chief Advisor Dr. Fouzia Khan to provide technical support for revision to curricula (grades 9 and 10) and enrich content with regards to nutrition and providing orientation to the key school education managers at the district level (the District Education Officers). They also agreed to support the enhancement of course modules/learning materials with the Provincial Institute of Teacher Education (PITE) on nutrition.

### **EU Ambassador-Designate to Pakistan Observes PINS' Interventions in Tando Muhammad Khan**

European Union Ambassador-Designate to Pakistan, Ms. Androulla Kaminara and other members of the Delegation observed EU-supported interventions including PINS on October 23rd in district Tando Muhammad Khan. Along with visiting an Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) site and observing a mother-to-mother support group (MTMSG) meeting, the Ambassador also had a chance to interact with members of village Luqman Leghari and observe their efforts towards a better diet and improved hygiene practices and facilities.

The one-day visit ended with a meeting between the Ambassador-Designate and Deputy Commissioner T.M. Khan on EU-Pak Cooperation, and rural women development agendas. The Ambassador-Designate spoke in great length about the need for greater investment in skills training and business development for rural women through proper mentorship.

### **Two-day Learning Visit and Experience Sharing Workshop Organized in Shikarpur and Sukkur**



communities achieve healthy sustainable nutrition practices.

Participants spent the first day in Shikarpur interacting with communities and observing their participation in different interventions such as paddy-fish farming, farmer field schools and kitchen gardens. LSOs working under PINS also presented their achievements to date, including achieving open defecation free status by the VO Khabri. The field visit ended with participation at a District Coordination Committee on Nutrition meeting at the Shikarpur Deputy Commissioner's office. On the second day, an experience sharing workshop was arranged where members from LSOs across Shikarpur, Larkana and Qambar Shahdadkot had a chance to talk about the strides they have taken towards better nutrition, the issues they have faced in the year of implementation and the way forward. Basheera, President of LSO Mohenjodaro, Larkana credited the EU's support in enabling her to talk about how her community is working together to reduce stunting prevalent in the area.

PINS 3 held a two-day learning visit and experience sharing workshop (25th - 26th October) in districts Shikarpur and Sukkur for members of Government of Sindh's Accelerated Action Plan which PINS is supporting. The visit highlighted the work being undertaken by PINS, since its inception in 2018, for improving nutrition in Sindh and served as a platform to share experiences and for the relevant departments to come together and discuss methods of collaboration to help rural



### Seminar Organized on Lessons Learnt from DCCNs

PINS 1 organized a seminar to disseminate lessons learnt over the course of the District Coordination Committees for Nutrition (DCCN) meetings held and identify further areas of building capacity. Senior Sindh Government officials, including Chairperson Planning and Development Board, Ms. Naheed Shah Durrani attended the event as well as key line departments across the sectors, partner organizations and the Chairs of the District Coordination Committees for Nutrition.

Ms. Durrani chaired the opening session and stressed on effective inter and intra coordination and for raising community awareness through all possible means to improve the status of nutrition in the province. She also highlighted the DCCN's role as reform drivers at the service delivery level and emphasized that they need to play a robust role for which their capacity need to be built on a regular note with support to be provided by the provincial government as well as the development partners.



### Communities under PINS Commemorate Global Handwashing Day and World Food Day



Communities across 161 union councils under PINS celebrated Global Handwashing Day and World Food Day. Celebrations were focused on discussion around why handwashing and healthy diets are imperative and go hand-in-hand if communities want to reduce malnutrition prevalent in the area. Participants also brought a little something to showcase how they were incorporating different food groups, particularly seasonal and organic produce from their kitchen gardens, in their diet to improve their health and sat down for a shared meal and modeled the correct 10-step way to wash hands with soap. The events ended with community members taking a pledge to continue their fight against malnutrition.

### 5 VOs under PINS Certified Open Defecation Free

PINS 3 is engaged in building the capacity of District ODF certification committees, chaired by the Deputy Director Local Government, across its Programme districts. These Committees will visit communities and evaluate their open defecation free status on the basis of set criteria which includes the proper use of latrines, washing hands with soap and adoption of household-level water treatment methods. So far, the training in 8 districts has been completed.

In October, 13 villages/settlements across 5 VOs in Tando Muhammed Khan were certified ODF by the Committee with strides being taken in other districts towards achieving certification.

### Implementation Updates – October 2019



**11,414**  
Demonstrations of kitchen gardening carried out at household level



**19,885**  
Households visits conducted to promote positive

practices on food and track progress in terms of WASH



**3,995** Community Poultry Entrepreneurs given inputs (cockerel, feed and poultry utensils)



**126** water sources chlorinated to address biological contamination through LSOs



**205** VO and LSO level disaster risk reduction plans developed



**338** Small farmers provided financial support to purchase seed and other inputs



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