

OUTREACH

#45

RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES NETWORK | APRIL TO JUNE 2020

COVER STORY

RSPN and RSPs Collaborate with National Command Operation Centre (NCOC) To Combat COVID-19 in Rural Areas of Pakistan

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HIGHLIGHTS

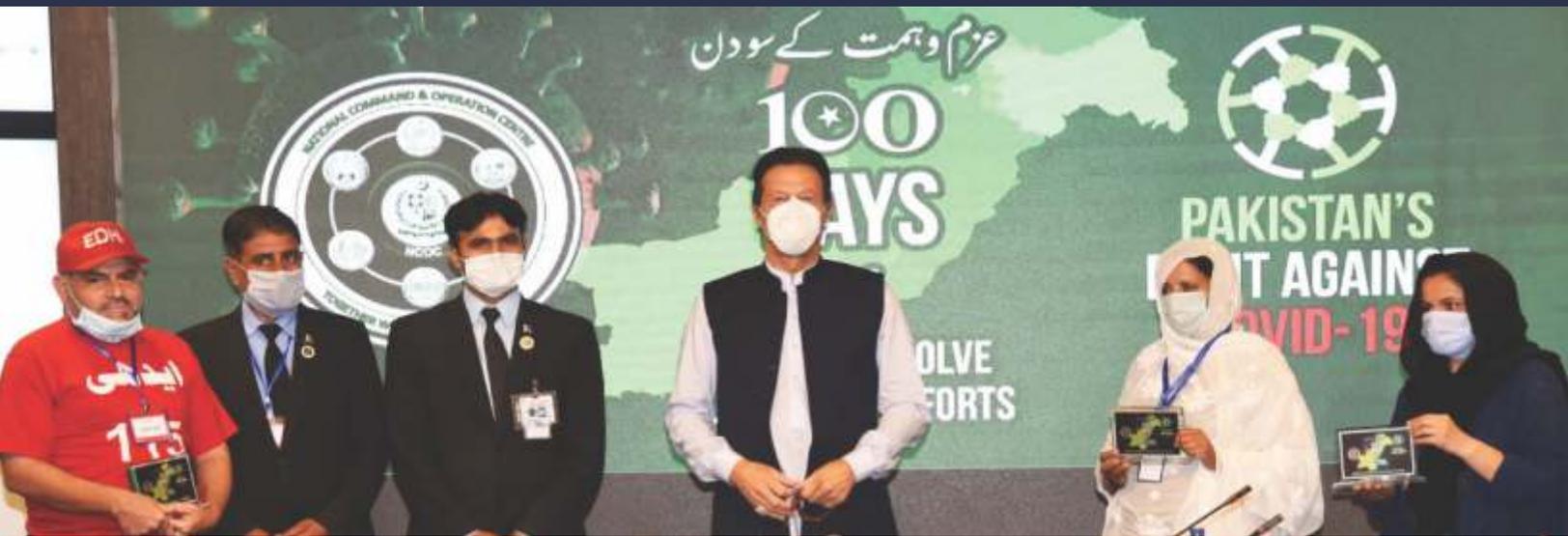
Important events, developments and successes of the Rural Support Programmes Network and its member Rural Support Programmes

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OVERVIEW, MAP & DATA

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a publication of the
RURAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES NETWORK

COVER STORY

RSPN and RSPs Collaborate with National Command Operation Centre (NCOC) To Combat COVID-19 in Rural Areas of Pakistan

Acknowledging the huge outreach of the RSPs, the National Command Operation Centre (NCOC) requested the RSPN and RSPs to partner with government to implement the the social mobilisation strategy of the TTQ (Trace, Track and Quarantine) of the government in rural areas. The initiative of 'Rural Communities in the Fight Against COVID-19' is Pakistan's first, organised community-led response to the COVID-19

emergency and a unique public-private partnership between the Government of Pakistan and Local Support Organisations (LSOs), facilitated by the RSPs. This action further strengthens the citizen-state link by effectively utilising the national outreach of the RSPs in rural areas. During the current phase of this work 1,500 LSOs in 66 districts of all four provinces, AJK, and GB are involved in this work. Till date,

ground work has been initiated nationwide where 1,059 LSOs have undertaken public awareness campaigns along-with creating productive linkages with government and development organisations in 4,168 villages with more than 2.15 million people benefitted (58% women), facilitated by 8,522 community leaders (60% women) trained by RSPs and relevant district authorities.

Scope of NCOC collaboration with RSPs



Pakistan's first, organised community-led response in rural areas to the **COVID-19 emergency**;



This unique public-private partnership between **the GoP and community Local Support Organisations (LSOs)** fostered by RSPs, is strengthening citizen-state links. LSOs are union council-level community institutions;



In **1,500** union councils of 66 districts by seven RSPs are to support district administrations, as a public service, linking LSOs to government to battle COVID-19;



The work is happening in **all four provinces, AJK and GB**, with the Health Department training community activists (women and men) in awareness about COVID-19, related preventive measures, contact tracing and reporting of suspicious cases to the Health Department;



About **20 million** people will benefit from this collaboration.

List of community awareness and TTQ activities conducted by community activists



256

Persons **(34% women)** suspected cases identifies and referred to health department *



57

Persons **(54% women)** contacts traced through 9 COVID cases on request of ICT health department



665,877

Persons **(60% women)** benefitted from community awareness raising sessions



1,143,945

Persons **(52% women)** provided IEC materials (pamphlets, brochures, leaflets, banners, posters)



496,555

(58% women) Persons reached via mosque announcements and mobile announcements for enhancing community awareness on COVID-19 and preventive measures



15,465

Individuals **(41% women)** benefitted form COVID-19 awareness campaigns via Radio and SMS

Activities undertaken by communities through linkages with government authorities, other development organisations



17,027

(70% by women) face-masks distributed



186,469

poorest families supported to access public social protection initiatives



77,659

poorest families provided in-kind support ie essential food items, soaps, sanitizer



9,500

Persons **(29% women)** benefitted from hand-washing facilities created

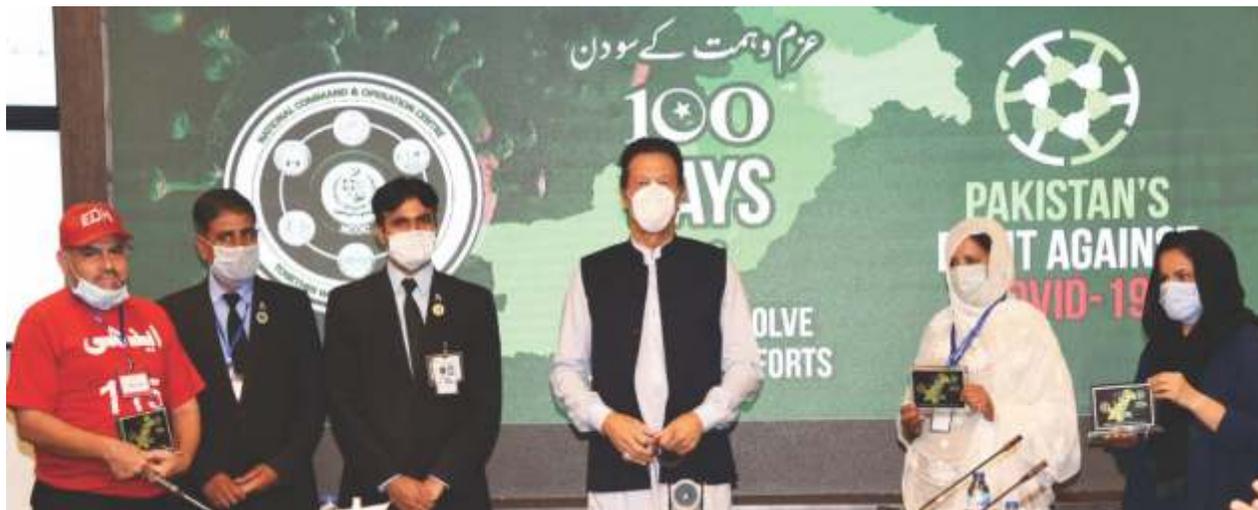


2,300

Persons benefitted from disinfectant spraying in rural areas

*(146 Hunza-Nagar, 83 ICT, 10 Kashmore (Sindh), 5 Mardan (KP), 4 Haripur (KP), 4 Abbottabad (KP), 2 Larkana (Sindh), and 2 Duki (Balochistan))

PM Imran Khan Honours NRSP Activists with Award for 'Outstanding Work'



On July 4, 2020 the National Command Operation Centre (NCOC) observed 100 Days of national efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. At this event, Prime Minister Pakistan, Mr Imran Khan awarded two women activists from the National Rural Support

Programme's (NRSP) ICT unit for outstanding work in rural ICT against COVID-19.

The two activists awarded this honour were Ms. Shabana Imtyaz and Ms. Shagufta Shaheen from LSO Chirah. They received their training by NRSP

and the ICT Health Department. Post-training, they spread awareness about COVID-19 in their villages and helped government in contact tracing and identifying suspected cases.

Rural Communities in the Fight Against COVID-19: A Case of Rural ICT

About the Training

As per the collaboration between the Rural Support Programmes and government which started in May 2020, the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) initiated community mobilisation activities in rural Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). The collaboration is between the District Administration of ICT and the NRSP, which operates in five rural union councils of ICT, having built up a strong

network of five community-based Local Support Organisations (LSOs) in Islamabad's five rural union councils. The LSO is a federated structure, with Village and Community Organisations below it, hence extending its coverage down to households. In the five selected Union Councils of rural ICT under NRSP, there are five LSOs, 1,275 Community Organisations (COs), 48 Village Organisations

(VOs) and 19,180 organised households. NRSP has linked these community institutions and their activists to the government primarily to spread awareness about COVID-19 (including what the disease is and the relevant precautionary measures to adopt in order to prevent its rapid spread) and assist the government in the TTQ strategy.

On May 11, 2020, a training of

LSO Chirah was held in rural ICT. Officials from the Department of Health in ICT oriented participants, which included community activists

and NRSP staff. This session included awareness about COVID-19 and its prevention measures and the identification and contact tracing of

suspected cases, with method of referral of these cases to Basic Health Units. The training included 25 participants, 20 women and 5 men.

Case Study: Shagufta Shaheen, LSO Chirah Rural ICT

Shagufta Shaheen is a Community Resource Person (CRPs – are outstanding activists in villages, trained by the RSPs to undertake specific tasks e.g. spreading messages to other communities) from LSO Chirah was part of this training. LSO Chirah is comprised of 245 Community Organisations (COs), 13 Village Organisations (VOs) and 4,330 organised households. After the training, Shagufta started visiting rural households in the community, going door-to-door to iterate the proper precautions needed to combat COVID-19.

Speaking about her work Shagufta said, *“I have given this training to numerous houses in my community by going door-to-door. I try to visit at least 4 households daily, while keeping my own precautionary measures in place such as wearing a mask, washing my hands and keeping a 6 ft distance”*.

