



PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN SINDH

To support the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

THE PINS PULSE

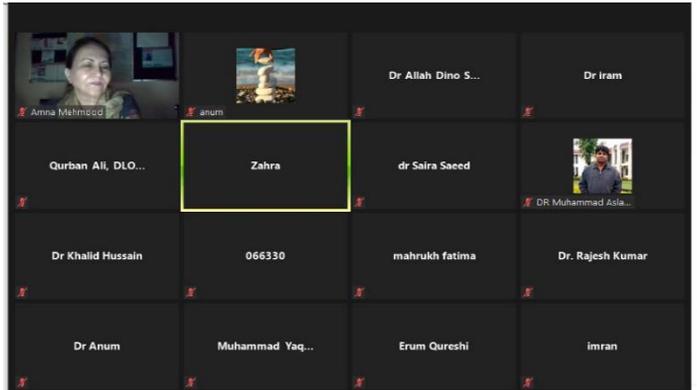
July 2020

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.

Virtually Induction Orientation Training of GoS' District Based Nutrition Officers

PINS, in collaboration with the AAP-Health, Government of Sindh (GoS), has organized a two-day virtual induction orientation/training on the roles and responsibilities of the recently recruited District Based Nutrition Officers (DNO) and Liaison Officers (DLO). AAP Coordinator *Dr. Sahib Jaan* welcomed the new recruits and briefed them on the landscape, including the challenges related to nutrition in the province.

Dr. Zahra Ladhani led this training on behalf of PINS. She took the trainees through the concepts and management of malnutrition and stunting among children, and challenges of nutrition among women. *Dr. Ayesha Aziz*, Chief of Party (Action Against Hunger) shared lessons learned across the PINS districts. The AAP Coordinator appreciated the effort of PINS for providing this training to the DNOs/DLOs. *Ms. Sayfoor Ali*, GoS-AAP Health's Assistant Manager



provided insights on platforms for coordinating nutritional activities based on her experience in managing the nutrition services sites. *Mr. Kashif Raza*, Deputy Coordinator (Admin), AAP Health, discussed the job responsibilities while *Mr. Imran* provided hands-on practice related to data management.

Providing Support to Kitchen Gardens at Health Facilities for Community Benefits

Kitchen gardens provide fresh and nutritious fruits and vegetables for households, while the surplus generates income. With the support of PINS, many households have established kitchen gardens. In addition, PINS supports the establishment of similar kitchen gardens at health facilities, to encourage community members to understand the benefits of a diverse and healthy diet.

In District Matiari's health facilities, such kitchen gardens are maintained by the gardeners and effectively utilize the available spaces within the nutrition related service centres. Under PINS, the People's Primary Health Initiative's (PPHI) District Office, in liaison with National Rural Support Programme (NSRP), initiated the capacity building of the gardeners in these Health Facilities. In round one, *Mr. Nizamuddin Jaiser* (PPHI, District Monitoring Officer) and *Ms. Benazir* (NSRP, Agriculture and Food Security Officer), briefed the

gardeners and related teams in *Khandu, Bhanoth, Saeed Khan Laghari* and *Bhit Shah* on best practices in kitchen gardening, soil types, sowing & watering methods of health facilities. Medical officers were also keen to get information. The health facilities were also provided with vegetable seeds.



PINS Implementation Updates, July 2020



6,054 admissions at Outpatient Therapeutic (OTP) sites.



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



4,143 Children Cured.



85 Village Organisations declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).



14,919 Community awareness sessions conducted by Community Resource Persons (CRPs).



2,430 Households oriented on food preservation and processing.

PINS works side by side the GoS in Vaccinating Livestock

PINS supported the Government of Sindh (GoS) Livestock Department's free vaccination camp. The vaccination camp was organized to prevent the spread of Bovine Anthrax among cows, buffaloes and goats. Anthrax- a bacterial disease is highly infectious, and often fatal. The vaccination camp is crucial to prevent its outbreak, which was actively backed by the PINS district teams and Community Livestock Extension Workers (CLEWs).



These camps provide easy and quick access to vaccination services for domestic livestock. CLEWs are being trained through PINS at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry's Research and Training Institute, GoS. They provide various services such as vaccination and insemination to livestock, and awareness sessions to community members. In July, **13,151** livestock were treated/drenched/ vaccinated by CLEWs in ten PINS districts of Sindh.

PINS Piloted Paddy- Fish Farms Produced 30 Kilograms of Fish in First Round

PINS has piloted paddy-fish farming in four districts of Sindh including Shikarpur district. The idea is to provide cost-effective access to fish, thereby diversifying their diet. Paddy-fish farming is an ancient and effective method of cultivating rice while maintaining fish supplies and reducing the use of inorganic fertilizers.

The communities received an orientation on land preparation, management, and the procurement of fish seeds for paddy-fish farming. This was carried out by PINS in collaboration with the Livestock & Fisheries Department. After one year of pilot, 30 kilograms of fish was harvested from a paddy-fish farm field in *Union Council Bhirkhan* of Shikarpur. The harvest was sold at nominal rates to neighbouring households which provides additional income to the farmers. These fields also serve as demonstration plots for encouraging others paddy-fish farming.



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