



SRSO Newsletter

ISSUE 04: Quarter April-June 2010

In the history of SRSO, various events have been celebrated, continuing the tradition an auspicious event was arranged by SRSO. It was hilarious morning of 18th April, 2010, when honorable Chief Minister of Sindh Province Sayed Qaim Ali Shah inaugurated the launching ceremony of "Sehat Salamati Card". This gathering was designed for projection of Health Insurance under title "Sehat Salamati". The direct beneficiaries are Rural Community members. Minister for Local Government Mr. Siraj Durrani, Former Defense Minister, Mr. Aftab Shaban Mirani, Housing Minister Agha Taimoor Khan, Special Adviser Agha Arsalan Khan, MPA Mr. Anwar Mahar, DCOs, Saeed Ahmed Magnejo DCOs, P&D officials were honorable guests. Dr. Sono Khangharani Chief Executive Officer SRSO greeted the Chief Minister and rest of the delegation. The SRSO & UCBPRP interventions were demonstrated through stalls. CM along with other guests visited the stalls. The Chief Executive Officer SRSO presented briefing about the one year journey of UCBPRP. He shared SRSO achievements,



SYED QAIM ALI SHAH, CHIEF MINISTER GOVT: OF SINDH; VISITS THE UCBPRP.

Hurdles faced during the year and the impact of the intervention on the lives of communities. He thanked Chief Minister and the Government of Sindh for providing massive funding for the Project and above all their trust on SRSO. The cooperation of DCOs and government officials of project districts was also highly appreciated. He said there is dire need to work on the other sectors like productivity enhancement, education and construction of low cost houses for shelter less masses. In last, he also shared the findings of the third party evaluation that had carried out for verification of processes and change measurement that had occurred so far. Mean while, community women shared their case studies and socio-economic positive effects on their lives before and after the support taken from "UCBPRP & SRSO" core programs. The Chief Minister launch the "SEHAT SALAMATI" card and distributed cards of "Micro Health Insurance" and CIF cheques among groups of poorest of the poor women representing organized household from different communities/village organizations of Shikarpur and Kashmore- Kandhkot. The Chief Minister also distributed the souvenirs among the District Coordination Officers i.e. Dr. Saeed Ahmad Mangnejo, DCO Shikarpur; Syed Abid Ali Shah; DCO, Kashmore-Kandhkot; Kazim Hussain Jatoti; DCO, Jacobabad; Mohammad Hussain Naqvi; DCO, Larkana and to Mr. Jamal Shoro; Director SGRRP. Addressing the audience, the Chief Minister appreciated; this was a very unique program where more than 5000 women have participated and likewise same ratio of communities have been benefited according to plan of project. He excitedly shared that at the time when Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman SRSO and Dr. Sono had contacted him for approving and allocating funds for the project, he was not sure about the capacity of SRSO to execute the project but today after such progressive figures he feels very proud on the decision he made at that time. He said he is proud of Dr. Sono and SRSO team of social organizers who have showed a big social change in the remote areas which was witnessed through the presence of huge number of rural women. He said It is doubt less efforts of SRSO & UCBPRP teams who with their social mobilization gave tongue to the tongue less, dare to the dare less, care to the care less. Although DCOs fully cooperated with SRSO team but as a matter of policy the Government of Sindh had kept them away from UCBPRP and envisaged least role of Government Machinery in the Project, said C.M Sindh. The Chief Minister further said; no doubt UCBPRP project was a big challenge a year ago but, he is very happy that SRSO had found identified and targeted poor people in both district in a professional way. In last he said, provision of low cost housing to the shelter less and that greatest dream of the greatest leader Muhtarma Shaheed Benazir Bhutto & it will be materialized with the help of UCBPRP.

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Editor's Note

Before I get started telling you about what's in this issue, I'd regret for the delay in releasing 4th Quarterly Newsletter. The delay was due to the PSC survey in Jacobabad which remained our priority due to its sensitivity. Now, on to this issue of 4th Quarterly Newsletter. First, we have a page covering mega event of UCBPRP in honor of Chief Minister Sindh. Then we've continued the series of activities carried out during April to June 2010. We have also news of visitors and delegations who visited SRSO operational area in different projects. There is very interesting case study of Mst. Dur Naz, entitled "A STEP TOWARDS PROSPEROUS FUTURE" by Zulfiqar Narejo. To finish up with newsletter contents, Zeeshan Shaikh, Manager SSS, has written an article on "CONCEPT OF RURAL POVERTY AND LIVELIHOOD OF THE RURAL POPULATION IN PAKISTAN" followed by another article entitled "A STEP TOWARDS FAMILY HEALTH" by Niaz Noonari. I would like to thank Mr. Nisar Pathan, Mrs. Mahlab Tariq Pirzada, Ali Bux Mangi for being our regular contributors in every newsletter. Others are also acknowledged for their input in compiling this issue.

Enjoy the newsletter!

Syeda Nazia Shah

WEXNET 2010 AT EXPO LAHORE

By: Mahtab Tariq Pirzada

SRSO Enterprise team participated in three day exhibition 29th till 31st May 2010 at expo Lahore with two Rural Artisans. Exhibition was named Wexnet 2010, initiated by TDAP to promote and empower women entrepreneurs of Pakistan in exploring new business avenues in the local as well as the international market. The main purpose for arranging such exhibitions was to provide opportunities to women entrepreneurs to share their skills and experiences to meet challenges.



It was inaugurated by Syed Mohibullah Shah, Chief Executive TDAP. In evening, the wife of C.M Punjab also visited the exhibition and SRSO stall as well. We presented an Ajrak to her. On the next day, the exhibition was open for general public and business oriented personals.

There were more than 200 stalls set up by the women entrepreneurs from across the country. Varieties of products were displayed such as clothes, furniture and handicrafts. During the exhibition, seminars were arranged by TDAP. Presentations were shown by different sectors on benefits of exports, small business management and barriers of export. Different products were displayed at SRSO Stall for sale and orders. We got a good response on our date palm leaf products and baby accessory baskets. Muras (chair made of sticks) were also demanded. Patchwork and Cutwork dresses were liked by the local visitors. We received orders for patchwork and cutwork dresses. This was a good opportunity for SRSO to display its crafts & skills at the Wexnet expo exhibition in Lahore.



