



PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

To support the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

THE PINS PULSE

April 2020

The European Union-funded Programme for Improved Nutrition (PINS) aims to sustainably improve the nutritional status of children under five and of pregnant and lactating women in Sindh through institutional strengthening and building capacity of the Government of Sindh, by providing support to multi-sectoral nutrition policy, strategies and governance frameworks, for effective implementation of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions.

PINS COVID-19 Awareness Message Amasses over 500,000 Views

PINS, in collaboration with the Information Department of the Government of Sindh, produced an animated video carrying messages on how COVID-19 is transmitted and measures to take to prevent its spread. The Sindhi and Urdu versions of the video were launched by the Government of Sindh on their official Twitter and Facebook accounts and subsequently posted by the Delegation and PINS' social media channels. The video was widely shared by government officials and political leaders including Mr. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Chairman Pakistan People's Party; the Ambassador of the European Union, H.E. Androulla Kaminara; Mr. Saeed Ghani, Provincial Minister of Sindh for Education and Literacy, Labour and Human Resources; Mr. Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, Provincial Minister, Information, Local Government, Forest, Religious Affairs, Housing & Town Planning Government of Sindh; the GoS Health and Population Welfare Departments and others. Since its launch, it has garnered over five hundred thousand views on Twitter and Facebook and can be viewed on EUD's YouTube channel as well.

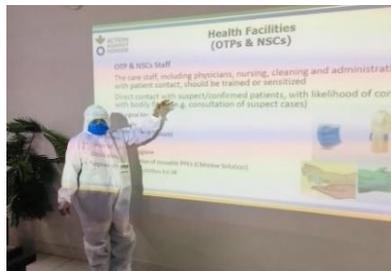


The video featured on GoS' Twitter Account

The video pointed out that hand washing also reduces the chances of getting diarrhea, typhoid and other diseases that can lead to stunting. These videos were produced by M/S Studio Rokhan with technical inputs of Particip, oversight of EUD, and implementation by PINS.

Treatment of Malnourished Children during COVID19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of the provision of nutrition services has increased given the weak immunity of the Programme's beneficiaries. With support from the European Union, personal protective equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers was provided to the OTP and outreach staff. This enabled them to continue to treat children with nutrition-related conditions, particularly wasting. In addition to the provision of PPE to health workers, proper guidelines and training were provided on its usage, along with instructions for washing hands with soap, using sanitizer, wearing and disposing off face masks and gloves. These training sessions are being held across PINS' target districts. In all, 4,462 children benefited and were cured in April 2020.



Staff ensures proper SoPs while administering treatment

Pitching in to Fulfil Nutrition Needs

Hajul, Mozama and Batool became sole owners of goats in March 2019 through a grant under PINS which is heavily focused on improving dietary diversity. They were chosen because they belonged to the poorest of households in their village *Wazir Ali Gopang, Dadu*.



As a result, they're children have started to drink milk regularly. Taking heed of what's discussed at the community sessions, the women themselves have started to drink milk on its own, rather than it just mixed with their *chai*.

A year down the line, their goats have had babies which means an increase in their daily supply of milk. Seeing how devastating the COVID-19 outbreak has been on neighboring families, all three women are helping out, giving a pot of whatever milk they are able to spare. 'I am able to give my children milk regularly since these goats and I know how good it is for them. If there's any way I can help out, especially with little children, I'll try doing whatever I can. It almost feels like returning a favour when you think about it,' says Batool who inspired Hajul and Mozama to do the same.

Implementation Updates - April 2020



4,189

Number of admissions at Outpatient Therapeutic (OTP) sites



107

children under 5 suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition treated at Nutrition Stabilization sites.



34,140

Community awareness sessions conducted by CRPs



17,758

Livestock treated/drenched/ vaccinated by Community Livestock Extension Workers



63

Low-cost disaster-resilient demo latrines constructed



63

Pregnant and lactating women (in the 0 – 12 PSC range) given grants to purchase goats

Alternate Water Sources Installed to Ensure Communal Access to Safe Drinking Water

15 hand pumps were installed across programme areas as part of developing alternate communal water schemes where previously used ones were tested and found to have too high levels of contamination (chemical and biological) and deemed untreatable. Masons and plumbers trained under PINS 3 worked under the supervision of Field Engineers to enhance communal access to safe drinking water to reduce the risk of water-borne diseases that results in a significant loss of nutrients and dehydration.

Access to safe drinking water is paramount, especially as temperatures soar and health services providers around the country are overwhelmed given the #COVID19 outbreak. Protocols set while working in the field to ensure the safety of field staff was ensured during construction and chlorination.



Installation in process

Improving Fish Consumption through Community Ponds

PINS is working with communities to diversify their diets by including foods such as fish which is an important source of essential nutrients. As of April 2020, seven community fish ponds have been constructed in the districts of Thatta, Tando Muhammad Khan, Jamshoro, Shikarpur, Sujawal, Tando Allahyar and Matiari, five of which are functional and stocked with fish seed. Members from neighboring communities were previously trained by PINS on pond management as well as marketing the harvested fish to communities.

A total of 1,500 fish seed was released, including Silver Karp, Kurero and Morakhi varieties, which could be harvested by November 2020. Members from neighboring communities have already been trained by PINS on pond management as well as marketing the harvested fish to communities. The fish from these ponds, expected to harvest in November will be sold to the poorest households at subsidized rates.

Surplus fish will be sold in neighbouring markets to supplement the income of fish farmers managing the community ponds.



A community fish pond stocked with fish seed



'This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of PINS1/ Policy and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union'

More information about European Union is available on:

Web: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/>

Twitter: [@EUPakistan](https://twitter.com/EUPakistan)

Facebook: [European-Union-in-Pakistan](https://www.facebook.com/European-Union-in-Pakistan)



Find out more about PINS on:

www.aap.gos.pk

www.facebook.com/ProgrammeforImprovedNutritioninSindh

To subscribe PINS PULSE and other updates email at:

pins1.programmeofficer@gmail.com