SINDH IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (SIAPEP)

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Between

Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project - SIAPEP

And

Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)

Name of Project: Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS)-ER3 Nutrition Sensitive Component

Project Districts: Tando Mohammad Khan, Larkana, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Dadu, Jamshoro, Kambar Shahdad Kot, Thatta, Sujawal, Shikarpur

Period: 1st February 2021 to 31st December 2021

Kitchen Gardening Collaboration SIAPEP_RSPN
1. Background

I. Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP)

The Government of Sindh (GoS), Department of Agriculture (DoA), has initiated the Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP) under the Sindh On Farm Water Management (OFWM) Department with the (financial) assistance of the World Bank. The project began its operations in 2015 and is planned to end by Dec 2021, covering all the 24 Districts of Sindh. Project Implementation Unit of SIAPEP is located at the Office premises of Sindh seed corporation, Ground Floor, Hussainabad, Hyderabad, Sindh, 71000.

The project’s main objective is to improve irrigation water management at tertiary and field levels in operational districts. The project supports efficient management of scarce water resources at the tertiary and field level where water losses are highest and promote a high-efficiency irrigation system and improved irrigation agronomy practices. The project is designed to support adaptation to different climate change scenarios. The project has four components.

(A) The community water infrastructure improvement component consists of three subcomponents: A1 will assist the Government of Sindh efforts to: improve and rehabilitate tertiary distribution level watercourses. Activities under this component will include farmer mobilization, the establishment of Water Course Associations (WCAs) and their registration, survey and design, and construction.

(B) Promotion of high-efficiency irrigation systems component consists of two sub-components: B1 will support the installation of HEIS dippers and bubblers for growing high-value crops on irrigated and irrigable land; provide technical assistance packages to farmers on operations and maintenance of HEIS, and provide additional training and assistance to farmers in the use of HEIS by specialists and consultants. B2 will support poor households in establishing kitchen gardening at their homesteads.

(C) Improved agriculture practices component consists of 2 sub-components: C1 will provide laser-guided land levelling equipment and associated deep ripping equipment and will facilitate training in the use of deep ripping equipment while components C2 will provide training to farmers in good agriculture practices through a Farmer Field School, exposure visits to best production and trading places; rearing on-farm, of natural enemies (predators) against harmful insects/pests and training of department staff.

(D) Project management, monitoring and evaluation, and strategic studies will be supported under component 4.

II. Expected Outcomes
   • Enhance the capacity of organised communities and households to cultivate Kitchen Gardens
   • Introduce improved agriculture techniques
   • Increase the availability of vegetables in every village
   • Improve the environment and landscaping at every village
   • Increase greenery in the surrounding forestation
   • Encourage plantation of fruit trees
   • Improve the nutrition of the project communities
   • Ensure availability of fodder for animals
   • Promote water conservation

2. The Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and the Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS)

I. Rural Support Programmes Network - RSPN

RSPN is a company registered by the Government of Pakistan under section 42 of the Companies Act 2017, formerly Companies Ordinance 1984 (XLVII of 1984) with the registration No, I-02663 on 28th July 2000 having its registered office at 3rd Floor, IRM Complex, Off Park Road, near COMSATS University, Islamabad. RSPN is the largest civil society network in Pakistan, representing nine Rural Support

Kitchen Gardening Collaboration SIAPEP_RSPN
Programme (RSPs) working to reduce poverty and improve livelihoods and nutrition outcomes of the poor in Pakistan. Currently, RSPN and its partner RSPs have a presence in 149 Districts of Pakistan.

II. Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS)

The European Union (EU) funded Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS) is supporting the GoS multi-sectoral Accelerated Action Plan for Reduction of Stunting and Malnutrition (AAP). PINS aims to improve the nutritional status of children under five (U5) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) across 10 districts in Sindh (Tando Mohammad Khan, Larkana, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Dadu, Jamshoro, Kamber ShahdadKot, Thatta, Sujawal and Shikarpur).

RSPN is leading the Nutrition-Sensitive Component (PINS ER-3), which focuses on improving food diversity through disaster-resilient and sustainable food production systems adapted to climate change in rural areas of Sindh. Two key interventions under this programme are the establishment of 1,938 Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and over 100,000 Kitchen Gardens in poor households across the 10 Programme Districts.

Farmer Field Schools (FFS) established under PINS ER-3 are village-level participatory hubs where local communities improve their agriculture management knowledge and practices (e.g. growing vegetables in household Kitchen Gardens, composting and learning improved climate-smart techniques to cultivate rice and wheat). As a result of regular orientation and demonstration sessions at their local FFS, obtaining seeds under the PINS ER-3 Programme and subsequent household level follow-up sessions, to date, over 100,000 households are cultivating organic produce in their kitchen gardens, reaffirming their ability to grow their own food and also build a community spirit around farming and sharing within the community.

3. Parties to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

This MoU is entered into on 1st February 2021 SIAPEP between RSPN (also referred to as the ‘Party # 01’) and RSPN (also referred to as the ‘Party # 02’) and collectively as “parties”.

4. Objectives of this memorandum of understanding (MoU)

SIAPEP’s objectives, in particular under component B2 (above), align closely with those of PINS ER-3 under its FFS and household Kitchen Gardening interventions. The parties through this MoU seek to realise this alignment. Under the MoU, the Party # 01 will provide inputs (e.g. Kitchen Gardening Drip Kits) and associated capacity-building (Basic Kitchen Gardening training and O&M of KG Drip Kit) to support and enhance the implementation of Kitchen Garden (KG) activity across the PINS ER-3 Programme Districts. The Party # 02 will contribute to the Party # 01 objectives by creating an enabling environment for its inputs and capacity-building support (see section 6 below).

