



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



SUCCESS

SUCCESS Review Workshop



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ORGANISED BY

RSPN

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

SUCCESS Review Workshop PIM, CAT, M&E Framework

**February 1st-4th, 2016
Karachi**

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Overview

As part of SUCCESS-RSPN component, over the last two months, RSPN prepared draft manuals on Social Mobilization that include Community Investment Fund (CIF), Income Generating Grants (IGG), Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI), Micro Health Insurance (MHI), and Vocational and Technical Skills Training. In addition to these manuals, Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT), and M&E Framework were also prepared. These drafts were prepared after reviewing the EU decision document, existing manuals of the RSPs, RSPs proposal to EU and consultation with RSPs resource groups. For the baseline methodologies the input from the University of Mannheim, Germany was also considered.

As part of the SUCCESS programme activity, RSPN organized a four-day workshop in Karachi to review the draft documents with partner organizations National Rural Support Program (NRSP), Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO), Thardeep Rural Development Program (TRDP), and get their feedback. The workshop allowed a participatory process with the partners to thrive.

Proceeding of the Workshop

Day 1

Welcome Note and Introduction of Participants

The SUCCESS Review workshop began with a recitation of the Holy Quran by Dr. Abdur Rehman Cheema, followed by the introduction from Mr. Fazal Ali Saadi, Programme Manager for the SUCCESS Programme. He introduced the SUCCESS programme, and outlined the objectives of the workshop, after which the workshop participants introduced themselves. The SUCCESS Review workshop participants included representatives from NRSP, TRDP and SRSO, as well as staff members of RSPN. Following the round of introductions, RSPN's acting CEO Mr. Khaleel Ahmed Tetlay took over to give opening remarks. Mr Tetlay talked about the background of RSPs and their establishment since the first RSP, AKRSP, which was founded by Mr. Shoab Sultan in 1984. Mr Tetlay highlighted

the importance of RSPs in alleviating poverty and organizing poor so they can increase their capital (individual, and collective), and improve their skills (management, financial, and technical) for a better future.



The RSPN was established to facilitate RSPs by promoting and lobbying their work, coordinating with partners and stakeholders, starting pilot projects, building their capacities, engaging in policy advocacy, and resource mobilization of RSPs. Mr Tetlay explained to the participants that for SUCCESS Programme, RSPN's role is to standardize the process, which includes unification of monitoring and reporting framework, research and evidence generation, communicating the evidence to the right stakeholders, regional country visits, and policy and advocacy.

Social Mobilization

Following the opening session, the workshop was led by Mr Mohammad Ali Azizi, Specialist Social Mobilization to review the Program Implementation Manual (PIM). Day One was dedicated to reviewing PIM and forming a consensus on the document. Mr Azizi began the session by explaining the meaning of social mobilization. Social mobilisation has been used extensively as a way to achieve sustainable development for the masses. It does this by bringing communities together in order to better achieve their common-goals and to meet their needs. At the heart of the social mobilisation approach, lies the belief that every individual has the capability and potential to carry out activities for their own benefit and for that of their own families. The social mobilisation approach to development enables communities to identify, prioritise, plan and think about their developmental needs jointly. In other words, social mobilisation is a way of building social capital, whereby cooperation and reciprocity is encouraged and in fact sought after.

The process of carrying out social mobilization was decided upon. It was agreed that there would be district-wise social mobilization mapping with the help of a poverty scorecard. The

partner organizations and RSPN discussed and agreed upon the changes in formation of Community Organizations (Cos), Village Organizations (VOs), and Local Support Organizations (LSOs), as well as district level LSO networks. It was decided that there would be close supervision by the social mobilization team (SMT) for CO formation process, and there must be a Leadership, Management and Skills Training (LMST) for the VO office-bearers. This training will include teaching the office bearers about developing a Village Development Plan (VDP), and how to monitor it, in addition to other things.

All the parties agreed that a Union Council Development Plan (UCDP) be developed by the LSO General Body, with facilitation from the SMT. The UCDP will consist of annual work plan with budget. The steps of forming a UCDP, as well as the terms of the plan were discussed and agreed upon.