Under this initiative, the CRPs are also working with mosques to ensure social distancing. Speaking about the trained male CRPs, Shagufta said, *“They make regular announcements in mosques and also disinfect them every week. We have also provided the mosques with soap,*

sanitisers and masks. Furthermore, we have also drawn proper lines and circles in the mosques to ensure social distancing especially during the holy month of Ramzan when people visit the mosques for taraweeh prayers.”



Figure 2: Shagufta Shaheen facilitating the disinfection of mosques



Figure 1: Shagufta Shaheen handing out IEC materials to raise awareness against COVID-19

When asked about people's reactions, she explained, *“Communities have been very receptive to our messages when it comes to safety precautions that are essential during this pandemic. We have explained to them that the only cure is prevention.”* She adds, *“People are taking these precautions very seriously especially when it comes to the elderly in their houses”*.

Shagufta also speaks about some of the challenges a CRP faces. *“Initially, there were some minor challenges we faced when few people in the community were reluctant to listen. However, as we approached more and more people in the area, the reluctant ones also began accepting our advice. The primary challenge that remains now, is that we*

continue to protect ourselves and take proper precautionary measures when we visit different households to raise awareness against COVID-19. Thankfully, we have no

suspected cases yet”, she says. Shagufta is passionate about the work of CRPs in these trying times. As she says, “All CRPs have the passion to work on

this initiative diligently and we are all trying to ensure that our responsibilities to our communities are fulfilled to the best of our abilities in the time of this pandemic”.

Gender and Development

Gender Resource Group Meeting: Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Women of Pakistan

RSPN conducted an online meeting of the RSPs' Gender Resource Group (GRG) on June 4, 2020. The topic of the meeting was the Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Women of Pakistan. The GRG is a group set up by RSPN, consisting of focal points of all RSPs, that examine, share and provide feedback on gender issues in the RSPs at organisational and community levels. The meeting was attended by Gender Focal Persons, women social organisers, women district heads, and men gender activists from AKRSP, BRSP, NRSP, SRSO, SRSP, SGA, SRSP,



IRM and RSPN. A total of 31 staff attended the meeting. The purpose of the meetings was to highlight issues and challenges rural women have faced during

the lockdown and the on-going situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Issues and challenges identified were as below:

Economic Impacts on Women Entrepreneurs

Women's economic activities have been negatively affected. The gender focal persons from all the provinces said that women who have taken loans, e.g. from CIF, and started small businesses (tuck shops, shops with items for women, for livestock rearing, etc.) were affected because of changes in

prices, lack of transport and resulting changes in consumption patterns caused by the lockdown. The incompatibility between supply and demand of products led to fluctuating prices during lockdown and affected poor households who were small business owners. In addition,

non-availability of transport made markets inaccessible. Unfortunately, some women were directly affected by COVID -19 when they lost their family heads to the virus. In some cases, such families still have infected members who are carrying the virus. Thus, these women are faced with

multifaceted problems concerning health as well as income to buy food and other household necessities. It was shared that due to decreasing incomes and increased expenses women cannot afford to buy face masks, soap and sanitisers for their safety, as these become low priority items.

Women's Health Issues

GRG members said that women's mobility in rural areas was restricted due to non-availability of transport and women could not access health facilities to deliver babies and for ante-natal check-ups. Furthermore, women were faced with resistance to go to hospitals from their male family members who feared they might get infected from the coronavirus. Women had no choice but to deliver babies at homes, without any assistance.

Increased Care Work

In Balochistan, where a huge population of men is engaged in migrant labour, a large number of men returned to their villages due to the lockdown. This is common for most poor households in rural areas. These men have lost their jobs and have no money to feed their families. This has increased the workload for women and young girls, i.e. more cooking, cleaning, washing. Women also have to

Iram Anees, managing IRM's Smart Schools said that, to recover financially from the economic hardships, it is expected that there will be an increase in the dropout rates of school-going girls, who might be redirected to the domestic labour industry.

SRSO and BRSP have supported

Maternal and new-born deaths were reported in Balochistan, South Punjab and KP.

Due to the lockdown all OPDs and BHUs were closed by government and many converted into quarantine centres. Women had no access to health services. Due to lack of access to family planning services and people being locked down in homes, NRSP Rahimyar Khan reported that 113 women reported

go to far flung areas (5-6 kilometres, in some cases more than this) to fetch water for drinking and other uses in the household. In this current situation, mothers are taking help from their young daughters to fetch water as the demand for water has increased. Some women now walk long distances twice a day to fetch water.

RSP women staff said that while

women artisans in making masks. They provided them with material and skills. A total of 478 TVET beneficiaries under BRSP's skill development programme produced 7,622 face masks in eight BRACE districts, that were sold in local markets. In SRSO, 10,000 masks have been produced, and more orders are coming in.

'unwanted' pregnancies in one union council alone. The GRG members shared that women and children are becoming nutrition deficient because of income loss and lack of access to health facilities.

RSP staff also reported issues faced by disabled women and elderly people to access health facilities, food items and basic necessities.

they are managing their work while responding to the challenges posed by this pandemic. They are fulfilling commitments such as meetings with government officials, rural communities and other stakeholders, while putting themselves at risk. They further shared that most of them had sent their domestic staff on leave, which had resulted in a huge domestic burden on them due to increased housework.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) Cases

All the participants of the meeting said that violence against women, both domestic and sexual has increased, as has violence against children. This issue has been discussed in numerous CO meetings. Women have said that men became violent with children on petty issues, e.g. when children

make a noise at home, when they ask for money, etc. In many areas, individual LSO/VO members responded to domestic abuse reports from women and tried to resolve conflicts, because affected women did not want to openly talk about issues of this nature in large meetings.

Some staff members said that suicide cases were reported from Gilgit Baltistan, D.G Khan (Punjab) and Sukkur (Sindh) due to the mounting stress that women are dealing with in their homes and the overall economic stress.

Impact on Children and Young Girls

Gender Focal Persons and Social Organisers from the field said that mothers are not allowing children to go out to play. Children are also facing abuse from family members. Young girls are overburdened with household work and have limited time to study. It is most likely that due to the financial crises many girls will drop out of school. These trends point

towards an increased in child labour in the coming months. Women CO members have been discussing these issues with CRPs and community leaders in COs, VO and LSO meetings.

Routine EPI immunisation, including polio vaccination has been stopped by the government due to the COVID-

19 pandemic. District administrations are now considering LSO support to restart vaccinations.

It was emphasised that awareness material for the communities should be developed to include sessions on how parents can deal with and care for children during and after this pandemic.

Stigmatisation of Corona Patients

It was highlighted that people are labelling and discriminating against infected and recovered COVID-19 patients. Such treatment can negatively affect

those with the disease and their families. Awareness raising regarding compassionate and respectful treatment of a recovered corona patient is the

need of the hour. Training material to communities should include this as well.

Women Community Leaders' Response to COVID-19

Samina Barkat Ali from SRSO said that the women CRPs in Sindh have been very active during this period. They have been creating linkages with government to do awareness raising sessions with communities. They have also done distribution of food rations, face masks, soap and

sanitiser. In Sindh, due to the existing links under programmes like SUCCES and PPRP, 90% of women LSOs have links with government (e.g. the Joint Development Committees). Similarly, in Balochistan BRSP staff and LSOs assisted 23,543 poor

women to apply for the Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme of the government. Rural women have faced a challenge in applying for the Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme as many do not own mobile phones and were dependent on men for this.

Women's Special Needs and Quarantine Centres

Yasmeen Qalender from AKRSP shared that AKRSP is doing an assessment of women's needs

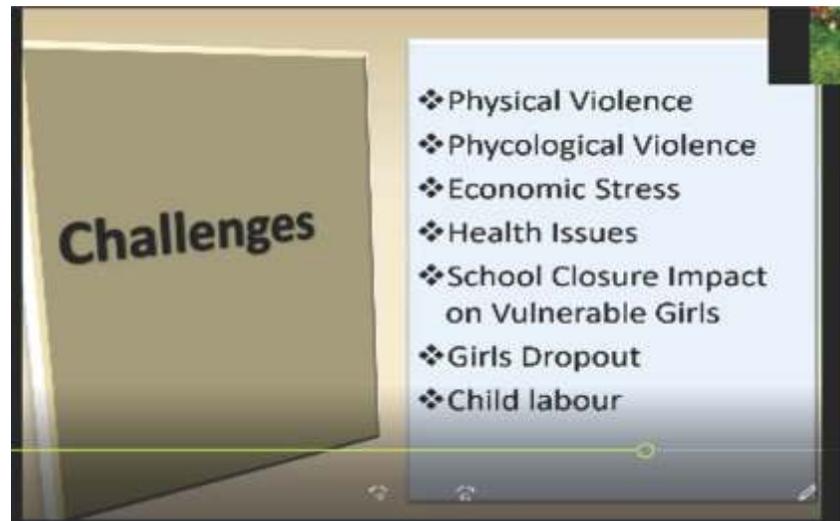
in government quarantine centres in GB. AKRSP will also

provide sanitary kits for women in these centres.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) Cases

The GRG agreed on the following recommendations to improve RSPs COVID-19 response:

- a. RSPs should integrate gender-based violence prevention in all routine and COVID-19 related work. There are many examples in which an LSO has formed a GBV committee and developed linkages with police for prevention of Violence Against Women (VAW). It is important that the training and SOPs of these committees are developed to respond appropriately to these cases.
- b. RSPs should try to approach donors to access resources for family planning services, prevention of child abuse projects, awareness on preventions of COVID-19 and the compassionate treatment of corona patients, who are currently stigmatised.
- c. RSPs are closely working with district governments to fight against COVID 19. RSP representatives should brief government regarding rural women's issues, especially the increasing issues in



reproductive health. The district government can direct Population Welfare Departments to look into this issue and respond accordingly.

- d. RSPs should develop gender sensitive guidelines for official work. The guidelines should address women staff's special needs in this pandemic situation of COVID 19, i.e. pregnant women staff, mothers of infants should work from home during this pandemic of COVID 19. Women staff need to be facilitated through flexible working hours as their household chores have increased substantially, and they are the only ones handling

these. Furthermore, a pick-and-drop services should be provided to staff so they can avoid public transport in the interest of safety. It is important to remember that women should not be treated as a homogenous group as different women staff can have different needs.

- e. Women and men staff who are working at frontline with communities should be provided with PPEs for their safety.
- f. RSPs should report on gender issues in all COVID-19 or related projects. These need to be regularly shared with RSP senior management.

SUCCESS

Building Resilience; Rising to the Challenge

How SUCCESS Partner Rural Communities Utilised Regular Programme Components to Effectively Tackle the COVID-19 Crisis

The COVID-19 pandemic is a global crisis on a social, economic, and healthcare level. It reveals prevailing issues in gender, racial and class discrimination, unveiling bitter societal truths about domestic abuse, violence, unequal household work distribution, wage gaps, and inaccessibility to resources that we try so desperately to hide or ignore. When the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant lockdown in Pakistan occurred, it exposed further discrepancies from a new dimension: urban versus rural environments.

