COMBATING COVID-19 CRISIS

NRSP’S RESPONSE AND INTERVENTIONS

April 24 2020

11,031
Poor and poorest households provided cash-grants for emergency use, consumptions and purchase of essential food/ non-food items with the support of Local Philanthropists, Local Communities, Rotary International, Akhuwat, Ehsaas Programme Govt, District Governments etc.

24,541,500
Cash-grants (PKR) provided to poor and poorest households with the support of Local Philanthropists, Local Communities, Rotary International, Akhuwat, Ehsaas Programme Govt, District Governments etc.

51,828
Poor and poorest households provided in-kind support ie essential food items, soaps, sanitizers, etc.

84,837,200
Total amount (PKR) of in-kind support provided to poor and poorest households

COVID-19 kits, Face Masks and Gloves handed over to health department by NRSP under WISE Hasilpur, District Bahawalpur

CRP conducting community awareness sessions on washing hands with soap in district Tando Muhammad Khan, Sindh under WISE programme

Spraying certified mixture in different streets by LSO Suneha of UC Arakh Fazilpur, Rajanpur

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Summary of Achievements (as of April 24th, 2020)

- **61** Task-forces/ Special-committees set up by the divisional, district and tehsil authorities
- **52** Special-committees with active membership of LSO activists, CRPs and community leaders
- **15,187** Community volunteers trained on public awareness campaigns and preventive measures
- **27,761** Community Institutions (LSOs/ VOs/ COs) engaged to awareness campaigns and response activities
- **83,538** IEC material on COVID-19 distributed/ displayed in communities
- **24,906** Announcements made on Mobile phones/ Loud Speakers at local mosques/ religious places/ others etc.
- **22,891** Awareness sessions undertaken on COVID-19 outbreak and preventive measures
- **162,722** Assistance provided to HHs for registration with the GoPak’s Ehsaas Cash Programme
- **27,514** Community members making face-masks at home (78% Women)
- **71,520** Face-masks made by community members
- **11,707** Face-masks provided to the communities by NRSP

Support provided to public private health facilities

- 15 quarantine centers set-up by local authorities and private entities supported by provision of cooked food, surgical-masks, sanitisers and soap
- 292 public and private medical health facilities supported by provision of medicines, surgical-masks, sanitisers and soap
- 3,666 surgical-masks provided to these public and private centers
- 858 hand-sanitizers provided to these public and private centers
- 4,465 soaps provided to these public and private centers
**Outreach of NRSP**

- **3.61 million** households organized
- **47** Districts
- **2,387** UCs
- **7,076** Villages

**Coordination and preparations**

- Participation in meetings organized by the district administration
- Coordination with CRPs/ community volunteers for assessing ground situation and organizing awareness campaigns and other support
- Coordination with donors to evaluate possibility of diverting existing funds for combating coronavirus

**Awareness Raising**

- Distribution of pamphlets/ brochures
- Displaying banners
- Mobile loud speaker/ megaphone messages
- Announcements from local mosques
- WhatsApp groups

**Service Delivery**

- NRSP field staff and CRPs/ Activists helping the beneficiaries for their registration with federal and provincial support packages (Ehsaas, Imdad programmes)
- Support extended to some district governments for provision of relief goods
- Engagement of community individuals for the preparation of face masks and hand sanitizers to meet household and local needs
- LSOs office bearers/ CRPs mobilized local donations for the provision of cash and In-Kind grants to the most deserving people (widows, destitute, daily wage earners etc)

**COVID-19 Response**

- Demonstration of handwash and social distancing by CRPs to children
- LSO office bearers/CRPs mobilized local resources for the provision of surgical-masks, sanitizers and soap etc
- Distribution of foods items/ ration and in-kind support among the deserving households with the financial support of local philanthropists, local NGOs such as Khidmat foundation, district chapters of Rotary International etc.

**Future plans**

- Identify suspect cases through CRPs/ Activists
- Refer suspect cases for corona tests
- Prepare suspects for isolation
- Construct/provide missing facilities at BHU level/local isolation centres
- Initiate income generating activities through Community Investment Fund, Microfinance and vocational and technical skills training

**Donors/ Partners**

We are grateful to following donors including IFAD, PPAF, EU, WaterAid who have supported NRSP in fostering community institutions and activists/CRPs.
The Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) aim at reducing poverty and improving quality of life of rural people.

The RSP’s experience of last three decades of working with people show that people have tremendous potential that when harnessed help them overcome the obstacles that come on their way to progress. In the times of natural calamities or outbreaks of diseases this potential takes the form of resilience. The RSPs harness this potential and resilience through the following:

a. Community Organizations (generally known as COs/ VOs/LSOs) and their members;
b. Community Activists/Community Resource Persons (CRPs); and
c. Linking people with government, NDMA/PDMA/DDMAs, District/Local Government.

As regards the situation arising out of spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), NRSP believe that responding to COVID-19 situation will cover the following phases:

» Prevention of spread of coronavirus
» Relief support
» Recovery and rehabilitation

As regards prevention of spread of coronavirus, the WHO has recognized social distancing as the most effective method. Following this requirement of social distancing, the RSPs have for the time being suspended the meetings of CIs and are currently working directly with the Community Activists/CRPs. The NRSP’s field units have compiled directories of these activists/CRPs. Here the social media, internet and cell phone technologies play a very important role, hence only those activists/CRPs are contacted who are well equipped and literate in using this technology. The NRSP’s Social Organizers have established a system of contacting these activists/CRPs on a daily basis and pass on approved messages/printed handouts or banners. They in turn coordinate with local/district government and the people through phone calls, door to door individual level contacts, announcements using loudspeakers or megaphones and other locally ways of communication. As soon as the government announced the completion of this phase of prevention and relief, the CIs meetings will be organized to engage people in the recovery and rehabilitation process for which various interventions are already available i.e. vocational and technical skills, microfinance, community investment fund, income generating grants, community physical infrastructure etc.

Based on the experience of responding to 2005 earthquake and 2010 floods NRSP has developed tremendous capacity to implement large scale projects through the platform of CIs and CRPs. At the same time, NRSP has developed sound procurement systems, financial management and M&E systems to ensure responsible management of government and donor funds. This experience will enable NRSP to implement the projects relevant to all the three phases of the response.
Awareness Campaigns on COVID-19
COMBATING COVID-19 CRISIS
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Awareness Campaigns on COVID-19
Awareness Campaigns on COVID-19
Food/ Ration Distribution
Disinfecting/ spraying the area against COVID-19
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Masks/ Soaps/ Sanitizer distribution

Announcement on Loudspeakers