



LSOs or Local Support Organisations are central to the 'Social Mobilisation' approach of the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs). In a bid to reduce poverty and empower marginalised people (especially women), the RSPs under BRACE, mobilise rural women and men into a three-tiered structure, which consists of Community Organisations (COs) - neighbourhood level community groups, Village Organisations (VOs) - village level federations of COs, and LSOs - union council level federations of VOs. LSOs are able to carry out community-led development at a much greater level due to the advantage they gain from numbers. As the tertiary tier, LSOs are also uniquely able to develop linkages with government and non-government organisations, donor agencies and the private sector.

## LSO INITIATIVES

# Local Support Organisation Mashal Khan Kakar

<p>District</p>  <p><b>Loralai</b></p>	<p>Union Council</p>  <p><b>Zingiwai Kudezai</b></p>	<p>Date of Formation</p>  <p><b>30-04-2019</b></p>	<p>Total Households in Union Council</p>  <p><b>1,712</b></p>	<p>Organised Households</p>  <p><b>917</b></p>	<p>Coverage</p>  <p><b>54%</b></p>
<p>Number of COs</p>  <p><b>77</b> 30 MEN'S 47 WOMEN'S</p>		<p>Number of VOs</p>  <p><b>23</b> 10 MEN'S 13 WOMEN'S</p>		<p># of General Body Members</p>  <p><b>30</b> ALL MEN</p>	<p># of Executive Committee Members</p>  <p><b>18</b> ALL MEN</p>

LSO Mashal Khan of Union Council Zingiwai kudezai, Tehsil Bori from District Loralai was formed on 30th November 2019 by 917 member households organised into 77 COs and 23 VOs. The leaders of LSO Mashal Khan are planning and implementing development activities, both on a self-help basis, as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The European Union-Funded BRACE Programme is empowering rural men and women in Balochistan by realising them about the power they gain from collective action. Organised men and women are now gaining awareness about their rights, making the service providers accountable, and also taking self-help initiatives to improve their lives.

### Plantation of 900 Trees in 1 Second for The Guinness World Record!

Mission Green Gold (MGG) is a local civil society organisation. At the time of the last plantation season, the MGG decided to plant maximum trees in one second. The main purpose of this activity was to make Pakistan green. MGG contacted the leaders of LSO Mashal Khan to extend their support for this cause. The leaders of the LSO and MGG chalked out a plantation campaign and decided to plant as many trees as possible in the government school across their UC. They then contacted the local district administration and government Forest Department, briefed them about their plan and asked for their support. Dr Attiq-ur-Rehman, the Deputy Commissioner Loralai, advised all district line departments, government schools and students to actively participate in this unique mission. On their request, the Forest Department supplied 900 rooted plants to the LSO leaders. They then met with the

school teachers, briefed them about the plantation campaign and requested them to advise their students to plant trees on the plantation day. They marked the



LSO Leaders Participating in the Tree Plantation Campaign

plantation sites in each school and dug holes in the ground for tree plantation. They also communicated the date and time for planting the tree saplings so that all 900 saplings are planted in one second exactly at the same time. On the agreed date, they provided the required planting material in each school. All 900 saplings were planted in one second across the UC. Thus they successfully organised one collective event at district level and planted 900 trees in 1 second which will be recorded in The Guinness World Record.

### Awareness Campaign on Measles at District Level

Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) are infections that can lead to serious health problem. More than 95% of children receiving MMR will be protected from the three diseases throughout their lives. The Government has been implementing a vaccination campaign against Measles-Rubella across the country. The District Administration and Health Department of District Loralai invited the LSO leaders to join hands with them in the Measles Vaccination Campaign. The LSO leaders delivered awareness sessions to community members through their Community Resource Persons (CRPs), along with their routine Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) sessions in Community Organisation meetings. Moreover, they also participated in an awareness walk along with the District Administration and Government Line Department officers. Dr Attiq-ur-Rehman, the Deputy Commissioner Loralai appreciated the efforts of the LSO leaders in making the Measles Vaccination Campaign a success.



LSO Leaders Participating in an Awareness Walk on Measles Vaccination

### Setting up of a Medical Camp for Screening of Tuberculosis (TB) at Union Council Level

According to WHO reports, Pakistan, with an estimated 510,000 new Tuberculosis (TB) cases emerging each year and approximately 15,000 developing drug resistant TB cases every year, is ranked fifth among B high-burden countries worldwide. It accounts for 61% of the TB burden in

the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region. The country is also estimated to have the fourth highest prevalence of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) globally. Key reasons for emergence of drug resistance form of TB include: delays in diagnosis, unsupervised, inappropriate and inadequate drug regimens, poor follow-up and lack of a social support programme for high-risk populations. WHO, along with other developmental partners including STOP Tuberculosis, are providing support to the national and the provincial TB control programs, in capacity-building on latest WHO diagnostics and treatment guidelines, programme evaluation, technical support for the management of MDR-TB, resource mobilisation and support for research and development. The Global Fund is the main donor support for this programme.

The District Health Department requested for the support of the LSO leaders Mashal Khan for organising screening test of the community members to diagnose TB disease. The LSO organised the event with the Health Department and they screened 60 suspected men and women. Five persons were diagnosed TB positive. These people were referred to the District Hospital Loralai for proper diagnosis and treatment.