The lockdown and quarantine resulting from the pandemic created challenges which translated differently in urban and rural contexts. A significant population in Pakistan's rural



Ms. Ameena prepares and distributes face masks to her community for free

areas suddenly found their daily wage earnings gone while restricted mobility meant the loss of access to urban markets and cities. This posed problems of accessibility to food items and other necessities. Rural businesses, especially those of the agricultural sector, could no

longer sell their products to urban markets and suffered a loss in earnings.

The challenges were colossal, yet all hope was not yet lost. Research in community development and disaster risk management has shown that



Ms. Zubaida meticulously works on her embroidery products



Ms. Amina showcasing her crochet embroidery skills

communities previously organised into institutions with established standard operation procedures, structures, resources, and linkages with other government and corporate institutions demonstrate a greater likelihood of responding effectively to crises than communities which are unorganised. This definitely proved to be the case for rural communities partnered under the EU-funded SUCCESS Programmes. Regular programme activities slowed down somewhat as the women-led community institutions fostered under the SUCCESS Programme led self-initiatives to protect their communities from the brunt of the pandemic.

Rural communities showcased that participating in regular SUCCESS Programme components in the past turned out to be a life-saving investment in the future. A significant number of women from the SUCCESS Programme districts demonstrated impressive business acumen to the changing market demands by using the technical and vocational skills training (TVST) they had obtained in sewing to switch from sewing clothes to making face masks. These face masks followed quality standards set by local government Health Departments and were produced in Business Development Groups established under SUCCESS.



Distribution of Micro Health Insurance cards in NRSP District

The TVST component's value was seen at both a communal and household level. Ms. Amina from village Abdullah Junejo in Union Council Sobho Ali Chandio, NRSP District Tando Muhammad Khan, received a two-month TVST training in crochet embroidery. She now earns PKR 3,000 per month and supports her family. Ms. Zubaida, another embroidery trainee from village Abdullah Junejo in Union Council Sobho Ali Khan Chandio, NRSP District Tando Muhammad Khan, now earns PKR 2,500 per month.

Some TVST beneficiaries decided to use their skills in promoting community goodwill and philanthropy. Ms. Ameena, from village Saindad Wasan in Union

Council Shiekh Bhirkio, NRSP District Tando Muhammad Khan, belonged to a household which was organised into a community organisation in 2016. She opted to receive a two-month TVST training for income generation. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, she used her sewing skills to prepare face masks and distributed them free of cost among her community members who were part of her Local Support Organisation Shiekh Bhirkio. Ms. Ameena believed that it was a very good contribution to the community particularly during the coronavirus pandemic when poor people could not afford to buy facemasks and protect themselves.

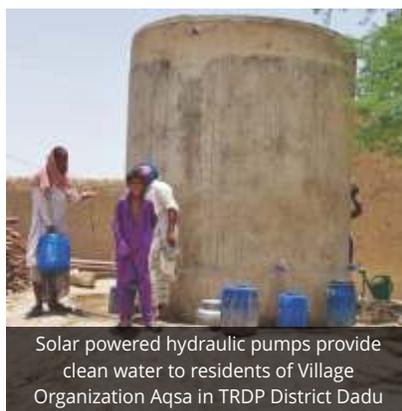


Brick pavement CPI Schemes under progress in VO Roshan, TRDP District Jamshoro

Other regular SUCCESS Programme components like interest free loans in the form of Community Investment Funds (CIFs) and Income Generating Grants (IGGs) allowed women to invest in small businesses or assets which provided a necessary source of income or savings during the economic crisis of the pandemic. Ms. Maryam, from village Bhaladino in NRSP district Matiari, received a CIF of PKR 15,000 which she used to open a pakora (a fried snack) shop. She now earns PKR 1,500 per day. Other women have chosen to use interest free loans to purchase livestock which can then be sold for meat or reared to maturity for selling milk. Breeding season for the livestock and the eventual birth of kids means an asset growth.

Income generation is not the only regular SUCCESS Programme component which has acted as a safeguard to rural communities from the negative impacts of the pandemic. Once the lockdown was lifted, micro-health cards distribution was re-commenced among rural women to protect their households from health shocks during the COVID-19 pandemic that could push them deeper into chronic poverty and

hamper their capacity to generate income. Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) Schemes such as climate friendly brick pavements, road constructions, and solar powered drinking water and sanitation schemes were resumed for to improve basic rural infrastructures, enhance mobility, and expand accessibility of resources to the target communities.



Solar powered hydraulic pumps provide clean water to residents of Village Organization Aqsa in TRDP District Dadu



Constructing climate resilient roads under CPI schemes in Village Bhale Dino, NRSP District Tando Allahyar

SUCCESS Empowering the Next Generation

By Shaiwana Nisar, SRSO

Ms. Gulshad Khatoon's story is a shining example of harnessing the potential of one woman to benefit entire households. She candidly speaks about her opportunities in life and the hopes she harbours for her children. *"I was not able to get an education, but I always wanted my children to get educated as much as they desired. I never differentiate among my children; my all children are educated and continuing to get education in various classes. I have 5 sons and 4 daughters. I am also blessed with 2 grandchildren. My elder son has passed B.Sc. while my elder daughter is doing B.Sc. The smallest child is in 1st standard of school,"* she shares.

Gulshad belongs to CO Ghazal, VO Al-Mustafa, UC Sijawal, District Kamber-Shahdadkot. Her house was identified as vulnerable and assigned a Poverty Score of 16 using the Poverty Score Card metric system. Gulshad became a member of her Community Organisation (CO) in 2016 when the social mobilisation team of the Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) visited her village and conducted a detailed introduction dialogue regarding the EU-funded SUCCESS Programme. When SRSO offered the villagers to form partnerships under the



Ali provides a range of products in his shop

SUCCESS Programme, the women were particularly welcoming of the idea. Gulshad recounts the benefits brought to her family through the SUCCESS Programme: *"My community members suggested that I take a Community Investment Fund (CIF) loan and purchase livestock. Today I am grateful to them for this piece of advice. I took a CIF grant of PKR 14,000 and purchased a goat. Later it gave birth to two kids. I sold them to return the CIF loan and add the remaining money to my savings. I have now been able to purchase a calf. This grant proved to be a profitable investment for my whole family."*

Gulshad's real triumph, however, is the wisdom in using her new opportunities to benefit her children. *"This was my achievement, but what makes*

me much happier today is that through this SUCCESS Programme funded by the European Union and implemented by the SRSO, my son Ali has taken steps towards achieving his dream. Since childhood, he had a keen interest in technical things like mobile phones or computers. Through the Technical and Vocational Skills Training (TVST) intervention, he is now able to live his passion."

Ali is present to share his story first-hand: *"I always was attracted to computer and mobile phone related stuff, and with time my passion in these things grew a lot. In the last months of 2019, I have got to know about the TVST Centre at Sijawal from my mother. I went to see the training courses available. At first, I asked about computer work, but mobile repairing training was available,*

so my mother managed to register my name for that training." Ali's experience in the TVST Centre was life-changing: "Our trainer was so nice; he treated every student equally. As a result, our interest grew. After the training ended, there were a few technical things which we were not able to learn during the training time. So, some of the other students and I went to our trainer Mr. Mehboob's shop in Ratodero to learn the rest of the training."

While talking about his most important decision, Ali said, "That was the time I decided to share my idea of starting a mobile repairing shop with my trainer. I also shared my plan with my elder brother, Ghulam and my father. In fact, my father motivated me after training to begin my own business or to get any job at mobile shops. I chose to initiate my own shop. They all appreciated my idea and my father helped me financially. We rented a shop in March costing PKR 5,000 with an additional PKR 1,500 for electricity. In the first month of business was not profitable but after that, the customers increased, and we have got a profit of PKR 3,000 to 4,000 per month. I, along with my two brothers, are currently managing the shop. Whatever we earn, we try to reinvest in the shop. Currently we provide services like mobile phone repairing and computer downloading, as well as other products like earphones, torches,

mobile phone chargers, AC equipment, and data cables of different brands like Samsung, Oppo, and Huawei. We have 5 to 6 daily customer visits for repairing. For services and products like computer downloading and AC equipment, customer visits are much more."

Ali's growing business acumen and entrepreneurial skills have been an indispensable asset during the COVID-19 economic crisis. Describing the coronavirus-caused lockdown effects, he said: "Due to the lockdown, the shop was not running regularly in April, but now in the last days of May, it has started operating with continuity and is still running. Our shop is beside a hotel which was also affected because the hotels are closed. That's why the traffic is

not much since the lockdown has reduced customer visits."

Sharing his future plans, Ali added: "I am planning to bring a mobile panel, containers and pins to the shop. For that, I will go to Larkana for purchasing the stuff in a few weeks. My long-term plan is that I want to expand this business while serving other products and services."

The positive attitude of Ms. Gulshad Khatoon towards harnessing the regular components of SUCCESS for the long-term financial and economic advancement of her family's next generation has changed the course of her children's future. With a little help from SUCCESS, a mother was able to give her son the spirit to pursue his dreams.



Ali provides mobile phone repairing services in his shop

BRACE Programme

BRACE districts nominated to implement the National Test Trace and quarantine (TTQ) Strategy in tandem with the District Administration

The National Control Command Centre (NCOCC) devised a comprehensive Test, Trace and Quarantine Strategy (TTQ) to control the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country. BRACE Programme is playing a crucial role to achieve this objective. The BRACE fostered Local Support Organisations (LSOs) in districts Jhal Magsi, Khuzdar, Killa Abdullah, Loralai, Pishin and Zhob have an integral role in not only spreading mass awareness at local level but also encouraging behaviour change and de-stigmatising COVID-19 reporting. TTQ strategy's prime objective is to ensure effective collaborative management of COVID-19, by identifying



disease spread, focused clusters/hotspots to enable smart lockdowns and need driven resource optimisation at Province, District and Tehsil level. The most striking development is that the government has recognised the organised communities as valid

partners for development. Under this TTQ strategy, the LSOs are not only supporting the government in tracking and reporting COVID-19 affected personnel but are also reducing fear of the people to get reported and quarantined for treatment.

Empowering Our Women Will Lead to Sustained Economic Growth

In most countries, women are not usually considered as heads of households unless no adult male is living permanently in the house. The assumption that the head of a household is always an adult man, even if a woman's economic contribution to the household's maintenance is the same or greater than that of a man, is an extreme form of prejudice.



The number of women-led households is 3095 (according to the Poverty Score Card data) in nine target districts of BRACE Programme i.e. Kech, Jhal Magsi, Khuzdar, Washuk, Killa Abdullah, Pishin, Loralai, Zhob and Duki.

In the rural areas of Balochistan, woman headed poor households are most vulnerable and prone to living a miserable life. Therefore, BRACE Programme focuses on empowering women through most of its interventions. Such households are provided assistance through Income

Generating Grants (IGGs) in which capital assets are provided for regular income generation for the household.