This Exhibition turned out to be a good learning experience for SRSO Artisans in terms of handling the stall and marketing the products.

Overall the event was very successful for the women entrepreneurs, since we met all the other women in the related field of small business setups. We got to discuss ideas on how to take things forward on this platform.

On the Last day, certificates were given to all the participants.

ACTIVIST AWARENESS CONFERENCES

By: Arifa Ashraf

Workshops, seminars and conferences are so community member and other stakeholders for creating network with multi disciplines.



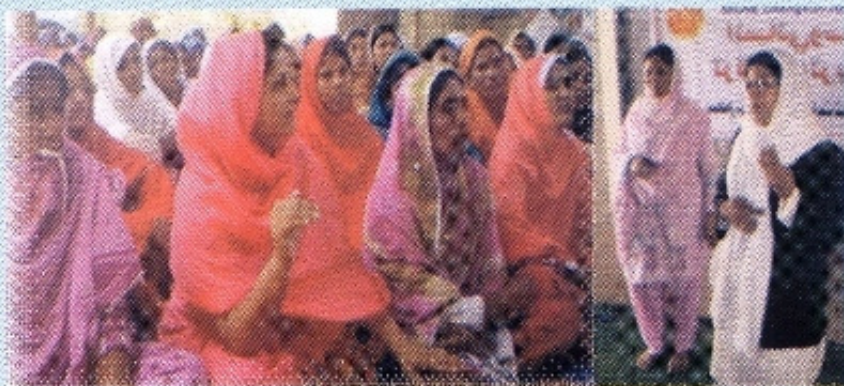
The domains of conference were covering a variety of topics. The conference agenda revolved round from environmental issues, human right to health & Hygiene issues. Different types of knowledge according to law and Shariah came under discussion. The importance of human being as a person or Pakistani citizen remained soul topics. HRD-SRSO organized Activist Indicator Awareness Conferences at Union Council Level through SM Project in District Ghotki for raising awareness about human rights.

Objectives

1. Awareness raising about child Rights (Health & Education)
2. Equal importance of CNIC to male & female.
3. Importance of Nikah Nama according to Islamic law and shariat in detail.
4. Provision of a platform for Internal lending through saving (Utilization of capital formation)
5. Law of inheritance (Property and its distribution)
6. Voters registration under SM project.

HRD-SRSO sector aims to support COs & VO's for strengthening their capacities and planning of development activities through Social Mobilization at Ghotki.

HRD conducted Activist awareness Conferences within (35) UCs of the district by rendering services of advocate (Session Court) Ms. Nadia Ghorri. She provided awareness to indigenous rural women regarding legal rights of the women as a citizen. In these conferences, facilitators raised awareness regarding above mentioned important topics. The Conferences provided a forum for sharing experience; identifying challenges and consolidating knowledge to move forward. The underlying goal was to come up with conclusion about the tangible results of the project that can be scaled up to new areas.



WORLD HEALTH DAY 2010

By: Fareeda Pathan

In 1948, the world Health Organization had the First World Health Assembly. The Assembly decided to celebrate 7th April of every year, with effect from 1950, as the World Health Day. The world health day is celebrated to create "awareness for a specific health theme to highlight a priority area of concern for the World Health Organization (WHO)".



Celebration of World Health Day

On 7th April 2010, SRSO-FALAH team celebrated WHD at District Sukkur at Unit Office Salehpat in which (104) women and (142) Men participated from different locations.

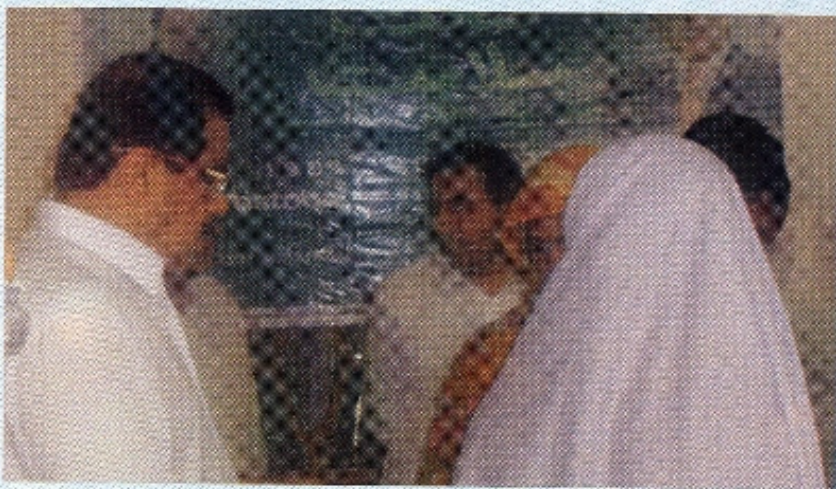
The event celebrated at UC level by involving Community Facilitators (CF) and health care providers of public and private sectors. SRSO invited all Community Facilitators from targeted UCs near by Health Facility (BHU/ RHC/ FWC/GD/Private clinic). With the cooperation of lead partners, SRSO and public, private health care providers offering services in targeted UCs. In the beginning of event, Project Coordinator-FALAH, lead partners, also highlighted the importance of the Health Day and role of community and services providers for prevention of diseases and promotion of healthy behaviors particularly, adoption of optimal birth spacing for healthier families. They also disseminated the important messages of the FALAH for the audience. Each health care provider was given opportunity to brief about the location of her/his facility and services being offered for the community including birth spacing. The event has initiated the process of peoples' health movement at community level and potential of this movement promotion of optimal birth spacing for the healthier families.



The event helped in creating positive interface between local health care providers and communities and promotion of local public and private health facilities that will improve the access of rural communities to services. This also initiated the process of people's health movement at community level.

DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY OF SEHAT SALAMAT CARDS

By: Mannan Chachar



GoS Micro Health Insurance (MHI) is a dynamic initiative of Government of Sindh. Through this initiative more than 56,000 poor households have been given Free Medical Health Insurance at their door steps in two Districts Kashmore@kandhkot and Shikarpur. In addition to this Sehat Salamati Cards were provided to poor organized women as they can avail this extensive offer. Connection to entire this, a programme was arranged at Kashmore office for the distribution of Sehat Salamati Cards among most deserving /poorest women. DCO Kashmore was the chief guest of the programme, besides DCO, EDO health, EDO revenue, EDO works & services, DDO Revenue, Team Leader UCBPRP Sukkur, DM UCBPRP District Kashmore, and Unit Incharge CMHI UCBPRP also participated.

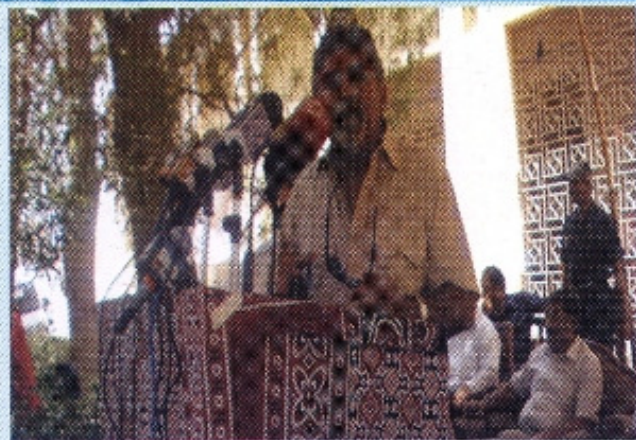


Addressing to the participants of event DCO shared that an immense effort is being carried out by SRSO with the support of Government of Sindh under Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme. Micro Health Insurance policy will help poor households to access hospitals and better health facilities in good panel hospitals. He admired the work of SRSO with collaboration of GoS.



FREE EYE CAMP FOR POOR VILLAGERS

By: Mannan Chachar



Social services Sector of SRSO arranged free eye camp at Kandhkot with support of Al Shifa Trust Sukkur in which number of community members were benefited from different villages and VOs. DCO Kashmore Syed Abid Ali Shah inaugurated the camp. CEO SRSO Dr. Sono Khangharani also participated. DCO Kashmore shared his views on the occasion addressing to the community members, he said "I am extremely delighted to inaugurate such a great camp. Through this camp many deserving families will be benefited". He visited Camp and met doctors.



All patients were treated very carefully. During checkups, 707 patients were given eye drops, and 450 patients were given eye glasses whose eye sight was weak. 132 patients were immediately referred to Al-shifa Trust Hospital Sukkur for operations. All treatment and medication including eye surgeries were free of cost for community members.



RESCUE FOR FIRE DESERTED VOS

By: Ali Bux Mangi

In early morning of May 29, 2010 'Saturday' a sudden wild fire erupted in the village Suleman Mangi, UC Pir Bux Shujrah from falling one of the high tension power lines crossing through the village, same happened in village Saeedu Kori of UC Rahimabad as well.



Village Organization contacted SRSO to inform about the incidence. In village Suleman Mangi, there are 3 COs and 78 total households out of which 48 are organized in VO Suleman Mangi, likewise 65 households are affected in village Saeedu Kori. They belong to lower bands of poverty, as it was ascertained in poverty scorecard. District Manager UCBPRP Shikarpur contacted with district officials for quick help, as there is no fire brigade rescue vehicle in the town.



It was called from 35 kms away from an-other town Lakhi. In uprising temperature of extreme heat, uncontrollable fire almost each and every thing changed into ashes altogether with cattle. Community members were shocked and naturally emotional too, for what they had suffered and paid a heavy loss of their shelters and valuables. Amongst the burned articles record of VO that was given by SRSO also smashed in to ashes and nothing was left to share the pain of shelter less villagers. Management decided to help out all affected ones and distributed one month food stuff of Rs. 3500(per Household) as their immediate relief. Apart from this, management has decided to conduct a survey of both villages and eventually rehabilitate them by allotting homes under Low Cost Housing Scheme.

CELEBRATION OF WORLD MALARIA DAY & DISTRIBUTION OF LLINS TO TARGET GROUP

By: Dr. Saleem Channa

The World Malaria Day is celebrated on 25th April of every year since 2008 all over the world, to promote awareness about the Malaria and for adopting precautionary measures. In this concern SRSO also organized an event to celebrated World Malaria Day & Distribution of LLINs to Target Group on 30th April 2010 at press club Hall Khairpur.



The Government officers, Political figures, District Health officials, SRSO Management, staff & about two Hundred Local community Females members were invited to participate the Programme for raising awareness about the Malaria disease, its privations, its treatment and orientation about benefits and usage of Long Lasting Insecticide Nets. Ms. Rukia Naz Leghari Regional Programme Manager Khairpur welcomed the Guests and encouraged participation of female Community members from villages. The Ajrak was distributed as souvenir in the honor of guests. Mr. Zeeshan Naimatullah Shaikh Programme Manager Social sector Services reflected light over the achievements of SRSO ongoing projects related to health. He also shared the progress of GFATM Round-7, Project that 8,300.0 (Eighty Three Thousand) LLINs have been distributed amongst Pregnant women's, Mother Having children under five Years and Falciparum +ve Cases since July 2009 with the Support of GFATM, NRSP, DOMC, District Health Department and PPHI.



The guests appreciated programme and participants shared their views. Awareness to audience for prevention of Malaria was given through a session by Saima Malik Field Worker, GFATM-SRSO briefed about preservation of LLINs from damage and protection from sun Light. She also explained the method of its washing etc. In the end, the LLINs were distributed among the participant's target Group women by the respectable Guests.

VISIT OF EUROPEAN UNION MISSION

By: Nisar A. Pathan

A high profile mission of European Union FAO and WFP jointly planned to visit the projected area of SRSO under EU Food Facility Project. The delegation conducted the meeting with community in UC Fateh pur village Dhupwara at Khairpur district, where CEO SRSO Dr. Sono Khangharani introduced SRSO & its interventions with community through various sectors in 9 districts of upper Sindh.



Mr. Imran Ashraf EC development Adviser shared with community that EC working support is given to more than 24 countries for food security and surveys show that the food is going beyond the approach of poor people, by enhancing the yield in agriculture, small farmers can get break through and make them food secure. He shared that EU is supporting in 17 food insecure districts through out the country and funds allocated for this project is 40 million.



