SRSP’s Humanitarian Response COVID-19

5th April 2020

To assist government efforts and encounter the outbreak of COVID-19 in KP, SRSP has activated its Humanitarian wing. This is being done with minimum staff and resources at present. Based on our previous experiences and available expertise, SRSP has mobilized its existing pool of staff, emphasized coordination with relevant departments, and started preliminary need assessment and strategy development for effective and efficient response in coordination with KP health department.

Partnerships and Resources Mobilization: As part of its contingency planning and preparedness, SRSP had signed Contingency agreement/PCA with UINCEF in WASH in 2018 effective for 5 years to respond any unforeseen emergency situation on humanitarian basis, which has now activated for 7 high risk districts. Similar discussions are underway with different partners. Apart from external resource mobilization, SRSP has also mobilized its own resources to fund immediate response to the basic preventive needs at present.

Coordination Mechanism with Government: Regular meetings are being held with Health Department KP for prioritization of districts, needs and ease in implementation. In this regard, Directorate of General Health Services has already issued a letter to district health offices to support SRSP responding to the COVID-19 outbreak. Further, regular coordination with PDMA is also being held for the NOCs and facilitate the access to the targeted sites.

SRSP is currently working on Preventive Response Strategy emphasizing awareness among mass communities. Communication Strategy has been developed specifically for COVID-19 response with targeted outreach of over 100,000 people through SMS, visuals, radio messages, verbal communication, Large banners display, mosque speakers etc. SRSP is already in touch with Local Support Organizations and Community Organizations and is planning to mobilize its existing local social capital; LSO, VOs and COs for information dissemination and creating awareness in their concern communities in KP including Merged Districts. Further under “Do No Harm Approach” SRSP avoids pamphlets, brochures since soft awareness messages are emphasized. Key messages are being delivered in soft and verbal communication keeping in view safety protocols in mind and avoid gatherings and exchange of awareness materials in hard.

Our Response: In response to the wake up of COVID-19 outbreak, SRSP is mobilizing funds and discussion with different donor agencies are being held as per needs coming from KP government and health units through directorate of health. However, some fund has already been committed and response has been commenced in well-coordinated manner.
1. **UNICEF WASH Contingency:** SRSP in partnership with UNICEF is undertaking WASH related interventions to facilitate 20 specified COVID-19 Isolation centers and High Dependency Units (HDUs) in 7 prioritized districts identified in consultation with health department and UNICEF which includes Peshawar, Mardan, DIKhan, Mansehra, Buner, Karak and Kurram. Three districts including Peshawar, Kurram and Mardan are prioritized for the immediate support needed in health isolation units/hospitals. So far, we have **assessed 7 hospitals; that is, 4 in Peshawar; KTH, LRH, HMC and Police Service Hospital Peshawar, 2 in Kurram and 1 Mardan.** Safety gears have been handed over to the hospitals. Some of the key achievements are given below;

|   | # of Hospitals Reached |    | # of Total Beneficiaries Reached/Facilitated in WASH |    | # of Standees Displayed |    | # of Banners Displayed |    | # of Individuals go awareness in hospitals |    | # of Soaps Distributed |    | # of Handwashing Stations installed in hospitals |    | # of Individuals facilitated for Handwashing with Soap |    | # of Individuals provided access to Clean Latrines |    | Disinfectant Liquid provided (liters) |    | # of PPE Kits provided for Janitorial Staff |
|---|-----------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
|1  |                       | 7  |                                              |    |                        |    |                        |    |                                             |    |                        |    |                                              |    |                                             |    |                                             |    |                             |
|2  |                       |    |                                              |    |                        |    |                        |    |                                             |    |                        |    |                                              |    |                                             |    |                                             |    |                             |

**Quick Overview of Progress**

- Total 162 Banners distributed and placed at public sites reaching over 16,000 families in awareness.
- 7 major Hospitals of KP with COVID-19 isolation wards were assessed for WASH needs and hygiene kits along with 1,304 soaps distributed.
- Total 2,210 people got awareness on protection measures from COVID-19 in hospitals
- 6 awareness session conducted with total 284 participants in Khyber, Orakzai and North Waziristan
- 3,295 CRPs and community members were reached in COVID-19 awareness and protection measures in 4 districts under RSPN-IHSS project.
- Disinfection spray in Orakzai and South Waziristan started from Public places and markets, which is estimated to reach 3,200 people.

2. **Partnership with UNDP:** SRSP in partnership with UNDP has launched awareness campaigns in the 3 newly merged districts; Kurram, North Waziristan & South Waziristan. Banners comprised of preventive techniques developed. SRSP is also facilitating district administration & district health offices in displaying those banners at public places. So far **162 large size banners** have been developed, delivered and displayed in the 3 districts with district administration. The activity is expected to reach more than **16,200 families.**

Similarly, 1,356 trainees who had been trained under the USAID funded FATA Economic Revitalization Programme (FERP) have been assessed for health and economic impact of COVID-19. Data analysis is in the process, which will help in defining way forward.

3. **Partnership with RSPN:** SRSP is implementing a health focused project IHSS (USAID funding through JSI and RSPN) in 4 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; Swat, Mohmand,Charsadda & Lakki Marwat. SRSP has started engaging the organized social capital in routine activities under the project. However, the organized social capital is facilitating
awareness raising on COVID-19. Over 2,000 Community Resource Persons (CRPs) were trained under the project. They have been given voice messages on preventive measures and social distancing. The CRPs are furthering the information in their communities, along with their routine activities pertaining to basic health and hygiene and MNCH awareness raising. So far **3,295 CRPs and community members** have been reached out with information on COVID-19 awareness and protection measures.

4. **Partnership with EU and German Government through KfW:** In five Merged Districts, SRSP is implementing the EU funded Aid to Uprooted People in Pakistan and the German Government funded Reintegration and Rehabilitation of TDPs in MDs. Both initiatives are financed through KfW. SRSP has organized significant social capital in the districts under the two projects. SRSP is considering a wider information dissemination initiative on COVID-19 preventive measures and importance of social distancing for communities including religious and local leaders, youth etc., utilizing social capital organized under the two projects. So far, total **6 awareness sessions** have been conducted in Khyber and North Waziristan; whereas more than **284 community elders, youth and stakeholders** from government departments attended these sessions keeping safety measures and protocols in place. A total of 31 such sessions are planned to reach over 1,200 individuals.

5. **Support from SRSP:** SRSP has also stepped forward to support the cause through its own resources. We are maintaining a close coordination with District Administrations and KP health department in 7 Merged Districts to identify pressing needs. There is high demand for PPEs include surgical Gloves, medial/N95 masks, Hand Sanitizers, Disinfection spray, Dettol, Anti-viral suits, Soaps etc. Under SRSP’s own support programme, **disinfection spray** in the communal places has started in Orakzai and South Waziristan. In Orakzai, disinfection spray has done in Mishti Hospital, Mishti Bazar and Bus Station and Sangra Bazar. Similarly, different public places and Markets in tehsil Makeen was disinfected. SRSP disinfection team will reach total 5 tehsils of South Waziristan including Makeen, Ladha, Sararogha, Sarwakai and Tiarza within 5 days plan.
PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY, & OTHER FROM CORONAVIRUS 2019