Haneefa, from Shakal village of union council Basima district Washuk Balochistan is 55-year-old widow living with her only son. After the demise of her husband, Haneefa survived by taking loans from her neighbours and relatives as her son was also unemployed. Haneefa's Poverty Score is 13 which falls in the ultra-poor category and hence, qualified for receiving Income Generating

Grant (IGG) to set up a tuck shop in her house. After receiving IGG support under European Union funded BRACE Programme, Haneefa now earns PKR 8500 a month to support her family and has successfully repaid a debt of PKR 30,000. She was also given Enterprise Development Training under the BRACE Programme livelihood section to help her manage and sustain her newly initiated business. Haneefa was given grocery stock worth PKR 55,000 to start her enterprise.

PINS-ER3

PINS ER-3 Testing Water Quality and Providing Safe Drinking Water

PINS ER-3 tested 1,938 communal water sources across 10 Programme Districts for biological and chemical contaminants.

790 sources were found fit for drinking and painted green to signal their safety to the community. 648 were biologically contaminated and were chlorinated, retested and then declared safe (i.e. painted green).

500 of the sources tested were found to be unfit for drinking due to high levels of chemical contamination. Unlike biologically contaminated



A hand pump is painted red after being detected for high levels of chemical contamination

sources, those with chemical contamination cannot be made safe through chlorination. These sources are painted red to warn the community that they are (permanently) unsafe.

For the communities affected by these 500 chemically contaminated water sources, the PINS ER-3 teams are working with community institutions and local



Handpumps are painted green to indicate that they are fit for drinking.

authorities to provide alternate water schemes in the form of new hand pumps, in nearby non-contaminated locations, or through linkages with existing safe sources nearby.

The Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), with whom RSPN signed a memorandum of understanding is providing technical assistance during this process including conducting its own tests to validate the findings from the testing under PINS ER-3.

Improving community access to fish through LSO managed fishponds

PINS ER-3 is working to increase household-access to fish through 20 community-level fishponds. Fish from these ponds will be an important source of essential nutrients and improve dietary diversity.

District Teams conducted dialogues with LSOs in areas considered suitable for fish farming and selected those LSOs, which expressed a willingness to host the fishponds and to provide one acre of land on which the fishpond could be developed.

Ten community members (five men and five women) were nominated by each LSO to manage their fishpond. These men and women were trained in fishpond operations and management at a two-day



Selected community members trained on fish pond operations and management in Larkana

training event which covered: aquaculture; pond water management; fish farming; processing and storage; as well as developing market linkages for the sale of surplus fish.

Each LSO was given a financial grant of PKR 750,000 to construct its pond. They were technically supported in the

design and construction process by WASH Engineers from PINS ER-3 and experts from the Fisheries Department, Government of Sindh. Once completed to an approved standard, these ponds were seeded with technical support by the PINS ER-3 Aquaculture expert.



Aquaculture Technical Officer examines the fish before releasing them into the community fish pond in Thatta

Nine fishponds have been constructed to date and stocked with fish seed (*rahu*, *morakhi* and silver carp). These fish will be harvested at 3-month intervals to allow sufficient maturation. This will provide a regular and affordable supply of fish to poor households in the LSO. Surplus fish will be sold in nearby local markets to generate income to be reinvested back into the pond for the next season.

Kitchen Gardens for Healthy Eating

Trained under EU-funded PINS ER-3, Nawab and Mushtaque Ahmed are Agriculture Entrepreneurs (AE) running the Farmer Field School (FFS) at VO Ghulam Husain Bhut, in district Larkana.

AEs such as Nawab and Mushtaque are instrumental in encouraging their community to cultivate kitchen gardens. With support from the PINS ER-3 Agricultural Officers and Community Nutrition Officers, they hold practical hands-on sessions at their demonstration plot where they teach all aspects of organic vegetable cultivation including land preparation, sowing techniques, composting, pest management, harvesting and food preservation.

In addition to the valuable teaching sessions, the AEs visit households to support the setting up of kitchen gardens.

To help the community kick start their kitchen gardens, PINS ER-3 distributed seasonal seed packs. The *khareef* seasonal pack contained tomatoes, brinjal, cucurbits, chillies, sponge gourd, apple gourd and bitter gourd.

And, it's working. Green patches now dotted across their village in the form of kitchen gardens of different shapes and sizes seen in almost every home.

Instead of relying on vegetables from the market, which are not always good quality and can be expensive, the people in Ghulam Husain Bhut are now cultivating and harvesting their own produce and incorporating them in their meals. Over 86,000 households cultivated kitchen gardens in the Khareef season across the 10 PINS ER-3 Districts. Communities are eating healthier meals because



they have a variety of seasonal organic produce.

Khalida, a resident of VO Ghulam Husain Bhut, is proud of her kitchen garden and is thankful to Nawab and Mushtaque for all their help. She and her family now have meals with a variety of sabzi, where before her kitchen gardening days, they relied heavily on potatoes because they were cheap.

'I feel like the vegetables taste better because they are fresh. It's much cheaper than getting them from the market which is quite far away from where we live. But best of all, my children enjoy eating them which makes me so happy because I know it'll help them get healthier!'



Lunch is served! A meal made from veggies harvested from the kitchen garden

PINS-ER2

PINS ER 2 Continues Efforts in Sindh Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

RSPN is implementing the European Union (EU) supported and Action Against Hunger (ACF) managed Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS) Nutrition Specific Component in partnership with Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) in three districts of Sindh province. The overall objective of the intervention is to sustainably improve the nutritional status of children under five (U5) and of Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) in Sindh in line



with the second target indicator of the SDG 2.

As RSPN is mandated to work in areas not covered by Lady Health Workers (LHWs), to fill this gap RSPN's implementing partner SRSO has hired a cadre of Community Health Workers (CHWs). One of the key responsibilities of these CHWs is to carry out screening of 5 children and PLW. If they find a child's Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) result of less than 11.5 cm, CHW will refer that child to Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) centre. CHWs will provide MNP (Multi micronutrient powder) to children (6 to 23 months) and Iron Folic Acid to PLW at the community level.

Keeping in view the COVID-19 situation PINS ER-2's frontline workers, i.e. CHWs, did not stop working for malnourished children and PLW of their catchment/assigned areas. Their hard work in this pandemic situation resulted in



successful referral of 3,095 Severely Acute Malnutrition (SAM) children to their nearby OTP sites from all three target districts followed by distribution of Multi Micro Nutrient Powder (MNP) sachets to 45,892 (6-23 month) Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) children and distribution of Iron-Folic Acid (IFA) tablets to 13,925 PLWs. Furthermore, in order to sensitise the communities

about importance of balance/nutritious diet and precautionary measures to be taken during this pandemic situation, the district staff with the help of CHWs conducted 3,439 group and 21,647 individual sessions. This activity resulted in sensitisation of 5,857 male and 47,312 female community members across three target districts.



DAFPAK

PSI-funded Family Planning Programme (DAFPAK)

RSPN is implementing the Delivering Accelerated Family Planning in Pakistan (DAFPAK) in 10 districts of three provinces

with the support of the Population Services International (PSI). The programme is delivering family

planning services in under-served rural communities.

Essential Service Delivery during the Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a widespread impact on the delivery of essential services, including access to reproductive & sexual healthcare. It is imperative to ensure that family planning practices, aimed at reducing pregnancy-related risks, are not affected by pandemic-related scarcity. On that front, RSPN is working to ensure under-served rural communities in Pakistan have access to contraceptive commodities at the household level, so there is subsequently no discontinuation of family planning services.



Essential service delivery of contraceptive commodities to ensure no discontinuation of family planning practices

District Staff Trainings on COVID-19

From June 22 - 27, 2020, RSPN conducted trainings for the district teams of its implementing partners NRSP, SRSO & PRSP. These trainings were designed to facilitate the teams in conducting the stepdown CRP trainings planned for the future, which will reinforce key messages around COVID-19 and assist each district's respective



Participants in a District staff training on COVID-19

administration in its Trace, Track & Quarantine (TTQ) strategy as agreed upon in RSPN's partnership with National Command Operation

Centre (NCOC). The district staff trainings were conducted in compliance with the Government's recommended precautionary COVID-19 safety

protocols, which will also be followed in the upcoming planned CRP stepdown training sessions.

COVID-19 Awareness Campaign

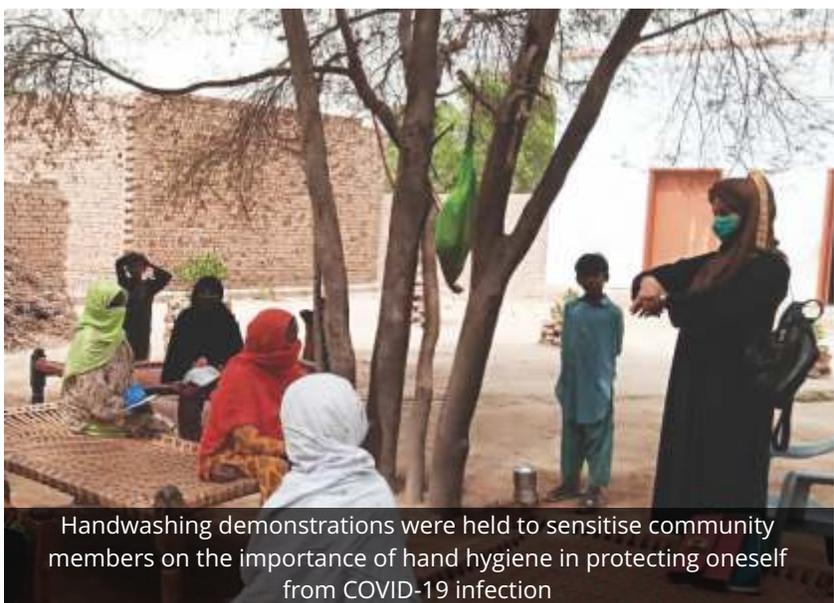
NRSP, TRDP & SRSO have been sensitising rural communities on how to take precautions against the virus. RSP social organisers have been conducting megaphone announcements in the streets and through mosque loudspeakers to sensitise community members on what COVID-19 is and what simple

steps could help protect them and their loved ones from getting infected. Additionally, handwashing demonstrations & COVID-19 awareness sessions were conducted with community members to emphasise the importance of taking precautions such as frequent handwashing with soap, social distancing and

wearing face coverings. CRPs were provided standardised Urdu & Sindhi text messages with accurate information on COVID-19 precautions, which they will continue to actively share with their respective communities during the pandemic to help dispel commonly-believed myths about the virus.



A little girl holds up COVID-19 awareness material being distributed in her community



Handwashing demonstrations were held to sensitise community members on the importance of hand hygiene in protecting oneself from COVID-19 infection

Personal Protective Equipment for CRPs

In order to facilitate the Guddi Bajis who were given business starter packs and social marketing training as a part of the Business-in-Box Initiative,

Unilever has provided around 1,200 masks and 10 (4.5 litre) bottles of sanitiser to each district. Every CRP on average has been provided 5 masks and

a bottle of hand sanitiser so she may safely conduct household visits and sell her products.

