



Sindh Union Council and Community
Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme

INCEPTION WORKSHOP

31st March 2016 - Karachi



National Rural Support Programme



Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme



Inception Workshop of Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme



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March 31st, 2016

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Organised by

RSPN

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Overview

The European Union (EU) Delegation to Pakistan with the Government of Sindh and the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) launched the six-year Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme, in October 2015. The Inception Workshop of SUCCESS Programme was held on 3rd March in Marriot, Karachi, to brief all the key stakeholders about the SUCCESS programme implementation process and progress for the first six months of the programme.

The objective of the SUCCESS programme is to reduce poverty through undertaking Community Driven Development (CDD) based on the proven social mobilisation approach of Rural Support Programmes (RSPs). The programme covers eight districts of Sindh, including Tando Muhammad Khan, Sujawal, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Larkana, Kambar Shahdadkot, Dadu and Jamshoro. Under the SUCCESS programme, 770,000 poor rural households are to be mobilized and organized into a network of people's own institutions: 32,400 Community Organizations (CO), 3,240 Village Organizations (VO), and 307 Local Support Organizations (LSO), and. RSPs then will provide support to improve the organized households' lives and livelihoods, as well as to foster linkages between organised communities and local government.

In attendance at the Inception Workshop were Chief Economist, Government of Sindh Mr. Mansoor Abbas Rizvi, Chairman RSPN Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, members of SRSO Board, Chief Executive Officers of the SUCCESS Implementing Partners (RSPN, NRSP, SRSO and TRDP), representatives of finance, Union Council Base Poverty Reeducation (UCBPRP), planning department, labour department Programme department of government of Sindh and representatives of civil society.

Proceeding of the Workshop

Welcome Note

The half-day Workshop began with the opening remarks given by Chairman-RSPN, Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan. Mr. Shoaib gave a brief history of his work with RSPs. He shared with the audience that back in 2009, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah listened to the strategies of RSPs and approved the Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme (UCBPRP) for two most backward districts of the province namely Shikarpur and Kashmor. Mr. Shoaib noted that the UCBPRP worked only with women and empowered them not only economically but also on attaining self-confidence and power of their own potential to improve their status.

By quoting the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation (ISACPA) he said the centre-piece of a policy framework for poverty alleviation has to be the mobilisation of the poor in order to enable them to participate directly in the decisions that affect their lives and prospects. The major reason of poverty in South Asia is the public sector makes huge investments but does not create a receiving mechanism for delivery of goods and services at the grassroots. Commonly it does not effectively involve poor communities when planning or delivering 'development'.

He further said that the key essential for good governance and a welfare state includes Administrative Pillar (Central, provincial and local governments, Judiciary, Police and Other institutions - from the PM/President to the Patwari), Political Pillar (National and Provincial Assemblies, District & Union Councils) and Socio Economic Pillar (community institutions). Pakistan has the first two pillars but there is missing link of the third pillar – the social economic pillar. Without establishing and linking the political and administrative pillars with the socio-economic pillar (community institutions) poverty cannot be reduced. As none of the Federal Ministries, Provincial & District Departments or Elected Bodies have the capacity and mechanism to reach each poor household. It requires an institutional mechanism which has the resources of the government and flexibility of an NGO, such as Rural Support Programme (RSP). The RSPs through social mobilisation and organisation of the poor into their own institutions reaches to each and every rural poor household because poverty was at the household level and without economic empowerment of each household; poverty could not be eliminated. This way the RSPs complement and supplement the work of the government.



Speech by the Chief Guest

Mr. Mansoor Abbas Rizvi, speaking as chief guest at the event said that Sindh government is fully committed to the programme and will soon extend it to 6 additional district of Sindh through the UCBPRP. For this purpose the government has allocated Rs. 5 billion in its current budget. He observed that one of the fundamental issues of development Pakistan is large population that becomes a liability if not engaged in productive activities. Referring to the speech of Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan and success story of a poor women from the UCBPRP presented earlier in the event, he said, he is fully convinced that SUCCESS programme would change the dynamics of the lives of rural poor in Sindh and transform them into productive citizens. He thanked the EU for their support which will have sustainable impact on rural poverty in Sindh.

