



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 Zaland Kamalzai

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|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <p>District</p>  <p>Pishin</p> | <p>Union Council</p>  <p>Kamalzai</p> | <p>Date of Formation</p>  <p>2-5-2019</p> | <p>Total Households in Union Council</p>  <p>337</p> | <p>Organised Households</p>  <p>279</p> | <p>Coverage</p>  <p>83%</p> |
| <p>Number of COs</p>  <p>26</p> <p>15 MEN'S, 11 WOMEN</p> | | <p>Number of VOs</p>  <p>08</p> <p>7 MEN'S, 1 WOMEN</p> | | <p># of General Body Members</p>  <p>26</p> <p>15 MEN'S, 11 WOMEN</p> | <p># of Executive Committee Members</p>  <p>13</p> <p>11 MEN'S, 2 WOMEN</p> |

Local Support Organisation Zaland from Union Council Kamalzai in district Pishin was formed on 2nd May 2019 by 279 member households organised into 26 COs and 08 VOs. The leaders of LSO Zaland are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis, as well as in collaboration with government agencies. The EU-Funded BRACE Programme is empowering rural communities in Balochistan by realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised women and men are now gaining awareness about their rights and making the service providers accountable and taking initiatives to improve their lives.

Local Support Organisation Zaland has played a crucial role in the social linkages of the local community. Despite the importance of a local support organisation, limited empirical knowledge exists on the ground-level about these types of organisations. This case study seeks to fill this gap by exploring how LSO Zaland engages its target Union Council population in social services.

Distribution of Food during COVID-19

COVID-19 adversely affected the livelihood of almost every citizen in Union Council Kamalzai. The poorest families suffered the most, as the local daily wagers and those who had migrated to work in other cities, lost their jobs. The latter had to return back to their homes after losing their source of livelihood. In such difficult situation, the LSO leaders decided to help the needy people after identifying the poorest families and distributed food and other items among them.





Locust Control in Kamalzai

Agriculture is the major source of income in the LSO area. The residents of Union Council Kamalzai are either dependent on agriculture, or they work on a daily wage. Swarms of locust were damaging the standing crops on a large scale for a very long time. The LSO leaders held a meeting to discuss the matter. With the help of government and community members, they arranged pesticides and sprays for gardens and standing crops.



Drainage of Rain Water in LSO Zaland

Kamalzalai is an agriculturally rich area, with an abundance of plants, vegetables and fruit crops like Apples, Grapes, and Pomegranates. Union Council Kamalzai is 23 kilometers away from main Pishin Bazaar and located in the north of the district. It is home to a number of different tribes like Tareen, Syed, Achakzai and Kakar. In the recent rain spells, roads were blocked for travel due to heavy flood. The LSO leaders, along with community members, cleared the road on their own for the people of Kamalzai to travel to other parts of the district.



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