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.

The leaders of LSO Ladgasht are planning and implementing development activities both on a self-help basis as well as in collaboration with the government agencies. The EU-funded BRACE Programme is empowering rural men and women in Balochistan through realising the power they gain from collective action. Organised men and women are now gaining awareness about their rights, holding the service providers accountable, and taking initiatives to improve their lives.

**Registration of National Identity Cards**

The people from Ladgasht live in extreme poverty due to a lack of employment opportunities in the union council. While maintaining a regular record of the social indicators such as several people with registered identity cards, it was observed that most of the people in the area were not registered due to the fee requirement for their National Identity cards. This not only makes them more vulnerable but also acts as a deterrent in breaking the shackles of deep-rooted poverty. Non-registration as a citizen has
consequences such as restricted inter-city travel and ineligibility for the Government’s relief packages such as Ehsaas and sehat card programmes.

In a monthly meeting, LSO members decided to address the issue. The initial list of non-registered candidates was made, and donations from the business community were collected. This has helped 250 people in total in getting their national identity cards who are now eligible for governmental relief packages that can contribute to improving the conditions of these households. The efforts of the LSO leaders, community members, and the business community contribution have led to improvement in the social indicators, empowering the communities to access their citizenship rights.

**Anti-Drug Campaign**

Due to limited employment opportunities, lack of access to education, and better living conditions exacerbated by extreme poverty, the youth of Landgasht face the issue of drug addiction in almost every household. The problem of addiction was brought to local organization supports notice. The community leaders engaged and brought together, the community members, parents, police department, and other stakeholders to collaborate and address the issue. Through the joint efforts of the stakeholders involved, awareness sessions and anti-drug campaigns were arranged. The SHO Mashkel also played a significant role in taking immediate action against the culprits providing easy access to drugs among youth.

The problem has been addressed to a great degree and through facilitation of the LSO, skills training, and the access to financial services under the BRACE programme the youth is now engaged in income generating activities.