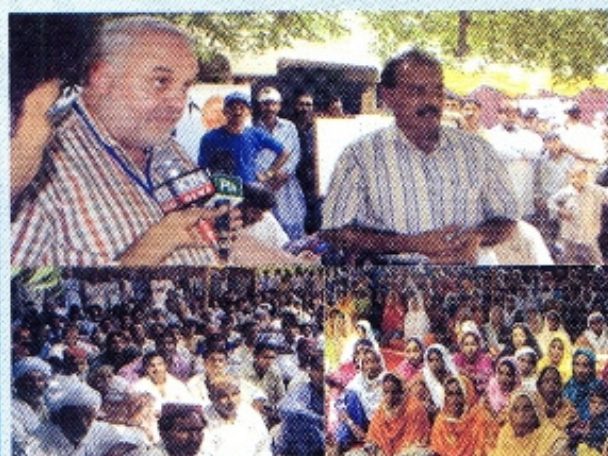
Further Mr. Zahid Majeed Country representative of UN WFP also briefed about the food deficiency. The guests participated in distribution of agricultural inputs as well. The event was covered through print and electronic media.

By the evening, the mission visited district Sukkur Tehsil Rohri UC Dhandi and Village Wali Mohammad Bhayo for meeting with community and conducted the dialogue. The delegation also conducted the press conference, in which they gave complete introduction of programme and its impact & benefits for area.



MR. LUNGI SAID I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A DISCIPLINED COMMUNITY IN MY LIFE

By : Nisar A. Pathan

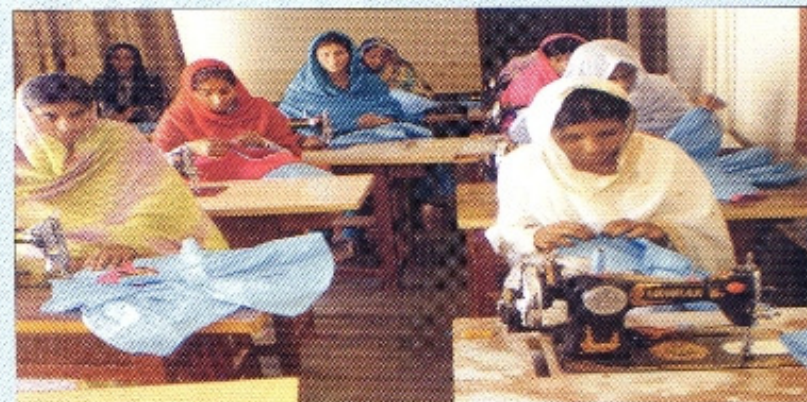


Mr. Lungi country head of food and agriculture organization, along with his team Dr Fazul Bari programme manager of Pakistan, Azher Mehmood kanth A.C FAO visited village Ahadi Khan Rajpur UC Naseer Fakir Taulka kotdiji (Khairpur) where a meeting with community was organized by NRM team in which 150 female & 300 males participated. In this UC about 1950 small farmers were supported with agriculture inputs of Rabi 2009 & Kharif 2010 out of which 350 are female who are head of their families. Mr Lungi said that due to shortage of staple food FAO is working in 42 countries. This organization is giving support to 17 districts of Pakistan beside 04 districts of Sindh (Sukkur, Khairpur, Shaheed Benazir Abad and Jamshoro), the aim is to increase grain crops production, in this regards 04 million euro will be spent on supporting the farmers with agri inputs, providing them 17 kinds of agriculture machinery, awarding the small farming community from latest technology of cultivation through farmers field schools & open women schools in this regard. Program Manager of EU FAO Dr. Faiz-ul-bari said that we are happy to observe that our commodities are going towards right and deserving people. Due to right selection of implementation partner (IP), our message for community was transferred properly that's why they got 30% to 40% rise in their production. Addressing to the machinery pool group, he asked them to become strengthen to make their own decisions and save the amount for their routine work of general body. He said that we believe with faith that MPG will provide successful results. After that they handed over the 17 kinds of machinery to MPG. Print and electronic media gave the coverage to whole ceremony, individual interviews were also reported. An other ceremony at village Mian Baig Indhar of UC Nindapur, Taulka Panoakil, 500 female and 1500 male participated in the event. Mr Lungi appreciated that he has never seen such disciplined group of community in my 16 years service with FAO Dr. Faz-ul-bari said that we are pleased to see spirit & enthusiasm of community by giving us proper response, it means that they are with us for achieving our targets. He announced that we shall provide agriculture kit, based on waholo, spade, teekam, and other things to MPG. Dr.Faiz-ul-bari said that FAO will provide package no 1 to 90% beneficiaries for Rabi 2010. He said I am very thankful of farmers for their proper response. We shall come again to meet with them. He expressed best wishes for IP (SRSO-NRM team) who performed nice job during the course of project tenure.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE @ DISTRICT HEAD QUARTER MIRPUR MATHELO



Women are the most vulnerable and devoid of the access to development interventions here in our social setup. Gender balance and woman empowerment is the indispensable phenomenon for the sustainable development of the Community. The gist of the empowerment process lies in the economic empowerment of the women and the most suitable way to empower the women economically is to enhance the capacity so that access to market can be made possible for the women.



Here at Mirpur Mathelo the headquarter of District Ghotki, a Vocational Centre for the training of the women, Girls is being run since 30th of the May 2010. Prior to the trainings, training need assessment (TNAs) was carried out in all five talukas of the District Ghotki. The identified candidates for training were age mixed. The second event in the trades such as Tailoring, Machine Embroidery, Hand Embroidery, Swing Machine technician and beautician course have been started successfully after the positive reflection of the first events. The trade wise participation is as under

Trade	Pax in first Event	Pax in second Events	COs covered
Tailoring	47	54	81
Hand Embroidery	25	26	42
Machine Embroidery	20	55	60
Beautician	18	34	36

A STEP TOWARDS PROSPEROUS FUTURE

By: Zulifqar Narejo

Dur Naz w/o Mohd Jatoi is 35 year old woman living in village Sawan Nandawani, comprises on 90 Households. Dur Naz is the mother of Seven Children and her family comprises on 11 members, her husband is working on daily wages and could not fulfill the needs of the family. In certain conditions or emergencies, she borrowed loan as to fulfill needs of her family, but due to poverty she could not return the money on time that's why life has become very difficult.

