COMBATING COVID-19 CRISIS

NRSP’S RESPONSE AND INTERVENTIONS

June 12
2020

14,091
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.

153,205,500
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.

56,304
Poor and poorest households provided in-kind support ie essential food items, soaps, sanitizers, etc.

63,000,994
Total amount (PKR) of in-kind support provided to poor and poorest households

Monthly Progress Review Meeting with CRPs under WISE Programme
LSO Awaz Khawatein, UC Kot, District Malakand

Meeting with DC, sharing of progress on TTQ implementation through community institutions in Rahim Yar Khan

TTQ implementation through Social Mobilization, Orientation Training of CRPs conducted by District Health Department at RHC Hala, district Matiari, Sindh

Collaboration with NCOC
AND MOU Signed with District Governments

Task-Forces/Special Committees Set Up by the Divisional, District and Tehsil Authorities

Number of Community Volunteers
Community Institutions (LSOs/ VOs/ COS) Engaged to Undertake Awareness Campaigns and Response Activities

Number of IEC Material Distributed/Displayed in Communities

Awareness Campaigns Undertaken on COVID-19

Number of Face-Masks Made and Distributed by the Community Members

National Rural Support Programme

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Summary of Achievements (as of June 12th, 2020)

- **93** Task-forces/ Special-committees set up by the divisional, district and tehsil authorities
- **150** Special-committees with active membership of LSO activists, CRPs and community leaders
- **6,056** Community volunteers trained on public awareness campaigns and preventive measures
- **30,149** Community Institutions (LSOs/ VO/ COs) engaged to awareness campaigns and response activities

- **147,904** IEC material on COVID-19 distributed/ displayed in communities
- **37,162** Announcements made on Mobile phones/ Loud Speakers at local mosques/ religious places/ others etc.
- **43,728** Awareness sessions undertaken on COVID-19 outbreak and preventive measures
- **144,393** Assistance provided to HHs for registration with the GoPak’s Ehsaas Cash Programme

- **26,095** Community members making face-masks at home (34% Women)
- **68,435** Face-masks made by community members
- **23,691** Face-masks provided to the communities by NRSP

Support provided to public private health facilities

- **13** quarantine centers set-up by local authorities and private entities supported by provision of cooked food, surgical-masks, sanitisers and soap
- **829** public and private medical health facilities supported by provision of medicines, surgical-masks, sanitisers and soap
- **5,218** surgical-masks provided to these public and private centers
- **1,832** hand-sanitizers provided to these public and private centers
- **3,560** soaps provided to these public and private centers
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:

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

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

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

As regards to 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.
We are grateful to following donors including IFAD, PPAF, EU, WaterAid, UNICEF, Unilever, DFID, who have supported NRSP in fostering community institutions and activists/CRPs; and supporting NRSP during the current response. Following are some details of ongoing projects:

**WaterAid:**
Provided some grant for COVID awareness raising and hand washing facilities establishment in district of Thatta and Hyderabad city. Messages through FM radio, local cable network, mobile, banners, bill boards, posters were used for communication. (3.4 million PKR for Hyderabad, 0.5 million for Thatta)

**BRSP/UNICEF:**
Under their support NRSP is assessing few health facilities about hand washing and sanitation facilities and provided technical and financial support for implementation of any infrastructure need in five major health facilities of Kech, Gwadar, Lasbela and Panjgoor. Capacity building of health facility staff including sanitary workers and medical staff is also part of PCA along with disinfection process for facility. Awareness among communities and people visiting health facility is also part of the campaign. (16.2 million PKR, including cash and in kind support).

**DAFPAK:**
DAFPAK is funded by RSPN through PSI which gets funds from DFID. They have allowed postponing project activities of RH while engaging the team for awareness raising about COVID and participation of staff in TTQ if needed at local level.

**UNILEVER:**
More than 30,000 soaps were distributed among communities in Hyderabad, Lahore and Rawalpindi regions, which they are using along with awareness raising through LSOs and WISE programme.

**PSSP/TACS/AWAZ:**
Under these projects we are using existing project resources and teachers / volunteers for awareness raising against COVID 19 spread and support to poor households affected due to current situation. Awaz is currently planning to change its approach and focus on COVID which will be shared soon.
## List of NRSP’s District Offices who have signed MoUs with the District Government Authorities under NCOC

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Mask distribution
Awareness raising training for Community activists/ CRPs
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