

VOLUME #02, JANUARY 2024

A WAY TO SELF-RELIANCE

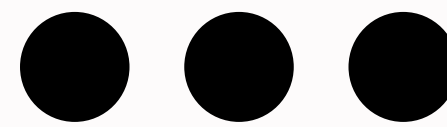
(COMPILATION OF THE SELECTED SUCCESS STORIES OF ON-GOING PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS)



Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO)

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BEP (Balanced Energy Protein) Project

MEET SAMIRA , A COMMUNITY RESOURCE PERSON

[KAMBER-SHAHDADKOT/OCTOBER27, 2023](#)



She is a mother of five children, with three boys and two girls. Four of her children attend school as well. She is the 2nd group of women CRPs from the district who were selected and engaged in 2022 for selling and marketing #nutrition products and services to rural women under the BEP (Balanced Energy Protein) Project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and implemented by Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) in partnership with #RSPN and Hystra Paris. She visits 20 to 25 households daily in their assigned area to sell products to women to improve their health. Now, Samira's monthly income is between 10 to 11 thousand, which she primarily uses for her children's education and health.

Samira works in the field of malnutrition among women and focuses on their health. She is part of the BEP Project, which has given her a mobile phone and training on data punching. This has allowed her to punch her sales data herself on an app and generate income. Samira's work is a source of inspiration for women in rural areas, showing them that they too can run a business from their homes.

#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-MER-U #03



BEP (Balanced Energy Protein) Project

“It was challenging for me and my family to decide to work on the project, but after they made the decision, I feel proud to contribute to the family livelihood support and well-being of women of the own area,” Samiara says with confidence.

Samira's story highlights the impact of empowering women with skills and technology in rural areas. By providing access and knowledge, women like her can become self-sufficient and contribute to their family's well-being. It is crucial to continue supporting programs like the BEP project to help more women like Samira achieve economic independence.

Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) is implementing the BILL & MELINDA GATES Foundation-funded BEP (Balanced Energy Protein) Project in collaboration with RSPN and Hystra Paris in district Kamber-Shahdadkot, The main objective of the project is to increase the availability of nutritious and protein-rich foods to poorest population.

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Compiled by Agha Kashif
(Capacity Building Officer-BEP-SRSO)
Kamber-Shahdadkot

Mai Parveeza has constructed a decent and safe house with the support provided by the Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) through the People's Poverty Reduction Programme (PPRP) funded by the Sindh Government. This initiative has helped improve the living conditions of ultra-poor families in village Roopahar, UC Roopar Taluka Pano Aqil, District Sukkur

Mai Parveeza, the owner of the low-cost house, is a mother of four children and relies on agriculture for her livelihood. "Due to financial constraints and the challenges posed by inflation, she was unable to construct a permanent house." She says. "However, with the assistance of SRSO and the PPRP, I was able to fulfill her dream of providing a safe and decent shelter of two rooms, a veranda, and an allied facility for her family." She further elaborated on her story of the LCH construction.



#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-MER-U #05

MAI PARVEEZA HAS CONSTRUCTED A DECENT AND SAFE HOUSE

SUKKUR/ SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

This new home offers protection from the elements, such as rain and hot weather, which is a significant improvement in their quality of life.

Mai Parveeza's journey also highlights the importance of community involvement through initiatives like the Village Organization (VO). She says "When we women of the village came together to work with SRSO to eradicate poverty and improve their socio-economic status. It provided them with hope and support to achieve their dreams of better living conditions."



MS. SALEEMAT, A BENEFICIARY OF THE NPGP

Shikarpur/July ,2023



Ms. Saleemat, a beneficiary of the NPGP and resident of Waryam Shar village district Shikarpur, is a mother of seven children who has been struggling to meet the basic needs of her family. She expressed her difficulties, saying, "I didn't have any resources for living life, therefore I could not care for myself and other family members." Additionally, she revealed that she is suffering from a fatal disease, hepatitis B, and their home was severely damaged during the monsoon rains, resulting in the death of their cattle. As a result, her entire family was left homeless and without any support, leading them to feel hopeless.

However, the situation took a positive turn when the IFAD program arrived in their village, bringing a great blessing from God. Ms. Saleemat's name was identified and selected to receive a productive asset to support her livelihood and enable her to graduate from poverty on a sustainable basis.