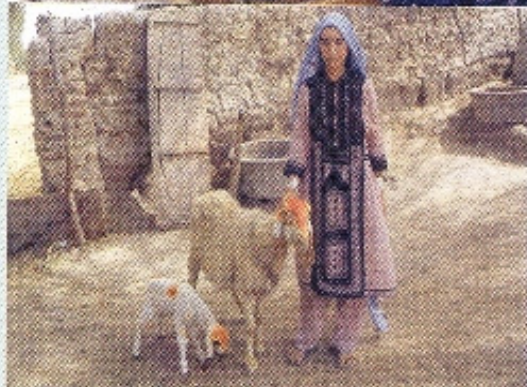
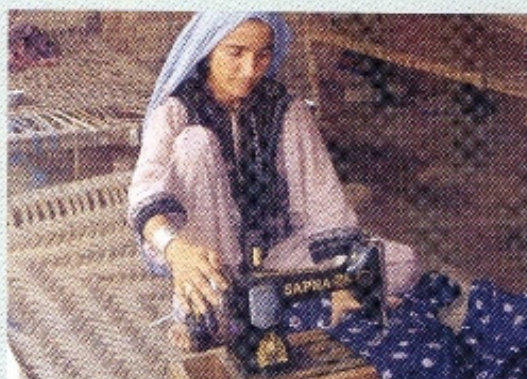
She tells her story that, she has become active member of CO Gori when SRSO Social Mobilization team of SMU Karampur reached their village and introduced the programme in the village. When the COs and VO was formed, she attended first meeting of CO Gori and shared the entire financial issues in front all CO members.

All Members realized the issues of Dur Naz and they requested the VO Sawan Nandawani to provide her IGG as she can be able to start any small enterprise on house hold level. VO requested to SRSO office for the provision of IGG to this destitute women. Her PSC score was falling in 0 to 11, on the collective decision of VO Sawan Nandawani IGG amount of Rs. 10,000 was provided to this women.

After getting IGG Amount, She purchased a swing machine and one pregnant sheep. started Sewing cloths of her villagers, she is now able to earn 100 to 150 rupees on daily basis and besides, sheep has now given birth to one lamb and she is optimistic that her income will increase more, as she will spend more time to sewing the cloths within and outside the village.

She has also shared her further plan that when the lamb of sheep will grow up. She intends to sell it, by selling it, she will get benefit and from that benefit she would expand her enterprise as her life would be more secure and prosperous. After getting IGG amount and starting small enterprise at household level, she measures the change in following words:

"The Condition of my family is more improved and quite better. Now I do not take any loan for any purpose; the needs of the family are being fulfilled properly.



I am feeling Stability in my routine life and my status has improved within the family and village, and my husband is now giving more value to my decisions"

MEETING WITH FAO OFFICIALS



A meeting was held in FAO office on dated 09.07. 2010, agenda of the meeting was to review the progress of the FAO project, participants of the meeting were:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Lungi | Country Head FAO |
| 2. Dr. Faiz-ul-bari | Programme Manager EU FFP |
| 3. Azhar Mehmood | Area Co-ordinator FAO |
| 4. NRSP | 02 DPOs |
| 5. SOFT | 02 Representative |
| 6. WADO | 02 Representative |
| 7. EDO Agriculture | 04 Districts |
| 8. DO | NPIW. |

Dr. Faiz-ul-bari briefed to country head FAO and shared the efforts taken by SRSO team and success stories of the project. He shared that no. of beneficiaries will be increased in future, FFS & OWS are being launch ing and Package 1 will be given to 90% beneficiaries.

POVERTY SCORECARD AT DISTRICT JACOBABAD

By: Sohail Ali Kalari

All scorecard weights are positive integers, and scores range from 0 (most-likely "poor") to 100 (least-likely "poor")

For extraction of real results of poor households. After signing MoU between GoS and SRSO for Jacobabad Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Programme, MER team geared up with new strategy moved towards Jacobabad for PSC Survey. Keeping in view the prior experiences of PSC in Shikarpur, Kandhkot and then Khairpur, a proper planning and procedures were followed set by the MER team before stepping down into the field. These procedures and planning helped to save time and expenses with maximum accuracy in data collection. Despite of tough weather, scattered area and risky law and order situation, PSC team remained determined to get this task done with allocated budget and timeline.



This area is mostly undeveloped with very low literacy rate. Finding female enumerators was again a big challenge. Through advertisement via FM, references from old Community Organizations and with the help of CRPs, about 150 female enumerators were identified and trained. Total 29 rural union councils were surveyed till the end of June 2010. The poverty incident remained 70% in the targeted area. Forward campaigning, marking surveyed doors, issuance of token to surveyed households are few of the new ad ups in the survey strategy.



Enumerators has to motivate HHs and get accurate data for community betterments, some of the HHs were not ready to give information due to myths spread by anti development elements but through strong mobilization and citing successful history of SRSO (Kashmore @ Kandhkot and Shikarpur) enumerators success to get information from tribal conflicted communities and give them a slip as evidence to community & SMTs could be facilitated better.

MER professionals were responsible to verify 70-80% filled forms from the field to ensure the data accuracy. During survey data was continuously provided to Dta Entry Cell for timely data entry. Here again trained supervisors were

to each form. Social Mobilization teams were guided at each step wherever query arose. PSC Survey was monitored by GoS by their frequent monitoring visits with different delegation. MPA Aisha Khoso was one of the visitors who monitored and admired the survey strategy and results so far. The whole survey with its methodology was continuously monitored by SRSO internal Management at each stage. AGM Operation Mr. Yar Muhammad Bozdar, RPM Mr. A. Hameed Bullo and team leader of UCBPRP used to visit for monitoring and facilitating wherever needed. Ms Syeda Nazia Shah, Manager MER remained on her toe during complete survey since designing methodology for the survey to capacity building of staff and enumerators, data collection process, monitoring of the survey, data entry and final reporting to the management.