Health Impact

152,233 unintended pregnancies, 46,285 unsafe abortions, 1,544 child deaths, 124 maternal deaths and

138,267 total Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) have been averted in the programme's **32 months of operation**. DALYs

are the sum of the years of life lost due to death and the years lived with a disability.

Health Impact	
Unintended pregnancies averted	152,233
Live births averted	60,479
Abortions averted	71,549
Maternal deaths averted	124
Child deaths averted	1,544
Unsafe abortions averted	46,285
Total DALYs averted	13,8267

IHSS-SD Activity

Women's collective approach to improving maternal health

Access to basic health services can greatly improve the health outcomes for people. However, according to the World Health Organization and the World Bank report 2017, at least half of the world's population is not able to access basic health care. Out of pocket expenditure, especially for the financially weak members of the society, does not only impact their access to basic health care and their health outcomes, but also pushes them further into poverty¹.



women's collective approach to improving maternal health

¹ <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/13-12-2017-world-bank-and-who-half-the-world-lacks-access-to-essential-health-services-100-million-still-pushed-into-extreme-poverty-because-of-health-expenses>

Far away in the beautiful mountains of district Swat, people in village Buja Khan, have to travel 20 Kms to reach Mingora to access basic health facilities during emergencies. On the other hand, lack of financial resources also constrained them from accessing basic health care. Ms. Khanum Bibi, a Community Resource Person (CRP) under the IHSS – SD Activity, was well aware of this challenge. The MNCH awareness sessions also helped her understand that a collective approach is imperative to address the issue.

Khanum works as a CRP in her target non-Lady Health Worker covered areas under the IHSS - SD Activity. She conducts awareness sessions with women on maternal, neonatal and child health, and infectious

diseases. Since she had already sensitised the women of her target areas about the importance of pre and post-natal check-ups during pregnancy, she could convince the women to organise and collect funds, which would be used during emergency cases for needy women during pregnancy.

Khanum's initiative of communities' collective savings can not only help ensure safe deliveries, but also prevents people from falling into poverty. Saving money during pregnancy for any pregnancy related complications is one of the key messages of the CRPs awareness sessions.

After forming a committee of 5 members, the women were assigned the task to collect

funds for emergency cases, which would be used for medical and transportation cost in times of need. One of the committee member's husband, who is a taxi driver, even promised to help his fellow villagers during emergencies. An amount of 2,500 Pakistani Rupees have been collected so far, the committee expects it will increase with time.

The contribution per household varies, from ten to hundred rupees. Talking about collective responsibility, Ms. Khanum says, *"Just like a car cannot function with a faulty wheel, it is not possible for a society to move forward with efforts made from only one side. Men and women both have to play their part to achieve a better future."*





OUR IMPACT

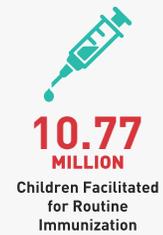
RSP Progress on
Cross-cutting Social
Sector Indicators

* As at March 2020

EDUCATION



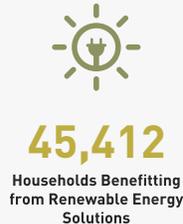
HEALTH



WASH



AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



OUR SOCIAL MOBILISATION OUTREACH

497,731

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS (53% WOMEN ONLY COs)

8,420,591

ORGANISED HOUSEHOLDS

8,608,274

COMMUNITY ORGANISATION MEMBERS (56% WOMEN MEMBERSHIP)

149

DISTRICTS INCLUDING ALL NEWLY MERGED DISTRICTS (EX-FATA/FRS) WITH RSP PRESENCE

4,403

RURAL UNION COUNCILS WITH RSP PRESENCE

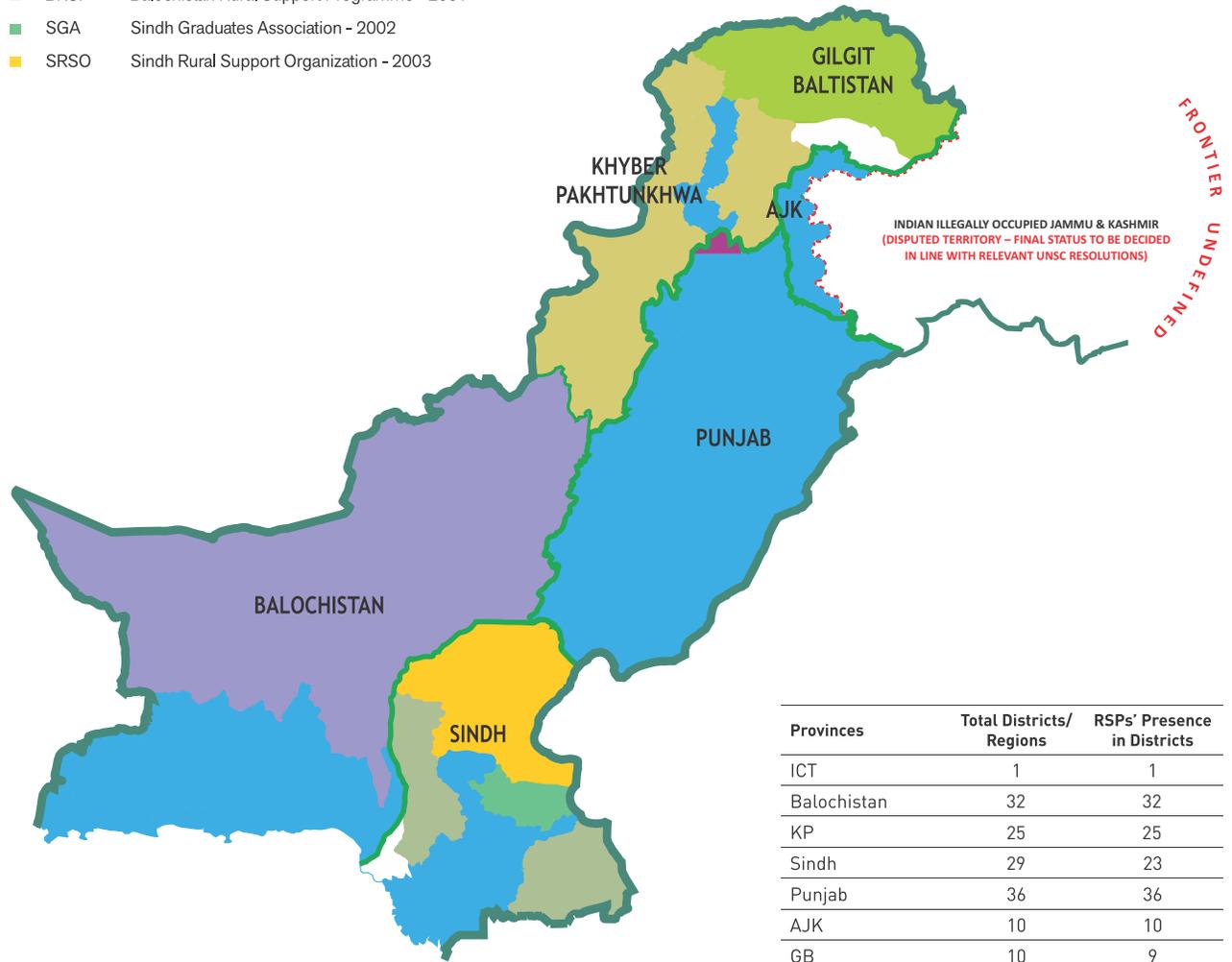
28,898VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS (67% WOMEN ONLY VO_s) FEDERATED IN**2,223**LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS (988 - 44% WOMEN ONLY LSO_s)

Summary of Local Support Organisations (LSOs) as of 31 March 2020

		Province/Administrative Units						Total
		AJ&K	Balochistan	GB	KP incl, FATA/FRs	Punjab (Incl. ICT)	Sindh	
1	Aga Khan RSP	-	-	60	19	-	-	79
2	Balochistan RSP	-	149	-	-	-	-	149
7	Ghazi Barotha Taraqjati Idara	-	-	-	6	10	-	16
3	National RSP	127	99	-	53	410	170	859
4	Punjab RSP	-	-	-	-	305	-	305
9	Sindh Graduate Association	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
8	Sindh Rural Support Organisation	-	-	-	-	-	489	489
5	Sarhad RSP	-	-	-	182	-	-	182
6	Thardeep Rural Development Programme	-	-	-	-	-	143	143
	Total	127	248	60	260	725	803	2,223

The Outreach of the Rural Support Programmes Across Pakistan

- AKRSP Aga Khan Rural Support Programme - 1982
- SRSP Sarhad Rural Support Programme - 1989
- NRSP National Rural Support Programme - 1992
- IRM Institute of Rural Management - 1993
- GBTI Ghazi Barotha Taraqiati Idara - 1995
- TRDP Thardeep Rural Development Programme - 1997
- BRSP Balochistan Rural Support Programme - 2001
- SGA Sindh Graduates Association - 2002
- SRSO Sindh Rural Support Organization - 2003



Provinces	Total Districts/ Regions	RSPs' Presence in Districts
ICT	1	1
Balochistan	32	32
KP	25	25
Sindh	29	23
Punjab	36	36
AJK	10	10
GB	10	9
Former FATA/FRs	13	13
Total	156	149

RSPs are present in 149 districts.



Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, Cumulative Progress as of March 2020												
Indicators	AJKRSP+	AKRSP	BRSP	GBTI	NRSP	PRSP	SGA	SRSO	SRSP	TRDP	Total	
# of RSP working districts/areas**	8	10	27	3	61	21	1	14	37	4	149	
# of rural union councils with RSP presence*	136	119	263	22	2,389	806	13	712	669	167	4,403	
# of organised households	102,320	120,829	386,736	39,095	3,472,397	1,539,614	16,500	1,299,614	1,050,454	393,032	8,420,591	
# of Local Support Organisations (LSOs)	-	79	149	16	859	305	1	489	182	143	2,223	
# of Village Organisations (VOs)	-	1,961	4,365	83	9,745	3,745	-	12,854	2,608	2,368	37,729	
	Women COs	1,577	2,211	9,497	1,890	102,233	41,714	410	72,152	14,168	16,561	262,413
	Men COs	2,138	3,024	16,446	1,436	100,058	54,872	450	3,120	29,881	5,775	217,200
# of Community Organisations (COs) formed	Mix COs	1,035	-	54	-	15,226	-	-	40	-	1,763	18,118
	Total	4,750	5,235	25,997	3,326	217,517	96,586	860	75,312	44,049	24,099	497,731
	Women	44,063	87,174	136,367	31,299	1,953,158	662,001	10,845	1,280,094	296,020	314,894	4,815,915
# of CO members	Men	58,257	128,625	252,317	26,508	1,519,239	903,191	11,348	19,520	754,434	118,920	3,792,359
	Total	102,320	215,799	388,684	57,807	3,472,397	1,565,192	22,193	1,299,614	1,050,454	433,814	8,608,274
	Women	24	146	8	5	237	70	-	197	81	86	853
Amount of savings of COs (Rs. Million)	Men	12	390	17	6	1,308	67	1	7	166	123	2,096
	Total	36	536	24	11	1,544	137	1	204	247	209	2,950
	Women	10,954	20,322	273,201	4,009	2,196,056	226,610	4,830	286,807	141,095	177,333	3,341,217
# of community members trained in managerial skills (CMST/LMST/etc.)	Men	6,385	16,049	239,323	4,423	1,304,181	267,337	4,830	12,103	212,009	71,147	2,137,787
	Total	17,339	36,371	512,524	8,432	3,500,237	493,947	9,660	298,910	353,104	248,480	5,479,004
	Women	-	55,457	55,517	12,072	583,285	45,971	-	69,949	60,434	19,940	902,645
# of community members trained in vocational & technical skills	Men	-	27,345	27,848	3,988	612,079	58,324	-	4,124	86,519	2,835	823,062
	Total	-	82,802	83,365	16,060	1,195,364	104,295	-	74,093	146,953	22,775	1,725,707
	# of LSOs managing CIF	6	16	29	8	465	2	-	448	-	98	1,072
	# of VOs managing CIF	-	-	285	7	67	34	-	5,974	349	738	7,454
Community Investment Fund (CIF)	CIF Men Borrowers	547	1,533	797	7	22,522	872	-	-	-	-	26,278
	CIF Women Borrowers	-	2,558	559	1,105	143,999	5,290	-	198,451	57,590	36,909	446,461
	# of CIF borrowers	547	4,091	1,356	1,112	166,521	6,162	-	198,451	57,590	36,909	472,739
	Total amount of CIF disbursed (Rs. million)	16	20	58	24	3,287	115	-	2,698	675	638	7,532
	Women	79	195	107	2,851	159,673	10,121	-	14,775	690	5,417	193,909
Amount of micro-credit disbursement (Rs. Million)	Men	59	834	64	392	89,209	12,297	-	1,609	123	5,494	110,081
	Total	138	1,030	171	3,243	248,882	22,418	-	16,384	813	10,911	303,990
	Women	4,764	74,827	5,045	119,104	5,815,051	545,204	-	660,550	54,631	370,088	7,649,264
# of loans	Men	3,217	546,334	2,915	14,006	3,774,432	687,341	-	76,180	10,688	290,896	5,406,009
	Total	7,981	621,161	7,960	133,110	9,589,483	1,232,545	-	736,730	65,319	660,984	13,055,273

Indicators		AJKRSP+	AKRSP	BRSP	GBTI	NRSP	PRSP	SGA	SRSO	SRSP	TRDP	Total
# of health micro insurance schemes	Women	-	74,813	-	101,587	3,013,142	-	-	681,990	5,834	251,205	4,128,571
	Men	-	546,311	-	13,629	2,768,940	-	-	50,314	21,566	139,671	3,540,431
	Total	-	621,124	-	115,216	5,782,082	-	-	732,304	27,400	390,876	7,669,002
# of PPI/CPI schemes completed		1,637	4,375	2,340	795	37,779	6,360	16	40,064	10,670	64,142	168,178
# of beneficiary households of completed CPIs		100,347	404,539	227,509	28,835	1,649,202	674,798	-	254,329	2,245,304	326,577	5,911,440
Total cost of completed CPIs (Rs. Million)		636	4,419	1,843	433	11,626	1,639	20	2,820	10,998	1,792	36,226
# of community schools established	Girls	355	867	142	6	545	80	25	9	116	114	2,259
# of students enrolled	Girls	11,370	2,900	4,673	1,173	9,852	1,946	3,526	1,050	2,646	1,947	41,083
	Boys	9,922	7,375	9,490	1,050	10,537	1,752	5,110	1,634	3,262	707	50,839
	Total	21,292	10,275	14,163	2,223	20,389	3,698	8,636	2,684	5,908	2,654	91,922
# of adults graduated in adult literacy	Women	-	20,000	2,334	406	27,222	-	-	-	4,646	228	54,836
	Men	-	-	-	231	5,078	-	-	-	722	198	6,229
	Total	-	20,000	2,334	637	32,300	-	-	-	5,368	426	61,065
# of traditional birth attendants / health workers trained	Women	31	1,243	2,929	95	3,153	8,442	410	4,777	1,066	982	23,128
	Men	-	-	1,335	-	-	1,770	-	-	467	675	4,247
	Total	31	1,243	4,264	95	3,153	10,212	410	4,777	1,533	1,657	27,375

Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) in Pakistan, District-wise RSPs Coverage/Outreach as of March 2020														
S. No.	Name of District	Total rural and Peri-Urban UCs in the District	Union Councils Having RSPs Presence			Total rural HHs in the District (2017 Population & Households Census)	Households Organised			Community Organisations Formed		# of Village Organisations (VOs) as of Mar 2020	# of LSOs as of Mar 2020	RSP
			# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020		# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020	# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020			
ISLAMABAD														
1	ICT	15	15	15	100	165,246	32,755	32,820	20	1,801	1,806	61	5	NRSP
1	Sub Total ICT	15	15	15	100	165,246	32,755	32,820	20	1,801	1,806	61	5	
BALUCHISTAN														
1	Awaran	12	12	12	100	13,881	11,472	11,472	83	690	690	72		NRSP
2	Barkhan	8	-	-	-	24,347	-	-	-	-	-	69	5	BRSP
3	Bolan	27	1	1	4	25,868	2,434	2,434	9	109	109	7	-	BRSP
4	Chaghi	10	1	1	10	29,060	767	767	3	40	40	-	1	BRSP
5	Dera Bugti	12	2	2	17	32,312	2,246	2,246	7	168	168	35	-	BRSP
6	Gawadar	22	22	22	100	17,275	36,326	36,326	210	1,909	1,909	146	14	NRSP
7	Harnai	10	-	-	-	13,031	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
8	Jhat Magsi	12	12	12	100	23,791	21,122	21,122	89	1,410	1,410	375	10	BRSP
9	Jaffarabad	46	29	29	63	56,023	8,739	8,739	16	163	163	234	3	BRSP
10	Kallat	18	15	15	83	45,654	28,829	28,829	63	1,870	1,870	36	-	BRSP
11	Kech / Turbat	43	43	43	100	91,658	68,778	68,856	75	3,812	3,823	401	45	NRSP
12	Kharan	7	7	7	100	18,370	15,739	15,739	86	943	943	115	7	BRSP
13	Khuzdar	35	30	30	86	81,296	65,378	65,378	80	4,264	4,264	853	28	BRSP
14	Killa Abdullah	25	21	21	84	77,919	43,662	43,662	56	2,991	2,991	451	15	BRSP
15	Killa Saifullah	15	15	15	100	43,574	19,117	19,117	44	1,225	1,225	163	-	BRSP
16	Kohlu	8	-	-	-	24,676	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
17	Lasbella	28	28	28	100	53,904	44,767	44,767	83	2,756	2,756	331	20	NRSP
18	Lehri	6	-	-	-	16,143	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
19	Loralai	26	26	26	100	47,143	30,534	30,534	65	2,302	2,302	579	23	BRSP
20	Mastung	13	13	13	100	33,781	18,831	18,831	56	1,389	1,389	92	4	BRSP
21	Musa Khel	10	-	-	-	22,728	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
22	Naseerabad	24	-	-	-	53,999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
23	Noshki	10	1	1	10	17,023	60	60	0	4	4	-	-	BRSP
24	Panjgoor	22	22	22	100	31,590	23,844	23,844	75	1,373	1,373	175	15	NRSP
25	Pishin	41	41	41	100	102,304	69,044	69,044	67	4,920	4,920	634	30	BRSP
26	Quetta	47	5	5	11	148,093	2,402	2,402	2	188	188	8	-	BRSP
27	Sherani	7	7	7	100	21,213	2,520	2,520	12	118	118	-	-	BRSP
28	Sibi	11	-	-	-	11,278	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
30	Sehbarpur	10	-	-	-	28,359	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	BRSP
29	Washuk	10	10	10	100	27,517	15,313	15,313	56	1,052	1,052	214	8	BRSP
31	Zhob	24	24	24	100	39,094	39,411	39,411	101	2,791	2,791	500	19	BRSP
32	Ziarat	10	3	3	30	28,308	588	588	2	50	50	-	-	BRSP
32	Sub Total Balochistan	609	390	390	64	1,301,212	571,923	572,001	44	36,537	36,548	5,490	248	

S. No.	Name of District	Total rural and Peri-Urban UCs in the District	Union Councils Having RSPs Presence			Total rural HHs in the District (2017 Population & Households Census)	Households Organised			Community Organisations Formed		# of Village Organisations (VOs) as of Mar 2020	# of LSOs as of Mar 2020	RSP
			# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020		# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020	# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020			
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA (KP)														
1	Abbottabad	54	51	51	94	171,369	61,272	61,272	36	2,178	2,178	156	16	SRSP
2	Bannu	49	3	3	6	113,735	580	580	1	25	25	-	-	SRSP
3	Battagram	20	20	20	100	69,525	36,501	36,501	53	1,505	1,505	118	10	SRSP
4	Buner	27	10	10	37	94,095	11,778	11,807	13	663	666	71	3	NRSP
4	Buner [overlapping]	27	21	21	78	94,095	31,818	31,818	34	1,363	1,363	142	9	SRSP
5	Charsadda	49	28	28	57	183,437	13,374	13,374	7	900	900	7	2	NRSP
5	Charsadda [overlapping]	49	47	47	96	183,437	39,380	39,380	21	1,658	1,658	47	7	SRSP
6	Chitral	24	24	24	100	54,556	36,005	36,005	66	1,808	1,808	986	19	AKRSP
6	Chitral [overlapping]	24	24	24	100	54,556	72,240	72,240	132	2,614	2,614	150	14	SRSP
7	Dir Upper	32	32	32	100	114,259	92,883	92,883	81	3,377	3,377	148	8	SRSP
8	Dir Lower	41	41	41	100	150,723	60,828	60,828	40	2,579	2,579	50	3	SRSP
9	D.I.Khan	47	4	4	9	150,220	1,125	1,125	1	47	47	-	-	SRSP
10	Hangu	19	19	19	100	38,155	14,204	14,204	37	505	505	-	-	SRSP
11	Haripur	45	4	4	9	143,167	8,015	8,015	6	780	780	14	3	GBTI
11	Haripur [overlapping]	45	2	2	4	143,167	5,039	5,039	4	325	325	22	-	NRSP
11	Haripur [overlapping]	45	45	45	100	143,167	46,715	46,715	33	1,598	1,598	268	25	SRSP
12	Karak	21	21	21	100	67,784	49,680	49,680	73	2,005	2,005	62	4	SRSP
13	Kohat	32	32	32	100	85,581	70,390	70,390	82	3,164	3,164	27	4	SRSP
14	Kohistan	38	38	38	100	101,911	36,610	36,610	36	2,564	2,564	68	6	SRSP
15	Lakki Marwat	33	22	22	67	87,009	1,535	1,535	2	57	57	-	-	SRSP
16	Malakand P.A	36	36	36	100	82,892	41,585	41,585	50	2,628	2,744	93	13	NRSP
16	Malakand P.A [overlapping]	28	28	28	100	82,892	42,369	42,369	51	1,672	1,672	148	6	SRSP
17	Mansehra	59	55	55	93	217,494	110,566	110,566	51	3,865	3,865	283	16	SRSP
18	Mardan	75	54	54	72	252,486	71,525	71,525	28	4,966	5,007	102	15	NRSP
18	Mardan [overlapping]	75	20	20	27	252,486	43,493	43,493	17	1,838	1,838	229	10	SRSP
19	Nowshera [overlapping]	48	18	18	38	152,066	10,091	10,091	7	546	546	36	3	NRSP
19	Nowshera	48	10	10	21	152,066	20,349	20,349	13	857	857	47	7	SRSP
20	Peshawar	67	17	17	25	253,787	17,651	17,651	7	961	961	45	7	SRSP
21	Shangla	28	28	28	100	89,695	72,395	72,395	81	3,568	3,568	201	8	SRSP
22	Swabi	55	6	6	11	177,254	10,210	10,210	6	854	854	31	3	GBTI
22	Swabi [overlapping]	55	42	42	76	177,254	60,106	61,603	35	3,472	3,581	137	16	NRSP
23	Swat	65	25	25	38	189,173	9,610	9,610	5	590	591	7	1	NRSP
23	Swat [overlapping]	67	67	67	100	189,173	83,273	83,273	44	3,990	3,990	363	13	SRSP
24	Tank	16	-	-	-	37,317	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
25	Torghar	16	-	-	-	26,464	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
25	Sub Total KP	996	737	737	74	3,104,154	1,283,195	1,284,721	41	59,522	59,792	4,058	251	