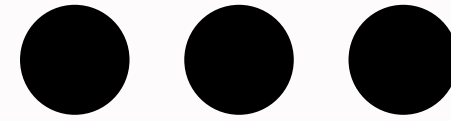
"With the assistance of the program, my son now drives the asset, a Fatta rakhsawa, and earns Rs. 500 to 700 daily, which is enough to sustain their livelihood. We also started saving money, moving closer to a successful life." Ms. Saleemat spoke with confidence and a smile and expressed her gratitude for the opportunities provided by the NPGP-IFAD-MOPASS and SRSOs

*Compiled by Saira Rajput
(Manager-NPGP-SRSO) Head Office Sukkur*

SRSO is implementing the National Poverty Graduation Programme (NPGP) a flagship program of the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety (MOPASS) Govt. of Pakistan with the funding of The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in Shikarpur and Kashmore@Kandhkot districts. The overall goal of the Programme is to assist the ultra-poor and very poor BISP families in graduating out of poverty on a sustainable basis, simultaneously improving their overall food security, nutritional status, and resilience to climate change.

Manzooran: A resilient woman- Story of resilient housing beneficiary-SPHF-GoS.

Shikarpur/October17,2023



In the village of Dino Machi district Shikarpur, Manzooran, a resilient woman, lived with her aging father and devoted brother after a divorce left her without children. She was a skilled artisan, crafting wooden baskets and trays passed down through generations.

Manzooran wasn't content with just mastering her craft; she taught other village women to create these wooden treasures. They sold them in local shops, earning a modest income. Their hope was drowned when a 2022 flood swept away their homes, making their craft impossible.

A survey conducted by the SRSO for reconstructing resilient houses for flood-affected households funded by the Sindh government brought hope. They received assistance to rebuild their home. Manzooran watched their house rise from the ground; it symbolized their resilience.

“I am very happy and grateful to the government of Sindh and SRSO for supporting me in the construction of a new house and able to continue owning- craft, to earn some income to support family”. Manzooran says her feelings. Her story proved that even in adversity, hope could be rekindled, and dreams could be rebuilt.



SRSO is an implementing partner of the Government of Sindh in the World Bank-funded Sindh Flood Housing Reconstruction Project in 05 districts. Under the agreement, SRSO will construct 768,796 resilient houses in assigned districts; i.e. Jacobabad 113,250, Shikarpur 90,975, Kamber-Shahdadkot 147,223, Larkana 131,733 and Khairpur Mirs 268,796.



*Compiled by Maryia Khan
(Communication Officer-SPHF-
SRSO) Head Office Sukkur*

MAI HASEEN, A KITCHEN GARDENING BENEFICIARY

Sukkur//September18, 2023

Mai Haseena w/o Ghulam Akbar is a woman from village Piyaro Khan Shambani, UC Wass Taluka Salehpat District Sukkur. She lives in a joint family with her husband and has 10 children. Like many people in her village, she used to struggle with poverty and food insecurity. She had no source of income and depended on her husband's meager earnings as a laborer. She is also an active member of the SRSO-fostered Village Organization (VO) under PPRP-GoS.

But, Haseena's life changed when she got an opportunity to participate in a training program for kitchen gardening, under the Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP)-Govt. of Sindh and implemented by SRSO. She learned how to grow vegetables and fruits in a small plot of land using organic methods and water-saving techniques. She also received seeds, tools, and other materials to start her own kitchen garden.





#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-MER-U #09

Haseena was very enthusiastic about the training and applied the knowledge and skills she gained to her 20 by 20 feet plot. She planted tomatoes, chilies, okra, spinach, coriander, mint, lemon, guava and other crops. She was amazed by the results. Her garden produced enough food for her family and even some surplus to sell in the market. She earned 10,000 income in a season from her garden and improved her family's nutrition and health. She invested her income in her son's shop.

Haseena was so motivated by her success that she decided to expand her garden to more than a jareb and now even more. Now she sold her goat to install a separate Water Motor for gardening.

As per the receipts she has, which she received from the market at the time of selling her vegetables, she also encourages other women in her village to join the program and start their own kitchen gardens. She became a role model and a leader in her community.

Haseena also shares her vegetables with her neighbors and close relatives free of cost. Haseena is very happy and grateful to SRSO and SIAPEP for giving her this opportunity. She says, "I never thought I could do this. I feel proud of myself and my garden. It has given me hope and confidence for the future."

Conclusively, the Kitchen Gardening project of SIAPEP-SRSO has brought significant benefits to rural women like Haseena, who is one of the participants. She is satisfied with the project and willing to expand it further. She is also improving her living standards gradually.

*Compiled by Farkhanda
(NRM Professional SRSO) Sukkur*

Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP) is a World Bank funded Project by On Farm Water Management-Govt. of Sindh. The development objective for the Sindh Project is to improve irrigation water management at Tertiary and field levels in Sindh. SRSO is implementing its Kitchen Gardening component of project and has established 3,100 KGs at household level through drip irrigation in 15 districts of Sindh with an aim to meet nutritional requirements of the family as per their choice. A well-managed kitchen garden provides fresh vegetables as well conservation of irrigation water and livelihood support selling surplus vegetables.

