



Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh

In support of the Accelerated Action Plan, Government of Sindh

Quarterly Progress Review Meeting (RSPs – PMU) Minutes of the Meeting 22th March, 2021 - NRSP Complex, Hyderabad

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Meeting Minutes
Quarterly Progress Review Meeting - RSPs - PMU

The objectives of the meeting are to; review the progress of Programme in preparation for the PINS Oversight Committee Meeting for the following periods: Cumulative for the Programme and year to date for each of the implementing RSPs and discuss specific aspects of the Programme components;

1. Review - Overall PINS ER-3 progress: Progress against KPIs and Financials
2. Review and Issues, challenges and way forward

Following were the participants of the meeting

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. Mudassar Ahmed | PD PINS RSPN |
| 2. Mr. Hamid Ali Magsi | PM PINS SRSO |
| 3. Mr. Ali Muhammad Kallar | PM PINS TRDP |
| 4. Mr. Nazar Joyo | PM PINS NRSP |
| 5. Mr. Iftikhar Leghari | WASH Specialist |
| 6. Mr. Rao Ayub | Sr. Technical Agriculture Manager ACF |
| 7. Mr. Munawar Ali Kapri | M&E coordinator |
| 8. Mr. Zaheer Ahmed | Capacity Building Officer |
| 9. Mr. Mohan Thakur | WASH Engineer |
| 10. Dr. Abdul Malik | Technical Officer Aquaculture |
| 11. Ms. Uswa Ali Memon | Knowledge Management & Reporting Officer |
| 12. Ms. Syeda Rabab Jafar | Communications Officer |
| 13. Mazhar Ali | (SRSO – DPO, KSK) |
| 14. Parveen Mahar | (SRSO – DPO, Shikarpur) |
| 15. Riaz Ahmed | (SRSO – DPO, Larkana) |
| 16. Mehboob Jarwar | (NRSP – DPO, Tando Allahyar) |
| 17. Tashkeel Abbas | (NRSP – DPO, Sujawal) |
| 18. Junaid | (NRSP – DPO, TMK) |
| 19. Madad Ali | (NRSP – DPO, Matiari) |
| 20. Waseem Akhtar | (NRSP – DPO, Thatta) |
| 21. Hameed Samjejo | (TRDP – DPO, Dadu) |
| 22. Shabnum | (NRSP – PO, MER) |
| 23. Mahira Soomro | (SRSO – M&E Assistant) |
| 24. Vasdev Balani | (TRDP – FO) |
| 25. Saleem Abassi | (SRSO – M&E Manager) |
| 26. Ghulam Jamro | (NRSP, RGM – SUCCESS) |

Proceedings: On Monday, 22nd March 2021, - 11-2020, PMU, RSP PMs, DPOs, RSP M&E & Finance Officers met to coordinate between implementing partners and review the overall performance against agreed KPIs. The quarterly meeting started with the introduction of new DPOs of Jamshoro and Matiari, and the WASH Specialist. The agenda of this meeting was to share the progress of KPIs by each Programme district. However, only Thatta presented their progress, and all other districts discussed their progress and raised issues and concerns through Thatta's presentation. Following are the main points of discussion, decisions, and responsibilities assigned in the meeting.

- Alee Kapri shared updates and stated that the second internal assessment is under analysis and the findings will be shared with each RSP and their senior leadership by early May 2021.
- PD pointed out that the number of outreach is inherited from other Programmes, therefore, it should not be treated as progress. It was discussed that the number of outreach (COs and HHs) needs to be updated in the MIS. Alee Kapri mentioned that these numbers will have to be revised. All districts should revise and send their confirmed data again because it was previously sent thrice, and it was different all three times. The data that will be sent now should mention the clusters and VOs.
- This quarter more CRPs were trained as some CRPs dropped out of the Programme. Alee Kapri inquired about the method of CRP training for the newly recruited CRPs. The consensus was that this method varies, but they are primarily trained through on-job training with an additional two-hour training session.
- PD inquired asked the DPO of Thatta about the number of active masons and plumbers. The DPO responded that from every Union Council, there are around two to three active masons and plumbers. He further mentioned that the masons have less work because the communities are forming the superstructure for WASH infrastructure on their own. However, he tries to encourage their utilisation in the construction of CPI schemes.
- A similar question was raised for the WASH Entrepreneurs by PD. He told the field teams to document which WASH supply chains are active. He added that material should not be a barrier in the latrine construction in any of our VOs, and therefore the teams need to investigate how the supply chains are working to avoid that. The sustainability of these supply chains is to be maintained and monitored by the VOs. Alee Kapri pointed out that there are changes in the PIM to incorporate this and a field visit should be done to check how many VOs need WASH supplies. PD further added to consult the VO/LSO meetings for this. He also added that according to the approaches of PATS and CLTS any supply factors creating barriers in the latrine construction should be eliminated. Iftikhar Sb proposed that masons and plumbers should be involved in this process.
- For the Clean Village Campaign (CVCs) it was discussed to conduct them according to the guidelines shared with all the districts. These campaigns should not be just limited to the budgeted ones, as these should be conducted by the VOs as well. For the budgeted ones, the