The TB Screening Camp in Action in UC Zingiwai Kudezai

### Streamlining the Domicile Certificate Process for the Local People

Domicile Certificate is an essential document which proves that a person is an inhabitant or a permanent resident of the province, city, town ship or union council. As per law, this certificate can be obtained from one district only. The certificate is required for a job or for seeking admission in the university.

Unfortunately, a large number of Afghan citizens and people from other provinces had prepared Domicile Certificate from Loralai district illegally. On the other hand, the local people were facing unnecessary difficulties for preparing their Domicile Certificates. Therefore, a local Action Committee

was formed by the notables of the area to address the issue. LSO leaders also joined the Action Committee and actively participated in activities. The Action Committee was successful in identifying 123 illegal Domicile Certificates and reported them to the concerned government department. Subsequently, all these illegal Domicile Certificates were cancelled. The Action Committee supported 80 local people in obtaining their Domicile Certificates.



The Local Action Committee holding its Meeting

### Provision of Drinking Water to Communities

Balochistan has been drought prone for more than two decades. Subsequently, a large number of natural water sources have become dry. Therefore, availability of clean water for drinking and other human use has become scarce. The only source of clean water is under ground water. However, the level of under-ground water has also gone quite low. Therefore, deep bore is required to pump under-ground water. Electricity supply is unreliable in rural areas, therefore, solar energy is installed to pump under-ground water. Due to these factors, the cost of water supply projects has become so expensive that local communities cannot implement them on their own. The LSO leaders, therefore, contacted government departments and NGOs to help them in installation of drinking water supply projects. Finally, they contacted Helping Hands who agreed to fund two drinking water supply projects in village Zangiwal, costing PKR 185,000 each. The projects were implemented by the LSO leaders under the supervision of the NGO experts. The water supply schemes are providing clean drinking water for 80 families. Besides providing safe water for human and animal consumption, the projects have relieved women and children from the daily laborious task of fetching water from a long distance. The projects have increased the health and hygiene conditions of the beneficiary households. The beneficiary communities have

formed operations and maintenance committees to run the projects smoothly and carry out repair work timely on need basis.



Drinking Water Supply Project at Village Zangiwal

### Arrangement of Youth Recreational Activities at Union Council Level

Due to the easy access to social media and mobile games, the youth spends a significant part of their free time on social media and video games. Research on the effect of gaming on youth has found negative effects like aggression, anxiety, and depression. On the contrary, sports activities engage youth in healthy physical exercise. Experts say that participating in sports teaches teamwork, social skills, healthy habits, self-discipline, sportsmanship and listening; all of which are of key importance, as one grows into adulthood. Football is a famous sport in Balochistan. With the financial support of BRSP, the leaders of LSO Mashal Khan organised football matches for the youth of their Union Council in different villages. So far, a total of 10 football matches have been organised in as many villages. The purpose of arranging such recreation activity was to involve youth in extra-curricular activities. The general public also enjoyed watching football matches. Hence, these activities are equally beneficial to the youth, as well as the elderly.



The Team after the Football Match

## Preparation of CNICs of Women and Men of the Union Council

Union Council Zingiwai Kudezai is far away from the district headquarters, where the NADRA office is located. Therefore, people have to spend a large amount of money and time to prepare their Computerised National Identity Cards (CNICs), due to which, a large number of eligible women and men have not yet gotten themselves registered. CNIC is a very important document and it is required for various purposes. Those who do not have CNICs cannot receive various benefits from the government, like Zakat, Bait-ul-Mal fund and EHSAS Cash Grant etc. Since the formation of LSO Mashal Khan, its leaders are motivating women and men to prepare CNICs. The LSO leaders also requested NADRA to send their Mobile Registration Van to the UC to prepare identity cards at the doorsteps of the community people. Till date, around 290 men and women have prepared their CNICs.



Community Members visiting NADRA office to prepare their CNICs

## Enrolment of Out-of-School Children

Out-of-school children is a burning education issue in Balochistan. The province is said to be the home of out-of-school children, with more than one million children away from schools. As confirmed by UNICEF Pakistan, 78 percent of the girls are out of school and 68 percent of the boys. Although the overall enrolment ratio in UC Zingiwai Kudezai is not too bad, enrolment of children in schools is on the main agenda of LSO Mashal Khan. The LSO leaders are raising awareness of the people to send their children to schools. They organise walks across the streets of the UC headquarters and large villages carrying banners and chanting slogans about the importance of education and the responsibilities of the parents in sending their out-of-school children to schools. Moreover, the LSO leaders met with the education department and asked them to make the non-functional schools functional by providing the missing facilities like teachers, books and furniture. The LSO leaders also pointed out the matter of non-functional schools during the Joint District Development Committee (JDDC) meeting which was presided by the Deputy Commissioner, Loralai. The Deputy Commissioner instructed education department to properly investigate the matter and share the report with him soon. The LSO leaders have so far been successful in enrolling 83 out-of-school children in government schools.



The LSO Leaders Leading a School Enrolment Campaign Walk

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