STORY OF FARZANA'S LIFE

Kamber-Shahdadkot / August 31, 2023

Farzana's life took a different turn when she married Lutaf Ali at the age of 20. In her father-in-law's family, the tradition of not having birth spacing led to her looking older than her years due to continuous pregnancies. Her health suffered, making it challenging for her to care for her family and herself.

Amidst her struggles, Farzana heard about Youth champion Ulfat Ghulam Qadir, she was trained under the Sehatmand Khandan initiative from UNFPA SRHR. She conducted various kinds of sessions like SRHR, human rights. Intrigued, Farzana decided to share her own story during one of these sessions. The discussions revolved around the various female health issues she had been facing.

Empowered by the knowledge gained from the SRHR session, Farzana made the decision to seek medical help. However, her family opposed the idea, considering it against their norms. They said to Farzana, "You are lucky to be giving birth to sons, so we won't take up your birthing space" Disheartened, Farzana's hope was rekindled when Ulfat, a youth champion, and a member of the village organization visited her home. They shed light on the importance of following precautions for her well-being and her family's welfare.

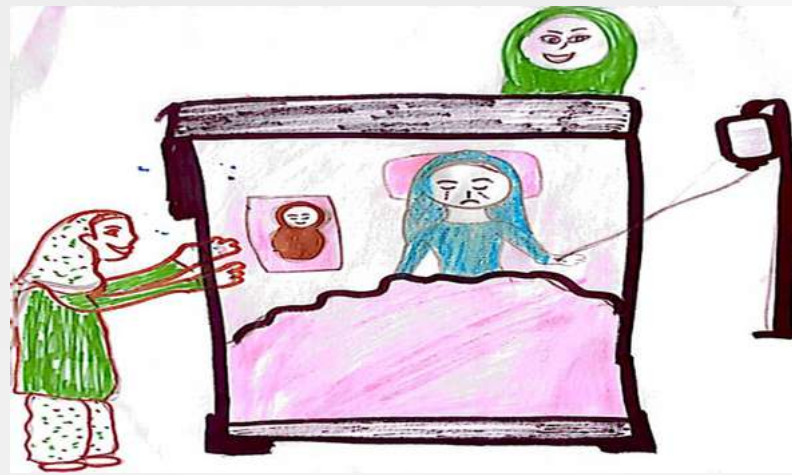
This intervention opened the eyes of Farzana's mother-in-law and husband, making them realize the significance of making informed decisions about health. Together, they acknowledged the necessity of embracing change and adhering to necessary precautions for a healthier and happier life.



Farzana is VO member of khatan khan Mugheri UC Yarodero. She married Lutuf Ali at the age of 20. In her father-in-law's family, the tradition of not having birth spacing led to her looking older than her years due to continuous pregnancies. She has seven children two daughters 5 sons. Her health suffered, making it challenging for her to care for her family and herself.



UNFPA-SRHR Sehatmand Khandan Project



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Illustrated by Syeda Kiran

(Youth Facilitator-Sehatmand Khan Project-SRSO)

Kamber-Shahdadkot



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#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-MER-U #11

SRSO is implementing UNFPA funded Community Engagement for the Promotion of Reproductive Health Rights (RHR) of Youth and Improve their Access to Reproductive Health (RH) Services under Sihat Mand Khaandaan Project in collaboration with RSPNin district Kamber-Shahdadkot. The overall objective is to contribute to UNFPA's effort to support policy initiatives and advocacy for increased investment in marginalized young people, including access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).

National Poverty Graduation Programme- NPGP- Govt. of Pakistan

**“POVERTY IS THE DEPRIVATION OF OPPORTUNITY”.
THIS RINGS TRUE WITH THE TRANSFORMATION OF
MAI NASEEBA’S LIFE.**

Shikarpur/ July 24, 2023

A wise saying is that “Poverty is the deprivation of opportunity”. This rings true with the transformation of Mai Naseeba’s life. A resident of the village Waryam Shar, Taluka Khanpur, District Shikarpur, Sindh, She is a mother of 4 children and her husband doesn't work anywhere due to overage. Mai Naseeba was struggling to make ends meet, even while working endless hours in the fields. In 2022, when the climate-change-induced heavy rains and floods hit her village, she was left homeless and without a source of income. “Before having assets I was dependent on others for my daily basis needy things. During the monsoon season, I along with my children suffered from various deadly diseases, our condition of living went backward day by day we had no money for our treatment, and didn't have food for livelihood all the doors of hope almost closed soon after the glance of IFAD program shines like the sun at our village I enlisted my name in the meeting, hopefully, my name was appeared in UP category & I got Heifer from NPGP program.” She says about getting asset.