budget should be checked, maintained, and utilised appropriately. The guidelines for budget utilisation have been shared and PIM has been revised. Ali Kallar pointed out that the finance team will not accept this, which is causing a hindrance for executing CVCs. PD mentioned that in the next IMI round, the number of CVCs conducted will also be recorded to assess the maturity of the VOs. PD flagged this point for later and said a decision for this will be made later. He also said that social norms should be linked with the CVCs.

- In Thatta, 10 VOs have achieved the ODF sustainability status. PD was interested to know if all 10 of these would be eligible for wastewater management. The DPO of Thatta responded yes. Alee Kapri further asked that if they have to reinforce this behaviour for 6 months, then what the difference between certification and sustainability? Waseem explained that there would be a difference in hygiene, but not for animal waste. Since there isn't much difference and there is variance in its quality, therefore it wouldn't shift entirely during certification and sustainability. PD inquired about the trajectory of those that are sustainable and their main areas of focus. Waseem replied that the focus is on maintaining and continuing the practices.
- PD asked the DPOs about the safe water handling practices in their respective districts. He said that you will be questioned about how much you have reduced diarrhoea. He pointed out that this part in behaviour change is not evident. He instructed that the DPOs should have one eye on implementation and the other on impact.
- Regarding the water testing, PD asked about the role of the LSOs. He flagged that the pictures received from testing were mostly just pictures of the teams. Through discussions, it was highlighted that the current practices of testing (just limited to teams) are not sustainable for our Programme Districts as these people will not be able to supervise these procedures on their own. He recommended that LSOs should at least be included in the process of acquiring safe water. He asked for feedback from others on what steps they should be taken. Parveen responded to PD's question and informed him that the LSOs are involved but don't know about the process. Alee Kapri asked if our sources are biologically tested. He explained that there are 1,938 VOs and there are many more sources in one VO. Kapri continued and reminded everyone that we have done the testing once, and we were supposed to do it after 3 to 6 months, but we didn't. Mohan added that we did it once, we gave out kits and asked why did this not happen again. Parveen informed them that they just got the information verbally about the technicalities of the kits and the kits weren't even fully utilised. Jamro sb added that the information about things that contaminate water should be taken from the CRPs. For testing, he added that LSO is not a testing body, and other experts can guide us on that. He further added that the Programme should link the LSOs for collecting a sample, but not conduct the test themselves. Iftikhar Sb added that TDS in water should be observed. Biological testing helps to identify if there has been any contamination. If yes, the tanks (reservoirs) should be cleaned and chlorinated. PD highlighted that out of 8,500, we are done with 1,938 VOs. He said he is comfortable with the marking of red on unsafe sources, but not

on the safe sources because it is likely that the water gets contaminated again. He added, that we should think about the steps that should be taken to ensure that a water resource that is declared safe remains safe. Mohan added that they have trained WASH officers for that. Kapri said that if we consider 8,500, then per VO we get 4 kits. Those kits have not been used for biological testing. This can be done through the charter of demand. He recommended parking this right now and discuss this separately. PD pointed out that he does not fully understand the logic of how this is being done. This will be discussed separately.

