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 Maraka**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Union Council</th>
<th>Date of Formation</th>
<th>Total Households in Union Council</th>
<th>Organised Households</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loralai</td>
<td>Kach Amakzai</td>
<td>14-June-2020</td>
<td>2460</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LSO (Maraka) of Union Council Kach Amakzai Tehsil Bori in District Loralai, was formed on June 14, 2020, by 2460 member households organised into 191 COs and 31 VOs. The leaders of LSO Maraka 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 also taking self-help initiatives to improve their lives.

Measles Campaign at Union Council Level

Union Council is rural area and most of the people are depended on agriculture and livestock but as cleanliness was an issue for the all citizens. For this purpose, District Administration and health department started measles campaign at district level. LSO Maraka executive body also took keen interest and visited door to door along with health department team to ensure complete vaccination at Union council level. Where the LSO executive busy along with health team visited 10 villages and completed vaccination.
Facilitating through Ehsas Cash Grant
LSO plays an important role in the development to empower the community through different interventions. LSO executive body along with community members conducted several meetings with BISP office for the provision of Ehsas Cash grant. A total of 250 beneficiaries benefited through Ehsas programme.

Provision of School books and Copies
LSO Maraka is underdeveloped district where people face many issues in education especially for girls. LSO developed linkages with education department and community notables to enrol girls and boys in school. They enrolled 20 girls and 25 boys in schools. Furthermore, they provided text books and notebooks to 11 boys and 4 girls.

Arranging youth events
To engage youth in extracurricular activities, LSO Marak with the support of BRSP organised Football match for the youth. Various events were organised in different villages across the UC including 10 cricket and football matches.

CNIC Registration
Union Council Kech Amakzai is a far-flung area from district Headquarter. Villagers of Union council had no access to NADRA office, which caused deprivation from CNICs. LSO executive body played an important role to support community in registration of their CNIC. The LSO built strong linkages with the NADRA officials to support the community. A Total of 150 CNICs were registered including 50 women and 100 men.

Assistant Commissioner Yahya khan (Road pavement of union council)
Union council Kech Amakzai is a rural area of the district without proper infrastructure and basic necessities. LSO members conducted meeting with Assistant Commissioner Mr. Yahya khan for the construction of road to Union Council which was already approved but construction was not initiated. After several meetings with other line departments, the construction was finally started.

Participation at District Network
LSO Maraka is also part of District LSO network where they participate regularly in the meeting and discuss their challenges and issues in the LSO District network meeting. The issues raised include health, education and role of LSOs in poverty reduction.
Meeting with Levies Risaldar Major Mr. Abdul Latif

LSO actively involved in resolving conflict among villagers. Committee was formed to overcome the ongoing conflict. LSO executive and general body members conducted meeting with Levies risaldar Major Mr. Abdul Latif to discuss the Land conflict among the villagers. Major assured tendered his support which resulted in resolution of conflict among two groups. A of Total about 45 disputes resolved of different nature like Land, agriculture, women, schools, hospitals.

LSO President during heavy snow Fall facilitating in road cleaning

Winter season is known for heavy rains and snow fall which causes roadblock for traffic. LSO executive body along with government departments jointly worked for the clearing of roads and facilitating the community to address mobility issues faced by the community.
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