In a desperate attempt to turn her family’s fortunes around, Mai Naseeba applied for the Livelihood Investment Plan – a plan under the Government of Pakistan and the IFAD-funded National Poverty Graduation Programme (NPGP). She expressed her interest in obtaining livestock as an asset, and after the required evaluation, she was given a cow. With the cow in her possession, Mai Naseeba was slowly but surely able to improve her family’s living conditions with a steady source of income. The cow later gave birth to a calf, which Mai Naseeba and her family raised and then profitably sold.

#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-MER-U #12

Now Alhamdulillah im very happy & moving towards satisfaction life. My heifer birth one kid that was died. My heifer gives 5kg milk a day to in which I sell 3kg milk on RS: 120 remaining milk we use for food. She told this story🙏



**Compiled by Saira Rajput
(Manager-NPGP-SRSO) Head Office Sukkur**

UNFPA-SRHR Sehatmand Khandan Project

SAJIDA; A VICTIM OF CHILD MARRIAGE VILLAGE: SHAHPUR, UNION COUNCIL THARO WADHO

*Kamber-Shahdadkot
/July05, 2023*

Sajida's story is certainly filled with challenges, but it's inspiring to see her determination and resilience in the face of adversity. Despite being married at a young age and lacking access to proper education and resources, she found the strength to support her family.

Sajida was married in her teenage, that is early child marriage, when she was studying in class five her parents celebrated her relationship with Hubdar. He was the only one son of his father, and he was older than Sajida.

After a couple of months, his father died, and Hubdar's Father had a grocery shop but he didn't have knowledge about the shop he was spending time with his friends as a result the shop remained closed.

When Sajida became pregnant she used to remain sick due to the lack of blood, after some time she had 6 children among them 2 were mentally weak. Sajida wasn't taking birth spacing services. The circumstances became difficult for her, it was tough to survive. When she knew that her husband was suffering from cancer.

Sajida was worried about her husband and living expenses. Attending the session on self-esteem conducted by Youth Champion Balqees proved to be a turning point for Sajida. It empowered her and boosted her self-confidence, giving her the motivation to take matters into her own hands. She realized that she had the potential to contribute to her family's well-being.

Sajida Says “After attending the session and counseling provided by SRSO trained Youth Champion, I realized to think about my life and way of thinking to face with challenges confidently and wisely” She further said, “ so, I increased my self-esteem and determined to manage her home expenses to support her home and children”

Taking action, Sajida started a fritters stall at home. While it may not have provided significant financial support initially, every little contribution matters when circumstances are tough. By actively engaging in income-generating activities, Sajida showed her determination to manage her home expenses and support her children.

Illustrated by Syeda Kiran (Youth Facilitator-Sehatmand Khan Project-SRSO) Kamber-Shahdadkot

#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-MER-U #13

Union Council: Tharo Wadho
Village: Shaipur

Sajida was married in her teenage, that is early child marriage, when she was studying in class five her parents celebrated her relationship with Hubdar. He was the only one son of his father, and he was older than Sajida.



After a couple of months, his father died, and Hubdar's Father had a grocery shop but he didn't have knowledge about the shop he was spending time with his friends as a result the shop remained closed.

When Sajida became pregnant she used to remain sick due to the lack of blood, after some time she had 6 children among them 2 were mentally weak. Sajida wasn't taking birth spacing services.



The circumstances became difficult for her, it was tough to survive. When she knew that her husband was suffering from cancer.



Sajida was worried about her husband and living expenses, she was attending the session of Youth Champion Balqees on self-esteem, after taking the session she had increased her self-esteem and determined to manage her home expenses to support her home and children.



After that she started a fritters stall at home, it was not much more, but little support to her family today.

“Youth Facilitator Kiran Speaks”

Samina reconstructed a resilient house after the flood 2022 Larkana, Sindh

The 1st resilient house completed and inaugurated among 2.1 million by SPHF-GoS

It's an inspiring journey of Samina, a resident of District Larkana in the village of Vikia Sangi, whose house was fully damaged during the devastating flood of 2022. Through the assistance of the Sindh government and the Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO), Samina's house was approved for the beneficiary-driven house construction program. With the support of the Village Resilience Committee (VRC), Samina's house was built with resilience as a core focus.

Samina at the age of 34, along with her husband and their three daughters and one son, faced the devastating consequences of the flood. As a contractor, Samina's husband had been the primary earner for the family. However, the flood left their house in ruins, leaving them homeless and in need of assistance.