Presentation on SUCCESS Programme Implementation

Mr. Fazal Ali Saadi, Programme Manager SUCCESS RSPN presented the SUCCESS programme approach, its objective, expected results and progress made so far. He said that with the SUCCESS programme, the partner Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) will be working in eight districts of Sindh to mobilise 770,000 rural poor households through their women members into 37,213 Community Organisations (COs), 3,360 Village Organisations (VOs) and 307 Local Support Organisations (LSOs). He stated that SUCCESS programme would keep its focus on fostering sustainable and financially viable network of community institutions to contribute to poverty reduction, and also to link the community institutions with the government service delivery departments. Through these institutions of the people the programme will support the poor households with income and employment generating activities and micro health insurance. The community institutions will be provided grants to increase access to economic and social services through community infrastructures and productive assets operated and maintained with community involvement.

He further said that the programme will particularly focus on the household falling in the lowest band of poverty. For this purpose the RSPs have initiated a door to door poverty score card census in 6 out of the 8 programme districts. The RSPs have adopted the World Bank and BISP Poverty Score Card – a tool to identify poor households. Using the latest technology the survey employs Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) where interviewers use portable tablet computer and the programme implementers have access to real time data. Based on the survey data the programme interventions will be targeted on the households falling in the lowest band of poverty.

Remarks on the SUCCESS Programme

Following the presentation by Mr Fazal Ali Saadi, Dr Rashid Bajwa the CEO of NRSP took the stage. Dr Bajwa noted that the recent poverty score card survey data in Sindh shows a rising trend in poverty levels. He emphasized that policy makers need to consider this situation and make concrete efforts to help support the rural poor.

After Dr. Bajwa's remarks, Mr Muhammad Dittal Kalhoro, CEO SRSO, gave brief remarks. He said that the programme is different from regular projects that RSPs get. Other projects are based on outputs, whereas SUCCESS Programme will be based on sustainability of the outputs. Mr Kalhoro praised the use of CAPI approach of NRSP for PSC data, and added that the live data collection through tablets is very helpful as it is happening in real time. He ended his speech with thanking the EU for taking an initiative like SUCCESS Programme in Sindh.

Dr. Salam Memon, CEO TRDP, said in his speech that the PSC process is likely to start in the first week of April for TRDP.

Vote of Thanks

Mr Khaleel Tetlay, ACEO RSPN, shared his experiences of working in RSPs since 1987. He talked about the background of RSPs and their establishment since the first RSP, AKRSP, which was founded by Mr. Shoaib Sultan in 1984. Mr Tetlay highlighted the importance of RSPs in alleviating poverty and organizing poor so they can increase their capital and improve their skills for a better future. At the conclusion of his remarks, he thanked the participants for taking time out to attend the Inception workshop.

Annex A – Agenda

Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS)

Programme

Inception Workshop

Agenda (Tentative)

31st March 2016, Movenpick Hotel, Karachi

Activity	Responsibility/Presenter	Time
Registration of Participants	RSPN Team	0945-1000
Inaugural Session		
Welcome and opening remarks	Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman, Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) and Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO)	1000-1010
Remarks from EU	Representative of the EU EU Delegation to Pakistan	1010-1020
Speech by the Chief Guest	Mr. Muhammad Waseem, Additional Chief Secretary (Development) Government of Sindh	1020-1030
Tea Break		
Workshop Proceedings		
(Presided by Mr. Altaf Ahmed Bijrani, Secretary Planning and Development Government of Sindh)		
Presentation on SUCCESS Programme Implementation	Fazal Ali Saadi Programme Manager SUCCESS, RSPN	1050-1110
Remarks on the SUCCESS Programme	Dr. Rashid Bajwa, Chief Executive Officer, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP)	1110-1120
	Mr. Muhammad Dittal Kalhoro CEO, Chief Executive Officer, Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO)	1120-1130
	Dr. Salam Memon Chief Executive Officer, Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP)	1130-1140
	Dr. Azeem Ur Rahim Meo, Program Coordinator SGRRP/UCBPRP, Government of Sindh	1140-1150
Closing Remarks	Mr. Altaf Ahmed Bijrani Secretary Planning and Development Government of Sindh	1150-1210
Vote of Thanks	Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay, Acting Chief Executive Officer, RSPN	1210-1220
Lunch	RSPN Team	1230-

SUCCESS Programme is based on the Rural Support Programmes' (RSPs) social mobilisation approach to Community-Driven Development (CDD). Social Mobilisation centers around the belief that poor people have an innate potential to help themselves; that they can better manage their limited resources if they organise and are provided technical and financial support. The RSPs under the SUCCESS Programme provide social guidance, as well as technical and financial assistance to the rural poor in Sindh.

SUCCESS is a six-year long (2015-2021) programme funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organisation (SRSO), and Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP) in eight districts of Sindh, namely: Kambar Shahdadkot, Larkana, Dadu, Jamshoro, Matiari, Sujawal, Tando Allahyar, and Tando Muhammad Khan.



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