A STEP TOWARDS FAMILY HEALTH

By: Niaz Ahmed Noonari

If we will peep into the affairs of rural areas of our country, so many shocking cites will welcome us (Development sector) to solve these problems smoothly, specially women in shape of mother, sister and wife etc...would be seen in problems and looking forward to the ray of hope for betterments.

A man strives hard for the betterment of his survival in the vivid and lucid manner. In this connection, if we will discuss for the progress and prosperity, we will look at every aspect, which can make our life comfortable. As a little drop of water makes a mighty ocean, in the same way life becomes gradually pleasant that we can call "Health is Wealth" Multiple solutions to solve the problems have been thrown by development sector to community, now it will be amazing to see who are trying to catch these solutions.

First, much easier and more effective way to solve the mother and child health problem is to control the population by "Birth Spacing". Which means "at least two year gap between one pregnancy to another.



The importance of birth spacing for health has been keystone for both classes of thinkers (opponent & Ally) for Family Planning (FP). It is something that surprises, to understand the mechanism by which birth spacing might improve health for mother and their children.

An examination of researches and studies to date on this topic reveal more information, specifically IMR (infant mortality rate) and MMR (mothers mortality rate).

EXPOSURE VISIT TO BAHAWALPUR

By: Mahtab Tariq Pirzada

We should look into the matter of space of children among the mothers women play vital role into the development of our society, each and every work is being carried out by women even farming land in rural areas.

Questions arise in our mind that if such an important personality (women in the shape of mother) becomes sick, how it could be possible for Nation to survive? And it also leaves affect at our whole society; our progress and prosperity are interlinked with her health; for keeping mother happy, birth spacing is one of the best approaches to apply for healthier society. Birth Spacing is most easy and feasible solution not only from health but also an economical point of view indirectly. Napoleon had once said: **"Give me healthy mothers, I shall give you good nation"**.

Here a question arises in our mind, does our religion and society permit us for birth spacing. It is mentioned in our Holy Quran that the mother should fetch milk to a baby at least for two years and it is only possible by applying birth spacing to the next child. In case of pregnancy, it is evident from the fact that the health of mother and child is unavoidable.

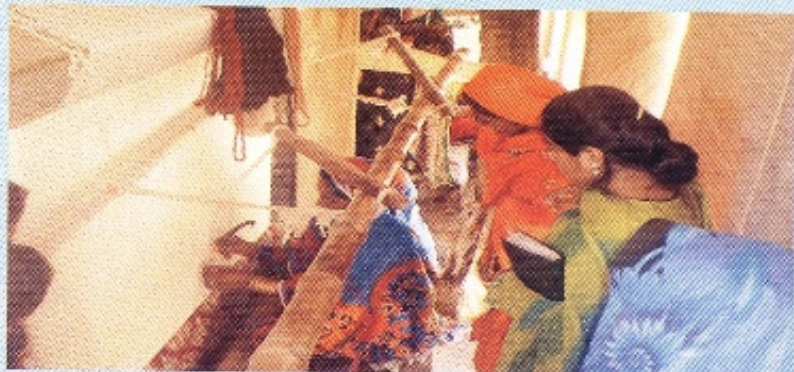


When we put our sight over the rural areas, it becomes evident that villagers need more attention and proper knowledge regarding Birth Spacing, but due to lack of facilities and approaches nobody gets benefit, meanwhile few steps have been taken by the government with cooperation of its policies implementation partner organizations. SRSO is leading one of them, it's (Sindh Rural Support Organization) basic and fundamental motive is **"Harnessing people potential to help themselves"**. One step to help all these components by FALAH (Family Advancement for Life and Health) funded by USAID with coordination of SRSO (Sindh Rural Support Organization) to contributed in the awareness program for benefits of birth spacing.

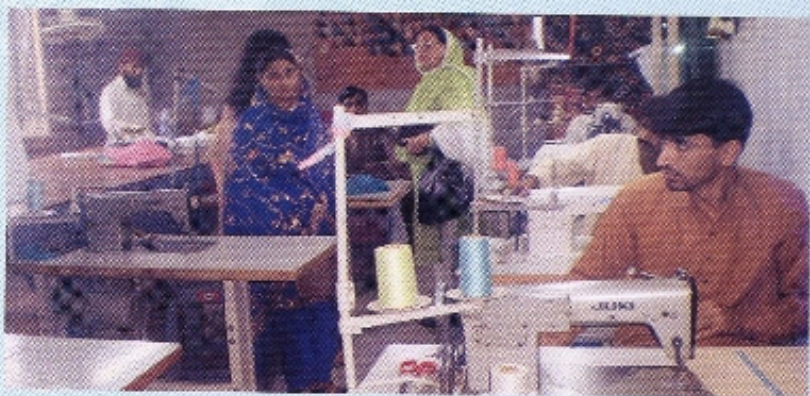
If we consider the meaning of FALAH which has been taken from Arabic word which means **"welfare"**.

The objective of this program is to promote health and save lives of mother and their children through implementation of birth spacing with mutual understanding of married couples. FALAH & SRSO went to those targeted rural areas where the government lady health workers can't be appointed and convey the message through group meetings with the people of rural areas and aware them about the importance of birth spacing and to tell them different methods of birth spacing, so that they may be able to promote a healthy family. In FALAH, meetings are held not only with females but also with their husbands, so that both family members could facilitated for taking decision of appropriate way of birth spacing.

SRSO enterprise team visited Bahawalpur with seven artisans from both Hubs on 20th May 2010. The purpose of this visit was to meet the artisans of NRSP who are working on handlooms and producing good quality of hand woven fabrics. NRSP is the only in Bahawalpur, who had established this sector of handlooms by the name of "Rohi". They have their own outlet in Bahawalpur City where they have displayed different products made from this fabric.



At present 15 (fifteen) looms and 12-13 artisans of nearby areas are working at Rohi handlooms. Besides, they have setup a stitching and design section where different products are made. Two special workers (Deaf and dumb) are also the part of this section. Ladies from different areas use to come to this handloom center and collect work for embroidery for men, ladies, children dress and other accessories.