On July 21, 2023, Mr. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Foreign Minister of Pakistan along with CM Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah inaugurated and handed-over the land title her on the 1st constructed the resilient house of the flood-affectedees at village Vikia Sangi district Larkana.

CEO-SRSO Mr. Muhammad Dittal Kalhoro briefed about the housing reconstruction process and progress. He tolled that 147 houses are under construction among the 266 validated flood-affected houses in the village. Mr. BBZ appreciated the SRSO work and its adopted approach to rec-construction of the houses.


Samina's case exemplifies the successful implementation of a beneficiary-driven, multi-hazard resilient house construction project in District Larkana, Sindh. With the financial assistance secured from the World Bank, and in collaboration with SRSO, the Sindh government ensured the reconstruction of flood-affected houses with resilience in mind. Samina's gratitude towards the Sindh government and SRSO highlights the positive impact of resilient housing on the lives of disaster-affected communities, fostering resilience and gratitude. The incorporation of specific features, such as raised plinths, plastic sheet usage, improved ventilation, and waterproofing, contributed to the overall resilience of Samina's home, providing a safe and secure dwelling that can withstand future hazards. Her story serves as an inspiration for others, highlighting the importance of community support, government intervention, and the power of resilience in rebuilding lives affected by natural disasters. With a new chapter beginning in their lives, Samina and her family shifted into their new house, carrying the memories of their past and embracing the hope of a brighter future.

Under the beneficiary-driven house construction program, Samina actively participated in the planning and construction process. The project aimed to empower affected individuals by involving them in decision-making and ensuring their needs and preferences were considered. Samina worked closely with the Village Reconstruction Committee (VRC) members who guided her throughout the project. Designing a Multi-Hazard Resilient House Samina's new house was designed to withstand various hazards, including floods, earthquakes, and extreme weather conditions.

Compiled by Maryia Khan

(Communication Officer-SPHF-SRSO) Head Office Sukkur

GHOTKI/SEPTEMBER 19, 2023



Most vulnerable families from the Flood-affected communities are rehabilitating the essential community infrastructure and earning livelihood

The Cash-For-Work scheme initiated by SRSO under the Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project (SFERP)-Sindh Government funded by World Bank in village Gul Akbar Pathan and other villages of UC Lohi Taluka Khangarh district Ghotki to provide much-needed support to the flood-affected community members.

The 85 community members (45 men and 40 women) from 5 different 5 villages have been engaged in the Cash-For-Work scheme and they are actively rehabilitating a 1.5 KM long earthen road, which was severely damaged during the floods. This road is of significant importance as it connects five different villages. By working on this road, the community members are not only earning a livelihood but also contributing to the restoration of essential infrastructure

“The CFW scheme is offering temporary employment opportunities to men and women who have been severely affected by the floods of 2022. This employment is particularly crucial because the floods had disrupted their regular sources of income, such as crops, livestock, and daily wage labor work in nearby towns.” Syed Shahanshah Project Manager-SRSO-SFERP talked about the project’s purpose.

Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project (SFERP)-Sindh Government



“During floods, we lost our own houses and livelihood sources like crops and this initiative has provided an opportunity to earn and meet our basic needs.” One unskilled labor woman Mai Sakina, a mother of 9 children expressed her views. Another male laborer Shahid Ali, a daily-waged laborer said, “Due to floods, he could not get daily wage labor work in nearby towns and this scheme of Sindh Govt. has provided an opportunity to work for earn as well as serve for the community.” “The decision to engage in the Cash-For-Work scheme was made collectively through a dialogue involving all community members. This participatory approach ensures that the community's needs and priorities are taken into account. The unanimous agreement to work on the earthen road underscores its importance to the affected villages.” Mai Sachal (President) and Mai Zarina (Manage) of Village Organization Nehal fostered by SRSO talked about the identification, privatization, and selection process of the CFW scheme adopted by VO.

The Cash-For-Work scheme under SFERP-GoS is a vital intervention that addresses both the immediate economic needs of the flood-affected communities and contributes to the restoration of essential infrastructure, ultimately improving the quality of life and resilience of these communities in the face of natural disasters.

Compiled by: Ali Anwar Azad

(Assistant Manager-Communication & Documentation-MER-U) Head Office Sukkur



**#02 A Way To Self-Reliance by SRSO-
MER-U #17**



Published E-Bulletin Success Stories

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Sindh Rural Support Organization
SPECIAL E-BULLETIN
 Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Unit (MER-U)
 SRSO Complex, Shikarpur Road Sukkur (Sindh) Pakistan. Ph.#: 071-56271820 Website: www.srso.org.pk

UNFPA-SRHR THE SEHATMAND KHANDAN PROJECT
SUCCESS STORY OF SAJIDA
 VILLAGE: SHAHPUR, UC AND UNION COUNCIL THARO WADHO
 KAMBER-SHAHDADKOT

Sajida's story is certainly filled with challenges, but it's inspiring to see her determination and resilience in the face of adversity. Despite being married at a young age and lacking access to proper education and resources, she found the strength to support her family.

