



EUROPEAN UNION



PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

To support the Accelerated Action Plan (AAP), Government of Sindh

THE PINS PULSE

May 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.

Sindhi Version COVID-19 - WASH Animated Video Aired on TV

After an overwhelming response to the two animated awareness videos on COVID and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) produced by PINS on Twitter and Facebook, the videos were aired on national television. This enabled outreach to much larger audience which to a much larger audience. The Sindhi version was aired on **Sindh TV News**, one of Pakistan's leading news channels in Sindhi, through Eid-ul-Fitr. The purpose was to encourage social distancing, particularly during Eid festivities, and to pass on the message to a larger audience over the holiday period. The video was aired a total of ten times, prior to the prime time news.



Over social media, the two videos have already accumulated more than 800k views, published through the Government of Sindh, the European Union in Pakistan and PINS accounts.

Community Health Workers playing an Important Role in Facilitating PLWs

To prevent iron deficiency among Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW), PINS is working with Community Health Workers (CHWs) to provide Iron Folic Acid (IFA) to PLWs, from pregnancy to three months after delivery. More than two thousand CHWs are working in PINS districts to provide nutritional services to women and children.

Ms. Razia, a CHW, in District Tando M.Khan's village Khokhar Muhalla, is actively engaged; she screens, provides IFA to PLWs, and Multi-Nutrient Powder (MNP) to Moderate Acute Malnourished (MAM) and normal children of ages between 6 to 23 months. MNP is provided to treat MAM and prevent malnutrition among normal children. In her district 43.7% children of age under five years are underweight and 46% are stunted-low height for age, (National Nutrition Survey, 2018). She does counselling and conducts awareness sessions in the village to encourage best nutrition practices. CHWs like Ms. Razia are pivotal in overcoming stunting and malnutrition in Sindh.



Implementation Updates - May 2020



4,266

Number of admissions at OTP sites



3,867

Children cured, **124** children under 5 suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition treated at Nutrition Stabilization sites.



11,557

Community awareness sessions conducted by Community Resource Persons



15,984

Livestock treated/drenched/vaccinated by Key and Community Health Workers, Community Livestock Extension Workers and Nutrition Stabilization Centres;



Number of data collection, information

1,628

Low-cost disaster-resilient demo latrines constructed

PINS Exploring Alternate Water Schemes

After extensive water testing, implementing RSPs and their field engineers are engaged in a consultation and planning process to devise a strategy to explore alternate water schemes in areas with high levels of chemical contamination as part of PINS work in improving access to safe drinking water. This includes linking water sources from nearby communities in areas where the communities are facing significant issues accessing safe drinking water as well as treating arsenic contamination through filtration.

PINS 3 is seeking support from the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) to facilitate different options under alternate water schemes



District Nutrition Officers Trained for Effectively Delivering Interventions

District Nutrition Officers (DNOs) and District Liaison Officers (DLOs) play an important role in treating the nutrition related issues of pregnant, lactating women, adolescent girls and children. In collaboration with the GoS Accelerated Action Plan – Health, PINS will train DNOs and DLOs across all districts of Sindh in the best practices and actions required to perform their tasks and discharge their responsibilities effectively. These cover a) supervising the community outreach activities through Lady Health Workers and Community Health Workers, and b) their role in supporting the nutrition centres (Outpatient Therapeutic and Nutrition Stabilization Centres); primary and reproductive health care, including referrals; and the management of data collection, information systems and reporting tools.

Moringa Plantation Campaign Kicked-off in PINS districts

Kicking off the Moringa plantation campaign in Tando Muhammad Khan and Tando Allah Yar of Hyderabad Division, PINS distributed seeds among the Agriculture Entrepreneurs (AEs) at Farmer Field Schools (FFS). Afterwards, the moringa seedlings will be distributed by the AEs across households, which will also receive training on how to grow them in their homes. The moringa plant has several health benefits and to encourage its usage as a natural health supplement, the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) will disseminate information to households. Thus far, **117** FFSs are actively promoting moringa plantation. They will be joined by others.



'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'

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