Day 2

Community Investment Fund (CIF), Income Generating Grant (IGG)

The second day of the workshop was centred on reviewing the draft manuals of Community Investment Fund (CIF), Income Generating Grant (IGG), and Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT). At the onset of the session, Mr Khalil Ahmed Tetlay welcomed the participants and talked about the concept of social mobilization as a recap of previous day, and how CIF, and IGG are linked to social mobilization. Mr Tetlay said that social mobilization should lead to socially and financially viable community institutions.

Following the welcome session, Mr Mohammad Ali Azizi started the review session on the draft manuals for CIF and IGG. CIF and IGG entail the provision of a capital grant by the Rural Support Programmes (RSPs) to CO/VOs/LSOs, targeted at the women from poor and poorest households. CIF is used by the community institutions as revolving fund while IGG is used for provision of productive assets to the CO members. Poverty scorecard is used to identify the eligible households to ensure that only the poor and poorest households access CIF and IGG capital. One member household can access either IGG or CIF at one time. However, the poorest members who had availed IGG can access CIF in future at her turn.

All the parties agreed that there should be two separate manuals for CIF and IGG as they are two separate components of the program. Both the manuals would however be similar in nature. The CIF implementation approach was discussed in great length and it was decided that the component of CIF will be implemented through sub-granting to the COs, VO, or LSOs. Sub-granting to community institutions for implementation of the CIF is in compliance with RSP's social mobilisation sustainability and capacity building approach. In addition to this, changes in the eligibility criteria, were discussed and agreed upon. It was also decided that the validation of eligible beneficiary for CIF will be first via using poverty scorecard, and a list of negative services/goods (for example, ...) that the entities/community may get CIF for, should be included in the manual. The size of sub-grant for CIF was also agreed upon by all the parties.



Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT)

This session was followed by review of Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT), presented by Mr Bashir Anjum, Specialist Social Sector at RSPN. The purpose and use of CAT was discussed in great detail. Mr Anjum welcomed feedback and contributions from the participants on the toolkit, and made relevant changes to the documents. A timeline for revised CAT was discussed and agreed upon.

Day 3

Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI)

The third day commenced with review of module on Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) Projects. Mr Azizi, inviting feedback from the participants, made changes to eligibility criteria of CPI, types and number of CPIs supported, size of sub-grants for CPI, and CPI selection and sub-grant awarding criteria, accordingly. The project implementation process was discussed in great detail, and changes were made in the document, as well as the flow chart. This module was followed by discussion and comments on Micro Health Insurance (MHI), in which the main sections of the module were discussed.

Vocational Technical Skills Training

After the lunch break, the module on Vocational Technical Skills Training was reviewed. The main sections, and the formats and checklist of Vocational Training Programmes (VTPs) module were reviewed, and the timeline for revised manual was agreed upon.

Research Strategies

The last sessions of the day were on Research Strategies, and Communication Strategy. The former session was led by Dr. Abdul Rahman Cheema, Team Lead Research for SUCCESS at RSPN. Dr. Cheema explained that the research and selection for the site was done in collaboration with the University of Mannheim, Germany. Dr. Andreas Landmann, Professor from the University of Mannheim visited Pakistan, and went with SUCCESS team to identify two sample UCs for the project.

Communication Strategies

Mr. Noor Muhammad, Communications Officer SUCCESS at RSPN, explained the importance of developing a communication strategy to disseminate information about the SUCCESS project effectively to the larger public, but also to streamline the flow of information within all partner organizations. Structuring the flow of communication within

RSPN and between the RSPN and partners would ensure better coordination and effective implementation of the programme.

Day 4

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Baseline Methodologies

The last day of the review workshop was dedicated to discussing the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and baseline methodologies. Mr. Khurram Shahzad, Specialist M&E RSPN, and Ms. Marvi Ahmed, M&E Officer SUCCESS at RSPN, led the session. First of all the strategic importance of SUCCESS M&E framework was explained. Mr. Shahzad delved into the evaluation plan where he described the purpose, scope and criteria for evaluation under SUCCESS. It was agreed upon that there would be pre and post programme PSC surveys, and socio-economic surveys (baseline and end-line). The participants also decided that there would be thematic and sectoral case studies to document the progress.

Closing Session

At the conclusion of the workshop Mr Fazal Ali Saadi briefly overviewed the topics of discussion and the decisions made. He thanked the participants for taking time out to attend the four-day long workshop and contributing greatly to the modules. He also reminded everyone about the timelines decided for the revised version of the manuals.

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



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