Sajida was married in teen age, that is early child marriage, when she was studying in class five her parents celebrated her relationship with Hubdar. He was only one son of his father, and he was older than Sajida.

After a couple of months his father died, and Hubdar's father had a grocery shop but he didn't have knowledge about the shop he was passing time with his friends as a result the shop remained closed.

SUCCESS STORY OF SAJIDA UNFPA-SRHR UNDER THE SEHATMAND KHANDAN PROJECT
 KAMBER-SHAHDADKOT

When Sajida became pregnant she used to remain sick due to the lack of blood, after some time she had 6 children among them 2 are mentally weak. Sajida wasn't taking birth spacing services. The circumstances became difficult for her, it was tough to survive. When she knew that her husband was suffering from cancer.

Sajida was worried about her husband and living expenses. The attending the session on self-esteem conducted by Youth Champion Balqees proved to be a turning point for Sajida. It empowered her and boosted her self-confidence, giving her the motivation to take matters into her own hands. She realized that she had the potential to contribute to her family's well-being.

Sajida says "after attaining the session and counselling provided by SRSO-SRHR trained youth champion, I realized to re-think about my life and way of thinking to face with challenges confidently and wisely." She further said, "so, I increased my self-esteem and determined to manage her home expenses to support her home and children".

Taking action, Sajida started a fritzer stall at home. While it may not have provided significant financial support initially, every little contribution matters when circumstances are tough. By actively engaging in income-generating activities, Sajida showed her determination to manage her home expenses and support her children.

It is important to recognize that child marriage and lack of access to education and healthcare especially reproductive services are significant issues that need to be addressed on a broader scale.

Prepared by: YOUTH FACILITATOR SIBER, SIBER SRSO, UNFPA-SRHR PROJECT

JULY 19, 2023/ISSUE#386
Sindh Rural Support Organization
SPECIAL E-BULLETIN
 Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Unit (MER-U)
 SRSO Complex, Shikarpur Road Sukkur (Sindh) Pakistan. Ph.#: 071-56271820 Website: www.srso.org.pk

SINDH PEOPLE'S HOUSING FOR FLOOD AFFECTEES (SPHF)
A CASE STUDY
SAMINA'S RESILIENT HOUSE RECONSTRUCTION AFTER THE 2022 FLOOD
 LARKANA, SINDH

Introduction:
 In 2022, the province of Sindh, Pakistan, faced severe floods that caused significant damage to infrastructure and displaced thousands of people. The Sindh government sought financial assistance from the World Bank to support the rehabilitation efforts. With the approval loan, the government initiated a beneficiary-driven house construction project, focusing on building resilient houses to mitigate the impact of future hazards. SRSO has been engaged by the Government of Sindh through SPHF to build 79,977 multi-hazard resilient houses in five districts namely Larkana, Shikarpur, Khairpur, Jacobabad and Kamber-Shahdadkot. In Larkana district 131,733 multi-hazard resilient houses will build in upcoming days.

Background:
 Samina at the age of 36, along with her husband and their three daughters and one son, faced the devastating consequences of the flood. As a contractor, Samina's husband had been the primary earner for the family. However, the flood left their house in ruins, leaving them homeless and in need of assistance.

Designing a Multi-Hazard Resilient House:
 Samina's new house was designed to withstand various hazards, including floods, earthquakes, and extreme weather conditions. Several features were incorporated into the construction to enhance its resilience:
 a. Raised Plinths: The house was built on raised plinths, with a height of 3 feet 4 inches and a width of 2.5 feet. This elevated foundation minimized the risk of water damage during future floods by keeping the living spaces above flood levels.
 b. Plastic Sheet Usage: To further strengthen the house's resistance to water infiltration, a plastic sheet was used at the upper mid of the Damp Proof Course (DPC). This additional layer of protection prevented moisture seepage from the ground.
 c. Improved Ventilation: The house was designed with enhanced ventilation to ensure proper airflow and reduce the risk of mold and moisture-related issues. Adequate windows and ventilation openings were strategically placed to facilitate natural ventilation throughout the house.