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			# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020		# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020	# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020			
SINDH														
1	Badin	79	79	79	100	282,574	197,028	197,028	70	7,861	7,861	329	22	NRSP
1	Badin (overlapping)	79	68	68	86	282,574	107,403	116,583	41	6,727	7,209	746	46	SRSO
2	Dadu	66	66	66	100	217,340	131,231	132,566	61	6,514	6,554	729	66	TRDP
3	Ghotki	46	37	37	80	223,706	120,767	120,767	54	6,961	6,961	1,118	20	SRSO
4	Hyderabad	37	12	12	32	71,523	11,979	11,979	17	725	725	-	-	NRSP
5	Jacobabad	40	29	29	73	125,341	86,893	84,893	68	5,074	5,074	1,811	27	SRSO
6	Jamshoro	30	30	30	100	103,199	51,162	52,021	50	3,160	3,178	339	28	TRDP
7	Karachi Central	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Karachi East	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Karachi South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Karachi West	6	-	-	-	44,051	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Korangi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Malir	51	-	-	-	149,820	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Kashmore	59	59	59	100	140,872	80,345	80,345	57	4,710	4,710	1,673	29	SRSO
12	Khairpur	105	89	89	85	280,079	123,582	143,837	51	6,867	8,032	814	51	SRSO
14	Larkana	47	47	47	100	140,795	122,879	97,359	69	6,691	5,035	559	46	SRSO
16	Matiari	30	30	30	100	110,382	51,265	51,265	46	2,747	2,847	243	30	NRSP
17	Mirpur Khas	60	60	60	100	209,861	107,764	107,764	51	5,326	5,326	252	15	NRSP
17	Mirpur Khas (overlapping)	60	55	55	92	209,861	90,604	95,435	45	5,854	6,064	767	46	SRSO
18	Naushero Feroz	51	43	43	84	212,073	42,852	42,852	20	2,585	2,585	241	5	SRSO
19	Nawabshah	51	27	27	53	210,984	3,092	3,092	1	564	564	-	-	NRSP
20	Shahdad Kot	52	52	52	100	155,051	150,169	125,920	81	6,628	5,656	675	52	SRSO
21	Sanghar	73	13	13	18	270,891	16,500	16,500	6	860	860	-	1	SGA
21	Sanghar (overlapping)	73	71	73	100	270,891	109,499	115,897	43	6,523	6,641	859	57	SRSO
22	Shikarpur	51	50	50	98	155,902	102,306	102,306	66	5,846	5,846	1,813	39	SRSO
23	Sujawal	37	37	37	100	136,397	67,783	67,783	50	3,652	3,652	352	37	NRSP
24	Sukkur	46	26	26	57	135,906	37,941	37,941	28	2,710	2,710	400	6	SRSO
25	Tando Allahyar	26	26	26	100	114,105	51,691	51,691	45	2,603	2,614	240	26	NRSP
26	Tando Muhammad Khan	28	28	28	100	103,853	51,377	51,377	49	2,846	2,846	285	28	NRSP
27	Tharparkar	44	44	44	100	274,691	160,365	160,365	58	11,516	11,516	1,104	44	TRDP
28	Thattha	42	42	42	100	152,881	64,670	64,670	42	3,770	3,770	110	12	NRSP
28	Thattha (overlapping)	43	41	41	95	152,881	62,514	67,287	44	3,910	4,342	553	31	SRSO
29	Umer Kot (Overlapping)	35	13	13	37	163,551	4,672	4,672	3	228	228	-	-	NRSP
29	Umer Kot (Overlapping)	43	43	43	100	163,551	64,491	68,192	42	4,221	4,447	825	34	SRSO
29	Umer Kot	35	27	27	77	163,551	48,080	48,080	29	2,851	2,851	196	5	TRDP
23	Sub Total Sindh	1,192	1,027	1,029	86	4,185,828	2,318,904	2,320,467	55	130,530	130,704	17,033	803	

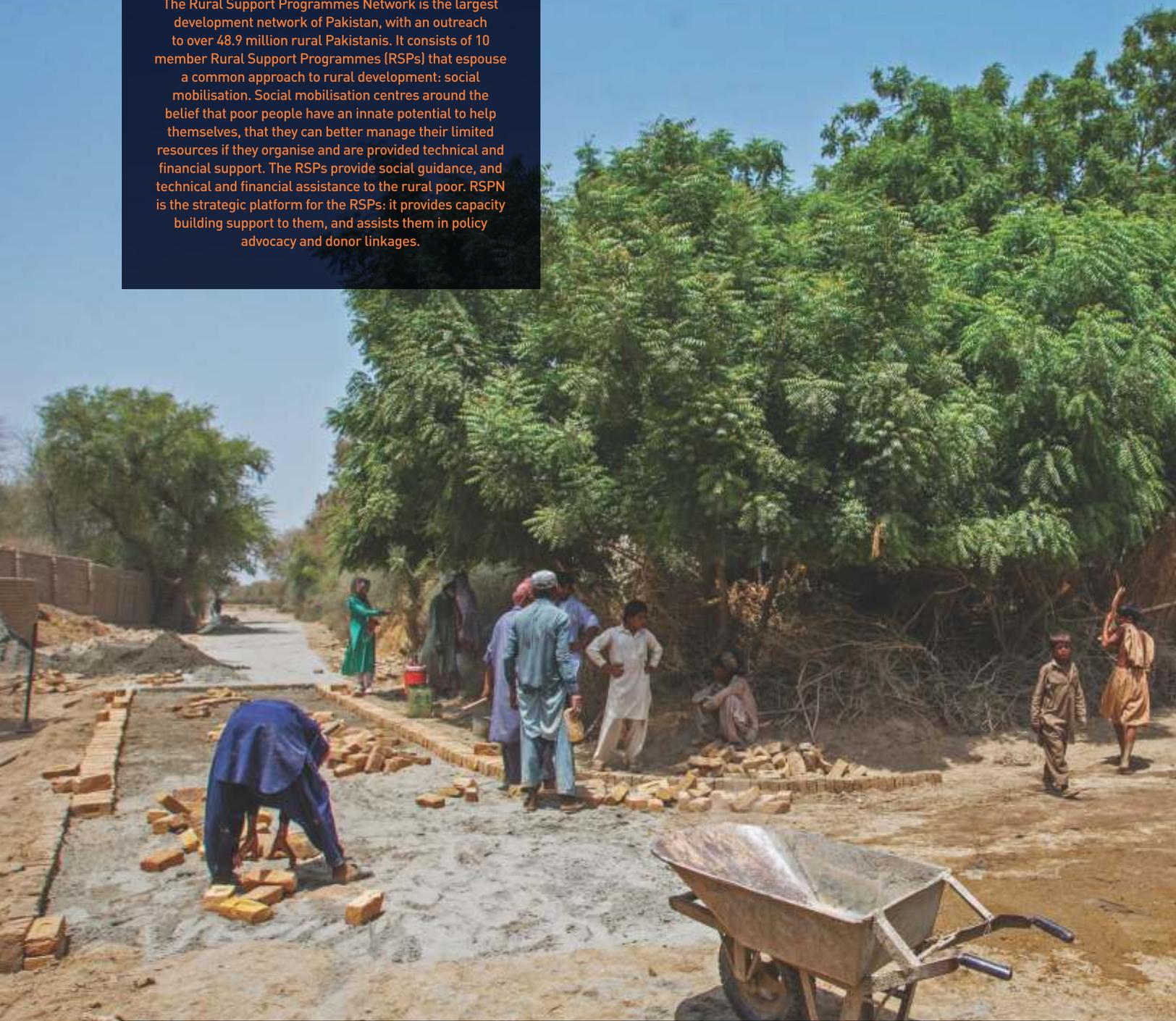
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			# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020		# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020	% coverage as of Mar 2020	# as of Dec 2019	# as of Mar 2020			
PUNJAB														
1	Attock	65	12	12	18	228,435	20,870	20,870	9	1,692	1,692	38	10	GBTI
1	Attock (overlapping)	65	62	62	95	228,435	81,909	81,909	36	4,985	5,018	198	26	NRSP
2	Bahawalnagar	101	96	96	95	379,449	234,524	234,524	62	16,713	16,713	931	66	NRSP
3	Bahawalpur	97	80	80	82	392,678	292,730	292,730	75	19,670	19,670	1,010	64	NRSP
4	Bhakkar	42	38	38	90	226,306	178,199	178,199	79	12,741	12,768	274	35	NRSP
5	Chakwal	68	68	68	100	217,585	72,314	72,314	33	4,085	4,104	163	24	NRSP
6	Chiniot (Overlapping)	42	33	33	79	150,625	4,640	4,640	3	402	402	-	-	NRSP
6	Chiniot*	42	-	-	-	150,625	1,069	1,069	1	60	60	-	-	PRSP
7	D G Khan	55	52	52	95	270,524	293,930	293,930	109	13,619	13,668	848	32	NRSP
7	D G Khan (overlapping)*	55	-	-	-	270,524	20,260	20,260	7	1,302	1,302	-	-	PRSP
8	Faisalabad	82	82	82	100	631,434	80,005	80,005	13	5,554	5,554	175	15	PRSP
9	Gujranwala (overlapping)	97	59	59	61	301,072	3,509	3,509	1	325	325	-	-	NRSP
9	Gujranwala	97	62	62	64	301,072	64,348	64,348	21	3,582	3,582	94	-	PRSP
10	Gujrat	87	37	37	43	308,668	67,346	67,346	22	4,511	4,511	230	17	PRSP
11	Hafiz Abad (overlapping)*	40	31	31	78	114,058	9,510	9,510	8	847	847	-	-	NRSP
11	Hafiz Abad	40	22	22	55	114,058	42,857	42,857	38	2,794	2,794	153	11	PRSP
12	Jhang	79	35	35	44	332,134	39,149	39,149	12	2,895	2,895	119	11	PRSP
13	Jhelum	50	42	42	84	145,783	54,775	54,775	38	2,841	2,852	83	5	NRSP
14	Kasur	89	14	14	16	385,537	15,760	15,760	4	1,267	1,267	58	-	PRSP
15	Khanewat (overlapping)	98	70	70	71	375,349	17,775	17,775	5	1,662	1,662	-	-	NRSP
15	Khanewat	98	24	24	24	375,349	41,634	41,634	11	2,671	2,671	133	13	PRSP
16	Khushab	49	45	45	92	153,048	155,245	155,245	101	10,157	10,168	166	42	NRSP
17	Lahore	31	31	31	100	-	54,118	54,118	-	3,998	3,998	168	19	PRSP
18	Layyah (Overlapping)	44	16	17	39	232,310	13,927	15,239	7	810	898	41	1	NRSP
18	Layyah	44	29	29	66	232,310	146,532	146,532	63	9,813	9,813	210	12	PRSP
19	Lodhran	70	70	70	100	220,432	46,705	46,705	21	3,886	3,886	-	-	NRSP
19	Lodhran (overlapping)	70	17	17	24	220,432	19,671	19,671	9	1,384	1,384	110	11	PRSP
20	Mandi Bahauddin (Overlapping)	65	52	52	80	199,336	8,699	8,699	4	680	697	33	1	NRSP
20	Mandi Bahauddin	65	56	56	86	199,336	51,819	51,819	26	3,544	3,544	223	16	PRSP
21	Mianwali	53	48	48	91	186,770	129,095	129,095	69	7,903	7,903	192	32	NRSP
22	Multan (overlapping)	69	58	58	84	429,984	17,654	17,654	4	1,958	1,958	-	-	NRSP
22	Multan	69	22	22	32	429,984	35,212	35,212	8	2,382	2,382	14	-	PRSP
23	Muzaffargarh (overlapping)	93	24	24	26	557,112	19,424	19,424	3	1,123	1,207	37	2	NRSP
23	Muzaffargarh	93	24	24	26	557,112	167,208	167,208	30	10,458	10,458	150	10	PRSP
24	Nanakana Sahib*	65	-	-	-	176,003	695	695	0	45	45	9	-	PRSP
25	Narowal	74	64	64	86	200,434	151,437	151,437	76	7,818	7,818	162	35	PRSP
26	Okara (overlapping)	111	-	1	1	360,592	-	1,075	0	-	91	9	-	NRSP

