



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



Field Visit Report - Mr. Georges Dehoux, First Secretary



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Economic Strengthening Support
(SUCCESS) Programme**

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Secretary**

**17th and 18th January, 2017
Sujawal, Sindh**

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ORGANISED BY

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Contents

Preamble	1
Visit Proceedings	2
Day-01	2
Day 02	3

Preamble

The European Union (EU) and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have signed a Financing Agreement to support a 6 year (2015-2021) Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening Support (SUCCESS) Programme, aiming to reduce poverty in eight districts of Sindh. The SUCCESS Programme will be implemented by the Rural Support Programme Network (RSPN) and three of its member RSPs, Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Development Programme (TRDP), and National Rural Support Programme (NRSP).

SUCCESS Programme focuses on mobilization and organization of women in the rural areas of the eight target districts in Sindh, with the aim of enabling the communities to help themselves to get out of poverty, through active participation in the decision-making processes at the local levels.

District Sujawal is one of the eight districts where SUCCESS Programme is being implemented in Sindh, consisting of 37 Union Councils and 04 Tehsils. This report covers the visit of Mr. Georges Dehoux in District Sujawal under the SUCCESS Programme. Mr. Fazal Saadi Rural Support Programme Network (RSPN) and National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) representatives Ghulam Mustafa Jamro, Pervaiz Ahmed and NRSP Sujawal team were also part of the visit.

Visit Proceedings

Day-01

Mr. Georges reached Makli (District Thatta) on January 17, 2017 at Save the Children Office and had a meeting with the team, who gave an overview of the project and discussed the exit strategy of the programme.

After the meeting, team left for the visit of Out-Patient Therapeutic Program (OTP) Centre at Basic Health Unit (BHU) Mureed Khoso (PPHI facility) where they had a discussion with beneficiaries and staff of the facility.

The team visited the settlement Fateh Muhammad Soomro, Revenue Village Kharar, Union Council Ghotaro, where they had a meeting with beneficiaries of WINS Programme, Save the Children Component. Community members played a role-play activity during the meeting to demonstrate the information they have received about the malnutrition, hygiene and breast feeding.



Mr. Georges briefed the communities and the local visiting participants on the exit strategy of the Save the Children Programme intervention and assured continued support of the European Union (EU) in the field of nutrition through Government of Sindh (GoS). He said that he has proposed and hopes that future partnership of the EU with GoS, using existing networks of community institutions federated by NRSP,

will be involved in the process of nutrition Programme outreach. After this brief discussion, the team visited a village and attended a meeting of community organizations (COs) formed under the SUCCESS Programme. Three community organizations of the settlement Fateh Muhammad Soomro organized the meeting to share progress, self-help initiatives and future plans for the betterment of their village with the team.



During the CO meeting Ms. Farzana President of the CO Fateh Muhammad

Soomro 01 presented the CO profile and demography of the settlements with poverty

segregation as per the poverty band. Then CO Representative briefed about the structure and membership of three different COs in the settlement with focus on poverty segregation. They shared the progress of these three community organizations. Most prominent achievements were CO fostered enrollment children in School, tree plantation, facilitation to the vaccination teams, and awareness raising sessions.

Mr. Georges also inquired from the members of the CO about the integration of WINS (Save the Children programme) and SUCCESS Programme. Mr. Georges keenly took interest and discussed the micro investment plans (MIPs) that the community members have proposed and also validated some of the income generating plans specific to agriculture and forestry inputs. He said that the plans must be innovative and feasible.

Day 02

Mr. Georges participated in the meeting of CO Taj Muhammad Jat, UC, Marho Bolan Khan, Jati.

During the visit of settlement, he discussed in detail the agriculture of the area with special focus on the fruit trees grown in the area which has a direct link to the economic and nutritional benefit of the local population along with fishery productivity.



CO President, Ms. Nasreen, of Taj Muhammd Jati, gave a brief presentation on the demographics of the settlement and the structure of the CO. The CO Manager gave a detailed presentation on the progress of the organisation.

Mr. Georges asked about the education facilities available in the village and nearby town with special focus on the female education. He also asked about the MIPs and strategies of the households to reduce poverty, and discussed how the households can benefit from the existing agriculture inputs available in the area.



After a brief meeting with the District Commissioner, where the team thanked him for his facilitation in notification of village organisations (VOs), Mr. Georges had a meeting with representatives of Education Department, Livestock Department, and the Social Welfare Department in district Sujawal office. They discussed about possible collaboration with the departments and to increase the

outreach and possible cooperation with community organizations in Sujawal district.

A meeting was held with the VO Ghotaro under SUCCESS Programme of union council Ghotaro. VO Manager Ms. Jameela welcomed all participants followed by the brief introduction of the guests and VO members. Similar to the CO meetings, the VO presentation started with demographic detail of the Revenue Village Ghotaro. At revenue village level the VO has taken some self-help initiatives by bringing in new members to join the CO and have also facilitated the polio campaigns in the attached settlements. The VO has also facilitated families in sending their children to schools.

Mr. Georges asked about the education, nutrition and livelihood status. He described that, so far, the mobilization progress under SUCCESS Programme is phenomenal. He said, “We believe in coming days these federated community institutions will bring in sustainable changes in communities by jointly developing initiatives for the betterment of your villages.” He emphasized while answering the questions from the female community members, “Nobody will help



you until you start working on your own, and for that these community institutions are very important. In coming days, these community institutions will lead the development at grassroots level. Our commitment and support for these community institutions will bring in positive changes once these are sustained at village level with the support from government institutions.”

After brief discussion the meeting with VO ended with a very positive message to the community from Mr. Georges where he said, “If you are organised and committed in serving your people, the SUCCESS Programme will support your initiatives at village level for these five years.”

Village Organization (VO) meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Georges and NRSP and RSPN team.

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 Shahdaskot, Larkana, Dadu, Jamshoro, Matiari, Sujawal, Tando Allahyar, and Tando Muhammad Khan.



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