First Installation and Construction Progress:
 After the approval of her house for reconstruction, she received the first installment of 75000 PKR on 10th April 2023. Her husband, utilizing his contracting skills, managed the reconstruction process with the assistance of skilled workers. The construction progressed steadily, reaching the damp proof course (DPC) level, which marked a significant milestone in the reconstruction process.

Second Installment and Milestone Achievements:
 Following the completion of the DPC level, Samina received the second installment of 100,000 PKR on 28th May 2023. With this financial aid, she continued the reconstruction process. Continued to work tirelessly, and her house reached the final level, a significant milestone in the construction process.

This case study focuses on the inspiring journey of Samina, a resident of District Larkana in the village of Vikas Sangi, whose house was fully damaged during the devastating flood of 2022. Through the assistance of the Sindh government and the Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO), Samina's house was approved for the beneficiary-driven house construction program. With the support of the Village Resilience Committee (VRC), Samina's house was built with resilience as a core focus. This case study highlights the steps taken, challenges faced, and the ultimate success of Samina in rebuilding her life and expressing gratitude towards the Sindh government and SRSO.

A CASE STUDY
SAMINA'S RESILIENT HOUSE RECONSTRUCTION AFTER THE 2022 FLOOD

Orientation and Resilience Training:
 The Village Construction Committee (VCC) members played a crucial role in orienting Samina and other beneficiaries about the importance of building resilient houses. They emphasized the need for constructing houses that could withstand future disasters, ensuring the safety and well-being of the families. Samina and her family were guided to adhere to the resilient construction guidelines provided by the VCC.

Beneficiary Driven House Construction:
 Under the beneficiary driven house construction program, Samina actively participated in the planning and construction process. The project aimed to empower affected individuals by involving them in decision-making and ensuring their needs and preferences were considered. Samina worked closely with the Village Reconstruction Committee (VRC) members who guided her throughout the project.

Designing a Multi-Hazard Resilient House:
 Samina's new house was designed to withstand various hazards, including floods, earthquakes, and extreme weather conditions. Several features were incorporated into the construction to enhance its resilience:
 a. Raised Plinths: The house was built on raised plinths, with a height of 3 feet 4 inches and a width of 2.5 feet. This elevated foundation minimized the risk of water damage during future floods by keeping the living spaces above flood levels.
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HASEENA'S KITCHEN GARDEN OF HOPE
 VILLAGE PIYARO KHAN SHAMBARI, UC WASS TALUKA SAKHOSHT DISTRICT SUKKUR

THE SINDH IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (SIAPER)-GOVT. OF SINDH

Mai Haseena wife Chulam Akbar is a woman from village Piyaro Khan Shambari, UC Wassa Taluka Sakhsot District Sukkur. She lives in a joint family with her husband and has 10 children. Like many people in her village, she used to struggle with poverty and food insecurity. She had no source of income and depended on her husband's meager earnings as a laborer. She is also an active member of the SRSO fostered Village Organization (VO) under Peoples' Poverty Reduction Programme (PPRP)-Govt. of Sindh.

Her life changed when she got an opportunity to participate in a training program for kitchen gardening under the Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPER)-Govt. of Sindh and implemented by SRSO. She learned how to grow vegetables and fruits in a small plot of land using organic methods and water-saving techniques. She also received seeds, tools, and other materials to start her own kitchen garden.

Haseena was very enthusiastic about the training and applied the knowledge and skills she gained to her 20 by 20 feet plot. She planted tomatoes, chilies, okra, spinach, coriander, mint, lemon, guava and other crops. She was amazed by the results. Her garden produced enough food for her family and even some surplus to sell in the market. She earned 10,000 income in a season from her garden and improved her family's nutrition and health. She invested her income in her son's shop.

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RSPN-UNFPA SRH SEHTMAND KHANDAN PROJECT
STORY OF FARZANA'S LIFE

HEALTHY MARRIAGE

Farzana is VO member of Khatan Khan Mugheri UC Yaraband. She married Lutful Ali at the age of 20. In her father-in-law's family, the tradition of not having birth spacing led to her looking older than her years due to continuous pregnancies. She has seven children two daughters & 5 sons. Her health suffered making it challenging for her to care for her family and her.

Empowered by the knowledge gained from the SRHR session, Farzana made the decision to seek medical help. However, her family opposed the idea, considering it against their norms. They said to Farzana, "You are lucky to be giving birth to sons, so we won't take up your birthing space".

Deheartened, Farzana's hope was rekindled when Ulfat, a youth champion and a member of the village organization visited her home. They shed light on the importance of following precautions for her well-being and family's welfare.

This intervention opened the eyes of Farzana's mother-in-law and husband, making them realize the significance of making informed decisions about health. Together, they acknowledged the necessity of embracing change and adhering to necessary precautions for a healthier and happier life. For her well-being and her family's welfare.