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26	Okara	111	34	34	31	360,592	54,043	54,043	15	3,644	3,644	132	13	PRSP
27	Pakpattan (overlapping)	63	54	54	86	256,016	12,295	12,295	5	1,486	1,486	-	-	NRSP
27	Pakpattan	63	30	30	48	256,016	38,910	38,910	15	2,711	2,711	117	14	PRSP
28	Rahim Yar Khan	103	81	81	79	537,401	97,332	97,332	18	9,798	10,008	63	4	NRSP
29	Rajanpur	44	43	43	98	215,883	145,756	145,756	68	11,066	11,179	503	26	NRSP
29	Rajanpur (overlapping)*	44	-	-	-	215,883	18,650	18,650	9	1,218	1,218	-	-	PRSP
30	Rawalpindi	70	70	70	100	418,177	126,875	126,875	30	7,177	7,208	414	40	NRSP
31	Sahiwal (overlapping)	83	52	52	63	309,865	12,414	12,414	4	1,201	1,201	-	-	NRSP
31	Sahiwal	83	39	39	47	309,865	64,594	64,594	21	4,217	4,217	201	21	PRSP
32	Sargodha (overlapping)	132	123	123	93	420,867	22,954	22,954	5	2,067	2,067	9	2	NRSP
32	Sargodha	132	59	59	45	420,867	63,906	63,906	15	4,265	4,265	156	15	PRSP
33	Sheikhupura	91	13	13	14	334,617	35,202	35,202	11	2,509	2,509	127	9	PRSP
34	Sialkot	94	88	88	94	400,653	210,884	210,884	53	10,162	10,162	836	50	PRSP
35	Toba Tek Singh (overlapping)	79	61	61	77	267,821	13,594	13,594	5	1,545	1,545	-	-	NRSP
35	Toba Tek Singh	79	24	24	30	267,821	54,305	54,305	20	3,782	3,782	168	13	PRSP
36	Vehari	87	80	80	92	377,144	39,089	39,089	10	3,149	3,149	49	3	NRSP
36	Sub Total Punjab	2,662	1,926	1,926	72	10,714,102	3,665,357	3,667,744	34	240,174	240,958	8,806	720	
AZAD JAMMU AND KASHMIR (AJK)														
1	Bagh (overlapping)	19	10	10	53	46,470	672	672	1	32	32	-	-	AJKRSP
1	Bagh	19	19	19	100	46,470	39,105	39,105	84	2,276	2,276	173	16	NRSP
2	Hattian (overlapping)	13	10	10	77	21,296	16,770	16,770	79	827	827	-	-	AJKRSP
2	Hattian	13	12	12	92	21,296	22,460	22,460	105	1,225	1,225	136	10	NRSP
3	Kotli (overlapping)	38	36	36	95	67,483	13,807	13,807	20	566	566	-	-	AJKRSP
3	Kotli	38	36	36	95	67,483	67,342	67,342	100	4,048	4,048	170	22	NRSP
4	Muzaffarabad (overlapping)	32	26	26	81	60,712	45,689	45,689	75	2,192	2,192	-	-	AJKRSP
4	Muzaffarabad	32	29	29	91	60,712	58,501	58,501	96	3,413	3,413	315	26	NRSP
5	Neelum (overlapping)	9	9	9	100	15,649	6,722	6,722	43	267	267	-	-	AJKRSP
5	Neelum	9	9	9	100	15,649	14,472	16,557	106	700	819	74	6	NRSP
6	Poonch (Rawalakot) (overlapping)	26	12	12	46	61,000	4,523	4,523	7	260	260	-	-	AJKRSP
6	Poonch (Rawalakot)	26	26	26	100	61,000	54,427	54,427	89	2,752	2,752	192	26	NRSP
7	Bhimber	18	18	18	100	54,333	5,541	5,541	10	227	227	-	-	AJKRSP
7	Bhimber (overlapping)	18	12	12	67	54,333	3,394	3,394	6	236	238	33	-	NRSP
8	Sudhnoti	14	14	14	100	26,849	29,458	29,458	110	1,752	1,752	62	12	NRSP
9	Mirpur	22	15	15	68	40,208	8,596	8,596	21	379	379	-	-	AJKRSP
9	Mirpur (overlapping)	18	2	2	11	40,208	158	207	1	9	13	-	-	NRSP
10	Forward Kahuta	9	9	9	100	18,651	19,646	19,646	105	1,151	1,151	95	9	NRSP
10	Sub Total AJK	200	187	187	94	412,651	411,283	413,417	100	22,312	22,437	1,250	127	

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GILGIT-BALTISTAN (GB)														
1	Astore	8	8	8	100	8,103	9,036	9,036	112	334	334	190	4	AKRSP
2	Diamir	9	-	-	-	16,572	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Ghanche	14	14	14	100	13,229	10,850	10,850	82	469	469	-	7	AKRSP
4	Ghizer	16	16	16	100	13,392	16,401	16,401	122	565	565	304	14	AKRSP
5	Gilgit	10	10	10	100	17,721	9,709	9,709	55	443	443	242	6	AKRSP
6	Hunza	8	8	8	100	5,919	7,351	7,351	124	261	261	115	9	AKRSP
7	Nagar	7	7	7	100	6,860	14,406	14,406	210	254	254	124	4	AKRSP
8	Skardu	14	14	14	100	16,256	6,036	6,036	37	585	585	-	10	AKRSP
9	Shigar	10	10	10	100	5,750	5,650	5,650	98	276	276	-	4	AKRSP
10	Kharmang	8	8	8	100	6,201	5,385	5,385	87	240	240	-	2	AKRSP
9	Sub Total GB	104	95	95	91	110,003	84,824	84,824	77	3,427	3,427	975	60	
NEWLY MERGED DISTRICTS (NMDs) Former FATA/FRs														
1	Bajaur District	37	3	3	8	120,457	10,183	10,183	8	398	398	24	2	SRSP
2	Khyber District	28	3	3	11	99,799	3,278	3,278	3	182	182	-	-	SRSP
3	Kurram District	23	3	3	13	63,235	8,544	8,544	14	333	333	32	5	SRSP
4	Mohmand District	21	3	3	14	48,118	4,345	4,345	9	143	143	-	-	SRSP
5	North Waziristan District	22	3	3	14	58,647	4,994	4,994	9	267	267	-	-	SRSP
6	Orakzai District	15	3	3	20	31,253	3,515	3,515	11	162	162	-	-	SRSP
7	South Waziristan District	29	3	3	10	80,717	7,705	8,000	10	448	458	-	-	SRSP
8	Former T.A.Adj Lakki Marwat District	1	-	-	-	3,348	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
9	Former T.A.Adj Bannu District	1	-	-	-	4,188	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
10	Former T.A.Adj D.I.Khan District	3	-	-	-	6,924	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
11	Former T.A.Adj Kohat District	5	-	-	-	14,339	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
12	Former T.A.Adj Peshawar District	3	3	3	100	7,065	1,738	1,738	25	116	116	-	2	SRSP
13	Former T.A.Adj Tank District	2	-	-	-	4,165	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SRSP
13	Sub Total NMDs	190	24	24	13	542,255	44,302	44,597	8	2,049	2,059	56	9	
149	Grand Total	5,968	4,401	4,403	74	20,535,451	8,412,543	8,420,591	41	496,352	497,731	37,729	2,223	

WHO WE ARE

The Rural Support Programmes Network is the largest development network of Pakistan, with an outreach to over 48.9 million rural Pakistanis. It consists of 10 member Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) that espouse a common approach to rural development: social mobilisation. Social mobilisation centres around the belief that poor people have an innate potential to help themselves, that they can better manage their limited resources if they organise and are provided technical and financial support. The RSPs provide social guidance, and technical and financial assistance to the rural poor. RSPN is the strategic platform for the RSPs: it provides capacity building support to them, and assists them in policy advocacy and donor linkages.



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Project Management & Text: Foha Raza, Programme Officer Communications RSPN
Reviewed by: Khurram Shahzad, Specialist M&E
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More information about Rural Support Programmes Network is available on:
Web: <https://www.rspn.org>
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