The whole setup was very impressive and artisans were aware of this work, which was in good quality. Rohi designer, Saima Umer and Col. Yousuf from administrative side, guided us with high supportive attitude during this visit. Same day we visited Mosa Colony, where women artisans were working on carpet making. A group of 20 (twenty) ladies was working in this environment.

Exposure trips play vital role for rural artisans, as it gives them opportunity to see the different areas of other cities and can analyze their work and quality of their products which they have in their areas. It also gives them confidence and more constructive methods of work and quality of their products which they have in their areas. It also gives them confidence and think more constructively.



CONCEPT OF RURAL POVERTY AND LIVELIHOOD OF THE RURAL POPULATION IN PAKISTAN

By: Zeeshan Shaikh

An understanding of the extent, nature and determinants of rural poverty is a precondition for effective public action to reduce deprivation in rural areas. The rural population also tends to be less healthy and less educated, as well as experiencing poorer service delivery and limited employment opportunities. Since a significant share of economic activity in low-income rural areas is devoted to the production of basic commodities, especially staple foods, for which the income elasticity of demand is low, a reduction of poverty requires either a shift of activities to production of other goods and services with greater income elasticities of demand, or a significant increase in productivity, or both.

About 1.2 billion people worldwide consume less than a 'standard' dollar-a-day; they are in dollar poverty, where 44 percent are in South Asia, about 24 percent each in sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia, and 6.5 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean (World Bank, 2000). About 75 percent of the dollar poor work and live in rural areas; projections suggest that over 60 percent will continue to do so in 2025 (Ravallion, 2000). Rural Poverty Report (2001, p. 15) rightly remarks:

"Most of the poor are rural and will be so for several decades. Their income, spending and employment usually concentrate on staple food. They have little land, schooling or other assets, and face many interlocking barriers to progress the share of international aid and attention devoted to agriculture, rural development and the rural poor has been small and falling Rural poverty reduction deserves much greater emphasis."

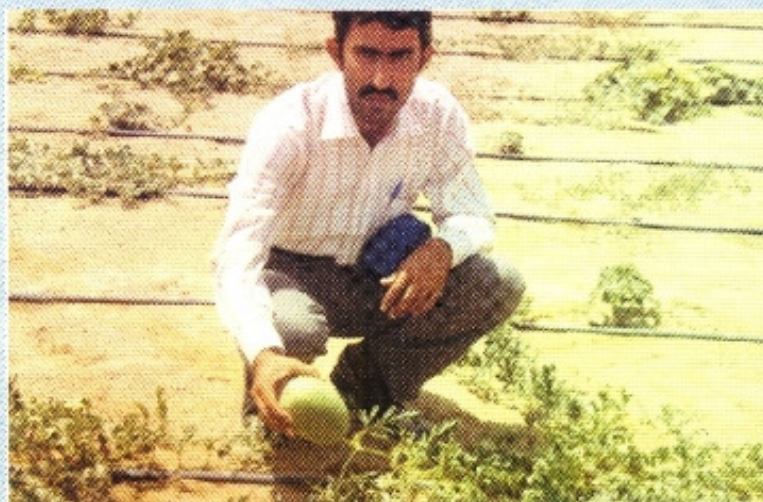
Another school of thought about rural poverty, A better understanding of the social and economic dynamics of rural communities is critical to the reduction and eradication of poverty. The world's poorest countries are those most dependent on agriculture. Three-quarters of the people in extreme poverty line in rural areas, usually those remote from the main centers of economic activity or with the least productive land The starting point for such an analysis is an understanding of the seasonal nature of farming and the high risk of crop failures, which cause large fluctuations in the generally low incomes of rural populations, particularly in areas with unreliable rainfall and poor soils. Agriculture is the core industry in most rural areas, employing between half and two-thirds of the work force in the world's poorest countries and generating between a quarter and a third of national output in many developing countries.

Infect, Poverty is rampant in the rural areas of Pakistan, where people are in a state of deprivation with regard to incomes, clothing, housing, healthcare, education, sanitary facilities and human rights. Agriculture generates nearly 20.9 percent of the country's GDP and provides employment for 43.4 percent of its workforce. Most importantly, 65.9 percent of the population living in rural areas is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood. Rising population, shrinking agricultural land, increasing demand for water resources, widespread land degradation and inadequate infrastructure appear to be major concerns of the agriculture sector in Pakistan. An attempt has been made to examine the population growth-agriculture growth-poverty alleviation linkage.

Review of Rural Poverty Periodically

Headcount Measure for Pakistan-1990-91 to 2001-02

Years	FBS (2001) 2550 calories	World Bank (2002) 2550 calories	Planning Commission, GoP (2003) 2350 calories
Overall			
1990-91	-	34.0	-
1992-93	26.6	25.7	-
1993-94	29.3	28.6	-
1998-99	32.2	32.6	30.6
2001-02	-	-	32.1
Rural			
1990-91	-	36.9	-
1992-93	29.9	27.7	-
1993-94	34.7	33.4	-
1998-99	36.3	35.4	34.6
2001-02	-	-	36.9



It is argued that agriculture will continue to be one of the most important sectors of Pakistan's economy for years to come. To alleviate poverty, it is suggested that Pakistan enhance the productivity of the agriculture sector through the provision of a series of inputs including provision of easy credit to the small farmer, availability of quality fertilizers and pesticides, tractor and harvester services, improvement in the effectiveness of the vast irrigation system and, finally, farmer education. It is concluded that the high rate of population growth needs to be curbed for increased agricultural productivity to have any significant effect on Poverty in rural areas of Pakistan.

Role of Agriculture in Pakistan's Economy Year	Percentage Share of Agriculture in GDP	Percentage of Rural Labour Force	Percentage of Rural Population
1950	53	68	85
1960	45	59	78
1970	38	57	74
1980	29	52	71
1990	23	47	69
1995	22	45	65
2000	25	48	67.5
2002	24	48.42	67

Empirical Analysis of Rural Poverty in Pakistan 2002

In spite of improving agriculture condition dramatically in Pakistan, livestock sector in rural areas couldn't be ignored on account of majority of rural people depend on animal husbandry and its production by large, if reasonable assistance is provided, the vast majority can comfortably earn its livelihood from the livestock. Besides that, Corporate Sectors and NGOs in Pakistan working with rural Communities in milk and meat production yet it needs to address issues of increasing more productions within local resources. In Conclusion, Rural Poverty doesn't remain only social issue in Pakistan, it is economically, traditionally and clan classified issue that needs to transfer planning and execution of the any development projects to the local Community. All development Projects in rural areas ought to be done through participatory approach physically thereby rural Community will get own and run systematically. It thought that rural people doesn't need first aid, they want sustainable development with participatory approach at all levels.