Farzana heard about youth champion Ulfat Chulam Qadir, who was trained under the Sehatmand Khandan Initiative from UNFPA-SRHR. She conducted various kinds of sessions on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights. Farzana decided to share her own story during one of these sessions. The discussions revolved around the various female health issues she had been facing.

SRSO in partnership with RSPN is implementing UNFPA funded Community Engagement for the Promotion of Reproductive Health Rights of Youth and Improve their Access to Reproductive Health Services Project. Compiled & Illustrated by Kiran Syeda Youth Facilitator-SRSO SRH Project

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BEP (Balanced Energy Protein) Project
Meet Samira, A Meet Resource Person (CRP)
 District Kamber-Shahdadkot

Meet Samira, a Community Resource Person (CRP) working in Quster Chahri in Jan Mohammad Uper District Kamber-Shahdadkot, Sindh. She is a mother of five children, with three boys and two girls. Four of her children attend school as well. She is the 2nd group of women (GG) from the district who were selected and engaged in 2022 for selling and marketing nutrition products and services to rural women under the BEP (Balanced Energy Protein) Project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and implemented by Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) in partnership with RSPN and Hystra Paris. She visits 20 to 25 households daily in their assigned area to sell products to women to improve their health. Now Samira's monthly income is between 10 to 11 thousand, which she primarily uses for her children's education and health.

Samira works in the field of malnutrition among women and focuses on their health. She is part of the BEP Project, which has given her a mobile phone and training on data punching. This has allowed her to punch her sales data herself on an app and generate income. Samira's work is a source of inspiration for women in rural areas, showing them that they too can run a business from their homes.

"It was challenging for me and my family to decide to work on the project, but after they made the decision, I feel proud to contribute to the family livelihood support and well-being of women of the own area," Samira says with confidence. Samira's story highlights the impact of empowering women with skills and technology in rural areas. By providing access and knowledge, women like her can become self-sufficient and contribute to their family's well-being. It is crucial to continue supporting programs like the BEP project to help more women like Samira achieve economic independence.

Compiled by: Agha Kashaf Capacity Building Officer-BEP-SRSO

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SINDH FLOOD EMERGENCY REHABILITATION PROJECT (SERP)-SINDH GOVERNMENT

The Cash-For-Work scheme initiated by Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) under the Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project (SERP)-Sindh Government funded by World Bank in Village Gul Akbar Pacham of UC Lohi Taluka Khairpur district Cholki to provide livelihood support to the flood-affected community members.

The 88 community members (61 men and 44 women) from 3 different villages have been engaged in the Cash-For-Work scheme and they are actively rehabilitating a 1.5 Km long earthen road, which was severely damaged during the floods. This road is of significant importance as it connects five different villages. By working on this road, the community members are not only earning a livelihood but also contributing to the restoration of essential infrastructure.

NEWS STORY OF CASH-FOR-WORK SCHEME UNDER SERP-GOS

"The CFW scheme basically is offering temporary employment opportunities to men and unskilled men and women who have been severely affected by the floods of 2022. This employment is particularly crucial because the floods had disrupted their regular sources of income, such as crops, livestock, and daily wage labor work." Syed Shahanshah Project Manager-SRSO-SERP told about the CFW interventions.

"During floods, we lost our own houses and livestock sources, our crops and the initiative has provided an opportunity to earn and meet the basic needs." One unskilled labor woman Mai Samina, a mother of 4 children expressed her view. Another male laborer Shabbir Ali, a daily-waged laborer said, "Due to floods, he could not get daily wage labor work in nearby towns and this scheme of Sindh Govt. has provided an opportunity to work for him as well as a 'cease for the community'."

The SRSO as the Social Mobilization Partner of SERP, is playing a crucial role in designing and capacitating the livelihood Restoration and Cash for Work (CFW) component of the scheme in 09 districts included the Sanghar, Nawabshah, Chusthri Poros, Khairpur, Kamber-Shahdadkot, Larkana, Shikarpur, Jacobabad and Naushero. The main objective is to restore and enhance the livelihoods of the flood-affected communities in Sindh Province through community participation and empowerment.

Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) was incorporated on May 29, 2003, as a not-for-profit organization and registered under section 42 of the Companies Act 2017 (Formerly known as Companies Ordinance, 1984). SRSO was established by the Government of Sindh to work in the designated districts of Sindh to achieve the goals of poverty reduction through community empowerment, skills enhancement, capacity building, development of community-supported infrastructure, and support for income generation, enterprise development, and micro-credit.

SRSO's mandate is to alleviate poverty by harnessing people's potential within the communities to help themselves and undertake development activities.



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