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.

AN UPDATE ON THE WORK OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

Linkages with Livestock Department

Union Council Khana Gul is rural area of the district Loralai, where the community is mostly dependent on livestock and agriculture. The LSO executive body has built strong linkages with livestock department and using these linkages, benefitted the community by providing them with medicines and vaccines for their domestic animals.
Conducted COVID 19 survey

The LSO members have always been playing a vital role in the betterment of their society. In this regard they conducted a survey in the union council survey to identify people affected by COVID 19 and to provide them with financial assistance.

Tree Plantation at LSO level

The LSO executive members has developed good linkages with the forest department. Using their linkages, they met the forest department and asked them to provide some trees. The forest department appreciated their efforts and provided 250 trees. The provided trees were later planted in different villages during the tree plantation campaign.

Meeting with Education Secretary

LSO executive body conducted a meeting with the secretary education for the development of schools and also provision of proper building for the community school. They also requested the secretary education for the posting of a good and sincere education officer who can resolve their issues at earliest and someone who is responsible for relevant matters.

CNIC Registration

Union Council Khana Gul is far flung area from district Headquarter. Most of the villagers at Union council have no access to NADRA office due to which most of the women in the union council do not have their CNICs. For this purpose, the LSO executive body members through their linkages contacted NADRA officials and also met local MPA and Senator. After those meetings they were able to support residents in the CNICs application process women in particularly.

Aman committee Jirga

Due to illiteracy, most of the time local disputes among the community members on land, family relations and other dispute arises which may and often creates...
unpleasant atmosphere. To tackle such issues and minimise tensions within society, the LSO formed Aman committee. The Aman committee is responsible for resolving the existing disputes among the community through dialogues in the presence of all the community elders. Not only this, the committee also looks after the issue of the electricity in the area and in touch with the concern department.

**Land levelling for agriculture purpose provision of bulldozer hours from MPA**

In Union council Khana Gul, most of the residents are dependent on agriculture and agriculture is one if their main source of the income. Due to lack of agricultural land available, most of the time community has to spend energy, money and time to level the desired piece of land and make it suitable for agricultural purposes. Poverty is one of the reasons that stops a farmer to level his land and make it source of income.

For this purpose, LSO executives developed linkages with agriculture department and line department and the elected representative to resolve these issues are getting positive responses from the concern departments and people.

**School Enrolment Campaign and distribution of stationery**

LSO Khana Gul is playing a vital role in the field of education especially girls education and have so far arranged several school enrolment walk campaigns at union council level and have also conducted several meetings with the education department for the enrolment of children and to make sure the government schools functional. The LSO also pointed out the schools which are not functional at union council level. They also provided books and stationery items to these schools with the help of Education department and Balochistan education foundation.