Training on "Development Result Based Planning Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting Skills" at Marree

By: Feroz Ahmed Bhutto



From May 06-09, 2010 (Four Days), the training was held titled "Development Result Based Planning Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting Skills" at Blue Pine Inn Resorts, Marree Organized by Human Resource Learning Centre (HRLC). Three employees from SRSO M&E sector named Feroz Bhutto, Sona Khan Rind and Imtiaz Shaikh participated from SRSO.

The training provided opportunity to meet with people from different organizations like MERCYCORP, UN Habitat, SUNGI Development Foundation to learn from their experiences.



The training was good enough to build the M&E's capacity in new components like Result Based Management (RBM), Logical Framework Approach and Tools (LFA), Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), Performance Measurement Framework (PMF), Financial Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (Other Common Tools and Methodologies) and Developing Result Based Reporting System.

All participants were divided into four groups to work in groups on above areas and to prepare proposal using LFA approaches and tool, all groups work on different proposal writing and our group worked on Gender Based Violence (GBV) in the Camps though using LFA approaches and tools.

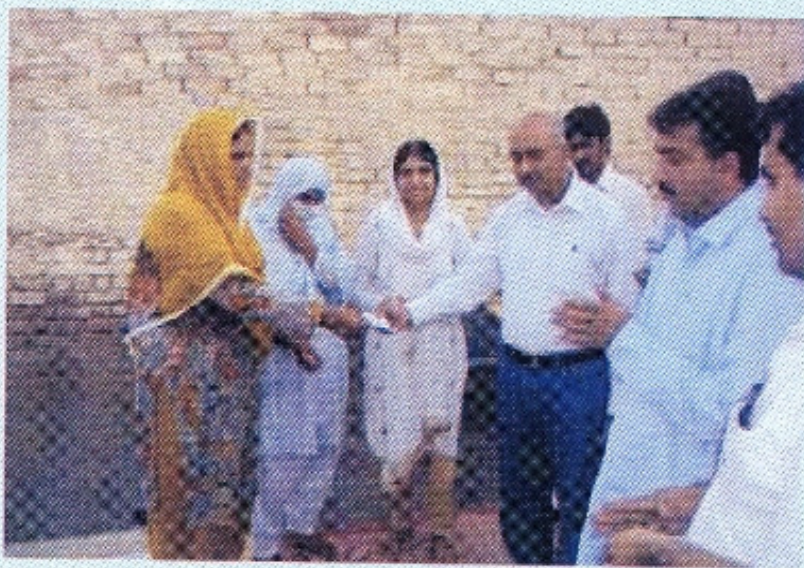


The experiences and skills acquired during the course of training would be utilized to strengthen not only our M&E sector of SRSO but also other sector too in reporting and documentation through modern tool and techniques. This attended expertise will indoctrinate us to grow and to chalk out new horizon in research field of M&E. SRSO participants were awarded as best participants during the course. The overall training was marvelous, non discriminatory pretty supportive environment for all the attendants and trainers were good at their subjects. At the end, certificate distribution ceremony was held and all participants got experience certificates and shared the views and experiences regarding the overall training.

SRSO Initiation of Education Project Funded by Engro Food and PPAF

By: Feroz Bhutto

Functional schools in dilapidated condition are selected in UC Long Bhatti are being made as model school. Under Union Council Based Poverty Reduction Program, the education project is funded by Engro food and PPAF. Extensive survey carried out in the Union Council Long Bhatti, which is operated under UCBPRP District Khairpur to assess the state of enrolment in public primary schools while focusing specifically upon those children who are out of school, verification of SEMIS data and address the issues in the closed public primary schools to allow improvement in enrolment especially of the girl child and out of school children to ensure a decrease in dropouts. Besides enhancing the teaching capacity of the teachers for delivery of modern quality education.



The issues being addressed by the Project include improvements in building infrastructure; adding missing facilities; hiring local (preferably female) teachers; upgrading teacher's capacity and strengthening the stakes of the parents through setting up functional and empowered school management committees, including their capacity building. In this connection, one Primary School (Boys & Girls) is selected for repair and extension in village Ahmed Ali Bhutto UC Long Bhatti at initial stage.

SNAPSHOT



Chairman Shoaib Sultan Khan visited Kashmore during BoD



Chairman Shoaib Sultan Khan meeting with CIF beneficiaries at Kashmore



Minister Women Development Dept: GoS Touqeer Fatima visiting SRSO Enterprise Development stall Larkana.



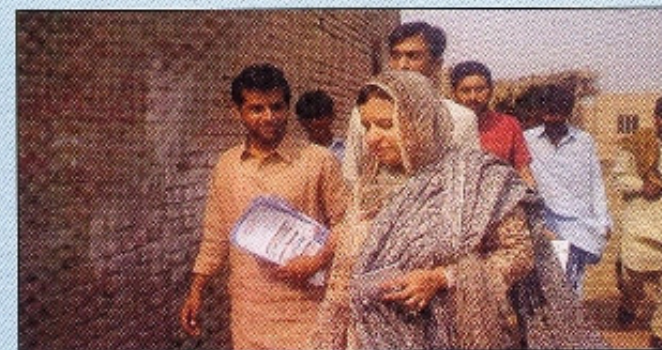
Chief Minister of Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah distributing Sehat Salamet Card at Shikarpur.



FAO country head Mr. Lungi visited village Ahadi Khan Rajpur U/C Naseer Fakir Taulka kotdiji (Khairpur)



MNA Khursheed Shah visited SRSO Unit Panoaqil to meet the beneficiaries of European Union Food Facility programme.



Tania Khan from RSPN visited Ghotki District during MCH week



Community conference with Shoaib Sultan Khan during his visit to Shikarpur.