5. Coverage (Districts and Households)

The activities under this MoU will be undertaken with selected and mutually agreed on Household Kitchen Garden beneficiaries in the following Districts, as agreed between the Party # 01 and 02 for the duration of this MoU as per details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S#</th>
<th>Name of District</th>
<th>Potential number of HHs to be supported under this MoU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kambar Shahdadkot</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Larkana</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kitchen Gardening Collaboration SIAPEP_RSPN
6. Key Roles and Responsibilities

I. Roles and responsibilities of RSPN

These roles will be supported by RSPN, with its PINS ER-3 Implementing Partners (NRSP, TRDP, SRSO) and in dialogue with key Community Institutions (LSOs / VOs / COs).

- The RSPN will identify and nominate high potential and willing Kitchen Garden beneficiaries to receive Project inputs and support, as per mutually agreed selection criteria;
- The RSPN will ensure that appropriate orientations and learning sessions are conducted for the targeted Kitchen Gardening Households;
- The RSPN will ensure follow up visits to each targeted household provided with Programme inputs and support;
- The RSPN will ensure appropriate monitoring and evaluation visits to targeted households under its overarching Monitoring and Evaluation Framework;
- The RSPN will ensure timely circulation of periodic progress reports (quarterly and annual);
- The RSPN will assist field visits for SIAPEP personnel and support in the development of visit reports to project representatives.

II. Roles and responsibilities of SIAPEP

- The SIAPEP will provide kitchen gardening material (e.g. HEIS-Micro Drip Irrigation units), including any associated/necessary tools, kits, service items and seeds/fertilizers to the selected beneficiaries.
- The SIAPEP will provide the necessary basic KG training on the use and maintenance of the inputs to the selected beneficiaries as well as appropriate orientations to relevant RSPN and its implementing partners’ personnel.
- The SIAPEP may conduct periodic monitoring and evaluation visits to the selected beneficiary households.
- The SIAPEP and the RSPN may collaborate on cross-promotion for both parties' social media channels.

7. Key Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S#</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kitchen Gardening Collaboration SIAPEP_RSPN</td>
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<td>Page 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>---</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dialogue with concerned Cls (LSOs / VO's/ COs)</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>RSPN and its implementing partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identification of potential beneficiaries</td>
<td>As required by SIAPEP and mutually agreed with RSPN (Before distribution of inputs)</td>
<td>RSPN and its implementing partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Authentication of potential beneficiaries by concerned DD (F)</td>
<td>As required by SIAPEP and mutually agreed with RSPN (Before distribution of inputs)</td>
<td>DD (F) SIAPEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Verification of M&amp;EC on sample basis</td>
<td>As required by SIAPEP and mutually agreed with RSPN (Before distribution of inputs)</td>
<td>M&amp;EC SIAPEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Provision of Seasonal Vegetable Seeds</td>
<td>Seasonal</td>
<td>RSPN and its implementing partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Orientation and Learning Sessions at FFS</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>RSPN and its implementing partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Follow up visits of AEs to HHS for KG Demonstration</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>RSPN and its implementing partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Distribution of Micro Drip Irrigation Tool Kit</td>
<td>As required by SIAPEP and mutually agreed with RSPN</td>
<td>SIAPEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Training of Beneficiaries / Key Organisational Staff</td>
<td>After Installation of Drip Kit</td>
<td>SIAPEP</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Monitoring Field Visits</td>
<td>Minimum twice a year</td>
<td>RSPN and SIAPEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Circulation of Reports</td>
<td>Minimum once a year</td>
<td>RSPN</td>
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8. **Title of Property**

Documents, drawings and reports produced by the Party # 01 in relation to its inputs for the beneficiaries will remain Party # 01 property.

9. **Confidentiality**

Neither party shall transfer or divulge any confidential information to any other person or organisation, without prior written consent of the other party.

10. **Modification**

This MOU may be amended in writing, signed by a duly authorized officer or representative of each Party hereto.

11. **Liability**

- This MoU is entered into between the parties interested in cooperation and shall not incur any liability or legally binding commitment on the parties.

*Kitchen Gardening Collaboration SIAPEP_RSPN*
• This MoU does not establish a joint venture or partnership between the Parties, nor does it require any Party to provide any financial contribution to the other Party.

12. Coordination Between Institutions

Ms. Sana Khanzada PIU SIAPEP and Mr. Mudassar Ahmed, Programme Director PINS-3, from RSPN will act as a focal person for coordination. The parties may mutually agree to a meeting and reporting schedule.

From: RSPN
Mudassar Ahmed
Programme Director PINS ER-3
mudassar.ahmed@rspn.org.pk
Karachi

From: SIAPEP
Sana Khanzada
Social & Gender Specialist
skhanzada@siapepsindh.gov.pk
Hyderabad

13. Settlement of Disputes
• In case of any dispute or difference arising out of this MoU of whatsoever nature, the matter shall be resolved amicably by both the parties without referring the matter to any third party or any court of law,
• Except as provided in this MoU, none of the rights or obligations hereunder shall be assignable or transferable by any party.

In witness whereof of the undersigned, being duly authorized representatives of the parties, have on behalf of the Parties signed this MOU on/at the date and place first mentioned above.

The duly authorized representatives of the Parties sign this MOU in two (2) originals for equal content and validity on the dates and places indicated below and agree to abide by the terms stated in this pre-teaming MOU.

Shandana Khan
Chief Executive Officer
Rural Support Programmes Network
Islamabad

Engr. Syed Nadeem Shah
Project Director
Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project
Hyderabad

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