- It was discussed that the O&M Committees are not functional. If there is some routine rehabilitation needed, the committee is not working towards it. PD mentioned that when you see a woman washing clothes under the filtration plant, you know that something went wrong in the behaviour change part. He further added, if water scarcity is a problem for our communities, then it needed to be reflected, and one of the ways to do that is by planting trees. Alee Kapri raised the point that trees ensure sustainability and support the functionality of AWS schemes as well. Jamro Sb added that there should be proper need identification for avoiding instances where communities did not need these structures and we still gave it to them. Alee Kapri informed that most hand pumps are installed near the CRP's and AE's houses. Waseem raised the point that these schemes shouldn't have been UC based and the criteria should be more flexible. PD mentioned that these criteria are there based on past experiences of the implementation.
- FAE identification is in process in most districts, but on average, there will be a total of 115.
- PD inquired about the new roles and responsibilities of AE. He questioned that since AEs are purchasing seeds from their stipend, and what is the role of the Programme. Hamid sb responded that FFS won't work without AEs. PD mentioned that it doesn't matter if we are there or not, these people will still work if the model has worked for them, especially in areas where vegetation is not a problem. He added that the deliverable for the AE could be that the kitchen gardens should be functional for all 12 months. He recommended that where we have our well-performing kitchen garden, we should encourage vertical kitchen gardening in those areas. It was decided that the discussion regarding the updated deliverables of AE will happen separately in the coming months.
- The field teams requested for new CRP Registers, and PD responded that these should be printed and utilised.
- Waseem recommended that AEs should be removed and a field assistant should be assigned for each cluster in the NCE period. Alee Kapri said that we can do that once we know the focus areas. PD added that these decisions cannot be made alone on our expectations and not experiences. PD asked Rao Sb and DPOs/AFSOs to discuss this and come up with a proposal.

- The Districts reported that the Moringa BCC toolkit videos are being shown at the VO meetings and the feedback has been positive. The teams were advised by PD to work with Rao Sb to plan the outreach at the HH level. The feedback for the Moringa video is good.

Issues, challenges, and way forward

- Alee Kapri raised that the Tree Plantation Campaign understanding is different across the board. The plantation seasons are Feb-March/Aug-Sept, and the teams are behind its planning. It was also discussed that Moringa Plantation and Tree Plantation Campaigns are two different KPIs, therefore achievement for one should not be considered progress for the other. PD stressed utilising the NRM for our plantation campaigns. He stressed that the teams need to plan better for this. Alee Kapri mentioned that it is important to know the exact number of trees planted by PINS because according to the numbers reported, each household has around 12 trees. The M&E team will validate the numbers for both KPIs.
- PD flagged that it is expected that during the third wave of COVID government offices will close and there might be a delay in the certification and sustainability. In these scenarios, teams should work towards ODF declaration. TRDP has the most declared and its certification has been delayed for far too long. It was also discussed to revisit the CRP milestones as once they are done with the declaration, it should be clearly laid out what are focus areas except for the SBCC sessions. The CRPs know that their payments are based on milestones and not monthly.
- PD inquired and informed the field teams that it is important that the community fish pond owners are informed that they will be paid rent, or some compensation will be there to avoid the problems experienced in the first phase of fish ponds. He further mentioned that every pond can have a unique strategy.

Key Decision points

- The chlorination pilot will be picked up by Iftikhar sb.
- It was discussed that the number of active masons, plumbers, and active supply chains should be recorded. DPOs should closely coordinate for this with Iftikhar sb.
- Milestones for CRPs and AEs to be discussed separately for the NCE period in the upcoming months.
- M&E will validate Moringa and Tree Plantation numbers.
- For the community fish ponds, it was decided that Arafat Majeed, Bashir Anjum, PD, Jamro sb will sit and discuss Larkana's and Thatta's fish pond.
- Field teams to abide by the dates confirmed with Mohan for CPI completion.
- Iftikhar sb will make a detailed implementation plan for ODF.

Government of Sindh (GoS) through the Planning and Development Department (PDD) is implementing a six-year multi-sectoral Sindh Accelerated Action Plan for Reduction of Stunting and Malnutrition (AAP), with the objective of reducing stunting rate from the existing 48 percent to 40 percent by 2021. The European Union (EU), under the EU Commission Action Plan on Nutrition 2014, is supporting GoS in addressing the issue of malnutrition. The EU has approved the Programme for Improved Nutrition in Sindh (PINS) to be implemented in ten districts of Sindh - Shikarpur, Thatta, Kambar Shahdadkot, Larkana, Dadu, Jamshoro, Matiari, Sajawal, Tando Allahyar and Tando Muhammad Khan.

RSPN is leading the PINS Expected Results (ER) 3 component with four partners: Action Against Hunger (ACF), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO) and Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP). This is the nutrition-sensitive component of PINS and focuses on community-level WASH infrastructures, sustaining open defecation free status and develop improved community-level nutrition-sensitive food production systems adapted to climate change in rural areas of Sindh.



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